This is a self-archived version of an original article. This version may differ from the original in pagination and typographic details.

Author(s): Schöbel, Jan-Hendrik; Passia, Marco Thomas; Wolter, Nadja Anna; Puttreddy, Rakesh; Rissanen, Kari; Bolm, Carsten

Title: 1,2,6-Thiadiazine 1-Oxides : Unsaturated Three-Dimensional S,N-Heterocycles from Sulfonimidamides

Year: 2020

Version: Accepted version (Final draft)

Copyright: © 2020 American Chemical Society

Rights: In Copyright

Rights url: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/?language=en>

Please cite the original version:

Schöbel, J.-H., Passia, M. T., Wolter, N. A., Puttreddy, R., Rissanen, K., & Bolm, C. (2020). 1,2,6-Thiadiazine 1-Oxides : Unsaturated Three-Dimensional S,N-Heterocycles from Sulfonimidamides. *Organic Letters*, 12(7), 2702-2706.
<https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.orglett.0c00666>

1,2,6-Thiadiazine 1-Oxides: Unsaturated Three-Dimensional S,N-Heterocycles from Sulfonimidamides

Jan-Hendrik Schöbel,[†] Marco Thomas Passia,[†] Nadja Anna Wolter,[†] Rakesh Puttreddy,^{‡#} Kari Rissanen,[‡] and Carsten Bolm^{*,†}

[†]Institute of Organic Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Landoltweg 1, D-52074 Aachen, Germany

[‡]University of Jyväskylä, Department of Chemistry, P.O. Box 35, FI-40014 Jyväskylä, Finland

[#] Present address: Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Tampere University, P. O. Box 541, 33101, Tampere, Finland

Supporting Information Placeholder

ABSTRACT: Unprecedented three-dimensional 1,2,6-thiadiazine 1-oxides have been prepared by an *aza-Michael*-addition/cyclization/condensation reaction sequence starting from sulfonimidamides and propargyl ketones. The products have been further functionalized by standard cross-coupling reactions, selective bromination of the heterocyclic ring and conversion into a β -hydroxy substituted derivative. A representative product was characterized by single crystal X-ray structure analysis.

Among sulfur-containing biologically active compounds, sulfonamides have held a pole position for decades being present in a plethora of medicinal and agricultural relevant molecules.^{1,2} In contrast, only marginal attention has been paid to their mono-aza analogues sulfonimidamides. Just recently a rising interest for using sulfonimidamides as bioisosters of sulfonamides in the design of bioactive compounds has been noted, both in academic research and industry.^{3,4} One reason for this growing interest is rooted in their attractive and tunable physico- and biochemical properties, such as high metabolic and chemical stability and adjustable donor-acceptor attributes.⁵ Moreover, introduction of the second nitrogen substituent offers the opportunity of potential chirality and possible modifications in defined three-dimensional directions. In this context, cyclic sulfonimidamides are particularly interesting, serving as building blocks for feasible three-dimensional heterocycles with two *endo*-cyclic nitrogens included in the heterocycle, or with one *endo*- and one *exo*-cyclic nitrogen substituent. Moreover, the construction of annulated ring systems is possible (Figure 1, top). Surprisingly, so far only a few cyclic sulfonimidamides have been reported.⁶ For example, researcher at Hoffmann-La Roche investigated six- and seven-membered cyclic or bicyclic sulfonimidamides as BACE1 inhibitors for potential treatment of Alzheimer's disease (Figure 1, A).^{6g-j} BASF Agrochemicals developed cyclic sulfonimidamide derivatives of the marketed insecticide sulfoxaflor with the aim to improve physicochemical properties and reduce toxicity in a series of pesticides (Figure 1, B).^{6k,l} Further cyclic sulfonimidamides have been reported as bioisosters of carboxylic acids^{6c} or sultams^{6d}

Figure 1. Structure of sulfonamides, sulfonimidamides, and sulfonimidamide-based heterocycles with relevance in medicinal chemistry and unprecedented unsaturated cyclic sulfonimidamides as approach of this work.

(Figure 1, C). Recently, our group reported benzoisothiazole derivatives as three-dimensional cyclic sulfonimidamides with an *exo*-cyclic nitrogen substituent (Figure 1, D).^{6c} Surprisingly, to the best of our knowledge, no unsaturated cyclic sulfonimidamides have been reported to date. Thus, we felt challenged to contribute in this field by developing a synthetic method for these compounds. In particular, the syntheses of 1,2,6-thiadiazine 1-oxides was envisaged (Figure 1, top right corner).

Inspired by previously reported protocols from Williams and Cram⁷ and an improved protocol by our group⁸ for an *aza-Michael* addition/cyclisation/condensation reaction sequence between sulfoximines or sulfondiimides and propargyl ketones, we hypothesized that a complementary methodology could access the desired heterocycles.⁹

Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions^a

entry	base	solvent	temp (°C)	time (h)	yield (%) ^b
1	-	DMSO	rt	24	0
2	-	DMSO	80	24	0
3	NaH	DMSO	rt	24	47
4	NaH	DMSO	80	24	46
5	KOH	DMSO	rt	3	47
6	NEt ₃	DMSO	rt	3	0
7	KOt-Bu	DMSO	rt	3	31
8	Na ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	24	0
9	K ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	62
10	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	80	3	82
11	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	88
12 ^c	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	45
13 ^d	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	57
14 ^e	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	75
15 ^f	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMSO	rt	3	76
16	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMF	rt	3	76
17	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMA	rt	3	13
18	Cs ₂ CO ₃	1,4-dioxane	rt	24	0
19	Cs ₂ CO ₃	MeOH	rt	3	0

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.12 mmol), **2a** (1.5 equiv), base (2.1 equiv), solvent, *c* = 0.06 M, MS 4 Å (5 mg), under argon. ^bAfter purification by flash column chromatography. ^cPerformed in air and without MS 4 Å. ^dUse of 1.0 equiv of Cs₂CO₃. ^eUse of 4.0 equiv of Cs₂CO₃. ^fUse of 3.0 equiv of **2a**.

For the optimization studies, 4-methylbenzenesulfonimidamide (**1a**) and 1,3-diphenylprop-2-yn-1-one (**2a**) were chosen as representative test substrates. The first reactions were performed in DMSO at room temperature and at 80 °C for 24 h without adding base. Under these conditions, no product formation was observed (Table 1, entries 1 and 2). Following reported conditions from Williams and Cram⁷ for the syntheses of unsaturated cyclic sulfoximines,⁷ we tested sodium hydride as base, which furnished

the product **3aa** in 47% yield (Table 1, entry 3). An increase of the temperature had no influence on the yield (Table 1, entry 4). After testing of different bases (Table 1, entries 5-9), we finally applied our previously reported conditions for the syntheses of unsaturated cyclic sulfoximines and sulfondiimides,⁸ with Cs₂CO₃ as base at 80 °C. Now, product **3aa** was isolated in 82% yield (Table 1, entry 10). Pleasingly, elevated temperatures were not necessary for this transformation, and at ambient temperature **3aa** was obtained in a yield of 88% (Table 1, entry 11). At this stage, we also tested the reaction in air and with a reduced amount of Cs₂CO₃, but in both cases the yield dropped dramatically (Table 1, entries 12 and 13). Diminished yields were also obtained when the amount of propargyl ketone **2a** or the amount of the base were increased (Table 1, entries 14 and 15). After having identified Cs₂CO₃ as the most promising base, different solvents were screened (Table 1, entries 16-19). Taking into account the solubility of Cs₂CO₃, we primarily focused on employing polar solvents,¹⁰ but none of the tested solvents gave superior yields compared with DMSO. In conclusion, Cs₂CO₃ (2.1 equiv) as base in DMSO as solvent at room temperature were identified as optimal reaction condition for this transformation (Table 1, entry 11).

With these reaction conditions in hand, the scope with various sulfonimidamides **1** and propargyl ketones **2** was investigated (Scheme 1). First, the substituents on the propargyl ketone **2** were varied, while 4-methylbenzenesulfonimidamide (**1a**) was kept as reaction partner (Scheme 1, left). Diaryl-substituted propargyl ketones **2b-l** proved to be efficient reaction partners in this transformation, and all heterocyclic products **3ab-al**, with exception of the 4-nitrophenyl substituted heterocycles **3ab-ad**. With bulky 2,4,6-trimethyl-substituted propargyl ketone **2t** as reaction partner the yield of **3at** was only 26%. Electronic effects had only a minor influence on the

Scheme 1. Substrate Scope with Respect to Sulfonimidamides 1 and Propargyl Ketones 2

yields. Both substrates with electron-donating groups, such as *para*-methylphenyl-substituted propargyl ketone **2b**, and propargyl ketones with electron-withdrawing groups, such as *para*-fluorophenyl-substituted **2i** and *para*-trifluoromethylphenyl-substituted **2j** gave the corresponding heterocycles **3ab**, **3ai**, and **3aj** in high to excellent yields. Heteroaryl-substituted propargyl ketones **2am** and **2an** could also be engaged in this reaction, furnishing products **3am** and **3an** in 86% and 43%, respectively. Exemplified by the *para*-chlorophenyl substituted product **3ag**, a successful analytical separation of the enantiomers was carried out on chiral-phase HPLC (see Supporting Information). The reaction protocol was also compatible with aryl-alkyl substituted propargyl ketones. For example, heterocycles **3ao** and **3ap** were isolated in 65% and 78% yield, respectively. The same effects were observed for the heterocycles **3bp** and **3cp**, varying additionally on the sulfur-substituent. A representative example for a dialkyl-substituted heterocycle is **3as**. Terminal alkyne **2q** gave 5-unsubstituted heterocycle **3aq** in only 13% yield, and no product was observed with phenylpropargyl aldehyde (**2u**) as substrate. With the intention to further expand the reaction scope, R¹ on the sulfonimidamide **1** was varied next. In this sense 4-bromobenzenesulfonimidamide (**1b**) and methanesulfonimidamide (**1c**) were chosen as further reaction partners with differently substituted propargyl ketones **2**. To our delight, all of the tested substrates proved to be efficient reaction partners producing the corresponding heterocycles in high to excellent yields (Scheme 1, right). Finally, the reaction was performed on a 1 mmol scale for substrates **1a** and **2a**. Here, the heterocycle **3aa** was isolated in 78% yield.

Single-crystals of **3ao** suitable for X-ray diffraction measurement were obtained by slow evaporation of an ethylacetate solution at room temperature. The molecular structure of the *tert*-butyl substituted heterocycle **3ao** revealed a noncoplanar heterocyclic ring with an out-of-plane tilt of the sulfur atom by 0.54 Å (Figure, and Figure S2). According to the work of Lovering and others,¹¹ who stated that the three-dimensionality is one of the key success factors in drug design, these new heterocyclic sulfonimidamide scaffolds could be also interesting from the medicinal and crop protection chemists' point of view.

Figure 2. The ORTEP plot of the molecular structure of **3ao** with the thermal displacement parameters at 50 % probability level.

To further illustrate the synthetic value of the prepared heterocycles, *para*-bromophenyl-substituted products **3ba** and **3af** have been subjected to two standard cross-coupling reactions (Scheme 2, a and b).¹² For the heterocycle with the *para*-bromophenyl moiety on the sulfur substituent, Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling with 4-tolylboronic acid, 2 mol% of Pd(PPh₃)₄ as catalyst and K₂CO₃ as base in refluxing aqueous acetonitrile furnished **4a** in 82% yield. Applying a Buchwald–Hartwig-type amination on the same heterocycle with morpholine as coupling partner gave product **4b** in a yield of 95% (Scheme 2, a). Employing the same conditions for Suzuki–Miyaura and Buchwald–Hartwig-type reactions to heterocycle **3af** resulted in two further cross-coupled products **5a** and **5b** in 95% and 77%, respectively (Scheme 2, b).

A possible derivatization by modifying the substituent on the sulfur atom was demonstrated by deprotonation of the *S*-methyl group with *n*-BuLi and subsequent nucleophilic addition to benzophenone, resulting in β -hydroxy-substituted derivative **6** in 80% yield (Scheme 2, c).¹³

Scheme 2. Functionalization of Selected Products

a) Cross-coupling reactions of **3ba**^a

b) Cross-coupling reactions of **3af**^a

c) Functionalization of the *S*-methyl group

d) Bromination of the heterocyclic ring

^aReaction conditions: i) 4-tolylboronic acid (1.2 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.02 equiv), K₂CO₃ (1.4 equiv), MeCN:H₂O 3:1, 12 h, reflux, under argon. ii) morpholine (1.2 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.02 equiv), *rac*-BINAP (0.03 equiv), Cs₂CO₃ (1.4 equiv), toluene, reflux, 12 h, under argon.

At this stage, only position 4 in the newly prepared 3,5-disubstituted 1,2,6-thiadiazine 1-oxides remained untouched for possible substituents. With the intention to further functionalize this position, the introduction of a bromine substituent was envisaged, providing a good basis for possible subsequent modifications. Heterocycles **3aa** and **3ca** were therefore treated with an excess of *N*-bromosuccinimide in THF for 48 h and 53 h at room temperature. Hence, C4-brominated heterocycles **7a** and **7c** could be isolated in yields of 81% and 75%, respectively (Scheme 2, d).

In summary, unprecedented three-dimensional unsaturated cyclic sulfonimidamides have been prepared in good to excellent yields. The molecular structure of a representative product was confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Product functionalizations were demonstrated by standard cross-coupling reactions, bromination of the heterocyclic ring in addition to functionalization of the *endo*-cyclic sulfur substituent.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/.....>

Experimental procedures, characterization data, NMR spectra for new compounds X-ray crystallography data and CIF files (PDF)

Accession Codes

CCDC 1985011 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Author

Carsten Bolm – RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany; id 0000-0001-9415-9917;
E-mail: Carsten.Bolm@oc.rwth-aachen.de

Other Authors

Jan-Hendrik Schöbel – RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany; id 0000-0001-9415-9917

Marco Thomas Passia – RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany; id 0000-0001-8369-165X

Nadja Anna Wolter – RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany; id 0000-0002-4832-5424

Rakesh Puttreddy – University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland; id 0000-0002-2221-526X

Kari Rissanen – University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland; id 0000-0002-7282-8419

Complete contact information is available at: <https://pubs.acs.org/.....>

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for support of K.R. (AvH research award), and we gratefully acknowledge Marcus Frings (RWTH Aachen University) for measuring the HPLC chromatogram. Further thanks go to Daniela

Lutsch (RWTH Aachen University) for supporting practical experiments. Financial support from the Academy of Finland (RP grant no. 298817) is also gratefully acknowledged.

REFERENCES

- (1) For a recent review on bioactive sulfonamides, see: Apaydin, S.; Török, M. Sulfonamide derivatives as multi-target agents for complex diseases. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2019**, *29*, 2042–2050.
- (2) For an evaluation of the relevance of sulfonamides in medicinal chemistry, see: Ilardi, E. A.; Vitaku, E.; Njardarson, J. T. Data-Mining for Sulfur and Fluorine: An Evaluation of Pharmaceuticals To Reveal Opportunities for Drug Design and Discovery. *J. Med. Chem.* **2014**, *57*, 2832–2842.
- (3) For a comprehensive review on bioactive sulfonimidamides, see: (a) Chinthakindi, P. K.; Naicker, T.; Thota, N.; Govender, T.; Kruger, H. G.; Arvidsson, P. I. Sulfonimidamides in Medicinal and Agricultural Chemistry. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 4100–4109; *Angew. Chem.* **2017**, *129*, 4160–4170. For recent contributions in this field, see: (b) Lücking, U. Neglected sulfur(VI) pharmacophores in drug discovery: exploration of novel chemical space by the interplay of drug design and method development. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2019**, *6*, 1319–1324. (c) Zasukha, S. V.; Timoshenko, V. M.; Tolmachev, A. A.; Pivnytska, V. O.; Gavrylenko, O.; Zherish, S.; Shermolovich, Y.; Grygorenko, O. O. Sulfonimidamides and Imidosulfuric Diamides: Compounds from an Underexplored Part of Biologically Relevant Chemical Space. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2019**, *25*, 6928–6940. (d) Izzo, F.; Schäfer, M.; Lienau, P.; Ganzer, U.; Stockman, R.; Lücking, U. Exploration of Novel Chemical Space: Synthesis and in vitro Evaluation of N-Functionalized Tertiary Sulfonimidamides. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2018**, *24*, 9295–9304. For selected reviews on the concept of bioisosterism, see: (e) Lima, L. M.; Barreiro, E. J. Bioisosterism: A Useful Strategy for Molecular Modification and Drug Design. *Curr. Med. Chem.* **2005**, *12*, 23–49. (f) Patani, G. A.; LaVoie, E. J. Bioisosterism: A Rational Approach in Drug Design. *Chem. Rev.* **1996**, *96*, 3147–3176.
- (4) For a review on the syntheses of sulfonimidamides, see: (a) Nandi, G. C.; Arvidsson, P. I. Sulfonimidamides: Synthesis and Applications in Preparative Organic Chemistry. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2018**, *360*, 2976–3001. For recent contributions in this field, see: (b) Bremerich, M.; Conrads, C. M.; Langlet, T.; Bolm, C. Additions to *N*-Sulfinylamines as an Approach for the Metal-free Synthesis of Sulfonimidamides: *O*-Benzotriazolyl Sulfonimidates as Activated Intermediates. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2019**, *58*, 19014–19020; *Angew. Chem.* **2019**, *131*, 19190–19196. (c) Briggs, E. L.; Tota, A.; Colella, M.; Degennaro, L.; Luisi, R.; Bull, J. A. Synthesis of Sulfonimidamides from Sulfenamides via an Alkoxy-amino- λ^6 -sulfanenitrile Intermediate. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2019**, *58*, 14303–14310; *Angew. Chem.* **2019**, *131*, 14441–14448.
- (5) (a) Frings, M.; Bolm, C.; Blum, A.; Gnam, C. Sulfoximines from a Medicinal Chemist's Perspective: Physicochemical and in vitro Parameters Relevant for Drug Discovery. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2017**, *126*, 225–245. (b) Borhade, S. R.; Svensson, R.; Brandt, P.; Artursson, P.; Arvidsson, P. I.; Sandström, A. Preclinical Characterization of Acyl Sulfonimidamides: Potential Carboxylic Acid Bioisosteres with Tunable Properties. *ChemMedChem* **2015**, *10*, 455–460. (c) Johnson, C. R.; Jonsson, E. U.; Bacon, C. C. Preparation and Reactions of Sulfonimidoyl Chlorides. *J. Org. Chem.* **1979**, *44*, 2055–2061.
- (6) For examples of sulfonimidamides in heterocyclic chemistry, see: (a) Sen, I.; Kloer, D. P.; Hall, R. G.; Pal, S. Synthesis of Six-Membered Cyclic Sulfonimidamides. *Synthesis* **2013**, *45*, 3018–3028. (b) Sen, I.; Sasmal, S.; Hall, R. G.; Pal, S. An Efficient Synthesis of 1,3-Benzothiadiazin-4(3H)-one 2-Oxides: Novel Anthranilic Acid Derivatives. *Synthesis* **2016**, *48*, 3743–3752. (c) Pemberton, N.; Graden, H.; Evertsson, E.; Bratt, E.; Lepistö, M.; Johannesson, P.; Svensson, P. H. Synthesis and Functionalization of Cyclic Sulfonimidamides: A Novel Chiral Heterocyclic Carboxylic Acid Bioisostere. *ACS Med. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *3*, 574–578. (d) Chen, Y.; Aurell, C.-J.; Pettersen, A.; Lewis, R. J.; Hayes, M. A.; Lepistö, M.; Jonson, A. C.; Leek, H.; Thunberg, L. Saccharin Aza Bioisosteres - Synthesis and Preclinical Property Comparisons. *ACS Med. Chem. Lett.* **2017**, *8*, 672–677. (e) Bachon, A.-K.; Hermann, A.; Bolm, C. Three-

Dimensional Heterocycles from Sulfonimidamides by Sequential C–H Bond Alkenylation/Aza-Michael Cyclization. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2019**, *25*, 5889–5892. (f) Chinthakindi, P. K.; Benediktsdottir, A.; Ibrahim, A.; Wared, A.; Aurell, C.-J.; Pettersen, A.; Zamaratski, E.; Arvidsson, P. I.; Chen, Y.; Sandström, A. Synthesis of Sulfonimidamide-Based Amino Acid Building Blocks with Orthogonal Protecting Groups. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, 1045–1057. (g) Guba, W.; Haap, W.; Kuglstatte, A.; Peters, J.-U.; Sander, U. O.; Schnider, C.; Wermuth, R.; Woltering, T. (F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG). Preparation of 5-aryl-1-imino-1-oxo-[1,2,4]thiadiazines as anti-Alzheimer agents. WO2015091595A1, 2015. (h) Bartels, B.; Dolente, C.; Guba, W.; Haap, W.; Kuglstatte, A.; Sander, U. O.; Peters, J.-U.; Rogers-Evans, M.; Woltering, T.; Schnider, C.; Wermuth, R. (F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG). Preparation of pyridyl-triazabicycles having BACE1 inhibitory activity. WO2016012422A1, 2016. (i) Anselm, L.; Bartels, B.; Dolente, C.; Guba, W.; Haap, W.; Peters, J.-U.; Woltering, T.; Sander, U. O.; Rogers-Evans, M. (F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG). Preparation of 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl-thiadiazines as BACE1 inhibitors. WO2016023927A1, 2016. (j) Dotsenko, V. V.; Chigorina, E. A.; Krivokolysko, S. G. 2,2,2-Trifluoroethyl-thiadiazines: a patent evaluation of WO2016023927. *Expert Opin. Ther. Pat.* **2016**, *26*, 1371–1376. (k) Paulini, R.; Von Deyn, W.; Bastiaans, H. M. M.; Beyer, C. (BASF SE). Preparation of sulfonimidamide compounds for combating animal pests. WO2011069955A1, 2011. (l) Paulini, R.; Von Deyn, W.; Bastiaans, H. M. M. (BASF SE). Preparation of sulfoximinamide compounds for combating invertebrate pests. WO2012085081A1, 2012.

(7) (a) Williams, T. R.; Cram, D. J. New Ring Systems of Carbon, Nitrogen, and Chiral Sulfur. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1971**, *93*, 7333–7335. (b) Williams, T. R.; Cram, D. J. Stereochemistry of Sulfur Compounds. IV. New Ring Systems of Carbon, Nitrogen, and Chiral Sulfur. *J. Org. Chem.* **1973**, *38*, 20–26.

(8) Bohmann, R. A.; Unoh, Y.; Miura, M.; Bolm, C. 1,2-Thiazines: One-Pot Syntheses Utilizing Mono and Diaza Analogs of Sulfones. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2016**, *22*, 6783–6786.

(9) Except noted otherwise, all chiral substrates and products described here were racemic. As in the heterocycle formation the stereogenic center at sulfur remains untouched, we assume the process to be stereospecific allowing the preparation of enantiomerically pure products from the respective starting materials.

(10) (a) Lehmann, F. Cesium Carbonate (Cs_2CO_3). *Synlett* **2004**, 2447–2448. (b) Dijkstra, G.; Kruizinga, W. H.; Kellogg, R. M. An Assessment of the Causes of the “Cesium Effect”. *J. Org. Chem.* **1987**, *52*, 4230–4234.

(11) (a) Bemis, G. W.; Murcko, M. A. The Properties of Known Drugs. 1. Molecular Frameworks. *J. Med. Chem.* **1996**, *39*, 2887–2893. (b) Lovering, F.; Bikker, J.; Humblet, C. Escape from Flatland: Increasing Saturation as an Approach to Improving Clinical Success. *J. Med. Chem.* **2009**, *52*, 6752–6756. (c) Lovering, F. Escape from Flatland 2: complexity and promiscuity. *MedChemComm* **2013**, *4*, 515–519.

(12) For related cross-coupling reactions in sulfoximine and sulfondiimide chemistry, see: (a) Cho, G. Y.; Okamura, H.; Bolm, C. Synthesis and Palladium-Catalyzed Coupling Reactions of Enantiopure *p*-Bromophenyl Methyl Sulfoximine. *J. Org. Chem.* **2005**, *70*, 2346–2349. (b) Bohmann, R. A.; Schöbel, J.-H.; Unoh, Y.; Miura, M.; Bolm, C. Regioselective Syntheses of 1,2-Benzothiazine 1-Imines by Rhodium-Catalyzed Annulation Reactions of Sulfondiimines. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2019**, *361*, 2000–2003.

(13) For related transformations in sulfoximine and sulfondiimide chemistry, see: a) Sedelmeier, J.; Bolm, C. Application of β -Hydroxysulfoximines in Catalytic Asymmetric Phenyl Transfer Reactions for the Synthesis of Diarylmethanols. *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 8859–8862. b) Bohmann, R. A.; Schöbel, J.-H.; Bolm, C. Lithium Sulfondiimidoyl Carbanions. *Synlett* **2016**, *27*, 2201–2204.