

## CARBON -13 NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE SPECTRA OF 5-SUBSTITUTED 2-THIOURACIL DERIVATIVES.

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### ABSTRACT

*<sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts have been recorded for a number of 5-substituted 2-thiouracil derivatives. These derivatives were prepared from the corresponding esters in a two step reaction giving a pure grade products to be used as synthons for preparing 2-thioanalogues of (AZT).*

3'-Azido-2',3'-dideoxythymidine (AZT) was synthesized by Horwitz,<sup>1</sup> then reported by Mitsuya *et al.*<sup>2</sup> to inhibit significantly the replication of HIV. Since this drug causes severe side effects<sup>3</sup>, many other nucleoside analogues were synthesized and their structural - antiviral activity relationships have been investigated.<sup>4</sup> Introduction of a methyl or ethyl group into position 5 of the pyrimidine base increases the activity<sup>5</sup>. As recorded in the literature<sup>6-10</sup> oxygen sulfur exchange for natural nucleoside was done through a complicated strategy to achieve 2- thiothymidine, whereas 4- thiothymidine was obtained by direct thionation. Synthesis of 5-substituted-2- thiouracil analogues of AZT aiming to get analogues less toxic and at least as active as AZT against human immunodeficiency virus is still needed.

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These nucleosides can be prepared via coupling of 2-thiouracil derivatives with the appropriate azido sugar as reported.<sup>11</sup>

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of some 5-hydroxypyrimidines and 2-thiouracil derivatives were reported.<sup>12-13</sup> <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of some N-, O-, and S-methylated uracil and thiouracil derivatives were recorded and investigated by Still *et al.*<sup>14</sup>

Since the early pioneering work of Lauterbur<sup>15</sup>, there have been recorded some investigations of the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of some uracils.<sup>16-18</sup> But still there is an urgent need for preparing and recording different 5-substituted 2-thiouracils to be used as synthons for preparing 2-thio analogues of AZT. Therefore I decided to prepare and record the NMR spectra for 5 substituted 2-thiouracils to be used as synthons for 2-thio analogues of AZT with expected antiviral activity against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) as a possible chemotherapeutic strategy.

In this investigation I used the reported <sup>13</sup>Chesterfield method by which 5-substituted-2-thiouracils were prepared in (50.1-21%) yield by formylation of the proper ester, then treating the crude product with thiourea.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded and interpreted giving conclusive evidence for the productes structure(4b-f)with the parent 2-thiouracil.<sup>15</sup>

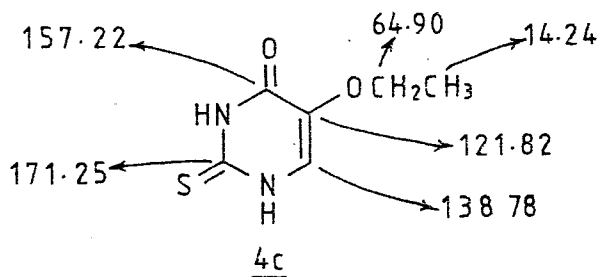
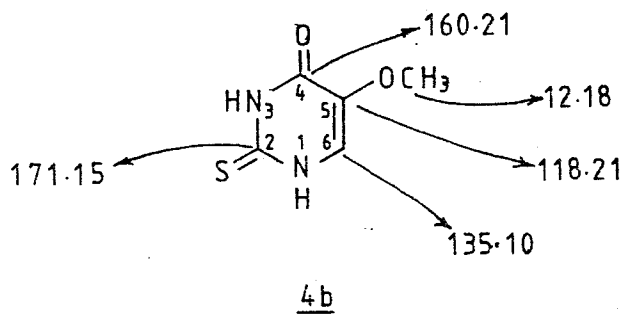
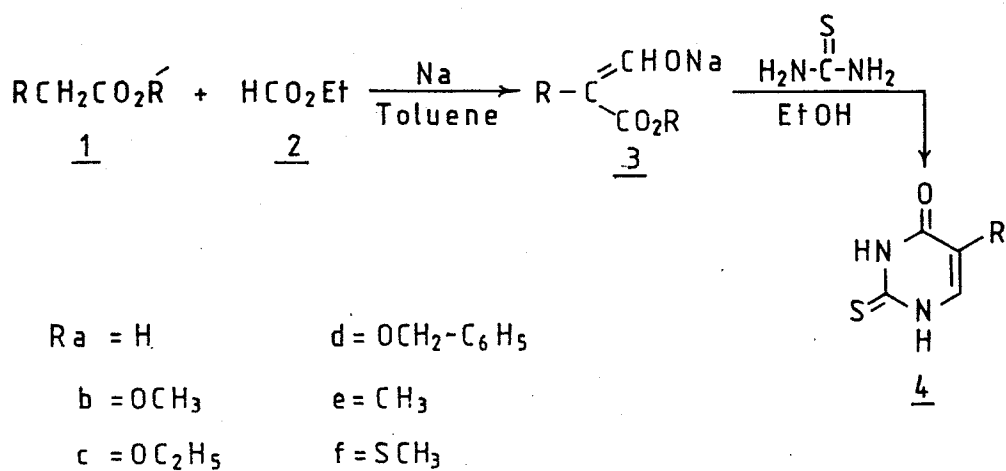
<sup>13</sup>C NMR sepectrum of 5-ethoxy-2-thiouracil (4c) revealed the -CH<sub>3</sub> and -OCH<sub>2</sub> at the expected fields at.  $\delta$  14.24 and 64.90, respectively. The C=S (C-2) function appeared at 171.15 comparable to C = S of pyridine 2-thiones which has

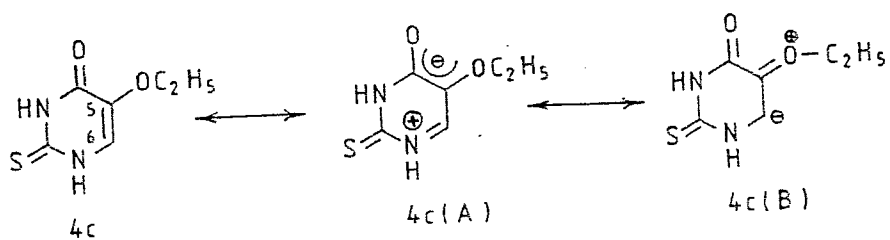
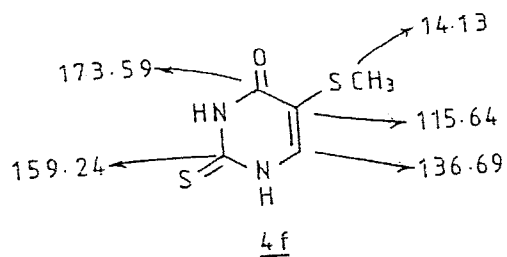
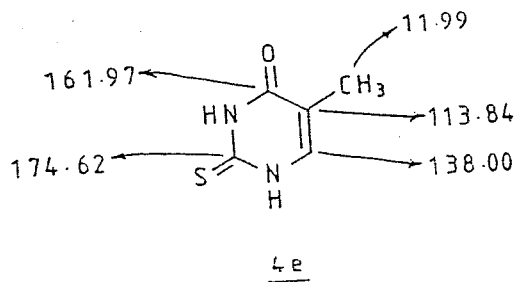
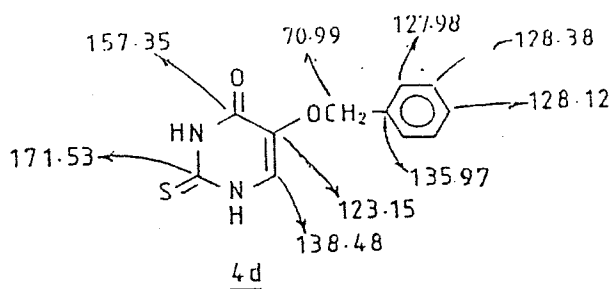
been reported to appear at a similar field<sup>19</sup>. The carbonyl at C-4 appeared at 157.22. This is too high field for cyclic amide carbonyl and thus it is suggested that the molecule has considerable contribution of the charge separated resonance form indicated. However, the possibility that (4c) exists under the measurements conditions in the enol form can not be overlooked.

It is of value to report that in compound (4c) the double bond between C - 5 and C-6 is electron rich and thus both carbons in this double bond is expected to be shielded. C - 5 is shielded by N lone pair resonance (cf. Resonance form 4c (A)). Also C - 6 is in turn shielded by oxygen lone pair resonance (cf. Form 4c (B)). Thus, the values observed here look logical. However, assignment of these values to specific carbons caused some confusion. I believe that C - 5 should be more shielded than C - 6 as although it is deshielded by being linked to more electronegative element of higher molecular weight, it is shielded by nitrogen lone pair resonance. Although oxygen lone pair would also shield C - 6, this shielding effect is expected to be of smaller magnitude as compared to nitrogen lone pair shielding effect of C - 5. Oxygen is more electronegative than nitrogen and thus has more tendency to retain its lone pair of electrons.

The mass spectrum of (4c) revealed molecular ion as a base peak. This underwent appreciable fragmentation via loss of ethyl yielding the dioxo compound that fragmented further into isocyanate.

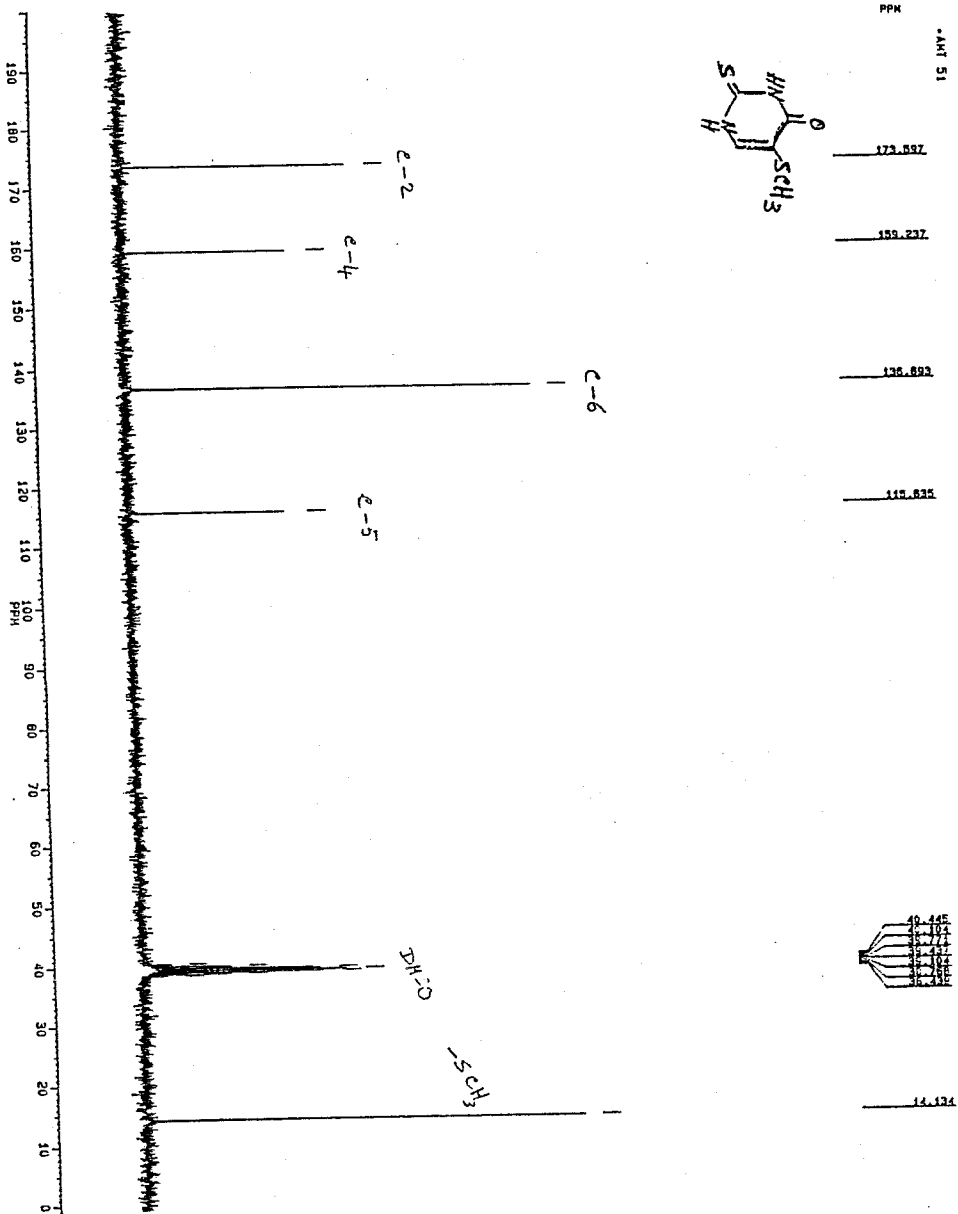
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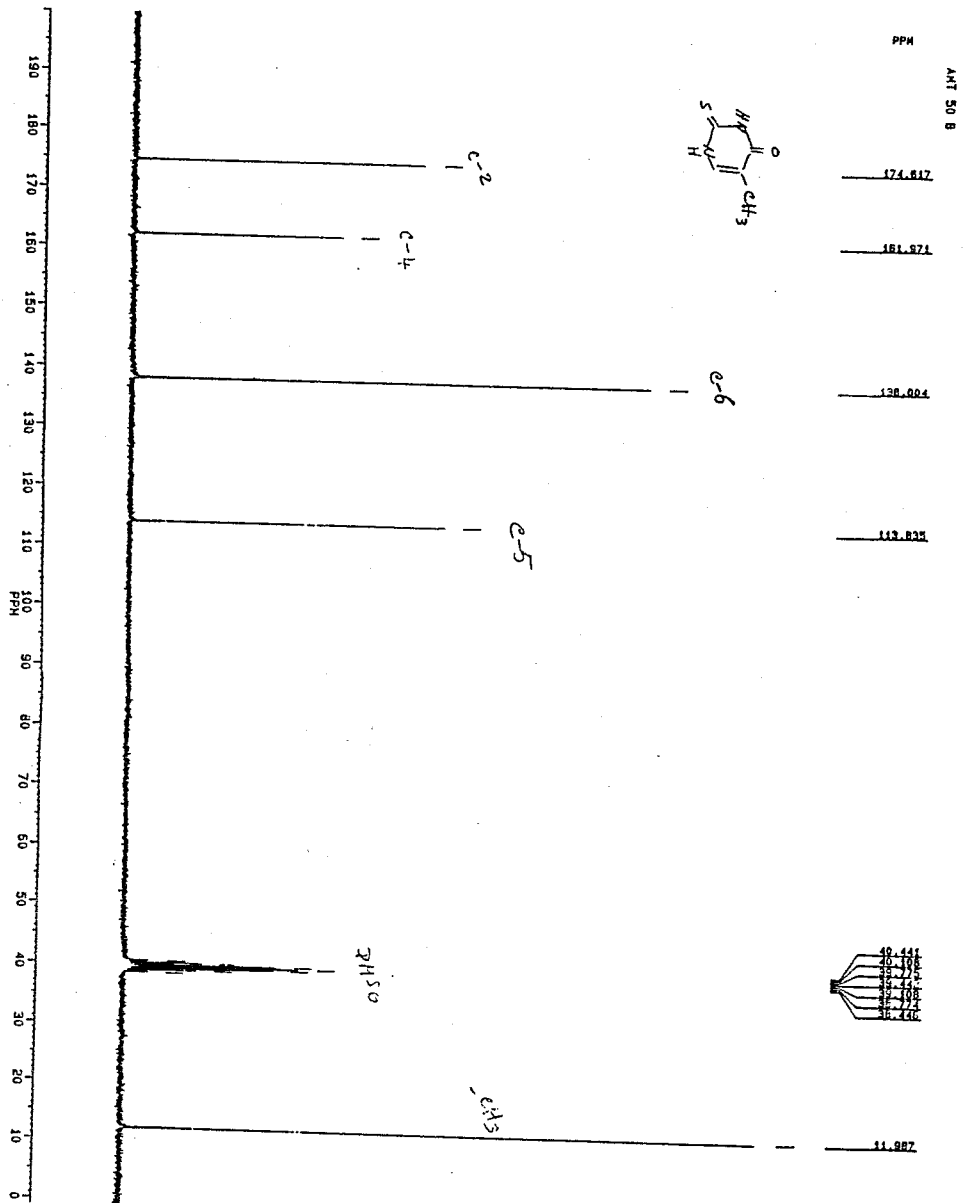


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## EXPERIMENTAL

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 250 FT NMR spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on a Varian MAT 311 A spectrometer. Microanalysis were carried out by Microanalytical Unit at Cairo University.

### General procedure :

A mixture of the proper ester ( 0.1 mole ) and ethyl formate (0.1 mole, 7.4 g) was added dropwise to a stirred suspension of sodium (0.1 mole, 2.3 g) in toluene (30 ml), the temperature being kept below  $30^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 hrs . The solvent was evaporated and to the crude viscous sodio - $\beta$  - ester were added ethanol (20 ml ) and thiourea ( 0.1 mole, 7.6 g) to give the corresponding 5-substituted -2-thiouracils (4b-f).

**2-Thiouracil :** [4a;  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{N}_2\text{OS}$ ; (128.15) ],  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO)  $\delta$  105.2 ( C - 5 ); 142.0 ( C - 6 ); 160.9 ( C - 4 ); 175.9 ( C - 2 ).<sup>4</sup>

**5-Methoxy -2-thiouracil :** [4b;  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_6\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$  (158.18). Methyl methoxyacetate (Ib, 0.1 mole, 10.4 g) was used to give 2-thio- 5-methoxyuracil (4a) as white crystals, recrystallized from water, M.P.  $280 - 281^\circ\text{C}$ ; yield 7.92 g (50.1 % ),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO)  $\delta$  3.8 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ); 7.05 (s, 1H, CH); 12.5 (br, 2H, 2NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO)  $\delta$  12.18 (  $\text{CH}_3$  ); 118.21 ( C - 5 ); 135.10 ( C - 6 ); 160.21 ( C - 4 ); 171.15 (C-2).

$\text{C}_5\text{H}_6\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$	Calcd	C, 37.97;	H, 3.82;	N, 17.71;	S, 20.27
	Found	C, 38.1;	H 3.9;	N, 17.4;	S, 20.1%.

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**5-Ethoxy-2-thiouracil** : [4c, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (172.21)]. Ethyl ethoxyacetate (Ic, 0.1 mole, 13.2 g) was used to give 2-thio-5-ethoxyuracil (4c) as pale yellow crystals, recrystallized from water, M.P. 230 °C, yield 8.46 g (49 %), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO) δ 1.26 (3H, t, j = 7 Hz CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (2H, q, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.03 (1H, s, 6-H); 12.35 (br. 2H, 2NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO) δ 14.24 (CH<sub>3</sub>); 64.90 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 121.82 (C - 6), 138.78 (C - 5), 157.22 (C - 4); 171.25 (C - 2); Ms: m/z (%) = 127 (M\*, 100), 144 (64), 57 (89), 28 (42).

C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>8</sub> N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S Calcd. C, 41.85; H, 4.68; N, 16.27; S, 18.62  
Found C, 42.2; H, 4.6; N, 16.2; S, 18.6 %

**5-Benzoyloxy-2-thiouracil** [4d, C<sub>11</sub> H<sub>10</sub> N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (234.28).

(A) The proper ester i.e benzyl benzyloxyacetate (Id) C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (256.30) was prepared <sup>14</sup> as reported from ethyl chloroacetate and benzyl alcohol in presence of sodium metal (in equimolecular amounts) to give benzyl benzyloxy acetate, yield 30 %, b.p. 170 - 172 °C/0.6 mm.,

Calcd. C, 74.98; H, 6.29

Found C, 75.1; H, 6.2 % .

(B) Benzyl benzyloxyacetate Id, 0.1 mole (25.63 g), was used to prepare 5-benzyloxy-2-thiouracil (4d) as pale buff crystals recrystallized from ethanol, M.P. 229 - 230 °C, yield 5.1 g (21.8 %), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO): δ 4.95 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 7.10 (s, 1H, H - 6), 7.30 (m, 5H, arom. H), 12.30 (br, 2H, 2NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO) δ 70.99 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 123.15 (C - 5), 127.99, 128.12, 128.38, 135.97 (phenyl), 138.48 (C - 6), 157.35 (C - 4), 171.53 (C - 2); Ms: m / z (%) = , 234 (M\*, 18), 91 (100).

**5-Methyl-2-thiouracil [4e, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS (142.61)].** Ethyl propionate (1e, 0.1 mole, 10.21 g) was used to obtain 5-methyl-2-thiouracil (2-thiothymine) (4e) as pale yellow crystals, recrystallized from water, M.P. 279 - 280 °C, yield 4.11 g (28.82 %); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO) δ 1.80 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.31 (s, 1H, H-6), 12.30 (br, 2H, 2NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO); δ 11.99 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 113.84 (C - 5), 138.00 (C-6), 161.87 (C - 4), 174.62 (C - 2).

C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS Calcd C, 42.11; H, 4.24; N, 19.64; S, 22.48  
Found C, 42.1; H, 4.2; N, 19.6; S, 22.4 %.

Ms: m / z (%) = 142 (M\*, 100), 84 (28), 55 (100), 54 (38), 28 (70).

**5-Methylthio-2-thiouracil [4f, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> (174.68)].** Ethyl methylthioacetate (1f, 0.1 mole, 13.42g) gave 5-thiomethyl-2-thiouracil (4f) as buff crystals, recrystallized from methanol, M.P. 288 - 289 °C, yield 3.67 g. (21 %), <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO) δ 2.30 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.20 (s, 1H, H - 6); 12.54 (br, 2H, 2NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO) δ 14.13 (SCH<sub>3</sub>), 115.64 (C - 5), 136.69 (C - 6); 159.24 (C - 4); 173.59 (C-2). Ms: m / z (%) = 174 (M\*, 100), 141 (12), 72 (20), 45 (25).

C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> Calcd. C, 34.38; H, 3.46; N, 16.04; S, 36.75  
Found C, 34.3; H 3.4; N, 16.0; S, 36.4 %

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دراسة أطياف الرنين النووي المغناطيسي للكربون ١٣ لبعض مركبات ٢ - ثيوبوراسيل

عبد المنعم الترجمان

قسم الكيمياء - كلية العلوم - جامعة المنوفية

قد تم تسجيل أطياف الرنين النووي المغناطيسي لعدد من مشتقات ٢ - ثيوبوراسيل ودراستها وإثبات التركيب الجزيئي لها ومناقشة القيم المسجلة لكل مجموعة جزيئية ومقارنتها بنتائج البحوث المنشورة في هذا المجال.

هذه المركبات قد تم تحضيرها من الإسترات المقابلة لها على خطوتين وتم بلورتها لتعطى عينات على درجة عالية من النقاوة لتستخدم في تحضير تماثلات - تحتوي على ذرة كبريت في الموضع ٢- للمركب المستخدم في علاج مرضى الايدز AZT .