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#### A kinetic study of thiol addition to *N*-phenylchloroacetamide

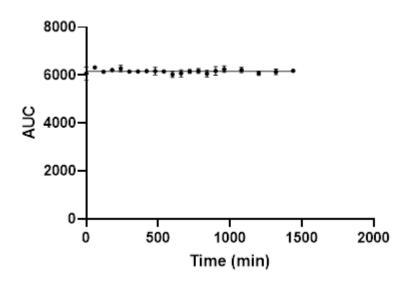
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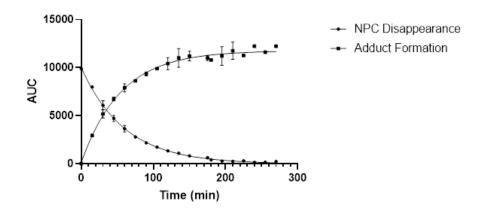
Table of Contents	Page
Figure S1: Stability of NPC in aqueous buffer	S3
Table S1: Reaction conditions for addition of RSH (1a-d) to NPC	S3
Figure S2-5: Plots of kobs for addition of RSH (1a-d) to NPC	S4
<b>Table S2:</b> $k_{obs}$ , $k_2^{calc}$ , and $k_2^{corr}$ values for addition of RSH (1a-d) to NPC	<b>S</b> 6
Figures S6-8: Plots of kobs for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at varied temperatures	S7
Figure S9: Fitting of Arrhenius plot for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC	S8
Figure S10: Fitting of Eyring plot for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC	S9
<b>Table S3:</b> $k_{obs}$ , $k_2^{calc}$ , and $k_2^{corr}$ values for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at varied temperatures	S9
<b>Figures S11-12:</b> Plots of $k_{obs}$ for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at varied ionic strengths	S10
<b>Table S4:</b> $k_{obs}$ , $k_2^{calc}$ , and $k_2^{corr}$ values for addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at varied ionic strengths	S11
<b>Figure S13:</b> <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of addition product for the reaction of NPC and DEC in product study	S12
<b>Figure S14:</b> 2D-COSY spectrum of addition product for the reaction of NPC and DEC in product study	S13
Table S5: Cartesian Coordinates of DFT-Calculated Structures	S14
Table S6: DFT-Calculated second order rate constants	S19
Table S7: DFT-Calculated activation energies in different solvents	S19



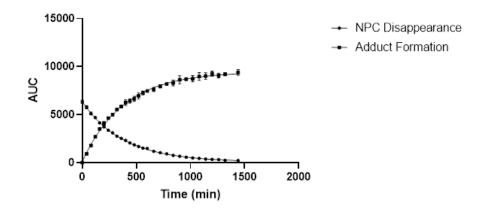
**Figure S1.** Stability of 1 mM NPC in aqueous buffer, pH=7.4, assessed over 24 hours. Data were fit to a linear regression to obtain a slope of  $-0.029 \pm 0.042$  that is not statistically significant from zero, *P* value = 0.4998, and y-intercept of 6179 ± 31.

Table S1. pH of buffer, mobile phase gradient, length of run and retention times of NPC and thiol-
adduct for each experiment of NPC with RSH (1a-d).

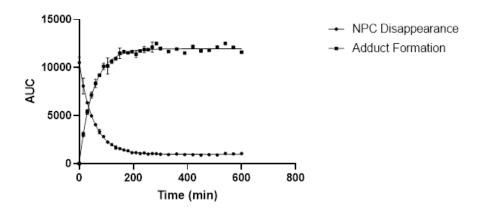
Thiol	[NPC] mM	[Thiol] mM	pH of Aqueous Buffer	Mobile Phase Gradient (% CH <sub>3</sub> CN in H <sub>2</sub> O)	Total Length of Run (min)	Retention Time NPC (min)	Retention Time Adduct (min)
1a	2	20	6.80	20-80	15	8.6	4.5
1b	1	10	7.40	18-30	20	11.9	3.3
1c	2	20	8.00	20-80	15	8.6	5.8
1d	1	10	9.01	18-30	20	11.9	10.8



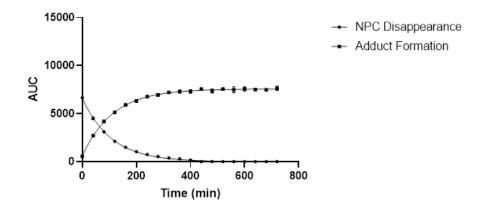
**Figure S2.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (2 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of DEC (20 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM MOPS buffer (1% v/v DMSO), pH 6.8,  $\mu = 0.100$ , T = 22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S2**.



**Figure S3.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of GSH (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM potassium phosphate buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO), pH 7.4,  $\mu = 0.100$ , T = 22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S2**.



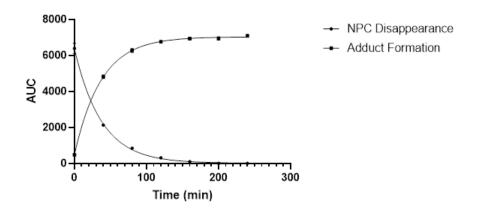
**Figure S4.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (2 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of BME (20 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM Tris buffer (1% v/v DMSO), pH=8.0,  $\mu$ =0.100, T=22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S2**.



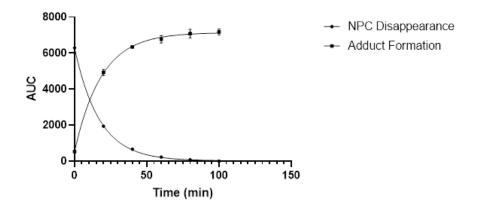
**Figure S5.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of MPA (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (1% v/v DMSO), pH=9,  $\mu$ =0.100, T=22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S2**.

**Table S2.** Observed rate constants ( $k_{obs}$ ), calculated second order rate constants ( $k_2^{calc}$ ), and corrected second order rate constants ( $k_2^{corr}$ ) for the addition of RSH (**1a-d**) to NPC. Measurements were made in duplicate for both the disappearance of chloroacetamide and appearance of adduct, providing quadruplicate measurements. Errors shown for  $k_{obs}$  and  $k_2^{calc}$  represent the standard error of the fitting. The errors shown for  $k_2^{calc}$  represent the propagated uncertainty including the uncertainty in *f* RS<sup>-</sup> (see Table 2).

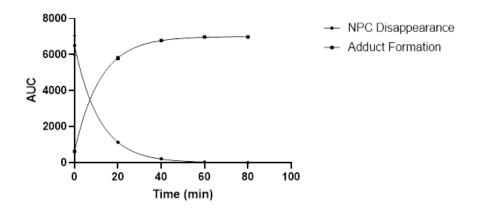
Thiol	$k_{obs} (10^{-3} s^{-1})$	k <sub>2</sub> <sup>calc</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k2 <sup>corr</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	log(k2 <sup>corr</sup> )
1a	$0.2722 \pm 0.0046$	$0.01361 \pm 0.00023$	$0.150\pm0.039$	$-0.825 \pm 0.131$
1a	$0.2877 \pm 0.0045$	$0.01491 \pm 0.00023$	$0.158 \pm 0.041$	$-0.801 \pm 0.131$
1a	$0.3532 \pm 0.0254$	$0.01766 \pm 0.00127$	$0.194\pm0.052$	$-0.712 \pm 0.137$
1a	$0.2798 \pm 0.0135$	$0.01399 \pm 0.00068$	$0.154\pm0.041$	$-0.813 \pm 0.134$
1b	$0.04237 \pm 0.00031$	$0.004237 \pm 0.000031$	$0.0813 \pm 0.0101$	$-1.090 \pm 0.058$
1b	$0.04178 \pm 0.00037$	$0.004178 \pm 0.000037$	$0.0802 \pm 0.0100$	$-1.096 \pm 0.058$
1b	$0.04450 \pm 0.00085$	$0.004450 \pm 0.000085$	$0.0854 \pm 0.0107$	$-1.068 \pm 0.058$
1b	$0.04468 \pm 0.00086$	$0.004468 \pm 0.000086$	$0.0858 \pm 0.0108$	$-1.067 \pm 0.058$
1c	$0.3308 \pm 0.0061$	$0.01654 \pm 0.00031$	$0.645\pm0.083$	$-0.190 \pm 0.060$
1c	$0.2955 \pm 0.0175$	$0.01478 \pm 0.00087$	$0.577\pm0.081$	$-0.239 \pm 0.066$
1c	$0.3392 \pm 0.0056$	$0.01696 \pm 0.00028$	$0.662\pm0.085$	$-0.179 \pm 0.060$
1c	$0.3137 \pm 0.0096$	$0.01568 \pm 0.00048$	$0.612\pm0.080$	$-0.213 \pm 0.061$
1d	$0.1548 \pm 0.0018$	$0.01548 \pm 0.00018$	$0.297\pm0.037$	$-0.527 \pm 0.058$
1d	$0.1574 \pm 0.0020$	$0.01574 \pm 0.00020$	$0.302\pm0.038$	$-0.520 \pm 0.058$
1d	$0.1599 \pm 0.0061$	$0.01599 \pm 0.00061$	$0.307\pm0.040$	$-0.513 \pm 0.060$
1d	$0.1663 \pm 0.0064$	$0.01663 \pm 0.00064$	$0.319\pm0.041$	$-0.496 \pm 0.060$



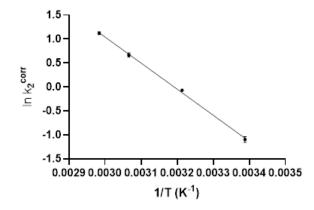
**Figure S6.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of 1d (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO) at pH 9.0,  $\mu = 0.100$ , T = 37°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S3**.



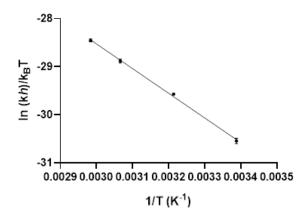
**Figure S7.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of 1d (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO) at pH 9.0,  $\mu = 0.100$ , T = 53°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S3**.



**Figure S8.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of 1d (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO) at pH 9.0,  $\mu = 0.100$ , T = 62°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S3**.



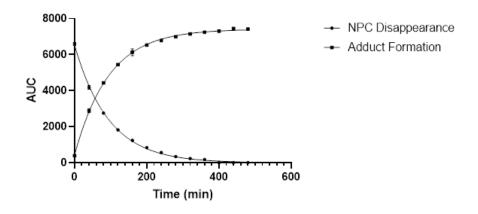
**Figure S9.** Arrhenius plot showing  $\ln(k_2^{corr})$  vs 1/T for the addition of 1d to NPC in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO), pH = 9.0,  $\mu = 0.100$ . The data were fitted to a linear regression to obtain a slope of -5440 ± 143 and y-intercept of 17.36 ± 0.45, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9986.



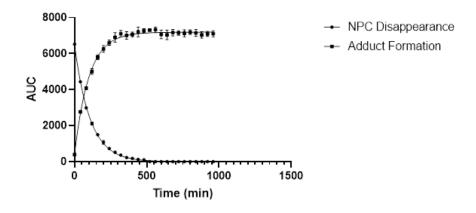
**Figure S10.** Eyring plot showing  $\ln((k_2h)/(k_BT))$  vs 1/T for the addition of 1d to NPC in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO), pH = 9.0,  $\mu$  = 0.100. The data were fitted to a linear regression to obtain a slope of -5126 ± 146 and y-intercept of -13.15 ± 0.46, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9984.

**Table S3.** Observed rate constants ( $k_{obs}$ ), calculated second order rate constants ( $k_2^{calc}$ ), and corrected second order rate constants ( $k_2^{corr}$ ) for the addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at variable temperatures. Measurements were made in duplicate for both the disappearance of acetamide and appearance of adduct. Errors represent the standard deviation of the replicate values.

Temp (°C)	kobs (10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>2</sub> <sup>calc</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k2 <sup>corr</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	ln(k2 <sup>corr</sup> )	ln((k2 <sup>corr</sup> h)/k <sub>B</sub> T)
22	$0.1596 \pm 0.0049$	$0.01596 \pm 0.00049$	$0.3344 \pm 0.0103$	$-1.0953 \pm 0.0589$	$-30.543 \pm 0.059$
38	$0.4460 \pm 0.0116$	$0.04460 \pm 0.00116$	$0.9345 \pm 0.0243$	$-0.0678 \pm 0.0255$	$-29.568 \pm 0.026$
52	$0.9299 \pm 0.0396$	$0.09299 \pm 0.00396$	$1.9483 \pm 0.0829$	$0.6670 \pm 0.0432$	$-28.880 \pm 0.043$
63	$1.4650 \pm 0.0442$	$0.14650 \pm 0.00442$	$3.0695 \pm 0.0926$	$1.1215 \pm 0.0304$	$-28.453 \pm 0.030$



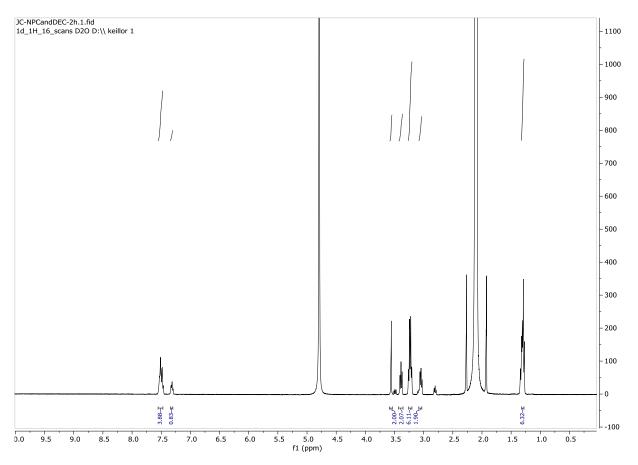
**Figure S11.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of 1d (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO), pH 9.0,  $\mu = 0.050$ , T = 22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S4**.



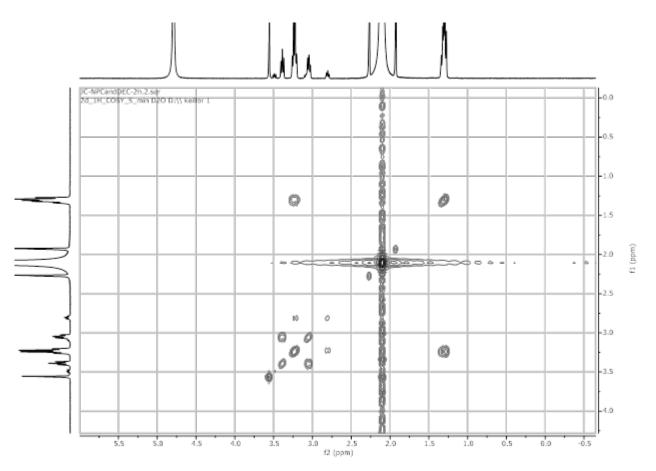
**Figure S12.** Plot of disappearance of NPC (1 mM) and formation of adduct for the addition of 1d (10 mM) vs time (min) in 67 mM CHES buffer (0.5% v/v DMSO), pH 9.0,  $\mu = 0.075$ , T = 22°C. The area under the curve (AUC) was integrated from the chromatograph at 214 nm for the peaks corresponding to NPC and the adduct. The AUC data for disappearance of NPC were fitted to a mono-exponential decay with the constraint that the plateau = 0 and the data for formation of adduct were fitted to a mono-exponential association with the constraint that  $Y_0 = 0$  to afford the k<sub>obs</sub> values summarized in **Table S4**.

**Table S4.** Observed rate constants  $(k_{obs})$ , calculated second order rate constants  $(k_2^{calc})$ , and corrected second order rate constants  $(k_2^{corr})$  for the addition of MPA (1d) to NPC at varying ionic strengths. Measurements were made in duplicate for both the disappearance of acetamide and appearance of adduct. Errors represent the standard deviation of the replicate values.

[KCl] (M)	k <sub>obs</sub> (10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>2</sub> <sup>calc</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>2</sub> <sup>corr</sup> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
0.050	$0.1834 \pm 0.0070$	$0.01834 \pm 0.00070$	$0.3843 \pm 0.0146$
0.075	$0.1662 \pm 0.0134$	$0.01662 \pm 0.00134$	$0.3483 \pm 0.0282$
0.100	$0.1596 \pm 0.0049$	$0.01596 \pm 0.00049$	$0.3344 \pm 0.0103$



**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of adduct formed after 2 hours of allowing DEC to react with NPC in deuterated buffer.



**Figure S14:** COSY spectrum of adduct formed after 2 hours of allowing DEC to react with NPC in deuterated buffer.

#### Table S5. Cartesian Coordinates of DFT-Calculated Structures

# N-phenyl chloroacetamide

19			
g98	_logfile st	ructure: 23	
Ν	-0.455752	-0.102793	-0.000058
С	-1.302676	0.943677	0.000067
С	-2.794610	0.634774	0.000057
Н	-3.229492	1.090507	-0.885569
0	-0.986920	2.120180	0.000190
С	0.951625	-0.106150	-0.000046
С	1.576787	-1.352996	0.000093
С	1.725568	1.051331	-0.000163
С	2.956647	-1.442926	0.000122
Н	0.976106	-2.254839	0.000187
С	3.109871	0.944930	-0.000125
Н	1.249745	2.018163	-0.000274
С	3.733695	-0.292169	0.000015
Н	3.425458	-2.418603	0.000231
Н	3.703943	1.850174	-0.000209
Н	4.813575	-0.361424	0.000045
Н	-0.890687	-1.013027	-0.000151
Cl	-3.263235	-1.089767	-0.000074
Н	-3.229463	1.090364	0.885772

24			
g98	logfile st	ructure: 32	
N	0.282585	0.412989	-0.480867
С	-0.808840	0.278938	0.328099
С	-2.100068	0.631393	-0.334896
Н	-2.997560	0.406353	0.209333
0	-0.758291	-0.009131	1.512319
С	1.626435	0.141188	-0.204261
С	2.530882	0.261007	-1.263056
С	2.100382	-0.231593	1.053567
С	3.877508	0.014614	-1.069941
Н	2.171344	0.549563	-2.244025
С	3.455272	-0.477048	1.231004
Н	1.412436	-0.327278	1.877251
С	4.351751	-0.357623	0.181230
Н	4.559778	0.113563	-1.904834
Н	3.808912	-0.766425	2.212966
Н	5.405524	-0.551293	0.333088
Н	0.085519	0.642959	-1.440279
Н	-2.164635	0.762884	-1.398936
Cl	-2.123882	2.735159	0.105895
S	-2.221491	-1.866878	-0.922121
С	-2.923518	-2.389323	0.670059
Н	-2.917376	-3.477385	0.750387
Н	-2.330809	-1.980800	1.491098
Н	-3.953878	-2.047004	0.784356

TS - methylthiolate chloroacetamide

## N-phenyl bromoacetamide

3 7 -0.000045 2 -0.000085 0 -0.000070
2 -0.000085
0 -0.000070
4 -0.885743
0 -0.000150
0.000013
9 -0.000130
8 0.000134
4 -0.000117
9 -0.000239
6 0.000159
4 0.000186
0.000052
5 -0.000230
1 0.000276
9 0.000068
3 -0.000104
9 0.885552
4 0.000057

### TS N-phenyl bromoacetamide

24				
g98	_logfile s	structure:	35	
Ν	-0.570415	-0.134	609	-0.496951
С	0.466884	0.231	542	0.310644
С	1.801165	0.194	693	-0.361721
Н	2.617562	2 0.636	407	0.178267
0	0.360299	0.480	809	1.499880
С	-1.938230	-0.188	382	-0.209196
С	-2.796532	2 -0.516	277	-1.262291
С	-2.476979	0.060	505	1.053064
С	-4.161891	-0.593	615	-1.059484
Н	-2.385662	2 -0.710	957	-2.246200
С	-3.850249	9 -0.020	564	1.240419
Η	-1.825086	6 0.314	799	1.872337
С	-4.701030			0.196278
Н	-4.807904	-0.848	812	-1.890042
Н	-4.254871	0.175	592	2.225710
Η	-5.769625			0.355999
Η	-0.334038			-1.461497
Η	1.881930			-1.430790
Br	2.388932			0.048063
S	1.307157		-	-0.906920
С	1.89385			0.692707
Η	1.605360			0.820198
Η	1.453030			1.507301
Η	2.980715	3.275	913	0.774332

# N-phenyl iodoacetamide

1 )			
g98_	_logfile str	ucture: 24	
Ν	0.855283	-0.086474	0.758031
С	-0.074335	0.897625	0.663244
С	-1.428330	0.525180	1.226817
Н	-1.931435	1.420708	1.573218
0	0.120461	1.995472	0.175069
С	2.184709	-0.101136	0.299081
С	2.913474	-1.271323	0.516167
С	2.790431	0.973543	-0.347825
С	4.226359	-1.367042	0.093262
Н	2.446370	-2.110246	1.018535
С	4.109362	0.861943	-0.766896
Н	2.236369	1.881637	-0.518394
С	4.834587	-0.298834	-0.552570
Н	4.775647	-2.282901	0.270189
Н	4.570889	1.703006	-1.268960
Н	5.862096	-0.372737	-0.883735
Н	0.552205	-0.940466	1.197012
Н	-1.387020	-0.219759	2.015439
I	-2.668176	-0.297310	-0.318826

## TS N-phenyliodoacetamide

24	1		
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Ν	-0.773390	0.006725	-0.423928
С	0.104121	0.489431	0.500640
С	1.340002	1.079621	-0.087842
Η	1.958978	1.648908	0.579117
0	-0.063272	0.422551	1.706404
С	-2.038852	-0.558060	-0.219828
С	-2.875359	-0.666937	-1.332413
С	-2.483980	-1.025224	1.015792
С	-4.133315	-1.229057	-1.212898
Н	-2.534701	-0.304289	-2.295321
С	-3.750408	-1.583151	1.121205
Η	-1.845552	-0.946593	1.880245
С	-4.582194	-1.689826	0.017652
Н	-4.766861	-1.303488	-2.087676
Η	-4.085258	-1.941164	2.086888
Η	-5.567513	-2.126983	0.112958
Н	-0.549363	0.212121	-1.383378
Η	1.423554	1.256657	-1.143697
I	2.813575	-0.927486	-0.105146
S	-0.001175	3.344799	-0.238674
С	-1.731993	3.002166	0.205213
Η	-1.788174	2.353644	1.082264
Н	-2.246526	3.934874	0.442378
Η	-2.267501	2.515030	-0.611122

N-pheny 23	lacetamide	thioether pr	oduct
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N _	-0.163819	0.064547	-0.327762
С	-0.965917	1.141443	-0.178166
С	-2.441596	0.908326	-0.495800
Н	-2.608375	1.249495	-1.519544
0	-0.595384	2.255367	0.150540
С	1.224386	-0.050552	-0.150941
С	1.785575	-1.310445	-0.364050
С	2.045648	1.011935	0.219414
С	3.145661	-1.506115	-0.209084
Н	1.148909	-2.138574	-0.653026
С	3.409308	0.799880	0.371683
Н	1.619257	1.987580	0.385864
С	3.968415	-0.450222	0.160805
Н	3.563760	-2.490190	-0.378500
Н	4.039023	1.632226	0.660263
Н	5.032802	-0.602647	0.282586
Н	-0.648924	-0.783036	-0.592611
Н	-3.018550	1.557162	0.161969
S	-3.069708	-0.777257	-0.419002
С	-3.015272	-1.057044	1.361831
Н	-3.650475	-0.339308	1.878806

-3.394383

-2.062457

-1.995153 -0.992135

1.535855

1.738234

Н

Η

**Table S6.** Second order rate constants calculated according to Eyring transition state theory, using activation energies calculated for the reaction of *N*-phenylhaloacetamides with methanethiol

<i>N</i> -phenylhaloacetamide derivative	Calculated $k_2 = \frac{k_B T}{h} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G_{calc}^{\ddagger}}{k_B T}\right)$ (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
Cl	$6.07  imes 10^{-5}$
Br	$1.07 imes10^{-1}$
Ι	$1.77 \times 10^{-1}$

**Table S7.** DFT-calculated activation energies for the reaction of *N*-phenylhaloacetamides with methanethiol in water and dichloromethane (DCM) solvents

<i>N</i> -phenylhaloacetamide derivative	Calculated ΔG <sup>‡</sup> (kcal/mol)		
	Water	DCM	
Cl	19.1	16.4	
Br	14.7	12.3	
Ι	14.4	5.9	