A thiol, thio alcohol, or mercaptan is a compound that has the following general structural formula.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  \text{R}^1 \\
  \text{R}^2 - \text{C} - \text{S} - \text{H} \\
  \text{R}^3 
\end{array}
\]

\(\text{R}^1-\text{R}^3\) could be hydrogen atoms, alkyl groups, aryl groups, or any combination thereof.

e.g.:

- \(\text{H} - \text{C} - \text{S} - \text{H}\)
- \(\text{CH}_3 - \text{C} - \text{S} - \text{H}\)
- \(\text{C} - \text{S} - \text{H}\)
- \(\text{C} - \text{S} - \text{H}\)

The sulfhydryl group in a thiol is called the thiol group.

Contributors

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