A New Oxidative Two-atom Expansion of the β -Lactam Ring of a 6β -Aminopenicillanate

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Methyl 6β -(dihydro-4H-1,3,5-dioxazin-5-yl)penicillanate is converted into methyl (6S,9S)-8,8-dimethyl-2-oxo-5-oxa-7-thia-1,4-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-3-ene-9-carboxylate by the action of potassium permanganate in aqueous acetic acid.

Recently, we have shown¹ that penicillanate 1,1-dioxides, *e.g.* (1a), react by an epimerisation– β -elimination sequence, in the presence of 1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene, to give azetidinonesulphinic acids, *e.g.* (2). In the hope that it would undergo the β -elimination reaction without epimerisation, we at-

tempted to prepare the sulphone (1b). We now report an unprecedented rearrangement which occurred as a consequence of oxidation of the penicillanate (3a) with potassium permanganate.

When the acid (3b) was stirred with 41 % aqueous formalde-

hyde-ether and the crude product (isolated from the ether layer) treated with diazomethane, the penicillanate (**3a**), m.p. 125–127 °C, $[\alpha]_D + 233^\circ$ (EtOH), was obtained (51% after SiO₂ chromatography).

The penicillanate (3a) reacted with potassium permanaganate (2.2 mol. equiv.) in 80% aqueous acetic acid (conditions that are usually effective for transforming penicillanates into penicillanate 1,1-dioxides²) to give compound A (56% after SiO₂ chromatography), m.p. 149–151 °C, $[\alpha]_D$ –310° (EtOH). The constitution of compound A, as $C_9H_{12}N_2O_4S$, was established by elemental analysis and mass spectroscopy. Spectroscopic considerations revealed the presence of a -CO₂Me group [ν_{max} 1 750 cm⁻¹; δ_{H} 3.78 (3H, s); δ_{C} 52.7 (q) and 168 p.p.m. (s)], an unstrained -C(O)N < moiety [v_{max} 1 690 cm⁻¹; δ_c 151 p.p.m. (s)], and a -CH: N- function $[\delta_{\rm H}, 7.76 (1 {\rm H}, {\rm s}); \delta_{\rm C}, 147 {\rm p.p.m.} ({\rm d})]$, suggesting that compound A was bicyclic. Additionally, compound A incorporated a CMe₂ moiety [$\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.47 and 1.70 (2 \times 3H, s); $\delta_{\rm C}$ 23.6 and 33.5 $(2 \times q)$, and 53.9 p.p.m. (s)] and two CH groups [$\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.80 and $6.52 (2 \times 1H, s); \delta_{c} 69.9 \text{ and } 95.1 \text{ p.p.m.} (2 \times d)$]. In common with the penicillanate (3a), compound A showed in the mass spectrum a base peak at m/z 174 attributable to the ion (4). On the basis of the foregoing information, compound A was considered to possess either the structure (5) or (6).

In the hope of differentiating between the two structures, compound A was treated with sodium borohydride in ethanol. Following silica gel chromatography a dihydroderivative, m.p. 134—136 °C (decomp.), $[\alpha]_D + 44^\circ$ (EtOH), was isolated (81%). The 360 MHz ¹H n.m.r. spectrum of this material indicated that it possessed the structure (7a). In particular, the chemical shift of the bridgehead proton (δ 6.68) was very similar to that of compound A (δ 6.52); furthermore, the methylene proton at δ 4.07 was coupled (J 8 Hz) to the amino-proton at δ 6.24, as well as (J 16 Hz) to the methylene proton at δ 3.67.

It is well established that *N*- and *O*-acylhydroxylamines can be differentiated by i.r. spectroscopy.³ Corroboratory evidence that the dihydro-derivative possessed the structure (**7a**) was deduced by its conversion into the *N*-acetyl compound (**7b**) (96%), m.p. 167—169 °C (decomp.), $[\alpha]_{\rm D} - 26^{\circ}$ (EtOH) $[\nu_{\rm max} 1 750$ (ester CO), 1 680, and 1 665 cm⁻¹ (amide CO)], in the presence of acetic anhydride and pyridine.

On the basis of the aforementioned evidence, the structure (5) must be assigned to the product of oxidation of the penicillanate (3a) with potassium permanganate (*i.e.*, compound *A*).

One feature of the oxathiadiazabicyclononene derivative (5), *i.e.* the stereochemistry of the bridgehead methine group, remained to be established. Although no diagnostic effects were observed with the compound (5), nuclear Overhauser effect (n.O.e.) experiments with the derived sulphone, m.p. 123–125 °C, $[\alpha]_D - 260^\circ$ (EtOH) [prepared (98%) by oxidation of the compound (5) with potassium permanganate] suggested that it possessed the stereostructure (8a). Thus the intensity of the 9-proton at δ 4.86 was increased by 10% when the methyl group at δ 1.51 was irradiated and by 2% when the methyl group at δ 1.60 was irradiated; on this evidence, the signal at δ 1.51 was assigned to the 8 β -methyl group. The intensity of the 6-proton at δ 5.91 was unaffected by irradiation of the 8 β -methyl group but was increased by 2% when the 8 α -methyl group was irradiated.

The conversion of the penicillanate (3a) into the oxathiadiazabicyclononene derivative (8b) provides a rare example of a penicillanate rearrangement involving rupture of the 5,6-bond.⁴ Loss of the *N*-protecting group probably does not occur until after oxidation of the nitrogen atom since, under the reaction conditions, the amine $(3c)^5$ was not converted into the compound (8b).

It is noteworthy that the dihydro- and tetrahydro-oxadia-



zinone rings, present respectively in the compounds (7) and (8a,b), are hitherto unknown entities. Furthermore, the array of reactive functionality incorporated into the compounds, in addition to ensuring diverse chemistry, is likely to be exploitable in a synthetic context.

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