

Synthesis of Novel 4,6-Diazaspiro[2.3]hex-1-en-5-ones by the Reaction  
of Diphenylcyclopropenone Oxime with Isocyanates<sup>#</sup>

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Diphenylcyclopropenone oxime hydrochloride (3) was prepared in an 83% yield from diphenylcyclopropenone and hydroxylamine hydrochloride in methanol. The salt 3 reacted with alkyl and aryl isocyanates in the presence of triethylamine to yield 1:2 addition products diazaspiro[2.3]hexenones in good yields.

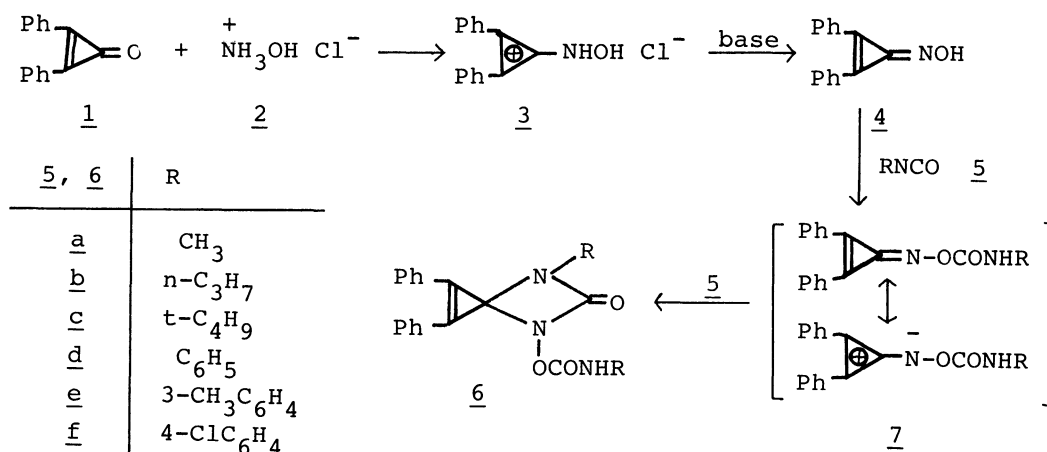
Physical and chemical properties of cyclopropenones, cyclopropenium ions, and triafulvenes have been highly interested and currently investigated<sup>1)</sup> as microcyclic aromatics. In the continuation of our studies on the chemistry of cyclopropenium salts possessing heteroatom substituents we have found an easy route for the preparation of diphenylcyclopropenone oxime (4),<sup>2)</sup> the chemical nature of which has not been explored. Below we describe the preparation and reaction of 4 with isocyanates to yield novel 4,6-diazaspiro[2.3]hexenes.

A solution of diphenylcyclopropenone (1) [20 mmol] and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2) [60 mmol] in methanol (25 cm<sup>3</sup>) was allowed standing at room temperature for a day. The precipitated salt 1-hydroxyamino-2,3-diphenylcyclopropenium chloride (3) was obtained in an 83% yield by filtration. The salt 3 gave satisfactory spectroscopic data<sup>3)</sup> and yielded yellow needles of free 4<sup>4)</sup> on treating with aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate or triethylamine in benzene.

An equimolar reaction of 3 with methyl isocyanate (5a) in the presence of triethylamine gave 4-methyl-6-methylcarbamoyloxy-1,2-diphenyl-4,6-diazaspiro[2.3]-hex-1-en-5-one (6a) in a 40% yield. The use of twice excess moles of 5a at room temperature for a day gave 6a in a 70% yield. The structure of 6a was assigned from its <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, and mass spectroscopic studies.<sup>5)</sup> Similar treatment of 3 with two moles of isocyanates such as propyl, t-butyl, phenyl, 3-methylphenyl, and 4-chlorophenyl isocyanates (5b-f) yielded in 63, 69, 71, 67, and 48% yield respectively. No 1:1 addition product was isolated in our hands. To our knowledge no spiro derivatives like these have been reported, though it has been shown that some C=N derivatives react with isocyanates to afford the 1:1 cycloaddition products, 1,3-diazetidines.<sup>6)</sup>

It is well known that aldoximes and ketoximes react with isocyanates to afford carbamates.<sup>6b)</sup> Although the isolation of (carbamoyloxy)iminocyclopropene

<sup>#</sup>This paper is dedicated to the late Professor Ryozo Goto, Kyoto University.



(7), a 1:1 addition product, failed, the intermediacy of 7 was clear from the final product 6. The reaction of highly polarized 7 with 5 would be faster than that of 4 with 5.

#### References

- Recent examples: R. A. Moss, S. Shen, K. Krogh-Jespersen, J. A. Potenza, H. J. Schugar, and R. C. Munjal, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **108**, 134 (1986). F. J. Kaiser, G. Offermann, and G. Seitz, *Chem. Ber.*, **119**, 2141 (1986). T. Sugimoto, M. Shibata, S. Yoneda, Z. Yoshida, Y. Kai, K. Miki, N. Kasai, and T. Kobayashi, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **108**, 7032 (1986). K. Takahashi, K. Ohnishi, and K. Takase, *Chem. Lett.*, **1985**, 1447.
- R. Breslow, T. Eicher, A. Krebs, R. A. Peterson, and J. Posner [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **87**, 1320 (1965)] have reported the reaction of 1 with 2 in aqueous ethanol to yield deoxybenzoin oxime and diphenylisoxazolone. Y. Kitahara and M. Funamizu [*Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.*, **37**, 1897 (1964)] have obtained 4 as colorless needles from 1 and 2 in methanol by treating with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. T. Eicher and G. Frenzel [*Z. Naturforsch.*, **B**, **20**, 274 (1965)] have reported 3 (BF<sub>4</sub> salt) from the ethoxy derivative of 1 and 2, however the chemical nature of 3 and 4 have never been explored.
- 3: mp 198–202 °C; IR (KBr) 2940, 2740, and 1920 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>+CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H) δ = 119.1 (s), 119.2 (s), 129.9 (d), 130.3 (d), 133.6 (d), 133.8 (d), 136.2 (d), and 139.5 (s).
- 4: mp 133–136 °C; IR (KBr) 3150, 1880, and 1850 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (m/z) 221 (M<sup>+</sup>).
- 6a: mp 135–137 °C; IR (KBr) 3450, 1770, and 1710 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 2.59 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>N), 2.85 (d, J=6 Hz, 3H, NHCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.13 (q, J=6 Hz, 1H, NaOD/D<sub>2</sub>O exchange, NH), and 7.2–7.9 (m, 10H, 2Ph); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 26.5 (q), 26.6 (q), 65.7 (s), 118.4 (s), 125.9 (s), 128.9 (d), 129.9 (d), 130.4 (d), 155.4 (s), and 160.0 (s); MS (m/z) 335 (M<sup>+</sup>).
- a) H. Ulrich, "Cycloaddition Reaction of Heterocumulenes," Academic Press, New York (1967); b) R. Richter and H. Ulrich, "The Chemistry of Cyanates and Their Thio Derivatives," ed by S. Patai, John Wiley & Sons, Chichester (1977) Part 2, p. 619; c) J. W. Timberlake and E. S. Elder, "Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry," ed by W. Lwowski, Pergamon Press, Oxford (1984), Vol. 7, p. 449.

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