Resolution of Diels-Alder Adducts Using a Chiral Carbodilmide

Keiki KISHIKAWA, Koh ji HORIE, Makoto YAMAMOTO, Shigeo KOHMOTO, and Kazutoshi YAMADA.

Department of Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering Chiba University, Chiba 260

'Graduate School of Science and Technology, Chiba University, Chiba 260

The relation between the separability and the stereochemistry of the acylurea derivatives prepared from chiral mono-, bi- and tricyclic acids and N,N'-bis((S)-1-phenylethyl)carbodiimide were investigated. Conventionally separated diastereomers by silica gel column chromatography were converted to optically pure methyl esters of the corresponding acids upon methanolysis.

To obtain an optically pure product (100% ee) is often problematic even in these days. Resolution of products obtained is only one solution to this problem. In our previous works we established the method to afford optically pure enantiomers by easy indirect resolution using a chiral carbodiimide (N,N'-bis((S)-1-phenylethyl)carbodiimide). In this paper we describe the relationship between the separability and the stereochemistry of mono-, bi- and tricyclic acylureas and the preparation of both optically pure methyl esters of the corresponding acids by the removal of the chiral auxiliary under mild conditions.

In the presence of triethylamine the chiral carbodiimide and cyclic acids prepared by Diels-Alder reactions were reacted in acetonitrile at room temperature to give the corresponding acylureas. The  $\alpha$  values of the acylureas were measured by HPLC and shown in Table 1. All  $\alpha$  values are large enough to separate each diastereomer by conventional column chromatography (except monocyclic acylurea 1). The results indicate the following features; (a) a bicyclic ring gives larger  $\alpha$  value than a monocyclic ring (entries 1 and 2), (b) an introduction of  $\beta$ -substituent group decreases the value (entries 2-4 and entries 6 and 7), (c) bicyclo[2, 2, 1]heptene system gives larger  $\alpha$  value than that of bicyclo[2, 2, 2]octene system (entries 2 and 5), (d) in the case of bicyclo-[2, 2, 1]heptene system, hydrogenation of the double bond increases the value (entries 2 and 6, and entries 4 and 7), (e) the absolute configuration can be estimated from the order of the eluants, and (f) the tricyclic iodolactone gives an extremely large  $\alpha$  value ( $\alpha$  = 2.24).

Table	1.	α	values	of	cyclic	acylureas a)

Entry	Acylurea (faster eluant)	α <sup>b)</sup>
1	1a	1.08°)
2	COX 2a	1.56 <sup>c)</sup>
3	3a	1.51 <sup>c)</sup>
4	Ph 4a	1.29
5	5a	1.42 <sup>c)</sup>
6	6a	1.81
7	Ph 7a	1.46
8	COX 8a	1.23
9	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2.24

Diastereomeric separation of — acylureas 4a and 4b, 9a and 9b were perfectly accomplished by conventional column chromatography on silica gel (hexane-ethyl acetate (9:1)) with over 99% de. Efficient removal of the chiral auxiliary by methanolysis with sodium methoxide (3 equiv., at 0°C) gave optically active methyl esters, 4c (X = 0Me in entry 4,  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +136° (c 0.71, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)) and 9c (X = 0Me in entry 9,  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +50.8° (c 0.92, CHCl )) from the faster eluants 4a and 9a respectively with no epimerization.

Accordingly this developed method using a chiral carbodiimide is efficient for the resolution of bi- and tricyclic carboxylic acids, and also for the estimation of the  $\alpha$  value.

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a) Merck Lichrosorb Si 60; \$10
× 250; hexane-ethyl acetate X =-N

(4:1). b) Separability factor

(4:1). b) Separability factor (Ref. 3). c) Ref. 1.

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