## BECKMANN REARRANGEMENT OF DIMETHYLCYCLOPENTANONEPIMARATE OXIME

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Beckmann rearrangement of dimethylcyclopentanonepimarate-15-oxime 2 was used to produce lactam 3 or seco-nitrile 4, depending on the conditions. The structures of the synthesized compounds were confirmed by IR and NMR spectroscopies.

Key words: dimethylcyclopentanonepimarate, Beckmann rearrangement, lactam, nitrile.

The Beckmann rearrangement is a convenient method for producing amides and nitriles, which are used as intermediates in the preparation of pharmacologically active azacyclic compounds.

In continuation of studies [1, 2] on the synthesis of novel N-containing diterpenoids, we investigated the Beckmann rearrangement of 15-hydroxyimino-18-isopropyl-4,10-dimethyl-4,13-dimethoxycarbonyl-8,12-ethenocyclopentanoperhydrophenanthrene 2 (dimethylcyclopentanonepimarate oxime), which was prepared from diterpene ketone 1 by the literature method [3] of reaction with hydroxylamine hydrochloride in ethanol in 75% yield after recrystallization. Oxime 2 reacted with thionyl chloride in absolute dioxane [4] to form a single product (TLC monitoring), the structure of which corresponded to lactam 3 (86% yield). The IR spectrum of 3 contains a strong band at 1640-1670  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  that is characteristic of amide carbonyl and bands at 1540 and 3230-3240 cm<sup>-1</sup> that correspond to N-H deformations and stretchings. The N-H proton appears in the PMR spectrum at  $\delta$  5.65 ppm as a broad signal. The signal for C-15 in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR is shifted ( $\delta$  176.0 ppm) compared with that of starting 2 ( $\delta$  166.9 ppm). The signal for H-16 ( $\delta$  2.20-2.32 ppm) in the PMR spectrum is found at stronger field compared with that of 2 ( $\delta$  2.61-2.82 ppm).



a. NH2OH · HCl, EtOH; b. SOCl2, dioxane; c. TsCl, 0 ° C, pyridine

However, 2 reacted with tosyl chloride in pyridine [2] through a second-order Beckmann rearrangement to give quantitatively seco-nitrile 4. The IR spectrum of 4 exhibits a CN band at 2245-2250 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The signal for C-15 in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum appears at  $\delta$  112.5 ppm; for H-14 in the PMR spectrum, at  $\delta$  2.56-2.66 ppm as a multiplet, in contrast with that of 2 ( $\delta$  2.95 ppm as a broad signal).

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## EXPERIMENTAL

IR spectra were recorded on Specord M80 and UR-20 spectrometers in mineral oil;  $^{13}$ C NMR and PMR on a Bruker AM-300 spectrometer (75.5 and 300 MHz, respectively) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with TMS internal standard. Melting points were determined on a Boetius microstage.

TLC analysis was performed on Silufol (Chemapol, Czech Rep.) plates using  $CHCl_3:CH_3OH(20:1)$ . Compounds were developed by phosphotungstic acid solution (10%) in ethanol with subsequent heating at 100-120°C for 2-3 min. Dimethylcyclopentanonepimarate **1** was prepared as before [5].

Elemental analyses agreed with those calculated.

**15-Hydroxyimino-18-isopropyl-4,10-dimethyl-4,13-dimethoxycarbonyl-8,12-ethenocyclopentanoperhydrophenanthrene (2).** Dimethylcyclopentanonepimarate (1, 1 mmole, 0.47 g) in ethanol (10 mL) was treated with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (0.5 g) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (5 mL), boiled for 8 h, treated with cold water (50 mL), and extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (3×30 mL). The combined extracts were washed with water (3×30 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated in vacuum. The solid was recrystallized from EtOH. Yield 0.35 g (75%), mp 108-110°C. IR spectrum (v, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 720, 755, 860, 1070, 1190, 1210, 1250, 1380, 1460, 1560, 1620, 1730, 3370.

PMR spectrum (δ, ppm, J/Hz): 0.51 (s, 3H, 23-H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 21-H/22-H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 22-H/21-H), 0.89-0.98 (m, 2H, 1-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>a</sub>), 1.05 (s, 3H, 24-H), 1.19-1.55 (m, 8H, 1-H<sub>e</sub>, 2-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 3-H<sub>e</sub>, 6-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 7-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 1.57-1.78 (m, 4H, 3-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>e</sub>, 9-H, 5-H), 2.25 (ddd, 1H,  ${}^{4}J_{12,19} = 1.6$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11a} = 2.2$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11b} = 13.2$ , 12-H), 2.35 (sept., 1H, J = 6.8, 20-H), 2.61-2.82 (m, 4H, 16-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 17-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 2.95 (br.s, 1H, 14-H), 3.55 (s, 3H, 28-H), 3.65 (s, 3H, 27-H), 5.41 (br.s, 1H, 19-H), 8.62 (br.s, 1H, NOH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum: 37.5 (C-1), 17.1 (C-2), 35.4 (C-3), 47.2 (C-4), 51.9 (C-5), 21.9 (C-6), 34.2 (C-7), 41.1 (C-8), 52.2 (C-9), 36.6 (C-10), 25.9 (C-11), 37.9 (C-12), 57.8 (C-13), 52.8 (C-14), 166.9 (C-15), 27.6 (C-16), 42.3 (C-17), 146.5 (C-18), 126.3 (C-19), 34.0 (C-20), 20.9 (C-21), 20.1 (C-22), 16.8 (C-23), 15.5 (C-24), 179.3 (C-25), 177.2 (C-26), 49.3 (C-27), 56.5 (C-28).

**15-Oxo-15-aza-***E***-homo-18-isopropyl-4,10-dimethyl-4,13-dimethoxycarbonyl-8,12-ethenocyclopentanoperhydrophenanthrene (3).** A solution of **2** (1 mmole, 0.47 g) in absolute dioxane (25 mL) was cooled to 10°C and treated with freshly distilled SOCl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL). The temperature was adjusted to ambient. The solution was treated with cold aqueous KOH solution (50 mL, 1%). The precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol. Yield 0.37 g (78%), mp 118-120°C. IR spectrum (v, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 770, 827, 860, 890, 920, 1010, 1045, 1072, 1098, 1129, 1156, 1210, 1260, 1375, 1470, 1610, 1640-1670, 1730, 3230-3240.

PMR spectrum (δ, ppm, J/Hz): 0.60 (s, 3H, 23-H), 0.89-0.98 (m, 2H, 1-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>a</sub>), 0.99 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 21-H/22-H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 22-H/21-H), 1.05 (s, 3H, 24-H), 1.19-1.55 (m, 8H, 1-H<sub>e</sub>, 2-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 3-H<sub>e</sub>, 6-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 7-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 1.57-1.78 (m, 4H, 3-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>e</sub>, 9-H, 5-H), 1.85-1.98 (m, 2H, 17-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 2.08 (ddd, 1H,  ${}^{4}J_{12,19} = 1.6$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11a} = 2.2$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11b} = 13.2$ , 12-H), 2.15 (sept., 1-H, J = 6.8, 20-H), 2.20-2.32 (m, 2H, 16-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 2.80 (br.s, 1H, 14-H), 3.65 (s, 3H, 28-H), 3.80 (s, 3H, 27-H), 5.40 (br.s, 1H, 19-H), 5.65 (br.s, 1H, NH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum: 37.8 (C-1), 16.9 (C-2), 36.7 (C-3), 46.9 (C-4), 51.4 (C-5), 21.8 (C-6), 33.8 (C-7), 42.1 (C-8), 51.9 (C-9), 37.1 (C-10), 25.3 (C-11), 41.8 (C-12), 6.25 (C-13), 52.4 (C-14), 176.0 (C-15), 29.1 (C-16), 43.7 (C-17), 147.5 (C-18), 123.6 (C-19), 33.2 (C-20), 20.7 (C-21), 19.8 (C-22), 16.7 (C-23), 15.7 (C-24), 179.0 (C-25), 173.7 (C-26), 49.2 (C-27), 52.6 (C-28).

**14,15-Seco-15-nitrilo-18-isopropyl-4,10-dimethyl-4,13-dimethoxycarbonyl-8,12-ethenocyclopentanoperhydrophenanthrene (4).** A solution of **2** (1 mmole, 0.47 g) in dry pyridine (10 mL) at 0°C was treated with TsCl (5.25 mmole, 1.00 g) in pyridine (5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 5 h at 5°C, left for 40 h at room temperature, and treated with cold HCl solution (50 mL, 5%). The precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, dried, and purified analogously to **3**. Yield 0.33 g (72%), mp 125-127°C. IR spectrum (v, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 770, 827, 860, 890, 920, 1010, 1045, 1072, 1098, 1129, 1156, 1210, 1260, 1375, 1470, 1730, 2245-2250.

PMR spectrum (δ, ppm, J/Hz): 0.48 (s, 3H, 23-H), 0.78-0.88 (m, 2H, 1-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>a</sub>), 0.91 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 21-H/22-H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.8, 3H, 22-H/21-H), 1.05 (s, 3H, 24-H), 1.15-1.50 (m, 8H, 1-H<sub>e</sub>, 2-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 3-H<sub>e</sub>, 6-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 7-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 1.55-1.75 (m, 4H, 3-H<sub>a</sub>, 11-H<sub>e</sub>, 9-H, 5-H), 2.09-2.15 (m, 2H, 17-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 2.21 (sept., 1-H, J = 6.8, 20-H), 2.42 (ddd, 1H,  ${}^{4}J_{12,19} = 1.6$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11a} = 2.2$ ,  ${}^{3}J_{12,11b} = 13.2$ , 12-H), 2.56-2.66 (m, 4H, 14-H<sub>a,e</sub>, 16-H<sub>a,e</sub>), 3.66 (s, 3H, 28-H), 3.80 (s, 3H, 27-H), 5.29 (br.s, 1H, 19-H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum: 37.6 (C-1), 16.9 (C-2), 36.7 (C-3), 47.5 (C-4), 51.9 (C-5), 21.7 (C-6), 33.3 (C-7), 42.1 (C-8), 52.2 (C-9), 37.1 (C-10), 25.5 (C-11), 40.5 (C-12), 65.5 (C-13), 55.2 (C-14), 112.5 (C-15), 29.8 (C-16), 46.0 (C-17), 147.3 (C-18), 126.0 (C-19), 33.0 (C-20), 20.6 (C-21), 19.9 (C-22), 16.7 (C-23), 15.7 (C-24), 179.1 (C-25), 176.9 (C-26), 51.1 (C-27), 57.6 (C-28).

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