Manganese-mediated synthesis of cis-disubstituted cyclohexadienes via double nucleophilic addition to coordinated arenes

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Abstract

The addition of carbon donor nucleophiles to (arene)Mn(CO)₂L⁺ (L=CO, P(OPh)₃, PMe₃), followed by replacement of a CO with NO⁺, affords monofunctionalized (cyclohexadienyl)Mn(CO)(NO)L⁺ complexes (12). A study has been made of nucleophilic addition to 12 to yield cyclohexadiene complexes (13). The yield of the reaction of 12 with soft stabilized carbon donors (e.g. NaCH($CO₂Et$)CN) improves substantially when the ligand L=CO 1s replaced by $L = P(\text{OPh})_3$ or PMe₃. Hydride donors give good yields of monofunctionalized cyclohexadiene complexes regardless of the nature of L. When $L \neq CO$, significant chiral discrimination takes place and the product is obtained as a mixture of diastereomers. Oxidation of the (cyclohexadiene) $Mn(CO)(NO)L$ complexes with FeCl₃ or Me,NO generates the free hydrocarbon ligand as cis-disubstituted cyclohexa-1,3-dienes or cyclohexen-l-ones, the latter resulting from hydrolysis of a methoxy substituent Hard carbon donors such as LiPh and LiMe attack a CO in 12, ultimately converting to *trans-c*lisubstituted cyclohexadienes. This work shows that the manganesemediated double nucleophihc addition to arenes can be an efficient route to functionahzed cyclohexadienes.

Introduction

The conversion of arenes to functionalized cyclohexadienes is an important reaction that can be facilitated by coordination to transition metals. The procedures that offer the most promise of being general in nature are based on iron, chromium and manganese. These are outlined m Schemes l-3 with benzene as the generic arene, although in many cases of synthetic interest the arene starting material would bear a variety of substituents. Several more specialized reactions that generate cyclohexadienes from arenes have also been reported $[1]$.

Provided the appropriate diene can be obtained from the arene starting material, the chemistry in Scheme 1 provides good yields of monosubstltuted products [2]; m certain specific cases disubstitution can be realized [3]. Strong nucleophiles add to $(\text{arene})\text{Cr(CO)}_3$ (1) according to Scheme 2. Treatment of the anionic cyclohexadienyl intermediate (2) with acid leads to monosubstituted dienes [4]. Recent elegant work by Kündig et al. [5] has shown that the sequence of nucleophilic

Scheme 2

addition to **1** followed by attack on 2 by a variety of electrophiles generates *trans*-disubstituted cyclohexadienes. The cationic manganese complexes (arene)-

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 $Mn(CO)_{3}$ ⁺ (3) are much more electrophilic than the neutral chromium analogues and a very wide range of nucleophiles has been found to react rapidly to give cyclohexadienyl complexes 4 in good yield (see Scheme 3) [6, 71. The addition of a second nucleophile to 4 would constitute a direct route to disubstituted cyclohexadienes. This approach is limited by the weak electrophilicity of 4, with the result that many convenient nucleophiles (stabilized enolates, ketone enolates, Grignard reagents, most hydride donors, etc.) do not react. Very recent reports have shown that strong nucleophiles can react with 4 in two ways. The hard bases LiMe and LiPh attack a CO ligand in 4 to give isolable acylmetalates (7). These react with acid to afford mixtures of isomeric cyclohexenyl complexes, from which cyclohexadienes can be obtained after decomplexation from the metal [8]. McDaniel and co-workers [9] found that strong ester, nitrile and sulfur-stabilized lithium carbanions add directly to the ring in 4 to give transient anionic (cyclohexadiene) $Mn(CO)₃$ species that decompose to afford good yields of cis-disubstituted cyclohexadienes.

In order to render the complexed dienyl ring in 4 receptive to nucleophiles of varying strengths, we 'reactivated' 4 by treatment with NOP F_6 to afford the cationic nitrosyl analogue 5, which was determined to be more electrophilic than even (arene) $Mn(CO)₃$ ⁺ [10-12]. The overall procedure in Scheme 3 amounts to double nucleophilic addition to an arene. When the second nucleophile is a hydride donor, high yields of monosubstituted diene complexes 6 $(R' = H)$ are obtained. The hydride addition was found to be highly regioselective as well as stereospecific*. Decomplexation of

*As detailed m ref. 11, hydride attacks S to give a formyl intermediate that transforms to 6 , with the incoming H atom situated endo to the metal, not exo as normally found in nucleophilic addition reactions Note that R' in structure 6 is drawn in the exo position.

the diene from 6 can be accomplished with a variety of oxidizing agents (vide ι nfra) [13, 14]. The procedure in Scheme 3 $(R' = H)$ has recently been used by Miles and Brinkman [14] to synthesize the sesquiterpene $(+)$ -juvabione. In comparison to the iron-based chemistry in Scheme 1, the synthesis of monosubstituted cyclohexadienes based on manganese offers the advantage of facile complexation of the arene starting material to $Mn(CO)₃$ ⁺ without the initial Birch reduction and subsequent hydride abstraction required with iron.

When the nucleophile R' ⁻ in Scheme 3 is a carbon donor, the yields of 6 are generally low [10]. With certain donors (LiMe, LiPh, etc.) attack occurs at a CO ligand in 5 to give the acyl species 8, which is thermally unstable and spontaneously decomposes to generate the *trans*-disubstituted diene 9 in moderate yield (*vide infra*) [8, 11, 13]. Apparently, the acyl group in 8 readily migrates to the cyclohexadienyl rmg, which is followed by decomplexation of diene 9. In general, however, the reaction of 5 with carbon donors leads predominantly to decomposition. We reasoned that this disappointing result could be due to interference by redox pathways and that substitution of a CO in 5 by a more electron-donating phosphine ligand may diminish the role of single electron transfer steps while maintaining sufficiently high electrophilicity so that weak carbon donors could add to the ring. In a preliminary communication [15] we showed that the addition of $NaCH(CO₂Me)$, to 10 $(R=Me, Ph)$ results in good yields of the cis-disubstituted diene complex **11.** The chiral metal center in **10** leads to significant diastereoselectivity in the reaction to give **11.** Diastereomeric forms of **11** for $R = Ph$, $R' = CH(CO₂Me)₂$ and for $R = Ph$, $R' = H$ were separated and individually characterized by NMR and X-ray crystallography.

Herein we present a study of the nucleophilic addition of a series of stabilized carbon donors and several other types of donors to complex 12 having $L = CO$, PMe₃ and $P(OPh)_{3}$, and $X=H$ and OMe. It is shown that good yields of 13 can be obtained when L is a phosphorus ligand and that significant chiral discrimination takes place. Decomplexation and, in some cases, hydrolysis of the diene hgand is discussed. The propensity for a nucleophile to attack a CO ligand in 12 in preference to the dienyl ring is explored as a function of the nature of L and the nucleophile.

Results and discussion

The cyclohexadienyl complexes [(RCH)Mn(CO)- (NO)L]X (12; $X = PF_6^-$ or BF_4^-) were readily synthesized by nucleophilic addition of R' ⁻ to $[(ar$ ene)Mn(CO)₂L]X, followed by reaction with NOPF₆ or NOBF,. The yield of each step in this two-reaction sequence was generally moderate to high (see 'Experimental').

The addition of carbon donor and sulfur donor nucleophiles $(R'$ ⁻) to 12 gave yields of the diene complex 13 that depended markedly on the nature of the nucleophile and of the ligand L. In contrast, hydride donors were found to react with 12 to produce 13 in high yield regardless of the identity of L. Table 1 lists some results with 'soft' stabilized carbon donors and with hydride and sulfur donors. The reactions were conveniently followed by monitoring the $\nu(CO)$ and $\nu(NO)$ bands in the IR. Conventional methodology was used to isolate the cyclohexadiene complexes (13), which were sufficiently stable thermally to allow facile characterization by IR, NMR and MS (see 'Experimental').

It is apparent from Table 1 that replacement of a CO ligand in 12 with P(OPh), or PMe, leads to improved yields of 13 with stabilized carbon donor nucleophlles. This is especially evident with additions to 12-3 compared to 12-4 as well as with the addition of NaCH(CN), and NaCp to 12-5 compared to 12-6. It IS possible that the better yields obtained when the ligand L is $P(OPh)$, or PMe,, rather than CO, stems from a decreased probability of single electron transfer with the former, more electron-rich, complexes. In most of the addition

reactions in Table 1, chiral discrimination is possible, and this led to the formation of diastereomeric product mixtures that were easily discernible by NMR. The C donor nucleophiles produced only modest diastereoselectivity, with the ratio of diastereomers being variable from experiment to experiment but always in the range 1.4-2.0. The addition of the H donor N_aBH_a to 12-6 gave a 2:l ratio of diastereomers, but certain other H donors, such as LiBEt,H and R-Alpine Hydride, gave ratios $> 10:1$ [16]. In spite of the generally modest diastereoselectivity observed for nucleophilic additions to 12, the fact [15] that the diastereomers can be separated via chromatography means that optically pure cyclohexadiene complexes 13 can be obtained provided the cyclohexadienyl complexes 12 that are chiral (12- 2, 12-3, 12-4, 12-6) can be resolved; this is currently under investigation.

The potential synthetic utility of nucleophilic additions to manganese complexes such as 12 depends on the ease with which the cyclohexadiene ligand can be removed from 13. This was accomplished by treatment of 13 with a mild oxidizing agent. Thus, 13-23 liberated 5-phenylcyclohexa-1,3-diene in 90% yield when stirred with FeCl₃ in THF. With most cases of 13 having $X = H$, trimethylamine oxide in benzene was used to generate the free $\text{cis}-$ disubstituted cyclohexa-1,3-dienes (14) in unoptimized yields that averaged 50-60% (pathway (a) in Scheme 4)*. When the diene complexes 13 ($X = H$) had a chiral center in the R' substituent, the free dienes 14 were obtained as a mixture of a diastereomers.

Complexes 13-10 to 13-12, having $X = OMe$, were oxidized to 15, which were readily hydrolyzed with oxalic acid in methanol to cus-4,5-disubstituted 2-cyclohexen-l-ones (16) by pathways (b) and (c) in Scheme 4. Such structural units are important in natural products chemistry and it is especially noteworthy that the manganese-mediated reactions permit the introduction of a wide variety of substituents in the otherwise-difficultto-functionalize 5-position in 16. This is so because (arene) $Mn(CO)_{2}L^{+}$ complexes react cleanly with a wide range of nucleophlles and a methoxy substituent on the arene ring is a strong *meta*-director in nucleophilic additions, which leads to 12 ($X = OMe$) after treatment with $NO⁺$ [17]. The oxidation of 13-9 differed from the other methoxy-substituted complexes in that double bond isomerization occurred to produce diene 17 (51% yield) and, after hydrolysis, the disubstituted 3-cyclohexen-1-one 18 (84% yield) as shown in Scheme 5; this type of isomerization was described by us previously $[18]$.

^{*}Prolonged exposure of 13-16 to 13-19 to Me,NO/benzene led to rearomatization to disubstituted arenes, limiting the reaction time to $1-2$ h produced the diene with minimal rearomatization

Reactant complex	X	\mathbb{R}	L	Nucleophile	Yield of 13 $(\%)^b$	Product complex
$12 - 1$	$\mathbf H$	Me	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)(COMe)	67	$13 - 1$
$12 - 1$	H_{\rm}	Me	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)CN	59	$13 - 2$
$12 - 1$	H	Me	CO	$NaCH(CO2Me)(SO2Ph)$	67	$13 - 3$
$12 - 1$	H	Me	CO	NaSCH ₂ CH ₂ OH	60	$13 - 4$
$12 - 2$	H	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)(COMe)	79	$13 - 5$
$12 - 2$	$\mathbf H$	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)CN	82	$13-6$
$12 - 2$	H	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaCH(CO ₂ Me)(SO ₂ Ph)	83	$13 - 7$
$12 - 2$	H	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaSCH ₂ CH ₂ OH	83	$13 - 8$
$12 - 3$	OMe	Me	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)(COMe)	18	$13-9$
$12 - 3$	OMe	Me	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)CN	27	$13 - 10$
$12 - 3$	OMe	Me	CO	$NaCH(CO2Me)(SO2Ph)$	28	$13 - 11$
$12 - 3$	OMe	Me	CO	NaSCH ₂ CH ₂ OH	50	$13 - 12$
$12 - 4$	OMe	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)(COMe)	62	$13 - 13$
$12 - 4$	OMe	Me	$P(OPh)$ ₃	NaCH(CO,Et)CN	80	$13 - 14$
$12 - 4$	OMe	Me	$P(OPh)_{3}$	$NaCH(CO2Me)(SO2Ph)$	82	$13 - 15$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)(COMe)	66	$13 - 16$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaCH(CO ₂ Et)CN	59	$13 - 17$
$12 - 5$	H_{\rm}	Ph	CO	$NaCH(CO2Me)(SO2Ph)$	62	$13 - 18$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaSCH ₂ CH ₂ OH	87	$13 - 19$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaBH ₄	85	$13 - 20$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaCH(CN) ₂	c	$13 - 21$
$12 - 5$	H	Ph	CO	NaCp	с	$13 - 22$
$12-6$	H	Ph	PMe ₃	NaBH ₄	85	$13 - 23$
$12 - 6$	H	Ph	PMe ₃	NaCH(CN) ₂	94	13-24
$12-6$	Н	Ph	PMe ₃	NaCp	62	$13 - 25$
$12 - 6$	H	Ph	PMe ₃	$NaCH(CO2Me)$ ₂	80	$13 - 26$

TABLE 1. Results of nucleophilic addition to (cyclohexadienyl)Mn(CO)(NO)L⁺ complexes (12) to yield (cyclohexadiene)Mn(CO)(NO)L complexes $(13)^d$

^aSee 'Experimental' for procedural and characterization details ^bIsolated vield. "A mixture of products was formed, with the diene complex 13 being a minor component $(<10\%)$.

The reaction of 12 (X=H; L=CO, PMe₃) with the hard nucleophiles LiPh and LiMe was also investigated. Sheridan et al. [8] have recently shown that LiPh adds to the neutral tricarbonyl 4 to give the anionic benzoyl complex 7 ($R = Me$; $R' = Ph$), which was converted to the corresponding neutral nitrosyl complex 8 in 46% yield. The free trans-disubstituted diene $(9, R = Me;$ $R' = Ph$) was obtained in 65% yield by prolonged stirring of 8 in solution at room temperature. We found that complexes 8 are also formed when the nucleophilic addition/NO⁺ steps are reversed Thus, treatment of 5 (R = Ph) with LiPh or LiMe at -78 °C led to a high *in situ* conversion to 8 ($R' = Ph$, Me) as shown by IR spectroscopy. In accordance with the results of Sheridan et al. [8], we found that these complexes readily liberate the free diene 9 at room temperature, possibly by a mechanism involving acyl migration to the dienyl ring to give an unstable transient diene complex with an open coordination site. In an attempt to trap the diene complex prior to dissociation of the free diene, PMe₃ was added to a low temperature solution of 8 ($R = Ph$; $R' = Me$). Upon warming, only decomposition occurred. The low temperature addition of LiPh and LiMe to

10 $(R = Ph, Me)$ also occurred at the carbonyl to give acyl complexes (19). Similarly to the behavior of 8, complexes I9 were found to be thermally unstable at room temperature with respect to liberation of free diene 9, even in the presence of excess PMe, or CO.

Conclusions

In this work we have shown that the manganesemediated double nucleophilic addition to arenes to afford cis-disubstituted cyclohexa-1,3-dienes and cyclohexen-l-ones is an efficient process when the L ligand in 12 is $P(OPh)$ ₃ or $PMe₃$ and when the nucleophile R' ⁻ is a soft stabilized carbon donor. High yields of monofunctionalized cyclohexadienes result from the addition of hydride donors to 12 ($L = PR_3$ or CO). Particularly attractive features of this chemistry include the use of arenes as starting materials, the ease of complexation of the arenes to the $Mn(CO)_{2}L^{+}$ moiety, and the wide range of chemical groups that can be introduced in the first nucleophilic addition step (R in 12). Also of importance is the fact that the chiral metal center in 12 ($L \neq CO$) provides a potential route to optically pure cyclohexadienes.

Hard carbon donors such as LiPh and LiMe attack the CO in 12, ultimately affording trans-disubstituted cyclohexadienes; how useful or general this reaction sequence will prove to be is yet to be determined.

Experimental

The details of the synthesis of $[(\text{arene})Mn(CO)₂L]PF₆$ $(L = CO, PMe₃)$ and of $[(cyclohexadienyl)Mn(CO) (NO)L|PF_6 (12; L=CO, PMe_3; R = Ph, Me)$ have been reported previously $[10, 11, 16]$. The analogous complexes with $L = P(OPh)$, were synthesized similarly in yields that averaged c . 70%. The addition of hydride donors to 12 ($L = CO$, PMe₃) and of NaCH($CO₂Me$)₂ to 12 ($L = PMe_3$) to generate 13 followed our published procedures [10, 15]. Details of the syntheses of new compounds are summarized below and IR, NMR and MS analytical data are provided in Table 2.

Nucleophilic addition to

 $[(cyclohexadienyl)Mn(CO)(NO)L/BF₄ (or -PF₆) (12;$ $L = CO$, $P(OPh)$, PMe_i ; $R = Ph$, Me ; $X = H$, OMe)

A typical synthesis is as follows. To a THF solution of NaH (82 mg, 3.4 mmol) at 0 "C under nitrogen, $CH₂(CO₂Et)(COMe)(0.43 ml)$ was added with stirring. After 10 min the solution became clear and the carbanion solution was then added via syringe to a suspension of the tetrafluoroborate salt of 12-1 (0.77 g, 2.0 mmol) in 30 ml of THF. After stirring at 0 "C for 10 min, the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature, poured into 50 ml of saturated $NH₄Cl$, and extracted three times with 30 ml portions of diethyl ether. The combined ether extracts were washed with water (30 ml \times 3), dried (MgSO₄), and stripped *in vacuo* to yield crude 13-1. Analytically pure 13-1 $(0.49 \text{ g}, 67\%)$ was obtained after column chromatography on silica gel using cyclohexane/diethyl ether (4:l) as elutant. The compounds 13-2 to 13-19 were synthesized by the same procedure used to prepare 13-1.

The addition of NaCp (0.10 ml of 2 M THF solution) to a 30 ml $CH₂Cl₂$ solution of 12-5 (39 mg. 0.090 mmol) at -78 °C led to a rapid color change. An IR taken after warming to room temperature suggested attack had occurred predominantly at a CO ligand; however, decomposition accompanied solvent removal and filtration through alumina left $(6-exo-PhC₆H₆)Mn(CO)₃$ as the only CO-containing species. The addition of NaCp to 12-6 by the same procedure produced the diene complex 13-25 in 62% yield.

The anion of malononitrile was prepared by adding NaH (20 mg, 0.83 mmol) to $CH_2(CN)_2$ (54 mg, 0.81) mmol) in 10 ml THF at room temperature. This solution was cooled to -78 °C and 1.2 ml added to a THF solution of 12-5 at -78 °C (36 mg, 0.081 mmol, 10 ml). As with NaCp, IR spectra implied carbonyl attack, but workup again led to $(6\text{-}exo\text{-}PhC_6H_6)Mn(CO)$ ₃ as the prmcipal organometallic species. In contrast, the addition of $NaCH(CN)$, to 12-6 by the same procedure produced 13-24 in 94% yield.

Decomplexation of cyclohexadienes from complexes 13

Two methods of freeing the diene from the metal in 13 were tried. The first is based on the method of Nesmeyanov *et al.* [19]: diene complex 13-23 (13 mg, 0.038 mmol) was dissolved in THF and treated with excess FeCl₃. After stirring for 1 h, the brown reaction mixture was evaporated and the residue dissolved in 2 M HCl and extracted twice with CH_2Cl_2 . The CH_2Cl_2 solution was washed with saturated aqueous Na $HSO₃$, then with saturated aqueous NaCl, and dried over MgSO,. Evaporation left 5.4 mg (90%) of a colorless oil, which gave a 'H NMR spectrum identical to the literature report [20] for 5-phenylcyclohexa-1,3-diene.

TABLE 2 (continued)

(continued)

The FeCl₃ method of decomplexation was used for complex 13-23 only. In all other cases oxidative decomplexation of 13 to liberate the diene was effected with $Me₃NO$ [21]. (The relative merits of the two methods were not ascertained.) The following procedure is an example. $Me₃NO$ (0.16 g, 2.1 mmol) was added to complex $13-1$ (81 mg, 0.22 mmol) in 20 ml of benzene. The mixture was refluxed for 4 h, cooled to room temperature and filtered. The filtrate was diluted with 50 ml of diethyl ether, washed with water (30 ml \times 2) and dried $(MgSO₄)$. The solution was stripped and the product purified by column chromatography on silica gel with cyclohexane/ether (4:1) elutant to give 46 mg (92%) of a 1.2:1 mixture of diastereomers of 14 (R = Me, $R' = CH(CO₂Et)(COMe)$ free from detectable impurities. The same procedure was used to oxidize other complexes 13 $(X = H)$ to give 14 as in Scheme 4. The yields of pure diene 14 obtained from the respective complexes 13 were as follows: 13-1 (92%), 13-2 (52%), 13-3 (45%), 13-4 (58%), 13-5 (51%), 13-6 (50%), 13-7 (54%), 13-8 (62%), 13-16 (50%), 13-18 (49%), 13-19 (52%) .

The oxidation of $13-10$ with Me₃NO as described above gave the corresponding diene 15 (37%). Hydrolysis to the cyclohexen-1-one 16 was induced by stirring 15 with a c . 2:1 excess of oxalic acid in methanol for 1 h. The reaction mixture was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, extracted with diethyl ether, and dried $(MgSO₄)$. Solvent evaporation and chromatography on silica gel gave pure 16 in 64% yield. With 13-11 and 13-12, the oxidation with $Me₃NO$ led directly to a mixture of 15 and 16, which converted to pure 16 when the respective mixtures were chromatographed. The yields of 16 were 59% from $13-11$ and 35% from 13-12. Complex 13-9 reacted with $Me₃NO$ to give the isomerized diene 17 (51%) , which was hydrolyzed by oxalic acid/methanol to 18 (84%) , as shown in Scheme 5.

Addition of LiPh and LiMe to [(6-exo- PhC_oH_o)Mn(CO)(NO)L]PF_o (5, 10; R = Ph)

When LiPh $(0.075 \text{ ml of a 2 M}$ solution in 70:30 C_6H_{12} : Et₂O) was added to a slurry of 5 (R = Ph) (48 mg, 0.11 mmol) in 20 ml of CH_2Cl_2 at -78 °C, the solution became homogeneous and red-orange in color. After warming to room temperature, the solution was stripped in vacuo and the resulting red oil was flashed through a plug of alumina. The IR indicated a 5:3 mixture of 8 (R = R' = Ph; IR $(C_5H_{12}) = 2022$, 1752, $1600(w)$ cm⁻¹) and (PhC₆H₆)Mn(CO)₃. The reaction mixture was thermally unstable and liberated free diene 9 (see Table 2). The addition of LiMe to 5 by the

same procedure gave clean conversion to the acetyl product 8 (R = Ph, R' = Me); IR (CH₂Cl₂) = 2005, 1737 cm^{-1} .

LiPh was added dropwise to 10 $(R = Ph)$ (52 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ at -78 °C until the reactant completely disappeared. An *in situ* IR spectrum at -67 "C confirmed that the reaction was rapid at this temperature. After warming to room temperature, the red-orange solution was filtered through a plug of alumina and evaporated. 'H NMR of the resultant red oil indicated a 2.8:1 mixture of 19:9, with a combmed yield of 72%. Prolonged stirring at room temperature liberated the diene from 19. Similar behavior was found with the nucleophile LiMe and with 10 $(R = Me)$, although these reactions were characterized only by IR (see Table 2).

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