Synthesis of 3-Oxatricyclo[4.4.0.02,7]decene Derivatives

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Abstract—Unsaturated haloethers of norpinane structure were prepared by reaction of *N*-iodo- and *N*-bromosuccinimides with 1-phenyltricyclo[$4.1.0.0^{2.7}$]-heptane in the presence of unsaturated propargyl or allyl alcohol. The iodopropargyloxy derivative underwent reductive 6-*exo*-cyclization when treated with tributyltin hydride resulting in 5-methylene-3-oxa-2-phenyltricyclo[$4.4.0.0^{2.7}$]decane, and the iodoallyloxy derivative on heating in the presence of benzoyl peroxide suffered isomerization into 5-iodomethyl-3-oxa-2-phenyltricyclo[$4.4.0.0^{2.7}$]decene. Bromopropargyloxy and bromoallyloxy derivatives failed to undergo the reductive cyclization under the treatment with a system cobaloxime(III)–sodium borohydride, but suffered hydrogenetion at the multiple carbon–carbon bond.

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In extension of our research directed at application of tricyclo[4.1.0.0^{2,7}]heptane for building up the bridging system of tricyclo[4.n.0.0] alkane [1] we report on the present study of a two-stage synthesis of 3-oxa-2phenyltricyclo-[4.4.0.0^{2,7}]-decene derivatives based on an available 1-phenyltricyclo $[4.1.0.0^{2,7}]$ heptane (I). In the first stage we planned to perform a conjugate halogenation of initial hydrocarbon I at the central bicyclobutane C^{1} -C⁷ bond by treating with N-bromo(iodo)succinimide in the presence of unsaturated (propargyl or allyl) alcohol expecting that the addition would occur regio- and stereoselective providing the corresponding adducts IIa-Va, since according to the previously obtained results [2] hydrocarbon I reacts in the cold with N-bromosuccinimide in methanol giving in high yields diastereomeric adducts VIa and VIb in a ratio 15:1.

In the second stage it was necessary by any method to carry out a cyclization of the unsaturated haloderivative



 $R = CH_2Ca"CH (II, IV), CH_2CH=CH_2 (III, V), CH_3 (VI),$ CH₂CH₂CH₃(VII); X = Br (II, III, VI, VII), I (IV, V).

Ha–Va where the multiple bond and carbon atom attached to the halogen are spatially close favoring the formation of a system of 3-oxa-2-phenyltricyclo[4.4.0.0^{2,7}]decene.

The reactions of bromo(iodo)propargyloxy(allyloxy)lation were carried out in dichloromethane using the corresponding N-halosuccinimide (NXS) in a slight excess and the unsaturated alcohol ROH in a large excess with respect to the initial hydrocarbon **I**. All reactions took the expected route and resulted in formation of twocomponent mixtures of stereoisomeric products of the conjugate halogenation **IIa**, **IIb–Va**, **Vb** with a high degree of *anti*-stereoselectivity.

The composition of the reaction mixture was analyzed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy, yields and isomers ratio are presented in the table. The main reaction products obtained with propargyl alcohol, compounds **IIa** and **IVa**, were isolated by crystallization from methanol, but the isolation of the main products of reaction with allyl alcohol, compounds **IIIa** and **Va**, required chromatographic separation on silica gel. As seen from the table, the yields obtained with propargyl alcohol are higher than with allyl alcohol^{*}, and the iodination is less stereoselective than bromination.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were registered from all compounds **IIa**, **IIb–Va**, **Vb**. The spectral characteristics

^{*} Bromoallyloxylation of alkenes using NBS practically failed for under these conditions the allyl alcohol was converted into epibromohydrin [6].

of each of the four stereoisoneris pairs as expected resemble the corresponding spectra of the known bromides VIa and VIb [2]. The norpinane structure of the carbon skeleton is reliably confirmed by the ¹³C NMR spectra, and the spatial arrangement, by the data of ¹H NMR spectra. In particular, the syn-orientation of the halogen atom in all compounds IIa, IIb-Va, Vb corresponds to the appearance of a triplet signal (J 6 Hz)of H^7 atom [3], and the assumed configuration at the C^6 atom in compounds IIa-VIa is consistent with the high value of the chemical shift of H^7 (~ 5.5 ppm) and with the upfield shift of the signals of *endo*-H³ (~ 0.6 ppm) [2]. The indication of a changed configuration at C^6 in epimers IIb-VIb is a strong upfield shift of the triplet signal from H^7 (~ by 1.2 ppm) and downfield shift of H^3 signals to 1.5–2 ppm [2] as compared with epimers IIa– VIa.

To achieve the cyclization of haloderivatives IIa-Va it was necessary first to perform the homolytic rupture of the carbon-halogen bond in the initial compound. The examples of radical cyclization of bromo- and iododerivatives of unsaturated organic compounds are well known [4]. First we attempted to carry out a cyclization catalyzed by cobaloxime [5] of the most available for us bromide IIa and followed the procedure recommended in [6] for the use with unsaturated vicinal bromoethers. However the only reaction product was bromide IIIa, namely, occurred the reduction of a triple bond C=C into a double bond. When we carried out the same procedure with bromide IIIa, the double bond C=C suffered reduction to give bromide VIIa, identical to the product of an independent sysnthesis by reaction of hydrocarbon I with NBS in the presence of propanol. Thus contrary to expectations the C-Br bond in bromides IIa and IIIa

Yield and stereoselectivity (*anti:syn*) of conjugate halogenation of hydrocarbon **I**

Reaction product	Yield, %	anti:syn (a:b)
IIa, IIb	58	20:1
IIIa, IIIb	28	5:1
IVa, IVb	63	7:1
Va, Vb	32	3:1
VIIa, VIIb	59	7:1

proved to be stable with respect to a system cobaloxime(III)-sodium borohydride, and the multiple bonds underwent hydrogenation. Taking into account that alkyliodiodides are prone to generation of hydrocarbon radicals we used for cyclization iodides IVa and Va. To perform the reductive cyclization of iodide IVa we applied the widely known method with the use of tributyltin hydride [7] and obtained a single reduction product, ether VIII. Apparently in an intermediate stage forms radical A that further undergoes 6-exo-cyclization resulting in compound VIII. The structure of compound VIII was reliably confirmed by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. In the ¹H NMR spectrum alongside the multiplet of aromatic protons appeared two broadened singlets from nonequivalent olefin protons (5.33 and 5.45 ppm), and a singlet of protons of OCH₂ group (4.18 ppm), and also signals from the protons of norpinane fragment analogous to the corresponding signals in the spectra of norpinanes IIa-VIIa.

The other route to building up the system of 3-oxatricyclo[$4.4.0.0^{2,7}$]decene that we succeeded to find was a radical isomerization of iodide **Va** initiated by benzoyl peroxide [8]. Apparently first formed radical **B** that further



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suffered 6-*exo*-cyclization. The structure of iodide **IX** unambiguously follows from its ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. The ¹H NMR spectrum confirms magnetic nonequivalence of protons in each methylene group OCH₂ and CH₂I, and also of protons H¹ and H⁷ and and methylene groups C^8 and C^{10} originating from the chirality of C^5 atom. Nonequivalence of C¹ and C⁷ atoms is observed also in the ¹³C NMR spectrum, but C⁸ and C¹⁰ more remote from the chiral center appear as a unique signal.

The relation of framework structures **VIII** and **IX** as derivatives of 3-oxatricyclo-[4.4.0.0^{2,7}]decene was proved by conversion of iodide **IX** into methylene derivative **VIII** by dehydroiodination effected with 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU).

EXPERIMENTAL

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were registered on a spectrometer Bruker AM-300 (300 MHz) from solutions in CDCl₃. IR spectra were recorded on a spectrophotometer UR-20 from solutions in CCl₄. Elemental analysis was carried out on a CHN-analyzer HP 185B. TLC was performed on Silufol UV-254 plates. Preparative column chromatography was done on silica gel L 40/100 (Chemapol). 1-Phenyltricyclo[4.1.0.0^{2,7}]heptane (I) was prepared by method [2]. Chloro(pyridin)bis-(dimethylglyoximato)cobalt(III) [cobaloxime(III)] was obtained by a known procedure [9]. Tributyltin hydride, diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-ene, and benzoyl peroxide were commercial reagents.

Bromides IIa, IIb, IIIa, IIIb, VIIa, and VIIb. To a suspension of 3.56 g (20 mmol) of N-bromosuccinimide in 10 ml of propargyl alcohol and 10 ml of dichloromethane was added dropwise within 45 min a solution of 2.55 g (15 mmol) of hydrocarbon I in 10 ml of dichloromethane. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h, then 20 ml of 1 N water solution of NaOH was added, and the products were extracted into dichloromethane (3×20 ml). The extract was washed with 1 N water solution of NaOH and dried with magnesium sulfate. The ratio of reaction products IIa and IIb in the reaction mixture was determined by means of ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The main amount of the major component of the mixture IIa was isolated by crystallization from methanol of the residue obtained on removing the solvent. The mother liquor was subjected to chromatography on a column charged with silica gel (eluent hexanedichloromethane) to isolate the minor component IIb and additional portion of bromide IIa.

syn-7-Bromo-*exo*-6-propargyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo[3.1.1]heptane (IIa). Yield 2.61 g (55%), mp 114–116°C (methanol), R_f 0.47 (eluent hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3320 s, 3040 m, 2950 s, 2875 m, 2120 w, 1950 w, 1870 w, 1810 w, 1760 w, 1070 s, 1050 s. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.45–0.90 m (1H) and 0.95–1.34 m (1H) – H³; 1.70–2.40 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 2.95 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 2.14 t (1H, *J* 2.5 Hz) and 3.61 d (2H, *J* 2.5 Hz) – OCH₂Ca"CH; 5.22 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.24 br.s (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 12.3 (C³), 25.2 (2C, C^{2,4}), 47.1 (2C, C^{1,5}), 55.3 (C⁷), 51.6, 73.8 and 80.7 (OCH₂Ca"CH), 85.8 (C⁶), 127.3 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 128.5 and 137.8 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.87; H 5.63; Br 25.85. C₁₆H₁₇BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.96; H 5.62; Br 26.18.

syn-7-Bromo-*endo*-6-propargyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo[3.1.1]heptane (IIb). Yield 0.14 g (3%), mp 98– 99°C (methanol), R_f 0.57 (eluent – hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3320 s, 3040 m, 2950 s, 2875 m, 2120 s, 1950 w, 1870 w, 1810 w, 1760 w, 1125 s, 1070 s, 1050 s. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 1.50–1.85 m (2H, H³), 1.90–2.40 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 2.98 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.4 Hz), 2.12 t (1H, *J* 2.5 Hz) and 3.55 d (2H, *J* 2.5 Hz) – OCH₂Ca"CH; 4.07 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.10–7.50 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 13.4 (C³), 24.3 (2C, C^{2,4}), 48.3 (C⁷), 48.8 (2C, C^{1,5}), 52.7, 73.7 and 79.9 (OCH₂C≡CH), 80.2 (C⁶), 127.6 (2C), 128.2 (2C), 128.8 and 140.2 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.89; H 5.68; Br 25.97. C₁₆H₁₇BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.96; H 5.62; Br 26.18.

By analogous procedure applying allyl alcohol and propanol we obtained the corresponding bromides **IIIa**, **IIIb** and **VIIa**, **VIIb**. The isolation of individual stereoisomers was performed by column chromatography on silica gel.

exo-6-Allyloxy-*syn*-7-bromo-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (IIIa). Yield 23%, mp 38–39°C, R_f 0.65 (eluent hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3090 m, 3070 m, 3035 m, 2950 s, 2875 s, 1950 w, 1880 w, 1850 w, 1820 w, 1760 w, 1650 m, 1540 m, 1450 s, 1205 s, 1070 s, 1050 s. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.40–0.85 m (1H) and 1.05–1.25 m (1H) – H³, 1.70–2.40 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 3.01 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 3.52 d (1H, OCH₂, *J* 6.5 Hz), 4.82–5.12 m (2H) and 5.40–5.90 m (1H) – CH=CH₂; 5.16 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.25 br.s (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 12.3 (C³), 25.0 (2C, C^{2,4}), 46.8 (2C, C^{1,5}), 55.6 (C⁷), 64.2 (OCH₂), 84.5 (C⁶), 115.9 and 135.0 (CH=CH₂), 127.1 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 128.1 and 138.5 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.63; H 6.27. C₁₆H₁₉BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.55; H 6.23.

endo-6-Allyloxy-*syn*-7-bromo-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (IIIb). Yield 4.5%, oily fluid, R_f 0.72 (eluent hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3070 m, 3050 m, 3015 m, 2920 s, 2875 s, 1950 w, 1880 w, 1850 w, 1820 w, 1760 w, 1650 m, 1540 m, 1450 s, 1205 s 1050 s, 950 s. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.45–1.75 m (2H, H³), 1.80–2.35 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 2.96 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 3.47 d (1H, OCH₂, *J* 6.5 Hz), 4.08 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 4.78–5.06 m (2H) and 5.45–5.82 m (1H) – CH=CH₂; 7.05–7.40 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 13.2 (C³), 24.5 (2C, C^{2,4}), 48.3 (2C, C^{1,5}), 48.4 (C⁷), 65.1 (OCH₂), 80.0 (C⁶), 115.7 and 134.2 (CH=CH₂), 126.3 (2C), 127.6 (2C), 128.5 and 141.6 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.47; H 6.19. C₁₆H₁₉BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.55; H 6.23.

syn-7-Bromo-*exo*-6-propyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (VIIa). Yield 51%, oily yellowish fluid, R_f 0.76 (eluent hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3070 m, 3040 m, 2950 s, 2880 s, 1950 w, 1880 w, 1810 w, 1760 w, 1600 s, 1450 s, 1290 s, 1200 m, 1070 s, 1020 m. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 0.45–0.90 m (1H) and 0.95–1.35 m (1H) – H³; 1.60–2.30 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 0.72 t (3H, *J* 7.5 Hz), 1.28 m (2H) and 2.91 t (2H, *J* 6.3 Hz) – OCH₂CH₂CH₃; 2.90 d.t (2H, H^{1.5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 4.07 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.0–7.35 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 11.9 (C³), 25.0 (2C, C^{2.4}), 14.5, 31.3 and 49.6 (OCH₂CH₂CH₃), 46.1 (2C, C^{1.5}), 55.9 (C⁷), 84.1 (C⁶), 126.1 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 127.4 and 137.1 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.15; H 6.84. C₁₆H₂₁BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.13; H 6.84.

syn-7-Bromo-*endo*-6-propyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (VIIb). Yield 7%, oily yellowish fluid, R_f 0.82 (eluent hexane–dichloromethane, 8:1). IR spectrum, cm⁻¹: 3085 m, 3030 m, 2950 s, 2860 s, 1950 w, 1860 w, 1810 w, 1720 w, 1600 s, 1440 s, 1290 s, 1210 m, 1105 s, 1010 m. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.45–1.70 m (2H, H³), 1.70–2.30 m (4H, H^{2.4}), 0.77 t (3H, *J* 7.5 Hz), 1.30 m (2H) and 2.80 t (2H, *J* 6.2 Hz) – OCH₂CH₂CH₃; 2.95 d.t (2H, H^{1.5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 5.11 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.20 br.s (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 13.1 (C³), 23.7 (2C, C^{2.4}), 15.1, 31.7 and 51.2 (OCH₂CH₂CH₃), 47.7 (2C, C^{1.5}), 48.7 (C⁷), 78.9 (C⁶), 127.2 (2C), 127.3 (2C), 128.2 and 140.5 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 62.22; H 6.90. C₁₆H₂₁BrO. Calculated, %: C 62.13; H 6.84.

Iodides IVa, IVb and Va, Vb. To a suspension of 4.50 g (20 mmol) of *N*-iodosuccinimide in 10 ml of

propargyl alcohol and 10 ml of dichloromethane was added within 25 min a solution of 1.70 g (10 mmol) of hydrocarbon **I** in 10 ml of dichloromethane. The mixture was stirred for 8 h at room temperature, then 20 ml of 10% solution of sodium carbonate was added, and the reaction products were extracted into dichloromethane $(3 \times 20 \text{ ml})$. The extract was washed in succession by 10% solution of sodium thiosulfate $(2 \times 10 \text{ ml})$, with water, and with saturated NaCl solution, and dried with sodium sulfate. The ratio of reaction products IVa and IVb in the reaction mixture was determined by means of ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The main amount of the major component of the mixture IVa was isolated by crystallization from methanol, and iodide IVb and additional portion of iodide IVa were obtained by subjecting the mother liquor to column chromatography on silica gel.

syn-7-Iodo-*exo*-6-propargyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (IVa). Yield 1.97 g (56%), mp 123°C (methanol), R_f 0.57 (eluent hexane– dichloromethane, 2:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.42–0.78 m (1H) and 0.96–1.35 m (1H) – H³; 1.81–2.25 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 3.10 d.t (2H, H^{1.5}, *J* 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 2.32 t (1H, *J* 2.5 Hz) and 3.76 d (2H, *J* 2.5 Hz) – OCH₂C≡CH; 5.49 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.0 Hz), 7.15–7.60 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 11.6 (C³), 28.2 (2C, C^{2,4}), 38.9 (C⁷), 46.5 (2C, C^{1.5}), 51.4, 73.5 and 80.3 (OCH₂C≡CH), 85.0 (C⁶), 126.7 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 128.1 and 137.7 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 54.52; H 4.85; I 35.97. C₁₆H₁₇IO. Calculated, %: C 54.56; H 4.86; I 36.03.

syn-7-Iodo-*endo*-6-propargyloxy-6-phenylbicyclo[3.1.1]heptane (IVb). Yield 0.25 g (7%), mp 102°C (methanol), R_f 0.65 (eluent hexane– dichloromethane, 2:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.55–1.85 m (2H, H³), 1.90–2.40 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 3.03 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 5.8 and 1.4 Hz), 2.33 t (1H, *J* 2.5 Hz) and 3.68 d (2H, *J* 2.5 Hz) – OCH₂C≡CH; 4.25 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 5.5 Hz), 7.14–7.65 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 12.5 (C³), 26.8 (2C, C^{2,4}), 28.8 (C⁷), 48.5 (2C, C^{1,5}), 52.3, 73.5 and 79.9 (OCH₂C≡CH), 85.0 (C⁶), 127.3 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 128.5 and 139.7 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 54.51; H 4.84; I 35.94. C₁₆H₁₇IO. Calculated, %: C 54.56; H 4.86; I 36.03.

By analogous procedure using allyl alcohol we obtained iodides **Va** and **Vb**, and the separation of the mixture required application of column chromatography on silica gel.

exo-6-Allyloxy-*syn*-7-iodo-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (Va). Yield 24%, mp 41°C, R_f 0.68

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(eluent hexane–ether, 10:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.49–0.72 m (1H) and 1.13–1.34 m (1H) – H³; 2.0–2.24 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 3.07 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, *J* 6.1 and 1.5 Hz), 3.66 d (2H, OCH₂, *J* 6.6 Hz), 5.02–5.23 m (2H) and 5.69–5.84 m (1H) – CH=CH₂; 5.47 t (1H, H⁷, *J* 6.1 Hz), 7.21–7.45 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 11.7 (C³), 28.1 (2C, C^{2,4}), 38.7 (C⁷), 46.2 (2C, C^{1,5}), 64.1 (OCH₂), 84.1 (C⁶), 116.2 and 135.5 (CH=CH₂), 126.8 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 127.9 and 138.1 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 54.33; H 5.42. C₁₆H₁₉IO. Calculated, %: C 54.25; H 5.41.

endo-6-Allyloxy-*syn*-7-iodo-6-phenylbicyclo-[3.1.1]heptane (Vb). Yield 8%, mp 32°C, R_f 0.75 (eluent – hexane–ether, 10:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.41– 1.71 m (2H, H³), 1.86–2.34 m (4H, H^{2,4}), 3.02 d.t (2H, H^{1,5}, J 6.0 and 1.5 Hz), 3.51 d (1H, OCH₂, J 6.5 Hz), 4.87–5.14 m (2H) and 5.73–5.89 m (1H) – CH=CH₂; 4.29 t (1H, H⁷, J 6.0 Hz), 7.01–7.36 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 12.5 (C³), 26.9 (2C, C^{2,4}), 29.0 (C⁷), 48.1 (2C, C^{1,5}), 65.2 (OCH₂), 79.3 (C⁶), 115.8 and 134.3 (CH=CH₂), 126.2 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 128.3 and 141.0 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 54.31; H 5.43. C₁₆H₁₉IO. Calculated, %: C 54.25; H 5.41.

Treatment of bromides IIa and IIIa with the reagent cobaloxime(III)-sodium borohydride. To a solution of 31 mg (1 mmol) of bromide IIa in 15 ml of 95% ethanol was added 0.5 g (13 mmol) of sodium borohydride and 1 ml of 0.1 N alcoholic solution of sodium hydroxide. Then under an argon atmosphere while stirring at 50°C was added within 3 h by small portions 90 mg (0.22 mmol) of cobaloxime(III). On adding to the reaction mixture of each new portion of catalyst a gas evolution was observed, and the solvent got darker, but some time later it turned again colorless. Additionally 0.5 g of sodium borohydride and 40 mg of cobaloxime(III) was introduced, and stirring was continued for 2 h. Then the mixture was diluted with 10 ml of ether and 10 ml of water, the organic layer was separated, and the reaction products were extracted from the water layer into ether $(3 \times 10 \text{ ml})$. The extract was dried with magnesium sulfate. The residue after removal of ether was separated by column chromatography (eluent hexane-ether, 20:1). Yield of bromoether IIIa 86 mg (28%). Its ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were identical to the spectra of the previously obtained sample of compound IIIa.

By similar procedure bromoether **IIIa** was treated with the reagent cobaloxime(III)–sodium borohydride (reaction time ~ 20 h). By chromatography on silica bromoether **VIIa** was isolated (yield 34%), whose ¹H NMR spectrum was identical to the spectrum of the previously obtained sample of compound **VIIa**.

Reductive cyclization of iodide IVa. 5-Methylene-3-oxa-2-phenyltricyclo[4.4.0.0^{2,7}]decene (VIII). To a solution of 0.352 g (1 mmol) of iodide IVa and 0.350 g (1.2 mmol) of tributyltin hydride in 50 ml of toluene under an argon atmosphere while stirring and heating (114°C) was added by portions 0.024 g (0.1 mmol) of benzoyl peroxide. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC (reaction time ~ 2 h). The solvent was evaporated in a vacuum, the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent hexane-ether, 20:1). Yield of ether **VIII** 82 mg (36%). Colorless oily fluid, R_f 0.69 (eluent hexane– ether, 10:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.51-0.69 m (1H) and 1.04-1.21 m (1H) - H⁹; 1.91-2.10 m (4H, H^{8,10}), 2.96 s (1H, H⁶), 3.12 s (2H, H^{1,7}), 4.18 s (2H, OCH₂), 5.34 br.s (1H) and 5.46 br.s (1H) -C=CH₂; 7.24–7.43 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 11.6 (C⁹), 29.2 (2C, C^{8,10}), 50.4 (2C, C^{1,7}), 57.6 (C^6) , 70.2 (C^4) , 83.9 (C^2) , 124.1 $(CH_2=)$, 133.3 (C^5) , 125.8 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 128.6 and 138.7 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 84.81; H 8.07. C₁₆H₁₈O. Calculated, %: C 84.91; H 8.02.

Izomerization of iodide Va. 5-Iodomethyl-3-oxa-2-phenyltricyclo[4.4.0.0^{2,7}]-decene (IX). To a solution of 0.354 g (1 mmol) of iodide Va in 50 ml of benzene under an argon atmosphere was added at heating (80°C) by portions 0.048 g (0.2 mmol) of benzoyl peroxide within 4 h, and the mixture was stirred till complete conversion of initial iodide Va (~4 h, TLC monitoring). The cooled reaction mixture was washed with 5% solution of sodium hydrogen carbonate $(3 \times 10 \text{ ml})$ and with water, and dried with sodium sulfate. On subjecting the product to column chromatography (eluent hexane-ether, 20:1) we obtained 113 mg (32%) of iodide IX. Colorless oily substance, $R_f 0.79$ (eluent hexane– ether, 10:1). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 0.51–0.69 m (1H) and 1.07–1.22 m (1H) – H⁹; 2.02-2.20 m (2H) and 2.30-2.46 m (2H) - H^{8,10}; 2.55-2.66 m (1H, H⁵), 2.92 br.s (1H, H⁶), 3.04 d.d (1H, J 16 and 4.5 Hz) and 3.14 d.d (1H, J 16 and 6 Hz) – CH₂I; 3.22 br.s (1H) and 3.24 br.s (1H) – $H^{1,7}$; 4.01 d.d (1H, J 16.5 and 4.5 Hz) and 4.18 d.d (1H, J 16.5 and 10 Hz) - OCH₂; 7.28–7.43 m (5H, C₆H₅). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 6.6 (CH₂I), 11.8 (C⁹), 28.5 (2C, C^{8,10}), 43.5 (C⁵), 49.8 and 50.2 (2C, C^{1,7}), 55.7 (C⁶), 64.8 (C⁴), 86.8 (C²), 125.0 (2C), 128.1, 128.3 (2C) and 141.2 (C₆H₅). Found, %: C 54.35; H 5.46. C₁₆H₁₉IO. Calculated, %: C 54.25; H 5.41.

Dehydrohalogenation of iodide IX. A mixture of 106 mg (0.3 mmol) of iodide **IX** and 76 mg (0.5 mmol) of diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene in 5 ml of 1,2-dimethoxyethane was heated for 1 h at 80°C. The reaction mixture was poured into 20 ml of 1 N hydrochloric acid cooled to 0°C, and it was stirred. From the solution obtained the reaction product was extracted into hexane (4×10 ml). The extract was washed in succession with 10 ml of 0.5 N hydrochloric acid, with water (3×5 ml), and with saturated NaCl solution, and dried with magnesium sulfate. On subjecting the product to column chromatography (eluent hexane–ether, 20:1) we obtained 52 mg (76%) of ether **VIII**, whose ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were identical to the spectra of the sample previously prepared.

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