

1.2,⁴ b) tritium oxide as 1.4-1.8,⁵ c) phenol-*O-t* as 1.3,⁶ and d) *tert*-butylcatechol-*O-t* as 3.0-3.5.⁶ In the latter case, *n*-butyl ether was used as a solvent to prevent the formation of coordination compounds between the reactants, thus accounting for the greater isotope effect. The deuterium isotope effect between deuterium oxide and diethylzinc has been reported as 2.5.⁷ In light of the above reports, the values reported herein are plausible. The higher tritium isotope effect found for methanol-*O-t* compared with isobutyl alcohol-*O-t* may result from the solubility of the reaction mixture in excess isobutyl alcohol and its insolubility in excess methanol.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials. The materials used for these experiments included: Ethyl Corp. triethylaluminum (>95%), Phillips Pure grade octene-1 (>99%), argon, originally containing <20 ppm oxygen, <8 ppm water, dried further over Linde 5A molecular sieve, methanol (>99.85%), and isobutyl alcohol (98%). The tritiated alcohols were prepared by exchange with tritium oxide, followed by removal of water by distillation.

Reaction procedure and isotope effects. Triethylaluminum was mixed with octene-1 in a weight ratio of 1:3.5, corresponding to a ratio of 1.2 moles of octene-1 per ethyl group. The mixture was allowed to react under argon for 2 hr. at 145-160°. Then the temperature was raised to 195° in 1 hr. The reaction mixture was cooled to 25° and dropped slowly into a greater than ten-fold excess of either methanol-*O-t* or isobutyl alcohol-*O-t* at the same temperature. Inorganic products and excess alcohol were removed by extraction with dilute hydrochloric acid, dilute sodium hydroxide solutions, and distilled water. The paraffins in a portion of the product mixture were separated from the olefins using the fluorescent indicator adsorption technique.⁸

The average molecular weights of the saturated products were determined cryoscopically. The radioactivities of the reagent alcohols and the saturated reaction products were measured with a Packard Instrument Company Tri-Carb liquid scintillation counter, using a phosphor which consisted of 0.05 g./l. *p*-bis[2-(5-phenyloxazolyl)]benzene and 3.0 g./l. 2,5-diphenyloxazole dissolved in a xylene mixture.⁹

The tritium kinetic isotope effects (k_H/k_T), were calculated according to the equation:

(4) L. O. Assarsson, *Acta Chem. Scand.*, **11**, 1283 (1957).

(5) L. O. Assarsson, *Acta Chem. Scand.*, **10**, 1509 (1956).

(6) L. O. Assarsson, *Acta Chem. Scand.*, **12**, 1545 (1958).

(7) L. Friedman and A. P. Irsa, *Anal. Chem.*, **24**, 876 (1952).

(8) 1958 *Book of ASTM Standards, Part 7*, American Society for Testing Materials, Philadelphia, Pa., p. 756.

$$\frac{k_H}{k_T} = \frac{A_a}{A_p} \cdot \frac{1}{M}$$

where A_a is the activity in counts per min. per mole for the alcohol, A_p is the activity in counts per min. per g. for the saturated products, and M is the cryoscopic average molecular weight.

A control determination to test the technique was carried out by adding the labeled alcohols slowly to part of the triethylaluminum and octene-1 reaction mixture held at 25°. Complete reaction was allowed to occur between incremental additions of alcohol. Separation and measurements of radioactivity and molecular weight were carried out as described above. An apparent isotope effect of unity for the control indicated that the reaction with alcohol was quantitative.

Analysis. The products which were recovered after treating the reaction mixture with alcohol were identified and determined quantitatively. Hexadecane and hexadecene were identified and determined directly by mass spectrometry; the distribution of C_{16} isomers was not determined. The other components were separated and measured quantitatively by gas chromatography at 80°, using a two-meter column packed with 20% *o*-xenyl-diphenyl phosphate on red Chromosorb. They were identified by infrared and mass spectra.

2-Ethyl-octene-1. Several milliliters of pure 2-ethyl-octene-1 were isolated from the product mixture using a large capacity gas chromatograph with a 14-foot, one-inch diameter column packed with the same substrate mentioned above. The isolated material, of high purity as determined by mass spectrometric analysis, was used for determination of physical constants. These were: n_D^{25} , 1.4231; d_4^{25} , 0.7438; b.p., 167.0-167.6°, surface tension at 25°, 22.9 dynes/cm.

Anal.¹⁰ Calcd. for $C_{10}H_{20}$: C, 85.71%; H, 14.29%; mol. wt., 140. Found: C, 85.81%, H, 14.55%, mol. wt., 138 ± 7.

The compound shows strong absorption in the infrared at 890, 1460, 2900 cm^{-1} , medium bands at 730, 1380, 1650 cm^{-1} , and weak bands at 775, 794, 962, 1060, 1120, 1780 cm^{-1} . A portion of the isolated material was hydrogenated, using a platinum dioxide catalyst, and the recovered hydrogenation product was identified through its infrared spectrum, which was identical with that of 3-methyl-nonane.¹¹

Acknowledgment. Messrs. H. E. Clements and K. A. Pinkerton performed the cryoscopic and mass spectrometric measurements respectively. Prof. Z. W. Salsburg, of Rice University, allowed the use of his interfacial tensiometer.

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(9) H. Kallman and M. Furst, *Nucleonics*, **8**, 32 (1951).

(10) Galbraith Microanalytical Laboratories, Knoxville, Tenn.

(11) American Petroleum Institute Research Project 44, Catalog of Infrared Spectral Data, Serial No. 609, 3-Methyl-nonane, contributed by the Naval Research Laboratory.