## tra.<sup>14</sup>

1-Chloro-1-(a-nitraminoethyl)cyclohexane (28). The acidification technique of Meyers and Nabeya<sup>8</sup> was modified for this imine reduction. To a stirred solution of 4.00 g (19.5 mmol) of methyl 1chlorocyclohexylnitroketimine in 100 mL of dioxane, 100 mL of absolute ethanol, and 24 drops of glacial acetic acid with an ice/acetone bath for cooling was added 12.8 g of sodium borohydride in small portions to control frothing. The mixture was allowed to stir for 30 min at reduced temperature, 60 drops of glacial acetic acid was added, and stirring was continued for 60 min at reduced temperature, followed by 30 min at room temperature. The mixture was carefully diluted with 400 mL of ca. 3% aqueous acetic acid and extracted with methylene chloride. The organic extracts were dried, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give a yellow oil which crystallized from hexane. Recrystallization from hexane yielded 1.66 g (8.03 mmol, 41%) of 1-chloro-1-( $\alpha$ -nitraminoethyl)cyclohexane, mp 84–85 °C (lit.<sup>14</sup> mp 91-92.5 °C). Both NMR and IR were in agreement with the reported spectra.14

3-Chloro-3-methyl-2-nitroiminobutane. A solution of 200 g (2.85 mol) of 2-methyl-2-butene in 1200 mL of methylene chloride was stirred at 0 °C while nitrosyl chloride was slowly bubbled into the solution for 1.3 h. The resultant blue solution was stirred for 1.5 h at 0 °C and concentrated in vacuo without heating to give ca. 200 g of 3-chloro-3-methyl-2-butanone oxime as an oily blue-green solid. Further purification was not attempted.

The 200 g of 3-chloro-3-methyl-2-butanone oxime in 1600 mL of methylene chloride was stirred at 0 °C while nitrosyl fluoride was slowly bubbled into the solution for 1.25 h. The green solution was stirred at 0 °C for 3.5 h, followed by 1.5 h at room temperature. The mixture was slowly poured into saturated aqueous sodium carbonate and washed with saturated aqueous sodium carbonate, water, and brine. The organic layer was dried, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give a blue oil which was distilled giving 21.00 g (0.128 mol, 4% overall) of 3-chloro-3-methyl-2-nitroiminobutane, bp 48-50 °C (0.5 mm).

The spectral data for the oxime were: IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.01, 3.32, 3.81 (br), 6.36, 6.96, 7.24, 7.32, 7.76, 8.13, 8.71, 9.01, 9.86, 10.06, 10.56, 11.11  $\mu$ m; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  0.56 (s, 1 H, C=NOH), 7.95 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>C= NOH), 8.23 (s, 6 H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CCl).

The spectral data for the nitrimine were: IR (neat) 3.40, 3.47, 6.17, 6.36 (s), 6.92, 7.34, 7.65, 7.85, 8.12, 8.72, 9.01, 9.82, 10.12, 10.52, 10.94, 11.52, 11.87, 13.32 µm; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7 7.76 (s, 3 H, -C(CH<sub>3</sub>)=N-), 8.17 (s, 6 H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CCl).

Anal. Calcd for C5H9N2O2Cl: C, 36.49; H, 5.51; N, 17.02; Cl, 21.54. Found: C, 36.30; H, 5.59; N, 17.27; Cl, 21.51.

3-Chloro-3-methyl-2-nitraminobutane (29). The acidification technique of Meyers and Nabeya<sup>8</sup> was modified for this imine reduction. To a stirred solution of 4.04 g (24.6 mmol) of 3-chloro-3methyl-2-nitroiminobutane in 100 mL of dioxane, 100 mL of absolute ethanol, and 24 drops of acetic acid at 0 °C was added 5.18 g (136

mmol) of sodium borohydride as fast as possible while still controlling frothing. The mixture was allowed to stir for 20 min at 0 °C, 60 drops of glacial acetic acid were added, and stirring was continued for 1 h at 0 °C, followed by 15 min at room temperature. The mixture was carefully diluted with 400 mL of ca. 3% aqueous acetic acid and extracted with methylene chloride. The combined organic extracts were dried, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give a light yellow liquid which was taken up in ether, washed with water (to remove dioxane), dried, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give a light yellow liquid which was distilled, giving 1.73 g (10.4 mmol, 42%) of 3-chloro-3methyl-2-nitraminobutane as a clear liquid, bp 60 °C (0.1 mm).

The spectral data were: IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.90, 3.30, 6.35, 6.88, 7.25, 7.45, 7.74, 8.23, 8.75, 8.85, 9.17, 9.68, 11.00, 12.15  $\mu$ m; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  1.45 (br m, 1 H, >NH), 5.56 (br q, 1 H, J = 6.5 Hz, >CHNHNO<sub>2</sub>), 8.33 (s,  $3 H, CH_3C(Cl) <), 8.36 (s, 3 H, CH_3C(Cl) <), 8.61 (d, 3 H, J = 6.5 Hz,$  $>C(CH_3)NH_{-}).$ 

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl: C, 36.05; H, 6.66; N, 16.81; Cl, 21.28. Found: C, 36.09; H, 6.52; N, 16.28; Cl, 21.49.

Registry No.-5, 63866-33-1; 6, 63866-34-2; 7, 604-35-3; 8, 1912-54-5; 9, 31239-32-4; 10, 31239-36-8; 11, 63215-89-4; 17, 13943-77-6; 18, 63866-35-3; 19, 63866-36-4; 20, 63866-37-5; 21, 63866-38-6; 22, 63866-39-7; 24, 1256-31-1; 25, 4025-59-6; 26, 63866-40-0; 27, 63866-41-1; 29, 63215-91-8; nitric acid, 7697-37-2; 2-hydroxy-10-methyl-decalin, 2547-28-6; 2-methyl-2-butene, 513-35-9; 3-chloro-3methyl-2-nitriminobutane, 63215-90-7; 3-chloro-3-methyl-2-butanone oxime, 3238-16-2.

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# Chirality of Nucleophilic Reactions of Axial Aldehydes and Methyl Ketones in the Diterpene Series

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The conformation of the  $4\beta$  aldehyde and methyl ketone groups in the podocarpane series has been reinvestigated. Felkin's hypothesis on the geometry of the most favored transition state for a nucleophilic reaction on these aldehydes and ketones combined with a calculation of the energy profile for the rotation around the  $C_{\alpha}$ -C=O bond gives explanations for both chemical results and NMR data.

## I. Introduction

The determination of the most stable conformation of the axial aldehyde group  $(4\beta)$  in the podocarpane 1 or ursane 2 series relies upon the following arguments.<sup>1</sup> (a) In the  ${}^{1}H$ 

NMR spectra the signal associated with the aldehyde proton in a compound such as 3a appears as a doublet  $(J = 1.6 \text{ Hz})^2$ which has been shown to be due to long-range  ${}^{4}J$  coupling with the  $3\alpha$  proton. The conformation of  $3\beta$ -hydroxyaldehyde 4a





is frozen owing to strong hydrogen bonding (no "free" OH vibration in the IR spectrum). Upon irradiation of the  $3\alpha$  proton the aldehyde doublet merges into a singlet. No such coupling can be detected in the NMR spectra of the  $3\alpha$ -hydroxyaldehyde 4b or the 3-ketoaldehyde 5. (b) Reduction of aldehyde 3a with LiAlD<sub>4</sub> is highly stereoselective. It gives an alcohol whose acetate A exhibits a singlet at  $\delta$  3.95 in the NMR spectrum instead of the classical quartet found in its non-deuterated counterpart (Figure 1).

Likewise, reduction of the deuterated aldehyde 3b is nearly stereospecific. The corresponding acetate B gives rise to a singlet at  $\delta$  4.26 (Figure 1). In order to get a deeper knowledge of the reduction mechanism, a careful study of the chirality of acetates A and B was undertaken.

#### **II. Nuclear Overhauser Effect in the Acetates**

In the NMR spectrum of acetate **3c** the two protons bonded to C-19<sup>3</sup> are expected to appear as an AB quartet.<sup>4,5</sup> In fact, each of the two A lines is split into two parts of equal intensity (J = 0.5 Hz).<sup>6</sup> No modification of the shape of this multiplet was observed between -40 and 110 °C. Thus one of the conformations must be highly favored. A reasonable assumption is that the most stable conformation can be represented by **6a**.<sup>7</sup> Rotamer **6b** is ruled out, since the acetate moiety is too



bulky for its having any tendency to rest close to the angular methyl group. Rotamer **6c** cannot be accepted either without violating the present status of  ${}^{4}J \sigma$  coupling, i.e., upon irra-



Figure 1.

Table I. Chemical Shifts of the Two CCH<sub>3</sub> Groups of Podocarpinol O-Methyl Ether 3d in Various Solvents<sup>a</sup>

Solvent	$\delta$ Me-18, ppm	$\delta$ Me-20, ppm
$CCl_4$	1.18	1.02
$CDCl_3$	1.19	1.04
$CCl_2 = CCl_2$	1.15	1.01
Pyridine	1.21	1.22

<sup>a</sup> Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal reference.

diation of any of the two methyl groups no simplification of the A part of the signal taking place.

If the assumption is correct, it should be easy to determine the chirality of the two previously mentioned deuterated acetates A and B, either 7 or 8, by NMR spectroscopy. Upon



irradiation of the angular methyl groups the nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) on the italicized proton of the CH<sub>3</sub>COOCHD group should be higher in 7 than in 8. It is therefore necessary to make sure that the designation of the two CCH<sub>3</sub> signals is correct.

According to Wenkert<sup>8</sup> the peak observed at 1.20 ppm is due to the angular methyl group. However, NOE experiments, carried out on the basis of this assignment and the previously accepted reaction mechanism of aldehyde reduction, led to results inconsistent with the hypothesis of rotamer 6a being the most stable conformer. Thus it was necessary to check Wenkert's assignment, however sound it seems to be.<sup>9</sup> Thus a synthesis of the deuterated acetate 14 (Scheme I) was undertaken. Decarboxylation of podocarpic acid O-methyl ether 9 by lead tetraacetate in pyridine<sup>10</sup> gives a mixture of three olefins which without separation was converted to the noralcohol 11 by hydroboration (9-BBN)<sup>11</sup> and then to the noraldehyde 12 on oxidation with Collins reagent or silver carbonate on Celite. The crude aldehyde was alkylated with trideuteriomethyl iodide in the presence of triphenylmethyl sodium in a mixture of diethyl ether and dimethylformamide.<sup>12</sup> The resulting aldehyde 13, which has the same melting point as O-methylpodocarpinal,<sup>13</sup> exhibits in its NMR spectrum a doublet at 9.70 ppm (J = 1.5 Hz) indicative of an axial

-	Registry no.				-
	16826-83-8	Podocarpinal O-methyl ether <b>3a</b>	1.05	1.07	
	63533-65-3	Podocarpinal- $18$ - $d_3$ O-methyl ether 13		1.07	
	16826-86-1	Podocarpinol O-methyl ether <b>3d</b>	1.04	1.19	
	63533-66-4	Podocarpinol- $18$ - $d_3$ O-methyl ether		1.20	
	16826-82-7	Podocarpinol $O$ -methyl ether acetate $3c$	1.04	1.20	
	63533-67-5	Podocarpinol-18- $d_3$ O-methyl ether acetate 14		1.21	

Table II. Chemical Shifts of Podocarpane and Podocarpane-18-d3 derivatives<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> In parts per million in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal standard.



aldehyde group<sup>1,14</sup> and a CCH<sub>3</sub> singlet at 1.06 ppm, in agreement with the published data. Lithium aluminium hydride reduction of the aldehyde gave a carbinol which was converted ultimately into its acetate 14. A comparison between the NMR spectra of the deuterated and nondeuterated acetates 4 and **3c**, respectively, shows that the signal at 1.20 ppm assigned by Wenkert to the angular methyl group had been assigned correctly (Table II). This point settled firmly, the NOE of acetates A and B was measured (Table II) and showed them to have structures 8 and 7, respectively.

#### **Discussion of the Experimental Results**

The NOE result raises a question, since the earlier interpretation of the experimental data<sup>1</sup> had led to opposite chiralities for the two deuterated acetates.<sup>1</sup> Were aldehyde **3a** to react in its most stable conformation **15** and the reducing agent to arrive from the less hindered side, acetate A (from lithium aluminium deuteride reduction of the aldehyde group, followed by acetylation) should be 7, i.e., 19S.

Similarly acetate B (from lithium aluminium hydride reduction of the deuterioaldehyde group followed by acetylation) should be 8, i.e., 19R.

Therefore, either the basic assumption on which the interpretation of the NOE data relies is wrong or the reduction mechanism is more subtle than interpreted. In order to check



our hypothesis on the most stable acetate rotamer we have calculated the energy profile for the rotation of the C-4-axial substituent around the C-4 $\beta$  bond with the molecular mechanics method developed by Allinger.<sup>15–17</sup> The calculated rotational profile<sup>18</sup> is shown in Figure 2 and indicates the most stable conformation to be the predicted one. Hence the chirality of the deuterated acetates, deduced from NOE, is established. Various geometries of the transition state for the LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction of a carbonyl group have been proposed.<sup>19–23</sup> Recently the validity of Felkin's model has been established as a result of ab initio calculations.<sup>24</sup> The lithium aluminium hydride reagent, however, always has been considered as a bare H<sup>-</sup> ion, neither the lithium cation nor any solvent being taken into account. The transition state has been represented by 17 (L = large, M = medium, S = small), the incipient car-



bon–hydrogen bond being antiperiplanar with respect to the bond between the  $\alpha$  carbon and the bulkier (L) group attached to it.

In the case of aldehydes **3a** or **3b** six such transition states must be considered (18**a**-**f**;  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{H}$  or D, Nu = D or H, respectively). The stability of the required conformation of the aldehyde group was estimated with the "force field" program (Figure 3).<sup>25</sup>

Transition states 18b and 18e are ruled out on the basis of the high interaction energy between the angular methyl group and the oxygen or hydrogen (deuterium) of the aldehyde









## Figure 3.

(deuterioaldehyde) group. Transition states 18a and 18d may be excluded also, since steric hindrance impedes the required antiperiplanar attack of the deuteride (hydride) ion. The energies of the aldehyde conformations in the last two transition states 18c and 18b are approximately the same (although 18c seems to be slightly more stable than 18b).



Unfortunately the program cannot accommodate the presence of a solvated lithium cation in the neighborhood of the oxygen, the increase of electron density on this oxygen, and the elongation of the carbon-oxygen bond. All these factors destabilize transition state  $18f^{26}$  and suggest the aldehyde reduction to proceed via transition state 18c. This conclusion, the opposite of the one previously accepted, is substantiated fully by the NOE results. Similarly, a reaction of methyllithium with the aldehyde 3a (R = H, Nu = CH<sub>3</sub>) should give the secondary alcohol 19a through transition state 18c. The alcohol thus is expected to be the 19R isomer. Indeed this reaction has been found to be highly stereoselective.<sup>27</sup> Moreover, the same alcohol is the major component of the 94:6 mixture of carbinols obtained by LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction of the parent



methyl ketone 20. The energy profile for the internal rotation around the C-4 $\beta$  bond of this ketone has been calculated (Figure 4). Among the six transition states (18a-f; R = CH<sub>3</sub>, Nu = H) five may be disregarded either on the basis of the high energy of the required conformation (18b, 18c, and 18e) or because of steric hindrance in the approach of the nucleophile (18a and 18d). The remaining transition state 18f is expected to lead to the 19*R* isomer 19a, in agreement with the experimental findings. Horeau's analysis of the chirality of carbon centers shows the stereochemistry of both the major and minor secondary alcohols 19a and 21a to be correct.<sup>28,29</sup>





## Figure 4.

It is noteworthy that NOE gives approximately the same values for the acetates 19a and 7, thereby confirming the chirality of the latter compound (*regardless of the stereo-chemistry of* 19b). The most stable conformation of 19S-acetate is represented by 21b. In both 19R and 19S isomers the C-19 proton is located the same distance from the angular methyl group.

### Conclusion

Felkin's hypothesis on the geometry of the most favored transition state for the nucleophilic attack on an aldehyde or methyl ketone proved to be reliable. Therefore a combination of this assumption and of a calculation of the energy profile for the rotation around the  $C_{\alpha}$ —C=O bond appears to be extremely valuable for the prediction of the course of such reactions.

## **Experimental Section**

**General.** Melting points (Köfler microscope) were not corrected. The IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 577 spectrophotometer. Unless stated otherwise, the NMR spectra were obtained either on a Varian T60 or NV14 in  $CCl_4$  or  $CDCl_3$  with tetramethylsilane as internal standard. Nuclear Overhauser effects were measured on a Varian XL-100, in sealed tubes, the solution being carefully degassed.

**Podocarpic Acid O-Methyl Ether.** It was prepared from methyl podocarpate O-methyl ether according to a published procedure:<sup>31</sup> mp 154–156 °C.

Oxidative Decarboxylation of Podocarpic Acid O-Methyl Ether. It was carried out according to Bennett and Cambie's method:<sup>10</sup> 8.55 g of the acid gave 3.85 g of a mixture of the three expected olefins, which could not be separated and was used as such for the next step.

18-Nor-19-hydroxy-12-methoxypodocarpa-8,11,13-triene (11). To 3.85 g of the preceding mixture in 30 mL of dry THF, 30 mL of a 0.50 M solution of 9-BBN in THF was added dropwise at 0 °C under a dry nitrogen atmosphere. After 48 h at room temperature, the clear solution is treated with 5 mL of 6 N NaOH and 4 mL of  $H_2O_2$  (110 vol). After the usual workup, the oily substance is separated by chromatography on silica gel. A mixture of  $\Delta^3$  and  $\Delta^4$  olefins is eluted first, followed by the expected primary alcohol 11 (2.02 g).

A careful analysis (TLC) indicated that two isomers (roughly 3:1) ( $R_f$  0.55 and 0.58, hexane/diethyl ether, 7:3) are formed. However, they could not be separated in a preparative scale. NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 1.13 and 3.66 (minor compound), 1.01 and 3.66 ppm (major compound).

Aldehyde 12. (a) The preceding alcohol mixture (0.476 g) and 15 g of Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>/Celite in 100 mL of benzene are refluxed under argon for 24 h. After filtration of the solid, evaporation of benzene, and chromatography of the resulting oil, 0.242 g of aldehyde 12 (a mixture of axial and equatorial isomers) is obtained.

(B) The alcohol mixture (0.473 g) is oxidized by Collins reagent

(from 1.2 g of CrO<sub>3</sub> and 1.9 g of pyridine in 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) for 15 min at room temperature. After the usual workup, the mixture of the axial and equatorial aldehydes is separated by preparative thin-layer chromatography; 0.115 g are thus obtained: IR 1710 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\nu$  C==O); NMR 0.98 (s, 10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.68 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 9.89 ppm (br s, -CHO) (major compound); NMR 1.06 (s, 10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.68 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 9.68 ppm (d, J = 1.0 Hz, -CHO) (minor compound).

**O-Methylpodocarpinal-** 18-d<sub>3</sub> (13). A mixture of the preceding aldehydes (0.158 g) in 22 mL of dry DMF was added dropwise, under argon, to 22 mL of a solution of 0.028 M of triphenylmethyl sodium in diethyl ether.<sup>30</sup> Freshly distilled methyl-d<sub>3</sub> iodide (3 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 15 h, and then poured in 120 mL of 3 N hydrochloric acid. After the usual workup and chromatography on silica gel, 0.088 g of the crystalline aldehyde was isolated. It was recrystallized twice in hexane/diethyl ether: mp 135-137 °C (nondeuterated podocarpinal, mp 135-136 °C<sup>1</sup>); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 2214 ( $\nu$  -CD<sub>3</sub>) and 1713 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\nu$  C==O); NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 1.04 (10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 9.70 ppm (CHO, d, J = 1.25 Hz); NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.06 (10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 9.65 ppm (d, J = 1.25 Hz, CHO).

**Podocarpinol-***18-d*<sub>3</sub> **O-Methyl Ether.** Podocarpinol-*18-d*<sub>3</sub> (0.042 g) in 6 mL of diethyl ether was reduced at 0 °C by 0.05 g of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> in 8 mL of diethyl ether. The resulting alcohol (oil, 0.042 g) was purified by TLC and crystallized as white needles: mp 88.5–90 °C (hexane); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3608 cm<sup>-1</sup>; NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 1.19 (10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 ppm (s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.20 (s, 10-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.78 ppm (s, OCH<sub>3</sub>).

**NOE Measurements.** Nuclear Overhauser effect measurements have been carried out in the CW or FT modes either on a Varian HA 100 or a Varian XL-100. The concentrations of the samples were 0.25  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> mol/L (FT mode) and 1  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> mol/L (CW mode). The solutions were degassed three times and the tubes were sealed.

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**Registry No.**—9, 10037-26-0;  $\Delta^3$ -10, 54168-28-4;  $\Delta^4$ -10, 13740-16-4; 11 isomer 1, 63533-68-6; 11 isomer 2, 63533-69-7; 12 isomer 1, 63597-43-3; 12 isomer 2, 23962-85-8.

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## Kinetics and Mechanism of Ynamine-Isocyanate Additions<sup>1</sup>

Notes

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Alkyl isocyanates 1a-c and the ortho-blocked aryl isocyanate 1d react with 1-diethylaminopropyne to give ketenimines.<sup>3</sup> The products are easily identified by their characteristic infrared absorption bands just above 2000  $cm^{-1}$ . Reactions with aqueous acid and acetic acid parallel those previously reported for ketenimines.<sup>4</sup>

In contrast to these 2 + 2 additions to the C–O  $\pi$  bond, aryl isocyanates typically give solvent-dependent product mixtures from competing 2 + 2 and 4 + 2 additions involving the C-N  $\pi$  bond,<sup>5a</sup> and other conjugated isocyanates undergo 4 + 2 additions.<sup>5</sup> The C-O  $\pi$  bond involvement is not unique, however. One example involving phenyl isocyanate and a



cyanoynamine has been reported,<sup>6</sup> and a reexamination of the reaction of phenyl isocyanate with 2 indicates that in CCl<sub>4</sub> a ketenimine (IR 2010 cm<sup>-1</sup>; NMR  $\delta$  1.92 (s)) forms and disappears in the reaction mixture. We have not been able to determine the fate of the ketenimine.

These reactions are very solvent dependent. In acetonitrile, phenyl isocyanate and 2 react rapidly to produce the 4 + 2adduct. No intermediates are detectable by IR or NMR. Ketenimine 4d also forms rapidly and in high yield in acetonitrile but slowly and in poor yield in CCl<sub>4</sub>. Solvent effects are expected to be significant for reactions which proceed through zwitterionic intermediates such as  $7,^7$  and ynamine reactions



are characteristically solvent sensitive.<sup>8</sup> For that reason it was surprising to find that the alkyl isocyanate reactions did not show either product or significant rate dependence on solvents. The rate of the reaction of 2 with methyl isocyanate was followed by NMR and found to be first order in each reactant with rate constants as shown in Table I. The factor of 8 difference between rate constants in benzene and acetonitrile at 34 °C can be compared to factors of  $10^3-10^4$  for tetracyanoethylene/enol ether additions for which a zwitterionic intermediate has been established.<sup>7</sup> From the temperature dependence of the rate constant in benzene, values of  $13 \pm 2$ kcal/mol and  $-31.5 \pm 5$  eu can be derived for the activation

Table I. Solvent and Temperature Dependence of Rate **Constants for Formation of 4a** 

	and the second sec		
Solvent	<i>T</i> , ℃	$k \times 10^4$ , M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	16	$0.45 \pm 0.05$	
$C_6H_6$	34	$1.8 \pm 0.1$	
$C_6H_6$	56	$8.8 \pm 0.5$	
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	34	$9.5 \pm 1.0$	
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CN	34	$8.0 \pm 0.5$	
CD <sub>3</sub> CN	34	$15.3 \pm 1.6$	
	$\begin{array}{c} Solvent\\ C_6H_6\\ C_6H_6\\ C_6H_6\\ C_6H_5NO_2\\ C_6H_5CN\\ CD_3CN\end{array}$	Solvent $T, °C$ C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> 16           C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> 34           C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> 56           C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> 34           C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CN         34           CD <sub>3</sub> CN         34	Solvent $T, ^{\circ}C$ $k \times 10^4, M^{-1} s^{-1}$ $C_6H_6$ 16 $0.45 \pm 0.05$ $C_6H_6$ 34 $1.8 \pm 0.1$ $C_6H_6$ 56 $8.8 \pm 0.5$ $C_6H_5NO_2$ 34 $9.5 \pm 1.0$ $C_6H_5CN$ 34 $8.0 \pm 0.5$ $CD_3CN$ 34 $15.3 \pm 1.6$