As pointed out by Dewar^{10b} and by Lischka and Köhler, 11 MINDO/3 often provides remarkably good results in such comparisons between small classical and nonclassical cations as judged from experimental data or from high-level ab initio calculations. 12,13 Although the MINDO/3 estimate of the energy difference favoring 6 over 7, 5.0 kcal/mol (eq 5), is in satisfactory agreement with the experimental barrier to methyl scrambling in 6, 3.5 kcal/mol, the trends in the MINDO/3 results (Scheme I) probably are more significant. Thus, the bridged classical ion energy difference in the secondary case (eq 6) is 4.0 kcal/mol less than that in the tertiary (eq 5). This contradicts the assumption of Fărcașiu that 5 should lie about 3 kcal/mol higher in energy than 4. We conclude that 4 and 5 probably are comparable in energy in nonnucleophilic media. No correction of the measured activation energy for methyl equilibration in 3 is thus needed, and this value is given in ea 4.

Equations 3 and 4 can now be compared in order to provide a corrected estimate, 6 ± 1 kcal/mol, for the extra stabilization associated with the secondary 2-norbornyl cation in stable ion media. This value is in good agreement with other differently based estimates under such conditions^{9c} and with the energy expected from solution solvolysis data (compare the Goering-Schwene diagram^{9b} and the finding of Arnett, Petro, and Schleyer¹⁴ that nearly 90% of the total ionization energy of a carbocation in stable ion media is reflected in the corresponding solvolysis transition state). This extra stabilization, in principle, might be due to effects other than bridging. However, if the structure of the norbornyl cation is established to be nonclassical by other methods, it is reasonable to attribute the 6 ± 1 kcal/mol stabilization to the energy gained on bridging.

The experimental evidence favoring the bridged structure of the 2-norbornyl cation in nonnucleophilic media, where direct spectroscopic observations can be made, is now overwhelming. The ESCA spectrum has been determined a third time, with the same results as before. 15 Theoretically calculated ESCA spectra for the classical and nonclassical species firmly support the nonclassical assignment.¹⁶ Detailed analysis of the ¹³C NMR chemical shifts of the 2-norbornyl cation, in comparison with numerous other carbocations, demonstrates its bridged nature.8 Finally, Saunders' isotopic perturbation probe10c shows the structure of the 2-norbornyl cation to be bridged.¹⁷ The time has come to ask the question, "Are remaining doubts concerning the bridged structure of the 2-norbornyl cation resonable or unreasonable?"

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A Brief Total Synthesis of N-Benzoyl-D,L-daunosamine

Summary: A brief regionelective total synthesis of Nbenzoyl-D,L-daunosamine $[(\pm)-7a]$ from chlorosulfonyl isocyanate (2) and (E)-1,3-pentadiene (1) is described.

Sir: $[2\pi_8 + 2\pi_8]$ cycloadditions of chlorosulfonyl isocyanate to alkenes have been widely employed to synthesize β lactam antibiotics and structurally related systems.^{1,2} We have extended the preparative utility of this reaction to the biologically important 2,3,6-trideoxy-3-aminohexoses and have accomplished short regioselective syntheses of the N-benzoyl derivative $[(\pm)-7a]$ of D,L-daunosamine [2,3,6-trideoxy-3-amino-D,L-lyxo-hexose, (\pm) -7b] and the corresponding derivative of the D,L-xylo-isomer (\pm) -8a.

There has been intense synthetic N-benzoyl-D,L-daunosamine in daunosamine (Ls-7b) because it is the glycosidic residue of a number of anthracycline anticancer antibiotics³ and contributes significantly to their biological activity. Elegant chiral preparations of both the natural L_S^4 and unnatural D_R^5 isomers have been reported. Several shorter total syntheses of (\pm) -7b have also been reported.

Our short total synthesis of N-benzoyl-D,L-daunosamine

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 $[(\pm)-7a]$ is shown in Scheme I. The brevity of the sequence was achieved by using azetidinone intermediate 3 which has both the requisite disposition of amino and carbonyl groups and contains an olefinic fragment with the inherent regio- and stereochemistry for controlled introduction of hydroxyl groups. Efficient regiospecific construction of propenylazetidinone 37 was accomplished by cycloaddition of chlorosulfonyl isocyanate (2) to (E)-1,3pentadiene (1). Methanolysis (HCl/CH₃OH) of 3 gave the hydrochloride salt of methyl (E)-3-amino-4-hexenoate (4a, mp 117-20 °C) which was subsequently converted to the N-benzoyl derivative 4b⁸ with benzoyl chloride in pyridine in 80% overall yield.

Cis hydroxylation of the olefinic fragment of 4b with trimethylamine N-oxide and a catalytic amount of osmium tetroxide^{9,10} afforded the lyxo and xylo lactone isomers 5a and 6a (92% yield, 62:38 ratio) which were readily separated by chromatography on silica gel. Subsequently, it was discovered that acetylation of the lactone mixture (90% yield) permitted direct separation of acetates 5b (mp 158-159 °C) and 6b (mp 158-159 °C) by crystallization.

The five-membered lactone structures for 5a and 6a

were indicated by infrared absorptions at 1779 and 1787. cm⁻¹, respectively. Decoupling of the individual ¹H NMR spectra permitted definitive determination of the stereochemistry of the individual isomers.8 Isomer 5a exhibited a smaller H_3 - H_4 coupling constant (J = 3.52 Hz at 4.39 ppm) since the dihedral angle between the coupling protons approaches 90°11 and was therefore assigned the lyxo configuration. The xylo configuration was assigned to isomer 6a which had a larger coupling constant (J = 7.26)Hz at 4.38 ppm) due to the near 0° dihedral angle between the corresponding protons.¹¹

Diisobutylaluminum hydride reduction (3.0 equiv, THF, -100 °C) of the individual acetates **5b** and **6b** afforded the lactols 5c and 6c in 80 and 58% yields, respectively. Ammonolysis (NH₃/MeOH/23 °C/1 h) of 5c gave Nbenzoyl-D,L-daunosamine $[(\pm)-7a]$, while corresponding treatment of 6c furnished the xylo isomer 8a, both in quantitative vield.

The potential of this approach for general synthesis of the configurational isomers of 2,3,6-trideoxy-3-aminohexoses in their optically active form is under study.

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