

2 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3060 (m), 2950 (m), 1415 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**N-Methyl-3-phenyl-5-(trimethylsilyl)isoxazolidine (3a):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.1 (s, 9 H), 1.8-2.9 (m, 2 H), 2.7 (s, 3 H), 3.2-3.9 (m, 2 H), 7.3 (m, 5 H); IR (neat) 3030 (m), 2960 (vs), 2840 (s), 1245 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**α-Furyl-N-methylnitron (2b):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.6 (s, 3 H), 6.3 (m, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 2 H), 7.5 (m, 1 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3020 (w), 2940 (w), 1590 (w), 1410 (vs), 1145 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**N-Methyl-3-furyl-5-(trimethylsilyl)isoxazolidine (3b):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.1 (s, 9 H), 1.9-2.6 (m, 2 H), 2.6 (s, 3 H), 3.1-3.8 (m, 2 H), 6.1 (m, 2 H), 7.2 (m, 1 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 2970 (m), 1255 (m), 1170 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 225 (M<sup>+</sup>, 62), 210 (10), 73 (100).

**β-Furylacrolein (4b):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 6.46 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 3.5, 1 H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 15.8, 1 H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 3.5, 1 H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 15.8, 1 H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 1.4, 1 H), 9.53 (d, *J* = 7.9, 1 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3120 (w), 2805 (s), 2715 (s), 1685 (vs), 1630 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 122 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 94 (45), 65 (40), 39 (31).

**N-Methylnitron 2c:** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.77 (s, 3 H), 3.19 (s, 3 H), 4.85 (A of AB q, *J* = 11.7, 1 H), 4.90 (B of AB q, *J* = 11.7, 1 H), 4.96 (A of AB q, *J* = 11.4, 1 H), 5.02 (B of AB q, *J* = 11.4, 1 H), 5.45 (d, *J* = 7.4, 1 H), 6.10 (s, 1 H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.4, 1 H), 6.8 (m, 2 H), 7.3 (m, 16 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3030 (w), 2995 (m), 2830 (w), 1585 (m), 1490 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 509 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.1), 280 (8), 91 (100).

**N-Methyl-5-(trimethylsilyl)isoxazolidine 3c:** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.1 (s, 9 H), 1.8 (s, 3 H), 2.1-2.5 (m, 2 H), 2.3 (s, 3 H), 3.1 (m, 1 H), 3.3 (m, 1 H), 4.3 (m, 1 H), 5.1 (s, 2 H), 5.2 (s, 2 H), 5.9 (s, 1 H), 6.9 (m, 2 H), 7.3 (m, 16 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3050 (m), 2970 (s), 2880 (s), 1480 (vs), 1200 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 609 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.1), 536 (2), 280 (14), 91 (100).

**α,β-Unsaturated aldehyde 4c:** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.46 (s, 3 H), 4.99 (dd, *J* = 1.1, 2.5, 1 H), 5.07 (s, 4 H), 5.74 (s, 1 H), 6.3 (m, 2 H), 6.9 (m, 2 H), 7.4 (m, 16 H), 8.86 (d, *J* = 7.5, 1 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3050 (w), 2880 (w), 2730 (w), 1695 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 506 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.1), 332 (7), 91 (100). Anal. Calcd<sup>11</sup> for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 78.22; H, 5.97. Found: C, 78.03; H, 6.12.

**α-n-Hexyl-N-methylnitron (2d):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.8-1.5 (m, 11 H), 2.3-2.7 (m, 2 H), 3.6 (s, 3 H), 6.7 (t, *J* = 7, 1 H); IR (neat) 3050 (w), 2930 (vs), 1605 (s), 1410 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 144 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 25), 86 (50), 73 (100).

**N-Methyl-3-n-hexyl-5-(trimethylsilyl)isoxazolidine (3d):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.1 (s, 9 H), 0.8-1.0 (m, 3 H), 1.2-1.6 (m, 10 H), 1.8-2.4 (m, 3 H), 2.6 (s, 3 H), 3.1-3.9 (m, 1 H); IR (neat) 2960 (vs), 2860 (s), 1250 (s), 825 (vs), cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 243 (M<sup>+</sup>, 15), 227 (41), 170 (39), 158 (25), 140 (67), 73 (100).

**2-Nonenal (4d):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.89 (m, 3 H), 1.29-1.57 (m, 8 H), 2.36 (ddt, *J* = 1.5, 6.8, 5.0, 2 H), 6.12 (ddt, *J* = 1.5, 7.9, 15.6, 1 H), 6.86 (dt, *J* = 6.8, 15.6, 1 H), 9.50 (d, *J* = 7.9, 1 H); IR (neat) 2940 (vs), 2740 (w), 1690 (vs), 890 (vs), 715 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 140 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100).

**α-Carboxy-N-benzylnitron (2e) (E and Z mixture):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.3 (t, 3 H), 4.3 (q, 2 H), 5.5 (m, 2 H), 7.1 (s, 1 H), 7.4 (m, 5 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3030 (w), 2980 (m), 1745 (s), 1140 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**N-Benzyl-3-carboxy-5-(trimethylsilyl)isoxazolidine (3e):** NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.1 (s, 9 H), 1.1 (t, 3 H), 2.0-2.6 (m, 2 H), 3.3-4.2 (m, 6 H), 7.2 (s, 5 H); IR (neat) 3040 (m), 2960 (s), 2840 (m), 1745 (vs), 1185 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>; mass spectrum, *m/z* (relative intensity) 307 (M<sup>+</sup>, 15), 234 (22), 91 (100).

**p-Nitrophenylhydrazone of 4e:** mp 158-162 °C; NMR (Me<sub>2</sub>SO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1, 3 H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.1, 2 H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 15.6, 1 H), 7.15 (A of AB q, *J* = 9.2, 2 H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 9.7, 1 H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 9.7, 1 H), 8.14 (B of AB q, *J* = 9.2, 2 H); IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) 3050 (w), 2940 (m), 1735 (m), 1610 (m), 1340 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

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(11) Elemental analyses were performed by Micro-Tech Laboratories, Skokie IL.

**Registry No.** 1a, 100-52-7; 1b, 98-01-1; 1c, 91328-45-9; 1d, 111-71-7; 1e, 924-44-7; (Z)-2a, 7372-59-0; (Z)-2b, 91328-46-0; 2c, 91328-47-1; (Z)-2d, 91328-48-2; (E)-2e, 81206-60-2; (Z)-2e, 81206-61-3; *cis*-3a, 91328-49-3; *trans*-3a, 91328-56-2; *cis*-3b, 91328-50-6; *trans*-3b, 91328-57-3; 3c, 91328-51-7; *cis*-3d, 91328-52-8; *trans*-3d, 91328-58-4; *cis*-3e, 91328-53-9; *trans*-3e, 91328-59-5; (E)-4a, 14371-10-9; (E)-4b, 39511-08-5; 4c, 91328-54-0; (E)-4d, 18829-56-6; (E)-4e, 2960-66-9; (E)-4e (*p*-nitrophenylhydrazone), 91328-55-1; MeNH<sub>2</sub>·HCl, 4229-44-1; CH<sub>2</sub>=CHSiMe<sub>3</sub>, 754-05-2.

### Reduction of 4-Cyanoisoxazoles with Lithium Aluminum Hydride. Synthesis of 5-Aminoisoxazoles

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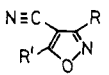
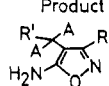
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In the course of our investigations of the reduction of isoxazole derivatives with complex metal hydrides, 2-, 3-, and 4-isoxazolines have been selectively synthesized in good yields.<sup>1-3</sup> In order to obtain adequate reactivity of the isoxazole ring toward reduction, activation of the nucleus by quaternization of the nitrogen<sup>1</sup> or introduction of electron-accepting groups at C-4<sup>2</sup> is necessary. In particular, 3,5-dimethylisoxazoles with electron-withdrawing groups at C-4 on reaction with sodium borohydride are reduced to 2-isoxazolines regioselectively.<sup>2</sup> Although the reduction of 4-cyano-3,5-dimethylisoxazole with sodium borohydride leads to the expected 4-cyano-2-isoxazoline,<sup>2</sup> surprisingly, we found that reduction of 4-cyano-3,5-dimethylisoxazole with lithium aluminum hydride leads to 5-amino-4-ethyl-3-methylisoxazole resulting from an unusual rearrangement.

The interest in 5-aminoisoxazoles as intermediates for the synthesis of derivatives with antihistaminic,<sup>4</sup> analgesic,<sup>5</sup> antibactericidal,<sup>6</sup> and insecticidal<sup>7</sup> activity led us to study

**Table I. Reduction of 3,5-Disubstituted-4-cyanoisoxazoles 1a-c with Lithium Aluminum Hydride (1 Equiv) at 0 °C in Ether for 6 h**

	Metal Complex Hydride	Product 	Yield %
1a, R=R'=CH <sub>3</sub>	LiAlH <sub>4</sub>	2a, R=R'=CH <sub>3</sub> , A=H	55
1a, R=R'=CH <sub>3</sub>	LiAlD <sub>4</sub>	2b, R=R'=CH <sub>3</sub> , A=D	55
1b, R=Ph, R'=CH <sub>3</sub>	LiAlH <sub>4</sub>	2c, R=Ph, R'=CH <sub>3</sub> , A=H	75
1b, R=Ph, R'=CH <sub>3</sub>	LiAlD <sub>4</sub>	2d, R=Ph, R'=CH <sub>3</sub> , A=D	75
1c, R=R'=Ph	LiAlH <sub>4</sub>	2e, R=R'=Ph, A=H	45

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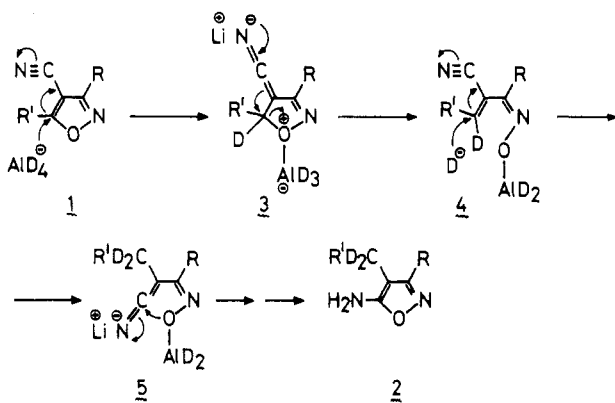
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Table II. Reduction of 4-Cyanoisoxazoles 1a-c with Lithium Aluminum Hydride

product	mp, °C	mol form <sup>a</sup>	MS (70 eV), <i>m/e</i> (M <sup>+</sup> , rel intensity)	IR (Nujol) $\nu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 60 Hz) $\delta$ , <i>J</i> (Hz)
2a <sup>b</sup>	84-85 (hexane-ether)	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	126 (88)	3400, 3250, 1640	1.05 (t, 3 H, <i>J</i> = 7.1, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> e, 2.05 (s, 3 H, 3-CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.25 (q, 2 H, <i>J</i> = 7.1, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.60 (br s, 2 H, NH <sub>2</sub> )
2b	87-88 (hexane-ether)	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> D <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	128 (71)	3400, 3250, 2200, 2120, 1640	1.05 (s, 3 H, 4-CD <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> e, 2.10 (s, 3 H, 3-CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.70 (br s, 2 H, NH <sub>2</sub> )
2c	58-59 (benzene)	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	188 (18)	3350, 3200, 1650	1.00 (t, 3 H, <i>J</i> = 7.6, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.30 (q, 2 H, <i>J</i> = 7.6, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.20 (br s, 2 H, NH <sub>2</sub> ), 7.40 (m, 5 H, 3-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )
2d	60-61 (benzene)	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>10</sub> D <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	190 (10)	3450, 3200, 2250, 2140, 1650	1.00 (s, 3 H, 4-CD <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.10 (br s, 2 H, NH <sub>2</sub> ), 7.50 (m, 5 H, 3-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> )
2e	88-89 (hexane-benzene)	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	250 (42)	3350, 3200, 1630	3.60 (s, 2 H, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ), 7.20 (m, 5 H, 4-CH <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ), 7.50 (m, 5 H, 3-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ), 7.80 (br s, 2 H, NH <sub>2</sub> )

<sup>a</sup> Satisfactory analytical data (C  $\pm$  0.19%, H  $\pm$  0.17%, N  $\pm$  0.18%). <sup>b</sup> <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.07 (CH<sub>3</sub> attached to methylene group), 12.65 (CH<sub>3</sub> attached to C-3), 13.46 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 92.60 (C-4), 159.66 (C-3), 163.95 (C-5).

Scheme I



the scope of this process. We report here an apparently general method for the regiospecific synthesis of 5-aminoisoxazoles<sup>8</sup> by reduction of 4-cyanoisoxazoles with lithium aluminum hydride. Furthermore, the mechanism of the reaction has been elucidated by incorporation of deuterium in the resulting 5-aminoisoxazoles when the reduction is carried out with lithium aluminum deuteride.

### Result and Discussion

3,5-Disubstituted-4-cyanoisoxazoles 1a-c react with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> or LiAlD<sub>4</sub> to give 3,4-disubstituted-5-aminoisoxazoles 2a-e in 45-75% yields (Table I). Incorporation of deuterium in the methylene group attached at C-4 of 2b,d clearly shows that the methylene carbon comes from the original C-5 carbon atom of 1a,b.

From the deuteration experiments the mechanism of the reaction appears to occur by initial attack of hydride at C-5 and formation of the intermediate 3 (Scheme I) which is common for all the reductions of 4-functionalized 3,5-disubstituted isoxazoles with complex metal hydride.<sup>2</sup> The second hydride attack at C-5 may occur with preliminary Lewis acid catalyzed ring cleavage and formation of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated nitrile intermediate 4 followed by intramolecular addition of the nitrile salt intermediate 5 which cyclizes to the respective 5-aminoisoxazole.

(8) For references of known methods for synthesis of 5-aminoisoxazoles, see: (a) Yamada, S.; Kowaki, C. *J. Pharm. Soc. Jpn.* 1951, 71, 1356. (b) Lopez, L.; Barrans, J. C. R. *Hebd. Seances Acad. Sci., Ser. C.* 1966, 263(7), 557. (c) Harsanyi, K.; Takacs, K.; Horvath, K. *Chem. Ber.* 1974, 107(8), 2563. (d) Colau, R.; Viel, C. *Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr.* 1980, 163.

### Experimental Section

All reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere. Melting points are uncorrected. 4-Cyanoisoxazoles were prepared by established procedures.<sup>9</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian A-60 analytical spectrometer. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were determined with a Varian FT-80 instrument. Chemical shifts are reported in part per million relative to Me<sub>4</sub>Si as the internal standard by using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent. Infrared spectra were recorded for Nujol mulls, using a Pye-Unicam SP-1100 spectrophotometer. Solvents and reagents were purified by conventional methods. Electron ionization mass spectra were obtained on a Hewlett-Packard 5946-A.

**5-Amino-4-ethyl-3-methylisoxazole (2a).** **General Procedure.** (4-Cyano-3,5-dimethylisoxazole)<sup>9a</sup> (1a; 6.1 g, 0.05 mol) in ether (100 mL) is added to a suspension of lithium aluminum hydride (2 g, 0.05 mol) in 50 mL of ether. The mixture is stirred at 0 °C for 6 h and then hydrolyzed with a saturated solution of ammonium chloride. The ethereal layer is separated and dried with magnesium sulfate. Evaporation of the solvent leaves a solid, which is chromatographed on silica gel with dichloromethane; yield 3.46 g (55%) of 2a; mp 84-85 °C (hexane-ether). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 57.12; H, 7.99; N, 22.20. Found: C, 56.99; H, 7.94; N, 22.12.

Physical constants and spectral and analytical data for compounds 2a-e are summarized in Table II.

**Registry No.** 1a, 31301-46-9; 1b, 24400-67-7; 1c, 54535-49-8; 2a, 91084-67-2; 2b, 91084-68-3; 2c, 91084-69-4; 2d, 91084-70-7; 2e, 91084-71-8; LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, 16853-85-3; LiAlD<sub>4</sub>, 14128-54-2.

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### NMR Studies of Geometric Isomers of 3-Dehydro- $\beta$ -ionone<sup>†</sup>

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Recently a considerable amount of effort has been directed toward studies of structural properties of retinal and

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