Nitrogen-15 NMR Spectra of Tertiary Amines with the 7-Azanorbornene Framework

Louis D. Quin,* Kenneth C. Caster,¹ Brian G. Marsi, and J. Allen Miller¹

Gross Chemical Laboratory, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27706

Received April 17, 1986

During studies of ³¹P NMR spectral effects among bridged tertiary phosphines, we noted some extremely strong influences operating on the phosphorus nucleus. Phosphine shifts are usually negative (upfield of H_3PO_4), but shifts as low as 100 to 150 ppm downfield were measured for these compounds.² These effects were mostly operative in structures where P occupied the 7-position of the norbornene framework, which presents a combination of severe angle strain at P and proximity to a π -center. Other nuclei at the 7-position also respond to these molecular features; for example, carbon-13,³ oxygen-17,⁴ and silicon-29⁵ derivatives all exhibit pronounced deshielding of the heteroatom. This has been attributed to reduced electron density at the 7-position by a hyperconjugative interaction of the C-X σ electrons with a π^* orbital of the double bond.^{5,6} Another effect, however, is known that is special to phosphorus; the syn-anti isomers that arise from the pyramidal stability of tertiary phosphines had a great difference in their ³¹P shifts.² Thus, in compound 1 (syn) the bridging P had δ 96.5, while 2 (anti) had δ 30.2.



This difference disappeared when oxygen was added to the phosphorus. A theoretical explanation for this shift effect has not yet been developed.

A prominent element missing from such NMR structure studies is nitrogen, yet the similarity between tertiary phosphines and tertiary amines might suggest that the N nucleus would not only display the strong deshielding effect but the differential shift between syn and anti isomers as well. In almost all tertiary amines, the pyramidal stability of N is so low that procuring ¹⁵N spectra to test these ideas is quite difficult. Fortunately, however, the norbornane framework, which is required for a comparative study of the effects on ¹⁵N, gives nitrogen a relatively high pyramidal inversion barrier. Unsaturated derivatives with the 7-azanorbornane framework, which can be constructed from the action of pyrroles with Diels–Alder dienophiles, have been described as having inversion barriers so high

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 Table I.
 ¹³C NMR Spectra of Compound 4 at Different Temperatures



temp, °C		C-1,4	C-5,6	C-7	C-2,3	C-8,11	C-9,10
+20		66.3	26.3	34.6	143.4	120.8	125.4
-30^{a}	syn	66.1	26.2	34.4	142.9	120.9	125.3 (major)
	anti	64.5	21.2	34.8	145.5	118.0	124.7 (minor)

 $^a\mathrm{Peak}$ intensities of minor isomer were 5–8% of invertomer mixture.

that in some derivatives (e.g., the 7-azanorbornadiene derivative 3) invertomers can be detected spectrally (¹H and ¹³C NMR) at room temperature.⁷



We have now examined the benzo-7-azanorbornene derivative 4, as well as the azanorbornene 3, by natural abundance ¹⁵N NMR at 90.4 MHz. Both compounds have been studied by other techniques,⁷⁻⁹ and it is accepted that the invertomer with the N-substituent syn to the benzene ring or to the double bond is highly favored. Studies on the nature of the nonbonding interactions in these substances have also been published.^{9,10} At probe temperature, the following results, relative to anhydrous ammonia as zero, were obtained: 4, δ (¹⁵N) 92.0; 5, 88.4. These values are some 30–40 ppm downfield of any previously recorded

⁽¹⁾ Present address: L.D.Q.:* Department of Chemistry, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. K.C.C.: Union Carbide Corporation, South Charleston Technical Center, South Charleston, WV 25503. J.A.M.: Wellcome Research Laboratories, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BS, England.

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Figure 1. NMR spectra of 4 at different temperatures.

for a tertiary amine, and thus nitrogen is established to have the great sensitivity to the norbornene structure as found for other nuclei.¹¹ As would be expected from the value reported⁸ for the barrier to inversion (13.0 kcal per mol) and peak coalescence temperature observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum (233 K at 100 MHz), only one signal was observed for each compound. The peak for the anti isomer, which should be observable below the coalescence temperature, should be quite small, and more favorable conditions for its detection were required. This was accomplished by synthesizing an isotopically enriched sample and by operation at higher magnetic field to obtain greater sensitivity. The synthesis of 4 was therefore repeated using pyrrole containing 23% 15 N as starting material. The 15 N NMR shifts for the intermediates of this process have not previously been published and are shown in Scheme I.

The ¹⁵N NMR spectrum for 4 at 25 °C still consisted of a single broad line, and the ¹³C NMR spectrum (Figure 1 and Table I) gave only one set of broadened signals. However, when the ¹⁵N spectrum was obtained at -10 °C, a second signal appeared, and at -30 °C it was clearly present at δ 81.4, with the major signal at δ 91.9. Both signals were quite sharp and collapsed as the temperature was raised. The ratio of the signals at -30 °C was 96:4, close to the ratio reported^{7,8} for the syn-anti isomers (94:6) when determined with ¹H NMR methods. The coalescence temperature is not readily measurable due to the large chemical shift and intensity difference of the two signals. The new resonance must be attributed to the anti isomer, and therefore we are observing the same chemical shift effect as found among the related phosphines; both isomers exhibit pronounced deshielding, but the syn isomer is the

more strongly affected. The differential is 10.7 ppm, whereas it is as great as 70 ppm for ³¹P. However, tertiary phosphines are much more sensitive to structural effects and recorded values span a range of about 370 ppm (-220 to +150). The range for tertiary amines is only about 120 ppm, hence a $\Delta\delta$ of 10.7 ppm in ¹⁵N NMR is a relatively large effect. A $\Delta\delta$ of 18.2 ppm was noted¹² for the syn and anti isomers of an N-chlorobenzoazanorbornene but in the presence of Cr(acac)₃.

Compound 5 has not been further examined, but it is likely that subjecting it to similar treatment would provide valuable information about its invertomer population.

The ¹³C NMR spectrum of syn-4 in CDCl₃ has been published previously;⁷ the anti isomer was not observed. By operating at -30 °C, well below the coalescence temperature, we have recorded the spectrum for both isomers. The anticipated changes in the anti spectrum should result from increased steric interactions (γ -shielding) between the N-methyl group and the -CH₂CH₂- group and diminished interaction at the fusion carbons C-2,3. Indeed, the expected changes were observed; C-5,6 were shifted upfield by 5.0 ppm, while C-2,3 were shifted downfield by 2.6 ppm. All other ring carbons were also upfield-shifted in the anti isomer. The failure of previous investigators to observe a signal for the anti isomer is not due to a low concentration effect⁷ but to performance of the NMR measurement above the coalescence temperature. It was reported,⁷ however, that both isomers were observed when trifluoroacetic acid was used as the solvent. This solvent has been reported elsewhere⁸ to cause N-protonation, and thus the signals observed are not for the free amine invertomers. It has also been stated⁷ that in the ¹H NMR spectrum both isomers can be observed if $Eu(fod)_3$ is added, but it now appears that this medium is exerting an effect on the inversion phenomenon.

The ease of measurement of 15 N in a moderately enriched sample and the marked sensitivity of a bridging nitrogen to structural effects make dynamic 15 N NMR spectroscopy an important and direct method for the study of the inversion behavior of bicyclic amines. The difficulties in earlier ¹H and ¹³C NMR studies, where the medium influences the equilibrium between invertomers, is avoided by this simple approach.

Experimental Section

Synthesis of 7-Methylbenzo-7-azanorbornene (4). The reactions are depicted in Scheme I and were performed as described.¹³ The product 4 gave the expected ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra.

Synthesis of 7-Methyl-7-azanorbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic Acid (5). By a published procedure,¹⁴ N-methylpyrrole and acetylenedicarboxylic acid were reacted in ether at reflux and, after several days, the precipitated adduct 3 was filtered off (19%). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra matched those reported. A 6.0-g sample in 100 mL of 10% Na₂CO₃ was hydrogenated over 0.3 g of 10% Pd-C at atmospheric pressure until 1 equiv of hydrogen was consumed. The pH was adjusted to 2–3 with 6 N HCl and water removed on a rotary evaporator. The product 5 was extracted from the solid residue with hot methanol. Several recrystallizations from methanol gave an analytically pure sample: ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂SO) δ 1.4–2.2 (m, 4 H, –CH₂CH₂–, 2.42 (s, NCH₃), 4.6 (m, 2 H, bridgehead CH); ¹³C NMR (MeOH–D₂O, pH 11) δ 2.49 (C-5,6), 33.3 (NCH₃), 68.9 (C-1,4), 139.7 (C-2,3), 174.0 (CO₂–). Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₁NO₄: C, 54.82; H, 5.62; N, 7.10. Found: C, 54.88; H, 5.58; N, 6.94.

⁽¹¹⁾ Our preliminary results, without data, were stated in a paper concerned with ³¹P NMR spectral effects.^{1b} A report from another laboratory¹² later showed that some benzoazanorbornenes and azanorbornadienes had very deshielded ¹⁵N nuclei. No tertiary amines with the 7-azanorbornene framework were included, however.

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NMR Measurements. All measurements were made in CDCl₃ on a JEOL FX-90Q spectrometer for ¹⁵N (at 9.04 MHz) at natural abundance and a Varian XL-300 spectrometer with a 5-mm broadband probe for enriched samples. Operation frequencies for ¹³C and ¹⁵N on the Varian XL-300 were 75.429 and 30.406 MHz, respectively. The $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were based on $Me_4\mathrm{Si}$ as the internal standard; the ¹⁵N spectra were referenced externally to CH_3NO_2 , where $\delta CH_3NO_2 = 380.2$ with liquid NH_3 as zero. All ¹⁵N measurements were run using full proton decoupling. Samples were enriched to contain about 23% ¹⁵N.

Acknowledgment. We thank the donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, for support of this research.

Registry No. 4, 55257-99-3; 5, 103836-46-0.

Synthesis of δ -Lactones via Radical C-C Bond **Formation Using Chiral Radical Precursors**

Dale B. Gerth and Bernd Giese*

Institut für Organische Chemie und Biochemie der Technischen Hochschule Darmstadt, D-6100 Darmstadt, West Germany

Received February 19, 1986

Carbon-carbon bond formation reactions employing addition of radical 1 to alkenes 2 have been successfully applied in organic synthesis.¹ Alkylmercury hydrides and tri-n-butyltin hydride act as efficient traps which convert adduct radicals 3 to products 4 before polymerization can occur (Scheme I).² In the case of the tin method, radicals 5 propagate the chain by reaction with suitable educts 6 to form radicals 1. Halides, xanthanes, selenides, and tertiary nitro compounds can be used as radical precursors **6**.²

Since these radical reactions are very fast and occur under mild conditions, molecules containing sensitive chiral centers can be used. Therefore, we have applied this method to the synthesis of chiral δ -lactones starting from the readily available chiral precursors 7 and 17. The δ lactonic structure is found in several pheromones and could be a useful intermediate in the synthesis of other natural products.³

The synthesis that we have developed involves the generation of radicals with the radical center α to a chiral carbon atom and addition of these radicals to electron-poor alkenes. The radicals were generated from the chiral iodide 7,⁴ which was synthesized from (R)-(+)-2,3-O-isopropylideneglyceraldehyde.⁵ The resulting adducts 8a and 8b were, after a series of transformations, converted to the lactonic pheromones of the carpenter bee $14a^6$ (cis and trans mixture) and the oriental hornet 16 (Scheme II).⁷ Direct conversion of alcohol 9 to 14b and 16 was not

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^a (a) H₂C=CRCO₂Me, Bu₃SnCl, NaBH₄, hv, EtOH, 20 °C, 45% (R = Me), 58% (R = H); (b) KOH, EtOH; (c) proton-exchange resin, MeCN, 25 °C, 67%; (d) TsOH, MeOH, 25 °C, 89% (R = Me), 81% (R = H); (e) TsCl, pyridine, 0 °C, 18 h, 70% (R = Me), 73% (R = H); (f) TsOH, DHP, CH_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 1 h, 93% (R = Me), 95% (R = H); (g) NaI, Bu₃SnH, AIBN, glyme, reflux, 3 h, 82% (R = Me), 78% (R = H); (h) proton-exchange resin, CH_3CN , 25 °C, 83% (R = Me), 94% (R = H); (i) ($C_{10}H_{21}$)₂CuLi, ether, -30 °C, 4 h, 65%; (j) proton-exchange resin, CH₃CN, 25 °C, 88%.

successful because of difficulties encountered in separating the product lactones from the reaction mixtures. However, 9 could be a useful "chiral building block" for other syntheses.

In a similar scheme, L-(+)-2-(benzyloxy)propanol⁸ was converted to the chiral iodide 17.9 which reacted in C-C bond formation reactions to give adducts 18, 20a, and 20b (Scheme III). The yield of 20b was unexpectedly lower than that for 20a because of the formation of a new unidentified side product. Adducts 20a and 20b were deprotected and converted to lactones 21a and 21b.

The enantiometric purity of 14b and 21b was estimated to be in excess of 95% by using the chiral shift reagent

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