fluoride and stirred for 12 h at 25 °C under a N₂ atmosphere. After usual workup, the hydroxy aldehydes 1–4 (R = H; X = CHO) (0.16 g) were separated into two fractions. Less polar fraction I (0.096 g, 56%) was the 1:1 mixture (¹H NMR) of E-(1R)-4(e)-4 and Z-(1R)-4(e)-2. Polar fraction II gave 0.06 g (35%) of a 4:6 mixture (¹H NMR) of E-(1R)-4(a)-3 and Z-(1R)-4(a)-1, respectively.

(b) A solution of (Z)-(1R)-4(a)-[(dimethyl-tert-butylsilyl)oxy]-2-adamantylideneacetaldehyde (0.50 g, $[\alpha]^{25}_{Hg}$ -58.98 \pm 0.18°, 84% ee) in THF was treated with tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride as above. The reaction mixture after workup and separation yielded two fractions. The less polar fraction I (0.08 g, 26%) was found to be a 1:1 mixture (¹H NMR) of E-(1R)-4(e)-4 and Z-(1R)-4(e)-2, and the more polar fraction II (0.17 g, 55%), a 4:6 mixture (¹H NMR) of E-(1R)-4(a)-3 and Z-(1R)-4(a)-1 (R = H; X = CHO), respectively.

Reaction with NaH. (a) A mixture of methyl (Z)-(1R)-4-(a)-hydroxy-2-adamantylideneacetate (33 mg, $[\alpha]^{25}_{Hg}$ -46.89 \pm 0.07°, 92% ee) and NaH (50 mg) in 2 mL of dry THF was stirred for 1 h. The reaction mixture was decomposed on ice and extracted with ether (2 × 15 mL). The combined ether solution was washed with water, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated. The crude product upon ¹H NMR and HPLC analyses showed mainly the starting material 1 (R = H; X = COOCH₃).

(b) (E)-(1R)-4(a)-Hydroxy-2-adamantylideneacetaldehyde (36 mg, $[\alpha]^{25}_{Hg}$ +10.57 ± 0.41°, 92% ee) in dry THF was treated with NaH as above. The reaction mixture after workup and analytical HPLC analysis gave a ratio of 17:18:40:25 for the hydroxy-aldehydes 2, 4, 1, and 3 (R = H; X = CHO), respectively.

(c) A solution of 12 mg $E \cdot (1R) \cdot 4(a) \cdot hydroxy \cdot 2$ adamantylideneacetone ($[\alpha]^{24}_{Hg} + 38.52 \pm 0.82^{\circ}, 92\%$ ee) in dry THF was treated with NaH as earlier. After workup, a ratio of 27:32:7.7:33 was estimated, respectively, for the hydroxy methyl ketones 2, 1, 4, and 3 (R = H; X = COCH₃) by HPLC analysis of the crude mixture.

(d) Via the earlier procedure, NaH was added to a stirred solution of (E)-(1R)-4(e)-hydroxy-2-adamantylidenepropene (16 mg, $[\alpha]^{27}_{Hg}$ +47.12 ± 0.27°, 92% ee) in dry THF. After 1 h the reaction mixture was worked up to give pure starting material 4 (R = H; X = CH=CH₂) (¹H NMR, HPLC).

Alternative Practical Syntheses of Spiro(poly)cyclic Imino Thio- and Selenoethers

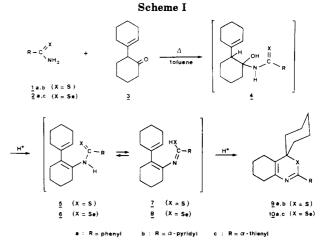
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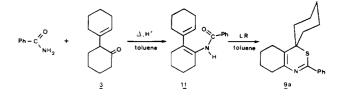
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We recently reported¹ that aromatic and aliphatic dienamides, a class of little studied compounds, can serve as photochemical precursors of diversified imino ethers possessing a spiro heterocyclic framework. The present paper deals with the synthetic potential of these polyenic compounds and their use in the elaboration of a variety of spirothiazines and selenazines.

Thus the cyclohexanespiro-2-(5-aza-4-phenyl-3-thiabicyclo[4.4.0]deca-1(6),4-dienes) **9a,b** are easily accessible by direct condensation of the appropriate thiocarboxamide **1a,b** with 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (**3**), a product of the aldol dimerization of cyclohexanone (**3**). Reactions are carried out in a Dean–Stark apparatus by refluxing an equimolar mixture of the aromatic thioamides and the β , γ -unsaturated ketone in toluene in the presence of a catalytic amount of β -naphthalenesulfonic acid. The results are listed in Table I. These reactions can be ex-



Scheme II



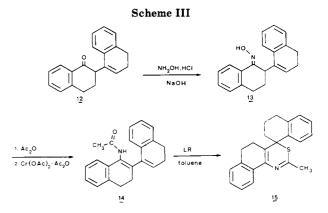


Table I. Yields of Products from Reactions of 1a,b, 2a,c and Benzamide with 3 and from Treatment of 11, 14, and 16 with the Lawesson Reagent

starting material		reaction product
method A ^a	method B^b	(yield, %)
1a		9a (63)
1 b		9b (55)
2a		10a (55)
2c		10c (49)
benzamide		11 (65)
	11	9a (89)
	14	15 (93)
	trans-16	trans-17 (90)

^aDirect condensation under acidic conditions with 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (3). ^bTreatment with the Lawesson reagent.

tended to the synthesis of the spiro seleno derivatives 10a,c which are obtained from the bicyclic ketone 3 and the aromatic selenocarboxamides $2a,c.^2$ The spiro structure of 9a and 10a was confirmed mainly by 100-MHz ¹³C NMR spectroscopy (Table II). The quaternary character of the carbon nucleus (D) α to the sulfur and selenium atoms was unambiguously established by comparison of DEPT spectra with different pulse angles θ .

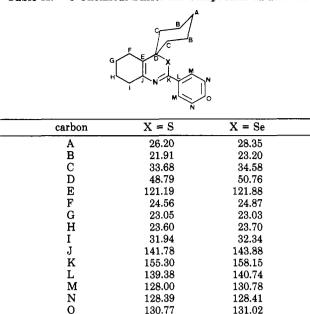
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⁽²⁾ Obtained from the nitriles.³

⁽³⁾ Cohen, V. I. Synthesis 1978, 668.

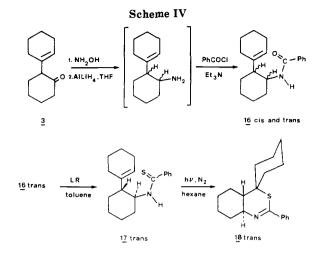
Table II. ¹³C Chemical Shifts for Compounds 9a and 10a



It is likely that these heterocyclization reactions proceed via the thio- and selenodienamides 5 and 6 as shown in Scheme I. Indeed treatment with the Lawesson sulfurating reagent of the dienamide 11, which is the exclusive product of the acidic condensation of benzamide with the β , γ -unsaturated ketone 3, gives rise to the spirocyclohexanethiazine 9a (Scheme II). Moreover, this reaction can be extended to the synthesis of polycyclic nitrogen compounds such as 15 as illustrated by Scheme III.

Polycyclic ketone 12 is the aldol dimerization product of α -tetralone prepared according to an optimized method recently described by Eisenbraun in which he used titanium tetrachloride and triethylamine as condensating agents.⁴ Probably on account of steric effects the dimeric ketone 12 fails to condense with any carboxamide under acidic conditions. Polycyclic dienamide 14 was then prepared by adapting the convenient method described by Barton⁵ for the preparation of monoenamides. It consists of the reductive acylation of the oxime acetate of the dimeric ketone 12, which can be efficiently effected by using chromium(II) diacetate in acetic anhydride (Scheme III). Treatment of the polycyclic dienamide 14 with the Lawesson reagent gives rise to the polycyclic spirothiazine 15 with the excellent yield of 93%.

A marked degree of conjugated character for the parent models seems to be a prerequisite to these spiroannelation reactions. It results in an important participation of the tautomeric forms 7 and 8. The Markovnikov addition products 9 and 10 would arise from the acid-catalyzed addition⁶ of the thiol group on the γ , δ double bond. This hypothesis is corroborated by the chemical behavior of α , β and γ , δ -monounsaturated enamides. Indeed treatment of these unconjugated compounds⁷ with the Lawesson reagent



leads exclusively to the corresponding thio derivatives as illustrated by Scheme IV.

Bicyclic γ , δ -unsaturated amide 16 was synthesized by benzoylation under Schotten-Baumann conditions of 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexylamine, obtained by reduction of the oxime of the bicyclic ketone 4 with LiAlH₄. A mixture of the cis and trans isomers was then obtained in the ratio 40:60. The trans form was treated with the Lawesson reagent, and γ , δ -monoenamide 16 was converted almost quantitatively into its thio analogue 17. The spiroannelation of thioenamide trans-17 was achieved photochemically by irradiating a carefully degassed hexane solution of 17 (5 \times 10⁻³ M, Rayonet RPR 208, 3000 Å) (Scheme IV). Spirothiazine 18 was obtained in the trans configuration with a fairly good yield (85%). Although not identified, it appears plausible that the photoheterocyclization reaction proceeds via the thioenol form of 17 and that cyclic imino thioether 18 is issued from an intramolecular photochemical addition of the thiol on the γ, δ double bond, a very well documented phenomenon.⁹

The different reactions reported here represent therefore a novel method for preparing a wide variety of spiro-(poly)cyclic imino thio- and selenoethers from easily available starting materials. In particular these (photo)heterocyclization reactions allow the creation of a spiro carbon center in one step. Such compounds can indeed by prepared by only a few limited methods, and generally the synthetic challenge is particularly demanding.¹⁰

Experimental Section

General Techniques. Melting points (uncorrected) were taken on a Reichert Thermopan apparatus. ¹H NMR (60 MHz) spectra were run in CDCl₃ on a Bruker WP 60 spectrometer. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectra were obtained on a Bruker AM 400 WB in C₆D₆. The chemical shifts are reported in δ values relative to tetramethylsilane, which was used as an internal standard. The UV spectrum was measured on a Jobin-Yvon spectrophotometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 157G instrument. Mass spectra were registered on a Riber 10-10 apparatus, and for accurate mass determination, the samples were analyzed on a Varian MAT 311A. For column chromatography, Merck 70– 230-mesh silica gel 60 was employed. Elemental analyses were performed at the CNRS microanalysis center.

Starting Materials. Thiobenzamide (1a) and thionicotinamide (1b) are commercially available. Selenobenzamide (2a) and 2-thiopheneselenocarboxamide (2c) were synthesized according to an already reported procedure³ by treating the corresponding nitriles with $Al_2Se_3^{11}$ in basic medium.

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⁽⁷⁾ We have already reported⁸ that the treatment of α,β -unsaturated enamides with the Lawesson reagent simply results in a carbonyl-thiocarbonyl conversion.

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2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (3) is prepared in the following manner. A solution of cyclohexanone (30 g, 0.3 mol) in toluene (250 mL) is refluxed for 15 h in the presence of a catalytic amount of p-toluenesulfonic acid (2.50 mg). The water formed during the reaction is eliminated by azeotropic distillation. The toluene is removed in vacuo in a rotatory evaporator and the 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (3) is distilled [120 °C, 35 mm] (16.3 g, 0.09 mol, 61%).

General Procedure for the Direct Condensation of Thioand Selenocarboxamides with the Bicyclic Ketone 3. A mixture of the appropriate aryl thio- or selenocarboxamides 1a,b and 2a,c (0.05 mol), respectively, and 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (3) in toluene (200 mL) was refluxed in the presence of a catalytic amount of β -naphthalenesulfonic acid (250 mg). A Dean-Stark apparatus was used in order to remove the water formed by azeotropic distillation. Reflux was maintained for 24 h and after cooling, the mixture was washed with an aqueous sodium carbonate solution and dried $(MgSO_4)$. The toluene was removed in vacuo in a rotatory evaporator, and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate-petroleum ether (1:3) as eluent.

Cyclohexanespiro-2-(5-aza-4-phenyl-3-thiabicyclo[4.4.0]deca-1(6),4-diene) (9a): mp 89-90 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.30-1.95 (m, 14 H, CH₂), 2.05-2.60 (m, 4 H, CH₂C=C), 7.30-7.50 (m, 3 H, aromatic CH), 7.80-8.10 (m, 2 H, aromatic CH); MS, m/e (relative intensity) 297 (M⁺, 7), 135 (C₆H₅CSN⁺, 100), 103 (C₆H₅CN⁺, 77); IR (KBr) ν 1610 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₃NS: C, 76.73; H, 7.80; N, 4.71; S, 10.76. Found: C, 76.69; H, 7.87; N, 4.21; S, 10.59.

Cyclohexanespiro-2- $(5-aza-4-(\alpha-pyridyl)-3-thiabicyclo-$ [4.4.0]deca-1(6),4-diene) (9b): mp 122-123 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.25-1.95 (m, 14 H, CH₂), 2.00-2.50 (m, 4 H, CH₂C=C), 7.35, 8.25, 8.70, 9.15 (m, 4 H, pyridine CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 298 (M⁺, 4), 136 (C₅H₄NCSN⁺, 82), 104 (C₅H₄NCN⁺, 100); precise mass determination calcd for $C_{18}H_{22}N_2S$ 298.15036, found 298.1506; IR (CDCl₃) ν 1610 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{22}N_2S$: C, 72.45; H, 7.43; N, 9.39; S, 10.72. Found: C, 72.51; H, 7.43; N, 9.40; S, 10.75.

Cyclohexanespiro-2-(5-aza-4-phenyl-3-selenabicyclo-[4.4.0]deca-1(6),4-diene) (10a): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.30-1.90 (m, 14 H, CH₂), 2.05-2.60 (m, 4 H, CH₂C=C), 7.05-7.50 (m, 3 H, aromatic CH), 7.75-8.05 (m, 2 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e(relative intensity) 345 (M⁺, 1), 265 (M⁺ - Se, 100), 162 (M⁺ - C_6H_5 , CSeN, 75); IR (CDCl₃) ν 1610 cm⁻¹; precise mass determination calcd for $C_{19}H_{23}NSe$ 345.09957, found 345.0988.

Cyclohexanespiro-2-(5-aza-4-(a-thienyl)-3-selenabicyclo-[4.4.0]deca-1(6),4-diene) (10c): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.35-2.00 $(m, 14 H, CH_2), 2.05-2.50 (m, 4 H, CH_2C=C), 6.90-7.75 (m, 3)$ H, thienyl); $\overline{MS} m/e$ (relative intensity) 351 M⁺, 3), 271 (M⁺ -Se, 100), 162 (M⁺ – C₄H₃SCSeN, 77); IR (CDCl₃) ν 1610 cm⁻¹; precise mass determination calcd for $C_{17}H_{21}NSeS$ 351.05599, found 351.0564

The direct condensation of benzamide (6 g, 50 mmol) with 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexanone (3) (8.5 g, 50 mmol) following the general procedure described above afforded exclusively 1benzamido-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohex-1-ene (11) (9.1 g, 30 mmol, yield 65%): mp (hexane-toluene) 81-82 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.40–1.70 (m, 8 H, CH₂), 1.70–2.20 (m, 6 H, CH₂C=C), 2.75 (m, 2 H, C=CCH₂ α to N), 5.60 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 6.90-7.60 (m, 6 H, aromatic CH and NH, D_2O exchanged); ¹³C NMR (C_6D_6) δ 164.6 (C=O); MS m/e (relative intensity) 281 (M⁺, 13), 105 (C₆H₅CO⁺, 100), 176 (M⁺ - C₆H₅CO, 23); IR (CDCl₃) ν 3420, 1670, 1570 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for $C_{19}H_{23}NO$: C, 81.10; H, 8.24; N, 4.98. Found: C, 81.09; H, 8.09; N, 4.88.

Synthesis of 1-Acetamido-3,3',4,4'-tetrahydro-1',2-binaphthalene (14). The aldol dimerization product 12 of α tetralone was prepared according to a procedure recently reported by Eisenbraun.⁴ The oxime of the polycyclic ketone 12 was prepared in the usual manner.¹² 3,3',4,4'-Tetrahydro-1',2-binaphthalene-1(2H)-one oxime: mp 191-192 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.90-2.80 (m, 9 H, CH₂ and CH), 5.60 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 7.10-7.50 (m, 8 H, aromatic CH and OH, D₂O exchanged), 8.00 (m, 1 H,

aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 289 (M⁺, 100), 272 (M⁺ OH, 93); IR (KBr) v 3150, 1640, 920 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₁₉NO: C, 83.59; H, 5.96; N, 4.88. Found: C, 83.35; H, 6.01; N, 4.99.

To a solution of the oxime 13 (5.8 g, 20 mmol) in dimethylformamide (10 mL) was slowly added 10 mL of reagent grade acetic anhydride (10 mL), and the mixture was stirred under nitrogen until no oxime could be detected by TLC (1 h). Anhydrous chromium(II) acetate¹³ (10.2 g, 75 mmol) was then added and the stirring was continued for 20 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, 1 N sodium carbonate solution (100 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined extracts were washed with water, dried $(MgSO_4)$, and evaporated. The crude product was then chromatographed on silica gel, using ethyl acetate-petroleum ether (1:3) as eluent. The dienamide 14 was recrystallized from toluene-hexane (5.7 g, 18 mmol, 89%): mp 202–204 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.80 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.20-3.00 (m, 8 H, CH₂), 5.90 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 6.40 (m, 1 H, NH, D₂O exchanged), 7.00-7.20 (m, 8 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 315 (M⁺, 8), 272 (M⁺ - CH₃CO, 100); IR (CDCl₃) ν 3440, 1670, 1570 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₁NO: C, 83.77; H, 6.71; N, 4.44. Found: C, 83.45; H, 6.78; N, 4.31.

Synthesis of 1-Benzamido-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexane (cis - and trans -16). The oxime of the bicyclic ketone 3 was prepared according to the classical method and was reduced in the following manner. To a suspension of LiAlH₄ (1.9 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (20 mL) was slowly added a solution of the crude oxime (4 g, 20 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (20 mL). The mixture was refluxed for 16 h and then cooled and slowly poured, by small portions and under stirring, on crushed ice. The crude reaction mixture was filtered on a Celite pad, extracted with ether, dried $(MgSO_4)$, and concentrated. The crude mixture of amines was acylated under the classical conditions of Schotten-Bauman reactions. To a solution of the cis and trans amines and triethylamine (2 g, 20 mmol) in anhydrous diethyl ether (30 mL) was added dropwise a solution of benzoyl chloride (2.8 g, 20 mmol) in ether (20 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 1 h. After cooling, 10% sodium bicarbonate solution (100 mL) was added, and the mixture was filtered and extracted twice with ethyl acetate $(2 \times 100 \text{ mL})$. The combined extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated, and the residual product was chromatographed on silica gel, using ethyl acetate-hexane (3:7) as eluent. The cis isomer was eluted first, and the two isomers were recrystallized in methanol.

cis-1-Benzamido-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexane (cis-16): 1.92 g, yield 34% (40% of the mixture of isomers): mp 114-115 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 1.23-2.31 (m, 17 H, CH₂ and CH), 4.34 (m, 1 H, $J_{\rm NH}$ = 5.60 Hz, J_1 = 0.93 Hz, J_2 = 3.03 Hz, J_3 = 6.75 Hz, CH next to N), 5.41 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.9 7 (broad d, 1 H, J = 5.60 Hz, 7.35–7.42 (m, 3 H, aromatic CH), 7.58–7.66 (m, 2 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 283 (M⁺, 18), 178 (M⁺ – C₆H₅CO, 36), 105 (C₆H₅CO⁺, 100); IR (KBr) ν 3420, 1650, 1570 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₅NO: C, 80.52; H, 8.89; N, 4.94. Found: C, 79.96; H, 8.87; N, 4.84.

trans-1-Benzamido-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexane (trans-16): 2.88 g, yield 51% (60% of the mixture of isomers): mp 127–129 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 1.06–2.35 (m, 17 H, CH₂ and CH), 3.80 (m, 1 H, $J_{\rm NH}$ = 6.30 Hz, $J_{\rm aa}$ = 10.95 Hz, $J_{\rm aa}$ = 11.18 Hz, J_{ae} = 3.96 Hz, CH next to N), 5.47 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.92 (broad d, 1 H, J = 6.30 Hz, NH), 7.32-7.40 (m, 3 H, aromatic CH), 7.58–7.64 (m, 2 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 283 (M⁺, 23), 178 (M⁺ - C_6H_5CO , 37), 105 ($C_6H_5CO^+$, 100); IR (KBr) ν 3420, 1650, 1570 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₅NO: C, 80.52; H, 8.89; N, 4.94. Found: C, 80.29; H, 9.08; N, 4.84.

General Procedure for the Treatment of Mono- and Dienamides with the Lawesson Reagent. A mixture of the dienamides 11, 14 or of the γ , δ -monosaturated amide trans-16 (5 mmol), $(CH_3OC_6H_4)_2P_2S_4$ (1 g, 2.5 mmol), and dry toluene (10 mL) was heated at 100 °C for 2 h in an atmosphere of argon. TLC indicated that all the amides 11, 14, and trans-16 had been consumed. The toluene was removed in vacuo, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate-petroleum ether (1:3) as eluent.

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1',2',3',4'-**Tetrahydronaphthalenespiro**-2-(5-aza-7,8benzo-4-methyl-3-thiabicyclo[4.4.0]deca-1(6),4,7-triene) (15): mp 135-137 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.70-2.20 (m, 6 H, CH₂), 2.25 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.50-2.90 (m, 4 H, C=CCH₂), 7.00-7.40 (m, 6 H, aromatic CH), 7.45 (m, 1 H, aromatic CH), 7.75 (m, 1 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 331 (M⁺, 77), 270 (M⁺ – CH₃CSN, 100); IR (CDCl₃) ν 1605 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₁NS: C, 79.73; H, 6.39; N, 4.23; S, 9.66. Found: C, 79.47; H, 6.52; N, 4.16; S, 9.84.

trans-1-(**Thiobenzamido**)-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)cyclohexane (*trans*-17): mp 111–113 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.20–2.50 (m, 17 H, CH₂ and CH), 4.20–4.50 (m, 1 H, CH next to N), 5.50 (m, 1 H, vinyl H), 7.10–7.65 (m, 5 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 299 (M⁺, 100), 121 (C₆H₅CS⁺, 35); IR (CDCl₃) ν 3250, 1600, 1590 cm⁻¹; UV (hexane) λ_{max} 295 nm (ϵ 18500), 440 (ϵ 2000). Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₅NS: C, 76.22; H, 8.42; N, 4.68; S, 10.69. Found: C, 76.03; H, 8.51; N, 4.65; S, 10.81.

Photolysis of the Thioenamide trans-17. A solution of the thioenamide trans-17 (300 mg, 5×10^{-3} M) in hexane (350 mL) was placed in a water-cooled quartz reactor equipped with a dry argon inlet and a magnetic stirrer. The solution was purged by bubbling argon through it for 2 h and then irradiated with eight Rul 3000-Å lamps in a Rayonet RPR photochemical reactor for 45 min. The solvent was removed under vacuum and the crude photoreaction product was finally purified by elution chromatography, using ethyl acetate-hexane (1:4) as eluent.

trans-Cyclohexanespiro-2-(5-aza-4-phenyl-3-thiabicyclo-[4.4.0]dec-4-ene) (*trans*-18): 255 mg, 85%; mp 123–125 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.20–2.50 (m, 19 H, CH₂ and CH), 3.05 (m, 1 H, CH next to N), 7.20–7.75 (m, 5 H, aromatic CH); MS m/e (relative intensity) 299 (M⁺, 11), 164 (M⁺ – C₆H₅CSN, 100), 121 (C₆H₅CS⁺, 22), 103 (C₆H₅CN⁺, 34); IR (CDCl₃) ν 1615 cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₅NS: C, 76.22; H, 8.42; N, 4.68; S, 10.69. Found: C, 76.28; H, 8.42; N, 4.68; S, 10.71.

Registry No. 1a, 2227-79-4; **1b**, 5346-38-3; **2a**, 5977-82-2; **2c**, 54679-69-5; **3**, 1502-22-3; **3** (oxime), 37575-86-3; **9a**, 115464-12-5; **9b**, 115464-10-3; **10a**, 115464-13-6; **10c**, 115464-11-4; **11**, 105983-29-7; **12**, 23804-16-2; **13**, 115464-14-7; **14**, 115464-15-8; **15**, 115464-16-9; *cis*-16, 115464-17-0; *trans*-16, 115464-18-1; **17**, 115464-19-2; **18**, 115464-20-5; benzamide, 55-21-0; *cis*-1-(2-aminocyclohexyl)cyclohexene, 115464-21-6; *trans*-1-(2-aminocyclohexyl)cyclohexene, 115464-22-7; cyclohexanone, 108-94-1.

Total Synthesis of *rac*-9,11-Dehydrodigitoxigenin 3-Tetrahydropyranyl Ether

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There are many publications¹ dealing with partial synthesis of cardenolides. Most of these papers concern linking of the lactone ring to the steroidal skeleton and the introduction of a hydroxyl group in the 14β -position.

We present the total synthesis of the title compound in which the lactone ring was added to an earlier synthesized derivative 4 of androstane, containing a hydroxyl group in the 14β -position. Starting from racemic Miescher-Wieland ketone 1, which can also be obtained by asymmetric synthesis in pure enantiomeric form,² we obtained seco-compound 2 in five steps³ (Scheme I). Base-catalyzed cyclization of 2 was very erratic. Control of temperature as well as pH of the reaction mixture was essential. At temperatures lower than -15 °C, the rate of cyclization was slow, whereas above -10 °C the reaction components decomposed. Under optimal conditions, the yield of 3 was 40%, and about 20% of starting compound 2 was recovered. Selective hydrogenation³ of **3** over palladium on $SrSO_3$ furnished 4, which served as a substrate for synthesis of the title compound. Retainment of the 14β hydroxyl in compound 4 was an important requirement of the synthetic program. However, for continuation of the synthesis it was necessary to develop a new approach to construction of 17β -orientated lactones. Hydrogenation of ethylenic bonds in position 16-17 or 17-20 of steroids with a cis C/D ring junction is known to proceed from the less hindered β side of the molecule and furnishes products with 17α -substituents. We intended to introduce a 17β substituent by an $S_N 2$ type free-radical reaction of a 17α iodo derivative. For this purpose, 4 was hydrogenated to 5, which was converted to 6 by K-Selectride at -40 °C in a THF-toluene mixture. Compound 7 was obtained by treatment of the crude hydrazone of 6 with iodine according to a known procedure⁴ (Scheme II). Hydrogenation of 7 with diimide afforded iodide 8 suitable for the substitution reaction. Direct exchange of the iodine atom for the cyano group was unsuccessful,⁵ but using a procedure for protection of the 14β -hydroxyl group in the form of THP and trimethylsilyl ethers,⁶ we could achieve substitution of iodine by cyanide (NaCN-DMSO, 110 °C), though only in moderate yield (40%), and complications developed during attempts to hydrolyze the protecting groups. Hence, attention was directed to free-radical reactions which do not require protection of the hydroxyl group and presumably afford a product resulting from substitution from the less hindered side. After unsuccessful attempts to attach 2-buten-1,4-olide, 3-bromo-2buten-1,4-olide, and 3-(tributyltin)-2-buten-1,4-olide groups by a free-radical reaction⁷ initiated by tributyltin hydride and AIBN, we found that reaction of iodide 8 with tertbutyl isocyanide in the presence of tributyltin chloride, sodium cyanoborohydride, and AIBN in boiling tert-butyl alcohol⁸ afforded nitrile 9 in 82% yield. The β orientation of the cyano group was proved as follows. Nitrile 10 was transformed into lactone 11 (IR 1775 cm⁻¹) in 25% vield by reaction with DIBAH followed by PCC oxidation of the intermediate aldehyde.

Having on hand the nitrile 10, we intended to prepare the corresponding derivative 21-hydroxy-20-oxopregnane and then to form the butenolide ring according to a known

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