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Preliminary communication

Borylation of dicarbanions: syntheses of new fiveand eight-membered boron-carbon rings

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Abstract

Olefin metallation provides an efficient route to novel unsaturated boracarbocycles. Thus the first 3,7-dimethylene-1,5-diboracyclooctanes $R_2NB[CH_2C(=CH_2)CH_2]_2BNR_2$ (R = Et, ⁱPr) and the first 3,4-dimethyleneboracyclopentanes $CH_2C(=CH_2)C(=CH_2)CH_2BNR_2$ (R = Et, ⁱPr) have been made by treatment of dichloro(dialkylamino)boranes with [Li(TMEDA)]_2[C(CH_2)_3] and K_2[C_2(CH_2)_4], respectively.

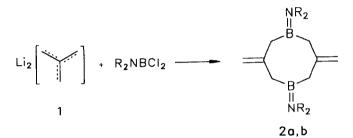
Borylation of carbanions has been known for a long time [1], but it seems not to have been appreciated that this reaction, when applied to dicarbanions, can provide the most efficient method of synthesis of unsaturated boron-carbon ring systems. We have previously shown that 3-borolenes (2,5-dihydro-1H-boroles) [2] can readily be obtained from magnesium-butadiene MgC₄H₆(THF)₂ [3] and dihaloboranes (Scheme 1), i.e. in only two steps from butadiene, and a 1,2-dibora-4-cyclohexene was made similarly from magnesium-butadiene and 1,2-dichloro-1,2-bis(dimethylamino)diborane(4) [4].

A wider range of application becomes possible when the dicarbanions used are generated from olefins by metallation and we report here two examples of this type. The lithium derivative $[Li(TMEDA)]_2[C(CH_2)_3]$ (1) of the trimethylenemethane dianion is readily accessible by metallation of isobutene with LiBu/TMEDA [5]. When 1 is added dropwise to (dialkylamino)dichloroboranes (R_2N)BCl₂ in THF at -30 °C the hitherto unknown 1,5-diboracyclooctanes **2a,b** are formed (Scheme 2). In a closely related but more complex synthesis we previously used 1 to build up unsaturated C_3B_2 ring systems with adjacent boron atoms [6].

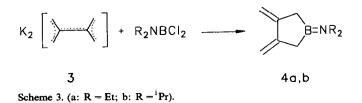
$$MgC_4H_6(THF)_2$$
 + $RBCI_2$ ----

Scheme 1.

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Scheme 2. (a: R = Et; b: $R = {}^{i}Pr$).



The much more reactive dipotassium derivative $K_2[C_2(CH_2)_4]$ (3) is obtained from 2,3-dimethylbutadiene and LiBu/KO^tBu in hexane [7]. After careful removal of the LiO^tBu formed (several washings with hexane), 3 is added to the dihaloboranes (R_2N)BCl₂ to give the first 3,4-dimethyleneboracyclopentanes 4a,b (Scheme 3).

It should be noted that for the success of these syntheses it is essential to maintain an excess of the haloborane in the reaction medium. The reaction mixtures were worked up by filtration followed by vacuum distillation. There were severe losses due to polymerization during the distillation, especially in the case of the diethylamino derivatives 2a and 4a. Isolated yields were ca. 30%. The compounds 2a and 4a, b are colourless liquids whereas 2b is a colourless solid which crystallizes from hexane at -30° C. They are all highly sensitive to air and moisture.

Similar work with further dicarbanions suitable for the construction of boracarbocycles is underway.

Experimental

Experiments were carried out under nitrogen by conventional Schlenk techniques. THF was distilled from sodium/benzophenone and hexane from Na/K alloy. Oxygen was removed by repeated distillation under dinitrogen.

1,5-Bis(diethylamino)-3,7-dimethylene-1,5-diboracyclooctane (2a). MS (70 eV): m/z (I_{rel}) 274 (76, M^+). ¹H NMR (δ(¹H) (ppm), 80 MHz, int. TMS, CDCl₃): 4.56 s (2CH₂=), 1.81 s (4CH₂B); NEt₂: 3.09 q (4NCH₂) and 1.01 t (4Me), ³J = 7.0 Hz. ¹¹B NMR (δ(¹¹B), 32 MHz, CDCl₃): 44 ppm, vs. ext. BF₃ · OEt₂.

1,5-Bis(diisopropylamino)-3,7-dimethylene-1,5-diboracyclooctane (2b). MS (70 eV): m/z (I_{rel}) 330 (63, M^+), 287 (100, $M^+ - {}^{i}Pr$). ¹H NMR ($\delta({}^{1}H)$ (ppm), 80 MHz, int. TMS, CDCl₃): 4.54 s (2CH₂=), 1.93 s (4CH₂B); NⁱPr₂: 3.74 sept (4NCH) and 1.14 d (8Me), ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz. ¹¹B NMR ($\delta({}^{11}B)$, 32 MHz, CDCl₃): 44 ppm, vs. ext. BF₃ · OEt₂.

1-(Diethylamino)-3,4-dimethyleneboracyclopentane (4a). MS (70 eV): m/z (I_{rel}) 163 (93, M^+), 148 (100, M^+ – Me). ¹H NMR (δ (¹H) (ppm), 80 MHz, int. TMS, CDCl₃): 5.28 dt and 4.76 dt (²J 2, ⁴J 2 Hz, 2CH₂=), 1.90 "t" br (⁴J 2 Hz, 2CH₂B); NEt₂: 3.04 q (2NCH₂) and 1.03 t (2Me), ³J = 7.1 Hz. ¹¹B NMR (δ (¹¹B), 32 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): 49 ppm, vs. ext. BF₃ · OEt₂.

1-(Diisopropylamino)-3,4-dimethyleneboracyclopentane (4b). MS (70 eV): m/z (I_{rel}) 191 (65, M^+), 176 (100, $M^+ - Me$). ¹H NMR (δ (¹H) (ppm), 80 MHz, int. TMS, CDCl₃): 5.28 dt and 4.77 dt (²J 2, ⁴J 2 Hz, 2CH₂=), 2.03 "t" br (⁴J 2 Hz, 2CH₂B); NⁱPr₂: 3.51 sept (2NCH) and 1.15 d (4Me), ³J = 6.8 Hz. ¹¹B NMR (δ (¹¹B), 32 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): 49 ppm, vs. ext. BF₃ · OEt₂.

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