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A facile and diastereoselective access to substituted cyclopentanones from Fischer alkenyl carbene complexes and 1-amino-1-azadienes

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Abstract

Fischer alkenyl carbene complexes 1 undergo cyclopentannulation to alkenyl *N*,*N*-dimethylhydrazones (1-amino-1-azadienes) 2 to furnish substituted cyclopentenes 3 (45–55%) in a regio and diastereoselective way, along with minor amounts of pyrroles 4 (25–28%). Enantiopure carbene complexes derived from (-)-8-phenylmenthol 7a and (-)-8-(2-naphthyl)menthol 7b afforded, in addition to pyrrole 4a (12–15%), *trans,trans*-cyclopentenes 8/9 (35–43%) and *cis,cis*-cyclopentenes 10/11 (23–25%) with fairly to excellent face selectivity (78% for 7a and 92% for 7b). © 2002 Published by Elsevier Science B.V.

Keywords: Fischer carbene complexes; Hydrazones; Metal migration; Cyclopentanones

1. Introduction

Since their discovery by Fischer and Maasböl [1] the heteroatom stabilized carbene complexes have demonstrated to be highly useful in synthesis of acyclic and cyclic molecules [2]. In particular, Group 6 alkenyl and alkynyl carbene complexes are being recognized as valuable C3 building blocks for carbo- and heterocyclization reactions, making a diversity of five- and seven-membered rings readily accessible [2,3]. Moreover, we noted that the cyclization reactions involving Fischer carbene complexes and substrates containing a nitrogen functionality are very efficient, particularly in terms of selectivity. For instance, the cyclopropanation of alkenylimines [4] and alkenyloxazolines [5] was found to occur with unexpectedly high diastereoselectivity.

We report here that readily available α , β -unsaturated hydrazones are very suitable reagents towards alkenyl carbene complexes of chromium giving rise to cyclopentanoids with high selectivity along with minor amounts

of substituted pyrroles. The preliminary studies on the asymmetric cyclopentannulation are also displayed [6].

2. Results and discussion

Thus, chromium alkenyl carbene complexes 1 were treated with alkenyl hydrazones 2 (one equivalent) in refluxing THF overnight. Removal of the solvent left behind a mixture of *trans,trans*-cyclopentenes 3 and pyrroles 4 which were separated by column chromatography to afford pure 3 (45-55% yield) and 4 (25-28% yield) (Scheme 1).

Aminopyrroles 4 arise from a [4 + 1] cyclization, a process which is rather uncommon for Fischer carbene complexes [4,7]. The formation of adducts 3 involves a [3 + 2] cyclization reaction wherein two or three stereogenic centers are created in a single operation. Interestingly, this process takes place with complete regio and diastereoselectivity.

In turn, the chemoselective and total hydrolysis of the cycloadduct 3a was effected in nearly quantitative yield to produce the hydrazinoyl cylopentanone 5 and the formyl cyclopentanone 6, respectively (Scheme 2).

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^a Yields after purification by column chromatography.



C 1	^
Scheme	
Seneme	4.

The initial studies on the enantioselective version of this reaction have been undertaken using enantiopure carbene complexes **7a** and **7b**, derived from (-)-8-phenylmenthol and (-)-8-(2-naphthyl)menthol, respectively (Scheme 3). Thus, the treatment of carbenes **7** with the hydrazone **2a** ($\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{H}$; $\mathbb{R}^3 = \mathbb{M}e$) in refluxing

THF yielded the pyrrole 4 (12-15%) and a diastereomeric mixture containing not only the expected *trans,trans*-cyclopentenes 8 and 9, but also the *cis,cis*-cyclopentenes 10 and 11. The pairs 8/9 and 10/11 could be separated by column chromatography and isolated in yields of 35-43% and 23-25%, respectively. The facial selectivity of the cyclization is measured by the ratio of 8:9 and 10:11. Curiously, such selectivity appears to be nearly the same for both pairs. It is worth noticing, while starting with carbene 7a a moderate asymmetric induction of 78% was found (89:11 for 8a/9a; entry a), the selectivity raised to 92% (96:4 for 8b/9b; entry b) when the carbene 7b was employed.

The structural determination of compounds 3-11 is based on the NMR spectra and the relative stereochemistry of cycloadducts 3, 5, 6, 8/9, 10/11 was evidenced from NOE experiments. Unfortunately, we could not prove the absolute stereochemistry of cycloadducts 8/9and 10/11, but their complete structure is proposed on the basis of: (i) the mechanism shown below, and (ii) the steric effect exerted by the auxiliary group which shields preferently the *re*-face of the metal carbene functionality, probably because of a π -stacking interaction [8], as demonstrated previously for the Michael addition reaction [9].

The mechanistic proposal for the formation of the cyclopentene and pyrrole rings is outlined in Fig. 1 and features two basic steps: the nucleophilic addition to the metal–carbon double bond and the metal-induced cyclization [10]. First, pyrroles 4 would be formed by nucleophilic 1,2-addition of the nitrogen lone pair to the metal carbene function to form I, followed by cyclization to II [11] and elimination of the corresponding alcohol (via A). On the other hand, the mechanism accounting for the [3 + 2] carbocyclization reaction is not so apparent [12]. Our proposal is illustrated for the



^a Yields (%) after purification by column chromatography.

^b Diastereomeric ratio measured by ¹H-NMR (300 MHz)



Fig. 1. Mechanistic proposal for the cyclization of carbene complexes 1,7 and hydrazones 2.

formation of the major stereoisomers 8 and 10 (via B). In this case, the process must be initiated by nucleophilic 1,2-attack of the C_{β} carbon of the hydrazone [13] to the less hindered face of the metal carbene to generate species III and IV (via B). Then, they would undergo a [1,2]-Cr(CO)₅ shift-promoted ring closure to give V and VI, which would give rise to the observed cycloadducts 8 and 10 via hydrogen transfer to chromium and reductive metal elimination.

3. Conclusions

In conclusion, we report here a new and very simple protocol for preparing functionalized cyclopentanones with up to three chiral centers in a regio and diastereoselective way via the [3 + 2] cycloaddition reaction of alkenyl Fischer carbene complexes and alkenyl hydrazones. Minor amounts of vinylpyrroles, which arise from an uncommon [4 + 1] cyclization and that eventually might be elaborated into heteropolycyclic compounds, are also produced. On the other hand, the preliminary results on the enantioselective carbocyclization using enantiopure carbene complexes are certainly promising.

4. Experimental

4.1. Synthesis of methoxycyclopentenes 3 and pyrroles 4

To a solution of the alkenyl carbene complex 1 (1mmol) in THF (50 ml) was added the hydrazone 2 (1

mmol). The mixture was refluxed for 10 h and the solvent was removed under vacuum. Purification of the residue by column chromatograpy (silica gel, 5:1 hexane-ethyl acetate) allowed isolating cyclopentenes 3 and pyrroles 4.

4.2. trans,trans-3-(2-Furyl)-1-methoxy-5-methylcyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (3a)

Yield: 55%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.15$ (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 2.6–2.9 (m, 2H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 3.7 (s, 3H), 3.85 (d, 1H, J = 7.3 Hz), 4.5 (s, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.7 (d, 1H, J = 6.5 Hz), 7.4 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 163.1$ (s), 158.4 (s), 141.0 (d), 139.0 (d), 110.0 (d), 104.1 (d), 93.2 (d), 56.7 (q), 54.8 (d), 44.4 (d), 43.2 (q), 42.8 (d), 17.1 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₂₀N₂O₂ 248.1525. Found 248.1524. Anal. Found: C, 67.90; H, 8.17; N, 11.20. Calc. for C₁₄H₂₀N₂O₂ (248.32): C, 67.72; H, 8.12; N, 11.28%.

4.3. trans,trans-1-Methoxy-5-methyl-3-phenylcyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethyhydrazone (**3b**)

Yield: 45%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 1.15 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 2.45 (q, 1H, J = 6.5 Hz), 2.7 (s, 6H), 2.8 (m, 1H), 3.7 (s, 3H), 3.8 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 4.5 (s, 1H), 6.7 (d, 1H, J = 6.5 Hz), 7.1–7.4 (m, 5H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 162.9 (s), 145.6 (s), 139.4 (d), 128.2 (d), 127.4 (d), 126.1 (d), 95.8 (d), 58.9 (d), 56.7 (q), 51.1 (d), 43.3 (q), 43.1 (q), 17.1 (c). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₆H₂₂N₂O 258.17321. Found 258.17334. Anal. Found: C, 74.52; H, 8.62; N, 10.80. Calc. for C₁₆H₂₂N₂O (258.36): C, 74.38; H, 8.58; N, 10.84%.

4.4. trans-3-(2-Furyl)-1-methoxy-4-methylcyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**3**c)

Yield: 52%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.9$ (s, 3H), 2.3 (d, 1H, J = 13.0 Hz), 2.7 (s, 6H), 2.8 (d, 1H, J = 13.0 Hz), 3.7 (s, 3H), 4.0 (brs, 1H), 4.5 (brs, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.8 (s, 1H), 7.3 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 160.4$ (s), 156.9 (s), 144.4 (d), 141.1 (d), 109.8 (d), 106.2 (d), 92.9 (d), 56.6 (q), 49.5 (d), 47.3 (s), 43.2 (q), 43.0 (t), 22.4 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₂₀N₂O₂ 248.1526. Found 248.1527. Anal. Found: C, 67.75; H, 8.18; N, 11.31. Calc. for C₁₄H₂₀N₂O₂ (248.32): C, 67.72; H, 8.12; N, 11.28%.

4.5. 2-[(E)-2-(2-Furyl)ethenyl]-3-methyl-1-dimethylaminopyrrole (**4a**)

Yield: 26%; oil. H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 2.25$ (s, 3H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 6.0 (m, 1H), 6.25 (m, 1H), 6.4 (m, 1H), 6.8 (d, 1H, J = 16.5 Hz), 6.95 (m, 1H), 7.2.(d, 1H, J = 16.5Hz), 7.4 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 154.6$ (s), 141.0 (d), 125.7 (s), 116.2 (d), 115.7 (s), 113.1 (d), 113.0 (d), 111.5 (d), 109.4 (d), 106.4 (d), 47.5 (q), 13.5 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₃H₁₆N₂O 216.1263. Found 216.1270. Anal. Found: C, 72.33; H, 7.56; N, 12.90. Calc. for C₁₃H₁₆N₂O (216.28): C, 72.19; H, 7.46; N, 12.95%.

4.6. 3-Methyl-1-dimethylamino-2-[(E)-2-phenylethenyl]pyrrole (4b)

Yield: 28%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 2.3$ (s, 3H), 2.85 (s, 6H), 6.1 (s, 1H), 6.9 (m, 2H), 7.1–7.5 (m, 6H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 138.9$ (s), 128.5 (d), 126.4 (d), 126.2 (s), 125.7 (d), 125.3 (d), 117.9 (d), 115.3 (s), 112.6 (d), 109.5 (d), 47.6 (q), 13.8 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₅H₁₈N₂ 226.1470. Found 226.1467. Anal. Found: C, 79.69; H, 8.12; N, 12.35. Calc. for C₁₆H₁₈N₂ (226.32): C, 79.61; H, 8.02; N, 12.38%.

4.7. 2-[(E)-2-(2-Furyl)ethenyl]-4-methyl-1-dimethylaminopyrrole (**4**c)

Yield: 25%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 2.1$ (s, 3H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.4 (m, 1H), 6.75 (d, 1H, J = 16.5 Hz), 6.8 (s, 1H), 7.2 (d, 1H, J = 16.5Hz), 7.4 (m, 1H). HRMS: Calc. for $C_{13}H_{16}N_2O$ 216.14700. Found 226.12654. Anal. Found: C, 72.26; H, 7.50; N, 12.99. Calc. for $C_{13}H_{16}N_2O$ (216.28): C, 72.19; H, 7.46; N, 12.95%.

4.8. Hydrolysis of **3a**. Synthesis of trans,trans-4-(2-furyl)-2-methylcyclopentanone-3-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**5**)

A solution of the cyclopentene 3a (125 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 0.5 M HCl (30 ml) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 ml) was stirred

for 2 h at room temperature (r.t.). The mixture was then extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 20 ml), washed with water and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . Removal of the solvents under reduced pressure and purification by column chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 hexane–ethyl acetate) afforded the cyclopentanone **5** (yield: 91%; oil).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.15$ (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 2.4 (m. 2H), 2.8 (m, 2H), 2.85 (s, 6H), 3.3 (m, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.6 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz), 7.4 (m, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 217.1$ (s), 154.7 (s), 141.4 (d), 135.5 (d), 110.0 (d), 105.5 (d), 52.3 (d), 49.1 (d), 43.0 (q), 42.7 (t), 38.8 (d), 12.3 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₃H₁₈N₂O₂ 234.1368. Found 234.1369. Anal. Found: C, 66.75; H, 7.79; N, 12.03. Calc. for C₁₃H₁₈N₂O₂ (234.30): C, 66.64; H, 7.74; N, 11.96%.

4.9. Hydrolysis of **3a**. Synthesis of trans, trans-4-(2-furyl)-2-methylcyclopentanone-3-carbaldehyde (**6**)

A solution of the cyclopentene **3a** (125 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 3 M HCl (30 ml) in THF (30 ml) was stirred for 7 h at r.t. The mixture was then extracted with Et₂O (3×20 ml), washed with water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Removal of the solvents under reduced pressure and purification by column chromatography (silica gel, 3:1 hexane–ethyl acetate) afforded the cyclopentanone **6** (yield: 95%; oil).

¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.15$ (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 2.5 (m, 2H), 2.9 (m, 2H), 3.6 (m, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 7.4 (m, 1H), 9.9 (d, 1H, J = 2.6 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 214.4$ (s), 200.5 (d), 153.3 (s), 142.1 (d), 110.3 (d), 106.0 (d), 60.6 (d), 45.6 (d), 41.9 (t), 34.7 (d), 13.0 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₁₁H₁₂O₃ 192.0786. Found 192.0785. Anal. Found: C, 68.86; H, 6.34. Calc. for C₁₁H₁₂O₃ (192.21): C, 68.74; H, 6.29%.

4.10. Synthesis of optically active cyclopentenes 8-11

To a solution of the chiral, non-racemic carbene complex 7 (1 mmol) in THF (50 ml) was added the hydrazone 2a (112 mg, 1 mmol) and the resulting mixture refluxed for 10 h. Then, removal of the solvent and purification of the resulting residue by column chromatograpy (silica gel, 5:1 hexane-ethyl acetate) afforded three fractions containing the *trans,trans*-cyclopentenes 8/9, the *cis,cis*-cyclopentenes 10/11, and the pyrrole 4a.

4.11. (3S,4R,5R)-3-(2-Furyl)-5-methyl-1-[(1R,2S,5R)-8-phenylmenthyloxy]cyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**8a**)

This compound was obtained as a mixture of diastereoisomers (8a/9a, 89:11); yield: 35%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.8-1.5$ (m, 7H), 0.9 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz), 1.1 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz), 1.3 (s, 3H), 1.5 (s, 3H), 1.9

(m, 1H), 2.3 (brd, 1H, J = 12.5 Hz), 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 3.9 (m, 2H), 4.5 (brs, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.75 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 7.1–7.5 (m, 6H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 159.0$ (s), 158.8 (s), 150.1 (s), 140.9 (d), 139.2 (d), 127.8 (d), 126.0 (d), 125.1 (d), 109.9 (d), 103.9 (d), 93.6 (d), 79.1 (d), 54.5 (d), 51.3 (d), 44.6 (d), 43.6 (d), 43.2 (q), 40.5 (s), 39.6 (t), 34.7 (t), 31.3 (d), 30.6 (q), 27.3 (t), 24.3 (q), 21.8 (q), 17.3 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₂ 448.3090. Found 448.3122. Anal. Found: C, 77.74; H, 9.06; N: 6.20. Calc. for C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₂ (448.65): C, 77.64; H, 8.99; N: 6.24%.

4.12. (3S,4S,5R)-3-(2-Furyl)-5-methyl-1-[(1R,2S,5R)-8-phenylmenthyloxy]cyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**10a**)

This compound was obtained as a mixture of diastereoisomers (10a/11a, 89:11); yield: 23%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.8 - 1.0$ (m, 2H), 0.85 (d, 3H, J =6.4 Hz), 1.0 (d, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.2–1.6 (m, 5H), 1.4 (s, 3H), 1.5 (s, 3H), 1.9 (m, 1H), 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.6 (s, 6H), 2.8 (m, 1H), 3.9 (dt, 1H, J = 10.3 and 3.9 Hz), 4.1 (brd, 1H, J = 8.2 Hz), 4.5 (brs, 1H), 6.1 (m, 1H), 6.25 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz), 6.3 (m, 1H), 7.1–7.4 (m, 6H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.4$ (s), 157.5 (s), 150.1 (s), 141.1 (d), 139.4 (d), 127.8 (d), 126.1 (d), 125.2 (d), 110.0 (d), 106.2 (d), 92.9 (d), 79.5 (d), 51.3 (d), 46.9 (d), 43.9 (d), 43.1 (q), 42.2 (d), 40.6 (t), 39.8 (s), 34.7 (t), 31.4 (d), 30.6 (q), 27.4 (t), 24.5 (q), 21.8 (q), 15.0 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₂ 448.3090. Found 448.3101. Anal. Found: C, 77.72; H, 9.04; N, 6.19. Calc. for C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₂ (448.65): C, 77.64; H, 8.99; N, 6.24%.

4.13. (3S,4R,5R)-3-(2-Furyl)-5-methyl-1-[(1R,2S,5R)-8-(2-naphthyl)menthyloxy]cyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**8b**)

This compound was obtained as a mixture of diastereoisomers (8b/9b, 96:4); yield: 43%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.8 - 1.7$ (m, 7H), 0.9 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz), 1.1 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.4 (s, 3H), 1.5 (s, 3H), 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.3 (m, 1H), 2.7 (m, 1H), 2.8 (s, 6H), 3.9 (m, 2H), 4.5 (brs, 1H), 6.0 (m, 1H), 6.3 (m, 1H), 6.7 (d, 1H, J = 6.5 Hz), 7.3–7.8 (m, 8H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta =$ 159.0 (s), 158.8 (s), 147.6 (s), 141.1 (d), 139.2 (d), 133.2 (s), 131.4 (s), 127.9 (d), 127.3 (d), 127.2 (d), 125.9 (d), 125.6 (d), 125.1 (d), 123.0 (d), 110.0 (d), 104.0 (d), 93.7 (d), 79.0 (d), 54.5 (d), 51.0 (d), 44.6 (t), 43.6 (d), 43.2 (q), 40.8 (s), 34.7 (t), 31.4 (d), 30.5 (d), 29.6 (q), 28.3 (t), 24.5 (q), 21.9 (q), 17.3 (q). HRMS: Calc. for C33H42N2O2 498.3246. Found 498.3211. Anal. Found: C, 79.40; H, 8.40; N: 5.73. Calc. for $C_{33}H_{42}N_2O_2$ (498.71): C, 79.48; H, 8.49; N, 5.62%.

4.14. (3S,4S,5R)-3-(2-Furyl)-5-methyl-1-[(1R,2S,5R)-8-(2-naphthyl)menthyloxy]cyclopentene-4-carbaldehyde dimethylhydrazone (**10b**)

This compound was obtained as a mixture of diastereoisomers (10b/11b, 96:4); yield: 25%; oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.8 - 1.8$ (m, 7H), 0.8 (d, 3H, J = 6.0Hz), 1.1 (d, 3H, J = 7.7 Hz) 2.0 (m, 1H), 2.3 (brd, 1H, J = 9.4 Hz), 2.6 (s, 6H), 2.8 (m, 1H), 4.0 (dt, 1H, J = 10.3 and 3.9 Hz), 4.1 (m, 1H), 4.55 (brs, 1H), 6.0 (m,1H), 6.25 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz), 6.3 (m,1H), 7.3–7.9 (m, 8H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.5$ (s), 157.4 (s), 147.7 (s), 141.1 (d), 139.3 (d), 133.1 (s), 131.4 (s), 127.9 (d), 127.3 (d), 127.2 (d), 125.7 (d), 125.3 (d), 125.1 (d), 123.7 (d), 110.0 (d), 106.3 (d), 93.0 (d), 79.5 (d), 51.0 (d), 46.8 (d), 43.9 (d), 43.2 (q), 42.2 (d), 40.8 (s), 39.9 (t), 34.7 (t), 31.3 (d), 30.8 (q), 27.6 (t), 24.1 (q), 21.8 (q), 15.0 (q). HRMS: Calc. for $C_{33}H_{42}N_2O_2$ 498.3246. Found 498.3101. Anal. Found: C, 79.55; H, 8.52; N, 5.59. Calc. for C₃₃H₄₂N₂O₂ (498.71): C, 79.48; H, 8.49; N, 5.62%.

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