163 (12), *m/e* 162 (100), 147 (40), 133 (10), 120 (38), 119 (44), 117 (10), 106 (12), 105 (72), 91 (34), 89 (12), 88 (12), 87 (16).

In conclusion, the reactivity pattern of an allyl system can be seen to have changed considerably by introducing the methoxy group at the central carbon.<sup>9</sup> The diminished ionization tendency of **1a-c** is reminiscent of the meta deactivation of electrophilic aromatic substitution by a methoxy group. Owing to the electronattracting inductive effect of oxygen, the Hammett substituent constant of methoxy is positive ( $\sigma_{meta}$  = 0.12, more strongly electron withdrawing than hydrogen), while  $\sigma_{\text{para}}$  is, of course, negative (-0.27).<sup>10</sup> The new cycloadducts described herein, which are free from all methyl groups in the three-carbon bridge, would not have been accessible by any of the earlier methods.<sup>11</sup> In combining the 2-methoxyallyl cation with conjugated dienes, we have simplified the structure of the reactive oxyallyl moiety to its limit.

Acknowledgment. We thank the Science Research Council for support of our work.

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> > Received November 21, 1972

## Alkyl Radicals in Lithium Clusters by Electron Spin Resonance

Sir:

We wish to report an unusual free radical I in which the odd electron is coupled to three lithium nuclei. I is generated from a solution of methyllithium in ether solution by hydrogen abstraction with *tert*-butoxy radicals generated photochemically from di-*tert*-butyl peroxide. The intense esr spectrum shown in Figure la disappears immediately on shuttering the light and its relatively high signal-to-noise level indicates a relatively stable but transient species. The triplet splitting (Table I) can be unambiguously assigned to the  $\alpha$ -methylene

Table I. Esr Parameters for Lithiomethyl Radicals

Radical	<i>T</i> ,ª °C	A <sub>H or D</sub> , G	A <sub>Li</sub> , G	$\langle g \rangle$	Lw, <sup>b</sup> G
$\begin{array}{c} \cdot CH_2Li(CH_3Li)_3\\ \cdot CD_2Li(CD_3Li)_3\end{array}$	$-32 \\ -55$	18.23 2.78	1.67 1.63	2.00293 2.00293	0.56 0.27

<sup>a</sup> No temperature dependences of the hfs or line widths were observed in the range 0 to  $-100^{\circ}$ . <sup>b</sup> The larger line width of the protonated species is probably due to the larger H–H dipole-dipole interactions within the cluster.

protons, since deuterium substitution affords the spectrum in Figure 1b. The deuterated analog of I has the triplet splitting replaced by a 1:2:3:2:1 quintet,

the hfs of which has been reduced by a factor of 6.55  $(g_{\rm H}/g_{\rm D} = 6.514)$ . The simulated spectrum in Figure 1 shows that the additional decet splitting (with the correct theoretical intensity ratio) is due to three equivalent lithium nuclei (<sup>7</sup>Li,  $I = \frac{3}{2}$ ).

Methyllithium consists of a tetrahedral array of lithium atoms in which methyl groups are located in each of the four triangular faces.<sup>1-3</sup> Hyperfine splitting by three equivalent lithium nuclei in the spectrum limits I to two basic tetrameric structures II and III. The



terminal model III would be consistent with the data only if the hfs of the lithium directly bonded to the radical center were small. However, the INDO calculations<sup>4</sup> given in Table II for the monomeric species

**Table II.** INDO Calculations for Hyperfine Splittings inLithiomethyl Radicals $^{a,b}$ 

	Model					
Position	IIE	IIP	$LiCH_2$	CH₃·		
H(1)	-16.82	-16.33	-17.00	- 22.96		
H(2)	-15.88	-16.33	-17.00	- 22.96		
C	31.10	31.10	42.61	45.98		
Li(1)	-0.69	-0.34	-4.34	- 22.96 (H)		
Li(2)	-0.42	-0.59				
Li(3)	-0.42	-0.59				
Li(4)	-0.69	-0.69				
$\rho_{\rm C}^{\rm SCF}$	5.826°	5.826°	6.245°	6.054°		

<sup>a</sup> Geometric parameters obtained from ref 3. <sup>b</sup> Atomic splitting of lithium taken from G. W. Canters, C. Corvaja, and E. de Boer, J. Chem. Phys., 54, 3026 (1971). Hyperfine splitting in gauss. <sup>c</sup> Total spin density on carbon in au. <sup>d</sup> Calculations based on the assumption of planar radical sites.

predict a rather large splitting for a lithium nucleus located in this position.

The face-bridged structure II can exist in two conformations shown below in projection. Table II



gives the INDO results for the hfs and the total SCF electron density<sup>5</sup> on the methylene carbon for each conformation. The calculations are in reasonable

(1) L. M. Seitz and T. L. Brown, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 88, 2174 (1966).

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(3) (a) E. Weiss and E. A. C. Lucken, J. Organometal. Chem., 2, 197 (1964); (b) E. Weiss and G. Hencken, *ibid.*, 21, 265 (1970).

(4) Obtained from the Quantum Chemistry Program Exchange; QCPE No. 141 has been converted for CDC 6600.

(5) Interestingly, these calculations indicate that the three-lithium cluster withdraws electrons from the carbon center relative to the monomeric species and methyl radical itself. Similar results were obtained for tetrameric methyllithium.<sup>6</sup>

(6) (a) G. R. Peyton and W. H. Glaze, *Theor. Chim. Acta*, 13, 259 (1969); (b) A. H. Cowley and W. D. White, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 91, 34 (1969); (c) M. F. Guest, I. H. Hillier, and V. R. Saunders, *J. Organometal. Chem.*, 44, 59 (1972).



Figure 1. Est spectra of (a) lithiomethyl and (b) lithiodeuteriomethyl radicals in diethyl ether solution at  $-50^{\circ}$ . Simulated spectra using parameters in Table I are directly below. Proton nmr field markers are in kHz.

agreement<sup>7</sup> with the data in Table I with one exception, viz., the sizable hfs due to the fourth lithium. However, <sup>7</sup>Li and <sup>13</sup>C nmr studies of tetrameric methyllithium indicate a near-zero bond order between lithium nuclei and have led to the "local environment" hypothesis, 1,8-10 in which each methyl group (lithium atom) interacts with only three lithium atoms (methyl groups). If so, the spin density will not be efficiently transferred by direct spin polarization to the fourth lithium (as given by the INDO model) but rather by a less effective indirect process involving only C-Li bonds.11

The observation of three equivalent lithium splittings and the absence of either a temperature-dependent proton hfs or selective line broadening in the spectrum of I cannot be explained by one fixed conformation (cf. Table II).<sup>12</sup> Rather, a rapid rotation (>10<sup>7</sup> sec<sup>-1</sup>) of the methylene group about a sixfold barrier is indicated.

Insight into the bonding in alkyllithium clusters has not been fully provided as yet by nmr studies or theoretical calculations.<sup>6,13,14</sup> We hope that these esr observations will afford a new probe for the additional understanding of these electron-deficient systems.

Acknowledgment. We wish to thank the National

<sup>(7)</sup> As yet there is only limited agreement between the experimental and calculated (by INDO) hfs for nuclei other than hydrogen; see J. A. Pople and D. L. Beveridge, "Approximate Molecular Orbital Theory,"
McGraw-Hill, New York, N. Y., 1970.
(8) L. D. McKeever, R. Waack, M. A. Doran, and E. B. Baker,
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(9) T. L. Brown, L. M. Seitz, and B. Y. Kimura, *ibid.*, 90, 3245

<sup>(1968).</sup> 

<sup>(10)</sup> A recent normal mode analysis supports a similar conclusion: W. M. Scovell, B. Y. Kimura, and T. G. Spiro, J. Coord. Chem., 1, 107 (1971).

<sup>(11) (</sup>a) Alternatively, trimeric or hexameric species are possible but unlikely. (b) The spectrum of I appears immediately upon ir-

radiation and does not change perceptibly on further irradiation indicating that exchange by tert-butoxy groups is not important in the cluster under these conditions.

<sup>(12)</sup> Further, there is no indication from the esr data of intermolecular exchange of the radical site in these clusters; cf., K. C. Williams and T. L. Brown, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 88, 4134 (1966), for exchange in the methyllithium tetramer.

<sup>(13)</sup> L. D. McKeever in "Ions and Ion-Pairs in Organic Reactions," Vol. I, M. Szwarc, Ed., Wiley-Interscience, New York, N. Y., 1972, pp 263 ff.

<sup>(14) &</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>C studies are in progress.

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## 9-Oxabicyclo[3.3.1]non-1-ene<sup>1,2</sup>

Sir:

Over the past few years we and others have demonstrated that bridgehead alkenes in moderately sized ring systems are stable enough to permit their synthesis and purification at ordinary temperatures.<sup>3</sup> To date all isolable bridgehead alkenes have had the bridgehead double bond endocyclic in a ring of at least eight members.<sup>38</sup> In smaller ring systems there is ample evidence for the existence of compounds with bridgehead unsaturation,<sup>4</sup> but none of these very highly strained compounds has yet been isolated in pure form. The torsional constraints on the double bonds in these compounds lead to interesting effects on their chemical behavior and reactivity.<sup>3,4</sup>

We have initiated a research program for the study of the chemical properties of some bridgehead alkenes substituted with heteroatoms within the bicyclic framework.<sup>5</sup> In ordinary unstrained systems the heteroatoms of enamines, enol ethers, and vinyl halides exert a very considerable influence on the chemical properties of the carbon double bond through the operation of inductive and resonance effects in the alkenes themselves and in the intermediates and products of their reactions. By constraining the heteroatom-substituted alkene in a bridged bicyclic framework, it should be possible to inhibit the resonance of the heteroatom with the double bond while leaving the inductive effect essentially unchanged.6

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(5) For examples of compounds with bridgehead unsaturation involving a heteroatom see (a) J. O. Reed and W. Lwowski, J. Org. Chem., 36, 2864 (1971); (b) M. Toda and Y. Hirata, Chem. Commun., 1597 (1970); (c) H. Newman and T. L. Fields, Tetrahedron, 28, 4051 (1972); (d) P. G. Gassman, R. L. Cryberg, and K. Shudo, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 94, 7600 (1972); (e) R. D. Fisher, T. D. Bogard, and P. Kovacic, ibid., 94, 7599 (1972); (f) C. A. Grob and A. Sieber, Helv. Chim. Acta, 2531 (1967)

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We now report on the synthesis and chemical behavior of 9-oxabicyclo[3.3.1]non-1-ene (1). Hydroboration oxidation of 1,5-cyclooctadiene<sup>7,8</sup> produced cis-1,5-cyclooctanediol which was oxidized with Jones' reagent to 1-hydroxy-9-oxabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane (2a)<sup>9</sup> in 49% overall yield.



The hemiketal 2a is more stable than the hydroxy ketone 3a as the infrared spectrum shows no carbonyl band. Nevertheless, most attempts to derivatize the hydroxyl group of 2a gave derivatives of 3a due to the greater reactivity of the secondary alcohol. Thus, reaction of 2a with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride in pyridine gave 3d exclusively, 10 and reaction with acetic anhydride in pyridine gave a mixture of acetates 2b and 3b.9 Successful derivatization was achieved by the use of methanesulfonyl chloride and triethylamine<sup>11</sup> which gave mesylate 2c as a stable white crystalline solid in 84%yield.<sup>12</sup> Treatment of mesylate 2c with potassium tert-butoxide in tert-butyl alcohol at 80° caused a smooth elimination of methanesulfonic acid with production of the bridgehead olefin 1 in 32 % yield after purification by distillation on a spinning band column.

The spectra of 1 indicate the absence of conjugation of the bridging oxygen with the double bond. The infrared spectrum shows a weak split band at 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup> in contrast to the very intense bands usually observed for vinyl ethers, 13-16 and the nmr spectrum shows the vinyl proton at  $\delta$  5.74 (t, J = 6 Hz), shifted by 1.4 ppm from the "expected" position.<sup>14,15</sup> In the ultraviolet, 1 absorbs at 190 nm ( $\epsilon$  6200).

Hydrolysis of 1 in 50% aqueous acetone containing 1

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cm<sup>-1</sup>; (CCl<sub>4</sub>) vinyl H,  $\delta$  4.34; uv (pentane) 190 nm ( $\epsilon$  5700). (16) (a) W. H. Perkin, Jr., J. Chem. Soc., 51, 702 (1887); (b) J. G. Montaigne, Ann. Chim., (Paris), 314 (1954); (c) I. S. Trubnikov and Yu. A. Tentin, Zh. Obshch. Khim., 32, 3590 (1962).

<sup>(2)</sup> This work was supported by a grant from the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, and by a grant from Eli Lilly and Co.