

was contacted with the solid at 80°, an anisotropic ESR signal was observed at room temperature. The g values of the spectrum ($g_{\parallel} = 2.010$, $g_{\perp} = 2.002$; $g_{av} = 2.005$) suggest that it could be assigned either to the sulfonyl radical ($\text{SiSO}_2\cdot$) or to sulfur dioxide anion radical ($\text{SO}_2^{\cdot-}$). The reported isotropic g values for arylsulfonyl¹⁰ and alkylsulfonyl radicals¹¹ lie in the range of $g \approx 2.004$ – 2.005 . Observed g_{\parallel} and g_{\perp} values are also very close to those reported for $\text{SO}_2^{\cdot-}$ radicals adsorbed on solid surfaces.^{12,13} The number of the $\text{SO}_2^{\cdot-}$ radicals was $5 \times 10^{16}/\text{g}$, which was much larger than the number of spins from the original solids. This means that the most of spin centers in siloxene were not detectable by ESR, probably because of the short relaxation time. The fact that the siloxene is capable of producing free radicals is further demonstrated by the polymerization of styrene. By stirring ca. 200 mg of the solid with 20 ml of styrene at 30°, ethanol insoluble polymer of 0.48 g/g and 1.7 g/g were obtained after 4.5 and 19 hr, respectively. Without the solid, polymer was not obtained in the same conditions.

Though the free radical mechanism through vinyl rearrangement is well established in the homogeneous isomerization,⁵⁻⁹ to our knowledge, isomerization of butene-2 over pyrolytic carbon has been only one example, in which a free radical mechanism was claimed in the field of heterogeneous catalysis.¹⁴

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[2 + 2] Cycloadditions of Tetracyanoethylene to Enol Ethers. Structure of the Product of Interception with Alcohol

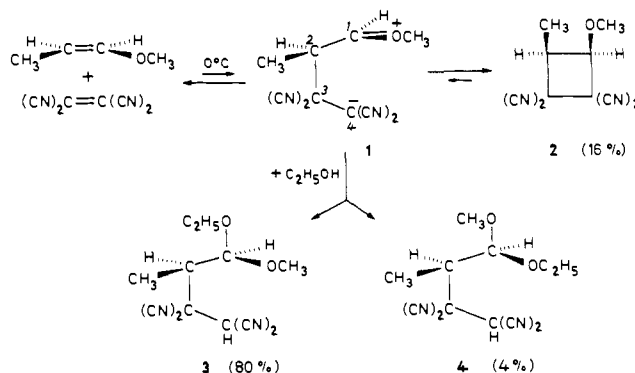
Sir:

Numerous mechanistic criteria evidence the occurrence of zwitterionic intermediates in the cyclobutane formation from tetracyanoethylene (TCNE) and enol ethers.¹⁻⁵ The stereoselectivity depends on the polarity of the solvent; one obtains from TCNE and *cis*-propenyl methyl ether the *cis* adduct **2** and the corresponding *trans* adduct in the ratio of 95:5 in benzene, 92:8 in ethyl acetate, and 84:16 in acetonitrile.¹ The fast trapping reaction of the zwitterionic intermediate with alcohols suppresses the ring closure,⁶ while six-membered rings are formed in the slow interception of the zwitterion (in equilibrium with the cyclobutane derivative) by multiple bond systems in 1,4-dipolar cycloadditions.⁷

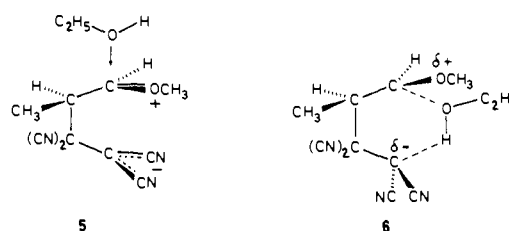
The reaction of the zwitterion from TCNE and *cis*-propenyl methyl ether with ethanol at 0° creates a second chir-

al center in the acetalic trapping product. A 95% stereoselectivity was observed (80% **3** + 4% **4** + 16% **2** under conditions of kinetic control).⁶ The analogous reaction of *trans*-propenyl methyl ether proceeds likewise with 95% stereospecificity, but now in favor of **4**. The slow ethanolysis of **2** at 25° produces 98% **3** + 2% **4**.⁶ Thus, the same conformation of the zwitterion is formed from the π 2 reactants and by opening of the four-membered ring.

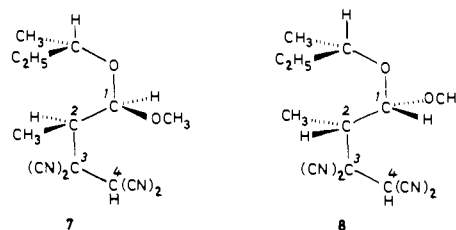
The stereoselectivity of ring closure and trapping reaction argues strongly for the U-shaped zwitterionic intermediate **1**, favored by Coulombic attraction, charge transfer interaction, and through-bond coupling⁸ of the π orbitals at carbon atoms 1 and 4 with the 2,3 bond. A *gauche* conformation at the 2,3 bond with a slight twisting about the 1,2 and 3,4 bonds (to guarantee through-space interaction of the π orbitals at 1 and 4) may constitute the best model for the intermediate.



The zwitterion **1** may be compared with an intimate ion pair, one side of the carboxonium ion solvated by the malodinitrile anion group. The configurations **3** and **4** are based on the assumption of transition state **5** where the alcohol molecule enters from "outside". However, an alternative mechanism via the proton chelate **6** (solvent separated ion pair) would lead to opposite structural assignments of the acetals.



The crystals of the methylethylacetal, mp 95–96°, were unsuitable for X-ray analysis because of twinning⁹ and, probably, variable content of optical antipodes.¹⁰ Therefore, we treated the *cis*-cyclobutane (**2**) with (*S*)-(+)-2-butanol at 25° in the expectation that the minor component (2% in the methyl ethyl case above) would remain in the mother liquor. Regardless of asymmetric induction, the diastereomeric acetals **7** and **8** should be the main products if the optically active butanol attacks from "outside". Each should suit the X-ray analysis because the relative configuration at C-1 and C-2 is the same.



1,2 and 2,3 rotations during the process. Any Z conformation of the zwitterion should collapse with alcohol more or less randomly.

[2 + 2] Cycloadditions via diradical intermediates show lower stereospecificity¹⁶ than those through 1,4 zwitterions which are often completely stereospecific.¹⁷ Our finding emphasizes that the zwitterions *must be created from the π 2 reactants in U conformations* which are favored by Coulomb potential and CT interactions.¹⁸

Supplementary Material Available. A listing of calculated coordinates for hydrogen and structure factor amplitudes will appear following these pages in the microfilm edition of this volume of the journal. Photocopies of the supplementary material from this paper only or microfiche (105 × 148 mm, 24X reduction, negatives) containing all of the supplementary material for the papers in this issue may be obtained from the Business Office, Books and Journals Division, American Chemical Society, 1155 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Remit check or money order for \$4.00 for photocopy or \$2.50 for microfiche, referring to code number JACS-75-5285.

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- (10) Some big crystals gave levo- or dextrorotatory solutions, others turned out to be racemic.
- (11) Anal. Calcd for $C_{14}H_{18}N_4O_2$: C, 61.29; H, 6.61; N, 20.43. Found: C, 61.27; H, 6.59; N, 20.60. Stable under dry nitrogen, the colorless crystals develop a brown amorphous coat on longer exposure to air.
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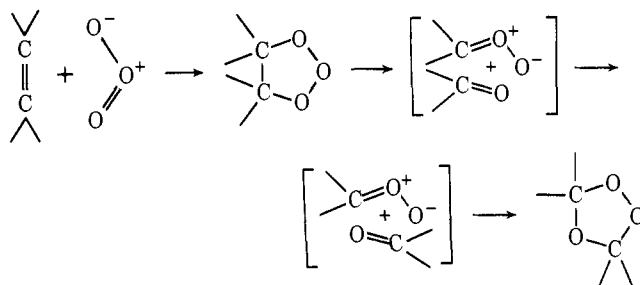
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New Evidence in the Mechanism of Ozonolysis of Olefins

Sir:

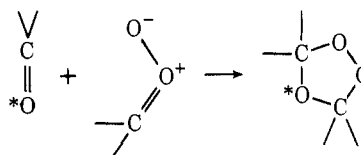
Considerable controversy has surrounded the mechanism of ozonolysis. The most accepted mechanism today is a refinement of the Criegee mechanism,¹ the Bauld-Bailey syn-

anti zwitterion mechanism.² Since this paper does not involve syn and anti zwitterions, only the basic Criegee mechanism (2 + 3 exchange reaction) is shown below.

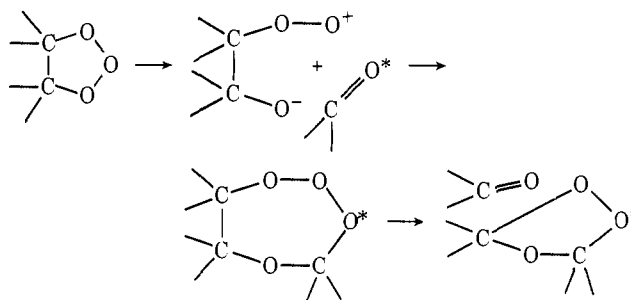


This mechanism was challenged by Story³ and given the most serious blow by some exchange experiments.^{3c} When *trans*-diisopropylethylene was ozonized in the presence of an excess of ¹⁸O enriched acetaldehyde, some 75% of the ¹⁸O label ended up in the peroxide bridge.

Such results cannot be accommodated by the Criegee mechanism since all the label should end up in the ether position.



On the basis of this and other evidence, Story suggested various alternative mechanisms for ozonolysis. His aldehyde interchange mechanism illustrating the incorporation of ¹⁸O into the peroxide bridge is shown below.



Since then numerous experimentalists⁴ have tried to confirm these results by other methods but failed to find the high proportions reported by Story. However, under some specific conditions, ¹⁸O is undoubtedly incorporated into the peroxide bridge as was shown by several researchers using various olefins and ¹⁸O enriched aldehydes.⁵

With the exception of the preceding piece of disturbing evidence, however, the Criegee mechanism, with refinements, has held up quite well. It is supported not only by molecular orbital symmetry considerations⁶ but also by a large accumulation of experimental data.⁷

The fact that, on the other hand, the mechanism advocated by Story invokes an unfavorable 2 + 2 concerted path prompted us to reexamine the supporting experimental facts. In the process of doing this, we found and present here evidence that the disturbing observations reported above might be simple artifacts and cannot be used as evidence against the Criegee mechanism.

We hypothesized that aldehydes may react with ozone in the same fashion as olefins, i.e., via a favorable (2 + 3) exchange reaction.⁶