(73%) the trisubstituted pyrrolidine 9, $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ -72.04 °C (c 0.98, CHCl₃), as a single stereoisomer.¹² All syn stereochemistry of the product is confirmed by nuclear Overhauser effect difference spectroscopy (NOEDS) (500 MHz) of 9 which shows distinct enhancements in the 2-H, 4-H, and 7-H signals when the 3-H is irradiated.¹³ Although there are four possible diastereomers which could have been produced from the azomethine ylide intermediate, it is noteworthy that only one of these with all syn stereochemistry (9) is produced in the cycloaddition. The extremely high diastereofacial selectivity for the cycloaddition of 7 is best in accord with the *anti*-azomethine ylide¹⁴ $\hat{\mathbf{8}}$ as the reactive conformer in which the bulky benzyloxymethyl group takes the most stable spatial arrangement to give the all syn product 9.

Upon sequential double debenzylation, N-protection, glycol cleavage, esterification, 15 and N-reprotection, the adduct 9 yields $(26\% \text{ overall})^{16}$ the dimethyl ester 10, $[\alpha]^{24}_{D} - 9.28^{\circ}$ (c 0.97, CHCl₃). Treatment of 10 with sodium hydride in the presence of DBU allows smooth epimerization¹⁷ (94%) to afford the trans 2/3 compound 11, $[\alpha]^{24}_{D}$ +1.11° (c 0.72, CHCl₃), as a single product. Oxidation¹⁸ of 11, followed by esterification of the resulting acid furnishes (64%) the known triester^{4,19} **12**, $[\alpha]^{28}_{D}$ +12.23° (c 0.77, CHCl₃) [lit.⁴ +6.5° (c 0.73, CHCl₃)], with 2S, 3R, 4S configuration. Oxidation of 12 with peracid gives (72%) the *N*-oxide **13**, $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$ +19.04° (*c* 1.22, CHCl₃), which is treated with trifluoroacetic anhydride²⁰ to give (64%) the pyridone^{4,5,19} **14**, $[\alpha]^{26}_{D} = 127.48^{\circ}$ (c 1.02, CHCl₃) [lit.⁴ = 114.3° (c 0.74, CHCl₃)]. Conversion of 14 into natural acromelic acid A (1) has already been done in a satisfactory yield.⁴

Synthesis of acromelic acid B (2) from (S)-O-benzylglycidol (3) employing the same methodology is currently under investigation.

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Registry No. 1, 86630-09-3; 3, 16495-13-9; 4, 109552-75-2; 5, 109552-76-3; 7, 109552-77-4; 9, 109552-78-5; 10, 109552-79-6; 11, 109552-80-9; 12, 103314-35-8; 13, 103314-36-9; 14, 103335-11-1; BrC-H2CHBrCOCl, 18791-02-1; PhCH2NH2, 100-46-9; lithium 2-(2'methyl-5'-pyridyl)acetylide, 109552-81-0.

(17) The 2,3-stereochemistry of the kainoids has shown to be readily distinguishable by ¹H NMR spectrum comparison.^{1a} Generally, C₂-H of trans isomers resonates at higher field (ca. 0.5 ppm) than that of cis isomers; for example 10 exhibits at δ 4.05, while 11 exhibits at δ 4.50

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Recently we have reported the preparation of the $n = 1^2$ and $n = 2^3$ members of a homologous series of pyramidalized alkenes 1, the spectroscopic characterization of the n = 2 olefin in matrix isolation,⁴ and the reverse vinylcyclopropane rearrangement that these alkenes undergo on pyrolysis or on photolysis.⁵ In this communication we describe the synthesis of the 10-selena derivative 2 of the n = 3 olefin.



A previous attempt to synthesize the n = 3 hydrocarbon 1 involved preparation of the diol precursor by transannular reductive ring closure⁶ of bicyclo[3.3.3]undecane-3,7-dione. Unfortunately, Demjanov-Tiffeneau ring expansion of bicyclo[3.2.2]nonane-2,5-dione led, instead, to the 2,6-isomer of the desired 3,7-diketone.⁷ Consequently, we turned our attention to a different route (Scheme I), involving expansion of the bridge between C-1 and C-5 in diol 3, which had previously served as a precursor of the 9,10-benzo derivative of the n = 2 alkene.⁴

After protection of the diol as the acetonide, the benzene ring in 4 could be oxidatively cleaved, either with RuO_4^9 or $O_3/H_2O_2^{10}$ to afford diacid 5^{11} in 60-80% yield. The diacid was reduced with LiAlH₄ to diol 6^{11} , which was converted to dimesylate 7^{11} and thence to diiodide $8.^{11}$ The diiodide was treated with 1 equiv of KSeCN¹² in acetone, and the crystalline monoselenacyanate 9¹¹ was purified by flash chromatography and recrystallization. Ring closure was effected by slowly adding 9 to a 1:9 ethanol-THF solution of NaBH4¹² under high dilution conditions, and 10,¹¹ mp 120-121 °C, was isolated in 70% yield after chromatography and sublimation. The acetonide protecting group was removed by acid hydrolysis, and tricyclic diol 11,¹¹ mp 267-269 °C, was converted to dimesylate 12, which was reduced with sodium naphthalane in THF.13 From this reaction alkene 211 was isolated in 90% yield

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- (11) This compound gave spectral and analytical data consistent with the structure assigned.

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^{(12) &#}x27;H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 0.93 (1 H, 6 lines, C_6 -H(α)), 1.75 (12) 'H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 0.93 (1 H, 6 lines, C_6 -H(α)), 1.75 and 10 $(1 \text{ H}, 8 \text{ lines}, C_6 - H(\beta)), 2.51 (3 \text{ H}, s, py_2 Me), 2.86 (1 \text{ H}, dd, J = 7.5 and 10)$ (1 H, 8 lines, C_6 - $H(\beta)$), 2.51 (3 H, s, py_2Me), 2.86 (1 H, dd, J = 7.5 and 10 Hz, C_5 - $H(\alpha)$), 3.05 (1 H, dd, J = 2 and 10 Hz), C_5 - $H(\beta)$), 3.08 (1 H, 9 lines, C_5 -H), 3.32 (1 H, dt, J = 7.5 Hz, C_4 -H), 3.39 (1 H, dd, J = 10 and 5 Hz, C_8 -H), 3.48 (1 H, d, J = 11.25 Hz, C_2 -H), 3.55 (1 H, dd, J = 10 and 6.25 Hz, C_8 -H), 3.60 (1 H, d, J = 15 Hz, -N-benzyl-H), 4.38 (1 H, 10 lines, C_7 -H), 4.48 (1 H, d, J = 15 Hz, -O-benzyl-H), 4.56 (1 H, d, J = 15 Hz, -O-benzyl-H), 7.10 (1 H, d, J = 5 Hz, -O-benzyl-H), 7.10 (1 H, d, J = 2.8 and 8.6 Hz, py_3 -H), 7.15–7.5 (10 H, m, 2 × C_6H_5), 7.75 (1 H, dd, J = 2.8 and 8.6 Hz, py_4 -H), 8.2 (1 H, d, J = 2.8 Hz, py_6 -H). No other diastereometic adducts are detected from the reaction mixture. Enantiometric homogenity of the adduct 9 is ascertained by examination of the ¹H NMR spectra (500) of the adduct 9 is ascertained by examination of the 'H NMR spectra (500 MHz) of (R)- and (S)-MTPA esters derived from the primary alcohol (9: -OBn = -OH) which is obtained from 9 by selective O-debenzylation (BBr₃,

^{-90 °}C in CH₂Cl₂, 10 min). (13) DeShong, P.; Dicken, C. M.; Staib, R. R.; Freyer, A. J.; Weinreb, S M. J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 4397.

⁽¹⁴⁾ The generation of a pyrrolidine with all syn stereochemisry via an anti-azomethine ylide such as 8 is not unexpected in light of DeShong's results with related systems.

⁽¹⁵⁾ The carbamate bond is also cleft under these conditions.(16) This sequence of reactions is carried out without purifying each in-

termediate.

⁽¹⁹⁾ The compound shows the same spectra (IR and ¹H NMR (500 MHz)) as those of an authentic material⁴ though there is discrepancy in optical rotations.

^{(1) (}a) University of Washington. (b) National Science Foundation Small (c) (a) Chronic (c) A samiglion. (c) A stability of the formation of the stability of the stabi



 a (a) Acetone/HCl, reflux, 22 h, 98%. (b) $RuO_2/NaIO_4-H_2O/CH_3CN/CCl_4$ (3:2:2), 24 h, 80%. (c) LiAlH_4-THF, reflux, 24 h, 87%. (d) $MsCl-Et_3N/CH_2Cl_2$, -10 °C, 30 m, 76%. (e) NaI-acetone, reflux, 96 h, 95%. (f) KSeCN-acetone, reflux, 2 h, 60%. (g) NaBH_4-THF/EtOH (9:1), 40 °C, 65 h, 70%. (h) 20% aqueous HOAc, reflux, 24 h, 94%. (i) $MsCl-Et_3N/CH_2Cl$, -10 °C, 30 m, 70%. (j) Na/naphthalene-THF, -50 °C, 90%.

after purification by chromatography and sublimation.

The alkene was characterized by ¹H NMR [(CDCl₃) δ 2.07 (d, 4 H, J = 12.9 Hz), 2.57 (d of d, 4 H, J = 12.9 and 2.5 Hz), 2.80 (m, 2 H), and 2.85 (d, 4 H, J = 3.4 Hz)] and by ¹³C NMR [(CDCl₃) δ 35.54, 38.24, 49.24, and 150.74]. These spectra indicate that at room temperature the selenium bridge is flipping rapidly enough to confer on **2** effective $C_{2\nu}$ symmetry on the NMR time scale.

The chemical shift of the doubly bonded carbons in 2 does not seem exceptional, since in bicyclo[3.3.0]oct-1(5)-ene these carbons are reported to be at δ 146.0.¹⁴ However, the double bond stretch at 1625 cm⁻¹ in 2 is well below that (1685 cm⁻¹)¹⁵ in the unbridged bicyclic alkene. Moreover, whereas the double bond stretch in bicyclo[3.3.0]oct-1(5)-ene can only be observed in the Raman spectrum, that in 2 is both IR and Raman active. As is the case in 1, n = 2,⁴ pyramidalization of the doubly bonded carbons in 2 probably causes the double bond stretching mode to have a transition dipole, which is oriented perpendicular to the C-C bond.

Presumably, pyramidalization of these carbons is also responsible for the fact that attempted purification of **2** by preparative thin-layer chromatography led to the isolation of the epoxide of **2**.¹¹ Epoxide formation on exposure to O_2 appears to be a characteristic reaction of strained alkenes.¹⁶

Although 2 is a solid, all our attempts to obtain crystals met with failure. Taking advantage of the nucleophilicity of selenium,



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Figure 1. X-ray structure of the methylselenonium salt of 2.

we prepared the methylselenonium triflate salt¹¹ by reaction of **2** with methyl triflate. This salt gave crystals, mp 120–122 °C, which were suitable for an X-ray structure determination.¹⁷

The structure of the methylselonium ion is shown in Figure 1. The structural parameters¹⁸ reveal how the bicyclo[3.3.0]octene moiety accommodates itself to the three-atom bridge between C-1 and C-5. The five-membered rings pucker strongly, giving intraring bond angles of about 100° at the four allylic carbons and just over 100° at C-1 and C-5. The C–C–Se bond angles in the three-atom bridge are also distorted from the tetrahedral value, but they are opened to about 115° to help the bridge span the distance between C-1 and C-5. However, the C–Se–C bond angle of 111.4° in the bridge appears to be the most highly distorted in the molecule, since this angle is more than 12° larger than either of the two CH₃–Se–CH₂ bond angles. In addition, both CH₂–Se bond lengths are more than 0.05 Å longer than the CH₃–Se bond length.

Despite these accommodations between the bicyclo[3.3.0]octene moiety and the three-atom bridge, there is still appreciable pyramidalization at the doubly bonded carbon atoms. As shown in Figure 1, the carbon anti to the selenium atom is the more highly pyramidalized. The bisector of the bond angle between C-7 and the two allylic carbons attached to it makes an angle of 20.3° with the extension of the bond between C-3 and C-7, whereas the analogously defined pyramidalization angle at C-3 is only 12.3°. The pyramidalization angle at C-7 is comparable to that found in 9,9',10,10'-tetradehydrodianthracene¹⁹ but slightly smaller than that observed in the closely related tricyclo[$4.2.2.2.^{2.5}$]dodeca-1,5-diene.²⁰

Molecular mechanics calculations using $MM2^{21}$ predict structural features for 1, n = 3, that are qualitatively similar to those found experimentally in the salt of 2. These include a pyramidalization angle at the doubly bonded carbon, anti to the three-atom bridge, which is larger than that at the syn carbon. However, the fact that C-C bond lengths of 1.55 Å, which are predicted for the three-atom bridge in 1, n = 3, are considerably

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⁽¹⁷⁾ The crystals belonged to the space group *Pbca* with a = 7.754 (1), b = 16.459 (2), and c = 22.933 (3) Å. The final *R* factor was 0.066 for the 1370 observed reflections.

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shorter than the C-Se bond lengths of 1.97 Å found in the salt of 2, causes the distortions in 1, n = 3, to be quantitatively larger. For example the pyramidalization angles at the double-bonded carbons are predicted to be 30° and 33° in 1, $n = 3.2^{22}$ Therefore, the finding that 2 is an isolable molecule, stable at room temperature, makes the hydrocarbon (1, n = 3) an especially attractive target for synthesis and study.

Acknowledgment. We thank the National Science Foundation for support of this work.

Supplementary Material Available: Crystallographic data for the methylselenonium triflate salt of 2—crystal data and summary of data collection and refinement, fractional coordinates and thermal parameters, anisotropic thermal parameters, interatomic distances, and interatomic angles (5 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

(22) There is some evidence that MM2 may tend to overestimate the amount of pyramidalization in 1, n = 3.4

Preparation and Characterization of Molecule-Based Transistors with a 50-nm Source-Drain Separation with use of Shadow Deposition Techniques: Toward Faster, More Sensitive Molecule-Based Devices

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We report preparation and characterization of the moleculebased transistor in Figure 1a having a significantly smaller (~ 50 nm vs. 1.5 μ m) source-drain separation and smaller (10^{-14} vs. 10^{-12} mol) amount of redox polymer comprising the channel compared to previously reported¹ devices like that in Figure 1b. The new microstructure with 50-nm source-drain spacing can be prepared by shadow deposition techniques² avoiding the need for X-ray³ or e⁻ beam⁴ lithography. The 50-nm spacing for the open-faced sandwich structure rivals the smallest spacing achievable with conventional sandwich arrangements of electrode/polymer/ electrode used to demonstrate the first "bilayer" assemblies.⁵

Figure 2 shows the sequence used to prepare the new microstructure in Figure 1a. The procedure begins with a Si_3N_4 -coated

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Figure 1. (a) Device structure reported here and (b) previously.^{1d}



Figure 2. Fabrication sequence for a 50-nm device.

Si wafer of microelectrode arrays previously described.^{1a} Each chip on the wafer consists of eight, individually addressable Au microelectrodes each $\sim 50 \ \mu m \log \times 2.5 \ \mu m$ wide $\times 0.1 \ \mu m$ thick with spacings between microelectrodes of $\sim 1.5 \ \mu m$. The first step involves a line of sight e⁻ beam deposition of 50 nm of Au onto the wafer at an angle \propto as illustrated in Figure 3. Generally, prior to Au deposition 5 nm of Cr is deposited as an adhesion layer. The line of sight deposition of Au results in a larger ($\sim 4 \ \mu m$ wide) microelectrode than the original (2.5 $\ \mu m$ wide), but the spacing can be closed to 50–100 nm as established by scanning electron microscopy (SEM), Figure 4. Variation of \propto gives rise to variation in the spacing in a manner consistent with the length of the expected shadow. From SEM it is evident that imperfections on the edges of the original microelectrodes give rise to uneven

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