

Figure 2. Proposed mechanism for water droplet formation from a polyaphron. Undulation is induced by the presence of n-hexanol (represented by the open circles attached to short tails).

polyaphron. The resulting reorganization of the system was then photographed with a Polaroid camera and ISO 3000 film.

Upon exposure to hexanol, the dodecane compartments fuse at the edge of the polyaphron, and the dodecane flows outside the original boundaries of the polyaphron sample (Figure 1B). The fluorescent water, initially present as an encapsulating film, is seen to form droplets that diffuse outwardly into the dodecane. These water droplets are rapidly reduced to submicroscopic size as the water-in-oil microemulsion forms spontaneously.7 Only a fluorescent cast from the fully formed microemulsion gives any evidence for the 50-500-Å dye-bearing microdroplets residing in the continuous oil phase.

Figure 2 depicts the key step in which an aqueous film disintegrates into water droplets. Interfacial stability^{8,9} depends on the oil-water interfacial tension, $\Upsilon_{o/w}$, and on the two-dimensional pressure, π . When hexanol gravitates to the oil-water interface, it lowers the $\Upsilon_{o/w}$ and, in addition, increases π by molecular crowding. The summation of the two effects creates a transiently unstable condition of $\pi > \Upsilon_{o/w}$. Curvature, in the form of a corrugated interface (Figure 2), resolves the instability by reducing π . According to Vrij-Overbeek theory,¹⁰ corrugations can grow spontaneously in amplitude if their wavelength exceeds a critical value. Since this critical value is diminished by addition of cosurfactants,¹⁰ hexanol induces large-amplitude vibrations. Apparently, adjacent oil compartments of the polyaphron must touch and fuse, thereby enclosing the water droplets that we have observed microscopically.11

Ultimately, the water droplets disappear into the dodecane to form water-in-oil microemulsions. Note that a droplet does not divide into two, then into four, and so on. Instead, a droplet continuously decreases in radius as water molecules (or submicroscopic water particles) are expelled into the dodecane.

The experiments just described were carried out with four mundane compounds: water, dodecane, surfactant, and hexanol. It is organization and cooperativity, not molecular structure, that make the subject interesting.

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(11) Equations describing polyaphron film behavior have been developed by one of the authors (E.v.d.L) and will be published in due course. Bending moduli, surface tension, spontaneous interfacial curvature, and thickness of the oil/water layers are all taken into account.

Thioketene Formation from α -Haloalkenyl 2-Nitrophenyl Disulfides: Models for Biological Reactive Intermediates of Cytotoxic S-Conjugates¹

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Elucidation of the relationship between enzymatic reactive intermediate formation and xenobiotic-induced cell damage and death remains an important goal. Elaboration of the bioactivation mechanism of chloroalkene-derived cysteine S-conjugates 1 revealed that α -chlorovinyl thiols are putative, proximate metabolites whose formation is associated with the geno-, cyto-, and nephrotoxicity of the parent haloalkenes.² Although the chemistry of α -chlorovinyl thiols or thiolates 2 has apparently not been explored, such compounds may lose HCl to give thicketenes 3 or may tautomerize to thioacyl chlorides 4 (Scheme I). Cysteine S-conjugate derived thioacylating agents can be trapped with nucleophiles to give substituted thioacetamides,³ but these results do not establish whether thioacylating metabolites arise from thioketenes or thioacyl halides.

To investigate the chemistry of α -chlorovinyl thiols or thiolates, stable, synthetically accessible α -chlorovinyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfide precursors were prepared (Scheme II). Reaction of tert-butyl 1,2-dichloro-3,3,3-trifluoro-1-propenyl sulfide (5a) with 2-nitrobenzenesulfenyl chloride⁴ gave 1,2-dichloro-3,3,3-trifluoro-1propenyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfide (6a) in good yield.

Thioketenes were identified by cycloaddition reactions with dienes.⁵ Disulfide 6a was reacted for 30 min at room temperature with 1 equiv of 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) in dry tetrahydrofuran containing 5 equiv of cyclopentadiene. Capillary GC-MS indicated that (E)- and (Z)-3-(2,2,2-trifluoro-1chloroethylidene)-2-thiabicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene (7a) were formed.⁶ Reaction of 1,2,2-trichlorovinyl and 1,2,3,4,4-pentachlorobuta-1,3-dienyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfides (6b and 6c), which were prepared from *tert*-butyl sulfides 5b^{7a} and 5c,^{7b} respectively,

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Scheme I



Scheme II





in the presence of cyclopentadiene gave thianorbornenes 7b and 7c.

Thianorbornenes formed by reaction of thioacyl chloride tautomer 4a with cyclopentadiene were not detected. Tautomerization of thiolate 2a to 2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluorothiopropionyl chloride (4a) is not expected in the aprotic medium used. When 6a was reacted with DABCO in the presence of a proton source (1 equiv of phenol or 2,6-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-methylphenol) and cyclopentadiene, no evidence for tautomerization to the thioacyl chloride 4a was obtained, as indicated by GC-MS analysis.

Some cyclopentadiene adducts of thioacyl chlorides eliminate HCl.⁸ Reaction of 2-chloro-1,1,2-trifluoroethyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfide (9), prepared analogously to disulfide 6a from tert-butyl 2-chloro-1,1,2-trifluoroethyl sulfide,7b with DABCO in THF in



the formation of (\pm) -endo- and (\pm) -exo-3-fluoro-3-(chlorofluoromethyl)-2-thiabicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene (10) (Scheme III). Elimination of HF to give 3-(chlorofluoromethylene)-2-thiabicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene (11) was not detected by GC-MS analysis. Thioketenes dimerize to give 1,3-dithietanes.^{5d,9} This reaction

was exploited to provide independent confirmation of thiokentene formation from α -chlorovinyl thiolates. When disulfide **6a** was reacted with DABCO in the absence of cyclopentadiene, GC-MS analysis indicated the formation of syn- and anti-2,4-bis(2,2,2trifluoro-1-chloroethylidene)-1,3-dithietane (8a).¹⁰ Formation

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⁽⁹⁾ Raasch, M. S. J. Org. Chem. 1970, 35, 3470–3483. (10) Dithietane 8a was formed in 22% yield: MS (EI), m/z (relative intensity) 320 (100, M⁺, ³⁵Cl), 301 (15), 285 (38, ³⁵Cl), 160 (47), 69 (31). After purification by TLC (hexanes): exact mass calcd for C₆Cl₂F₆S₂ 319.8720, found 319.8720.

of 1,3-dithietanes 8b and 8c from 1,2,2-trichlorovinyl and 1,2,3,4,4-pentachlorobuta-1,3-dienyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfides (6b and 6c) was also observed.

N-Dodecylpyridoxal in cetyltrimethylammonium micelles, an enzyme model that mimics β -lyase activity.^{3a,11} was used to investigate potential biological thicketene formation from cysteine S-conjugates. With this system, S-conjugate 1a gave thianorbornene 7a, as demonstrated by GC-MS analysis. In the absence of cyclopentadiene, dithietane 8a was formed in low yield, by could be detected by GC-MS with selected ion monitoring.

This is the first report of thicketene formation from α -chloroalkenyl thiolates. Because thioketene formation from cysteine S-conjugates was also detected with a biologically relevant enzyme model, these results indicate that thicketenes are potential biological reactive intermediates. α -Chloroalkenyl 2-nitrophenyl disulfides should find utility in exploring the reactions of thioketenes with cellular macromolecules, which may contribute to the observed toxicity of cysteine S-conjugates.

Supplementary Material Available: Physical, spectral, and analytical data for compounds 5a, 6a-c, 7b,c, 8b,c, 9, and 10 (3 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Transition Metal Template Controlled Cycloaddition Reactions. An Efficient Chromium(0)-Mediated $[6\pi +$ 2π Cycloaddition

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The photochemically "allowed" interaction of a 6π addend with a 2π partner to produce the important bicyclo[4.2.1]nonane carbon skeleton has received relatively little attention to date due, in large measure, to expected low periselectivity levels during the cycloaddition event. In most instances, multiple, competitive pathways afford complex product mixtures in which the [6 + 2] species is only a minor component.¹ Recent variations on this theme have met with greater success. Feldman and co-workers have demonstrated that an intramolecular version of this photocycloaddition can be achieved under acidic conditions in the tropone series.²

Table I. Metal-Mediated $[6\pi + 2\pi]$ Cycloaddition Reactions



"All reactions performed by using a Pyrex filter unless otherwise indicated. ^bAll products described in the table are purified and exhibit spectral (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR) and analytical (HRMS or combustion analysis) data consistent with the assigned structures. cA 91% de was obtained based on ¹H NMR integration. ^dA 90% de was obtained based on ¹H NMR integration. ⁴Irradiated through a quartz filter.

Sporadic reports of metal-facilitated [6 + 2] reactions have also appeared; however, these have generally been of limited scope.³

We have previously reported that transition-metal centers can serve as powerful templates capable of transforming normally inefficient higher order cycloaddition reactions into high-yielding, synthetically useful processes (eq 1).⁴ We now disclose that



chromium(0) complexes of cycloheptatriene undergo an unprecedented photoinduced $[6\pi + 2\pi]$ cycloaddition with electron deficient alkene partners. These results serve to further illustrate the potentially general nature of transition metal template control in cycloaddition chemistry.

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