

*cis*-1-methyl-2-phenyl-4-piperidinol (**5**). The degradation amino alcohol was identical according to infrared spectra and mixture melting point with an authentic sample of **5**.<sup>2,10,11</sup>

The bridged bicyclic isoxazolidine (**3**) is the first reported example of the 1-aza-7-oxabicyclo[2.2.1]-heptane ring system.<sup>13</sup> Intramolecular additions of nitrones to unconjugated olefins in alkyl or cycloalkyl groups attached to the nitron carbon atom led to bridged<sup>14</sup> and fused<sup>15</sup> bicyclic isoxazolidines. Intramolecular addition of a nitron to an alkenyl group attached to the nitron nitrogen atom as in the present study uniquely places both hetero atoms at the one-atom bridge and bridgehead positions.

Inspection of Dreiding models of nitron **1a** indicates that significant  $\sigma$  overlap between O and C<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>3</sub> in transition state **2** cannot develop simultaneously unless the latter assumes product-like geometry. A

(10) Prepared by LiAlH<sub>4</sub>-AlCl<sub>3</sub> reduction<sup>12</sup> of the previously reported, but incompletely characterized,<sup>2</sup> 1-methyl-2-phenyl-4-piperidone: K. Hohenlohe-Oehringen, *Monatsh.*, **94**, 1222 (1963).

(11) Mp 87-88° (sublimed);  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$  3346, 2930, 2780, 1450, 1370, 1150, 1055, 1017, 979 cm<sup>-1</sup>; nmr<sup>CDCl\_3</sup> (100 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, TMS) 7.28 (5 H, finely split singlet), 3.84 (1 H, 7 of 9 lines,  $J = 11, 4.5$  Hz), 3.09 (3 H, 11 lines), 2.67 (1 H, s), 2.11 (3 H, s), 2.06 (4 H, complex).

(12) This reduction gives equatorial cyclohexanols with >99% stereoselectivity: E. L. Eliel and M. N. Rerick, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **82**, 1367 (1960).

(13) A 5,6-benzo analog of **3** is reportedly formed by a 2 + 4 cycloaddition of N-phenylmaleimide to 3,4-benzisoxazole: C. D. Nenitzescu, E. Cioranescu, and L. Birladeanu, *Comm. Acad. Rep. Populare Romine*, **8**, 775 (1958); *Chem. Abstr.*, **53**, 18003 (1959).

(14) N. A. LeBel, G. M. J. Siusarczuk, and L. A. Spurlock, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **84**, 4360 (1962).

(15) N. A. LeBel, M. E. Post, and J. J. Whang, *ibid.*, **86**, 3759 (1964).

concerted pathway<sup>16</sup> for the formation of **3** is proposed although arguments in favor of a stepwise, diradical mechanism for 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions have recently been made.<sup>17</sup> Geometric restrictions on the transition state **2** make this reaction an ideal case for study of kinetic solvent effects as a probe for transition-state geometry and other points of argument. The high orientational selectivity of this reaction argues strongly against the intervention of one of the four possible and closely similar diradicals (Firestone mechanism).<sup>18</sup> Preferential formation of **3** rather than **4** by a concerted pathway may be due to steric destabilization of the transition state for formation of the latter. Nitron **1b** gives no isoxazolidine under conditions which cyclize **1a** in high yield, indicating again that steric effects play an important role in this mode of cyclization. Experiments are in progress to determine the scope and mechanistic significance of this type of intramolecular cycloaddition reaction as well as the chemical and physical properties of the new heterobicyclic ring systems produced.<sup>19</sup>

(16) R. Huisgen, *J. Org. Chem.*, **33**, 2291 (1968).

(17) R. A. Firestone, *ibid.*, **33**, 2285 (1968).

(18) Suggested by a referee.

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## Book Reviews

**Acetylenic Compounds. Preparation and Substitution Reactions.** By THOMAS F. RUTLEDGE, Atlas Chemical Industries, Inc., Wilmington, Del. Reinhold Book Corp., 430 Park Ave., New York, N. Y. 1968. xvii + 342 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. \$20.00.

This book is the first of two on the chemistry of acetylenic compounds. In it the preparation, substitution reactions, and some uses of these compounds are discussed. The second book, by the same author, promised for early publication, will cover the preparation of allenic compounds as well as addition reactions involving acetylenic and allenic bonds.

The author admits at the outset the impossibility of comprehensive coverage in two medium-length books of recent progress in the chemistry of acetylenic and allenic compounds. Instead he sets as his objective "to include enough details of the most important reactions of all kinds of acetylenic compounds to furnish interested chemists with a good background and with leads into the pertinent literature." He accomplishes this objective very well. The "informative writing" style adopted is clear and surprisingly readable. Critical evaluation of the material presented is seldom attempted, but the literature of the last 10-15 years is covered quite completely. Although it is stated that "mechanisms are emphasized," this emphasis consists mainly of reasonable mechanistic formulations of a number of the reactions discussed. Physical organic chemical investigations to establish these mechanisms are seldom presented; indeed it is often true that none has been carried out.

The organization of the book is excellent and arrangement of references convenient. A brief chapter on physical (bond lengths, molecular radii, solubility) and chemical properties (acetylenes as H-bonding acids or bases, intermolecular association, donor capacity, structure, and acidity) is followed by an all-too-brief chapter on experimental aids. Explosive hazards are mentioned wherever appropriate throughout the book, but especially here; the section is rather incomplete and the hazards of certain compounds (*e.g.*, diacetylene) appear to be underemphasized. Treatment of purification, detection, analysis, and identification is extremely brief (*e.g.*, the one reference of glpc of acetylenes is good, but others should be cited). Useful references to ir spectra of acetylenes are given, and the section on nmr is well done. The chapter on preparation of acetylenic compounds by elimination reactions, while short, is a gold mine of references presented in a clear and usable fashion.

The first of two long chapters on reactions of acetylenic compounds discusses replacement of acetylenic hydrogen by other elements. Orderly division into six sections involves progression through the groups of the periodic table. The reader should be aware that coverage is incomplete. For example, under laboratory conditions it is often more convenient to prepare sodium acetylide by passage of acetylene into liquid ammonia as sodium is being dissolved in the solvent, yet this is not mentioned. Alkylation of sodium acetylide in liquid ammonia, often better than alkylation in organic diluents, is not discussed. Iodoacetylene and diiodo-

acetylene are not included, while other haloacetylenes are. The chapter is nevertheless a useful one.

The second long chapter, on ethynylation and alkynylation, is very well done. A list of earlier reviews is included and the recent literature is covered in some detail. The chapter has sections on dicarbonyl compounds in these reactions and on the Mannich reaction with acetylenes.

The final three chapters (coupling of acetylenic compounds; cyclic and macrocyclic acetylenes; acetylenic compounds as drugs) are short but present excellent reviews of these topics.

Dr. Rutledge is an industrial research chemist of long experience in the field of acetylenic compounds. His book has a flavor of the practical that is welcome; his sense of the direction that the commercial development of the field is likely to take rings true. At the same time he is familiar with the important developments throughout the field without prejudice as to their industrial potential, and he presents these developments concisely. His book should certainly be available through technical libraries not only to chemists working in the field but to all organic chemists who might want to employ this most useful class of compounds. The reactions have intriguing variety, and the book should serve as a source of new ideas. Those in the field would find it a rewarding book to own although the cost seems high.

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## BOOKS RECEIVED, March 1969

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