

Reaction of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums with *tert*-Alkyl Bromides. Remarkable Difference in the Alkylation Regiochemistry between a Polar Process and the One Involving Single-Electron Transfer

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Abstract: The reaction of phenyl-substituted allyllithiums **1a-h** with *tert*-alkyl bromides was investigated systematically. The alkylation regiochemistry was influenced in a complicated fashion by various factors including substituent effects, both steric and electronic, solvents, and the presence of strongly coordinating additives, tetramethylethylenediamine and hexamethylphosphoramide. On the basis of the cyclizable probe experiments, the observed regiochemistry was interpreted as follows. (a) The reaction proceeds by two alternative pathways, a polar one and single electron transfer (SET), the extent of each path being influenced by the variable factors and (b) a polar pathway favors coupling at the phenyl-substituted site (C-1), while in the case of SET the C-C bond formation occurs predominantly at the site far from the phenyl substituent (C-3).

Allylic organometallic species have two reaction sites, and, therefore, their reaction with alkyl halides often gives a mixture of two alkylation products. The product composition is a function of various factors¹ including substituent effects, both electronic² and steric,³ electrophiles,⁴ the nature of the cation,⁵ solvents,⁶ and the presence of strongly co-ordinating additives, e.g. tetramethylethylenediamine (TMEDA), hexamethylphosphoramide (HMPA), and crown ether.⁶ In principle, the reaction could proceed by two or more alternative pathways, different reaction pathways leading to different product compositions.^{7,8}

In the light of these results, we systematically investigated the reactions of phenyl-substituted allyllithiums **1a-h** with *tert*-alkyl bromides and discovered that two reaction pathways, a polar one and a single-electron transfer (SET), participate in these reactions, the extent of each path being a marked function of variable factors. Moreover, a polar pathway favored attack at the phenyl-substituted site (C-1), whereas coupling at the alternative site (C-3) occurred predominantly in the case of SET.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis and Electronic Spectra of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums. Phenyl-substituted allyllithiums **1a-h** were prepared by treating the corresponding hydrocarbon precursors with BuLi in ether or tetrahydrofuran (THF) in the presence or absence of additives, TMEDA and HMPA. Workup with D₂O gave the corresponding monodeuteriated products, **4-d**₁ and **5-d**₁ (around 70% yield) (eq 1-3).

(1) (a) Guthrie, R. D. *Comprehensive Carbanion Chemistry*; Buncl, E., Durst, T., Eds.; Elsevier: Amsterdam, 1980; Part A, Chapter 5. (b) Magid, R. M. *Tetrahedron* **1980**, *36*, 1901. (c) Bates, R. B.; Ogle, C. A. *Carbanion Chemistry*; Springer-Verlag: Berlin, 1983. (d) Biellmann, J. F.; Ducep, J. *Organic Reactions*; Wiley: 1982; Vol. 27, p 1.

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(3) Evans, D. A.; Andrews, G. C. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1974**, *7*, 147.

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(5) (a) Schlosser, M. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1974**, *13*, 701. (b) Beak, P.; Hunter, J. E.; Jun, Y. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1983**, *103*, 6350. (d) Hoppe, D.; Krämer, T. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1986**, *25*, 160.

(6) (a) Atlani, P. M.; Biellmann, J. F.; Dube, S.; Vicens, J. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1974**, 2665. (b) Binns, M. R.; Haynes, R. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1981**, *46*, 3790. (c) Hua, D. H.; Sinai-Zingde, G.; Venkataraman, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 4088.

(7) Kornblum, N. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1975**, *14*, 734.

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Table I. Electronic Spectra of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums^a

Li compd	solvent	additive ^b	absorptn λ_{\max} , nm
1a	Et ₂ O		387
1a	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	390
1a	Et ₂ O	HMPA	423
1a	THF		400 (395 ^c)
1a	THF	TMEDA	395
1a	THF	HMPA	432 (430 ^c)
1d	Et ₂ O		395
1d	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	395
1d	Et ₂ O	HMPA	436
1d	THF		418
1d	THF	TMEDA	418
1e	Et ₂ O		331
1e	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	338
1e	Et ₂ O	HMPA	428
1e	THF		398
1e	THF	TMEDA	394
1f	Et ₂ O		423
1f	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	422
1f	Et ₂ O	HMPA	488
1f	THF		486
1f	THF	TMEDA	484
1f	THF	HMPA	490
1g	THF/hexane ^f		563, 510 (510 ^d)
1g	THF		570 (560 ^{d,e})
1h	pentane		338
1h	Et ₂ O		362
1h	THF		388

^aThe lithium compound **1** was prepared by treating **4** with 0.8 equiv of BuLi at 20 °C unless otherwise noted. The electronic spectra were measured at 20 °C. ^bTMEDA: the reaction in the presence of 1.2 equiv of TMEDA. HMPA: the reaction in the presence of 10 equiv of HMPA at -45 °C. ^cReference 10a. ^dFox, M. A.; Voynick, T. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1980**, *21*, 3943. ^eBurley, J. W.; Young, R. N. *J. Chem. Soc. C* **1971**, 3780. ^f1:1 v/v.

To obtain information for the ion pair states of these lithium compounds,⁹ the electronic spectra were measured under various conditions. As the data in Table I demonstrate, intermediates **1a-e** exist in ether as contact ion pairs as evidenced by $\lambda_{\max} < 395$ nm while solvent-separated ion pairs are important in the presence of HMPA as evidenced by $\lambda_{\max} > 423$ nm. Absorption falling in between these limits, as frequently observed in THF, may be attributed to either loosened ion pairs or mixtures of contact and solvent-separated ion pairs. This conclusion is consistent with that from the ¹H and ¹³H NMR spectroscopies.¹⁰

(9) Buncl, E.; Menon, B. *Comprehensive Carbanion Chemistry*; Buncl, E., Durst, T., Eds.; Elsevier: Amsterdam, 1980; Part A, Chapter 3.

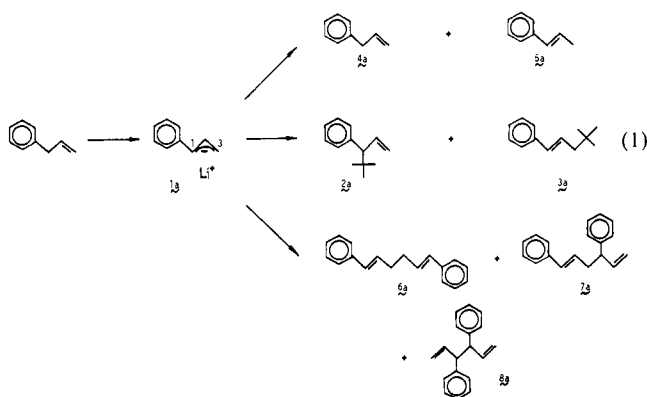
Table II. Reaction of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums with *tert*-Butyl Bromide^a

Li compd	solvent	additive	products					
			alkylation		reduction		dimerization	
			% yield	2:3	% yield	4:5	% yield	6:7:8
1a	Et ₂ O		55	28:72	9	81:19	11	25:57:18
1a	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	47	39:61	12	69:31	8	33:50:17
1a	Et ₂ O	HMPA	52	73:27	8	44:56		
1a	THF	TMEDA	48	82:18	8	52:48		
1a	THF	HMPA	50	77:23	5	42:58		
1b	Et ₂ O	TMEDA ^c	46	26:74			15	18:63:19
1b	Et ₂ O	HMPA	51	79:21				
1c	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	48	82:18	4	49:51		
1c	Et ₂ O	HMPA	43	82:18	10	51:49		
1d	Et ₂ O	TMEDA ^c	47	40:60	23	61:39	21	55:41:4
1d	Et ₂ O	HMPA	43	100:0	47	49:51		
1e	Et ₂ O	TMEDA ^c	36	46:54	15	89:11	17	9:69:22
1e	Et ₂ O	HMPA	54	81:19				
1e	THF	TMEDA ^c	59	79:21				
1f	Et ₂ O		32	40:60	53	50:50	10	78:22:0
1f	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	10	50:50	50	45:55	10	81:19:0
1f	Et ₂ O	HMPA	20	50:50	50	40:60	6	80:20:0
1f	THF	TMEDA	16	50:50	48	45:55	8	80:20:0
1f	THF	HMPA	21	47:53	63	40:60	14	100:0:0
1g	THF	TMEDA	96					
1g	THF	HMPA	74					
1h ^d	pentane		32	67:33	61	0:100		
1h ^d	Et ₂ O		22	73:27	26	0:100		
1h ^d	THF		19	82:18	75	0:100		

^aThe reaction with 5 equiv of *tert*-butyl bromide at 20 °C for 1 h unless otherwise noted. ^bTMEDA: The lithium compound was prepared by treating the hydrocarbon precursor **4** with 1.2 equiv of BuLi in the presence of 1.2 equiv of TMEDA unless otherwise noted. HMPA: The lithium compound was prepared by treating the hydrocarbon precursor **4** with 1.2 equiv of BuLi in the presence of 10 equiv of HMPA at -45 °C. ^cThe lithium compound was prepared by treating the hydrocarbon precursor with 2 equiv of BuLi in the presence of 2 equiv of TMEDA. ^dThe reaction with *tert*-butyl bromide was undertaken at 20 °C for 2.5 h.

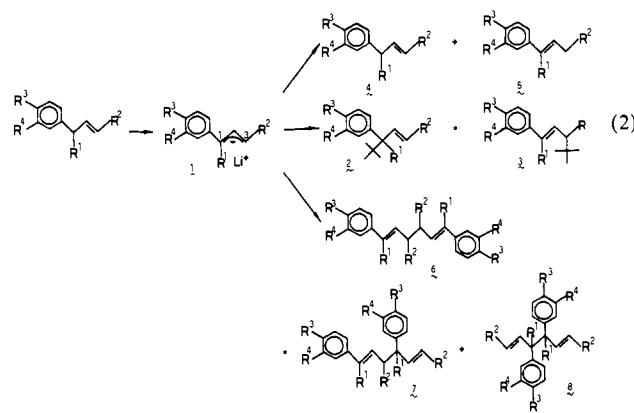
1,1-Diphenylallyllithium (**1f**) forms a contact ion pair in ether in the presence or absence of TMEDA but a solvent-separated ion pair upon addition of HMPA. The well-delocalized 1,3-diphenylallyllithium (**1g**) is known to exist as a solvent-separated ion pair in THF.^{10a} The data in Table I would demonstrate that even in THF/hexane **1g** exists as an equilibrium mixture of contact and solvent-separated ion pairs.

Reaction with *tert*-Alkyl Bromides. The reaction of 1-phenylallyllithium (**1a**) with *tert*-butyl bromide in ether in the presence of HMPA gave a mixture of two alkylation products, **2a** and **3a** (about 50%), the **2a/3a** ratio being 7:3 (eq 1 and Table II). When the reaction of **1a** was undertaken in ether in the



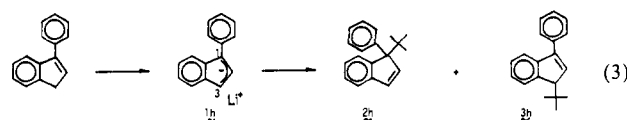
presence or absence of TMEDA, however, dimers **6a–8a** were obtained in around 10% yield together with alkylation products, **2a** and **3a** (about 50%). Moreover, the C-3 attack product **3a** was the major isomer; the **2a/3a** ratio being around 3:7. For the reaction of *p*-anisylallyllithium (**1b**), 1-phenyl-1-methylallyllithium

(**1d**), and 1-phenyl-3-methylallyllithium (**1e**) also, the same dependence of the product composition on the polarity of the solvent system was observed (eq 2 and Table II).



compound	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴
b	H	H	OMe	H
c	H	H	H	Cl
d	Me	H	H	H
e	H	Me	H	H
f	Ph	H	H	H
g	H	Ph	H	H

In the case of the relatively more stable carbanion **1c,h**, however, the C-1 attack product **2c,h** was the major isomer irrespective of the identity of the solvent systems (the **2/3** ratio is ca. 4:1). Another characteristic was the absence of the corresponding dimers **6–8** (eq 2 and 3 and Table II).



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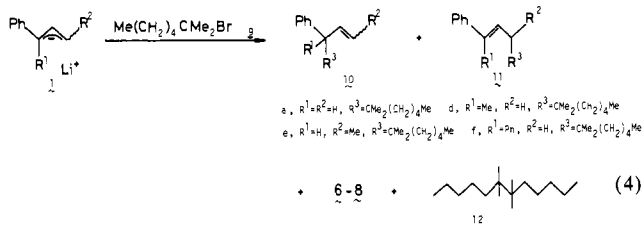
Table III. Reaction of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums with 2-Bromo-2-methylheptane in Et₂O^a

Li compd	additive ^b	products			
		alkyltn		dimeriztn ^d	others
		% yield	10:11	% yield	(% yield)
1a	TMEDA	43	31:69	15	12 (7)
1a	HMPA	35	90:10		
1d	TMEDA ^c	40	51:49	16	12 (25)
1d	HMPA	58	90:10		
1e	TMEDA ^c	44	56:44	11	12 (19)
1e	HMPA	60	90:10		
1f	TMEDA	12	50:50	15	4 + 5 (68) 12 (14)
1f	HMPA	17	50:50	10	4 + 5 (71) 12 (8)

^aThe reaction with 2.5 equiv of 2-bromo-2-methylheptane (9) at 20 °C for 1 h. ^{b,c}See the footnotes in Table II. ^dThe composition was not determined.

A remarkably different trend was observed in the reaction of 1,1-diphenylallyllithium (1f) (eq 2 and Table II). Under all the conditions an equimolar mixture of two alkylation products, 2f and 3f, was obtained in a low yield of around 10%, together with dimers, 6f and 7f.

The reaction of lithium compounds 1a,d-f with relatively bulkier 2-bromo-2-methylheptane (9) was also undertaken in ether in the presence of TMEDA or HMPA (eq 4 and Table III). In the



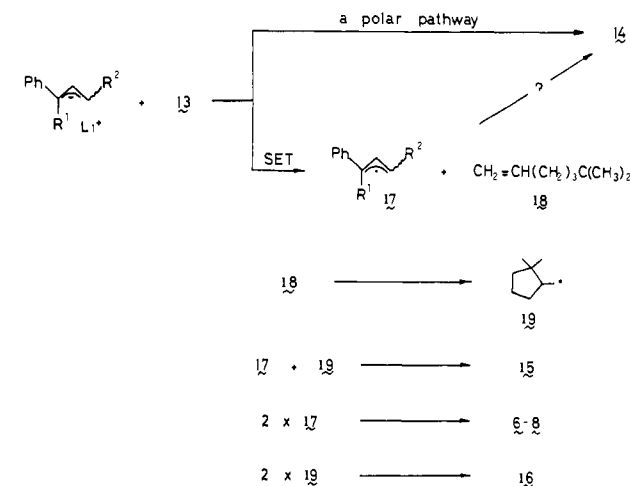
case of 1a,d,e the composition of alkylation products, 10 and 11, was a marked function of the identity of the additive. The reaction in the presence of HMPA favored the formation of the C-1 attack product 10, whereas a roughly 1:1 mixture of 10 and 11 was obtained in the reaction in the presence of TMEDA. Under the latter conditions, dimers 6-8 and 6,6,7,7-tetramethyldodecane (12) were also produced in considerable amounts. These trends were exactly the same as those observed in the reaction with *tert*-butyl bromide.

In the case of 1,1-diphenylallyllithium (1f), however, the nature of the additive did not exert a meaningful influence on the product composition. From the reaction in both ether/TMEDA and ether/HMPA, an equimolar mixture of 10f and 11f was obtained in a poor yield of around 15%. The byproducts were dimers 6f and 7f and 6,6,7,7-tetramethyldodecane (12).

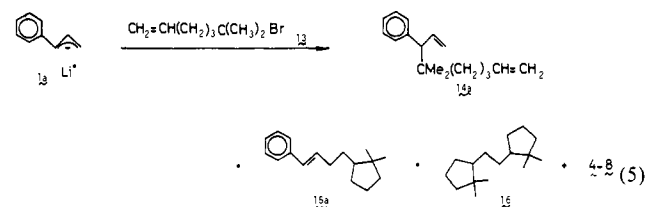
Reaction with 6-Bromo-6-methyl-1-heptene, a Tertiary Cyclizable Probe. Thus, a systematic survey on the reaction of lithium compounds 1a-h with *tert*-alkyl bromides revealed that the composition of alkylation products is a marked function of various factors including the structure of the carbanions, solvents, and additives. In addition, it is noted that there exists an apparent correlation between dimer formation and alkylation regiochemistry: The formation of dimers 6-8 is observed characteristically in the reaction in which the production of the C-3 attack product 3 predominates. From the reaction, in which the formation of dimers 6-8 is not observed, however, the C-1 attack product 2 is obtained predominantly.

Since dimers 6-8 are most likely to be produced by dimerization of phenyl-substituted allyl radicals, we next undertook the reaction of the lithium compounds 1a-h with 6-bromo-6-methyl-1-heptene (13), a tertiary cyclizable probe (Table IV).¹¹ When the reaction

(11) (a) Griller, D.; Ingold, K. U. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1980**, *13*, 317. (b) Ashby, E. C.; DePriest, R. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1982**, *104*, 6144. (c) Ashby, E. C.; DePriest, R. N.; Goel, A. B.; Wenderoth, B.; Pham, T. N. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 3545.

Scheme 1

of 1a with 13 was performed in ether in the presence or absence of TMEDA, a mixture of two alkylation products, 14a (a straight chain product formed by coupling at the more hindered C-1) and 15a (a cyclized product formed by coupling at C-3), was obtained in around 50% yield, 14a/15a ratio being 17:83. Dimers 6a-8a and 1,2-bis(2,2-dimethylcyclopentyl)ethane (16) were also produced in yields of 10% and 8%, respectively. The reaction of 1a in ether in the presence of HMPA, however, gave mainly a straight chain product 14a, as did the reaction in THF in the presence of TMEDA or HMPA (eq 5). Another characteristic of this reaction was the absence of 6a-8a and 16. In the case of lithium compounds 1d,e also the same trends for the effects of solvent systems on the product compositions were observed.



It is surprising that of the two possible cyclized products, only one isomer 15 is isolated. This would imply that (a) a SET process is certainly involved in the reaction of lithium compounds 1a,d,e with *tert*-alkyl bromides and (b) 2,2-dimethylcyclopentylmethyl radical (19), formed from bromide 13 by SET followed by cyclization, couples with phenyl-substituted allyl radical 17 at the less hindered C-3 exclusively (Scheme I).^{12,13}

Then, a question may arise whether the straight chain product 14 is also formed by a process involving SET or alternatively by a polar process. To differentiate these mechanistic alternatives, the reaction of lithium compound 1a with a cyclizable probe 13 was undertaken in the presence of 1,4-cyclohexadiene (CHD), a radical scavenger¹⁴ (Table IV). In the reaction in ether/TMEDA the additive CHD exerted a remarkable influence on the product composition; the yield of a cyclized product 15a decreased significantly (46% → 10%), whereas no meaningful influence was observed in the case of a straight chain product 14a (12% → 10%). In addition, the formation of 1,2-bis(2,2-dimethylcyclopentyl)ethane (16) was completely suppressed, sug-

(12) For the formation of the cross-coupling product 15, the S_{RN}1 pathway involving coupling between 2,2-dimethylcyclopentylmethyl radical (19) and phenyl-substituted allyllithium 1 would operate instead of the radical-radical coupling between 17 and 19. To differentiate between these mechanistic alternatives, the reaction of 1 with *tert*-alkyl bromide was undertaken in the presence of nitrobenzene, a good quencher of radical anion.⁷ However, only dimers 6-8 were obtained quantitatively, suggesting that electron transfer between 1 and nitrobenzene is extremely fast. Light was found to exert no meaningful influence on the reaction of 1 with *tert*-alkyl bromide.

(13) (a) Bunnett, J. F. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1978**, *11*, 413. (b) Savant, J. M. *Ibid.* **1980**, *13*, 323.

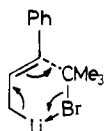
(14) (a) Ashby, E. C.; DePriest, R. N.; Su, W. *Organometallics* **1984**, *3*, 1718. (b) Ashby, E. C.; Argyropoulos, J. N. *J. Org. Chem.* **1985**, *50*, 3274.

Table IV. Reaction of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums with 6-Bromo-6-methylhept-1-ene^a

Li compd	solvent	additive ^{b,c}	products					
			alkylation		dimerization		redctn % yield ^f	16 % yield
			% yield	14:15	% yield	6:7:8		
1a	Et ₂ O		45	16:84	10	22:59:19		8
1a	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	68	18:82	10	20:60:20		7
1a	Et ₂ O	TMEDA, CHD	20	51:49	8	31:62:7	40	
1a	Et ₂ O	HMPA	35	73:27				
1a	Et ₂ O	HMPA, CHD	33	84:16			30	
1c	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	17	77:23				
1c	Et ₂ O	HMPA	30	88:12				
1d	Et ₂ O	TMEDA ^c	53	28:72	17	20:80:0		12
1d	Et ₂ O	TMEDA, CHD ^c	23	48:52	8	31:69:0	30	
1d	Et ₂ O	HMPA	46	92:8				
1d	Et ₂ O	HMPA, CHD	33	94:6			59	
1e	Et ₂ O	TMEDA ^c	43	16:84	19	7:73:20		22
1e	Et ₂ O	TMEDA, CHD ^c	12	68:32	29	6:74:20	37	
1e	Et ₂ O	HMPA	37	80:20				
1e	Et ₂ O	HMPA, CHD	29	90:10				
1e	THF	TMEDA	28	88:12				
1f	Et ₂ O	TMEDA	12	0:100	22	78:22:0	50	24
1f	Et ₂ O	TMEDA, CHD	11	85:15	12	76:24:0	72	
1f	Et ₂ O	HMPA	9	0:100	8	81:19:0	70	
1f	Et ₂ O	HMPA, CHD	10	58:42	5	80:20:0	82	
1f	THF	TMEDA	4	0:100	9	100:0:0	70	
1f	THF	HMPA	15	0:100	6	100:0:0	65	
1g	THF/pentane		12	100:0			50	
1g	THF	TMEDA	40	100:0			20	
1h	pentane ^d		20	100:0			35	
1h	Et ₂ O ^d		14	100:0			50	

^aThe reaction with 2.5 equiv of 6-bromo-6-methyl-1-heptane (**13**) at 20 °C for 1 h unless otherwise noted. ^{b,c}See the footnotes in Table II. ^dThe reaction with **13** at 20 °C for 2.5 h. ^eCHD (1,4-cyclohexadiene): the reaction in the presence of 3 equiv of CHD. ^fThe composition was not determined.

Chart I



gesting that CHD can effectively capture the radical **19**.¹⁴ In the reaction in ether/HMPA, however, CHD exerted a relatively smaller effect on both the yield (35% → 33%) and the composition (the **14a/15a** ratio; 73:27 → 84:16) of alkylation products, **14a** and **15a**. Exactly the same trends were observed for **1d,e** also (Table IV).

The observed effect of the additive CHD leads us to deduce that a cyclized product **15** is formed by a SET pathway, CHD retarding the formation of **15**. In contrast, a polar pathway predominates for the formation of a straight chain product **14**, and, consequently, the additive CHD does not exert meaningful effects on the production of **14**.¹⁵

A brief comment is made here on the "polar pathway" for the *tert*-alkylation. It would be useful to stress that it does not need to be an S_N2 displacement with inversion as is the reaction for secondary bromides.^{1,16} Rather a cyclic mechanism involving bromide abstraction by unsolvated lithium cation would be more probable (Chart I). In the extreme case, the carbocation intermediate would be formed first from *tert*-alkyl bromide,¹⁷ followed by coupling with a carbanion to give the alkylation

(15) As a referee has suggested, the reaction of allyllithium **1** with tertiary cyclizable probe **13** in the presence or absence of CHD would give only the information about the behavior of radicals **17** and **18** escaped from the cage, since the rate constant for hexenyl cyclization [10⁵/s] precludes intercepting a cage process [10¹⁰/mol·s].¹¹ Likewise a CHD trap will only scavenge radicals which have diffused outside the cage.¹⁴ Consequently, we cannot completely exclude the possibility that at least a part of a straight chain product **14** is produced by cross-coupling between allyl radical **17** and a straight chain radical **18** in the cage.

(16) The reaction of **1a** with optically active *sec*-butyl bromide in ether in the presence of TMEDA or HMPA yields predominantly the C-1 attack product with complete inversion. The details will be published elsewhere.

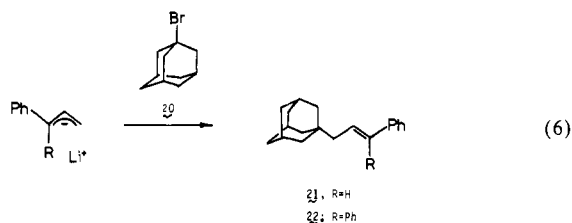
(17) Schlosser, M. *Structure and Reactivity of Polar Organometallics*; Springer: Berlin, 1973.

Table V. Reaction with 1-Bromoadamantane (**20**) in Et₂O^a

Li compd	additive	alkyltn (% yield)	% yield	6:7:8
1a	TMEDA	21 (16)	36	42:55:3
1f	TMEDA ^b	22 (8)	16	100:0:0
1f	HMPA ^b	22 (21)		

^aFor the reaction conditions, see the Experimental Section. ^bReduction products, **4f** and **5f**, were also isolated in a yield of 50%.

products.¹⁸ In connection with this, the reaction with 1-bromoadamantane (**20**), having poor susceptibility to S_N processes,¹⁹ would be suggestive (eq 6 and Table V). The reaction



of **1a** with **20** in ether/TMEDA gave 1-phenyl-3-(1-adamantyl)-1-propene (**21**) in 16% yield together with dimers **6a-8a** (36% yield), while the bromide **20** was completely inert in the reaction in ether/HMPA. In direct contrast, the reaction of 1,1-diphenylallyllithium (**1f**) in ether in the presence of HMPA yielded the corresponding alkylation product **22** (21% yield), as did the reaction in ether/TMEDA. The reaction of **1a** with a mixture of *tert*-butyl bromide and 1-bromoadamantane in ether in the presence of TMEDA or HMPA, however, gave only the *tert*-butylated products **2a** and **3a**, suggesting that the more bulky bromide **20** has a much less reactivity than *tert*-butyl bromide. Consistent with this, isopropyl bromide was found to be much more reactive than *tert*-butyl bromide in the competitive reaction with

(18) We appreciate the comments from both referees that in the "polar process" lithium cation assistance would be important.

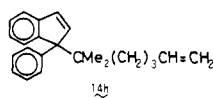
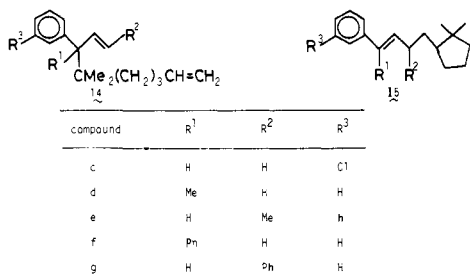
(19) Carey, F. A.; Sundberg, R. J. *Advanced Organic Chemistry*; Plenum Press: New York, 1984; Part A, Chapter 5.

Table VI. Physical Properties of Products

compd	<i>m/e</i> (<i>M</i> ⁺)	¹ H NMR (δ)	elemental analysis
2b	204	0.85 (s, 9 H), 2.89 (d, <i>J</i> = 10.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.65 (s, 3 H), 5.0 (m, 2 H), 6.1 (m, 1 H), 6.9 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀ O) C, H
(E)-3b	204	0.92 (s, 9 H), 2.00 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 2 H), 3.62 (s, 3 H), 5.95 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.22 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.9 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀ O) C, H
2c	208, 210	0.89 (s, 9 H), 2.99 (d, <i>J</i> = 10.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.0 (m, 2 H), 6.2 (m, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₃ H ₁₇ Cl) C, H
3c	208, 210	0.94 (s, 9 H), 2.05 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.2 (m, 2 H), 7.1 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₃ H ₁₇ Cl) C, H
2d	188	0.84 (s, 9 H), 1.45 (s, 3 H), 5.1 (m, 2 H), 6.67 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 10.5 and 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀) C, H
3d	188	0.96 (s, 9 H), 2.00 (s, 3 H), 2.1 (m, 2 H), 5.7 (m, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀) C, H
(E)-2e	188	0.85 (s, 9 H), 1.68 (d, <i>J</i> = 6.0 Hz, 3 H), 2.92 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.41 (d × q, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.84 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 9.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀) C, H
(E)-3e	188	0.88 (s, 9 H), 1.03 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 2.0 (m, 1 H), 6.02 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.24 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.1 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₄ H ₂₀) C, H
2f	250	1.14 (s, 9 H), 4.35 (d, <i>J</i> = 16.8 Hz, 1 H) 5.2 (m, 1 H), 6.75 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 10.8 and 16.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H)	(C ₁₉ H ₂₂) C, H
3f	250	0.90 (s, 9 H), 2.20 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 6.20 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H)	(C ₁₉ H ₂₂) C, H
2g	250	0.89 (s, 9 H), 3.08 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.5 (m, 2 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H), 0.95 (s, 9 H), 6.70 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.98 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.5 (m, 9 H)	(C ₁₉ H ₂₀) C, H
2h			(C ₁₉ H ₂₀) C, H
3h	248	1.08 (s, 9 H), 3.27 (d, <i>J</i> = 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.45 (d, <i>J</i> = 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.3 (m, 9 H)	(C ₁₉ H ₂₀) C, H
10d	244	0.81 (s, 6 H), 1.2 (m, 11 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 5.0 (m, 2 H), 6.65 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 11.4 and 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₈ H ₂₈) C, H
11d	244	0.90 (s, 6 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H) 8 1.98 (s, 3 H), 5.70 (t, <i>J</i> = 6.9 Hz, 1 H)	(C ₁₈ H ₂₈) C, H
10e	244	0.79 (s, 3 H), 0.87 (s, 3 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H), 1.65 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 3 H), 3.04 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.4 (m, 2 H), 7.1 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₈ H ₂₈) C, H
(E)-11e	244	0.82 (s, 6 H), 1.01 (d, <i>J</i> = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H), 2.14 (q, <i>J</i> = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.05 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.27 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.1 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₈ H ₂₈) C, H
10f	306	1.09 (s, 9 H), 4.35 (d, <i>J</i> = 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.20 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 9.9 and 1.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.82 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 16.5 and 9.9 Hz, 1 H), (m, 10 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₃₀) C, H
11f	306	0.87 (s, 6 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H), 2.01 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.09 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₃₀) C, H
14a	228	0.76 (s, 3 H), 0.87 (s, 3 H), 1.7 (m, 6 H), 3.03 (d, <i>J</i> = 10.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.0 (m, 2 H), 6.0 (m, 2 H), 7.1 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₇ H ₂₄) C, H
(E)-15a	228	0.73 (s, 3 H), 0.97 (s, 3 H), 1.4 (m, 7 H), 2.1 (m, 2 H), 6.09 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.36 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H)	(C ₁₇ H ₂₄) C, H
14c	262, 264	0.80 (s, 3 H), 0.87 (s, 3 H), 1.6 (m, 6 H), 3.05 (d, <i>J</i> = 10.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.0 (m, 4 H), 6.0 (m, 2 H), 7.0 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₇ H ₂₃ Cl) C, H
15c	262, 264	0.72 (s, 3 H), 0.96 (s, 3 H), 1.4 (m, 7 H), 2.0 (m, 4 H), 6.0 (m, 2 H), 7.1 (m, 4 H)	(C ₁₇ H ₂₃ Cl) C, H
14f	304	1.09 (s, 6 H), 2.1 (m, 6 H), 4.25 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 16.5 and 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.9 (m, 2 H), 5.21 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 9.6 and 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.56 (t × d × d, <i>J</i> = 6.9, 9.9, and 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.78 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 16.5 and 9.6 Hz, 1 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₂₈) C, H
15f	304	0.71 (s, 3 H), 0.95 (s, 3 H), 1.7 (m, 11 H), 6.00 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₂₈) C, H
(E)-14g	304	0.88 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (s, 3 H), 1.6 (m, 6 H), 3.22 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.9 (m, 2 H), 5.7 (m, 1 H), 6.27 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 Hz, 1 H) 8 6.57 (d × d, <i>J</i> = 15.0 and 9.0 Hz, 1 H) 7.1 (m, 10 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₂₈) C, H
14h	302	0.97 (s, 6 H), 1.6 (m, 6 H), 4.9 (m, 2 H), 5.7 (m, 1 H), 6.77 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.12 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.6 (m, 9 H)	(C ₂₃ H ₂₆) C, H

lithium compound **1a** in ether/TMEDA.

The reaction of the relatively more stable 1,3-diphenylallyllithium (**1g**) with a *tert* cyclizable probe **13** resulted in exclusive formation of a straight chain product **14g**. In the case of 1-phenylindenyl lithium (**1h**) also, a straight chain product **14h**,



formed by coupling at the more hindered C-1, was the sole cross-coupling product under all the conditions. These results would imply that stable allylic carbanions are prone to react by a polar pathway even with bulky *tert*-alkyl bromides. In this framework the predominant formation of a straight chain product **14c** from the *m*-chloro derivative **1c** even in ether/TMEDA would be understood.

Thus, the increase in stability of carbanions and the increase in donicity of the solvent systems seems to enhance the contribution of a polar pathway.²⁰ Inconsistent with this, 1,1-diphenylallyllithium (**1f**), an allyl anion stabilized by two phenyl groups, seems to proceed by a SET pathway irrespective of the intensity of the solvent systems. From the reaction with a cyclizable probe **13**, only the cyclized product **15f** was obtained in a low yield of around 10%. A possible explanation would be as follows. A polar pathway is extremely disfavored since attack by bulky *tert*-alkyl bromide at the 1-position is very slow from steric reasons. Thus, although SET is also expected to be a slow process due to the enhanced stability of **1f**, the participation of only this process can be observed in the reaction with *tert*-alkyl bromides. Alternatively, 1,1-diphenylallyl anion would have an abnormally low ionization potential, and, as a result, the SET process would be extremely favored.

In summary, the systematic survey on the reaction of phenyl-substituted allyllithiums **1a-h** with *tert*-alkyl bromides has revealed that the product regiochemistry observed in the reaction proceeding by SET would be remarkably different from that proceeding by a polar pathway. The concept itself is, however, not particularly novel. About 30 years ago Kornblum²¹ and Russell²² demonstrated that treatment of the salt of an aliphatic

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(21) Kornblum, N.; Michel, R. E.; Kerber, R. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1966**, *88*, 5660, 5662.

nitro compound with an alkyl halide may result in alkylation at carbon or oxygen, the $S_{RN}1$ process being important for carbon alkylation, and in direct contrast, the oxygen alkylation product is obtained by a polar process. Our contribution would be the finding that even for the simple allylic carbanions having two reaction sites with apparent similar reactivities different pathways would lead to notably different product regiochemistries. This leads us to deduce that as an approach to perform regioselective C–C bond formation, the control of reaction pathways would be attractive.

Experimental Section

^1H NMR spectra were obtained with a JNM-PS-100 spectrometer in CCl_4 . Mass spectral data were obtained with a Hitachi RMU-6H spectrometer and electronic spectra with a Hitachi 220A spectrometer. GLC analysis was carried out on a Hitachi 164 gas chromatograph.

The starting materials **4a**,²³ **4b**,²³ **4c**,²³ **4d**,²⁴ **4f**,²⁴ **4g**,²⁵ and **4h**²⁶ were prepared by the reported methods. 1-Phenyl-2-butene (**4e**) was purchased from Tokyo Kasei.

Preparation and Electronic Spectra of Phenyl-Substituted Allyllithiums 1a–h. 1-Phenylallyllithium (**1a**) was prepared under five conditions. (i) In ether in the absence of additive: In a 50-mL flask, equipped with a magnetic stirrer and maintained under argon, an ether solution of 3-phenylpropene (**4a**) (4.2 mmol) was syringed. To this solution was syringed a hexane solution of BuLi (8.4 mmol) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred for 2 h under reflux. (ii) In ether in the presence of TMEDA: To an ether solution of **4a** (4.2 mmol) and TMEDA (5.0 mmol) was syringed a hexane solution of BuLi (5.0 mmol) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 2 h. (iii) In ether in the presence of HMPA: To an ether solution of **4a** (4.2 mmol) and HMPA (42 mmol) was syringed a hexane solution of BuLi (5.0 mmol) at –45 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at –45 °C for 10 min. (iv) In THF in the presence of TMEDA: To a THF solution of **4a** (4.2 mmol) and TMEDA (5.0 mmol) was syringed a hexane solution of BuLi (5.0 mmol) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 1 h. (v) In THF in the presence of HMPA: To a THF solution of **4a** (4.2 mmol) and HMPA (42 mmol) was syringed a hexane solution of BuLi (5.0 mmol) at –45 °C, and then the mixture was kept with stirring at –45 °C for 10 min.

Under similar conditions other lithium compounds **1b–h** were prepared (see the footnotes in Table I–IV).

The electronic spectra were measured by diluting aliquots of a solution of the lithium compound **1** with dry ether or THF in a quartz cell maintained under nitrogen.

Reaction of 1-Phenylallyllithium (1a) with *tert*-Butyl in the Presence of TMEDA. To an ether–hexane solution of **1a** (prepared from 4.2 mmol of **4a**, 5.0 mmol of BuLi, and 5.0 mmol of TMEDA) was injected an ether solution of *tert*-butyl bromide (21 mmol), and then the mixture was kept at 20 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was then quenched with water, and the ether layer was separated and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After evaporation of the ether, the crude products were column chromatographed on silica gel. The first fraction contained a mixture of *tert*-butylation products **2a** and **3a**, the physical properties being identical with those of authentic samples prepared from the reaction of 1-phenyl-3-chloropropene with *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide.^{8b}

From the second fraction were obtained dimers **6a–8a**.^{8b} The compositions of both alkylation products and dimers were determined by ^1H NMR spectroscopy and GLC analysis. The errors in composition of alkylation products and dimers were around 2% and 5%, respectively. The errors in yields of both alkylation products and dimers were around 7%.

Reaction of 1-Phenylallyllithium (1a) with 2-Methyl-2-bromoheptane (9) in Ether/TMEDA. To an ether–hexane solution of **1a** (prepared from 4.2 mmol of **4a**, 5.0 mmol of BuLi, and 5.0 mmol of TMEDA) was injected an ether solution of **9** (10 mmol) in 1 portion, and then the reaction was continued with stirring at 20 °C for 1 h. After conventional workup, the crude products were column chromatographed on silica gel. The first fraction contained 6,6,7,7-tetramethyldodecane (**12**): an oil; m/e 226 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.75 (s, 12 H), 0.81 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 6 H), 1.2 (m, 16 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{34}$: C, 84.96, H, 15.04. Found: C, 84.60; H, 15.14. From the second fraction a mixture of two alkylation

products, **11a** and **10a**, was isolated. (**E**)-**11a**: an oil; m/e 230 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.90 (s, 6 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H), 2.06 (d, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 2 H), 6.01 (dxt, $J = 15.0$ and 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.12 (d, $J = 15.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 88.70; H, 11.30. Found: C, 88.35; H, 11.30. **10a**: an oil; m/e 230 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.78 (s, 3 H), 0.85 (s, 3 H), 1.1 (m, 11 H), 3.03 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1 H), 4.9 (m, 2 H), 6.2 (m, 1 H), 7.1 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 88.70; H, 11.30. Found: C, 88.91; H, 11.22. The third fraction contained dimers **6a–8a**.

Reaction of 1-Phenyl-1-methylallyllithium (1d) with 6-Bromo-6-methyl-1-heptene (13) in Ether/HMPA. To an ether–hexane solution of **1d** (prepared from 4 mmol of **4d**, 8 mmol of BuLi, and 8 mmol of TMEDA) was injected an ether solution of **13** (10 mmol) in 1 portion, and then the reaction was continued with stirring at 20 °C for 1 h. After conventional workup, the products were isolated by column chromatography on silica gel. The first fraction contained bromide **13**. From the second fraction was isolated 1,2-bis(2,2-dimethylcyclopentyl)ethane (**16**): an oil; m/e 222 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.71 (s, 6 H), 0.95 (s, 6 H), 1.4 (m, 18 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{30}$: C, 86.49; H, 13.51. Found: C, 86.50; H, 13.50. The third fraction contained 2-phenyl-5-(2,2-dimethylcyclopentyl)-2-pentene (**15d**): an oil; m/e 242 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.74 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (s, 3 H), 1.7 (m, 11 H), 2.00 (s, 3 H), 5.72 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 89.26; H, 10.74. Found: C, 89.30; H, 10.70. From the fourth fraction was isolated 3,4,4-trimethyl-3-phenyl-1,8-nonadiene (**14d**): an oil; m/e 242 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.82 (s, 6 H), 1.7 (m, 6 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 5.3 (m, 5 H), 6.66 (d \times d, $J = 15.0$ and 11.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 89.26; H, 10.74. Found: C, 89.50; H, 10.80. The final fraction contained dimers **6d–8d**. **6d**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 2.03 (s, 6 H), 2.4 (m, 4 H), 5.8 (m, 2 H), 7.4 (m, 10 H). **7d**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 1.42 (s, 3 H), 2.10 (s, 3 H), 2.63 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2 H), 5.1 (m, 2 H), 5.53 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1 H), 6.06 (d \times d, $J = 15.0$ and 9.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}$: C, 91.60; H, 8.40. Found: C, 91.90; H, 8.35. **8d**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 1.44 (s, 6 H), 5.1 (m, 4 H), 6.54 (d \times d, $J = 17.4$ and 10.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}$: C, 91.60; H, 8.40. Found: C, 91.75; H, 8.41.

Reaction of 1-Phenyl-3-methylallyllithium (1e) with 13 in Ether/TMEDA in the Presence of 1,4-Cyclohexadiene (CHD). To an ether–hexane solution of **1e** (prepared from 4 mmol of **4e**, 8 mmol of BuLi, and 8 mmol of TMEDA) was injected an ether solution of **13** (10 mmol) and CHD (12 mmol) in 1 portion, and then the reaction was continued at 20 °C for 1 h. After conventional workup, the products were column chromatographed on silica gel. The first fraction contained 1-phenyl-4-(2,2-dimethylcyclopentyl)-3-methyl-1-butene ((**E**)-**15e**): an oil; ^1H NMR δ 0.72 (s, 3 H), 0.93 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3 H), 1.8 (m, 9 H), 5.9 (m, 1 H), 6.26 (d, $J = 15.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 89.26; H, 10.74. Found: C, 89.00; H, 10.83. From the second fraction was obtained 6,6-dimethyl-7-phenyl-1,8-decadiene (**14e**): an oil; m/e 242 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 0.77 (s, 3 H), 0.85 (s, 3 H), 1.66 (d, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 3 H), 1.7 (m, 6 H), 3.03 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1 H), 5.0 (m, 2 H), 5.7 (m, 3 H), 6.7 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 89.26; H, 10.74. Found: C, 89.55; H, 10.71.

The final fraction contained dimers. **6e**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 1.11 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 6 H), 2.3 (m, 2 H), 6.1 (m, 4 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H). **7e**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 1.02 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3 H), 1.6 (m, 3 H), 2.6 (m, 1 H), 3.1 (m, 1 H), 5.5 (m, 2 H), 6.1 (m, 2 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}$: C, 91.60; H, 8.40. Found: C, 91.85; H, 8.30. **8e**: an oil; m/e 262 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 1.6 (m, 6 H), 3.4 (m, 2 H), 5.5 (m, 4 H), 7.0 (m, 10 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}$: C, 91.60; H, 8.40. Found: C, 91.35; H, 8.55.

Reaction of 1,1-Diphenylallyllithium (1f) with *tert*-Butyl Bromide in Ether/TMEDA in the Presence of Nitrobenzene. To an ether–hexane solution of **1f** (prepared from 4 mmol of **4f**, 4.8 mmol of BuLi, and 4.8 mmol of TMEDA) was syringed an ether solution of *tert*-butyl bromide (20 mmol) and nitrobenzene (10 mmol) in 1 portion, and then the reaction was continued at 20 °C for 1 h. By column chromatography on silica gel were isolated 1,1,6,6-tetraphenyl-1,5-hexadiene (**6f**) and 1,1,4,4-tetraphenyl-1,5-hexadiene (**7f**) in yields of 62% and 14%, respectively. **6f**: a solid; mp 104–108 °C (from hexane); ^1H NMR δ 2.2 (m, 4 H), 6.1 (m, 2 H), 7.3 (m, 20 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{26}$: C, 93.26; H, 6.74. Found: C, 93.20; H, 6.60. **7f**: an oil; m/e 386 (M^+); ^1H NMR δ 3.09 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2 H), 4.79 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1 H), 5.23 (d, $J = 11.1$ Hz, 1 H), 5.95 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1 H), 6.47 (d \times d, $J = 16.5$ and 11.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 20 H).

Reaction with 1-Bromoadamantane (20). The reaction of **1a** (2.5 mmol) with **20** (12.5 mmol) in ether in the presence of TMEDA (3.1 mmol) was undertaken at 45 °C for 4 h. By column chromatography on silica gel, 1-phenyl-3-(1-adamantyl)-1-propene (**21**) was isolated in 16% yield, together with dimers **6a–8a** (36% yield). **21**: an oil; ^1H NMR δ 1.8 (m, 17 H), 6.3 (m, 2 H), 7.2 (m, 5 H). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{24}$:

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C, 90.48; H, 9.52. Found: C, 90.70; H, 9.50.

The reaction of **1f** (3 mmol) with **20** (15 mmol) in ether was performed in the presence of TMEDA (3.6 mmol) or HMPA (30 mmol) at 20 °C for 5 h. By column chromatography on silica gel, 1,1-diphenyl-3-(1-adamantyl)-1-propene (**22**) was isolated together with dimer **6f**. **22**: a solid; mp 102–104 °C (from hexane); *m/e* 328 (*M*⁺); ¹H NMR δ 1.7 (m, 17 H), 6.12 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.2 (m, 10 H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₂₈: C, 91.16; H, 8.81. Found: C, 91.60; H, 8.70.

The Competitive Reaction between Two Alkyl Bromides. The reaction of **1a** with a mixture of *tert*-butyl bromide (3 equiv) and 1-bromo-adamantane (3 equiv) was undertaken in ether in the presence of TMEDA (1.2 equiv) at 20 °C for 1 h. By column chromatography on silica

gel, a mixture of 40% **2a** and 60% **3a** was isolated in 45% yield, together with dimers **6a–8a** (8% yield). The reaction in the presence of HMPA (10 equiv) also gave only the two *tert*-butylation products **2a** and **3a** in 40% yield, the ratio being 74:26.

The reaction of **1a** with a mixture of *tert*-butyl bromide (3 equiv) and isopropyl bromide (3 equiv) was undertaken in ether in the presence of TMEDA (1.2 equiv) at 20 °C for 1 h. By column chromatography on silica gel, a mixture of 3-phenyl-4-methyl-1-pentene^{8b} and 1-phenyl-4-methyl-1-pentene^{8b} was obtained in 60% yield, the ratio being 96:4.

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Conformational Cycloenantiomerism in 1,2-Bis(1-bromoethyl)-3,4,5,6-tetraisopropylbenzene

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Abstract: The concept of cycloenantiomerism is critically reexamined. It is shown that suitably substituted derivatives of hexaisopropylbenzene (**1**) illustrate a novel type of stereoisomerism, in which enantiomers are distinguished by the sense of conformational orientation of side chains for a given configurational distribution pattern of stereocenters. Such isomers, which may be described as conformational cycloenantiomers, have now been synthesized for the first time. Photobromination of 1,2-diethyl-3,4,5,6-tetraisopropylbenzene yields a mixture of the two diastereomeric 1,2-bis(1-bromoethyl)-3,4,5,6-tetraisopropylbenzenes (**2**), from which the (1'*RS*,2'*SR*) isomer (**2a**) is isolated by HPLC. This isomer is a racemic mixture of conformational cycloenantiomers. VT-NMR measurements yield a lower limit of $\Delta G^{\ddagger} = 24$ kcal mol⁻¹ for the enantiomerization of **2a**.

Recently it was shown that the tightly interlocking cyclic tongue-and-groove arrangement of isopropyl groups in hexaisopropylbenzene (**1**) leads to nonbonded interactions which effectively immobilize these groups on the laboratory time scale.² Arnett and Bollinger³ had previously conjectured that such conformational rigidity might stabilize enantiomers of suitably derivatized hexaisopropylbenzenes.⁴ We now show that certain substitution patterns do indeed give rise to a novel type of stereoisomerism,⁵ and we report the synthesis of a derivative of **1** that fits this description.

Cyclostereoisomerism. This concept was introduced by Prelog and Gerlach⁶ in 1964.⁷ As described in their paper, cyclostereoisomers are composed of an equal number of enantiomeric building blocks ("Bauelemente"), possess the same arrangement of stereocenters, i.e., the same cyclic distribution pattern of configurational descriptors ("Verteilungsmuster"), and differ only in the sense of direction of the ring ("Ringrichtung").^{8,11}

Cyclostereoisomerism in a broad sense deals with isomerisms that arise when cyclic arrangements of stereocenters are associated with ring systems. In the problems that we will be addressing, the stereocenters can be attached externally to the ring or incorporated as members of the ring, and the ring itself can be either directed or undirected. Ring directionality in the present context depends on the sequential order of bonded atoms, i.e., on the constitution of the ring, so that an undirected ring is characterized by a palindromic sequence of atoms, i.e., by a sequence with bilateral symmetry. There are thus four basic combinations of stereocenters with ring systems (Figure 1) which may be exemplified by *N,N'*-di-*sec*-butylpiperazine (type A), 2,5-diketo-*N,N'*-di-*sec*-butylpiperazine (type B), 2,5-diketo-3,6-dimethylpiperazine (type C), and inositol (type I).

(8) Cruse's treatment of cycloenantiomerism⁷ differs from that of Prelog and Gerlach in the implicit application of the Neumann–Curie principle,⁹ and in the requirement for constitutional equivalence of the stereocenters. Cruse dissects Ringrichtung from Verteilungsmuster and abstracts each to its point group symmetry; from this he is able to demonstrate that the achiral symmetries of Ringrichtung (*C*_{2_{nh}) and Verteilungsmuster (*C*_{*nv*}) with a common *C*_{*n*} axis intersect in two enantiomorphous ways to yield two enantiomers, i.e., two cycloenantiomers. Cruse also notes that the absence of a *C*₂ axis perpendicular to the principal axis (i.e., the absence of dihedral ring symmetry) is a necessary condition for cycloenantiomerism. However, Cruse's insistence on the constitutional equivalence of stereocenters imposes an unnecessary limitation on his treatment: as has been shown in another connection, such a constraint is irrelevant in analyses of symmetry properties.¹⁰}

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