

# Formation of isomeric iodohydrins from terminal alkenes upon oxidation by a $\text{RuCl}_3\text{--NaIO}_4$ system

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$\text{RuCl}_3$ -catalyzed periodate oxidation of alkenes affords isomeric iodohydrins.

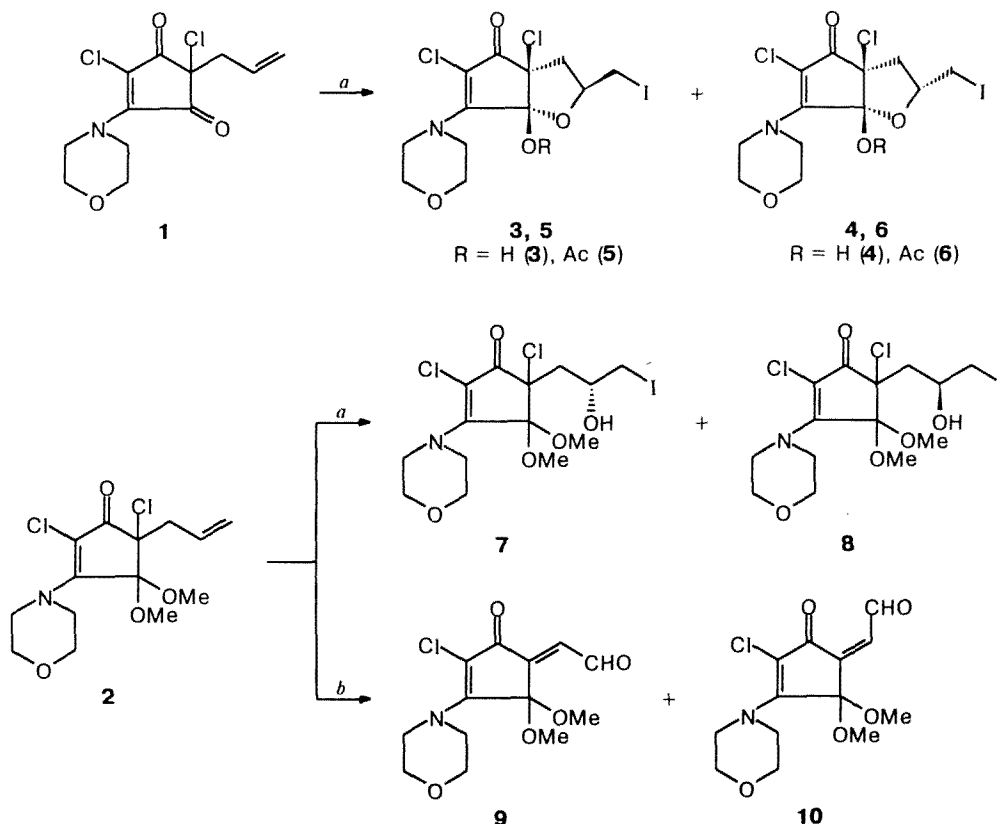
**Key words:** alkenes, catalysis, oxidation, iodohydrins.

The use of a  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (catalyst)— $\text{NaIO}_4/\text{CCl}_4\text{--MeCN--H}_2\text{O}$  system makes it possible to oxidize alcohols, aldehydes, ethers, aromatic compounds, and olefins under mild conditions to form the corresponding acids, esters, and ketones in high yields.<sup>1</sup> It is believed<sup>2–5</sup> that  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  reacts with  $\text{NaIO}_4$  to generate *in situ* a powerful oxidizing agent,  $\text{RuO}_4$ , which is generally responsible for the oxidation process. After oxidation of an organic molecule by this reagent, any

low-valent ruthenium compounds that form undergo reoxidation by  $\text{NaIO}_4$  to form  $\text{RuO}_4$ , which returns to the catalytic cycle.

We attempted to use this system for the oxidative cleavage of the terminal double bond in compound **1**, which was obtained by acid hydrolysis of dimethyl ketal (**2**) reported previously<sup>6</sup> (Scheme 1). However, the bicyclic hemiketal of iodohydrin (**3**) was isolated from the reaction mixture as a major product. This product con-

Scheme 1



**Reagents and conditions:** a.  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot 3 \text{H}_2\text{O--NaIO}_4/\text{MeCN--H}_2\text{O--CCl}_4$ ; b.  $\text{OsO}_4\text{--NaIO}_4/\text{THF--H}_2\text{O}$ .

Translated from *Izvestiya Akademii Nauk. Seriya Khimicheskaya*, No. 12, pp. 2961–2963, December, 1996.

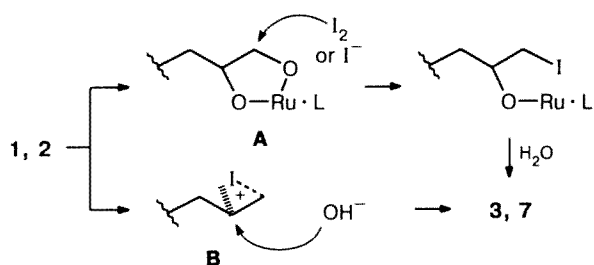
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tained 5–10% of the 3 $\alpha$ -epimer (**4**), which was difficult to separate. A mixture of epimers **3** and **4** was transformed to acetates (**5** and **6**) under the action of Ac<sub>2</sub>O in Py. Under analogous conditions, a mixture of iodohydrins (**7** and **8**) was obtained from dimethyl ketal **2** in a ratio of 8 : 1, whereas OsO<sub>4</sub>-catalyzed periodate cleavage<sup>7</sup> of dimethyl ketal **2** under conditions reported for analogous compounds<sup>8</sup> gave a mixture of the expected *Z*- and *E*-enals (**9** and **10**) in a ratio of 3 : 1 (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) in a total yield of 70% (<sup>1</sup>H NMR).

The structures of ketols **3** and **4** were based on the spectral data. Thus, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the predominant isomer **3** shows a high-field signal of diastereotopic protons at the C(4) atom, which was assigned to H <sub>$\beta$</sub>  because of the directed steric and electronic effects of the *cis*-oriented Cl atom at C(5). The coupling constant (<sup>3</sup>J<sub>4 $\beta$ ,3</sub> = 10.4 Hz) is indicative of the  $\beta$  orientation of the iodomethyl group at the C(3) atom.

The oxidation of dimethyl ketal **2** affords predominantly one diastereoisomer (**7**). The *R* configuration of the C(2') chiral center, which is shown in Scheme 2, was assumed based on the similarity in the parameters of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for the diastereotopic protons at the C(1') atom and those at the C(4) atom in the related compounds **3** and **5**.

Scheme 2



The formation of unusual products **3** and **7** can be rationalized as follows. OsO<sub>4</sub>-catalyzed periodate oxidation of compound **2** was accompanied by liberation of insoluble NaIO<sub>3</sub> and decoloration of the reaction mixture, whereas when the oxidation was carried out in the presence of RuCl<sub>3</sub>, the reaction mixture remained homogeneous. The appearance of the dark-red color typical of I<sub>2</sub> solutions is, apparently, associated with the fact that both the initial compound RuCl<sub>3</sub> and the low-valent Ru compounds that form after oxidation of the double bond reduce NaIO<sub>4</sub> to I<sub>2</sub> and, possibly, further to I<sup>-</sup>. It can be suggested that the oxidative addition of RuO<sub>4</sub> to the terminal double bond of compounds **1** and **2** gives intermediate ruthenates of type **A**, which are opened regioselectively with I<sub>2</sub> or I<sup>-</sup>. It was determined by TLC that several low-polar intermediates form at the initial stage. These compounds transform gradually to **3** and **7**,

which is indicative of a competitive alternative reaction of the formation of iodohydrins initiated by I<sub>2</sub>.

It was demonstrated by special experiments that the transformation **2**→**7** in an I<sub>2</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>–MeCN–H<sub>2</sub>O system in the absence of RuCl<sub>3</sub> proceeds readily *via* the iodonium cation **B**. However, it is also evident that the catalytic amounts of RuCl<sub>3</sub> used in the experiments are insufficient to generate I<sub>2</sub> in the amount that is necessary for the stoichiometric reaction to proceed through path **B**. Therefore, iodohydrins **3** and **7** are obtained, apparently, through both pathways, *i.e.*, *via* intermediates **A** and **B**.

Therefore, in the design of a synthesis, the possible formation of iodohydrins from olefins through the action of a RuCl<sub>3</sub>–NaIO<sub>4</sub> system should be taken into account.

## Experimental

The IR spectra were recorded on an UR-20 or Specord M-80 spectrometer (as thin films or as Nujol mulls). The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AM-300 spectrometer (300 and 75 MHz, respectively); Me<sub>4</sub>Si was used as the internal standard; CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as the solvent. The mass spectra were measured on an MKh-1320 instrument, the ionizing voltage was 70 eV, the temperature of an ionization chamber was 50–70 °C.

**2-Allyl-2,5-dichloro-4-morpholinocyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione (1).** A 1 : 1 H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>–H<sub>2</sub>O mixture (15 mL) was added to a solution of ketone **2** (1.4 g, 4.18 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 6–8 h. After completion of the reaction (TLC), the methanol was evaporated, and the residue was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The combined organic extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. Crystalline diketone **1** was obtained in a yield of 1.1 g (91%), m.p. 115 °C (ethyl acetate–hexane, 1 : 1). IR,  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1588, 1690, 1750. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ : 2.76 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.75 (t, 4 H, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>N, *J* = 4.8 Hz); 3.98 (m, 4 H, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>O); 5.00–5.10 (m, 2 H, =CH<sub>2</sub>); 5.10–5.40 (m, 1 H, CH=). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ : 39.38 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 48.59 (CH<sub>2</sub>N); 62.55 (C(2)); 66.91 (CH<sub>2</sub>O); 119.01 (C(5)); 121.64 and 129.09 (CH<sub>2</sub>=CH); 150.44 (C(4)); 184.60 (C(1)); 191.05 (C(3)). Found (%): C, 49.00; H, 4.35; Cl, 24.27. C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>. Calculated (%): C, 49.65; H, 4.48; Cl, 24.13.

**5 $\beta$ ,7-Dichloro-1 $\beta$ -hydroxy-3 $\beta$ -iodomethyl-8-morpholino-2-oxabicyclo[3.3.0]oct-7-en-6-one (3) and its 3 $\alpha$ -epimer (4).** RuCl<sub>3</sub>·3 H<sub>2</sub>O (8 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added to a stirred suspension of compound **1** (0.4 g, 1.38 mmol) and NaIO<sub>4</sub> (0.56 g, 5.0 mmol) in a MeCN–CCl<sub>4</sub>–H<sub>2</sub>O mixture (2 : 2 : 3 v/v, 14 mL). The mixture was stirred at –20 °C for 12 h and then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3×30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> (a 10 : 1 MeOH–CHCl<sub>3</sub> mixture was used as the eluent). The initial diketone **1** was isolated in a yield of 0.1 g, and a mixture of isomeric iodohydrins **3** and **4** was obtained in a yield of 0.3 g (62% with respect to the consumed **1**) in a ratio of 10 : 1 (<sup>1</sup>H NMR). **Compound 3.** IR,  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1572, 1576, 1584, 1688, 3256. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ : 2.17 (dd, 1 H, 4-H <sub>$\beta$</sub> , *J* = 10.4 and 13.6 Hz); 2.96 (dd, 1 H, 4-H <sub>$\alpha$</sub> , *J* = 5.2 and 13.6 Hz); 3.20–3.40 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>I); 3.50 (s, 1 H, OH); 3.68–3.75 (m, 1 H, 3-H); 3.75–4.20 (m, 8 H, 2 CH<sub>2</sub>O,

2  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 5.38 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 44.37 (C(4)); 49.86 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 67.19 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 74.44 (C(5)); 75.37 (C(3)); 100.93 (C(1)); 105.80 (C(7)); 158.81 (C(8)); 185.49 (C(6)).

**Compound 4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 7.45 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 45.90 (C(4)); 49.86 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 67.18 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 76.84 (C(5)); 78.88 (C(3)); 98.50 (C(1)); 107.26 (C(7)); 160.10 (C(8)); 185.00 (C(6)).

**1 $\beta$ -Acetoxy-5 $\beta$ ,7-dichloro-3 $\beta$ -iodomethyl-8-morpholino-2-oxabicyclo[3.3.0]oct-7-en-6-one (5) and its 3 $\alpha$ -epimer (6)** were obtained in a yield of 86% by acylating a mixture of 3 and 4 with  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O--Py}$  (1 : 3) at 20 °C. **Compound 5.** IR,  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1480, 1600, 1710, 1760.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 2.21 (s, 3 H, Me); 2.46 (dd, 1 H, 4- $\text{H}_\beta$ ,  $J$  = 10.6 and 12.9 Hz); 3.05 (dd, 1 H, 4- $\text{H}_\alpha$ ,  $J$  = 5.8 and 12.9 Hz); 3.30–3.40 (m, 2 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 3.84–4.20 (m, 9 H, 3-H, 2  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , 2  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 3.56 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 22.03 (Me); 42.30 (C(4)); 49.83 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 66.89 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 72.02 (C(5)); 80.05 (C(3)); 101.56 (C(1)); 109.16 (C(7)); 157.94 (C(8)); 167.16 (CO); 185.53 (C(6)). Mass spectrum,  $m/z$ : 475  $[\text{M}]^+$  (83), 432  $[\text{M--MeCO}]^+$  (5), 415  $[\text{M--MeCO}_2\text{H}]^+$  (4), 398  $[\text{M--Cl--CH}_2\text{C=O}]^+$  (44), 306  $[\text{M--I--CH}_2\text{C=O}]^+$  (14), 290  $[\text{M--MeI--MeCO}]^+$  (67), 288  $[\text{M--I--MeCO}_2\text{H}]^+$  (100), 61  $[\text{AcOH}_2]^+$  (17), 43  $[\text{MeCO}]^+$  (59).

**Compound 6.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 8.11 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 42.52 (C(4)); 48.86 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 67.14 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 73.23 (C(5)); 82.46 (C(3)); 100.30 (C(1)); 110.36 (C(7)); 158.44 (C(8)); 167.16 (CO); 185.53 (C(6)).

**2,5-Dichloro-5-(2 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-3-iodopropyl)-4,4-dimethoxy-3-morpholinocyclohept-2-en-1-one (7) and its 2' $\beta$ -epimer (8).** A mixture of iodohydrins 7 and 8 (8 : 1,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR) was obtained in a yield of 0.25 g (51% with respect to the consumed 1) from a mixture of ketone 2 (0.45 g, 1.34 mmol),  $\text{NaIO}_4$  (0.5 g, 2.34 mmol), and  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (8 mg, 0.03 mmol) analogously to compound 3. **Compound 7.** IR,  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1640, 1736, 1784, 1824.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 2.10 (dd, 1 H, 2'- $\text{H}_\beta$ ,  $J$  = 8.5 and 15.2 Hz); 2.33 (dd, 1 H, 2'- $\text{H}_\alpha$ ,  $J$  = 1.4 and 15.2 Hz); 3.26 (d, 2 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz); 3.29 (s, 3 H, Me); 3.48 (s, 3 H, Me); 3.70–4.10 (m, 10 H, 4  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $\text{CH--O}$ , OH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 14.25 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 45.67 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ); 49.59 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 67.11 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N--}$ ); 66.98 ( $\text{CH--O}$ ); 74.06 (C(5)); 102.89 (C(4)); 107.11 (C(2)); 159.04 (C(3)); 188.05 (C(1)). Mass spectrum,  $m/z$ : 479  $[\text{M}]^+$  (4), 448  $[\text{M--MeO}]^+$  (6.6), 338  $[\text{M--CH}_2\text{I}]^+$  (21), 320  $[\text{M--CH}_2\text{I--H}_2\text{O}]^+$  (63), 308  $[\text{M--CH(OH)CH}_2\text{I}]^+$  (100), 170  $[\text{CH(OH)CH}_2\text{I}]^+$  (53), 142  $[\text{MeI}]^+$  (40), 127  $[\text{I}]^+$ .

**Compound 8.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 14.25 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{I}$ ); 45.84 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ); 50.19 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 52.23 (MeO); 53.31 (MeO); 67.11 ( $\text{CH--O}$ ); 73.46 (C(5)); 107.11 (C(4)); 107.90 (C(2)); 165.88 (C(3)); 191.44 (C(1)).

**2-Chloro-5-(*E,Z*-formylmethylidene)-4,4-dimethoxy-3-morpholinocyclopent-2-en-1-ones (9 and 10).**  $\text{OsO}_4$  (18 mg,

0.07 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of compound 2 (0.32 g, 0.95 mmol) in a 3 : 1  $\text{THF--H}_2\text{O}$  mixture (9 mL). After 20 min, a solution of  $\text{NaIO}_4$  (0.88 g, 4.11 mmol) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (8 mL) was added dropwise to the black mixture that was obtained. After completion of the reaction (TLC), the precipitate of  $\text{NaIO}_3$  that formed was filtered off, and the filtrate was diluted with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (3  $\times$  15 mL), and dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The combined extracts were concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on  $\text{SiO}_2$  (a 1 : 1 ethyl acetate--hexane mixture was used as the eluent), and a mixture of aldehydes 9 and 10 (3 : 1) was obtained in a yield of 0.2 g (70%). **Compound 9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 3.24 (s, 6 H, Me); 3.79–4.09 (m, 8 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 6.03 (d, 1 H,  $=\text{CH}$ ,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz); 10.93 (d, 1 H,  $\text{CHO}$ ,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 49.08 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 52.28 (Me); 67.28 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 103.90 (C(4)); 111.24 (C(2)); 128.14 ( $=\text{CH}$ ); 142.69 (C(5)); 157.48 (C(2)); 180.71 (C(1)); 191.31 (CHO).

**Compound 10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 3.23 (s, 6 H, Me); 6.60 (d, 1 H,  $=\text{CH}$ ,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz); 10.25 (d, 1 H,  $\text{CHO}$ ,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$ : 49.08 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 52.58 (MeO); 67.33 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ); 105.81 (C(4)); 111.24 (C(2)); 125.33 ( $=\text{CH}$ ); 144.31 (C(5)); 156.53 (C(2)); 180.15 (C(1)); 192.14 (CHO).

This work was financially supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (Project No. 96-03-33247a).

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Received June 10, 1996