## DEAMINATION OF THE EPIMERIC 6-AMINOMETHYLBICYCLO(3,2,2)NONANES

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Bicyclo(3,3,2)decan-3-one and the corresponding epimeric 3-ols were required as part of our examination<sup>(1)</sup> of this ring system. Condensation of cyclohepta-1,3diene and acrylonitrile<sup>(2)</sup> in a sealed tube at  $165^{\circ}$  furnished a 3:2 mixture of the epimeric 6-cyanobicyclo(3,2,2)non-8-enes which were separated by preparative thinlayer chromatography and hydrogenated to give 1 and 2, (R = CN). Comparison of the



corresponding p.m.r. spectra with that of the endo-acid<sup>(3)</sup> (1,  $R = CO_2H$ ) suggests that the exo-epimer (2, R = CN) predominates.

Lithium aluminium hydride reduction of the mixture<sup>(2)</sup> (1 and 2, R = CN) and subsequent treatment with HCl gas gave the corresponding hydrochlorides (1 and 2,  $R = -CH_2NH_3^+Cl^-$ ), which on treatment with nitrous acid at 100<sup>o</sup> and isolation of the product by steam distillation<sup>(2)</sup> gave a mixture of alcohols only poorly resolved by gas liquid chromatographic analysis.

Alder<sup>(2)</sup> assumed that this ring expansion deamination produced only bicyclo-(3,3,2)decan-3-ols, whereas a recent publication<sup>(4)</sup> describes a single alcohol which was characterised spectrally as the corresponding amine<sup>(5)</sup> and assigned the bicyclo-(3,3,2)decan-3-ol structure (of unknown configuration).

Acetylation of the above mixture and gas liquid chromatographic analysis\* with authentic samples  $^{(6)}$ , revealed a product distribution consisting of mainly epimeric bicyclo(3,3,2)decan-2-ols. (See Table 1)

\* 50 metre, .01" diameter, T.C.E.P., capillary column. 945

## TABLE 1

## Product distribution (%) from Deamination of mixed exo/endo 6-aminomethylbicyclo(3,2,2)nonanes

<u>exo</u> -2-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol <u>endo</u> -2-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol <u>exo</u> -3-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol <u>endo</u> -3-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol	16		
	36 6 12		
		six unidentified components	30†

+ Present in ca. equal amounts, all of shorter retention times than the 2 and 3-bicyclodecyl acetates.

An unambiguous determination of the stereochemistry of 1 and 2 (R = CN) and isolation and structural determination of the six minor components is now in progress with a view to elucidating the competing roles played by preferred conformation and "memory effects" <sup>(7)</sup> in determining the product distribution.

## REFERENCES

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- (2) K. Alder, S. Hartung and G. Hausmann, Ber., 1956, 1972.
- (3) A.B. Penrose, Ph.D. Thesis, Glasgow University, 1969.
- (4) B.P. 1, 104, 058; A.P. 3, 427, 353; Chem. Abst., 1968, <u>69</u>, 51739e.
- (5) Dr. A. Chow, personal communication.
- (6) Jones oxidation of <u>exo-2-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol<sup>(1)</sup></u> gave the corresponding 2-one (v<sub>max</sub> CCl<sub>4</sub> 1706 cm<sup>-1</sup>, incorporation of three deuterium atoms on treatment with 0.1 M. NaOD/Dioxan. M<sup>+ m</sup>/e 155). Subsequent lithium aluminium hydride reduction proceeded non-stereoselectively giving a 65:35 mixture of <u>exo:endo</u> 2-ols.

Oxidation of <u>exo-3-bicyclo(3,3,2)decanol<sup>(1)</sup></u> gave the 3-one  $(v_{max} \text{ CCl}_4$ 1698 cm<sup>-1</sup>, incorporation of four deuterium atoms, M<sup>+ m</sup>/e 156). Similar reduction of this ketone gave a 2:3 mixture of <u>exo:endo</u> 3-ols.

(7) J.A. Berson, <u>Angew. Chem. Int.</u>, <u>7</u>, 1968, 779.