PHOTOCHEMISTRY OF THE PHTHALIMIDE SYSTEM. V¹

PHOTOCYCLIZATION OF THE PHTHALIMIDES WITH A SULFIDE CHAIN:

SYNTHESIS OF AZA-CYCLOLS BY δ , ϵ , and ζ hydrogen abstraction²

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Certain N-substituted phthalimides having Y or δ hydrogens undergo cyclization to benzazepinone lactams or aza-cyclopentanols on photolysis. Some N- ω -alkoxyalkylphthalimides were also cyclized to aza-cyclopentanol derivatives with facile δ hydrogen abstraction benzationation of the photochemical synthetic studies of the phthalimide system, phthalimide derivatives having a sulfide moiety in the N-alkyl side chain were now prepared and their photolysis was explored.

Irradiation⁵ of <u>1a</u> afforded the cyclized product <u>3a</u> only in a very low yield. The major product was N-methylphthalimide $(30\%)^{6,7}$. However, <u>3b</u> was obtained from <u>1b</u> in a better yield as a 1:2 mixture of <u>cis</u> and <u>trans</u> isomers. Relatively facile δ hydrogen transfer is again realized for the photolysis of $\frac{1}{2}$ (n=2; $R_1=R_2=R_3=Me$) giving $\frac{4}{2}$ in 47% yield. Substrates ($\frac{1}{2}$; n=1) which possess both Y and ϵ hydrogens similarly activated by the adjacent sulfur atom were then photolyzed to compare their susceptibility to the arstraction. Aza-thiacyclohexanol derivatives ($\frac{5a}{2}-\frac{d}{2}$) were isolated as major photoproducts, which have apparently arisen from a Norrish type II reaction with ϵ hydrogen transfer, accompanied by benzazepinone lactam, a Y hydrogen transfer product¹. Of particular interest is the observation that ϵ hydrogens are rather reactive than Y hydrogens in the photocyclization of these phthalimides⁸. The result is worthy to

note in view of that the reactivity in the order Y > δ > ϵ has been well established in the conventional type II reactions of the ordinary keto system⁹. This tendency was further confirmed by the irradiation of 1 (n=3), which gave the aza-cyclohexanol derivatives ($\underline{6a} - \underline{d}$) in moderate to good yields.

During the studies of photodecarboxylation of N-phthaloyl- α -amino acids 10 , an unexpected product ($\underline{7a}$; 38 %) was isolated on irradiation of N-phthaloylmethionine ($\underline{2}$; $R_1=R_2=H$, $R_3=CO_2H$). The nmr spectrum of $\underline{7a}$ showed a new peak of methylene (3.43 (d, 15 Hz), 3.01 (d, 15 Hz); δ , CDCl₃) in place of the original methyl in $\underline{2}$ clearly indicating that the cyclization has occurred at the sulfide methyl group, and all other spectral and analytical data supported the structure $\underline{7a}$. Irradiation of N-phthaloylmethionine methyl ester afforded $\underline{7b}$, and $\underline{2a}$ was converted to $\underline{7a}$ in a very good yield. It is remarkable that in all examples ($\underline{2a}$ - \underline{f}) studied, aza-thiacycloheptanol derivatives $\underline{7}$ were obtained mostly in good yields. None of Y-hydrogen transfer products were detected, while the yields of the " $\underline{5}$ " products $\underline{7}$ always surpassed that of the competing δ hydrozen transfer products $\underline{4}$ (R_3 =H) except the case of $\underline{2d}$. These results represent the first examples of efficient photocyclization involving a carbonyl system to form a seven membered cyclic alcohol. Although detailed mechanisms of these reactions presented in this work are unknown 11,12 , ϵ and $\underline{5}$ hydrogen abstractions are tentatively postulated on the basis of formal analogy with the typical Norrish type II processes 1,4,9 . The scope and limitation as well as the mechanism of these reactions are under investigation.

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c, cis t, trans with respect to the hydroxy and the adjacent substituent groups in the new ring. d, the dehydrated cyclic olefin.

References

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- (2) Photoinduced Reactions, XI.
- (3) The N atom is regarded as a with respect to the imide carbonyl carbon. 1,4
- (4) (a) Y.Kanaoka and K.Koyama, <u>Tetrahedron Letters</u>, (1972) 4517; (b) Y.Kanaoka, Y.Migita, Y.Sato and H.Nakai, ibid., (1973) 51.
- (5) Irradiation were carried out in 15 mM acetone solution unless otherwise stated using a 400 W high pressure mercury lamp under a stream of argon at room temperature for 0.5 3 hr. as required. Products were purified through preparative tlc or column chromatography (silica gel). All new compounds analyzed satisfactorily. Reasonable spectral data (uv, ir, nmr and mass) were obtained for all of them.
- (6) Although photochemical behaviors of Y-keto sulfides are little known 7a , photoelimination of β -keto sulfides has been reported from several groups $^{7b-f}$.
- (7) (a) P.J.Johnson and G.A.Berchtold, <u>J.Am.Chem.Soc.</u>, <u>89</u>, 2761 (1969); (b) H.Hogeveen and P.J.Smit, <u>Rec.Trav.Chim.France</u>, <u>85</u>, 489 (1966); (c) J.R.Collier and J.Hill, <u>Chem.Comm.</u>, (1968) 700; (d) A.Padwa, A.Battisi and E.Shefter, <u>J.Am.Chem.Soc.</u>, <u>91</u>, 4000 (1969); (e) M.C.Caserio, W.Lauer and T.Novinson, <u>ibid.</u>, <u>92</u>, 6082 (1970); (f) A.Padwa and D.Pashayan, <u>J.Org.Chem.</u>, <u>36</u>, 3550 (1971).
- (8) There have been reported only very limited examples of ε hydrogen transfer for a simple ketone system; see N.C.Yang in "Reactivity of the Photoexcited Organic Molecule", Interscience, New York, 1967, pp 145.
- (9) P.J. Wagner, Account Chem. Res., 4, 168 (1971).
- (10) Y.Sato, H.Nakai, T.Mizoguchi, M.Kawanishi and Y.Kanacka, Chem.Pharm.Bull., 21, 1164 (1973)
- (11) Inference that there is an effective interaction favoring the reaction between the phthalimide molety and the sulfide group is attractive. However, there is indication of neither charge-transfer complex nor other ground-state interactions 7d, 12 at least as monitored by the uv and ir spectra. Other possibilities including "intramolecular exciplex", for example, still remain to be studied.
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