CONFORMATIONS OF 2,4-SUBSTITUTED 9-METHYL-9-AZA-3-OXABICYCLO[3.3.1]NONAN-7-ONES

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Bicyclo[3.3.1.]nonane system provides interesting conformational problems. The molecules usually adopt preferentially the double-chair rather than the boat-chair conformation. ${ }^{1)}$ However, relative stability between these conformations is also associated with the introduction of functional groups ${ }^{2)}$ and/or hetero-atoms into the framework. 3,4) In connection with synthetic studies of laurencin, ${ }^{5)}$ we prepared several entitled compounds and examined their conformations (and hence configurations). The present paper describes the result, which indicates that all the compounds exist in the double-chair conformation, irrespective of the presence of 2,4-diaxial substituents.

The examined compounds (I ~VIII), 6) listed in Table 1 , were prepared newly, except 2,4-unsubstituted compound (I), 7) by the Robinson-Schöpf condensation of 2,4-dialkyl-3-oxaglutaraldehydes ${ }^{8)}$ with methylamine and acetonedicarboxylic acid.

Table 1 9-Methyl-9-aza-3-oxabicyclo[3.3.1]nonan-7-ones
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The conformations were elucidated on the basis of the NMR spectra, exemplified by Fig. 1; the chemical shifts and coupling constants were estimated by comparison with those of analogous compounds ${ }^{4 b, 4 d}$ ) as well as by extensive spin decoupling studies. The summarized result (Table 2) is completely consistent
with the double-chair conformation for all compounds, though the conformations of $N$-methyl group were not assigned. The conclusive evidence was presented by the $X$-ray crystallography of compound VI.


The crystals are triclinic, with two molecules in a unit cell with the di-


Fig. 2 The molecular conformation and the bond distances ( $A$ ) of compound VI.
mensions of $a=8.660(2), b=$ $9.615(2), c=8.816(2) \AA, \alpha=$ $72.28(2)^{\circ}, \beta=98.99(3)^{\circ}$, and $\gamma$ $=97.85(2)^{\circ}$, The space group is $\mathrm{P} \overline{\mathrm{l}}$. Intensities of 2360 unique reflections with $2 \theta$ values up to $140^{\circ}$ were measured on an automatic, four-circle diffractometer using CuK $\alpha$ radiation monochromatized with a Lif crystal. The structure was solved by the direct method ${ }^{9)}$ on the basis of $465|E|$ values above 1.30 , and was refined by the block-diagonalmatrix least-squares method with anisotropic temperature factors for all the

Table 2. The NMR spectra of 9-methyl-9-aza-3-oxabicyclo[3.3.1 ]nonan-7-ones ${ }^{a, b, c}$ )

a) The spectra were measured in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ at 100 MHz with a JEOL High Resolution $\mathbb{N M}$ spectrometer, model JNM-PS-100. b) The abbreviations "br, d, do, s, m, and quin" mean "broad, doublet, double, singlet, multiplet, and quintet," respectively, and " $H_{2 e}$ and $H_{A}$ " refer to "equatorial proton at $C_{2}$ and one of ethyl methylene protons." c) The abbreviations " $\mathrm{J}_{1,2}$ e and $\mathrm{J}_{2, \mathrm{H}}$ " refer to "coupling constants between $H_{1}$ and $H_{2 e}$ and between one of $H_{2 e}$ and $\mathrm{H}_{2 a}$ and one of $\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{A}}$ to $\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{D}}$. d) The underlined $\delta$ values denote chemical shifts in $\mathrm{CCl}_{4}$. e) The chemical shifts of $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ (singlet), acetoxyl methyl (singlet) and ethyl methyl protons (triplet with $\mathrm{J}=6.5-7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ) fell within $\delta 2.49 \sim 2.61,2.02 \sim 2.05$, and $0.85 \sim 0.93$, respectively. f) The coupling constants were estimated by first-order approximations. g) The coupling constants, $J_{2 a}, 2 e(I)$, $J_{4 a, 4 e}$ (I to III), $J_{6 a, 6 e}$ (I to VIII), $J_{8 a, 8 e}$ (I to VIII) and $J_{C D}$ (II, VI and VII) were estimated to be $11.5,11 \sim 11.5,15 \sim 16,15 \sim 16$, and 11 Hz , respectively.
non-hydrogen atoms. Since a difference Fourier map yielded the locations of all the twenty-one hydrogen atoms, further least-squares refinement including these hydrogen atoms was carried out. The final $R$ value was 5.7\%. The molecular framework thus obtained is shown in Fig. 2.

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