

SYNTHESIS AND PROPERTIES OF THREE BENZANNELATED ANNULENONES

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Recently, the effect of annelation of benzenoid nuclei on the diatropicity of macrocyclic conjugated systems has been discussed on some examples.<sup>1)</sup>

Similarly, the properties of  $4n$   $\pi$ -electron systems fused by one or more benzene rings are of considerable interest.<sup>2)</sup>

We now describe syntheses and properties of three benzannelated bisdehydro[13], [17] and [21]annulenones (5) (10) (13).

Condensation of the aldehyde (1)<sup>3)</sup> with excess acetone by means of aqueous sodium hydroxide at room temperature gave 52% yield of the ketone (2) as yellow plates, mp. 64-65°; <sup>4)5)6)</sup> Mass: m/e 170 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1700, 1615, 1595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (EtOH):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 230 sh (14,400), 242 (17,700), 247 (16,200), 291 nm(13,800); NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 60MHz): 2.02 d J=16 (1H), 2.32-2.80 m (4H), 3.33 d J=16Hz (1H), 6.57 s (1H), 7.59 s (3H).

Reaction of equimolar amounts of (2) and the aldehyde (3)<sup>7)</sup> in peroxide-free ether in the presence of methanolic potassium hydroxide for 2 hours at room temperature led to 10% yield of the ketone (4) as an unstable orange oil, IR (neat): 1660, 1615, 1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (EtOH):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 226 (11,000), 248 (9,230), 321 nm(8,830); NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 60MHz): 1.98 d J=17 (1H), 2.13 dd J=17, 11 (1H), 2.47-3.10 m (4H), 3.32 d J=11 (1H), 3.42 d J=17 (1H), 3.68 d J=17Hz (1H), 6.87 s (2H), 8.07 s (3H).

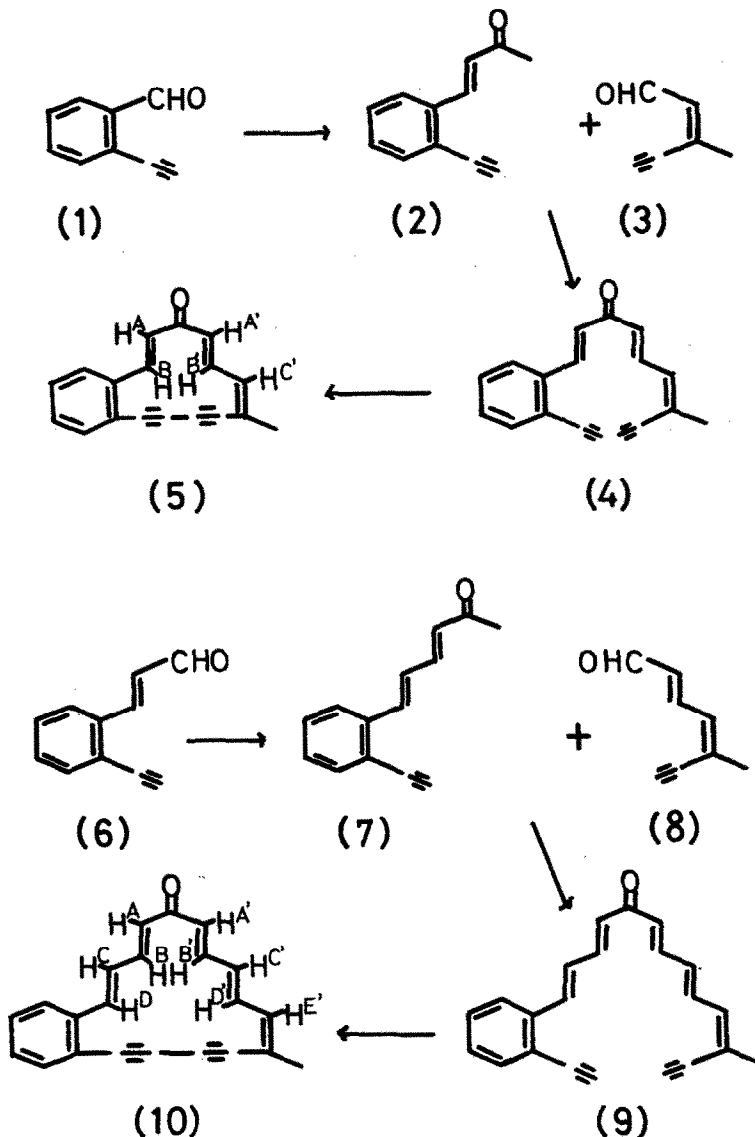
Oxidation of (4) with cupric acetate in pyridine<sup>8)</sup> at 60° yielded 20% of the monobenzobisdehydro[13]annulenone (5) as relatively stable orange needles, mp. ca. 160° (dec); Mass: m/e 244 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1630, 1610, 1590  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (EtOH);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 233 (9,880), 258 (15,800), 388 nm(2,100); NMR: see Table 1.

Treatment of (5) with trifluoroacetic acid gave a dark red solution, NMR ( $\tau$  60MHz): 0.19 dd J=17, 11 ( $H^{B'}$ ), 0.65 d J=17 ( $H^B$ ), 2.80-2.97 (benzenoid H), 3.42 d J=11 ( $H^{C'}$ ), 3.47 d J=17 ( $H^A$  or  $H^{A'}$ ), 3.75 d J=17Hz ( $H^A$  or  $H^{A'}$ ), 8.20 s ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).

Condensation between the ketone (7) (obtainable in 80% yield from (6)<sup>9)</sup>) and the aldehyde (8)<sup>10)</sup>, under the same conditions as indicated for the reaction of (2) and (3), yielded 24% of the ketone (9) as yellow-brown needles, mp. 121.5-122.5°<sup>5)</sup>; Mass: m/e 298 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1660, 1605, 1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (THF):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 258 (20,200), 267 (21,800), 288 sh(18,500), 378 nm(40,700); NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100MHz): 2.45 dd J=15, 11 (1H), 2.48 dd J=15, 11 (1H), 2.49 d J=15 (1H), 2.53 dd J=15, 11 (1H), 2.52-2.78 m (4H), 2.95 d J=15 (1H), 3.05 dd J=15, 11 (1H), 3.44 d J=15 (1H), 3.53 d J=15 (1H), 3.54 dd J=15, 11Hz (1H), 6.57 s (1H), 6.61 s (1H), 8.10 s (3H).

Oxidation of (9) with cupric acetate in pyridine as before afforded 12% yield of the monobenzannelated bisdehydro[17]annulenone (10) as yellow needles, mp. ca. 180° (dec); Mass: m/e

296 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1630, 1595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (THF):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 285 sh(28,500), 299 (35,500), 317 (30,400), 400 nm(2,760); NMR: see Table 1.



Condensation of the aldehyde (11) (2 mol) ( obtainable in 49% yield from (6) by the method of Cresp et al.<sup>9)11</sup>) with acetone (1 mol) as indicated for the reaction of (2) and (3) gave 88% yield of the ketone (12) as orange needles, mp. 153.5-154.5°<sup>5)6</sup>); Mass:  $m/e$  386 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1650, 1620, 1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (THF):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 266 (21,600), 275 (22,000), 303 sh (24,100), 311 (24,500), 405 nm(72,300); NMR  $\tau$ ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100MHz): 2.34-2.65 m (7H), 3.06 dd

dd  $J=15$ , 11 (1H), 3.22 dd  $J=15$ , 11 (1H), 3.54 d  $J=15\text{Hz}$  (1H), 6.62 s (1H).

Oxidation of (12) with cupric acetate in pyridine at  $60^\circ$  for 2 hours afforded the dibenz-annulated bisdehydro[21]annulene (13) in 17% yield as yellow needles, mp. ca.  $210^\circ$  (dec); Mass:  $m/e$  384 ( $M^+$ ); IR (KBr): 1620, 1605, 1595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $>C=O$ ,  $>C=C<$ ); UV (THF):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ) 283 sh (23,200), 310 nm(72,800); NMR: see Table 1.

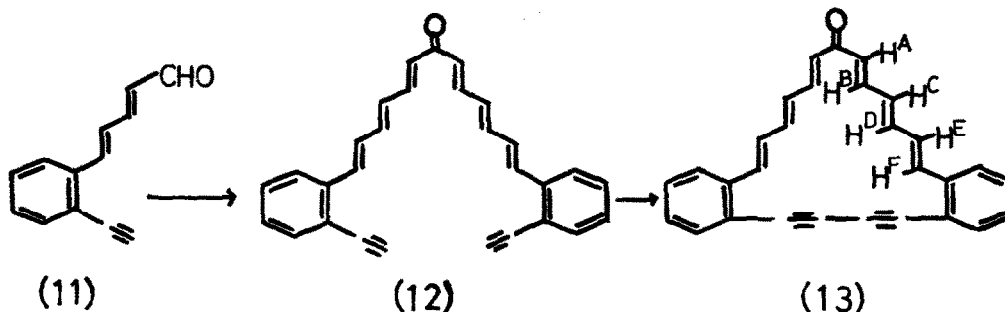


Table 1.  $^1\text{H}$ -nmr spectra of (5), (10), and (13) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\tau$ -values, Internal standard TMS,  $J$  values in Hz in parentheses)

Proton	(5) <sup>a)</sup>	(10) <sup>b)</sup>	(13) <sup>b)</sup>
$\text{H}^{\text{A}}$	3.90 d (16) <sup>c)</sup>	4.03 d (16) <sup>d)</sup>	3.99 d (16)
$\text{H}^{\text{B}}$	1.45 d (16)	(2.28-2.78) <sup>e) i)</sup>	2.64 dd (16, 11) <sup>g)</sup>
$\text{H}^{\text{C}}$		3.51 dd (16, 11) <sup>f)</sup>	3.39 dd (16, 11) <sup>h)</sup>
$\text{H}^{\text{D}}$		1.94 d (16)	2.52 dd (16, 11) <sup>g)</sup>
$\text{H}^{\text{E}}$			3.06 dd (16, 11) <sup>h)</sup>
$\text{H}^{\text{F}}$			2.35 d (16)
$\text{H}^{\text{A}'}$	3.68 d (16) <sup>c)</sup>	4.00 d (16) <sup>d)</sup>	
$\text{H}^{\text{B}'}$	1.26 dd (16, 10)	2.10 dd (16, 11) <sup>e)</sup>	
$\text{H}^{\text{C}'}$	3.60 d (10)	3.76 dd (16, 11) <sup>f)</sup>	
$\text{H}^{\text{D}'}$		1.85 dd (16, 11) <sup>e)</sup>	
$\text{H}^{\text{E}'}$		3.50 d (11)	
$\text{CH}_3$	8.17 s	8.13 s	
benzenoid H	2.73-2.92 m	2.28-2.78 m	2.7-2.8 m

a) At 60 MHz.

b) At 100 MHz.

c)d)e)f)g)h) These assignments may be reversed in each group, but most probable values are given in Table 1 by reference to the NMR spectra of the related compounds.<sup>2)</sup>

i) This proton signal is submerged by those of benzenoid protons.

The  $^1\text{H}$ -nmr spectra of the annulenones (5), (10), and (13) are given in Table 1. The monobenzannelated compounds (5) and (10) are suggested to be paratropic, as indicated by the relative chemical shifts of the inner and outer olefinic protons. By contrast, the dibenzannelated compound (13) is atropic.

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#### References and Notes

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