BICYCLOANNULATION A ONE-STEP SYNTHESIS OF

TRICYCLO [3 2.1.0²,⁷] OCTAN-6-ONES.

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In recent years, a number of publications have appeared in which the tricyclo $[3.2.1.0^{2}, ^{7}]$ octan-6-one system (1) is utilized in synthetic intermediates as a convenient precursor of bicyclo [3.2.1] octane and bicyclo [2.2.2] octane systems.¹ All of these investigations have employed the copper-catalyzed intramolecular cyclization of cyclohexenyl diazomethyl ketones in the formation of the required tricyclic compounds. Our interest in this structure (1) derives from our planned syntheses of ishwarane and trachylobane terpenoids,²,³ exemplified by the parent hydrocarbons 2 and 3 respectively. We expected that if the α '-enolate (4) of an α , β -cy-



clohexenone were generated and allowed to react with a Michael acceptor (5) in which the activating group (X) is also a good leaving group, the initial addition to form 6 and subsequent internal Michael attack⁴ would be followed by an intramolecular nucleophilic displacement of the X group in 7 by the enolate.⁵



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A reagent which appears to satisfy the requirements for 5 is vinyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (8) which is rendered **a**ll the more inviting because of its commercial availability. Not only has this salt been found to readily undergo conjugate addition with enclates,⁶ but also the desired cyclopropane formation by the resulting ylide, 9, has analogy in its previously observed intermolecular counterpart.⁷ Furthermore, 8 is a highly efficient dienophile in



the Diels-Alder reaction,⁸ and the conversion of 4 to 7 (X = PPh₃ \oplus) is formally in the latter category

The realization of this proposal is shown below. The kinetically controlled generation of



cross-conjugated dienolates by the use of lithium disopropylamide (LDA) has been well documented.⁴*³ AltRough the yields of final products are low, a complex strained ring system is formed from monocyclic precursors in the step, and only insignificant amounts of other volatile products were observed. The spectral data for lla were identical to those reported by Scanio and Lickei ^{3,10} Analytical and spectral properties¹¹ of llb and llc were entirely consistent with the assigned structures. The exclusive formation of one stereoisomer (llc) from d-carvone (l0c) should be noted. Addition of HCl to llb proceeded smoothly to give 12 in quantitative yield ¹¹ Similar reactivity has been noted for other compounds possessing the tricyclic system 1 ^{1a}



Since the overall process (10 + 11) results in the attachment of two new adjoining rings to an existing structure¹² we propose to classify this as a "bicycloannulation" reaction. A related bicycloannulation procedure has recently been reported by Dauben and Kozikowski¹³ The ready availability of α,β -unsaturated ketones makes this method more attractive than the one previously used¹ in many cases. In addition, compounds such as <u>11b</u> and <u>11c</u> are only attainable by the present procedure, which is therefore complimentary to previous methods.

We are optimistic that further work will improve the efficiency of this remarkable reaction, as no attempt to optimize conditions has yet been made. Experiments designed to trap and prove the existence of the assumed intermediate yield 9 and enolate 7 (X = PPh₃ \oplus) are in progress.

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