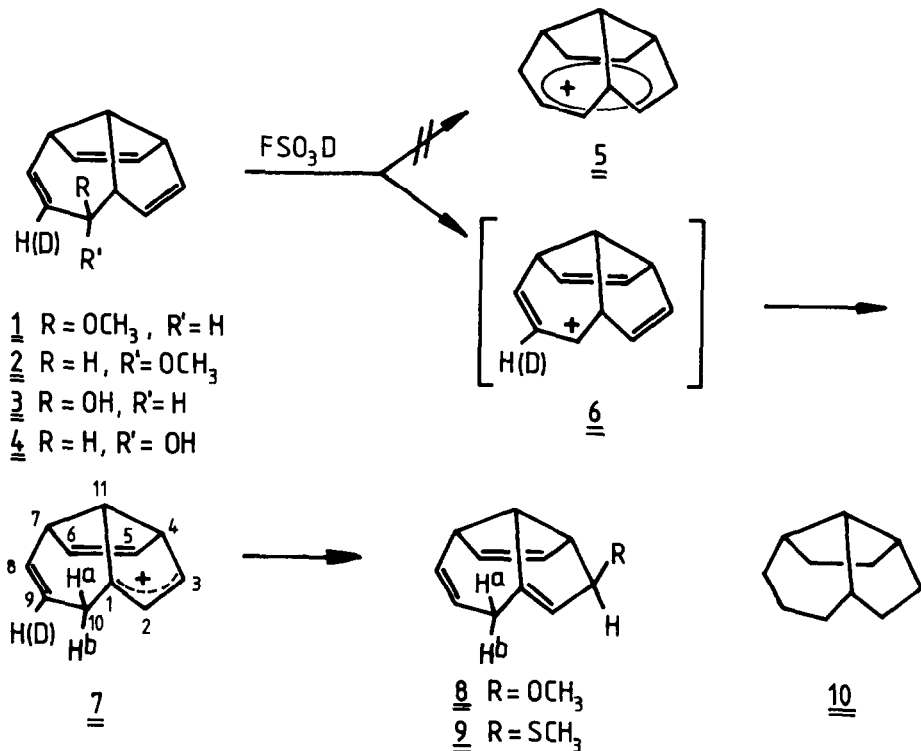


ON THE NATURE OF THE TRICYCLO[5.3.1.0^{4,11}]UNDECATRIENYL CATION

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We recently reported the synthesis of the methoxytrienes 1 and 2, potential precursors of the bridged trishomotropylum ion 5¹⁾. The low temperature ¹H-NMR spectrum of the cation produced by treatment of 1 with FSO₃H/SO₂ClF/CD₂Cl₂ (1:3:3) was not, however, consistent with either structure 5 or the simple allylic system 6. Most striking in this spectrum were temperature dependent signals appearing in the region τ -2.50 to 0.25. Due to the lack of additional data, we declined to propose a definite structure for the cation at that time.



Paquette and coworkers have since reported²⁾ the synthesis of the alcohols 3 and 4. The cation produced from 4 by treatment with magic acid gave a ¹H-NMR spectrum which was reported to be similar to that which we have described. We have undertaken an extensive reinvestigation of the fate of 1-4 in strongly acidic media, the results of which we report here.

Using a special apparatus with care to exclude air and moisture, the cation solutions were prepared as follows. A cold³⁾ solution of the ether 1 or 2 or alcohol 3 or 4 in CD₂Cl₂ (3 ml/mmol) was added slowly dropwise to a vigorously stirred solution of FSO₃D (1 ml/mmol) in SO₂ClF (3 ml/mmol) maintained at -120°. The resulting clear yellow-orange solutions were transferred under N₂ pressure to NMR tubes and their spectra measured at -70° or below. Except for a peak in each case due to the leaving group, all four compounds gave rise to identical well-resolved ¹H-NMR spectra. The temperature-dependent signals which we had previously observed were absent from all of these spectra, and we have been unable to reproduce them using a variety of reaction conditions.

On the basis of the ¹H-NMR spectrum (Figure 1 and Table 1), decoupling experiments (Table 2) and its ¹³C-NMR spectrum (Table 1), we assign the cation structure 7. The presence in the ¹³C spectrum of a triplet at δ41.4, a singlet at δ269.3, and a doublet at δ231.8 is most consistent with an allylic system which would result from a 1,2-hydride shift (C-1 to C-10) in the initially

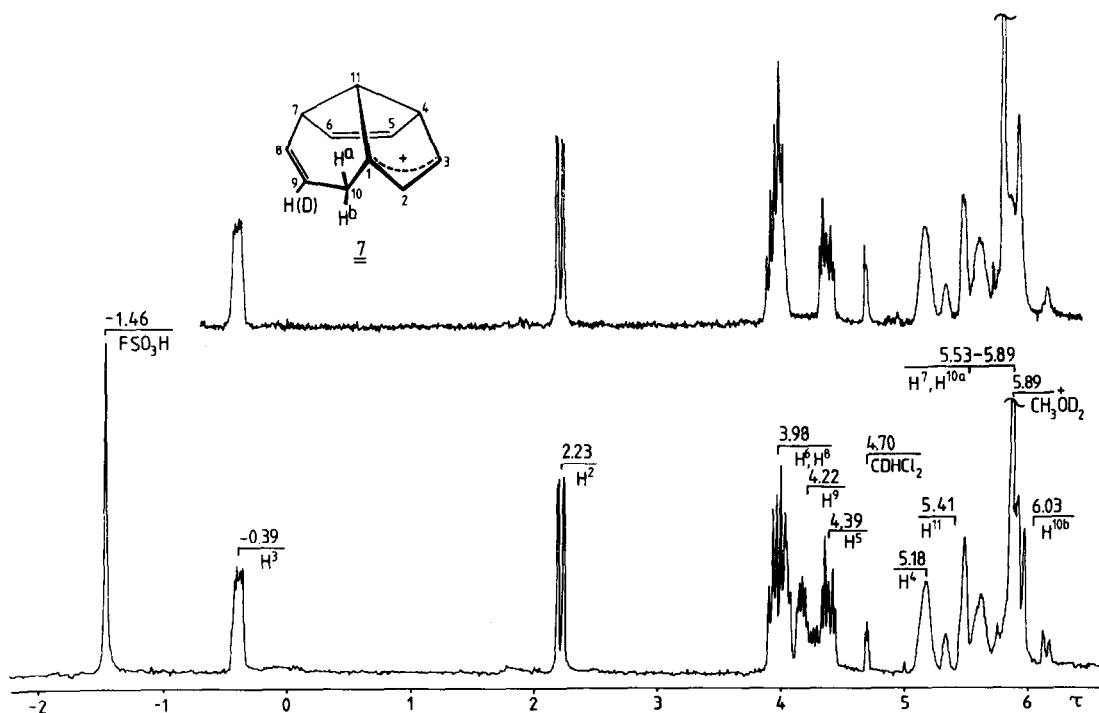


Figure 1: ¹H-NMR spectrum of 7 (lower part) and 7-D (upper part) at -70°, 90 MHz, in SO₂ClF/CD₂Cl₂.

formed allylic cation 6. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra resemble those of the 1-triquinacenyl cation⁴).

Table 1. ^1H -NMR (τ) and ^{13}C -NMR (δ) Data[†] (J in Hz)

Compd.

- 7 ^1H -NMR: -0.39 (m, 1H, H-3), 2.23 (dd, 1H, J=4.3, 1.0, H-2), 3.98 (m, 2H, H-6, H-8), 4.22 (m, 1H, H-9), 4.39 (m, 1H, H-5), 5.18 (bs, 1H, H-4), 5.41 (bd, 1H, J=13, H-11, part of AB), 5.53-5.89 (m, 2H, H-7, H-10a), 5.89 (s, 3H, CH_3OD_2), 6.03 (dd, 1H, J=18.5, 4.3, H-10b, part of ABX). ^{13}C -NMR: 269.3 (s, C-1), 231.8 (d, C-3), 145.5 (d, C-2), 136.6 (d, C-5), 130.8 (d), 130.2 (d), 125.5 (d, C-9), 72.3 (d, C-4), 65.8 (d, C-11), 60.1 (q, CH_3OD_2), 54.7 (d, C-7), 41.4 (t, C-10).
- 8 ^1H -NMR: 4.07 (bd, 1H, J=11.7, H-8, A part of ABX), 4.29 (dd, 1H, J=11.7, 2.5, H-9, B part of ABX), 4.41 (s, 2H, H-5, H-6), 4.49 (m, 1H, H-2), 5.89 (bs, 1H, H-3), 6.49-6.76 (m, 3H, H-4, H-7, H-11), 6.60 (s, 3H, CH_3), 7.16 (bs, 2H, H-10a, H-10b). ^{13}C -NMR: 148.4 (s, C-1), 133.1 (d), 130.7 (d), 128.4 (d), 126.0 (d), 119.2 (d, C-2), 89.0 (d, C-3), 55.64 (d or q), 55.56 (d or q), 47.2 (d), 46.4 (d), 27.8 (t, C-10).
- 9 ^1H -NMR: 4.13 (bd, 1H, J=11.4, H-8, A part of ABX), 4.32 (dd, 1H, J=11.4, 2.4, H-9, B part of ABX), 4.46 (s, 2H, H-5, H-6), 4.73 (m, 1H, H-2), 6.52 (m, 1H, H-3), 6.53-6.87 (m, 3H, H-4, H-7, H-11), 7.21 (bs, 2H, H-10a, H-10b), 7.93 (s, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C -NMR: 143.5 (s, C-1), 132.8 (d), 131.4 (d), 128.3 (d), 126.1 (d), 119.6 (d, C-2), 57.7 (d, C-3), 54.2 (d), 47.4 (d, 2C), 27.4 (t, C-10), 12.8 (q, CH_3).

[†] ^1H -NMR: 7-9 (90 MHz), 8, 9 in CDCl_3 . ^{13}C -NMR: 7 (25.2 MHz), 8, 9 (22.6 MHz, CDCl_3). Assignments are based on all available data.

Additional evidence for structure 7 was obtained from quenching experiments. When the cation solution was transferred slowly dropwise into a vigorously stirred suspension of NaHCO_3 in CH_3OH at -95° or CH_3SH at -110° , a methyl ether and a methyl thioether, respectively, were formed in 50-60% yield to which we assign structures 8 and 9⁵).

Treatment of the methoxytriene 8 with $\text{FSO}_3\text{D}/\text{SO}_2\text{ClF}/\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (1:3:3) regenerated cation 7. Reduction of 9 with Raney nickel followed by 10% Pd/C, H_2 , 1 atm gave as the only detectable product tricyclo[5.3.1.0^{4,11}]undecane 10⁶) indicating that the substrates 1-4 had suffered no deep-seated skeletal rearrangements under strongly acidic conditions.

Table 2. Decoupling Experiments[†] (J in Hz)

Compd.

- 7 {H-10a, H-10b}H-9, d, $J_{8,9}=10$. {H-7, H-11}H-9, dd, $J_{8,9}=10$, $J_{9,10b}=4.3$; H-5, dd, $J_{5,6}=5.8$, $J_{4,5}=2.6$. {H-4}H-5, dd, $J_{5,6}=5.8$, $J_{5,7}=1.5$; H-2, d, $J_{2,3}=4.3$, ($J_{2,4}=1.0$); H-3, bd, $J_{2,3}=4.3$. {H-2}H-3, bs, ($J_{2,3}=4.3$). {H-3}H-2, d, $J_{2,4}=1.0$, ($J_{2,3}=4.3$).
- 8 {H-10a, H-10b}H-2, d, $J_{2,3}=2.8$; H-9, d, $J_{8,9}=11.7$, ($J_{9,10b}=2.5$). {H-4, H-7, H-11}H-3, d, $J_{2,3}=2.8$, ($J_{3,4}^{\nu 1-2}$); H-8, shd, $J_{8,9}=11.7$, ($J_{7,8}^{\nu 1}$). {H-3}H-2, bs, ($J_{2,3}=2.8$). {H-2, H-5, H-6, H-8, H-9}H-10a, H-10b, shs, ($J_{9,10b}=2.5$); H-3, bs.

9 {H-10a,H-10b}H-9,d, $J_{8,9}=11.4$, ($J_{9,10b}=2.4$). {H-3,H-4,H-7,H-11}H-2,bs;H-8,shd, $J_{8,9}=11.4$, ($J_{1,2}^{11}$).

[†]{Proton(s) irradiated}Proton observed, Residual coupling, (Inferred coupling).

We considered¹⁾ the possibility that the allylic system 6 might undergo sequential Wagner-Meerwein shifts of the central bridgehead carbon C-11 (i.e.C-1 → C-10,C-4 → C-3, etc.) prior to the 1,2-hydride shift. Such a degenerate process would scramble a peripheral label over all positions except C-11. To test this hypothesis deuterated alcohols 3-D and 4-D were prepared⁷⁾. Following etherification (KH, CH₃I) each of the ethers 1-D and 2-D was treated with FSO₃D/SO₂ClF/CD₂Cl₂. The ¹H-NMR spectrum in both cases was the same (Figure 1 7-D) and indicated that all deuterium remained at C-9. The Wagner-Meerwein shift clearly does not compete with the 1,2-hydride shift. This is most likely due to the fact that the p orbital at C-10 in 6 is more favorably aligned with the C-10/H-10 bond than with the C-10/C-11 bond.

Further labeling studies are in progress which will enable us to determine whether the cation 6 exists as an unsymmetrical species or as a symmetrical resonance hybrid prior to hydride transfer.

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References and Notes

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5. The exo-stereochemistry is evident from the small vicinal coupling $J_{3,4}$ and from ¹H-NMR measurements in the presence of Eu(fod)₃ shift reagent. The structure of 8 and 9 are fully supported by UV,IR, mass spectral, and high-resolution mass spectral data.
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7. 3-D and 4-D were obtained analogous to the method of Paquette and coworkers for 3 and 4²⁾. Treatment of 9-Bromo-10-hydroxytricyclo[5.3.1.0^{4,11}]undec-2,5,8-triene with D₂O, its subsequent inverse addition to n-BuLi and work-up with D₂O gave 3-D and 4-D with >97% deuterium incorporation at C-9 (mass spectrum and ¹H-NMR spectrum in the presence of Eu(DPM)₃ shift reagent).

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