

THE 2-OXO-THIAZOLIDINIUM MOIETY AS A NOVEL INITIATING  
CENTER FOR STEREOSELECTIVE OLEFIN CYCLISATIONS.

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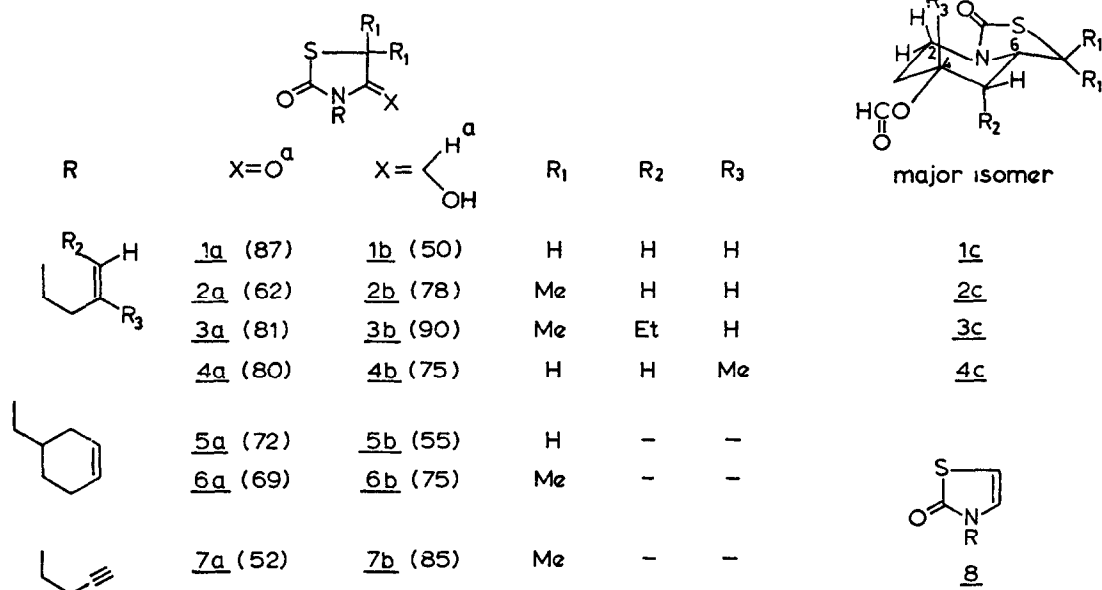
In recent years the synthetic utility of stereoselective  $\alpha$ -acyliminium olefin cyclisations has been amply demonstrated<sup>2</sup>. Suitable structural variations in either the olefinic or in the  $\alpha$ -acyliminium part could enlarge the scope of the method further. As an illustration of the latter modification some results on the 2-oxo-thiazolidinium moiety are reported herein.

The starting imides used - 2,4-thiazolidinediones<sup>3</sup> - are coupled via the oxidation-reduction technique<sup>5</sup> with the appropriate alcohol to afford the N-alkylated derivatives 1a-7a in good yields.  $\text{NaBH}_4/\text{H}^+$  reduction provided the mostly crystalline carbinollactams 1b-7b which were used after purification via column chromatography or recrystallization. The observed regioselectivity effect in the reductions is either rationalized on the basis of a difference in ketonic character between the two carbonyl groups, viz 1a + 1b, 4a + 4b and 5a + 5b, or by steric approach control of the hydride reagent<sup>6</sup> or by a combination of both effects.

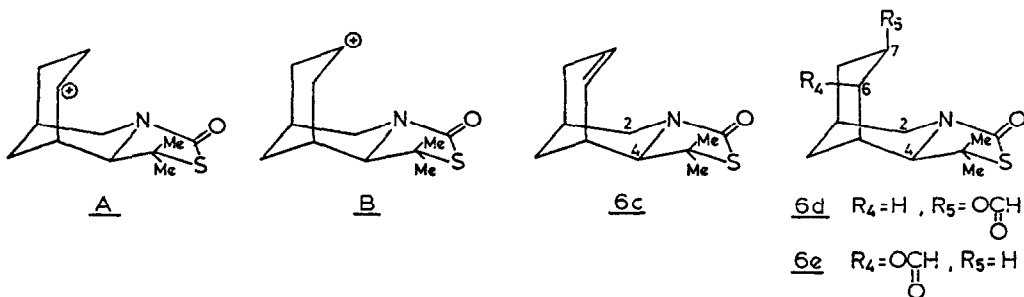
Cyclisations of the  $\omega$ -carbinollactams 1b-7b were performed under essentially similar conditions as those described before<sup>7</sup>. Thus reaction of 1b in HCOOH for 142 hr afforded a 3 : 1 mixture (82% yield) of 1c and its C<sub>4</sub>-epimer. The relative slowness of the reaction is most probably due to the reversible formation of the intermediate enamide 8 which in contrast to analogous derivatives in the succinimide and glutarimide series only gradually cyclizes.

The rate of ring closure could be enhanced considerably by either blocking the adjacent CH<sub>2</sub>-group thereby preventing enamide formation or by raising the nucleophilic character of the vinylic moiety. Within the latter context the cyclisation of 4b is completed after 18 hr thereby affording a 8 : 3 mixture of 4c and its C<sub>4</sub>-epimer. 4c: 93-94°. IR(CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1665 and 1720 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.02 (s, 1H, CHO), 3.68-4.07 (m, 2H, H<sub>6ax</sub> and H<sub>2eq</sub>), 1.58 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

On the other hand complete ring closure of 2b (92% yield) proceeded within 2 hr upon HCOOH treatment at room temperature. A 3 : 1 mixture of 2c and its



a : yields of purified products in parentheses



C<sub>4</sub>-epimer was obtained. 2c: mp. 137-138°. IR(CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1670 and 1725 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR: δ(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.07 (s, 1H, CHO), 4.80-5.18 (m, 1H, H<sub>4ax</sub>) 3.35 (d of d, J<sub>1</sub> = 12Hz, J<sub>2</sub> = 3Hz, H<sub>6ax</sub>), 1.46 and 1.56 (s and s, 6H, 2 × CH<sub>3</sub>).

The retardation of the cyclisation process by reversible enamide formation is also clearly indicated by the result of the cyclohexenyl derivative 5a which afforded only 8 (R = [3-cyclohexene]-methyl) as an oil.

On the contrary, ring closure of 6b was completed in less than 2 hr and yielded a mixture of three cyclisation products: 6c (50%), 6d (34%) and 6e (16%). 6c: mp. 116-118°. IR(CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1655 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR: δ(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.85 (m, 2H, CH=CH), 4.26 (d of m, 1H, H<sub>2eq</sub>), 3.34 (d, J = 2Hz, 1H, H<sub>4ax</sub>), 3.05 (d of m, 1H, H<sub>2ax</sub>). 6d: mp. 131-132°, IR(CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1660 and 1725 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR: δ(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.00 (s, 1H, CHO), 5.22-5.60 (septet, 1H, H<sub>7ax</sub>), 4.15 (d of m, J<sub>d</sub> = 13 Hz, H<sub>2eq</sub>), 3.38 (d, J = 2 Hz, H<sub>4ax</sub>), 3.05 (d of m, 1H, H<sub>2ax</sub>).

Compounds 6c and 6e originate from the C<sub>6</sub>-carbenium intermediate A, while 6d is derived from the C<sub>7</sub>-carbenium intermediate B which in turn is formed from A

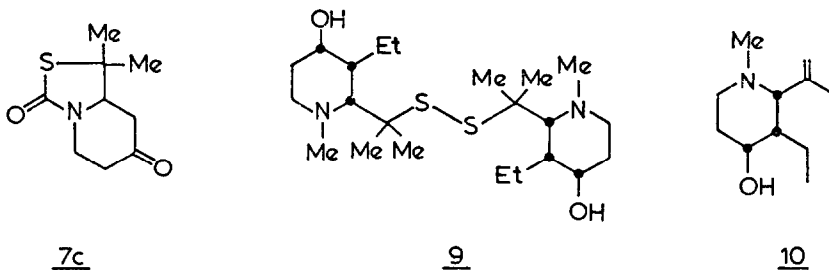
via a [1,2]-hydride shift. Prolonged HCOOH treatment of 6c did not lead to any change thus excluding an acid catalyzed addition to the C=C bond in the formation of 6d.

Finally the ability of the 2-oxo-thiazolidinium moiety to induce cyclisation of an acetylenic bond<sup>8</sup> was demonstrated in the conversion of 7b into the ketone 7c (72 hr, r.t., 80% yield), mp. 117-118°, IR(KBr): 1655 and 1708 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.25-4.50 (m, 1H, H<sub>2</sub>eq), 3.58 (d of d, J<sub>1</sub>=11Hz, J<sub>2</sub>=5Hz, 1H, H<sub>6</sub>ax), 2.95-3.25 (m, 1H, H<sub>2</sub>ax), 1.43 and 1.63 (2 x s, 6H, 2 x CH<sub>3</sub>).

The foregoing results have indicated the easy formation of a variety of thiazolidine derivatives of interesting pharmacological structure which hitherto were not accessible via simple routes.

More important from a synthetic point of view, however, is the aptitude of the sulfur heterocycle to undergo further transformation resulting in a stereo-controlled synthesis of multiple substituted piperidine derivatives.

As an example of this novel technique the preparation of an all-cis substituted derivative is described.



Cyclisation of compound 3b (HCOOH, r.t., 72 hr) afforded in an essentially stereospecific manner compound 3c (96% yield): mp. 109-110°. IR(CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1660 and 1720 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.01 (s, 1H, CHO), 4.93-5.23 (d of t, J<sub>1</sub>=12Hz, J<sub>2</sub>=J<sub>3</sub>=5Hz, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>ax), 3.22 (d, J=2.5Hz, 1H, H<sub>6</sub>ax). LAH-reduction of 3c (THF, 16 hr, reflux) gave the crystalline disulfide 9<sup>6</sup>, formed via reductive ring fission, followed by oxidative dimerization (51% yield), mp. 152-154°. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3.74 (d of t, J<sub>1</sub>=11z, J<sub>2</sub>=J<sub>3</sub>=5Hz, 2H, CHOH), 2.57 (s, 6H, 2 x N-CH<sub>3</sub>). The molecular weight of 432 was determined with the aid of Field-ionization mass spectroscopy. The "decoupled" <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum showed 11 signals, indicating a symmetrical structure. <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 73.56(d), 71.65(d), 55.56(t), 54.24(s), 45.07 (d), 43.58(q), 30.93(q), 27.58(q), 27.43(t), 18.63(t), 16.15(q). Treatment of compound 9 with Raney Ni (THF, 20 hr, reflux), afforded the crystalline cis-substituted piperidine 10 (67% yield), mp. 96-98°. NMR:  $\delta$ (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.65-3.92 (d of t, 1H, CHOH) 2.23 (s, 3H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.09 (m, 2H, >C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.83 (br s, 3H, C=C-CH<sub>3</sub>). Obvious ramifications of the latter procedure are under active investigation.

## References

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9. All new compounds gave correct analytical data.

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