CIS \triangle^5 -OCTAHYDRO-1-NAPHTALENONES AND <u>CIS</u> \triangle^5 -DECAHYDRO-1-NAPHTALENONES (<u>CIS</u>-1-DECALONES) BY STEREOSELECTIVE INTRAMOLECULAR DIELS-ALDER REACTION.

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Intramolecular DIELS-ALDER reactions of requisite trienes led to cis-1-decalones, via an endo intermediate state.

In connection with our synthetic work, we needed a method for the preparation of particular cis-1-decalones. Recent reports from the literature have demonstrated that the intramolecular variants of the DIELS-ALDER reaction offer a powerful method for the stereocontrolled synthesis of polycyclic structures (1).

Wishing to take advantage of this one-step construction of a bicyclic olefin, our interest was focused on the simultaneous formation of two 6-membered rings (2).

There are only few reported cases of such an intramolecular [4+2] addition which generate a simple octalone system, and <u>1</u> was mentioned to give <u>2</u> with the trans ring junction (3a).

The stereochemical features of this type of reaction should be consequences $\frac{1}{\underline{1}}$

of a highly ordered transition state. Two requisite <u>cis</u>-coplanar arrangements of 1 lead to annelated products and both are strain-free.



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The maximum orbital overlap lowers the energy of the <u>endo</u> transition state relative to that of the <u>exo</u> mode. Despite a previous report (3a), the <u>cis</u>octalone <u>2a</u> should be the one obtained under kinetically controlled conditions. Since <u>2a</u> epimerized to <u>2b</u>, we have carried out as mild as possible a synthesis of triene <u>1</u> to avoid loss of this selectivity by the formation of the thermodynamically controlled product <u>2b</u>.

Our approach to the synthesis of $\underline{1}$ involves the union of a pentadienyl moiety 3 and of bromo-ketal 4.



From all the combinations investigated, including some copper catalysts (CuI or Li_2CuCl_4), the best results were obtained from :

- Condensation of the GRIGNARD reagent of 4a with a solution of 3a in THF at 0°C (78 % of a mixture 5a : 8.5/6a : 1.5).

- Condensation of the GRIGNARD reagent of $\underline{4b}$ with a boiling solution of $\underline{3b}$ in THF (72 % of a mixture $\underline{5b}$: $7/\underline{6b}$: 3).

Diene 5b : $IR \text{ cm}^{-1} = 3084, 1652, 1608, 1070, 903$

NMR (oppm, CCl₄) : 5.35 to 6.66, m, 3H ; 5.00, m, 2H ; 3.86, s, 4H ; 2.10, m, 2H ; 1.50, t, 2H ; 1.23, s, 3H.

After chromatographic purification (SiO_2) , diene <u>5a</u> was deketalized and condensed with vinyl-lithium in THF, to yield triene carbinol <u>7</u>.

Triene $\underline{7}$: IR cm⁻¹, CCl₄ = 3600, 3340, 3080, 1650, 1604, 924, 900.

NMR (&ppm, CCl₄) : 5.91, m, 4H ; 5.12, m, 4H ; 4.02 d of t, 1H ; 3.08, s, 1H ; 2.10, m, 2H ; 1.10 to 1.70, m, 4H.



Oxidation of the vinyl carbinol molety in triene ketone <u>1</u> directly produced the <u>cis</u>-fused octalone <u>2</u> via a smooth *in situ* intramolecular [4+2] cyclization.

The stereochemical structure of $\underline{2}$ was established by chemical connection with the known, independently synthesized <u>cis</u> and <u>trans</u>-decahydro-1-naphtalenones $\underline{8}$ (1-decalones) (4). We have found that the nature of the ring fusion was dependent on the crucial oxidation step : No. 47



The observed stereoselectivity of this intramolecular DIELS-ALDER reaction is thus fully reconciled with the original prediction. Secondary orbital interactions play an important part in the stereoselectivity, and the reaction is kinetically controlled *via* the preferred endo-orientation of the carbonyl group.

In diene $\underline{5b}$, we have linked a substituted dienophile unit after deketalization via regioselective aldol condensation, followed by dehydration. Once again, the alkylidene-ketone directly cyclized into the pure cis-octalone 10.



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 $10 : IR cm^{-1} : 1708$

NMR (δ ppm, CCl₄) : 5.43, m, 2H ; 2.50, m, 1H (J = 2 Hz and 5 Hz) ; 2.30, m, 3H ; 1.97, m, 2H ; 1.73 broad s, 5H ; 1.60, m, 1H ; 1.04, d, (J = 6 Hz), 3H ; 0.85 d (J = 6 Hz), 3H.

In this case, the preference for the <u>endo</u> transition state is enhanced by a steric repulsion present in the <u>exo</u> mode, between the newly introduced iPr- substituent and the diene.

In the stereochemistry assigned to <u>10</u> and <u>11</u>, the isopropyl group lays in an equatorial position. Neither <u>10</u> nor <u>11</u> epimerize to the trans fused decalone system (with the iPr-group brought to an axial position) under the standard conditions used for the epimerization 2a = 2b.

To sum up, we have shown by this study that the stereospecific construction of Δ^5 -octahydro or decahydro-1-naphtalenones with a <u>cis</u> ring junction is possible in useful yields, *via* the intramolecular DIELS-ALDER reaction of appropriately functionalized precursors (6).

References and notes :

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- 6 After the submission of this article, a report described the synthesis of (⁺/₂)-torreyol, using the same speculations on intramolecular DIELS-ALDER reaction. D.F. TABER, B.P. GUNN, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., <u>101</u>, 3992, (1979).

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