

6-METHYLENE CYCLOHEXANONE-2,4-DICARBOXYLATES FROM THE ANIONS OF SECONDARY AMIDES AND ACRYLATES
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6-Methylene cyclohexanone-2,4-dicarboxylates as their enol tautomers¹ (3) are the major products from condensation of the anions of secondary amides with acrylates.

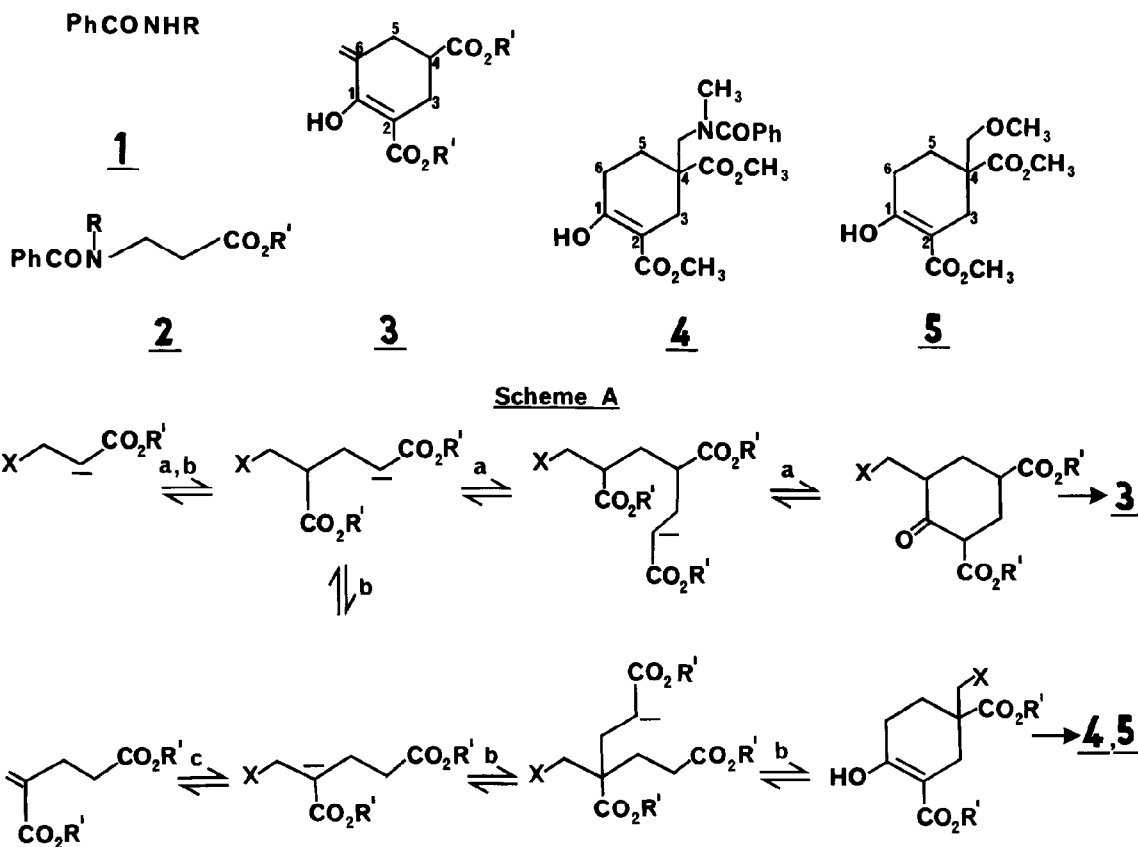
In an attempt to make 2 ($R^1 = \text{Et}$, $R = \text{allyl}$), ethyl acrylate was added to the anion of N-allyl benzamide (1, $R = \text{allyl}$) generated with NaH (1 mol.) in DMF at 0°C. The major product (60% based on acrylate), isolated as a pure liquid after chromatography on silica gel, was assigned the structure 3 ($R^1 = \text{Et}$), ν_{max} (film) 1735, 1665, 1640, 1600 cm^{-1} ; violet colour with FeCl_3 ; M^+ 254 ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5$); δ_{H} (CDCl_3) 1.26 (3H, t, ester CH_3), 1.32 (3H, t, ester CH_3), 2.2 \rightarrow 2.8 (5H, br, 2 CH_2 's and $\text{>CH-CO}_2\text{Et}$), 4.22 (2H, q, ester CH_2), 4.3 (2H, q, ester CH_2), 5.32 and 5.96 (2H, >CH_2), 12.0 (1H, OH). Other secondary amide anions can act as initiators of these acrylate condensation reactions. With N-methyl benzamide (1, $R = \text{Me}$) and ethyl acrylate, 3 ($R^1 = \text{Et}$) was again the major product (\sim 60% yield). When 1 ($R = \text{Me}$) and methyl acrylate were the reactants, crystalline products were isolated but the reaction was more complex. The structure of 3 ($R^1 = \text{Me}$), m.p. 68 - 70°C, obtained in 55% yield, was supported by partially decoupled ^{13}C n.m.r. - δ_{C} 25.9 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 33.2 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 39.2 (d, $-\text{CH-CO}_2\text{Me}$), 52.5 (2q, ester Me's), 98.1 (s, $=\text{C-CO}_2\text{Me}$), 117.2 (t, $=\text{CH}_2$), 136.5 (s, $-\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$), 163.5, 172.6 and 174.1 (3s, 3 $\text{>C} = \text{O}$).

An aromatic amide, $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_6$, m.p. 106 - 107°C, was also isolated in 12% yield and spectral data supported structure 4 - δ_{C} 26.1 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-$) 27.6 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 28.8 (t, $-\text{CH}_2$), 39.9 (q, $-\text{N-CH}_3$), 46.6 (s, $-\text{C-CO}_2\text{Me}$), 51.4 (q, $-\text{O-CH}_3$), 52.2 (q, $-\text{O-CH}_3$) 55.2 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{N-}$), 95.3 (q, $=\text{C-CO}_2\text{Me}$), 126.8 (2d, o- or m- aromatics), 128.3 (2d, o- or m- aromatics) 129.5 (d, p aromatic c), 136.3 (s, Ph CO-), 170.7, 172.2, 172.4 and 174.9 (4s, 4 C = O's); δ_{H} 2.1-2.6 (5H, complex; 2H at C5, 2H at C6, 1H of AB quartet at C3), 2.95 (3H, s, $-\text{N-CH}_3$), 2.97 (1H of AB quartet at C3), 3.72 (3H, s, ester CH_3), 3.77 (3H, s, ester CH_3), 3.8 (2H, $-\text{C}_1-\text{CH}_2-\text{N-}$ AB quartet), 7.41 (5H, aromatic). The n.m.r. spectra of 4 indicate some restricted rotation in the geminal substituents at C4. The room temperature ^{13}C n.m.r. showed the $-\text{N-CH}_3$ and $-\text{C}_1-\text{CH}_2-\text{N-}$ groups as weak broad signals which sharpened considerably at 54°C.

The structure 5 was assigned to a further product, $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_6$, m.p. 73 - 74°C obtained in 5% yield. Compared with 3 ($R^1 = \text{Me}$), 5 lacked the exocyclic methylene group but had an additional -OMe singlet at δ 3.29 and a two proton singlet ($-\text{CH}_2-\text{OMe}$) at δ 3.42. The ^{13}C n.m.r. bore strong similarities to that of 4 - δ_{C} 26.0 (2t, 2- CH_2-), 27.7 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 46.3 (s, $-\text{C-CO}_2\text{Me}$), 51.3 (q, CO_2Me), 52.0 (q, CO_2Me), 59.3 (q, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O-CH}_3$), 77.4 (t, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O-CH}_3$),

95.2 (s, = $\overset{\circ}{\text{C}}\cdot\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$), 170.5, 172.2, 174.7 (3s, 3C = O).

Presumably **3** arose from **1** via route (a) of scheme A (where X = Ph.C(=O).N^{Me} - or Ph.C(=O).N^{Me}) and route (b) is a possible source of **4**. The shunt c gives an opportunity for the methoxide ion generated in the Dieckmann condensation to add to the conjugated ester and thus provide the intermediates for **5**. **4** could not be converted directly to **5** with sodium methoxide in D.M.F. under conditions close to those of the reaction.



Acknowledgement - B.Wright and R.Pickford are thanked for measurement and discussion of the n.m.r. spectra.

References

- Nazarov reagents, e.g. ethyl acryloylacetate are 50% enolised, c.f., L.Pichat and J.P. Beaucourt, *Synthesis*, 537, 1973.

(Received in UK 8 May 1981)