

STEREOSELECTIVE CONTROL IN THE BASE-CATALYZED H-D EXCHANGE REACTION OF  
5,6,7,8-TETRAKIS(METHYLENE)-2-BICYCLO[2.2.2]OCTANONE IRONTRICARBONYL COMPLEXES

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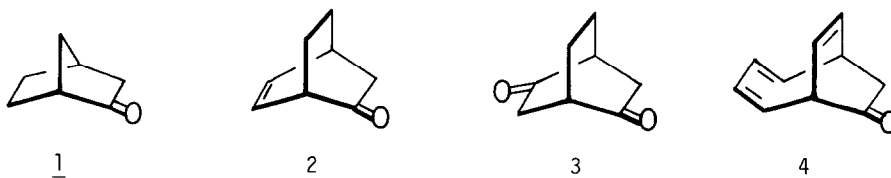
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*Summary.* The base-catalyzed H-D exchange of H-C(3) in the *endo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> monocomplex and the *endo,exo*-[Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub> double complex of 5,6,7,8-tetrakis(methylene)-2-bicyclo[2.2.2]octanone are highly stereoselective.

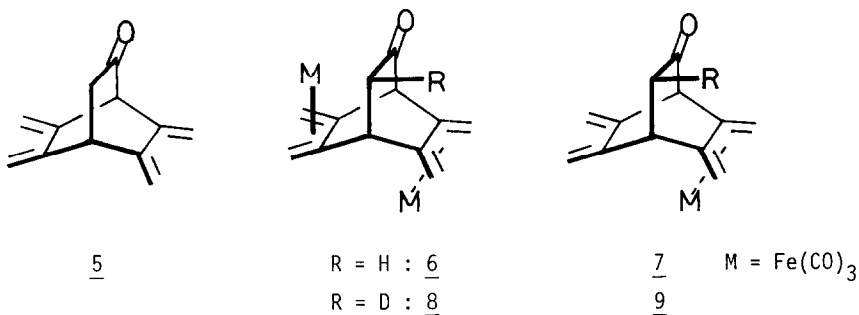
The diastereotopic hydrogen atoms  $\alpha$  to a carbonyl group of a chiral ketone can, in principle, show stereoselective keto-enol tautomerism.<sup>1,2</sup> The preference for axial over equatorial attack in the protonation of cyclohexenols was attributed by Corey and Sreen<sup>3</sup> to the necessity for proper orbital alignment in the enol fragment during protonation. Subsequent work has both reinforced and contradicted this interpretation.<sup>4</sup> A rate constant ratio  $k_{exo}/k_{endo}$  of ca 800 was reported for the direct base-catalyzed exchange of the H<sub>2</sub>C(3) hydrogen atoms in norbornanone 1.<sup>1,5</sup> Several explanations have been advanced for this stereoselectivity<sup>1,2</sup>, e.g.:

(1) torsional effects between H-C(3) and H-C(4) bonds, (2) steric hindrance to *endo* protonation of the enolate, (3) the least-motion principle (equivalent to Corey's and Sreen's hypothesis<sup>3</sup> of maximum overlap between the breaking  $\alpha$ -(C-H) bond and the carbonyl  $\pi$  system) and (4)  $\pi$ -anisotropy in the enolate intermediate (non-equivalent  $\pi$  electron density extension between the two faces of norbornene<sup>6</sup>).

With minor structural modification in the skeleton of 2-bicyclo[2.2.2]octanone, as in 2 and 3, the diastereoselectivity for the H-D exchange at C(3) was lost. In contrast, monodeuteration at C(8) in bicyclo[4.2.2]deca-2,4,9-trien-7-one (4) was stereoselective, probably because of steric factors.<sup>7</sup> We report the base-catalyzed hydrogen-deuterium exchange reactions

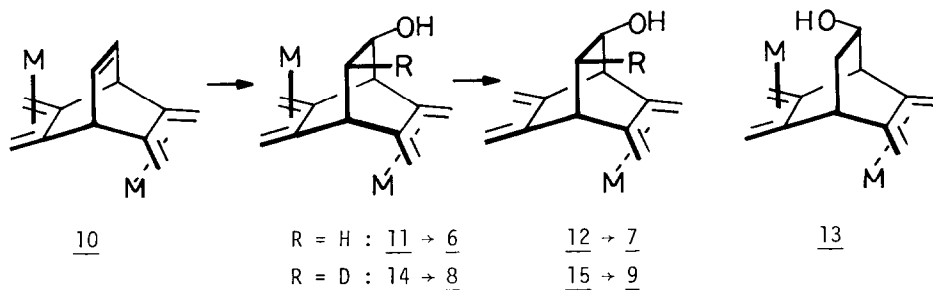


of 5,6,7,8-tetrakis(methylene)-2-bicyclo[2.2.2]octanone (5) and of its irontricarbonyl complexes 6 and 7. As expected, high diastereoselectivity was observed with the *exo,endo*-double complex 6; the less hindered face of the enolate intermediate was deuterated giving 8. To our surprise, however, the *endo* monocomplexed ketone 7 was also monodeuterated with high stereoselectivity yielding 9.



Ketones 5, 6 and 7 were prepared in the following way. Hydroboration/oxidation of the *endo,exo*-diiron complex 10 gave the corresponding alcohol 11.<sup>8</sup> In the presence of a 20-fold molar excess of trimethylamine oxide,<sup>9</sup> 11 was oxidized selectively into the monocomplexed alcohol 12 (78 %, acetone, 25°, 50 min). Further oxidation of 12 into the uncomplexed 5,6,7,8-tetrakis(methylene)-2-bicyclo[2.2.2]octanol was a very slow reaction giving a small amount of 5 and several products of decomposition. CrO<sub>3</sub> oxidation of 11 (pyridine/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 20°, 10 min) yielded the doubly complexed ketone 6 (64 %). Under the same conditions, 12 furnished the monocomplexed ketone 7 (65 %). When treated with a ten-fold molar excess of trimethylamine oxide in acetone (25°, 20 min), 6 gave a mixture of the *endo*-irontricarbonyl complexed ketone 7 (50 %) and the uncomplexed ketone 5 (31 %). The selectivity of these irontricarbonyl oxidations is not yet understood. In all cases, the *exo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> group is removed more rapidly than the *endo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> group, this was also true for 10.<sup>10</sup>

When treated in a 1:1 mixture of CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub> containing 1 % of anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, ketone 6 was monodeuterated into 8 (40°, 1h). Prolonged heating of 6 in CD<sub>3</sub>OD saturated with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or containing 5-10 % of CD<sub>3</sub>ONa did not exchange the second hydrogen atom at C(3) before decomposition of 6 (40°, 2 - 4 days). The high diastereoselectivity of the base-catalyzed monodeuteration



6 → 8 can be attributed to a steric factor, i.e. protonation of the enolate intermediate occurs preferentially from its less hindered face. When treated in 1:1 CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub> containing K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or CD<sub>3</sub>ONa, the *endo*-complexed ketone 7 gave the monodeuterated ketone 9. The exchange of the second hydrogen atom at C(3) was also observed; at 35° it occurred ca 100 times more slowly than reaction 7 → 9 (by 360 MHz <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy). The exchange was complete after 16 h in 1:1 CD<sub>3</sub>OD/CDCl<sub>3</sub> with 1 % K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. The lithium enolate of 7 generated by treatment with LDA in hexane at -78° gave 9 after quenching with D<sub>2</sub>O.<sup>11</sup>

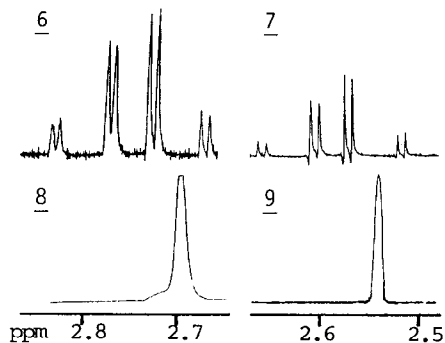
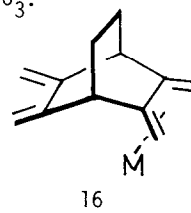


Figure 1: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra.

The structures of 5 - 12 were determined by their mode of formation, elemental analyses and by spectroscopic data.<sup>12</sup> The deuterium content in 8 and 9 was determined by 360 MHz <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (see Fig. 1 for the H<sub>2</sub>C(3) signals of 6 & 7 and for the HDC(3) signals of 8 & 9) and mass spectrometry. The structure of 10 was established by X-ray crystallography,<sup>8</sup> and those of the alcohols 11<sup>8</sup> and 12 by <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy using Eu(dpm)<sub>3</sub> and Yb(dpm)<sub>3</sub> induced chemical shifts, respectively. Reduction of ketone 6 with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (THF, 20°, 15 min) gave the doubly complexed alcohol 13 (37 %). The deuterium position in 8 and 9 was

further confirmed by the following experiments. Hydroboration/oxidation of 10 using NaBD<sub>4</sub>/BF<sub>3</sub> gave 14 which was oxidized into 8 with CrO<sub>3</sub>. Removal of the *exo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> group in 14 by treatment with trimethylamine oxide gave 15 which yielded 9 upon oxidation with CrO<sub>3</sub>.<sup>13</sup>

X-ray crystallographic data on the *endo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> complex 16<sup>14</sup> showed that the two faces of the ethano bridge offer the same steric hindrance. If this is also the case in 7, the selectivity of the H-D exchange 7 → 9 cannot be attributed to a difference in the steric hindrance to protonation of the enolate intermediate. π-anisotropy of the enolate (pyramidal anion?<sup>15</sup>) due to a field effect of the *endo*-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> group<sup>16</sup> could be invoked instead. Such a hypothesis though requires a rate enhancement for the base-catalyzed H-D exchange of 7 compared with that of 5, but competitive kinetic measurements by 360 MHz <sup>1</sup>H-NMR showed very similar rates with 5, 6 and 7. Specific solvation effects could be invoked, but again with this hypothesis alone it is difficult to reconcile the lack of reactivity difference between 5 and 7. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of 6 and 7 suggest slightly twisted bicyclic skeletons. The vicinal coupling constants between H-C(4) and the two H-C(3) are not the same<sup>12</sup> (see Fig. 1). This distortion may arise from a dipole-dipole interaction between the Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> and ketone groups. This hypothesis is consistent with the observation of a slight stereoselectivity (2:1) in the addition of CH<sub>3</sub>MgI to 7. The Grignard reagent preferred the ketone face *syn* to the diene-Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub> complex. A skeleton distortion could also be invoked to explain the stereoselective base-catalyzed H-D exchange in 7.



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11. Acid-catalyzed H-D exchanges in 6 and 7 could not be studied as these compounds decomposed rapidly under acidic conditions.
12. Characteristics of 5: m.p. 55-56<sup>o</sup>, UV(dioxane) 251(11600), 305(440), <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 5.38(s,2H), 5.32(s,2H), 4.98(s,4H), 3.75(s,1H), 3.4(t,J=3Hz,1H), 2.4(d,J=3Hz,2H).  
Characteristics of 6: m.p. 146-7<sup>o</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(360 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 3.88(s,1H), 3.63(dxd,J=2.9 & 2.5 Hz,1H), 2.79(dxd,J=1.8 & 2.5Hz,1H), 2.70(dxd,J=1.8 & 2.9Hz,1H), 2.19(d,J=3Hz,1H), 2.18(d,J=3Hz,1H), 2.08(d,J=3Hz,1H), 1.89(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.72(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.64(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.54(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.44(d,J=3Hz,1H).  
Characteristics of 7: m.p. 109-110<sup>o</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(360 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 5.49(s,1H), 5.41(s,1H), 5.03(s,1H), 5.01(s,1H), 3.75(s,1H), 3.52(dxd,J=2.9 & 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63(dxd,J=1.8 & 2.9 Hz,1H), 2.55(dxd,J=1.8 & 2.6 Hz,1H), 1.98(d,J=3Hz,1H), 1.88(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.43(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.27(d,J=3Hz,1H).  
Characteristics of 12: m.p. 91-92<sup>o</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 5.22(s,1H), 5.13(s,1H), 4.85(s,1H), 4.73(s,1H), 4.45(m,H-C(2)), 3.32(d,J=3Hz,H-C(1)), 3.20(t,J=3Hz,H-C(4)), 2.50(dxdxd,J=1.3, 9 & 3 Hz, H-C(3R\*)), 1.85(d,J=3Hz,2H), 1.8-1.5(m,H-C(3S\*) & OH), 0.34(d,J=3Hz,1H), 0.30(d,J=3Hz,2H).  
Characteristics of 13: m.p. 183-184<sup>o</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 4.60(dxdxdxd,1H), 3.36(d,1H), 3.28(t,1H), 2.62(dxdxd,1H), 2.19(d,1H), 2.06 & 2.03(d,2H), 1.86(dxdxd,1H), 1.85 & 1.67(d,2H), 0.54 & 0.48(d,2H), 0.29 & 0.24(d,2H).
13. Details will be given in a full paper.
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