

THE CHEMISTRY OF PHOTOLYTICALLY AND THERMALLY GENERATED α -KETOCARBENES FROM
IODONIUM YLIDES OF β -DIKETONES

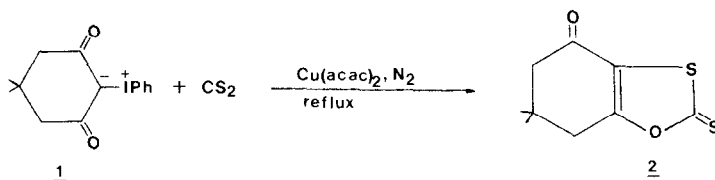
Lazaros P. Hadjiarapoglou^{1,2}

Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Aristotelian
University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki GR 54006, GREECE

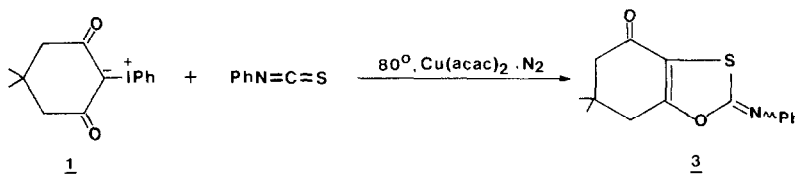
Summary: The reactions of Phenyliodonium dimedonate, 1, with various double
bonds were investigated. The products are always heterocyclic compounds (5-member
ring) in good yield.

Until today, chemical studies on I-ylide 1 have been limited to its
reactivity toward highly electrophilic agents³ and thermal decomposition.

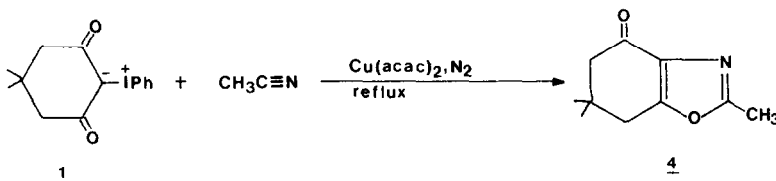
When a suspension of I-ylide 1 in carbon disulfide was heated under reflux
in the presence of catalytic amounts of $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$, in an atmosphere of N_2 , the
4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1,3-benzoxathiole-2-thione⁴, 2, was isola-
ted in 85% yield.



In the same way, using phenyl isothiocyanate, the isolated product was 2-
phenylimino-4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1,3-benzoxathiole, 3, in 74%
yield.

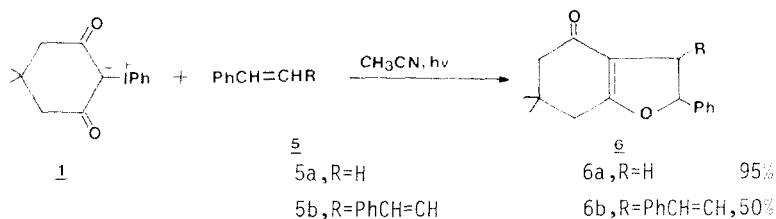


In the reaction of I-ylide 1 with acetonitril under reflux in the
presence of $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$, in an atmosphere of N_2 , the 1-methyl-4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetra-
hydro-6,6-dimethyl-1,3-benzoxazol, 4, was isolated in 84% yield.



When a suspension of I-ylide 1 in acetonitril was irradiated (400W lamp,

low pressure Hg) in the presence of an alkene, 5, the corresponding 2-phenyl-4-oxo-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-benzofuran^{5,6}, was isolated.

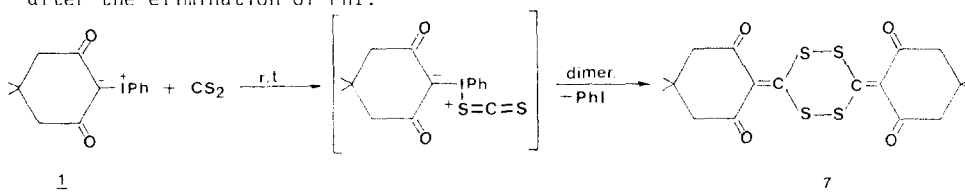


In all the above reactions, we believe that the I-ylide decomposes (on irradiation or thermally in the presence of catalytic amounts⁶ of $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$) to a diketocarbene and PhI . The spin multiplicity of the carbene which is responsible for the reaction has estimated to be triplet⁷ in view of the results obtained from the sensitized photolysis of diazodimedone.

REFERENCES AND NOTES:

1. Fellow of "NAPOLEON ZERVAS" Foundation for years 1985 and 1986.
2. Present address: Organische Chemie, Universität des Saarlandes, Fachbereich 14.1, D-6600 Saarbrücken, W. Germany.
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The authors believe that they have prepared the thione 2. The correct is that they prepared the dimer, 7, which comes from the dimerization of the species after the elimination of PhI .



Using their procedure, the isolated product in ^1H NMR (DMSO-d_6) has a singlet for the methylenes of dimedone ring in the region of 2,40 δ . This is in agreement with the proposed structure 7. The thione 2 has two singlets for the two methylenes of dimedone ring with 23 Hz difference, which is difficult to be masked by the solvent.

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