



# Photolysis of [3<sub>4</sub>](1,2,3,5)cyclophane: formation of a pentacyclo[6.3.1.1<sup>6,10</sup>.0<sup>3,7</sup>.0<sup>4,10</sup>]dodecane skeleton with abnormally elongated C–C single bonds<sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

The photolysis of [3<sub>4</sub>](1,2,3,5)cyclophane **5** in H<sub>2</sub>O-saturated CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> produced the novel polycyclic caged diol **6** with a pentacyclo[6.3.1.1<sup>6,10</sup>.0<sup>3,7</sup>.0<sup>4,10</sup>]dodecane skeleton **4**, which has abnormally elongated C–C single bonds (1.624 Å). The structural features of **6** were studied using the X-ray structural analysis and ab initio MO calculations. © 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

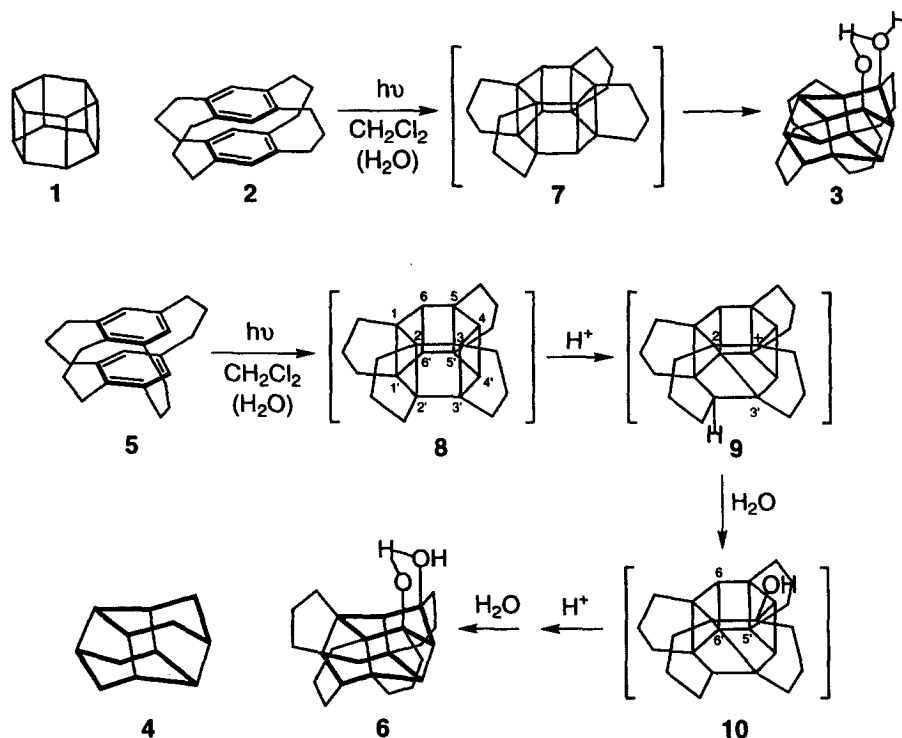
**Keywords:** hexaprismane; photolysis; cyclophane; polycyclic caged compound.

Our recent interest has focused on the challenging objective of synthesizing hexaprismane **1**<sup>2</sup> and its derivatives, therefore, we have studied the photolysis<sup>3,4</sup> of multibridged [3<sub>n</sub>]cyclophanes.<sup>5</sup> Previously, we reported that the photolysis of [3<sub>4</sub>](1,2,4,5)cyclophane **2**<sup>6</sup> afforded a new polycyclic caged diol **3** with a novel pentacyclo[6.3.1.1<sup>6,10</sup>.0<sup>3,7</sup>.0<sup>4,10</sup>]dodecane skeleton **4**.<sup>4</sup> For the formation of **3**, we proposed a series of reactions involving the initial formation of a hexaprismane derivative **7** followed by the protonation and equilibration of the resultant carbocations, and interception of the most stable cation with a hydroxide ion.<sup>3,4</sup> We now describe the structural features of the photoproduct of [3<sub>4</sub>](1,2,3,5)cyclophane **5**,<sup>5</sup> which has a different substitution pattern of four trimethylene bridges from that of **2**.

A H<sub>2</sub>O-saturated CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (3.8×10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L) of **5** was irradiated with a low pressure Hg lamp for 3 h at room temperature under Ar. Separation of the reaction mixture by silica gel column chromatography with AcOEt:hexane (1:5) gave the starting **5** (40%) and new caged diol **6**<sup>7</sup> as colorless crystals (4.5%) (Scheme 1). The X-ray structural analysis showed the new polycyclic caged structure for **6**, which is composed of five chair-cyclohexanes and five cyclopentanes.<sup>8</sup> Three of the chair-cyclohexanes are transformed from the original trimethylene bridges and the remaining two originate from the benzene rings. The molecular structure of **6** is similar to that of **3**, but the latter is composed of six chair-cyclohexanes and four cyclopentanes. Although the skeleton **4** of **6** is the same as that of **3**, the C3–C10

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and C6–C7 bond lengths, which are connected to the upper and lower chair-cyclohexanes, are abnormally long [both 1.624(4) Å] as compared with the C–C bond length of cyclopentane (1.552 Å) optimized by the RHF/6-31G\* basis set,<sup>9</sup> and even with the corresponding bond lengths [1.603(4) and 1.610(4) Å] of **3** (Fig. 1). All four trimethylene bridges of **2** are transformed into the chair-cyclohexanes in **3**, whereas the trimethylene bridge of **5** is converted into a cyclopentane ring involving the C3 and C10 bridgeheads. As a result, **6** is less stable than **3** by 6.8 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> based on the ab initio MO calculations (RHF/6-31G\*) mainly due to the presence of a more strained cyclopentane ring (ca. 6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) in place of a cyclohexane ring.<sup>9</sup> The upper and lower six-membered rings of **6** are distorted chair-cyclohexanes; the dihedral angles of the C1–C2–C4–C5 and C5–C6–C1 planes (105.3°) as well as the C8–C9–C11–C12 and C9–C10–C11 planes (103.6°) are much smaller than those of the C1–C2–C4–C5 and C2–C3–C4 planes (151.1°) and C8–C9–C11–C12 and C8–C7–C12 planes (155.6°), respectively. The corresponding value of a chair-cyclohexane estimated by the RHF/6-31G\* level MO calculations is 130.5°. Both cyclohexane rings of **6** are slightly more deformed than those of **3**.



Scheme 1. Photochemical reactions of **2** and **5**

The formation of **6** may be explained by the protonation of the most strained C2–C2' bond of **8**, followed by formation of the C2–C3' bond giving the cation **9**, which is intercepted by water to afford **10**. Further protonation of the C6' carbon and subsequent formation of the C6–C5' bond and interception of the resulting carbocation by water may provide **6**. Further application of this photolysis to the higher homologues of **5**, elaboration of the reaction mechanisms, and our effort toward the isolation of the hexaprismane derivatives are currently under intense investigation.

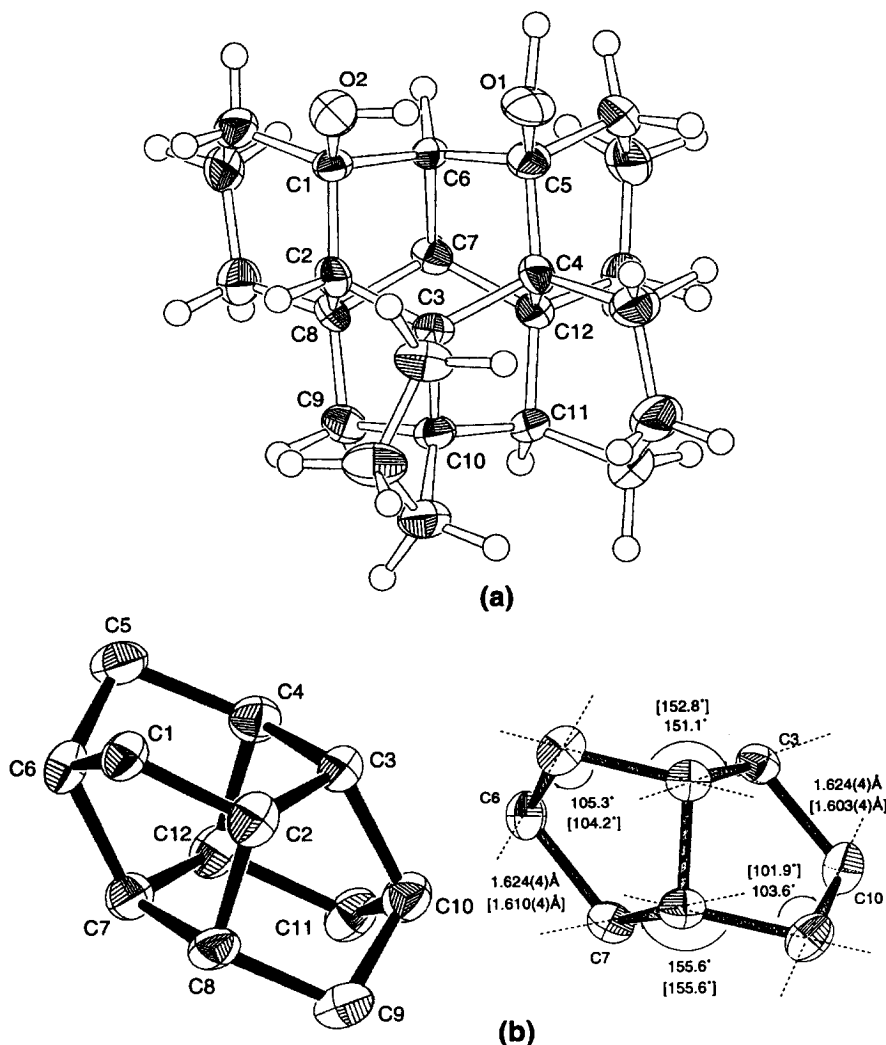


Figure 1. (a) ORTEP drawing of **6** (50% probability ellipsoids). (b) Crystal structure of the skeleton of **6** (hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity). Values in brackets are those of the corresponding skeleton of **3**

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8. Crystal Data for **6**: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, *M<sub>r</sub>*=352.52, monoclinic space group *P21/c* (#14), *a*=9.202(10), *b*=13.658(4), *c*=14.455(4) Å, β=95.946(4)°, *Z*=4, *V*=1806.86 Å<sup>3</sup>, μ<sub>M<sub>o</sub></sub>=0.80 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Rigaku RAXIS-IV imaging plate), 2321 reflections with *I*>3.00(*I*), *R* (*R<sub>w</sub>*)=0.046 (0.032). Crystallographic data (excluding structure factor) for structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as Supplementary Publication no. CCDC-119350. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge upon application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44)-1223-33603; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).
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