

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE CONFORMATIONAL DYNAMICS OF ION-PAIR INTERMEDIATES IN THE *SYN*-ELIMINATION OF 8 α -METHYLDECAHYDRONAPHTHALEN-4 α -OLS†

JAMES M. COXON, GREGORY W. SIMPSON, PETER J. STEEL AND STEPHEN C. WHITELING
 Department of Chemistry, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

(Received in UK 17 November 1983)

Abstract—The (4 $\alpha\beta$,8 $\alpha\beta$)-8 α -methyl(5 β D)decahydronaphthalen-4 α -ol has been prepared and its reaction with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc shown to occur with a k_H/k_D of 2.2 (± 0.2) by loss of a proton (deuteron) *syn* to the departing oxy-anion. The results are used as a probe of carbocation-anion conformational mobility.

THE unsuccessful attempt by Westphalen¹ to acetylate the tertiary alcohol of 3 β ,6 β -diacetoxy-5 α -cholestan-5-ol (1) with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc prompted interest, firstly in the structure² of the major rearranged product 5-methyl-19-nor-5 β -cholest-9(10)-ene-3,6-diol diacetate (2) and secondly in the mode of action of the reagents³ (Scheme 1). We have more recently studied the reaction of several 8 α -methyldecahydronaphthalene-4 α -ols with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc in an attempt to probe the detailed mechanism of reaction. In the absence of ring substituents 8 α -methyl-*trans*- and *cis*-decahydronaphthalene-4 α -ol (3 a) and 4 a give 8 α -methyl-1,2,3,4,6,7,8,8 α -octahydronaphthalene (5 a) in reactions which do not involve skeletal reorganisation, Me migration or spiran intermediacy. The product 5 a from both alcohols results from 1,2-elimination in reactions believed to involve the intermediacy of 8 α -methyldecahydronaphthalen-4 α -yl cation (6) formed by heterolysis of an initially produced intermediate acetyl sulphate intermediate.⁴

Reaction of deuterio-alcohol 4 b , which exists as a dynamically equilibrating mixture of the two chair-chair conformers³ (Scheme 2) with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc gives an equal mixture⁴ of the deuterio-alkenes (5 b and 5 c). The cation intermediate produced from alcohol 4 b superficially is identical to the cation produced from similar heterolysis of the

C-O bond of the epimeric alcohol 3 b (Scheme 3), however the latter reaction does not give an equal mixture of 5 b and 5 c , instead giving a mixture (1:2.2) of 5 a and 5 c .

Failure to observe loss of D from the reaction of alcohol 4 b suggests either that proton loss in the formation of alkene 5 b and hence 5 c is stereospecific and *syn* or alternatively that a large kinetic isotope effect favours loss of a proton.

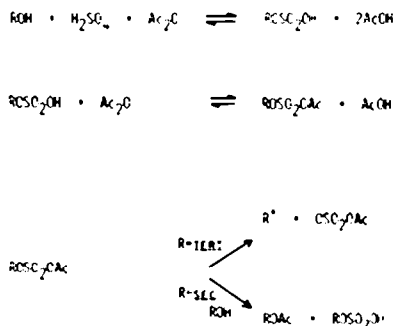
We now report the synthesis of alcohol 4 c and a study of its dehydration reaction with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc to measure the kinetic isotope effect and probe cation-anion mobility, information presently inaccessible by other methods of investigation.⁶

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

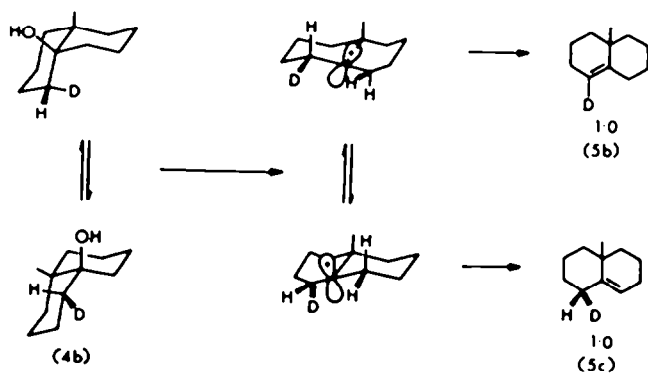
The synthesis of alcohol 4 c was affected in the following manner (Scheme 4). The epimeric 4,4 α -epoxy-8 α -methyl-*trans*- and *cis*-decahydronaphthalenes (7 a), to date unseparated, were reacted with LAD to produce alcohols 3 c and 4 b which are readily separable. The former alcohol 3 c was dehydrated using H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc. This reaction is known to occur by *syn*-elimination⁴ and the reaction is amenable to scaling up. The mixture of deuterated alkenes 5 b and 5 d was reacted with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid and the deuterated epoxide mixture (7 b - e) so produced reacted with LAH⁷ to give three deuterated alcohols 3 b , 3 c and 4 c . The labelled *trans*-8 α -methyldecahydronaphthalen-4 α -ols (3 b and 3 c) were separated by chromatography from the required stereospecifically labelled *cis*-8 α -methyldecahydronaphthalene-4 α -ol (4 c).

Reaction of this latter alcohol 4 c with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc gave a 1:2.2 (± 0.2) mixture of alkenes 5 a and 5 d (Scheme 5). The signals due to C1 and C8 were not reduced in height in the ¹³C NMR spectrum compared with the signals of an authentic sample of alkene 5 a , confirming that Me migration and/or spiran intermediacy do not compete with loss of a proton adjacent to the departing oxy-anion. The signal for C1 was a singlet, 32.6 ppm, superimposed on a triplet centred at 32.4 ppm and the olefinic signal in the ¹H NMR spectra integrated as one proton. The ratio of alkenes 5 a and 5 d was determined from the gc/ms of the mixture from, in particular, the intensity

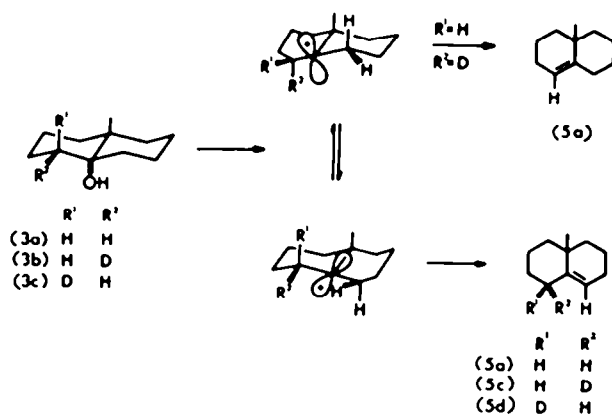
†For a preliminary report of this work see J. M. Coxon, G. W. Simpson, and J. A. Ussher, *Tetrahedron Letters* 3631 (1982).



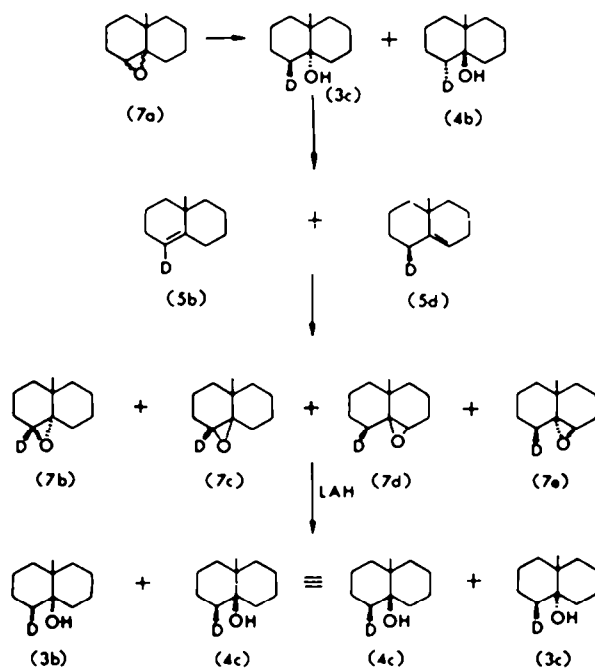
Scheme 1.



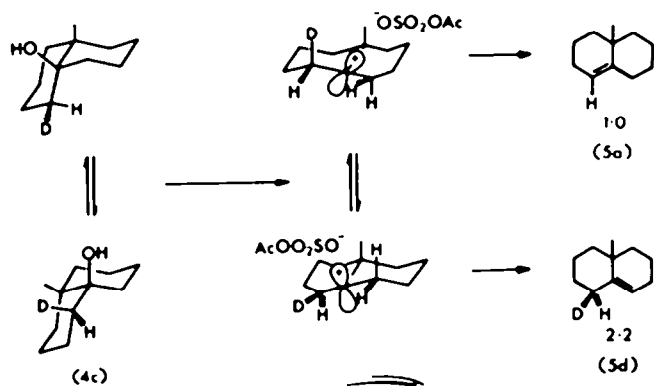
Scheme 2.



Scheme 3.



Scheme 4.



Scheme 5.

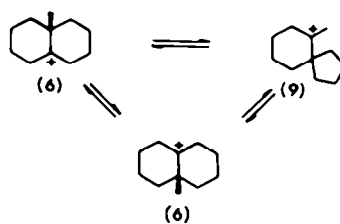
of the peaks at m/z 152, 151 and 150 in comparison with the peaks at 151, 150 and 149 of an authentic unlabelled sample of the olefin **5a**. The carbocation intermediate formed by C–O bond heterolysis in alcohols **4c** and **4b** (Schemes 5 and 2) can exist in two extremes of chair-boat conformation. From these two conformations it can be seen that each of the protons or deuterons adjacent to the carbocation centres can in one or other of the conformations present an appropriate orientation in the plane of the carbocation p -orbital to facilitate proton (deuteron) loss and alkene formation. The presence of a kinetic isotope effect (k_H/k_D 2.2 ± 0.2) in the reaction of alcohol **4c** and its magnitude demonstrate firstly that the stereospecificity observed in the formation of alkene **5b** from alcohol **4b** does not result from a large kinetic preference for proton *vs* deuteron loss. Secondly the result shows a stereochemical preference in the loss of a proton adjacent to the departing oxy-anion. Furthermore the presence of a measurable kinetic isotope effect indicates that mobility of the carbocation conformers is at least comparable with the rate of proton loss since if this were not the case and interconversion of the carbocation conformers was slow, no kinetic isotope effect would be observed because the starting alcohol gives equal mixtures of the carbocation in the two extremes of conformation.

The rate of conformational change of carbocations in cyclic systems has not proved particularly amenable to study and has been a matter of some debate.⁹ Whalen has recently argued⁹ that the stereochemistry of diol formation from naphthalene tetrahydro epoxides is related to the rate of change of conformation of the intermediate benzyl cations. For acyclic carbocations simple conformational changes have been shown to be competitive with 1,2-hydride shifts¹⁰ and similar results have recently been obtained for the spontaneous transformation of a naphthalene tetrahydroepoxide to ketone product.⁹

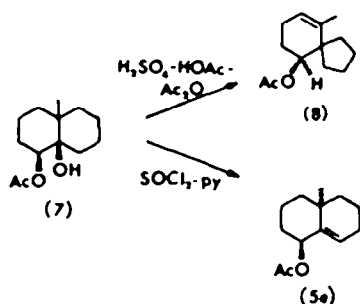
If the conformers of the carbocation formed from alcohol **4c** did not interconvert at a rate comparable to proton (deuteron) loss any kinetic preference for proton *vs* deuteron loss would be masked. The absence of deuteron loss from alcohol **4b** along with the measured kinetic isotope effect in the reaction of alcohol **4c** demonstrates unambiguously that for alcohols **4b** and **4c** the proton or deuteron CHD *syn* to the departing oxy-anion is lost. Because of the inherent symmetry of the deuterated *cis*-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ols (**4b** and **4c**) the

loss of the proton from the adjacent CH₂ must also result from the β -face *syn* to the departing oxy-anion. Contrasting with this *syn*-elimination reaction of alcohol **4c** with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc reaction of the alcohol with thionyl chloride gave a 1:1 mixture of alkenes **5b** and **5d** demonstrating that under these conditions the proton *anti* to the departing oxy group is lost.⁴ The isotope effect observed for reaction of alcohol **4c** with H₂SO₄-Ac₂O-HOAc (k_H/k_D 2.2 ± 0.2) is comparable with that determined for similar reaction of alcohol **3b** (k_H/k_D 2.2 ± 0.4). These two reactions proceed via carbocation intermediates which differ in the face of the carbocation to which the oxy-anion is held as a tight ion pair. The angular Me group for the β -face ion pair might be expected to reduce the mobility of the complex compared with the α -face anion-carbocation ion pair. The comparability in isotope effects for these two reactions where the mobility of the intermediate carbocation-anion complex should differ somewhat suggests that the measured effect is a true kinetic isotope effect, and not a consequence of a comparatively slow rate of carbocation-anion conformer interchange.

The D labelled experiments⁴ on 8a-methyl-*trans*- and *cis*-decahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (**3a** and **4a**) exclude Me migration and spiran intermediacy (Scheme 6) in the reaction with H₂SO₄, HOAc, Ac₂O, conditions of reaction where carbocation intermediates are proposed. Reaction of (4a α ,5 α ,8a α)-5-acetoxy-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (**7**) under these conditions gives 10-methylspiro[4,5]dec-9-en-6-yl acetate (**8**)¹¹ indicating that with an acetate adjacent and *syn* to the departing oxy-anion rearrangement to spiran can be induced. We have postulated¹¹ a similar rearrangement to account for the formation of *trans*-4a-methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,6,7-octahydronaphthalen-1-yl acetate (**5e**) from reaction of (4a α ,5 α ,8a α)-5-acetoxy-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (**7**) with thionyl chloride in pyridine.



Scheme 6.



For substituted acetoxy-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ols the involvement of spiro carbocations in reaction with $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-HOAc-Ac}_2\text{O}$ is masked by isomerisation of the allylic acetate products. Reaction of (4 α ,5 β ,8 $\alpha\alpha$)-5-chloro-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (4d) with $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-HOAc-Ac}_2\text{O}$ results in formation of both *cis*- and *trans*-4a-methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,6,7-octahydronaphthalen-1-yl chlorides (5f and 5g).¹² The isomerisation of the chloride 5g *via* an allylic cation under these conditions is unlikely to compete with substitution by acetate and the formation of the *cis*- isomer can be regarded as indicative of spiro intermediacy.

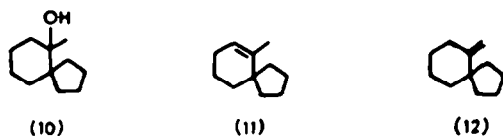
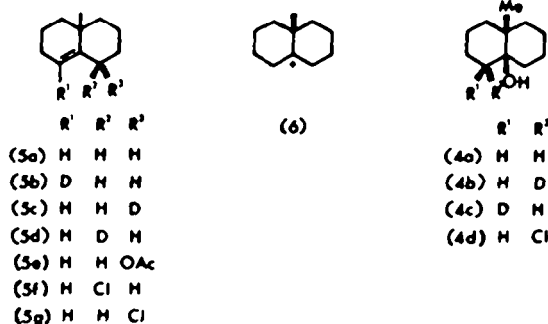
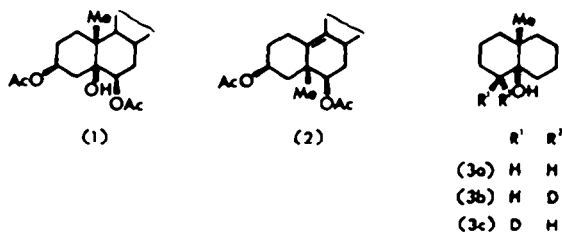
To probe the equilibrium of cations 6 and 9 6-methylspiro[4,5]decan-6-ol (10)¹³ was reacted with $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-HOAc-Ac}_2\text{O}$ and with $\text{SOCl}_2\text{-pyridine}$. Under the acidic conditions 8a-methyl-1,2,3,5,6,7,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene (5e) is formed demonstrating that in the absence of substituents the spiro cation 9 rearranges to cation 6. The reverse of this rearrangement namely cation 6 to cation 9 does not occur as evidenced by the nonscrambling of D in reactions

of the deuterated alcohols (3b, 3c, 4b and 4c). With thionyl chloride-pyridine a mixture (7:3) of 6-methylspiro[4,5]dec-6-ene (11) and 6-methylene-spiro[4,5]dec-6,(11)-ene (12) was obtained demonstrating that rearrangement of the chlorosulfate ester and formation of 8a-methyl-1,2,3,5,6,7,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene (5a) is not competitive with adjacent proton loss. These alkenes on standing in deuteriochloroform slowly rearrange to alkene 5a.

The decahydronaphthalen-4a-ol system and in particular deuterio-8a-methyldecahydronaphthalen-4a-ols (4c and 4b) provide a unique probe for understanding carbocation-ion pair conformation and the stereospecificity of the reactions with $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4\text{-Ac}_2\text{O-HOAc}$ studied to date suggest that this media may provide a general method of effecting *syn*-elimination. The method is mild and the rate of reaction is dependent on the concentration of sulfuric acid-acetic acid used and this therefore offers control in the reaction. *Syn*-elimination in tertiary alcohols to form alkenes typically involves further derivation¹⁴ and the use of heat in the elimination step. The synthetic utility of the reagent is under investigation.

EXPERIMENTAL

IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu IR27G spectrophotometer and ¹H NMR spectra on a Varian T60 spectrometer for CDCl₃ solns with CHCl₃ and Me₄Si as internal standards. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian CFT20 spectrometer for CDCl₃ solns with Me₄Si as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on an A.E.I. MS902 spectrometer and gc/ms on a Hewlett Packard 5980A. Alumina used for chromatography was Spence grade H, deactivated by the addition of 10% v/v of 10% AcOH, and for dry column chromatography I.C.N. Pharmaceuticals alumina (Brockmann activity III/20) was used.



8a-Methyl-1,2,3,4,6,7,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene (5a)

Compound **5a** was prepared from 4a-methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,6,7-octahydronaphth-7-yl acetate by known procedures¹³ b.p. 90–95° at 25 mm (*lit.*¹³ b.p. 86–88° at 26 mm), ν_{\max} (film) 1665, 1003, 985 cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.05, Me; 5.25, Wh/2 7 Hz, H5. ¹³C NMR δ_{C} 19.1, C7; 22.5, C2; 24.3, Me; 29.3, C3; 32.6, C4; 34.8, C8a; 40.1, C8; 42.2, C1; 119.3, C5; 143.4, C4a. m/z 151 (12%), 150 (100), 149 (2), 136 (13), 135 (100), 134 (1).

Synthesis of (4a β ,8a β)-8a-methyl(5 β D)decahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (4c)

To a stirred soln of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (22 g) in dry ether (170 ml) was added **5a** (10 g) in dry ether (200 ml). After 5 hr excess NaHCO₃ was added and the mixture filtered through alumina (300 g). After removal of solvent a mixture (c. 5:7) of *cis*-, and *trans*-**7a** was obtained as a colourless oil (9 g) (M^+ 166.1327 C₁₁H₁₈O requires: M^+ 166.1358) ν_{\max} (film) 925, 895, 838 cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.06, Me, *cis*-epoxide; 1.12, Me, *trans*-epoxide; 2.78, Wh/2 5 Hz, H1. ¹³C NMR δ_{C} 15.6, Me, *trans*-epoxide, 16.4, Me, *cis*-epoxide; 20.6, 21.6, 21.6, 22.4, 23.1, 23.8, 24.4, 26.0, 30.2; 31.9, *cis*-C8a; 33.1, *trans*-C8a; 33.4, 34.1, 34.9, 35.8, 37.6; 60.2, *trans*-C4; 61.4, *cis*-C4; 64.1, *cis*-C4a; 65.3, *trans* C4a. m/z 167 (2.2%), 166 (39.2), 165 (3.7), 151 (12.9), 122 (27.5), 112 (100), 95 (38), 81 (54.8).

The mixture of epoxides **7a** (2g) was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (20 ml) and lithium aluminium deuteride (0.5 g) added. The mixture was heated under reflux and stirred for 24 hr, cooled and sat Na₂SO₄aq carefully added. The mixture was filtered, the solvent removed from the filtrate and the residue adsorbed onto alumina (200 g). Elution with pentane gave **3c** (1.1 g), ν_{\max} (film) 3500 cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.02, Me. ¹³C NMR δ_{C} 72.8, C4a; 35.0, C1, C8; 34.3, C5; 34.0, t, J 19 Hz, C4; 21.0, C2, C4; 20.8, Me; 20.3, C3, C6. Further elution gave mixed alcohol fractions (200 mg) followed by **4b** (700 mg) (M^+ 169.1563, C₁₁H₁₈OD requires: M^+ 169.1596). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 0.97, Me. δ_{C} 35.9, C1, C8; 23.5, C2, C7; 22.2, C3, C6; 36.1, C4, C5; 73.4, C4a; 38.1, C8a; 23.0, Me. m/z 170 (4.2%), 169 (19.5), 154 (2.2), 113 (56), 112 (100), 111 (25.2).

To a stirred soln of **3c** (640 mg) in AcOH (20 ml) and Ac₂O (6 ml) was added rapidly a soln of H₂SO₄ in AcOH (6.2 ml, 1% v/v). After 60 s the mixture was poured into pentane (200 ml) and sat NaHCO₃aq (200 ml). Solid NaHCO₃ was added with vigorous stirring until effervescence ceased. The pentane extract was washed with sat NaHCO₃aq and water and dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent removed to give a mixture (1:1) of the alkenes, **5b** and **5d** (460 mg), ν_{\max} (film) 1665, 1603, 985 cm^{-1} . ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.05 (Me), 5.25, (1/2H) Wh/2 5 Hz, H5. ¹³C NMR δ_{C} 19.1, C7; 22.5, C2; 24.3, Me; 28.3, C3; 32.4, 32.6, t, J 20 Hz, C4; 34.8, C8a; 40.1, C8; 42.2, C1; 119.3, 119.0, t, J 20 Hz, C5; 143.4, C4a; m/z 152 (12.1%), 151 (100), 150 (51.7), 137 (10.8), 136 (100), 135 (50).

The sample was homogeneous by gc and had an identical retention time with an authentic sample of **5a**.

The alkene mixture **5b** and **5d** (450 mg) was dissolved in ether (20 ml), and *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (600 mg) added. The soln was allowed to stand overnight and washed successively with NaHSO₃aq, NaHCO₃aq and water; dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent removed to give a mixture of epoxides **7b–e** (380 mg), ν_{\max} (film) 925, 895, 838 cm^{-1} . ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.06, Me, *cis*-epoxide; 1.12, Me, *trans*-epoxide; 2.78, (0.5H), Wh/2 6 Hz, H1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{C} 15.62, 16.34, 20.59, 21.61, 22.45, 23.13*, 23.78, 24.45, 25.92, 26.01*, 30.22*, 31.93, 33.15, 34.08, 34.86*, 35.78*, 37.64, 60.29, 61.41*, 64.15*, 65.32 (peaks marked * are those which are substantially reduced in height compared to the ¹³C NMR spectrum of the mixture of non-deuterated epoxides **7a**). m/z 168 (14.4%), 167 (100), 166 (6.8), 152 (33.4), 151 (46.1), 150 (7.9), 136 (43.7), 123 (46.1).

The mixture of epoxides **7b–e** (380 mg) was added to a suspension of LAH (0.5 g) in ether (25 ml) and the mixture

stirred and heated under reflux for 2 hr. The mixture was cooled and quenched with sat Na₂SO₄aq. The mixture was filtered and the filtrate was dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent removed to give a mixture of the alcohols, **3b**, **4c**, and **3c** (330 mg) ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.02, 0.97. Repeated chromatography on alumina, with ether–pentane (1:50) gave the more polar alcohol **4c**, (63 mg) (M^+ 169.1497 C₁₁H₁₈DO requires: M^+ 169.1577). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 0.97, Me. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{C} 35.9, C1, C8; 23.5, C2, C7; 22.2, C3, C6; 36.5, C4, C5; 73.4, C4a; 38.1, C8a; 23.0, Me. m/z 170 (13%), 169 (100), 168 (1), 154 (25).

Reactions of (4a β ,8a β)-8a-methyl(5 β D)decahydronaphthalen-4a-ol (4c)

(i) *With H₂SO₄–Ac₂O–HOAc.* The alcohol **4c** (30 mg) was dissolved in a mixture of AcOH (1.5 ml) and Ac₂O (0.3 ml). To this was added a soln of H₂SO₄ in AcOH (0.3 ml; 1% v/v). After 2 min, the mixture was poured into pentane (30 ml) and sat NaHCO₃aq (30 ml). Solid NaHCO₃ was added until effervescence ceased. The pentane extract was washed with sat NaHCO₃aq (30 ml) and water (30 ml), dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent removed to give a mixture of **5a** and **5d** (20 mg) (1:2.2 (±0.2)) identical (gc) with an authentic sample of alkene **5a**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.05, (3H), Me; 5.25, (0.6H) H5; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{C} 19.1, C7; 22.5, C2; 24.3, Me; 28.3, C3; 32.6, 32.4, t, J 19 Hz, C4; 26.0, C6; 34.8, C8a; 40.1, C8; 42.2, C1; 119.0, t, J 19 Hz, 119.3 C5; 143.4, C4a. m/z 150 (40%), 151 (100%), 152 (11), 137 (11), 136 (100), 135 (43).

(ii) *With thionyl chloride.* The alcohol **4c** (30 mg) was dissolved in pyridine (2 ml) and the soln cooled to freezing point in a dry ice–MeOH bath. SOCl₂ (2 drops) was added and the mixture allowed to warm then refrozen. This procedure was repeated several times until mixing was complete. The mixture was poured into water (10 ml) and ether (25 ml) and the ether layer separated and washed with dil H₂SO₄ and water and dried with MgSO₄. Removal of the solvent afforded a mixture (18 mg) of starting **8a** (c. 33%) and a (1:1) mixture of the alkenes **4b** and **5d**. Gcms showed for the alkene mixture m/z 152 (7%), 151 (27), 137 (9), 136 (100), 135 (2).

Reactions of 6-methylspiro[4,5]decan-6-ol (10)

(i) *With H₂SO₄–Ac₂O–HOAc.* To a stirred soln of 10¹³ (50 mg) in AcOH (2.2 ml) and Ac₂O (0.26 ml) was added a soln of H₂SO₄ in AcOH (0.15 ml; 1% v/v). After 1 min, ether (15 ml) and sat NaHCO₃aq (15 ml) was added. NaHCO₃ was added until effervescence ceased. The ether extract was washed with sat NaHCO₃ (20 ml), dried with MgSO₄ and the solvent removed to give an oil shown by ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR to contain **5a** (38 mg) identical to an authentic sample. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 1.07, Me; 5.27, Wh/2 7 Hz, H5. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{C} 19.1, 22.5, 24.4, 26.0, 28.6, 32.7, 34.8, 40.1, 42.3, 119.3, 143.9.

(ii) *With thionyl chloride.* To a soln of **10** (50 mg) in dry benzene (2.5 ml) and dry pyridine (0.3 ml) was added SOCl₂ (0.15 ml). After 2 hr ether (10 ml) was added and the mixture poured into a sat NaHCO₃aq (20 ml). The ether layer was separated and washed with dil H₂SO₄ and dried with MgSO₄. Removal of solvent afforded a mixture (7:3) of **11** ¹H NMR (CCl₄) (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 5.32, Wh/2 8 Hz, H7; 1.61 (br), Me. *lit. cit.*¹¹ δ_{H} 5.27. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{C} 139.8, C6; 122.7, C7; 19.2, Me and 12 ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ_{H} 4.58, Wh/2 3 Hz, (H11); *lit. cit.*¹¹ ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ_{H} 4.54. ¹³C NMR δ_{C} 104.3, C11; 155.4, C6. Compound **5a** was present <2% ¹H NMR δ_{H} 1.05, however the mixture of **11** and **12** on standing in CDCl₃ for two weeks rearranged to **5a** in high yield (>80%).

Acknowledgement –We acknowledge grants from the Research Committee of the New Zealand Universities Grants Committee.

REFERENCES

- ¹T. Westphalen, *Ber. Dtsch. Chem. Ges.* **48**, 1064 (1915).
²H. Lettré and M. Muller, *Ibid.* **70**, 1947 (1937); V. A. Petrow, O. Rosenheim and W. W. Starling, *J. Chem. Soc.* 677 (1938); V. A. Petrow, *Ibid.* 998 (1939); P. Bladon, H. B. Henbest and G. W. Wood, *Ibid.* 2737 (1952); B. Ellis, and V. Petrow, *Ibid.* 2246 (1952); J. M. Coxon, P. R. Hoskin and T. K. Ridley, *Aust. J. Chem.* **30**, 1735 (1977).
³J. W. Blunt, A. Fischer, M. P. Hartshorn, F. W. Jones, D. N. Kirk and S. W. Yoong, *Tetrahedron* **21**, 1567 (1965). A. Fischer, M. J. Hardman, M. P. Hartshorn and G. J. Wright, *Ibid.* **25**, 5915 (1969).
⁴J. M. Coxon and N. B. Lindley, *J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun.* 3 (1976); J. M. Coxon and N. B. Lindley, *Aust. J. Chem.* **29**, 2207 (1976).
⁵J. W. Blunt, J. M. Coxon, N. B. Lindley and G. A. Lane, *Ibid.* **29**, 967 (1976).
⁶J. M. Coxon, G. W. Simpson and J. A. Ussher, *Tetrahedron Letters* 3631 (1982).
⁷A. S. Hallsworth and H. B. Henbest, *J. Chem. Soc.* 3571 (1960).
⁸G. E. Gream, M. H. Laffer and A. K. Serelis, *Aust. J. Chem.* **31**, 835 (1978), and Refs. therein.
⁹R. E. Gillilan, T. M. Pohl and D. L. Whalen, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **104**, 4481 (1982).
¹⁰J. M. Coxon and C. E. Lim, *Aust. J. Chem.* **30**, 1137 (1977); B. N. Blackett, J. M. Coxon, M. P. Hartshorn and K. E. Richards, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **92**, 2574 (1970).
¹¹J. M. Coxon and J. R. Gibson, *Aust. J. Chem.* **35**, 1165 (1982).
¹²J. M. Coxon and J. R. Gibson, *Ibid.* **32**, 2223 (1979).
¹³H. Christol and R. Vanel, *Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr.* 1398 (1968); C. Christol, H. Christol and R. Vanel, *Ibid.* 3685 (1970).
¹⁴H. Knozinger, *The Chemistry of the Hydroxyl Group* (Edited by S. Patai), p. 642. Wiley, Interscience (1971).
¹⁵J. A. Marshall and A. R. Hochstetler, *J. Org. Chem.* **31**, 1020 (1966).