INTRAMOLECULAR ALKENE-OXIRANE CYCLOADDITIONS. SYNTHESIS AND STRUCTURE OF 5-OXAPENTACYCLO [7.3.0.0^{3,7}.0^{4,12}.0^{6,10}]DODECANE-2.8-DIONE Alan P. Marchand* and G. Madhusudhan Reddy Department of Chemistry, University of North Texas Denton, Texas 76203-5068 William H. Watson* and Ram Kashyap Department of Chemistry, Texas Christian University Port Worth, Texas 76129

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Abstract: MCPBA promoted epoxidation of the C(9)-C(10) double bond in endo t ricyclo[6.2.1.0².7]undeca-4,9-diene-3,6-dione (4) followed by intramolecular $[2 + 2]$ photocyclization of the resulting exo epoxide (5) afforded the title compound, 1, in 16% overall yield. The structure of symmetrically hydrated **1 (i.e., la)** was determined by single crystal X-ray crystallographic methods. Proton and carbon-13 NMR spectral assignments are given for epoxide 5.

Synthesis of 1. The synthesis of the title compound, **1,** was investigated as part of a continuing program that is concerned with the synthesis and chemistry of novel polycyclic cage compounds.¹ In the present study, 1 was synthesized by employing an intramolecular alkene-oxirane [2 + 2] photocyclization process 2 analogous to that reported previously by Prinzbach and coworkers.³ This interesting reaction provides a potentially general method for synthesizing novel heteropolycyclic oxa-cage systems.

Although several formal intramolecular $\left[\frac{1}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{\pi^2}\right]$ cycloadditions of alkenes to cyclopropanes have been reported, $3a$ less is known about the corresponding reaction between alkenes and oxiranes. It has been suggested that reactions of this type are strongly geometry-dependent.³ One example of intramolecular alkene-oxirane $[2 + 2]$ photocyclization is provided by the results of an earlier study by Prinzbach and coworkers. 3b They reported that irradiation of an acetonitrile solution of tricyclic epoxide 2 with a Hanovia 450 W high pressure mercury lamp (Vycor filter) at -20^{-9} C afforded the corresponding tetracyclic ether, 3, in 16-20X yield (Scheme 1).

3409

Our route for synthesizing 1 is outlined in Scheme 2. The starting material, 4, can be prepared in large quantities via Diels-Alder cycloaddition of cyclopentadiene to p-benzoquinone.⁴ Selective epoxidation of the isolated C=C double bond in 4 was carried out by reacting 4 with m-chloroperbenzoic acid (MCPBA), thereby affording 5 in 78% yield. The fact that MCPBA epoxidation occured exclusively at the exo face of the isolated C=C double bond in 4 was established via analysis of proton and carbon-13 NMR spectra of the epoxidation product, 5 (vide infra).

Scheme 2

Photolysis of a solution of 5 in HPLC grade acetonitrile⁵ was performed at 30 $^{\circ}$ C under argon by using a Hanovia 450 W medium pressure mercury lamp (Vycor filter). Irradiation was stopped after 2 h, and the reaction mixture was concentrated in *vacua.* The corresponding cage diketone, **1,** was isolated from the residue in 21% yield. Its structure was established via $^{\mathrm{1}}$ H and $^{\mathrm{13}}$ C NMR spectral analysis, which indicated (i) the disappearance of lowfield absorptions due to vinylic protons or carbons that are present in 5 but absent in 1 and (ii) the presence of only six carbon resonances in the proton noise-decoupled ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1, a result that is consistent with the existence of a twofold symmetry element in 1. Unequivocal evidence for the structure of 1 was obtained via X-ray crystallographic analysis of the corresponding symmetrical hydrate, la.

X-ray Structure of la. A structure drawing of **la is** shown in Figure 1, below.

Figure 1. Structure drawing of **la.**

It is instructive to compare selected bond lengths in **la** with the corresponding bond lengths in substituted pentacyclo[5.4.0.0²,⁶.0³,¹⁰.0⁵,9]undecane-8,11-diones (PCUD-8,11-diones) $6a, 6b, 7$ and $6c^8$ and in a hydrated substituted PCUD-8,11-dione, 7 (Scheme 3).⁹

scheme 3

In $6a-6c$, the C(1)-C(7) and C(9)-C(10) bond lengths average 1.590 (5) \AA and 1.589 (1) \AA , respectively. The fact that these two C-C bonds in $6a-6c$ are unusually long can be attributed to a through-bond interaction between the two flanking $p1$ -systems. ¹⁰ Hydration of the carbonyl groups in PCUD-8,11-diones leads to loss of the pi-system with concomitant shortening of these carbon-carbon σ -bonds [e.g., 1.534 (3) \AA and 1.545 (3) \AA for the C(1)-C(7) and C(9)-C(10) bonds in 7].⁹ For comparison, The corresponding bond distances in hydrated diketone la are 1.549 (2) λ and 1.556 (2) λ for the C(3)-C(7) and C(1)-C(9) bonds, respectively (see Figure 1 for atom numbering system).

The two hydroxyl groups in **la** form intermolecular hydrogen bonds. H(02) interacts with the $0(5')$ ether oxygen in an adjacent molecule such that $0(2)' ' 0(5') = 2.739$ (2) \hat{A} , H(02)^{*} $\hat{O}(5') = 1.78$ (2) \hat{A} , and the O-H^{*} \hat{O} bond angle $O(2) - H(02)^*$ $\hat{O}(5') = 174.5$ $(8)^{0}$. In addition, H(08) interacts with the bridging hydrate oxygen, 0', of an adjacent molecule such that $O(8)$ ^{*} ' $O = 2.781$ (2) \AA and the O-H^{*} ' O bond angle $O(8)$ -H(08)' ' 'O' $= 164.7 (8)^{\circ}$.

Analysis of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 5. Carbon-13 spectra of two model systems, exo-2,3- and endo-2,3-epoxynorbornanes (i.e., isomeric 3-oxatricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]oct-6-enes **8a** and **8b)** have been reported previously (Table I)." Of particular significance is the large reported difference in chemical shift between the bridging methylene carbon atom, i.e., C(8), in these two isomers (note that C(8) in **8a** resonates ca. 24 ppm upfield of the corresponding carbon atom in **8bJ.** Since the corresponding carbon atom in 5, i.e., C(12), resonates at 625.04 , we conclude that formation of 5 must have occurred via epoxidation of 4 from the exo face of its $C(9)-C(10)$ double bond.

The two-dimensional 1 H- 1 H COSY NMR spectrum of 5 reveals that only the signal centered at 63.12 is correlated with as many as four other proton signals (i.e., those at 60.82 , 1.44, 2.97, and 3.07). We therefore assign the signal at 63.12 to the bridgehead protons, H(1) and H(8).

Table 1. Carbon-13 NMR spectral assignments in **8a** and **8b. 11**

The signal centered at 62.97 is correlated strongly with the signal at δ 0.82 [H(12a)].¹² We anticipate that this results from W-coupling $\binom{4}{J_{\text{uu}}}$ between $H(9n)/H(11n)$ and $H(12a)$.¹³ This suggestion receives support from the results of a nuclear magnetic resonance double resonance experiment. Double irradiation of the signal centered at δ 2.97 results in collapse of the signal at δ 0.82 to a tripled AB pattern. On this basis, the signal at δ 2.97 can be assigned to H(9n) and H(lln).

The remaining signal, a doubled doublet at 63.07 (J = 2.7 Hz, $J' = 1.5$ Hz), must arise from $H(2x)$ and $H(7x)$. Examination of the COSY spectrum suggests that these protons are correlated strongly with the bridghead protons, $H(1)$ and $H(8)$, respectively and weakly with H(l2s). Long-range 4 $\rm{J_{HI}}$ couplings in norbornanes and/or norbornenes that are analogous to the $\frac{4}{J_{11/2}}$ $\frac{1}{J_{21/2}}$ coupling that we observe in 5 are, to our knowledge, unprecedented. 13b

Corresponding 13 C assignments were made via analysis of the two-dimensional $^{1}\mathrm{H-}^{13}\mathrm{C}$ heteronuclear correlated (HETCOR) NMR spectrum of ${\bf 5.}$ Proton and 13 C NMR spectral assignments in 5 thereby obtained are summarized in Table II.

Table II. NMR spectral assignments in 5.

Synthesis of 10 and Attempted Photocyclization of 10 to 11. An attempt was made to utilize the readily available tricyclic ketoester, 9, as starting material to synthesize the corresponding 2-substituted-8-oxapentacyclo $[5.4.0.0^{2}, 6.0^{3}, 10.0^{5}, 9]$ undecane, 11 (Scheme 4). Thus, MCPBA oxidation of 9^{14} afforded the corresponding epoxide, 10, in 70.5% yield. The bridging methylene carbon atom in 10 resonates at δ 28.64. Hence, by analogy to the 13 C chemical shifts of the corresponding methylene carbon atom in **5** and in **8a,** we conclude that formation of 10 must have occurred via epoxidation of 9 from the exo face of the isolated alkene double bond.

Several attempts were made to promote intramolecular photocyclization of 10 to 11 (see Experimental Section). However, for reasons that are not apparent to us, none of these attempts proved to be successful.

scheme 4

Experimental Section

Melting points are uncorrected. High-resolution mass spectra **were** obtained by personnel at the Midwest Center for Mass Spectrometry, Department of Chemistry, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588. Compound 4 was synthesized via Diels-Alder cycloaddition of cyclopentadiene (freshly cracked from the corresponding dimer) to p-benzoquinone; the reaction was performed in methanol at -78 $^{\circ}$ C. $^{\rm 4c}$

Epxidation of 4. A solution of 4 (870 mg, 5.0 mmol) in methylene chloride (30 mL) was cooled externally to 0 $^{\circ}$ C. To this solution was added with stirring m-chloroperbenzoic acid (1.12 g, 6.5 mmol). The cold bath was removed, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to ambient temperature and then stirred for 3 days. The reaction mixture was washed sequentially with 5% aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (3 x 30 mL) and water (2 x 20 mL). The organic layer was dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was triturated with diethyl ether (15 mL), and the solid residue was isolated by suction filtration. The residue was washed with ether (20 mL) and then air-dried, thereby affording the corresponding monoepoxide, 5 (740 mg, 78%) as a pale yellow microcrystalline solid: mp 140-142 'C; IR (KBr) 2982 (m), 1652 (s), 1380 (m), 1290 (s), 1279 (s), 1181 (m), 868 cm⁻¹ (s); ¹H NMR (CDC1₃) δ 0.82 (<u>A</u>B, J_{AB} = 10.8 Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (tripled A<u>B</u>, J_{AB} = 10.8 Hz, J' = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.97 (m, 2 H), 3.07 (dd, $\underline{J} = 2.7$ Hz, $\underline{J'} = 1.5$ Hz, 2 H), 3.12 (m, 2 H), 6.69 (s, 2 H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) 6 25.04 (t), 41.99 (d), 48.26 (d), 48.68 (d), 141.97 (d), 198.33 (s). Anal. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{10}O_3$: \underline{M}_{r} 190.0630. Found (high-resolution mass spectroscopy): M_r 190.0626.

Photocyclization of 5. A solution of 5 (200 mg, 1.05 mmol) in HPLC grade acetonitrile (250 mL) under argon was irradiated with a 450 watt medium pressure Hg lamp (Vycor filter) at $30⁻⁰C$ for 2 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and the residue was purified via column chromatography on silica gel by using 1:l ethyl acetate-hexane mixed solvent as eluent. Compound **1** (41.6 mg, 21%) was thereby obtained as a colorless microcrystalline solid: mp 270-280 $^{\circ}$ C (dec.); IR (KBr) 3009 (s), 1740 (s), 1183 (s), 1124 (s), 885 cm⁻¹ (s); ¹H NMR (CDC1₃) δ 1.50 (tripled \underline{AB} , $\underline{J}_{AB} = 11.9$ Hz, $\underline{J'} = 4.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.37 (AB, $J_{AR} = 11.9$ Hz, 1 H), 2.63 (d, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 2 H), 2.73 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 2 H), 2.93-3.06 (m, 2 H), 4.81-4.97 (m, 2 H); 13 C NMR (CDC1₃) δ 27.35 (t), 43.37 (d), 54.51 (d), 54.77 (d), 77.60 (d), 207.76 (s).

This sample of 1 was further recrystallized from acetone in an effort to obtain a pure sample for elemental microanalysis. During this recrystallization procedure, 1 gradually was converted into the corresponding ketone hydrate, **la,** the structure of which was established by X-ray crystallographic methods (vide infra). Analytically pure **la,** mp 301-302 °C (dec.), was thereby obtained; IR (KBr) 3275 (s), 2968 (s), 1378 (s), 1346 (s), 1324 (s), 1306 (s), 1257 (m), 1206 (s), 1185 (s), 1162 (s), 1077 (s), 1026 (s), 933 (s), 889 (s) 747 cm⁻¹ (s); ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆) 6 1.28 (\underline{AB} , \underline{J}_{AB} = 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 1.86 (\underline{AB} , \underline{J}_{AB} = 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.34-3.18 (m, 6 H), 4.29-4.72 (m, 2 H), 5.81 (s, 2 H); 13 C NMR (acetone-d_c) 6 30.91 (t), 44.02 (d), 58.55 (d), 60.36 (d), 81.05 (d), 108.90 (s). Anal. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{12}O_4$: C, 63.45; H, 5.81. Found: C, 63.37; H, 5.75.

X-ray Crystal Structure of la.¹⁵ A crystal of dimensions 0.35 x 0.33 x 0.30 mm was mounted on a Nicolet R3m/u update of a P2/1 difffractometer. Data were collected by using the ω -scan mode (3 < 20 < 55[°]), a variable scan rate, and graphite-monochromated Mo Ko radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ A). The space group is triclinic, \overline{PI} , with a = 6.541 (1), b = 6.639 (1), c = 10.808 (1) A, α = 85.43 (1), β = 87.99 (1), γ =73.56 (1)⁰, V = 448.1 (1) μ ³, $Z = 2$, and D(calcd) = 1.541 g-cm⁻³. The structure was solved via direct methods. All atoms were located in difference maps and were refined by using least-squares techniques with H-atom thermal parameters isotropic. Of the 2249 independent reflections collected, 1982 had intensities greater than 30(I), and refinement with 185 parameters led to a final R of 0.0411 (R₁₁₁ = 0.0462), wR = 0.0568 with S = 1.690, (Δ/σ)_{ncx} = 0.017 with largest peaks in the final difference map of 0.36 and -0.27 $\mathrm{e}^{\textbf{2}-3}$. The function minimized was $\sum w(\begin{bmatrix}F \\ R\end{bmatrix}) - \begin{bmatrix}F_R\end{bmatrix})^2$ with $w = \begin{bmatrix}\sigma^2(F_R) + 0.00067 & F_R^2\end{bmatrix}^{-1}$. A ψ -scan absorption correction was applied (transmission factors 0.889 to 0.873), and a secondary isotropic extinction correction was applied. All computer programs were supplied by Nicolet for a Desktop 30 Microeclipse and Nova 4/C configuration. Atomic scattering factors and anomolous dispersion corrections were taken from the International Tables for X-ray Crystallography.¹⁶

Bpoxidation of 9. A solution of 9 (204 mg, 1.0 mmol) in methylene chloride (15 mL) was cooled externally to 0 $^{\circ}$ C. To this solution was added with stirring m-chloroperbenzoic acid (224 mg, 1.3 mmol). The cold bath was removed, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to ambient temperature and then stirred for 2 days. The reaction mixture

was washed sequentially with 5% aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (3 x 15 mL) and water (2 x 20 mL). The organic layer was dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified via column chromatography on silica gel by using 15% ethyl acetate-hexane mixed solvent as eluent. The corresponding exo monoepoxide, **10** (155 mg, 70.5%) was thereby obtained as a colorless microcrystalline solid: mp 101-102 'C; IR (film) 2960 (m), 1684 (s), 1436 (m), 1253 (s), 1231 (s), 1035 (m), 844 cm \sim (m); \rm{H} NMR (CDC1₃) $\rm{0.1.33}$ (\rm{AB} , $\rm{J}_{\rm{AB}}$ = 10.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.61 (\rm{AB} , $\rm{J}_{\rm{AB}}$ = 10.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.84-3.27 (m, 5 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 6.11 ($\underline{A}B$, \underline{J}_{AB} = 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.48 ($\underline{A}\underline{B}$, \underline{J}_{AB} = 5.7 Hz, 1 H); 13 C NMR (CDC1₃) δ 28.64 (t), 39.07 (d), 42.17 (d), 48.60 (d), 49.06 (d), 52.90 (q), 54.78 (d), 65.07 (s), 136.53 (d), 159.96 (d), 172.28 (s), 206.99 (8); Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}O_4$: C, 65.45; H, 5.49. Found: C, 65.60; H, 5.46.

Attempted Photolysis of 10. A solution of **10** (200 mg, 0.90 mmol) in HPLC grade acetonitrile (250 mL) under argon was irradiated with a 450 watt medium pressure Hg lamp (Vycor filter). After 1.5 h, thin layer chromatographic analysis of the reaction mixture indicated the absence of starting material. The reaction mixture then was concentrated in vacua. An attempt was made to purify the residue via column chromatography on silica gel by using a 10-100% ethyl acetate-hexane mixed solvent gradient elution scheme. However, no identifiable product could be isolated from the eluate thereby obtained.

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2. The term "[2 + 21 alkene-oxirane photocyclization" is used here in a formal sense. It is not known whether such photochemical processes are, in fact, concerted $\mathcal{L}_G \mathcal{Z}_e$ + $_{\text{F}} \mathcal{Z}_e$] photo- $\verb|cyc|$ oadditions, or if instead they oc $\verb|cur, e.g.,$ via photochemical disrotatory $\verb|`electrocycli"$ ring opening of the oxirane to form an intermediate carbonyl ylide which subsequently undergoes (thermal) intramolecular $\lfloor \frac{n}{n} \rfloor^4$ + $\frac{n}{n} Z_{\infty}$ cycloaddition to an alkene C=C moiety.

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