

Spiro β -Lactam Thiadiazoline and Triazoline Systems. Comparison with the Chemistry of Spiro β -Lactam Oxadiazolines

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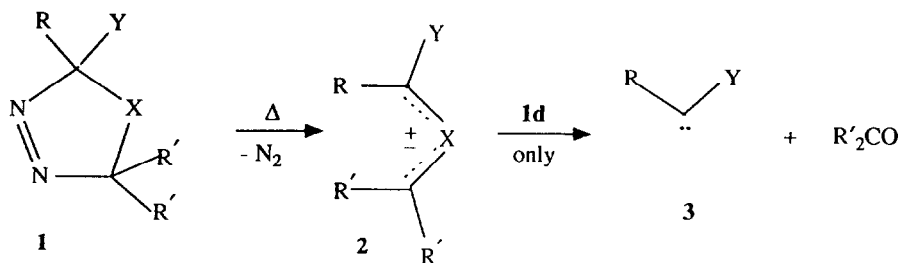
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Abstract: Triazoline, oxadiazoline, and thiadiazoline ring systems spiro-fused to C4 of a β -lactam ring undergo 1,3-dipolar cycloreversion to form azomethine-, carbonyl-, and thiocarbonyl ylides, respectively. The order of reactivities is triazoline > thiadiazoline > oxadiazoline.

INTRODUCTION

Among the many 1,3-dipoles that have been generated and studied (1 - 4) are azomethine ylides (2a), carbonyl ylides (2b), and thiocarbonyl ylides (2c). An attractive route to those intermediates is the thermolysis of the appropriate diaza precursors, the Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazolines (1a), the Δ^3 -1,3,4-oxadiazolines (1b), and the Δ^3 -1,3,4-thiadiazolines (1c), Scheme 1.



(a : X= NR , Y= alkyl ; b : X= O , Y= alkyl ; c : X= S , Y= alkyl ;

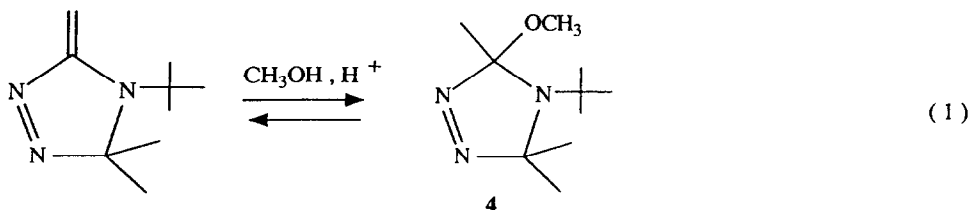
d : X= O , Y= NR , OAc , or OR)

Scheme 1

Apart from their utility for the synthesis of heterocyclic, five membered rings by ($4\pi + 2\pi$) cycloaddition and for the formation of three membered rings by electrocyclic ring closure, at least one member of the trio of intermediates can serve as a carbene source. Carbonyl ylides from oxadiazolines (1d) with an acetoxy (5), alkoxy (6), or amino (7) substituent have been shown to fragment to carbenes (3), Scheme 1, either cleanly or in competition with other processes.

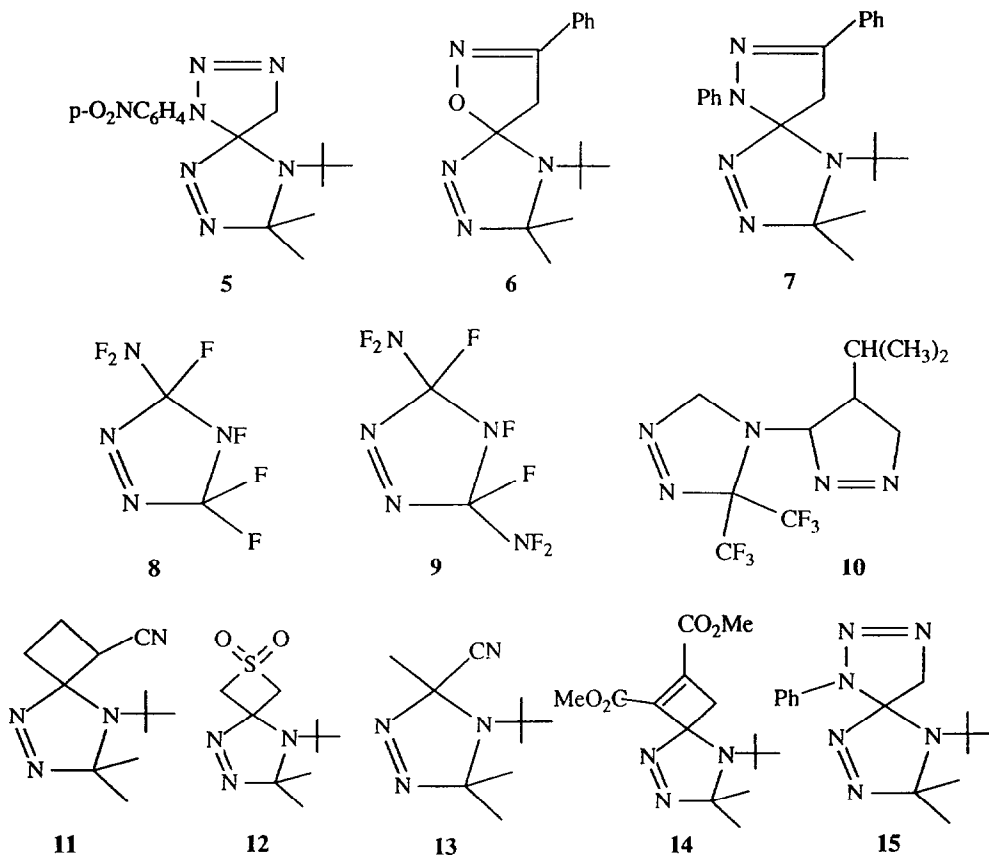
In spite of the considerable interest in systems 1, as precursors of azomethine ylides (8) the Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline family (1a) is very sparsely populated, consisting of one that is equilibrated (9) with its precursor

in methanol but not isolated from it (**4**, eq (1)), three spirocyclic compounds (**5**, **6**, **7**) (**9**) and two stable



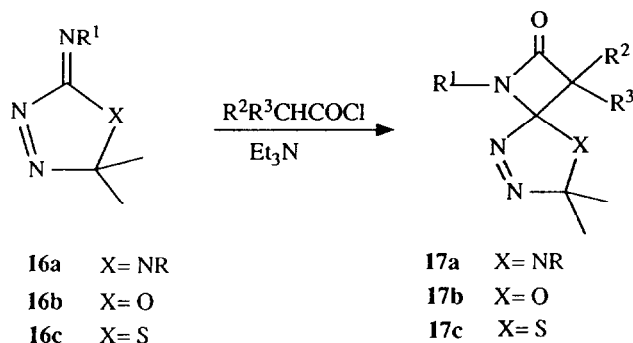
perfluoroamino compounds (**8**, **9**) reported (**10**) as components of a mixture. A seventh Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazole (**10**) reported in a review (**11**), is apparently the result of an error in transcription from the original literature (**12**). Triazolines **11** - **15** are presumed unstable intermediates (**9**, **13**).

Given the paucity of stable compounds with the Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline structure, interest in a procedure for generating them, and in a reason for their apparently low stability, remains high. It was of particular interest to us to rank the reactivities of triazolines, oxadiazolines, and thiadiazolines with respect to the cycloreversion



(Scheme 1) to afford an ylide and N_2 . The choice of a common set of substituents was guided by the fact that we had recently studied the thermolysis of a set of spiro-fused β -lactam oxadiazolines (**17b**) (**14**). It was

thought that the approach to those compounds, treatment of 2-imino-oxadiazolines (**16b**) with ketene equivalents (Scheme 2), might lend itself to the preparation of analogous triazolines and thiadiazolines. If successful, that approach would permit not only the desired comparison of cycloreversion rate constants but it would also afford potentially interesting products containing the β -lactam moiety.

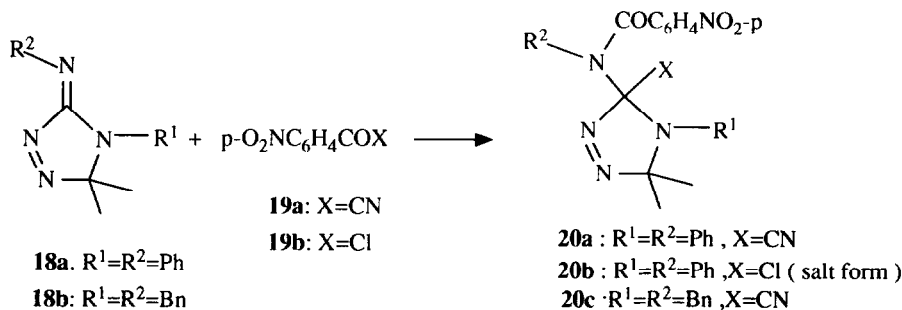


Scheme 2

In this paper we report the preparation of members of the families **17a** and **17c**, as short lived intermediates or moderately stable compounds. The relative cycloreversion reactivities of triazolines, oxadiazolines, and thiadiazolines was established, albeit only qualitatively, for one set of common substituents.

METHODS, RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

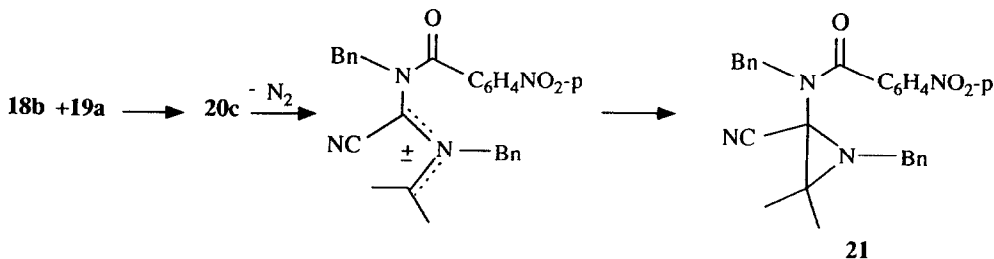
In a first attempt at preparation of a compound to model **1a** and **17a**, phenyliminotriazolone (**18a**) (**9**) was treated with *p*-nitrobenzoyl cyanide **19a** (Scheme 3). The expected product **20a** was not obtained; most



Scheme 3

of the starting materials were recovered. Use of *p*-nitrobenzoyl chloride (**19b**) led to a reaction, affording a hygroscopic product that was probably the salt **20b**, with strong absorption in the IR at 1720 cm⁻¹ (amidinium) and 1655 cm⁻¹ (amide carbonyl). Salt **20b** was readily hydrolyzed back to **18a** on exposure to the atmosphere. The failure of **18a** to react with **19a**, and the ion pair character of the product from **18a** and **19b**, suggested that the basicity of the iminotriazolone should be increased. Consequently the dibenzyl analogue (**18b**) was prepared and treated with **19a** in dry acetonitrile at room temperature. A slow reaction, with visible evolution

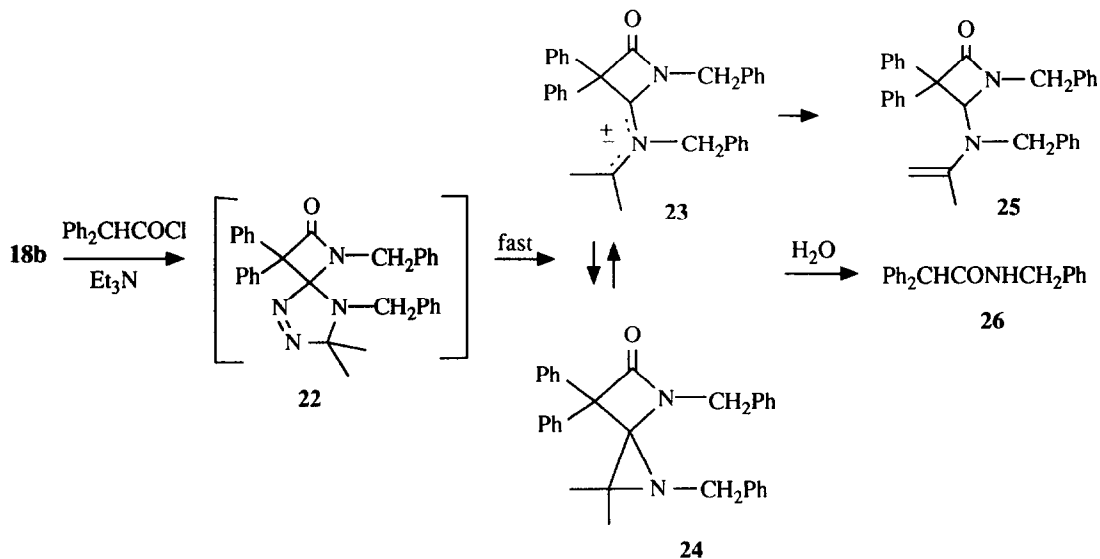
of a gas, affording aziridine **21** in 30% yield, is easily rationalized in terms of Scheme 4. That the product isolated was not **20c** was clear from the ^{13}C NMR spectrum, which lacked signals in the 100 - 110 ppm region that are diagnostic for the presence of the Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline ring. For example, C5 of the Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline rings of **5**, **6**, and **7** absorbs at 104.11, 104.68, and 102.68 δ , respectively, in the ^{13}C NMR spectra (9). Failure to observe the presumed intermediate (**20c**) indicates that it is much less stable than similar oxadiazolines. 2-Acetoxy and 2-alkoxy oxadiazolines decompose with rate constants near 10^{-5} s^{-1} at 80 $^\circ\text{C}$ (5,6). The short



Scheme 4

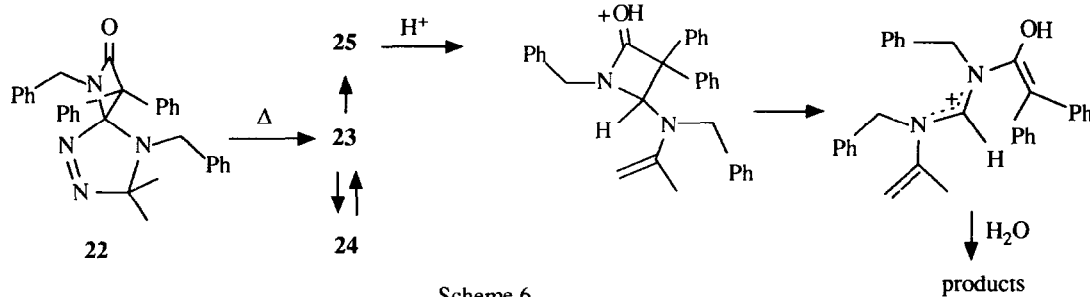
lifetime of **20c** could mean that Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazolines are inherently more prone to 1,3-dipolar cycloreversion than Δ^3 -1,3,4-oxadiazolines, or that the cyano substituent, being small and strongly electron withdrawing, is particularly effective at stabilizing the transition state for loss of N_2 from **20c**.

The model systems (Schemes 3, 4) suggested that a spiro β -lactam triazoline **17a** would undergo cycloreversion readily. Treatment of **18b** with diphenylacetyl chloride/triethylamine afforded a crude product showing β -lactam carbonyl group absorption at 1765 cm^{-1} in the infrared spectrum. It was not possible to get additional structural information about the β -lactam component(s) of the crude because attempted separation led to the disappearances of that infrared band and to the isolation of N-benzyl-2,2-diphenylacetamide (**26**) in 65% yield. We assume that **22** was formed as a transient (Scheme 5) that rapidly gave way to **23**, and that



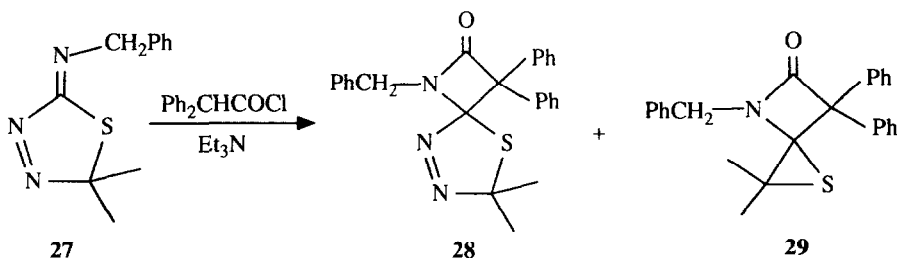
Scheme 5

the β -lactam component of the initial crude material was the aziridine (**24**) from electrocyclic ring closure of (**23**) or an enamine (**25**) from a 1,4-sigmatropic hydrogen shift. Good precedent for hydrolytic ring opening of a β -lactam with C3-C4 bond cleavage, comes from the work of Bose and coworkers (15) on 4-amino-2-azetidiones. As an alternative to their mechanism, which involves nucleophilic attack by water at C4 (15), we propose the mechanism illustrated in Scheme 6. Ring opening of the conjugate acid of an initial product (aziridine or enamine, the latter shown) to form an enol (Scheme 6) avoids the mechanistic problem associated

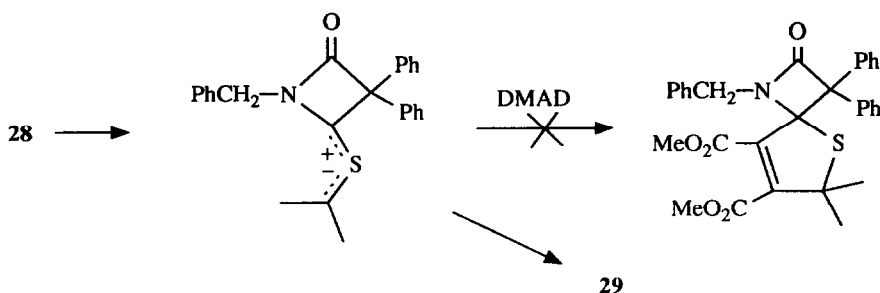


with S_N2 attack by water at C4 of the neutral β -lactam molecule. The acid catalyst (Scheme 6) is presumably Et_3NH^+ , formed in the step that generates diphenylketene (Scheme 5).

The evidence that **22** is short-lived at room temperature, relative to the family of oxadiazolines **17a**, led us to attempt the synthesis of the sulfur analog **28**, in order to rank it with respect to the others. 2-Benzylimino-5,5-dimethyl- Δ^3 -1,3,4-thiadiazoline (**27**), upon treatment with diphenylacetyl chloride/triethylamine afforded a mixture of spiro- β -lactam thiadiazoline (**28**) and spiro- β -lactam thiirane (**29**), Scheme 7. It was possible to isolate the β -lactam thiadiazoline, but it is unstable. In solution ($CDCl_3$) it decomposed slowly at room temperature, with evolution of gas, to form **29**. β -Lactam thiirane **29** appears to be only the second example of that ring system, Yamamoto and coworkers having reported the N-phenyl analogue (17).



It is clear, from the short lifetimes of **20c**, **22**, and **28** in solution at room temperature, and the relatively long lifetime of oxadiazolines **17b** in solution at 80 °C, that the former undergo 1,3-dipolar cycloreversion much more rapidly. The rate acceleration resulting from changing the heteroatom from oxygen (**17b**) to nitrogen (**17a**) can be estimated as follows. Taking $k = 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ($t_{1/2} = 6.9 \times 10^3 \text{ s}$) as the rate constant for oxadiazoline **17b** ($R^1 = \text{Bn}$, $R^2 = R^3 = \text{Ph}$) at 100 °C (14) and a factor of 250 for the difference between 100 °C and room temperature, suggests that triazoline **22** would have a half life of *ca* $1.7 \times 10^6 \text{ s}$ (*ca* 470 h) at room temperature if it were of comparable stability. Assuming that 5% of triazoline **22** would have been



Scheme 9

Presumably the rate constant for electrocyclicization of the ylide to **29** is very large relative to that for cycloaddition to DMAD.

Surprisingly, the N-phenyl analogue of **28** was not obtained under the conditions that afforded **28** itself (Scheme 7). Instead, only the N-phenyl analogue (17) of **29** was found, suggesting that the thermolysis rate constant for **28** is smaller than that for the N-phenyl analogue. In the series of spiro-fused β -lactam oxadiazolines (**17 b**), which are stable enough for convenient measurement of decomposition kinetics, the N-benzyl member is indeed slower than its N-phenyl analogue, in the 1,3-dipolar cycloreversion reaction (14). However, the rate factor is less than three in the oxadiazoline series (14); it is probably larger in the thiadiazoline series.

In summary, the order of reactivities in 1,3-dipolar cycloreversions is Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazolines > Δ^3 -1,3,4-thiadiazolines > Δ^3 -1,3,4-oxadiazolines, at least for the substituents that were present in the compounds used for this study. The ylides formed in the cycloreversions show substantially different chemistry, the carbonyl ylide fragmenting cleanly to β -lactam-4-ylidene and acetone (14) while the azomethine ylide and thiocarbonyl ylide undergo electrocyclicization primarily, to form aziridine (**21**) and thiirane (**29**) systems. Although it is likely that azomethine ylide **23** also affords some of the expected aziridine, that product could not be confirmed probably because it is very easily hydrolyzed.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

3-Benzylimino-4-benzyl-5,5-dimethyl- Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline 18b. This compound was prepared according to the literature procedure (19) for the 3-phenylimino-4-phenyl analogue. It was obtained as a yellow oil, in 20% yield based on the starting material, $\text{Me}_2\text{C}=\text{NNHC}(\text{S})\text{NHCH}_2\text{Ph}$ (20); IR (film), cm^{-1} : 1685 (C=N); ^1H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.36 (s, 6 H), 4.51 (s, 2 H), 5.32 (s, 2 H), 7.20-7.43 (m, 10 H); ^1H NMR (90 MHz, CCl_4) δ : 1.27 (s, 6 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 5.17 (s, 2 H), 7.03-7.43 (m, 10 H); ^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3 , ref. CDCl_3 at δ 77.2 ppm) δ 23.73 (2 x CH_3), 44.61 (CH_2), 52.58 (CH_2), 101.01 (C5), 126.49, 127.62, 128.02, 128.39, 128.51, 128.54, 128.57, 128.63, (8 x CH, aryl), 137.72 (C1, aryl), 141.99 (C1, aryl), 159.34 (C=N).

1-Benzyl-2-cyano-2 (1-benzyl) p-nitrobenzoylamino-3,3-dimethylaziridine, 21. To a solution of triazoline **18b** (0.499 g, 1.71 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (1 mL) was added a solution of freshly prepared (21) p-nitrobenzoyl cyanide (0.301 g, 1.71 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (1 mL). Stirring, and an atmosphere of N_2 , were maintained

during addition and for 2 days after. The solvent was pumped out and the viscous, oily residue was triturated with ether (3 parts) in petroleum ether (2 parts). Purification of the extract by centrifugal chromatography (Chromatotron, Model 17924T, 2 mm silica plate) gave unreacted starting material **18b** and aziridine **21** as a thick yellow oil in 30 % yield, based on unrecovered starting material **18b**; IR (film, cm^{-1}): 2240 (C=N), 1670 (C=O), 1525 (NO_2 , asymm. str.), 1348 (NO_2 , symm. str.); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.55 (s, 3 H), 1.71 (s, 3 H), 4.09 (d, $J=15.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.43 (d, $J=15.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, $J=15.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.05 (d, $J=15.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.99-7.50 (m, 10 H), 7.81 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2 H), 8.32 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2 H), ^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3 , ref. CDCl_3 at 96.7 ppm) δ : 26.10 (neg), 28.67 (neg), 46.42 (pos), 53.07 (pos), 75.54 (C3, pos), 97.62 (C2, pos), 116.01 (C=N, pos), 124.62, 126.85, 127.22, 128.04, 128.35, 128.84, 129.10 (7 CH, aryl, neg), 138.61 (C1, aryl, pos), 140.15 (C1, aryl, pos), 141.67 (C1, aryl, pos), 149.37 (C4 of $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, pos); MS (ei) m/z : 440 (M^+ , 3 %), 324 (4 %), 173 (13 %), 149 (22 %), 91 (100 %); MS (ci, NH_3) m/z : 441 ($\text{M}^+ + 1$, 100 %), 369 (13 %), 353 (29 %), 326 (7 %), 91 (5 %); MS (high resolution) m/z : 440.1840, calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3$ 440.1848.

Reaction of triazoline 18b with diphenylketene. Freshly prepared diphenylacetyl chloride (mp 55 - 57 °C, petroleum) (0.69 g, 3.0 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was added, drop by drop and with stirring, to a solution of triazoline **18b** (0.73 g, 2.5 mmol) and triethylamine (6.0 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) under N_2 at ca -23 °C. The cold bath was removed and stirring was maintained overnight before the reaction mixture was washed with saturated bicarbonate solution and with brine. Each aqueous layer was back-washed twice with CH_2Cl_2 and the combined organic extract was dried over MgSO_4 . Filtration and evaporation of the solvent afforded an oily residue which, upon addition of ether in hexane, formed a white solid. Recrystallization from ethyl acetate/hexane gave *N*-benzyl-2,2-diphenylacetamide in 65 % yield as a white solid; mp 126 °C, lit (22) mp 125 °C; IR (KBr) (cm^{-1}): 3260 (NH), 1639 (C=O); ^1H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 4.48 (d, 2 H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, br, 1H), 7.25 - 7.55 (m, 15 H); ^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 44.03 (CH_2), 59.45 (CH), 127.50, 127.70, 127.82, 128.87, 128.99, 129.11 (6 CH, aryl), 138.83 (C1, aryl), 139.58 (2 C1, aryl), 171.93 (C=O); MS (ei) m/z : 301 (M^+ , 17 %), 167 (Ph_2CH , 100 %), 152 (13 %), 91 (PhCH_2 , 29 %); MS (CI, NH_3) m/z : 319 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{NH}_4$, 3 %), 302 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{H}$, 100 %), 226 (5 %), 167 (7 %), 106 (5 %).

5,5-Dimethyl-2-benzylimino- Δ^3 -1,3,4-thiadiazoline, 27. Acetone-4-benzyl-thiosemicarbazone was prepared from 0.10 mol of 4-benzyl-thiosemicarbazide (**20**) by refluxing with acetone (40 mL) in 95 % ethanol (95 mL) until all the solid had dissolved. On cooling, pure thiosemicarbazone crystallized out in 82 % yield, mp 145-146 °C, lit (20) mp 147-148 °C.

Oxidation of the thiosemicarbazone was based on the method of Landquist (23). To a sample (11 g, 0.05 mol) in dry benzene (800 mL) was added all at once, active manganese dioxide (109 g, 1.25 mol), prepared as described in the literature (24). The reaction mixture was stirred during the addition and for 2 hours thereafter. Filtration, washing of the filtrate with benzene, and evaporation of the benzene afforded a product that was separated by flash chromatography (30 % ether in hexane) into 2-benzylimino-5,5-dimethyl- Δ^3 -1,3,4-thiadiazoline **27** (59 % yield) and 4-benzyl-5,5-dimethyl- Δ^1 -1,2,4-triazoline-3-thione (6 % yield). Spectroscopic data for **27**: IR (film, cm^{-1}): 1640 (C=N); ^1H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.85 (s, 6 H) 4.64 (s, 2 H), 7.20-7.55 (5H). Data for the thione; IR (film, cm^{-1}): 1300 (C=S); ^1H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.45 (s, 6 H). 4.97 (s, 2 H), 7.37 (s, 5H).

Reaction of thiadiazoline 27 with diphenylketene. Diphenylacetyl chloride (0.65 g, 3.0 mmol), mp 55 - 57 °C,

in dry CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was added drop by drop, with stirring, to a solution of thiadiazoline **27** (0.55 g, 2.5 mmol) and triethylamine (6.0 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), under nitrogen at *ca* -23 °C. When addition was complete, the flask was allowed to reach room temperature, and stirring was maintained overnight. The reaction solution was washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and with brine. Both aqueous layers were extracted twice with CH_2Cl_2 and the combined organic extract was dried with MgSO_4 . Filtration and evaporation of the solvent afforded an oily residue consisting of spiro β -lactam thiadiazoline **28** (2.4 parts) and spiro β -lactam thiirane **29** (1.0 part), as determined by ^1H NMR spectroscopy (CDCl_3 solvent). The sample in the NMR tube lost N_2 slowly (bubbles), as **28** decomposed to **29**. Addition of ether (20 %) in hexane to a portion of the crude sample caused selective precipitation of thiadiazoline **28** as a white solid. Chromatography (Chromatotron plate, 20% ether in hexane) of the main portion afforded thiadiazoline **28**, followed by thiirane **29**.

1,7,8-Triaza-1-benzyl-6,6-dimethyl-2-oxo-3,3-diphenyl-5-thiaspiro [3.4] oct-7-ene or spiro β -lactam thiadiazoline 28. Unstable white solid; IR (KBr): 1765 cm^{-1} (C = O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ : 1.63 (s, 3 H), 1.75 (s, 3 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 7.2 - 7.4 (m, 15 H); ^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 29.12, 29.83, 43.57, 77.56 (C3), 106.77 (C6), 127.66, 127.74, 127.81, 128.11, 128.18, 128.51, 128.59, 129.00 (8 CH, aryl), 134.56 (C4), 135.02 (C1, aryl), 138.36 (2 C1, aryl), 168.59 (C = O); Ms (ei) m/z: 385 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{N}_2$, 3 %), 353 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{N}_2 - \text{S}$, 5 %), 262 (11%), 237 (11%), 220 (97 %), 205 (85 %), 194 (Ph_2CCO , 15 %), 165 (C_{13}H_9 = 9-fluorenyl, 35 %), 129 (10 %), 91 (PhCH_2 , 100 %), 65 (15 %); MS (ci, NH_3) m/z: 386 (M - N_2 , 6 %), 354 (M - N_2 - S, 100 %), 220 (9 %), 144 (20 %), 91 (10 %).

4-Aza-4-benzyl-2,2-dimethyl-6,6-diphenyl-1-thiaspiro [2.3] hexan-5-one, or spiro β -lactam thiirane 29. Oil; IR (film) 1765 cm^{-1} (C = O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.14 (s, 3 H), 1.46 (s, 3 H), 4.16 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 7.17 - 7.44 (m, 15H); ^{13}C NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 26.76, 29.23, 44.57, 46.00 (C2), 72.17 (C6), 87.45 (C3), 127.41, 127.61, 127.73, 127.81, 128.16, 128.70, 129.61 (7 CH, aryl), 135.78 (C1, aryl), 137.13 (C1, aryl), 138.21 (C1, aryl), 171.15 (C = O); MS (ei) m/z: 385 (M^+ , 5 %), 353 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{S}$, 5 %), 262 (11%), 237 (11%), 220 (97 %), 205 (85 %), 194 (Ph_2CCO , 15 %), 165 (C_{13}H_9 = 9-fluorenyl, 35 %), 129 (10 %), 91(PhCH_2 , 100%), 65 (15%); MS (ci, NH_3) m/z: 386 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$, 6 %), 354 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H} - \text{S}$, 100 %), 220 (9 %), 144 (20 %), 91 (10 %); MS (high resolution) m/z: 385.1504, calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{NOS}$ 385.1500.

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References and Notes

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