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High Temperature Bromination VI': Bromination of Benzobarrelene

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Abstract: The electrophilic addition of bromine to benzobarrelene in chloroform at 10⁰ C followed by **repeated chromatography combined with fractional crystallization allowed us to isolate ten products 12-21** Structural determination of these compounds revealed that the barrelene skeleton was rearranged **completely. 18-21 are alcohol compounds which arise from hydrolysis of 12, 13, 14, andl5,** respectively. High temperature bromination of benzobarrelene in decalin at 150 ^oC followed by repeated chromatography combined with fractional crystallization gave us 18 products. Nonrearranged products **24,25, and 26 have been isolated in 50% yield. All compounds have been characterized properly,** especially by 200 MHz ¹H NMR and 50 MHz ¹³C NMR spectra. Furthermore, it has been concluded that high temperature bromination of bicyclic systems gives more non-rearranged products. If the molecule is more strained, the tendency to rearrange decreases as in the case of benzonorbornadiene.

Introduction

The addition of bromine to the carbon-carbon double bond is formally one of the simplest reactions typical of unsaturated compounds. The nature of the intermediates of the addition depends on the structure of the **substrate and on the reaction medium. The intermediates, strongly bridged bromonium ions, are involved in the bromination of nonconjugated olefins which give anti-adducts4. However, bromination of unsaturated bicyclic systems leads to rearrangements of the molecular skeleton. For example, the electrophilic addition of bromine to benzonorbornadiene leads to the formation of rearranged product 2 in high yield (Eq.** 1 **)^{1,5}. This compound is** formed as a result of Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement.

In the course of studying the bromination reactions of the unsaturated bicyclic systems we noticed that the reaction temperature has a dramatic influence on product distribution. Bromination at room and lower temperatures give rearranged products via Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement with accompanying aryl and alkyl migration. However, the bromination of these hydrocarbons at higher temperatures (80-1500 C) resulted in the formation of non-rearranged products⁶. High temperature bromination prevents skeletal rearrangement.

The chemistry of benzobicyclo[2.2.2loctadienes can become plagued by skeletal rearrangements especially as the lifetimes of the intermediates cations are increased. The bromination of diacetoxy-dihydrobenzobarrelene 3 has been found to give only one product, dibromide 4 produced via a Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement with accompanying aryl migration7. On the other hand, in earlier work by Barkhash's group, who has examined selective ionic additions to tetrafluoro derivative 5. Reaction with bromine was found to proceed without rearrangement to give $6⁸$. However, the reaction of 5 with acetyl hypochlorite contrasts markedly with bromine. In this instance, complete isomerization to 7 is observed⁹. These examples show the propensity for skeletal rearrangement expectedly increases as the migration ability of the aromatic moeity is **enhanced** such as in 3 and also electronic nature of the electrophiles determines the course of the reaction¹⁰.

Barkhash et al.11 have reported previously bromination of tetrafluorobenzobarrelene 8 and isolated only two compounds 9 and 10. Surprisingly, there is no report in the literature on bromination of benzobarrelene.

In connection with our continuing work in the temperature bromination reactions we have been interested in the bromination reaction of benzobarrelene at room and at high temperature in order to see the effect of the temperature on skeletal rearrangement¹².

Results and Discussions

In the present work we investigated the reaction of 11 with bromine in chloroform at 10° C. We expected the addition of two molecules of bromine with formation of tetrabromides. However, 11 reacted quantitatively only with one molecule of bromine. ¹H NMR studies have revealed that the reaction mixture was very complex and consisted of six products. This mixture was submitted to silica gel column chromatography. Careful repeated chromatography followed by fractional crystallization allowed us to isolate ten products. According to elemental analysis and mass spectral studies six of these were isomeric dibromides. IR analysis indicated that a hydroxyl group was incorporated **in compounds H-21.** Therefore, we assume that this products have been formed by

partial hydrolysis of compounds 12-15. Structural determination of compounds 12-21 has revealed that the barrelene skeleton was rearranged completely.

For the formation of the rearranged products we propose following reaction mechanism. Generally a positive charge when placed on the double bond of **11 induces a** Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement and

transforms the 12.2.21 ring **system into the** [3.2.1] ring system which then reacts with bromide ion to give the products. It is evident from the bromine configuration at bridge carbon in major products I2 and 13 **that initial** attack by the bromine has occured from the exo-face of the π -system (Scheme 3). Most reasonably, the driving force of this mode of addition is supplied by the formation of aryl bridged intermediate. The formation of alkyl shift products 14 and 15 can be explained in terms of the formation of *endo*-intermediate 23 formed by *endo*attack of bromine to 11 (Scheme 3). endo-Configuration of the bromine atom at the bridge carbon is also in agreement with *endo*-attack of bromine to double bond. The compounds 16 and 17 do not contain a double **bond; since the addition of one molecule of bromine to** 11 **was accompanied by the disappearance of two double bonds, we must supposed that, in comparison with other products, another ring is formed. On the basis of NMR data we established that the compounds 16 and 17 contain cyclopropane units.**

Figure 1. X-ray Crystal Structure of 18

Finally, from the reaction mixture we isolated in 10 % isomeric alcohol's having the $C_{12}H_{10}BrO$ composition. Aryl and alkyl shift products 22-15 contain benzylic and allylic bromine atoms which can be hydrolyzed easily on column material to the corresponding bromoalcohols 18-21. Because of the very close structural similarity we were not able to make clear-cut differentiation between the isomers. Therefore, we carried out X-ray crystal analysis of one of these alcohol's and assigned the correct configuration to **18** (Figure 1). Comparison of the NMR spectra of these alcohol's with the corresponding bromo compounds made it possible to analyze the spectra and assign the other alcohol's the correct structures.

combined with fractional crystallization we have been able to separate 18 compounds **(Scheme 4).** Four of them were bromo alcohol compounds **18, 20, 21,** and 31. In high temperature reaction we expected especially the formation of non-rearranged addition products which were not formed by the reaction at 100 C. NMR analysis indicated that all possible non-rearranged addition compounds 24-26 were among the products and formed as the major products.

NMR Spectral Studies and Configurational Assignments: The structures of these compounds have been elucidated on the basis of ¹H and ¹³C NMR data and extensive double resonance experiments and by comparison of some spectral data of related systems reported in the literature. A snopsis of the proton coupling constants exhibited by these closely related [3.2.l]octadienes (Structure A and B) is given in Table 1.

*syn and anti **refer** to benzene ring.

The coupling pattern which are important for stereochemical characterization of this triad are J_{58svn}, $J_{58\text{anti}}$, $J_{54\text{endo}}$, and $J_{54\text{exo}}$. As a consequence of the rigid geometry's and reliability of the Karplus rule¹³ in [3.2.1.] octane systems¹⁴, the dihedral relationship of the H₅ proton to H_{8anti} in **A** and H₅ proton to H_{8syn} in **B** (20^o), and to H_{8syn} in **A** and to H_{8anti} in **B** (80^o) are sufficiently distinctive to be revealed by the magnitude of the spin-spin interaction. Thus the high value of J_{SHson} in **A** and J_{SHanti} in **B** (J = 4,0-5.0 Hz) is uniquely accommodated by the anti-orientation of bromine atom in A (syn-orientation of bromine in **B)** bonded to bridge atom. H_{8anti} in A and H_{8syn} in **B** give a singlet with line-broadening $(J \le 1 \text{ Hz})$. Furthermore, the configuration of bromine atom at C_8 atom in A and B was also determined by measuring of long-range coupling constants between H_{syn}- H₂ in A and H_{syn} - H₆₍₇₎ in B. In the case of ⁴J in the bicyclic systems one speaks of the M or W arrangement. If the bonding arrangement of the coupled protons meets M criterion (as in the case of H_{syn} - H_2 in A and H_{syn} - $H_{6(7)}$ in **B**) we observe a coupling of a value J =0.9-1.3 Hz. In the case of syn-orientation of bromine in **A** and B there is no measurable coupling constant

The configuration of bromine atom at C_4 atom was determined from the coupling constants J_{45} . Inspection of Dreidings models indicates that the dihedral angle between H_5 and H_{4e} , proton is approximately 400 whereas dihedral angle between H₅ and H_{4endo} proton is 600. We observe large coupling constants of J = 4.0-5.0 Hz in the case of endo-orientation of bromine (exo-proton) and $J = 0.0$ -2.0 Hz in the case of exoorientation of bromine (endo-proton). Aryl shift products type A and alkyl shifts product type **B** can also be easily distinguished on the pattern of aromatic resonances (See Figure 3-6).

Table 1¹H and ¹³C Spectral Data of the Compund 1 2, 1 3, 1 6, 1 7, 1 8, 2 4, 2 5, and 2 6 Downfield from Internal Me, Si in CDCl₃ Solutions

The constitution of 16 and 17 has been determined by ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts especially by analysis of cyclopropane J_{C13H} coupling constants (168 and 181 Hz). The configuration of bromine atoms was **established by the observed symmetry element.** A **ten-line 13C NMR is in agreement with symmetrical structure** 16. However, 17 gave twelve-line ¹³C NMR spectrum as expected. ¹H NMR supports also this assignment. The correct configuration of bromine atoms in 16 follows from the coupling constants $J_{48}=J_{34}=4.8$ Hz where the coupling constant J_{34} in 17 is less than 1.0 Hz.

Non-rearranged dibromides 24-26 were distinguished easily. The ¹H NMR spectrum of this isomers reveal sufficient information for tentative assignments to be made. Dibromide 25 and 26 exhibit AA'BB' and AA'XX' systems arising from the aromatic bridgehead and CHBr protons which indicate clearly symmetrical structure and syn-addition of bromine. The endo-configuration of bromine atoms in 25 was determined by X-ray structural analysis. The other isomer 26 exhibiting a six-line 13 C NMR spectrum was assigned exo-exo configuration. trans-Addition product 24 showed a twelve-line $13C$ NMR which is completely in agreement with the proposed structure.

Reductive Dehalogenation: For further supporting of the proposed structures we carried out some reactions. For example, reductive elimination of bromine atoms in 24 with sodium in ether provided a mixture of 35 and 11. Application of the same reaction to 12 gave the reduced hydrocarbon 34^{15} with the retained skeleton (Scheme 5).

Usually, treatment of dibromides of these systems gives significant amount of returned starting material. Barkhash group^{8,16} observed that the rearranged dibromide, 2-exo-7-anti-dibromotetrafluorobenzonorborn-5ene, when treated with magnesium in tetrahydro gave back tetrafluorobenzonorbornene from which the dibromide had originated.

For further support of the structures 24-26, either pure isomers or a mixture consisting of 24-26 was treated with potassium-ferr-butoxide to provide only 33 in high yield (Scheme 6). This observation indicates that the original skeletal structure of benzobarrelene was retained by addition of bromine.

X-Ray Structural Determinationl7: In order to distunguish between the symmetrical structures 25 and 26 we have carried out from one of these isomers single crystal x-ray analysis and determined the correct endolendo-configuration of bromine atoms in 25 (Figure 2). The exact stereochemistry of alkyl-shift product 28 was established by single crystal analysis (Figude 2).

Figure 2. x-ray Crystal Strucuues of 25 and 28

Studies concerning the mechanism of syn-addition show that the syn-adduct can arise either from direct syn-collapse of an ion pair or from rotation followed by anti-collapse.¹⁸ Because of the rigid skeleton in **11,** a bond rotation is out of the question. In this case, we assume that the high temperature bromination is occurring by a free radical mechanism. Radical intermediates are much less likely to rearrange. This could explain also our stereochemical results. Conducting the bromination reaction in the **presence of free radical** inhibitors like 2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenol suppressed the formation of the non-rearranged products. This very **strongly supports the assumption that there** is a competition between radical and ionic reactions.

In order to test whether the isolated non-rearranged product 24-26 and other products formed by high temperature bromination are primary or secondary products, we reacted them under the given reaction conditions and observed that all products are stable so we can conclude that all formed compounds beside the oxygenated **products are primary formed. However, prolonged heating of 25 resulted in the formation** of a mixture **16/17. NMR controls indicated that 14 was formed at first which was then transfered into 16 and 17 (Scheme 7). On the other hand, exoleno-isomer 26 rearranged upon** prolonged heating (165 oC, 30 h) to alkyl shifts **products 13.**

From the high **temperature bromination reaction we encountemd two HBr-addition** products 29130 and two bromine addition products 27128 for their formation ionic addition mechanism can not be responsible. At first, we assumed that HBr-addition products have been formed by HRr-addition to **11.** However, treatment of **11 with** HBr did not provide 29 and 30. For the formation mechanism of these compounds, we propose that bromine radical firstly adds to double bond of benzobarrelene **11** and then rearranges to stable benzyl radical, which can abstract a hydrogen atom from solvent molecule to form 29 and 30. We assume that radical mechanism is also responsible for the formation of 27128. anti-Configuration of bromine in 27,28, and, 29 can be explained only by radical **mechanism** where in most cases stereochemical control of configuration can not be achieved.

Lastly, we isolated a tetrabromo compound 32^{19} highly symmetrical compound whose exact configuration could not be determined on the basis of NMR spectral data. Possible configurations are given on Scheme 8. On an independent reaction we treated decalin with bromine at high temperature and obtained 32 in high yield²⁰. The formation of 32 indicates that decalin is proton source for 29 and 30.

Figure 3. 200 MHz ¹H NMR Spectra of the Compounds 14, 27, 29 and 30.

Figure 4. 200 MHz ¹H NMR Spectra of the Compounds 16, 17, 12 and 13.

Figure 5. 200 MHz ¹H NMR Spectra of the Compounds 19, 24, 25 and 26.

Figure 6. 200 MHz ¹H NMR Spectra of the Compounds 18, 20, 21 and 31.

Finally, we would like to conclude that bromination of benzobarrelene at 10° C give 100% rearranged products arising from the formation of endo- and exe-intermediates 22 and 23 where aryl and alkyl shifts via Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement are involved. However, bromination at high temperature gives rearranged and non-rearranged products in a ratio of 1:1. At higher temperatures there is a competition between radical and ionic mechanism. If we compare these results with high temperature bromination of benzonorbornadiene we notice that molecular rearrangement is getting suppressed by going from benzobarrelene to benzonorbomadiene (Benzonorbornadiene provides 80% non-rearranged products by 150° C bromination). We assume that the strain in the molecule is responsible for the product distribution in high temperature bromination. In order to test this strain effect, further works are in progress. Furthermore, comparison of high temperature bromination results of benzobarrelene with those of substituted benzobarrelene derivatives, indicates substituents at double bond of benzobarrelene retards also rearrangement^{6b}.

Experimental Section

General. Melting points are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were obtained from films on NaCl plates for liquids or from solution in 0.1 mm cells or KBr pellets for solids on a regular instrument. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on 200 (51))- and 60-MHz spectrometers. Apparent splitting are given in all cases. Mass spectra (electron impact) were recorded at 70 eV as m/z . Column chromatography was performed on silica gel $(60$ -mesh, Merck). TLC was carried out on Merck 0.2 mm silica gel 60 F254 analytical aluminum plates.

Caution: It has been reported²¹ that of three laboratory workers who has used dibromides and bromohydrin derived from norbornadiene, two later developed similar pulmonary disorders which contributed to their subsequent deaths. The third exhibited minor skin sensitivity reactions. In the case of dibromide derived from benzonorbomadiene there is no report in the literature about the toxicological effect. However, we recommend that the compounds be handled only with extreme caution.

Bromination of Benzobarrelene 11 at 10 °C. To a magnetically stirred solution of benzobarrelene22 **11 (2** g,12.99 mmol) in 15 mL dry chloroform cooled to 10" C was added dropwise a solution of bromine (2.08 g, 12.99 mmol) in 5 mL chloroform during 10 min. After completion of the addition, the solution was allowed to warm to 20 "C. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (130 g) eluting with hexane.

The first fraction (0.85 g) consisted of a mixture of compounds 13, 14 and 15. This mixture was submitted to fractional crystallization from methylene chloride/hexane (1:3), to give dibromide 13.

endo, anti-4,8-Dibromo-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene 13 (693 mg, 17 %) mp 79-80 'C. IR (KBr, cm-t): 3080, 3040, 2980, 1460, 1245, 1170, 1150, 960, 810, 740. Anal. Calcd for CI2HloBr2: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 46.04, H, 3.28.

After filtration of tribromide 13, the organic solvent was evaporated and the oily residue was mcrystallized from ethanol/hexane (2/l). The mixture was allowed to stand for several days in refrigerator to give dibromide 14.

endo,syn-4,S-Dibromo-2,3-benzobicycIo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 14 (60 mg pure crystals and 286 mg mixture, total yield 8.5 %): mp 65-66 'C. IR (KBr, cm-l): 3060,3020,2950,1480, 1450, 1310,1260, **1240, 1170. 1150, 908, 883,740. MS (m/e. 96) 316/314/312 (M+. 4). 2351233 (M+-Br, 58). 154 (M+-2Br, IOO), 128 (M+-2Br-acetylene, naphthalene, 20).**

NMR spectral studies indicated the formation of 15 which could not be isolated in pure **state because of the** tendency of these **molecule to undergo easily either configuration isomerizetion and hydrolysis on column material to form 14,28, and 21, respectively.**

The second fraction: **cxo,endo-3,8-Dibromo-5,6-benzotricyclo[2.2.2.O2~']octa-5-ene 17 (175** mg 4.3 %): mp 94-95 °C, colorless crystals from ethanol/hexane (2/1). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3060, 3030, 2970, 1600, 1480, 1460, 1310, 1209, 1010, 850, 755. **MS (m/e, %)** 316/314/312 @I+, 35), 235/233 (M+-Br, 94). 154 (M⁺-2Br, 100), 128 (M⁺-2Br-acetylene, naphthalene, 20). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀Br₂: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 46.04, H, 3.28.

The third fraction: **exo,anti-4,8-Dibromo-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 12 (2.14 g 52 96): mp** 96 "C colorless crystals from methylene chloride/hexane (l/3) IR(KBr, cm-'): 3042, 3020, 2990, 1462, 1380, 1242, 857,740. MS (m/e, 96) 316/314/312 (M+. 5), 23X233 (M+-Br, 62), 154 (M+-2Br, IOO), 128 (M⁺-2Br-acetylene, naphthalene, 15). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀Br₂: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 45.67, H, 3.0.

The fourth fraction: **endo,endo-3,8-Dibromo-5,6-benzotricyclo[2.2.2.02']octa-S-ene 16 (53 mg 1.3 96):** mp 155-156'C. colorless crystals from ethanoI/hexane (2/l). **IR** (KBr, cm-l): 3070, 3050. 2980. 2975, 1490, 1470, 1330, 1310, 1200, 1035, 900,880,705.

Then the column was eluted with hexane/ethyl acetate $(97:3)$ As the fifth fraction we isolated *exo,anti*-4**hydroxy-8-bromo-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 18 (163 mg 4 %): mp** 88 'C colorless crystals from methanol IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3410, 3063, 3038, 3020, 2980, 1468, 1428, 1370, 1305, 1305, 1291, 1242, 1032, 773, 732. MS (m/e, %) 252/251(M+, 3), 171(M+-Br, 62), 154 (M+-Br-H₂O, 33), 128 (M+-Br-H₂O-acetylene, naphthalene, 27). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁BrO: C, 57.40; H, 4.42. Found: C, 57.75, H, 4.56

The sixth fraction: **exo,syn-4-Hydroxy-8-bromo-2,3-benzobicyclo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 21 (126 mg 3.1 %): mp** 101-102 "C colorless crystals from methanol, IR (KBr, cm-*): 3540, 3480, 3020.2980, 2942, 2900, 2835, 1485, 1453, 1395, 1318, 1230, 1205, 990, 810. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁BrO: C, 57.40; H, 4.42. Found: C, 57.05, H, 4.42

The seventh fraction: *endo,anti-4-Hydroxy-8-bromo-6,7-benzobicyclo*[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene **19** (41mg 1 %): mp 102-103 °C colorless crystals from methanol, IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3140, 3070, 3040, 2965, 1469, 1458, 1370, 1295.1242, 1230, 1050.870.765.

The eighth fraction: $exo, syn-4-Hydroxy-8-bromo-2,3-benzobicyclo[3.2,1]octa-2,6-diene 20$ **(65 mg 1.6 %): mp** 98-99 "C colorless crystals from methanol, IR (KBr, cm-l): 3340,3060,3020,2940,2880, 1482.1452, 1310, 1240. 1032, 843.

Bromination of Benzobarrelene 11 at 150 "C. Benzobarrelene 11 2 g (12.99 **mmol) was** dissolved **in** 25 mL of decalin in a 50 mL two necked flask equipped with reflux condenser and an inlet glass tube touching the bottom of the reaction flask. The inlet glass-tube was connected to a 2 mL of round-bottom flask which contains 2.08 g (12.99 mmol) of bromine. Bromine vapors obtained by heating of the flask to 108 ^oC, was transferred directly to decalin solution having a temperature of 150 ^oC, in 5 min. while stirring magnetically. The color of bromine was disappeared immediately. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (130 g) eluting with hexane.

The first fraction : 1,4,5,8-Tetrabromo-1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahydronaphthalene 32 (156 mg, 4 %),: Colorless crystals, mp 185.5-186 °C from chloroform/n-hexane 1:2 (Lit. 188-189 °C¹⁹); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) d 5.16 (d, J=2.7 Hz, 4H, H₁,H₄,H₅ and H₈), 2.10- 2.60 (AA'BB' system, 8H, H₂,H₃,H₆ and H7); ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.5, 49.5, 28; MS (70 eV) m/z 375/373/372/371 (M⁺-Br,8), 292/291/289 (M⁺-2Br, 8), 213/211 (M⁺-3Br, 27), 131/129/128 (M⁺-4Br, naphthalene, 100); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2955,2905,2835, 1423, 1335. 1200, 1170, 1000, 895,743.

As the second fraction we isolated the starting material benzobarrelene **ll(l20** mg) and the third fraction (306 mg) consisted of a mixture of monobromides 29 and 30. This mixture has been separated on 65 g Al₂O₃ (basic, activity 1) column eluting with hexane. The first component was **syn-8-bromo-2,3 benzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene 30** (178 mg 4.6 %); mp 88 °C from methylene cloride/hexane (1/3) IR (KBr, cm-l): 3063,300O. 2942.2905, 1485, 1452, 1420.1315, 1232, 1205, 1110,1010,885,810,760. The second component was identified as **anri-8-bromo-2,3-benzobicyclo[3.2.1]-octa-2,6-diene 29** (128 mg 3.3 %): mp 69-70 °C from methylene cloride/hexane (1/3) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3060, 3020, 2955, 2900, 1480, 1455, 1350, 1320, 1235, 980, 898, 810, 770, 725. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁Br: C, 61.30 H, 4.72. Found: C, 61.25, H, 4.82.

Fourth fraction (from silica gel column) consisted of a mixture of dibromides 13, 14, 15,24, 27 and 28. This mixture was crystallized from 25 mL of ethanol/hexane (2/1). The solution was allowed to stand for a while in refrigerator. The formed crystals were identified as

exo,endo-7,8-dibromo-5,6-benzobicyclo[2.2.2]-octa-2,5-ene 24 (1.1 g pure crystals, 0.216 g mixture, total yield 34 %) : mp 97-98 °C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070, 3040, 2980, 1460, 1340, 1307, 1251, 1162, 998, 805, 760. MS (m/e, %) 316/314/312 (M+ 3), 235/233 (M+-Br, 7), 154 (M+-2Br, 21), 128 (M+-2Bracetylene, naphthalene, 100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{10}Br_2$: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 45.97, H, 3.15.

After filtration of 24 the solvent was evaporated and the oily residue was crystallized from 15 mL of ethanol/hexane (2/l). The mixture was allowed to stand for several days in refrigerator and dibromide 28 crystallized as the sole material.

exo,anli-4,8-Dibromo-2,3-benzobicyclo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 28 (290 mg pure crystals, and 82 mg mixture, total yield 9.4 %) : mp 144-144.5 "C. IR (KBr, cm-'): 3065,3025,2978, 1480, 1320, 1265, 1230, 1145, 910, 790, 765, 710 Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀Br₂: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 45.69, H, 3.04.

After filtration of 28, the residue was analyzed by NMR spectral measurements. For separation of **13,14, and 15 see** room temperature bromination. By standing of this mixture at room teemperature we observed that dibromide 27 was converted completely to dibromide 28.

Fifth fraction (from silica gel column): $exo, endo-3, 8$ -Dibromo-5,6-benzotricyclo[2.2.2.0² 7]octa-5-ene 17 (85 mg 2.2 %): mp 94-95 °C, colorless crystals from ethanol/hexane $(2/1)$.

The sixth fraction: **axo,exo-7,8-Dibromo-5,6-benzobicyclo[2.2.2]ota-2,5-ene 26 (360** mg **9.3 46)** : mp 126-127Y. IR(KBr, cm-l): 3060. 3020,2980, 1470, 1460, 1342, 1300, 1202, 982. 800,760. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀Br₂: C, 45.90; H, 3.21. Found: C, 45.54, H, 3.24.

Seventh fraction: **exo,anti-4,8-Dibromo-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene 12 (77** mg **2 46):** mp 96 "C colorless crystals from methylene chloride/hexane (l/3).

The eighth fraction: **endo,endo-7,8-Dibromo-S,6-benzobicyclo[2.2.2]octa-2,5-ene 25 (246** mg 6.2 %) : mp 146-146.5 °C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3060, 3040, 2960, 1470, 1460, 1458, 1340, 1250, 1245, 1195, 1185, 860,780, 710. MS (m/e, 96) 316/314/312 (M+, 6), 235/233 (M+-Br, 4), 154 (M+-2Br, 31), 128 (M⁺-2Br-acetylene, naphthalene, 100).

The ninth fraction: **endo,endo-3,8-Dibromo-5,6-benzotricylo[2.2.2.0^{2,7}]octa-5-ene 16 (77 mg** 2 96): mp 155-156"C, colorless crystals from ethanol/hexane (2/l).

Then the column was eluted with hexane/ethyl acetate (97:3)

The tenth fraction: **exo,anli-4-Hydroxy-S-bromo-6,7-benzobicylo[3.2.l]octa-2,6-diene 18** (35 mg $1 \leq \frac{1}{2}$): mp 88 °C colorless crystals from methanol.

The eleventh fraction: *exo,syn*-4-Hydroxy-8-bromo-2,3-benzobicylo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene 21 (77 mg 2 %); mp 101-102 °C colorless crystals from methanol.

The twelfth fraction: *exo,anti-*4-Hydroxy-8-bromo-2,3-benzobicylo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene 31 (101 mg 2.6 %): mp 122-123 'C colorless crystals from methanol. IR (KBr, cm-l): 3280, 3070,2980,2960, 2880, 1487, 1460, 1318, 1280, 1235, 1020, 910, 800, 760. MS (m/e, %) 252/251(M⁺, 1), 171(M⁺-Br, 100), 153 (M⁺-Br-H₂O, 40), 128 (M⁺-Br-H₂O-acetylene, naphthalene, 19).

The thirteenth fraction: **endo,syn-4-Hydroxy-S-bromo-2,3-benzobicylo[3.2.l]-octa-2,6-diene 20 (50** mg 1.3 96): mp 98-99 "C colorless crystals from methanol.

Thermal Rearrangement of endo,endo-Dibromide 25 100 mg of endo,endo-dibromide 25 was heated at 165 °C in a sealed tube (without solvent) for 30 h. ¹H NMR analysis of the residue has revealed the exclusively formation of dibromides 16, 17 in a ratio of $5/2$ and in 95 % yield. By heating for shorter periods we observed the primary formation of alkyl shifts products 14 and 15 as the intermediates. By an independent reaction we have converted pure sample of 14 completely to 16 and 17 by heating in a sealed tube at 165 "C in 30 h.

Thermal Rearrangement of exo,exo-Dibromide 26. 100 mg (0.32 mmol) exo,exo-dibromide 26 was heated at 175 °C in sealed tube (without solvent) for 40 h. The oily residue was chromatographed on silica gel (10 g) eluting with hexane. Dibromide 13 was formed as the sole product in 65 % yield.

Reduction of Dibromide 12. 100 mg (0.32 mmol) dibromide 12 and 190 mg of ferr-sBuOH were dissolved in 10 mL of ether. 74 mg (3.2 mmol) of metallic **sodium** of small pieces were added during 15 min. After stirring at reflux temperature of the solvent for 12 h. the reaction mixture was cooled and methanol was added carefully to destroy unreacted sodium. The resulting mixture was poured into 100 mL water and extracted with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with water, dried $(MgSO₄)$. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure yielding 42 mg (85%) of olefin 34¹⁵.

Reduction of Dibromide 24. 100 mg (0.32 mmol) of dibromide 24 was reduced as described above. According to the NMR spectrum, the reaction mixture consisted a mixture of benzobarrelene **11** (61 %) and dihydrobenzobarrelene 35²³ (21 %).

Elimination of Dibromidea 24,25, and 26. A solution of a mixture consisting of dibromides 24, 25, and 26 (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in 10 mL of dry tetrahydrofuran was added dropwise to a stirring solution of potassium-tert-butoxide (0.5 mmol) in 5 mL of tetrahydrofuran during 5 min. The mixture was stirred overnight **and quenched with water. The mixture was extracted with ether, dried (MgSO4), and concentrated at reduced pressure to afford monobrombenxobarrelene 3324,68 mg (91%).**

Table 2. X-ray data of compund 28

Bond lengths A angles (0) and torsion angles (0) with e.s.d.'s in parentheses.

Table 3. X-ray data of compund 18

Bond lengths A, angles (0) and torsion angles (0) with e.s.d.'s in parentheses.

Bond angles of hydrogen atoms with e.s.d.'sin parentheses.

For molecule 18 Crystals from Methanol Crystal size $0.17x0.35x0.65$ mm; Triclilic; Z=2; a=7.946 (3) Å, b=15.192(4) Å, c=15.192 (2) Å; v=1539.78 (1.09) Å^c; D_x=1.624 mg. m⁻³; Ømax=26 °, (M_oKa, 1=0.71069 Å, Huber four circle diffractometer, w/2ø-scans, T=293 °K), 4049 indepented, 3279 observed [I ≥ 3 s (I)]; $R = 0.032$.

For molecule 25 Crystals from Methylene chloride/hexane (1/3). Orthorhombic: Z=8; a=11.481 (5) Å, $b=7.953(3)$ Å, c=22.977 (8) Å; v=2098 Å^c; T=235 °K) R=0.0462, R_w=0.0366.

For molecule 28 Crystals from Ethylalcohol/hexane (2/l). Crystal size 0.35x0.30x0.50 mm ; Orthorhombic; Z=8; a=8.409(3)Å b=23.124(2) Å, c=10.969(2) Å; v=2132.9 (9) Å^c; D_x=1.949 mg. m⁻³; Ømax=26 °,(M₀Ka, 1=0.71069 Å, Huber four circle diffractometer, w/2ø-scans, T=293 °K), 2445 indepented, 1288 observed [I ≥ $3 s (I)$]; R=0.032, R_w=0.037.

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