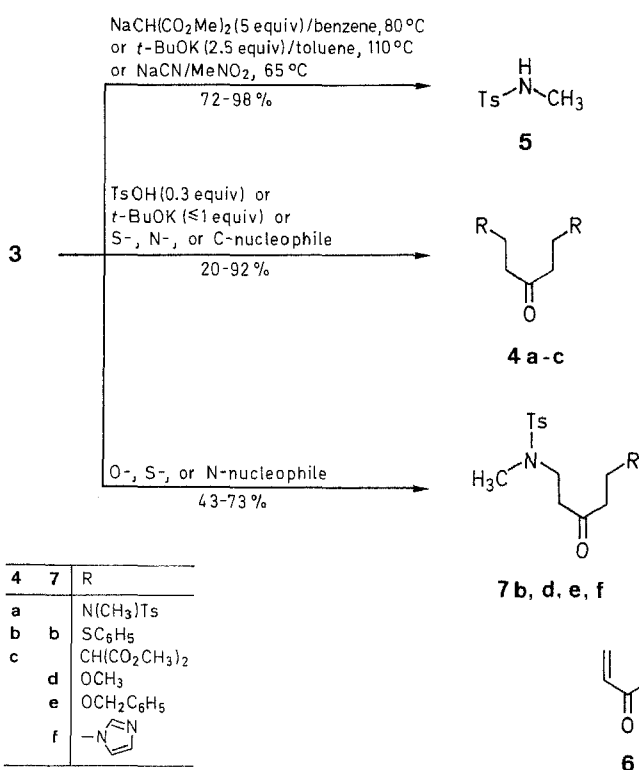
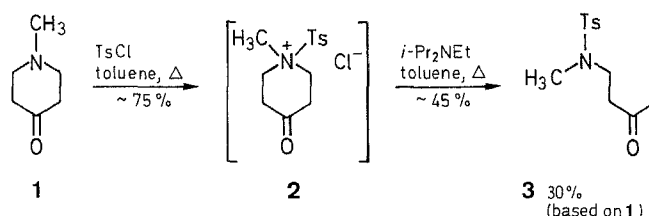


N-Sulfonylation of 1-methyl-4-piperidone (**1**) with a small excess of tosyl chloride led to the quaternary salt **2** in 75% yield (determined by the integral of the NMR signals of the protons at C-2 and C-5). Ring opening of **2** was performed by the action of Hunig's base (ethyldiisopropylamine) in toluene at 100°C. The only moderate yield of ketone **3** (34% based on **1**) may result from the high reactivity of **3** towards basic reagents.



Synthesis and Properties of 4,*N*-Dimethyl-*N*-(3-oxo-4-pentenyl)benzenesulfonamide, a Divinyl Ketone Equivalent

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Starting from 1-methyl-4-piperidone, some synthetically useful Michael adducts of divinylketone were prepared and characterized.

In the course of a study aimed at the synthesis of nitrogen-containing vinyl ketones we found that exposure of the salt **2** obtained from 1-methyl-4-piperidone (**1**) and tosyl chloride to the action of strong bases gave rise to 4,*N*-dimethyl-*N*-(3-oxo-4-pentenyl)benzenesulfonamide (**3**), 1,5-bis(methyltosylamino)-3-pentanone (**4a**), or 4,*N*-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (**5**), depending on the reaction conditions.

The presence of two tosylamino groups in compound **4a** as well as the formation of 4,*N*-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (**5**)² clearly indicated that the two C-N bonds of the salt **2** had been successively cleaved. Compounds **3** and **4a** can be considered as the mono- and the bis-adduct, respectively of **5** with divinyl ketone (**6**). Since divinyl ketone (**6**) proved to be an interesting synthon for the preparation of natural products³ and also because some bis β -aminoketones (similar to the bis(tosylamide) **4a**) have been shown to display antitumor activities,⁴ we attempted to prepare symmetrical **4** and unsymmetrical **7** Michael adducts of divinyl ketone (**6**), starting from ketone **3**.

Three compounds (**4a-c**) were obtained from the reaction of representative N-, S-, and C-nucleophiles with ketone **3** (Table 1). The course of the reactions mostly depended on the nature and on the relative amount of the reagent used. For example with potassium *tert*-butoxide used in stoichiometrical amount (or in excess), 4,*N*-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (**5**) was obtained in nearly quantitative yield, whereas the other part of the molecule (divinyl ketone **6**) could not be detected as such (entry 1).

The same result was obtained with basic C-nucleophiles like dimethyl sodiomalonate (entry 2) or sodium cyanide (entry 3). On the other hand, when potassium *tert*-butoxide was used as catalyst, the rate of C-N bond cleavage of **3** decreased, the resultant sulfonamide **5** reacted with **3** to afford the bis-sulfonamide **4a**, in the absence (entry 4) and even in the presence of a large excess of nucleophiles (entry 5). A better yield of **4a** was obtained when the preformed sulfonamide **5**⁵ was added to the reaction mixture (entry 6).

Considering that free divinyl ketone (**6**) was not necessarily involved in the formation of products **4**, we sought reaction conditions which would allow the rate of the Michael addition to be comparable with that of the C-N cleavage: for example, 1,5-bis(phenylthio)-3-pentanone (**4b**) was directly obtained upon reaction of **3** with potassium benzenethiolate (entry 7), and tetramethyl 3-oxo-1,5-pentanediyldis(malonate) (**4c**) could be prepared with dimethyl malonate and 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU, entry 8). In the *p*-toluenesulfonic acid catalyzed reaction, compound **3** was directly converted into **4a** (entry 9).

Examination of the Michael addition of various nucleophiles to **3** revealed that carbanions like cyanide (entry 3) or malonate (entry 2) afforded only the cleaved product **5**. Better results were obtained with alcohols (entry 13) and alkoxides (entry 11), with benzenethiol (entry 12), or with imidazole (entry 14).

While the extreme lability of the C-N bond of **3** towards basic nucleophiles hampers the easiness of these reactions and implies careful choice of the experimental conditions, it remains that the

vinyl ketone **3** can be considered as a suitable precursor for various new, synthetically useful 1,5-dihetero-substituted 3-pentanones (**4,7**).

All reagents were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., and were used without purification, except for 1-methyl-4-piperidone which was redistilled before use. Kieselgel F₂₅₄ GH Merck was used for chromatographic separation.

4, *N*-Dimethyl-*N*-(3-oxo-4-pentenyl)benzenesulfonamide (3):

1-Methyl-4-piperidone (**1**; 0.34 g, 3.0 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) and TsCl (0.76 g, 4.0 mmol) dissolved in toluene (3 mL) are maintained at 100 °C under argon. After 1 h, *i*-Pr₂NEt (0.52 g, 0.4 mmol), 0.70 mL is added and the heating of the mixture is continued for 0.5 h. The solvent is removed *in vacuo*, the residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL), this solution basified with 10 % aqueous NaHCO₃, and the organic layer separated. The aqueous layer is extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic phases are dried (MgSO₄). Evaporation of the solvent followed by purification using centrifugal chromatography (Chromatotron®), (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂) affords compound **3**; yield: 0.33 g (30 %). mp 39 °C; recovered starting material **1**: 0.09 g (11 %); yield of **3** based on converted starting material: 34 %.

Table 1. Preparation of Symmetrical (**4**) and Unsymmetrical (**7**) Ketones

| Entry | Nucleophile (mole equiv) | Condensing Agent (mole equiv) | Reaction Time (h) | Temperature (°C) | Product | Yield ^a (%) | Remarks |
|-------|---|---|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | none | <i>t</i> -BuOK (2.5) | 2 | 110 | 5 | 91 | solvent : toluene |
| 2 | NaCH(CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂ (5) | none | 2 | 80 | 5 | 72 | solvent : benzene |
| 3 | NaCN | none | 2 | 65 | 5 | 98 | solvent : MeCN |
| 4 | none | <i>t</i> -BuOK (0.3) | 1 | 80 | 4a | 26 ^b | |
| 5 | CH ₂ (CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂ (10) | <i>t</i> -BuOK (0.1) | 0.5 | 20 | 4a | 22 ^b | |
| 6 | 4-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ SO ₂ NHCH ₃ (4) | <i>t</i> -BuOK (1) | 0.5 | 80 | 4a^c | 92 | |
| 7 | C ₆ H ₅ SK (15) | none | 0.5 | 80 | 4b^c | 37 | |
| 8 | CH ₂ (CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂ (5) | DBU (3) | 0.5 | 80 | 4c | 47 | |
| 9 | none | TsOH (0.3) | 3 | 80 | 4a | 29 ^b | 8 % of 3 unreacted |
| 10 | CH ₂ (CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂ (6) | (C ₂ H ₅) ₃ N (2) | 17 | 80 | none | – | see also Entries 2,5 |
| 11 | CH ₃ OH (solvent) | MeONa (0.3) | 0.5 | 64 | 7d^c | 50 | neat, 14 % of 5 |
| 12 | C ₆ H ₅ SH (10) | none | 0.25 | 80 | 7b | 60 | |
| 13 | C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ OH (15) | TsOH (0.1) | 1 | 80 | 7e | 43 | 28 % of 4a |
| 14 | imidazole (5) | none | 16 | 20 | 7f | 73 | |

^a Obtained after TLC.

^c Prepared on a 2.5–3 mmol scale.

^b In these cases, the theoretical yield does not exceed 50 %.

Table 2. Compounds **3**, **4**, and **7** Prepared

| Compound ^a | mp (°C) ^b or bp (°C) or n _D ²² | Molecular Formula ^c | MS (70 eV) ^d <i>m/z</i> (%) | Exact Mass ^d <i>m/z</i> |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|---|
| 3 | 39 | C ₁₃ H ₁₇ NO ₃ S (267.3) | 267 (31), 210 (28), 198 (98), 186 (31), 155 (98), 151 (63) | (M + H) ⁺ calc. 268.1005 found 268.0979 |
| 4a | 73–74 | C ₂₁ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₅ S ₂ (452.6) | 452 (1), 297 (57), 198 (94), 155 (100), 112 (71), 93 (98) | M ⁺⁺ calc. 452.1438 found 452.1413 |
| 4b | 243–247/1100 mbar | C ₁₇ H ₁₈ OS ₂ (302.4) | 302 (66), 193 (42), 165 (10), 137 (40), 123 (100), 109 (61) | M ⁺⁺ calc. 302.0799 found 302.0827 |
| 4c | 1.4643 | C ₁₅ H ₂₂ O ₉ (346.3) | 346 (98), 187 (43), 159 (37), 155 (100) | (M + H) ⁺ calc. 346.1262 found 346.1197 |
| 7b | 1.5702 | C ₁₉ H ₂₃ NO ₃ S ₂ (377.5) | 377 (11), 279 (4), 268 (2), 259 (13), 218 (17) | M ⁺⁺ calc. 377.1119 found 377.1139 |
| 7d | 1.5252 | C ₁₄ H ₂₁ NO ₄ S (299.4) | 299 (1), 268 (1), 198 (11), 185 (20), 155 (40), 144 (32) | (M + H) ⁺ calc. 300.1269 found 300.1274 |
| 7e | 1.5494 | C ₂₀ H ₂₅ NO ₄ S (375.5) | 376 (96), 268 (57), 220 (90), 198 (86), 155 (21) | (M + H) ⁺ calc. 376.1582 found 376.1618 |
| 7f | 1.5415 | C ₁₆ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₃ S (335.4) | 335 (2), 267 (0.4), 198 (11), 185 (17), 180 (23), 155 (62) | (M + H) ⁺ calc. 336.1382 found 336.1393 |

^a All new compounds.

^d Recorded on a JEOL JMS D300 high-resolution spectrometer.

^b Uncorrected, measured with a Kofler apparatus.

^c Satisfactory microanalyses obtained: C ± 0.37, H ± 0.32, N ± 0.47, S ± 0.50.

Table 3. Spectral Data of Compounds **3**, **4**, and **7**

| Compound | IR (film) ^a ν (cm ⁻¹) | ¹ H-NMR (CDCl ₃ /300 MHz) ^b δ , J (Hz) | ¹³ C-NMR (CDCl ₃ /75 MHz) ^b δ |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| 3 | 1690, 1670, 1660 | 2.33 (s, 3H, ArCH ₃); 2.68 (s, 3H, NCH ₃); 2.87 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂); 3.24 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, NCH ₂); 5.81 (dd, 1H, $J_1 = 10$, $J_2 = 1$, CO-CH=CH _{trans}); 6.16 (d, d, 1H, $J_3 = 18$, $J_2 = 1$, CO-CH=CH _{cis}); 6.27 (d, d, 1H, $J_1 = 10$, $J_3 = 18$, CO-CH=CH ₂); 2.36 (s, 6H, 2ArCH ₃); 2.67 (s, 6H, 2NCH ₃); 2.73 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, 2CH ₂ CO-); 3.18 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, NCH ₂); 7.26 (d, 4H, $J = 8$, H _{arom}); 7.58 (d, 4H, $J = 8$, H _{arom}) | 21.5; 36.1; 38.7; 45.5; 127.4; 129.1; 134.3; 136.3; 143.5; 198.6 |
| 4a | 1705 | 2.36 (s, 6H, 2ArCH ₃); 2.67 (s, 6H, 2NCH ₃); 2.73 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, 2CH ₂ CO-); 3.18 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, NCH ₂); 7.26 (d, 4H, $J = 8$, H _{arom}); 7.58 (d, 4H, $J = 8$, H _{arom}) | 21.6; 36.1; 42.3; 45.4; 127.6; 129.9; 134.2; 143.7; 206.6 |
| 4b | 1710 | 2.70 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂); 3.12 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ SC ₆ H ₅); 7.16-7.52 (m, 10H _{arom}) | 27.5; 42.5; 126.4; 129.0; 129.7; 136.4; 206.7 |
| 4c | 1750, 1730, 1710 | 2.18 [t, 4H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ CH(CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂]; 2.51 (t, 4H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂); 3.43 [t, 2H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ CH(CO ₂ CH ₃) ₂]; 3.74 (s, 12H, OCH ₃) | 22.6; 39.7; 50.5; 52.7; 169.6; 207.6 |
| 7b | 1710 | 2.42 (s, 3H, ArCH ₃); 2.72 (d, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ SC ₆ H ₅); 2.73 (s, 3H, NCH ₃); 2.75 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ N); 3.13 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ SC ₆ H ₅); 3.27 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ N); 7.18-7.67 (m, 9H _{arom}) | 21.4; 27.4; 36.0; 42.2; 42.4; 45.1; 126.4; 127.4; 129.0; 129.6; 129.7; 134.1; 135.4; 143.5; 206.7 |
| 7d | 1710 | 2.42 (s, 3H, ArCH ₃); 2.68 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ N); 2.74 (s, 3H, NCH ₃); 2.81 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃); 3.27 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, NCH ₂); 3.32 (s, 3H, OCH ₃); 3.64 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ OCH ₃); 7.33 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ _{arom}); 7.67 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ _{arom}) | 21.4; 35.9; 42.4; 43.0; 45.1; 58.8; 67.3; 127.4; 129.7; 134.2; 143.4; 207.1 |
| 7e | 1710 | 2.42 (s, 3H, ArCH ₃); 2.71 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ N); 2.73 (s, 3H, NCH ₃); 2.80 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃); 3.26 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, NCH ₂); 3.74 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ O); 4.49 (s, 2H, OCH ₂ C ₆ H ₅); 7.17-7.35 (m, 7H _{arom}); 7.64 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ _{arom}) | 21.6; 36.0; 42.5; 43.3; 45.2; 65.2; 73.3; 127.3; 127.5; 127.8; 128.5; 129.6; 134.3; 138.1; 143.6; 207.3 |
| 7f | 1710, 1600 | 2.43 (s, 3H, ArCH ₃); 2.71 (s, 3H, NCH ₃); 2.73 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ NSO ₂); 2.97 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ -imidazolyl); 3.24 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, COCH ₂ CH ₂ NSO ₂); 4.23 (t, 2H, $J = 7$, CH ₂ imidazolyl); 6.97 (d, 2H, $J = 32$, CH=CH); 7.33 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ _{arom}); 7.49 (s, 1H, NCH=N); 7.65 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ _{arom}) | 21.4; 36.1; 40.8; 42.3; 43.8; 45.2; 116.7; 127.3; 129.5; 129.7; 133.8; 143.6; 205.4 |

^a Recorded on a Beckmann Acculab 4 spectrophotometer.^b Obtained on a Bruker AC300 spectrometer using TMS as internal standard.**Symmetrical (4) and Unsymmetrical (7) Ketones; General Procedure:**

A solution of ketone **3** (53.5 mg, 0.2 mmol) in benzene (except entries 1, 3, 11; see Table 1, remarks) is stirred with the nucleophile under the conditions listed in Table 1. When TLC shows the disappearance of the starting material, the solvent is removed under reduced pressure. The residue is dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (5–10 mL), this solution is neutralized with 10% aqueous NaOAc, and the aqueous layer is further extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers are dried (MgSO₄), the solvent is evaporated, and the residue is purified by TLC on silica gel using CH₂Cl₂ as eluent.

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