Relative Ineffectiveness of Longicyclic Three-Ribbon Interactions in Dications. Rearrangement Products of Benzobarrelene Dications: An MNDO and Experimental Study[†]

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Abstract: NMR and quench experiments on superacid solutions of systems designed to yield benzobarrelene dication derivatives reveal only a cascade of rearrangement products. In accord with the results of MNDO calculations, possible longicyclic Möbius 4π -e aromaticity in derivatives of the barrelene dication is thus found to be ineffective. Coulombic repulsion appears to be a dominant factor in determining the structure of dication that will be favored. Diol precursors exhibit surprisingly specific modes of ionization, depending on their stereochemistry, and give different cationic intermediates. Diprotonated diketones rearrange selectively to give isomers with the bicyclo[3.2.1]octadiene framework, which may rearrange further to the more stable bicyclo[3.3.0]octadiene isomers. Two-electron oxidation of neutral benzobarrelenes also leads to a rearrangement cascade. Contrary to the concepts of bicyclo- and homoaromaticity, the bishomoantiaromatic bicyclo[3.3.0]octadienediyl-type dications are found to be the most stable isomers.

There is continuing interest in the synthesis of carbodications in nonnucleophilic, superacid media.¹⁻⁵ Because of strong Coulombic repulsion in such species, the only dications yet to be observed by NMR spectroscopy have the charged centers separated by at least two methylene groups and are stabilized either by conjugation or by substituents. Hence, doubly charged systems provide a sensitive test for stabilizing effects. For instance, the $(4n + 2)\pi$ -aromatic systems⁶⁻¹⁰ provided a further confirmation of Hückel's rule.^{11,12} Thus, tetramethylcyclooctatetraene (1) undergoes a two-electron oxidation to yield the corresponding dication 2.



1, 8π electrons Hückel antiaromatic 2, 6π electrons Hückel aromatic

In contrast, the three-dimensional analogue of 1, barrelene (3), is a 6π -electron Möbius antiaromatic system, as has been demonstrated via the heat of hydrogenation¹³ and by photoelectron spectroscopy.¹⁴ Goldstein^{15,16} first treated this destabilization using qualitative MO theory. In analogy to cyclooctatetraene, a two-electron oxidation of 3 should yield the Möbius aromatic system 4.



3, 6π electrons Möbius antiaromatic 4, 4π electrons Möbius aromatic

However, MINDO/3 calculations on C_8H_8 dications¹⁷ revealed no minimum for a structure like 4 with the bicyclo[2.2.2] framework. We now report the results of a variety of possible synthetic approaches to derivatives of the barrelene dication 4. These experimental studies have been combined with semiempirical MO calculations on benzobarrelene dications and their isomers.

Semiempirical Calculations

In order to clarify the contradictions between simple qualitative MO predictions and the MINDO/3 results,¹⁷ we first performed MNDO¹⁸ calculations in order to assess the probability of observing 4 or its rearrangement products. We chose MNDO for

these calculations because of some inconsistencies between MINDO/3 results and experimental observations. For instance,

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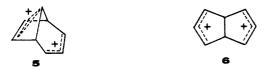
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[†]Dedicated to G. A. Olah on his 60th birthday.

the bicyclic dication 5, which is experimentally unknown, was calculated¹⁷ to be slightly more stable than its isomer 6, but both were found to be more than 20 kcal mol⁻¹ less stable than the cyclooctatetraene dication. Experimentally, however, derivatives of the cyclooctatetraene dication undergo a ring-closure reaction to give derivatives of the bicyclo[3.3.0] dication 6.1^{10}



In contrast to MINDO/3, MNDO predicts the cyclooctatetraene dication and 6 to have comparable stabilities.¹⁹ The known tendency^{18,20} of MNDO to prefer classical structures, in contrast to MINDO/3,²¹ may lead to an unrealistic relative destabilization of nonclassical structures. However, MNDO performs better than MINDO/3 for polycyclic structures;^{18,22} this makes it more suitable for our purposes. We are now comparing the results of a variety of semiempirical calculations with these obtained by ab initio methods.

In order to relate the calculational results more closely to the experimental systems, we performed calculations on the benzobarrelene dication and its isomers. In view of the predicted instability of the barrelene dication itself, and because of the relatively easy accessibility of substituted benzobarrelenes, these stabilized systems appeared best suited for both experimental and theoretical studies.

The MNDO results for the benzo- C_8H_6 dications 7-18 are shown in Chart I. In accord with experimental expectations, the bicyclo[3.3.0] dication derivative 18 is calculated to be the most stable structure of those investigated. The cyclooctatetraene ring-closure reaction (17 to 18) is indicated to be exothermic by 17.3 kcal mol⁻¹. The bicyclo[3.2.1] dication derivatives 14-16 are found to be 20-30 kcal mol⁻¹ less stable than the benzocyclooctatetraene dication 17. The dications 10-13, which are all interconvertible and can give dications 14-16 via cyclopropylcarbinyl-cyclobutyl-homoallyl rearrangements, are calculated to have heats of formation in the 566-585 kcal mol⁻¹ range, i.e., more than 50 kcal mol⁻¹ less stable than 18. The three possible "barrelene" dications 7-9 are even less stable; their heats of formation range between 590 and 605 kcal mol⁻¹. All structures were shown to be minima by diagonalization of the Hessian matrix, except 8, 11, and 15, which are transition states for the degenerate rearrangements of 10, 13, and 16, respectively.

These results strongly suggest that attempts to generate dications based on the benzobarrelene framework should result in a cascade of rearrangements that would lead eventually to derivatives of the bicyclo[3.3.0] dication 18. Under suitable conditions, derivatives of 14–17 may be observable, depending on the kinetics of the rearrangement to 18. The C_1 structure 16 is, however, possibly an artifact of MNDO's preference for classical structures, so that the C_s dication 15 may be the true minimum energy structure in this region of the potential energy surface.

Results

As discussed above, it was decided to provide extra stabilization for possible dications with a bicyclo[2.2.2]octadiene framework by inclusion of a benzo-annulated ring in the neutral precursor. The ketones 19 and 20 represent ideal starting materials, because not only can they be doubly protonated under stable ion conditions but they also can be converted to the diols 21 and 22 by methyllithium additions to the carbonyl groups. Both 21 and 22 are

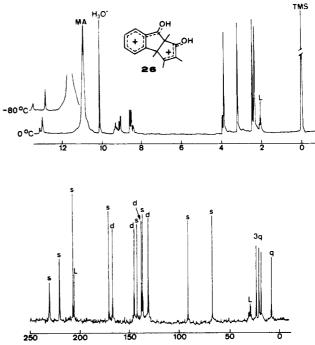
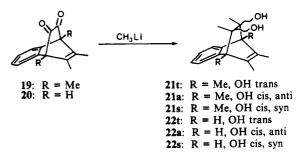
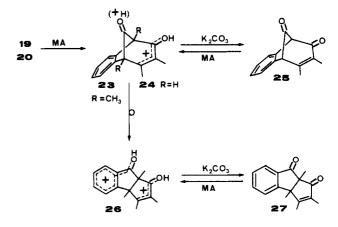


Figure 1. ¹H (100-MHz) and ¹³C (25-MHz) NMR spectra of the doubly protonated dione 26; (L, acetone- d_6).

promising highly methylated precursors for barrelene dication systems ("anti" and "syn" are relative to the isolated double bond).



Double Protonation of Diones 19 and **20.** Reaction of **19** and **20** with at least a fivefold molar excess of SbF_5/FSO_3H (1:1; magic acid, MA) in SO₂ClF at -90 °C resulted in solutions that gave the NMR data summarized in Chart II. These spectra and the results of quenching experiments with K_2CO_3 are compatible with the following reaction scheme:



The individual structural features can be deduced by comparison with the known cations $28-30^{23,24}$ (Chart II). The structure of

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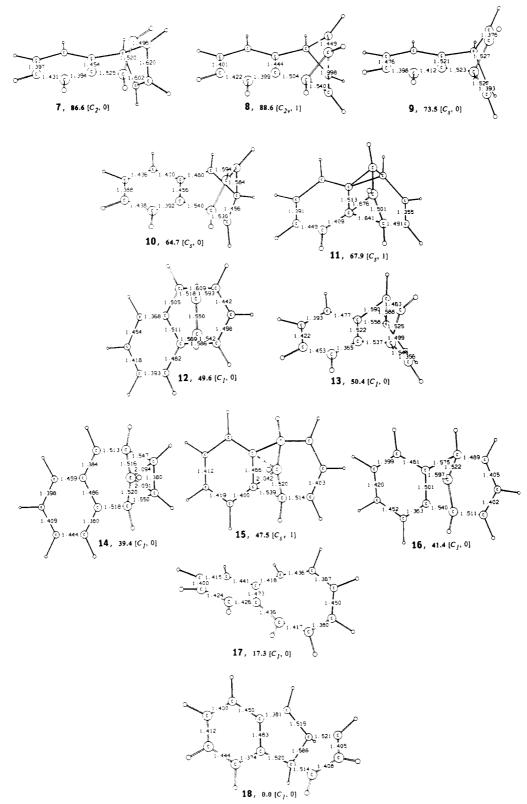
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Chart I: Calculated Structures of the Benzo- C_8H_6 Dications 7-18 with Relative Energies (kcal mol⁻¹) (Symmetry Conditions, Imaginary Frequencies, and Bond Lengths (Å) Given)



the quench product 25 was confirmed by the INADEQUATE two-dimensional NMR technique.²⁵ The 1,3-diketone arrangement in 27 was demonstrated by using $Eu(fod)_3$ shift reagent.²⁶

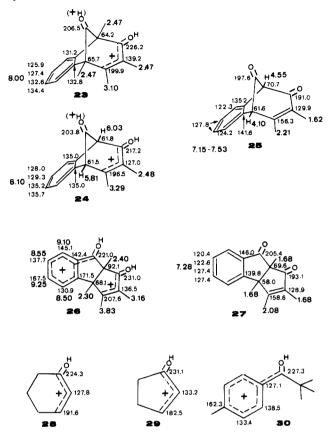
Neither in the bicyclo[3.2.1] systems 23 and 24 nor in 26 can the double protonation be seen from integration of the ¹H NMR spectra (shown in Figure 1). The double positive charge in 26 follows from the ¹³C chemical shifts (¹³C total chemical shift difference²⁷ δ (26)- δ (27) = 299.6 ppm), but this is not possible

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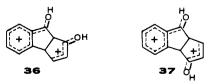
Chart II: Selected ¹H (Large Numbers) and ¹³C (Small Numbers) NMR Chemical Shift Data of the Cations 23, 24, and 26 Compared with Those of the Neutral Compounds 25 and 27 and the Reference Systems 28-30



for 23 and 24. Therefore, the exact nature of 23 and 24 cannot be determined, although a doubly protonated species is likely by analogy with 26.

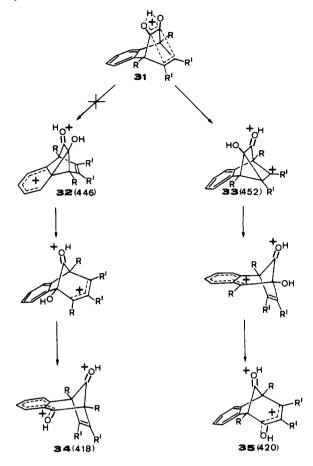
In accord with the predicted instability of dications with barrelene-like framework, no doubly protonated species of this form could be observed below -90 °C. MNDO provides no thermodynamic rationalization for the specific rearrangement of 19 and 20 to 23 and 24, respectively, in the doubly protonated systems. Scheme I shows the MNDO-calculated heats of formation of models for the rearrangement of doubly protonated 20 and 24. The two alternative pathways leading to either 34 or to 35 via 32 and 33, respectively, should be very similar energetically in the dimethyl and tetramethyl systems because of the extra stabilization of 33 by the methyl group, R's on the carbocationic center. Experimentally, however, only one of these alternatives, that leading to 24 (for which 35 is a model), is observed. However, it is possible that the rearrangement takes place at the monoprotonated stage and that the observed dications are obtained by the protonation of a monocation rearrangement product.

Similarly, MNDO indicates no thermodynamic preference for the product of the subsequent substituent-dependent rearrangement to the bicyclo[3.3.0] dication **26**. Of the isomeric model diprotonated diketones, **37**, which does not correspond to the product found in the experimental system, is predicted to be 2.4 kcal mol⁻¹ more stable than **36**, which corresponds in structure to **26**.

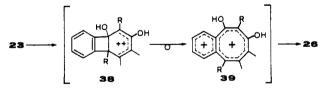


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Scheme I: Rationalization of the Rearrangement of the Benzobarrelenediones 19 and 20 to the Bicyclo[3.2.1]octadiene Isomers 23 and 24 (MNDO Energies (kcal mol⁻¹) of the Model Compounds 32-35 (R = R' = H) Are Given)



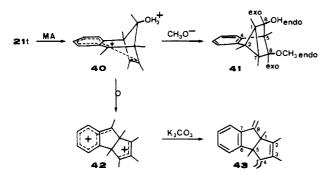
The mechanism can be formulated as a specific 1,2-shift in 23 to give 38, which then ring opens to the benzocyclooctatetraene derivative 39, which in turn undergoes the known ring closure to yield 26.



The reluctance of the dimethyl species 24 to rearrange can be rationalized if the energetically unfavorable intermediate 38 is close to the energy maximum. Rearrangement is facilitated by the two extra methyl groups in 23, which provide extra stabilization in 38 ($R = CH_3$ instead of H) and also facilitate ring opening to 39.

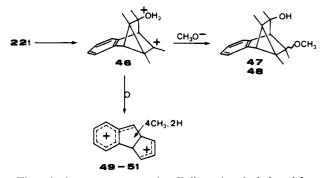
Ionization of Diols 21 and 22. In contrast to the simple double protonation of diketones discussed above, ionization of the diols 21 and 22 involves protonation and subsequent dehydration. This difference in mechanism may favor polycyclic structures because the carbocationic center is not produced directly in the protonation step. The precooled solid diols were added slowly with vigorous mixing to at least a fivefold excess of MA (SbF₅/FSO₃H, 1:1, magic acid) in SO₂ClF at -110 to -130 °C. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the ions (shown in Chart III) and of the quench products (see the Experimental Section) indicated that both the stereochemistry of the OH groups and the nature of the bridgehead substituents influence the behavior on ionization. Thus, *trans*-diol 21t ionizes to yield cation 40 with a benzylic moiety. Comparison with data for the indenyl cation 44²⁸ suggests that 40 benefits from

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a homoallylic stabilization. Quenching with methoxide appears to confirm this interpretation, since the tetracyclic species 41 is formed. Dication 40 is not stable above -30 °C but rearranges with loss of a second water molecule to form the bicyclo[3.3.0]-octadienyl dication 42 (Figure 2). The presence of the allyl moiety in 42 can be deduced from a comparison with the reference system 45. Quenching with K₂CO₃/ice gives the benzotriene 43.

The homologous tetramethyl derivative 22t, in contrast, forms a largely localized cation 46 below -50 °C. The cyclopropylcarbinyl moiety in 46 gives similar NMR data to that in the dehydroadamantyl cation 52.²⁹ The stereochemistry of 46 was determined by quenching with methoxide to give the isomeric derivatives 47 and 48. Above -50 °C, 46 rearranges unspecifically to three isomers 49–51 with a bicyclo[3.3.0] framework. Only 51 could be observed in this mixture after 7 days at -30 °C.



The substituent pattern on the allylic moiety is deduced from comparison with data for the bicyclic dication 45 and the trimethylallyl cation 53.³⁰ The protons positions can be determined from the chemical shifts of the bridgehead carbons. These chemical shifts depend on the sum of the chemical shifts of the neighboring positive centers. Figure 3 shows the nearly linear correlation obtained by plotting the sum of the chemical shifts of the α -carbons against the chemical shifts of the bridgehead atoms. In general, it can be concluded from Figure 3 that bridgehead carbon atoms with δ values above 79 ppm are β to the aromatic ring, whereas those below 79 ppm occupy a position α to the ring. The structures of 49–51 are established by use of these criteria. Quench reactions with K₂CO₃ and with methoxide ion gave no further confirmation, but only complex product mixtures.

The anti-diols 21a and 22a showed a much more complex behavior on ionization, which depended strongly on differences in experimental conditions. The hexamethyl derivative 21a gave a mixture of the bicyclo[3.3.0]octadiene derivative dication 42 and the protonated allyl cation 54 (compare reference compound 57 in Chart III); the ratio varied with the mixing temperature (-100 to -120 °C; NMR measurements all at -80 °C). The stereochemistry of 54 was determined by quench reactions with methoxide, which gave derivative 55. If, however, the reaction mixture was kept below -130 °C during mixing and subsequently measured at -105 °C, neither 42 nor 54 could be observed, but

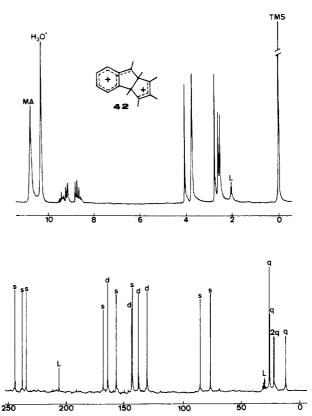


Figure 2. ¹H (100-MHz) and ¹³C (25-MHz) NMR spectra of the dication 42; (L, acetone- d_6).

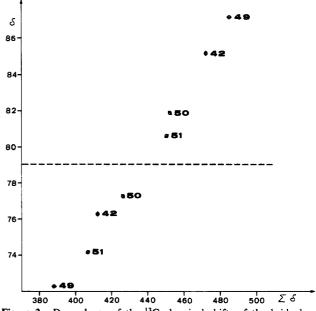
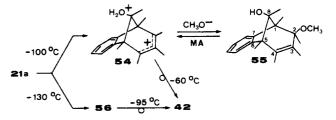
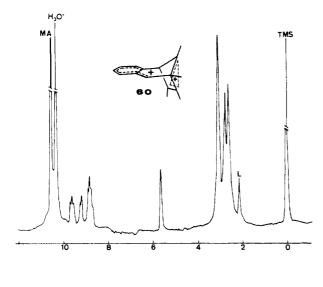


Figure 3. Dependence of the 13 C chemical shifts of the bridgehead carbons on the sum of the 13 C chemical shifts of the neighboring positive centers (for data see Chart III).

rather an unidentified ion 56,³¹ which rearranged to 42 above -95 °C. Similarly, 54 gives 42 on warming to -60 °C.



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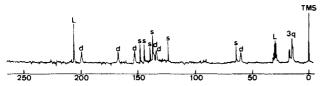
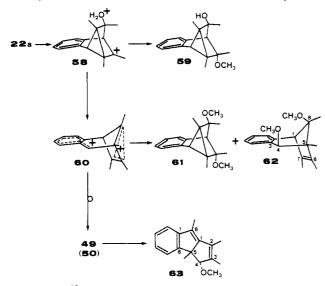


Figure 4. ¹H (100-MHz) and ¹³C (25-MHz) NMR spectra of the bicyclo[3.2.1] dication 60; (L, acetone- d_6).

In contrast to 21a, 22a ionizes (analogously to 22t) to form 58 with a cyclopropylcarbinyl moiety; the methoxide quench product 59 is a yet another isomer of 47 and of 48. When the temperature



is raised, the ¹³C NMR spectrum of dication 60 can be observed (Figure 4) and is persistent for up to 2 h (an oil forms in the reaction mixture). The dicationic nature of 60 is shown by the methoxide quench products 61 and 62. The structure of 62 was confirmed by difference NOE experiments.³² However, 60 is not stable above -70 °C but rearranges under mild conditions (slow warming) selectively to the bicyclo[3.3.0] isomer 49. However, if the mixture is agitated vigorously and warmed in order to try to keep the resulting oil in solution, a mixture of 49 and 50 is obtained. Methoxide workup of 49 is consistent with an elimination product 63, whose configuration is determined by the dication structure.

In contrast to the compounds discussed above, 21s does not react by loss of a OH₂ group but rather via protonation of the double

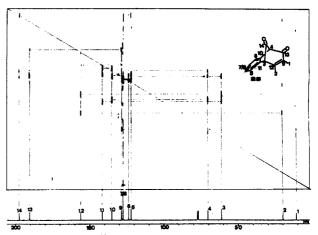
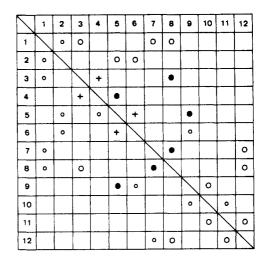


Figure 5. 100-MHz ¹³C NMR spectrum and 2D-INADEQUATE contour plot of diketone 25. The standard 2D-INADEQUATE sequence with 32-step phase cycling was used. The data on the JEOL JNM-GX-400 were as follows: CLPNT = 64 with zero filling to 128, SCANS = 128; FREQU = 16835.0 Hz; OBFRQ = 100.5 Hz; PD = 6.30 μ s; POINT = 8192; PW1 = 15.5 μ s; experimental line broadening in t_2 ; Lorentzian to Gaussian transformation in t_1 . The compound was dissolved in CDCl₃ with 2 mol % chromium acetylacetonate. The numbers on the signals in the ¹³C NMR spectrum are related to those in the formula.



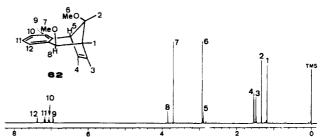


Figure 6. Schematic representation of the difference NOE resonances of compound 62 and its 400-MHz ¹H NMR spectrum. Number in a row is the irradiated signal of the ¹H NMR spectrum; number in a column is the resonance of signal. Relative intensities: o, weak; O, strong, \bullet , very strong. The symbol + means that this signal is also irradiated when the neighboring peak is irradiated.

bond. A mixture of two isomeric dications **64** and **65** is obtained, depending on the reaction conditions (**64**:65 = 4:1 at $-100 \,^{\circ}$ C, 1:1 at $-80 \,^{\circ}$ C). The carbocationic entities of **64** and **65** are related to the homobenzylic moiety in the bicyclic derivative **68**,³³ which has similar spectroscopic characteristics. However, no methyl ethers were obtained on methoxide workup, but rather the cyclic

⁽³¹⁾ Principal signals in the ^{13}C NMR spectrum are at 214.7, 198.6, 148.0, 131.9, 120.9, 109.7, 80.2, 74.0, 59.5, and 53.9 ppm.

⁽³²⁾ Feeney, J.; Partington, P. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1973, 611.

⁽³³⁾ Olah, G. A.; Liang, G. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 6304.

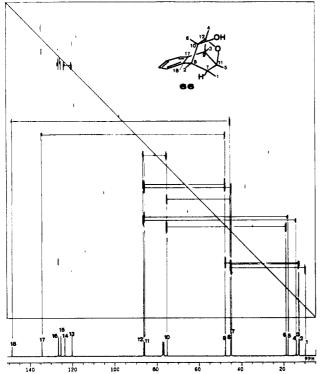
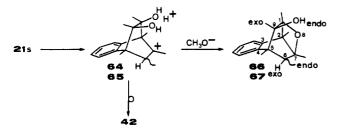


Figure 7. Contour plot of the 2D-INADEQUATE measurement of 66 and its 100-MHz 13 C NMR spectrum. Measurement conditions: FREQU = 20491.8 Hz; PW1 = 15.4 μ s. Otherwise, see Figure 5.

ethers 66 and 67. Their structures were assigned by 2D-INAD-EQUATE and difference NOE experiments (see the Experimental Section). Cations 64 and 65 are relatively stable and only rearrange fully to 42 after about 30 min at 5 °C.



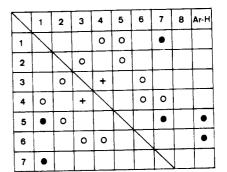
The behavior of **22s** is complex and could not be elucidated. With MA at -100 °C no signal above 140 ppm in the ¹³C NMR spectrum is observed. At -80 °C unselective rearrangement to several unknown products occurs. No simplification was obtained if this spectrum was observed at higher temperatures, and above -25 °C polymer evidently formed.

Discussion

Cation Formation. The isomeric and homologous compounds 21 and 22 lead to carbocations, which are surprising in their variety and formation selectivity. Three effects are responsible. In the first ionization step, the magnitude of the backside participation is of decisive importance. Only those protonated alcohols that are activated by the isolated double bond (21t,a, 22t,a) are ionized (shown in A), whereas the alternative phenonium interaction^{33,34} in the corresponding epimers (21s) is not sufficient to promote ionization. Instead, proton addition then becomes competitive (B). The relatively poor effectiveness of the aromatic participation also leads to byproducts in ethylene arenium systems.³⁵



(34) Olah, G. A.; Liang, G. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1975, 97, 2236.



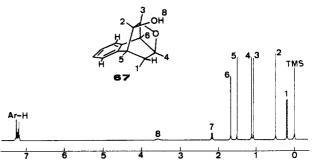
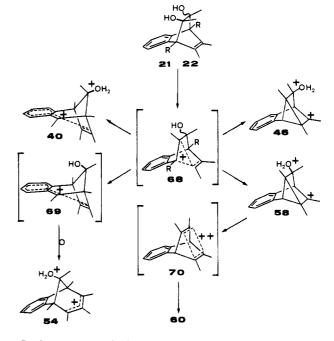


Figure 8. Schematic representation of the difference NOE resonances of compound 67. Key to symbols as with Figure 6.

Scheme II: Overview of the Ionization Behavior of the Benzobarrelenediols 21 and 22



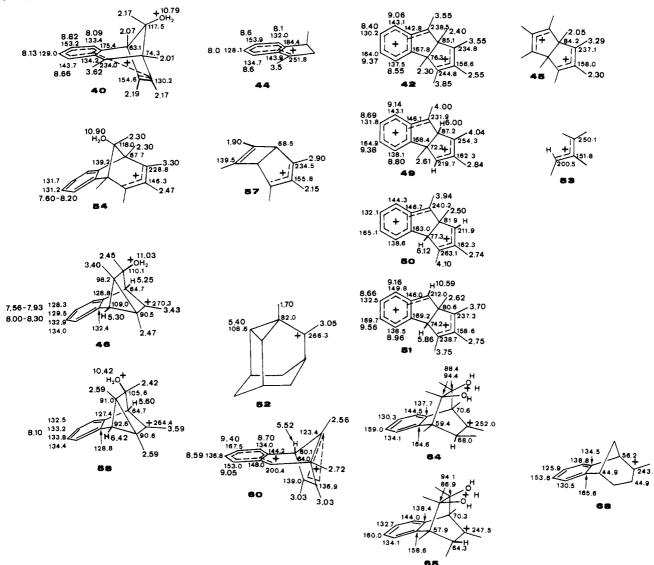
In the next step, the best placement of the positive charge in the bicyclic skeleton becomes dominant. Stabilization can be achieved in tertiary cyclopropylcarbinyl or tertiary or secondary benzylic cation entities. In the tetramethylbenzobarrelenes, the cyclopropylcarbinyl cations 46 and 58 are preferred (Scheme II). In contrast, the hexamethyl derivative 21t forms 40, which is primarily a tertiary benzylic cation.

The final rearrangement, only observed for 21a, leads to the protonated bicyclo[3.2.1]octadienyl cation alcohol³⁶ 54. At ca.

(35) (a) Olah, G. A.; Porter, R. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 6877. (b)
Olah, G. A.; Pittmann, C. U., Jr. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1965, 87, 3509, 3507.
(c) Olah, G. A.; Porter, R. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1970, 92, 7627. (d) Olah,
G. A.; Comisarow, M. B.; Kim, C. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1969, 91, 1458.

Benzobarrelene Dication Rearrangements

Chart III: Selected ¹H (Large Numbers) and ¹³C (Small Numbers) Chemical Shift Data of the Cations Formed by Ionization of the Benzobarrelenediols **21** and **22**. Reference Systems Are Given on the Right-Hand Side (¹H NMR Chemical Shifts Refer to Internal TMS in Capillary, ¹³C NMR Chemical Shifts Refer to Internal TMS in Acetone Capillary)

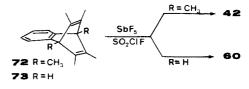


-110 °C a fast 1,2-shift from intermediate 69 can occur before the second protonation gives 54 (see Scheme II). At even lower temperatures, this Wagner-Meerwein shift is apparently slowed down enough that the protonation of the second OH group leads to the unidentified cation 56.

Dication Formation. Loss of water from the protonated hydroxy cations (40, 46, 54, 58) to give hydrocarbon dications is only expected when such ionizations occur at a lower temperature than rearrangement. The rate of the H₂O loss is dependent both on the stability of the product dication and on the stereochemistry of the leaving groups. The configurations in 40 and 54 are unfavorable; assisted ionization is not expected to be effective, although the participation of a bishomocyclobutadienyl unit³⁷ is conceivable. The situation is equally unfavorable in 46 and 58. In 46 only a weak phenonium type interaction is possible, whereas in 58 the only neighboring group participation involves the three-membered ring, which is already engaged in stabilizing. Nevertheless, this configuration leads to dications at sufficiently low temperatures. A bishomocyclobutadienyl dication-like transition state or intermediate such as 70 may favor this process. The deuteriated compound 71 gives a statistical distribution of the deuteriomethyl groups in dication 60. Hence, a symmetrical intermediate is required. In the stereoisomer 46, such neighboring group participation is not possible and a higher barrier for the second ionization results.



Attempts to observe bicyclo[2.2.2]octadienyl dications by generation at even lower temperatures always resulted in rearranged products, even by direct 2e oxidation of barrelenes 72 and 73 at -130 °C with SbF₅. As the corresponding radical cations are persistent,³⁸ the rearrangement must take place during or after the second ionization.

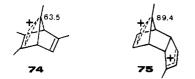


⁽³⁸⁾ Clark, T.; Courtneidge, J. L.; Davies, A. G.; Schötz, K. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1986, 547.
(39) Prakash, G. K. S.; Rawdah, T. N.; Olah, G. A. Angew. Chem. 1983,

⁽³⁶⁾ Hart, H.; Jiang, J. B.-C.; Sasaoka, M. J. Org. Chem. 1970, 42, 3840.
(37) Carnadi, H.; Giordano, C.; Heldeweg, R. F.; Hogeveen, H.; Kruchten, E. M. G. A. v. Isr. J. Chem. 1981, 21, 229.

⁽³⁹⁾ Prakash, G. K. S.; Rawdah, T. N.; Olah, G. A. Angew. Chem. **1983**, 95, 356.

Bicyclic Interaction. Although no bicyclo[2.2.2]octadiene dications were detected, the involvement of a three-dimensional π interaction (i.e., 4n Möbius aromaticity) might be shown by the spectroscopic data for the ion 60. This species involves 4π electrons in the [3.2.1] skeleton and belongs, as the barrelene dication does, to Goldstein's longicyclic category.^{15,16} Comparison with the reference ions 44, 74,40 and 7541 clearly shows an interaction between the two positively charged systems. There is

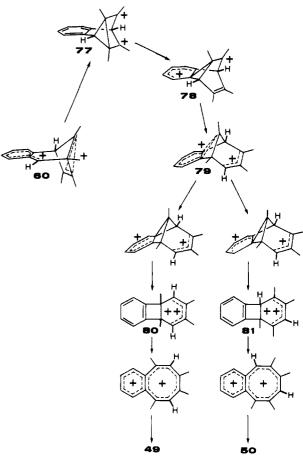


more positive charge on the hydrogen in these dications than in the comparable monocations (a general low-field ¹H NMR shift), and hence a balancing high-field shift can be expected for the ¹³C NMR resonances.³⁹ Our system (60) is analogous; the positive charge is delocalized to the extremities of the aromatic system. The bishomocyclopropenium unit behaves similarly, although modified by a rehybridization effect. The chemical shift of C_8 (123.4 ppm) continues the series starting with 74 and 75: the increase in p character at the one-carbon bridge is due to the repulsion between the positive charges. This is larger in 60 than in 75 and, of course, is not present at all in the monocation 74. It is particularly interesting to compare the pericyclic antiaromatic dication 51 with the longicyclic aromatic species 60. The benzyl units have very similar ¹³C shifts except for one ipso and the benzylic carbon, which are shifted 12 and 15 ppm, respectively, to higher field in 60. We believe that this small difference does not warrent classifying 60 as aromatic and suggest that the longicyclic interaction in this three-ribbon system is not very effective. Note, however, that this conclusion may not be valid for four-ribbon systems such as that recently studied by Olah et al.52

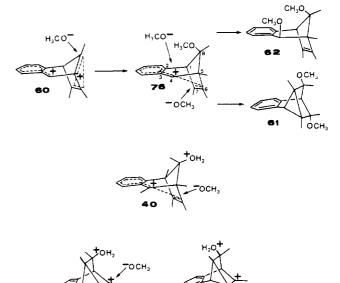
Further information is given by the quench products 61 and 62, as only these two out of eight possible isomers are found. Both 61 and 62 are formed by nucleophilic attack on C_4 and C_7 , respectively (after initial reaction at C_8 to give 76). The second (endo) attack (at C_7 of 76) complements that observed for 40, which leads selectively to the exo product because of the directing effect of the OH_2^+ group. This behavior is analogous to that of 46 and 58. Primary attack of methoxide on C_4 is unlikely. If this were the case, quench products from a second attack on both C_6 and C_7 would be expected.⁴² The third possibility, attack on the "surface" of the bishomocyclopropenium unit, can be ruled out on the basis of the product stereochemistry and indicates an intact bishomo unit in 60. Both the NMR data and the quench products suggest that the two separate charged moieties in the

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 (44) Schwetlick, K. Organikum; Deutscher Verlag der Wissenschaften:
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- (45) Brauer, G. Handbuch der Präparativen Anorganischen Chemie; Ferdinand Enke Verlag: Stuttgart, 1975; Vol. 1, p 191
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 M.; Q. Rev., Chem. Soc. 1969, 23, 204.
- (48) (a) Smith, L. I.; Dobrovolny, F. I. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1926, 48, 1420.
 (b) Smith, L. I.; Hac, L. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1934, 56, 477.
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- 45, 1633
- (50) Teuber, H. J.; Weberli, P. A.; Pigott, F.; Brossi, A. Org. Synth. 1972, 52, 88
- (51) Ulrich, H.; Richter, R. Methoden der Organischen Chemie; Georg Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart, 1977; Vol. VII/3a, p 29.
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Scheme III: Rationalization of the Rearrangement Path of the Dication 60



dication only communicate via the Colombic repulsion. This means that the longicyclic interaction, if it exists, is not sufficient to overcome this electrostatic destabilization.



Rearrangement to [3.3.0] Dications. Although dication 60 is comprised of two separate cation units, it exhibits extremely high selectivity in its rearrangement behavior. Remarkably, 60 isomerizes under mild conditions exclusively to 49, but 50 forms as well at higher temperatures. A reaction path (Scheme III) that explains both products begins with formation of the dication 77, which then undergoes "bridge flipping" to give 78 and further rearrangement to the benzo[3.2.1] dication 79. A precedent for this transformation has been reported by Hart and Kuzuya for

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Benzobarrelene Dication Rearrangements

the bicyclo[3.2.1]octadienyl monocation.⁴³ The further rearrangement steps are analogous to those of the diketone system (cf. dications **38** and **39**). The only intermediate that explains the preference for **49** over **50** is, as in the case of the diketone **23**, the [4.2.0] system (**81**, **82**), whose substitution pattern influences the ring opening to the eight-membered ring.

Conclusions

All our results suggest that bicyclic longicyclic interactions do not lead to significant stabilization. None of the reactions of the benzobarrelene diols 21 and 22, the benzobarrelene diones 19 and 20, and the benzobarrelenes 72 and 73 under superacid conditions at temperatures as low as -130 °C give derivatives of the barrelene dication 4. In accord with our MNDO calculations, only in special cases can rearranged systems with the bicyclo[3.2.1] skeleton be observed. Depending on the bridgehead substituents, these dications possess different kinetic stabilities that may be attributed to the thermally forbidden ring opening in the [4.2.0] system. Bicyclo[3.3.0] dications, which are also the end products of attempts to prepare cyclooctatetraene dications,¹⁰ are found as the thermodynamically most stable ultimate rearrangement products. The stability order for the dication systems, [2.2.2] < [4.2.0] <[3.2.1] < COT < [3.3.0], means the longicyclic interactions are less effective than Hückel aromaticity. This, in turn, is less favorable than the pericyclic "antiaromatic" bicyclo[3.3.0]octadiene system.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. Boiling points and melting points are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on Beckman spectrometers: absorptions are reported in reciprocal centimeters. Standard ¹H NMR were recorded on JEOL JNM-C-60-H, JEOL PMX-60, JEOL JNM-PS-100, and JEOL JNM-GX-400 spectrometers, and chemical shifts (δ) are reported downfield from internal tetramethylsilane. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; mc, multicenter), coupling constant (hertz), integration, and assignment. Standard ¹³C NMR were recorded on JEOL JNM-PS-100 and JEOL JNM-GX-400 spectrometers and are reported (chemical shift (δ) , multiplicity in the off-resonance spectrum, assignment) downfield from tetramethylsilane. Low-temperature ¹H and ¹³C NMR were recorded on a JEOL JNM-PS-100 spectrometer equipped with a JNM-VT-3C temperature controller by cooling with nitrogen gas evaporated from liquid nitrogen. Mass spectra were recorded on a Varian MAT CH 4 and a Varian MAT 311 A. Elemental analyses were determined with a Heraeus CHN-RAPID. Preparative HPLC was performed on a preparative chromatograph, Du Pont 830, equipped with an UV detector and a KNAUER differential refractometer, using a 25 cm × 2.2 cm stainless steel column packed with Chrompack Lichrosorb Si-60-7. All solvents for chromatography were purified by standard procedures.44 THF and ether were distilled from sodium-potassium alloy. SO₂ClF was prepared by a literature method⁴⁵ and twice distilled from SbF₅. Lowtemperature baths used ethanol/liquid nitrogen (-120 °C) and methanol-ethanol (1:1, v/v)/liquid nitrogen (-145 °C).

Cation Generation. Standard Procedure A. To 0.4 mL of a solution of MA (SbF₃/FSO₃H, 1:1) and SO₂ClF (1:10–1:3, v/v), mixed at 0 °C in the NMR tube and cooled to -130 °C, was added under nitrogen 0.01–0.05 mmol of the precursor. The mixture was left at low temperature for some minutes after addition and then mixed vigorously to clear the solution.

Cation Generation. Standard Procedure B. The reaction was performed in a modified Siehl apparatus⁴⁶ in which vigorous mixing at temperatures down to -145 °C was possible during addition of precooled (temperature of liquid N₂) starting material. After completion of the addition (up to 2 h), the clear solution was warmed to -120 °C and transferred under nitrogen pressure into a ¹³C NMR tube held at -150 °C.

Cation Quench Reaction. Standard Procedure C. To a mixture of 50 g of K_2CO_3 and 100 g of ice was added the ¹³C NMR sample (directly after measurement) via a precooled glass pipet, making sure that every drop of the colored cation solution was decolorized before addition of the next drop. The mixture was treated with ether (4×200 mL). The combined organic layers were extracted with water (neutral) and dried over MgSO₄ (ketones) or K_2CO_3 (alcohols and methyl ethers). The solvent was removed under aspirator vacuum and the residue crystallized or separated by HPLC.

Cation Quench Reaction. Standard Procedure D. To a round-bottom flask containing 700 mL of 10% MeONa in MeOH (prepared by dilution of a 30% solution with dry MeOH) under nitrogen at -90 °C was added

in portions under vigorous mixing the cation solution (direct ¹³C NMR sample or analogously prepared mixture), waiting after every portion of the superacid solution until the color disappeared. While still at -90 °C, 300 mL of pentane was added and the temperature raised to 0 °C, and the two phases were separated. The alkaline mixture was diluted with the same volume of water and further extracted with pentane (2 × 300 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and dried over K₂CO₃. Evaporation of the solvent, separation with HPLC, and purification by crystallization gave the products.

Starting Materials. 1,4-Ethano-1,4-dihydro-1,2,3,4-tetramethyl-9,10dioxonaphthalene (19).⁴⁷ A round-bottom flask fitted with two dropping funnels and a reflux condenser and containing 700 mL of dry 1,2-dichloroethane was purged with nitrogen and heated to 70 °C. A solution of 7.00 g (43 mmol) of tetramethyl-o-quinone⁴⁸ in 100 mL of dichloroethane and a suspension of freshly prepared benzenediazonium carboxylate⁴⁹ were added alternately (first the diazonium carboxylate) in such portions that the red color of the quinone was converted to the yellow color of the α -diketone 19 (vigorous gas evolution). The reaction was held at 70 °C for 15 min after completion of the addition and then allowed to cool to room temperature. Excess benzenediazonium carboxylate was destroyed with water. The solvent was evaporated and the residual oil crystallized from ethyl acetate to give 7.40 g (74%) of yellow needles: mp 144–146 °C (closed tube); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.79, 1.88 (2 s, 12 H), 7.42 (mc, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.0, 14.0 (2 q, CH₃), 56.7 (s, bridgehead C), 122.6, 128.4 (2 d, aromatic CH), 136.3, 138.0 (2 s, C-ipso + C==C), 184.3 (s, C=O).

1,4-Ethano-1,4-dihydro-3,4-dimethyl-9,10-dioxonaphthalene (20). Compound 20 was prepared analogously to 19 from 9.00 g (66 mmol) of 3,4-dimethyl-o-quinone⁵⁰ (synthesized from 3,4-dimethylphenol and potassium nitrosodisulfonate⁵¹) in 12.60-g (90%) yield: mp 160-162 °C (closed tube); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.00 (s, 6 H, Me), 4.30 (s, 2 H, bridgehead H), 7.39 (s, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.8 (q, CH₃), 61.2 (d, bridgehead CH), 125.5, 128.7 (2 d, aromatic CH), 133.1, 134.2 (2 s, C-ipso + C=C), 182.1 (s, C=O).

1,4-Ethano 1,4-dihydro 9,10-dihydroxy-1,2,3,4,9,10-hexamethylnaphthalene (21). To a solution of 50 mL (1.6 mmol) of methyllithium (80 mmol) in 400 mL of dry ether was added a solution of 8.60 g (35.8 mmol) of diketone 19 in 500 mL of dry ether dropwise under nitrogen atmosphere. After being stirred for 2 h, the reaction mixture was treated carefully with water, and the organic phase was washed to neutrality with water and dried with CaCl₂. Crystallization from a little chloroform gave 3.1 g (32%) of 21s. Further crystallization from ether gave 1.50 g (15%) of 21a. The residue was separated via HPLC with CHCl₃ 2-propanol (97:3, v/v): fraction 1, 1.10 g (11%) of 21a; fraction 2, 1.50 g (15%) of 21s; fraction 3, 0.90 g (9%) of 21t.

21t (9-anti-10-syn-dihydroxy): mp 70–73 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.42 (s, 1 H, anti OH), 0.82 (s, 3 H, anti Me), 1.16 (s, 3 H, syn Me), 1.30 (s, 1 H, syn OH), 1.67 (s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 1.77 (s, 6 H, Me—C=C), 7.28 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.7, 14.4, 15.2 (3 q, 4 CH₃), 20.2, 20.8 (2 q, H₃CCOH), 52.1, 52.2 (2 s, bridgehead C), 80.2, 81.5 (2 s, COH), 122.5, 122.6, 125 4, 125.9, (4 d, aromatic CH), 134.8, 137.1, 143.5, 143.8 (4 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (KBr) 3530, 3440 (OH), 3055, 3020, 2975, 2920 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV); m/e 254 (3, M⁺ - H₂O), 239 (4), 221 (5), 211 (8), 184 (100), 169 (59). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₂: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.47; H, 8.79.

21a (9-anti-10-anti-dihydroxy): mp 203-205 °C (ether); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.20 (s, 6 H, syn Me), 1.68 (s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 1.78 (s, 6 H, Me—C=C), 1.99 (s, 2 H, anti OH), 7.27 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.3, 14.4 (2 q, CH₃), 22.8 (q, H₃CCOH), 51.6 (s, bridgehead C), 77.4 (s, COH), 122.6, 125.4 (2 d, aromatic CH, 135.6, 143.7 (2 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (KBr) 3220 (OH), 3050, 3020, 2965, 2905, 2880, 2840 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV); m/e 254 (4, M⁺ - H₂O), 239 (2), 236 (2), 236 (2), 211 (6), 184 (100), 169 (37). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₂: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.70; H, 8.69.

21s (9-syn-10-syn-dihydroxy): mp 189–191 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.85 (s, 6 H, anti Me), 1.73 (s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 1.79 (s, 6 H, Me—C==C), 2.54 (s, 2 H, syn OH), 7.21 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.2, 15.1 (2 q, CH₃), 22.4 (q, H₃CCOH), 51.8 (s, bridgehead C), 78.7 (s, COH), 121.8, 125.4 (2 d, aromatic CH), 135.7, 144.4 (2 s, C-ipso + C==C); IR (KBr) 3305 (OH), 3060, 3010, 2980, 2930, 2900, 2850 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV); m/e 254 (1, M⁺ - H₂O), 239 (1), 236 (1), 211 (1), 184 (100), 169 (32). Anal. Calcd for Cl₈H₂₄O₂: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.33; H, 8.96.

1,4-Ethano-1,4-dihydro-9,10-dihydroxy-3,4,9,10-tetramethvlnaphthalene (22). Compound 22 was prepared analogously to 21: 14.60 g of a light yellow oil was obtained from 15.00 g (70.8 mmol) of diketone 20 with 97 mL (1.6 mol) of methyllithium (155 mmol). Recrystallization from ether gave 1.20 g (7%) of 22a; further crystallization from pentane/CHCl₃ gave 1.50 g (9%) of 22s. Separation of the residue by HPLC in CHCl₃/2-propanol (98:2, v/v) gave three fractions: fraction 1, 0.30 g (2%) of **22a**; fraction 2, 1.50 g (9%) of **22s**; fraction 3, 11.00 g (64%) of **22t**.

22t (9-syn-10-anti-dihydroxy): mp 117-119 °C (ether); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.97 (s, 4 H, anti *Me* + anti *OH*), 1.30 (s, 3 H, syn *Me*), 1.64 (s, 1 H, syn *OH*), 1.78 (s, 6 H, *Me*-C=C), 3.40, 3.43 (2 s, 2 H, bridgehead *H*), 7.18 (mc, 4 H, aromatic *H*); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.3, 17.9 (2 q, C=CCH₃), 24.0, 24.4 (2 q, H₃CCOH), 61.2 (d, bridgehead *CH*), 77.9, 78.8 (2 s, COH), 124.5, 124.9, 125.7, 126.1 (4 d, aromatic *CH*), 132.5, 133.1, 139.8, 141.4 (4 s, *C*-ipso + *C*=*C*); IR (KBr) 3620, 3560, 3440 (OH), 3080, 3060, 3025, 2980, 2930, 2910, 2860 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 156 (100, M⁺ - C₄H₈O₂), 141 (39), 88 (24, C₄H₈O₂). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₂: C, 78.65; H, 8.25. Found: C, 78.53; H, 7.94.

22a (9-anti-10-anti-dihydroxy): mp 202-204 °C (ether); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃; the isomeric deuterio compound **71** only lacks the signal at 1.30 ppm) δ 1.30 (s, 6 H, syn Me), 1.78 (s, 6 H, Me—C=C), 2.28 (s, 2 H, anti OH), 3.42 (s, 2 H, bridgehead H), 7.19 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMr (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.1 (q, C=CH₃), 25.9 (q, H₃CCOH), 61.1 (d, bridgehead C), 125.0, 125.6 (2 d, aromatic CH), 133.0, 140.4 (2 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (KBr) 3500, 3400 (OH), 3080, 3060, 3035, 2980, 2940, 2920, 2860 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), m/e 156 (99, M⁺ - C₄H₈O₂), 141 (85), 88 (100, C₄H₈O₂). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₂: C, 78.65; H, 8.25. Found: C, 78.39; H, 8.52.

22s (9-syn-10-syn-dihydroxy): mp 187-189 °C (CHCl₃/pentane); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.97 (s, 6 H, anti *Me*), 1.85 (s, 6 H, *Me*-C=C), 2.75 (s, 2 H, syn OH), 3.47 (s, 2 H, bridgehead H), 7.13 (me, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.9 (q, H₃CC=C), 26.1 (q, H₃CCOH), 61.0 (d, bridgehead C), 75.8 (s, COH), 124.0, 1256 (2 d, aromatic CH), 132.4, 141.3 (2 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (KBr) 3400 (OH), 3040, 3020, 2930, 2930, 2920, 2900, 2870 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 156 (63, M⁺ - C₄H₈O₂), 141 (52), 88 (100, C₄H₈O₂). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₂: C, 78.65; H, 8.25. Found: C, 78.53; H, 7.94.

Quench Reactions. 3,4-Dimethyl-2,10-dioxobenzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-3,5a-diene (25). A ¹³C NMR sample prepared from 400 mg (1.9 mmol) of diketone 20, 3.05 g (9.6 mmol) of MA, and 2 mL of SO₂ClF (procedure A) was quenched after measurement following procedure C. Crystallization of the colorless oil gave 320 mg (80%) of 25: mp 150–151 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) Chart II; ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) Chart II; IR (KBr) 3060, 3010, 2985, 2965, 2915, 1770, 1650 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV); m/e 212 (100, M⁺), 184 (15), 169 (10), 156 (88), 141 (81). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O₂: C, 79.23; H, 5.70. Found: C, 79.34; H, 5.92.

1,3,4,5-Tetramethyl-2,10-dioxobenzobicyclo[3.3.0]octa-3,5a-diene (27). Reaction of 400 mg (1.7 mmol) of diketone **19** and 2.11 g (6.7 mmol) of MA in 3 mL of SO₂ClF by procedure A and quenching of the cation solution following procedure C gave 300 mg (75%) of **27**: mp 135–138 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) see Chart II; ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) see Chart II; IR (KBr) 3060, 2980, 2940, 1760, 1660 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 240 (100, M⁺), 225 (54), 212 (6), 197 (36), 184 (18), 169 (40). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O₂: C, 79.97; H, 6.71. Found: C, 79.69; H, 6.49.

8-endo-Hydroxy-6-endo-methoxy-1,2,5,6,7,8-hexamethyl-3,4-benzo-tricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}**]oct-3-ene (41).** Cation **40** was prepared from 500 mg (1.8 mmol) of **21t** and 3.78 g (11.9 mmol) of MA in 6 mL of SO₂ClF (procedure B) and worked up at -70 °C following procedure D. HPLC of the resulted oil with ether/light petroleum ether (9:1, v/v) gave 235 mg (45%) of **41**: mp 77.5-79.5 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.66 (d, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, exo *Me*COH), 0.84 (s, 3 H, exo *Me*COMe), 1.12, 1.19, 1.33 (3 s, 9 H, cyclopropyl *Me*), 1.39 (s, 3 H, bridgehead *Me*), 3.41 (s, 3 H, endo O*Me*), 3.87 (q, 1 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, endo O*H*), 7.00-7.35 (m, 4 H, aromatic *H*); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.8, 70, 8.9, 12.6, 17.4 (6 q, CH₃), 30.9, 38.0, 38.6 (3 s, cyclopropyl *C*), 53.1 (q, OCH₃), 55.0 (s, bridgehead *C*), 82.5, 89.5 (2 s, COR), 122.2, 123.4, 124.4, 126.1, (4 d, aromatic *CH*), 139.6, 140.6 (2 s, *C*-ipso); IR (KBr) 3460 (OH), 3110, 3080, 3010, 2990, 2970, 2880, 2840 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 286 (2, M⁺), 268 (1), 254 (75), 239 (42), 236 (6), 224 (12), 221 (13), 211 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₆O₂: C, 79.68; H, 9.15. Found: C, 79.61; H, 9.23.

1,3,4,5-Tetramethyl-2,8-methylene-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.3.0]octa-3,6diene and 1,2,3,5-Tetramethyl-4,8-methylene-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.3.0]octadiene (43a,b). A ¹³C NMR sample generated via procedure A from 450 mg (1.7 mmol) of **21a** and 3.14 g (9.9 mmol) of MA in 2 mL of SO₂CIF was after measurement worked up via procedure C and gave 280 (54%) of a light yellow oil. Chromatography on 30 g of SiO₂/Ag⁺ (10% AgNO₃ on SiO₂ packed by evaporating a CH₃CN solution of the silver salt) gave two fractions (not fully separated): F 1, 180 mg (35%) of 43a; F 2, 60 mg (12%) of 43b. 43a: ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.20, 1.31 (2 s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 1.60, 1.70 (2 q, 6 H, $J \sim$ 1 Hz, Me--C= C--Me), 4.84, 5.01, 5.08, 5.63 (4 s, 4 H, C==CH₂), 7.03-7.57 (m, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.6, 18.8, 21.9, 29.7 (4 q, CH₃), 58.4, 63.6 (2 s, bridgehead C), 99.0, 103.9 (2 t, =CH₂), 120.5, 123.4, 127.1, 128.4 (4 d, aromatic CH), 131.1, 138.2, 145.6, 152.3, 153.6, 161.5 (6 s, C=C). **43b**: ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.30 (s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 1.63, 1.75 (2 q, 6 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, Me-C=C-Me), 4.83, 4.87, 5.18, 5.50 (4 s, 4 H, C=CH₂), 7.03-7.57 (m, 4 H, aromatic H). **43**: IR (neat film) 3090, 3020, 2980, 2940, 2860 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), m/e 236 (M⁺).

8-endo-Hydroxy-6-endo-methoxy-1,6,7,8-tetramethyl-3,4-benzotricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]oct-3-ene (47) and 8-endo-Hydroxy-6-exo-methoxy-1,6,7,8-tetramethyl-3,4-benzotricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]oct-3-ene (48). A cation solution of 46 made analogously to procedure B from 1.00 g (4.1 mmol) of 22t and 7.0 g (22.0 mmol) of MA in 10 mL of SO₂ClF was quenched following procedure D. HPLC with light petroleum ether/ether (9:1, v/v) gave three fractions: F 1, 180 mg (19%) of unidentified product; 2, 330 mg (30%) of 47; F 3, 85 mg (8%) of 48. 47: ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.70 (d, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, exo-Me-COH), 0.75 (s, 3 H, exo Me-COMe), 1.23, 1.27 (2 s, 6 H, cyclopropyl Me), 1.63 (s, 1 H, cyclopropyl H), 2.90 (s, 1 H, bridgehead H), 3.33 (s, 3 H, endo OMe), 4.10 (q, 1 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, endo OH), 7.00–7.24 (m, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) 10.3, 10.5, 16.0, 19.4 (4 q, CH₃), 35.7, 37.4 (2 s, cyclopropyl C-Me), 36.3 (d, cyclopropyl CH), 50.1 (s, OCH₃), 54.5 (d, bridgehead CH), 80.9, 87.4 (2 s, COH), 123.9, 125.1, 125.1, 126.1 (3 d, aromatic CH), 136.7, 137.0 (2 s, C-ipso); IR (KBr) 3480 (OH), 3090, 3060, 3030, 2970, 2940, 2910, 2880, 2840 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), m/e 258 (6, M⁺), 240 (8), 226 (22), 211 (33), 183 (100).

48: mp 184–187 °C (ether/pentane); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.68 (d, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, exo *Me*-COH), 1.17, 1.24 (2 s, 6 H, cyclopropyl *Me*), 1.41 (q, 1 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, endo *OH*), 1.66 (s, 3 H, endo *Me*-COMe), 1.72 (s, 1 H, cyclopropyl *H*), 2.84 (s, 3 H, exo *OMe*), 2.87 (s, 1 H, bridgehead *H*), 7.00–7.25 (m, 4 H, aromatic *H*); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.0, 11.5, 21.2, 23.1 (4 q, CH₃), 34.6 (d, cyclopropyl CH), 37.0, 37.1 (2 s, cyclopropyl C-Me), 50.1 (q, OCH₃), 58.4 (d, bridgehead *C*H), 80.5, 81.5 (2 s, COR), 123.9, 125.1, 125.1, 126.1 (4 d, aromatic *C*H), 136.9, 137.4 (2 s, *C*-ipso); IR (KBr) 3450 (OH), 3080, 3060, 3020, 2960, 2930, 2910, 1880, 2840 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 258 (30 M⁺), 240 (8), 226 (22), 211 (33), 183 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₂O₂: C, 79.03; H, 8.58. Found: C, 79.17; H, 8.65.

8-exo-Hydroxy-2-exo -methoxy-1,2,3,4,5,8-hexamethyl-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-3,6-diene (55). By following procedure B the cation 54 was generated from 600 mg (2.2 mmol) of 21a, 3.50 g (11.1 mmol) of MA, and 6 mL of SO₂CIF. Workup (procedure C) and HPLC with light petroleum ether/ether (1:1, v/v) gave after crystallization 290 mg (51%) of 55: mp 102-105 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.16 (br s, 3 H, endo *Me*-COH), 1.22, 1.28, 1.36 (3 s, 9 H, bridgehead *Me* + endo *Me*-COMe), 1.32, 1.52 (2 q, 6 H, *J* ~ 1 Hz, *Me*-C=C--*Me*), 3.32 (s, 3 H, exo OMe), 5.23 (br s, 1 H, exo OH), 7.00-7.20 (m, 4 H, aromatic H): ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.3, 11.7, 12.0, 12.4, 13.1, 20.9 (6 q, CH₃), 54.7, 56.1 (2 s, bridgehead *C*), 51.0 (q, OCH₃), 80.2, 84.4 (2 s, COR), 123.6, 125.4, 127.2, 128.0 (4 d, aromatic CH), 131.6, 137.5, 143.5, 146.3 (4 s, C-ipso + C=-C); IR (KBr) 3420, 3390 (OH), 3090, 3050, 3010, 2980, 2950, 2910, 2860, 2820, cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m*/e 286 (1, M⁺), 254 (100), 239 (52), 236 (24), 236 (24), 224 (17), 221 (56), 211 (82). Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₆O₂: C, 79.68; H, 9.15. Found: C, 79.39; 9.24.

8-exo - Hydroxy-6-exo - methoxy-1,6,7,8-tetramethyl-3,4-benzotricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]oct-3-ene (59), 6-exo,8-exo-Dimethoxy-1,6,7,8-tetramethyl-3,4-benzotricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]oct-3-ene (61), and 4-exo,8-endo-Dimethoxy-5,6,7,8-tetramethyl-2,3-benzobicyclo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene (62). After generation of cation 58 at -120 °C from 860 mg (3.5 mmol) of diol 22a, 6.70 g (21.1 mmol) of MA, and 10.7 mL of SO₂ClF, the mixture was warmed for 0.5 h to -85 °C and cooled again to -100 °C. Workup following procedure D and HPLC with ether/light petroleum ether (1:1, v/v) gave three fractions: F 1, 110 mg (11%) of 61: F 2, 200 mg (22%) of 60; F 3, 70 mg (8%) of 62.

59: mp 96–98 °C (pentene); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.79 (q, 1 H, J = 1 Hz, exo OH), 1.20 (s, 6 H, cyclopropyl Me), 1.45 (d, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, endo Me-COH), 1.51 (s, 3 H, endo Me-COMe), 1.79 (s, 1 H, cyclopropyl H), 2.83 (s, 3 H, exo OMe), 3.13 (s 1 H, bridgehead H), 7.03–7.40 (m, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.7, 11.1, 21.6, 23.9 (4 q, CH₃), 36.3 (d, cyclopropyl CH), 37.5, 38.0 (bridgehead C-Me), 50.0 (q, OCH₃), 59.0 (d, bridgehead CH), 82.5, 89.5 (2 s, COR), 122.2, 123.4, 124.4, 126.1 (4 d, aromatic CH), 139.6, 140.6 (2 s, C-ipso); IR (KBr) 3580 (OH), 3090, 3060, 3030, 3005, 2990, 2950, 2910, 2880, 2840, 1615 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV); m/e 258 (62, M⁺), 240 (25), 226 (15), 225 (19), 211 (27), 209 (23), 193 (47), 183 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₂O₂: C, 79.03; H, 8.58. Found: C, 78.71; H, 8.68.

61: mp 139-141 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.20 (s, 6 H, cyclopropyl *Me*), 1.50 (s, 6 H, endo *Me*-COMe), 1.85 (s, 1 H, cyclopropyl *H*), 2.83 (s, 6 H, exo *OMe*), 3.28 (s, 1 H, bridgehead *H*),

7.01–7.38 (m, 4 H, aromatic *H*); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) 11.2, 21.5 (2 q, *C*H₃), 36.5 (d, cyclopropyl *C*H), 36.8 (s, cyclopropyl *C*-Me), 49.8 (q, OCH₃), 55.6 (d, bridgehead CH), 79.5 (s, COMe), 123.4, 124.5, 124.9, 125.8 (4 d, aromatic CH), 135.1, 138.2 (2 s, C-ipso); IR (KBr) 3090, 3060, 3030, 3020, 3000, 2970, 2960, 2910, 2880, 2840, 1620 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 272 (100, M⁺), 257 (5), 240 (61), 225 (55), 208 (76), 193 (76). Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{24}O_2$: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.47; H, 8.87.

62: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.19 (s, 3 H, 5-Me), 1.34 (s, 3 H, 8-exo Me), 1.49 (q, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, 6-Me), 1.54 (q, 3 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, 7-Me), 2.90 (s, 1 H, 1-H), 2.93 (s, 3 H, 8-endo OMe), 3.71 (s, 3 H, 4-exo OMe), 3.86 (s, 1 H, 4-endo H), 6.95, 7.06, 7.18, 7.38 (4 mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.0, 12.6, 13.2, 17.1 (4 q, CH₃), 50.1, 56.2 (2 q, OCH₃), 58.4, 63.0 (2 d, bridgehead CH), 81.4, 84.4 (2 s, COMe), 125.6, 125.8, 126.4, 128.4 (4 d, aromatic CH), 132.6, 138.9, 139.9, 142.4 (4 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (neat film) 3060, 3030, 3010, 2950, 2920, 2900, 2870, 2840, 2805 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), m/e 272 (2, M⁺), 257 (1), 240 (42), 225 (35), 208 (100), 193 (62).

4-endo -Methoxy-2,3,5,8-tetramethyl-6,7-benzobicyclo[3.3.0]octa-2,6,8-triene (63). Reaction of 470 mg (1.9 mmol) of diol 22a, 3.50 g (11.1 mmol) of MA, and 1.5 mL of SO₂ClF (procedure B) gave cation 58, which was selectively rearranged to 49 (slow warming to -70 °C during the NMR measurement). Workup (procedure D) and HPLC with ether/light petroleum ether (1:1, v/v) gave 100 mg (22%) of 63: ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.15 (s, 3 H, 5-Me), 1.95, 2.12 (2 br s, 6 H, 2-Me, 3-Me), 2.18 (s, 3 H, 8-Me), 3.06 (s, 3 H, endo OMe), 4.02 (br s, 1 H, 4-exo H), 7.28 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.0, 12.4, 14.2, 27.8 (4 q, CH₃), 56.2 (q, OCH₃), 61.6 (s, C-5), 89.4 (d, C-4), 119.6, 123.1, 123.8 126.5 (4 d, aromatic CH), 123.8, 131.1, 144.6, 148.0, 149.8, 160.1 (6 s, C-ipso + C=C); IR (neat film) 3060, 3040, 3005, 2960, 2910, 2860, 2820, 1595 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), m/e 240 (72, M⁺), 225 (34), 210 (42), 209 (100), 208 (42), 195 (23), 195 (23), 194 (42), 193 (78).

9-endo-Hydroxy-1,2,5,6-endo,7,9-hexamethyl-8-oxa-3,4-benzo-[3.3.1.0^{2,7}]non-3-ene (66) and 9-endo-Hydroxy-1,2,5,6-exo,7,9-hexa-methyl-8-oxa-3,4-benzotricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,7}]non-3-ene (67). A ¹³C NMR sample (prepared via procedure A) consisting of 400 mg (1.5 mmol) of 21s, 2.33 g (7.4 mmol) of MA, and 2 mL of SO₂ClF was quenched after measurement (ratio 4:1 = 64:65; highest temperature -50 °C) following procedure D. HPLC with light petroleum ether/ether (4:1, v/v) gave two isolated fractions; F 1, 200 mg (50%) of **66**; F 2, 40 mg (10%) of **67**. **66**: mp 88-90 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.42 (d; 3 H, J ~ 1 Hz, 9-exo Me), 1.11, 1.12 (2 s, 6 H, 2-Me, 5-Me), 1.12 $(\sim q, 1 \text{ H}, J = 7 \text{ Hz}, 6\text{-exo } H), 1.20 (\sim d, 3 \text{ H}, J = 7 \text{ Hz}, 6\text{-endo } Me),$ 1.52, 1.73 (2 s, 6 H, 1-Me, 7-Me), 3.11 (q, 1 H, $J \sim 1$ Hz, endo OH), 7.28 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.1 (q, $6-CH_3$), 13.0 (q, 5-CH₃), 13.3 (q, 2-CH₃), 14.5 (q, 1-CH₃), 18.3 (q, 7-CH₃), 19.2 (q, 9-CH₃), 45.3 (d, C-6), 45.6 (s, C-5), 48.1 (s, C-2), 75.8 (s, C-9), 86.5 (s, C-7), 86.8 (s, C-1), 120.5, 123.8, 125.7, 126.9 (4 d, aromatic CH), 134.7 (s, C-3), 148.9 (s, C-4); IR (KBr) 3500 (OH), 3060, 3030, 2980, 2950, 2930, 2860 cm⁻¹: MS (70 eV), *m/e* 272 (29, M⁺), 257 (17), 254 (5), 239 (2), 229 (2), 211 (5), 199 (13), 200 (22), 185 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₂: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.17; H, 8.90.

67: mp 56-60 °C (pentane); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.19 (d, 3 H, J = 7 Hz, 6-exo Me), 0.49 (s, 3 H, 9-exo Me), 1.09 (s, 3 H, 1-Me),

1.13 (s, 3 H, 7-*Me*), 1.51 (s, 3 H, 5-*Me*), 1.68 (s, 3 H, 2-*Me*), 2.16 (q, 1 H, J = 7 Hz, 6-endo H), 3.62 (br s, 1 H, endo OH), 7.17–7.27 (m, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) 11.2, 12.7, 13.1, 14.6 (4 q, 6-CH₃, 5-CH₃, 2-CH₃, 1-CH₃), 17.9, 18.4 (2 q, 7-CH₃, 9-CH₃), 44.2 (d, C-6), 47.7, 48.5 (2 s, C-5, C-2), 75.1 (s, C-9), 86.6, 88.1 (2 s, C-7, C-1), 123.4, 123.5, 125.6, 126.7 (4 d, aromatic CH), 135.4, 144.3 (2 s, C-3, C-4); IR (KBr) 3500 (OH), 3050, 3020, 2970, 2940, 2880 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 272 (29, M⁺), 257 (29), 254 (10), 239 (2), 229 (2), 211 (2), 200 (20), 199 (12), 185 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₂: C, 79.37; H, 8.88. Found: C, 79.09; H, 8.60.

Benzobarrelene. 1,4-Etheno-1,4-dihydro-1,2,3,4,9,10-hexamethylnaphthalene (72). Hexamethylbenzene (32.4 g, 0.2 mol) was dissolved in 800 mL of dry 1,2-dichloroethane and heated to 75 °C under nitrogen. Benzenediazonium carboxylate [prepared from 13.7 g (0.1 mol) of anthranilic acid and 21.0 g (23.8 mL, 0.18 mol) of amyl nitrite]⁴⁹ suspended in 100 mL of dry 1,2-dichloroethane was added dropwise to the hot solution over 1 h. The brown solution was stirred a further 2 h and cooled. The solvent was evaporated, the crude product was filtered over 300 g of SiO_2 with CCl₄, and 7.0 g (22%) of starting material was recovered by recrystallization from ethanol. Chromatography with light petroleum ether on 1000 g of SiO2 gave three fractions. Recrystallization of fraction 3 from 500 mL of ethanol gave 3.50 g (15%) of 72. A second crystallization gave an additional 2.60 g (11%) of not fully purified product: mp 168-170 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.67 (s, 12 H, C=C-Me), 1.83 (s, 6 H, bridgehead Me), 7.03 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.4 (q, C=CCH₃), 14.7 (q, bridgehead CH₃), 53.2 (s, bridgehead C), 118.2, 122.8 (2 d, aromatic CH), 141.68 (s, C=C), 151.1 (s, C-ipso); IR (KBr) 3080, 3060, 3005, 2970, 2940, 2915, 2895, 2845 cm⁻¹; MS (70 eV), *m/e* 314 (1, M⁺), 184 (100), 169 (19). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₂: C, 90.70; H, 9.30. Found: C, 90.95; H, 9.11.

1,4-Etheno-1,3-dihydro-2,3,9,10-tetramethylnaphthalene (73). Compound 73 was prepared analogously to 72. Durene (26.8 g, 0.2 mol) reacted with the same amount of benzenediazonium carboxylate to give 31.5 g of a red-brown oil. Durene (21.0 g, 80%) was recovered by three recrystallizations from light petroleum ether. The fourth crystallization gave a mixture of durene, biphenylene, and product (1:1:1). Chromatography with pentene on SiO_2 gave 150 mg (2.5% relative to unrecovered starting material) of 72 as the third fraction. Recrystallization from ethanol gave 130 mg (2.2%) of colorless needles: mp 200-203 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (60 MHz, CDCl₃) & 1.77 (s, 12 H, C=C-Me), 4.09 (s, 2 H, bridgehead H), 7.01 (mc, 4 H, aromatic H); ¹³C NMR (25 MHz, CDCl₃) § 16.4 (q, C=CCH₃, 60.7 (d, bridgehead CH), 120.5, 123.2 (2 d, aromatic CH), 138.3 (s, C=C), 147.2 (s, C-ipso); IR (KBr) 3060, 3000, 2960, 2945, 2905, 2895, 2840 cm⁻¹; ms (70 eV), m/e 210 (85, M⁺), 195 (100), 180 (32), 165 (21), 156 (27), 141 (22). Anal. Calcd for C16H18: C, 91.37; H, 8.63. Found: C, 91.30; H, 8.70.

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