The Reaction between *trans*-2-Alkylaminocycloalkanols and Formaldehyde

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trans-2-Alkylaminocyclohexanols and trans-2-alkylaminocycloheptanols condense with formaldehyde to give perhydrocycloalkano[d][1,3]oxazoles, whereas trans-2-alkylaminocyclopentanols give rise to perhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepines. The two types of ring systems are characterized by differing protonproton geminal coupling constants and ¹³C NMR parameters.

INTRODUCTION

The ¹H NMR spectra of 1,3-oxazolidines in which the nitrogen atom is located at a ring fusion as in perhydro-oxazolo[3,4-*a*]pyridine (1) have been well documented, ¹⁻⁴ whereas systems of the type **2-4** in which R^1 = alkyl have received only scant attention. In particular, the geminal coupling constants [*J*(*gen*)] for the NCH₂O protons in such systems have been recorded only for scattered compounds, ^{5,6} and vary from -2.5 Hz in 5⁷ and -3.0 Hz in 2⁵ to -4.3 to -5.9 Hz in 3⁶ and -4.2 to -4.5 Hz in 4.⁵

In order, therefore, to provide additional information on the variation of J(gem) with structure, the *trans*-2-aminocycloalkanols **6–17** were prepared and condensed with formaldehyde.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The 2-aminocyclohexanols **11–13** and the 2-aminocycloheptanols **14–17** condense with formaldehyde to yield the perhydrobenzo[d][1,3]oxazoles **18–20** and perhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazoles **21–24**, respectively, and the ¹H NMR spectra of these together with that of perhydrocyclo-octano[d][1,3]oxazole (**25**) are summarized in Table 1.

The J(gem) of -2.6 and -2.5 Hz for **19** and **20** is consistent with a pseudoequatorial alkyl group in the

 Table 1. ¹H NMR spectra of perhydrocycloalkano[d]

 [1,3]oxazoles

	Chemical shifts (δ)						
Compound	Solvent	NCH ₂ O		сно	CHN	J(gem)(Hz) NCH ₂ O	
18	CDCl ₃	3.81	3.72	3.40	2.80	-5.7	
19	C ₆ D ₆	4.66	3.98	3.40	—	-2.6	
20	C ₆ D ₆	4.72	4.35	3.42	—	-2.5	
21	CDCl ₃	4.67	4.45	3.36	2.91	-6.0	
22	C ₆ D ₆	4.48	3.96	3.80	2.25	-2.8	
23	CDCI ₃	4.55	4.40	3.65	2.68	-4.7	
24	CDCI ₃	4.63	4.00	3.85	2.20	-3.2	
25	CDCI3	4.45	4.25	3.58	3.03	-6.2	

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half-chair 1,3-oxazolidine ring (I), since this permits efficient overlap of the methylene CH bonds and the adjacent lone pair orbitals resulting in a positive contribution to J(gem).^{8,9} In the NH analogue (**18**)



5: (Partial structure from 20α -(dimethylamino)-2',3 β ,3',4 β -tetra-hydro-3'-methyl-5 α -pregn-3-eno[3,4-d]oxazole)



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J(gem) decreases to -5.7 Hz, indicating the pseudoaxial conformation II. These conformational trends are repeated for the cycloheptano series **21–24**, but here the range of J(gem) values is greater since the *trans*-fusion between the 7- and 5-membered rings permits more partial pseudorotation and, hence, different lone pair-CH geometries. The J(gem) of -6.2 Hz for the cyclo-octano compound **25** also indicates a predominance of the NH-pseudoaxial conformer.

The ring closure reaction between formaldehyde and the trans-2-N-alkylaminocyclopentanols **6–10** might have been expected to give the corresponding

N-alkylperhydrocyclopentano[*d*][1,3]oxazole (A), since although *trans*-bicyclo[3.3.0]octane (B; $X = CH_2$) is considerably strained,¹⁰ the 3-oxa derivative (B; X = O) seems to be more stable.¹¹

The ¹H NMR spectra (Table 2) of the products, however, were not consistent with structure A. In the spectrum of the product derived from 8, for example, instead of the single AB quartet for the NCH₂O protons expected for A; R = isopropyl, two AB quartets were observed with $\delta 4.75$ and 4.35 [J(gem)]-12 Hz] and δ 5.03 and 4.28 [J(gem) -6.5 Hz]. These J(gem) values are not reasonable for NCH₂O protons in a structure such as A (cf. values for **2-5**).⁵⁻⁷ The higher field AB quartet in the spectrum of the cyclized product is, in fact, typical of NCH₂O methylene protons in a 7-membered ring. For example, J(gem) was found to lie between -11.1 and -12.8 Hz for the NCH₂O proton in perhydropyrido[1,2-c][1,3]oxazepines (C).¹² Similarly, the low field quartet is typical of OCH_2O protons; J(gem) values for OCH_2O protons in 1,3-dioxanes lie between -5.8 and -6.6 Hz,¹³ and in larger 1,3-dioxa-ring systems J(gem) is approxi--7 Hz.¹⁴ matelv Perhydro-1,3,5-dioxazepino[6,7i; 5, 6-i]quinoline (26), which contains both OCH₂O and NCH₂O moieties within a 7-membered ring, shows in its NMR spectrum the OCH₂O proton signals at δ 4.80 and 4.88 [J(gem) -4.0 Hz] and the NCH₂O proton signals at δ 4.14 and 4.27 [J(gem) -9.1 Hz].¹ Thus, the ¹H NMR spectral evidence shows that trans-2-alkylaminocyclopentanols 6-10 condense with two moles of formaldehyde to yield N-alkylperhydrocyclopentano [f] [1,3,5] dioxazepines 27-31, and this was in agreement with mass spectral data.

In contrast, cis-2-hexylaminocycloalkanol (32) condenses with formaldehyde to form N-alkylperhydrocyclopentano[d][1,3]oxazole (**33**) [¹H NMR CDCl₃ δ 4.40, 4.03, J(gem) -4.5 Hz]. To confirm the structure of 31 and 33 the ¹³C NMR spectra (coupled and decoupled) were recorded (Table 3). The NCH₂O carbon nucleus in the spectrum of 33 absorbed as a triplet at lowest field, δ 86.3, finding its counterpart at δ 86.1 at C-4 in **31**. Both showed similar ¹J(CH) values (153 and 156 Hz). For **31** a triplet at lower field, δ 96.1, corresponded to the OCH₂O carbon nucleus at C-2, the ${}^{1}J(CH)$ value (160 Hz) being larger than for the C-4 carbon in 31, in agreement with known electronegativity effects on ${}^{1}J$. The bridgehead carbon nuclei C-3a and C-6a in **33** appeared at δ 68.5 [¹J(CH) 140 Hz] and δ 81.2 [¹J(CH) 152 Hz], respectively, with couplings similar to literature values.¹⁶ The corresponding carbon nuclei C-5a and C-8a in 31 absorbed at δ 70.3 and δ 82.1, with notably smaller

 Table 2. ¹H NMR Spectra of N-alkylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepines and N-alkylperhydrocyclopentano[d][1,3]oxazoles

<u></u>		Chemical shifts (δ) J(gem) (Hz)							
Compound	Solvent	NC	H₂O	OC	H₂O	CHO	CHN	NCH ₂ O	OCH ₂ O
27	C ₆ D ₆	4.73	4.50	5.10	4.75	4.10	2.80	-11.0	-6.0
28	$C_6 D_6$	4.	48	5.03	4.40	3.75	2.95	—	-6.2
2 9	C ₆ D ₆	4.75	4.35	5.03	4.28	3.70	3.00	-12.0	-6.5
30	C ₆ D ₆	4.98	4.36	5.03	4.26	3.65	3.20	-12.8	-6.8
31	CDCI3	4.	65	5.03	4.60	4.00	2.85		-6.0

Table 3.13C NMR spectra of cis(3a-H,6a-H)-N-hexylper-
hydrocyclopentano[d][1,3]oxazole (33) and trans-
(5a-H,8a-H)-N-hexylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,
5]dioxazepine (31)3331

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Carbon Nucleus	Chemical Shift (δ)	¹ J(CH) (Hz)	Carbon Nucleus	Chemical Shift (δ)	¹ J(CH) (Hz)	
C-2	86.3 (t)	153	C-2 C-4	96.1 (t) 86.1 (t)	160 156	
C-3a	68.5 (d)	140	C-5a	70.3 (d)	132	
C-4 or C-6 C-5	33.4 (t) 23.5 (t)	131	C-6 C-7	29.3 (t) 19.5 (t)	132	
C-6 or C-4 C-6a	32.4 (t) 81.2 (d)	130 152	C-8 C-8a	29.3 (t) 82.1 (d)	132 135	
C-7′	54.2 (t)	130 123	C-9′	53.7 (t)	133	
	29.4 (t)	123		28.8 (t)	125	
C-8'-11'	27.1 (t) 22.6 (t)	123 124	C-10'–13'	27.0 (t) 22.7 (t)	125 125	
C-12'	14.2 (q)	125	C-14′	14.1 (q)	125	

coupling constants [${}^{1}J(CH)$ 132 Hz and 135 Hz, respectively] than for the corresponding nuclei in **33**, which may reflect the differing dihedral angles between the heteroatom lone pairs and the C—H bonds.^{17,18}

The differing ring closure reactions of the trans-2alkylaminocycloalkanols 6-10 with formaldehyde may be explained in terms of ring fusion strain in the cyclized products. Thus, the trans-fused Nalkylperhydrocyclopentano [d] [1,3] oxazoles (A) are destabilized by ring fusion strain arising from the trans-fusion between two 5-membered rings, as in B, $X = CH_2$, O, S;^{10,11} this will be considerably less in a trans-fused 7/5 system as in 27-31 as a consequence of the flexibility of the 7-membered ring, and the formation of such compounds will be favoured over A. There is no comparable ring fusion strain in the cisfused **33**. In the N-alkylperhydrocyclohexano[d]-[1,3]oxazoles 18-20 and the N-alkylperhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazoles 21-24, however, the ring fusion strain present in A is considerably reduced (cf. differences in the stability of trans-bicyclo[3.3.0]octane and trans-hydrindane¹⁹) and these 1,3-oxazoles, rather than the 1,3,5-dioxazepines, are formed from the reaction between the amino alcohols 11-17 and formaldehvde.

EXPERIMENTAL

Elemental analyses were carried out by the Analytical Section, Department of Chemistry, Portsmouth Polytechnic, and Butterworth Micro-Analytical Consultancy, Teddington, Middlesex. IR spectra were recorded on Perkin-Elmer 237 and 297 grating instruments as 0.2 M solutions in deuteriochloroform using 0.2 mm matched cells. The ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian T60 and Brüker WH 270 spectrometers, as 10% solutions with tetramethylsilane as internal reference. ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained from the P.C.M.U. at Harwell on a Brüker 90 FT spectrometer operating at 25.2 MHz; spectral width 6024 Hz (decoupled) and 3012 Hz (coupled) with 4096 memory points; pulse width $11 \,\mu$ s; pre-delay time 143 μ s; number of scans accumulated 1000-2000 (decoupled) or 20 000-40 000 (coupled). Samples were dissolved in equal volumes of CDCl₃ with TMS as internal reference.

trans-2-N-Alkylaminocyclopentanols

Two methods of synthesis were used to prepare these compounds.

(i) The method of Mousseron and Granger²⁰ was used for the preparation of trans-2-N-methylaminocyclopentanol, and adapted for the preparation of trans-2-N-isopropylaminocyclopentanol, trans-2-Nbutylaminocyclopentanol and trans-2-N-hexylaminocyclopentanol. Cyclopentene oxide²¹ (0.2 M, 16.8 g) in ethanol (100 ml) was heated together with the appropriate amine (0.2 M) in a high pressure steel autoclave for 1 to 2 h at 100 °C to 150 °C. When the solution was cold, the solvent was removed by distillation and the residue distilled in vacuo to yield trans-2-Nmethylaminocyclopentanol (70%), b.p. 61-62°C at 0.3 mmHg (lit.,²⁰ b.p. 104–105 °C at 16 mmHg) (Found: C, 62.4; H, 11.1; N, 12.2. Calc. for $C_6H_{13}NO$: C, 62.6; H, 11.4; N, 12.2%), trans-2-Nbutylaminocyclopentanol (74%), b.p. 70-72 °C at 0.1 mmHg, (Found: C, 68.6; H, 12.0; N, 8.6%. C₉H₁₉NO requires: C, 68.7; H, 12.2; N, 8.9%), trans-2-N-isopropylaminocyclopentanol (83%), b.p. 72-74 °C at 0.2 mmHg, (Found: C, 67.2; H, 11.8; N, 10.1. C₈H₁₇NO requires: C, 67.1; H, 12.0; N, 9.8%) and trans-2-N-hexylaminocyclopentanol (10%), b.p. 90-93 °C at 0.1 mmHg, (Found: C, 71.3; H, 12.4; N, 7.3. C₁₁H₂₃NO requires: C, 71.3; H, 12.5; N, 7.6%).

(ii) Cyclopentene oxide (0.2 M, 16.8 g) in ethanol (50 ml) was heated with hexylamine or *t*-butylamine (0.2 M) under reflux for 24 h. The solvent was removed by distillation and the residue distilled *in vacuo* to yield trans-2-N-*hexylaminocyclopentanol* (29.6 g, 80%) b.p. 89–92 °C at 0.1 mmHg or trans-2-N-t-*butylaminocyclopentanol* (23.2 g, 74%), b.p. 78–80 °C at 0.1 mmHg. (Found: C, 68.5; H, 12.3; N, 8.8. C₉H₁₉NO requires C, 68.7; H, 12.2; N, 8.9%).

trans-2-N-Alkylaminocyclohexanols

Cyclohexene oxide was heated under reflux with equimolar proportions of the appropriate amine to yield *trans-2-N*-cyclohexyl- and *trans-2-N*-benzyl-aminocyclohexanol.²²

trans-2-N-Alkylaminocycloheptanols

Cycloheptene oxide (0.2 M, 22.4 g) was heated with the appropriate amine [cyclohexylamine (0.2 M, 19.8 g), benzylamine (0.2 M, 21.4 g) or hexylamine (0.2 M, 20.2 g)] under reflux for 24 h. The resulting solution was distilled *in vacuo* to yield trans-2-N*cyclohexylaminocycloheptanol* (62%), b.p. 48–50 °C at 2.4 mmHg, (Found: C, 73.9; H, 11.6; N, 6.4. C₁₃H₂₅NO requires: C, 73.9; H, 11.9; N, 6.6%), trans-2-N-benzylaminocycloheptanol (56%), b.p. 54-58°C at 2.0 mmHg, (Found: C, 76.5; H, 9.3; N, 6.5. $C_{14}H_{21}NO$ requires: C, 76.7; H, 9.6; N, 6.4%) or trans-2-N-hexylaminocycloheptanol (75%), b.p. 50-52°C at 1.8 mmHg, (Found: C, 73.4, H, 13.0; N, 6.5. $C_{13}H_{27}NO$ requires: C, 73.2; H, 12.8; N, 6.6%).

trans-2-Aminocycloalkanols

trans-2-Aminocyclohexanol was prepared by the published method,²³ which was adopted for the prepara-tion of *trans*-2-aminocyclopentanol, *trans*-2-aminocycloheptanol and trans-2-aminocyclo-octanol. The cycloalkene oxide (0.3 M) was heated with 0.88 ammonium hydroxide solution (7.7 M, 500 ml) and ethanol (200 ml) in a high pressure stainless steel autoclave at 120-140 °C for 5 h. Solvents were removed by distillation and the product purified by distillation in vacuo to vield trans-2aminocyclopentanol (21.5 g, 71%), b.p. 73-77 °C at 0.25 mmHg (lit.,²⁰ 114-116 °C at 16 mmHg) (Found: C, 59.1; H, 11.1; N, 13.8. Calc. for C₅H₁₁NO: C, 59.4; H, 11.0; N, 13.8%), trans-2-aminocycloheptanol (20.9 g, 54%), b.p. 58-64 °C at 25 mmHg (lit.,²⁰ , 129– 130 °C at 16 mmHg) (Found: C, 64.7; H, 11.5; N, 10.5. Calc. for C₇H₁₅NO: C, 65.0; H, 11.6; N, 10.8%) and *trans*-2-aminocyclo-octanol (27.9 g, 65%) b.p. 84–86 °C at 0.8 mmHg (lit.,²⁰ 132–133 °C at 16 mmHg) (Found: C, 67.6; H, 12.3; N, 9.8. Calc. for C₈H₁₇NO: C, 67.1; H, 12.0; N, 9.8%).

N-Alkylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepines

(i) The trans-2-N-alkylaminocyclopentanol (0.1 M) (7, 8, 9, 10) was dissolved in benzene (100 ml) and heated with paraformaldehyde (0.1 M, 3.0 g) under reflux using a Dean and Stark water separator until no further water separated out. Solvent was removed by distillation and the residue distilled in vacuo to yield the N-butylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepine (45%) b.p. 71-73 °C at 0.08 mmHg, (Found: C, 66.5; H, 10.9; N, 7.1. C₁₁H₂₁NO₂ requires: C, 66.3; H, 10.6; N, 7.0%), N-isopropylperhydrocyclopentano[f]-[1,3,5]dioxazepine (39%) b.p. 60-62 °C at 0.1 mmHg, (Found: C, 64.7; H, 10.5; N, 7.9. $C_{10}H_{19}NO_2$ requires: C, 64.8; H, 10.3; N, 7.6%), N-t-butylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepine 62%) b.p. 66-68°C at 0.05 mmHg, (Found: C, 66.1; H, 10.6; N, 6.9. C₁₁H₂₁NO₂ requires: C, 66.3; H, 10.6; N, 7.0%) and N-hexylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepine (26%) b.p. 93–95 °C at 0.07 mmHg, (Found: C, 68.6; H, 11.0; N, 6.4. C₁₃H₂₅NO₂ requires: C, 68.7; H, 11.1; N, 6.2%).

(ii) trans-2-N-Methylamino- and trans-2-N-hexylaminocyclopentanol (0.05 M, 5.75 g) and (0.03 M, 6.25 g), respectively, were shaken with excess aqueous 40% formaldehyde solution (0.13 M, 10 ml) and (0.066 M, 5 ml), respectively, for 0.5 h. The mixture was basified with 30% aqueous sodium hydroxide solution and extracted with ether. The combined ether extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated to leave an oil which was distilled in vacuo to yield N-methylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepine (2.74 g, 35%) b.p. 61-64 °C at 0.07 mmHg, (Found: C, 61.3; H, 9.3; N, 9.1. $C_8H_{15}NO_2$ requires C, 61.1; H, 9.6; N, 8.9%) or N-hexylperhydrocyclopentano[f][1,3,5]dioxazepine (1.8 g, 26%) b.p. 93–95 °C at 0.07 mmHg, (Found: C, 68.7; H, 11.2; N, 6.1. $C_{13}H_{25}NO_2$ requires C, 68.7; H, 11.1; N, 6.2%). N-Hexylperhydrocyclopentano[d][1,3]oxazole was also obtained together with the latter compound (0.1 g, 0.02%) b.p. 80–86 °C at 0.25 mmHg, (Found: C, 72.9; H, 12.1; N, 7.0. $C_{12}H_{23}NO$ requires C, 73.0; H, 11.7; N, 7.1%).

N-Alkylperhydrobenzo[d][1,3]oxazoles. These compounds were prepared from *trans-2-N*-cyclo-hexylamino- and *trans-2-N*-benzylaminocyclo-hexanols as described previously.²²

N-Alkylperhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazoles

trans-2-N-Hexylaminocycloheptanol (0.1 M, 21.3 g), trans - 2 - N - cyclohexylaminocycloheptanol (0.1 M, 21.1 g) or trans - 2 - N - benzylaminocycloheptanol (0.1 M, 22.1 g) were shaken with excess 40% aqueous formaldehyde solution (0.13 M, 10 ml) for 0.5 h. The mixture was basified with 50% aqueous sodium hydroxide solution and ether extracted. The combined ether extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated to leave a colourless oil which was distilled in vacuo to yield N-hexylperhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazole (78%) b.p. 94-96 °C at 0.18 mmHg, (Found: C, 74.5; H, 12.3; N, 6.0. C₁₄H₂₇NO requires: C, 74.6; H, 12.1; N - cyclohexylperhydrocycloheptano[d] -6.2%), [1,3]oxazole (61%) b.p. 106–108 °C at 0.3 mmHg, (Found: C. 75.0; H, 11.4; N, 6.3. C₁₄H₂₅NO requires: C, 75.3; H, 11.3; N, 6.3%) or N-benzylperhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazole (80%) b.p. 126-128 °C at 0.1 mmHg, (Found: C, 77.9; H, 9.2; N, 6.4. C₁₅H₂₁NO requires: C, 77.9; H, 9.1; N, 6.1%).

Perhydrocycloalkano[d][1,3]oxazoles

Perhydrobenzo-, perhydrocycloheptano and perhydrocyclo-octano[d][1,3]oxazoles were prepared by dissolving the appropriate trans-2-aminocycloalkanol (0.1 M) in benzene (100 ml) and boiling the solution under reflux with paraformaldehyde (0.1 M, 3.0 g)using a Dean and Stark water separator. Boiling was continued until the required volume of water (1.8 ml) had separated out. Solvent was removed by distillation and the residue distilled in vacuo to yield per-(18%) b.p. hydrobenzo[d][1,3]oxazole 62-63 °C at 1.0 mmHg, (Found: C, 66.4; H, 10.4; N, 10.8. $C_7H_{13}NO$ requires: C, 66.1; H, 10.2; N, 11.0%), perhydrocycloheptano[d][1,3]oxazole (21%)b.p. 57-58 °C at 0.9 mmHg, (Found: C, 67.9; H, 10.5; N, 9.8. C₈H₁₅NO requires: C, 68.0; H, 10.7; N, 9.9%) or perhydrocyclo-octano[d][1,3]oxazole (12%) b.p. 62-65 °C at 0.35 mmHg (Found: C, 69.4; H, 10.8; N, 8.6. C₉H₁₇NO requires: C, 69.6; H, 11.0; N, 9.0%).

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