The Reactions of Monoalkylthio- or Monoarylthio-Substituted Cyclopropenium Salt with Nitrogen Nucleophiles: Formation of Polyfunctionally Substituted Pyrroles or Pyrazoles

Hiroshi Yoshida,* Fumitaka Utsumi, Hideki Suzuki, Satoru Ito, Shin-ichi Sakashita, Tsuyoshi Ogata, and Kiyoshi Matsumoto[†] Department of Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Shizuoka University, Hamamatsu 432 † Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606 (Received November 1, 1991)

The reactions of monoalkylthio- or monoarylthio-substituted cyclopropenium salt (1) with a number of secondary amines were studied. The amines, such as N-methylaniline, yielded indenes, whereas N-alkyl- or N-arylbenzylamines gave 1-alkyl- or 1-aryl-2-phenylpyrroles in low-to-moderate yields, depending on the kinds of substituents of the amines and 1. The reaction with N-isopropylbenzylamine- α , α - d_2 (i-PrNHCD₂Ph) resulted in the formation of the 1-isopropyl-2,3,5-triphenylpyrrole-4-d, clearly indicating the intramolecular H-abstraction mechanism via vinylcarbene intermediates for the formation of pyrroles. The reaction of 1 with tosylhydrazones afforded the ring opend hydrazide, while with phenyl-, methyl-, and t-butylhydrazines gave 1,4,5-trisubstituted pyrazoles in small yields.

Our continuing studies are developed to reactions of the cyclopropenium salts and cyclopropenes possesing heteroatom substituents such as sulfur, 1-4) nitrogen, 5) or phosphorus. 6) We have previously reported that the reaction of the monoalkylthio- or monoarylthiosubstituted cyclopropenium salts 1, e.g. 1-methylthio-2,3-diphenylcyclopropenium bromide (1a) with acyclic 2,3 and cyclic 1,3-diketones, 3) afforded the cyclopentadienols and 2*H*-pyran derivatives, respectively. Moreover, the reaction of 1a with Grignard reagents, 4) thiols, or alcohols 1) gave polyfunctionally substituted indenes as final products. These results led us to study the reaction of 1 with nitrogen nucleophiles.

Salts **1a**—**e** were prepared as previously described.¹⁾ The reactions of **1a** with primary amines, such as

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benzylamine, ethylamine, aniline, and allylamine, yielded resinous masses, which are composed of a mixture of a number of products on TLC. On the other hand, the treatment of 1a with N-methylaniline (2a), a less basic amine, in the presence of triethylamine in dry benzene at room temperature for 1 h produced 3-(N-methylanilino)-1-methylthio-2-phenyl-1H-indene (3aa) in 45% yield. The structure 3aa was determined from its spectral data as well as the formation of the indanone 6 in 78% yield by acidic hydrolysis of 3aa.

The reaction of 1a with N-methylbenzylamine 2c under similar reaction conditions provided the known 1-methyl-2,3,5-triphenylpyrrole 4ac,7 rather than the corresponding indene. The reactions of 1a—e with the various secondary amines 2a—l were also studied (Table

Scheme 1.

1

2-NO₂C₆H₄CH₂

PhCH₂

Table 1. The Reaction of 1 with 2 in the Presence of Triethylamine

Re	actants	Products	Yield
1	2	(Substituents for 3: R ¹ , R ² , R ³ or 4: R, R ³ , R ⁴)	%
1a	2a	3aa (Me, Me, Ph)	45
	2 b	3ab (Me, Ph, Ph)	41
	2c	4ac (Ph, Me, Ph)	36
	2d	4ad (Ph, Et, Ph)	31
	2e	4ae (Ph, <i>i</i> -Pr, Ph)	64
	$2e-d_2$	$4ae-d (Ph, i-Pr, Ph)^{a)}$	61
	2f	4af (Ph, <i>t</i> -Bu, Ph)	16
	2g	4ag (Ph, Ph, Ph)	33
	2h	4ah (Ph, PhCH ₂ , Ph)	63, 64, ^{b)} 28 ^{c)}
	2i	4ai (Ph, PhCH ₂ CH ₂ , Ph)	15
	2j	4aj (Ph, Me, $4-NO_2C_6H_4$)	17
	2k	4ak (Ph, PhCH2, 4-NO2C6H4)	47
	21	4al (Ph, PhCH ₂ , 2 -NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄)	39
1b	2a	$3ba (4-MeC_6H_4, Me, Ph)$	52
	2b	3bb (4-Me C_6H_4 , Ph, Ph)	33 ^{d)}
	2c	4ac (Ph, Me, Ph)	34
	2e	4ae (Ph, i-Pr, Ph)	52
	2f	4af (Ph, t-Bu, Ph)	16
	2 g	4ag (Ph, Ph, Ph)	34 ^{e)}
	2h	4ah (Ph, PhCH ₂ , Ph)	51
1c	2c	4ac (Ph, Me, Ph)	55
1d	2c	4dc (Me, Me, Ph)	15
	2 g	4dg (Me, Ph, Ph)	33
	2h	4dh (Me, PhCH ₂ , Ph)	23
	2j	4dj (Me, Me, $4-NO_2C_6H_4$)	11
	2k	4dk (Me, PhCH ₂ , 4 -NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄)	12
1e	2c	4dc (Me, Me, Ph)	18

a) The product was pyrrole-3-d. b) $EtN(i-Pr)_2$ was used. c) Pyridine was used as a base. d) The by-product $5 (R^1=4-MeC_6H_4)$ was obtained in 20% yield. e) $5 (R^1=MeC_6H_4)$ was separated in 7%.

RS.
$$CH_2R^1$$
 $t-Bu0K$
RS R^2 DMF

R=t-Bu

Scheme 2.

1). The reaction of 1 with secondary amines having no benzyl substituents offered indenes in moderate yields. The secondary benzylamines provided pyrroles in various yields. Interestingly, 2- and 4-nitrobenzyl groups were selectively incorporated into the pyrrole rings, even in the presence of the unsubstituted benzyl group. The yield of the pyrroles 4 were highly affected by the bulkiness of the substituents of 1 and secondary amines 2(R³). Moderately bulky N-isopropylbenzylamine 2e resulted in the best yield. A number of chemical and physical interests concerning the pyrroles

have been developed in recent years.8)

It has been reported that tris(t-butylthio) cyclopropenium ions react with secondary amines by the use of t-BuOK as a base in DMF to produce pyrroles in moderate yields. ^{9,10)} The reaction mechanism is considered to involve the vinylcarbene intermediate followed by an intermolecular protonation, since no distribution of deuterium is observed at the 4-position of the pyrrole in the reaction with dimethylamine- d_6 (Scheme 2). ⁹⁾ The reaction conditions of t-BuOK/DMF were not amenable in our case: the reaction of t-BuOK/DMF were not a tarry

Scheme 3.

Scheme 4.

brown mass.

In a former paper we have reported that the reaction of 1 with Grignard reagents,⁴⁾ thiols, and alcohols¹⁾ offered relatively stable cyclopropenes as intermediates, while some attempts to isolate cyclopropenes failed in reactions with 1,3-diketones.^{2,3)} An attempt to isolate the cyclopropene in the reaction of 1a with 2e using triethylamine as a base at lower temperature or shorter reaction time was unsuccessful and only 4ae was obtained.

In order to clarify the most plausible mechanism, the dideuterated N-isopropylbenzylamine 2e-d₂ (D content 98%) was reacted with 1a under similar conditions to afford the pyrrole-4-d, 4ae-d (D content 96%) in 61% yield. This result indicates proton abstraction of the vinylcarbene via either an intramolecular radical-type process or direct insertion to the C-H bond of the benzyl methylene. A plausible mechanism was described in Scheme 3. An initially formed cyclopropene A would produce the vinylcarbene **B** stabilized by the adjacent sulfur group, followed by the formation of the pyrroline C. Elimination of a thiol from C yields the pyrrole 4. In the reaction of 1c with 2b or 2g, the thiol could be trapped by 1c forming the indene 5 ($R^1=4-MeC_6H_4$) as a by-product (Table 1). The reaction of 1 with thiol is known to give the thio-substituted indenes.1)

Furthermore reactions of 1a with hydrazines 7 were also investigated (Scheme 4 and Table 2). Some reaction products were obtained, from which a pure

Table 2. The Reaction of 1a with 7

Reaction time/h	Product (Yield/%)
48	8a (5.5)
24	
1	9c (15)
1	9d (32)
12	9e (3.6)
1	
	48 24 1 1

product was separated upon chromatographic separation. Tosylhydrazone 7a with 1a yielded an unsaturated tosylhydrazide 8a. On the other hand, 7c—e gave the corresponding 1,4,5-trisubstituted pyrazoles 9. The former product 8a may arise from a nucleophilic attack of β -nitrogen onto C-2 of 1a of form the cyclopropene D, followed by ring opening and proton transfer, affording 8a. The formation of pyrazoles 9 could be explained by an initial nucleophilic attack of α -nitrogen followed by ring opening, and again ring closure. Presumably, both routes might proceed via a vinylcarbene intermediates, like B.

Experimental

General. The melting points were uncorrected. The ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Hitachi R-24B (60 MHz) and ¹³C NMR spectra on a JEOL JNM FX-90Q (22.40 MHz). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ unless otherwise stated, using TMS as an internal standard. The IR

spectra were obtained on a JEOL JIR 100.

The Reaction of Cyclopropenium Salt 1 with Secondary Amine 2. General Procedure. A mixture of 1 (2.0 mmol), secondary amine 2 (2.0 mmol), and triethylamine (2.2 mmol) in benzene (15 cm³) was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The solution was washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄, and condensed under reduced pressure. The resulting resinous product was purified by column chromatography over silica gel and recrystallized from 2-propanol to yield indene 3 or pyrrole 4. 3aa: Mp 139—142 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.45 (s, 3H, MeS), 3.00 (s, 3H, MeN), 4.80 (s, 1H, CH), and 6.4—7.7 (m, 14H, Arom); MS (m/z) 343 (M^+) . Found: C, 80.21; H, 6.22; N, 3.98%. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NS: C, 80.42; H, 6.16; N, 4.07%. 3ab: Mp 159—161 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.51 (s, 3H, MeS), 4.80 (s, 1H, CH), and 6.6—7.4 (m, 19H, Arom); MS(m/z) 405 (M⁺). Found: C, 82.99; H, 6.54; N, 3.36%. Calcd for C₂₈H₂₃NS: C, 82.92; H, 5.71; N, 3.45%. **4ac**: Mp 179—183 °C (lit,⁷⁾ 178—179 °C); ¹H NMR δ=3.40 (s, 3H, Me), 6.40 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.7–7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph); MS(m/z) 309 (M+). 4ad: Mp 104—107 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.30 (t, J=7 Hz, 3H, Me), 3.90 (q, J=7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 6.33 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.9—7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph); MS (m/z) 323 (M⁺). Found: C, 89.03; H, 6.53; N, 4.43%. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₁N: C, 89.12; H, 6.54; N, 4.33%. 4ae: Mp 196—198 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.25 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 6H, 2Me), 4.45 (sept, J=7.5 Hz, 1H, CHMe), 6.35 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.9—7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph); MS(m/z) 337 (M⁺). Found: C, 89.11; H, 6.84; N, 4.04%. Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N: C, 88.98; H, 6.86; N, 4.15%. 4af: Mp 175—177 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.35 (s, 9H, 3Me), 6.20 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.8—7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph). MS(m/z) 351 (M⁺). Found: C, 88.76; H, 7.21; N, 4.03%. Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅N: C, 88.84; H, 7.16; N, 3.98%. 4ag: Mp 200-203 °C (lit,11) 197 °C); ¹H NMR δ =6.65 (s, 1H, C4-H) and 6.7—7.6 (m, 20H, 4Ph); MS(m/z) 371 (M⁺). 4ah: Mp 165—167 °C; ¹H NMR δ =5.05 (s, 2H, CH₂), 6.50 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.6—7.5 (m, 20H, 4Ph); MS(m/z) 385 (M⁺). Found: C, 90.50; H, 6.04; N, 3.46%. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₃N: C, 90.35; H, 6.01; N, 3.63%. 4ai: Mp 129-131 °C; IR(KBr) 1600 and 1340 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =2.2-2.7 (m, 2H, NCH₂), 3.9-4.4 (m, 2H, Ph<u>CH₂</u>), 6.50 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.5—7.6 (m, 20H, 4Ph); 13 C NMR δ =37.1 (t), 46.5 (t), 109.5 (d), 123.0 (s), 125.0 (d), 126.2 (d), 127.1 (d), 127.6 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.2 (d), 128.4 (d), 128.5 (d), 129.0 (d), 131.2 (d), 131.7 (s), 133.3 (s), 133.7 (s), 134.9 (s), 136.2 (s), and 138.0 (s): MS(m/z) 399 (M⁺). Found: C, 90.21; H, 6.23; N, 3.56%. Calcd for C₃₀H₂₅N: C, 90.18; H, 6.31; N, 3.51%. 4aj: Mp 210— 214 °C; IR(KBr) 1590, 1505, and 1335 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =3.50 (s, 3H, NMe), 6.58 (s, 1H, C4-H), 7.0—7.7 (m, 12H, Ar), and 8.1—8.3 (m, 2H, Ar); 13 C NMR δ =37.1 (t), 46.5 (t), 109.5 (d), 123.0 (s), 125.0 (d), 126.2 (d), 127.1 (d), 127.6 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.2 (d), 128.4 (d), 128.5 (d), 129.0 (d), 131.2 (d), 131.7 (s), 133.3 (s), 133.7 (s), 134.9 (s), 136.2 (s), and 138.0 (s); MS(m/z)354 (M+). Found: C, 77.81; H, 4.92; N, 7.89%. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₈N₂O₂: C, 77.94; H, 5.11; N, 7.92%. 4ak: Mp 163— 165 °C; IR(KBr) 1590, 1505, and 1335 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =5.10 (s, 2H, CH₂), 6.70 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 7.0—8.3 (m, 19H, Ar); ¹³C NMR δ =48.9 (t), 112.1 (d), 123.9 (d), 124.4 (d), 125.7 (d), 125.8 (d), 127.2 (d), 127.7 (d), 128.2 (d), 128.5 (d), 131.2 (s), 132.3 (s), 133.3 (s), 135.5 (s), 138.2 (s), 139.8 (s), and 146.2 (s); MS(m/z) 430 (M⁺). Found: C, 80.78; H, 5.31; N, 6.61%. Calcd for $C_{29}H_{22}N_2O_2$: C, 80.91; H, 5.15; N, 6.51%. 4al: Mp 146—148 °C; ¹H NMR δ =4.82 (s, 2H, CH₂), 6.42 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.4—8.0 (m, 19H, Ar); 13 C NMR δ =48.7 (t), 110.6 (d), 123.1 (d), 125.2 (d), 126.2 (d), 126.9 (d), 127.5 (d), 127.9 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.5 (d), 128.7 (d), 128.8 (d), 131.4 (d), 132.0 (d), 132.8 (d), 133.0 (d), 133.6 (d), 135.9 (s), 138.3 (s), and 149.8 (s); MS(m/z) 430 (M⁺). Found: C, 80.82; H, 5.22; N, 6.63%. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₂N₂O₂: C, 80.91; H, 5.15; N, 6.51%. **3ba**: Mp 139—142 °C; ¹H NMR δ =2.28 (s, 3H, Me), 2.96 (s, 3H, NMe), 5.00 (s, 1H, CH), and 6.7-7.7 (m, 19H, Ar); MS (m/z) 419 (M⁺). Found: C, 83.12; H, 6.04; N, 3.41%. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₅NS: C, 83.01; H, 6.01; N, 3.33%. **3bb**: Mp 186-189 °C: ¹H NMR δ =2.30 (s, 3H, Me), 5.12 (s, 1H, CH), and 6.2—7.6 (m, 19H, Ar); MS(m/z), 481 (M+). Found: C, 84.83; H, 5.54; N, 2.98%. Calcd for C₃₄H₂₇NS: C, 84.78; H, 5.64; N, 2.92%. 4dc: Mp 159—162 °C (lit, 12) 160—162 °C); 1H NMR $\delta = 2.86$ (s, 3H, Me), 3.51 (s, 3H, NMe), 6.21 (s, C4-H), and 7.1—7.5 (m, 10H, 2Ph). 4dg: Mp 173—175 °C; IR(KBr) 1595 and 1490 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =2.34 (s, 3H, Me), 6.52 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.9—7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph); 13 C NMR δ =12.4 (q), 109.3 (d), 122.8 (s), 125.4 (d), 125.9 (d), 127.5 (d), 127.9 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.4 (d), 128.6 (d), 129.0 (d), 133.2 (s), 133.9 (s), 136.9 (s), and 139.2 (s); MS(m/z) 309 (M⁺). Found: C, 89.34; H, 6.11; N, 4.55%. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N: C, 89.28; H, 6.18; N, 4.52%. 4dh: Mp 130—133 °C; IR(KBr) 1490 and 1450 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR $\delta = 2.25$ (s, 3H, Me), 5.15 (s, 2H, NCH₂), 6.40 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.8—7.6 (m, 15H, 3Ph); 13 C NMR δ =11.4 (q), 48.0 (t), 109.7 (d), 122.5 (s), 125.3 (d), 125.7 (d), 126.7 (d), 126.9 (d), 127.1 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.3 (d), 128.4 (d), 128.8 (d), 133.5 (s), 134.4 (s), 137.2 (s), and 138.9 (s); MS(m/z) 323 (M⁺). Found: C, 89.05; H, 6.69; N, 4.26%. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₁N: C, 89.12; H, 6.54; N, 4.33%. 4dj: Mp 149—150°C; IR(KBr) 1590, 1520, and 1350 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =2.48 (s, 3H, Me), 3.72 (s, 3H, NMe), 6.58 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 7.2—8.6 (m, 19H, Ar); MS(m/z) 292 (M+). Found: C, 74.10; H, 6.43; N, 4.38%. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{16}N_2O_2$: C, 73.95; H, 5.51; N, 9.58%. 4dk: Mp 121-123 °C; ¹H NMR δ =2.28 (s, 3H, Me), 5.18 (s, 2H, NCH₂), 6.06 (s, 1H, C4-H), and 6.8—8.3 (m, 14H, Ar); 13 C NMR δ =11.3 (q), 48.2 (t), 111.3 (d), 123.8 (s), 124.0 (d), 125.4 (d), 125.8 (d), 127.5 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.5 (d), 129.1 (d), 129.7 (s), 132.1 (s), 136.4 (s), 137.9 (s), 139.6 (s), and 146.0 (s); MS(m/z) 368 (M⁺). Found: C, 78.35; H, 5.31; N, 7.54%. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{20}N_2O_2$: C, 78.24; H, 5.57; N, 7.60%. $5(R^1=4-MeC_6H_4)$: Mp 176—179 °C (lit,1) 177—178 °C).

The Reaction of N-Isopropylbenzylamine- α , α - d_2 (2e- d_2). The amine 2e- d_2 was prepared from the reduction of N-isopropylbenzamide with LiAlD₄ in 72% yield according to a similar procedure as described in the literature. ¹³⁾ 2e- d_2 : Oil; ¹H NMR δ =1.08 (d, J=6.5 Hz, 7H, 2Me+NH), 2.86 (sept, J=6.5 Hz, 1H, CHMe₂), 3.78 (s, small, CH₂), and 6.8—7.9 (m, 5H, Ph). The content of deuterium was determined to be 98% by the use of CH₂ signal integration. A similar reaction of 1a with 2e- d_2 , as above, provided 1-isopropyl-2,3,5-triphenylpyrrole-4-d 4ae-d in 61% yield. The amount of deuterium was assigned to be 96% by the ¹H NMR spectrum of the product. 4ae-d: Mp 192—193 °C; ¹H NMR δ =1.20 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 6H, 2Me), 4.42 (sept, J=7.5 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.36 (s, small, C4-H), and 6.9—7.8 (m, 15H, 3Ph); MS(m/z) 338 (M⁺).

Hydrolysis of 3aa. A solution of **3aa** (0.5 mmol) in a mixture of ethanol (15 cm³) and aqueous HCl (3 mol dm⁻³, 10 cm^3) was heated at reflux for 4 h. Dilution with water and extruction by CH₂Cl₂ gave 1-indanone **6**¹⁾ in 83% yield. **6**: Mp 76—78 °C (lit, ¹⁾ 77—78 °C).

The Reaction of 1a with Hydrazine 7. A mixture of 1a (1.0 mmol), hydrazine 7 (1.1 mmol), and triethylamine (1.1 mmol) in benzene (10 cm³) was stirred for an appropriate

time until the disappearance of the crystals of 1a. The solution was, then washed with water and dried over sodium carbonate. Condensation and chromatographic purification (cc, silica gel) produced pure crystals. 8a: Mp 159—161 °C (ether); IR(KBr) 1380 and 1170 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =2.29 (s, 3H, Me), 2.31 (s, 3H, Me), 6.16 (s, 1H, CH=), and 6.8-8.0 (m, 15H, Ar+NH); MS(m/z) 422 (M⁺). Found: C, 65.32; H, 5.31; N, 6.65%. Calcd for $C_{23}H_{22}N_2O_2S_2$: C, 65.37; H, 5.24; N, 6.61%. 9c; Mp 213—214 °C (ethanol, lit, 14) 210—211 °C); ¹H NMR δ =7.0— 7.5 (m, 15H, 3Ph) and 7.89 (s, 1H, CH); 13 C NMR δ =123.8 (s), 126.6 (d), 127.8 (d), 128.6 (d), 129.4 (d), 129.8 (d), 130.0 (d), 130.1 (d), 131.6 (s), 131.9 (d), 134.2 (s), 140.6 (s), 141.1 (d), and 141.4 (s) MS(m/z) 296 (M⁺). **9d**: Mp 116—117 °C (ether); IR(KBr) 1590 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ =3.71 (s, 3H, Me), 6.9—7.5 (m, 10H, 2Ph), and 7.62 (s, 1H, CH); 13 C NMR δ =37.1 (q), 120.9 (s), 125.9 (s), 127.2 (d), 128.3 (d), 128.7 (d), 128.8 (d), 130.0 (d), 130.4 (s), 133.0 (s), 137.4 (d), and 139.8 (s); MS(m/z) 234 (M⁺). Found: C, 81.92; H, 6.17; N, 11.91%. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₂: C, 82.02; H, 6.02; N, 11.95%. 9e: Mp 220-225 °C (ether); ¹H NMR δ =1.18 (s, 9H, 3Me), 7.25 (s, 1H, CH), and 7.5—8.8 (m, 10H, 2Ph); MS(m/z) 276 (M+). Found: C, 82.63; H, 7.24; N, 10.13%. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀N₂: C, 82.57; H, 7.29; N, 10.13%.

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