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Registry No. (±)-2, 87037-55-6; (±)-9, 65861-37-2; 10, 86971-73-5; (±)-11, 86971-74-6; (±)-12, 82517-60-0; (±)-13, 87037-56-7; (±)-14, 86993-52-4; 15, 86971-75-7; 16, 86971-76-8; 17, 86971-77-9; 18, 86971-78-0; (\pm) -20, 86971-79-1; (\pm) -20 acetate, 86971-80-4; (\pm) -21, 83124-70-3; 23, 83124-87-2; 24, 86971-82-6; 25, 86971-83-7; (±)-26, 86993-53-5; 27, 86971-84-8; 28, 86971-85-9; CH₃CHO, 75-07-0; C-Cl₃COCl, 76-02-8; cyclopropyldiphenylsulfonium fluoroborate, 33462-81-6; dihydropyran, 110-87-2.

Supplementary Material Available: Structures and experimental data for 13, 17, 20, 21, 26, and 2 (2 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

An Umpolung of Allyl Bis(silanes). Tandem [6.5] Annulations via a Biallyl Equivalent

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The widespread occurrence of [6.5] ring systems in natural products stimulates the development of new strategies.¹ A potentially very flexible approach envisions a two-stage "cycloaddition" methodology of a two and subsequently a one carbon fragment to a biallyl skeleton as outlined in eq 1. The convenience



and ease of handling of 2,3-bis[(trimethylsilyl)methyl]-1,3-butadiene $(1)^2$ and the ability to manipulate the intermediate 2 prior to creation of the reactive dibromide 3^3 suggested the sequence outlined in eq. 2. The key to this sequence was to devise a method



to effect an umpolung of the allylbis(silane) 2 without allyl inversion. We wish to record a simple solution to this problem and its utility in forming [6.5] ring systems especially with respect to the use of bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane in cycloalkylations.

We chose the dibenzyl ether 4, which derives from the adduct of 1 and maleic anhydride according to eq 3, as a model in which the key was envisioned to be the rearrangement of allyl bromides



5 and 7 to the thermodynamically more stable isomers 6 and 8.



Reacting 2 equiv of freshly recrystallized NBS with 4 in THF in the presence of propylene oxide at -78 to 0 °C indeed gave a 47% yield of 8. Believing the presence of trimethylsilyl bromide may improve the rearrangement of 5 to 6 and/or 7 to 8 led us to use bromine with the result of a slight improvement in yield to 57%. The ability of cupric bromide to serve as a brominating agent⁴ led us to explore the possibility that allylsilanes might also be brominated by this reagent. If an allylcopper species is involved, the regioselectivity of the bromination might be independent of the structure of the allysilane. Indeed, addition of a catalytic amount of cupric bromide to the bromination reaction dramatically improved the yield of 8 to 82%.

Experimentally, 1 equiv of bromine in carbon tetrachloride is added to a solution of 1 equiv of the bis(silane), 10 equiv of propylene oxide, and 1 mol % cupric bromide in THF at -78 °C (15 min). After warming to 0 °C (15 min) and recooling to -78 °C, an additional 1 equiv of bromine in carbon tetrachloride is added (15 min) and the mixture warmed to 0 °C (15 min). The reaction is quenched with sodium sulfite and worked up in standard fashion. Table I summarizes the results. The chemoselectivity is noteworthy in that ester, ketone, amide, and tert-butyldimethylsilyl ether groupings all are compatible. Most remarkably, the dihydro aromatic ring of entry 7 does not aromatize under the reaction conditions.

The use of such dibromides in cycloalkylation with malonic esters⁵ showed a surprising dependence on the choice of the ester of the malonate. In all cases, to minimize or avoid the dialkylation product 10, the malonate was added dropwise to a mixture of NaH and the dibromide 8a in DMF. With dimethyl malonate, a



mixture of the cyclopentene 9 and the cyclopropanes 11 was

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Table I. Conversion of Bis(silanes) to Dibromides^a



^{*a*} All new compounds have been fully characterized by spectral means and elemental composition determined by high-resolution mass spectrometry and/or combustion analysis. ^{*b*} Mp 74-75 °C (hexane) (lit.¹¹ mp 76-76 °C). ^{*c*} Mp 166-167.5 °C (C, H₄OH).

produced. With disopropyl or di-*tert*-butyl malonate, the dialkylation product 10 formed in yields up to 30% regardless of variation of experimental conditions. On the other hand, diethyl malonate gave the desired cyclopentene in 64% yield. This dependence on the ester correlates with the steric demands of the ester. The common occurrence of a *gem*-dimethyl group in many natural products led us to perform the conversion of 9 to 12, which proceeded, via standard methods,⁶ in excellent overall yield.

In contrast to the malonates, bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane (13) smoothly led to cyclopentene products by simply mixing the dibromide with 13 in DMF in the presence of sodium hydride as summarized in Table II. Dialkylation and cyclopropane formation

Table II. Cycloalkylation with Bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane^a



^{*a*} All new compounds have been fully characterized by spectral means including determination of elemental composition by high-resolution mass spectroscopy and/or combustion analysis. ^{*b*} Mp 156.5-157 °C (hexane). ^{*c*} Mp 47-49 °C (hexane). ^{*d*} Mp 205-206.5 °C (CH₃OH-CHCl₃). ^{*e*} Mp 45-47 °C (C₂H₅OAc-hexane). ^{*f*} Mp 163-163.5 °C (hexane). ^{*g*} Mp 233-234.5 °C (C₂H₅OH-CHCl₃).

were not observed. The unexpected and extraordinary efficiency of bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane to participate in cycloalkylation reactions points to the need for a more detailed study of the use of a sulfone group to facilitate cyclizations.^{7,8} In the present case, while the steric bulk of the phenylsulfonyl group might account for the formation of the cyclopentene ring over the cyclopropane ring, it would not seem to account for the absence of any dialkylation. The results with the malonates suggest that increasing steric bulk favors dialkylation over cyclo-monoalkylation–a seeming incongruity. While the explanation is not yet apparent, the synthetic efficiency and utility of the geminal phenylsulfonyl group for cyclizations is proven.

The utility of the bis(phenylsulfonyl) group for further structural elaboration was specifically demonstrated with 13a. Limited quantities of Na(Hg) in the absence of buffer smoothly monodesulfonylated 13a to give 14; whereas, excess Na(Hg) in the presence of disodium acid phosphate converted the bis(sulfonyl) carbon directly to a methylene group to produce the simple cyclopentene 15.⁹ In addition, oxidation of the anion derived from 14 produces the cyclopentenoe 16.¹⁰

The ability to invert the reactivity of an allyl bis(silane) combined with cycloalkylation offers a new dimension to annulations. As summarized in eq 4, tandem formation of a bicyclo[6.5]nonene,

⁽⁶⁾ The sequence involved (i) LAH, THF 0-50 °C; (ii) CH₃SO₂Cl, (C₂- H_5)₃N, CH₂Cl₂; (iii) NaBH₄, sulfolane, 100 °C. For the last reaction, see: Hutchins, R. O. J. Org. Chem. **1978**, 43, 2259.

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which has the flexibility of creating a diverse array of important substitution patterns, was developed. Other ring sizes may also be generated by simple modification of the conjunctive reagents. Thus, the [6 + m + n] bicycloannulation [(6 + 2 + 1) for the case of equ 4] may offer useful strategies toward important synthetic targets.

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Allosteric Effects: Structural and Thermodynamic Origins of Binding Cooperativity in a Subunit Model

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We recently introduced the macrobicyclic ethers **1** as models for the allosteric effects shown by subunit enzyme systems.¹ The binding of organomercurials to **1a** showed *positive cooperativity*, while its homologue **1b** showed *noncooperativity* in comparable circumstances. This seemingly unpredictable behavior raised questions about the origins of the allosteric effects in these systems. These questions were approached through crystallographic and thermodynamic studies, and we report here our answers.

Crystallography. Crystals suitable for diffraction were obtained from EtOAc for $1a \cdot 2Hg(CN)_2$ and EtO_2 for $2 \cdot Hg(CF_3)_2$. Crystal



data for $1a \cdot 2Hg(CN)_2$: $C_{36}H_{46}Hg_2N_4O_{10}$, M_r 1096.0, space group $P2_1/c$, a = 10.283 (1) Å, b = 25.263 (3) Å, c = 16.753 (2) Å, $\beta = 110.10$ (1)°, Z = 4. For $2 \cdot Hg(CF_3)_2$: $C_{28}H_{36}HgF_6O_6$, M_r



Figure 1. 1a-2Hg(CN)₂.



Figure 2. $2 \cdot Hg(CF_3)_2$. Computer-generated perspective drawings of the complexes; hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. The uncoordinated benzyl oxygen in 2 is marked with an asterisk and selected endocyclic torsion angles are indicated on the figure.



Figure 3.

783.2, space group $P\bar{1}$, a = 11.532 (2) Å, b = 17.497 (3) Å, c = 8.245 (2) Å, $\alpha = 98.4$ (2)°, $\beta = 107.0$ (2)°, $\gamma = 98.1$ (2)°, Z = 2. Data for both were collected with a Syntex $P2_1$ diffractometer with CuK α radiation, and unique reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ [3500 for 1a·2Hg(CN)₂, 4275 for 2·Hg(CF₃)₂] were used in the structure solutions (heavy atom method) and least-squares refinement (ultimately with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms).² Convergence was reached at R = 0.067 for 1a·2Hg(CN)₂ and 0.073 for 2·Hg(CF₃)₂. Positional and thermal parameters for all atoms are in Tables I–VI (supplementary material).

Figures 1 and 2 reveal that while *all* of the ethereal oxygens are involved in binding $Hg(CN)_2$ to 1a, only five of the six oxygens are involved in binding the $Hg(CF_3)_2$ to the 22-membered 2. The uncoordinated benzyl oxygen atom in 2 lies significantly out of the plane of the other oxygen atoms and at a distance of 3.45 Å from the Hg atom (as compared to the other Hg–O distances of 2.84–3.12 Å).

Thermodynamic Origins. In order to determine whether the cooperativity shown by 1a to $Hg(CN)_2$ arises from entropic or enthalpic effects, we examined the binding as a function of temperature. The question reduces to the temperature dependence of the *ratio* K_1/K_2 , a value that can be obtained directly from the NMR spectra as previously described.¹ This ratio was determined

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⁽²⁾ All crystallographic calculations were carried out on a VAX 11/780 computer. The principal programs used were FMLS, anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement (Ganzel, P. L., Sparks, R. A.; Trueblood, K. N., UCLA; modified by McPhail, A. T., Duke University), and ORTEP, crystallographic illustration programs (Johnson, C. K., Oak Ridge, ORML-3794).