Synthesis and transformations of metallocycles 13.* Stereoselective transformation of *trans*-3,4-dialkylalumacyclopentanes to *trans*-3,4-dialkylcyclobutanes

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A novel preparative method for synthesizing *trans*-1,2-dialkylcyclobutanes from alumacyclopentanes using palladium phosphine complexes as catalysts has been developed.

Key words: synthesis, selective transformation, cyclobutanes.

Monoalkyl substituted alumacyclopentanes (ACP) are transformed by the action of palladium catalysts to alkylcyclobutanes² according to the scheme:



In a continuation of the investigations in this field into the elaboration of a stereoselective synthesis of 1,2-dialkylcyclobutanes (CB) we studied the transformations of *trans*-3,4-dialkyl-ACP³ by the above scheme. The starting ACP **1a**—e were obtained by cycloalumination of 1-hexene, 1-heptene, 5-methyl-1-hexene, allylbenzene, and 4-vinylcyclohexene with EtAlCl₂, metallic Mg, and catalytic amounts of Cp₂ZrCl₂.³

The treatment of the above ACP with a threefold excess of allyl chloride in the presence of 5 mol. % of Pd complexes resulted in *trans*-1,2-dialkylcyclobutanes 2a-e.



* For communication 12, cf. Ref. 1.

Among the tested catalytic systems based on Pd, Ni, Fe, Co, Rh, and Cu complexes and allyl compounds (allyl halides; diallyl, butyl allyl, and phenyl allyl ethers, triallylamine) employed as reoxidants, the largest yields of CB (65-75%) were obtained using allyl chloride and catalytic amounts (5 mol. %) of the Pd(acac)₂·2Ph₃P complex.

It can be assumed that cyclobutanes 2a-e have the *trans*-configuration if their formation from ACP 1a-e (*cf.* Ref. 4) does not change the configuration of the chiral centers. The structure of compounds 2a-e was confirmed by analyzing their ¹³C NMR spectra. First of all, the number of signals in the spectra (Table 1) is two times less than the number of carbon atoms, which indicates that the molecule has a symmetry axis.

The positions of the alkyl substituents in the cyclobutane ring was established by additive calculations. For example, based on the known spectral parameters for cyclobutane (δ 23.3, ${}^{1}J_{CH} = 134$ Hz),⁵ and monoalkylcyclobutanes,² in particular, methylcyclobutane,⁶ the parameters of the additive effect of alkyl substituents on the chemical shifts of the carbon atoms in the cyclobutane ring were determined, and spectra were calculated for the two possible variants of substitution: 1,2-dibutylcyclobutane ($\delta C(1), C(2) = 41.6$, $\delta C(3), C(4) = 23.8$ and 1,3-dibutylcyclobutane $(\delta C(1), C(3) = 31.5, \delta C(2), C(4) = 22.9)$. Since the difference between 1,2- and 1,3-substitution is so significant (10 ppm), the similar chemical shifts in the calculated and experimental spectra clearly indicate 1,2-disubstitition in dibutylcyclobutane 2a. The significant differences in the chemical shifts for the C(5) and C(5') atoms in the *trans*- and *cis*-isomers of **2a** are due to the contribution of 1,2-cis steric interaction. For example, the chemical shifts of the methyl groups in the ¹³C NMR spectra of methylcyclohexane and *trans*-1,2dimethylcyclohexane (ee) in the absence of steric interaction coincide, whereas cis-interaction results in a

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| Compound | | C(4) | C(1) | C(5) | C(6) | C(7) | C(8) | C(9) | C(10) |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 2a | | 24.91 t (134.8) | 42.61 d (128.4) | 36.50 t (124.2) | 29.73 t | 22.93 t | 14.17 q | | |
| 2b | | 24.97 t | 42.61 d | 36.76 t | 27.13 t | 32.16 t | 22.70 t | 14.17 q | |
| 2c | 2 3 4 9 9 7 1 6 8 | 24.84 t | 42.74 d | 36.63 t | 34.46 t | 28.08 d | 22.62 q | 22.62 q | |
| 2d | | ⟩ ⁹ 24.97 t | 43.30 d | 42.13 t | 140.99 c | 128.65 d | 128.17 d | 125.65 d | |
| 2e | $ \begin{array}{c} 10 \\ 9 \\ 5 \\ 7 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{array} $ | 21.32 t | 44.60 d | 39.10 d | 28.43 t | 127.10 d | 126.74 d | 25.48 t | 26.70 t |

Table 1. Chemical shifts (δ) and multiplicity of signals in ¹³C NMR spectra of disubstituted cyclobutanes

4.3 ppm upfield shift of the signals for the methyl groups in the spectrum of *cis*-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane (*ea*).⁶ In the case of *cis* orientation of the butyl groups in compound 2a, a similar contribution to shielding would cause significant upfield shifts for the C(5) and C(5') atoms in comparison to that for the C(5) atom in butylcyclobutane.² The chemical shifts for the C(5) and C(5') atoms (δ C(5),C(5') = 36.5) are practically equal to those for C(5) in monoalkylcyclobutanes, *e.g.*, butylcyclobutane (δ = 36.8), and indicate the absence of steric interactions of the butyl groups in compound 2a, and thus the alkyl substituents in 2a have the *trans* orientation.

The reaction elaborated by us has general applicability and can involve cyclic and polycyclic alumacyclopentanes obtained by catalytic cycloalumination of compounds of the norbornene series with AlEt₃ (cf. Ref. 8). For example, the treatment of 3-ethyl-3-alumatricyclo[5.2.1.0^{2,6}]decane (**3**) with excess allyl chloride under the conditions described above results in *exo*-tricyclo[4.2.1.0^{2,5}]nonane (**4**) in 68 % yield. This makes it possible to synthesize polycyclic hydrocarbons.



It may be assumed⁹ that the formation of disubstituted cyclobutanes involves palladacyclopentane intermediates 5 according to the following scheme:



The above transformations of ACP under the action of catalytic amounts of palladium phosphine complexes combined with allyl chloride provide a new approach to the regio- and stereoselective synthesis of *trans*-1,2disubstituted cyclobutanes, which were difficult to obtain, from olefins using complex Zr- and Pd-containing catalysts.

Experimental

Cycloalumination³ was carried out under dry argon. GLC analyses of the resulting substituted cyclobutanes were performed on a Khrom-5 chromatograph with He as the carrier gas, 1200×3 mm column, 5 % SE-30 or 15 % PEG-6000 on Chromaton N-AW. IR spectra were recorded in films on a UR-20 spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were obtained on an

MX-1300 spectrometer, temperature of the feed vessel 100 °C, energy of ionizing electrons 70 and 12 eV. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Tesla BS-567 spectrometer (100 MHz). ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained on a Jeol-90Q spectrometer (22.5 MHz) using TMS as the internal standard.

Synthesis of trans-1,2-dialkylcyclobutanes. Cp₂ZrCl₂ (87.6 mg, 0.3 mmol), Mg powder (240 mg, 10 mg-at.), 1-heptene (1.96 g, 20 mmol), THF (10 mL), and EtAlCl₂ (1.27 g, 10 mmol) were placed at $-5\div0$ °C into a 50-mL glass reactor. The temperature was slowly increased to 23-25 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 10 h on a magnetic stirrer. Allyl chloride (30 mmol) and a catalyst consisting of Pd(acac)₂ (0.5 mmol) and Ph₃P (1 mmol) were added at -5 °C to the organoaluminum compound obtained. The temperature was adjusted to ~20 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 10 h. The reaction was accompanied by the formation of an equimolar amount of propene. The reaction mixture was treated with 5 % HCl, and the product was extracted with ether and isolated by distillation in vacuo or by column chromatography (silica gel L, $40/100 \mu$). The purity of the products obtained was 95-98 %.

trans-1,2-Dibutylcyclobutane (2a), yield 75 %. B.p. 65–67 °C (4 Torr). IR, v/cm^{-1} : 2970, 2940, 2870, 1470, 1390, 1120, 1080, 750. ¹H NMR, δ : 0.88 (t, 6 H, CH₃); 1.11–2.30 (m, 18 H, CH, CH₂). MS, *m/z*: 168 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 85.65; H, 14.35. C₁₂H₂₄. Calculated (%): C, 85.71; H, 14.29.

trans-1,2-Dipentylcyclobutane (2b), yield 73 %. B.p. 82-83 °C (2 Torr). IR, v/cm^{-1} : 2970, 2940, 2870, 1475, 1390, 1260, 1230, 1115, 930, 980, 740. ¹H NMR, δ : 0.93 (t, 6 H, CH₃); 1.18-2.16 (m, 22 H, CH, CH₂). MS, *m/z*: 196 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 85.63; H, 14.37. C₁₄H₂₈. Calculated (%): C, 85.71; H, 14.29.

trans-1,2-Diisopentylcyclobutane (2c), yield 69 %. B.p. 73-74 °C (1 Torr). IR, v/cm^{-1} : 2970, 2930, 2880, 1480, 1395, 1365, 930. ¹H NMR, δ : 0.86 (d, 12 H, CH₃); 1.02-2.25 (m, 16 H, CH, CH₂). MS, *m/z*: 196 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 85.66; H, 14.34. C₁₄H₂₈. Calculated (%): C, 85.71; H, 14.29.

trans-1,2-Dibenzylcyclobutane (2d), yield 60 %. $R_{\rm f}$ 0.47 (hexane—acetone, 10:3, Silufol). IR, v/cm⁻¹: 3040, 2955, 1650, 1605, 1500, 1460, 1495, 930, 750. ¹H NMR, δ : 1.47–1.96 (m, 6 H, CH, CH₂); 2.50–2.60 (m, 4 H, CH₂—Ph); 7.00–7.40 (m, 10 H, Ph). MS, *m/z*: 236 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 91.59; H, 8.41. C₁₈H₂₀. Calculated (%): C, 91.53; H, 8.47.

trans-1,2-Di(3-cyclohexenyl)cyclobutane (2e), yield 62 %. B.p. 108-110 °C (1 Torr). IR, v/cm⁻¹: 3020, 2960, 1670, 1440, 905, 720, 640. ¹H NMR, δ: 1.00-2.20 (m, 20 H, CH, CH₂); 5.65 (m, 4 H, CH=CH). MS, *m/z*: 216 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 88.82; H, 11.18. $C_{16}H_{24}$. Calculated (%): C, 88.89; H, 11.11.

exo-Tricyclo[4.2.1.0^{2,5}]nonane (4). Yield 68 %. B.p. 52-54 °C (5 Torr), $n_D^{20} = 1.4862$. IR, v/cm^{-1} : 2960, 2880, 1475, 1395, 920, 740. ¹H NMR, δ : 0.85-1.45, 1.17-1.65, 1.89-2.14 (m, 14 H, CH, CH₂). ¹³C NMR, δ : 41.82 (d, C-1, C-6); 39.45 (d, C-2, C-5); 31.80 (t, C-a); 23.10 (t, C-3, C-4); 27.67 (t, C-7, C-8). MS, m/z: 122 [M⁺]. Found (%): C, 88.50; H, 11.50. C₉H₁₄. Calculated (%): C, 88.50; H, 11.50.

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