

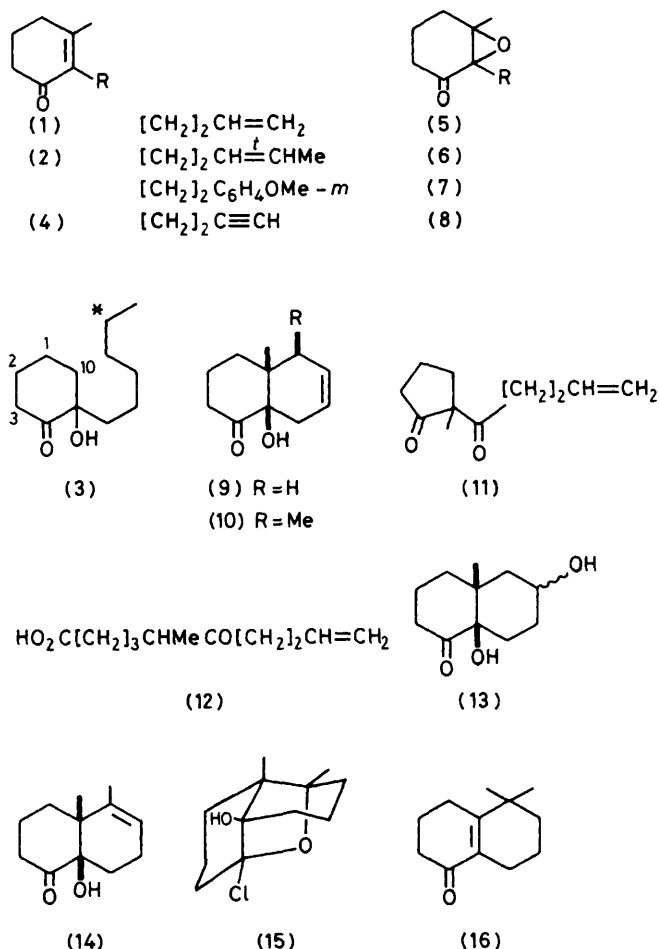
3-Methylcyclohex-2-enone Derivatives as Initiators of Cyclisation. Part 2.† Monocyclisations to Six-membered Rings

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Cyclisation of 3-methylcyclohex-2-enones and the derived epoxides containing alkene, alkyne, and aryl side-chains yields bicyclo[4.4.0]decane derivatives when the alkene or alkyne is electronically biased towards six-membered ring formation and when the alkene is electronically unbiased.

We have examined the reaction of the epoxide (5) with a number of Lewis acids; varying quantities of cyclisation product (9) and ring-contracted dione (11) are formed. The structure of (11) derives from spectroscopic evidence [ν_{\max} (CHCl₃) 1 745 and 1 715 cm⁻¹; τ 4.3 (1 H, m), 5.1 (2 H, m), 8.7 (3 H, s)], alkaline hydrolysis to the acid (12) [τ 4.2 (1 H, m), 5.0 (2 H, m), 8.8 (3 H, d, J 7 Hz)], and precedent.¹ Spectroscopic data for (9) [ν_{\max} (CCl₄) 3 495 and 1 715 cm⁻¹; τ (300 MHz) 5.23 (1 H, m), 5.28 (1 H, m), and 9.15 (3 H, s)] established the part-structure (3), where C* is either C-1, -2, -3, or -10. The structures derived from C-1 and -2 bonding were rejected on mechanistic grounds leaving (9) and the bridged structure from C-3 bonding. The latter could be excluded by showing that the diols from borohydride reduction had a CH(OH) n.m.r. signal of greater multiplicity than the two singlets required for the isomers of the bridged structure. The *cis* ring junction in (9) follows from the existence of intramolecular hydrogen bonding. This is possible only in the 'non-steroid' conformation of a *cis*-decalin as was confirmed by the absence of such bonding in the 5 α - and 5 β -hydroxycholestan-4-ones kindly donated to us by Dr. J. R. Bull, Pretoria. In the Table the ratio cyclisation : ring contraction for a variety of Lewis acids and solvents is summarised. If it is accepted that gas-phase metal-oxygen bond strengths² give a rough measure of Lewis acidity for oxygen then a trend for the stronger Lewis acids giving more cyclisation product is discernible. In line with this, TiCl₄-CH₂Cl₂ converted (5) into the ketol (9) (40%) and the diols (13) (23%) without any ring-contracted product. This effect could arise from the C-O-metal bond in the cyclisation transition state being stabilised to a greater extent than the C=O-metal bond in the ring-contraction transition state. In the latter case the stronger the O-metal bond, the less might be the resonance stabilisation. The enone (1) has been cyclised (using Ac₂O-HClO₄-EtOAc) to a decalone derivative.³ This is a preparatively more useful reaction than the epoxide cyclisation.

The epoxide (6) was treated with BF₃·OEt₂-CH₂Cl₂ at -20 °C to give a complex reaction mixture from which (10) (20%) [τ 4.30 (2 H, m), 9.00 (3 H, d, J 7 Hz), 9.15 (3 H, s)] and (14) (40%) [τ 4.63 (1 H, m), 8.35br (3 H, s), and 9.10 (3 H, s)] were isolated. The ketone (14) was reduced with NaBH₄ to a mixture of diols which on periodate oxidation gave a ketoaldehyde whose spectroscopic properties [ν_{\max} 1 730 and 1 715 cm⁻¹; τ 0.31 (1 H, t, J 1.5 Hz), 4.30 (1 H, m), 8.30 (3 H, t, J 1.6 Hz), and 8.83 (3 H, s)] established that the double bond was not allylic to the hydroxy-group in (14).‡ The two ketols (14) and (10) were again the major products



using TiCl₄, BCl₃, and SnCl₄ as Lewis acids; the ratios of (14) : (10) were 3.4, 3.8, and 5.3 respectively. The experiment using BCl₃ was carried out at -20 °C in CH₂Cl₂. When the reaction was conducted at -78 °C small amounts of the previously mentioned compounds were formed, but a new major (84%) product appeared. It is formulated as (15) but only on mechanistic and spectroscopic grounds [ν_{\max} 3 600 cm⁻¹; mass spec. 1 H exchangeable with ²H₂O; τ 8.79 (3 H, s) and 9.10 (3 H, s)]. Cyclisation of the enone (2) with (CF₃)₂CO₂-CF₃CO₂H (which presumably occurs *via* the dienol trifluoroacetate) gave, after hydrolysis, the ketone (16) (23%) [λ_{\max} (MeOH) 245 nm (ϵ 12 600); ν_{\max} 1 670 and 1 610 cm⁻¹; τ 8.91 (6 H, s)], the ketol (17) (26%) [ν_{\max} 3 600 and 1 710 cm⁻¹; τ 6.65 (1 H, m, $W_{\frac{1}{2}}$ 27 Hz), 9.00 (3 H, d, J 7 Hz), and 9.35 (3 H, s)] and the *cis*-isomer (18) (15%) [ν_{\max} 3 600 and 1 710 cm⁻¹; τ 6.55 (1 H, m, $W_{\frac{1}{2}}$ 25 Hz), 9.01 (3 H, s),

† Part 1, preceding paper.

‡ It was necessary to carry out this degradation to establish that an unexpected rearrangement observed in another cyclisation had not occurred here.

Table

Lewis acid	Solvent	Ratio (9) : (11) ^a
TiCl ₄	CH ₂ Cl ₂	∞
AlCl ₃	CH ₂ Cl ₂	3.0
FeCl ₃	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.1
SnCl ₄	CH ₂ Cl ₂	0.6
ZnCl ₂	CH ₂ Cl ₂	0.3
BF ₃ ·OEt ₂	CH ₂ Cl ₂	0.8
BF ₃ ·OEt ₂	C ₆ H ₆	0.6
BF ₃ ·OEt ₂	Et ₂ O	0.1
ZnCl ₂	Et ₂ O	0.1

^a Ratios determined by g.l.c.

and 9.12 (3 H, d, *J* 8 Hz)]. The ring-junction stereochemistry of (17) and (18) is assigned using the chemical shifts of the angular methyl groups⁴ while the *W*₄ of the CH(O) protons are in accord with the secondary methyl and the hydroxy-groups being equatorial. In the formation of (15) and (16) the initially formed secondary carbonium ion is transformed to a tertiary carbonium ion either by H⁺ elimination–H⁺ addition or by 1,2-hydride migration. In the formation of (16) the latter route was established by carrying out the cyclisation with CF₃CO₂H; one deuterium (*v*_{max.} 2 170 cm^{–1}) was incorporated. On treatment with NaOH–H₂O–dioxan this deuterium was exchanged.

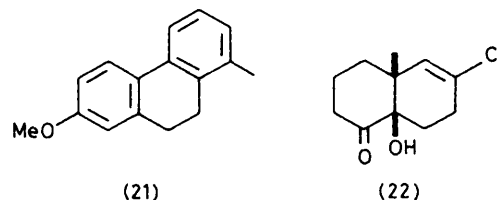
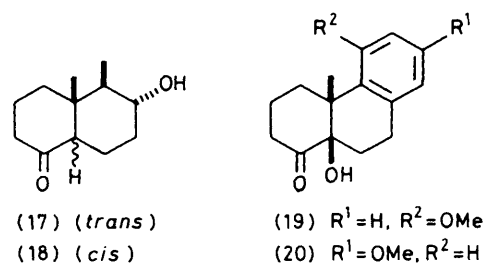
These results illustrate the difficulties of obtaining preparatively useful yields of cyclisation products when different termination mechanisms are evenly balanced. In the epoxide cyclisations control of the direction of elimination might be achieved using Fleming's device⁵ of R₃Si elimination instead of H. This might also be applicable in the enone cyclisations and divert termination from the competing rearrangement and nucleophilic attack. Two participating groups which terminate cyclisation by a single mechanism are the acetylenic and aryl functions. Reaction of (7) with BF₃·OEt₂ or SnCl₄ in CH₂Cl₂ gave (19) (45%) [*τ* 2.95 (1 H, m), 3.30 (2 H, m), 8.63 (3 H, s)] and (20) (45%) [*τ* 2.90 (2 H, d, *J* 7 Hz), 3.30 (2 H, m), and 8.75 (3 H, s)].

A mixture of (19) and (20) was reduced to diols with NaBH₄ and oxidised with periodate to give the ketoaldehydes derived from (19) [*λ*_{max.} (EtOH) 274 nm (*ε* 1 410); *v*_{max.} 1 725 and 1 710 cm^{–1}; *τ* 0.49 (1 H, t, *J* 1.6 Hz), 2.93 (1 H, dd, *J* 8.5 and 7.5 Hz), 3.35 (2 H, m), 6.17 (3 H, s), and 8.54 (3 H, s)] and (20) [*λ*_{max.} (EtOH) 279 nm (*ε* 1 440); *v*_{max.} 1 730 and 1 710 cm^{–1}; *τ* 0.44 (1 H, t, *J* 1.5 Hz), 2.89 (1 H, d, *J* 8.5 Hz), 3.29 (1 H, dd, *J* 8.5 and 2.5 Hz), 3.43 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz), 6.26 (3 H, s), and 8.68 (3 H, s)].

When TiCl₄ was used (19) and (20) were formed but the major product was formulated as the dihydrophenanthrene (21) (50%) [*λ*_{max.} (EtOH) 278 nm (*ε* 29 800); *τ* 2.40 (2 H, dt), 2.90 (2 H, m), 3.20 (2 H, m), 6.20 (3 H, s), 7.20br (4 H, s), and 7.65 (3 H, s)]. It is not obvious why TiCl₄ should divert attack of the aryl ring from co-ordinated epoxide to co-ordinated carbonyl group.

Cyclisation of the acetylene (8) with BF₃·OEt₂ or TiCl₄ gave (22) (90%) [*λ*_{max.} (CHCl₃) 3 480 and 1 715 cm^{–1}; *τ* 4.35 (1 H, s) and 9.05 (3 H, s)]. Degradation by borohydride reduction followed by periodate cleavage gave a ketoaldehyde whose properties supported structure (22).

These experiments are in accord with prior results.⁶ Where the alkene double bond is electronically unbiased then 6-*endo*-Trigonal-cyclisation formation is favoured over 5-*exo*-Trig. 6-*endo*-Digonal cyclisation is favoured only with a terminal alkyne.⁷ Both *o*- and *p*-attack by the anisyl ring is not surpris-



ing but the equivalent rates of attack are and suggest an unselective and reactive cationic intermediate. From a preparative viewpoint only the alkyne cyclisations would appear to be useful.

Experimental

M.p.s were determined on a Kofler block and are uncorrected. I.r. spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 257 instrument in CHCl₃ solution. N.m.r. spectra were recorded at 60 and 90 MHz on Perkin-Elmer R12B and R32 instruments using CDCl₃ as solvent. High-resolution mass spectra were measured on an AEI MS30 instrument on samples judged to be pure by t.l.c. The statement 'worked up in the usual way' implies that the organic extract was washed with saturated brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ or MgSO₄, and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. G.l.c. was carried out on a Perkin-Elmer F11 using a 6 ft PEGA column.

Reaction of (5) with BF₃·OEt₂.—BF₃·OEt₂ (400 μ l) was added to a stirred solution of (5) (120 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) at –20 °C under N₂. After 30 min water was added and the mixture extracted with CH₂Cl₂. Work-up in the usual way gave an oil (103 mg) which contained three major components by g.l.c. Chromatography on silica gel (12 g) and elution with light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–ether (7 : 3) gave the *dione* (11) (40 mg) (g.l.c. *R*_f 1.8 min/180 °C) (Found: C, 72.9; H, 8.9. C₁₁H₁₆O₂ requires C, 73.3; H, 8.8%) followed by the *ketol* (9) (30 mg) (g.l.c. *R*_f 4.25 min/180 °C) (Found: C, 73.4; H, 9.0. C₁₁H₁₆O₂ requires C, 73.3; H, 8.8%). Reduction of (9) with sodium borohydride gave an oily mixture of *diols*, [*τ* 4.41 (2 H, m) and 6.22–6.60 (1 H, m)] (Found: *M*⁺, 182.1311. C₁₁H₁₈O₂ requires *M*, 182.1307).

Reaction of (5) with TiCl₄.—TiCl₄ (250 μ l) was added to a stirred solution of (5) (217 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ at –20 °C. Work-up as above gave an oil (196 mg) which was chromatographed on silica gel. Elution with light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–ether (1 : 1) first gave an oil (52 mg) (mainly starting material) followed by (9) (67 mg). Elution with ether gave the *diols* (13) (42 mg), m.p. 115–123 °C (ethyl acetate) (Found: C, 66.6; H, 9.1. C₁₁H₁₈O₃ requires C, 66.6; H, 9.2%).

Hydrolysis of the Dione (11).—The crude product (100 mg) from reaction of BF₃ and (5) was dissolved in EtOH (15 ml) and 2*M*-NaOH (15 ml) added. After being refluxed for 3 h the mixture was extracted with Et₂O and worked up in the

usual way to give (9). Acidification of the aqueous layer followed by Et₂O extraction and work-up in the usual way gave the acid (12) (35 mg) as an oil [*m/z* 198; τ 4.10 (1 H, m), 5.00 (2 H, m), and 8.80 (3 H, d, *J* 7 Hz)].

Reaction of (6) with BF₃·OEt₂.—BF₃·OEt₂ (0.5 ml) was added to a stirred solution of (6) (512 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (35 ml) at –20 °C under a N₂ atmosphere. After 2 h no epoxide remained (t.l.c.) and the mixture was diluted with water, extracted with ether, and worked up in the usual way to give an oil (526 mg). G.l.c. showed five main peaks with *R_f*/150 °C 2.23, 4.35, 4.76, 6.35, and 8.87 min in a ratio 5 : 3 : 17 : 7 : 4. The crude product (512 mg) was dissolved in EtOH (20 ml) and 2M NaOH (20 ml) added. After 2 h reflux dilution with water, extraction with CHCl₃, and work-up in the usual way gave an oil (450 mg). G.l.c. showed that the second peak had disappeared. Chromatography on silica gel and elution with light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–Et₂O (1 : 1) gave the *ketol* (14) (202 mg) as an oil *R_f* (150 °C) 4.76 min (Found: C, 73.8; H, 9.2. C₁₂H₁₈O₂ requires C, 74.2; H, 9.3%) and the *isomer* (10) (105 mg) [*R_f* (150 °C) 6.35 min] (Found: C, 74.1; H, 9.4%).

Degradation of (14).—The *ketol* (14) (29 mg) in EtOH (1 ml) was reduced with NaBH₄ (40 mg). After addition of water the EtOH was evaporated off and the residue extracted with Et₂O and worked up in the usual way to give a mixture of oily *diols* (28 mg) (Found: *M*⁺, 196.1464. C₁₂H₂₀O₂ requires *M*, 196.1463). The *diols* (19 mg) were dissolved in THF–water (3 : 1; 2 ml) and sodium periodate (54 mg) added. After being stirred overnight, the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with Et₂O; work-up in the usual way of the extract gave the *ketoaldehyde* (18 mg) (Found: *M*⁺: 194.1308. C₁₂H₁₈O₂ requires *M*, 194.1307).

Reaction of (6) with BCl₃.—BCl₃ (>2 equiv.) was added to the epoxide (6) (160 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml) at –78 °C. After 2 h dilution with water, extraction with Et₂O, and the usual work-up gave an oil which was chromatographed on silica gel. Elution with hexane–Et₂O (1 : 1) gave the *chloride* (15) (142 mg), m.p. 120–122 °C (light petroleum b.p. 60–80 °C) (Found: C, 62.7; H, 7.9; Cl, 15.0. C₁₂H₁₉O₂Cl requires C, 62.5; H, 8.2; Cl, 15.4%).

Cyclisation of (2).—A mixture of CF₃CO₂H (8 ml) and (CF₃CO)₂O (4 ml) was added to the ketone (2) (500 mg). After 12 h water was added and the mixture evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was hydrolysed with NaHCO₃–MeOH. Addition of water, extraction with Et₂O, and the usual work-up procedure gave an oil (431 mg) which was separated by preparative t.l.c. on silica gel using hexane–Et₂O (1 : 1) into three fractions. In order of increasing polarity these were the *ketone* (16) (116 mg) (Found: *M*⁺: 178.1358. C₁₂H₁₄O requires *M*, 178.1358), the *cis*-*isomer* (18) (80 mg) (*m/z* 196), and the *trans*-*isomer* (17) (137 mg) (*m/z* 196).

Cyclisation of (7) with SnCl₄.—SnCl₄ (0.8 ml) was added to a solution of (7) (200 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) cooled to –20 °C under a N₂ atmosphere. After 2 h addition of water followed by extraction with Et₂O and work-up in the usual way gave a gum (205 mg). Chromatography on silica gel using light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–Et₂O (1 : 1) as eluant gave the *ketol* (20) (89 mg), m.p. 96–98 °C (Et₂O), *v*_{max}, 3 480 and 1 710 cm^{–1} (Found: C, 74.1; H, 7.8. C₁₆H₂₀O₃ requires C, 73.8;

H, 7.7%) and the *isomer* (19) (91 mg) m.p. 123–124 °C (Et₂O) *v*_{max}, 3 480 and 1 710 cm^{–1} (Found: C, 73.8; H, 7.8%). Similar results were obtained using BF₃·OEt₂.

Degradation of the Mixture of (19) and (20).—The mixture of *ketols* (19) and (20) (208 mg) obtained as above was reduced with NaBH₄ (202 mg) in EtOH (5 ml). The usual work-up gave a mixture of *diols* (202 mg) (Found: *M*⁺, 262.1571. C₁₆H₂₂O₃ requires *M*, 262.1569). The *diols* (131 mg) in THF–water (3 : 1) (4 ml) were oxidized with sodium periodate (269 mg) to give an oil (125 mg). Chromatography on silica gel [light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–Et₂O] gave, first, the *ketoaldehyde* derived from (20) (46 mg) [*v*_{max}, 1 725 and 1 710 cm^{–1}; λ _{max}, 274 nm (ϵ 1 410); τ 0.49 (1 H, t, *J* 1.6 Hz), 2.93 (1 H, dd, *J* 8.5 and 7.5 Hz), 3.34 (2 H, m), and 8.54 (3 H, s) (Found: *M*⁺, 260.1411. C₁₆H₂₀O₃ requires *M*, 260.1412)], then the *ketoaldehyde* [ex. (19)] (49 mg) [*v*_{max}, 1 725 and 1 710 cm^{–1}; λ _{max}, 279 nm (ϵ 1 440); τ 0.45 (1 H, t, *J* 1.5 Hz), 2.89 (1 H, d, *J* 8.5 Hz), 3.29 (1 H, dd, *J* 8.5 and 2.5 Hz), 3.43 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz), and 8.68 (3 H, s) (Found: *M*⁺: 260.1414)].

Cyclisation of (7) with TiCl₄.—The epoxide (7) (236 mg) was cyclised as above but using TiCl₄. A viscous gum (241 mg) was obtained which was chromatographed on silica gel [light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C)–Et₂O, 1 : 1] to give the *dihydrophenanthrene* (21) (120 mg), m.p. 70–71 °C (light petroleum b.p. 60–80 °C) (Found: *M*⁺ 224.1196. C₁₆H₁₆O requires *M*, 224.1201). Accurate combustion analyses (>1%) could not be obtained owing to facile oxidation of the compound. The *ketols* (19) and (20) were also isolated.

Cyclisation of (8).—BF₃·OEt₂ (0.8 ml) was added to a solution of (8) (175 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 ml) at –20 °C under a N₂ atmosphere. After 3 h the reaction was worked up as before to give a brown oil (220 mg) which crystallised with time at ambient temperature. A sample was recrystallised from light petroleum (b.p. 40–60 °C), m.p. 84–85 °C (Found: C, 61.8; H, 7.1; Cl, 16.4. C₁₁H₁₅ClO₂ requires C, 61.5; H, 7.0; Cl, 16.5%).

Similar results were obtained on cyclisation with TiCl₄.

Acknowledgements

We thank the University of Ahmadu Bello, Zaria, Nigeria, for leave of absence to J. A., the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology for leave of absence to E. H., and the S.E.R.C. for financial support to M. M. and E. G. S.

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Received 27th July 1982; Paper 2/1294