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Structures of the Photochemical Isomerization Products of Pyridinium Ylides. Diazepines and their Diels-Alder Adducts¹

By TADASHI SASAKI,* KEN KANEMATSU, and AKIKAZU KAKEHI

(Institute of Applied Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Nagoya University, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, 464, Japan)

AZEPINE AND OXEPINE are isoelectronic with the cycloheptatrienide anion and, if planar, may be anti-aromatic.² The parent 1H-1,2-diazepine has not been synthesized, although the N-ethoxycarbonyl derivative was reported to



a; $\mathrm{R}^1=$ Me, $\mathrm{R}^2=$ H: b; $\mathrm{R}^1=$ H, $\mathrm{R}^2=$ Me: c; $\mathrm{R}^1=$ R^2= Me: d; $\mathrm{R}^1=$ R^2= H.

be obtained from 1-iminopyridinium betaine.³ It has been suggested that the azepine may have been the 1H-1,3-isomer.³

We report now that the photomeric products of substituted 1-ethoxycarbonyliminopyridinium betaines are 1-ethoxycarbonyl-1H-1,2-diazepines on the basis of spectral evidence.⁵ We have also studied the Diels-Alder reactions of the compounds.

The pyridinium betaines (2a—d) were prepared from α -, γ -picoline, 2,4-lutidine, and pyridine by a modified Gösl's method.⁶ They showed absorption in the range 1620—1640 cm.⁻¹, (picrates 1735—1750 cm.⁻¹) which is assignable to the carbonyl stretching frequency.

Irradiation of a dioxan or benzene solution of (2a), (2b), (2c), and (2d) in a Pyrex vessel under nitrogen with a highpressure mercury lamp (100 w), gave (4a), $[\lambda_{max}$ (EtOH) 220 (ϵ 9830) and 325 nm. (426), ν (neat) 1715 cm.⁻¹ (CO), τ Me_sSi (CDCl₃) 8.68 (t, 3H, CH₃, J 7.0 c./sec.), 5.70 (q, 2H, CH₂, J 7.0), 7.89 (s, H, CH₃), 3.61 (dd, 1H, 4-H, J_{4,5} 5.0, $J_{4,6}$ 2.0) ca. 3.60 (m, 1H, 5-H), 4.31 (dq, 1H, 6-H, $J_{6,7}$ 7.5, $J_{6,5}$ 4.5, $J_{6,4}$ 2.0), 3.67 (dd, 1H, 7-H, $J_{7,6}$ 7.5, $J_{7,5}$ 1.5)] (4b) λ_{max} (n-hexane) 220 (ϵ 7400), 368 nm. (270), ν (neat) 1700 cm.⁻¹ (CO)], (4c) [v (neat) 1707 cm.⁻¹ (CO)], or (4d)³ $[\lambda_{max}$ (n-hexane) 220 (ϵ 9163), 373 nm. (233), ν (neat) 1710 cm.-1 (CO)], in 60-80% yields, respectively. The n.m.r. spectra of (4b), (4c), and (4d) were very similar to that of (4a) in the olefinic and aliphatic proton regions; these spectral properties clearly reveal that they are 1,2-diazepines. 1-Iminopyridinium betaines were not, however, converted into the expected diazepines.

The addition of dienophiles to medium-ring polyenes such as cycloheptatriene, oxepine and azepine frequently lead to abnormal products.⁷ On the other hand, the diazepines, (4a), (4b), (4c), and (4d), proved surprisingly inert to

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dienophiles such as maleic anhydride or dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate, but did react readily with tetracyanoethylene in benzene at room temperature to give a crystalline 1:1 adduct, (5a) [(52.6%), v (KBr) 2280w (CN), 1700 (CO), 1639 (C:C) cm.⁻¹, λ_{max} (EtOH) 248 nm. (ϵ 4450), τ_{Me_4Si} [(CD₃)₂-SO] 8.73 (t, 3H, CH₃, J 7.0 c./sec.), 5.72 (q, 2H, CH₂, J 7.0), 7.88 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.91 (dd, 1H, 1-H, J_{1,7} 7.5, J_{1,6} 1.5), 5.64 (dd, 1H,5-H, $J_{6,5}$ 7.0, $J_{5,7}$ ca. 1.0), 3.10 (br t, 1H, 6-H, $J_{6,7}$ 8.0, $J_{6,5}$ 7.0, $J_{6,1}$ 1.5), 3.41 (br t, 1H, 7-H, $J_{7,1}$ 7.5, $J_{7,6}$ 8.0, $J_{7,5}$ ca. 1.0), (5b) (63.8%), v (KBr) 2280w (CN), 1710 (CO), 1620 (C:C) cm.⁻¹, λ_{max} (EtOH) 238 nm. (ϵ 4290)., (5c) (53·3%), v(KBr) 2280w (CN), 1700 (C=O), 1638 (C=C)

cm.-1, and (5d) (56.5%), v(KBr) 2280w (CN), 1715 (CO), 1625 (C:C) cm.⁻¹.

The n.m.r. spectra of (5b), (5c), and (5d) were similar to that of (5a) in these olefinic and aliphatic proton regions; the mass spectra of these adducts showed a molecular ion and a strong peak at $M^+ - 128$ indicating loss of $(NC)_2C:C(CN)_2$ which may be regarded as a retro-Diels-Alder type. From these data the adducts were in accordance with assignment as the 4,7-adduct $\left[(4+2)\right]$ adduct].

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⁵ The 1,2-diazepine structure has also been confirmed by chemical degradation: J. Streith and J. M. Cassal, Tetrahedron Letters, 1968,

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