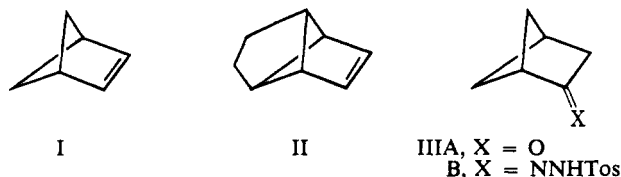


Whereas the chemistry of bicyclo[2.1.1]hexanes has been explored to a considerable extent during the last decade,² the corresponding parent olefin, bicyclo[2.1.1]hex-2-ene (I), has never been described. Much to our surprise, even the Hofmann elimination sequence re-



Since I is the only olefin which could give rise to bicyclo[2.1.1]hexane on catalytic reduction, the success of the toluenesulfonylhydrazone-alkyllithium technique in this case is established, and it would appear that this method will be especially useful for the synthesis of highly strained olefins.^{9, 10}

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(9) Single-crystal diffraction studies on the triclinic modification are currently in progress and will be reported at a later date.

(9) Aside from unsuccessful approaches to I *via* Hofmann elimination, amine oxide pyrolysis, acetate pyrolysis, and xanthate pyrolysis of a