

COMMUNICATIONS

LETTERS

A Short Synthesis of (Z)-7-Eicosen-11-one, the Pheromone of Peach Fruit Moth

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(Z)-7-Eicosen-11-one, an active component of the female sex pheromone of the peach fruit moth, *Carposina niponensis* Walsingham, a major economic pest of apple, peach and other fruits, was isolated by Tamaki¹ in 1977. Several syntheses of (Z)-7-eicosen-11-one have been reported².

To our knowledge, the direct conjugate addition of alkali- or alkaline earthacetylides^{3,4} to enone system has not previously been observed in the literature, but a few examples of conjugate addition of alkynyl organoboranes⁵ and alkyl organolanes⁶ to α, β -unsaturated ketones have been known. We wish to report a short synthesis of the title compound (1) based on conjugate addition of organoborane to α, β -unsaturated ketone system.

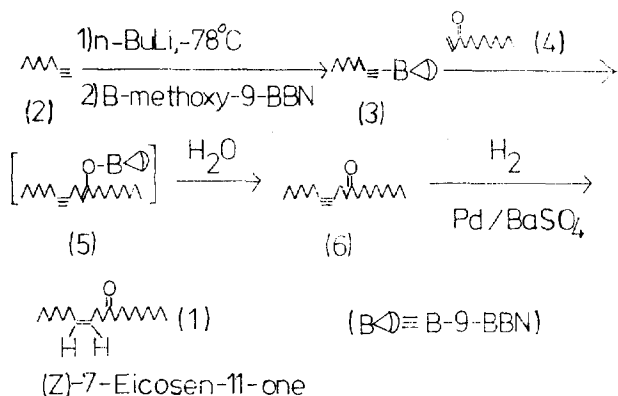
Lithium 1-octynide was obtained from 1-octyne (2) using *n*-BuLi (1.0 mol equiv.) in dry THF at -78°C . This acetylide was treated *in situ* with B-methoxy-9-BBN (1.0 mol equiv.) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hr at -78°C . Then boron trifluoride diethyl etherate (1.3 mol equiv.) was added and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at -78°C and allowed to warm to room temperature. From the reaction mixture, the volatiles were distilled off to yield a yellow solid which was supposed to be B-1-octynyl-9-BBN (3). This solid was dissolved in dry pentane and 1-dodecen-3-one⁷

(4) was added and stood overnight at room temperature. After work-up, 7-eicosyn-11-one was obtained by Kugelrohr distillation (b. p.) $109-118^\circ\text{C}/10^{-3}$ mm) in 46 % overall yield from 1-octyne (2), IR (neat) 2260, 1720, 1450, 1370 cm^{-1} ; NMR (CDCl_3) δ_{TMS} 0.90 (6H), 1.05-1.75 (22H), 1.90-2.60 (8H). Catalytic hydrogenation with palladium on barium sulfate afforded the desired (Z)-7-eicosen-11-one⁸ (1), IR (neat) 2940, 1720, 1460, 1375 cm^{-1} ; NMR (CDCl_3) δ_{TMS} 0.90 (6H), 1.10-1.70 (22H), 1.80-2.75 (8H), 5.35 (2H); MS, *m/e* 295 (M^+).

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- (7) 1-Dodecen-3-one was prepared from decylaldehyde



Scheme 1

in two steps (61%); (1) vinylmagnesium bromide addition
(2) pyridinium chlorochromate oxidation; J. H. Babler,
B. J. Invergo and S. J. Sarussi, *J. Org. Chem.*, **45**, 4241

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(8) (Z)-7-Eicosen-11-one prepared by this method was
proved biologically active by its field tests in South Korea.

PMO Theory of $\pi^*-\pi^*$ Interaction

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Recently chemical as well as physical consequences of $\pi^*-\pi^*$ orbital interaction have been demonstrated¹. Direct experimental examination of such orbital interaction has been practicable using electron transmission spectroscopy (ETS)^{1b,2}. Two important, yet unaccounted-for, features of the experimental results on $\pi^*-\pi^*$ orbital interactions through 2 and 4 C-C σ bonds (N=2 and 4) of the connecting σ framework² were: (i) level splitting (ΔE) of the symmetry adapted orbitals (SAO), π_+^* and π_-^* , is considerably greater than that for the corresponding $\pi-\pi$ interactions, and (ii) the average level (ε_{av}) of the two SAO is above the basis level (ε_0), the π^* level for monoene.

In this work we will show that these features are the results of enhanced effect of through-space interaction (TSI) in the $\pi^*-\pi^*$ interaction compared with that in the $\pi-\pi$ interaction.

To second-order in overlap S, the levels ε_+ and ε_- of the SAO, π_+ and π_- , (or n_+ and n_-) had the expressions (1a) and (1b) for N=odd and even systems respectively³.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_+ &\cong e' - \delta e_l + 2y(1 + \alpha + \beta) \\ \varepsilon_- &\cong e' + \delta e_h - 2x(1 + \alpha - \beta) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1a)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_+ &\cong e' - \delta e_l - 2x(1 + \alpha - \beta) \\ \varepsilon_- &\cong e' + \delta e_h + 2y(1 + \alpha + \beta) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1b)$$

where e' , which is negative, is the environment adjusted level of the basis level, δe_l and δe_h are depression and elevation of e' due to TSI, and x , y , α and β are positive quantities defined as:

$$x = \frac{\langle \pi | H' | \Psi_{LU}^0 \rangle^2}{\Delta e}, \quad y = \frac{\langle \pi | H' | \Psi_{HO}^0 \rangle^2}{\Delta e},$$

$$\alpha = \left| \frac{e''}{\Delta e} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{e'''}{\Delta e} \right|^4 + \dots, \text{ and}$$

$$\beta = \left| \frac{e''}{\Delta e} \right| + \left| \frac{e'''}{\Delta e} \right|^3 + \dots^{3,4}.$$

Equations (1a) and (1b) clearly indicate that the effects of second-order perturbation (through-bond interaction (TBI)) is to elevate one of the SAO (π_+ and π_- for N=odd and even cases respectively) substantially but to depress the other by a small amount. These are natural consequences of narrow (wide) energy gaps involved in the interactions of π_{\pm} with the framework HO- σ (LU- σ^*) orbitals. The depression effect on a SAO has been shown to be small

but by no means negligible⁵, as expected from eq(1), since $(\beta - \alpha) < 1.0^3$.

In $\pi^*-\pi^*$ orbital interactions, the environment adjusted level of the basis orbital, e^* , should be approximately equal to the π^* level of ethylene since there will be no first-order (electrostatic) interaction between an empty π^* orbital and a neutral molecule. The basis level is therefore given as

$$\varepsilon_0 \cong e^* - x(1 + \alpha + \beta) + y(1 + \alpha - \beta) \quad (2)$$

where $e^* \cong e_{\pi}$, (ethylene) > 0 and x , y , α and β are positive quantities similarly defined as above. It is evident from eq (2) that the basis level is somewhat depressed relative to the ethylenic π^* level since the second-order effect is to depress (by an amount $x(1 + \alpha + \beta)$) more than to elevate (by an amount $y(1 + \alpha - \beta)$) the level e^* . This is in accord with the experimental results² (see Table).

The environment adjusted levels e_+ and e_- for the SAO, π_+^* and π_-^* , are obtained using the usual approximation, $H_{mn} \cong -kS_{mn}^3$, where k is a positive constant.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} e_+ &\cong e^* + \langle \pi_+^* | H' | \pi_+^* \rangle \cong e^* - \delta e_l \\ e_- &\cong e^* + \langle \pi_-^* | H' | \pi_-^* \rangle \cong e^* + \delta e_h \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (3)$$

where $\delta e_l \cong kS(1-S)$ and $\delta e_h \cong kS(1+S)$. The level splitting, ΔE_S , and energy destabilization, $\delta \varepsilon_S$, as a result of TSI are thus given as,

$$\Delta E_S = e_- - e_+ = \delta e_l + \delta e_h \cong 2kS \quad (4)$$

$$\delta \varepsilon_S = \delta e_h - \delta e_l \cong 2kS^2 \quad (5)$$

The corresponding ones for $\pi-\pi$ TSI are³: $\Delta E_S(\pi) \cong 2S(k + e_1)$ and $\delta \varepsilon_S \cong 2(k + e_1)S^2$ where e_1 is the first-order level depression of π orbital, $e_1 < 0$. Hence $\Delta E_S(\pi^*)$ and $\delta \varepsilon_S(\pi^*)$ should be larger (positive quantities) than $\Delta E_S(\pi)$ and $\delta \varepsilon_S(\pi)$ respectively.

Inclusion of second-order (TBI) terms gives the final expressions (6a) and (6b) for N=odd and even cases respectively.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_+ &\cong e^* - \delta e_l + 2y(1 + \alpha - \beta) \\ \varepsilon_- &\cong e^* + \delta e_h - 2x(1 + \alpha + \beta) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (6a)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_+ &\cong e^* - \delta e_l - 2x(1 + \alpha + \beta) \\ \varepsilon_- &\cong e^* + \delta e_h + 2y(1 + \alpha - \beta) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (6b)$$

Thus in $\pi^*-\pi^*$ TBI, one of the SAO (π_+^* and π_-^* for N