Supporting Information

Michael Addition/Pericyclization/Rearrangement- A Muticomponent Strategy for the Synthesis of Substituted Resorcinols

Yu Liu and Michael P. Doyle* Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742 <u>mdoyle3@umd.edu</u>

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HMBC experiments that support the structure of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-[1-(4-fuorophenyl)-2-nitroethyl]-2-diazooct-5-enoate (13c)

Compound 13c could have two possible structures (Figure 1, $13c_1$ and $13c_2$) which are difficult to differentiate by ¹H and ¹³C NMR. Therefore a HMBC experiment was performed on this compound to illuminate its structure. With structure $13c_1$, one would expect to see correlation between H₁ and alkene carbon C₂ through a 3 bond coupling. By comparison, there should be no coupling between these two signals in structure $13c_2$ since they would be 5 bonds between these two atoms. Meanwhile, there should be no correlation between H₁ and alkyl carbon C₃ with structure 12c₁ but it should be visible if the structure is $13c_2$

Figure 1. Two Possible Isomers of 13c with Different Position for the Alkene Double Bond.





The result is depicted in Figure 2 and an enlargement of the key region is shown in Figure 2. It can be seen from this experimental result that other than the carbonyl carbon at 200 ppm, H_1 is coupled with the alkene carbon C_2 at 140.8 ppm (possibly the other alkene carbon at 144.0 ppm as well) but not to the alkyl carbon C_3 which appears in the range between 42.9 ppm and 52.7 ppm. What is more, since the same correlation is shown for both isomers, it suggests that these two isomers are diastereomers rather than isomers caused by different positions of the double bond in the molecule. Based on these results from the HMBC experiments, we believe that methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-[1-(4-fuorophenyl)-2-nitroethyl]-2-diazooct-5-enoate has the structure depicted by $13c_1$, rather than by $13c_2$.



Figure 2. HMBC Spectrum of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-[1-(4-fuorophenyl)-2-nitroethyl]-2-diazo-oct-5-enoate (**13c**).

Figure 3. Expended HMBC spectrum of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-[1-(4-fuorophenyl)-2-nitroethyl]-2-diazooct-5-enoate (**13c**) at the key region.



Proton NMR spectrum of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-(1-phenyl-2-nitroethyl)-2-diazooct-5enoate (13b). Compound 13b was isolated as a mixture of three detectable isomers that could not be further separated by column chromatography. The three isomers could be identified by three sets of H_a , H_b and H_c . The ¹H NMR spectra, with key regions expanded (Figure 4), are shown below. These isomers could be diastereomers or regioisomers caused by the migration of the double bond (13b₁ and 13b₂)

Figure 4. Proton NMR Spectrum of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-(1-phenyl-2-nitroethyl)-2-diazooct-5enoate (13b) Indicating Multiple Isomers.



Proton NMR spectrum of methyl 3,7-dioxo-4,6-[1-(1-furyl)-2-nitroethyl]-2-diazooct-5enoate (13e)

Compound **13e** was isolated as a mixture of four isomers in about equal amounts that could not be further separated by column chromatography. The four isomers could be identified by four sets of \mathbf{H}_{a} , \mathbf{H}_{b} and \mathbf{H}_{c} . The ¹H NMR spectra including enlarged key regions are shown in Figure 5. These isomers could be diastereomers or regioisomers caused by the migration of the double bond (**13e**₁ and **13e**₂)

Figure 5. Proton NMR Spectrum of Methyl 3,7-Dioxo-4,6-(1-(1-furyl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-diazo-oct-5-enoate (13e) Indicating Multiple Isomers.





4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1 3.0 2.9 2.8 2.7 2.6 2.5 2.4 2.3 2.2 ppm



Sturctural characterization of ethyl (Z)-3,7-dioxo-2-diazo-oct-5-enoate (20)

Enlarged key regions of the ¹H NMR spectra of diazoester **20** and diazoester **3** are shown in Figure 6. A coupling constant of 8 Hz between the two vinyl protons indicating a *cis* geometry of the alkene double bond was observed in compound **20**. By contrast, a 16 Hz coupling

constant between the vinyl protons was observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **3** which predicts the *trans* geometry.

Figure 6. Comparison of coupling constants for the two vinylic protons in methyl 3,7-dioxo-2diazo-(*E*)-oct-5-enoate (**3**) and ethyl (*Z*)-3,7-dioxo-2-diazo-oct-5-enoate (**20**).



Attempted pericyclization/rearrangement of ethyl 3,7-dioxo-2-diazo-oct-5-enoate (20)

Reaction conditions evaluated for promoting pericyclization/rearrangement of diazoester 20 are summarized in Table 1. Triethylamine (Entry 1), DBU (Entry 2), sodium hydride (Entry 3) sodium methoxide (Entry 4) were used. However, essentially no reaction occurred, and the

starting material remained in the reaction solution even after long reaction times (16 hours overnight). Under acidic conditions (Entry 5-Entry 7), the trans isomer of diazoester **20** was formed in various ratios to the cis isomer, but no other product could be identified in the reaction mixture according to 1H NMR of the reaction mixture.

Table 1. Various conditions to promote pericyclization/rearrangement of ethyl (Z)-3,7-dioxo-2

 diazo-oct-5-enoate (20).



Entry	reagent	solvent	temperature	reaction time	result	cis:trans	
1	2 eq Et ₃ N	DCM	40°C	2 h	NR	-	
2	2 eq DBU	DCM	40°C	16 h	NR	-	
3	0.5 eq NaH	THF	rt	16 h	NR	-	
4	0.5 eq CH ₃ ONa	CH ₃ OH	rt	16 h	NR	-	
5	2 eq CF ₃ COOH	DCM	40°C	2 h	isomerization	79:21	
6	0.5 eq 1 N HCI	THF	rt	16 h	isomerization	83:17	
7	0.5 eq <i>p</i> -TsOH	DCM	40°C	16 h	isomerization	72:28	