

Substituent Effects upon Efficiency of Excited-State Acetophenones Produced on Thermolysis of 3,4-Diaryl-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes

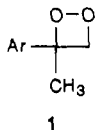
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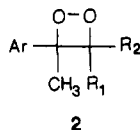
Received April 1, 1985

The effects of meta and para substituents upon the triplet (α_T) and singlet (α_S) efficiencies in the thermolysis of 3,4-diaryl-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 3, 3-aryl-3,4,4-trimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 4, and 3-aryl-3-(bromomethyl)-4,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 5 are reported. Triplet efficiencies for series 3 dioxetanes, where the two proketone moieties are identical, are sensitive to aryl substituent changes. Attempted correlation of $\log \alpha_T$ with Hammett-type substituents constants failed, and the best correlation of $\log \alpha_T$ was with the lowest triplet energy of the acetophenones [$\log (\% \alpha_T) = (0.77 \pm 0.19)E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3) - 55.05 \pm 14.00$, $r = 0.834$, $S_{y,x} = \pm 0.336$]. This type of correlation was previously observed with 3-aryl-3-methyl- and 3-aryl-3-methyl-3,3-(2,2'-biphenyldiyl)-1,2-dioxetanes, where the slopes (S values) are 0.38 ± 0.14 and 0.52 ± 0.08 , respectively. In these two dioxetane series, the triplet energies of the companion proketones (formaldehyde and fluorenone) to ArCOCH_3 are approximately equal to and less than $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$. For the 4 and 5 series dioxetanes, there was no change in triplet efficiency with various aryl substituents, where the average α_T values are $28.1 \pm 2.4\%$ for 4 and $29.1 \pm 0.7\%$ for 5. For these two dioxetane series, the triplet energy of the companion proketone (acetone) is higher than $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$. With regard to triplet efficiencies, all of these dioxetane series fall into two categories: (i) where the companion proketones possess triplet energies approximately equal to or less than $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ and where α_T is dependent upon substituent changes in the ArCOCH_3 moiety; (ii) where the companion proketone possesses a triplet energy higher than $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ and α_T is independent of substitution changes in the ArCOCH_3 moiety. An exciplex or encounter complex process is proposed to explain the apparent communication between the two proketone moieties in category i dioxetanes. Activation parameters for series 3-5 were typical of most other tetrasubstituted dioxetanes. The ρ values for σ^+ correlations of series 3 and 4 plus 5 dioxetanes are -0.285 ± 0.033 and -0.20 ± 0.05 , respectively, which is consistent with a 1,4-dioxy biradical decomposition process.

It was noted some time ago that both electronic and steric effects altered the efficiency of triplet carbonyl production (α_T) from dioxetanes.² It was apparent from our initial study with 3-aryl-3-methyl-1,2-dioxetanes 1 that



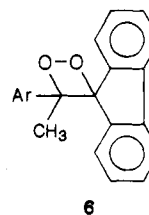
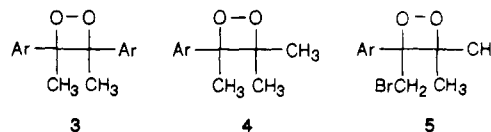
α_T was not governed by simple electronic effects as measured by Hammett-type substituent constants.³ Instead, the best correlation was made with $\log \alpha_T$ vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$. The results were most easily explained in terms of an exciplex³ or encounter complex mechanism.⁴ Since both of the procarbonyl moieties in the dioxetane are expected to affect α_T by these mechanisms, a long-range project was started in which dioxetanes of the general structure 2 were studied. Here, the proacetophenone



portion is maintained and new series of dioxetanes are generated with changes in R_1 and R_2 . With substituent changes made in the para and meta positions of the aryl group in 2 variation in α_T due to steric effects is eliminated in a given dioxetane series.

Our intention was to generate a set of dioxetane series in which the companion proketone ($R_1\text{COR}_2$ in 2) to the acetophenone moiety possessed triplet energies (i) lower, (ii) equal, and (iii) higher in energy than the acetophenones. The slope (S) in plots of $\log \alpha_T$ vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ reflects the sensitivity of triplet efficiencies to $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$. If an exciplex or encounter complex mechanism was operative, it was anticipated that there may be a change in S values for the i-iii series of dioxetanes.

This paper reports a study of electronic substituent effects vs. the efficiency of excited state ketones produced from the final dioxetane series 3-5 in the set of dioxetane series 1 and 3-6. In our attempts to prepare series 4



dioxetanes with electron-releasing substituents from $\text{ArC}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, we isolated instead series 5 dioxetanes in low yield. To confirm this observation, a more efficient synthesis of series 5 dioxetanes was used, and triplet efficiencies for additional members in this series was determined.

Results

Synthesis of Dioxetanes. Dioxetanes 3 and 4 (with $\text{Ar} = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $m\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4$, and $m\text{-CF}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$) were prepared by the classical route through the sequence olefin to bromohydropoxide to dioxetane.⁵ Olefins 7, which were pre-

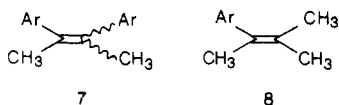
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(2) (a) Richardson, W. H.; Burns, J. H.; Price, M. E.; Crawford, R.; Foster, M.; Slusser, P.; Anderegg, J. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1978, 100, 7596.

(b) Adam, W. In *Chemical and Biological Generation of Excited States*; Adam, W., Cilento, G., Eds.; Academic: New York, 1982; Chapter 4.

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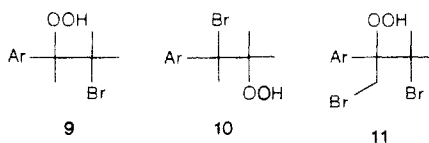
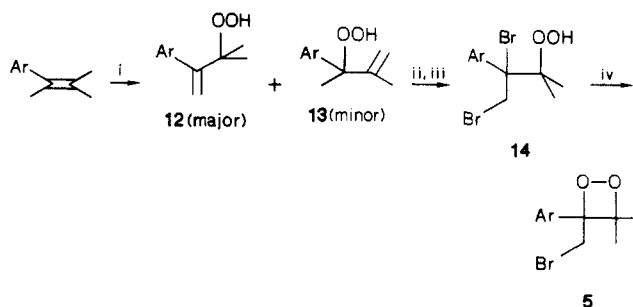


cursors of dioxetanes **3**, were prepared by low-valent titanium coupling of substituted acetophenones (McMurry synthesis).⁶ The crude reaction mixtures were mainly *cis* olefins, and alumina chromatography could be used to obtain the *cis* olefins with only traces of the *trans* isomers. The stereochemical assignment rests primarily on the work of Inamoto and co-workers,⁷ but White and Umbreit⁸ also concluded that the *cis* olefin is the major isomer in the coupling reaction of acetophenone.⁹ Throughout the series of 2,3-diaryl-2-butenes **7**, the *E*- and *Z*-methyl NMR absorptions (δ 1.8 and 2.1, respectively) could be used to distinguish between the two isomers. Olefins **8**, the intended precursors of dioxetanes **4**, were prepared by starting with the acetophenones and the dilithium salt of isobutyric acid according to a method developed by Adam and co-workers.¹⁰ The resulting β -hydroxy acids were then cyclized to the β -lactones, and decarboxylation of the β -lactones gave olefins **8**.

Bromo hydroperoxides obtained from olefins **7** with electron-withdrawing substituents in the aryl group, and with Ar = C₆H₅, were isolated in a crude state and directly converted to the dioxetanes with silver salts. Bromo hydroperoxides obtained from olefin **7** with electron-releasing substituents in the aryl group were not isolated, but instead they spontaneously reacted to give dioxetanes. Yields in the conversion of these bromo hydroperoxides to dioxetanes were low, and the major products were the rearranged ketones 3,3-diaryl-2-butanones.

Usually, only the *cis*-3,4-diaryl-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetane **3** was isolated after repeated low-temperature silica gel chromatography upon starting with the *cis* olefin, which contained only traces of the *trans* isomer. However, with the unsubstituted and the *m*-bromo-substituted dioxetanes in this series, it was possible to obtain both *cis* and *trans* isomers. Some *trans* isomer may be produced with other dioxetanes, but the amounts were too small to detect. The two isomers in this series of dioxetanes can be distinguished by the NMR absorption of the *Z*- and *E*-methyl groups (δ 2.0 and 1.4, respectively). According to this assignment, which is the same as that of White and Umbreit⁸ for the unsubstituted dioxetane, the *Z* isomer has a faster rate of thermolysis and elutes after the *trans* isomer with silica gel chromatography (10% CH₂Cl₂/hexane).

Mixtures of bromo hydroperoxides **9** and **10** were obtained from olefins **8**, where Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄ and *m*-CF₃CH₄, while only **9** was obtained with Ar = C₆H₅. Total yields of bromo hydroperoxides with these substituents

Scheme I^a

^a Reagents and conditions: (i) O₂, *h* ν , Photox (polymer-bound Rose Bengal); (ii) Br₂/CCl₄; (iii) separate dibromo hydroperoxides by silica gel chromatography; (iv) AgOAc.

Table I. Activation Parameters and Relative Rates at 60 °C for 3,4-Diaryl-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes **3** in Xylene^a

aryl	E _a , kcal/mol	log A	k _{rel} (60 °C) ^b
<i>cis</i> -C ₆ H ₅	26.3 ± 0.1	12.9 ± 0.09	1.00 ^c
<i>trans</i> -C ₆ H ₅	28.2 ± 0.6	13.5 ± 0.3	0.225
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	25.1 ± 1.1	12.6 ± 0.7	3.07
<i>cis</i> -3,4-(CH ₃) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	26.6 ± 0.5	13.4 ± 0.3	2.01
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	26.3 ± 0.4	13.1 ± 0.3	1.59
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	26.2 ± 0.1	12.9 ± 0.06	1.16
<i>cis</i> - <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	26.0 ± 0.2	12.6 ± 0.1	0.785
<i>trans</i> - <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	27.6 ± 0.7	13.1 ± 0.4	0.222
<i>cis</i> - <i>m</i> -CF ₃ C ₆ H ₄	26.2 ± 0.4	12.5 ± 0.3	0.462

^a Activation parameters are calculated with a least-squares program, and they are given with standard error. ^b Calculated from activation parameters at 60.0 °C. ^c $k = 4.37 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Table II. Activation Parameters for 3-Aryl-3,4,4-trimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes **4** and 3-Aryl-3-(bromomethyl)-4,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes **5** in Xylene^a

aryl	E _a , kcal/mol	log A	k _{rel} (60 °C) ^b
4			
<i>m</i> -CF ₃	26.3 ± 0.7	12.8 ± 0.4	0.931
<i>m</i> -Br	26.7 ± 0.5	13.0 ± 0.3	0.806
H	27.2 ± 0.7	13.5 ± 0.4	1.20
5			
<i>m</i> -CF ₃	28.2 ± 0.1	13.9 ± 0.1	0.664
H	26.1 ± 1.0	12.7 ± 0.5	≅ 1.00 ^c
<i>p</i> -CH ₃	26.8 ± 0.8	13.2 ± 0.2	1.10
3,4-dimethyl	26.4 ± 0.7	13.0 ± 0.4	1.27
3,4,5-trimethyl	25.2 ± 0.8	12.3 ± 0.5	1.55
<i>p</i> -CH ₃ O	25.8 ± 0.5	12.6 ± 0.3	1.25

^a Activation parameters are calculated with a least-squares program, and they are given with standard error. ^b Calculated from activation parameters at 60 °C. ^c $k = 3.73 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 60 °C.

ranged from 42% to 58%. Yields of dioxetanes from these bromo hydroperoxides were all extremely low (ca. 1%). With electron-releasing aryl substituents in olefin **8**, we were unable to isolate series **4** dioxetanes by this synthetic sequence. Instead, series **5** dioxetanes were isolated in very low yield (ca. 1%). The exception was with Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, where a mixture of series **4** and **5** dioxetanes was observed. We were unable to detect **11** or other dibromo hydroperoxides that might be precursors to series **5** dioxetanes. The minimum detectability of dibromo hydroperoxide **11** in a sample of **9** or **10** by NMR was estimated to be 10%. Additional members in series **5** dioxetanes were prepared by the synthetic scheme outlined in Scheme I. The yields by this sequence were good in most instances where yields of **12**, **14**, and **5** ranged from 50 to 77%, 37 to 64%, and 5 to 86%, respectively.

Activation Parameters. Table I lists the activation parameters and calculated relative rates at 60 °C for series **3** dioxetanes, while the corresponding data for series **4** and

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(7) Inamoto, N.; Masuda, S.; Nagai, Y.; Simamura, O. *J. Chem. Soc.* 1963, 1433.

(8) Umbreit, M. A.; White, E. H. *J. Org. Chem.* 1976, 41, 479.

(9) This is in contrast to an earlier report, where the major isomer was assumed to be *trans*-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene.^{6a}

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Table III. Triplet (α_T) and Singlet (α_S) Efficiencies of Acetophenones Produced from 3,4-Diaryl-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 3 at 80 °C in Xylene^a

aryl	% α_T	% α_S ^b	α_T/α_S
<i>cis</i> -C ₆ H ₅	43.9 ± 5.0	0.19 ± 0.03	230
<i>trans</i> -C ₆ H ₅	52.0 ± 3.8 ^c	0.21 ± 0.03	248
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -CH ₃ OCH ₃	6.49 ± 1.04	0.26 ± 0.04	25
<i>cis</i> -3,4-(CH ₃) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	6.24 ± 0.44	0.17 ± 0.07	37
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	18.6 ± 1.3	0.10 ± 0.02	186
<i>cis</i> - <i>p</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	0.82 ± 0.12	0.26 ± 0.08	3.2
<i>cis</i> - <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	4.94 ± 1.02	0.53 ± 0.17	9.3
<i>trans</i> - <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄	4.47 ± 1.10	1.02 ± 0.48	4.4
<i>cis</i> - <i>m</i> -CF ₃ C ₆ H ₄	19.7 ± 4.3	0.33 ± 0.07	60

^a Normalized to $\alpha_T = 36\%$ for tetramethyl-1,2-dioxetane. The efficiencies are obtained from a least-squares fit of $1/\Phi_{app}$ vs. $1/[DBA]$ or $1/[DPA]$.^{2a} Standard error is given with the α_T and α_S values. ^b Curvature was observed, and the α_S values are calculated from initial slopes. ^c Corrected for *cis*-C₆H₅ contamination.

Table IV. Triplet (α_T) and Singlet (α_S) Efficiencies of Ketones Produced from 3-Aryl-3,4,4-trimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 4 and 3-Aryl-3-(bromomethyl)-4,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 5 at 80 °C in Xylene^a

aryl	% α_T	% α_S	α_T/α_S
4			
<i>m</i> -CF ₃	27.6 ± 3.2	1.5 ± 0.2	18
<i>m</i> -Br	25.0 ± 3.6	2.2 ± 1.4	11
H	31.8 ± 4.6	2.0 ± 0.6	16
av	28.1 ± 2.4	1.9 ± 0.3	
5			
<i>m</i> -CF ₃	29.3 ± 8.5	8.0 ± 8.1	3.7
H	30.4 ± 14.7	6.8 ± 1.7	4.5
<i>p</i> -CH ₃	29.2 ± 5.9	6.6 ± 1.2	4.4
3,4-dimethyl	27.9 ± 8.7		
3,4,5-trimethyl	29.6 ± 5.5	5.0 ± 0.9	5.8
<i>p</i> -CH ₃ O	28.3 ± 2.1	8.3 ± 3.0	3.4
av	29.1 ± 0.7	7.0 ± 1.0	

^a Normalized to $\alpha_T = 36\%$ for tetramethyl-1,2-dioxetane. The efficiencies are obtained by a least-square fit of $1/\Phi_{app}$ vs. $1/[DBA]$ or $1/[DPA]$.^{2a} Standard error is given with the α_T and α_S values.

5 dioxetanes are given in Table II. The E_a and log A values fall into a range that is typically observed for simple tetrasubstituted dioxetanes.¹¹ A Brown-Hammett correlation of log k_{rel} (60 °C) vs. $2\sigma^+$ was most satisfactory for series 3 dioxetanes, where $\rho = 0.285 \pm 0.033$ and the standard deviation $S_{y,x} = \pm 0.075$. Another Brown-Hammett correlation of log k_{rel} (60 °C) vs. σ^+ was made that included both series 4 and 5 dioxetanes to give $\rho = -0.20 \pm 0.05$, $S_{y,x} = \pm 0.066$. If only series 5 dioxetanes were correlated with σ^+ , $\rho = -0.25 \pm 0.07$, $S_{y,x} = \pm 0.067$. Within experimental error, series 4 and 5 dioxetanes can be correlated together.

Excited-State Efficiencies. Triplet and singlet efficiencies were measured in the usual manner with aid of DBA and DPA, respectively.^{2,12} Table III lists these efficiencies for series 3 dioxetanes and Table IV for series 4 and 5 dioxetanes. The results are standardized to a triplet efficiency of 36% for tetramethyl-1,2-dioxetane.³ The question of efficient energy transfer from all of the acetophenone triplets to DBA was considered previously.³ It was concluded that the DBA method provided a reasonably good measure of triplet efficiencies for all of these substituted acetophenones. The singlet efficiencies (α_S)

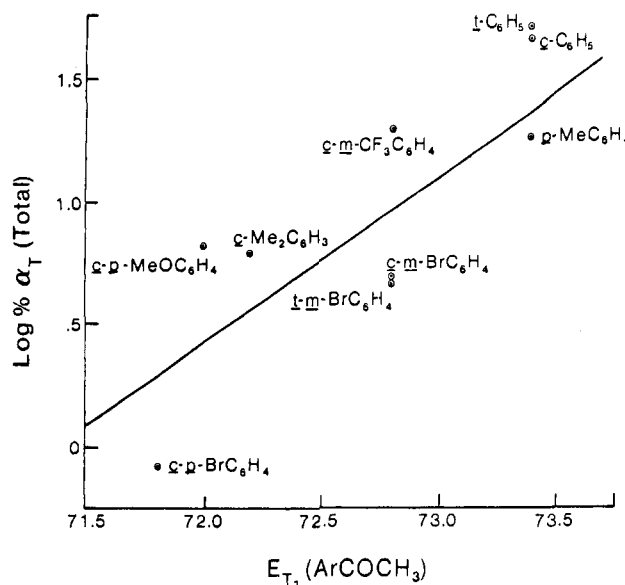


Figure 1. Plot of log (% α_T) for 3 vs. the lowest triplet energy of the acetophenone product. The correlation equation is as follows: $\log (\% \alpha_T) = (0.77 \pm 0.19) E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3) - 55.05 \pm 14.00$, $r = 0.834$, $S_{y,x} = \pm 0.336$.

for series 3 dioxetanes must be viewed with some caution, since curvature was observed in some of the $1/\Phi_{app}$ vs. $1/[DPA]$ plots.^{2a} Curvature was particularly pronounced with the electron-donating *p*-CH₃OCH₃, *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, and 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃ groups. Initial slopes were used to obtain α_S , where the DPA concentration is highest and the data are most reliable.

There appears to be a general trend to higher singlet efficiencies for the dioxetanes in the order $3 < 4 < 5$. The singlet efficiencies of the series 5 dioxetanes are noticeably higher than those of 4 or other simply substituted dioxetanes.^{2b} From Table IV, it is also seen that the α_T/α_S ratios are correspondingly lower for 5 as well. See the paragraph at the end of the paper regarding supplementary material from which the α_T and α_S values were calculated.

Discussion

Triplet Efficiencies. The efficiency of triplet carbonyl production (α_T) from dioxetanes can vary considerably, depending on the structure of the cyclic peroxide.^{2b} As mentioned previously, the change in α_T is dependent on both electronic and steric effects.² Where steric effects are held constant within the individual dioxetane series 1 and 3–6, it is observed that electronic substituent effects alone can effect significant changes in α_T . For example, the ranges in α_T in dioxetane series 1, 3, and 6 are as follows: 1, 0.75% (Ar = *p*-BrC₆H₄) to 10.3% (Ar = C₆H₅);³ 3, 0.82% (Ar = *cis*-*p*-BrC₆H₄) to 43.9% (Ar = *cis*-*p*-C₆H₅) (Table III); 6, 2.0% (Ar = *p*-BrC₆H₄) to 19.0% (Ar = C₆H₅).⁴ On the other hand, the triplet efficiency can be essentially constant with electronic substituent changes in certain other dioxetanes series. For example, the triplet efficiencies of 4 [$\alpha_T(\text{av}) = 28.1 \pm 2.4\%$; Table IV] and 5 [$\alpha_T(\text{av}) = 29.1 \pm 0.7\%$; Table IV] are effectively constant within each series, and the average α_T values of the two series are within experimental error of each other.

For the dioxetane series 1, 3, and 6, where electronic substituent changes do effect α_T , correlations of log α_T vs. Hammett-type substituent constants failed. This can be appreciated by noting that α_T is greatest for Ar = C₆H₅ in 1, 3, and 6, where both electron-donating and -withdrawing aryl substituents are present in all three of these dioxetane series. It was found previously that triplet ef-

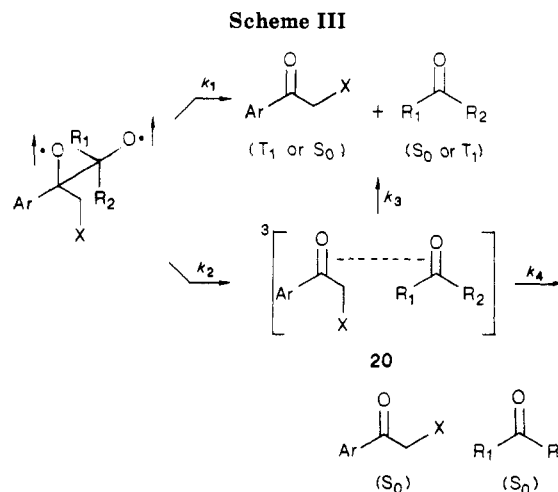
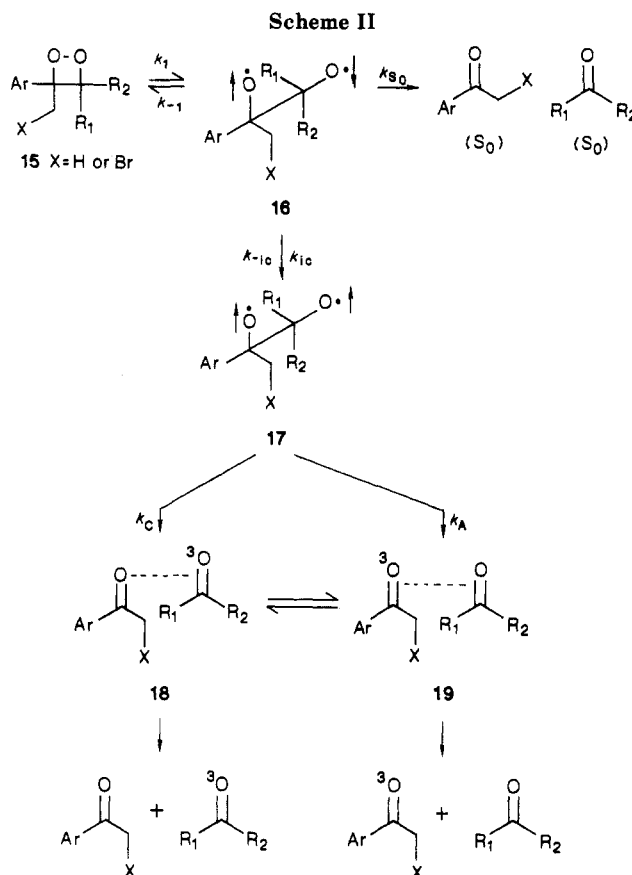
(11) Adam, W.; Zinner, K. In *Chemical and Biological Generation of Excited States*; Adam, W., Cilento, G., Eds.; Academic: New York, 1982; Chapter 5.

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iciencies could be correlated with the acetophenone triplet energies [$E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$] as $\log \alpha_T$ vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$.^{3,4} Although these correlations are only semiquantitative due to the accuracy of both α_T and $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ values, they represent the best correlation that we have observed. Such a correlation for series 3 dioxetanes is shown in Figure 1, where the correlation equation is as follows: $\log (\% \alpha_T) = (0.77 \pm 0.19)E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3) - 55.05 \pm 14.00$, $r = 0.834$, $S_{y-x} = \pm 0.336$. The slope (S value) can be compared with those reported for series 1 ($S = 0.38 \pm 0.14$)^{3,13} and 6 ($S = 0.52 \pm 0.08$)⁴ dioxetanes. It can be seen that the S values are within or nearly within experimental error for these dioxetane series, where the companion proketone (R_1COR_2 in 2) possesses triplet energies that are lower (i.e., 6), equal (i.e., 3), or nearly equal (i.e., 1) to that of the acetophenone moiety.

However, there is a marked deviation from dioxetane series 1, 3, and 6, where the average S value is 0.56 ± 0.14 , to dioxetane series 4 and 5, where the triplet efficiencies are essentially independent of $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$.¹⁹ With regard to the companion proketone (R_1COR_2 in 2), the effects of substituents in the acetophenone moiety fall into two categories. In the first category (1, 3, and 6), the triplet efficiencies are sensitive to aryl substituents in 2 [$S(\text{av}) = 0.56 \pm 0.14$] and the companion proketone (R_1COR_2) possesses triplet energies less than to nearly equal to the ArCOCH_3 moiety. In the second category (4 and 5), the triplet efficiencies are insensitive to aryl substituents in 2 and the companion proketone possesses triplet energies greater than the ArCOCH_3 or ArCOCH_2Br moiety.²⁰

The S value, which is a measure of the sensitivity of triplet efficiencies to aryl substituent changes, is then dependent upon the companion proketone (R_1COR_2 in 2) as was anticipated from the exciplex³ or encounter complex⁴ mechanisms. It was previously shown that series 6 dioxetanes that Ar substituent changes produced changes in the specific triplet efficiency of fluorenone ($S = 0.52 \pm 0.08$), and this communication between the two ketone moieties was interpreted in terms of an exciplex or encounter complex process.⁴ Arguments were given previously for the involvement of carbonyl exciplexes in the thermolysis of 1 ($S = 0.38 \pm 0.14$),¹³ so now 3 ($S = 0.77 \pm 0.19$) falls into the first category of dioxetanes along with 1 and 6, where S is nonzero. An exciplex or encounter complex process is proposed for this category of dioxetanes, where the companion proketone (R_1COR_2 in 2) possesses



(13) This S value is recalculated with the following $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ values (kcal/mol): $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COCH}_3$ (73.4),¹⁴ $m\text{-CF}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$ (72.8),¹⁵ $p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$ (73.4),¹⁴ $3,4\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{COCH}_3$ (72.2),¹⁴ $p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$ (72.0),¹⁴ $m\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$ (72.8),¹⁶ and $p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$ (71.8).^{17,18} These values along with $E_{T_1}(3,4,5\text{-(CH}_3)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{COCH}_3) = 71.5$ kcal/mol¹⁴ are used to calculate all of the S values reported here.

(14) Wagner, P. J.; Thomas, M. J.; Harris, E. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* 1976, 98, 7675.

(15) Wagner, P. J.; Siebert, E. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1981, 103, 7329.

(16) Calculated from $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3, n\pi^*) = (-1.682 \pm 0.088)\delta^+ + 73.50 \pm 0.04$, $r = 0.9907$, $S_{y-x} = \pm 0.11$.

(17) Murov, S. L. *Handbook of Photochemistry*; Marcel Dekker: New York, 1973.

(18) The literature value is at 77 K, so 0.7 kcal/mol was added to obtain a fluid solution value.¹⁴

(19) If an attempted correlation of $\log \alpha_T$ vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ is made, the S values with standard error are as follows: 4, $S = 0.14 \pm 0.06$, 5, $S = 0.008 \pm 0.008$; 4 plus 5, $S = 0.011 \pm 0.016$. Within experimental error, the slopes (S values) are zero and significantly different from the S values of series 1, 3, and 6 dioxetanes.

(20) For 4, the E_{T_1} values of the acetophenones range from 71.5 to 73.4 kcal/mol,¹³ while acetone is approximately 80 kcal/mol.¹⁷ For 5, the E_{T_1} value of phenacyl bromide²¹ is 1.6 kcal/mol below that of acetophenone, so that both of these aryl ketones possess triplet energies considerably below that of acetone.

(21) Pomazan, Y. V.; Glagolev, V. L.; Buben, N. Y. *Opt. Spektrosk.* 1978, 44, 1030.

a triplet energy about equal to or less than $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$. For those dioxetane series (4 and 5) where S is zero and the companion proketone (R_1COR_2 in 2) is higher in triplet energy than ArCOCH_3 or ArCOCH_2Br , a nonexciplex or encounter complex process is proposed.

The correlation of $\log \alpha_T$ vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ for dioxetane series 1, 3, and 6 can be understood in terms of the encounter complex⁴ process shown in Scheme II. With the approximation that largely ground-state ketones are produced and with the steady-state treatment, one can obtain $\alpha_T \approx (k_A + k_C)K_{ic}/k_{S_0}$, where $K_{ic} = k_{ic}/k_{-ic}$.²² From

(22) The total triplet efficiency (α_T) is given by: $\alpha_T = v(T_1)/[v(T_1) + v(S_0)]$, where $v(T_1)$ and $v(S_0)$ are the velocities for the formation of triplet and ground-state ketones, respectively. Steady-state treatment gives $v(T_1) = (k_A + k_C)k_{ic}[16]/(k_A + k_C + k_{-ic})$. With the approximation that largely ground-state ketones are produced, the following approximations are made: $\alpha_T \approx v(T_1)/v(S_0)$ and $k_{-ic} \gg (k_A + k_C)$. This gives $\alpha_T \approx (k_A + k_C)K_{ic}/k_{S_0}$, where $K_{ic} = k_{ic}/k_{-ic}$.

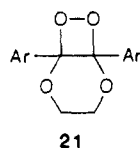
this expression for α_T , it is possible to link the triplet efficiency to $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ as was observed in the log α_T vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ correlations. That is, from Scheme II the k_A process is expected to reflect the $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ term and k_A is also expected to be proportional to α_T .

The behavior of dioxetanes 1, 3, and 6 can as well be rationalized in terms of the exciplex process³ shown in Scheme III. Here, triplet energy wastage occurs via the exciplex 20, where 20 can give ground-state carbonyls by k_4 or triplets by k_3 . Energy wastage via a triplet exciplex has been proposed in the photolysis of α,β -unsaturated ketones.²³ The correlation between log α_T vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ with positive slope is rationalized by proposing that as $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ decreases, the energy of 20 decreases and this increases k_2 relative to k_1 . This predicts decreasing α_T values with decreasing $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$, which is observed with dioxetane series 1, 3, and 6, where the slopes (S) are all positive in the log α_T vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ correlation.

In dioxetane series 3, we were able to isolate two pairs of cis/trans isomers and the average triplet efficiencies differed (3, Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄: cis 4.9 ± 1.0%, trans 4.5 ± 1.1%. 3, Ar = C₆H₅: cis 43.9 ± 5.0%, trans 52.0 ± 3.8%). This series of dioxetanes is interpreted to proceed through an exciplex or encounter complex, and these average differences may be related to the stereochemistry of these intermediates, but the error in the α_T values precludes further refinement of this idea at this time.

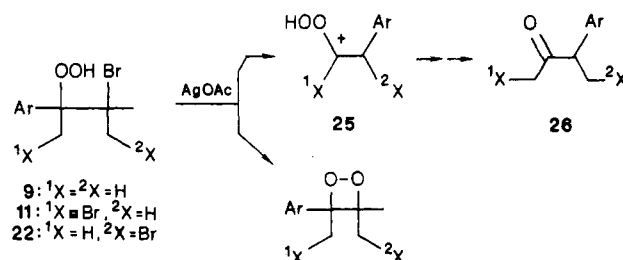
Finally, a possible heavy-atom effect has been reported^{2b} in the series of dioxetanes tetramethyl- (% α_T = 30%), 3-(bromomethyl)-3,4,4-trimethyl- (% α_T = 10%), and 3,4-bis(bromomethyl)-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-dioxetane (% α_T = 0.01%). Since the triplet efficiencies for series 4 and 5 dioxetanes were the same, within experimental error, a heavy-atom effect to lower α_T for the 5 dioxetanes was not apparent here.

Kinetics and Thermochemistry. ρ values have been determined now for a few series of dioxetanes, and with one exception they are similar. The series that give similar ρ values with σ^+ correlations are as follows: 1, ρ = -0.321 ± 0.056;³ 3, ρ = -0.285 ± 0.033; 4 and 5, ρ = -0.20 ± 0.05; 21, ρ = -0.24. The similarities in ρ values with these rather



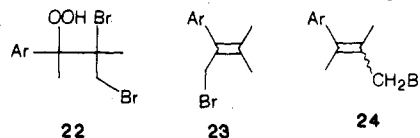
wide structural changes suggest a common thermolysis mechanism where C-C bond breaking is not involved in the rate-determining step. That is, a dioxy biradical mechanism best accommodates these results.^{3,25,26} Series 6 dioxetanes do show a deviation from the -0.2 to -0.3 value of ρ , where $\rho(6)$ = 0.0800 ± 0.0454⁴ in a σ^+ correlation. Although it is tempting to consider a change in mechanism for 6 relative to 1, 3-5, and 21, this does not

Scheme IV



seem to be justified. That is, the decreased sensitivity of substituent effects in the rate of thermolysis cannot be used to argue for C-C bond breaking in the rate-determining step. Instead, it appears that the biradical mechanism is also operative with 6, but where there is possibly less O-O bond breaking in the slow step.

Formation of Dioxetane 5 from Olefin 8. The simplest explanation for the apparently unusual observation that dioxetane 5 is formed from olefin 8 is that the monobromo hydroperoxides 9 and 10 are contaminated with a small undetected (by NMR) amount of dibromo hydroperoxides 11 and 22. The dibromo hydroperoxides can



be formed from the allylic bromides 23 and 24, which would result from allylic free-radical bromination in the course of the bromo hydroperoxide preparation with 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin and hydrogen peroxide. We propose that two dibromo hydroperoxides (11 and 22) are present as contaminants, since we expect both 23 and 24 from free-radical bromination of the olefin.

Now we are left to explain why only dioxetane 5 was isolated from the silver acetate reaction of bromo hydroperoxides 9 and 10, which were presumably contaminated with dibromo hydroperoxides 11 and 22. This observation can be rationalized by considering Scheme IV. With 9, the major product was the ketone 26 and presumably this is also the fate of 22. No dioxetane was detected from 9 with electron-releasing aryl substituents. In contrast, it is proposed that 11 efficiently produces the dioxetane and rearrangement is largely avoided. The lack of rearrangement of 11 can be rationalized by considering 25. Formation of this carbocation will be discouraged by the electron-withdrawing bromomethyl group (1X = Br).

Conclusions. Triplet efficiencies for three new series of dioxetanes (3-5) along with two previously reported dioxetane series (1, 6) are seen to fall into two general categories. In the first category are those dioxetanes (1, 3, and 6) in which the companion proketone (R₁COR₂ in 2) possesses a triplet energy less than or nearly equal to the ArCOCH₃ moiety in 2. These dioxetanes show triplet efficiencies that are influenced by aryl substitution and give semiquantitative log α_T vs. $E_{T_1}(\text{ArCOCH}_3)$ correlations, where the average slope (S) is 0.56 ± 0.14. An exciplex or encounter complex mechanism (Scheme III and II, respectively) is proposed for this category of dioxetanes. A second general category of dioxetanes (4 and 5) was observed, where the triplet energy of the companion proketone (R₁COR₂ in 2) is higher than the ArCOCH₃ moiety in 2. Here, the triplet efficiencies were independent of aryl substituents, and no exciplex or encounter complexes are proposed.

The ρ values for several dioxetane series with significantly different basic structures fall in the range of -0.2

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(24) Schaap, A. P.; Gagnon, S. D.; Zaklika, K. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1982, 23, 2943.

(25) (a) Koo, J.-Y.; Schuster, G. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 5403. (b) Wilson, T.; Golan, D. E.; Harris, M. S.; Baumstark, A. L. *Ibid.* 1976, 98, 1086. (c) Harding, L. B.; Goddard, W. A., III *Ibid.* 1977, 99, 4520. (d) Richardson, W. H.; Anderegg, J. H.; Price, M. E.; Crawford, R. *J. Org. Chem.* 1978, 43, 4045. (e) Richardson, W. H.; Anderegg, J. H.; Price, M. E.; Tappen, W. A.; O'Neal, H. E. *Ibid.* 1978, 43, 2236. (f) Richardson, W. H.; Montgomery, F. C.; Slusser, P.; Yelvington, M. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1975, 97, 2819. Richardson, W. H.; Montgomery, F. C.; Yelvington, M. B.; O'Neal, H. E. *Ibid.* 1974, 96, 7525.

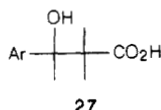
(26) For a proposed concerted, but biradicaloid, mechanism, see: Adam, W.; Baader, W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1985, 107, 410.

to -0.3, with one exception. These results continue to support a biradical type decomposition mechanism for simply substituted dioxetanes.

Experimental Section²⁷

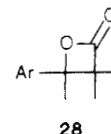
Materials. Mixed xylenes (MCB; reagent grade, bp 137–144 °C) were purified by washing with concentrated H₂SO₄ and water and then drying over CaCl₂. Finally, distillation from P₂O₅ was carried out; the fraction with bp 138–139.6 °C was collected. DBA (Aldrich) was recrystallized from xylenes, and DPA (ICN) was recrystallized from 95% ethanol.

Synthesis of β -Hydroxy Acids. The general procedure reported by Adam and co-workers¹⁰ was used to prepare the 2,2-dimethyl-3-hydroxy-3-arylbutanoic acids **27**, which were subse-



quently converted to **8** enroute to dioxetanes **4** and **5**. The following β -hydroxy acids **27** were obtained from the acetophenone and the dilithium salt of isobutyric acid after recrystallization from hexane/ether: (i) Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄, 55% yield; mp 117.4–118.4 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 1.11 (s, 3 H, 2-CH₃), 1.13 (s, 3 H, 2-CH₃), 1.66 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 3.69 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃O), 4.9 (br s, 2 H, COOH, OH), 6.70 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄), 7.20 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄); IR (KBr) 3500–2500, 1720, 1250, 835; MS, *m/e* 238 (M⁺, 0.2%), 151 (*p*-CH₃OC₆H₄C(OH)CH₃⁺, 100%), 135 (*p*-CH₃OC₆H₄CO⁺, 44%). (ii) Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂, 47% yield; mp 143.0–144.8 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 1.13 (s, 3 H, 2-CH₃), 1.17 (s, 3 H, 2-CH₃), 1.63 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 2.13 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 2.23 (s, 6 H, *m*-CH₃), 6.3 (br s, 2 H, COOH, OH), 6.90 (s, 2 H, C₆H₂); IR (KBr) 3550–2450, 1695, 1450, 1375, 1148. (iii) Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄, 47% yield; mp 92.7–95.7 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 1.1 (s, 6 H, 2-CH₃), 1.65 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 4.46 (br s, 2 H, COOH, OH), 7.36 (m, 2 H, Ar H), 7.5 (m, 1 H, Ar H), 7.63 (s, 1 H, Ar H); IR (KBr) 3500–2500, 1700; MS, *m/e* 276 (M⁺, 0.10%), 257 (CF₃C₆H₄C(OH)(CH₃)C(CH₃)CO₂H⁺, 4.5%), 214 (CF₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 1.2%), 199 (CF₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 1.2%), 189 (CF₃C₆H₄C(OH)CH₃⁺, 100%), 145 (CF₃C₆H₄⁺, 70.3%). (iv) Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃, 69% yield; mp 118–122 °C; NMR (CCl₄) 1.18 (s, 6 H, 2-CH₃), 1.68 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 2.26 (s, 6 H, 3,4-CH₃C₆H₃), 7.05 (m, 3 H, Ar H); IR (CCl₄) 3500–2500, 2950, 1690. (v) Ar = C₆H₅, 59% yield; 49.7–50.2 °C (lit.¹⁰ mp 49–50 °C); NMR (CCl₄) 1.18 (s, 6 H, 2-CH₃), 1.62 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 7.0–7.4 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅), 8.2–8.4 (br s, 2 H, COOH, OH); IR (KBr) 3500–2500, 2950, 1700. (vi) Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, 59% yield; mp 114.0–114.5 °C; NMR (CCl₄) 1.18 (s, 6 H, 2-CH₃), 1.62 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 2.3 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 6.9 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 7.18 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H); IR (KBr) 3500–2500, 2950, 1690; MS, *m/e* 222 (M⁺, 0.09%), 205 (*p*-CH₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)CO⁺, 3.2%), 160 (*p*-CH₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 2.5%), 135 (*p*-CH₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)CO⁺, 100%), 119 (*p*-CH₃C₆H₄CO⁺, 54%). (vii) Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄, 72% yield; mp 118.8–119.8 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 1.18 (s, 6 H, 2-CH₃), 1.62 (s, 3 H, ArC(OH)CH₃), 7.1–7.6 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄), 8.0–8.2 (br s, 2 H, COOH, OH); MS, *m/e* 286 (M⁺, 0.09%), 288 (M⁺, 0.09%), 201, 199 (*m*-BrC₆H₄C(OH)CH₃⁺, 11.1, 11.5%), 185, 183 (*m*-BrC₆H₄CO⁺, 6.1, 6.3%), 157, 155 (C₆H₄Br⁺, 3.2, 3.3%).

Synthesis of β -Lactones. The β -hydroxy acids were cyclized with benzenesulfonyl chloride in the presence of pyridine by the method of Adam and co-workers¹⁰ to give the following 3,3,4-trimethyl-4-aryloxetan-2-ones **28**: (i) Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄, 51% yield of **28** and 41% yield olefin **8** (Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄). The lactone and olefin were not separated; rather the synthesis was continued to the olefin. NMR (CCl₄) β -lactone, 0.82 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.36 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.72 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 3.71 (s, 3



H, *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄), 6.85 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄), 7.07 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄); IR (KBr) lactone, 3000–2840, 1830, 1250, 1175. (ii) Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂, 75% yield; mp 112.0–114.0 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 0.87 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.39 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.73 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 2.12 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 2.23 (s, 6 H, *m*-CH₃), 6.70 (s, 2 H, C₆H₂); IR (KBr) 1810, 1170. (iii) Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄, 87% yield; mp 96.7–98.7 °C; NMR (CDCl₃) 0.86 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.45 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 7.35 (m, 4 H, Ar H); IR (KBr) 1820. (iv) Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃, 93% yield; mp 80.9–82.8 °C; NMR (CCl₄) 0.84 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.41 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.72 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 2.20 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂Ar), 6.77–7.20 (m, 3 H, Ar H); IR (KBr) 1790. (v) Ar = C₆H₅, 93% yield; mp 33.5–34.0 °C (lit.¹⁰ mp 33.5–34.5 °C) *E*; NMR (CCl₄) 0.85 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.40 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.77 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 7.3 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅). (vi) Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, 31% yield β -lactone and 29% yield olefin **8** (Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄); NMR (CCl₄) β -lactone, 0.85 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.40 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.71 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 2.35 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 7.05 (s, 4 H, C₆H₄); IR (KBr) 1820. (vii) Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄, 40% yield; mp 83.7–84.7 °C; NMR (CCl₄) 0.85 (s, 3 H, *E*-3-CH₃), 1.40 (s, 3 H, *Z*-3-CH₃), 1.77 (s, 3 H, 4-CH₃), 7.1–7.35 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄); IR (KBr) 1820.

Synthesis of Olefins **8.** The olefins were prepared by the method of Adam and co-workers,¹⁰ where the β -lactones were heated at 140–170 °C until the evolution of carbon dioxide ceased. The following 2-methyl-3-aryl-2-butenes **8** were prepared by this method: (i) Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄, 85% yield; bp 106 °C (6 mm) [lit.²⁸ bp 234 °C (760 mm)]; NMR (CCl₄) 1.53 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.74 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.87 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 3.64 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃O), 6.55 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄), 6.77 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, C₆H₄); IR (KBr) 3020, 2980–2825, 1610, 1510, 1450, 1250, 1180, 1110, 1040; MS, *m/e* 176 (M⁺, 100%), 161 (ArC(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 89%), 145 (C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 18%). (ii) Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂, 96% yield; bp 110 °C (6 mm); NMR (CCl₄) 1.52 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.73 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.83 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 2.10 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 2.20 (s, 6 H, *m*-CH₃), 6.48 (s, 2 H, C₆H₂); IR (KBr) 3050–2840, 1560, 1480, 1170, 1150, 1020; MS, *m/e* 188 (M⁺, 57%), 173 (ArC(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 100%), 158 ((CH₃)₂C₆H₂C(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 29%). (iii) Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄, 82% yield; bp 72–72.5 °C (8.5 mm); NMR (CDCl₃) 1.53 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.83 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 7.06–7.46 (m, 4 H, Ar H); IR (neat) 3070, 3040, 2995, 2922, 2868, 1338, 1168, 1130; MS, *m/e* 214 (M⁺, 87%), 199 (ArC(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 100%), 195 (CF₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 25%), 145 (CF₃C₆H₄⁺, 47%). (iv) Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃, 83% yield; bp 88.9–90.1 °C (4.5 mm); NMR (CCl₄) 1.56 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.77 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.89 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 2.20 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂Ar), 6.80 (m, 3 H, C₆H₃); IR (neat) 3100–2800, 1590, 1410; MS (15 eV), *m/e* 174 (M⁺, 100%), 159 (ArC(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 9.6%). (v) Ar = C₆H₅, 91% yield; bp 82.9–83.9 °C (17 mm) [lit.¹⁰ bp 70 °C (9 mm)]; NMR (CCl₄) 1.58 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.92 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 7.05 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅); MS, *m/e* 145 (M⁺ - 1, 100%), 131 (ArC(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 19%). (vi) *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, 100% yield; bp 78 °C (6 mm) [lit.²⁹ bp 74–76 °C (6 mm)]; NMR (CCl₄) 1.58 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.92 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 2.17 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 6.82 (s, 4 H, C₆H₄). (vii) Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄, 100% yield; bp 122 °C (14 mm); NMR (CCl₄) 1.56 (s, 3 H, *E*-2-CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, *Z*-2-CH₃), 1.92 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 6.90–7.28 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄); MS, *m/e* 226, 224 (M⁺, 52.7, 54.1%), 145 (C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂⁺, 100%), 130 (C₆H₄C(CH₃)C(CH₃)⁺, 100%).

Synthesis of Olefins **7.** These intermediates were prepared from acetophenones (Aldrich) by the low-valent titanium McMurry coupling reaction.^{5,30} Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2-butene and bis[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-butene were previously prepared by this method.³⁰ The remaining olefins prepared by this method are given below.

(27) Caution, hydroperoxides and dioxetanes are potentially explosive compounds. Temperatures of kinetic measurements and melting points are corrected, but boiling points are uncorrected. NMR, IR, and mass spectra were measured with a Varian EH-390 or a Magnachem A-200 (200 MHz), a Perkin-Elmer 337, and a Hitachi RMU-6E spectrometer, respectively. The NMR data are reported on the δ scale (ppm) relative to Me₄Si, and the IR data are given in cm⁻¹. Mass spectra were obtained at 70 eV.

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cis-2,3-Diphenyl-2-butene.⁸ This olefin was prepared in 64% yield and purified by alumina chromatography followed by recrystallization from methanol: NMR (CCl₄) 2.16 (s, 6 H), 6.88 (m, 9.7 H).

2,3-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-butene.⁷ A mixture of cis (77%) and trans (23%) isomers was detected by NMR in the crude reaction mixture. The cis isomer was isolated in 47% yield by alumina (Baker; heated for 3 h, 130 °C) chromatography (1/20, crude product-alumina) upon elution with hexane and 10% benzene-90% hexane: IR (CCl₄) 3030, 3000, 2950, 2930, 2830, 1610, 1510; NMR (CCl₄) 1.97 (s, 6 H), 3.47 (s, 6 H), 6.57 and 6.30 (AB, 9 Hz, 8 H); MS, *m/e* 268 (M⁺, 32%), 253 (M⁺ - CH₃, 7.3%), 238 (M⁺ - 2 CH₃, 67%), 161 (M⁺ - CH₃OC₆H₄, 16.7%).

2,3-Bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-butene. This olefin was isolated in 17% yield as a byproduct from a McMurry cross-coupling reaction of 3,4-dimethylacetophenone and fluorenone. The cross-coupled olefin was obtained in 15% yield. Alumina chromatography as described above was used to obtain the symmetrical cis olefin: NMR (CCl₄) 2.19, 2.33 (2 s, 18 H), 6.6, 6.7, and 6.9 (m, 6 H).

2,3-Bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-butene.⁷ NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture showed 71% cis and 29% trans olefin. It was not possible to separate the isomers by alumina chromatography, from which a 51% yield (65% cis) of olefin was obtained: NMR (CCl₄) 2.11 (s, 6 H), 2.23 (s, 6 H), 6.68 (s, 8 H); MS, *m/e* 238 (M⁺ + 2, 2.0%), 237 (M⁺ + 1, 19.7%), 236 (M⁺, 100%), 221 (M⁺ - CH₃, 34%), 206 (M⁺ - 2 CH₃, 15%), 145 (CH₃C₆H₄C(CH₃)=C(CH₃)⁺, 1.5%).

2,3-Bis(3-bromophenyl)-2-butene.⁷ After alumina chromatography, 39% of the *m*-bromoacetophenone reactant was recovered and the cis olefin was obtained in 23% yield (based on reacted acetophenone): NMR (CCl₄) 2.23 (s, 6 H), 6.8-7.1 (m, 8 H).

Synthesis of Allylic Hydroperoxides 12. This allylic hydroperoxide along with its isomer 13 was prepared by a method similar to that used by Foote and Denny in the photooxidation of 2-methyl-3-aryl-2-butenes.³¹ We were unable to separate isomers 12 and 13 by low-temperature (-10 °C coolant) silica gel chromatography.

The preparation of allylic hydroperoxides 12 and 13 (Ar = C₆H₅) is given as an example of the method used here. A 35 × 70 mm tube with a glass frit and oxygen inlet tube at the bottom was fitted with a CaCl₂ drying tube in a 24/40 joint at the top. The reaction tube was placed in a Dewar with a 40-mm-diameter light window and cooled in an ice bath. The reaction tube was charged with 452 mg (3.10 mmol) of olefin 8 (Ar = C₆H₅), 10 mL of carbon tetrachloride, and 200 mg of polymer-bound Rose Bengal (Photox). The mixture was purged with oxygen and irradiated through the Dewar window with a 500-W tungsten projector lamp with an intervening Corning 7380 filter (<0.5% transmission at 334 nm, ~1% at 350 nm, 45% at 360 nm, and 90% at 400 nm). Irradiation was continued for 20 h and the mixture was filtered through the glass frit under oxygen pressure. The filtrate was transferred to a volumetric flask, a measured amount of dichloromethane was added, and the solution was made up to 25 mL with carbon tetrachloride. Yields of 12 (74%) and 13 (23%) were determined by NMR with dichloromethane as the internal standard. NMR: 12 (Ar = C₆H₅)³¹ 1.39 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂C), 5.26 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.06 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H); 13 (Ar = C₆H₅) 1.60 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.71 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.90 (s, 2 H, vinyl H), 7.1 (m, Ar H, OOH of 12 and 13).

In the same manner, with the exception of the indicated reaction times, the following hydroperoxides were prepared: (i) 12 (Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄)³¹ 24 h; 77% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.40 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂C), 5.06 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.26 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H). 13 (Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄)³¹ 22% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.63 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.70 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.93 (s, 2 H, vinyl H); 2.35 (s, *p*-CH₃ of 12 and 13), 7.1 (m, Ar H, OOH of 12 and 13). (ii) 12 (Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃)³¹ 26 h, 50% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.31 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂), 5.04 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.25 (AB, *J* = 0.3 Hz, 1 H, vinyl H). 13 (Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃)³¹ 18% yield NMR (CCl₄) 1.60 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.63 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.93 (s, 2 H, vinyl H), 2.19 (s, 3,4-(CH₃)₂Ar of 12 and 13), 6.9-7.1 (m, Ar H, OOH

of 12 and 13). (iii) 12 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 48 h, 73% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.40 (s, 6 H, (CH₃)₂C), 5.12 (s, 1 H, vinyl H), 5.35 (s, 1 H, vinyl H). 13 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 16% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.64 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.75 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 5.0 (m, 2 H, vinyl H), 7.45 (m, Ar H, OOH of 12 and 13).

Synthesis of Dibromo Hydroperoxide 14. The allylic hydroperoxide mixtures were used in the preparation of 14 and the preparation of 14 (Ar = C₆H₅) serves as an example.

To 161 mg (0.905 mmol) of a 3.2/1 ratio of 12/13 (Ar = C₆H₅) was added 50 μL (0.96 mmol) of bromine in 20 mL of carbon tetrachloride at room temperature over 3.5 h, and then stirring was continued for 0.5 h. Unreacted allylic hydroperoxide was detected by NMR, so another 25 μL (0.48 mmol) of bromine in 5 mL of carbon tetrachloride was added over 1 h, and the solution was stirred for 1 h. Excess bromine was removed in a stream of nitrogen, and no unreacted allylic hydroperoxide was observed by NMR. The crude product was chromatographed on 9 g of silica gel (Aldrich, 60-200 mesh) with hexane-dichloromethane elution as the column was cooled at about -70 °C. Dibromo hydroperoxide 14 (Ar = C₆H₅) was found in the initial 100% dichloromethane fractions: 38% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.35 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.68 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.15 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz), 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.62 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 7.46-7.16 (m, 6 H, Ar H, OOH).

In the same manner, the following dibromo hydroperoxides were prepared: (i) 14 (Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄), 65% yield (ether was used in place of carbon tetrachloride as the reaction solvent); NMR (CCl₄) 1.22 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.57 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.23 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 4.12 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.55 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 7.00 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 7.36 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 7.25 (s, 1 H, OOH). (ii) 14 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 67% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.28 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.73 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 4.16 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz), 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.70 (AB, *J* = 12 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 7.80 (m, 5 H, Ar H, OOH).

Synthesis of Bromo Hydroperoxides 9. The following peroxides were prepared by the Kopecky⁵ method from the olefins 8, 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin, and 90% hydrogen peroxide (ethereal solution dried over calcium sulfate) in ether solution: (i) 9 (Ar = C₆H₅), 58% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.74 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.80 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 2.00 (s, 3 H, ArC(OOH)CH₃), 7.2-7.6 (m, 6 H, C₆H₅, OOH). (ii) 9 (Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄), 13% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.65 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.74 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.87 (s, 3 H, ArC(OOH)CH₃), 7.0-7.7 (m, 5 H, C₆H₄, OOH). 10 (Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄), 32% yield; 1.68 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.80 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.95 (s, 3 H, ArC(OOH)CH₃), 7.0-7.7 (m, 5 H, C₆H₄, OOH). (iii) 9 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 5% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.60 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.71 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.90 (s, 3 H, ArC(OOH)CH₃), 7.25-7.65 (m, 5 H, C₆H₄, OOH). 10 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 37% yield; 1.60 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.78 (s, 3 H, C(Br)CH₃), 1.87 (s, 3 H, ArC(OOH)CH₃), 7.25-7.65 (m, 5 H, C₆H₄, OOH). The isomeric mixtures of bromo hydroperoxides, obtained from olefins 8 (Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄ and *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), were not separated.

Synthesis of Dioxetanes 4. The general procedure for the preparation of tetrasubstituted dioxetanes⁶ was used here, where the dioxetanes were prepared with a four- to five-fold molar excess of silver salt to bromo hydroperoxide 9 or a mixture of 9 and 10 in carbon tetrachloride. Repeated low-temperature (-50 °C) silica gel (Baker, 60-200-mesh) chromatographies were required to obtain the dioxetanes. The major product of the reaction was the 3-methyl-3-aryl-2-butanone 26 (X = ²X = H). For example, bromo hydroperoxide 9 (Ar = C₆H₅) gave ketone 26 (X = ²X = H, Ar = C₆H₅): 77% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.44 (s, 6 H, C(CH₃)₂), 1.83 (s, 3 H, CH₃CO), 7.15 (s, 5 H, C₆H₅). Yields of dioxetanes were all extremely low (ca. 1%).

The following 3-aryl-3,4,4-trimethyl-1,2-dioxetanes 4 were prepared, and the silver salt, reaction temperature, and time are given: (i) 4 (Ar = C₆H₅), silver carbonate, 25 °C, 0.5 h; NMR (CCl₄) 1.11 (s, 3 H, *E*-4-CH₃), 1.57 (s, 3 H, *Z*-4-CH₃), 1.83 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 7.16 (s, 5 H, C₆H₅). (ii) 4 (Ar = *m*-BrC₆H₄), silver acetate, 0 °C, 3 h; NMR (CCl₄) 1.09 (s, 3 H, *E*-4-CH₃), 1.58 (s, 3 H, *Z*-4-CH₃), 1.79 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 7.05-7.3 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄). (iii) 4 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), silver perfluoroacetate, 0 °C, 3 h; NMR (CCl₄) 1.11 (s, 3 H, *E*-4-CH₃), 1.66 (s, 3 H, *Z*-4-CH₃), 1.87 (s, 3 H, 3-CH₃), 7.4-7.6 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄).

Synthesis of Dioxetanes 5 from Dibromo Hydroperoxides 14. A representative procedure is given for the preparation of

(31) Foote, C. S.; Denny, R. W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1971, 93, 5162.

series 5 dioxetanes from 14, where Ar = C₆H₅. A solution of 56.4 mg (0.167 mmol) of 14 (Ar = C₆H₅) in 12 mL of carbon tetrachloride and 6 mL of dichloromethane was allowed to stir with 49.5 mg (0.896 mmol) of silver acetate for 1.5 h at room temperature. The solid was filtered, and the filtrate was washed with 10 mL of 5% potassium hydroxide solution and then three 10-mL portions of water. The organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate, and the solvent was replaced with 100% carbon tetrachloride by repeated concentration on a rotary evaporator followed by dilution with carbon tetrachloride. Complete removal of solvent was avoided. The final solution was made up to 2.00 mL in a volumetric flask, 10 μ L of dichloromethane was added as an internal standard, and the concentration was determined by NMR: 69% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.21 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.48 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 3.89 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.31 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 7.06–7.25 (m, 5 H, C₆H₅). The dioxetane was further purified by low-temperature (–50 °C) silica gel chromatography with hexane–dichloromethane elution.

In a similar manner the following bromodioxetanes were prepared: (i) 5 (Ar = *p*-CH₃C₆H₄), 86% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.20 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.46 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 2.30 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 3.89 (AB, *J* = 5 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.31 (AB, *J* = 5 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 6.9 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 7.1 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H). (ii) 5 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄), 5% yield; NMR (CCl₄) 1.21 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.56 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 3.92 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.31 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 7.3–7.8 (m, 4 H, C₆H₄).

The remaining series 5 dioxetanes were isolated from the silver salt reaction of bromo hydroperoxide 9, which was apparently contaminated with dibromohydroperoxides. A four- to fivefold molar excess of silver salt was used, based on 9; the workup was similar to that used with dioxetanes 4 where repeated low-temperature silica gel chromatographies were used. The following series 5 dioxetanes were isolated in this manner where the silver salt, solvent, reaction temperature, and time are given: (i) 5 (Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂), silver oxide, ether, 0 °C, 3.5 h; NMR (CCl₄) 1.27 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.49 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 2.12 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 2.26 (s, 6 H, *m*-CH₃), 3.8 and 4.3 (2 H, CH₂Br), 6.67 (s, 2 H, C₆H₂). The concentration of the dioxetane was determined by NMR vs. dichloromethane internal standard and by iodometric titration.³² The two values were within 10% of each other: (ii) 5 (Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄), silver acetate, carbon tetrachloride, 23 °C, 10 min; NMR (CCl₄) 1.29 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.56 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 3.77 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃O), 3.86 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.26 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 6.73 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 6.98 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H). (iii) 5 (Ar = 3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃), silver carbonate, carbon tetrachloride, room temperature, 20 min; NMR (CCl₄) 1.26 (s, 3 H, Z-3-CH₃), 1.51 (s, 3 H, E-3-CH₃), 3.8 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 4.3 (AB, *J* = 10 Hz, 1 H, CH₂Br), 6.9 (m, 3 H, Ar-H).

Bromo Hydroperoxide and Dioxetane 3 Synthesis. The previously reported procedure for preparation of bromo hydroperoxides^{4,5} was employed here with THF solvent. Pure bromo hydroperoxides were not isolated, but instead directly converted to the dioxetanes in low yields (0.1–0.3% based on the olefin). Silver acetate was used to convert the bromo hydroperoxide to dioxetane for 3 (Ar = *p*-BrC₆H₄ and *m*-BrC₆H₄), while silver trifluoroacetate was used for 3 (Ar = *m*-CF₃C₆H₄). For the remaining dioxetanes, the crude bromo hydroperoxides spontaneously yielded the dioxetanes. For all of the dioxetanes, repeated low-temperature (–10 °C coolant) silica gel (Baker) chromatography was required to obtain sufficiently pure samples. The major

product in these reactions was the rearranged ketone, i.e., 3,3-diaryl-2-butanone. The dioxetanes were quantitatively analyzed iodometrically³² and by NMR with CH₂Cl₂ internal standard vs. the dioxetane ring methyl protons. These analyses agreed within $\pm 10\%$.

NMR data for series 3 dioxetanes (CCl₄): Ar = *cis*-C₆H₅, 1.96 (s, 6 H), 6.89 (s, 10 H); Ar = *trans*-C₆H₅, 1.42 (s, 6 H), 7.28 (s, 10 H); Ar = *cis-p*-CH₃OC₆H₄, 1.95 (s, 6 H), 3.63 (s, 11.54), 6.4–7.2 (m). Additional impurity absorptions were observed at 3.75, 3.83 (m, 24 H), and 4.02 (m, 7 H), which also contributed to the dioxetane methoxy and aromatic absorptions: Ar = *cis*-3,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃, 1.91 (s, 6 H), 2.23, 2.29 (2 s, 14 H, impurity present), 6.63, 6.71 (m, 6.5 H); Ar = *cis-p*-CH₃C₆H₄, 1.91 (s, 6 H), 2.2 (s, 6.8 H), 6.8 (m, 10.9 H); Ar = *cis-p*-BrC₆H₄, 1.93 (s, 6 H), 7.0 (m, 15 H), impurity 1.60 (s, 2 H); Ar = *cis-m*-BrC₆H₄, 1.99 (s, 6 H), 6.99 (m, 14.7 H). The rearranged ketone, 3,3-bis(3-bromophenyl)-2-butanone (1.73, s, 1.99, s, 6.99, m) contributed to the high aromatic proton area: Ar = *trans-m*-BrC₆H₄, 1.41 (s, 6 H), 7.36 (m, 8.5 H); Ar = *cis-m*-CF₃C₆H₄, 2.04 (s, 6 H), 7.04 (m, 19 H), impurity 1.39 (s, 6 H).

Product Studies. Carbon tetrachloride solutions of dioxetanes 5 (Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂ and *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄), which contained dichloromethane internal standard, were sealed in NMR tubes and heated at 80 °C for a minimum of 5 half-lives. Acetone and the two phenacyl bromides were produced in quantitative yield as determined by NMR. Spectral data for the phenacyl bromides are as follows: (i) 2-Bromo-1-(3,4,5-trimethylphenyl)ethanone from 5 (Ar = 3,4,5-(CH₃)₃C₆H₂); NMR (CCl₄) 2.20 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃), 2.31 (s, 6 H, *m*-CH₃), 4.16 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br), 7.47 (s, 2 H, C₆H₂); MS, *m/e* 242 (M⁺, 34.5%), 240 (M⁺, 34.5%), 147 ((CH₃)₃C₆H₂CO⁺, 100%). (ii) 2-Bromo-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethanone from 5 (Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄); NMR (CCl₄) 3.83 (s, 3 H, *p*-CH₃O), 4.18 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br), 6.79 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, Ar H), 7.79 (AB, *J* = 9 Hz, 2 H, (M⁺, H); MS, *m/e* 230 (M⁺, 9.3%), 228 (M⁺, 9.6%), 135 (*p*-CH₃OC₆H₄CO⁺, 100%).

Quantitative or nearly quantitative yields of acetone and the phenacyl bromide or acetophenone were observed by NMR analyses for the remaining 4 and 5 series dioxetanes.

As a further check on the NMR and iodometric dioxetane analyses, GC analysis (5 ft \times 1/8 in. 15% DC 550 on Chromosorb W column, 192 °C column temperature, 28 mL nA/m) was carried out on 3 (Ar = *p*-BrC₆H₄) by thermolyzing the sample in the GC instrument. On the basis of a quantitative formation of *p*-bromoacetophenone from the dioxetane, the initial dioxetane concentration was calculated to be 1.40×10^{-2} M by GLC. This value can be compared with the dioxetane concentrations determined by NMR (1.50×10^{-2} M) and by iodometric means (1.56×10^{-2} M).

Light Emission and Kinetic Studies. Methods for obtaining singlet/triplet efficiencies and rate coefficients were previously described.^{25d} Rate coefficients for the thermolysis of 5 (Ar = *p*-CH₃OC₆H₄) in carbon tetrachloride at 80 °C obtained by NMR [(4.5 \pm 0.3) $\times 10^{-4}$ s^{–1}] and by light emission [(4.73 \pm 0.10) $\times 10^{-4}$ s^{–1}] were within experimental error.

Acknowledgment. We thank the National Science Foundation (Grant NSF/RUI CHE 8413738) and the Army Research Office for support of this work.

Supplementary Material Available: Tables of apparent chemiluminescence quantum yield vs. acceptor concentrations (DBA or DPA) from which α_T and α_S values are calculated (12 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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