

Ene Reaction of C₆₀ and 3-Methylene-2,3-Dihydrofuran

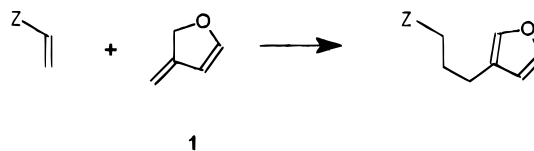
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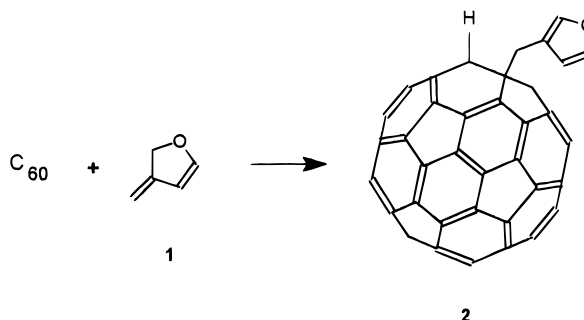
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The fascinating chemical, physical, and biological properties of fullerenes have incited a flurry of research activity.¹ Although C₆₀ reactivity is extensive and multifaceted,^{2–8} the preparation and isolation of pure, well-characterized fullerene derivatives remains an im-

portant objective. Among the most useful methods for the functionalization of fullerenes are the cycloaddition reactions^{2–4} such as the Diels–Alder reaction. The facile participation of C₆₀ in electrocyclic reactions as a dieneophile⁹ and dipolarophile prompted Wu^{5a} and Komatsu^{5b} to study the enophilic behavior of C₆₀. The reaction of C₆₀ with 1-heptene,^{5a} 4-allylanisole,^{5a} and 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-[(trimethylsiloxy)allyl]benzene^{5b} were the first published reports of an ene reaction¹⁰ with a fullerene. We have independently investigated the ene reaction of C₆₀ with 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran (**1**), the alicyclic isomer of 3-methylfuran, which readily undergoes the ene reaction with simple electron deficient alkenes.¹¹ We now report that the ene reaction of C₆₀ with 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran gives an easily isolated fullerene addition product in good yield.



The reaction of C₆₀ with 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran (10 equivs) in toluene at 25 °C for 22 h gave 1-(3-furylmethyl)-1,9-dihydrofullerene-60 (**2**) as a brown solid in 46% yield (50% yield based on recovered C₆₀), along with recovered C₆₀ and fullerene products tentatively identified as the multiple addition products.^{12,13} Longer reaction times, higher concentrations of **1**, and/or higher temperatures gave higher conversion of C₆₀ but also gave higher yields of the multiple addition products. Dihydrofullerene **2** was easily separated from C₆₀ and the other fullerene products by flash chromatography on silica gel.



The ¹H NMR of **2** had resonances for the three furyl protons at δ 8.03, 7.64, and 6.92, and for the methylene protons at δ 4.60. These protons were shifted substan-

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(9) Studies by Wilson (ref 2f) suggest that the reactivity of C₆₀ as a dieneophile is comparable to *N*-phenylmaleimide.

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(12) The black solid had numerous peaks in the ¹H NMR between δ 4.0–4.9, 5.9–7.2 and 7.5–8.1. Mass spectral analysis suggests that the compound is a mixture of the isomeric bis-adducts: HRMS calcd for C₇₀H₁₀O₂ 884.0837; found 884.1167.

(13) Although the Diels–Alder reaction of a furan-containing resin with C₆₀ has been reported (ref 2k), we did not observe Diels–Alder products of C₆₀ or fullerene **2** with 3-methylfuran (an unavoidable side product in the preparation of 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran).

tially downfield due to the deshielding effect of the C₆₀ moiety.¹⁴ The singlet at δ 6.72 for the C₆₀-H underwent slow exchange with D₂O. The 35 peaks in the ¹³C NMR spectrum suggest C_s symmetry, assuming that two carbon resonances are overlapping in the δ 142–148 region.¹⁵ The signals appearing at δ 42.65 for the CH₂ group, δ 59.33 and 65.52 for the sp³ carbons of the C₆₀ core, δ 112.99 and 120.37 for the C-3 and C-4 furyl carbons, and between δ 136–157 for the remaining furyl carbons and sp² carbons of the C₆₀ core are consistent with the structure depicted for fullerene **2**. The notable bands in the UV-vis of **2** are at 432 and 704 nm, consistent with the spectra of other C₆₀ fullerene 6,6-addition products.^{2j,4d,5,6} The addition of 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran across a 6,6 junction is not surprising in view of the numerous examples of addition reactions in the literature and the theoretical calculations for the stability of the addition products of nonsterically demanding groups.^{6d,6g,8,16}

The facile ene reaction of C₆₀ with 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran provides further evidence that the ene reaction will be an important method for the functionalization of fullerenes. The chemical manipulation of the furan ring¹⁷ of **2** may provide a means of obtaining a whole host of new fullerene compounds, including water soluble fullerenes.²ⁱ Furthermore, the utility of 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran in the functionalization of C₆₀ underscores the potential for alicyclic isomers of aromatic compounds in synthesis of organic compounds.^{11,18}

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(15) Addition across a 6,5 junction would lead to a fullerene having C₁ symmetry, and hence 58 chemically distinct sp² carbons for the fullerene core. The 1,4-dihydrofullerene product (see Fagan's example in ref 6a and Kitagawa's example in ref 6g) also would have C₁ symmetry.

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Experimental Section

General. All reactions and purifications were carried out under argon in flame-dried glassware. Toluene was distilled from sodium/benzophenone immediately before use. The solvents used for column chromatography, UV-vis, and NMR were degassed before use. C₆₀ was purchased from Fullerenes Enterprise and used without further purification.

NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AC-300 NMR spectrophotometer. Infrared spectra were obtained on a Mattson Cygnus 100 FT/IR spectrometer. UV-vis were obtained on a Hewlett Packard Model 8452 Diode array UV-vis spectrometer. Microanalysis was performed at Atlantic Microlab, Inc.

1-(3-Furylmethyl)-1,9-dihydrofullerene-60 (2). To a solution of C₆₀ (0.360 g, 0.50 mmol) in toluene (150 mL) was added 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran (0.50 mL of a 4:1 mixture of 3-methylene-2,3-dihydrofuran: 3-methylfuran, 4.9 mmol). After stirring at 25 °C for 22 h, silica gel (4 g) was added, and the volatile organic compounds were removed under reduced pressure at room temperature. Flash chromatography (silica gel, 200 g) with 99:1 cyclohexane:toluene first gave C₆₀ (0.031 g, 9%) as a purple solid and then **2** (0.184 g, 46% yield, 50% based on recovered C₆₀) as a brown solid. Further elution with 98:2 cyclohexane:toluene gave a black solid tentatively identified as multiple addition products (0.047 g).¹² For **2**: mp > 250 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CS₂:(CD₃)₂CO, 5:1) δ 8.03 (1H, br s), 7.64 (1H, m), 6.92 (1H, br s), 6.72 (1H, s), 4.65 (2H, s); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CS₂:(CH₃)₂CO, 4:1, 0.03 M Cr(acac)₃) 155.89, 154.38, 147.75, 147.58, 147.34, 146.71, 146.63, 146.54, 146.48, 146.10, 145.87, 145.75, 145.71, 145.68, 145.05, 144.90, 144.07, 143.57, 143.40, 142.90, 142.69, 142.58, 142.38, 142.31, 142.20, 141.97, 140.55, 140.48, 136.67, 136.54, 120.37, 112.99, 65.52, 59.33, 42.65; IR (KBr pellet) 1510, 1461, 1427, 1258, 1214, 1182, 1160, 1024, 872, 777, 759, 744, 725, 599, 580, 526 cm⁻¹; UV-vis (hexane) λ_{max} 222, 256, 306, 324, 404, 432, 704; HRMS calcd for C₆₅H₆O 802.0419; found 802.0593. Anal. Calcd for C₆₅H₆O: C, 97.25; H, 0.75. Found: C, 96.42; H, 1.15.

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Supporting Information Available: Copies of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, UV-vis spectrum, and IR spectrum of **2** (5 pages). This material is contained in libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.

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