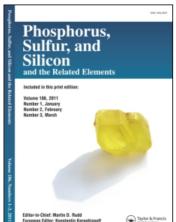
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Syntheses of Unique Bicyclophostones and Unexpected Difference in the Reaction of Lawesson'S Reagent vs. P₂S₅ with Cis-Bicyclophostone (1)

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The purpose of this study was to synthesize trans-1 and determine the equilibrium constant with cis-1. Only the synthesis1 and x-ray structure2 of the cis isomer have been reported. Four prior synthetic routes to make the trans isomer³ gave only cis product. For example, intramolecular ring closure of the cis or trans isomers of 4 (R= (CH₂)₃OH) with LiH or thermal closure of the cis or trans 4 (R= (CH₂)₃I) gave only cis-1. Since both isomers of 1,8-dioxabicyclo (4.4.0) decane are known and readily equilibrate (57% cis and 43% trans), the apparent inaccessibility of trans-1 attracted our attention. The preparation of trans-1 was achieved by treatment of cis-1 with Lawesson's reagent (LR) to provide cis-2, followed by oxidation with m-chloroperbenzoic acid/trifluoroacetic acid to give a 5:1 mixture of cis:trans 1, respectively. An unexpected formation of the sulfur analogue of 1 was observed on treatment of cis-1 with P2Ss/pyridine at reflux temperatures to give a 1.6:1 mixture of cis:trans 3, respectively. Thermal equilibration of 1 at 204°C provided an equilibrium ratio of 99.5% cis and 0.5% of the trans isomer. However, equilibration of 3 at 250 °C led to 82.2:17.8 ratio in favor of the cis isomer. These results are consistent with semiemperical MO calculations. The stereochemical outcome on treatment of 4 with LR was also investigated. X-ray structures for six compounds: trans-1, cis-2, cis and trans-3; cis-4 (R=Ph), and cis-5, (R = Ph) were determined.

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