

# SYNTHESIS OF NEW $\alpha$ -CHLOROACRYL-AMIDES, THIOAMIDES AND AMIDINES FROM SATURATED AMIDES

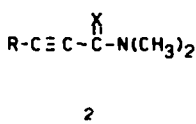
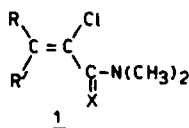
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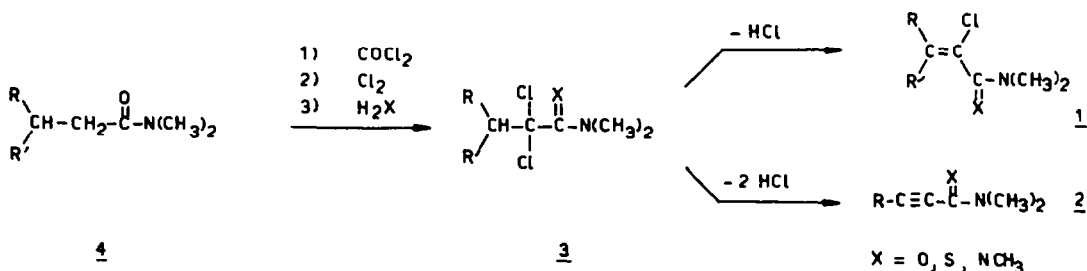
**Abstract** Chlorination of saturated amide-chlorides followed by hydrolysis thiolysis, aminolysis and catalysed dehydrochlorination leads to  $\alpha$ -chloro acrylamide derivatives in high yield. The reaction sequence is applied to lactames and can also be extended to the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -chloro acrylthioamide and amidine

Our continuing interest in double or triple bond activation by polar substituents<sup>1</sup> is centered in this publication on the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -chloroacrylamides **1a**, thioamides **1b** and amidines **1c**, which are mostly new and promise many applications for hetero and homocyclisations and for other additions reactions which will be reported in following papers<sup>2,3</sup>



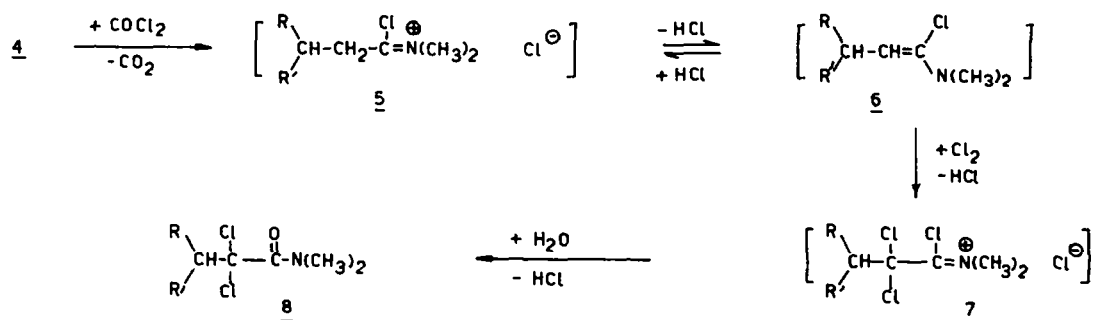
- a) X = O
- b) X = S
- c) X = NCH<sub>3</sub>

Our approach to acrylic compounds **1**, and also to alkyne **2**, is based on a catalytic dehydrochlorination of the  $\alpha$ -dichloro-amide derivatives **3**, which in turn can be obtained from saturated amides **4**



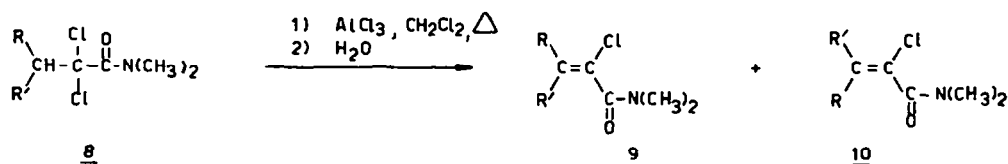
The first reaction step constitutes the already described chlorination of the amide chlorides **5** (in equilibrium with the  $\alpha$ -chloro-enamines **6**<sup>4</sup>). The salts **7** are not isolated and their hydrolysis gives the dichloroamides **8** as exemplified in Table I

Scheme 1

Table I Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -dichloro-amides **8**

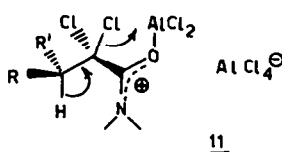
Compound	R	R'	Yield of <b>8</b> (%)	Ref
a	H	H	62-72	4
b	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	62	4
c	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	78	this work
d	nC <sub>13</sub> H <sub>27</sub>	H	56	this work

Whereas hydrochloric acid elimination by bases is not satisfactory<sup>5</sup>, the reaction of **8** with two equivalents of technical grade aluminium chloride in refluxing dichloromethane affords the acrylic derivatives **9** and **10** in good yields (Table II). These compounds are stable and are purified by distillation, except in the case of **9d**, which is isolated by column chromatography<sup>6</sup>.

Table II Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -chloro-acryl-amides **9** and **10**

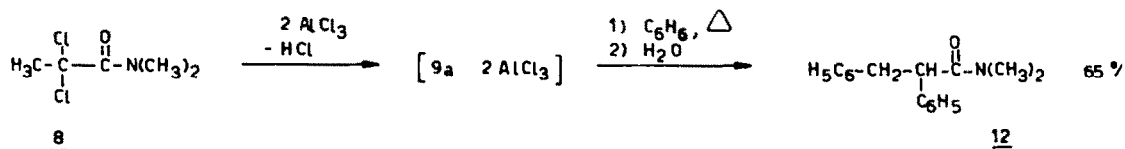
Compound	R	R'	Yield of <b>9+10</b> (%)	<b>9</b> <b>10</b>
a	H	H	84	-
b	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	82	96 4
c	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	73	-
d	nC <sub>13</sub> H <sub>27</sub>	H	78	100 0

This elimination proceeds with high stereoselectivity (as exemplified by **8b** and **8d**). The use of only one equivalent of aluminium chloride results in a lowering of the reaction rate and yield. This dependance on the amount of Lewis acid can be explained by the formation of a complex salt **11** as a prerequisite to induce elimination of hydrochloric acid.



The reaction time varies from 24 to 48 hours, depending on the grade of aluminium chloride which is neither purified nor ground before use. The synthesis of **9a** can be run on a 100 gr scale.

The use of benzene as solvent with **8a** leads to the formation of the diphenyl propionamide **12** in the isolated yield of 65 %, by successive elimination and double arylation of **9a**.



The sequence described in scheme I can also be applied to cyclic N-methylated amides **13**, leading to their dichloro derivatives **14** and to the new unsaturated lactams **15** in excellent yields (Table III).

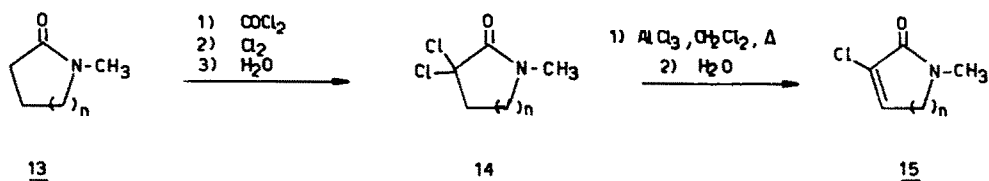
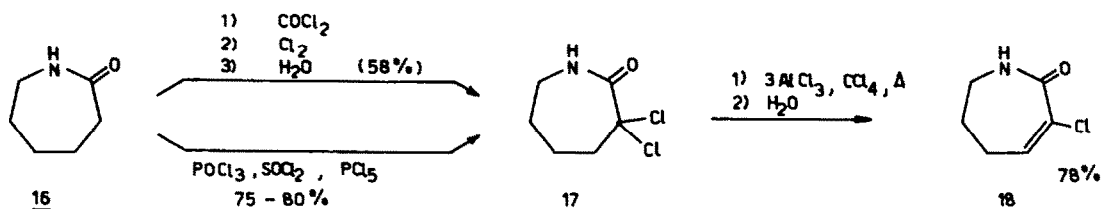


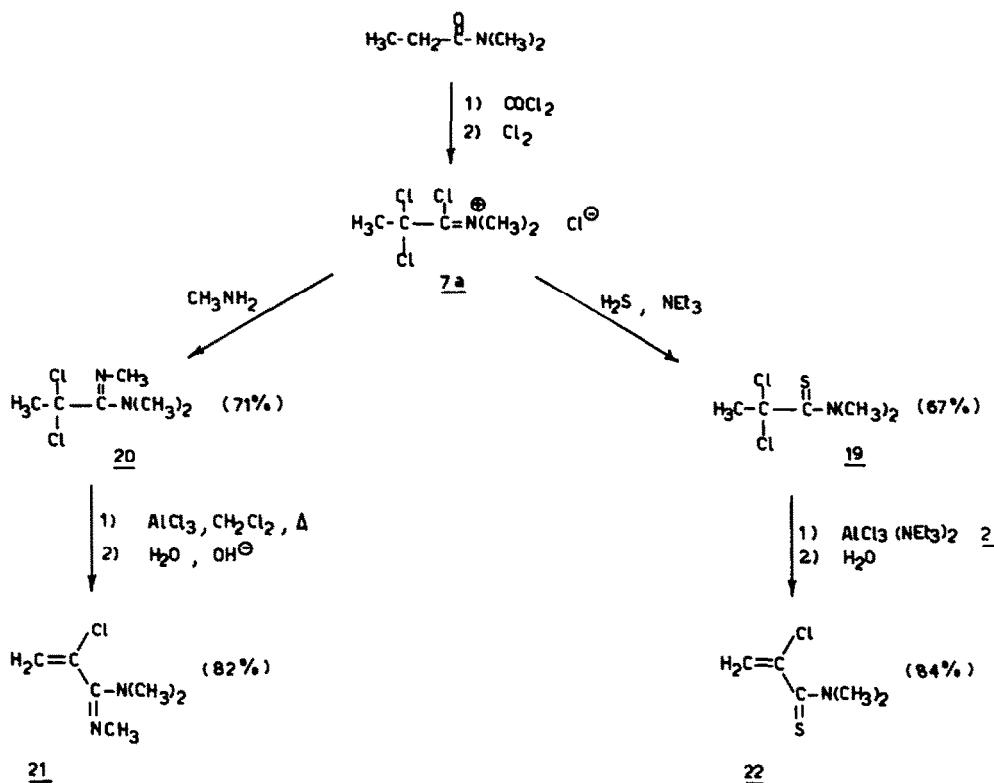
Table III Synthesis of the  $\alpha$ -dichloro-lactams **14** and  $\alpha$ -chloro- $\alpha,\beta$ -dehydro-lactams **15**

Compound	n	<b>14</b> %	<b>15</b> %
a	1	40 (lit <sup>4</sup> 48)	[93] <sup>7</sup>
b	2	74	95
c	3	70	94

Analogously, caprolactam itself can be chlorinated to give the  $\alpha$ -dichloro derivative **17**, either by the use of phosgene and chlorine, or by treatment with a mixture of  $\text{POCl}_3$ ,  $\text{SOCl}_2$  and  $\text{PCl}_5$ .<sup>8</sup> In the case of this secondary amide **17**, the elimination reaction needs 3 equivalents of Lewis acid and higher temperature (refluxing tetrachloromethane), giving **18** in 78 % yield.<sup>5</sup>



The salt **6a** ( $\text{R}, \text{R}' = \text{H}$ ) can also be thiolysed with hydrogen sulfide or aminolysed with methylamine. These two reactions lead to the thioamide **19** and amidine **20** in 67 and 71 % yield respectively. In the presence of aluminium chloride and in refluxing dichloromethane, compound **20** is transformed into the expected 2-chloro-propenamide **21** in 82 % yield. In the case of **19**, the modified reagent **23**<sup>9</sup> is necessary to perform elimination of  $\text{HCl}$ , the ensuing aqueous work-up leads to the new acrylic thioamide **22** with 84 % yield.



Despite modification of work-up procedures, the use of "free" aluminium chloride to perform the reaction step 19 to 22 leads always to a mixture of 22 and 9a, but when the complex 23 is used, no amide 9a is detected. The absence of 9a is probably due to a weakening of the thioamide complex during hydrolysis.

The reactions described in this paper permit an efficient synthesis of the new or little known acrylic monomers<sup>10</sup> whose potential is being explored in our group. Furthermore, if aluminium chloride is widely used in Friedel-Crafts type reactions and for rearrangements of carbon skeletons<sup>11</sup>, its efficiency for dehydrohalogenation reactions is much less documented<sup>12</sup>. The use of cheap reagents like phosgene, chlorine and aluminium chloride, under mild conditions, represents a very useful method for derivatisations of saturated amides.

#### Experimental Part

Boiling points are uncorrected, melting points were measured on a Leitz Wetzlar HM Lux and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution using TMS as internal reference at 200 MHz on Varian XL-200 spectrometer or at 60 MHz on Varian EM-360 (s=singulet, d=doublet, t=triplet, m=multiplet, J=coupling constant in Hz). Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 297 infrared spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on Varian Mat-445 spectrometer and are given for the 35 chlorine isotope (under brackets for other isotopes). Microanalyses were performed by the microanalyses Laboratory of the University of Wien.

#### N,N-dimethyl 2,2-dichloro propanamide 8a<sup>4</sup>

101 grs (1 mole) of phosgene are added to a cold (-78°C) solution of 101 grs (1 mole) of N,N-dimethyl propanamide in 200 ml of dichloromethane. The temperature is then slowly raised and kept at 20°C until the end of evolution of CO<sub>2</sub> (~1 hour). The mixture is then saturated with chlorine when keeping the temperature below 30°C by use of an ice-bath. After standing during 12 hours, the mixture is hydrolysed by careful addition of 200 ml of water. After neutralization by sodium carbonate, the dichloroamide is extracted with dichloromethane, dried on sodium sulfate and distilled at 80°C/17 Torr<sub>-1</sub> (yield = 105 to 124 grs, 62 to 74%). IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 2950, 1640, 1370, 1080 cm<sup>-1</sup>. NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.33(3H,s), 3.20(6H,s) ppm. MS(m/e) = 169 (173), 135(137), 120, 100.

**N,N-dimethyl 2,2-dichloro butanamide 8b<sup>4</sup>**

Same procedure as for 8a 105 grs (0.91 mole) of N,N-butanamide give, after distillation at 98°C/17 Torr, 103.5 grs (62%) of 8b as a colourless liquid IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 2940, 1640, 1380, 1060  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.20 (3H,t), 2.70 (2H,q), 3.30 (6H,s) ppm MS(m/e) = 182 (185), 148, 113

**N,N-dimethyl 2,2-dichloro 3-methyl butanamide 8c**

Same procedure as for 8a 11.4 grs (0.1 mole) of NN dimethyl 3 methyl butanamide give 15.6 grs (78%) of 8c Bp 115°C/17 Torr IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 2940, 1630, 1380, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.18 (6H,d, J = 6 Hz), 2.96 (1H,m, J = 6 Hz), 3.20 (6H,s) ppm MS(m/e) = 197 (199, 201), 162 (164), 127, 118 (120)

**N,N-dimethyl 2,2-dichloro hexadecanamide 8d**

Same procedure as for 8a 19.7 grs (0.07 mole) of N,N-dimethyl palmitic amide lead to 13.8 grs (56%) of 8d purified by column chromatography (silica, benzene, Rf = 0.7) IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 2920, 1640, 1385, 1050  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  RMN ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.1-1.9 (27H,m), 2.4 (2H,t), 3.1 (6H,s) ppm MS(m/e) = 351 (353, 355), 316 (318), 177, 154 (156)

**N-methyl 3,3-dichloro pyrrolidone 14a<sup>4</sup>**

Same procedure as for 8a 4.9 grs of 13a afford 3.27 grs (40%) of 4a (lit.<sup>4</sup> 48%) Bp 130°C/17 Torr M p 40°C (lit. 42°C) IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 2950, 1710, 1290, 840  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.86 (2H,t, J = 5.8 Hz), 2.95 (3H,s), 3.45 (2H,t, J = 5.8 Hz) ppm  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}$  (162.03) found (calc.) C 36.00 (35.74), H 4.55 (4.20), Cl = 41.99 (42.20), N = 8.42 (8.34)

**N-methyl 3,3-dichloro piperidone 14b**

Same procedure as for 8a 12 grs of 13b (0.106 moles) furnish, after crystallization from diisopropylether, 14.22 grs (74%) of 14b as white crystals (m p 81.5°C) IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 2950, 1655, 1195, 805  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.11 (2H,m), 2.77 (2H,m), 2.97 (3H,s), 3.88 (2H,t, J = 5.6 Hz) ppm MS(m/e) = 181 (183, 185), 146 (148), 118 (120), 96, 72  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}$  (182.06) found (calc.) C 39.87 (39.58), H 5.11 (4.98), Cl 38.81 (38.95), N 7.83 (7.69)

**N-methyl 3,3-dichloro caprolactame 14c**

Same procedure as for 8a 8.85 grs (0.07 mole) of 13c give, after purification on column chromatography (alumina,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6/\text{AcOEt}$  3/7), 9.5 grs (70%) of 14c as colorless oil (m p ~ 15°C) IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 2950, 1640, 1390, 1170, 980  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.85 (4H,m), 2.56 (3H,m), 3.05 (3H,s), 3.55 (2H,m) ppm MS(m/e) = 195 (197, 199), 160 (162), 132 (134), 96

 **$\alpha$ -dichloro caprolactame 17**

Same procedure as for 8a 113 grs (1 mole) of caprolactame 16 furnish, after crystallization from methanol, 105 grs (58%) of 17 as white crystals M p 126°C (lit. 124-126°C) IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3400, 3250, 2950, 1660, 1260, 890  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.4-2.3 (4H,m), 2.63 (2H,m), 3.43 (2H,m), 7.65 (1H,N-H) ppm MS(m/e) = 181 (183, 185), 146 (148), 111, 96  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}$  (182.06) found (calc.) C 39.85 (39.58), H 5.05 (4.98), Cl 38.87 (38.95), N 7.91 (7.69)

**N,N-dimethyl 2,2-dichloro propanethioamide 19**

50.5 grs (0.5 mole) of phosgene are added to 50.5 grs (0.5 mole) of N,N-dimethylpropanamide dissolved in 100 ml of dichloromethane at -78°C. The temperature is then slowly raised and kept at 20°C until end of evolution of  $\text{CO}_2$  (~ 1 hour). The mixture is then saturated by chlorine, when keeping the temperature below 30° by use of ice-bath. After standing for 12 hours, the excess chlorine and the formed HCl are removed by passing a stream of nitrogen into the reaction mixture. The solution is then saturated with  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  and 75 grs (0.75 mole) of  $\text{NEt}_3$  are added. Stirring is maintained during 6 hours. The mixture is poured into 300 ml of water and the thioamide is extracted by dichloromethane, dried on sodium sulfate and distilled at 74°C/0.4 Torr. Yield 61.5 grs (67%) Yellow liquid which crystallizes slowly (m p 30°C) IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 2950, 1380, 1060, 920  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.59 (3H,s), 3.47 (3H,s), 4.55 (3H,s) ppm MS(m/e) = 185 (187, 189), 150 (152), 115, 100, 88

**N,N,N'-trimethyl 2,2-dichloro propaneamidine 20**

The amide chloride 6a is prepared from 50.5 grs (0.5 mole) of N,N-dimethylpropanamide as for 19. After standing during 12 hours and elimination of the excess of  $\text{Cl}_2$  and HCl, the reaction mixture is aminolyzed by gaseous methylamine and poured into aqueous sodium hydroxide solution. After extraction by dichloromethane, drying on sodium carbonate and evaporation of solvent, 20 is distilled at 81°C/17 Torr. Yield 64.6 grs (71%) IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 2930, 1620, 1440, 1340, 1050  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.37 (3H,s), 2.97 (6H,s), 3.15 (3H,s) ppm MS(m/e) = 182 (184, 186),

157(159), 132(134), 106(108), 103(105), 85

#### N,N-dimethyl 2-chloro propenamide 9a

119 grs (0.7 mole) of a solution of **8a** in 100 ml of dichloromethane is added dropwise to 200 grs (1.5 mole) of aluminium chloride in 300 ml of dichloromethane. The mixture is refluxed until end of evolution of HCl. After cooling, the dark solution is poured into a cold solution of 180 grs (4.5 moles) of sodium hydroxide in 500 ml of water. 60 grs of ammonium chloride are then added and the aluminium salts are filtered through celite. The filtrate is decanted and the aqueous layer is extracted by dichloromethane. The combined organic phases are dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated. The amide **9a** is then distilled at 78°C/17 Torr as a colorless liquid. Yield: 87 grs (93%). IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 3050, 2990, 1640, 1400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 3.03 (6H, s), 5.61 (1H, d,  $J$  = 2 Hz), 5.63 (1H, d,  $J$  = 2 Hz) ppm. MS (m/e) = 133(135), 118(120), 81(83).

#### N,N-dimethyl 2-chloro-butenamides 9b and 10b

Same procedure as for **9a**. 91.5 grs (0.5 mole) of **8b** furnish 60.3 grs (82%) of a 96/4 mixture of **9b** and **10b** (determined by gas chromatography). B.p. 100°C/17 Torr (colorless liquid). IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 3070, 2980, 1620, 1400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR (for **9b**) ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.84 (3H, d,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz), 2.97 (6H, s), 5.95 (1H, q,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz) ppm. MS (m/e) = 147(149), 132(135), 103.

#### N,N-dimethyl 2-chloro-3-methyl butenamide 9c

Same procedure as for **9a**. 4 grs of **8c** yield 2.35 grs (73%) of **9c** as a colorless liquid boiling at 130°C/17 Torr. IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 3050, 2990, 1620, 1300  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.78 (2H, s), 1.87 (3H, s), 3.02 (6H, d) ppm. MS (m/e) = 161(163), 146(148), 131, 116.

#### N,N-dimethyl 2-chloro hexadecenamide 9d

Same procedure as for **9a**. 6 grs of **8d** give, after purification by column chromatography over alumina (eluent chloroform), 4.18 grs (78%) of **9d** as a yellowish oil. IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3070, 2970, 1620, 1410  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 0.9-2.23 (27H, m), 3.02 (6H, s), 5.97 (1H, t,  $J$  = 7 Hz) ppm. MS (m/e) = 315(319), 300(302), 280, 271(273).

#### N-methyl 3-chloro-3,4-dehydropyrrolidone 15a

Same procedure as for **9a**. 2 grs of **14a** afford 2.44 grs (93%) of **15a** which is rather unstable and could not be purified neither by distillation nor by crystallization. M.p. 30°C (dec). IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3050, 2940, 1690, 1380, 1240  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 3.10 (3H, s), 4.02 (2H, d,  $J$  = 1.9 Hz), 7.0 (1H, t,  $J$  = 1.9 Hz) ppm. SM (m/e) = 131(133), 116(117), 88(70).

#### N-methyl 3-chloro-3,4-dehydropiperidone 15b

Same procedure as for **9a**. 10 grs (0.05 mole) of **14b** furnish, after Kugelrohr distillation at 93°C/0.02 Torr, 7.58 grs (95%) of a colorless liquid which slowly crystallizes. IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3050, 2940, 1650, 1605, 1375  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.47 (2H, td,  $J_1$  = 7.2 Hz,  $J_2$  = 4.6 Hz), 3.00 (3H, s), 3.45 (2H, t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 6.63 (1H, t,  $J$  = 4.6 Hz) ppm.  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{ClNO}$  (145.59) found (calc.) C = 49.78(49.50), H = 5.49(5.54), Cl = 24.15(24.35), N = 9.71(9.62).

#### N-methyl 3-chloro-3,4-dehydrocaprolactame 15c

Same procedure as for **9a**. 5.07 grs (0.026 mole) of **14c** furnish, after Kugelrohr distillation at 98°C/0.03 Torr, 3.89 grs (94%) of **15c** as a colorless liquid which slowly crystallizes on cooling. IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3050, 2940, 1660, 1605, 1430  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.73-2.43 (4H, m), 3.05 (3H, s), 3.85 (2H, t,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz), 6.37 (1H, t,  $J$  = 7 Hz) ppm. MS (m/e) = 159(161), 124(126), 106, 84.  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{ClNO}$  (159.62) found (calc.) C = 52.85(52.67), H = 6.31(6.31), N = 8.84(8.78).

#### 3-chloro-3,4-dehydrocaprolactame 18

90.5 grs (0.5 mole) of **17** dissolved in a minimum amount of warm dichloromethane are added to 220 grs (1.6 mole) of aluminium chloride in 300 mls of carbon tetrachloride. The mixture is then refluxed until end of evolution of HCl (~20 hours). After cooling, the dark solution is poured into a solution of 180 grs (4.5 moles) of sodium hydroxide in 500 mls of ice cold water. 60 grs of ammonium chloride are added and the precipitate is filtered through celite. The filtrate is extracted by dichloromethane. After drying over sodium sulfate and evaporation of solvent, the resulting solid is recrystallized from methanol to give 56.6 grs (78%) of **18** as a white solid (m.p. 83°C). IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3410, 3220, 3050, 2980, 1630, 1605, 1410  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 1.95 (2H, m), 2.28 (2H, m), 3.05 (2H, m), 6.52 (1H, t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz), 8.12 (1H, N-H) ppm. MS (m/e) = 145(147, 149), 116(117), 102(104), 88, 70.  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClNO}$  (145.59) found (calc.) C = 49.53(49.50), H = 5.11(5.54), Cl = 24.19(24.35), N = 9.72(9.62).

**N,N-dimethyl 2,3-diphenyl propanamide 12**

A solution of 8.5 grs (0.05 mole) of **8a** in 10 ml of benzene is added to a suspension of 16 grs (0.12 mole) of aluminium chloride in 40 ml of benzene. The mixture is then refluxed during 40 hours and, after cooling, poured into a cold solution of 14.4 grs of sodium hydroxide in 80 ml of water. 6 grs of ammonium chloride are added and the precipitate is filtered on celite. The filtrate is decanted and the aqueous layer is extracted by dichloromethane. The combined organic phases are dried on sodium sulfate and evaporated. The residue is recrystallized from cyclohexane giving 8.22 grs (65%) of **12** as white crystals (m.p. 85.5°C). IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3060, 2930, 1630, 1600, 1400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.7 (3H,s), 2.8 (3H,s), 2.91 (1H,dd,  $J$  = 7.03 Hz,  $J$  = 13.4 Hz), 3.46 (1H,dd,  $J$  = 7.98 Hz,  $J$  = 13.4 Hz), 3.4 (1H,dd,  $J$  = 7.98 Hz,  $J$  = 7.03 Hz), 7.15 (10H,m) ppm. MS(m/e) = 253, 238, 223, 207, 181, 162, 72.

**N,N,N'-trimethyl 2-chloropropenamidinium 21**

Same procedure as for **9a**. (The crude **21** is extracted with dichloromethane from the strongly alkaline solution). 25 grs (0.137 mole) of **20** give, after distillation at 63°C/17 Torr, 16.5 grs (82%) of **21** as a colourless liquid. IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 3050, 2950, 1680, 1605, 1480  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 2.88 (6H,s), 3.07 (3H,s), 5.32 (1H,d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz), 5.70 (1H,d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz) ppm. MS(m/e) = 146 (148), 111, 102 (104), 85.

**N,N-dimethyl 2-chloropropenethioamide 22**

86.8 grs (0.88 mole) of triethylamine are added to a suspension of 57.2 grs (0.44 mole) of aluminium chloride in 400 ml of dichloromethane. After stirring during 1 hour at room temperature, 40 grs (0.22 mole) of **19** are added. The mixture is refluxed until disappearance of the starting material ( $\sim$  10 hours, monitoring by TLC on silicagel, eluent  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ). The dark solution is then poured into 250 ml of ice cooled water. Extraction by dichloromethane, followed by drying on sodium sulfate and evaporation leads to a dark liquid which is distilled at 53°C/0.03 Torr to give 27.1 grs (84%) of **22** as a yellow liquid which must be kept at 0°C. IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\nu$  = 3050, 2980, 1620, 1500, 1385  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 3.34 (3H,s), 3.40 (3H,s), 5.38 (1H,d,  $J$  = 2.2 Hz), 5.48 (1H,d,  $J$  = 2.2 Hz) ppm. MS(m/e) = 147 (151), 134 (136), 105 (107), 61.

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