

The substituent effect on the cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium. Reaction of singlet oxygen with substituted cycloheptatrienes

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This paper is dedicated to Professor Waldemar Adam on the occasion of his 70th birthday

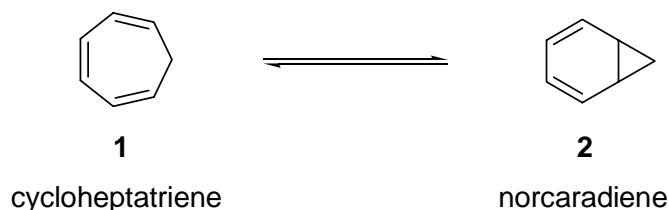
Abstract

Cycloaddition reaction of singlet oxygen and 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (PTAD) to various cycloheptatriene derivatives was investigated. The addition of PTAD to 3,8a-dihydroazulen-1(2*H*)-one gave exclusively a norcaradiene adduct whereas the addition to 3,4-dihydroazulen-1(2*H*)-one resulted in the formation of a cycloheptatriene adduct. Photooxygenation of dihydroazulen-1(2*H*)-one afforded solely a [2+4] cycloaddition product derived from cycloheptatriene. Photooxygenation of the reduced product, 1,2,3,8a-tetrahydroazulen-1-yl acetate gave the all possible cycloaddition products. The product distribution was not affected upon reduction of the carbonyl group. On the other hand, photooxygenation of dimethyl cyclohepta-3,5,7-triene-1,3-dicarboxylate gave mainly addition products derived from the norcaradiene structure. The formation of the products was explained by a photochemically allowed 1,7-suprafacial hydrogen shift under the reaction conditions followed by singlet oxygen addition.

Keywords: Cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium, singlet oxygen, 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione, cycloaddition

Introduction

The cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene (CHT-NOR) equilibrium has been substantially delineated by means of physical and chemical methods.¹ Cycloheptatriene undergoes two dynamic processes; valence isomerization and ring inversion.



Electron-accepting substituents such as CHO, COOR, CN, etc. at C-7 tend to shift the equilibrium to the norcaradiene (**2**) side, while π -electron-donating substituents, such as OR, NR₂ favour the cycloheptatriene structure.

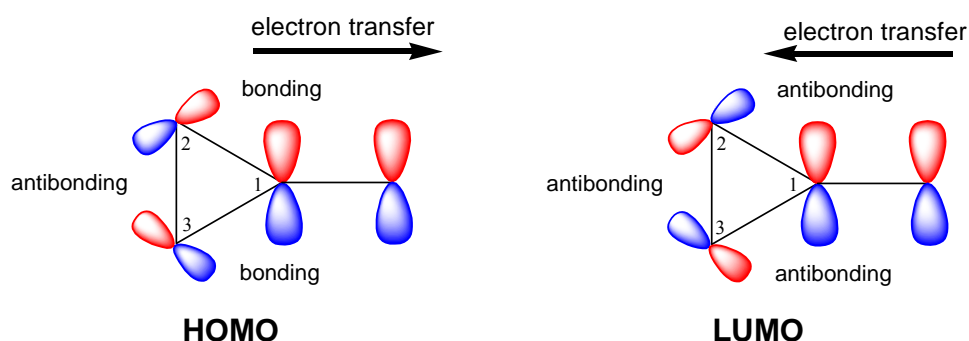


Figure 1. Interaction of cyclopropane 3E' HOMO and 4E' LUMO with a vacant π orbital and filled p orbital of the substituent.

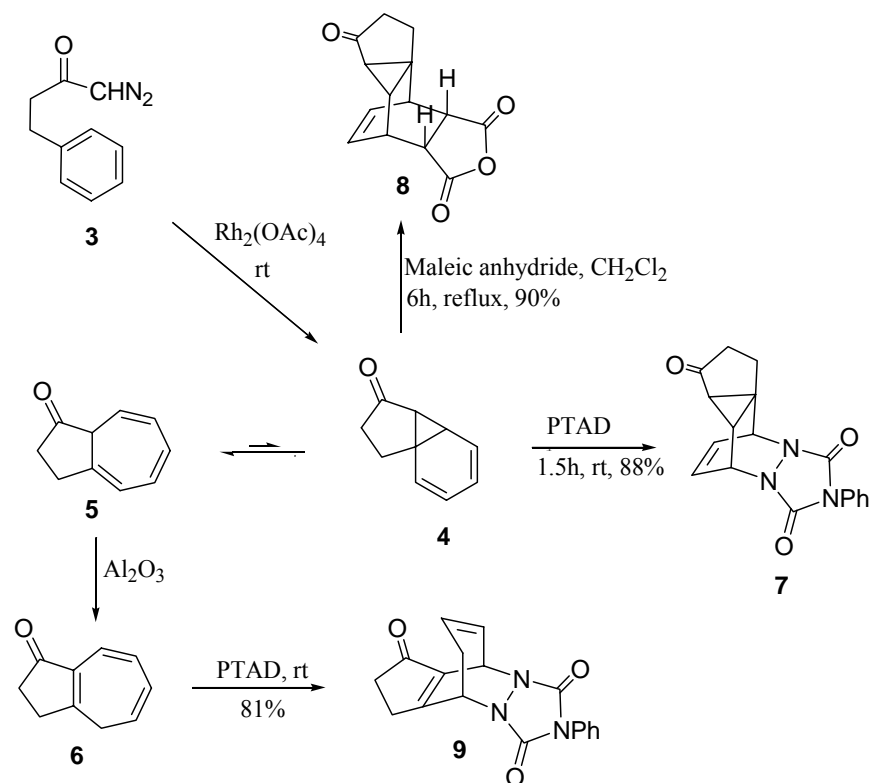
Hoffmann² and Günther³ explained this phenomenon on the basis of HOMO and LUMO interactions between the cyclopropane ring and substituents (Figure 1). If the dominant interaction is assumed to be between the cyclopropane 3E' Walsh-type orbital and the π^* orbital on the substituent lengthening of the vicinal (C¹C² and C¹C³) bonds and shortening of the distal bond (C²C³) is predicted. This is because transfer of electron density from the 3E' orbital to the vacant π^* orbital decreases the antibonding electron density in the distal bond and decreases the bonding electron density in the vicinal bonds. This prediction has been confirmed by experiments.⁴ The X-ray crystallographic data for cyclopropanes with electron-withdrawing substituents indicate the generality of this effect. The twofold shortening of the distal bond is accompanied by a corresponding lengthening of the each vicinal bond when the substituents are in the conjugated bisected conformation. On the other hand, an occupied 2p orbital of an electron donating substituent interacts with the 4E' LUMO Walsh orbital of the cyclopropane ring

leading to increased antibonding character between C² and C³. Consequently, such destabilizing interaction of the electron donating substituents increases all three bond lengths, leading to the destabilization of the norcaradiene structure.

It has been shown⁵ that singlet oxygen and 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (PTAD) are sufficiently reactive to intervene in the cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium via cycloaddition. Thus, ratios of cycloheptatriene and norcaradiene endoperoxides qualitatively reflect the distribution of the valence isomers in the 7-substituted cycloheptatrienes. In this paper, we describe the cycloaddition reactions of singlet oxygen and PTAD to cyclopentenone annelated cycloheptatriene derivatives and others and discuss the effect of the substituents on the cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium.

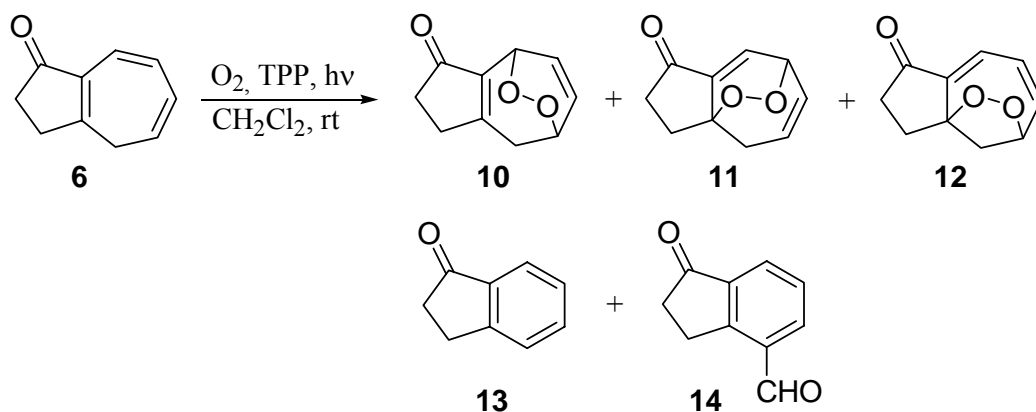
Results and Discussion

Diazoketone **3**, as starting material was obtained in high yield from dihydrocinnamic acid by standard methods⁶. When added to refluxing dichloromethane containing a catalytic amount of rhodium acetate dimer dihydrate, diazoketone loses nitrogen rapidly to give norcaradiene **4**, which then rearranges to the bicyclic trienone **5**. The formed cycloheptatriene derivative **5** isomerizes to the cross-conjugated trienone **6** upon treatment with Al₂O₃ (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1

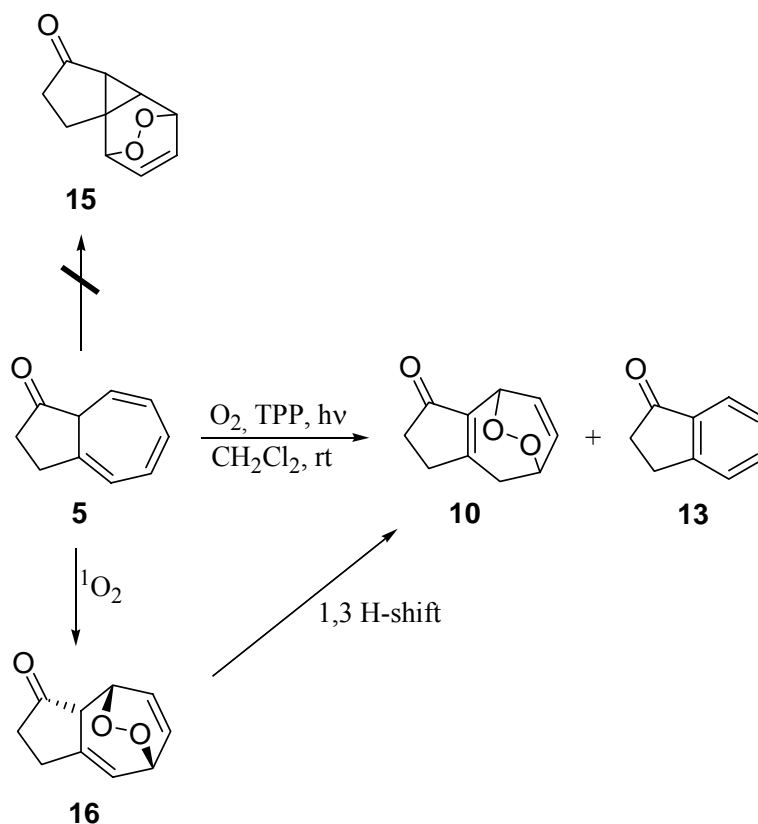
The cross-conjugated trienone **6** was reacted with PTAD^{7,8} in a range of solvents and at temperatures. It was found that the [2+4] cycloadduct **9** was formed as the sole product in 81% yield. However, when the non-conjugated trienone **5** was reacted with dienophiles such as 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione and maleic anhydride, the corresponding cycloaddition products **7** and **8** derived from the norcaradiene structure were isolated in 88 and 90% yields, respectively. The sole formation of norcaradiene adducts can be rationalized by the better stabilization of the norcaradiene structure in **4**, due to the attachment of the carbonyl group at the C-7 position which can interact with the Walsh orbital of the cyclopropane unit and stabilize the distal bond. In the case of **6** the position of the carbonyl group is not suitable in stabilizing the norcaradiene structure. Therefore, the cycloadduct **9** was formed as a single isomer.



Scheme 2

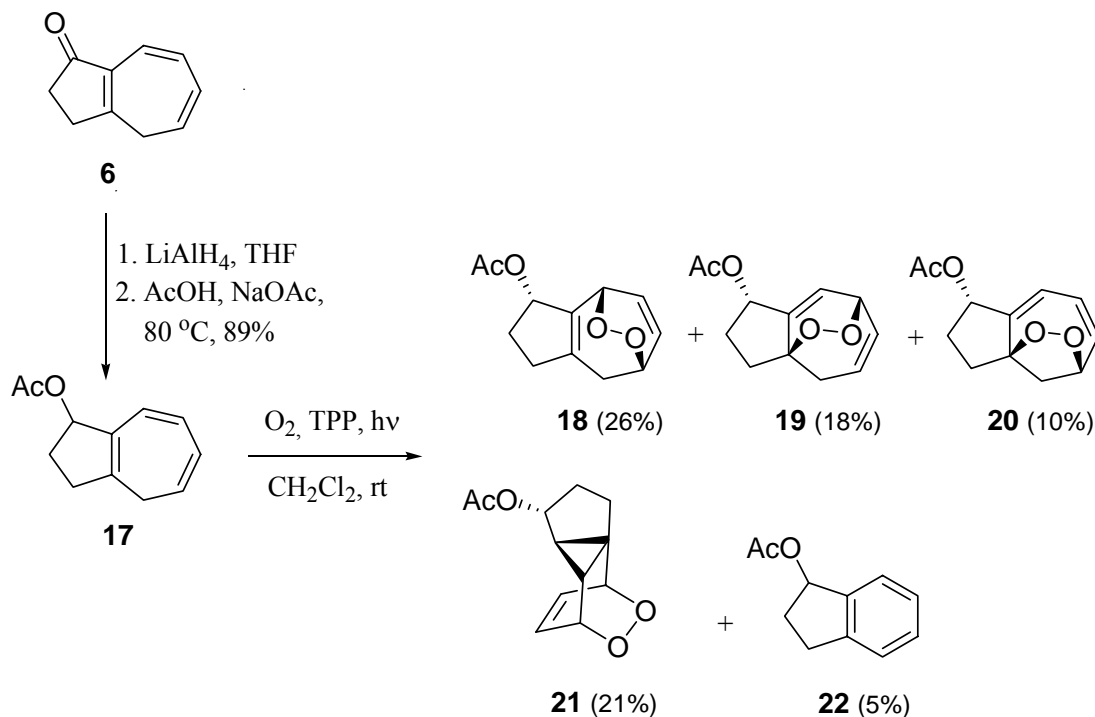
Scott and Adams^{6b} studied the photooxygenation reaction of the bicyclic trienone **6** and reported the formation of the bicyclic endoperoxides **10** and **11**. We reinvestigated the cycloaddition of singlet oxygen to the trienone **6**⁹ and found additionally the formation of the products **12**, **13**, and **14** beside the major products **10** and **11**, in yields of 4, 3, and 5%, respectively. A norcaradiene adduct having structure such as **7** was not found in reaction products.

For comparison, the non-conjugated trienone **5** was submitted to a photooxygenation reaction in dichloromethane at room temperature. After 10h, the ¹H-NMR analysis indicated complete consumption of **5** and the formation of the endoperoxide **10** and indan-1-one **13** (Scheme 3). It was remarkable to notice that no trace of the expected norcaradiene cycloaddition product **15** was detected among the photooxygenation products. The trienone **5** is in equilibrium with its valence isomer norcaradiene **4**. The formation of the cycloaddition products **7** and **8** proved the presence of this equilibrium.



Scheme 3

We have demonstrated in many cases that singlet oxygen and PTAD are powerful dienophiles and intervene the cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium and detect the presence of norcaradiene.^{5,10,11} The fact, that PTAD and maleic anhydride give exclusively norcaradiene-type addition products **7** and **8** upon reaction with **5**, whereas singlet oxygen does not form any norcaradiene-type adduct, can be rationalized by a very low concentration of norcaradiene **4**. In the case of the PTAD and maleic anhydride reaction, a high concentration of dienophiles can be generated in the reaction media, so that very low concentration of the norcaradiene **4** can be detected. On the other hand, a high concentration of singlet oxygen can not be generated due to its very short life time. Therefore, singlet oxygen can not detect the norcaradiene **4** which is in equilibrium with the cycloheptatriene **5**. Singlet oxygen forms a [2+4] cycloaddition product **10** which is derived from the isomeric trienone **6** not from the trienone **5**. The formation of the cycloadduct **10** can not be explained by the isomerization of **5** to **6** under the given reaction conditions followed by the photooxygenation reaction. In this case, one would also expect the formation of the other products such as **11**, **12**, and **14**, which are normally formed by the direct photooxygenation of **6**. We assume that the starting material **5** first undergoes a [2+4]cycloaddition reaction with singlet oxygen to form **16** followed by 1,3-hydrogen shift.

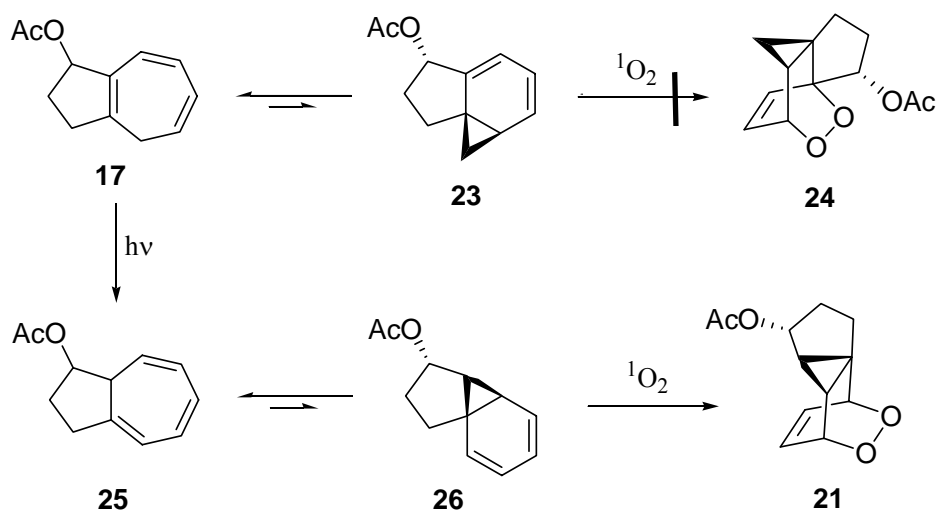


Scheme 4

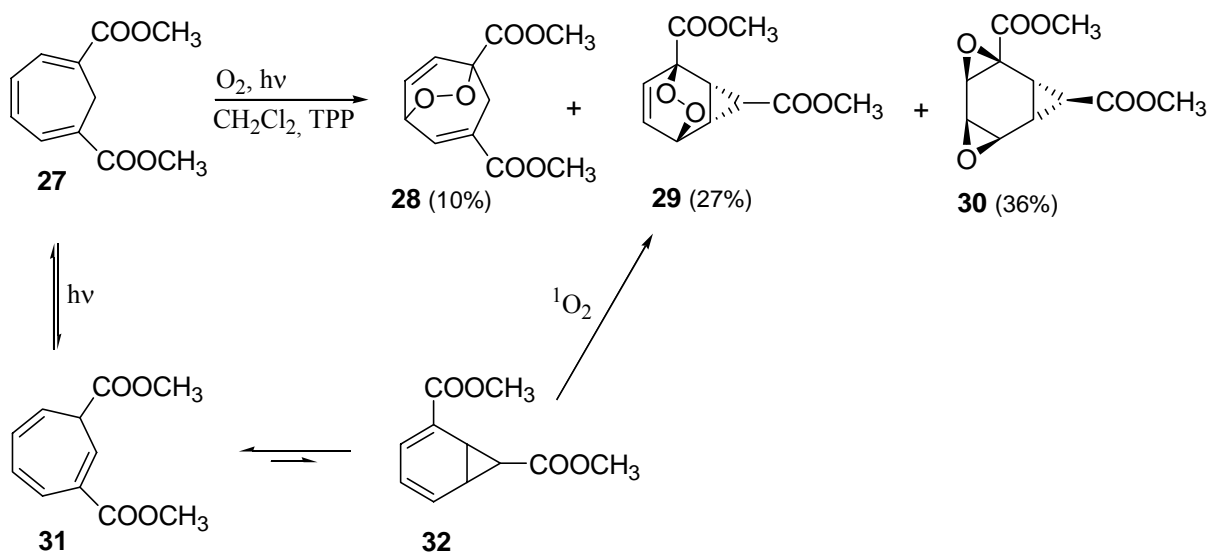
To test the effect of the carbonyl group on the cycloheptatriene-norcaradiene equilibrium (by analysing the ratio of the photooxygenation products), the carbonyl group in **6** was reduced with LiAlH_4 in THF to the corresponding alcohol. Treatment of the alcohol with acetic anhydride/ CH_3COONa produced the corresponding acetate **17** in high yield (Scheme 4). The photooxygenation reaction of **17** in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature was accomplished with TPP as the sensitizer. Chromatography of the mixture on silica gel showed the presence of three bicyclic endoperoxides **18**, **19**, and **20** with the *anti*-relation of $-\text{OAc}$ and the peroxide bridge, the norcaradiene-type product endoperoxide **21**, and the indane derivative **22**. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectroscopy, including double resonance and NOE experiments, allowed agreed with the proposed structures. It was interesting to notice that the transformation of the carbonyl functionality in **6** into the acetate group did not have any dramatic effect on the distribution of the products.

The formation of the norcaradiene-type product **21** is remarkable. This product is not derived from the addition of singlet oxygen to the norcaradiene isomer **23**, which would give the adduct **24**. It is derived from the cycloaddition of singlet oxygen to the norcaradiene **26**, which is a valence isomer of **25**. We assume that the starting material **17** undergoes a 1,3-hydrogen shift under the photolytic conditions to give **25**. AM1 calculations show that isomer **25** has about 2.78 kcal/mol lower a heat of formation, than the isomer **17**. The exocyclic double bond in **25** partially releases the strain in the five-membered ring. Therefore, **17** undergoes a hydrogen shift during the photooxygenation reaction followed by the addition of singlet oxygen to **25**. The

product **21** arises from the addition of singlet oxygen to **26**. A [2+4]cycloaddition product to the diene unit in **25** was not observed. However, it is possible that the cycloaddition product **18** may also arise from the addition of singlet oxygen to the diene unit in **25** followed by a 1,3-H shift under the given reaction conditions.



Scheme 5

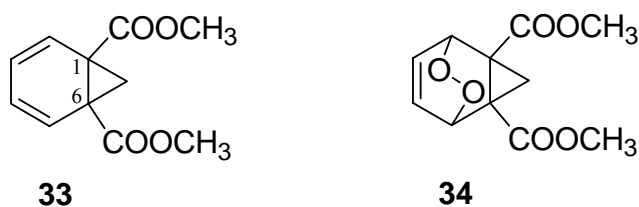


Scheme 6

Similar H-shift reactions have been observed in the photooxygenation of dimethyl cyclohepta-3,5,7-triene-1,3-dicarboxylate (**27**). The cycloheptatriene derivative **27**¹² has undergone photooxygenation reaction, with TPP as a sensitizer in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature.

After 17h, ^1H -NMR analysis indicated complete consumption of **27** and the formation of endoperoxide **28**, the norcaradiene-endoperoxide **29** and the bis-epoxide **30** (Scheme 6). The structural assignments to the formed compounds were established by ^1H -, ^{13}C -NMR spectra and single crystal X-ray analysis.¹³

The expected cycloaddition product **28** was formed from the [2+4]-cycloaddition of singlet oxygen to the diene unit of cycloheptatriene system. The norcaradiene adduct **34** derived from the norcaradiene valance-isomer **33** was not found in the product mixture. The norcaradiene structure **33** can not be stabilized by the attached electron-withdrawing substituents since they will lengthen the vicinal bond C^1C^6 and destabilize the norcaradiene structure **33**. However, the products with the norcaradiene and norcarane structures **29** and **30** are not formed from the original skeleton.



In this case, the starting material **27** first undergoes a photochemically allowed 1,7-suprafacial hydrogen shift under the reaction conditions as we previously discussed in other cycloheptatriene systems and forms the isomeric cycloheptatriene derivative **31**. AM1 calculations show that isomer **27** has about 1.95 kcal/mol lower a heat of formation, than isomer **31**. We assume that there is an equilibrium between the cycloheptatrienes **27** and **31** where the equilibrium is shifted to the side of the more stable isomer **27**. Since one of the carboxymethyl groups in **31** is now attached to the sp^3 -hybridized carbon atom C-7, it can stabilize the norcaradiene structure **32** and shifts the equilibrium to the side of norcaradiene **32**. The formed norcaradiene **32** has a planar diene unit so that singlet oxygen can add much faster than to the diene unit in cycloheptatriene. The norcaradiene endoperoxides are not quite as stable. The formation of the bis-epoxide **30** can be rationalized by the homolytic oxygen-oxygen bond cleavage of the peroxide linkage followed by the addition of the formed oxygen radicals to the adjacent double bond.

Experimental Section

Cycloaddition of 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (PTAD) to 3,8a-dihydroazulen-1(2H)-one (5). To a stirred solution of bicyclic tirenone **5**⁶ 1.0 g (6.85 mmol) in 50 mL of dichloromethane at room temperature was added in small portions, 1.3g (7.43 mmol) of the PTAD over a period of ca. 30 min. After stirring at room temperature for 1.5 h, the solvent was evaporated and the solid residue was recrystallized from dichloromethane/ethylacetate (2:1) to

give the norcaradiene cycloadduct, **11-phenyl-9,11,13-triazapentacyclo[6.5.2.0^{2,7}.0^{2,7}.0^{9,13}]pentadec-14-ene-5,10,12-trione (7)** (1.93 g, 88%) mp 175-176 °C. IR(KBr) 3090 (w), 3040 (w), 3000 (w), 2980 (w), 1750 (s), 1670 (vs), 1520 (m), 1400 (m), 1390 (m), 1010 (m), 800 (m) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (m, 5H), 6.37 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 6.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (dt, *J* = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.2-2.5 (m, 4H), 2.0 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.5 (br. s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) 210.3, 158.7, 159.2, 132.5, 130.6, 129.8, 128.2, 127.1, 126.4, 57.3, 54.2, 36.8, 38.2, 30.3, 25.1, 20.7. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₈H₁₅N₃O₃: C, 67.28; H, 4.71; N, 13.08. Found: C, 66.89; H, 4.88; N, 13.23.

Cycloaddition of maleic anhydride to 3,8a-dihydroazulen-1(2H)-one (5). 670 mg (6.84 mmol) of maleic anhydride (freshly sublimated) and 1.0 g (6.85 mmol) bicyclic trienone **5** were dissolved in 50 mL of dichloromethane. The formed solution was heated at 45 °C for 6 days. The reaction mixture was cooled and solvent evaporated. The norcaradiene adduct, **11-oxapentacyclo[6.5.2.0^{2,6}.0^{2,7}.0^{9,13}]pentadec-14-ene-5,10,12-trione 8** was purified by crystallization from CH₂Cl₂/hexane. Colorless crystals (1.49 g, 90 %); mp 140-142 °C. IR (KBr) 3040(w), 3010 (w), 3000 (w), 2970, 1810 (m), 1760 (s), 1690(s), 1450 (m), 1000 (m) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, Acetone-d₆) δ 6.26 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 6.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 5.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, A-part of AB-system, *J* = 8.5, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (dd, B-part of AB-system, *J* = 8.5, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (m, 1H), 3.45 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.42 (m, 4H), 1.85 (bd, 1H), 1.35 (bs 1H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, Acetone-d₆) 212.5, 174.3, 173.0, 133.8, 130.4, 47.6, 45.2, 38.3, 37.9, 35.3 (2C), 35.2, 24.2, 25.8. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₂O₄: C, 68.85; H, 4.95. Found: C, 68.46; H, 4.91.

Photooxygenation of 3,8a-dihydroazulen-1(2H)-one (5). A solution of 3.0 g (20.5 mmol) of **5** and 50 mg tetraphenylporphyrine (TPP) in 100 mL of dichloromethane was irradiated (150 W), while a slow stream of dry O₂ was passed through it continuously. The progress of the photooxygenation was monitored by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy until consumption of the starting material was essentially complete (10h). The solvent was evaporated at room temperature. Chromatography of the crude product (silica gel, AcOEt/hexane 15:85) yielded the ketone **13** in the first fraction (1.63g 60%). The second fraction isolated was the endoperoxide **10**^{6,9b} (660 mg, 18%).

Synthesis of 1-Acetoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroazulene 17

A suspension (2.0 g, 52.6 mmol) of LiAlH₄ in 40 mL of dry THF was added dropwise, with stirring, to a solution of **7** (5.0 g, 34.25 mmol) in 50 mL of dry THF under nitrogen at 0°C. After 1h the reaction mixture was quenched by dropwise addition of 50 mL of 50 % aqueous THF. The mixture was diluted with water and extracted with 4 x 50 mL diethyl ether. The ethereal extracts were combined, dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. Crude alcohol was dissolved in 30 mL of acetic anhydride, and to this magnetically stirred solution was added 4.0 g (6.5 mol) of CH₃COONa. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2h at 80 °C. The mixture was cooled to 0°C and 200 mL of

Et₂O was added and then a the saturated solution of NaHCO₃ with H₂O. The mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The Et₂O extracts were combined, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated to give 4.4 g (68%) of **17** as a yellow oil. IR (KBr) 3040(w), 2930(w), 2800(w), 1753(s), 1230(m), 1150(m), 1020(m) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.41 (m, 2H), 6.05 (ddd, *J* = 9.7, 6.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (m, 1H), 5.34 (dt, *J* = 10.6, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.38-2.77 (m, 6H), 2.03 (s, 3H). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄O₂: C, 75.76; H, 7.42. Found: C 75.31; H, 7.28.

Photooxygenation of 1-acetoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroazulene (17). A solution of 3.4 g (17.89 mmol) of **17** and 50 mg tetraphenylporphyrine (TPP) in 100 mL of dichloromethane was irradiated (150 W), while a slow stream of dry O₂ was passed through it continuously. The progress of the photooxygenation was monitored by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy until consumption of the starting material was essentially complete (4h). The solvent was evaporated at room temperature. Chromatography of the crude product (silica gel, AcOEt/hexane 15:85) yielded the bicyclic endoperoxides **18-21** and 2,3-dihydro-1-acetoxy-1H-indene **22**. The first fraction contained **22**¹⁴ (98 mg 5%). From the second fraction we isolated **20** (397 mg, 10%). The third fraction contained a mixture of **19** (715 mg, 18%) and **21** (833 mg, 21%). Fractional crystallization of the mixture from ether/hexane gave pure samples **19** and **21**. The last fraction obtained was identified as **18** (1032 mg, 26%).

10,11-Dioxatricyclo[7.2.1.0^{1,5}]dodeca-5,7-dien-4-yl acetate (20). Colorless liquid, IR (KBr) 3055 (w), 3000(w), 2953(w), 1753(s), 1300(m), 1268(s) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.18 (m, 1H), 5.88 (m, 2H), 5.73 (m, 1H), 4.85 (m, 1H), 2.98 (m, 2H), 1.83-2.43 (m, 4H), 2.13 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) 173.6, 150.2, 134.3, 130.1, 127.9, 89.4, 78.5, 76.4, 43.2, 34.5, 33.1, 23.0. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄O₄: C, 64.85; H, 6.35. Found: C 64.56; H, 6.18.

11,12-Dioxatricyclo[5.3.2.0^{1,5}]dodeca-5,8-dien-4-yl acetate (19). Colorless oil, IR (KBr) 3055(m), 3000(s), 2953(w), 1753(s), 1600(m), 1168(s), 760(m) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.83 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (m, 1H), 6.15 (m, 1H), 5.65 (m, 1H), 4.74 (br. t, 1H), 2.95 (m, 1H), 1.45-2.42 (m, 5H), 2.13 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) 174.8, 144.2, 132.3, 130.8, 129.7, 87.0, 84.7, 73.1, 43.2, 38.1, 32.0, 24.9. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄O₄: C, 64.85; H, 6.35. Found: C 64.32; H, 6.21.

9,10-Dioxatetracyclo[6.2.2.0^{2,6}.0^{2,7}]dodec-11-en-5-yl acetate (21). Colorless crystals from ether/hexane, mp 102-103 °C. IR (KBr) 3040(w), 3000(m), 2953 (w), 1756 (s), 1290(m), 1268(w), 1110(s) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.58 (dd, *J* = 9.4, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (m, 1H), 4.72 (m, 2H), 1.46-2.45 (m, 6H), 2.15 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) 173.2, 132.5, 129.0, 80.1, 79.6, 77.0, 56.3, 38.7, 37.5, 32.3, 30.9, 23.4. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄O₄: C, 64.85; H, 6.35. Found: C 64.53; H, 6.18.

9,10-Dioxatricyclo[6.2.2.0^{2,6}]dodeca-2(6),11-dien-3-yl acetate (18). Colorless oil, IR (KBr), 3000(m), 2953(w), 1755(s), 1600 (m), 1000(s) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.76 (dd, A-part of AB system, *J* = 9.1, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (t, B-part of AB sytem, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (br. s, 1H), 4.89 (m, 2H), 2.92 (m, 1H), 2.33-2.49 (m, 5H), 2.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃)

173.5, 147.3, 137.8, 136.5, 127.3, 84.0, 77.0, 74.8, 38.6, 36.1, 32.1, 24.8. Anal. Calcd. for $C_{12}H_{14}O_4$: C, 64.85; H, 6.35. Found: C 65.04; H, 6.27.

Dimethyl cyclohepta-3,5,7-triene-1,3-dicarboxylate (27) synthesized as described in the literature.¹² 1H -NMR (200 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 7.22-7.19 (AA'-part of AA'BB' system, 2H), 6.82-6.78 (BB'-part of AA'BB' system), 3.74 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.97(d, 2H, CH_2). ^{13}C -NMR (50 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 167.6, 135.3, 134.9, 127.2, 54.1, 27.5.

Photooxygenation of dimethyl cyclohepta-3,5,7-triene-1,3-dicarboxylate (27). A CH_2Cl_2 solution of substituted cycloheptatriene **27** (3.0 g, 14.42 mmol) and 50 mg tetraphenylporphyrine (TPP) was irradiated with a projector lamp (500W), while a slow stream of dry O_2 was passed through it continuously. The progress of the photooxygenation was monitored by 1H -NMR spectroscopy until consumption of the starting material was essentially complete (17h). The solvent was evaporated at room temperature. Column chromatography (silica gel, Et_2O /hexane 30:70) of the crude product yielded bicyclic endoperoxides **28**, **29** and *syn*-bisepoxide **30**.

The first fraction was identified as **dimethyl 6,7-dioxabicyclo[3.2.2]nona-3,8-diene-1,3-dicarboxylate (28)**. Colorless crystals (300 mg, 10%) from CH_2Cl_2/n -hexane, mp 99-101°C. IR (KBr) 3464, 3020, 2955, 2922, 1731, 1438, 1255, 1088, 758. 1H -NMR (200 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 7.24 (d, $J = 7.1$, 1H, H-4), 6.73 (dd, $J = 9.2$, $J = 7.1$, 1H, H-9), 6.55 (d, $J = 9.2$, 1H, H-8), 4.86 (t, $J = 7.1$, 1H, H-5), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH_3); 3.72 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.20 (d, A-part of AB-system, $J = 19.3$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.73 (d, B-part of AB-system, $J = 19.3$ Hz, 1H, H-2). ^{13}C -NMR (50 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 171.6, 168.6, 128.9, 128.2, 82.5, 73.4, 54.7, 53.4, 23.8, 21.5, 21.2. Anal. Calc. for $C_{11}H_{12}O_6$: C, 55.00, H, 5.04; Found: C 54.51, H 4.89.

The second fraction was **dimethyl 6,7-dioxatricyclo[3.2.2.0^{2,4}]non-8-ene-1,3-dicarboxylate (29)**. Colorless crystals (810 mg, 27%) from CH_2Cl_2/n -hexane, mp 104-105°C. IR (KBr) 3067, 2957, 1737, 1463, 1322, 1253, 1195, 843. 1H -NMR (200 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 6.31 (d, $J = 8.4$ 1H, H-8), 6.21 (dd, $J = 8.4$ and 6.2 Hz, H-7), 4.88 (dt, $J = 6.4$ and 1.4 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.72 (s, 3H, $-CH_3$), 3.51 (s, 3H, $-CH_3$), 2.27 (dd, A-part of AB-system, $J = 8.7$ and 2.9 Hz, H-2), 2.15 (ddd, $J = 8.6$, 5.5 and 3.2 Hz, 1H, H-4); 1.16 (t, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, H-3). ^{13}C -NMR (50 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 173.2, 168.7, 128.9, 128.4, 81.5, 75.7, 56.1, 54.8, 23.5, 17.9, 16.6. Anal. Calc. for $C_{11}H_{12}O_6$: C, 55.00, H, 5.04; Found: C 54.67, H 4.96.

The third fraction was identified as **dimethyl 3,6-dioxatetracyclo[6.1.0.0^{2,4}.0^{5,7}]-nonane-2,9-dicarboxylate (30)**. Colorless crystals (1.08 g, 36%) from CH_2Cl_2/n -hexane, mp 138-129°C. IR (KBr) 3067, 2957, 1735, 1458, 1440, 1330, 1047, 937. 1H -NMR (200 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 3.31 (s, 3H, CH_3), 3.23 (s, 3H, CH_3); 3.10 (dd, $J = 3.4$ and 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-4), 2.61 (dd, A-part of AB-system, $J = 3.8$ and 1.4 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.49 (ddd, B-part of AB-system, $J = 3.8$, 3.4 and 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 2.18 (ddd, $J = 9.1$, 4.5 and 1.8 Hz, 1H, H-1), 1.90 (dddd, $J = 9.1$, 4.5, 1.4, and 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-8), 1.55 (t, $J = 4.5$, 1H, H-9). ^{13}C -NMR (50 MHz, benzene- d_6) 171.2, 168.5, 53.6 (d, $^1J_{CH} = 185.0$ Hz), 53.3 (br. s), 52.2 (q, $^1J_{CH} = 147.7$ Hz), 51.7 (q, $^1J_{CH} = 141.7$ Hz), 47.9 (d, $^1J_{CH} = 180.3$ Hz),

46.7 (q, $^1J_{\text{CH}} = 184.6$ Hz), 23.6, (d, $^1J_{\text{CH}} = 168.4$ Hz), 21.8 (d, $^1J_{\text{CH}} = 162.7$ Hz), 21.6 (d, $^1J_{\text{CH}} = 172.2$ Hz). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$: C, 55.00, H, 5.04; Found: C 54.59, H, 5.11.

Acknowledgements

The authors are indebted to the Departments of Chemistry (Atatürk and Middle East Technical Universities) and TUBA (Turkish Academy of Sciences) for their financial support.

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