

SYNTHESIS OF C(3)-ALKYL CEPHEMS

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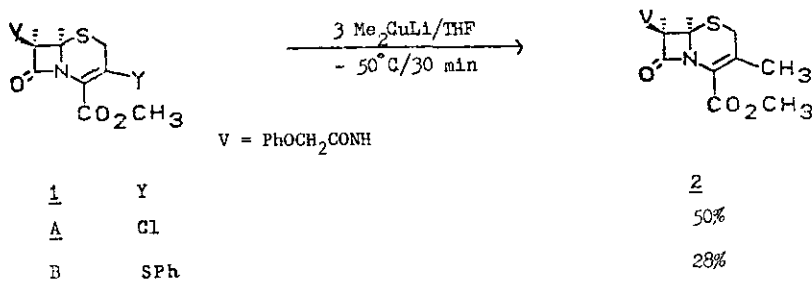
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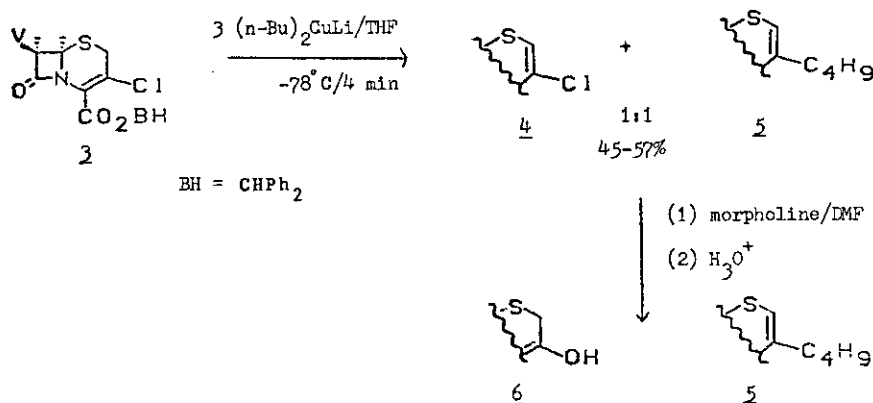
Abstract - C(3)-n-Butyl and n-hexyl cepheps have been prepared by the conjugate addition of the appropriate organocuprate to the C(3)-chloro and C(3)-vinyl cephem.

We recently attempted to synthesize C(3)-alkyl cephem derivatives via the reaction of Grignard reagents on C(3)-halo and other C(3)-electron rich cepheps.¹ This reaction resulted in S(1)-C(2)-secocephems via a SET (single electron transfer) mechanism. We now report the use of organocuprate reagents to prepare various C(3)-alkyl cephem derivatives. Lithium organocuprates are known to undergo conjugate addition via a SET mechanism to give copper complexes which then undergo an intramolecular rearrangement to give the product.² It was anticipated that the difference in the mode of transfer for the R group would result in the desired C(3)-alkyl cephem products. Indeed, the C(3)-chloro cephem 1A reacted with lithium dimethylcuprate to give a 50% yield of the C(3)-methyl compound 2. C(3)-S-Phenyl 1B also reacted with lithium dimethylcuprate to give 28% 2 plus 24% starting material, however, C(3)-OMe gave 39% Δ^2 (isomerization of the double bond) plus 38% starting material, while the C(3)-morpholine-enamine gave 97% starting material. Under these conditions the C(3)-mesylate gave 58% enol, while the C(3)-diethylphosphonate³ gave 34% starting material.



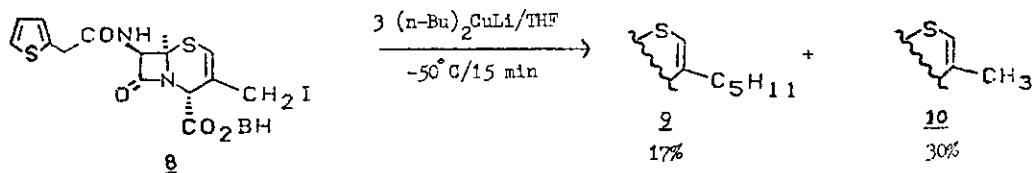
Other esters of V-C(3)-chloro cephem, i.e. benzhydryl and trichloroethyl, work equally as well (39%, 37%), however, p-nitrobenzyl was unacceptable, resulting in decomposition.

Under the conditions described for the conversion of 1 to 2, lithium diphenylcuprate failed to react with 1A, while lithium diallylcuprate gave 37% of the C(3)-hydro derivative, that is the reduced product plus 43% starting material. Lithium di-n-butylcuprate reacted with 3 to give a 47-57% mixture of Δ^2 -C(3)-Cl 4 and Δ^2 -C(3)-n-butyl 5 (ca. 1:1). This mixture proved very difficult to separate by any means, as were the sulfoxides of 4 and 5. However, the chloro derivative 4 can be converted to the enol 6 via the enamine, thus drastically changing its R_f and allowing easy separation of 5 by silica chromatography.

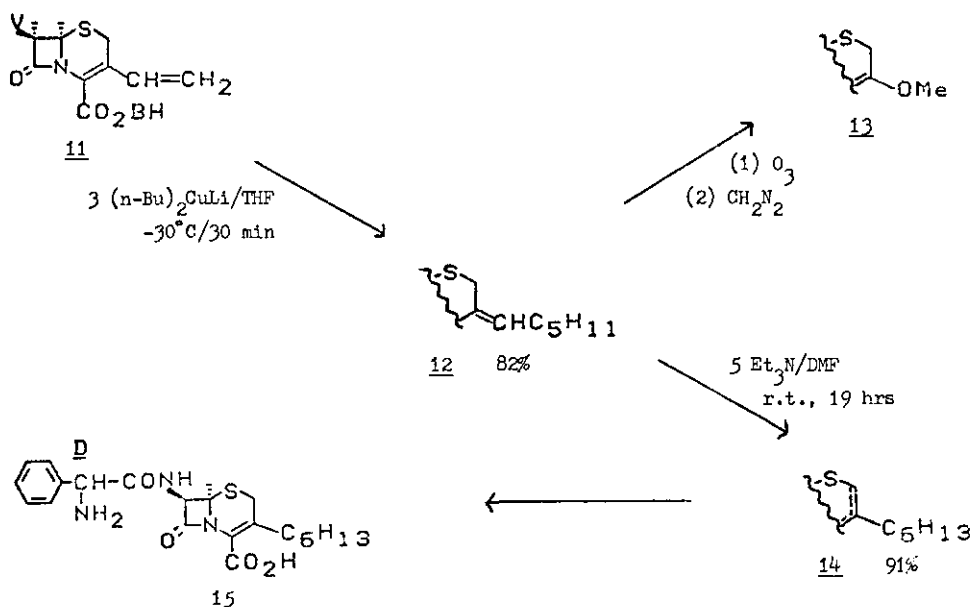


Compound 5 was then converted to the Δ^3 -derivative by sulfur oxidation and reduction.^{4,5} The side chain was then cleaved^{6,7} and the D- α -phenylglycine derivative 7 was prepared.

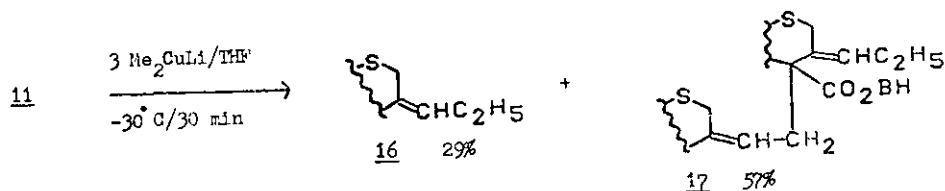
The Corey-Posner reaction⁸ on the Δ^2 -iodomethyl derivative 8 with lithium di-n-butylcuprate gave 17% C(3)-amyl 9 plus 30% C(3)-methyl 10, i.e. the reduced product. This sequence has been studied by workers at Glaxo.⁹



Another route to C(3)-lipophilic cepheids, however, is via 1,6-conjugate addition of lithium di-n-butylcuprate with the C(3)-vinyl cephem¹⁰ 11 which occurred in 82% yield to give the exocyclic olefin 12¹¹. Proof of structure was by physical data (nmr, ir, mass spec.) and by the conversion to the C(3)-methoxy derivative 13.



Use of less reactive organocuprates, for example lithium dimethylcuprate, resulted in lower yields (29%) of the exomethylene derivative 16¹². The major product was 17 (57%), presumably resulting from the Michael addition of the intermediate cuprate onto the starting material. The reaction of cuprate intermediates with electrophiles is well known.¹³



The exocyclic double bond in 12 proved somewhat resistant to isomerization, requiring 5 equivalents of triethylamine in N,N-dimethylformamide at room temperature for 19 h. to give a 96% yield of a mixture of the olefins 14 after chromatography. Sulfur oxidation (162-163°C), reduction¹⁴ and side chain cleavage followed by acylation and deblocking gave the D- α -phenylglycine derivative 18¹⁵.

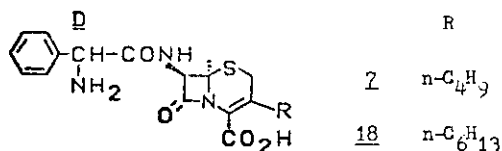
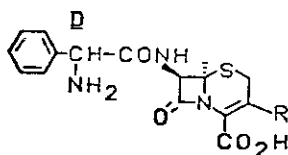


Table I shows the *in-vitro* microbiological activity of the various C(3)-alkyl-substituted cepheams with the D- α -phenylglycine side chain. Increasing the lipophilic character at C(3) appears to enhance the gram positive activity with concomitant loss in the gram negative antibacterial activity.

TABLE I



<u>R</u>	MIC ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)				
	<u>Staph.</u> <u>aureus</u>	<u>Staph.</u> <u>epidermidis</u>	<u>H. influenzae</u> (amp)	<u>E. coli</u>	
	V41	S13E	222	CL	TEM
CH_3	8	64	8	16	8
Et	16	16	2	8	16
$n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9$	4	4	0.5	8	32
$n\text{-C}_6\text{H}_{13}$	0.5	2	0.25	4	128

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5. Δ^3 -isomer of **5**: m/e 556; ir (CHCl₃) 1775 cm⁻¹; nmr (CDCl₃) δ 0.80 (m, 3, Me), 1.24 (m, 4, CH₂), 2.32 (m, 2, 3'-CH₂), 3.20, 3.40 (AB, J=16 Hz, 2, C(2) protons), 4.52 (s, 2, PhOCH₂), 4.96 (d, J=4 Hz, 1, H₆), 5.76 (d, d, J=4, 9 Hz, 1, H₇).
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7. nmr (CDCl₃) δ 0.80 (m, 3, Me), 1.24 (m, 4, CH₂), 1.72 (s, 2, NH₂), 2.32 (m, 2, 3'-CH₂), 3.20, 3.40 (AB, J=16 Hz, 2, C(2) protons), 4.60 (d, J=5 Hz, 1, H₆), 4.85 (d, J=5 Hz, 1, H₇).
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11. **12**: m/e 584; ir (CHCl₃) 1770 cm⁻¹; nmr (CDCl₃) δ 0.88 (m, 3, Me), 1.28 (m, 6, CH₂), 2.0 (m, 2, 3'-CH₂), 3.30 (m, 2, C(2) protons), 4.40 (s, 2, PhOCH₂), 5.09 (s, 1, H₄), 5.40 (d, J=4 Hz, 1, H₆), 5.66 (d, d, J=4, 10 Hz, 1, H₇), 5.72 (m, 1, olefinic H).
12. **16**: m/e 542; ir (CHCl₃) 1768 cm⁻¹; nmr (CDCl₃) δ 1.00 (t, J=7.8 Hz, 3, Me), 2.08 (m, 2, CH₂), 3.24, 3.36 (AB, J=12 Hz, 2, C(2) protons), 4.48 (s, 1, Ph OCH₂), 5.54 (d, J=4 Hz, 1, H₆), 5.68 (d, d, J=4, 10 Hz, 1, H₇), 5.72 (m, 1, olefinic H).
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14. Δ^3 -isomer of **14**: m/e 600; ir (CHCl₃) 1768 cm⁻¹; nmr (CDCl₃) δ 0.85 (m, 3, Me), 1.18 (m, 8, CH₂), 2.33 (m, 2, 3'-CH₂), 3.25 (AB, 2, C(2) protons), 4.53 (s, 2, PhOCH₂), 4.97 (d, J=5 Hz, 2, H₆), 5.73 (d, d, J=5, 9 Hz, H₇).
15. **18**: nmr (D₂O, DCI) δ 0.90 (m, 3, CH₃), 1.33 (bs, 8, (CH₂)₄), 2.53 (bs, 2, C(3)-CH₂), 3.26 (s, 2, C(2) protons), 5.02-5.12 (DOH), 5.40 (s, 1, C(7) side chain methine), 5.72 d, J=4 Hz, 1, H₇), 7.52 (m, 5, Ph).

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