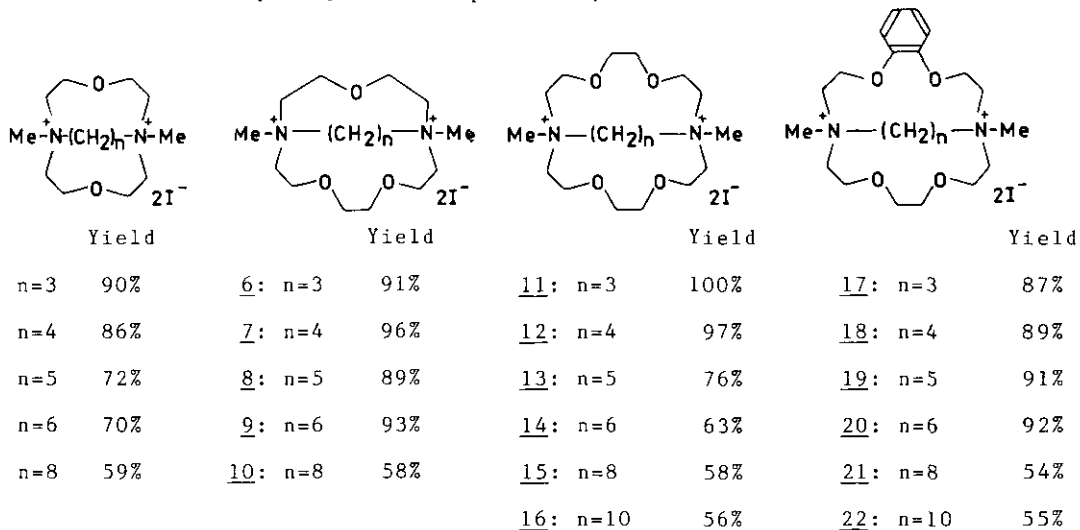


## HIGH-PRESSURE SYNTHESIS OF CRYPTANDS WITH ALIPHATIC BRIDGING UNITS

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**Abstract** — *N,N*-Dimethyl diazacoronands react with  $\alpha,\omega$ -diiodoalkanes under high pressure (10 kbar) to give the bis-quaternary salts which are transformed into cryptands via demethylation with triphenylphosphine.

We have already published syntheses of cryptands either simple<sup>1</sup> and more elaborated<sup>2,3</sup> by high-pressure double quaternization of *N,N*-dimethyl diazacoronands followed by demethylation. Now we report on the influence of the length of the bridging unit on high-pressure double quaternization. We selected four diazacoronands: (12)- $N_2O_2$ ,<sup>4</sup> (15)- $N_2O_3$ ,<sup>5</sup> (18)- $N_2O_4$ ,<sup>5</sup> and B(18)- $N_2O_4$ ,<sup>5</sup> and a range of  $\alpha,\omega$ -diiodoalkanes.<sup>6</sup> Equimolar amounts of substrates (ca. 0.08M solution in acetone) were exposed to the pressure of 10 kbar for 20h at 25°C, in the apparatus described earlier.<sup>7</sup> In all cases the white precipitate of quaternary salt was observed.



The bis-quaternary salts were demethylated with triphenylphosphine in boiling DMF<sup>8</sup> to give the cryptands with aliphatic bridging units.<sup>9</sup> The very high yield and selectivity of the reactions presented here makes this method very attractive for the synthesis of modified cryptands. However, the yield of double-quaternization reactions depends significantly on the bridging unit length, therefore the method presented herein possesses a practical value for the aliphatic bridges having up to six methylene groups.

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#### REFERENCES AND NOTES

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2. M.Pietraszkiewicz, P.Sałański, and J.Jurczak, Tetrahedron, **40**, 2971 (1984).
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4. (12)-N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was prepared from N-p-toluenesulphonyl-N-benzyl-1,7-diaza-4,10-dioxacyclododecane by detosylation with LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, removal of benzyl group by hydrogenation on Pd/C, and methylation with HCO<sub>2</sub>H/HCHO.
5. Other diazacoronands were prepared by routine methods, for example: L.C.Hodgkinson, M.R.Johnson, S.J.Leigh, N.Spencer, I.O.Sutherland, and R.F.Newton, J.Chem.Soc., Perkin I, 2193 (1979).
6.  $\alpha,\omega$ -Diiodoalkanes were obtained in Filkenstein method with respective  $\alpha,\omega$ -dichloroalkanes and sodium iodide in boiling acetone, see: C.S.Gibson and J.D.A. Johnson, J.Am.Chem.Soc., **52**, 2525 (1930).
7. J.Jurczak, Bull.Chem.Soc.Jpn, **52**, 3438 (1979).
8. Tse-Lok Ho, Synth.Comm., **3**, 99 (1973).
9. Typically, compound **8** was demethylated with triphenylphosphine in boiling DMF for 5h to give (2.1.C<sub>5</sub>)cryptand (80% yield). MS (17 eV) M<sup>+</sup> 286(2); <sup>1</sup>H NMR, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  (ppm): 3.9-3.4 (m, 12H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.9-2.4 (m, 12H, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.8-1.4 (m, 6H, C-CH<sub>2</sub>-C).

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