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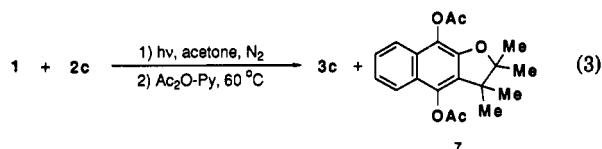
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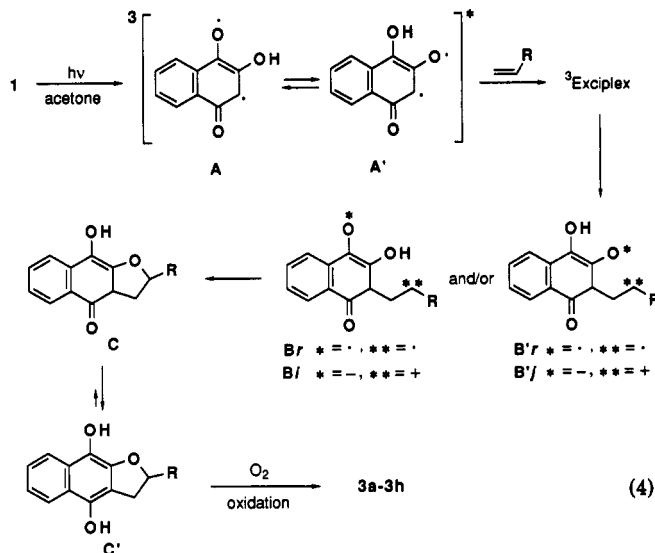
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conditions.<sup>7</sup> The trans disposition of the acetoxy and methyl groups attached to C-2 and C-3 of photoproduct 5 was assigned by its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum ( $J_{2\text{-H-3-H}} = 1.98$  Hz). Treatment of naphthofurandione 5 with potassium *tert*-butoxide in THF at 0 °C resulted in the elimination of acetic acid, giving maturinone (6) in 52% yield.

The initial products in the present photoaddition are furanohydroquinones; 4,9-diacetoxy-2,3-dihydro-2,2,4,4-tetramethylnaphtho[2,3-*b*]furan (7)<sup>9</sup> can be isolated in 36% yield together with 2,2,4,4-tetramethylnaphtho[2,3-*b*]furan (3c) (18%) when the crude products from the photoaddition between hydroxynaphthoquinone 1 (1 mmol) and 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene (10 mmol) in acetone (40 mL) are treated with acetic anhydride (1 mL) and pyridine (1 mL) under nitrogen for 2 h at 60 °C (eq 3).



The probable gross reaction pathway of the addition leading to the hydroquinones is outlined in eq 4. A comparison of the electronic absorption spectrum of 2-hydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone (1) with that of 2-methoxy-1,4-naphthoquinone<sup>10</sup> indicates that no orthoquinone form of 2-hydroxynaphthoquinone exists in solution. The initial events in this photochemical addition can be explained within the framework of an accepted model of [2 + 2]<sub>r</sub> photochemical additions.<sup>11</sup> Irradiation of 1 in acetone or benzene generates tautomeric excited triplets (A) and (A'), which react with an alkene through a triplet exciplex to give biradical (B<sub>i</sub>) and/or (B<sub>i</sub>'). In view of the strong electron-accepting character of naphthoquinone,<sup>12</sup> it seems likely that the exciplex or these biradical intermediates have appreciable polar character or are ionic intermediates (B<sub>i</sub>) and (B<sub>i</sub>') generated by electron transfer. The regioselectivity found in the present addition is a clear in-



dication of the involvement of a more stabilized polar biradical or ionic intermediate, such as B<sub>i</sub> and B<sub>i</sub>', in the formation of dihydronaphtho[2,3-*b*]furan-4,9-diones. Intramolecular cyclization of the intermediate gives hydroquinones (C) and (C'). In contrast to the photoaddition<sup>13</sup> of 1,4-naphthoquinone with alkenes, no trace of [2 + 2]<sub>r</sub> cycloadducts were observed in the present photoadditions. 2,3-Dihydronaphthofuran-4,9-dione is then formed by air oxidation of the hydroquinone during the workup and isolation procedures.

Additional mechanistic and synthetic aspects of the present *formal* [2 + 3] photoaddition are presently under investigation and will be reported in a forthcoming full paper.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Experimental details for the synthesis of 3a–g and maturinone (6) and for isolation of diacetoxyfuranohydroquinone 7 from the photoaddition between hydroxynaphthoquinone 1 and 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene (4 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## Highly Efficient Synthesis of 13-Dehydroprostaglandins by 1,4-Addition Reaction of Alkynyl $\omega$ Side-Chain Unit onto Cyclopentenone Framework

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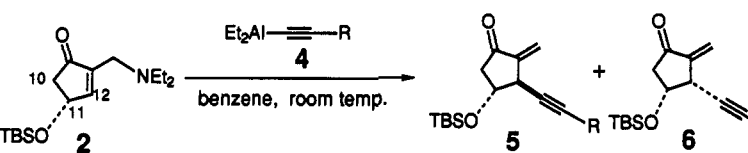
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**Summary:** Optically active 2-((diethylamino)methyl)-4-siloxy-2-cyclopentenone (2) reacts with a diethyl(3-(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-1-alkynyl)aluminum compound via 1,4-addition pathway to afford the enone 5, useful intermediate for synthesis of PGs via two-component coupling process, in excellent yield, thus making it easy to synthesize 13-dehydro-PGs.

The synthesis of analogues of prostaglandins (PGs) has attracted much interest for use in biological and clinical

investigations.<sup>1</sup> A number of analogues in which the double bond at C-13 (PG numbering) has been replaced by triple bond have been prepared and some of which have deserved particular attention as promising therapeutic agents.<sup>2</sup>

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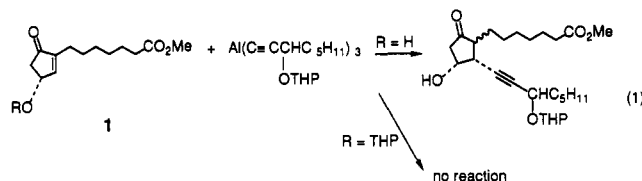
Table I. Yields, Characteristic NMR Data, and  $[\alpha]_D$  Values of 5 and 6


4 <sup>a</sup>	R	isolated yield, <sup>b</sup> %		<sup>1</sup> H NMR coupling constants $J_{11,12}$ (Hz)		<sup>13</sup> C NMR chemical shifts of C-11 and C-12 <sup>d</sup> (ppm)		$[\alpha]_D^{25}$ (c, CHCl <sub>3</sub> ), <sup>e</sup> deg. of 5
		5	6	5	6	5: C-11/C-12	6: C-11/C-12	
4a		82	14	6.8 <sup>f</sup>	4.0	73.3/43.6	69.5/42.1	-54.6 (c 1.03)
4b		90	4	6.8	4.2	73.3/43.6	69.6/42.3	-50.0 (c 1.20)
4c		83	8	6.8	4.8	73.3/43.5	69.6/42.3	-51.2 (c 1.38)
4d		50	19	7.0 <sup>g</sup>	4.0	73.5/43.8	69.8/42.4	- <sup>h</sup>
4e		54	45	6.8	4.0	73.2/43.5	69.6/42.1	-30.3 (c 1.12)
4f		59	39	7.2 <sup>g</sup>	3.8 <sup>g</sup>	73.7/43.8	69.9/42.5	-45.1 (c 1.50)

<sup>a</sup> Prepared from the corresponding alkyne by sequential treatment with *n*-BuLi (1.66 M, hexane) and 1.2 equiv of Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl (1.0 M, hexane) in benzene. The enantiomerically pure alkynes used for preparation of 4a, 4b, and 4c were synthesized according to the procedure reported by us (ref 15). <sup>b</sup> The enone 2 was treated with 1.3 equiv of 4, and the yield is based on 2. *R<sub>f</sub>* values (analytical TLC (E. Merck, silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates), hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 6/1) are as follows: 5a/6a = 0.60/0.38, 5b/6b = 0.60/0.34, 5c/6c = 0.60/0.38, 5d/6d = 0.58/0.40, 5e/6e = 0.50/0.26, 5f/6f = 0.53/0.37. <sup>c</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, on decoupling of C-10 protons, the signal of C-11 proton was observed as a doublet with the coupling constant given. Full data of <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 5 and 6 are available as supplementary material. <sup>d</sup> Full data of <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 5 and 6 are available as supplementary material. <sup>e</sup>  $[\alpha]_D$  values of 5d and 6 were not determined. <sup>f</sup> On decoupling of C-15 proton, the signal of C-12 proton was observed as a doublet with the coupling constant given. <sup>g</sup> The signal of C-12 proton was observed as a doublet-triplet: 5d ( $J_{12,15}$  = 2.4 Hz), 5f ( $J_{12,15}$  = 2.2 Hz), 6f ( $J_{12,15}$  = 2.2 Hz).

A conjugate addition of organometallic derivatives to cyclopentenones which is classified into two- and three-component coupling process provides an attractive, convergent approach to PGs. This method has been widely applied to the synthesis of naturally occurring PGs and pharmaceutically important PG analogues.<sup>1,3</sup> The synthesis of 13-dehydro-PGs by introduction of alkynyl moiety into cyclopentenones, however, remains unsolved. For example, 2-(6-carbomethoxyhexyl)-4-hydroxy-2-cyclopentenone (1) reacted with tris(3-(tetrahydropyranyl)-1-octynyl)aluminum to give 1,4-addition product; however, the addition occurred at the same face of C-11 hydroxyl group giving only undesired 12 $\alpha$ -isomer (eq 1). While protection of the hydroxyl group of 1 by a tetra-

hydropyranyl group prevented reaction with the aluminum reagent.<sup>4</sup>



Recently we have directed our efforts to make the two-component coupling synthesis of PGs as an industrially viable process by developing efficient, practical methods to prepare the required key intermediates such as cyclopentenones<sup>5</sup> and  $\omega$  side-chain units.<sup>6</sup> Thus, we have succeeded in synthesizing 2-((diethylamino)methyl)-4-siloxy-2-cyclopentenone (2)<sup>7</sup> in 50% overall yield starting from readily available (2*R*,3*S*)-1,2-epoxypent-4-en-3-ol and have shown that 2 thus prepared reacts with organocopper compounds derived from an  $\omega$  side chain to

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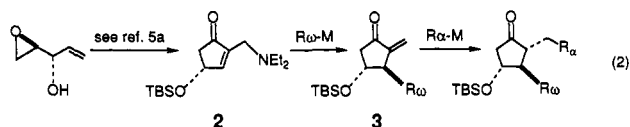
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(7) The compound 2 is now commercially available from Nissan Chemical Industries, Ltd. (Japan).

afford **3** in excellent yields, which in turn reacts with an  $\alpha$  side chain as reported by Stork and his co-workers to afford PGs (eq 2).<sup>5</sup>



We expected that the amino group present in **2** would activate an alkynylaluminum compound by coordination, thus making it possible to introduce an alkynyl moiety into **2** at the opposite face of the C-11 hydroxyl group via a 1,4-addition pathway. Herein reported is the successful realization of this idea which undoubtedly simplifies the synthesis of 13-dehydro-PGs.<sup>8</sup>

When **2** was reacted with diethyl(3-(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-1-octynyl)aluminum (**4a**) in benzene at room temperature, 1,4-addition did occur to afford, after hydrolysis, a mixture of two diastereoisomers.<sup>9,10</sup> These were readily separated by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>) to give **5a** having the desired 12 $\beta$  configuration and **6a** (12 $\alpha$  isomer) in 82% and 14% yields, respectively. The assignment of the configuration of the two isomers follows from the <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constant between the two protons at C-11 and C-12 (PG numbering, *J* = 4.0 Hz for cis and *J* = 6.8 Hz for trans) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts of C-11 and C-12, since the resonances for these carbons in **6** (cis configuration) are always upfield of those in **5** (trans configuration).<sup>11</sup> Table I shows the yields, characteristic <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data, and  $[\alpha]_D$  values of the products obtained by the reaction of **2** with various diethylalkynylaluminum compounds **4a-f**. As can be seen from the table, in every case, the 12 $\beta$ -isomer **5** was major; however, somewhat diminished diastereoselectivities were observed with the decrease of the steric bulk of alkynyl moiety.

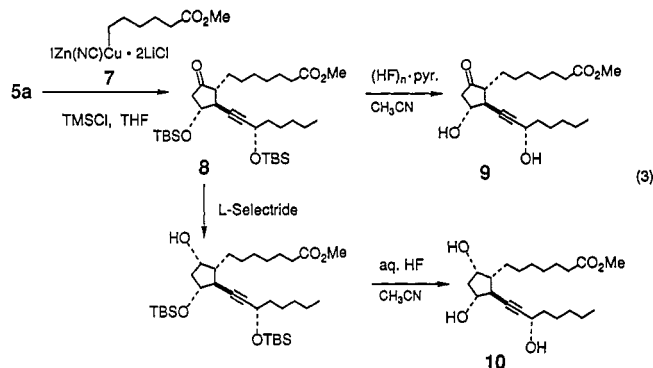
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(10) <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR studies of the reaction mixture (before hydrolysis) demonstrated the formation of the aluminum enolate.

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With the compound **5a** in hand, we then carried out the synthesis of the methyl ester of 13-dehydro-PGE<sub>1</sub> and -PGF<sub>1</sub> by 1,4-addition of  $\alpha$  side-chain unit onto it (eq 3).



Thus the reaction of **5a** with organocopper reagent **7**, prepared from the corresponding organozinc reagent and CuCN·2LiCl, in the presence of Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl provided, after hydrolysis, disilyl ether of 13-dehydro-PGE<sub>1</sub> methyl ester (**8**) ( $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  -47.3° (*c* 1.96, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)) in 78% yield.<sup>5c</sup> Protodesilylation of **8** with (HF)<sub>n</sub>-pyridine in acetonitrile afforded 13-dehydro-PGE<sub>1</sub> methyl ester (**9**) ( $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  -43.8° (*c* 0.484, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), mp 46.0–46.5 °C (lit.<sup>12</sup> mp 46 °C)) in 85% yield. While the reduction of **8** with L-Selectride (Aldrich) followed by protodesilylation (aqueous HF, CH<sub>3</sub>CN) gave 13-dehydro-PGF<sub>1</sub> methyl ester (**10**) ( $[\alpha]_D^{22}$  +21.7° (*c* 0.60, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) in 58% overall yield from **8**, mp 68.0–68.5 °C (lit.<sup>12</sup> mp 68 °C)). The spectroscopic data (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR, and MS) of **9** and **10** are in good agreement with the literature.<sup>12</sup>

Since PG analogues having 17-methyl-15-hydroxy<sup>13</sup> and 15-dehydroxy-16-methyl-16-hydroxy<sup>14</sup> moiety as an  $\omega$  side chain have been accepted as promising therapeutic agents, the synthesis of 13-dehydro version of these PGs using the enones **5c** and **5d** is in progress in our laboratory.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Experimental procedure for preparation of **5** and **6** and spectroscopic data (IR and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR) of **5a-f**, **6a-f**, **8-10**, and the disilyl ether of **10** (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## A Novel Method for the Synthesis of Spiroketal Systems. Synthesis of the Pheromones of the Common Wasp and the Olive Fruit Fly

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**Summary:** Total syntheses of the pheromones of the common wasp and the olive fruit fly were accomplished by a strategy in which the key transformation involved the

cleavage of tetrahydrofuran with (*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)manganese pentacarbonyl followed by sequential insertion of ethyl acrylate.