the procedure used for the debenzylation of the pentacyclic amide 34a, dihydroindole 45 (11.0 mg, 0.029 mmol) was similarly debenzylated with Na/NH₃. Purification of the crude product by flash chromatography (230-400 mesh silica, 2-8% MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) afforded 8.6 mg (100%) of alcohol 46 as a colorless glass: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.11 (dd, J = 0.5, 7.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.04 (dt, J = 1.1, 7.6 Hz, 1 H, ArH),6.75 (dt, J = 0.8, 7.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 6.66 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 5.70 (ddd, J = 1.6, 4.9, 9.9 Hz, CH=CHCH₂), 5.59 (dd, J = 0.8, 10.0 Hz, CH=CHCH₂), 3.61-3.72 (m, 2 H), 3.53 (dd, J = 5.8, 10.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.46 (dd, J = 4.1, 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.25–3.33 (m, 1 H), 2.80 (d, J =16.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.69 (s, 1 H), 2.30-2.40 (m, 2 H), 1.55-1.78 (m, 4 H), 1.35-1.48 (m, 2 H), 1.20-1.32 (m, 2 H) ppm; MS (CI) 297 (MH); MS (EI) 296.1905 (7, 296.18885 calcd for C₁₉H₂₄N₂O, M), 151 (98), 144 (68), 138 (48), 137 (100), 130 (40).

 $(6a\beta, 11a\beta, 13b\alpha, 13a\alpha) - 11 - Acetyl - 13a - (2 - hydroxyethyl) -$ 2,3,5,6,11,11a,12,13,13a,13b-decahydro-1H-cyclopent[ij]indolo[2,3-a] quinolizine (47). A solution of the alcohol 46 (7.0 mg, 0.024 mmol) and EtOH (1 mL) containing catalytic Pd/C (7 mg) and ammonium formate (15 mg, 0.24 mmol) was heated at reflux for 1 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to 23 °C, filtered through a bed of Celite, washed with CHCl₃, and concentrated. Flash chromatography of the residue (230-400 mesh silica, 2-8% MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) yielded 6.9 mg (98%) of the dihydro product as a pale yellow solid: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.08 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.00 (dt, J = 1.1, 7.6 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 6.73 (dt, J = 0.8, 7.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 6.63 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 3.61 (td, J = 5.5, 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.45-3.52 (m, 2 H), 3.11 (bdd, J = 7.0, 10.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.04 (bd, J = 10.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.20–2.32 (m, 3 H), 2.04 (dt, J = 3.1, 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 1.98 (app dt, J = 2.5, 11.7 Hz, 1 H),1.60-1.83 (m, 4 H), 1.45-1.52 (m, 3 H), 1.13-1.33 (m, 4 H), 1.00-1.16 (m, 1 H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.4, 135.2, 127.3,

122.7, 119.2, 110.5, 70.7, 65.3, 58.6, 53.7, 53.4, 52.8, 40.5, 38.5, 35.4, 29.7, 28.2, 24.2, 21.7 ppm; IR (KBr) 3312, 3189, 2940, 2911, 2813, 1608, 1463, 1043, 743 cm⁻¹; MS (CI) 299 (MH); MS (EI) 298.2056 (3, 298.20450 calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}N_2O$, M), 141 (10), 140 (100).

This intermediate (6.9, mg, 0.023 mmol) was acetylated as described by Ban¹⁵ to provide, after purification by flash chromatography (230-400 mesh silica, 2%-8% MeOH/CH2Cl2), 7.0 mg (89%) of 47 as a colorless solid: ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 140.6, 138.0, 127.6, 124.3, 122.3, 118.3, 70.3, 67.9, 53.6, 52.8, 52.4, 40.3, 39.5, 35.2, 35.0, 25.8, 24.1, 23.2, 21.5 ppm; MS (CI) 341 (MH); MS (EI) 340.2148 (9, 340.21506 calcd for $C_{21}H_{28}N_2O_2$, M), 312 (9), 168 (6), 140 (100). The ¹H NMR spectra of this intermediate agreed with an authentic spectrum provided by Professor Y. Ban.

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Supplementary Material Available: Experimental preparations and spectroscopic data (¹H NMR and MS) for 35b, 36b, and 37b (2 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Synthetic Studies on Basmane Diterpenes. Enantiospecific Total Synthesis of (+)-7,8-Epoxy-2-basmen-6-one by Claisen **Ring Expansion**

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Abstract: The first synthesis of an epoxybasmenone is described. The enantiospecific pathway begins by transforming optically pure aldehyde 10 into bicyclic lactone 39. Methylenation of 39 by means of the Tebbe reaction allows for operation of a Claisen rearrangement that proceeds almost completely by way of chair transition state 44 to give the cyclooctadienone 42. Regiospecific cyclopentannulation with installation of four additional stereogenic centers rested upon successful introduction of a functionalized four-carbon chain as in 48, facially controlled hydrogenation of the conjugated double bond, cyclization, and hydroxyl-directed epoxidation. Finally, Swern oxidation led to the target molecule 3, whose three-dimensional structural features were confirmed by X-ray crystallography.

Introductory Remarks

The discovery of (+)-1 in the sun-cured leaves of Greek tobacco (Serres) by Wahlberg et al.¹ has been important in identifying a new class of carbotricyclic diterpenes and in confirming that intramolecular proton-induced cyclization of cembranoids need not give hydrophenanthrenes exclusively.² The studies described herein not only were formulated to develop concise routes to basmanes, the generic name assigned to this class (see 2 for atomic numbering),¹ but were seen to have the potential for broad application toward other biologically significant targets. In this paper, we detail an enantiospecific route to (+)-7,8-epoxy-2basmen-6-one (3), the first member of this group to yield to total synthesis.3



A third inducement to undertake this work centered about the unusual structural features of the basmenones. The 1S configuration is a characteristic of all known tobacco cembranoids.⁴

⁽¹⁾ Wahlberg, I.; Eklund, A.-M.; Nishida, T.; Enzell, C. R.; Berg, J.-E. (1) Wallovs, 1, 2019
Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 24, 843.
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<sup>Chem. Soc. 1990, 112, 3252.
(4) (a) Colledge, A.; Reid, W. W.; Russell, R. Chem. Ind. (London) 1975, 570.
(b) Enzell, C. R.; Wahlberg, I. Recent Adv. Tobacco Sci. 1980, 6, 64.</sup>

Scheme I



Furthermore, the all-cis stereochemistry of the two five-membered rings causes the central cyclooctane framework to exist in a saddlelike conformation. Other structural features, such as elongated C-C bond lengths, revealed in the case of 1 by X-ray analysis, suggest that the tricyclic basmenone ring system is very likely strained.1

Relevant to any synthetic attack on basmanes in general is recognition that the two five-membered rings are positioned in adjacent fashion on the cyclooctane core. Consequently, basmanes differ inherently from sester- and diterpenoids of the ophiobolin,^{5,6} ceroplastol,^{7,8} and fussicoccin type,⁹ where a one-carbon spacer serves to distance ring A from ring C. Various strategies pertinent to these dicyclopenta [a,d] cyclooctanes have appeared with growing frequency in concert with their theoretical and biological relevance.9

Retrosynthetic Analysis. Our synthetic plan contemplated intermediacy of a system of type 5 in which the relative config-

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 R. M.; Muskopf, J. W.; Senter, P. A. J. Org. Chem. 1985, 50, 3541. (k)
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Scheme III



urations of at least three stereogenic centers would have been properly arranged (Scheme I). The prospectus deliberately leaves open the specific point in time at which the substituent R, the group that is to serve as progenitor of the second five-membered ring (as in 4), is to be set into the requisite β configuration. This stereochemical latitude opens up several options for harmonizing the construction of subunits that would not otherwise be possible to consider.

For the purpose of achieving expedient arrival at 5, we wished to implement a ring expansion variant of the Claisen rearrangement.¹⁰ This central element of our strategy had previously been shown to be highly utilitarian in providing ready access to precapnelladiene (8)¹¹ and the cis- and trans-lauthisans (9a and 9b).¹² The surmise that 6 would be well suited to the stereospecific introduction of the alkyl groups in 5 rests on the strong likelihood that the [3,3] sigmatropic event required to reach 5 would be heavily dominated by a chairlike transition-state topography.¹³

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It was envisioned that 6 might be produced in turn from either 7 or 7', although it was not clear from the outset which of these would prove more accessible and serviceable. The protocol for advancement to either of these intermediates necessarily had to incorporate high resident levels of optical purity. As matters have turned out, we have been able to access both 7 and 7' from aldehyde 10, which is available in enantiomerically pure condition from commercially available (R)-(+)-limonene.

Cyclopentanone-2-propionate Approach to 7. Steric Complications. The first task in gaining access to 7 centered on proper annulation of a functionalized five-membered ring. The silicondirected Nazarov cyclization¹⁵ was selected for this purpose, although we were unaware at the time of its successful application in an example involving generation of a quaternary center.¹⁶ Condensation of 10 with the Grignard reagent derived from (E)-(2-bromoethenyl)trimethylsilane gave the carbinol, whose oxidation with barium manganate in dry dichloromethane solution^{15c,17} served to provide ketone 11 in 85% overall yield (Scheme II). The four Lewis acids FeCl₃, ZnCl₂, SnCl₄, and BF₃·OEt₂ were screened as possible promoters of the desired electro-cyclization of 11. With the first two, no reaction occurred in dichloromethane at room temperature under anhydrous conditions. When catalytic quantities of water or HCl were introduced, substantial levels of decomposition to tarry products were observed. Parallel findings were noted with SnCl₄ in the absence of moisture. In contrast, heating 11 to 98 °C with 4 equiv of boron trifluoride etherate in benzene¹⁸ generated an 84:16 mixture of 12 and 13 (72% combined yield). These diquinane ketones proved amenable to chromatographic separation. The major isomer was assigned all-cis stereochemistry on the basis of its greater thermodynamic stability (the isopropyl group is quasi-equatorial) and the known predilection of the directed Nazarov process to be kinetically biased toward cis products.15

Having secured pure samples of 12 and 13, we hydrogenated the individual isomers to arrive at 14 and 15. On exposure of 14 to m-chloroperbenzoic acid in chloroform, the normal Baeyer-Villiger reaction course¹⁹ was followed and lactone 7 was obtained without any loss of stereochemical integrity (Scheme III). Initial efforts to introduce a conjugated double bond into this intermediate as in 16 proceeded in low yield and gave product that was contaminated to the 20% level with a difficultly separable unknown impurity. This complication surfaced when recourse was made to phenylselenyl chloride or bromide, as well as diphenyl or di-2-pyridyl diselenide with subsequent oxidative elimination. Ultimately, the use of benzeneselenenic anhydride in hot chlorobenzene²⁰ was considered and found to be the ideal reagent. The 20





Scheme V

OTBOMS

20



yield of 16 following chromatographic purification was 97%.

In order to realize attachment of a functionalized four-carbon side chain to 16 in a satisfactory way and with good control over β -face selectivity, careful attention was paid to the response of three cuprate reagents. The Grignard derived from 2-methyl-4bromobutene was admixed with cuprous bromide in both ether and tetrahydrofuran. In THF, the organometallic proved to be marginally reactive (20% conversion) and the resultant β : α ratio was 4:1. The reactivity level is considerably enhanced in ether (64% yield), but the β : α ratio becomes inverted (1:4.7).

The Grignard reagents based on 4-bromo-2-butanone ethylene and neopentyl glycol ketals could not be satisfactorily prepared in ether or 1,2-dimethoxyethane, thereby limiting study to tetrahydrofuran. Their cuprates ultimately gave 17b and 17c in good yield. The β isomers were again found to dominate (β : $\alpha = 4.7$:1 and 7.6:1, respectively).

To understand the obviously delicate stereochemical sensitivities to which 16 is subject, one needs only to consider its two most accessible conformations (19 and 19', Scheme IV). The structural elements in conformer 19 are such that steric effects should favor topside (β) attack, while stereoelectronic factors are clearly more conducive to 1,4-addition from the α face. The situation is precisely reversed in 19', where the potential for substantive 1,3-diaxial steric compression is especially obvious. When the angular hydrogen was replaced by a [(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy]methyl group as in 20 and 20', cuprate reagents continued to prefer β entry, and to approximately the same extent (consult ref 28). We find this difficult to reconcile with the involvement of conformers 19 and 20 in the product-forming transition states, since the ratios should be strongly affected by the added steric screening in 20. They are not. At this point in time, therefore, our view is that conformers 19' and 20' are the more kinetically relevant, with

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Scheme VI



adduct configuration being determined predominantly by stereoelectronic control.

While the epimers of 17a lend themselves to chromatographic purification, comparable success was not achieved with 17b or 17c. Consequently, recourse was made to α -17a for the purpose of confirming stereochemical assignment. In line with the behavior of many diquinane systems,²¹ enone 12 underwent cuprate addition to give a major adduct that can be reliably assigned as the α isomer. Its Baeyer-Villiger oxidation led to α -17b (Scheme V), acidic hydrolysis of which gave 21. This keto lactone proved identical in all respects with the product of ozonolysis of α -17a.

In an effort to produce β -17b in a stereochemically homogeneous state, oxidation of the epimeric mixture to 18 was examined. Unfortunately, 17b proved more recalcitrant to oxidation than 7. The maximum yield for this conversion was only 20%. We were particularly disappointed in the consistent inefficiency of this transformation since the hydrogenation of 18 did indeed afford β -17b exclusively (99%).

Even earlier than our observations relating to these stereochemical interrelationships was the demonstration that opening of the lactone ring in 17c was viable. While this could not be accomplished with sodium methoxide in methanol because of a rapid recyclization rate, the following three-step sequence gave 22 in 81% overall yield. Saponification with potassium hydroxide in ethanol/water (1:1) was carried to completion, and the carboxylate anion was directly alkylated with methyl iodide in dimethylformamide.

The resultant hydroxy ester was immediately oxidized with pyridinium dichromate (Scheme VI). Disappointingly, the ketone carbonyl group in 22 proved to be too sterically blockaded to react with (Z)- (and (E))- propenylmagnesium bromide and related organometallics.

The notable unreactivity of 22 is shared by 24, which was prepared analogously from lactone 23. The presence of a carbomethoxy group in both 22 and 24 prevented the adaptation of forcing conditions. In order to probe this option, 7 was transformed by conventional means into 25. This was quickly seen not to be a solution to the problem, since this ketone was also unreactive to the same Grignard reagents at more elevated temperatures. While condensation of 25 with the Tebbe reagent²² did result in

Scheme VII



conversion to 26, the extent of reaction was only 15% and the recovered ketone had undergone extensive epimerization.

The information gained from these studies established that passage via lactone 7 was impractical and that reliance on an intermediate already carrying a functionalized carbon atom as in 7' might effectively skirt this complication.

Arrival at the Penultimate Claisen Substance. The three-step conversion of 10 to 27 had previously been described by Mehta and Krishnamurthy.²³ The most conveniently workable onecarbon homologation²⁴ of 27 began with sodium borohydride reduction to 28 followed by osmylation and regioselective acetonide formation as in 29 (Scheme VII). Although the two-component mixture could not readily be separated, high-field ¹H NMR clearly indicated one isomer to dominate heavily. Nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) studies at 500 MHz suggested that the tertiary C-O bond was oriented β . This assignment was ultimately corroborated by X-ray analysis of a more advanced intermediate. Accordingly, 28 experiences electrophilic attack preferentially from that direction anti to the isopropyl group to give 34 after hydrolysis. These data provide an interesting contrast to the face selectivity that is experienced by keto ester 22 during hydride reduction to 35.25



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The unstable aldehyde obtained from 29 reacted with methylenetriphenylphosphorane to give $30.^{26}$ Following the hydroboration of 30 with 9-BBN, alcohol 31 was recognized to be available from 27 in 62% overall yield after chromatographic purification on silica gel. Once oxidation to the carboxylic acid level had been achieved, closure to bicyclic lactone 32a was guaranteed. The cis disposition of the propionic acid residue and tertiary hydroxyl correlates well with kinetically favorable exo-trig closure. A relevant consequence of this cyclization is proper placement of a suitably oxygenated carbon at the immediately adjacent (not tertiary) site.

In order to exploit the structural features of 32a, its hydroxy group was first silylated. This protection step was hardly conventional. Thus, use of the reactive *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl triflate reagent²⁷ in ether with triethylamine as acid scavenger led rapidly (<5 min at 20 °C) and completely to 36, a sensitive compound.



The reactivity of **32a** toward *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (imidazole, DMF) was very appreciably abated. Although the production of **36** was again kinetically favored under these circumstances, this ortho ester was now formed reversibly and reverted back to **32a** as a consequence of the good nucleophilicity of chloride ion in this solvent system. The starting hydroxy lactone was more slowly but irreversibly transformed into **32b**.

With arrival at 33, indirect construction of ring B in 3 was nearly completed.²⁸ Homologative generation of two additional sights of unsaturation, one with high stereocontrol, was now required to reach this major plateau of the synthesis. The successful route that was employed for the fully stereocontrolled elaboration of 39 is summarized in Scheme VIII. Desilylation of 33 with tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride in tetrahydrofuran afforded 37 in quantitative yield. Its conversion in turn to aldehyde 38 was readily accomplished with pyridinium dichromate in slurried

(26) The conversion of iii was equally efficient. Acidic hydrolysis of this intermediate delivered iv, an acetal whose oxygen atoms could not be chemically differentiated adequately well.



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Figure 1. ORTEP drawing for 39. The non-hydrogen atoms are represented by 30% probability thermal ellipsoids. The hydrogen atoms are drawn with an artificial radius.

Scheme IX



combination with powdered 3-Å molecular sieves. Without purification, 38 was brought into condensation with ethylidenetriphenylphosphorane²⁹ dissolved in tetrahydrofuran at 0 °C. This process provided for the routine isolation of 39 in 77% yield. The Z geometry of the newly introduced double bond was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis of this colorless crystalline solid (Table I, supplementary material; Figure 1). When larger scale runs of this Wittig reaction were undertaken, it proved possible to isolate the minor product 40 in yields up to 5%. Once again, a single isomer was formed; however, the configuration of the exocyclic enol ether double bond has not been unequivocally established.

Some comment relating to the formation of 40 is appropriate here. Lactone carbonyls are normally unreactive toward Wittig reagents,³⁰ and compounds related to **32b** are no exceptions to this trend. It is interesting to surmise therefore that the conjugated double bond in a system such as **39** is conducive to activating the lactone moiety toward nucleophilic attack by the ylide.

Construction of the AB Ring System and Proper Annulation of Ring C. The conversion of **39** to **41** was accomplished by means of the Tebbe reaction.²² As a consequence of the structural features in **41**, prototropic isomerization of the vinyl ether double bond is effectively precluded.³¹ When thermally activated (180

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 M. Top. Stereochem. 1979, 5, 1.

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Scheme X



°C, 24 h, NaOH-washed Carius tubes), pure samples of 41 underwent conversion to a mixture of 42 and 43 rich in the α -4-methyl isomer (15:1, Scheme IX). These epimers could easily be distinguished spectroscopically, NOE effects being particularly diagnostic.

The Claisen step exhibited several interesting features. For example, if **41** was not well purified such that organometallic residues from the Tebbe reagent remained, **42** and **43** were formed more rapidly (conversion was usually complete in 8.5 h at 170 °C) and their ratio was now closely balanced (1:1). A modest increase in reaction yield (to ca. 60%) was also noted. Obviously, the impurities serve as Lewis acid promoters to accelerate the [3,3] sigmatropic process. Consequently, passage through chair transition state **44**, the assumed progenitor of **42**, appears to be facilitated. However, prior equilibration of (Z)- to (E)-propenyl would allow for competitive isomerization via **45** to **43**. The relative importance of boat form **46**, an alternative reaction trajectory to **43**, is not known at present.

Pure 42, which exhibits an $[\alpha]^{19}_{D}$ of -2.7° in chloroform, underwent smooth condensation with the Grignard reagent derived from 4-bromo-2-butanone ethylene glycol ketal in the presence of CuBr-SMe₂. Direct O-silylation of the regiospecifically generated enolate made accessible the homologated intermediate 47 (Scheme X). The facial control exercised by the cuprate reagent $(\beta:\alpha = 1:3)$ is not of consequence, since 47 was directly oxidized by sequential reaction with phenylselenyl chloride and 30% hydrogen peroxide. After acidic hydrolysis, 48 was isolated in 84%

(31) Internalization of the vinyl ether double bond in v manifested itself in a striking way during attempted Claisen rearrangement. When heated at



mentation to give vii was kinetically favored, this process presumably being mediated by vi.²⁵



Figure 2. ORTEP drawing for 3. The non-hydrogen atoms are represented by 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. The hydrogen atoms are drawn with an artificial radius.

Scheme XI



overall yield from 42. As a consequence of the conformation adopted by 48, hydrogenation over platinum proceeded stereoselectively from the α face.³² A mixture of three compounds was produced. When chromatographic purification was undertaken at this stage, the aldol product 49 could be isolated in 42% yield. The second fraction consisted of a 9:1 mixture of 50 and its C-11 epimer (48%). More advisable and customary was our practice to treat the hydrogenate directly with potassium carbonate in methanol in order to complete the formation of ring C.

Once this was achieved, 49 was exposed to thionyl chloride and pyridine in dichloromethane solution in order to effect dehydration. Smooth conversion to a mixture of 4 and 51 resulted. These regioisomers were stirred in the presence of methanolic K_2CO_3 for 1 week in order to realize maximal conversion to 4 (70% after chromatography). Evidence for the stereo and positional integrity of the cyclopentene ring was founded entirely on ¹H and ¹³C NMR data. Molecular modeling of 4 defined the compound as possessing a bowl-shaped topography with the several α substituents protruding outward from the convex surface, in line with the spectroscopic observations. Subsequent X-ray analysis of 3 corroborated this early deductive reasoning.

Arrival at (+)-7,8-Epoxy-2-basmen-6-one. The course of nucleophilic addition to the carbonyl group in 4 could be fully anticipated to be dictated by steric approach control. Accordingly, this tricyclic ketone was reduced with lithium aluminum hydride

⁽³²⁾ The use of 10% Pd/C as catalyst had very different consequences. In this instance, the nonconjugated double bond was prone to migrate to the adjacent site internal to the five-membered ring (as in viii). Enone reduction then proceeded more slowly and from the opposite surface to provide ix, where the side chain is projected to the undesired α face.²⁵



so as to produce 52 exclusively (Scheme XI). The attractiveness of the β -hydroxyl construction intensifies in the context of our desire to take advantage of the anti epoxidation mode that 3cyclooctenols are recognized to follow.³³ In the case of 52, the exocyclic double bond responded in entirely comparable fashion. Peracid oxidation resulted in the isolation of 53 at the 86% level. The α disposition of the oxirane ring was unambiguously confirmed by single-crystal X-ray analysis (Table I, supplementary material; Figure 2) following Swern oxidation to give 3. This opticaly pure, solid epoxybasmenone is characterized by an $[\alpha]^{19}{}_{D}$ of +138°.

Double-Bond Migration in these Systems. In contemplating suitable extension of this methodology to the construction of conjugated enones exemplified by 1, we undertook attempts to achieve double-bond isomerization by means of rhodium catalysis. For this to be successful, the transition metal would likely have to be able to engage in oxidative addition from the more sterically congested β (concave) face. Additionally, it was mandatory that no alternative energy minimum be accessed prior to arrival at the projected targets. As matters worked out, insertion by Rh into an allylic β C-H bond appears entirely workable. However, the kinetically favored pathway involves migration in the opposite direction! Thus, stirring 49 or 3 with 5% Rh/C in ethyl acetate under H₂ at room temperature (RhCl₃ in hot ethanol was ineffective) resulted in regiospecific isomerization to 54 and 55, respectively.³⁴ The coirradiation of 49 or 3 with thiophenol and AIBN also gave 54 and 55. The structural assignments rest securely on their NMR features, which clearly show attachment of the isopropyl substituent to a trigonal carbon.



Summary

The 7,8-epoxy-2-basmen-6-one ring system can be assembled efficiently by the Claisen ring expansion strategy reported here. This methodology would appear to hold considerable synthetic utility, different aspects of which are currently being explored in other contexts. Its particular value resides in the conciseness and efficiency with which eight-membered ring construction can be achieved from structurally simpler lactone precursors. Good topological control can be relied upon during the sigmatropic rearrangement, provided that the system is free of transition-metal impurities. This feature allows for the incorporation of reliable stereochemical predictability into the synthetic design.

Experimental Section³⁵

(E)-1-[(5S)-5-Isopropyl-2-methyl-1-cyclopenten-1-yl]-3-(trimethylsilyl)-2-propen-1-one (11). A solution of (E)-(2-bromoethenyl)trimethylsilane (25.0 g, 140 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (180 mL) was added during 30 min to a magnetically stirred suspension of magnesium turnings (3.50 g, excess) in the same solvent (40 mL). After completion of the addition, the mixture was refluxed for 1 h, cooled to -30 °C, and treated dropwise with a solution of 10 (13.0 g, 85.5 mmol) in 100 mL of dry tetrahydrofuran. The progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. When complete, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0 °C, quenched with 4% ammonium chloride solution (300 mL), and extracted with ether. The combined ethereal phases were dried and evaporated. The residue was purified by prepartive HPLC on silica gel to give 18.9 g (88%) of the carbinol as a colorless oil: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3600-3150 (br), 2955-2810, 1610, 1465, 1245, 870, 840; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.26-5.98 (m, 2 H), 4.86 (br s, 1 H), 2.78 (m, 1 H), 2.22-2.06 (m, 2 H), 1.69-1.55 (m, 4 H), 0.95-0.92 (overlapping doublets, J = 4.6 Hz, total 3 H), 0.82 and 0.79 (two d's, J = 6.9 Hz, total 6 H), 0.11 (s, 9 H); ¹²C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, major isomer) δ 147.97, 137.79, 127.73, 126.56, 71.21, 53.50, 38.68, 30.09, 22.15, 22.01, 15.93, 14.33, -1.11; MS m/z (M⁺ - H₂O) calcd 234.1803, obsd 234.1780.

A stirred solution of the carbinol (11.2 g, 44.4 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (500 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and treated with barium manganate (115 g, 449 mmol). The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, and the progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. After 24 h, the excess BaMnO₄ was removed by filtration through a Celite pad, which was washed repeatedly with ether and acetone. After concentration of the filtrate, the residue was purified by preparative HPLC on silica gel (elution with 2% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether) to give 11 as a sensitive colorless oil (9.70 g, 97%): IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1650; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.31 (d, J = 18.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (d, J = 18.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.32-3.20 (m, 1 H), 2.25-1.97 (m, 3 H), 1.79 (s, 3 H), 1.73-1.61 (m, 1 H), 1.52-1.40 (m, 1 H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.01 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (20 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 191.48, 149.13, 145.17, 142.87, 140.31, 53.90, 39.52, 30.45, 23.20, 21.18, 17.20, 16.46, -1.81; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 250.1752, obsd 250.1750; $[\alpha]^{24}$ +79.1° (c 0.42, CHCl₃).

Nazarov Cyclization of 11. A benzene solution (4 mL) of 11 (100 mg, 0.40 mmol) and boron trifluoride etherate (230 mg, 4 equiv) was placed in a pressure bottle and heated to 90 °C. After 22 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and washed successively with sodium bicarbonate solution, water, and brine. The organic phase was dried, concentrated, and filtered through a small pad of silica gel. Final purification was realized by MPLC on silica gel (elution with 7% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether). There were obtained 42.8 mg of 12 and 8.2 mg of 13 (72% combined).

For pure 12: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1706; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.96 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.14 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.80–1.47 (m, 6 H), 1.31 (s, 3 H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 212.98, 171.07, 130.96, 61.33, 53.58, 50.72, 36.01, 30.73, 28.99, 25.53, 21.52, 20.42; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 178.1358, obsd 178.1386; $[\alpha]^{21}_{D}$ –40.7° (z 2.24, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₈O: C, 80.84; H, 10.18. Found: C, 80.97; H, 10.19.

For pure 13: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2930, 2860, 1700, 1595, 1445, 1345, 1160; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.03 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1 H), 1.73–1.67 (m, 4 H), 1.48–1.38 (m, 1 H), 1.29 (s, 3 H), 1.13 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 3 H), 1.12–1.00 (m, 1 H), 0.85 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 211.06, 170.43, 133.78, 57.86, 53.28, 52.68, 37.09, 28.99, 28.38, 25.27, 22.94, 21.98; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 178.1403, obsd 178.1353; $[\alpha]^{26}_{\rm D}$ +72.7° (c 1.31, CHCl₃).

(3aS,6S,6aS)-2,3,4,5,6,6a-Hexahydro-6-isopropyl-3a-methyl-1-(3aH)-pentalenone (14). A solution of 12 (871 mg, 4.89 mmol) in ethanol (30 mL) containing 10 mg of platinum oxide was hydrogenated at 40 psi for 40 min, filtered through Celite, and rinsed with petroleum ether. Evaporation of the filtrate gave 868 mg (98%) of 14: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1738; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.40 (ddd, J = 18.7, 9.1, 9.1Hz, 1 H), 2.29 (ddd, J = 18.7, 8.9, 4.6, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.90–1.48 (m, 9 H), 1.17 (s, 3 H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 222.79, 62.88, 52.12, 48.45, 39.04, 37.36, 33.16, 32.99, 30.14, 27.16, 21.67, 20.26; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 180.1514, obsd 180.1516; $[\alpha]^{26}{}_{\rm D}$ +104.6° (c 1.16, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₂₀O: C, 79.94; H, 11.18. Found: C, 79.82; H, 11.29.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (7). A solution of unpurified 14 (868 mg) in chloroform (50 mL) was treated with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (2.11 g, 12.23 mmol, 2.5 equiv) and stirred at room temperature for 2 days. Sodium sulfite solution (30 mL of 10%) was introduced, and the layers were separated after 1 h of rapid mixing. The aqueous phase was washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and water (30 mL) prior to drying and solvent evaporation. The residue was purified by MPLC (silica gel, elution with 6:1 petroleum ether in ethyl acetate) to give 890 mg (95%) of 7 as a colorless oil: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1747; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.92 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.41-2.35 (m, 2 H), 1.86-1.58 (m, 7 H), 1.35 (m, 1 H), 1.06 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.89 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.29, 91.86, 55.22, 39.48, 38.24, 32.42, 31.68, 27.76, 26.28, 25.86, 21.43, 20.37; MS *m/z* (M⁺) calcd 196.1463, obsd 196.1453; [α]²⁶D -52.4° (c 2.22, CHCl₃).

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⁽³⁴⁾ For earlier related observations, see: (a) Ito, O.; Matsuda, M. J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 17. (b) Lunazzi, L.; Placucci, G.; Grossi, L. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1979, 533.

⁽³⁵⁾ Melting points are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Model 1320 spectrometer. ¹H NMR were recorded at 300 MHz and ¹³C NMR spectra at 75 or 20 MHz as indicated. Mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos MS-30 instrument by Mr. Dick Weisenberger at The Ohio State University Chemical Instrument Center. Elemental analyses were performed at the Scandinavian Microanalytical Laboratory, Herlev, Denmark. All MPLC separations were conducted on Merck Lobar columns (Licroprep Si-60) with the help of a Fluid Metering INC pump and a Waters Associates Model R403 differential refractometer detector. The organic extracts were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Solvents were reagent grade and in many cases were dried prior to use.

Anal. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{20}O_2$: C, 73.43; H, 10.27. Found: C, 73.31; H, 10.35.

(4a.S,7S,7a.S)-5,6,7,7a-Tetrahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta-[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (16). To a solution of 7 (30 mg, 0.15 mmol) in chlorobenzene (2 mL) was added benzeneselenenic anhydride (65 mg, 0.18 mmol), and the mixture was refluxed overnight. An additional 65 mg of the anhydride was introduced, and heating was resumed for 24 h. The cooled reaction mixture was diluted with ether and washed with 2 N hydrochloric acid and water prior to drying. Solvent evaporation and MPLC purification (silica gel) furnished 28.8 mg (97%) of 16: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1731; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.58 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.88 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.21 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.84-1.56 (m, 4 H), 1.39 (m, 1 H), 1.21 (s, 3 H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 161.23, 152.76, 119.41, 89.74, 52.40, 40.91, 37.03, 31.76, 24.98, 24.48, 21.00, 20.32; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 194.1306, obsd 194.1310. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₈O₂: C, 74.19; H, 9.34. Found: C, 74.15; H, 9.62.

Conjugate Addition Reactions to 16. A. (4S,4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-4-[2-(2-methyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)ethyl]-cyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (17b). 4-Bromo-2-butanone ethylene ketal (326 mg, 1.67 mmol) was allowed to react with magnesium turnings (200 mg) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) until Grignard reagent formation was complete. This solution was added dropwise to a cold (-70 °C), magnetically stirred slurry of cuprous bromide (72 mg, 0.25 mmol) in the same solvent (2 mL). The resulting mixture was warmed to -07° °C, recooled to -78° °C, and treated with 16 (48.6 mg, 0.25 mmol). Following 1.5 h at -78° °C, the mixture was warmed to room temperature during 1.5 h and quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution. The product was extracted into ether, and the ethereal solution was washed with water, dried, and evaporated. MPLC purification (silica gel) afforded 64 mg (82%) of a 4.7:1 mixture of β -17b and α -17b³⁶

For pure β-17b: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2870, 1740, 1465, 1380, 1270, 1150, 1060; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.02 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.98–3.87 (m, 4 H), 2.51 (dd, J = 3.4, 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.11 (dd, J = 12.0, 16.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.84–1.48 (m, 9 H), 1.38–1.23 (m, 2 H), 1.30 (s, 3 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.20, 109.66, 93.03, 64.63 (2 C), 56.96, 42.64, 40.67, 36.84, 31.86, 31.65, 31.60, 26.62, 25.63, 23.90, 23.75, 21.47, 20.31; MS m/z (M⁺ – CH₃) calcd 295.1909, obsd 295.1951; [α]²⁰_D +47.6° (*c* 2.8, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₂O₄: C, 69.64; H, 9.74. Found: C, 69.60; H, 9.79.

B. (4S,4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-4-[(2,5,5trimethyl-1,3-dioxan-2-yl)ethyl]cyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (17c). An analogous reaction involving the neopentyl glycol ketal of 4-bromo-2butanone (1.08 g, 4.54 mmol) and 16 (176 mg, 0.908 mmol) afforded after MPLC (silica gel) 292 mg (91%) of β -17c and α -17c as a 7.6:1 mixture of isomers: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.02 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, major) and 3.84 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, minor, total 1 H), 3.57 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, minor) and 3.56 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, major, total 1 H), 3.38 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 2 H), 2.52 (dd, J = 3.3, 16.5 Hz, major) and 2.45 (dd, J = 2.8, 16.5 Hz, minor, total 1 H), 2.13 (dd, J = 12.1, 16.4 Hz, major) and 2.09 (dd, J = 12.7, 16.3 Hz, minor, total 1 H), 1.85–1.50 (m, 8 H), 1.40–1.08 (m, 3 H), 1.36 (s, minor) and 1.35 (s, major, total 3 H), 1.12 (s, 3 H), 1.04 (s, minor) and 1.02 (s, major, total 3 H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, major), 0.99 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, minor, total 3 H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.86(s, 3 H).

C. (4S,4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-4-(3methyl-3-butenyl)cyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (17a). 2-Methyl-4bromobutene (373 mg, 2.50 mmol) was converted to its magnesiocuprate as described and allowed to react with 16 (97 mg, 0.50 mmol) in the manner detailed in A except in ether as solvent. MPLC purification (silica gel) gave 85 mg (64%) of 17a and 6 mg (6.5%) of recovered lactone. The $\beta:\alpha$ ratio was 1:4.7. Mutual separation of these epimers was achieved by MPLC on silica gel (elution with 7% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether).

For β -17a: colorless oil; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2870, 1745, 1650, 1465, 1270, 1200, 1060; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.73 (s, 1 H), 4.68 (s, 1 H), 4.02 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.55 (dd, J = 3.4, 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.16-2.06 (m, 1 H), 2.11 (dd, J = 12.1, 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.98-1.49 (series

(36) Pure β -17b was obtained by the following sequence of steps:²⁵



of m, 7 H), 1.71 (s, 3 H), 1.37–1.10 (m, 3 H), 1.10 (s, 3 H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 170.31, 144.99, 110.77, 92.41, 57.05, 42.43, 40.05, 35.40, 32.15, 32.01, 31.68, 27.71, 26.48, 25.98, 22.32, 21.66, 20.65; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 264.2089, obsd 264.2096.

For α-17a: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2960, 2870, 1745, 1650, 1460, 1380, 1260, 1140; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.74 (s, 1 H), 4.69 (s, 1 H), 3.86 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.48 (dd, J = 3.2, 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.15–1.78 (series of m, 4 H), 2.09 (dd, J = 12.9, 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.71 (s, 3 H), 1.69–1.54 (m, 5 H), 1.44–1.25 (m, 2 H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.94 (s, 3 H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.23, 144.70, 110.53, 91.98, 53.64, 43.05, 39.73, 37.86, 35.46, 32.14, 31.35, 27.87, 25.73, 22.18, 21.28, 20.07, 19.60; MS m/z (M⁺ – C₃H₇) calcd 221.1541, obsd 221.1551.

(4S,4aS,75,7aS)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-4-(3-oxobutyl)cyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (17d). A. Hydrolysis of 17b. A solution of 17b (64 mg, 0.21 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) and 5% hydrochloric acid (1 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4 h, diluted with ether, and washed with sodium bicarbonate solution and water. Drying, solvent evaporation, and MPLC purification (silica gel) gave 53 mg (98%) of 17d as a 4.7:1 mixture of β and α isomers.

For β -17d: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.01 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.58-2.32 (m, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3 H), 2.11 (dd, J = 12.2, 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.94-1.75 (m, 2 H), 1.71-1.50 (m, 4 H), 1.40-1.17 (m, 3 H), 1.13 (s, 3 H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H).

For α -17d: see characterization in the following text as compound 21. B. Hydrolysis of 17c. A solution of 17c (62 mg, 0.17 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) and 5% hydrochloric acid (1 mL) was stirred overnight at room temperature. The usual workup gave 17d (43 mg, 93%) as a 7.6:1 mixture of β and α isomers.

C. Ozonolysis of α -17a. A solution of α -17a (43 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) was cooled to -78 °C and treated with a precooled (-78 °C) saturated solution of ozone in the same solvent (10 mL). After 15 min, dimethyl sulfide (2 mL) was introduced, and the temperature was allowed to rise to 20 °C. The reaction mixture was washed with water, dried, and evaporated to leave a residue that was purified by MPLC. There was isolated 27 mg (63%) of pure α isomer 21; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1740, 1715; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.85 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.57-2.34 (m, 3 H), 2.14 (s, 3 H), 2.08 (dd, J = 14.6, 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 1.89-1.75 (m, 3 H), 1.72-1.57 (m, 4 H), 1.43-1.30 (m, 2 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.93 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆) δ 205.46, 171.42, 91.48, 54.17, 43.21, 40.85, 40.42, 38.05, 32.35, 31.89, 29.48, 26.16, 23.80, 21.54, 20.48, 19.36; MS m/z (M⁺ - C₃H₆O) calcd 208.1463, obsd 208.1511.

D. Access from 12. A 183-mg (0.94-mmol) sample of 4-bromo-2butanone ethylene ketal was transformed into its magnesiocuprate in the manner described earlier. To the cuprate solution was added 12 (44.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) dissolved in 2 mL of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1.5 h at -78 °C and warmed to room temperature during 1.5 h. Following quenching with saturated ammonium chloride solution, the products were extracted into ether, washed with water, and dried. Solvent evaporation followed by MPLC (silica gel) of the residue afforded 69 mg (93%) of 17b as a 4.1:1 mixture of α and β isomers.

The above ketone (69 mg, 0.23 mmol) was dissolved in chloroform (4 mL), treated with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (100 mg, 0.58 mmol), and stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, an additional 40 mg of peracid was introduced and oxidation was allowed to proceed 46 h longer. Saturated sodium bisulfite solution (5 mL) was added, stirring was maintained for 30 min, and the usual workup was implemented.

The unpurified lactone was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (2 mL), treated with 5% hydrochloric acid (1 mL), and stirred for 4 h. The product was extracted into ether and processed as described earlier to give 40 mg (65%) of a 1:4.1 mixture of β -17d and 21.

Methyl β -[(15,35)-3-Isopropyl-1-methyl-2-oxocyclopentyl]-2,5,5-trimethyl-1,3-dioxane-(2R)-valerate (22). Lactone 17c (248 mg, 0.704 mmol) and potassium hydroxide (42 mg, 0.74 mmol) were dissolved in 50% aqueous ethanol (6 mL), and the solution was stirred overnight at 80 °C. Solvent was evaporated, and the residue was dried in vacuo, treated with dimethylformamide (3 mL) and methyl iodide (0.5 mL), and stirred at room temperature for 6 h. The predescribed workup gave hydroxy ester, which was used directly.

To a solution of the previous material in dichloromethane (8 mL) were added pyridinium dichromate (496 mg, 1.41 mmol) and 3-Å molecular sieves (350 mg). This mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h, diluted with ether, and filtered through a Celite pad. The filtrate was evaporated to leave a residue that was purified by MPLC on silica gel. There was isolated 218 mg (81% overall) of a colorless oil consisting principally of 22 and 27 mg (11%) of unreacted 17c. For 22: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2865, 1730, 1465, 1435, 1370, 1215, 1095, 1020, 850; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.64 (s, 3 H), 3.53–3.39 (m, 4 H), 2.22–2.02 (m, 4 H), 1.97–1.88 (m, 1 H), 1.78–1.59 (m, 6 H), 1.34 (s, 3 H), 1.30–1.20 (m, 2 H), 0.98 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.95 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (s, 3 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 220.31, 172.97, 98.78, 70.12 (2 C), 56.24, 52.13, 50.87, 40.64, 37.11, 36.15, 30.69, 29.63, 27.03, 24.20, 22.67, 22.20, 20.79, 20.28, 20.17, 20.06, 18.28; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 382.2719, obsd 382.2740.

(4a.S,75,7a.S)-Hexahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (23). A solution of 13 (340 mg, 1.91 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL) containing a catalytic quantity of platinum oxide was hydrogenated for 10 min at 40 psi. The catalyst was separated by filtration, and the filtrate was evaporated to give 15, which was used without further purification: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1736; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.28-2.19 (m, 2 H), 2.10 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 1.91-1.55 (m, 8 H), 1.22 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.86 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 218.46, 60.37, 53.58, 47.16, 40.22, 40.17, 35.98, 32.18, 29.25, 28.96, 23.27, 22.30; MS m/z (M⁺ – H₂O) calcd 162.1409, obsd 162.1372.

The material obtained was dissolved in chloroform (20 mL), treated with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (824 mg, 4.78 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (5 mg), and then stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Saturated sodium sulfite solution (10 mL) was introduced, followed 1 h later by the usual workup. Final purification by MPLC on silica gel gave 329 mg (88%) of lactone 23.

For 23: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1742; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.19 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.45–2.35 (m, 2 H), 1.93–1.46 (m, 8 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3 H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.44, 89.57, 52.14, 40.65, 37.68, 32.96, 28.44, 28.10, 27.99, 27.31, 21.74 (2C); MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 196.1463, obsd 196.1422.

Methyl β -[(15,35)-3-Isopropyl-1-methyl-2-oxocyclopentyl]propionate (24). Lactone 23 (25.3 mg, 0.129 mmol) and potassium hydroxide (7.6 mg, 0.135 mmol) were dissolved in 3 mL of 1:1 ethanol/water, stirred overnight at 80 °C, and freed of solvent in vacuo. The dried solid was treated with excess methyl iodide (0.15 mL) in dimethylformamide (2 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, diluted with ether, washed with water, and dried. Solvent evaporation gave the hydroxy ester, which was utilized directly.

The previous material in dichloromethane (3 mL) was treated with powdered 3-Å molecular sieves (65 mg) and pyridinium dichromate (72.7 mg, 0.19 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, diluted with ether, and filtered through a Celite pad. The filtrate was evaporated, and the residue was purified by MPLC on silica gel to give 21 mg (72%) of 24 and 3 mg (12%) of unreacted lactone. For 24: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1734, 1726; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.64 (s, 3 H), 2.33-2.25 (m, 2 H), 2.20-2.08 (m, 2 H), 1.97-1.81 (m, 2 H), 1.76-1.53 (m, 4 H), 1.01 (s, 3 H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 222.69, 173.81, 54.47, 51.51, 47.68, 34.43, 30.22, 28.91, 27.62, 22.01, 21.04, 20.75, 18.61; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 226.1569, obsd 226.1554.

tert-Butyl[3-[(15,35)-3-isopropyl-1-methyl-2-oxocyclopentyl]propoxyldimethylsilane (25). A solution of lactone 7 (150 mg, 0.765 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (5 mL) was treated with lithium aluminum hydride (116 mg, 3.06 mmol), stirred at room temperature for 20 min, and quenched with water. Sodium hydroxide solution (5 mL of 30%) was added, and the diol was isolated by ether extraction. Without purification, the diol was dissolved in dichloromethane (10 mL) and treated in turn with tert-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (118 mg, 0.87 mmol), 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (8.7 mg, 0.071 mmol), and triethylamine (359 mg, 3.55 mmol). After the solution was stirred overnight, the usual workup was applied and the selectively protected product was dissolved in dichloromethane (4 mL). Pyridinium dichromate (401 mg, 1.07 mmol) and powdered 3-Å molecular sieves (355 mg) were introduced, the mixture was stirred for 2 h, and ether was added. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite, and the filtrate was evaporated to leave a residue that was purified by MPLC on silica gel. There was obtained 195 mg (82% overall) of 25 as a colorless oil; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1732; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.56 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2 H), 2.21–2.03 (m, 2 H), 1.95-1.87 (m, 1 H), 1.79-1.29 (m, 7 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.91 (s, 3 H), 0.88 (s, 9 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.03 (s, 6 H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 221.04, 63.72, 55.70, 48.35, 34.45, 33.49, 28.35, 27.60, 26.18, 21.65, 21.10, 20.97, 18.70, 18.52, -5.13; MS m/z (M⁺ - CH₃) calcd 297.2250, obsd 297.2299. Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₃₆O₂Si: C, 69.17; H, 11.61. Found: C, 69.34; H, 11.60

tert-Buty[3-[(15,3S)-3-isopropyl-1-methyl-2-methylenecyclopenty]propoxy]dimethylsilane (26). A solution of 25 (33 mg, 0.106 mmol) in benzene (1 mL) was treated with tetrahydrofuran (0.3 mL) and pyridine (4 μ L). The resulting mixture was cooled to -40 °C and treated with the Tebbe reagent^{11,22} (0.32 mL of 0.5 M in benzene, 0.14 mmol). After 30 min at -40 °C, the solution was warmed to room temperature during an additional 30 min and stirred overnight before being quenched with 15% sodium hydroxide solution (0.3 mL) and dilution with ether. The organic phase was dried, filtered through a Celite pad, and evaporated. MPLC purification of the residue gave 5 mg (15%) of 26 and 18 mg (55%) of an epimeric mixture of starting ketone. For 26: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.78 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.75 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.60-3.56 (m, 2 H), 2.45-2.35 (m, 1 H), 2.03-1.92 (m, 1 H), 1.64-1.24 (series of m, 8 H), 0.97 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.96 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (s, 9 H), 0.78 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.05 (s, 6 H).

(-)-(25,55)-2-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-methyl-5-isopropylmethylenecyclopentane (28). The vinyl ether derived from the reduction product of 10 (2.02 g, 11.2 mmol) was heated at 200 °C in a sealed tube for 11 h. ¹H NMR analysis showed aldehyde 27 to be present as a 32:1 mixture of isomers. Without purification, the thermolysate was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (25 mL) and ethanol (8 mL). Sodium borohydride (508 mg, 13.4 mmol) was added with ice cooling to maintain the temperature below 30 °C. After 20 min, the reaction mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator, quenched with 5% hydrochloric acid, and diluted with ether. The usual workup followed by MPLC on silica gel furnished 1.59 g (78% overall) of isomerically pure 28 as a colorless oil alongside 5 mg of its epimer.

For **28**: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3350, 2965, 2880, 1645, 1470, 1390, 1370, 885; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.88 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.81 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.73–3.67 (m, 2 H), 2.45 (m, 1 H), 2.04–1.94 (m, 1 H), 1.85–1.34 (m, 7 H), 1.00 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.77 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.74, 103.73, 60.27, 50.81, 44.63, 44.08, 37.34, 28.83, 27.51, 23.04, 21.86, 16.48; MS m/z (M⁺ – CH₃) calcd 167.1436, obsd 167.1424; [α]²⁰_D –99.0° (*c* 6.35, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₂₂O: C, 79.06; H, 12.16. Found: C, 78.83; H, 12.17.

For the epimer: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3340, 2960, 2870, 1640, 1460, 1050, 1020; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.86 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.84 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.83–3.59 (m, 2 H), 2.44 (m, 1 H), 1.89 (m, 1 H), 1.73–1.32 (m, 6 H), 1.22 (br s, 1 H), 1.09 (s, 3 H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.81, 104.63, 60.26, 50.67, 44.53, 43.04, 38.23, 29.72, 27.77, 23.88, 21.85, 17.51; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 182.1671, obsd 182.1716.

(-)-(55,65,95)-9-Isopropyl-2,2,6-trimethyl-1,3-dioxaspiro[4.4]nonane-6-ethanol (29). To a solution of 28 (270 mg, 1.48 mmol) in 6 mL of 50% aqueous acetone was added osmium tetroxide (3.76 mL of 0.0197 M in *tert*-butyl alcohol, 0.074 mmol) and N-methylmorpholine oxide (260 mg, 2.22 mmol). After the solution was stirred for 3 days, 5% sodium bisulfite solution (3 mL) was introduced. After 30 min, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, diluted with ether, and processed as usual.

The triol so obtained (14:1 mixture of epimers) was dissolved in acetone (5 mL), treated with 2,2-dimethoxypropane (308 mg, 2.96 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (5 mg), and stirred for 15 min. Following the addition of 10% sodium bicarbonate solution (1 mL), the total mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The usual workup and MPLC purification (silica gel) gave 227 mg (80% overall) of **29** as a white solid, mg 87.0-88.2 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3268, 2958, 1460, 1382, 1370; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.96 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.75 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.81-3.65 (m, 2 H), 2.18-2.10 (m, 2 H), 2.01-1.26 (series of m, 7 H), 1.41 (s, 3 H), 1.38 (s, 3 H), 1.02 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.85 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 108.60, 93.69, 65.66, 59.93, 54.97, 45.18, 39.91, 35.92, 27.51, 27.37, 26.67, 24.11, 23.16, 20.92, 19.77; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 256.2038, obsd 256.2010. Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₈O₃: C, 70.27; H, 11.01. Found: C, 70.23; H, 10.91.

(55,6R,9S)-6-(3-Butenyl)-9-isopropyl-2,2,6-trimethyl-1,3-dioxaspiro[4.4]nonane (30). A solution of 29 (224 mg, 0.875 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) was treated with pyridinium dichromate (395 mg, 1.05 mmol) and powdered 3-Å molecular sieves (438 mg). This mixture was stirred for 40 min, diluted with ether (60 mL), and filtered quickly through a Celite-silica gel pad. Evaporation of the filtrate gave the aldehyde, which was used without further purification.

A solution of methyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (477 mg, 1.18 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (3 mL) was treated with *n*-butyllithium (0.74 mL of 1.5 M in hexanes, 1.10 mmol) at -20 °C, and the solution was allowed to warm to 0 °C. The aldehyde in 2 mL of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran was introduced dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 20 min and at room temperature for 30 min before being quenched with 10% ammonium chloride solution (3 mL) and worked up in the usual way. MPLC purification (silica gel) gave 144 mg (65% overall) of 30 as a colorless liquid: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2960, 2880, 1640, 1380, 1370, 1240, 1055; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.91-5.77 (m, 1 H), 5.08-5.01 (m, 2 H), 3.95 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.37 (dd, J = 7.1, 13.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.16-1.90 (m, 3 H),

1.75-1.55 (m, 2 H), 1.47-1.27 (m, 2 H), 1.41 (s, 3 H), 1.35 (s, 3 H), 1.02 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.77 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.34, 116.66, 108.40, 93.82, 65.64, 56.07, 45.90, 41.20, 35.67, 27.72, 27.49, 26.72, 24.11, 23.22, 20.08, 19.71; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 252.2089, obsd 252.2109. Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₈O₂: C, 76.14; H, 11.18. Found: C, 76.19; H, 11.16.

(5S,6S,9S)-9-Isopropyl-2,2,6-trimethyl-1,3-dioxaspiro[4.4]nonane-6propanol (31). A cold (0 °C), magnetically stirred solution of 30 (3.22 g, 12.76 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (20 mL) was treated with 9-BBN (60 mL of 0.5 M in THF), and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, where stirring was maintained for 3 h. Sodium hydroxide solution (15 mL of 50%) and hydrogen peroxide (15 mL of 30%) were added to 0 °C, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After the solution was stirred overnight, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residual aqueous solution was extracted with ether. The combined organic phases were washed with water, dried, and evaporated. Purification of the residue by silica gel chromatography afforded 3.21 g (93%) of 31 as a colorless oil: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3400, 2945, 2870, 1460, 1380, 1370, 1060; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 3.95 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (m, 2 H), 3.73 (d, J =9.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.11 (m, 1 H), 1.97 (m, 1 H), 1.81-1.24 (series of m, 9 H), 1.40 (s, 3 H), 1.34 (s, 3 H), 1.02 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.79 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 108.35, 94.02, 65.59, 63.88, 56.14, 45.69, 35.64, 32.17, 28.27, 27.72, 27.46, 26.67, 24.10, 23.35, 19.94, 19.72; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 270.2195, obsd 270.2195.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7a-(hydroxymethyl)-7-isopropyl-4amethylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (32a). A solution of 31 (180 mg, 0.664 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 mL) was treated with pyridinium dichromate (1.25 g, 3.32 mmol), stirred overnight at room temperature, and poured into water. The product was extracted into ether, and the combined organic layers were dried and evaporated. The residual carboxylic acid was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (2 mL), 10% hydrochloric acid (4 mL) was introduced, and the mixture was stirred overnight prior to neutralization and extraction with ether. The usual workup gave a 15:1 mixture of 32a and an isomer (120 mg, 80%). MPLC on silica gel delivered pure **32a**: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3440, 2950, 2880, 1715, 1470; ^TH NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.90 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.75 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.50 (m, 2 H), 2.05-1.58 (series of m, 8 H), 1.39 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (s, 3 H), 1.05 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.77, 94.68, 62.56, 56.54, 40.61, 36.42, 32.73, 28.22, 26.76, 24.66, 22.55, 22.46, 22.09; MS m/z (M⁺ – H₂O) calcd 208.1464, obsd 208.1477; $[\alpha]^{19}_{D}$ +20.9° (c 3.03, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₂₂O₃: C, 68.99; H, 9.80. Found: C, 68.79; H, 9.85.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-Hexahydro-7a-[(tert-butyldimethylsiloxy)methyl]-7isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (32b). To a solution of 32a (418 mg, 1.847 mmol) in dimethylformamide (5 mL) was added tert-butyldimethylchlorosilane (1.39 g, 9.24 mmol) and imidazole (1.89 g, 27.7 mmol), and stirring was maintained for 2 days. Silica gel (1 g) was introduced, and the mixture was stirred overnight prior to being poured into water, extracted with ether, and dried. The residue obtained by solvent evaporation was purified by MPLC on silica gel. There was obtained 496 mg (79%) of 32b and 64 mg (15%) of unreacted alcohol. For 32b: white solid; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2950, 1735, 1470, 1260, 1185, 1105; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.83 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.73 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.46 (m, 2 H), 2.06-1.47 (series of m, 8 H), 1.19 (s, 3 H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3 H), 0.98 (s, 9 H), 0.89 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 0.084 (s, 3 H), 0.078 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.88, 94.11, 63.59, 55.96, 40.47, 37.03, 33.30, 28.50, 26.76, 25.76, 25.33, 22.52, 22.27, 21.11, 18.04, -5.85, -5.94; MS m/z (M⁺ - C₃H₇) calcd 297.1886, obsd 297.1848.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-7a-[(tert-Butyldimethylsiloxy)methyl]-4a,5,6,7-tetrahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (33). A solution of 32b (495 mg, 1.45 mmol) and benzeneselenenic anhydride (786 mg, 2.18 mmol) in chlorobenzene (10 mL) was heated at 135 °C for 16 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, washed with 2 N hydrochloric acid and water, and dried. Solvent evaporation left a residue, purification of which by MPLC on silica gel delivered 459 mg (92%) of 33 as a colorless solid: IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2960, 1720, 1520, 1365, 1105; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.51 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.83 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.94 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.83 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.15-1.70 (m, 5 H), 1.54 (m, 1 H), 1.18 (s, 3 H),1.05 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.90 (s, 9 H), 0.86 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.10 (s, 3 H), 0.09 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.30, 158.18, 117.53, 91.41, 62.80, 52.79, 44.30, 36.32, 28.94, 25.74, 25.49, 22.42 22.10, 20.95, 17.98, -5.90; MS m/z (M⁺ - CH₃) calcd 323.2043, obsd 323.2079; $[\alpha]^{18.5}$ – 28.7° (c 2.18, CHCl₃).

(4aS,7S,7aS)-7a-(Hydroxymethyl)-4a,5,6,7-tetrahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(3H)-one (37). A solution of 33 (103 mg, 0.304 mmol) and tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride (1 mL of 1.0 M in tetrahydrofuran) in dimethylformamide (3 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, poured into water, and processed in the usual manner. MPLC of the residue (silica gel) furnished 67.8 mg (99.8%) of 37 as a colorless solid: mp 80-81 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3490, 2960, 1700, 1385, 1285, 1120, 1080, 1040; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) à 6.54 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.86 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.00 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.87 (dd, J = 6.8, 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.16 (m, 1 H), 1.95-1.30 (series of m, 6 H), 1.24 (s, 3 H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) à 162.56, 157.89, 117.52, 91.46, 61.87, 52.69, 44.41, 35.72, 29.02, 24.80, 22.44, 22.15, 22.11; MS *m/z* (M⁺) calcd 224.1412, obsd 224.1443; [α]²⁷_D -50.7° (*c* 2.54, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₂₀O₃: C, 69.21; H, 8.99. Found: C, 69.58; H, 9.03.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-4a,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-2-oxocyclopenta[b]pyran-7a(2H)-carboxaldehyde (38). A magnetically stirred solution of 37 (68 mg, 0.302 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) was treated with pyridinium dichromate (227 mg, 0.605 mmol) and powdered 3-Å molecular sieves (151 mg). After 5 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with ether (40 mL), filtered quickly through a pad of Celite and anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and evaporated. This oily aldehyde was used without further purification: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2960, 2870, 1725, 1460, 1370, 1255, 1115; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.88 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.53 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.95 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.22-1.86 (m, 4 H), 1.68-1.50 (m, 2 H), 1.10 (s, 3 H), 0.96 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.84 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.14, 161.16, 155.47, 118.42, 96.04, 55.63, 45.66, 35.38, 29.91, 25.90, 22.08, 22.02, 20.55; MS m/z (M⁺ - CHO) calcd 193.1229, obsd 193.1229.

(4aS,7S,7aS)-5,6,7,7a-Tetrahydro-7-isopropyl-4a-methyl-7apropenylcyclopenta[b]pyran-2(4aH)-one (39). A tetrahydrofuran solution (3 mL) containing ethyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (146 mg, 0.393 mmol) was treated with n-butyllithium (0.25 mL of 1.5 M in hexanes, 0.373 mmol) at -20 °C, and the resulting mixture was warmed to 0 °C during 20 min. The previous unpurified aldehyde as a solution in dry tetrahydrofuran (3 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. After the mixture had stirred for 30 min, it was allowed to come to room temperature where it was quenched with 10% ammonium chloride solution (3 mL). The customary workup followed by MPLC on silica gel afforded 55 mg (77%) of 39 as a colorless solid: mp 77.5-78.5 °C (from ether); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2870, 1710, 1470, 1450, 1385, 1370, 1260, 1120; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.59 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.87 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.74 (m, 1 H), 5.08 (m, 1 H), 2.13-1.25 (series of m, 6 H), 1.94 (dd, J = 1.8, 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.81 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.61, 157.16, 128.58, 123.25, 118.52, 95.11, 54.03, 45.62, 35.09, 30.70, 25.40, 22.24, 22.11, 21.41, 14.79; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 234.1619, obsd 234.1622; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} -232^{\circ}$ (c 4.9, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₂₂O₂: C, 76.88; H, 9.46. Found: C, 76.76; H, 9.42.

The three-dimensional structure of **39**, determined crystallographically, is illustrated in Figure 1. When this reaction was performed starting with 700 mg of the hydroxy lactone, there was isolated 560 mg (77%) of **39**, as well as 32 mg (5%) of **40** as a single isomer (unknown configuration about the double bond): IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3025, 2950, 2870, 1655, 1620, 1470, 1450, 1340, 1125, 1050, 800; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 5.78 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.62 (m, 1 H), 5.26 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1 H), 5.03 (m, 1 H), 4.54 (q, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.11 (dd, J = 1.8, 7.1 Hz, 3 H), 2.1-1.2 (series of m, 6 H), 1.81 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 1.17 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.05 (s, 3 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H): ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 146.44, 134.96, 126.84, 126.40, 122.68, 104.64, 91.75, 50.26, 45.25, 35.30, 31.76, 25.91, 22.88, 22.72, 21.49, 15.23, 11.01; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 246.1983, obsd 246.1992.

(1S,3aS,8S)-1,2,3,3a,7,8-Hexahydro-1-isopropyl-3a,8-dimethyl-6Hcyclopentacycloocten-6-one (42). To a solution of 39 (442 mg, 1.89 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (7 mL) were added dry tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) and pyridine (6 drops). Following cooling of this solution to 0 °C, Tebbe reagent^{11,22} (5 mL of 0.55 M in benzene) was introduced dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature, stirred for 2 h, and recooled to 0 °C. Aqueous 15% sodium hydroxide was added dropwise until gas evolution ceased. The product was extracted into ether, and the combined organic layers were dried and evaporated. The residue was passed down a short column of basic alumina (activity III, elution with petroleum ether) to provide 398 mg (91%) of 41, which was thermolyzed without delay. A solution of 41 (39 mg, 0.168 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) was sealed under vacuum in a sodium hydroxide washed Carius tube and heated at 180 °C for 24 h. The yellowish solution was evaporated, and the residue was purified by MPLC on silica gel to give 14 mg (36%) of 42 as a colorless solid: mp 57-58 °C; IR (film, cm⁻¹ 2950, 2865, 1675, 1460, 1385, 1365, 1125; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.16 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.86 (dd, J = 1.9, 12.7 Hz, 1 H), 5.41 (br t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.13 (dd, J = 11.7, 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.77 (m, 1 H), 2.48 (m, 1 H), 2.39 (dm, J = 15.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.0–1.3 (series of m, 5 H), 1.34 (s, 3 H), 1.14 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3 H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 206.56, 149.84,

145.90, 129.52, 129.14, 53.26, 50.12, 46.74, 45.49, 29.77, 29.60, 28.00, 24.22, 21.76, 21.65, 16.17; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 232.1828, obsd 232.1813; $[\alpha]^{19}_{D} - 2.7^{\circ}$ (c 2.3, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₄O: C, 82.70; H, 10.41. Found: C, 82.73; H, 10.43.

In addition, 1 mg of the β -methyl epimer was isolated: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.84 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.51 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.07 (dd, J = 2.6, 9.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.32 (m, 1 H), 2.60 (dd, J = 4.4, 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.41 (m, 1 H), 2.21 (dd, J = 12.0, 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.7-1.3 (series of m, 4 H), 1.22 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.76 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 232.1827, obsd 232.1824.

The yields of this reaction were found to vary widely (34-60%) with fluctuation in the relative percentages of the two epimers (on occasion up to 50:50). These variations have been attributed to the presence of metal salts that are not necessarily removed by chromatography following the Tebbe reaction.

(15,3aS,45,8S)-1,2,3,3a,7,8-Hexahydro-1-isopropyl-3a,8-dimethyl-4-(3-oxobutyl)-6H-cyclopentacycloocten-6-one (48). The Grignard reagent prepared from 4-bromo-2-butanone ethylene ketal (120 mg, 0.615 mmol) and magnesium turnings (120 mg, excess) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (1.5 mL) as described previously was added dropwise to a cold (-78 °C) magnetically stirred solution of cuprous bromidedimethyl sulfide complex (6.0 mg, 0.029 mmol) and HMPA (120 mg, 0.66 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (2 mL). After the solution was stirred for 30 min, a solution of 42 (21 mg, 0.090 mmol) and trimethylsilyl chloride (60 mg, 0.55 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (2 mL) was introduced dropwise and agitation was maintained for 2 h at -78 °C. Following the addition of a solution of triethylamine (1 mL) in petroleum ether (3 mL), the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and worked up as detailed previously. Purification of the residue by MPLC on silica gel gave 36.4 mg (96%) of 47 that was used directly.

A dry tetrahydrofuran solution (2 mL) of 47 (60 mg, 0.143 mmol) was treated with phenylselenyl chloride (41 mg, 0.214 mmol) in the same solvent (2 mL) at 0 °C. After 20 min, the reaction mixture was quenched with triethylamine/petroleum ether/saturated ammonium chloride solution (1 mL/2 mL/2 mL). The usual workup and purification gave the selenide, which was dissolved in tetrahydrofuran (2.5 mL), treated with 30% hydrogen peroxide (1 mL), and stirred for 30 min. Following dilution with ether and washing with water $(2\times)$, the organic phase was dried and evaporated. The product was purified by rapid silica gel chromatography. There was isolated 44.3 mg (90% overall) of dienone ketal as a colorless liquid: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2955, 2870, 1675, 1455, 1375, 1220, 1055; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.80 (s, 1 H), 5.37 (t, J = 2.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.94 (m, 4 H), 3.05-2.85 (m, 1 H), 2.79 (ddd, J = 1.0, 10.9, 18.1 Hz, 1 H, 2.53–2.16 (series of m, 4 H), 2.10–1.88 (m, 2 H), 1.87-1.73 (m, 2 H), 1.65-1.53 (m, 2 H), 1.48-1.35 (m, 1 H), 1.33 (s, 3 H), 1.23 (s, 3 H), 1.11 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 3 H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.79 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 209.53, 153.26, 147.94, 129.50, 126.84, 109.51, 64.71 (2 C), 52.46, 51.88, 50.25, 39.04, 38.45, 30.81, 30.04, 29.49, 27.61, 24.29, 23.90, 21.83, 21.59, 15.86; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 346.2508, obsd 346.2514.

A mixture of dienone ketal (39 mg, 0.113 mmol) and 5% hydrochloric acid (1.5 mL) was stirred for 4 h and worked up in the usual manner. MPLC purification (silica gel) delivered 33 mg (97%) of **48** as a colorless liquid: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2870, 1715, 1675, 1455, 1365, 1160; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.73 (s, 1 H), 5.39 (br s, 1 H), 3.05-2.80 (m, 1 H), 2.79 (dd, J = 10.9, 17.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.7-2.3 (series of m, 6 H), 2.16 (s, 3 H), 2.05-1.85 (m, 2 H), 1.70-1.45 (m, 2 H), 1.50-1.30 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (s, 3 H), 1.12 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.78 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 209.21, 206.98, 152.04, 147.86, 129.46, 126.99, 52.21, 52.01, 50.31, 42.79, 38.69, 30.04, 29.73, 29.64, 29.47, 27.76, 24.12, 21.83, 21.60, 15.86; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 302.2246, obsd 302.2252; $[\alpha]^{21}{}_{D} + 124.5^{\circ}$ (c 1.65, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₃₀O₂: C, 79.42; H, 10.00. Found: C, 79.54; H, 10.02.

(6S,8S,10aS,10bR)-2,5,6,8,9,10,10a,10b-Octahydro-8-isopropyl-3,6,10a-trimethyldicyclopenta[a,c]cycloocten-4(1H)-one (4). A solution of 48 (33 mg, 0.109 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) was mixed with 1 mg of platinum oxide and stirred under an atmosphere of hydrogen (balloon) for 1.5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a Celite pad, and the filtrate was evaporated. MPLC purification (silica gel) gave 13.7 mg (42%) of 49 and 16.0 mg (48%) of a 9:1 mixture of 50 and its epimer.

For pure **50**: colorless oil; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2955, 2870, 1705, 1465, 1365, 1315, 1280, 1165; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.32 (dd, J = 2.5, 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.83 (dd, J = 8.9, 11.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.76–2.62 (m, 2 H), 2.49–2.33 (m, 5 H), 2.16 (s, 3 H), 2.08–2.00 (m, 1 H), 1.97–1.87 (m, 2 H), 1.63–1.47 (m, 2 H), 1.40–1.13 (series of m, 3 H), 1.23 (s, 3 H), 1.19 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.74 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 211.35, 206.37, 147.83, 124.38, 54.17, 49.07, 46.81, 44.10, 43.31, 41.62, 37.60, 31.63, 29.59, 29.01, 27.12,

24.55, 23.84, 21.79, 21.60, 15.38; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 304.2402, obsd 304.2457.

A methanolic solution (7 mL) containing 50 (102 mg, 0.336 mmol) was treated with potassium carbonate (46 mg, 0.336 mmol), stirred overnight at room temperature, and diluted with ether. The usual workup gave a residue, purification of which by MPLC (silica gel) furnished 87 mg (85%) of 49.

To a solution of 49 (83 mg, 0.273 mmol) and pyridine (0.5 mL) in dichloromethane (2 mL) was added thionyl chloride (0.10 mL, 1.37 mmol) at room temperature. After being stirred for 1 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with ether and processed as usual. MPLC on silica gel gave enone 4 (18 mg) and a pair of regioisomers of 51 (43 mg, 78% total).

A methanolic solution (5 mL) of these regioisomers (43 mg, 0.150 mmol) was treated with potassium carbonate (207 mg, 1.50 mmol), stirred at room temperature for 7 days, diluted with ether, and worked up as usual. MPLC (silica gel) furnished 30 mg (70%) of 4 and recovered starting material (3.2 mg, 7%).

For 4: coloriess solid; mp 115–118 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2980, 2920, 1670, 1615, 1460, 1368, 1310; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.45 (dd, J = 2.4, 9.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.51 (br d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.97–2.82 (m, 1 H), 2.75 (dd, J = 6.8, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.38–2.21 (m, 4 H), 2.13–1.80 (m, 3 H), 2.03 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 3 H), 1.47–1.21 (m, 4 H), 1.27 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.73 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.47–1.21 (m, 4 H), 1.27 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 199.67, 151.42, 151.02, 138.09, 122.68, 23.74, 52.95, 50.99, 47.21, 39.99, 33.91, 30.06, 29.27, 27.01, 26.27, 23.72, 21.57, 21.37, 16.09, 16.03; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 286.2297, obsd 286.2299; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = 85.8^{\circ}$ (c 1.28, CHCl₃).

(4S,6S,8S,10aS,10bR)-2,5,6,8,9,10,10a,10b-Octahydro-8-isopropyl-3,6,10a-trimethyldicyclopenta[a,c]cycloocten-4-ol (52). Lithium aluminum hydride (18.1 mg, 0.477 mmol) was added to a cold (0 °C), magnetically stirred solution of 4 (68 mg, 0.238 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (3 mL). After 30 min, the reaction mixture was quenched with 30% sodium hydroxide solution (1 mL) and processed in the usual fashion. Purification by MPLC on silica gel gave 52 as a colorless oil (66 mg, 95%): IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3550, 3450, 2950, 1650, 1455, 1385, 1090, 975; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.75 (dd, J = 2.1, 10.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.55 (dd, J = 6.1, 11.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.09 (br d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.78-2.67 (m, 1 H), 2.52-2.26 (m, 4 H), 2.10-1.75 (m, 4 H), 1.78 (s, 3 H), 1.58–1.35 (m, 5 H), 1.23 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H), 0.92 $(d, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}), 0.78 (d, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} (75 \text{ MHz}, 75 \text{ MHz})$ C_6D_6) δ 154.03, 141.42, 140.23, 124.20, 67.20, 55.02, 53.36, 50.90, 40.55, 38.18, 33.35, 30.43, 28.45, 28.37, 25.91, 23.94, 21.62, 21.59, 16.47, 14.67; MS m/z (M⁺ - CH₄) calcd 272.2140, obsd 272.2164.

(3S,3aS,4S,6S,8S,10aS,10bR)-3,3a-Epoxy-1,2,3,3a,4,5,6,8,9,10,-10a, 10b-dodecahydro-8-isopropyl-3,6,10a-trimethyldicyclopenta[a,c]-cycloocten-4-ol (53). A cold (0 °C), magnetically stirred solution of 52 (24.6 mg, 0.0853 mmol) in dichloromethane (1.5 mL) was treated with m-chloroperbenzoic acid (17.7 mg, 0.102 mmol) and stirred for 1 h. Methyl sulfide (0.2 mL) was added, and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, diluted with ether, and worked up by the usual method. MPLC purification (silica gel) of the residue afforded 53 (22.4 mg, 86%) as a colorless oil: IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3510, 2950, 2870, 1460, 1385, 1200, 1060; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.34 (m, 1 H), 4.49 (m, 1 H), 2.75 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.63–2.47 (m, 1 H), 2.41 (m, 1 H), 2.34-2.12 (m, 2 H), 1.93-1.55 (m, 8 H), 1.58 (s, 3 H), 1.48-1.41 (m, 2 H), 1.28 (s, 3 H), 1.13 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 0.93 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.82 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 148.16, 129.33, 74.68, 72.39, 67.98, 56.02, 54.60, 46.20, 42.03, 40.43, 33.55, 31.90, 30.72, 30.01, 27.11, 25.94, 24.16, 21.98, 18.43, 17.62; MS m/z $(M^+ - H_2O)$ calcd 286.2297, obsd 286.2285; $[\alpha]^{20}D^- -43.8^\circ$ (c 1.20, CHCl₁).

(35,3aR,65,85,10aS,10bR)-3,3a-Epoxy-2,3,3a,5,6,8,9,10,10a,10bdecahydro-8-isopropyl-3,6,10a-trimethyldicyclopenta[a,c]cycloocten-4-(1H)-one (3). A cold (-70 °C), magnetically stirred solution of oxalyl chloride (23 µL, 0.26 mmol) in dichloromethane (3 mL) was treated with dimethyl sulfoxide (0.1 mL) and stirred for 20 min. A solution of 53 (40 mg, 0.132 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) was next introduced, followed 20 min later by triethylamine (0.5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at -70 °C for 10 min and allowed to warm to room temperature. The usual workup left a residue that was purified by silica gel chromatography. There was obtained 39 mg (98%) of 3 as a colorless crystalline solid: mp 135-137 °C (from ether); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2950, 2930, 2870, 1705, 1465, 1370, 1245, 1135; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.31 (m, 1 H), 2.77-2.45 (m, 4 H), 2.31 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.07-1.91 (m, 5 H), 1.58-1.39 (m, 3 H), 1.30 (s, 3 H), 1.28-1.20 (m, 1 H), 1.56 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 1.12 (s, 3 H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.78 (d, J =6.7 Hz, 3 H): ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 205.79, 149.06, 127.34, 77.78, 73.70, 55.93, 53.84, 50.42, 47.46, 40.82, 32.31, 30.82, 30.17, 28.02, 26.98, 25.50, 21.67, 21.38, 17.36, 16.15; MS m/z (M⁺ - H₂O) calcd 284.2140, obsd 284.2087; $[\alpha]^{19}_{D}$ +137.51° (c 3.09, CHCl₃).

The three-dimensional structure of 3, determined crystallographically, is shown in Figure 2.

Double-Bond Isomerization in 49. A heptane solution (2.5 mL) of **49** (40 mg, 0.132 mmol) was treated with thiophenol (1 mL) and AIBN (27 mg, 0.197 mmol) and irradiated with a sunlamp for 3 h while being vigorously stirred. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by MPLC (silica gel, elution with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:4.5). There were isolated 14 mg of the less polar alcohol and 10 mg of the more polar alcohol (total yield 60%) corresponding to **54**.

For the less polar stereoisomer: IR (CHCl₃, cm⁻¹) 3600, 2960, 2870, 1680, 1455, 1385, 1300, 1110; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.95 (dt, J = 9.0, 12.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.71 (t, J = 11.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.55 (quin, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.26–1.95 (m, 7 H), 1.82–1.69 (m, 3 H), 1.63–1.36 (m, 4 H), 1.31 (s, 3 H), 1.05 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.01 (s, 3 H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 216.14, 144.12, 137.41, 82.39, 65.01, 52.77, 48.93, 48.78, 41.85, 36.87, 32.89, 28.67, 27.43 (2 C), 27.33, 26.71, 24.66, 23.77, 21.08, 19.66; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 304.2402, obsd 304.2409.

For the more polar isomer: IR (CHCl₃, cm⁻¹) 3580, 2960, 2870, 1670, 1455, 1380, 1340, 1300, 1120; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.60–2.48 (m, 3 H), 2.37–1.97 (m, 6 H), 1.92–1.76 (m, 4 H), 1.63–1.39 (m, 4 H), 1.16 (s, 3 H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.02 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3 H), 1.08 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 216.12, 145.05, 136.80, 80.33, 66.19, 53.36, 49.07, 47.37, 41.06, 37.07, 33.22, 28.78, 27.61, 27.44, 26.71, 24.51, 24.21, 23.20, 21.09, 16.69; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 304.2402, obsd 304.2418.

Double-Bond Isomerization in 3. A. Rhodium Catalysis. Epoxy ketone 3 (1.8 mg, 0.0060 mmol) dissolved in ethyl acetate (1 mL) was treated with 5% Rh/C, and the resulting mixture was stirred under 1500 psi of hydrogen at room temperature for 20 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and evaporated. Purification of the residue by silica gel chromatography (elution with 2% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether) gave 1.3 mg (72%) of 55: IR (CHCl₃, cm⁻¹) 2960, 1710, 1450, 1385, 1115, 990; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.73-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.37-2.23 (m, 2 H), 2.16-2.05 (m, 3 H), 1.94-1.43 (m, 7 H), 1.50 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (s, 3 H), 0.87 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 205.87, 145.32, 137.61, 74.06; 73.39, 51.53, 48.76, 47.30, 36.50, 33.14, 32.97.

31.11, 27.89, 27.10, 23.97, 23.10, 22.39, 20.86, 19.79, 17.09; MS m/z (M⁺) calcd 302.2246, obsd 302.2241.

B. Thiophenol Catalysis. A solution of 3 (10 mg, 0.033 mmol), thiophenol (1 ml), and AIBN (10 mg) in heptane (5 mL) was irradiated as described above for 3 h. The identical workup afforded 5.9 mg (59%) of 55, identical in all respects with the material produced in part A.

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Registry No. 3, 126458-49-9; 4, 126458-60-4; 6, 126458-55-7; 7, 131934-82-2; 10, 62994-35-8; 11, 131934-84-4; 11 (carbinol, isomer 1), 131934-81-1; 11 (carbinol, isomer 2), 131935-08-5; 12, 131934-85-5; 13, 131934-86-6; 14, 131934-87-7; 15, 131934-88-8; 16, 131934-89-9; α-17a, 132072-20-9; β-17a, 131934-90-2; α-17b, 132072-21-0; β-17b, 131934-83-3; α-17c, 132072-23-2; β-17c, 131934-91-3; β-17d, 132072-24-3; 21, 131934-92-4; 22, 131973-37-0; 23, 132072-22-1; 24, 131934-93-5; 25, 131934-94-6; 26, 131973-38-1; 27, 117152-55-3; epi-27, 132072-28-7; 28, 131934-95-7; epi-28, 132072-25-4; 29, 126458-50-2; 29 triol, 131935-09-6; (5R)-29 triol, 132072-29-8; 29 aldehyde, 131935-07-4; 30, 131934-96-8; 31, 126458-51-3; 32a, 126458-52-4; 32b, 131935-00-7; 33, 131934-97-9; 37, 126458-53-5; 38, 131934-98-0; 39, 126458-54-6; 40, 131934-99-1; 42, 126458-56-8; 43, 126576-00-9; 47, 131935-01-8; 48, 126458-57-9; 48 ketal, 131935-05-2; 49, 126458-58-0; 50, 126458-59-1; epi-50, 132072-26-5; Δ^{8} -51, 131935-06-3; $\Delta^{8(19)}$ -51, 131935-02-9; 52, 126458-63-7; 53, 126458-64-8; 54 (isomer 1), 131935-03-0; 54 (isomer 2), 132072-27-6; 55, 131935-04-1; (E)-Me₃SiCH=CHBr, 41309-43-7; CH2=C(CH3)(CH2)2Br, 20038-12-4; Ph3P+CH3 I-, 2065-66-9; 4bromo-2-butanone ethylene ketal, 37865-96-6; 4-bromo-2-butanone neopentyl glycol ketal, 87842-52-2.

Supplementary Material Available: Figures illustrating the labeling schemes for 39 and 3, experimental descriptions, and tables of the crystallographic details, final positional and thermal parameters, bond lengths, and bond angles for both compounds (19 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Structure Determination of Tolaasin, an Extracellular Lipodepsipeptide Produced by the Mushroom Pathogen *Pseudomonas tolaasii* Paine

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Abstract: The principal active component of tolaasin, the *Pseudomonas tolaasii* toxin, which is responsible for brown blotch disease of mushrooms, is shown to be a lipodepsipeptide of M_r 1985. The structure determined is β -hydroxyoctanoyl- Δ But-D-Pro-D-Ser-D-Leu-D-Val-D-Gln-L-Leu-D-Val- Δ But-D-*allo*-Thr-L-Ile-L-Hse-D-Dab-L-Lys (cyclized via lactone formation between D-allo-Thr and the C-terminus) by a combination of fast atom bombardment mass spectrometry (FABMS), ¹H NMR, automated sequencing, and chiral gas chromatography. A minor component of the toxin (M_r 1941) has a related structure in which the homoserine residue is substituted by glycine. In addition, the sequence of a modified form of the toxin, produced by a genetically engineered strain of *P. tolaasii*, is characterized.

Introduction

Pseudomonas tolaasii is the causal organism of the economically significant brown blotch disease of the cultivated mushroom *Agaricus bisporus* (Lange) Imbach.¹ Colonization of mushroom

basidiocarps by the bacterium results in unsightly brown lesions that render affected mushrooms unmarketable.

P. tolaasii culture filtrates cause blotch symptoms identical with those caused by the whole organism.² Methods for isolation of

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