

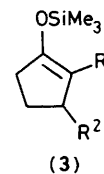
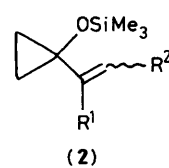
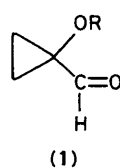
## Cyclopentenones from the Acid-induced Ring Expansion of 1-Alkenylcyclopropanol Derivatives

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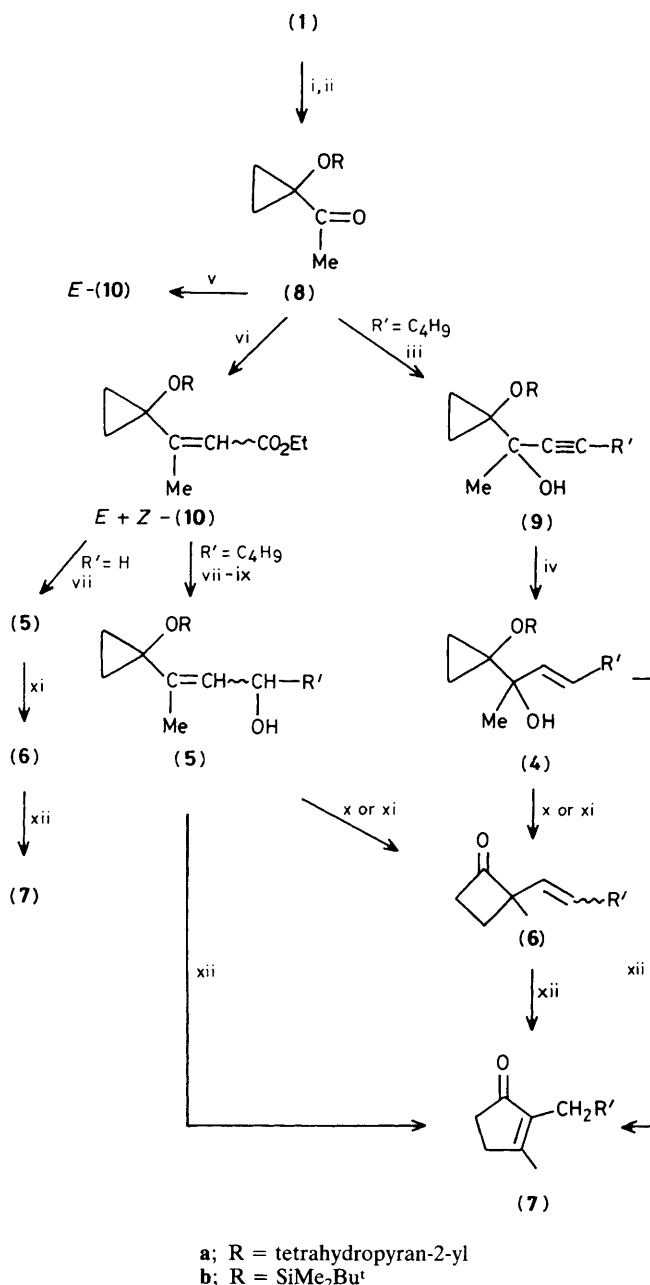
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1-Alkenylcyclopropanols (**4a,b**) and (**5a,b**) underwent acid-induced ring expansion into cyclopentenones (**7**), via 2-alkenylcyclobutanones (**6**); the 2-methylcyclopropanols (**15a,b**) are also synthesised using the same method.

Cyclopropanecarbaldehyde derivatives (**1**) constitute useful building blocks for the construction of five-membered ring moieties as illustrated by the syntheses of jasmonoid,<sup>1</sup> spirovetivane,<sup>2</sup> and dicranenone<sup>3</sup> compounds. These syntheses are based on thermal vinylcyclopropane-cyclopentene ring expansion of the cyclopropanes (**2**), readily available from (**1**),<sup>1-4</sup> into the regiospecific cyclopentanone enol ethers (**3**) which then undergo either acidic and basic



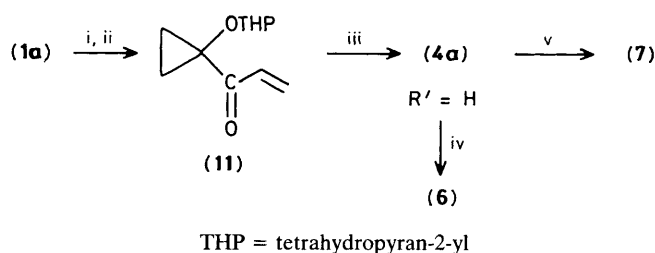
a; R = tetrahydropyran-2-yl  
b; R = SiMe<sub>2</sub>Bu<sup>t</sup>



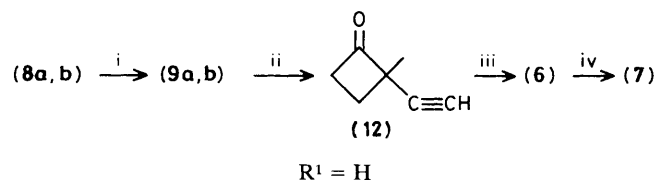
**Scheme 1.** Reagents and conditions: i, MeMgI, Et<sub>2</sub>O reflux, 2 h; ii, dimethylsulphoxide (DMSO)-(COCl)<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -60 °C; iii, LiC≡C[CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>3</sub>Me, tetrahydrofuran (THF), 0 °C; iv, LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, THF reflux, 3 h; v, (EtO)<sub>2</sub>P(O)CHCO<sub>2</sub>Et, THF reflux, 35% yield; vi, LiC(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)HCO<sub>2</sub>Et, THF, -78 °C, 75%; vii, Bu<sub>2</sub>AlH, toluene, -70 °C, 98%; viii, DMSO-(COCl)<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -60 °C; ix, Bu<sup>n</sup>MgBr, Et<sub>2</sub>O reflux, 2 h; x, BF<sub>3</sub>-Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.1 mol equiv.), CHCl<sub>3</sub>, room temp., 15 min; xi, 10:1 MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.1 mol equiv.), Et<sub>2</sub>O, room temp., 5 min; xii, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (17 equiv.), 6 h, room temp.

α,β-disubstituted cyclopentanones or cyclopentenones. This communication reports that (1) can also provide 1-alkenylcyclopropanol derivatives such as (4) and (5) which undergo acid induced ring expansion, *via* the intermediacy of the cyclobutanones (6), into cyclopentenone derivatives (7).

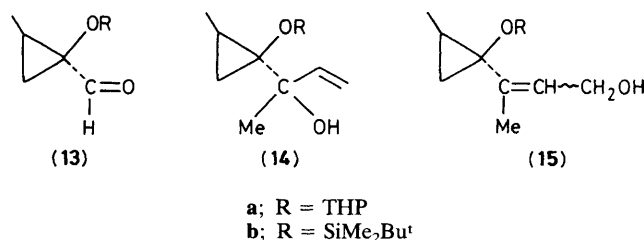
Addition of MeMgI to (1a,b) followed by oxidation<sup>5</sup> gave (8a,b) in 96% yield. Addition of hex-1-ynyl-lithium led to the octynols (9a,b) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>) which on reduction provided the *trans* vinyl alcohols (4a,b) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>) (90%). On the other



**Scheme 2.** Reagents and conditions: i, CH<sub>2</sub>=CHMgBr, THF, 20 °C; ii, DMSO-(COCl)<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -60 °C; iii, MeMgBr, Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0 °C, 50%; iv, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.1 equiv.), Et<sub>2</sub>O, 5 min, 95%; v, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (15 equiv.), 55–68%.



**Scheme 3.** Reagents and conditions: i, LiC≡CH-NH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (2 equiv.), THF, 20–40 °C, 70%; ii, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.1 equiv.), Et<sub>2</sub>O, 83%; iii, Pd-CaCO<sub>3</sub>, PbO, pentane; iv, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (17 equiv.), 6 h, room temp., 65%.



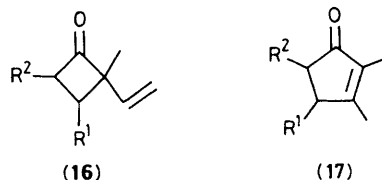
hand, addition of triethylphosphonoacetate carbanion to (8a,b) gave the α,β-unsaturated *E*-ethyl carboxylates (10a,b),<sup>†</sup> while addition of ethyl lithiotrimethylsilylacetate<sup>6</sup> gave a mixture of *E*- and *Z*-(10a,b) (ratio 1:2).<sup>†</sup> Reduction of (10a,b) led to the allylic alcohol (5a,b) (R' = H). Then, DMSO-(COCl)<sub>2</sub> oxidation<sup>5</sup> and addition of Bu<sup>n</sup>MgBr provided the alcohols (5a,b) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>) (92.5%), Scheme 1.

As recently reported, upon treatment in mild acidic conditions<sup>4</sup> octenols (4a,b) and (5a,b) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>) were converted quantitatively into the cyclobutanone (6) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>). Furthermore, treatment of neat (4a,b) or (5a,b) with methanesulphonic acid-phosphorus pentoxide<sup>7</sup> led directly to dihydrojasmones (7) (R' = C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>) in 65–90% yields, as did (6) upon treatment under the same conditions (Scheme 1).<sup>8,9</sup>

Addition of vinylmagnesium bromide to (1a) followed by oxidation<sup>5</sup> gave (11) which, on treatment with MeMgBr gave (4a) (R' = H), Scheme 2. The butenol (4a) or (5a,b) (R' = H) could then undergo either C<sub>3</sub>→C<sub>4</sub> ring expansion into the cyclobutanone (6) (R' = H) or C<sub>3</sub>→C<sub>5</sub> ring expansion to cyclopentenone (7) (R' = H) (55–68%) a precursor of methylenomycin B,<sup>10</sup> Scheme 1.

Addition of lithiumacetylide-ethylenediamine complex<sup>11</sup> to (8a,b) provided the propynols (9a,b) (R' = H), which underwent C<sub>3</sub>→C<sub>4</sub> ring expansion to (12). Then, partial hydrogenation of (12) led to (6) (R' = H), quantitatively, which was also prone to acid induced rearrangement into (7) (R' = H), Scheme 3.

<sup>†</sup> As shown by the chemical shifts of the olefinic protons of *E*- and *Z*-(10b) at δ 5.80 and 5.22 respectively.



a; R<sup>1</sup> = Me, R<sup>2</sup> = H  
 b; R<sup>1</sup> = H, R<sup>2</sup> = Me

The aldehydes (**13a,b**), prepared from the readily available 1-hydroxy-2-methylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid,<sup>12</sup> allowed the synthesis of the alcohols (**14a,b**) and (**15a,b**), using the same route as for the formation of (**4a,b**) and (**5a,b**) from (**1a,b**). They also underwent acid-induced ring expansion, *via* the isomeric cyclobutanones (**16a,b**) into the cyclopent-2-en-1-ones (**17a**)<sup>13</sup> and (**17b**) (ratio 9:1) (50–70%).

This mild acid induced C<sub>3</sub>→C<sub>4</sub> ring expansion of 1-alkenylcyclopropanol derivatives, into cyclobutanones<sup>14</sup> prone to C<sub>4</sub>→C<sub>5</sub> ring enlargement<sup>8,9</sup> provides a convenient alternative pathway to five-membered ring compounds from 1-hydroxycyclopropanecarbaldehyde derivatives.

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