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Palladium-catalyzed epimerization of γ -alkenyl- γ -butyrolactone derivatives

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ABSTRACT

ladium catalyst.

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1. Introduction

The Tsuji–Trost reaction is the palladium-catalyzed allylation of nucleophiles, such as active methylenes, enolates, amines, and phenols with allylic compounds, such as allyl acetates, allyl carbonates, and allyl bromides. The reaction occurs via intermediate allylpalladium complexes, typically with overall retention of stereochemistry (Eq. 1).^{1–5} In the absence of a nucleophile, Pd-catalyzed allylic isomerization is possible. For example, substituted bicyclo [2.2.2]oct-5-en-2-one (**3**) can be converted to *cis*-fused hydrobenzofuran derivative (**4**) when catalyzed by Pd(0) (Eq. 2).⁶

$$\begin{array}{c} R \\ 1 \\ X: OAc, Br, \\ OCO_2Me \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ 1A \\ PdX \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{Tsuji-Trost}_{\substack{\text{Reaction} \\ NuH}} R \\ MuH \\ R: WGCH_2EWG, R'SH, \\ R: NH_2. ArOH \end{array}$$
(1)

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 γ -Alkenyl- α , β , γ -trisubstituted- γ -butyrolactones (**12**–**16**) and γ -alkenyl-furofurandione derivatives

(21-Z-24-Z; 21-E-24-E; 25-Z-28-Z; and 25-E-28-E) were successfully epimerized in high yield by a pal-

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Complete transfer of chirality in the [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement of allylic acetates **5** can be catalyzed by Pd^{2+} (Eq. 3). The reaction has been applied to stereocontrolled synthesis of prostaglandins that possess either the C-I5(*S*) or C-15(*R*) configuration.^{7,8}

We have completed the total syntheses of furofurandione natural products by using 4-*endo*-hydroxy-2-oxabicyclo[3.3.0]oct-7-en-3-one (**7**)⁹ as a building block. In this process, the key step is palladium-catalyzed epimerization of the γ -alkenyl substituted of bislactones.¹⁰ To the best of our knowledge, studies of the recombination of the $\eta^3 \pi$ -allyl complex to give epimerized allylic esters are rare in the literature. Herein, we describe palladium-catalyzed epimerization of γ -alkenyl- γ -butyrolactone derivatives.

2. Results and discussions

2.1. Synthesis of γ -alkenyl- α , β , γ -trisubstituted- γ butyrolactones and their Pd-catalyzed epimerization

The *endo*-hydroxylactone **7** was treated with sodium hydride and benzyl bromide to give the corresponding benzyl ether **8** and *exo*-benzyloxylactone **9**. Due to the α -acidity of the benzyl ether **8**, it was epimerized in situ to give **9** as the major product. Ozonolysis



of lactone **7** in CH_2Cl_2 at -78 °C followed by reduction with Me_2S gave tricyclic hemiacetal **10** as a 10:1 mixture of two diastereomers in 68% yield. The axial anomer was the major isomer, as confirmed by its 2D-NOESY spectrum (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (a) NaH, BnBr, THF, 0 $^\circ C$ to rt; 8 h. (b) (1) O₃, CH₂Cl₂, -78 $^\circ C$; (2) Me₂S, CH₂Cl₂, 0 $^\circ C$, 6 h.

The tricyclic hemiacetal **10** reacted with 2 equiv of Ph_3P = CHC₆H₁₃-*n* (**11**) or 2 equiv of Ph_3P =CHCO₂Me (**13**) to give the corresponding *Z*,*Z*-Wittig product **12** in 36% yield¹¹ and *E*,*E*-Wittig product **14** in 77% yield, respectively. Compound **8** was cleaved by ozone followed by reduction with Me₂S. The resulting product was reacted with 2 equiv of Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me (**13**) to give the corresponding *E*,*E*-Wittig product **15** in 77% yield. Similarly, compound **9** was converted to the corresponding *E*,*E*-Wittig product **16** in 76% yield (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (a) 2 equiv Ph_3P =CHC₆H₁₃ (**11**), THF; (b) 2 equiv Ph_3P =CHCO₂Me (**13**), THF; (c) 0.1 equiv Pd(OAc)₂, 1 equiv Ph₃P, THF, rt; (d) (1) O₃, CH₂Cl₂, -78 °C; (2) Me₂S, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C, 6 h.

All of the substituents of γ -alkenyl- γ -butyrolactones **12**, **14**, and **15** were *syn* to each other. When they were treated with palladium catalyst, their γ -chiral centers were epimerized to give the corresponding **12a**–**15a**. In the case of compound **12**, γ -chiral center epimerization was concomitant with γ -(*Z*)-octenyl group isomerization. Interestingly, the geometry of its β -(*Z*)-octenyl group was unchanged. The relative stereochemistries of compound **16** at the α , β , and γ positions were *anti-syn* to each other. Its γ -chiral center was also epimerized by the palladium catalyst to give the corresponding *anti-anti* diastereomer **16a** (Scheme 2).

A plausible mechanism for the palladium-catalyzed epimerization is illustrated using the example of conversion of compound **12** to **12a** in Figure 1. The coordination of the Pd(0)-catalyst to the double bond forms an $\eta^2 \pi$ -allyl complex. An oxidative addition, during which the leaving group is expelled, gives the $\eta^3 \pi$ -allyl complex **A**. The isomerization from **A** to **B** occurs to relieve A^{1,3}strain.¹¹ The interconversion of intermediate **B** to **C** is ascribed to electrostatic attraction of the ion pair. Recombination of the C–O bond of **C** causes γ -stereogenic center epimerization and γ -octenyl group isomerization. The torsional strain from β and γ substituents is relieved. The double bond geometry of the β -substituent is retained (Fig. 1).



Figure 1. Plausible mechanism of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization of compound 12.

2.2. Synthesis of γ -alkenyl-furofurandione derivatives and their Pd-catalyzed epimerization

Tricyclic hemiacetal **10** reacted with semistable phosphonium ylide **17** to give separable lactols **21Z** (52%) and **21E** (14%). Compound **10** reacted with semistable phosphonium ylide **18** to give lactol **22Z** in 78% yield stereoselectively. The hemiacetal **10** reacted with semistable phosphonium ylides **19–20** to give Wittig products **23Z–24Z** and **23E–24E**, respectively. The cis-isomer is the major one in each case. In this study, there were two pathways for epimerization starting from lactols **22Z–24Z** and **22E–24E**. The oxidation of lactol to lactone followed by epimerization is pathway A in Scheme 3, and the epimerization of lactol followed by oxidation is pathway B in Scheme 3.

By way of pathway A, lactols **21Z**–**24Z** were oxidized by Jones reagent to give the corresponding bislactones **25Z**–**28Z**, respectively, in high yields. The *trans*-analogues **21E**–**24E** were oxidized by Jones reagent to give the corresponding bislactones **25E**–**28E**, respectively, in high yields. Both bislactones **25Z** and **25E** were treated with Pd catalyst to give the same epimerized product **25a**, in which the γ -stereogenic center was epimerized and the *Z*-olefinic side chain of **25Z** was converted to a more stable *E*-form. Similarly, both **26Z**–**28Z** and **26E**–**28E** were converted to **26a**–**28a**, respectively (Scheme 3).

By way of pathway B, the lactol **21Z** was epimerized with Pd catalyst first. The crude product was then oxidized by Jones reagent to give furofurandione **25a**, in which the γ -stereogenic center was epimerized and the *Z*-olefinic side chain was isomerized to a more stable *E*-form. Similarly, both **26Z**–**28Z** and **26E**–**28E** were converted to **26a**–**28a**, respectively (Scheme 3).

Interestingly, under Sonogashira coupling reaction conditions,¹³ vinyl bromide **26Z** reacted with 1-hexyne to give the crossed coupling product **29** in 71% yield. The crossed coupling epimerization at the C-4 chiral center and the isomerization of the *Z*-double



Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: (a) (1) 1.1 equiv Ph_3P =CHPh (**17**), THF, $-78 \degree C$ to rt, 13 h; (2) separation; (b) (1) 1.1 equiv Ph_3P =CHBr (**18**), THF, $-78 \degree C$ to rt, 13 h; (2) separation; (c) (1) 1.1 equiv (*E*)-Ph_3P=CHCH=CH₂ (**19**), THF, $-78 \degree C$ to rt, 13 h; (2) separation; (d) (1) 1.1 equiv Ph_3P =CHCH=CH₂ Ph_3P =CHBu-*n* (**20**), THF, $-78 \degree C$ to rt, 13 h; (2) separation; (e) Jones reagent, acetone, $0 \degree C$, 2 h; (f) 0.1 equiv Pd(OAc)₂, 1 equiv Ph₃P, THF, rt.

bond occurred in the same flask. The catalytic hydrogenation of compound **29** yielded the corresponding saturated product **30** in 91% yield (Scheme 4). Compound **30** is known to introduce an α -methylene moiety to give avenaciolide (**31**).¹⁴



Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: (a) cat. $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$, cat. Cul, Et_3N , THF, 60 °C, 5 h; (b) (1) H₂, Pd/C, EtOAc, rt.

2.3. Synthesis of di-substituted-γ-vinyl-γ-butyrolactones and their Pd-catalyzed epimerization

The γ , δ -unsaturated esters **32**, **34**, and **36** were prepared according to Johnson–Claisen rearrangement.^{15,16} The double bond was cleaved by ozone, followed by treatment with triethylamine¹⁷

to give the corresponding aldehyde, which was treated with vinylmagnesium bromide to give the γ -butyrolactones (**33**-*syn* and **33**-*anti*; **35**-*syn* and **35**-*anti*; **37**-*syn* and **37**-*anti*). Two diastereomers were separated by silica gel column chromatography (Scheme 5).



Scheme 5. Reagents and conditions:(a) (1) O₃, CH₂Cl₂, -78 $^{\circ}C$; (2) Et₃N; (b) CH₂=CHMgBr; (c) Separation.

When the α -benzyl- γ -vinyl- γ -butyrolactone **33**-syn was treated with Pd catalyst in tetrahydrofuran for 48 h, a mixture of 33-syn and 33-anti in a ratio of 65:35 with 74% mass recovery was obtained (Table 1, entry 1). The product ratio was determined by integration of the benzylic methylene resonance peaks of the crude products. Similarly, when compound 33-anti was treated with Pd catalyst, it gave a 63:37 mixture of the epimerized **33**-svn and starting material **33**-anti (entry 2). Presumably, the relative energy difference between 33-syn and 33anti is not big enough to allow the reactant and product existing in an equilibrium state. The epimerization of β -phenyl- γ -vinyl- γ butyrolactone 35-syn for 40 h gave a mixture of 35-syn and 35anti in a ratio of 91:9 with 81% mass recovery (entry 3). The product ratio was determined by integration of the peaks of the benzylic proton. When **35**-anti was used as the reactant, a similar equilibrium ratio of 35-syn and 35-anti was obtained (entry 4). The epimerization of β -silyoxy- γ -vinyl- γ -butyrolactone **37**-syn for 32 h gave a mixture of **37**-syn and **37**-anti in a ratio of 54:46 with 81% mass recovery (entry 5). The product ratio was determined by integration of the vinylic proton. When 37-anti was used as the reactant, a similar equilibrium ratio of 37-syn and 37-anti was obtained (entry 6).

Table 1			
Pd-catalyzed epimerization of di-substituted-	γ-vinyl-	γ-butyrolacto	ones 33–37

Entry	Reactant	Time (h)	Product ratio	Mass recovery yield (%)
1	33 -syn	48	33 -syn/ 33 -anti=65:35 ^a	81
2	33 -anti	48	33 -syn/ 33 -anti=63:37 ^a	79
3	35 -syn	40	35 -syn/ 35 -anti=91:9 ^b	81
4	35 -anti	40	35 -syn/ 35 -anti=90:10 ^b	78
5	37 -syn	32	37 -syn/ 37 -anti=54:46 ^c	81
6	37 -anti	36	37 -syn/ 37 -anti=57:43 ^c	78

^a Determined by integration of the peaks of the benzylic proton (δ 3.31 for **33**-syn; δ 3.21 for **33**-anti).

^b Determined by integration of the peaks of the benzylic proton (δ 3.41–3.43 for **35**-syn; δ 3.86–3.91 for **35**-anti).

 $^{\rm c}$ Determined by integration the peaks of the vinylic proton (δ 5.82 for **37**-syn; δ 5.97 for **37**-anti).

3. Conclusions

The γ -alkenyl- α , β , γ -trisubstituted- γ -butyrolactones (**12–16**) and γ -alkenyl-furofurandione derivatives (**21-Z**–**24-Z**; **21-E**–**24-E**) were successfully epimerized in high yield by a palladium catalyst. Their γ -(*Z*)-alkenyl substituent was also isomerized to

a more stable *E*-form. For the di-substituted- γ -vinyl- γ -butyrolactones (**33**, **35**, **36**), Pd-catalyzed epimerization could only attain an equilibrium mixture. The Sonogashira coupling of vinyl bromide **26Z** with 1-hexyne gave crossed coupling product **29**. This reaction is highly efficient because three different reactions are involved in the same flask. Compound **29** is an important precursor of the avenaciolide (**31**).

4. Experimental

4.1. General

All reactions were carried out under nitrogen. Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Melting points were determined by using a Thomas-Hoover melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DPX400 spectrometer, and chemical shifts were given in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS). IR spectra were taken with a Perkin-Elmer 682 spectrophotometer and only noteworthy absorptions were listed. Mass spectra were measured on a JEOL JMS-700/Shimazu QP2010 (National Cheng Kung University) by electronic impact at 70 eV (unless otherwise indicated). High Resolution Mass Spectroscopy (HRMS) was measured on a Finnigan/Thermo Quest MAT mass spectrometer (National Chung Hsing University). ESI was measured on a ESI trap tadem mass spectrometer (Thermo Finnigan LCO-DUO, CA. USA) (National Sun Yat-sen University). Compound 7 was prepared by the reported procedure.⁹

4.2. (3*S**,3a*R**,6a*R**)-3-(Benzyloxy)-3,3a,4,6a-tetrahydro-2*H*-cyclopenta[*b*]furan-2-one (8) and (3*R**,3a*R**,6a*R**)-3-(benzyloxy)-3,3a,4,6a-tetrahydro-2*H*-cyclopenta[*b*]furan-2-one (9)

To a flask containing NaH (4.02 g, 100.2 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in THF (110 mL) was added a solution of compound 7 (11.7 g, 83.5 mmol) in THF (50 mL) dropwise at 0 °C and stirred it for 10 min. To the resulted solution was added benzyl bromide (11.9 mL, 100.2 mmol) at 0 °C and then warmed slowly to rt. After 8 h, the reaction mixture was cooled at 0 °C and quenched with saturated NaHCO₃ solution. The aqueous solution was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, concentrated, and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 8 (5.38 g, 23.4 mmol, 28% yield) and compound 9 (10.76 g, 46.76 mmol, 56% yield). Compound 8: TLC R_f=0.34 (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.32–7.40 (m, 5H), 6.19 (dd, J=5.6 and 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.88-5.91 (m, 1H), 5.25 (dd, J=6.6 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, J=12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (d, J=12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (d, J=9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.06-3.13 (m, 1H), 2.76-2.84 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.42 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 174.5, 140.3, 137.0, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 85.7, 74.3, 72.7, 39.6, 31.3; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3063, 2931, 2860, 1774, 1144, 1103, 995 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 230 (M⁺, 0.43), 124 (23), 91 (100), 79 (32), 67 (27); HRMS (m/z) calcd for $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$ 230.0943, found: 230.0938. Compound 9: TLC R_f=0.41 (hexane/ EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.31–7.39 (m, 5H), 6.01-6.03 (m, 1H), 5.86-5.89 (m, 1H), 5.49-5.50 (m, 1H), 4.98 (d, J=11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (d, J=11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, J=5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.01–3.07 (m, 1H), 2.67–2.75 (m, 1H), 2.28–2.34 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) & 175.0, 137.1, 136.8, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.1, 87.0, 79.5, 72.3, 43.2, 36.6; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3065, 2926, 2858, 1776, 1123, 1020, 919 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 230 (M⁺, 0.10), 124 (45), 91 (100), 79 (37), 67 (24); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₄O₃ 230.0943, found: 230.0945.

4.3. General procedure of the double bond cleavage by ozone 3-hydroxy-2,5,10-trioxa-tricyclo[5.2.1.0^{4,8}]decan-6-one (10)

A 100 mL of two-necked flask fitted with a glass tube to admit ozone, a CaCl₂ drying tube, and a magnetic stirring bar were charged with compound 7 (280 mg, 2.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL). The flask was cooled to -78 °C and ozone was bubbled through the solution. When the solution turned blue, ozone addition was stopped. Nitrogen was passed through the solution until the blue color was discharged. To the reaction mixture was added Me₂S (525 mg, 0.28 mL). After the addition, the cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt. The reaction was complete in 6 h and the reaction mixture was concentrated, chromatographed on the silica gel column to give a mixture of two diastereomers (axial-equatorial=10:1) 10 (234 mg, 1.36 mmol) in 68% yield as a colorless oil. TLC R_f=0.28 (hexane/EtOAc=1:4). Axial anomer: ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 400 MHz) δ 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.46 (d, J=3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 4.69 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (ddd, J=3.6, 4.8, and 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (d, J=12.4 Hz, 1H), 1.79 (ddd, J=3.6, 3.6, and 12.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (acetone-d₆, 100 MHz) δ 173.9, 98.9, 91.8, 81.1, 76.6, 37.4, 30.6. Equatorial anomer: ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 400 MHz) δ 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.51 (d, J=10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (dd, J=2.2 and 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J=5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (ddd, J=2.2, 3.8, and 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, J=12.9 Hz, 1H), 1.84 (ddd, J=3.8, 10.4, and 12.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (acetone-*d*₆, 100 MHz) δ 174.2, 99.6, 90.1, 81.2, 76.3, 38.3, 30.4; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3472, 3059, 2957, 1740, 1440, 1230, 1131, 1038 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (m/z): 172 (M⁺, 24), 143 (27), 128 (63), 97 (100), 82 (53), 69 (94), 55 (32); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₇H₈O₅ 172.0372, found: 172.0368.

4.4. $(3aR^*,4R^*,6aS^*)$ -2-Hydroxy-4-[(Z)-1-octenyl]perhydrofuro[3,4-b]furan-6-one (12') and $(3S^*,4R^*,5R^*)$ -3-hydroxy-4-[(Z)-2-nonenyl]-5-[(Z)-1-octenyl]tetrahydro-2-furanone (12)

To a flask containing $Ph_3P^+-CH_2-C_6H_{13}-n$ Br⁻ (1042 mg, 2.36 mmol) in THF (12 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.48 mL, 2.36 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) at -78 °C and stirred for 15 min. To the resulted ylide solution was added a solution of compound **10** (200 mg, 1.18 mmol) in THF (2 mL). After the addition, the cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture was warmed slowly to rt. After 12 h, the reaction mixture was cooled at 0 °C and quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl solution. The aqueous solution was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, concentrated, and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound **12**' (48 mg, 0.19 mmol, 16% yield)¹³ and compound **12** (143 mg, 0.42 mmol, 36% yield).

Compound **12**':¹² TLC R_f =0.45 (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.70–5.78 (m, 2H), 5.36–5.67 (m, 6H), 4.90 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.48–3.53 (m, 1H), 3.23–3.30 (m, 1H), 2.90 (s, 1H), 2.80 (s, 1H), 1.95–2.27 (m, 8H), 1.15–1.33 (m, 8H), 0.87–0.90 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 164.7, 163.9, 137.1, 135.1, 125.8, 123.5, 100.4, 99.4, 78.5, 78.0, 75.8, 73.9, 42.6, 40.7, 34.4, 33.4, 31.6, 30.8, 29.23, 29.25, 28.8, 28.2, 28.0, 22.56, 22.55, 14.0; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3458, 3198, 3025, 2967, 1776, 1432, 1253, 1125 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 254 (M⁺, 13), 131 (59), 104 (100), 77 (47); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₂₂O₄ 254.1518, found: 254.1515.

Compound **12**: TLC R_{f} =0.52 (hexane/EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.71–5.78 (m, 1H), 5.52–5.57 (m, 1H), 5.32–5.46 (m, 2H), 5.23–5.28 (m, 1H), 4.49–4.54 (m, 1H), 2.65–2.71 (m, 1H), 2.55 (s, 1H), 1.95–2.34 (m, 6H), 1.27–1.39 (m, 16H), 0.86–0.88 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 177.2, 136.5, 132.2, 126.0, 123.9, 76.6, 70.6, 44.9, 31.7, 31.6, 29.3, 29.2, 28.9, 28.8, 27.8, 27.3, 22.6, 22.5, 21.0, 14.05, 14.02; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3458, 3125, 3048, 2913, 1783, 1452, 1235, 1199 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 336 (M⁺, 4),

261 (68), 55 (100), 53 (15); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₂₁H₃₆O₃ 336.2664, found: 336.2659.

4.5. General procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization

4.5.1. (3S*,4R*,5S*)-3-Hydroxy-4-[(Z)-2-nonenyl]-5-[(E)-1-octenyl]tetrahydro-2-furanone (**12a**). Under nitrogen atmosphere, to a solution of compound 12 (100 mg, 0.30 mmol) in THF (6 mL) were added Pd(OAc)₂ (7.3 mg, 0.03 mmol) and Ph₃P (86.6 mg, 0.30 mmol) at rt. After stirring for 5 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 12a (83 mg, 0.25 mmol, 82% yield) as a pale yellow oil. TLC $R_{f}=0.48$ (hexane/ EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.80 (dt, J=6.8 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.50–5.56 (m, 1H), 5.44 (ddt, *J*=1.2, 6.8, and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.30–5.38 (m, 1H), 4.71 (dd, *J*=4.4 and 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (d, J=6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 1H), 2.28–2.43 (m, 1H), 1.98–2.13 (m, 6H), 1.27–1.39 (m, 16H), 0.88 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 176.9, 136.2, 133.3, 126.0, 125.2, 83.1, 68.9, 45.9, 32.1, 31.7, 31.6, 29.5, 28.9, 28.76, 28.71, 27.3, 23.1, 22.6, 22.5, 14.0; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3466, 3148, 3092, 2956, 1766, 1477, 1245, 1123 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 336 (M⁺, 1.74), 261 (33), 55 (100), 53 (14); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₂₁H₃₆O₃ 336.2664, found: 336.2668.

4.5.2. Methyl (E)-4-(2R*,3R*,4R*)-4-(hydroxy)-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (14). To a flask containing compound 10 (150 mg, 0.87 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (12 mL) was added Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me (610.9 mg, 1.83 mmol) at rt and stirred for 3 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 14 (193.3 mg, 0.67 mmol) as a colorless oil in 77% yield. The polarity of product 14 is very close to that of Ph₃PO. The purification of compound 14 from Ph₃PO is tedious. The contamination of Ph₃PO did not affect the following Pd-catalyzed epimerization reaction. TLC $R_{f}=0.25$ (hexane/EtOAc=1:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.92–6.85 (m, 2H), 6.15 (dd, *J*=1.6 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dd, *J*=1.6 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (ddd J=2.0, 5.6 and 6.0 Hz, 1H, OCHCH=CH), 4.61 (d, *I*=7.2 Hz, 1H, CHOH), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.97–2.90 (m, 1H), 2.52-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.26-2.19 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) § 175.6, 166.6, 165.6, 145.4, 140.7, 123.6, 123.6, 78.4, 69.7, 52.0, 51.6, 43.8, 26.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3358, 2950, 2917, 2851, 1783, 1712, 1655, 1441, 1313, 1280, 1194, 1171, 1137, 1038, 981 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/ *z*): 284 (M⁺, 1.2), 169 (38), 98 (100), 65 (52); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₃H₁₆O₇ 284.0896, found: 284.0899.

(E)-4-(2S*,3R*,4S*)-4-hydroxy-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3-4.5.3. Methyl oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (14a). Compound 14a was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound 14 (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) gave compound 14a (81.5 mg, 0.29 mmol) in 82% yield. TLC Rf=0.48 (hexane/ EtOAc=1:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.86–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.11 (dd, *J*=1.6 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (d, *J*=15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (ddd, *J*=1.6, 4.8 and 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (d, J=6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.70–2.77 (m, 1H), 2.52–2.58 (m, 1H), 2.22–2.29 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR $(CDCl_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta$ 175.4, 166.3, 165.7, 144.2, 142.1, 124.2, 122.7, 79.6, 67.7, 52.0, 51.7, 44.2, 28.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3457, 3149, 3023, 2944, 1789, 1782, 1778, 1325, 1237, 1082 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m/z*): 284 (M⁺, 1.23), 169 (41), 98 (100), 65 (54); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₃H₁₆O₇ 284.0896, found: 284.0898.

4.5.4. Methyl (E)-4- $(2R^*, 3R^*, 4R^*)$ -4-(benzyloxy)-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3-oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (**15**). Compound **8** was cleaved by ozone according to the general procedure described in Section 4.3. Compound **8** (230.1 mg, 1.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) reacted with ozone followed by

reduction with Ph₃P (262.3 mg, 1.0 mmol). After stirring for 3 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. To a flask containing crude product in THF (12 mL) was added Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me (735.6 mg, 2.2 mmol) at rt and stirred for 3 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 15 (291.7 mg, 0.78 mmol, 77% yield) as a pale yellow oil. TLC $R_f=0.43$ (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.32–7.37 (m, 5H), 6.82 (dt, *J*=7.2 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (dd, *J*=8.0 and 11.6 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (ddd, J=1.2, 6.8, and 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (dd, *J*=1.2 and 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (dd, *J*=1.2 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (d, *J*=12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, *J*=12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.96-3.03 (m, 1H), 2.39-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.26-2.33 (m, 1H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.5, 166.4, 165.8, 145.3, 144.2, 136.4, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 123.1, 122.8, 76.6, 73.4, 72.3, 51.7, 51.4, 43.0, 26.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3143, 3126, 2976, 1789, 1784, 1775, 1456, 1326, 1248, 1158 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (m/z): 374 (M⁺, 0.25), 169 (19), 98, 91 (100), 65 (5); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₇ 374.1366, found: 374.1360.

4.5.5. Methyl (E)-4-(2S*,3R*,4R*)-4-(benzyloxy)-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3-oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (15a). Compound 15a was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound 15 (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) gave compound 15a (106.0 mg, 0.28 mmol) in 81% yield. Compound **15a**: TLC R_f=0.38 (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.32-7.40 (m, 5H), 6.76–6.87 (m, 2H), 6.12 (dd, *J*=1.2 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J*=13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (dd, *J*=6.0 and 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (d, *J*=5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.65–2.69 (m, 1H), 2.26–2.35 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) § 172.2, 166.1, 165.6, 144.0, 141.7, 136.1, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 123.7, 123.2, 80.3, 72.8, 72.2, 51.9, 51.5, 45.1, 27.2; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3156, 3094, 2956, 1784, 1781, 1771, 1423, 1354, 1218, 1115 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 374 (M⁺, 0.33), 169 (21), 98 (45), 91 (100), 65 (7); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₇ 374.1366, found: 374.1363.

4.5.6. Methyl (E)-4-(2R*,3R*,4R*)-4-(benzyloxy)-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3-oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (16). Compound 9 was cleaved by ozone according to the general procedure described in Section 4.3. Compound 9 (193.3 mg, 0.52 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (6 mL) reacted with ozone followed by reduction with Ph₃P (136.4 mg, 0.52 mmol). After stirring for 3 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. To a flask containing crude product in THF (12 mL) was added Ph₃P=CHCO₂Me (367.8 mg, 1.1 mmol) at rt and stirred for 3 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 16 (150.0 mg, 0.40 mmol, 76% yield) as a pale yellow oil. TLC $R_f=0.49$ (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.29–7.39 (m, 5H), 6.79–6.88 (m, 2H), 6.12 (dd, J=1.6 and 16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J*=15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (dd, *J*=1.6 and 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, *J*=11.2 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, *J*=11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.81–2.89 (m, 1H), 2.30–2.36 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.2, 165.9, 165.3, 143.7, 140.2, 136.4, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 123.7, 123.5, 76.6, 75.7, 72.3, 51.8, 51.5, 44.2, 30.2; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3156, 3095, 2908, 1792, 1786, 1781, 1425, 1377, 1214, 1196 cm⁻¹; El Mass (m/z): 374 (M⁺, 0.81), 169 (25), 98 (44), 91 (100), 65 (11); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₇ 374.1366, found: 374.1364.

4.5.7. Methyl (E)-4-(2S*,3R*,4R*)-4-(benzyloxy)-2-[(E)-3-methoxy-3-oxo-1-propenyl]-5-oxotetrahydro-3-furanyl-2-butenoate (**16a**). Compound **16a** was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound **16** (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) gave compound **16a** (106.0 mg, 0.28 mmol) in 81% yield. Compound **16a**: TLC R_f =0.42 (hexane/EtOAc=3:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.31–7.41 (m, 5H), 6.75–6.87 (m, 2H), 6.13 (dd, *J*=1.2 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d, *J*=15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, *J*=6.0 and 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (d, *J*=9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.38–2.48 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.2, 165.9, 165.6, 142.7, 141.1, 136.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 124.4, 123.7, 77.9, 76.0, 72.4, 52.0, 51.6, 46.8, 31.3; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3102, 3088, 2905, 1787, 1783, 1769, 1456, 1377, 1245, 1123 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 374 (M⁺, 0.83), 169 (25), 98 (51), 91 (100), 65 (13); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₇ 374.1366, found: 374.1361.

4.5.8. (3aR*,4R*,6aS*)-4-[(Z)-2-Phenyl-1-ethenyl]perhydro-furo[3,4b]furan-2,6-dione (25Z) and (3aR*,4R*,6aS*)-4-[(E)-2-phenyl-1ethenyl]perhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (25E). To a flask containing Ph_3P^+ – CH_2 – $Ph Br^-$ (1018 mg, 2.35 mmol) in THF (8 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.47 mL, 2.35 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) at -78 °C and stirred for 15 min. To the resulted ylide 17 solution was added a solution of compound 10 (367 mg, 2.13 mmol) in THF (2 mL). The reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h and the reaction mixture was warmed slowly to rt. After 12 h, the reaction mixture was cooled at 0 °C and quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl (10 mL) solution. The aqueous solution was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, concentrated, and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound 21Z (270.2 mg, 1.11 mmol, 52% yield) and compound 21E (72.3 mg, 0.29 mmol, 14% yield). To a solution of lactol 21Z (123 mg, 0.50 mmol) in 5 mL of acetone was added Jones reagent at 0 °C dropwise until the persistence of the orange solution. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min, the excess Jones reagent was quenched by 2-propanol. The reaction was diluted by water (2 mL) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give compound **25Z** as a white solid (106 mg, 0.43 mmol) in 87% yield. Similarly, the lactol 21E (50.0 mg, 0.20 mmol) was also oxidized by Jones reagent to give 25E as a white solid (42.9 mg, 0.18 mmol) in 88% yield.

Compound **25Z**: TLC R_{f} =0.33 (hexane/EtOAc=1:1); mp 79.6-80.4 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.20–7.43 (m, 5H), 6.96 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.69 (dd, *J*=8.8, and 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dd, *J*=8.8 and 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (dddd, *J*=8.0, 8.0, 8.8, and 9.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, *J*=8.0 and 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, *J*=9.6 and 18.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.3, 170.0, 137.3, 134.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 123.9, 77.2, 75.5, 39.8, 28.3; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3187, 3052, 2963, 1789, 1787, 1415, 1398, 1184 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 244 (M⁺, 13), 131 (39), 104 (100), 77 (17); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₂O₄ 244.0736, found: 244.0729.

Compound **25E**: TLC R_f =0.25 (hexane/EtOAc=1:1) mp 81.8–82.6 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.29–7.41 (m, 5H), 6.82 (d, *J*=16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (dd, *J*=6.4 and 16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dd, *J*=6.4 and 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (ddt, *J*=6.4, 8.4, and 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 171.2, 169.3, 138.1, 135.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 122.8, 77.8, 76.0, 38.7, 30.7; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3165, 3024, 2954, 1778, 1772, 1424, 1305, 1174 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 244 (M⁺, 25), 131 (42), 104 (100), 77 (19); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₂O₄ 244.0736, found: 244.0726.

4.5.9. (3*a*R*,4*S**,6*a*S*)-4-[(*E*)-2-Phenyl-1-ethenyl]perhydro-furo[3,4b]furan-2,6-dione (**25a**). Compound **25a** was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound **25Z** (216.7 mg, 0.89 mmol) gave compound **25a** (182.4 mg, 0.75 mmol) in 84% yield. Starting from compound **25E** (216.7 mg, 0.89 mmol) gave compound **25a** (182.4 mg, 0.75 mmol) in 84% yield. Compound **25a** can also be prepared from either **21E** or **21Z** sequentially by Pd-catalyzed epimerization and Jones oxidation (pathway B).

Compound **25a**: TLC R_{f} =0.21 (hexane/EtOAc=1:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.33–7.42(m, 5H), 6.75 (d, *J*=16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.16

(dd, *J*=7.2 and 16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (dd, *J*=7.2 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (dddd, *J*=4.0, 7.2, 7.6, and 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (d, *J*=9.2 and 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd, *J*=4.0 and 18.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 171.4, 169.7, 138.3, 135.6, 128.5, 128.2, 127.7, 123.4, 78.4, 75.6, 38.8, 30.5; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3198, 3124, 2926, 1766, 1760, 1438, 1356, 1155 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 244 (M⁺, 3), 131 (6), 104 (100), 77 (51); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₂O₄ 244.0736, found: 244.0738.

4.5.10. $(3aR^*, 4R^*, 6aS^*)$ -4-[(Z)-2-Bromo-1-ethenyl]perhydro-furo-[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (**26Z**). Compound **26Z** was prepared by the general procedure described in **4.11**. Compound **10** (367 mg, 2.13 mmol) reacted with ylide **18** to give compound **22Z** (413.8 mg, 1.66 mmol, 78% yield). The lactol **22Z** (123 mg, 0.49 mmol) was oxidized by Jones reagent to give compound **26Z** as a white solid (107.4 mg, 0.43 mmol) in 88% yield. TLC R_f =0.55 (hexane/ EtOAc=2:1); mp: 84.9–85.7 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.61 (dd, *J*=2.0, and 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (dd, *J*=6.8 and 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (ddd, *J*=2.0, 6.8, and 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.78–3.86 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, *J*=9.8 and 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, *J*=7.4 and 18.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.0, 169.7, 129.6, 113.2, 77.5, 75.9, 38.5, 28.3; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3054, 2987, 1801, 1265, 1190, 1160, 1078 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (*m*/*z*): 269 (M⁺+23); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₈H₇⁷⁹BrO₄Na 268.9425, found: 268.9427.

4.5.11. (3aR*,4S*,6aS*)-4-[(E)-2-Bromo-1-ethenyl]perhydro-furo[3,4b]furan-2,6-dione (26a). Compound 26a was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound **26Z** (216.7 mg, 0.89 mmol) gave compound 26a (177.3 mg, 0.72 mmol) in 81% yield. Compound 26a can also be prepared from compound 22Z sequentially by Pdcatalyzed epimerization and Jones oxidation (pathway B, 72% yield). TLC $R_f=0.24$ (hexane/EtOAc=2:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.63 (dd, *J*=0.8 and 13.6 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (dd, *J*=6.8 and 13.6 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (dd, J=5.6 and 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dddd, J=4.4, 5.6, 7.6, and 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, J=9.2 and 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, J=4.4 and 18.6 Hz, 1H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.2, 169.5, 133.3, 119.6, 83.8, 76.3, 40.7, 32.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3055, 2989, 1798, 1421, 1266, 1199, 1148, 1075 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 246 (M⁺, 0.6), 183 (4) 139 (14), 123 (45), 95 (52), 81 (100), 55 (27); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₈H₇⁷⁹BrO₄ 245.9528, found: 245.9522.

4.5.12. (3aR*,4R**,6aS*)-4-[(1Z)-1,3-Butadienyl]perhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (27Z) and (3aR*,4R*,6aS*)-4-[(1E)-1,3-butadienyl] perhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (27E). Compounds 27Z and 27E were prepared by the general procedure described in Section 4.5.7. Compound 10 (300 mg, 1.74 mmol) reacted with ylide 19 to give compound 23Z (191.2 mg, 0.97 mmol, 56% yield) and compound 23E (47.8 mg, 0.24 mmol, 14% yield). The lactol 23Z (100 mg, 0.51 mmol) was oxidized by Jones reagent to give compound 27Z as a white solid (84.1 mg, 0.43 mmol) in 85% yield. The lactol 23E (32 mg, 0.16 mmol) was oxidized by Jones reagent to give compound 27E as a white solid (26.4 mg, 0.14 mmol) in 85% yield.

Compound **27Z**: TLC R_f =0.48 (hexane/EtOAc=1:1); mp 87.2-88.1 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.51 (ddd, *J*=10.8, 11.2, and 18.8 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (dd, *J*=11.2 and 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (dd, *J*=7.2 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.39-5.47 (m, 3H), 5.15 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (ddt, *J*=7.2, 8, and 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.3, 170.1, 135.4, 130.1, 123.3, 123.0, 76.5, 75.3, 39.8, 28.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3156, 3048, 2933, 1781, 1777, 1325, 1298, 1184 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 194 (M⁺, 2.34), 169 (21), 98 (100), 65 (31); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₀H₁₀O₄ 194.0579, found: 194.0577.

Compound **27E**: TLC R_f =0.42 (hexane/EtOAc=1:1) mp 89.6–90.3 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.34–6.48 (m, 2H), 5.58 (dd, *J*=6.4 and 14.8 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J*=16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d, *J*=9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (dd, *J*=6.4 and 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.57

(ddd, *J*=4.4, 6.4, 8.4, and 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (dd, *J*=4.4 and 8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.3, 169.9, 136.0, 134.6, 124.4, 121.3, 78.4, 76.6, 39.7, 28.1; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3184, 3092, 2988, 1784, 1776, 1324, 1287, 1176 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 194 (M⁺, 3), 169 (41), 98 (100), 65 (33); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₀H₁₀O₄ 194.0579, found: 194.0574.

4.5.13. (3aR*,4S*,6aS*)-4-[(1E)-1,3-Butadienyl]perhydro-furo[3,4-b]*furan-2,6-dione* (**27a**). Compound **27a** was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound 27Z (100 mg, 0.52 mmol) gave compound 27a (82.7 mg, 0.43 mmol) in 82% yield. Starting from compound 27E (60 mg, 0.31 mmol) gave compound 27a (49.9 mg, 0.26 mmol) in 83% yield. Compound **27a** can also be prepared from either **22Z** or **22E** sequentially by Pd(0)-epimerization and Jones oxidation (pathway B). TLC $R_f=0.38$ (hexane/EtOAc=1:1); ¹H NMR $(CDCl_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta 6.29-6.41 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 5.67 \text{ (dd, } J=6.0 \text{ and } 14.0 \text{ Hz},$ 1H), 5.37 (d, J=13.2 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d, J=10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dd, J=6.0 and 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dddd, J=4.0, 6.0, 7.6, and 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd, J=9.2 and 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd, J=4.0 and 18.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 172.3, 169.6, 137.1, 134.0, 123.9, 121.1, 79.1, 76.1, 39.8, 27.9; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3175, 3065, 2915, 1765, 1763, 1316, 1298, 1125 cm⁻¹; EI Mass (*m*/*z*): 194 (M⁺, 6), 169 (45), 98 (100), 65 (31); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₀H₁₀O₄ 194.0579, found: 194.0578.

4.5.14. (3*a*R*,4*R**,6*a*S*)-4-[(1*Z*,3*E*)-1,3-Octadienyl]perhydro-furo[3,4b]furan-2,6-dione (**28Z**) and (3*a*R*,4*R**,6*a*S*)-4-[(1*E*,3*E*)-1,3-octadienyl]perhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (**28E**). Compounds **28Z** and **28E** were prepared by the general procedure described in Section 4.5.7. Compound **10** (300 mg, 1.74 mmol) reacted with ylide **20** to give compound **24Z** (272.2 mg, 1.08 mmol, 62% yield) and compound **18E** (60.5 mg, 0.24 mmol, 14% yield). The lactol **24Z** (100 mg, 0.40 mmol) was oxidized by pyridinium chlorochromate to give compound **28Z** as a white solid (85.0 mg, 0.34 mmol) in 85% yield. The lactol **24E** (30.1 mg, 0.14 mmol) was oxidized by pyridinium chlorochromate to give compound **228Z** as a white solid (27.8 mg, 0.12 mmol) in 86% yield.

Compound **28Z**: TLC R_{f} =0.47 (hexane/EtOAc=2:1); mp: 61.5–62.3 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.31 (dd, J=11.0 and 12.9 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dd, J=7.5 and 12.9 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (dt, J=7.2 and 14.8 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, J=7.5 and 14.8 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (dd, J=8.0 and 11.0 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (ddt, J=8.0, 8.4, and 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (d, J=8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.15 (td, J=7.2 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.30–1.43 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.4, 170.1, 141.8, 135.5, 123.6, 119.7, 76.6, 75.4, 39.9, 32.6, 30.9, 28.2, 22.2, 13.8 (CH₃); IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3055, 2964, 1799, 1266, 1197, 1147, 1077 cm⁻¹; El Mass (m/z): 250 (M⁺, 72), 129, 110 (38), 91 (90), 81 (100), 67 (63), 54 (53); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₄ 250.1205, found: 250.1206.

Compound **28E**: TLC R_{f} =0.35 (hexane/EtOAc=2:1); mp: 63.6–64.2 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.39 (dd, J=10.4 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, J=10.4 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dt, J=6.8 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (dd, J=10.4 and 15.2 Hz), 5.18 (dd, J=6.8 and 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (ddd, J=8.0, 8.8, and 10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J=8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.12 (td, J=6.8 and 9.9 Hz, 1H), 1.29–1.41 (m, 4H), 0.90 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.4, 170.1, 139.7, 136.4, 127.8, 121.0, 79.0, 76.6, 39.7, 32.2, 30.9, 28.1, 22.1, 13.8; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3056, 2928, 1793, 1286, 1150, 1073, 1005 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (m/z): 273 (M⁺+23); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₄Na 273.1103, found: 273.1105.

4.5.15. (3*a*R*,4*S**,6*a*S*)-4-[(1*E*,3*E*)-1,3-Octadienyl]perhydro-furo[3,4b]furan-2,6-dione (**28a**). Compound **28a** was prepared by the general procedure of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization described in Section 4.5. Starting from compound **28Z** (210.0 mg, 0.84 mmol)

gave compound 28a (173.4 mg, 0.76 mmol) in 83% yield. Starting from compound 28E (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) gave compound 28a (164 mg, 0.65 mmol) in 82% yield. Compound 28a can also be prepared from either 24Z or 24E sequentially by Pd-catalyzed epimerization and Jones oxidation (pathway B). TLC R_f=0.5 (hexane/EtOAc=2:1); mp: 60.8–61.5 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 6.33 (dd, *J*=10.4 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, *J*=7.2 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (dt, J=7.2 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (dd, J=7.2 and 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (dd, J=6.8 and 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11-3.17 (m, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J*=9.2 and 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, *J*=4.0 and 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (td, J=7.2 and 13.6 Hz, 2H), 1.25-1.42 (m, 4H), 0.90 (t, *I*=6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 172.8, 170.5, 140.0, 135.9, 127.8, 124.0, 84.4, 77.1, 41.3, 32.3, 32.2, 31.0, 22.1, 13.8; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 2925, 2854, 1790, 1212, 1145, 1074 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m/z*): 250 (M⁺, 58), 138 (23) 113 (29), 81 (100), 68 (44), 55 (69); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₄ 250.1205, found: 250.1211.

4.5.16. (3aR*,4S*,6aS*)-4-[(E)-1-Octen-3-ynyl]perhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (29). To a mixture of vinyl bromide 26Z (100 mg, 0.40 mmol), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (5.6 mg, 0.008 mmol), and CuI (3.1 mg, 0.0016 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added Et₃N (0.05 mL, 0.4 mmol) and 1-hexyne (0.13 mL, 1.2 mmol) in THF (1 mL). The reaction was heated to 60 °C for 5 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on silica gel column to give product 29 (71.3 mg, 0.29 mmol, 71% yield) as a pale yellow oil. TLC $R_f=0.63$ (hexane/EtOAc=2:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.96 (dd, J=6.0 and 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (d, J=15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (dd, J=6.0 and 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12-3.19 (m, 1H), 2.95 (dd, *J*=9.2 and 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, *J*=4.0 and 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (td, J=2.0 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.25-1.57 (m, 4H), 0.92 (t, *I*=7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.0, 169.2, 134.7, 116.0, 83.3, 77.2, 76.3, 40.9, 32.1, 30.4, 21.9, 19.0, 13.5; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 2960, 2934, 2217, 1797, 1266, 1205, 1145, 1076 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m/z*): 248 (M⁺, 20), 178 (18), 108 (55), 93 (100), 79 (88), 65 (56); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O₄ 248.1049, found: 248.1048.

4.5.17. (3*aR**,4*S**,6*aS**)-4-Octylperhydro-furo[3,4-b]furan-2,6-dione (**30**). A mixture of enyne **29** (50 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 10%Pd/C (2.0 mg, 0.02 mmol) in ethyl acetate (2 mL) was stirred under hydrogen balloon for 9 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on silica gel column to give product **30** (46.6 mg, 0.18 mmol, 91% yield) as a colorless oil. TLC *R*_{*f*}=0.72 (hexane/EtOAc=1.5:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.01 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (td, *J*=5.2 and 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.01–3.07 (m, 1H), 2.94 (dd, *J*=9.2 and 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (dd, *J*=4.0 and 18.0 Hz, 1H), 1.83–1.87 (m, 2H), 1.27–1.48 (m, 12H), 0.88 (t, *J*=6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.4, 169.7, 84.7, 77.2, 40.2, 35.4, 32.8, 31.7, 29.2, 29.1, 29.1, 24.9, 22.6, 14.0; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3054, 2928, 1797, 1265, 1145, 1076 cm⁻¹; El Mass (*m*/*z*): 254 (M⁺, 3.9), 179 (14), 150 (22), 113 (46), 97 (100), 55 (86); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₄H₂₂O₄ 254.1518, found: 254.1510.

4.5.18. $(3S^*,5S^*)$ -3-Benzyl-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**33**-syn) and $(3R^*,5S^*)$ -3-benzyl-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**33**-anti). Under nitrogen atmosphere, to a solution of compound **33**-syn (100 mg, 0.49 mmol) in THF (4 mL) were added Pd(OAc)₂ (11.0 mg, 0.049 mmol) and Ph₃P (141.4 mg, 0.30 mmol) at rt. After stirring for 40 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give a mixture of compound **33**-syn and **33**-anti in 81% mass recovery yield. Their ratio was determined by the integration of the benzylic proton (δ 3.31 for **33**-syn; δ 3.21 for **33**-anti). If the reactant of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization was **33**-anti, a mixture of compound **33**-syn and **33**-anti in 79% mass recovery yield.

Compound **33***-syn:* TLC R_{f} =0.56 (hexane/EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.18–7.32 (m, 5H), 5.80 (ddd, *J*=6.0, 10.4, and

17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, *J*=17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (d, *J*=10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (dt, *J*=6.0 and 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, *J*=4.0 and 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.90–2.94 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dd, *J*=2.0 and 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.33–2.40 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.75 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 177.8, 138.9, 136.5, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 120.8, 116.6, 79.7, 38.2, 37.1, 34.3; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3133, 2944, 1787, 1423, 1346, 1105, 1015 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (*m*/*z*): 225 (M⁺+23); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂Na 225.0891, found: 225.0890.

Compound **33***-anti*: TLC $R_{f=}$ 0.53 (hexane/EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.19–7.33 (m, 5H), 5.81 (ddd, J=5.2, 10.8, and 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d, J=17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d, J=10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.78–4.82 (m, 1H), 3.21 (dd, J=4.4 and 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.87–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.77 (dd, J=9.6 and 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.13–2.21 (m, 1H), 2.02–2.09 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 178.3, 138.2, 135.5, 128.8, 128.7, 126.9, 116.8, 77.9, 40.2, 36.1, 33.0; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3145, 2925, 1785, 1415, 1222, 1145, 1035 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (m/z): 225 (M⁺+23); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₂Na 225.0891, found: 225.0892.

4.5.19. $(4S^*,5R^*)$ -4-Phenyl-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**35**-syn) and $(4R^*,5R^*)$ -4-phenyl-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**35**-anti). Under nitrogen atmosphere, to a solution of compound **35**-syn (100 mg, 0.53 mmol) in THF (5 mL) were added Pd(OAc)₂ (11.9 mg, 0.053 mmol) and Ph₃P (139.0 mg, 0.53 mmol) at rt. After stirring for 40 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give a mixture of compound **35**-syn and **35**-anti in 81% mass recovery yield. Their ratio was determined by the integration of the benzylic proton (δ 3.41–3.43 for **35**-syn; δ 3.86–3.91 for **35**-anti, a mixture of compound **35**-syn and **35**-anti in 78% mass recovery yield.

Compound **35**-*anti*: TLC R_{f} =0.78 (hexane/EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.24–7.39 (m, 5H), 5.90 (ddd, *J*=6.0, 7.2, and 12.8 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (dt, *J*=1.2 and 12.8 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (dt, *J*=1.2 and 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (dd, *J*=7.2 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (ddd, *J*=7.2, 8.8, and 10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J*=8.8 and 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, *J*=10.4 and 17.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 175.2, 138.0, 133.8, 129.0, 127.8, 127.2, 118.6, 86.6, 47.8, 36.5; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3157, 2988, 1776, 1466, 1306, 1128, 1073 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (*m*/*z*): 211 (M⁺+23); HRMS (*m*/*z*) calcd for C₁₂H₁₂O₂Na 211.0735, found: 211.0733.

Compound **35***-anti*: TLC R_{f} =0.75 (hexane/EtOAc=4:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.12–7.36 (m, 5H), 5.33–5.36 (m, 2H), 5.19–5.23 (m, 1H), 5.13–5.16 (m, 1H), 3.86–3.91 (m, 1H), 2.90 (dd, *J*=8.0 and 17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (dd, *J*=7.6 and 17.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 176.2, 132.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.6, 118.5, 83.3, 45.1, 33.9; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3122, 2954, 1756, 1452, 1322, 1156, 1071 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (*m/z*): 211 (M⁺+23); HRMS (*m/z*) calcd for C₁₂H₁₂O₂Na 211.0735, found: 211.0732.

4.5.20. $(4R^*,5R^*)$ -4-1-(tert-Butyl)-1,1-dimethylsilyl]oxy-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**37**-syn) and (4S^*,5R^*)-4-1-(tert-butyl)-1,1-dimethylsilyl]oxy-5-vinyltetrahydro-2-furanone (**37**-anti). Under nitrogen atmosphere, to a solution of compound **37**-syn (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) in THF (7 mL) were added Pd(OAc)₂ (9.3 mg, 0.041 mmol) and Ph₃P (107.5 mg, 0.41 mmol) at rt. After stirring for 32 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and chromatographed on the silica gel column to give a mixture of compound **37**-*syn* and **37**-*anti* in 81% mass recovery yield. Their ratio was determined by the integration of the vinylic proton (δ 5.86 for **37**-*syn*; δ 6.00 for **37**-*anti*). If the reactant of the Pd-catalyzed epimerization was **37**-*anti*, a mixture of compound **37**-*syn* and **37**-*anti* in 78% mass recovery yield.

Compound **37***-syn:* TLC R_{f} =0.50 (hexane/EtOAc=6:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.82 (ddd, J=5.6, 10.8, and 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (d, J=17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (d, J=10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.70–4.72 (m, 1H), 4.24 (dt, J=4.0 and 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J=6.4 and 17.6 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (dd, J=4.0 and 17.6 Hz, 1H), 0.88 (s, 9H), 0.03 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 174.5, 132.8, 118.1, 87.4, 72.5, 37.3, 25.4, 17.8, -4.90, -4.93; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3123, 2978, 1745, 1423, 1315, 1105, 1025 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (m/z): 265 (M⁺+23); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₂H₂₂O₃SiNa 265.1236, found: 265.1235.

Compound **37***-anti*: TLC R_{f} =0.56 (hexane/EtOAc=6:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.97 (ddd, J=6.0, 10.4 and 16.8 Hz, 1H), 5.43 (d, J=16.8 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (d, J=10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75–4.81 (m, 1H), 4.46–4.52 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, J=6.8 and 17.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (dd, J=4.4 and 17.6 Hz, 1H), 0.86 (s, 9H), 0.01 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 173.6, 132.8, 120.8, 79.7, 73.4, 36.5, 27.5, 19.4, -4.3, -4.5; IR (CH₂Cl₂): 3138, 2945, 1758, 1333, 1325, 1145, 1075 cm⁻¹; ESI Mass (m/z): 265 (M⁺+23); HRMS (m/z) calcd for C₁₂H₂₂O₃SiNa 265.1236, found: 265.1235.

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