

## Diastereoselective Cyclization of 6-Octen-1-als with Rhodium(I)-Complex

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In Rh(I) (Wilkinson)-catalyzed cyclization of 6-octen-1-als, the formation of *cis*-cyclohexanols is in contrast to Lewis acid-catalyzed cyclization, which affords predominantly the *trans*-cyclohexanols. However, 6-octen-1-als with a cyclic acetal (1,3-dioxane or 1,3-dioxolane) at the C<sub>3</sub>-position were stereoselectively cyclized to only the *trans*-products. The aldehyde with a chiral protecting group ((4*R*,6*R*)-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane with the C<sub>2</sub>-axis) at the C<sub>3</sub>-position was diastereoselectively cyclized to the *trans*-cyclohexanol, and on a basis of the absolute stereochemistry of the cyclized product, the cyclization mechanism is tentatively proposed. The effect of 4*R*-methyl-1,3-dioxane at the C<sub>3</sub>-position was also examined.

**Keywords** Wilkinson complex; rhodium(I)-catalyzed cyclization; diastereoselective cyclization; 6-octen-1-al; chiral protecting group

Previously, we showed that in Rh(I)(Wilkinson)-catalyzed cyclization<sup>1)</sup> of 6-octen-1-als with methyl substituents at the C<sub>2</sub>- or C<sub>3</sub>-position,<sup>2)</sup> a mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-cyclohexanol derivatives was obtained, whereas 7-methyl-6-octen-1-al without any substituent underwent decarbonylation. 4-Oxa-analogues also afforded a similar result. The formation of *cis*-cyclohexanols as the main product is in contrast to Lewis acid-catalyzed cyclization<sup>3)</sup> to afford predominantly the *trans*-cyclohexanol.

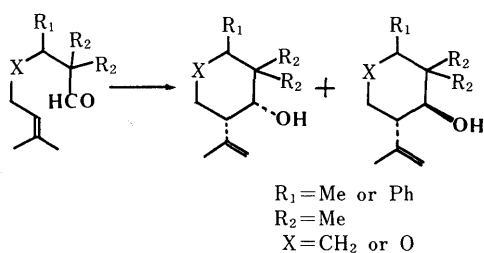


Chart 1

Now, we report on Rh(I)-catalyzed diastereoselective cyclization of 6-octen-1-als with a chiral protecting group at the C<sub>3</sub>-position. The effect of a cyclic acetal at the C<sub>3</sub>-position was also examined. Interestingly, the aldehyde (**1a**,  $n=0$ ) with a cyclic acetal (1,3-dioxolane) at the C<sub>3</sub>-position was stereoselectively cyclized to only the *trans*-alcohol (**2a**,  $n=0$ , 60%), and the *cis*-alcohol was not obtained at all. Similarly, the aldehyde (**1b**,  $n=1$ ) with a cyclic acetal (1,3-dioxane) was also stereoselectively cyclized to the *trans*-alcohol (**2b**,  $n=1$ , 55%). This stereocontrolled *trans*-cyclization prompted us to examine cyclization of the aldehydes with a chiral protecting group. When the aldehyde (**3**) with (4*R*,6*R*)-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane (with the C<sub>2</sub> axis) at the C<sub>3</sub>-position was heated at reflux in CHCl<sub>3</sub> in the presence of equimolar Wilkinson-complex, only one *trans*-alcohol (**4**) ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 19.79^\circ$  ( $c=1.02$ , EtOH)) was obtained in 60% yield, similarly to the case of **1**. The result of proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) spectroscopy using a shift reagent (Eu(DME))<sup>4)</sup> indicated that **4** should be >99% de. Thus, it was concluded that this cyclization proceeded in a diastereoselective manner. Removal of the protecting group in **4** with 5% aqueous AcOH/tetrahydrofuran (THF) at 40 °C for 5 h afforded the optically active ketone (**5**, 75%) ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 11.64^\circ$  ( $c=1.62$ , EtOH)). The absolute stereochemistry of (–)-**5** was de-

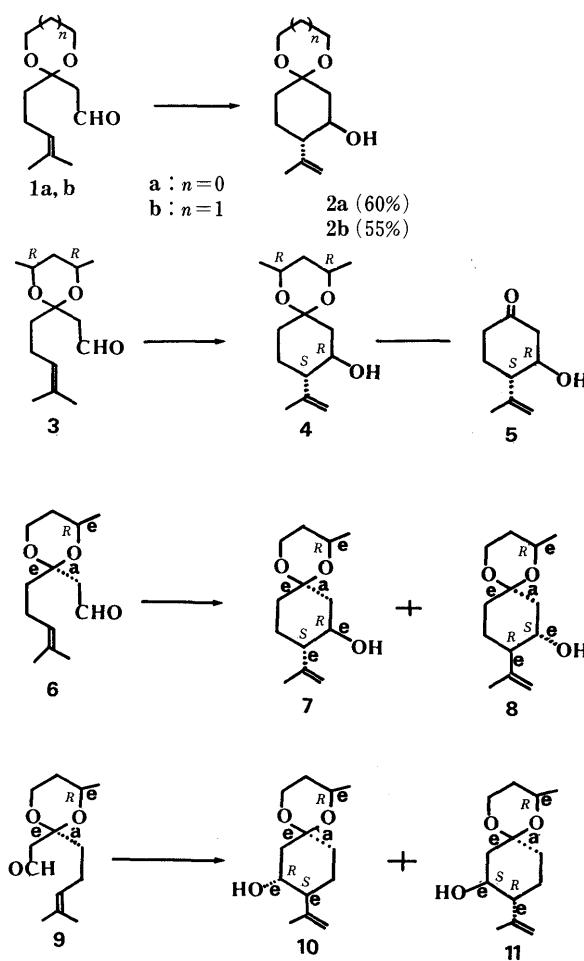


Chart 2

termined to be (3*R*,4*S*) by comparison with (+)-**5**, in which the absolute stereochemistry was established from the circular dichroism (CD) spectrum to be (3*S*,4*R*).<sup>5)</sup> The formation of (3*R*,4*S*)-(–)-**5** allows us tentatively to propose the following mechanism. As shown in Fig. 1, the environment of the aldehyde function in the chair form indicated by the full line seems to provide sterically better conditions for cyclization than the dotted-line chair form, in which the axial methyl at C<sub>4</sub>, may interfere with the access of the bulky Rh(I)-complex. There are two possible pathways (Chart 3) in this cyclization. Consideration of

a Dreiding stereomodel suggests that conformation 1A involves a steric repulsion between the C<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>-Me(ax). However, the C<sub>6</sub>-Me(ax) in conformation 2A occupies a sterically more hindered position between C<sub>4</sub> and C<sub>5</sub>. The above difference in steric hinderance causes the reaction to proceed *via* the sterically less hindered 1A to afford the (3*R*,4*S*)-product.

Next, Rh(I)-catalyzed cyclization was examined on two aldehydes (**6** and **9**) with 4*R*-methyl-1,3-dioxane at the C<sub>3</sub>-position, which were prepared from methyl 3-oxo-7-methyl-6-octenoate and *R*-1,3-butanediol (see Syntheses of Substrates). Each aldehyde (**6** and **9**) afforded two diastereomeric *trans*-alcohols **7** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 2.06^\circ$  ( $c = 1.65$ , EtOH),

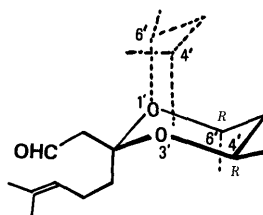


Fig. 1

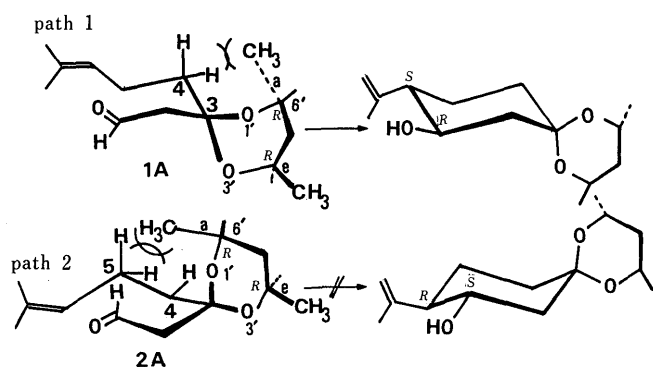


Chart 3

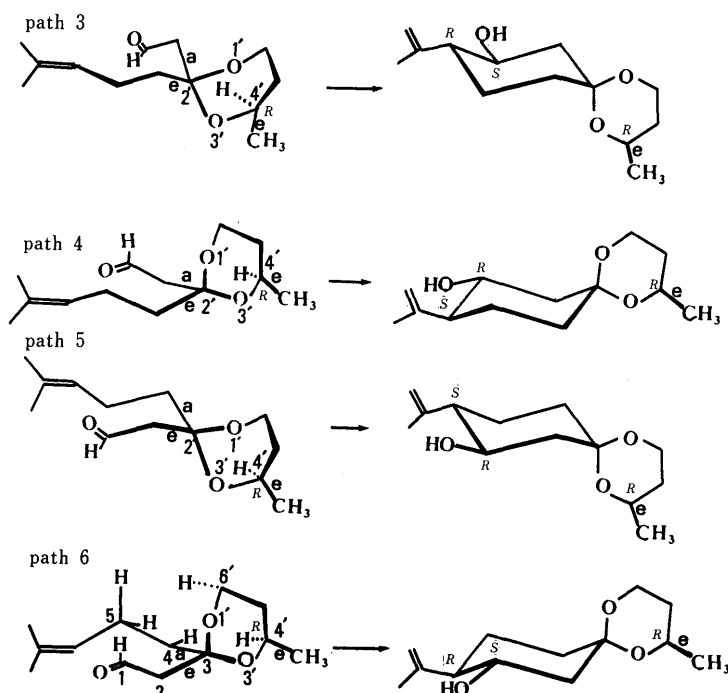
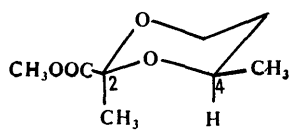
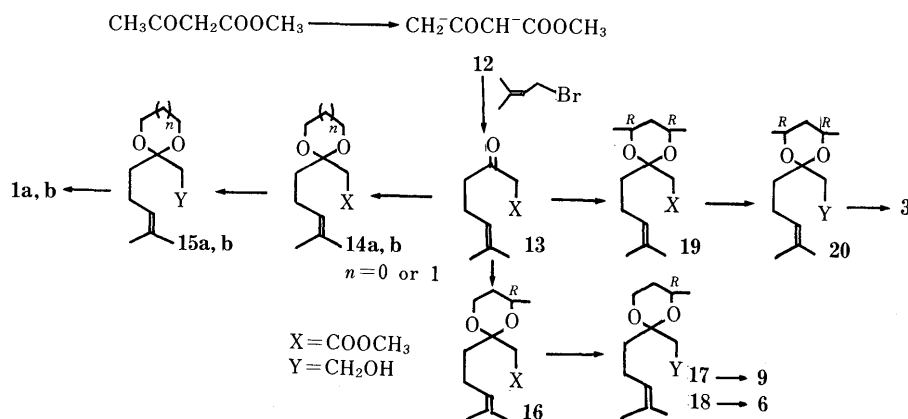


Chart 4

42%) and **8** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 42.30^\circ$  ( $c = 1.68$ , EtOH), 7%), and **10** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 6.24^\circ$  ( $c = 5.00$ , EtOH), 40%) and **11** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 41.63^\circ$  ( $c = 3.18$ , EtOH), 12%), respectively. Independent deprotection of the less polar, main products **7** and **10** from these aldehydes afforded (–)-**5** (3*R*,4*S*) ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 11.64^\circ$  ( $c = 1.05$ , EtOH) from **7**, and  $-11.25^\circ$  ( $c = 1.82$ , EtOH) from **10**).<sup>6</sup> In the cyclization of **6** and **9**, the formation of the (3*R*,4*S*)-*trans*-alcohol as the main product may be rationalized in terms of the following mechanism. In the cyclization of **6** (axial formylmethyl in 1,3-dioxane ring), path 4 may be more favorable than path 3, because the C<sub>4</sub>-H (axial) close to the aldehyde function in path 3 may hinder the access of the bulky Rh(I)-complex to the aldehyde function. In **9**, path 5 (equatorial formylmethyl in the 1,3-dioxane ring) seems to be more favorable than path 6, because the C<sub>6</sub>-H (axial) in path 6 is subject to steric repulsion involving C<sub>4</sub>-H and C<sub>5</sub>-H. Thus, the chiral protecting group with the C<sub>2</sub>-axis seems to be effective for diastereoselective cyclization.

**Syntheses of Substrates** Reaction of the dianion (**12**), prepared from the sodium salt of methyl acetoacetate and BuLi, with 1-bromo-3-methyl-2-butene afforded the ketone (**13**) in 78% yield, and this was converted to the acetals using ethylene glycol for **1a**, 1,3-propanediol for **1b**, (*R*)-1,3-butanediol for **6** and **9**, and (2*R*,4*R*)-pentanediol for **3** under standard conditions (*p*-toluenesulfonic acid/benzene). Reduction of the acetals with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> followed by oxidation with pyridinium chlorochromate (PCC) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> yielded the corresponding aldehydes. Acetalization using (2*R*,4*R*)-pentanediol with the C<sub>2</sub>-axis afforded only one acetal (**19**). However, acetalization using (*R*)-1,3-butanediol gave the acetal (**16**) as a mixture of two diastereomers, which showed a single spot on thin layer chromatography (TLC). Reduction of **16** with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> coupled with careful silica-gel column chromatography afforded the polar fraction (**17**) and the less polar fraction (**18**) on TLC. Configurations of **17** and **18** were determined by comparison of the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of the correspond-



ing aldehydes (**9** and **6**) with those of the two (*R*)-1,3-butanedioxy acetals of methyl pyruvate. On the basis of the findings that, in (*R*)-1,3-butanedioxy acetals of methyl pyruvate (Fig. 2), the signal of the axial methyl group ( $\delta$  1.51) at  $\text{C}_2$  in the less polar fraction is observed upfield from the equatorial methyl signal ( $\delta$  1.65) at  $\text{C}_2$  in the polar fraction, the formylmethyl function [ $\text{C}_2\text{-H}_2$ :  $\delta$  2.54 (2H, d,  $J = 2.9$  Hz)] in the less polar aldehyde (**6**) was assigned to be axial, and that of the more polar aldehyde (**9**) [the  $\text{C}_2\text{-H}_2$ :  $\delta$  2.93 (2H, dd,  $J = 1.5, 3.2$  Hz)] was assigned to be equatorial.

## Experimental

Infrared (IR) spectra were measured with a JASCO A-202 spectrometer.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra were measured on JEOL JNM-PS-100 and GX-270 spectrometers. Mass spectra (MS) were taken on a JEOL JMS-D 300 spectrometer. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO DIP-4 polarimeter. For column chromatography, silica gel (Merck, Kieselgel 60, 70–230 mesh) was used. TLC was performed on Silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates (Merck). All organic solvent extracts were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. Ratios of solvent systems in column chromatography refer to v/v. Each product was obtained as a colorless oil.

**General Procedure of Rh(I) (Wilkinson)-Catalyzed Cyclization** A mixture of Wilkinson complex (4.56 mmol) and the aldehyde (4.56 mmol) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (300 ml) was heated at reflux for 4 h under an  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was diluted with ether, and the precipitate was filtered off. The ether layer was concentrated *in vacuo* to leave an oily residue, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

**Compound 2a,b from 1a,b** **2a**: 60% yield. IR (neat): 3450, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.74 (3H, m, Me), 3.55–3.81 (1H, m,  $\text{CHO-}$ ), 3.96 (4H, s,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 4.93 (2H, m,  $=\text{CH}_2$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 198 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 180, 115. **2b**: 55% yield. IR (neat): 3430, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.72 (3H, m, Me), 3.49–3.77 (1H, m,  $\text{CHO-}$ ), 3.84–4.00 (4H, m,  $\text{OCH}_2 \times 2$ ), 4.89–4.94 (2H, m,  $=\text{CH}_2$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 212 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 194, 167.

**Compound 10 and 11 from 9** **10**: The less polar fraction,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 6.24^\circ$  ( $c = 5.00$ , EtOH). 40% yield. IR (neat): 3400, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.17 (3H, d,  $J = 6$  Hz, Me), 1.72 (3H, s, Me), 4.88–4.89 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ), 4.91–4.92 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 208, 181, 143. **11**: The more polar fraction,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 41.63^\circ$  ( $c = 3.18$ , EtOH). 12% yield. IR (neat): 3400, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.18 (3H, d,  $J = 6$  Hz, Me), 1.72 (3H, s, Me), 4.88–4.89 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ), 4.92–4.94 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 208, 181, 143.

**Compound 7 and 8 from 6** **7**: The less polar fraction,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 2.06^\circ$

( $c = 1.65$ , EtOH). 42% yield. IR (neat): 3400, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.17 (3H, d,  $J = 6$  Hz, Me), 1.72 (3H, s, Me), 4.88–4.90 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ), 4.91–4.93 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 208, 181. **8**: The more polar fraction,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 42.30^\circ$  ( $c = 1.68$ , EtOH). 7% yield. IR (neat): 3400, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.18 (3H, d,  $J = 6$  Hz, Me), 1.72 (3H, s, Me), 4.88–4.90 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ), 4.92–4.94 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 208, 181, 143.

**Compound 4 from 3**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 19.79^\circ$  ( $c = 1.02$ , EtOH). 60% yield. IR (neat): 3450, 1640, 1380  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.19 (3H, d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, Me), 1.24 (3H, d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, Me), 1.61 (3H, d,  $J = 0.8$  Hz,  $=\text{Me}$ ), 3.60–3.72 (1H, m,  $\text{CHO-}$ ), 3.98–4.22 (2H, m,  $\text{CHO-} \times 2$ ), 4.92 (2H, m,  $=\text{CH}_2$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 239 ( $\text{M}^+ - 1$ ), 222, 202, 157.

**Methyl 7-Methyl-3-oxo-6-octenate (13)** Methyl acetoacetate (9.28 g) in THF (20 ml) was added dropwise to a stirred suspension of NaH (3.52 g, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in THF (200 ml) under ice-water cooling, and the whole was stirred for 0.5 h, then BuLi (1.56 M in hexane) (53.84 ml) was added dropwise at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . After 10 min, 1-bromo-3-methyl-2-butene (13.12 g) in THF (16 ml) was added dropwise to the dianion solution at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , and the whole was stirred for 0.5 h at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , then for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with 5% aqueous HCl (50 ml), diluted with brine (100 ml), and then extracted with ether. The ether extract was washed, and dried, then removal of the solvent *in vacuo* afforded an oily residue, which was subjected to silica gel column chromatography. The fraction eluted with hexane–AcOEt (50:1) gave **13** (11.50 g, 78%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 1740, 1710, 1620  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.62 (3H, s, Me), 1.68 (3H, s, Me), 3.45 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}$ ), 3.74 (3H, s, OMe), 5.03 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 184 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 166, 59.

**Methyl 3,3-Ethylenedioxy-7-methyl-6-octenate (14a)** A mixture of the keto-ester (**13**) (3.68 g) and ethylene glycol (3.72 g) in benzene (100 ml) was refluxed in the presence of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (trace) with azeotropic removal of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The reaction mixture was washed, and dried, then removal of the solvent *in vacuo* afforded an oily residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel. The fraction eluted with hexane–AcOEt (50:1) afforded **14a** (3.74 g, 82%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 1735, 1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.62 (3H, s, Me), 1.68 (3H, s, Me), 2.67 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}$ ), 3.69 (3H, s, OMe), 4.00 (4H, s,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.12 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 228 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 169, 59.

**3,3-Ethylenedioxy-7-methyl-6-octen-1-ol (15a)** Compound **14a** (1.87 g) in ether (10 ml) was added dropwise to a stirred suspension of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (240 mg) in ether (40 ml) at room temperature, and the mixture was refluxed for 11 h. Usual work-up afforded an oily residue, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel. The fraction eluted with hexane–AcOEt (20:1) afforded **15a** (1.03 g, 63%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 3400, 1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.64 (3H, s, Me), 1.71 (3H, s, Me), 3.75 (2H, m,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.10 (1H, m,  $=\text{H}$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 200 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 182.

**3,3-Ethylenedioxy-7-methyl-6-octen-1-al (1a)** Compound **15a** (1.03 g) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (11 ml) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of PCC (1.63 g) and AcONa (0.13 g) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (8 ml) at room temperature under an  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. After 4 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with ether (100 ml), and the supernatant was separated from the black gum by decantation. The organic layer was passed through a short column of florisil, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to leave an oily residue, which was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel. The fraction eluted with hexane–AcOEt (30:1) afforded **1a** (0.51 g, 52%) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 2850, 1720, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.61 (3H, s, Me), 1.68 (3H, s, Me), 4.01 (4H, s,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.08 (1H, m,

=H), 9.75 (1H, t,  $J=2.9$  Hz, CHO). MS  $m/z$ : 198 ( $M^+$ ), 180.

**Methyl 7-Methyl-3,3-(1,3-propanedioxy)-6-octenate (14b)** Compound **14b** was prepared from **13** and 1,3-propanediol in 69% yield, in a manner similar to that described for the synthesis of **14a**. IR (neat): 1735, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.63 (3H, s, Me), 1.70 (3H, s, Me), 3.67 (3H, s, OMe), 3.83–4.03 (4H, m,  $\text{OCH}_2 \times 2$ ), 5.17 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 242 ( $M^+$ ), 183, 169.

**7-Methyl-3,3-(1,3-propanedioxy)-6-octen-1-ol (15b)** Compound **15b** was obtained by reduction of **14b** in 60% yield, in a manner similar to that described for reduction of **14a**. IR (neat): not measured.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.62 (3H, s, Me), 1.70 (3H, s, Me), 3.09 (1H, br s, OH), 5.13 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 214 ( $M^+$ ), 196, 131.

**7-Methyl-3,3-(1,3-propanedioxy)-6-octen-1-al (1b)** PCC oxidation of **15b** afforded **1b** in 58% yield, in a manner similar to that described for oxidation of **15a**.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.62 (3H, s, Me), 1.70 (3H, s, Me), 9.84 (1H, t,  $J=2.9$  Hz, CHO). IR and MS were not measured.

**Methyl 3,3-[(R)-1,3-Butanedioxy]-7-methyl-6-octenate (16)** Compound **16** was obtained from **13** and (*R*)-1,3-butanediol in 65% yield, in a manner similar to that described for the preparation of **14a**. IR (neat): 1740, 1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.16 (3H, d,  $J=6.1$  Hz, Me), 1.63 (3H, s, Me), 1.68 (3H, s, Me), 3.69 (3H, s, OMe), 5.06–5.19 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 256 ( $M^+$ ), 173.

**3S,3,3-[(R)-1,3-Butanedioxy]-7-methyl-6-octen-1-ol (17) and 3R,3,3-[(R)-1,3-Butanedioxy]-7-methyl-6-octen-1-ol (18)** In a manner similar to that described for reduction of **14a**, reduction of **16** (4.17 g) with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (620 mg) afforded a mixture (3.60 g) of **17** and **18**, which could be separated by silica-gel column chromatography to give the less polar fraction (**18**) (1.06 g, 23%) and the more polar fraction (**17**) (2.45 g, 67%). **18**:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 4.53^\circ$  ( $c=2.78$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 3450, 1670  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.18 (3H, d,  $J=6.1$  Hz, Me), 1.62 (3H, d,  $J=0.8$  Hz, Me), 1.70 (3H, s, Me), 5.09–5.15 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 228 ( $M^+$ ), 210, 145. **17**:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 4.38^\circ$  ( $c=3.19$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 3400, 1670  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.16 (3H, d,  $J=6.1$  Hz, Me), 1.62 (3H, s, Me), 1.68 (3H, d,  $J=1.0$  Hz, Me), 5.08–5.15 (1H, m, Me). MS  $m/z$ : 228 ( $M^+$ ), 210, 145.

**3S,3,3-[(R)-1,3-Butanedioxy]-7-methyl-6-octen-1-al (9) and 3R,3,3-[(R)-1,3-Butanedioxy]-7-methyl-6-octen-1-al (6)** PCC oxidation of **17** and **18** afforded **9** and **6** in 60% yield, respectively, in a manner similar to that described for oxidation of **15a**. **9**:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 6.46^\circ$  ( $c=4.70$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 2860, 1720  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.18 (3H, d,  $J=5.7$  Hz, Me), 1.61 (3H, s, Me), 1.67 (3H, s, Me), 2.93 (2H, dd,  $J=1.5$ , 3.2 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CHO}$ ), 5.02–5.19 (1H, m, =H), 9.66 (1H, t,  $J=3.2$  Hz, CHO). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $M^+$ ), 55. **6**:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 4.66^\circ$  ( $c=3.00$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 2860, 1720  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.18 (3H, d,  $J=6.1$  Hz, Me), 1.56 (3H, s, Me), 1.66 (3H, s, Me), 2.54 (2H, d,  $J=2.9$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CHO}$ ), 5.11 (1H, m, =H), 9.90 (1H, t,  $J=2.9$  Hz, CHO). MS  $m/z$ : 226 ( $M^+$ ), 55.

**Methyl 7-Methyl-3,3-[(2R,4R)-2,4-pentanedioxy]-6-octenate (19)** Compound **19** was obtained from **13** and (2*R*,4*R*)-pentanediol in 70% yield, in a manner similar to that described for the preparation of **14a**.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 10.41^\circ$  ( $c=1.69$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 1735, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.17 (3H, s, Me), 1.19 (3H, s, Me), 1.62 (3H, d,  $J=0.5$  Hz, =Me),

1.68 (3H, d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, =Me), 2.70 (2H, dd,  $J=4.5$ , 1.8 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}$ ), 3.67 (3H, s, COOMe), 3.95–4.07 (2H, m, CHO-  $\times 2$ ), 5.14 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 270 ( $M^+$ ), 239, 197.

**7-Methyl-3,3-[(2R,4R)-2,4-pentanedioxy]-6-octen-1-ol (20)** Compound **20** was obtained from **19** in 83% yield, in a manner similar to that described for the reduction of **14a**.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 26.30^\circ$  ( $c=1.11$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 3450, 1640, 1145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.19 (3H, d,  $J=1.2$  Hz, Me), 1.21 (3H, d,  $J=1.2$  Hz, Me), 1.61 (3H, d,  $J=1.0$  Hz, Me), 1.68 (3H, d,  $J=1.0$  Hz, Me), 3.72–3.86 (2H, m,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 3.99–4.18 (2H, m, CHO-  $\times 2$ ), 5.11 (1H, m, =H). MS  $m/z$ : 240 ( $M^+$ ), 224, 197, 120.

**7-Methyl-3,3-[(2R,4R)-2,4-pentanedioxy]-6-octen-1-al (3)** Compound **3** was obtained by the oxidation (65% yield) of **20**, in a manner similar to that described for PCC oxidation of **15a**.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 19.04^\circ$  ( $c=1.05$ , EtOH). IR (neat): 1725, 1640, 1145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.19 (3H, d,  $J=3.0$  Hz, Me), 1.22 (3H, d,  $J=3.0$  Hz, Me), 1.60 (3H, d,  $J=0.5$  Hz, =Me), 1.68 (3H, d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, =Me), 2.69 (2H, dd,  $J=3.1$ , 1.3 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-CHO}$ ), 3.99–4.07 (2H, m, CHO-  $\times 2$ ), 5.09 (1H, m, =H), 9.78 (1H, m, CHO). MS  $m/z$ : 240 ( $M^+$ ), 220, 197.

**(3R,4S)-3-Hydroxy-4-isopropenylcyclohexanone (5)** A mixture of **4** (21 mg), 5% aqueous AcOH (2 ml), and THF (2 ml) was stirred for 5 h at 40°C. After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was diluted with ether, and the ether layer was washed and dried. The solvent was evaporated off *in vacuo* to afford the oily residue, which was purified by preparative TLC.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 11.64^\circ$  ( $c=1.62$ , EtOH). Similarly, **7** and **10** were converted to **5** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 11.64^\circ$  from **7**, and  $-11.25^\circ$  from **10**, respectively). IR (neat): 3400, 1710, 1640  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.76 (3H, t,  $J=1.0$  Hz, =Me), 3.73 (1H, m, CHO-), 4.99 (2H, m, = $\text{CH}_2$ ). MS  $m/z$ : 154 ( $M^+$ ), 136, 110.

## References and Notes

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- The absolute stereochemistry of (+)-**5** ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 3.0$  (27% ee), which was obtained from **11** contaminated with **10**, was determined from the CD spectrum ( $[\theta]^{24} = +47.28$  (289 nm, MeOH),  $\Delta\epsilon = +1.43 \times 10^{-2}$ ) to be (3*S*,4*R*).
- Deprotection of **8** and **11** with 5% aqueous AcOH afforded (+)-**5**.