

STEREOCONTROLLED SYNTHESIS OF TRICYCLO[6.2.1.0^{4,9}]UNDECANE RING SYSTEM OF
ACONITIUM ALKALOIDS

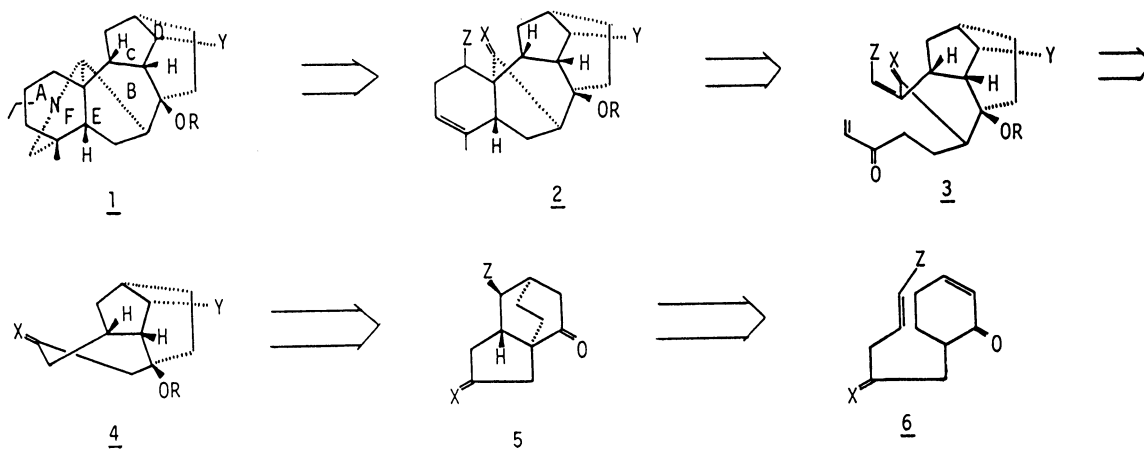
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Intramolecular double Michael reaction of the α,β -unsaturated enone ester gave the tricyclo[5.2.2.0^{1,5}]undecane derivative, which was stereoselectively converted into the tricyclo[6.2.1.0^{4,9}]undecane derivative.

Recently we have developed a novel method, intramolecular double Michael (IDM) reaction²⁾ and demonstrated its utility for the synthesis of natural products.^{1,3)} In further continuation of this study, we planned a synthesis of aconitium alkaloids as shown in Scheme 1. Namely rearrangement of the tricyclo[5.2.2.0^{1,5}]undecane (5), obtained via the IDM reaction of 6, would give the tricyclo[6.2.1.0^{4,9}]undecane (4), which could be transformed into the enone (3). The second IDM reaction of 3 would afford the aconane derivative (2), convertible into the lycoc-tonine skeleton (1). Here we wish to report a synthesis of 23 as a model experiment for the construction of the tricyclic compound (4), in which the rearrangement was performed in highly stereo- and site-selective manner.⁴⁾

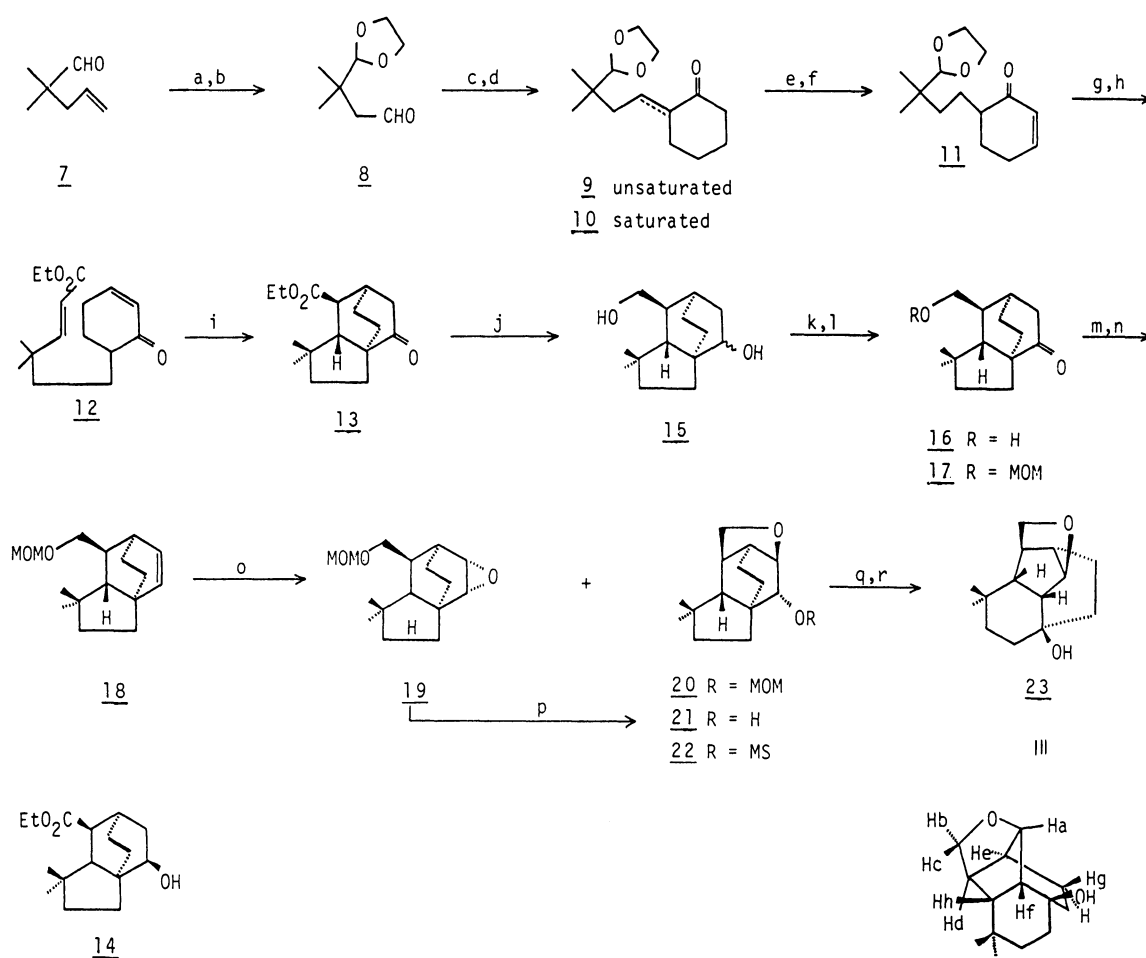


Scheme 1.

Protection (95% yield) of 2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenal (7),⁵⁾ followed by oxidation of the double bond with osmium tetroxide and sodium metaperiodate⁶⁾ afforded the aldehyde (8), which was condensed with cyclohexanone in a hot aqueous potassium hydroxide solution to give the α,β -unsaturated ketone (9)⁷⁾ in 67% yield from 8. After catalytic hydrogenation (81% yield) of 9, the ketone (10),⁷⁾ was silylated under the kinetically controlled conditions and then oxidized with palladium(II) acetate and 1,4-benzoquinone⁸⁾ to the enone (11)⁷⁾ in 90% yield. Deprotection of 11 with dilute perchloric acid in tetrahydrofuran followed by Emmons reaction formed the α,β -unsaturated enone ester (12)⁷⁾ in 76% yield from 11. The IDM reaction of 12 was conducted with lithium hexamethyldisilazide in hexane-ether (5 : 1 v/v) at -78 °C for 2 h and at room temperature for 0.5 h to produce the tricyclic compound (13)⁷⁾ in 64% yield as a single product. The stereochemistry of 13 was determined on the basis of the consideration of the reaction mechanism²⁾ and the spectral evidences; particularly due to the chemical shifts of two geminal methyl groups of 13 and the corresponding alcohol (14)⁷⁾ which was gained by reduction of 13 with L-selectride.

Now our attention was focused on the stereocontrolled rearrangement accompanied with an introduction of two oxygen functional groups. Therefore transformation of the ethoxycarbonyl group to a more hindered group as the methoxymethoxymethyl group and a rearrangement *via* an epoxide intermediate were examined. Thus 13 was reduced with diisobutylaluminum hydride to provide in 99% yield the corresponding epimeric alcohols (15),⁷⁾ whose secondary hydroxyl group was selectively oxidized with sodium bromate in the presence of ceric ammonium nitrate⁹⁾ to the ketone (16) in 80% yield. The primary alcohol (16)⁷⁾ was blocked using methoxymethyl chloride and diisopropylethylamine to give the ether (17)⁷⁾ in 83% yield. Conversion of 17 into the olefin (18)⁷⁾ was carried out in 53% yield according to the Shapiro's procedure.¹⁰⁾ Reaction of 18 with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid afforded two products. The major product obtained in 65% yield was shown to be the desired epoxide (19),⁷⁾ but the more polar compound, gained in 4% yield, appeared to have the structure 20^{7,11)} on the basis of ¹H-NMR spectrum. Interestingly, treatment of the epoxide (19) with 10% perchloric acid in tetrahydrofuran produced the tetracyclic alcohol (21),⁷⁾ mp 93 -94 °C, in 71% yield. Acidic treatment of the above 20 also yielded 21. Furthermore reaction of 19 with boron trifluoride etherate in anhydrous dichloromethane formed 20¹¹⁾ and 21 in 33% and 36% yields. It was considered that the tetracyclic alcohol (21) possessed ideal characteristics for the rearrangement; the correct stereochemistry of the hydroxyl group and the limitation of rearranged products due to the existence of the tetrahydrofuran ring. Mesylation of 21 (66% yield), followed by solvolysis, which was conducted by heating the mesylate (22)⁷⁾ for 15 h in a mixture of acetone and water (2 : 1 v/v), furnished the required product (23)⁷⁾ in 65% yield. The structure of 23 was determined by spectroscopic methods including INEPT ¹³C-NMR and 400 MHz two-dimensional (2D) correlated NMR (H,H-COSY) techniques.

Highly stereocontrolled construction of the partial structure of aconitium alkaloids was thus achieved and an application of this methodology for the synthesis of the natural products is in progress.



- a) $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$, \underline{p} -TsOH b) OsO_4 , NaIO_4 c) cyclohexanone, KOH d) H_2 , Pd-C
 e) LDA; TMSCl, Et_3N f) $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$, quinone g) dil. HClO_4 h) $(\text{EtO})_2\text{POCH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Et}$, NaH
 i) $\text{Li}(\text{TMS})_2$ j) DIBAL k) NaBrO_3 , CAN l) MOMCl, $^i\text{Pr}_2\text{NEt}$ m) TsNHNH_2 , $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$
 n) $^n\text{BuLi}$, TMEDA o) mCPBA p) dil. HClO_4 q) MsCl , Et_3N r) Δ , H_2O

Scheme 2.

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- 7) New compounds have been characterized by elemental analyses and/or high resolution mass spectra. Significant spectral data are recorded below: 13: IR ν_{\max} (CHCl_3) 1720 cm^{-1} (C=O); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 1.00 and 1.11 (each 3H, each s, 2 Me); MS m/e 264 (M^+). 14: IR ν_{\max} (CHCl_3) 3580 (OH), 1720 cm^{-1} (C=O); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 1.02 (6H, s, 2 Me), 3.65 (1H, m, >CHOH); MS m/e 266 (M^+). 20: $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 1.03 and 1.08 (each 3H, each s, 2 x Me), 3.11 (1H, s, >CHOMOM), 3.34 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 6\text{ Hz}$, >CHO-), 3.35 (3H, s, OMe), 3.67 (1H, dd, $\underline{J} = 6$ and 2 Hz , $1/2\text{-CH}_2\text{O-}$), 3.77 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 6\text{ Hz}$, $1/2\text{-CH}_2\text{O-}$), 4.59 and 4.74 (each 1H, each d, each $\underline{J} = 6\text{ Hz}$, OCH_2O); MS m/e 266 (M^+). 21: IR ν_{\max} (CHCl_3) 3600 cm^{-1} (OH); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 1.03 and 1.09 (each 3H, each s, 2 x Me), 3.19 (1H, s, >CHOH), 3.33 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 6\text{ Hz}$, >CHO-), 3.63 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 2\text{ Hz}$, $1/2\text{-CH}_2\text{O-}$), 3.69 (1H, dd, $\underline{J} = 2$ and 1 Hz , $1/2\text{-CH}_2\text{O-}$); MS m/e 222 (M^+). 23: IR ν_{\max} (CHCl_3) 3600 cm^{-1} (OH); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 1.03 and 1.10 (each 3H, each s, 2 Me), 1.78 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 8.3\text{ Hz}$, H_h), 1.90 - 2.00 (1H, m, H_g), 2.20 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 8.3\text{ Hz}$, H_f), 2.21 - 2.25 (1H, m, H_e), 2.28 (1H, br s, H_d), 3.41 (1H, d, $\underline{J} = 6.3\text{ Hz}$, H_c), 3.66 (1H, dd, $\underline{J} = 6.3$ and 1.4 Hz , H_b), 4.44 (1H, br s, H_a); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 22.04 (t), 29.41 (s), 30.34 (q), 33.33 (q), 34.56 (t), 35.43 (t), 37.86 (t), 41.02 (d), 44.50 (d), 51.49 (d), 52.98 (d), 73.55 (s), 77.99 (t), 78.14 (d); MS m/e 222 (M^+).
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- 11) It is considered that the migration of MOM group is due to the formation of $\text{MeO}^{\oplus}=\text{CH}_2$ in anhydrous conditions.

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