

## Efficient Synthesis of $\alpha$ -Benzylidene- $\gamma$ -methyl- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones

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Dedicated to Professor *Dieter Seebach* on the occasion of his 65th birthday

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A concise synthesis of  $\alpha$ -benzylidene- $\gamma$ -methyl- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones **5a–g** from substituted benzaldehydes is described. Compounds **1a–g** on reaction with phosphorane **2**, provide the pentenoates **3a–g**, which can be hydrolyzed to the acids **4a–g**. The latter are cyclized to the corresponding butyrolactones **5a–g** in excellent yields. The pentenoates **3a–g**, on acid catalyzed cyclization, also provide **5a–g** in very high yields.

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**1. Introduction.** – Alkylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones (substituted dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-ones) are important compounds, since this subunit is found in a variety of natural products [1], especially in sesquiterpene lactones and lignans [2]. They serve as valuable building blocks for the synthesis of various types of natural products and biologically active substances [3]. A few alkylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones are reported to possess interesting pharmacological, fungicidal, and plant-growth regulatory activities [4]. In view of their biological importance, numerous methods have been reported for their synthesis [5–8].

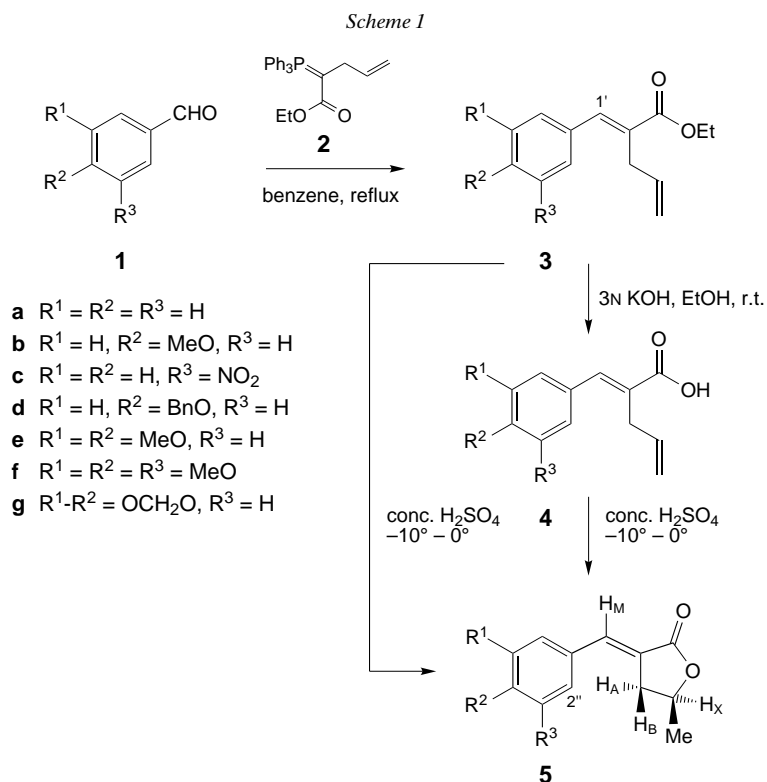
Standard methods for the synthesis of alkylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones from aldehydes include base-catalyzed condensation of  $\gamma$ -butyrolactones [5], *Wittig* reaction of  $\alpha$ -[ $\gamma$ -butyrolactonylidene]triphenylphosphorane [6], or *Wittig–Horner* reaction of  $\alpha$ -diethylphospho- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones [7]. Unfortunately, the yields are sometimes modest and mixtures of (*E*)- and (*Z*)-isomers are obtained.

**2. Results and Discussion.** – We wish to report an efficient and simple method for the preparation of  $\alpha$ -benzylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones. *Wittig* olefination of benzaldehydes **1a–g** with ethyl 2-(triphenyl- $\lambda^5$ -phosphanylidene)pent-4-enoate (**2**) [9] in refluxing benzene provided the pentenoates **3a–g** in 84–94% yield (*Scheme 1*). In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **3a–g**, H–C(1') resonances appear as *singlets* at 7.83–8.08 ppm. These chemical shifts are closer to the calculated [10] value for the (*E*)-isomer (7.53 ppm) rather than that for the (*Z*)-isomer (6.96 ppm). Therefore, the pentenoates **3a–g** are most likely (*E*)-configured. Hydrolysis of **3a–g** under basic conditions (KOH in EtOH) provided the pentenoic acids **4a–g** in 89–93% yield, which were cyclized in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at –10° to 0° to the corresponding benzylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones **5a–g** in 84–94% yield. These products were found to be the (*E*)-isomers on the basis of the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR chemical shifts (7.43–8.22 ppm) of H–C(1'), which are in agreement

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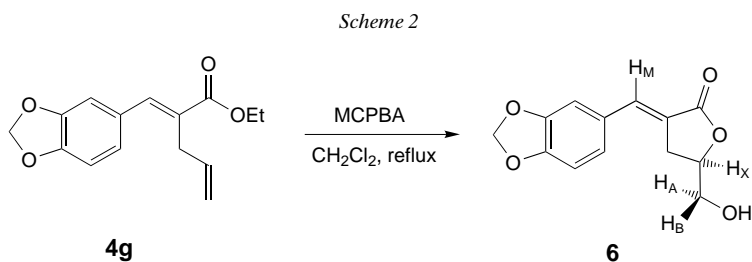
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with the reported [8] chemical shifts (7.20–7.69 ppm). The (*E*)-configuration was further confirmed by NOESY experiments. The aromatic proton, H–C(2'') was found in close proximity to H<sub>A</sub> and H<sub>B</sub> of the  $\gamma$ -lactone ring.



To improve the overall yields, the hydrolysis step was eliminated, and the pentenoates **3a–g** were directly reacted with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to provide the lactones **5a–g** in 82–94% yield.

A CH<sub>2</sub>OH group in  $\gamma$ -position of the lactone ring is required for the synthesis of some natural products [11]. We, therefore, also prepared compound **6** from **4g** in 55% yield by reacting it with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (MCPBA) in refluxing CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (*Scheme 2*).



In an alternative approach to the synthesis of lactones **5a–g**, the *Wittig* reaction was carried out under microwave irradiation, a technique now widely used in organic synthesis [12]. The pentenoates **3a–g** were obtained in nearly quantitative yields when a mixture of the aldehyde **1** and reagent **2** was irradiated with silica gel (SiO<sub>2</sub>) as a solid support in a commercial microwave oven<sup>2)</sup> for 1–10 min. The lactonization was also carried out by microwave irradiation (3–8 min) with *Montmorillonite K-10*<sup>3)</sup> as a solid support.

**3. Conclusions.** – A stereoselective synthesis has been developed for (*E*)-configured  $\alpha$ -benzylidene- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones based on a *Wittig* reaction followed by lactone formation (cyclization). Both classical and microwave-irradiation approaches have been used. The present method is very efficient and provides the title compounds in excellent yields.

#### Experimental Part

*General.* Melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra (nujol) were recorded on a *Perkin-Elmer FTIR-1615* spectrophotometer, <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) on a *Jeol FX 90Q* (90 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts are expressed in  $\delta$  (ppm) relative to Me<sub>4</sub>Si as an internal standard, coupling constants *J* in Hz. Elemental analyses were performed on *Hosli's* rapid carbon-hydrogen analyser.

*Ethyl (E)-2-Benzylidenepent-4-enoates 3a–g. General Procedure 1 (GP1):* **1a–g** (10 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (20 ml) reagent **2** (4 g, 10.3 mmol) was added and the mixture was refluxed for 3–11 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed (SiO<sub>2</sub>; hexane/AcOEt 9:1) to yield **3a–g** as viscous liquids. For anal. details, cf. *Table 1*.

*General Procedure 2 (GP2):* Silica gel (3 g) was added to a soln. of **1a–g** (1 mmol) and **2** (1.2 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), and the mixture was stirred for 2 min. The solvent was removed, and the residual powder was dried *in vacuo*. The mixture, spread in a *Petri* dish, was irradiated in a microwave oven [13] for 1–10 min and chromatographed (SiO<sub>2</sub>; hexane/AcOEt 9:1) to yield **3a–g**.

*(E)-2-Benzylidenepent-4-enoic Acids 4a–g. General Procedure:* Aq. KOH (3N, 3 ml) was added to a soln. of the appropriate pentenoate **3** (1 mmol) in EtOH (5 ml). The mixture was stirred at r.t. for 6 h (3 h in case of **3c**). Then, the EtOH was removed, H<sub>2</sub>O (5 ml) was added, and the mixture was acidified with ice-cold HCl (1:1). The precipitated solid was filtered off, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, and dried to provide **4a–g**. For anal. details, cf. *Table 2* and *4*.

*(E)- $\alpha$ -Benzylidene- $\gamma$ -methyl- $\gamma$ -butyrolactones 5a–g. General Procedure 3 (GP3):* The pentenoic acid **4** (0.50 mmol) was added to well-cooled conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (2 ml). The mixture was stirred at –10° for 1 h before allowed to warm to 0° over 30 min. The mixture was poured on crushed ice, and the solid obtained was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 × 15 ml). The combined org. extract were washed successively with aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln. and H<sub>2</sub>O and dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). The crude products obtained after removing the solvent were recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexane to furnish **5a–g**. For analytical data, cf. *Table 3* and *4*.

*General Procedure 4 (GP4):* Ice-cold conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (2 ml) was added to the well-cooled pentenoate **3**. The mixture was stirred at –10° for 1 h and allowed to warm to 0° over 30 min. The mixture was poured on crushed ice, and the solid obtained was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 × 15 ml). The combined org. extracts were washed successively with aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln. and H<sub>2</sub>O and dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed, and the remainder was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexane to furnish **5a–g**, which were analytically identical to authentic samples prepared by the above procedure.

*General Procedure 5 (GP5):* Pentenoate **3** (0.25 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 ml) was adsorbed on *Montmorillonite K-10* (2 g) [14], and the mixture was stirred for 2 min. After removal of the solvent, the mixture was spread in a *Petri* dish and irradiated in a microwave oven for 3–8 min (monitored by TLC). The mixture was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml), filtered, washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 ml), and concentrated to yield **5a–g**.

<sup>2)</sup> *Kelvinator T37*, 2450 MHz (700 W).

<sup>3)</sup> *Fluka*, activated by microwave irradiation for 10 min.

Table 1. Selected Experimental Data for Compounds **3a–g** (cf. Scheme 1). For elemental analyses, cf. Table 4.

Product	GP: reaction time	Yield [%]	IR (nujol) $\nu$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) $\delta$ [ppm], $J$ [Hz]	<sup>13</sup> C-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) $\delta$ [ppm]
<b>3a</b>	GPI: 11 h	92	1720	1.45 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.30 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.29 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 4.80–5.18 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 5.66–6.22 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)); 7.44 ( <i>s</i> , 5 arom. H); 7.83 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.05; 31.38; 60.58; 115.35; 128.29; 129.00; 130.0; 135.34; 139.89; 144.23; 146.18; 167.74
	GP2: 10 min	98			
<b>3b</b>	GPI: 6 h	94	1720	1.37 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.42 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 3.94 ( <i>s</i> , MeO); 4.42 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 5.41–5.45 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 6.08–6.48 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)); 7.17 ( <i>d</i> , $J=8.0$ , 2 arom. H); 7.68 ( <i>d</i> , $J=8.0$ , 2 arom. H); 8.08 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.10; 31.49; 54.89; 60.53; 113.62; 113.83; 126.45; 126.88; 127.92; 130.84; 135.56; 139.62; 144.01; 159.94; 168.06
	GP2: 6 min	94			
<b>3c</b>	GPI: 10 h	94	1720,	1.31 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.30 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.29 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 4.92–5.27 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 5.66–6.22 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)), 7.51–8.38 ( <i>m</i> , 5 arom. H)	14.05; 31.60; 61.01; 116.11; 122.88; 123.69; 129.33; 133.50; 134.80; 136.91; 141.41; 148.34; 166.98
	GP2: 1 min	95	1540		
<b>3d</b>	GPI: 12 h	85	1720	1.34 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.42 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.45 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 5.20–5.51 ( <i>m</i> , 4 H, 2 H–C(5), PhCH <sub>2</sub> O); 6.02–6.54 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)); 7.28 ( <i>d</i> , $J=8.0$ , 2 arom. H); 7.60–7.85 ( <i>m</i> , 7 arom. H); 8.11 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.21; 31.54; 60.58; 70.06; 114.92; 115.46; 127.32; 127.92; 128.51; 131.01; 135.67; 136.80; 139.67; 159.23; 168.12
	GP2: 7 min	96			
<b>3e</b>	GPI: 10 h	90	1710	1.37 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.42 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.0 ( <i>s</i> , 2 MeO); 4.42 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 5.14–5.42 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 6.02–6.48 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)); 7.05–7.40 ( <i>m</i> , 3 arom. H); 8.05 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.16; 31.65; 55.87; 60.53; 111.40; 112.80; 115.30; 122.83; 128.35; 128.51; 135.77; 139.89; 148.94; 149.81; 167.95
	GP2: 2 min	92			
<b>3f</b>	GPI: 7 h	93	1720	1.37 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.40 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 3.97 ( <i>s</i> , 3 MeO); 4.34 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 5.17–5.45 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 6.02–6.51 ( <i>m</i> , H–C(4)); 6.85 ( <i>s</i> , 2 arom. H); 8.02 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.10; 37.71; 55.98; 60.58; 106.68; 115.30; 129.44; 130.68; 135.77; 138.65; 140.11; 152.95; 167.74
	GP2: 3 min	93			
<b>3g</b>	GPI: 7 h	84	1720	1.34 ( <i>t</i> , $J=7.5$ , Me); 3.42 (br. <i>d</i> , $J=6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.40 ( <i>q</i> , $J=7.5$ , CH <sub>2</sub> O); 5.05–5.42 ( <i>m</i> , 2 H–C(5)); 5.91–6.31 ( <i>m</i> , OCH <sub>2</sub> O and H–C(4)); 6.91–7.31 ( <i>m</i> , 3 arom. H); 8.02 ( <i>s</i> , H–C(1'))	14.16; 31.54; 60.53; 101.16; 108.20; 109.12; 115.46; 124.18; 128.95; 129.54; 135.50; 139.67; 144.28; 147.96; 167.98
	GP2: 2 min	95			

(3E,5R)-3-[1,3-Benzodioxol-5-yl)methylidene]-4,5-dihydro-5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2(3H)-one (**6**). A soln. of **4g** (0.116 g, 0.5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml) was added dropwise to a suspension of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (0.172 g, 1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml). The mixture was refluxed for 10 h, cooled, and washed thoroughly with aqu. NaHSO<sub>3</sub> soln., aqu. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln., brine, and H<sub>2</sub>O, and was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to yield a crude product that was chromatographed (SiO<sub>2</sub>; hexane/AcOEt 9 : 1) and recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexane to provide **6** (0.068 g, 55%) as a white solid. M.p. 129°. IR (nujol): 3300, 1730. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):

Table 2. Selected Experimental Data for Compounds **4a–g** (cf. Scheme 1). For elemental analyses, cf. Table 4.

Product	Yield [%]	M.p. [°]	IR (nujol) $\nu$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) $\delta$ [ppm], $J$ [Hz]
<b>4a</b>	90	90–91	3300, 1670	3.42 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 5.14–5.51 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.05–6.51 ( $m$ , H–C(4)); 7.74 ( $s$ , 5 arom. H); 8.28 ( $s$ , H–C(1'))
<b>4b</b>	93	95–96	3300, 1670	3.42 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 3.97 ( $s$ , MeO); 5.20–5.57 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.05–6.62 ( $m$ , H–C(4)); 7.20 ( $d$ , $J = 9.0$ , 2 arom. H); 7.74 ( $d$ , $J = 9.0$ , 2 arom. H); 8.22 ( $s$ , H–C(1'))
<b>4c</b>	92	113–115	3250, 1690, 1540	3.40 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 5.22–5.57 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.05–6.57 ( $m$ , H–C(4)), 7.82–8.80 ( $m$ , 4 arom. H and H–C(1'))
<b>4d</b>	91	130–132	3300, 1700	3.42 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 5.20–5.51 ( $m$ , 4 H, 2 H–C(5) and PhCH <sub>2</sub> O); 6.02–6.51 ( $m$ , H–C(4)); 7.28 ( $d$ , $J = 8.5$ , 2 arom. H); 7.60–7.84 ( $m$ , 7 arom. H).
<b>4e</b>	89	120	3250, 1680	3.48 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 4.00, 4.05 (2s, 2 MeO); 5.22–5.54 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.05–6.57 ( $m$ , H–C(4)); 7.11–7.48 ( $m$ , 3 arom. H); 8.25 ( $s$ , H–C(1'))
<b>4f</b>	89	95–97	3250, 1690	3.45 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 3.94 ( $s$ , 2 MeO); 4.02 ( $s$ , MeO); 5.22–5.54 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.11–6.68 ( $m$ , H–C(4)); 7.00 ( $s$ , 2 arom. H); 8.20 ( $s$ , H–C(1'))
<b>4g</b>	92	108–110	3300, 1680	3.42 (br. $d$ , $J = 6.0$ , 2 H–C(3)); 5.17–5.45 ( $m$ , 2 H–C(5)); 6.00–6.61 ( $m$ , OCH <sub>2</sub> O and H–C(4)); 7.00–7.37 ( $m$ , 3 arom. H); 8.14 ( $s$ , H–C(1'))

Table 3. Selected Experimental Data for Compounds **5a–g** (cf. Scheme 1). For elemental analyses, cf. Table 4.

Product	GP: yield [%]	M.p. [°]	IR (nujol) $\nu$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) $\delta$ [ppm], $J$ [Hz]	<sup>13</sup> C-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) $\delta$ [ppm]
<b>5a</b>	GP3: 84 GP4: 94 GP5: 92	58 (lit. 48° [8b])	1750	1.48 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.90 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 5.6$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.40 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.9$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 4.90 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 7.65–7.91 ( $m$ , 5 arom. H and H <sub>M</sub> )	22.27; 35.19; 74.07; 125.09; 128.87; 129.72; 129.90; 134.64; 136.28; 171.95
<b>5b</b>	GP3: 84 GP4: 82 GP5: 90	76–77 (lit. 76° [8b])	1740	1.48 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.80 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 6.0$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.51 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 3.97 ( $s$ , MeO); 4.90 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 7.22 ( $d$ , $J = 8.5$ , 2 arom. H); 7.54–7.85 ( $m$ , 2 arom. H and H <sub>M</sub> )	22.56; 35.42; 55.54; 74.04; 114.58; 122.29; 127.69; 131.89; 136.36; 161.03; 172.50
<b>5c</b>	GP3: 94 GP4: 92 GP5: 99	100–103	1750	1.54 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.90 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 5.9$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.60 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 4.97 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 7.85–8.22 ( $m$ , 2 arom. H); 8.54–8.74 ( $m$ , 2 arom. H and H <sub>M</sub> )	22.06; 35.07; 73.80; 123.48; 123.69; 128.84; 129.76; 133.12; 135.12; 136.48; 148.83; 170.39
<b>5d</b>	GP3: 92 GP4: 93 GP5: 88	117–120	1740	1.40 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.80 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 6.0$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.45 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 5.02 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 5.40 ( $s$ , PhCH <sub>2</sub> O); 7.28 ( $d$ , $J = 8.0$ , 2 arom. H); 7.60–7.95 ( $m$ , 5 arom. H and H <sub>M</sub> )	21.63; 34.20; 34.96; 72.93; 115.00; 120.17; 125.32; 127.54; 128.24; 129.06; 131.93; 135.88; 139.84; 156.47; 171.58
<b>5e</b>	GP3: 92 GP4: 90 GP5: 94	98–99	1740	1.54 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.82 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 5.6$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.51 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 4.05 ( $s$ , 2 MeO); 4.94 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 7.11–7.57 ( $m$ , 3 arom. H); 7.80 (br. $s$ , H <sub>M</sub> )	22.06; 35.12; 55.76; 73.64; 115.50; 113.18; 122.34; 123.53; 127.70; 136.26; 149.10; 150.60; 171.85
<b>5f</b>	GP3: 88 GP4: 91 GP5: 90	103–105	1740	1.48 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.80 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 5.6$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.40 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 3.90 ( $s$ , 3 MeO); 4.74 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 7.70 ( $m$ , 2 arom. H); 7.43 ( $t$ , $J = 2.5$ , H <sub>M</sub> )	22.06; 35.17; 56.63; 60.58; 73.53; 108.96; 124.24; 130.25; 136.21; 141.19; 153.65; 171.20
<b>5g</b>	GP3: 88 GP4: 90 GP5: 91	98–99	1760	1.48 ( $d$ , $J = 6.5$ , Me); 2.82 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{BX} = 5.6$ , $J_{BM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>B</sub> ); 3.51 ( $ddd$ , $J_{AB} = 18$ , $J_{AX} = 7.7$ , $J_{AM} = 2.5$ , H <sub>A</sub> ); 5.02 (br. $sext.$ , H <sub>X</sub> ); 6.28 ( $s$ , OCH <sub>2</sub> O); 7.07–7.42 ( $m$ , 3 arom. H); 7.80 ( $t$ , $J = 2.5$ , H <sub>M</sub> )	22.21; 35.04; 73.86; 101.61; 108.56; 108.80; 122.55; 125.71; 128.84; 135.93; 148.09; 148.87; 172.05

Table 4. Elemental Analyses of Compounds 3–5.

Product	Formula	Mol. weight	Calc.		Found	
			C	H	C	H
3a	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	216.268	77.75	7.76	77.70	7.61
3b	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	246.294	73.14	7.73	73.31	7.58
3c	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>15</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	261.270	64.36	5.79	64.50	5.85
3d	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	322.386	78.23	6.88	78.37	6.89
3e	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	276.320	69.54	7.30	69.72	7.42
3f	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	306.346	66.65	7.24	66.75	7.32
3g	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	260.278	69.21	6.20	69.02	6.28
4a	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	188.216	76.57	6.43	76.50	6.43
4b	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	218.242	71.57	6.47	71.77	6.46
4c	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	233.218	61.80	4.75	61.63	4.82
4d	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	294.334	77.53	6.16	77.66	6.16
4e	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	248.268	67.73	6.50	67.52	6.57
4f	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	278.294	64.73	6.52	64.87	6.38
4g	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	232.226	67.23	5.21	67.14	5.20
5a	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	188.216	76.57	6.43	76.68	6.35
5b	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	218.242	71.54	6.47	71.36	6.75
5c	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	233.218	61.80	4.75	61.94	4.89
5d	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	294.334	77.53	6.16	77.65	6.34
5e	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	248.268	67.73	6.50	67.99	6.74
5f	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	278.294	64.73	6.52	68.82	6.60
5g	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	232.226	67.23	5.21	67.05	5.32

2.25 (br. s, OH); 3.08–3.41 (m, 2 H–C(4)); 3.60 (dd,  $J_{AB} = 12.5$ ,  $J_{AX} = 5.0$ , H<sub>A</sub>); 4.10 (dd,  $J_{AB} = 12.5$ ,  $J_{BX} = 2.5$ , H<sub>B</sub>); 4.72–5.05 (m, H<sub>X</sub>); 6.25 (s, OCH<sub>3</sub>O); 7.00–7.44 (m, 3 arom. H); 7.75 (br. s, H<sub>M</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>/ (D<sub>6</sub>)DMSO): 28.60; 62.78; 77.01; 101.01; 108.03; 108.29; 122.11; 125.23; 128.25; 134.86; 147.25; 148.69; 171.69. Anal. calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (248.226): C 62.90, H 4.97; found: C 63.07, H 5.13.

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