

# Prostanoids: XC.\* Extension to the Synthesis of Enprostil of the *o*-Nitrophenylsulfonylhydrazine Method for Transformation of 2-Propynyl Alcohols into Allenes

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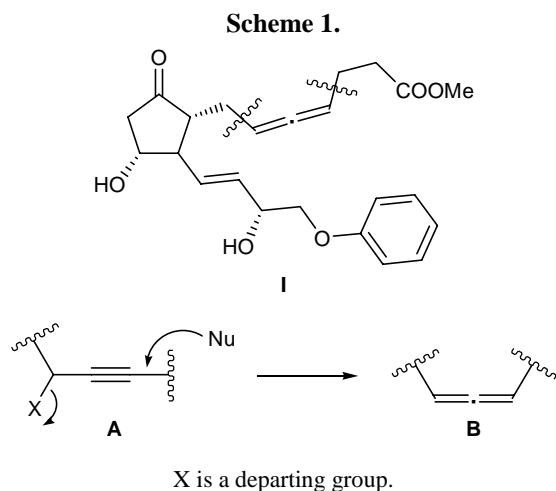
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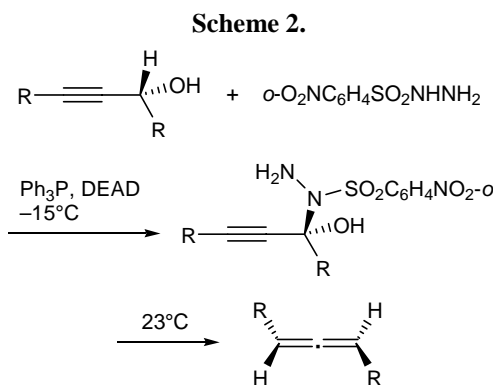
**Abstract**—A potential precursor of enprostil, ( $\pm$ )-9-acetoxy-11,15-di-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-2-decarboxy-6-hydroxy-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethyloxymethyl-4,4,5,5-tetrahydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1 $\alpha$ , was synthesized. This compound remained unchanged under the conditions for generation of allenes from 2-propynyl alcohols by the action of the system diisopropyl azodicarboxylate–triphenylphosphine–*o*-nitrophenylsulfonylhydrazine.

In the synthesis of a highly effective analog of prostaglandin E2, enprostil (**I**) (racemate, a ~1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers at the allene center) which exhibits antiulcer activity, the most difficult is transformation of the acetylenic fragment in precursors into allene moiety (**A**  $\rightarrow$  **B**, X = OH or Hlg) [2–6]. As a rule, allene fragment is introduced into acetylenic enprostil precursors like **A** with the aid of Me<sub>2</sub>CuLi (X = OAc) [2, 3] or Zn (X = Cl) [4] (Scheme 1); this procedure ensures moderate yields of the corresponding allenes. Myers and Zheng [7] described a new one-step synthesis of allenes from acetylenic alcohols via transformation of the latter into *o*-nitrobenzenesulfonyl-

hydrazides according to Mitsunobu [8] and subsequent easy fragmentation of the hydrazides at room temperature with formation of allenes (Scheme 2).



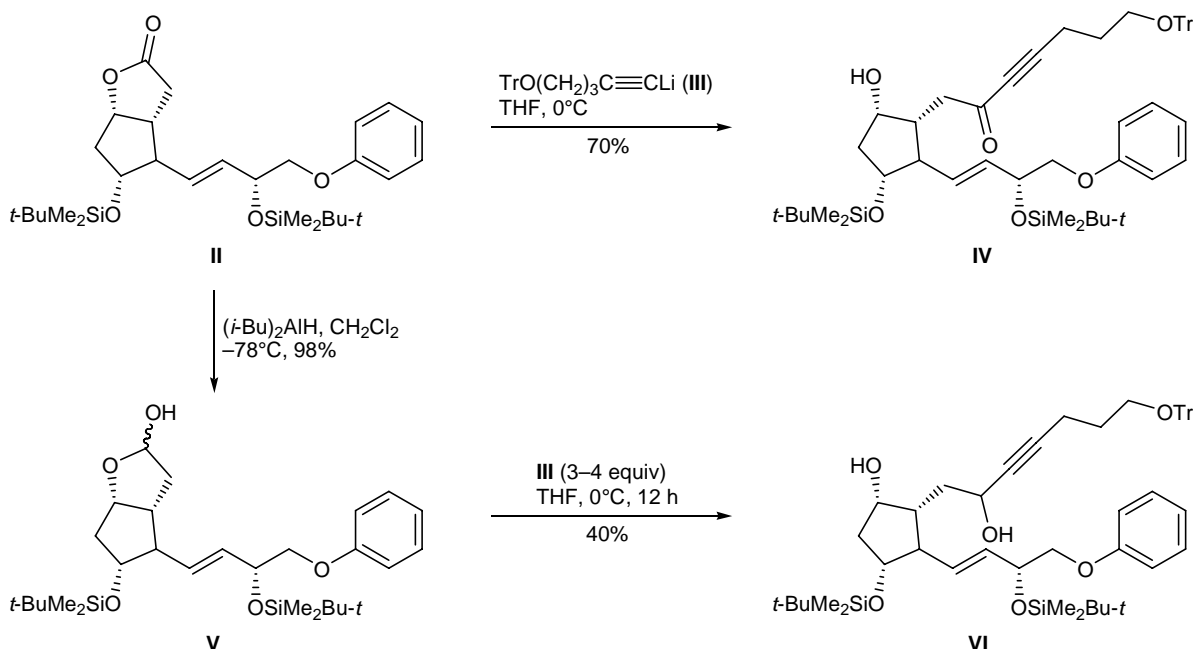
\* For preceding communication, see [1].



DEAD is diethyl azodicarboxylate (EtOCON=NCOOEt).

We tried to extend this approach to the key stages in the formation of allene fragment in the synthesis of enprostil from bis-silyl ether **II** [1]. In order to obtain a precursor of compound **I** with a 2-propynyl alcohol moiety in the  $\alpha$ -chain, diastereoisomerically pure lactone **II** was brought into condensation with lithium derivative **III** of 5-triphenylmethoxy-1-pentyne under appropriate conditions [9]. The reaction smoothly afforded 70% of the expected acetylenic ketone **IV** (Scheme 3). Under the same conditions, semiacetal **V** gave rise to diol **VI** in a moderate yield, despite the use of excess lithium derivative **III** (more than 3 equiv).

Scheme 3.

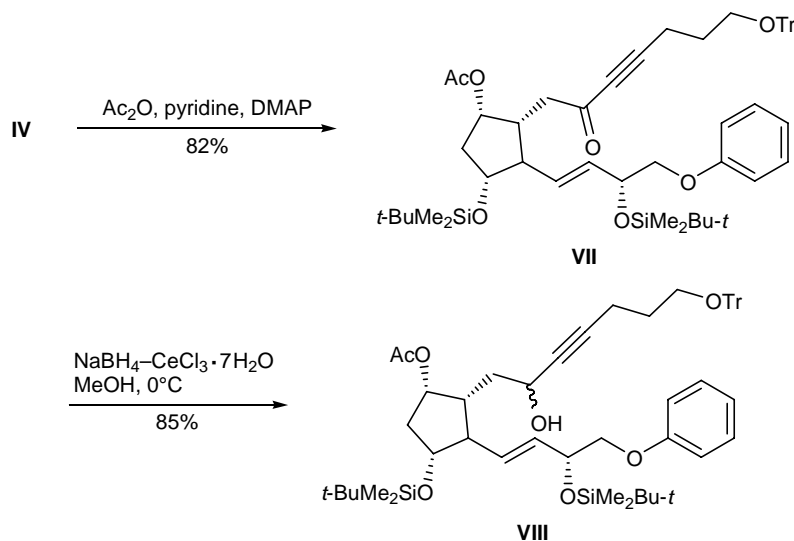


These results were rationalized by possible replacement of the labile hemiacetal hydroxy proton by the metal in the reaction with acetylide **III**, which deactivated compound **V** toward further reaction with **III**.

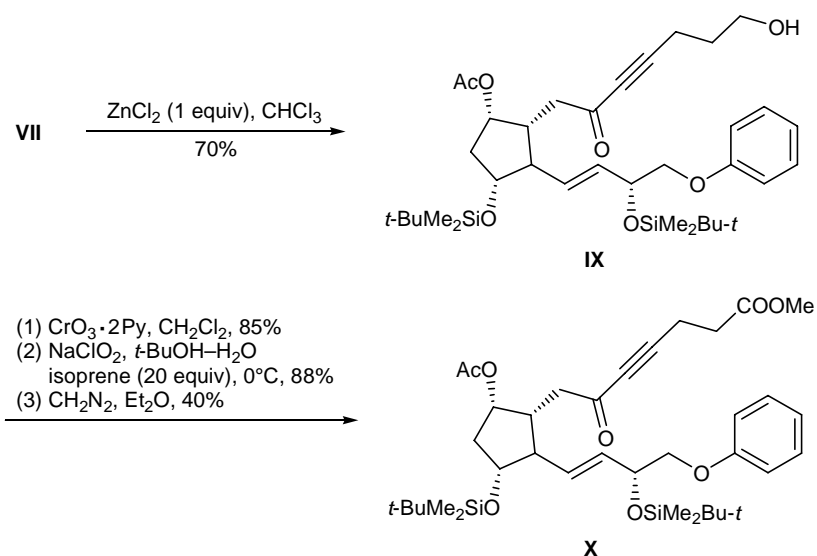
It seemed convenient to use keto alcohol **IV** to obtain selectively protected derivatives of diol **VI**. For this purpose, it was necessary to introduce an appropriate protecting group to the hydroxy group on C<sup>9</sup> and reduce the C<sup>6</sup>=O carbonyl group. Initially, by acetylation of hydroxy ketone **IV** with acetic anhydride in pyridine we obtained 82% of acetate **VII** (Scheme 4). However, the reduction of enone **VII** with NaBH<sub>4</sub> in

methanol at -20°C was accompanied by hydrolysis of the acetoxy group on C<sup>9</sup> to give diol **VI**. We succeeded in effectively reducing enone **VII** with the system NaBH<sub>4</sub>-CeCl<sub>3</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O in MeOH [10], and the desired epimeric (~1:1) acetoxy alcohols **VIII** were obtained in 85% yield. The CH<sub>2</sub>OTr fragment in the α-chain can be transformed into ester group (CO<sub>2</sub>Me) by standard methods, as we demonstrated by the conversion of ether **VII** into ester **X** (Scheme 5). We have encountered with considerable difficulties at the stage of selective removal of the triphenylmethyl protecting group from compound **VII**. A number of procedures

Scheme 4.



Scheme 5.

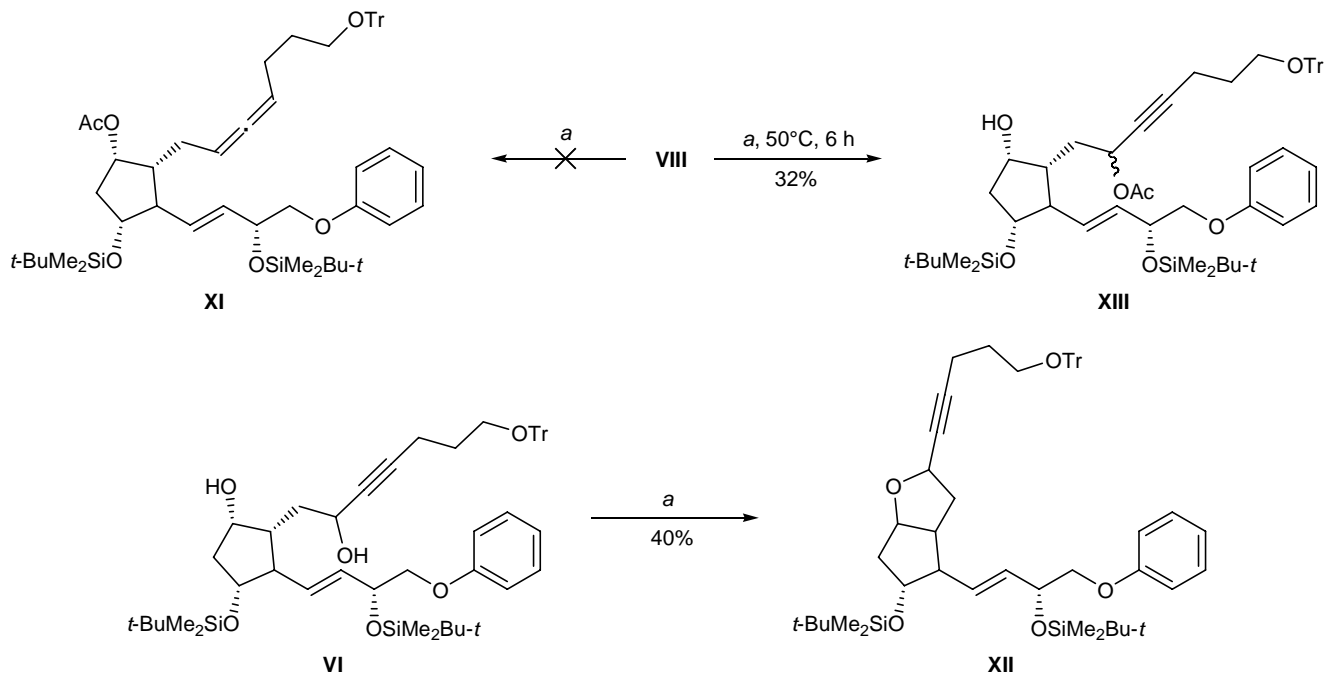


recommended for this purpose [11–13] turned out to be inappropriate, for they led to partial removal of the silyl protecting groups. Hydrolysis of the triphenylmethyl ether moiety in compound **VII** was accomplished with a good selectivity using an equimolar amount of  $\text{ZnCl}_2$  in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . We thus obtained alcohol **IX** in 70% yield.

Using acetylenic alcohol **VIII** we tried to effect its transformation according to Myers [7]. It was also

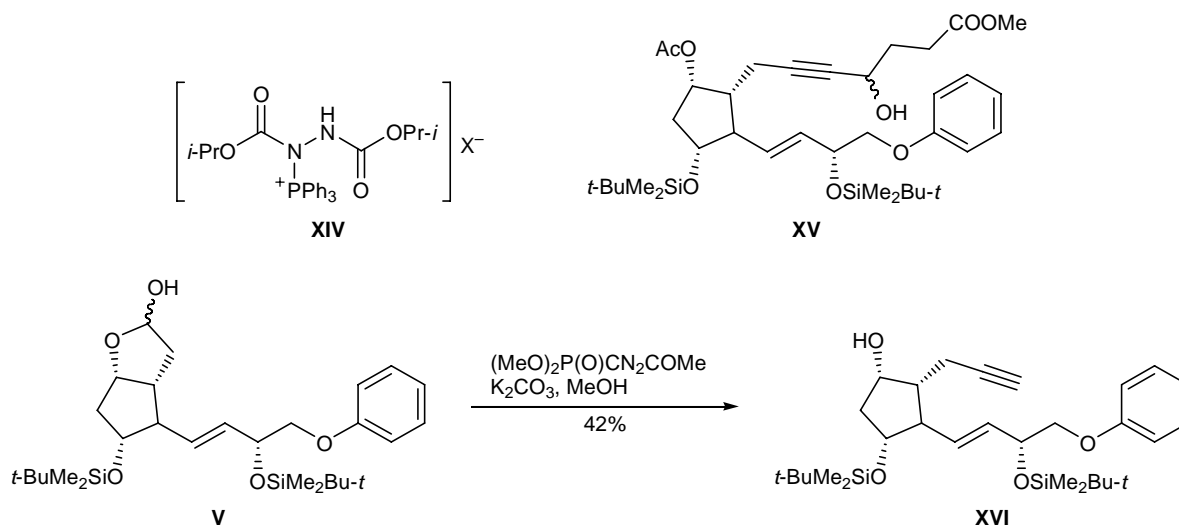
reasonable to involve in the same reaction diol **VI**, taking into account that higher reactivity of the hydroxy group at the triple bond, as compared to 9-OH, should give rise to higher chemoselectivity of the process. However, alcohol **VIII** remained almost unchanged in the Mitsunobu reaction with *o*-nitrophenylsulfonylhydrazine, and no desired allene **XI** was formed. An analogous reaction with diol **VI** gave 40% of intramolecular cyclization product **XII** (Scheme 6).

Scheme 6.



a:  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ , *i*-PrOCON=NCOOPr-*i*, *o*- $\text{O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{NHNH}_2$ , THF,  $-15^\circ\text{C}$ .

Scheme 7.



According to the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data, compound **XII** was a single stereoisomer (the stereochemistry of the  $\text{C}^{6*}$  chiral center was not determined). Under more severe conditions, namely on heating alcohol **VIII** with *o*-nitrophenylsulfonylhydrazine for 6 h at  $50^\circ\text{C}$ , migration of the acetyl group from  $\text{C}^9$  to  $\text{C}^6$  occurred to give acetoxy derivative **XIII**.

The formation of less polar cyclization product **XII** from diol **VI** may be rationalized assuming slow intramolecular dehydration under the Mitsunobu conditions [14]. Presumably, acetylenic alcohol **VIII** failed to react for steric reasons. Bulky Mitsunobu intermediate **XIV** [8] is likely to be incapable of attacking sterically crowded  $\text{C}^6\text{-OH}$  center in **VIII**. We believe that the reaction may be successful with less sterically hindered equivalents of alcohol **VIII**, e.g., compound **XV**. Acetylenic compound **XVI** necessary for the synthesis of **XV** is available through the reaction of compound **V** with dimethyl diazomethylphosphonate generated *in situ* from dimethyl 1-diazo-2-oxopropylphosphonate  $(\text{MeO})_2\text{P(O)CN}_2\text{COMe}$  [15] (Scheme 7).

#### EXPERIMENTAL

The IR spectra were recorded on a UR 20 spectrophotometer from samples prepared as thin films. The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AM-300 spectrometer (300 and 75.47 MHz, respectively) from solutions in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  using tetramethylsilane as internal reference. Thin-layer chromatography was performed using Silufol plates.

**(±)-11,15-Bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-2-decarboxy-6-oxo-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethoxy-**

**methyl-4,4,5,5-tetradehydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1 $\alpha$  (IV).**

A 1.95 N solution of butyllithium in hexane, 1.44 ml (2.82 mmol), was added over a period of 5 min to a solution of 0.919 g (2.82 mmol) of triphenylmethyl ether **III** in 10 ml of anhydrous tetrahydrofuran on stirring at  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  under argon. The mixture was stirred for 5 min at that temperature and was then added dropwise at  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  over a period of 10 min to a solution of 1.00 g (1.88 mmol) of ether **II** in 25 ml of anhydrous THF. The mixture was stirred for 1 h, 10 ml of a saturated solution of ammonium chloride was added, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 20$  ml). The extract was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 1.13 g (70%) of hydroxy ketone **IV** as an oily substance. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1600, 1680, 3500.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.05 s (6H,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 0.10 s (6H,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 0.88 s (9H,  $\text{SiBu-}t$ ), 0.94 s (9H,  $\text{SiBu-}t$ ), 1.80–1.90 m (3H), 2.05–2.20 m (2H), 2.30 (OH), 2.40–2.60 m (5H), 2.92 d.d (1H, 7-H,  $J = 10, 17$  Hz), 3.20 t (2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ,  $J = 6$  Hz), 3.85 d (2H,  $\text{C}^{16}\text{H}_2$ ,  $J = 5.3$  Hz), 4.00 m (1H, 15-H), 4.25 m (1H, 11-H), 4.63 m (1H, 9-H), 5.60 m (2H,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ ), 6.90 m (3H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.20–7.40 m (12H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.48 m (5H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta_{\text{C}}$ , ppm:  $-4.61$  ( $\text{SiMe}_2$ ); 16.14 ( $\text{C}^3$ ); 17.89 and 18.28 ( $\text{SiCMe}_3$ ); 25.76 and 25.81 ( $\text{SiCMe}_3$ ); 28.39 ( $\text{C}^2$ ); 43.23 ( $\text{C}^{10}$ ); 44.10 ( $\text{C}^7$ ); 45.50 ( $\text{C}^8$ ); 55.61 ( $\text{C}^{12}$ ); 61.68 ( $\text{C}^1$ ); 71.39 ( $\text{C}^{15}$ ); 72.11 ( $\text{C}^{16}$ ); 72.90 ( $\text{C}^9$ ); 78.43 ( $\text{C}^{11}$ ); 81.15 ( $\text{C}^5$ ); 86.42 ( $\text{OCPh}_3$ ); 93.70 ( $\text{C}^4$ ); 114.36, 120.63, 129.39, 158.70 ( $\text{OPh}$ ); 126.94, 127.75, 128.28, 144.05 ( $\text{CPh}_3$ ); 131.56 and 132.17 ( $\text{C}^{13}$ ,  $\text{C}^{14}$ ); 187.66 (CO).

**(±)-11,15-Bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-6-hydroxy-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethoxy-methyl-4,4,5,5-tetradehydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1 $\alpha$  (VI).** Compound **II**, 0.200 g (0.38 mmol), was dissolved in 4 ml of dry methylene chloride, the solution was cooled to  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and 0.24 ml (0.95 mmol) of 73% (*i*-Bu) $_2$ AlH was added over a period of 5 min under argon. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and excess (*i*-Bu) $_2$ AlH was decomposed by adding 0.2 ml of water. The solvent was evaporated, the residue was extracted with MeOH (5 $\times$ 10 ml), and the extract was dried over Na $_2$ SO $_4$  and evaporated to obtain 0.196 g (98%) of semiacetal **V**. The product was dissolved in 5 ml of THF, and a solution of 1.13 mmol of lithium derivative **III** (prepared from 0.367 g of the corresponding acetylene derivative and 0.58 ml of 1.95 N butyllithium) in 5 ml of THF was added dropwise at  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The mixture was stirred for 12 h at  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , treated with 5 ml of a saturated solution of ammonium chloride, and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 $\times$ 10 ml). The extract was dried over Na $_2$ SO $_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 0.145 g (40%) of diol **VI** (a ~1:1 mixture of epimers with respect to C $^6$ ) as an oily substance.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.05 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.10 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.90 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 0.95 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 1.60–2.40 m (10H), 3.15 t (2H, CH $_2$ O,  $J = 6$  Hz), 3.85 m (2H C $^{16}$ H $_2$ ), 4.00 m (15-H), 4.20 m (1H, 11-H), 4.40 m (1H, 6-H), 4.50 m (1H, 9-H), 5.60 m (2H, CH=CH), 6.90 m (3H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.20–7.45 m (17H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm:  $-4.65$  (SiMe $_2$ ); 15.88 (C $^3$ ), 17.92 and 18.30 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 25.79 and 25.83 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 29.26 and 29.67 (C $^2$ ); 35.00 and 36.91 (C $^7$ ); 42.50 and 42.81 (C $^{10}$ ); 42.15 and 48.17 (C $^8$ ); 55.94 and 56.33 (C $^{12}$ ); 60.80 and 61.16 (C $^6$ ); 62.16 (C $^1$ ); 71.42 (C $^{15}$ ); 72.24 (C $^{16}$ ); 73.03 and 73.50 (C $^{11}$ ); 78.70 (C $^9$ ); 80.92 and 81.61 (C $^4$ ); 84.60 and 85.21 (C $^5$ ); 86.33 (OCPh $_3$ ); 114.39, 120.62, 129.38, 158.62 (OPh); 126.88, 127.70, 128.66, 144.23 (CPh $_3$ ); 131.09 and 132.93 (C $^{13}$ , C $^{14}$ ).

**(±)-9-Acetoxy-11,15-bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-6-oxo-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethoxymethyl-4,4,5,5-tetradehydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1 $\alpha$  (VII).** To a solution of 1.05 g (1.22 mmol) of hydroxy ketone **IV** in 5 ml of anhydrous pyridine we added 0.25 g (2.44 mmol) of acetic anhydride and 0.001 g of 4-dimethylaminopyridine. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 10 ml of a saturated solution of sodium chloride was added, and the mixture was extracted with chloroform (3 $\times$ 20 ml).

The extract was dried over Na $_2$ SO $_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 0.90 g (82%) of compound **VII** as an oily substance. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ , cm $^{-1}$ : 1600, 1680, 1740, 3400.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.05 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.10 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.85 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 0.90 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 1.60 m (1H), 1.85 m (2H), 2.00 s (3H, COCH $_3$ ), 2.20–2.60 m (2H), 2.70 d.d (1H, 7-H,  $J = 10$ , 18 Hz), 3.18 t (2H, CH $_2$ O,  $J = 6$  Hz), 3.85 d (2H, C $^{16}$ H $_2$ ,  $J = 5.3$  Hz), 4.53 m (1H, 11-H), 5.10 m (1H, 9-H), 5.55–5.75 m (2H, CH=CH), 6.90 m (3H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.20–7.45 m (17H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm:  $-4.60$  (SiMe $_2$ ); 16.14 (C $^3$ ); 18.02 and 18.26 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 21.05 (CH $_3$ ); 25.81 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 29.44 (C $^2$ ); 41.40 (C $^8$ ); 42.16 (C $^{10}$ ); 43.32 (C $^7$ ); 54.99 (C $^{12}$ ); 61.72 (C $^1$ ); 71.12 (C $^{15}$ ); 72.05 (C $^{16}$ ); 73.33 (C $^{11}$ ); 76.37 (C $^9$ ); 80.81 (C $^5$ ); 86.47 (OCPh $_3$ ); 93.63 (C $^4$ ); 114.29, 120.64, 129.39, 158.65 (OPh); 126.96, 127.77, 128.57, 144.04 (CPh $_3$ ); 131.41 and 133.35 (C $^{13}$ , C $^{14}$ ), 170.35 (CO $_2$ ); 186.25 (CO).

**(±)-9-Acetoxy-11,15-bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-6 $\beta$ -hydroxy-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethoxymethyl-4,4,5,5-tetradehydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1 $\alpha$  (VIII).** To a suspension of 0.034 g (0.88 mmol) of NaBH $_4$  in 4 ml of anhydrous methanol we added at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  0.110 g (0.44 mmol) of CeCl $_3$ , the mixture was stirred for 10 min, a solution of 0.200 g (0.22 mmol) of acetate **VII** in 2 ml of anhydrous methanol was added, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. Excess NaBH $_4$  was decomposed by adding 3 ml of a saturated solution of sodium chloride, the mixture was extracted with chloroform (3 $\times$ 10 ml), the extract was dried over Na $_2$ SO $_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 0.170 g (85%) of compound **VIII** (a ~1:1 mixture of epimers with respect to C $^6$ ) as an oily substance.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.05 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.10 s (6H, SiMe $_2$ ), 0.90 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 0.95 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 2.05 s and 2.06 s (3H, CH $_3$ ), 3.20 m (2H, CH $_2$ O), 4.80–4.00 m (3H, C $^{16}$ H $_2$ , 15-H), 4.30 m (1H, 6-H), 4.55 m (1H, 11-H), 5.15 m (1H, 9-H), 5.70 m (2H, CH=CH), 6.90 m (3H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.20–7.45 m (17H, H $_{\text{arom}}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm:  $-4.63$  (SiMe $_2$ ); 15.82 (C $^3$ ); 18.01 and 18.26 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 21.21 (CH $_3$ ); 25.79 and 25.85 (SiCMe $_3$ ); 29.22 and 29.65 (C $^2$ ); 35 (C $^7$ ); 42.25 and 42.15 (C $^{10}$ ); 42.76 and 42.90 (C $^8$ ); 55.46 (C $^{12}$ ); 60.89 and 60.94 (C $^6$ ); 61.95 (C $^1$ ); 71.19 (C $^{15}$ ); 72.22 (C $^{16}$ ); 74.52 and 74.60 (C $^{11}$ ); the C $^9$  signals were obscured by the solvent (CDCl $_3$ ); 81.16 and 81.43 (C $^4$ ); 84.96 and 85.18 (C $^5$ ); 86.33 (OCPh $_3$ ); 114.35, 120.63, 129.39,

158.70 (OPh); 126.82, 127.69, 128.68, 144.23 (CPh<sub>3</sub>); 132.14 and 132.76 (C<sup>13</sup>, C<sup>14</sup>); 170.81 (CO<sub>2</sub>).

**(±)-9-Acetoxy-11,15-bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-6-hydroxy-2-hydroxymethyl-16-phenoxy-4,4,5,5-tetrahydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1α (IX).** To a solution of 0.200 g (0.22 mmol) of acetate **VII** in 4 ml of chloroform we added 0.030 g (0.22 mmol) of ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was then treated with 2 ml of a saturated solution of sodium chloride and extracted with chloroform, the extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to obtain 0.096 g (70%) of alcohol **IX** as an oily substance. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 0.01 s and 0.10 s (6H each, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.85 s and 0.90 s (9H each, SiBu-*t*), 2.03 s (3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.70 m (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.80 d (2H, C<sup>16</sup>H<sub>2</sub>, *J* = 6 Hz), 4.90 m (1H, 15-H), 4.50 m (1H, 11-H), 5.10 m (1H, 9-H), 5.50–5.70 m (2H, C=H), 6.80–7.00 m (3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.30 m (2H, H<sub>arom</sub>).

**9-Acetoxy-11,15-bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-6-oxo-16-phenoxy-4,4,5,5-tetrahydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1α methyl ester (X).** To a solution of 0.146 g (1.85 mmol) of anhydrous pyridine in 5 ml of methylene chloride we added at 0°C 0.092 g (0.92 mmol) of CrO<sub>3</sub>, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. To the dark red solution of Collins' reagent thus obtained we added at 20°C in a dropwise fashion a solution of 0.096 g (0.154 mmol) of alcohol **IX** in 2 ml of methylene chloride. The mixture was stirred for 20 min and filtered through a layer of silica gel, and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain 0.082 g (85%) of the corresponding aldehyde. In a separate flask, 2 ml of a 2.6 M solution of isoprene in THF was added at 0°C to a solution of 0.037 g (0.35 mmol) of NaClO<sub>2</sub> and 0.032 g (0.18 mmol) of NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in a mixture of 2 ml of *tert*-butyl alcohol and 1 ml of water. The mixture was stirred for 10 min, a solution of 0.082 g (0.13 mmol) of the above aldehyde in 1 ml of THF was added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. It was then evaporated under reduced pressure, 3 ml of a saturated solution of sodium chloride was added to the residue, and the mixture was extracted with chloroform (3 × 10 ml). The extracts were combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 0.074 g (88%) of the corresponding acid which was treated with a solution of diazomethane in diethyl ether. By column chromatog-

raphy on silica gel we isolated 0.030 g (40%) of ester **X** as an oily substance. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 0.05 s (6H, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.10 s (6H, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.85 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 0.90 s (9H, SiBu-*t*), 1.60 m (1H), 2.00 s (3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.30 m (1H), 2.50–1.75 m (9H), 3.70 s (3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.80 d (2H, C<sup>16</sup>H<sub>2</sub>, *J* = 6 Hz), 3.90 d (1H, 15-H), 4.50 m (1H, 11-H), 5.10 m (1H, 9-H), 5.55 d.d (1H, 13-H, *J* = 1.8, 15 Hz), 5.70 d.d (1H, 14-H, *J* = 4, 15 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, δ<sub>C</sub>, ppm: –4.60 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>); 14.71 (C<sup>2</sup>); 18.02 and 18.28 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 21.07 (CH<sub>3</sub>); 25.76 and 25.81 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 32.08 (C<sup>3</sup>); 41.41 (C<sup>8</sup>); 42.14 (C<sup>10</sup>); 43.29 (C<sup>6</sup>); 51.96 (OCH<sub>3</sub>); 54.96 (C<sup>12</sup>); 71.13 (C<sup>13</sup>); 72.05 (C<sup>16</sup>); 73.65 (C<sup>9</sup>); 76.36 (C<sup>11</sup>); 80.87 (C<sup>5</sup>); 91.44 (C<sup>4</sup>); 114.31, 120.64, 129.42, 158.68 (OPh); 131.35 and 133.44 (C<sup>13</sup>, C<sup>14</sup>); 170.36 (CO<sub>2</sub>); 171.53 (CO<sub>2</sub>); 186.18 (CO).

**(±)-11,15-Bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethyloxymethyl-4,4,5,5-tetrahydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin II (XII).** A solution of 0.043 ml (0.29 mmol) of diisopropyl azodicarboxylate and 0.074 g (0.29 mmol) of triphenylphosphine in 3 ml of anhydrous THF was stirred for 10 min at –15°C under argon. To the resulting light yellow solution we added first a solution of 0.200 g (0.22 mmol) of diol **VI** in 3 ml of anhydrous THF and, after 10 min, a solution of 0.036 g (0.29 mmol) of *o*-nitrophenylsulfonylhydrazine in 3 ml of anhydrous THF. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at –15°C and for 8 h at 20°C, the solvent was distilled off, and the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel to isolate 0.081 g (40%) of bicyclic ether **XI** as an oily liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 0.03 s and 0.1 s (6H each, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.85 s and 0.93 s (9H each, SiBu-*t*), 3.15 t (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O, *J* = 6 Hz), 3.70–3.90 m (3H), 4.40–4.75 m (3H), 5.70 m (2H, CH=CH), 6.80–6.95 m (3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.20–7.50 m (17H, H<sub>arom</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, δ<sub>C</sub>, ppm: –4.60 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>); 15.30 (C<sup>3</sup>); 18.07 and 18.34 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 25.86 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 38.49 (C<sup>7</sup>); 41.51 (C<sup>10</sup>); 46.12 (C<sup>8</sup>); 55.62 (C<sup>12</sup>); 62.09 (C<sup>1</sup>); 67.58 (C<sup>6</sup>); 71.30 (C<sup>15</sup>); 72.30 (C<sup>16</sup>); 76.99 (C<sup>11</sup>); 79.16 (C<sup>6</sup>); 80.00 (C<sup>10</sup>); 85.12 (C<sup>5</sup>); 86.33 (CPh<sub>3</sub>); 114.36, 120.61, 129.39, 158.77 (OPh); 126.82, 127.69, 128.07, 144.29 (CPh<sub>3</sub>).

**(±)-6-Acetoxy-11,15-bis(*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxy)-2-decarboxy-16-phenoxy-2-triphenylmethyloxymethyl-4,4,5,5-tetrahydro-17,18,19,20-tetranorprostaglandin F1α (XIII)** (a mixture of epimers at C<sup>6</sup>). By reaction of 0.021 ml (0.14 mmol) of diisopropyl azodicarboxylate, 0.035 g (0.14 mmol) of triphenylphosphine, 0.100 g (0.12 mmol) of alcohol

**VIII**, and 0.018 g (0.14 mmol) of *o*-nitrophenylsulfonhydrazine in THF according to the procedure described above for the synthesis of compound **XII**, followed by heating for 6 h at 50°C, we obtained 0.032 g (32%) of C<sup>6</sup>-acetate **XIII** as an oily substance. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1600, 1740, 3500. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.01 s, 0.08 s, and 0.12 s (1:1:2; SiMe<sub>2</sub>); 0.83 s, 0.84 s, and 0.90 s (1:1:2, 2SiBu-*t*); 1.95 s and 2.05 s (1:1, OAc); 3.10 m (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O); 3.80 m (2H, C<sup>16</sup>H<sub>2</sub>); 5.65 m (2H, CH=CH); 6.90–7.50 m (H<sub>arom</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum,  $\delta_C$ , ppm: –4.21 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>); 15.93 (C<sup>3</sup>); 17.90, 18.02, and 18.30 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 21.13 and 21.92 (CH<sub>3</sub>); 29.27, 29.68, and 30.04 (C<sup>2</sup>); 33.96 and 34.23 (C<sup>7</sup>); 42.36 and 43.18 (C<sup>10</sup>); 42.56 and 46.93 (C<sup>8</sup>); 55.40 and 56.36 (C<sup>12</sup>); 63.65 and 65.43 (C<sup>6</sup>); 71.31 and 71.54 (C<sup>15</sup>); 72.32 (C<sup>16</sup>); 73.85 and 74.31 (C<sup>9</sup>); 79.20 (C<sup>11</sup>); 77.97 (C<sup>6</sup>); 85.75 (C<sup>5</sup>); 86.41 and 86.53 (CPh<sub>3</sub>); 114.43, 120.64, 129.34, 158.81 (OPh); 126.89, 127.71, 128.65, 158.81 (CPh<sub>3</sub>); 169.84 and 170.61 (OCO).

**4 $\alpha$ -(tert-Butyldimethylsiloxy)-3 $\beta$ -[(1E)-3 $\alpha$ -tert-butyl dimethylsiloxy-4-phenoxy-1-butenyl]-2 $\alpha$ -(2-propynyl)cyclopentan-1 $\alpha$ -ol (XVI).** To a solution of 0.200 g (0.36 mmol) of compound **V** in 4 ml of anhydrous methanol we added under stirring in succession 0.149 g (1.08 mmol) of anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and 0.100 g (0.45 mmol) of dimethyl 1-diazo-2-oxopropylphosphonate, and the mixture was stirred for 8 h at 20°C. The solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure, the residue was treated with 3 ml of a saturated solution of sodium chloride, the mixture was extracted with chloroform (3×5 ml), and the extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to obtain 0.120 g (61%) of compound **XIV**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.05 s and 0.10 s (6H each, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.85 s and 0.90 s (9H each, SiBu-*t*), 1.70–1.90 m (2H), 1.95 t (1H,  $\equiv$ CH, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 2.05–2.10 m (1H), 2.30–2.60 m (3H), 4.85 m (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.10 m (1H, 3'-H), 4.30 m (1H, 1-H), 4.50 m (1H, 4-H), 5.60 m (2H, CH=CH), 6.35–

6.95 m (3H, H<sub>arom</sub>), 7.35 m (2H, H<sub>arom</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum,  $\delta_C$ , ppm: –4.60 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>); 17.70 and 17.90 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 18.32 (CH<sub>2</sub>C $\equiv$ ); 25.76 and 25.82 (SiCMe<sub>3</sub>); 42.86 (C<sup>5</sup>); 49.53 (C<sup>3</sup>); 55.62 (C<sup>2</sup>); 71.50 (C<sup>3</sup>); 72.16 (C<sup>4</sup>); 73.79 (C<sup>1</sup>); 77.22 (C<sup>4</sup>); 79.22 (C $\equiv$ ); 83.47 (C $\equiv$ ); 114.40, 120.67, 129.39, 158.47 (OPh); 131.21 and 132.39 (CH=CH).

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