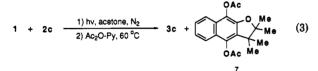
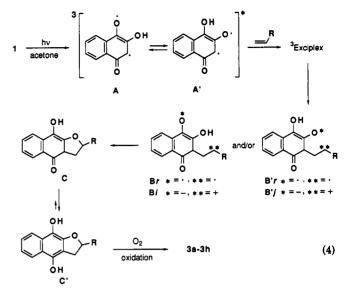
conditions.⁷ The trans disposition of the acetoxyl and methyl groups attached to C-2 and C-3 of photoproduct 5 was assigned by its ¹H NMR spectrum ($J_{2.H-3.H} = 1.98$ Hz). Treatment of naphthofurandione 5 with potassium *tert*-butoxide in THF at 0 °C resulted in the elimination of acetic acid, giving maturinone (6) in 52% yield.

The initial products in the present photoaddition are furanohydroquinones; 4,9-diacetoxy-2,3-dihydro-2,2,4,4tetramethylnaphtho[2,3-b]furan (7)⁹ can be isolated in 36% yield together with 2,2,4,4-tetramethylnaphtho[2,3b]furan (3c) (18%) when the crude products from the photoaddition between hydroxynaphthoquinone 1 (1 mmol) and 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene (10 mmol) in acetone (40 mL) are treated with acetic anhydride (1 mL) and pyridine (1 mL) under nitrogen for 2 h at 60 °C (eq 3).



The probable gross reaction pathway of the addition leading to the hydroquinones is outlined in eq 4. A comparison of the electronic absorption spectrum of 2hydroxy-1.4-naphthoquinone (1) with that of 2-methoxy-1.4-naphthoquinone¹⁰ indicates that no orthoquinone form of 2-hydroxynaphthoquinone exists in solution. The initial events in this photochemical addition can be explained within the framework of an accepted model of $[2 + 2]_{-}$ photochemical additions.¹¹ Irradiation of 1 in acetone or benzene generates tautomeric exited triplets (A) and (A'), which react with an alkene through a triplet exciplex to give biradical (B_r) and/or (B_r') . In view of the strong electron-accepting character of naphthoquinone,¹² it seems likely that the exciplex or these biradical intermediates have appreciable polar character or are ionic intermediates (B_i) and (B_i') generated by electron transfer. The regioselectivity found in the present addition is a clear in-



dication of the involvement of a more stabilized polar biradical or ionic intermediate, such as B_i and B_i' , in the formation of dihydronaphtho[2,3-b]furan-4,9-diones. Intramolecular cyclization of the intermediate gives hydroquinones (C) and (C'). In contrast to the photoaddition¹³ of 1,4-naphthoquinone with alkenes, no trace of $[2 + 2]_r$ cycloadducts were observed in the present photoadditions. 2,3-Dihydronaphthofuran-4,9-dione is then formed by air oxidation of the hydroquinone during the workup and isolation procedures.

Additional mechanistic and synthetic aspects of the present formal [2 + 3] photoaddition are presently under investigation and will be reported in a forthcoming full paper.

Supplementary Material Available: Experimental details for the synthesis of 3a-g and maturinone (6) and for isolation of diacetoxyfuranohydroquinone 7 from the photoaddition between hydroxynaphthoquinone 1 and 2,3-dimethyl-2-butene (4 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Highly Efficient Synthesis of 13-Dehydroprostaglandins by 1,4-Addition Reaction of Alkynyl ω Side-Chain Unit onto Cyclopentenone Framework

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Summary: Optically active 2-((diethylamino)methyl)-4siloxy-2-cyclopentenone (2) reacts with a diethyl(3-(*tert*butyldimethylsiloxy)-1-alkynyl)aluminum compound via 1,4-addition pathway to afford the enone 5, useful intermediate for synthesis of PGs via two-component coupling process, in excellent yield, thus making it easy to synthesize 13-dehydro-PGs.

The synthesis of analogues of prostaglandins (PGs) has attracted much interest for use in biological and clinical investigations.¹ A number of analogues in which the double bond at C-13 (PG numbering) has been replaced by triple bond have been prepared and some of which have deserved particular attention as promising therapeutic agents.²

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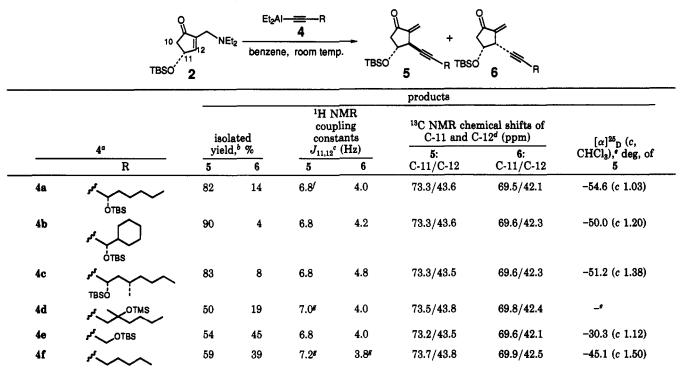
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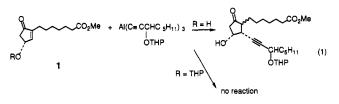
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Table I. Yields, Characteristic NMR Data, and $[\alpha]_D$ Values of 5 and 6



^a Prepared from the corresponding alkyne by sequential treatment with n-BuLi (1.66 M, hexane) and 1.2 equiv of Et₂AlCl (1.0 M, hexane) in benzene. The enantiomerically pure alkynes used for preparation of 4a, 4b, and 4c were synthesized according to the procedure reported by us (ref 15). ^b The enone 2 was treated with 1.3 equiv of 4, and the yield is based on 2. R₁ values (analytical TLC (E. Merck, silica gel 60 F_{264} plates), hexane/Et₂O = 6/1) are as follows: 5a/6a = 0.60/0.38, 5b/6b = 0.60/0.34, 5c/6c = 0.60/0.38, 5d/6d = 0.58/0.40, 5e/6e = 0.50/0.26, 5f/6f = 0.53/0.37. Unless otherwise indicated, on decoupling of C-10 protons, the signal of C-11 proton was observed as a doublet with the coupling constant given. Full data of ¹H NMR of 5 and 6 are available as supplementary material. ^dFull data of ¹³C NMR of 5 and 6 are available as supplementary material. $[\alpha]_D$ values of 5d and 6 were not determined. ¹On decoupling of C-15 proton, the signal of C-12 proton was observed as a doublet with the coupling constant given. "The signal of C-12 proton was observed as a doublet-triplet: 5d $(J_{12,15} = 2.4 \text{ Hz}), 5f (J_{12,15} = 2.2 \text{ Hz}), 6f (J_{12,15} = 2.2 \text{ Hz}).$

A conjugate addition of organometallic derivatives to cyclopentenones which is classified into two- and threecomponent coupling process provides an attractive, convergent approach to PGs. This method has been widely applied to the synthesis of naturally occurring PGs and pharmaceutically important PG analogues.^{1,3} The synthesis of 13-dehydro-PGs by introduction of alkynyl moiety into cyclopentenones, however, remains unsolved. For example, 2-(6-carbomethoxyhexyl)-4-hydroxy-2-cyclopentenone (1) reacted with tris(3-(tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-octynyl)aluminum to give 1,4-addition product; however, the addition occurred at the same face of C-11 hydroxyl group giving only undesired 12α -isomer (eq 1). While protection of the hydroxyl group of 1 by a tetrahydropyranyl group prevented reaction with the aluminum reagent.4



Recently we have directed our efforts to make the two-component coupling synthesis of PGs as an industrially viable process by developing efficient, practical methods to prepare the required key intermediates such as cyclopentenones⁵ and ω side-chain units.⁶ Thus, we have succeeded in synthesizing 2-((diethylamino)methyl)-4-siloxy-2-cyclopentenone (2)7 in 50% overall yield starting from readily available (2R,3S)-1,2-epoxypent-4en-3-ol and have shown that 2 thus prepared reacts with organocopper compounds derived from an ω side chain to

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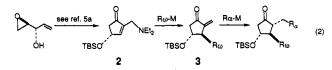
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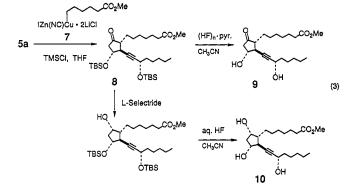
Chemical Industries, Ltd. (Japan).

afford 3 in excellent yields, which in turn reacts with an α side chain as reported by Stork and his co-workers to afford PGs (eq 2).⁵



We expected that the amino group present in 2 would activate an alkynylaluminum compound by coordination, thus making it possible to introduce an alkynyl moiety into 2 at the opposite face of the C-11 hydroxyl group via a 1,4-addition pathway. Herein reported is the successful realization of this idea which undoubtedly simplifies the synthesis of 13-dehydro-PGs.⁸

When 2 was reacted with diethyl(3-(tert-butyldimethylsiloxy)-1-octynyl)aluminum (4a) in benzene at room temperature, 1,4-addition did occur to afford, after hydrolysis, a mixture of two diastereoisomers.^{9,10} These were readily separated by column chromatography (SiO_2) to give 5a having the desired 12 β configuration and 6a (12 α isomer) in 82% and 14% yields, respectively. The assignment of the configuration of the two isomers follows from the ¹H NMR coupling constant between the two protons at C-11 and C-12 (PG numbering, J = 4.0 Hz for cis and J = 6.8 Hz for trans) and 13 C NMR chemical shifts of C-11 and C-12, since the resonances for these carbons in 6 (cis configuration) are always upfield of those in 5 (trans configuration).¹¹ Table I shows the yields, characteristic ¹H and ¹⁸C NMR data, and $[\alpha]_D$ values of the products obtained by the reaction of 2 with various diethylalkynylaluminum compounds 4a-f. As can be seen from the table, in every case, the 12β -isomer 5 was major; however, somewhat diminished diastereoselectivities were observed with the decrease of the steric bulk of alkynyl moiety.



Thus the reaction of 5a with organocopper reagent 7, prepared from the corresponding organozinc reagent and CuCN·2LiCl, in the presence of Me₃SiCl provided, after hydrolysis, disilyl ether of 13-dehydro-PGE₁ methyl ester (8) ($[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ -47.3° (c 1.96, CHCl₃)) in 78% yield.⁵ Protodesilylation of 8 with $(HF)_n$ -pyridine in acetonitrile afforded 13-dehydro-PGE₁ methyl ester (9) ($[\alpha]^{24}_{D}$ -43.8° (c 0.484, CHCl₃), mp 46.0-46.5 °C (lit.¹² mp 46 °C)) in 85% yield. While the reduction of 8 with L-Selectride (Aldrich) followed by protodesilylation (aqueous HF, CH₃CN) gave 13-dehydro-PGF₁ methyl ester (10) ($[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$ +21.7° (c 0.60, CHCl₃) in 58% overall yield from 8, mp 68.0–68.5 °C (lit.¹² mp 68 °C)). The spectroscopic data (¹H NMR, IR, and MS) of 9 and 10 are in good agreement with the literature.12

Since PG analogues having 17-methyl-15-hydroxy¹³ and 15-dehydroxy-16-methyl-16-hydroxy¹⁴ moiety as an ω side chain have been accepted as promising therapeutic agents, the synthesis of 13-dehydro version of these PGs using the enones 5c and 5d is in progress in our laboratory.

Supplementary Material Available: Experimental procedure for preparation of 5 and 6 and spectroscopic data (IR and ¹H and ¹⁵C NMR) of 5a-f, 6a-f, 8-10, and the disilyl ether of 10 (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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A Novel Method for the Synthesis of Spiroketal Systems. Synthesis of the Pheromones of the **Common Wasp and the Olive Fruit Fly**

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Summary: Total syntheses of the pheromones of the common wasp and the olive fruit fly were accomplished by a strategy in which the key transformation involved the

cleavage of tetrahydrofuran with (tert-butyldimethylsilvl)manganese pentacarbonyl followed by sequential insertion of ethyl acrylate.

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