

Studies Directed toward the Synthesis of the Ingenane Diterpenes. An Unexpected Synthesis of *trans*-Bicyclo[5.3.0]decanes

Jeffrey D. Winkler,^{*,1} Elizabeth A. Gretler,² and Paul G. Williard³

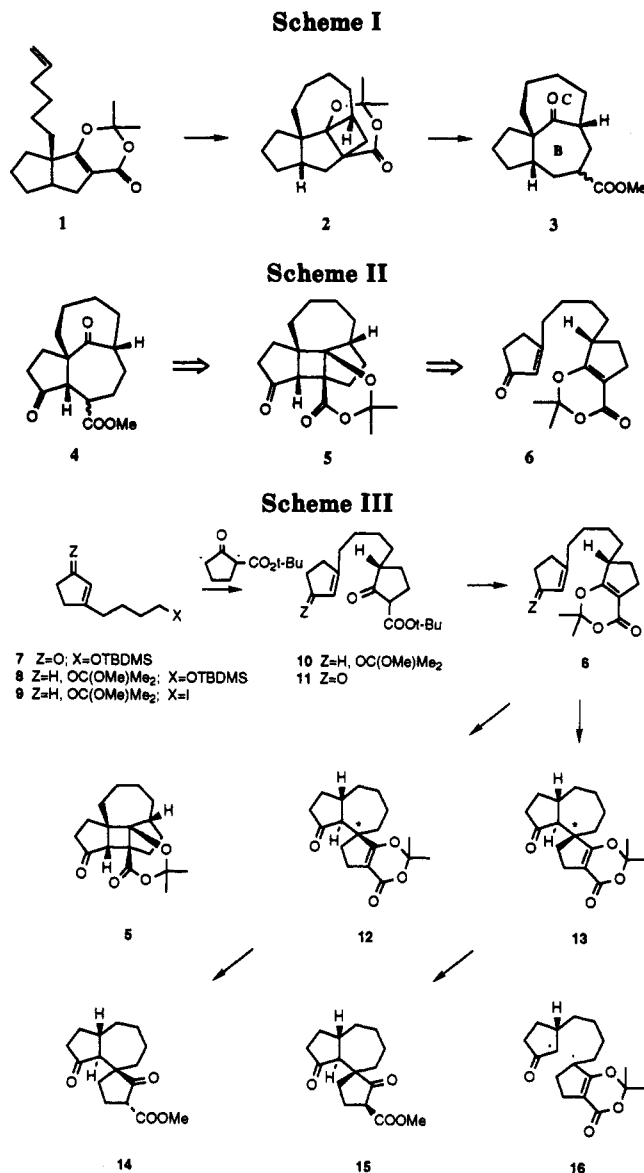
Department of Chemistry, The University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, Department of Chemistry, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60637, and Department of Chemistry, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island 02912

Received May 29, 1991

We have recently described the stereoselective synthesis of the carbocyclic ring system of the ingenane diterpenes, i.e., **3**, in which the highly unusual BC ring "inside-outside" or *trans* intrabridgehead stereochemical relationship^{4,5} is established in the photocycloaddition of dioxenone **1** (Scheme I).⁶

In an effort to explore the versatility of this photochemical methodology and at the same time examine the alternative, more convergent approach to the synthesis of the isomeric ingenane **4** outlined retrosynthetically below, **4** → **6** (Scheme II), the photocycloaddition of **6** has recently been examined. Unlike the intramolecular [2 + 2] photocycloaddition of **1**, the irradiation of **6** leads to a completely different reaction pathway that is the subject of this paper.

The requisite photosubstrate was prepared as shown in Scheme III. Addition of the alkyl lithium derived from 4-[(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy]-1-iodobutane to 3-ethoxycyclopentenone followed by acid hydrolysis⁷ gave cyclopentenone **7** (87%). Luche reduction⁸ of **7** (1.1 equiv of CeCl₃·7H₂O, 1.1 equiv of NaBH₄, MeOH) followed by protection of the resulting allylic alcohol (0.1 equiv of PPTS, 2-methoxypropene as solvent, 67% overall yield from **5**) produced methoxypropenyl ether **8**. Conversion of **8** to iodide **9** was accomplished by successive removal of the *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl ether (1.5 equiv Bu₄NF, 87%), tosylation (1.3 equiv of TsCl, 0.1 equiv of DMAP, 3.0 equiv of triethylamine, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C, quantitative), and halogenation (NaI, acetone, 25 °C, 58%). Reaction of iodide **9** with the dianion of cyclopentanone *tert*-butyl



carboxylate then gave the β -keto ester **10** in 72% yield. Removal of the methoxypropenyl protecting group (0.1 equiv of PPTS, H₂O, THF, 0 °C, 63%) and oxidation (PDC, 86%) gave cyclopentenone **11** which upon treatment with trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoroacetic anhydride, and acetone was converted to dioxenone photosubstrate **6** in 52% yield.

Irradiation of **6** (1.8 mM in degassed acetonitrile, 450-W medium-pressure Hanovia lamp, Pyrex filter) gave none of the desired dioxanone [2 + 2] photoadduct **5**, but instead led to the formation of an inseparable mixture of isomeric cycloadducts **12** and **13** in 88% yield. Subjecting this mixture to the conditions of acid fragmentation (catalytic *p*-TsOH in refluxing methanol, 18 h) provided two isomeric keto esters **14** and **15** (1:1.4 ratio), the structures and relative stereochemistries of which were confirmed by single-crystal X-ray analysis.⁹

These products presumably arise on irradiation of **6** by abstraction of the allylic hydrogen of the dioxenone by the cyclopentenone triplet, followed by collapse of the intermediate diradical to give the isomeric dioxenones **12** and **13**. Intramolecular hydrogen abstraction by

(9) Full details for the X-ray crystallographic data are included in the supplementary material.

(1) Address correspondence to this author at the University of Pennsylvania. Recipient of the American Cyanamid Young Faculty Award (1989-1992) and a National Institutes of Health Research Career Development Award (1988-1993).

(2) National Institutes of Health Predoctoral Trainee, University of Chicago.

(3) Brown University. Author to whom correspondence regarding the X-ray structural data for **14** and **15** should be addressed.

(4) For a recent review describing inside-outside stereoisomerism, see: Alder, R. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1983, 16, 321. For previous syntheses of inside-outside bicycloalkanes, see: (a) Winkler, J.; Hey, J.; Williard, P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 6425. (b) Winkler, J.; Hey, J.; Williard, P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1988, 4691. (c) Gassman, P.; Korn, S.; Bailey, T.; Johnson, T.; Finder, J.; Clardy, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1979, 3401. (d) Haines, A.; Karntiang, P. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* 1979, 2577. (e) Gassman, P.; Thummel, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1972, 94, 7183. (f) Park, C.; Simmons, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1972, 94, 7184. (g) McMurry, J.; Hodge, C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1984, 106, 6450. (h) Gassman, P.; Hoye, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1981, 103, 2498.

(5) Winkler, J. D.; Henegar, K. E.; Williard, P. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1987, 109, 2850.

(6) For an alternative synthesis of the *trans*-bicyclo[4.4.1]undecane moiety of the ingenane diterpenes, see: Funk, R.; Olmstead, T.; Parvez, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1988, 110, 3298.

(7) Becker, D.; Hardel, Z.; Nagler, M.; Gillon, A. *J. Org. Chem.* 1982, 47, 3297.

(8) Luche, J.-L.; Gemal, A. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1981, 103, 5454.

excited-state cycloalkenones is well-precedented,¹⁰ although these reactions are exceedingly sensitive to reaction conditions.^{10e} While the stereoselective formation of the *trans*-bicyclo[5.3.0]decane moiety is noteworthy, there appears to be little preference in the establishment of the third stereogenic center (starred carbon in 12 and 13).

Further investigation of the application of the intramolecular dioxenone photocycloaddition reaction to the synthesis of the ingenane diterpenes is currently underway in our laboratory, and our results will be reported in due course.¹¹

Experimental Section

General. All solvents were reagent grade. Anhydrous THF was distilled from sodium. Organolithium reagents were obtained from Aldrich and standardized by titration with diphenylacetic acid. Merck precoated silica gel plates (250 μ m) with fluorescent indicator were used for analytical TLC. Merck silica gel 60 (particle size 0.04–0.063 mm) was employed for flash chromatography. Melting points were obtained with a capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. NMR spectra were measured at either 300 or 500 MHz. Most of the ¹³C spectra have been studied by APT (attached proton test) to determine the number of protons attached to each carbon. Details of the X-ray crystallographic studies are included in the supplementary material.

3-[4-[(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)butyl]cyclopent-2-en-1-one, 7. To a stirred solution of 4-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)butyl iodide¹² (2.743 g, 8.73 mmol) in diethyl ether (26 mL) at –78 °C was added *tert*-butyllithium (9.15 mL, 19.21 mmol) in pentane. After stirring for 1 h at –78 °C, 3-ethoxycyclopentenone in diethyl ether (1 mL) was added dropwise, and the resulting mixture was allowed to warm to 25 °C. After 4 h, the reaction mixture was poured over ice and acidified to pH = 5 with 1 N HCl. The resulting solution was extracted twice with diethyl ether. The combined organic extracts were washed twice with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to yield the desired enone 7 (1.667 g, 78%): IR (CDCl₃) 2954, 2886, 1702, 1676, 1615, 1256, 1190, 836 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 0.05 (s, 6 H, –Si(CH₃)₂), 0.89 (s, 9 H, –SiC(CH₃)₃), 1.57 (m, 2 H), 1.67 (m, 2 H), 2.41 (m, 4 H), 2.58 (m, 2 H, –CH₂(CO)–), 3.64 (t, *J* = 15 Hz, 2 H, –CH₂OTBDMS), 5.94 (s, 1 H, =CH–); MS (*m/z*, relative intensity) 269 (2), 253 (7), 211 (100), 165 (12), 129 (11), 119 (14); HRMS calcd for C₁₁H₁₉O₂Si (M – *t*-Bu) 211.3587, found (M – *t*-Bu) 211.1154.

1-[4-[(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)butyl]-3-(1-methoxy-1-methylethoxy)cyclopentene, 8. To a solution of enone 7 (2.46 g, 9.16 mmol) in methanol (2.5 mL) was added CeCl₃·(H₂O)₇ (3.75 g, 10.07 mmol) and NaBH₄ (0.381 g, 10.07 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred for 1.5 h at 25 °C and then poured into cold saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic extracts were dried (K₂CO₃) and concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude allylic alcohol (2.15 g) which was used in the next step without further purification. Spectral data for the crude allylic alcohol: IR (CDCl₃) 3400, 2931, 2858, 1192, 1103, 839 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 0.05 (s, 6 H, –Si(CH₃)₂), 0.89 (s, 9 H, –SiC(CH₃)₃), 1.50 (m, 4 H), 1.70 (m, 1 H), 2.15 (m, 3 H), 2.29 (m, 3 H), 2.41 (m, 1 H), 3.60 (br s, 2 H, –CH₂OTBDMS), 4.81 (br s, 1 H, –CH(OH)–), 5.46 (s, 1 H).

To a stirred solution of the crude allylic alcohol (2.15 g, 7.96 mmol) in 2-methoxypropene (75 mL, 780 mmol) at 0 °C was added pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (0.200 g, 0.796 mmol). After stirring 20 min at 0 °C, the reaction was treated with cold saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and extracted twice with diethyl ether. The combined organic extracts were dried (K₂CO₃) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (5% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave the desired 2-methoxy-2-propyl ether 8 (2.08 g, 67% from starting enone): IR (CDCl₃) 2935, 2857, 1255, 1195, 836 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 0.05 (s, 6 H, –Si(CH₃)₂), 0.89 (s, 9 H, –SiC(CH₃)₃), 1.38 (s, 6 H, –OC(CH₃)₂–), 1.52 (m, 4 H), 1.75 (m, 1 H), 2.12 (m, 3 H), 2.25 (m, 1 H), 2.39 (m, 1 H), 3.21 (s, 3 H, –OCH₃), 3.60 (br s, 2 H, –CH₂OTBDMS), 4.85 (br s, 1 H, –CH[OC(CH₃)₂(OCH₃)])], 5.37 (s, 1 H, =CH–); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 341 (1), 195 (87), 187 (20), 149 (20), 133 (14), 121 (100), 105 (25); HRMS calcd for C₁₃H₃₄O₂Si (M – HOME) 310.5567, found (M – HOME) 310.2351.

1-(4-Iodobutyl)-3-(1-methoxy-1-methylethoxy)cyclopentene, 9. To a stirred solution of silyl ether 8 (2.08 g, 6.09 mmol) in 5 mL of THF was added tetrabutylammonium fluoride (9.14 mL, 9.14 mmol) at 25 °C. After 30 min, the reaction was diluted with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were dried (K₂CO₃) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (50% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave the deprotected primary alcohol (1.21 g, 87%): IR (CDCl₃) 3622, 2994, 2940, 2242, 1199, 1067, 1025 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.38 (s, 6 H, –OC(CH₃)₂–), 1.57 (m, 4 H), 1.75 (m, 1 H), 2.12 (m, 3 H), 2.25 (m, 1 H), 2.39 (m, 1 H), 3.21 (s, 3 H, –OCH₃), 3.64 (br s, 2 H, –CH₂OH), 4.85 (br s, 1 H, –CH[OC(CH₃)₂(OCH₃)])–), 5.36 (s, 1 H, =CH–); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 196 (3), 138 (9), 121 (10), 73 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₂₀O₂ (M – HOME) 310.5567, found (M – HOME) 196.1463.

To a solution of triethylamine (2.21 mL, 15.84 mmol), 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (0.065 g, 0.53 mmol), and *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (1.11 g, 5.81 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL), at 0 °C, was added, dropwise, the above alcohol (1.21 g, 5.28 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL). After stirring for 16 h at 0 °C, the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether and extracted twice with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl, twice with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and once with saturated aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried (K₂CO₃) and concentrated under reduced pressure to give 1.491 g of crude tosylate: IR (neat) 3180, 2970, 1476, 1370, 1188, 1039, 945, 821, 670 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.38 (s, 6 H, –OC(CH₃)₂–), 1.50 (m, 2 H), 1.65 (m, 2 H), 1.74 (m, 1 H), 2.08 (m, 3 H), 2.25 (m, 1 H), 2.34 (m, 1 H), 2.47 (s, 3 H, –PhCH₃), 3.21 (s, 3 H, –OCH₃), 4.02 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, –CH₂OTs), 4.82 (br s, 1 H, –CH[OC(CH₃)₂(OCH₃)])–), 5.31 (s, 1 H, =CH–), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, =CHC(CH₃)=), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, =CHC(OR)=); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 292 (11), 120 (93), 105 (44), 91 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₃S (M – HOC(CH₃)₂OCH₃) 292.3994, found (M – HOC(CH₃)₂OCH₃) 292.1133.

To a stirred solution of the above tosylate (1.491 g, 5.28 mmol) in acetone (11 mL) at 25 °C was added NaI (1.654 g, 11.04 mmol). After being stirred at 25 °C for 7.5 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was triturated with diethyl ether, and the resulting ethereal solution was then extracted twice with 10% sodium thiosulfate, once with water, and once with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. Upon drying (K₂CO₃), the reaction was concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (5% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave iodide 9 (1.080 g, 58%): IR (CDCl₃) 2940, 1208, 1066 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.37 (s, 6 H, –OC(CH₃)₂–), 1.60 (m, 2 H), 1.70–1.90 (m, 3 H), 2.13 (m, 3 H), 2.26 (m, 1 H), 2.40 (m, 1 H), 3.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, –CH₂I), 3.21 (s, 3 H, –OCH₃), 4.85 (br s, 1 H, –CH[OC(CH₃)₂(OCH₃)])–), 5.38 (s, 1 H, =CH–); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 306 (6), 249 (12), 121 (6), 97 (10), 83 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₁₉OI (M – HOCH₃) 306.1890, found (M – HOCH₃) 306.0495.

***tert*-Butyl 3-[4-[3-(1-Methoxy-1-methylethoxy)-1-cyclopenten-1-yl]butyl]-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate, 10.** To a 0 °C suspension of NaH (0.014 g, 0.34 mmol) in THF (1 mL)

(10) (a) Wolff, S.; Schreiber, W. L.; Smith, A. B., III; Agosta, W. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1972, 94, 7797. (b) Byrne, B.; Wilson, C. A., II; Wolff, S.; Agosta, W. C. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1* 1978, 1550. (c) Herz, W.; Iyer, V. S.; Nair, M. G.; Saltiel, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 2704. (d) Ayral-Kaloustian, S.; Wolff, S.; Agosta, W. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 5954. (e) Paquette, L. A.; Pansegrau, P.; Wiedeman, P.; Springer, J. *J. Org. Chem.* 1988, 53, 1461.

(11) Winkler, J.; Hong, B.; Bahador, A.; Kazanietz, M.; Blumberg, P. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, in press.

(12) Amouroux, R. *Heterocycles* 1984, 22, 1489.

was added *tert*-butyl 2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate¹³ (0.058 g, 0.31 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) dropwise. After 10 min at 0 °C, the resulting mixture was treated with *n*-butyllithium (0.13 mL, 0.33 mmol), added dropwise. After an additional 10 min at 0 °C, the reaction mixture was treated with iodide 9 (0.116 g, 0.34 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL). After an additional 15 min at 0 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched by dropwise addition of methanol. When hydrogen evolution had ceased, the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl and extracted twice with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were successively washed with water and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, dried (K₂CO₃), and concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (10% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave the desired β -keto ester 10 (0.03 g, 72%): IR (CDCl₃) 2937, 1746, 1717, 1370, 1254, 1147 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.70 (m, 2 H), 1.36 (s, 6 H, -OC(CH₃)₂-), 1.47, 1.48 (s, 9 H, diastereomeric -C(CH₃)₃), 1.76 (m, 3 H), 2.01–2.30 (m, 10 H), 2.37 (m, 2 H), 3.02, 3.14 (m, 1 H, diastereomeric, -CH(CO)(CO₂-*t*-Bu)), 3.22 (s, 3 H, -OCH₃), 4.84 (br s, 1 H, -CH[OC(CH₃)₂-(OCH₃)]-), 5.34 (s, 1 H, =CH-); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 248 (11), 230 (72), 213 (7), 202 (6), 185 (20), 165 (9), 151 (6), 119 (40), 105 (19), 93 (59), 80 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₂₀O₃Si (M - O-*t*-Bu - C(CH₃)₂OCH₃) 248.3243, found (M - O-*t*-Bu - C(CH₃)₂-OCH₃) 248.1425.

***tert*-Butyl 3-[4-(3-Oxo-1-cyclopenten-1-yl)butyl]-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate, 11.** To a solution of 10 (0.47 g, 1.23 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0 °C was added 100 μ L of water and pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (0.02 g, 0.12 mmol). After being stirred for 30 min at 0 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous Na₂CO₃ and extracted three times with diethyl ether. The combined organic layers were dried over K₂CO₃ and concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (33% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave the deprotected allylic alcohol (0.25 g, 65%): IR (CDCl₃) 3602, 2936, 1748, 1715, 1370, 1157 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.35 (m, 3 H), 1.47, 1.48 (s, 9 H, diastereomeric -C(CH₃)₃), 1.75 (m, 3 H), 2.03–2.35 (m, 9 H), 2.42 (m, 2 H), 3.02, 3.14 (m, 1 H, diastereomeric -CH(CO)(CO₂-*t*-Bu)), 4.8 (br s, 1 H, -CH(OH)-), 5.45 (s, 1 H, =CH-); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 313 (6), 286 (8), 248 (43), 230 (75), 202 (18), 185 (25), 154 (27), 137 (13), 119 (60), 105 (19), 93 (59), 80 (100); HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₂₀O₃ (M - HO-*t*-Bu) 248.3243, found (M - HO-*t*-Bu) 248.1413.

To a solution of the above allylic alcohol (0.02 g, 0.07 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) at 25 °C was added pyridinium dichromate (0.040 g, 0.11 mmol). The reaction was stirred at 25 °C for 2 h and then diluted with diethyl ether. Elution of the organic solution through a silica gel column with diethyl ether gave enone 11 (0.02 g, 86%): IR (CDCl₃) 2936, 1705, 1676, 1615, 1369, 1257, 1153 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.42 (m, 5 H), 1.47, 1.48 (s, 9 H, diastereomeric -C(CH₃)₃), 1.61 (m, 3 H), 1.80 (m, 1 H), 2.05–2.31 (m, 2 H), 2.41 (m, 4 H), 2.57 (m, 2 H, -CH₂(CO)-), 3.02, 3.15 (m, 1 H, diastereomeric -CH(CO)(CO₂-*t*-Bu)), 5.91 (s, 1 H, =CH-); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 264 (15), 247 (23), 236 (5), 220 (13), 151 (7), 137 (17), 122 (16), 109 (100).

Dioxenone 6. To a solution of β -keto ester 11 (0.15 g, 0.48 mmol) in acetone (2.39 mL) at -78 °C was added trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.12 mL, 0.86 mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (2.9 mL). The reaction was warmed to 25 °C over 18 h and then diluted with diethyl ether and slowly poured into a mixture of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and ice. The solution was inter-

mittently checked with pH paper during this process to ensure that it was at all times slightly basic. The two layers were then separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted two times with diethyl ether. The combined ethereal extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography of the crude residue (50% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) gave pure dioxenone 6 (0.075 g, 52%): IR (CDCl₃) 2933, 1713, 1676, 1643, 1615, 1422, 1259, 1199 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.41 (m, 3 H), 1.61 (m, 3 H), 1.70 (s, 3 H, -OC(CH₃)(OR)-), 1.71 (s, 3 H, -OC(CH₃)(OR)-), 2.18 (m, 1 H), 2.42 (m, 5 H), 2.52 (m, 1 H), 2.59 (m, 3 H), 2.78 (br s, 1 H), 5.94 (s, 1 H, =CH-); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 246 (6), 220 (12), 149 (8), 137 (13), 123 (13), 109 (100); UV (CH₃CN) 259.0 nm (ϵ = 8910 cm⁻¹ M⁻¹), 225.2 (ϵ = 16 600).

Photoadducts 12 and 13. A solution of dioxenone 6 (0.05 g, 0.18 mmol) in acetonitrile (100 mL) was degassed (by bubbling nitrogen through the solution for 1 h) and irradiated (450-W Hanovia lamp, Pyrex filter) at 0 °C for 4 h. Concentration of the solution under reduced pressure gave an inseparable mixture of diastereomeric photoadducts: IR (CDCl₃) 2933, 2867, 1723, 1639, 1416, 1260, 1200, 1150 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 1.00–2.70 (m, 34 H), 1.54 (s, 3 H, -C(CH₃)-), 1.63 (s, 3 H, -C(CH₃)-), 1.68 (s, 3 H, -C(CH₃)-), 1.79 (s, 3 H, -C(CH₃)-); MS (*m/e*, relative intensity) 246 (100), 218 (34), 191 (6), 164 (5), 149 (6), 136 (11), 123 (16), 110 (23); UV (CH₃CN) 262.1 nm (ϵ = 6450 cm⁻¹ M⁻¹).

Diketo Esters 14 and 15. A solution of isomeric photoadducts 12/13 (0.11 g, 0.36 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (0.014 g, 0.07 mmol) in methanol (10 mL) was heated to reflux for 18 h. Water (1 mL) was then added, and the solution was refluxed for an additional 30 min. Upon cooling to 25 °C, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with diethyl ether and extracted twice with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The organic phase was dried (K₂CO₃) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The two isomeric diketo esters, 14 (0.04 g, 38%) and 15 (0.03 g, 26%), respectively, were obtained in a 1.4:1 ratio and were separated by flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). Crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained from the separated products by crystallization from ethyl acetate at -20 °C. 14: mp 99.1–102.3 °C; IR (CDCl₃) 2932, 1728 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.30–2.37 (m, 14 H), 2.61 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1 H, -CH(CO)-), 3.54 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1 H, -CH(CO)(CO₂Me)), 3.76 (s, 3 H, -CO₂CH₃). 15: mp 98.6–100.1 °C; IR (CDCl₃) 2928, 1728 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.15–2.61 (m, 15 H), 3.40 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1 H, -CH(CO)(CO₂Me)), 3.71 (s, 3 H).

Acknowledgment. Support from the National Institutes of Health (CA45686 to J.D.W., GM35982 to P.G.W., and GM07151 in the form of a training grant fellowship to E.A.G.), American Cyanamid, Glaxo, Merck & Co., the donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Cancer Society, an American Cancer Society Institutional Grant, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation is gratefully acknowledged.

Supplementary Material Available: Tables of atomic coordinates, ORTEP plots, bond lengths and angles, and anisotropic thermal parameters for the X-ray crystal structures of diketo esters 14 and 15 and ¹H NMR spectra for all new compounds (6–15) (25 pages). This material is contained in libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.

(13) Banerjee, D.; Mahapatra, S. *Tetrahedron* 1960, 11, 234.