hindrance to approach of the DMAD is reduced. Furthermore, it is tempting to rationalize the formation of the simple cyclization product of rearranged skeleton in eq 5, i.e., 18, as arising from a disrotatory opening of a cyclobutene 19 which may arise by a 1,1-elimination from 13, $R'' = CH_{3.}^{7}$ This speculation must await futher experimental support.



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Supplementary Material Available: Typical cocyclization procedure and ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and IR data (2 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

A Chemodirected, Triply Convergent Total Synthesis of d-(+)-Carbacvclin¹

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Prostaglandin I_2 (prostacyclin 1) is well-recognized to be the prototype of a new generation of antithrombotic drugs.² Unfortunately, the demonstrated hydrolytic instability imparted by the enol ether moiety of 1 under physiological conditions precludes the use of this material for the inhibition of platelet aggregation.² A number of analogues of 1 have been prepared and among the best pharmaceutical candidates is carbacyclin (2).^{2–4}

Previous syntheses of carbacyclin $(2)^3$ have, with two exceptions,⁴ failed to stereoselectively effect either the geometry of the trisubstituted olefin or the C-15 stereocenter. Moreover, the best reported overall yield for a synthesis of chiral 2 is only ca. 0.95%.^{3d}





Scheme III



In conjunction with our vinyl sulfone program,¹ we wished to provide a synthesis of **2** which would remedy these difficulties. The basic plan involved a triply-convergent approach reminiscent of our earlier synthesis of $1-PGE_2^5$ in that the allylic alcohol side chain was to be affixed via conjugate addition of the chiral reagent 4^5 to vinyl sulfone **3**, a process that was expected to be highly stereocontrolled at C-12. Construction of **3** was, in turn, projected to be via S_N2' addition of the allylic organometallic reagent **6** to chiral ammonium salt 5.^{6.7} As can be readily seen from Scheme I, successful union of **5** and **6** requires control of two stereochemistries (C5,6 and C9,11) as well as two regiochemistries (C5 vs. C6a and C9 vs. C12).

Synthesis of reagent 6 was accomplished as follows: (1) Treatment of *tert*-butyl bromoacetate with triisopropyl phosphite at 90-215 °C affords a 95% yield of phosphonate ester 7^8 which is subsequently deprotonated with sodium hydride in THF followed by reaction with trimethyliodomethylstannane⁹ to provide 8^8 in 95% yield. (2) Reaction of excess (3 equiv) 1,4-dibromobutane

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⁽⁴⁾ Control of the reduction of an enone at C-15 has been reported to afford a 94.6 ratio of the (S)- and (R)-alcohols,^{3a} and the stereochemistry of the trisubstituted olefin has been shown to be stereospecifically effected by 1,4-hydrogenation of a diene.^{3d} In neither of these papers were *both* of these stereochemical problems solved.

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(7) Chiral 5 is available in 19.9% overall yield from cyclopentadiene via an enanticoonvergent process (see: ref 6 and Donaldson, R. E.; Saddler, J. Construct D. L. duy, Chem. Soc. 1981, 102, 2110.)

an enanticonvergent process (see: ref 6 and Donaldson, R. E.; Saddler, J. C.; Fuchs, P. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1981, 103, 2110.). (8) This compound exhibited satisfactory spectral and analytical properties. Yields refer to material of >95% purity. $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ values are recorded in the following form (compound number; rotation; concentration; solvent): 15: +20.8°, (c 0.680, CH₂Cl₂); 16: +23.7°, (c 0.720, CHCl₃); 3: +5.5°, (c 0.780, CHCl₃); 17: +4.4°, (c 0.770, CHCl₃); 18: +62.4°, (c 1.610, CHCl₃); 19: +72.4°, (c 1.230, CHCl₃). (9) Trimathuliader athulture

⁽⁹⁾ Trimethyliodomethylstannane was prepared by a modification of the method of Seyferth (Seyferth, D.; Andrews, S. B. J. Organomet. Chem. 1971, 30, 151.). We find this to be an economically preferable solution to the more recent preparation proposed by Seitz (Seitz, D. E.; Carroll, J. J.; Cartaya, M. C. P.; Lee, S.-H.; Zapata, A. Synth. Commun. 1983, 13, 129.).

(9) with benzyl alcohol under phase-transfer conditions (C_6H_6 , NaOH, *n*-Bu₄NHSO₄ (5%), 25 °C, 40 h) smoothly affords monobromide 10⁸ in 80% yield. Conversion of 10 to the Grignard reagent (Mg, THF, 4 h 35 °C), followed by addition of triethyl orthoformate (2 equiv, 18 h, reflux) and hydrolytic workup (5% HCl/THF), provides aldehyde 11⁸ in 66% yield. (3) Treatment of phosphonate 8 in THF with sodium hydride (catalytic H₂O required¹⁰) followed by addition of aldehyde 11 (4 h, 25 °C) and extractive workup results in the highly selective¹¹ generation of vinyl ester 12⁸ (87%). Reduction of the ester moiety of 12 (DIBAL, CH₂Cl₂, 25 °C, 24 h) afforded alcohol 13⁸ (89%) which was protected¹² to afford acetal 14⁸ in 91% yield (Scheme II).

Conversion of allylstannane 14 to the requisite "trimethylenemethane^{13,14}" reagent was accomplished by treatment with *n*-butyllithium in THF at -78 °C to produce allyllithium species $6a^{15}$ which was treated with freshly prepared copper(I) bromide-dimethyl sulfide complex¹⁶ in the presence of lithium bromide (3 equiv) providing bromocuprate 6b.¹⁷ Reaction of 6b (1.1 equiv) with optically active 5^{6,7} (THF, -55 °C, 30 min) affords 15⁸ (Scheme III) (74%) as a single stereoisomer as assayed by HPLC and NMR.¹⁸ Deprotection of 15 with 3 equiv of dimethylboron bromide¹⁹ in dichloromethane at -78 °C for 1 h provides alcohol 16⁸ in 85% yield. Conversion of 16 to allyl chloride 38 (98% yield) was smoothly accomplished by using the Corev-Kim protocol.²⁰ Reaction of **3** with the chiral vinvllithium reagent 4⁵ (THF, -78 °C, 15 min; -50 °C, 10 min) affords the bicyclic sulfone $17^{8.14}$ (95% yield) which is subsequently desilylated by treatment with 10 equiv of tetrabutylammonium fluoride²¹ in THF for 24 h at 25 °C providing diol 188 in 80% yield. Treatment of 18 with 20 equiv of lithium in liquid ammonia containing 4 equiv of tert-butyl alcohol (THF cosolvent, -78 °C, isoprene quench after 15 min) affords the desulfonylated, debenzylated triol 198 in 88% yield. Completion of the synthesis was conveniently achieved by a method first utilized by Fried for oxidation of a PGF triol.²² Oxidation of triol **19** with Pt/O_2 in 1:10 acetone-water containing 19 equiv of sodium bicarbonate at 57 °C for 2 h afforded a 57% yield of 2.23 Comparison of the

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anion generation. (14) The overall synthetic strategy is formally equivalent to a regiospecific, stepwise trimethylenemethane 3 + 2 cycloaddition to a vinyl sulfone. For examples of trimethylenemethane 3 + 2 cycloadditions with vinyl sulfones, see: (a) Little, R. D.; Brown, L. Tetrahedron Lett. **1980**, 21, 2203. (b) Trost, B. M.; Chan, D. M. T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1982**, 104, 3733.

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synthetic material with an authentic sample of (E)-carbacyclin²⁴ reveals the stereochemistry at C5,6 to be >96% *E*, consistent with the stereochemical purity of the "trimethylenemethane" reagent.¹¹ Thus the overall yield from cyclopentadiene for this triply-convergent process is 4.7%, including the resolution step.

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(23) Although the "crude" carbacyclin obtained as an oll from this reaction was found to be >96% pure, with an E:Z = >99:1 by HPLC [25 cm × 4.6 mm Hi-chrom reversible HPLC column ODS-II (Regis Chemical Co.), mobile phase 45/55 (acetonitrile/0.01 M KH₂PO₄ adjusted to pH 2.5 with concentrated H₂SO₄), flow rate 1 mL/min, detection at 205 nm], and provided an essentially superimposable 470-MHz ¹H NMR spectra with that of an authentic sample;²⁴ It could not be made to crystallize, even by addition of a seed crystal. An analytical sample was prepared by treatment of the carbacyclin with diazomethane and then with acetic anhydride and triethylamine in the presence of catalytic 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine. The methyl ester diacetate was purified by medium pressure liquid chromatography by using a Merck size C lobar column. The purified material was saponified and chromatographed over Mallincrodt CC-4 special acid washed silica gel, followed by recrystallization from ether-hexane. The crystalline carbacyclin thus obtained in 34% yield (1.6% overall from cyclopentadiene) had an identical HPLC profile with that of the olly material under the aforementioned conditions. The carbacyclin obtained had the following physical data: mp 60-2.3 °C (lit. mp 62.4-63.3 °C, ^{3j} 64.5-66.5 °C, ^{3a} 61-62.5 °C^{3c}), [a]p²⁵ +95.2° (c 0.520, MeOH) (lit. [a]p²⁵ + 90° (c 0.810, MeOH),³ⁱ [a]p²⁵ + 92.2° (c 0.515, MeOH), ^{3a} [a]p²³ + 91° (c 0.964, MeOH)^{3c}).

(24) We thank Dr. John Pike of the Upjohn Company for an authentic sample of (E)-carbacyclin (2).

Dramatic Rate Enhancement of Suzuki Diene Synthesis: Its Application to Palytoxin Synthesis

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In connection with the synthetic studies on the marine natural product palytoxin,¹ we have investigated the possibility to form the C.75–C.76 bond² by using the Pd(0)-mediated diene synthesis developed by Suzuki and co-workers.³ More specifically, we were interested in utilizing this reaction to couple the upper and lower halves in order to assemble the complete carbon backbone of palytoxin. We chose the model system of $1^4 + 2 \rightarrow 3$ to clarify

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