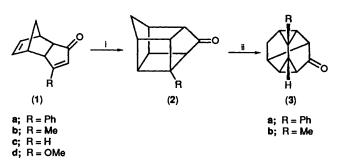
## Novel Acid-catalysed Rearrangement of 4-Substituted Pentacyclo[5.3.0.0<sup>2,5</sup>.0<sup>3,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>]decan-6-ones; X-Ray Molecular Structure of 1-Phenylpentacyclo[4.4.0.0<sup>2,10</sup>.0<sup>3,8</sup>.0<sup>5,7</sup>]decan-4-one

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> 4-Substituted pentacyclo [5.3.0.0<sup>2.5</sup>.0<sup>3.9</sup>.0<sup>4.8</sup>] decan-6-one derivatives **2a** and **b** undergo a novel acidor Ag<sup>+</sup>-catalysed rearrangement to the hitherto unknown pentacyclo [4.4.0.0<sup>2.10</sup>.0<sup>3.8</sup>.0<sup>5.7</sup>] decane ring system **3a** and **b**. The structure of compound **3a** was established by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

Although it is well documented that certain metal-catalysed rearrangements of cubane, homocubane, and 1,8-bishomocubane derivatives give cuneanes or their congeners by skeletal reorganisation,<sup>1</sup> 1,3-bishomocubane derivatives have been known to undergo only cage-opening reaction by reaction with acid,<sup>2</sup> Rh<sup>1,3</sup> or Ag<sup>1</sup> ion<sup>4</sup> and no report has appeared on such skeletal rearrangements with 1,3-bishomocubane derivatives.

In connection with our previous papers concerning the ringopening reactions of trishomocubanones with acid or  $Rh^{1,5}$  we report here the first acid- or  $Ag^+$ -catalysed skeletal rearrangement of 4-phenyl- and 4-methyl-1,3-bishomocubanones 2a and 2b to a new pentacyclo[4.4.0.0<sup>2,10</sup>.0<sup>3.8</sup>.0<sup>5,7</sup>]decan-4-one system 3a and b, and the X-ray structure determination of one of the products.



Reagents and conditions: i, hv; ii, BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O.

The cage ketones 2a and 2b were obtained by irradiation of the dienones 1a and 1b, which were prepared by the reaction of compound  $1d^2$  with PhLi and MeLi, respectively. While compound 2b was obtained as the sole photochemical product, compound 2a was obtained along with the head-tohead, *cis-anti-cis* photodimer of compound 1a.<sup>†</sup>

Reaction of compound 2a with BF<sub>3</sub> in benzene at room temperature for 30 min and chromatographic separation of the products, furnished compound 3a in 41% yield. No dienone products were isolated.

The IR spectrum of compound 3a showed an absorption band for a saturated carbonyl group (1720 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum did not show any signals for olefinic protons, suggesting that the product is a saturated pentacyclic ketone.

Moreover, the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **3a** (see Table 1) showed six signals upfield of  $\delta_c$  35, a region where no

Table 1. <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts and multiplicities of compounds 3a and 3b.

3a	3b	
215.36 (s)	216.46 (s)	C-4
48.05 (d)	47.83 (d)	
40.68 (d)	38.51 (d)	
37.03 (d)	37.11 (d)	
32.17 (d)	32.38 (d) }	C-2, -3, -5, -6, -7, -8 and -10
28.95 (d)	29.00 (d)	
26.07 (d)	26.00 (d)	
25.57 (d)	25.34 (d)	
30.24 (t)	30.10 (t)	C-9
24.24 (s)	15.63 (s)	C-1
143.48 (s)		
128.52 (2 C, d)	22.20(-)	Dh fan 2n Ma fan 2h
127.31 (2 C, d)	22.39 (q)	Ph for <b>3a</b> ; Me for <b>3b</b>
126.31 (d)		

signals were observed in the spectrum of compound 2a. This strongly suggests the presence of two cyclopropane rings in compound 3a. From these spectral data and from mechanistic considerations analogous to those for the Ag<sup>+</sup>-catalysed reactions of cubanes<sup>1</sup> the structure 3a can be deduced for the product of acid-catalysed reaction of compound 2a.

An X-ray crystallographic analysis was carried out to establish the structure of compound **3a**. Figure 1 shows a perspective view of one molecule of compound **3a**. Selected fractional atomic co-ordinates are listed in Table 2, and interatomic distances and bond angles are listed in Table 3.

Although compound **2b** was similarly transformed into compound **3b** in 33% yield (room temperature; 21 h), the unsubstituted cage ketone  $2c^{6}$  was recovered unchanged after reaction with BF<sub>3</sub> for 55 h at room temperature. The structure of compound **3b** was deduced from its spectral data, especially the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (see Table 1), which closely resembled those for compound **3a**.

<sup>†</sup> Our photochemical studies of compounds **1a** and **1b** and the structure elucidation of the photodimer of compound **1a** will appear elsewhere.

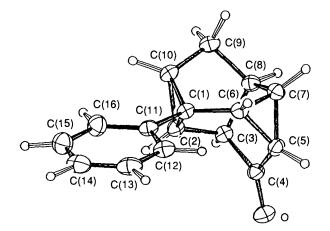
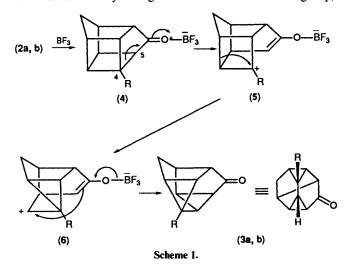


Fig. 1. ORTEP drawing of the compound 3a.

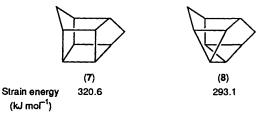
**Table 2.** Fractional co-ordinates  $(\times 10^4)$  for *compound* **3a** with esds in parentheses.

Atom	x	у	z	
0	5633(1)	745(2)	3684(2)	
C(1)	4920(2)	-3562(3)	1979(2)	
C(2)	4482(2)	-3024(3)	2924(2)	
C(3)	5434(2)	-2174(3)	4066(2)	
C(4)	5841(2)	- 698(3)	3577(2)	
C(5)	6557(2)	-1332(3)	2991(2)	
C(6)	6121(2)	-2973(3)	2281(2)	
C(7)	7008(2)	-2993(3)	3624(2)	
C(8)	6458(2)	-3415(3)	4483(2)	
C(9)	5914(2)	-5124(3)	4112(2)	
C(10)	4824(2)	-4796(3)	2906(2)	
C(11)	4030(2)	-3600(3)	623(2)	
C(12)	4250(2)	-2899(3)	-327(2)	
C(13)	3411(2)	-2882(3)	-1569(2)	
C(14)	2336(2)	-3537(3)	-1900(2)	
C(15)	2094(2)	-4240(3)	-986(3)	
C(16)	2931(2)	-4269(3)	254(2)	

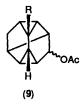
The formation of products 3a and 3b can be rationalised as depicted in Scheme 1. Taking into account the fact that the reaction is accelerated by the substituent at C-4 in the order Ph > Me > H, the formation of the cyclobutanium cation 5 via fission of the C-4-C-5 bond in the BF<sub>3</sub> complex of the substrate 4 may be regarded as the rate-determining step,



and the remaining rearrangement  $5 \longrightarrow 6 \longrightarrow 3a,b$  proceeds rapidly. The strain energy obtained by MM2 calculation<sup>7</sup> for the skeletal hydrocarbon 7 is 27.5 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> lower than that for hydrocarbon 8 as shown below. The driving force of the reaction  $2 \longrightarrow 3$  can thus be explained in terms of thermodynamic control.



Although the reaction  $2 \longrightarrow 3$  is strikingly similar to the silver ion-catalysed rearrangements observed for cubane, homocubane, and 1,8-bishomocubane systems,<sup>1</sup> to the best of our knowledge this is the first example of this type of reaction observed as an acid-catalysed ketone-ketone rearrangement.<sup>8</sup> The reaction  $2 \longrightarrow 3$  was also catalysed by AgClO<sub>4</sub> (benzene; room temp.; 5 h; 26%). However, the presence of the carbonyl group seems to be essential for this ring system to undergo the silver ion-catalysed rearrangement, because treatment of the corresponding acetate 9 [obtained as a single compound by reduction of compound 2a with NaBH<sub>4</sub> followed by conventional acetylation; see Experimental section] with AgClO<sub>4</sub> only resulted in recovery of the starting material.



## Experimental

M.p.s were determined on a Yanaco micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO A-3 spectrophotometer. UV spectra were obtained on a JASCO UVIDEC-505 spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were determined on JEOL JNM-GX 270 (270 MHz) and Hitachi R-600 (60 MHz) spectrometers. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>) were obtained on a JEOL JNM-GX 270 (67.5 MHz) spectrometer. Mass measurements were obtained on a Hitachi M-60 mass spectrometer at an ionisation potential of 70 eV. Photochemical reactions were carried out on solutions under nitrogen in Pyrex tubes by using a 300 W high-pressure mercury lamp. Extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>).

5-Phenyltricyclo[5.2.1.0<sup>2.6</sup>]deca-4,8-dien-3-one **1a**.—To a stirred solution of compound **1d**<sup>2</sup> (19.3 g, 0.11 mol) in dry Et<sub>2</sub>O (300 cm<sup>3</sup> at 0 °C under nitrogen was added an ethereal solution of phenyl-lithium (1.09 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; 95 cm<sup>3</sup> during 1 h, and the mixture was refluxed for another 2 h. The solution was poured into ice-cold 25% sulphuric acid, and stirred vigorously for 2 h. Most of the organic solvent was evaporated off and the aq. solution was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was washed successively with aq. sodium hydrogen carbonate and brine, dried, and evaporated to dryness. Chromatography on silica gel and crystallisation from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-hexane yielded compound **1a** (15.2 g, 62%), m.p. 123–124 °C (Found: C, 86.4; H, 6.4. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O requires C, 86.45; H, 6.35%); v<sub>max</sub>(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1675 cm<sup>-1</sup> (α,β-unsaturated ketone); λ<sub>max</sub>(cyclohexane) 222 and

Table 3. Selected bond distances/Å and angles (°) with esds in parentheses.

O-C(4)	1.215(3)	C(1)-C(2)	1.522(3)
C(1)-C(6)	1.497(3)	C(1)-C(10)	1.524(3)
C(1)-C(11)	1.489(3)	C(2)-C(3)	1.515(3)
C(2) - C(10)	1.501(3)	C(3)-C(4)	1.517(3)
C(3)-C(8)	1.549(3)	C(4)-C(5)	1.470(3)
C(5)-C(6)	1.533(3)	C(5)-C(7)	1.518(3)
C(6)-C(7)	1.478(3)	C(7)-C(8)	1.512(3)
C(8)-C(9)	1.520(4)	C(9)-C(10)	1.504(4)
C(2)-C(1)-C(6)	114.7(2)	C(2)-C(1)-C(10)	59.0(2)
C(2)-C(1)-C(11)	115.7(2)	C(6)-C(1)-C(10)	116.4(2)
C(6)-C(1)-C(11)	118.2(2)	C(10)-C(1)-C(11)	119.0(2)
C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	111.3(2)	C(1)-C(2)-C(10)	60.6(2)
C(3)-C(2)-C(10)	108.7(2)	C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	107.3(2)
C(2)-C(3)-C(8)	102.7(2)	C(4)-C(3)-C(8)	103.9(2)
O-C(4)-C(3)	125.8(2)	O-C(4)-C(5)	126.7(2)
C(3)-C(4)-C(5)	107.5(2)	C(4)-C(5)-C(6)	113.9(2)
C(4)-C(5)-C(7)	105.0(2)	C(6)-C(5)-C(7)	57.9(2)
C(1)-C(6)-C(5)	119.3(2)	C(1)-C(6)-C(7)	117.9(2)
C(5)-C(6)-C(7)	60.5(2)	C(5)-C(7)-C(6)	61.5(2)
C(5)-C(7)-C(8)	109.7(2)	C(6)-C(7)-C(8)	110.6(2)
C(3)-C(8)-C(7)	103.3(2)	C(3)-C(8)-C(9)	106.3(2)
C(7)-C(8)-C(9)	107.8(2)	C(8)-C(9)-C(10)	102.9(2)
C(1)-C(10)-C(2)	60.4(2)	C(1)-C(10)-C(9)	116.8(2)
C(2)-C(10)-C(9)	108.0(2)	C(1)-C(11)-C(12)	121.1(2)

277 nm (ε 10 000 and 19 900 dm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.70 (1 H, d, *J* 8.2 Hz, 10-H), 1.79 (1 H, d, *J* 8.2 Hz, 10-H), 3.03 (1 H, t, *J* 5.2 Hz, 2- or 6-H), 3.18 (1 H, m, 1- or 7-H), 3.26 (1 H, m, 7- or 1-H), 3.83 (1 H, t, *J* 5.2 Hz, 6- or 2-H), 5.63 (1 H, dd, *J* 6 and 3 Hz, 8- or 9-H), 6.01 (1 H, dd, *J* 6 and 3 Hz, 9- or 8-H), 6.30 (1 H, s, C=CHC=O), and 7.25–7.67 (5 H, m, Ph);  $\delta_{\rm C}$ (67.5 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 209.23 (s, C=O), 173.80 (s), 133.89 (s), 133.55 (d), 132.02 (d), 131.00 (d), 129.85 (d), 128.93 (2 C, d), 127.08 (2 C, d), 52.15 (d), 52.06 (t), 47.53 (d), 44.85 (d) and 44.35 (d); *m*/z 222 (*M*<sup>+</sup>), 157 (*M*<sup>+</sup> - C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>) and 66 (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 100%).

5-Methyltricyclo[5.2.1.0<sup>2,6</sup>]deca-4,8-dien-3-one 1b.—To a stirred solution of compound 1d (5.24 g, 0.0297 mol) in dry Et<sub>2</sub>O (80 cm<sup>3</sup>) at room temperature under nitrogen was added a solution of methyllithium in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.93 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>; 50 cm<sup>3</sup>) during 80 min. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 80 min, poured into ice-cold 25% sulphuric acid, and stirred vigorously for 2 h. Most of the organic solvent was evaporated off and the aq. solution was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was washed successively with aq. sodium hydrogen carbonate containing Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> and brine, dried, and evaporated to dryness. Chromatography on silica gel with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as eluant and bulb-to-bulb distillation yielded compound 1b (3.18 g, 67%), m.p. 48.0-48.5 °C (Found: C, 82.0; H, 7.5. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O requires C, 82.46; H, 7.55%); v<sub>max</sub>(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1680 and 1615 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketone);  $\lambda_{max}$ (cyclohexane) 223 nm ( $\epsilon$  10 470 dm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>); δ<sub>H</sub>(270 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.59 (1 H, d, J 8.5 Hz, 10-H), 1.77 (1 H, d, J 8.5 Hz, 10-H), 1.98 (3 H, s, 5-Me), 2.85 (1 H, t, J 5.5 Hz, 2- or 6-H), 3.00 (1 H, m, 1- or 7-H), 3.19 (1 H, m, 7- or 1-H), 3.22 (1 H, t, J 5.5 Hz, 6- or 2-H), 5.69 (1 H, s, C=CHC=O), 5.79 (1 H, dd, J 5.5 and 2.75 Hz, 8- or 9-H), and 5.99 (1 H, dd, J 5.5 and 2.75 Hz, 9- or 8-H); δ<sub>c</sub>(67.5 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 209.86 (s, C=O), 178.16 (s), 133.67 (d), 133.13 (d), 131.52 (d), 52.43 (t), 51.77 (d), 51.23 (d), 44.37 (d), 43.36 (d) and 18.13  $(q, Me); m/z \ 160 \ (M^+), 95 \ (M^+ - C_5H_5) \ and \ 66 \ (C_5H_6, \ 100\%).$ 

4-Phenylpentacyclo  $[5.3.0.0^{2.5}.0^{3.9}.0^{4.8}]$  decan-6-one 2a.—A solution of compound 1a (1.10 g, 4.95 mmol) in benzene (800 cm<sup>3</sup>) was irradiated at room temperature for 6.5 h, and evaporated to dryness. Chromatography on silica gel with

benzene-Et<sub>2</sub>O yielded compound **2a** (0.60 g, 54%) as an oil, together with the photodimer (0.24 g, 22%) of compound **1a** and unchanged substrate **1a** (0.11 g, 10% recovery). For compound **2a** (Found: C, 86.35; H, 6.4. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O requires C, 86.45; H, 6.35%);  $v_{max}$ (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1755 cm<sup>-1</sup> (cyclopentanone);  $\delta_{H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.72 (1 H, d, J 11.6 Hz, 10-H), 1.81 (1 H, d, J 11.6 Hz, 10-H), 2.40 (1 H, m), 2.57 (1 H, d, J 5.5 Hz), 2.95 (1 H, q, J 6.0 Hz), 3.02 (1 H, m), 3.10 (1 H, q, J 5.0 Hz), 3.22 (1 H, m), 3.32 (1 H, dt, J 6.7 and 5.0 Hz), and 7.04–7.35 (5 H, m, Ph);  $\delta_{C}$ (67.5 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 216.62 (s, C=O), 142.48 (s), 128.50 (2 C, d), 126.36 (d), 124.94 (2 C, d), 51.05 (d), 48.32 (d), 46.29 (d), 46.24 (d), 45.50 (s), 43.18 (d), 41.67 (t), 41.51 (d) and 35.54 (d); m/z 222 ( $M^+$ ) and 194 ( $M^+$  – CO, 100%).

4-Methylpentacyclo[ $5.3.0.0^{2.5}.0^{3.9}.0^{4.8}$ ]decan-6-one **2b**.—A solution of compound **1b** (3.18 g, 19.9 mmol) in benzene (1000 cm<sup>3</sup>) was irradiated at room temperature for 21 h, and evaporated to dryness. Chromatography on silica gel with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as eluant yielded compound **2b** (2.07 g, 65%) as an oil (Found: C, 82.2; H, 7.6. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O requires C, 82.46; H, 7.55%); v<sub>max</sub>(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1750 cm<sup>-1</sup> (cyclopentanone);  $\delta_{H}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_{3})$  1.13 (3 H, s, Me), 1.59 (1 H, d, J 11.3 Hz, 10-H), 1.71 (1 H, d, J 11.3 Hz, 10-H), 2.13 (1 H, d, J 5 Hz), 2.25 (1 H, m), 2.67 (1 H, q, J 5 Hz), 2.81 (2 H, m), 2.92 (1 H, br s), and 3.04 (1 H, br s);  $\delta_{C}(67.5 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_{3})$  217.55 (s, C=O), 51.50 (d), 46.27 (d), 46.20 (d), 46.00 (d), 43.22 (d), 41.55 (t), 40.61 (d), 40.13 (s), 35.71 (d) and 19.68 (q, Me); m/z 160 (M<sup>+</sup>), 145 (M<sup>+</sup> - Me), 132 (M<sup>+</sup> - CO) and 117 (M<sup>+</sup> - CO - Me, 100%).

BF<sub>3</sub>-Catalysed Transformation of Compound 2a into Compound 3a.—To a solution of compound 2a (774 mg, 3.49 mmol) in benzene (60 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added BF<sub>3</sub>-diethyl ether (0.8 cm<sup>3</sup>), and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, then washed with aq. sodium hydrogen carbonate, and the washings were extracted with benzene. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene as eluant to yield compound 3a (325 mg, 42%), m.p. 61-61.5 °C (Found: C, 86.4; H, 6.35. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O requires C, 86.45; H, 6.35%); v<sub>max</sub>(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1720 cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\lambda_{max}$ (cyclohexane) 218 nm ( $\epsilon$  9960 dm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>);  $\delta_{\rm H}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$  1.63 (1 H, ddd, J 7.6, 5.0 and 1.6 Hz), 2.00-2.19 (6 H, m), 2.42 (1 H, t, J 5.3 Hz), 2.91 (1 H, q, J 5.3 Hz) and 7.18-7.35 (5 H, m, Ph); δ<sub>c</sub>(67.5 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) see Table 1;  $m/z 222 (M^+)$ , 194 ( $M^+ - CO$ ) and 91 ( $C_7 H_7^+$ , 100%).

BF<sub>3</sub>-Catalysed Transformation of Compound 2b into Compound 3b.—To a solution of compound 2b (90 mg, 0.56 mmol) in benzene (6 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added BF<sub>3</sub>-diethyl ether (0.2 cm<sup>3</sup>), and the mixture was stirred for 21 h at room temperature, then washed with aq. sodium hydrogen carbonate, and the washings were extracted with benzene. The combined organic solution was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene as eluant to yield compound 3b (30 mg, 33%) as pale yellow oil (Found: C, 82.1; H, 7.7. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O requires C, 82.46; H, 7.55%); v<sub>max</sub>(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 1715 cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\lambda_{max}$ (EtOH) 216 nm ( $\epsilon$  2290 dm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>);  $\delta_{H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.16 (3 H, s, Me), 1.42 (1 H, m), 1.51 (1 H, ddd, J 8.0, 4.0 and 1.5 Hz), 1.67 (2 H, m), 1.88 (1 H, br s), 2.06 (1 H, dt, J 8.0 and 5.4 Hz), 2.29 (1 H, t, J 5.4 Hz), and 2.81 (2 H, q, J 5.4 Hz); δ<sub>c</sub>(67.5 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) see Table 1; m/z 160 ( $M^+$ ), 132 ( $M^+ - CO$ ) and  $117 (M^+ - CO - Me, 100\%)$ .

 $Ag^+$ -Catalysed Transformation of Compound 2a into Compound 3a.—A solution of compound 2a (200 mg, 0.90 mmol) and silver perchlorate (270 mg, 1.30 mmol) in benzene (6.5 cm<sup>3</sup>) was stirred at room temperature in the dark for 5 h. The mixture was washed with aq. sodium hydrogen carbonate, and the washings were extracted with benzene. The combined extract was washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO_4$ , and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene as the eluant to yield compound **3a** (52 mg, 26%) and compound **2a** (110 mg, 55% recovery).

Acetate 9.--- To a solution of NaBH<sub>4</sub> (36 mg, 0.95 mmol) in methanol (5 cm<sup>3</sup>) at 0 °C was added a solution of compound 2a (110 mg, 0.495 mmol) portionwise. The solution was stirred for 30 min and then concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and the solution was washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO_4$ , and evaporated to give an alcohol (102 mg, 92%), m.p. 105.5–107 °C. The product was dissolved in acetic anhydride (5 ml) and refluxed for 1 h. The mixture was poured into water, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extracts were washed successively with aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene as eluant to yield the acetate 9 (95 mg, 78%) as an oil (Found: C, 80.9; H, 6.9. C18H18O2 requires C, 81.18; H, 6.81%); vmax(CHCl3) 1725 cm<sup>-1</sup>; δ<sub>H</sub>(60 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.36 (1 H, d, J 11.2 Hz, 10-H), 1.72 (1 H, d, J 11.2 Hz, 10-H), 1.90 (3 H, s, Ac), 2.04 (1 H, s), 2.5-3.2 (6 H, m), 5.7 (1 H, br s, CHOAc) and 7.1-7.4 (5 H, m, Ph).

X-Ray Structure Analysis of Compound **3a**.—Crystal data: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O, M = 222.27. Monoclinic; space group  $P2_1/a$ , a = 12.863(3), b = 8.079(2), c = 11.793(4) Å,  $\beta = 101.76(2)^\circ$ , V = 1094.3(5) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4 and  $D_c = 1.35$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>. A crystal of dimension ca.  $0.3 \times 0.3 \times 0.5$  mm was used. The lattice parameters were obtained from least-squares analysis of 25 reflections with 7.3 <  $\theta < 14.2^\circ$  from graphite-monochromated Mo-K<sub>x</sub> radiation ( $\lambda = 0.710$  73 Å) on a Syntex-R3 diffractiometer.

Intensity data of 2691 reflections were collected at room temperature by  $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scan technique with  $1 < \theta < 27.5^{\circ}$  and  $-17 \le h \le 17$ ,  $0 \le k \le 11$ ,  $0 \le l \le 16$ . Intensity standards were measured every 200 reflections; no significant decomposition of the crystal was observed.

Of the 2691 total unique reflections, 2028 were considered observed at the level of  $|F_o| > 3.0\sigma |F_o|$ . Data were corrected for Lorentz and polarisation effects in the usual way but not for absorption as the linear absorption coefficient was small  $[\lambda(MoK\alpha) = 0.9 \text{ cm}^{-1}]$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods (MULTAN78). All non-hydrogen atoms were located on the initial *E*-synthesis. All hydrogens were located by the difference Fourier map and included in the further calculations. Block-diagonal leastsquares refinements with 17 anisotropic non-hydrogen atoms and 14 isotropic hydrogens were used. The weighting scheme  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o)]$ , with  $\sigma(F_o)$  from counting statistics, gave satisfactory agreement analysis. Final *R*- and *R*<sub>w</sub>-values were 0.061 and 0.051.

All calculations were performed on a HITAC M-200H computer at the Hiroshima University using structure analysis program system UNICS3.<sup>9.\*</sup>

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<sup>\*</sup> Supplementary data (see section 5.6.3 of Instructions for Authors, January issue). Full lists of atomic co-ordinates and tables of thermal parameters have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.