

# Cyclization of Alkenyl Radicals in 5- and 6-( $\pi$ -*Exo*)-*exo-dig* Modes: New Entry to *Exo*-cyclic Dienes

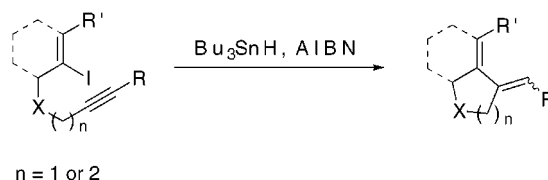
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## ABSTRACT



Radical cyclizations of alkenyl iodides in both 5- and 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* modes were effected by tributyltin hydride and AIBN to give *exo*-cyclic dienes fused to five- and six-membered rings in good yields.

*Exo*-cyclic dienes are versatile and useful diene components in Diels–Alder reactions.<sup>1</sup> They are also characteristic substructures of vitamin D<sub>3</sub> and its derivatives,<sup>2</sup> e.g., **1**, Scheme 1. Among various methodologies known for synthesis of *exo*-cyclic dienes, the palladium-catalyzed cyclization<sup>3</sup> of enynes **2** to *exo*-cyclic dienes **4** and anionic cyclization<sup>4</sup> of haloenynes **3** to **4** are general and efficient. Alternatively, the radical cyclizations of haloenynes **3** to **4** would be straightforward.<sup>5–7</sup> However according to the previous study, only 5-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* radical cyclization

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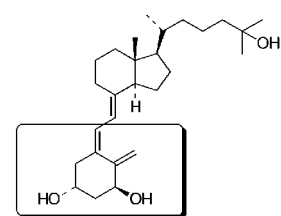
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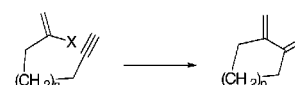
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## Scheme 1



**1** 1 $\alpha$ ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>



**2** X = H, n = 1 or 2

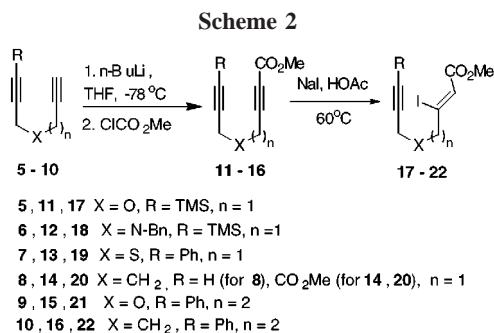
**3** X = Cl, Br, I, n = 1 or 2

**4**

was facile. The corresponding 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* cyclization was reported to be unfavorable.<sup>6</sup> To the best of our knowledge, there are only two cases of 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* radical cyclization of poor yields reported in the literature.<sup>7</sup> As an extension of our study in radical cyclization reactions,<sup>8</sup> we have also investigated radical cyclizations of alkenyl iodides. Contrary to the previous reports, we found that not only 5-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* but also 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo-dig* radical

cyclizations proceeded smoothly to give *exo*-cyclic dienes in good yield. Herein we report our preliminary results.

Diynyl esters **11**–**16** were prepared by conventional methods.<sup>9</sup> Reaction of compounds **5**, **6**, **7**, **9**, and **10** with *n*-butyllithium and methyl chloroformate gave acetylenic methyl esters **11**, **12**, **13**, **15**, and **16**. Double deprotonation of **8** with *n*-butyllithium (2.2 equiv) followed by reaction with methyl chloroformate (3 equiv) afforded diester **14**. Treatment of esters **11**–**16** with sodium iodide and acetic acid at 65 °C according to Lu's method<sup>10</sup> gave  $\beta$ -iodo  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated esters **17**–**22**, Scheme 2. Radical cyclizations



of  $\beta$ -iodo  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated esters **17**–**20** were effected by the treatment with tributyltin hydride and AIBN to afford *exo*-cyclic dienes **23**–**26** in 58–77% yield.<sup>11</sup> In these 5-( $\pi$ -

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(11) For the first example of the  $\beta$ -iodo  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ester radical cyclization in 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*endo*-*trig* mode, see: Thomas, E. J.; Munt, S. P.; Maguire, R. J. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin. Trans. 1* **1998**, 2853–2863.

(12) Satisfactory spectral and analytical data were obtained for all new compounds. A typical experimental procedure for the radical cyclization of **42** is as follows: To a solution of the **42** (100 mg, 0.26 mmol) in dry benzene (20 mL) under reflux were added Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH (83 mg, 0.29 mmol) and AIBN (5 mg) in dry benzene (6 mL) slowly with a syringe pump (4 h). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 2 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed on a rotary evaporator. The crude product was dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL). A saturated solution of KF (10 mL) in water was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The organic layer was then washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine and dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>). Silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane–CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1:1) gave compound **49** as a mixture of *E* and *Z* isomers. (55 mg, 82%). *E* and *Z* isomers were separated by silica gel preparative TLC (hexane–CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1:1). Data for the *E* isomer: colorless crystals from hexane; mp 105–6 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.85 (dd, appears as t, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.03–3.97 (m, 2 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.53–3.43 (m, 1 H), 2.75–2.69 (m, 1 H), 2.62–2.50 (m, 1 H), 2.28–2.13 (m, 1 H), 2.11–1.99 (m, 2 H), 1.84–1.71 (m, 1 H), 1.63–1.49 (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  20.3, 26.2, 29.9, 30.9, 55.3, 66.8, 75.6, 113.6, 123.0, 123.1, 130.2, 130.5, 136.5, 139.3, 158.3; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2939, 1606, 1509, 1249, 1101 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* 256 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); HRMS calcd for

*exo*)-*exo*-*dig* cyclizations, the *exo*-cyclic dienes obtained were all in *E,E* configuration, Table 1.

**Table 1.** Radical Cyclization of  $\beta$ -Iodo  $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated Esters

Entry	Iodo Compound	Yield	<i>Exo</i> -cyclic Diene	Yield <sup>a</sup>
1		86%		75% <sup>b</sup>
2		86%		58% <sup>b</sup>
3		75%		75% <sup>b</sup>
4		34%		77% <sup>b</sup>
5		81%		68% <sup>b</sup> ( <b>27</b> : <b>28</b> = 5:1) <sup>c</sup>
6		81%		76% <sup>b</sup> ( <b>29</b> : <b>30</b> = 7:1) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> The structures of the *exo*-cyclic dienes were confirmed by NOE experiments. <sup>c</sup> The ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration.

We then attempted the 6-( $\pi$ -*exo*)-*exo*-*dig* radical cyclization with  $\beta$ -iodo  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated esters **21** and **22**. Compounds **21** and **22** were treated with tributyltin hydride and AIBN by slow addition using a syringe pump. Surprisingly, compounds **21** and **22** also underwent radical cyclization

C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 256.1463, found 256.1453. Data for the *Z* isomer: pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.20 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.12 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.59 (dd, appears as t, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.15–3.97 (m, 2 H), 3.77 (s, 3 H), 3.68–3.58 (m, 1 H), 2.61–2.49 (m, 1 H), 2.25–2.17 (m, 1 H), 2.12–1.50 (m, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  20.0, 25.6, 30.0, 38.7, 55.2, 68.4, 75.3, 113.4, 123.5, 127.4, 130.0, 130.3, 134.8, 137.0, 157.8; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2938, 1607, 1509, 1247, 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* 256 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 256.1463, found 256.1464.

smoothly to give products **27/28** and **29/30** in 68% and 76% yields, respectively, Table 1.

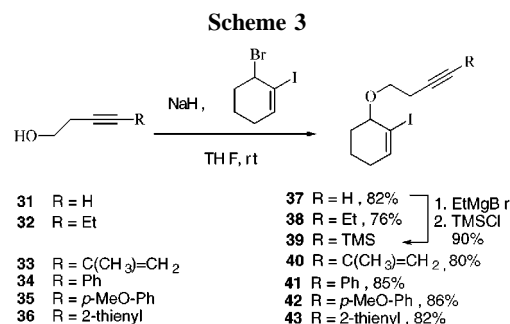
Encouraged by our success on *6-(π-exo)-exo-dig* mode of radical cyclization of **21** and **22**, we then examined more reactions as shown in Table 2. The required radical precur-

**Table 2.** *6-(π-Exo)-Exo-Dig* Cyclization of Alkenyl Radicals

Entry	Alkenyl Iodide	Exo-Cyclic Diene	Yield <sup>a</sup>
1			55%
2	<b>38</b> R = Et	<b>45</b> R = Et	65% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 3:1) <sup>b</sup>
3	<b>39</b> R = TMS	<b>46</b> R = TMS	68% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 1.8:1) <sup>b</sup>
4			71% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 3:1) <sup>b</sup>
5	<b>41</b> R = Ph	<b>48</b> R = Ph	72% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 9:1) <sup>b</sup>
6	<b>42</b> R = <i>p</i> -MeO-Ph	<b>49</b> R = <i>p</i> -MeO-Ph	82% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 2.4:1) <sup>b</sup>
7	<b>43</b> R = 2-thienyl	<b>50</b> R = 2-thienyl	75% ( <i>E</i> : <i>Z</i> = 1.6:1) <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> The structures of the *exo*-cyclic dienes were confirmed by NOE experiments, and the ratios of *E* and *Z* isomers were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration.

sors were procured as outlined in Scheme 3. Treatment of acetylenic alcohols **31–36** with NaH in THF followed by



reaction with 3-bromo-2-iodocyclohex-1-ene gave compounds **37**, **38**, **40–43** in 76–86% yield. Reaction of **37** with EtMgBr and TMSCl gave compound **39** in 90% yield.

When compounds **37–43** were treated with tributyltin hydride and AIBN, once again we found that *6-(π-exo)-exo-dig* radical cyclizations were facile, Table 2.<sup>12</sup> In entries 1–3, compounds **37**, **38**, and **39** underwent cyclization smoothly to give *exo*-cyclic dienes **44**, **45**, and **46** in good yield. It is noteworthy to mention that a similar cyclization in the case of acyclic substrate was reported as totally unsuccessful by Crich et al.<sup>6</sup> When the triple bond was substituted with an isopropenyl group or aromatic rings, entries 4–7, the yields of the *exo*-cyclic dienes **47–50** were improved, Table 2.

In conclusion, we have developed a new alkenyl radical cyclization methodology for the construction of *exo*-cyclic dienes fused to five- and six-membered rings. Contrary to the previous report,<sup>6</sup> we found that *6-(π-exo)-exo-dig* cyclizations of alkenyl radicals are highly efficient. We believe that this methodology is potentially useful in the total synthesis of natural products.

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