



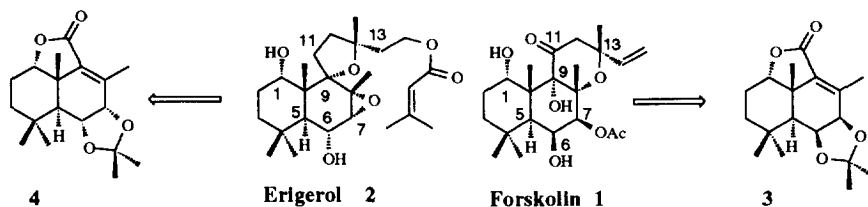
## SmI<sub>2</sub> in a 6-Exo-Dig Radical Cyclisation in a Synthetic Approach to (±)-Erigerol

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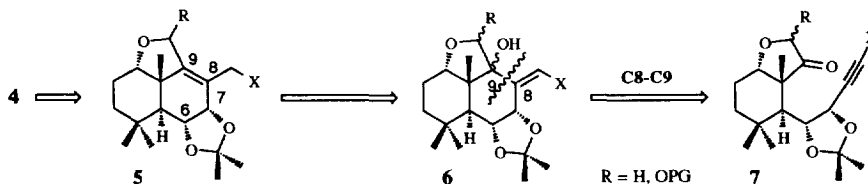
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**Abstract :** In a synthetic approach of erigerol **2**, an intramolecular 6-exo-dig radical cyclisation was performed. Treatment of ynones **18** and **19** with SmI<sub>2</sub> gave in high yield the bicyclic derivatives **20** and **21**. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

In a synthetic approach to forskolin **1**,<sup>1</sup> our strategy was focused on the general formation of highly substituted *trans*-decalinic ring systems, and in preceding papers we described a formal synthesis of forskolin **1**<sup>2</sup> using cyclisation reactions promoted by samarium diiodide (SmI<sub>2</sub>) or tributylstannyl hydride (Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH) as key steps.<sup>3</sup> Erigerol **2**<sup>4</sup> presents a related terpenoid structure, and for these two compounds **1**<sup>5</sup> and **2**,<sup>4</sup> total syntheses were envisaged *via* the intermediate preparation of the analogous synthons **3** and **4** respectively.

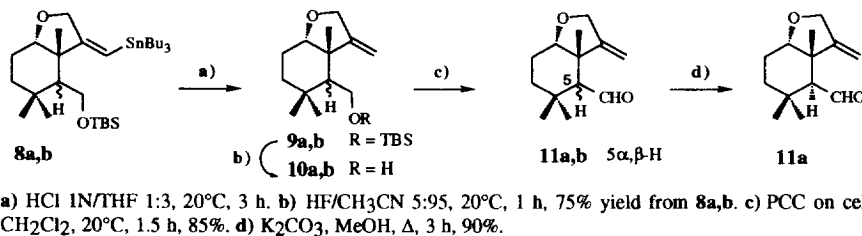


In order to develop new strategies for the synthesis of labdane diterpenes, we decided to pursue an approach of **4** *via* compounds **5** and **6** starting with ynone derivative **7**. As depicted below, the key step was the creation of the C8-C9 bond together with the introduction of a tertiary alcohol at C9.

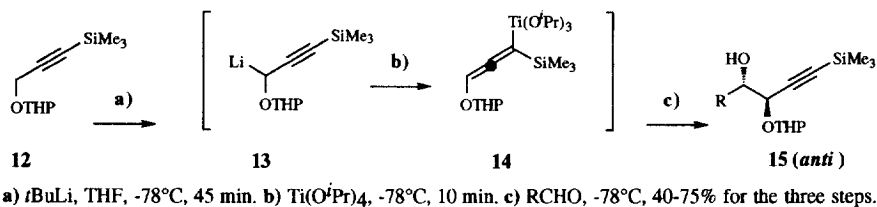


From a 1:1 mixture of epimeric vinylstannanes **8a,b**<sup>6</sup> a protodestannylation in acidic media gave the vinyl derivatives **9a,b**. After deprotection of the primary alcohol, compounds **10a,b** were oxidized with PCC<sup>7</sup> to furnish a 1:1 mixture of the 5 $\alpha$ -H and 5 $\beta$ -H aldehydes **11a** and **11b**. At this stage a basic treatment of **11a,b** (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH,  $\Delta$ ) resulted in a complete isomerisation into the desired 5 $\alpha$ H-isomer

**11a.** The 5 $\alpha$ -H aldehyde **11a** was further converted into the acetylenic diol **16** (see below) *via* a reaction developed by Yamamoto.<sup>8</sup>



Yamamoto's reagent **13** was prepared by metallation (*t*-BuLi, THF -78°C, 45 min.) of the propargylic ether **12**. After transmetalation using Ti(O<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sub>4</sub> (-78°C, 10 min.), the resulting allenyltitanium reagent **14** could then react with an aldehyde to furnish the *anti*-diol derivative **15** in good yield.<sup>8</sup>

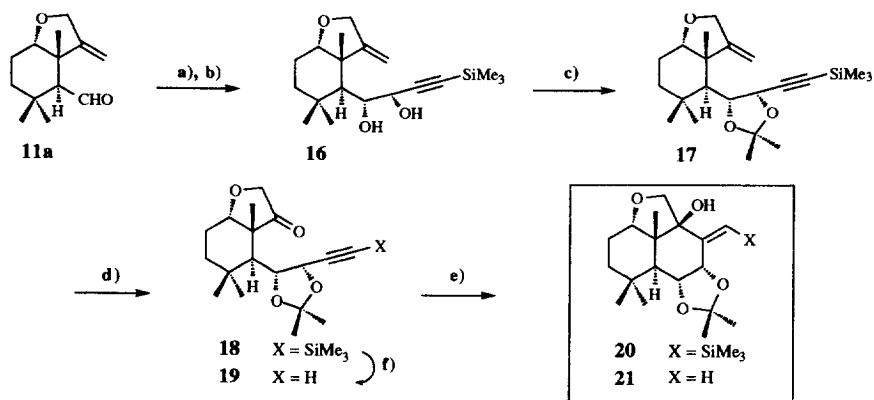


When the 5 $\alpha$ -H aldehyde **11a** was treated with one equivalent of the titanium compound **14** no reaction occurred. However when two equivalents of this latter reagent were used, the expected reaction took place, and as expected, the *anti*-aldol **16** was obtained in 40% yield after acidic treatment of the crude tetrahydropyranyloxy intermediate.<sup>9</sup> Conversion of the diol **16** into the acetonide **17** was then achieved in 95% yield. A selective ozonolysis afforded the expected keto-acetylenic derivative **18** in 75% yield.<sup>10</sup> The compound **18** was treated with SmI<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup> and the cyclised derivative **20** was obtained in 90% yield. The 9 $\beta$ -OH structure of **20** was supported by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR analysis together with NOE experiments.<sup>12</sup>

If a 5-exo-dig radical cyclisation is an efficient process,<sup>13</sup> the corresponding 6-exo-dig radical cyclisations promoted by SmI<sub>2</sub> have been described as moderate to low yielding reactions.<sup>14</sup> Our results showed that such a reaction was largely depending on the structure of the starting ynone, and could occur in good yield on **18**.

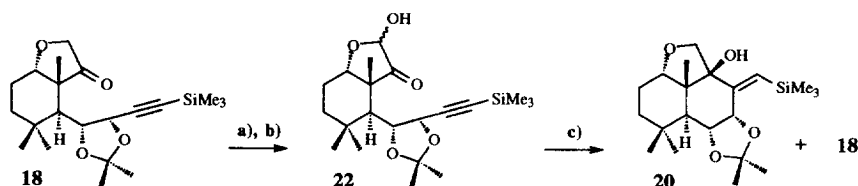
In the case of the desilylated derivative **19** the radical cyclisation again occurred in good yield. The 9 $\beta$ -OH stereochemistry was explained by an  $\alpha$  approach of the yne-chain due to the particular structure of the bicyclic moiety.

In order to achieve our synthesis of the erigerol precursor **4**, we then focused on the cyclisation of the corresponding 11-hydroxy ynone **22**. Compound **18** was treated with LDA and TMSCl to furnish the corresponding silyl enol ether which was in turn oxidized with MCPBA to give **22** in 70% overall yield.<sup>15</sup> This keto-lactol **22** was then submitted to different acidic conditions (MeOH/HCl 2N, MeOH/amberlyst 15) but the desired OMe derivative could not be prepared in acceptable yield in such conditions.



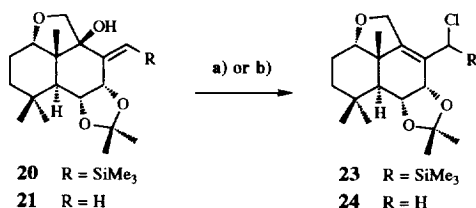
a) **14**,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h. b) PPTS, MeOH,  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$   $\rightarrow$   $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 30 min., 40% yield from **11a**. c) Dimethoxypropane, CSA,  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h, 95%. d)  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\text{Me}_2\text{S}$ ,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$   $\rightarrow$   $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 12 h, 75%. e)  $\text{SmI}_2$  10 equiv, BuOH 5 equiv, THF,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  1 h,  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h, 90%. f)  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ , MeOH,  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 30 min., 95%.

Nevertheless we decided to perform our previous cyclisation reaction on the keto-lactol **22**. In the same preceding conditions, the reaction led to a 1:1 mixture of the two deoxygenated compounds **20** and **18**. Unfortunately, in this case, the deoxygenation encountered in  $\alpha$ -hydroxyketones,<sup>16</sup> or in  $\alpha$ -hydroxylactones,<sup>17</sup> is faster than the cyclisation reaction.



a) LDA, TMSCl,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h. b) mCPBA,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h, 70% yield from **18**. c)  $\text{SmI}_2$  10 equiv, BuOH 5 equiv, THF,  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h, then  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 h, 75% **20/18** = 1:1.

In spite of this disappointing result, the penultimate step in our approach was successfully tested on the allylic alcohols **20** and **21**. These compounds were cleanly converted into the corresponding chloro-allyl compounds **23** and **24** with  $\text{SOCl}_2/\text{py}$ .<sup>18</sup> The same reaction occurred on **20** and **21** with  $\text{MsCl}/\text{Py}$ .



a)  $\text{SOCl}_2$ , Py,  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h 85%. b)  $\text{MsCl}$ ,  $\text{NEt}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 h, 80%.

*This study of a radical approach to erigerol 2 using  $\text{SmI}_2$  gives us an original and efficient method for the construction of highly substituted trans-decalinic skeletons encountered in many natural diterpenes. Our efforts are now focused on an allylic oxidation of derivative **23** for the synthesis of the unsaturated lactone synthon **4**.*

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- (10) **18**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 200 MHz) δ 0.2 [s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 1.10 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.14 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.24 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.32 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.51 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 (m, 1H), 0.80-1.9 (m, 3H), 2.24 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.71 (t, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.83 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H, H-11a), 4.12 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.38 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H, H-11b), 4.71 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-7). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50.3 MHz) δ -0.2 [3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 14.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.1 (C-3), 22.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.5 (C-4), 36.4 (C-2), 42.8 (C-5), 49.0 (C-10), 70.8 (C-11), 70.9 and 77.8 (C-6 + C-7), 84.3 (C-1), 93.9 (C-8), 103.7 (C=C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-O), 218.2 (C=O, C-9).
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- (12) **20**: To a solution of samarium iodide (15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 10 equiv) cooled to -78°C was added a solution of the ketone **18** (54 mg, 0.14 mmol) and *t*-butyl alcohol (71 mL, 0.74 mmol, 5.0 equiv) in dry THF (10 mL), which had been precooled to -78°C. After stirring at the same temperature for 1 h, the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution. This was then extracted with ethyl acetate twice and the combined extracts were washed successively with saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine. After drying over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentration *in vacuo*, the resulting oil was chromatographed on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give compound **20** (48 mg, 90% yield).  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 200 MHz) δ 0.18 [s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 0.95 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.08 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.22-1.56 (m, 3H, H-2a and H-2-3), 1.38 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.49 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.53 (d, J = 11.4 Hz, 1H, H-5), 1.6 (m, 1H, OH), 1.78-1.84 (m, 1H, H-2b), 3.77 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H, H-11a), 4.0 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.27 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H, H-11b), 4.34 (dd, J = 11.4, 6.1 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.81 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.39 (s, 1H, H-8). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50.3 MHz) δ 0.4 [3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 12.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.4 (C-3), 25.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 28.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 32.9 (C-4), 34.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.8 (C-2), 44.7 (C-5), 48.6 (C-10), 75.8 and 75.9 (C-6 + C-7), 78.6 (C-11), 82.9 (C-1), 85.3 (C-9), 108.3 (O-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-O), 136.8 [C=CH(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)], 151.9 (C-8).
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- (15) **22**: major isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 200 MHz) δ 0.2 [s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 1.12 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.20 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.3-1.9 (m, 4H, H<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>3), 1.25 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.35 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.50 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.18 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.08 (dd, J = 9.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-6), 4.1 (t, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.65 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H, H-7), 5.55 (s, 1H, H-11). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50.3 MHz) δ -0.3 [3CH<sub>3</sub>, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], 15.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.8 (C-3), 22.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 33.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.5 (C-4), 36.4 (C-2), 43.4 (C-5), 49.1 (C-10), 70.7 and 78.4 (C-6 + C-7), 81.8 (C-1), 93.4 (C=C-H), 103.6 (C-8), 108.6 (O-C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-O), 115.5 (C-11), 214.7 (C=O, C-9).
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