

STEREOSELECTIVE SYNTHESIS OF (±)-PALITANTIN¹

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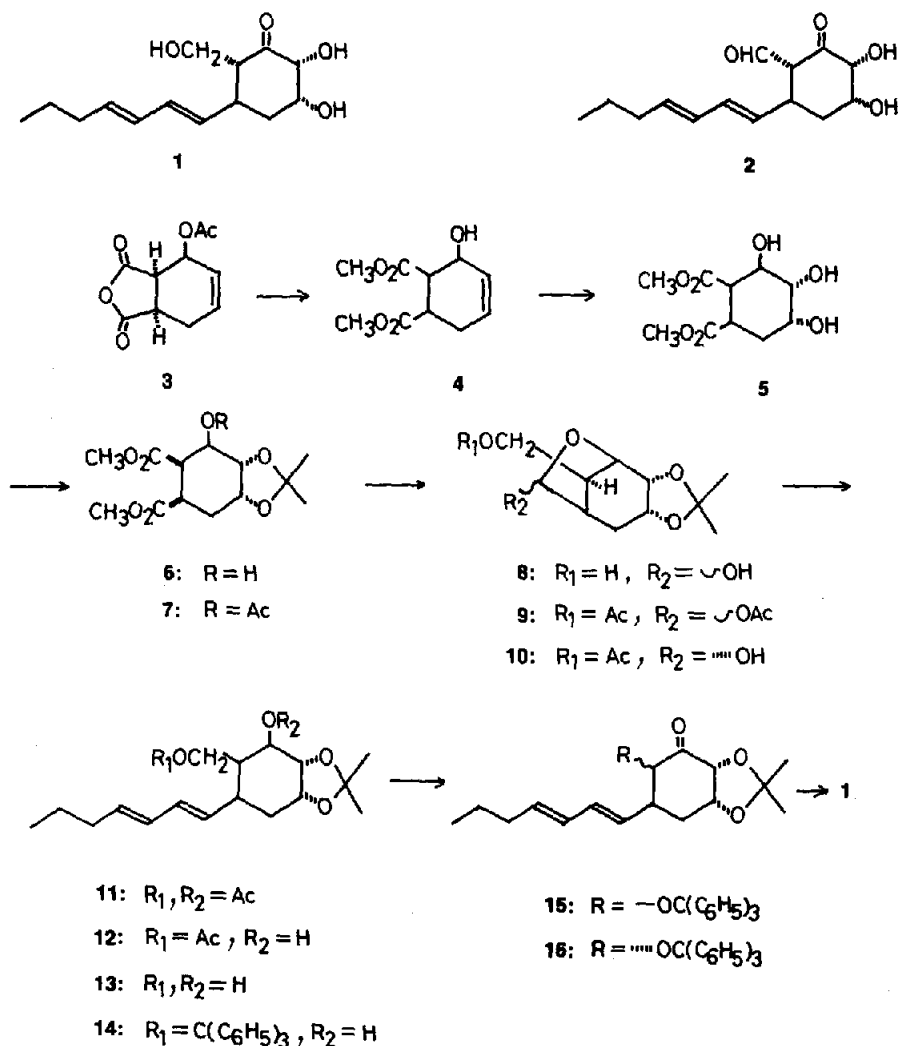
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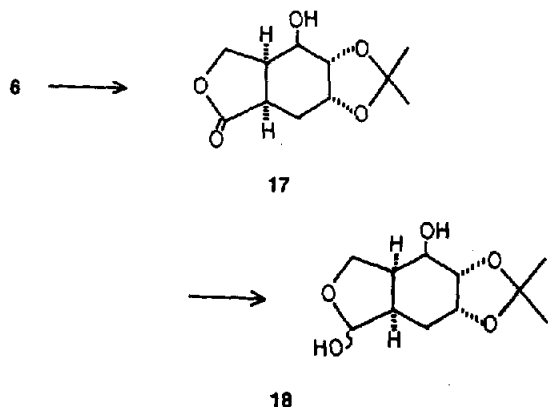
Abstract—Stereoselective synthesis of (±)-palitantin has been completed.

Palitantin (1) was isolated from *Penicillium palitans* Westling by Birkinshaw *et al.*² in 1936. Closely related compound, frèquentin (2) was also isolated as an antibiotic compound from *Penicillium frequentans* Westling.³ Though the structural⁴ and biosynthetic studies,⁵ and the correlation of these compounds were completed,⁶ no synthetic method has been reported. We would like to report here the details of the synthesis of (±)-palitantin⁷ utilizing efficiently neighboring group effect⁸ as a methodology for regioselective reaction.

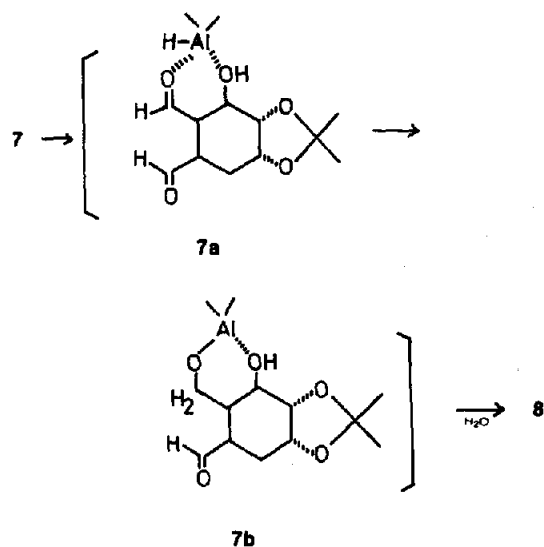
The Diels–Alder reaction of maleic anhydride and acetoxybutadiene, which was prepared from crotonaldehyde and isopropenyl acetate⁹ afforded an adduct 3.¹⁰ Treatment of the adduct with 3% methanolic hydrogen chloride at room temperature to yield quantitatively a dimethyl ester 4. *cis*-Hydroxylation of the ester 4 with osmium tetroxide followed by bisulfite work up gave a triol 5 in 92% yield. The stereochemistry of 5 was confirmed by the fact that the acetate 7 derived from 5 exhibited a signal at δ 5.00 (1H, dd, $J = 8\text{Hz}$, 5Hz, -



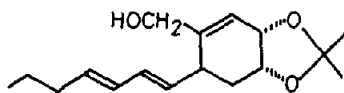
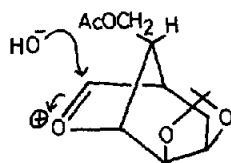
CHOAc), whose data are compatible to the stable chair conformation arising from the configuration 7. Treatment of the triol 5 with dimethoxypropane and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in dry acetone afforded an acetonide 6 in 93% yield. Regioselective reduction of the ester 6 was carried out by sodium borohydride utilising neighboring OH group effect to give a lactone 17 in low yield.



The selective formation of the lactone 17 was explained by the chelation of the reagent with nearby OH and ester group. The lactone 17 was easily converted by diisobutylaluminum hydride to a hemiacetal 18 which would serve as a useful intermediate leading to palitantin (1). In order to improve the yield of the reduction product 17, the ester was reduced with diisobutylaluminum hydride. However, in this case, another hemiacetal 8 was directly obtained in 45% yield. Since the PMR spectrum of 8



indicates two signals (δ 5.54, δ 5.67, each 1/2 H) due to the hemiacetal proton, it was deduced that the compound 8 would be a mixture of diastereomeric isomers arising from the hemiacetal moiety. The formation of 8 was rationalised as follows. Reduction of two ester groups would yield a dialdehyde 7a and subsequent reduction chelated with the reagent gives 7b which is converted to 8 after hydrolysis. The Wittig reaction of 8 with 2-hexenyltriphenylphosphonium bromide under various



conditions gave a dehydrated product 19. In order to suppress the dehydration, it was intended that by the acetylation of the primary OH group of 8, the tendency of deprotonation at 8-H would be decreased. Therefore, the hemiacetal 8 were acetylated to a diacetates 9, and then hydrolysed regio- and stereoselectively to the monoacetate 10. The stereochemistry of the OH group at the hemiacetal moiety was assigned as α since the signal due to the hemiacetal proton which have 90° of dihedral angle with vicinal 4-H, appeared at δ 5.41 as a singlet. Stereoselective formation of 10 would be rationalised by the preferential attack of $-OH$ from less hindered side of the oxonium ion 10a.

The Wittig reaction of the hemiacetal 10 with (E)-2-hexenyltriphenylphosphonium bromide gave 23.2% of a mixture of two products, diacetate 11 and monoacetate 12 in a ratio of 4:1. Since appreciable amount of 8 was recovered, the formation of the diacetate 11 would be ascribed to intermolecular acyl migration under the reaction conditions.

Treatment of each of 11 and 12 with sodium methoxide yielded the same diol 13 quantitatively. Since in the PMR spectra all three compounds, 11, 12 and 13 reveal sharp signals, and in the IR spectra typical absorption bands ascribable to *trans* diene system were observed in a range of frequency at $980 \sim 990 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, it is clear that the Wittig reaction proceeded stereoselectively to give only *trans* isomer. The diol 13 was treated with trityl chloride in pyridine to afford a trityl compound 14, which was quantitatively oxidised with chromium trioxide to a ketone 15. Epimerisation at C-2 in 15 was carried out with DBU to give a thermodynamically stable isomer 16, which has an adequate configuration leading to the natural product. Removal of the protective groups, trityl and acetonide groups, proceeded easily with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in methanol to afford (\pm)-palitantin (1) in 97% yield. Since palitantin was converted to frequentin, present synthesis means in formal sense the synthesis of frequentin.

EXPERIMENTAL

All m.p.s are uncorrected and were determined on a Yanaco Micromelting Point Apparatus MP-3D. The IR spectra were recorded on a Hitachi IR Spectro-photometer Model 285 and PMR spectra on a Hitachi 90 MHz high Resolution Spectrometer Model R-22: the abbreviations *s*, *d*, *t*, *q* and *m* signify singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet and multiplet. Mass spectra were determined on Hitachi RMU-4 Spectrometer.

The starting material, 1-acetoxy-1,3-butadiene, was prepared from crotonaldehyde and isopropenyl acetate according to known procedure b.p. 48 ~ 52°/32 mmHg.

3-Acetoxy-4-cyclohexen-1,2-dicarboxylic anhydride. This was prepared from 1-acetoxy-1,3-butadiene and maleic anhydride by the same procedure previously reported,¹⁰ m.p. 56 ~ 59°.

Dimethyl *c*-3-hydroxy-4-cyclohexen-*r*-1, *c*-2-dicarboxylate (3). A soln of 10 g of the Diels-Alder adduct in 105 ml of methanolic HCl was allowed to stand for 24 hr at room temp. To the mixture was added ca 500 ml benzene and the mixture was washed with NaHCO₃aq. The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated *in vacuo* to give 9.9 g (97%) of oil 4 IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$: 3400, 1730 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$: 2.30 ~ 2.45 (2H, m, CH₂), 2.98 ~ 3.14 (2H, m, -CH-), 3.72, 3.74 (each 3H, s, OCH₃), 4.40 (1H, bs, -CHOAc), 5.64 6.02 (2H, m, $\text{---}\overset{\text{H}}{\text{C}}\text{---}$), MS *m/e*: 214 (M⁺). (Found: C, 56.00; H, 6.57. Calc. for C₁₀H₁₄O₅; C, 56.07; H, 6.59%).

Dimethyl *c*-3, *t*-4, *t*-5-trihydroxy-*r*-1, *c*-2-cyclohexanedicarboxylate (5). To a stirred soln of 100 mg (0.47 mmol) of 4 in 1.5 ml THF was added 8.5 mg (0.033 mmol) of osmium tetroxide, and then dropwise a soln of 83 mg (0.27 mmol) barium chlorate in 0.5 ml water for 2.5 hr under ice-cooling. After the addition, the mixture was allowed to stand for 43 hr at room temp under stirring. To the mixture was then added dropwise a soln of 300 mg (2.88 mmol) NaHSO₃ in 1 ml water under stirring and ice-cooling, and the mixture was stirred for additional 12 hr at room temp. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the extracts were combined and dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated *in vacuo* to leave 106 mg (91%) of crystalline 5, which was recrystallised from CHCl₃-EtOAc, m.p. 136 ~ 137°, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ 3420 1735 cm⁻¹; PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 2.20 ~ 2.90 (2H, m, CH₂), 3.22 ~ 3.61 (2H, m, -CH-), 3.62, 3.71 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 4.48 ~ 4.80 (3H, m, -CHO-). MS *m/e*: 248 (M⁺). (Found: C, 48.34; H, 6.52. Calc. for C₁₀H₁₆O₇; C, 48.38; H, 6.50%).

Dimethyl *c*-3, *t*-4, *t*-5-trihydroxy-4,5-di-*O*-isopropylidene-*r*-1, *c*-2-cyclohexanedicarboxylate (6). A mixture of 167 mg of 5 in 0.4 ml dry acetone, 0.64 ml dimethoxypropane and 1.85 mg *p*-toluenesulfonic acid was allowed to stand for 3 days at room temp. The mixture was extracted with CHCl₃ and the organic layer was washed with NaHCO₃aq and then saturated brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated *in vacuo* to give 181 mg (93%) of an oil 6, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 3450, 1720 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 1.35, 1.49 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 2.21 (2H, m, CH₂), 2.89 ~ 3.55 (2H, m, -CH-), 3.75 (6H, s, OCH₃), 4.05 (1H, m, -CHO), 4.25 (1H, t, J = 5Hz, -CHO), 4.45 (1H, q, J = 5Hz, J = 9Hz, -CHO), MS *m/e*: 288 (M⁺).

Dimethyl *c*-3-acetoxy-*t*-4, *t*-5-dihydroxy-*t*-4, *t*-5-di-*O*-isopropylidene-*r*-1, *c*-2-dicarboxylate (7). A soln of 97 mg of 6 and 0.4 ml Ac₂O in 0.8 ml pyridine was allowed to stand for 12 hr. The mixture was poured onto ice-water, and the mixture was extracted with benzene. The combined extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated *in vacuo* to yield 110 mg (99%) of 7, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 1740 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 1.36, 1.49 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 2.07 (3H, s, COCH₃), 2.35 (2H, m, CH₂), 3.08 (1H, m, -CH-), 3.42 (1H, dd, J = 4.5Hz, J = 5Hz, -CH-), 3.68 (6H, s, OCH₃), 4.45 (2H, m, -CHO), 5.00 (1H, dd, J = 5Hz, J = 8Hz, -CHOAc).

8-Hydroxymethyl-5,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene-3,5,6-trihydroxy-2-oxabicyclo[3,2,1]heptanes (8). To a stirred soln of 236 mg (0.82 mmol) of 6 in 3.2 ml dry toluene was added dropwise 3.2 ml (5.6 mmol) of a 1.76 M soln of diisobutylaluminum hydride in hexane at -60°. After keeping for 3 hr at the temp, to the mixture was added EtOAc and water, and the mixture was filtered through Highfloupercell, which was then washed with EtOAc. The combined filtrates were separated, and the organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue, which was chromatographed on a silica gel column using CHCl₃-EtOAc (1:1) as eluent to afford 86 mg (45%) of 8, mp 112 ~ 114°, recrystallised from toluene, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 3400 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 1.32, 1.42 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 1.70 ~ 2.20 (2H, m, CH₂), 2.30 ~ 2.86 (2H, m,

-CH-), 3.65 (1H, m, -CHO-), 3.90 ~ 4.51 (4H, m, -CHO, -CH₂O), 5.54 (½H, s, OCHO), 5.67 (½H, d, J = 5.5Hz, OCHO), MS *m/e*: 220 (M⁺). (Found: C, 56.44; H, 7.77. Calc. for C₁₁H₁₈O₆; C, 57.38; H, 7.88%).

5,6-Di-*O*-isopropylidene-3-acetoxy-8-hydroxymethyl-2-oxabicyclo[3,2,1]heptanes (9). A soln of 577 mg (2.51 mmol) of 8 and 1.5 ml Ac₂O in 3 ml pyridine was allowed to stand for 12 hr at room temp. The mixture was poured onto ice, and extracted with benzene. The extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to yield 750 mg (95%) of 9, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 1740 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 1.34, 1.46 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 2.04, 2.08, 2.09 (6H, s, COCH₃), 5.21 (1H, m, -CHO-), 6.19 (½H, s, -CHOAc), 6.35 (½H, d, J = 6Hz, -CHOAc), MS *m/e*: 314 (M⁺).

Rel-(8S, 3R, 5R, 6S)-8-acetoxymethyl-5,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene-3,5,6-trihydroxy-2-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]heptane (10). To a mixture of 1.136 g (3.62 mmol) of 9, 50 ml acetone and 50 ml water was gently introduced 20 ml gaseous HCl which was absorbed into a syringe from conc HCl bottle. After 12 hr, the mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the extracts were washed with a NaHCO₃aq and with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated *in vacuo*. Purification of the residue by column chromatography on silica gel with CHCl₃-EtOAc (1:1) afforded 602 mg (65%) of 10, which was recrystallised from ether, m.p. 115 ~ 116°, $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ 3400, 1745 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 1.31, 1.47 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 1.50 ~ 2.00 (2H, m, CH₂), 2.07 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.45 ~ 2.99 (2H, m, -CH-), 3.62 (1H, dd, J = 3.5Hz, J = 8Hz, -CHO-), 4.05 ~ 4.59 (3H, m, -CHO-), 5.24 (1H, dt, J = 1.5Hz, J = 3.5Hz, -CHO-), 5.41 (1H, s, -CHO-). (Found: C, 57.24; H, 7.45. Calc. for C₁₃H₂₀O₅; C, 57.34; H, 7.40%).

***c*-3-Acetoxy-*c*-2-acetoxymethyl-*t*-, *t*-5-dihydroxy-4,5-di-*O*-isopropylidene-*r*-1-[(1E,3E)-1,3-heptadienyl]cyclohexane (11) and *c*-2-acetoxymethyl-*t*-5, *t*-6-dihydroxy-5,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene-*c*-3-[(1E,3E)-1,3-heptadienyl]-*r*-1-cyclohexanol (12).** To a stirred suspension of 2.156 g (5.07 mmol) E-2-hexenyltriposponium bromide in 3.9 ml dry THF was added rapidly 2.23 ml (5.22 mmol) 2.34 M *n*-BuLi soln under ice-cooling. After 30 min, 655 mg (2.39 mmol) of 10 in 0.78 ml dry THF was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 hr at 5 ~ 10°, and additional 8.5 hr at room temp. To the mixture was added benzene, and the mixture was washed with aqueous ammonium chloride, and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with ether and the combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue. Purification of the residue by column chromatography over silica gel with benzene-EtOAc (1:1) afforded 178 mg (19.5%) of 11, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 1745, 985 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.90 (3H, t, J = 7Hz, -CH₃), 1.36, 1.51 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 2.02, 2.12 (each 3H, s, COCH₃), 1.15 ~ 2.25 (6H, m, -CH₂-) 2.29 ~ 2.56 (1H, m, -CH-), 2.60 ~ 3.00 (1H, m, -CH-), 4.10 (2H, d, J = 5.5Hz, -CH₂O-), 4.16 (1H, t, J = 6Hz, -CHO-), 4.32 ~ 4.53 (1H, m, -CHO-), 5.08 (1H, dd, J = 4.5Hz, J = 6Hz, -CHOAc), 5.28 ~ 6.39 (4H, m, $\text{---}\overset{\text{H}}{\text{C}}\text{---}$), MS *m/e*: 380 (M⁺). Further elution with CHCl₃-MeOH (93:7) yielded 41 mg (5%) of 12, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 3460, 1740, 990 cm⁻¹, PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.92 (3H, t, J = 7Hz, CH₃), 1.36, 1.51 (each 3H, s, CH₃), 2.03 (3H, s, COCH₃), 1.12 ~ 2.11 (6H, m, -CH₂-), 2.12 ~ 2.40 (1H, m, -CH-), 2.45 ~ 2.90 (1H, m, -CH-), 3.89 (1H, dd, J = 4Hz, J = 6.5Hz, -CHO-), 4.20 (2H, m, -CH₂-), 4.31 ~ 4.50 (1H, m, -CHO), 5.40 ~ 6.21 (4H, m, $\text{---}\overset{\text{H}}{\text{C}}\text{---}$), MS *m/e*: 338 (M⁺).

***t*-5, *t*-6-Dihydroxy-5,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene-*c*-1-[(1E,3E)-1,3-heptadienyl]-*c*-2-hydroxymethyl-*r*-1-cyclohexanol (13) from 11.** A soln of 48 mg (0.89 mmol) NaOMe and 154 mg (0.405 mmol) of 11 was allowed to stand for 12 hr under stirring at room temp. To the mixture was added 10 ml water and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The combined extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated *in vacuo* to give 120 mg (quantitative) of 13, which was recrystallised from *n*-hexane to give a pure sam-

ple, mp 85.4~86.7°, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ 3460, 1620, 980 cm^{-1} , PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.90 (3H, t, $J = 6\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 1.37, 1.51 (each 3H, s, CH_3), 1.15~2.40 (6H, m, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 2.45~2.90 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 3.67~3.85 (2H, m, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$), 3.97 (1H, dd, $J = 4.5\text{Hz}$, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.18 (1H, q, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $J = 5\text{Hz}$, $-\text{CHO}-$), 4.30~4.50 (1H, m, $-\text{CHO}-$), 5.22~6.29 (4H, m, H). (Found: C, 68.86; H, 9.70. Calc. for

$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_4$, C, 68.89; H, 9.52%). From 12. A soln of 6 mg of sodium methoxide and 40 mg of 12 in 0.7 ml of dry methanol was treated by the same way and yielded 35 mg (quantitative) of 13, which was identical with the previous sample 13 derived from 11.

t-5, *t*-6 - Dihydroxy - 5, 6 - di - *O* - isopropylidene - *c* - 3 - [(1*E*, 3*E*) - 1, 3 - heptadienyl] - *c* - 2 - trityloxymethyl - *r* - 1 - cyclohexanol (14). A soln of 159 mg of 13 and 181 mg trityl chloride in 0.6 ml dry pyridine was allowed to stand for 2 days at room temp. The mixture was poured into benzene and the organic layer was washed with water and dried over Na_2SO_4 , and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue, which was chromatographed on a silica gel eluting with benzene-EtOAc (9:1) to afford 196 mg (68%) of 14. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 3470, 3050, 1600, 990 cm^{-1} , PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.91 (3H, t, $J = 6.5\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 1.35, 1.51 (each 3H, s, CH_3), 2.12~2.35 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 2.45~2.82 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 3.28 (2H, ddd, $J = 10\text{Hz}$, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $J = 5.5\text{Hz}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$), 3.82 (1H, dd, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $J = 4\text{Hz}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$), 3.98 (1H, dd, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $J = 5\text{Hz}$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.22~4.43 (1H, m, $-\text{CHO}-$), 5.23~6.22 (4H, m, H), 7.05~7.79 (15H, m, ArH). MS *m/e*: 538 (M^+).

t-5, *t*-6 - Dihydroxy - 5, 6 - di - *O* - isopropylidene - *c* - 3 - [(1*E*, 3*E*) - 1, 3 - heptadienyl] - *r* - 2 - trityloxymethyl - 1 - cyclohexanone (15). To a stirred soln of 0.22 ml pyridine in 3.3 ml dry CH_2Cl_2 was added 137 mg (1.37 mmol) CrO_3 at room temp. After 15 min, 107 mg (0.199 mmol) of 14 was added. The mixture was stirred for an additional 30 min and the resultant ppts were filtered off through a column of a small amount of silicic acid, and the column was washed with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined filtrates were evaporated *in vacuo* to give 102 mg (quantitative) of 15, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 3050, 1600, 985 cm^{-1} , PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.90 (3H, t, $J = 6.5\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 1.36, 1.45 (each 3H, s, CH_3), 1.89~2.22 (4H, m, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 2.74~3.11 (2H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 3.35 (2H, ddd, $J = 9\text{Hz}$, $J = 6\text{Hz}$, $J = 6\text{Hz}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$), 4.30 (1H, d, $J = 5.5\text{Hz}$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.40~4.65 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 5.50~6.23 (4H, m, H), 7.15~7.78 (15H, m, ArH). MS *m/e*: 536 (M^+).

c-5, *c*-6 - Dihydroxy - 5, 6 - di - *O* - isopropylidene - *c* - 3 - [(1*E*, 3*E*) - 1, 3 - heptadienyl] - *r* - 2 - trityloxymethyl - 1 - cyclohexanone (16). A soln of 101 mg (0.188 mmol) of 15 and 4 drops 1, 5-diazabicyclo[5, 4, 0] undecene-5 in 20 ml dry benzene was allowed to stand for 5 hr at 25°. The reaction was quenched by the addition of NH_4Cl and the mixture was extracted with benzene. The combined extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue. The residue was chroma-

tographed on a silica gel column with benzene-EtOAc (9:1) to afford 73 mg (72%) of 16, IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{film}}$ 1725, 980 cm^{-1} , PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.91 (3H, t, $J = 6.5\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 1.45, 1.50 (each 3H, s, CH_3), 1.90~2.98 (6H, m, $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 3.38 (2H, ddd, $J = 9\text{Hz}$, $J = 5.5\text{Hz}$, $J = 3.5\text{Hz}$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}_2\text{O}-$), 4.31 (1H, d, $J = 7\text{Hz}$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.47~4.71 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.99~6.09 (4H, m, H), 6.95~7.81 (15H, m, ArH).

(\pm)-Palitantin (1). A soln of 13 mg (0.024 mmol) of 16 and 7.8 mg (0.041 mmol) *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in 2.6 ml dry MeOH was allowed to stand for 5 hr under stirring at 25°. To the mixture was added water and the mixture was extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated *in vacuo* to leave a residue, which was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with CHCl_3 -EtOAc-MeOH (4:4:1) to yield 6 mg (97%) (\pm)-palitantin, recrystallised from water to give pure sample, mp 139~141°; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ 3440, 1725, 980 cm^{-1} , PMR $\delta_{\text{TMS}}^{\text{CDCl}_3}$ 0.91 (3H, t, $J = 6.5\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 1.15~1.56 (2H, m, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 1.59~3.10 (6H, m, $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{H}-$), 3.80 (2H, d, $J = 5\text{Hz}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$), 4.20~4.31 (1H, m, $-\dot{\text{C}}\text{HO}-$), 4.32~4.50 (1H, m, $-\text{CHO}-$), 5.10 6.30 (4H, m, H), MS *m/e*: 254 (M^+). (Found: C, 66.02; H, 8.62. Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4$, C, 66.11; H, 8.72%).

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