

l-Menthyl (*R*)-2-Phenyl-4-oxo-1,3-dioxine-2-carboxylate: Diastereofacial Selectivity for Conjugate Addition and its Explanation¹

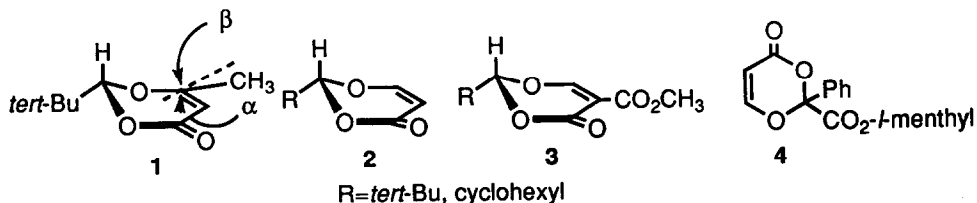
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Summary: *l*-Menthyl (*R*)- and (*S*)-2-phenyl-4-oxo-1,3-dioxine-2-carboxylates are synthesized from *l*-menthyl phenylglyoxylate by reacting with formylketene followed by fractional crystallization. Conjugate addition to the (*R*)-2-phenyl-4-oxo-1,3-dioxine-2-carboxylate by RMgBr/CuI has revealed that the reagent attacks from the phenyl side which takes the quasi-equatorial orientation in the sofa conformation of the dioxinone ring with complete diastereoselection. This finding is contrast to the reverse diastereoselectivity in the same reaction of 2-*tert*-butyl-6-methyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one and its 2-methyl derivative. A possible reason to account for this difference is proposed.

Previously, Seebach *et al.* have synthesized (*R*)-2-*tert*-butyl-6-methyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one **1** and examined its reaction with dialkylcuprates. They found remarkable β -side preference and reasoned that the selectivity was due to pyramidalization of the trigonal centers in the 4- and 6-positions of the dioxinone as depicted in formula 1.² We have found, to the contrary, that either photoadditions to alkenes or Diels-Alder reactions with alkadienes of 2-monosubstituted dioxinones (e.g., **2** for the photoaddition and **3** for the Diels-Alder reaction) proceed with α -side preference.³ Knowing that these dioxinones exist in a sofa conformation with the acetal carbon out of plane having the 2-substituent in a quasi-equatorial orientation, we explained the selectiv-



ity by assuming that the reagents approach from the more exposed α -side of the sofa conformation. Though both assumptions concerning the origin of the diastereofacial selectivities of **12** and related compounds⁴⁻⁶ were verified by X-ray crystallographic analysis, there is an urgent need to clarify to what extent the pyramidalization (origin for the β -side preference) of the trigonal carbon atoms in the sofa conformations (origin for the α -side attack) can be used as a guide to predict the diastereofacial selectivity. After thorough understanding of the respective roles of the pyramidalization and the sofa conformation, it would become possible to utilize dioxinones⁷ having a stereogenic center at the 2-position as versatile intermediates for the synthesis of enantiomerically pure compounds (EPC).

In this paper, we will describe our results concerning the use of chiral title compounds **4** as the substrate for the conjugate addition and propose that β -side preference in the conjugate addition reaction holds only for a limited number of derivatives of the dioxinones (e.g. the 2-monosubstituted² and some spirocyclic dioxinones⁸) and is not a general phenomenon for the corresponding 2,2-disubstituted dioxinones (e.g. **4**).

By the reaction of *l*-menthyl phenylglyoxylate **7**⁹ with formylketene generated in situ either from formylated Meldrum's acid **8**¹⁰ (reflux in toluene)¹¹ or from 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one **9** (reflux in benzene),¹² a 1:1 mixture of two diastereomers (*R*)- and (*S*)-**4** were obtained. Due to a large solubility difference, two isomers could be separated readily to the less soluble isomer (*R*)-**4** and the more soluble isomer (*S*)-**4** by mere fractional recrystallization. X-ray crystallographic analysis of (*R*)-**4** was then undertaken in order to determine its relative and absolute configuration and the result was presented in Figure 1.

Formally, the quasi-axial conformation of the *l*-menthylloxycarbonyl group of (*R*)-**4** seemed to be explained in terms of the steric requirements of the two substituents at the 2-position (A-values of COOR are 1.15¹³ for R=Et and 1.3¹³ for R=Me and that of Ph is 2.87^{13,14}). In the related heterocyclic compounds, 5-benzylidene-1,3-oxazine-4,6-diones **5**¹⁵ and **6**,¹⁶ it has been verified that, while the

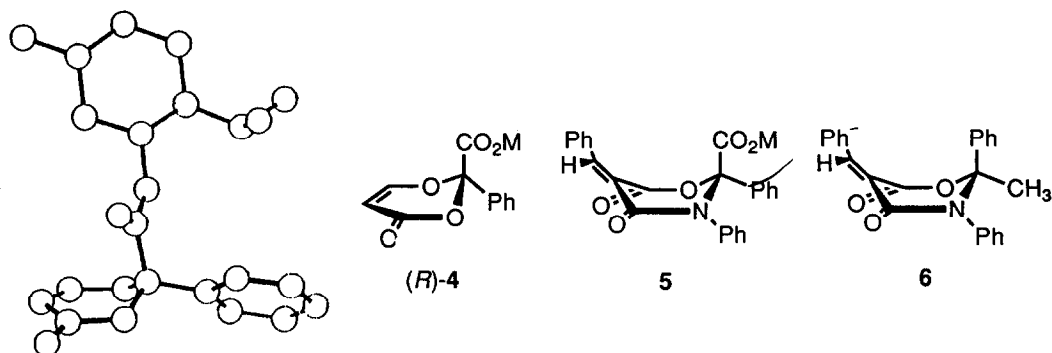
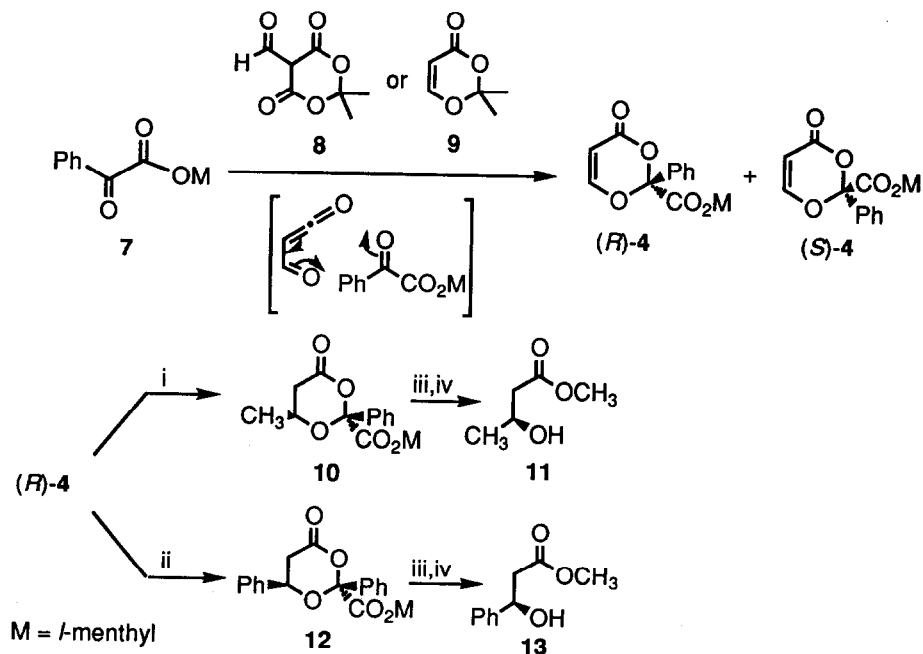


Figure 1. X-ray crystal structure of (*R*)-**4**.

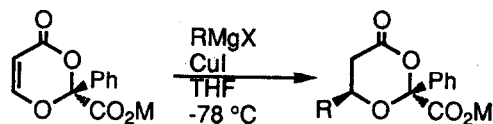
ester group takes again the quasi-axial conformation in **5**, the less bulky methyl group (A value of Me = 1.70) in **6** takes the equatorial conformation.¹⁷ This fact suggested that an additional stereoelectronic interaction,^{18,19} n_N (and/or n_O) \rightarrow $\sigma^*C-COOR$ or σ^*C-Ph , may also participate in determination of the conformation of the 2-substituents. Since the $\sigma^*C-COOR$ is obviously lower in energy (and hence a better electron acceptor) than σ^*C-Me or σ^*C-Ph , such stereoelectronic effect plays the major role in determining the respective stable conformation of **4-6**.^{19,20}

When (*R*)-**4** was subjected to reaction with methylmagnesium bromide/cuprous iodide, a single product **10** was obtained. In the same manner, the reactions using phenylmagnesium bromide in the above reaction also lead to the single product **11**. Stereostructures of **10** and **12** were determined by their conversion to the methyl esters (**11**²¹: $[\alpha]_D = +45.8^\circ$ and **13**²²: $[\alpha]_D = +17.0^\circ$). Use of other alkylmagnesium halides also gave the respective single products **14-16**. None of the stereoisomer was found in all cases. These results are summarized in Table I. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that dioxinone (*R*)-**4** exists in solution with a sofa conformation²³ as determined by X-ray analysis, whose α -side (phenyl side) is much more exposed than the β -side. It is clear, therefore, that the pyramidalization is not an important factor in the conjugate addition reactions of (*R*)-**4**.



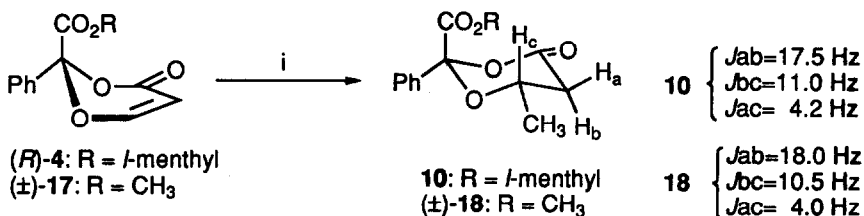
M = *l*-menthyl

Scheme 1. Reagents and Conditions : i, CH₃MgBr, CuI, THF, -78 °C ; ii, PhMgBr, CuI, THF, -78 °C ; iii, KOH, H₂O, r.t. ; iv, CH₂N₂, ether.

Table I. Conjugate Addition of Alkylmagnesium Halides to the Dioxinone (*R*)-4 in the Presence of CuI

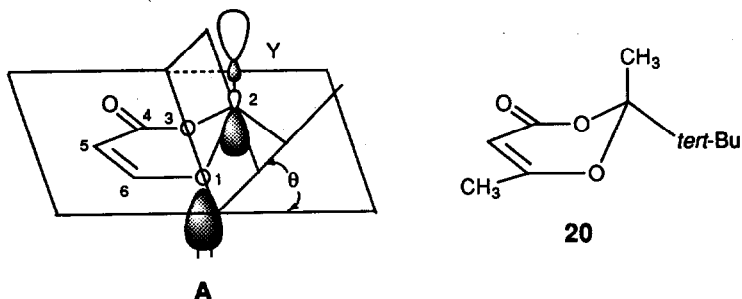
| entry | RMgX | additive | product | % yield |
|-------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1 | MeMgBr | ----- | 10 | 71 |
| 2 | PhMgBr | ----- | 12 | 89 |
| 3 | <i>n</i> -BuMgCl | ----- | 14^a | 40 |
| 4 | AllylMgBr | ----- | 15^a | 10 |
| 5 | AllylMgBr | TMSCl | 15^a | 60 |
| 6 | VinylMgBr | ----- | 16^a | 70 |

^a The stereochemistries of the products were assigned tentatively by analogy.

**Scheme 2.** Reagents and Conditions: i, CH₃MgBr, CuI, THF, -78 °C

Finally, the corresponding methoxycarbonyl derivative **17** was synthesized and subjected to reaction with methylmagnesium bromide/cuprous iodide. Here again, a single adduct **18** was obtained. Since 500 MHz ¹H NMR spectra of **10** and **18** are very similar, its structure was deduced as **18**. It is obvious that the stereoselectivity observed in the present conjugate addition (the α -side preference) was solely due to the sofa conformation of the dioxinone ring and not to the bulkiness of the alkoxy group in the ester group. Similar to the well-known reverse of facial selectivities between the reactions of norbornene (*exo* attack preference)²⁴ and those of its 7,7-dimethyl derivative (*endo* attack preference),²⁵ the difference between the facial selectivities of **1** and **4** is due to steric factors caused by the quasi-axial hydrogen and alkoxy carbonyl group at the 2-position. If one assumes that the kind of 2-substituents does not distort the sofa conformation of the dioxinone ring (in more strict sense, the

angle (θ) between plane of O¹-C⁶-C⁵-C⁴-O³ and that of O¹-C²-O³ remains constant irrespective of the substituents, cf. A), then one can conclude that the pyramidalization²⁶ is important only in the former case (1), while the steric interactions from the axial substituent in the sofa conformation takes the primary role in the latter case (4).



Very recently, Lange and Organ reported that the cuprate addition of 2-*tert*-butyl-2,6-dimethyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one under the same condition as in our case resulted in selective attack from β -side.²⁷ Their result suggests that the pyramidalization of the enone system dominates over the additional hindrance of the 2-methyl group in 20. The A value of methyl group is 1.7 and larger than those (CO₂Me = 1.3 and CO₂Et = 1.15) of alkoxy carbonyl groups.¹³ Hence, there is an obvious discrepancy between diastereofacial selectivities for the same cuprate addition reactions of 17 and 20. One reasonable explanation for this discrepancy is the change of angle (θ). If this angle becomes larger, the steric demand of the 2-axial substituent at the reaction site (C⁶) also becomes larger due to their close proximity. We believe that the interaction (n_O- σ^* _{C(2)-COOR})²⁸ which is surely one of the major factors to take the sofa conformation is only dominant for 17 and (*R*)-4. The same interaction would not be expected to 1, 2, and 20, since the corresponding LUMO [σ^* _{C(2)-H} and σ^* _{C(2)-Me}] should have much higher energy than the n_O- σ^* _{C(2)-COOR} of in 17 and (*R*)-4.

In summary, the following could be said: 1) The title dioxinone could serve as new intermediates for the synthesis of EPCs and 2) the prediction of diastereofacial selectivity can be made simply from the sofa conformation they have and the reagents are expected to attack from the more exposed α -side (the same side of the quasi-axial substituent at the acetal carbon) of the sofa conformation.

We are currently synthesizing derivatives of 4 including a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group instead of the 2-phenyl group and their 5- and/or 6-substituted derivatives in order to examine not only their respective conformations but also stereoselectivities in a variety of reactions. At present, we assume that irrespective of the bulkiness of the 2-substituents, the alkoxy carbonyl group would take quasi-axial conformation, since the latter group has, due to its electronegativity, low lying σ^* -bond, which should accept the lone-pairs of oxygen. Such electronic interaction would afford the presumed conformer as the most stable. The determination of the angle θ

for a variety of dioxinone derivatives is another important project which is also under current investigation.

Experimental Section

All melting points were determined on a micro-hot stage (Yanagimoto) and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO DIP-340 polarimeter. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a JASCO A-102 spectrometer. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded with a JEOL JNM-GX 500 spectrometer with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. Mass spectra (MS) were taken with a JEOL JMS-OISG-2 spectrometer.

X-Ray Analysis of (R)-4. A crystal of (R)-4 found suitable for X-ray analysis was obtained by recrystallization from methanol. Crystal data for (R)-4, $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_4$, are as follows: Orthorhombic, $\text{P}2_12_12_1$, $a = 17.168(8) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 19.239(7) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 6.014(3) \text{ \AA}$, $Z = 4$, $M_r = 358.43$, $V = 1986(2) \text{ \AA}^3$, and $D(\text{calc}) = 1.199 \text{ g/cm}^3$. X-ray diffraction data were collected at room temperature on a $0.3 \times 0.05 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$ crystal for 2715 independent reflections having $3^\circ < 2\theta < 110^\circ$ by a Rigaku AFC-5R automated four-circle diffractometer using graphite-monochromated $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$). Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied to the data. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS86, and all non-hydrogen atoms were located from E maps and refined anisotropically by block-diagonal least-squares calculations. All hydrogen atoms were included at fixed positions with idealized geometry. The final values for R and R_w were 0.076 and 0.060, respectively.

***l*-Menthyl (R)- and (S)-2-Phenyl-4-oxo-1,3-dioxine-2-carboxylates [(R)- and (S)-4].** (a) **Use of Formylated Meldrum's Acid as the Source of Formylketene.**

Formylated Meldrum's acid (**8**, 1.72 g, 10 mmol)¹⁰ was added over 1 h to a refluxing solution of **7** (4.32 g, 15 mmol)⁹ in toluene (100 ml). The solution was refluxed for an additional 2 h and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel. Elution with hexane-ethyl acetate (20:1) gave **7** (3.15 g, 73%) and then a mixture of (R)-4 and (S)-4 (1:1, 1.37 g, 37%). Fractional recrystallization of this mixture from hexane-ether gave less soluble (R)-4 and more soluble (S)-4.

(b) **Use of 2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one as the Source of Formylketene**

A solution of 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxin-4-one (**9**, 1.20 g, 10 mmol)¹¹ and **7** (14.4 g, 50 mmol) in toluene (10 ml) was refluxed for 50 min. Work-up as in a) gave (R)-4 (0.74 g, 21%) and (S)-4 (0.72 g, 20%).

Less soluble diastereomer (R)-4: Colorless needles. mp 154-155 °C (from hexane). $[\alpha]_D^{26} -67.0^\circ$ ($c = 1.05$, CHCl_3). *Anal.* Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_5$: C, 70.39; H, 7.26. Found: C, 70.09; H, 7.27. IR (CHCl_3): 1770, 1745, 1610 cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ : 0.55 (3H, d, $J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}$, isopropyl CH_3), 0.78 (3H, d, $J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}$, isopropyl CH_3), 0.83 (1H, dq, $J =$

3.0, 13.0 Hz, C₄-axial H), 0.86 (3H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₅-CH₃), 0.93 (1H, q, *J*=11.5 Hz, C₆-axial H), 0.98 (1H, dq, *J*=3.0, 13.0 Hz, C₃-axial H), 1.41 (1H, tt, *J*=3.0, 12.0 Hz, C₂-H), 1.40-1.47 (1H, m, C₅-axial H), 1.52 (1H, dh, *J*=3.0, 7.0 Hz, -CH(CH₃)₂), 1.62-1.68 (2H, m, C₃-equatorial H and C₄-equatorial H), 1.80 (1H, ddt, *J*=11.5, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, C₆-equatorial H), 4.71 (1H, dt, *J*=4.5, 11.5 Hz, C₁-H), 5.59 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₅-H), 7.44 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₆-H), 7.42-7.48 and 7.70-7.74 (5H, m, Ph).

More soluble diastereomer (*S*)-4: Colorless prisms. mp 111-112 °C (from pentane). [α]_D²⁶ -76.4° (*c* = 1.01, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₂₆O₅: C, 70.39; H, 7.26. Found: C, 70.30; H, 7.27. IR (CHCl₃): 1775 (sh), 1745, 1620 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 0.50 (3H, d, *J*=7.0 Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.74 (3H, d, *J*=7.0 Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.84 (1H, dq, *J*=3.0, 13.0 Hz, C₄-axial H), 0.87 (3H, d, *J*=6.5 Hz, C₅-CH₃), 0.97 (1H, dq, *J*=3.0, 13.5 Hz, C₃-axial H), 0.99 (1H, q, *J*=12.0 Hz, C₆-axial H), 1.42 (1H, dq, *J*=3.0, 13.0 Hz, C₂-H), 1.45 (1H, m, C₅-axial H), 1.38-1.49 (1H, m, -CH(CH₃)₂), 1.63 (1H, dq, *J*=13.5, 3.5 Hz, C₃-equatorial H), 1.65 (1H, m, C₄-equatorial H), 1.85 (1H, ddt, *J*=12.0, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, C₆-equatorial H), 4.69 (1H, dt, *J*=4.0, 13.0 Hz, C₁-H), 5.58 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₅-H), 7.43 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₆-H), 7.42-7.48 and 7.71-7.74 (5H, m, Ph).

***l*-Menthyl (2*R*, 6*S*)-6-Methyl-4-oxo-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane-2-carboxylate (10).**

A solution of methylmagnesium bromide (2 M THF solution, 3.0 ml, 6.0 mmol) was added to a mixture of CuI (570 mg, 3.0 mmol) and THF (7 ml) under argon at -78 °C. The whole was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C. A solution of (*R*)-4 (358 mg, 1.0 mmol) in THF (6 ml) was added to the solution and the mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 20 min. Saturated NH₄Cl solution was added to the mixture. The mixture was extracted with ether. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, evaporated *in vacuo*, and chromatographed on silica gel using hexane-ethyl acetate (20:1) to give **8** (267 mg, 71%) as prisms of mp 117-118 °C (recrystallized from pentane).

[α]_D²² -79.3° (*c* = 2.2, CHCl₃). Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₃₀O₅: C, 70.56; H, 8.08. Found: C, 70.49; H, 8.13. IR (CHCl₃): 1760, 1740 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 0.49 (3H, d, *J*=7.0 Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.66 (3H, d, *J*=7.0 Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.78-0.90 (1H, m, C₄-axial H), 0.89 (3H, d, *J*=6.5 Hz, C₅-CH₃), 0.95 (1H, m, C₃-axial H), 0.99 (1H, q, *J*=11.5 Hz, C₆-axial H), 1.17 (1H, dh, *J*=3.0, 7.0 Hz, -CH(CH₃)₂), 1.17 (1H, tt, *J*=11.5, 3.0 Hz, C₂-H), 1.30 (1H, tt, *J*=11.5, 3.0 Hz, C₂-H), 1.47 (3H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₆-CH₃), 1.55-1.70 (3H, m, C₃-equatorial H, C₄-equatorial H and C₅-axial H), 1.92 (1H, m, C₆-equatorial H), 2.48 (1H, dd, *J*=17.5, 11.0 Hz, C₅-axial H), 2.75 (1H, dd, *J*=17.5, 4.2 Hz, C₅-equatorial H), 4.19 (1H, ddq, *J*=11.0, 6.0, 4.2 Hz, C₆-H), 4.65 (1H, dt, *J*=4.2, 11.0 Hz, C₁-H), 7.35-7.75 (5H, m, Ph). MS *m/z*: 191 (M⁺-183), 139 (M⁺-235).

Methyl (*S*)-3-Hydroxybutanoate (11).

A mixture of **10** (374 mg, 1.0 mmol), KOH (162 mg, 3.0 mmol), and methanol (10 ml) was stirred for 15 min. After evaporation of methanol, the residue was extracted with pentane to recover *l*-menthol. The residue was then acidified with 10% HCl and extracted with a mixture of THF-ether (1:1). The organic layer was dried over

MgSO₄, evaporated, and treated with ethereal diazomethane under ice-cooling. The oily product was subjected to silica gel column chromatography. Elution with hexane-ethyl acetate (10:1) gave methyl phenylglyoxylate (147 mg). Further elution with hexane-ethyl acetate (2:1) gave **11** (84 mg, 71%) as an oil. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} +45.8^{\circ}$ ($c=1.00$, CHCl₃) [lit. ²¹ $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} +47.3^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃)].

***l*-Menthyl (2*R*, 6*R*)-4-Oxo-2,6-diphenyl-1,3-dioxane-2-carboxylate (12).**

A solution of phenylmagnesium bromide (2 M THF solution, 1.5 ml, 3.0 mmol) was added to a stirred mixture of CuI (570 mg, 3.0 mmol), (*R*)-**4** (358 mg, 1.0 mmol), and THF (10 ml) at -78 °C over 30 min. The whole was stirred at -78 °C for an additional 1 h. Saturated NH₄Cl solution was added to the mixture. The mixture was extracted with ether. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, evaporated, and chromatographed on silica gel using hexane-ethyl acetate (20:1) to give **12** (388 mg, 89%) as an oil. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{22} -33.3^{\circ}$ ($c=2.0$, CHCl₃). *Anal.* Calcd for C₂₇H₃₂O₅: C, 74.28; H, 7.39. Found: C, 74.27; H, 7.37. IR (CHCl₃): 1770, 1745 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 0.50 (3H, d, $J=6.5$ Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.65 (3H, d, $J=8.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.77-1.02 (2H, m, C₃-axial H and C₄-axial H), 0.89 (3H, d, $J=6.5$ Hz, C₅-CH₃), 1.19 (1H, dh, $J=3.0, 7.0$ Hz, -CH(CH₃)₂), 1.29 (1H, tt, $J=11.5, 3.0$ Hz, C₂-H), 1.48 (1H, m, C₅-axial H), 1.57-1.68 (2H, m, C₃-equatorial H and C₄-equatorial H), 1.98 (1H, ddt, $J=11.5, 4.0, 2.0$ Hz, C₆-equatorial H), 2.87 (1H, dd, $J=18.0, 11.0$ Hz, C₅-axial H), 3.02 (1H, dd, $J=18.0, 4.5$ Hz, C₅-equatorial H), 4.70 (1H, dt, $J=4.3, 11.0$ Hz, C₁-H), 5.10 (1H, dd, $J=11.0, 4.3$ Hz, C₆-H), 7.35-7.48 and 7.71-7.75 (10H, m, Ph x 2). MS m/z : 253 (M⁺-183), 139 (M⁺-297).

Methyl (*R*)-3-Hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoate (13).

Following the procedure given for preparation of **11**, compound **13** (193 mg, 0.44 mmol) was hydrolyzed with methanolic KOH. The reaction mixture was evaporated. The residue was extracted with ether to recover *l*-menthol (62 mg, 90%). The aqueous layer was extracted with ether. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and then treated with ethereal diazomethane. The product was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane-CHCl₃ (1:1) to give methyl phenylglyoxylate (67 mg, 93%). Further elution with hexane-ethyl acetate (5:1) gave **13** (53 mg, 73%) as an oil. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} +17.0^{\circ}$ ($c=4.60$, EtOH) [lit.²² $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} +17.9^{\circ}$ (EtOH)].

***l*-Menthyl (2*R*, 6*S*)-6-Butyl- and (2*R*, 6*R*)-6-Vinyl-4-oxo-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane-2-carboxylates (14 and 16)**

Using the procedure for the preparation of **10**, the title compounds were prepared with the yields shown in Table I. **14**: oil. IR (CHCl₃): 1755 (br) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ : 0.47 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.64 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH₃), 0.89 (3H, d, $J=6.5$ Hz, C₅-CH₃), 1.13 (1H, dh, $J=2.5, 7.0$ Hz, -CH(CH₃)₂), 1.26 (1H, tt, $J=12.0, 3.0$, Hz, C₂-H), 1.94 (1H, m, C₆-equatorial H), 2.50 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 11.0$ Hz, C₅-axial H), 2.71 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 4.0$ Hz, C₅-equatorial H), 4.02 (1H, ddt, $J=11.0, 7.5, 4.0$ Hz, C₆-H), 4.65 (1H, dt, $J=5.5, 11.0$ Hz, C₁-H), 7.31-7.76 (5H, m, Ph), CH₂ and CH₃ signals of the butyl group are overlapped with those of *l*-menthyl group. MS m/z : 417 (M⁺+1), 233 (M⁺-183), 139 (M⁺-277). High resolution MS calcd for C₂₅H₃₇O₅ (M⁺+1) 417.2641.

Found: 417.2638. **16**: oil. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{23}H_{30}O_5$: C, 71.48; H, 7.82. Found: C, 71.47; H, 7.82. IR ($CHCl_3$): 1765 (sh), 1735, 1690 cm^{-1} . 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ : 0.49 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH_3), 0.65 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH_3), 0.89 (3H, d, $J=6.5$ Hz, C_5 - CH_3), 0.99 (1H, q, $J=12.0$ Hz, C_6 -axial H), 0.78-1.02 (2H, m, C_4 -axial H and C_3 -axial H), 1.16 (1H, dh, $J=3.0, 7.0$ Hz, $-CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.30 (1H, tt, $J=12.0, 3.0$, Hz, C_2 -H), 1.47 (1H, m, C_5 -axial H), 1.57-1.68 (2H, m, C_4 -equatorial H and C_3 -equatorial H), 1.93 (1H, ddt, $J=11.5, 4.5, 2.0$ Hz, C_6 -equatorial H), 2.63 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 11.0$ Hz, C_5 -axial H), 2.80 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 4.2$ Hz, C_5 -equatorial H), 4.55 (1H, ddd, $J=11.0, 5.5, 4.2$ Hz, C_6 -H), 4.67 (1H, dt, $J=4.2, 11.0$ Hz, C_1 -H), 5.37 (1H, d, $J=11.0$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$ (*trans*)), 5.45 (1H, d, $J=17.5$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$ (*cis*)), 5.95 (1H, ddd, $J=17.5, 11.0, 5.5$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$), 7.37-7.41 and 7.66-7.71 (5H, m, Ph). MS m/z : 203 (M^+-183), 139 (M^+-247).

The preparation of **15** with the same reaction conditions gave the product only in *ca.* 10% yield. However, the yield increased appreciably by the reaction using chlorotrimethylsilane as an accelerator²⁹ as described below.

***l*-Menthyl (2*R*, 6*S*)-6-Allyl-4-oxo-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane-2-carboxylate (15)**

1 M ethereal solution of allylmagnesium bromide (0.9 ml, 0.9 mmol) was slowly added to the slurry of cuprous iodide (171 mg, 0.9 mmol) in THF (3 ml) under argon atmosphere at -78 °C. After 30 minutes, a mixture of (*R*)-**4** (107 mg, 0.3 mmol) and chlorotrimethylsilane (0.4 ml, 0.3 mmol) in THF (1 ml) was added to the slurry and the whole was stirred for 30 minutes at -78 °C. After addition of acetic acid, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The products were extracted into ether and the organic layer was washed with brine, dried with $MgSO_4$, and evaporated. The product was purified by PTLC (hexane-ethyl acetate 5:1) to give **15** (72 mg, 60 %) as colorless oil. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{24}H_{32}O_5$: C, 71.97; H, 8.05. Found: C, 71.68; H, 8.05. IR ($CHCl_3$): 1755 (sh), 1740, 1610 cm^{-1} . 1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ : 0.58 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH_3), 0.65 (3H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz, isopropyl CH_3), 0.89 (3H, d, $J=6.5$ Hz, C_5 - CH_3), 0.76-0.97 (2H, m, C_4 -axial H and C_3 -axial H), 1.14 (1H, dh, $J=7.0, 3.0$ Hz, $-CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.28 (1H, tt, $J=12.0, 3.0$, Hz, C_2 -H), 1.46 (1H, m, C_5 -axial H), 1.57-1.68 (2H, m, C_4 -equatorial H and C_3 -equatorial H), 1.92 (1H, ddt, $J=11.5, 4.0, 2.0$ Hz, C_6 -equatorial H), 2.41-2.48 (1H, m, $-CH_2CH=CH_2$), 2.50-2.55 (1H, m, $-CH_2CH=CH_2$), 2.55 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 11.0$ Hz, C_5 -axial H), 2.71 (1H, dd, $J=17.5, 4.5$ Hz, C_5 -equatorial H), 4.12 (1H, ddt, $J=11.0, 6.5, 4.5$ Hz, C_6 -H), 4.65 (1H, dt, $J=11.0, 4.5$ Hz, C_1 -H), 5.22 (1H, dd, $J=10.5, 1.5$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$ (*trans*)), 5.24 (1H, dd, $J=17.0, 1.5$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$ (*cis*)), 5.89 (1H, ddt, $J=17.0, 10.5, 6.5$ Hz, $-CH=CH_2$), 7.37-7.41 and 7.65-7.69 (5H, m, Ph). MS m/z : 217 (M^+-183), 139 (M^+-261).

Methyl (\pm)-4-Oxo-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxine-2-carboxylate [(\pm)-17]

Compound **6** (1.72 g, 10 mmol) was added over 20 min to a refluxing solution of methyl phenylglyoxylate (3.28 g, 20 mmol) in toluene (100 ml). The mixture was refluxed for an additional 2.5 h and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using hexane-ether (3:1) to give (\pm)-**17** (481 mg, 21%)

as prisms of mp 90-91 °C (recrystallized from pentane). *Anal.* Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀O₅: C, 61.54; H, 4.30. Found: C, 61.50; H, 4.38. IR (CHCl₃): 1775 (sh), 1760, 1615 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 3.78 (3H, s, CH₃), 5.58 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₅-H), 7.33 (1H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₆-H), 7.25-7.89 (5H, m, Ph). MS *m/z*: 175 (M⁺-59).

Methyl (2*R, 6*S**)-6-Methyl-4-Oxo-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxane-2-carboxylate [(±)-18]**

Following the procedure given for preparation of 10, compound (±)-17 (234 mg, 1.0 mmol) was treated with methylmagnesium bromide. Purification by silica gel column chromatography with hexane-ethyl acetate (1:1) gave (±)-18 (114 mg, 46%) as an oil. *Anal.* Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₅: C, 62.39; H, 5.64. Found: C, 62.52; H, 5.81. IR (CHCl₃): 1775, 1755 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 1.46 (3H, d, *J*=6.0 Hz, C₆-CH₃), 2.47 (1H, dd, *J*=18.0, 10.5 Hz, C₅-axial H), 2.74 (1H, dd, *J*=18.0, 4.0 Hz, C₅-equatorial H), 3.77 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.22 (1H, ddd, *J*=10.5, 6.0, 4.0 Hz, C₆-H), 7.43-7.50 and 7.65-7.75 (5H, m, Ph). MS *m/z*: 191 (M⁺-59).

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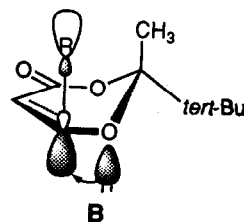
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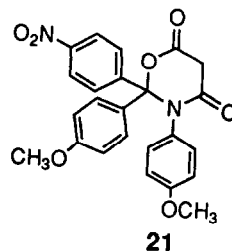


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