

PRACTICAL SYNTHESIS OF (+)-9(0)-METHANO- $\Delta^{6(9\alpha)}$ -PGI₁.
THE HIGHLY POTENT CARBON ANALOG OF PROSTACYCLIN

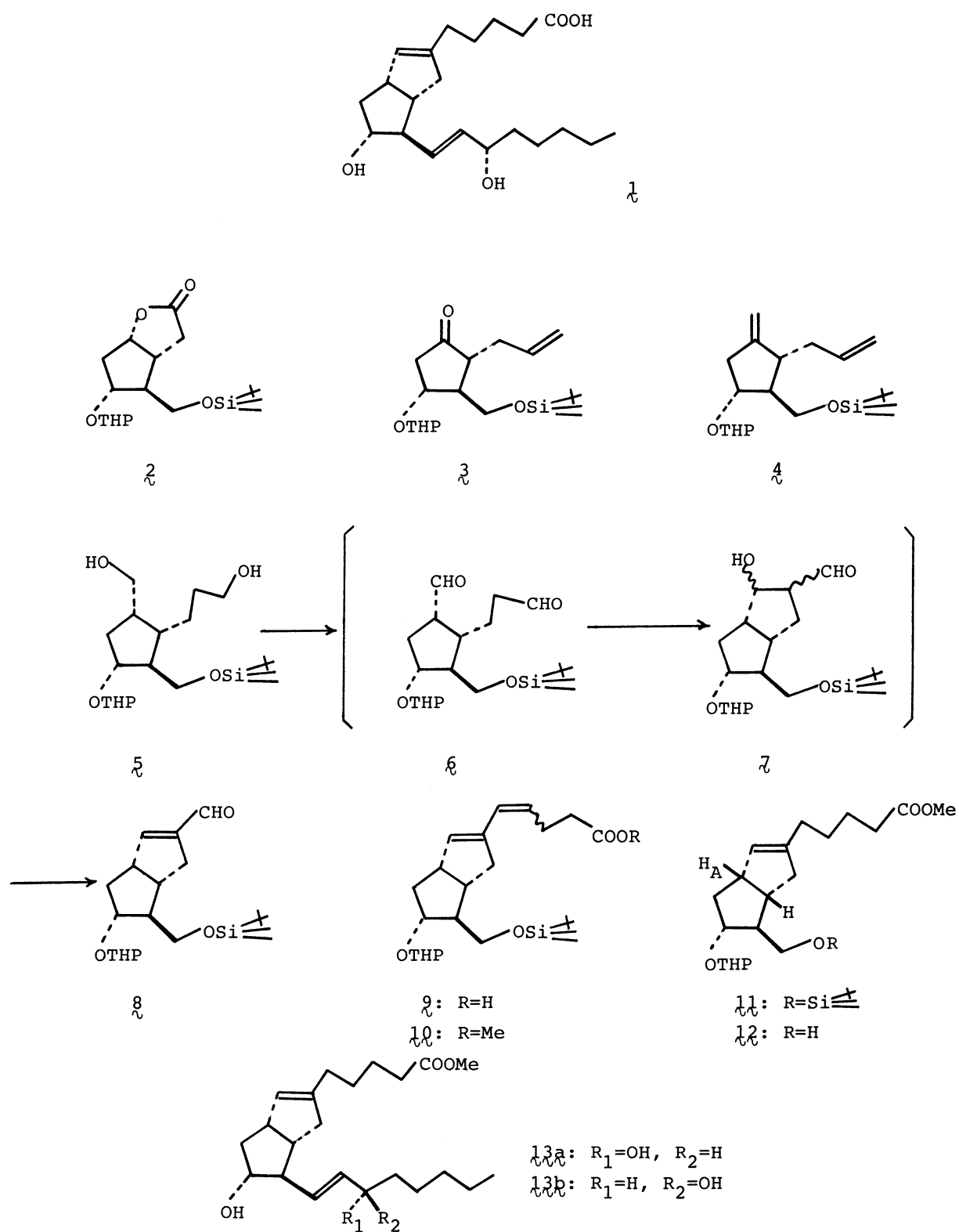
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A practical synthesis of (+)-9(0)-methano- $\Delta^{6(9\alpha)}$ -PGI₁, potentially a useful therapeutic agent, has been accomplished by utilizing the intramolecular aldol condensation as a key step followed by the Wittig reaction and the regioselective hydrogenation.

Since 9(0)-methano- $\Delta^{6(9\alpha)}$ -PGI₁ (**1**) was found to be more potent than well-known carbacyclin in inhibiting platelet aggregation,¹⁾ we have been concentrating on the development of a practical synthesis of this important compound. In this communication we wish to report a remarkably efficient synthesis of (+)-**1** suitable for the preparation of multi-gram quantities.²⁾

It was expected that the intramolecular aldol condensation would be a reasonable methodology for the construction of the bicyclo[3.3.0]octane derivative readily convertible into **1**. Thus, the lactone (**2**)³⁾ was first transformed to the allyl-ketone (**3**)⁴⁾ in 3 steps (94% overall yield) (i. DIBAL-H in toluene, ii. methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide-potassium *t*-butoxide in THF, iii. PCC-sodium acetate in CH₂Cl₂). Methylenation of **3** was effectively carried out by the action of Zn-CH₂Br₂-TiCl₄⁵⁾ to afford the diene (**4**)⁴⁾ in 90% yield. Hydroboration of **4** with disiamylborane in THF at 0 °C followed by treatment with alkaline hydrogen peroxide led to the diol (**5**)⁴⁾ in a stereocontrolled manner⁶⁾ (quantitative yield). Oxidation of **5** with reagents such as PCC, PDC and CrO₃·2py afforded the 7-membered lactone exclusively. However, the application of the Swern oxidation⁷⁾ led to the formation of the desired products. Thus, treatment of **5** with oxalyl chloride (3.0 equiv.) and DMSO (6.5 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ (-60 °C) followed by addition of triethylamine (15 equiv.) (-60 °C-r.t.) led to the dialdehyde (**6**) together with the aldol (**7**)⁸⁾ in a ratio of ca. 1:1, to which was added dibenzylammonium trifluoroacetate⁹⁾ (ca. 1 equiv.). After change of the solvent for benzene, the reaction mixture was heated at 70 °C for 6 h, providing the α,β -unsaturated aldehyde (**8**)^{4,10)} in "one-pot" from the diol (**5**) (76% overall yield from **5**), δ (ppm) 9.78 (1H, s, aldehyde proton), 6.71 (1H, d, J=2 Hz, olefinic proton). Wittig reaction of **8** with the ylide derived from 3-carboxypropyltriphenylphosphonium bromide¹¹⁾ and potassium *t*-butoxide in THF gave the diene (**9**), which was subsequently converted to **10**⁴⁾ by treatment with ethereal diazomethane in 85% yield from **8**, δ (ppm) 6.24 ($\frac{1}{3}$ H, d, J=16 Hz, trans olefinic proton), 5.98 ($\frac{2}{3}$ H, d, J=11 Hz, cis olefinic proton). The feature of the present synthesis is the regioselective hydrogenation of **10**. Thus, treatment of **10** (2 g) with a catalytic amount of 10% Pd on C (480 mg) in methanol (40 ml) under hydrogen



atmosphere (1 atm) at room temperature for ca. 1 h provided the desired bicyclo-[3.3.0]octene derivative (11)⁴⁾ in ca. 85% yield, δ (ppm) 5.25 (1H, d, J=1 Hz, olefinic proton), 2.90 (1H, m, H_A), together with the over-reduction product (ca. 13%) and the 1,4-reduction product (ca. 2%).¹²⁾ Removal of a t-butyldimethylsilyl-ether by reaction with tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF led to the versatile intermediate (12)⁴⁾ in 100% yield, δ (ppm) 5.25 (1H, d, J=1 Hz, olefinic proton), 3.00 (1H, m, H_A). The overall yield of 12 from 2 in this 9-step sequence is about 50%.

The alcohol (12) was then transformed to 9(O)-methano- $\Delta^6(9\alpha)$ -PGI₁ (1) in the usual manner; that is, (i) SO₃·pyridine complex-triethylamine in DMSO, (ii) (CH₃O)₂P(O)CH₂COC₅H₁₁-NaH in THF, (iii) CH₃COOH-H₂O-THF,¹³⁾ (iv) diisobutyl-aluminium-2,6-di-t-butyl-4-methylphenoxide¹⁴⁾ (13a¹⁵⁾ : 13b = 2.5 : 1), (v) NaOH in aqueous methanol. The overall yield of (+)-1 from 12 in 5-step sequence is about 41%. The spectral data of (+)-1 thus obtained were identical with those of an authentic sample.¹⁾

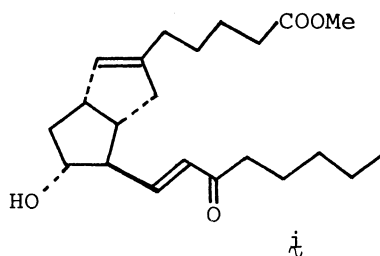
The synthesis of (+)-9(O)-methano- $\Delta^6(9\alpha)$ -PGI₁ (1) described above not only allows the preparation of larger amount of this substance, but it also enables us to prepare various analogs of 1 which are presently under biological evaluation for potentially a useful therapeutic agent. Furthermore it seems likely that this synthesis is suitable for the industrial-scale preparation of (+)-1 and its analogs.

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References

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- 2) Another synthesis by utilizing the intramolecular thermal ene reaction as a key step has been accomplished. Y. Ogawa and M. Shibasaki, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, in press.
- 3) The optically pure lactone having the proper absolute configuration was used in the present synthesis.
- 4) The optical rotation was not measured due to the presence of a THP ether.
- 5) L. Lombardo, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **23**, 4293 (1982).
- 6) Stereochemistry of 5 had been anticipated from the literature precedent [G.L. Bundy, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1975**, 1957], and was confirmed by the experimental fact that 5 could be readily converted to the α,β -unsaturated aldehyde (8). 9-BBN was also an excellent reagent for this reaction.

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Treatment of 5 with $\text{SO}_3 \cdot \text{pyridine}$ -DMSO-triethylamine gave the less satisfactory result.
- 8) The aldol product was in a state of equilibrium between 7 and the lactol form.
- 9) E.J. Corey, R.L. Danheiser, S. Chandrasekaran, P. Siret, G.E. Keck, and J.L. Gras, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 100, 8031 (1978).
- 10) It should be mentioned that the α, β -unsaturated aldehyde(8) is also an extremely versatile synthetic intermediate for the preparation of various analogs of 9(O)-methano- $\Delta^6(9\alpha)$ -PGI₁(1).
- 11) W. Seidel, J. Knolle, and H.J. Schäfer, Chem. Ber., 110, 3544 (1977).
- 12) These by-products could be removed at this stage by silica gel column chromatography.
- 13) The optical rotation of 1 was as follows. $[\alpha]_D^{20} +21^\circ$ (c 1.49, MeOH).
- 14) S. Iguchi, H. Nakai, M. Hayashi, and H. Yamamoto, J. Org. Chem., 44, 1363 (1979).
- 15) The optical rotation of 13a was as follows. $[\alpha]_D^{20} +10^\circ$ (c 0.55, MeOH).



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