Acylperrhenate-Induced Tandem syn-Oxidative Cyclizations of Hydroxydienes

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Tandem syn-oxidative polycyclizations of acyclic hydroxypolyenes represent efficient and possibly biomimetic¹ strategies for the chemical synthesis of polyether natural products. Hydroxyl-directed syn-oxidative cyclizations of bishomoallylic alcohols provide access to trans-tetrahydrofurans, whereas hydroxyl-directed epoxidation strategies generally produce cis-tetrahydrofurans² upon acid-catalyzed anti-cyclization.³ Although chromium(VI)-induced syn-oxidative cyclizations are limited to tertiary alcohols,4 Kennedy has developed a dirhenium heptoxide-mediated syn-oxidative cyclization method which produces predominantly trans-tetrahydrofuranyl alcohols and is compatible with primary and secondary hydroxyalkenes.⁵ More recently, Sinha et al. have reported that mixtures of Re₂O₇ and periodic acid promote tandem syn-oxidative bicyclization of a vicdisubstituted diene to give synthetically useful yields of a trans,trans-bis-tetrahydrofuran product.6 However, we found that application of these published rhenium oxide methodologies^{5,6} to trisubstituted diene substrates 6 and 10 (vide infra) gave complex reaction mixtures including oxidative cyclization and acid-catalyzed (nonoxidative) cyclohydration byproducts, even in the presence of an amine base.

A plausible mechanism for hydroxyl-directed synoxidative cyclization (Scheme 1) requires formation of perrhenate ester 3 from the alcohol and Re_2O_7 (1),⁷ which also generates 1 equiv of perrhenic acid $(pK_a-1.25)^8$ presumably responsible for nonoxidative cyclohydration of trisubstituted alkene substrates via tertiary carbenium ion intermediates. We hypothesized that a more general reagent for syn-oxidative cyclization might require changing the leaving group from perrhenate $(O_3\text{ReO}^-)$ to a less acidic organic carboxylate (RCO_2^-) , as in the acylperrhenates 2.

Reaction of acyclic hydroxydienes $6-12^9$ with (trifluoroacetyl)perrhenate (2, $R=CF_3$)¹⁰ gave good yields (65–90%) of monocyclic *trans*-tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohols 13–

Table 1. Acylperrhenate-Induced Hydroxyl-Directed syn-Oxidative Cyclizations

syn-Oxidative Cyclizations		
hydroxyalkene	procedur	ea product (yield, isomer ratio)
H OH 6	A	13 (66%, 6:1)
HOH 7	A	14 (66%, 9:1)
HOH 8	/ _A	15 (80%, 9:1)
H OH 9	/ _A	16 (65%)
H. OH 10	A	17 (84%)
H OH	A	18 (80%)
H OH 12	A A	19 (90%)
15	В	20 (60%)
18	В	21 (6%)
19	В	22 (51%)

^a Key: (A) (CF₃CO₂)ReO₃, 2,6-lutidine, CH₂Cl₂, 20 °C; (B) (Cl₂CHCO₂)ReO₃, (Cl₂CHCO)₂O, CH₂Cl₂, 20 °C.

19 with excellent stereoselectivity (Table 1, procedure A). In the presence of amine base (both pyridine and 2.6lutidine are satisfactory) monocyclization proceeds cleanly and without formation of acid-catalyzed cyclohydration products, even with the acid-sensitive substrates 6, 7, and **10−12**. The absence of bicyclic products is presumably due to a coordinative interaction between the Lewis acidic rhenium atom of the perrhenate ester and the tetrahydrofuran oxygen of monocyclic products 13-19. Although we reasoned that the trifluoroacetic acid byproduct produced in perrhenate ester formation might break up this interaction, we observed that omission of base resulted in complex reaction mixtures, possibly due to trace amounts of perrhenic acid still present. We then found that additional trifluoroacetic anhydride apparently traps perrhenic acid (regenerating trifluoroacetylperrhenate) and the trifluoroacetic acid byproduct promotes formation of bicyclic *trans*, *trans*-tetrahydrofurfuryl

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Scheme 1. Mechanism of Re^{VII}-Induced syn-Oxidative Cyclizations

alcohol product 20 from tetrahydrofuran-containing hydroxyalkene 15 in 22% yield.

The optimal reagent combination for bicyclization was determined by correlating yields of bis-tetrahydrofuran alcohol products with carboxylic acid pK_a . We have found that (dichloroacetyl)perrhenate (2, $R = \text{Cl}_2\text{CH})^{11}$ combined with excess dichloroacetic anhydride is a more effective reagent for cyclization of tetrahydrofuranyl hydroxyalkene 15 to the corresponding bistetrahydrofuran alcohol 20 (Table 1, procedure B). 12 Although these reaction conditions with the vic-disubstituted alkene 18

(9) Compounds **6** and **7** were prepared by sodium borohydride reduction of nerylacetone and geranylacetone, respectively (Hoye, T. R.; Kurth, M. J. J. Org. Chem. **1979**, 44, 3461). Compounds **8** and **9** were both prepared from the diynyl alcohol **i**, which was obtained from deca-4,8-diyn-1-ol (Bao, J.; Wulff, W. D.; Dragisich, V.; Wenglowsky, S.; Ball, R. G. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, 116, 7616) in two steps: (1) PCC, CH₂Cl₂; (2) i-PrMgBr, Et₂O. Cis,cis-Dienyl alcohol **8** was synthesized by nickel-catalyzed partial hydrogenation of **i** (Brown, C. A.; Ahuja, V. K. J. Org. Chem. **1973**, 38, 2226), whereas the trans, transisomer **9** was prepared by sodium/ammonia reduction (Henrich, C. A. Tetrahedron **1977**, 33, 1845). Compound **10** was prepared in four steps from nerylacetone: (1) AD-mix β , CH₃SO₂NH₂, aqueous t-BuOH, 30%; (2) CH₂=PPh₃, THF (54%); (3) NaIO₄, Et₂O/H₂O (81%); (4) i-PrMgCl, Et₂O, 0 °C (73%). The identical sequence of reactions from geranylacetone afforded the E-isomer **11**. Compound **12** was obtained as a 1/1 mixture of alkene isomers by a similar series of reactions in which the Wittig reaction (step 2) was conducted with CH₃CH=PPh₃.

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still give acid-catalyzed cyclohydration and alkene isomerization byproducts in addition to a low yield of the bicyclic alcohol 21,¹³ the more electron-rich trisubstituted alkene 19 gives satisfactory conversion to 22. Note that the overall conversion of 12 to 22 represents a more relevant model for biomimetic polyether synthesis than does a less substituted substrate (i.e., 10 or 11).

Although both [2+2] and [3+2] mechanisms have been proposed for syn-oxidative cyclizations, 5b,d we currently favor a [3+2] cyclization of perrhenate 3 with the pendant alkene to give the tetrahydrofuranyl alcohol product complexed with rhenium(V) (5, Scheme 1). The consistently high degree of trans-stereoinduction is also compatible with a [3+2] mechanism, suggesting that the stereoinducing center must be relatively near the stereocenter being formed. Examination of space-filling models indicates that the [3+2] adduct leading to cis-tetrahydrofuran products suffers severe steric congestion relative to the isomeric [3+2] adduct providing trans-tetrahydrofurans. In contrast, models of the rhenia-oxetanes 4 do not exhibit much discrimination between the isomers leading to cis- or trans-products.

In summary, acylperrhenate reagents provide a more general solution to the problem of tandem syn-oxidative cyclizations of acid-sensitive hydroxydiene models for biomimetic synthesis routes to chain polyethers. We are currently exploring applications of acylperrhenate-induced cyclizations to the chemical synthesis of polycyclic ether natural products.

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Supporting Information Available: Representative experimental procedures and tabulated spectral data for compounds **6–22** (7 pages).

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(12) Reaction of 15 with Re_2O_7/H_5IO_6 (refs 5c, 6) gave a 32% yield of bis-tetrahydrofuranyl alcohol 20. However, reaction of 15 with $(CF_3CO_2)ReO_3/H_5IO_6$ gave a low-yielding mixture of 20 and the monotetrahydrofuranyl ketone resulting from simple alcohol oxidation.

(13) Reaction of 18 with Re₂O₇/H₅IO₆ resulted in rapid formation of the acid-catalyzed (non-oxidative) cyclohydration product ii (61% yield); the desired product 21 was not observed by ¹H NMR or GC analysis of the crude product mixture.