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## Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713618290>

## Sulfur-Mediated Anti-Markovnikov Cyclization of 4- Alkenols

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**To cite this Article** Schaumann, Ernst , Dreeßen, Sylvia , Schabbert, Silke and Tiedemann, Ralf(1999) 'Sulfur-Mediated Anti-Markovnikov Cyclization of 4- Alkenols', *Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements*, 153: 1, 339 — 340

**To link to this Article:** DOI: 10.1080/10426509908546460

**URL:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509908546460>

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## Sulfur-Mediated Anti-Markovnikov Cyclization of 4- Alkenols

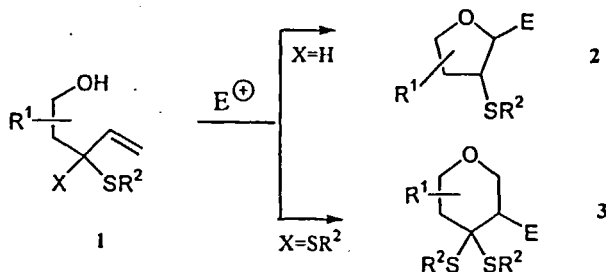
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Cyclizations of 3-mono-vs. 3,3-disulfur-substituted 4-alkenols are discussed.

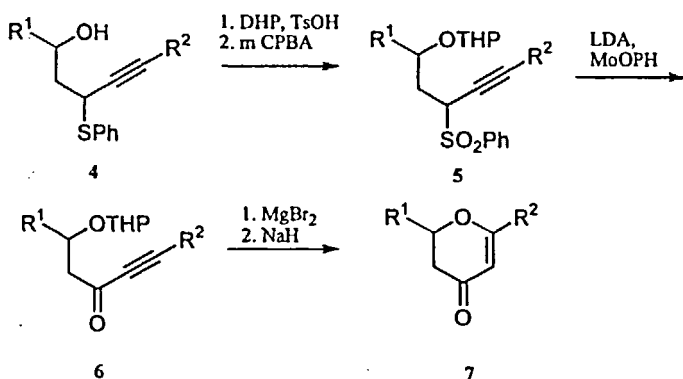
**Keywords:** regioselectivity; tetrahydrofurans; dihydropyrans; tetrahydropyrans

In the reaction of epoxides with lithiated allyl sulfides, regioselective C-C bond formation occurs to give 3-sulfur-functionalized 4-alkenols **1** ( $X=H$ )<sup>[1]</sup>. The action of electrophiles [proton,  $\text{Hal}^+$ ,  $\text{Hg}(\text{OAc})^+$ ] on alkenols **1** ( $X=H$ ) leads to the expected Markovnikov-controlled formation of functionalized tetrahydrofurans **2**. The ring-opening reaction of ep-



oxides has also been applied to lithiated unsaturated dithioacetals as nucleophiles giving the corresponding alcohols **1** ( $X=SR^2$ ). The subsequent treatment of **1** ( $X=SR^2$ ) with acid gives surprisingly not tetrahydrofurans **2**, but tetrahydropyrans **3** in an apparent anti-Markovnikov cyclization. Control experiments using independently synthesized **2** confirmed that tetrahydropyrans **3** are not secondary products of tetrahydrofurans **2**. Based on trapping reactions, we suggest initial protonation on sulfur to account for the unusual regioselectivity of the ring-closure reaction.

Alternatively, pyrones which are pheromones of moths [2], may be obtained from epoxide ring-opening products by Michael-type ring closure:



## References

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