ON STEREOCHEMISTRY OF OSMIUM TETRAOXIDE OXIDATION OF ALLYLIC ALCOHOL SYSTEMS

EMPIRICAL RULE

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Abstract—An empirical formulation is presented to predict the stereochemistry of major osmylation products of allylic alcohols and their derivatives.

In connection with studies on the marine natural product palytoxin, ¹⁻³ we have been interested in examining the stereochemical outcome of the osmium tetroxide oxidation of olefins, generalized in eqn (1).⁴ Judging from our previous experiments on hydroboration⁵ and epoxidation⁶ of similar systems, we expected this process might be stereoselective.

Thus, the olefins 1a-p were subjected to osmium tetroxide oxidation under stoichiometric and catalytic? conditions. After the usual work-up, the ratios of the two expected products 2a-p and 3a-p were determined by the appropriate methods (Table 1). The stereochemistry of the major products 2a-e and 2j-n was established by their transformation to the corresponding pentitol pentaacetates and comparison with authentic samples. The stereochemistry of osymlation products 2f-h and 3o-p was determined by independent syntheses of the corresponding tetraacetates.

The results summarized in Table 1 deserve several comments. First, the stoichiometric procedure provided slightly higher stereoselectivity than the catalytic procedure. Second, protecting groups of the hydroxyl at the chiral center, except acyl groups, were found to have only a limited effect in determining the stereochemical course of the oxidation. For the cases of acyl derivatives, however, the stereoselectivity diminished noticeably or completely. Third, the hydroxyl or alkoxyl oxygen seems to play the important role in obtaining a high degree of stereoselectivity. The examples listed in Table 2 support this view. Fourth, the degree of stereoselectivity observed for

the cis-olefins 1a-g is higher than that for the corresponding trans-olefins 1j-p, which may be attributed to the different degrees of preference of one eclipsed conformation over the others (vide infra). Fifth and most importantly, the relative stereochemistry between the preexisting hydroxyl or alkoxyl group and the adjacent newly introduced hydroxyl group of the major product in all cases is erythro. Although conclusions as to the mechanistic rationalization for this formulation must await further experimentation, an explanation, based on the conformational analysis of sp³-sp² single bond systems, seems worth mentioning.

An eclipsed conformation is known to be preferred for such systems. Among the three eclipsed conformations, A, B, and C, of the olefins 1, the conformation A is considered to be most preferred, since it is sterically least compressed. Assuming this conformational preference is reflected in the transition state, the stereochemistry of the major product is formulated as arising from the preferential approach of osmium tetroxide to the face of the olefinic bond opposite to that of the preexisting hydroxyl or alkoxyl group.10 The stereochemistry of the major product could alternatively be formulated as the approach of osmium tetroxide took place preferentially from the top face of the olefinic bond in either conformation B or C. However, the fact that the stereoselectivity observed for osmylation of the cisolefins la-g was always higher than that for the corresponding trans-olefins 1j-p seems to suggest the mode A of reagent approach to be most probable, since the preference of the conformation A over B and C is expected to be more significant for the cis-olefins than for the corresponding trans-olefins. Although there is no convincing example known in the literature to compare the relative reactivity of these three modes of reagent approach, the mode A

Table 1

		Table 1.	
	1	2	3
	Me of or —	Me OH OH + Me	OH OR
<u>a</u> :	R = H	stoichiometric 6.3:1.0 ^b catalytic 6.0:1.0 ^c	•
<u>b</u> :	$R = COC(Me)_3$	stoichiometric 6.3: 1.0 ^b catalytic 6.1: 1.0 ^c	
<u>c</u> :	$R = Si(Ph)_2(t-Bu)$	stoichiometric 8.0 : 1.0 ^b catalytic 7.2 : 1.0 ^b	
<u>d</u> :		+ C	
		stoichiometric $6.2:1.0^{b}$ catalytic $6.1:1.0^{b}$	
<u>e</u> :	00zi 00H	OBZI OH + BZIO	Offizi OH
		stoichiometric 8.0 : 1.0 ^b catalytic 7.0 : 1.0 ^b	
<u>f</u> :		- OH + ?	OH OH
	_	stoichiometric 11.0 : 1.0 ^b catalytic 8.1 : 1.0 ^b	
<u>g</u> :	BziO	Balo Man + Balo	OH OH OH
		storchiometric 8.9 : 1.0 ^d catalytic 7.6 : 1.0 ^d	
	хо Ох —	OX OM + xo.	OX OH
<u>h</u> :	x = cocH ₃	catalytic 2:1 ^d	ŌН
<u>i</u> :	$x = COC_6H_4NO_2-p$	catalytic 1:1 ^d	
	Me Me	Me O OH + Me	OH OR
<u>j</u> :	R = H	stoichiometric 3.3 : 1.0 catalytic 3.0 : 1.0	он b
<u>k</u> :	R = COC (Me) ₃	stoichiometric 4.2:1.0 catalytic 4.0:1.0	b c

Table 1 (Contd)

- a. Stoichiometric represents the results under the conditions of OsO₄ (1.2 eq.), py-THF (1:4), RT, and catalytic represents the results under the conditions of OsO₄ (0.05 eq.), N-methylmorpholine N-oxide (2.0 eq.), water-acetone (1:8), RT.
- b. The product ratio was determined by HPLC analysis.
- c. The product ratio was determined by isolation of products.
- d. The product ratio was determined by PMR analysis.

Table 2.

BZIO
$$\frac{R}{OH}$$
 OH $\frac{Ratio}{OH}$ OH $\frac{Ratio}{OH}$ OH $\frac{1a}{Ratio}$ OH $\frac{1a}{Ratio}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $R = Me^{19}$ $\frac{1a}{2}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{1}$: $\frac{1a}{1}$ $\frac{1a}{$

V = C. (Dh) (+-Rii). R = A-OCOPh $X = Si(Ph)_2(t-Bu)$, $R = \beta-OBzI$ $X = Si(Ph)_{2}(t-Bu), R = \alpha-OBz1$ $R = (CH_2)_2 O C H_2 O Me$, X = H $X = Si(Ph)_{2}(t-Bu), R = \beta-OH$ R = OMe, $X = COC(Me)_3$ $R = (CH_2)_2 OCH_2 OMe$, $R = (CH_2)_2 O CH_2 O Me$, $X = S1 (Ph)_2 (t-Bu)$ $x = coc(Ne)_3$ 11²² : Ratio = 8:1 10²² : Ratio = 4:1 $\frac{9^{22}}{9}$: Ratio = 4:1 8^{22} : Ratio = 8:1 7^{22} : Ratio = 6:1 R = X = H 19^{25} : Ratio = 10:1 18²⁵ : Ratio = 4:1 17^{25} : Ratio = 1:0 20^{25} : Ratio = 1:1 $\frac{20}{6}$: Ratio = 1:1²¹ $R = x^2 = H, x^1 = CH_2OMe$ X = S1 (Me) _ (t-Bu) 16^{25} : Ratio = 1:0 14^{22} : Ratio = 1:0 15^{22} : Ratio = 2:1 acetonide 5^{20} ; Ratio = 1:0²¹ a. Nonconjugated Compounds - 1 $R = (CH_2)_2 OSi(Ph)_2(t-Bu)$ $R = CH_2OS1 (Ph)_2 (t-Bu)$ A. Acyclic Systems 12²³ : Ratio = 11:1 $\frac{4}{4}$: Ratio = 1:0²¹ 13^{24} : Ratio = 7:1

$$\frac{21^{2}^{3}}{2} : \text{Ratio} = 1:0^{21}$$

$$\frac{22^{2}}{2} : \text{Ratio} = 1:1$$

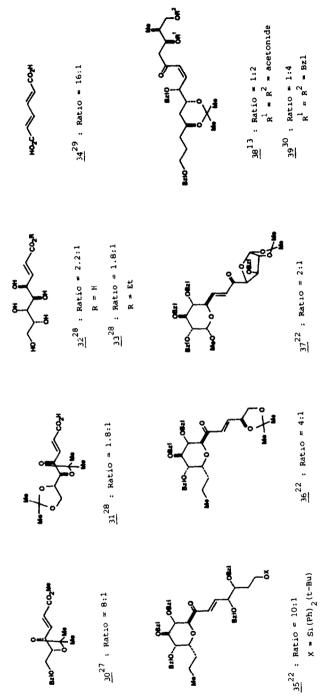
$$\frac{22^{2}}{2} : \text{Ratio} = 1:0$$

$$\frac{22^{2}}{2} : \text{Ratio} = 1:1$$

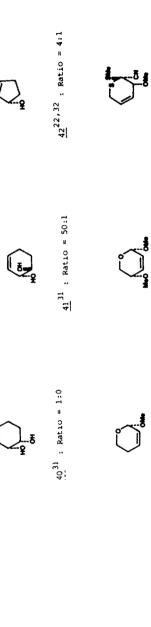
A. Acyclic Systems

Table 3 (Contd)

b. Conjugated Carbonyl Compounds



B. Cyclic Systems



may most be favored on the considerations of stereoelectronic ground.

It is interesting to add that osmylation of 2-cyclohexen-1-ol yielded 1β , 2α , 3α -cyclohexanetriol as the major product. Thus, the stereochemical outcome for both acyclic and cyclic systems can superficially be formulated as osmium tetroxide approaches preferentially to the face of the olefinic bond opposite to that of the preexisting hydroxyl or alkoxyl group.

This empirical formulation seems to agree extremely well with the examples known in the literature. Some selected examples are listed in Table 3 with classification of (A) acyclic and (B) cyclic systems. Acyclic systems are further divided into (a) nonconjugated compounds and (b) conjugated carbonyl compounds. Finally, nonconjugated compounds are classified into (1) the cases where a chiral center due to a hydroxyl or alkoxyl group is present at only one end of the olefinic bond, and (2) the cases where a chiral center due to a hydroxyl or alkoxyl group is present at both ends of the olefinic bond. The ratio indicated for each compound represents the ratio of the major and minor stereoisomers, predicted by this empirical formulation.

Seventeen examples under A-a-1 do not require further explanation except to point out the fact that, as mentioned before, acyl groups are poor in directing stereoselective osmylation (examples 6 and 20). For the cases where a chiral center due to a hydroxyl or alkoxyl group is present at both ends of the olefinic bond (examples under A-a-2), their effects seem to be additive; that is, the effects of two groups complement one another in compounds 21, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 28, while they counteract each other in compounds 25, 27 and 29. Slightly different degree of stereoselectivity observed for the olefins 1n and 1p (Table 1) may be explained in this term.

This formulation seems to be applicable also for conjugated carbonyl compounds (examples under A-b). However, application to these systems must be made carefully, since at least two exceptions are known (examples 38 and 39). 13,14 This might be attributed to the difference in the preferred conformation between α,β -unsaturated carbonyl and isolated olefinic systems; unsaturated carbonyl compounds may have the preferred conformation somewhat resembling the one suggested for the dipole model in the Cram's rule. 15

Related to this empirical formulation of osmylation, it should be interesting to examine the stereochemical course of some other reactions on allylic alcohols and their derivatives. Preliminary experiments on permanganate oxidation of the olefins described in Table 1 have shown that the stereochemistry of the major products corresponds to that of the major products obtained by osmium tetroxide oxidations. ^{16,17} Bromohydrin formation also seems to follow this empirical formulation. ¹⁸

Application of this chemistry to the synthesis of palytoxin as well as carbohydrates is in progress in our laboratories.

EXPERIMENTAL

Reagents and solvents were commercial grades and were used as supplied with the following exceptions: CH₂Cl₂: distilled; ether and tetrahydrofuran (THF) distilled from

sodium benzophenone ketyl; pyridine and Et₃N: dried over KOH. All reactions sensitive to oxygen or moisture were conducted under argon atmosphere.

Analytical TLC was performed on 0.25 mm precoated silica gel plates purchased from E. Merck. Preparative TLC separations were performed on plates (20 \times 20 cm) prepared with a 2 mm layer of silica gel PF₂₅₄ from E. Merck. HPLC analyses were performed by using 5μ Spherical Resolve Column from Waters Association.

NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL 270-FX (270 MHz) instrument in the Fourier transform mode. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from TMS (δ) as internal standard. Following abbreviations are used for spin multiplicity; s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet and m = multiplet. MS spectra were determined in Kratos MS-50 double focusing instrument in the EI mode (70 eV). IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Model 727 spectrometer.

Synthesis of olefins 1a e, j a

The olefins is and ij were prepared from O-isopropylidene glyceraldehyde according to the known procedure. Using the same procedures, the olefins id, ie, im, and in were synthesized from O-cyclohexylidene glyceraldehyde and O-dibenzyl glyceraldehyde, respectively. Conversion of is and ij to ib and ik, respectively, were performed under the standard conditions [(Me),CCOCl, py, RT]. Conversion of is and ij to ic and ii, respectively, were performed under the standard conditions [(Ph),(t-Bu)SiCl, imidazole, DMF, RT].

NMR of 1b (CDCl₃) 5.64 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 11.2, 7.9, 0.7 Hz), 5.73 (1H, dtd, 11.2, 6.6, 0.8). NMR of 1c (CDCl₃) 5.45 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 11.2, 8.6, 1.3 Hz), 5.81 (1H, dtd, J = 11.2, 7.3, 1.3). NMR of 1d (CDCl₃) 6.08 (1H, ddd, J = 11.5, 6.6, 1.6 Hz), 6.51 (1H, dd, J = 11.5, 7.2). NMR of 1c (CDCl₃) 5.64 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 11.2, 8.9, 0.8), 5.98 (1H, dtd, J = 11.2, 6.9, 1.0). NMR of 1k (CDCl₃) 5.73 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 15.5, 6.9, 1.0 Hz), 5.89 (1H, dt, J = 15.5, 5.3). NMR of 1l (CDCl₃) 5.74 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 15.5, 7.2, 1.0 Hz), 5.87 (1H, dt, J = 15.5, 4.3). NMR of 1m (CDCl₃) 5.70 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 15.5, 7.3, 1.7 Hz), 5.97 (1H, dt, J = 15.5, 4.9). NMR of 1m (CDCl₃) 5.66 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 15.5, 7.3, 1.7 Hz), 5.92 (1H, dtd, J = 15.5, 5.3, 0.7).

Synthesis of olefins 1f and 1g

To an ether (10 ml) soln of (n-butyl)triphenyl-phosphonium bromide (1.1 mmol) at RT was added a 2.5 M n-BuLi soln in hexane (1 mmol). The mixture was stirred at RT for 1 hr. To the resulting red-orange soln was added THF (5 ml). The mixture was cooled at -78° , and the soln of O-cyclohexylidene glyceraldehyde (0.5 mmol in 2 ml of THF) was added dropwise. After the addition was complete the cooling bath was removed. The mixture was stirred at 0° for 20 min and quenched with sat NH₄Claq. The organic layer was separated, washed with water, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. Preparative TLC (silica gel, 10:1 hexanes-EtOAc) gave the pure cis olefin 1f in 70% yield. NMR (CDCl₃) 5.41 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 10.5, 8.2, 1.5 Hz), 5.62 (1H, dtd, J = 10.5, 7.4, 1.0).

Similarly, olefin 1g was prepared from O-dibenzyl glyceraldehyde. NMR (CDCl₃) 5.39 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 11.2, 9.2, 1.0 Hz), 5.69 (1H, dt, J = 11.2, 7.6).

Synthesis of olefins 10 and 1p

To a soln of (n-butyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (1.65 mmol) in a mixture of ether (3 ml) and THF (6 ml) at -68° was added dropwise a 2M PhLi soln in cyclohexane-ether (1.65 mmol). The mixture was stirred at -68° for 45 min, and the soln of O-cyclohexylidene glyceraldehyde (1.65 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was added slowly. After 10 min at this temp, an additional PhLi (1.65 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at -68° for 5 min and allowed to warm up to -23°, t-BuOK in t-BuOH (3 eq.) was added, and the mixture was left overnight. The mixture

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was quenched with sat NH₄Claq. The organic layer was separated, washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated to give the crude *trans*-olefin 10 contamination with about 10% of *cis*-olefin 1f. Pure *trans*-olefin 10 was isolated by preparative TLC (silica gel, 10:1 hexanes-EtOAc). NMR (CDCl₃) 5.50 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 15.9, 8.1, 2.0 Hz), 5.80 (1H, dt, J = 15.9, 6.5).

Similarly, olefin 1p was prepared from O-dibenzyl glyceraldehyde. NMR (CDCl₃) 5.50 ppm (1H, dd, J = 15.5, 7.9 Hz), 5.73 (1H, dt, J = 15.5, 6.6).

Synthesis of olefins 1h and 1i

To Li-liq. NH₃ soln (8 mmol of Li in 60 ml of liq. NH₃) 1g (0.3 mmol of 1g in 15 ml THF + 3 ml t-BuOH) was added at -78° . The mixture was stirred at -78° for 10 min, warmed to -33° , and stirred for 35 min, then quenched with NH₄Claq. Usual workup gave the crude diol, which was used for acetylation (Ac₂O, py, RT). Olefin 1h was isolated by preparative TLC (silica gel, 1:1 hexanes—ether) in about 55% overall yield. NMR (CDCl₃) 5.32 ppm (1H, ddt, J = 10.9, 9.2, 1.6 Hz), 5.66 (1H, dtd, J = 10.9, 7.6, 1.0).

Olefin 1j was prepared from the crude diol described above. To a CH_2Cl_2 -py soln (2 ml + 1 ml) of the crude diol was added p-nitrobenzoyl chloride (0.4 mmol) and dimethylaminopyridine (catalytic amount) at 0° . The mixture was stirred for 10 hr at RT, diluted with CH_2Cl_2 , and washed with sat NaCl containing 1N HCl, then with NaHCO₃. The organic layer was dried $(MgSO_4)$ and evaporated. Pure 1i was isolated by preparative TLC (silica gel, 1:1 hexanes-EtOAc). NMR $(CDCl_3)$ 5.55 ppm (1H, ddt, J=10.9, 9.2, 1.6 Hz), 5.83 <math>(1H, dtd, J=10.9, 7.6, 1.0).

General procedure of osmylation

A. Stoichiometric. To a soln of the olefin in a 1:4 mixture of py-THF at RT was added osmium tetroxide (1.2 eq.). The mixture was left at RT overnight, and then diluted with MeOH. H₂S was bubbled through, and the resulting black ppt was filtered off through celite. The clear filtrate was diluted with EtOAc, washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. Preparative TLC gave pure products.

B. Catalytic procedure. To a soln of the olefin in an 1:8 mixture of water-acetone at RT were added N-methylmorpholine N-oxide monohydrate (2.0 eq.), and then a t-BuOH soln of osmium tetroxide (0.05 eq.). The mixture was left at RT overnight and quenched with sat NaHSO₃aq. After stirring for 10 min, the products were extracted with EtOAc twice, washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated. Preparative TLC gave pure products.

Structure proof of osmylation products

The major product of osmylation of 1a-e was proved to yield the same pentaacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 2.05 ppm (6H, s), 2.09 (3H, s), 2.10 (6H, s)], which was identical with the authentic sample⁸ in every respect (NMR, IR, TLC). Transformation of 2a and 2d into the pentaacetate was carried out in 2 steps: 1.5% conc HCl in MeOH, reflux, and 2. Ac₂O, py, RT. Transformation of 2b into the pentaacetate was performed in 3 steps: 1.5% conc HCl in MeOH, reflux, 2. LiAlH₄, Et₂O, 0°, and 3. Ac₂O, py, RT. Transformation of 2c into the pentaacetate was carried out in 3 steps 1.5% conc HCl in MeOH, reflux, 2. (n-Bu)₄N + F⁻, THF, RT, and 3. Ac₂O, py, RT. Transformation of 2c into the pentaacetate was performed in 2 steps: 1. H₂ (1 atm), 10% Pd on C, 3% AcOH in MeOH, RT, and 2. Ac₂O, py, RT.

The major product of osmylation of 1j-n was proved to yield the same pentaacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 2.04 ppm (3H, s), 2.030 (3H, s), 2.060 (3H, s) 2.065 (3H, s), 2.08 (3H, s), 2.13 (3H, s)], which was identical with the authentic sample⁸ in every respect (NMR, IR, TLC). The same procedures as the ones given to the corresponding *cis*-series were used for preparations of the pentaacetate.

The major product of osmylation of 1f-h was proved to yield the same tetraacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 0.90 ppm (3H, t,

J=7.6 Hz), 2.04 (3H, s), 2.06 (3H, s), 2.07 (3H, s), 2.08 (3H, s)], which was identical with the authentic sample obtained by the independent synthesis. Preparation of the tetraacetate from **2f** was performed in 2 steps: 1. 5% conc HCl in MeOH, reflux, and 2. Ac₂O, py, RT. Transformation of **2g** into the tetraacetate was carried out in 2 steps: 1. H₂ (1 atm), 3% AcOH in MeOH, RT, and 2. Ac₂O, py, RT. Acetylation (Ac₂O, py, RT) of **2h** gave the tetraacetate. The authentic sample of the tetraacetate was prepared from **2c** in 9 steps: 1. CH₃C(OCH₃)₂CH₃, acetone, p-TSA, RT, 2. (n-Bu)₄N⁺F⁻, THF, RT, 3. Swern oxidation, ³⁵ 4. (i-PrO)₂P(O)CH₂CO₂Et, t-BuOK, THF, -78°. 5. DIBAL, CH₂Cl₂, C₆H₆, -23°, 6. NBS, P(C₆H₅)₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0°. 7. H₂ (1 atm), 10% Pd on C, EtOH, RT, 8. 5% conc HCl in MeOH, reflux, and 9. Ac₂O, py, RT.

By using the same procedures of transformation, the minor product of osmylation of 1f-h was proved to yield the same tetraacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 0.90 ppm (3H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.03 (3H, s), 2.05 (3H, s), 2.08 (3H, s), 2.12 (3H, s)].

The minor product of osmylation of 10 and 1p was proved to yield the same tetraacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 0.90 ppm (3H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.05 (3H, s), 2.08 (6H, s), 2.10 (3H, s)], which was identical with the authentic sample obtained by the independent synthesis. The same procedures as the ones given to the corresponding cis-series were used for preparation of the tetraacetate from 30 and 3p. The authentic sample of the tetraacetate was prepared from 2,3:4,5-di-O-isopropylidene-D-xylose diethyl dithioacetal in 7 steps: 1. HgO-HgCl₂, aq. acetone, RT, 2. -7. follow the steps 4 through 9 of the synthesis of the above authentic sample of tetraacetate.

By using the same procedures of transformation, the major product of osmylation of 10 and 1p was proved to yield the same tetraacetate [NMR (CDCl₃) 0.90 ppm (3H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.06 (6H, s), 2.07 (3H, s), 2.13 (3H, s)].

The stereochemistry of 2r [NMR of the corresponding triacetate (CDCl₃) 0.95 ppm (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.03 (3H, s), 2.04 (3H, s), 2.07 (3H, s)] was determined by independent synthesis of 2r from 4-methyl-5-(phenylmethoxy)-2-(Z)-pentene-1-ol⁶⁰ in 4 steps: 1. MCPBA, CH₂Cl₂, 0°, 2. ClCO₂CH₂C₆H₃, py, THF, 0°, 3. AlCl₃, Et₂O, 0°, and 4. 1N NaOH, RT (see Ref. 8).

HPLC analysis of osmylation products

The product ratio of c, g, 1, and p series was determined by HPLC analysis (1 ~ 20:1 hexane-EtOAc) of the crude osmylation products. The product ratio of a, d, e, f, j, m, n, and o series was determined by HPLC analysis (4 ~ 6:1 hexane-EtOAc) of the peracetate mixture obtained from the crude osmylation products under the standard conditions (Ac₂O, py, RT). The product ratio of b and k series was determined by HPLC (6:1 hexane-EtOAc) of the acetonide mixture obtained from the crude osmylation products under the standard conditions [CH₁C(OCH₁)₂CH₃, p-TSA, RT].

Osmylation of 2-cyclohexen-1-ol and its acetate

2-Cyclohexen-1-ol and its acetate³⁷ were, respectively, subjected to osmylation under the catalytic conditions. The crude product was acetylated (Ac₂O, py, RT) to yield a major triacetate. The NMR spectrum of this product [NMR (CDCl₃) 2.01 ppm (3H, s), 2.03 (3H, s), 2.07 (3H, s), 4.92 (1H, dd, J = 9.2, 3.0 Hz), 5.10 (1H, ddd, J = 9.2, 9.2, 4.6), 5.34 (1H, not-well resolved ddd with $W_{1/2} = 11$ Hz)] allowed the assignjment of the stereochemistry described in the text. The stereoselectivity of both cases were estimated to about 5:1 from the ¹H-NMR spectra in C₄D₆.

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IIIn the cases of cyclic systems, a high degree of stereoselectivity was observed not only for the substrates having an α -hydroxyl or α -alkoxyl substituent but also for those having other α -substituents. For example, OsO₄ oxidation of 3-methyl-1-cyclohexene yielded 3 β -methyl-1 α -cyclohexanediol as the major product. The effect from a Me group seems to be about the same as that from an OH group, as OsO₄ oxidation of 3-methyl-3-hydroxy-1-cyclohexene gave a ca 1:1 mixture of two possible products.

¹²Unlike the acyclic systems, acyl groups are effective in directing stereoselective osmylation. For example, 2-cyclohexen-1-ol acetate yielded 1β -acetoxy- 2α , 3α -dihydroxycyclohexane as the major product with the comparable stereoselectivity with the 2-cyclohexen-1-ol.

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¹⁴Professor Stork has recently reported OsO₄ oxidation of α,β-unsaturated carbonyl compounds. We thank him for the preprint of the work [G. Stork and M. Kahn, Tetrahedron Letters 37, 3951 (1983)].

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¹⁶Many examples known in the literature are consistent with this formulation. For example, see an example reported by D. G. Lance, W. A. Szarek, J. K. N. Jones and G. B. Howarth, Canad. J. Chem. 47, 2871 (1969). ¹⁷The experiment reported by Iwai and Tomita [Chem. Pharm. Bull. Japan 9, 976 (1961)] is interesting to add. KMnO₄ oxidation of diene 46 yielded arabinose, but not ribose. Assuming permanganate oxidation takes place on the diene system in a stepwise fashion, the stereochemical outcome of permanganate oxidation was opposite to that predicted for osmium tetroxide oxidation.

48 : arabinose

¹⁸Such an example has recently been reported by Prof. Danishefsky at the Gordon Research Conf. on Nat. Products, New Hampton, New Hampshire, Aug. 1983. We thank him for the preprint of the work [E. R. Larson and S. Danishefsky, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 105, 6715 (1983)].
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