Cyclopropane-Containing Natural Products

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Exemples of Natural products

Chen D. Y.-K., et al., Chem. Soc. Rev., 2012, 41, 4631-4642

Utility of cyclopropyl group

- If it is stable:
 - Lipophilic group with orientation and position that differ from related open-chain moiety;
 - Rigid structure, unique structural and electronical properties (sp² likeness, "banana-shaped" bond).
- If more labile, Energy source (~27 kcal·mol⁻¹ cyclic strain):
 - High-Energy intermediate in metabolism;
 - Storage molecule to release energy-rich compounds;
 - To provide driving force and ensure irreversibility in inhibition mechanism.

Biosyntheses of cyclopropyl group

Rearrangement via cationic intermediate

TM-assisted radical cyclization

Photochemistry

O OMe
$$hv$$
 O OMe R O OMe R O OMe R

ΝH₂

SAM

Internal nucleophilic substitution S_Ni

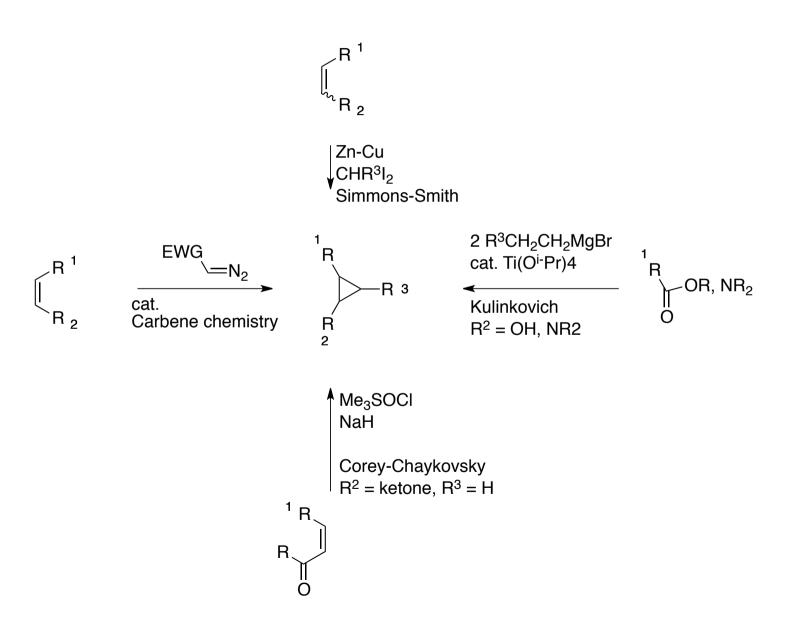
$$\begin{array}{c|c}
Ad \\
S \\
 \hline
 & CO_2H \\
\hline
 & N_{\sim}R
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
CO_2H \\
\hline
 & N_{\sim}R
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
X \\
\hline
 & N_{u}
\end{array}$$

Wessjohann L. A., et al., Chem. Rev., 2003, 103(4), 1625-1647

Other syntheses (I)



Other syntheses (II)

Fe-mediated formation of cyclopropane

LiTMP-triggered carbenoid insertion

Organocatalytic asymmetric cyclopropanation

O
$$Cs_2CO_3$$
 $BrCH_2CO_2R_2$ H R^2O_2C H

Chen D. Y.-K., et al., Chem. Soc. Rev., 2012, 41, 4631-4642

Groot's synthesis of (+)-Isovelleral

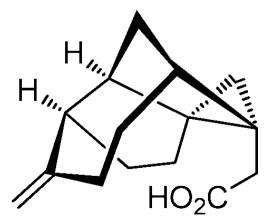
- Isolated from Lactarius in 1995
- Family shows antifungal and antibacterial activities
- Synthesis by A. de Groot in 2001
- Cyclopropane by solvolytic rearrangement

Synthesis of (+)-Isovelleral

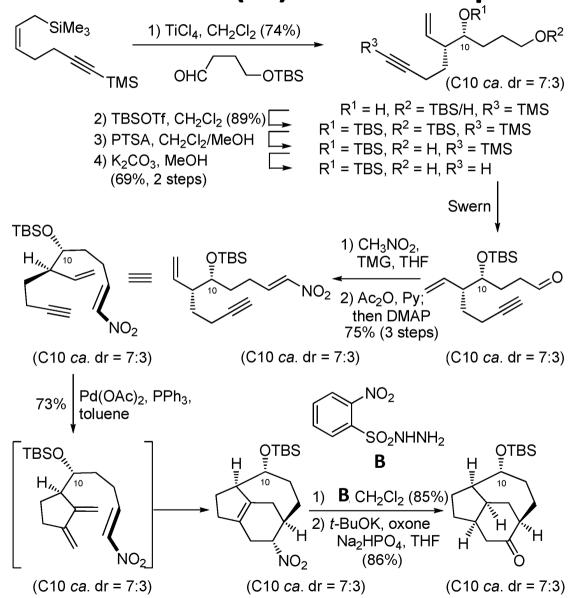
Groot A. et al., J. Org. Chem., 2001, 66, 2350-2357

Chen's synthesis of (±)-echinopine A and B

- Extracted in 2008 from Echinops spinosus
- Unique [3/5/5/7] ring system framework
- Synthesis by Chen's group in 2011
- Use of Trost's cyclopropanation of olefin with propargyl-alcohol

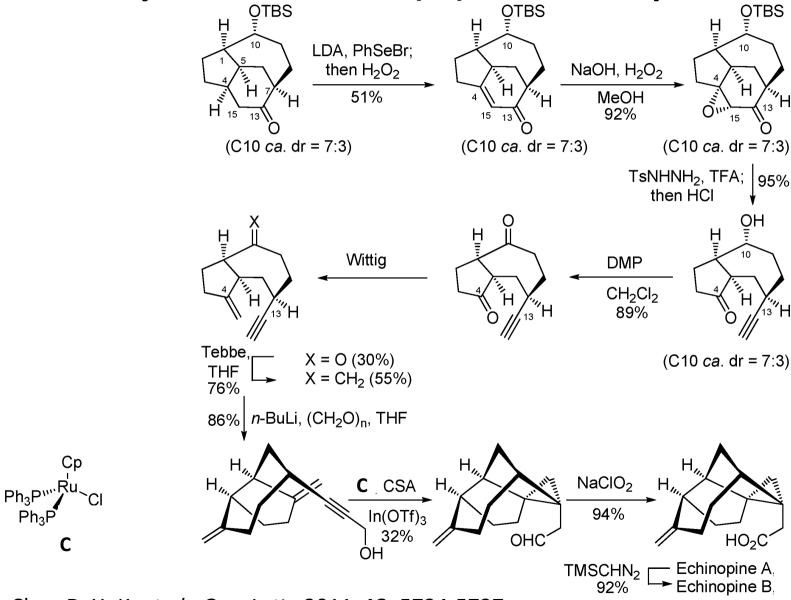


Synthesis of (±)-echinopines (I)



Chen D. Y.-K. et al., Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 5724-5727

Synthesis of (±)-echinopines (II)



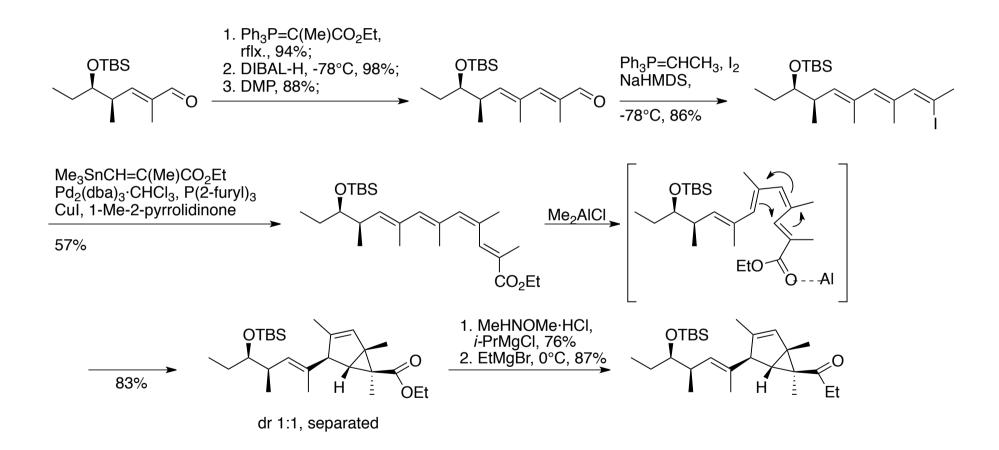
Chen D. Y.-K. et al., Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 5724-5727

Cyclopropane-formation Mechanism

Trauner's synthesis of (-)-crispatene

- Isolated in 1981 from mollusc Elysia crispata
- Numerous biosynthetic studies (photochemistry)
- Cyclopropane formed by cycloaddition

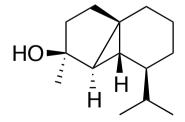
Synthesis of (-)-crispatene (I)



Synthesis of (-)-crispatene (II)

Fürstner's synthesis of (-)-Cubebol

- Isolated in 1952 from cubeb oil
- Used in food chemistry
- Numerous total synthesis
- Fürstner used a Pt-catalyzed rearrangement to reach it in 2006



Synthesis of (-)-Cubebol

Fürstner A. et al., Chem. Eur. J., 2006, 12, 3006-3019