

Total Synthesis of (+)-Dihydrocompactin<sup>1</sup>

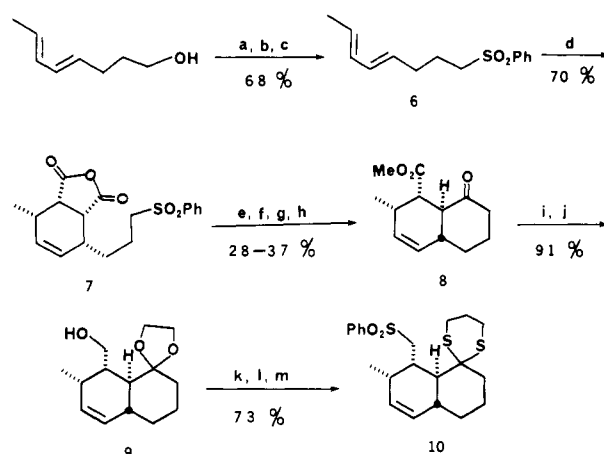
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**Abstract:** The potent hypocholesterolemic agent (+)-dihydrocompactin was synthesized by union of the masked lactone **5**, ultimately derived from a carbohydrate precursor with the requisite absolute configuration, and hydronaphthalene **10**, which was obtained from maleic anhydride Diels-Alder adduct **7** by intramolecular sulfone acylation. Extension of this sequence to the hydronaphthalene portion of dihydromevinolin is also described.

The mevinic acids<sup>2-5</sup> constitute a family of fungal metabolites distinguished by a highly functionalized hexa- or octahydronaphthalene bearing an ethylene-linked  $\beta$ -hydroxy- $\delta$ -lactone appendage. The two most prominent mevinic acids, compactin<sup>2</sup> (**1**) and mevinolin<sup>3</sup> (**2**), have attracted much attention<sup>6,7</sup> as hypocholesterolemic agents because of their low toxicity and extremely potent competitive inhibition of 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase,<sup>8</sup> the rate limiting enzyme in cholesterol biosynthesis. In contrast, their equally potent congeners dihydrocompactin<sup>4</sup> (**3**) and dihydromevinolin<sup>5</sup> (**4**) have been less well studied, due in part to limited availability from natural sources. Disclosed herein is the first total synthesis of (+)-dihydrocompactin by a convergent approach that is adaptable to the preparation of other mevinates and their metabolites.<sup>9</sup>

The overall strategy involves joining a masked form of the common  $\beta$ -hydroxy-lactone appendage to an appropriate hydronaphthalene via the ethylene bridge (eq 1). An added benefit of this approach is the opportunity for independent pharmacological evaluation<sup>7a-c</sup> of the two major fragments. We have previously prepared **5** in the requisite absolute configuration from a carbo-

Scheme 1<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> a: TsCl, py. b: NaSPh, MeOH, 2 h. c: 2 equiv CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, EtOAc, -20  $\rightarrow$  0  $^{\circ}$ C over 2 h. d: maleic anhydride, PhH, 80  $^{\circ}$ C, 24 h. e: 2 equiv LiN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, THF, -78  $^{\circ}$ C, 5 days, then -40  $^{\circ}$ C, 8 h. f: CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>. g: Al(Hg), THF/H<sub>2</sub>O 10:1, 3 h. h: NaOMe, MeOH, 40  $^{\circ}$ C, 24 h. i: (HOCH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, TsOH, PhH, 80  $^{\circ}$ C, 72 h. j: LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, THF, room temperature, 2 h. k: Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl, NaI, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 1 h. l: PhSO<sub>2</sub>-Amberlyst A-26, PhH, 80  $^{\circ}$ C, 3 h. m: HS(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SH, BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 15 h.

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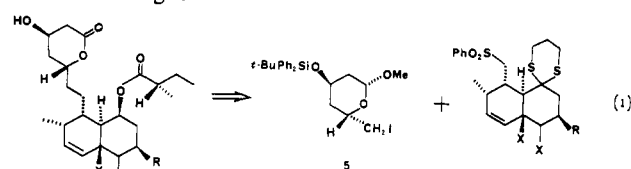
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hydrate precursor and applied it in the synthesis of several mevinate analogues.<sup>7a</sup>



**1** Compactin : R = H, X =  $\Delta^{4,6,8}$   
**2** Mevinolin : R = Me, X =  $\Delta^{4,6,8}$   
**3** Dihydrocompactin : R = X = H  
**4** Dihydromevinolin : R = Me, X = H

Construction of the octahydronaphthalene fragment of **3** (Scheme 1) commenced with (*E,E*)-octa-4,6-dien-1-ol<sup>10</sup> which was converted to oily sulfone **6** (68%) by sequential tosylation, sodium thiophenoxide displacement, and peracetic acid oxidation. Diels-Alder cyclization with 1 equiv of maleic anhydride in benzene under reflux (24 h) afforded crystalline endo adduct **7** (70%). Intramolecular acylation under carefully controlled conditions using 2 equiv of lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide resulted in a mixture of cis- and trans-fused octalones which were purified chromatographically after esterification (CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>) and aluminum amalgam desulfonation (30-40% from **7**). Methoxide mediated equilibration<sup>11</sup> gave ketoester **8** (92%) as the exclusive isomer as judged by NMR and chromatographic analysis. The identity of

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methanol was evaporated after 2 h and the residue dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O and washed with 5% NaOH solution, H<sub>2</sub>O, and brine. Evaporation afforded phenyl sulfide (22.48 g, 94%): TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.80; NMR 1.70 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.50–1.90 (2 H, m), 2.18 (2 H, q, *J* ~ 7.2 Hz), 2.88 (2 H, t, *J* ~ 7.2 Hz), 5.20–6.20 (4 H, m), 7.00–7.50 (5 H, m).

To a –20 °C solution of the above sulfide (16.3 g, 0.07 mol) in EtOAc (80 mL) was added dropwise 40% peracetic acid in EtOAc (39.4 mL, 0.187 mol, FMC Corp.). The mixture was warmed to 0 °C over 2 h and then quenched with saturated Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> solution, diluted with brine, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic extract was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine and evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 2:1 hexane/EtOAc) to furnish oily sulfone **6** (14 g, 75%): TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.29; NMR 1.70 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.50–2.00 (2 H, m), 2.10 (2 H, q, *J* ~ 7.2 Hz), 2.90–3.10 (2 H, m), 5.10–6.10 (4 H, m), 7.30–7.60 (3 H, m), 7.62–7.90 (2 H, m); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S 250.1028, found 250.1039.

**Diels-Alder Adduct 7.** A mixture of **6** (5 g, 20 mmol) and maleic anhydride (2 g, 20 mmol) was dried azeotropically with anhydrous benzene and then heated under reflux in dry benzene for 24 h during which time a white precipitate collected. The reaction mixture was chilled (4 °C) overnight and the white solid collected by filtration to afford adduct **7** (3.5 g, 50%), mp 172–173 °C (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O). Chromatography of the mother liquor gave an additional 1.4 g (20%) of **7**: NMR 1.44 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.70–2.00 (4 H, m), 2.00–2.60 (2 H, m), 2.90–3.40 (4 H, m), 5.50–5.90 (2 H, m), 7.40–7.70 (3 H, m), 7.70–8.00 (2 H, m); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 349 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 85), 303 (23), 275 (36), 209 (54), 207 (65), 179 (23), 157 (24), 143 (29), 135 (44), 125 (23), 111 (100), 109 (49), 99 (35), 93 (28), 85 (45), 83 (77); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S 348.1032, found 348.1025.

**Octalone 8.** Adduct **7** (4.0 g, 11.5 mmol) was dried by stirring it with hexamethyldisilazane (2 mL) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) for 30 min and removing the solvent and excess hexamethyldisilazane under reduced pressure. After a second treatment, the resulting solid was dried in vacuo for 30 min, dissolved in anhydrous THF (120 mL), and cooled to –78 °C. To this was added a 1 M solution of lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (23 mL, 23 mmol) in THF and the resulting deep orange solution maintained at –75 °C for 5 days and then at –40 °C for 8 h. Upon quenching with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and acidification with 1 N hydrochloric acid to pH 3, the mixture was saturated with NaCl. Extractive isolation (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) gave ~4 g of crude product which as esterified with excess diazomethane. Reduction with freshly prepared aluminum amalgam<sup>25</sup> (4 g, 148 mmol) in THF (100 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) for 3 h, filtration through a Celite bed, and evaporation gave ~2.5 g of crude material which was purified by chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane) yielding a mixture of cis- and trans-fused octalones (933 mg, 40%). Equilibration in MeOH (15 mL) at 40 °C for 24 h in the presence of a catalytic amount of NaOMe produced **8** (858 mg, 92%) as the sole isomer after solvent evaporation and extractive isolation: TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.34; NMR 0.88 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.40–3.00 (10 H, m), 3.64 (s, 3 H), 5.44 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.50–5.57 (1 H, m); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 223 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 8), 205 (19), 191 (100), 177 (5), 161 (9), 149 (5), 85 (3); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 222.1256, found 222.1270; free acid mp 173–174 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane).

**Ketal 9.** Octalone **8** (610 mg, 2.75 mmol) was heated for 3 days in benzene (20 mL) under reflux with ethylene glycol (256 mg, 4.12 mmol) and a catalytic amount of tosic acid using a Dean-Stark apparatus filled with 4A molecular sieves for water removal. Washing with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine and evaporation gave 730 mg (100%) of ketal ester: TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:20 EtOAc/PhH, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.18; NMR 1.04 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.10–2.90 (10 H, m), 3.60 (3 H, s), 3.70–4.00 (4 H, m), 5.32–5.64 (2 H, m). The above ketal was treated with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (120 mg, 3.16 mmol) in THF (10 mL) for 2 h. Quenching and isolation as described previously yielded ketal **9** (595 mg, 91%): mp 132–133 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane); TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.17; NMR 1.06 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.20–2.60 (10 H, m), 3.08 (1 H, dd, *J* ~ 4, 8 Hz), 3.36–3.90 (2 H, m), 3.80–4.20 (4 H, m), 5.32 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.52 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 239 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 1), 249 (M<sup>+</sup> – 18 + 29, 10), 217 (24), 205 (M<sup>+</sup> – 33, 32), 177 (100), 145 (15), 133 (51), 131 (47), 105 (84), 87 (11); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 238.1569, found 238.1573.

**Sulfone 10.** Trimethylsilyl chloride (652 mg, 6 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of **9** (335 mg, 1.4 mmol) and sodium iodide (900 mg, 6 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 mL). After 1 h, H<sub>2</sub>O was added and the mixture extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined ethereal extracts were

washed successively with H<sub>2</sub>O, 10% sodium thiosulfate solution, and brine. Evaporation furnished keto iodide as a single product which was immediately treated with benzenesulfinate anion supported on Amberlyst A-26<sup>13</sup> (3.5 mequiv/g, 0.8 g) in benzene under reflux in the dark for 3 h. Filtration and chromatography gave 304 mg (68%) of keto sulfone [TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 2:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.18; NMR 1.00 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.20–3.20 (11 H, m), 3.90–4.20 (1 H, m), 5.35 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 9 Hz), 5.60 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz), 7.30–7.60 (3 H, m), 7.70–8.00 (2 H, m)] and 43 mg (10%) of keto sulfinate which could be converted in 50% yield to keto sulfone by treatment as above with trimethylsilyl chloride/sodium iodide and benzenesulfinate anion displacement.

The above keto sulfone (250 mg, 0.75 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) was subjected to 1,3-propanedithiol (162 mg, 1.5 mmol) and BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (106 mg, 0.75 mmol) for 15 h. Successive washings with 5% NaOH solution, H<sub>2</sub>O, 5% hydrochloric acid, H<sub>2</sub>O, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, and brine gave, after chromatography, **10** (320 mg, 100%): mp 155–156 °C (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O); TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 2:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.38; NMR 1.01 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 1.20–2.60 (12 H, m), 2.60–3.16 (4 H, m), 3.29 (1 H, dd, *J* ~ 11, 14 Hz), 5.12 (1 H, dd, *J* ~ 2.5, 14 Hz), 5.20 (1 H, brd, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.50 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz), 7.32–7.72 (3 H, m), 7.72–8.04 (2 H, m); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 409 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 100), 301 (9), 267 (75), 193 (10), 160 (43), 159 (43), 143 (17), 107 (15); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> 408.1251, found 408.1260.

**Preparation of 13.** *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in THF, 0.825 mL, 1.32 mmol) was added dropwise to a –78 °C solution of **10** (280 mg, 0.66 mmol) in THF (5 mL) and HMPA (1 mL). After being stirred at 0 °C for 30 min, the resulting deep orange mixture was cooled to –78 °C and iodide 5<sup>7a</sup> (490 mg, 0.96 mmol) dissolved in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise. The cooling bath was removed and the mixture stirred at ambient temperature for 4 h. Saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added at 0 °C and the mixture extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic extract was washed with 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine and evaporated and the residue chromatographed to afford 65 mg (23%) of **10** and 387 mg (93% based on recovered starting material) of **13** as a mixture of diastereomeric alkylation products (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 hexane/EtOAc, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.55–0.64). Resolution of isomers was postponed to a later stage.

**Preparation of 14.** An acetonitrile (1 mL) solution of the above diastereomeric dithianes (74 mg, 0.094 mmol) was added to an 80% aqueous acetonitrile solution (1.5 mL) of mercuric chloride (56 mg, 0.206 mmol) and calcium carbonate (21 mg). After being heated under reflux for 7 h, the cooled mixture was filtered over a Celite bed and the filtrate washed with 5 M aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>OAc, H<sub>2</sub>O, and brine and evaporated to give 60 mg (92%) of crude keto sulfone which was subjected to 6% sodium amalgam<sup>26</sup> (200 mg) reduction in MeOH (1 mL) for 2 h. The reaction mixture was filtered into cold NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Careful chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane) furnished **14** (7 mg, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.32) and its diastereomer (6 mg, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.24) resulting from stereospecific amalgam reduction of the ketone and a mixture of both corresponding ketones (19 mg, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.44). Stereospecific reduction of the ketones in THF (1 mL) at 0 °C with L-Selectride (Aldrich) (0.11 mmol) for 30 min, extractive isolation, and chromatography gave an additional 9 mg of **14** (total yield 60%), mp 105–106 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +9.6° (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) and an equal amount of diastereomer:<sup>21</sup> NMR 0.91 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.13 (9 H, s), 1.20–2.40 (18 H, m), 3.53 (3 H, s), 3.80–4.10 (1 H, m), 4.17 (1 H, br s), 4.20–4.36 (1 H, m), 4.84 (1 H, dd, *J* ~ 3, 10 Hz), 5.40 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.52–5.74 (1 H, m), 7.28–7.48 (6 H, m), 7.48–7.80 (4 H, m); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 563 (M<sup>+</sup> + 1, 2), 407 (2), 381 (2), 355 (2), 327 (9), 315 (10), 288 (39), 286 (97), 285 (100), 251 (35).

**(+)-Dihydrocompactin (3).** To a solution of **14** (58 mg, 0.104 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) was added (S)-(+)-2-methylbutyric acid (106 mg, 1.04 mmol) followed by *N,N*-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (214 mg, 1.04 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (12 mg, 0.10 mmol). The reaction was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (40 mL) after 24 h, filtered through a Celite bed, and washed with cold 5% hydrochloric acid, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, and brine. Chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane) gave unreacted **14** (6 mg) and butyrate ester (58 mg, 97% based on recovered **14**): [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +52.2° (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.61; NMR 0.91 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 0.95 (3 H, t, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.13 (9 H, s), 1.19 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.20–2.60 (21 H, complex m), 3.52 (3 H, s), 3.70–4.10 (1 H, m), 4.12–4.36 (1 H, m), 4.81 (1 H, dd, *J* ~ 2.5, 10 Hz), 5.16 (1 H, br s), 5.41 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.64 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz), 7.28–7.50 (6 H, m), 7.50–7.75 (4 H, m).

The above ester (54 mg, 0.0836 mmol) was stirred with 6 mL of 10% hydrochloric acid and THF (3:5) at 45 °C for 3 h and then poured into cold saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. Extractive isolation with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> gave the

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crude lactol which was immediately added to a vigorously stirring suspension<sup>19</sup> of pyridinium chlorochromate (200 mg) and neutral alumina (200 mg) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL). After 8 h, the mixture was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and filtered through a short bed of Florisil. The filtrate was washed with 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine and evaporated to an oil: TLC, SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.32; NMR 0.91 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 0.95 (3 H, t, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.12 (9 H, s), 1.20 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.20-2.60 (21 H, complex m), 4.12-4.40 (1 H, m), 4.56-4.92 (1 H, m), 5.18 (1 H, br s), 5.42 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.64 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz), 7.30-7.50 (6 H, m), 7.50-7.75 (4 H, m). Desilylation using 48% hydrofluoric acid in acetonitrile (5 mL, 1:10) at 45 °C for 8 h, neutralization with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, extractive isolation, and chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, Et<sub>2</sub>O, *R<sub>f</sub>* ~ 0.23) afforded **3** (16 mg, 50%); mp 103-105 °C (benzene/hexane): [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> + 129° (*c* 1.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), whose 360-MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was identical with that of natural material:<sup>20</sup> NMR 0.83 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 0.89 (3 H, t, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.13 (3 H, d, *J* ~ 7 Hz), 1.30-2.60 (20 H, m), 2.56-2.76 (2 H, m), 4.20-4.42 (1 H, m), 4.42-4.80 (1 H, m), 5.16 (1 H, br s), 5.37 (1 H, br d, *J* ~ 10 Hz), 5.60 (1 H, ddd, *J* ~ 2.5, 4.5, 10 Hz); mass spectrum *m/e* (%) 393 (*M*<sup>+</sup> + 1, 2), 375 (2), 291 (14), 273 (61), 255 (9), 227 (4), 187 (34), 145 (100); high-resolution mass spectrum calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 392.2560, found

392.2554.

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**Registry No.** **3**, 78366-44-6; **3** *t*-BuPh<sub>2</sub>Si derivative, 90344-22-2; **5**, 86031-03-0; **6**, 90344-09-5; **7**, 90344-10-8; **8**, 90344-11-9; **8** ethylene glycol ketal derivative, 90344-17-5; **9**, 90344-12-0; **9** keto-iodide derivative, 90344-18-6; **9** keto-sulfone derivative, 90367-63-8; **10**, 90344-13-1; **13**, 90344-14-2; **13** keto-sulfone derivative, 90344-19-7; **14**, 90367-62-7; **14** diastereomer, 90410-99-4; **14** ketone derivative, isomer 1, 90367-64-9; **14** ketone derivative, isomer 2, 90411-00-0; **14** (*S*)-(+)-2-methylbutyrate, 90344-20-0; **14** (*S*)-(+)-2-methylbutyrate demethyl derivative, 90344-21-1; dimethyl (*E,E*)-2,4-hexadienylmalonate, 75283-60-2; methyl (*E,E*)-4,6-octadienoate, 68823-50-7; (*E,E*)-octa-4,6-dien-1-ol, 80106-30-5; (*E,E*)-octa-4,6-dien-1-ol tosylate, 90344-15-3; sodium thiophenoxide, 930-69-8; (*E,E*)-1-(phenylthio)octa-4,6-diene, 90344-16-4; maleic anhydride, 108-31-6; 1,3-propanedithiol, 109-80-8.

## Hydrogen Bonded Phosphate Esters. Synthesis and Structure of Catechol-Containing Salts of 2-Hydroxyphenyl Phenylphosphonate<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** The synthesis and X-ray structural analysis of the tetraphenylphosphonium salt of 2-hydroxyphenyl phenylphosphonate ([[(HOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O)P(Ph)O<sub>2</sub>][PPh<sub>4</sub>].C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub> (**1**)) and the corresponding pyridinium salt ([[(HOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O)P(Ph)O<sub>2</sub>][C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NH].C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub> (**2**)) are reported. These substances form unique hydrogen bonded phosphonate ester systems which incorporate catechol molecules of crystallization. The hydrolysis reaction of the benzodioxaphosphole [(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PPh] with KF·2H<sub>2</sub>O and Ph<sub>4</sub>PCl in acetonitrile gave the ester salt [HOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OP(Ph)O<sub>2</sub>][PPh<sub>4</sub>].catechol (**1**). By a similar method, the pyridinium salt was obtained ([HOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OP(Ph)O<sub>2</sub>][C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NH].catechol (**2**)). Single-crystal X-ray analysis showed the phosphonate in **1** contained an intramolecular hydrogen bonded seven-membered ring. The phosphonates are linked by catechol molecules in a chain arrangement. In **2**, the pyridinium ion replaced the intramolecular ring in hydrogen bond formation. As a result, the structure shows dimeric phosphonate units linked together by catechol molecules in a doubly hydrogen bonded chain. **1** crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*n* with *a* = 9.996 (2) Å, *b* = 26.858 (7) Å, *c* = 14.160 (3) Å, β = 109.57 (1)°, and *Z* = 4. **2** crystallizes in the triclinic space group *P* $\bar{1}$  with *a* = 9.074 (2) Å, *b* = 11.149 (2) Å, *c* = 11.786 (2) Å, α = 70.26 (2)°, β = 87.54 (2)°, γ = 73.72 (2)°, and *Z* = 2. A systematic classification of hydrogen bonding in phosphates is obtained regarding the number and types of interactions present in relation to the resultant structures. In addition, the O—X lengths increase with decreasing proton acidity in the hydrogen bonded phosphates, P=O—H—X (X = O, N). Little variation in the P=O bond lengths is apparent.

In modeling phosphoryl transfer enzyme reactions, it is necessary to incorporate hydrogen bonding and electrostatic interactions between the phosphorus-containing substrate and active site residues. The basis for estimating the magnitude of these terms and the conformational changes that are likely to occur as the reaction proceeds is usually limited. Our success in modeling ribonuclease action on uridylyl-(3',5')-adenosine<sup>3</sup> was directly dependent on the inclusion of structural parameters into the modeling program<sup>4</sup> based on earlier studies dealing with the

structural determination of simpler tetra- and pentacoordinated phosphorus compounds.<sup>5</sup> The first step of action of this enzyme leading to a cyclic intermediate has limited phosphate-hydrogen bonding.<sup>6</sup> In staphylococcal nuclease, a system in which we are currently interested,<sup>7,8</sup> hydrogen bonding is more extensive.<sup>9</sup>

We wish to explore hydrogen bonding to model phosphate substrates that will allow an understanding of structural changes as the system becomes more complex. Examples from the lit-

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