# An Efficient Strategy for the Synthesis of $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis and trans-Disubstituted Medium Ring Ethers 

Michael T. Crimmins,* Kyle A. Emmitte<br>Venable and Kenan Laboratories of Chemistry, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3290, USA<br>Fax +1(919)9622388; E-mail: crimmins@email.unc.edu<br>Received 23 March 2000


#### Abstract

An asymmetric alkylation-ring-closing metathesis strategy was developed for the construction of $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-disubstituted medium ring ethers. The approach features an asymmetric alkylation of highly functionalized $\alpha$-alkoxy acyl oxazolidinones followed by ring closure effected by Grubbs' ruthenium catalyst. The relationship between diene conformation and the rate of ring-closure was examined.


Key words: asymmetric-alkylation, ring-closing metathesis, marine natural products, gauche effect, cyclic ethers, ruthenium

Medium ring ethers are a common structural feature of many ladder ether marine toxins, as well as simpler metabolites from Laurencia species. This diverse collection of natural products often contains seven, eight, and nine membered ring ethers. ${ }^{1}$ The challenge of efficient construction of medium ring ethers has led to the development of numerous strategies for their synthesis. ${ }^{2-5}$ The vast majority of these approaches have focused on the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis-disubstitution pattern rather than $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted medium ring ethers, despite their similar frequency of occurrence. trans-Isoprelaurefucin (1), ${ }^{6}$ isolaurefucin methyl ether (2), ${ }^{7}$ chlorofucin (3), ${ }^{8}$ bromofucin (4), ${ }^{9}$ isolaureatin (5), ${ }^{10}$ and obtusenyne (6), ${ }^{8}$ for example, all contain $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted medium ring ethers (Figure 1). Murai's synthesis of obtusenyne (6) ${ }^{11}$ and our own recent syntheses of prelaureatin and laurallene ${ }^{12}$ constitute the only known syntheses of medium ring ether natural products with the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstitution arrangement. The investigation of a versatile, general strategy for the synthesis of both $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis and $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-transdisubstituted medium ring ethers is described here.
We recently published a total synthesis of the marine natural product (+)-laurencin (9), in which the key steps were an asymmetric alkylation of the sodium enolate of substituted acyl oxazolidinone 7 , followed by ring-closing metathesis of the resultant diene to give cyclic ether $\mathbf{8}$ (Scheme 1). ${ }^{2}$ Previous work in our laboratory has demonstrated that an asymmetric aldol-ring-closing metathesis strategy for the assembly of medium ring ethers was equally adaptable to both the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis and $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted medium ring ethers. ${ }^{3,12}$ The asymmetric alky-lation-ring-closing metathesis approach to cyclic ethers also offered the potential for a similar adaptable strategy.
We have found that by exploiting the known gauche effect of 1,2-dioxygen substitution, medium ring-closure can be accomplished without the use of cyclic conformational


1 trans-isoprelaurefucin

$2 \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{OMe}$ isolaurefucin methyl ether $3 \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{Cl}$ chlorofucin $4 \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{Br} \quad$ bromofucin


5 isolaureatin


6 obtusenyne

Figure 1 Some naturally occurring $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted medium ring ethers


Scheme 1
constraints. For example diene 10, required for formation of the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis-disubstituted eight-membered ring, has a low-energy conformation 10a which orients the oxygen substituents gauche, positions the olefinic chains proximal, and allows the other two side chains to occupy pseu-do-equatorial orientations (Figure 2). Significant rate increases in ring-closing metathesis result, in comparison to examples without vicinal oxygen substitution, thus allowing for ring-closure without dimerization. For instance, formation of oxocene $\mathbf{8}$ proceeds in $94 \%$ yield in three hours with only 5 mole percent of Grubbs' ruthenium catalyst $\left(\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}\right]_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Ru}=\mathrm{CHPh}\right) .{ }^{2}$ Diene 11, re-
quired for formation of the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted eightmembered ring, also has a low-energy conformation 11a with the oxygens gauche and the olefinic chains proximal; however, one of the other two side chains must occupy a pseudo-axial position for ring-closure to occur. The conformation 11b that positions both the ethyl and allyl groups in pseudo-equatorial orientations should be more favorable and result in a slower rate of ring-closure than observed for $\mathbf{1 0}$.




Figure 2 Low energy conformations of dienes $\mathbf{1 0}$ and $\mathbf{1 1}$ favoring ring closure

Diene 12, required for formation of the $\alpha, \alpha$ '-trans-disubstituted seven-membered ring, has a low-energy conformation 12a with the olefinic chains oriented in opposite directions (Figure 3). For ring-closure to occur, one side chain must be oriented in a pseudo-axial fashion, as is illustrated in conformation 12b. Diene 13, required for formation of the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis-disubstituted seven-membered ring, has two conformations of similar energy, 13a and 13b with psuedo-equatorial side-chains, one of which favors ring-closure. We set out to determine if the outlined conformational effects would influence the rate of the ring-closing metathesis reaction, particularly for the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$ -trans-disubstituted ethers. ${ }^{13}$

Our first target was the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted eightmembered ring 17 that comprises the oxocene core of isolaurefucin methyl ether (2), chlorofucin (3), and bromofucin (4). Synthesis of $\Delta$-4-oxocene 17 began with acid 14 , which was previously prepared for our (+)-laurencin synthesis (Scheme 2). ${ }^{2}$ By attaching the antipode of the auxiliary used in the laurencin synthesis, the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans cyclic ether might be accessible. Treatment of the mixed pivalic anhydride with lithiated $(R)$-(-)-4-benzyl-2-oxazolidinone provided acyl oxazolidinone 15 in $78 \%$ yield. The sodium enolate of $\mathbf{1 5}$ was treated with excess allyl iodide at $-45^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to give $71 \%$ yield of diene 16 . Upon exposure to standard ring-closing metathesis conditions ( $5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Ru}=\mathrm{CHPh}, 0.005 \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}, 40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 8 \mathrm{~h}\right)$,


Figure 3 Low energy conformations of dienes 12 and 13 favoring ring closure
an $88 \%$ yield of cyclic ether $\mathbf{1 7}$ was isolated along with $11 \%$ of recovered diene 16. The metathesis rate for diene 16 was considerably slower than the rate of the diene to produce the corresponding $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$ 'cis-disubstituted eightmembered ring system. The conformation of diene $\mathbf{1 6}$ which positions the olefinic chains favorably for ring-closure is destabilized somewhat by the pseudo-axial side chain, slowing the metathesis. Nonetheless, it was demonstrated that the desired $\alpha, \alpha$ '-trans-disubstituted eightmembered ring system could effectively be prepared utilizing an asymmetric alkylation-ring-closing metathesis approach.


Scheme 2

We next turned our attention to the $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-disubstituted sev-en-membered ring systems which represent the core of natural products such as trans-isoprelaurefucin (1). For this synthesis, we began with the known chiral alcohol 18 (Scheme 3). ${ }^{14}$ The mixed pivalic anhydride of acid 19 was treated separately with both antipodes of lithiated 4-ben-zyl-2-oxazolidinone yielding acyl oxazolidinones 20 and 21. The sodium enolate of each acyl oxazolidinone was treated with excess allyl iodide at $-45{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to provide dienes 22 and 23. In the case of diene 22, exposure to the identical ring-closing metathesis conditions ( $5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of $\left.\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}\right]_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Ru}=\mathrm{CHPh}, 0.005 \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}, 40{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 8 \mathrm{~h}\right)$ used for diene $\mathbf{1 6}$ gave a $49 \%$ yield of cyclic ether 24 along with $34 \%$ of recovered diene 22 . In diene $\mathbf{2 2}$ the apparent preference for the olefinic chains to orient in opposite directions due to the destabilization of the conformation with a pseudo-axial side chain has a profound effect on the rate of ring-closure. The rate of ring closure for this seven-membered ring is significantly slower than any other examples of seven, eight, or ninemembered ring formation in which there is a low-energy gauche conformation with the olefinic chains proximal. ${ }^{2,3,12}$ Although the reaction was quite slow, the overall yield of the desired product could be increased to $>70 \%$ after two recycles. In contrast, diene 23 underwent rapid ring-closure ( $5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Ru}=\mathrm{CHPh}, 0.005\right.$ $\mathrm{M}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}, 40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 2 \mathrm{~h}$ ) to form cyclic ether $\mathbf{2 5}$ in $98 \%$ yield in only two hours. This sequence clearly demonstrates the importance of diene conformation on the rate of the ring-closing metathesis reaction for cyclic ether formation.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated that an asymmetric alkylation-ring-closing metathesis strategy is effective for the construction of both $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-cis and $\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}$-trans-disubstituted medium-ring ethers. We have also shown that the role of diene conformation with respect to the rate of ringclosure is significant. These studies bode well for the synthesis of marine natural products such as trans-isoprelaurefucin (1), isolaurefucin methyl ether (2), chlorofucin (3), and bromofucin (4), having already accessed the cyclic cores of these compounds. Current efforts are focused on the expansion of this strategy to the synthesis of these and other medium-ring ether containing natural products.

IR spectra were obtained using a Perkin-Elmer 283 infrared spectrometer. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker model DRX $400\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right.$ at $400 \mathrm{MHz} ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ at 100 MHz$)$. Optical rotations were measured using a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. TLC was conducted on silica gel $\mathrm{F}_{254}$ TLC plates purchased from Scientific Adsorbents, Inc. Flash chromatography was carried out using silica gel ( 32 to $63 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) purchased from Scientific Adsorbents, Inc. $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, THF, and $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ were dried by passing through a column of neutral alumina under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ immediately prior to use. Alkylamines were distilled from $\mathrm{CaH}_{2}$ immediately prior to use. All air and water sensitive reactions were performed in flasks flame dried under a positive flow of nitrogen and conducted under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$.


Scheme 3
(4R)-4-Benzyl-3-[2-((1R, 2R)-2-benzyloxy-1-ethylpent-4-en-yloxy)acetyl]oxazolidin-2-one (15); Typical Procedure
To a solution of carboxylic acid $14(3.98 \mathrm{~g}, 14.30 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(60$ $\mathrm{mL})$ was added $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}(2.20 \mathrm{~mL}, 15.78 \mathrm{mmol})$ via a syringe, and the mixture was cooled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Pivaloyl chloride ( $1.80 \mathrm{~mL}, 14.61$ mmol ) was added dropwise via a syringe. After 5 min , the mixture was warmed to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where it was stirred for 1 h and subsequently recooled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. In a separate flask, $(R)$-(+)-4-benzyl-2-oxazolidinone ( $2.54 \mathrm{~g}, 14.33 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in THF $(25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and cooled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. BuLi ( 1.6 M in hexanes, $9.40 \mathrm{~mL}, 15.04 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added dropwise via a syringe, and the mixture was stirred for 15 min . The lithiated oxazolidinone was added via a cannula to the mixed anhydride, and the mixture stirred for an additional 10 min before being warmed to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where stirring continued for 1 h . The reaction was quenched by the addition of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and extracted twice with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)$. Concentration in vacuo and purification by flash chromatography gave $4.87 \mathrm{~g}(78 \%)$ of acyl oxazolidinone $\mathbf{1 5}$; $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{25}-69.0\left(c=0.58, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2925,1780,1720,1390,1260,1130 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.37-7.13$ (m, 10 H ), 5.89 (ddt, 1 $\mathrm{H}, J=17.2,10.0,7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 5.16-5.02(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.81(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.J_{\mathrm{AB}}=17.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta v_{\mathrm{AB}}=31.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.60\left(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=11.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\left.\Delta v_{\mathrm{AB}}=51.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.40(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.08(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8,2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.98$ (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8,8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), $3.59(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.39(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.25(\mathrm{dd}, 1$ $\mathrm{H}, J=13.6,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.71(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.6,9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.51(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $2.27(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.69(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.55(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.98(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.2,23.3,34.5,37.7,54.6,67.0$, $71.4,71.9,80.9,84.0,117.1,127.22,127.24,127.3,128.2,128.9$, 129.4, 134.8, 135.1, 139.0, 153.3, 170.4.
(4R)-4-Benzyl-3-[(2S)-2-((1R, 2R)-2-benzyloxy-1-ethylpent-4-enyloxy)pent-4-enoyl]oxazolidin-2-one (16); Typical Procedure Into a flask fitted with a low-temperature thermometer was added sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide ( 0.75 M in toluene/THF, 36.0 mL , $27.00 \mathrm{mmol})$. THF ( 20 mL ) was added and the flask was cooled to $-78{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Acyl oxazolidinone $\mathbf{1 5}(5.85 \mathrm{~g}, 13.37 \mathrm{mmol})$ in THF ( 35 mL ) was added via a cannula at a rate to maintain the reaction temperature below $-60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After stirring for 30 min at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, allyl iodide ( $6.10 \mathrm{~mL}, 66.71 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added via a syringe. After 10 min the reaction was warmed to $-45^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and stirred at that temperature for 45 min . The reaction was quenched by the addition of aq sat. $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$ and warmed to r.t. The solution was extracted twice with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)$, and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography provided $4.50 \mathrm{~g}(71 \%)$ of diene 16; $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}-102.4$ ( $c=0.84, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).
IR (film): $v=2920,1780,1710,1390,1210,1105 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.34-7.06(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.97-5.80$ (m, 2 H ), 5.32 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=6.4,4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), $5.14-5.01$ (m, 4 H ), 4.49 $\left(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=12.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{AB}}=80.2 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.04(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.78(\mathrm{dd}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=9.0,3.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.50(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=7.6,4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.38(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, 3.15 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.6,8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.12(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.6,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz})$, $2.56-2.39(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.17(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.64(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.48(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.01$ (t, $3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.6,23.9,33.8,38.0,38.5,54.6$, $66.2,69.9,79.4,81.7,84.6,117.2,118.1,125.9,126.9,127.2$, $128.3,128.8,129.3,133.4,134.1,135.3,139.4,153.0,172.3$.

## (4R)-4-Benzyl-3-[(2S, 7R, 8R)-7-benzyloxy-8-ethyl-3,6,7,8-tetrahydro- 2 H -oxocine-2-carbonyl]oxazolidin-2-one (17); Typical Procedure

Into a flask equipped with a reflux condenser was added diene 16 $(0.326 \mathrm{~g}, 0.683 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(137 \mathrm{~mL}) . \mathrm{N}_{2}$ was bubbled through the stirring solution for 20 min . The solution was heated to reflux and $\left(\mathrm{Cy}_{3} \mathrm{P}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{Ru}=\mathrm{CHPh}(0.028 \mathrm{~g}, 0.034 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added in one portion. The mixture was stirred at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 8 h and cooled to r.t. The mixture was then stirred open to air overnight and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash chromatography provided $0.037 \mathrm{~g}(11 \%)$ of recovered diene 16 and $0.270 \mathrm{~g}(88 \%)$ of oxocene 17; $[\alpha]_{D}{ }^{24}-166.4\left(c=0.55, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2925,1780,1700,1390,1195,1070 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.38-7.16(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.97-5.86$ $(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 5.45(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=11.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.65(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.60(\mathrm{AB}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=12.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta v_{\mathrm{AB}}=107.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.21(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.2,8.2$ Hz ), $4.16(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=9.2,2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.04(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=7.0,7.0 \mathrm{~Hz})$, 3.59 (d, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 3.22 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.4,3.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 2.78 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.4,9.4), 2.69-2.59(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 2.40(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.21(\mathrm{dd}, 1$ $\mathrm{H}, J=14.0,5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 1.74-1.65(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 0.67(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.3,26.0,28.8,29.2,37.8,55.0$, $66.4,70.9,73.8,77.9,79.1,127.4,127.7,128.2,128.4,128.9$, $129.4,130.0,135.0,138.3,152.6,173.0$.
(4S)-4-Benzyl-3-\{2-[(1R)-1-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)but-3-en-yloxy]acetyl\}oxazolidin-2-one (20)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}+42.9\left(c=0.79, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2940,1780,1720,1395,1260,1220 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.39-7.13$ (m, 10 H ), 5.94 (ddt, 1 $\mathrm{H}, J=17.2,10.0,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 5.15-5.02(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.82(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.63$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.62\left(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=10.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{AB}}=19.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.21(\mathrm{dd}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.17(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=9.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.57(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $3.49(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.27(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.80(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $J=13.2,9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.48(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.33(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=14.4,7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$, $1.72(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.97(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.1,22.8,35.0,37.7,54.8,67.1$, $70.6,72.7,81.6,82.0,117.0,127.4,127.5,127.8,128.3,129.0$, 129.4, 135.0, 135.2, 138.8, 153.3, 170.4.
(4R)-4-Benzyl-3-\{2-[(1R)-1-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)but-3-enyloxy]acetyl\}oxazolidin-2-one (21)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}-65.8\left(c=0.79, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2940,1780,1720,1395,1265,1220 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.38-7.13(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.93$ (ddt, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=17.2,10.0,7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 5.15-5.03(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.81(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.J_{\mathrm{AB}}=18.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{AB}}=21.2 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.60\left(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=11.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\left.\Delta v_{\mathrm{AB}}=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.47(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.11(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=9.2,2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.04$ (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.6,8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.57(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.50(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.26(\mathrm{dd}, 1$ $\mathrm{H}, J=13.6,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.73(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.6,9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.46(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $2.32(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=14.4,7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 1.75(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.51(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.96$ $(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=9.7,22.7,35.1,37.7,54.7,67.0$, $71.1,72.3,81.9,82.3,116.9,127.3,127.4,128.2,128.9,129.4$, 135.0, 135.2, 139.0, 153.3, 170.3.
(4S)-4-Benzyl-3-\{(2R)-2-[(1R)-1-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)but-3-enyloxy]pent-4-enoyl\}oxazolidin-2-one (22)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}+61.3\left(c=0.65, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2925,1780,1715,1390,1215,1105 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=7.39-7.16(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 6.02-5.82$ (m, 2 H), 5.28 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=7.2,4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 5.17-4.98(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.65$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.54\left(\mathrm{AB}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=11.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{AB}}=13.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.18-4.08$ $(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.47(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=7.6,4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.38(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4,4.0$ $\mathrm{Hz}), 3.25(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.65(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.2,10.0$ $\mathrm{Hz}), 2.57-2.40(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.25(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.70(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.47(\mathrm{~m}, 1$ $\mathrm{H}), 0.93(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.4,22.3,34.9,38.01,38.03$, 55.1, 66.7, 72.5, 76.6, 80.4, 81.4, 116.4, 118.3, 127.4, 127.5, 127.9, $128.3,129.0,129.4,133.3,135.1,135.9,138.8,153.2,172.7$.
(4R)-4-Benzyl-3-\{(2S)-2-[(1R)-1-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)but-3-enyloxy]pent-4-enoyl\}oxazolidin-2-one (23)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}-92.7\left(c=0.82, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2930,1780,1715,1390,1215,1110 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=7.31-7.02(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.89(\mathrm{~m}, 2$ H), $5.28(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=6.4,4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}), 5.10-4.98(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.45(\mathrm{AB}, 2$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=12.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta v_{\mathrm{AB}}=43.2 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.08(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.80(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $J=9.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.49(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.42(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.31(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.6$, $8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.11(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.4,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.52-2.28(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 2.21$ $(\mathrm{dt}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=14.4,8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 1.72(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.41(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.88(\mathrm{t}, 3$ $\mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}^{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{NR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=8.8,21.8,35.7,38.0,38.3,54.7$, $66.3,70.4,79.0,82.3,82.5,116.9,118.1,126.3,127.0,127.2$, $128.3,128.8,129.3,133.4,135.3,135.5,139.5,153.0,172.3$.
(4S)-4-Benzyl-3-[(2R, 7R)-7-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)-2,3,6,7-tetrahydrooxepine-2-carbonyl]oxazolidin-2-one (24)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}+55.1\left(c=0.69, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2940,1780,1710,1390,1210,1110 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=7.38-7.13(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.77-5.63$ (m, 3 H), 4.66-4.50 (m, 4 H$), 4.11(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=9.2,3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.06$ (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 3.43 (dt, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4,4.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 3.22 (dd, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.4,3.4 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.78(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.75(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.4,9.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}), 2.53(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.45(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.28(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.67(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.50$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.96(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.6,22.4,30.1,30.8,37.8,55.0$, $66.5,72.5,74.0,74.5,82.8,125.2,127.4,127.7,128.2,128.9$, 129.4, 129.6, 135.0, 139.0, 152.7, 172.5.
(4R)-4-Benzyl-3-[(2S, 7R)-7-((1R)-1-benzyloxypropyl)-2,3,6,7-tetrahydrooxepine-2-carbonyl]oxazolidin-2-one (25)
$[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{26}-57.3\left(c=0.56, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$.
IR (film): $v=2940,1790,1715,1390,1205,1110 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): \delta=7.38-7.13(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 5.92-5.78$ $(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.97(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=10.4,1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 4.62(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.61(\mathrm{AB}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, J_{\mathrm{AB}}=11.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \Delta \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{AB}}=55.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 4.19-4.11(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.73(\mathrm{ddd}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=10.2,4.6,2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}), 3.33(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 3.26(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.2$, $3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.78(\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=13.2,9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 2.62(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.51-2.25$ $(\mathrm{m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 1.62(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.43(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 0.92(\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, J=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz})$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta=10.6,22.8,31.5,33.2,37.8,55.3$, $66.5,72.6,77.7,81.1,82.8,127.3,127.4,127.8,128.0,128.2$, 129.0, 129.4, 130.6, 135.1, 139.1, 152.7, 170.6.

## Acknowledgement

Financial support of our program by the NIH is acknowledged with thanks. We also thank the Burroughs-Wellcome Foundation for a fellowship for K.A.E.

## References

(1) Faulkner, D. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1999, 16, 155. Faulkner, D. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1998, 15, 113. Faulkner, D. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1997, 14, 259. Faulkner, D. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1996, 13, 75, and earlier reviews in the same series.
(2) Crimmins, M. T.; Emmitte, K. A. Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 2029.
(3) Crimmins, M. T.; Choy, A. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1999, 121, 5653.
(4) (a) Masamune, T.; Matsue, H.; Murase, H. Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1979, 52, 127.
(b) Masamune, T.; Murase, H.; Matsue, H.; Murai, A. Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1979, 52, 135.
(c) Bratz, M.; Bullock, W. H.; Overman, L. E.; Takemoto, T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 5958.
(d) Mujica, M. T.; Afonso, M. M.; Galindo, A.; Palenzuela, J. A. Synlett 1996, 983.
(e) Krüger, J.; Hoffman, R. W. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 7499.
(f) Mujica, M. T.; Afonso, M. M.; Galindo, A.; Palenzuela, J. A. J. Org. Chem. 1998, 63, 9728.
(g) Burton, J. W.; Clark, J. S.; Derrer, S.; Stork, T. C.; Bendall, J. G.; Holmes, A. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 7483.
(h) Tsushima, K.; Murai, A. Tetrahedron Lett. 1992, 33, 4345.
(i) Kotsuki, H. Synlett 1992, 97.
(j) Overman, L. E.; Thompson, A. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 2248.
For examples of medium ring ether synthesis via RCM, see: Clark, J. S.; Hamelin O. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 372, and references cited therein.
(6) Kurosawa, E.; Fukuzawa, A.; Irie, T. Tetrahedron Lett. 1973, 42, 4135.
(7) de Nys, R.; Coll, J. C.; Carroll, A. R.; Bowden, B. F. Aust. J. Chem. 1993, 46, 1073.
(8) Howard, B. M.; Schulte, G. R.; Fenical, W. Tetrahedron. 1980, 36, 1747.
(9) Coll, J. C.; Wright, A. D. Aust. J. Chem. 1989, 42, 1685.
(10) Ishihara, J.; Kanoh, N.; Fukuzawa, A.; Murai, A. Chem. Lett. 1994, 1563.
(11) Fujiwara, K.; Awakura, D.; Tsunashima, M.; Nakamura, A.; Honma, T.; Murai, A. J. Org. Chem. 1999, 64, 2616.
(12) Crimmins, M. T.; Tabet, E. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, in press.
For other isolated observations on diastereomer effects on rates of RCM, see:
Linderman, R. J.; Siedlecki, J.; O’Neill, S. A.; Sun, H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 6919.
Clark, J. S.; Kettle, J. G. Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 127.
(14) Mulzer, J.; Angermann, A.; Münch, W. Liebigs. Ann. Chem. 1986, 825.

Article Identifier:
1437-210X,E;2000,0,06,0899,0903,ftx,en;C02700SS.pdf

