

STEREOCONTROLLED MULTIPLE FUNCTIONALIZATION OF CYCLOOCTENE

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INTRODUCTION:

The structures of medium and large-ring molecules have been studied by dynamic NMR measurements, X-ray crystallography and semi-empirical molecular mechanics calculations. These studies indicate that although macrocyclic compounds are usually capable of existing in a large number of stable conformations, only a few of these conformations are sufficiently low in energy to be appreciably populated at normal temperatures. Cyclooctane exists largely in a boat-chair conformation (Figure 1). Cyclooctene and cyclooctanone are also conformationally biased. For cis-cyclooctene (Figure 2), the faces of the π -system are sterically very different; thus, various addition reactions occur largely from the less hindered peripheral face of the olefinic linkage.



Figure 1. Preferred conformation of cyclooctane

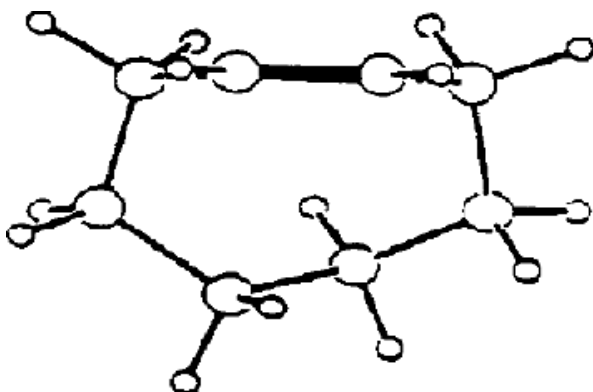
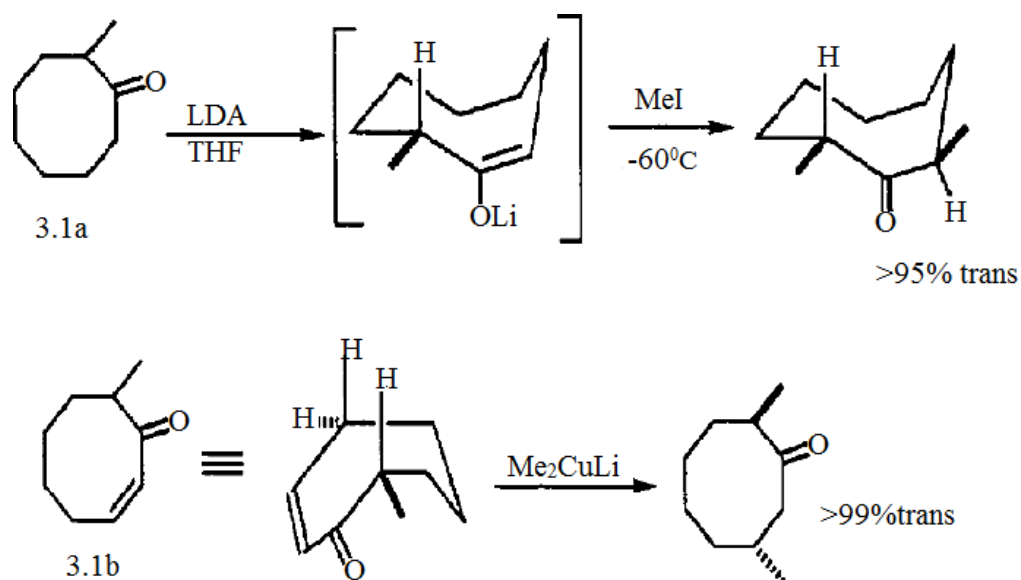


Figure 2. Lowest energy conformation of cis-cyclooctene

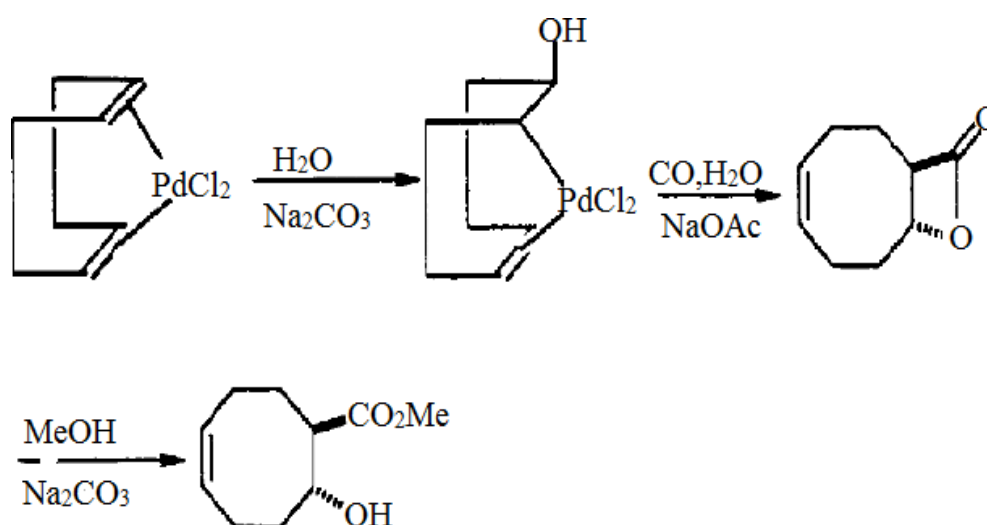
Kinetic alkylation of 2-methylcyclooctanone (**3.1a**) proceeds with high stereoselectivity (> 95% *trans*). The addition of lithium dimethylcuprate to 8-methylcyclooct-2-en-1-one (**3.1b**) results in the clean formation of a single adduct. These observations were rationalized⁴ in terms of the conformation of the reactants (Scheme 1.1).

SCHEME-1.1:



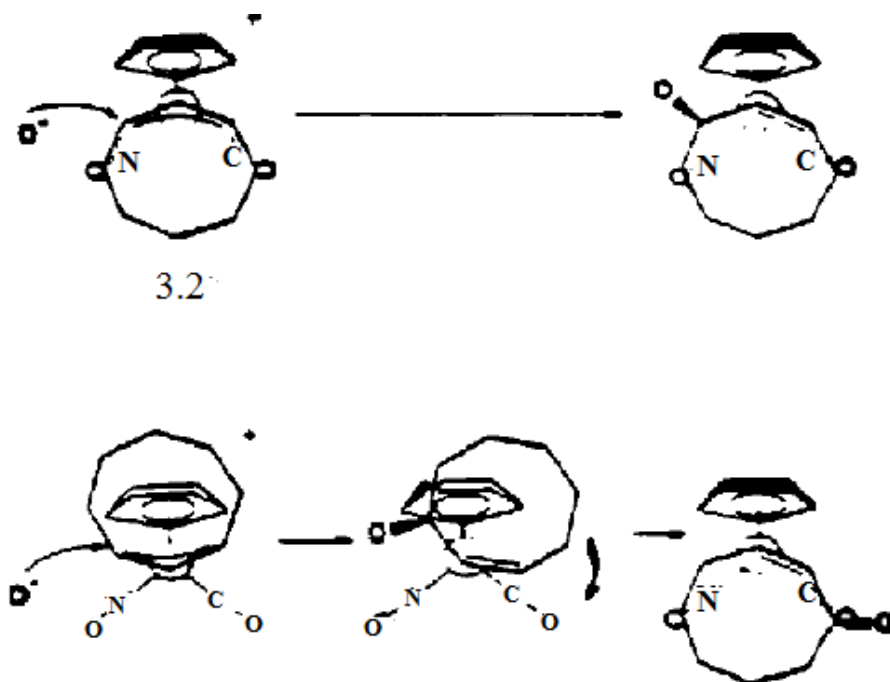
Eight-membered ring carbocycles complexed to a transition metal also have rigid conformations. Complexes of *cis,cis*-1,5-cyclooctadiene with Pt, Pd, Fe, Mo and various other transition metals are known. These complexes have been used to synthesize functionalized cyclooctenes (Scheme 1.2).

SCHEME-3.2:

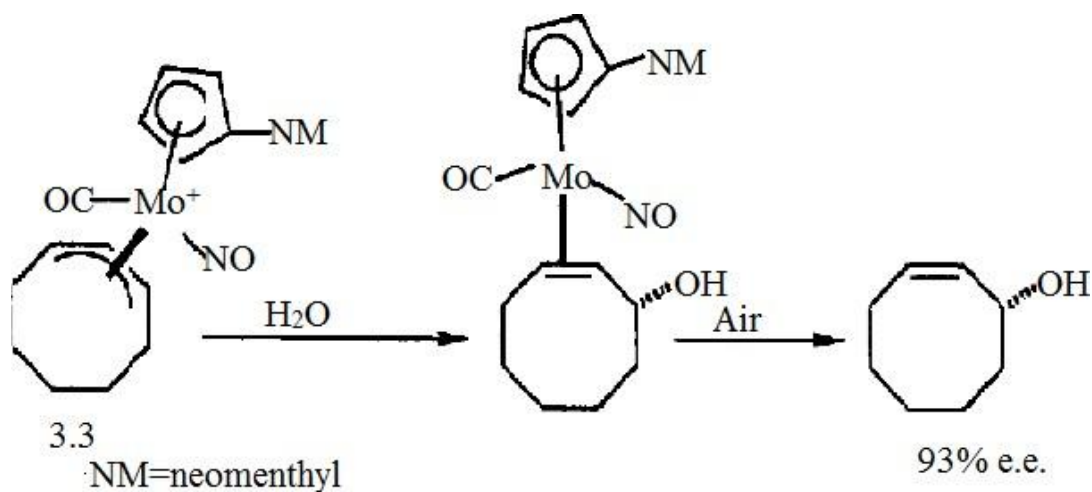


Cycloocta-1,3-diene forms stable complexes with $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3$ in excellent yields. Attempts to prepare analogous $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ complexes by hydride abstraction from cyclooctenyl- $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ were unsuccessful. However, cationic cyclooctenyl- $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})(\text{NO})\text{Cp}$ complexes (**3.2**) are known. Here the π -allyl moiety is sufficiently activated for attack by nucleophiles. Both *endo* and *exo* conformers are isolable and they give different products upon nucleophile addition (Scheme 1.3); nucleophile additions occur *cis* to NO and *anti* to the metal.

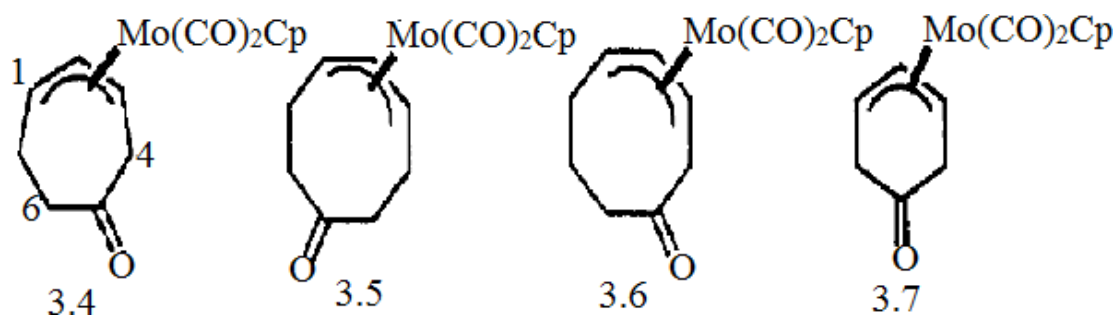
SCHEME-1.3:



The *exo* isomer of **3.2** is thermodynamically more stable and the *endo* isomer can readily be isomerized to the *exo* isomer. Since nucleophiles add *syn* to NO, each diastereomer has been used to prepare optically active cyclooctenol (93% e.e.) by reacting the cationic complex **3.3** with water (Scheme 1.4).

SCHEME-3.4:

It should be noted that this method is not amenable to the synthesis of multiply functionalized cyclooctenes. We have used the complex **3.4** for multiple functionalization of cycloheptene. The analogous 8-membered ring complexes **3.5** and **3.6** were synthesized to explore their properties and uses for preparing multiply functionalized cyclooctenes.

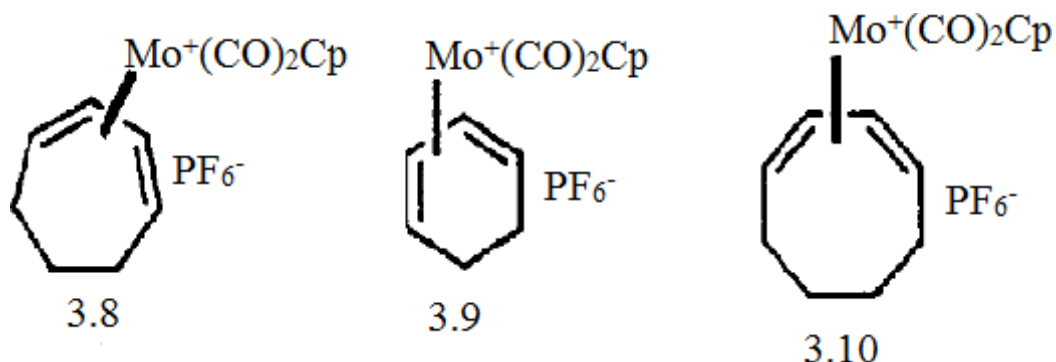


For the ketone **3.7**, the effective steric bulk of the $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ moiety was the controlling factor in determining the stereochemistry of the products (see Scheme 1.8). For the ketone **3.4**, the steric bulk of the metal played the deciding role for stereochemistry of alkylation at C-4; however, in nucleophile additions to the carbonyl group, the conformation of the molecule was the deciding factor. The ketone **3.5** was studied to determine the role of the metal and the conformation of the molecule during its reactions.

PREPARATION OF 3.5 AND 3.6:

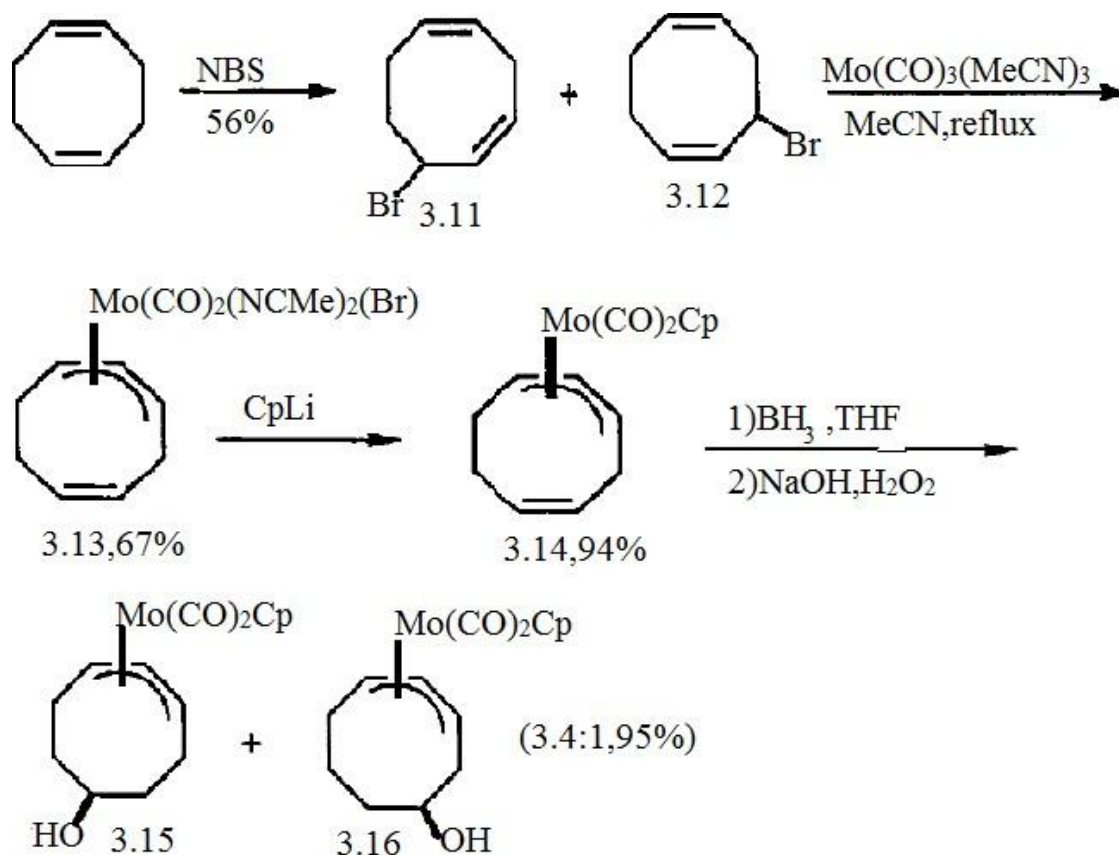
The ketone complexes **3.4** and **3.7** have been synthesized starting from the cationic diene- $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ complexes **3.8** and **3.9** respectively. This procedure could not be followed for **3.5** and

3.6 because of our inability to synthesize the cationic diene complex **3.10**. Consequently, an alternative route was devised.



Bromination of 1,5-cyclooctadiene was reported to give a mixture of two allylic bromides (**3.11** and **3.12**). These two bromides upon treatment with $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3(\text{MeCN})_3$ in refluxing acetonitrile produced the single π -allyl complex **3.13** (Scheme 1.5). Reaction of **3.13** with CpLi proceeded smoothly to give **3.14** in 94% yield. Reactions of **3.13** with indenyllithium and fluorenyllithium were also high yielding but for this study, the complex **3.14** was chosen.

SCHEME-1.5:



The conformation of the complex **3.14** was determined by X-ray crystallography (Figure 3) and is very similar to the cyclooctenyl moiety in the complex $[\text{CpMo}(\text{NO})(\text{CO})(\text{Cyclooctenyl})]^+$ as reported by Faller. Borane approaches **3.14** from the more open side (*syn* to the metal) to give two regioisomeric alcohols **3.15** and **3.16** which were separated chromatographically. The reason for the selectivity towards **3.15** is yet unknown. Efforts to alter this selectivity e.g., using *thexylborane* were unsuccessful. Treatment of **3.14** with catecholborane in the presence of 2 mol% of Wilkinson's catalyst¹² furnished an equimolar mixture of **3.15** and **3.16**.

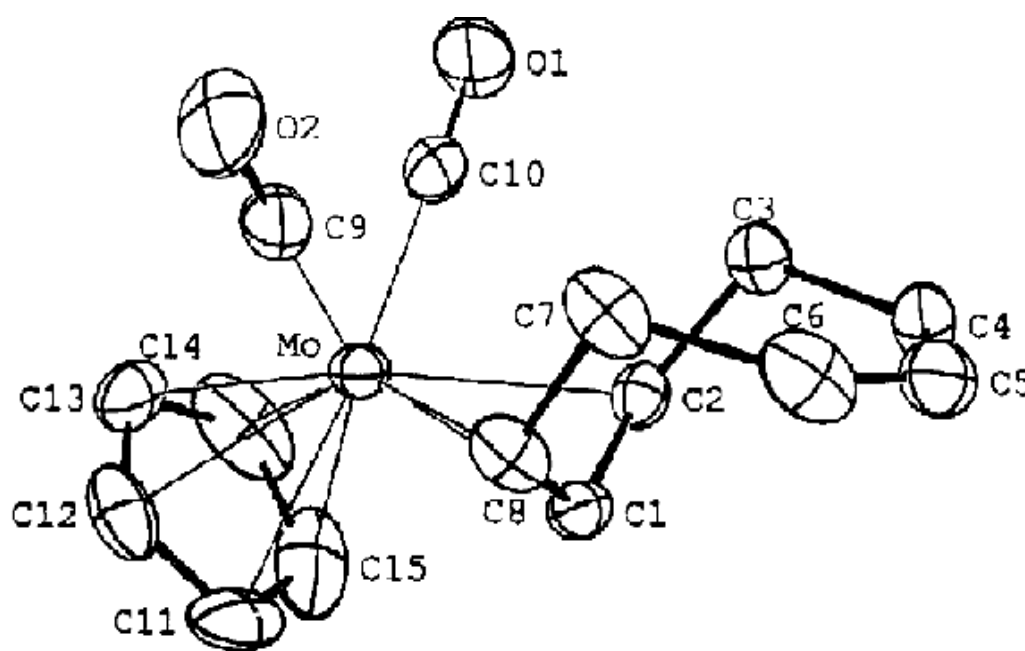
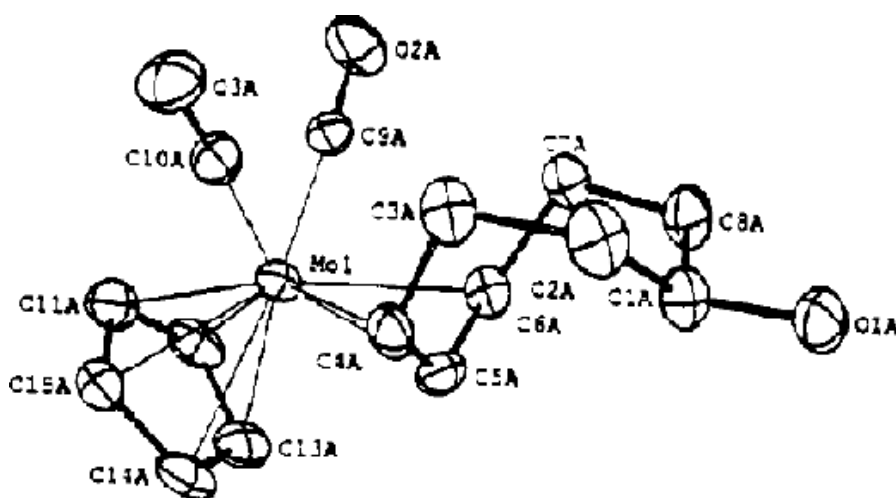
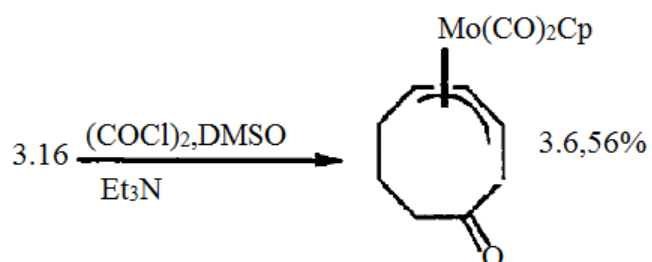
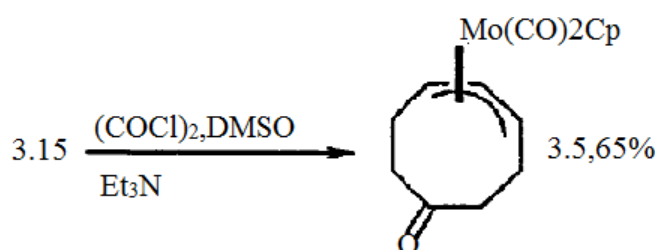


Figure 3. X-ray structure of **3.14**

The stereochemistry of the alcohol **3.15** was determined also by X-ray crystallography (Figure 4). Three conformations were observed in the solid state and in all cases, the hydroxy group was *syn* to the $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ moiety. Selected bond lengths and bond angles are given in the Appendix. The ^1H NMR spectrum of this molecule did not provide any information regarding the stereochemistry of the hydroxy group due to symmetry of the molecule. The complexes **3.15** and **3.16** were separately subjected to Swern oxidation to yield the two ketones **3.5** and **3.6**. Lowering the temperature during the oxidation reaction or using excess of reagents (up to 4 equiv.) did not improve the yields of these reactions.



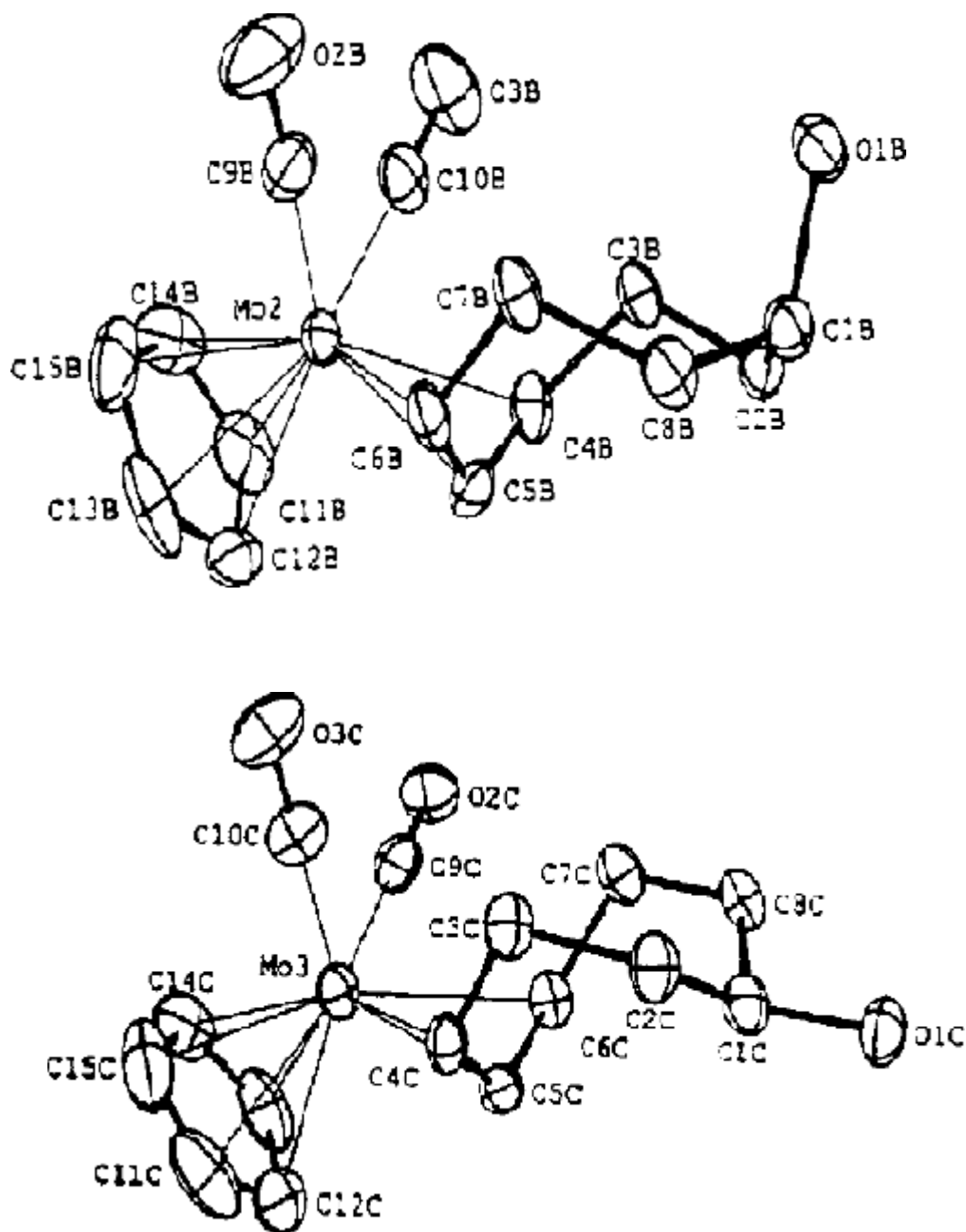
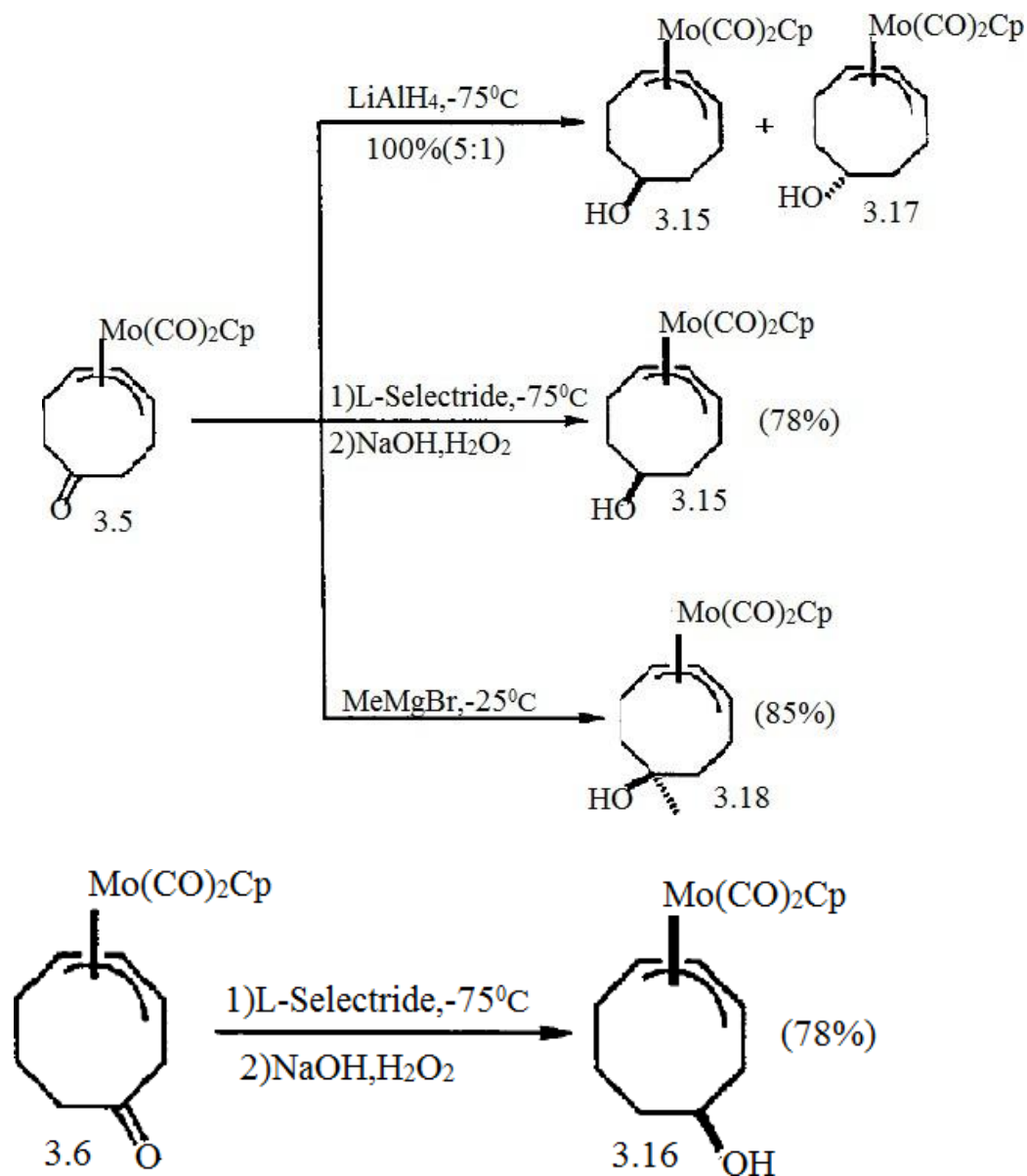


Figure 4. X-ray structure of **3.15**

REACTIONS OF **3.5** AND **3.6**:

Reduction of **3.5** with LiAlH_4 in THF at -75°C gave two alcohols **3.15** and **3.17** in the ratio 5:1 favoring **3.15** (Scheme 1.6). Using a bulkier reducing agent, L-Selectride, produced exclusively **3.15**. This stereocontrol is likely due to the conformation of the ketone **3.5** rather

than the steric bulk of the metal. Reaction of **3.5** with MeMgBr at -25°C gave a single tertiary alcohol. By analogy, the stereochemistry was assigned as shown in **3.18**. Reduction of **3.6** with L-Selectride furnished exclusively the alcohol **3.16**.

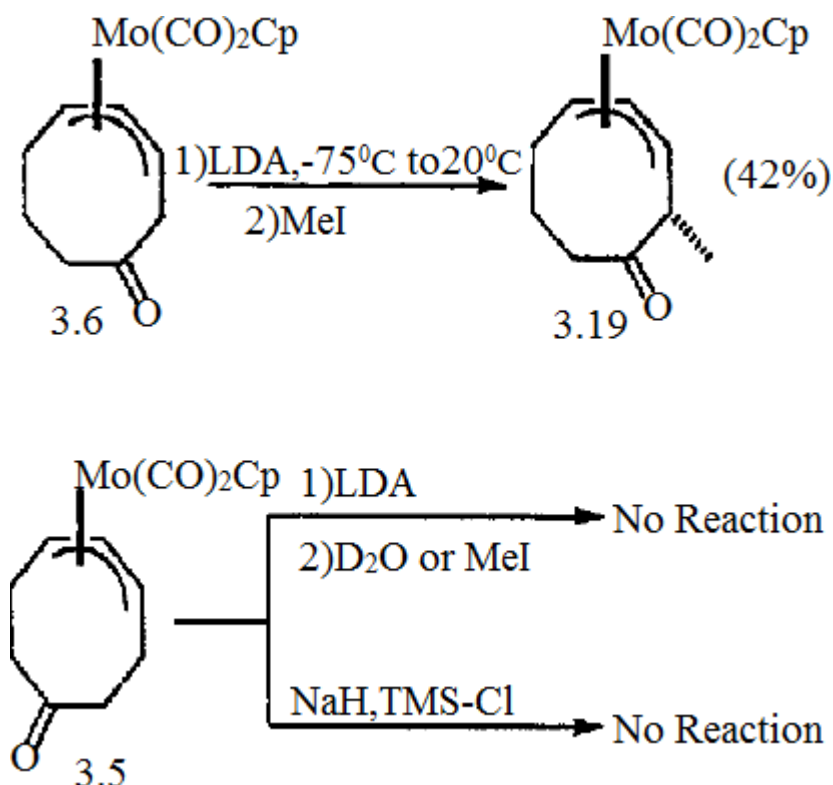
SCHEME-1.6:

Attempted hydride abstractions from **3.15**, **3.16**, **3.14**, **3.5** were unsuccessful. For the complexes **3.15**, **3.16** and **3.5**, treatment with Ph₃CPF₆ at 0°C led to decomposition. The complex **3.14**, under analogous conditions, gave a salt whose structure could not be determined from its ¹H NMR spectrum.

The ketone **3.5** was found to be very resistant towards enolization. Treatment with LDA (up to 10 equiv.) from -75°C to 0°C followed by D_2O quench gave no deuterium incorporation, and attempted methylation with MeI also failed. This is probably due to stereoelectronic effects. It appears that no $\alpha\text{-C-H}$ bond is parallel to the carbonyl π -system and the base could not abstract a proton. Attempts to synthesize the silylenolether by *in situ* quench with TMS-Cl using NaH as the base were also unsuccessful. It is interesting to note the sharp difference in reactivity of the ketone **3.5** as compared to cyclooctanone. Cyclooctanone can be treated with LDA, NaH or $i\text{Pr}_2\text{NMgBr}$ to generate the enolate. The equilibrium constant for keto-enol tautomerism for cyclooctanone has also been determined.

The ketone **3.6**, when treated with LDA (-75°C to room temperature) followed by MeI produced the monomethylated compound **3.19** (Scheme 1.7) as a single epimer. The stereochemistry was tentatively assigned as indicated in **3.19**. Stereochemistry of additions to $\text{C}=\text{C}$ adjacent to the $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cp}$ group in the seven-membered ring ketone **3.4** is controlled by the steric bulk of the metal and the same principle was presumed for **3.6** also.

SCHEME-1.7:

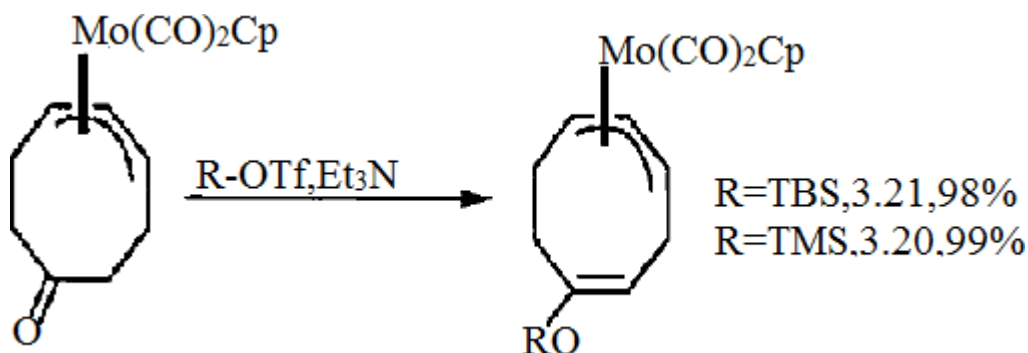


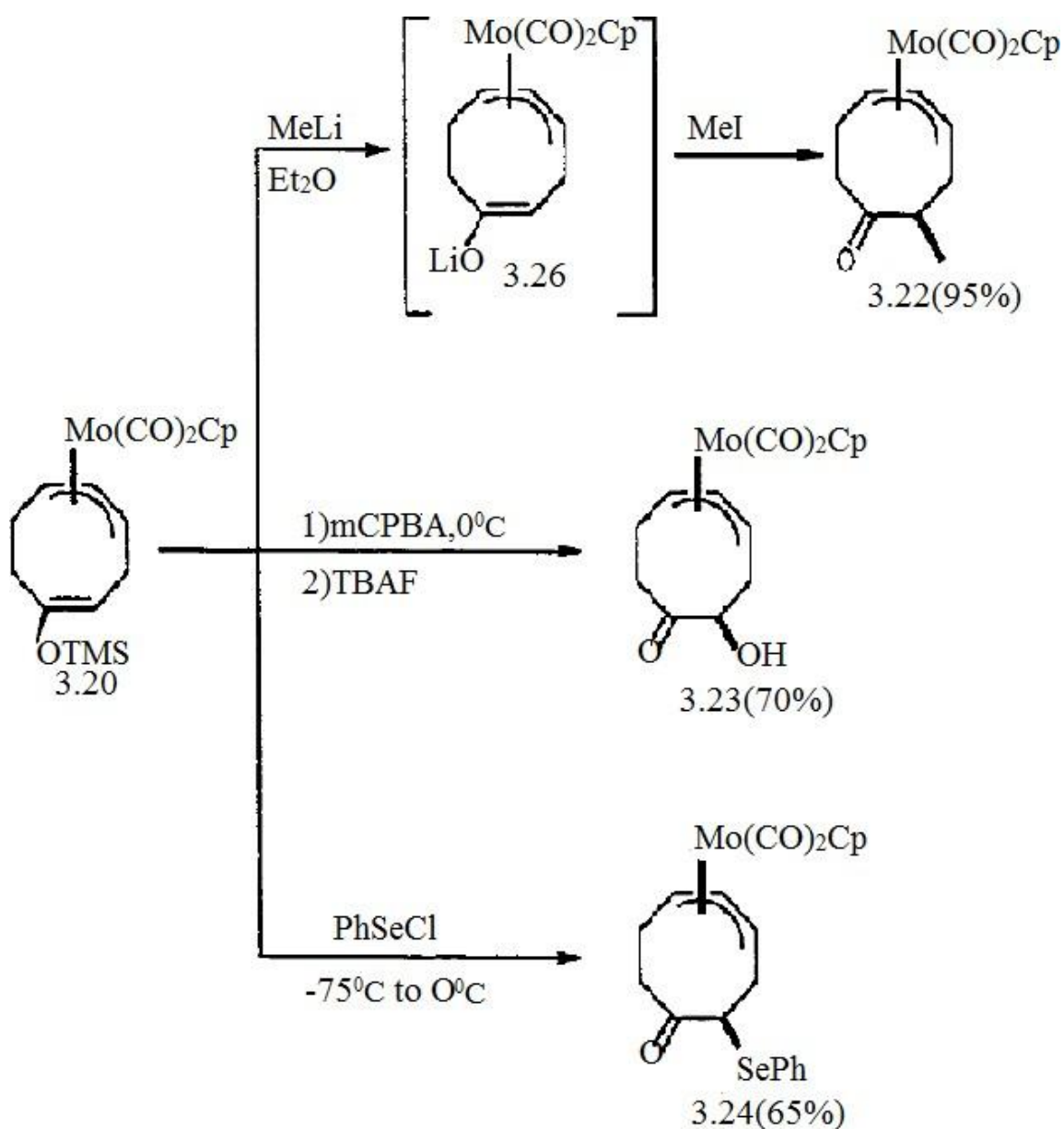
The silylenol ethers **3.20** and **3.21** were prepared from the ketone **3.5** using TMS-OTf and TBS-OTf respectively in ether at room temperature using Et_3N as the base (Scheme 1.8). The lithium enolate **3.26** was generated from **3.20** with methyl lithium. Quenching the reaction (-75°C to -20°C) with MeI generated a single monomethylated compound **3.22**. The structure was

assigned by analogy with the hydroboration result and was confirmed by a NOESY experiment on a later derivative. The reaction had to be conducted under carefully controlled conditions to get a clean product since the monomethylated ketone **3.22** and the starting ketone **3.5** were indistinguishable by TLC.

After adding MeLi (1.2 equiv.) to the solution of **3.20** in ether at room temperature, the reaction was followed by TLC (40% AcOEt in hexane) till no enol silane was present (usually 1-2 h); then ether was evaporated and THF was added. Methyl iodide was added after cooling the reaction mixture to -75°C and the reaction was quenched with water at -20°C . Following this procedure, clean samples of **3.22** (uncontaminated by **3.5**) were prepared routinely. Analytically pure samples were prepared by recrystallization from CH_2Cl_2 /pentane.

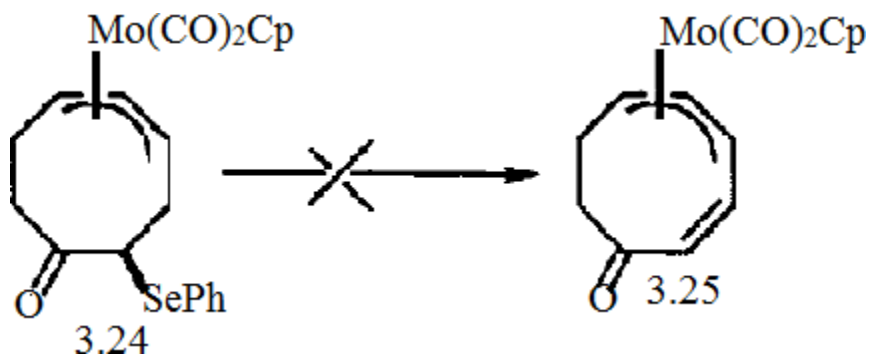
SCHEME-1.8:





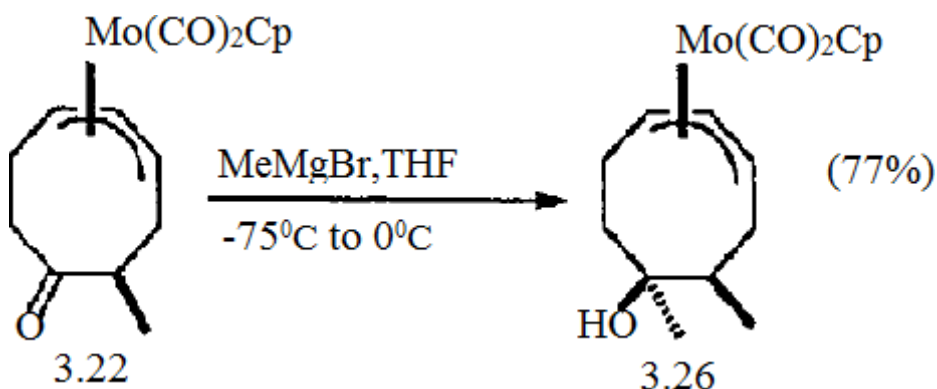
The enolsilane **3.20** was oxidized to the α -hydroxy ketone **3.23** following Rubottom's and was also converted to the procedure α -selenoketone **3.24** (Scheme 1.8) following a standard procedure. In both reactions, one epimer of the products were observed. The stereochemistries were assigned by analogy with the compound **3.22**. Here the conformation of the enolsilane **3.20** plays the deciding role in determining the stereochemistry of the products.

Attempts to oxidize **3.24** to the selenoxide followed by *syn*-elimination to generate the enone **3.25** were met with failure. Reaction of **3.24** with mCPBA or H₂O₂ led to its decomposition.



Amination reactions of **3.26** gave unstable products. Attempted synthesis of **3.23** by oxidizing **3.26** with 2-sulfonyloxaziridine were also unsuccessful.

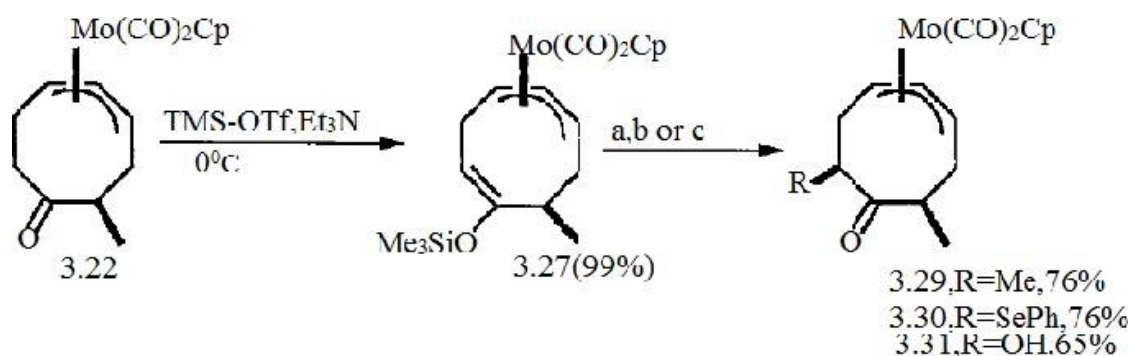
Addition of MeMgBr to **3.22** generated a single epimer of the tertiary alcohol. The stereochemistry was assigned based on the conformation of the monomethylated ketone **3.22** and by analogy with the unsubstituted compound **3.5**.



Treatment of **3.22** with TMS-OTf and Et₃N in ether at 0°C generated the thermodynamically less stable enolsilane **3.27** (Scheme 1.9). Generation of the Li-enolate from **3.27** with MeLi was slower than the corresponding reaction of **3.20** and was accompanied by some

attack on the Cp-ring (as indicated by the ^1H NMR spectra of the crude reaction products). Quenching the enolate with MeI (-75°C to 0°C) gave exclusively the symmetrically substituted complex **3.29** as evidenced by ^1H NMR spectroscopy. This is therefore in complete contrast to 2-methylcyclooctanone, and demonstrates the profound effect of the π -allyl-Mo(CO) $_2$ Cp moiety on conformation.

SCHEME-1.9:

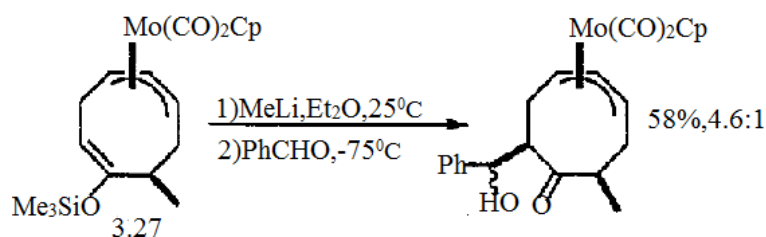
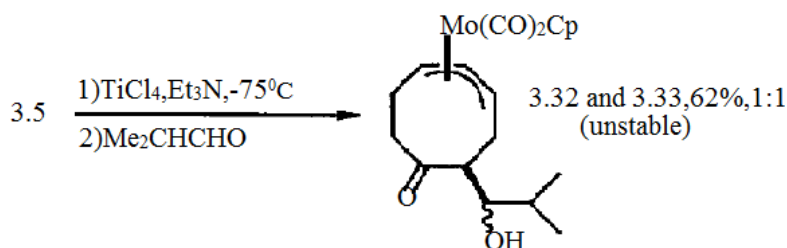
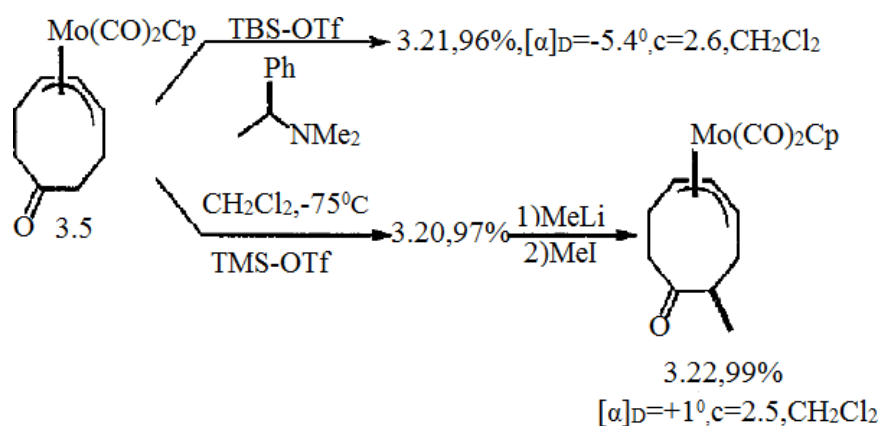


- a) MeLi, Et $_2$ O, 25°C then MeI, -75°C to 0°C
 b) PhSeCl, THF, -75°C to 25°C
 c) mCPBA, CH $_2$ Cl $_2$, 0°C then TBAF

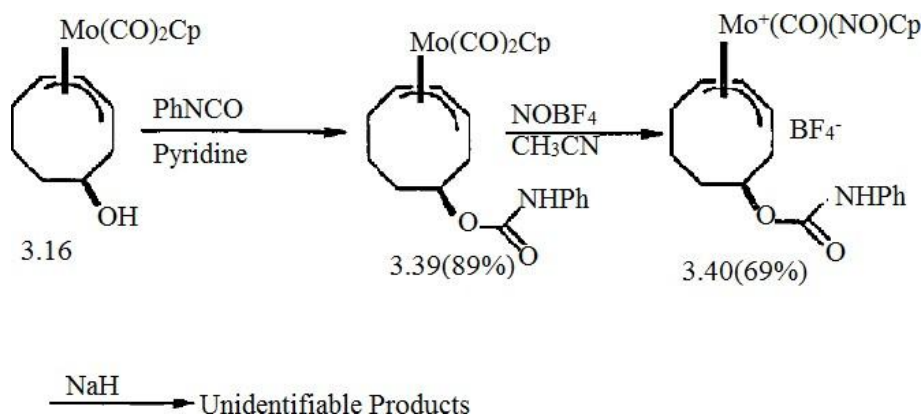
The stereochemistry of **3.30** was confirmed by a NOESY experiment and the stereochemistry of **3.31** was analogously assigned. Attempted selenoxide elimination of **3.30** failed. Reaction of **3.27** with borane followed by peroxide oxidation led to multiple products which were not characterized. Alkylation of **3.27** with $^t\text{BuCl}$ in the presence of TiCl_4 hydrolyzed the silylenol ether to give back the ketone **3.22**.

Since the ketone **3.5** is prochiral, formation of the enolsilane was attempted with optically active (S)-(-)-N,N-dimethyl- α -phenylethyl amine as the base. The monomethylated compound (**3.22**) generated by this route was optically active (Scheme 1.10). No attempts were made to determine the level of asymmetric induction.

Aldol reaction using Lewis acid catalysis of **3.5** gave an equimolar mixture of the two diastereomeric products **3.32** and **3.33** (Scheme 1.10). Aldol reaction of the Li-enolate generated from **3.27** with benzaldehyde gave the two products in the ratio **4.6:1**. This reaction was not clean and considerable attack on the Cp-ring was observed. Hence no attempts were made to determine the stereochemistry of the major diastereomer.

SCHEME-1.10:

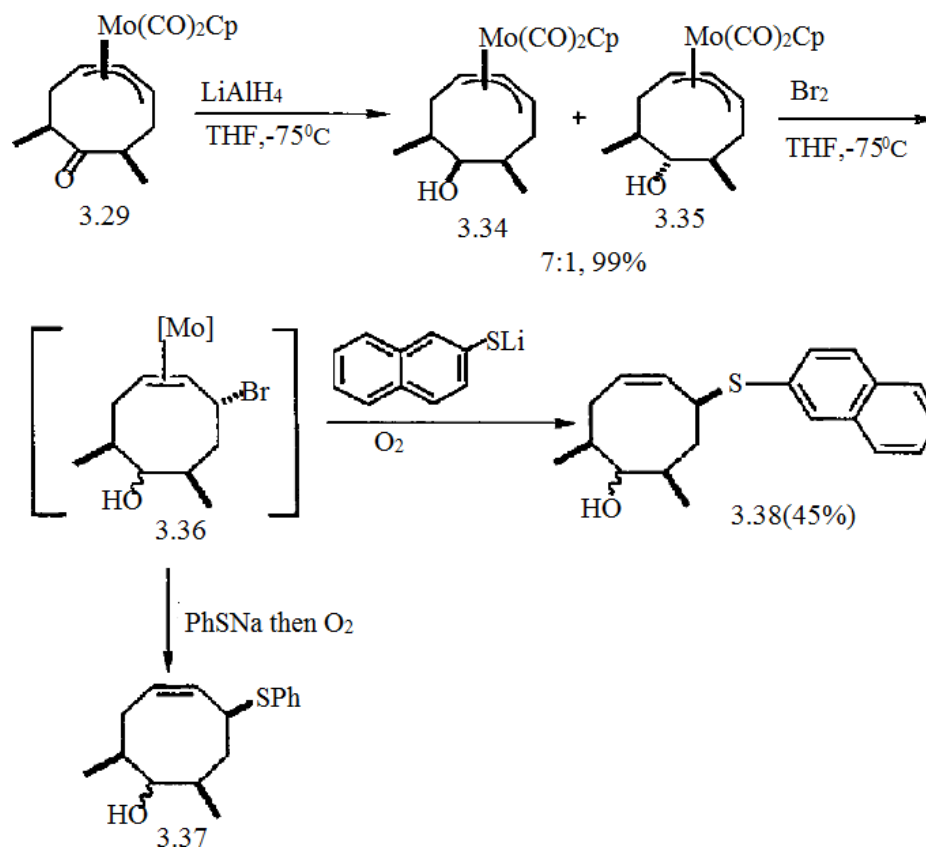
Decomplexation attempts were made on the two complexes **3.16** and **3.29**. The alcohol **3.16** was converted to the carbamate **3.39** by treatment with phenyl isocyanate. Activation of the π -allyl moiety of **3.39** was achieved by exchanging a CO ligand with NO⁺ to give the salt **3.40**. But **3.40**, upon treatment with NaH to effect the intramolecular cyclization led to two organic products unidentifiable by ¹H NMR. This is not surprising because *anti* attack on the π -allyl-Mo system is prevented by the *syn* stereochemistry of the carbamate moiety.



Reduction of **3.29** with LiAlH_4 at -75°C produced a mixture of two epimeric alcohols **3.34** and **3.35** in the ratio 7:1 (Scheme 3.11). The major product was assigned the structure **3.34** based on steric approach control. Changing the reducing agent to L-Selectride did not improve the ratio.

Treatment of this alcohol mixture with bromine followed by *in situ* trapping of the allylic bromide **3.36** with PhSNa generated the allylicthio ether **3.37**. Surprisingly, the compound **3.37** rearranged on silica gel during purification. Changing the thiophenoxy group to 2-naphthalene thio group solved the problem, giving the stable allylicthio ether **3.38** as a 7:1 mixture of epimers.

SCHEME-1.11:



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