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Supplementary Material: Experimental Section

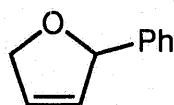
General. ^1H spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM-500 spectrometer at ambient temperature. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift in parts per million downfield from internal tetramethylsilane (δ scale), multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, and m = multiplet), integration, coupling constant (Hz), and assignment.

^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a General Electric QE-300 spectrometer at ambient temperature. ^{13}C chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (δ scale) with the solvent resonance employed as the internal standard (CDCl_3 at δ 77.0). All ^{13}C spectra were determined with complete proton decoupling.

Infrared spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 1600 Series FTIR. High resolution mass spectra were provided by the Southern California Mass Spectrometry Facility (University of California, Riverside). Analytical thin layer chromatography was accomplished using EM Reagents 0.25 mm silica gel 60 plates. Flash chromatography was performed on EM Reagents silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh).

Argon was purified by passage through a column of BASF RS-11 (Chemalog) and Linde 4 Å molecular sieves. Benzene was distilled under argon from sodium benzophenone ketyl and stored under argon in a flask with a Teflon valve. **1** was prepared according to the method of Schrock.¹

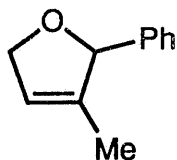
All reactions were conducted under an atmosphere of argon in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring.



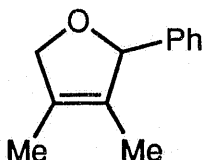
2,5-Dihydro-2-phenylfuran: $R_f = 0.35$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3029, 2849, 1491, 1453, 1353, 1263, 1081, 1063, 1027, 902, 840, 802, 751, 700 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.25-7.10 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.73 (br s, 1H, CHPh), 5.53 (m, 1H, olefinic H), 5.46 (m, 1H, olefinic H), 4.61 (m, 1H, CHHO), 4.54 (m, 1H, CHHO); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 142.07, 130.01, 128.59, 127.92, 126.70,

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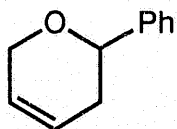
126.49, 87.99, 75.92. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $C_{10}H_{10}O_1$ (M^+): 146.0732. Found: 146.0736.



2,5-Dihydro-3-methyl-2-phenylfuran: $R_f = 0.35$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3063, 3028, 2970, 2844, 2360, 1491, 1454, 1380, 1348, 1251, 1184, 1081, 1061, 1027, 943, 903, 837, 755, 699 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.25-7.10 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.46 (br s, 1H, CHPh), 5.19 (br s, 1H, olefinic H), 4.72 (m, 1H, CHHO), 4.61 (m, 1H, CHHO), 1.30 (s, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 141.70, 138.72, 128.64, 128.10, 127.04, 120.88, 90.73, 75.71, 12.75. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $C_{11}H_{12}O_1$ (M^+): 160.0888. Found: 160.0890.

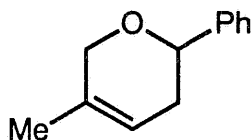


2,5-Dihydro-3,4-dimethyl-2-phenylfuran: $R_f = 0.30$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3028, 2970, 2914, 2834, 1697, 1603, 1491, 1453, 1384, 1349, 1301, 1275, 1243, 1048, 754, 699, 648 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.30-7.10 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.53 (s, 1H, CHPh), 4.68 (d, 1H, $J = 10.3$, CHHO), 4.55 (d, 1H, $J = 11.7$, CHHO), 1.33 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.21 (s, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 142.12, 129.96, 128.45, 127.86, 126.94, 92.10, 79.30, 10.02. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $C_{12}H_{14}O_1$ (M^+): 174.1045. Found: 174.1041.

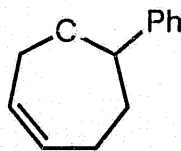


5,6-Dihydro-6-phenyl-2H-pyran: $R_f = 0.40$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3033, 2925, 2892, 2827,

1655, 1603, 1493, 1451, 1426, 1387, 1367, 1239, 1214, 1179, 1090, 1051, 1023, 954, 919, 856, 763, 746, 699, 655 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.40-7.10 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.63 (m, 1H, olefinic H), 5.47 (br d, 1H, $J = 9.8$, olefinic H), 4.39 (dd, 1H, $J = 3.2, 10.2$, CHPh), 4.18 (br d, 1H, $J = 16.8$, CHHO), 4.09 (br d, 1H, $J = 15.9$, CHHO), 2.23 (m, 1H, CHHCHPh), 1.98 (m, 1H, CHHCHPh); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 142.62, 128.47, 127.57, 126.49, 125.96, 124.53, 75.74, 66.68, 32.97. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_1$ (M^+): 160.0888. Found: 160.0884.

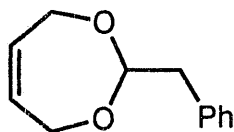


5,6-Dihydro-2-methyl-6-phenyl-2H-pyran: $R_f = 0.45$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3062, 3029, 2970, 2914, 2855, 2831, 1493, 1450, 1377, 1366, 1343, 1101, 1070, 1032, 983, 914, 887, 810, 752, 699, 676 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.45-7.10 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.36 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.7, 3.8$, olefinic H), 4.38 (dd, 1H, $J = 3.3, 10.4$, CHPh), 4.07 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$, CHHO), 4.02 (d, 1H, $J = 16.1$, CHHO), 2.26 (m, 1H, CHHCHPh), 2.02 (br d, 1H, $J = 16.3$, CHHCHPh), 1.36 (s, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 142.69, 133.24, 128.48, 127.55, 126.00, 118.93, 75.83, 69.95, 33.06, 18.75. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_1$ ($\text{M} - \text{H}^+$): 173.0966. Found: 173.0957.

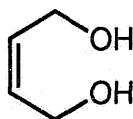


7-Phenyl-2,5,6,7-tetrahydrooxepin: $R_f = 0.20$ (5% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3022, 2910, 2858, 1491, 1452, 1351, 1091, 1036, 976, 760, 700 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.50-7.15 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.58 (br t, 1H, $J = 12.7$, olefinic H), 5.10 (br t, 1H, $J = 11.4$, olefinic H), 4.69 (br d, 1H, $J = 10.2$, CHPh), 4.17 (br d, 1H, $J = 12.7$, CHHO), 3.61 (dd, 1H, $J = 10.7, 12.7$, CHHO), 2.59 (br dd, 1H, $J = 11.9$, CHHCH₂CHPh), 1.96 (m, 2H, CHHCH₂CHPh + CHHCHPh), 1.42 (br dd, 1H, $J = 13.3$, CHHCHPh); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.60, 135.70, 129.41, 128.82, 127.70, 126.87, 74.29, 68.25,

37.39, 29.10. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $C_{12}H_{14}O_1$ (M^+): 174.1045. Found: 174.1053.



cis-1,4-Dihydroxy-2-butene, phenylmethylacetal: $R_f = 0.35$ (10% EtOAc/hexane); IR (neat) 3029, 2937, 2856, 1605, 1496, 1454, 1381, 1360, 1268, 1202, 1128, 1081, 997, 746, 700, 640 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.30-7.05 (m, 5H, aromatic H), 5.36 (br s, 2H, olefinic H), 4.91 (t, 1H, $J = 5.7$, $CHCH_2Ph$), 4.18 (br d, 2H, $J = 15.6$, $CHHO$), 3.84 (br d, 2H, $J = 15.0$, $CHHO$), 2.95 (d, 2H, $J = 5.7$, CH_2Ph); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 137.24, 129.97, 129.83, 128.55, 126.67, 104.97, 65.47, 40.73. HRMS, m/z Calcd for $C_{12}H_{15}O_2$ ($M + H^+$): 191.1072. Found: 191.1065.



cis-1,4-Dihydroxy-2-butene: Identical by TLC and by 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy with commercially available *cis*-1,4-dihydroxy-2-butene (Aldrich).

References and Notes

- Schrock, R. R.; Murdzek, J. S.; Bazan, G. C.; Robbins, J.; DiMare, M.; O'Regan, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 3875-3886.