

STEREOSELECTIVE SYNTHETIC STUDIES ON BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE
NATURAL SPIROKETALS

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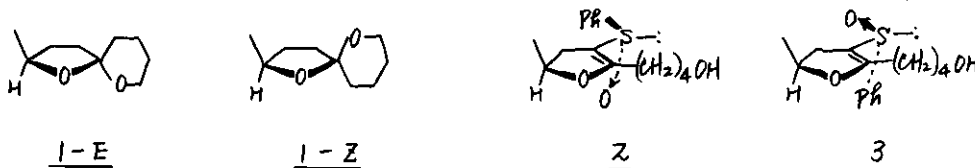
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Spiro-ketal moiety plays a very important role as structural elements of many biologically active natural products. Although several construction methods for spiro-ketal skeleton have been developed, little is known concerning successful stereocontrol at the spiro carbon center.

(E)- and (Z)-2-Methyl-1,6-dioxaspiro[4.5]decane (1-E and 1-Z), isolated as an insect pheromone of the common wasp, was efficiently synthesized in diastereoisomerically or optically pure form *via* a highly stereocontrolled intramolecular Michael addition of the hydroxyl group to unsaturated sulfoxide moiety of 2 and 3.



Acid-catalyzed or bromonium ion mediated cyclization of 2 and 3 gave diastereoisomeric mixtures of dioxaspiro products with somewhat stereoselectivity. On the other hand, the Michael-type cyclization of 2 and 3 by use of KH afforded each sole cyclized product, 4 and 5, respectively, which easily converted into 1-E and 1-Z in good yield. The excellent stereoselectivity in this reaction could be interpreted in terms of a stable chelation mediated by the potassium cation as shown in structure 6.

