TOTAL SYNTHESIS OF PROGESTERONE

Rosemary Augustine
CEM 852
January 26th 2022

Johnson, W. S.; Gravestock, M. B.; Parry, R. J.; Myers, R. F.; Bryson, T. A.; Miles, D. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1971,** 93, 4330. Johnson, W. S.; Bailey, D. M.; Owyang, R.; Bell, R. A.; Jaques, B.; Crandall, J. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964,** 86, 1959.



• Progesterone is a C-21 steroid hormone involved in the female menstrual cycle, pregnancy and embryogenesis of humans and other species.

• It belongs to a class of hormones called progestogens and is the major naturally occurring human progestogen.

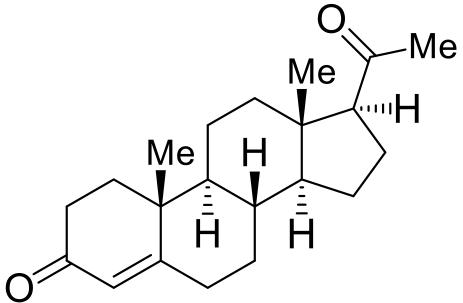
• It helps in the prevention of preterm birth, to control anovulatory bleeding, to increase skin elasticity and for the treatment of traumatic brain injury.

Pan, D.S.; Liu W.G.; Yang, X.F.; Cao, F. Inhibitory effect of progesterone on inflammatory factors after experimental traumatic brain injury. *Biomed Environ Sci.* **2007**, 20 (5): 432-438.

Introduction (Cont'd)

• It contains two **ketone functional groups**, as well as two methyl branches.

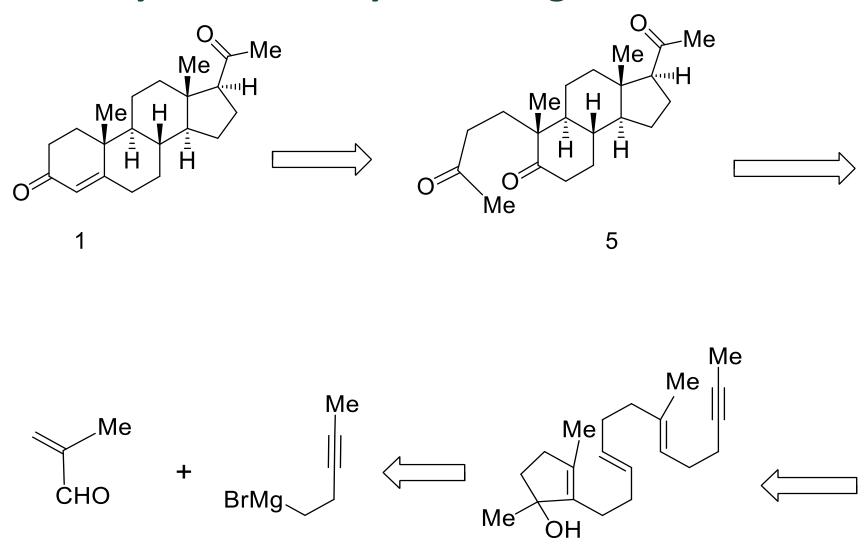
• Its first chemical synthesis was done by W. S. Johnson's group at Stanford in 1971.

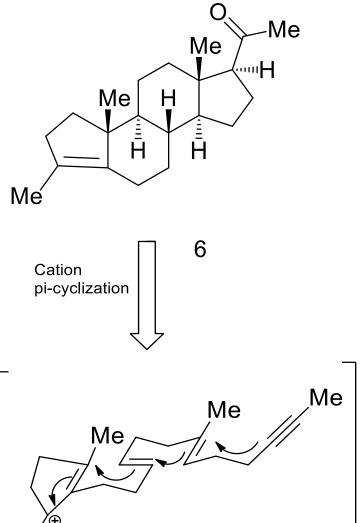


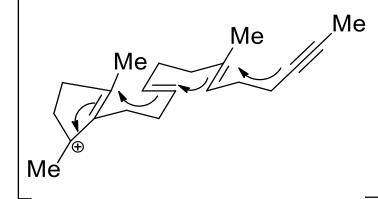
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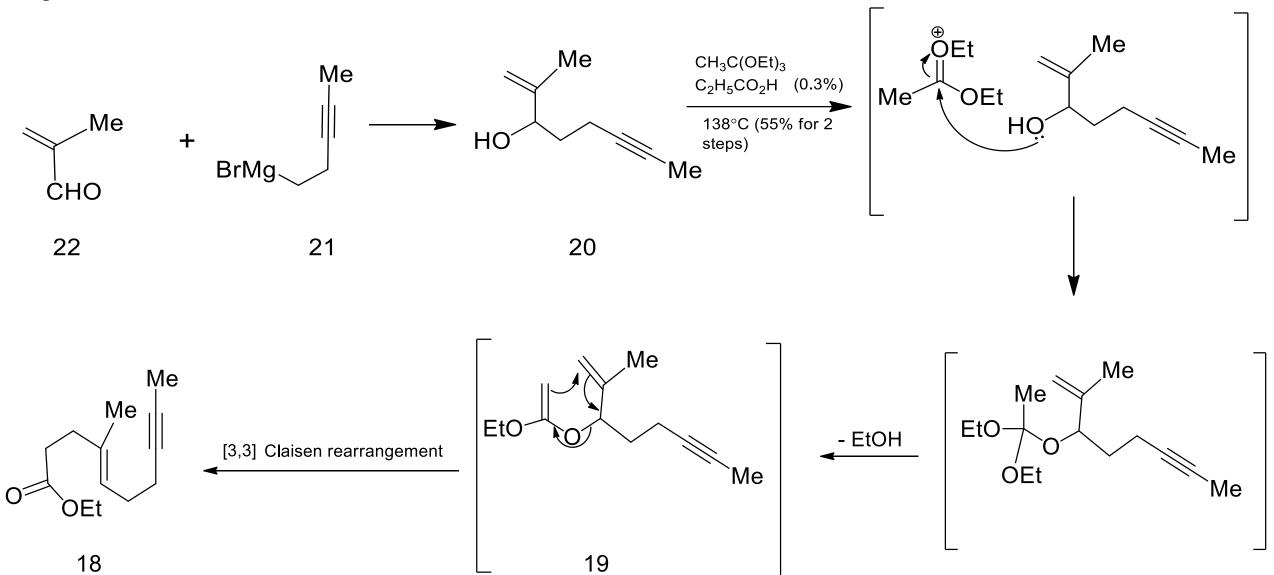
Retrosynthetic Analysis of Progesterone





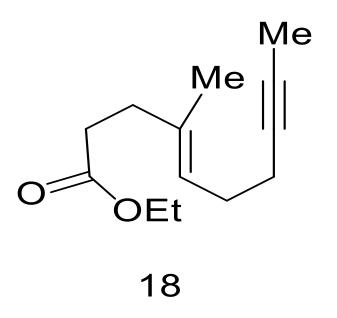


Synthesis of Intermediate 13

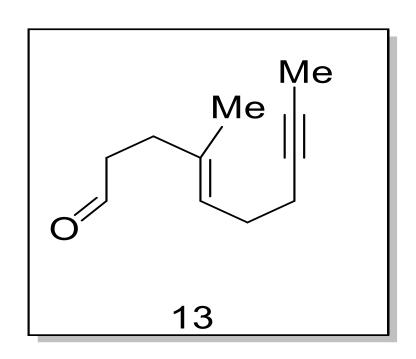




Synthesis of Intermediate 13 (Cont'd)

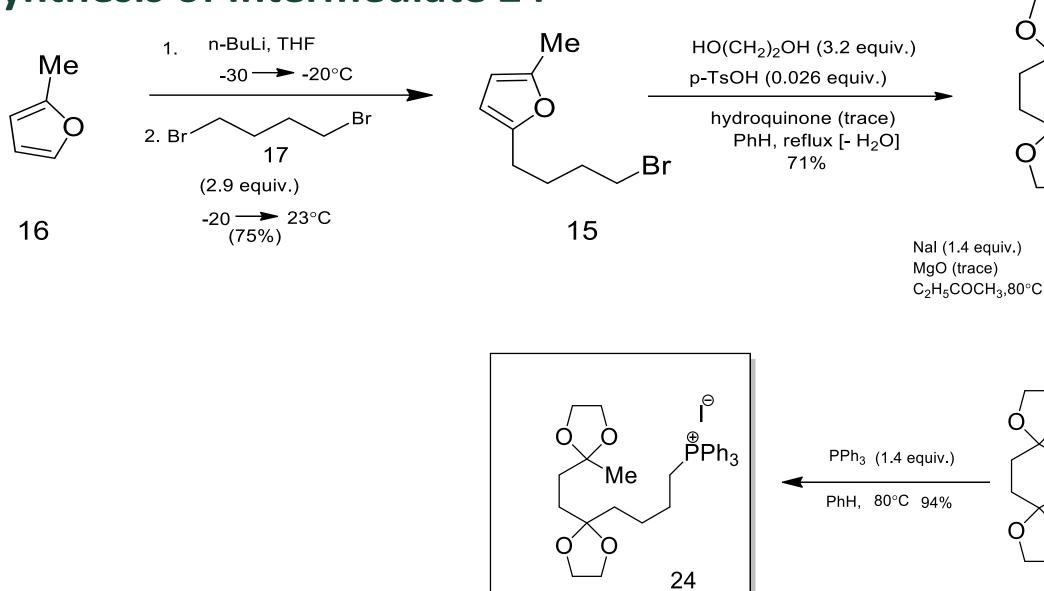


1. LiAlH₄, Et₂O, 0°C 2. CrO₃•2pyr CH₂Cl₂, 23°C (77% for 2 steps)



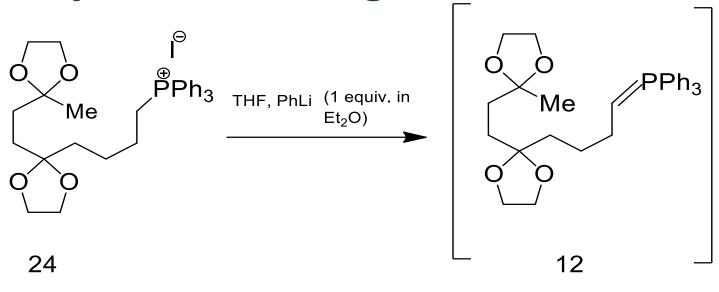


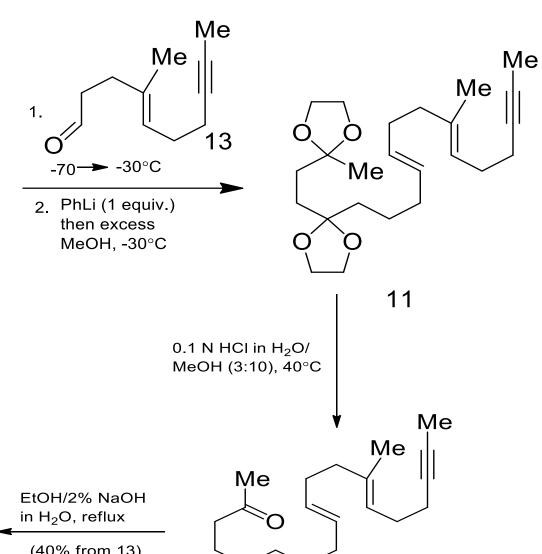
Synthesis of Intermediate 24

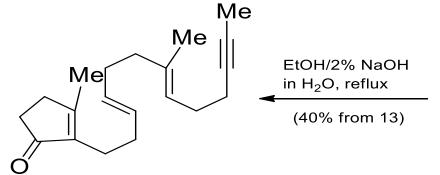




Synthesis of Progesterone



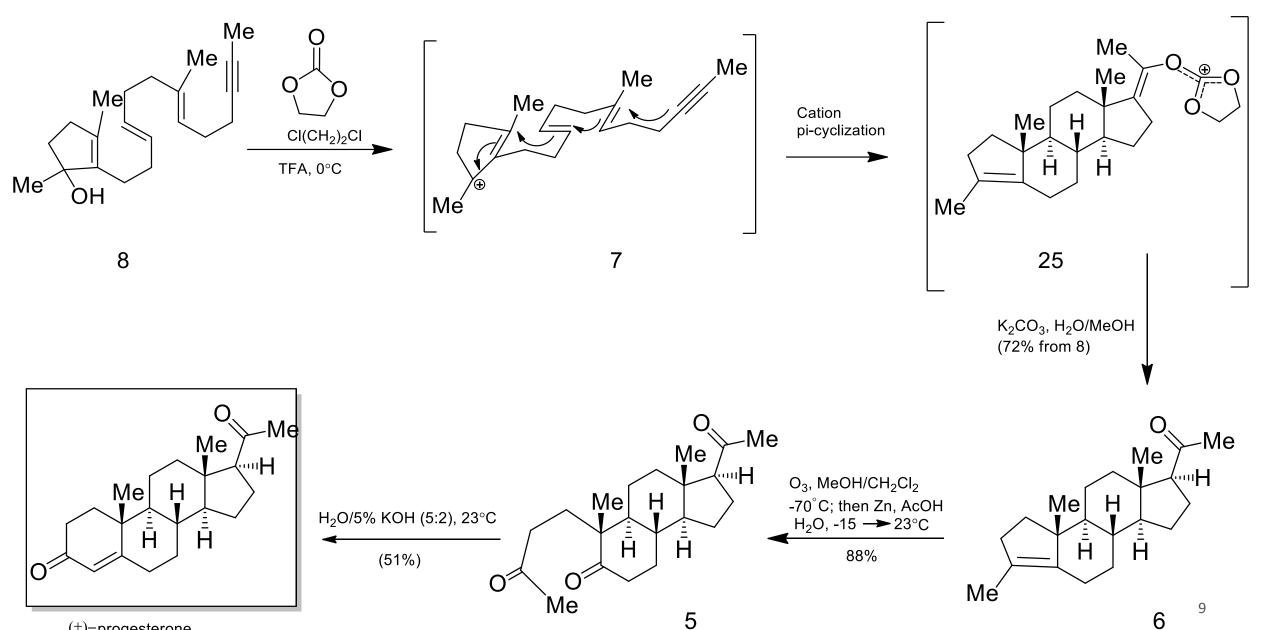






Synthesis of Progesterone (Cont'd)

(±)-progesterone





- The development of novel strategies for initiating and terminating the polyolefin cascade is a particularly noteworthy contribution by W. S. Johnson group.
- It has also expanded the scope of polyolefinic cyclizations.

Thank you for Listening.

Questions?