

Regioselective Synthesis of 1,3,4,5-Tetrasubstituted Pyrazoles from α -Alkenyl- α,β -Enones Derived from Morita-Baylis-Hillman Adducts

Sung Hwan Kim, Jin Woo Lim, Jin Yu, and Jae Nyong Kim*

Department of Chemistry and Institute of Basic Science, Chonnam National University, Gwangju 500-757, Korea

*E-mail: kimjn@chonnam.ac.kr

Received June 27, 2013, Accepted July 8, 2013

Convenient synthetic method for 4-arylethylpyrazoles and 4-styrylpyrazoles was developed using α -alkenyl- α,β -enones readily accessed from the Morita-Baylis-Hillman reaction. For the synthesis of 4-arylethylpyrazole, the reactions with arylhydrazines needed to be carried out in *o*-dichlorobenzene under N_2 balloon atmosphere. On the other hand, 4-styrylpyrazoles required the reactions in ethanol under O_2 balloon atmosphere.

Key Words : Pyrazoles, α -Alkenyl- α,β -enones, Morita-Baylis-Hillman adducts, 1,3-H shift, Aerobic oxidation

Introduction

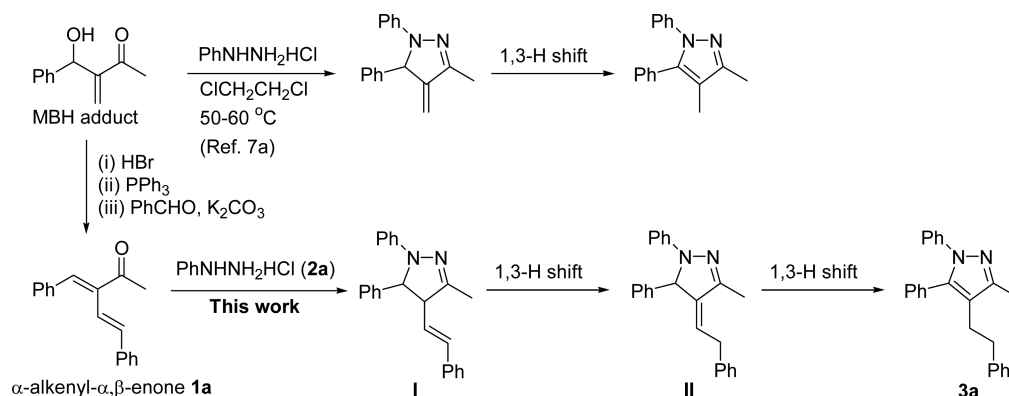
1,3,4,5-Tetrasubstituted pyrazole derivatives are important synthetic targets due to their wide spectrum of biological activities.¹⁻⁵ Therefore, numerous methods have been reported for the synthesis of tetrasubstituted pyrazoles.²⁻⁵ The condensation reaction between 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds and substituted hydrazines is the simplest synthetic method for pyrazoles.² The reaction of β -hydroxyketones or α,β -enones with substituted hydrazines provided pyrazolines, which could be oxidized to the corresponding pyrazoles in the presence of an oxidant such as MnO_2 or DDQ.³ Besides these methods, numerous other synthetic approaches have been reported.^{4,5}

Results and Discussion

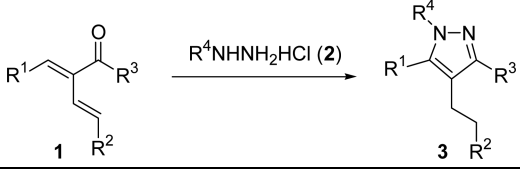
The Morita-Baylis-Hillman (MBH) adducts have been used for the synthesis of various heterocyclic compounds,⁶ including pyrazoles.⁷ In 2003, the first synthesis of poly-substituted pyrazoles from MBH adducts has been reported in our group, as shown in Scheme 1.^{7a} The reaction of MBH adduct and substituted hydrazine provided 4-methylene-pyrazoline intermediate which was converted to 4-methyl-

pyrazole by a rapid 1,3-H shift. During our recent studies using α -styryl- α,β -enones,⁸ which was prepared from MBH bromide, we envisioned that the reaction of enone **1a** and phenylhydrazine could provide 4-styrylpyrazoline **I** and eventually 4-phenethylpyrazole **3a** via a double 1,3-H shift process (Scheme 1).⁹

The starting material **1a** was prepared from MBH adduct of methyl vinyl ketone via a simple two-step procedure, according to the reported method, namely a bromination and a Wittig reaction with benzaldehyde.⁸ At the outset of our experiment, the reaction of **1a** and phenylhydrazine hydrochloride (**2a**) was carried out in refluxing $ClCH_2CH_2Cl$ for 30 h. 4-Phenethylpyrazole **3a** was obtained as expected; however, the yield of **3a** was low (28%). The reaction with phenylhydrazine or addition of an acid catalyst did not improve the yield of **3a**. The reaction in DMSO (80-90 °C) showed the formation of many intractable side products with low yield of **3a**. Thus we examined the reaction at higher temperature (130 °C) in *o*-dichlorobenzene (ODCB). To our delight, the yield of **3a** increased to 51% in short time (2 h). In the reaction, a trace amount of 4-styrylpyrazole **4a** (2%, *vide infra*) was also formed although the reaction was performed under N_2 balloon atmosphere. Compound **4a** must be formed via an aerobic oxidation of the intermediate



Scheme 1

Table 1. Synthesis of 4-arylethylpyrazoles^a


| Entry | 1,3-Diene (1) | R ⁴ NHNH ₂ HCl (2) | Product (%) |
|-------|---|--|----------------|
| 1 | 1a (R ¹ =Ph, R ² =Ph, R ³ =Me) | 2a (R ⁴ =Ph) | 3a (51) |
| 2 | 1a | 2b (R ⁴ = <i>p</i> -ClPh) | 3b (57) |
| 3 | 1a | 2c (R ⁴ =PhCH ₂) | 3c (45) |
| 4 | 1b (R ¹ =Ph, R ² =Ph, R ³ =Et) | 2a | 3d (61) |
| 5 | 1c (R ¹ = <i>p</i> -ClPh, R ² =Ph, R ³ =Me) | 2a | 3e (48) |
| 6 | 1d (R ¹ =Ph, R ² = <i>p</i> -PhPh, R ³ =Me) | 2a | 3f (49) |

^aConditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (1.2 equiv), ODCB, 130 °C, N₂ balloon, 2 h.

1 or **3a**, by a trace amount of oxygen in the reaction mixture.¹⁰ Actually, when we carried out the reaction under O₂ balloon atmosphere in ODCB, **4a** was obtained in an increased yield (29%) along with **3a** (17%).

Encouraged by the promising results we carried out the synthesis of 4-arylethylpyrazoles **3b-f**, and the results are summarized in Table 1. The reactions of **1a** with *p*-chlorophenylhydrazine hydrochloride (**2b**) or benzylhydrazine hydrochloride (**2c**) afforded the corresponding pyrazoles **3b** and **3c** in moderate yields (entries 2 and 3). The reactions of **1b-d** with **2a** (entries 4-6) gave **3d-f** in moderate yields (48-61%).

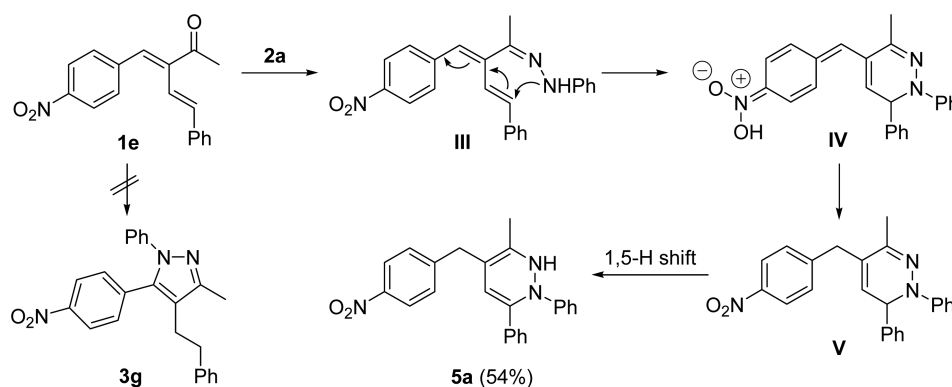
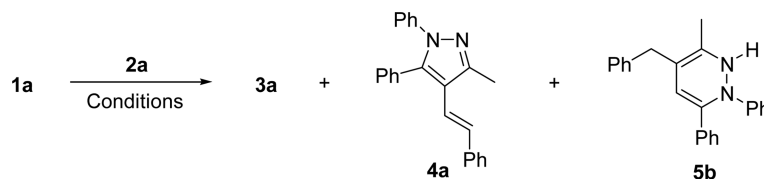
However, when we carried out the reaction of 1,3-diene **1e**, bearing a *p*-nitrophenyl moiety, pyridazine derivative **5a**

was obtained unexpectedly in moderate yield (54%) instead of the corresponding pyrazole **3g**, as shown in Scheme 2. The mechanism of the formation of pyridazine **5a** could be proposed as follows. The cyclization of hydrazone intermediate **III** might occur in a 6-*endo* mode,¹¹ presumably because of the electron-withdrawing nitro group. Subsequent proton-transfer processes produced a pyridazine **5a**.

As described above, 4-styrylpyrazole **4a** was isolated in trace amount (2%) during the synthesis of 4-phenethylpyrazole **3a** in ODCB under N₂ balloon atmosphere. The yield of **4a** increased to 29% in ODCB under O₂ balloon atmosphere (*vide supra*). In order to prepare **4a** as a major product, we examined the reaction of **1a** and **2a** in ethanol under O₂ balloon atmosphere. As shown in Scheme 3 the yield of **4a** increased to 45%, and trace amount of **3a** (2%) was obtained along with pyridazine **5b** (7%). Increased yield of **4a** might be attributed to higher concentration of O₂ in EtOH solution than in ODCB. Compound **4a** could be converted to **3a** quantitatively (98%) under the usual catalytic hydrogenation conditions (Pd/C, EtOH, rt, H₂ balloon, 4 h).

Based on the successful result we synthesized 4-styrylpyrazole derivatives **4b-e**, as summarized in Table 2. The 4-styrylpyrazoles **4b-e** were isolated in moderate yields (37-51%). Trace amounts of the corresponding 4-arylethylpyrazoles and pyridazine derivatives were observed at the right positions on TLC; however, these compounds were not separated.

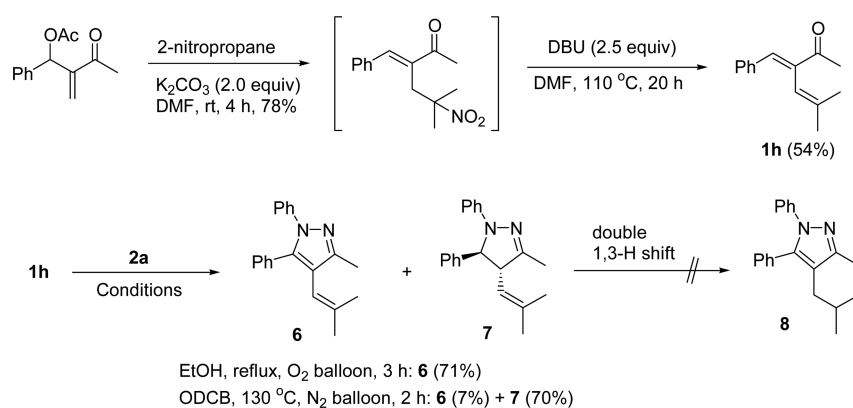
As a next entry, an alkenyl derivative **1h** was prepared and the reaction with **2a** was examined, as shown in Scheme 4. Compound **1h** was prepared from MBH acetate and 2-nitropropane *via* the sequential addition-elimination and

**Scheme 2**

ODCB, 130 °C, O₂ balloon, 2 h: **3a** (17%) + **4a** (29%) + **5b** (<5%)

EtOH, reflux, O₂ balloon, 3 h: **3a** (2%) + **4a** (45%) + **5b** (7%)

Scheme 3

**Table 2.** Synthesis of 4-styrylpyrazoles^a

| Entry | 1,3-Diene (1) | R ⁴ NHNH ₂ HCl (2) | Product (%) |
|-------|--|---|----------------|
| 1 | 1a | 2a | 4a (45) |
| 2 | 1a | 2d (R ⁴ = <i>p</i> -MeOPh) | 4b (41) |
| 3 | 1a | 2e (R ⁴ = <i>p</i> -NH ₂ SO ₂ Ph) | 4c (37) |
| 4 | 1f (R ¹ = <i>p</i> -MeOPh, R ² =Ph, R ³ =Me) | 2a | 4d (50) |
| 5 | 1g (R ¹ =Ph, R ² = <i>p</i> -MeOPh, R ³ =Me) | 2b | 4e (51) |

^aConditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (1.2 equiv), EtOH, reflux, O₂ balloon, 3 h.

DBU-mediated elimination of nitrous acid. The reaction of **1h** and **2a** in EtOH (O₂ balloon) afforded 4-isobutenylpyrazole **6** in good yield (71%) while the reaction in ODCB (N₂ balloon) produced 4-isobutenylpyrazoline **7** as a major product (70%). It is interesting to note that the formation of 4-isobutylpyrazole **8** was not observed, as for the conversion of **I** to **3a** (*vide supra*, Scheme 1).

In summary, we disclosed convenient syntheses of both 4-arylethylpyrazoles (ODCB, N₂ balloon) and 4-styrylpyrazoles (EtOH, O₂ balloon) by the reactions of arylhydrazines and α -alkenyl- α,β -enones, which were prepared from Morita-Baylis-Hillman adducts.

Experimental Section

Preparation of Starting Materials 1a-h. The starting materials **1a-g** were prepared according to the reported method,⁸ and the spectroscopic data of **1a-h** are as follows.

Compound 1a: 81%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1680, 1588, 1566, 1493, 1445 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.44 (s, 3H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.40 (m, 11H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 28.3, 121.7, 126.6, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 128.8, 130.2, 135.3, 135.4, 137.2, 137.7, 138.5, 200.8; ESIMS *m/z*

271 (M⁺+Na).

Compound 1b: 74%; Pale yellow solid, mp 51-52 °C; IR (KBr) 1682, 1597, 1493, 1446 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 1.13 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.79 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.40 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 8.6, 33.8, 122.1, 126.6, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6 (2C), 130.2, 134.9, 135.6, 135.8, 137.2, 138.8, 204.4; ESIMS *m/z* 285 (M⁺+Na).

Compound 1c: 78%; Pale yellow solid, mp 52-53 °C; IR (KBr) 1680, 1585, 1490, 1445 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.43 (s, 3H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.38 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 28.3, 122.2, 127.8, 128.6, 128.8, 129.0, 130.2, 133.6, 134.1, 135.3, 135.8, 138.1, 138.4, 200.6; ESIMS *m/z* 305 (M⁺+Na), 307 (M⁺+Na+2).

Compound 1d: 78%; Pale yellow solid, mp 98-99 °C; IR (KBr) 1677, 1596, 1486, 1445 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.45 (s, 3H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.41 (m, 11H), 7.46-7.52 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 28.4, 121.8, 126.9, 127.1, 127.3, 127.4, 128.5, 128.8, 128.9, 130.3, 134.9, 135.5, 136.3, 137.7, 138.5, 140.5, 140.7, 200.9; ESIMS *m/z* 347 (M⁺+Na).

Compound 1e: 65%; Pale yellow solid, mp 108-109 °C; IR (KBr) 1682, 1591, 1516, 1344 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.47 (s, 3H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.20-7.34 (m, 5H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 28.6, 120.5, 123.7, 126.8, 128.7, 128.8, 130.7, 133.3, 136.5, 137.3, 141.8, 142.1, 147.3, 200.7; ESIMS *m/z* 316 (M⁺+Na).

Compound 1f: 80%; Pale yellow solid, mp 77-78 °C; IR (KBr) 1672, 1603, 1508, 1256 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.50 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.36 (m, 5H), 7.40-7.48 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 28.2, 55.3, 114.0, 122.3, 126.5, 127.8, 128.0, 128.6, 132.1, 135.0, 136.5, 137.4, 138.2, 160.2, 200.5; ESIMS *m/z* 301 (M⁺+Na).

Compound 1g: 61%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1699, 1605, 1510, 1250 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.51

(s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 6.85 (dd, $J = 16.5, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.48 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 28.4, 55.3, 114.1, 119.7, 127.9, 128.4, 128.6, 130.0, 130.2, 134.8, 135.6, 136.6, 138.9, 159.6, 201.2; ESIMS m/z 301 ($\text{M}^+\text{+Na}$).

Compound 1h: 54%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1676, 1591, 1491, 1447, 1352 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 1.42 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 3H), 1.88 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 5.97-6.00 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.57 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 19.8, 25.5, 27.6, 119.9, 128.3, 128.9, 130.3, 135.7, 137.6, 137.8, 138.8, 200.7; ESIMS m/z 223 ($\text{M}^+\text{+Na}$).

Typical Procedure for the Synthesis of 3a. A stirred mixture of **1a** (124 mg, 0.5 mmol) and **2a** (87 mg, 0.6 mmol) in ODCB (1.5 mL) was heated to 130 °C for 2 h under N_2 balloon atmosphere. After the usual extractive workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/ Et_2O , 20:1), compound **3a** was isolated as colorless oil (87 mg, 51%) along with **4a** as a white solid (4 mg, 2%). Other 4-arylethylpyrazoles **3b-f** were synthesized similarly, and the spectroscopic data of **3a-f** and **5a** are as follows.

Compound 3a: 51%; Colorless oil; IR (film) 1599, 1504, 1452, 1364 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.62-2.69 (m, 4H), 6.95-7.00 (m, 4H), 7.05-7.24 (m, 11H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 12.1, 25.7, 36.9, 118.7, 124.4, 125.9, 126.3, 128.0, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 129.7, 130.9, 140.1, 140.7, 141.6, 148.4; ESIMS m/z 339 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2$: C, 85.17; H, 6.55; N, 8.28. Found: C, 85.32; H, 6.79; N, 8.13.

Compound 3b: 57%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1595, 1495, 1452, 1364 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.60-2.68 (m, 4H), 6.92-6.98 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.18 (m, 5H), 7.21-7.26 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 12.1, 25.6, 36.8, 119.1, 125.3, 126.0, 128.3 (2C), 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 129.7, 130.6, 131.8, 138.6, 140.7, 141.4, 148.8; ESIMS m/z 373 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$), 375 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}+2$). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClN}_2$: C, 77.30; H, 5.68; N, 7.51. Found: C, 77.37; H, 5.81; N, 7.36.

Compound 3c: 45%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1603, 1495, 1452, 1377 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.51-2.64 (m, 4H), 5.03 (s, 2H), 6.83-6.92 (m, 6H), 7.07-7.27 (m, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 12.1, 25.6, 36.8, 52.7, 116.9, 125.8, 126.7, 127.2, 128.2, 128.3, 128.38, 128.40, 128.6, 129.8, 130.6, 138.1, 141.6, 142.1, 146.9; ESIMS m/z 353 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$).

Compound 3d: 61%; Colorless oil; IR (film) 1597, 1504, 1452, 1443, 1371 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 1.37 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 3H), 2.72 (q, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.73 (app s, 4H), 7.03-7.08 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.25 (m, 8H), 7.27-7.31 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 13.8, 20.1, 25.6, 37.2, 118.1, 124.4, 125.9, 126.2, 128.0, 128.2, 128.4 (2C), 128.5, 129.7, 131.1, 140.1, 140.5, 141.6, 153.5; ESIMS m/z 353 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$).

Compound 3e: 48%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1597, 1504, 1493, 1452, 1364 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.58-2.71 (m, 4H), 6.80 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.94-6.97 (m, 2H), 7.05-7.19 (m, 10H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 12.1, 25.6, 36.7, 118.8, 124.4, 126.0, 126.6,

128.3, 128.5, 128.66, 128.71, 129.3, 131.0, 134.1, 139.4, 139.8, 141.3, 148.5; ESIMS m/z 373 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$), 375 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}+2$).

Compound 3f: 49%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1599, 1504, 1485, 1364 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.74-2.81 (m, 4H), 7.02-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.34 (m, 9H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 12.1, 25.6, 36.4, 118.6, 124.4, 126.3, 126.93, 126.96, 127.0, 128.0, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 128.9, 129.7, 130.9, 138.9, 140.1, 140.6, 140.7, 141.0, 148.4; ESIMS m/z 415 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2$: C, 86.92; H, 6.32; N, 6.76. Found: C, 86.68; H, 6.54; N, 6.68.

Compound 5a: 54%; Pale yellow solid, mp 136-138 °C; IR (KBr) 3352, 1603, 1516, 1497, 1344 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 1.98 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 6.37-6.40 (m, 3H), 6.76-6.82 (m, 1H), 7.05-7.18 (m, 5H), 7.28-7.34 (m, 4H), 8.06 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 9.3, 32.7, 107.0, 112.2, 115.8, 120.7, 123.6, 126.5, 127.3, 127.9, 128.3, 129.1, 129.5, 131.8, 132.9, 146.2, 147.6, 149.9; ESIMS m/z 384 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$: C, 75.18; H, 5.52; N, 10.96. Found: C, 75.43; H, 5.47; N, 10.78.

Typical Procedure for the Synthesis of 4a. A stirred mixture of **1a** (124 mg, 0.5 mmol) and **2a** (87 mg, 0.6 mmol) in EtOH (1.5 mL) was heated to reflux for 3 h under O_2 balloon atmosphere. After the usual extractive workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/ Et_2O , 20:1), compound **4a** was isolated as a white solid (76 mg, 45%) along with **3a** (4 mg, 2%) and **5b** (12 mg, 7%). Other 4-styrylpyrazoles **4b-e** were synthesized similarly, and the spectroscopic data of **4a-e**, **5b**, **6** and **7** are as follows.

Compound 4a: 45%; White solid, mp 127-128 °C; IR (KBr) 1597, 1504, 1427, 1379 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.53 (s, 3H), 6.71 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.25 (m, 10H), 7.27-7.31 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 14.4, 117.5, 119.8, 124.7, 125.9, 126.9, 127.0, 128.3, 128.5, 128.55, 128.57, 128.7, 130.1, 130.3, 138.1, 139.7, 141.2, 147.6; ESIMS m/z 337 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2$: C, 85.68; H, 5.99; N, 8.33. Found: C, 85.59; H, 6.17; N, 8.19.

Compound 4b: 41%; Pale yellow solid, mp 130-131 °C; IR (KBr) 1638, 1516, 1462, 1447, 1248 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 2.59 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 6.76 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.18-7.38 (m, 10H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 14.4, 55.4, 113.9, 117.0, 119.9, 125.9, 126.2, 126.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.52, 128.54, 130.2, 130.3, 133.0, 138.2, 141.2, 147.2, 158.4; ESIMS m/z 367 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$).

Compound 4c: 37%; Pale yellow solid, mp 243-244 °C; IR (KBr) 3424, 1647, 1595, 1333, 1161 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 +DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 2.58 (s, 3H), 6.73 (br s, 2H), 6.76 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.36 (m, 8H), 7.42-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.80 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 +DMSO- d_6 , 75 MHz) δ 13.9, 118.0, 118.6, 123.3, 125.3, 126.3, 126.6, 128.0, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 129.2, 129.6, 137.2, 140.6, 140.8, 141.6, 147.91; ESIMS m/z 416 ($\text{M}^+\text{+H}$).

Compound 4d: 50%; Pale yellow solid, mp 125-126 °C; IR (KBr) 1597, 1512, 1501, 1431, 1250 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.59 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.38 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 14.5, 55.2, 114.0, 117.3, 120.0, 122.3, 124.7, 125.9, 126.8, 126.9, 128.0, 128.6, 128.7, 131.5, 138.2, 139.8, 141.1, 147.6, 159.6; ESIMS *m/z* 367 (M⁺+H).

Compound 4e: 51%; Pale yellow solid, mp 135-136 °C; IR (KBr) 1605, 1506, 1464, 1248 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.57 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 6.73 (app s, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.41 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 14.4, 55.3, 114.0, 117.4, 118.1, 125.6, 127.1, 128.2, 128.6, 128.73, 128.9, 130.0, 130.2, 130.8, 132.3, 138.3, 140.8, 147.9, 158.9; ESIMS *m/z* 401 (M⁺+H), 403 (M⁺+H+2). Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₂₁ClN₂O: C, 74.90; H, 5.28; N, 6.99. Found: C, 75.07; H, 5.44; N, 6.78.

Compound 5b: 7%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 3350, 1601, 1495, 1452 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.07 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83-6.89 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.32 (m, 10H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 9.4, 32.7, 107.4, 112.3, 117.6, 120.6, 125.7, 126.2, 127.3, 127.6, 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 129.4, 132.1, 132.4, 141.9, 147.8; ESIMS *m/z* 339 (M⁺+H).

Compound 6: 71%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1599, 1504, 1445, 1375, 1364 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 1.46 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 5.86-5.89 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.30 (m, 8H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 12.7, 20.0, 25.5, 114.9, 118.3, 124.9, 126.6, 127.7, 128.2, 128.7, 129.6, 131.1, 137.7, 140.0, 140.2, 148.6; ESIMS *m/z* 289 (M⁺+H). Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₂₀N₂: C, 83.30; H, 6.99; N, 9.71. Found: C, 83.21; H, 7.23; N, 9.65.

Compound 7: 70%; Pale yellow oil; IR (film) 1599, 1499, 1452, 1341 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 1.46 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.78 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.95 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 3.68-3.75 (m, 1H), 4.56 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.13-5.19 (m, 1H), 6.72-6.77 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.32 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 14.3, 18.2, 25.8, 60.0, 72.2, 113.5, 118.9, 121.7, 125.8, 127.3, 128.8, 128.9, 136.4, 142.2, 146.4, 151.2; ESIMS *m/z* 291 (M⁺+H).

Acknowledgments. This research was supported by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (2012R1A1B3000541). Spectroscopic data were obtained from the Korea Basic Science Institute, Gwangju branch.

References and Notes

- For the synthesis of fully-substituted pyrazoles and their applications, see: (a) Dadiboyena, S.; Nefzi, A. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2011**, *46*, 5258-5275 and further references cited therein. (b) Huang, Y. R.; Katzenellenbogen, J. A. *Org. Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 2833-2836. (c) Lamberth, C. *Heterocycles* **2007**, *71*, 1467-1502.
- For some selected articles on the synthesis of pyrazoles from β-diketones, see: (a) Jiang, J.-A.; Du, C.-Y.; Gu, C.-H.; Ji, Y.-F. *Synlett* **2012**, *23*, 2965-2968. (b) Polshettiwar, V.; Varma, R. S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2008**, *49*, 397-400. (c) Polshettiwar, V.; Varma, R. S. *Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 1091-1097. (d) Devery, J. J., III; Mohanta, P. K.; Casey, B. M.; Flowers, R. A., II *Synlett* **2009**, 1490-1494. (e) Wang, Z.-X.; Qin, H.-L. *Green Chem.* **2004**, *6*, 90-92.
- For the synthesis of pyrazoles from α,β-unsaturated ketones, see: (a) Katrizky, A. R.; Wang, M.; Zhang, S.; Voronkov, M.; Steel, P. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2001**, *66*, 6787-6791. (b) Landge, S. M.; Schmidt, A.; Outerbridge, V.; Torok, B. *Synlett* **2007**, 1600-1604. (c) Pinto, D. C. G. A.; Silva, A. M. S.; Levai, A.; Cavaleiro, J. A. S.; Patonay, T.; Elguero, J. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, 2593-2599. (d) Zhou, H.-B.; Carlson, K. E.; Stossi, F.; Katzenellenbogen, B. S.; Katzenellenbogen, J. A. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2009**, *19*, 108-110.
- For the synthesis of pyrazoles from ethynyl ketones or their derivatives, see: (a) Bagley, M. C.; Lubinu, M. C.; Mason, C. *Synlett* **2007**, 704-708. (b) Dadiboyena, S.; Valente, E. J.; Hamme II, A. T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2010**, *51*, 1341-1343. (c) Hao, L.; Hong, J.-J.; Zhu, J.; Zhan, Z.-P. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 5715-5720.
- For the other synthesis of pyrazoles, see: (a) Guo, S.; Wang, J.; Guo, D.; Zhang, X.; Fan, X. *RSC Adv.* **2012**, *2*, 3772-3777. (b) Guo, S.; Wang, J.; Guo, D.; Zhang, X.; Fan, X. *Tetrahedron* **2012**, *68*, 7768-7774. (c) Browne, D. L.; Taylor, J. B.; Plant, A.; Harrity, J. P. A. *J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, *74*, 396-400. (d) Browne, D. L.; Vivat, J. F.; Plant, A.; Gomez-Bengoia, E.; Harrity, J. P. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 7762-7769. (e) Kinjo, R.; Donnadiou, B.; Bertrand, G. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 5560-5563. (f) Deng, X.; Mani, N. S. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 1307-1310. (g) Deng, X.; Mani, N. S. *Org. Lett.* **2006**, *8*, 3505-3508. (h) Deng, X.; Mani, N. S. *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, *73*, 2412-2415. (i) Panda, N.; Jena, A. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 9401-9406.
- For the general reviews on MBH reaction, see: (a) Basavaiah, D.; Rao, A. J.; Satyanarayana, T. *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 811-891. (b) Basavaiah, D.; Reddy, B. S.; Badsara, S. S. *Chem. Rev.* **2010**, *110*, 5447-5674. (c) Singh, V.; Batra, S. *Tetrahedron* **2008**, *64*, 4511-4574. (d) Declerck, V.; Martinez, J.; Lamaty, F. *Chem. Rev.* **2009**, *109*, 1-48. (e) Ciganek, E. In *Organic Reactions*; Paquette, L. A., Ed.; John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1997; Vol. 51, pp 201-350. (f) Kim, J. N.; Lee, K. Y. *Curr. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *6*, 627-645. (g) Lee, K. Y.; Gowrisankar, S.; Kim, J. N. *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *26*, 1481-1490. (h) Gowrisankar, S.; Lee, H. S.; Kim, S. H.; Lee, K. Y.; Kim, J. N. *Tetrahedron* **2009**, *65*, 8769-8780. (i) Shi, M.; Wang, F.-J.; Zhao, M.-X.; Wei, Y. *The Chemistry of the Morita-Baylis-Hillman Reaction*; RSC Publishing: Cambridge, UK, 2011.
- For the synthesis of pyrazoles from MBH adducts, see: (a) Lee, K. Y.; Kim, J. M.; Kim, J. N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, *44*, 6737-6740. (b) Kim, H. S.; Kim, S. H.; Kim, J. N. *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *28*, 1841-1843. (c) Mamaghani, M.; Dastmard, S. *ARKIVOC* **2009** (ii), 168-173. (d) Nikpassand, M.; Mamaghani, M.; Tabatabaiean, K.; Abiaz, M. K. *Mol. Divers.* **2009**, *13*, 389-393.
- For the synthesis of 1,3-dienes from MBH adducts and their synthetic applications, see: (a) Lim, C. H.; Kim, S. H.; Park, K. H.; Lee, J.; Kim, J. N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2013**, *54*, 387-391. (b) Lee, C. G.; Lee, K. Y.; Kim, S. J.; Kim, J. N. *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *28*, 719-720. (c) Zhou, R.; Wang, C.; Song, H.; He, Z. *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 976-979. (d) Crist, R. M.; Reddy, P. V.; Borhan, B. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, *42*, 619-621. (e) Muthiah, C.; Senthil Kumar, K.; Vittal, J. J.; Kumara Swamy, K. C. *Synlett* **2002**, 1787-1790. (f) Palmelund, A.; Myers, E. L.; Tai, L. R.; Tisserand, S.; Butts, C. P.; Aggarwal, V. K. *Chem. Commun.* **2007**, 4128-4130.
- For the synthesis of styryl- and/or phenethyl-substituted pyrazoles,

- see: (a) Yamamoto, S.; Tomita, N.; Suzaki, Y.; Suzuki, T.; Kaku, T.; Hara, T.; Yamaoka, M.; Kanzaki, N.; Hasuoka, A.; Baba, A.; Ito, M. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2012**, *20*, 2338-2352. (b) Silva, V. L. M.; Silva, A. M. S.; Pinto, D. C. G. A.; Elguero, J.; Cavaleiro, J. A. S. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 4468-4479. (c) Barawkar, D. A.; Bandyopadhyay, A.; Deshpande, A.; Koul, S.; Kandalkar, S.; Patil, P.; Khose, G.; Vyas, S.; Mone, M.; Bhosale, S.; Singh, U.; De, S.; Meru, A.; Gundu, J.; Chugh, A.; Palle, V. P.; Mookhtiar, K. A.; Vacca, J. P.; Chakravarty, P. K.; Nargund, R. P.; Wright, S. D.; Roy, S.; Graziano, M. P.; Cully, D.; Cai, T.-Q.; Singh, S. B. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *22*, 4341-4347.
10. For the aerobic oxidation of pyrazolines to pyrazoles, see: (a) Alex, K.; Tillack, A.; Schwarz, N.; Beller, M. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 2377-2379. (b) Cocconcelli, G.; Diodato, E.; Caricasole, A.; Gaviraghi, G.; Genesio, E.; Ghiron, C.; Magnoni, L.; Pecchioli, E.; Plazzi, P. V.; Terstappen, G. C. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2008**, *16*, 2043-2052.
11. For the synthesis of pyridazines from the hydrazones of β,γ -enones via 6-*endo* cyclization, see: (a) Heinisch, G.; Holzer, W.; Nawwar, G. A. M. *J. Heterocyclic Chem.* **1986**, *23*, 93-96. (b) Al-Awadi, N. A.; Ibrahim, M. R.; Al-Etaibi, A. M.; Elnagdi, M. H. *ARKIVOC* **2011** (ii) 310-321. (c) Abdelhamid, I. A.; Darwish, E. S.; Nasra, M. A.; Abdel-Gallil, F. M.; Fleita, D. H. *ARKIVOC* **2008**, (xvii) 117-121.
-