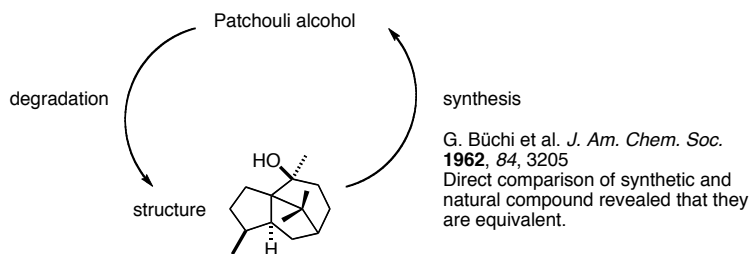


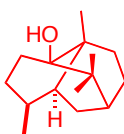
Carbocations

Patchouli Alcohol

Patchouli alcohol is the main constituent of patchouli oil used in the perfume industry. The structure determination led to an interesting error propagation:

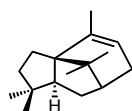
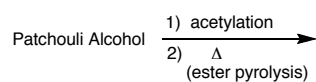


X-ray by Dunitz (*Proc. Chem. Soc.* **1963**, 383):



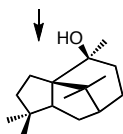
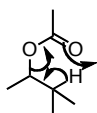
How could this happen?

Structure Assignment

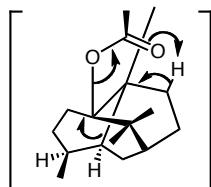


Patchoulene

unambiguous structure proof



Patchouli Alcohol



not detected!

Büchi's synthesis started with camphor which was converted to homocamphor:



