Synthesis of endo-6-Aryl-8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one

Significance: This is the first example of an enantioselective 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of a cyclic formyl carbonyl ylide. This methodology was successfully applied to the synthesis of endo-6-aryl-8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one, which was isolated from *Ligusticum chuanxing* Hort., a traditional Chinese medicine used to promote blood circulation.

Comment: The enantioselective 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition proceeds with impressive ee (97.5:2.5) to form **E**. The reduced product **F** could then be recrystallized and the ee upgraded to 99.5:0.5. The circular dichroism of the natural product differed from the synthetic sample, leading the authors to speculate that the natural product may be biosynthesized in racemic form.