Problem Set 7 – Reactions of aldehydes and ketones

- 1. Outline a synthesis of the following compounds starting from either benzene or toluene:
 - a. *n*-butylbenzene
 - b. 1-phenyl-2-propanone
- 2. Outline a synthesis of 3-hexene from propene.
- 3. Bombykol, the sex pheromone of the silkworm moth, has been prepared in the following way:

1-pentyne + n-C₄H₉MgBr \rightarrow A (C₅H₇MgBr) A + HCHO; then H⁺ \rightarrow B (C₆H₁₀O) B + PBr₃ \rightarrow C (C₆H₉Br) C + Ph₃P, base \rightarrow D (C₂₄H₂₃P) D + OHCCH₂(CH₂)₇CO₂C₂H₅ \rightarrow E (C₁₈H₃₀O₂) E + H₂/Pd \rightarrow F (C₁₈H₃₂O₂) F + LiAlH₄ \rightarrow bombykol (C₁₆H₃₀O)

Give the structures of compounds A to F and that of bombykol.

4. Propose a mechanism for the following reaction:



5. Compound "A", C₆H₁₂O₂, was found to be optically active. Reaction with Tollens reagent gave "B", C₆H₁₂O₃, an optically active carboxylic acid. Oxidation of "A" by pyridinium chlorochromate in dichloromethane gave an optically inactive compound which reacted with Zn(Hg)/HCl to give 3methylpentane. Vigorous oxidation of "A" yielded "C", C₆H₁₀O₄, an optically inactive dicarboxylic acid. Give the structures of compounds "A", "B", and "C".