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Université de Montréal

Progress Towards a Total Synthesis of (±)-Longithorone C

Par

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Memoire présenté à la Faculté des études supérieures en vue de l'obtention du grade de Maître ès sciences (M.Sc.) en chimie

Juillet 2007

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Université de Montréal

Faculté des études supérieures

Ce mémoire intitulé:

Progress Towards a Total Synthesis of (±)-Longithorone C

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Mémoire accepté le:

To my Wife Araks

For the loving support

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Summary

The growing number of cyclophane containing natural products and total syntheses that employ cyclophane intermediates has stimulated renewed interest in their asymmetric preparation and planar chirality. A synthetic approach is proposed towards the total synthesis of longithorone C. This [12]paracyclophane quinone is a member of a group of macrocyclic farnesylated quinones isolated from the tunicate *Aplidium longithorax*. The development of an efficient preparative method will be discussed for the macrocyclic *ansa*-bridge by ring-closing olefin metathesis (RCM) in racemic form. The investigation of various fluorinated auxiliaries as novel gearing elements and their effect on macrocyclization is presented. The mechanism by which these gearing elements function has been studied by molecular modeling. Copper-catalyzed Grignard reactions have been optimized in order to selectively couple prenylated side chains to aromatic halides. Finally, a variety of olefin metathesis catalysts were studied for the preparation of a [12]paracyclophane containing three stereodefined tri-substituted olefins.

Key Words: gearing elements, longithorone C, paracyclophanes, ring-closing olefin metathesis (RCM).

Résumé

Le nombre grandissant de produits naturels contenant des cyclophanes ou de synthèses totales utilisant des cyclophanes comme intermédiaires a stimulé un nouvel intérêt pour la synthèse asymétrique de ces molécules possédant une chiralité plane. Une approche synthétique vers la synthèse totale de la longithorone C a été proposée. Cette quinone, possédant un [12]paracyclophane, est membre d'un groupe de quinones macrocycliques contenant une chaîne ressemblant à farnesol dans leur squelette et a été isolée à partir de Aplidium longithorax. Le développement d'une méthode efficace pour la préparation de ce macrocycle contenant un pont-ansa par métathèse d'oléfines par fermeture de cycle dans sa forme racémique sera discuté. L'investigation d'une variété d'auxiliaires fluorés comme nouveaux éléments directeurs et leur effet sur la macrocyclisation seront présentés. Le mécanisme par lequel ces éléments directeurs fonctionnent a été étudié par modélisation moléculaire. Une réaction de Grignard catalysée par le cuivre a été optimisée dans le but d'installer les chaînes latérales allyliques à l'halogénure aromatique. Finalement, une variété de catalyseurs de métathèse d'oléfines a été étudié pour la préparation d'un [12]paracyclophane contenant trois oléfines trisubstitués stéréodéfinies.

Mots clés: éléments directeurs, longithorone C, paracyclophanes, métathèse d'oléfine par fermeture de cycle (RCM).

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Shawn K. Collins for giving me the opportunity to work in his group. He is an excellent teacher who has guided me throughout my degree.

I would also like to thank past and present members of the Collins group who have contributed to the research projects that I have been involved with, namely, Pierre-André Fournier and Alain Grandbois.

Thanks to the assistance provided by Dr. Min Tan Phan Viet, Sylvie Bilodeau, and Cedric Malveau for the help they have provided in acquiring some of the NMR data that have been presented here, as well as for their patience in answering my questions.

Thanks to Alexandra Furtos, Karine Venne, and Dalbir Sekhon for the help in acquiring mass spectral data, for the patience in answering my questions, and for letting me know when my lab coat needed replacement.

To all my friends who have made this such a pleasurable experience: thanks for the good times!

Last but not least, I would like to thank my family. My parents and two sisters have always supported all of my endeavors, and my lovely wife Araks Malkhassian for the patience through all those long hours of work. I am grateful for their unconditional love and support. I would not have been able to do this without you.

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Abbreviations

Ac acetyl

ACN acetonitrile

Ar aryl

COSY correlation spectroscopy

d doublet

dba dibenzylideneacetone

DCM dichloromethane

dd doublet of doublets

DIAD isopropyldiazodicarboxylate

DIBAL-H diisobutylaluminum hydride

DMF dimethylformamide

dppf (diphenylphosphino)ferrocene

dt doublet of triplets

ee enantiomeric excess

eq equivalent

FePc iron tetrasulfophthalocyanine

g gram

GC gas chromatography

h hour

HM half-metathesis

HMPA hexamethylphosphoramide

HRMS high resolution mass spectrometry

Hz

hertz

HWE

Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons

imid.

imidazole

J

coupling constant

kcal

kilocalorie

KHMDS

potassium hexamethyldisilazide

m

multiplet

min

minute

mL

milliliter

mol

mole

mmol

millimole

NBS

N-bromosuccinimide

NMP

N-methylpyrrolidone

NMR

nuclear magnetic resonance

NOESY

nuclear overhauser enhancement spectroscopy

PG

protecting group

ppm

parts per million

рy

pyridine

q

quartet

RCM

ring-closing olefin metathesis

RRCM

relay ring-closing metathesis

r.t.

room temperature

S

singlet

t triplet

TBAF tetrabutylammonium floride

TBDMS tert-butyldimethylsilyl

TBDPS tert-butyldiphenylsilyl

TFA trifluoroacetic acid

TLC thin layer chromatography

UV ultraviolet

Chapter I:

Introduction to the Longithorones: Paracyclophane Natural **Products**

This chapter will focus on the longithorone family of natural products that contain a paracyclophane core and the synthesis of these macrocyclic natural products.

I.1 – Ring Closing Olefin Metathesis as a Route to Strained Systems.

The olefin ring-closing metathesis (RCM) reaction has emerged as one of the most powerful transforms in organic synthesis. Indeed, the broad scope and reliability of this reaction has greatly simplified the total synthesis of a wide variety of architecturally complex natural and unnatural products.² For example, Smith and co-workers developed in 1999, the first total synthesis of cylindrocyclophane F, a unique natural product possessing a 22-membered [7,7]paracyclophane ring.³

Recent advancements in metathesis catalyst design have allowed chemists to reexamine olefin metathesis as a route to systems bearing strained olefins embedded in

¹ (a) Trnka, T. M.; Grubbs, R. H. Acc. Chem. Res. 2001, 34, 18. (b) Fürstner, A. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 3012. (c) Nicolaou, K. C.; Bulger, P. G.; Sarlah, D. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 4490-4527. (d) Grubbs, R. H. Handbook of Metathesis, Three Volume Set 2003. Fürstner, A.; Langemann, K. J. Org. Chem, 1996, 61, 8746-8749.

³ Smith, A. B. III; Kozmin, S. A.; Paone, D. V. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1999, 121, 7423-7424.

their skeletons.⁴ The variety of different catalysts that have been developed allows for the possibility to select a catalyst having the necessary level of reactivity to access a strained system but also to avoid catalysts which may be so reactive as to favor ring-opening of the desired ring system.⁵

Ring closing metathesis (RCM) is now a standard method for the preparation of both carbocyclic and heterocyclic ring systems in sizes ranging from five- and six-membered cycles to macrocyclic compounds.⁶ Despite its popularity, the preparation of certain molecules via olefin metathesis remains a challenge. In particular, strained ring systems are problematic. In some cases, the ring opening process can be far more thermodynamically favorable than ring closing while in other cases the system may be too strained to permit cyclization.⁶

A fascinating challenge for olefin metathesis could be the preparation of strained macrocyclic structures such as the longithorone natural products. In 1997, Schmitz and co-workers isolated a group of nine farmesylated quinones isolated from a tunicate *Aplidium longithorax* that featured new macrocyclic skeletons. Their carbon skeletons resemble a farnesyl unit bridging a quinone at either the *meta-* or *para-*positions (Figure

⁴ (a) Scholl, M.; Ding, S.; Lee, C. W.; Grubbs, R. H. Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 953-956. (b) Ackermann, L.; Fürstner, A.; Weskamp, T.; Kohl, F. J.; Herrmann, W. A. Tetrahedron Lett. 1999, 40, 4787-4790. (c) Huang, J. K.; Schanz, H.-J.; Stevens, E. D.; Nolan, S. P. Organometallics. 1999, 18, 5375-5380. (d) Jafarpour, L.; Schanz, H.-J.; Stevens, E. D.; Nolan, S. P. Organometallics. 1999, 18, 5416-5419. (e) Fürstner, A.; Thiel, O. R.; Ackermann, L.; Schanz, H.-J.; Nolan, S. P. J. Org. Chem. 2000, 65, 2204-2207.

⁽f) Collins, S. K. J. Organomet. Chem. 2006, 691, 5122-5128.

Tang, H.; Yusuff, N.; Wood, J. L. Org. Lett. 2001, 3, 1563-1566.

⁶ (a) Paquette, L. A.; Basu, K.; Eppich, J. C.; Hofferberth, J. E. Helv. Chim. Acta 2002, 10, 3033-3051. (b) Deiters, A.; Martin, S. F. Chem. Rev. 2004, 5, 2199-2238. (c) Nakamura, I.; Yamamoto, Y. Chem. Rev. 2004, 5, 2127-2198.

1).⁷ To date, the only biological activity reported for these marine compounds pertains to longithorone A.⁸

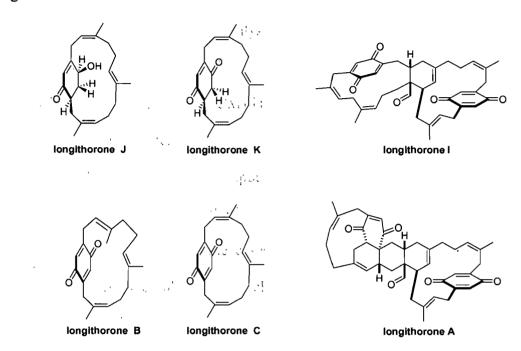


Figure 1 – The Longithorone Family of Natural Products.

I.2 - Synthesis of Longithorone A.

I.2.1 - Introduction and Synthetic Challenges.

In 2002, Shair and co-workers reported an elegant synthesis of the cytotoxic marine natural product longithorone A, based on the original proposed biosynthesis by Schmitz and co-workers.^{9,10} The Shair group proposed the following retrosynthetic analysis comprised of both intermolecular and transannular Diels-Alder reactions in the

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⁷ Fu, X.; Hossain, B.; Schmitz, F. J.; van der Helm, D. J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 3810-3819.

⁸ For information on the biological activity of longithorone A, see: (a) Fu, X.; Ferreira, M. L. G.; Schmitz, F. J. J. Nat. Prod. 1999, 62, 1306-1310. (b) Davidson, B. S. Chem. Rev. 1993, 93, 1771-1791. (c) Faulkner, D. J. Nat. Prod. Rep. 1998, 15, 113-158.

⁹ Layton, M. E.; Morales, C. A.; Shair, M. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 773-775.

¹⁰ Fu, X.; Hossain, M. B.; van Der Helm, D.; Schmitz, F. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 12125-12126.

presence of two macrocyclic ring systems which are strained and extremely rigidified (Figure 2).

Figure 2 – Retrosynthetic Analysis of Longithorone A Involving Molecular and Transannular Diels-Alder Reactions.

Both the macrocycles 1 and 2 are tied across quinone ring systems, where the hindered rotation of the macrocycle results in atropisomerism. It was believed by the Shair group that the absolute and relative stereochemistry of the stereocenters found in the C, D, and E ring systems of longithorone A may be derived from the planar chirality of both 1 and 2 (Figure 2). It was therefore necessary to prepare enantioenriched paracyclophanes 1 and 2 possessing a 1,3-diene functionality embedded in the *ansa*-bridge. Consequently, Shair and co-workers envisioned using a macrocyclic enyne metathesis reaction to install the necessary diene functionality (Figure 3).

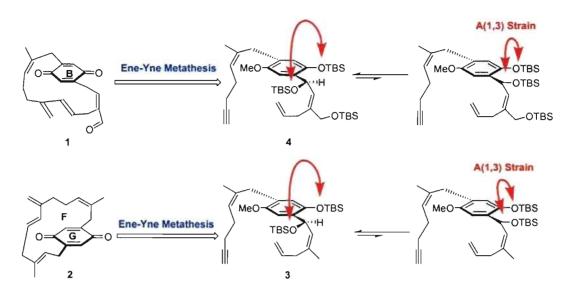


Figure 3 - Retrosynthetic Analysis of Longithorone A Involving Enyne Metathesis.

Although dilution, templates and slow-addition techniques can improve some macrocyclizations, 11 typically chemists resort to the installation of conformational control elements to favor cyclization. 12 Most often, this takes the form of a large substituent on the methylene group adjacent to the aromatic moiety. Consequently, in the Shair synthesis, a *t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy (OTBS) group was strategically placed adjacent to the aromatic ring of enynes 3 and 4 as a conformational control element. Minimization of the $A^{1,3}$ strain was believed to be responsible for the gearing of the alkenyl and alkynyl side chains (Figure 3).

_

¹¹ Chuchuryukin, A. V.; Dijkstra, H. P.; Suijkerbuijk, R. J. M.; van Klink, G. P. M.; Mills, A. M.; Spek, A. L.; van Koten, G. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 228-230.

¹² Sello, J. K.; Andreana, P. R.; Lee, D.; Schreiber, S. L. Org. Lett. **2003**, 22, 4125-4127.

I.2.2 – Preparing [12] Paracyclophanes by Enyne Metathesis.

Relatively little use has been reported in the literature on macrocyclization via enyne metathesis. 13 However, it is known that intramolecular enyne metathesis affords 1,2-disubstituted dienes (5) and intermolecular enyne metathesis reactions afford 1,3disubstitued dienes (6) (Figure 4).¹⁴

Figure 4 - Intramolecular and Intermolecular Envne Metathesis Reactions.

The Shair group used model structures to determine the optimum enyne metathesis conditions.¹⁵ It was found that under an ethylene atmosphere, ethylene-yne cross metathesis of 7, 8, and 9 occurs first using catalyst 14, affording a terminal 1,3diene followed by terminal olefin-olefin metathesis macrocyclization, affording the desired 1,3-disubstituted olefins 10, 11, and 12. No 1,2-disubstituted olefin 13 was observed (Scheme 1).

Hensen, E. C.; Lee, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 9582-9583.
 Mori, M.; Kitamura, T; Sato, Y. Synthesis 2001, 654-664.
 Morales, C. A.; Layton, M. E.; Shair, M. D. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 2004, 101, 12036-12041.

Scheme 1 - Studies of Enyne Metathesis in Macrocyclization Reactions.

I.2.3 – Installation of the Atropisomeric Control Element.

The enantioselective synthesis of enyne 3 was achieved following a nine-step reaction sequence (Scheme 2). 15

Scheme 2 - Preparation of Enyne Precursor 3.

Pd-mediated cross coupling of vinyl-iodide 16 and a benzylic zinc reagent derived from 15 afforded aromatic bromide 17 in 98% yield. Formylation of the aromatic bromide 17 with *n*-BuLi and DMF delivered aldehyde 18 in 94% yield. Selective demethylation was achieved by treating aldehyde 18 with BBr₃ followed by silylation with TBSOTf to afford silyl ether 19 in 88% yield over two steps. Enantioselective alkylation of silyl ether 19 using a bromozinc reagent derived from 20 in combination with the lithium alkoxide of (15,2R)-N-methylephedrine provided benzylic alcohol 21 in

91% yield and in 95% ee. Benzylic alcohol 21 was treated with TBAF where the simultaneous deprotection of both the TMS and TBS group was carried out. Subsequent Lindlar hydrogenation of the terminal acetylene, TBAF promoted removal of the TIPS group and silylation of the phenol and benzylic alcohol with TBSCl afforded enyne 3 in 63% yield over four steps.

I.2.4 – Enyne Metathesis Macrocyclization using an Atropisomeric Control Element.

Both enyne 3 and 4 were taken up in CH_2Cl_2 and treated with Grubbs first generation catalyst 22 under an ethylene atmosphere to afford the desired macrocycles 23 and 24. High dilution conditions and extended reaction times were necessary in order to obtain the macrocyclic products. Despite optimizing the conditions, enyne 4 cyclized to afford macrocycle 23 in only 31% yield. Furthermore the E:Z ratio was 3.9:1 and the atropdiastereoselectivity was modest at 2.8:1. It is important to note that the nature of the substrate controlled the resulting E:Z ratios and atropdiastereoselectivity. For example, when enyne 3 was subjected to nearly identical reaction conditions, the yield of macrocycle 24 was 42%. However, both the E:Z ratio and atropdiastereoselectivity had increased to greater than 25:1 in the formation of 24 (Scheme 3).

. 1

Scheme 3 - Enyne Metathesis using an Atropisomeric Control Element.

The removal of the atropisomeric control element was achieved by hydride reduction of the benzylic silyloxy group using TFA and NaBH₃CN, followed by silylation of the phenol to afford paracyclophane **25** in 75% yield (Scheme 4). ^{15,16}

Scheme 4 - Removal of the Atropisomeric Control Element.

Although Shair and co-workers demonstrated that the formation of macrocycles such as [12]paracyclophanes was possible using RCM, these macrocyclization reactions

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¹⁶ Kursanov, D. N.; Parnes, Z. N. Russ. Chem. Rev. 1969, 38, 812-821.

proved to be difficult due to ring strain and no cyclization was observed in forming 27 without the pendant OTBS group in 26 (Scheme 5).

Scheme 5 - Enyne Metathesis Lacking an Atropisomeric Control Element.

I.2.5 - Conclusion.

Shair and co-workers have demonstrated the first examples of enyne metathesis in forming macrocyclic ring structures such as [12]paracyclophanes. These results demonstrate the ability of substituted methylene groups to act as conformation controlling groups, and to control the transfer of their chirality to atropisomeric centers. Although the Shair group successfully applied this methodology towards the asymmetric total synthesis of longithorone A, large amounts of catalyst were necessary as well as extended reaction times, high dilution and the presence of an ethylene atmosphere in order to accomplish macrocyclization. Although the control element was easily removed, the installation process involved difficult reaction steps, and afforded paracyclophanes 23 and 24 in low yields, and variable diastereoselectivity.

I.3 – Synthesis of Longithorone B.

Longithorone B is a [12]paracyclophane containing a macrocyclic structure based on a farnesyl unit, bridging a benzoquinone at the *para*-position. The macrocycle is composed of two *trans*, and one *cis* double bonds. The hindered rotation of its macrocyclic structure about the quinone core affords this natural product an element of planar chirality. The synthetic challenge in synthesizing longithorone B is directly linked to the difficulty in forming the highly substituted, planar chiral macrocycle. These synthetic challenges had inspired Tadahiro and co-workers to develop an efficient synthesis of the macrocyclic ring structure of longithorone B, by way of intramolecular Friedel-Crafts alkylation reaction forming the *ansa*-bridge (Figure 5).¹⁷

Figure 5 - Retrosynthetic Analysis of Longithorone B.

¹⁷ Tadahiro, K.; Kentaro, N.; Masahiro, H. Tetrahedron Lett. 1999, 40, 1941-1944.

I.3.1 – [3,3]-Rearrangement in Forming Ortho-Allyl Phenol 31.

[3,3]-Sigmatropic rearrangements of allyl aryl ethers provide convenient access to ortho-allyl phenols. However, one of the challenges encountered by the Tadahiro group was in controlling the E:Z ratios of the products. They determined a strong dependence of the rearrangement reaction on the reaction conditions (Scheme 6).

Scheme 6 – Additive Effect on the Transition States of the [3,3]-Sigmatropic Rearrangements.

The rearrangement of **28** afforded a 71% conversion with a low 1:4.3 *E/Z* product ratio. The proposed mechanism involved the coordination of the Lewis acid with the

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¹⁸ Krohn, K.; Bernhard, S. Synthesis **1996**, *6*, 699-701.

oxygen atom of phenyl ether 28 forming the two possible transition states 29-E and 29-Z. In the absence of a Lewis acid, 29-E was the major intermediate leading to the formation of the *trans*-olefin 30. In the presence of a Lewis acid such as Al₂O₃ or SiO₂, the Al or Si atoms complex with the oxygen atom of the ether linkage, increasing the repulsion between it and the side chain at the equatorial position of transition state 29-E, leading to the formation of the desired *cis*-phenol 31 through transition state 29-Z.

I.3.2 – Intramolecular Coupling of the Farnesylated Side Chain by Friedel-Crafts Alkylation.

The intramolecular coupling reaction was examined using three types of protected alcohols (32, 33, and 34) derived from phenol 31 and the ester at the terminal position of the farnesyl chain was reduced to the alcohol using DIBAL-H. The intramolecular coupling reaction was achieved by way of the Friedel-Crafts alkylation at the C-1 position of the farnesyl moiety in the presence of the acids Hf(OTf)₄ and LiClO₄ in CH₂Cl₂ (Scheme 7).

Scheme 7 - Preparation of [12] Paracyclophanes by Friedel - Crafts Alkylation.

When silyl ether 32 was treated with Hf(OTf)₄ in the presence of LiClO₄, a mixture of 35 and 36 was obtained, where HPLC purification afforded macrocycle 36 in 64% yield. The predominant *meta*-coupling with respect to the methyl ether of silyl ether 36 was believed to be caused by the electron-withdrawing nature of the TBDMS group. When benzyl ether 33 was treated under the same reaction conditions, a complex mixture was detected without formation of any product. When pivilate 34 was subjected to the coupling reaction under the same conditions, the desired macrocycle 35 was isolated in 78% yield. Steric hindrance as well as the electron-withdrawing nature of the pivaloyl group of 34 was believed to control the reaction, leading to the desired *para*-substituted (with respect to the macrocyclic ring structure) macrocycle 35 as the major product. Hydrolysis of macrocycle 35 with KOH in MeOH followed by CAN oxidation lead to the formation of longithorone B in 58% yield over two steps.

I.3.3 – Conclusion.

Although the Tadahiro group demonstrated an efficient synthesis of the [12]paracyclophane longithorone B, the [3,3]-rearrangement as well as the intramolecular cyclization proved difficult. Complete conversion was never achieved in the rearrangement step and the Friedel-Crafts alkylation afforded a mixture of *ortho-* and *meta-*substituted products.

In light of the work performed by both the Tadahiro and Shair groups, it is clear that there is a need for new and more efficient methods for forming highly hindered, planar chiral macrocyclic ring structures.

I.4 – Longithorone C: A Representative Compound.

I.4.1 – Synthetic Challenges and Goals.

Longithorone C, a member of a family of nine farnesylated quinones, features a macrocyclic skeleton derived from a farnesyl unit bridging a quinone at the *para*-position. Longithorone C also exhibits atropisomerism due to the hindered rotation of the macrocyclic ring structure. Its structural features resemble those of longithorone B and the two monomers that make up longithorone A (Figure 6).

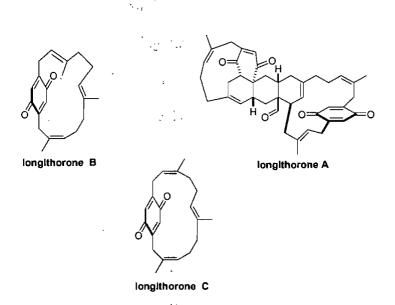


Figure 6 - Structural Similarities Between Longithorones A, B, and C.

The synthetic challenge associated with the synthesis of longithorone C was linked to the difficulty in forming the highly strained, planar chiral macrocycle that contains three stereodefined tri-substituted olefins. It has been reported that heating longithorone C at reflux for 7 days in toluene resulted in no racemization of its

macrocyclic structure.⁷ These synthetic challenges inspired our group to develop an efficient synthesis towards longithorone C using ring closing olefin metathesis (RCM) in forming the *ansa*-bridge (Figure 7).

Figure 7 – Initial Retrosynthetic Analysis of Longithorone C.

The ultimate goal would be to install the planar chirality in this molecule via an enantioselective olefin metathesis reaction using a chiral catalyst. Since the formation of [12]paracyclophanes had been achieved using enyne metathesis, it was therefore necessary to determine whether RCM could be used in forming the macrocyclic ring structure of longithorone C. Other synthetic variables to optimize included determining the ideal site for macrocyclization, and stereoselectively forming the tri-substituted olefins within the macrocycle.

I.4.2 - Forming [12] Paracyclophanes: A Model Study.

[12]Paracyclophanes are relatively strained macrocyclic structures. Chiral gearing elements such as the benzylic silyl ether group used by Shair and co-workers

have been employed in directing macrocyclization processes to form [12]paracyclophanes. However, since the ultimate goal would entail using asymmetric olefin metathesis, the substituted methylene gearing elements located on the side chains would be undesirable (i.e. leading to diastereoselective cyclization in place of an enantioselectively cyclization). Yassir El-Azizi, a member of the Collins group, investigated whether RCM could be used to access strained macrocyclic systems in the absence of gearing elements on the side chains (Scheme 8).¹⁹

Scheme 8 - Initial Attempts in Forming [12]Paracyclophanes.

Unfortunately, numerous attempts to cyclize various substituted [12]paracyclophanes using Grubbs first generation catalyst 22 lead to the preferential formation of the dimer 41, demonstrating the importance of controlling the orientation of the side chains. It was believed that the use of a benzyl ester would allow the formation of the "stacked" conformer 43-S in solution, which in turn would "gear" the two side chains together through steric bias facilitating macrocyclization (Scheme 9).

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¹⁹ El-Azizi, Y.; Schmitzer, A.; Collins, S. K. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2006, 6, 968-973.

Scheme 9 - Benzyl Esters as Gearing Elements.

Despite varying the concentration and mode of addition, the use of the benzyl ester did not form the desired macrocyclic product, and once again the dimer was obtained as the major product. Consequently, a strategy employing pentafluorophenyl-phenyl interactions as a novel gearing element to favor the desired intramolecular macrocyclization was envisioned (Scheme 10).

Scheme 10 - Pentafluorobenzylester as a Gearing Elements.

When olefin 45 was treated with catalyst 22, cyclophane 47 was isolated in 41% yield. Hence the formation of [12]paracyclophanes by RCM was made possible using novel gearing elements such as the pentafluorobenzyl ester 45. The quadrupolar non-

bonding interactions between pentafluoroarenes and arenes are the result of the orthogonal densities of aromatics and pentafluoroaromatics.²⁰ These interactions have spiked significant interest in medicinal chemistry and materials science due to the predictable preference for the face-to-face stacking with the aromatics in the solid state.²¹ However, relatively little use of these non-bonding interactions has been reported in catalysis.²² The pentafluorobenzyl ester 45 has been predicted through molecular modeling to prefer the solution state conformation 46-S to a much greater degree than 46-O (Scheme 11).²³

Scheme 11 – Energy Minimization using AM1 and MP2 Methods. 23

²⁰ Brown, N. M. D.; Swinton, F. L. J. Chem, Soc., Chem. Comm. 1974, 19, 770-771.

²¹ Mann, E.; Mahia, J.; Maestro, M. A.; Herradon, B. J. Mol. Struct. 2002, 641, 101-107.

²² Ponzini, F.; Zagha, R.; Hardcastle, K.; Siegel, J. S. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 2323-2325.

²³ For a complete list of methods and results used in the molecular modeling studies see: Collins, S.; El-Azizi, Y.; Schmitzer, A. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 6397-6408.

I.4.3 – Determining the Optimal Site for Metathesis along the *Ansa-Bridge* and Formation of Tri-substituted Olefins by RCM.

Previously it had been demonstrated by Yassir El-Azizi that moving the site of metathesis closer to the aromatic core resulted in a higher reaction yield when forming [12]paracyclophanes via olefin metathesis (Scheme 12).²⁴

Scheme 12 - Determining the Ideal Site for Metathesis.

When olefin 45 was subjected to metathesis conditions using catalyst 22 under dilute conditions, macrocycle 47 was obtained in 41% yield. When moving the site of metathesis closer to the central arene in olefin 48, the reaction yield had increased from 41 to 48% yield under the same reaction conditions, indicating that the site of metathesis for the formation macrocycles should be performed closer to the aromatic core.

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²⁴ Collins, S. K.; El-Azizi, Y. Pure Appl. Chem. **2006**, 78, 783-789.

Our group subsequently attempted to prepare even more strained macrocycles incorporating a stereodefined tri-substituted olefin similar to those present in longithorone C (Scheme 13).¹⁹

Scheme 13 - Attempted Formation of a Tri-substituted Olefin by RCM.

Unfortunately, cyclization of olefin **50** led to the preferred formation of the dimer **51** and no macrocyclic product was isolated, even in the presence of the pentafluorobenzyl ester. Recently, Hoye and co-workers had developed an efficient method for forming highly substituted olefins by RCM called relay-ring closing metathesis (RRCM) (Scheme 14).²⁵

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²⁵ Hoye, T. R.; Jeffrey, C. S.; Tennakoon, M. A.; Wang, J.; Zhao, H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2004**, 126, 10210-10211.

Scheme 14 - Relay-Ring Closing Metathesis.

In an attempt to cyclize olefin 52 containing both an electron deficient and a substituted olefin, the catalyst 22 was not reactive enough to perform the desired cyclization. When the olefins of the electron deficient (53) or hindered olefin (54) were appended with a five carbon chain containing a terminal olefin the cyclization was now successful, affording lactam 55 in 59% yield. The catalyst 22 can now react selectively at the primary olefin of this "relay chain", producing a very fast intramolecular cyclization kicking out a cyclopentene, thereby placing the catalyst onto the desired olefin and allowing facile cyclization to the desired lactam 55.

Exploiting a relay ring closing metathesis protocol in tandem with the gearing effect of the pentafluorophenyl-phenyl interaction, the cyclophane 57 was isolated in 53% yield on treatment of olefin 56 with catalyst 14 in CH_2Cl_2 at reflux (Scheme 15). Cyclophane 57 was isolated as a single isomer with the tertiary olefin in the Z configuration.

Scheme 15 - Model Study Incorporating Relay-Ring Closing Metathesis.

I.5 - Conclusion.

These studies suggest that pentafluorophenyl-phenyl interactions represent a novel π -shielding element for application in face selective transformations,²⁴ and with potential for use as chiral auxiliaries. The following chapters will focus on the model studies carried out in order to optimize the use of this gearing element for macrocyclizations with the goal of achieving the total synthesis of longithorone C.

Chapter II:

Model Studies Directed Towards the Total Synthesis of Longithorone C via Macrocyclic Olefin Metathesis

The goal of the following model studies was to study the formation of a [14]paracyclophane by ring-closing olefin metathesis (RCM).

II.1 – Retrosynthetic Analysis and Model Studies.

The following retrosynthetic analysis was devised in order to prepare a macrocycle that contained three stereodefined tri-substituted olefins that would resemble the macrocyclic ring of longithorone C (Figure 8).

Figure 8 – Retrosynthetic Analysis of a Model System using cis-Farnesol 62.

The target [14]paracyclophane **58** contained a macrocycle with three stereodefined tri-substituted olefins, coupled to a bis-phenol with the pentafluorobenzyl ester as functional group. Metathesis of olefin **59** should allow for the successful formation of paracyclophane **58**. In this manner, the two side chains **61**, and **62** could be coupled to bis-phenol **60** via the Mitsunobu reaction (Figure 8).

Unfortunately, *cis,trans*-farnesol **62** required for the formation of **58** in the correct configuration, was not commercially available. As a result *trans,trans*-farnesol **65** was used in order to determine whether or not [14]paracyclophanes such as **63** could be generated using the RRCM technique (Figure 9).

Figure 9 - Retrosynthetic Analysis of Revised Model System using trans-Farnesol 65.

II.2 – Synthesis of Pentafluoro-2,5-dihydroxybenzoate 60.

Installation of the pentafluorobenzyl ester gearing element was initially achieved via an esterification procedure. Pentafluorobenzyl ester 60 was formed via the Mitsunobu reaction using pentafluorobenzyl alcohol 67 and 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid 66 with a slight excess of PPh₃ and DIAD in anhydrous THF. Diphenol 60 was obtained in 46% yield as a white solid (Scheme 16).

Scheme 16 - Synthesis of Pentafluoro-2,5-dihydroxybenzoate 60 via Mitsunobu Chemistry.

The low reaction yield was a result of the formation of an undesired byproduct, dialkyl 68. In addition, purification of pentafluorobenzylester 60 was very difficult; the excess DIAD would always co-elute along with diphenol 60.

In contrast to the Mitsunobu alkylation mentioned above (Scheme 16), alkylation of 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid 66 with pentafluorobenzyl bromide 69 proved to be much more selective. Diphenol 60 was obtained following a simple column purification in 80% yield (Scheme 17).

Scheme 17 - Synthesis of Pentafluoro-2,5-dihydroxybenzoate 60 via an Alkylation Procedure.

II.3 – Synthesis of the Allylic Alcohol 61.

Our group had previously demonstrated that relay ring closing metathesis (RRCM) was crucial in forming tri-substituted olefins in macrocyclization.²⁵ A retrosynthetic analysis for the preparation of **61** was devised following the precedent by Eisenreich and co-workers.²⁶ The procedure was slightly modified using a silyl ether protecting group rather than a tetrahydropyranyl protecting group. The volatility of the products incorporating the latter protecting group was frequently problematic. The overall reaction yields in either case were identical (Scheme 18).

²⁶ Amslinger, S.; Kis, K.; Hecht, S.; Adam, P.; Rohdich, F.; Arigoni, D.; Bacher, A.; Eisenreich, W. J. Org. Chem. **2002**, 67, 4590-4594.

Scheme 18 - Synthesis of Allylic Side Chain 61.

The hydroxyl group of a-hydroxyketone 70 was protected through etherification with TBDMSCl affording the silyl ether 71 in quantitative yield. The silyl ether 71 was used crude in the following Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction (HWE) using tristriethylphosphonoacetate and NaH in anhydrous THF, affording ester 72 as an 87/13 mixture of E/Z isomers. Due to the difficult separation of the two isomers, the crude mixture was simply carried over to the next reaction step. Reduction of the E/Z isomers of ester 72 by DIBAL-H in CH₂Cl₂ afforded the allylic alcohol 73 with no chromatographic purification necessary. Allylic alcohol 73 was alkylated using NaH and allyl bromide in anhydrous THF affording silyl ether 75 that was immediately carried over to the next reaction step. The TBAF deprotection of crude silyl ether 75 followed by chromatographic purification afforded the desired allylic alcohol 61 in a 30% yield over five steps as a single *trans*-isomer according to the ¹H-NMR spectrum.

II.4 - Macrocyclic Olefin Metathesis of Model System using trans, trans-Farnesol 65.

Olefin **76** was formed as the major product by Mitsunobu coupling of 0.5 equivalent of *trans,trans*-farnesol **65** to pentafluorobenzylester **60** using PPh₃ and DIAD in anhydrous THF at reflux (Scheme 19).

Scheme 19 - Alkylation using trans, trans-Farnesol 65 and Allylic Alcohol 61.

Unfortunately, due to the presence of the two hydroxyl groups in ester 60, some dialkylated product was isolated along with phenol 76. Both products were very difficult to separate by silica gel column purification. As a result, crude olefin 76 was carried over to the next reaction sequence. Another Mitsunobu reaction was performed to alkylate phenol 76 with relay side chain 61. However, this time the desired pentafluorobenzyl ester 64 was separated from the crude mixture by flash chromatography and obtained in

30% yield over two steps. With both side chains in place, olefin **64** was subjected to metathesis conditions using 2nd generation Grubbs catalyst **14** as well as 2nd generation Grubbs-Hoveyda catalyst **77** in attempts to obtain macrocycle **63** (Scheme 20).

Scheme 20 - RRCM of Macrocycle 63.

Unfortunately, no signs of the desired macrocycle were obtained. Only traces of olefin 78, commonly referred to as a half-metathesis product (HM) was observed by ¹H-NMR. The failed macrocyclization could be due to the configuration of the olefins or the substitution pattern in the prenylated side chain. In either case, the configuration about the allylic double bond on the prenylated side chain should in fact be *cis* in order for macrocycle 58 to resemble that of longithorone C (Figure 10).

Figure 10 - Revised Model System.

As such, the next target was to prepare *cis*-farnesol and incorporate it into our model system.

II.5 - Synthesis of cis-Farnesol 62.

II.5.1 - First Generation Synthesis of cis-Farnesol 62.

(2Z,6E)-Farnesol 62 has been synthesized by a 5 step synthesis developed by Gibbs and co-workers (Scheme 21).²⁷

²⁷ Gibbs, R. A.; Eummer, J. T.; Shao, Y. Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 627-630.

Scheme 21 - Gibbs' Synthesis of cis, trans-Farnesol 62.

Geranyl iodide 80 was synthesized from geraniol 79 using the acidic resin Amberlyst 15 and NaI, affording the iodide 80 in 62% yield. Iodide 80 was then alkylated using the Weiler dianion formed from ethylacetoacetate using NaH and n-BuLi which afforded the β -ketoester 81 in 43% yield. Ester 81 was then converted to triflate 82 with high stereoselectivity in 45% yield using DMF as solvent. The polar aprotic solvent disrupts the potassium enolate from coordinating to the carbonyl of the ester, leading to the cis-isomer (Figure 11).

Figure 11 – Stereocontrol During Triflation of β -Ketoester 81 using DMF as Solvent.

Triflate 82 was then coupled with tetramethyltin under catalytic amounts of $Pd(AsPh_3)_2$ and CuI as co-catalyst to afford ester 83 in 95% yield. Ester 83 was then reduced with DIBAL-H to afford the desired (2Z,6E)-farnesol 62 in 74% yield. Due to the overall length of the reaction sequence, low yield, high cost of reagents, and health hazard, the above procedure was abandoned.

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II.5.2 – Second Generation Synthesis of cis-Farnesol 62.

In order to obtain a fair amount of *cis*-olefin **62**, Wiemer *et al.* reported the following procedure using a modified Wittig reaction (Scheme 22).²⁸

Scheme 22 - Synthesis of cis-Farnesol 62 using Geranylacetone 86.

²⁸ Yu, J. S.; Kleckley, T. S.; Wiemer, D. F. Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 4803-4806.

Although geranylacetone **86** was fairly expensive, it could easily be synthesized starting from commercially available geraniol (Scheme 23).²⁹

Scheme 23 - Synthesis of Geranylacetone 86.

Geraniol 79 was converted to geranyl bromide 87 using PPh₃ and CBr₄ dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂. The bromide was used immediately following the removal of triphenylphosphine oxide. The β -ketoester 88 was prepared by alkylating methylacetoacetate with bromide 87 using NaH in anhydrous benzene. The phase-transfer catalyst Aliquot 336 was essential in order for the reaction to progress. Ester 88 was obtained in 80% yield following column purification and removal of excess methylacetoacetate. Geranylacetone 86 was formed from ester 88 following saponification and decarboxylation of the ester using KOH and MeOH at reflux for 48 h. Geranylacetone 86 was obtained in 99% yield.

Geranylacetone 86 was then converted to cis-farnesol 62 in a modified Wittig procedure which involved deprotonation of the oxaphosphatane 89, generated from

²⁹ Durst, H. D.; Liebeskind, L. J. Org. Chem. 1974; 39, 3271-3273.

geranylacetone 86 in the presence of methyl triphenylphosphonium bromide and n-BuLi, with s-BuLi and then quenching intermediate 90 with dry paraformaldehyde, affording cis-famesol 62 in 26% yield (Scheme 24).

Scheme 24 - Preparation of cis, trans-Farnesol 62 from Geranylacetone 86.

II.6 - Metathesis of Model System Incorporating cis-Farnesol 62.

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Olefin **92a** was formed by Mitsunobu coupling of 0.5 equivalents of (2Z,6E)-farnesol **62** to pentafluorobenzylester **60** using PPh₃ and DIAD in anhydrous THF at reflux (Scheme 25).

PPh₃, DIAD
THF,
$$\Delta$$
, 10 h

92a major
PPh₃, DIAD
THF, Δ , 10 h

92b traces

PPh₃, DIAD
THF, Δ , 10 h

30% over two steps

Scheme 25 – Alkylation using cis,trans-Farnesol 62 and Allylic Alcohol 61.

Once again, due to the presence of the two hydroxyl groups in ester 60, traces of olefin 92b were observed by ¹H-NMR along with the desired olefin 92a in the first Mitsunobu reaction step mentioned above (Scheme 25). Due to the difficulty in separating the trace amount of dialkyl 92b by silica gel column purification, the crude phenol 92 (a and b) was carried over to the next reaction sequence. As such, minor olefin 92b was never isolated. Another Mitsunobu reaction was then performed to alkylate olefin 92a with relay side chain 61. Olefin 59 was separated from the crude reaction mixture by flash chromatography and obtained in 30% yield over two steps. With both side chains in place, olefin 59 was subjected to metathesis conditions using 2nd generation

Grubbs catalyst 14 as well as 2nd generation Grubbs-Hoveyda catalyst 77 in attempts to obtain macrocycle 58 (Scheme 26).

Scheme 26 - RRCM of Macrocycle 58.

Macrocycle **58** was obtained in 10% yield in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ at reflux using either of the above mentioned catalysts (Scheme 26). The use of Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ was believed to block the catalyst from coordinating to the carbonyl group of the ester and was determined to be essential for successful macrocyclization.³⁰ The next step was to increase the macrocyclization yield by reducing the steric bulk of the terminal olefin of *cis*-farnesol to facilitate olefin metathesis at that position (Figure 12).

³⁰ Pschirer, N. G.; Bunz, U. H. F. Tetrahedron Lett. 1999, 40, 2481-2484.

Figure 12 - Proposed Model Study using Disubstituted Olefin 93.

II.7 – Synthesis of cis-Olefin 93.

The following procedure developed by Corey and co-workers has been modified in an attempt to prepare the desired olefin 93 (Scheme 27).³¹

Scheme 27 - Preparation of Olefin 93 Following Modified Corey Procedure.

³¹ For the exact procedure see: Corey, E. J.; Kania, R. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 1229-1230.

Cis, trans-Farnesol 62 was protected using TBDPSCl to afford silyl ether 95 in 90% yield. Without chromatographic purification over the next five reaction steps, silyl ether 95 was taken up in THF and water and reacted with NBS to afford the bromohydrin 96. Epoxide 97 was prepared on treatment of bromohydrin 96 with potassium carbonate in MeOH. Aldehyde 98 was formed by hydrolytic opening of epoxide 97 and subsequent oxidative cleavage of the resulting diol using sodium periodate and periodic acid. Aldehyde 98 was converted olefin 99 via Wittig reaction to ethyltriphenylphosphonium bromide and n-BuLi. Alcohol 93 was formed by the deprotection of silyl ether 99 using TBAF in anhydrous THF. The final olefin 93 was isolated following silica gel flash chromatography in an overall reaction yield of 44%.

II.8 – Metathesis of Model System 94 using cis-Olefin 93.

Pentafluorobenzyl ester 60 was coupled with 0.5 equivalents of *cis*-olefin 93 via the Mitsunobu alkylation using PPh₃ and DIAD in anhydrous THF at reflux. With no further purification, the relay side chain 61 was then coupled to crude phenol 100 (containing trace amounts of the dialkylated product) via the Mitsunobu reaction affording olefin 94 in 30% yield over two steps following column purification (Scheme 28).

Scheme 28 - Alkylation using Side Chain 93 and Allylic Alcohol 61.

Now with both side chains in place, olefin 94 was subjected to metathesis conditions in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ at reflux (Scheme 29).

. (4)

Scheme 29 - RRCM of Model System 94.

The macrocycle **58** was obtained in 33% yield using Grubbs catalyst **14** with 5.0 equivalents of titanium *iso*-propoxide. No improvement on reaction yields was observed using the more reactive catalyst **77**.

II.9 - Conclusion.

In the present chapter, the formation of a [14]paracyclophane was accomplished by relay ring-closing metathesis of a farnesylated *cis*-olefin prepared in our group. The importance of these model studies suggest that the formation of highly hindered macrocyclic structures such as [14]paracyclophanes can be accomplished using RCM. In this manner, a macrocyclic ring structure containing three tri-substituted olefins was obtained, resembling that of longithorone C.

Chapter III:

Attacking the Total Synthesis of (±)-Longithorone C: Attachment of Alkyl Chains via Coupling Reactions

In this chapter, the method of attaching the side chains on the central arene for olefin metathesis will be described via coupling reactions (Figure 13).

Figure 13 - Retrosynthetic Analysis of Longithorone C.

The goal was to couple both chains, at the desired *para*-position in order to obtain an all carbon [12]paracyclophane with three stereodefined tri-substituted olefins, starting from a 2,5-dihalobenzoic acid. Herein, we report the model studies used to determine the appropriate coupling reactions to obtain the desired target.

III.1 - Negishi Coupling Reactions.

Under the following Negishi conditions,³² our group attempted to couple the organozincate of 1-bromo-3-methyl-but-2-ene to methyl-2,5-dibromobenzoate. Unfortunately, neither bromides 103 nor 104 were observed, and only bromide 101 was obtained in full (Scheme 30).

Scheme 30 - Negishi Coupling using Prenylbromide 102.

The organozincate was prepared through two different methods; allylic bromide 102 was either treated with t-BuLi and transmetallated with ZnBr₂ or the zincate was formed using zinc and dibromoethane, 32 but neither case provided any product.

Coupling was also attempted on dibromide 101 with the organozincate of geranyl iodide 80.³² Unfortunately, neither diene 105 nor 106 were observed (Scheme 31).

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³² (a) Gomez-Reino, C.; Vitale, C.; Maestro, M.; Mourino, A. Org. Lett. **2005**, 7, 5885-5887. (b) Palmgren, A.; Thorarenson, A.; Backvall, J. E. J. Org. Chem. **1998**, 63, 3764-3768. (c) Xie, M.; Wang, J.; Gu, X.; Sun, Y.; Wang, S. Org. Lett. **2006**, 8, 431-434. (d) Rodriguez, A.; Miller, D. D.; Jackson, R. F. W. Org. Biomol. Chem. **2003**, 1, 973-977.

Scheme 31 - Negishi Coupling using Iodide 80.

In a third and final attempt, alkyl bromide 107 was coupled to dibromide 101 affording olefin 108 in 20% yield, suggesting prenyl-derived organozincates may be the source of the difficulties. Olefin 108 was preferably formed over olefin 109 likely due to steric interactions (Scheme 32).

Scheme 32 - Negishi Coupling using Alkyl Bromide 107.

Negishi couplings of prenylated halides with dibromobenzoate 101 could not be achieved, and as a result this chemistry had to be abandoned.

III.2 - Copper Catalyzed Grignard Reaction.

Knochel and co-workers have demonstrated that functionalized organomagnesium reagents prepared through halogen-metal exchange could be used in cross-coupling

reactions. Allyl and prenyl electrophiles were coupled to aromatic Grignard reagents containing ester functional groups (Figure 14).³³

FG
$$\stackrel{i.\text{PrMgY}}{=}$$
 $\stackrel{i.\text{PrMgY}}{=}$ $\stackrel{i.\text{PrMgY}}{=}$ $\stackrel{i.\text{PrMgY}}{=}$ $\stackrel{i.\text{Copper Catalyst}}{=}$ $\stackrel{i.\text{Copper Catalyst}$

Figure 14 - Copper Catalyzed Grignard Reactions.

As such, the following retrosynthetic analysis was devised in order to obtain both the cis-olefin and relay piece at the correct *para*-position (Figure 15).

Figure 15 - Retrosynthetic Analysis using Copper Catalyzed Grignard Reactions.

Many reactions of organomagnesium compounds with electrophiles require room temperature or heating for completion. Knochel and co-workers have demonstrated that

^{33 (}a) Dohle, W.; Gommermann, N.; Kneisel, F. F.; Kopp, F.; Korn, T.; Sapountzis, I.; Vu, V. A.; Knochel, P. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2003, 42, 4302-4320. (b) Rottlander, M.; Boymond, L.; Berillon, L.; Lepretre, A.; Varchi, G.; Avolio, S.; Laaziri, H.; Queguiner, G.; Ricci, A.; Cahiez, G.; Knochel, P. Chem. Eur. J. 2000, 6, 767-770. (c) Jensen, A. E.; Dohle, W.; Sapountzis, I.; Lindsay, D. M.; Vu, V. A.; Knochel, P. Synthesis 2002, 4, 565-569. (d) Ila, H.; Baron, O.; Wagner, A. J.; Knochel, P. Chem. Comm. 2006, 6, 583-593. (e) Krasovskiy, A.; Knochel, P. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2004, 25, 3333-3336. (f) Krasovskiy, A.; Straub, B. F.; Knochel, P. Angew. Chem., Inter. Ed. 2006, 1, 159-162.

a low-temperature preparation of Grignard reagents could allow the synthesis of polyfunctional magnesium organometallic reagents. In addition, at low enough temperatures, organomagnesium species with highly sensitive functional groups could be stable for several hours.

2,5-Dihalobenzoates such as 110 containing chelating groups at the *ortho*-position rapidly undergo Mg-X exchange.³³ The chelating group was believed to complex to the Grignard prior to Mg-X exchange, which could facilitate this exchange. Dihalides such as 110 were thus expected to undergo a chemoselective Mg-X exchange, leading selectively to Grignard reagents such as 111, in which the magnesium was *ortho* to the ester functionality (Figure 16).

Figure 16 - Magnesium-Halogen Exchange.

Grignard reagents of type 111 may then react to allow the selective coupling of the relay chain at the 2-position.

Knochel and co-workers used copper catalysts in the cross-coupling reactions of aryl magnesates such as 112 in order to achieve successful coupling with allyl or prenylhalides under fast reaction rates (Figure 17).³⁴

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³⁴ Rottlander, M.; Boymond, L.; Berillon, L.; Lepretre, A.; Varchi, G.; Avolio, S.; Laaziri, H.; Queguiner, G.; Ricci, A.; Cahiez, G.; Knochel, P. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2000**, *6*, 767-770.

Figure 17 - Role of Copper Catalyst in Organomagnesium Cross-Coupling Reactions.

As such it was considered that a 2,5-dihalobenzoate such as 110 could be used, in conjunction with a copper catalyst, to accomplish the installation of the desired relay and *cis*-olefins at the correct *para*-positions prior to macrocyclization.

The choice of the halogen precursor required evaluation, as well as the issue of the stereochemistry retention of the side chains (Figure 18).

Figure 18 - Proposed Synthetic Pathway for Copper Catalyzed Coupling of Grignard Reagents.

III.2.1 – Optimizing Mg-X Exchange.

Reaction conditions were explored to obtain successful Mg-X exchange, in a reasonable amount of time, without affecting the ester functional group (Table 1).

Table 1 – Effect of Ester Group, Halide, and Grignard Reagent on Mg-X exchange.

Entry	X 1.11	R	Grignard (eq.)	Temp (°C)	Time (h)	Products	Yield Ratio (%)
1	Br	Me	<i>i</i> -PrMgCl (1.1)	-40.0	3.0	113/114/115	16/58/25
2 ;	Br	i-Pr	<i>i</i> -PrMgCl (1:1)	-20.0	3.0	116/117/118	83/17/0
3	1	i -Pr	<i>i</i> -PrMgBr (1.2)	-40.0	0.5	119/120/121	100/0/0

When methyl-2,5-dibromobenzoate (GC $R_t = 9.88$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 294) was reacted with 1.1 equivalents of *i*-PrMgCl followed by an NH₄Cl quench, a 16/58/25 mixture was obtained of bromide 113 (GC $R_t = 8.30$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 216), dibromide 114, and ketone 115 (GC $R_t = 11.60$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 307) after 3 h ascertained by GC analysis (Entry 1, Table 1).

When the methyl ester of dibromide 114 was substituted for *iso*-propyl ester 117 (GC $R_t = 11.45$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 322), the Grignard reagent attack on the ester was suppressed and the major product was bromide 116 (GC $R_t = 10.00$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 243) (Entry 2, Table 1). However, even after 3 h dibromide 117 was still observed by GC. When dibromide 117 was substituted by diiodide 120 (GC $R_t = 11.87$ min, $[M+H]^+$ found 416), the exchange was complete in 0.5 h and only iodide 119 was obtained (GC R_t

= 9.70 min, [M+H]⁺ found 291) (Entry 3, Table 1). Employment of 1.2 eq of *i*-PrMgBr with respect to diiodide **120** resulted in a complete Mg-I exchange *ortho* to the *iso*-propyl ester in 0.5 h at -40°C. Although methyl 2,5-dibromobenzoate **114** was commercially available, *iso*-propyl-2,5-diiodobenzoate **120** was prepared via alkylation of 2,5-diiodobenzoic acid with *i*-propyl bromide in 87% yield under the presence of NaH in DMF (Scheme 33).

Scheme 33 - Synthesis of i-Propyl-2,5-diiodobenzoate 120.

III.2.2 – Optimizing $S_N 2 / S_N 2$ -type Product Ratio.

In this section, the optimum reaction conditions will be discussed in order to obtain the desired α -product 124 with high reaction yields. The outcome of these results was dependant on choice of catalyst, electrophile, and addition method (Table 2).

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Table 2 – Optimizing γ / α Product Ratio.

Entry	Aryl-l (eq)	Catalyst (10 mol %)	Y (eq)	Addition Method	γ/α (% Yield)°
1	1.0	CuCN*2LiCl	Br (1.0)	A^a	32 / 20
2	1.0	Li ₂ Cul ₄	Br (1.3)	Α	11/7
3	1.0	Li_2Cul_4	OAc (1.5)	Α	0/19
4	1.5	Li_2Cul_4	OAc (1.0)	Α	0 / 43
5	1.5	Li ₂ Cul ₄	OAc (1.0)	B^{h}	0 / 80

^a Cu-catalyst added to Grignard reagent, followed by allylic electrophile

Two methods of addition were explored in order to prepare the desired *a*-product 124. Either the copper catalyst and side chain 125/126 were added to Grignard 122, prepared from *i*-PrMgBr and *iso*-propyl-2,5-diiodobenzoate (Method A), or copper catalyst and side chain 125/126 were mixed together prior to treatment with the Grignard reagent 122 (Method B, inverse addition). The requisite allylic electrophiles 125 and 126 were prepared from allylic alcohol 61, treated with either PPh₃ and CBr₄ or Ac₂O and pyridine respectively (Scheme 34).

^b Grignard reagent added to a solution of Cu-cat and allylic electrophile

^c Based on ¹H-NMR yields

Scheme 34 - Synthesis of Bromide 125 and Acetate 126.

Using bromide 125 and addition method A, a 32/20 mixture of S_N2'/S_N2 -type products was obtained based on the ¹H-NMR yield (Entry 1, Table 2). By employing Li_2CuCl_4 as catalyst, the formation of the S_N2 -type products, or α -products was favored. ³⁵ Employing Li_2CuCl_4 as catalyst in this reaction with bromide 125 did not give any improvement in the product ratio (Entry 2, Table 2). Switching to acetate 126 as electrophile eliminated the S_N2' -type product, or the γ -product and provided olefin 124 using Li_2CuCl_4 as catalyst (Entry 3, Table 2). Fast addition of the freshly formed Grignard reagent 122, to a premixed solution of Li_2CuCl_4 (10 mol%) and acetate 126 (Method B), gave the desired α -product in 80% yield (Entry 5, Table 2).

Backvall and co-workers have conducted numerous studies in order to explain the α/γ product ratios in cuprate additions to allylic acetates, bromides, and chlorides.^{35, 36} They have demonstrated that in most cases, the more reactive allylic chlorides and bromides showed a preference for γ -substitution in copper catalyzed Grignard reactions, where allylic acetates showed a preference for α -substitution.

³⁶ Schmid, M.; Gerber, F.; Hirth, G. Helv. Chim. Acta. 1982, 65, 684-702.

³⁵ Backvall, J.E.; Sellen, M.; Grant, B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1990, 112, 6615-6621.

III.2.3 – Mechanism behind the α/γ Product Ratios.

The goal of the preceding study was to obtain the desired α -product, and maintain the stereochemistry of the olefins in the side chain. Following the mechanism explained by Backvall, the transmetallation step with the copper catalyst and the Grignard reagent produces the monoarylcuprate species 127 (Figure 19).³⁵

Figure 19 - Regiocontrol in Copper Catalyzed Grignard Reactions.

Cuprate 127 can either react with the electrophile or a second equivalent of organomagnesium 122, affording the dialkylcuprate species 128. It was known in the literature that monoalkylcuprates tend to form γ -products whereas dialkylcuprates tend to form α -products.³⁵ Fast addition of Grignard reagent 122, low catalyst loading, and low

concentration of the allylic acetate 126 are all expected to favour the formation of the dialkylcuprate 128, which in turn should favour the formation of the α -product.³⁵

It was believed that following oxidative addition of either mono- or diarylcuprates onto acetate 126, the cuprate may add at the γ -position to form σ -allyl complex 129 (Figure 20).³⁵

Figure 20 – Formation of σ-Allyl Copper Species 129 with the Allylic Acetate 126.

Following formation of the σ -allyl complex 129, the cuprate can either undergo reductive elimination to generate the γ -product, or reversible isomerization to generate π -allyl complex 130, which on reductive elimination would give the α -product (Figure 21).

Figure 21 – Formation of π-Allyl Copper Species 130 with Acetate 126.

Electron-withdrawing ligands such as Br, Cl, and CN on complex 129 have been suggested to accelerate reductive elimination leading to the γ -product.³⁷ The latter may result from using catalysts such as CuBr, CuCl, and CuCN, respectively. If the ligand L on complex 129 is an alkyl or aryl group (resulting from the formation of the diarylcuprate intermediate), then reductive elimination would be slow and σ -allyl complex 129 may undergo reversible isomerization leading to π -allyl complex 130, and α -product 124 following reductive elimination (Figure 21).

³⁷ Yamamoto, T.; Yamamoto, A.; Ikeda, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1971**, *93*, 3350-3360.

Catalysts such as Li_2CuCl_4 lead to the formation of the diarylcuprate 130. Delivery of the aryl group to the less hindered position of π -allylic complex 130 would favor addition to the α -position. In addition, the aryl group delivery is believed to be faster with Li_2CuCl_4 as catalyst such that complete retention of stereochemistry is observed (Figure 21).³⁸

To sum up thus far, starting from *i*-propyl-2,5-diiodobenzoate **120**, 1.2 equivalents of *i*-PrMgBr was required with respect to **120** in order to have complete Mg-I exchange in under 0.5 h at -40°C. The newly formed Grignard reagent was then added to a flask containing a premixed solution of allylic acetate **126** and Li₂CuCl₄ as copper catalyst over a 2-min period, affording iodide **124** in 80% yield (Scheme 35).

Scheme 35 - Optimized Reaction Conditions in Forming Aryl Iodide 124.

III.2.4 – Attaching cis-Olefin 93 via the Copper Catalyzed Grignard Reaction.

In light of the previous coupling reaction, *cis*-olefin **93** was converted to allylic acetate **131** in the presence of acetic anhydride and pyridine to afford acetate **131** in 96% yield (Scheme 36).

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³⁸ Levisalles, J.; Rudler-Chauvin, M.; Rudler, H. J. Organomet. Chem. 1977, 136, 103-110.

Scheme 36 - Formation of the Allylic Acetate 131 Derived from cis-Olefin 93.

When subjecting aryl iodide 124 to the same reaction conditions, the absence of a chelating group *ortho* to the iodine atom was expected to slow Mg-I exchange. Two equivalents of *i*-PrMgBr were required to obtain complete Mg-I exchange with aryl iodide 124 in 0.25 h at -40°C. The freshly formed Grignard reagent was then added to a premixed solution of *cis*-acetate 131 and the Li₂CuCl₄ to afford the desired olefin 132 in 50% yield (Scheme 37).

Scheme 37 - Optimized Reaction Conditions in Forming Olefin 132.

With reaction protocols for both allylic acetates 126 and 131 in hand, the next step was to determine whether there was retention of olefin stereochemistry in the coupling reactions.

III.3 – Determining Stereochemistry of the Side Chains.

In the NOESY spectrum of trans-allylic acetate 126, nOe was observed between the methyl signal at 1.66 ppm and the allylic methylene signal at 4.00 ppm. No nOe was observed between the methyl signal (1.66 ppm) and vinyl proton (5.60 ppm) (Figure 22).

AcO
$$H_a$$
 H_c H_b H_b

Figure 22 - Stereochemistry of Relay Side Chain.

In the NOESY spectrum of iodide 124, the methyl signal exhibited nOe with the methylene signal at 3.97 ppm and not with the vinyl proton (5.21 ppm) indicating retention of stereochemistry in coupling of the allylic acetate 126 to iodide 120.

The NOESY spectrum of ester 132 was complicated due to overlapping signals for the alkenyl protons. As a model system, ester 135 was formed following a similar Cu-catalyzed Grignard reaction employing acetate 136 that was derived from *cis*-farnesol 62 (Scheme 38).

Scheme 38 - Synthesis of Acetate 136 and Stereochemistry of Olefin 153.

In the NOESY spectrum of ester 135, the vinyl proton at 5.33 ppm and methyl signal at 1.76 ppm exhibited an nOe indicative of a *cis*-olefin. Based on this result, a similar retention of configuration has been assumed for ester 132.

III.4 - Conclusion.

In summary, copper-catalyzed cross coupling of aryl Grignard reactions to allylic acetates 126 and 131 gave ester 132 with retention of stereochemistry. The stage was set to explore the total synthesis of longithorone C by formation of the macrocycle by RCM.

Chapter IV:

Improved Gearing Elements for Macrocyclic Olefin

Metathesis: A Model Study

IV.1 – Improved Gearing Element used in Model Systems.

Our group has continued to investigate new and improved gearing elements for olefin metathesis. During studies directed towards developing gearing elements that function via non-covalent interactions, we investigated substituting the pentafluorobenzyl ester with other fluorinated aromatics. One such attempt involved use of a 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzylester (Scheme 39). This gearing element was first examined in model systems before application to the total synthesis of longithorone C.

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Scheme 39 - Preparation of Bistrifluoromethyl Benzyl Ester 139.

Ester 94 was hydrolyzed using NaOH in a mixture of toluene and methanol at reflux for 24 h. The crude acid 137 was alkylated with 3,5-bistrifluoromethylbenzyl bromide and triethylamine in DMF to afford ester 139 in 80% yield over two steps. Previously, ring closing metathesis using pentafluorobenzyl ester 94 gave 33% yield of [12]paracyclophane 58. With bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl ester 51 the same conditions gave macrocycle 140 in 47% yield (Scheme 40).

Scheme 40 - Improved Bistrifluoromethyl Gearing Element on Model System.

Qualitatively, the results may be explained by electronic effects of the fluorine substituents. Since the fluorine atoms of the pentafluorobenzyl ester are directly attached to the arene in ester 141, the electron density is concentrated on the fluorine atoms and the center of the arene is considered electropositive. The same effect can be caused by the bistrifluoromethyl groups in ester 142. However, the fluorine atoms of the pentafluorobenzyl ester may have both electron donating and electron withdrawing abilities, where as the trifluoromethyl groups in the bistrifluoromethyl gearing element are solely electron withdrawing.²⁴ One may consider that the CF₃ groups make the arene more electropositive than that of the pentafluorobenzyl ester (Figure 23).

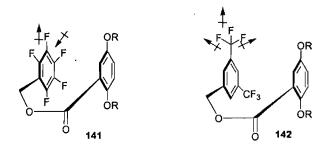


Figure 23 – Quadrupolar Interactions using a CF₃-Based Gearing Element.

IV.2 – Molecular Modeling using the Bistrifluoromethyl Auxiliary on Model Systems.

Molecular modeling was used in order to understand how the non-bonding interactions affected the product distribution using high order DFT method calculations (Figure 24).³⁹

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³⁹ For a complete list of methods and results used in the molecular modeling studies see: Collins, S.; El-Azizi, Y.; Schmitzer, A. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 6397-6408.

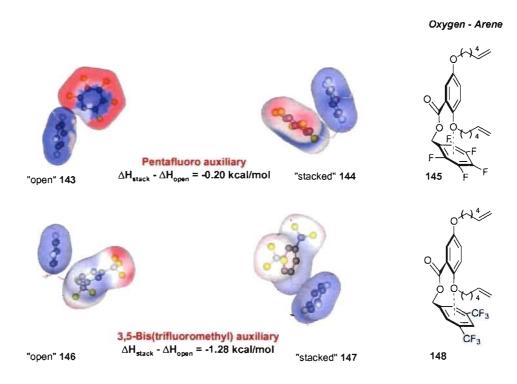


Figure 24 – Results of Higher Order DFT Calculations on Model System (Red color denotes areas of increased electronic density due to fluorine atoms).

In the above model systems (that incorporate the oxygen atoms about the central arene), the "stacked" conformer 144 of the pentafluorobenzyl ester was preferred over the "open" conformer 143 by 0.20 kcal/mol. With the bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester as gearing element, the "stacked" conformer 147 was preferred over the "open" conformer 146 by 1.28 kcal/mol. These findings correlate with the increased yield for the bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester 140 relative to the pentafluorobenzyl ester 58 in the RCM reaction. The "stacked" conformers above do not, however, engage in $\pi:\pi$ stacking interactions, instead the benzyl group sits over an oxygen atom (145/148) and is believed to engage in lone pair: π interactions between the electron deficient pendant arene and an

oxygen atom (Figure 24). These interactions, although rare, have been previously documented for systems in solutions.⁴⁰

IV.3 – Molecular Modeling using the Bistrifluoromethyl Auxiliary on an All Carbon System.

Molecular modeling was carried out in order to probe how the non-bonding interactions between the electron deficient auxiliaries and electron rich arenes would effect the product distribution in forming an all carbon [12]paracyclophane (Figure 25).

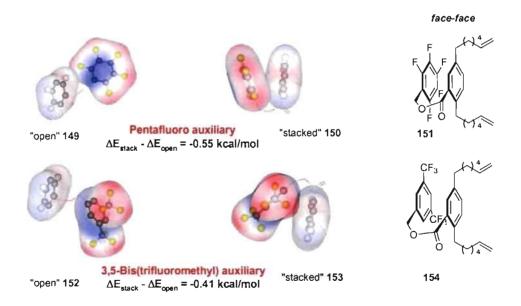


Figure 25 – Results of Higher Order DFT Calculations on All Carbon System (Red color denotes area of in creased electron density due to the fluorine atoms).

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⁴⁰ Egli, M.; Sarkhel, S. Acc. Chem. Res. 2007, 40, 197-205.

The "stacked" conformer 150 of the pentafluorobenzyl ester was preferred over the open conformer 149 by 0.55 kcal/mol. The "stacked" conformer 153 of the bistrifluoromethyl auxiliary was preferred over the open conformer 152 by only 0.41 kcal/mol. The lower energy difference calculated for the bistrifluoromethylbenzyl gearing element may be due to steric repulsion between the trifluoromethyl groups and the central arene. In the absence of oxygen atoms, the "stacked" conformers were predicted to engage in quadrupolar π : π interactions (151/154) (Figure 25).

The pentafluorobenzyl ester was thus predicted to be more likely to form the all carbon macrocycle. Consequently, RCM was examined on olefins 155 and 156 containing both auxiliaries to correlate the above findings with the paracyclophane product distribution (Figure 26).

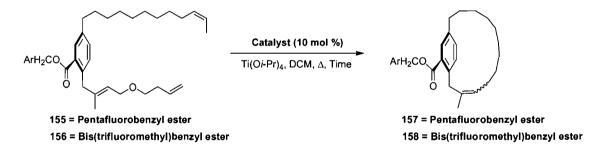


Figure 26 - Model System used in Determining the Ideal Gearing Element.

IV.4 – Determining the Ideal Gearing Element in the Formation of an All-Carbon [12]Paracyclophane.

The following retrosynthetic analysis was proposed to study the gearing element for the formation of an all carbon macrocycle (Figure 27).

Figure 27 – Retrosynthetic Analysis for the Model System used for Determining the Ideal Gearing Element.

Aryl iodide **124** was made as described in chapter III. Bromide **161** was made from commercially available olefin **162** (Scheme 41).

Scheme 41 - Synthesis of Bromide 161.

Protection with TBDPSCl afforded silyl ether 163 in quantitative yield. Without further purification silyl ether 163 was cleaved by ozonolysis for 1 h at -78°C to afford aldehyde 164 that was immediately converted to olefin 165 by a Wittig reaction using ethyl triphenylphosphonium bromide and *n*-BuLi in anhydrous THF. Triphenylphosphine oxide was precipitated out using hexanes and was filtered during workup, and the silyl

ether of olefin **165** was removed with TBAF to afford alcohol **166** in 30% yield over four steps. Finally, bromide **161** was prepared from alcohol **166** in the dark using PPh₃ and CBr₄ in CH₂Cl₂ for 1.5-2 h and was used without further purification in the next synthetic step (Scheme **42**).

Scheme 42 – Synthesis of Pentafluorobenzyl ester 155 and Trifluoromethylbenzyl ester 156.

Triene 167 was formed by coupling the organozincate of bromide 161 to aryl iodide 124 using PdCl₂(dppf) in anhydrous THF, albeit in 20% yield. Pentafluorobenzyl ester 155 and trifluoromethylbenzyl ester 156 were both made in 77% yield over two steps by saponification of ester 167 with NaOH in a 1:1 mixture of toluene and methanol, and alkylation of acid 168 with the respective benzyl bromide (69 and 138).

Metathesis of esters 155 and 156 were conducted in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ using Grela catalyst 169 and the Blechert catalyst 170 in attempts to form [12]paracyclophanes 157 and 158 (Table 3).

Table 3 - RRCM of Model Compound [12] Paracyclophane 157 and 158.

Entry	Aryl-CḤ₂	Catalyst (10 mol %)	Solvent	Addition Time (h)	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)
1	3,5-bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester	Grela 169	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.0	4.0	0
2	pentafluorobenzyl ester	Grela 169	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.0	4.0	7-10
3	pentafluorobenzyl ester	Grela 169	PhMe	1.0	4.0	7-10
4	pentafluorobenzyl ester	Blechert 170	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.0	4.0	14

No trace of macrocycle 158 was observed after treatment of the bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester 156 with catalyst 169 for 4 h in CH₂Cl₂ (Entry 1, Table 3). On the other hand, pentafluorobenzyl ester 155 reacted under the same reaction conditions to furnish macrocycle 157 in 10% yield (Entry 2, Table 3). Using toluene and increased reaction temperatures did not produce any improvement in the yield of 157

(Entry 3, Table 3). However, with the use of Blechert's catalyst 170, macrocycle 157 was obtained in a cleaner reaction and in 14% yield (Entry 4, Table 3).

In the NOESY spectrum of macrocycle **157**, the configuration about the newly formed double bond was shown to be *cis* on observation of a nOe between the signals for the methyl (1.73 ppm) and vinyl (4.36 ppm) proton signals (Scheme 43).

Scheme 43 - NOESY of Macrocycle 157.

In light of the *cis*-geometry of trisubstituted olefin 157 the ring strain involved in forming [12]paracyclophanes was expected to lead to a *cis*-olefin in the RCM reaction to form longithorone C.

IV.5 - Conclusion.

In this chapter, other fluorinated aromatics were demonstrated to serve as gearing elements. Formation of all carbon [12]paracyclophane 157 containing a tri-substituted olefin was achieved by olefin metathesis albeit in low yield. As suggested by molecular modeling calculations using the high order DFT method, the pentafluorobenzyl ester proved superior to the bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester for favoring a "stacked" conformer as a result of the stronger non-bonding interactions between the pentafluorobenzyl ester

and the pendant arene that may be necessary for RCM.³⁹ These suggestions correlated with the formation of [12]paracyclophane 157 containing one tri-substituted olefin (Table 3). Although the yields in these macrocyclizations were low, the macrocyclization to form longithorone C was expected to proceed more efficiently due to the presence of the *cis*-olefin adjacent to the aromatic core.

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Chapter V:

Approach Towards the Total Synthesis of (±)-Longithorone C

The present chapter will focus on the approach towards the completion of the total synthesis of longithorone C. The following retrosynthetic analysis could be followed in order to arrive to the desired target (Figure 28).

Figure 28 - Retrosynthetic Analysis for Longithorone C.

Synthesis of ester 132 was described in chapter III. Following saponification of the *iso*-propyl group of ester 132, and esterification with the gearing element of choice, olefin 174 was expected to undergo RCM to form macrocycle 173. The remaining synthetic steps would involve a series of oxidation/reduction reactions in order to form the quinone core of longithorone C.

V.1 – RRCM in Forming an All-Carbon [12] Paracyclophane.

Saponification of the *iso*-propyl group of ester 132 was performed using an excess of NaOH in a 1:1 mixture of toluene:methanol at reflux. Olefin 175 was obtained in 94% yield, and without further purification, alkylated with either pentafluorobenzyl bromide 69 or bis-3,5-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl bromide 138 using K₂CO₃ as base. The bromides 69 and 138 were passed through basic alumina twice prior to their use in alkylation of olefin 175 in order to obtain 80% yield of olefins 174 and 176 respectively (Scheme 44).

Scheme 44 – Synthesis of Macrocyclization Precursors 174 and 176.

A series of catalysts were next screened in the macrocyclization step in forming macrocycles 173 and 177 (Table 4).

Table 4 – RRCM in forming Cyclophanes 173 and 177.

Solvent Reaction Time (h) Entry Substrate Catalyst (10 mol %) Addition Time (h)2 Yield (%) 1 174 CH₂Cl₂ 18.0 tracesb G II 14 1.0 2 174 G-H II 77 CH₂Cl₂ 1.0 18.0 traces 3 174 Grela 169 CH₂Cl₂ 3.0 4.0 23 4 174 Grela 169 PhMe 3.0 4.0 20 176 CH₂Cl₂ 10 5 Grela 169 1.0 4.0 6 176 Grela 169 PhMe 3.0 4.0 32 CH₂Cl₂ 3.0 4.0 37 176 Blechert 170

From the macrocyclization of bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester 176 in CH₂Cl₂ with either 10 mol% of catalyst 14 or 77, after 18 h only traces of macrocycle 177 were observed by ¹H-NMR (Entries 1 and 2, Table 4). Macrocycle 177 was isolated in 23 and 20% yields for 4 h using the Grela catalyst 169 in CH₂Cl₂ and PhMe respectively (Entry 3 and 4, Table 4).

Pentafluorobenzyl ester 174 with catalyst 169 in CH₂Cl₂ afforded macrocycle 173 in 10% yield (Entry 5, Table 4). An increased yield of 32% was obtained from reaction of 174 in toluene (Entry 6, Table 4). In addition, using the Blechert catalyst 170 on pentafluorobenzyl ester 174, afforded macrocycle 173 in 37% yield (Entry 7, Table 4). The higher reaction yields observed using pentafluorobenzyl ester 174 relative to

^a All additions were conducted using a syringe pump

^b Traces of product were observed by ¹H-NMR

bistrifluoromethylbenzyl ester 176 agreed with the findings of the molecular modeling calculations that suggested superior stacking effects of the pentafluorobenzyl gearing element would be preferred (Chapter IV).

V.2 - Future Work for Completing the Total Synthesis of Longithorone C.

The best reaction conditions for RRCM was found using pentafluorobenzyl ester 69 as gearing element (olefin 174), in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂, with 10 mol% of catalyst 170, and 5.0 equivalents of Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄, affording macrocycle 173 in 37% yield (Table 4). Our group is presently working on further optimizing the auxiliaries for macrocyclization of the above all carbon system. The following synthetic steps would complete the total synthesis of longithorone C (Figure 29).

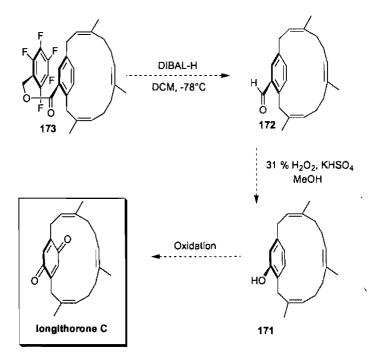


Figure 29 - Proposed Reaction Steps for the Completion of Longithorone C.

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Following the formation of macrocycle 173 via RRCM, removal of the gearing element may be achieved using DIBAL-H at low temperatures. An interesting procedure developed by Backvall and co-workers may allow for the successful oxidation of aldehyde 172 to phenol 171 resembling the Baeyer-Villiger reaction. The challenge with the latter oxidation being unfavorable for substrates possessing functional groups labile to peracids, was overcome by the acid-catalyzed oxidation of benzaldehydes such as 172 with hydrogen peroxide in methanol, that proceed through peroxy hemiacetal intermediates such as 178b (Figure 30).

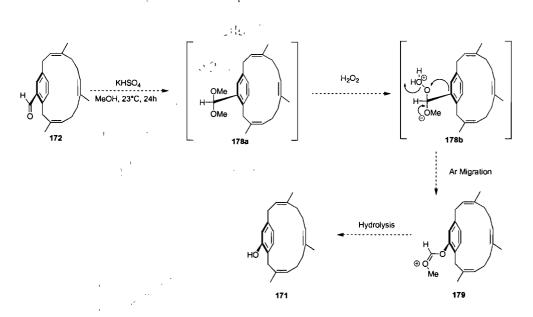


Figure 30 – Proposed Mechanism for Oxidation of Benzaldehydes to Phenols.

The formation of hemiacetals of type 178b was made possible through dimethyl acetal intermediates of such as 178a prepared by treating aryl aldehydes of type 172 in acidic

⁴¹ Matsumoto, M., Kobayashi, K., Hotta, Y. J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 4740-4741.

methanol. Aryl migration of intermediate 178b would therefore provide ester 179, and subsequent hydrolysis would afford phenol 171. In this manner, olefinic substituents in benzaldehydes should be stable under the present reaction conditions and the oxidation products should be phenols as opposed to benzoic acids obtained via the Baeyer-Villiger reaction (Figure 30).

In order to form the quinone core of longithorone C from phenol 171, Sorokin and co-workers developed a controlled oxidation for phenols bearing oxidizable olefinic functional groups under mild conditions using iron tetrasulfophthalocyanine supported on silica as a heterogeneous catalyst and *tert*-butylhydroperoxide as the oxidant.⁴² Their group observed that aromatic oxidation was the major pathway and the proposed mechanism was based on an iron complex-based oxo species formed when iron complexes in combination with hydroperoxides involved in oxidation reactions.

Following the completion of longithorone C, the asymmetric synthesis should be attempted by employing either a chiral catalyst or a chiral auxiliary. For example Grubbs has developed a chiral catalyst such as catalyst 180 that may be used in the asymmetric synthesis of longithorone C, however bulky catalysts such as 180 have been known to show low reactivity. Recently, Pierre-André Fournier within our group had developed a reactive and less bulky catalyst, PAF-1 181, in order to have an increased level of reactivity compared to existing chiral Ru-based catalysts (Figure 31).

⁴² Sorokin, A.B.; Zalomaeva, O.V. New J. Chem. **2006**, 30, 1768-1773.

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⁴³ Seiders, T. J.; Ward, D. W.; Grubbs, R. H. *Org. Lett*, **2001**, *3*, 3225-3228.

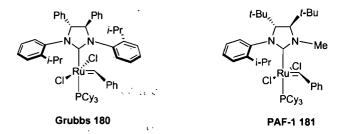


Figure 31 – Proposed Chiral Catalysts for the Asymmetric Synthesis of Longithorone C. 43

The results found while cyclizing the precursor 174 suggest that more reactive catalysts are necessary in order to obtain high reaction yields. As such, catalyst PAF-1 181 would seem to be a promising choice (Figure 31).

Yet another method for performing the asymmetric synthesis would be to use chiral gearing elements prepared from bromides such 182 and 183 (Figure 32).

Figure 32 - Proposed Chiral Auxiliaries for the Asymmetric Synthesis of Longithorone C.

Esterification with these auxiliaries may lead to chiral gearing elements, which in turn may lead to the asymmetric synthesis of longithorone C.

V.3 – Conclusion

Inspired by the independent work performed by Tadahiro and co-workers in forming Longithorone B, and Shair and co-workers in forming Longithorone A, our optimizing macrocyclization reactions focused on [12] paracyclophane longithorone C. Model studies revealed that ring-closing olefin metathesis can be used in forming [12] and [14]paracyclophanes with macrocycles resembling that of longithorone C. The formation of various macrocyclic cyclophanes via ring-closing olefin metathesis was possible through the use of a pendant fluorinated benzyl ester group. Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl ester proved best for model system 139 incorporating the oxygen atoms about the central aromatic core. Pentafluorobenzyl ester was more effective in making the all carbon paracyclophane 157. Model studies revealed that the use of relay side chain 126 was necessary in order to form highly substituted double bonds by a novel technique called relay ring-closing metathesis. In addition, our group was able to stereoselectively form the [12]paracyclophane 173 using copper catalyzed Grignard reactions optimized in our labs. The advanced precursor 173 has been prepared and may be converted to longithorone C by a sequence of reactions featuring an ester reduction and aromatic ring oxidation.

Chapter VI:

Experimental

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VI.1 - General Experimental Notes

Reagents

All reagents were purchased from Aldrich, Sigma, or Alfa Aeser and were used without further purification, unless otherwise noted.

Anhydrous Reaction Conditions

All anhydrous reactions were performed under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen. The glass vessels, needles, stirring bars, and reflux condensers were either oven dried at 110-140°C, or flame dried, and cooled to room temperature under a flow of nitrogen. Solvents such as tetrahydrofuran, dichloromethane, diethyl ether, toluene, hexane, methanol, and dimethylformamide were obtained by filtration through the Seca Solvent System by GlassContour, which filters the solvents over a column of alumina under an atmosphere of argon. Acetonitrile and benzene were purchased from Aldrich and were dried using molecular sieves (4-8 mesh, 0.125 inch, type 4 Å).

Temperature Control

The temperatures indicated in the reaction schemes and in the procedures are all external temperatures. The following bath temperatures were obtained from the following mixtures:

-78°C	dry ice-acetone bath
-40°C	dry ice-acetonitrile bath
0°C	ice water bath
23°C	ambient temperature

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Chromatography

Silica gel flash chromatography was carried out according to the procedure of Still,⁴⁴ using silica gel obtained from Silicycle Chemical Division (40-63 nm; 230-240 mesh). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using commercially available, precoated glass backed Silica Gel 60 F254 plates with a thickness of 25 µm. Visualization of the UV active compounds on the TLC plates was done with the aid of a UV254 lamp. The TLC plates were stained with either of the following stains:

Cerium molybdate stain:⁴⁵ Prepared by dissolving 12 g ammonium molybdate,
 and 0.5 g ceric ammonium molybdate in 235 mL H₂O and 15 mL
 concentrated sulfuric acid.

⁴⁴ Still, W. C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. 1978, 43, 2923-2925.

⁴⁵ El Khadem, H.; Hanessian, S. Anal. Chem. 1958, 30, 1965-1965.

Potassium permanganate stain: Prepared by dissolving 1.5 g potassium permanganate, 10 g potassium carbonate and 1.25 mL 10% NaOH in 200 mL H₂O.

Instrumentation

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy:

Routine nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on Bruker AMX 300 (1 H 300 MHz, 13 C 75 MHz), Bruker AV 300 (1 H 300 MHz, 13 C 75 MHz), Bruker ARX 400 (1 H 400 MHz, 13 C 100 MHz), and Bruker AV 400 (1 H 400 MHz, 13 C 100 MHz) instruments. Chemical shifts (δ) and coupling constants (J) are expressed in parts per million (ppm) and hertz (Hz) respectively. Abbreviations used describing the splitting of the peaks are as follows:

- singlet doublet d triplet t quartet q doublet of doublets dd ddt 1 1 1 doublet of doublet of triplets multiplet m septet sept

Please note that all ¹³C signals for scarbons bearing fluorine substituents are often observed as very weak signals. These signals are often unobservable or barely distinguishable from the baseline. As such, the signals are not reported.

Gas Chromatography:

GC-MS data were measured using an Agilent Capillary Column model number 19091s-433 HP-5MS, 30.0 m length, 250.0 µm diameter, and 0.25 µm thickness. Front inlet Splitless, with an initial temperature of 250°C. The run time was 0 – 27.5 min. The oven temperature was 50°C – 275°C, with an instrumental rate of 10°C/min. The flow rate was established at 1.0 mL/min, using helium gas and the Front detector µECD was set at 250°C.

Mass spectra:

High resolution mass spectroscopy (HRMS) was done by the Centre régional de spectrométrie de masse at the Department of Chemistry, Université de Montréal using an LC-MSD-TOF instrument from Agilent Technologies in positive electrospray mode. Either protonated molecular ions $(M + H)^+$ or sodium adducts $(M + Na)^+$ were used for empirical formula confirmation. Iodide 152 proved to be too unstable for HRMS by FAB, API, EI, and CI. As such, iodide 152 did not ionize and consequently did not provide any valid mass spectral data.

VI.2 - Experimental Procedures and data

Preparation and Titration of i-PrMgBr

The preparation of *i*-PrMgBr has been described by Steglich and co-workers.⁴⁶ The titration of *i*-PrMgBr has been described by Paquette and co-workers.⁴⁷

Titration of n-BuLi, s-BuLi, and t-BuLi

The titration of organolithium reagents has been described by Baclawski and coworkers.⁴⁸

Preparation of dilithium tetrachlorocuprate

LiCl and CuCl₂ were independently dried for 10 h at 100°C under reduced pressure. Both reagents were transferred to a glove box under a nitrogen atmosphere. To a round bottom flask containing CuCl₂ (0.67 g, 5 mmol) and LiCl (0.42 g, 10 mmol) anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added. The solution was allowed to stir at room temperature for 10 min affording a homogeneous dark-red colored solution. The concentration of Li₂CuCl₄ prepared in this manner was 0.5 M and was used immediately. This solution was never stored for more than a couple of hours.⁴⁶

⁴⁶ Steglich, W. Synthesis 2005, 6, 1019-1027.

⁴⁷ Lin, H. S.; Paquette, L. Synth. Commun. 1994, 24, 2503-2506.

⁴⁸ Kofron, W. G.; Baclawski, L. M. J. Org. Chem. 1976, 41, 1879-1880.

Pentafluorobenzyl-2,5-dihydroxybenzoate (60)

In a round bottom flask, benzoic acid **66** (1.54 g, 9.99 mmol), PPh₃ (4.20 g, 16.0 mmol), and alcohol **67** (0.99 mg, 5.00 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous THF (100 mL), cooled to 0° C, and treated over a 2 min period with DIAD (3.10 mL, 16.0 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature for 10 h, and was monitored by TLC (diphenol **60**: R_f = 0.2, 100% ethyl acetate, product appeared purple under UV irradiation). Additional PPh₃ (2.10 g, 8.00 mmol) was added to the mixture until the yellow color of DIAD had disappeared. The volatiles were evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Evaporation of the collected fractions gave ester **60** as a white solid (1.52 g, 46%). Spectral data for **60** matched that reported in the literature.

Pentafluorobenzyl 2,5-dihydroxybenzoate (60)

In a round bottom flask, benzoic acid **66** (0.20 g, 1.30 mmol) and bromide **69** (0.18 mL, 1.30 mmol, previously passed through a short plug of basic alumina) were dissolved in

⁴⁹ Collins, S. K.; El-Azizi, Y. Pure Appl. Chem. 2006, 78, 783-789.

anhydrous DMF (13 mL), cooled to 0°C, treated dropwise with Et₃N (0.20 mL, 1.42 mmol) and stirred at 0°C for 10 min. The solution was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 10 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (100% ethyl acetate). The reaction was cooled to 0°C and quenched with 1N HCl (7.1 mL, 7.13 mmol). The mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 45 mL), and dried over Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Collection of the fractions gave ester 60 as a white solid (0.35 g, 80%). Spectral data for 60 matched that reported in the literature.⁴⁹

(E)-4-(Allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-en-1-ol (61)

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In a round bottom flask, under nitrogen, NaH (15.2 g, 0.38 mol) was washed with anhydrous hexane (3 x 100 mL), taken up in anhydrous THF (500 mL), cooled to 0°C, and treated dropwise with tris(triethyl)phosphonoacetate (70.0 mL, 0.35 mol) monitoring closely the release of hydrogen gas. The solution was allowed to stir at 0°C for 1 h. The solution gradually changed appearance, becoming transparent. Silyl ether 71 (55.0 g, 0.29 mol) was added dropwise at 0°C to the reaction mixture, that was stirred for 0.5 h and allowed to warm to room temperature, with stirring for 10 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (16% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solution was quenched with water (100 mL) at 0°C. The mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 100 mL), and dried over Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were evaporated to a residue as cis:trans isomers (13:87, determined by LCMS: Gimini C-18, 5 µ, 50 x 4.6 mm Column, 0.5 mL/min, 70% ACN/H₂O). The pale yellow oil was immediately carried over to the next reaction. Spectral data for 72 matched that reported in the literature.⁵⁰ In a round bottom flask, a solution of ester 72 (75.0 g, 0.29 mol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (500 mL) was cooled to -78°C, treated dropwise over 2 h with DIBAL-H (697 mL, 0.69 mol), stirred at -78°C for 2 h, and monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was quenched at -78°C with a saturated solution of Rochelle's salt, and stirred at room temperature until a successful partition between the two phases had been achieved. At times, the separation was achieved by adding more Rochelle's salt. The mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 100 mL), and dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give crude 73 as a pale-yellow oil used without further purification.

⁵⁰ Baldwin, I. R.; Whitby, R. J. Chem. Comm. 2003, 22, 2786-2787.

Spectral data for 73 matched that reported in the literature.⁵⁰ In a round bottom under nitrogen, NaH (15.2 g, 0.38 mol) was washed with anhydrous hexane (3 x 100 mL), suspended in anhydrous DMF (500 mL), cooled to 0°C, and treated dropwise with alcohol 73 (63.0 g, 0.29 mol) monitoring closely the release of hydrogen gas. After stirring for 1 h at 0°C, the mixture was treated dropwise with allyl bromide (27.0 mL, 0.32 mol, previously passed through acshort plug of basic alumina), stirred for 0.5 h, warmed to room temperature, stirred for 10 h, monitored by TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes), cooled to 0°C, and quenched with water (100 mL). The mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 100 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give crude 75 as a pale-yellow oil, that was used without further purification. In a round bottom flask, silyl ether 75 (36.7 g, 0.14 mol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (500 mL), cooled to 0°C, treated dropwise with TBAF (430 mL, 0.43 mol), and allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes). After stirring for 12 h, the reaction was quenched with NaHCO₃ (500 mL), and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 250 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 250 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford alcohol 61 as a pale-yellow oil (8.10 g, 30% over four steps). H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.83 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, J = 17.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (dd, J = 17.1), 5.10 (dd 10.5, 3.3 Hz 1H), 3.95 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (m, 4H), 3.29 (s, 1H), 1.59 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.2; 134.4, 120.5, 116.9, 70.9, 67.2, 65.9, 13.5; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_8H_{15}O_2 [M + H]^+$, 143.1067, found 143.1064.

Pentafluorobenzyl 5-((2*E*,6*E*)-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienoxy)-2-((*E*)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoxy)benzoate (64)

In a round bottom flask, ester **60** (0.17 g, 0.51 mmol), alcohol **65** (0.06 g, 0.25 mmol), and PPh₃ (0.11 g, 0.41 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous THF (50 mL), heated to a reflux using an oil bath, treated dropwise with DIAD (0.08 mL, 0.41 mmol) such that the yellow color disappeared before the next drop, and stirred for 4 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solution was allowed to cool to room temperature, treated with PPh₃ (0.05 g, 0.21 mmol) until the yellow color disappeared, and evaporated to give a residue that was further purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Evaporation of the collected fractions gave phenol **76** as a pale-yellow oil (0.08 g, 55%), contaminated with traces of dialkylated byproduct as indicated by both ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectroscopy. Without any

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further purification, phenol 76 was treated with alcohol 61 (0.03 g, 0.23 mmol), and PPh₃ (0.10 g, 0.36 mmol), dissolved in anhydrous THF (50 mL), heated to a reflux using an oil bath and treated dropwise with DIAD (0.07 mL, 0.36 mmol) such that the yellow color disappeared before the next drop. The solution was stirred for 4 h, and monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature, treated with PPh₃ (0.05 g, 0.18 mmol) until the yellow color disappeared, and evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Ether 64 was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.05 g, 30% over two steps). H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd, J = 9.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 5.27 (dd, J = 17.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, J = 17.1, 4H), 5.19 (dd, J = 110.4, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.05 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.05-1.92 (m, 8H), 1.72 (s, 6H), 1.67(s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.7, 152.3, 141.6, 135.4, 134.8, 134.7, 131.3, 124.5, 124.3, 123.6 (2C), 120.8, 119.7, 119.2, 117.1 (2C), 115.4, 74.6, 71.2, 66.0, 65.5, 53.6, 39.7, 39.5, 26.7, 26.2, 25.7, 17.6, 16.6, 16.0, 13.8; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{37}H_{43}F_5O_5Na [M+Na]^+$, 685.2924, found 685.2926.

(E)-Ethyl 7,11-dimethyl-3-oxododeca-6,10-dienoate (81)

In a round bottom flask, geraniol 79 (5.00 mL, 28.8 mmol), NaI (4.30 g, 28.8 mmol) and anhydrous ACN (200 mL) were added. In the dark, the reaction was cooled to 0°C, treated with Amberlyst 15 (29.0 g) in portions over 15 min, and monitored every 5 min by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Once no more geraniol was observed by TLC, the solution was filtered to remove the resin, and evaporated in the dark at room temperature to yield crude 80 (4.71 g, 62%), which was used without further purification. To avoid using excess resin, the reaction must be closely monitored following each addition of Amberlyst 15, and filtered immediately after all the geraniol had been consumed. Spectral data for 80 matched that reported in the literature.⁵¹ In a round bottom flask under nitrogen, NaH (0.08 g, 1.92 mmol) was washed with anhydrous hexane (3 x 10 mL), suspended in anhydrous THF (10 mL), cooled to 0°C, treated dropwise with ethylacetoacetate (0.20 mL, 1.54 mmol) monitoring closely the release of hydrogen gas. The reaction was stirred for 10 min. *n*-BuLi (0.81 mL, 1.92 mmol) was added, and the

⁵¹ (a) Tajbakhsh, M.; Hosseinzadeh, R.; Lasemi, Z.; Rostami, A. Synth. Commun. **2005**, 35, 2905-2911. (b) Tajbakhsh, M.; Hosseinzadeh, R.; Lasemi, Z. Synlett **2004**, 4, 635-638.

solution was allowed to warm to room temperature. After stirring for 1 h, geranyl iodide 80 (0.20 g, 0.77 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture, which was stirred for 1 h, and monitored by TLC (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solution was cooled to 0°C, quenched with 10% AcOH (10 mL), and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Ester 81 was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.09 g, 43%) and exhibited spectral data as reported in the literature.⁵²

Geranyl bromide (87)

In a round bottom flask in the dark, geraniol 79 (3.00 mL, 17.1 mmol) and PPh₃ (6.73 g, 25.6 mmol) were treated with anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (170 mL), cooled to 0°C, and treated with CBr₄ (8.5 g, 25.6 mmol) over 0.25 h, stirred for 1.5 h, and monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solution was treated with cold hexanes (100 mL), and transferred to a separatory funnel. The bottom layer, a pale orange oil, was removed and discarded. The top layer, a milky white solution, was evaporated to a white residue that was treated with cold hexanes (50 mL) and filtered using high vacuum filtration. The filtrate was evaporated to a pale-yellow oil that was treated with cold hexanes (50 mL) and filtered through a short plug of silica gel under high vacuum. The plug was washed three times with cold hexanes (3 x 50 mL) and the filtrate was evaporated to a pale-

⁵² Xie, H.; Shao, Y.; Becker, J. M..; Naider, F.; Gibbs, R. A. J. Org. Chem. 2000, 65, 8552-8563.

yellow oil (3.70 g, 99%) that was used immediately in the next reaction step. Spectral data for bromide 87 matched that reported in the literature.⁵³ The product was stored in the freezer (-20°C) for several days.

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Pentafluorobenzyl 5-((2Z,6E)-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienoxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoxy)benzoate (59)

Follow experimental for pentafluorobenzyl 5-((2*E*,6*E*)-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienoxy)-2-((*E*)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoxy)benzoate (64). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd, J = 9.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 5.27 (dd, J = 17.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, J = 10.4, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.11-

⁵³ Durst, H. D.; Liebeskind, L. J. Org. Chem. 1974, 39, 3271-3.

5.05 (m, 2H), 4.49 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.05 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.12-2.03 (m, 6H), 1.99-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.6, 152.2, 141.9, 135.7, 134.7, 134.6, 131.2, 124.3, 124.1, 124.1, 123.2, 120.6, 119.8, 119.6, 117.1, 117.1, 115.2, 74.4, 71.1, 65.9, 64.0, 53.5, 39.5, 32.2, 26.5, 26.0, 24.4, 17.5, 16.5, 15.8, 13.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{37}H_{44}F_5O_5[M+H]^+$, 663.3103, found 663.3101.

Cyclophane (58)

To a flame dried three neck round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser under nitrogen, 2nd Generation Grubbs Catalyst (0.002 g, 0.003 mmol) and anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL) were added. The solution was heated to a reflux and treated dropwise with a solution of ester **59** (0.03 g, 0.05 mmol) and Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ (0.07 mL, 0.25 mmol), dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) over 1 h using a syringe pump. The reaction was allowed to stir at reflux for 10 h and was monitored by TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was quenched with ethyl vinyl ether (5 mL), evaporated down to about 1 mL, and purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Macrocycle **58** was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.002 g, 7%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 8 7.26 (d,

J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, J = 9.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 5.41-5.37 (m, 2H), 5.23 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54-4.50 (m, 4H), 2.10-2.05 (m, 2H), 1.98-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.77 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.38-1.32 (m, 2H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.0, 152.9, 151.6, 144.5, 132.2, 130.6, 130.6, 128.3, 126.0, 123.9, 123.2, 119.8, 119.4, 116.0, 74.1, 68.0, 53.6, 38.9, 31.7, 27.0, 25.0, 23.6, 15.3, 13.2; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{29}H_{30}F_{5}O_{4}$ [M + H]⁺, 537.2059, found 537.2047.

(2Z,6E)-1-t-Butyldiphenylsilyloxy-3,7,11-trimethyl-2,6,10-dodecatriene (95)

In a round bottom flask, alcohol **62** (1.23 g, 5.53 mmol), imidazole (0.56 g, 8.30 mmol), and TBDPSCI (1.70 mL, 6.64 mmol), were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (10 mL), and stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was partitioned between hexanes and water (83:17). The mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with saturated NaHCO₃ (1 x 10 mL) and brine (1 x 10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to a residue that was further purified by silica gel flash chromatography (100% hexanes, 1 column volume (cv), 2% ethyl acetate/hexanes, 1 cv, 5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Ether **95** was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (2.24 g, 90%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68-7.66 (m, 4H), 7.38-7.37 (m, 6H), 5.39 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d, J = 6.2 Hz 2H), 1.95-1.85 (m, 8H),

1.70 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 8 137.5, 135.6 (4C), 135.4, 134.8, 134.0, 131.3 (2C), 129.5, 128.3 (4C), 124.8, 124.3, 123.7, 60.8, 39.6, 32.2, 26.8 (2C), 26.6, 25.7, 23.4, 19.2, 17.7, 15.9, -5.6 (2C); HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₃₁H₄₄OSiNa [M + Na]⁺, 483.3054, found 483.3067.

(2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-Dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trien-1-ol (93)

A solution of silyl ether **99** (1.10 g, 2.46 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was treated with TBAF (7.40 mL, 7.39 mmol, 1 M) and stirred at room temperature for 5 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solvent was evaporated and the residue was partitioned between saturated NaHCO₃ (50 mL) and ethyl acetate (50 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (1 x 50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes to 33% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Alcohol **93** was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.33 g, 65%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.40-5.29 (m, 3H), 5.12 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.08 (m, 8H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 1H), 1.57 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.1, 135.7, 130.1, 124.3, 123.9, 123.7, 59.0, 39.3, 31.9, 26.5, 25.4, 23.4, 15.9, 12.8; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{14}H_{25}O$ [M + H]⁺, 209.1899, found 209.1900.

Pentafluorobenzyl 5-((2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienoxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoxy)benzoate (94)

PPh₃, DIAD
THF,
$$\Delta$$
, 10 h

PPh₃, DIAD
THF, Δ , 10 h

30% over two steps

Follow experimental for pentafluorobenzyl 5-((2E,6E)-3,7,11-trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienoxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enoxy)benzoate (**64**). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.0 F (dd, J = 9.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.7, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 5.42-5.37 (m, 3H), 5.27 (dd, J = 17.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, J = 10.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.16-5.10 (m, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.05 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.16-2.11 (m, ¹6H), 2.04-1.99 (m, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.64-1.60 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 152.7, 152.3, 141.1, 135.6, 134.8, 130.2, 124.5, 123.8, 123.7, 123.5, 120.7, 120.0, 119.7, 117.1 (3C), 115.4, 74.6,

71.2, 66.0, 65.1, 53.6, 39.3, 32.4, 26.5, 25.4, 23.5, 15.9, 13.9, 12.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{36}H_{42}F_5O_5 [M + H]^+$, 639.2947, found 649.2935.

Methyl 2-bromo-5-(9-methyldec-8-enyl)benzoate (108)

To a round bottom flask containing anhydrous THF (5 mL) -78°C, t-BuLi (0.70 mL, 0.90 mmol) was added dropwise followed by a solution of bromide 107 (0.11 g, 0.38 mmol) in THF (5 mL). The reaction was allowed to stir for 0.5 h at -78°C and the exchange was monitored by TLC (100% hexanes). A solution of ZnBr₂ (0.10 g, 0.45 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) was added to the -78°C solution which was stirred for 1 h, allowed to warm to room temperature, and stirred for an additional 1 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (100% hexanes). The zincate solution transferred by syringe to a round bottom flask containing solution of ester (0.11)tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 12h at 55°C, and was monitored by TLC (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was cooled to 23°C, quenched with NaHCO₃ (50 mL) and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Bromide 108 was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.03 g, 20%). 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.92-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.00-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 1.40-1.31 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.7, 144.6, 135.5, 134.2, 133.4, 132.0, 132.0, 125.7, 119.9, 53.0, 34.7, 32.5, 30.7, 30.5, 30.2, 30.1, 28.9, 26.6, 18.5; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{19}H_{28}BrO_{2}$ [M + H]⁺, 367.1267, found 367.1261.

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Iso-propyl 2,5-diiodobenzoate (120)

In a round bottom flask under nitrogen atmosphere, NaH (0.08 g, 2.00 mmol) was washed with hexane (3 x 50 mL), suspended in anhydrous DMF (20 mL), cooled to 0°C, treated dropwise with a solution of 2,5-diiodobenzoic acid 121 (0.50 g, 1.34 mmol) in DMF (5 mL), stirred for 0.5 h, treated with *iso*-propyl iodide (0.15 mL, 1.47 mmol), warmed to room temperature, and stirred for 12 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solvent was evaporated and the residue was taken up in Et₂O (50 mL), and treated with saturated NH₄Cl solution (25 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 50 mL), The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (1 x 25 mL) dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Ester 120 was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (0.48 g, 87%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (sept., J = 6.3 Hz, 1H),

1.39 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.6, 142.5, 141.1, 139.1, 137.5, 93.2, 93.1, 70.0, 21.8, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{10}H_{10}I_2O_2Na$ [M + Na]⁺, 438.8662, found 438.8650.

(E)-4-(Allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl acetate (126)

In a round bottom flask were added alcohol 61 (5.50 g, 38.7 mmol) and Ac_2O (4.40 mL, 46.4 mmol), followed by distilled pyridine (3.8 mL, 46.4 mmol) at 0°C. The reaction was stirred for 10 h at room temperature and was monitored by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction mixture was purified as is by silica gel flash chromatography (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give acetate **126** as a pale-yellow oil (6.83 g, 96%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.88 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dd, J = 17.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, J = 10.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 4.00 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.6, 134.6, 133.8, 124.5, 117.1, 71.2, 68.8, 65.9, 20.8, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{10}H_{16}O_3Na$ [M + Na]⁺, 207.0992, found 207.0996.

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Iso-propyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-iodobenzoate (124)

In a round bottom flask, a solution of iso-propyl ester 120 (6.87 g, 16.5 mmol) dissolved in anhydrous THF (55 mL) was added. The solution was cooled to -40°C and treated dropwise with i-PrMgBr (7.60 mL, 19.8 mmol) affording a color change from clear to yellow. The solution was stirred for 0.5 h and the Mg-I exchange was monitored by GC analysis (exchange intermediate $R_t = 12.85$ min). The Grignard reagent solution was transferred over 2 minutes via cannula to a second round bottom flask containing Li₂CuCl₄ (2.2 mL, 1.10 mmol) and acetate 126 (2.00 g, 11.0 mmol) in anhydrous THF (55 mL) at -40°C affording a color change from dark red to clear and then to orange. The reaction was stirred for 1 h at -40°C, warmed to room temperature, and stirred for 1 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl solution (1 x 55 mL), diluted with water (1 x 55 mL), and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 55 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with NH₄OH (1 x 55 mL) and brine (1 x 55 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Iodide 124 was obtained as a yellow oil (3.60 g, 80%). 'H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (ddt, J = 17.3, 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.28-5.23 (m, 2H), 5.21-5.16 (m, 2H), 3.97 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 140.2, 139.9, 138.9, 138.7, 134.8, 133.1, 133.0, 122.9, 117.0, 90.8, 71.0, 68.8, 66.4, 42.3, 21.8, 21.8, 16.9; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{18}H_{23}IO_3Na$ [M + Na]⁺, 437.0582, found 437.0584.

(2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-Dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyl acetate (131)

Follow experimental for (*E*)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl acetate (126). The reaction was allowed to stir for 10 h at room temperature and was monitored by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The reaction mixture was purified as is by silica gel flash chromatography (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give acetate 131 as a pale-yellow oil (96%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.50-5.39 (m, 3H), 5.12 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.18-2.07 (m, 8H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 142.7, 135.6, 130.2, 123.8, 123.5, 119.1, 61.1, 39.4, 32.1, 26.5, 25.4, 23.5, 21.1, 15.9, 12.8; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₂₆O₂Na [M + Na]⁺, 273.1825, found 273.1827.

Iso-propyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyl) benzoate (132)

Follow experimental for *iso*-propyl 2-((*E*)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-iodobenzoate (124). The Mg-I exchange reaction was allowed to stir for 0.25 h. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin 132 as a pale yellow oil (0.24 g, 50%). H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (ddt, J = 17.3, 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.48-5.30 (m, 8H), 3.99 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 3.35 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.13 (m, 6H), 2.01 (m, 2H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 6H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 139.8 (2C), 137.4, 136.7, 135.2 (2C), 131.3 (2C), 130.3 (2C), 123.8, 123.5, 123.3, 122.3 (2C), 117.0, 70.9, 68.2, 66.5, 42.5, 39.4, 33.5, 32.0, 26.5, 25.4, 23.5, 21.9 (2C), 16.9, 16.0, 12.8; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₃₂H₄₇O₃ [M+H]⁺, 479.3520, found 479.3522.

Iso-propyl 3-iodobenzoate (134)

Follow experimental for *iso*-propyl 2,5-diiodobenzoate (120). The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford iodide 134 as a white solid (0.45 g, 87%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (sept., J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.5, 141.4, 138.3, 132.7, 129.9, 128.6, 93.7, 68.9, 21.9 (2C). Iodide 134 proved too unstable for HRMS by FAB, API, EI, CI; product could not be ionized.

(2Z,6E)-3,7,11-Trimethyldodeca-2,6,10-triene acetate (136)

To a round bottom flask, Ac₂O (0.46 mL, 4.88 mmol) and pyridine (0.39 mL, 4.88 mmol) followed by alcohol **62** (0.90 g, 4.07 mmol) were added. The solution was stirred at room temperature for 10 h, and the reaction was monitored by TLC (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Once complete, the reaction mixture was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). Acetate **136** was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (1.03 g, 96%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.30 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.08-5.03 (m,

2H), 4.50 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.05 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 2.03-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.96 (s, 3H), 1.95-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.6, 142.2, 135.5, 131.0, 124.1, 123.2, 119.0, 60.8, 39.5, 31.9, 26.4, 26.3, 25.4, 23.2, 20.7, 17.4, 15.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{17}H_{28}O_2Na$ [M + Na]⁺, 287.1982, found 287.1981.

Iso-propyl 3-((2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyl)benzoate (135)

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Follow experimental for *iso*-propyl 2-((*E*)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-iodobenzoate (**124**). The residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin **135** as a yellow oil (0.53 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 2H), 7.35 (s, 2H), 5.33 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (apparent septet, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (t, J = 6.4, Hz, 1H), 5.09 (t, J = 6.7, Hz, 1H), 3.40 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.15 (m, 4H), 2.10-2.06 (m, 2H), 2.02-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.3, 142.1, 136.9, 135.4, 132.7, 131.3, 130.9, 129.4, 128.2, 127.0, 124.3, 123.9, 123.1, 68.2, 39.7, 33.9, 32.0, 26.7, 26.5, 25.7, 23.5, 21.9 (2C), 17.7, 16.0; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{25}H_{37}O_2$ [M + H]⁺, 369.2788, found 369.2790.

3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 5-((2Z,6Z,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyloxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyloxy)benzoate (139)

In a round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, ester 94 (0.05 g, 0.10 mmol), was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of toluene:methanol (10 mL), heated to a reflux, treated with NaOH pellets (0.05 g, 1.32 mmol); and stirred for 24 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC (13% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, dissolved in ethyl acetate, quenched with 1 N HCl (6.50 mL, 6.50 mmol), extracted with Et₂O (3 x 20 mL), washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to afford olefin 137 (0.11 g, 0.22 mmol) that was dissolved in anhydrous DMF (22 mL), cooled to 0°C, treated dropwise with Et₃N (0.04 mL, 0.25 mmol), stirred for 0.5 h, treated with bromide 138 (0.04 mL, 0.22 mmol, which prior to addition was

passed through a short plug of basic alumina), and stirred for 10 h at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC (50% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The solvent was removed by evaporation, and the residue was taken up in Et₂O (20 mL). The solution was quenched with 1N HCl (5 mL), extracted with Et₂O (3 x 20 mL), washed with a 10% aqueous CuSO₄ solution (3 x 20 mL), brine (1 x 20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated to a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford ester 139 as a pale-yellow solid (0.13 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (s, 2H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, J = 9.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (t, J = 5.9Hz, 1H), 5.49 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 5.36 (m, 2H), 5.25 (dd, J = 17.3, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (dd, J = 10.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.11-5.01 (m, 1H), 4.48-4.45 (m, 4H), 4.03 (d, J =6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 2.14-2.12 (m, 6H), 2.01-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.59 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 152.6, 152.4, 142.1, 138.8, 135.6, 134.7, 134.5, 131.0, 128.0, 125.3, 125.1, 124.9 (2C), 124.7, 124.6, 123.8, 123.4, 121.9, 120.2, 117.1, 116.9, 115.4, 74.3, 71.2, 66.0, 65.1, 64.9, 39.3, 32.3, 26.5, 25.4, 23.5, 15.9, 13.8, 12.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{38}H_{45}F_6O_5$ [M + H]⁺, 695.3166, found 695.3161.

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Cyclophane (140)

Follow experimental procedure cyclophane (**58**) for the preparation of cyclophane 140. The crude reaction mixture was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford cyclophane 140 as a pale-yellow oil (13.6 mg, 47%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm 7.91 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.58 (s, 2H), 7.02 (dd, J = 9.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 4.67 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.54-4.49 (m, 4H), 2.09-2.05 (m, 2H), 2.05-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.91-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.52-1.49 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 152.8, 151.6, 144.5, 139.0, 132.2, 132.0, 131.7, 130.4, 128.0, 127.6, 126.0, 124.1, 123.4, 121.8, 119.8, 119.4, 115.8, 73.6, 68.1, 64.7, 39.0, 31.7, 27.1, 25.0, 23.6, 15.4, 13.2; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₃₁H₃₃F₆O₄ [M + H]⁺, 583.2278, found 583.2289.

Iso-propyl 2-((E)-4-(but-3-enyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((Z)-dodec-10-enyl) benzoate (167)

Follow experimental for geranyl bromide (87) for the preparation of bromide 161 that was obtained as a pale-yellow oil (4.17 g, 99%) and was used without further purification. Follow experimental for methyl 2-bromo-5-(9-methyldec-8-enyl)benzoate (108) for the preparation of olefin 167. The zincate was added to a solution of iodide 124 (0.11 g, 0.37 mmol) and PdCl₂(dppf) catalyst (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol), dissolved in anhydrous THF (2 mL). The solvent was evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin 167 as a pale-yellow oil (35.6 mg, 20%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.47-5.39 (apparent dt, 1H), 5.27-5.19 (m, 4H), 3.97 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.01-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.37-1.28 (m, 21H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 140.7, 139.7, 137.1, 134.9,

131.4, 131.1, 131.0, 130.7, 130.0, 124.4, 123.5, 122.2, 116.8, 70.8, 68.1, 66.4, 42.5, 35.3, 32.5, 31.3, 29.5 (2C), 29.2 (2C), 26.7, 21.8 (2C), 16.8, 12.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₃₀H₄₆O₃Na [M + Na]⁺, 477.3363, found 477.3353.

Pentafluorobenzyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((Z)-dodec-10-enyl) benzoate (155)

Follow experimental procedure for 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 5-((2Z,6Z,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyloxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyloxy)benzoate (139) for the preparation of olefin 155. Olefin 168 (0.10 g, 0.23 mmol) was treated with K₂CO₃ (0.06 g, 0.46 mmol) and bromide 69 (0.04 mL, 0.25 mmol, which prior to addition was passed through a short plug of basic alumina) in DMF (22 mL) at room temperature, stirred for 10 h, filtered, evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin

155 as a pale-yellow solid (0.10 g, 77%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.9, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.52-5.47 (m, 1H), 5.42 (s, 2H), 5.30-5.18 (m, 4H), 4.02 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.11-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.37-1.28 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0, 141.1, 139.5, 138.1, 134.9, 133.1, 132.4, 131.5, 130.8, 130.5, 129.0, 124.5, 123.6, 122.4, 116.9, 71.0, 66.5, 53.5, 44.6, 42.6, 35.3, 32.6, 31.3, 30.0, 29.4 (4C), 26.8, 22.2, 17.9, 16.8 (2C), 12.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₃₄H₄₁F₅O₃Na [M + Na]⁺, 615.2868, found 615.2863.

3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((Z)-dodec-10-enyl)benzoate (156)

Follow experimental procedure for 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 5-((2Z,6Z,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyloxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyloxy)benzoate

(139) for the preparation of olefin 156. Olefin 168 (0.10 g, 0.23 mmol) was treated with K_2CO_3 (0.06 g, 0.46 mmol) and bromide 138 (0.05 mL, 0.25 mmol, which prior to addition was passed through a short plug of basic alumina) in DMF (22 mL) at room temperature, stirred for 10 h, filtered, evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin 156 as a pale-yellow oil (0.11 g, 77%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.89 (s, 2H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (ddt, J = 17.0, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.47-5.39 (m, 2H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.23 (dd, J = 17.4, 3.3, Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, J = 9.2, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.14-5.12 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.91 (m, 4H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 2.64-2.61 (m, 2H), 2.06-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.60 (s, 6H), 1.66-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.26 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0, 141.1, 139.5, 138.7, 138.1, 134.9, 132.4, 131.6, 130.9, 130.4, 129.0, 124.5, 123.6, 122.4, 116.9, 71.0, 66.5, 64.8, 44.6, 42.6, 35.3, 32.6, 31.3, 30.0, 29.6, 29.5, 29.4, 29.4, 29.3, 26.8, 22.2, 17.9, 16.8, 12.7; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{36}H_{44}F_6O_3Na[M+Na]^+$, 661.3087, found 661.3094.

Cyclophane (157)

Follow experimental procedure cyclophane (58) for the preparation of cyclophane 157. The reaction was quenched with ethyl vinyl ether (5 mL) and the solvent was evaporated to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (50%)

toluene/hexanes) to afford cyclophane 157 as a pale-yellow oil (0.07 g, 14%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 1.99-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.60-1.15 (m, 14H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.5, 141.0, 140.7, 136.7, 133.0 (2C), 131.6 (2C), 129.5, 124.9, 53.2, 42.1, 35.2, 30.3, 28.9, 28.8, 28.5, 27.8, 26.9, 26.1, 25.8, 18.3; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{27}H_{30}F_5O_2$ [M + H]⁺, 481.2160, found 481.2166.

Pentafluorobenzyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyl)benzoate (174)

Follow experimental procedure for 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 5-((2Z,6Z,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyloxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyloxy)benzoate

(139) for the preparation of 174. Olefin 175 (0.10 g, 0.23 mmol) was treated with K_2CO_3 (0.06 g, 0.46 mmol) and bromide 69 (0.05 mL, 0.25 mmol, which prior to addition was passed through a short plug of basic alumina) in DMF (22 mL) at room temperature, stirred for 10 h, filtered, evaporated *invacuo* to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl, acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin 174 as a pale-yellow oil (0.11 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.90 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.55-5.48 (m, 2H), 5.38 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.31-5.23 (m, 3H), 5.06-5.03 (m, 3H), 3.90 (d, J = 6.6, 2H), 3.83-3.80 (m, 4H), 3.23 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.10 (m, 6H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 166.8, 140.3, 139.1, 138.9, 137.0, 135.8, 135.2, 132.6, 132.1, 130.9, 130.5, 129.9, 124.5, 124.0, 123.7, 123.6, 116.0, 71.0, 66.8, 53.4, 42.9, 39.8, 33.7, 32.2, 26.8, 25.8, 23.5, 16.9, 15.9, 15.8, 12.9; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{36}H_{42}F_5O_3$ [M + H]⁺, 617.3049, found 617.3069.

3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyl)-5-((2Z,6E,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyl)benzoate (176)

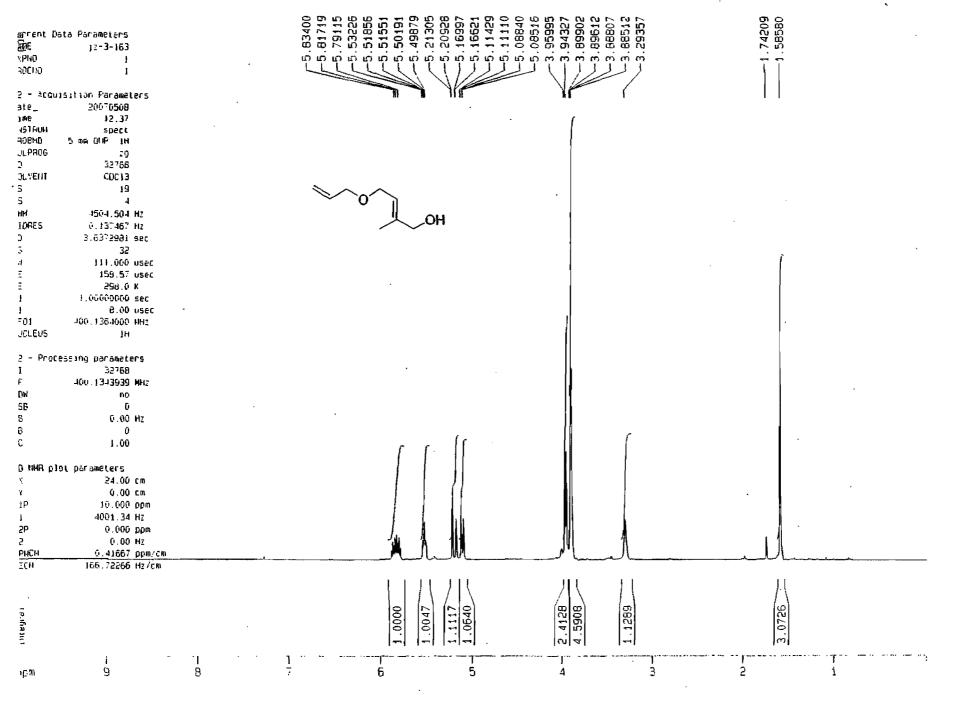
Follow experimental procedure for 3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl 5-((2Z,6Z,10Z)-3,7-dimethyldodeca-2,6,10-trienyloxy)-2-((E)-4-(allyloxy)-2-methylbut-2-enyloxy)benzoate (139) for the preparation of 176. Olefin 175 (0.10 g, 0.23 mmol) was treated with K_2CO_3 (0.06 g, 0.46 mmol) and bromide 138 (0.05 mL, 0.25 mmol, which prior to addition was passed through a short plug of basic alumina) in DMF (22 mL) at room temperature, stirred for 10 h, filtered, evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue that was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford olefin 176 as a pale-yellow oil (0.12 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 7.88 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.46 (s, 2H), 7.11 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (ddt, J = 17.1, 10.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 5.54-5.45 (m, 2H), 5.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (t, J = 6.8 Hz,

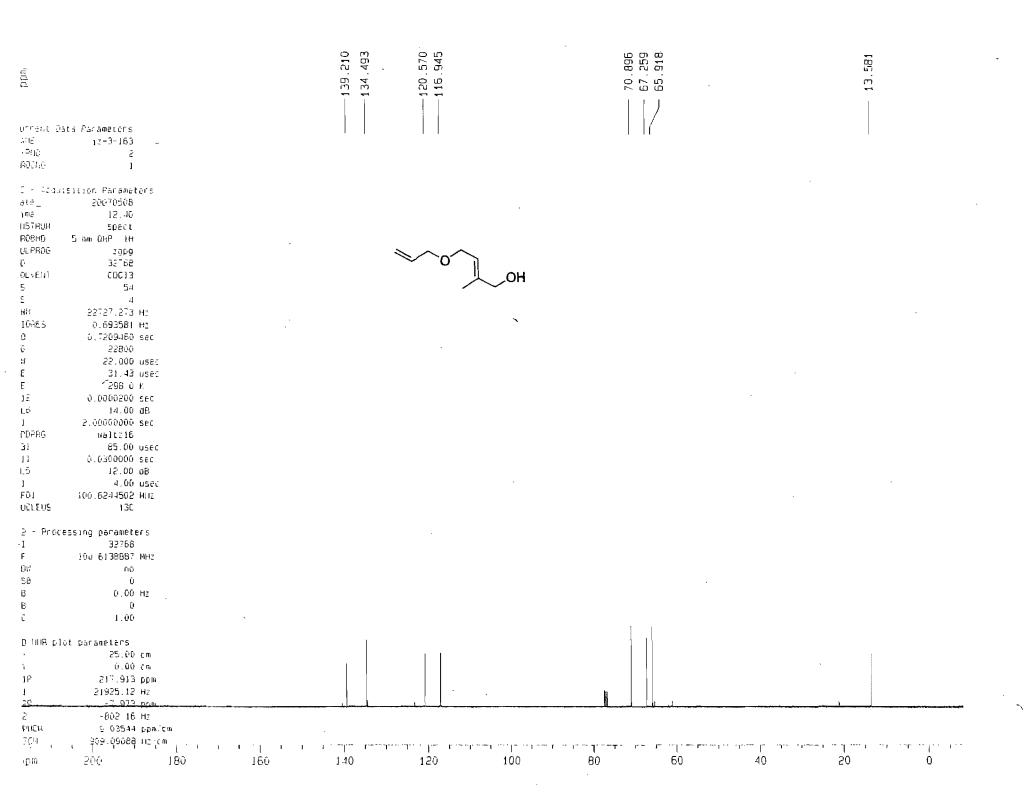
1H), 5.25-5.20 (m, 2H), 5.00 (ddd, J = 10.4, 3.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 3.87 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.80-3.78 (m, 4H), 3.25 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.10 (m, 8H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 167.1, 140.4, 139.3, 139.0, 138.9, 137.0, 135.8, 135.2, 132.6, 132.1, 132.1, 131.6, 130.7, 130.5, 130.1, 124.5, 124.0, 123.6, 123.5, 121.9, 116.0, 71.0, 66.8, 64.8, 42.9, 39.8, 33.8, 32.2, 26.8, 25.8, 23.5, 16.9, 16.0, 12.9; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{38}H_{45}F_6O_3$ [M + H]⁺, 663.3267, found 663.3295.

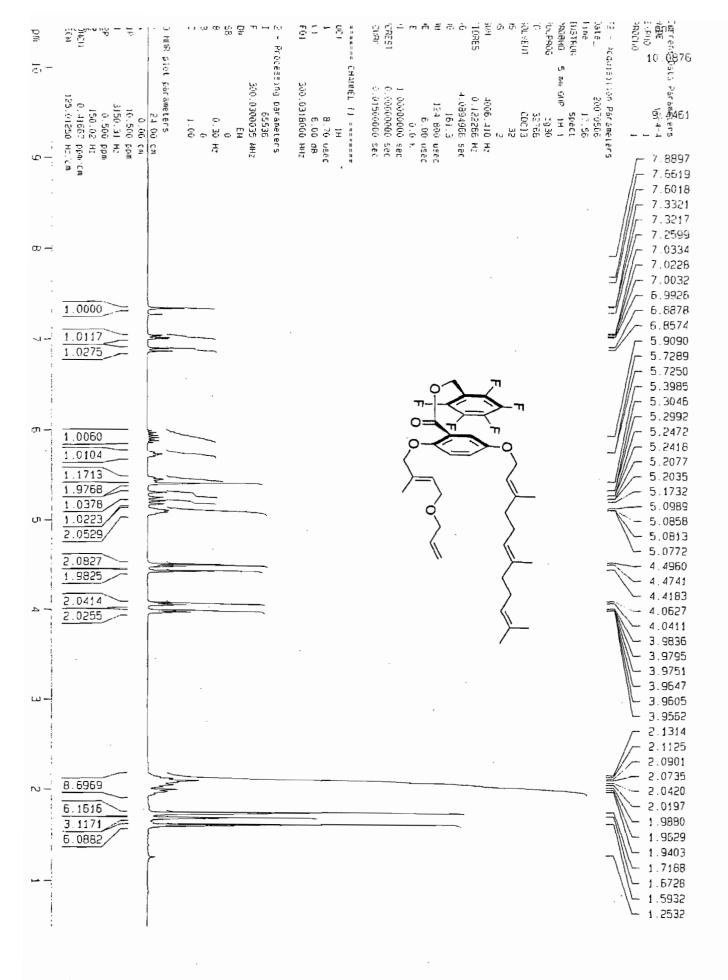
Cyclophane (173)

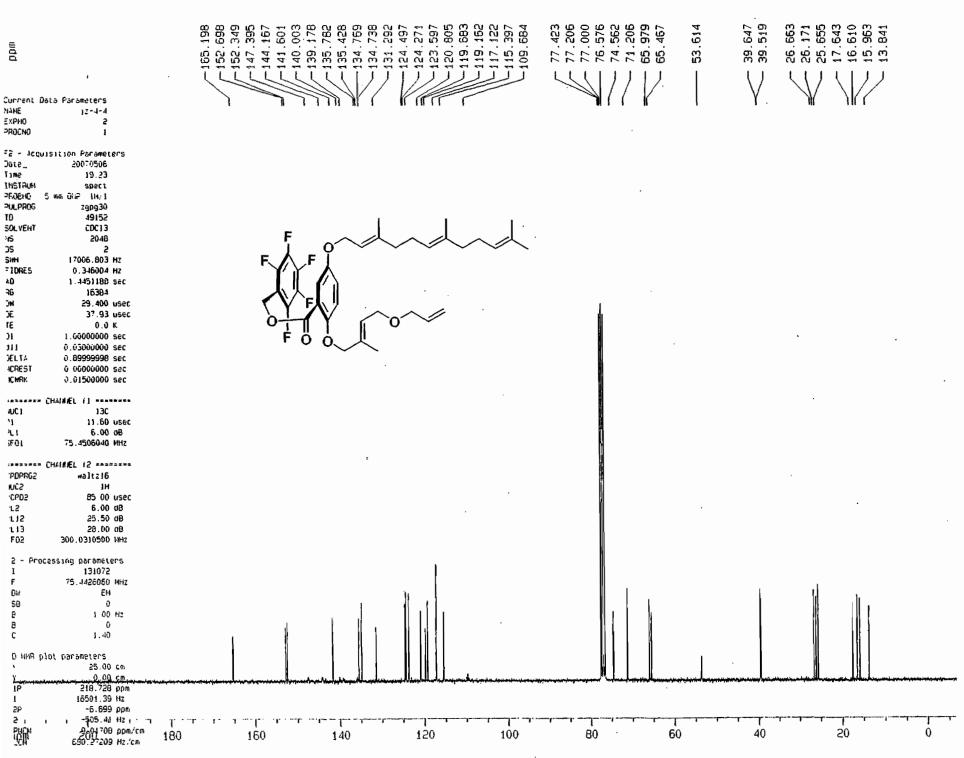
Follow experimental procedure cyclophane (58) for the preparation of cyclophane 173. The reaction was quenched with ethyl vinyl ether (5 mL) and the solvent was evaporated down to about 1 mL to give a residue that was further purified by silica gel flash chromatography (50% toluene/hexanes) to afford cyclophane 173 as a pale-yellow oil (18.7 mg, 37%). H-NMR was carried out in C_6D_6 since running the sample in C_6D_6 caused decomposition. In addition, running the sample in C_6D_6 prevents overlapping of the three alkenyl proton signals. H NMR (400 MHz, C_6C_6) δ 7.98 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.42 (m, 2H), 3.14 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 2.03-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.87 (t, J = 5.6 z, 2H), 1.80-1.79 (m, 4H),

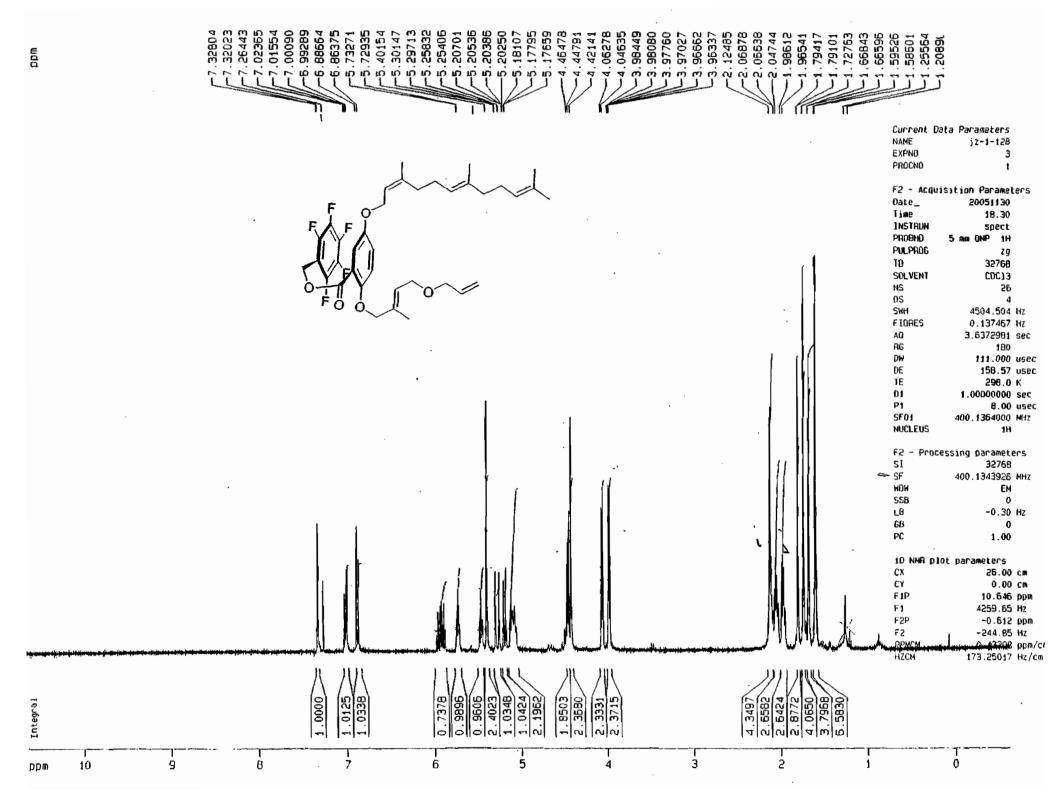
1.73 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 166.5, 141.2, 140.6, 140.4, 136.4, 133.2, 133.0, 131.3, 130.8, 124.0, 121.6, 42.1, 38.8, 33.4, 31.9, 30.8, 29.3, 25.6, 23.7, 22.5, 18.7, 15.0, 14.3, 11.2; HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{29}H_{30}F_5O_2$ [M + H]⁺, 505.2160, found 505.2167.

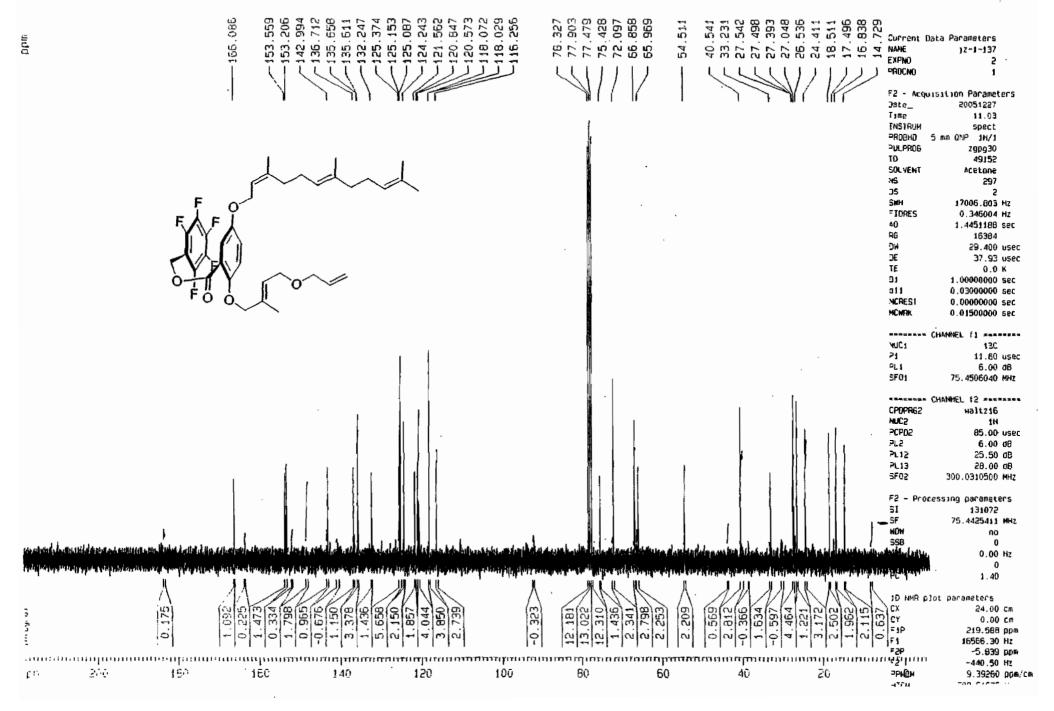


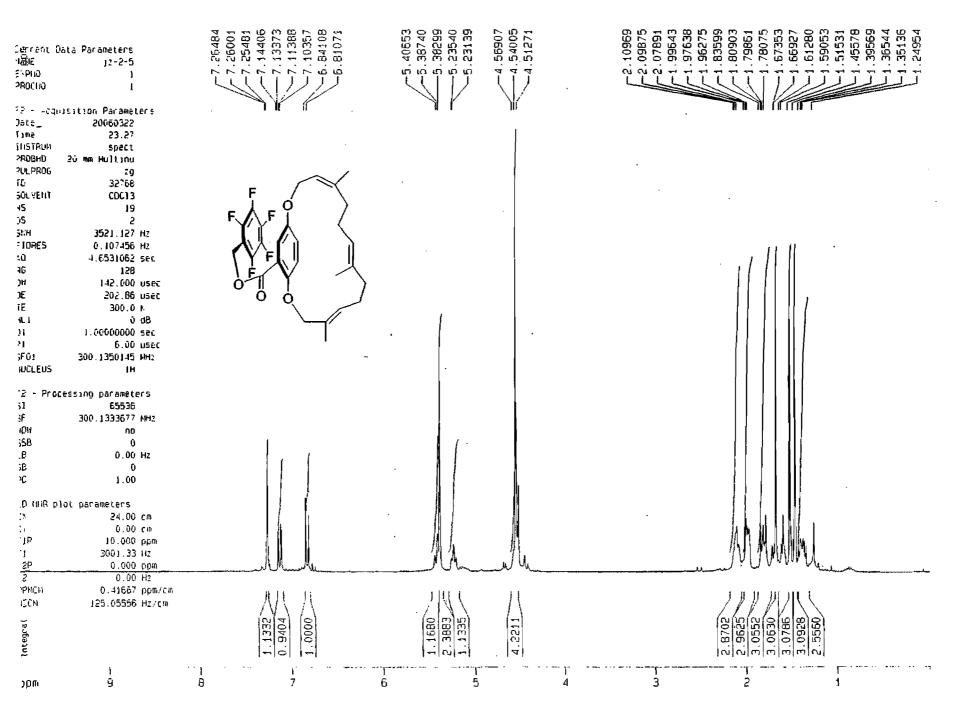


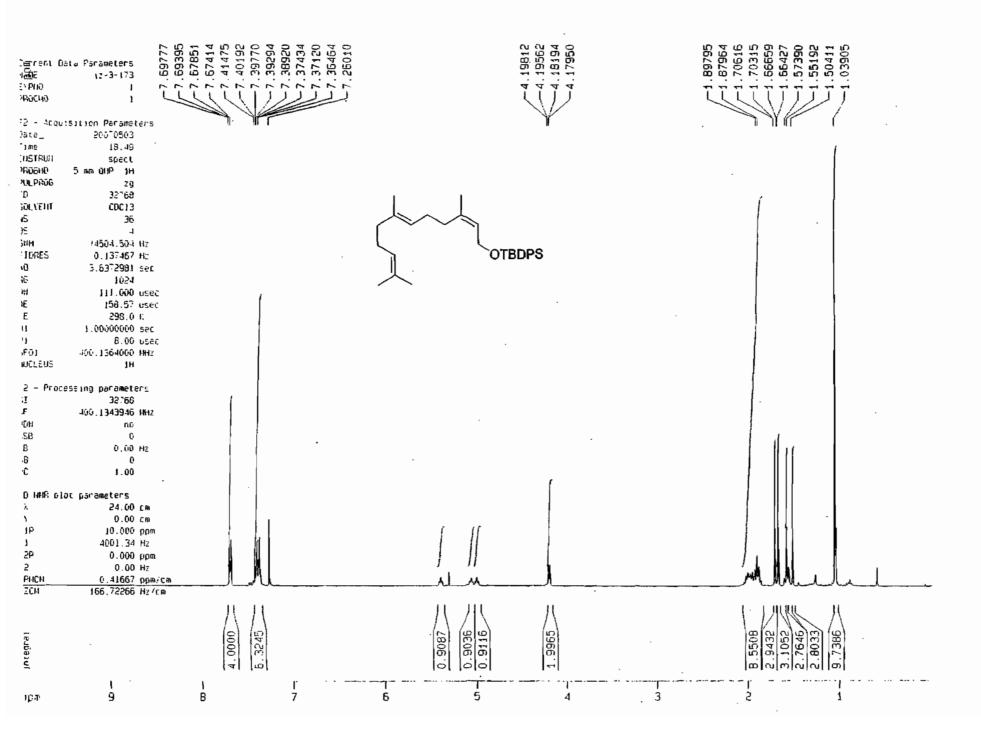


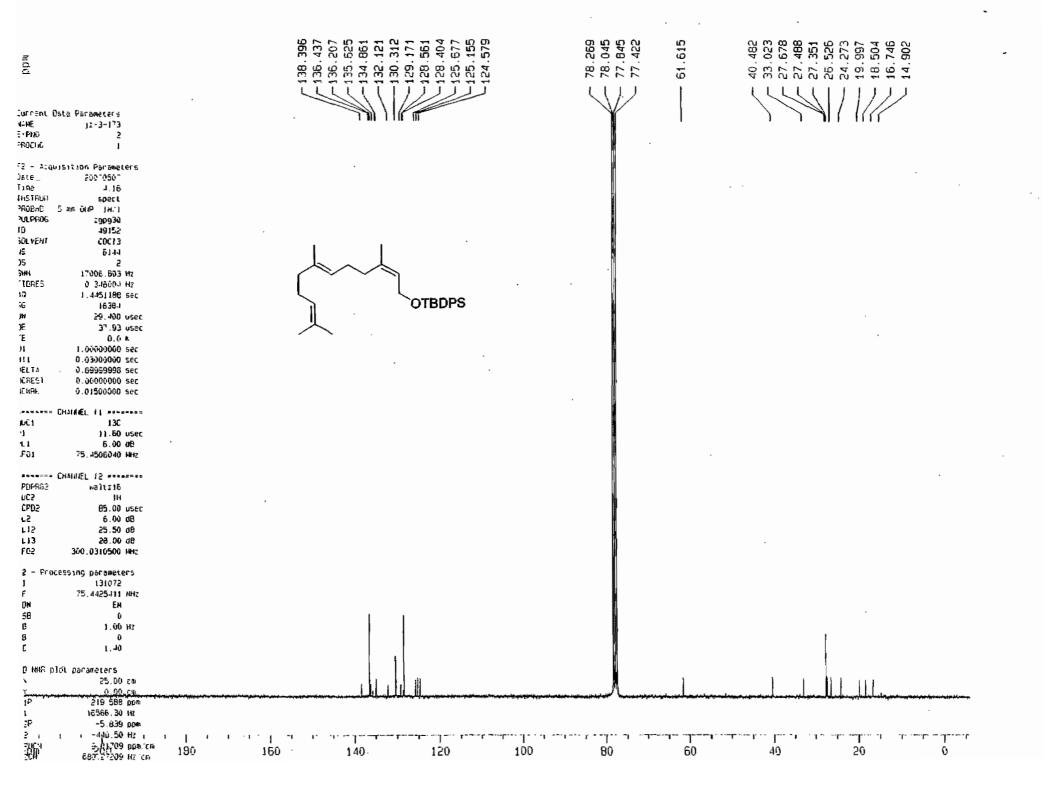


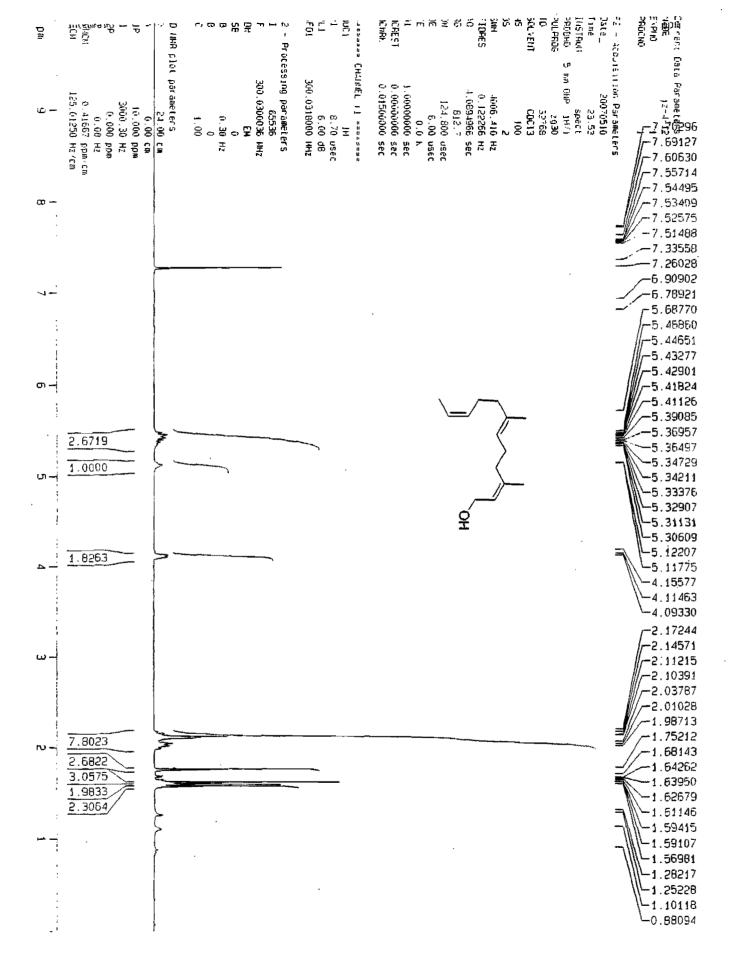


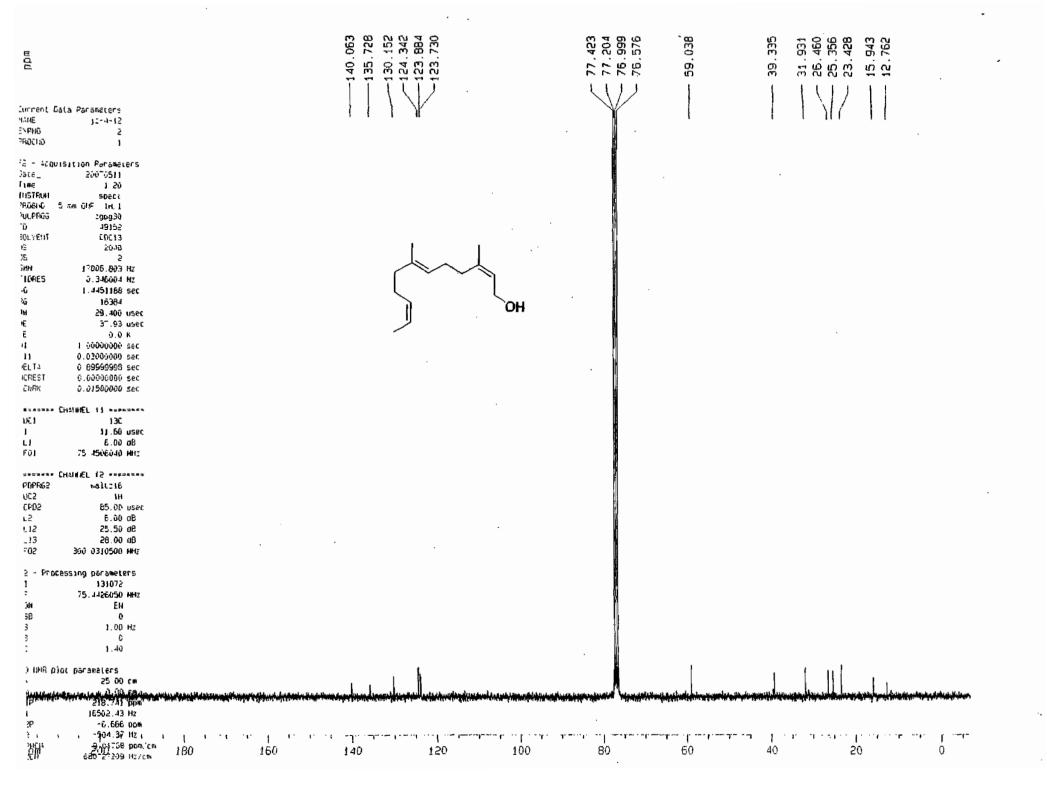


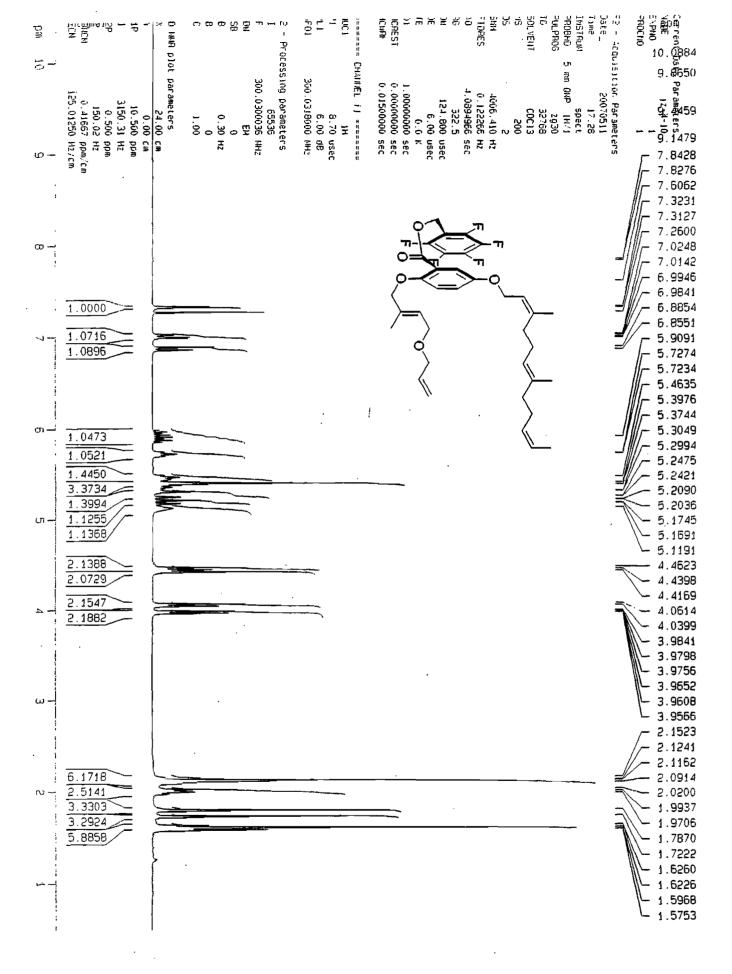


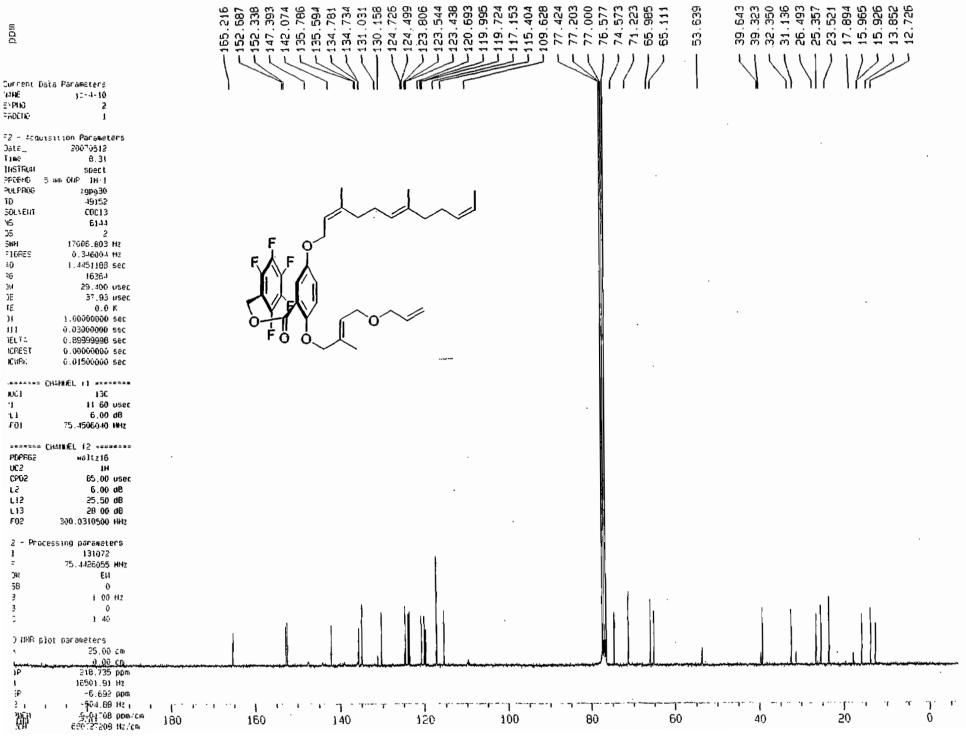


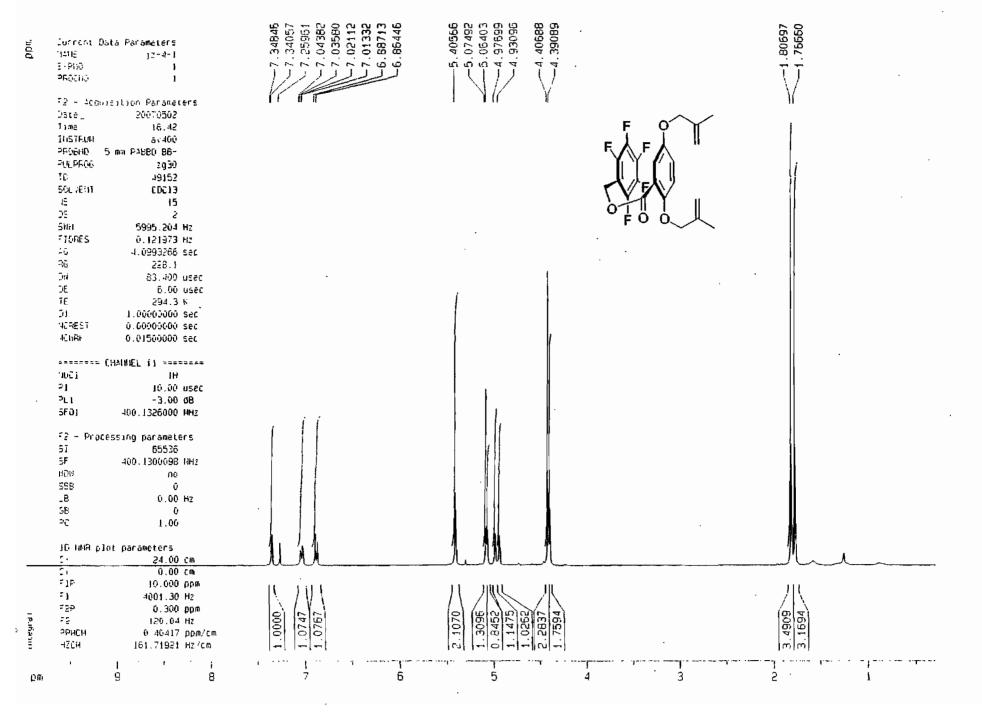


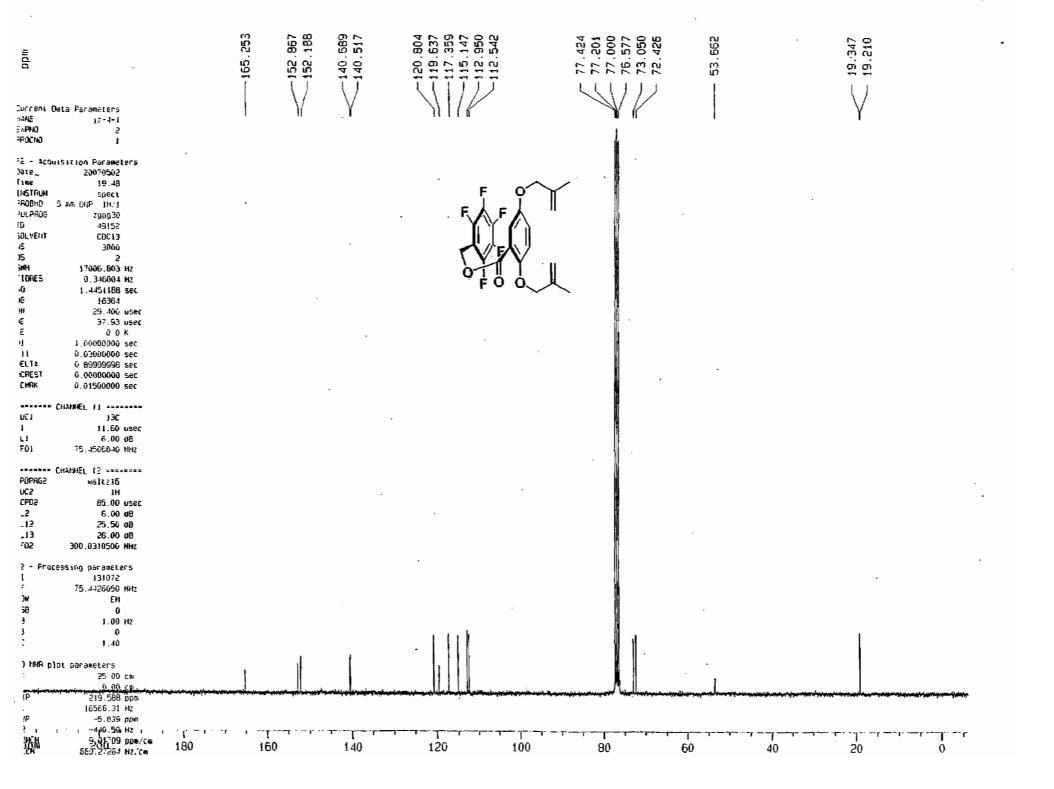


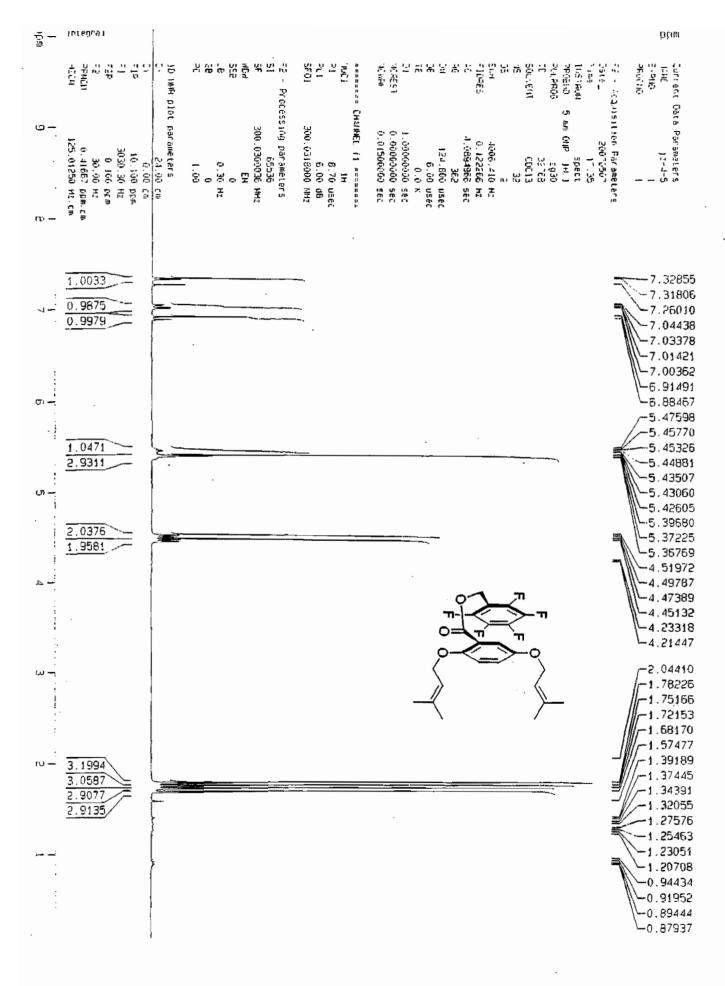


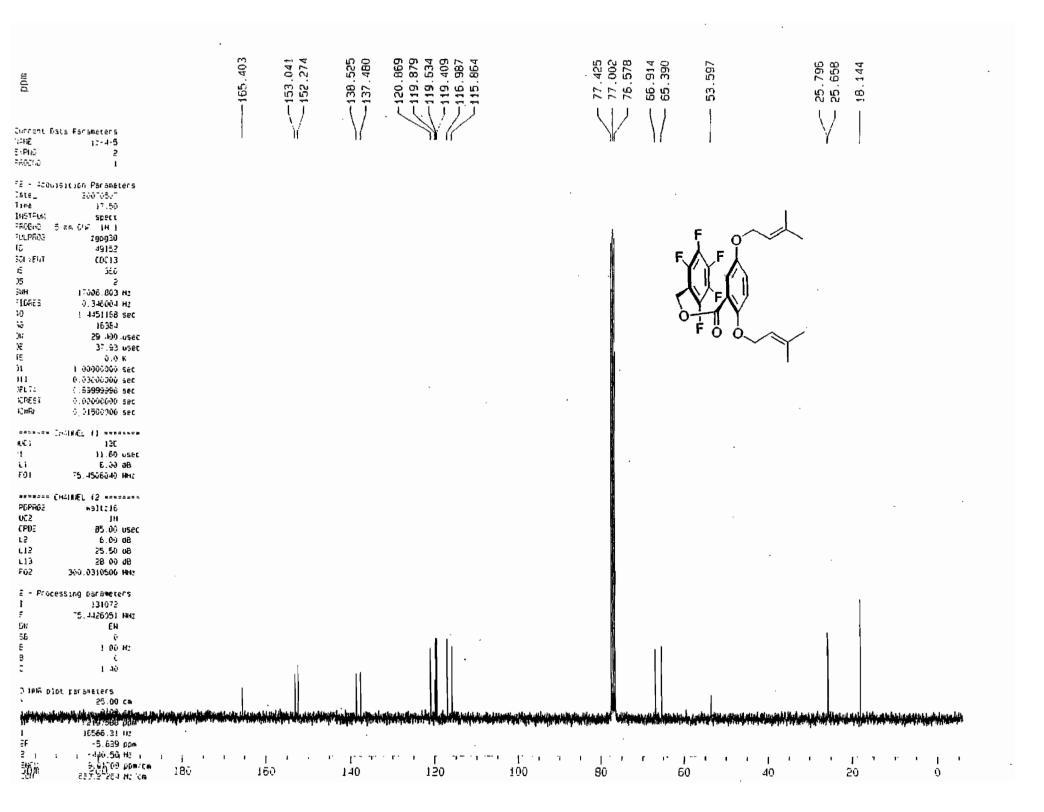












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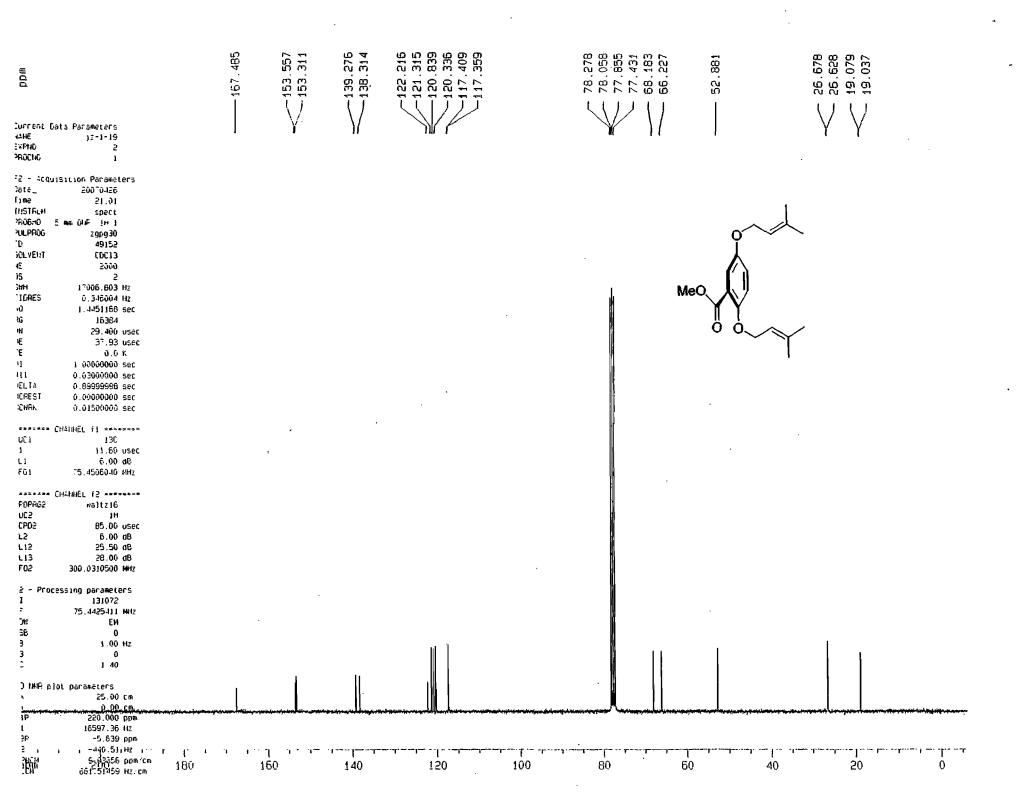
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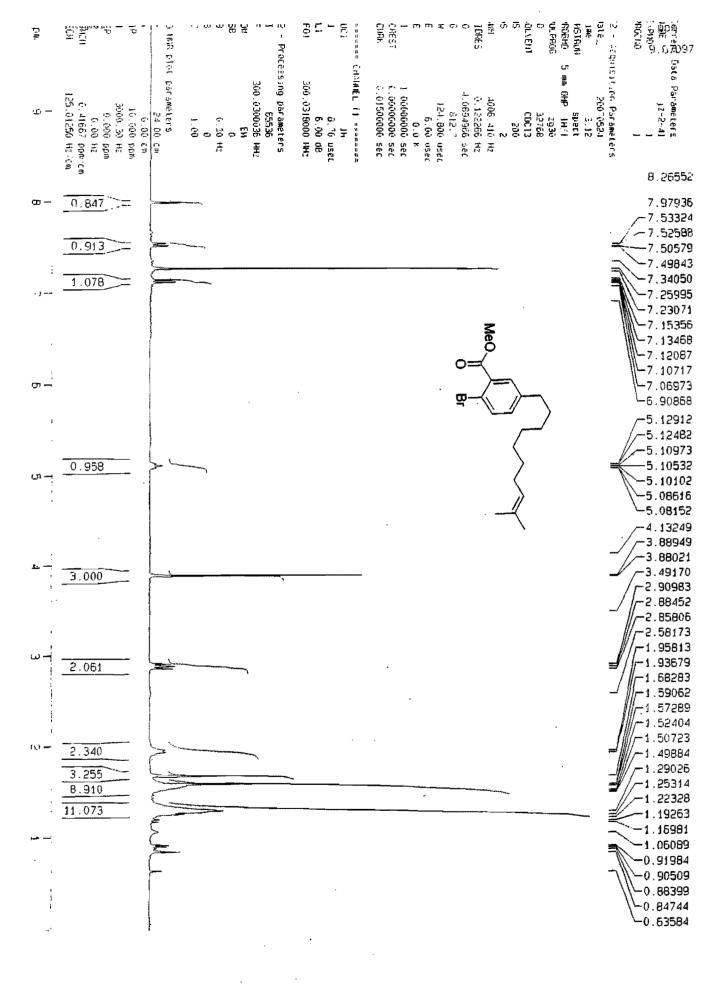
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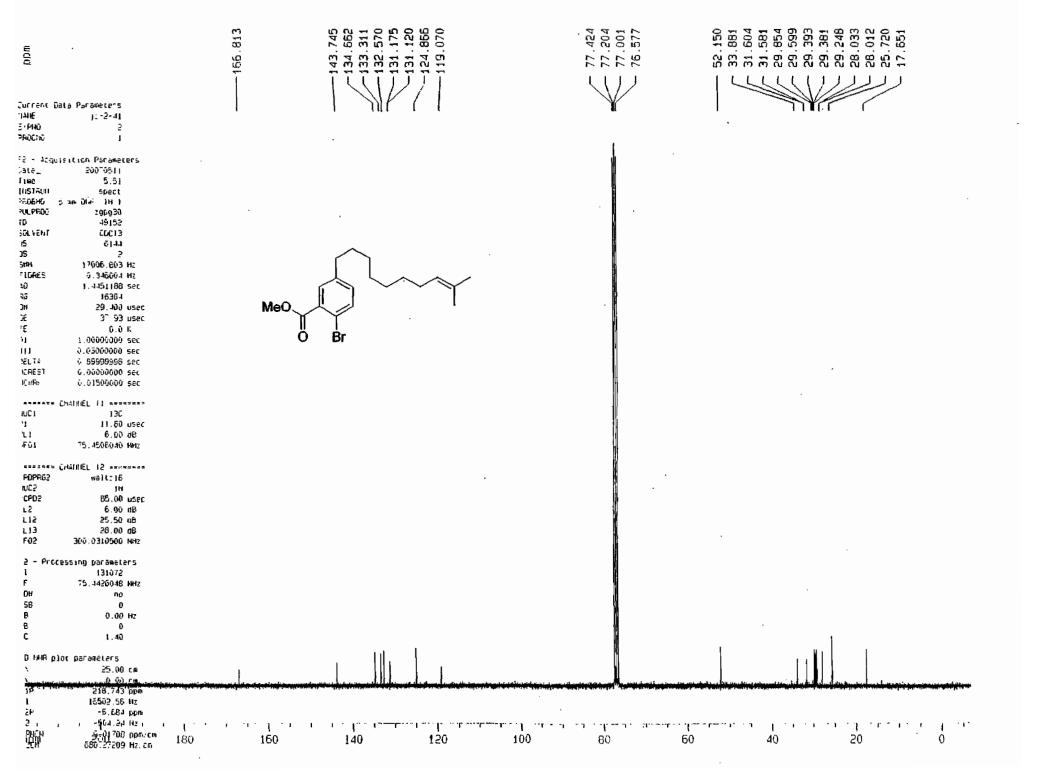
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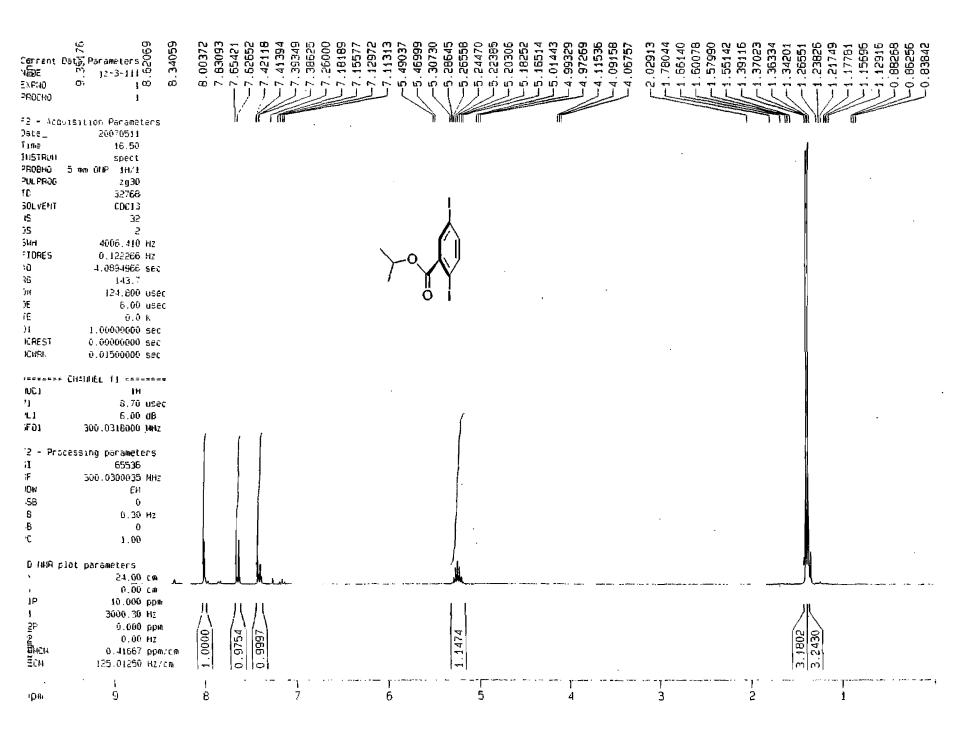
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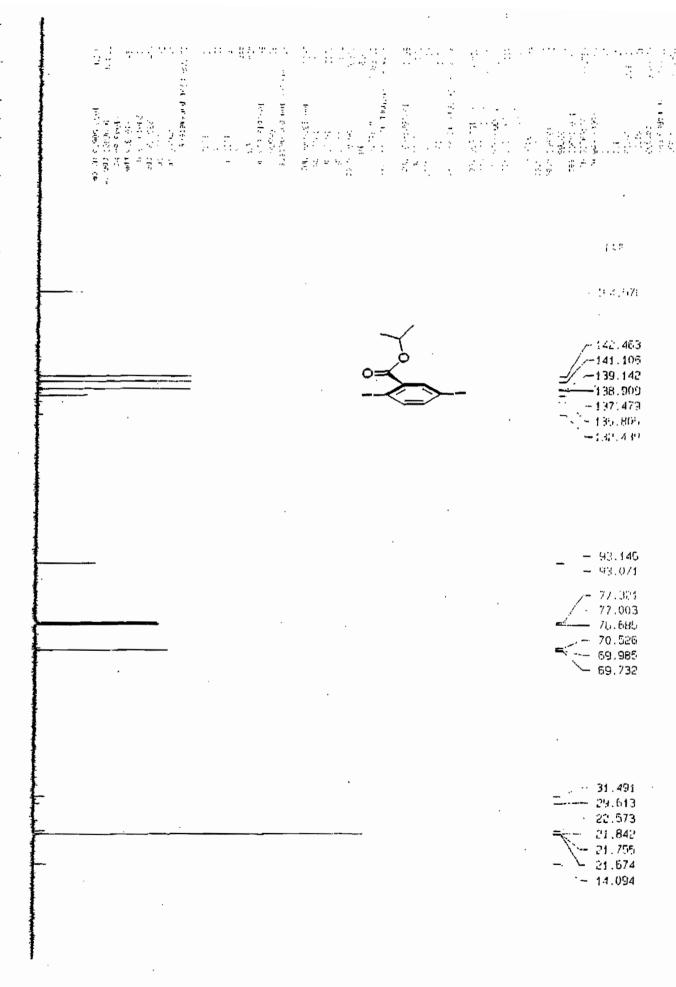
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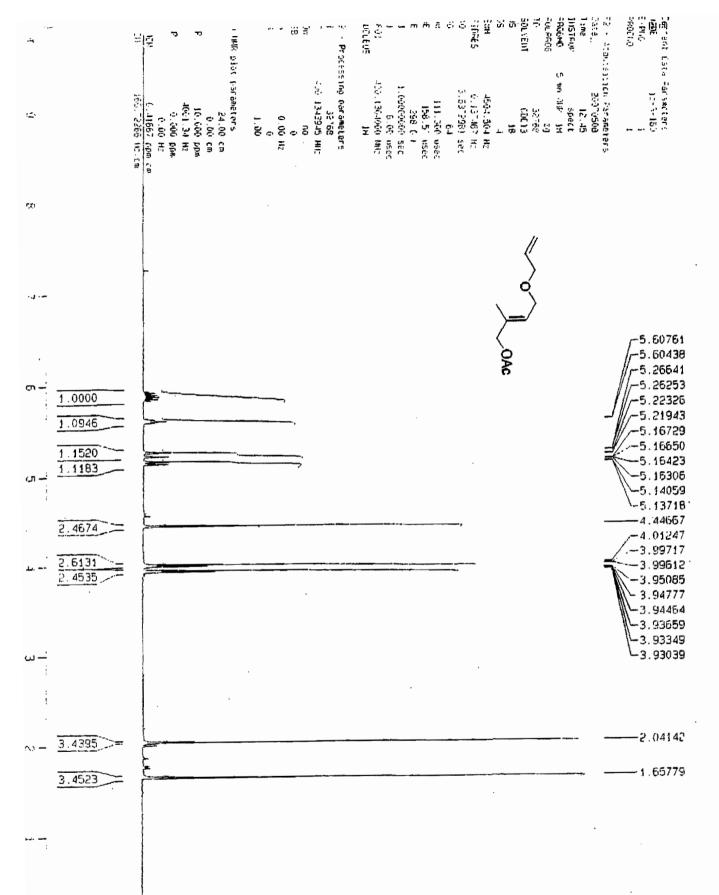


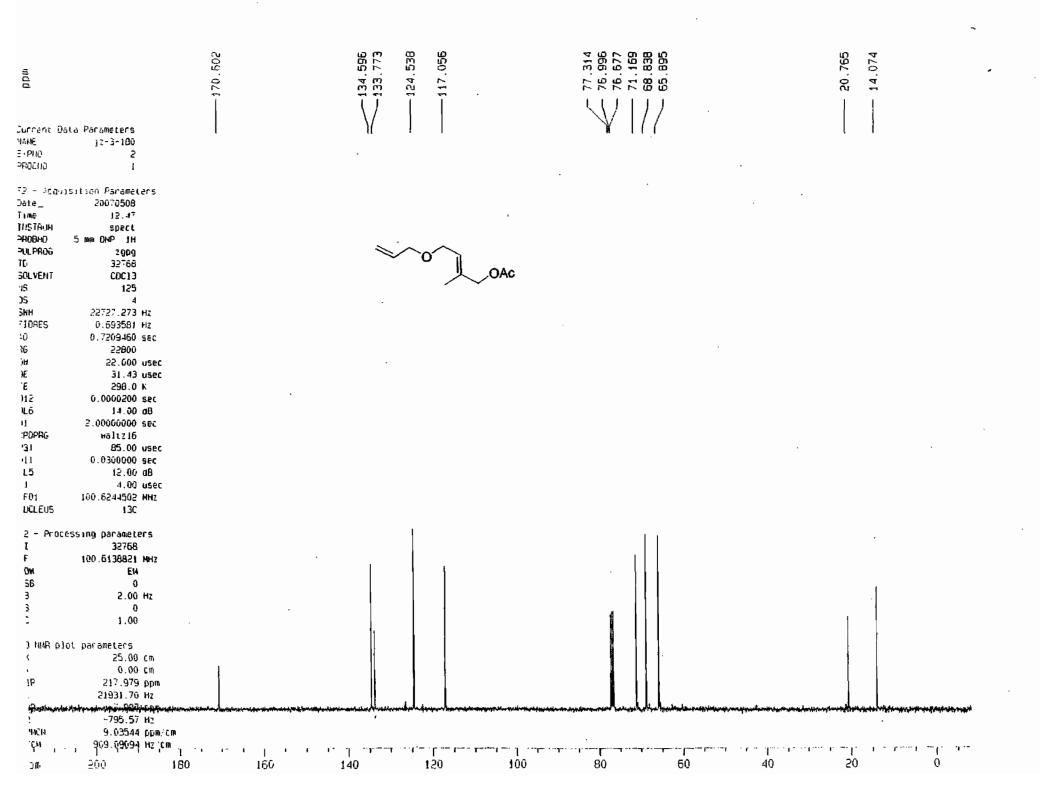


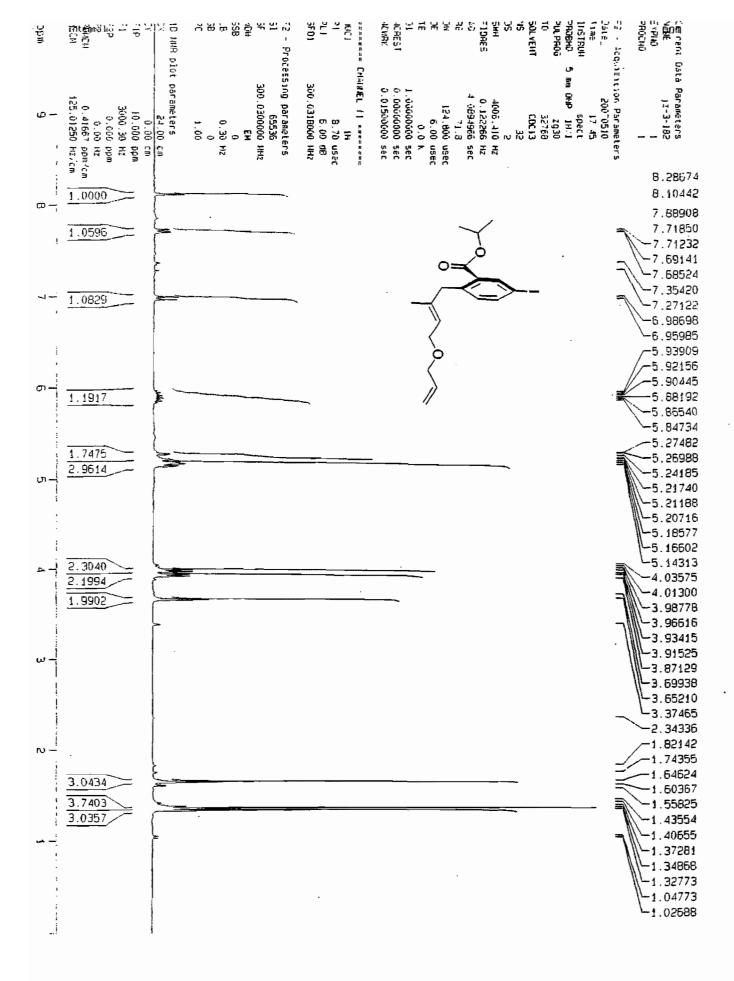


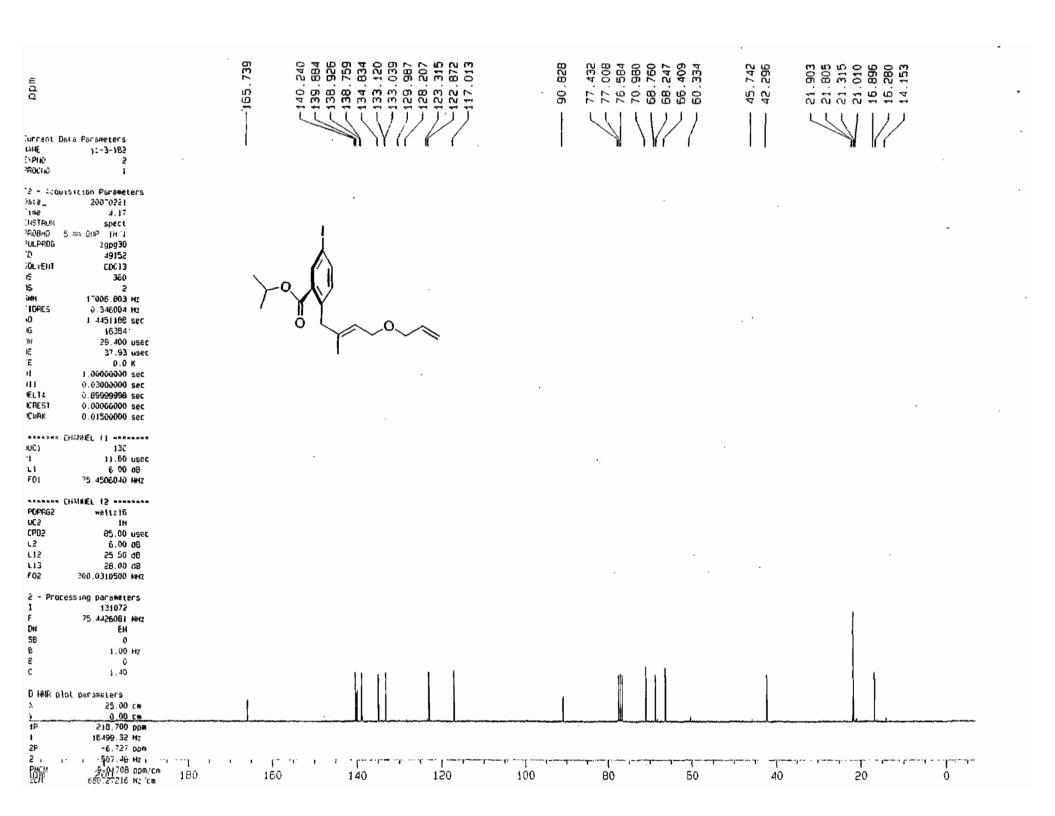


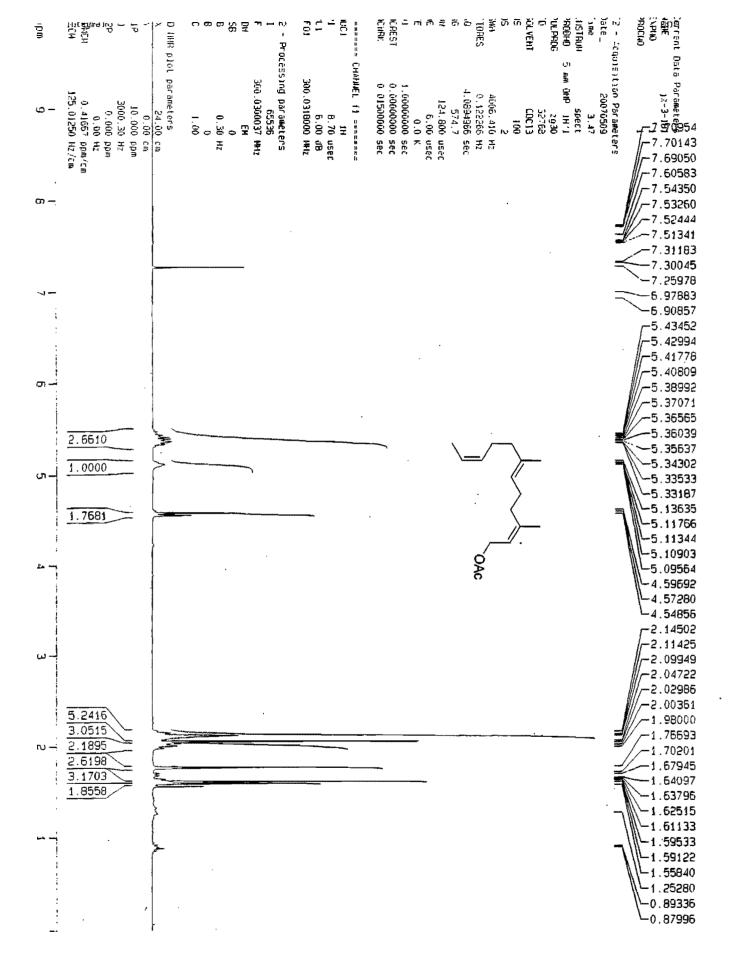


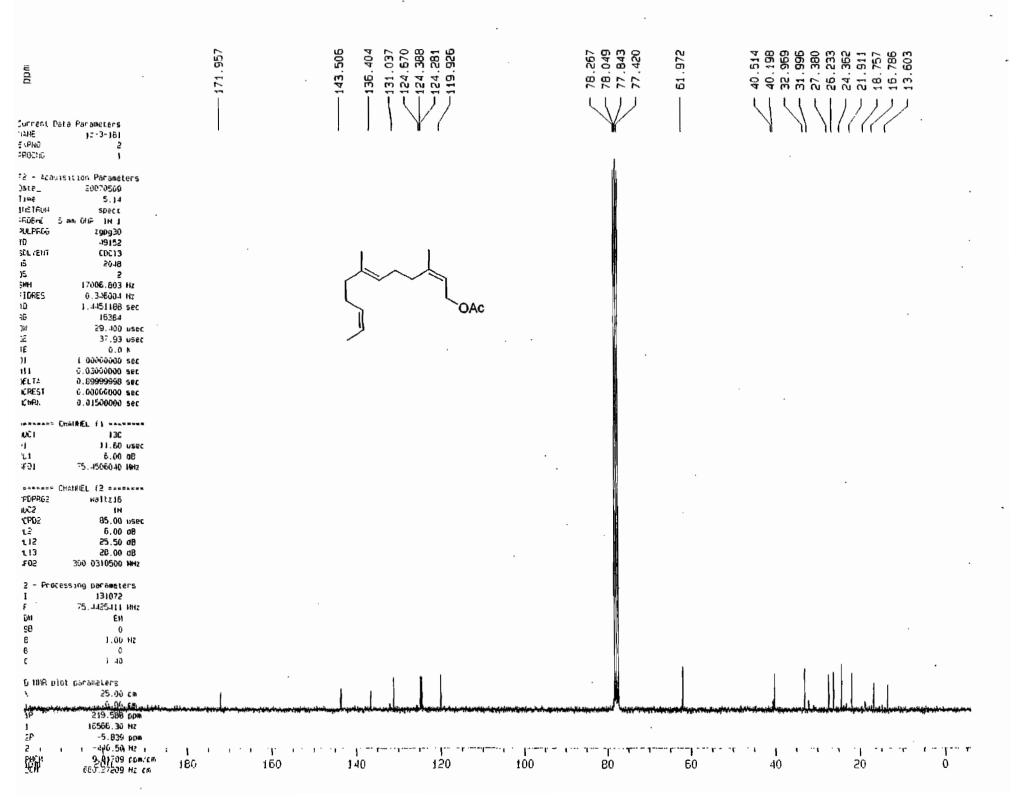


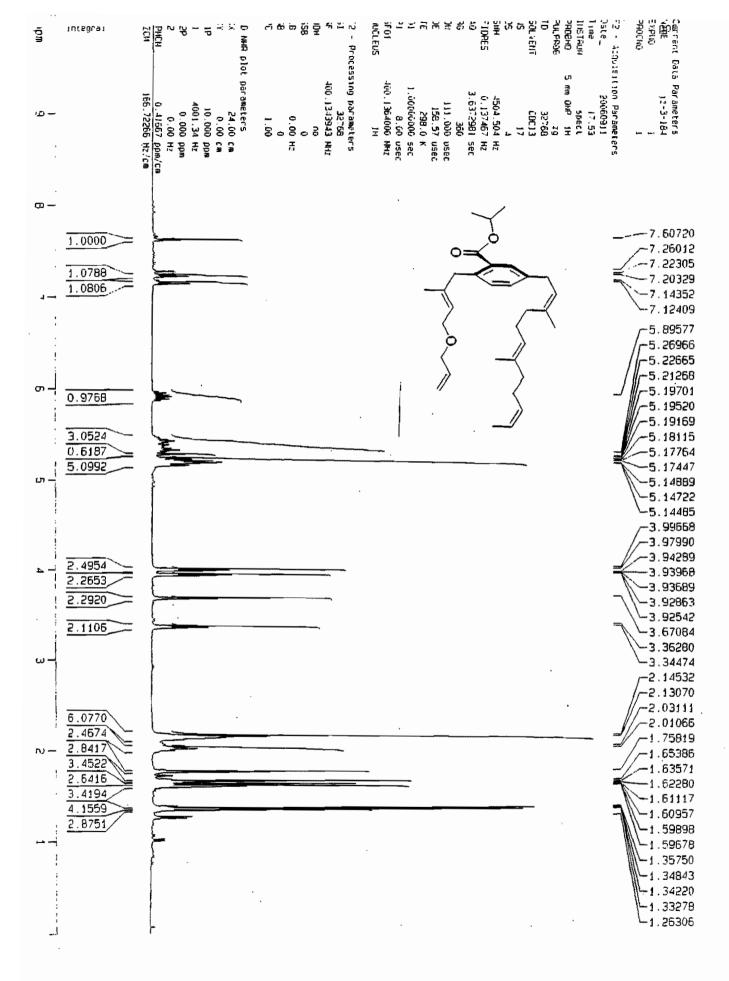


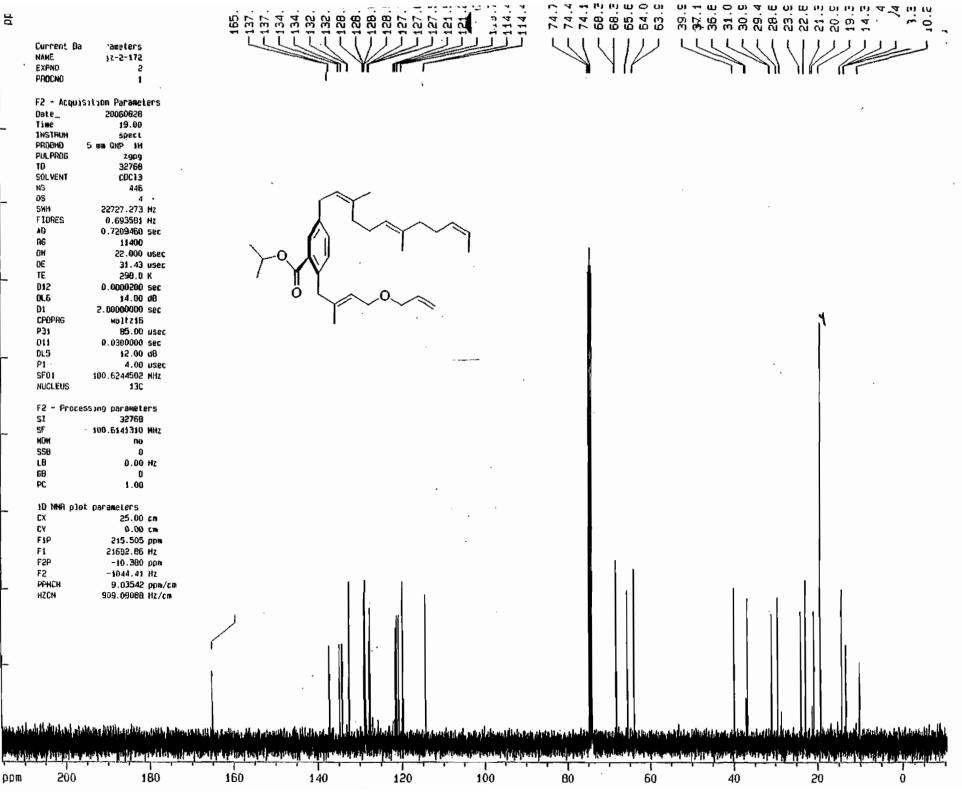


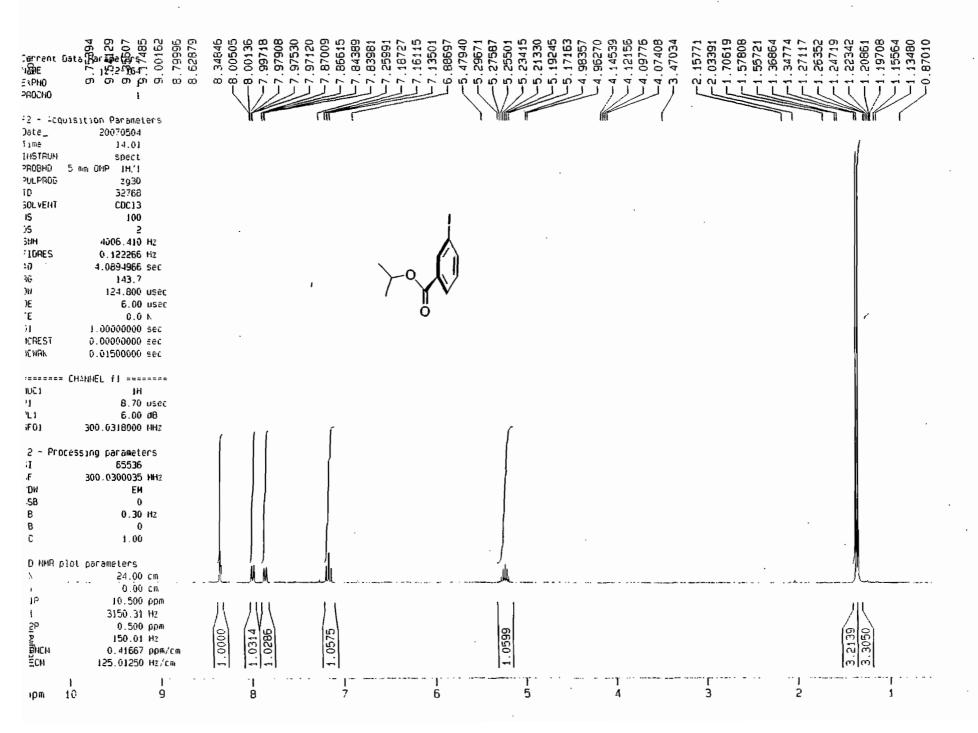


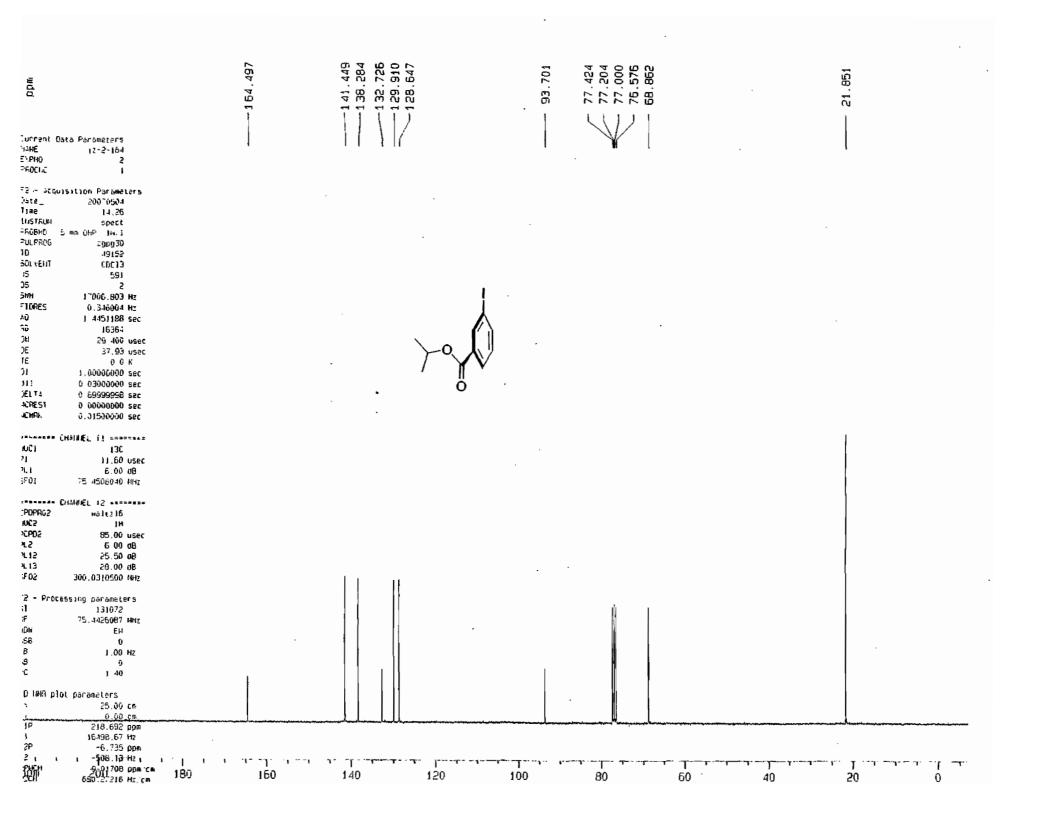


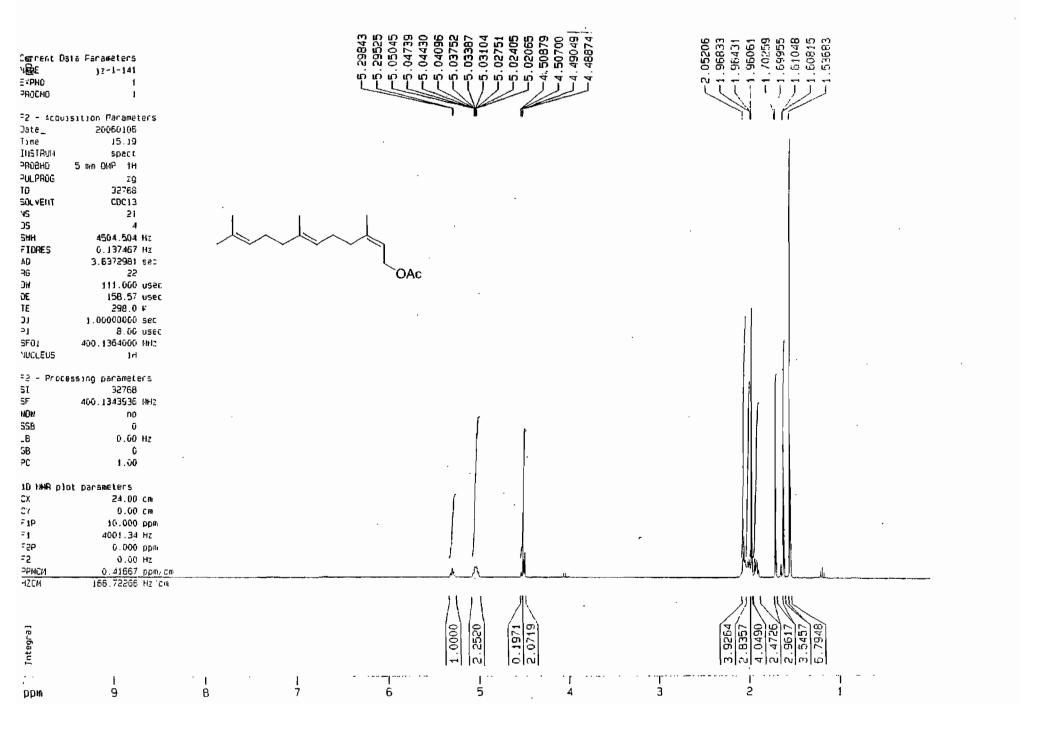


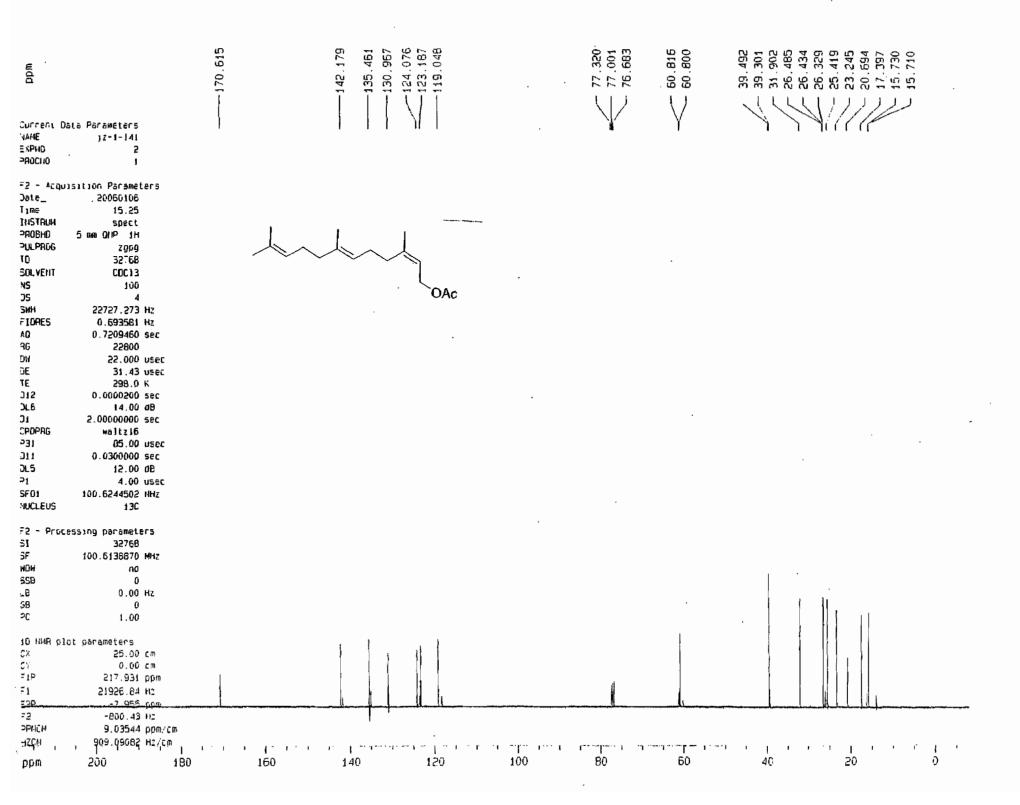


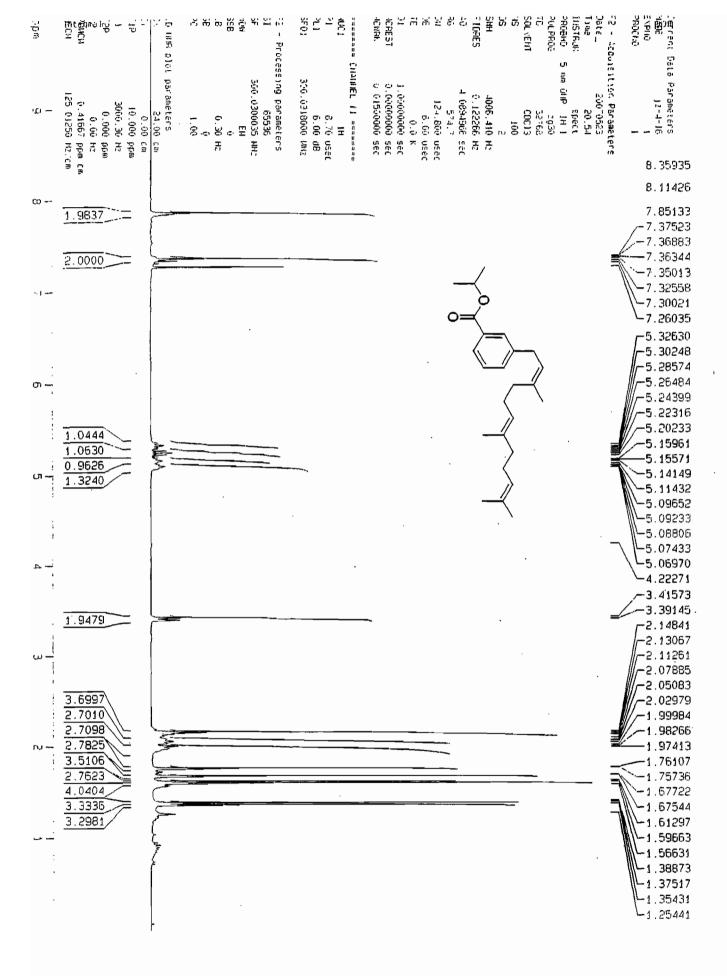


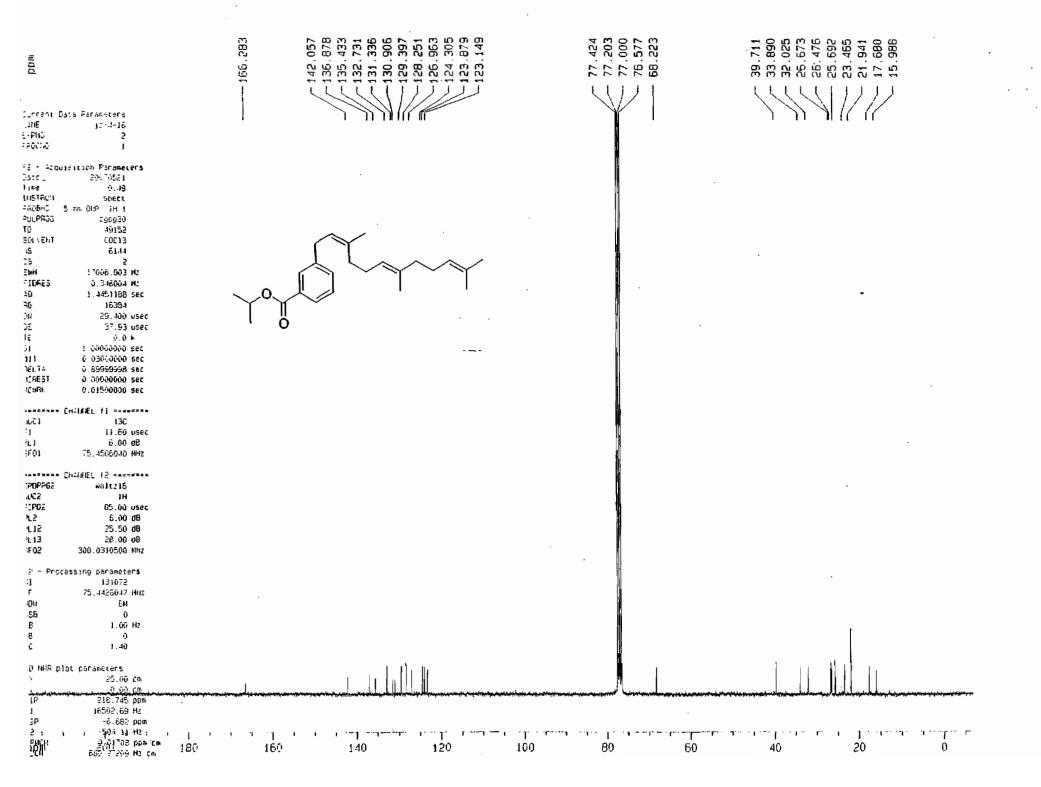


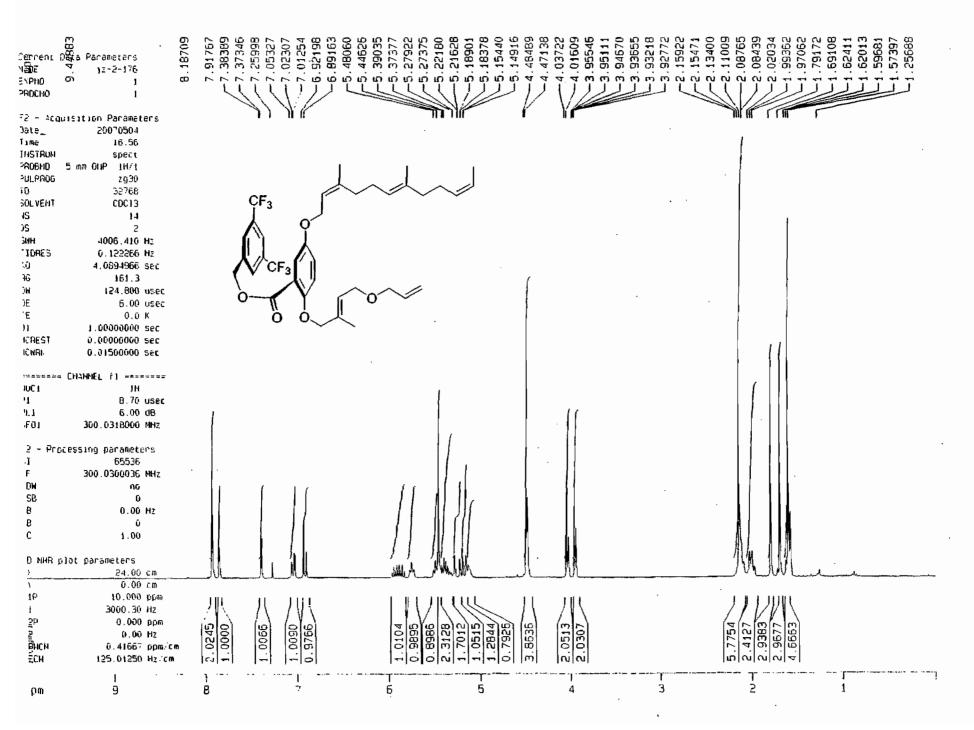












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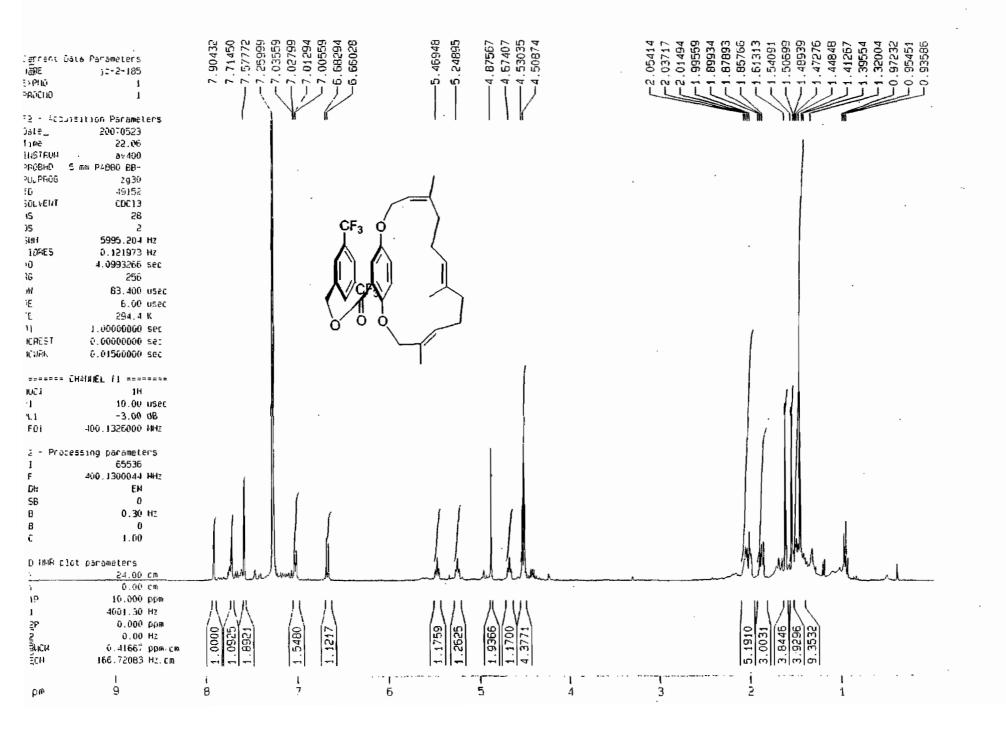
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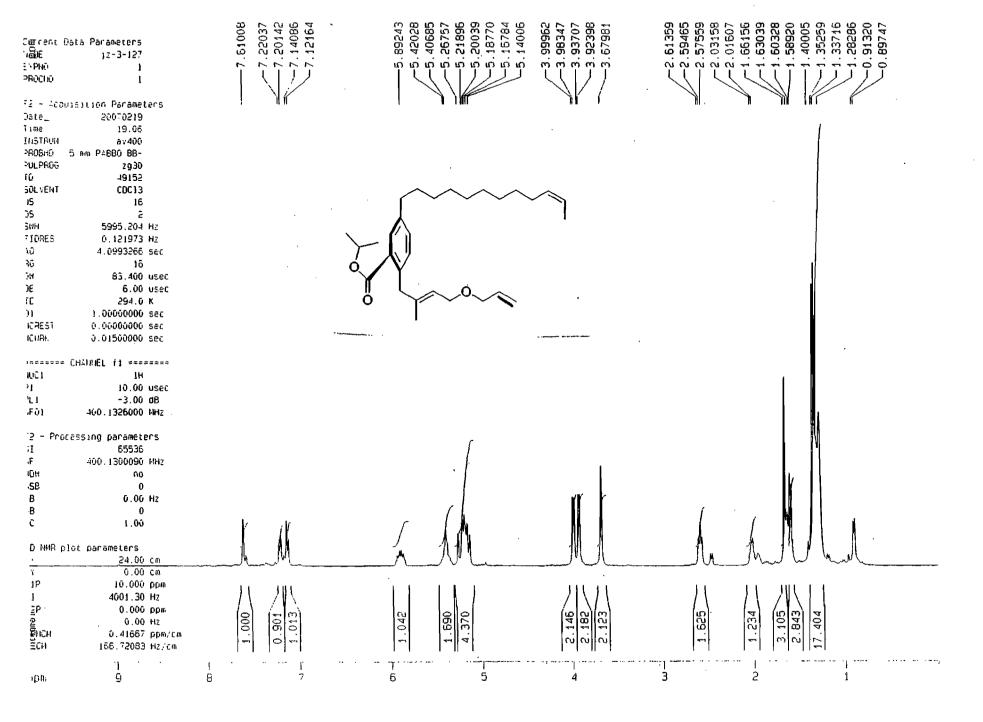
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