## Convenient Access to Bicyclic and Tricyclic Diazenes

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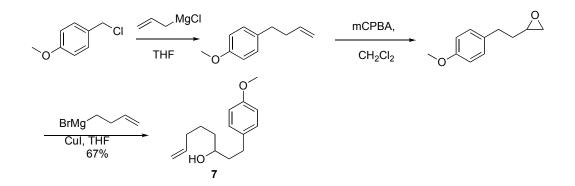
## **Supporting Information**

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General:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded, as solutions in deuteriochloroform (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) unless otherwise indicated, at 400 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. <sup>13</sup>C multiplicities were determined with the aid of a JVERT pulse sequence, differentiating the signals for methyl and methine carbons as "d" from methylene and quaternary carbons as "u". The infrared (IR) spectra were determined as neat oils. Rf values indicated refer to thin layer chromatography (TLC) on 2.5 x 10 cm, 250 µm analytical plates coated with silica gel GF, unless otherwise noted, and developed in the solvent system indicated. All glassware was oven dried and rinsed with dry solvent before use. THF and diethyl ether were distilled from sodium metal/benzophenone ketyl under dry nitrogen. MTBE is methyl tert-butyl ether and PE is petroleum ether. All reactions were conducted under N<sub>2</sub> and stirred magnetically.

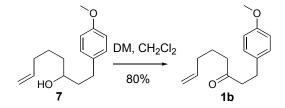


**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)oct-7-en-3-ol (7).** To a stirred solution of *p*-methoxy benzyl chloride (3.28 g, 20.9 mmol) in dry THF (20 mL), was dropwise added allylmagnesium chloride (40 mmol) in THF over 5 min at 0°C. After stirring for 5 h at 60°C, the reaction mixture was quenched with methanol (3 mL). The mixture was partitioned between  $CH_2Cl_2$  and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to give crude alkene (3.45 g).

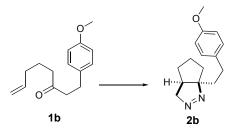
To a stirred solution of the above crude alkene in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) was added mCPBA (6.27g, 27.9 mmol) at rt. After stirring overnight at rt, the reaction mixture was diluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (100 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NaHSO<sub>3</sub> and then with 1 M NaOH. The organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to afford crude epoxide (3.41 g).

To a stirred solution of 4-butenyl magnesium bromide {freshly prepared with Mg (2.1 g, 87.5 mmol), 4-bromo-1-butene (7.15 g, 53.0 mmol) and I<sub>2</sub> in dry THF (30 mL)} in dry THF was added CuI (672 mg, 3.53 mmol) at 0°C. It was stirred for 5 min at 0°C and then the solution of the above crude epoxide in THF (5 mL) was added. After stirring overnight at rt, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10

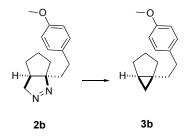
mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alcohol **7** (3.31 g, 67% yield from *p*-methoxy benzyl chloride) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.33; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3380, 2929, 1510, 1240, 1034; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.75-5.85 (m 1H), 4.90-5.05 (q, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 1H), 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.60 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.8, 134.2, 114.7, 39.4, 37.0, 33.7, 31.2, 24.9; d 138.7, 129.3, 113.9, 71.2, 55.3; HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 234.1620, obsd 234.1618.



**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)oct-7-en-3-one (1b).** To a stirred solution of the alcohol 7 (360 mg, 1.54 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL), was added Dess-Martin periodinane reagent (748 mg, 1.69 mmol) at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0°C and then concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield ketone **1b** (286 mg, 80% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.53; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1707, 1510, 1245; <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.75 (m, 1H), 5.00 (q, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.80 (m, 2H), 2.65 (m, 2H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ u 210.2, 157.9, 133.2, 115.2, 44.6, 42.2, 33.1, 28.9, 22.7; d 138.0, 129.3, 113.9, 55.3; HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (MH<sup>+</sup>) 233.1541, obsd 233.1551.

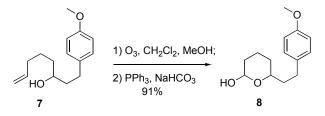


6a-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-3,3a,4,5,6,6a-hexahydrocyclopenta[c]pyrazole (2b). Ketone 1b (263 mg, 1.13 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.05 equiv, 223 mg, 1.20 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (4 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in toluene (3 mL), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6 equiv, 950 mg, 6.9 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial at 120°C (oil bath) for 16 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield 2b (211 mg, 76% yield) as a pale yellow oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.40; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2939, 1609, 1506, 1241; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.05 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.60 (dd, J = 9.2, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (dd, J = 3.2, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.40-2.55 (m, 2H), 2.30 (m, 2H), 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.35 (m, 1H), 1.00 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ u 157.9, 133.8, 104.7, 85.8, 39.4, 36.3, 34.5, 30.4, 23.6; d 129.7, 113.9, 55.3, 37.8; HRMS calcd for  $C_{15}H_{21}N_2O$  (MH<sup>+</sup>) 245.1654, obsd 245.1663.



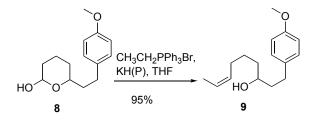
1-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane (3b). A solution of diazene 2b (40 mg,

0.16 mmol) in dry toluene (6 mL) was photolyzed for 16 h at rt in a Rayonet apparatus (350 nm). The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed to yield cyclopropane **3b** (26 mg, 72% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.80; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2919, 1609, 1510, 1240; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.60 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (m, 1H), 1.50-1.90 (m, 6H), 1.20 (m, 1H), 0.95 (m, 1H), 0.30 (m, 1H), 0.20 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.6, 135.2, 38.6, 33.6, 31.3, 27.7, 24.2, 21.4, 12.2; d 129.2, 113.6, 55.3, 23.3; HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O (M<sup>+</sup>) 216.1514, obsd 216.1518.



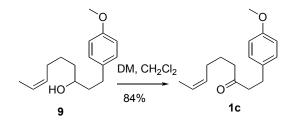
**6-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-ol (8).** Ozone was passed through a stirred solution of alkene **7** (1.67 g, 7.13 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) and MeOH (15 mL) at -78°C. After stirring at -78°C for 10 min, the color of the reaction mixture changed to pale blue. N<sub>2</sub> was then passed through to remove the excess ozone. PPh<sub>3</sub> (3.2 g) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3.2 g) were added at -78°C. The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for an additional hour. Then the mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield lactol **8** (1.52 g, 91% yield, a 3:2 mixture of two isomers) as a white solid: mp 85°C; TLC *R<sub>f</sub>* (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.59; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3400, 2929, 1609, 1506; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz,

2H), 5.60 (m, 0.4H), 4.70 (m, 0.6H), 3.95 (m, 0.4H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.40 (m, 0.6H), 3.00 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 0.6H), 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.45 (m, 0.4H), 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.70 (m, 4H), 1.15-1.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ u 157.7, 134.3, 38.1, 37.8, 32.9, 31.2, 30.8, 30.4, 29.8, 22.1, 17.4; d 129.3, 113.8, 96.5, 91.2, 75.4, 68.0, 55.3.

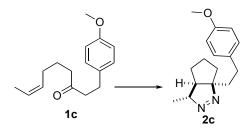


(Z)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)non-7-en-3-ol (9). To the mixture of ethyl

triphenylphosphonium bromide (757 mg, 2.04 mmol) and KH (125 mg, 50% in paraffin, 1.56 mmol) was added dry THF (5 mL) at rt. After stirring at rt for 5 min, a solution of lactol **8** (241 mg, 1.02 mmol) in dry THF (1 ml) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for another 30 min at rt.<sup>3</sup> The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alcohol **9** (240 mg, 95% yield, a ~ 5 : 1 *Z/E* mixture) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.24; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3371, 2929, 1609, 1510; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.30-5.50 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.60 (bs, 1H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.55 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.50 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (major isomer)  $\delta$  u 157.8, 134.2, 39.3, 37.1, 31.1, 26.8, 25.5; d 129.3, 128.5, 124.2, 113.9, 71.3, 55.3, 12.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 248.1776, obsd 248.1775.

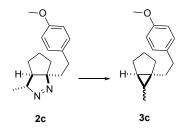


(Z)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)non-7-en-3-one (1c). To a solution of the alcohol 9 (203.8 mg, 0.82 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL), was added Dess-Martin periodinane reagent (398 mg, 0.90 mmol) at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 min and then concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield ketone 1c (169 mg, 84% yield, a  $\sim 5 : 1 Z/E$  mixture) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20%MTBE/PE) = 0.59; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2929, 1708, 1609, 1510; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.45 (m, 1H), 5.30 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.80 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.00 (q, 2H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.55 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (major isomer)  $\delta$  u 210.3, 157.9, 133.2, 44.6, 42.3, 28.9, 26.1, 23.5; d 129.6, 129.3, 124.8, 113.9, 55.2, 12.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 246.1620, obsd 246.1618.



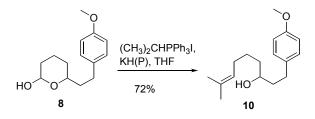
**6a-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-3-methyl-3,3a,4,5,6,6a-hexahydrocyclopenta[c]pyrazole** (**2c).** Ketone **1c** (78.5 mg, 0.32 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.05 equiv, 63 mg, 0.34 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (2 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in toluene (3 mL), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6 equiv, 263 mg, 1.9 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial

at 120°C (oil bath) for 16 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield diazene **2c** (58 mg, 70% yield, a ~ 5:1 mixture of diastereomers) as a pale yellow oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/PE) = 0.41; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2939, 1609, 1510, 1240; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.25-4.40 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.35-2.70 (m, 3H), 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.55-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.50 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.40- 1.45 (m, 1H), 0.95 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (major isomer)  $\delta$  u 157.9, 134.0, 105.7, 40.7, 36.5, 30.4, 27.8, 23.7; d 129.1, 113.9, 86.2, 55.3, 41.7, 13.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 259.1810, obsd 259.1814.

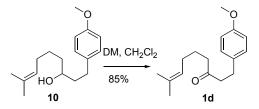


**1-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-6-methylbicyclo[3.1.0]hexane (3c).** A solution of diazene **2c** (45 mg, 0.17 mmol) in dry toluene (6 mL) was photolyzed for 24 h at rt in a Rayonet apparatus (350 nm). The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed to yield cyclopropane **3c** (29 mg, 71% yield, a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.75; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2918, 1643, 1510, 1245; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (m, 2H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.60 (m, 2H), 2.30 (m, 1H), 1.45-2.00 (m, 7H), 1.10-1.35 (m, 1H), 0.80-1.00 (m, 3H), 0.60 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.6, 135.4, 135.2, 40.7, 33.9, 33.7, 33.6, 33.5, 32.7, 32.1, 29.1, 28.0, 26.9, 25.0, 22.0; d 129.2, 113.7, 113.6, 55.3, 31.1, 28.2,

21.2, 16.8, 13.2, 8.1; HRMS calcd for C16H23O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 231.1749, obsd 231.1750.

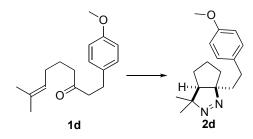


**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-8-methylnon-7-en-3-ol (10).** To the mixture of isopropyl triphenylphosphonium iodide (846 mg, 1.96 mmol) and KH (121 mg, 50% in paraffin, 1.51 mmol) was added dry THF (5 mL) at rt. After stirring at rt for 5 min, a solution of lactol **8** (220 mg, 0.93 mmol) in dry THF (1 ml) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 2 h. Then the mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alcohol **10** (177 mg, 72% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.52; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3351, 2918, 1609, 1506, 1240; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.10 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.60 (bs, 1H), 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.30-1.50 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.7 134.3, 131.7, 39.3, 37.2, 31.2, 28.0, 25.9; d 128.3, 124.4, 113.8, 71.3, 55.3, 25.8, 17.7; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>C<sub>26</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 262.1933, obsd 262.1925.



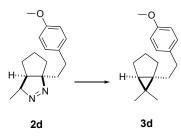
1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-8-methylnon-7-en-3-one (1d). To a solution of the alcohol 10

(162 mg, 0.62 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL), was added Dess-Martin periodinane reagent (302 mg, 0.68 mmol) at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 min and then concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield ketone **1d** (136 mg, 85% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.40; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2929, 1708, 1511, 1447, 1245; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.05 (t, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.80 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (q, 2H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.55-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.55 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 210.5, 157.9, 133.2, 132.4, 44.6, 42.4, 28.9, 27.4, 23.9; d 129.3, 123.8, 113.9, 55.2, 25.7, 17.7; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 260.1776, obsd 260.1771.

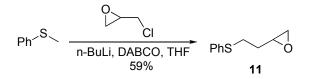


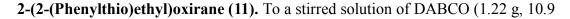
6a-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-3,3-dimethyl-3,3a,4,5,6,6a-

**hexahydrocyclopenta**[**c**]**pyrazole (2d).** Ketone **1d** (75 mg, 0.29 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.05 equiv, 58 mg, 0.31 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (2 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in toluene (3 mL),  $K_2CO_3$  (6 equiv, 245 mg, 1.77 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial at 120°C (oil bath) for 16 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL) and, sequentially, water (10 mL) and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield diazene **2d** (53 mg, 68% yield) as a pale yellow oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.40; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2939, 1511, 1457, 1241; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.80 (m, 3H), 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 0.90 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.9, 134.1, 105.9, 91.1, 41.2, 35.9, 31.0, 29.6, 24.7; d 129.1, 113.9, 55.3, 48.4, 29.2, 21.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 273.1967, obsd 273.1968.

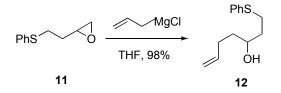


**1-(4-Methoxyphenethyl)-6,6-dimethylbicyclo[3.1.0]hexane (3d).** A solution of diazene **2d** (43 mg, 0.16 mmol) in dry toluene (6 mL) was photolyzed for 24 h at rt in a Rayonet apparatus (350 nm). The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed to yield cyclopropane **3d** (29 mg, 74% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (2% MTBE/PE) = 0.47; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2929, 1732, 1511, 1246; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.55 (m, 2H), 1.85 (m, 3H), 1.70 (m, 3H), 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.40 (m, 1H), 0.95 (s, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H), 0.70 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.6, 135.4, 38.3, 36.2, 34.3, 31.6, 27.6, 25.9, 23.4; d 129.2, 113.7, 55.3, 36.1, 23.9, 16.6; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 245.1905, obsd 245.1905.

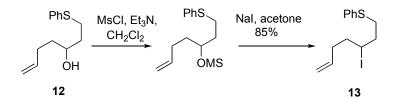




mmol) and thioanisole (13.2 g, 106 mmol) in dry THF (100 mL) was added n-BuLi (106 mmol, 43 mL, 2.46 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O) at 0°C. <sup>4</sup>After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to -78°C. Then epichlorohydrin (19.6 g, 212 mmol) was added at -78°C and the reaction mixture was slowly warmed to rt in 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (50 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield the epoxide **11** (11.3 g, 59% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.57; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2989, 2923, 1581, 1479; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10-7.40 (m, 5H), 3.05 (m, 3H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.80 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 136.0, 47.2, 32.3, 30.2; d 129.4, 129.0, 126.2, 51.1; HRMS calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>OS (M<sup>+</sup>) 180.0609, obsd 180.0607.



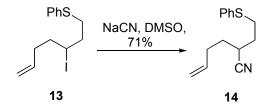
**1-(Phenylthio)hept-6-en-3-ol (12).** To a solution of epoxide **11** (9.1 g, 50.3 mmol ) in dry THF (50 mL) was added allyl magnesium chloride (100 mmol, 50 mL, 2 M in THF) at 0°C.<sup>5</sup> The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 1 h and at rt for another 3 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (50 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield the alcohol **12** (11.2 g, 98% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.32; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3417, 2930, 2360, 1641; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10-7.40 (m, 5H), 5.80 (m, 1H), 5.00 (q, 2H), 3.75 (bs, 1H), 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.10 (m, 3H), 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.50 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 136.4, 115.0, 36.5, 36.4, 30.1, 30.0; d 138.3, 129.1, 129.0, 126.0, 70.4; HRMS calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OS (M<sup>+</sup>) 222.1078, obsd 222.1072.



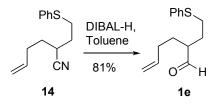
(3-Iodohept-6-enyl)(phenyl)sulfane (13). To a stirred solution of alcohol 12 (11.0 g, 50 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) were sequentially added  $Et_3N$  (10.5 g, 103 mmol) and mesyl chloride (8.7 g, 76 mmol) at 0°C. After stirring at rt for 1 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $NH_4Cl$  (30 mL) and then partitioned between  $CH_2Cl_2$  and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to give the crude mesylate.

To a stirred solution of the above crude mesylate in acetone (100 mL) was added NaI (22.3 g, 149 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at reflux overnight. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (40 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield the iodide **13** (14.3 g, 85% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.82; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3072, 2923, 1581, 1437; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.05-7.30 (m, 5H), 5.65 (m, 1H), 4.95 (q, 2H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 3.10 (m, 1H), 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.15 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m,

2H), 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ u 134.7, 114.9, 38.5, 38.4, 32.7, 32.4; d 135.5, 128.8, 127.9, 125.2, 35.4; HRMS calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>SI (M+) 332.0096, obsd 332.0081.

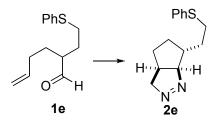


**2-(2-(Phenylthio)ethyl)hex-5-enenitrile (14).** To a solution of iodide **13** (2.4 g, 7.1 mmol) in DMSO (30 mL) was added NaCN (3.6 g, 73.5 mmol) at rt.<sup>6</sup> After stirring at rt overnight, the reaction mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield nitrile **14** (1.2 g, 71% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.55; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3074, 2931, 2238, 1641; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.20-7.50 (m, 5H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 5.05 (m, 2H), 3.20 (m, 1H), 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.45 (m, 2H), 1.55-2.00 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 134.6, 121.0, 116.2, 31.2, 30.9, 30.7, 29.4; d 135.8, 129.6, 128.8, 126.3, 27.7.

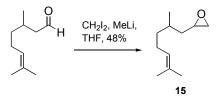


**2-(2-(Phenylthio)ethyl)hex-5-enal (1e).** To a stirred solution of nitrile **14** (1.0 g, 4.3 mmol) in dry toluene (25 mL) was added DIBAL-H (13 mmol, 13 mL, 1 M in pentane) at  $-78^{\circ}$ °C.<sup>7</sup> After stirring at  $-78^{\circ}$ °C for 1 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (20 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water

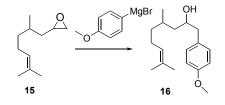
and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to give aldehyde **1e** (817 mg, 81% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.62; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3580, 2090, 1642; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  9.65 (s, 1H), 7.15-7.45 (m, 5H), 5.75 (m, 1H), 5.05 (q, 2H), 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 3H), 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 135.4, 115.4, 30.8, 30.6, 27.8, 27.6; d 203.6, 137.0, 129.5, 120.0, 125.8, 49.7; HRMS calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OS (M<sup>+</sup>) 234.1078, obsd 234.1078.



**6-(2-(Phenylthio)ethyl)-3,3a,4,5,6,6a-hexahydrocyclopenta[c]pyrazole (2e).** Aldehyde **1e** (110 mg, 0.47 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.07 equiv, 95 mg, 0.51 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (3 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in toluene (3 mL), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6 equiv, 395 mg, 2.9 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial at 120°C (oil bath) for 13 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield diazene **2e** (105 mg, 91% yield, 6:1 mixture of two isomers based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR) as a pale yellow oil: TLC *R<sub>f</sub>*(5% MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.41; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3056, 2947, 2863, 1582, 1478; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ 7.10-7.50 (m, 5H), 4.20-5.00 (m, 3H), 3.05-3.40 (m, 2H), 2.40 (m, 2H), 1.60-2.05 (m, 3H), 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.30 (m, 1H), 1.05 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(major isomer)  $\delta$  u 136.5, 83.7,  $C_{14}H_{19}N_2S$  (MH<sup>+</sup>) 247.1269, obsd 247.1269.

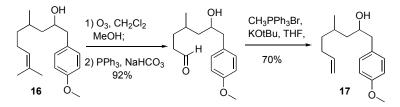


**2-(2,6-Dimethylhept-5-enyl)oxirane (15).** To a stirred solution of aldehyde (6.18 g, 40 mmol) and diiodomethane (17.7 g, 66 mmol) in THF(150 mL) was added dropwise methyl lithium (80 mmol) over 30 min at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C for 1 h and at rt for 3 h. Then resulting mixture was quenched with ice water and partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield epoxide **15** (3.22 g, 48% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (10% MTBE/PE) = 0.60; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2957, 2091, 1643, 1457; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  5.05 (m, 1H), 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.10-1.55 (m, 4H), 0.90-1.05 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 131.3, 50.5, 47.5, 46.9, 39.8, 37.3, 36.9, 25.5, 25.4; d 124.5, 51.1, 51.0, 31.1, 30.6, 25.8, 20.1, 19.5, 17.8.



**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4,8-dimethylnon-7-en-2-ol (16).** To a stirred solution of (*p*-methoxyphenyl)magnesium bromide {freshly prepared with Mg (2.42 g, 101 mmol), *p*-bromo anisole (10.7 g, 57.5 mmol) and  $I_2$  in dry THF (30 mL)} in dry THF was added

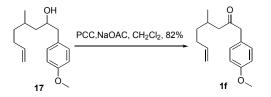
CuI (730 mg, 3.83 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 5 min at 0°C and then the solution of epoxide **15** (3.2 g, 19 mmol) in dry THF (5 mL) was added dropwise over 5 min. After stirring overnight at rt, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alkene **16** (2.84 g, 54% yield, a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20%MTBE/PE) = 0.42; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3417, 2920, 1512, 1247; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (m, 2H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 5.10 (m, 1H), 3.85 (bs, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.50-2.80 (m, 2H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.10-1.55 (m, 6H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 158.3, 131.3, 131.2, 130.6, 130.5, 44.3, 44.2, 43.9, 43.4, 37.9, 36.7, 25.5, 25.4; d 130.6, 130.4, 124.8,114.0, 70.8, 70.4, 55.3, 29.4, 29.0, 25.7, 20.3, 19.1, 17.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>) 276.2089, obsd 276.2084.



**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-methyloct-7-en-2-ol (17).** Ozone was passed through a stirred solution of alkene **16** (1.90 g, 6.88 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL) and MeOH (15 mL) at - 78°C. After stirring at -78°C for 8 min, the color of the reaction mixture changed to pale blue. N<sub>2</sub> was then passed through to remove the excess ozone. PPh<sub>3</sub> (3.8 g) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3.8 g) were added at -78°C. The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for an additional hour. Then the mixture was partitioned between  $CH_2Cl_2$  and, sequentially,

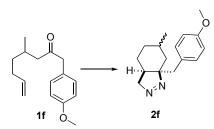
water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried ( $Na_2SO_4$ ) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield aldehyde (1.58 g, 92% yield) as a colorless oil.

To the mixture of methyl triphenylphosphonium bromide (4.3 g, 12 mmol) and KO*t*Bu (1.0 g, 8.9 mmol) was added dry THF (15 mL) at rt. After stirring at rt for 30 min, a solution of aldehyde (758 mg, 3.03 mmol) in dry THF (2 ml) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for another 3 h at rt. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL) and then partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alkene **17** (525 mg, 70% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.44; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2924, 1640, 1512, 1460; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (m, 2H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 5.80 (m, 1H), 4.95 (q, 2H), 3.85 (bs, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.55 (m, 3H), 1.10-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 158.3, 130.5, 130.4, 114.3, 114.2, 44.3, 44.1, 43.9, 43.4, 37.0, 35.7, 31.3, 31.2; d 139.2, 139.1, 130.4, 114.0, 70.7, 70.4, 55.3, 29.2, 28.9, 20.2, 19.1; HRMS calcd for C16H24O2 (M+) 248.1776, obsd 248.1775.



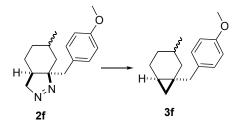
**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-methyloct-7-en-2-one (1f).** PCC (1.32 g, 6.12 mmol) and NaOAc (1.31 g) were suspended in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) at rt. After stirring for 5 min at

room temperature, alcohol **17** (505 mg, 2.04 mmol) was added in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 6 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (25 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred vigorously for 1 h at rt. The mixture was filtered with celite, the filtrate was concentrated and the residue was chromatographed to yield ketone **1f** (409 mg, 82% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.46; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2927, 1709, 1609, 1512; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 5.75 (m, 1H), 4.95 (q, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 2.40 (m, 1H), 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.00 (m, 3H), 1.30 (m 1H), 1.20 (m, 1H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 208.5, 158.6, 126.3, 114.1, 49.7, 49.1, 35.9, 31.2; d 138.7, 130.5, 113.7, 55.2, 28.6, 19.6; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+) 246.1620, obsd 246.1623.



**7a-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-6-methyl-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydro-3H-indazole (2f).** Ketone **1f** (98 mg, 0.40 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.02 equiv, 77 mg, 0.41 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (2 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in dry toluene (2 mL),  $K_2CO_3$  (6 equiv, 345 mg, 2.5 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial at 120°C (oil bath) for 24 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between  $CH_2Cl_2$  and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield the diastereomeric mixture of

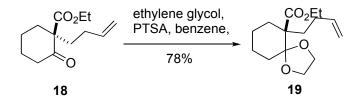
diazenes **2f** (74 mg, 72% yield) as a pale yellow oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.41; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2923, 2862, 1611, 1511, 1455; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  6.95-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 4.25-4.40 (m, 1H), 3.50-3.80 (m, 4H), 2.50-3.00 (m, 2H), 1.20-2.00 (m, 6H), 0.90 (m, 3H), 0.45-0.80 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 158.4, 158.3, 129.4, 128.5, 92.4, 89.6, 82.8, 78.0, 43.3, 41.1, 40.0, 38.9, 30.3, 29.1, 28.7, 22.0; d 131.4, 131.3, 113.7, 113.6, 55.2, 33.5, 33.4, 27.2, 27.0, 22.6, 22.4; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 259.1810, obsd 259.1804.



**1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-3-methylbicyclo[4.1.0]heptane (3f).** A solution of diazenes **2f** (53 mg, 0.21 mmol) in toluene was photolyzed for 24 h at rt in a Rayonet apparatus (350 nm). The reaction mixture was concentrated and chromatographed to yield the diastereomeric mixture of cyclopropanes **3f** (38 mg, 80% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.75; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2913, 2849, 1611,1512, 1457; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.05-7.20 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.40-3.30 (m, 2H), 0.50-2.20 (m, 12H), 0.25 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 157.8, 133.0, 132.7, 46.3, 46.1, 38.3, 37.1, 31.7, 28.2, 24.5, 24.2, 17.3, 16.6; d 130.1, 130.0, 129.8, 129.3, 113.6, 113.5.113.4, 55.3, 55.2, 29.5, 29.3, 27.0, 26.7, 22.5, 22.4, 21.8, 18.4, 16.5; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O (M<sup>+</sup>) 230.1671, obsd 230.1673.

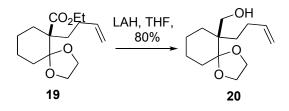


**Ethyl 1-(but-3-enyl)-2-oxocyclohexanecarboxylate (18).** The *β*-ketoester (5.16 g, 30.3 mmol) was added, over a period of 10 min, to a stirred solution of *t*-BuOK (3.04 g, 30.5 mmol) in dry DMSO (100 mL).<sup>8</sup> After 1.5 h, 4-bromo-1-butene (1.5 equiv, 6.03 g, 44.5 mmol) was added over a period of 5 min. After 20 h at rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between Et<sub>2</sub>O and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alkene **18** (3.12 g, 46% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.56; <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 5.75 (m, 1H), 4.95 (q, 2H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 2.35-2.55 (m, 3H), 1.85-2.05 (m, 4H), 1.55-1.80 (m, 4H), 1.45-1.50 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ u 207.7, 171.8, 114.6, 61.1, 60.5, 41.0, 36.1, 33.8, 28.5, 27.6, 22.5; d 138.0, 14.1.

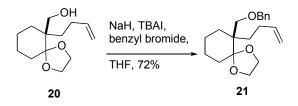


**Ethyl 2-(but-3-enyl)-1,7-dioxospiro[5, 4]decan-2-carboxylate (19).** A solution of ketone **18** (3.12 g, 13.9 mmol), ethylene glycol (4.45 g, 71.8 mmol), and p-toluenesulfonic acid (173 mg, 1.1 mmol) in benzene (150 mL) was heated under reflux for 12 h, using a Dean-Stark trap. Most of the solvent was then distilled off and the reaction mixture was partitioned between Et<sub>2</sub>O (300 mL) and, sequentially, NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (100 mL) and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated.

The residue was chromatographed to yield ketal **19** (2.91g, 78% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.61; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1722, 1451, 1201, 1093; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  5.70 (m, 1H), 4.85 (q, 2H), 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.85 (m, 4H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 3H), 1.35-1.50 (m, 3H), 1.20—1.30 (m, 1H), 1.15 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 173.9, 114.4, 111.1, 64.8, 64.6, 60.3, 54.2, 32.1, 30.4, 29.6, 28.9, 23.1, 20.7; d 138.5, 14.3; HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na (MNa<sup>+</sup>) 291.1572, obsd 291.1570.



**2-(Hydroxymethyl)-2-(but-3-enyl)-1,7-dioxospiro[5, 4]decane (20).** LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (2.0 equiv, 422.6 mg, 11.1 mmol) was added in five portions, over a period of 5 min, to a solution of ester **19** (1.52 g, 5.65 mmol) in dry THF (20 mL) at 0°C and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 0.5 h and at rt for 7 h. Excess LiAlH<sub>4</sub> was destroyed with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (30 mL) and the reaction mixture was partitioned between Et<sub>2</sub>O and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield alcohol **20** (1.02 g, 80% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5% MTBE/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.46; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3538, 1702, 1451, 1083; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  5.75 (m, 1H), 5.00 (q, 2H), 3.90 (m, 4H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (bs, 1H), 1.85-2.10 (m, 2H), 1.55-1.70 (m, 3H), 1.45-1.55 (m, 4H), 1.30-1.45 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 114.1,114.0, 65.0, 64.5, 64.1, 44.1, 30.1, 29.4, 28.7, 27.3, 23.2, 20.2; d 139.5; HRMS calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (MH<sup>+</sup>) 227.1647, obsd 227.1650.



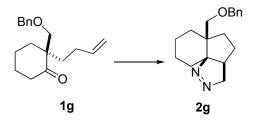
2-(Benzyloxymethyl)-2-(but-3-envl)-1,7-dioxospiro[5, 4]decane (21). To a suspension of NaH (60%, 185 mg, 4.62 mmol) and TBAI (136 mg, 0.37 mmol) in THF (8 mL) was added a solution of alcohol 20 (805 mg, 3.56 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0°C. To this reaction mixture was added a solution of benzyl bromide (715 mg, 4.18 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) at 0°C, and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with MeOH (0.1 mL). Then the reaction mixture was partitioned between EtOAc (90 mL) and, sequentially, saturated aqueous  $NH_4Cl$  (20 mL) and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield benzyl ether 21 (806 mg, 72% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$ (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.63; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1717, 1638, 1451, 1088; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10-7.35 (m, 5H), 5.75 (m, 1H), 4.85 (q, 2H), 4.40 (m, 2H), 3.80 (m, 4H), 3.45 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 1.90-2.10 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 1H), 1.25-1.65 (m, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ u 138.9, 113.5, 112.3, 73.4, 71.8, 64.5, 44.9, 31.3, 31.2, 30.7, 28.6, 23.4, 20.4; d 140.3, 128.3, 127.8, 127.6; HRMS calcd for  $C_{20}H_{28}O_3Na(MNa^+)$  339.1936, obsd 339.1932.



2-(Benzyloxymethyl)-2-(but-3-enyl)cyclohexanone (1g). A solution of ketal 21 (1.42 g,

4.49 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (74 mg, 0.47 mmol) in acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O 2:1 (15 mL)

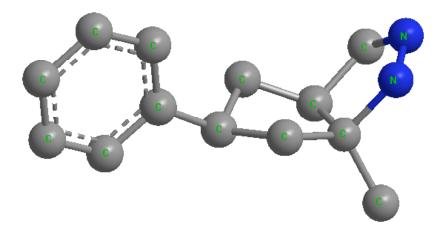
was heated under reflux for 4 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between Et<sub>2</sub>O and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield ketone **1g** (908 mg, 74% yield) as a colorless oil: TLC  $R_f$  (20% MTBE/PE) = 0.57; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1702, 1447, 1098; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.10-7.35 (m, 5H), 5.70 (m, 1H), 4.85 (q, 2H), 4.45 (m, 2H), 3.50 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.20 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.95 (m, 3H), 1.50-1.80 (m, 7H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 214.2, 138.4, 114.6, 73.3, 72.7, 52.6, 39.5, 35.2, 32.4, 28.1, 27.1, 20.8; d 138.5, 128.3, 127.5; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na(MNa<sup>+</sup>) 327.1572, obsd 327.1586.



5a-(Benzyloxymethyl)-3a,4,5,5a,6,7,8,9-octahydro-3H-indeno[1-c]pyrazole (2g).

Ketone **1g** (73 mg, 0.27 mmol) and tosylhydrazine (1.03 equiv, 55 mg, 0.29 mmol) were stirred in MeOH (2 mL) at rt overnight. The MeOH was removed under reduced pressure, the crude hydrazone was redissolved in toluene (2 mL), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6 equiv, 232 mg, 1.68 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated in a sealed vial at 120°C (oil bath) for 24 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and, sequentially, water and brine. The combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed to yield (52 mg, 68% yield) as a pale yellow oil: TLC  $R_f$  (5%MTBE/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) = 0.50; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2935, 2859, 1642, 1452; <sup>1</sup>H

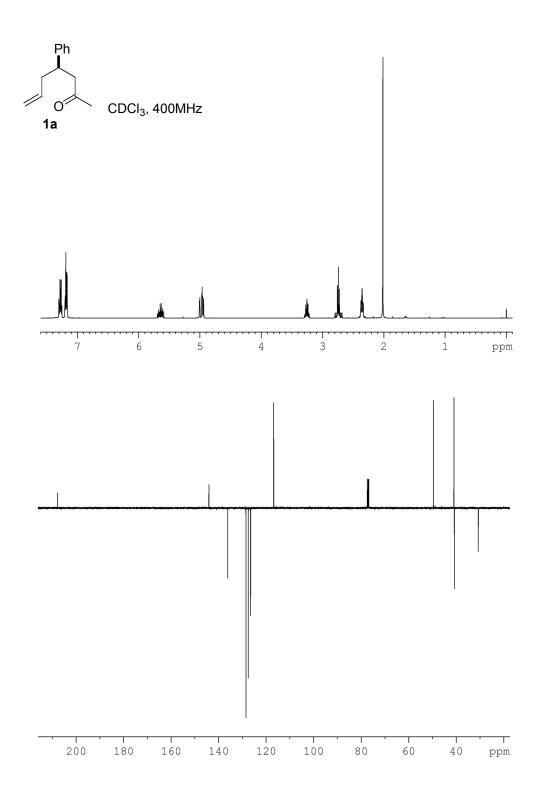
NMR  $\delta$  7.20-7.40 (m, 5H), 4.45-4.65 (m, 3H), 4.35 (dd, J = 7.5, 17.9 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 1.90-2.05 (m, 2H), 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.55 (m, 3H), 1.15-1.35 (m, 2H), 1.05 (m, 2H), 0.95 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  u 139.1, 105.6, 84.5, 73.7, 73.4, 48.1, 36.3, 30.9, 29.2, 26.8, 23.5, 21.4; d 128.3, 127.3, 127.0, 37.0; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O (MH<sup>+</sup>) 285.1967, obsd 285.1957.

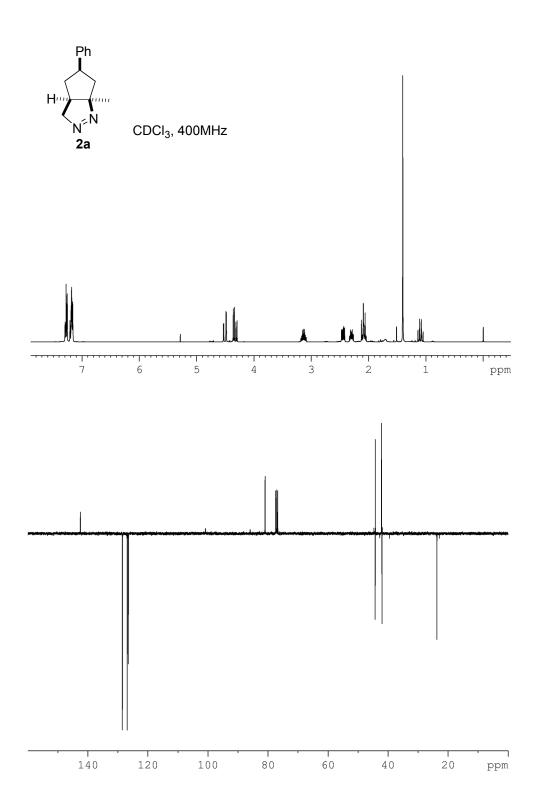


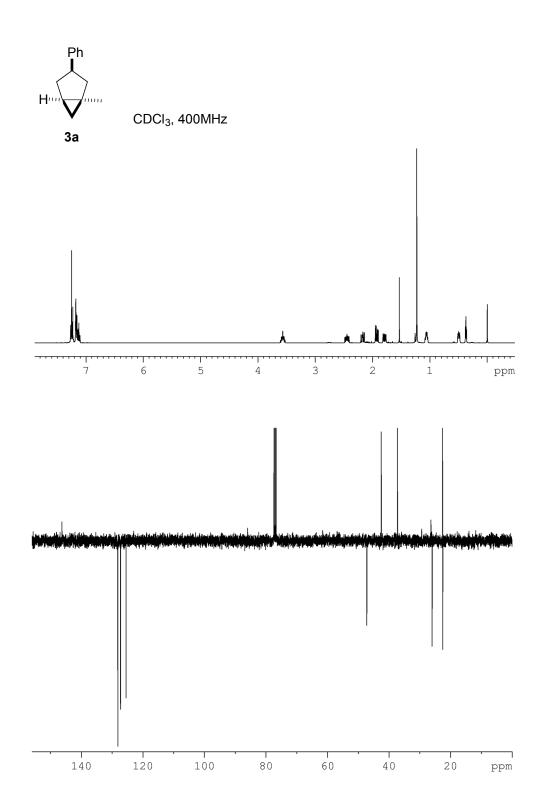
X-ray of 2a

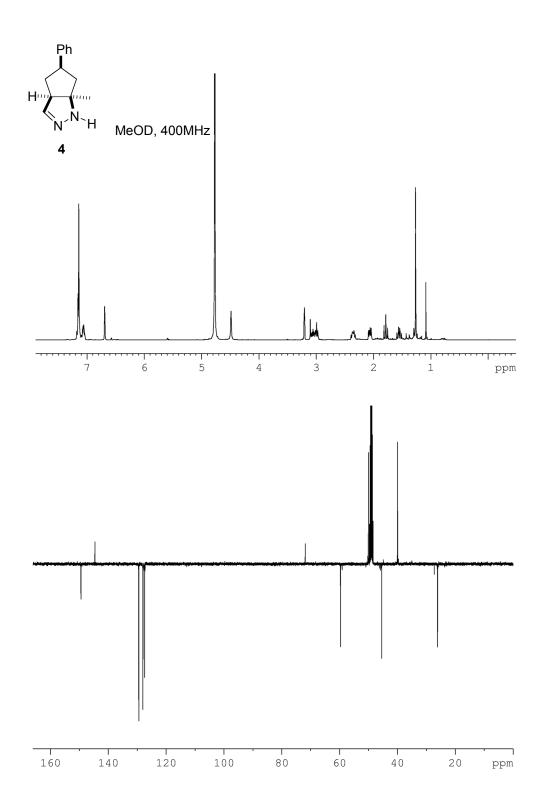
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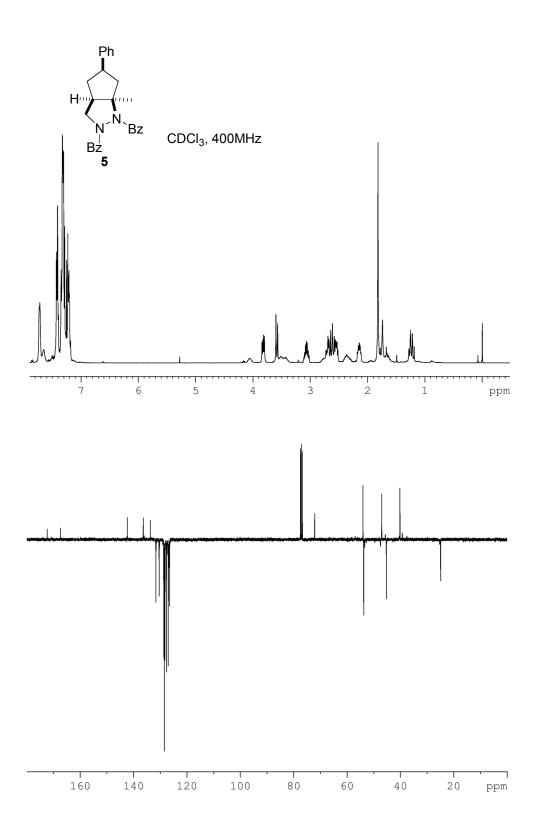
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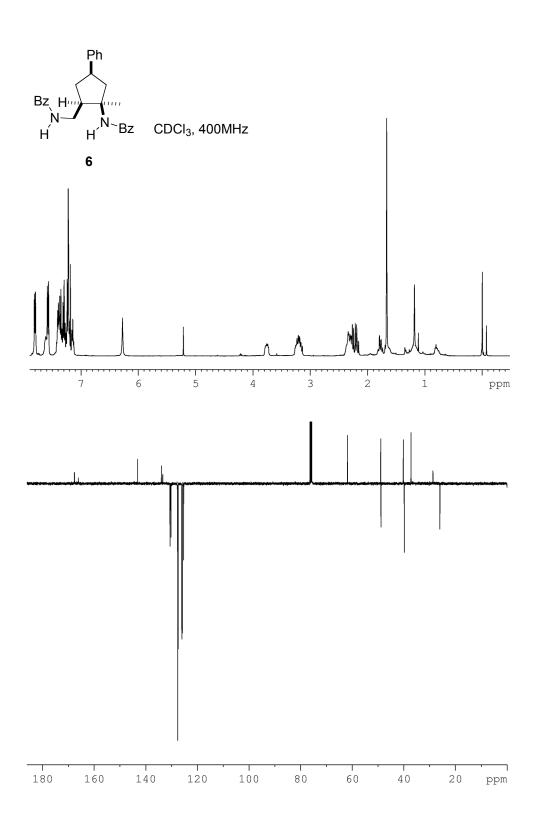


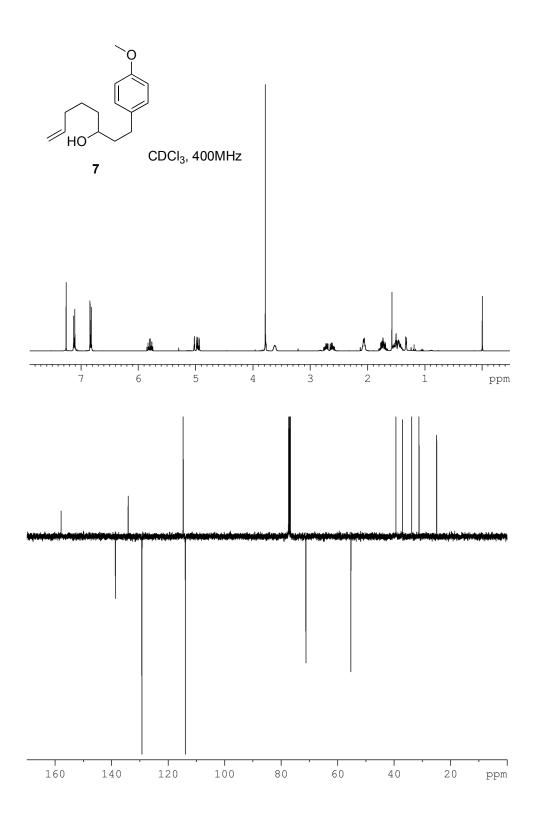


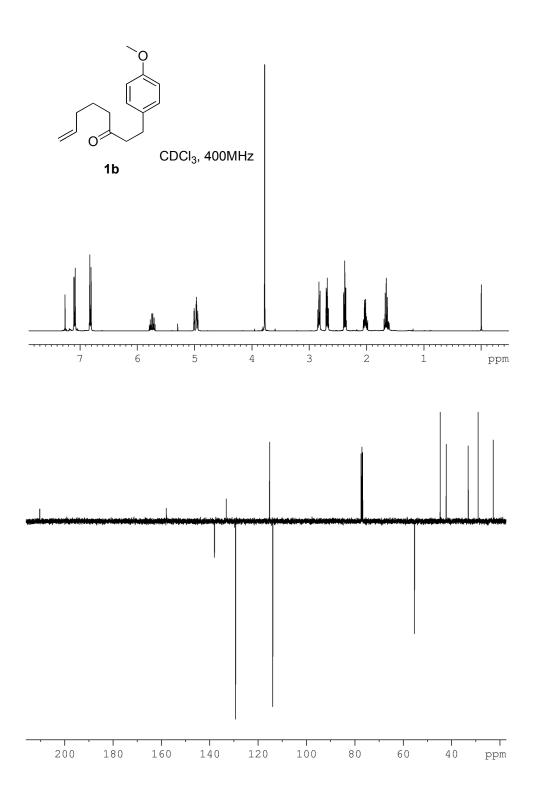


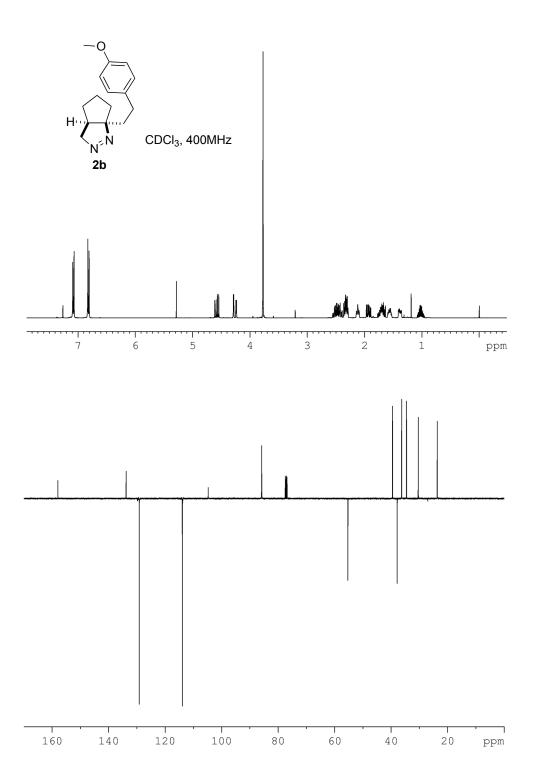


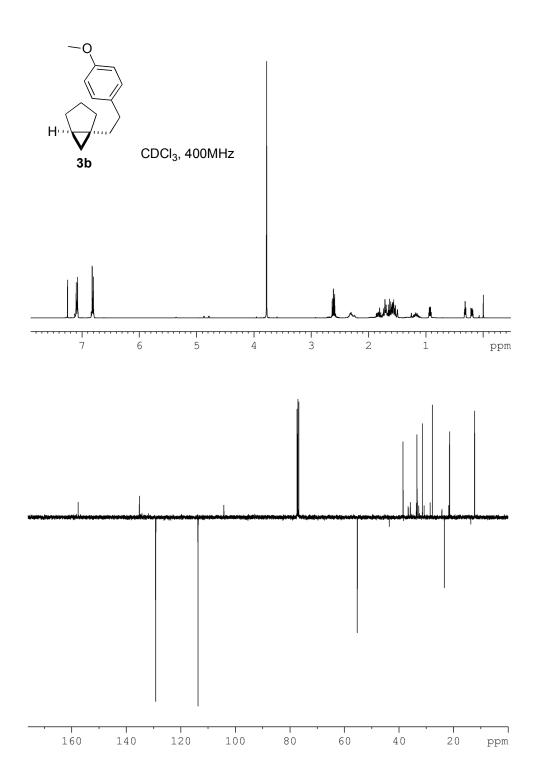


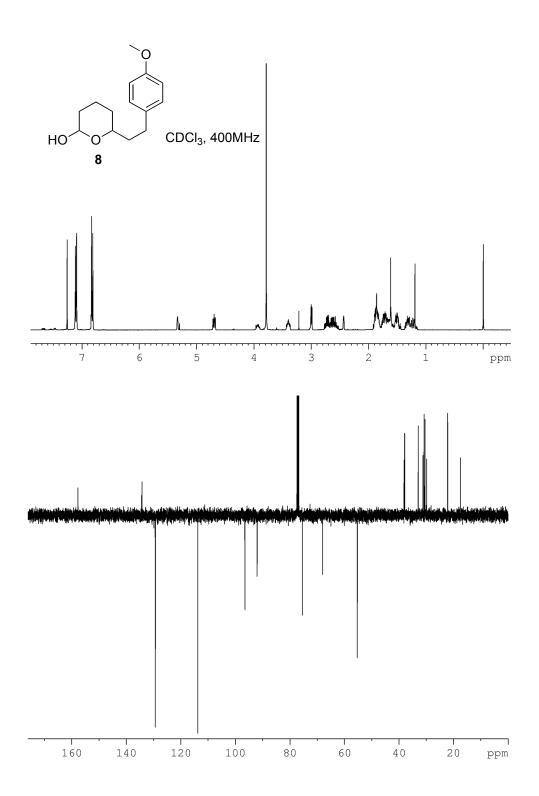


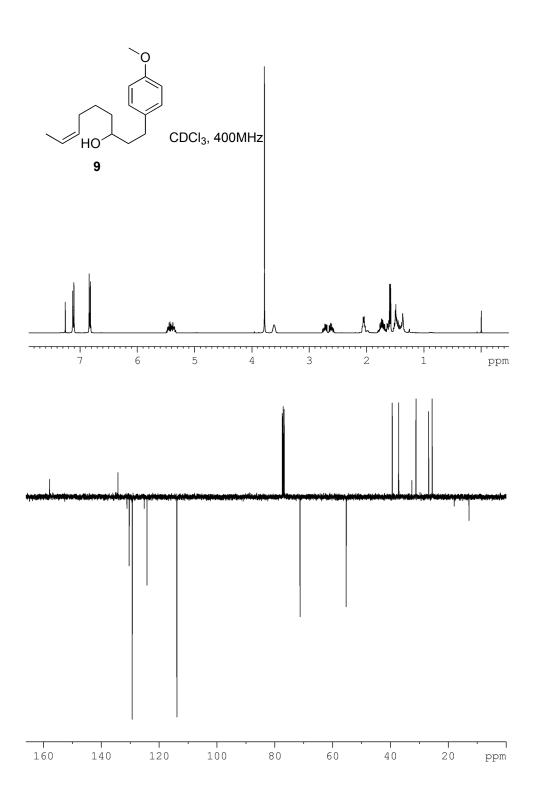


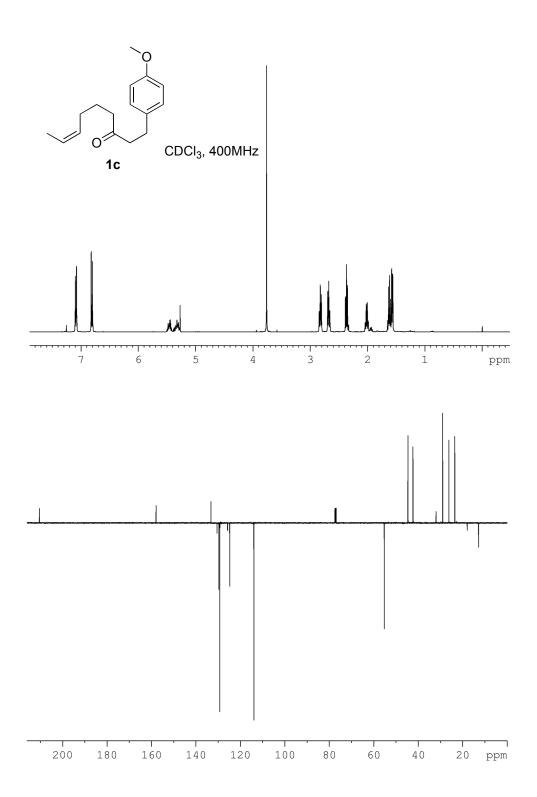


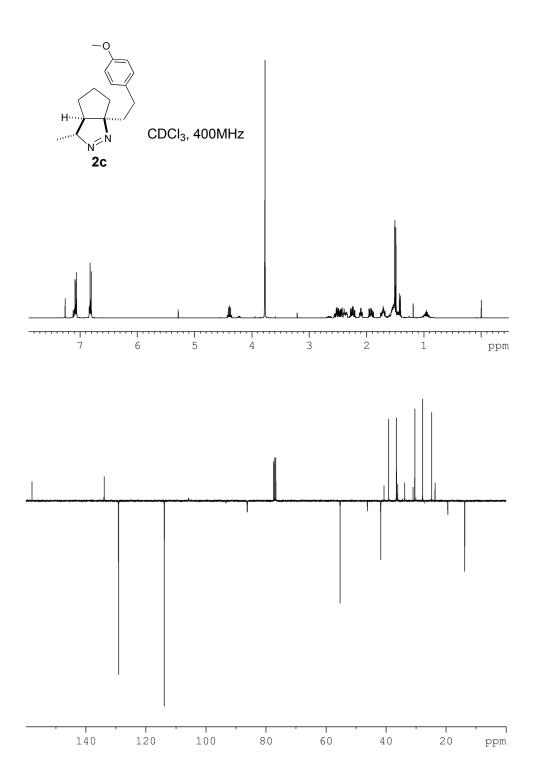


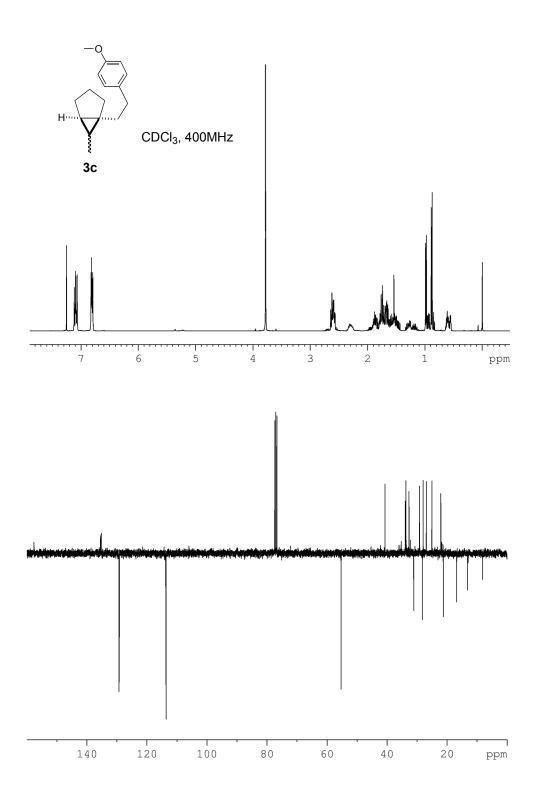


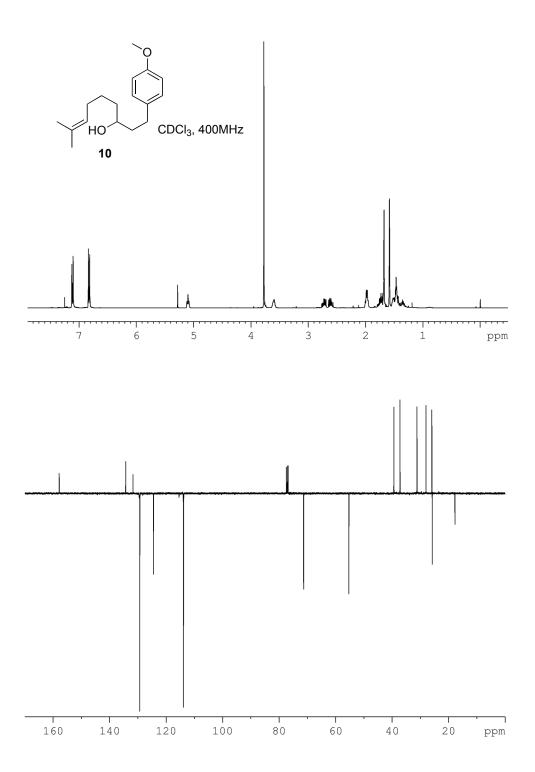


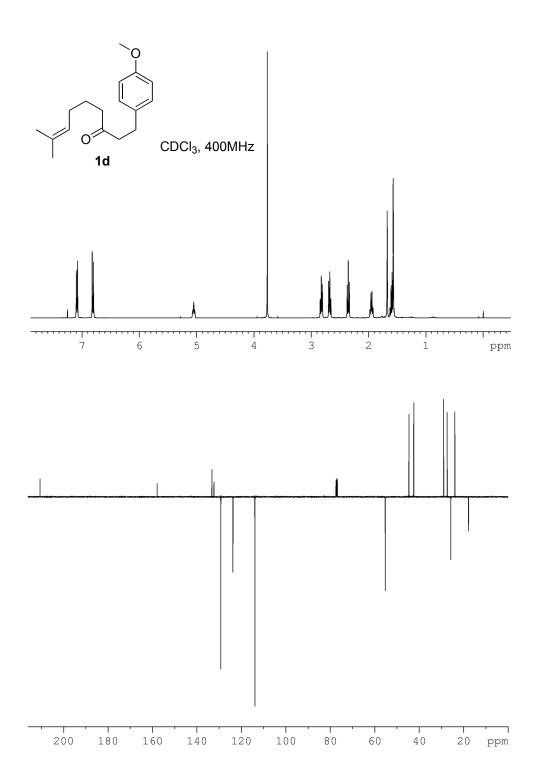












S44

