Supporting Information 1

Diastereoselective Synthesis of All Eight L-Hexoses from L-Ascorbic Acid

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General Considerations.	Solvents and reagents were purified according to standard laboratory procedures.	All reactions requiring
anhydrous conditions or an inert atmosphere were conducted under an atmosphere of argon. Flash column chromatography was		

performed on Silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). Optical rotations were determined using concentrations (c) in g/100 mL in CHCl₃. Mass

spectra and high-resolution mass spectra were obtained on a LCT with an electrospray source (ZQ) in positive mode ionization (ESI). ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 250 and 300 MHz, ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 75.5 MHz with chemical shifts reported in ppm (δ) downfield from TMS (internal reference) for ¹H and relative to the center line of the triplets of CDCl₃ at 74.14 ppm for ¹³C. Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on a FTIR spectrophotometer, wavelength (ν) were reported in cm. HPLC analyses were carried out on Alliance using PDA detector.

Ethyl (2*S*,3*S*)-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanoate 2. To a solution of 1 (5.84 g, 28.62 mmol), PPh₃ (15.2 g, 58 mmol) and CH₂ClCOOH (5.5 g, 58 mmol) in THF (150 mL) DIAD (11.2 mL, 58 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at rt, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue was taken into ethyl ether. The precipite was removed by filtration, the filtrate and washings were concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, heptane-EtOAc 6:1) to give the chloroacetate of (2*S*, 3*S*)-hydroxyester as an oil in 73% yield: $[\alpha]_D$ –21.7 (*c* 1.0); IR (CHCl₃) cm⁻¹: 2986, 2905, 1747, 1372, 1253, 1226, 1205, 1160, 1067, 1028, 851, 772, 668; ¹H NMR 5.17 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (ddd, *J* = 10.3, 6.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (s, 2H), 4.05 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR 167.0, 166.9, 110.4, 74.5, 73.4, 65.1, 62.0, 40.4, 26.2, 25.1, 14.0; MS (ESI) *m/z* 303 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₁H₁₇O₆CINa [M+Na]⁺ 303.0611, found 303.0654.

Deacylation of 5.5 g of the chloroacetate with triethylamine/ethanol (1/9) gave 3.8 g (90%) of **2**: [α]_D +28.0 (*c* 1.5); IR (CHCl₃) cm⁻¹: 3448, 2985, 2937, 1731, 1455, 1371, 1248, 1208, 1146, 1065, 1021, 964, 941, 842, 791; ¹H NMR 4.40-4.20 (m, 4H), 4.05 (m, 2H),

3.50 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR 172.0, 109.8, 76.6, 71.1, 65.0, 61.6, 26.2, 25.0, 14.0; MS (ESI) m/z 227 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₉H₁₆O₅Na 227.0895 [M+Na]⁺, found 227.0864.

Ethyl (2*R*,3*S*)-2-*O*-benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanoate **3**. To a stirred solution of **1** (3.8 g, 18.62 mmol) in 50 mL of CH₂Cl₂ was added Ag₂O (6.6 g, 28 mmol), KI (100 mg) and benzyl bromide (3.8 mL, 36 mmol). The reaction was stirred for 3 hours and filtered through a silica gel pad. Evaporation of solvent followed by flash chromatography (heptane-EtOAc 9:1) gave 4.65 g (85% yield) of **3**: $[\alpha]_D$ +60.2 (*c* 1.6); IR (CHCl₃) cm⁻¹: 3030, 3014, 2990, 2938, 1739, 1496, 1455, 1373, 1337, 1257, 1224, 1207, 1151, 1106, 1075, 1026, 851; ¹H NMR 7.37 (m, 5H), 4.75, 4.49 (2d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (m, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR 169.9, 137.0, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 109.7, 78.5, 75.8, 72.6, 65.4, 61.1, 26.2, 25.2, 14.1; MS (ESI) *m/z* 317 [M+Na]⁺, HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₂O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 317.1365, found 317.1353.

Ethyl (2*S*,3*S*)-2-*O*-benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanoate 4. To a solution of 2 (4.08 g, 20 mmol) in CH₃CN (50 ml) was added Ag₂O (6.96 g, 30 mmol), BnBr (4.22 ml, 40 mmol) and Bu₄NI (100 mg). The mixture was stirred at reflux overnight. The solids were removed by filtration and the filtrate concentrated to dryness. Purification by flash chromatography (heptane-EtOAc 9:1) gave 7.35 g (80%) of **4**: $[\alpha]_D$ –42.6 (*c* 1.2); IR (CHCl₃) cm⁻¹: 3028, 3013, 3019, 2938, 2905, 1740, 1455, 1383, 1373, 1254, 1226, 1198, 1148, 1079, 1050, 1028, 913, 841; ¹H NMR 7.34 (m, 5H), 4.69 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (m, 2H), 4.02 (m, 2H), 3.95 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* 7.4 Hz, 3H); NMR ¹³C 170.4, 137.0, 128.4, 128.2, 109.8, 79.1, 76.0, 72.8, 66.2, 61.5, 26.6, 25.3, 14.2; MS (ESI) *m/z* 317 [M+Na]⁺, HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₇O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 317.1365, found 317.1336.

(2*S*,3*S*)-2-*O*-Benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanol 5. A mixture of LiBH₄ (427 mg, 19.4 mmol), ester 3 (3.8 g, 12.9 mmol), methanol (0.79 mL, 19.4 mmol) and ether (50 mL) was stirred at 0°C for 2 h. The reaction was quenched with 1 N hydrochloric acid. The mixture was diluted with water, extracted with ether, dried, and the solvent was evaporated. Purification by flash chromatography (heptane-EtOAc 2:1) afforded 3.1 g (95%) of alcohol **5**: $[\alpha]_D$ –12.3 (*c* 1.2); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3436, 3064, 3031, 2986, 2934, 2884, 1497, 1455, 1371, 1256, 1214, 1157, 1073, 1028, 853, 738, 698; ¹H NMR 7.35 (m, 5H), 4.78, 4.68 (2d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.58 (m, 2H), 2.10 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 138.2, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 109.3, 79.3, 76.5, 72.7, 65.5, 61.6, 26.4, 25.3; MS (ESI) *m*/*z* 275 [M+Na]⁺, HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 275.1259, found 275.1281.

(2R,3S)-2-*O*-Benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanol 6 was obtained from 4 in 95% yield by the procedure described for 5. 6: $[\alpha]_D$ –25.5 (*c* 1.05); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3402, 3065, 3032, 2935, 2882, 1720, 1454, 1372, 1272, 1214, 1071, 1028, 915, 851, 747, 714, 699; ¹H NMR 7.35 (m, 5H), 4.65, 4.58 (2d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dd, *J* =11.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd, *J* =11.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (m, 1H), 2.30 (s, 1H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 138.0, 128.6, 128.0, 109.3, 79.6, 75.9, 72.8, 66.9, 61.8, 26.7, 25.3; MS (ESI) *m/z* 275 [M+Na]⁺, HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 275.1259, found 275.1253.

(2*R*,3*S*)-2-*O*-Benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanal 7. To a solution of oxalyl chloride (2.2 mL, 25 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) at $-78^{\circ}C$ was added a solution of DMSO (2.1 mL, 30 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL). After 15 min, a solution of alcohol 5 (4.28 g, 17 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added. The reaction was stirred at $-78^{\circ}C$ for 1 h, then quenched with diisopropylethylamine (14 mL), washed successively with 1 M HCl, sat. aq. NaHCO₃ solution, brine, then dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of solvent gave 4.0 g (95% yield) of crude aldehyde which was used directly for the next reaction without purification. The analytical simple was obtained by column chromatography (heptane-EtOAc 2:1). **7**: $[\alpha]_D$ +44.3 (*c* 1.1), IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3024, 2991, 2874, 1733, 1496, 1455, 1374, 1224, 1215, 1151, 1076, 912, 846; ¹H NMR 9.73 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (m, 5H), 4.79, 4.64 (2d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 4.37 (app.q, *J* =6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 202.1, 137.0, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 109.9, 82.9, 75.3, 73.4, 65.4, 26.2, 25.1; MS (ESI) *m/z* 273 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 273.1103, found 273.1090.

(2*S*,3*S*)-2-*O*-Benzyl-3,4-*O*-isopropylidene-2,3,4-trihydroxybutanal 8 was obtained from 6 in 95% yield by the procedure described for 7 and used in the next steps without purification. The analytical simple was obtained by column chromatography (heptane-EtOAc 2:1). 8: $[\alpha]_D$ -35.0 (*c* 1.2), IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3024, 2990, 2859, 1734, 1590, 1455, 1383, 1374, 1211, 1209, 1155, 1077, 1059, 842; ¹H NMR 9.68 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (m, 5H), 4.71, 4.57 (2d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 4.32 (app.q, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 201.2, 138.3, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 110.0, 83.0, 75.0, 73.4, 66.1, 26.4, 25.0; MS (ESI) *m*/*z* 273 [M+Na]⁺; 305 [M+Na+CH₃OH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₁₈O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 273.1103, found 273.1116.

Ethyl (4S,5S)-4-*O*-benzyl-5,6-*O*-isopropylidene-4,5,6-trihydroxyhex-2,3-*E*-enoate 9. To a solution of aldehyde 7 (4.0 g, 16 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL) $Ph_3P=CHCO_2Et$ (7.0 g, 20 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 h, concentrated, extracted with ether and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by column chromatography with heptane-EtOAc (9:1) to afford *E*-olefin (4.1 g,

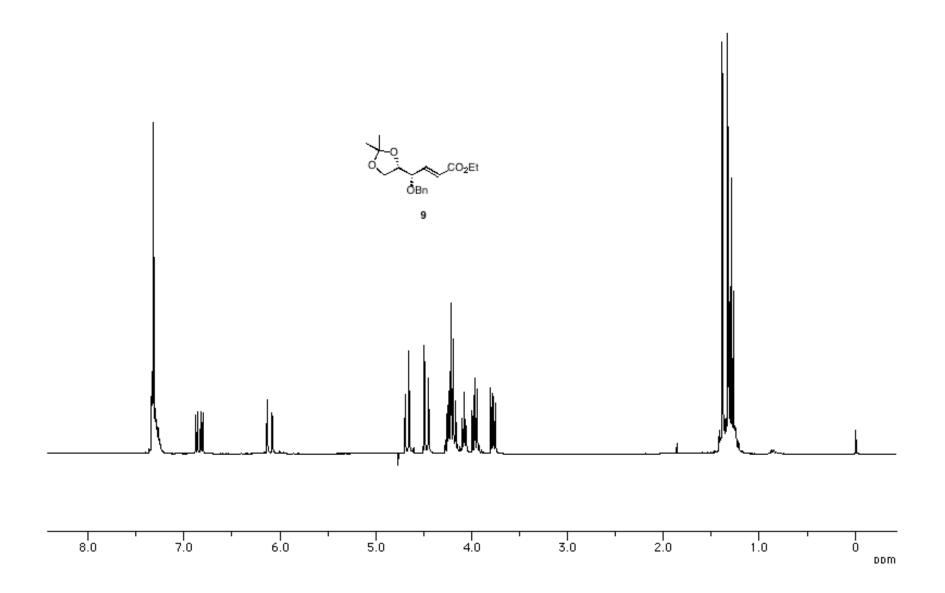
80%) as a colorless oil. **9**: $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$ +33.8 (*c* 1.6); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3029, 3014, 2989, 2939, 2896, 2874, 1715, 1659, 1497, 1455, 1383, 1372, 1304, 1280, 1180, 1158, 1071, 1045, 985, 915, 850; ¹H NMR 7.34 (m, 5H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.68, 4.48 (2d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (m, 3H), 4.10 (ddd, *J* = 7.2, 5.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.4, 3H); ¹³C NMR 165.9, 143.5, 137.7, 128.5, 127.9, 127.8, 124.6, 109.9, 78.4, 76.8, 71.6, 65.4, 60.7, 26.4, 25.3, 14.3; MS (ESI) *m/z* 343 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 343.1521, found 343.1516.

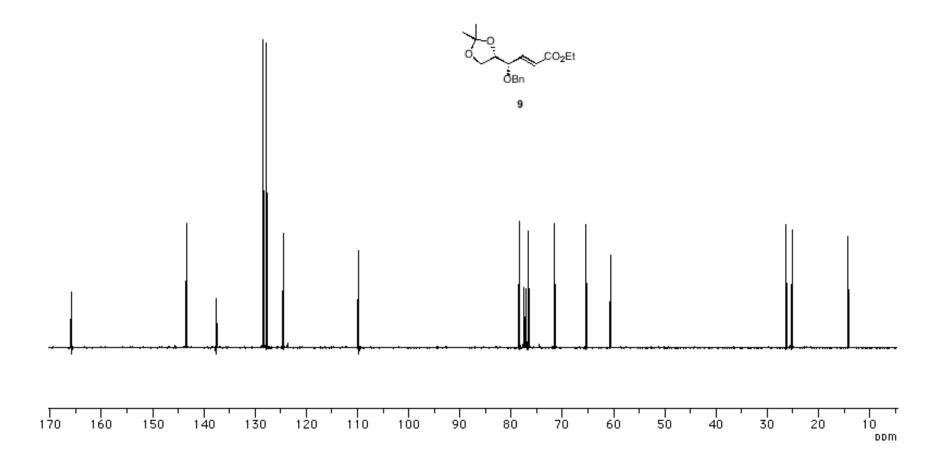
Ethyl (4*R*,5*S*)-4-*O*-benzyl-5,6-*O*-isopropylidene-4,5,6-trihydroxyhex-2,3-*E*-enoate 10. A solution of triethyl phosphonoacetate (2 mL, 10 mmol) in benzene (200 mL) was treated with NaH (400 mg, 10 mmol). The aldehyde **8** (2.48 g, 10 mmol) was then added and resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h. The solution was concentrated and purified by column chromatography with heptane-EtOAc (3:1) to afford **10** (2.66 g, 83%) as a colorless oil. **10**: $[\alpha]_D$ –26.9 (*c* 1.10); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3026, 2986, 2936, 2876, 1721, 1659, 1455, 1371, 1298, 1268, 1215, 1177, 1074, 985, 849, 736, 699; ¹H NMR 7.35 (m, 5H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63, 4.42 (2d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (m, 1H), 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.95 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 5.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.40, (s, 3H); 1.30 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR 165.9, 144.7, 137.6, 128.5, 128.0, 124.1, 109.9, 79.0, 77.4, 71.8, 66.7, 60.6, 26.6, 25.3, 14.3; MS (ESI) *m/z* 343 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 343.1521, found 343.1518.

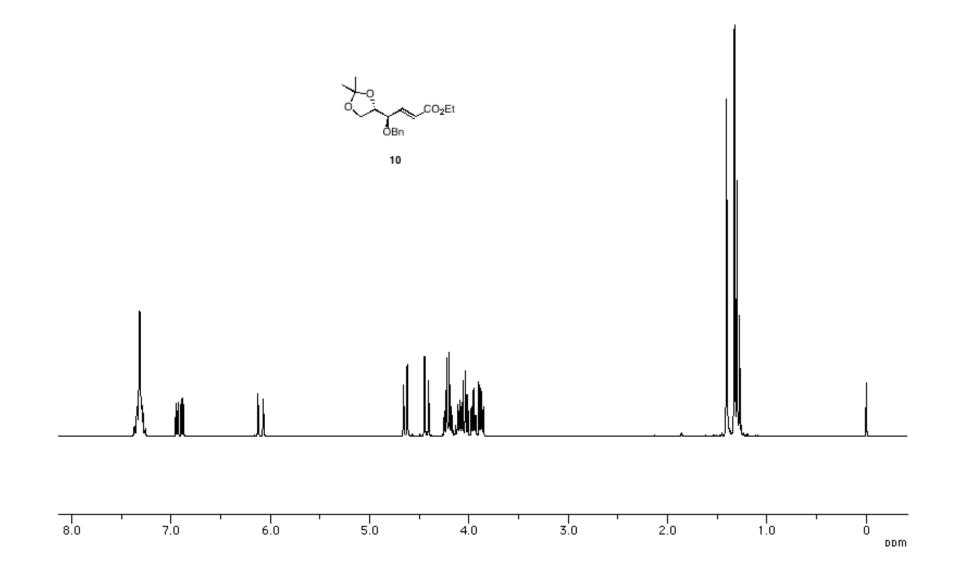
Methyl (4*S*,5*S*)-4-*O*-benzyl-5,6-*O*-isopropylidene-4,5,6-trihydroxyhex-2,3-*Z*-enoate 11. A solution of bis-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)(methoxycarbonylmethyl)phosphonate (3.18 g, 2.1 mL, 10 mmol), 18-crown-6 (13.2 g, 50 mmol) in THF (200 mL) was cooled to -78°C and treated with KN(TMS)₂ (0.6 M in toluene, 17 mL, 10 mmol). The aldehyde **7** (2.48 g, 10 mmol) was then added

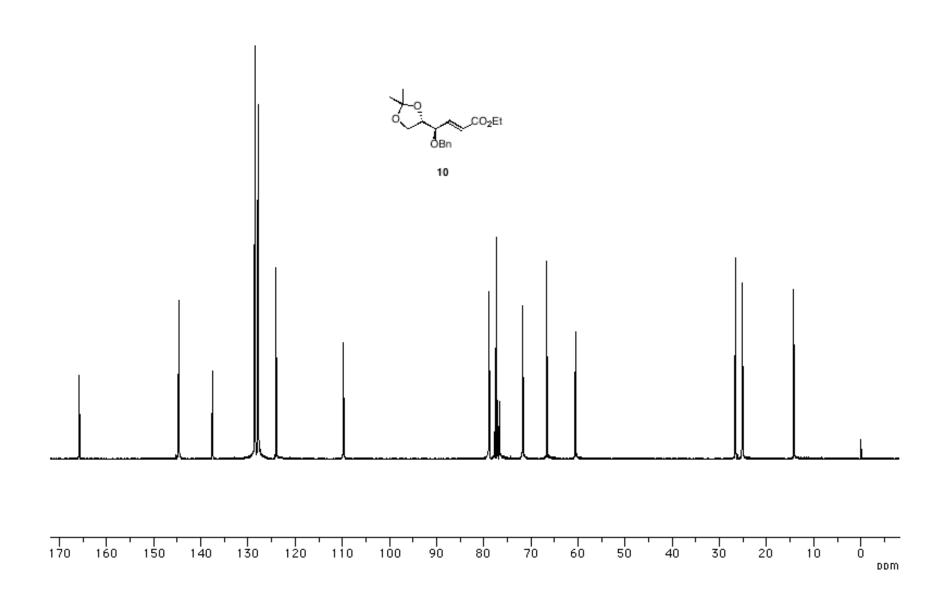
and reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78° C. Saturated NH₄Cl was added and the product was extracted into ether. The ether extracts were concentrated and purified by flash chromatography with heptane-EtOAc (3:1) to afford **11** 617 (2.60 g, 85%) as a colorless oil. **11**: [α]_D +1.6 (*c* 1.4); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3029, 3011, 2992, 2953, 2892, 1720, 1651, 1497, 1455, 1438, 1402, 1383, 1228, 1203, 1181, 1156, 1125, 1071, 1028, 995, 909, 846, 828; ¹H NMR 7.31 (m, 5H), 6.18 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (ddd, *J* = 9.0, 5.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61, 4.48 (2d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 6.7, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 166.1, 146.2, 138.1, 128.3, 127.8, 127.6, 123.1, 109.8, 77.7, 74.4, 71.5, 65.3, 51.5, 26.2, 25.6; MS (ESI) *m/z* 329 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₂₂O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 329.1365, found 329.1364.

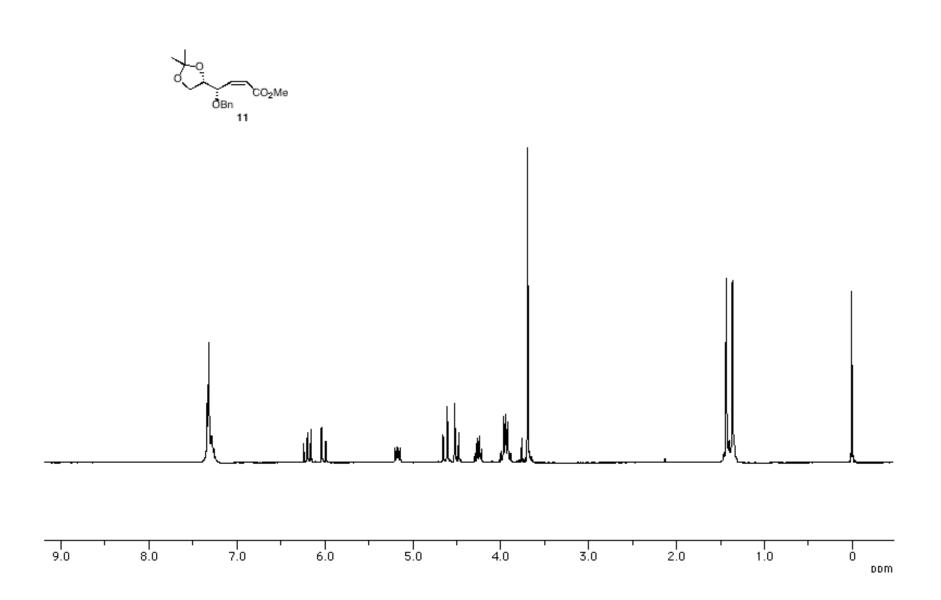
Methyl (4*R*,5*S*)-4-*O*-benzyl-5,6-*O*-isopropylidene-4,5,6-trihydroxyhex-2,3-*Z*-enoate 12 was obtained from 8 in 80% yield by the procedure described for 11. 12: $[\alpha]_D$ –10.7 (*c* 1.4); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3031, 3011, 2990, 2952, 2889, 1720, 1651, 1454, 1438, 1383, 1373, 1211; 1181, 1156, 1070, 998, 905, 882, 843, 828; ¹H NMR 7.31 (m, 5H), 6.15 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58, 4.48 (2d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR 166.2, 145.7, 138.3, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 123.8, 109.8, 77.4, 74.5, 71.6, 66.4, 51.5, 26.3, 25.3; MS (ESI) *m/z* 329 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₂₂O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 329.1365, found 329.1344.

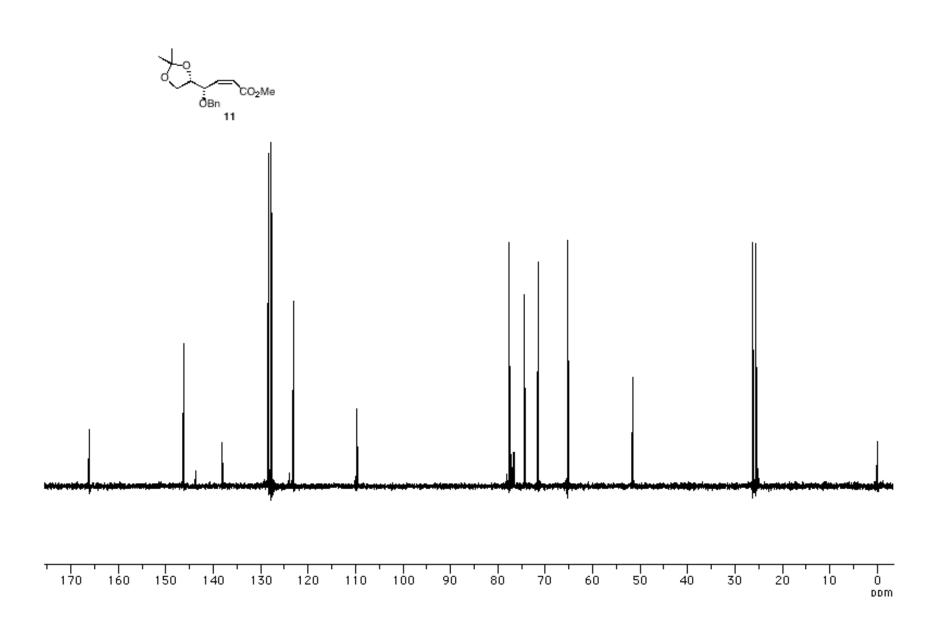


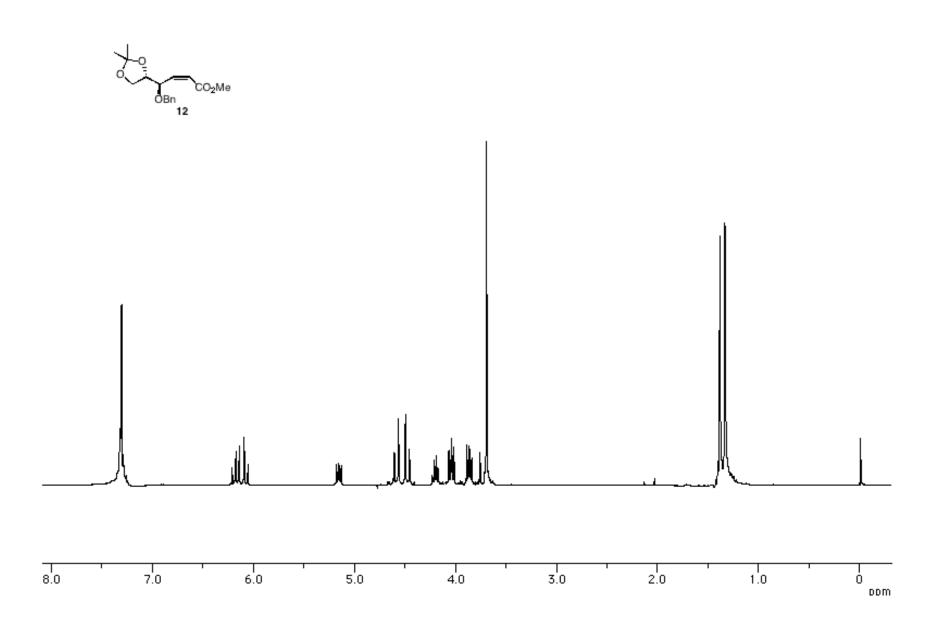


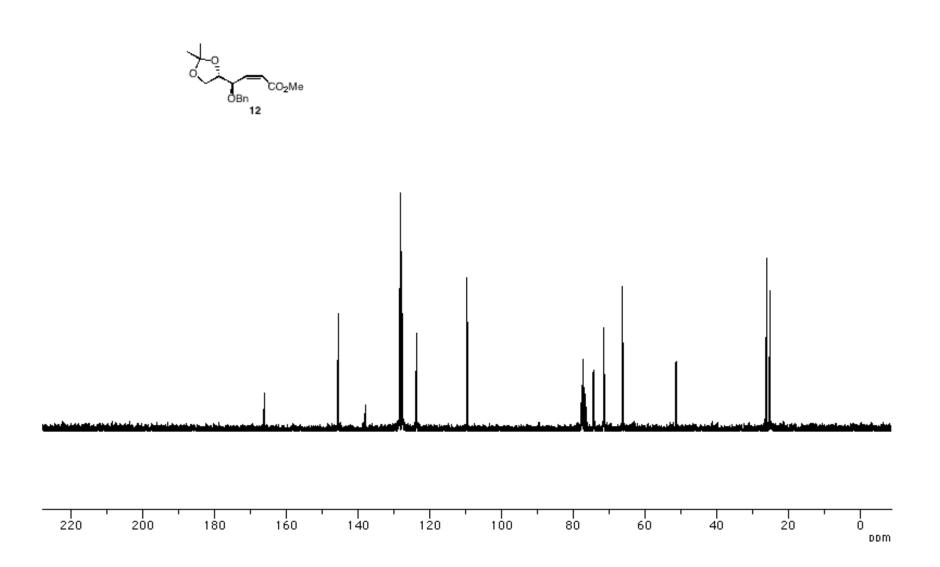


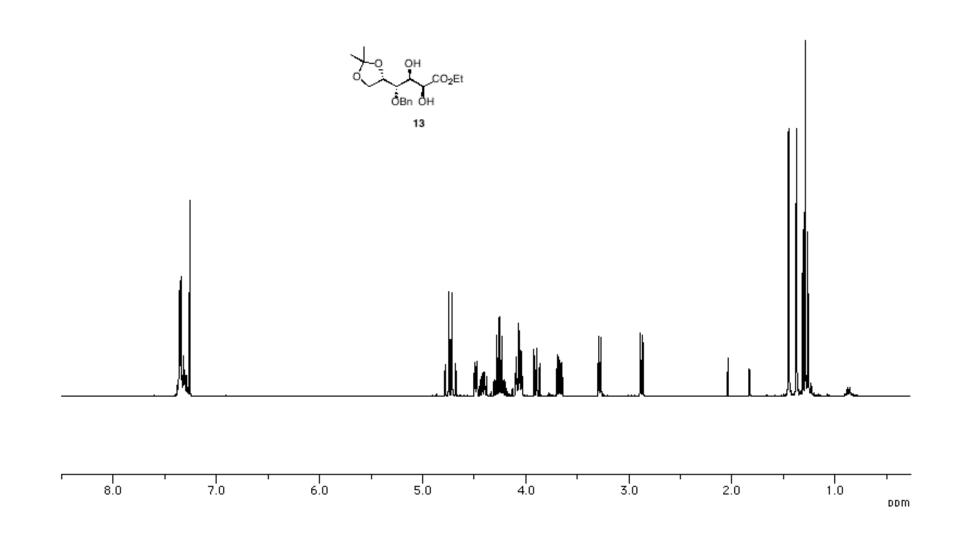


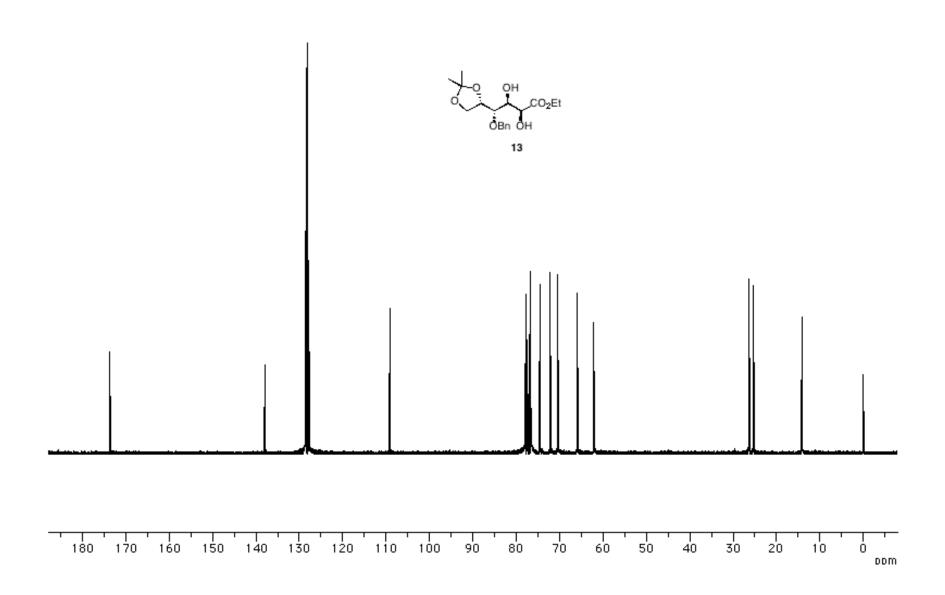


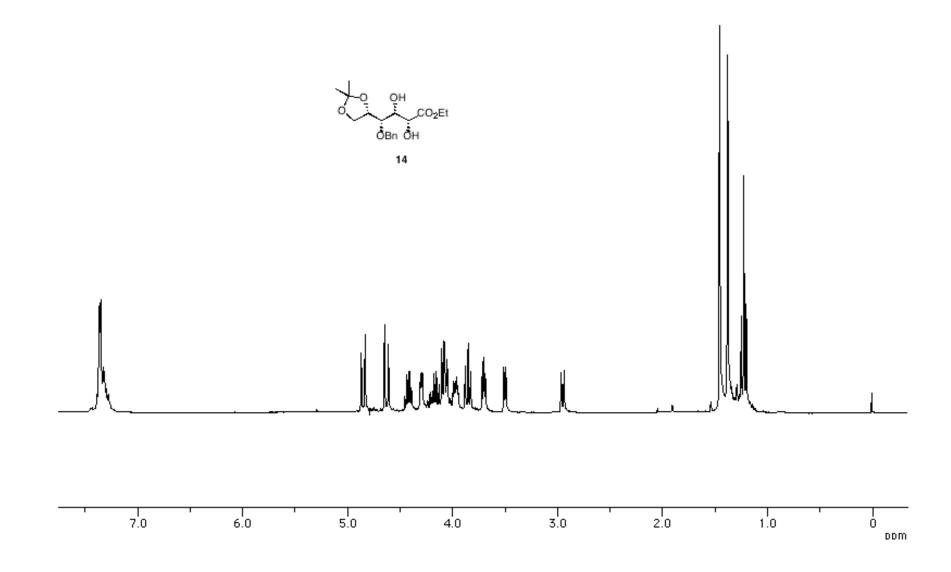


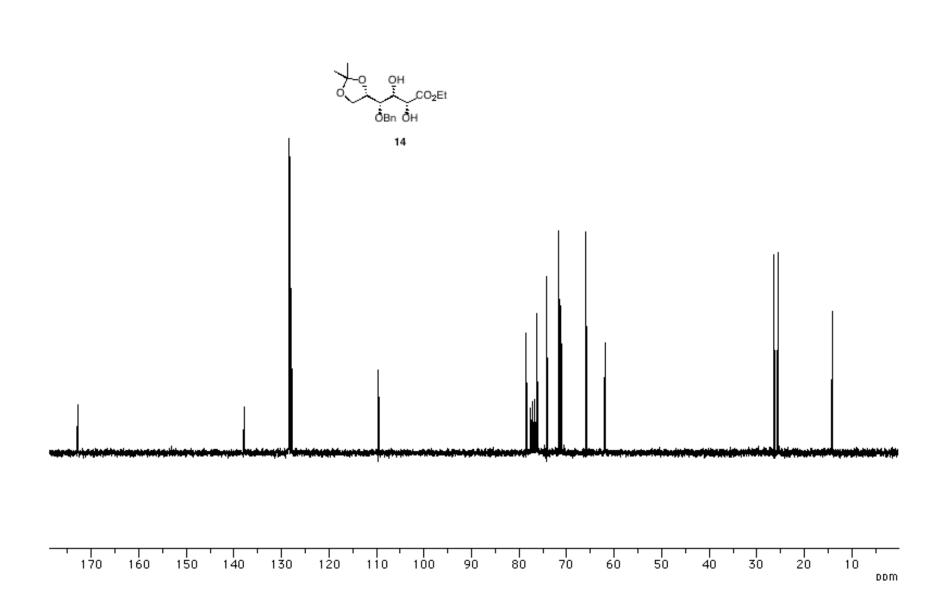


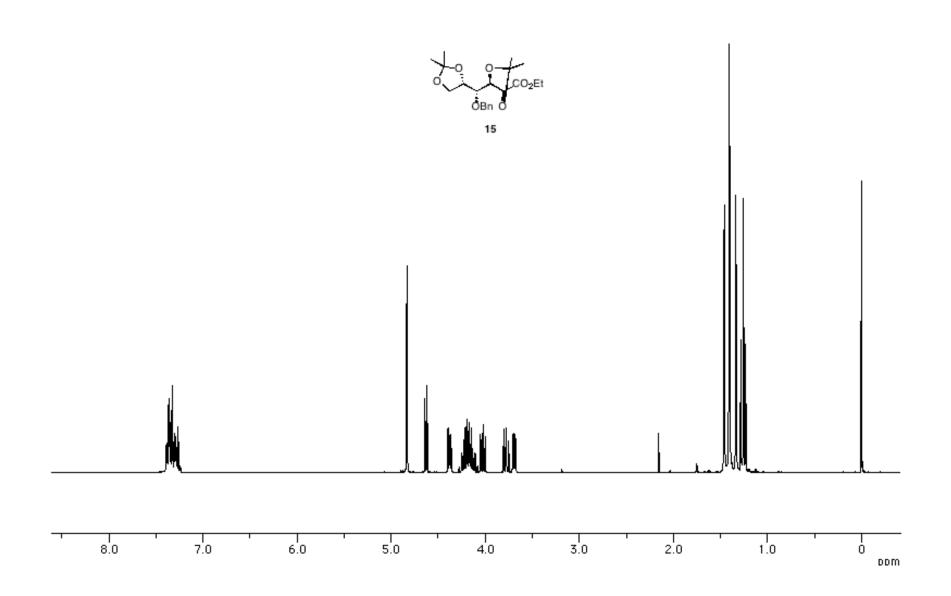


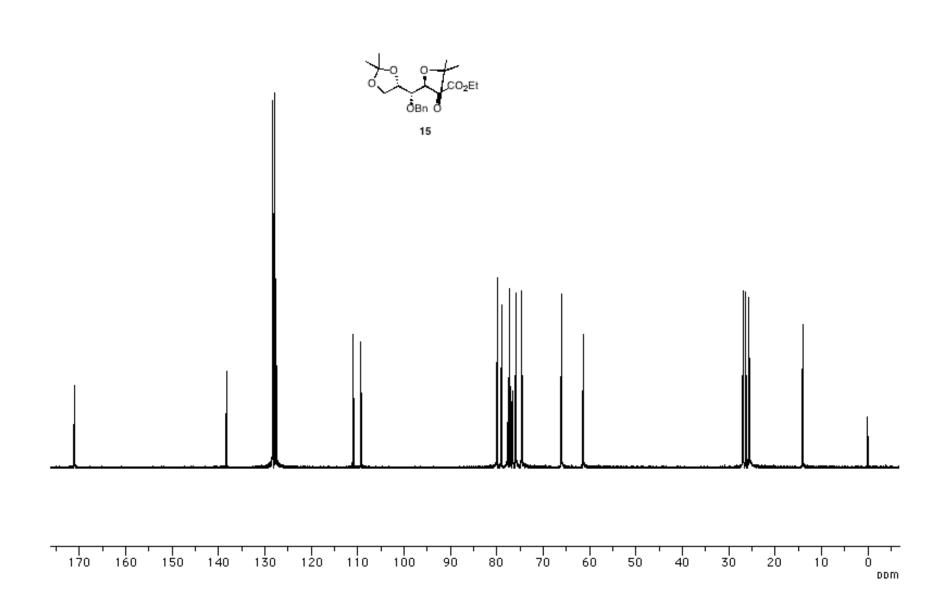


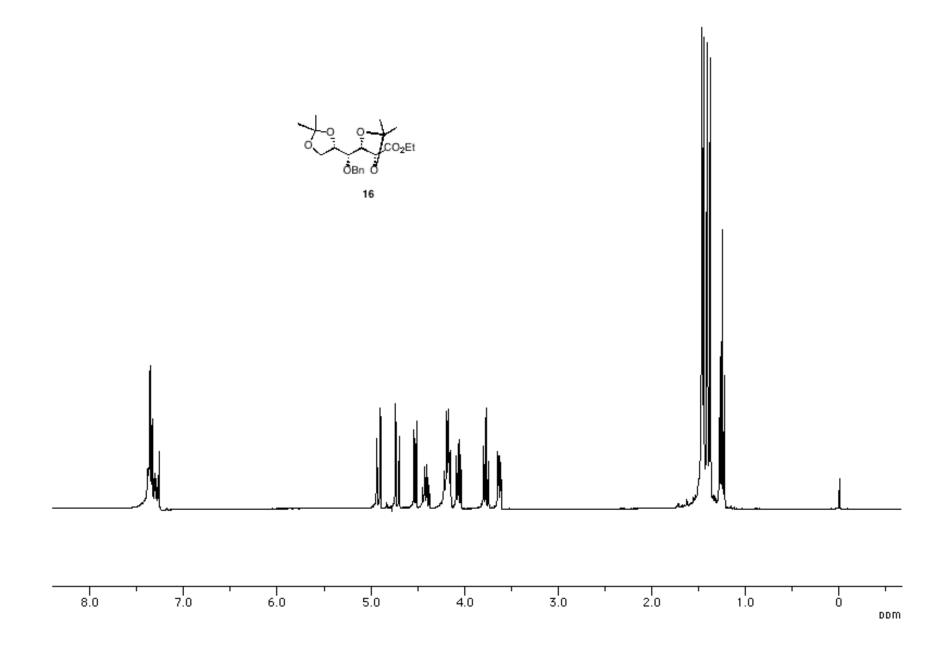


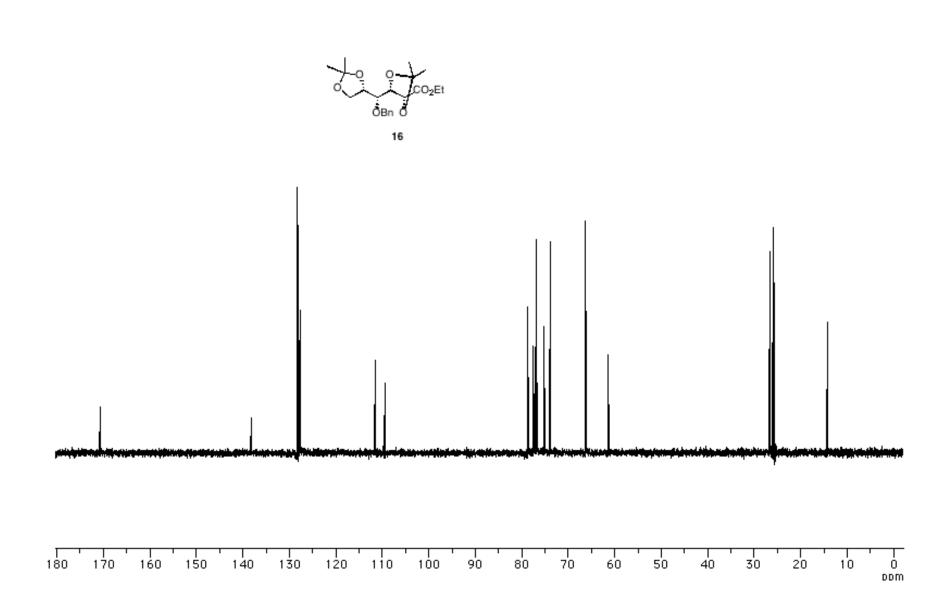


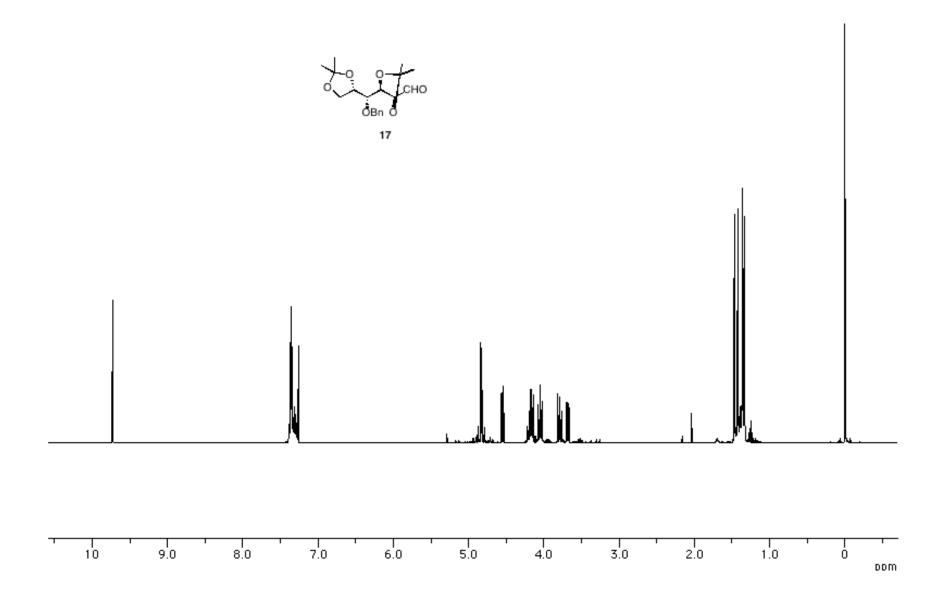


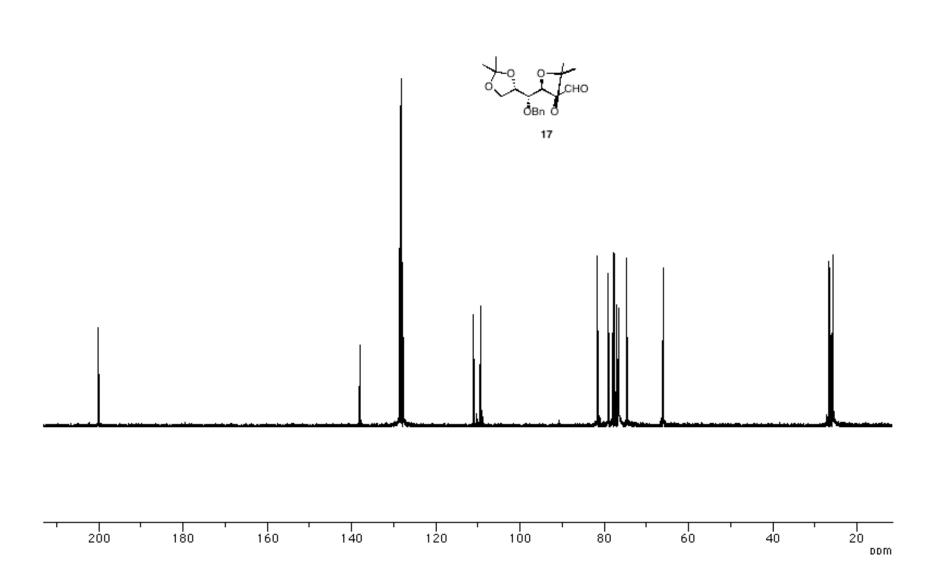


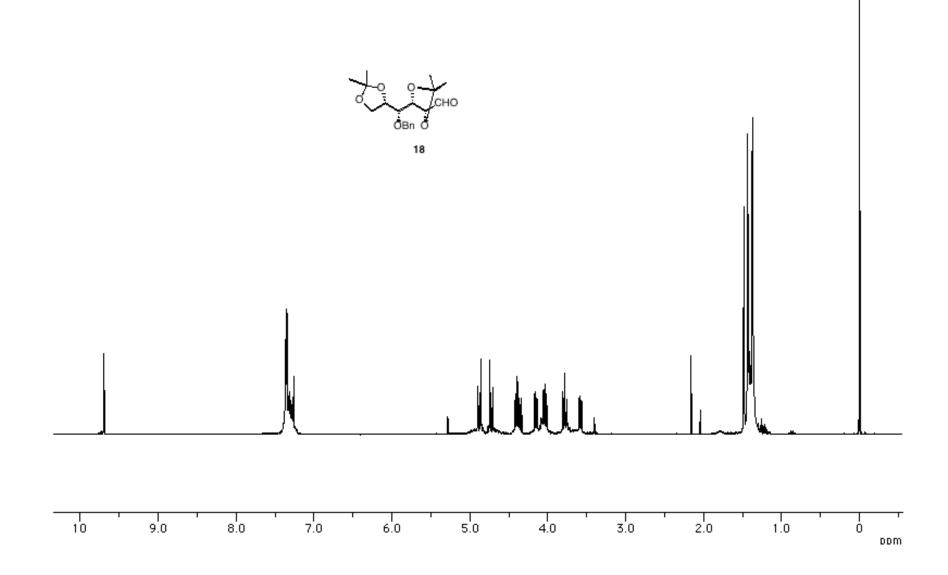


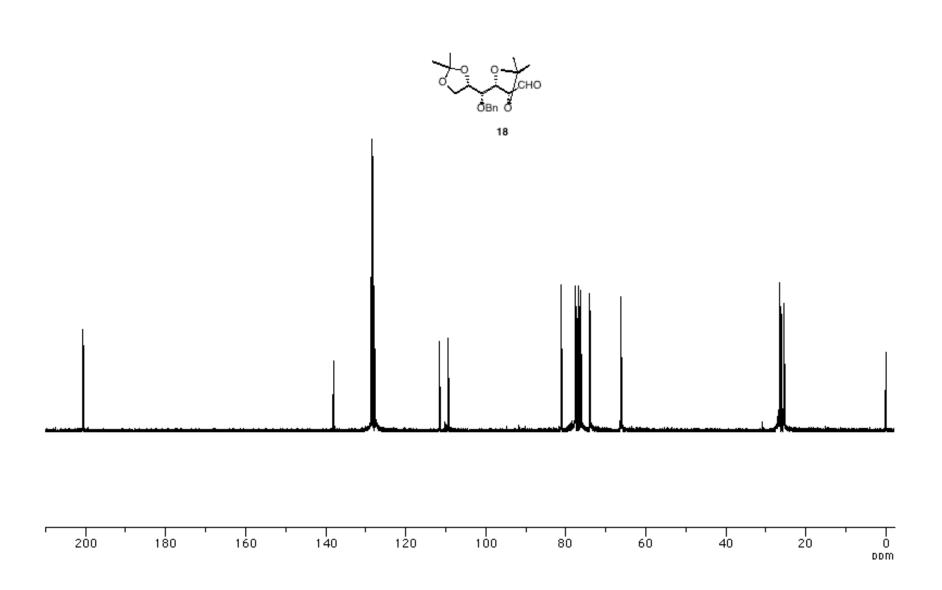


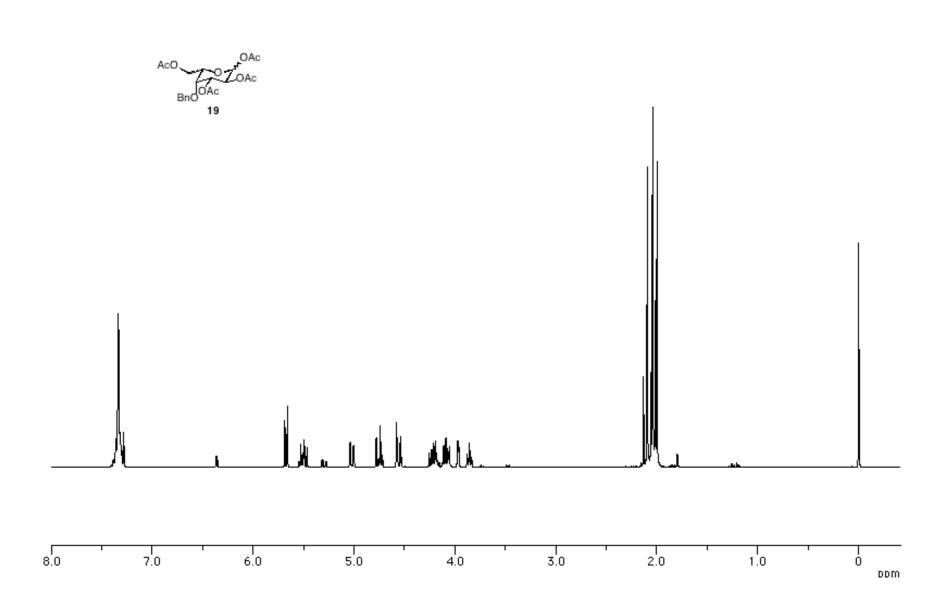


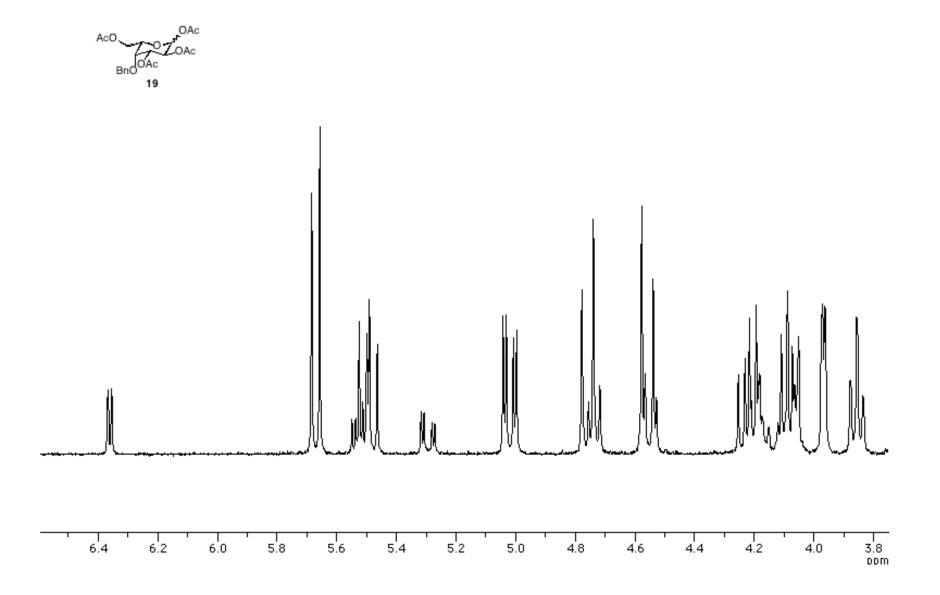


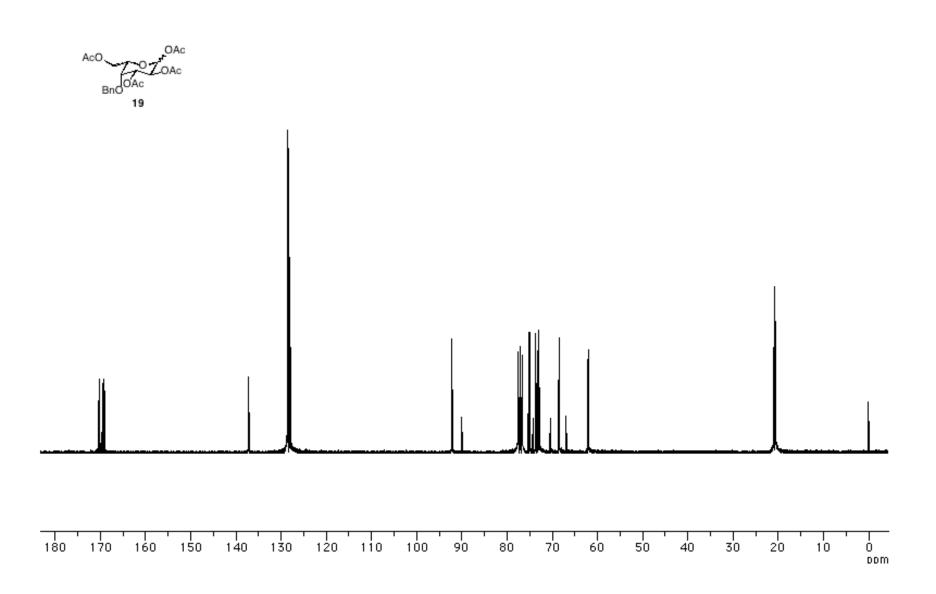


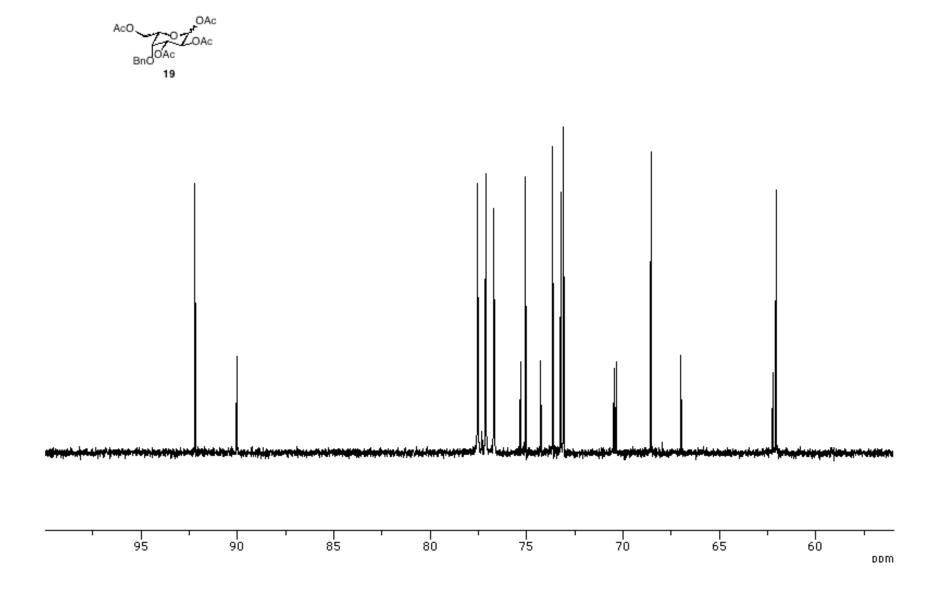


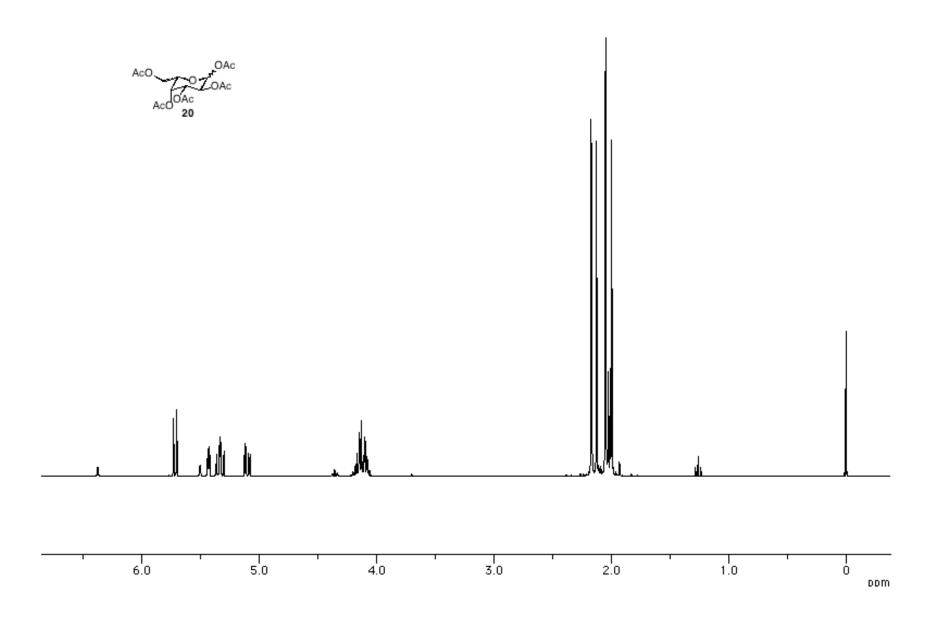


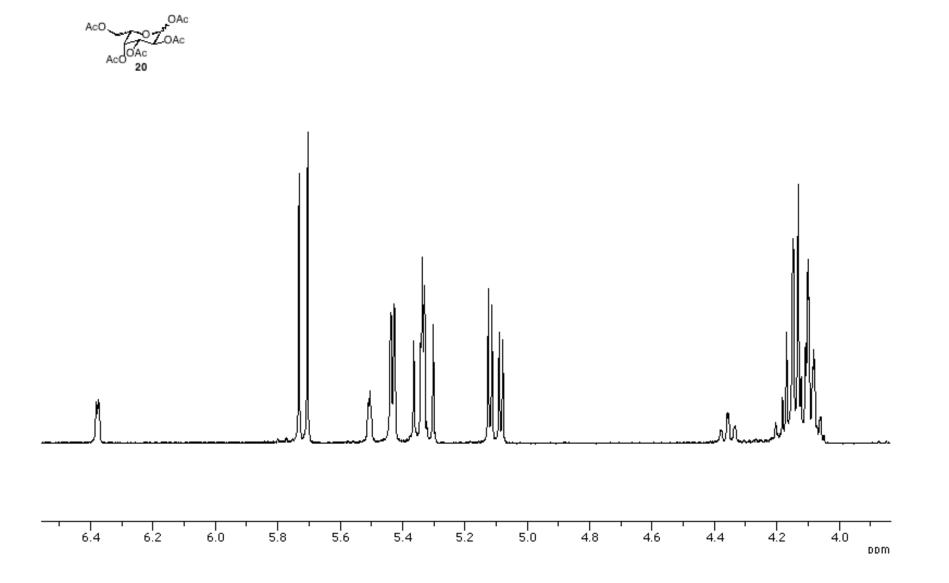


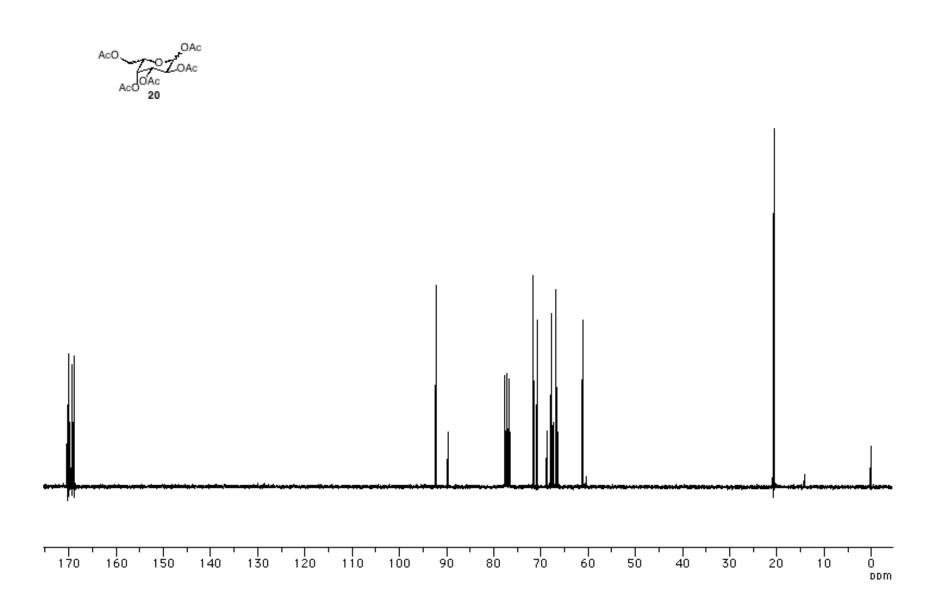


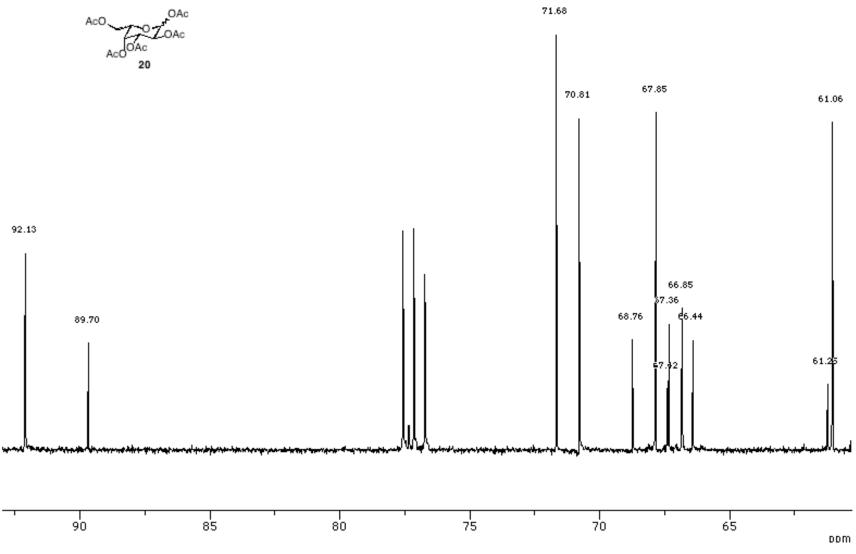


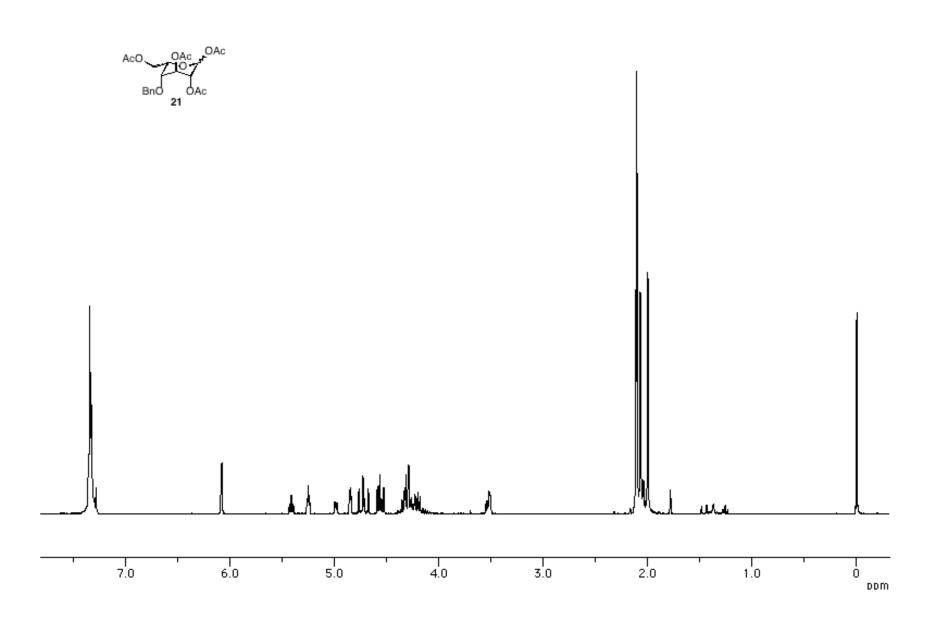


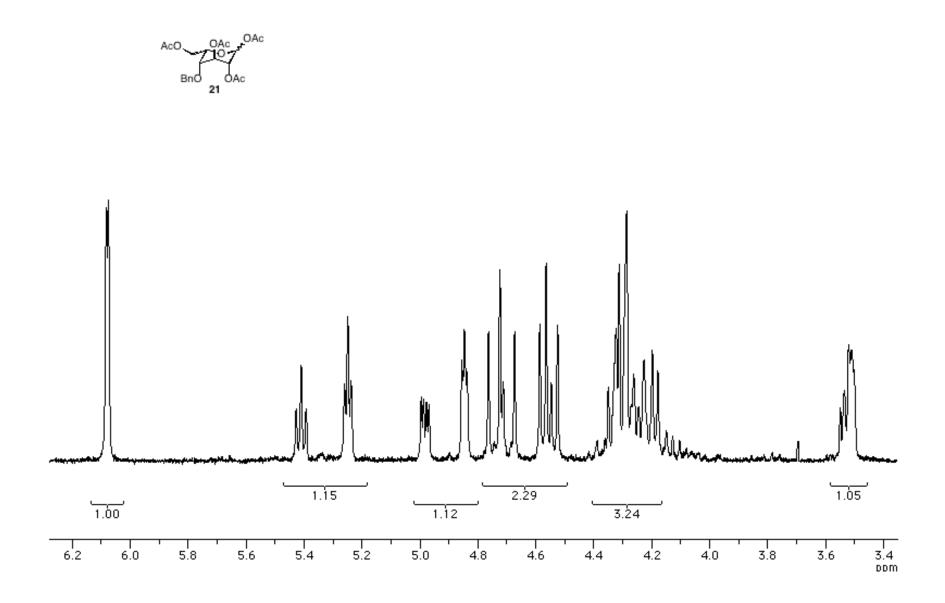


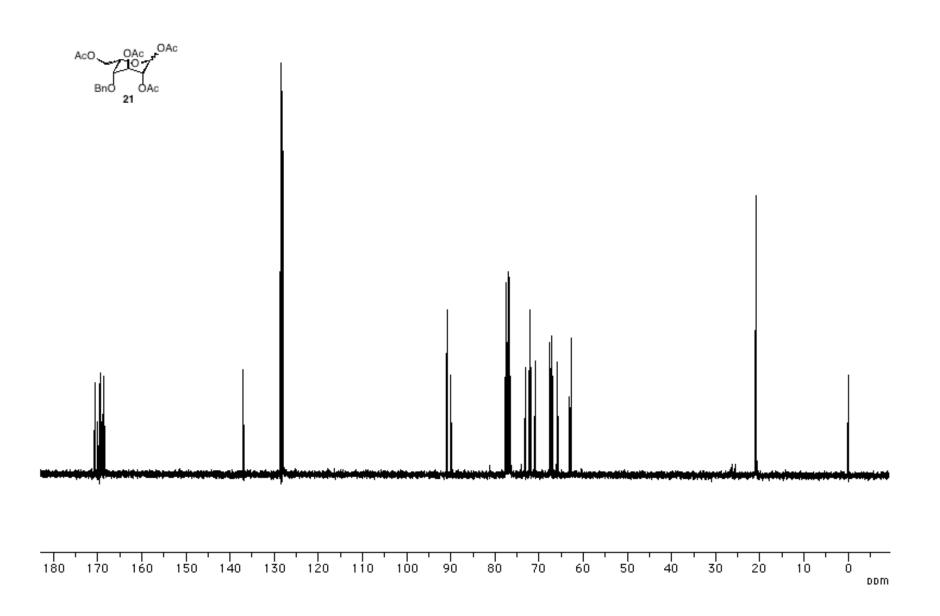


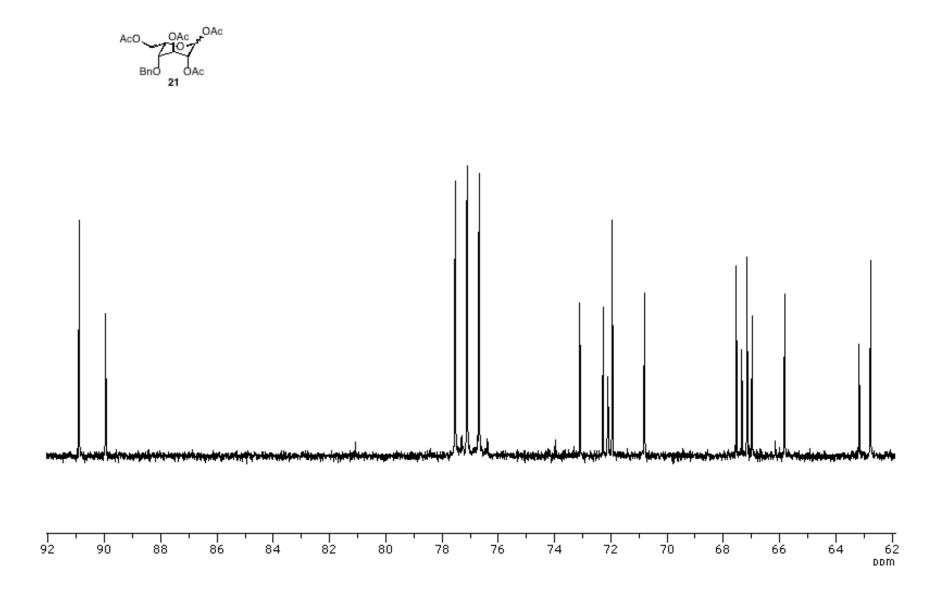












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