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## ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESSES OF HIGHLY FUNCTIONALIZED BICYCLO[2.2.2]OCTENE DERIVATIVES

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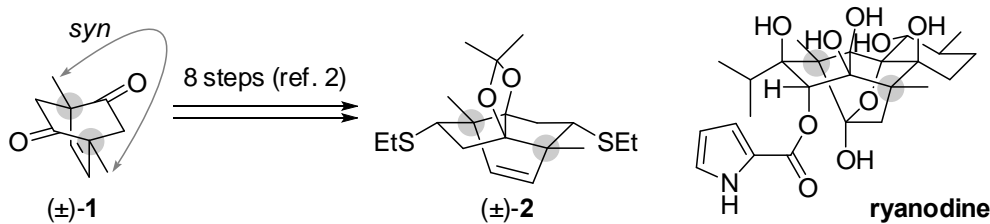
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**Abstract** – Highly functionalized bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives bearing two quaternary carbon centers were synthesized in an asymmetric fashion. The key transformations were the regioselective Diels-Alder reaction between 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal and 1,1-diethoxyethylene and the subsequent enzymatic resolution. The optically active bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives obtained should serve as versatile chiral building blocks for highly functionalized natural products such as ryanodine.

*Dedicated to Professor Albert Eschenmoser on the occasion of his 85th birthday.*

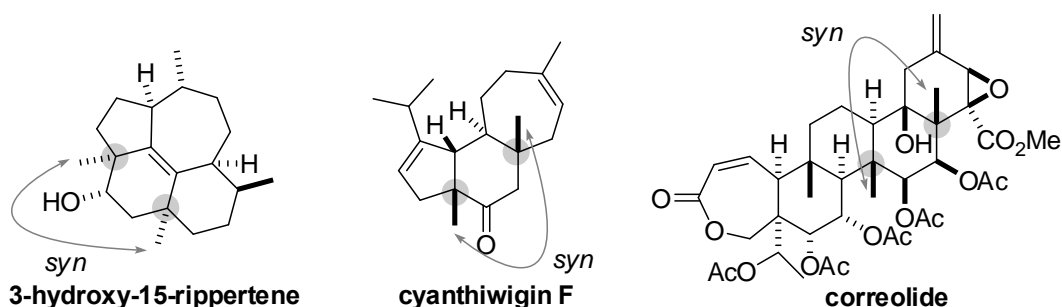
### INTRODUCTION

Many natural terpenoids possess complex carbocycles decorated by various oxygen functionalities and alkyl appendages. Among the diverse structural units found in terpenoids, quaternary carbon centers pose a particular challenge to synthetic organic chemists. The challenge is exacerbated further when multiple quaternary stereocenters are present within the complex carbocycles.<sup>1</sup> Recently, we reported the synthesis of racemic  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene ( $\pm$ )-**1**, which bears two quaternary stereocenters (Scheme 1).<sup>2</sup> The diketone functionalities of ( $\pm$ )-**1** were then utilized as the chemical handles for its derivatization into ( $\pm$ )-**2**, which directly corresponds to the tricyclic skeleton of the pentacyclic sesquiterpenoid, ryanodine.<sup>3</sup> This synthesis demonstrated the utility of the bicyclo[2.2.2]octene ( $\pm$ )-**1** as an intermediate for construction of complex carboskeletons with multiple quaternary carbons.



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of the tricyclic core of ryanodine from the  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene

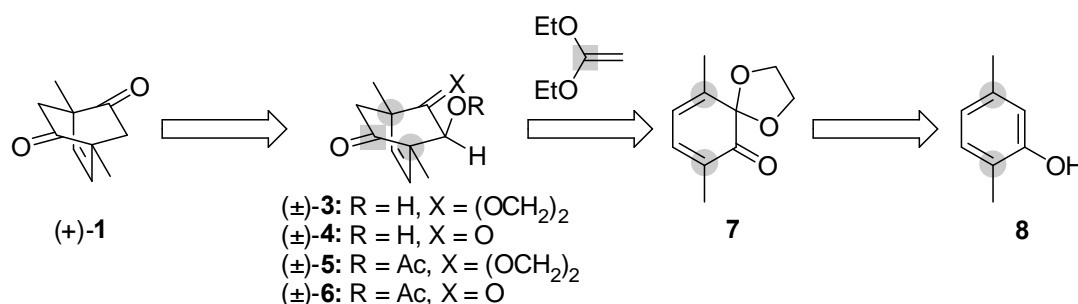
Aside from the ryanodine structure, the 1,4-*syn*-oriented dimethyl groups of (±)-**1** at the quaternary centers are structural units of various terpenoids, such as 3-hydroxy-15-rippertene,<sup>4</sup> cyanthiwigin F,<sup>5</sup> and correolide (Figure 1).<sup>6</sup> Therefore, compound **1** and related highly functionalized bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives should act as versatile building blocks for diverse polycyclic natural products. In this context, we decided to establish an asymmetric synthetic route to **1** and its analogous structures.



**Figure 1.** Natural terpenoids containing 1,4-*syn*-oriented dimethyl groups

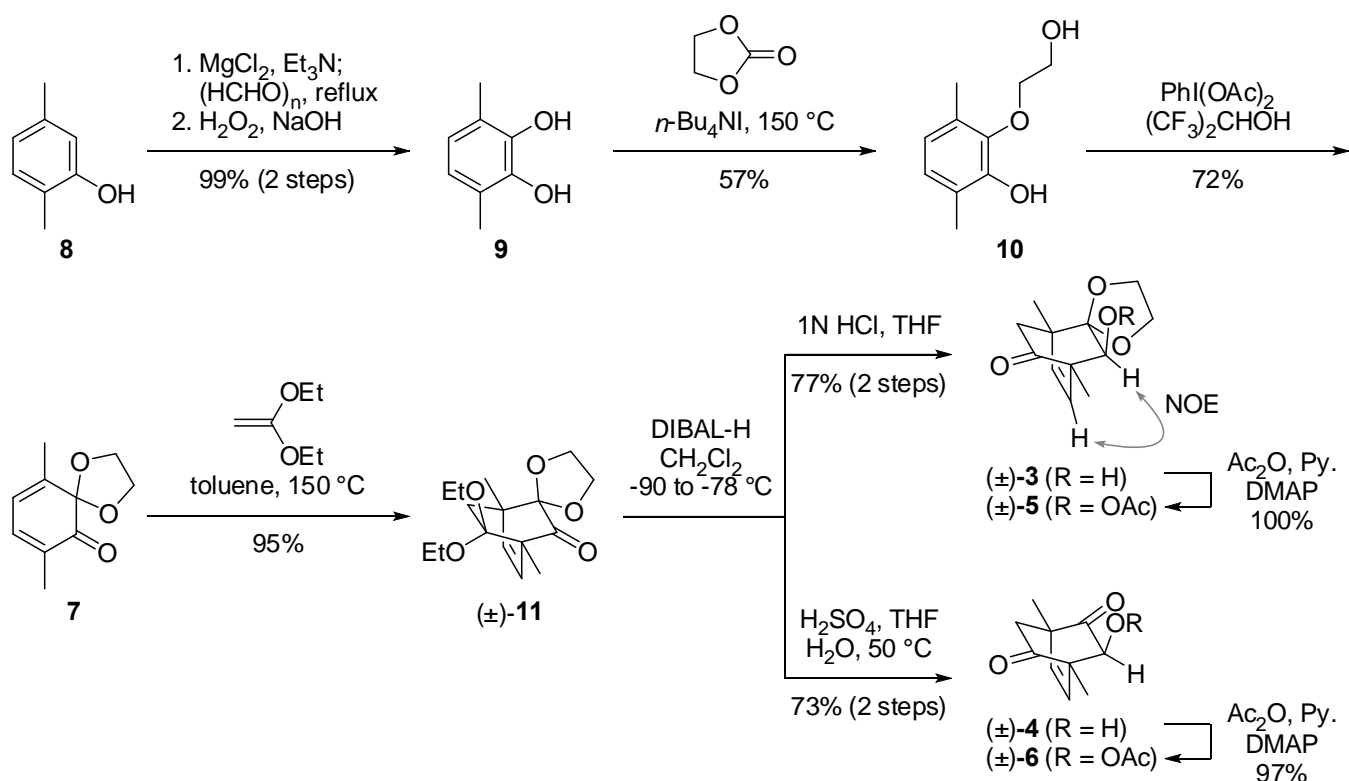
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Enantiopure (+)-**1** was planned to be synthesized through enzymatic resolution of racemic compounds (Scheme 2).<sup>7</sup> To do so, the secondary hydroxy and acetoxy groups were retrosynthetically introduced to the bicyclo[2.2.2]octene structure for the enzymatic acetylation and deacetylation, respectively. In the synthetic direction, the resolution of the racemic compounds (±)-**3**, (±)-**4**, (±)-**5** or (±)-**6** would generate the corresponding enantiomerically pure acetate or alcohol, which were to be converted into (+)-**1**. The two quaternary stereocenters of bicycles (±)-**3-6** would be in turn constructed using the regioselective Diels-Alder reaction in a single step. Specifically, the ketene equivalent and 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal **7** were used as the dienophile and diene, respectively, to establish the bicyclic structure.<sup>8</sup> Compound **7** with two  $sp^2$ -connected methyl groups would be synthesized from 2,5-dimethylphenol **8** via oxidative dearomatization.<sup>9</sup>



**Scheme 2.** Plan for asymmetric syntheses of the bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives

As shown in Scheme 3, 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal **7** was synthesized from 2,5-dimethylphenol **8** in four steps. *Ortho*-selective formylation of **8**<sup>10</sup> and subsequent Dakin reaction afforded catechol **9**<sup>11</sup> in 99% yield. Monoetherification of **9** with ethylene carbonate in the presence of *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI,<sup>12</sup> followed by oxidative intramolecular acetalization of **10** using PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, furnished cyclic acetal **7** in 42% yield (two steps).

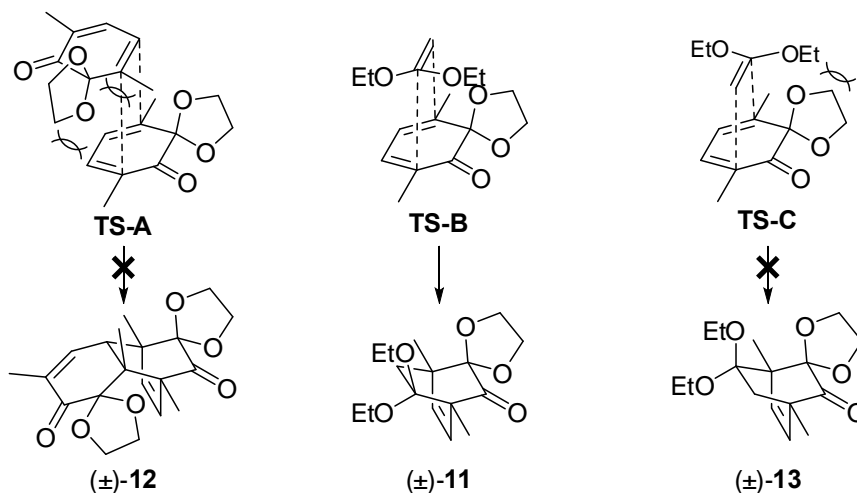


**Scheme 3.** Syntheses of the racemic bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives

Despite the general tendency toward facile dimerization through self Diels-Alder reaction of *o*-quinone monoacetals,<sup>8</sup> 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal **7** was remarkably stable even above 100 °C. Most importantly, diene **7** smoothly underwent Diels-Alder reaction with the electron-rich ketene equivalent, 1,1-ethoxyethylene, at 150 °C to introduce the two quaternary stereocenters. The reaction resulted in

formation of bicyclo[2.2.2]octene ( $\pm$ )-**11** as the sole product in 95% yield.

Both the exceptional stability and the exclusive regioselectivity in the cycloaddition should arise from the unique structural features of **7** (Figure 2). The bulky ketal and the two methyl groups prevent the dimerization pathway via **TS-A**, while the serious steric repulsion between the ketal and the ethoxy group of 1,1-diethoxyethylene inhibits the Diels-Alder reaction via the transition state **TS-C**. Consequently, **TS-B** is favored over the other two transition states, leading to predominant formation of ( $\pm$ )-**11**.



**Figure 2.** Possible Diels-Alder reactions of **7**

Thus obtained ( $\pm$ )-**11** was converted to the four substrates ( $\pm$ )-**3**, ( $\pm$ )-**4**, ( $\pm$ )-**5** and ( $\pm$ )-**6** for the enzymatic resolution (Scheme 3). Reduction of ( $\pm$ )-**11** with DIBAL-H, followed by treatment with aqueous 1M HCl, gave rise to ( $\pm$ )-**3** in 77% yield (two steps) through chemoselective removal of the diethyl acetal. The stereochemistry of the resultant alcohol of ( $\pm$ )-**3** was determined by NOE experiments. Alternatively, stepwise reaction with DIBAL-H then aqueous sulfuric acid transformed bis-acetal ( $\pm$ )-**11** into diketone ( $\pm$ )-**4** in 73% yield over two steps. Further one-step conversion from ( $\pm$ )-**3** and ( $\pm$ )-**4** gave acetylated derivatives ( $\pm$ )-**5** (100%) and ( $\pm$ )-**6** (97%), respectively.

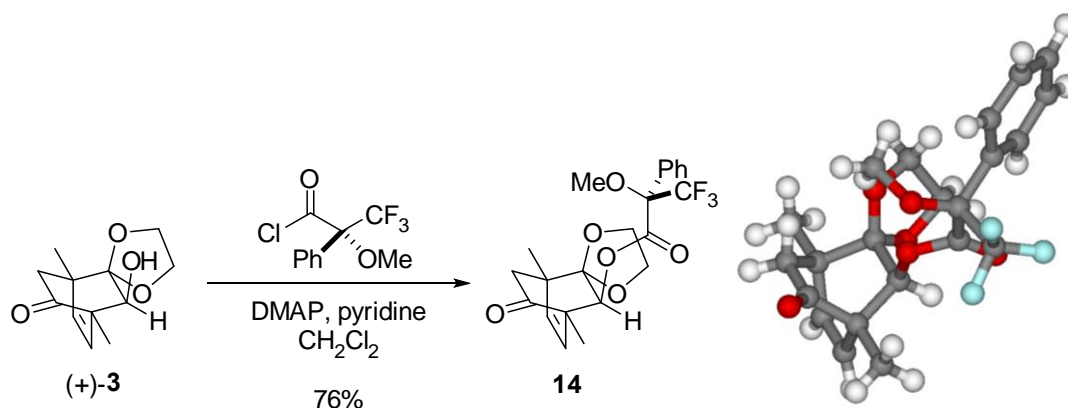
Next, the four racemic bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives were subjected to either enzymatic acetylation or deacetylation in order to deliver the corresponding enantiopure compounds.<sup>13</sup> Both alcohols ( $\pm$ )-**3** and ( $\pm$ )-**4** failed to react with acetylation agents under the various enzymatic conditions, presumably because the hydroxy groups of ( $\pm$ )-**3** and ( $\pm$ )-**4** were hindered by the sterically cumbersome bicyclic structures. In fact, the acetates ( $\pm$ )-**5** and ( $\pm$ )-**6**, the reacting carbonyls of which are more distant from the bicycles than the hydroxys, had higher reactivity toward the enzymes. Compounds ( $\pm$ )-**5** and ( $\pm$ )-**6** were smoothly hydrolyzed into alcohols (+)-**4** (13% ee, entry 1) and (+)-**3** (58% ee, entry 2), respectively, by the action of pig liver esterase (PLE) in pH 7 buffer.<sup>14</sup> To improve the enantioselectivity, the co-organic solvent was screened by employing the more promising substrate ( $\pm$ )-**5** (entries 3-5). Consequently,

addition of isopropyl ether (entry 5) to the reaction media was demonstrated to have beneficial effect in comparison to dimethyl sulfoxide (entry 3) or *tert*-butanol (entry 4), resulting in formation of (+)-**3** of 93% ee in 26% yield.<sup>15</sup> After further optimization of temperature and pH, we found the resolution of (±)-**5** was best performed in a mixture of pH 8 buffer and isopropyl ether at 30 °C to afford optically active (+)-**3** (41% yield and 84% ee, entry 6) and (–)-**5** (52% yield and 82% ee).<sup>16</sup> Recrystallization of (+)-**3** from hexane and ethyl acetate increased its optical purity to 96% ee (78% yield). As shown in Figure 3, the absolute structure of (+)-**3** was unambiguously determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis of the (*R*)-MTPA ester derivative **14**.

**Table 1.** Enzymatic resolution

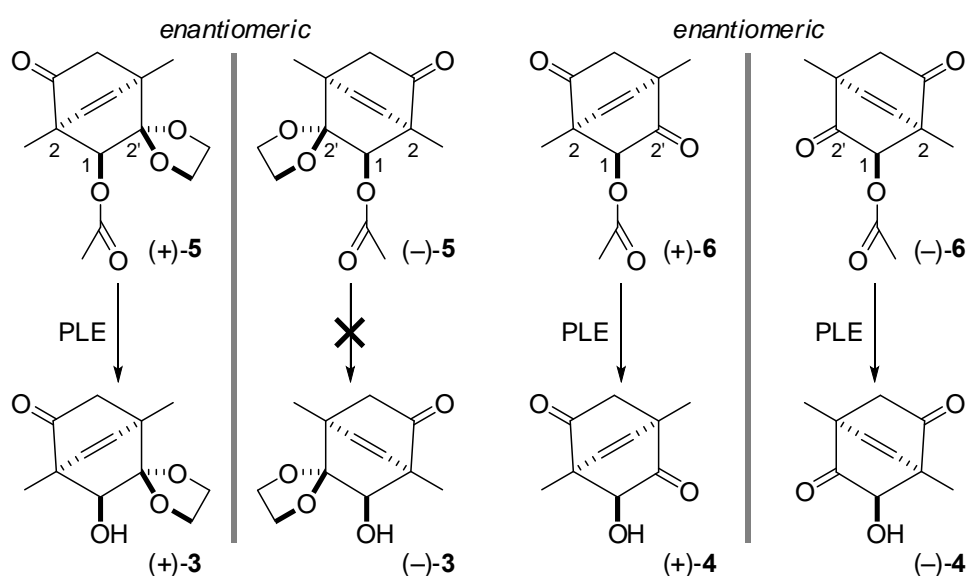
entry	substrate	pH	co-solvent <sup>a</sup>	temp.	time	yields (enantiomeric excess) <sup>b</sup>	
						(+)- <b>3</b>	(–)- <b>5</b>
1	(±)- <b>6</b>	7	–	rt	20 min	38% (13% ee) <sup>c</sup>	– <sup>d</sup>
2	(±)- <b>5</b>	7	–	rt	7 h	29% (58% ee)	– <sup>d</sup>
3	(±)- <b>5</b>	7	DMSO	rt	7 h	29% (67% ee)	65% <sup>e</sup>
4	(±)- <b>5</b>	7	<i>t</i> -BuOH	rt	72 h	13% (84% ee)	86% <sup>e</sup>
5	(±)- <b>5</b>	7	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> O	rt	24 h	26% (93% ee)	70% <sup>e</sup>
6	(±)- <b>5</b>	8	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> O	30 °C	24 h	41% (84% ee) <sup>f</sup>	52% (82% ee)

<sup>a</sup>20% of cosolvent was used. <sup>b</sup>Optical purity was determined from integration of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the corresponding MTPA ester. <sup>c</sup>Product was (+)-**4**. <sup>d</sup>Yield and optical purity were not determined. <sup>e</sup>Optical purity was not determined. <sup>f</sup>The optical purity was increased to 96% ee after recrystallization from AcOEt/hexane.



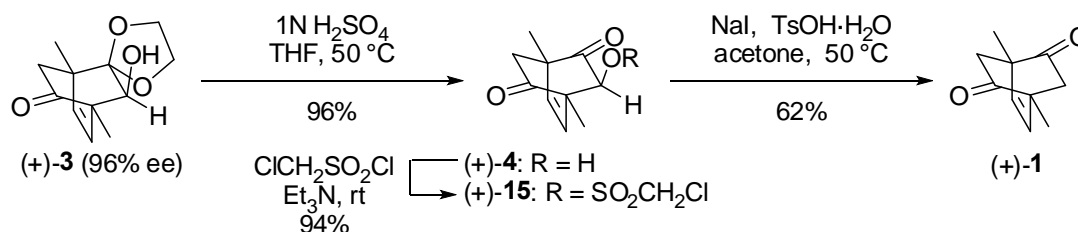
**Figure 3.** Synthesis of (*R*)-MTPA ester **14** and its X-ray crystallographic structure

The enantioselectivity of the enzymatic reaction from ( $\pm$ )-**5** was remarkably higher than that from ( $\pm$ )-**6** (see entries 1 and 2, Table 1). These distinct outcomes should originate from the steric difference between the C2'-cyclic acetal and the C2'-ketone of **5** and **6**, respectively (Figure 4). Namely, the reactivities of (+)-**5** and (-)-**5** toward the enzyme were effectively discriminated by the steric effect of the bulky C2'-substituted acetal, and consequently hydrolysis of (+)-**5** was favored over that of (-)-**5**. On the other hand, the same enzyme hydrolyzed both (+)-**6** and (-)-**6** non-selectively, due to the similar sizes of the pseudo-equatorially oriented ketone and methyl groups, leading to lower enantiomeric excess of the generated (+)-**4**.



**Figure 4.** Significant role of the cyclic acetal in the enzymatic resolution

The obtained enantiopure (+)-**3** was successfully converted to the optically active  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene **1**, the intermediate for the synthetic study of ryanodine (Scheme 4). Hydrolysis of the ketal in alcohol (+)-**3** (96% ee) under acidic conditions provided diketone (+)-**4** in 95% yield. Dehydroxylation of diketone (+)-**4** was accomplished by a two-step sequence. Chloromesylation of the hydroxy group converted (+)-**4** into (+)-**15** in 94% yield. Finally, treatment of  $\alpha$ -chloromesylated ketone (+)-**15** with NaI<sup>17</sup> in the presence of TsOH gave rise to  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene **1** (62% yield) through  $\alpha$ -iodoketone formation and subsequent reductive cleavage of the carbon-iodine bond by nucleophilic attack of iodide.<sup>18</sup>



**Scheme 4.** Synthesis of  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene (+)-1

In summary, we established an asymmetric synthetic route to highly functionalized bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives bearing two quaternary carbon centers. The regioselective Diels-Alder reaction of the 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal to install the 1,4-*syn*-oriented methyl groups, and the subsequent enzymatic resolution were the two key reactions to produce bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives (+)-3 and (–)-5 in a highly enantioselective fashion. Additionally, the optically active  $C_2$ -symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene (+)-1, an intermediate for our synthetic study of ryanodine, was obtained from (+)-3 in three steps. Studies toward an asymmetric total synthesis of ryanodine and other complex natural products from these bicyclo[2.2.2]octene derivatives are currently underway in our laboratory.

## EXPERIMENTAL

All reactions sensitive to air or moisture were carried out under argon or atmosphere in dry or freshly distilled solvents under anhydrous conditions, unless otherwise noted. All other reagents were used as supplied unless otherwise noted. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using E. Merck Silica gel 60 F254 pre-coated plates. Column chromatography was performed using 100-210  $\mu m$  Silica Gel 60N (Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.) and flash column chromatography was 50-60  $\mu m$  Silica Gel 60 (Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.).  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECX-500, JNM-ECA-500, or a JNM-ECS-400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm on the  $\delta$  scale relative to residual  $CHCl_3$  ( $\delta = 7.26$  for  $^1H$  NMR and  $\delta = 77.0$  for  $^{13}C$  NMR) as an internal reference. Signal patterns are indicated as s, singlet; d, doublet; m, multiple. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum BX FT-IR spectrometer, or a JASCO FT/IR-4100 spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra were measured on a BRUKER DALTONICS APEX III (ESI), a BRUKER DALTONICS BioTOF-Q (ESI), a Shimadzu Biotech Axima-TOF<sup>2</sup> (MALDI), or a JEOL JMS-700 Mstation (FAB). Optical rotations were recorded on a JASCO DIP-370 Polarimeter or a JASCO DIP-1000 Digital Polarimeter. Melting points were measured on a Yanaco MP-S3 micro melting point apparatus or a Yanaco MP-J3 micro melting point apparatus, and are uncorrected.

**Cathecol 9.**<sup>11</sup> A mixture of 2,5-dimethyl phenol **8** (5.00 g, 40.9 mmol), anhydrous  $MgCl_2$  (5.85 g, 61.4

mmol), and Et<sub>3</sub>N (17 mL, 0.12 mol) in MeCN (27 mL) was stirred for 15 min at room temperature, and then paraformaldehyde (3.69 g, 0.12 mol) was added to the mixture. After being stirred for 2.5 h at 100 °C, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (40 mL) and 1M HCl (40 mL). After the resulting organic layer was separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (40 mL x 2). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated to give the crude aldehyde, which was used to the next reaction without further purification.

To a solution of the crude aldehyde in THF (17 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) was added 5M aqueous NaOH solution (8.1 mL) and 30% aqueous H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> solution (4.2 mL) at 0 °C. After being stirred at room temperature for 20 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and 2N HCl (40 mL). After the resulting organic layer was separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL x 3). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 50 g, hexane/AcOEt 50:1 to 10:1) to afford cathecol **9** (5.58 g, 40.4 mmol) in 99% yield over 2 steps.

**Alcohol 10.** A mixture of cathecol **9** (1.27 g, 9.19 mmol), ethylene carbonate (850 mg, 9.65 mmol), and *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (167 mg, 0.45 mmol) was stirred for 7.5 h at 150 °C. Additional ethylene carbonate (81 mg, 0.92 mmol) and *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (167 mg, 0.45 mmol) were added to the solution. After 2.5 h at 150 °C, additional ethylene carbonate (40 mg, 0.45 mmol) and *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (83 mg, 0.22 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred for 2 h at 150 °C, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and diluted with AcOEt (10 mL). The resulting mixture was directly subjected to column chromatography (silica gel 20 g, hexane/AcOEt 25:1 to 10:1) to afford alcohol **10** (953 mg, 5.23 mmol) in 57% yield: dark red oil; IR (neat)  $\nu$  3447, 2995, 1770, 1759, 1374, 1246, 1059, 913, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.22 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.26 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95-3.99 (2H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.01-4.04 (2H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.57 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>), 6.79 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>), 7.46 (1H, s, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.6, 15.8, 61.9, 74.1, 120.7, 123.90, 126.1, 128.4, 144.3, 147.7; HRMS (MALDI) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 182.0937 (M<sup>+</sup>), found 182.0944.

**3,6-Dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal 7.** To a solution of alcohol **10** (1.43 g, 7.85 mmol) in (CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CHOH (5.2 mL) was added PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.65 g, 8.23 mmol) at room temperature. After being stirred for 20 min at room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 35 g, hexane/AcOEt 1:0 to 30:1) to afford 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal **7** (1.02 g, 5.66 mmol) in 72% yield: yellow oil; IR (neat)  $\nu$  2974, 2898, 1675, 1657, 1450, 1382, 1180, 1066, 1021, 980, 951 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.80 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.83 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.13-4.18 (2H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.36-4.40 (2H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 5.95 (1H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>), 6.58 (1H, d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.5, 16.5, 55.4, 66.0,



98.8, 123.2, 130.3, 137.1, 144.7, 200.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{10}H_{13}O_3$  181.0859 ( $M+H^+$ ), found 181.0858.

**Diels-Alder adduct ( $\pm$ )-11.** A solution of 3,6-dimethyl-*o*-quinone monoacetal **7** (1.02 g, 5.66 mmol) and ketene diethyl acetal (1.5 mL, 11 mmol) in toluene (1.1 mL) was stirred at 150 °C for 17 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 25 g, hexane/AcOEt 50:1 to 10:1) to afford ketone ( $\pm$ )-**11** (1.60 g, 5.40 mmol) in 95% yield: colorless oil; IR (neat)  $\nu$  2977, 2936, 2896, 1741, 1453, 1133, 1074, 1046, 1025, 951;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  1.11-1.16 (6H, m,  $OCH_2CH_3$  x 2), 1.14 (3H, s,  $CH_3$ ), 1.34 (3H, s,  $CH_3$ ), 1.70 (1H, d,  $J = 13.7$  Hz, C- $CH_AH_B$ ), 2.27 (1H, d,  $J = 13.7$  Hz, C- $CH_AH_B$ ), 3.49-3.58 (4H, m,  $OCH_2CH_3$  x 2), 4.00-4.07 (2H, m,  $OCH_2CH_2O$ ), 4.29-4.36 (2H, m,  $OCH_2CH_2O$ ), 5.67 (1H, d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz,  $CH_A=CH_B$ ), 6.13 (1H, d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz,  $CH_A=CH_B$ );  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  12.2, 15.5, 15.6, 16.3, 41.7, 41.9, 58.2, 58.3, 60.0, 66.5, 66.7, 101.8, 104.8, 132.4, 139.4, 205.5; HRMS (ESI), calcd for  $C_{16}H_{24}O_5Na$  319.1516 ( $M+Na^+$ ), found 319.1514.

**Alcohol ( $\pm$ )-3.** To a solution of ketone ( $\pm$ )-**11** (10.8 g, 36.4 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (37 mL) was added DIBAL-H (1.0 M in hexane, 66 mL, 66 mmol) at -90 °C. After 20 min, additional DIBAL-H (3.3 mL, 3.3 mmol) was introduced to the mixture. After being stirred at -78 °C for 5 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with AcOEt (70 mL), sat Rochelle's salt solution (40 mL) and saturated aqueous  $NH_4Cl$  solution (40 mL). After the organic layer was separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (80 mL x 3). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give the crude alcohol, which was used to the next reaction without further purification.

A solution of the crude alcohol in THF (33 mL) and 1M HCl (3.7 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 12 h, and the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $NaHCO_3$  solution (50 mL). The resulting solution was extracted with AcOEt (50 mL x 3) and combined organic layers were washed with brine (150 mL), dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 50 g, hexane/AcOEt 10:1 to 3:1) to afford alcohol ( $\pm$ )-**3** (6.31 g, 28.1 mmol) in 77% yield: colorless crystals; mp 72 °C (recrystallized from hexane/AcOEt); IR (neat)  $\nu$  3481, 2969, 2931, 2892, 1727, 1231, 1165, 1114, 1065, 953  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  1.20 (3H, s,  $CH_3$ ), 1.33 (3H, s,  $CH_3$ ), 1.93 (1H, d,  $J = 18.8$  Hz, C- $CH_AH_B$ ), 2.29 (1H, d,  $J = 18.8$  Hz, C- $CH_AH_B$ ), 3.37 (1H, d,  $J = 4.6$  Hz, OH), 3.38 (1H, d,  $J = 4.6$  Hz, CH-OH), 3.90-4.00 (2H, m,  $OCH_2CH_2O$ ), 4.07-4.14 (2H, m,  $OCH_2CH_2O$ ), 5.76 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz,  $CH_A=CH_B$ ), 6.16 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz,  $CH_A=CH_B$ );  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  14.4, 16.5, 41.3, 43.8, 57.1, 64.9, 67.0, 78.7, 110.8, 131.8, 139.9, 209.9; HRMS (ESI), calcd for  $C_{12}H_{16}O_4Na$  247.0941 ( $M+Na^+$ ), found 247.0940.

**Acetate ( $\pm$ )-5.** A mixture of alcohol ( $\pm$ )-**3** (3.01 g, 13.4 mmol),  $Ac_2O$  (2.3 mL, 24 mmol), pyridine (2.3

mL, 28 mmol), and DMAP (327 mg, 2.68 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (6.7 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution (10 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with AcOEt (10 mL x 2), and combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 15 g, hexane/AcOEt 20:1 to 7.5:1) to afford acetate ( $\pm$ )-**5** (3.56 g, 13.4 mmol) in 100% yield: colorless crystals; mp 89 °C (recrystallized from hexane/AcOEt); IR (neat)  $\nu$  2974, 2934, 2898, 1733, 1372, 1249, 1225, 1116, 1021, 956  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.16 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.22 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.93 (1H, d,  $J = 18.9$  Hz, C- $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}$ ), 2.06 (3H, s, Ac), 2.38 (1H, d,  $J = 18.9$  Hz, C- $\text{CH}_\text{A}\text{H}_\text{B}$ ), 3.78-4.05 (2H, m,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 4.00-4.11 (2H, m,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 4.54 (1H, s,  $\text{CH-OAc}$ ), 5.74 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_\text{A}=\text{CH}_\text{B}$ ), 6.20 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_\text{A}=\text{CH}_\text{B}$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  14.5, 16.3, 20.8, 40.5, 44.6, 54.2, 64.9, 67.5, 78.9, 110.0, 129.9, 141.4, 170.5, 208.3; HRMS(ESI), calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5\text{Na}$  289.1046 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ), found 289.1045.

**Hydroxy ketone ( $\pm$ )-4.** To a solution of ketone ( $\pm$ )-**11** (423 mg, 1.43 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2.8 mL) was added DIBAL-H (1.0 M in hexane, 4.3 mL, 4.3 mmol) at -78 °C. After 1 h at -60 °C, additional DIBAL-H (1.4 mL, 1.4 mmol) was introduced to the mixture. After being stirred at -60 °C for 1 h, additional DIBAL-H (0.7 mL, 0.7 mmol) was added to the mixture. After being stirred at -40 °C for 30 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with AcOEt (10 mL), sat Rochelle's salt solution (10 mL) and saturated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution (10 mL). After the organic layer was separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (10 mL x3). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated to give the crude alcohol, which was used to the next reaction without further purification.

A solution of the crude alcohol in a mixture of THF (0.9 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (3.7 mL), and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.3 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 26 h. Then, the mixture was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution (10 mL x 2), dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 10 g, hexane/AcOEt 10:1 to 5:1 to 1:1) to afford alcohol hydroxy ketone ( $\pm$ )-**4** (188 mg, 1.04 mmol) in 73% yield.

**Acetate ( $\pm$ )-6.** A mixture of hydroxy ketone ( $\pm$ )-**4** (75 mg, 0.42 mmol),  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (80  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.83 mmol), pyridine (34  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.42 mmol) and DMAP (10 mg, 83  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1.0 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h, and saturated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution (5 mL) was added to the mixture. After separation, the aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (5 mL x 2), and combined organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL), dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 5 g, hexane/AcOEt 20:1 to 10:1) to afford acetate ( $\pm$ )-**6** (90 mg, 0.40 mmol) in 97% yield: IR (neat)  $\nu$  2978, 2936, 1757, 1735, 1371, 1218, 1121, 1054, 1027

$\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.25 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.33 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.10 (3H, s, Ac) 2.31 (1H, d,  $J = 18.6$  Hz,  $\text{C-CH}_A\text{H}_B$ ), 2.36 (1H, d,  $J = 18.6$  Hz,  $\text{C-CH}_A\text{H}_B$ ), 5.13 (1H, s,  $\text{CH-OAc}$ ), 6.08 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_A=\text{CH}_B$ ), 6.22 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_A=\text{CH}_B$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.4, 16.2, 20.4, 42.1, 49.5, 55.7, 71.3, 134.5, 137.7, 169.7, 203.1, 205.8; HRMS(FAB), calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4$  223.0970 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 223.0978.

**Enzymatic deacetylation of acetate ( $\pm$ )-5.** A solution of acetate ( $\pm$ )-5 (5.04 g, 18.9 mmol) and PLE (5.04 g, 27 units/mg) in  $i\text{-Pr}_2\text{O}$  (38 mL) and pH 8 phosphate buffer (0.1 M, 150 mL) was stirred at 30 °C for 24 h and extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (150 mL x 15). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 60 g, hexane/AcOEt 11:1 to 1.5:1) to afford alcohol (+)-3 (1.72 g, 7.67 mmol, 84% ee) and acetate (–)-5 (2.61 g, 9.80 mmol, 82% ee,  $[\alpha]_D^{22} -278.8$ ,  $c$  1.05,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) in 41% and 52% yield, respectively. Recrystallization of (+)-3 from AcOEt/hexane (2:1, at 35–22 °C) improved its optical purity to 96% ee (1.35 g, 6.02 mmol, 78% yield):  $[\alpha]_D^{22} 407$  ( $c$  1.00,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).

**(*R*)-MTPA ester 14.** A mixture of alcohol (+)-3 (12 mg, 0.054 mmol), (*S*)-MTPACl (15  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.082 mmol), and DMAP (3 mg, 0.02 mmol), pyridine (26  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.163 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.3 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 16 h, and additional (*S*)-MTPACl (15  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.082 mmol) and DMAP (3 mg, 0.02 mmol) was added to the mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 11 h, and then quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution (3 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (3 mL x 3), and combined organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL), dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel 1 g, hexane/AcOEt 60:1 to 15:1) to afford (*R*)-MTPA ester 14 (18 mg, 0.041 mmol) in 76% yield: colorless crystals; mp 139–140 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.12 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.16 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.91 (1H, d,  $J = 18.8$  Hz,  $\text{C-CH}_A\text{H}_B$ ), 2.30 (1H, d,  $J = 18.8$  Hz,  $\text{C-CH}_A\text{H}_B$ ), 3.46 (3H, s,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.77 (1H, ddd,  $J = 10.1, 6.9, 6.7$  Hz,  $\text{OCH}_A\text{H}_B\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 3.87 (1H, ddd,  $J = 6.9, 6.4, 2.3$  Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_A\text{H}_B\text{O}$ ), 4.08 (1H, ddd,  $J = 8.2, 6.7, 2.3$  Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_A\text{H}_B\text{O}$ ), 4.16 (1H, ddd,  $J = 10.1, 8.2, 6.4$  Hz,  $\text{OCH}_A\text{H}_B\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), 4.63 (1H, s,  $\text{CH-OCO-}$ ), 5.71 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_A=\text{CH}_B$ ), 6.21 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_A=\text{CH}_B$ ), 7.39 (3H, m, Ph), 7.53–7.57 (2H, m, Ph).

#### Crystallographic data of 14.<sup>19</sup>

$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_3\text{O}_6$ ,  $M = 440.414$ , monoclinic, space group  $\text{P2}_1$ ,  $a = 10.891(3)$  Å,  $b = 12.273(4)$  Å,  $c = 8.517(3)$  Å,  $\alpha = 90.00^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 110.54(2)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 90.00^\circ$ ,  $V = 1066.1(6)$  Å<sup>3</sup>, density  $1.372$  g·cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $R$  value = 0.013.

**Hydroxy ketone (+)-4.** A solution of alcohol (+)-3 (2.74 g, 12.2 mmol) in a mixture of THF (5.5 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (1.1 mL), and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (5.5 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 20 h. Then, AcOEt (10 mL) and saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution (10 mL) were added at 0 °C. After the organic layer was separated, the

aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (10 mL x 6). Combined organic layers were washed with brine (70 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 25 g, hexane/AcOEt 10:1 to 6:1) to afford hydroxy ketone (+)-**4** (2.11 g, 11.7 mmol) in 96% yield: colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  787 (*c* 0.98, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat)  $\nu$  3447, 2974, 2934, 1730, 1454, 1123, 1064, 1026, 817, 774, 683 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.34 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.41 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.22 (1H, d, *J* = 18.5 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub>), 2.31 (1H, d, *J* = 18.5 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub>), 2.83 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, OH), 3.67 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, CH-OH), 6.03 (1H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>), 6.17 (1H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.6, 16.1, 42.3, 49.1, 56.7, 72.8, 135.0, 136.9, 206.8, 208.8.; HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 203.0679 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>), found 203.0678.

**Chloromesylate (+)-15.** To a solution of hydroxy ketone (+)-**4** (1.37 g, 7.60 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.8 mL, 13 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) was added ClCH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl (1.0 mL, 11 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred at room temperature for 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (20 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with AcOEt (20 mL x 2). Combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 20 g, hexane/AcOEt 10:1 to 4:1) to afford chloromesylate (+)-**15** (2.10 g, 7.17 mmol) in 94% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.37 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.44 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.32 (1H, d, *J* = 18.9 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub>), 2.41 (1H, d, *J* = 18.9 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub>), 4.71 (1H, s, CH-OSO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl), 4.80 (1H, d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>CH<sub>B</sub>Cl), 4.89 (1H, d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>CH<sub>B</sub>Cl), 6.09 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>), 6.24 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, CH<sub>A</sub>=CH<sub>B</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.4, 16.1, 41.5, 49.3, 55.3, 55.7, 79.7, 134.1, 137.9, 201.3, 203.4.

**C<sub>2</sub>-Symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene (+)-1.** A solution of chloromesylate (+)-**15** (2.10 g, 7.17 mmol) and NaI (5.40 g, 35.9 mmol) in acetone (48 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h, and then TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (1.4 g, 7.5 mmol) was added to the mixture. After being stirred for 1 h at 50 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution (20 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL x 2). Combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel 15 g, hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 30:1 to 15:1) to afford C<sub>2</sub>-symmetric bicyclo[2.2.2]octene (+)-**1** (731 mg, 4.45 mmol) in 62% yield: pale yellow solid;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  1006 (*c* 1.01, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat)  $\nu$  2973, 2932, 1726, 1452, 1405, 1383, 1118, 774, 683 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.30 (6H, s, CH<sub>3</sub> x 2), 2.24 (2H, d, *J* = 18.9 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub> x 2), 2.28 (2H, d, *J* = 18.9 Hz, C-CH<sub>A</sub>H<sub>B</sub> x 2), 6.12 (2H, s, CH=C x 2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.5, 42.0, 51.1, 137.1, 209.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 187.0729 (M+Na<sup>+</sup>), found 187.0736.

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