

34 **ABSTRACT:**

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36 New hexacyclo and octacyclo compounds have been synthesized by a short route whose key step
37 consists of a single or double domino nucleophilic substitution of neopentyl-type iodides with potassium
38 cyclopentadienide, followed by intramolecular Diels–Alder cycloaddition.

39

40 **INTRODUCTION**

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42 Polycyclic and cage compounds are of current interest in medicinal chemistry.[1–4] In connection with
43 this potential application, we recently described the synthesis of a 2,8-ethanonoradamantane
44 derivative.[5] Diamondoid derivatives[6] are of interest in connection with host-guest molecular
45 recognition, materials chemistry, molecular machines and rotors, etc. Polytwistanes[7,8] are being
46 studied as chiral hydrocarbon nanotubes, and polynorbornane derivatives[9] have been used to prepare
47 coordination cages (Figure 1). In this paper, a short route to functionalized bridged di- and tri-
48 norbornane derivatives is described. These compounds might be used, among other applications, as new
49 scaffolds for the preparation of biologically active compounds, or as building blocks for the synthesis of
50 new polynorbornanebased ligands.

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53 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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55 An important feature of these syntheses was the preparation of cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1,1-
56 diylbis(methylene) diacetate (6) according to Scheme 1. Dimethyl bisallylmalonate (1)[10,11] was
57 transformed into dimethyl cyclopent-3-ene-1,1-dicarboxylate (2) by reaction with Grubbs first
58 generation catalyst. Compound 2 was alternatively prepared by reaction of dimethyl malonate with *cis*-
59 1,4-dichloro-2-butene.[12] Reduction of diester 2 followed by acetylation gave known diacetate 4.
60 Reaction of 4 with *N*-bromosuccinimide (NBS) in the presence of 2,2'-azobis(isobutyronitrile)
61 (AIBN) as described in a related case,[13] gave allylic bromide 5, which, on reaction with quinoline at
62 high temperature,[14] gave the desired diacetate (i.e., 6).

63 Reaction of cyclopentadiene 6 with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (1.5 equiv.) gave the corresponding
64 Diels–Alder adduct 7 in good yield (Scheme 2). Methanolysis of the acetate groups of this compound
65 with K₂CO₃ in MeOH gave a stereoisomeric mixture of alcohols 8 and 9 in a ratio 8/9 of about 9:1 [on
66 the basis of integration of the singlet signals of one of the COOMe groups of 8 ($\delta = 3.70$ ppm) and 9 (δ
67 = 3.57 ppm) in the ¹H NMR spectrum of the mixture]. These compounds are reasonably formed by
68 Michael addition of the *syn* alcohol functionality of the intermediate diol onto the butenedioate
69 substructure. Compound 8 was isolated as a racemate from its mixture with 9 by crystallization from
70 EtOAc, and was fully characterized spectroscopically. The *exo* stereochemistry of the ester functionality
71 at C-7 was clearly assigned on the basis of its ¹H NMR spectrum, in which the 7-H proton appears as a
72 singlet as the value of its coupling constant with 4-H is close to zero (dihedral angle H–C-7–C-4–H
73 close to 90°). The stereochemistry of 8 was also secured by X-ray diffraction analysis. Figure 2 shows
74 the ORTEP representation of one of the enantiomers. The synthetic sequence was continued with
75 racemic alcohol 8. Mesylation of 8 by a standard procedure gave mesylate 10, which was transformed
76 into iodide 11 by reaction with NaI in acetone. Both transformations took place in good yield.

77 Treatment of this iodide with potassium cyclopentadienide in DMF in the presence of 18-crown-6 (5
78 mol-%)[15,16] gave polycycle 12, as a result of nucleophilic substitution of the neopentyl-type iodide
79 by the cyclopentadienide anion, followed by intramolecular Diels–Alder reaction, in good yield.
80 Although polycycle 12 was fully characterized spectroscopically, and by elemental analysis and accurate
81 mass measurement, its structure was secured by X-ray diffraction analysis. Figure 3 shows the ORTEP
82 representation of one of the enantiomers of 12.

83 Acid-catalyzed methanolysis of diacetate 7 gave a mixture of diol 13 plus alcohols 8 and 9 in a ratio
84 about 20:12:5 (by ¹H NMR spectroscopy; Scheme 3). From this mixture, diol 13 could not be isolated in
85 pure form since partial conversion into alcohols 8 and 9 took place during attempted purification by
86 silica gel column chromatography. Consequently, the above mixture was transformed into a mixture of
87 dimesylate 14 and monomesylate 10 and its C-7 epimer. Upon treatment with NaI in acetone, this
88 mixture gave a mixture of diiodide 15 and monoiodide 11 and its C-7 epimer. This mixture was
89 separated by silica gel column chromatography into two fractions: diiodide 15 (31% overall yield from
90 diacetate 7), and a mixture of monoiodide 11 and its C-7 epimer (28% overall yield from 7).

91 Reaction of diiodide 15 with potassium cyclopentadienide as before gave polycycle 26 in 49% yield.
92 The formation of this compound implies a double nucleophilic substitution of the neopentyl-type iodides
93 by the cyclopentadienide anion, followed by a double intramolecular Diels–Alder reaction. Compound
94 16 was fully characterized analytically and spectroscopically, including X-ray diffraction analysis.
95 Figure 4 shows the ORTEP representation of polycycle 16.

96 To the best of our knowledge, although these domino processes appear conventional, the only related
97 transformation described to date[17] is the reaction of a stereoisomeric mixture of dimethyl 7-
98 (dimethoxymethyl)norborna-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate with trimethylsilylcyclopentadiene catalyzed

99 by TiCl_4 . This gave a mixture, which was not separated, of products of condensation and Diels–Alder
100 addition.

101

102 **CONCLUSIONS**

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104 In conclusion, a short route to complex functionalized polycycles that could be of interest as new
105 scaffolds for the preparation of biologically active compounds and coordination cages has been
106 developed. The key points of the synthesis are: (i) a convenient preparation of 1,1-disubstituted
107 cyclopentadiene 6, and (ii) a single or double domino nucleophilic substitution of neopentyl-type iodides
108 by cyclopentadienide anion/Diels–Alder reaction that introduces three or six new rings into the
109 corresponding products, i.e., 11 or 15 respectively, in a one-pot transformation.

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111 **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

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113 **General Methods:** Melting points were determined in open capillary tubes with an MFB 595010M
114 Gallenkamp melting-point apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian Mercury
115 400 (400 MHz for ¹H; 100.6 MHz for ¹³C) spectrometer in CDCl₃. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in
116 parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane, and spectra were calibrated using internal
117 tetramethylsilane or residual CHCl₃/CDCl₃. Multiplicities are reported using the following
118 abbreviations: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad, or their combinations. Assignments
119 given for the NMR spectra are based on DEPT, COSY, NOESY, ¹H/¹³C single quantum correlation
120 (gHSQC sequence), and ¹H/¹³C multiple bond correlation (gHMBC sequence) spectra. IR spectra were
121 recorded with an FTIR Perkin–Elmer Spectrum RX1 spectrometer using the attenuated total reflectance
122 (ATR) technique. Absorption values are given as wavenumbers (cm⁻¹), and the intensity of the
123 absorptions are given as strong (s), medium (m), or weak (w). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS)
124 were carried out at the mass spectrometry unit of the Centres Científics i Tecnològics de la Universitat
125 de Barcelona (CCiTUB) with an LC/MSD-TOF spectrometer with electrospray ionization (ESI-TOF-
126 MS) from Agilent Technologies. Elemental analyses were carried out at the IIQAB (CSIC) of
127 Barcelona, Spain, with elemental microanalyzers (A5) model Flash 1112 series and (A7) model Flash
128 2000 series from Thermofinnigan for (C, H, N) and (C, H, N, S) determinations, respectively. Silica gel
129 60 AC (35–70 mm, SDS, ref. 2000027) was used for flash column chromatography. The eluents used
130 are reported as volume/volume percentages. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on
131 aluminum-backed sheets with silica gel 60, 254 nm indicator (Fluka–Sigma–Aldrich), and spots were
132 visualized with UV light or a solution of KMnO₄ (1% aq.). X-ray diffraction analysis was carried out
133 with a D8 Venture diffractometer at the CCiTUB of the University of Barcelona. Allyl bromide, NBS,
134 18-crown-6, 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine, dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate, dimethyl malonate, Grubbs
135 first generation catalyst, KH (30 %), LiAlH₄, and p-toluenesulfonic acid were obtained from Sigma–
136 Aldrich; AIBN, dicyclopentadiene, and quinoline were obtained from Fluka; all of these reagents were
137 used without further purification.

138

139 **(4-Bromocyclopent-2-ene-1,1-diyl)bis(methylene) Diacetate (5):** NBS (856 mg, 4.81 mmol) and
140 AIBN (79 mg, 0.48 mmol, 10 mol-%) were added to a magnetically stirred solution of diacetate 4 (1.02
141 g, 4.81 mmol) in CCl₄ (14.6 mL) under an Ar atmosphere. The resulting orange-colored stirred
142 suspension was heated at 65 °C for 15 min, and then at 90 °C for 1 h. The grey suspension was then
143 cooled with an ice/water bath; the solid precipitate was removed by filtration, and washed with cold
144 CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 5 mL). The combined filtrate and washings were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃
145 (3 × 10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give crude
146 bromide 5 (1.31 g, 94%) as a yellow oil, which was used as such in the next step. R_f (hexane/EtOAc,
147 1:1): 0.42. IR (ATR): ν̃ = 3067 (w), 2952 (m), 2893 (w), 1736 (s), 1466 (m), 1437 (m), 1379 (s), 1364
148 (s), 1232 (s), 1183 (m), 1043 (s), 981 (m), 906 (m), 809 (m), 786 (m), 765 (m) cm⁻¹. HRMS: calcd. for
149 [C₁₁H₁₅BrO₄ + H]⁺ 291.0226; found 292.0219. ¹H NMR: δ = 2.05 (s, 3 H) and 2.09 (s, 3 H) (2
150 CH₃COO), 2.35 (dd, J = 15.6, J = 2.4 Hz, 1 H, 5-Ha), 2.47 (dd, J = 15.6, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, 5-Hb),
151 3.95 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1 H) and 4.10 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1 H) (CH₂OAc), 4.20 (s, 2 H, CH₂OAc), 5.05–5.08
152 (ddt, J = 7.6, J = 2.4, J = 0.8 Hz, 1 H, 4-H), 5.80 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H, 2-H), 6.08 (dd, J = 5.4, J =
153 2.2 Hz, 1 H, 3-H) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 20.75 (CH₃) and 20.85 (CH₃) (2 OCOCH₃), 41.0 (CH₂, C-5),
154 52.7 (CH, C-4), 53.5 (C, C-1), 65.6 (CH₂) and 66.7 (CH₂, 2 CH₂OAc), 135.7 (CH) and 136.0 (CH, C-2
155 and C-3), 170.7 (C) and 170.8 (C, 2 CH₃COO) ppm.

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157

158 **Cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1,1-diylbis(methylene) Diacetate (6):** A magnetically stirred solution of bromo
159 diacetate 5 (3.79 g, 13.0 mmol) in anhydrous quinoline (6.9 mL, 58.6 mmol) under an Ar atmosphere
160 was heated at 180 °C for 1 h. The dark mixture was cooled with an ice/water bath, then Et₂O (15 mL)
161 was added. The mixture was stirred for 5 min, and then it was washed with HCl (2 n aq.; 40 mL) and
162 water (20 mL). The brown organic phase was dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to
163 give diene 6 (2.38 g, 88%) as a brown oil, which was used as such in the next step. An analytical sample
164 of 6 was obtained by column chromatography of a sample of the above product (205 mg) [35–70 μm
165 silica gel (6.1 g), pentane/EtOAc mixtures]. On elution with pentane/EtOAc, 96:4, diene 6 (165 mg) was
166 isolated as a pale yellow oil that solidified on standing. m.p. 42–43 °C. R_f (silica gel, 10 cm,
167 hexane/EtOAc, 1:1): 0.56. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3076 (w), 2978 (m), 2959 (m), 2897 (m), 2850 (w), 1736 (s),
168 1466 (m), 1430 (m), 1376 (s), 1227 (s), 1078 (m), 1032 (s), 978 (s), 922 (m), 896 (m), 753 (s) cm⁻¹.
169 C₁₁H₁₄O₄ (210.23): calcd. C 62.85, H 6.71; found C 62.97, H 6.90. HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₁H₁₄O₄ +
170 NH₄]⁺ 228.1230; found 228.1233; calcd. for [C₁₁H₁₄O₄ + H]⁺ 211.0965; found 211.0965. ¹H NMR:
171 δ = 2.08 (s, 6 H, 2 CH₃COO), 4.07 (s, 4 H, 2 CH₂OAc), 6.33–6.35 [m, 2 H, 2(5)-H], 6.47–6.48 [m, 2 H,
172 3(4)-H] ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 20.9 (CH₃, 2 OCOCH₃), 59.5 (C, C-1), 63.6 (CH₂, 2 CH₂OAc), 133.6
173 [CH, C-2(5)], 137.4 [CH, C-3(4)], 170.7 (C, 2 CH₃COO) ppm.

174

175 **Dimethyl 7,7-Bis(acetoxymethyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate (7):** A solution of
176 crude diene 6 (624 mg, 2.97 mmol) and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (0.55 mL, 633 mg, 4.45 mmol)
177 in toluene (5 mL) was heated at 80 °C for 72 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and
178 the solvent was removed in vacuo. The brown oily residue was subjected to column chromatography
179 [35–70 μm silica gel (25 g), hexane/EtOAc mixtures]. On elution with hexane/EtOAc, 3:1, adduct 7
180 (820 mg, 78%) was isolated as a pale yellow oil. R_f (silica gel, 10 cm, hexane/EtOAc, 3:7): 0.47. IR
181 (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3000 (w), 2955 (w), 1731 (s), 1713 (s), 1630 (m), 1435 (m), 1376 (m), 1366 (m), 1317 (m),
182 1218 (s), 1099 (m), 1031 (s), 734 (m) cm⁻¹. C₁₇H₂₀O₈ (352.34): C 57.95, H 5.72%; found C 57.98, H
183 5.89%. HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₇H₂₀O₈ + H]⁺ 353.1231; found 353.1239. ¹H NMR: δ = 2.028 (s, 3 H)
184 and 2.031 (s, 3 H, 2 CH₃COO), 3.74 [pseudo t, J = 2.0 Hz, 2 H, 1(4)-H], 3.79 [s, 6 H, C-2(3)-COOMe],
185 4.25 (s, 2 H, syn-CH₂OAc) and 4.29 (s, 2 H, anti-CH₂OAc), 6.87 [pseudo t, J = 2.2 Hz, 2 H, 5(6)-H]
186 ppm. NOESY: irradiation at δ = 6.87 ppm shows an NOE with the protons appearing at δ = 3.74 [1(4)-
187 H] and 4.25 (syn-CH₂OAc) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 20.7 (CH₃, CH₃COO), 20.8 (CH₃, CH₃COO), 52.2
188 (CH₃, 2 COOCH₃), 56.7 [CH, C-1(4)], 63.7 (CH₂, CH₂OAc), 63.8 (CH₂, CH₂OAc), 85.7 (C, C-7),
189 140.9 [CH, C-5(6)], 150.2 [C, C-2(3)], 164.7 [C, C-2(3)-COOMe], 170.50 (C, anti-CH₃COO), 170.54
190 (C, syn-CH₃COO) ppm. Dimethyl (1RS,3aRS,4SR,6aSR,7SR)-3a-(Hydroxymethyl)-3,3a,4,6a-
191 tetrahydro-1H-1,4-methanocyclopenta[c]furan-1,7-dicarboxylate (8): Anhydrous K₂CO₃ (40 mg, 0.29
192 mmol) was added to a solution of diacetate 7 (413 mg, 1.17 mmol) in anhydrous MeOH (2.5 mL), and
193 the mixture was stirred at 30 °C for 2 h. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C (ice/water bath), and filtered.
194 The solid was washed with MeOH (40 mL). The combined filtrate and washings were concentrated in
195 vacuo to give a brown solid (369 mg), containing a stereoisomeric mixture of 8 and its C-7 epimer 9, in
196 a ratio 8/9 = 9:1 (by ¹H NMR spectroscopy). This mixture was subjected to column chromatography
197 [35–70 μm silica gel (11 g), hexane/EtOAc mixtures]. On elution with hexane/EtOAc, 3:2 to 1:1, a
198 stereoisomeric mixture of 8 and 9 (168 mg), in a ratio 8/9 = 9:1, was obtained. By heating this solid in
199 refluxing EtOAc (0.5 mL), an analytical sample of 8 (101 mg, 32%) was obtained as a white solid. m.p.
200 118–120 °C (EtOAc). R_f (silica gel, 10 cm, hexane/ EtOAc, 3:7): 0.28. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3488 (m), 3426
201 (m), 2954 (w), 2903 (w), 2871 (w), 1721 (s), 1439 (m), 1325 (s), 1217 (s), 1196 (s), 1170 (s), 1156 (s),
202 1064 (s), 1037 (s), 1016 (s), 1000 (m), 926 (m), 888 (m), 730 (s), 658 (m) cm⁻¹. C₁₃H₁₆O₆ (268.26): C
203 58.20, H 6.01; found C 58.20, H 6.14. HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₃H₁₆O₆ + Na]⁺ 291.0839; found 291.0841.
204 ¹H NMR: δ = 1.59 (s, 1 H, OH), 2.74 (s, 1 H, 7-H), 3.07–3.09 (m, 1 H, 6a-H), 3.19–3.21 (m, 1 H, 4-H),
205 3.62 (br. d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H) and 3.68 (br. d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H, CH₂OH), 3.70 (s, 3 H, C-1-COOCH₃),
206 3.81 (s, 3 H, C-7- COOCH₃), 3.96 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H) and 4.00 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H, 3-Ha and 3-Hb),
207 5.93–5.95 (ddd, J = 5.8, J = 3.0, J = 1.0 Hz, 1 H, 6-H), 6.39–6.42 (dd, J = 5.8, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H, 5-

208 H) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 48.0 (CH, C-4), 52.2 (CH₃, C-1-COOCH₃), 52.6 (CH₃, C-7-COOCH₃), 56.9
209 (CH, C-7), 59.1 (CH, C-6a), 59.6 (CH₂, CH₂OH), 68.6 (CH₂, C-3), 75.4 (C, C-3a), 85.7 (C, C-1), 128.0
210 (CH, C-6), 139.8 (CH, C-5), 170.9 (C, C-7-COOMe), 171.1 (C, C-1-COOMe) ppm. NMR spectroscopic
211 data of 9: A mixture of 8 and 9 (120 mg) in a ratio of ca. 1.5:10 was obtained by silica gel column
212 chromatography as part of an operation to prepare diol 13 (see below). The NMR spectroscopic data for
213 9 are given based on this mixture. ¹H NMR: δ = 1.53 (br. s, 1 H, OH), 3.02–3.04 (m, 1 H, 6a-H), 3.12–
214 3.15 (m, 1 H, 4-H), 3.34 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1 H, 7-H), 3.57 (s, 3 H, C-1-COOMe), 3.61 (br. d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1
215 H) and 3.69 (br. d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1 H, CH₂OH), 3.77 (s, 3 H, C-7-COOMe), 3.82 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H) and
216 3.98 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H, 3-Ha and 3-Hb), 6.10 (ddd, J = 5.6, J = 3.2, J = 0.8 Hz, 1 H, 6-H), 6.16
217 (dd, J = 5.6, J = 2.8 Hz, 1 H, 5-H) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 49.0 (CH, C-4), 51.7 (CH₃, C-1-COOCH₃),
218 52.3 (CH₃, C-7-COOCH₃), 55.8 (CH, C-6a), 55.9 (CH, C-7), 59.4 (CH₂, CH₂OH), 68.2 (CH₂, C-3),
219 73.1 (C, C-3a), 88.8 (C, C-1), 129.6 (CH, C-6), 135.7 (CH, C-5), 169.3 (C, C-7-COOMe), 169.7 (C, C-
220 1-COOMe) ppm. Dimethyl (1RS,3aRS,4SR,6aSR,7SR)-3a-[[Methylsulfonyl]-oxy]methyl]-3,3a,4,6a-
221 tetrahydro-1H-1,4-methanocyclopenta[c]-furan-1,7-dicarboxylate (10): Methanesulfonyl chloride (0.03
222 mL, 0.36 mmol) was added dropwise to a cold (0 °C, ice/water bath) and magnetically stirred solution of
223 alcohol 8 (80 mg, 0.3 mmol) and anhydrous Et₃N (0.1 mL, 0.69 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.3 mL) under an
224 Ar atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at this temperature for 2 h. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (1 mL)
225 was then added. The organic phase was separated, and was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃
226 (3 × 3 mL). The combined aqueous phases were extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 5 mL). The combined
227 organic phase and extracts were washed with water (3 mL) and brine (3 mL), dried (anhydrous
228 Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give a solid residue (101 mg) that was subjected to column
229 chromatography [35–70 μm silica gel (1.0 g), hexane/EtOAc]. On elution with hexane/EtOAc, 7:3,
230 mesylate 10 (87 mg, 85%) was obtained as a white solid. m.p. 144–145 °C (hexane/EtOAc). R_f (silica
231 gel, 10 cm, hexane/EtOAc, 1:4): 0.45. IR (ATR): ν̄ = 2960 (w), 2923 (w), 2901 (w), 2850 (w), 1731 (s),
232 1462 (w), 1439 (m), 1346 (s), 1338 (s), 1329 (s), 1224 (s), 1084 (s), 1172 (s), 1161 (s), 1066 (s), 956 (s),
233 938 (s), 854 (s), 836 (s), 742 (s), 729 (s) cm⁻¹. C₁₄H₁₈O₈S (346.35): C 48.55, H 5.24, S 9.26%; found
234 C 48.64, H 5.42, S 9.07%. HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₄H₁₈NO₈S + H]⁺ 347.0795; found 347.0793; calcd.
235 For [C₁₄H₁₈NO₈S + NH₄]⁺ 364.1061; found 364.1060. ¹H NMR: δ = 2.79 (s, 1 H, 7-H), 2.99 (s, 3 H,
236 CH₃SO₃), 3.14–3.16 (m, 1 H, 6a-H), 3.29–3.31 (m, 1 H, 4-H), 3.72 (s, 3 H, C-1-COOCH₃), 3.83 (s, 3
237 H, C-7-COOCH₃), 3.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H) and 4.01 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H, 3-Ha and 3-Hb), 4.23 (d, J =
238 10.4 Hz, 1 H) and 4.30 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H, CH₂OMs), 5.99–6.02 (ddd, J = 5.8, J = 3.0, J = 0.8
239 Hz, 1 H, 6-H), 6.44–6.46 (dd, J = 5.8, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H, 5-H) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 37.5 (CH₃,
240 CH₃SO₃), 48.3 (CH, C-4), 52.4 (CH₃, C-1-COOCH₃), 52.8 (CH₃, C-7-COOCH₃), 56.6 (CH, C-7),
241 59.3 (CH, C-6a), 66.2 (CH₂, CH₂OMs), 67.9 (CH₂, C-3), 72.7 (C, C-3a), 85.4 (C, C-1), 128.4 (CH, C-
242 6), 139.5 (CH, C-5), 170.1 (C, C-7-COOCH₃), 170.6 (C, C-1-COOCH₃) ppm.

243

244 **Dimethyl (1RS,3aRS,4SR,6aSR,7SR)-3a-(Iodomethyl)-3,3a,4,6a-tetrahydro-1H-1,4-**
245 **methanocyclopenta[c]furan-1,7-dicarboxylate (11):** Powdered NaI (347 mg, 2.3 mmol) was added to
246 a solution of mesylate 10 (80 mg, 0.23 mmol) in anhydrous acetone (2.9 mL), and the mixture was
247 heated at reflux under Ar for 18 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, and concentrated in
248 vacuo. The solid residue was subjected to column chromatography [35–70 μm silica gel (1.0 g),
249 hexane/EtOAc mixtures]. On elution with hexane/EtOAc, 96:4, iodide 11 (78 mg, 90%) was isolated as
250 a pale yellow oil. R_f (silica gel, 10 cm, hexane/EtOAc, 3:7): 0.54. IR (ATR): ν̄ = 2949 (w), 2889 (w),
251 2843 (w), 1731 (s), 1435 (m), 1326 (m), 1257 (m), 1217 (s), 1189 (s), 1164 (s), 1102 (m), 1069 (s), 1000
252 (m), 728 (s) cm⁻¹. C₁₃H₁₅O₅I (378.16): C 41.29, H 4.00, I 33.56 %; found C 41.43, H 4.14; I 33.30%.
253 HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₃H₁₅O₅ + H]⁺ 379.0037; found 379.0033; calcd. for [C₁₃H₁₅O₅ +
254 Na]⁺ 400.9856; found 400.9856. ¹H NMR: δ = 2.73 (s, 1 H, 7-H), 3.06–3.09 (br. s, 1 H, 6a-H), 3.23 (d, J
255 = 10.4 Hz, 1 H) and 3.27 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1 H, CHaI and CHbI), 3.32–3.35 (br. s, 1 H, 4-H), 3.71 (s, 3 H,
256 C-1-COOCH₃), 3.81 (s, 3 H, C-7-COOCH₃), 3.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H) and 3.98 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1 H, 3-
257 Ha and 3-Hb), 5.98–6.01 (ddd, J = 5.6, J = 2.8, J = 1.2 Hz, 1 H, 6-H), 6.45–6.47 (ddm, J = 5.6, J

258 = 3.0 Hz, 1 H, 5-H) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 3.4 (CH₂, CH₂I), 50.1 (CH, C-4), 52.3 (CH₃, C-1-COOCH₃),
259 52.7 (CH₃, C-7-COOCH₃), 57.2 (CH, C-7), 62.6 (CH, C-6a), 70.9 (CH₂, C-3), 73.8 (C, C-3a), 85.5 (C,
260 C-1), 127.9 (CH, C-6), 139.6 (CH, C-5), 170.5 (C, C-7-COOCH₃), 170.6 (C, C-1-COOCH₃) ppm.

261

262 **Dimethyl (3RS,4SR,4aSR,5SR,5aRS,8SR,8aRS,9aRS, 10SR,11RS)-4a,5,5a,8,8a,9-Hexahydro-1H-**
263 **3,9a,5,8-(epiethane[1,1,- 2,2]tetrayl)cyclopenta[g]isochromene-3,4(4H)-dicarboxylate (12):** In a 10
264 mL flask, KH (30% in mineral oil; 67 mg, 0.50 mmol) was washed with anhydrous THF (5 \square 1 mL)
265 under an Ar atmosphere. Anhydrous THF (1 mL) was added to the washed KH, and the resulting
266 suspension was cooled to 0 °C in an ice/water bath. Freshly distilled cyclopentadiene (50 μ L, 36 mg,
267 0.54 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min. 18-Crown-6 (7 mg,
268 26 μ mol, ca. 5% relative to KH) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min, and at room
269 temperature for 15 min to give a pinkish-colored suspension. In a 25 mL flask equipped with a magnetic
270 stirrer bar and reflux condenser, under an Ar atmosphere, a solution of iodide 11 (50 mg, 0.13 mmol) in
271 anhydrous DMF (0.8 mL) was prepared. The solution was cooled to 0 °C in an ice/water bath and then,
272 part of the above solution of potassium cyclopentadienide (0.5 m; 0.27 mL, 0.13 mmol) was added
273 dropwise. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 5 min, and at room temperature for 10 min, and then it
274 was heated to 90 °C for 17 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, MeOH (10 μ L) was added,
275 and the mixture was stirred for 10 min. Then, EtOAc (5 mL) and water (5 mL) were added, and the
276 organic phase was separated. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (4 \square 5 mL). The combined
277 organic phases were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (3 \square 5 mL), water (2 \square 5 mL), and brine
278 (5 mL), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give crude diester 12 (45 mg) as a
279 brown oil. This crude product was subjected to column chromatography [35–70 μ m silica gel (1.3 g),
280 hexane/EtOAc mixtures] to give, on elution with hexane/ EtOAc, 94:6, diester 12 (25 mg, 60%) as a
281 white solid. Crystallization of the above product from CH₂Cl₂/pentane gave an analytical sample of 12
282 as a white solid. m.p. 160–161 °C. R_f (silica gel, 10 cm, hexane/EtOAc, 3:7): 0.72. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 2971
283 (w), 2954 (m), 2928 (m), 2892 (w), 2852 (w), 1755 (s), 1728 (s), 1426 (m), 1349 (m), 1207 (s), 1188 (s),
284 1164 (s), 1072 (s), 1042 (s), 973 (m), 932 (m), 739 (s), 698 (m) cm⁻¹. C₁₈H₂₀O₅·1/3H₂O (322.36): C
285 67.07, H 6.46%; found C 66.79, H 6.23%. HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₈H₂₀O₅ + Na]⁺ 339.1203; found
286 339.1205. ¹H NMR: δ = 1.62 (dd, J = 13.8, J = 3.0 Hz, 1 H, 9-Ha), 1.68 (br. d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H, 5-H),
287 1.76 (dd, J = 14.0, J = 2.8 Hz, 1 H, 9-Hb), 1.92–1.95 (m, 1 H, 8a-H), 2.03 (br. d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H, 11-
288 H), 2.06 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H, 10- H), 2.42–2.44 (br. s, 2 H, 4a-H and 8-H), 2.49–2.51 (br. s, 1 H, 5a-H),
289 2.79 (s, 1 H, 4-H), 3.66 (s, 3 H, C-3-COOCH₃), 3.70 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H, 1-Ha), 3.81 (s, 3 H, C-4-
290 COOCH₃), 3.92 (dd, J = 7.6, J = 0.8 Hz, 1 H, 1-Hb), 6.07 (pseudo t, J = 1.8 Hz, 2 H, 6-H and 7-H)
291 ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 28.5 (CH₂, C-9), 38.5 (CH, C-11), 46.3 (CH, C-4a), 47.9 (CH, C-5), 49.0 (CH, C-
292 5a), 49.4 (CH, C-8), 52.0 (CH₃, C-3-COOCH₃), 52.3 (CH₃, C-4-COOCH₃), 52.4 (CH, C-8a), 53.3 (C,
293 C-9a), 56.6 (CH, C-4), 59.5 (CH, C-10), 71.9 (CH₂, C-1), 88.0 (C, C-3), 136.3 (CH, C-7), 136.8 (CH,
294 C-6), 170.4 (C, C-3- COOCH₃), 171.5 (C, C-4-COOCH₃) ppm.

295

296 **Dimethyl (1R,4S)-7,7-Bis(iodomethyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate (15) (a)**
297 **Mixture of Alcohol 8, its C-7 Epimer, and Dimethyl (1R,4S)-7,7-**
298 **Bis(hydroxymethyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate (13):** pTsOH·H₂O (144 mg,
299 0.76 mmol) was added to a solution of diacetate 7 (1.34 g, 3.80 mmol) in anhydrous MeOH (13.5 mL),
300 and the resulting solution was heated under reflux for 6.5 h. The solution was cooled to room
301 temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (30
302 mL). This solution was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (2 \square 8 mL) and brine (10 mL),
303 dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give a mixture of diol 13 and tricyclic
304 alcohols 8 and 9, approximate ratio 13/8/9 20:12:5 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy (by integration of the
305 olefinic signals) (837 mg) as a yellow oil, which was used as such in the next step. The combined
306 aqueous washings were extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 \square 20 mL). These combined organic extracts were

307 washed with brine (10 mL), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give an orange
308 oily residue (120 mg). This was a mixture of diol 13 and a stereoisomeric mixture of tricyclic alcohols 8
309 and 9, approximate ratio 13/8/9 10:1.3:1 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

310

311 **(b) Mixture of Mesylate 10, its C-7 Epimer, and Dimethyl (1R,4S)-7,7-**

312 **Bis(methylsulfonyloxymethyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate (14):**

313 Methanesulfonyl chloride (0.6 mL, 7.5 mmol) was added dropwise to a cold (0 °C, ice/water bath) and
314 magnetically stirred solution of a mixture of diol 13 and alcohols 8 and 9 (837 mg, approximate ratio
315 13/8/9 20:12:5, 1.69 mmol 13, 1.43 mmol 8 + 9) and anhydrous Et₃N (1.7 mL, 12.5 mmol) in anhydrous
316 CH₂Cl₂ (34 mL) under an Ar atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at this temperature for 1.5 h.

317 Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (2.5 mL) was added, and the organic phase was separated, and washed with
318 saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (3 × 10 mL). The combined aqueous phases were extracted with CH₂Cl₂
319 (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase and extracts were washed with water (15 mL) and brine (15
320 mL), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give a mixture of dimesylate 14 and the
321 tricyclic mesylates 10 and its C-7 epimer (1.15 g) as an orange oil.

322

323 **(c) Dimethyl (1R,4S)-7,7-Bis(iodomethyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene-2,3-dicarboxylate (15):**

324 Powdered NaI (4.86 g, 32.4 mmol) was added to a solution of dimesylate 14 and monomesylates 10 and
325 its C-7 epimer (1.15 g, 1.60 mmol 14 and 1.36 mmol 10 + C-7 epimer) in anhydrous acetone (36 mL).

326 The mixture was heated under reflux for 16 h. The mixture was then cooled to room temperature, and
327 the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting yellow solid residue (6.1 g) was
328 subjected to column chromatography [silica gel 35–70 μm (20 g), hexane/EtOAc mixtures] to give, on
329 elution with hexane/EtOAc, 97.5:2.5, diiodide 15 (574 mg, 31% from diacetate 7) as a yellow oil, and
330 on elution with hexane/ EtOAc, 85:15, a stereoisomeric mixture of iodides 11 and its C-7 epimer (404
331 mg, 28% from diacetate 7) as a pale yellow oil.

332 Analytical and spectroscopic data for 15: R_f (silica gel, 10 cm, hexane/ EtOAc, 3:7): 0.62. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$
333 = 2998 (m), 2950 (m), 2849 (w), 1731 (s), 1713 (s), 1629 (m), 1434 (s), 1324 (s), 1281 (s), 1255 (s),
334 1222 (s), 1202 (s), 1165 (m), 1100 (s), 1053 (m), 821 (m), 778 (m), 762 (m), 732 (m), 643 (m) cm⁻¹.
335 HRMS: calcd. for [C₁₃H₁₄I₂O₄ + H]⁺ 488.9054; found 488.9051; calcd. for [C₁₃H₁₄I₂O₄ +
336 Na]⁺ 510.8874; found 510.8864. ¹H NMR: δ = 3.716 (br. s, 2 H, syn-CH₂I), 3.720 (br. s, 2 H, anti-
337 CH₂I), 3.81 [s, 6 H, C-2(3)-COOCH₃], 3.84 [t, J = 2.0 Hz, 2 H, 1(4)-H], 6.92 [pseudo t, J = 2.0 Hz, 2
338 H, 5(6)-H] ppm. NOESY: irradiation at δ = 6.92 [5(6)-H] ppm shows an NOE with the protons at δ =
339 3.84 [1(4)-H] and 3.716 (syn-CH₂I) ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 11.5 (CH₂I), 12.3 (CH₂I), 52.3 (CH₃, 2
340 COOCH₃), 60.7 [CH, C-1(4)], 87.2 (C, C-7), 141.1 [CH, C-5(6)], 150.0 [C, C-2(3)], 164.6 [C, C-2(3)-
341 COOCH₃] ppm.

342

343 **Dimethyl (1R,3aS,4R,4aR,4bS,5R,8S,8aR,9S,9as,10as,11s,13S)-1,3a,4a,4b,5,8,8a,9,10,10a-**

344 **Decahydro-4H-5,8,9a-(epiethane[1,1,2]-triyI)-1,4,9-(epimethanetriyl)cyclopenta[b]fluorene-4,13-**

345 **dicarboxylate(16):** In a 10 mL flask, KH (30% in mineral oil; 134 mg, 1.0 mmol) was washed with
346 anhydrous THF (5 × 2 mL) under an Ar atmosphere. Anhydrous THF (2 mL) was added to the washed
347 KH, and the suspension was cooled to 0 °C in an ice/water bath. Freshly distilled cyclopentadiene (0.1
348 mL, 73 mg, 1.1 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min. 18-Crown-
349 6 (13 mg, 50 μmol, 5 mol-% relative to KH) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min,
350 and then at room temperature for 15 min. A solution of diiodide 15 (83 mg, 0.17 mmol) in anhydrous
351 DMF (1 mL) was prepared in a 10 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer bar and a reflux condenser,
352 under an Ar atmosphere. The solution was cooled to 0 °C in an ice/water bath, and then part of the
353 above solution of potassium cyclopentadienide (0.5 m; 0.75 mL, 0.37 mmol) was added dropwise. The

354 mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 5 min, and at room temperature for 10 min, and then it was heated to 90
355 °C for 17 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, then MeOH (20 µL) was added, and the
356 mixture was stirred for 10 min. Then, EtOAc (5 mL) and water (5 mL) were added and the organic
357 phase was separated. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The combined organic
358 phases were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (30 mL), water (20 mL) and brine (8 mL),
359 dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo to give crude diester 16 (73 mg) as a brown
360 paste. This material was subjected to column chromatography [35–70 µm silica gel (1.5 g),
361 hexane/EtOAc mixtures] to give, on elution with hexane/EtOAc, 99:1 to 95:5, diester 16 (30 mg, 49%)
362 as a pale yellow oil. By treating this oil with Et₂O, and washing the solid thus formed with pentane, an
363 analytical sample of 16 was obtained as a pale grey solid. m.p. 92.5–94 °C. R_f (silica gel, 10 cm,
364 hexane/EtOAc, 3:7): 0.50. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3055 (w), 2944 (m), 2912 (m), 2842 (m), 1745 (s), 1727 (s),
365 1432 (m), 1315 (m), 1256 (s), 1241 (s), 1224 (s), 1152 (s), 1141 (s), 1106 (s), 1070 (s), 1038 (s), 1028
366 (s), 1010 (s), 741 (m), 709 (s), 665 (m) cm⁻¹. C₂₃H₂₄O₄·1/3H₂O (370.45): C 74.57, H 6.71%; found C
367 74.63, H 7.00%. HRMS: calcd. for [C₂₃H₂₄O₄ + H]⁺ 365.1747; found 365.1754. ¹H NMR: δ = 1.49
368 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 2 H, 12-H₂), 1.54 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 2 H, 10-H₂), 1.78–1.82 (m, 1 H, 11-H), 1.83 [s, 2 H,
369 4a(9)-H], 1.92–1.95 (m, 1 H, 10a-H), 1.98 [s, 2 H, 4b(8a)-H], 2.38–2.40 [m, 2 H, 5(8)-H], 2.69–2.71 [m,
370 2 H, 1(3a)-H], 3.59 [s, 6 H, C-4(13)-COOCH₃], 6.03 [t, J = 1.8 Hz, 2 H, 6(7)-H], 6.15 [t, J = 1.8 Hz, 2
371 H, 2(3)-H] ppm. ¹³C NMR: δ = 34.3 (CH₂, C-10), 35.2 (CH₂, C-12), 42.27 [CH₂, C-4a(9)], 42.34 (C,
372 C-9a), 49.3 [CH, C-5(8)], 51.2 [CH₃, C-4(13)-COOCH₃], 51.9 (CH, C-11), 53.5 (CH, C-10a), 54.7
373 [CH, C-4a(9)], 54.8 [CH, C-1(3a)], 64.6 [C, C-4(13)], 137.2 [CH, C-6(7)], 137.4 [CH, C-2(3)], 172.4
374 [C, C-4(13)-COOCH₃] ppm.

375

376 **X-ray Crystal-Structure Determination of Compound 8:** A colorless prism-like specimen of
377 C₁₃H₁₆O₆, approximate dimensions 0.228 mm × 0.427 mm × 0.578 mm, was used for the X-ray
378 crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured with a D8 Venture system equipped
379 with a Multilayer monochromator and a Mo microfocus (λ = 1.54178 Å). A total of 4683 frames were
380 collected. The total exposure time was 26.02 h. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT
381 software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a monoclinic unit
382 cell yielded a total of 13259 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 72.20° (0.81 Å resolution), of which
383 4742 were independent (average redundancy 2.796, completeness: 98.7%, R_{int} = 3.42%, R_{sig} = 3.56
384 %), and 4718 (99.49%) were greater than 2 σ (F₂). The final cell constants of a = 5.8773(8) Å, b =
385 30.253(4) Å, c = 7.0235(9) Å, β = 100.153(3)°, V = 1229.3(3) Å³, are based on the refinement of the
386 XYZ-centroids of 120 reflections above 20 σ (I) with 21.75° ≤ 2 θ ≤ 116.5°. Data were corrected for
387 absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The calculated minimum and maximum
388 transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.6325 and 0.7536. The structure was solved using
389 the Bruker SHELXTL software package, and refined using SHELXL[18] and the space group P2₁, with
390 Z = 4 for the formula unit, C₁₃H₁₆O₆. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F₂
391 with 353 variables converged at R₁ = 3.18%, for the observed data and wR₂ = 8.72% for all data. The
392 goodness-of-fit was 1.051. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was 0.278
393 eÅ⁻³ and the largest hole was -0.218 eÅ⁻³ with an RMS deviation of 0.044 eÅ⁻³. On the basis of the
394 final model, the calculated density was 1.449 gcm⁻³ and F(000), 568 e (Table 1).

395

396 **X-ray Crystal-Structure Determination of Compound 12:** A colorless prism-like specimen of
397 C₁₈H₂₀O₅, approximate dimensions 0.222 mm × 0.308 mm × 0.554 mm, was used for the X-ray
398 crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured with a D8 Venture system equipped
399 with a multilayer monochromator and a Mo microfocus (λ = 0.71073 Å). The frames were integrated
400 with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data
401 using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 15320 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 26.45° (0.80 Å
402 resolution), of which 3007 were independent (average redundancy 5.095, completeness: 99.6%, R_{int} =

403 2.06%, $R_{sig} = 1.39\%$, and 2847 (94.68%) were greater than $2\sigma(F_2)$. The final cell constants of $a =$
404 $9.1711(3) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.8643(4) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 10.2303(4) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 66.5310(10)^\circ$, $\beta = 64.5980(10)^\circ$, $\gamma = 65.2720(10)^\circ$,
405 $V = 731.86(5) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based on the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of reflections above $20\sigma(I)$. Data
406 were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The calculated minimum
407 and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.6847 and 0.7454. The structure was
408 solved using the Bruker SHELXTL software package, and refined using SHELXL[18] and the space
409 group $P1^-$, with $Z = 2$ for the formula unit, $C_{18}H_{20}O_5$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares
410 refinement on F_2 with 210 variables converged at $R_1 = 3.85\%$, for the observed data and $wR_2 = 10.47\%$
411 for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.081. The largest peak in the final difference electron density
412 synthesis was 0.323 e\AA^{-3} and the largest hole was -0.292 e\AA^{-3} with an RMS deviation of 0.064 e\AA^{-3} .
413 On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.435 g cm^{-3} and $F(000)$, 336 e (Table 1).

414

415 **X-ray Crystal-Structure Determination of Compound 16:** A colorless plate-like specimen of
416 $C_{23}H_{24}O_4$, approximate dimensions $0.096 \text{ mm} \times 0.216 \text{ mm} \times 0.285 \text{ mm}$, was used for the X-ray
417 crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured with a D8 Venture system equipped
418 with a multilayer monochromator and a Mo microfocus ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$). The frames were integrated
419 with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data
420 using a monoclinic unit cell yielded a total of 46427 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 28.34° (0.75 \AA
421 resolution), of which 4298 were independent (average redundancy 10.802, completeness: 99.8%, $R_{int} =$
422 4.10% , $R_{sig} = 1.82\%$), and 3654 (85.02%) were greater than $2\sigma(F_2)$. The final cell constants of $a =$
423 $9.6672(4) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 10.5955(5) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 17.0896(7) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 99.698(2)^\circ$, $V = 1725.45(13) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based on the
424 refinement of the XYZ-centroids of reflections above $20\sigma(I)$. Data were corrected for absorption effects
425 using the multiscan method (SADABS). The calculated minimum and maximum transmission
426 coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.7050 and 0.7457. The structure was solved using the Bruker
427 SHELXTL Software Package, and refined using SHELXL[18] and the space group $P2_1/c$, with $Z = 4$ for
428 the formula unit, $C_{23}H_{24}O_4$. The final anisotropic full-matrix leastsquares refinement on F_2 with 258
429 variables converged at $R_1 = 3.95\%$, for the observed data and $wR_2 = 10.72\%$ for all data. The goodness-
430 of-fit was 1.047. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was 0.364 e\AA^{-3} and
431 the largest hole was -0.265 e\AA^{-3} with an RMS deviation of 0.058 e\AA^{-3} . On the basis of the final model,
432 the calculated density was 1.403 g cm^{-3} and $F(000)$, 776 e (Table 1).

433 CCDC-1063995 (for 8), -1063996 (for 12), and 1063997 (for 16) contain the supplementary
434 crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge
435 Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

436

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438

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478 **Legends to figures**

479

480 **Figure 1.** A polynorbornane-based ligand.

481

482 **Scheme 1.** Preparation of cyclopentadiene 6; DMAP = 4-(dimethylamino) pyridine.

483

484 **Scheme 2.** Synthesis of hexacyclo derivative 12.

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486 **Figure 2.** ORTEP representation of one of the enantiomers of alcohol 8.

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488 **Figure 3.** ORTEP representation of one of the enantiomers of polycycle
489 12.

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491 **Scheme 3.** Synthesis of polycyclo derivative 16.

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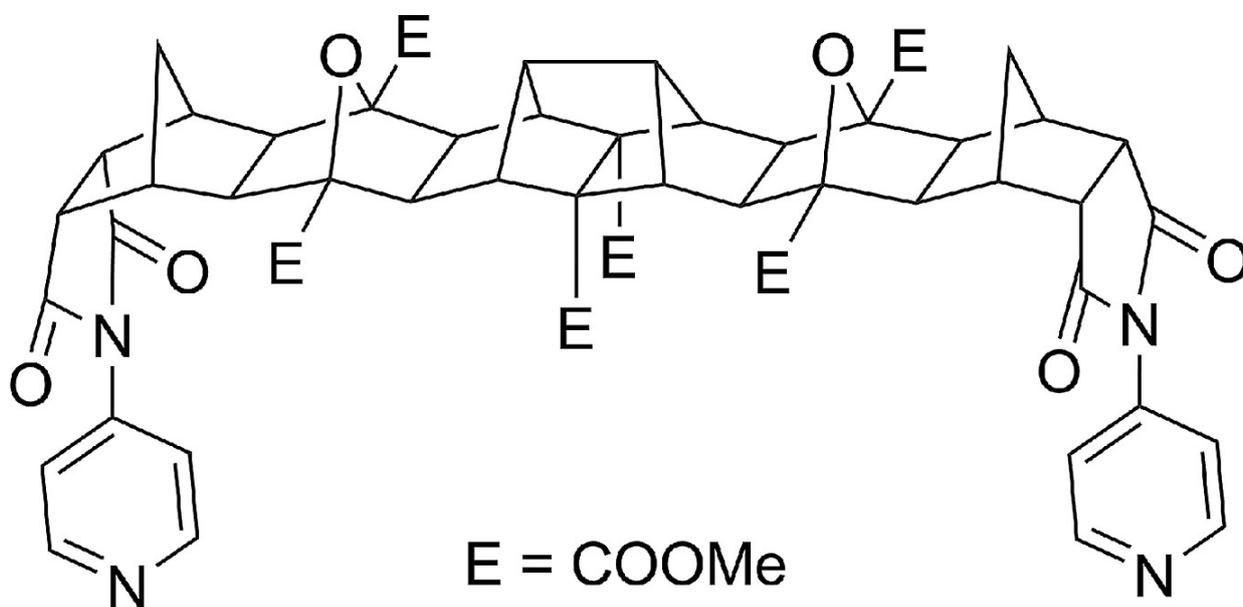
493 **Figure 4.** ORTEP representation of octacyclo 16.

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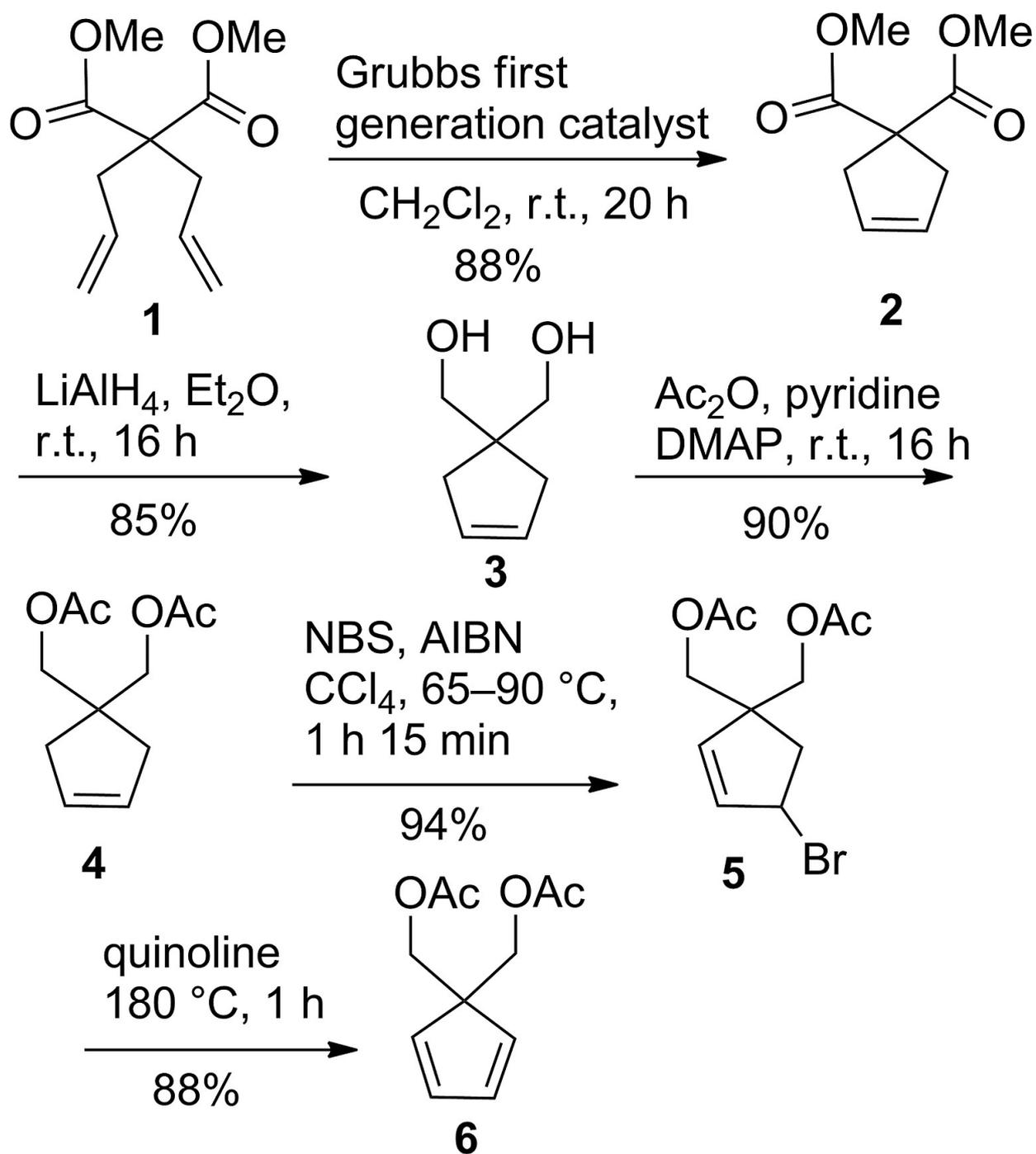
FIGURE 1.



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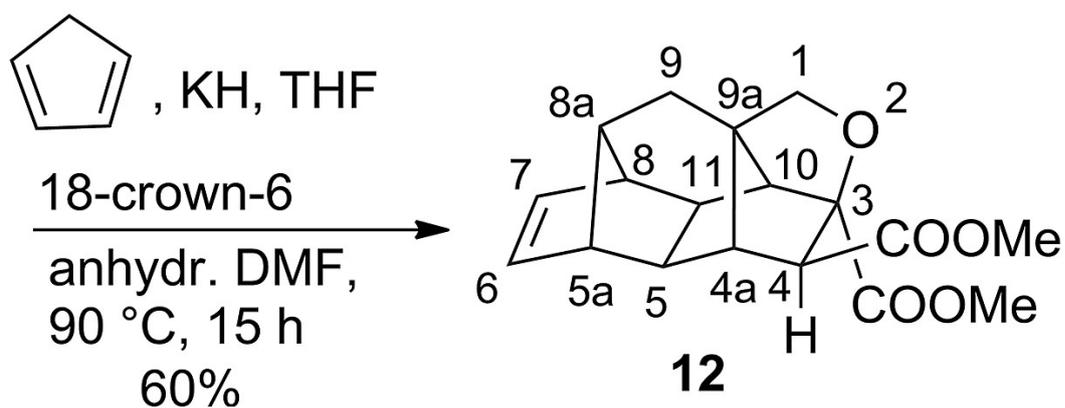
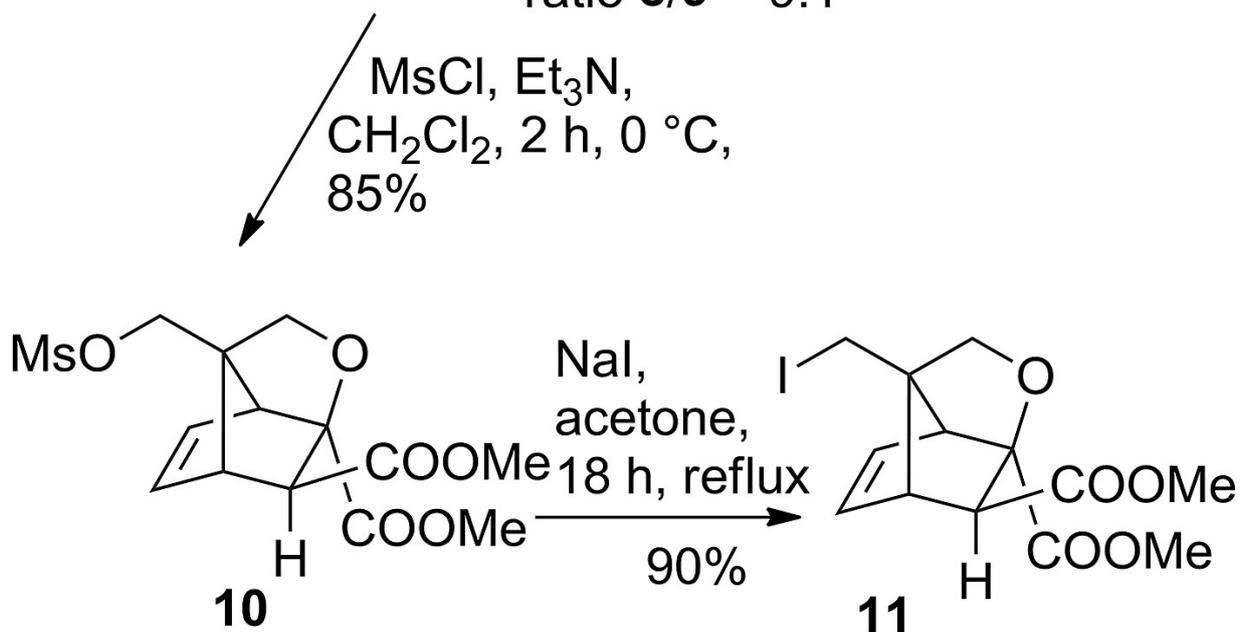
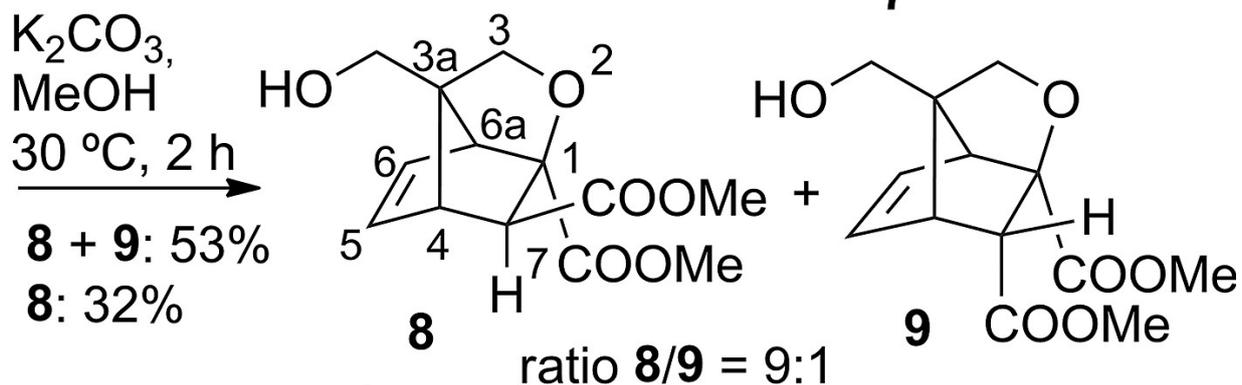
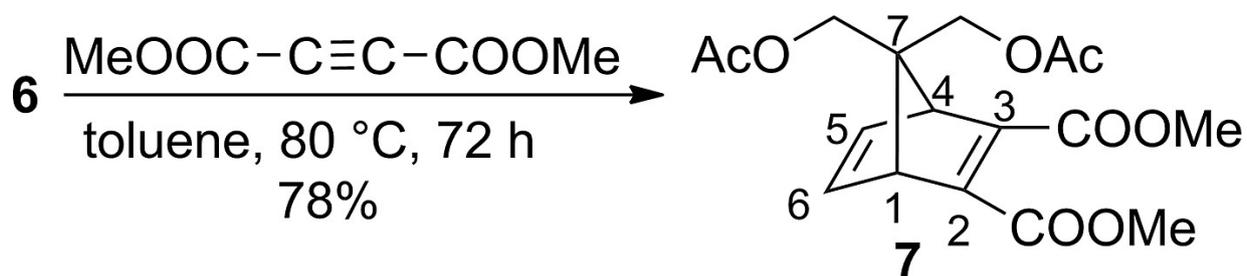
SCHEME 1.



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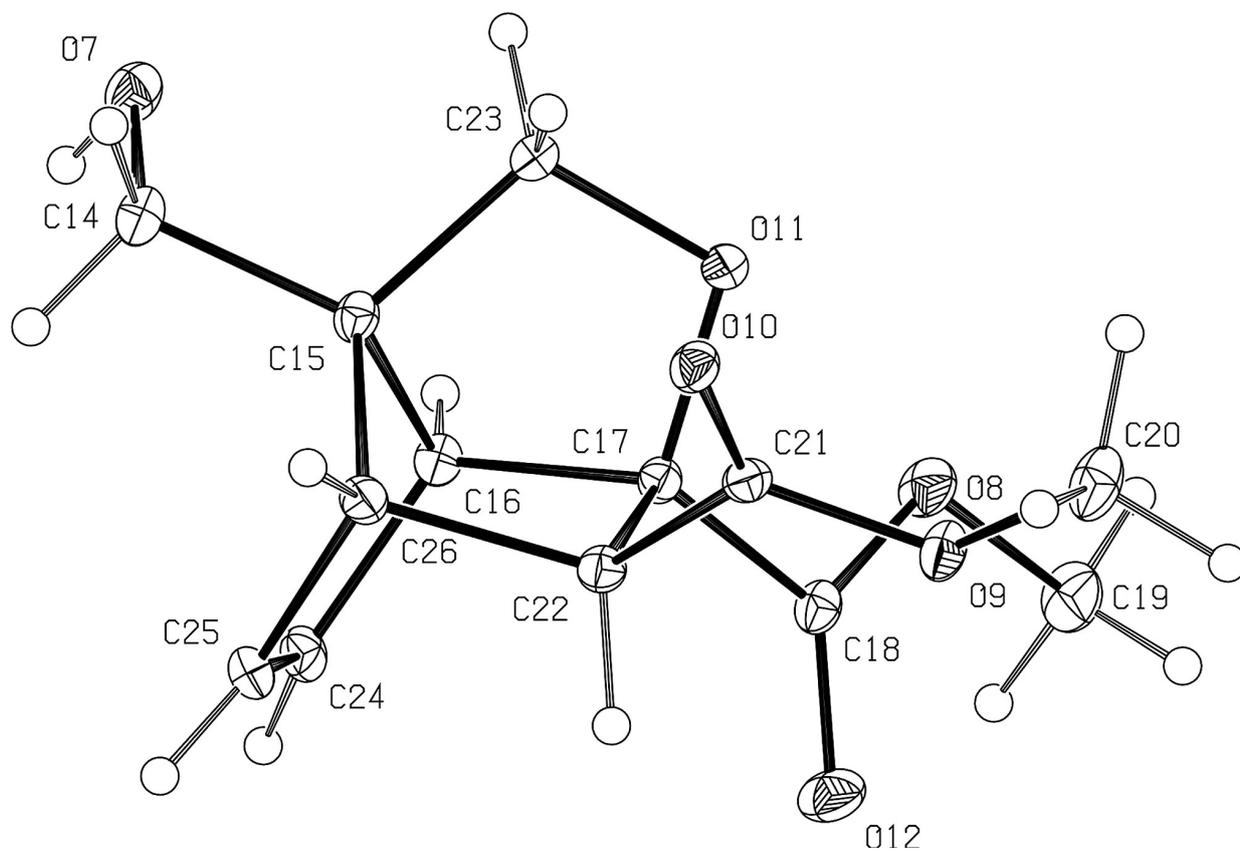
SCHEME 2.



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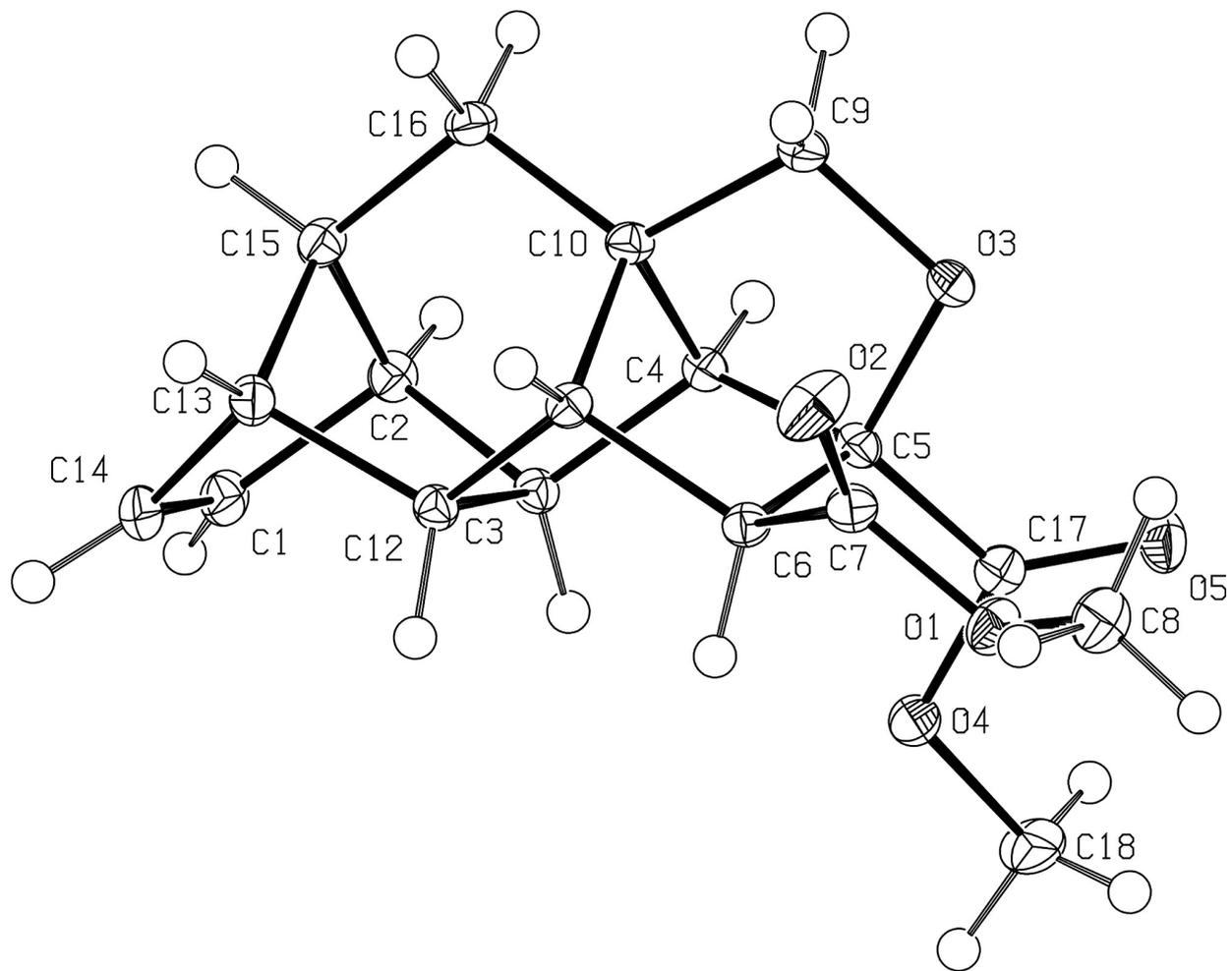
FIGURE 2.



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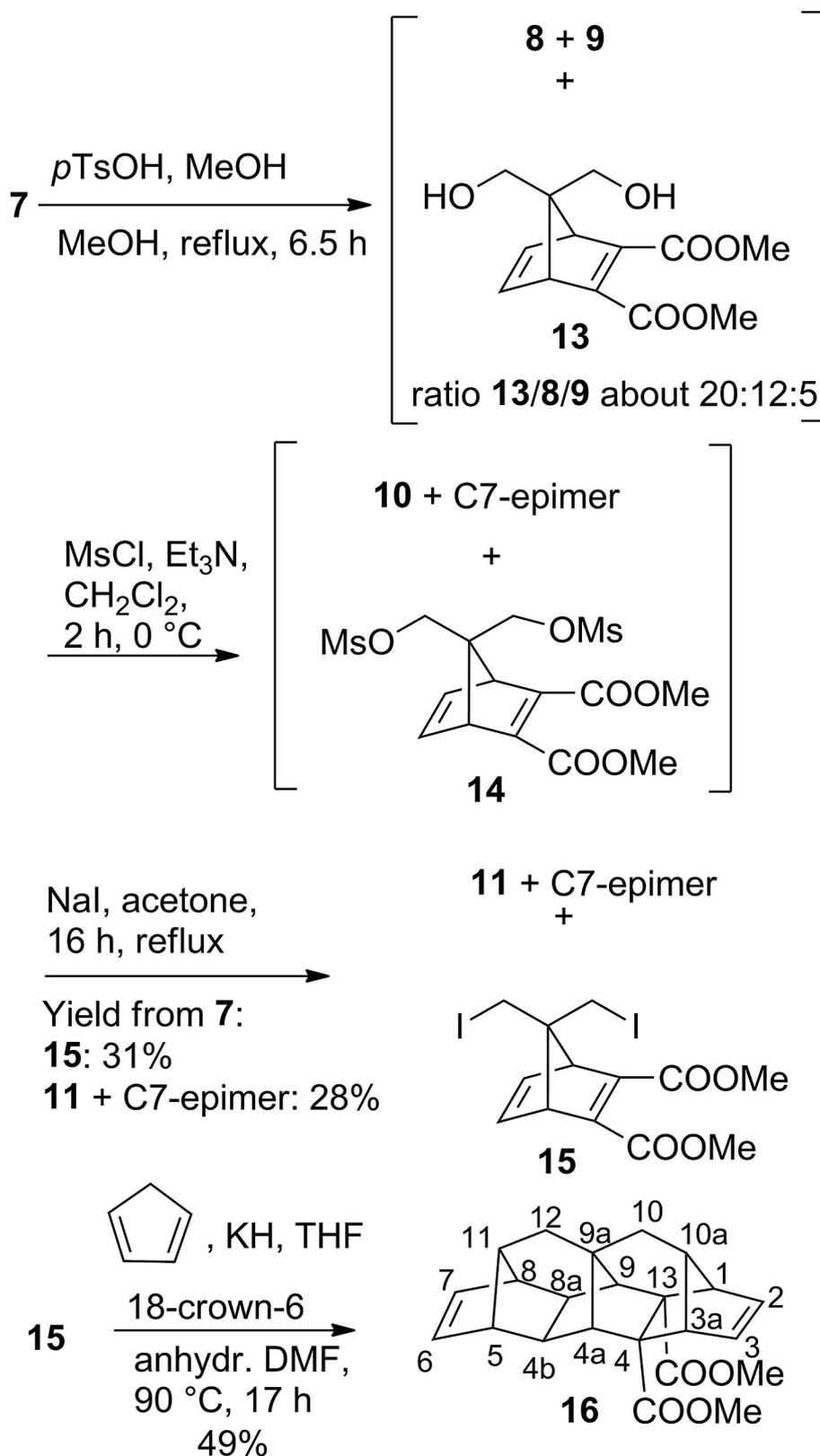
FIGURE 3.



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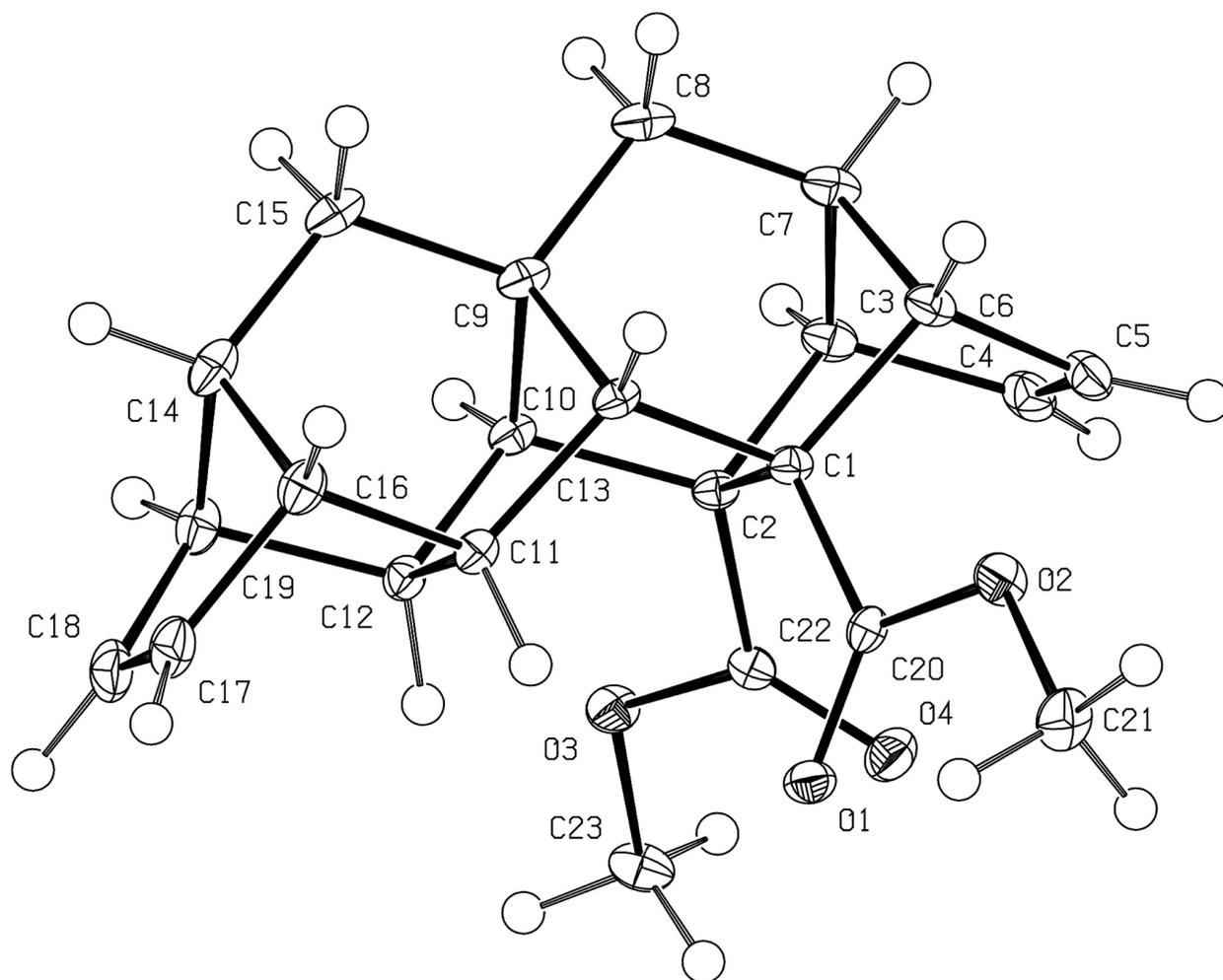
SCHEME 3



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FIGURE 4.



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530 **Table 1.** Experimental data[a] of the X-ray crystal-structure determination of compounds 8, 12 and 16.

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| | 8 ^b | 12 | 16 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Molecular formula | C ₁₃ H ₁₆ O ₆ | C ₁₈ H ₂₀ O ₅ | C ₂₃ H ₂₆ O ₄ |
| Molecular mass | 268.26 | 316.34 | 364.42 |
| Wavelength | 1.54178 Å | 0.71073 Å | 0.71073 Å |
| Crystal system | monoclinic | triclinic | monoclinic |
| Space group | <i>P</i> 2 ₁ | <i>P</i> $\bar{1}$ | <i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>c</i> |
| Unit cell dimensions | | | |
| <i>a</i> | 5.8773(8) Å | 9.1711(3) Å | 9.6672(4) Å |
| <i>b</i> | 30.253(4) Å | 9.8643(4) Å | 10.5955(5) Å |
| <i>c</i> | 7.0235(9) Å | 10.2303(4) Å | 17.0896(7) Å |
| α | 90° | 66.5310(10)° | 90° |
| β | 100.153(3)° | 64.5980(10)° | 99.698(2)° |
| γ | 90° | 65.2720(10)° | 90° |
| <i>V</i> | 1229.3(5) Å ³ | 731.86(5) Å ³ | 1725.45(13) Å ³ |
| <i>Z</i> | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| Density | 1.449 Mg m ⁻³ | 1.435 Mg m ⁻³ | 1.403 Mg m ⁻³ |
| Absorption coefficient | 0.977 mm ⁻¹ | 0.104 mm ⁻¹ | 0.095 mm ⁻¹ |
| <i>F</i> (000) | 568 | 336 | 776 |
| Crystal size | 0.578 × 0.427 × 0.228 mm ³ | 0.554 × 0.308 × 0.222 mm ³ | 0.285 × 0.216 × 0.092 mm ³ |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.921 to 72.200° | 2.287 to 26.446° | 2.271 to 28.339° |
| Index ranges | -7 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 7; -37 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 37; -8 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 8 | -11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11; -12 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 12; -12 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 12 | -12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12; -14 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 14; -22 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 22 |
| Reflections collected | 13259 | 15320 | 46427 |
| Independent reflections | 4742 [<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0342] | 3007 [<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0206] | 4298 [<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0410] |
| Completeness to theta | 67.679% (98.6%) | 25.242% (99.9%) | 25.242% (99.9%) |
| Max. and min. transmission | 0.7536 and 0.6325 | 0.7454 and 0.6847 | 0.7457 and 0.7050 |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 4742/1/354 | 3007/0/210 | 4298/0/258 |
| Goodness-of-fit on <i>I</i> ² | 1.051 | 1.081 | 1.047 |
| Final <i>R</i> indices [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)] | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0318, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0870 | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0385, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.1033 | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0395, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.1017 |
| <i>R</i> indices (all data) | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0319, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0872 | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0399, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.1047 | <i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0486, <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.1072 |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.278 and -0.218 e Å ⁻³ | 0.323 and -0.292 e Å ⁻³ | 0.364 and -0.265 e Å ⁻³ |

[a] Temperature: 100(2) K; absorption correction: semi-empirical from equivalents; refinement method: full-matrix least-squares on *F*²; extinction coefficient: n/a. [b] Absolute structure parameter: 0.44(15).

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