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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Arylalkane Library Synthesis Enabled by a Stereospecific Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling

Reaction

and

Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reactions of Alkyl Mesylates

DISSERTATION

Submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in Chemistry

by

Amberly B. Sanford

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Elizabeth R. Jarvo (Chair) Dr. Sergey V. Pronin Dr. Suzanne A. Blum

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DEDICATION

For Peter James Maraven and W.D. "Sandy" Sanford

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I have had an unusually superb combination of science teachers and professors over the years who have all been crucial in my journey and I feel incredibly fortunate to have been a student of them all. My high school science teacher of 3 years, Lee Strong, played a pivotal role in developing my interest in science. I was lucky enough to have taken earth science, biology, and chemistry courses taught by him, and his unique conceptual-based teaching style gave me an innate understanding of fundamental concepts in science. I greatly appreciate all his encouragement and telling me chemistry was my "thing".

I am also grateful for the professors I had at Moorpark College. I thank my general chemistry and organic chemistry professor, Steve Joiner, for sparking my interest in organic chemistry. His crystal-clear lectures and well-executed lab experiments gave me a great foundation of the field. I also thank Clint Harper for giving me a solid understanding of physics as well as his support and encouragement.

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Sanford, A. B.; Tollefson, E. J.; Jarvo, E. R*.* Stereospecific Cross-Coupling Reactions Provide Conformationally-Biased Arylalkanes with Anti-Leukemia Activity. *Isr. J. Chem.* **2020**, *60*, 402–405.

PRESENTATIONS

Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. A.; McGinnis, T. M.; Chen, P.–P.; Hong, X.; Jarvo, E. R. Nickelcatalyzed cross-electrophile coupling reaction for the synthesis of alkylcyclopropanes. Presented at the GC&E Conference, June 2020 (virtual oral presentation).

Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. A.; McGinnis, T. M.; Chen, P.–P.; Hong, X.; Jarvo, E. R. Nickelcatalyzed cross-electrophile coupling reaction for the synthesis of alkylcyclopropanes. Presented at Vertex Day Irvine, California, February 2020 (oral presentation).

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Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. A.; Jarvo, E. R. Synthesis of alkylcyclopropanes via nickel-catalyzed cross-electrophile coupling. Presented at the UCI Graduate Symposium, Irvine, California, April 2018 (oral presentation).

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

Arylalkane Library Synthesis Enabled by a Stereospecific Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling

Reaction

and

Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reactions of Alkyl Mesylates

By

Amberly B. Sanford Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry University of California, Irvine, 2021 Professor Elizabeth R. Jarvo, Chair

While palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions have unquestionably transformed synthetic organic chemistry, nickel catalysis offers a unique set of advantages. From a reactivity perspective, two advantages of nickel catalysis are the ability to access additional oxidation states and engage a broader range of electrophiles compared to that of palladium catalysis. These properties ultimately allow for multiple mechanisms of oxidative addition to occur. In recent years, it has been established that nickel catalysts undergo stereospecific oxidative additions to C–N or C–O bonds. In contrast, oxidative addition at carbon-halogen bonds, such as C–I, are frequently stereoablative. Both of these modes of oxidative addition occur in the methods reported in this dissertation.

In Chapter 1, the synthesis of an arylalkane library utilizing a stereospecific Kumada crosscoupling reaction is described. The results of biological testing for anti-cancer activity are also reported. Aryltetrahydropyran starting materials are synthesized in a one-step, diastereoselective Prins reaction. A nickel-catalyst engages the benzylic $Csp³$ -O bond in a stereospecific manner and undergoes a Kumada cross-coupling reaction with methylmagnesium iodide in solution. The resulting products are acyclic arylalkanes that were tested for anti-cancer activity through a collaboration with the NIH. One compound in the library exhibited micromolar anti-cancer activity.

A limitation of the method above—and similar stereospecific methods—is that the electrophilic $Csp³$ -O bond must be allylic or benzylic to allow for facile oxidative addition by a nickel catalyst. In an approach to engage alkyl Csp³–O bonds that are not benzylic or allylic, the cross-electrophile coupling reaction of 1,3-dimesylates for alkylcyclopropane synthesis was developed and discussed in Chapters 2 and 3 of this dissertation. While optimized reaction conditions are similar to the Kumada reaction described above, a key 1,3-diiodide intermediate alters the reaction mechanism leading the nickel catalyst to instead perform a stereoablative oxidative addition. Mono- and 1,2-disubstituted alkylcyclopropanes were synthesized, the latter with moderate diastereoselectivity.

Lastly, the optimization of a cross-electrophile coupling reaction of secondary alkyl mesylates with allylic difluorides is described in Chapter 4. This work builds on the crosselectrophile coupling reaction of 1,3-dimesylates described in Chapters 2 and 3. The resulting βfluorovinyl cyclopropanes are synthesized as a 1:1 diastereomeric ratio of cis and trans cyclopropanes and one alkene isomer. The currently available evidence is consistent with a stereoablative mechanism for oxidative addition, similar to that previously reported with 1,3 dimesylates. However, the specific details of the mechanism and expansion of scope are currently under investigation.

Chapter One

Stereospecific Cross-Coupling Reactions Provide Conformationally-Biased Arylalkanes with Anti-Leukemia Activity

1.1 Introduction

Drug discovery efforts often show bias towards flat, achiral molecules, however candidates containing multiple sp³ atoms and stereogenic centers have been associated with increased clinical success.^{1,2,3} Biological targets are inherently three-dimensional structures, therefore ligands that extend in all three dimensions may increase interactions to improve potency, while reducing offtarget binding.⁴ For example, an increase in dimensionality of the core skeleton can be important for assisting appendage π systems to more effectively interact with binding sites.²

In contrast to the flat and rigid structures of sp^2 -rich molecules, compounds with numerous $sp³$ centers exhibit potentially large conformational profiles. Limitation of this profile can be an important attribute for activity by reducing conformational entropic costs upon binding to the biological target.⁵ Biologically active natural products, including polyketides, typically inhabit a preferred conformation, while still retaining a degree of flexibility.^{6,7} For example, polypropionates often adopt a low-energy conformer to avoid *syn*-pentane interactions.6

¹ Portions of this Chapter were originally published in Israel Journal of Chemistry: Sanford, A. B.; Tollefson, E. J.; Jarvo, E. R. *Isr. J. Chem.* **²⁰²⁰**, *60*, 402–405. 2 Lovering, F.; Bikker, J.; Humblet, C. *J. Med. Chem.* **²⁰⁰⁹**, *52*, 6752–6756.

³ For recent perspectives on molecular complexity in drug discovery, see: a) Caille, S.; Cui, S.; Faul, M. M.;

Mennen, S. M.; Tedrow, J. S.; Walker, S. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *84*, 4583–4603. b) Méndez, O.; Medina-Franco, J. L.; *Drug Discov. Today*, **2017**, *22*, 120–126.

⁴ Arya, P.; Joseph, R.; Gan, Z.; Rakic, B. *Chem. Biol.* **2005**, *12*, 163–180.

⁵ Chang, C. A.; Chen, W.; Gilson, M. K.; *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **2007**, *104*, 1534–1539.

⁶ Hoffmann, R. W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1992**, *31*, 1124–1134.

⁷ Larsen, E. M.; Wilson, M. R.; Taylor, R. E. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **2015**, *32*, 1183–1206.

Figure 1.1 Polyketide discodermolide

The polyketide discodermolide is one example where molecular structure reduces the number of populated conformers (Figure 1.1).⁷ Extracted from sea sponge *Discodermia dissoluta*,⁸ discodermolide has been investigated for its nanomolar ability to inhibit growth of paclitaxelresistant cancer cells.9 Discodermolide contains two polypropionate motifs that avoid *syn*-pentane interactions, causing two hairpin-like turns in the linear backbone.10 Analogues of discodermolide conserve these motifs, as the conformation is critical to its activity.⁷ Partly due to this restrictive effect on conformation, methods to access polypropionates and similar structures are of great value.^{11,12,13}

⁸ Gunasekera, S. P.; Gunasekera, M.; Longley, R. E.; Schulte, G. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 4912–4915.

⁹ Kowalski, R. J.; Giannakakou, P.; Gunasekera, S. P.; Longley, R. E.; Day, B. W.; Hamel, E. *Mol. Pharmacol.* **1997**, *52*, 613–622.

¹⁰ Smith, A. B.; LaMarche, M. J.; Falcone-Hindley, M. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 695–698.

¹¹ Hanessian, S.; Giroux, S.; Mascitti, V. *Synthesis* **2006**, 1057–1075.

¹² Li, J.; Menche, D. *Synthesis* **2009**, 2293–2315.

¹³ ter Horst, B.; Feringa, B. L.; Minnaard, A. J. *Chem. Commun.* **2010**, *46*, 2535–2547.

Scheme 1.1 a) Stereospecific ring-opening Kumada reaction b) Library synthesis

In 2014, our laboratory reported an C_{sp}^3 - C_{sp}^3 Kumada cross-coupling reaction of aryl tetrahydropyrans (THPs) and tetrahydrofurans (Scheme 1.1a).^{14,15,16} This ring-opening reaction utilizes an achiral nickel catalyst to couple a benzylic ether with Grignard reagents in a stereospecific manner. Importantly, the THP starting material is generated in a single step from the commercially available aldehyde by a diastereoselective Prins cyclization.^{17,18,19} Upon ringopening of the THP, a compound rich in stereochemical information is generated, including 1,3 substitutients on the linear backbone.

We set out to utilize this ring-opening reaction to synthesize a small library of compounds and test for anticancer activity (Scheme 1.1b). We hypothesized that the $sp³$ core skeleton, 1,3substituent motif, ability to diversify at the alcohol position, and low molecular weight $($ <500 da)

¹⁴ Tollefson, E. J.; Dawson, D. D.; Osborne, C. A.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 14951–14958.

¹⁵ Dawson, D. D.; Jarvo, E. R. *Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2015**, *19*, 1356–1359.

¹⁶ Tollefson, E. J.; Hanna, L. E.; Jarvo, E. R. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, *48*, 2344–2353.

¹⁷ Dintzner, M. R.; Maresh, J. J.; Kinzie, C. R.; Arena, A. F.; Speltz, T. *J. Chem. Educ.* **2012**, *89*, 265–267.

¹⁸ Adams, D. R.; Bhatnagar, S. P. *Synthesis* **1977**, 661–672.

¹⁹ Olier, C.; Kaafarani, M.; Gastaldi, S.; Bertrand, M. P. *Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 413–445.

made this scaffold an appropriate candidate for library generation.^{20,21}Additionally, this substructure shares similarities to our previously synthesized compounds that demonstrated activity towards breast cancer cell lines, further directing our testing efforts.^{22,23} The aryl group was modified to include various heterocycles, and the alcohol was unaltered or further modified to carbamates or hydroxymethyl pyridines. These modifications were chosen due to their prevalence in successful pharmaceutical agents and to improve $logP$ of the series.^{21,24,25}

1.2 Results and Discussion

Our four target alcohols were the first compounds in our library to be synthesized (Scheme 1.2). The THP substrates **1.1** to **1.4** were synthesized via a clay-mediated Prins cyclization, employing four different aromatic aldehydes.¹⁷ With THPs in hand, the ring-opening Kumada cross-coupling reactions were performed to yield desired alcohols, **1.5**, **1.6**, **1.7**, and **1.8**. This reaction proceeds reliably with inversion at the benzylic carbon, therefore *cis*-disubstituted tetrahydropyrans produce alcohols with a syn configuration.¹⁴ Each alcohol was tested for anticancer activity.

²⁰ Lipinski, C. A.; Lombardo, F.; Dominy, B. W.; Feeney, P. J. *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* **1997**, *23*, 3–25.

²¹ Silverman, R. B.; Holladay, M. W. *The Organic Chemistry of Drug Design and Drug Action*, Elsevier, San Diego, **2014**.

²² Yonova, I. M.; Johnson, A. G.; Osborne, C. A.; Moore, C. E.; Morrissette, N. S.; Jarvo, E. R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 2422–2427.

²³ Johnson, A. G.; Tranquilli, M. M.; Harris, M. R.; Jarvo, E. R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2015**, *56*, 3486–3488.

²⁴ Ghosh, A. K.; Brindisi, M. *J. Med. Chem.* **2015**, *58*, 2895–2940.

²⁵ Vitaku, E.; Smith, D. T.; Njardarson, J. T. *J. Med. Chem.* **2014**, *57*, 10257–10274.

Scheme 1.2 Alcohols synthesized via Kumada ring-opening cross-coupling reaction

arac-BINAP used as ligand

Next, the alcohols were acylated to yield carbamate derivatives (Scheme 1.3). A series of dimethyl carbamates and morpholine carbamates (**1.9**–**1.16**) were synthesized. Either carbamate could be synthesized using sodium hydride and corresponding carbamoyl chloride,²⁶ however, a more reliable method utilized carbonyldiimidazole (CDI) and the corresponding amine.²⁷ All carbamate derivatives were subjected to biological testing.

²⁶ Aikawa, K.; Maruyama, K.; Nitta, J.; Hashimoto, R.; Mikami, K. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 3354–3357.

²⁷ Verma, S. K.; Ghorpade, R.; Pratap, A.; Kaushik, M. P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2012**, *53*, 2373–2376.

Scheme 1.3 Dimethyl and morpholine carbamate derivatives

Lastly, our synthetic efforts concluded with transformation of the pendant alcohols to hydroxymethyl pyridines (Scheme 1.4). Compounds **1.17** to **1.20** were synthesized using sodium hydride and 2-bromo(methyl)pyridine. All pyridines were isolated in $>20:1$ dr and subjected to biological testing.

Scheme 1.4 Pyridine derivatives

With the synthesis of the library complete, we began our evaluation of biological activity. We collaborated with the National Institute of Health Developmental Therapeutics Program (NIH DTP) to evaluate our experimental compounds against 60 human cancer cell lines (at 10 μ M).^{28,29} If substantial growth inhibition or cell death is detected, the compound is selected by the NIH for further concentration dependent testing.

 Results of the initial evaluation are shown in Table 1.1. Each compound is presented with the specific cell line the compound was most active against and associated growth percentages. 30 Untreated cell lines have a growth percentage of 100%, therefore a positive value >100% indicates accelerated growth, a positive value <100% indicates inhibition of growth, and a negative growth percentage indicates cell death.

Table 1.1 Biological data obtained from NIH60 one-dose study. Cell line most susceptible to

Compound	Cancer Type	Cell Line	Percent Growth ^a
1.5	Leukemia	MOLT-4	-54
1.6	Renal	CAKI-1	76
1.7	Renal	A498	82
1.8	Renal	A498	67
1.9	Breast	T-47D	75
1.10	Renal	CAKI-1	73
1.11	Melanoma	UACC-62	56
1.12	Leukemia	CCRF-CEM	37
1.13	Melanoma	UACC-62	75
1.14	Renal	UO-31	67
1.15	Renal	$HL-60(TB)$	78
1.16	Renal	UO-31	75
1.17	Ovarian	OVCAR-8	48
1.18	Leukemia	RPMI-8226	63
1.19	Leukemia	RPMI-8226	75
1.20	Leukemia	$HL-60(TB)$	70

each tested compound is reported

*^a*Percentages are compared to a no-drug control. Positive 0–100% growth indicates growth inhibition, and negative growth percentage indicates lethality

²⁸ Shoemaker, R. H. *Nat. Rev. Cancer* **2006**, *6*, 813–823.

²⁹ National Institute of Health, "National Cancer Institute Developmental Therapeutics Program," can be found under https://dtp.cancer.gov/, **2019**.

³⁰ For full results of each compound against all 60 cell lines, see Experimental Section.

Alcohol **1.5** showed greatest potency, with activity against a range of cell lines, including all leukemia cell lines. For example, it provided –54% growth of leukemia cell line MOLT-4 (acute lymphoblastic leukemia). Alcohol **1.5** was then subjected to concentration dependent testing by the NIH DTP (Table 1.2).³¹ Alcohol **1.5** demonstrated micromolar activity towards the range of cell lines, and was most potent towards MOLT-4 with an LC_{50} value of 6.1 µM. Additionally, its activity towards HL-60(TB) at 8.3 µM is intriguing. Cell line HL-60(TB) is an acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL) line, a subtype of acute myeloid leukemia (AML) with a 5-year survival rate for AML of only 24%.32 Alcohol **1.5** also showed activity towards colon cancer cell lines HCT-116 and KM12.

Table 1.2 LC₅₀ values for 1.5

Cancer Type	Cell Line	LC_{50} (µM)
Leukemia	MOLT-4	6.1
Leukemia	CCRF-CEM	5.1
Leukemia	HL-60(TB)	8.3
Colon	HCT-116	5.2
Colon	KM12	5.7

To further investigate the properties of **1.5**, we sought to determine its preferred conformation. We calculated the energy of a series of conformers in a density functional theory (DFT) study at the B3LYP level employing the 6-31G(d) basis set.^{33,34,35} The lowest energy conformer (Figure 1.2) confirms our expectations based on hand-held models. The sterically bulky naphthyl and phenyl rings align syn to hydrogen atoms, to adopt a conformation that minimizes *syn*-pentane interactions.

³¹ For full results of concentration dependent testing for **1.5** against all 60 cell lines, see Supporting Information. ³² American Cancer Society, "Cancer Facts and Figures 2019," can be found under

https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2019.html, **2019**.

³³ Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648–5652.

³⁴ Lee, C.; Yang, W.; Parr, R. G. *Phys. Rev. B* **1988**, *37*, 785–789.

³⁵ Hehre, W. J.; Radom, L.; Schleyer, P. v. R.; Pople, J. A. *Ab Initio Molecular Orbital Theory*, Wiley, New York, **1986**.

Figure 1.2 Lowest energy conformer of **1.5** obtained via DFT calculations at the B3LYP/6-

31G(d) level

1.3 Conclusion

In summary, we have synthesized a small library of molecules utilizing our previously developed Kumada ring-opening cross-coupling reaction. The molecules in our library contained an $sp³$ core scaffold, 1,3-substituents to induce conformational bias, aromatic and heterocyclic rings, along with various alcohol, carbamate, and hydroxymethyl pyridine appendages to provide potential hydrogen bond acceptors and donors. The library compounds were tested for anti-cancer activity in collaboration with the NIH DTP and one alcohol, **1.5**, demonstrated micromolar activity against MOLT-4, CCRF-CEM, and HL-60(TB) leukemia cell lines. Based on the observed structure activity relationships, the naphthyl aromatic ring and primary alcohol were both critical functional groups for anti-leukemia activity of this compound.

1.4 Experimental Details

1.4.1 General Procedures

All reactions were carried out under a N_2 atmosphere, unless otherwise stated. All glassware was either oven-dried or flame-dried prior to use. Toluene (PhMe), diethyl ether (Et₂O), dimethylformamide (DMF), benzene (C_6H_6) , and tetrahydrofuran (THF) were degassed with argon and then passed through two 4 x 36 inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 alumina (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at 350 °C for 12 hours) to remove H_2O . ¹H NMR were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz ¹H, 100 MHz ¹³C), CRYO-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C), or GN-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C) spectrometers. Proton chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ 0.00). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity [singlet (s), broad singlet (br s), doublet (d), doublet of doublets (dd), doublet of doublet of doublets (ddd), triplet (t), doublet of triplets (dt), triplet of doublets (td), doublet of doublet of triplets (ddt), quartet (q), quintet (quint), quintet of triplets (quintt), quintet of doublets (quintd), sextet (sext), septet (sept), nonuplet (non), multiplet (m), apparent doublet (ad), apparent triplet (at), apparent quartet (aq), apparent quintet (aquint)], coupling constants [Hz], integration). Carbon chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to TMS with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ 77.16 ppm). NMR data were collected at 25 °C, unless otherwise noted. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Silica Gel 60Å F254 precoated plates (0.25 mm thickness). Flash chromatography was performed using either SiliaFlash F60 (40- 63 μm, 60 Å) from SiliCycle, a Teledyne Isco Combiflash® Rf+ automated flash chromatography system, or silver impregnated silica gel.³⁶ High resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center.

Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)nickel was purchased from Strem, stored in a glove box freezer $(-20 \degree C)$ under an atmosphere of N₂ and used as received. All ligands were purchased from Strem or Sigma Aldrich and were stored under N_2 atmosphere and used as received. All Grignard reagents

³⁶ Shaghafi, M. B.; Kohn, B. L.; Jarvo, E. R. *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 4743–4746.

were titrated with iodine prior to use.³⁷ All other chemicals were purchased commercially and used as received, unless otherwise noted.

1.4.2 Proof of Relative Configuration

NOE experiments were performed on tetrahydropyrans synthesized in this paper in order to determine the cis relative stereochemistry. It has previously been determined that nickelcatalyzed Kumada ring-opening reactions proceed with inversion, verified through ¹H NMR and X-ray crystallography studies.¹⁴ By analogy, final products were assigned syn stereochemistry.

Scheme 1.5 Stereochemical course of the Kumada cross-coupling reaction

1.4.3 General Cross-Coupling Procedures

1.4.3.1 Method A: Cross-Coupling with Methyl Grignard Reagent

In a glovebox, a flame-dried 7 mL vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with substrate (1.0 equiv), $Ni(cod)$, (0.10 equiv) , $rac{\text{--}}{\text{--}}$ BINAP or DPEphos (0.10 equiv) , and PhMe (2.4 mL) . Methylmagnesium iodide (2.5 equiv) was then added dropwise. After 24 h the reaction was removed from the glovebox, quenched with methanol (2 mL), filtered through a plug of silica gel (neat $Et₂O$), and concentrated in vacuo.¹⁴

1.4.3.2 Preparation of Methyl Grignard Reagent

Under an N_2 atmosphere, to a 3-necked round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar, reflux condenser, and Schlenk filtration apparatus was added magnesium turnings (2.80 g, 120 mmol,

³⁷ Krasovskiy, A.; Knochel, P. *Synthesis* **2006**, *5*, 890–891.

1.50 equiv). The flask and magnesium turnings were flame-dried under vacuum and the flask was back-filled with N₂. A crystal of iodine (ca. 2 mg) was added to the flask, followed by anhydrous Et₂O (25 mL). The reaction mixture was brought to 0 $^{\circ}$ C, and freshly distilled iodomethane (5.0) mL, 82 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was slowly added over 30 min to maintain a gentle reflux. The mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature then filtered through the fritted Schlenk filter into a Schlenk bomb under N₂ atmosphere. The magnesium turnings were washed with Et₂O (2 x 1.0 mL) then the Schlenk bomb was sealed, removed, and placed under an argon atmosphere. The resulting methyl Grignard reagent was typically between 2.4 and 3.0 M as titrated by Knochel's method³⁷ and was stored (sealed under argon atmosphere or in a glovebox) for up to 8 weeks.

1.4.4 Alcohol Modification Procedures

1.4.4.1 Method B: Alcohols to Carbamates Using Carbamoyl Chlorides

The target compounds were prepared using a modified procedure reported by Mikami.³⁸ In a glove box, a flame-dried round bottom flask was equipped with stir bar and sodium hydride (10. equiv). Anhydrous DMF or THF was added to flask, which was capped with a septum and removed from the glove box. Alcohol (1.0 equiv) was added, and the reaction stirred for 2 h. Dimethylcarbamoyl chloride, or 4-morpholinecarbonyl chloride was added dropwise (20. equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. Saturated NH4Cl solution (2 mL) was added to quench. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (5 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO4, and concentrated in vacuo*.*

³⁸ Aikawa, K.; Maruyama, K.; Nitta, J.; Hashimoto, R.; Mikami, K. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 3354–3357.

1.4.4.2 Method C: Alcohols to Carbamates Using CDI

The target compounds were prepared using a modified procedure reported by Kaushik.³⁹ Open to air, a vial was equipped with stir bar and alcohol (1.0 equiv). Carbonyldiimidazole (1.8 equiv) was added, then the mixture was ground with a spatula for 5 min. The vial was capped, purged with N_2 , then anhydrous PhMe was added. Amine (17–23 equiv) was added, and the reaction was stirred for 5 min. The reaction was quenched with sat. NaHCO₃ solution (2 mL) . The reaction was then diluted with EtOAc (5 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo*.*

1.4.4.3 Method D: Alcohols to Hydroxymethyl Pyridines

In a glove box, a flame-dried round bottom flask was equipped with a stir bar and sodium hydride (10. equiv). Anhydrous DMF was added to flask, which was capped with a septum and removed from the glove box. Alcohol (1.0 equiv) was added, and the reaction stirred for 2 h. 3- (Bromomethyl)pyridine hydrobromide was added dropwise as a solution in DMF (1.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. Saturated NH4Cl solution (2 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (5 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo*.*

1.4.5 Characterization Data for Products

³⁹ Verma, S. K.; Ghorpade, R.; Pratap, A.; Kaushik, M. P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2012**, *53*, 2373–2376.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylhexan-1-ol (1.5)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)₂ (5.5 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), *rac*-BINAP (13 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), substrate **1.1** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv, dr >20:1), PhMe (1.8 mL) , and MeMgI $(0.21 \text{ mL}, 0.50 \text{ mmol}, 2.4 \text{ M} \text{ in Et}_2O, 2.5 \text{ equiv})$. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography with silver-impregnated silica gel (20–50% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (51 mg, 0.17 mmol, 84%, dr $>$ 20:1). The dr was determined based on integration of the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R_f** = 0.3 (20% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.75 (m, 3H), 7.47–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.33–7.21 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.1, 2H), 3.38–3.27 (m, 2H), 2.59 (m, 1H), 2.42 (m, 1H), 2.09–2.03 (m, 1H), 2.00–1.95 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.79 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 7.0, 3H), 1.00 (br s, 1H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.7, 144.3, 133.7, 132.4, 128.60, 128.59, 128.2, 128.00, 127.99, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 125.3, 61.1, 45.2, 40.40, 40.38, 37.7, 23.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m* / *z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₄ONa [M + Na]⁺ 327.1725, found 327.1727. Compound data is from our previous report.¹⁴

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-3-yl)-3-phenylhexan-1-ol (1.6)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (5.5 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), DPEPhos (11 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), substrate **1.2** (60. mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), PhMe (2.4 mL) , and MeMgI $(0.16 \text{ mL}, 0.50 \text{ mm})$, 3.1 M in Et₂O, 2.5 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a light yellow oil (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 60%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.3 (20%)

EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.87–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 1H) 7.35–7.16 (m, 5H), 7.07–7.00 (m, 3H) 3.51–3.34 (m, 2H), 3.04–2.94 (m, 1H), 2.71–2.61 (m, 1H) 2.29–2.20 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 9.5, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.01–1.90 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.78 (m, 1H) 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.9, 142.0, 141.0, 138.8, 128.7 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 126.6, 124.3, 123.8, 123.1, 122.2, 120.3, 61.3, 44.6, 40.7, 40.0, 31.3, 22.7; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₆ONS [M + NH₄]⁺ 328.1735, found 328.1723.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-3-phenylhexan-1-ol (1.7)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (5.5 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), DPEPhos (11 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), substrate **1.3** (56 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), PhMe (2.4 mL), and MeMgI (0.16 mL, 0.50 mmol, 3.1 M in Et₂O, 2.5 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (34 mg, 0.12 mmol, 59%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.4 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.43 (m, 1H) 7.36–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26– 7.15 (m, 5H) 6.31 (s, 1H), 3.51–3.37 (m, 2H), 2.77–2.64 (m, 2H) 1.94–1.82 (ddd, *J* = 13.7, 10.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.96–1.77 (m, 3H), 1.26 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (100.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 163.1, 154.8, 144.6, 129.0, 128.8 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 126.7, 123.3, 122.6, 120.5, 111.1, 101.7, 61.3, 42.9, 40.7, 40.2, 31.9, 20.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C20H26O2N [M + NH4] ⁺ 312.1964, found 312.1953.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Furan-3-yl)-3-phenylhexan-1-ol (1.8)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (5.5 mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), DPEPhos (11) mg, 20. µmol, 0.10 equiv), substrate **1.4** (46 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), PhMe (2.4 mL), and MeMgI (0.16 mL, 0.50 mmol, 2.5 M in Et₂O, 2.5 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (40% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (35 mg, 0.14 mmol, 72%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (40% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.37–7.36 (t, *J* = 1.76 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H) 7.23–7.18 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14–7.10 (m, 3H) 6.26 (s, 1H), 3.50–3.34 (m, 2H), 2.64–2.57 (asept, *J =* 5.2 Hz, 1H) 2.45–2.34 (m, 1H), 1.90–1.71 (m, 4H), 1.1 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.9, 143.1, 138.7, 130.2, 128.7 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 126.5, 109.3, 61.3, 44.9, 40.42, 40.37, 27.9, 23.2; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C16H21O2 [M + H] ⁺ 245.1542, found 245.1550.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylhexyl dimethylcarbamate (1.9)** was prepared according to Method C. The following amounts of reagents were used: substrate **1.5** (29 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr) carbonyldiimidazole (29 mg, 0.18 mmol, 1.8 equiv), dimethylamine in EtOH (0.30 mL, 1.7 mmol, 17 equiv, 5.6 M), PhMe (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (11 mg, 0.028 mmol, 56%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R**_f = 0.5 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.78 (q, *J =* 10.3 Hz, 3H), 7.48–7.38 (m, 3H) 7.33–7.18 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, *J* $= 7.4$ Hz, 2H) 3.92–3.86 (m, 1H), 3.77–3.71 (m, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H) 2.66–2.57 (m, 1H), 2.52–2.39 (m, 4H), 2.07 (ddd, *J* = 14.0, 10.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.98 (*J* = 13.9, 10.7, 4.50 Hz, 1H), 1.91–1.77 (m, 2H), 1.23 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ156.5, 144.6, 144.3, 133.7, 132.3, 128.5(2C), 128.0, 127.9(2C), 127.6(2C), 126.3, 125.83, 125.80, 125.79, 125.2, 63.4, 44.6, 40.2, 37.7, 36.8, 36.2, 35.4, 23.7; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m / z calcd for C₂₅H₂₉NO₂H [M + H]⁺ 376.2277, found 376.2270.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylhexyl morpholinecarbamate (1.10)** was prepared according to Method C. The following amounts of reagents were used: substrate **1.5** (76 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr) carbonyldiimidazole (73 mg, 0.45 mmol, 1.8 equiv), morpholine (0.50 mL, 5.8 mmol, 23 equiv). This reaction was run neat. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (22 mg, 0.052 mmol, 21%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.4 (20% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.82–7.76 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.42 (m, 3H) 7.32–7.21 (m, 4H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H) 3.93–3.89 (m, 1H), 3.79–3.74 (m, 1H), 3.63–2.77 (m, 8H) 2.63–2.56 (m, 1H), 2.40 (septet, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.08–1.96 (m, 2H), 1.91–1.79 (m, 2H), 1.23 (d, *J =* 7.0 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 155.2, 144.4, 144.2, 133.6, 132.3, 128.6(2C), 128.0, 127.9(2C), 127.64, 127.55, 126.4, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 125.3, 66.5(2C), 63.6, 44.8, 43.8(2C), 40.3, 37.7, 36.8, 23.7; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m / z calcd for $C_{27}H_{31}NO_3Na$ [M + Na]⁺ 440.2202, found 440.2198.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-3-yl)-3-phenylhexyl dimethylcarbamate (1.11)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (36 mg, 1.5 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (0.26 mL, 2.8 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.6** (45 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-15\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a light yellow oil (23 mg, 0.060 mmol, 40%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.8 (40% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.87–7.82 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 1H) 7.33–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.26– 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.04–6.98 (m, 3H), 4.00–3.94 (m, 1H), 3.84–3.76 (m, 1H) 3.03–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.83 (br s, 3H), 2.70–2.58 (m, 4H), 2.70–2.58 (ddd, *J =* 13.9, 6.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.02–1.83 (m, 3H), 1.25 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 156.6, 144.5, 141.8, 140.8, 128.6, 128.5 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.4, 124.1, 123.6, 122.9, 120.1, 120.2, 63.4, 43.9, 40.4, 36.4 (2C), 35.7, 31.2, 22.5; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C23H27NO2S [M + Na] ⁺ 404.1660, found 404.1671.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-3-yl)-3-phenylhexyl morpholine-4-carboxylate (1.12)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (22 mg, 0.90 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-morpholinecarbonyl chloride (0.21 mL, 1.8 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.6** (27 mg, 0.090 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% DCM) to afford the title compound as a light yellow oil (19 mg, 0.045 mmol, 50%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. TLC $R_f = 0.2$ (100% DCM); ¹H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.89–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.55 (m, 1H) 7.35–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.28–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.03–6.98 (m, 2H), 4.02–3.97 (m, 1H), 3.88–3.82 (m, 1H) 3.67–3.05 (m, 8H), 3.02–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.61–2.59 (asept, *J =* 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.29–2.22 (m, 1 H), 2.03–1.86 (m, 3H), 1.25 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 155.5, 144.5, 141.9, 141.0, 138.7, 128.7 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 126.6, 124.4, 123.8, 123.1, 122.3, 120.4, 66.8 (2C), 63.9, 44.3, 44.1 (2C), 40.8, 36.5, 31.4, 22.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C25H29NO3SNa [M + Na] ⁺ 446.1766, found 446.1761.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-3-phenylhexyl dimethylcarbamate (1.13)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (24 mg, 1.0 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (0.18 mL, 2.0 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.7** (28 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-15\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (12 mg) , 0.033 mmol, 33%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R**_f = 0.7 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43–7.40 (m, 1H) 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.12 (m, 5H) 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.98–3.91 (m, 1H), 3.84–3.77 (m, 1H) 2.85–2.51 (m, 8H), 2.19–2.12 (ddd, *J =* 13.7, 10.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.98–1.81 (m, 3H), 1.24 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 162.9, 156.5, 154.7, 144.3, 128.8, 128.6 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.5, 123.1, 122.4, 120.3, 110.9, 101.6, 63.9, 42.4, 40.5, 36.5, 36.3, 35.8, 31.7, 20.6; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C23H27NO3Na
$[M + Na]$ ⁺ 338.1889, found 338.1898.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-3-phenylhexyl morpholine-4-carboxylate (1.14)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (20. mg, 0.80 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-morpholinecarbonyl chloride (0.19 mL, 1.6 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.7** (24 mg, 0.080 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% DCM) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (14 mg, 0.034 mmol, 43%, 3.8:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R**_f = 0.3 (100% DCM); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3, 311 K) δ 7.50–7.46 (ad, *J =* 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.40 (ad, *J =* 8.2 Hz, 1H) 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.12 (m, 5H) 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.99–3.94 (m, 1H), 3.88–3.83 (m, 1H) 3.60–2.99 (m, 8H), 2.73–2.66 (m, 1H), 2.63–2.57 (asept, *J =* 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.18–2.12 (m, 1H), 1.97–1.84 (m, 3H), 1.24 (d, *J =* 7.0 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.8 MHz, CDCl3) δ 162.7, 155.3, 154.6, 144.1, 128.7, 128.6 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.5, 123.2, 122.5, 120.3, 110.9, 101.7, 66.5 (2C), 63.7, 43.8 (2C), 42.6, 40.6, 36.5, 31.7, 20.6; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m* / *z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₉NO₄Na [M + Na]⁺ 430.1994, found 430.1992.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Furan-3-yl)-3-phenylhexyl dimethylcarbamate (1.15)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (35 mg, 1.5 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride (0.26 mL, 2.8 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.8** (35 mg, 0.14

mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (15–25% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (10. mg, 0.032 mmol, 23%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum **TLC R**_f = 0.8 (40% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.36–7.34 (t, *J =* 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.26 (m, 2H) 7.22–7.16 (tt, *J =* 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.08 (m, 3H) 6.26 (s, 1H), 3.97–3.89 (m, 1H), 3.86–3.78 (m, 1H) 2.86 (br s, 3H), 2.75 (br s, 3H), 2.64–2.55 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.37 (m, 1H), 1.95–1.77 (m, 4H), 1.09 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 156.6, 144.5, 142.9, 138.5, 129.9, 128.6 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.3, 109.1, 63.5, 44.3, 40.2, 36.6, 36.4, 35.7, 27.7, 23.0; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for $C_{19}H_{25}NO_3Na$ [M + Na]⁺ 338.1732, found 338.1721.

*syn***-(±)-5-(Furan-3-yl)-3-phenylhexyl morpholine-4-carboxylate (1.16)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (28 mg, 1.2 mmol, 10. equiv), 4-morpholinecarbonyl chloride (0.28 mL, 2.4 mmol, 20. equiv), substrate **1.8** (28 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), THF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% DCM) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (13 mg, 0.036 mmol, 30%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R**_f = 0.2 (100% DCM); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3, 308 K) δ 7.36–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.31–7.24 (m, 2H) 7.21–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.02 (m, 3H) 6.25 (s, 1H), 3.98–3.93 (m, 1H), 3.90–3.86 (m, 1H) 3.68–3.52 (m, 4H), 3.42–3.20 (br s, 4H), 2.60– 2.54 (asept, *J =* 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.43–2.36 (m, 1H), 1.94–1.75 (m, 4H), 1.09 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 155.3, 144.4, 142.9, 138.6, 129.9, 128.6 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.4,

109.1, 66.6 (2C), 63.9, 44.4 (2C), 43.9, 40.5, 36.6, 27.7, 23.0; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C₂₁H₂₇NO₄Na [M + Na]⁺ 380.1838, found 380.1832.

3-((((*syn***-(±))-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-2-phenylhexyl)oxy)methyl)pyridine (1.17)** was prepared according to Method D. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (48 mg, 2.0 mmol, 10. equiv), 2-(bromomethyl)pyridine hydrobromide (140 mg, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 equiv), substrate **1.5** (61 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), DMF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (49 mg, 0.12 mmol, 62%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.4 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81–7.74 (m, 3H) 7.46–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 3H) 7.23–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.10–7.05 (m, 4H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 13 Hz, 2H), 3.34–3.29 (m, 1H) 3.26–2.20 (m, 1H), 2.67–2.58 (m, 1H), 2.52 (septet, *J =* 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 10.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.02–1.91 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.79 (m, 1H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 149.1, 145.0, 144.6, 136.7, 133.9, 132.5, 128.6(2C), 128.3, 128.2(2C), 127.9, 127.8, 126.4, 126.1, 126.03, 126.00, 125.3, 122.3, 121.3, 73.9, 69.3, 45.2, 40.5, 37.9, 37.7, 23.9; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m / z calcd for C₂₈H₂₉NONa [M + Na]⁺ 418.2147, found 418.2157.

3-((((*syn***-(±))-5-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-3-yl)-2-phenylhexyl)oxy)methyl)pyridine (1.18)** was prepared according to Method D. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride

(20. mg, 0.80 mmol, 10. equiv), 2-(bromomethyl)pyridine hydrobromide (25 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.3 equiv), substrate **1.6** (25 mg, 0.080 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), DMF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a light yellow oil (15 mg, 0.038 mmol, 48%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.6 (30%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.51–8.48 (m, 1H), 7.86–7.82 (m, 1H) 7.63–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 2H) 7.24–7.11 (m, 5H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.04–6.99 (m, 2H), 4.51–4.43 (dd, *J =* 18.7, 13.2 Hz, 2H), 3.42–3.28 (m, 2H) 3.04–2.95 (m, 1H), 2.79–2.70 (asept, *J =* 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.30–2.23 (ddd, *J =* 14.1, 8.7, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.12–2.02 (m, 1H), 2.00–1.82 (m, 2H), 1.25 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.8 MHz, CDCl3) δ 158.8, 149.0, 144.9, 141.9, 140.8, 138.6, 136.6, 128.4 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 126.3, 124.1, 123.6, 122.9, 122.2, 122.1, 121.2, 120.2, 73.8, 69.2, 44.2, 40.5, 36.9, 31.2, 22.5; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C26H27NOSNa [M + Na] ⁺ 424.1711, found 424.1701.

3-((((*syn***-(±))-5-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-2-phenylhexyl)oxy)methyl)pyridine (1.19)** was prepared according to Method D. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (29 mg, 1.2 mmol, 10. equiv), 2-(bromomethyl)pyridine hydrobromide (38 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.3 equiv), substrate **1.7** (34 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), and DMF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (9.2 mg, 0.024 mmol, 20%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.5 (30%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.50–8.48 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.41

(m, 1H) 7.34–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.18 (m, 4H), 7.18–7.09 (m, 3H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 4.52–4.43 (dd*, J =* 18.1, 13.4 Hz, 2H), 3.43–3.28 (m, 2H), 2.80–2.68 (m, 2H) 2.25–2.15 (ddd, *J =* 13.9, 10.4, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.07–1.97 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.83 (m, 2H), 1.25 (d, *J =* 7.2 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 163.0, 158.8, 154.7, 148.9, 144.6, 136.6, 128.9, 128.5 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 126.3, 123.1, 122.4, 122.2, 121.2, 120.3, 110.9, 101.5, 73.7, 69.0, 42.6, 40.4, 37.2, 31.7, 20.7; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES⁺) *m* / *z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₇NO₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 408.1939, found 408.1929.

3-((((*syn***-(±))-5-(Furan-3-yl)-2-phenylhexyl)oxy)methyl)pyridine (1.20)** was prepared according to Method D. The following amounts of reagents were used: sodium hydride (18 mg, 0.74 mmol, 10. equiv), 2-(bromomethyl)pyridine hydrobromide (36 mg, 0.15 mmol, 2.0 equiv), substrate **1.8** (18 mg, 0.074 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 20:1 dr), DMF (2.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (15 mg, 0.046 mmol, 62%, 20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.6 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.53–8.49 (m, 1H), 7.67–7.62 (td, *J =* 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H) 7.35–7.34 (at, *J =* 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.26 (m, 3H) 7.22–7.09 (m, 5H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 4.52–4.44 (dd, *J =* 19.2, 13.3 Hz, 2H), 3.39–3.27 (m, 2H), 2.70–2.63 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.36 (asext, *J =* 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.00–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.88–1.79 (m, 3H), 1.09 (d, *J =* 6.9 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 158.9, 149.0, 144.8, 142.8, 138.5, 136.6, 130.0, 128.4 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 126.2, 122.2, 121.2, 109.2, 73.8, 69.2, 44.7, 40.3, 37.3, 27.8, 23.0; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m* / *z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₅NO₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 358.1783, found 358.1771.

1.4.6 General Procedures for Starting Material Synthesis

1.4.6.1 Method E: Prins Cyclization

The target compounds were prepared using a modified procedure reported by Dintzner.⁴⁰ Montmorillonite K10 clay was activated by heating at 200 $^{\circ}$ C for 2 h immediately prior to use. Aryl aldehyde (1.0 equiv) and Montmorillonite K10 clay (1.3 equiv by mass) were added to a flame-dried round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar. The reaction vessel was evacuated and backfilled with N_2 and then anhydrous benzene (75 mL), MeOH (5.0 equiv), and 3-buten-1-ol (1.5 equiv) were added. The reaction was stirred under reflux for 3–7 days. The reaction mixture was passed through a celite plug (neat Et₂O) and concentrated in vacuo. To remove unreacted aldehyde that was difficult to separate from the desired product, the unpurified mixture was subjected to NaBH₄ reduction by a modified procedure reported by Franzén.⁴¹ The unpurified mixture was dissolved in MeOH and NaBH₄ (1.6 equiv relative to 1.0 equiv of aldehyde as determined by ¹H NMR integration) was added in one portion and the reaction stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc (20 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO4, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo*.*

1.4.7 Synthesis and Characterization of Starting Material Tetrahydropyrans

*cis-***(±)***-***2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-4-phenyl-tetrahydropyran** (**1.1**) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: Montmorillonite K10 clay (4.9 g, 1.3 equiv by

⁴⁰ Dintzner, M. R.; Maresh, J. J.; Kinzie, C. R.; Arena, A. F.; Speltz, T. *J. Chem. Educ.* **2012**, *89*, 265–267.

⁴¹ Wang, Y.; Franzén, R. *Synlett.* **2012**, *23*, 925–929.

mass), 2-naphthaldehyde (3.9 g, 25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-buten-1-ol (3.2 mL, 38 mmol, 1.5 equiv), MeOH (3.2 mL, 79 mmol, 3.2 equiv), and benzene (250 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–10% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a yellow oil (1.5 g, 5.1 mmol, 21%, >20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (10% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.86–7.81 (m, 4H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H) 7.48–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (d, *J =* 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (at, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 1.99–1.82 (m, 3H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.¹⁴

*cis-***(±)***-***2-(Benzo[***b***]thiophen-3-yl)-4-phenyl-tetrahydropyran** (**1.2**) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: Montmorillonite K10 clay (2.0 g, 1.3 equiv by mass), benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxaldehyde (1.6 g, 10. mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-buten-1-ol (1.3 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), MeOH (2.1 mL, 50. mmol, 5.0 equiv), and benzene (75 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (10–15% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a light-yellow oil (150 mg, 0.48 mmol, 5%, >20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. The relative configuration was assigned as cis by NOE NMR experiments. Irradiation of the benzylic proton (H_A) gave an NOE enhancement of 1.9% of H_C, an enhancement of 2.2% of H_D, and an enhancement of 1.4% of H_E. TLC $R_f = 0.7$ (20% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.97 (d, *J =* 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (s, *J =* 7.7 Hz, 1H) 7.46–7.26 (m, 8H), 4.93 (d, *J* = 10.7

Hz, 1H), 4.48 (dd, *J =* 4.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.94–3.88 (td, *J* = 11.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.12–3.04 (tt, *J* = 11.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.12–1.93 (m, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 145.5, 141.0, 137.8, 137.7, 128.8 (2C), 127.0 (2C), 126.7, 124.5, 124.2, 123.1, 122.6, 122.4, 75.7, 69.1, 42.2, 39.7, 33.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for C19H18OS [M + Na] ⁺ 317.0976, found 317.0978.

*cis-***(±)***-***2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-4-phenyl-tetrahydropyran** (**1.3**) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: Montmorillonite K10 clay (2.0 g, 1.3 equiv by mass), 2-benzofurancarboxaldehyde (1.2 mL, 10. mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-buten-1-ol (1.3 mg, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), MeOH (2.1 mL, 50 mmol, 5.0 equiv), and benzene (50 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (10–15% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (1.0 g, 3.7 mmol, 37%, 12:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. The relative configuration was assigned as cis by NOE NMR experiments. Irradiation of the benzylic proton (H_A) gave an NOE enhancement of 2.6% of H_C , an enhancement of 2.8% of H_D , and an enhancement of 1.9% of H_E. TLC $R_f = 0.7$ (10% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J =* 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J =* 8.4 Hz, 1H) 7.35–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.15 (m, 5H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 4.66 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (dd, *J =* 11.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.80–3.75 (td, *J* = 12.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.96–2.90 (tt, *J* = 12.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (d, *J =* 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.10–2.02 (q, *J =* 13.0 Hz, 1H), 1.97–1.89 (qd, *J =* 12.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (d, *J =* 13.3 Hz, 1H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 157.4, 154.9, 145.1, 128.7 (2C), 128.1, 126.9 (2C), 126.7, 124.3, 122.9, 121.1, 111.4,

103.0, 73.7, 68.9, 41.6, 37.4, 34.2; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m* / *z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₈O₂ [M + Na]⁺ 301.1205, found 301.1204.

*cis-***(±)***-***2-(Furan-3-yl)-4-phenyl-tetrahydropyran** (**1.4**) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: Montmorillonite K10 clay (3.0 g, 1.3 equiv by mass), 3-furancarboxaldehyde (1.3 mL, 15 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-buten-1-ol (1.9 mL, 23 mmol, 1.5 equiv), MeOH (3.0 mL, 75 mmol, 5.0 equiv), and benzene (75 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (10–15% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (230 mg, 1.0 mmol, 7%, >20:1 dr). The dr was determined based on integration of resonance attributed to the benzylic methines in the ¹H NMR spectrum. The relative configuration was assigned as cis by NOE NMR experiments. Irradiation of the benzylic proton (H_A) gave an NOE enhancement of 1.1% of H_C , an enhancement of 1.6% of H_D , and an enhancement of 0.8% of H_E. **TLC R_f** = 0.7 (10% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H) 7.34–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 3H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, *J =* 11.9, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.76–3.71 (td, *J* = 11.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.94–2.88 (tt, *J* = 12.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.09– 2.06 (m, 1H), 1.92–1.78 (m, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 145.6, 143.3, 139.2, 128.8 (2C), 127.5, 127.0 (2C), 126.7, 109.0, 73.1, 68.7, 42.0, 40.2, 33.5; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m / z* calcd for $C_{15}H_{16}O_2$ [M]⁺ 228.1150, found 228.1156.

1.4.8 Computational Study

1.4.8.1 Computational Method

A preliminary conformational search was conducted using MacroModel within Maestro Version 11.7.012 software package.⁴² Force field MMFF⁴³ was used for initial minimization and a conformational search to find lowest energy conformer and all other conformers within 5 kcal/mol. Density functional theory (DFT) calculations using Gaussian $6.0.16$ software⁴⁴ were then performed on the lowest energy conformer and three other dissimilar structures to further refine their energies. Optimization was performed at the B3LYP⁴⁵ level and utilized 6-31G(d) basis set³⁵ with H2O has the chosen solvent.

⁴² a) Schrödinger Release 2018-3: MacroModel, Schrödinger, LLC, New York, NY, 2018. b) Schrödinger Release 2018-3: Maestro, Schrödinger, LLC, New York, NY, 2018.

⁴³ Halgren, T. A. *J. Comput. Chem*. **1996**, *17*, 490–519.

⁴⁴ Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Li, X.; Caricato, M.; Marenich, A. V.; Bloino, J.; Janesko, B. G.; Gomperts, R.; Mennucci, B.; Hratchian, H. P.; Ortiz, J. V.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Williams-Young, D.; Ding, F.; Lipparini, F.; Egidi, F.; Goings, J.; Peng, B.; Petrone, A.; Henderson, T.; Ranasinghe, D.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Gao, J.; Rega, N.; Zheng, G.; Liang, W.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Throssell, K.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Peralta, J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M. J.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E. N.; Kudin, K. N.; Staroverov, V. N.; Keith, T. A.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A. P.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Millam, J. M.; Klene, M.; Adamo, C.; Cammi, R.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; Farkas, O.; Foresman, J. B.; Fox, D. J. *Gaussian 16*, revision A.03; Gaussian, Inc.: Wallingford, CT, 2016.

⁴⁵ a) Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648–5652. b) C. Lee, W. Yang, R. G. Parr, *Phys. Rev. B.* **1988**, *37*, 785–789.

1.4.8.2 Calculated Energies of Conformers

Energies are reported in hartrees, as obtained from Gaussian software. Differences in energies (ΔE) are reported in hartrees and kcal/mol, and are a comparison of a select conformer to the lowest energy conformer ($\Delta E = E_X - E_A$; $X = B$, C, D).

1.4.8.3 Cartesian Coordinates of Conformers

Conformer A

Conformer B

Conformer C

Conformer D

Chapter Two

Nickel-Catalyzed Alkyl–Alkyl Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reaction of 1,3-Dimesylates for the Synthesis of Alkylcyclopropanes

2.1 Introduction

Cross-electrophile coupling (XEC) reactions have the potential to construct carbon-carbon bonds in an efficient manner.¹ To favor cross-reactivity, reactions often pair two substrates of different reactivity, in part to differentiate oxidative addition events.² For example, development of aryl-alkyl XEC reactions have been fruitful.^{2d,e,3} Reactions that combine two substrates with similar reactivity can be challenging and result in homocoupled products.⁴ As such, many known examples of nickel-catalyzed XEC reactions that forge $Csp³-Csp³$ bonds employ one activated substrate as a coupling partner, e.g., allylic or benzylic electrophiles. $2d,e,5,6,7,8$ There are few examples of nickel-catalyzed XEC reactions that engage two unactivated alkyl electrophiles.^{9,10}

¹ Portions of this Chapter were originally published in Journal of the American Chemical Society: Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. T.; McGinnis, T. M.; Chen, P.–P.; Hong, X.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 5017–5023.

² (a) Biswas, S.; Weix, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 16192–16197. (b) Everson, D. A.; Weix, D. J. *J. Org. Chem*. **2014**, *79*, 4793–4798. (c) Weix, D. J. *Acc. Chem. Res*. **2015**, *48*, 1767–1775. (d) Knappke, C. E. I.; Grupe, S.; Gärtner, D.; Corpet, M.; Gosmini, C.; Jacobi von Wangelin, A. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2014**, *20*, 6828–6842. (e) Wang, X.; Dai, Y.; Gong, H. *Top. Curr. Chem.* **2016**, *374*, 43.

³ For an example, see: Everson, D. A.; Jones, B. A.; Weix, D. J*. J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2012**, *134*, 6146–6159.

⁴ For a recent discussion and solution in the context of vinyl electrophiles, see: Olivares, A. M.; Weix, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2018**, *140*, 2446–2449.

⁵ Lucas, E. L.; Jarvo, E. R. *Nat. Rev. Chem.* **2017**, *1*, 0065.

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 8 Examples of other activated C_{sp}^3 electrophiles that have been paired with alkyl halides in Ni-catalyzed XEC reactions: (a) methyl *p*-toluenesulfonate: Liang, Z.; Xue, W.; Lin, K.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett*. **2014**, *16*, 5620–5623. (b)

Primary alkyl Katritzky salts: Ni, S.; Li, C.-X.; Mao, L.; Wang, Y.; Han, J.; Pan, Y. *Sci. Adv.* **2019**, *5*: eaaw9516. (c) Togni's reagent: Chen, Y.; Ma, G.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 4677–4680.

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Xu, H.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett*. **2011**, *13*, 2138–2141. (c) Xu, H.; Zhao, C.; Qian, Q.; Deng, W.; Gong, H. *Chem. Sci*.

²⁰¹³, *4*, 4022–4029. (d) Xue, W.; Xu, H.; Liang, Z.; Qian, Q.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett*. **2014**, *16*, 4984–4987. ¹⁰ A successful strategy is to employ only one partner that will generate an alkyl radical under photocatalytic

conditions. For a lead reference, see: Smith, R. T.; Zhang, X.; Rincón, J. A.; Agejas, J.; Mateos, C.; Barberis, M.; Garcia-Cerrada, S.; de Frutos, O.; MacMillan, D. W. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 17433–17438.

Development of an XEC reaction that employs readily-available, unactivated alkyl electrophiles as *both* reactive partners would significantly expand the scope of these transformations.

A 1,3-diol is a compelling functional group motif for use in XEC reactions. Largely due to their prevalence in polyketides, 1,3-diols have robust, well-established synthetic routes for their preparation.11 For example, substituted 1,3-diols are easily accessed through the reduction of aldol products. We hypothesized that sulfonates derived from 1,3-diols would be engaged by a nickel catalyst and undergo an intramolecular XEC reaction to form cyclopropanes. Furthermore, since aldol reactions can provide outstanding levels of enantioselectivity,¹² this strategy could provide straightforward and predictable access to enantioenriched cyclopropanes, leveraging a wellestablished and powerful field. Additionally, these reactions would complement traditional asymmetric cyclopropanation routes that typically engage alkene starting materials.¹³

Alkyl sulfonates have a history of use in nickel-catalyzed cross-coupling (XC) and XEC reactions.14,15,16 Notably, sulfonates utilized in these reactions are frequently generated in situ from

¹¹ For selected reviews, see: a) Rychnovsky, S. D. *Chem. Rev*. **1995**, *95*, 2021–2040. b) Bode, S. E.; Wolberg, M.; Müller, M. *Synthesis* **2006**, *4*, 557-588. c) Gupta, P.; Mahajan, N.; Taneja, S. C. *Catal. Sci. Technol*. **2013**, *3*, 2462– 2480.

¹² For selected reviews, see: (a) Yamashita, Y.; Yasukawa, T.; Yoo, W. J.; Kitanosono, Kobayashi, S. *Chem Soc. Rev.* **2018**, *47*, 4388–4480. (b) Cowden, C. J.; Paterson, I. Asymmetric Aldol Reactions Using Boron Enolates. *Organic Reactions*; Paquette, L. A., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1997; Vol. 51; pp 1–200.

¹³ Due to their interesting structural and biological properties, several strategies for cyclopropane synthesis have been reported and frequently employ carbenes and carbenoids. For reviews, see: (a) Ebner, C.; Carreira, E. *Chem. Rev*. **2017**, *117*, 11651–11679. (b) Lebel, H.; Marcoux, J. –F.; Molinaro, C.; Charette, A. B. *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 977–1050. (c) Bartoli, G.; Bencivenni, G.; Dalpozzo, R. *Synthesis* **2014**, *46*, 979–1029. (d) Wu, W.; Lin, Z.; Jiang, H. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2018**, *16*, 7315–7329.

¹⁴ For review of phenol derivatives, *aryl* triflates and *aryl* sulfonates, in traditional cross-coupling reactions, see: Rosen, B. M.; Quasdorf, K. W.; Wilson, D. A.; Zhang, N.; Resmerita, A.-M.; Garg, N. K.; Percec, V. *Chem. Rev*. **2011**, *111*, 1346–1416. (b) for a lead reference, see: Hofmayer, M. S.; Lutter, F. H.; Grokenberger, L.; Hammann, J. M.; Knochel, P. *Org. Lett*. **2019**, *21*, 36–39.

¹⁵ For reviews and a lead reference for *aryl* triflates in XEC, see: (a) reference 2 (b) Huang, L.; Ackerman, L. K. G.; Kang, K.; Parson, A. M.; Weix, D. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 10978–10983.

¹⁶ For representative lead references for XC and XEC reactions of aryl and alkyl sulfonates with alternative metal catalysts, see: (a) reference 2d. Cu: (b) Burns, D. H.; Miller, J. D.; Chan, H.–K.; Delaney, M. O. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **1997**, *119*, 2125–2133. (c) Terao, J.; Kambe, N. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2008**, *41*, 1545–1554. (d) Liu, J.–H. Yang, C.–T.; Lu, X.–Y.; Zhang, Z.–Q.; Xu, L.; Cui, M.; Lu, X.; Xiao, B.; Fu, Y.; Liu, L. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2014**, *20*, 15334–15338. Fe: (e) Furstner, A.; Leitner, A.; Mendez, M.; M.; Krause, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 13856–13863. (f) Atack, T. C.; Lecker, R. M. Cook, S. P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 9521–9523.

the corresponding alcohols. In the context of cross-coupling reactions, nickel-catalyzed Negishi couplings of benzylic mesylates and Kumada reactions of cyclic sulfates have been reported (Scheme 2.1a). 17,18 The use of alkyl sulfonates as electrophiles in nickel-catalyzed XEC reactions developed contemporaneously, beginning with homocoupling reactions.¹⁹ Chemoselective XEC reactions have utilized alkyl sulfonates with aryl and vinyl halides and pseudohalides (Scheme 2.1b).20,21,22 Cross-selective pairing of two alkyl sulfonates was demonstrated using methyl tosylate (Scheme 2.1c).8a,23 However, to the best of our knowledge, no cross-selective XEC reaction of two primary or secondary alkyl sulfonates has been reported. Based on the accessibility of 1,3-diols and reactivity of sulfonates, we sought to develop a nickel-catalyzed XEC reaction of two alkyl mesylates for cyclopropane synthesis (Scheme 2.1c).¹³

Scheme 2.1 Nickel-catalyzed XC and XEC reactions of alkyl sulfates and sulfonates

¹⁸ Eno, M. S.; Lu, A.; Morken, J. P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2016**, *138*, 7824–7827.

¹⁷ Do, H. Q.; Chandrashekar, E. R. R.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2013**, *135*, 16288–16291.

¹⁹ (a) Prinsell, M. R.; Everson, D. A.; Weix, D. J. *Chem. Commun*. **2010**, *46*, 5743–5745. (b) Komeyama, K.;

Tsunemitsu R.; Michiyuki, T.; Yoshida, H.; Osaka, I. *Molecule*s **2019**, *24*, 1458.

²⁰ Methyl sulfonates: (a) Wang, J.; Zhao, J.; Gong, H. *Chem. Commun*. **2017**, *53*, 10180–10183. (b) Komeyama, K.; Yamahata, Y.; Osaka, I. *Org. Lett*. **2018**, *20*, 4375–4378.

²¹ Benzylic sulfonates (a) Ackerman, L. K. G.; Anka-Lufford, L. L.; Naodovic, M.; Weix, D. J. *Chem. Sci.* **2015**, *6*, 1115–1119. (b) Jung, H.-S.; Kim, S.-H. *Synlett* **2015**, *26*, 666–670.

²² Primary and secondary alkyl sulfonates: (a) Molander, G. A.; Traister, K. M.; O'Neill, B. T. *J. Org. Chem.* **2015**, *80*, 2907–2911. (b) Komeyama, K.; Ohata, R.; Kiguchi, S.; Osaka, I. *Chem. Commun*. **2017**, *53*, 6401–6404. (c) Duan, J.; Du, Y.-F.; Pang, X.; Shu, X.-Z. *Chem. Sci.* **2019**, *10*, 8706–8712.

²³ XEC of primary alkyl tosylates with secondary alkyl bromides was reported during preparation of this manuscript: Komeyama, K.; Michiyuki, T.; Osaka, I. *ACS Catal.* **2019**, *9*, 9285–9291.

2.2 Results and Discussion

2.2.1 Optimization of Reaction Conditions

I began our investigation by employing 1,3-dimesylate **2.1**. This substrate was designed to provide an alkylcyclopropane with low volatility to facilitate isolation and analysis. I evaluated a series of ligands in the presence of $Ni(cod)_2$ and methylmagnesium iodide (MeMgI) in DCM/PhMe (Table 2.1). The diphosphine ligands *rac*-BINAP and dppm, in addition to the pyridyl ligand Bphen, produced the highest yields of cyclopropane **2.2** (entries 1–3). Additionally, a 70% yield of the desired cyclopropane was achieved utilizing bench-stable $((R)$ -BINAP)NiCl₂ as the catalyst (entry 9). In general, across a range of substrates, *rac*-BINAP and dppm provided robust reaction yields, and so we selected these ligands for further experiments.

Following the ligand evaluation, I next investigated the importance of the Grignard reagent and nickel catalyst. Modifying the Grignard reagent to phenylmagnesium bromide almost completely shut down the reaction, with 5% of the desired cyclopropane observed (entry 10). Adding MgI₂ to PhMgBr reaction conditions provided a similar result (entry 11). A control reaction without nickel and ligand (MeMgI only) produced a 5% yield of the desired cyclopropane (entry 12), while a control reaction in the absence of MeMgI provided no conversion to the desired cyclopropane and only recovered starting material (entry 13).

2.2.2 Substrate Scope

With optimized conditions in hand, I investigated the tolerance of various substituted aromatic and heterocyclic groups (Scheme 2.2). Isolated yields are reported, however for certain substrates volatility or polarity complicated isolation. Therefore, yield determined by ¹H NMR by comparison to an internal standard is also reported. Heterocycles such as thiophene, furan, and benzofuran were well tolerated under the reaction conditions (**2.3**–**2.5**), as was the substituted heterocycle 2-methoxypyridine (**2.6**). Electron-donating groups were well tolerated in the synthesis of **2.2**, as well as electron-withdrawing groups such as aryl CF_3 and aryl fluoride (2.7, **2.8**).

Scheme 2.2 Unbranched alkylcyclopropanes

*^a*Yield determined by 1H NMR based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard

Next, I focused on testing the impact of steric bulk near the forming cyclopropane (Scheme 2.3). For compounds such as **2.9**, standard reaction conditions employing *rac*-BINAP as the ligand provided modest yields. Fortunately, we found that for these more hindered substrates,

using dppm as the ligand and performing the reaction at 0° C provided good yields.¹ A series of alkyl and aryl groups were well tolerated in the β-position relative to the cyclopropane (**2.9**–**2.10**). For example, the diol precursor for cyclopropane **2.9** was prepared by a stereospecific Kumada ring-opening reaction.24 Acetonide **2.10** was formed smoothly from the corresponding tetraol derivative, demonstrating tolerance to a typical protecting group employed in polyketide synthesis. These results confirm that—in contrast to our laboratory's previously published XC and XEC reactions—this XEC reaction does not require benzylic or allylic electrophiles to engage the nickel catalyst.^{6a,6b,25}

Scheme 2.3 Branched alkylcyclopropanes

2.2.3 1,3-Diol to Cyclopropane

The potential impact of this transformation would be expanded if 1,3-diols could be employed as starting materials for the reaction. We were encouraged that other XC and XEC reactions that employ sulfonates generated in situ have been reported.^{17,21a} I developed a procedure where diol **23** was treated with MsCl and base, followed by addition to catalyst and Grignard reagent. Cyclopropane **2.12** was formed in moderate yield, similar to that observed when

*^a*Yield determined by 1H NMR based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard

²⁴ Tollefson, E. J.; Dawson, D. D.; Osborne, C. A.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 14951.

²⁵ Chen, P.-P.; Lucas, E. L.; Greene, M. A.; Zhang, S.; Tollefson, E. J.; Erickson, L. E.; Taylor, B. L.; Jarvo, E. R.; Hong, X. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 5835–5855.

employing the corresponding 1,3-dimesylate. Therefore, this method allows direct conversion of a 1,3-diol to the corresponding cyclopropane (eq 2.1).

2.2.4 1,2-Disubstituted Alkylcyclopropanes

Computational and experimental data suggests a mechanism that proceeds through a 1,3 diiodide with a stereoablative oxidative addition at the secondary center.¹ To further corroborate our proposed mechanism, I sought to determine the stereochemical outcome of the XEC reaction. Since oxidative addition of the 2° alkyl iodide is predicted to proceed via the alkyl radical, reactions are expected to be stereoablative.⁵ Consistent with this hypothesis, I observed a stereoconvergent XEC reaction to form 1,2-disubstituted cyclopropane **2.14** (Scheme 2.4). Either diastereomer of 1,3-dimesylate **2.13** provides *trans*-cyclopropane **2.14**, consistent with epimerization via an alkyl radical intermediate.

Scheme 2.4 Stereoconvergent XEC reactions

Given the yield and diastereoselectivity observed in Scheme 2.4, I set out to apply our transformation to 1,2-disubstituted alkylcyclopropanes (Scheme 2.5). The corresponding diols

were prepared by aldol or Claisen transformations.26 Compounds **2.15**–**2.16** were formed in moderate to good yield with preference for the trans diastereomer.

Scheme 2.5 1,2-Disubstituted cyclopropanes

2.2.5 Evans Aldol to Enantioenriched Cyclopropane

Based on our understanding of the reaction mechanism and observed levels of diastereoselectivity, I set out to synthesize enantioenriched 1,2-disubstituted cyclopropanes (Scheme 2.6). An Evans aldol reaction was employed to prepare the corresponding substituted 1,3 diol with high enantioselectivity.27 Utilizing our transformation, arylcyclopropane **2.18** was formed with high enantiomeric excess. Configuration at C2 is conserved through the XEC reaction. The reaction favors formation of the *trans*-cyclopropane, setting the configuration of C1. Notably, compound **2.18** does not bear the signature directing groups or acyl substitution required for direct synthesis by other asymmetric cyclopropanation methods.¹³

²⁶ (a) von Richter, V. *Chem. Berichte* **1869**, *2*, 552–553. (b) Claisen, L.; Claparede, A. *Chem. Berichte* **1881**, *14*, 2460–2468. (c) Heathcock, C. H.; Buse, C. T.; Kleschick, W. A.; Pirrung, M. C.; Sohn, J. E.; Lampe, J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 1066–1081.

²⁷ Evans, D. A.; Bartoli, J.; Shih, T. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1981**, *103*, 2127–2129.

2.3 Conclusion

In summary, we report a nickel-catalyzed cross-electrophile coupling reaction of 1,3 dimesylates for the synthesis of alkylcyclopropanes. This transformation does not require activation of either electrophilic partner, and engages two alkyl mesylates. Furthermore, direct transformation of a 1,3-diol to the corresponding cyclopropane was established. Synthesis of 1,2 disubstituted cyclopropanes is a stereoconvergent process consistent with the proposed mechanism of oxidative addition, and favors the trans diastereomer. The product of an enantioselective aldol reaction was transformed to the corresponding enantioenriched cyclopropane, therefore capitalizing on outstanding strategies of 1,3-diol synthesis.

2.4 Experimental Details

2.4.1 General Procedures

All reactions were carried out under a N_2 atmosphere, unless otherwise stated. All glassware was either oven-dried or flame-dried prior to use. Toluene (PhMe), diethyl ether (Et₂O), dichloromethane (DCM), hexanes (hex), triethylamine (Et₃N), and tetrahyrdofuran (THF) were degassed with argon and then passed through two 4 x 36 inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 alumina (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at 350 °C for 12 hours) to remove H2O. Other solvents were purchased "anhydrous" commercially, or were purified as described. ¹H NMR were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz ¹H, 100 MHz ¹³C), CRYO-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C), GN-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C), or AVANCE-600 (150

MHz ¹³C, 564.6 MHz ¹⁹F) spectrometers. Proton chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ 0.00) unless otherwise noted. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity [singlet (s), broad singlet (br s), doublet (d), doublet of doublets (dd), doublet of doublet of doublets (ddd), triplet (t), doublet of triplets (dt), triplet of doublets (td), doublet of doublet of triplets (ddt), quartet (q), quintet (quint), quintet of triplets (quintt), quintet of doublets (quintd), sextet (sext), septet (sept), octet (oct), nonuplet (non), multiplet (m), apparent singlet (ap s), apparent doublet (ad), apparent triplet (at), apparent quartet (aq), apparent quintet (aquint)], coupling constants [Hz], integration). Carbon chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to TMS with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ 77.16 ppm). NMR data were collected at 25 °C. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Silica Gel 60Å F254 precoated plates (0.25 mm thickness). Visualization was accomplished by irradiation with a UV lamp and/or staining with *p*-anisaldehyde (PAA), cerium ammonium molybdate (CAM), or potassium permanganate (KMnO4) solutions. Flash chromatography was performed using either SiliaFlash F60 (40- 63 μm, 60 Å) from SiliCycle, or Teledyne Isco Combiflash® Rf+ automated flash chromatography system. High resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center. GC/FID analysis for competition experiments was performed on Agilent 7820A system with helium as carrier gas. For reactions perfomed at rt, average room temperature was 20 ºC.

Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)nickel was purchased from Strem, stored in a glove box freezer $(-20 \degree C)$ under an atmosphere of N_2 and used as received. All ligands were purchased from Strem or Sigma Aldrich and were stored under N_2 atmosphere and used as received. All Grignard reagents were

titrated with iodine prior to use.28 All other chemicals were purchased commercially and used as received, unless otherwise noted.

2.4.2 General Cross-Electrophile Coupling Procedures

2.4.2.1 Method A: Cross-Electrophile Coupling for Synthesis of Unbranched Alkylcyclopropanes

In a glovebox, a flame-dried 7 mL vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with substrate (1.0 equiv), Ni(cod)2 (5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (5.0 mol %), DCM (up to 0.30 M in substrate), and PhMe (0.10 M in substrate). If substrate was still a precipitate once solvent was added, reaction was stirred until substrate was dissolved, usually ~20 min. Once reaction mixture was homogenous, methylmagnesium iodide (2.0 equiv) was added added slowly over 15–20 seconds. The reaction stirred at rt for 8 h unless otherwise noted. Then the reaction was removed from the glovebox, quenched with methanol (2 mL), filtered through a plug of silica gel (eluting with 100% $Et₂O$, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.2.2 Preparation of Methylmagnesium Iodide

Under an N_2 atmosphere, to a 3-necked round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar, reflux condenser, and Schlenk filtration apparatus was added magnesium turnings (2.80 g, 120 mmol, 1.50 equiv). The flask and magnesium turnings were flame-dried under vacuum and the flask was back-filled with N₂. A crystal of iodine (ca. 2 mg) was added to the flask, followed by anhydrous Et₂O (25 mL). The reaction mixture was brought to 0 $^{\circ}$ C, and freshly distilled iodomethane (5.0) mL, 82 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was slowly added over 30 min to maintain a gentle reflux. The mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature then filtered through the fritted Schlenk filter into a pearshaped flask under N₂ atmosphere. The magnesium turnings were washed with Et₂O (2 x 1.0 mL)

²⁸ Krasovskiy, A.; Knochel, P. *Synthesis* **2006**, *5*, 890–891.

then the Schlenk bomb was sealed, removed, and placed under an argon atmosphere. The resulting methyl Grignard reagent was typically between 2.4 and 3.0 M as titrated by Knochel's method²⁸ and was stored in a glovebox for up to 8 weeks.

2.4.2.3 Preparation of Phenylmagnesium Bromide

A 2-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a stir bar and reflux condenser was charged with magnesium turnings (3.0 equiv). The reaction apparatus was flame-dried under vacuum and backfilled under N₂. Anhydrous Et₂O and a crystal of iodine (ca. 2 mg) were added to the flask. Aryl or (1.0 equiv) was added slowly over 30 min to maintain a gentle reflux. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The resulting Grignard reagent was typically between 0.8 and 1.5 M as titrated by Knochel's method.28

2.4.2.4 XEC Reaction Optimization

Table 2.2 Optimization of 1,3-dimesylate **2.1** in the XEC reaction

All reactions performed on 0.1 mmol scale. *a*Unless specified, MeMgI concentration is 2.5 M. *b*Yield determined by 1H NMR by comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. *c*Recovered 90% starting material (dimesylate) by NMR. *^d*Isolated yield.

2.4.2.5 Method B: Cross-Electrophile Coupling for Synthesis of Aryl and β-Branched Alkylcyclopropanes and 1,2-Disubsitituted Cyclopropanes

For monosubstituted cyclopropanes: In a glovebox, a flame-dried 7 mL vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with substrate (1.0 equiv), $Ni(cod)_2$ (5.0 mol %), dppm (5.0 mol %), DCM (up to 0.30 M in substrate), and PhMe (0.10–0.20 M in substrate). If substrate was still a precipitate once solvent was added, reaction was stirred until substrate was dissolved, usually \sim 20 min. Once reaction mixture was homogenous, MeMgI was drawn in a syringe, and both reaction and MeMgI were removed from glovebox and cooled to 0°C. After 15 min, MeMgI was added slowly over 15–

20 seconds. The reaction stirred at 0° C for 24 h. Then the reaction was quenched with methanol (2 mL) , filtered through a plug of silica gel (eluted with 100% Et₂O), and concentrated in vacuo. For 1,2-disubstituted alkylcyclopropanes, the same procedure above was used with the exception of temperature. All XECs to synthesize 1,2-disubstituted alkylcyclopropanes were stirred at rt unless otherwise noted.

2.4.2.6 XEC Method of Diol 2.11

A flame-dried 7 mL vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with substrate **2.11** (1.0 equiv), DCM (0.2 M in substrate), and anhydrous Et₃N (2.0 equiv) under N₂ at rt. Reaction stirred for 5 min, then MsCl (2.0 equiv) was added, and reaction stirred for 1 h. In a glovebox, a separate flamedried 7 mL vial was charged with $Ni(cod)_2$ (5.0 mol %), dppm (5.0 mol %), and PhMe (0.20 M in substrate). MeMgI (4.0 equiv) was drawn in a syringe, and both vial and syringe were removed from glovebox, and the vial was placed under N_2 . The reaction mixture from the mesylation was then transferred via syringe to the vial containing $Ni(cod)_2$ and dppm, and both reaction and MeMgI syringe were cooled to 0ºC. After 15 min, MeMgI was added slowly over 15–20 seconds. Upon addition of MeMgI, the reaction was vented. The reaction stirred at 0 °C for 24 h. Then the reaction was quenched with methanol (2 mL) , filtered through a plug of silica gel (neat Et₂O), and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.3 Characterization Data for Cyclopropanes 2.2–2.10

2.4.3.1 Unbranched Alkylcyclopropanes

4'-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)-3-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (2.2) was prepared according to Method A. The reaction was performed on a 0.1 mmol scale to obtain a ¹H NMR yield and on a 0.2 mmol scale to isolate the product. For 0.1 mmol scale, the following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)2 (1.4 mg, 5.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (3.1 mg, 5.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.1** (44.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.10 mL), PhMe (1.0 mL, 0.10 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.08 mL, 0.2 mmol, 2.5 M in Et₂O, 2 equiv). A ¹H NMR yield of 75% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. For 0.2 mmol scale, the following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)2 (2.6 mg, 9.5 µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (5.9 mg, 9.5 µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.1** (85 mg, 0.19 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.30 mL), PhMe (1.9 mL, 0.10 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.14 mL, 0.38 mmol, 2.8 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (36 mg, 0.14 mmol, 74%). **TLC Rf** = 0.7 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (q, *J =* 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.78–0.68 (m, 1H), 0.44 (aq, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 0.06 (q, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.1, 142.9, 142.2, 138.6, 129.8, 129.0 (2C), 127.1 (2C), 119.7, 112.9, 112.5, 55.4, 36.8, 35.8, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C18H20O, 252.1514; found, 252.1520.

2-(4-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)phenyl)thiophene (2.3) was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)2 (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10 µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.25** (84 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.30 mL), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mm})$, 2.6 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 75% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(32 \text{ mg}, 0.14 \text{ mmol}, 71\%)$. **TLC R_f** = 0.6 $(100\%$ hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (ad, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (ad, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (q, *J =* 7.6 Hz, 2H) 0.76–0.66 (m, 1H), 0.42 (aq, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 0.05 (q, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.8, 142.3, 132.0, 129.1 (2C), 128.0, 126.0 (2C), 124.4, 122.7, 36.8, 35.8, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C15H16S, 228.0973; found, 228.0974.

2-(4-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)phenyl)furan (2.4) was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $\text{Ni}(\text{cod})_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.27** (80. mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.30 mL), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mm})$, 2.6 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 65% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes)
to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(29 \text{ mg}, 0.13 \text{ mmol}, 67%)$. **TLC R_f** = 0.5 $(100\%$ hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.57 (d*, J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.51 (q, *J =* 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.75–0.65 (m, 1H), 0.42 (aq, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 0.04 (q, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 154.4, 142.1, 141.8, 128.9 (2C), 128.6, 123.9 (2C), 111.7, 104.4, 36.8, 35.9, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C15H16O, 212.1201; found, 212.1195.

2-(4-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)phenyl)benzofuran (2.5) was prepared according to modified Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)₂ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.29** (90. mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.20 mL), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mmol}, 2.6 \text{ M})$ in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). This reaction was allowed to stir 24 h. Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 75% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (42 mg, 0.16 mmol, 80%). **m.p.** = 67–69 ºC. **TLC Rf** = 0.5 (100% hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.23 (m, 3H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 2.74 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (q, *J =* 7.0 Hz, 2H), 0.76– 0.67 (m, 1H), 0.43 (aq, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 0.05 (q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 156.4, 155.0, 143.6, 129.5, 129.1 (2C), 128.1, 125.0 (2C), 124.1, 123.0, 120.9, 111.2, 100.7, 36.7, 36.0, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C19H18O, 262.1258; found, 262.1360.

5-(4-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)phenyl)-2-methoxypyridine (2.6) was prepared according to a modified Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.31** (89 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.30 mL), PhMe (2.0 mL, 0.10 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.15 mL, 0.40 mmol, 2.6 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). The reaction was allowed to stir for 24 h. Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 73% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-10\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a light-yellow wax $(37 \text{ mg}, 0.15 \text{ mmol}, 74\%)$. **m.p.** = $27-30 \text{ °C}$. **TLC R**_f = 0.7 (10%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (q, *J =* 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.77–0.69 (m, 1H), 0.44 (ad, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 0.06 (ad, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 163.6, 144.9, 142.1, 137.5, 135.4, 130.2, 129.2 (2C), 126.6 (2C), 110.9, 53.6, 36.8, 35.8, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + H]+ calcd for $C_{17}H_{20}NO$, 254.1545; found, 254.1541.

4-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (2.7) was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.33** (96 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mmol}, 2.6 \text{ M})$ in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before

purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 73% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (43 mg, 0.15 mmol, 74%). **m.p.** = 71–74 °C. **TLC R**_f = 0.6 (100% hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.67 (s, 4H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (q, *J =* 7.6 Hz, 2H), 0.77–0.69 (m, 1H), 0.44 (aq, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 0.07 (q, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.8, 143.1, 137.2, 129.3 (2C), 129.1 (q, *J* = 32.4 Hz, 1C), 127.3 (2C), 127.2 (2C), 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 2C), 124.6 (q, *J* = 271.9 Hz, 1C), 36.8, 35.8, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ –62.3; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C18H17F3, 290.1282; found, 290.1280.

4'-(2-Cyclopropylethyl)-2-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl (2.8) was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $\text{Ni}(\text{cod})_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), *rac*-BINAP (6.2 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.35** (86 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.10 mL), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.15 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mm})$, 2.6 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 69% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(30. \text{ mg}, 0.12 \text{ mmol}, 62\%)$. **TLC R_f** = 0.6 $(100\%$ hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.18 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (q, *J =* 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.78–0.70 (m, 1H), 0.44 (aq, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 0.07 (q, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.0 (d, *J* = 247.4 Hz, 1C), 142.2, 133.3, 130.8 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 129.4 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1C), 129.0 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 2C), 128.8 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1C), 128.7 (2C),

124.4 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 116.2 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz, 1C), 36.8, 35.9, 10.9, 4.7 (2C); **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ – 117.98 to –118.02 (m); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + NH₄]⁺ calcd for $C_{17}H_{21}FN$, 258.1658; found, 258.1647.

2.4.3.2 Branched Alkylcyclopropanes

2-((*syn***)-5-Cyclopropyl-4-phenylpentan-2-yl)naphthalene (2.9)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (1.9 mg, 7.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (2.7 mg, 7.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.39** (72 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe (1.0 mL, 0.14 M in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.09$ mL, 0.3 mmol, 2.9 M in Et₂O, 2 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 70% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (31 mg, 0.10 mmol, 70%). **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.4 (100% hexanes); ¹H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.82–7.75 (m, 3H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.31–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.68–2.59 (m, 1H), 2.47–2.38 (m, 1H), 2.14 (ddd, *J* = 14.4, 10.7, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (ddd, *J* = 14.4, 10.7, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.57–1.50 (m, 1H), 1.32–1.25 (m, 1H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.44–0.37 (m, 1H), 0.27 (sept, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 0.19 (sept, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), – 0.13 (sext, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), –0.20 (sext, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 146.0, 144.7, 133.8, 132.4, 128.3 (2C), 128.15 (2C), 128.09, 127.74, 127.69, 126.0, 125.94, 125.92, 125.90, 125.2, 44.4, 44.3, 43.1, 37.8, 24.0, 9.3, 4.8, 4.6; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for C24H26, 314.2035; found, 314.2033.

*cis***-4-Cyclohexyl-6-(cyclopropylmethyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane (2.10)** was prepared according to modified Method B. The reaction was performed on a 0.18 mmol scale to obtain a 1 H NMR yield and on a 0.12 mmol scale to isolate the product. For the 0.18 mmol scale: the following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (2.5 mg, 9.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (3.5 mg, 9.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.47** (81 mg, 0.18 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe (1.8 mL, 0.10 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.13 mL, 0.36 mmol, 2.8 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). An NMR yield of 74% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The product was lost during isolation, presumably due to its volatility. For the 0.12 mmol scale: the following amounts of reagents were used: Ni(cod)₂ (3.0 mg, 11 µmol, 11 mol %), dppm (4.2 mg, 11 µmol, 11 mol %), substrate **2.47** (55 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe (1.0 mL, 0.12 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.31 mL, 0.44 mmol, 2.8 M in Et₂O, 3.7 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (5% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (12 mg, 4.8 µmol, 40%). **TLC R**_f = 0.7 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.87 (quintd, *J* = 6.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 7.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 1.78–1.62 (m, 4H), 1.54–1.47 (m, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.28–1.10 (m, 6H), 0.93 (aquint, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 3H), 0.78–0.68 (m, 1H), 0.43 (ad, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.05 (ap s, 2H); **13C NMR** (100.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 98.3, 73.4, 69.8, 43.0, 41.8, 34.1, 30.5, 29.1, 28.2, 26.8, 26.3, 26.1, 20.0, 7.0, 4.7, 4.2; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: $[M + H]^{+}$ calcd for C₁₆H₂₉O₂, 253.2168; found, 253.2162.

2.4.4 Stereochemical Proof

All 1,2-disubstituted cyclopropanes were isolated as a mixture of diastereomers, with the trans diastereomer as the major. This was determined by NOE spectroscopy performed on the

minor diastereomer of compound **2.15** (vide infra). All other 1,2-disubstituted cyclopropanes were assigned by analogy.

2.4.5 Characterization Data for 1,2-Disubstituted Alkylcyclopropanes

4'-(2-(2-Ethylcyclopropyl)ethyl)-3-methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (2.14) was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (3.8 mg, 10. μmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate *trans*-**2.13** (94 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.20 mL) , PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.14 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mm})$, 2.8 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 60% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0– 10% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (30. mg, 0.11 mmol, 54%, 4:1 dr). The compound was characterized as a 4:1 (trans:cis) mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R**_f = 0.3 (100% hexanes); ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.11 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 6.86 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 3.85 (s, 3H, major, 3H, minor), 2.72 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 1.75 (sext, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.59 (sext, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, major), 1.54– 1.44 (m, 1H, major), 1.40 (sext, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.30–1.13 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H, minor), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H, major), 0.79–0.66 (m, 2H, minor), 0.64–0.59 (m, 1H, minor), 0.50–0.39 (m, 2H, major), 0.21 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H, major), –0.26 (q, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H, minor); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.1 (both), 142.9 (both), 142.3 (minor), 142.2 (major), 138.6 (minor), 138.5 (major), 129.8 (both), 129.0 (2C major, 2C minor), 127.2 (2C

minor), 127.1 (2C major), 119.7 (both), 112.89 (minor), 112.86 (major), 112.5 (both), 55.4 (both), 36.4 (major), 36.3 (minor), 35.8 (major), 31.0 (minor), 27.4 (major), 22.1 (minor), 21.1 (major), 18.5 (major), 18.1 (minor), 15.9 (minor), 14.6 (minor), 13.9 (major), 11.8 (major), 10.9 (minor); **HRMS** (TOF MS CI+) m/z : [M]⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₂₄O, 280.1827; found, 280.1814.

4-(2-(2-Methylcyclopropyl)ethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (2.15) was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: $\text{Ni}(\text{cod})_2$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (3.8 mg, 10. μmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.63** (85 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (0.20 mL), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.14 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mmol}, 2.8 \text{ M})$ in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 55% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. To remove the β -hydride elimination byproducts, a dihydroxylation was prepared on unpurified cyclopropane. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.15** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AD mix β (280 mg, 0.36 mmol, 1.8 equiv), *t*BuOH (1 mL), and H₂O (1 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–10% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (25 mg, 0.10 mmol, 52%, 3:1 dr). The compound was characterized as a 3:1 (trans:cis) mixture of diastereomers. The relative configuration of the minor diastereomer was assigned as cis by NOE NMR experiments. Irradiation of the cyclopropane proton (H_f) gave an NOE enhancement of 3.2% of H_d. TLC $R_f = 0.6$ (100% hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.32–7.23 (m, 3H, major, 3H, minor), 2.73 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 1.70–1.59 (m, 2H, minor), 1.54 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, major), 1.04 (q, *J*

= 6.1 Hz, 3H, minor), 1.00 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 3H, major), 0.81–0.69 (m, 2H, minor), 0.66–0.60 (m, 1H, minor), 0.48–0.38 (m, 2H, major), 0.24–0.18 (m, 1H, major), 0.18–0.13 (m, 1H, major), –0.28 (q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, minor); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 142.1 (minor), 142.0 (major), 141.3 (both), 138.73 (minor), 138.67 (major), 129.1 (2C, major), 129.0 (2C, minor), 128.8 (2C, major, 2C, minor), 127.12 (2C, major, 2C, minor), 127.08 (3C, major, 3C, minor), 36.4 (major), 36.3 (minor), 35.8 (major), 30.8 (minor), 19.8 (major), 19.1 (major), 15.6 (minor), 13.4 (minor), 13.1 (major), 13.0 (major), 12.2 (minor), 9.71 (minor); **HRMS** (TOF MS CI+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for $C_{18}H_{20}$, 236.1565; found, 236.1568.

1-Methoxy-4-(2-(2-(4-methoxybenzyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)benzene (2.16) was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(cod)_{2}$ (2.8 mg, 10. µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (3.8 mg, 10. μmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.67** (89 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe $(2.0 \text{ mL}, 0.10 \text{ M})$ in substrate), and MeMgI $(0.14 \text{ mL}, 0.40 \text{ mm})$, 2.8 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 47% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. To remove the β -hydride elimination byproducts, a dihydroxylation was prepared on unpurified cyclopropane. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.16** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AD mix β (280 mg, 0.36 mmol, 1.8 equiv), *t*BuOH (1 mL), and H₂O (1 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–10% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (25 mg, 0.080 mmol, 46%, 5:1 dr). The compound was characterized as a 5:1 (trans:cis) mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (10% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, minor), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, major), 6.85–6.78 (m, 4H, major, 4H, minor), 3.78 (s, 6H,

major, 6H, minor), 2.69–2.55 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 2.52–2.42 (m, 2H, major, 1H, minor), 1.80–1.72 (m, 1H, minor), 1.57–1.47 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 1.02 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 0.94–0.81 (m, 2H, minor), 0.76–0.67 (m, 1H, major), 0.63–0.55 (m, 1H, major), 0.37–0.32 (m, 1H, major), 0.31–0.27 (m, 1H, major), –0.07 (q, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, minor); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 157.9 (both), 157.8 (both), 134.9 (minor), 134.8 (major), 134.5 (both), 129.46 (2C, minor), 129.43 (2C, major), 129.3 (2C, major), 129.2 (2C, minor), 113.8 (4C, major, 4C, minor), 55.4 (2C, major, 2C, minor), 39.1 (major), 36.5 (major), 35.6 (minor), 35.1 (major), 33.8 (minor), 31.4 (minor), 20.2 (major), 18.6 (major), 17.2 (minor), 16.1 (minor), 12.0 (major), 11.4 (minor); **HRMS** (TOF MS CI+) *m/z*: [M]⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₂₄O₂, 296.1776; found, 296.1774.

4-((1*R***,2***S***)-2-Benzylcyclopropyl)dibenzo[b,d]furan (2.18)** was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: $\text{Ni}(\text{cod})_2$ (1.9 mg, 7.0 µmol, 5.0 mol %), dppm (2.7) mg, 7.0 μmol, 5.0 mol %), substrate **2.17** (60. mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PhMe (1.4 mL, 0.10 M in substrate), and MeMgI (0.11 mL, 0.40 mmol, 2.5 M in Et₂O, 2.0 equiv). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 57% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (16 mg, 0.055 mmol, 39%, 4:1 dr, 99% ee). The compound was characterized as a 4:1 (trans:cis) mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.8 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, minor), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, major), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H major, 1H minor), 7.44 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.36–7.18 (m, 7H, major, 7H, minor), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, minor), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, major), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 6.7 Hz, 1H, major), 2.79 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.9 Hz, 1H, major), 2.60 (q, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.54 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.37–

2.32 (m, 1H, major), 2.19 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.70–1.58 (m, 1H, major), 1.29–1.21 (m, 1H, major, 2H, minor), 1.21 (q, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.10–1.04 (m, 1H, major); **13C NMR** $(125.7 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ δ 156.2 (both), 155.0 (both), 141.9 (minor), 141.5 (major), 128.6 (2C, major), 128.5 (2C, major), 128.3 (2C, minor), 128.2 (2C, minor), 127.7 (major), 127.08 (major), 127.05 (minor), 126.9 (minor), 126.2 (major), 125.8 (minor), 124.7 (both), 123.9 (both), 123.2 (both), 122.9 (major), 122.70 (minor), 122.69 (major), 122.5 (minor), 120.8 (both), 118.4 (minor), 117.6 (major), 111.88 (minor), 111.83 (major), 40.2 (major), 34.7 (minor), 23.2 (major), 20.0 (minor), 18.2 (major), 16.5 (minor), 15.2 (major), 9.8 (minor); **HRMS** (TOF MS CI+) *m/z*: [M + NH4] + calcd for $C_{22}H_{18}ONH_4$, 316.1701; found, 316.1697; $[\alpha]^{23}D + 5.1$ (*c* 3.15 mg/mL, CHCl₃). **SFC** analysis (Chiralcel OD-H, 10% IPA, 2.0 mL/min, 290 nm) indicated 98% ee (calculated for *minor diastereomer* only): t_R (minor diastereomer, one enantiomer) = 10.8 minutes, t_R (minor diastereomer, other enantiomer) = 11.9 minutes; SFC analysis (Chiralcel AD, 6% IPA, 2.0 mL/min, 290 nm) indicated >99% ee (calculated for *major diastereomer* only): t_R (major diastereomer, one enantiomer) = 12.7 minutes, t_R (major diastereomer, other enantiomer) = 13.8 minutes.

2.4.6 General Procedures for Starting Material Synthesis

2.4.6.1 Method C: Reduction of Carboxylic Acid

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nO & \xrightarrow{BH_3 \cdot THF \ (3\text{ equiv})} & \xrightarrow{R \frown OH} \\
OH & \xrightarrow{THF, 0 \text{ } 0 \frown \neg t, 3 \text{ } h} & R \frown OH\n\end{array}
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Cole.²⁹ A flame-dried round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with carboxylic acid (1.0 equiv), and anhydrous THF (1 M) under N_2 atmosphere. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and BH3•THF was added slowly (3.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for at least 3 h.

²⁹ Zheng, W.; Cole, P. A. *Bioorg. Chem*. **2003**, *31*, 398–411.

To quench, glacial acetic acid was added dropwise until reaction mixture stopped bubbling. The reaction mixture was diluted with saturated NaHCO₃ (10 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo*.*

2.4.6.2 Method D: Pd-Catalyzed Conjugate Addition

Ar H O Ar H Ar' O Pd(OAc)2 (5 mol %) bipy (20 mol %) Ar'–B(OH)2 (3.0 equiv) THF, H2O, 65 ºC

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Lin.³⁰ A Schlenk flask equipped with stir bar was charged with arylboronic acid (3.0 equiv) , Pd (OAc) ₂ (5 mol %), and bipy (20 mol %) were added, and flask was placed under vacuum and backfilled with N_2 (x 3). Then, THF $(2 \text{ M in aldehyde})$, $H_2O(3 \text{ M in aldehyde})$, and acetic acid $(1 \text{ M in aldehyde})$ were added. Aldehyde (1.0 equiv) was then added, and reaction was heated at 65 ºC and allowed to stir overnight. The reaction was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. $NaHCO₃$ and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over $Na₂SO₄$, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.3 Method E: Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling Reaction with Pd(OAc)2

$Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.6 mol %)
PPh_3 (1.8 mol %)
$Ar^{-1}B(OH)_2$ (1.1 equiv)
Na_2CO_3 (10 equiv)
Ar^{-1}
1 -propanol/H ₂ O
r efflux, overnight

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by McCarthy.³¹ A twoneck round bottom flask was equipped with reflux condenser and stir bar. Aryl bromide (1.0 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.6 mol %), PPh₃ (1.8 mol %), Ar'–B(OH)₂ (1.1 equiv), Na₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv),

³⁰ Lu, X.; Lin, S. *J. Org. Chem*. **2005**, *70*, 9651–9653.

³¹ Brooks, D. A.; Etgen, G. J.; Rito, C. J.; Shuker, A. J.; Dominianni, S. J.; Warshawsky, A. M.; Ardecky, R.; Paterniti, J. R.; Tyhonas, J.; Karanewsky, D. S.; Kauffman, R. F.; Broderick, C. J.; Oldham, B. A.; Montrose-Rafizadeh, C.; Winneroski, L. L.; Faul, M. M.; McCarthy, J. R. *J. Med. Chem*. **2001**, *44*, 2061–2064.

 $H₂O/1$ -propanol (1:2 ratio, 0.05 M) were added under N₂. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at reflux overnight. To quench, 1 M NaOH (10 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was then extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.4 Method F: Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling Reaction with Pd(PPh3)4

\n $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (3 mol %)\n $Ar^{-B(OH)}_2$ (1.2 equiv)\n K_2CO_3 (10 equiv)\n $Ar - Br$ \n	\n $Ar - Ar'$ \n
\n div and H_2O \n	\n $Ar - Ar'$ \n
\n div are thus, overnight\n	\n $Ar - Ar'$ \n

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Nagano.³² A two-neck round bottom flask was equipped with reflux condenser and stir bar. Aryl bromide (1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.030 equiv), Ar'–B(OH)₂ (1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (10. equiv), and dioxane/H₂O (4:1 ratio, 0.1 M) were added under N_2 . The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at reflux overnight. Once complete, H_2O (10 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20) mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over $Na₂SO₄$, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.5 Method G: Cu Oxidation of Primary Alcohol to Aldehyde

Cu(MeCN)4PF6 (5 mol %) bipy (5 mol %) TEMPO (5 mol %) N-methyl imidazole (10 mol %) MeCN, rt, open to air R OH R H O

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Stahl.³³ A flame-dried round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alcohol (1.0 equiv), and MeCN (0.2 M). To the reaction flask was added Cu(MeCN)₄PF₆ (5.0 mol %), bipy (5.0 mol %), TEMPO (5.0 mol %), and *N*-methyl imidazole (0.10 equiv). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at rt

³² Terai, T.; Kohno, M.; Boncompain, G.; Sugiyama, S.; Saito, N.; Fujikake, R.; Ueno, T.; Komatsu, T.; Hanaoka,

K.; Okabe, T.; Urano, Y.; Perez, F.; Nagano, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 33, 10464–10467.

³³ Hoover, J. M.; Stahl, S. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2011**, *133*, 16901–16910.

overnight while open to air. To quench, 1 M HCl was added. The reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (10 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.6 Method H: DMP Oxidation of Primary Alcohol to Aldehyde

$$
R^{\nwarrow}OH \quad \xrightarrow{\text{DMP (1.3 equity)}} R^{\nwarrow} H
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Fernandes.³⁴ A flamedried round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alcohol (1.0 equiv), and DCM (0.2 M). To the reaction flask was added Dess-Martin periodinane (DMP; 1.3 equiv) in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. To quench, saturated NaHCO_3 (10 mL) was added and the reaction was extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.7 Method I: Swern Oxidation of Primary Alcohol to Aldehyde

$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n & \text{(COCl)}_2 \text{ (1.3 equity)} \\
 \text{DMSO (1.2 equity)} \\
 \text{E}^1_5 \text{N (3.0 equity)} \\
 \text{DCM}, -78 \degree\text{C}, 2 \text{h}\n \end{array}\n \quad\n \begin{array}{cc}\n \text{O} \\
 \text{R} \\
 \text{R}\n \end{array}
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Kobayashi.³⁵ A flamedried round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alcohol (1.0 equiv), and DCM (0.2 M). The reaction flask was cooled to -78 °C, then oxalyl chloride (1.3 equiv) and DMSO (1.2 equiv) were added under N₂ with vent. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at –78 °C for 2 h. Then, trimethylamine (3.0 equiv) was added and the reaction was warmed to rt. To quench, saturated NH4Cl (10 mL) was added and the reaction was extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

³⁴ Halle, M. B.; Fernandes, R. A. *RSC. Adv*. **2014**, *4*, 63342–63348.

³⁵ Shinohara, R.; Morita, M.; Ogawa, N.; Kobayashi, Y. *Org. Lett.* **2019**, *21*, 3247–3251.

2.4.6.8 Method J: Vinyl Grignard Addition into Aldehydes

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n & \text{BrMg} \\
 & \text{(1.1 equity)} \\
 & \text{THF, rt, 2 h} \\
 & & \text{THF, rt, 2 h} \\
 & & \text{R}\n\end{array}
$$

A flame-dried flask with stir bar was charged with vinylmagnesium bromide (1.1 equiv) and cooled to 0 ºC. A solution of aldehyde (1.0 equiv) in anhydrous THF was added in a dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for at least 2 h. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (10 mL) and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.9 Method K: Hydroboration/Oxidation

$$
R \nightharpoonup R
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Hartwig.³⁶ A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alkene (1.0 equiv) and THF (0.4 M). The flask was cooled to 0°C, and 9-BBN•THF (2.5 equiv) was added slowly. The reaction mixture was then warmed to rt and stirred overnight. Then, MeOH (3 mL/mmol) , H₂O₂ (30%, 1 mL/mmol) and NaOH (3.0 M, 1 mL/mmol) were added, and the reaction stirred for at least 3 h. Once complete, H₂O (10 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL) and combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.10 Method L: Aldol or Enolate Alkylation

1) NAH (1.2 equity)
\n2) nBULi (1.2 equity)
\n3) Aldehyde or
\n
$$
R-X
$$
 (1.2 equity)
\n H_3C OH O O
\n 1 OH O O
\n 1 O H O O
\n 1 O H O O
\n 1 O Me

³⁶ Stanley, L. M.; Hartwig, J. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2009**, *131*, 8971–8983.

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Xie.³⁷ In a glove box, a flame-dried flask with stir bar was charged with sodium hydride (1.2 equiv), capped with stopper and removed from glove box. An N_2 inlet and anhydrous THF (0.2 M) were added. Methyl acetoacetate (1.0 equiv) was added as a solution in anhydrous THF at rt, and a vent in the stopper was placed to allow release of H_2 gas. The reaction was allowed to stir at rt for 30 min. The reaction flask was then cooled to -10 °C. It is imperative to keep flask close to this temperature for the remaining reaction duration. *n*-Butyllithium (1.2 equiv) was added, and reaction stirred for an additional 30 min. Then, aldehyde or benzyl halide (1.2 equiv) was added and reaction continued to stir for 1 h. To quench, sat. NH4Cl (5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over $Na₂SO₄$, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.11 Method M: NaBH4 Reduction

$$
\begin{matrix}O\\P_1\end{matrix}\xrightarrow{NaBH_4\ (1.1\;equiv)}\begin{matrix}OH\\R^2\end{matrix}\xrightarrow{OH\\MeOH,\;rt,\;1\;h\end{matrix}
$$

Open to air, β-keto ester (1.0 equiv) and MeOH (0.2 M) were added to a flask equipped with a stir bar. Sodium borohydride (NaBH4; 1.1 equiv) was added and reaction stirred at rt for 1 h. Reaction was quenched with water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.12 Method N: Acetonide Formation

³⁷ Wu, Y.; Du, C.; Hu, C.; Li, Y.; Xie, Z. *J. Org. Chem*. **2011**, *76*, 4075–4081.

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Urpí.³⁸ To a flamedried flask equipped with stir bar, diol (1.0 equiv) and DCM (0.3 M) were added. Pyridinium tosylate (5.0 mol %) and 2,2-dimethoxypropane (1.2 equiv) were added and reaction was allowed to stir overnight. Reaction was then quenched with sat. NaHCO₃ and extracted with EtOAc $(3 x)$ 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.13 Method O: LiAlH4 Reduction

$$
\begin{matrix}O\\R^1\end{matrix}\xrightarrow{\text{LialH}_4(2.2\text{ equiv})}\xrightarrow{\text{CH}_4(2.2\text{ equiv})}\xrightarrow{\text{OH}\\R^1\end{matrix}
$$

In a glove box, a flame-dried flask was charged with LiAlH₄ (2.2 equiv), capped with stopper and removed from glovebox. An N_2 inlet and anhydrous Et₂O (0.2 M) were added. The reaction flask was cooled to 0 °C and substrate (1.0 equiv) was added as a solution in Et₂O (1.0 M). The reaction was warmed to rt and stirred for 2 h. To quench, saturated NH4Cl was added and reaction was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.14 Method P: Pd/C Reduction of Alkenes

$$
R^1 \sim R^2 \xrightarrow{\text{Pd/C}} R^2 \xrightarrow{\text{H}_2(g)} R^1 \sim R^2
$$

A round-bottom flask with stir bar was charged with palladium on carbon (1.0 mg/ 3.5 mmol of substrate), flushed with N_2 , and capped with septum. Slowly DCM was added, until Pd/C was fully submerged. Then, MeOH or EtOH (0.2 M in substrate), and alkene (1.0 equiv) were added. Vacuum was pulled on the flask until the solvent began to bubble, at which point the flask was backfilled with N_2 (x 3). An H_2 balloon was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir

³⁸ Pellicena, M.; Solsona, J. G.; Romea, P.; Urpí, F. *Tetrahedron* **2012**, *68*, 10338–10350.

vigorously for 4 h. The balloon was then removed, and the flask was purged with N_2 for 30 min. The septum was removed, and the reaction mixture was filtered through celite using MeOH (100 mL). The collected solvent was then concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.15 Method Q: Mesylation

$$
P_1
$$
\n
$$
P_2
$$
\n

OM	MSCl (1.2 equity)
OM	EMAP (0.2 equity)
MAP (0.2 equity)	
DCM, r1, 3 h	

\n
$$
P_1
$$
\n\n 2 H₂ |\n\n

A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alcohol (1.0 equiv) and DCM (0.2 M) under N₂. Then, Et₃N (1.5 equiv), DMAP (0.2 equiv), and MsCl (2.2 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at rt for at least 3 h. Once complete by TLC, sat. NaHCO₃ (5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.16 Method R: SOCl2 Chlorination

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nO & SOCl_2\left(1.0 \text{ equiv}\right) & O \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Ramachandran.³⁹ To a flame-dried flask equipped with a stir bar was added carboxylic acid (1.0 equiv) and the flask was flushed with N_2 . Next, a vent was placed, and thionyl chloride (1.0 equiv) was added over 15 min. The reaction was allowed to stir until gas evolution stopped. The flask was then heated to 80 ºC for 2 h to ensure completion. The desired product was distilled.

2.4.6.17 Method S: Esterification from Acid Chloride

R Cl O R OR O ROH (1.5 equiv) H2SO4 (1.0 equiv) Et3N (1.0 equiv) hexanes, 0 ºC – rt, 2 h

³⁹ Ramachandran, P. V.; Nicponski, D.; Kim, B. Total Regio- and Diastereocontrol in the Aldol Reactions of Dienolborinates. *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *15*, 1398–1401.

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Ramachandran.³⁹ A flask was equipped with a stir bar then flame-dried. Under N_2 , alcohol (1.5 equiv), Et₃N (1.0) equiv), and hexanes (0.2 M in substrate) were added, and the flask was cooled to 0 \degree C. Then the acid chloride (1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture formed a precipitate and was allowed to stir for at least 2 h. The reaction was slowly quenched with sat. NaHCO₃ and extracted with Et₂O (3x). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.18 Method T: Diastereoselective Anti Aldol

Dicyclohexylboron chloride

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Ramachandran.³⁹ Freshly distilled cyclohexene (2.0 equiv) was added to a flame-dried flask with stir bar under N_2 . Diethyl ether (45 mL, 2.3 M) was added, and the flask was cooled to 0 °C. Once cooled, $BH₂Cl[•] DMS$ (1.0 equiv) was slowly added (under N₂) and the flask was allowed to vent. Once addition was complete, the vent was removed, and the reaction was allowed to warm to rt and stir for 4 h. The Et_2O was then distilled away from desired product. Once complete, the dicyclohexylboron chloride product was distilled (5 torr, oil bath ~130 °C, distillation head ~110 °C). The product was stored in a Schlenk flask as a 2 M solution in anhydrous DCM at -20 °C.

Aldol

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Ramachandran.³⁹ To a flame-dried flask with stir bar, DCM (0.20–0.30 M in aldehyde), ester (1.5–2.0 equiv), and amine base (1.5 equiv) were added under N₂. The flask was cooled to 0 °C, and the boron Lewis acid (1.3

equiv) was added over 5 min. The reaction was allowed to stir at 0° C for 2 h. The solution was then cooled to -78 °C, and aldehyde (1.0 equiv) was slowly added. Once complete, the flask was allowed to warm to rt slowly overnight (achieved by allowing the dry ice to slowly evaporate and the dewar was never removed from the reaction flask–this is critical to achieve best possible dr). To workup, MeOH (5 mL/ mmol), and phosphate buffer (1 mL/mmol) was added and the reaction was allowed to vigorously stir. The flask was cooled to 0 °C, and H_2O_2 (1 mL/mmol, 30% w/v) was added via syringe pump over 1 h. The reaction mixture was then extracted with DCM, and combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.19 Method U: Diastereoselective Syn Aldol

Di(bicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-yl)chloroborane

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Ramanchandran.³⁹ Norbornene (2.0 equiv) was added to a flame-dried flask with stir bar. The flask was placed under vacuum and backfilled with N₂ (x 3). Diethyl ether (35 mL, 2.6 M in substrate) was added, and the flask was cooled to 0 °C. Once cooled, $BH_2Cl\bullet DMS$ (1.0 equiv) was slowly added (under N₂) and the flask was allowed to vent. Once addition was complete, the vent was removed, and the reaction was allowed to warm to rt and stir overnight. The Et₂O was then distilled from desired product. Once complete, the di(bicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-yl)chloroborane product was distilled (5 torr, oil bath ~150 °C, distillation head ~125 °C). The product was stored in a Schlenk flask as a 2 M solution in anhydrous DCM at –20 ºC.

Aldol

Followed procedure from Method AA.

2.4.6.20 Method V: Nonselective Aldol using LDA

$$
R^{\text{LDA (1.0 equity)}}
$$
\n
$$
R^{\text{Aldehyde (1.0 equity)}}
$$
\n
$$
R^{\text{Aldehyde (1.0 equity)}}
$$
\n
$$
R^{\text{Algebra}}
$$
\n
$$
R^{\text{Pl}}
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Heathcock.^{26c} To a flame-dried flask with stir bar, diisopropylamine (1.0 equiv) and THF (0.50 M in amine) were added under N2. The flask was then cooled to 0 ºC and *n-*BuLi (1.0 equiv) was added slowly. The reaction stirred for 1 h at 0 °C, then was cooled to -78 °C and ester or aldehyde (1.0 equiv) was added dropwise. The reaction stirred for 1 h, then electrophile (1.0 equiv) was added and reaction continued to stir for 2 h. The reaction was quenched with sat. NH₄Cl (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3x). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with Na2SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.21 Method W: Esterification from Carboxylic Acid

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nO & H_2SO_4 \ (1.0 \ \text{equiv}) & O \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nO & H_2SO_4 \ (1.0 \ \text{equiv}) & O \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\nO & O \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Alexakis.⁴⁰ A 2-neck round-bottom flask was equipped with reflux condenser and stir bar then flame-dried. Under N_2 , carboxylic acid (1.0 equiv), alcohol (0.80 M in substrate) and H_2SO_4 (1.0 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was allowed to reflux overnight. After heat was removed, the reaction was slowly quenched with sat. NaHCO₃ and extracted with EtOAc $(3x)$. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.22 Method X: (COCl)2 Chlorination

$$
R \xrightarrow{\text{O}} \text{OH} \xrightarrow{\text{(COCl)}_2 \text{(1.0 equity)}} R \xrightarrow{\text{O}}
$$

⁴⁰ Perron, Q.; Alexakis, A. *Adv. Synth. Catal*. **2010**, *352*, 2611–2620.

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Spivey.⁴¹ To a flamedried flask equipped with stir bar, carboxylic acid (1.0 equiv) and DCM (0.83 M in substrate) were added under N₂. The flask was cooled to 0° C, and oxalyl chloride was added (1.5 equiv). The flask was allowed to warm to rt, a vent was placed, and the reaction stirred for 4 h. When gas evolution stopped, a distillation apparatus was attached and DCM was removed first, followed by distillation of desired product.

2.4.6.23 Method Y: Acid Chloride to Oxazolidinone

^R ^N O O O Bn nBuLi (1.0 equiv) acid chloride (1.0 equiv) THF, –78 ºC, to rt, 2h HN O O Bn

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Evans.⁴² A flame-dried flask equipped with stir bar was charged with oxazolidinone (1.0 equiv) and THF (0.30 M in substrate). The reaction flask was cooled to –78 ºC, and *n*-BuLi (1.0 equiv) was added slowly. The reaction was allowed to stir for 1 h, and then acid chloride (1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction was then warmed to rt and stirred for 1 h, quenched with sat. NH4Cl, extracted with EtOAc (3x), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.24 Method Z: Evans Aldol

Dibutylboron Triflate

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Evans.⁴² A two-neck flask equipped with stir bar, septum, and distillation apparatus was flame-dried and allowed to cool under vaccum. The apparatus was back-filled with N_2 (and kept under positive N_2 pressure the remaining time of the reaction), tributylborane (1.0 equiv) was added, and the flask was heated

⁴¹ Murray, J. I.; Spivey, A. C. *Adv. Synth. Catal*. **2015**, *357*, 3825–3830.

⁴² Gage, J. R.; Evans, D. A. *Org. Synth*. **1990**, *68*, 83.

to 50 ºC. Once to heated temperature, a vent was placed in septum, and triflic acid (1.0 equiv) was added slowly. Fleeting bubbles indicated initiation of reaction (generation of butane), and the reaction mixture continued to stir for 30 min at 50 ºC. After stirring, the vent was removed, vacuum was applied to the apparatus, and the reaction mixture was heated to 86 °C. The desired product distilled off as a clear, very light-yellow liquid (5 torr, distillation head at 60 ºC). The title compound was stored neat in a Schlenk flask at –20 ºC.

$$
R \longleftarrow \bigcup_{\text{Brv}^{\text{in}}(1,0)}^{\text{in}} \bigcup_{\text{Brv}^{\text{in}}(1,0)}^{\text{in}} \text{in}_{\text{in}}^{\text{in}}(1,0,0,0)} \text{Pr}(1,0,0,0) \cup \bigcup_{\text{in}}^{\text{in}} \bigcup_{\text{in}}^{\text{in}} \bigcup_{\text{in}}^{\text{in}}(1,0,0,0,0) \cup \bigcup_{\text{in}}^{\text{in}} \big
$$

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Evans.⁴² A flame-dried flask equipped with stir bar was charged with oxazolidinone complex (1.0 equiv) , Et₃N (1.3 equiv) , and DCM (0.5 M in substrate) under N₂ and cooled to 0 °C. Then, $nBu_2BOTf (1.3\text{ equiv})$ was then added to the mixture dropwise and reaction stirred for 30 min. The reaction mixture was then cooled to –78 ºC, and the aldehyde (1.4 equiv) was slowly added. The reaction continued to stir at –78 °C for 1 h. The reaction was then quenched with phosphate pH 7 buffer and stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. To workup, DCM (20 mL) was added and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was washed with DCM $(3x)$ and the combined organic layers were dried with Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. Then, MeOH (1.5 mL/mmol) was added, the flask was cooled to 0 ºC, and $H₂O₂$ (30% w/v, 0.5 mL/mmol) was added dropwise over 1 h. The reaction continued to stir at 0 $\rm{^{\circ}C}$ for an additional hr. Then, H₂O and Et₂O were added. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with $Et₂O (3x)$. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.6.25 Method AA: LiBH4 Cleavage of Auxiliary

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure reported by Day.⁴³ To a flamedried flask with stir bar, oxazolidinone complex (1.0 equiv), MeOH (1.25 equiv), and THF (0.20 M in substrate) were added under N₂. The flask was cooled to 0 °C, then LiBH₄ (3.5 equiv, 0.20) M in substrate) was slowly added. The reaction was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 2 h. The reaction was then quenched with sat. NH₄Cl (10 mL) slowly and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried with $Na₂SO₄$ and concentrated in vacuo.

2.4.7 Synthesis and Characterization Data for Intermediates and 1,3-Dimesylates

2.4.7.1 Intermediates and 1,3-Dimesylates for Unbranched Alkylcyclopropanes

⁴³ Choy, N.; Shin, Y.; Nguyen, P. Q.; Curran, D. P.; Balachandran, R.; Madiraju, C.; Day, B. W. *J. Med. Chem*. **2003**, *46*, 2846–2864.

3-(4-Bromophenyl)propan-1-ol (2.19) was prepared according to Method C. The following amounts of reagents were used: 3-(4-bromophenyl)propionic acid (6.8 g, 30. mmol, 1.0 equiv), BH3•THF (90. mL, 90. mmol, 3.0 equiv, 1.0 M), and THF (10. mL, 3.0 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (5.9 g, 28 mmol, 93%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.86 (tt, $J = 7.8$, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (s, 1H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁴⁴

3-(4-Bromophenyl)propanal (2.20) was prepared according to Method G. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.19 (5.9 g, 27 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Cu(MeCN)₄PF₆ (1.0 g, 2.8 mmol, 0.10 equiv), bipy (0.44 g, 2.8 mmol, 0.10 equiv), TEMPO (0.44 g, 2.8 mmol, 0.10 equiv), *N*methyl imidazole (0.44 mL, 5.5 equiv, 0.20 equiv), and MeCN (20. mL, 1.4 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (2.7 g, 40%, 10% EtOAc by NMR, 4% DCM by NMR). **1 H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.45

⁴⁴Andersen, C.; Ferey, V.; Daumas, M.; Bernardelli, P.; Guérinot, A.; Cossy, J. *Org. Lett.* **2019**, *21*, 2285–2289.

⁴⁵ McGorry, R. J.; Allen, S. K.; Pitzen, M. D.; Coombs, T. C. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2017**, *58,* 4623–4627.

5-(4-Bromophenyl)pent-1-en-3-ol (2.21) was prepared according to Method J. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.20** (2.7 g, 13 mmol, 1.0 equiv), vinylmagnesium bromide (20. mL, 14 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and THF (10. mL, 1.4 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (2.1 g, 8.8 mmol, 68%). **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (ddd, *J* = 16.9, 10.5, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dt, *J* = 17.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dt, *J* = 10.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (quint, *J* = 5.6, Hz 1H), 2.73–2.62 (m, 2H), 1.88–1.87 (m, 2H), 1.49 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H).

5-(4-Bromophenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.22) was prepared according to Method K. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.21** (1.7 g, 7.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 9-BBN (35 mL, 18 mmol, 2.5 equiv), MeOH (21 mL, 3.0 mL/mmol), H₂O₂ (11 mL, 1.5 mL/mmol, 30% w/w), NaOH (11 mL, 1.5 mL/mmol, 3.0 M), and THF (20. mL, 0.36 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.7 g, 6.4 mmol, 91%). **m.p.** = 87–88 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.3 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.95–3.79 (m, 3H), 2.79– 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.69–2.60 (m, 1H), 2.56 (s, 1H), 2.14 (s, 1H), 1.86–1.69 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 141.0, 131.6 (2C), 130.4 (2C), 119.7, 71.4, 62.0, 39.3, 38.5, 31.4; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C11H15BrO2Na, 281.0153; found, 281.0145.

5-(3'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.23) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.97 g, 3.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ $(0.13 \text{ g}, 0.11 \text{ mmol}, 3.0 \text{ mol } \%)$, K₂CO₃ (5.2 g, 38. mmol, 10. equiv), (3-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid (0.68 g, 4.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 1,4-dioxane (20.0 mL), and DI water (5.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to yield the title compound as a white solid (0.63 g, 2.2 mmol, 59% yield). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.7, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.97–3.89 (m, 2H), 3.87–3.82 (m, 4H), 2.87–2.80 (m, 1H), 2.77–2.70 (m, 1H), 2.36 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.90–1.82 (m, 2H), 1.78– 1.73 (m, 2H).

5-(3'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.1) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.23** (0.70 g, 2.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et3N (1.0 mL, 7.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (60. mg, 0.49 mmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.42 mL, 5.4 mmol, 2.2 equiv), and DCM (10. mL, 0.24 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–50% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.93 g, 2.1 mmol, 86%). **m.p.** = 71–72 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.7 (50% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.97–4.93 (m, 1H), 4.40–4.33 (m,

2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.82–2.74 (m, 2H), 2.24–2.05 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.1, 142.4, 139.7, 139.3, 129.9, 128.9 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 119.6, 112.9, 112.7, 78.4, 65.7, 55.4, 38.8, 37.5, 36.6, 34.2, 30.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C20H26O7S2Na, 465.1018; found, 465.0995.

5-(4-(Thiophen-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.24) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.21 g, 0.82 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (28 mg, 25 µmol, 3.0 mol %), 2-thienylboronic acid (0.14 g, 1.1 mmol, 1.3 equiv), K2CO3 (1.1 g, 8.2 mmol, 10. equiv), and 1,4-dioxane/H2O (8.8 mL, 4:1 ratio, 0.10 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-5% \text{ MeOH/DCM})$ to afford the title compound as a white solid $(0.16$ g, 0.63 mmol, 76%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.93–3.86 (m, 2H), 3.85–3.78 (m, 1H), 2.79 (ddd, *J* = 14.3, 9.5, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (ddd, *J* = 13.9, 9.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (s, 1H), 2.56 (s, 1H), 1.89–1.67 (m, 4H).

5-(4-(Thiophen-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.25) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.24** (0.16 g, 0.63 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et3N (0.26 mL, 1.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (15 mg, 0.13 mmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl $(0.11 \text{ mL}, 1.4 \text{ mmol}, 2.2 \text{ equiv})$, and DCM $(3.0 \text{ mL}, 0.21 \text{ M})$ in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.20 g, 0.48 mmol, 76%). **m.p.** = 77–80 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.7 (60% EtOAc/hexanes);

1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (quint, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.37–4.31 (m, 2H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.75 (td, *J* = 8.6, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 2.22–1.99 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.2, 139.8, 132.6, 128.9 (2C), 128.1, 126.2 (2C), 124.7, 123.0, 78.3, 65.7, 38.7, 37.4, 36.4, 34.1, 30.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C17H22O7S2Na, 441.0476; found, 441.0462.

5-(4-(Furan-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.26) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (35 mg, 30 µmol, 3.0 mol %), 2-furanylboronic acid (0.26 g, 1.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K2CO3 (1.4 g, 10. mmol, 10. equiv), and 1,4-dioxane/H2O (8.8 mL, 4:1 ratio, 0.100 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–5% MeOH/DCM) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.21 g, 0.85 mmol, 85%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (dd*, J* = 3.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94–3.86 (m, 2H), 3.85–3.78 (m, 1H), 2.79 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 9.4, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 9.2, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 1H), 1.89–1.66 (m, 4H).

5-(4-(Furan-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.27) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.26** (0.21 g, 0.85 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et3N (0.35 mL, 2.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (21 mg, 0.17 mmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.14 mL, 1.9 mmol, 2.2 equiv), and DCM (3.0 mL, 0.28 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.11 g, 0.28 mmol, 33%). **m.p.** = 107–109 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.6 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.95–4.89 (m, 1H), 4.39–4.30 (m, 2H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.75 (td, *J* = 8.0, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.22–2.00 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 153.9, 142.0, 139.6, 129.3, 128.8 (2C), 124.2 (2C), 111.7, 104.8, 78.3, 65.7, 38.7, 37.5, 36.5, 34.2, 30.9; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for $C_{17}H_{22}O_7S_2Na$, 425.0705; found, 425.0688.

5-(4-(Benzofuran-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.28) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (1.4 mg, 6.0 µmol, 0.60 mol %), PPh3 (4.7 mg, 1.8 µmol 1.8 mol %), 2-benzofuranylboronic acid (0.18 g, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv), Na₂CO₃ (0.13 g, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and 1-propanol/H₂O (2:1, 15 mL, 0.050 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100% EtOAc) to afford the title compound as a pale-yellow solid $(0.16 \text{ g}, 0.52 \text{ mmol}, 52\%)$. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.18 (m*,* 4H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 3.95–3.87 (m, 2H), 3.87–3.78 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.79 (m, 1H), 2.76– 2.69 (m, 1H), 2.61 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 1H), 1.91–1.69 (m, 4H).

5-(4-(Benzofuran-2-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.29) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.28** (0.14 g, 0.47 mmol,

1.0 equiv), Et3N (0.20 mL, 1.4 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (11 mg, 0.094 mmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.08 mL, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), and DCM (5.0 mL, 0.094 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white, fluffy solid (0.14 g, 0.31 mmol, 66%). **m.p.** = 131–133 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.6 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 4.99–4.92 (m, 1H), 4.91– 4.32 (m, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.80 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.25–2.04 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 155.9, 155.0, 141.0, 129.4, 128.94 (2C), 128.88, 125.4 (2C), 124.4, 123.1, 121.0, 111.3, 101.2, 78.3, 65.6, 38.8, 37.6, 36.5, 34.3, 31.1; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{21}H_{24}O_7S_2Na$, 475.0861; found, 475.0855.

5-(4-(6-Methoxypyridin-3-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.30) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (35 mg, 30 μ mol, 3.0 mol %), 2-methoxypyridine-5-boronic acid (0.18 g, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (1.4 g, 10. mmol, 10. equiv), and 1.4-dioxane/H₂O (8.8 mL, 4:1 ratio, 0.1 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–5% MeOH/DCM) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.20 g, 0.78 mmol, 78%). ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s*,* 3H), 3.97–3.89 (m, 2H), 3.89–3.82 (m, 1H), 2.84 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 9.7, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 9.4, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 1H), 1.93–1.74 (m, 4H).

5-(4-(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)phenyl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.31) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.30** (0.21 g, 0.78 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et₃N (0.33 mL, 2.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (19 mg, 0.16 mmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.13 mL, 1.7 mmol, 2.2 equiv), and DCM (4.0 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.20 g, 0.46 mmol, 59%). **m.p.** = 118–119 ºC; **TLC Rf** = 0.5 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.37 (dd, *J* = 2.5, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 4.99–4.93 (m, 1H), 4.41–4.33 (m, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.79 (ddd, *J* = 9.5, 6.9, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 2.25–2.03 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (100.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ 163.7, 144.9, 139.6, 137.4, 136.2, 129.8, 129.1 (2C), 127.0 (2C), 110.9, 78.3, 65.7, 53.6, 38.8, 37.5, 36.6, 34.2, 30.8; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : $[M + Na]$ ⁺ calcd for C₁₉H₂₅NO₇S₂Na, 466.0970; found, 466.0964.

5-(4'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.32) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.22** (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh3)4 (0.12 g, 0.10 mmol, 0.10 equiv), 4-(trifluoromethyl)phenylboronic acid (0.23 g, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K_2CO_3 (1.4 g, 10. mmol, 10. equiv), and 1,4-dioxane/H₂O (8.75 mL, 4:1 ratio, 0.1 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–5% MeOH/DCM) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.21 g, 0.63 mmol, 63%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (s, 4H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.98–3.82 (m*,* 3H), 2.86 (ddd, *J*

= 13.8, 9.2, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 9.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 1H), 1.94– 1.74 (m, 4H).

5-(4'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.33) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.32** (83 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et₃N (0.04 mL, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv), DMAP (6.3 mg, 52 μmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl $(0.04 \text{ mL}, 0.6 \text{ mmol}, 2 \text{ equiv})$, and DCM $(5.0 \text{ mL}, 0.052 \text{ M})$ in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white, waxy foam (0.11 g, 0.23 mmol, 91%). **TLC Rf** = 0.6 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.67 (s, 4H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.99–4.93 (m, 1H), 4.42–4.33 (m, 2H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.81 (td, *J* = 6.9, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 2.25–2.04 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.5, 140.6, 138.0, 129.4 (q, *J* = 32.4 Hz, 1C), 129.1 (2C), 127.6 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 125.9 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 2C), 124.4 (q, *J* = 271.9 Hz, 1C), 78.2, 65.6, 38.8, 37.6, 36.6, 34.3, 31.7 (unknown impurity), 30.9; **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ –62.6; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : $[M + Na]$ ⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₂₃F₃O₆S₂Na, 503.0786; found, 503.0775.

5-(2'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.34) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.22 (0.13 g, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.7 mg, 3.0 μmol, 0.60 mol %), PPh₃ (2.4 mg, 9.0 μmol, 1.8 mol %), 2-fluorophenylboronic acid (77 mg, 0.55 mmol, 1.1 equiv), Na_2CO_3 (63 mg, 0.60 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and 1-propanol/H₂O (2:1, 15 mL, 0.050 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (100%

EtOAc) to afford the title compound as a white, waxy solid (0.11 g, 0.40 mmol, 81%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (td, *J* = 8.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.18 (t*, J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.95–3.87 (m, 2H), 3.85–3.78 (m, 1H), 3.09 (s, 1H), 2.93 (s, 1H), 2.83 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 9.9, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (ddd, *J* = 16.3, 9.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.91–1.71 (m, 4H).

5-(2'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.35) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.34** (94 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et3N (0.14 mL, 1.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (8.3 mg, 68 µmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.06 mL, 0.8 mmol, 2 equiv), and DCM (5.0 mL, 0.068 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white, waxy solid $(0.10 \text{ g}, 0.24 \text{ mmol}, 70\%)$. **m.p.** = 80–82 °C; **TLC R_f** = 0.8 (60%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H) 7.13 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.98–4.94 (m, 1H), 4.39– 4.33 (m, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.82–2.78 (m, 2H), 2.24–2.06 (m, 4H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 159.9 (d, *J* = 247.4 Hz, 1C), 140.0, 134.0, 130.7 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 129.4 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 2C), 129.0 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1C), 128.8 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1C), 128.6 (2C), 124.5 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 116.2 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz, 1C), 78.4, 65.7, 38.7, 37.5, 36.5, 34.2, 30.9; **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –118.05 to –118.10 (m); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{19}H_{23}FO_6S_2Na$, 453.0818; found, 453.0807.

2.4.7.2 Intermediates and 1,3-Dimesylates for Branched Alkylcyclopropanes

Scheme 2.8 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate **2.39**

*syn***-(±)-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylhexanal (2.36)** was prepared according to Method G. The following amounts of reagents were used: 1.5 (0.32 g, 1.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Cu(MeCN)₄PF₆ (39 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.10 equiv), bipy (16 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.10 equiv), TEMPO (16 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.10 equiv), *N*-methyl imidazole (20. µL, 0.20 mmol, 0.20 equiv), and MeCN (5.0 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a pale pink wax (0.28 g, 0.92 mmol, 89%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 9.46 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.95–2.87 (m, 1H), 2.65– 2.53 (m, 3H), 2.08 (ddd, *J* = 14.0, 10.7, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.97 (ddd, *J* = 15.0, 10.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.21 $(d, J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

7-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenyloct-1-en-3-ol (2.37) was prepared according to Method J. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.36** (0.21 g, 0.70 mmol, 1.0 equiv), vinylmagnesium bromide (2.0 mL, 0.14 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and THF (2.0 mL, 0.35 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-20\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (0.16 g, 0.48 mmol, 69%, 1:1 dr). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.80–7.73 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.46–7.38 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.32–7.19 (m, 8H, both diastereomers), 7.09–7.04 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 5.70–5.61 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 4.95 (addd, *J* = 24.3, 17.3, 6.4 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 3.81 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 3.70–3.65 (m, 1H, other diastereomer), 2.65–2.55 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 2.42 (sept, $J = 5.3$ Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 2.13–2.02 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.98–1.89 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.87–1.80 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.76–1.66 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 1.29 (s, 1H, one diastereomer), 1.20 (at, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H, both diastereomers).

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\begin{picture}(150,10) \put(0,0){\line(1,0){100}} \put(15,0){\line(1,0){100}} \put(15,0){
$$

7-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenyloctane-1,3-diol (2.38) was prepared according to Method K. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.37** (0.16 g, 0.48 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 9-BBN (2.4 mL, 1.2 mmol, 2.5 equiv), MeOH (1.4 mL, 3.0 mL/mmol), H_2O_2 (0.72 mL, 1.5 mL/mmol, 30% w/w), NaOH (0.72 mL, 1.5 mL/mmol, 3.0 M aqueous solution), and THF (3.0 mL, 0.16 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(0.15 \text{ g}, 0.42 \text{ mmol}, 87\%, 1:1 \text{ dr})$. **¹H NMR** $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ δ 7.82–7.22 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.47–7.36 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.33–7.18 (m, 8H, both diastereomers), 7.08–7.03 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 3.63–3.46 (m, 5H, both diastereomers), 3.36 (tt, $J = 9.1$, 3.2 Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 2.64–2.30 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 2.11–2.00 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.97–1.89 (m, 2H, both diastereomers),

1.81–1.54 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 1.52–1.32 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H, both diastereomers).

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\underbrace{\text{Me Ph\;OMs}}_{\text{Nap}}
$$

7-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenyloctane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.39) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.38** (0.15 g, 0.42 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Et3N (0.18 mL, 1.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (10. mg, 84 µmol, 0.20 equiv), MsCl (0.07 mL, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), and DCM (2.0 mL, 0.21 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–60% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a pale yellow oil (0.15 g, 0.29 mmol, 69%, 1:1 dr). **TLC Rf** = 0.8 (60% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81–7.77 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.49–7.41 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 7.36–7.31 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.28–7.24 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.08 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 4.60–4.49 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 4.13 (s, 4H, both diastereomers), 2.85 (s, 3H, one diastereomer), 2.81 (s, 3H, other diastereomer), 2.60–2.51 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.53 (s, 3H, one diastereomer), 2.50 (s, 3H, other diastereomer), 2.46–2.32 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.16–2.08, (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.05–1.74 (m, 10H, both diastereomers), 1.23 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, one diastereomer), 1.22 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, other diastereomer); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.0 (one diastereomer), 143.8 (other diastereomer), 143.6 (one diastereomer), 143.2 (other diastereomer), 133.69 (one diastereomer), 133.67 (other diastereomer), 132.40 (one diastereomer), 132.37 (other diastereomer), 128.9 (one diastereomer, 2C), 128.8 (other diastereomer, 2C), 128.31 (one diastereomer), 128.26 (other diastereomer), 128.2 (one diastereomer, 2C), 127.9 (other diastereomer, 2C), 127.7 (one diastereomer, 2C; other diastereomer 1C), 127.6 (other diastereomer, 2C), 127.0 (one diastereomer), 126.9 (other diastereomer), 126.11 (one diastereomer), 126.07 (other diastereomer),
125.93 (one diastereomer), 125.89 (both diastereomers, 2C), 125.7 (one diastereomer), 125.4 (both diastereomers, 2C), 77.7 (one diastereomer), 77.5 (other diastereomer), 65.6 (one diastereomer), 65.4 (other diastereomer), 45.3 (one diastereomer), 45.1 (other diastereomer), 42.9 (one diastereomer), 42.3 (other diastereomer), 40.0 (one diastereomer), 39.9 (other diastereomer), 38.3 (one diastereomer), 38.1 (other diastereomer), 37.7 (one diastereomer), 37.5 (other diastereomer), 37.3 (both diastereomers), 34.4 (one diastereomer), 33.7 (other diastereomer), 23.8 (one diastereomer), 23.6 (other diastereomer); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : $[M + Na]$ ⁺ calcd for C26H32O6S2Na, 527.1538; found, 527.1520.

Scheme 2.9 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate **2.47**

Methyl 5-cyclohexyl-5-hydroxy-3-oxopentanoate (2.40) was prepared according to Method L. The following amounts of reagents were used: methyl acetoacetate (0.54 mL, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaH (0.14 g, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv), *n*-BuLi (2.4 mL, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv, 2.5 M in hexanes), cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde (0.73 mL, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and THF (10. mL, 0.20 M in

substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–25% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(0.48 \text{ g}, 2.1 \text{ mmol}, 42\%)$. ¹H NMR $(400 \text{ MHz},$ CDCl3) δ 3.88–3.81 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.73 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (dd, *J* = 17.1 9.1 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 1H), 1.88–1.72 (m, 3H), 1.70–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.41–1.32 (m, 1H), 1.29–1.11 (m, 3H), 1.04 (quintd, *J* = 12.2, 3.3 Hz, 2H).

Methyl 5-cyclohexyl-3,5-dihydroxypentanoate (2.41) was prepared according to Method M. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.40** (0.34 g, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaBH4 (62 mg, 1.6 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and MeOH (7.0 mL, 0.23 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography as one diastereomer (0–50% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(0.15 \text{ g}, 43\%, >20.1 \text{ dr}, 4\% \text{ EtoAc by } ^1\text{H NMR})$. **TLC R**_f = 0.5 (50%) EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 4.29–4.23 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.68–3.63 (m, 1H), 3.02 (s, 1H), 2.51 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 1H), 1.82–1.72 (m, 3H), 1.71–1.63 (m, 2H), 1.59 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 1.39–1.30 (m, 1H), 1.27–1.11 (m, 4H), 1.03 (quintd, *J* = 12.3, 3.3 Hz, 2H).

*cis***-Methyl 2-(6-cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)acetate (2.42)** was prepared according to Method N. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.41** (0.22 g, 0.93 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 2,2-dimethoxypropane (0.14 mL, 1.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv), pyridinium tosylate (12 mg, 47 µmol, 5.0 mol %), and DCM (3.0 mL, 0.31 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–25% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white,

crystalline solid (0.17 g, $66\%, >20:1$ dr, 2% DCM by ¹H NMR). The relative configuration was assigned as cis by NOE NMR experiments. Irradiation of the acetonide proton (Ha) gave an NOE enhancement of 1.6% of H_c, an enhancement of 2.6% of H_g, and an enhancement of 1.5% of H_f. **TLC Rf** = 0.8 (20% EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 4.30–4.23 (adtd, *J* = 13.5, 6.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.56 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 6.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 1.77–1.62 (m, 4H), 1.56 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.33–1.27 (m, 1H), 1.27–1.11 (m, 4H), 0.93 $(aquint, J = 12.7 Hz, 2H).$

2-(*cis***)-6-Cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)ethan-1-ol (2.43)** was prepared according to Method O. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.42** (0.17 g, 0.63 mmol, 1.0 equiv), LiAlH₄ (53 mg, 1.4 mmol, 2.2 equiv), and Et₂O (6.3 mL, 0.10 M in substrate). The compound was used in the next synthetic step without further purification. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.5 (20% EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 4.13–4.05 (m, 1H), 3.81–3.76 (m, 2H), 3.56 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 6.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (at, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 1.76–1.65 (m, 6H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.34–1.13 (m, 6H), 1.02–0.86 (m, 2H).

2-(*cis***)-6-Cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)acetaldehyde (2.44)** was prepared according to Method I. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.43** (0.14 g, 0.58 mmol, 1.0 equiv), oxalyl chloride (0.06 mL, 0.8 mmol, 1 equiv), DMSO (0.05 mL, 0.7 mmol, 1 equiv), Et3N (0.24 mL, 1.7 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and DCM (5.8 mL, 0.10 M in substrate). The compound was purified by column chromatography (0–25% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear yellow oil (131.5 mg, 3% DMSO by 1 H NMR, 90% yield). **TLC Rf** = 0.8 (25% EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 9.78 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.37–4.33 (m, 1H), 3.59–3.55 (m, 1H), 2.59 (ddd, *J* = 16.4, 7.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (ddd, *J* = 16.5, 4.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 1.93–1.86 (m, 1H), 1.75–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.55 (td, *J* = 12.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.34–1.12 (m, 5H), 0.98–0.86 (m, 2H).

1-(*cis***)-6-Cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)but-3-en-2-ol (2.45)** was prepared according to Method J. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.44** (130 mg, 0.54 mmol, 1.0 equiv), vinylmagnesium bromide (1.1 mL, 1.1 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and THF (3 mL, 0.2 M in substrate). The compound was purified by column chromatography $(0-25\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear oil (82 mg, 19% Et₂O by ¹H NMR, 54% yield). The NMR data was characterized as a 1:1 ratio of diastereomers: **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (25% EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 5.92–5.80 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 5.31–5.23 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 5.13–5.07 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 4.43–4.36 (br s, 1H, one diastereomer), $4.35-4.30$ (br s, 1H, other diastereomer), 4.16 (t, $J = 10.3$ Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 4.09 (t, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H, other diastereomer) 3.56–3.46 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.36 (s, 1H), 3.09 (s, 1H), 1.94–0.86 (m, 42H, both diastereomers).

4-(*cis***)-6-Cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)butane-1,3-diol (2.46)** was prepared according to Method K. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.45** (77 mg, 0.29 mmol,

1.0 equiv), 9-BBN (1.5 mL, 0.73 mmol, 2.5 equiv), THF (1.0 mL, 0.30 M in substrate), MeOH (0.90 mL, 3.0 mL/mmol), NaOH (0.45 mL, 1.5 mL/mmol, 3.0 M aqueous solution), and H_2O_2 $(0.45 \text{ mL}, 1.5 \text{ mL/mmol}, 30\% \text{ w/w})$. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-5\% \text{ MeOH/DCM})$ to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil $(0.072 \text{ g}, 80\% \text{ yield},$ 33% DCM by 1 H NMR). The NMR data was characterized a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers). **TLC R_f** = 0.3 (50% EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.22–4.15 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 4.15–4.07 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.91 (s, 1H, one diastereomer), 3.87– 3.79 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 3.58–3.53 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.50 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 2.77 (t, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 2.71 (t, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 1.93–1.86 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.78–1.60 (m, 14H, both diastereomers), 1.57–1.09 (m, 26H, both diastereomers), 0.98–0.86 (m, 4H, both diastereomers).

4-(*cis***)-6-Cyclohexyl-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-4-yl)butane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.47)** was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.46** (71.8 mg, 0.250 mmol, 1.00 equiv), methanesulfonyl chloride (0.05 mL, 0.6 mmol, 2 equiv), dimethylaminopyridine (6 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.2 equiv), Et₃N (0.09 mL, 0.6 mmol, 2 equiv), and DCM (2 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–50%) EtOAc/hexanes) to afford a clear oil (55 mg, 0.22 mmol, 88% yield). **TLC R**_f = 0.5 (40%) EtOAc/hexanes; CAM stain); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.06 (octet, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 5.00 (septet, $J = 4.1$ Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 4.40–4.31 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 3.99 (t, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.99 (t, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.55 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 6.9, 2.3 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 3.06 (s, 3H, one

diastereomer), 3.05 (s, 3H, other diastereomer), 3.04 (s, 6H, both diastereomers), 2.32–2.19 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 2.17–2.07 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.92–1.84 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 1.77–1.61 (m, 10H, both diastereomers), 1.48 (ddt, *J* = 15.0, 12.7, 2.4 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.41 (s, 6H, both diastereomers), 1.35 (s, 6H, both diastereomers), 1.31–1.11 (m, 10H, both diastereomers), 1.00–0.84 (m, 2H, both diastereomers); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 98.8 (one diastereomer), 98.6 (other diastereomer), 76.6 (one diastereomer), 76.3 (other diastereomer), 73.2 (one diastereomer), 73.1 (other diastereomer), 65.9 (one diastereomer), 65.8 (other diastereomer), 65.6 (one diastereomer), 65.2 (other diastereomer), 42.8 (2C, both diastereomers), 42.3 (one diastereomer), 41.4 (other diastereomer), 38.7 (one diastereomer), 38.6 (other diastereomer), 37.55 (one diastereomer), 37.51 (other diastereomer), 35.1 (one diastereomer), 34.2 (other diastereomer), 34.1 (one diastereomer), 34.0 (other diastereomer), 30.3 (2C, both diastereomers), 28.93 (one diastereomer), 28.88 (other diastereomer), 28.0 (2C, both diastereomers), 26.7 (2C, both diastereomers), 26.1 (2C, both diastereomers), 26.0 (2C, both diastereomers), 20.0 (one diastereomer), 19.8 (other diastereomer); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: $[M + Na]^{+}$ calcd for C₁₈H₃₄O₈S₂Na, 465.1593; found, 465.1606.

2.4.7.3 Intermediates and 1,3-Dimesylates for 1,2-Disubstituted Alkylcyclopropanes

Scheme 2.10 Synthesis of aldehyde **2.49** used in diastereoselective aldol reactions

3-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)propan-1-ol (2.48) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: 2.19 (2.5 g, 12 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.41) g, 0.35 mmol, 3.0 mol %), K_2CO_3 (16 g, 120 mmol, 10. equiv), 3-methoxyphenyl boronic acid $(2.1 \text{ g}, 14 \text{ mmol}, 1.2 \text{ equiv})$, dioxane (60 mL) , and $H_2O (15 \text{ mL})$. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a yellow oil in EtOAc (2.8 g, 12 mmol, 77% yield, 40% EtOAc by 1 H NMR); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.71 (br s, 2H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (quint, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.40 (s, 1H).

3-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)propanal (2.49) was prepared according to Method H. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.48** (2.8 g, 12 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DMP (5.5 g, 13 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and DCM (50 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0– 20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a yellow oil (1.6 g, 6.8 mmol, 53% yield, 15% EtOAc by 1 H NMR); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 9.86 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H).

Scheme 2.11 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate *anti*-**2.13**

(*E***)-But-2-enoyl chloride (2.50)** was prepared according to Method R. The following amounts of reagents were used: *trans*-crotonic acid (3.19 g, 37.2 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and SOCl₂ (2.70 mL, 37.2) mmol, 1.00 equiv). The compound was distilled (distillation head temperature \sim 115 °C) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil. Yield was determined in next synthetic step. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.24 (dq, *J* = 15.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (dq, *J* $= 15.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 1.99 (dd, $J = 6.9, 1.7$ Hz, 3H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.39

*tert***-Butyl but-3-enoate (2.51)** was prepared according to Method S. The following amounts of reagents were used: acid chloride **2.50** (37.2 mmol), *t*BuOH (5.32 mL, 55.7 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Et3N (5.17 mL, 37.2 mmol, 1.00 equiv), and hexanes (37 mL, 0.10 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(15\%$ Et₂O/pentane) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (0.75 g, 4.9 mmol, 13% over two steps, 7% Et₂O by ¹H NMR). **TLC R**f = 0.8 (15% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 5.96–5.85 (m, 1H), 5.13 (ddt, *J* = 13.8, 2.2, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (dt, $J = 6.9$, 1.4, 2H), 1.45 (s, 9H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.19

*tert***-Butyl (***anti***)-3-hydroxy-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-vinylpentanoate (2.52)** was prepared according to Method T. The following amounts of reagents were used: aldehyde **2.49** (0.50 g, 2.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), ester **2.51** (0.44 g, 3.1 mmol, 1.5 equiv), dicyclohexylboron chloride (1.4 mL, 2.7 mmol, 1.3 equiv, 2.0 M), Et3N (0.43 mL, 3.1 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and DCM (10. mL, 0.20 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil $(0.68 \text{ g}, 1.8 \text{ mmol}, 86\%)$. **TLC R**f = 0.7 (40%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.86–5.77 (m, 1H), 5.23 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.86–3.81 (m, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 9.4, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 9.9, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.76–2.69 (m, 2H), 1.92– 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.78–1.68 (m, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H).

*anti***-5-(3'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-vinylpentane-1,3-diol (2.53)** was prepared according to Method O. The following amounts of reagents were used: ester **2.52** (0.68 g, 1.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), LiAlH₄ (0.16 g, 4.2 mmol, 2.3 equiv), and Et₂O (9.0 mL, 0.20 M). The compound was used without further purification. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* =

2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.70–5.61 (m, 1H), 5.21 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.84–3.74 (m, 3H), 2.89 (ddd, *J* = 14.3, 10.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.77–2.68 (m, 1H), 2.50 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.41–2.34 (m, 2H), 1.98–1.90 (m, 1H), 1.98–1.72 (m, 1H).

*anti***-2-Ethyl-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.54)** was prepared according to Method P. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.53** (1.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd/C (70 mg), H2 balloon (excess), DCM (3.0 mL, 0.6 M in substrate), and MeOH (9.0 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was used without further purification. **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (ap d, *J* = 11.6, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.79–3.68 (m, 2H), 2.89 (quint, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.78–2.69 (m, 1H), 2.48 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 1H), 1.97–1.89 (m, 2H), 1.53–1.42 (m, 3H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H).

*anti***-2-Ethyl-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (***anti***-2.13)** was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.54** (1.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.30 mL, 3.9 mmol, 2.2 equiv), Et3N (0.75 mL, 5.4 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (43 mg, 0.36 mmol, 0.2 equiv), and DCM (9.0 mL, 0.20 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–35% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil $(0.34 \text{ g}, 0.72 \text{ mmol}, 40\%$ over three steps). **TLC R_f** = 0.5 $(40\%$ EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H),

7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (q, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.32–4.25 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.80 (td, *J* = 8.3, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 2.16–2.09 (m, 3H), 1.61 (septet, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.46 (septet, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.1, 142.5, 139.9, 139.3, 129.9, 129.0 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 119.6, 112.9, 112.7, 81.9, 67.8, 55.5, 43.4, 39.0, 37.6, 33.6, 30.9, 20.0, 11.6. **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₃₀O₇S₂Na, 493.1331; found, 493.1310.

Scheme 2.12 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate *syn*-**2.13**

Methyl but-3-enoate (2.55) was prepared according to Method S. The following amounts of reagents were used: acid chloride **2.50** (75 mmol, 10 equiv), MeOH (4.5 mL, 113 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Et3N (10. mL, 75 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and hexanes (200 mL, 0.4 M). The desired compound was inseparable from internal alkene isomer. The compound used in the next synthetic step unpurified. **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 5.98–5.90 (m, 1H), 5.20–5.14 (m, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 1.88 (dd, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1.8 Hz, 2H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.³⁹

Methyl (*syn***)-3-hydroxy-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-vinylpentanoate (2.56)** was prepared according to Method U. The following amounts of reagents were used: aldehyde **2.49** (0.33 g, 1.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), ester **2.55** (1.0 mL, excess), dinorbornylboron chloride (0.90 mL, 1.8 mmol, 1.3 equiv, 2.0 M), diisopropylethylamine (0.36 mL, 2.1 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and DCM (5 mL, 0.3 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (0.14 g, 0.43 mmol, 31%, 20:1 dr). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (dt, *J* = 16.4, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.32 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (sext, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (ddd, *J* = 14.3, 9.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.76–2.66 (m, 2H), 1.89–1.79 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.67 (m, 1H).

*syn***-5-(3'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-vinylpentane-1,3-diol (2.57)** was prepared according to Method O. The following amounts of reagents were used: ester **2.56** (0.14 g, 0.43 mmol, 1.0 equiv), LiAlH₄ (52 mg, 1.4 mmol, 3.2 equiv), and Et₂O (2.2 mL, 0.20 M). The compound was used in the next synthetic step without further purification. **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.95–5.84 (m, 1H), 5.30 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (d, *J* =

18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.93–3.75 (m, 6H), 2.92–2.82 (m, 1H), 2.78–2.68 (m, 1H), 2.42–2.33 (m, 1H), 2.10 (s, 1H), 1.92–1.77 (m, 3H).

*syn***-2-Ethyl-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.58)** was prepared according to Method P. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.57** (0.77 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd/C (44 mg), H_2 balloon (excess), DCM (5.0 mL, 0.15 M in substrate), and MeOH (20. mL, 0.038 M in substrate). The compound was used in the next synthetic step without further purification. **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94– 3.87 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.85–3.73 (m, 2H), 2.92 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 10.2, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.74–2.65 (m, 1H), 2.50 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.94–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.68–1.61 (m, 1H), 1.36 (quint, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H).

*syn***-2-Ethyl-5-(3'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (***syn***-2.13)** was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.58** (0.77 mmol), MsCl (0.13 mL, 1.7 mmol, 2.2 equiv), Et₃N (0.32 mL, 2.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (18 mg, 0.15 mmol, 0.20 equiv), and DCM (3.9 mL, 0.20 M). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–40% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (0.21 g, 0.43 mmol, 57% over three steps, 8% EtOAc by NMR, 20:1 dr). **TLC R**_f = 0.6 (40% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (quint, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32–4.24 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.86–2.80 (m, 1H), 2.75–2.69 (m, 1H), 2.17–2.09 (m, 2H), 2.03–1.97 (m, 1H), 1.56 (sept, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (sept, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 0.98 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 142.4, 139.7, 139.3, 129.9, 128.9 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 119.6, 112.9, 112.7, 81.4, 68.3, 55.4, 43.7, 38.9, 37.5, 37.3, 31.7, 19.1, 12.0. **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C22H30O7S2Na, 493.1331; found, 493.1337.

Scheme 2.13 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate **2.63**

3-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)propan-1-ol (2.59) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol 2.19 (1.9 g, 8.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mg, 0.05) mmol, 0.6 mol %), PPh₃ (40. mg, 0.16 mmol, 1.8 mol %), phenylboronic acid (1.2 g, 9.5 mmol, 1.1 equiv), Na₂CO₃ (1.1 g, 10. mmol, 1.1 equiv), 1-propanol (20. mL, 0.43 M in substrate) and $H₂O$ (8.0 mL). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–30%) EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.6 g, 7.4 mmol, 86%). **TLC R**f = 0.2 (20% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.94 (quint, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁴⁶

3-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)propanal (2.60) was prepared according to Method G. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol **2.59** (1.3 g, 6.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Cu(MeCN)OTf (0.12 g, 0.31 mmol, 5.0 mol %), bipy (48 mg, 0.31 mmol, 5.0 mol %), TEMPO (48 mg, 0.31 mmol, 5.0 mol %), *N*-methyl imidazole (0.05 mL, 0.6 mmol, 0.1 equiv), and MeCN (30 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil $(1.1 \text{ g}, 5.2 \text{ mmol}, 85\%)$. **TLC R** $_f = 0.2 (20\%)$ EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, *J* $= 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁴⁷

Ethyl 5-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-3-hydroxy-2-methylpentanoate (2.61) was prepared according to Method V. The following amounts of reagents were used: *n-*BuLi (19 mL, 48 mmol, 3.4 equiv, 2.5M), diisopropylamine (6.8 mL 48 mmol, 3.4 equiv), ethyl propionate (3.3 mL, 28 mmol, 2.0 equiv), aldehyde **2.60** (3.0 g, 14 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF (15 mL, 0.93 M in substrate). The compound was used in the next synthetic step without further purification.

⁴⁶ Ni, S.; Wei, H.; Li, B.; Chen, F.; Liu, Y.; Chen, W.; Xu, Y.; Qiu, X.; Li, X.; Lu, Y.; Liu, W.; Hu, L.; Lin, D.; Wang, M.; Zheng, X.; Mao, F.; Zhu, J.; Lan, L.; Li, J. *J. Med. Chem*. **2017**, *60*, 8145–8159.

⁴⁷ Zha, G.-F.; Fang, W.-Y.; Leng, J.; Qin, H.-L. *Adv. Synth. Catal*. **2019**, *361*, 2262–2267.

5-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-methylpentane-1,3-diol (2.62) was prepared according to Method M. The following amounts of reagents were used: beta-keto ester **2.61** (14 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaBH4 (1.3 g, 35 mmol, 2.5 equiv), I2 (1.1 g, 4.2 mmol, 0.3 equiv), and THF (50 mL, 0.28 M substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-25\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.41 g, 1.5 mmol, 11% over two steps, 1:1 dr). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 7.32 (dt, *J* = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H, both diastereomers), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, both diastereomers), 3.90–3.84 (m, 1H, one diastereomer), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 3.8 Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 3.71–3.67 (m, 3H, both diastereomers), 3.65– 3.57 (m, 1H, one diastereomer), 3.33 (br s, one diastereomer), 3.18 (br s, one diastereomer), 2.93– 2.76 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 2.75–2.64 (m, 2H, both diastereomers), 1.95–1.71 (m, 6H, both diastereomers), 0.92 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H, one diastereomer), 0.89 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H, other diastereomer).

5-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-methylpentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.63) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.62** (0.53 g, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.33 mL, 4.3 mL, 2.2 equiv), Et3N (0.82 mL, 5.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (48 mg, 0.39 mmol, 0.20 equiv), and DCM (9.8 mL, 0.20 M substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–50% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.65 g, 1.5 mmol, 77%, 3:1 dr). The compound was characterized as a 3:1 mixture of

diastereomers. $m.p. = 78-80$ °C; TLC $R_f = 0.6$ (50% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.58–7.53 (m, 4H, major, 4H, minor), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 4.97 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 5.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 4.85 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 4.24–4.15 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 3.06 (s, 3H, minor), 3.05 (s, 3H, major), 3.03 (s, 3H, major), 3.01 (s, 3H, minor), 2.85–2.70 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 2.42 (quint, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.34 (ap q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, major), 2.22–2.13 (m, 1H, major), 2.11–1.97 (m, 1H, major, 2H, minor), 1.12 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3,H minor), 1.05 (d, *J* = 7.05 Hz, 3H, major); **13C NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 140.9 (both), 139.8 (minor), 139.51 (major), 139.49 (major), 139.46 (minor), 129.0 (minor), 128.9 (4C major, 3C minor), 127.5 (2C major, 2C minor), 127.3 (both), 127.1 (2C major, 2C minor), 82.4 (minor), 81.2 (major), 70.4 (major), 70.2 (minor), 38.9 (both), 37.6 (minor), 37.5 (major), 36.8 (both), 33.9 (major), 33.2 (minor), 31.6 (major), 30.6 (minor), 12.8 (minor), 10.3 (major). **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M]+ calcd for $C_{20}H_{26}O_6S_2$, 449.1068; found, 449.1054.

Scheme 2.14 Synthesis of 1,3-dimesylate **2.67**

Ethyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (2.64) was prepared according to Method W. The following amounts of reagents were used: 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid (5.4 g, 30. mmol, 1.0 equiv), H2SO4 (1.6 g, 30. mmol, 1.0 equiv), and EtOH (37 mL, 0.81 M in substrate). The

compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–30% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (5.7 g, 27 mmol, 91%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.11 $(d, J = 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H})$, 6.82 $(d, J = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H})$, 4.12 $(t, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H})$, 3.78 $(s, 3\text{H})$, 2.89 $(t, J = 7.7 \text{ Hz})$ Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁴⁸

Ethyl 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopentanoate (2.65) was prepared according to Method V. The following amounts of reagents were used: *n-*BuLi (11 mL, 28 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 2.5M), diisopropylamine (3.8 mL 28 mmol, 1.0 equiv), ester **2.64** (5.7 g, 28 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF (10. mL, 2.8 M in substrate). The compound was used in the next synthetic step unpurified.

2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pentane-1,3-diol (2.66) was prepared according to Method O. The following amounts of reagents were used: beta-keto ester **2.65** (11 mmol, 1.0 equiv), LiAlH₄ (1.5 g, 39 mmol, 3.5 equiv), and Et₂O (50. mL, 0.22 M substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–50% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, colorless oil (0.88 g, 2.7 mmol, 25% over two steps). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, major), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H, minor), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, major), 6.86–6.76 (m, 4H, major, 4H, minor), 3.93–3.86 (1H, major, 1H, minor), 3.79 (s, 3H,

⁴⁸ Zhang, J.; Zhen, X.; Zeng, J.; Pu, K. *Anal. Chem*. **2018**, *90*, 9301–9307.

major), 3.78 (s, 3H, minor), 3.77 (3H, major; 3H, minor), 3.73–3.55 (m, 2H, major; 2H, minor), 2.85–2.50 (m, 5H, major; 5H, minor), 2.36 (t, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H, major), 1.97–1.75 (m, 3H, major; 2H, minor).

2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pentane-1,3-diyl dimethanesulfonate (2.67) was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: diol **2.66** (1.1 g, 3.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.58 mL, 7.5 mL, 2.2 equiv), Et3N (1.4 mL, 10. mmol, 3.0 equiv), DMAP (83 mg, 0.68 mmol, 0.20 equiv), and DCM (10. mL, 0.34 M substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-60\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a clear, light yellow oil (1.5 g, 3.1 mmol, 92% over two steps). The compound was characterized as a 3:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.6 (50% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.11–7.06 (m, 2H major, 2H minor), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H major, 2H minor), 6.83 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 17H, 4H major, 4H minor), 4.95–4.88 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 4.21– 4.14 (m, 2H major, 2H minor), 3.79–3.88 (m, 6H major, 6H minor), 3.04 (s, 3H, minor), 3.03 (s, 3H, major), 2.97 (s, 3H, major), 2.95 (s, 3H, minor), 2.85–2.52 (m, 4H major, 4H minor), 2.50– 2.41 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 2.18–1.97 (m, 2H major, 2H minor); **13C NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 158.6 (both), 158.3 (major), 158.2 (minor), 132.4 (minor), 132.3 (major), 130.2 (both), 129.8 (2C, major), 129.7 (2C, minor), 129.49 (2C, major), 129.45 (2C, minor), 114.4 (2C, major), 114.3 (2C, minor), 114.19 (2C, major), 114.16 (2C, minor), 81.6 (minor), 81.1 (major), 68.2 (major), 67.6 (minor), 55.40 (4C, both), 44.0 (minor), 43.8 (major), 39.0 (minor), 38.8 (major), 37.45 (minor), 37.39 (major), 33.8 (minor), 33.7 (major), 32.1 (minor), 31.3 (major), 31.0 (major), 30.3

(minor). **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z : $[M + Na]^+$ calcd for $C_{22}H_{30}O_8S_2Na$, 509.1280; found, 509.1299.

2.4.7.4 Intermediates and 1,3-Chloromesylate for Enantioenriched 1,2-Disubstituted Alkylcyclopropane

3-Phenylpropanoyl chloride (2.68) was prepared according to Method X. The following amounts of reagents were used: 3-phenylpropanoic acid $(3.8 \text{ g}, 25 \text{ mmol}, 1.0 \text{ equiv})$ and $(COCl)₂ (3.2 \text{ mL},$ 38 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The compound was distilled (distillation head temperature ~90 °C) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(3.5 \text{ g}, 21 \text{ mmol}, 83\%)$. ¹H NMR $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ δ 7.30 (tt, *J* = 7.1, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.99 $(t, J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, 2H)$. Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁴⁹

(*S***)-4-Benzyl-3-(3-phenylpropanoyl)oxazolidin-2-one (2.69)** was prepared according to Method Y. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.68** (3.5 g, 21 mmol, 1.0 equiv), *n*-BuLi (8.3

⁴⁹ Greenberg, J. A.; Sammakia, T. *J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, *82*, 3245–3251.

mL, 21 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 2.5 M in hexanes), (*S*)-4-benzyl-2-oxazolidinone (3.7 g, 21 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF (69 mL, 0.30 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.8 g, 5.9 mmol, 28%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.34–7.12 (m, 10H), 4.65 (octet, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.18–4.10 (m, 2H), 3.37– 3.19 (m, 3H), 3.02 (td, *J* = 8.0, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (dd, *J* = 13.5, 9.5 Hz, 1H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.⁵⁰

(*S***)-4-Benzyl-3-((2***S***,3***S***)-2-benzyl-3-(dibenzo[***b***,***d***]furan-4-yl)-3-**

hydroxypropanoyl)oxazolidin-2-one (2.70) was prepared according to Method Z. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.69** (1.8 g, 5.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv), nBu2BOTf (1.1 mL, 7.7 mmol, 1.3 equiv), Et3N (1.1 mL, 7.7 mmol, 1.3 equiv), dibenzofuran-4-carboxaldehyde (1.6 g, 8.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv), and DCM (10. mL, 0.59 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white foam (1.5 g, 2.9 mmol, 49%). **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.94 (*J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60 $(d, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 7.47 $(t, J = 7.7 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 7.38–7.31 $(m, 2H)$, 7.27–7.11 $(m, 8H)$, 6.90–6.84 $(m,$ 2H), 5.63 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dt, *J* = 9.5, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.35–4.27 (m, 1H), 3.81 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (d*, J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (s, 1H), 2.78 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 9.5 Hz, 1H).

⁵⁰ Edmonds, M. K. Graichen, F. H. M.; Gardiner, J.; Abell, A. D. *Org. Lett*. **2008**, *10*, 885–887.

(1*S***,2***R***)-2-Benzyl-1-(dibenzo[***b***,***d***]furan-4-yl)propane-1,3-diol (2.71)** was prepared according to Method AA. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.70** (1.35 g, 2.77 mmol, 1.00 equiv), LiBH4 (4.3 mL, 8.7 mmol, 3.1 equiv), MeOH (0.13 mL, 3.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and THF (12 mL, 0.22 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-40\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white solid (0.93 g, 2.68 mmol, 96%, 15% EtOAc, 3% Et₂O by ¹H NMR, $>20:1$ dr). **m.p.** = 111–114 °C; **TLC Rf** = 0.5 (40%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (td, *J* = 7.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 5.70 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (br s, 1H), 2.80– 2.70 (m, 2H), 2.53–2.46 (m, 1H), 2.39 (br s, 1H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 156.1, 152.8, 140.5, 129.2 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 127.3, 127.0, 126.0, 125.0, 124.3, 124.2, 123.0 (2C), 120.8, 119.7, 111.9, 72.6, 63.7, 47.2, 31.0. **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) m/z [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₂₀O₃Na, 355.1310; found, 355.1307. $[\alpha]^{23}$ _D –189 (*c* 2.0 mg/mL, CHCl₃). **SFC** analysis (Chiralcel AS-H, 10% IPA, 2.0 mL/min, 290 nm) indicated >99% ee: t_R (only diastereomer, one enantiomer) = 10.8 minutes, t_R (only diastereomer, other enantiomer) = 13.6 minutes.

(2*R***)-2-Benzyl-3-chloro-3-(dibenzo[***b***,***d***]furan-4-yl)propyl methanesulfonate (2.17)** was prepared according to Method Q. The following amounts of reagents were used: **2.71** (260 mg, 0.78 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.13 mL, 1.7 mmol, 2.2 equiv), Et₃N (0.33 mL, 2.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv),

DMAP (19 mg, 0.16 mmol, 0.20 equiv), and DCM (1.6 mL, 0.50 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-40\%$ EtOAc/hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white foam (60. mg, 0.14 mmol, 18%, 6.7:1 dr, 99% ee). The title compound showed minor traces of dichloride product. The compound was assumed to have an enantiomeric excess of 99% based on enantiomeric excess of preceding diol **2.71** and subsequent cyclopropane **42**. The compound was characterized as a 6.7:1 dr of the desired benzylic chloride products. **TLC Rf** = 0.6 (25% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.41–7.34 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.27–7.22 (m, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 7.20–7.13 (m, 1H, major, 1H, minor), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, major, 2H, minor), 5.62 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.57 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H, major), 4.65 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H, major), 4.25 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 4.15 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 5.9 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.89 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 3.8 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.28 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 3.3 Hz, 1H, minor), 3.12–3.06 (m, 1H, major), 3.00 (s, 3H, major), 2.78 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 10.9 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.73 (s, 3H, minor), 2.72 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 9.8 Hz, 1H, major), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H, minor), 2.58 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 5.3 Hz, 1H, major); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 156.2 (both), 153.1 (both), 138.2 (both), 129.22 (2C, minor), 129.16 (2C, major), 128.83 (2C, minor), 128.76 (2C, major), 127.84 (minor), 127.8 (major), 126.8 (major), 126.6 (minor), 126.3 (both), 125.0 (both), 124.0 (both), 123.7 (both), 123.48 (minor), 123.40 (major), 123.3 (major), 123.2 (minor), 121.4 (minor), 121.3 (major), 121.2 (minor), 121.0 (major), 112.03 (minor), 111.97 (major), 69.6 (minor), 68.4 (major), 58.9 (minor), 58.1 (major), 47.0 (major), 46.8 (minor), 37.1 (major), 36.9 (minor), 34.4 (major), 33.4 (minor); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z* [M + Na]+ calcd for $C_{23}H_{21}ClO_4SNa$, 451.0747; found, 451.0744. $[\alpha]^{23}D + 4.9$ (*c* 3.25 mg/mL, CHCl₃).

Chapter Three

Harnessing C–O Bonds is Stereoselective Cross-Coupling and Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reactions

3.1 Introduction

The secondary alcohol is a cornerstone functional group in organic synthesis, serving both as a building block and a target.^{1,2,3,4,5} Its notable function as a building block is partly based on its capability to be transformed into a wide range of electrophiles. From a broad perspective, this transformation primes alcohols to undergo reactions that forge new tertiary stereogenic centers (Scheme 3.1a). Strategic deployment of secondary alcohols as key synthetic intermediates has been showcased in the synthesis of natural products,⁴ for example, in the [2,3]-Wittig rearrangement towards punctatin A, the Eschenmoser-Claisen rearrangement towards tuberostemonine, and the ring contraction to form the fused cyclopropane in the last synthetic step to make yatakemycin (Scheme $3.1b$).^{6,7,8}

¹ Portions of this Chapter were originally published in Synlett: Sanford, A. B.; Jarvo, E. R. *Synlett* **2020**, DOI: 10.1055/s-0040-1705987

² Cramer, J.; Sager, C. P.; Ernst, B. *J. Med. Chem.* **2019**, *62*, 8915.

³ Trader, D. J.; Carlson, E. E. *Mol. BioSyst.* **2012**, *8*, 2484.

⁴ (a) Nicolaou, K. C.; Sorensen, E. J. *Classics in Total Synthesis: Targets, Strategies, and Methods*, Vol. 1; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **1996**. (b) Hanessian, S.; Giroux, S.; Merner, B. L. *Design and Strategy in Organic Synthesis*; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **2013**. (c) Dryzhakov, M.; Richmond, E.; Moran, J. *Synthesis* **2016**, *48*, 935. (d) Ajvazi, N.; Stavber, S. *Arkivoc* **2018**, *ii*, 288.

⁵ (a) For representative asymmetric strategies for synthesis of secondary alcohols, see: *Comprehensive Asymmetric Catalysis*, Vol. I–III; Jacobsen, E. N.; Pfaltz, A.; Yamamoto, H. Ed.; Springer-Verlag: Heildelberg, **1999**. (b) For enzymatic strategies, see: Chen, B.-S.; de Souza, F. Z. R. *RSC Adv*. **2019**, *9*, 2102.

⁶ (a) Paquette, L. A.; Sugimura, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1986**, *108*, 3841. (b) Sugimura, T.; Paquette, L. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 3017.

⁷ Wipf, P.; Rector, S. R.; Takahashi, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2002**, *124*, 14848.

⁸ Okano, K.; Tokuyama, H.; Fukuyama, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 7136.

Scheme 3.1 Stereospecific reactions of asymmetric alcohol derivatives in total syntheses

a) Leveraging alcohol derivatives to afford carbon-carbon bonds

Beginning in 2009, our laboratory focused on engaging $C(sp^3)$ –O bonds in nickel-catalyzed stereospecific reactions, a new strategy to parlay readily accessible enantioenriched building blocks to tertiary stereogenic centers (Scheme 3.2a). We selected nickel catalysts for reaction development due to lower propensity for β-hydride elimination and high rate of oxidative addition, both critical features for reactions involving alkylmetal intermediates.^{9,10} These efforts resulted in the development of stereospecific nickel-catalyzed Kumada, Suzuki-Miyaura, and Negishi

⁹ (a) Tasker, S. Z.; Standley, R. A.; Jamison, T. F. *Nature*, **2014**, *509*, 299. (b) *Modern Organonickel Chemistry*; Yamaru, Y., Ed.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **2005**. (c) Diccianni, J. B.; Diao, T. *Trends Chem.* **2019**, *1*, 830.

¹⁰ For a discussion of the merits of nickel catalysts in activation of $C(sp^2)$ –O bonds, see: Rosen, B. M.; Quasdorf, K. W.; Wilson, D. A.; Zhang, N.; Resmerita, A.-M.; Garg, N. K.; Percec, V. *Chem. Rev*. **2011**, *111*, 1346.

reactions.11,12,13 From a synthetic perspective, we applied these methods toward syntheses of 1,1 diarylalkanes and triarylmethanes—moieties that appear in commercial and investigative medicinal compounds.14 From an organometallic perspective, these reactions provided key examples of stereospecific oxidative addition reactions of nickel catalysts.

Scheme 3.2 Stereospecific reactions of asymmetric alcohol derivatives in total syntheses

To further expand the range of nickel-catalyzed reactions that utilize alcohol derivatives, our laboratory began developing cross-electrophile coupling (XEC) reactions of alcohol derivatives in 2015.¹⁵ In addition to alcohol-alkyl halide XEC reactions, we envisioned cross-

¹¹ Kumada: (a) Taylor, B. L. H.; Swift, E. C.; Waetzig, J. D.; Jarvo. E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 389. (b) Greene, M. A.; Yonova, I. M.; Williams, F. J.; Jarvo, E. R. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 4293. (c) Taylor, B. L. H.; Harris,

- M. R.; Jarvo, E. R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 7790. (d) Yonova, I. M.; Johnson, A. G.; Osborne, C. A.;
- Moore, C. E.; Morrissette, N. S.; Jarvo, E. R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 2422. (e) Tollefson, E. J.; Dawson, D.
- D.; Osborne, C. A.; Jarvo, E. R. J*. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 14951. (f) Dawson, D. D.; Jarvo, E. R. *Org. Proc. Res. Dev.* **2015**, *19*, 1356. (g) Sanford, A. B.; Tollefson, E. J. Jarvo, E. R. *Isr. J. Chem*. **2020**, *60*, 402.

¹² Suzuki-Miyaura: (a) Harris, M. R.; Hanna, L. E.; Greene, M. A.; Moore, C. E.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem.*

Soc. **2013**, *135*, 3303. (b) Johnson, A. G.; Tranquilli, M. M.; Harris, M. R.; Jarvo, E. R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2015**, *56*, 3486. (c) Zhang, S.; Taylor, B. L. H.; Ji, C.; Gao, Y.; Harris, M. R.; Hanna, L. E.; Jarvo, E. R.; Houk, K. N.; Hong, X. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 12994.

¹³ Negishi: Wisniewska, H. M.; Swift, E. C.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 9083.

¹⁴ For representative examples, see: (a) Palchaudhuri, R.; Nesterenko, V.; Hergenrother, P. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*.

²⁰⁰⁸, *130*, 10274. (b) Huang, Z.; Ducharme, Y.; MacDonald, D.; Robichaud, A. *Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol*. **2001**, *5*, 432. (c) Mondal, S.; Panda, G. *RSC Adv*. **2014**, *4*, 28317.

¹⁵ (a) Tollefson, E. J.; Erickson, L. W.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 9760. (b) Konev, M. O.; Hanna, L. E.; Jarvo, E. R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 6730. (c) Erickson, L. W.; Lucas, E. L.; Tollefson, E. J.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 14006. (d) Chen, P.-P.; Lucas, E. L.; Greene, M. A.; Zhang, S.; Tollefson, E. J.; Erickson, L. W.; Taylor, B. L.; Jarvo, E. R.; Hong, X. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 5835.

electrophile coupling reactions of diol derivatives.¹⁶ While various diol substitution patterns are imaginable, we focused on 1,3-diols for two important reasons: the accessibility of enantioenriched starting materials and the generation of enantioenriched cyclopropanes as products (Scheme 3.2b). We envisioned an asymmetric aldol reaction followed by carbonyl reduction to provide the desired 1,3-diols quickly and efficiently. Key aspects of the method development, not previously reported, are discussed in this Chapter.

Shifting the medicinal chemistry landscape towards compounds that extend in threedimensions will require synthetic reactions that provide command over absolute and relative configuration.17 Toward this goal, the methods outlined in this Chapter provide products containing pharmaceutically relevant motifs with robust stereochemical control. Both methods begin with an alcohol derivative prepared by a well-established asymmetric alcohol synthesis. Functionalization to provide the requisite leaving group, followed by selective nickel-catalyzed transformation, provides the new C–C bond and a new tertiary stereogenic center. During development of these transformations, mechanistic experiments uncovered multiple roles for the magnesium reagent beyond serving simply as a transmetallating agent.^{15d,16} This understanding has enabled us to successfully activate less-reactive substrates, expanding the scope and utility of the respective reactions.

3.2 Cross-Coupling Reactions

Over the past decade, our group has developed multiple stereospecific nickel-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of benzylic electrophiles. In this Chapter, the discussion is focused on

¹⁶ Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. A.; McGinnis, T. M.; Chen, P.-P.; Hong, X.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 5017.

¹⁷ (a) Lovering, F.; Bikker, J.; Humblet, C. *J. Med. Chem*. **2009**, *52*, 6752. (b) Caille, S.; Cui, S.; Faul, M. M.; Mennen, S. M.; Tedrow, J. S.; Walker, S. D*. J. Org. Chem*. **2019**, *84*, 4583. (c) Méndez-Lucio, O.; Medina-Franco, J. L. *Drug Discovery Today*, **2017**, *22*, 120. (d) Birudukota, N. V. S.; Franke, R.; Hofer, B. *Org. Biomol. Chem*. **2016**, *14*, 3821. (e) Ruddigkeit, L.; Van Deursen, R.; Blum, L. C.; Reymond, J.-L. *J. Chem. Inf. Model.* **2012**, *52*, 2864. (f) Feher, M.; Schmidt, J. M*. J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci.* **2003**, *43*, 218.

Kumada reactions as a representative example of stereospecific cross-coupling (XC) reactions. These Kumada reactions also provided a steppingstone toward cross-electrophile coupling (XEC) reactions. Since the stereospecific XC employed benzylic ethers, we focused many of our synthetic applications on the 1,1-diarylalkane moiety. Compounds containing 1,1-diarylalkanes and triarylmethanes have been shown to have anti-cancer, anti-malarial, and anti-inflammatory properties,¹⁴ however, their enantioselective synthesis remained a challenge at the time.

Our first report in this domain was in 2011, when we disclosed the stereospecific Kumada reaction of secondary benzylic methyl ethers.^{11a} This method was utilized to synthesize two compounds with biological activity: an anti-cancer agent (**3.3**) and an anti-insomnia agent (not shown). The route to tubulin-binding compound **3.3** is shown in Scheme 3.3a.18 We frequently employed Bolm-type arylation reactions for synthesis of enantioenriched benzhydril alcohols.¹⁹ For this example, a procedure reported by Chan was utilized to synthesize alcohol 1 in high ee.²⁰ Alcohol **3.1** was methylated to form the benzylic ether **3.2**, that was then subjected to the nickelcatalyzed Kumada XC reaction. The anti-cancer agent **3.3** was synthesized in high ee, and the cross-coupling reaction occurred with inversion. Additionally, an isotopically-labeled Grignard reagent was used to quickly and efficiency incorporate an isotope into the final product (**3.4**) as is often required for pharmacokinetic experiments (Scheme $3.3b$).^{11f,21}

¹⁸ Alami, M.; Messaoudi, S.; Hamze, A.; Provot, O.; Brion, J.-D.; Liu, J.- M.; Bignon, J.; Bakala, J. Patent WO/2009/147217 A1, Dec 10, 2009.

¹⁹ Bolm, C.; Rudolph, J*. J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2002**, *124*, 14850.

²⁰ Zhang, F.-Y.; Yip, C.-W.; Cao, R.; Chan, A. S. C. *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1997**, *8*, 585.

²¹ (a) Haskins, N. J. *Biomed. Mass Spectrom.* **1982**, *9*, 269. (b) Wolfe, R. R.; Chinkes, D. L. Basic Characteristics of Isotopic Tracers. In *Isotopic Tracers in Metabolic Research: Principles and Practice of Kinetic Analysis*; 2nd ed.; John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: Hoboken, New Jersey, 2005; pp 1–9.

Scheme 3.3 Bioactive 1,1-diarylalkane synthesized via stereospecific cross-coupling reaction

While the synthesis of bioactive compounds demonstrated the utility of the Kumada reaction, a limitation of this transformation was that extended aromatic groups were necessary for successful oxidative addition at the benzylic C–O bond. In 2012, our group expanded the scope of this transformation to include non-extended aromatic groups.^{11b} We hypothesized that the Grignard reagent played dual roles in the catalytic system, serving both as transmetallating agent and providing Lewis acidic magnesium salts.²² The Lewis acids were thought to activate the $C-O$ bond for rate-determining oxidative addition. This working hypothesis was based on an early proposal by Felkin and co-workers.23 Eventually, this hypothesis was supported by our own kinetic experiments and density functional theory (DFT) calculations performed by our collaborators,

²² (a) Schlenk, W.; Schlenk, W. *Ber. Dtsch. Chem. Ges. B* **1929**, *62*, 920. (b) Wurtz, A. *Ann. Chim. Phys.* **1855**, *44*, 275. (c) Wurtz, A. *Ann. Chim. Pharm.* **1855**, *96*, 364.

²³ Felkin, H.; Swierczewski, G. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1972**, *13*, 1433.

Professor Hong and co-workers.²⁴ At the time, we proposed that improved coordination to the Lewis acid, via a chelating leaving group, could compensate for decreased binding of the arene to the nickel catalyst (Scheme 3.4). This would stabilize the transition state for oxidative addition and therefore allow the less stabilizing, simple arene substrates to be reactive.

Scheme 3.4 Oxidative addition is accelerated by Lewis acidic magnesium salts

Benzhydrylic alcohols now participated in the Kumada reaction when equipped with the traceless directing group (Scheme 3.5).11b Enantioenriched alcohol **3.9** was prepared by asymmetric addition of phenylboronic acid into 3-pyridinecarboxaldehyde.²⁵ Alcohol 3.9 was subjected to Williamson ether synthesis to afford benzylic ether **3.10**. The stereospecific Kumada cross-coupling reaction proceeded smoothly to afford pyridine-containing 1,1-diarylalkane **3.11** in good yield and high stereochemical fidelity.

²⁴ (a) See ref. 15d (b) Dawson, D. D.; Oswald, V. F.; Borovik, A. S.; Jarvo, E. R. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2020**, *26*, 3044.

²⁵ Braga, A. L.; Paixão, M. W.; Westermann, B.; Schneider P. H.; Wessjohan, L. A. *J. Org. Chem*. **2008**, *73*, 2879.

Scheme 3.5 Cross-coupling reaction using traceless directing group

3.3 Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reactions

In 2020, our laboratory reported the cross-electrophile coupling reaction of 1,3 dimesylates.¹⁶ This work built on our prior development of intramolecular XEC reactions of carbinol derivatives with alkyl and aryl halides.¹⁵ However, despite the apparent similarities of the transformations, we discovered significant mechanistic differences that had important implications for the stereochemical outcome of these reactions. In this Chapter, key details of reaction development, mechanistic experiments, and application in the synthesis of enantioenriched alkyland arylcyclopropanes are discussed. Cyclopropanes appear frequently in both natural products and pharmaceutical compounds, fueling our motivation to design new methods for their synthesis.²⁶ The inclusion of a cyclopropyl motif can provide a wide range of benefits to medicinal agents, such as increased metabolic stability, decreased lipophilicity, and increased passage through the blood-brain barrier.^{26a} The cyclopropane has notable features, including conformational rigidity and projection of the substituents in a nonplanar fashion.¹⁷

²⁶ (a) Talele, T. T. *J. Med. Chem*. **2016**, *59*, 8712. (b) Gagnon, A.; Duplessis,

M.; Fader, L. *Org. Prep. Proced. Int.* **2010**, *42*, 1. (c) Bartoli, G.; Bencivenni, G.; Dalpozzo, R. *Synthesis* **2014**, *46*, 979. (d) Ebner, C.; Carreira, E. *Chem. Rev.* **2017**, *117*, 11651.

To begin our investigations on an XEC of diol derivatives, 1,3-dimesylate **3.12** was employed as it could be easily accessed through a large-scale Claisen condensation.²⁷ Sulfonation to form the 1,3-dimesylate was more facile than formation of the corresponding 1,3-ditosylate, likely due to significant steric interactions in the latter. We selected reaction conditions similar to those we had employed for related XC and XEC reactions, employing MeMgI as the terminal reducing agent. The bidentate phosphine ligand dppm proved to perform best with respect to conversion and dr (Table 3.1, entry 1), while monodentate PPh_3 gave similar conversion but lower dr (entry 3). For top-performing ligands, β-hydride elimination was observed as the major byproduct. Based on the product distribution and yield, the stereochemical course of this transformation was not clear, although, preliminary experiments showed that both diastereomers of the starting material were consumed.

aConversion determined by ¹H NMR. Integration of peaks attributed to cyclopropanes were compared to integration of the peak attributed to methoxy groups.

²⁷ (a) Claisen, L.; Claparede, A. *Ber. Dtsch. Chem. Ges*. **1881**, *14*, 2460. (b) Heathcock, C. H.; Buse, C. T.; Kleschick, W. A.; Pirrung, M. C.; Sohn, J. E.; Lampe, J. *J. Org. Chem*. **1980**, *45*, 1066.

To determine the stereochemical outcome of this reaction, we prepared both diastereomers of 1,3-dimesylate **2.13** and subjected them to the reaction conditions (Scheme 3.6a).16,28 Both *syn*and *anti*-1,3-dimesylate **2.13** provided *trans*-cyclopropane **2.14** with similar yields and diastereoselectivity. Therefore, the proposed mechanism should account for a stereoconvergent transformation. Based on our experiments and DFT calculations by our collaborators, we proposed a mechanism where MeMgI once again played a dual role (Scheme 3.6b).16 We determined that 1,3-dimesylates react with MeMgI to form 1,3-diiodides (**3.14**) in situ. Activation of the secondary C–I bond by nickel proceeds via halogen atom abstraction (**TS 3.3**) and is stereoablative. Fortunately, product formation is diastereoselective, favoring the *trans*-cyclopropane. This mechanism ablates and re-sets the stereochemical information at the secondary center, leading to an overall stereoselective reaction.⁹

The implications of this dual role of MeMgI are worth noting. We previously demonstrated that the Lewis acidity of MgI2 salts in the MeMgI solution allowed us to activate less-reactive substrates in our cross-coupling reactions (Scheme 3.4). In this cross-electrophile coupling method, the multiple roles of the Grignard reagent similarly provide an avenue to activate sluggish substrates (Scheme 3.6). Our previous XEC methods required the use of a benzylic or allylic electrophile. This new method now provides activation of simple alkyl substrates by transformation of alkyl mesylates to alkyl iodides in situ.29

²⁸ For selective syntheses of diastereomers, see: Ramachandran, P. V.; Nicponski, D.; Kim, B. *Org. Lett*. **2013**, *15*, 1398.

²⁹ (a) Do, H. Q.; Chandrashekar, E. R. R.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 16288. (b) Liang, Z.; Xue, W.; Lin, K.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett***. 2014**, *16*, 5620. (c) Yu, X.; Yang, T.; Wang, S.; Xu, H.; Gong, H. *Org. Lett***. 2011**, *13*, 2138.

MeO-C6H4

Building upon the knowledge that this transformation was stereoconvergent and provides access to *trans*-cyclopropanes, we envisioned a strategy for enantioselective cyclopropane formation (Scheme 3.7).16 An enantioselective aldol reaction would need to provide high control of configuration at the α -stereocenter, since this stereocenter would be retained in the product. The configuration of the β-hydroxy group would be irrelevant, since this center is ablated and re-set over the course of the XEC reaction. We moved forward with two well-established syntheses that reliably control the configuration of \mathbb{R}^2 , namely Evans and proline-catalyzed aldol reactions, followed by simple reduction and mesylation to yield our desired 1,3-dimesylates.^{30,31}

Scheme 3.7 XEC reaction of 1,3-dimesylates to afford enantioenriched cyclopropanes

We prepared a test substrate employing a proline-catalyzed aldol reaction.³⁰ Hydrocinnamaldehyde was utilized in the self-aldol reaction, followed an NaBH4 reduction of the unpurified mixture to afford 1,3-diol **3.16** with excellent ee (Scheme 3.8). The 1,3-diol was converted to 1,3-dimesylate **3.17** in good yield. 1,3-Dimesylate **3.17** was subjected to our optimized conditions and, gratifyingly, alkylcyclopropane **3.18** was isolated in good yield with excellent enantioenrichment. Notably, cyclopropane **3.18** was formed with greater diastereoselectivity than the starting diol derivative, consistent with the proposed stereoablative mechanism.

As a second test, we performed an Evans aldol reaction with aldehyde **3.19** and oxazolidinone **3.20**. ³¹ After cleavage of the auxiliary, the 1,3-diol **3.21** was isolated in moderate

³⁰ Northrup, A. B.; MacMillan, D. W. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2002**, *124*, 6798. 31 Evans, D. A.; Bartroli, J.; Shih, T. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **1981**, *103*, 2127.

yield with excellent dr and ee (Scheme 3.9). Mesylation provided the 1,3-chloromesylate **2.17** which was subjected to our XEC conditions. Arylcyclopropane **2.18** was generated with excellent enantioselectivity and good diastereoselectivity.

Scheme 3.9 Enantioenriched arylcyclopropane **2.18** synthesized via Evans aldol route

aYield determined by NMR based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard

3.4 Conclusion

This Chapter highlighted representative efforts by our laboratory to transform the C–O bonds of readily available carbinols into new C–C bonds with control of configuration. Enantioselective additions into aldehydes produced the building blocks that were employed in both our cross-coupling and cross-electrophile coupling methods. Our successes provide new crosscoupling strategies for synthesis of stereochemically-rich alkyl moieties—critical features for nonplanar medicinal compounds. Development of these nickel-catalyzed reactions has also furthered our understanding of closed-shell mechanisms for oxidative addition using base metal catalysts and new mechanisms for XEC reactions. Along the way, the Grignard reagent has provided multiple roles, some surprising, serving as transmetallating agent, Lewis acid, and halide source.
Chapter Four

β-Fluorovinyl Cyclopropane Synthesis via Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Electrophile Coupling Reaction of Alkyl Mesylates with Allylic Difluorides

4.1 Introduction

Continued interest in new methods for cyclopropane synthesis is driven by their favorable pharmaceutical properties and occurrence in natural products.^{1,2} A complement to traditional intermolecular reactions utilizing alkenes and carbenoids is the intramolecular cyclization. Cyclization strategies have historically been developed and continue to be investigated, partly due to the fact that both the 3-*exo-tet* and 3-*exo-trig* cyclizations are favorable, enabling a wide array of transformations.3 Mechanistically, 3-*exo-tet* cyclizations are usually irreversible while 3-*exotrig* cyclizations are reversible, the latter requiring a subsequent step to push the intermediate forward along the reaction pathway. Many groups over the last few decades have explored these cyclizations with varying mechanistic strategies, substitution patterns, and steroselectivity. Most of these cyclopropanation methods fit into one of the general categories shown in Scheme 4.1.4

¹ Talele, T. T. *J. Med. Chem*. **2016**, *59*, 8712–8756.

² For representative reviews, see: (a) Ebner, C.; Carreira, E. *Chem. Rev.* **2017**, *117*, 11651−11679. (b) Lebel, H.; Marcoux, J. − F.; Molinaro, C.; Charette, A. B. *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 977−1050. (c) Bartoli, G.; Bencivenni, G.; Dalpozzo, R. *Synthesis* **2014**, *46*, 979−1029. (d) Wu, W.; Lin, Z.; Jiang, H*. Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2018**, *16*, 7315−7329.

³ Baldwin, J. E. *J. C. S. Chem. Comm.* **1976**, *18*, 734–736.

⁴ Cyclopropanations that proceed through carbocation intermediates have also been reported. For lead references, see: (a) Mercadante, M. A.; et. al. *Chem. Sci.* **2014**, *5*, 3983–3994. (b) Kelly, C. B.; Mercadante, M. A.; Carnaghan, E. R.; Doherty, M. J.; Fager, D. C.; Hauck, J. J.; MacInnis, A. E.; Tilley, L. J.; Leadbeater, N. E. *Eur. J. Org. Chem*. **2015**, *19*, 4071–4076. (c) Sarabia, F. J.; Ferreira, E. M. *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 2865–2868. (d) Hardee, D. J.; Lambert, T. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 7536–7537.

Scheme 4.1 Cyclization strategies for cyclopropane synthesis

Carbanions that react in a 3-*exo-tet* manner encompass many widely applied transformations (Scheme 4.1a). Michael-initiated ring closures (MIRC) were formally named by Little in 1980, however one of the earliest examples and articulation of this strategy can be traced to McCoy in 1958.5,6,7 Since first reported, MIRCs have been extensively developed and employed in numerous natural product syntheses.^{8,9,2} Another method to access relevant carbanions is a

⁵ Little, R. D.; Dawson, J. R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1980**, *21*, 2609–2612.

⁶ McCoy, L. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1958**, *80*, 6568–6572.

⁷ For an electroreductive coupling, see: Baizer, M. M.; Chruma, J. L. *J. Org. Chem*. **1972**, *37*, 1951–1960.

⁸ For recent lead reference of MIRC, see: Tobrman, T.; Krupička, M.; Polák, P.; Dvořáková, H.; Čubiňák, M.; Babor, M.; Dvořák, D. *Eur. J. Org. Chem*. **2020**, *4*, 429–436.

⁹ Amputch, M. A.; Matamoros, R.; Little, R. D. *Tetrahedron* **1994**, *50*, 5591–5614.

radical/polar crossover.¹⁰ Simple deprotonation of acidic protons has also been utilized.^{2c,11} Additionally, the 3-*exo-trig* variant has been reported, often incorporated as an S_N2 ² elimination.¹²

Closely related but mechanistically distinct is the radical cyclization (Scheme 4.1b). Cyclizations reported by the Suero group and others have demonstrated the utility of this 3-*exo-tet* pathway, while mechanistic studies are often necessary to distinguish this S_H2 mechanism from one via a carbanion intermediate.13 Radical 3-*exo-trig* cyclizations have also been investigated, however, in a more kinetics context. The cyclopropylcarbinyl radical intermediate must be trapped in order to drive the reaction forward as the equilibrium favors the uncyclized radical.¹⁴

Lastly, transition metal-mediated ring closures have also been reported (Scheme 4.1c). Our group has demonstrated organonickel complexes that undergo 3-*exo-tet* closures to yield aryl-,

¹¹ Electroreductive couplings can also access necessary anions. For lead examples, see: (a) Léonel, E.; Paugam, J. P.; Condon-Gueugnot, S.; Nédélec, J.-Y. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 3207–3218. (b) Lu, Y.-W.; Nédélec, J. Y.; Folest, J.-C.; Perichon, J. *J. Org. Chem*. **1990**, *55*, 2503–2507.

¹⁰ (a) Shu, C.; Mega, R. S.; Andreassen, B. L.; Noble, A.; Aggarwal, V. K. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *57*, 15430– 15434. (b) Zhang, Y.; Qian, R.; Zheng, X.; Zeng, Y.; Sun, J.; Chen, Y.; Ding, A.; Guo, H. *Chem. Commun*. **2015**, *51*, 54–57. (c) Phelan, J. P.; Lang, S. B.; Compton, J. S.; Kelly, C. B.; Dykstra, R.; Gutierrez, O.; Molander, G. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 8037–8047. (d) Milligan, J. A.; Phelan, J. P.; Polites, V. C.; Kelly, C. B.; Molander, G. A. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 6840–6844. (e) Milligan, J. A.; Burns, K. L.; Le, A. V.; Polites, V. C.; Wang, Z.-J.;

Molander, G. A.; Kelly, C. B. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2020**, *362*, 242–247. (f) Njue, C. K.; Nuthakki, B.; Vaze, A.; Bobbitt, J. M.; Rusling, J. F. *Electrochem. Commun.* **2001**, *3*, 733–736. (g) Guo, T.; Zhang, L.; Liu, X.; Fang, Y.; Jin, X.; Yang, Y.; Li, Y.; Chen, B.; Ouyang, M. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2018**, *360*, 4459–4463. (h) Luo, W.; Yang, Y.; Fang, Y.; Zhang, X.; Jin, X.; Zhao, G.; Zhang, L.; Li, Y.; Zhou, W.; Xia, T.; Chen, B. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2019**, *361*, 4215–4221.

¹² Paquette, L. A.; Stirling, C. J. M. *Tetrahedron* **1992**, *48*, 7383–7423.

^{13 (}a) Herraiz, A. G.; Suero, M. G. *Synthesis* **2019**, *51*, 2821–2828. (b) Sayes, M.; Benoit, G.; Charette, A. B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, *57*, 13514–13518. (c) Curran, D. P.; Gabarda, A. E. *Tetrahedron*, **1999**, *55*, 3327– 3336. (d) Léonel, E.; Dolhem, E.; Devaud, M.; Paugam, J. P.; Nédélec, J. Y. *Electrochimica Acta* **1997**, *42*, 2125– 2132. (e) Ohtani, T.; Tsuchiya, Y.; Uraguchi, D.; Ooi, T. *Org. Chem. Front*. **2019**, *6*, 1734–1737. (f) Li, P.; Zhao, J.; Shi, L.; Wang, J.; Shi, X.; Li, F. *Nat. Commun.* **2018**, *9*, 1–9. (g) Ohkita, T.; Tsuchiya, Y.; Togo, H. *Tetrahedron* **2008**, *64*, 7247–7251. (h) Kawabata, N.; Tanimoto, M. *Tetrahedron* **1980**, *36*, 3517–3522.

¹⁴ (a) Čeković, Ž.; Saičić, R. *Tetrahedron Lett*. **1990**, *31*, 6085–6088. (b) Saičić, R. N.; Čeković, Ž. *Tetrahedron* **1992**, *48*, 8975–8992. (c) Fletcher, R. J.; Lampard, C.; Murphy, J. A.; Lewis, N. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin. Trans*. 1 **1995**, *6*, 623–633. (d) Giese, B.; Kopping, B.; Göbel, T.; Dickhaut, J.; Thoma, G.; Kulicke, K. J.; Trach, F. Radical Cyclization Methods. *Organic Reactions*; Paquette, L. A., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1996; Vol. *48*; pp 301−856. (e) David, H.; Afonso, C.; Bonin, M.; Doisneau, G.; Guillerez, M.-G.; Guibé, F. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1999**, *40*, 8557– 8561.

vinyl, and alkylcyclopropanes.15 For *3-exo-trig* cyclizations, the Krische group has reported organonickel complexes that undergo a migratory insertion pathway.16,17 This transformation occurs in a stereoselective manner—thought to be a result of a reversible migratory insertion where only one resulting diastereomer leads to the desired product.¹⁶

Built upon our previous cross-electrophile (XEC) reaction employing 1,3-dimesylates for cyclopropane synthesis, we envisioned an intramolecular XEC of alkyl mesylates with allylic difluorides that involves a 3-*exo-trig* cyclization (Scheme 4.2c).^{15c} An interesting feature of the cyclization step is that all three mechanistic pathways shown in Scheme 4.1 are plausible, with the radical or organometallic pathway most likely. We chose to incorporate the β-fluoride elimination step to provide a terminal, irreversible event in an otherwise reversible mechanism. ¹⁸ Crosselectrophile coupling (XEC) reactions of trifluoromethyl alkenes with electrophilic radical precursors have been reported (Scheme 4.2a).^{19,20,21} To the best of our knowledge, similar XEC transformations that employ allylic difluorides have not been realized. However, allylic difluorides have been utilized in other C–C bond forming/β-fluoride elimination reactions, such as rhodiumcatalyzed arylations (Scheme 4.2b) and organocopper-mediated alkylations.22,23 Our motivation to

¹⁹ Lan, Y.; Yang, F.; Wang, C. *ACS Catal*. **2018**, *8*, 9245–9251.

¹⁵ (a) Tollefson, E. J.; Erickson, L. W.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2015**, *137*, 9760−9763. (b) Erickson, L. W.; Lucas, E. L.; Tollefson, E. J.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2016**, *138*, 14006−14011. (c) Sanford, A. B.; Thane, T. A.; McGinnis, T. M.; Chen. P.-P.; Hong, X.; Jarvo, E. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2020**, *142*, 5017−5023.

¹⁶ Guo, Y.-A.; Liang, T.; Kim, S. W.; Xiao, H.; Krische, M. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2017**, *139*, 6847–6850.

¹⁷ Fiser, B.; Cuerva, J. M.; Gómez-Bengoa, E. *Organometallics* **2018**, *37*, 390–395.

¹⁸ Nickel-catalyzed cyclizations followed by β-fluoride elimination have been reported for the synthesis of 5- and 6membered rings. For lead references, see: (a) Ichitsuka, T.; Fujita, T.; Arita, T.; Ichikawa, J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed*. **2014**, *53*, 7564–7568. (b) Fujita, T.; Watabe, Y.; Ichitsuka, T.; Inchikawa, J. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 13225–13228. (c) Fujita, T.; Arita, T.; Ichitsuka, T.; Ichikawa, J. *Dalton Trans*. **2015**, *44*, 19460–19463.

²⁰ (a) Ding, D.; Lan, Y.; Lin, Z.; Wang, C. *Org. Lett*. **2019**, *21*, 2723–2730. (b) Lin, Z.; Lan, Y.; Wang, C. *ACS Catal*. **2019**, *9*, 775–780.

²¹ Wiles, R. J.; Phelan, J. P.; Molander, G. A. *Chem. Commun.* **2019**, *55*, 7599–7602.

²² Pan, Y.; Lu, X.; Qiu, H.; Hayashi, T.; Huang, Y. *Org. Lett.* **2020**, *22*, 8413–8418.

²³ For representative examples, see: (a) Okada, M.; Nakamura, Y.; Saito, A.; Sato, A.; Horikawa, H.; Taguchi, T. *Chem. Lett.* **2002**, *31*, 28–29. (b) Otaka, A.; Watanabe, J.; Yukimasa, A.; Sasaki, Y.; Watanabe, H.; Kinoshita, T.; Oishi, S.; Tamamura, H.; Fuiji, N. *J. Org. Chem*. **2004**, *69*, 1634–1645.

design this transformation is two-fold: demonstrate XEC reactions of allylic difluorides and provide a new strategy to transform an inexpensive and commercially available fluorinated building block, ethyl bromodifluoroacetate, to vinylfluorides.

Scheme 4.2 C–C bond formation/β-fluoride elimination reactions

a) XECs with trifluoromethyl alkenes (Wang, Molander) **Intermolecular C–C bond formation/ β-fluoride elimination:**

Ar CF₃ + X-R/Ar Ar \sim R/Ar F F Ni *or* photocatalyst X

$$
X = \text{halide}, \text{OR}, \text{NR}_2
$$

b) Arylations of allylic difluorides (Hayashi):

c) XEC with allylic difluoride (this work) **Intramolecular C–C bond formation/ β-fluoride elimination:**

4.2 Results and Discussion

4.2.1 Substrate Synthesis

To begin my investigations, I created a general synthetic strategy in order to provide substrates containing the necessary functional group core constructed of a secondary mesylate and allylic di- or trifluoride. While individual procedures varied depending on the specific substrate at aim, the overall strategy remained consistent and followed the sequence of organometallic addition, alkene/alkyne functionalization, and lastly alcohol derivatization (Scheme 4.3a). ²⁴ The four substrates described in this Chapter are summarized in Scheme 4.3b.

²⁴ (a) Wang, X.; Zhao, S.; Liu, J.; Zhu, D.; Guo, M.; Tang, X.; Wang, G. *Org. Lett*. **2017**, *19*, 4187–4190. (b) Gao, P.; Yuan, C.; Zhao, Y.; Shi, Z. *Chem* **2018**, *4*, 2201–2211. (c) Thaliji, R. K.; Roush, W. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 16778–16779. (d) Sato, K.; Omote, M.; Ando, A.; Kumadaki, I. *J. Fluorine Chem*. **2004**, *125*, 509–515.

Scheme 4.3 Allylic di- and trifluoride substrates

4.2.2 Reaction Optimization

To begin my examination of the proposed transformation, mesylate **4.1** was synthesized and subjected to various nickel conditions. Mesylate **4.1** was chosen for initial evaluation studies as it does not contain a sterically hindered alkene (as opposed to **4.3**) but does contain an ester, a functional group not tolerated in our previous XEC conditions. First, a ligand evaluation was performed with NiBr2•DME as the nickel source, zinc powder, and sodium iodide in THF (Table 4.1). The optimal ligand in this evaluation was BPhen (entry 1), which provided a 50% yield of the desired cyclopropane **4.5**, and defluorinated cyclopropane **4.6** in an 11% yield. It was determined that both cyclopropanes, **4.5** and **4.6,** were synthesized as a 1:1 mixture of cyclopropane diastereomers, and only one alkene isomer (Z) was observed. Related nitrogen-based ligands, Phen and bipy, resulted in low yields (entries 2–3). No cyclopropane product was observed with bidentate phosphine, BOX, and *N*-heterocyclic carbene ligands (entries 4–7). A control reaction without nickel generated no cyclopropane products (entry 8).

OMs 4.1 $2:1$ dr	F E OEt O	NiBr ₂ •DME (5 mol %) Ligand $(5 \text{ mol } \%)$ Zn^0 (2 equiv) Nal (2 equiv) THF (0.1 M), rt, 24 h		х	OEt OEt
				4.5: $X = F$	
				4.6: $X = H$	
Entry	Ligand	4.5 (trans:cis) ^a	4.6 (trans:cis) ^a	SM	
1	BPhen	50(1.5:1)	11 $(1:1)$	9	
$\overline{2}$	Phen	26(2:1)	6(2:1)	15	
3	bipy	$<$ 10	$<$ 5	58	
4	Xantphos	Ω	0	54	
5	pybox	0	0	50	
6	Indabox	0	0	33	
$\overline{7}$	SIMes·HBF ₄	0	0	76	
8 ^b	none	0	0	71	

Table 4.1 Reaction optimization via ligand evaluation with NiBr₂•DME

aYields determined by ¹H NMR by comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. Trans:cis refers to cyclopropane diastereomers. One alkene isomer (Z) observed. bNo nickel

In an effort to further increase yield and decrease remaining starting material, mesylate **4.1** was subjected to other nickel catalysts (Table 4.2). The commercially available, pre-formed complex Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂ resulted in a 48% yield of 4.5 and full consumption of starting material (entry 1).25 Next, the concentration was lowered to reduce the likelihood of possible polymerization (entry 2). Under these conditions, the yield of cyclopropane **4.5** increased to 77%. In order to reduce the reaction time from entry 2, the reaction was heated to 40 $^{\circ}$ C for 24 h, in which a 75% of the desired cyclopropane **4.5** was obtained.

²⁵ The decreased yield of defluorinated product 4.6 is attributed to the rigorous drying of THF used in the reactions reported in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Reaction optimization with nickel catalyst $Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂$

aYields determined by ¹H NMR by comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. Trans:cis refers to cyclopropane diastereomers. One alkene isomer (Z) observed.

4.2.3 β-Difluoro Vinyl Cyclopropane

Next, structural modifications were made to the allylic difluoride motif to determine the breadth of functional group reactivity. In accordance with previous reported XECs employing trifluoromethyl alkenes, mesylate **4.2** was synthesized.^{19,20,21} A dibenzofuran ring was added to the structure to reduce volatility. Mesylate **4.2** was subjected to various one-electron reducing conditions (Table 4.3). For all experiments under these conditions, consumption of starting material occurred but no cyclopropane formation was observed. It should be noted that, to the best of our knowledge, all previously reported trifluoromethyl alkenes that participate in XEC reactions are trifluoromethyl substituted styrenes. 19,20,21

Table 4.3 Trifluoromethyl alkene substrate under one-electron reducing conditions

aYields determined by ¹H NMR by comparison to PhTMS as internal standard.

Inspired by our previous cyclopropanations utilizing MeMgI, mesylate **4.2** was subjected to similar reaction conditions. When mesylate 4.2 was reacted with Ni $(cod)_2$, dppm, and MeMgI, an 8% yield of the desired cyclopropane **4.7** was obtained (Table 4.4, entry 1). Since reduction of the mesylate moiety in **4.8** was a major competitive reaction, we hypothesized that hydrogen atom abstraction from solvent, toluene, could be occurring. However, a similar yield was obtained when the solvent was changed to benzene (entry 2). Unfortunately, employing other ligands (entries 3– 4) or the addition of AgOTf (entry 5) resulted in little to no cyclopropane formation.26 It should be noted when BPhen was employed as the ligand (entry 4), a 46% yield of iodide byproduct **4.9** was observed. This result suggests a potential iodide intermediate, consistent with our previous research. 15c

²⁶ Silver salts are known to increase rates of reactions involving electrophilic fluorine. For a lead reference, see: Furuya, T.; Strom, A. E.; Ritter, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2009**, *131*, 1662–1663.

Table 4.4 Trifluoromethyl alkene substrate under MeMgI conditions

4.2.4 A Plausible Mechanism

In 2020, the Jarvo lab reported the XEC reaction of 1,3-dimesylates for cyclopropane synthesis. Both experimental and computational evidence suggested the reaction proceeds through a 1,3-diiodide that is formed in situ.^{15c} Further computational investigation is consistent with formation of a carbon-nickel bond at the secondary iodide center that then displaces the primary iodide in a 3-*exo-tet* closure.^{15c} In a mechanistically distinct cyclopropanation, the Krische group has reported the migratory insertion of an alkene into an alkylnickel intermediate.^{27,16} This migratory insertion is thought to be reversible but only one diastereomer continues on the reaction pathway to form product. On these two bases, a plausible mechanism for our transformation is reported below (Scheme 4.4). It was hypothesized that under reaction conditions, mesylate **4.1**

²⁷ See "4.1 Introduction" section for details.

would form organonickel complex **4.10**. Migratory insertion of the alkene into the carbon-nickel bond would form intermediate **4.11**, and finally β-fluoride elimination forms the observable cyclopropane product **4.5**.

Scheme 4.4 Plausible Mechanism

4.2.5 Naphthylic Ether Substrate

To test if the XEC reactions of allylic difluorides proceed through an organonickel intermediate, naphthylic ether **4.4** was synthesized. The Jarvo lab has previously reported the XEC ring contraction of 4-chloro-2-aryl-tetrahydropyrans when treated with a nickel catalyst and MeMgI.15a Experimental and computational data suggests this reaction of 4-chloro-2-aryltetrahydropyrans, which utilizes a naphthylic ether, proceeds through an organonickel intermediate (**4.13**, Scheme 4.5a).28 I proposed if a cyclopropane product was observed from a similar reaction with naphthylic ether **4.4**, our XEC reaction with allylic difluorides under single-electron reducing conditions (Table 4.1–4.2) may also be proceeding through an organonickel intermediate. When naphthylic ether **4.4** was subjected to our previously developed cyclopropanation conditions, all starting material was consumed but no cyclopropane product was observed (Scheme 4.5b).

²⁸ Chen, P.-P.; Lucas, E. L. Greene, M. A.; Zhang, S.; Tollefson, E. J.; Erickson, L. W.; Taylor, B. L.; Jarvo, E. R.; Hong, X. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 5835–5855.

Scheme 4.5 Testing for an organonickel intermediate

4.2.6 Trisubstituted Cyclopropane

To further test the hypothesis of a migratory insertion mechanism, I synthesized mesylate **4.3**. I hypothesized that if the reaction proceeds as proposed in Scheme 4.4, increasing alkene substitution would induce diastereoselectivity. To investigate, mesylate **4.3** was synthesized and subjected to reaction conditions. After 24 h, trisubstituted cyclopropane **(***Z***)-4.16** was obtained in a 49% yield, which is comparable to the results from mesylate **4.1** (Table 4.2, entry 1). Surprisingly, there was no observable effect on the diastereoselectivity. While the results from Scheme 4.5–4.6 do not completely rule out a migratory insertion pathway, the currently available evidence is most consistent with cyclization of an organoradical intermediate.

Scheme 4.6 Synthesis of a trisubstituted cyclopropane

a Yields determined by ¹H NMR by comparison to PhTMS as internal standard.

4.3 Conclusion

In conclusion, the XEC reaction of secondary mesylates with allylic difluorides has been developed. Completed work includes reaction optimization, an attempt to engage an allylic trifluoride, and investigation into an organonickel intermediate. A trisubstituted cyclopropane with a quaternary center has also been synthesized. The currently available evidence suggests the cyclization proceeds via an organoradical intermediate. Presently, research is being performed to explore alternate substitution patterns and to expand the scope of this transformation.

4.4 Experimental Details

4.4.1 General Procedures

All reactions were carried out under a N_2 atmosphere, unless otherwise stated. All glassware was either oven-dried or flame-dried prior to use. Dichloromethane (DCM), triethylamine (Et3N), dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), acetonitrile (MeCN), and tetrahydrofuran (THF) were degassed with argon and then passed through two 4 x 36 inch columns of anhydrous neutral A-2 alumina (8 x 14 mesh; LaRoche Chemicals; activated under a flow of argon at 350 °C for 12 hours) to remove H_2O . Other solvents were purchased "anhydrous" commercially, or were purified as described. ¹H NMR were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz ¹H, 100 MHz ¹³C), CRYO-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C), GN-500 (500 MHz ¹H, 125.7 MHz ¹³C), or AVANCE-600 (150 MHz ¹³C, 564.6 MHz ¹⁹F) spectrometers. Proton chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ 0.00) unless otherwise noted. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity [singlet (s), broad singlet (br s), doublet (d), doublet of doublets (dd), doublet of doublet of doublets (ddd), triplet (t), doublet of triplets (dt), triplet of doublets (td), doublet of doublet of triplets (ddt), quartet (q), quintet (quint), quintet of triplets (quintt), quintet of doublets (quintd), sextet (sext), septet (sept), octet (oct), nonuplet (non), multiplet (m), apparent singlet (ap s), apparent doublet (ad), apparent triplet (at), apparent quartet (aq), apparent quintet (aquint)], coupling constants [Hz], integration). Carbon chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to TMS with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ

77.16 ppm). NMR data were collected at 25 °C. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Silica Gel 60Å F254 precoated plates (0.25 mm thickness). Visualization was accomplished by irradiation with a UV lamp and/or cerium ammonium molybdate (CAM), or potassium permanganate (KMnO4) solutions. Flash chromatography was performed using either SiliaFlash F60 (40- 63 μm, 60 Å) from SiliCycle, or Teledyne Isco Combiflash® Rf+ automated flash chromatography system. High resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the University of California, Irvine Mass Spectrometry Center. For reactions performed at rt, average room temperature was 20 ºC. All ligands were purchased from Strem or Sigma Aldrich and were stored under N_2 atmosphere and used as received. All other chemicals were purchased commercially and used as received, unless otherwise noted.

4.4.2 General Cross-Electrophile Coupling Procedures

4.4.2.1 Method A: Cross-Electrophile Coupling on Allylic Difluorides

In a glovebox, a flame-dried 7 mL vial equipped with a stir bar was charged with substrate (1.0 equiv), Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂ (5.0 mol %), Zn powder (2.0 equiv), NaI (2.0 equiv), and THF (0.025–0.1 M in substrate. The reaction stirred at rt for 24–72 h. The reaction was removed from the glovebox, the stir bar was removed, reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo to remove THF, and loaded onto silica plug with DCM. After 10 min, the silica plug was flushed with 10% EtOAc/hexanes and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.3 Characterization Data for Cyclopropanes 4.5, 4.6, 4.16

4.4.3.1 β-Fluorovinyl Cyclopropanes

Ethyl (*Z***)-2-fluoro-3-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)acrylate (4.5)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂ (3.3 mg, 5.0 \mu mol, 5.0 mol %),$

Zn powder (13 mg, 0.20 mmol, 2.0 equiv), NaI (30. mg, 0.20 mmol, 2.0 equiv), substrate **4.1** (37.6 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF (4.0 mL, 0.025 M in substrate). Before purification, a ¹H NMR yield of 77% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–5% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (17 mg, 0.065 mmol, 65%, 1:1 dr). The reported NMR data is a 1.2:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R**_f = 0.5 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30–7.25 (m, 4H, both), 7.21–7.12 (m, 6H, both), 5.82 (dd, *J* = 31.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H, cis), 5.59 (dd, *J* = 31.9, 10.7 Hz, 1H, trans), 4.30–4.21 (m, 4H, both), 2.74–2.66 (m, 4H, both), 1.93–1.83 (m, 1H, cis), 1.80–1.61 (m, 4H, both), 1.60–1.52 (m, 1H, trans), 1.33–1.31 (m, 7H, both), 1.15 (td, *J* = 8.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H, cis), 1.05–0.96 (m, 1H, trans), 0.83–0.76 (m, 2H, trans), 0.45 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H, cis); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.9 (d, *J* = 33.8 Hz, one diastereomer), 160.7 (d, *J* = 33.8 Hz, other diastereomer), 148.9 (d, *J* = 253.4 Hz, one diastereomer), 147.7 (d, *J* = 252.5 Hz, other diastereomer), 141.8 (2C, both diastereomers), 128.60 (2C, one diastereomer), 128.56 (2C, other diastereomer), 128.48 (4C, both diastereomers), 125.9 (2C, both diastereomers), 125.7 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, one diastereomer), 122.4 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, other diastereomer), 61.46 (one diastereomer), 61.43 (other diastereomer), 35.9 (one diastereomer), 35.57 (one diastereomer), 35.54 (other diastereomer), 32.0 (other diastereomer), 22.3 (one diastereomer), 20.4 (other diastereomer), 15.7 (one diastereomer), 15.6 (one diastereomer), 15.5 (2C, other diastereomer), 14.4 (other diastereomer), 12.8 (one diastereomer); **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ –135.2 (d, *J* = 31.3 Hz), –136.9 (d, *J* = 31.3 Hz); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C16H19FO2, 285.1267; found, 285.1266.

Ethyl (*E***)-3-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)acrylate (4.6)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂ (6.6 mg, 10. \mu mol, 5.0 mol %)$, Zn powder (26 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv), NaI (60. mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv), substrate **4.1** (75.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF (8.0 mL, 0.025 M in substrate, THF was not freshly dried). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-2\%$ EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (11 mg, 18% Et₂O by ¹H NMR, 0.022 mmol, 11%, 1.4:1 dr cis:trans). The reported NMR data is a 1.2:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.4 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); **1 H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.31–7.22 (m, 4H, both), 7.21–7.12 (m, 6H, both), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 16.1, 10.4 Hz, 1H, cis), 6.44 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 10.3 Hz, 1H, trans), 5.90 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H, cis), 5.78 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H, trans), 4.22–4.13 (m, 4H, both), 2.74–2.64 (m, 4H, both), 1.83–1.58 (m, 6H, both), 1.31–1.26 (m, 7H, both), 1.10 (td, *J* = 8.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H, cis), 1.06–0.99 (m, 1H, cis), 0.84– 0.78 (m, 1H, trans), 0.78–0.72 (m, 1H, trans), 0.52 (ap q, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, cis); **¹³ C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0 (one diastereomer), 166.7 (other diastereomer), 153.5 (one diastereomer), 150.5 (other diastereomer), 142.04 (one diastereomer), 141.98 (other diastereomer), 128.6 (4C, both diastereomers), 128.5 (4C, both diastereomers), 126.0 (2C, both diastereomers), 120.3 (one diastereomer), 117.9 (other diastereomer), 60.1 (2C, both diastereomers), 36.0 (one diastereomer), 35.6 (2C, both diastereomers), 31.6 (other diastereomer), 22.9 (one diastereomer), 22.3 (other diastereomer), 21.3 (one diastereomer), 19.6 (other diastereomer), 16.0 (one diastereomer), 15.5 (other diastereomer), 14.5 (2C, both diastereomers); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C16H20O2, 267.1361; found, 267.1371.

Ethyl (*Z***)-2-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-2-phenethylcyclopropyl)acrylate (4.16)** was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: $Ni(PMe₃)₂Cl₂ (3.3 mg, 5.0$ µmol, 5.0 mol %), Zn powder (13 mg, 0.20 mmol, 2.0 equiv), NaI (30. mg, 0.20 mmol, 2.0 equiv), substrate 4.3 (39.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and THF $(1.0$ mL, 0.1 M in substrate). A ¹H NMR yield of 49% was obtained based on comparison to PhTMS as internal standard. A small sample was obtained by flash column chromatography $(0-2\%$ EtOAc/hex) for characterization. The reported NMR data is a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC** $R_f = 0.4$ (5% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H **NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.30–7.23 (m, 4H, both), 7.21–7.13 (m, 6H, both), 5.86 (d, *J* = 35.8 Hz, 1H, one diastereomer), 5.72 (d, *J* = 35.8 Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 4.26 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, one diastereomer), 4.25 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H, other diastereomer), 2.74–2.65 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 1.78–1.59 (m, 4H, both diastereomers), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H, one diastereomer), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H, other diastereomer), 1.29 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 3H, one diastereomer), 1.27 (d, *J* $= 2.5$ Hz, 3H, other diastereomer), 1.06–1.02 (m, 2H, one diastereomer), 0.94–0.84 (m, 1H, other diastereomer), 0.84–0.82 (m, 1H, other diastereomer), 0.64 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, other diastereomer), 0.39 (ap t, $J = 4.3$ Hz, 1H, one diastereomer); ¹⁹F NMR (564.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –131.3 (d, $J = 36.8$ Hz), –135.2 (d, *J* = 36.8 Hz); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: *submitted*.

4.4.4 General Procedures for Starting Material Synthesis

4.4.4.1 Method A: Grignard Addition

A solution of aldehyde (1.0 equiv) in anhydrous THF was added in a dropwise manner to allylmagnesium bromide (1.1 equiv) at 0° C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for at least 2 h. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NH4Cl (10 mL) and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.4.2 Method B: TMS Protection of Alcohol

To a flame-dried flask with stir bar was added alcohol (1.0 equiv) and DCM (0.20 M). Then, imidazole (2.0 equiv) and TMSCl (1.2 equiv) were added. The reaction continued to stir overnight. The reaction was quenched with DI H_2O (10 mL) and the mixture was extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.4.3 Method C: Cu-Catalyzed C–H Difluoroalkylation of Alkenes

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure by Wang.24a Copper iodide (CuI) powder (0.10 equiv) was added to a flame dried Schlenk flask with stir bar. Under N_2 , *N*,*N*,*N'*,*N''*,*N''*-pentamethyldiethylenetriamine (PMDETA, 1.5 equiv), BrCF₂CO₂Et (1.5 equiv), alkene (1.0 equiv), and acetonitrile (0.20–0.50 M) were added. The flask was sealed at heated to 65–70 ºC overnight. Once complete, the flask was cooled and the MeCN was removed in vacuo.

4.4.4.4 Method D: TMS Removal

To a flame-dried flask with stir bar was added silyl ether (1.0 equiv) and THF (0.5 M). The flask was cooled to 0° C, and TBAF was slowly added (1.1 equiv). The reaction continued to stir at 0 ^oC for 1 h. The reaction was quenched with DI $H₂O$ (10 mL) and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.4.5 Method E: Mesylation of Alcohol

A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with alcohol (1.0 equiv) and DCM (0.20 M) under N2. Then, Et3N (1.5 equiv), DMAP (0.1 equiv), and MsCl (1.2 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at rt for at least 3 h. Once complete by TLC, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.4.6 Method F. Barbier Reaction

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure by Sarkar.²⁹ A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with zinc powder (1.1 equiv) and THF (0.20 M) under N₂. Then, aldehyde (1.0 equiv), and propargylic/allylic halide (1.1 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at rt overnight. To workup, saturated aqueous NH4Cl(10 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc $(3 \times 10 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.4.7 Method G. 1,2-Difunctionalization of Alkyne

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure by Roush.^{24c} A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged $Cp_2ZrCl_2(1.0 \text{ equiv})$ and $DCM(1.2 M \text{ in } Cp_2ZrCl_2)$ then cooled to 0 \degree C. Once cooled, AlMe₃ (3.0 equiv) was added dropwise, and the mixture was allowed to warm to rt, stirred for 2 h, then cooled down to -20 °C. A solution of alkyne in DCM (1.0 M) was added dropwise and the reaction was allowed to stir at rt overnight. The reaction was then cooled to –40 °C and a solution of I_2 (1.3 equiv) in THF (1.8 M in I_2) was added dropwise. The reaction then stirred at rt for 2 h. To quench, the reaction was cooled to 0° C and DI H₂O was added very slowly. Once quench was completed, Et₂O (20 mL) was added and the mixture was filtered through a pad of celite. Then, 1M HCl (10 mL) was added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 \times 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, aqueous Rochelle's salt, brine, then dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo.

²⁹ Sahoo, S. R.; Sarkar, D. *Eur. J. Org. Chem*. **2020**, *11*, 1727–1731.

4.4.4.8 Method H. Cu-Catalyzed XEC of Vinyl Iodide with BrCF₂CO₂Et

The target compound was prepared using a modified procedure by Kumadaki.^{24d} A round bottom flask equipped with stir bar was charged with copper powder (2.8 equiv) and DMSO (0.20 M) under N₂. Then, vinyl iodide (1.0 equiv) and BrCF₂CO₂Et (1.0 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was then heated to 45 ºC and stirred at overnight. To workup, reaction mixture was poured into a separatory funnel with ice and saturated aqueous NH4Cl (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, then the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (3 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo.

4.4.5 Synthesis and Characterization Data for Intermediates and Mesylate Starting Materials

1-Phenylhex-5-en-3-ol (4.17) was prepared according to Method A. The following amounts of reagents were used: aldehyde (2.6 mL, 20. mmol, 1.0 equiv) and allylmagnesium bromide (24 mL, 24 mmol, 1.2 equiv). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–20% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(2.6 \text{ g}, 15 \text{ mmol}, 75\%)$. **TLC R_f**= 0.5 (15% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl3 δ 7.31–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.22–7.15 (m, 3H), 5.88–5.76 (m, 1H), 5.17–5.13 (m, 1H), 5.13–5.10 (m, 1H), 3.73–3.63 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.76 (m, 1H), 2.74–2.64 (m, 1H), 2.37–2.28 (m, 1H), 2.23–2.14 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.75 (m, 2H), 1.60 (s, 1H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.³⁰

³⁰ Zhang, Y.-X.; Zhang, A.-Q.; Tian, J.-S.; Loh, T.-P. *Org. Biomol. Chem*. **2013**, *11*, 8387–8394.

Trimethyl((1-phenylhex-5-en-3-yl)oxy)silane (4.18) was prepared according to Method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol **4.17** (2.6 g, 15 mmol, 1.0 equiv), TMSCl (3.3 mL, 18 mmol, 1.2 equiv), imidazole (2.0 g, 30. mmol, 2.0 equiv), and DCM (50. mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was used in the next synthetic step unpurified. **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.7 (5%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl3 δ 7.31–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.16 (m, 3H), 5.87–5.74 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.00 (m, 2H), 3.74 (quint, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 10.3, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 10.3, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.83–1.68 (m, 2H), 0.13 (s, 9H).

Ethyl (*E***)-2,2-difluoro-8-phenyl-6-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)oct-3-enoate (4.19)** was prepared according to Method C. The following amounts of reagents were used: silane **4.18** (1.9 g, 7.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), CuI (0.14 g, 0.75 mmol, 0.10 equiv), PMDETA (2.3 mL, 11 mmol, 1.5 equiv), $BrCF_2CO_2Et$ (1.4 mL, 11 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and MeCN (15 mL, 0.5 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-5\%$ EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (1.1 g, 2.9 mmol, 39% over two steps, 1.5:1 dr). The reported NMR data is a 1.5:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R**_f = 0.5 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz) CDCl₃ δ 7.32–7.26 (m, 4H, both), 7.21–7.13 (6H, both), 6.35–6.23 (m, 1H, major), 6.12–6.00 (m, 1H, minor), 5.78–5.62 (m, 2H, both), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, major), 4.28 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H minor), 3.78 (quint, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, both), 2.75–2.65 (m, 2H, both), 2.62–2.54 (m, 2H, both), 2.53–2.48 (m, 2H, both), 2.37–2.29 (m, 2H, both), 1.78–1.70 (m, 4H, both), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, major), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, minor), 0.12 (s, 18H, both).

Ethyl (*E***)-2,2-difluoro-6-hydroxy-8-phenyloct-3-enoate (4.20)** was prepared according to Method D. The following amounts of reagents were used: ester **4.19** (1.1 g, 2.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv), TBAF (3.2 mL, 3.2 mmol, 1.1 equiv, 1.0 M in THF), and THF (5.8 mL, 0.5 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-15\%$ EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(0.65 \text{ g}, 2.2 \text{ mmol}, 75\%, 2.3:1 \text{ dr})$. The reported NMR data is a 2.3:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R**_f = 0.2 (15% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz) CDCl₃ δ 7.31–7.26 (m, 4H, both), 7.22–7.16 (m, 6H, both), 6.31 (dtt, *J* = 16.0, 7.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H, major), 6.07 (dtt, *J* = 11.7, 7.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H, minor), 5.84–5.66 (m, 2H, both), 4.31 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, major), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, minor), 3.79–2.68 (m, 2H, both), 2.84–2.75 (m, 2H, both), 2.73–2.64 (m, 2H, both), 2.55–2.48 (m, 1H, major), 2.42–2.25 (m, 1H, major, 2H, minor), 1.83–1.75 (m, 4H, both), 1.53 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, major), 1.50 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, minor), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, major), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, minor).

Ethyl-2,2-difluoro-6-((methylsulfonyl)oxy)-8-phenyloct-3-enoate (4.1) was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol **4.20** (0.35 g, 1.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.11 mL, 1.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv), DMAP (14 mg, 0.12 mmol, 0.10 equiv), Et3N (0.24 mL, 1.8 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and DCM (5.9 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–25% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (0.39 g, 1.0 mmol, 88%, 2.3:1 dr). The reported NMR data is a 2.3:1 mixture of diastereomers. **TLC R_f** = 0.3 (15% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32–7.26 (m, 4H, both),

7.23–7.16 (m, 6H, both), 6.37–6.22 (m, 1H, major), 6.07–5.99 (m, 1H, minor), 5.88–5.73 (m, 2H, both), 4.82 (quint, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H, both), 4.34–4.27 (m, 4H, both), 3.00 (s, 3H, minor), 2.99 (s, 3H, major), 2.85–2.52 (m, 8H, both), 2.11–1.92 (m, 4H, both), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, major), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H, minor); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 163.7 (t, *J* = 34.5 Hz, major), 163.9 (t, *J* = 34.2 Hz, minor), 140.6 (minor), 140.4 (minor), 135.3 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, minor), 133.4 (t, *J* = 9.3 Hz, major), 128.73 (2C, major), 128.69 (2C, minor), 128.4 (4C, both), 126.45 (major), 126.37 (minor), 125.4 (t, *J* = 25.7 Hz, major), 124.3 (t, *J* = 26.2 Hz, minor), 112.7 (t, *J* = 249.7 Hz, minor), 111.9 (t, *J* = 247.8 Hz, major), 81.0 (minor), 80.4 (major), 63.35 (minor), 63.25 (major), 38.8 (both), 37.3 (both), 36.2 (minor), 26.1 (major), 33.5 (minor), 31.3 (major), 14.00 (2C, both); **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ –103.4 (d, *J* = 10.9 Hz), –103.5 (d, *J* = 10.9 Hz); **HRMS** (TOF MS ES⁺) m/z : [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₂₂F₂O₅S, 344.1054; found, 344.1044.

1-Phenylhex-5-yn-3-ol (4.21) was prepared according to Method F. The following amounts of reagents were used: zinc (0.72 g, 11 mmol, 1.1 equiv), propargyl bromide (0.83 mL, 11 mmol, 1.1 equiv), 3-phenylpropionaldehyde (1.3 mL, 10. mmol, 1.0 equiv) and THF (50 mL, 0.2 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-15\% \text{ EtoAc/hex})$ to afford the title compound as a colorless oil $(1.0 \text{ g}, 5.9 \text{ mmol}, 59\%)$. **TLC R_f** = 0.4 (15%) EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl3 δ 7.31–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.16 (m, 3H), 3.82–3.72 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.76 (m, 1H), 2.74–2.64 (m, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, *J* = 16.7, 4.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (ddd, *J* = 17.1, 7.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (br s, 1H), 1.90–1.83 (m, 2H). Analytical data is consistent with literature values.³¹

³¹ Liang, T.; Woo, S. K.; Krische, M. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 9207–9211.

(*E***)-6-Iodo-5-methyl-1-phenylhex-5-en-3-ol (4.22)** was prepared according to Method G. The following amounts of reagents were used: Cp_2ZrCl_2 (0.82 g, 2.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DCM (2.4 mL, 1.2 M in Cp2ZrCl2), alkyne **4.21** (0.49 g, 2.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AlMe3 (4.2 mL, 8.4 mmol, 2.8 equiv), I_2 (0.92 g, 3.7 mmol, 1.3 equiv) and THF (2.0 mL, 1.8 M in I_2). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–15% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (0.29 g, 0.93 mmol, 33%). **TLC Rf =** 0.6 (20% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl3 δ 7.31–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.77 (m, 1H), 2.73–2.64 (m, 1H), 2.42–2.30 (m, 2H), 1.84 (s, 3H), 1.76 (ap q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H).

(*E***)-((6-Iodo-5-methyl-1-phenylhex-5-en-3-yl)oxy)trimethylsilane (4.23)** was prepared according to method B. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol **4.22** (0.18 g, 0.56 mmol, 1.0 equiv), TMSCl (0.06 mL, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), imidazole (56 mg, 0.82 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and DCM (1.4 mL, 0.30 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–10% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (0.18 g, 0.46 mmol, 82%). **TLC R_f** = 0.6 (5% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl₃ δ 7.28 (ap t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.12 (m, 3H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 3.80 (quint, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.76–2.67 (m, 1H), 2.62–2.53 (m, 1H), 2.41–2.32 (m, 2H), 1.83 (s, 3H), 1.78–1.67 (m, 2H), 0.10 (s, 9H).

Ethyl (*E***)-2,2-difluoro-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-8-phenyloct-3-enoate (4.24)** was prepared according to method H. The following amounts of reagents were used: vinyl iodide **4.23** (0.18 g, 0.46 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Cu powder (82 mg, 1.3 mmol, 2.8 equiv), $BrCF₂CO₂Et$ (0.07 mL, 0.6 mmol, 1 equiv), and DMSO (2.3 mL, 0.20 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography (0–15% EtOAc/hex) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (85 mg, 0.27 mmol, 60%). **TLC Rf =** 0.7 (30% EtOAc/hexanes); **¹ H NMR** (400 MHz) CDCl3 δ 7.32– 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22–7.16 (m, 3H), 5.54 (t, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84–3.75 $(m, 1H), 2.87-2.77$ $(m, 1H), 2.74-2.64$ $(m, 1H), 2.31-3.16$ $(m, 2H), 1.86$ $(s, 3H), 1.80$ $(t, J = 7.8)$ Hz, 1H), 1.78 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

ethyl (*E***)-2,2-difluoro-4-methyl-6-((methylsulfonyl)oxy)-8-phenyloct-3-enoate (4.3)** was prepared according to Method E. The following amounts of reagents were used: alcohol **4.24** (85 mg, 0.27 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MsCl (0.02 mL, 0.3 mmol, 1 equiv), DMAP (3.3 mg, 0.027 mmol, 0.10 equiv), Et₃N (0.06 mL, 0.4 mmol, 1 equiv), and DCM (2.7 mL, 0.10 M in substrate). The compound was purified by flash column chromatography $(0-15\% \text{ EtoAc/hex})$ to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (87 mg, 0.22 mmol, 82%). **TLC R** $_f$ = 0.2 (15% EtOAc/hexanes); ¹H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.33–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.16 (m, 3H), 5.54 (t, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (quint, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.84–2.66 (m, 2H), 2.55 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.46–2.37 (m, 1H), 2.10–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.92–1.87 (m, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); **13C NMR** (125.7 MHz, CDCl3) δ 164.2 (t, *J* = 35.1 Hz), 144.9 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 140.5, 128.7 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 126.4, 121.1 (t, *J* = 26.6 Hz), 120.5 (t, *J* = 248.8 Hz), 79.8, 63.2, 45.5, 38.8, 36.5,

31.3, 17.9, 14.0; **19F NMR** (564.6 MHz, CDCl3) δ –98.3; **HRMS** (TOF MS ES+) *m/z*: [M + Na]+ calcd for C18H24F2O5S, 413.1210; found, 413.1225.

 1.20

13C spectrum with 1H decoupling 13C spectrum with 1H decoupling

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Integral

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 $\begin{tabular}{ll} D\textbf{ M}R\textbf{ plot parameters} \\ C\textbf{X} & 22, 80\textbf{ cm} \\ D\textbf{Y} & 22, 80\textbf{ cm} \\ T\textbf{P} & 22, 80\textbf{ cm$ $\begin{array}{r} 62.400 \ 6.00 \ 6.00 \ 6.00 \ 980 \ 1880 \ 0.10000000 \ 880 \ 0.00000000 \ 880 \ 0.00000000 \ 880 \ 0.01500000 \ 880 \end{array}$ = CHANNEL f1 ======
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500.2235015 MHz $\begin{array}{ll} \text{P2} & \text{- } \text{Processing parameters} \\ \text{S1} & \text{S133} \\ \text{S2} & \text{S333} \\ \text{S33} & \text{S133} \\ \text{R33} & \text{S133} \\ \text{R33} & \text{S233} \\ \text{L33} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{L33} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{L33} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{R3} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{R4} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{R5} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{R6} & \text{O}_0 \\ \text{R7} & \text{$ PPMCM 0.41667 ppm/cm $\begin{tabular}{l|c|c|c} 12 & A equation has a
\nrule & 200 & 200 & 101 & 101 & 102 & 201\\ \hline 11$ & 102 & 101 & 101 & 101 & 101\\ \hline 11837000 & 5 & m & $\mathrm{C}T^{0010}_{101}$ & 101 & 101\\ \hline 11837000 & 5 & m & $\mathrm{C}T^{011}_{111}$ & 101 & 101 & 101\\ \hline 1183700$ $\begin{array}{c} 8012.320 \text{ Hz} \\ 0.098043 \text{ Hz} \\ 5.0998774 \text{ sec} \end{array}$ HZCM 208.42502 Hz/cm Current Data Parameters
USER sanforda
EXPRE ABS-1-099-proton
EXPRE ABS-1-099-proton
PROCNO DW 62.400 usec DE 6.00 usec ======== CHANNEL f1 ======== P1 7.50 usec F1P 9.000 ppm F2P -0.500 ppm F2 - Acquisition Parameters AQ 5.0998774 sec D1 0.10000000 sec MCREST 0.00000000 sec MCWRK 0.01500000 sec SFO1 500.2235015 MHz SF 500.2200348 MHz PL1 1.60 dB CX 22.80 cm CY 15.00 cm SWH 8012.820 Hz FIDRES 0.098043 Hz F2 - Processing parameters 0.00 Hz F1 4501.98 Hz -250.11 Hz NAME ABS-1-099-proton TE 298.0 K Current Data Parameters USER sanforda EXPNO 1 PROCNO 1 Date_ 20171012 Time 9.23 INSTRUM cryo500 PROBHD 5 mm CPTCI 1H-PULPROG zg30 TD 81728 SOLVENT CDCl3 。
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1H spectrum 1H spectrum

Integral

1H spectrum 1H spectrum

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SFC DATA: COMPOUND 2.71

Signal 8: MWD1 H, Sig=290,4 Ref=off

Signal 8: MWD1 H, Sig=290,4 Ref=off

SFC DATA: COMPOUND 2.1ϴ

Signal 8: MWD1 H, Sig=290,4 Ref=off

Signal 8: MWD1 H, Sig=290,4 Ref=off

Racemic Cyclopropane (major diastereomer separable; AD Column)

Enantiopure Cyclopropane (7:1 dr; major diastereomer separable; AD Column)

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19F spectrum 19F spectrum

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