

## Absolute Configuration of Two New 6-Alkylated $\alpha$ -Pyrones (= 2*H*-Pyran-2-ones) from *Ravensara crassifolia*

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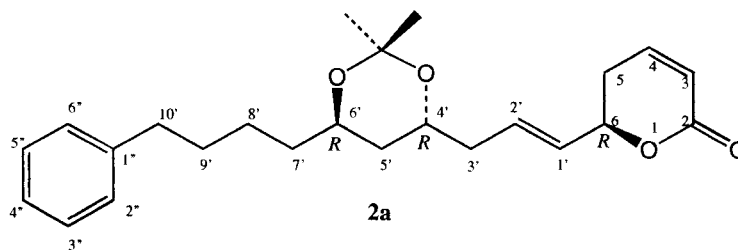
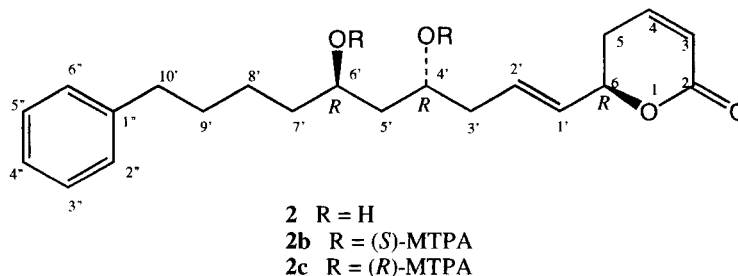
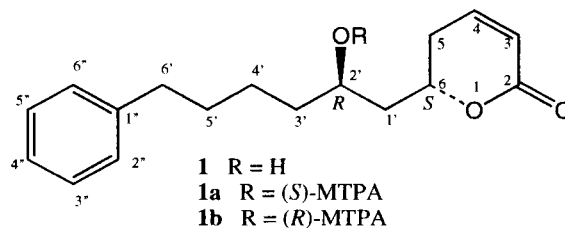
The stem bark CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract of *Ravensara crassifolia* showed antifungal activity against the phytopathogenic fungus *Cladosporium cucumerinum* in a bioautographic TLC assay. Activity-guided fractionation afforded two new  $\alpha$ -pyrones : (6*S*)-5,6-dihydro-6-[(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-6-phenylhexyl]-2*H*-pyran-2-one (**1**) and (6*R*)-6-[(4*R*,6*R*)-4,6-dihydroxy-10-phenyldec-1-enyl]-5,6-dihydro-2*H*-pyran-2-one (**2**). Their structures and absolute configurations were established by NMR spectroscopy, chemical methods, and CD spectroscopy. The antifungal activity against *C. cucumerinum* was determined for both compounds.

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**Introduction.** – As part of our search for new antifungal lead compounds from plants, we investigated *Ravensara crassifolia* DANGUY (Lauraceae) (syn. *Cryptocarya crassifolia* BAKER), a tree up to 18–20 m growing in the eastern region of Madagascar. The genus *Ravensara* is considered as endemic to Madagascar [1]. In a series of preliminary screenings, the stem bark CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract of *R. crassifolia* displayed antifungal activity against the phytopathogenic fungus *Cladosporium cucumerinum* in a bioautographic TLC assay [2]. Although no ethnomedical use is reported for *R. crassifolia*, other *Ravensara* species are used in traditional medicine, and some of their essential oils have shown antimicrobial activity [3][4]. Activity-guided fractionation of the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract yielded two new 6-alkylated  $\alpha$ -pyrones. These results support the fact that plants from the Lauraceae family represent an excellent source of this chemical class [5].

**Results and Discussion.** – Crude extracts of *R. crassifolia* were obtained by successive extraction at room temperature by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and MeOH. Both extracts were submitted to the bioautographic TLC assays against *Cladosporium cucumerinum*. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract exhibited antifungal activity, while the MeOH extract was inactive. The active extract was fractionated by a combination of silica-gel open-column chromatography, gel filtration on *Sephadex LH-20*, and MPLC on reversed phase to afford compounds **1** and **2**.

The EI-MS of compound **1** displayed a molecular ion at  $m/z$  275 ( $[M + H]^+$ ), which, together with <sup>13</sup>C-NMR data suggested a molecular formula C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. This was confirmed by the peak at  $m/z$  292 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ) recorded in the D/CI-MS. The IR spectrum showed absorption bands at 1691, 2924, and 3840 cm<sup>-1</sup>, revealing the presence



of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone ring, a monosubstituted phenyl ring and an OH group, respectively [6][7]. Full assignment of the  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR chemical shifts (*Tables 1* and *2*) was achieved on the basis of 2D-NMR experiments including COSY, HSQC, and HMBC. The absolute configuration of the secondary alcohol was established by preparation of the *Mosher* esters **1a** and **1b** [8]. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of the two esters revealed a slight difference of the  $\delta(\text{H})$  due to the diamagnetic effect of the benzene ring of the MTPA moiety (MTPA =  $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl). Calculation of the  $\Delta\delta_{(\text{H})} = \delta_{\text{S}} - \delta_{\text{R}}$  by *Mosher's* method [9] allowed assignment of the (*R*)-configuration to C(2') of compound **1** (*Fig.*).

The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **1** showed signals at  $\delta$  7.15 (*m*, 3 H) and 7.25 (*m*, 2 H) attributed to the aromatic protons H–C(3''), H–C(4''), and H–C(5''), and H–C(2'') and H–C(6''), respectively, of the monosubstituted benzene ring; this was confirmed by the presence of two pairs of superimposed aromatic C-atoms, *i.e.* C(3'') and C(5'') at  $\delta$  128.2 and C(2'') and C(6'') at  $\delta$  128.1, and by the signal at  $m/z$  91 corresponding to the  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7$  fragment in the EI-MS.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR Signals at  $\delta$  3.96 and 4.71 were attributable to H–C(2') and H–C(6), respectively, both being located at oxygenated C-atoms. This was in agreement with the observation of two C-atoms at  $\delta$  74.9 (C(6)) and 66.5 (C(2')) in the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum. Moreover, the EI-MS fragment ion at  $m/z$  256 ( $[\text{M} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$ ) corresponded to a dehydration due to the presence of an OH function. The single OH substituent was confirmed by the presence of signals for one MeO in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of the two *Mosher* esters **1a** ( $\delta$  3.67) and **1b** ( $\delta$

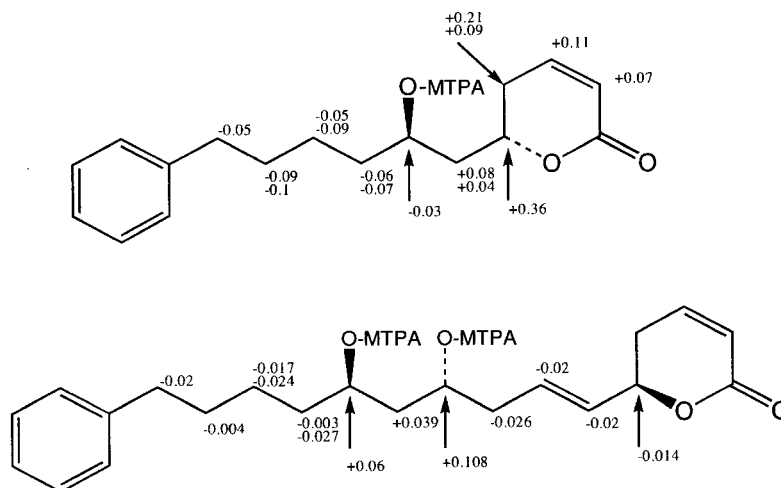


Figure.  $\Delta\delta_{(H)}$  ( $\Delta\delta_{(H)} = \delta_S - \delta_R$ ) of Mosher esters of compounds **1** and **2**. MTPA = PhC(MeO)(CF<sub>3</sub>)CO.

Table 1. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Data (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compounds **1**, **2**, and Their Derivatives **1a**, **b** and **2a–c**<sup>a</sup>

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1a</b>	<b>1b</b>	<b>2a</b>	<b>2b</b>	<b>2c</b>
H–C(3)	5.97 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	6.03 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	6.00 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	5.93 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	6.04 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	6.028 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)	6.032 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 1.95, 9.77)
H–C(4)	6.85 ( <i>m</i> )	6.85 ( <i>m</i> )	6.82 ( <i>m</i> )	6.71 ( <i>m</i> )	6.86 ( <i>m</i> )	6.832 ( <i>m</i> )	6.837 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(5)	2.30 ( <i>m</i> )	2.43 ( <i>m</i> )	2.25 ( <i>m</i> )	2.04–2.16 ( <i>m</i> )	2.42 ( <i>m</i> )	2.297 ( <i>m</i> )	2.281 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(6)	4.71 ( <i>m</i> )	4.89 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 14.5)	4.33 ( <i>m</i> )	3.97 ( <i>m</i> )	4.88 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 14.5)	4.772 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 14.5)	4.786 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 14.5)
H–C(1')	1.83–1.65 ( <i>m</i> )	5.68 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 15.5)	1.89–2.02 ( <i>m</i> )	1.81–1.98 ( <i>m</i> )	5.66 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 15.5)	5.56 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 15.5)	5.58 ( <i>dd</i> , <i>J</i> = 7, 15.5)
H–C(2')	3.96 ( <i>m</i> )	5.85 ( <i>ddd</i> , <i>J</i> = 8, 8, 15.5)	5.30 ( <i>m</i> )	5.33 ( <i>m</i> )	5.81 ( <i>ddd</i> , <i>J</i> = 8, 8, 15.5)	5.56 ( <i>ddd</i> , <i>J</i> = 8, 8, 15.5)	5.58 ( <i>ddd</i> , <i>J</i> = 8, 8, 15.5)
H–C(3')	1.47 ( <i>m</i> )	2.28 ( <i>m</i> )	1.7–1.75 ( <i>m</i> )	1.77–1.81 ( <i>m</i> )	2.22–2.28 ( <i>m</i> )	2.346 ( <i>m</i> )	2.372 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(4')	1.38–1.47 ( <i>m</i> )	3.91 ( <i>m</i> )	1.30–1.6 ( <i>m</i> )	1.39–1.65 ( <i>m</i> )	3.84 ( <i>m</i> )	5.036 ( <i>m</i> )	4.928 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(5')	1.59 ( <i>m</i> )	1.58 ( <i>m</i> )	1.3–1.6 ( <i>m</i> )	1.39–1.7 ( <i>m</i> )	1.58 ( <i>m</i> )	1.808 ( <i>m</i> )	1.769 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(6')	2.61 ( <i>t</i> )	4.00 ( <i>m</i> )	2.55 ( <i>t</i> )	2.60 ( <i>t</i> )	3.76 ( <i>m</i> )	4.98 ( <i>m</i> )	4.92 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(7')		1.46–1.59 ( <i>m</i> )			1.46–1.56 ( <i>m</i> )	1.5–1.624 ( <i>m</i> )	1.503–1.651 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(8')		1.35–1.46 ( <i>m</i> )			1.38 ( <i>m</i> )	1.172–1.192 ( <i>m</i> )	1.196–1.209 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(9')		1.65 ( <i>m</i> )			1.65 ( <i>m</i> )	1.547 ( <i>m</i> )	1.551 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(10')		2.62 ( <i>t</i> )			2.60 ( <i>t</i> )	2.51 ( <i>t</i> )	2.53 ( <i>t</i> )
Arom. H	7.15–7.25 ( <i>m</i> )	7.11–7.27 ( <i>m</i> )	7.14–7.51 ( <i>m</i> )	7.13–7.50 ( <i>m</i> )	7.15–7.25 ( <i>m</i> )	7.10–7.52 ( <i>m</i> )	7.11–7.56 ( <i>m</i> )
MeO			3.67 ( <i>s</i> )	3.57 ( <i>s</i> )		3.50 ( <i>s</i> ), 3.50 ( <i>s</i> )	3.57 ( <i>s</i> ), 3.54 ( <i>s</i> )
Me					1.33 ( <i>s</i> ), 1.32 ( <i>s</i> )		

<sup>a</sup>) For convenience, derivatives of **1** and **2** are numbered like **1** and **2**, respectively; for systematic names, see *Exper. Part*.

3.57). Chemical shifts of protons and C-atoms of the lactone ring were assigned on the basis of literature data [10]. Six additional <sup>13</sup>C-NMR signals were detected, one quaternary C-atom being attributed to the C(1'') (142.3) of the monosubstituted benzene ring and the other five arising from CH<sub>2</sub> groups.

Molecule **1** possesses a noncoplanar six-membered  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone chromophore (A), in addition to a monosubstituted benzene one (B) with a four-C

Table 2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Data (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of Compounds **1**, **2**, and **2a**<sup>a)</sup>

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2a</b>
C(2)	164.6	164.1	164.0
C(3)	120.7	121.0	121.6
C(4)	145.6	144.8	144.6
C(5)	29.8	29.7	29.8
C(6)	74.9	77.8	78.0
C(1')	42.0	129.6	129.1
C(2')	66.5	131.4	131.0
C(3')	37.6	40.3	38.5
C(4')	25.0	68.2	66.0
C(5')	31.2	42.0	38.2
C(6')	35.7	69.1	66.5
C(7)		37.2	35.7
C(8)		25.4	25.1
C(9)		31.3	31.4
C(10')		35.8	35.9
C(1'')	142.3	142.4	142.7
C(2''), C(6'')	128.1	128.2	128.2
C(3''), C(5'')	128.2	128.3	128.3
C(4'')	125.5	125.6	125.6
Me			24.9, 24.7
Me <sub>2</sub> C			100.25

<sup>a)</sup> See Footnote a of Table 1.

distance from the chirality center at C(2'). The characteristic absorption bands of these chromophores, such as the  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition of the carbonyl group in *A* and the  $^1\text{L}_b$  transition of the monosubstituted benzene ring (*B*), can be expected to appear at *ca.* 260 nm in the CD spectrum of **1**. Since the conjugated  $\delta$ -lactone moiety of **1** is fixed in a chiral arrangement by the absolute configuration of the chirality center at C(6), it is reasonable to assume that the chiroptical properties of **1** are determined rather by this chromophore *A* than by *B*. Thus, the freely rotating chromophore *B* can induce only a weak  $^1\text{L}_b$  transition ( $\Delta\varepsilon < 0.3\text{--}0.5$ ) due to the long distance of the chirality centers (C(2') and C(6)) from *B*. Moreover, this *Cotton* effect cannot be influenced at all by changing the polarity of the solvent, while an influence should be observed for the  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition of a carbonyl group, allowing an unequivocal assignment of the latter one. These considerations are confirmed by the observation of a relatively strong negative *Cotton* effect ( $\Delta\varepsilon = -3.08$ ) at 256 nm in the CD spectra of **1** in MeOH, which showed a significant bathochromic shift (9 nm) in hexane. It clearly indicated that this *Cotton* effect belongs to the  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition of the chromophore *A* in **1**, and it is in good agreement with the prediction [11].

The thermodynamically favored equatorial position of the bulky side chain of **1** also indicated that the absolute configuration at C(6) was (*S*) on the basis of the helicity rule first proposed by *Snatzke* and *Hänsel* [12] and later modified by *Beecham* [13] for  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactones. The validity of this rule is well-documented in the literature [14–16][5]. Thus, compound **1** was identified as (6*S*)-5,6-dihydro-[(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-6-phenylhexyl]-2*H*-pyran-2-one.

Compound **2** showed a molecular ion  $M^+$  at  $m/z$  344 and the ammonium adduct  $[M + \text{NH}_4]^+$  at  $m/z$  362 in the D/CI-MS. This was supported by the presence of the molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  344 in the EI-MS corresponding to the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_4$ . The IR spectrum of **2** is comparable to that recorded for **1**, suggesting that compound **2** also possesses an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone ring, a monosubstituted benzene ring, and an OH group. The structure of **2** was suggested by its  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data (Tables 1 and 2) and confirmed by 2D-NMR spectroscopy including HSQC, HMBC, and COSY experiments. The relative configuration of the proposed vicinal-diol moiety in **2** was deduced from the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR analysis of the acetonide derivative **2a** (Table 2). The observed chemical shifts of the two Me groups ( $\delta$  24.9 and 24.7) at the ketal C-atom ( $\delta$  100.25) were attributed to an 'anti'-diol conformation in **2** ('syn'-diol conformation: 2 Me at  $\delta$  ca. 30 and 19 and ketal C-atom at higher fields) [17][18]. Mosher esterification [9] at the stereogenic atoms C(4') and C(6') of **2** yielding the esters **2b** and **2c** established the absolute configuration as (*R*) for both chiral centers (Fig.), while an (*R*) absolute configuration was assigned to C(6) of **2** on the basis of the positive Cotton effect measured both in MeOH and in hexane at 254 and 265 nm, respectively. Compound **2** was established as (6*R*)-[(4*R*,6*R*)-4,6-dihydroxy-10-phenyldec-1-enyl]-5,6-dihydro-2*H*-pyran-2-one.

Comparison of the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **2** with that of **1** (see Table 1) allowed some proton assignments. In fact, signals at  $\delta$  7.11–7.27 (*m*, 5 H) corresponding to the aromatic protons of the monosubstituted benzene ring were observed, together with signals at  $\delta$  6.03 (*dd*,  $J = 1.95, 9.77$  Hz) and 6.85 (*m*), which were attributed to the olefinic protons H–C(3) and H–C(4) of the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated lactone ring. Differences were detected in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **2** arising from the presence of an additional double bond carrying H–C(1') ( $\delta$  5.68) and H–C(2') ( $\delta$  5.85), their coupling constant  $J(1',2') = 15.5$  Hz indicating a *trans*-configuration at C(1')=C(2'). The protons at  $\delta$  4.89, 4.00, and 3.91 were attributed to H–C(6) of the lactone ring, H–C(6'), and H–C(4'), respectively. A peak at  $m/z$  308 [ $M - 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ] in the EI-MS suggested the presence of two OH groups in **2**; this was confirmed by the acetonide derivative **2a** implicating vicinal-diol functionalities and by the Mosher esters with the appearance of two MeO groups in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **2b** (both at  $\delta$  3.50 ppm) and **2c** ( $\delta$  3.54 ppm and 3.57 ppm).

The minimum amount of compounds **1** and **2** required to inhibit *C. cucumerinum* fungal growth on TLC plates was 1  $\mu\text{g}$  for compound **1** and 3  $\mu\text{g}$  for **2**. These amounts were comparable to the minimum quantities in the same assays of miconazole (1  $\mu\text{g}$ ) and propiconazole (0.1  $\mu\text{g}$ ), two commercially available reference antifungal compounds.

#### Experimental Part

*General.* TLC: Merck silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  Al sheets. Open-column chromatography (CC): Pharmacia Sephadex LH-20 and Merck silica gel (40–63 and 70–200  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Medium-pressure liquid chromatography (MPLC): home-packed Lichroprep RP-18 (Merck) column (45  $\times$  4 cm, 15–25  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Anal. HPLC: HP 1090 instrument equipped with a photodiode-array detector (Agilent Technologies); Novapak RP-18 (4  $\mu\text{m}$ ; 150  $\times$  3.9 mm i.d.); MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O 10:90  $\rightarrow$  100:0 in 40 min, 0.05% CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, 1 ml/min. Prep. HPLC: Shimadzu LC-10AD pump, radial compression module (RCM) 8  $\times$  100 mm with a  $\mu$ Bondapak C<sub>18</sub> prepacked column (10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) (Waters). M.p.: Mettler FP-80/82 hot-stage apparatus; uncorrected. Optical rotation: Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. UV Spectra: Perkin-Elmer Lambda-20 spectrophotometer;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) in nm. CD: Jasco J-715/150S spectrometer; in MeOH ( $c = 0.22$ – $0.35$  mmol l<sup>-1</sup>; cell length 0.2 cm) at 24°;  $\lambda$  ( $\Delta\epsilon$ ) in nm. IR Spectra: Perkin-Elmer 781 spectrometer;  $\tilde{\nu}$  in cm<sup>-1</sup>.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra: Varian Unity-Inova-500 spectrometer, at 500 and 125 MHz, resp.;  $\delta$  in ppm rel. to Me<sub>4</sub>Si,  $J$  in Hz. EI-MS, D/CI-MS (NH<sub>3</sub>, pos.-ion mode): Finnigan-MAT TSQ-700 triple-stage quadrupole instrument;  $m/z$  (rel. int. in %).

*Plant Material.* The aerial parts of *R. crassifolia* were collected in Mandraka, eastern region of Madagascar. A voucher specimen was deposited at the Institute of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry in Lausanne (Voucher No 2000076).

*Extraction and Isolation.* The powdered stem bark (600 g) was extracted at r.t. successively with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and MeOH to afford 45 and 125 g of extract, resp. A portion (25 g) of the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract was fractionated by CC (silica gel) with a stepwise gradient elution (petroleum ether/AcOEt 2:1; 1:1; 1:2, 0:1) to give 8 fractions (*I–VIII*). *Fr. III* was separated by MPLC (*RP-18*, MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O 3:7) to yield 3 fractions. Compound **1** was obtained from *Fr. 3* as a pale yellow powder after gel filtration (*Sephadex LH-20*, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 1:1). *Fr. V* was fractionated by CC (silica gel) followed by MPLC (*RP-18*, MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O 3:7). Compound **2** was obtained as a white powder after gel filtration (*Sephadex LH-20*, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 1:1).

(6*S*)-5,6-Dihydro-6-[(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-6-phenylhexyl]-2H-pyran-2-one (**1**). Pale yellow powder. M.p. 37°.  $[\alpha]_D = -66$  ( $c = 2$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV: 208 (4.2), 256 (2.6). CD ( $c = 0.36$  mM): 256 (–3.08). IR: 3480, 2924, 1691, 1495, 1396, 1259, 1110, 1018, 813, 695, 489. EI-MS: 275 (2,  $[M + H]^+$ ), 274 (8,  $M^{++}$ ), 256 (3,  $[M - H_2O]^+$ ), 196 (2), 189 (5), 171 (14), 143 (100), 104 (51), 117 (25), 91 (65, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>), 67 (11). D/CI-MS: 292 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ), 275 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

Mosher Esters **1a** and **1b**. Compound **1** (5 mg in 2 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) was sequentially treated with pyridine (0.2 ml), and 100 mg of (–)-(*R*)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride ((*R*)-MTPA chloride). The mixture was stirred at r.t. under N<sub>2</sub> for 5 h (HPLC monitoring). The mixture was evaporated, the residue dried and dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the soln. washed with 1% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln. (5 ml) and H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 5 ml). The org. layer was evaporated and the residue purified by prep. HPLC (RCM 8 × 10, MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O 60:40) affording the (*S*)-Mosher ester **1a** (5 mg, 67.1%).

The (*R*)-Mosher ester **1b** (6 mg, 56%) was prepared with (–)-(*S*)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride under the same conditions as described above.

(1*R*)-1-[[2*S*]-3,6-Dihydro-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]methyl]-5-phenylpentyl (*aS*)- $\alpha$ -Methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)benzeneacetate (**1a**). EI-MS: 491 (1,  $[M + H]^+$ ), 256 (49,  $[M + H - H_2O - PhC(MeO)(CF_3)CO]^+$ ), 189 (60), 171 (49), 144 (100), 104 (38), 91 (71, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>). D/CI-MS: 508 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ).

(1*R*)-1-[[2*S*]-3,6-Dihydro-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]methyl]-5-phenylpentyl (*aR*)- $\alpha$ -Methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)benzeneacetate (**1b**). EI-MS: 490 (3,  $M^{++}$ ), 256 (42,  $[M + H - H_2O - PhC(MeO)(CF_3)CO]^+$ ), 189 (57), 171 (49), 144 (100), 104 (38), 91 (68, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>). D/CI-MS: 508 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ).

(6*R*)-6-[(4*R*,6*R*)-4,6-Dihydroxy-10-phenyldec-1-enyl]-5,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-one (**2**). White powder. M.p. 74°.  $[\alpha]_D = +59$  ( $c = 2$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). UV: 207 (4.5), 254 (2.7). CD ( $c = 0.22$  mM): 254 (+2.62). IR: 3325, 2929, 1718, 1497, 1384, 1236, 1047, 1023, 972, 821, 740, 700, 577. EI-MS: 345 (26,  $[M + H]^+$ ), 344 (28,  $M^{++}$ ), 327 (18,  $[M + H - H_2O]^+$ ), 326 (71,  $[M - H_2O]^+$ ), 309 (33,  $[M + H - 2H_2O]^+$ ), 308 (100,  $[M - 2H_2O]^+$ ), 291 (6), 290 (16). D/CI-MS: 262 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ), 345 ( $[M + H]^+$ ), 344 ( $M^{++}$ ), 308 ( $[M - 2H_2O]^+$ ), 224.

(6*R*)-6-[3-[(4*R*,6*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-6-(4-phenylbutyl)-1,3-dioxan-4-yl]prop-1-enyl]-5,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-one (**2a**). To **2** (25 mg) were added 2,2-dimethoxypropane (10 ml) and traces TsOH. The mixture was stirred under reflux for 1 h. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mg) was added and the mixture stirred for 4 h at r.t. and then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to afford **2a** (15 mg, 53.7%). EI-MS: 369 (28), 308 (8), 247 (10), 223 (12), 201 (8), 171 (73), 158 (23), 130 (41), 91 (100), 68 (16), 59 (23). D/CI-MS: 402 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ), 385 ( $[M + H]^+$ ), 362, 344 ( $[M + 2H - C_3H_6]^+$ ), 180.

Mosher Esters **2b** and **2c**. As described above for **1a** and **1b**, with **2** (5 mg). Prep. HPLC (RCM 8 × 10, MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O 75:25) afforded (*S,S*)-Mosher ester **2b** (7 mg, 63.2%) and the (*R,R*)-Mosher ester **2c** (7.5 mg, 68.6%), resp.

(1*R*,3*R*)-1-[3-[(2*R*)-3,6-Dihydro-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]prop-2-enyl]-3-(4-phenylbutyl)propane-1,3-diyl Bis[(*aS*)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)benzeneacetate] (**2b**). EI-MS: 776 (0.8,  $M^{++}$ ), 498 (9), 308 (22,  $[M - PhC(MeO)(CF_3)COOH]^+$ ), 264 (86), 223 (7), 189 (100), 131 (28), 106 (35), 91 (60, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>). D/CI-MS: 794 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ).

(1*R*,3*R*)-1-[3-[(2*R*)-3,6-Dihydro-6-oxo-2H-pyran-2-yl]prop-2-enyl]-3-(4-phenylbutyl)propane-1,3-diyl Bis[(*aR*)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)benzeneacetate] (**2c**). EI-MS: 776 (0.8,  $M^{++}$ ), 498 (0.8), 308 (30,  $[M - 2 PhC(MeO)(CF_3)COOH]^+$ ), 223 (8), 190 (12), 189 (100), 170 (17), 118 (19), 104 (45), 91 (47, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>). D/CI-MS: 794 ( $[M + NH_4]^+$ ).

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