Oxa Bowls: Synthesis of New Tetraoxa-Cages and Their C-H···O-Mediated Solid-State Architecture

Goverdhan Mehta* and Ramdas Vidya

Department of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560 012, India

Received January 19, 2000

We have envisioned a new family of oxa-bowls, and a general approach to these entities has been proposed through polycyclic frameworks having two converging olefinic double bonds. Ozonolysis of such molecules was envisaged to give *all-cis*-tetraaldehyde functionality, which could undergo intramolecular cascade acetalization to oxa-bowls having $C_{2\nu}$ symmetry. Homohypostrophene 16a and its functionalized derivative 16b and hypostrophene 17 on ozonolysis furnished the oxa-cages 22a, 22b, and 23, respectively. Single-crystal X-ray analysis of 22a and 23 showed an interesting network of C-H···O interactions mainly involving the nonacidic cycloalkane hydrogen atoms. The molecule **22a** exhibits an interesting tapelike \tilde{C} -H···O hydrogen bonding motif in its crystal structure. On the other hand, the molecule 23 revealed an undulated ribbonlike C-H···O motif. The "chain of rings" pattern of C-H···O interactions in 23 has been observed for the first time in the solid-state structure of oxa-bowls.

Polycyclic systems having interspersed heteroatoms are intrinsically interesting as they may show avidity for metal ion binding as well as novel physicochemical properties and transannular interactions. In this context, heteroanalogues of high-symmetry polycarbocyclic frames are particularly appealing.¹ We have recently conceived of [n]-hetero[n]peristylanes (n-hetero-bowls) 1 as heterocyclic analogues of [n] peristylanes.² This novel class of



molecular entities consists of an [n]-membered carbocyclic base and a [2n]-membered heterocyclic rim with [n]heteroatoms and has an overall C_{nv} symmetry.^{3–5} The walls of these [n]hetero[n]peristylanes are exclusively composed of five-membered rings. As a part of wider

 (2) (a) Garratt, P. J.; White, J. F. J. Org. Chem. 1977, 42, 1733. (b)
 Paquette, L. A.; Fischer, J. W.; Browne, A. R.; Doecke, C. W. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 686. (c) Eaton, P. E.; Mueller, R. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1972, 94, 1014. (d) Eaton, P. E.; Mueller, R. H.; Carlson, G. R.; Cullison, D. A.; Cooper, G. F.; Chou, T.-C.; Krebs, E.-P. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1977. 99. 2751.

(3) (a) Blesinger, E.; Schroder, G. *Chem. Ber.* **1978**, *111*, 2448. (b) Mehta, G.; Vidya, R.; Venkatesan, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1999**, *40*, 2417.

(4) (a) Mehta, G.; Vidya, R. Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 4173. (b)
 Mehta, G.; Vidya, R. Tetrahedron Lett. 1998, 39, 6403. (c) Wu, H.-J.;
 Wu, C.-Y. J. Org. Chem. 1999, 64, 1576.
 (5) Mehta, G.; Vidya, R. Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 4177.

interest in these hetero-bowls, we have initially directed out attention toward oxa-bowls $\mathbf{1}$ (X = O) and following the strategy of cascade intramolecular acetalization in all *cis*-[*n*]formyl[*n*]cycloalkanes **2**, we have reported the synthesis of tetraoxa[4]peristylane 3,3b pentaoxa[5]peristylane 4,^{4a,b} and a close precursor of hexaoxa[6]peristylane 5.5 We have also elucidated the molecular structure of these [n]oxa[n]peristylanes **3**-**5** by X-ray crystallography^{3b,4b} and ab initio calculations⁶ and observed interesting solid-state architecture sustained by a network of C-H···O interactions. These novel crowns of oxygen atoms having rigid framework and only one methylene spacer can be expected to function as interesting ligands compared to the conventional crown ethers with ethylene spacer between oxygens. Our ab initio calculations indicate that some unusual and specific binding characteristics are likely to be exhibited by these molecular entities.⁶ Our previous^{1e} and recent work on starands^{1h,i} supports this expectation.



The results with 3-5 have spurred us toward the synthesis of different class of hetero-bowls having lower symmetry $(C_{2\nu})$ and fused or bridged bicyclic ring as a base and whose walls are composed of larger rings such as five- and six-membered rings or five- and sevenmembered rings. To access such hetero-bowls, we have identified rigid, stereochemically well-defined polycyclic systems having symmetrically disposed double bonds as suitable starting materials. We envisaged that oxidative cleavage of double bonds in precursors such as 6 would generate four cis-disposed aldehyde groups 7, well positioned for intramolecular cascade acetalization process to deliver the oxa-cage 8, Scheme 1.

^{(1) (}a) Stetter, H.; Reinartz, W. Chem. Ber. 1972, 105, 2773. (b) Stetter, H.; Heckel, K. Chem. Ber. 1973, 106, 339. (c) Sedelmeier, G.; Fessner, W.-D.; Pinkos, R.; Grund, C.; Murty, B. A. R. C.; Hunkler, D.; Rihs, G.; Fritz, H.; Kruger, C.; Prinzbach, H. *Chem. Ber.* **1986**, *119*, 3442. (d) Mehta, G.; Rao, H. S. P. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1986**, 472. (e) Mehta, G.; Rao, K. S.; Krishnamurthy, N.; Srinivas, V.; Balasubramanian, D. Tetrahedron 1989, 45, 2743. (f) Nielsen, A. T.; Christian, S. L.; Moore, D. W.; Gilardi, R. D.; George, C. F. J. Org. *Chem.* **1987**, *52*, 1656. (g) Izumi, H.; Setokuchi, O.; Shimizu, Y.; Tobita, H.; Ogino, H. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 1173. (h) Lee, W. Y.; Park, C. H. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 7149. (i) Cho, S. J.; Hwang, H. S.; Park, J. M.; Oh, K. S.; Kim. K. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 485.

⁽⁶⁾ Sharma, P. K.; Jemmis, E. D.; Vidya, R.; Mehta, G. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2 1999, 257.



To give expression to the theme depicted in Scheme 1, our initial attempts were focused on the tetracyclic diolefin **9**⁷ and the pentacyclic diolefin **10**⁸ as possible precursors of expanded bowls such as 11 and 14, respectively. In the event, ozonation of 9 did not lead to the expected all-cis-hexaaldehvde and hence to the hexaoxabowl 11 but to an unusually stable diozonide 12 of bowllike topology, Scheme 2. Formation of several stable diozonides of general structure 12 and elucidation of their structures has been described by us previously.⁹ Pentacyclic diolefin 10⁸ was also subjected to ozonolysis with the expectation that the intermediate *all-cis*-tetraaldehyde 13 will undergo in situ cascade cyclization to furnish the corresponding oxa-cage 14 having alternate five- and seven-membered ether rings, Scheme 3. However, we could not isolate any characterizable product except some polymer from this reaction, and this outcome may be due to the unfavorable strain involved in the formation of seven-membered ether rings in 14.10 Thus, both size of the rings to be formed and stereochemistry of the aldehyde groups are important in promoting intramolecular acetalization to furnish the corresponding oxabowls.

To access relatively smaller oxa-cages having five- and six-membered rings as its walls, following the strategy delineated in Scheme 1, we identified the stereochemically well-defined polycyclic diolefins, dicyclopentadiene **15**, homohypostrophene **16a**,¹¹ and its functionalized derivative **16b**,¹² and hypostrophene **17**¹³ as suitable starting materials. Employing **15–17** as the starting



a. O₃, DCM, -78°C; DMS; b. Amberlyst-15, rt, 3-5h

material, we report here the synthesis and characterization of the oxa-cages 21-23 and record the interesting observations on the solid-state architecture present in 22a and 23.

Our initial efforts were directed toward the commercially available dicyclopentadiene 15. Ozonolysis of 15 at -78 °C, quenching with dimethyl sulfide, and treatment of the resultant product with Amberlyst-15 furnished 21 as a crystalline solid in 48% yield via cascade intramolecular acetalization in the tetraaldehyde 18. Structure of 21 was confirmed mainly through incisive analysis of its ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, which showed the absence of any symmetry. This preliminary experiment showed that the tetraaldehvde intermediate generated from appropriate precursors does undergo the expected cascade acetalization as depicted in Scheme 1. This encouraged us to prepare homohypostrophene derivatives **16a**¹¹ and **16b**¹² following literature procedures. Ozonolysis of diolefins 16a and 16b and exposure of the intermediates all-cis-tetraaldehydes 19a and 19b to acid catalyst led to the cyclized tetraoxa compounds 22a and **22b**, respectively, as the major products in the reaction in \sim 35% yield, Scheme 4. The structures of oxa-cages 22a,b were in full consonance with their ¹H and ¹³C NMR and MS data. Particularly, the 4 and 5 peaks in the ¹³C

^{(7) (}a) Mehta, G.; Srikrishna, A.; Reddy, A. V.; Nair, M. S. *Tetrahedron* **1981**, *37*, 4543. (b) Mehta, G.; Nair, M. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 7519.

⁽⁸⁾ Srikrishna, A.; Sunderbabu, G. J. Org. Chem. 1987, 52, 5037.
(9) Mehta, G.; Uma, R. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1998, 1735.
(10) Mehta, G.; Vidya, R. Unpublished results.
(11) (a) Underwood, G. R.; Ramamoorthy, B. J. Chem. Soc., Chem.

^{(11) (}a) Underwood, G. R.; Ramamoorthy, B. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1970**, 12. (b) Underwood, G. R.; Ramamoorthy, B. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1970**, 4125.

^{(12) (}a) Eaton, P. E.; Or, Y. S.; Branca, S. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1981**, *103*, 2134. (b) Eaton, P. E.; Or, Y. S.; Branca, S. J.; Ravishankar, B. K. *Tetrahedron* **1986**, *42*, 1621.

⁽¹³⁾ Paquette, L. A.; Davis, R. F.; James, D. R. Tetrahedron Lett. 1974, 1615.



Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of 22a.

NMR of **22a** and **22b**, respectively, was indicative of the $C_{2\nu}$ symmetry present in them. Next, we turned attention toward hypostrophene **17**.¹³ Ozonolysis to intermediate *all-cis*-tetraaldehyde **20** and acid catalysis led to 4-fold acetalization and formation of $C_{2\nu}$ -symmetric oxa-bowl **23** in 51% yield. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, particularly the presence of three peaks in the latter fully supported the structure **23**.

In our previous studies, the crystal structure of oxabowls tetraoxa[4]peristylane **3** and pentaoxa-[5]-peristylane **4** showed novel C–H····O-mediated architecture, ^{3b,4b} and hence, we were interested in studying the solid-state structure of **22a** and **23**. As expected, the single-crystal X-ray analyses of oxa-bowls **22a** and **23** showed some unusual packing patterns sustained through an extensive network of C–H····O interactions.

Crystal Packing in 22a

X-ray data (refined by full-matrix least-squares methods on F^2 with the non-H atoms anisotropic and H atoms were placed in calculated positions and were allowed to ride on their parent atoms) revealed that the needleshaped crystals of 22a belonged to the chiral space group $P2_12_12_1$ with four molecules in the unit cell, and the ORTEP diagram of **22a** is shown in Figure 1. The packing pattern reveals a large number of close intermolecular contacts between the molecules. The significant intermolecular C-H···O hydrogen bonds that are within the presently acceptable limits¹⁴ are given in Table 1. The strands of molecules in alternate rim-up, rim-down fashion are arranged perpendicular to the adjacent strands, and this significant arrangement allows the extensive network of C-H···O hydrogen bonds observed in **22a**, Figure 2, viewed along the direction that makes 45° with *a*- and *b*-axes is depicted for reasons of clarity.

When viewed along the *b*-axis, the molecules of **22a** are arranged in alternate rim-up, rim-down fashion in

Table 1. Intermolecular C-H···O Interactions¹⁴ in 22a

С–Н•••О	<i>d</i> (H…O) (Å)	D(C…O) (Å)	θ (C–H···O) (deg)
C1-H1O3	2.677	3.209	114.4
C1-H104	2.533	3.493	166.3
C2-H201	2.682	3.614	159.0
C4-H401	2.675	3.207	114.4
C4-H4O2	2.531	3.491	166.3
C5-H5O3	2.681	3.613	159.0
C9-H9····O4	2.750	3.615	147.4
C11-H1102	2.750	3.615	147.5



Figure 2. Network of $C-H\cdots O$ interactions in **22a** (view along 45° to the *ab*-plane).

the *ac*-plane. They are interconnected by C–H···O (d = 2.68 Å, $\theta = 159.0^{\circ}$) hydrogen bonding involving the least acidic bridgehead hydrogen atoms H₂ and H₅ and oxygen atoms O₁ and O₃, respectively, resulting in a *tape-like motif of C–H*···O *hydrogen bonding* along the *c*-axis,¹⁵ Figure 3. The C–H···O tapes with molecules arranged in alternate rim-up, rim-down fashion are interconnected through many reasonably strong C–H···O hydrogen bonds, Figure 2.

The least acidic norbornane hydrogen atoms H₁ and H₄ form almost linear hydrogen bonding with acetal oxygen atoms O₄ and O₂ (d = 2.53 Å, $\theta = 166.3^{\circ}$), respectively, and also with O₃ and O₁ (d = 2.68 Å, $\theta = 114.4^{\circ}$), respectively. Thus, the hydrogen atoms H₁ and H₄ are involved in bifurcated hydrogen bonding, Figure 2 and Table 1.

The other close contacts observed in the crystal structure of **22a** are C_9-H_9 with O_4 and $C_{11}-H_{11}$ with O_2 (d =

^{(14) (}a) Taylor, R.; Kennard, O. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1982, 104, 5063.
(b) Desiraju, G. R. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1990, 454. (c) Steiner, T. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1997, 727.

⁽¹⁵⁾ Zerkowski, J. A.; MacDonald, J. C.; Seto, C. T.; Wierda, D. A.; Whitesides, G. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, *116*, 2382.



Figure 3. Infinite tapelike C–H····O hydrogen-bonding motif along the *c*-axis in **22a**.

2.75 Å, $\theta = 147.5^{\circ}$) involving the acetal hydrogen atoms. It is noteworthy that only the nonacidic norbornane hydrogen atoms are involved in the formation of reasonably strong C–H···O hydrogen bonds, and the organization of molecules in this crystal corresponds essentially to molecular tapes.

Crystal Packing in 23

Slow evaporation of a solution of **23** in THF afforded needle-shaped crystals. Single-crystal X-ray analysis showed that the space group is *Pnma* with only four molecules in the unit cell. It follows that one of the mirror planes of molecule **23** coincides with the crystallographic mirror plane passing through atoms O₁ and O₃ and bisecting the bicyclo[2.2.0]hexane framework. The molecules are tightly packed with high crystal density 1.68 g/cm³. Figure 4 portrays the ORTEP perspective of the molecule **23**. The packing pattern reveals a large number of close intermolecular contacts.¹⁴ Only the significant contacts with *d*(H...O) < 2.84 Å are given in Table 2.

When viewed down the *a*-axis, the molecules are arranged in hexagonal close packing with alternate rimup, rim-down fashion interconnected through $C-H\cdots O$ interaction. The same pattern repeats in next layers but the molecules are slightly displaced with respect to each



Figure 4. ORTEP diagram of 23.

Table 2.	Intermolecular	С-н…о	Interactions ¹⁴	in	23
----------	----------------	-------	----------------------------	----	----

С–Н…О	<i>d</i> (H···O) (Å)	<i>D</i> (C····O) (Å)	θ (C–H···O) (deg)
C4-H401	2.804	3.533	131.7
C4A-H4A····O1	2.804	3.533	131.7
C4–H4····O2A	2.709	3.590	149.7
C4A-H4A····O2	2.709	3.590	149.7
C3-H3···O3	2.755	3.182	106.9
СЗА-НЗА-ОЗ	2.755	3.182	106.9
C2-H2···O2	2.837	3.555	130.7
C2A-H2A····O2A	2.837	3.555	130.7

other. This is in contrast to our earlier observation in the molecule pentaoxa[5]peristylane **4**,^{4b} where the oxabowls stack exactly on top of each other, in top-to-bottom fashion, forming infinite columnar architecture. This may be due to the fact that the molecule **23** does not possess a flat bottom as pentaoxa[5]peristylane and in this situation the displacement presumably facilitates occurrence of a large number of C–H···O contacts. Though there is no exact bowl-to-bowl stacking in **23**, a large number of bowl-to-bowl C–H···O interactions are present as seen from Figure 5.

When viewed down the *c*-axis, the oxygen atom O_3 makes C-H···O contacts with the less acidic bridgehead hydrogen atoms H₃ and H_{3A} (d = 2.755 Å, $\theta = 106.9^{\circ}$) and O₁ with even lesser acidic cyclobutane hydrogen atoms H₄ and H_{4A} (d = 2.804 Å, $\theta = 131.7^{\circ}$), Figure 5. The oxygen atoms O_2 and O_{2A} form C-H···O hydrogen bonds with H_{4A} and H_4 (d = 2.709 Å, $\theta = 149.7^{\circ}$), respectively. These two C-H···O hydrogen bonds, i.e., $C_4-H_4\cdots O_{2A}$ and $C_{4A}-H_{4A}\cdots O_2$, turn out to be the most significant ones as they hold the oxa-bowls in top-tobottom fashion, hence resulting in an undulated ribbon*like motif* along *a*-axis, Figure 6. The stacks of oxa-bowls growing in opposite directions along a-axis are held together through $C_2-H_2\cdots O_2$ and $C_{2A}-H_{2A}\cdots O_{2A}$ (d = 2.837 Å, $\theta = 130.7^{\circ}$) close contacts resulting in a *wavelike* motif along b-axis, Figure 6.

Thus, all the four oxygen atoms (through both the lone pairs) and all the six least acidic cyclobutane hydrogen atoms of the bicyclo[2.2.0]hexane moiety are involved in a network of C–H···O interactions in molecule **23**. The hydrogen atoms H₄ and H_{4A} are involved in bifurcated hydrogen bonding (d = 2.709, 2.804 Å), see Figure 5 and Table 2.



Figure 5. Network of C–H···O interactions in the *ab*-plane of **23**.



Figure 6. "Chain of rings" pattern of C–H···O along the *b*-axis in **23**.

The interesting aspect is the presence of a "chain of rings" pattern¹⁶ of C–H···O hydrogen bonds in the direction of the *b*-axis, Figure 6. This pattern is generated by the combination of two different types of C–H···O motifs involving the oxygen atoms O_2 and O_{2A} , namely, an *undulated ribbonlike motif* along the *a*-axis and a *wavelike motif* along the *b*-axis. The chains are composed of 10-membered rings linked through the molecules, and each ring is formed around an inversion center. This kind of motif has been observed for the first time in the solid-state structure of oxa-bowls.

It may be of interest to compare the solid-state architecture of the molecules **22a** and **23** with the oxaperistylanes **3** and **4** described earlier by us.^{3b,4b} The common feature observed in the solid-state structure of these molecules is the alternate rim-up, rim-down orientation of molecules and the participation of the least acidic hydrogen atoms in the C–H···O interactions. However, there are significant differences in the C–H···O motifs.

In tetraoxa[4]peristylane 3, the oxa-bowls are packed in top-to-bottom fashion resulting in columnar arrangement. While there is no direct C-H···O connectivity between the bowls in a column, they are connected laterally to the bowls in adjacent columns resulting in an infinite wavelike C-H···O hydrogen bonding motif. On the other hand, pentaoxa[5]peristylane 4 exhibits bowl-to-bowl columnar arrangement sustained through a C-H···O hydrogen bond resulting in an *infinite columnar C*–*H*•••*O hydrogen bonding motif.* In the case of oxabowl 23, there is no exact columnar packing mode due to the slight displacement of the molecules with respect to each other. But, the C-H···O interaction between the bowls in a stack results in an undulated ribbon like $C-H \cdots O$ motif. The topology of the oxa-cage **22a** differs from the oxa-bowls 3, 4, and 23 by the presence of a methylene bridge. The organization of molecules in the crystal of **22a** is different and it corresponds essentially to molecular tapes. The molecules are interconnected through a C-H···O hydrogen bond resulting in a *tapelike* $C-H\cdots O$ motif. Thus, the molecules **3**, **4**, **22a**, and **23** exhibit different C-H···O hydrogen bonding motifs, and this may be attributed to the difference in their molecular symmetry and topology. Interestingly, unlike the oxabowls 3 and 4, in the solid-state structure of both 22a and 23, only the nonacidic cycloalkane hydrogen atoms are involved in significant C-H···O interactions and not the relatively more acidic acetal hydrogen atoms.

In summary, we have prepared a new class of oxacages 21-23 whose walls are composed of five- and sixmembered rings and described the interesting network of C-H···O interactions observed in their solid-state structure.

Experimental Section

General Methods. Melting points are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded as KBr pellettes. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 75 MHz, and the NMR samples were made in CDCl₃ solvent. Column chromatography was performed using Acme's silica gel (100–200 mesh), and ethyl acetate–hexane was used as eluent. Commercially available dicyclopentadiene was distilled under vacuum and used for the reaction. Dichloromethane was distilled from calcium hydride.

Starting Materials. Diolefins **16a**,¹¹ **16b**,¹² and **17**¹³ were prepared following the literature procedures and duly characterized.

Tetracyclo[6.3.0.0^{2,6}.0^{5,9}]undeca-3,10-diene 16a:¹¹ ¹H NMR δ 5.90 (s, 4H), 3.16 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 4H), 1.68 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 137.1 (CH, 4C), 65.0 (CH, 2C), 49.0 (CH, 4C), 31.7 (CH₂).

7,7-Dimethoxytetracyclo[**6.3.0.0**^{2,6}.0^{5,9}]**undeca-3,10-diene 16b:**¹² ¹H NMR δ 5.92 (s, 4H), 3.36 (s, 6H), 3.20–3.08 (m, 2H), 2.60 (br. s, 4H); ¹³C NMR δ 136.5 (CH, 4C), 107.9, 65.0 (CH, 2C), 50.7 (CH₃, 2C), 46.9 (CH, 4C).

Tetracyclo[**5.3.0.0**^{2,6}.0^{3,10}]**deca-4,8-diene 17**:¹³ ¹H NMR δ 6.11 (s, 4H), 3.22–3.20 (m, 4H), 3.18–3.12 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 137.5 (CH, 4C), 49.0 (CH, 4C), 43.1 (CH, 2C).

General Procedure for Ozonolysis. To a solution of diolefin in dichloromethane (25 mL) at -78 °C was bubbled

⁽¹⁶⁾ Bernstein, J.; Davis, R. E.; Shimoni, L.; Chang, N.-L. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 1995, 34, 1555.

ozone until the blue color appeared, and the excess ozone was flushed off using oxygen and the ozonide was quenched with dimethyl sulfide (5 equiv) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred with Amberlyst-15 at room temperature for 3-5 h. The resin was filtered off, and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue obtained was passed through a silica gel column to afford the oxa-cages **21**, **22a,b**, **23** in 30-50% yields.

Spectral Data. 9,11,13,14-Tetraoxapentacyclo[6.5.1.0.^{2,6}-0.^{3,12}0^{5,10}]tetradecane 21: mp 152–153 °C; IR (KBr) 1209, 1133, 1058 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.57 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.48 (d, 1H, J = 5.4 Hz), 5.31 (d, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz), 5.26 (br. s, 1H), 2.97–2.92 (m, 2H), 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.32–2.27 (m, 1H), 1.90–1.88 (m, 3H), 1.51 (td, 1H, J_1 = 8.1 Hz, J_2 = 3.9 Hz); ¹³C NMR δ 103.2, 98.4, 93.6, 88.7, 46.7, 39.3, 39.0, 29.0, 28.4 (CH₂), 25.5 (CH₂); LRMS *m*/*z* 197 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₂O₄: C, 61.22; H, 6.17. Found: C, 60.81; H, 6.24.

9,11,13,14-Tetraoxahexacyclo[6.5.1.1.^{2,12}**0**.^{3,7}**0**.^{5,15}**0**^{6,10}**]pentadecane 22a:** mp 230–231 °C dec; IR (KBr) 1098, 1015 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.44–5.42 (m, 4H), 2.96–2.95 (m, 4H), 2.30–2.29 (m, 2H), 2.21–2.19 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 95.9 (CH, 4C), 49.6 (CH₂, 1C), 43.3 (CH, 4C), 34.9 (CH, 2C); LRMS *m*/*z* 209 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₂O₄: C, 63.45; H, 5.81. Found: C, 63.53; H, 5.84.

4,4-Dimethoxy-9,11,13,14-tetraoxahexacyclo[6.5.1.1.^{2,12}-0.^{3,7}0.^{5,15}0^{6,10}]penta decane 22b: mp 228 °C; IR (KBr) 1113, 1026 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.49–5.46 (m, 4H), 3.32 (s, 6H), 3.02– 2.99 (m, 4H), 2.34–2.31 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 121.7 (1C), 96.4 (CH, 4C), 50.8 (CH₃, 2C), 39.9 (CH, 4C), 36.7 (CH, 2C); LRMS *m*/*z* 268 (M⁺). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₆O₆: C, 58.20; H, 6.01. Found: C, 58.55; H, 6.13.

9,11,13,14-Tetraoxahexacyclo[**6.5.1.0**^{2,7}**.0**^{3,6}**.0**^{4,12}**.0**^{5,10}]**tetradecane 23:** mp >180 °C dec; IR (KBr) 1115, 1040 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.55–5.52 (m, 4H), 3.31–3.24 (m, 4H), 2.82–2.73 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 95.9 (CH, 4C), 34.9 (CH, 4C), 20.7 (CH, 2C); LRMS *m*/*z* 195 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₀O₄: C, 61.85; H, 5.19. Found: C, 61.84; H, 5.19.

Crystal data for 22a: C₁₁H₁₂O₄, M = 208.21, colorless crystals, orthorhombic, space group $P2_12_12_1$, a = 8.3520(7) Å, b = 8.3517(7) Å, and c = 12.570(8) Å, V = 876.8(6) Å³, Z = 4, $D_c = 1.577$ Mg/m³, T = 293(2)K, F(000) = 440, μ (Mo K α) = 0.120 mm⁻¹, crystal dimensions $0.08 \times 0.08 \times 0.18$ mm³. Data were collected on an Enraf-Nonius MACH-3 diffractometer, graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), by ω scan method in the range $2.93 \le \theta \le 29.96^{\circ}$, 2558 unique reflections ($R_{int} = 0.0217$), of which 1925 had $F_0 > 4\sigma(F_0)$, were

used in all calculations. At final convergence $R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)] = 0.0386$, wR₂ = 0.1006 for 136 parameters and 0 restraint, GOF = 1.095, $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.187$ e Å⁻³, $\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.272$ e Å⁻³. The data were reduced using XTAL (ver 3.4), solved by direct methods, refined by full-matrix least-squares methods on F^2 with the non-H atoms anisotropic, and H atoms were placed in calculated positions and were allowed to ride on their parent atoms.¹⁷

Crystal Data for 23: $C_{10}H_{10}O_4$, M = 194.18, colorless crystals, orthorhombic, space group *Pnma*, a = 10.7635(12)Å, b = 10.869(7) Å, and c = 6.5705(16) Å, V = 768.7(5) Å³, Z = 4, $D_c = 1.678$ Mg/m³, T = 293(2)K, F(000) = 408, μ (Mo Ka) = 0.131 mm⁻¹, crystal dimensions $0.36 \times 0.44 \times 1.28$ mm³. Data were collected on an Enraf-Nonius MACH-3 diffractometer, graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), by ω scan method in the range 3.62 $\leq \theta \leq$ 29.94°, 1168 unique reflections ($R_{int} = 0.00$), of which 938 had $F_0 > 4\sigma(F_0)$, were used in all calculations. At final convergence $R_1[I > 2\sigma$ -(I) = 0.0400, wR₂ = 0.0950 for 68 parameters and 0 restraint, GOF = 1.082, $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.303$ e Å⁻³, $\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.189$ e Å⁻³. The data were reduced using XTAL (ver 3.4), solved by direct methods, refined by full-matrix least-squares methods on F^2 with the non-H atoms anisotropic, and H atoms were placed in calculated positions and were allowed to ride on their parent atoms.17

Acknowledgment. We are grateful to Prof. K. Venkatesan for useful discussions. We would like to thank Dr. K. Sekar of Bio-informatics and Interactive Graphics Center of I.I.Sc., Bangalore, for his help in generating the packing diagrams. The crystal data were collected at the National Single Crystal X-ray Facility, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. One of us (R.V.) thanks CSIR for a research fellowship.

Supporting Information Available: Tables of X-ray crystal data, atomic coordinates, bond lengths, bond angles and anisotropic thermal parameters for **22a** and **23**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

JO0000731

(17) Sheldrick, G. M. SHELX-97, University of Gottingen, Germany.