Mechanistic Investigation of Rh^I–Catalyzed Cycloisomerization of Benzylallene-Internal Alkynes via C−H Activation

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ABSTRACT: Treatment of the benzylallene-internal alkynes with [RhCl(CO)₂]₂ effected a cycloisomerization via a C_{sp2}−H bond activation to produce the tricyclo $[9.4.0.0^{3.8}]$ pentadecapentaene skeleton. The reaction mechanism via formation of the rhodabicyclo[4.3.0] intermediates and σ -bond metathesis between the C_{sp2}−H bond on the benzene ring and the $\rm{C_{sp2}-Rh^{III}}$ bond was proposed. In addition, a plausible alternative mechanism for the previously reported cycloisomerization of the benzylallene-terminal alkynes could also be proposed.

 \sum_{C-H_1} catalyzed
C−H¹ and/or C−C² bond ac[ti](#page-7-0)vation provide a powerful
stap, and atom acconomical methodology for the straightfor step- and atom-economical methodology for the straightforward construction of complex polycyclic skeletons inaccessible by other conventional methods. Recent efforts from this laboratory disclosed that the $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ -catalyzed cycloisomerization of the benzylallene-terminal alkynes $1 (Y =$ SO₂Ph, alkyl) took place via the C_{sp2}−H bond activation on the benzene ring to produce the tricyclo $[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]$ pentadecapentaene derivatives 2 [[Scheme 1,](#page-1-0) eq (1)].^{[3](#page-8-0)} Based on preliminary investigations using deuterated substrates, 3 we tentatively interpreted this ring-closing reaction as follows: (i) oxidative addition of the acetylenic C−H bond to Rh^I would form the intermediate 3 as the first step, (ii) ene-type cyclization of 3 would lead to the unique vinylidenecarbene-Rh intermediate $4,4$ $4,4$ which is electrophilically captured by benzene to form 5, and (iii) migration of the proton of benzene of 5 to Rh (C_{sp2}−H bond activation) would finally be followed by reductive elimination. 5 We subsequently focused on the ring-closing reaction using the internal alkyne instead of the terminal acetylene species. As a result, treatment of the benzylallene-internal alkyne species 6 ($\mathbb{R}^1 \neq H$, Y = alkyl) with $[RhCl(CO)₂]$ ₂ dramatically changed the ring-closing mode to furnish the hexahydrophenanthrene skeleton 7 in high yields [\[Scheme 1](#page-1-0), eq (2)].^{[6](#page-8-0)} The reaction likely proceeds by consecutive formation of a rhodabicyclo[4.3.0] intermediate 8, σ -bond metathesis between the C_{sp2}−H bond on the benzene ring and the C_{sp2}−Rh bond (C_{sp2}−H bond activation step), and isomerization between three σ -, π -, and σ allylrhodium species (9 and 9': σ -allylrhodium). This plausible mechanism was proposed on the basis of several experiments using deuterated substrates.^{[6](#page-8-0)}

During the course of our investigation of the Rh^I-catalyzed cyclization of allenes possessing an additional π -component,^{[7](#page-8-0),[8](#page-8-0)} we generally assumed the formation of the rhodabicyclic intermediate, such as 8, as the first step in order to understand the experimental results. However, the proposed mechanism for the construction of 2 from 1 is quite different from our precedents, whereas the mechanism for the formation of 7 from 6 is in line with our previously proposed one involving the rhodabicyclic intermediate. Therefore, at this stage we wondered if the rhodabicyclo[4.3.0]nonadiene intermediate, such as 8, might be involved in the transformation of 1 into 2. On the other hand, we had already observed that the substituent on the allenyl moiety significantly affected the reactivity and chemoselectivity of several reactions.^{[8a,c,d](#page-8-0)} Thus, our next efforts directed toward making the reaction mechanism for the transformation of 1 into 2 clearer using benzylallene-alkyne substrates 6^9 6^9 with varying substituents on the allenyl moiety and at the alkyne terminus. Herein we describe the preparation of other type of tricyclo $[9.4.0.0^{3.8}]$ derivative 10, a double bond isomer of 2, from the benzylalleneinternal alkynes 6 with an electron-withdrawing group (EWG) on the allenyl moiety ($R^1 \neq H$, $Y = SO_2Ph$, $P(O)(OEt)_2)$. With three transformations (the newly obtained results with the previous ones) considered, we now propose the reaction mechanism that can rationalize the formation of all tricyclic compounds 2, 7, and 10 from benzylallene-alkyne substrates 1 and 6 via the common rhodabicyclo[4.3.0] intermediate [\(Scheme 2\)](#page-1-0).

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Scheme 2. This Study: Rh^I−Catalyzed Cycloisomerization of Benzylallene-Internal Alkynes via C−H Bond Activation

The benzylallene-internal alkyne 6a having a dimethyl group at the benzylic position 10 was exposed to the optimized conditions $([RhCl(CO)₂]$ ₂ in 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE) heated at 110 °C by microwave (MW) irradiation) to provide the tricyclo^{[9.4.0.0^{3,8}] pentadecapentaene derivative 10a with a} trans stereochemistry between the n-butyl residue and the phenylsulfonyl group $(64\%$, entry 1).^{[11](#page-8-0),[12](#page-8-0)} Compound 10a has the benzene-fused seven-six membered structure similar to that of 2, but different regarding the position of the two double bonds. The allene-alkyne 6b also gave the tricyclic product 10b in 66% yield (entry 2). In the cases of the benzylallenes possessing a phosphonate group on the allenyl moiety 6c and 6d, the reaction occurred in refluxing toluene to afford 10c (64% yield) and 10d (73% yield), respectively (entries 3 and 4). The substrate having a benzyloxymethyl group at the alkyne terminus 6e provided the corresponding cycloadduct 10e in 52% yield (entry 5). The cyclic ketal derivative $6f¹³$ $6f¹³$ $6f¹³$ was exposed to the standard conditions to furnish 10f in 41% yield (entry 6). Both compounds $6g(R^3=Me)$ and $6h(R^3=Cl)$ with substituents at the *para-position* on the benzene ring produced 10g in 56% yield (entry 7) and 10h in 62% yield (entry 8), although a longer reaction time was needed in the latter case. Thus, it became clear that the benzylallene-internal alkynes 6 with an EWG on the allenyl moiety consistently produced the third type of compound 10 being obviously different from compounds 2 and $7¹⁴$ $7¹⁴$ $7¹⁴$

To obtain information about the mechanism for the stereoselective production of 10, we performed three experiments with the deuterated substrates, $[D_5]$ 6a, $[D_2]$ 6a, and $[D_1]$ 6a (Scheme 3). Treatment of the pentadeuterated substrate $[D_5]$ 6a with $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ in refluxing toluene^{[15](#page-8-0)} produced the deuterated product $[D_5]$ 10a in 54% yield. It became apparent

Scheme 3. $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ -Catalyzed Cycloisomerization of $[D_5]$ 6a, $[D_2]$ 6a, $[D_1]$ 6a

that one deuterium atom on the benzene ring was exclusively incorporated at the benzylic position of the seven-membered ring of $[D_5]$ 10a in a highly stereoselective manner. In the case of the dideuterated substrate $[D_2]$ 6a, one of the deuterium atoms at the propargylic position was stereoselectively transferred into the allylic position of the six-membered ring of $[D_2]$ 10a. For the monodeuterated substrate $[D_1]$ 6a, the deuterium atom at the allenic position was completely incorporated into the olefinic position of the seven-membered ring in $[D_1]$ 10a. In other words, migration of the deuterium atom could not be observed.

These deuteration experiments provided a fairly informative insight into the mechanistic consideration for the cycloisomerization of 6 into 10 [\(Scheme 4\)](#page-2-0). The first two steps should be in accordance with those described for the mechanism involving the production of 7 from 6 [Scheme 1, eq (2)]. Namely, the oxidative cyclization of an allenic distal double bond and an alkyne in 6 with Rh^I would initially occur as usual to form the bicyclic rhodacyclopentene intermediate A.

Scheme 4. Plausible Mechanisms for the Formations of 2, 7, and 10

Table 1. $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ -Catalyzed Cycloisomerization of Benzylallene-Alkynes 6^a

a
Reaction conditions: A solution of 6 in DCE was heated in a microwave reactor at 110 °C. b Isolated yield. "Reaction was performed in refluxing toluene. DCE = 1,2-dichloroethane, MW = microwave.

The σ -bond metathesis 16 16 16 between the C_{sp2}−H bond on the benzene ring and the $\rm{C_{sp2}-Rh^{III}}$ bond of \rm{A} would form the arylrhodium intermediate B. The insertion of the exocyclic olefin of B into the $C_{sp2}-Rh^{III}$ bond would result in the formation of the intermediate C, which collapsed to the σ allylrhodium intermediate **D** via β -hydride elimination with H_A. The intermediate D should have the cis-stereochemistry between the Rh center and the substituent R^1 . The intermediate D can be considered being in equilibrium with another σ -allylrhodium intermediate F through the π allylrhodium intermediate E. The reductive elimination of Rh^{III} from F, which also possesses the cis-stereochemistry between the Rh center and the substituent R^1 , would stereoselectively produce the final product 10. As a result, highly trans-stereoselective transformation of 6 into 10 in Table 1 would be explained (two substituents $R¹$ and Y in Scheme 4 were depicted as R^1 and R^2 in Table 1).

As already mentioned, we previously presumed that the cycloisomerization of benzylallene-terminal alkynes $1³$ $1³$ $1³$ proceeded via the mechanism involving the vinylidenecarbene-Rh intermediate 4 [[Scheme 1](#page-1-0), eq (1)].^{[4](#page-8-0)} By taking into consideration the mechanism for the formation of 10 into account, we reconsidered the mechanism for the cycloisomerization of 1 into 2 and the following plausible alternative is now proposed [\(Scheme 4](#page-2-0)). Benzylallene-terminal alkynes 1 must undergo the consecutive oxidative cyclization and the σ bond metathesis to form the intermediate $C\left(R^1\text{=}H\right)$ in a way similar to the formation of C ($\mathbb{R}^1 \neq H$) [\(Scheme 4\)](#page-2-0). This intermediate C $(\rm R^1\text{=}H)$ now has two β -protons. The molecular model analysis of $C (R^1=H)$ indicated that the down side hydrogen atom on the seven-membered ring became closely oriented to the Rh center. Thus, β-hydride elimination with H resulting from the acetylenic proton might exclusively occur to produce the σ -allylrhodium intermediate G. The reductive elimination of Rh^{III} from G finally leads to 2. The newly proposed mechanism for the production of 2 from 1 does not contradict the experimental results using deuterated substrates shown in a previous paper. 3

On the other hand, we already proposed the mechanism for the formation of 7 from 6 ($\mathbb{R}^1 \neq H$, Y = alkyl), which involved intermediates A and B .^{[6](#page-8-0)} The intermediate B would be in equilibrium with another σ -allylrhodium intermediate H, which should collapse into 7.

In summary, treatment of the benzylallene-internal alkynes possessing an EWG (SO₂Ph, P(O)(OEt)₂) on the allenyl moiety with $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ produced tricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadecapentaene derivatives. With the aid of deuteration experiments, we proposed the reaction mechanism that gave us other possibilities about the reaction mechanism for the transformation of benzylallene-terminal alkynes 1 into the tricyclic compounds 2. The three types of products 2, 7, and 10 can be now rationalized in terms of the initial formation of rhodabicyclo[4.3.0]nonadienes as a key and common intermediate in the $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ -catalyzed cycloisomerzation of allene-alkyne species [\(Scheme 4\)](#page-2-0).

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General. Melting points were measured with YANAGIMOTO micro melting point apparatus, and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were measured with a SHIMADZU FTIR-8700 spectrometer for samples in $CHCl₃$. ¹H NMR spectra were measured with JNM-ECS400 or JNM-ECA600 spectrometers for samples in chloroform-d (CDCl3), using either tetramethylsilane (for compound with a phenyl group, 0.00 ppm), CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm) as an internal reference. ¹³C NMR spectra were measured with JNM-ECS400 or JNM-ECA600 spectrometers for samples in $CDCl₃$ (77.0 ppm) as an internal reference. High-resolution mass spectra were measured with JMS-T100TD (DART) mass spectrometers, and mass spectra were measured with JMS-T100TD (DART) mass spectrometers. Microwave reactions were performed in sealed reaction vessels under N_2 atmosphere with a low-power, focused microwave (Biotage initiator 2.5) and the reaction temperatures were monitored by an external surface sensor. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction was measured with R-AXIS RAPID II. Commercially available anhydrous Et₂O, CH₂Cl₂, THF, toluene, and 1,2-dichloroethane were employed for reactions. Et₃N was distilled from CaH₂. Commercially available $[RhCl(CO)₂]$ ₂ (Kanto Chemical Co.) were employed for reactions. Commercially available hept-2-ynoic acid (Tokyo Chemical Industry), dimethyl 2- (prop-2-ynyl)malonate (Sigma-Aldrich) were employed for reactions. $4-(\text{Benzyloxy})$ but-2-ynol (S1e) ,^{[17](#page-8-0)} 5-(hept-2-ynyl)-2,2-dimethyl-5-(prop-2-ynyl)-1,3-dioxane (S2f), ^{[8e](#page-8-0)} dimethyl 2-(hept-2-ynyl)-2-(prop-2-ynyl)malonate $(S2a)$, 2-methyl-2-phenylpropanal, 18 2-methyl-2- $(p-$ tolyl)propanal,^{[18](#page-8-0)} 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methylpropanal,^{[19](#page-8-0)} dimethyl 2-(but-2-ynyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-phenylhex-2-ynyl)malonate $(S3b)$, dimethyl 2-(hept-2-ynyl)-2-[4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-(phenyl d_5)hex-2-ynyl]malonate $([D_5]$ S3a),^{[6](#page-8-0)} dimethyl 2-(hept-2-ynyl)-2-(4hydroxy-5-methyl-5-phenylhex-2-ynyl-4-d)malonate $([D_1]S3a)$ ^{[6](#page-8-0)} dimethyl 2-(hept-2-ynyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-phenylhex-2-ynyl)-

malonate $(S3a)$, and dimethyl 2-(hept-2-ynyl)-2-[5,5-dimethyl-5phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate (6a) [3](#page-8-0) were known compounds and prepared according to literature procedures. Silica gel (silica gel 60 N, 40−50 μm, Kanto Chemical Co.) was used for chromatography. All reactions were carried out under $N₂$ atmosphere. Organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄. All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used as received.

Preparation of Hept-2-yn-1,1- d_2 -1-ol ([D₂]S1a).
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To a suspension of $LiAlD_4$ (130 mg, 3.0 mmol) in Et₂O (5.0 mL) was added hept-2-ynoic acid (250 mg, 2.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched by addition of water at 0 °C, dried, and passed through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated to dryness, and the residue was chromatographed with CH₂Cl₂ to afford $[D_2]$ S_{1a} (120 mg, 52% yield) as a colorless oil: IR 3325 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.19 (t, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.99 (s, 1H), 1.49−1.45 (m, 2H), 1.41−1.35 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 86.4, 78.2, 50.7 (quin, J = 23.1 Hz), 30.6, 21.8, 18.3, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 115 (M⁺+1, 22.9); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_7H_{11}D_2O$ 115.1092, found 115.1091.

General Procedure for Preparation of Diynes S2e, $[D_2]$ S2a from S1e, $[D_2]$ S1a. General Procedure 1. To a solution of alcohol S1 (7.5 mmol) , PPh_3 $(2.4 \text{ g}, 9.0 \text{ mmol})$ and imidazole $(610 \text{ mg}, 9.0 \text{ m})$ mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was added I₂ (2.3 g, 9.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and Na₂S₂O₃, and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was passed through a short pad of silica gel with hexane or 5% AcOEt/ hexane as the eluent to afford the crude propargylic iodide. To a suspension of NaH (220 mg, 5.5 mmol, 60% in mineral oil) in THF (25 mL) was added dimethyl 2-(prop-2-ynyl)malonate (850 mg, 5.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred for 30 min at room temperature, the crude propargylic iodide was added at 0 °C and the reaction mixture was further stirred for additional 30 min at room temperature. The reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NH4Cl, and the mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed with 9% AcOEt/hexane as the eluent to afford the corresponding diyne S2.

Dimethyl 2-[4-(Benzyloxy)but-2-ynyl]-2-(prop-2-ynyl) malonate (S2e).

The title compound S2e was prepared from S1e (260 mg, 1.5 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and was obtained in 78% yield (260 mg) as a pale yellow oil: IR 3287, 1736 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36–7.35 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 4.13 $(t, 2H, J = 2.1 \text{ Hz})$, 3.765 (s, 3H), 3.764 (s, 3H), 3.07 (t, 2H, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 3.01 (d, 2H, J = 2.7 Hz), 2.05 (t, 1H, J = 2.7 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151) MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.1, 137.4, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 80.8, 79.5, 78.3, 71.8, 71.2, 57.3, 56.5, 53.1, 23.0, 22.8; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 329 $(M^+ + 1, 100)$; DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₉H₂₁O₅ 329.1389, found 329.1375.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl-1,1- d_2)-2-(prop-2-ynyl)malonate $([D_2]S2a).$

The title compound $[D_2]$ S2a was prepared from $[D_2]$ S1a (330 mg, 2.9 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and was obtained in 83% yield (430 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3286, 1740 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.73 (s, 6H), 2.94 (d, 2H, J = 2.7 Hz), 2.09 (t, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz), 2.00 (t, 1H, $J = 2.7$ Hz), 1.43–1.31 (m, 4H), 0.87 (t, 3H, $J =$ 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.3, 83.9, 78.6, 73.6, 71.4, 56.7, 52.9, 30.8, 22.8−22.2 (m), 21.7, 18.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 267 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{15}H_{19}D_2O_4$ 267.1565, found 267.1572.

General Procedure for Preparation of Propargylic Alcohols S3e−h, [D2]S3a from S2e−h, [D2]S2a. General Procedure 2. To a solution of diyne S2 (1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added LHMDS (1.2 mL, 1.2 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) at −78 °C. After being stirred for 30 min, aldehyde (1.3 mmol) was added to the mixture, and the reaction mixture was further stirred for additional 5 min at the same temperature. The reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NH4Cl, and the mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed with 9−25% AcOEt/ hexane as the eluent to afford the corresponding propargylic alcohol S3.

Dimethyl 2-[4-(Benzyloxy)but-2-ynyl]-2-(4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-phenylhex-2-ynyl)malonate (S3e).

The title compound S3e was prepared from S2e (260 mg, 0.78 mmol) and 2-methyl-2-phenylpropanal (150 mg, 1.0 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 and was obtained in 87% yield (320 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3533, 1739 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42−7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35−7.28 (m, 7H), 7.24−7.22 (m, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 4.40−4.38 (m, 1H), 4.13 (t, 2H, J = 2.1 Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.73 $(s, 3H)$, 3.05−2.93 (m, 4H), 1.62 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2, 144.9, 137.4, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.7, 126.5, 82.7, 80.9, 80.7, 79.4, 71.23, 71.18, 57.3, 56.5, 53.1, 42.9, 25.1, 23.2, 23.13, 23.06; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 477 (M⁺+1, 22.6); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{29}H_{33}O_6$ 477.2277, found 477.2275.

6-[5-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxan-5-yl]-2-methyl-2-phenylhex-4-yn-3-ol (S3f).

The title compound S3f was prepared from S2f (230 mg, 0.92 mmol) and 2-methyl-2-phenylpropanal (180 mg, 1.2 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 and was obtained in 52% yield (190 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3449 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.35−7.33 (m, 2H), 7.25−7.22 (m, 1H), 4.45−4.44 (m, 1H), 3.73−3.70 (m, 2H), 3.63 (d, 1H, J = 11.7 Hz), 3.60 (d, 1H, J = 11.7 Hz), 2.42 (d, 2H, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 2.21 (t, 2H, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 2.17 (tt, 2H, $J =$ 6.9, 2.4 Hz), 1.64 (d, 1H, $J = 5.8$ Hz), 1.50−1.39 (m, 16H), 0.91 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.2, 128.2, 126.7, 126.5, 98.0, 83.4, 82.6, 82.0, 75.0, 71.4, 66.09, 66.07, 43.1, 35.5, 31.1, 24.9, 24.4, 23.5, 23.1, 23.0, 21.9, 18.4, 13.6; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 397 $(M^+$ +1, 58.6); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{26}H_{37}O_3$ 397.2743, found 397.2735.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2-[4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5-(p-tolyl) hex-2-ynyl]malonate (S3g).

The title compound S3g was prepared from S2a (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and 2-methyl-2- $(p$ -tolyl)propanal (220 mg, 1.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 and was obtained in 73% yield (310 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3536, 1738 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 4.36–4.35 (m, 1H), 3.733 (s, 3H), 3.726 (s, 3H), 2.99 (d, 2H, J = 1.4 Hz), 2.90−2.84 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.12 (tt, 2H, $J = 7.2$, 2.4 Hz), 1.59 (d, 1H, $J = 5.8$ Hz), 1.47−1.34 (m, 10H), 0.90 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); 13C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.5, 141.9, 136.0, 128.9, 126.7, 83.9, 82.5, 80.9, 73.8, 71.3, 56.9, 52.9, 42.6, 30.9, 25.4, 23.2, 23.0, 22.9, 21.8, 20.9, 18.3, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 427 (M⁺+1, 2.14); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{26}H_{35}O_5$ 427.2485, found 427.2482.

Dimethyl 2-[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-5-methylhex-2 ynyl]-2-(hept-2-ynyl)malonate (S3h).

The title compound S3h was prepared from S2a (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methylpropanal (250 mg, 1.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 and was obtained in 55% yield (250 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3519, 1738 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.37−7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31−7.28 (m, 2H), 4.34−4.33 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.97 (d, 2H, J = 1.8 Hz), 2.84 (t, 2H, J $= 2.3$ Hz), 2.12 (tt, 2H, $J = 6.9$, 2.3 Hz), 1.66 (d, 1H, $J = 5.5$ Hz), 1.47−1.32 (m, 10H), 0.90 (t, 3H, $J = 7.3$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 169.4, 143.6, 132.3, 128.3, 128.1, 84.0, 82.3, 81.4, 73.6, 71.0, 56.8, 52.9, 42.7, 30.9, 24.9, 23.4, 23.2, 22.9, 21.8, 18.3, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 447 (M⁺+1, 9.27); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C_2 ₅H₃₂ClO₅ 447.1938, found 447.1933.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl-1,1- d_2)-2-(4-hydroxy-5-methyl-5phenylhex-2-ynyl)malonate ($[D₂]S3a$).

The title compound $[D_2]$ S3a was prepared from $[D_2]$ S2a (270 mg, 1.0 mmol) and 2-methyl-2-phenylpropanal (190 mg, 1.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 and was obtained in 98% yield (410 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 3538, 1739 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42−7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34−7.32 (m, 2H), 7.24−7.21 (m, 1H), 4.38 $(brs, 1H), 3.72$ (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.98 (d, 2H, J = 1.0 Hz), 2.11 (t, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.82 (d, 1H, J = 5.2 Hz), 1.45−1.33 (m, 10H), 0.89 (t, $3H, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}$); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.4, 145.0, 128.1, 126.7, 126.3, 83.9, 82.4, 80.8, 73.7, 71.1, 56.7, 52.8, 42.9, 30.8, 25.0, 23.0, 22.9-22.3 (m), 21.7, 18.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 415 $(M^+ + 1, 9.95)$; DART HRMS (ESI^+) m/z : $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{25}H_{31}D_2O_5$ 415.2454, found 415.2454.

General Procedure for Preparation of Benzylallene-Alkynes 6b,e−h, [D₅]6a, [D₂]6a, [D₁]6a from S3b,e−h, [D₅]S3a, [D₂]S3a, [D1]S3a. General Procedure 3. To a solution of propargylic alcohol S3 (1.0 mmol) and Et₃N (0.56 mL, 4.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added a solution of PhSCl (0.39 mL, 3.5 mmol) in THF (3.5 mL) slowly at −78 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous $NAHCO₃$, and the mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried and concentrated to dryness. The residue was passed through a short pad of silica gel with 20−25% AcOEt/ hexane as the eluent to afford the crude sulfoxide. To a solution of the crude sulfoxide in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was added mCPBA (260 mg, 1.5 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous $NAHCO₃$ and $Na₂S₂O₃$, and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed with 13−20% AcOEt/hexane as the eluent unless otherwise noted to afford the corresponding benzylallene-alkyne 6.

Dimethyl 2-(But-2-ynyl)-2-[5-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate (6b). The title compound 6b was prepared from S3b (81 mg, 0.22 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 96% yield (100 mg) as a colorless crystal: mp 86−88 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1956, 1736, 1317, 1148 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85−7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61−7.59 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.49 (m, 2H), 7.42−7.41 (m, 2H), 7.34−7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24−7.21 (m, 1H), 5.98 (t, 1H, J = 2.7 Hz), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.14 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 2.7 Hz), 3.07 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 2.7 Hz), 2.88−2.81 (m, 2H), 1.67 (t, 3H, J = 2.4 Hz), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.3, 169.6, 169.4, 147.1, 140.1, 133.3, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 126.5, 126.0, 112.8, 110.5, 79.5, 72.9, 56.6, 52.92, 52.89, 40.9, 29.1, 28.9, 28.0, 23.1, 3.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 495 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{28}H_{21}O_6S$ 495.1841, found 495.1847. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using CH_2Cl_2 instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

Dimethyl 2-[4-(Benzyloxy)but-2-ynyl]-2-[5-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate (6e). The title compound 6e was prepared from S3e (320 mg, 0.68 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 88% yield (360 mg) as a yellow oil: IR 1955, 1737, 1305, 1149 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.84−7.82 (m, 2H), 7.58−7.55 (m, 1H), 7.48−7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41−7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36−7.27 (m, 7H), 7.23−7.20 (m, 1H), 5.99 (dd, 1H, $J = 3.1$, 2.4 Hz), 4.51 (s, 2H), 4.05 (t, 2H, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 3.67 (s, 6H), 3.15 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8$, 3.1 Hz), 3.10 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8$, 2.4 Hz), 2.970–2.968 (m, 2H), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 203.2, 169.3, 169.2, 146.9, 139.9, 137.4, 133.4, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 126.5, 125.9, 113.0, 110.4, 80.8, 79.7, 71.1, 57.2, 56.4, 53.0, 40.8, 29.2, 29.0, 28.0, 23.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 601 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{35}H_{37}O_7S$ 601.2260, found 601.2271. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using 5% AcOEt/ CH₂Cl₂ instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

5-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2,2-dimethyl-5-[5-methyl-5-phenyl-2- (phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]-1,3-dioxane (6f). The title compound 6f was prepared from S3f (190 mg, 0.48 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 76% yield (190 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1953, 1306, 1149 cm[−]¹ ; 1 H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.84−7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61−7.58 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.48 (m, 2H), 7.40− 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.33−7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24−7.21 (m, 1H), 5.95 (dd, 1H, J $= 3.4, 2.1$ Hz), 3.72 (d, $1H, J = 11.7$ Hz), 3.67 (s, $2H$), 3.63 (d, $1H, J = 1.7$ 11.7 Hz), 2.57 (dd, 1H, J = 15.5, 3.4 Hz), 2.44−2.40 (m, 2H), 2.36 $(dt, 1H, J = 16.8, 2.4 Hz)$, 2.10 $(tt, 2H, J = 7.2, 2.4 Hz)$, 1.46–1.32 $(m,$ 16H), 0.88 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.7, 147.0, 140.1, 133.3, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 126.5, 126.0, 111.9, 111.1, 98.1, 83.5, 75.3, 66.41, 66.37, 40.9, 36.4, 31.1, 29.6, 29.1, 28.5, 24.5, 23.0, 22.6, 22.0, 18.4, 13.6; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 521 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₂H₄₁O₄S 521.2726, found 521.2729.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2-[5-methyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-5- (p-tolyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate (6g). The title compound 6g was prepared from S3g (310 mg, 0.73 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 23% yield (93 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1954, 1738, 1305, 1150 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84−7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61−7.58 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.48 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, 2H, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.13 (d, 2H, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 5.96 (dd, 1H, $J = 3.4$, 2.4 Hz), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.13 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 3.4 Hz), 3.07 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 2.4 Hz), 2.90–2.83 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.05 (tt, 2H, J = 6.9, 2.4 Hz), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.40–1.30 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.3, 169.6, 169.4, 144.1, 140.2, 136.0, 133.3, 129.01, 128.97, 128.3, 125.9, 112.9, 110.4, 84.2, 73.7, 56.7, 52.9, 52.8, 40.6, 30.8, 29.2, 28.8, 28.1, 23.1, 21.8, 20.9, 18.3, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 551 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) $m/z:$ [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{32}H_{39}O_6S$ 551.2467, found 551.2474.

Dimethyl 2-[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]-2-(hept-2-ynyl)malonate (6h). The title compound 6h was prepared from S3h (330 mg, 0.74 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 61% yield (250 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1954, 1738, 1305, 1150 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82−7.81 (m, 2H), 7.63−7.60 (m, 1H), 7.53−7.50 (m, 2H), 7.37−7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30−7.28 (m, 2H), 5.93 (dd, 1H, J = 3.1, 2.4 Hz), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.11 (dd, 1H, J = 15.8, 3.1 Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8$, 2.4 Hz), 2.85 (brs, 2H), 2.04 (tt, 2H, $J =$ 6.9, 2.4 Hz), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.41–1.29 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, 3H, $J = 7.2$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.2, 169.5, 169.3, 145.6, 140.0, 133.4, 132.3, 129.0, 128.4, 128.2, 127.5, 112.4, 110.7, 84.3, 73.6, 56.7,

52.91, 52.87, 40.6, 30.8, 29.1, 28.8, 28.0, 23.1, 21.8, 18.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 571 (M⁺ +1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z: [M $+H$]⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₃₆ClO₆S 571.1921, found 571.1921.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2-[5-methyl-5-(phenyl- d_5)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate ($[D_5]$ 6a). The title compound $[D_5]$ 6a was prepared from $[D_5]$ S3a (120 mg, 0.29 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 84% yield (130 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1955, 1737, 1305, 1148 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.48 (m, 2H), 5.97 (dd, 1H, J = 3.1, 2.4 Hz), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.64 $(s, 3H)$, 3.14 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 3.1 Hz), 3.08 (dd, 1H, $J = 16.2$, 2.4 Hz), 2.90−2.83 (m, 2H), 2.05 (tt, 2H, J = 6.9, 2.4 Hz), 1.47 (s, 3H), 1.40−1.30 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); 13C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 203.2, 169.5, 169.3, 146.8, 140.1, 133.3, 129.0, 128.2, 127.8 $(t, J = 24.6 \text{ Hz})$, 125.9 $(t, J = 24.6 \text{ Hz})$, 125.5 $(t, J = 24.6 \text{ Hz})$, 112.7, 110.5, 84.2, 73.7, 56.7, 52.80, 52.78, 40.7, 30.8, 29.1, 28.8, 27.9, 23.1, 21.7, 18.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 542 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₃₂D₅O₆S 542.2625, found 542.2638. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using CH_2Cl_2 instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl-1,1- d_2)-2-[5-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)hexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate ($[D_2]$ 6a). The title compound $[D_2]$ 6a was prepared from $[D_2]$ S3a (120 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 84% yield (130 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1954, 1737, 1306, 1148 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84−7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61−7.58 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41−7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34−7.31 (m, 2H), 7.23− 7.21 (m, 1H), 5.97 (dd, 1H, J = 3.1, 2.4 Hz), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.14 (dd, 1H, J = 16.2, 3.1 Hz), 3.08 (dd, 1H, J = 16.2, 2.4 Hz), 2.04 (t, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.40−1.30 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, 3H, $J = 7.2$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.2, 169.5, 169.3, 147.0, 140.1, 133.3, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 126.4, 125.9, 112.7, 110.5, 84.2, 73.6, 56.6, 52.79, 52.77, 40.8, 30.8, 29.1, 28.7, 27.9, 22.6 (quin, J $= 20.0$ Hz), 21.7, 18.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 539 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{31}H_{35}D_2O_6S$ 539.2436, found 539.2432. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using CH_2Cl_2 instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

Dimethyl 2-(Hept-2-ynyl)-2-[5-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(phenyl**sulfonyl)-4-d]malonate ([D₁]6a).** The title compound $[D_1]$ 6a was prepared from $[D_1]$ S3a (140 mg, 0.35 mmol) according to General Procedure 3 and was obtained in 84% yield (160 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1948, 1737, 1305, 1149 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85−7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61−7.59 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.48 (m, 2H), 7.42− 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34−7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24−7.21 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.14 (d, 1H, $J = 16.2$ Hz), 3.08 (d, 1H, $J = 16.2$ Hz), 2.90−2.83 (m, 2H), 2.04 (tt, 2H, J = 6.9, 2.4 Hz), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.41− 1.29 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, 3H, $J = 7.2$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.3, 169.6, 169.4, 147.1, 140.1, 133.3, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 126.5, 126.0, 112.5 (t, $J = 24.6$ Hz), 110.6, 84.3, 73.7, 56.7, 52.87, 52.85, 40.8, 30.8, 29.1, 28.8, 28.0, 23.1, 21.8, 18.3, 14.2, 13.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 538 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{31}H_{36}DO_6S$ 538.2374, found 538.2384. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using CH_2Cl_2 instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

General Procedure for Preparation of Benzylallene-Alkynes 6c,d from S3a,b. General Procedure 4. To a solution of propargylic alcohol $S3$ (1.0 mmol) and Et₃N (0.28 mL, 2.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added (EtO)₂PCl (0.43 mL, 3.0 mmol) at -78 °C. After being stirred for 1.5 h at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was refluxed, and further stirred for additional 1.5 h. Then, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous $NaHCO₃$, and the mixture was extracted with AcOEt. The extract was washed with water and brine, dried, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was chromatographed with 33−40% AcOEt/hexane as the eluent to afford the corresponding benzylallene-alkyne 6.

Dimethyl 2-[2-(Diethoxyphosphoryl)-5-methyl-5-phenylhexa-2,3-dienyl]-2-(hept-2-ynyl)malonate (6c). The title compound 6c was prepared from S3a (110 mg, 0.26 mmol) according to General Procedure 4 and was obtained in 33% yield (46 mg) as a

colorless oil: IR 1950, 1737 cm[−]¹ ; 1 H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.47−7.46 (m, 2H), 7.33−7.30 (m, 2H), 7.21−7.18 (m, 1H), 5.60 (dt, 1H, J = 13.1, 2.7 Hz), 4.13−3.98 (m, 4H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.05−2.93 (m, 2H), 2.92 (t, 2H, J = 2.1 Hz), 2.12−2.09 (m, 2H), 1.50 $(s, 3H)$, 1.45 $(s, 3H)$, 1.44–1.35 (m, 4H), 1.32 (td, 6H, J = 7.2, 3.8 Hz), 0.88 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 208.3 $(d, J = 4.3 \text{ Hz})$, 170.0, 169.8, 147.9 $(d, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$, 128.1, 126.2, 126.0, 105.0 (d, $J = 17.3$ Hz), 91.5 (d, $J = 189.3$ Hz), 83.8, 74.3, 62.2 (d, $J =$ 5.8 Hz), 62.1 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz), 57.1 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 52.68, 52.65, 39.9 $(d, J = 4.3 \text{ Hz})$, 30.9, 29.6 $(d, J = 10.1 \text{ Hz})$, 29.4 $(d, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$, 28.4 $(d, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$, 22.9, 21.7, 18.3, 16.3 $(d, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$, 16.2 $(d, J = 2.9 \text{ Hz})$ Hz), 13.5; ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.9; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 533 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{29}H_{42}O_7P$ 533.2668, found 533.2683.

Dimethyl 2-(But-2-ynyl)-2-[2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)-5-methyl-5-phenylhexa-2,3-dienyl]malonate (6d). The title compound 6d was prepared from S3b (140 mg, 0.38 mmol) according to General Procedure 4 and was obtained in 54% yield (100 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1949, 1736 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.33−7.30 (m, 2H), 7.21−7.19 (m, 1H), 5.60 (dt, 1H, J = 13.1, 2.4 Hz), 4.13−3.99 (m, 4H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.05−2.94 (m, 2H), 2.90 $(q, 2H, J = 2.4 Hz)$, 1.74 $(t, 3H, J = 2.4 Hz)$, 1.50 $(s, 3H)$, 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.32 (td, 6H, $J = 6.9$, 3.1 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 208.3 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 170.0, 169.9, 148.0 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 128.2, 126.2, 126.0, 105.0 (d, $J = 15.9$ Hz), 91.5 (d, $J = 189.3$ Hz), 79.0, 73.5, 62.2 (d, $I = 5.8$ Hz), 62.1 (d, $I = 5.8$ Hz), 57.0 (d, $I = 7.2$ Hz), 52.8, 52.7, 39.9 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 29.7 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 29.4 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 28.4 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 22.9, 16.31 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 16.28 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 3.5; ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.8; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 491 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{26}H_{36}O_7P$ 491.2199, found 491.2189.

General Procedure for [RhCl(CO)₂]₂-Catalyzed Cycloisome-rization of 6 with Microwave Reactor ([Table 1\)](#page-2-0). General Procedure 6. A solution of the benzylallene-alkyne 6 (0.10 mmol) and $\left[\text{RhCl(CO)}_{2}\right]_{2}$ (1.9 mg, 0.0050 mmol) in DCE (1.0 mL) was heated at 110 °C under microwave irradiation until the starting material was completely consumed (monitored by TLC analysis). The reaction mixture was subsequently cooled to 50 °C with compressed air, the vessel was opened, and DCE was evaporated off. The residue was chromatographed with 13−50% AcOEt/hexane as the eluent unless otherwise noted to afford the corresponding cyclized product 10. The chemical yields are summarized in [Table 1.](#page-2-0)

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-14,14-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadeca-1(15),3-(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10a). The title compound 10a was prepared from 6a (54 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 64% yield (34 mg) as a colorless plate: mp 129−132 °C (chloroform-hexane); IR 1734, 1308, 1146 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.88 (m, 2H), 7.68–7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.23−7.17 (m, 3H), 7.12−7.09 (m, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 5.20 $(s, 1H)$, 3.99 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 4.7 Hz), 3.82 $(s, 3H)$, 3.80 $(t, 1H, J =$ 7.6 Hz), 3.43 (s, 3H), 2.92 (dd, 1H, J = 14.8, 4.7 Hz), 2.79 (dd, 1H, J $= 14.8, 7.2$ Hz), 2.08–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.98–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.49–1.36 (m, 7H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, 3H, $J = 6.9$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 170.4, 169.4, 144.4, 144.1, 141.3, 138.1, 137.5, 133.5, 129.5, 128.9, 127.0, 126.1, 126.0, 125.2, 124.3, 118.9, 66.7, 54.0, 53.1, 53.0, 45.6, 41.2, 33.3, 30.3, 29.5, 28.9, 27.0, 23.0, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 537 (M⁺+1, 31); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{31}H_{37}O_6S$ 537.2311, found 537.2311. The structure of 10a was unambiguously determined by an X-ray crystallography (see the [Supporting Information](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048/suppl_file/jo7b01048_si_002.cif) for details).

 $(25*, 12R*)$ -14,14-Bis(methoxycarbonyl)-2,9,9-trimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10 **pentaene (10b).** The title compound 10b was prepared from 6b (50) mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 66% yield (33 mg) as a colorless crystal: mp 166−169 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1732, 1306, 1144 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88−7.87 (m, 2H), 7.67−7.64 (m, 1H), 7.57−7.54 (m, 2H), 7.24− 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.20−7.17 (m, 1H), 7.13−7.11 (m, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 4.05 (t, 1H, $J = 6.2$ Hz), 3.96 (q, 1H, $J = 6.9$ Hz), 3.81 (s,

3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.83 (d, 2H, J = 6.2 Hz), 1.49 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.4, 169.3, 144.6, 143.9, 141.7, 139.2, 137.4, 133.5, 129.6, 128.8, 127.0, 126.2, 125.7, 125.2, 124.1, 118.9, 67.0, 53.9, 53.1, 52.9, 41.2, 39.8, 33.1, 30.4, 27.2, 15.7; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 495 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₃₁O₆S 495.1841, found 495.1840. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using 3% AcOEt/toluene instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-12-(diethoxyphosphoryl)-14,14-bis- (methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyltricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10c). The title compound 10c was prepared from 6c (53 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 64% yield (34 mg) as a colorless oil: IR 1735 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, 55 °C) δ 7.35–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.18−7.11 (m, 3H), 5.91 (d, 1H, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.14−4.10 $(m, 4H)$, 3.84 $(t, 1H, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz})$, 3.72 $(s, 3H)$, 3.52 $(s, 3H)$, 2.97 $(ddd, 1H, J = 22.0, 8.9, 5.8 Hz$, 2.65 $(ddd, 1H, J = 17.9, 13.7, 5.8 Hz$, 2.32 (ddd, 1H, J = 13.7, 11.3, 8.9 Hz), 2.05−1.93 (m, 2H), 1.56 (s, 6H), 1.38−1.26 (m, 10H), 0.91 (t, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz); 13C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃, 55 °C) δ 170.8, 170.1, 145.0, 141.7, 140.5 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 139.7 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 126.7, 126.4, 126.1, 119.3, 62,0 (d, $J = 5.8$) Hz), 61.9 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 55.1 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 52.7, 52.5, 50.0, 42.1, 38.4 (d, J = 143.1 Hz), 33.6, 32.0, 31.5, 30.0, 29.5, 22.7, 16.50 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 16.46 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 13.9; ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 28.4; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 533 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₄₂O₇P 533.2668, found 533.2667.

 $(2\bar{S}^*,1\bar{2R^*})$ -12-(Diethoxyphosphoryl)-14,14-bis-(methoxycarbonyl)-2,9,9-trimethyltricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10d). The title compound 10d was prepared from 6d (49 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 73% yield (36 mg) as a pale yellow crystal: mp 134–136 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1733 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.34−7.33 (m, 1H), 7.29−7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22− 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.17−7.14 (m, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 5.83−5.82 (m, 1H), 4.22 (q, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz), 4.12−4.05 (m, 4H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.03−2.97 (m, 1H), 2.58 (ddd, 1H, J = 24.7, 14.1, 6.9 Hz), 2.47 (td, 1H, $J = 14.1$, 6.2 Hz), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.60 (d, 3H, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.54 $(s, 3H)$, 1.33 (td, 6H, J = 6.9, 3.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.7, 169.9, 144.8, 142.1, 140.2 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 140.1 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 127.0 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 126.7, 126.1, 125.4, 124.5, 118.4, 62.0 (d, J $= 7.2$ Hz), 54.4 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 52.84, 52.76, 41.4 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 40.7, 38.4 (d, J = 140.2 Hz), 33.5, 30.9 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 28.4 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 16.6, 16.51 (d, J = 5.8 Hz), 16.48 (d, J = 2.9 Hz); ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 28.5; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 491 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₆H₃₆O₇P 491.2199, found 491. 2198.

(2S*,12R*)-2-[(Benzyloxy)methyl]-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10e). The title compound 10e was prepared from 6e (60 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 52% yield (31 mg) as a yellow amorphous solid: IR 1735, 1307, 1146 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.87−7.86 (m, 2H), 7.59−7.56 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.49 (m, 2H), 7.41−7.36 (m, 4H), 7.33−7.30 (m, 1H), 7.25−7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18−7.16 (m, 1H), 7.14−7.10 (m, 2H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 4.68 (d, 1H, $J = 12.0$ Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, $J = 12.0$ Hz), 4.21 (dd, 1H, $J =$ 9.3, 8.6 Hz), 4.12 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.6$, 5.5 Hz), 4.03 (dd, 1H, $J = 6.9$, 5.5 Hz), 3.87 (dd, 1H, J = 9.3, 5.5 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.87− 2.80 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 170.2, 169.2, 144.6, 144.1, 138.7, 138.2, 137.3, 136.4, 133.5, 129.6, 128.9, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 126.3, 125.5, 124.8, 119.4, 73.4, 68.5, 66.6, 54.0, 53.2, 53.0, 45.9, 41.3, 33.1, 30.4, 27.1; DART MS (ESI^+) m/z 601 (M⁺+1, 12.1); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{35}H_{37}O_7S$ 601.2260, found 601.2271. Note: This compound was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using 5% AcOEt/ toluene instead of AcOEt/hexane as the eluent.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-2′,2′,9,9-tetramethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl) spiro{tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene-14,5′-[1,3]dioxane} (10f). The title compound 10f was prepared from 6f (52 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and

was obtained in 41% yield (21 mg) as a pale yellow oil: IR 1306, 1149 cm[−]¹ ; 1 H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.91−7.89 (m, 2H), 7.68−7.65 (m, 1H), 7.59−7.56 (m, 2H), 7.24−7.19 (m, 3H), 7.13−7.11 (m, 1H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 3.98 (dd, 1H, $J = 11.7$, 1.4 Hz), 3.93 (s, 1H, $J = 11.7$ Hz), 3.89 (t, 1H, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 3.80 (dd, 1H, $J = 7.6$, 3.1 Hz), 3.42 (d, 1H, J = 11.3 Hz), 3.22 (dd, 1H, J = 11.3, 1.4 Hz), 2.73 (dd, 1H, J = 15.5, 3.1 Hz), 2.08−1.93 (m, 3H), 1.47−1.42 (m, 7H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 0.97 (t, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl3) δ 144.2, 142.8, 142.2, 137.9, 137.6, 133.4, 129.4, 128.8, 127.9, 127.0, 125.9, 125.2, 124.3, 123.1, 97.7, 69.2, 68.0, 67.9, 45.3, 41.1, 34.5, 33.3, 30.5, 29.5, 28.9, 27.8, 25.9, 23.0, 21.4, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 521 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z: $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{41}O_4S$ 521.2726, found 521.2735.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-5,9,9-trimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadeca-1-(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10g). The title compound 10g was prepared from 6g (59 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 56% yield (31 mg) as a pale yellow oil: IR 1736, 1307, 1146 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88− 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.67−7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58−7.55 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d, 1H, J $= 8.2$ Hz), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 5.88 (s, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.97 (dd, 1H, $J = 7.2$, 4.5 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.77 (t, 1H, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.95 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 4.5 Hz), 2.78 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 7.2 Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.05−1.94 (m, 2H), 1.51−1.35 (m, 7H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 0.99 (t, 3H, $J = 7.2$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.4, 169.5, 144.7, 141.2, 138.0, 137.6, 136.4, 133.5, 129.5, 128.9, 126.6, 126.0, 125.2, 125.1, 118.9, 66.8, 54.0, 53.1, 53.0, 45.5, 40.9, 33.3, 30.4, 29.5, 28.9, 26.9, 23.0, 21.0, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 551 $(M^+ + 1, 66.6)$; DART HRMS (ESI^+) m/z : $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{39}O_6S$ 551.2467, found 551.2458.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-5-chloro-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)- 9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.0^{3,8}]pentadeca-1(15),3(8),4,6,10-pentaene (10h). The title compound 10h was prepared from 6h (57 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 6 and was obtained in 62% yield (35 mg) as a pale yellow oil: IR 1736, 1308, 1146 cm^{−1}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88− 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.68−7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58−7.56 (m, 2H), 7.15−7.14 (m, 2H), 7.08−7.06 (m, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 3.98 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 4.5 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79 (t, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.49 (s, 3H), 2.92 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 4.5 Hz), 2.80 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 7.6 Hz), 2.01–1.93 (m, 2H), 1.52–1.35 (m, 7H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.00 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); 13 C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.3, 169.4, 143.9, 143.5, 142.7, 137.5, 137.2, 133.6, 132.7, 129.5, 128.9, 126.8, 126.2, 125.9, 124.5, 119.7, 66.6, 54.0, 53.13, 53.11, 45.4, 41.0, 33.3, 30.2, 29.3, 28.8, 26.9, 22.9, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 571 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{31}H_{36}ClO_6S$ 571.1921, found 571.1926.

General Procedure for [RhCl(CO)₂]₂-Catalyzed Cycloisomerization of Deuterated Substrates $[D_5]$ 6a, $[D_2]$ 6a, $[D_1]$ 6a [\(Scheme 3\)](#page-1-0). General Procedure 7. To a solution of the benzylallene-alkyne $([D_5]6a, [D_2]6a, [D_1]6a, 0.10 \text{ mmol})$ in toluene (1.0 mL) was added $[RhCl(CO)_2]_2$ $(1.9 \text{ mg}, 0.0050 \text{ mmol})$ under N_2 atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was heated to reflux until the starting material was completely consumed (monitored by TLC analysis). Toluene was evaporated off, and the residue was chromatographed with 17% AcOEt/hexane as the eluent to afford the corresponding cyclized product $([D₅]10a, [D₂]10a, [D₁]10a)$. Chemical yields are summarized in [Scheme 3](#page-1-0).

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3- **(8),4,6,10-pentaene-2,4,5,6,7-d₅** ([D₅]10a). The title compound $[D_5]$ 10a was prepared from $[D_5]$ 6a (54 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 7 and was obtained in 54% yield (29 mg) as a colorless crystal: mp 155−157 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1734, 1307, 1145 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89−7.87 (m, 2H), 7.67− 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58−7.55 (m, 2H), 5.88 (d, 1H, J = 0.7 Hz), 5.20 (s, 1H), 4.00 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 4.5 Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.92 $(dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 4.5 Hz$), 2.79 $(dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 7.2 Hz$), 2.06–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.97−1.93 (m, 1H), 1.49−1.38 (m, 7H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.3, 169.4, 144.4, 144.0, 141.2, 138.0, 137.5, 133.5, 129.5, 128.8, 126.5 (t, J = 23.1)

Hz), 126.0, 125.4 (t, $J = 23.1$ Hz), 124.7 (t, $J = 23.1$ Hz), 123.9 (t, $J =$ 23.1 Hz), 118.9, 66.7, 53.9, 53.0, 52.9, 45.1 (t, $J = 18.8$ Hz), 41.2, 33.2, 30.3, 29.4, 28.7, 27.0, 22.9, 14.0; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 542 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₃₂D₅O₆S 542.2625, found 542.2635.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3- (8) ,4,6,10-pentaene-12,15-d₂ ([D₂]10a). The title compound $[D_2]$ 10a was prepared from $[D_2]$ 6a (54 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 7 and was obtained in 37% yield (20 mg) as a colorless crystal: mp 153−156 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1733, 1305, 1146 cm[−]¹ ; 1 H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.89−7.87 (m, 2H), 7.67− 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.58−7.55 (m, 2H), 7.23−7.17 (m, 3H), 7.12−7.09 (m, 1H), 5.19−5.18 (m, 1H), 3.99 (q, 28/100 × 1H, J = 7.2, 4.8 Hz), 3.81−3.79 (m, 4H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 2.96−2.92 (m, 1H), 2.81−2.77 (m, 1H), 2.08−2.02 (m, 1H), 1.99−1.94 (m, 1H), 1.49−1.38 (m, 7H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.3, 169.4, 144.43, 144.39, 144.1, 141.3, 137.9, 137.5, 133.5, 129.5, 128.8, 127.0, 126.1, 126.03, 125.98, 125.2, 124.3, 118.6 (t, J = 24.6 Hz), 66.7, 66.3 (t, J = 21.7 Hz), 53.8, 53.0, 52.9, 45.5, 41.2, 33.3, 30.3, 29.4, 28.8, 26.9, 26.8, 22.9, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/z 539 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₃₅D₂O₆S 539.2436, found 539.2425.

(2S*,12R*)-2-Butyl-14,14-bis(methoxycarbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-12-(phenylsulfonyl)tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadeca-1(15),3- (8),4,6,10-pentaene-10-d ([D₁]10a). The title compound $[D_1]$ 10a was prepared from $[D_1]$ 6a (54 mg, 0.10 mmol) according to General Procedure 7 and was obtained in 47% yield (25 mg) as a colorless crystal: mp 154–156 °C (hexane-AcOEt); IR 1735, 1307, 1146 cm⁻¹;
¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCL) δ 7.89–7.88 (m, 2H), 7.67–7.65 (m ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.88 (m, 2H), 7.67–7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58−7.56 (m, 2H), 7.23−7.17 (m, 3H), 7.12−7.09 (m, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 4.00 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 4.5 Hz), 3.81−3.79 (m, 4H), 3.43 $(s, 3H)$, 2.92 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 4.5 Hz), 2.79 (dd, 1H, J = 15.1, 7.2 Hz), 2.08−2.02 (m, 1H), 1.98−1.92 (m, 1H), 1.49−1.37 (m, 7H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.98 (t, 3H, $J = 6.9$ Hz); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.4, 169.4, 144.1−143.9 (m), 141.3, 138.0, 137.5, 133.5, 129.5, 128.9, 127.0, 126.00, 125.98, 125.2, 124.3, 118.9, 66.6, 53.9, 53.1, 53.0, 45.6, 41.1, 33.2, 30.3, 29.5, 28.9, 27.0, 23.0, 14.1; DART MS (ESI⁺) m/ z 538 (M⁺+1, 100); DART HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : [M+H]⁺ calcd for $C_{31}H_{36}DO_{6}S$ 538.2374, found 538.2374.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

6 Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the [ACS Publications website](http://pubs.acs.org) at DOI: [10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048.](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048)

> Copies of ${}^{1}H$, ${}^{13}C$, and ${}^{31}P$ NMR spectra for new compounds [\(PDF\)](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048/suppl_file/jo7b01048_si_001.pdf)

X-ray crystallographic data for 10a ([CIF](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048/suppl_file/jo7b01048_si_002.cif))

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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(11) Other catalysts, such as $RhCl(PPh₃)₃$, $RhCl(CO)(PPh₃)₂$, $RhCl(dppp)_2$, and $[RhCl(CO)dppp]_2$, furnished poor results.

(12) X-ray analysis of 10a unambiguously established its tricyclo[9.4.0.03,8]pentadecapentaene structure (see the [Supporting](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048/suppl_file/jo7b01048_si_002.cif) [Information](http://pubs.acs.org/doi/suppl/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01048/suppl_file/jo7b01048_si_002.cif) for details). CCDC999277 (10a) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

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