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A direct route to angularly substituted hydrindanes. Formal synthesis of bakkenolide-A and synthesis of an advanced intermediate to umbellactal

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ABSTRACT

A direct route for the synthesis of highly functionalized angularly substituted hydrindanes has been developed. The key step involves RO–RCM of an appropriately functionalized norbornene derivative. The hydrindane derivative obtained in this way has been used to accomplish a formal synthesis of bakkenolide-A. This protocol has also been extended for the synthesis of an advanced intermediate to the synthesis of the diterpene umbellactal.

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1. Introduction

Hydrindane ring system with an angular substituent is frequently encountered in terpenoids. Representative examples include sesquiterpenes of the bakkanes family such as bakkenolide-A (1) ,¹ homogynolide-A (2) ,² 9-acetoxyfukinanolide (3) (3) (3) ,³ etc. Most of the bakkanes also contain a spiro-fused β -methylene γ -butyrolactone moiety. The recently isolated diterpene umbellactal ($\mathbf{4})^{4}$ $\mathbf{4})^{4}$ $\mathbf{4})^{4}$ is also a cis-hydrindane derivative with an angularly fused γ -lactone. Bakkenolide-A and umbellactal exhibit cytotoxicity toward several carcinoma cell lines. 5 The former also acts as an effective insect antifeedant. 6 The novel molecular architecture along with interesting biological activities elicited considerable interest for the synthesis of these compounds culminating in a number of elegant approaches for the total synthesis of bakkanes.[7](#page-8-0) These approaches include construction of hydrindanes by (i) annulation of a fivemembered ring onto a properly constructed cyclohexane derivative, $7b-j$ (ii) ring contraction of decalin derivatives, $7k,n$ and (iii) intramolecular Diels–Alder reaction 7^{1-m} in appropriately designed substrates. Among these approaches, only intramolecular Diels– Alder route provides direct access to cis-hydrindane derivatives.

We thought of developing a route that not only allows direct construction of cis-hydrindane derivatives with an angular substituent but at the same time introduces functionality at both the rings of the resulting hydrindane system for elaboration to the

highly functionalized bakkanes as well as umbellactal. Our retrosynthetic plan is delineated in [Scheme 1.](#page-1-0) The hydrindane derivative 5 was envisaged as the key intermediate for entry into bakkanes as well as umbellactal. The vicinal ester units in 5 can be transformed to methyl groups for bakkanes while they can be employed to construct the angularly fused γ -lactone present in umbellactal. Domino metathesis of norbornene derivatives and other strained cycloalkenes involving ring opening–ring closing metathesis (RO– RCM) has recently emerged as a powerful tool^{[8](#page-8-0)} for the construction of fused bicyclic rings including cis-hydrindanes.^{[9](#page-8-0)} This protocol has been employed successfully in the synthesis of natural products.^{[10](#page-8-0)} Very recently, we have demonstrated that a sequence of RO–RCM of norbornenes with multiple alkene chains leads to densely func-tionalized bridged^{[11](#page-8-0)} and linearly arrayed tricycles.^{[12](#page-8-0)} Intrigued by these observations, we visualized that a direct synthesis of the cishydrindane derivative 5 could be achieved through RO–RCM of the

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norbornene derivative 6. The latter can be obtained from allylation of the diester 7, available from Diels–Alder adduct of itaconic an-hydride with the cyclopentadiene derivative 8. Herein, we report^{[13](#page-8-0)} results of the investigation toward the synthesis of bakkanes and umbellactal based on the concept delineated in Scheme 1.

Scheme 1.

2. Results and discussion

We initially chose the norbornene derivative 10 to establish the efficacy of the concept. The dimethyl ester **10** was prepared 14 from the anhydride 9^{15} 9^{15} 9^{15} obtained by Diels–Alder reaction of the itaconic anhydride with the cyclopentadiene (Scheme 2). Alkylation of the lithium enolate of the ester 10 with the allyl bromide afforded diester 11 as a 2:1 chromatographically inseparable mixture in 90% yield.

the cis-hydrindane derivative with C-1, C-2 substituents syn to each other, the following protocol was adopted. The mixture of 13 and 14 was reduced with lithium aluminum hydride to produce a mixture of the diols 15 and 16. The mixture of these diols was next transformed to a mixture of the trans-lactone 17 and cis-lactone 18 in 70% yield by two consecutive oxidation steps using IBX and followed by Jones reagent. The angularly fused trans-lactone 17 appears to be highly strained and hence energetically less stable. Thus, it should be isomerizable to the cis-lactone 18. Indeed, a quantum mechanical calculation^{[17](#page-8-0)} revealed that cis-lactone **18** is more stable than the trans-lactone 17 by 3.9 kcal/mol. Thus, the mixture of the cis- and trans-lactones, when treated with DBU in benzene under reflux afforded exclusively the cis-lactone 18 in 80% yield.

An alternative route to the cis-lactone 18 was also developed. Reduction of the anhydride 9 with NaBH₄ afforded known lactone $19¹⁸$ $19¹⁸$ $19¹⁸$ in excellent yield. Alkylation of the lithium enolate of the lactone 19 with the allyl bromide led to an inseparable mixture of the lactones 20 and 21 in 4:1 ratio in 85% yield. Construction of a Dreiding model of the lactone 19 revealed that allylation would proceed preferentially from the face away from the ethylene bridge, as the other face is blocked to some extent by the ethylene bridge to produce lactone 20 as the major product. This structural assignment to the lactones 20 and 21 was confirmed by their transformation to the tricyclic lactones 17 and 18, respectively, as follows: Treatment of the mixture of lactones 20 and 21 with the catalyst 12 afforded a mixture of the hydrindane derivatives 17 and 18 prepared already in a different route as described above in 4:1 ratio in 70% yield. Comparison of 13 C NMR spectral data of the minor component of this mixture was found to be identical with that of the cis-lactone 18. This confirmed the structure of the major and minor allylated products as 20 and 21, respectively. The lactone 18 represents the core structure of umbellactal.

Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (i) (a) TFA, THF/H2O (2:1), 60 °C, (b) CH2N2, Et2O, 95%; (ii) LDA, allyl bromide, THF, -78 °C, 90%; (iii) catalyst **12** (2 mol %), DCM, C2H4, rt, 5 h. 95%; (iv) LiAlH4, Et2O, 0 °C, 90%; (v) (a) IBX, DMSO/acetone (1:4), rt, 1 h, (b) Jones reagent, acetone, 0 °C, 80%; (vi) NaBH4, DMF, 0 °C, 70%; (vii) LDA, allyl bromide, THF, −78 °C, 85%; (viii) DBU, C_6H_6 , reflux, 2 h, 82%.

Treatment of the mixture of the diesters 11 with Grubbs' catalyst $Cl_2(PCy_3)_2$ Ru=CHPh 12,^{[16](#page-8-0)} produced a mixture of hydrindanes 13 and 14 in near quantitative yield. The structures of 13 and 14 could be easily ascertained from analysis of 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra. Synthesis of bakkanes requires the hydrindane 14 in which C-1 and C-2 esters are syn to each other. We thought that the C-2 carbomethoxy group in the diastereoisomer 13 in the mixture of 13 and 14 could be epimerized to produce the desired diester 14. However, the C-2 ester in the mixture of 13 and 14 as obtained above when treated with NaOMe in MeOH failed to undergo epimerization and the ratio of 13 and 14 in the mixture remained unchanged. In order to make

We next focused on the transformation of the lactone unit to dimethyl groups. The lactone 17 was reduced with $LiAlH₄$ to afford the diol 16 in 90% yield ([Scheme 3](#page-2-0)). The diol 16 was transformed to the dimesylate 22 . Reduction of the dimesylate with LiAlH₄ led to monodeoxygenation leading to the formation of 23. Attempts for deoxygenation of 22 with Zn/NaI or LiEt₃BH afforded the same product 23. The dimesylate 22 was next converted to the sulfide 24 on treatment with Na₂S. The cyclic sulfide 24 was subjected to reduction with Raney Ni W-4. In this way deoxygenation of both the mesyl groups in 22 could be achieved. But the reaction was accompanied with reduction of the double bonds also to afford the

Scheme 3. Reagents and conditions: (i) LiAlH4, Et2O, 0 °C, 92%; (ii) MsCl, Et3N, DCM, 0 °C, 1 h, 90%; (iii) Na2S/DMF, 50 °C, 3 h, 90%; (iv) Raney Ni W-4, THF, rt, 80%; (v) LiEt3BH, THF, 80%; (vi) OsO4, NMO, THF/H2O (4:1), rt, 12 h, 80%; (vii) Na₂S/DMF, 50 °C, 6 h, 85%; (viii) (a) TBDMSCl, DMAP, Et3N, DCM, rt, 95%, (b) DMP, DCM, rt, 90%; (ix) TBAF, THF, rt, 80%; (x) ClCO₂Et, DMAP, Py, DCM, 96%; (xi) NaIO₄, THF/H₂O (2:1), 0 °C; (xii) (a) MeMgI, Et₂O, 0 °C, 90%, (b) DMP, DCM, rt, 96%.

hydrindane derivative 25 with the desired vicinal dimethyl groups. Since the vinyl unit will be required for annulation of the spiro lactone unit for bakkanes, we modified the above sequence as follows: selective dihydroxylation of the dimesylate 22 with OsO₄ produced the diol 26 in 80% yield. The dimesylate 26 was transformed to cyclic sulfide 27. Reduction of cyclic sulfide 27 was achieved with Raney Ni W-4 to afford the dimethyl derivative 28 in 85% yield. For construction of the spiro lactone unit, the compound 28 was converted to the hydroxy-ketone 30 through a three-step sequence involving silylation of the primary hydroxy group with TBDMSCl followed by oxidation of the secondary hydroxy group with Dess–Martin periodinane (DMP) and desilylation. The hydroxy-ketone 30 was treated with ethylchloroformate to afford the carbonate 31. It was anticipated that a carbanion generated at C-8 would trigger an intramolecular nucleophilic reaction resulting in the synthesis of the spiro lactone 32. However, attempted spirolactonization of 31 with a variety of bases to afford 32 was unsuccessful. The diol 28 was, thus, transformed to the ketone 34 in the following way. Periodate cleavage of the diol unit in 28 afforded aldehyde 33. Addition of MeMgI to the aldehyde 33 followed by DMP oxidation gave ketone 34. The ketone 34 has already been converted¹⁹ to bakkenolide-A in three steps. With the synthesis of the ketone 34, a formal synthesis of bakkenolide-A is, thus, achieved.

We next focused on synthesis of umbellactal. This required introduction of an alkyl chain in the six-membered ring of the hydrindane derivative 18. We thought that a hydrindane system with a hydroxy group in the six-membered ring will enable introduction of alkyl chain. Toward this end the enolate of the lactone 19 was allowed to react with acrolein (Scheme 4). A mixture of adducts 35 and 36 along with their corresponding hydroxy epimers was obtained in 83% yield, the ratio of the four isomers being about 5:2:2:1. Stereochemical assignment at the newly generated carbon centers in 35 and 36 was based on analogy to the formation of 20 and 21 from 19. The stereochemistry at the centers bearing the hydroxy groups in 35 and 36 was based on their transformation to 44 and 45 ([Scheme 5\)](#page-3-0), respectively. Metathesis of this mixture of adducts with Grubbs' catalyst 12 produced a mixture of tricycles 39 in poor yield (20%) along with 50% of unreacted norbornene derivatives.

RCM of dienes bearing free hydroxy groups with Grubbs' I catalyst has occasionally been reported 20 20 20 to proceed with low yields possibly due to decomposition of the active ruthenium/methylene catalyst generated after the first catalytic cycle. Protection of the hydroxy groups generally improves the yield of metathesis product. The hydroxy group in the above mixture of the adducts 35 and 36 was protected with $CH₂(OMe)₂$ to afford the corresponding MOM protected ethers 37 and 38 along with the other two epimers at the MOM bearing stereocenters. Metathesis of the MOM protected derivatives 37 and 38 gave the tricycles 40 in significantly improved yield (50%). However a substantial amount of the ring-opened product 41 (25%) remained uncyclized under the above reaction condition.

To enhance further the efficiency of the metathesis, the hydroxy group in the above mixture of aldol adducts 35 and 36 was protected with TBDMSCl to give the silyl ethers 42 and 43, respectively. Column chromatography of the silylated mixture afforded pure silyl

Scheme 4. Reagents and conditions: (i) LDA, acrolein, THF, -78 °C, 83%; (ii) Grubbs' l (5 mol %), DCM, C₂H₄, rt, 23 h, 20% (for 39), 50% (for 40); (iii) CH₂(OMe)₂, BF₃ OEt₂, DCM, 0 °C, 75%.

Scheme 5. Reagents and conditions: (i) TBDMSCl, DMAP, Im, Et₃N, DCM, rt, 50% (for 42), 19% (for 43); (ii) Grubbs' I (5 mol %), DCM, C₂H₄, rt, 12 h, 72% (for 44), 70% (for 45); (iii) TBAF, THF, rt, 12 h, 85%; (iv) TBAF, THF, rt, 6 h, 75%; (v) DBU, C_6H_6 , Δ , 1 h, 43% (45) and 35% (46).

ethers 42 and 43 in 50% and 19% yields, respectively. Metathesis of the silyl ether 42 under the above condition afforded, after chromatography, the tricyclic compound 44 in 72% yield. Similarly, metathesis of the silyl ether 43 provided the tricycle 45 in 70% yield. The stereochemical assignment of the trans-lactone 44 (except the C-4 center) is based on analogy to the formation of 17 from 20. To determine the stereochemistry of the C-4 substituent, the lactone 44 was subjected to desilylation. The product isolated in 85% yield was found to be exclusively 46 presumably arising from facile dehydration of the in situ generated corresponding hydroxy group. This indicated that C-3a H and the C-4 silyloxy group in 44 were anti to each other. In contrast, desilylation of 45 produced exclusively the hydroxy-compound 47 (75%), which failed to undergo dehydration under a variety of conditions indicating that C-3a H and C-4 OH in 47 were syn to each other. This also confirmed the stereochemical assignment of lactone 45. The stereochemical assignment of 44 was further confirmed when the latter was found to isomerize to the cis-lactone 45 (43%) on treatment with DBU in benzene under reflux. During isomerization of 44, the diene 46 was also isolated in ca. 35% yield. The IR absorption of the lactone carbonyl was observed at an unusually higher frequency (v_{max} 1787 cm⁻¹) in **44** than that (ν_{max} 1762 cm⁻¹) of **45** also indicated the presence of a highly strained trans-lactone ring in 44. The silyl ether 45 represents the highly functionalized tricyclic skeleton present in umbellactal.

3. Conclusion

We have demonstrated that RO–RCM of norbornene derivatives can be employed efficiently to construct directly highly functionalized angularly substituted hydrindane derivatives. This protocol has been employed to accomplish a formal synthesis of bakkenolide-A. The potential of this protocol toward the synthesis of the biologically active diterpene umbellactal has also been explored leading to the construction of an advanced intermediate.

4. Experimental section

4.1. General

Melting points were taken in open capillaries in sulfuric acid bath and are uncorrected. Petroleum ether refers to the fraction having bp $60-80$ °C. A usual workup of the reaction mixture consists of extraction with diethyl ether, washing with brine, drying over $Na₂SO₄$, and removal of the solvent in vacuo. Column chromatography was carried out with silica gel (60–120 mesh). Peak positions in 1 H and $13C$ NMR spectra are indicated in parts per million downfield from internal TMS in δ units. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ solution at 300 MHz for ¹H and 75 MHz for ¹³C on Bruker-Avance DPX₃₀₀ instrument. 13C Peaks assignment is based on DEPT experiment. IR spectra were recorded as liquid film for liquids and in KBr plate for solids on Shimadzu FTIR-8300 instrument. Mass spectra were measured in a QTOF I (quadrupole-hexapole-TOF) mass spectrometer with an orthogonal Z-spray–electrospray interface on Micro (YA-263) mass spectrometer (Manchester, UK). Unless otherwise indicated, all reactions were carried out under a blanket of Ar.

4.1.1. Methyl 2-(1-(methoxycarbonyl)but-3-enyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene-2-carboxylate 11. A solution of the ester 10 (2.0 g, 9.14 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added drop wise to a magnetically stirred solution of LDA [prepared from diisopropyl amine (2.56 mL, 18.3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (20 mL) and n BuLi (10.3 mL) 16.5 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane)] at -78 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at that temperature for 1 h. Freshly distilled allyl bromide (1.6 mL, 18.2 mmol) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture at the same temperature and was allowed to attain rt for 2 h. After quenching with saturated aqueous NH4Cl solution, the reaction mixture was worked up in the usual way to afford, after column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether), the ester 11 (2.2 g, 90%) as 2:1 diastereomeric mixture as colorless oil; R_f (20%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.8; v_{max} (liquid film) 2976, 2950, 1732, 1435, 1334 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer from the mixture) 6.18 (2H, br s, $=$ CH), 5.52–5.61 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 4.83–4.92 $(2H, m, =CH₂)$, 3.62 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.61 (3H, s, OCH₃), 2.73 (1H, s), 3.13 (1H, s), 2.36 (1H, dd, J 12.7, 3.8 Hz), 2.25–2.31 (1H, m), 2.07– 2.12 (2H, m), 1.42 (1H, d, J 8.7 Hz), 1.18 (1H, d, J 8.8 Hz), 0.96 (1H, dd, J 12.4, 2.4 Hz); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 175.6, 172.9, 139.1, 136.1, 134.5, 116.2, 57.5, 52.8, 51.9, 51.4, 49.7, 48.5, 41.8, 36.3, 32.8; (for minor isomer) 175.6, 173.8, 140.4, 135.9, 132.0, 116.5, 56.8, 54.0, 52.0, 51.5, 49.5, 47.9, 42.3, 35.0, 33.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z): [M+Na]⁺, found 287.1256. C₁₅H₂₀O₄Na requires 287.1259.

4.1.2. (2S*,3aR*,7aS*)-Dimethyl 2,3,3a,4,5,7a-hexahydro-2-vinyl-1Hindene-3a,4-dicarboxylates **13** and **14**. To a solution of **11** (1.0 g, 3.8 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL) under ethylene atmosphere at rt was added a solution of catalyst 12 (62 mg, 2 mol %) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL). After stirring for 5 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. Column chromatography of the residue $(10\% Et₂O/petro$ leum ether) gave a mixture of 13 and 14 (950 mg, 95%) as colorless oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.7; ν_{max} (liquid film) 2972, 2875, 1734, 1448, 1420 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture of 13 and 14) 5.71–5.55 (3H, m, $=$ CH), 5.02–4.79 (2H, m, $=$ CH₂), 3.69, 3.66, 3.64, 3.62 (total 6H, all s, OMe), 2.85–2.53 (3H, m), 2.39– 2.14 (4H, m), 1.44–1.38 (1H, m), 1.24–1.17 (1H, m); δ_c (75 MHz, CDCl3) (for major isomer) 177.2, 174.0, 143.8, 131.7, 122.5, 112.7, 55.1, 52.3, 51.8, 44.2, 43.8, 40.9, 37.5, 34.3, 23.6; (for minor isomer) 176.7, 174.3, 141.6, 129.0, 123.4, 113.7, 52.0, 51.7, 51.1, 45.8, 44.1, 43.7, 42.5, 40.1, 26.0; HRMS (ESI) (m/z): [M+Na]⁺, found 287.1256. C₁₅H₂₀O₄Na requires 287.1259.

4.1.3. (2S*,3aR*,7aS*)-2,3,3a,4,5,7a-Hexahydro-3a,4-dihydroxymethyl-2-vinyl-1H-indenes **15** and **16**. To a suspension of LiAlH₄

(72 mg, 1.9 mmol) in dry ether (5 mL) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added a solution of the diesters 13 and 14 (250 mg, 0.95 mmol) in dry ether (5 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at that temperature for 1 h and then quenched by sequential addition of water (0.08 mL), aqueous NaOH solution (0.08 mL, 15%), and water (0.24 mL), and allowed to attain rt. The resulting suspension was filtered and the filtrate was dried and concentrated and the residual mass was purified by column chromatography (30% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to give a mixture of diols **15** and **16** (176 mg, 90%) as a colorless liquid; R_f (40% EtOAc) petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 3273, 3018, 2900, 1640, 1446 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture of **15** and **16**) 5.74– 5.61 (2H, m, $=$ CH), 5.52–5.49 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 4.99–4.79 (2H, m, $=$ CH₂), 3.81 (1H, dd, J 11.2, 2.1 Hz, OCH₂), 3.62–3.34 (2H, m, OCH₂), 3.15 (1H, d, J 11.3 Hz, OCH₂), 2.63-2.42 (1H, m), 2.24-2.15 (2H, m), 1.98–1.75 (3H, m), 1.73–1.51 (2H, m), 1.26–1.12 (3H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl3) (for major isomer) 144.0, 133.0, 123.0, 112.4, 68.3, 65.2, 49.4, 42.0, 41.9, 40.1, 38.1, 32.4, 25.3; (for minor isomer) 142.5,128.5,125.9, 113.0, 65.8, 62.4, 47.0, 45.6, 42.8, 42.4, 40.7, 39.6, 25.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 231.1365. C₁₃H₂₀O₂Na requires 231.1361.

4.1.4. (6aS*,8S*,9aR*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c] furan-3(1H)-ones 17 and 18. A mixture of dimethyl sulfoxide (3 mL), acetone (12 mL), and o-iodoxybenzoic acid (1.27 g, 4.53 mmol) was stirred for 1 h, and the resulting solution was added to the mixture of diols 15 and 16 (787 mg, 3.78 mmol). After 1 h at rt, the reaction mixture was quenched with water (10 mL) and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was extracted with dichloromethane $(3\times10$ mL), washed with water, dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated, and used for the next step without further purification. The crude lactols (100 mg, 0.48 mmol) in acetone (2 mL) was immediately treated with Jones reagent at 0° C until the color of the reagent persisted. Work up of the reaction mixture with diethyl ether followed by purification of the residue by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) afforded an inseparable mixture of lactones 17 and 18 (79 mg, 80%) as a liquid; R_f (30% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.7; ν_{max} (liquid film) 3020, 2935, 2869, 1780, 1639, 1446 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl $_3$) (for major isomer) 5.76–5.57 (2H, m, $=$ CH), 5.45 (1H, dd, J 9.9, 1.3 Hz, $=$ CH), 5.02–4.83 (2H, m, $=$ CH₂), 4.19 (1H, d, J 8.3 Hz, OCH₂), 3.99– 3.92 (1H, m, OCH2), 2.78–2.61 (1H, m), 2.55–2.43 (1H, m), 2.40–1.97 (2H, m), 1.87–1.79 (1H, m), 1.63–1.55 (1H, m), 1.45–1.37 (1H, m), 1.29–1.08 (2H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 176.4, 142.5, 133.5, 123.1, 113.4, 77.3, 50.8, 43.2, 41.8, 40.5, 36.1, 33.5, 20.5; (for minor isomer) 178.5, 140.9, 131.4, 121.9, 114.0, 79.1, 47.9, 42.2, 42.1, 41.7, 40.6, 40.2, 20.9; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 227.1045. $C_{13}H_{16}O_2$ Na requires 227.1048.

4.1.5. (3aS*,6aS*,8S*,9aR*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one 18. A mixture of the lactones 17 and 18 (250 mg, 1.2 mmol) and DBU (0.9 mL) in PhH (5 mL) was refluxed for 2 h. The resulting slurry was worked up by washing with 1 M HCl. Purification of the crude mixture by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave cis-lactone 18 (205 mg, 82%) as a colorless liquid; R_f (30% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.7; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (liquid film) 2927, 2858, 1778, 1639, 1458, 1370 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.74–5.68 (1H, m, =CH), 5.66 (2H, br s, =CH), 4.99 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, $=$ CH), 4.93 (1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, $=$ CH), 4.13 (1H, d, J 8.5 Hz, OCH2), 3.99 (1H, d, J 8.5 Hz, OCH2), 2.53–2.45 (2H, m), 2.41– 2.39 (1H, m), 2.34–2.21 (2H, m), 1.85 (1H, dd, J 12.7, 6.0 Hz), 1.65– 1.57 (1H, t, J 12.4 Hz), 1.22–1.08 (2H, m); δ _C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 178.5, 140.9, 131.4, 121.9, 114.0, 79.1, 47.9, 42.2, 42.1, 41.7, 40.6, 40.2, 20.9; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 227.1047. C₁₃H₁₆O₂Na requires 227.1048.

4.1.6. Synthesis of spiro lactones 20 and 21. Following the above described protocol a solution of the lactone 19 (1.0 g, 6.09 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was allylated with allyl bromide (1.1 mL, 12.2 mmol) to afford, after column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether), the lactones 20 and 21 (1.05 g, 85%) as colorless oil; R_f (30% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) 0.8; v_{max} (liquid film) 2968, 2873, 1774, 1639, 1448 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture of **20** and **21**) 6.31– 6.25 (1H, m, =CH), 6.06-6.03 (1H, m, =CH), 5.83-5.69 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.14–5.02 (2H, m, $=$ CH₂), 4.27–4.19 (1H, m, OCH₂), 4.11–4.08 $(1H, m, OCH₂), 2.84 (1H, br s), 2.68 (1H, br s), 2.38-2.26 (2H, m), 2.23-$ 2.17 (1H, m), 1.58–1.34 (3H, m), 1.22–1.15 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 179.4, 139.9, 134.4, 133.8, 117.9, 78.0, 50.5, 50.3, 48.1, 47.6, 41.8, 34.2, 33.4; (for minor isomer) 178.3, 139.4, 134.3, 133.4, 117.7, 78.5, 50.4, 50.3, 47.5, 46.2, 44.2, 42.4, 32.4; HRMS (ESI) $(m|z)$: [M+Na]⁺, found 227.1046. C₁₃H₁₆O₂Na requires 227.1048.

4.1.7. (2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aS*)-2,3,3a,4,5,7a-Hexahydro-3a,4-bis(hydroxymethyl)-2-vinyl-1H-indene **16**. Following the above described protocol a solution of the tricyclic lactone 18 (350 mg, 1.72 mmol) in diethyl ether (5 mL) was reduced with LiAlH $_4$ (78 mg, 2.06 mmol) to afford, after column chromatography $(30\%$ Et₂O/petroleum ether), the diol 16 (328 mg, 92%) as viscous liquid; R_f (40% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 3271, 2937, 2869, 1640, 1458 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.79–5.57 (3H, m, =CH), 4.95 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, $=$ CH), 4.86 (1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, $=$ CH), 3.76 (1H, dd, J 11.2, 1.8 Hz, OCH₂), 3.61–3.56 (2H, m, OCH₂), 3.14 (1H, d, J 11.2 Hz, OCH₂), 2.51–2.49 (1H, m), 2.19–2.12 (2H, m), 1.99–1.86 (4H, m), 1.56–1.51 (1H, m), 1.29–1.16 (3H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 142.5, 128.5, 125.9, 113.0, 65.7, 62.3, 46.9, 45.6, 42.8, 42.3, 40.7, 39.5, 25.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 231.1365. C₁₃H₂₀O₂Na requires 231.1361.

4.1.8. (2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aS*)-2,3,3a,4,5,7a-Hexahydro-3a,4-bis(methylsulfonyloxymethyl)-2-vinyl-1H-indene 22. To a solution of the diol 16 (150 mg, 0.72 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) were added triethylamine (0.40 mL, 2.88 mmol) and mesylchloride (0.16 mL, 2.16 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting solution was stirred at that temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography (50% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to give the dimesylate 22 (236 mg, 90%) as a white crystalline solid; R_f (50%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.6; mp 105–107 °C; v_{max} (KBr plate) 3026, 2939, 1641, 1329, 1174 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.76–5.70 (3H, m, $=$ CH), 5.01 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.93 (1H, d, J 10.1 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.39 (1H, dd, J 9.8, 2.1 Hz, CH₂OMs), 4.19 (1H, d, J 7.7 Hz, CH₂OMs), 4.12 (1H, d, J 9.8 Hz, CH₂OMs), 3.97 (1H, d, J 9.7 Hz, CH₂OMs), 3.01 (6H, s, OMs), 2.59–2.57 (1H, m), 2.31–2.22 (2H, m), 2.13–2.04 (2H, m), 2.02– 1.95 (2H, m), 1.51 – 1.42 (1H, m), 1.33 – 1.21 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 141.2, 128.2, 124.5, 114.0, 71.9, 71.2, 44.6, 44.1, 42.6, 41.4, 40.9, 39.5, 37.5 (2C), 26.0; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 387.0911. $C_{15}H_{24}O_6S_2$ Na requires 387.0912.

4.1.9. (2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aR*)-2-Ethyl-octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-indene 25 . Na₂S (43 mg, 0.54 mmol) was added to a solution of the dimesylate 22 (100 mg, 0.27 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) and stirred at 50 °C for 3 h. After addition of H₂O, the resulting slurry was partitioned between EtOAc/hexane and H_2O . The combined organic layers were washed thoroughly with brine, dried, and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residual mass by column chromatography (10% EtOAc/petroleum ether) gave 24 (51 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil; R_f (40% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 2926, 1639 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.82-5.70 (1H, m, =CH), 5.68 (2H, br s, $=$ CH), 4.99 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.90 (1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, $=CH_2$), 3.01 (1H, dd, J 10.3, 5.1 Hz, SCH₂), 2.81 (1H, d, J 10.1 Hz, SCH2), 2.67–2.61 (2H, m, SCH2), 2.42–2.38 (1H, m), 2.16– 2.12 (1H, m), 2.04–1.88 (3H, m), 1.33–1.13 (4H, m); δ _C (75 MHz, CDCl3) 142.3, 129.6, 123.7, 113.2, 53.6, 45.4, 43.9, 42.8, 42.7, 41.9, 40.7, 35.8, 27.1. Without further characterization 24 was used directly for the next step.

A mixture of the thioether 24 (50 mg, 0.24 mmol) and Raney Ni W-4 (ca. 100 mg) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at rt for 2 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residual mass by column chromatography (4% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave 25 (35 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil; ν_{max} (liquid film) 2956, 1483 cm $^{-1}$; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.65–1.58 (3H, m), 1.55–1.45 (4H, m), 1.42–1.25 (9H, m), 0.88–0.86 (2 H, m), 0.85 (3H, s, CH3), 0.76 (3H, d, J 6.6 Hz, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 47.6, 45.5, 42.7, 38.9, 36.5, 35.9, 31.1, 29.8, 25.1, 21.7, 20.8, 16.6, 13.4; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 203.1767. C13H24Na requires 203.1776.

4.1.10. ((2S*,3aS*,4S*,7aS*)-2,3,3a,4,5,7a-Hexahydro-4-methyl-2-vi $nyl-1H$ -inden-3a-yl)methyl methanesulfonate 23. LiEt₃BH (1.5 mL, 1.5 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) was added drop wise to the dimesylate 22 (140 mg, 0.38 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0° C and the mixture was stirred at rt for 3 h. After the addition of 1.0 M HCl, the resulting slurry was partitioned between EtOAc and H_2O . The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residue by column chromatography $(10\% Et₂O/petro$ leum ether) gave 23 (83 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) 0.6; v_{max} (liquid film) 3020, 2956, 1639, 1458 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.73-5.61 (3H, m, =CH), 4.92 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, $=CH_2$), 4.83 (1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, $=CH_2$), 4.09 (1H, d, J 9.2 Hz, CH₂OMs), 4.02 (1H, d, J 9.3 Hz, CH₂OMs), 2.93 (3H, s, OMs), 2.50–2.45 (1H, m), 2.37–2.31 (1H, m), 1.99–1.89 (3H, m), 1.77–1.65 (2H, m), 1.36 (1H, d, J 10.6 Hz), 1.31 (1H, d, J 10.7 Hz), 0.92 (3H, d, J 6.5 Hz, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 142.1, 128.3, 125.7, 113.3, 72.2, 45.2, 43.0, 42.9, 41.5, 40.0, 37.2, 34.7, 31.2, 15.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z): [M+Na]⁺, found 293.1183. C₁₄H₂₂O₃SNa requires 293.1187.

4.1.11. 1-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aS*)-2,3,3a,4,5,7a-Hexahydro-3a,4-dimethyl methanesulfonate-1H-inden-2-yl)ethane-1,2-diol 26. To a solution of the hydrindane derivative 22 (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) and NMO (18 mg, 0.15 mmol) in THF (1 mL) and H_2O (0.25 mL) was added OsO₄ (0.04 mL, 0.0034 mmol, 2.5 wt % in ^tBuOH) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h and the resulting slurry was partitioned between EtOAc and $H₂O$. The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over $Na₂SO₄$, and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the crude mixture by column chromatography (90% EtOAc/petroleum ether) gave 26 (43 mg, 80%) as colorless oil; $\nu_{\rm max}$ (liquid film) 3519, 3417, 2940, 1640 $\rm\,cm^{-1};$ $\delta_{\rm H}$ $(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$ (for the mixture) 5.68 (2H, br s, $=$ CH), 4.47–4.41 $(1H, m, CH₂OH), 4.15 (2H, d, J 7.8 Hz, OCH₂), 3.94 (1H, d, J 9.8 Hz,$ OCH₂), 3.63 (1H, d, J 10.7 Hz, OCH₂), 3.52-3.47 (1H, m, CH₂OH), 3.50–3.41 (1H, m, CHOH), 3.02 (3H, s, OMs), 3.01 (3H, s, OMs), 2.32– 2.18 (3H, m), 2.10–1.91 (6H, m), 1.67–1.50 (1H, m), 1.23–1.18 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 128.3, 128.1, 124.6, 124.4, 75.8, 75.2, 72.2, 72.1, 71.5 (2C), 65.8 (2C), 44.6, 44.4, 43.8, 43.7, 40.8, 40.7, 40.1, 39.8, 37.5, 37.4 (2C), 37.3, 37.2, 36.9, 35.9, 35.3, 26.1 (2C); HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 421.0965. C₁₅H₂₆O₈S₂Na requires 421.0967.

4.1.12. 1-((3aS*,6aS*,8S*,9aR*)-1,3,3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Octahydroindeno[3 a,4-c]thiophen-8-yl)ethane-1,2-diol 27. Following the above described protocol a solution of the dimesylate 26 (500 mg, 1.25 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was treated with $Na₂S$ (196 mg, 2.50 mmol) to afford, after column chromatography (40% EtOAc/petroleum ether), the cyclic thioether 27 (256 mg, 85%) as a colorless oil; R_f (50% EtOAc) petroleum ether) 0.2; v_{max} (liquid film) 3390, 3016, 2931, 1666, 1454 cm⁻¹; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 5.58 (2H, br s, $=$ CH), 3.64–3.60 (1H, m, CHOH), 3.49–3.36 (2H, m, CH₂OH), 3.25 (2H, br s, OH), 3.01–2.94 (1H, m, SCH2), 2.79–2.76 (1H, m, SCH2), 2.64–2.55 (2H, m, SCH2), 2.35 (1H, br s), 2.07–1.99 (4H, br s), 1.73– 1.66 (1H, m), 1.43–1.35 (1H, m), 1.26–1.08 (2H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 129.5, 129.4, 123.7, 123.6, 76.5, 76.4, 65.9 (2C), 53.5, 53.2, 43.3 (2C), 42.0, 41.9 (2C), 41.8, 41.3, 41.1, 41.0 (2C), 37.1, 36.7, 35.7 (2C), 27.0, 26.9; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 263.1082. $C_{13}H_{20}O_2$ SNa requires 263.1082.

4.1.13. 1-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aR*)-Octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-inden-2 yl)ethane-1,2-diol 28. Following the above described protocol a solution of the cyclic thioether 27 (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) was reduced with Raney Ni W-4 (ca. 500 mg) to afford, after column chromatography (40% Et₂O/petroleum ether), the compound 28 (75 mg, 85%) as a colorless oil; R_f (50% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.3; v_{max} (liquid film) 3385, 2860, 1641, 1386 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 3.67 (1H, d, J 10.4 Hz, CH2OH), 3.50–3.45 (1H, m, CH2OH), 3.42–3.36 (1H, m, CHOH), 2.79 (2H, br s, OH), 2.01–1.99 (2H, m), 1.73–1.67 (3H, m), 1.55–1.36 (7H, m), 1.14–1.01 (1H, m), 0.86 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.78, 0.75 (total 3H, two d, J 6.7 and 7.1 Hz, respectively, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 77.9 (2C), 66.2, 66.0, 47.4, 47.2, 43.5, 43.4, 41.7, 41.6, 39.7, 39.6, 35.8, 35.7, 33.0, 32.6, 31.1, 31.0, 24.8, 24.6, 21.6, 21.5, 20.6, 20.5, 16.6, 16.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 235.1675. $C_{13}H_{24}O_2$ Na requires 235.1674.

4.1.14. 1-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aS*)-Octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-inden-2 yl)-2-(tert-butyl)dimethylsilyloxy ethanone **29**. To a cooled $(0 °C)$ solution of 28 (280 mg, 1.32 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) were added $Et₃N$ (0.2 mL), TBDMSCl (297 mg, 1.98 mmol), and DMAP (cat). The mixture was stirred for 3 h and diluted with saturated brine. This was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (5% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to provide the corresponding silyl ether (409 mg, 95%) as colorless oil; R_f (10%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.8; v_{max} (liquid film) 3579, 3481, 2954, 1463, 1377 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 3.66-3.62 (1H, m, CHOH), 3.44-3.31 (2H, m, CH₂OH), 2.50 (1H, t, J 3.5 Hz), 2.01–1.92 (1H, m), 0.06 (6H, br s, Me₂Si), 1.81–1.75 (1H, m), 1.71– 1.59 (2H, m), 1.55-1.35 (9H, m), 0.89 (9H, br s, ^tBuSi), 0.87, 0.86 (total 3H, two s, CH₃), 0.78, 0.75 (total 3H, two d, J 7.4 and 7.3 Hz, respectively, CH₃); δ_c (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 77.1, 77.0, 66.7, 66.5, 47.4, 47.2, 42.6, 42.5, 41.6, 41.5, 39.4, 39.3, 35.6, 35.5, 33.0, 32.5, 31.0 (2C), 26.0 (6C), 24.9, 24.7, 21.6, 21.5, 20.6, 20.5, 18.4 (2C), 16.6, 16.5, -5.2, -5.3 (3C); HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 349.2537. C19H38O2SiNa requires 349.2539.

To a magnetically stirred suspension of DMP (550 mg, 1.3 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at 0 °C, the silyl ether obtained as above (354 mg, 1.08 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added drop wise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min and was quenched with 10% $Na₂S₂O₃$ solution (3 mL) doped with NaHCO₃. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous part extracted with diethyl ether $(2\times10$ mL). The combined organic layer was dried, concentrated, and purified by column chromatography (3% Et₂O/petroleum ether) to afford 29 (316 mg, 90%) as colorless liquid; v_{max} (liquid film) 2954, 2858, 1730, 1462, 1381, 1253 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 4.23 (2H, s, CH2OTBDMS), 3.20–3.08 (1H, m, CHCO), 2.12–1.96 (2H, m), 1.76–1.65 (3H, m), 1.52–1.48 (3H, m), 1.45–1.34 (4H, m), 0.91 (9H, s, ^tBuSi), 0.87 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.75 (3H, d, J 6.5 Hz, CH₃), 0.07 (6H, s, Me₂Si); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 212.8, 68.9, 47.5, 44.2, 43.2, 40.4, 33.4, 31.6, 30.8, 25.9 (3C), 24.4, 21.2, 20.1, 18.5, 16.6, -5.4 (2C); HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 347.2386. C₁₉H₃₆O₂SiNa requires 347.2382.

4.1.15. 1-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aR*)-Octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-inden-2 y l)-2-hydroxyethanone **30**. Desilylation of the hydrindane derivative 29 (285 mg, 0.88 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was accomplished with tetrabutylammonium fluoride (277 mg, 0.88 mmol) at rt for 4 h. After addition of water, the resulting slurry was partitioned between ether and water. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried ($Na₂SO₄$), and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/ petroleum ether) afforded the hydroxy-ketone 30 (147 mg, 80%) as colorless liquid; R_f (10% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.4; v_{max} (liquid

film) 3417, 2924, 2860, 1712, 1656, 1462, 1381 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl3) 4.24 (2H, s, CH2OH), 3.19 (1H, br s, OH), 2.99–2.89 (1H, m, CHCO), 2.06–1.97 (2H, m), 1.80–1.70 (2H, m), 1.56–1.54 (3H, m), 1.50–1.35 (4H, m), 1.09–1.04 (1H, m), 0.87 (3H, s, CH3), 0.75 (3H, d, J 6.4 Hz, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 212.4, 67.4, 47.5, 44.8, 43.2, 40.3, 33.6, 32.1, 30.7, 24.2, 21.1, 20.0, 16.5; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 233.1513. C₁₃H₂₂O₂Na requires 233.1517.

4.1.16. Ethyl 2-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aR*)-Octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-inden-2-yl)-2-oxoethyl carbonate 31. To a solution of the hydroxyketone 30 (184 mg, 0.87 mmol) in $\mathrm{CH_2Cl_2}$ (7 mL) at 0 $^\circ\mathrm{C}$ were added DMAP (ca. 5 mg), pyridine (1.63 mL), and ethylchloroformate (1.0 mL, 10.4 mmol), and the resulting mixture was quenched with 2 N aqueous HCl and extracted with EtOAc $(2\times10 \text{ mL})$. Combined extracts were dried ($Na₂SO₄$), filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residual mass by column chromatography (5% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave the carbonate **31** (237 mg, 96%) as colorless liquid; R_f (10% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.6; v_{max} (liquid film) 2929, 2873, 1755, 1732, 1463, 1373, 1263 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl3) 4.68 (2H, s, OCH2CO), 4.20 (2H, q, J 6.9 Hz, OCH2), 3.02–2.90 (1H, m, CHCO), 2.10–2.04 (2H, m), 1.77–1.72 (2H, m), 1.51–1.47 (3H, m), 1.42–1.37 (3H, m), 1.32–1.27 (4H, m), 1.08–1.02 (1H, m), 0.86 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.74 (3H, d, J 6.5 Hz, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 205.8, 154.8, 69.8, 64.6, 47.5, 44.8, 43.2, 39.7, 33.3, 31.6, 30.7, 24.2, 21.0, 19.9, 16.5, 14.3; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 305.1725. $C_{16}H_{26}O_4$ Na requires 305.1729.

4.1.17. 1-((2S*,3aR*,4S*,7aR*)-Octahydro-3a,4-dimethyl-1H-inden-2 y) ethanone 34. To a magnetically stirred ice-cold solution of the diol 28 (100 mg, 0.47 mmol) in THF/water (4.5 mL, 2:1) was added NaIO4 (201.6 mg, 0.94 mmol) in portions. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at $0 °C$ for 30 min. The precipitated white solid was filtered off after washing it thoroughly with diethyl ether. Usual workup of the filtrate afforded the aldehyde 33, which was immediately used for the next step without purification.

To a solution of the crude aldehyde 33 in dry ether (5 mL) was added methylmagnesium iodide $(3.0 \text{ M} \text{ in } Et_2O, 0.37 \text{ mL}, 1.1 \text{ mmol})$ at 0° C. The mixture was stirred at that temperature for 1 h, and to this was added saturated aqueous NH4Cl solution. After stirring it for 15 min at rt, the mixture was extracted with ether $(2\times5$ mL). The combined organic layer was dried, concentrated in vacuo. The resulting crude product was chromatographed $(10\%$ Et₂O/petroleum ether) affording the corresponding methyl addition product (83 mg, 90%) as colorless liquid; R_f (20% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.6; ν_{max} (liquid film) 3364, 2928, 2870, 1460, 1375 cm $^{-1}$; δ_{H} (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for the mixture) 3.56-3.50 (1H, m), 1.95-1.87 (1H, m), 1.72–1.32 (13H, m), 1.14, 1.13 (total 3H, two d, J 6.2 and 6.1 Hz, respectively, CH₃COH), 0.86 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.76, 0.74 (total 3H, two d, J 6.3 and 6.1 Hz, respectively, CH₃); δ _C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for both diastereoisomers) 73.6, 73.4, 47.4 (2C), 45.4, 45.3, 42.7, 42.6, 42.0, 41.7, 35.7, 35.6, 33.1, 32.9, 31.0 (2C), 24.9, 24.7, 22.4 (2C), 21.6 (2C), 20.6 (2C), 16.5 (2C); HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 219.1725. C₁₃H₂₄ONa requires 219.1725.

To a solution of the hydroxy-compound thus obtained (56 mg, 0.28 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) at rt was added DMP (144.6 mg, 0.34 mmol) portion wise and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ solution (2 mL) doped with NaHCO₃ at ice-cold condition and stirred vigorously until the organic layer became transparent. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (5% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave 34 (53 mg, 96%) as colorless oil; R_f (10% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.7; ν_{max} (liquid film) 2957, 2872, 1711, 1462 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 2.95–2.90 (1H, m), 2.13 (3H, s, COCH3), 2.09–2.00 (2H, m), 1.82–1.72 (3H, m), 1.53–1.32 (7H, m), 0.87 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.76 (3H, d, J 6.6 Hz, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl3) 211.2, 49.6, 47.4, 43.0, 39.9, 33.6, 31.6, 30.8, 28.9, 24.4, 21.2, 20.0, 16.5; HRMS (ESI) $(m|z)$: [M+Na]⁺, found 217.1569. C13H22ONa requires 217.1568.

4.1.18. Synthesis of hydroxy-lactones 35 and 36. A solution of the lactone 19 (990 mg, 6.04 mmol) in THF (12 mL) was added drop wise to a magnetically stirred solution of LDA (prepared from diisopropyl amine (1.6 mL, 12.1 mmol) in anhydrous THF (12 mL) and ⁿBuLi (6.8 mL, 10.8 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane)) at -78 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at that temperature for 1 h. Freshly distilled acrolein (0.8 mL, 12.1 mmol) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture at the same temperature and was allowed to stir for 1 h. After quenching with saturated aqueous NH4Cl solution, the reaction mixture was worked up in the usual way to afford, after column chromatography $(40\%$ Et₂O/petroleum ether), hydroxylactones 35 and 36 and their corresponding hydroxy epimers (1.1 g, 83%) as colorless oil; R_f (30% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; ν_{max} (liquid film) 3273, 2870, 1775, 1638, 1462 cm⁻¹; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 6.33 (1H, dd, J 5.5, 3.1 Hz, = CH), 6.08 (1H, dd, J 5.3, 2.7 Hz, $=$ CH), 5.81–5.70 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.30 (1H, d, J 17.2 Hz, $=CH_2$), 5.20 (1H, d, J 10.4 Hz, $=CH_2$), 4.33 (1H, br s, OH), 4.26 (1H, d, J 8.9 Hz, OCH2), 4.10 (1H, d, J 8.9 Hz, OCH2), 3.11 (1H, d, J 7.8 Hz, CHOH), 2.83 (1H, br s), 2.69 (1H, br s), 2.44 (1H, d, J 4.1 Hz, CHCO), 1.80 (1H, dd, J 12.6, 2.5 Hz), 1.54 (1H, d, J 8.8 Hz), 1.38 (1H, dd, J 12.6, 3.4 Hz), 1.29 (1H, d, J 8.9 Hz); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 179.5, 140.4, 137.2, 133.7, 117.4, 79.2, 72.5, 53.4, 51.2, 48.7, 47.6, 41.9, 34.6; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 243.0994. $C_{13}H_{16}O_3$ Na requires 243.0997.

4.1.19. Synthesis of the compounds 37 and 38. To a magnetically stirred solution of the mixture of alcohols 35 and 36 and their epimers (440 mg, 1.99 mmol) in $CH₂Cl₂$ (3 mL), dimethoxy methane (0.53 mL, 6.0 mmol) and $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$ (0.3 mL, 2.4 mmol) were added drop wise at $0 °C$. After complete addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at $0 °C$. After quenching with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, the reaction mixture was worked up in the usual way to afford, after column chromatography (10%) Et₂O/petroleum ether), the MOM ether derivatives 37 and 38 and their epimers (422 mg, 80%) as colorless liquid; R_f (30% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.6; ν_{max} (liquid film) 1774, 1642 cm⁻¹; δ_{H} (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 6.32 (1H, dd, J 5.5, 3.06 Hz, = CH), 6.22 (1H, dd, J 5.5, 2.5 Hz, $=$ CH), 5.79–5.70 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.47 (1H, d, J 17.3 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 5.42 (1H, d, J 10.5 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.65 (1H, d, J 6.8 Hz, OCH₂), 4.52 (1H, d, J 6.8 Hz, OCH2), 4.35 (1H, dd, J 8.6, 3.0 Hz, CHOMOM), 4.30 (1H, d, J 5.5 Hz, OCH₂), 4.04 (1H, d, J 8.3 Hz, OCH₂), 3.34 (3H, s, OCH3), 2.90 (1H, br s), 2.87 (1H, br s), 2.31 (1H, d, J 3.0 Hz, CHCO), 1.94 (1H, dd, J 11.8, 3.7 Hz), 1.52 (1H, d, J 8.7 Hz), 1.39 (1H, d, J 9.0 Hz), 1.25-1.21 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 177.0, 139.7, 134.6, 134.0, 121.4, 93.0, 79.2, 75.0, 55.7 (2C), 49.2, 47.5, 46.4, 46.0, 42.0; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : $[M+Na]^+$, found 287.1255. C15H20O4Na requires 287.1259.

4.1.20. (6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-4-hydroxy-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one **39**. To a solution of the mixture of hydroxy-lactones 35 and 36 and their hydroxy epimers (80 mg, 0.36 mmol) in dry $CH₂Cl₂$ (30 mL) under ethylene atmosphere at rt was added a solution of Grubbs' catalyst 12 (17 mg, 5 mol %) in $CH₂Cl₂$ (1 mL). After stirring for 30 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave the tricyclic lactone 39 as a diastereoisomeric mixture (16 mg, 20%) as colorless oil; R_f (40%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 3470, 1760, 1645, 1469 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major diastereoisomer) 5.86-5.79 (3H, m, $=$ CH), 5.07–4.96 (2H, m, $=$ CH₂), 4.45–4.41 (1H, m, CHOH), 4.24 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz, OCH2), 4.10–4.07 (1H, m, OCH2), 2.82 (1H, d, J 5.6 Hz), 2.53–2.39 (2H, m), 2.35–2.21 (1H, m), 2.03–1.91

(1H, m), 1.83-1.56 (2H, m), 1.14-1.02 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer of the mixture) 177.1, 139.8, 132.4, 128.7, 114.7, 80.6, 63.6, 48.9, 48.8, 42.4, 42.0, 41.9, 41.1; (for minor isomer of the mixture) 178.5, 140.3, 133.0, 126.3, 114.5, 79.1, 64.5, 50.4, 47.3, 43.9, 43.2, 40.9, 39.9; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 243.0995. $C_{13}H_{16}O_3$ Na requires 243.0997.

4.1.21. (6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-4-(methoxymethoxy)-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one 40. Following the metathesis procedure described above, the mixture of lactones 37 and 38 and their epimers (90 mg, 0.34 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (35 mL) was treated with the catalyst 12 (14 mg, 5 mol%) in ethylene atmosphere (17 h) to afford, after column chromatography (10% $Et₂O$) petroleum ether), the cyclized tricyclic lactone 40 as a diastereoisomeric mixture (45 mg, 50%) as colorless liquid; R_f (30%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 1772, 1641, 1469 cm⁻¹; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 5.82 (2H, br s, $=$ CH), 5.74–5.66 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.00 (1H, d, J 17.7 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.93 $(1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, = CH₂), 4.74 (1H, d, J 6.7 Hz, OCH₂), 4.70 (1H, d, J)$ 6.8 Hz, OCH2), 4.44 (1H, br s, CHOMOM), 4.11 (1H, d, J 8.5 Hz, OCH2), 4.00 (1H, d, J 8.5 Hz, OCH2), 3.37 (3H, s, OCH3), 2.88 (1H, d, J 2.2 Hz), 2.54–2.44 (2H, m), 2.38–2.29 (1H, m), 2.05 (1H, t, J 12.5 Hz), 1.83 (1H, dd, J 12.7, 6.0 Hz), 1.34–1.24 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) (for major isomer) 176.0, 140.8, 134.5, 123.1, 114.2, 96.1, 79.2, 68.9, 55.7, 47.3, 47.1, 43.0, 41.6, 41.1, 40.0; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 287.1256. C₁₅H₂₀O₄Na requires 287.1259.

4.1.22. Synthesis of silyl ether compounds 42 and 43. To a cooled $(0 C)$ solution of mixture of 35, 36 and its hydroxy epimers (511 mg, 2.32 mmol) as obtained above in $CH₂Cl₂$ (20 mL) were added Et3N (0.64 mL, 4.64 mmol), TBDMSCl (696 mg, 4.64 mmol), and DMAP (cat). The mixture was stirred for 36 h and diluted with saturated brine. This was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography $(5\% Et₂O/petro$ leum ether) to provide 42 (388 mg, 50%) and 43 (147 mg, 19%) as the major hydroxy-lactones. Compound **42** as a colorless oil; v_{max} (liquid film) 2940, 1778, 1643, 1462 cm $^{-1}$; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 6.27–6.24 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.99–5.96 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.75–5.64 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.14 (1H, d, J 17.4 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 5.07 (1H, d, J 10.5 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.69 (1H, d, J 2.1 Hz, CHOSi), 4.33 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz, OCH2), 4.05 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz, OCH2), 2.76 (1H, s), 2.64 (1H, s), 2.20 (1H, s, CHCO), 2.17 (1H, dd, J 11.5, 2.7 Hz), 1.49 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz), 1.34 (1H, dd, J 13.0, 3.4 Hz), 1.27 (1H, d, J 9.0 Hz), 0.86 (9H, s, $3 \times CH_3$), 0.00 (3H, s, CH₃), -0.03 (3H, s, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 180.0, 140.0, 139.9, 133.7, 115.4, 79.5, 74.8, 54.3, 50.9, 49.3, 47.5, 41.9, 34.6, 25.9 (3C), 17.9, -4.8 , -5.0 ; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 357.1863. $C_{19}H_{30}O_3$ SiNa requires 357.1862. Compound 43 as a colorless oil; ν_{max} (liquid film) 2877, 1776, 1645, 1460 cm $^{-1}$; δ_{H} (300 MHz, CDCl $_3$) 6.29–6.26 (1H, m), 6.18–6.15 (1H, m), 5.97–5.86 (1H, m, =CH), 5.34 $(1H, d, J 17.3 Hz, = CH₂), 5.22 (1H, d, J 10.2 Hz, = CH₂), 4.57 (1H, d, J)$ 4.7 Hz, CHOSi), 4.45 (1H, d, J 7.7 Hz, OCH2), 4.01 (1H, d, J 7.7 Hz, OCH2), 2.95 (1H, s), 2.85 (1H, s), 2.13 (1H, d, J 2.3 Hz, CHCO), 1.90 (1H, dd, J 11.7, 3.8 Hz), 1.50 (1H, d, J 8.34 Hz), 1.42 (1H, d, J 8.8 Hz), 1.13 (1H, d, J 12.1 Hz), 0.91 (9H, s, $3 \times CH_3$), 0.05 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.03 (3H, s, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 178.3, 139.9, 139.3, 135.4, 116.4, 80.2, 74.8, 57.7, 48.9, 47.8 (2C), 46.2, 41.6, 26.0 (3C), 18.2, -4.4, -4.9; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 357.1860. C₁₉H₃₀O₃SiNa requires 357.1862.

4.1.23. (3aR*,4S*,6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-4-(tert-butyl)dimethylsilyloxy-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one 44. The catalyst 12 (10 mg, 5 mol %) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (4 mL) and was added via syringe to a solution of the lactone 42 (80 mg, 0.24 mmol) in degassed $CH₂Cl₂$ (40 mL). This solution was then purged with ethylene and stirred at rt for 12 h under an ethylene atmosphere. The solvent was then removed by rotary evaporator and the residue was purified by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/ petroleum ether) to give 44 (58 mg, 72%) as a colorless oil; R_f (5% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 2952, 2885, 1787, 1641, 1469, 1373 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.80-5.66 (2H, m, $=$ CH), 5.59 (1H, dd, J 9.8, 1.9 Hz, $=$ CH), 4.95 (1H, d, J 16.8 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.87 (1H, d, J 10.0 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.53 (1H, br s, CHOSi), 4.21 $(1H, d, J 8.2 Hz, OCH₂)$, 3.89 (1H, dd, J 8.2, 1.9 Hz, OCH₂), 2.59-2.55 (1H, m), 2.54 (1H, d, J 3.6 Hz), 2.53–2.51 (1H, m), 2.45 (1H, t, J 12.3 Hz), 2.26–2.21 (1H, m), 1.65 (1H, dd, J 13.1, 6.6 Hz), 1.40–1.35 (1H, m), 0.85 (9H, s, $3 \times CH_3$), 0.16 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.11 (3H, s, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl3) 173.5, 142.5, 135.5, 126.5, 113.1, 77.4, 61.4, 49.7, 47.2, 44.1, 42.0, 37.0, 35.9, 25.7 (3C), 18.0, -4.4 , -5.1 ; HRMS (ESI) (m/z): $[M+Na]^+$, found 357.1857. C₁₉H₃₀O₃SiNa requires 357.1862.

4.1.24. (3aS*,4S*,6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-4-(tert-butyl)dimethylsilyloxy-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one 45. Following the metathesis procedure described above, the lactone 43 (70 mg, 0.21 mmol) in DCM (35 mL) was treated with the catalyst 12 (8.6 mg, 5 mol %) for 12 h to afford, after column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether), the tricyclic lactone 45 (49 mg, 70%) as a colorless liquid; R_f (5% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.6; ν_{max} (liquid film) 1762, 1645, 1469 cm⁻¹; δ_{H} (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.96–5.91 (1H, m, =CH), 5.86 (1H, dd, J 9.9, 1.7 Hz, =CH), 5.75–5.70 (1H, m, =CH), 5.04 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, =CH₂), 4.96 (1H, d, J 10.3 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.52 (1H, t, J 5.0 Hz, CHOSi), 4.17 (1H, d, J 7.1 Hz, OCH₂), 4.09 (1H, d, J 7.7 Hz, OCH₂), 2.49-2.45 (1H, m), 2.42-2.36 (1H, m), 2.22 (1H, d, J 4.6 Hz), 2.26–2.20 (1H, m), 2.09 (1H, dd, J 5.0, 1.2 Hz), 1.24– 1.15 (2H, m), 0.83 (9H, s, $3 \times CH_3$), 0.06 (3H, s, CH₃), 0.02 (3H, s, CH₃); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 177.7, 140.0, 134.3, 126.0, 114.5, 80.3, 63.4, 51.9, 48.4, 46.7, 41.8, 40.2, 40.0, 25.7 (3C), 17.9, -3.9, -5.2; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 357.1864. C₁₉H₃₀O₃SiNa requires 357.1862.

4.1.25. (6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-6a,7,8,9-Tetrahydro-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one **46**. To a magnetically stirred solution of **44** (23 mg, 0.07 mmol) in THF (1 mL) was added TBAF (0.07 mL, 0.07 mmol, 1 M solution in THF) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at rt for 3 h. After addition of water, the resulting slurry was partitioned between diethyl ether and water. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried ($Na₂SO₄$), and concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the crude mass by column chromatography (10% Et₂O/petroleum ether) gave 46 (12 mg, 85%) as colorless oil; R_f (30%) EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.5; v_{max} (liquid film) 1759, 1747, 1642, 1458 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 6.85 (1H, d, J 5.1 Hz, =CH), 6.08-6.02 (1H, m, $=$ CH), 5.82 (1H, dd, J 9.4, 2.5 Hz, $=$ CH), 5.76–5.65 (1H, m, = CH), 5.04 (1H, d, J 17.1 Hz, = CH₂), 4.95 (1H, d, J 10.1 Hz, = CH₂), 4.29 (1H, d, J 8.3 Hz, OCH2), 3.85 (1H, dd, J 8.2, 1.3 Hz, OCH2), 2.83 (1H, s), 2.58–2.38 (2H, m), 1.98 (1H, dd, J 12.4, 6.2 Hz), 1.65–1.57 (2H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 170.2, 140.5, 138.0, 129.7, 127.4, 120.3, 114.5, 78.4, 47.7, 43.2, 42.2, 38.2, 37.7; HRMS (ESI) $(m|z)$: [M+Na]⁺, found 225.0895. C13H14O2Na requires 225.0892.

4.1.26. (3aS*,4S*,6aR*,8R*,9aS*)-3a,4,6a,7,8,9-Hexahydro-4-hydroxy-8-vinylindeno[3a,4-c]furan-3(1H)-one **47**. Following the procedure described for desilylation of the tricycle 44, the silyl protected tricycle **45** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) in THF (1 mL) at 0 \degree C was deprotected using TBAF (0.06 mL, 0.06 mmol) to afford, after column chromatography (30% Et₂O/petroleum ether), the hydroxy-lactone 47 (10 mg, 75%) as a colorless liquid; R_f (30% EtOAc/petroleum ether) 0.4; v_{max} (liquid film) 3485, 3018, 2900, 1759, 1643, 1373, 1217 cm⁻¹; δ_H (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 5.90-5.79 (2H, m, =CH), 5.76-5.65 $(1H, m, = CH)$, 5.04 (1H, d, J 17.2 Hz, $= CH₂$), 4.98 (1H, d, J 10.3 Hz, $=$ CH₂), 4.45–4.42 (1H, m, CHOH), 4.24 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz, OCH₂), 4.09 $(1H, d, J 8.4 Hz, OCH₂), 3.91 (1H, d, J 9.9 Hz, OH), 2.82 (1H, d, J 5.6 Hz,$ CHCO), 2.55–2.43 (2H, m), 2.35–2.26 (2H, m), 1.93 (1H, dd, J 12.8, 5.5 Hz), 1.14–1.02 (1H, m); δ_C (75 MHz, CDCl₃) 178.4, 139.9, 132.4,

128.7, 114.8, 80.7, 63.7, 48.9, 48.8, 42.5, 41.9, 41.8, 41.2; HRMS (ESI) (m/z) : [M+Na]⁺, found 243.0992. C₁₃H₁₆O₃Na requires 243.0997.

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Supplementary data

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