# Efforts toward a stereocontrolled synthesis of CYP3A4 inhibitor GF-I-1 and stereoisomers

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# Efforts toward a stereocontrolled synthesis of CYP3A4 inhibitor GF-I-1 and stereoisomers

#### **Abstract**

Several furocoumarin compounds that show significant inhibition of the main human metabolic enzyme CYP3A4 have been isolated from grapefruit juice. The most potent of these is GF-I-1, an asymmetrical homodimer whose stereochemistry remains unknown. We sought to synthesize GF-I-1 and its three stereoisomers in a stereocontrolled fashion to unambiguously determine the absolute stereochemistry of natural GF-I-1. We were also interested in comparing the biological activities of the four synthetic isomers, following work that showed that CYP3A4 is not sensitive to the absolute configuration of a simpler grapefruit furocoumarin.

We have achieved the synthesis of a key dimeric intermediate in racemic form on the route towards GF-I-1. In doing so, we assessed the efficiencies of  $BiCl_3$  and  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$ , two newly-discovered Lewis acid catalysts, for promoting the condensation of precious alcohols and epoxides.  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$  appears to be a promising catalyst for these transformations, for which well-established synthetic protocols have been notably absent.

We also progressed along the stereocontrolled route towards GF-I-1 and its stereoisomers, with the stereospecific synthesis of all required chiral

precursors in greater than 96% enantiomeric excess. While the total synthesis was not completed due to a transformation that could not be efficiently accomplished during the allotted time for the project, we have laid the groundwork for the rapid stereocontrolled synthesis of GF-I-1 in the future.

## **Chapter 1**

## **Introduction and Background**

In 1989, a drug interaction between grapefruit (*Citrus paradisii*) and felodipine, a dihydropyridine calcium channel antagonist, was serendipitously discovered by Bailey et al. They were investigating the interaction of felodipine and ethanol, using grapefruit juice as the delivery vehicle. When felodipine was ingested with grapefruit juice, the plasma concentrations of the drug were more than five-fold greater than when taken with water. It was known that the bioavailability of felodipine typically averages only 15% due to exhaustive first-pass metabolism. This, coupled with the observation that grapefruit juice has no effect on the elimination of plasma felodipine, suggested that regulation of the first-pass enzyme by compounds in the grapefruit juice may be responsible for the observed drug interaction. A search for that first-pass enzyme yielded cytochrome P450 3A4.

Cytochrome P450 enzymes are a class of heme-containing proteins that generally catalyze the oxidation of their substrates. Of the many cytochrome P450 isoforms present, cytochrome P450 3A4 (CYP3A4) is the most abundant in the liver and epithelial tissue of the small intestine.<sup>5</sup> It has been implicated in metabolizing approximately 50% of the clinical drugs on the market as well as a broad range of xenobiotics.<sup>6</sup> For example, it is known

that CYP3A4 catalyzes the conversion of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and heterocyclic amines (HAs) to reactive electrophiles. These metabolites from PAHs, often referred to as diol epoxides, react with DNA, and thus exert carcinogenic and mutagenic effects.<sup>7</sup>

Once the target metabolic enzyme CYP3A4 was identified, work ensued in identifying the compounds present in grapefruit that are responsible for altering its biological activity. A series of furocoumarins and furocoumarin dimers were isolated and their structures characterized from fractions of organic extracts of grapefruit juice that showed inhibition of CYP3A4.<sup>8</sup> Of these, the most potent inhibitor was determined to be GF-I-1 (recently renamed: Paradisin A), a furocoumarin dimer that is a mechanism-based competitive inhibitor of CYP3A4, with an IC<sub>50</sub> on the order of 10 nM.<sup>9</sup>

It should be mentioned that neither do the grapefruit furocoumarins inhibit CYP3A4 exclusively nor are they the only known inhibitors of CYP3A4. The furocoumarins present in grapefruit have been shown to inhibit several other P450 isoforms. They recently have also been observed to interact with P-glycoprotein, a membrane-localized drug transporter, thus inhibiting the cellular efflux of its targets. CYP3A4 has long been known to be inhibited by Ketoconazole, an anti-fungal drug, and recently a new class of bisalkaloids from white pepper that also possess moderate CYP3A4 inhibitory activity has been isolated.

While the structures of the furocoumarins present in grapefruit have been identified, the stereochemical properties of these chiral molecules have not been unambiguously elucidated. Previously, through a total stereocontrolled synthesis, our laboratory has unambiguously determined the absolute stereochemistry of natural 6,7-dihydroxybergamottin (DHB), another CYP3A4 inhibitor from grapefruit that is somewhat less potent but more synthetically accessible than GF-I-1 (**Figure 1**).<sup>13</sup> Furthermore, the CYP3A4 inhibition activity of the two stereoisomers of DHB were compared against each other as well as racemic DHB, revealing that all three activities are nearly equivalent. This suggested that the portion of DHB containing the stereocenter does not interact with the CYP3A4 active site.

**Figure 1**. Synthetic target.

We now turned our attention towards the more potent GF-I-1 furocoumarin dimer. The absolute stereochemistry of this compound has been proposed to be (6R, 6'R) through <sup>1</sup>H NMR studies of the corresponding Mosher esters, <sup>14</sup> however this method has been known to give erroneous results. <sup>15,16</sup> We decided to unambiguously determine the absolute stereochemistry of GF-I-1 using a synthetic approach. We were also interested in comparing the inhibition activities of the four GF-I-1 diastereomers. In this dissertation, we describe our efforts toward the stereocontrolled total synthesis of GF-I-1 and its stereoisomers.

#### Chapter 2

## **Synthesis of Racemic Model System**

The greatest challenge that we anticipated in the synthesis of GF-I-1 was the coupling of the two geranyl chains to form the ether-linked dimer. In fact, prior to the very recent work by Barluenga et al.,<sup>17</sup> the literature was void of any systematic protocol for opening precious epoxides with precious alcohols. Cognizant of this difficulty, we synthesized a racemic model system for conducting epoxide-opening trials.

Starting with the commercially available geraniol (1), the racemic epoxide (3) and diol (4) were readily prepared (Scheme 1). The primary alcohol of geraniol (1) was protected with the pivaloate ester to prevent competition with the secondary alcohol of the diol (4) in opening the epoxide (3). The geranyl pivaloate (2) was oxidized with mCPBA to form the epoxide (3), which was hydrolyzed with strong aqueous acid to make the diol (4).

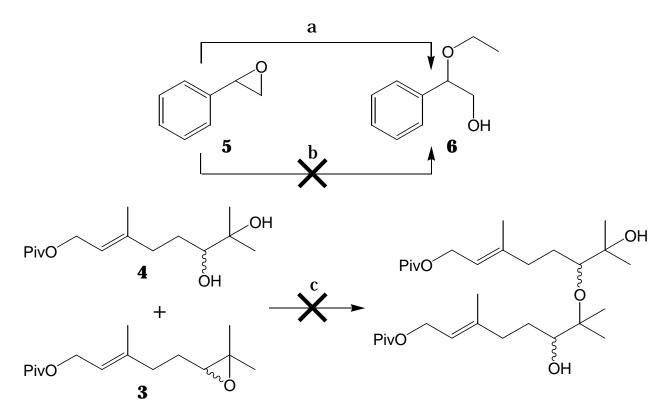
With a generous supply of racemic epoxide (3) and diol (4) in hand, we began a series of experiments to identify a suitable Lewis acid catalyst for their complexation to form the ether-linked dimer. We first tried BiCl<sub>3</sub>, a Lewis acid catalyst which had been reported to promote efficient epoxide opening under mild conditions (**Scheme 2**).<sup>18</sup> Although high yields of cleaved

#### Scheme 1<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and Conditions: (a) PivCl, py, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 3 h, 88%; (b) *m*CPBA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 2 h, 65%; (c) H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, THF, rt, 45 m, 62%.

epoxide had been reported using  $BiCl_3$ , when we tried the reaction between styrene oxide (5) and isopropanol, we observed only partial formation of the resulting  $\alpha$ -alkoxy alcohol (6). Furthermore, the trial was conducted using isopropanol as both a reagent and the solvent simultaneously, a luxury we could not afford with the precious diol (4). When this experiment was repeated without using a large excess of the alcohol (8 mol eq), no product (6) was observed, even when the reaction mixture was heated to reflux and the amount of catalyst increased five-fold. To conclusively verify that these results apply to our system, racemic epoxide (3) and diol (4) were subjected to the  $BiCl_3$  catalyst and no product was observed. Thus,  $BiCl_3$  is not a suitable catalyst for promoting the condensation of precious alcohols and epoxides.

#### Scheme 2<sup>a</sup>



 $^{\rm a}$  Reagents and Conditions: (a)  $BiCl_3$  (0.1 mol eq), isopropanol, rt, 2 h, 39%; (b)  $BiCl_3$  (0.5 mol eq), isopropanol (8 mol eq), benzene, reflux, 4 h; (c)  $BiCl_3$  (0.25 mol eq), hexafluoroisopropanol, rt, 48 h.

We next turned our attention towards the newly reported  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$  Lewis acid catalyst.<sup>17</sup> Based on a reported epoxide opening using only 4 mole equivalents of methanol to afford the opened epoxide product in 99% yield, it looked to be very promising for our purposes. The first trial of  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$  with our racemic system (**Scheme 3**) afforded the desired product, which was confirmed to be the sought-after dimer (7) by  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectroscopy and electrospray mass spectrometry. Further work showed that the yield of

## Scheme 3<sup>a</sup>

 $^a$  Reagents and Conditions: (a)  $Cu^{\rm II}(BF_4)_2$  (0.1 mol eq),  $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt, 20 h, 9%; (b)  $Cu^{\rm II}(BF_4)_2$  (0.3 mol eq),  $CH_2Cl_2$ , reflux, 24 h, 28%.

product (7) could be increased by raising the temperature of the reaction and increasing the mole equivalent of  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$  catalyst used. Thus, we had identified  $Cu^{II}(BF_4)_2$  to be a suitable Lewis acid catalyst for promoting the formation of the ether-linked dimer (7) from the epoxide (3) and the diol (4).

## **Chapter 3**

## **Stereocontrolled Synthesis**

Having identified a reliable method for synthesizing the ether-linked dimer with the racemic model system, we concentrated our efforts on a stereocontrolled synthesis. The protected geranyl pivaloate (2) already on hand was oxidized to the corresponding (S)-diol (8) and (R)-diol (9) using the Sharpless method of asymmetric dihydroxylation (Scheme 4).<sup>19</sup> It is noteworthy that both in these oxidations as well as in the oxidation of 2 to 3, the reactions are cleanly regioselective towards the terminal alkene. The other alkene is thought to avoid oxidation due to the proximity of the electronegative ester, which reduces the nucleophilicity of that alkene.<sup>20</sup>

#### Scheme 4<sup>a</sup>

PivO 2 b b OH PivO 8 OH 
$$_{\rm OH}$$
  $_{\rm OH}$   $_{\rm OH}$ 

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and Conditions: (a) AD-mix- $\alpha$ , MeSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 (v/v) H<sub>2</sub>O:t-BuOH, 0 °C, overnight, 95%; (b) AD-mix- $\beta$ , MeSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, 1:1 (v/v) H<sub>2</sub>O:t-BuOH, 0 °C, overnight, 62%.

The optical rotations of diols **8** and **9** were found to be opposite of each other and of approximately the same magnitude as the optical rotations of the corresponding diols of geranyl acetate, <sup>13</sup> suggesting the possibility of optical purity. However, optical rotation data can be unreliable, and we were interested in quantitatively determining the enantiomeric excesses of the desired diol isomers.

The first strategy for determining the enantiomeric excess was to transform the secondary alcohol of the diol into the corresponding Mosher ester and analyze the ratio of diastereomers thus formed with NMR spectroscopy. However, this method proved to be unsuccessful. Due to the small reaction scales and losses during purification, HNMR could not detect the minor stereoisomers. HNMR seemed promising due to its greater sensitivity in this case, however the signal peaks were transient and thus could not be correlated to specific stereoisomers. Furthermore, HNMR analysis of Mosher esters has been demonstrated to be unreliable.

The next strategy was to allow the diols to complex to the chiral lanthanide NMR shift reagent Eu(hfc)<sub>3</sub> and then analyze these formed complexes by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.<sup>22</sup> Diols **8** and **9** were combined in an NMR tube in mole ratios of 1:2 and 1:1 with 0.8 mole equivalents of Eu(hfc)<sub>3</sub> and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Two sets of signals with integration ratios very similar to the known mole ratios of diols **8** and **9** were readily identified in each spectrum

recorded. Then, diols **8** and **9** were individually analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in the presence of 0.8 mole equivalents of Eu(hfc)<sub>3</sub> and the integrations of the major and minor stereoisomer signals were used to determine the enantiomeric excess. For both **8** and **9**, the enantiomeric excess of the major stereoisomer was found to be greater than 96%.

Having established the high enantiomeric purity of the first stereospecific synthetic intermediates  $\bf 8$  and  $\bf 9$ , we attempted to convert these diols to their corresponding epoxides. This seemingly facile transformation presented a synthetic challenge which we had not anticipated. All reactions we tried shared the common strategy of making the secondary alcohol a better leaving group and then promoting  $S_N 2$  attack with the tertiary alcohol, thus displacing the derivatized secondary alcohol and forming the epoxide ring. However, significant steric bulk around both alcohols prevented an efficient reaction.

Once the supply of racemic diol (4) was exhausted, stereopure diols 8 and 9 were alternated in these epoxidation trials (Scheme 5). Racemic diol (4) was converted into the secondary tosylate and treated with the mild base TEA. No epoxide product was observed from this reaction despite letting it run overnight. (S)-diol (8) was also converted to the corresponding tosylate; when treated with the strong base NaH, a small amount of epoxide (10) was observed to form. Furthermore, when (R)-diol (9) was converted to the

### Scheme 5<sup>a</sup>

PivO 
$$\frac{1}{8}$$
 OH  $\frac{1}{10}$  PivO  $\frac{1}{3}$  PivO  $\frac{1}{10}$  P

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and Conditions: (a) TsCl, TEA,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt, overnight; (b) TsCl, NaH, benzene, rt, overnight, 22%; (c) MsCl, py, THF, 0 °C, overnight; (d) NaH, rt, 5 h, 26%.

corresponding mesylate and NaH was introduced as a second step, the yield of epoxide (11) was observed to increase. Even so, the largest yield obtained was only 26%, which did not provide enough material to allow making the stereospecific ether-linked dimers. Time did not permit us to discover an efficient method of transforming the diol into the epoxide, though if greater amounts of starting material were used, this challenge could potentially be disregarded.

## **Chapter 4**

#### **Future Directions**

We have determined a suitable method for achieving the key dimer intermediate 7 and progressed along the stereocontrolled synthetic route toward GF-I-1. Once optimal reaction conditions are worked out for the formation of epoxides 10 and 11, they can be easily opened by diols 8 and 9 (Scheme 6, shown for the 6S,6'R diastereomer of GF-I-1), as has already been done with the racemic system. The coupling of the two stereopure diols with the two stereopure epoxides will lead to the formation of all four possible

#### Scheme 6

diastereomers of the ether-linked dimer. Each of these four diastereomeric dimers can then be deprotected with mild base to return the primary alcohols, followed by Mitsunobu coupling<sup>23</sup> to the psoralen heterocycle to form GF-I-1.

Comparisons of optical rotation data and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopic data of the four diastereomers with those of the natural GF-I-1 should result in the unequivocal assignment of the absolute stereochemistry of natural GF-I-1. The four diastereomers can then be bioassayed on their inhibition of CYP3A4 to determine the sensitivity of the enzyme to the different stereoisomers of GF-I-1.

#### **Experimental Section**

General Methods. All moisture and air sensitive reactions were performed in oven dried glassware equipped with rubber septa under a positive pressure of nitrogen or argon. When necessary, solvents were distilled prior to use. Reaction mixtures were magnetically stirred. Thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck precoated silica gel 5534-3 plates (0.2 mm). Concentration in vacuo was generally performed using a Büchi rotary evaporator and a high vacuum oil pump. Flash column chromatography was performed on Merck 70-230 mesh silica gel under a positive pressure of nitrogen. Optical rotations were determined using a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded with Varian model Mercury 300 or UnityINOVA 400 instruments. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained with CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent using TMS as an internal standard (0 ppm). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in ppm relative to the solvent signal: CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77 ppm). Electrospray mass spectra were recorded on a Micromass model LCT spectrometer and are reported in units of mass to charge (m/z).

**Geranyl pivaloate (2).** To a stirred solution of **1** (6.47 g, 42 mmol) and pyridine (6.4 mL, 84 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (40 mL) at 0 °C was added pivaloyl chloride (7.8 mL, 63 mmol). The solution was stirred for 3 h at that

temperature. The reaction was quenched with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (80 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 mL). The organic layer was washed with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (2 x 80 mL) and sat. CuSO<sub>4</sub> successively. The combined organic layers were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (50:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) afforded **2** in 88% yield (8.77 g).  $^{1}$ H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.32 (tq, J = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (tt, J = 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.06 (m, 4H), 1.68 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 9H).

**Racemic 6,7-epoxygeranyl pivaloate (3).** To a stirred solution of **2** (4.66 g, 19.6 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (117 mL) at 0 °C was added *m*CPBA (5.83 g). The solution was stirred for 2 h at that temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered, washed with 10% aq. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (100 mL) and 10% aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (100 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuo and column chromatography (100:6 hexane:ethyl acetate) afforded **3** in 65% yield (3.24 g). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.37 (tq, J = 7.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.31, (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 178.50, 140.63, 119.36, 63.84, 61.17, 58.30, 38.70, 36.13, 27.17, 24.81, 22.61, 18.72, 16.43, 14.07.

**Racemic 6,7-dihydroxygeranyl pivaloate (4).** To a stirred solution of **3** (2.5 g, 9.84 mmol) in THF (180 mL) was added 5M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> dropwise (8.4 mL).

The solution was stirred for 45 m at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured onto brine (200 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (15:1 hexane: ethyl acetate) afforded **4** in 62% yield (1.57 g). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.38 (tq, J = 7.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.33 (dd, J = 10.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (br, 1H), 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.46 (m, 1H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H), 1.17 (s, 3H).

**1-phenyl-1-isopropoxyethanol (6).** To a stirred solution of **5** (360 mg, 3 mmol) in isopropanol (15 mL) at reflux was added BiCl<sub>3</sub> (95 mg, 0.1 mol eq). The solution was stirred for 2 h at reflux. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude reaction mixture was dissolved in diethyl ether (15 mL) and poured onto  $H_2O$  (15 mL). The organic phase was separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (1:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) afforded **6** in 39% yield (209 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (m, 5H), 4.53 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (m, 3H), 2.33 (br, 1H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.13 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  128.41, 127.89, 126.79, 79.92, 69.54, 67.49, 23.45.

**Racemic dimer (7).** To a stirred solution of **3** (60 mg, 0.236 mmol) and **4** (244 mg, .897 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) was added Cu<sup>II</sup>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> catalyst (15 mg, .30 mol eq). The solution was stirred for 24 h at reflux. The reaction mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (60 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (15:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) afforded 7 in 28% yield (40 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.38 (td, J = 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 3.53 (tq, J = 11.2, 2.2 Hz, 2H, 2.34 (m, 2H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 2.07 (m, 2H), 1.72 (s, 6H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 6H), 1.31 (s, 6H), 1.19 (s, 18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 178.59, 141.17, 119.33, 98.74, 97.10, 76.26, 76.04, 61.21, 38.72, 36.07, 29.14, 29.09, 27.18, 23.65, 23.40, 21.37, 21.14, 16.45; ES MS found: m/z 531.4, calcd for  $[C_{30}H_{54}O_7 + Na^+ - H_2O]$ : m/z 531.

(S)-6,7-dihydroxygeranyl pivaloate (8). To a stirred solution of  $H_2O$  (80 mL) and t-BuOH (80 mL) at 0 °C were added the AD-mix-  $\alpha$  very slowly (20.6 g), MeSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (1.40 g), and 2 (3.97 mL, 14.7 mmol), successively. The solution was stirred overnight at that temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (22.0 g). The organic layers were extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 80 mL), washed with 2M KOH (2 x 200 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuo and column

chromatography (20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH) afforded **8** in 95% yield (3.81 g).  $[\alpha]_D^{\text{rt}}$  -22.4 (c 0.0125 in MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  5.39 (tq, J = 6.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (dd, J = 7.0, 0.7 Hz, 2H), 3.35 (dd, J = 10.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (m, 2H), 2.13 (m, 2H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.66 (m, 3H), 1.46 (m, 1H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 9H), 1.17 (s, 3H).

- (R)-6,7-dihydroxygeranyl pivaloate (9). To a stirred solution of  $H_2O$  (80 mL) and t-BuOH (80 mL) at 0 °C were added the AD-mix- $\beta$  very slowly (20.6 g), MeSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (1.40 g), and **2** (2.50 mL, 9.26 mmol), successively. The solution was stirred overnight at that temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (22.0 g). The organic layers were extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 80 mL), washed with 2M KOH (2 x 200 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuo and column chromatography (20:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH) afforded **9** in 62% yield (1.56 g). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>rt</sup> +23.2 (c 0.0125 in MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  5.37 (tq, J = 6.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.34 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (br, 1H), 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.21 (br, 1H), 2.12 (m, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.46 (m, 1H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H), 1.17 (s, 3H).
- (R)-6,7-epoxygeranyl pivaloate (10). To a stirred solution of 8 (200 mg, 0.736 mmol) and tosyl chloride (74 mg, 0.772 mmol) in benzene (16 mL) was added NaH slowly (58 mg). The solution was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with  $H_2O$  (32 mL) and

extracted with ethyl acetate (16 mL). The organic layer was washed with  $H_2O$  (2 x 32 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (10:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) afforded **10** in 22% yield (42 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.37 (tq, J = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (m, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) d 178.49, 140.61, 119.44, 119.18, 63.99, 63.68, 61.41, 61.14, 60.86, 60.31, 58.31, 38.66, 36.09, 27.25, 27.01, 24.90, 24.67, 20.99, 20.95, 18.80, 18.56, 16.49, 16.32, 14.24, 14.01.

(S)-6,7-epoxygeranyl pivaloate (11). To a stirred solution of 9 (200 mg, 0.736 mmol) and pyridine (1 mL) in THF (5 mL) at 0 °C was added the mesyl chloride dropwise (91  $\mu$ L). The solution was stirred overnight at that temperature. NaH (210 mg) and additional THF (5 mL) were added to the reaction mixture, and it was allowed to stir for an additional 5 h. The reaction was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL). The organic layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL) and washed with sat. CuSO<sub>4</sub> (2 x 20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Column chromatography (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate) afforded **11** in 26% yield (49 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.37 (tq, J = 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (m, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H).

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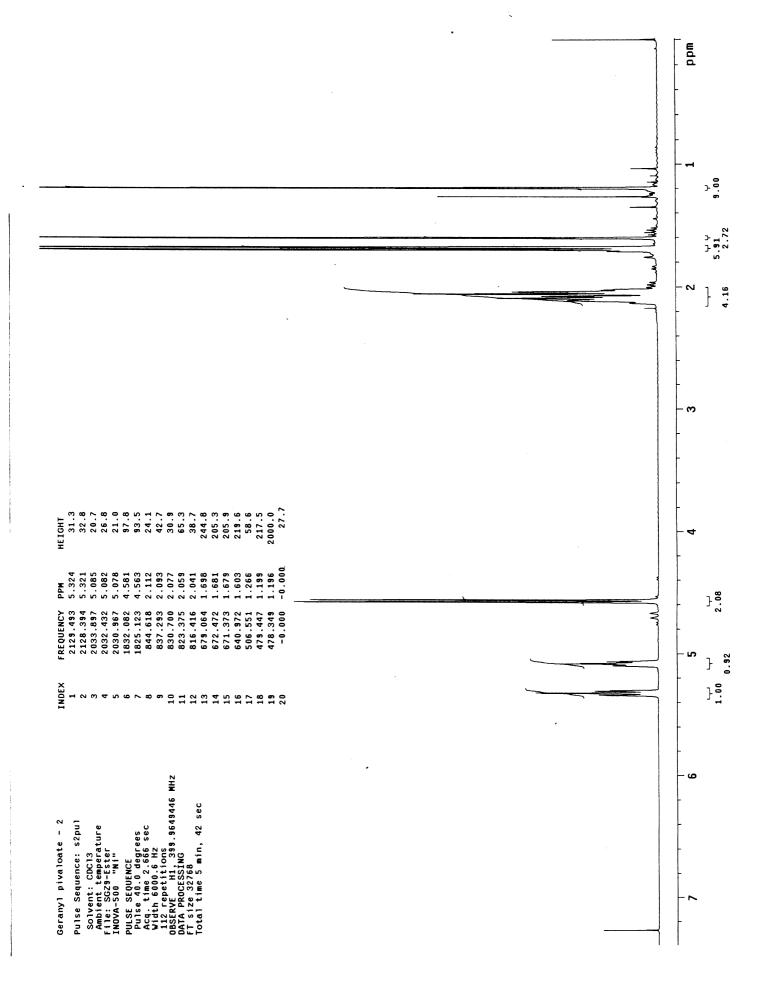
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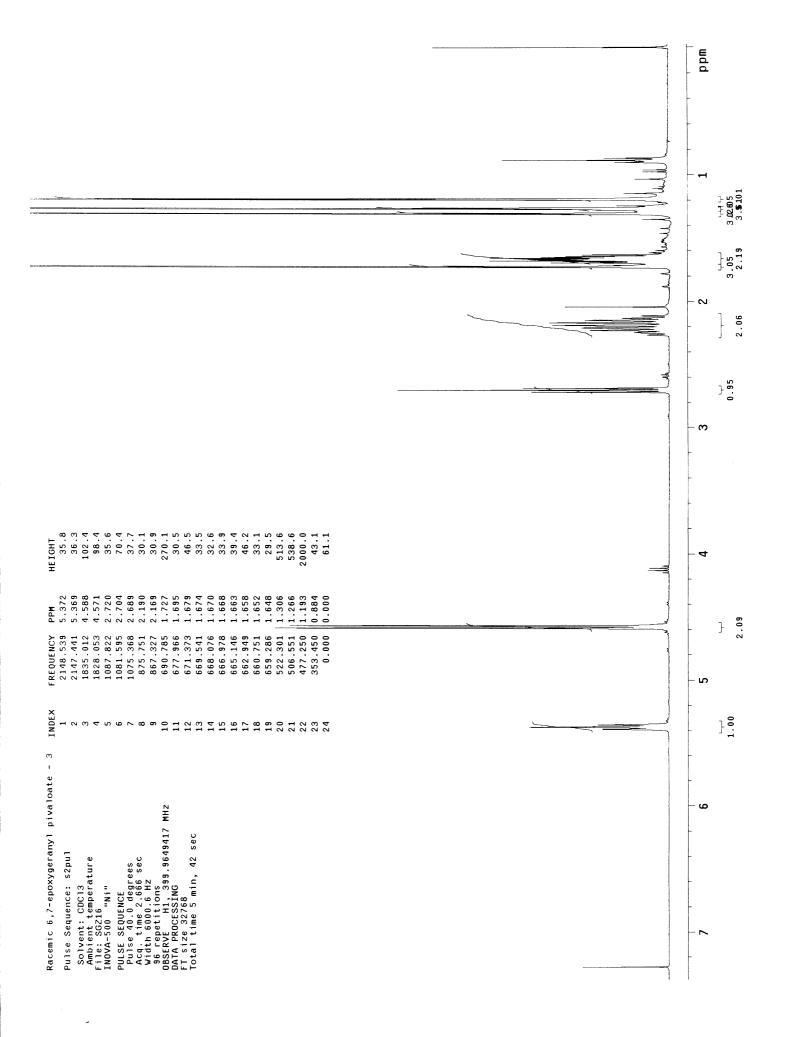
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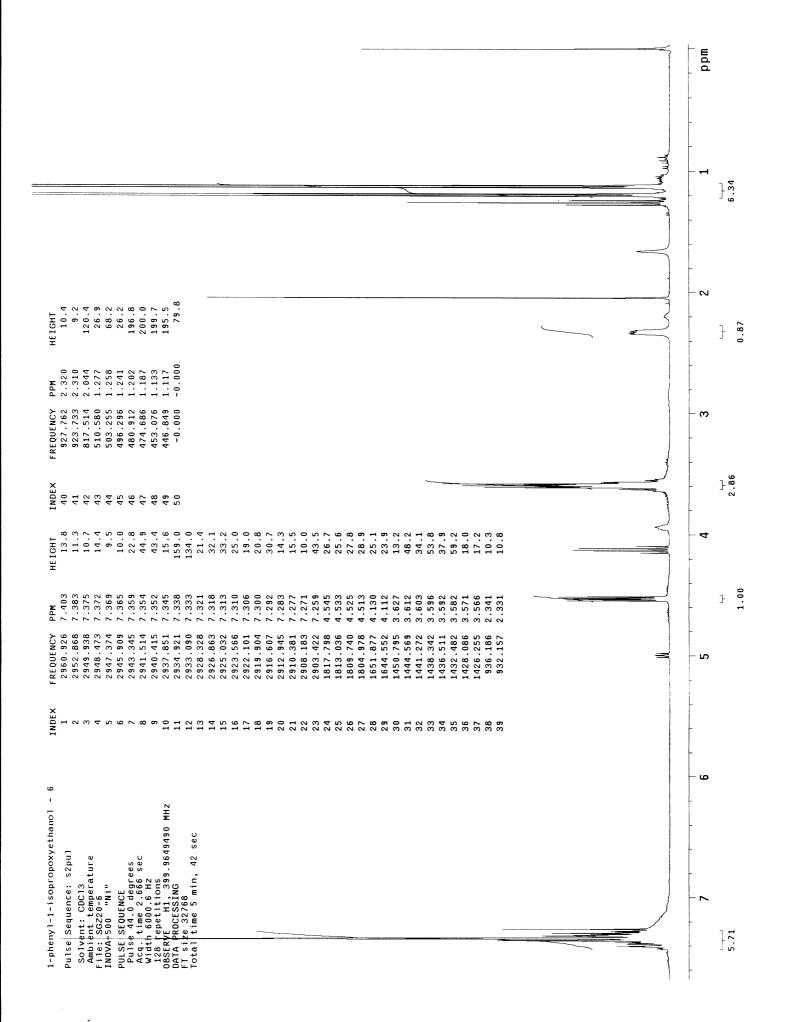
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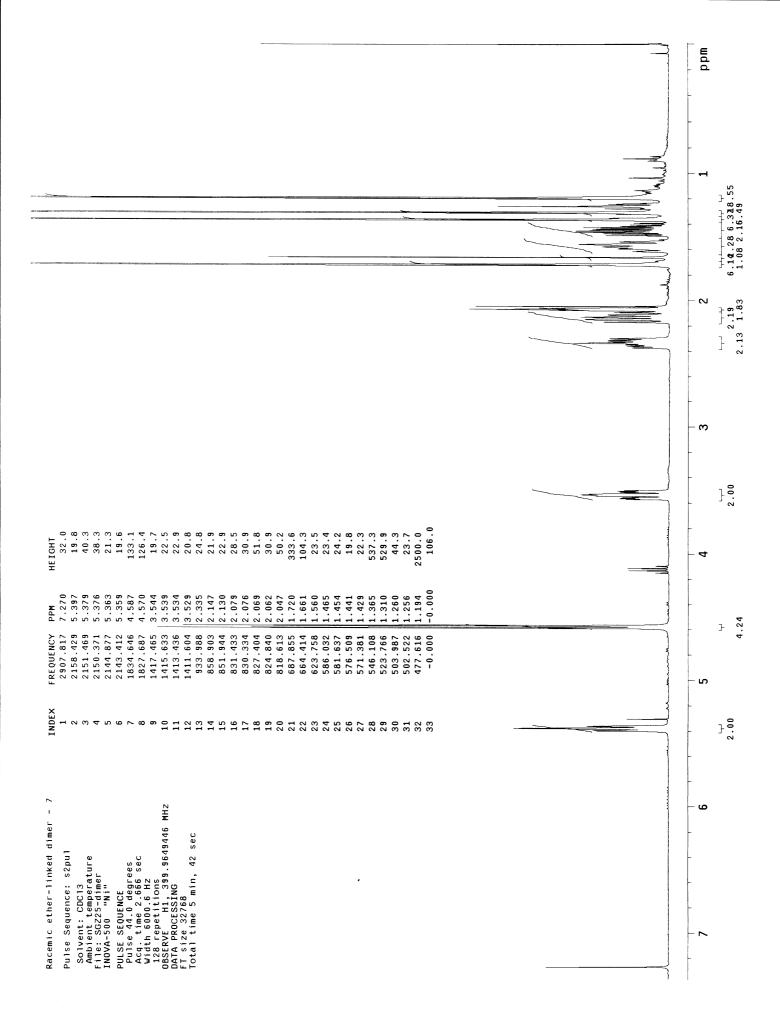


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Racemic 6,7-dihydroxygeranyl pivaloate - 4 Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: CDCl3 Ambient temperature INOVA-400 "Z-" PULSE SEQUENCE Pulse 40.0 degrees Acq time 2.666 sec Width 6000.6 Hz 120 repetitions DATA PROCESSING FT s1ze 32788 Total time 5 min, 42 sec	9



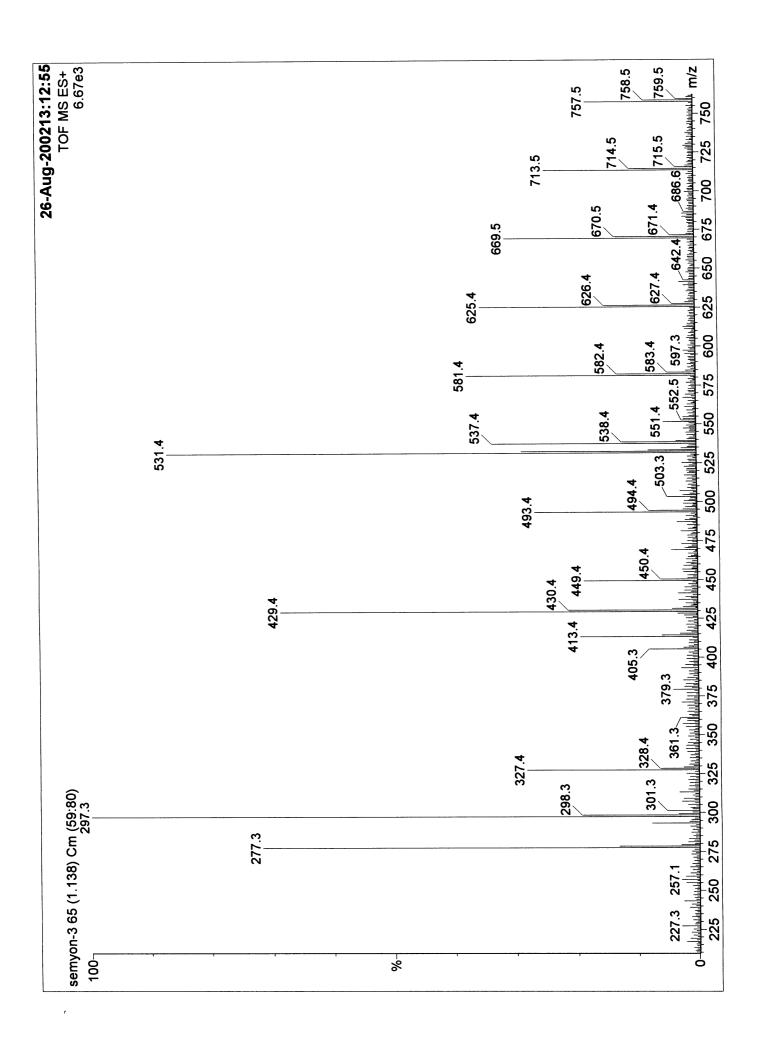
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128.412 127.889 126.789 79.921 77.319 77.000 76.681 69.535 69.535 67.494 23.448	
FREQUENCY 12914.586 12861.942 12751.312 8037.728 8037.728 7773.988 7711.943 6993.232 6787.995 2358.234 2145.367	0.6
INDEX 102 333 444 77 100 111	
12 42 sec	
	T 10
1-phenyl-1-isopropoxyethanol Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: S6220-6C INOVA-500 "Ni" PULSE SEQUENCE Relax. delay 0.900 sec Pulse 45.0 degrees Acq. time 1.199 sec Width 25000.0 Hz 15. repetitions OBSERVE C13, 100.5712670 MH DECOUPLE H1, 399.9669644 MH POWER C13, 100.5712670 MH DECOUPLE H1, 399.9669644 MH POWER C13, 100.5712670 MH DECOUPLE H1, 399.9669644 MH POWER C13, 100.5712670 MH CONTINUOUSly ON WALTZ-16 modulated DATA PROCESSING Line broadening 1.0 Hz FT size 65536 Total time 2 hr, 22 min, 14	120
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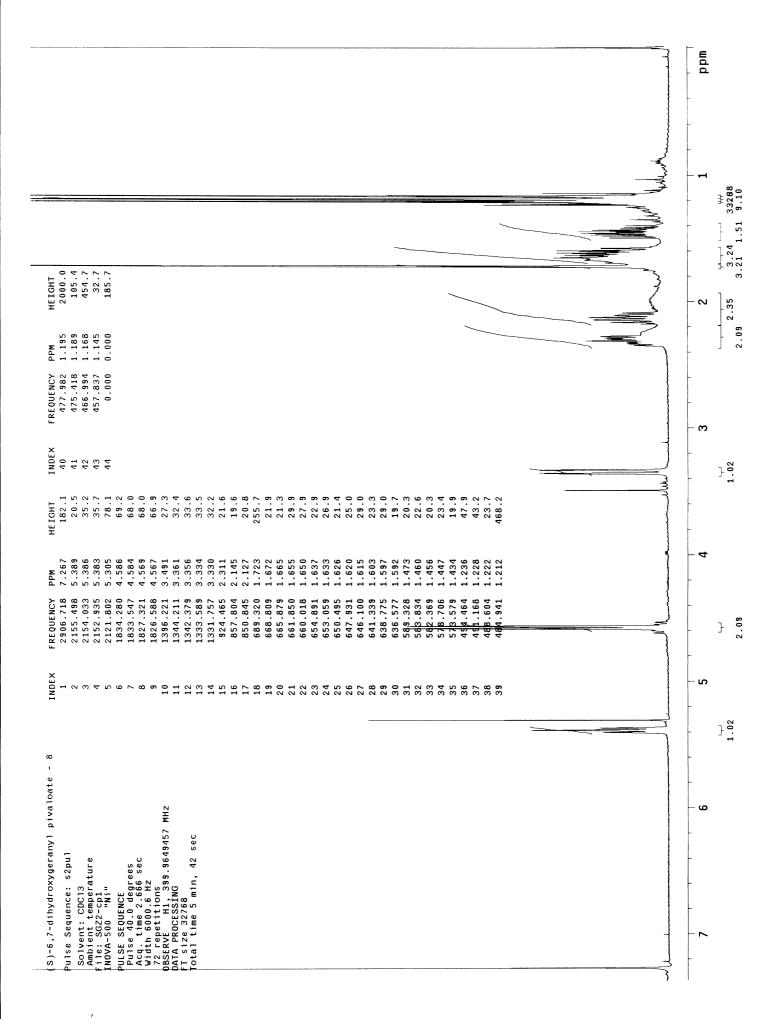


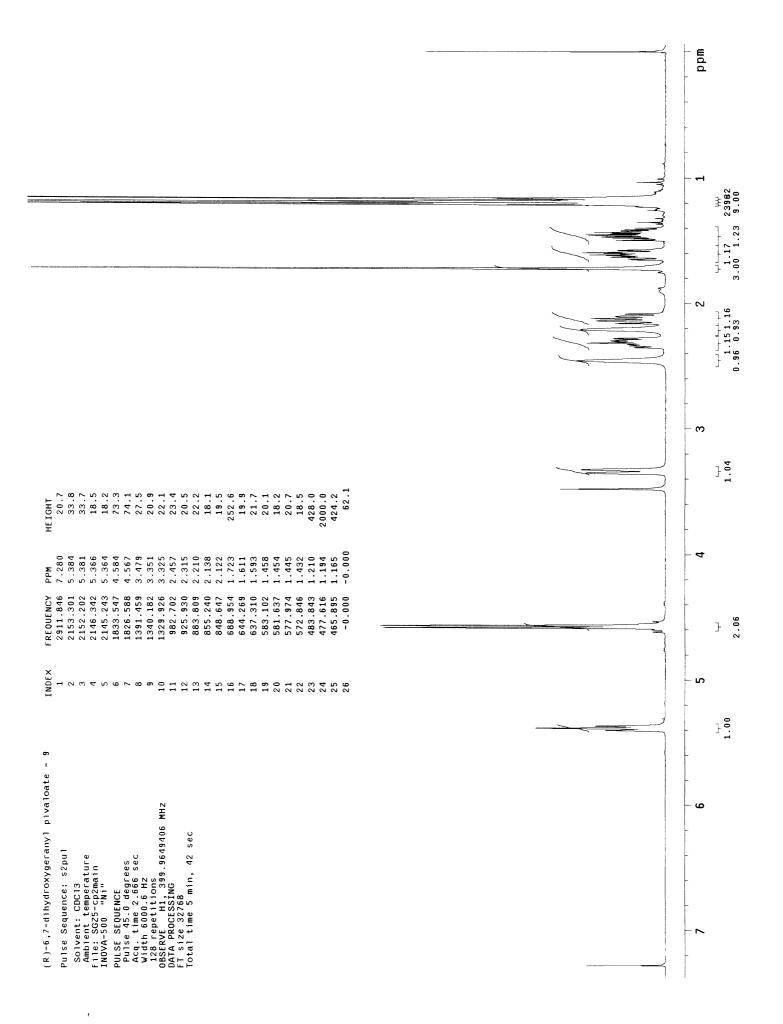
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FREQUENCY 1426.455 3.565 1426.425 3.566 1427.426 3.556 1417.465 3.534 1411.436 3.534 1413.436 3.534 1406.476 3.536 1400.250 3.516 1400.250 3.516	3.55	
INDEX 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3.56	
Racemic ether-linked dimer - 7 Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: S025-dimer IN0VA-500 "N!" PULSE SEQUENCE PULSE SEQUENCE PULSE 600.6 Hz 2 cq. time 2.666 sec Width 600.6 Hz 128 repetitions 0BSERVE H1, 399.964946 MHz DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 Total time 5 min, 42 sec	3.57	
Racemic ether-linked  Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: SG225-dimer INUVA-500 "Ni" PULSE SEQUENCE Pulse A4.0 degrees Acq. time 2.666 sec Width 6000.6 Hz 128 repetitions OBSERVE H1, 399.964 DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 Total time 5 min, 42:	3.58	- Commence of the commence of

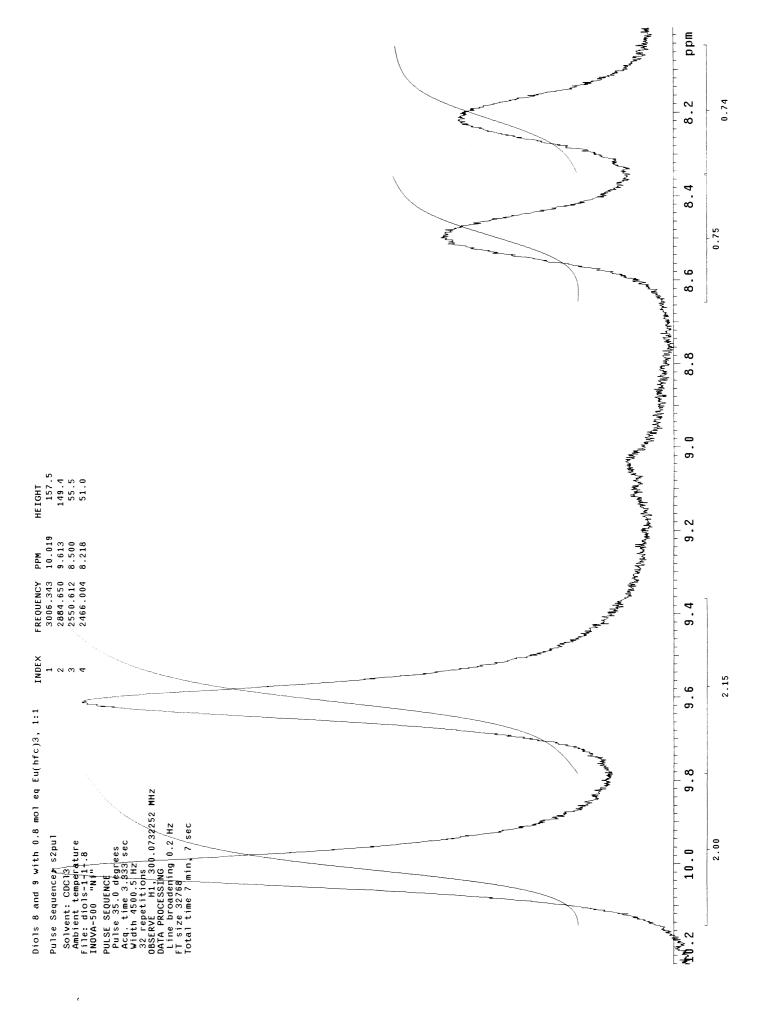
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NCY PPM 988 2.335 944 2.147 944 2.147 945 2.079 334 2.079 840 2.069 840 2.062 841 2.062 841 1.661 758 1.560 932 1.465 855 1.456 987 1.260 987 1.260 987 1.260	1.9
EX FREQUENCY 933 988 858 903 851.944 831.934 830.334 827 404 827 404 827 404 827 404 827 404 827 404 827 404 827 404 828 603 986 032 986 032 986 032 987 858 987 858 987 858 987 858 987 858 988 987 987 987 987 987	2.0
INDEX  1	2.1
s2pul ture fees sec sec sec sec sec sec sec sec sec	2.2
Racemic ether-linked dimer - 7 Pulse Sequence: \$2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: SG252-dimer INOVA-500 "N;" Pulse SEQUENCE Widh 6000.6 Hz 128 repetitions OBSERVE H1, 399.9649446 MHZ DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 Total time 5 min, 42 sec	2.3

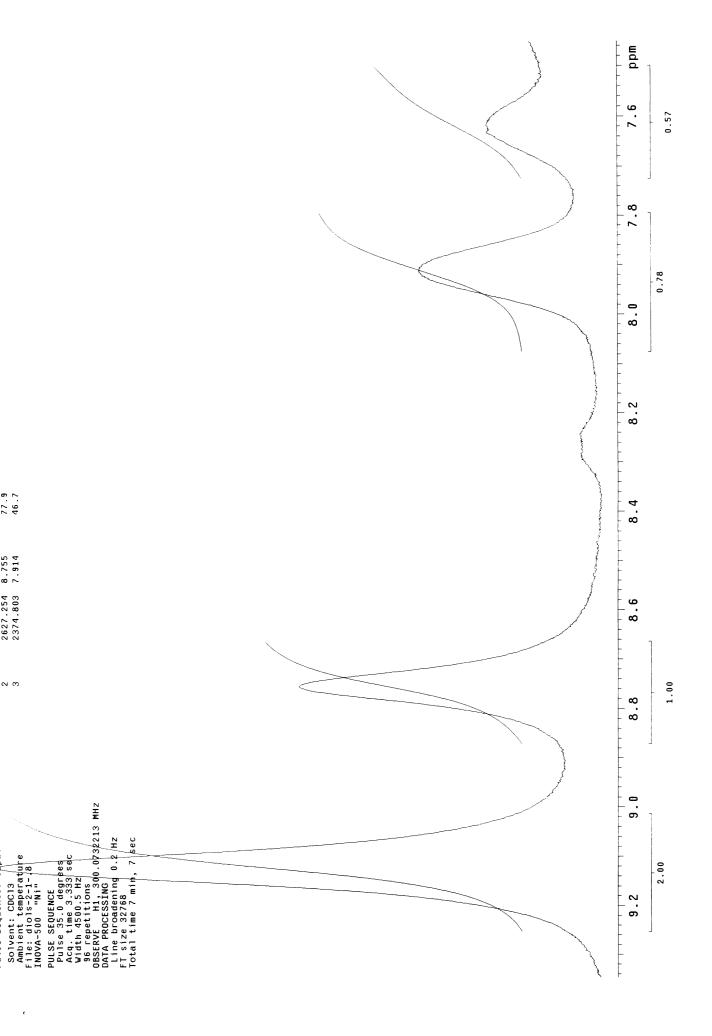
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HEIGHT 157.1 77.9 46.7

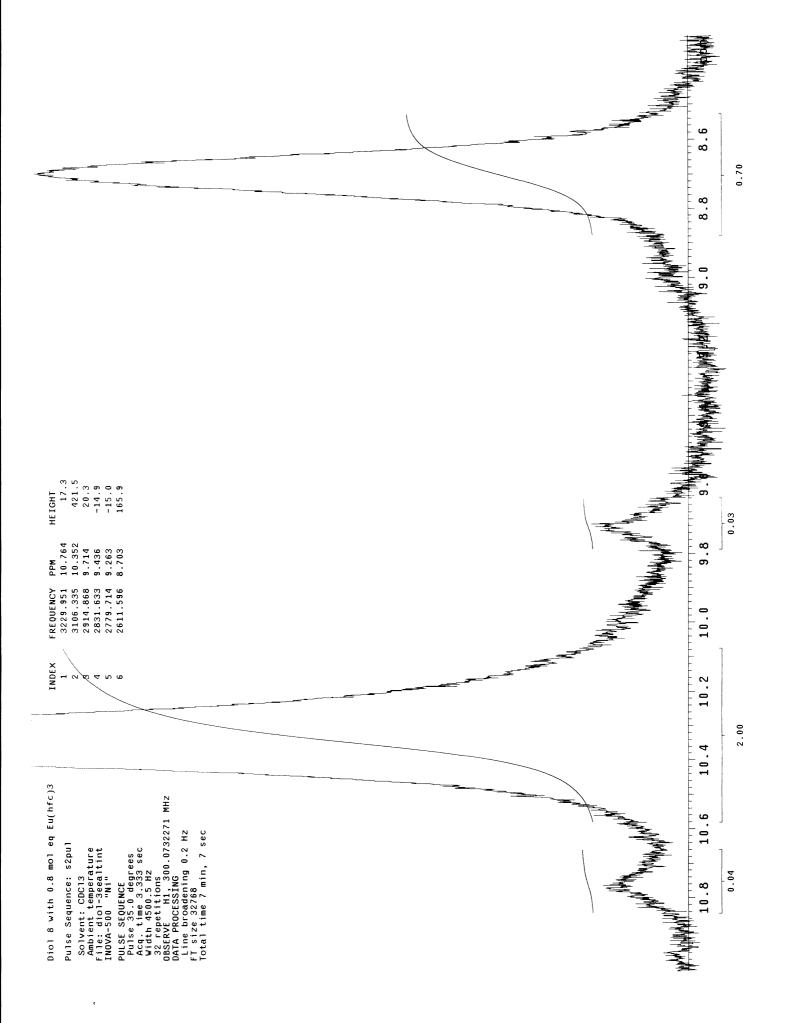
PPM 9.123 8.755 7.914

FREQUENCY 2737.684 2627.254 2374.803

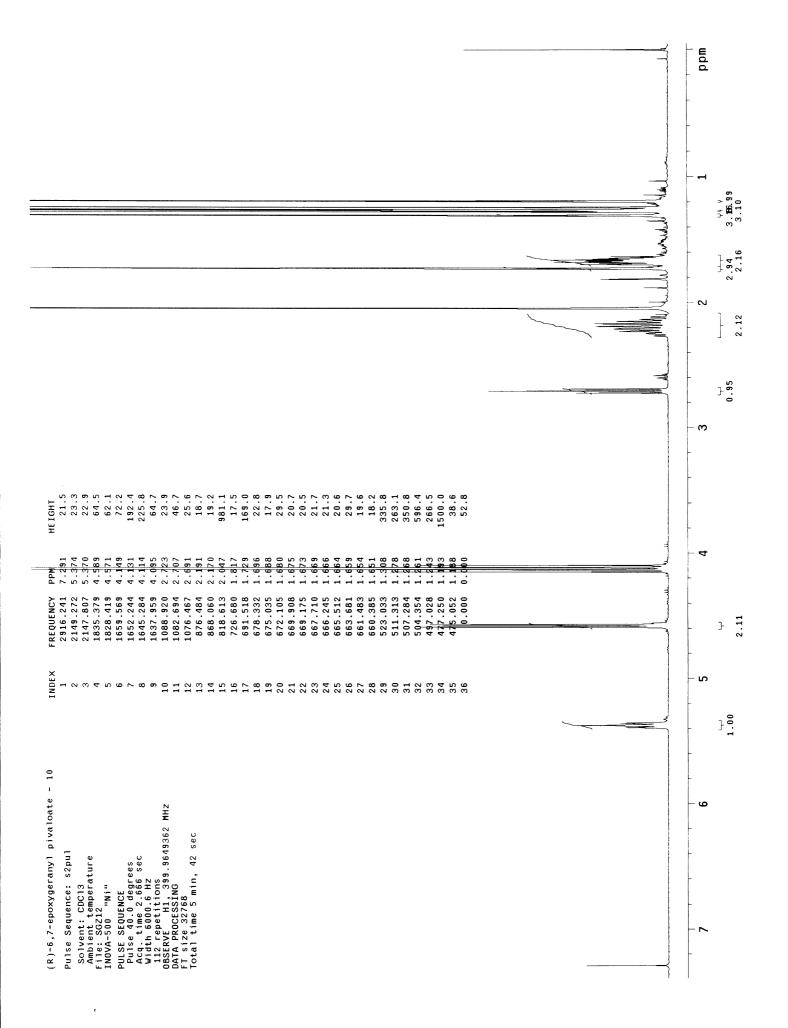
INDEX 1 2 3

Diols 8 and 9 with 0.8 mol eq Eu(hfc)3, 1:2

Pulse Sequence: sApul



	9.2 9.0
97 PPM HEIGHT 11.125 411.9 411.9 13.4 13.4 13.4 16.1 166.1 166.1	10.2 10.0
s2pul 1 338.184 2 3079.140 2 3079.140 3 2865.971 4 1 2 2772.297 4 2 2772.297 4 2 2772.297 4 2 2772.297 5 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	11.0 10.8 10.6 10.4 1
Diol 9 with 0.8 mol eq Eu(hfc)3 Pulse Sequence: \$2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: \$22-10eeallin INOVA-500 "Ni' PulSE SEQUENCE PulSE SEQUENCE PulSE SEQUENCE Vidth 4500.5 Hz 40 repetitions And PROCESSING Line broadening 0.2 Hz Fise 32.7668 Total time 7 min, 7 sec	11.4 11.2



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	80
PPM 178.489 171.067 119.435 119.435 119.177 77.000 76.575 63.986 63.986 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 61.413 14.471 14.471 14.471 14.243 14.008	100
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MHZ MHZ	140
2pul ure 00 sec es sec .07463754 .0746375 ed 1.0 Hz	160

