Marquette University e-Publications@Marquette

Chemistry Faculty Research and Publications

Chemistry, Department of

4-1-2005

Synthesis of Cyclopropanes via Organoiron Methodology: Preparation and Rearrangement of Divinylcyclopropanes

Nathaniel J. Wallock Marquette University

William A. Donaldson Marquette University, william.donaldson@marquette.edu

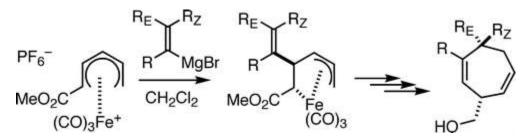
Accepted version. *Organic Letters*, Volume 7, No. 10 (2005): 2047-2049. DOI. © 2005 American Chemical Society. Used with permission.

Synthesis of Cyclopropanes via Organoiron Methodology: Preparation and Rearrangement of Divinylcyclopropanes

Nathaniel J. Wallock Department of Chemistry, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI William A. Donaldson Department of Chemistry, Marquette University,

Milwaukee, WI

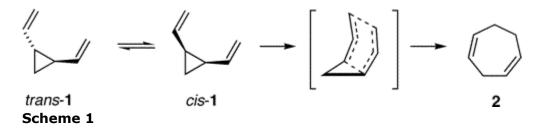
Abstract



Addition of alkenyl Grignard reagents to (1-

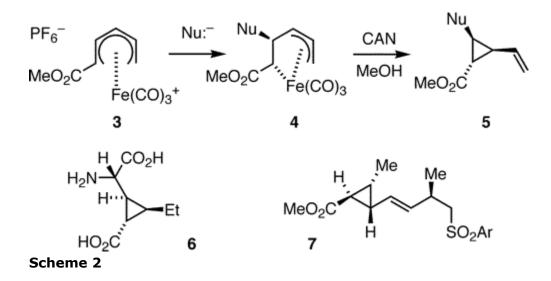
methoxycarbonylpentadienyl)iron(1+) cation generates the corresponding (2alkenylpent-3-en-1,5-diyl)iron complexes. Oxidatively induced-reductive elimination of these complexes gives divinylcyclopropanes which can undergo subsequent Cope rearrangement to give 1,4-cycloheptadienes.

The Cope rearrangement of *cis*-divinylcyclopropane (*cis*-1), which occurs at <35 °C, is known to afford 1,4-cycloheptadiene (**2**, Scheme 1).¹ A variety of methods exist for the preparation of divinylcyclopropanes. Among these are oxo-sulfonium ylide cyclopropanation of enals followed by Wittig olefination of the resultant cyclopropanecarboxaldehyde,² reaction of 2-metalated vinylcyclopropanes with 3-alkoxy-2-cycloalken-1-ones followed by hydrolysis/dehydration,³ and rhodium-catalyzed cyclopropanation of vinyldiazomethanes.⁴



The addition of stabilized carbon nucleophiles to (1methoxycarbonylpentadienyl)iron(1+) cation (**3**) is known to afford stable (pentenediyl)iron complexes (**4**), which undergo oxidatively induced-reductive elimination to give vinylcyclopropanecarboxylates (**5**, Scheme 2).⁵ We have utilized this methodology to prepare 2-(2'carboxycyclo-propyl)glycines (**6**)^{5a} and the C9–C16 alkenyl cyclopropane segment (**7**) of ambruticin.^{5b} We herein report on the preparation and rearrangement of divinylcyclopropanes via this methodology.

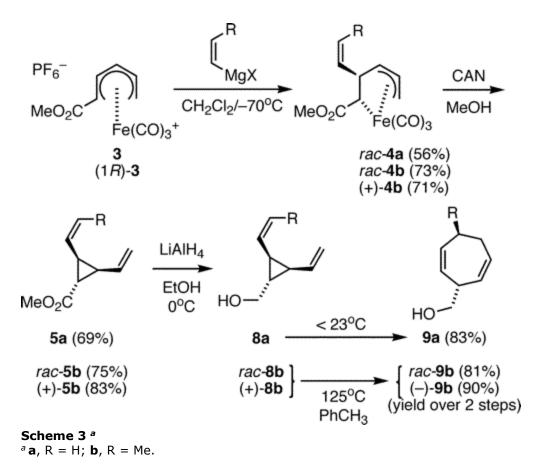
NOT THE PUBLISHED VERSION; this is the author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript. The published version may be accessed by following the link in the citation at the bottom of the page.



Reaction of cation **3** with vinyImagnesium chloride, in CH₂Cl₂, gave the corresponding (2-alkenyl-3-pentene-1,5-diyl)iron complexes **4a** (Scheme 3). Use of CH₂Cl₂ as solvent is crucial for addition of Grignard reagents at C2; use of 1,2-dichloroethane, toluene, THF, dioxane, or mixtures led to diminished yields of **4a**. The structure of pentenediyl complex **4a** was assigned on the basis of its NMR spectral data. In particular, a ¹³C NMR signal at δ 11.4 ppm and a ¹H NMR signal at δ 0.24 (d) ppm are characteristic of a carbon σ -bonded to iron and its attached proton.⁵

Organic Letters, Vol 7, No. 10 (May 12, 2005): pg. 2047-2049. <u>DOI</u>. This article is © American Chemical Society and permission has been granted for this version to appear in <u>e-Publications@Marquette</u>. American Chemical Society does not grant permission for this article to be further copied/distributed or hosted elsewhere without the express permission from American Chemical Society.

NOT THE PUBLISHED VERSION; this is the author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript. The published version may be accessed by following the link in the citation at the bottom of the page.



Oxidative decomplexation of **4a** with excess CAN/methanol gave *cis*-divinylcyclopropane **5a**. This compound rearranges at 40–60 °C to give the known (3-methoxycarbonyl)-1,4-cycloheptadiene.⁶ Alternatively, reduction of the cyclopropanecarboxylate (LAH/ether) gave the rearranged (2,6-cycloheptadien-1-yl)methanol **9a**. Presumably, the intermediate divinylcyclopropane **8a** rapidly rearranges at <23 °C. It is known that the presence of an electron-withdrawing group strengthens the distal cyclopropane ring bond, and this should have an effect on the rate of the Cope rearrangement.

In a similar fashion, reaction of *rac*-**3** with the Grignard reagent prepared from *cis*-1-propenyl bromide gave *rac*-**4b**. Oxidative decomplexation of **4b** gave *rac*-**5b**, which upon reduction gave the cyclopropylcarbinol *rac*-**8b**. In comparison to the parent divinylcyclopropane **8a**, the *cis*-alkenyl cyclopropane **8b** is stable at ambient temperatures and only rearranges at elevated temperature (125 °C) to give a single cycloheptadiene *rac*-**9b**.⁷ This methodology

can be extended to the enantioselective preparation of cycloheptadienes. Thus reaction of (1R)-**3**⁸ with *cis*-1-propenyl Grignard reagent gave (+)-**4b**, which upon oxidative decomplexation gave the optically active divinylcyclopropane (+)-**5b**. Reduction of (+)-**5b** gave (+)-**8b** which, upon rearrangement at elevated temperature, gave (-)-**9b**. Both (+)-**4b** and (+)-**5b** were determined to be >95% ee on the basis of ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of a chiral lanthanide shift reagent, while the (*S*)-Mosher's ester of (-)-**9b** was determined to be >95% de.

In a similar fashion, reaction of **3** with the Grignard reagents derived from 2-bromo-1-propene, a-bromostyrene, 1-bromo-2methylpropene, and 1-bromocyclopentene gave the corresponding (pentenediyl)iron complexes 4c-f (Table 1). Oxidative decomplexation of **4c** gave the divinylcyclopropane **5c** along with the rearranged cycloheptadiene product (ca. 2.5:1, 88% yield). Reduction of this mixture gave the (2,6-cycloheptadien-1-yl)methanol 9c (Cope rearrangement occurs at <23 °C). In comparison, oxidative decomplexation of (pentenediyl)iron complexes 4d or 4e, which contain an electron-rich alkenyl group, gave diminished yield of divinylcyclopropane. Further experimentation indicated that this diminished yield was due to secondary oxidation of the divinylcyclopropane product by CAN. For this reason, we explored alternative oxidation conditions, the most successful of which was the use of alkaline hydrogen peroxide at low temperature (conditions B). While the chemical yields under conditions B were good, the products consisted of a mixture of cis- and trans-divinylcyclopropanes, as evidenced by NMR spectroscopy. These mixtures could be converted into a single cycloheptadiene product by the standard reduction/Cope rearrangement conditions. Monitoring of this reaction by VT NMR spectroscopy indicated that the *cis*-divinylcyclopropane rearranges at temperatures lower than those of the trans isomer; rearrangement of the trans isomer presumably occurs via isomerization to the cis isomer via a diradical opening of the cyclopropane ring.¹

Organic Letters, Vol 7, No. 10 (May 12, 2005): pg. 2047-2049. <u>DOI</u>. This article is © American Chemical Society and permission has been granted for this version to appear in <u>e-Publications@Marquette</u>. American Chemical Society does not grant permission for this article to be further copied/distributed or hosted elsewhere without the express permission from American Chemical Society.

NOT THE PUBLISHED VERSION; this is the author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript. The published version may be accessed by following the link in the citation at the bottom of the page.

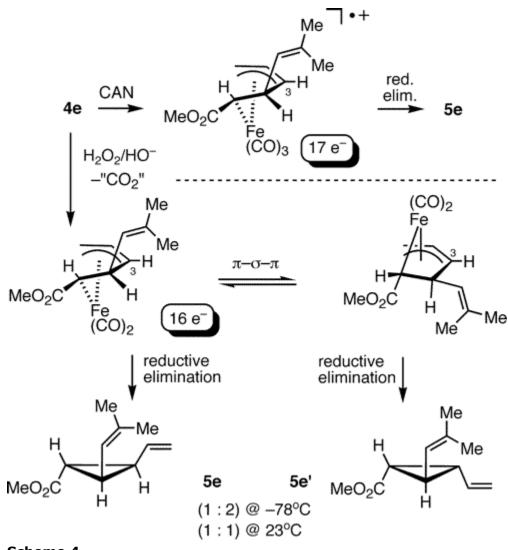
Table 1.	Preparation	of (Pentendiyl)iron	Complexes,	Divvinylcyclopropanes,
and Cyclo	heptadienes			

pentenediyl complex	oxidation conditions ^a	divinyl- cyclopropane	Cope conditions ^a	1,4-cyclo- heptadiene
Me MeO ₂ C Fe (CO) ₃ 4c (42-52%)	A 1	Me MeO ₂ C 5c ^c	с	Me HO HO 6c (82%) ^b
Ph MeO ₂ C (42-32,6) Ph Fe (CO)3	Α	not observed	с	Ph HO
4d (38-49%) Me Me MeO ₂ C Fe (CO) ₃ 4e (71-76%)	3 I	Me Me MeO ₂ C 5e (11%, <i>cis</i> only	D	6d (33%) ^b Me Me HO HO 6e (80%) ^b
~	В	5e/e' (63-84%) ^d	,	<u>л</u>
MeO ₂ C Fe (CO);	B	MeO ₂ C H	E	HO
4f (50%)		5f (85%) ^e		6f (76%) ^b

^{*a*} Decomplexation conditions: A = excess CAN/MeOH/23 °C; B = $H_2O_2/MeOH/-45$ °C; C = LAH, then rearrangement at or below 23 °C; D = LAH, then rearrangement at 195 °C; E = LAH, then rearrangement at 210 °C.^{*b*} Yield over three steps (decomplexation, LAH reduction, and Cope rearrangement).^{*c*} Obtained as a mixture with the cycloheptadiene 2.5:1).^{*d*} Divinylcyclopropane obtained as a mixture of cis and trans isomers (1:1).^{*e*} Divinylcyclopropane obtained as a mixture of cis and trans isomers (ca. 1:2.5).

Generation of the mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-divinylcyclopropanes (5/5) is rationalized due to the difference in the oxidizing agent involved. For the (pentenediyl)iron complex 4e (Scheme 3), treatment with CAN is presumed to involve single electron oxidation to afford a 17e⁻ intermediate, which undergoes rapid reductive elimination to give the cis-divinylcyclopropane 5e. Alternatively, treatment of 4e with alkaline hydrogen peroxide proceeds via nucleophilic attack on coordinated CO, and decarbonylation, to generate a 16e⁻ intermediate. Reductive elimination from the 16e⁻ intermediate is slower, and a competitive reaction is a $\pi - \sigma - \pi$ rearrangement that migrates the iron from one face to the opposite face of the pentenediyl ligand. Notably, the ratio of **5e**:**5e**' produced from decomplexation with H_2O_2/HO^{-1} varies depending on the reaction temperature. In summary, a synthesis of divinylcyclopropanes from (pentadienyl)iron(1+) cations has been developed. The divinylcyclopropane products undergo Cope rearrangement to afford cycloheptadienes. The overall yields for this 4-step transformation (ca. 38–61%) are comparable to other literature methods and preparation of enantiomerically pure cycloheptadienes has been demonstrated. Applications of this methodology to the synthesis of hydroazulene containing natural products will be reported in due course.

NOT THE PUBLISHED VERSION; this is the author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript. The published version may be accessed by following the link in the citation at the bottom of the page.



Scheme 4

Acknowledgment

The author acknowledge financial support from the National Science Foundation (CHE-0415771). The authors thank Ms. Julie Lukesh for preparation of the precursor to (1R)-**3**.

References

 ¹(a) Brown, J. M.; Golding, B. T.; Stofko, J. J., Jr. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1973**, 319–320. (b) Arai, M.; Crawford, R. J. Can. J. Chem. **1972**, 50, 2158–2162. (c) Hudlicky, T.; Fan, R.; Reed, J. W.; Gadamasetti, K. G. In Organic Reactions; Paquette, L. A., Editor-in-

Chief; John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1992; Vol. 41, pp 1–133. (d) Piers, E. In *Comprehensive Organic Synthesis*; Trost, B. M., Editor-in-Chief; Pergammon Press: New York, 1991; Vol. 5, pp 971–998.

²Marino, J. P.; Kaneko, T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1973**, 3975–3978.

- ³(a) Marino, J. P.; Browne, L. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1976**, 3245–3248. (b)
 Wender, P. A.; Filosa, M. P. *J. Org. Chem.* **1976**, *41*, 3490–3491. (c)
 Wender, P. A.; Hillemann, C. L.; Szymonifka, M. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1980**, *21*, 2205–2208.
- ⁴(a) Davies, H. M. L.; McAfee, M. J.; Oldenburg, C. E. M. *J. Org. Chem.* **1989**, 54, 930–936. (b) Cantrell, W. R., Jr.; Davies, H. M. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, 56, 723–727. (c) Davies, H. M. L.; Clark, T. J.; Smith, H. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, 56, 3817–3824. (d) Davies, H. M. L. *Tetrahedron* **1993**, 49, 5203–5223.
- ⁵(a) Yun, Y. K.; Godula, K.; Cao, Y.; Donaldson, W. A. *J. Org. Chem.* 2003, 68, 901–910. (b) Lukesh, J. M.; Donaldson, W. A. *Chem. Commun.* 2005, 110–112. (c) Motiei, L.; Marek, I.; Gottleib, H. E.; Marks, V.; Lellouche, J.-P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2003, 44, 5909–5912.

⁶Pikulik, I.; Childs, R. F. Can. J. Chem. **1977**, 55, 251–258.

- ⁷The higher temperature for Cope rearrangement of divinylcyclopropanes possessing a *cis*-alkenyl group reflects the boatlike transition state for this [3.3] sigmatropic rearrangement: Schneider, M. P.; Rau, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 4426–4427.
- ⁸For preparation of (1*R*)-**3** see: Tao, C.; Donaldson, W. A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 2134–2143.

Supporting Information Available

Synthesis of Cyclopropanes via Organoiron Methodology:

Preparation and Rearrangement of Divinylcyclopropanes

Nathaniel J. Wallock and William A. Donaldson*

Supporting Material

Experimental procedures	S1-S11
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9a	S12
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9a	S13
¹ H NMR spectrum of 5b	S14
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 5b	S15
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 8b	S16
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9b	S17
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9b	S18
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9c	S19
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9c	S20
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9d	S21
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9d	S22
¹ H NMR spectrum of 5 e	S23
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 5 e	S24
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9e	S25
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9e	S26
¹ H NMR spectrum of 9f	S27
¹³ C NMR spectrum of 9f	S28

Experimental Section¹

Reaction of (±)-3 with vinyl Grignard: To a stirring mixture of $rac-3^2$ (1.640 g, 4.000 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) under nitrogen at -70 °C, was added a solution of vinylmagnesium chloride in THF (3.75 mL, 1.6 M, 6.0 mmol). The dark reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h, quenched with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (5 mL), and warmed to room temperature. The mixture was poured onto water (25 mL), the layers were separated, and the aqueous phase extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄), filtered through a short

bed of SiO₂ and concentrated. Immediate column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 40:1) afforded rac-4a (0.659 g, 2.26 mmol, 56%) as an orange oil that crystallized upon cooling. mp 36-38 °C; IR (KBr) 3090, 2955, 2066, 1992, 1694, 1165 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.24 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (ddd, J = 0.9, 2.3, 12.2 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (ddd, J = 1.5, 2.3, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.71-3.82 (m, 1H), 4.47 (dddd, J = 1.2, 1.2, 7.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (dddd, J = 0.5, 6.7, 8.5, 12.2 Hz, 1H), 4.77-4.81 (m, 1H), 4.82-4.85 (m, 1H), 5.38 (ddd, J = 5.4, 10.1, 17.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 11.4, 41.9, 51.7, 54.4, 63.5, 98.2, 112.7, 141.2, 180.5, 203.8, 210.3, 210.7. Anal. Calcd for C12H12FeO5: C, 49.35; H, 4.14. Found: C, 49.55; H, 4.19. Reaction of rac-3 with cis-1-propenyl Grignard: The reaction of rac-3 (1.64 g, 4.00 mmol) in anhydrous CH2Cl2 (40 mL) with cis-1-propenylmagnesium bromide (6.0 mL, 1.0 M in THF, freshly prepared from cis-1-bromo-1-propene) was carried out in a fashion similar to the preparation of 4a. Column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 40:1) afforded rac-4b (0.887 g, 2.90 mmol, 73%) as a crystalline orange solid. mp 56-59 °C; IR (KBr) 3009, 2953, 2065, 2003, 1977, 1688, 1163 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.09 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (dd, J = 1.8, 7.0 Hz, 3H), 2.44-2.50 (m, 1H), 3.57-3.63 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.94-4.05 (m, 1H), 4.48-4.61 (m, 2H), 4.81-4.91 (m, 1H), 5.05-5.17 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.4, 13.7, 36.9, 51.6, 54.5, 65.6, 97.3, 123.0, 135.9, 180.5, 203.9, 210.7, 210.8. Anal. Caled for C13H14FeO5: C, 51.01; H, 4.61. Found: C, 50.89; H, 4.61.

Reaction of (1*R*)-3 with *cis*-1-propenyl Grignard: The reaction of (1*R*)-3 (1.51 g, 3.68 mmol) with *cis*-1-propenylmagnesium bromide was carried out in a fashion similar to the reaction of *rac*-3 with *cis*-1-propenylmagnesium bromide. Column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 40:1) afforded (+)-4b (0.800 g, 2.61 mmol, 71%) as an orange crystalline solid. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = +589 (c = 0.248, CHCl₃); mp 44-47 °C. The ¹H NMR spectrum of (+)-4b was identical to that

of *rac*-4b. Analysis by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of a chiral shift reagent [(+)- $Eu(hfc)_3$, CDCl₃] indicated that the product was >95% ee.

Reaction of (±)-3 with isopropenyl Grignard (4c): The reaction of *rac-3* (1.640 g, 4.000 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) with isopropenylmagnesium bromide (0.5 <u>M</u> in THF) was carried out in a fashion similar to the preparation of **4a**. Immediate column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 30:1) afforded **4c** (0.631 g, 2.06 mmol, 52%) as an orange oil which crystallized on standing. mp 46-48 °C; IR (KBr) 3078, 2950, 2066, 2009, 1976, 1690, 1159 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.27 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (br s, 3H), 2.27 (ddd, *J* = 1.0, 2.2, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (ddd, *J* = 1.5, 2.2, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.58-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 4.43-4.49 (m, 1H), 4.54-4.57 (m, 1H), 4.59-4.62 (m, 1H), 4.74 (dddd, *J* = 0.5, 7.0, 8.3, 12.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.7, 19.6, 45.2, 51.7, 54.5, 64.0, 98.4, 108.8, 147.4, 180.8, 204.0, 210.2, 210.8. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄FeO₅: C, 51.01; H, 4.61. Found: C, 50.57; H, 4.58.

Reaction of *rac*-3 with α-styryl Grignard (4d): The reaction of *rac*-3 (1.64 g, 4.00 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) with α-styrylmagnesium bromide (1.0 <u>M</u> in THF, 6.0 mL, 6.0 mmol, freshly prepared from α-bromostyrene) was carried out in a fashion similar to the preparation of 4a. Column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate gradient = 40:1 → 20:1) gave 4d (0.719 g, 1.95 mmol, 49%) as a yellow-orange crystalline solid. mp 90-93 °C; IR (KBr) 3029, 2948, 2065, 1994, 1684, 1435, 1227, 1163, 908, 777 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.26 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (ddd, *J* = 0.9, 2.4, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (ddd, *J* = 1.5, 2.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 4.27-4.36 (m, 1H), 4.51-4.58 (m, 1H), 4.72 (dddd, *J* = 0.6, 6.7, 8.5, 12.1 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (dd, *J* = 0.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dd, *J* = 0.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.30 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.1, 42.4, 51.6, 54.2, 63.5, 97.9, 111.7, 127.3, 127.7, 128.3, 139.3, 152.2, 180.7, 204.0, 210.0, 210.8. Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₆FeO₅: C, 58.72; H, 4.38. Found: C, 58.83; H, 4.53. **Reaction of** *rac*-3 with 2-methyl-1-propenyl Grignard (4e): The reaction of *rac*-3 (1.640 g, 4.000 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) 2-methyl-1-propenylmagnesium bromide (0.5 <u>M</u> in THF, 12.0 mL, 6.0 mmol) was carried out in a fashion similar to the preparation of 4a. Immediate column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 40:1) afforded 4e (0.904 g, 2.82 mmol, 71%) as a yellow crystalline solid. mp 64-65 °C; IR (KBr) 2983, 2948, 2910, 2855, 2058, 2000, 1943, 1692, 1432, 1365, 1160, 890, 845 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.08 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 2.42-2.51 (m, 1 H) 3.55-3.61 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.87 (br q, *J* \approx 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.64 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 14.2, 18.6, 25.7, 38.0, 51.6, 54.4, 66.4, 97.1, 130.6, 131.1, 180.6, 204.0, 210.7, 211.0. Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₆FeO₅: C, 52.53; H, 5.03. Found: C, 52.35; H, 5.24.

Reaction of *rac*-3 with 1-cyclopentenyl Grignard (4f): The reaction of *rac*-3 (1.64 g, 4.00 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) with 1-cyclopentenylmagnesium bromide (1.0 <u>M</u> in THF, freshly prepared from 1-bromocyclopentene) was carried out in a fashion similar to the preparation of 4a. Immediate column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 40:1) afforded *rac*-4f (0.661 g, 1.99 mmol, 50%) as a yellow crystalline solid. mp 86-94 °C; IR (KBr) 2951, 2846, 2067, 2009, 1975, 1690, 1161 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 1.67-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.93-2.11 (m, 2H), 2.11-2.24 (m, 2H), 2.39 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.522 (ddd, *J* = 1.7, 2.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.64-3.75 (m, 1H and s, 3H), 4.46-4.54 (m, 2H), 4.65 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 8.4, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (pseudo h, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 12.0, 23.5, 32.11, 32.14, 40.6, 51.7, 54.5, 64.3, 98.2, 123.0, 147.2, 180.8, 204.0, 210.5, 210.9. Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₆O₅Fe: C, 54.24; H, 4.86. Found: C, 54.33; H, 4.93.

Oxidative decomplexation of 4a with CAN (Conditions A): To a stirring solution of **4a** (0.595 g, 1.71 mmol) in absolute methanol (20 mL) was added in portions CAN (6 x 1.13 g, 99%, 12.2

mmol) over a period of 25 min. After stirring for 10 min after the last addition, the red mixture was poured onto brine (25 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 25 mL). The combined extracts were washed sequentially with: water (3 x 25 mL), saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate (25 mL) and brine (25 mL). The organic phase was then dried (MgSO₄). Analysis of an aliquot by ¹H NMR spectroscopy typically indicated the presence of kinetically unstable cyclopropane **5a** along with varying amounts of the Cope rearrangement product 3- methoxycarbonyl-1,4-cycloheptadiene. The organic phase (i.e. the ethyl acetate extracts) was heated in an oil bath at 55-60 °C for 45 min, cooled to room temperature, and carefully concentrated at 20 °C. Column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 20:1) gave 3- methoxycarbonyl-1,4-cycloheptadiene (0.215 g, 1.41 mmol, 69%) as a volatile colorless oil. The ¹H NMR spectrum was identical with the literature³ spectral data.

5a: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.86 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.27-2.35 (m, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 5.12 (dd, J = 1.7, 10.3 Hz, 2H), 5.24 (ddd, J = 0.6, 1.8, 17.0 Hz, 2H), 5.49-5.62 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 28.2, 31.8, 52.2, 117.4, 133.8, 173.1.

3-methoxycarbonyl-1,4-cycloheptadiene: IR (neat) 3028, 2951, 2907, 2836, 1743, 1644, 1435, 1266, 1171, 1030, 822, 796; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.13-2.39 (m, 4H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 4.17-4.25 (m, 1H), 5.77-5.93 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 26.2, 44.8, 52.5, 127.1, 132.4, 173.8.

General Procedure for Oxidative decomplexation (CAN)/reduction/Cope rearrangement sequence. Cyclohepta-2,6-dienylmethanol (9a): To a stirring solution of 4a (0.500 g, 1.71 mmol) in absolute methanol (17 mL) was added in portions CAN (6 x 0.95 g, 99%, 10.3 mmol) over a period of 14 min. Shortly after the last addition and cessation of effervescence, the red mixture was poured onto brine (20 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (4 x 20 mL). The combined extracts were washed sequentially with: water (3 x 20 mL), saturated aqueous sodium

bicarbonate (20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and carefully concentrated at 20 °C to give a volatile yellow oil. The oil was dissolved in ether (~1.0 mL) and added dropwise to a stirring solution of LiAlH4 in ether (3.0 mL, 1.0 M, 3.0 mmol) at 0 °C. Additional ether (~2.0 mL) was used to insure a quantitative transfer of the crude 5a. The solution was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h, then quenched with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate (5 mL). After warming to room temperature and diluting with 2 M NaOH (10 mL), the mixture was extracted with ether (4 x 15 mL). The combined extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to give an oil. Analysis of this oil by ¹H NMR spectroscopy did not indicate the presence of intermediate 8a. Column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 4:1) of the crude material provided 9a as a colorless oil (0.177 g, 1.43 mmol, 83%). IR (neat) 3346 (br), 3014, 2906, 1646, 1449, 1430, 1033, 817, 784, 736 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.52 (br s, 1H), 2.12-2.25 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.40 (m, 2H), 3.29-3.40 (m, 1H), 3.67 (app. d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 5.51-5.59 (m, 2H), 5.84-5.93 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 26.9, 42.3, 67.1, 130.2, 132.3. GC/MS m/z 124. Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₂O·0.3H₂O: C, 74.15; H, 9.80. Found: C, 74.05; H, 9.66. trans-(4-Methylcyclohepta-2,6-dienyl)methanol (rac-9b): The decomplexation of rac-4b (0.295 g, 0.801 mmol) with CAN/MeOH was carried out in a fashion similar to the above procedure, to give crude rac-5b as a volatile yellow oil. The crude divinylcyclopropane carboxylate was reduced with LiAlH₄/ether, in a fashion similar to that above, to give rac-8b as a colorless oil. The crude divinylcyclopropylmethanol was dissolved in toluene (10 mL) and heated in a sealed reaction tube at 115-125 °C for 90 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate gradient = $10:1 \rightarrow 4:1$) gave rac-9b as a colorless oil (0.155 g, 1.12 mmol, 81%). IR (neat) 3334, 3009, 2955, 2928, 2871, 1655, 1456, 1372, 1026, 828, 775, 731, 674 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.04 (d, J = 7.0 Hz,

3H), 1.50 (br s, 1H), 2.07-2.29 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.53 (m, 1H), 3.19-3.29 (m, 1H), 3.68 (app. d, J≈
6.0 Hz, 2H), 5.43 (dddd, J = 1.4, 2.1, 4.1, 11.8 Hz, 1H), 5.59-5.68 (m, 2H), 5.91 (dddd, J = 2.3, 5.3, 7.3, 11.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 22.9, 32.6, 34.8, 42.5, 66.9, 127.3, 131.1, 131.2, 138.8; GC/MS *m*/*z* 138. Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₄O·0.2H₂O: C, 76.23; H, 10.23. Found: C, 76.33; H, 10.12.

For the purposes of characterization, the crude divinylcyclopropane carboxylate could be purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 20:1) to give *rac*-**5b** (75%) as a pale yellow oil). **5b:** IR (neat) 3085, 3025, 2952, 2857, 1728, 1637, 1441, 1284, 1211, 1168, 912, 810 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.72 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.75 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.27-2.36 (m, 1H), 2.43 (ddt, *J* = 1.2, 4.9, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 5.05-5.15 (m, 2H), 5.23 (ddd, *J* = 0.6, 1.8, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 5.47-5.68 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.7, 26.8, 29.2, 31.8, 52.2, 117.2, 125.6, 127.9, 134.3, 173.4. Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₄O₂·0.25H₂O: C, 70.35; H, 8.56. Found: C, 70.24; H, 8.42.

Similarly, the kinetically stable divinylcyclopropyl methanol could be obtained by chromatographic purification (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 20:1) of the crude material, giving *rac-8b* (73%) as a volatile pale yellow oil. **8b:** ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.23-1.34 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.72 (overlapped m, 1H), 1.65 (br s, 1H), 1.70 (dd, *J* = 1.7, 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.73-1.82 (m, 1H), 3.60 (app. d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 5.01 (ddd, *J* = 0.6, 1.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.07-5.17 (m, 2H), 5.47-5.62 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.6, 22.6, 27.8, 30.8, 66.0, 115.0, 125.6, 128.0, 136.8.

((1*S*,4*S*)-4-methylcyclohepta-2,6-dienyl)methanol ((-)-9b): The decomplexation of (+)-4b (0.475 g, 1.55 mmol) with CAN/MeOH was carried out in a fashion similar to that for *rac*-4b, to give crude (+)-5b as a volatile yellow oil. The oil was then reduced with LiAlH₄/ether in a fashion similar to that for the racemic material, to give (+)-8b as a colorless oil. The oil was dissolved in toluene (10 mL) and heated under nitrogen in a sealed reaction tube at 125 °C for 90 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = $10:1 \rightarrow 4:1$) provided (-)-9b as a colorless oil (0.178 g, 1.29 mmol, 83%). Intermediates (+)-5b (83%, 1 step) and (+)-8b (90%, 1 step) were isolated, purified (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 10:1 and SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 4:1 respectively), and characterized in separate experiments.

(+)-5b: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +28.2$ (c = 0.410, CHCl₃). The ¹H NMR spectrum of (+)-5b was identical with that of *rac*-5b. This compound was determined to be optically pure by comparison of the ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) in the presence of (+)-Eu(hfc)₃ with that of the racemic material. (+)-8b: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +89.0$ (c = 0.352, CHCl₃). The ¹H NMR spectrum of (+)-8b was identical with that of *rac*-8b.

(-)-9b: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -7.2$ (c = 0.448, CHCl₃). The ¹H NMR spectrum of (-)-9b was identical with that of *rac*-9b. This compound was determined to be optically pure by comparison of the ¹H NMR spectrum (C₆D₆) of the (S)-MTPA esters derived from both (-)-9b and *rac*-9b. In the case of diastereomeric esters derived from *rac*-9b, separation of signals could be observed for the allylic methyl groups.

(3-Methylcyclohepta-2,6-dienyl)methanol (9c): Decomplexation (conditions

A)/reduction/Cope rearrangement of **4c** (0.315 g, 1.03 mmol) according to the above procedure, followed by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 4:1) of the crude material provided **9c** as a colorless oil (0.116 g, 0.839 mmol, 82%). IR (neat) 3342, 3011, 2910, 1652, 1445, 1375, 1078, 1023, 811 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.49 (br s, 1H), 1.76 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.99-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.35 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.48 (m, 1H), 3.26-3.36 (m, 1H), 3.65 (app. d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 5.33-5.38 (m, 1H), 5.54 (qdd, *J* = 1.3, 3.9, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (ddddd, *J* = 0.6, 2.4,

5.0, 5.5, 11.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 26.0, 26.1, 31.7, 40.8, 67.3, 124.6, 130.2, 131.5, 140.0. GC/MS *m/z* 138. Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₄O·0.25H₂O: C, 75.75; H, 10.24. Found: C, 75.73; H, 10.11.

(3-Phenylcyclohepta-2,6-dienyl)methanol (9d): Decomplexation (CAN)/reduction/Cope rearrangement of 4d (0.295 g, 0.801 mmol) according to the above procedure, followed by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 4:1) of the crude material provided 9d as a pale yellow oil (0.053 g, 0.265 mmol, 33%). IR (neat) 3352, 3019, 2811, 1598, 1494, 1444, 1081, 1028, 758, 697 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.62 (br s, 1H), 2.22-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.65 (qddd, *J* = 0.8, 3.5, 6.5, 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (tddd, *J* = 1.2, 3.5, 11.0, 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.52-3.61 (m, 1H), 3.76 (app. d, *J* \approx 6.5 Hz, 2H), 5.49-5.57 (m, 1H), 5.75-5.84 (m, 1H), 5.96 (qd, *J* = 1.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.40 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 26.9, 30.0, 40.9, 67.2, 125.8, 126.9, 128.3, 128.5, 129.6, 131.5, 143.1, 143.4; GC/MS *m*/*z* 200. Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O·0.5H₂O: C, 80.35; H, 8.19. Found: C, 80.38; H, 7.85.

Attempted oxidative decomplexation (CAN) of 4e. Attempted oxidative decomplexation of 4e in methanol gave a complex mixture of unidentifiable products. Attempted oxidative decomplexation of 4e (0.456 g, 1.42 mmol) with CAN using CH₃CN as solvent, followed by purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate = 20:1) gave 5e (0.028 g, 0.155 mmol, 11%) as a pale yellow, volatile oil. IR (neat) 3085, 2926, 2855, 1730, 1638, 1444, 1284, 1213, 1159, 985, 902 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.69 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 2.23-2.37 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 4.87 (qdd, *J* = 1.5, 1.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (ddd, *J* = 0.6, 1.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (ddd, *J* = 0.8, 1.8, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.47-5.60 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 18.8, 26.0, 27.8, 29.3, 31.8, 52.1, 117.0, 119.7, 134.7, 136.4, 173.6. Exposure of 5e to excess CAN in methanol resulted in decomposition into unidentifiable products.

General Procedure for Oxidative decomplexation (H2O2/HO-)/reduction/Cope rearrangement sequence. (4,4-Dimethylcyclohepta-2,6-dienyl)methanol (9e): To a stirring solution of complex 4e (0.780 g, 2.44 mmol) in absolute methanol (50 mL) and 30% aqueous H₂O₂ (15 mL) at -78 °C under nitrogen, was added a methanolic solution of NaOH (0.59 g, 15 mmol NaOH dissolved in a minimal volume of methanol). The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, the cold bath was removed, and the mixture stirred for an additional 30 min while warming to room temperature. During this period, the reaction bubbled and became brown. The muddy mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with ether (4 x 50 mL). The combined extracts were washed with water (3 x 50 mL) followed by brine (50 mL). The organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to give a volatile vellow oil. The ¹H NMR spectrum indicated the residue to contain a mixture of cis and trans-divinylcyclopropane carboxylates (5e:5e' \approx 1:2.2). The crude mixture (5e:5e') was reduced with LiAlH₄ in ether (4.2 mL, 1.0 M, 4.2 mmol) at 0 °C in a fashion similar to that above to give a tan oil. Analysis of the residue by ¹H NMR spectroscopy indicated that it consisted of a mixture of *cis* and *trans*divinylcyclopropylmethanols (1:2.2). None of the rearrangement product was observed. The mixture of divinylcyclopropylmethanols was dissolved in mesitylene (12 mL) and heated under nitrogen in a sealed reaction tube at 195-200 °C for 1 h. After cooling to ambient temperature, purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate gradient = $10:1 \rightarrow 4:1$) provided 9e as a pale yellow oil (0.296 g, 1.94 mmol, 80%). IR (neat) 3337 (br), 3001, 2955, 2866, 1653, 1469, 1375, 1359, 1079, 1031, 807, 746, 699 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.02 (s. 3H). 1.05 (s, 3H), 1.46 (br s, 1H), 2.08 (dddd, J = 1.1, 1.1, 6.8, 14.1 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (dd, J = 6.5, 14.2Hz, 1H), 3.21-3.31 (m, 1H), 3.66 (app. d, $J \approx 6.1$ Hz, 2H), 5.28 (ddd, J = 1.3, 3.3, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (ddd, J = 1.3, 2.6, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (dddd, J = 1.3, 1.3, 4.1, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dtd, J =

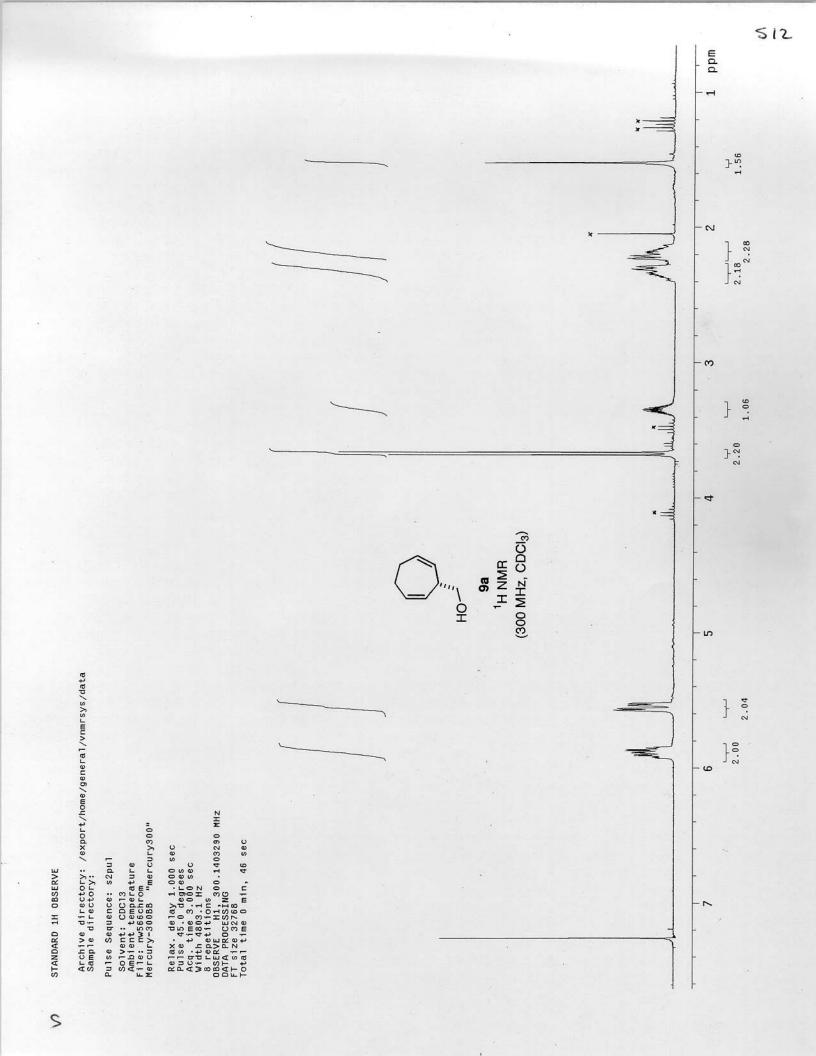
2.0, 6.5, 10.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 29.7, 30.9, 35.3, 39.9, 41.5, 66.9, 125.1, 130.2, 132.7, 142.2; GC/MS *m/z* 152. Anal. Calcd for C₁₀H₁₆O·0.1H₂O: C, 77.97; H, 10.60. Found: C, 77.73; H, 10.55.

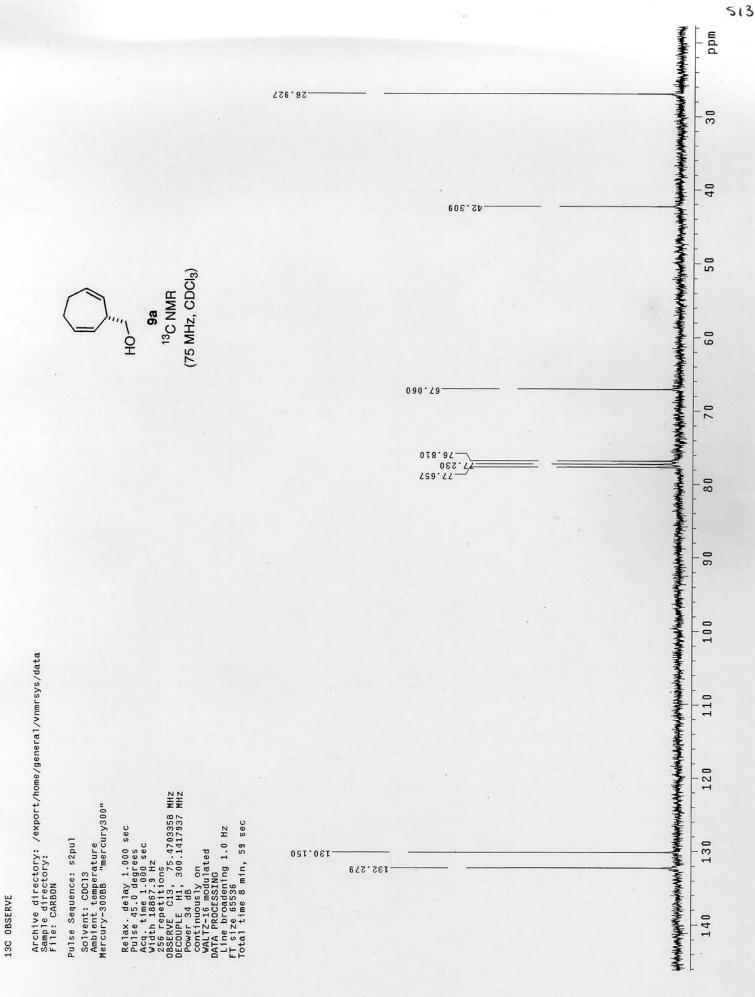
3-Hydroxymethylene-bicyclo[**5.3.0**]**dec-1,4-diene (9f**): Decomplexation (H₂O₂)/reduction of **4f** (0.657 g, 1.98 mmol) according to the above procedure, followed by Cope rearrangement in mesitylene at 210-220 °C, and purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes-ethyl acetate gradient = 10:1 \rightarrow 4:1) gave **9f** as a colorless oil (0.248 g, 1.51 mmol, 76% for 3 steps). IR (neat) 3338 (br), 3000, 2948, 2869, 1062, 1026 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.24-1.36 (m, 1H), 1.48 (br s, 1H), 1.49-1.61 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.99 (m, 1H), 2.01-2.14 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.30-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.75-2.89 (m, 1H), 3.22-3.33 (m, 1H), 3.64 (pseudo dd, *J* = 2.7, 5.6, 2H), 5.39-5.49 (m, 2H), 5.73-5.82 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 25.6, 34.0, 34.9, 35.1, 41.3, 42.4, 67.7, 120.1, 128.8, 131.0, 150.7.

¹ For general experimental instrumentations and conditions, see: Yun, Y. K.; Godula, K.; Cao, Y.; Donaldson, W. A. J. Org. Chem. **2003**, 68, 901-910.

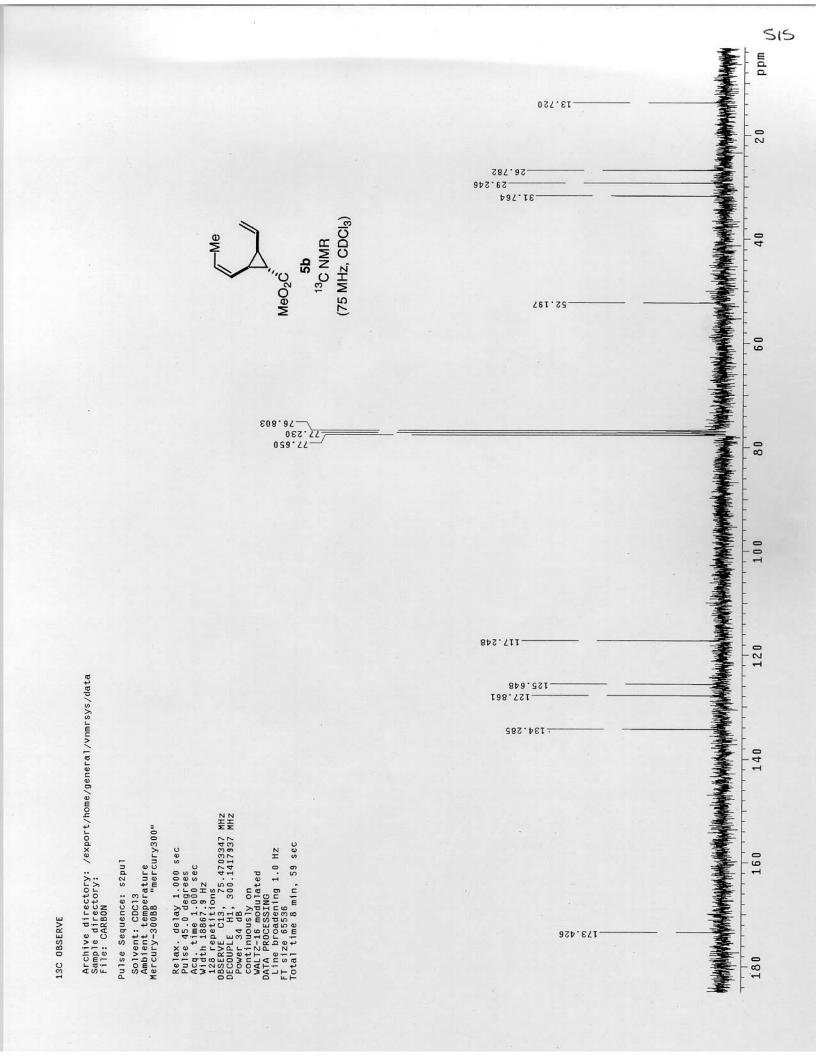
² Tao, C.; Donaldson, W. A. J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 2134-2143.

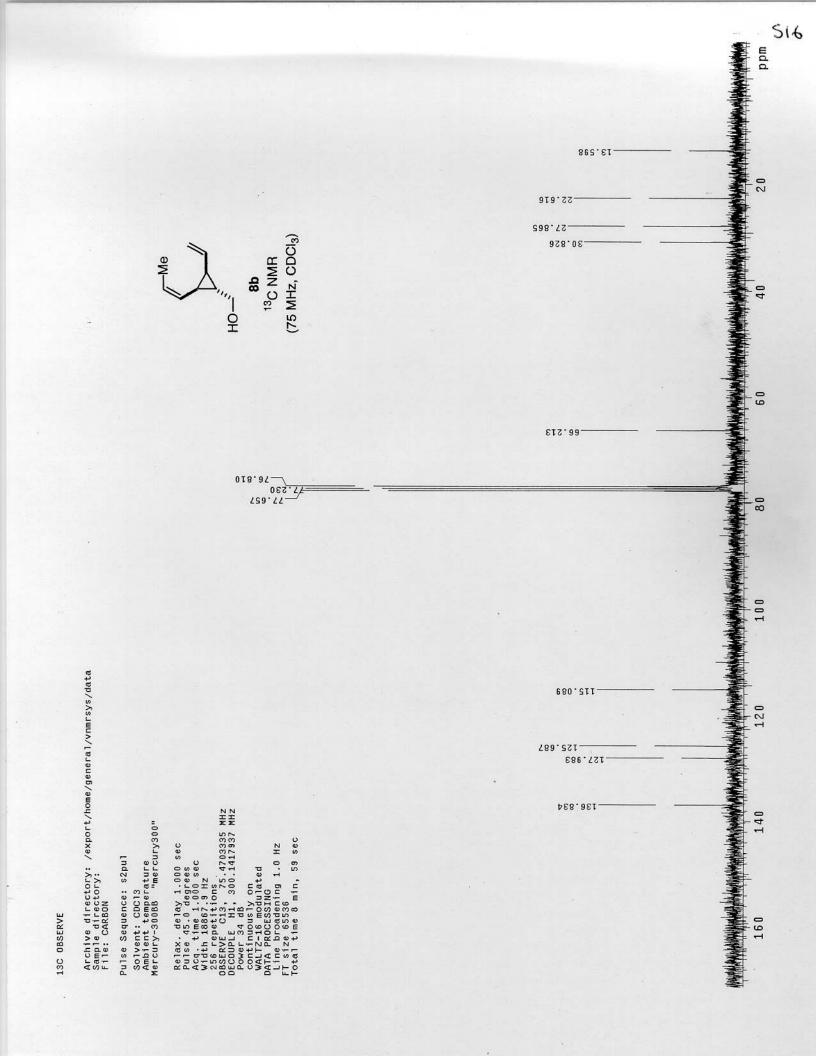
³ Pikulik, I.; Childs, R. F. Can. J. Chem. 1997, 55, 251-258.

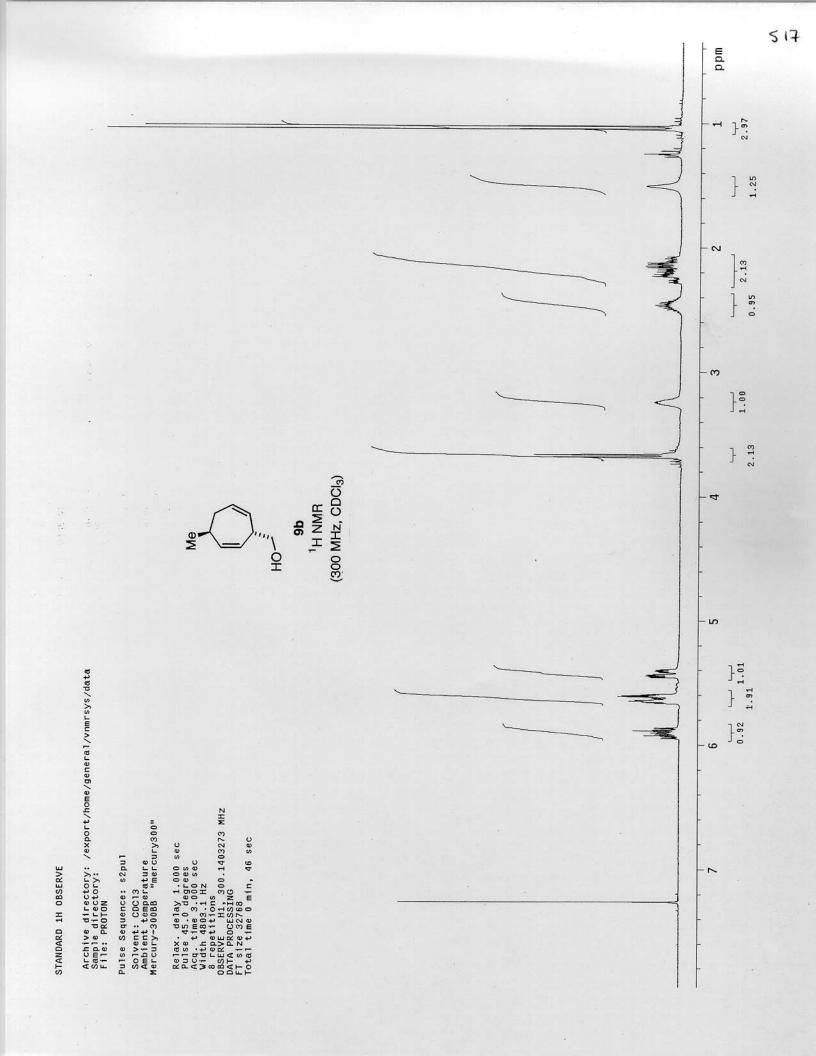


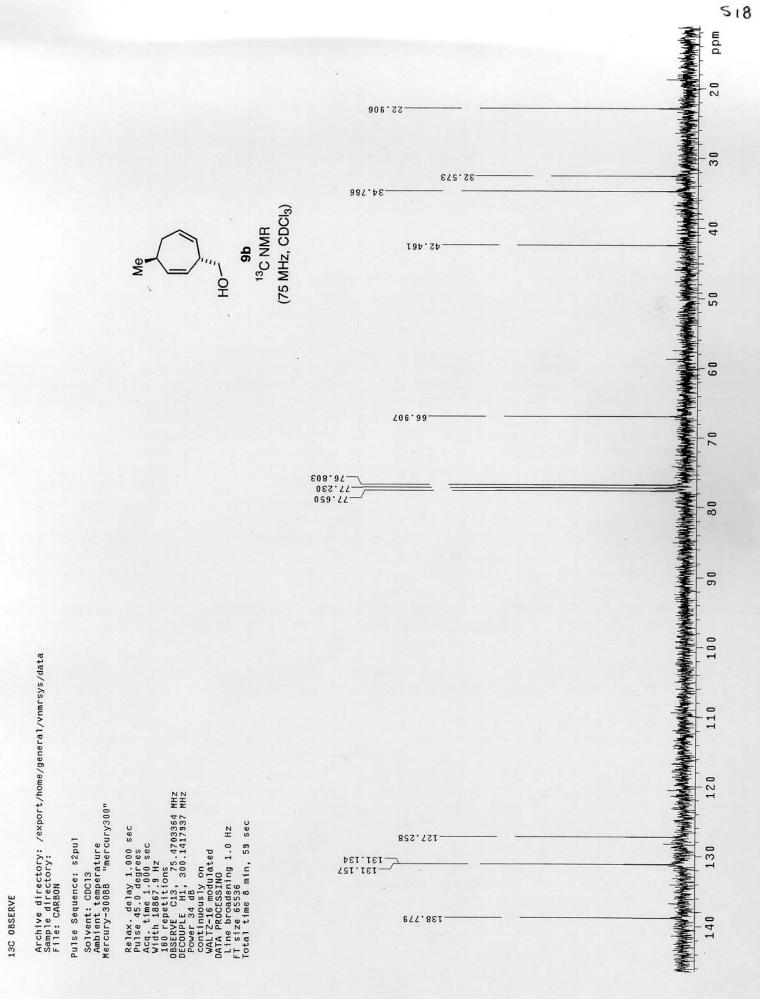


514 шdd 4.06 2 1.01 And Multi (300 MHz, CDCl₃) -Me 5b ¹H NMR MeO₂Č e 1 2.97 3-4 S 2.06 Archive directory: /export/home/general/vnmrsys/data Sample directory: 2.00 9 Relax. delay 1.000 sec Pulse 45.0 degrees Acq. time 3.000 sec Width 4803.1 Hz 8 repetitions 0BSERVE H1, 300.1403284 MHz DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 Total time 0 min, 46 sec Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: nw485chrom Mercury-300BB "mercury300" STANDARD 1H OBSERVE ~







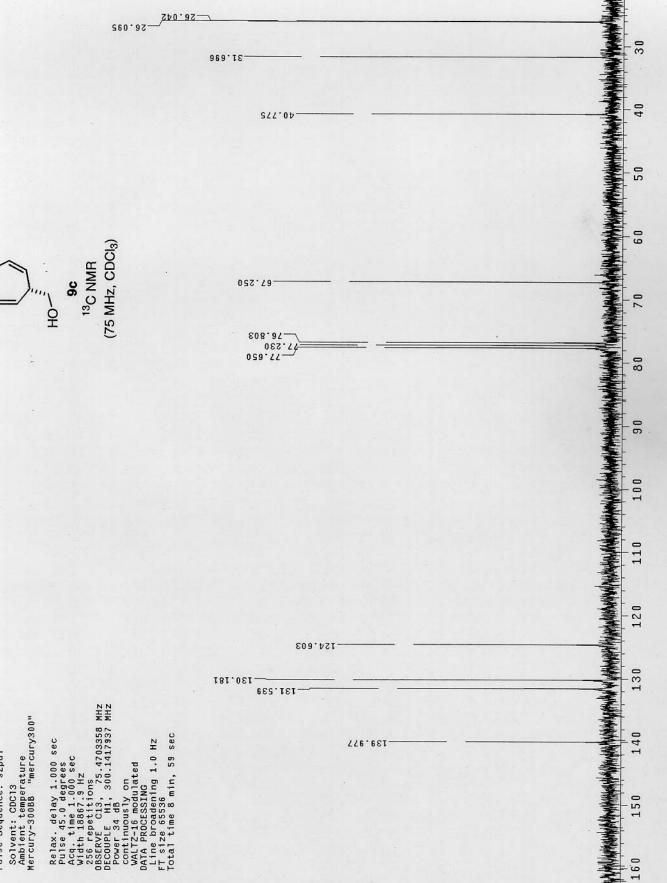


519 шdd ч 1.57 3.37 3 } 1.11 1.21 2.312 e 1.04 7 щ 1.10 0.93 7 4 (300 MHz, CDCl₃) ¹H NMR 90 H H S Me. را را 0.99 1.02 Archive directory: /export/home/general/vnmrsys/data Sample directory: File: PROTON **]**.6 9 Relax. delay 1.000 sec Pulse 45.0 degrees Acq. time 3.000 sec Width 4803.1 Hz 8 repetitions OBSERVE H1, 300.1403280 MHz DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 Total time 0 min, 46 sec Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature Mercury-300BB "mercury300" Pulse Sequence: s2pul STANDARD 1H OBSERVE N



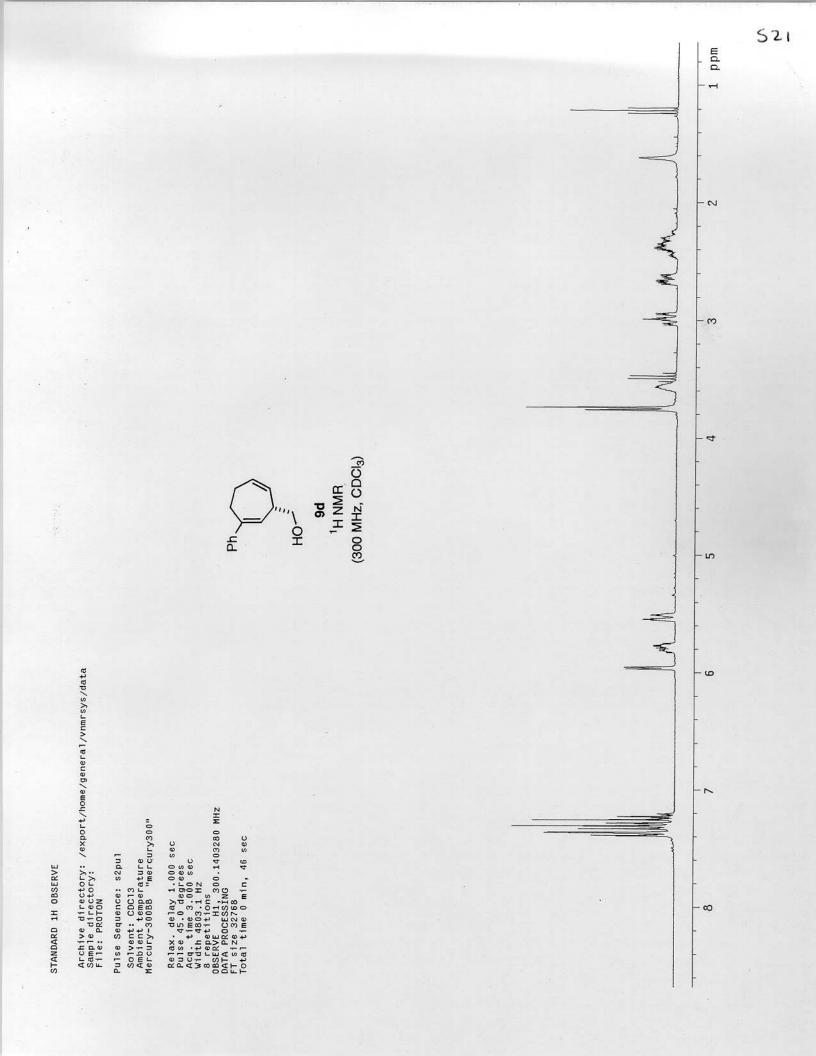
Archive directory: /export/home/general/vnmrsys/data Sample directory: File: CARBON

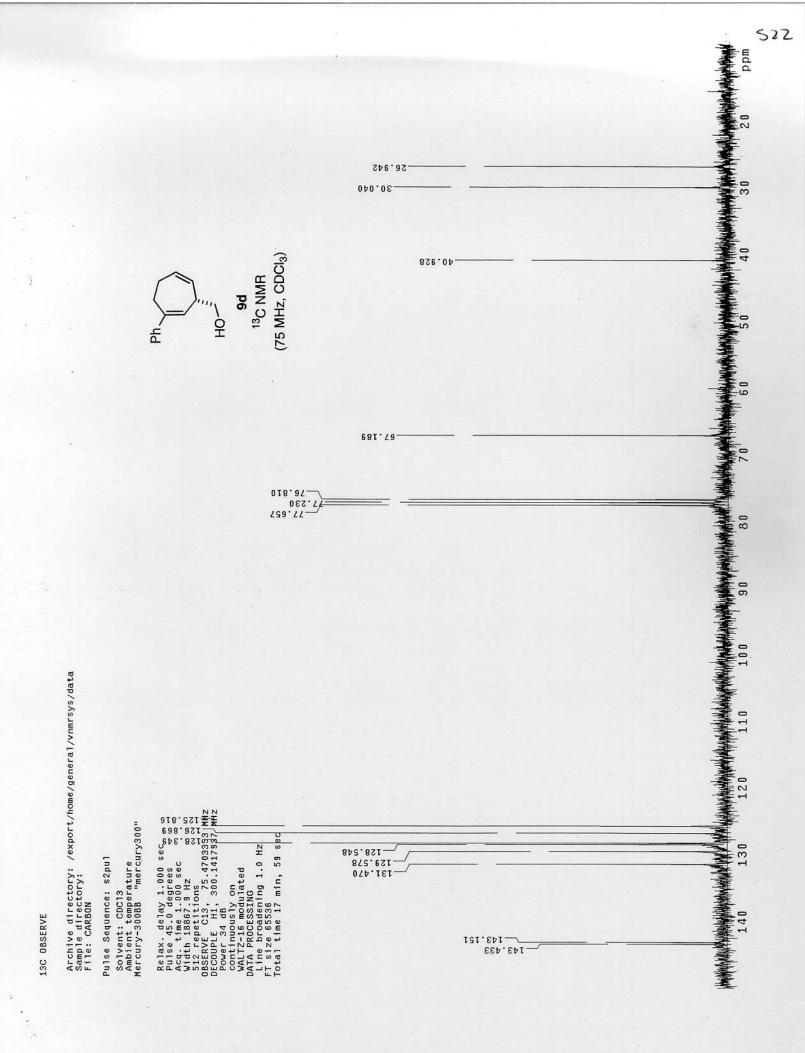
Pulse Sequence: s2pul

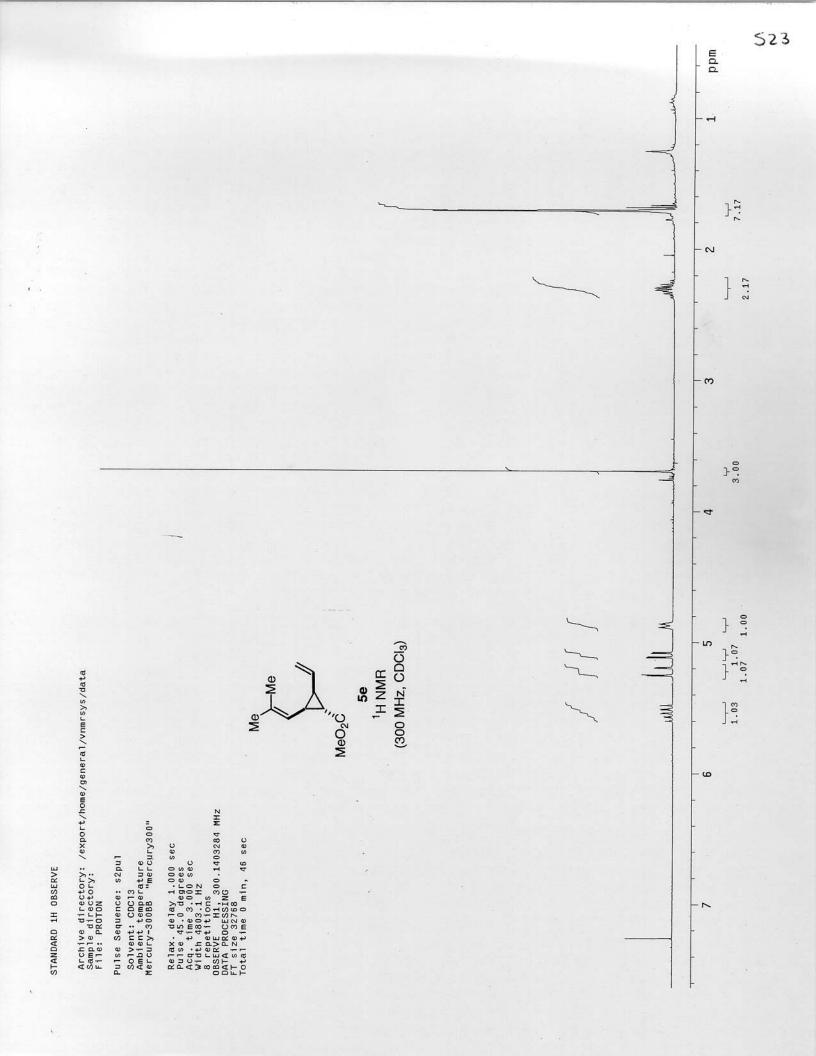


520

mdd





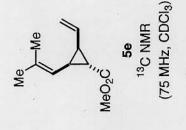


13C OBSERVE

Archive directory: /export/home/general/vnmrsys/data Sample directory:

Pulse Sequence: s2pul

Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature File: nw488chromC13 Mercury-300BB "mercury300" Relax. delay 1.000 sec bulse 45.0 degrees Acut time 1.000 sec Acut 18867.9 Hz 128 repetitions 128 repetitions 0BSERVE C13, 75.4703341 MHz 0BSERVE C13, 75.4703341 MHz Power 34 dB rouprLe H1, 300.1417937 MHz Power 34 dB rouprLe H1, 300.1417937 MHz Power 34 dB rouprLe H1, 300.1417937 MHz Fower 34 dB rouprLe H1, 300.141797 Fower 34 dB rouprLe H1, 300.14177 Fower



шdd £92.81 20 728.72 728.72 828.25 31.802 لعداديلي 40 25.128 60 80 100 996.911 120 269.611 and the she was 136.391 140 Strift And Andrice Individual and 160 \$65'EZT 王王王王王王 180 F

525 шdd ull willer 5.83 } -**1**.13 1.11 2 } 1 }.1 1.01 W (300 MHz, CDCl₃) Me ¹H NMR 3 9e Me Ϋ́ΡΗ 1.00 } 2.08 4 - 50 -{- {-0.95 0.94 Archive directory: /export/home/general/vnmrsys/data Sample directory: File: PR0TON 0.95 9 Relax. delay 1.000 sec Pulse 45.0 degrees Acq. time 3.000 sec Width 4803.1 Hz 8 repetitions 0BSERVE H1, 300.1403273 MHz DATA PROCESSING FT size 32768 FT size 32768 Total time 0 min, 46 sec Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature Mercury-300BB "mercury300" Pulse Sequence: s2pul ~ STANDARD 1H OBSERVE

