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Construction of carbocycles initiated by Cucatalyzed radical reaction of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$

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Construction of carbocycles initiated by Cu-catalyzed radical reaction of Cl₂C(CN)₂

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ABSTRACT

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1. Introduction Carbocycles are ubiquitously present in functional materials, pharmaceuticals, and natural products. Historically, extensive synthetic efforts have been devoted to the development of efficient strategies and tactics for carbocycle construction. A highly attractive approach to streamline the synthesis of carbocycles is cascade reactions, which enable multiple carbon-carbon (C-C) bond formations in a single step.¹ In particular, radical-based cascade reactions are neutral, yet powerful, and allow for effective assembly of the functionalized carbocyclic

We previously reported a Cu-catalyzed atom transfer radical addition of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ to electronically non-polarized double bonds to form the two new bonds highlighted in red (Scheme 1A).^{3,4,5} Outcomes of the reactions depended on the substrate structures: carbochlorination proceeded from mono-substituted alkenes ($R^1=R^2=H$), whereas carbocyanation underwent from trisubstituted alkenes ($R^1=R^2=Me$). Namely, the addition of chloromalononitrile radicals generated from $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ occurred at the less-hindered position of the double bonds of the substrates. Then, intermolecular chlorination of the resultant secondary carboradicals provided the 1,3-dichlorinated product. On the other hand, chlorination, giving rise to the 1,3-dicyanated product.

motifs that are difficult to construct with conventional

cationic/anionic or pericyclic reactions.²

We were interested in expanding the scope of the Cucatalyzed radical reaction of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$, and aimed to realize radical-based cascade reactions by combining olefin addition

A Cu-catalyzed radical reaction of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ was utilized for stereoselective conversion of unsaturated molecules into functionalized carbocycles. Chloromalononitrile radicals, generated by treating $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ with catalytic amounts of CuCl and dppf in refluxing dioxane, intermolecularly reacted with the unsaturated bonds of acyclic or 10-membered compounds. The resultant carboradicals then intramolecularly added to another unsaturated bond to produce 1,2-disubstituted cyclopentane or *trans*-decalin derivatives. The chemo- and stereoselectivities of these radical cascade reactions are discussed in detail.

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with ring formation (Scheme 1B). Accordingly, we designed five unsaturated substrates 1a-e that differed in unsaturation and topology. Diene 1a and enyne 1b are linear compounds, while dienes 1c/d and enyne 1e possess 10-membered carbocycles. We envisioned that 1a/b and 1c-e would be converted to the 1,2disubstituted cyclopentane derivatives 2a/b and the decalin derivatives 2c-e through radical intermediates Aa/b and Ac-e, respectively.⁶ Although it was unclear at this stage whether carbochlorination or carbocyanation was the preferred pathway for the transformations, these reactions would generate the functionalized carbocycles from the simple unsaturated compounds by forming the three new bonds and multiple chiral centers.⁷ Here we report development of such Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions for the assembly of four different products, and provide the rationale for their chemo- and stereoselectivities.

2. Results and discussion

2-1. Synthesis of 10-membered compounds 1c-e

Whereas linear precursors **1a** and **1b** are commercially available, the three 10-membered substrates **1c-e** required synthetic preparation. Therefore, *E,E*-diene **1c**, *Z,Z*-diene **1d**, and enyne **1e** were constructed via a series of alkylations from *Z*-olefin **3** according to the procedure developed by Deslongchamps (Scheme 2).⁸ PCC oxidation of alcohol **3** provided the α , β -unsaturated aldehyde, the *Z*-olefin of which was isomerized in situ into the corresponding *E*-isomer **4**. After 1,2-reduction of enal **4** with DIBAL-H, the hydroxy group of **5** was converted into chloride using the reagent combination of MsCl and LiCl. Allyl chloride **6** was then subjected to S_N2 displacement with dimethyl malonate (**7**) under basic conditions to provide **8**. The four-

carbon unit was installed by the reaction of 8 with (E)-1,4- M dichloro-2-butene (9a) and K₂CO₃. The allylic chloride of the thus-obtained 10 was used as the leaving group in the second displacement with 7, affording 11. Acid hydrolysis of the THP group of 11 and chlorination of the resultant hydroxy group of 12 gave rise to 13. K₂CO₃-induced cyclization of allyl chloride 13 was effected in the presence *n*-Bu₄NI under high dilution conditions (1 mM) to furnish the 10-membered compound 1c with the *E*,*E*-diene in 40% yield.





B. Plan of Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions

• Formation of 1,2-disubstituted cyclopentane derivatives



Scheme 1. (A) Previously reported Cu-catalyzed atom transfer radical addition of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$, and (B) plan for synthesis of the 1,2-disubstituted cyclopentane and decalin derivatives by the Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions.

Z,Z-diene 1d was prepared from the same starting material 3 by applying a similar reaction sequence. After the hydroxy group of 3 was chlorinated, the allylic chloride was displaced with 7 to provide 15. The next carbon chain extension using (Z)-1,4-dichloro-2-butene (9b) transformed 15 to Z,Z-diene 17. The obtained 17 was subjected to the same four-step transformations from E,E-diene 10 to 1c, yielding 10-membered compound 1d with the E,E-diene.

The intermediate 15 was employed for the synthesis of enyne 1e. Compound 15 was coupled with 1,4-dichloro-2-butyne (16) under basic conditions to afford 18, which was further homologated with 7 to produce 22. THP-ether 22 was then converted to chloride 24 by acid hydrolysis and subsequent chlorination. Formation of the 10-membered ring from 24 was realized by base-induced intramolecular S_N2 displacement under high dilution conditions, generating enyne 1e.

2-2. Cu-catalyzed conversion from 1a/b to 1,2-disubstituted cyclopentane derivatives 2a/b

The Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions were first explored using linear diene **1a** and enyne **1b** (Table 1). Both substrates were separately treated with $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ (5 equiv) in the presence of catalytic amounts of CuCl (3 mol%) and 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf, 3 mol%) in refluxing

dioxane (0.01 M).⁹ The reaction of diene 1a stereoselectively proceeded under these conditions to provide a 6 : 1 mixture of *cis*-isomer 2a and its *trans*-isomer in 95% combined yield (entry 1). Enyne 1b also functioned as the precursor of the desired transformation under the same conditions, furnishing 2b as the sole stereoisomer in 67% yield (entry 2). In both cases, addition of chloromalononitrile radicals occurred at the olefin of 1a and 1b, and subsequently resulted in the formation of the 1,5dicyanated products 2a and 2b. Reflecting the intrinsically higher reactivity of alkenes than alkynes toward radicals,¹⁰ the alkene of 1b chemoselectively reacted with chloromalononitrile radicals over its alkyne, and the intramolecular migration of the CN group occurred prior to the intermolecular chlorination in the generation of 2a and 2b.¹¹



Scheme 2. Syntheses of 10-membered compounds 1c-e. Reagents and conditions: (a) PCC, NaOAc, CH₂Cl₂; (b) DIBAL-H, CH₂Cl₂, 62% (2 steps); (c) LiCl, MsCl, 2,4,6-collidine, DMF; (d) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 78% (2 steps); (e) **9a**, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 80%; (f) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 71%; (g) (+)-CSA, MeOH; (h) LiCl, MsCl, 2,4,6-collidine, DMF, 69% (2 steps); (i) K₂CO₃, *n*-Bu₄NI, MeCN, 90 °C, 40%; (j) LiCl, MsCl, 2,4,6-collidine, DMF; (k) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 64% (2 steps); (l) **9b**, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 64% (2 steps); (l) **9b**, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 64% (2 steps); (l) G%, (m) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 64% (2 steps); (l) SA, CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 76%; (m) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 78%; (r) 7, K₂CO₃, MeCN, 90 °C, 85%; (s) PPTS, MeOH, 83%; (t) LiCl, MsCl, 2,4,6-collidine, DMF; (u) K₂CO₃, *n*-

Bu₄NI, MeCN, 90 °C, 79% (2 steps). CSA = 10-camphorsulfonic acid, DIBAL-H = diisobutylaluminium hydride, MsCl = methanesulfonyl chloride, PCC = pyridinium chlorochromate, PPTS = pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate, THP = 2-tetrahydropyranyl.

Table 1. Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions of 1a/b.^a





^aReagents and conditions: $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ (5 equiv), CuCl (3 mol%), 1,1'bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf, 3 mol%), dioxane (0.01 M), 100 °C, 24 h; ^bA 6 : 1 mixture of **2a** and the *trans*-isomer of **2a** was obtained.



Scheme 3. The radical cascade pathway for the formation of cyclopentane derivative 2a from 1a.

Scheme 3 illustrates the plausible radical cascade process from **1a** to **2a**. Cu(I)Cl homolytically cleaves a C–Cl bond of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ at 100 °C to generate chloromalononitrile radical **B** and Cu(II)Cl₂.¹² **B** in turn reacts with the double bond of **1a**, and the resultant **Aa** undergoes 5-*exo-trig*-cyclization. **Aa** is more concentrated than its conformational isomer **Aa'**, which has an unfavorable steric interaction between the olefinic hydrogen and

/ CO₂Et group. Thus, formation of *cis*-Ca from Aa is preferred

over that of *trans*-Ca from Aa'. Presumably due to the relatively slow intermolecular chlorination of Ca, *cis*-Ca intramolecularly adds to the C–N triple bond, generating the 6-membered iminyl radical Da. The unstable iminyl radical undergoes cleavage of the C–C bond to give the more stable Ea, whose radical is delocalized to the CN and Cl groups. After this 1,5-cyanide transfer, radical Ea is chlorinated with Cu(II)Cl₂, and the 1,5dicyanated adduct 2a is formed as the final product with regeneration of the Cu(I)Cl catalyst. The minor *trans*-isomer of 2a is produced in a similar fashion from *trans*-Ca. When 1b is employed instead of 1a, cyanide migration occurs from the sp³carbon to the sp²-carbon, leading to vinyl cyanide 2b.

2-3. Cu-catalyzed conversion from 1c-e to *trans*-decalin derivatives 2c-e

Next, the Cu-catalyzed atom transfer radical addition was applied to the three 10-membered substrates **1c-e** (Table 2). Upon heating *E,E*-diene **1c** with CuCl (3 mol%), dppf (3 mol%) and $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ (5 equiv) in dioxane at 100 °C, *trans*-decalin **2ca** was obtained in 46% yield along with the minor product **2cb** in 16% yield (entry 1). The formation of 1,5-dichlorinated compound **2ca** as the major product indicates that cyanide migration did not occur in this case. Most importantly, the single operation permitted the three bonds to link and the four contiguous stereocenters to be installed.

Table 2. Cu-catalyzed radical cascade reactions of 1c-e.^a



^aReagents and conditions: $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ (5 equiv), CuCl (3 mol%), 1,1'bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf, 3 mol%), dioxane (0.01 M), 100 °C, 24 h; ^b1d was recovered in 93% yield

Intriguingly, *Z*,*Z*-diene **1d**, the stereoisomer of *E*,*E*-diene **1c**, was inert to the Cu-catalyzed conditions, resulting in the recovery of only the starting material **1d** (93%, entry 2). The contrasting results of entries 1 and 2 revealed the significantly lower reactivity of the *Z*-alkene of **1d** compared to the *E*-alkene of **1c** toward chloromalononitrile radical **B**.

When enyne 1e with the Z-alkene and alkyne was submitted MANUSCRIPT

to the radical reaction (entry 3), fused tricycle **2e** was formed from **1e** in 44% yield as the sole detectable product. In this reaction, **B** first added to the alkyne moiety due to the low reactivity of the Z-alkene, and subsequent multiple bond formations afforded **2e** without the cyanide transfer (vide supra). Consequently, the observed chemoselectivity between the alkene and alkyne was switched from that of acyclic **1b** (Table 1, entry 2), where the double bond reacted to **B** in the presence of the triple bond. Overall, the reaction from the simple 10-membered compound **1** attained the construction of the ring system of a natural product, β -cubebene, in one step, ¹³ demonstrating the high efficiency of the transformation for generating the intricately fused architecture.

rationalize the first radical addition To of the chloromalononitrile radicals to 1c-e, the most stable threedimensional structures of the 10-membered compounds were computationally analyzed (Table 3). To facilitate the calculation, the methoxy carbonyl groups of 1c-e were simplified to the methyl groups of 25c-e. Compounds 25c-e were submitted to the DFT calculation at the M06-2X/6-31g(d) level of theory (289 K, 1 atm) to generate their most stable conformers.¹⁴, The allylic C1-H and C4-H of **25c-e** are orthogonal to the double bonds. thereby sterically shielding the olefins from the radical addition. The kinetic protection effect of the allylic protons is attributable to the negligible reactivity of 1d and the chemoselectivity toward the less hindered alkyne of 1e. On the other hand, the higher reactivity of the E-olefin of 1c than the Z-olefin of 1d can be explained by the more distorted nature of the *E*-olefin compared with the Z-olefin. The dihedral angles of C1-C2-C3-C4 (163.8°), H2-C2-C3-C4 (-7.6°), and C1-C2-C3-H3 (-7.6°) of 25c indicated a significant deviation from the ideal π -bond plane compared to those of C1-C2-C3-C4 (0.0°), H2-C2-C3-C4 (179.0°), and C1-C2-C3-H3 (-179.0°) of 25d. Thus, the radicals readily react with the twisted π -bond of 1c, but not with the planar π -bond of 1d.^{15,16} The bended triple bond [C6-C7-C8-C9 (-7.1°)] within the 10-membered ring of **25e** is also likely due to the chemoselective reaction at the alkyne site of 1e. Therefore, the observed reactivities and chemoselectivities of the addition reactions to 1c-e would come from the steric effects of the allylic protons and the distortion magnitudes of the unsaturated bonds.

 Table 3. Computed 10-membered rings 25c-e, their Newman projection, and the calculated data of the dihedral and bond angles.



	Dihedral angles (deg)				
	C1-C2-C3-C4	H2-C2-C3-H3	H2-C2-C3-C4	С1-С2-С3-Н3	C6-C7-C8-C9
25c	163.8	-178.9	-7.6	-7.6	_
25d	0.0	0.0	179.0	-179.0	_
25e ^a	-5.4	-0.2	175.7	178.7	-7.1

^aBond angles (deg): θ (C6-C7-C8) = 170.3, θ (C7-C8-C9) = 167.7.



Scheme 4. The radical cascade reaction for the formation of *trans*-decalin 2ca from 1c.

The reaction pathways of the cascade radical reactions from 1c to 2ca and from 1e to 2e are proposed in Schemes 4 and 5, respectively. Cu(I)Cl induces conversion of $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ into **B** via homolytic cleavage of the C-Cl bond (Scheme 4). The radical addition of **B** to the *E*-alkene of **1c** produces chair/chair-Ac or boat/boat-Ac. The selective formation of 2ca over those of G and the *cis*-isomer of **2ca** would originate from the relative stability of the radical intermediates. As the conformer boat/boat-Ac has an unfavorable steric interaction, the reaction would not go through the boat/boat-Ac that leads to cis-Cc. The 6-endo/6-exo and 5-exo/7-endo transannular reactions from chair/chair-Ac deliver the 6/6-ring system trans-Cc and 5/7-ring system F, respectively. Although the formation of 5-membered ring F can be predicted on the basis of the acyclic precedent (1a \rightarrow cis-Ca \rightarrow 2a), G was not isolated in this reaction. This is probably because less thermodynamically stable \mathbf{F} is equilibrated into more stable decalin trans-Cc before termination of the

secondary radical **F** to produce **G**.¹⁷ Finally, because the alkyl radical of *trans*-**Cc** cannot add to the CN group of the equatorially-oriented ClC(CN)₂ group in an intramolecular manner, Cu(II)Cl₂ intermolecularly chlorinates *trans*-**Cc** from the less hindered α -face of the decalin, affording **2ca**. Hydrogen abstraction of *trans*-**Cc** would in turn give minor product **2cb**.

The bended triple bond of **1e** reacts with radical **B** to generate vinyl radical **Ae** (Scheme 5). The 6-*endo*/6-*exo* and 5-*exo*/7-*endo* transannular reactions of **Ae** give the two different intermediates **Ce** and **C'e**, respectively, which can converge into the same product **2e** via the second cyclization through an S_H2' reaction. In both cases, the eliminated chloro radicals would react with Cu(II)Cl₂ to regenerate Cu(I)Cl and produce Cl₂.



Scheme 5. Two possible pathways for the formation of 2e from 10-membered compound 1e.

3. Conclusions

In summary, a Cu-catalyzed atom transfer radical addition of Cl₂C(CN)₂ was employed to convert acyclic **1a** and **1b**, and 10membered 1c and 1e into four different ring structures, 2a, 2b, 2c and 2e, respectively. Under these conditions, the intramolecular CN-transfer occurred to generate 1,5-dicyanated products 2a and 2b, while the intermolecular Cl-transfer afforded 1,5dichlorinated product 2c, and the radical Cl-ejection gave rise to **2e**. Formation of the tricyclic structure of β -cubebene from **1e** particularly demonstrates the high efficiency of the present radical cascade reaction for increasing the molecular complexity in a single step. Analyses of the chemo- and stereoselectivities of the cyclization reactions revealed that the enhanced reactivities of the *E*-olefin of **1c** and the alkyne of **1e** were attributable to their strained characters. Since the installed functional groups on the carbocycles can be used as a handle for further functionalization,³ the present method offers a new entry for concise preparation of functional materials, pharmaceuticals, and natural products with carbocyclic motifs.

4. Experimental section

4.1. General method

All reactions were carried out under argon atmosphere in dry solvents. CH_2Cl_2 and DMF were purified by Glass Contour solvent dispensing system (Nikko Hansen & Co., Ltd.). All other reagents were used as supplied. Analytical thin-layer

chromatography (TLC) was performed using E. Merck Silica gel 60 F254 pre-coated plates, 0.25 mm. Flash chromatography was performed using 40-50 µm Silica Gel 60N (Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.). Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on JASCO FT-IR-4100 spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM-ECX-500, JNM-ECA-500, or JNM-ECS-400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm on the δ scale relative to CHCl₃ (δ = 7.26 for ¹H NMR), CDCl₃ (δ = 77.0 for ¹³C NMR), C₆D₅H (δ = 7.16 for ¹H NMR), C₆D₆ (δ = 128.0 for ¹³C NMR), CD₂HOD (δ = 3.31 for ¹H NMR) and CD₂HCN (δ = 1.94 for ¹H NMR) as internal references. Signal patterns are indicated as s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m; multiplet. High resolution mass spectra were measured on JEOL JMS-T100LP instrument.

4.2. Synthesis of *E*,*E*-diene 1c

4.2.1. Allyl alcohol 5 [CAS: 77741-47-0]^{8b}



Allyl alcohol **3** (8.50 g, 49.4 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (85 mL) was added to a solution of PCC (16.0 g, 74.1 mmol) and NaOAc (1.21 g, 14.8 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (80 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature, and then Et_2O (50 mL) was added. The solution was passed through a short pad of florisil (50 g) with Et_2O (100 mL). The filtrate was concentrated to afford the crude enal **4** (5.40 g), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

DIBAL-H (1.0 M in *n*-hexane, 64.0 mL, 64.0 mmol) was added to a solution of the above crude **4** (5.40 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (160 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous Rochelle's salt (100 mL) and MeOH (15 mL) at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was stirred for 10 h at room temperature and extracted with EtOAc (100 mL×2). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (100 g, *n*hexane/EtOAc 4/1 to 2/1) to afford allyl alcohol **5** (5.27 g, 30.6 mmol) in 62% yield over 2 steps.

4.2.2. Diester 8 [CAS: 93915-02-7]^{8b}



2,4,6-Collidine (4.20 mL, 31.8 mmol) and LiCl (1.23 g, 28.9 mmol) were added to a solution of allyl alcohol **5** (4.98 g, 28.9 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0 °C, MsCl (2.46 mL, 31.8 mmol) was added dropwise to the mixture. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (30 mL) at 0 °C, and the resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (30 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous Cu(NO₃)₂ (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to afford the crude chloride **6** (5.50 g), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

Dimethylmalonate (7) (3.95 mL, 34.7 mmol) was added to a solution of the above crude 6 (5.50 g) and K_2CO_3 (7.99 g, 57.8 mmol) in MeCN (300 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (100 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with

Et₂O (100 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried M over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (100 g, n-

hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford diester 8 (6.47 g, 22.6 mmol) in

4.2.3. Chloride 10 [CAS: 112181-18-7]^{8b}

78% yield over 2 steps.



(*E*)-1,4-Dichloro-2-butene (**9a**) (1.35 mL, 12.3 mmol) was added to a solution of diester **8** (705 mg, 2.46 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (1.36 g, 9.84 mmol) in MeCN (26 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (30 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (30 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (30 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford chloride **10** (737 mg, 1.97 mmol) in 80% yield.

4.2.4. Tetraester 11 [CAS: 112181-19-8]^{8b}



Dimethylmalonate (7) (897 μ L, 7.88 mmol) was added to a solution of chloride **10** (737 mg, 1.97 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (544 mg, 3.94 mmol) in MeCN (20 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (20 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (20 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (30 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1 to 2/1) to afford tetraester **11** (656 mg, 1.39 mmol) in 71% yield.

4.2.5. Chloride 13 [CAS: 93915-04-9]^{8b}



(+)-CSA (32.3 mg, 139 μ mol) was added to a solution of tetraester **11** (656 mg, 1.39 mmol) in MeOH (6.5 mL). After being stirred for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (10 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to afford the crude allyl alcohol **12** (600 mg), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

2,4,6-Collidine (202 μ L, 1.53 mmol) and LiCl (58.9 mg, 1.39 mmol) were added to a solution of the above crude **12** (600 mg) in DMF (1.5 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0 °C, MsCl (118 μ L, 1.53 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (2 mL) at 0 °C, and the resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (2 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous

Cu(NO₃)₂ (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (5 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford chloride **13** (387 mg, 95.9 μ mol) in 69% yield over 2 steps.

4.2.6. *E*,*E*-Diene 1c [CAS: 93915-10-7]^{8b}



 K_2CO_3 (661 mg, 4.78 mmol) and *n*-Bu₄NI (1.41 g, 3.82 mmol) were added to a solution of chloride **13** (387 mg, 959 µmol) in MeCN (190 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C and concentrated. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O (20 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with H₂O (20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (10 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford 10-membered ring **1c** (140 mg, 382 µmol) in 40% yield.

4.3. Synthesis of Z,Z-diene 1d

4.3.1. Diester 15 [CAS: 104951-13-5]^{8b}



2,4,6-Collidine (645 μ L, 4.88 mmol) and LiCl (207 mg, 4.88 mmol) were added to a solution of allyl alcohol **3** (764 mg, 4.44 mmol) in DMF (2.2 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0 °C, MsCl (378 μ L, 4.88 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (2 mL) at 0 °C, and the resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (2 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous Cu(NO₃)₂ (2 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to afford the crude chloride **14** (1.10 g), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

Dimethylmalonate (7) (765 μ L, 6.66 mmol) was added to a solution of the above crude **14** (1.10 g) and K₂CO₃ (3.07 g, 22.2 mmol) in MeCN (4.4 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 25 h at 90 °C, and then concentrated. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O (3 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with H₂O (3 mL), and the aqueaous layer was extracted with Et₂O (3 mL×2). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (10 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford diester **15** (810 mg, 2.83 mmol) in 64% yield over 2 steps.

4.3.2. Chloride 17



(Z)-1,4-Dichloro-2-butene (**9b**) (1.80 mL, 17.1 mmol) was added to a solution of malonate **15** (2.72 g, 9.50 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (6.56 g, 47.5 mmol) in MeCN (48 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (30 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (30 mL×3), and the combined organic

layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The MANUSCRIP' residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (30 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford chloride **17** (2.71 g, 7.22 mmol) in 76% yield: IR (film) 2951, 2869, 1733, 1438, 1202, 1026 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.51-1.60 (4H, m, OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₄CH_A), 1.71 (1H, m, OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂D, 3.72 (6H, s, CO₂CH₃ ×2), 3.86 (1H, m, OCH₄CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.72 (6H, s, CO₂CH₃ ×2), 3.86 (1H, m, OCH₆CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), 4.01-4.27 (4H, m, H1, 9), 4.61 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.4, 3.4 Hz, OCHO), 5.67-5.78 (4H, m, H2, 3, 7, 8); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.4, 25.4, 30.2, 30.6, 30.8, 38.9, 52.7 (2C), 57.2, 62.2, 62.7, 98.2, 125.6, 127.6, 129.2, 130.6, 171.0 (2C); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₂₇ClO₆Na [M+Na]⁺ afor 10-member 397.1388, found 397.1396.

4.3.3. Allyl alcohol 20 [CAS: 112181-15-4]^{8b}



Dimethylmalonate (7) (3.17 mL, 27.8 mmol) was added to a solution of chloride 17 (2.61 g, 6.96 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (1.92 g, 13.9 mmol) in MeCN (35 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (20 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (20 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to afford the crude tetraester 19 (3.50 g), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

(+)-CSA (162 mg, 696 μ mol) was added to a solution of the above crude **19** (3.50 g) in MeOH (70 mL). After being stirred for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (10 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (50 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 2/1) to afford allyl alcohol **20** (1.88 g, 4.92 mmol) in 70% yield over 2 steps.

4.3.4. Chloride 21 [CAS: 93915-07-2]^{8b}



2,4,6-Collidine (153 μ L, 1.16 mmol) and LiCl (49.0 mg, 1.16 mmol) were added to a solution of allyl alcohol **20** (400 mg, 1.05 mmol) in DMF (2.2 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0 °C, MsCl (89.6 μ L, 1.16 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (3 mL) at 0 °C, and the resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous Cu(NO₃)₂ (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (5 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford chloride **21** (348 mg, 859 μ mol) in 81% yield.

4.3.5. Z,Z-Diene 1d [CAS: 93915-08-3]^{8b}



 K_2CO_3 (607 mg, 4.39 mmol) and *n*-Bu₄NI (1.22 g, 3.30 mmol) were added to a solution of chloride **21** (348 mg, 859 μmol) in MeCN (220 mL) at room temperature. After being stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O (10 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with H₂O (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (10 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford 10-membered ring **1d** (222 mg, 603 μmol) in 70% yield.

4.4. Synthesis of enyne 1e

4.4.1. Chloride 18 [CAS: 112181-12-1]^{8t}



1,4-Dichloro-2-butyne (16) (1.26 mL, 13.1 mmol) was added to a solution of malonate 15 (2.50 g, 8.73 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (3.62 g, 26.2 mmol) in MeCN (60 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (30 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (30 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (30 g, *n*hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford chloride 18 (2.54 g, 6.81 mmol) in 78% yield.

4.4.2. Tetraester 22 [CAS: 112181-13-2]^{8b}



Dimethylmalonate (7) (3.19 mL, 27.2 mmol) was added to a solution of chloride **18** (2.54 g, 6.81 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (1.88 g, 13.6 mmol) in MeCN (35 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 90 °C, and then H₂O (20 mL) was added at 0 °C. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (20 mL×3), and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (30 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford tetraester **22** (2.71 g, 6.81 mmol) in 85% yield.

4.4.3. Allyl alcohol 23 [CAS: 112181-14-3]^{8b}



PPTS (171 mg, 681 μ mol) was added to a solution of tetraester **22** (2.71 g, 6.81 mmol) in MeOH (70 mL). After being stirred for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (10 mL). The

resultant mixture was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO3 MANUSCRIPT

(10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (50 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 2/1) to afford allyl alcohol **23** (2.17 g, 5.65 mmol) in 83% yield.

4.4.4. Enyne 1e [CAS: 93915-11-8]^{8b}



2,4,6-Collidine (715 μ L, 5.41 mmol) and LiCl (209 mg, 4.92 mmol) were added to a solution of allyl alcohol **23** (1.89 g, 4.92 mmol) in DMF (9.5 mL) at 0 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at 0 °C, MsCl (418 μ L, 5.41 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (10 mL) at 0 °C, and the resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O (10 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous Cu(NO₃)₂ (10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to afford the crude chloride **24** (2.10 g), which was used in the next reaction without further purification.

 K_2CO_3 (2.04 g, 14.8 mmol) and *n*-Bu₄NI (3.63 g, 9.84 mmol) were added to a solution of the above crude **24** (2.10 g) in MeCN (330 mL) at room temperature. After being stirred for 16 h at 90 °C, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O (10 mL). The resultant mixture was washed with H₂O (5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (20 g, *n*-hexane/EtOAc 4/1) to afford 10-membered ring **1e** (1.42 g, 3.89 mmol) in 79% yield over 2 steps.

4.5. General procedure: synthesis of carbocycle 2a

Diene **1a** (24.0 mg, 0.100 mmol) and $Cl_2C(CN)_2$ (50.0 µL, 0.500 mmol) were added to a solution of CuCl (0.30 mg, 3.0 µmol) and 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf, 1.60 mg, 3.00 µmol) in dioxane (10.0 mL). The mixture was degassed by freeze-thaw for three times, purged with Ar, and stirred at 100 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then filtered through a pad of silica gel (1 g, Et₂O), and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by a flash column chromatography on silica gel (1 g, hexane/EtOAc 10:1 to 3:1) to give carbocycle **2a** (30.5 mg, 81.2 µmol), and the *trans*-isomer of **2a** (5.08 mg, 13.5 µmol) in 81%, and 14% yields, respectively.



2a: yellow oil; IR (film) 2360, 1727, 1261 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 0.88 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 0.92 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 1.18 (1H, dd, J = 16.3, 5.0 Hz, H4_A), 1.39 (1H, dd, J = 16.3, 10.6 Hz, H4_B), 1.68 (1H, dd, J = 15.1, 8.8 Hz, H3_A), 1.74 (1H, dd, J = 15.1, 4.5 Hz, H3_B) 1.78 (1H, m, H5), 1.96 (1H, dd, J = 14.0, 10.6 Hz, H1_A), 2.16 (1H, m, H2), 2.25 (1H, dd, J = 14.6, 3.9 Hz, H6_A), 2.34 (1H, dd, J = 14.6, 7.3 Hz, H6_B), 2.61 (1H, dd, J = 14.0, 7.3 Hz, H1_B), 3.88-3.98 (4H, m, CO₂CH₂CH₃×2); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9 (2C), 18.1, 37.9, 38.5, 39.2, 39.4, 47.5, 57.9, 62.0, 62.2, 67.6, 115.3, 118.2, 171.4, 172.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₂₀Cl₂N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 397.0692, found 397.0687.



trans-Isomer of 2a: yellow oil; IR (film) 2361, 1727, 1257, 1023 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 0.889 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CO₂CH₂), 0.892 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 1.28 (1H, dd, J = 18.8, 7.6 Hz, H4_A), 1.29 (1H, m, H5), 1.38 (1H, dd, J = 18.8, 7.9 Hz, H4_B), 1.75 (1H, m, H2), 1.80 (1H, dd, J = 14.6, 9.0 Hz, H3_A), 1.88 (1H, dd, J = 14.6, 2.3 Hz, H3_B), 1.95 (1H, dd, J = 14.0, 8.0 Hz, H6_A), 2.00 (1H, dd, J = 13.5, 9.3 Hz, H1_A), 2.46 (1H, dd, J = 14.0, 7.3 Hz, H6_B), 2.80 (1H, dd, J = 13.5, 7.8 Hz H1_B), 3.91 (4H, m, CO₂CH₂CH₃ ×2); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0 (2C), 20.5, 38.5, 40.1, 41.09, 41.15, 51.8, 58.7, 62.0, 62.1, 67.5, 115.4, 117.4, 171.1, 171.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₂₀Cl₂N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 397.0692, found 397.0704.

4.6. Synthesis of carbocycle 2b



According to the general procedure, carbocycle 2b (25.1 mg, 67.0 µmol) was synthesized in 67% yield from enyne 1b (23.8 mg, 0.100 mmol) by using CuCl (0.30 mg, 3.0 µmol), dppf (1.60 mg, 3.00 µmol) and Cl₂C(CN)₂ (50.0 µL, 0.500 mmol) in dioxane (10.0 mL). The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (1 g, hexane/EtOAc 10:1 to 3:1). **2b**: yellow oil; IR (film) 2983, 2218, 1729, 1252, 859, 750 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.26 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, $CO_2CH_2CH_3$), 1.27 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, $CO_2CH_2CH_3$), 2.36 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.2, 7.7 Hz, H1_A), 2.67 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.6, 10.4 Hz, H3_A), $3.01 (1H, dd, J = 14.2, 8.4 Hz, H1_B), 3.12 (2H, m, H6), 3.26 (1H, J)$ dd, J = 14.6, 2.4 Hz, H3_B), 3.47 (1H, m, H2), 4.22 (4H, m, $CO_2CH_2CH_3 \times 2$), 5.48 (1H, dd, J = 2.3, 2.3 Hz, H4); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9 (2C), 39.3, 40.2, 42.0, 51.2, 58.9, 62.2, 62.4, 67.0, 94.8, 115.0, 115.3, 168.2, 169.9, 170.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₈Cl₂N₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 395.0541, found 395.0528.

4.7. Synthesis of trans-decalin 2c



According to the general procedure, *trans*-decalin **2ca** (12.1 mg, 24.2 μ mol) and **2cb** (4.00 mg, 8.53 μ mol) were synthesized in 46%, and 16% yields, respectively, from *E*,*E*-diene **1c** (19.4 mg, 52.7 μ mol), CuCl (0.16 mg, 1.6 μ mol), dppf (1.20 mg, 1.58 μ mol) and Cl₂C(CN)₂ (39.0 μ L, 0.374 mmol) in dioxane (6.00 mL). The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (1 g, hexane/EtOAc 10:1 to 2:1).

2ca: colorless oil; IR (film) 2956, 2251, 1732, 1452, 1435, 1267, 1206 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) δ 2.11 (1H, dd, J = 14.5, 5.3 Hz, H9_A), 2.24 (1H, dd, J = 14.6, 9.6 Hz, H1_A), 2.35 (1H, dd, J = 13.2, 13.2 Hz, H4_A), 2.47-2.57 (4H, m, H1_B, H2, H3, H6_A), 2.58-2.65 (2H, m, H6_B, H7), 2.76 (1H, dd, J = 13.2, 6.4 Hz, H4_B), 2.94 (1H, dd, J = 14.5, 1.8 Hz, H9_B), 3.70 (3H, s,

 CO_2CH_3), 3.70 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 3.71 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 3.78 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 4.25 (1H, ddd, J = 10.8, 10.8, 2.3 Hz, H8); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 34.8, 39.0, 39.9, 44.1, 44.5, 46.9, 49.0, 49.4, 52.6, 52.7, 52.8, 52.9, 55.4, 58.4, 59.5, 112.2, 112.3, 170.0, 170.1, 171.6, 171.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{21}H_{24}Cl_2N_2O_8Na$ [M+Na]⁺ 525.0802, found 525.0787.

NC CN
$$(J_{1,2} = 10.1 \text{ Hz})$$

NOE (H_{11}) (H_{12}) (G_{2}) $(G_{2$

2cb: colorless oil; IR (film) 2956, 2360, 1732, 1436, 1250, 1205 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.95-2.01 (2H, m, H3, H4_A), 2.04 (1H, dd, *J* =14.0, 9.6 Hz, H6_A), 2.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.6, 10.1 Hz, H1_A), 2.19 (1H, dd, *J* =14.7, 11.0 Hz, H9_A), 2.34-2.44 (2H, m, H2, H4_B), 2.64-2.70 (2H, m, H1_B, H7), 2.85 (1H, ddd, *J* =14.0, 7.8, 1.4 Hz, H6_B), 3.05 (1H, ddd, *J* = 14.6, 1.8, 1.8 Hz, H9_B), 3.73 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.76 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.77 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.81 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.96 (1H, d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, H11), 4.07 (1H, ddd, *J* = 11.0, 11.0, 1.4 Hz, H8); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 28.6, 36.3, 38.6, 39.5, 41.2, 43.4, 44.2, 48.6, 53.17, 53.19, 53.23, 53.5, 56.0, 58.1, 59.5, 110.2, 111.6, 170.18, 170.19, 170.9, 171.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₂₅ClN₂O₈Na [M+Na]⁺ 491.1192, found 491.1180.

4.8. Synthesis of tricycle 2e



According to the general procedure, tricycle **2e** (22.0 mg, 51.1 μ mol) was synthesized in 44% yield from enyne **1e** (42.2 mg, 0.115 mmol), CuCl (0.35 mg, 3.5 μ mol), dppf (1.84 mg, 3.45 μ mol) and Cl₂C(CN)₂ (59.0 μ L, 0.575 mmol) in dioxane (12.0 mL). The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (1 g, hexane/EtOAc 10:1 to 2:1).

2e: colorless oil; IR (film) 2956, 2349, 1733, 1435, 1258, 1206 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 1.37 (1H, ddd, *J* = 7.7, 5.3, 5.3 Hz, H2), 1.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.3, 5.3 Hz, H1_A), 1.96 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.3, 5.3 Hz, H3), 2.62 (1H, d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H4_A), 2.68 (1H, d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H4_A), 2.68 (1H, d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H4_A), 2.68 (1H, d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H2, 142, 12, 5.2 Hz, H4_B), 2.85 (1H, d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, H9_A), 3.27 (1H, d, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H6_B), 3.44 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.0, 17.2 Hz, H9_B), 3.70 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.73 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.74 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.80 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 26.4, 30.0, 34.5, 36.4, 37.6, 39.0, 41.5, 53.3, 53.38 (2C), 53.40, 54.6, 59.8, 87.1, 111.9, 112.1, 169.8, 170.0, 170.4, 172.5, 178.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₂₂N₂O₈Na [M+Na]⁺ 453.1268, found 453.1247.

4.9 Computational experiments

The conformational search of the 10-membered compounds **25c-e** was first conducted by molecular mechanics simulation using MacroModel.¹⁸ The calculation was performed using a 1000-step of Monte Carlo-based torsional sampling (MCMM) and PRCG energy minimization with OPLS-2005 force field (gas phase). The obtained structures within 12 kcal/mol were transferred into Gaussian program¹⁹ and optimized at PM6 semiempirical method (298 K, 1 atm, gas phase). The thus obtained structures within 2 kcal/mol were subjected to the geometry optimizations and frequency calculations at M06-2X/6-

31G(d) level of theory (298 K, 1 atm, gas phase) to afford the most stable conformational isomer, which has no imaginary frequencies.

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Supplementary Material

NMR spectra of all new compounds and Cartesian coordinates for the optimized structures of **25c**, **25d** and **25e**.

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