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A flexible approach to hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates

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ABSTRACT

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Dedicated with respect and admiration to Professor Gilbert Stork on the occasion of his 90th birthday

Keywords: Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate Nitroalkenes Favorskii rearrangement Claisen rearrangement

A flexible approach to hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates based on the Favorskii rearrangement of 1,1-dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones has been devised. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2ones can be prepared from readily available cyclohexanones by a short sequence.

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1. Introduction

Hexahydronaphthalenecarboxylates (Fig. 1) have proved to be versatile building blocks in natural product synthesis,¹ but, to date, only few reports have described their synthesis.^{1,2} The most popular approach to these scaffolds uses the Diels-Alder reaction as the key step.³ However, the intra-molecular Diels–Alder reaction only affords hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates of general structure III,^{1,2b,d} while the intermolecular cycloaddition is complicated by regioselectivity problems and leads to mixtures of isomeric hexahydronaphthalenecarboxylates I and II.^{2a,c}

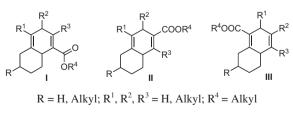
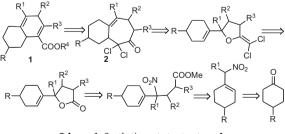


Fig. 1. Hexahydronaphthalenecarboxylates I, II, and III.

2. Results/discussion

In the present article, we describe a completely different strategy for the construction of hexahydronaphthalenecarboxylates. Our conception, outlined in Scheme 1, hinges on the sole obtention of hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate I via the Favorskii rearrangement of 1,1-dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones 2.4 Precusors **2** could in principle be prepared from readily available cyclohexanones by exploiting the rich chemistry of allylic nitro intermediates, as shown by the sequence in Scheme 1.



Scheme 1. Synthetic route to structures I.

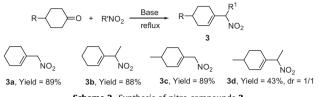
We therefore began our work by preparing the requisite allylic nitro starting compounds **3**.⁵ As shown in Scheme 2, these nitro compounds **3** can be obtained in good yield by condensation of the corresponding cyclohexanones with nitromethane or nitroethane



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in the presence of ethylenediamine (for synthesis of **3a** and **3c**) or *N*,*N*-dimethylethylenediamine (for synthesis of **3b** and **3d**) as base. We had previously demonstrated that ethylenediamine and some of its congeners were particularly effective catalysts for this transformation.5a,b

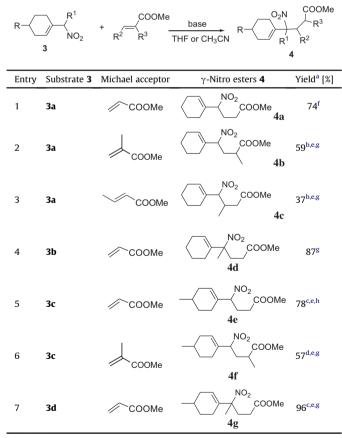


Scheme 2. Synthesis of nitro compounds 3.

With nitro compounds **3** in hand, we set out to assemble γ -nitro esters **4** by the Michael addition of **3** with various α , β -unsaturated esters in the presence of base.^{5d,f,6} Triethylamine was used for the synthesis of 4a (Table 1, entry 1), DBU for the synthesis of 4b, 4c, 4d, 4f, and 4g (Table 1, entries 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7), and KF for the synthesis of **4e** (Table 1, entry 5). The γ -nitro esters **4** were obtained in moderate to good yield and the diastereomeric ratios for **4b**, **4c**, **4e**, 4g, and 4f were 3:2, 3:2, 1:1, 1:1, and 3:3:2:2, respectively (Table 1, entries 2, 3, 5, 7, and 6). The choice of the base was empirical. We found that the use of the stronger base DBU was advantageous when either the nitroalkene or the unsaturated ester was substituted near the reacting centers and therefore somewhat less reactive.

Table 1

Synthesis of γ -nitro esters **4**



^a Isolated yield.

b dr=3:2. с

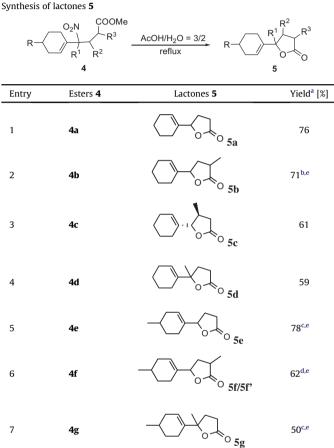
dr=1.1d

dr=3:3:2:2

Diastereomeric ratio were determined by the ¹H NMR of the crude product. $^{\rm f}$ Et₃N as base.

Upon refluxing in a mixture of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) overnight, the γ -nitro esters **4** were converted into lactones **5** smoothly and in good yield (Table 2).⁷ The diastereomeric ratios of **5b**, **5e**, and **5g** were 3:2, 1:1, and 1:1, respectively (Table 2, entries 2, 5, and 7). γ -Nitro ester **4f** was converted into **5f** and **5f**' in 2:3 ratio with 62% total yield (Table 2, entry 6). Compounds 5f and 5f' can be separated by flash column chromatography and the ¹H NMR of **5f** and **5f'** indicated that both of **5f** and **5f**' were diastereoisomers with 1:1 diastereomeric ratio.





^a Isolated yield.

^b dr=3:2.

^c dr=1:1.

^d Total yield of **5f** and **5f**'. **5f**/**5f**'=2:3. Compound **5f** (R_{f} =0.5, petroleum/ EtOAc=10:1), Compound 5f' (Rf=0.4, petroleum/EtOAc=10:1). Both of 5f and 5f' are diastereoisomers with 1:1 diastereomeric ratio.

^e Diastereomeric ratio was determined by the ¹H NMR of the crude product.

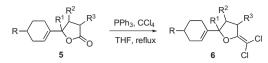
The formation of unsaturated lactones 5 by solvolysis of the allylic nitro group is a key transformation in the sequence. It was discovered serendipitously two decades ago^{7a} and opens up numerous possibilities for synthesis since it simplifies considerably the access to unsaturated lactones. Such compounds are not trivial to prepare by more traditional approaches.

Our next task was to prepare dichlorovinyl compounds 6 from lactones 5 by a Wittig type condensation. The desired dichloromethylenation was smoothly accomplished using PPh₃ and CCl₄ in THF.⁸ As shown by the results collected in Table 3, the yields were variable and ranged from moderate to good. The diastereomeric ratios of **6b**, **6e**, **6f**, and **6g** were 4:1, 1:1, 1:1, and 1:1, respectively (Table 3, entries 2, 5, 6, and 7). Compounds 6b and 6d could be obtained in 80% and 62% yields, respectively, based on recovered starting material (Table 3, entries 2 and 4).

DBU as base.

Table 3

Synthesis of dichlorovinyl enol ethers 6



Entry	Lactones 5	Products 6	Yield ^a [%]
1	5a		51
2	5b	CI CI CI CI CI	51 ^{b,e} (80) ^c
3	5c		76
4	5d	CI 6d	38 (62) ^c
5	5e	CI Ge	59 ^{d,e}
6	5f		82 ^{d,e}
7	5g	CI 6g	55 ^{d,e}

^a Isolated yield.

^b dr=4:1.
 ^c Yield based on recovered starting material.

^d dr=1:1.

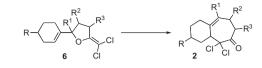
^e Diastereomeric ratio was determined by the ¹H NMR of the crude product.

We were now in a position to access the 1,1-dichloro bicyclo [5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones **2** from precursors **6** via the Claisen rearrangement.⁹ Indeed, the desired sigmatropic rearrangement proceeded reasonably cleanly upon prolonged (12–17 h) heating to reflux a solution of dichlorovinyl ethers **6** in chlorobenzene in the case of **2a** and **2b** (Table 4, entries 1 and 2), in toluene in the case of **2d** and **2g** (Table 4, entries 3, 5, and 6). The various 1,1-dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones **2** were obtained in useful yields as summarized in Table 4. The diastereomeric ratios of **2e**, **2f**, and **2g** were 1:1 (Table 4, entries 5, 6, and 7). Dichloroketones **2b**, **2d**, and **2g** could be obtained in 50%, 73%, and 72% yields, respectively, based on recovered starting material (Table 4, entries 2, 4, and 7).

Finally, for synthesis of the 3,5,6,7,8,8a-hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates **1**, the Favorskii rearrangement⁴ of the 1,1-dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones, **2**, was attempted. Dichloroketones **2** and DBU were dissolved in MeOH (Table 5, entries 1–5 and entries 7, 8) or EtOH (Table 5, entry 6) and the solutions were heated to reflux under N₂ atmosphere for 30 min. The anticipated Favorskii rearrangement took place smoothly and afforded the desired 3,5,6,7,8,8a-hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates **1** in good yield (Table 5). The hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates **1** could be methyl esters (Table 5, entries 1–5 and entries 7, 8) or ethyl esters (Table 5, entry 6). Methyl groups could be appended in

Table 4

Claisen rearrangement of intermediates 6



Entry	Compounds 6	Products 2	Yield ^a [%]
1	6a		43 ^e
2	6b		38 (50) ^{b.e}
3	6c		40 ^g
4	6d		62 (73) ^{b,f}
5	6e		58 ^{c,d,g}
6	6f		59 ^{c,d,g}
7	6g		56 ^{c,d,f} (72) ^b

^a Isolated yield.

^b Yield based on recovered starting material.

^c dr=1:1.

^d Diastereomeric ratio was determined by the ¹H NMR of the crude product.

^e The solvent is chlorobenzene.

^f The solvent is toluene.

^g The solvent is mesitylene.

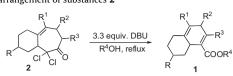
the 2-position (Table 5, entries 2 and 7), in the 3-position (Table 5, entry 3), in the 4-position (Table 5, entries 4 and 8), and in the 7-position (Table 5, entries 5–8). The diastereomeric ratios of **1e**, **1g**, **1f**, and **1h** were 1:1, 1:1, 4:7, and 2:3, respectively (Table 5, entries 5, 7, 6, and 8). It is interesting to note that no alkene migration to give conjugated dienes was observed under the reaction conditions.

3. Conclusion

In summary, we have established a flexible approach to 3,5,6,7,8,8a-hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates **1**. It highlights the utility of the unsaturated lactone formation from allylic nitro compounds and features an uncommon variant of the Favorskii rearrangement involving an α,α -dichloroketone (normally mono-haloketones are used). This furnishes in the present case 1,4-cyclohexadienes with a substitution pattern that is not readily accessible through a Birch reduction of a substituted benzene ring or by an inter-or intra-molecular Diels–Alder reaction. There is also a broad scope for introducing substituents, as these may be placed

 Table 5

 Favorskii rearrangement of substances 2



Entry	Substrates 2	Products 1	Yield ^a [%]
1	2a		58 ^f
2	2b	COOMe 1b	58 ^f
3	2c	COOMe 1c	65 ^f
4	2d	COOMe 1d	77 ^f
5	2e	COOMe 1e	68 ^{b,e,f}
6	2e	COOEt 1f	57 ^{c,e,g}
7	2f	COOMe 1g	77 ^{b,e,f}
8	2g	COOMe 1h	84 ^{d,e,f}

^a Isolated yield.

^g The solvent is EtOH.

on the starting ketone and on the acrylate partner. Finally, it is worth pointing out that the [5.4.0]undecane intermediates **2** are interesting in their own right, as they correspond to core structures found in numerous terpenes.

4. Experimental section

4.1. General

¹H NMR spectra and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker (400 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per m relative to $(CH_3)_4$ Si (0 ppm, ¹H) or CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm, ¹³C). IR spectra were recorded on PERKIN ELMER 2000 FT-IR spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on JOEL GCmatellmass spectrometer (EI).

Reactions were conducted under nitrogen atmosphere unless otherwise noted. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Silica Gel 60 F₂₅₄ plates and visualized with UV light, KMnO₄ stain or vanillin stain. THF was distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl radical prior to use.

4.2. Synthesis of nitro compounds 3

4.2.1. Nitro compound **3a**. A solution of cyclohexanone (1.0 equiv, 0.102 mol, 10 g) and ethylenediamine (0.05 equiv 5.1 mmol, 0.34 mL) in 70 mL nitromethane was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 7 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=10:1) to afford the nitro compound **3a** (12.9 g, 89% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2941, 2863, 2839, 1555, 1436, 1427, 1369, 1302 cm^{-1. 1}H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.90 (s, 1H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 2.08–2.04 (m, 4H), 1.68–1.62 (m, 2H), 1.59–1.54 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 133.0, 128.4, 82.6, 26.4, 25.2, 22.0, 21.3. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₇H₁₁NO₂–NO₂]⁺: 95.0860. Found: 95.0861.

4.2.2. Nitro compound **3b**. A solution of cyclohexanone (1.0 equiv, 0.051 mol, 5 g) and *N*,*N*-dimethyl ethane-1,2-diamine (0.25 equiv, 12.7 mmol, 1.4 mL) in 55 mL nitroethane was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere while removing the water through a Dean–Stark apparatus. After 24 h, the resulting mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=10:1) to afford the nitro compound **3b** (6.9 g, 88% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 1540 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.92 (s, 1H), 4.97 (q, *J*=6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.10–1.98 (m, 4H), 1.67–1.62 (m, 4H), 1.61 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 132.9, 129.6, 88.3, 25.1, 24.1, 22.2, 21.7, 16.8. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₈H₁₃NO₂]: 155.0946. Found: 155.0945. The ¹H NMR and the ¹³C NMR spectral data are consistent with the literature.^{5c}

4.2.3. Nitro compound **3c**. A solution of 4-methyl cyclohexanone (1.0 equiv, 0.1 mol, 11 g) and ethylene diamine (0.05 equiv 5.1 mmol, 0.34 mL) in 65 mL nitromethane was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 7 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=10:1) to afford the nitro compound **3c** (13.8 g, 89% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2955, 2927, 2913, 2878, 1555, 1456, 1427, 1371 cm^{-1. 1}H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.76 (s, 2H), 2.17–2.13 (m, 1H), 2.07–2.06 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.58 (m, 3H), 1.28–1.18 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 132.5, 128.0, 82.2, 33.6, 30.1, 27.4, 26.3, 21.1 HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₈H₁₃NO₂]: 155.0946. Found: 155.0940.

4.2.4. Nitro compound 3d. A solution of 4-methyl cyclohexanone (1.0 equiv, 0.1 mol, 11 g) and *N*,*N*-dimethyl ethane-1,2-diamine (0.25 equiv, 25 mmol, 2.8 mL) in 70 mL nitroethane was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere while removing the water through a Dean-Stark. After 7 h, the resulting mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate=10:1) to afford the nitro compound **3d** (7.2 g, 43% yield, dr=1:1) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2954, 2927, 2878, 1551, 1456, 1383, 1355, 1274 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.87-5.84 (m, 1H), 4.96 (q, J=6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.18-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.07-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.61 (m, 3H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 3H), 1.26-1.15 (m, 1H), 0.94–0.92 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 132.6, 132.5, 129.4, 128.9, 88.1, 87.9, 33.6, 33.4, 30.3, 30.2, 27.8, 27.6, 24.3, 23.9, 21.4, 21.1, 17.0, 16.7. HRMS (EI): m/z calcd for $[C_9H_{15}NO_2-NO_2]^+$: 123.1174. Found: 123.1176.

^b dr=1:1.

^c dr=4:7.

^d dr=2:3.

^e Diastereomeric ratio was determined by the ¹H NMR of the crude product.

^f The solvent is MeOH.

4.3. Synthesis of γ -nitro esters 4

4.3.1. γ -Nitro ester **4a**. A solution of **3a** (1.0 equiv, 21.3 mmol, 3 g), methyl acrylate (3.0 equiv, 63.8 mmol, 5.75 mL), and triethylamine (0.25 equiv, 5.3 mmol, 0.74 mL) in 17 mL acetonitrile was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 20 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1) to afford the ester **4a** (3.6 g, 74% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2938, 2861, 1743, 1546, 1437, 1365, 1202 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.96–5.94 (m, 1H), 4.92 (t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.52–2.43 (m, 1H), 2.36–2.32 (m, 2H), 2.25–2.16 (m, 1H), 2.12–2.09 (m, 2H), 2.02–2.01 (m, 2H), 1.68–1.54 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 131.5, 92.3, 51.8, 30.0, 25.7, 25.2, 23.9, 22.1, 21.6. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₇NO₄]: 227.1158. Found: 227.1154.

4.3.2. γ -Nitro ester **4b**. A solution of **3a** (1.0 equiv, 7.1 mmol, 1 g), methyl methacrylate (3.0 equiv, 21.3 mmol, 2.28 mL), and DBU (0.5 equiv, 3.5 mmol, 0.53 mL) in 10 mL acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1) to afford the ester **4b** (1 g, 59% yield, dr=3:2) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 1741, 1549, 1213 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.91–5.90 (m, 1H), 4.93–4.85 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 1.8H), 3.66 (s, 1.2H), 2.55–2.48 (m, 0.5H), 2.43–2.32 (m, 1H), 2.23–2.18 (m, 1H), 2.07–2.06 (m, 2H), 2.02–1.95 (m, 2.5H), 1.63–1.51 (m, 4H), 1.22–1.18 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 175.6, 175.3, 131.9, 131.6, 130.8, 91.8, 91.0, 51.8, 36.3, 36.0, 34.4, 33.8, 25.2, 24.0, 23.9, 22.1, 21.6, 17.6, 17.2. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₉NO₄]: 241.1314. Found: 241.1309.

4.3.3. γ -Nitro ester **4c**. A solution of **3a** (1.0 equiv, 7.1 mmol, 1 g), methyl crotonate (3.0 equiv, 21.3 mmol, 2.28 mL), and DBU (0.5 equiv, 3.5 mmol, 0.53 mL) in 10 mL acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1) to afford the ester **4c** (0.628 g, 37% yield, dr=3:2) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2940, 2840, 1743, 1551, 1437, 1362 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.96–5.95 (m, 1H), 4.72–4.68 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1.8H), 3.66 (s, 1.2H), 2.87–2.77 (m, 1H), 2.39–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.21–2.06 (m, 4H), 1.63–1.54 (m, 5H), 1.01 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1.8H), 0.91 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1.2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 171.7, 133.3, 132.7, 131.0, 130.9, 99.0, 98.3, 51.7, 51.6, 37.5, 36.8, 30.7, 25.4, 23.7, 22.2, 21.7, 21.6, 16.7, 15.6. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₉NO₄]: 241.1314. Found: 241.1316.

4.3.4. γ -Nitro ester **4d**. A solution of **3b** (1.0 equiv, 6.5 mmol, 1 g), methyl acrylate (3.0 equiv, 19.4 mmol, 1.74 mL), and DBU (0.25 equiv, 5.3 mmol, 0.24 mL) in 10 mL acetonitrile was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1) to afford the ester **4d** (1.4 g, 87% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 1756, 1546 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.89–5.85 (m, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.48–2.34 (m, 2H), 2.29–2.22 (m, 2H), 2.15–2.10 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.85 (m, 2H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.61–1.55 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 172.8, 134.8, 126.8, 94.0, 51.9, 31.8, 29.9, 25.7, 24.6, 22.9, 22.7, 22.0. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₉NO₄]: 241.1314. Found: 241.1317.

4.3.5. γ -Nitro ester **4e**. To a solution of **3c** (1.0 equiv, 20 mmol, 3.1 g) and methyl acrylate (22.0 equiv, 440 mmol, 32 mL) in 100 mL MeOH was added KF (2.6 equiv, 51 mmol, 3 g). The mixture was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 4 h. The solvent was removed under vacuum and 30 mL of water was added to the residue. After extraction with Et₂O (3×10 mL), the combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the

solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1) to afford the ester **4e** (3.76 g, 78% yield, dr=1:1) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2954, 2928, 1743, 1552, 1437, 1239, 1176 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.89–5.87 (m, 1H), 4.89 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.45–2.38 (m, 1H), 2.31–2.27 (m, 2H), 2.20–2.10 (m, 2H), 2.03–1.92 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.55 (m, 3H), 1.24–1.14 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1.5H), 0.90 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 172.3, 172.2, 131.1, 131.0, 130.7, 92.0, 91.9, 51.7, 33.6, 33.5, 30.2, 30.1, 29.9, 27.8, 27.5, 25.9, 25.5, 24.0, 23.6, 21.3, 21.1. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₉NO₄]: 241.1314. Found: 241.1318.

4.3.6. γ -Nitro ester **4f**. A solution of **3c** (1.0 equiv, 20 mmol, 3.1 g), methyl methacrylate (3.0 equiv, 60 mmol, 6.4 mL), and DBU (0.5 equiv, 10 mmol, 1.6 mL) in 15 mL acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1) to afford the ester **4f** (2.9 g, 57% yield, dr=3:3:2:2) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2954, 1739, 1552, 1457, 1435, 1359, 1173 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.87–5.85 (m, 1H), 4.94–4.85 (m, 1H), 3.66–3.65 (m, 3H), 2.40–2.31 (m, 1H), 2.25–1.89 (m, 5H), 1.73–1.52 (m, 3H), 1.21–1.17 (m, 4H), 0.93–0.91 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 175.5, 175.3, 131.5, 131.4, 131.3, 131.2, 131.1, 131.0, 130.6, 130.2, 91.5, 90.7, 51.7, 36.3, 35.9, 34.6, 34.2, 34.1, 33.7, 33.6, 30.3, 30.2, 27.8, 27.5, 24.1, 24.0, 23.8, 23.6, 21.3, 21.2, 21.1, 17.5, 17.1. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₃H₂₁NO₄]: 255.1471. Found: 255.1477.

4.3.7. γ -*Nitro ester* **4g**. A solution of **3d** (1.0 equiv, 6.5 mmol, 1.1 g), methyl acrylate (3.0 equiv, 19.4 mmol, 1.74 mL), and DBU (0.5 equiv, 3.3 mmol, 0.33 mL) in 15 mL THF was heated to reflux for 5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=20:1) to afford the ester **4g** (1.6 g, 96% yield, dr=1:1) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2955, 1743, 1543, 1437, 1343, 1239, 1198 cm^{-1.1}H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.80 (s, 1H), 3.64 (m, 3H), 2.46–2.30 (m, 2H), 2.22–2.16 (m, 3H), 1.94–1.81 (m, 2H), 1.70–1.64 (m, 2H), 1.60–1.59 (m, 4H), 1.21–1.11 (m, 1H), 0.91–0.89 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 172.6, 134.5, 134.3, 126.5, 126.2, 93.8, 93.7, 51.7, 33.7, 33.6, 31.6, 31.2, 30.5, 30.4, 29.3, 27.7, 27.4, 24.3, 23.9, 22.2, 22.1, 21.3, 21.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₂₁NO₄]: 255.1471. Found: 255.1473.

4.4. General procedure for synthesis of lactones 5

The appropriate ester **4** was dissolved in a mixture of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) and the resultant solution was heated to reflux overnight. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was added slowly to a saturated Na₂CO₃ solution. The resultant mixture was extracted with Et₂O and the combined organic layer was back-extracted with water. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1) to afford the lactones **5**.

4.4.1. *Lactone* **5a**. A solution of **4a** (1.0 equiv, 15.9 mmol, 3.6 g) in 107 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=3:2), affording the lactone **5a** (2.0 g, 76% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2934, 2860, 1782, 1713, 1436, 1320, 1291, 1188, 1138 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.72 (s, 1H), 4.78 (t, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.51–2.46 (m, 2H), 2.27–1.91 (m, 6H), 1.61–1.52 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 177.3, 134.5, 125.0, 83.8, 28.7, 26.3, 24.6, 23.0, 22.0. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₀H₁₄O₂]: 166.0994. Found: 166.0997.

4.4.2. Lactone **5b**. A solution of **4b** (1.0 equiv, 4.1 mmol, 0.985 g) in 30 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1), affording the lactone

5b (0.522 g, 71% yield, dr=3:2) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2934, 1780, 1437, 1201, 1158, 1118 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.80 (s, 0.6H), 5.74 (s, 0.4H), 4.83–4.80 (m, 0.4H), 4.68 (dd, *J*=7.6, 14.4 Hz, 0.6H), 2.73–2.63 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.38 (m, 0.6H), 2.33–2.26 (m, 0.4H), 2.04 (br s, 2H), 2.00–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.78–1.69 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.52 (m, 4H), 1.29–1.26 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 179.3, 134.5, 125.5, 124.1, 81.6, 80.8, 35.9, 35.6, 34.2, 33.9, 24.8, 24.7, 23.8, 23.2, 22.2, 15.7, 14.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₆O₂]: 180.1150. Found: 180.1145.

4.4.3. *Lactone* **5c**. A solution of **4c** (1.0 equiv, 1.3 mmol, 300 mg) in 9 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1), affording the lactone **5c** (143 mg, 61% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2932, 2861, 1787, 1456, 1437, 1280, 1209 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.76 (s, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.69–2.63 (m, 1H), 2.44–2.36 (m, 1H), 2.21–2.14 (m, 1H), 2.05–2.01 (m, 3H), 1.92–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.52 (m, 4H), 1.09 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 176.3, 133.4, 127.1, 91.2, 37.0, 34.0, 24.9, 23.0, 22.2, 17.1. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₆O₂]: 180.1150. Found: 180.1147.

4.4.4. *Lactone* **5d**. A solution of **4d** (1.0 equiv, 5.4 mmol, 1.3 g) in 40 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=7:3), affording the lactone **5d** (573 mg, 59% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 1779 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.74 (s, 1H), 2.55–2.51 (m, 2H), 2.31–2.23 (m, 1H), 2.03–1.98 (m, 5H), 1.60–1.56 (m, 4H), 1.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 176.8, 138.2, 120.9, 87.8, 32.5, 28.8, 25.7, 24.6, 24.1, 22.5, 21.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₆O₂]: 180.1150. Found: 180.1152.

4.4.5. *Lactone* **5***e*. A solution of **4***e* (1.0 equiv, 5 mmol, 1.2 g) in 30 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1), affording the lactone **5***e* (700 mg, 78% yield, dr=1:1) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2954, 2927, 1784, 1715, 1457, 1423, 1289, 1187, 1140 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.73–5.70 (m, 1H), 4.82 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.53–2.49 (m, 2H), 2.32–2.22 (m, 1H), 2.12–1.97 (m, 4H), 1.75–1.70 (m, 1H), 1.68–1.56 (m, 2H), 1.26–1.12 (m, 1H), 0.93 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1.5H), 0.92 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 177.2, 134.3, 125.3, 124.0, 83.7, 83.4, 33.3, 33.1, 30.3, 30.2, 28.9, 28.6, 28.2, 28.0, 26.6, 26.5, 23.3, 23.1, 21.5, 21.4. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₆O₂]: 180.1150. Found: 180.1155.

4.4.6. Lactone **5f**/**5f**. A solution of **4f** (1.0 equiv, 8.0 mmol, 2.04 g) in 60 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=10:1), affording the lactone **5f** (396 mg, 25% yield, dr=1:1, R_f =0.5) and lactone **5f**' (568 mg, 37% yield, dr=1:1, R_f =0.4).

Compound **5f**: IR (neat): 2953, 2927, 2878, 1780, 1456, 1192, 1165, 1077 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.68(s, 1H), 4.84–4.80 (m, 1H), 2.70–2.60 (m, 1H), 2.31–2.24 (m, 1H), 2.12–2.09 (m, 1H), 2.02–1.93 (m, 3H), 1.75–1.71 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.27 (d, *J*=1.6 Hz, 1.5H), 1.25 (d, *J*=1.6 Hz, 1.5H), 1.23–1.15 (m, 1H), 0.93 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 180.1, 180.0, 134.6, 134.4, 124.2, 123.2, 80.8, 80.5, 34.3, 34.2, 34.0, 33.7, 33.3, 33.2, 30.3, 28.2, 28.1, 23.9, 23.7, 21.5, 21.4, 15.7, 15.6. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₈O₂]: 194.1307. Found: 194.1301.

Compound **5f**': IR (neat): 2953, 2927, 2912, 2878, 1781, 1456, 1335, 1194, 1156 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.76–5.73 (m, 1H), 4.68 (dd, *J*=5.6 Hz, *J*=10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.70–2.62 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.36 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.09 (m, 1H), 2.02–1.99 (m, 2H), 1.77–1.59 (m, 4H), 1.25 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.22–1.19 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1.5H), 0.93 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 179.3, 134.1, 125.7, 124.2, 81.6, 81.2, 35.9, 35.8, 35.5, 33.5, 33.2, 30.4, 30.3, 28.3, 28.1, 23.2, 21.5, 21.4, 14.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₈O₂]: 194.1307. Found: 194.1302.

4.4.7. Lactone **5g**. A solution of **4g** (1.0 equiv, 4.26 mmol, 1.088 g) in 30 mL of AcOH/H₂O (v/v=3:2) was subjected to the general

procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=20:1), affording the lactone **5g** (410 mg, 50% yield, dr=1:1) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2955, 2927, 2874, 1782, 1456, 1376, 1241, 1211, 1125 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.68–5.64 (m, 1H), 2.50–2.45 (m, 2H), 2.30–2.17 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.08 (m, 1H), 2.00–1.90 (m, 3H), 1.74–1.67 (m, 1H), 1.65–1.52 (m, 2H), 1.43 (d, *J*=4.8 Hz, 3H), 1.23–1.10 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 176.7, 176.6, 138.0, 121.0, 120.5, 87.8, 87.7, 33.2, 32.8, 32.4, 30.8, 30.6, 28.9, 28.8, 28.0, 27.8, 25.9, 25.6, 24.3, 24.0, 21.4, 21.3. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₈O₂]: 194.1307. Found: 194.1310.

4.5. Synthesis of compounds 6

4.5.1. Compound **6a**. A solution of **5a** (1.0 equiv, 1.8 mmol, 300 mg) and PPh₃ (4.0 equiv, 7.2 mmol, 1.9 g) in 18 mL of THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the solution, 8.3 mL of CCl₄ (48.0 equiv, 86.7 mmol) was added dropwise. The resultant mixture was refluxed for 5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O and the combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ CH₂Cl₂=9:1), affording **6a** (213 mg, 51% yield) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 2927, 2862, 1681, 1492, 1202 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.75 (s, 1H), 4.77 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.81–2.63 (m, 2H), 2.18–1.94 (m, 6H), 1.69–1.52 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.9, 135.2, 124.8, 93.1, 88.4, 29.7, 28.9, 24.9, 23.4, 22.3. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₄Cl₂O]: 232.0422. Found: 232.0426.

4.5.2. Compound **6b**. A solution of **5b** (1.0 equiv, 0.5 mmol, 90 mg) and PPh₃ (10.0 equiv, 5 mmol, 1.35 g) in 4 mL THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture a solution of CCl₄ (5.0 equiv, 2.5 mmol, 0.24 mL) in 4 mL THF was added dropwise. After refluxed for 6 h, the resultant mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a bed of silica gel. The filtrate was collected and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=30:1), affording **6b** (63 mg, 51% yield, dr=4:1). IR (neat): 2934, 2861, 1656, 1458, 1438, 1377, 1322, 1199, 1033 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.77–5.74 (m, 1H), 4.85 (dd, *J*=5.6, 10.6 Hz, 0.2H), 4.63 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 0.8H), 3.17-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.44-2.36 (m, 0.8H), 2.17-2.10 (m, 0.2H), 2.03 (br s, 2H), 1.96-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.68 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.55 (m, 4H), 1.31 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 158.1, 157.7, 135.6, 135.0, 125.4, 123.8, 94.9, 86.7, 85.8, 37.5, 37.2, 37.1, 36.5, 24.9, 24.8, 23.9, 23.0, 22.4, 22.3, 18.6, 17.2. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0579.

4.5.3. Compound **6c**. A solution of **5c** (1.0 equiv, 0.44 mmol, 80 mg) and PPh₃ (10.0 equiv, 4.5 mmol, 1.22 g) in 4 mL THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture a solution of CCl₄ (5.0 equiv, 2.2 mmol, 0.22 mL) in 4 mL THF was added dropwise. After refluxed for 6 h, the resultant mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a bed of silica gel. The filtrate was collected and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether), affording **6c** (82 mg, 76% yield). IR (neat): 2932, 2840, 1742, 1667, 1456, 1437, 1373, 1282, 1239, 1223 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.74 (s, 1H), 4.20 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.96–2.82 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.26 (m, 2H), 2.05–2.04 (m, 3H), 1.90–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.51 (m, 4H), 1.04 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.2, 134.0, 127.1, 127.0, 123.7, 95.2, 37.9, 35.9, 25.0, 22.9, 22.3, 16.3. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0580.

4.5.4. Compound **6d**. A solution of **5d** (1.0 equiv, 1.5 mmol, 273 mg) and PPh₃ (6.0 equiv, 9.1 mmol, 2.4 g) in 15 mL of THF was heated to

reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the solution 14 mL of CCl₄ (96.0 equiv, 146 mmol) was added dropwise. The resultant mixture was refluxed for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O and the combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=4:1), affording **6d** (141 mg, 38% yield) as a yellow oil. IR (neat): 2932, 2858, 1665, 1448, 1373, 1260, 998 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.69–5.67 (m, 1H), 2.75–2.58 (m, 2H), 2.19–2.12 (m, 1H), 2.06–2.01 (m, 2H), 1.96–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.88–1.81 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.51 (m, 4H), 1.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.5, 138.6, 120.7, 92.9, 92.2, 34.7, 29.4, 25.4, 24.9, 24.6, 22.8, 22.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0573.

4.5.5. Compound **6e**. A solution of **5e** (1.0 equiv, 1.0 mmol, 180 mg) and PPh₃ (10.0 equiv, 10.0 mmol, 2.7 g) in 8 mL THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture a solution of CCl₄ (5.0 equiv, 5 mmol, 0.48 mL) in 8 mL THF was added dropwise. After refluxed for 6 h, the resultant mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a bed of silica gel. The filtrate was collected and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=30:1), affording **6e** (145 mg, 59% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2956, 2926, 1742, 1667, 1456, 1289, 1222, 1006 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.72–5.69 (m, 1H), 4.77 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.80–2.62 (m, 2H), 2.21–2.11 (m, 2H), 2.03–1.91 (m, 3H), 1.76–1.58 (m, 3H), 1.27–1.23 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, J=3.2 Hz, 1.5H), 0.94 (d, J=3.2 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.8, 134.9, 134.8, 124.8, 123.6, 93.1, 93.0, 88.3, 88.0, 33.5, 33.2, 30.5, 30.4, 29.7, 29.5, 29.1, 29.0, 28.4, 28.1, 23.5, 23.4, 21.7, 21.5. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0574.

4.5.6. Compound **6**f. A solution of **5**f (1.0 equiv, 0.5 mmol, 97 mg) and PPh₃ (10.0 equiv, 5.0 mmol, 1.35 g) in 4 mL THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture a solution of CCl₄ (5.0 equiv, 2.5 mmol, 0.24 mL) in 4 mL THF was added dropwise. After refluxed for 6 h, the resultant mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a bed of silica gel. The filtrate was collected and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=30:1), affording **6f** (107 mg, 82% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2955, 2927, 1661, 1457, 1377, 1219, 1195, 1008 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.76–5.72 (m, 1H), 4.89–4.84 (m, 1H), 3.18–3.10 (m, 1H), 2.19-1.99 (m, 4H), 1.84-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.26-1.17 (m, 4H), 0.95 (d, J=4.4 Hz, 1.5H), 0.94 (d, J=4.4 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 158.0, 134.8, 125.4, 123.9, 86.5, 86.2, 37.6, 37.1, 37.0, 33.6, 33.3, 30.6, 30.4, 28.5, 28.1, 23.2, 23.1, 21.4, 17.2, 17.1. HRMS (EI): m/z calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈Cl₂O]: 260.0735. Found: 260.0738.

4.5.7. *Compound* **6g**. A solution of **5g** (1.0 equiv, 0.5 mmol, 97 mg) and PPh₃ (10.0 equiv, 5.0 mmol, 1.35 g) in 4 mL THF was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture a solution of CCl₄ (5.0 equiv, 2.5 mmol, 0.24 mL) in 4 mL THF was added dropwise. After refluxed for 6 h, the resultant mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and filtered through a bed of silica gel. The filtrate was collected and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=30:1), affording **6g** (71 mg, 55% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2956, 2926, 2873, 1742, 1667, 1456, 1435, 1373, 1262, 1241 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.66–5.63 (m, 1H), 2.75–2.57 (m, 2H), 2.20–2.11 (m, 2H), 2.03–1.99 (m, 2H), 1.90–1.80 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.57 (m, 3H), 1.43 (s, 1.5H), 1.42 (s, 1.5H), 1.27–1.13 (m, 1H), 0.94 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.5, 153.4, 138.4, 138.2, 120.6, 120.2, 92.1, 92.0, 35.0, 34.6, 33.5, 33.4, 31.1, 30.9, 29.5, 29.4,

28.2, 28.0, 25.5, 25.3, 24.8, 24.3, 21.6, 21.4. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈Cl₂O]: 260.0735. Found: 260.0739.

4.6. Synthesis of 1,1-dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-ones 2

4.6.1. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one **2a**. A solution of **6a** (1.0 equiv, 0.862 mmol, 200 mg) in 2.5 mL of chlorobenzene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1), affording **2a** (86 mg, 43% yield). IR (neat): 2935, 2861, 1735, 1436, 1263 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.55–5.52 (m, 1H), 3.3–3.29 (m, 1H), 3.27–3.19 (m, 1H), 2.74–2.67 (m, 1H), 2.62–2.57 (m, 1H), 2.53–2.43 (m, 1H), 2.35–2.27 (m, 1H), 2.18–2.12 (m, 1H), 2.07–2.01 (m, 1H), 1.95–1.79 (m, 2H), 1.66–1.57 (m, 2H), 1.52–1.42 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 196.2, 139.4, 122.9, 94.1, 51.5, 37.1, 34.8, 26.1, 25.2, 24.2, 22.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₁H₁₄Cl₂O]: 232.0422. Found: 232.0420.

4.6.2. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one **2b**. A solution of **6b** (1.0 equiv, 0.813 mmol, 200 mg) in 2.5 mL chlorobenzene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 22 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=20:1), affording **2b** (76 mg, 38% yield). IR (neat): 2935, 2871, 1748, 1460, 1378, 1136, 1046, 1004 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.42–5.40 (m, 1H), 3.75–3.60 (m, 2H), 2.68–2.59 (m, 1H), 2.34–2.25 (m, 1H), 2.16–2.10 (m, 1H), 2.07–1.99 (m, 3H), 1.91–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.70 (m, 1H), 1.52–1.38 (m, 2H), 1.22 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 198.2, 138.0, 124.7, 94.9, 48.0, 38.3, 35.7, 31.7, 22.6, 22.5, 20.7, 17.4. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0572.

4.6.3. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one **2c**. A solution of **6c** (1.0 equiv, 0.16 mmol, 40 mg) in 1.0 mL mesitylene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 17 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=5:1), affording **2c** (16 mg, 40% yield). IR (neat): 2959, 2933, 2872, 1742, 1460, 1373, 1240, 1047 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.34 (s, 1H), 3.36–3.30 (m, 2H), 2.97–2.92 (m, 1H), 2.40 (dd, *J*=6.0 Hz, *J*=14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35–2.28 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.02 (m, 2H), 1.92–1.80 (m, 2H), 1.68–1.58 (m, 2H), 1.51–1.40 (m, 1H), 1.13 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 194.6, 138.2, 131.0, 94.1, 50.8, 44.4, 34.0, 29.9, 25.8, 24.8, 23.5, 22.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0575.

4.6.4. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one **2d**. A solution of **6d** (1.0 equiv, 0.813 mmol, 200 mg) in 2.5 mL toluene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 14 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1), affording **2d** (124 mg, 62% yield). IR (neat): 2938, 2864, 1744, 1458, 1449, 1079 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.42–3.39 (m, 1H), 3.27–3.19 (m, 1H), 2.70–2.62 (m, 1H), 2.58–2.51 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.27 (m, 1H), 2.24–2.16 (m, 1H), 2.09–1.97 (m, 2H), 1.88–1.77 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.62 (m, 1H), 1.57 (s, 3H), 1.33–1.27 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 195.7, 131.7, 94.4, 48.9, 35.1, 30.8, 25.9, 23.7, 23.2, 20.0. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0579.

4.6.5. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one **2e**. A solution of **6e** (1.0 equiv, 0.16 mmol, 40 mg) in 1.0 mL mesitylene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=5:1), affording **2e** (23 mg, 58% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2954, 2928, 2871, 2852, 1745, 1456, 1436,

1379 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.55–5.53 (m, 1H), 3.65–3.63 (m, 0.5H), 3.41–3.34 (m, 0.5H), 3.21–3.08 (m, 1H), 2.78–2.71 (m, 0.5H), 2.65–2.38 (m, 3H), 2.33–2.26 (m, 1H), 2.21–2.16 (m, 1H), 2.12–1.98 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.78 (m, 0.5H), 1.74–1.60 (m, 1H), 1.51–1.44 (m, 0.5H), 1.18–1.08 (m, 1H), 1.00–0.96 (m, 3.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 196.4, 195.6, 139.4, 138.7, 125.0, 121.9, 95.0, 93.6, 53.1, 46.1, 38.3, 35.9, 35.5, 34.7, 33.1, 32.2, 30.8, 27.7, 23.9, 23.6, 22.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆Cl₂O]: 246.0578. Found: 246.0574.

4.6.6. *1*,1-*Dichloro bicyclo*[*5.4.0*]*undec-5-en-2-one* **2f**. A solution of **6f** (1.0 equiv, 0.13 mmol, 34 mg) in 1.0 mL mesitylene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 14 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=5:1), affording **2f** (20 mg, 59% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2955, 2930, 2872, 1747, 1457, 1375, 1240, 1048 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.46–5.40 (m, 1H), 3.80–3.57 (m, 2H), 2.75–2.56 (m, 1H), 2.46–2.18 (m, 2H), 2.14–1.94 (m, 3H), 1.80–1.57 (m, 2.5H), 1.47–1.39 (m, 0.5H), 1.23–1.19 (m, 3H), 1.04 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1.5H), 0.97 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 198.5, 197.9, 137.8, 137.4, 125.7, 123.9, 95.9, 94.4, 49.1, 44.9, 38.9, 37.7, 35.9, 35.0, 33.1, 32.8, 31.7, 31.5, 31.3, 31.1, 27.9, 27.7, 22.7, 22.6, 17.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈Cl₂O]: 260.0735. Found: 260.0732.

4.6.7. 1,1-Dichloro bicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-en-2-one 2g. A solution of 6g (1.0 equiv, 0.123 mmol, 32 mg) in 1.0 mL toluene was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 14 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂=5:1), affording **2g** (18 mg, 56% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2955, 2927, 2870, 1743, 1457, 1377, 1217, 1093 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.62 (d, *I*=8.0 Hz, 0.5H), 3.50 (dd, *I*=5.6 Hz, *I*=10.8 Hz, 0.5H), 3.37-3.27 (m, 1H), 2.88-2.79 (m, 0.5H), 2.73-2.60 (m, 1.5H), 2.56-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.39-2.31 (m, 0.5H), 2.29-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.07-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.74 (m, 1H), 1.70 (s, 1.5H), 1.65 (s, 1.5H), 1.54–1.32 (m, 1.5H), 1.25 (s, 1H), 1.01 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 1.5H), 0.94 (d, *I*=6.4 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 195.8, 195.0, 132.9, 131.6, 131.3, 130.4, 95.1, 93.7, 50.6, 47.4, 35.6, 34.5, 33.1, 32.6, 32.2, 31.7, 31.5, 29.7, 28.0, 27.5, 27.0, 26.0, 22.7, 22.5, 21.1, 20.9. HRMS (EI): m/z calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈Cl₂O]: 260.0735. Found: 260.0738.

4.7. General procedure for synthesis of 3,5,6,7,8,8ahexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylates 1

A solution of the appropriate **2** (1.0 equiv) and DBU (3.3 equiv) in MeOH or EtOH was heated to reflux under nitrogen atmosphere for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1**.

4.7.1. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1a**. A solution of **2a** (1.0 equiv, 0.858 mmol, 200 mg) and DBU (3.0 equiv, 2.6 mmol, 0.38 mL) in 1.7 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=9:1), affording **1a** (96 mg, 58% yield). IR (neat): 2930, 2855, 1720, 1689, 1436, 1255 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.91–6.88 (m, 1H), 5.30 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.97–2.92 (m, 1H), 2.85–2.83 (m, 2H), 2.28–1.77 (m, 4H), 1.59–0.98 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.6, 139.9, 136.2, 131.8, 113.2, 51.4, 38.0, 35.9, 34.9, 28.9, 27.6, 26.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆O₂]: 192.1150. Found: 192.1153.

4.7.2. Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate **1b**. A solution of **2b** (1.0 equiv, 0.061 mmol, 15 mg) and DBU (3.2 equiv, 0.19 mmol, 29 mg) in 1.0 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1b** (7 mg, 58% yield). IR (neat): 2958, 2930, 2873, 1720, 1554, 1457, 1377, 1268,

1242 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.29–5.27 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.98–2.94 (m, 1H), 2.82–2.75 (m, 1H), 2.70–2.62 (m, 1H), 2.26–2.21 (m, 1H), 2.01–1.93 (m, 1H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.83–1.75 (m, 3H), 1.53–1.41 (m, 1H), 1.33–1.24 (m, 1H), 1.11–1.01 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 169.7, 138.8, 127.2, 113.8, 51.0, 39.9, 35.5, 34.7, 34.3, 28.5, 26.7, 20.7. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈O₂]: 206.1307. Found: 206.1305.

4.7.3. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1c**. A solution of **2c** (1.0 equiv, 0.045 mmol, 11 mg) and DBU (3.2 equiv, 0.143 mmol, 22 mg) in 1.0 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1c** (6 mg, 65% yield). IR (neat): 2959, 2929, 2872, 1719, 1457, 1436, 1252 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.81 (dd, *J*=1.6 Hz, *J*=3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (d, *J*=1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.94–2.86 (m, 2H), 2.30–2.24 (m, 1H), 2.22–2.21 (m, 1H), 2.04–1.95 (m, 2H), 1.86–1.71 (m, 4H), 1.12 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.7, 141.4, 138.9, 131.1, 119.9, 51.3, 38.4, 35.9, 35.8, 32.1, 29.0, 26.9, 22.0. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈O₂]: 206.1307. Found: 206.1303.

4.7.4. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1d**. A solution of **2d** (1.0 equiv, 0.81 mmol, 200 mg) and DBU (3.0 equiv, 2.4 mmol, 0.36 mL) in 1.6 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/Et₂O=4:1), affording **1d** (129 mg, 77% yield). IR (neat): 2927, 2854, 1718, 1691, 1436, 1258, 1222 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.86–6.85 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.93–2.91 (m, 1H), 2.80–2.69 (m, 2H), 2.17–1.67 (m, 4H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.59–0.96 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.6, 135.9, 132.2, 132.1, 118.1, 51.4, 39.4, 35.4, 33.9, 30.1, 28.4, 26.9, 17.7. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈O₂]: 206.1307. Found: 206.1310.

4.7.5. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1e**. A solution of **2e** (1.0 equiv, 0.08 mmol, 20 mg) and DBU (3.0 equiv, 0.27 mmol, 41 mg) in 2.0 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1e** (11 mg, 68% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2952, 2927, 2852, 1719, 1645, 1456, 1436, 1252 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.89–6.87 (m, 1H), 5.31–5.29 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1.5H), 3.73 (s, 1.5H), 3.25–3.17 (m, 0.5H), 3.03–2.96 (m, 0.5H), 2.86–2.81 (m, 2H), 2.27–2.22 (m, 1H), 2.15–1.95 (m, 3H), 1.82–1.67 (m, 1H), 1.62–1.58 (m, 1H), 1.33–1.25 (m, 1H), 1.15 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.5H), 0.87 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.5, 140.4, 139.5, 136.2, 136.0, 131.9, 131.7, 113.2, 112.8, 51.3, 42.9, 40.4, 37.3, 37.2, 35.4, 34.1, 33.1, 32.2, 30.5, 28.3, 27.7, 27.5, 22.0, 17.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₃H₁₈O₂]: 206.1307. Found: 206.1311.

4.7.6. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1f**. A solution of **2e** (1.0 equiv, 0.048 mmol, 12 mg) and DBU (3.2 equiv, 0.15 mmol, 24 mg) in 1.0 mL EtOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1f** (6 mg, 57% yield, dr=4:7). IR (neat): 2955, 2927, 2853, 1716, 1689, 1456, 1250, 1179, 1069 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.90–6.86 (m, 1H), 5.31–5.29 (m, 1H), 4.23–4.16 (m, 2H), 3.26–3.18 (m, 0.5H), 3.04–2.95 (m, 0.5H), 2.86–2.82 (m, 2H), 2.27–2.22 (m, 1H), 2.17–2.12 (m, 1H), 2.08–1.96 (m, 2H), 1.82–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.62–1.58 (m, 1H), 1.31–1.28 (m, 3H), 1.15 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.1H), 0.88 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.1, 140.4, 139.5, 135.9, 135.6, 132.0, 113.3, 112.8, 60.1, 42.9, 40.4, 37.4, 37.2, 35.4, 34.1, 33.1, 32.3, 30.6, 28.3, 27.7, 27.5, 22.1, 17.4, 14.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z* calcd for [C₁₄H₂₀O₂]: 220.1463. Found: 220.1467.

4.7.7. *Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate* **1g**. A solution of **2f** (1.0 equiv, 0.061 mmol, 16 mg) and DBU (3.2 equiv, 0.20 mmol, 30 mg) in 1.0 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1g** (10 mg, 77% yield, dr=1:1). IR (neat): 2957, 2928, 2872, 1741, 1435, 1373, 1240, 1138, 1048 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.28–5.26 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s,

1.5H), 3.74 (s, 1.5H), 3.23–3.20 (m, 0.5H), 3.01–2.97 (m, 0.5H), 2.82–2.62 (m, 2H), 2.25–2.20 (m, 1H), 2.04–1.99 (m, 1H), 1.88 (s, 1.5H), 1.87 (s, 1.5H), 1.81–1.72 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.59 (m, 1H), 1.36–1.23 (m, 2H), 1.10 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.5H), 0.87 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1.5H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 169.8, 169.5, 139.3, 139.2, 138.5, 138.3, 127.2, 113.9, 113.4, 51.1, 51.0, 42.9, 40.3, 39.2, 36.8, 35.0, 34.4, 34.3, 34.1, 33.7, 32.9, 30.1, 28.1, 22.0, 20.8, 20.7, 17.4. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₄H₂₀O₂]: 220.1463. Found: 220.1460.

4.7.8. Hexahydronaphthalene-1-carboxylate **1h**. A solution of **2g** (1.0 equiv, 0.061 mmol, 16 mg) and DBU (3.2 equiv, 0.21 mmol, 33 mg) in 1.0 mL MeOH was subjected to the general procedure (SiO₂, petroleum ether/EtOAc=30:1), affording **1h** (11 mg, 84% yield, dr=2:3). IR (neat): 2952, 2927, 1722, 1456, 1435, 1283, 1263, 1245, 1192, 1134 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.87–6.84 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1.2H), 3.73 (s, 1.8H), 3.21–3.15 (m, 0.6H), 2.98–2.94 (m, 0.4H), 2.86–2.47 (m, 3.5H), 2.12–1.99 (m, 1H), 1.94–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.77 (m, 0.5H), 1.75–1.67 (m, 1H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.30–1.21 (m, 2H), 1.15 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1.8H), 0.87 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1.2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 167.4, 136.0, 135.8, 132.5, 132.2, 132.0, 131.7, 118.1, 117.8, 51.3, 43.4, 40.8, 38.7, 36.6, 33.9, 33.8, 33.5, 33.4, 33.1, 29.6, 28.0, 24.7, 22.0, 17.8, 17.6, 17.5. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* calcd for [C₁₄H₂₀O₂]: 220.1463. Found: 220.1464.

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Supplementary data

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