Indenylidene Complexes of Ruthenium: Optimized Synthesis, Structure Elucidation, and Performance as Catalysts for Olefin Metathesis— Application to the Synthesis of the ADE-Ring System of Nakadomarin A

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Abstract: An optimized and large scale adaptable synthesis of the ruthenium phenylindenylidene complex **3** is described which employs commercially available diphenyl propargyl alcohol **5** as a stable and convenient carbene source. Previous ambiguities as to the actual structure of the complex have been ruled out by a full analysis of its NMR spectra. A series of applications to ring closing metathesis (RCM) reactions shows that complex **3** is as good as or even superior to the classical Grubbs carbene **1** in terms of yield, reaction rate, and tolerance towards polar functional groups. Complex **3** turns out to be the catalyst of choice for the synthesis of the enantiopure core segment **77** of the marine alkaloid nakadomarin A **60** com-

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metathesis	•	natur	al	products	•
ruthenium					

prising the ADE rings of this target. Together with a series of other examples, this particular application illustrates that catalyst **3** is particularly well suited for the cyclization of medium-sized rings by RCM. Other key steps en route to nakadomarin A are a highly selective intramolecular Michael addition setting the quaternary center at the juncture of the A and D rings and a Takai–Nozaki olefination of aldehyde **73** with CH_2I_2 , $Ti(OiPr)_4$ and activated zinc dust.

Introduction

The advent of well-defined catalysts for alkene metathesis has revolutionized the field within the last few years.^[1] Ruthenium carbene complexes of the general type **1** pioneered by Grubbs are most prominent of these;^[2, 3] they have found widespread applications in organic synthesis and polymer chemistry, because they combine reasonable activity and catalyst durability with an excellent tolerance towards many polar functional groups. As has been outlined recently, replacement of one PCy₃ ligand by an *N*-heterocyclic carbene moiety (e.g. **2**) improves their excellent application profile even further.^[4]

At the beginning of this groundbreaking development, the rather cumbersome preparation of **1a** as the first compound of this series constituted a certain handicap in practical terms [Scheme 1, Eq. (1)].^[2] A much better access to this family of metathesis (pre)catalysts was achieved by using diazoalkanes as carbene sources. Specifically, the phenylcarbene complex **1b** formed by reaction of [RuCl₂(PPh₃)₃] with phenyldiazomethane followed by an exchange of the PPh₃ ligands for PCy₃



[Eq. (2)] became the standard and is now commercially available.^[3] The hazards associated with the use of diazoalkenes on a large scale, however, should not be underestimated. Therefore, alternative routes to Grubbs-type carbenes have been investigated, leading to the large scale adaptable syntheses of **1c**, **d** depicted in Equations (3) and (4), respectively.^[5, 6]

Described below is a full account of our work on a further compound of this series, the indenylidene complex **3**, which is particularly easy to make and exhibits catalytic activity equal

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Scheme 1. Established methods for the synthesis of Grubbs-type ruthenium carbene complexes.

to or even better than that of 1. It can be prepared safely on a large scale using only commercial reagents which are completely stable in the air. An optimized procedure yielding multigram quantities of 3 is presented together with a detailed study of its structure and catalytic performance.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis and structure: Complex **3b** is obtained on treatment of $[RuCl_2(PPh_3)_3]$ with propargyl alcohol **5** in refluxing THF, followed by routine exchange of PPh₃ for PCy₃ (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2. Synthesis of the phenylindenylidene complexes 3a,b.

This reaction was originally performed by Hill et al. and was believed to provide the allenylidene species $6^{[7]}$ However, shortly after the discovery of the promising catalytic activity of the material thus formed,^[8] our group recognized that the analytical and spectroscopic data of this complex are not in agreement with the proposed structure $6^{[9]}$ Although a ¹³C NMR signal was observed at $\delta = 293.9$ (originally ascribed to C_{α} of the allenylidene unit), the signals for the β - and γ -

carbon atoms which had been reported at $\delta = 210.0$ and 174.1,^[7] could not be found irrespective of whether directly observed ¹³C NMR spectra or HMBC spectra were recorded on a high-field NMR spectrometer (14.1 T, ¹H resonance frequency 600.2 MHz). This holds true for an original sample of the complex kindly provided by Hill as well as for all the samples prepared in our laboratory by the optimized procedure described in the Experimental Section. Furthermore, the aromatic region in the ¹H NMR spectra was found to be far more complicated than that expected for the proposed structure **6**, for which just three signals are to be expected for the two equivalent phenyl groups.

Therefore, two-dimensional NMR techniques were used to determine the connectivities in the organic ligand of the material prepared according to Scheme 2. COSY and C,Hcorrelated spectra (HSQC and HMBC) showed unambiguously the presence of a phenylindenylidene moiety. These conclusions were also supported by NOESY data. The H-2 resonance (arbitrary numbering as shown) is a sharp singlet at $\delta = 7.39$. The signal due to C-2 is observed at $\delta = 139.1$ (¹ $J_{CH} =$ 175 Hz). In the HMBC spectrum, cross peaks are observed between C-3 and H-2, H-5 and H-11. All the chemical shifts and coupling constants $(J_{H,H} as well as J_{C,H})$ are consistent with structure 3b and all signals are accounted for (for the full set of data see the Experimental Section). Since a single resonance is observed for the phosphorous ligands in the ³¹P NMR spectrum of 3b, the PCy₃ ligands must be placed symmetrically above and below a plane defined by the organic ligand, the Ru center and the chlorine atoms.

Moreover, our NMR studies confirm that the triphenylphosphine complex **3a** formed as the primary product of the reaction of [RuCl₂(PPh₃)₃] with propargyl alcohol **5** also bears a phenylindenylidene substituent. Therefore, it must be concluded that no allenylidene complex is formed as a stable entity at any stage of the synthesis.^[10] We cannot help but ascribe the signals reported at $\delta_{\rm C} = 210.0$ and 174.1 in support of the allenylidene structure^[7] to have arisen from impurities, artifacts, or accidental noise excursions. Our data, however, leave open as to whether **3** originated from a rearrangement of a *transient* allenylidene **6** or whether it is formed directly.^[11]

After we had communicated our findings on the unexpected constitution of these complexes,^[9] Nolan et al. reported the X-ray structure of complex **4** ($\mathbf{R} = 2,6$ -di(isopropyl)phenyl) derived from **3b** by replacement of one of the PCy₃ ligands by a *N*-heterocyclic carbene.^[12] In this particular compound, the phenylindenylidene moiety occupies the apical site of a distorted square pyramidal complex.

Ring closing metathesis reactions: Irrespective of the actual structure of the complex derived from [RuCl₂(PPh₃)₃] and propargyl alcohol **5**, the excellent catalytic activity of this material was very quickly recognized.^[8, 9, 13–17] When applied to bis(allyl)tosylamide **9**, the presence of only 1 mol% of **3b** is sufficient to form the cyclized product **10** in essentially quantitative yield after 2 h reaction time at ambient temperature. The homo-bimetallic complex **7**, prepared from **3b** according to Scheme 3, is similarly effective but requires longer reaction times to reach complete conversion of **9**. In both cases, CH₂Cl₂ turned out to be the solvent of choice.

Table 1. RCM reactions catalyzed by the ruthenium indenylidene complexes **3b** and **7**. Optimization of the reaction conditions.

	1	Ts N 9	catal	yst →	10	
	Catalyst	Mol%	Solvent	<i>t</i> [h]	$T [^{\circ}C]$	Yield [%]
1	3b	10	toluene	1	80	85
2	3b	10	CH_2Cl_2	1	20	93
3	3b	1	CH_2Cl_2	2	20	98
4	7	8	toluene	1	80	90
5	7	1	CH_2Cl_2	17	20	99



Scheme 3. Synthesis of the homobimetallic phenylindenylidene complex 7.

The cyclization of diene **11** to the trisubstituted cycloalkene **12** was investigated in more detail. This example shows again that the monometallic species **3b** is superior to its bimetallic congener **7**, as evident from the kinetic data shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Kinetic of ring closure (GC) of diene 11 to cyclopentene 12 catalyzed by the phenylindenylidene complex $3b(\blacktriangle)$ and the homobime-tallic analogue $7(\bullet)$; E = COOEt.

While with the former catalyst the cyclization is essentially complete after 1 h at ambient temperature, the latter effects a steady but much slower reaction, reaching only 35% conversion after 6 h. It is noteworthy that this trend is in contrast to a report of Grubbs claiming that the analogous bimetallic complex **8** is more reactive in prototype metathesis reactions than the parent catalyst $\mathbf{1}^{[18]}$

Complexes 3b and 7 have been applied to a representative set of RCM reactions in order to study their scope and compatibility with functional groups (Table 2). For comparison, the results obtained with the Grubbs carbene 1 are also included, where available. These data show that **3b** and **1** are roughly equipotent in terms of yield, reaction rate, and tolerance towards an array of polar substituents including ethers, esters, amides, silvl ethers, acetals, ammonium salts, aryl halides, nitro groups, sulfonamides, ketones, urethanes, free hydroxy groups, furan and pyrrole rings. As expected, the phenylindenylidene catalyst 3b provides access to all ring sizes \geq 5, including several medium and macrocyclic derivatives. Particularly noteworthy among them are the high yielding cyclizations of the eight- and nine-membered rings 37, 39 and 41, the ten-membered lactones 43, 45, and 47, and the macrocyclic musk 51 which upon hydrogenation converts into exaltolide, a valuable perfume ingredient.^[19] Entries 23-26 depict the high yielding formation of even larger ring sizes.

A few other examples compiled in Table 2 deserve further comment. Thus, cyclization of diene 32 to product 33 constitutes the key step of an unprecedentedly short synthesis of balanol, a potent protein kinase C inhibitor.^[13] In this particular case, the phenylindenvlidene complex 3b gives significantly better results than the standard Grubbs carbene **1b**. The same holds true for the formation of the heterocyclic compound 53, which on hydrogenation affords the strongly immunosuppressive alkaloid nonylprodigiosin.^[9] Again, the indenylidene complex 3b is superior to complex 1a serving as the calibration point. This is ascribed to the somewhat higher stability of 3b in solution, which is beneficial in RCM reactions requiring longer reaction times. Further noteworthy applications pertain to the synthesis of 49, which upon N-deprotection converts into the insect repellent azamacrolide epilachnene.^[19b] Similarly efficient is the cyclization of the nonenolide 45, a precursor to the potent herbicidal agent herbarumin I.^[16] In this case, RCM catalyzed by **3b** delivers only the desired (E)-configurated product, whereas in all other macrocyclization reactions reported here mixtures of both geometrical isomers are obtained. The stereoselective course of this reaction is probably due to the preexisting ring in vicinity of the olefins which restricts the available conformational space of diene 44 and favorably aligns the reacting sites during the metathetic ring closure.^[20, 21]

Synthesis of the spirotricyclic core of nakadomarin A: The structurally unique alkaloid nakadomarin A **60** which was isolated from *Amphimedon sp.* (SS-264) collected off the Kerama islands, Okinawa, shows promising and diverse physiological activities, including cytotoxicity against L 1210 murine lymphoma cells.^[22] Moreover, nakadomarin A is biogenetically related to the potent antitumor agent manzamine A **61**.^[23]

The intricate hexacyclic skeleton of **60** poses considerable challenges in preparative terms. One of them relates to the stereoselective synthesis of the (Z)-configurated double bond within the macrocyclic tether; a viable synthetic route to this structural element has recently been found.^[41] Other yet unsolved problems pertain to the enantioselective formation of the quaternary center at the juncture of the ABD rings as

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Table 2. RCM reactions catalyzed by the ruthenium indenylidene complexes **3b** and **7** (1–5 mol%) and comparison with the results reported in the literature for complex **1**: E = COOEt

Table 2 (cont.) Substrate

the	literature for complex 1; I	7 (1–5 mol%) and comparison with the results reported in or complex $1; E = COOEt$.			Substrate Proc		Product	3h	Yield [
	Substrate	Product	Y	lield	[%]				50	,	
	Ts	Ţs	3b	7	1	16	Ts N	N ^{-Ts}	70	72	68 ^[42]
1	9 9		98	99	93 ^[36]		38 Ts	39 Ts			
2	E E	EE	93	91		17	40	41 N	61		
	13 E E	14 E E ×						() and			
3	15	() 14	92	89		18		0 43	56		
4	E E	E E	83	75	93[37]		<u>-</u>	\times^{0}			
	11 E_E	12 E_E				19			69		
5	16	17	92	94			44 O	4 5 O			
ć						20			86		88 ^[43]
6	18	19	11				46	47			
7	Br O 20	Br O 21	94	60	99 ^[38]	21	ON-Fmoc 48	N-Fmoc	82	81	89 ^[19b]
8	O ₂ N	^O 2N	97	71	97 ^[38]						
9	OSiEt ₃	OSIEt ₃ 25	79	81	95 ^[39]	22	50	51	89	69	79 ^[19]
10	E E 26	E E	94	94				NH			
11			79	81		23	MeO H 52	MeO-VINHCI H S3	65		42[9]
12		29 Ph-0.Si 31	97	87	91 ^[40]	24	MeO HHCI	MeO NHCI	64		
13	OBn OH	OBn OH N	87		64 ^[13]		54	55 0			
		о ^{—ОлВи} 33 0 N				25	NH	NH	82	85	83[19]
14		9 H 35	93		97		້ ວ	57 O			
15			74	76	74 ^[41]	26	58	59	87	83	71 ^[19]
	36	37					50				

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well as to the efficient cyclization of the eight-membered E ring of this target. The latter aspect deserves particular attention as the formation of the analogous ring in manzamine A **61** by RCM was very low yielding (26%) and constituted the major obstacle in a recent total synthesis of this alkaloid.^[24] Therefore we were prompted to explore in detail whether RCM should be employed as a strategic transformation en route to **60** to close the rather strained and congested E ring. Described below is an efficient synthesis of the fully functional ADE-ring system of nakadomarin A in which the quaternary center is set with the correct absolute stereo-chemistry and the E ring is formed in almost quantitative yield by using the newly developed phenylindenylidene catalyst **3b**; this route can be used to prepare multigram quantities as required for our total synthesis project.



Scheme 4. [a] Mesyl chloride, Et₃N, Et₂O, RT. [b] *p*-Methoxybenzylamine (PMB-NH₂), Et₃N, THF, reflux, 68% (over two steps). [c] (Boc)₂O, Et₃N, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, RT, 86%. [d] i) *n*BuLi, Et₂O, -78° C; ii) (Boc)₂O, -78° C \rightarrow RT, 96%. [e] i) pTsOH, Et₂O/*t*BuOH 20:1, RT. ii) aq. NaOH (2N), 73%.

(R)-(+)-Pyroglutaminic ester [(R)-(+)-**66**] was chosen as a convenient starting material which is converted into thioester 67 by reacting its lithium enolate with ClC(O)SEt (Scheme 5).^[25] Exposure of this product to amine 65 (prepared according to Scheme 4), AgOTf and (iPr)2NEt in CH₃CN provides β -ketoamide **68** as a mixture of diastereoisomers. Following a recent example reported by Brands et al.,^[26] this compound undergoes an intramolecular Michael addition on treatment with (iPr)₂NEt (2 equiv) in refluxing CH₃CN delivering an inseparable mixture of three isomeric alkenes 69. Subsequent hydrogenation of this material over palladium on charcoal in MeOH, however, converges this morass of stereoisomers into a single product 70 which is isolated by flash chromatography in 80% yield on a multigram scale.^[27] Inspection of the recorded NOE effects and comparison with literature data^[26] allow unambiguously to assign the absolute stereochemistry of the newly formed quaternary C atom (cf. Figure 2). Moreover, we have secured the enantiopurity of product 70 thus formed by carrying out the same sequence of reactions starting from (S)-(-)-**66** and comparison of both samples by HPLC on a chiral column



Scheme 5. [a] LHMDS, THF, -78 °C, then ClC(O)SEt, -78 °C, 96%. [b] Amine **65**, AgOTf, (*i*Pr)₂NEt, CH₃CN, RT, 73%. [c] (*i*Pr)₂NEt, CH₃CN, reflux. [d] H₂ (1 atm), Pd/C, MeOH, 80% (over two steps). [e] Mg(ClO₄)₂ (25 mol%), CH₃CN, 50 °C, 99%. [f] LiBH₄, THF, RT, 82%. [g] Dess – Martin periodinane, H₂O (1 equiv), CH₂Cl₂, RT, 78%. [h] CH₂I₂, Ti(O*i*Pr)₄, Zn, THF, RT, 84%. [i] NaH, DMF, 0 °C, then 6-iodo-1-hexene, RT, 88%. [j] Catalyst **3b** (5 mol%), CH₂Cl₂, reflux, 98%. [k] i) F₃CCOOH, reflux; ii) Me₃SiCHN₂, toluene/MeOH 3.5:1, 85%.

76

77

75



Figure 2. NOE effects recorded in a one-dimensional NOESY experiment relevant for the assignment of the stereochemistry of the quaternary center in compound **70**.

(Shimadzu LC-10A: Chiralpak AD $\&250 \times 4.5 \text{ mm}$ column, eluent: *n*-heptane/2-propanol 75:25, 0.5 mL min⁻¹).

After deprotection of the *N*-Boc group in **70** by means of $Mg(ClO_4)_2$,^[28] it was possible to achieve a selective reduction of the methyl ester function in **71** using LiBH₄. Oxidation of the resulting primary alcohol **72** with Dess-Martin periodinane according to the optimized procedure described by Schreiber et al.^[29] proceeded uneventfully, delivering the required aldehyde **73** without any detectable epimerization of the adjacent chiral center. The envisaged methylenation of this material, however, required significant optimization. Best

results were achieved by means of the Takai – Nozaki protocol using CH_2I_2 as the methylene source in combination with $Ti(OiPr)_4$ and activated zinc dust.^[30] Under these conditions, alkene **74** was obtained in 84% isolated yield. Subsequent N-alkylation of the sodium salt derived thereof with 6-iodo-1-hexene readily provides diene **75** and sets the stage for the envisaged cyclization of the eight-membered ring by RCM.

We were pleased to see that this key transformation proceeds with essentially quantitative yield (98%) if a dilute solution of diene **75** (0.002 M) in CH_2Cl_2 is refluxed in the presence of 5 mol% of the phenylindenylidene catalyst **3b** for 18 h. For comparison, the standard Grubbs catalyst **1b** was also tested, delivering only 82% yield of **76** under otherwise identical conditions; as discussed above, we ascribe the better performance of **3b** to the higher stability of this complex in solution. Even more surprising is the fact that the "secondgeneration" NHC-carbene complex **2**, which is generally believed to be an even more powerful catalyst than the parent species **1b**, is significantly less efficient in this particular case, affording only 63% of product **76**. Trace amounts of various by-products are detected by TLC which detract from the yield of the desired hexahydroazocine ring.

Attempted cleavage of the *N*-PMB group in **76** by means of cerium ammonium nitrate led to the rapid destruction of this compound. Fortunately, however, the deprotection is achieved by refluxing product **76** in neat trifluoroacetic acid for 18 h. Since the *tert*-butyl ester is concomitantly cleaved under these vigorous conditions, the crude product was treated with (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane, affording methyl ester **77** in excellent overall yield. Based on this high yielding, large scale adaptable and virtually diastereospecific synthesis of compound **77**, which represents a fully functional synthon for the ADE segment of nakadomarin A **60**, we are presently pursuing the completion of a total synthesis of this challenging target.

Experimental Section

General remarks: The NMR spectra of 3a,b were measured on a Bruker DMX 600 NMR spectrometer using a 5 mm TXI triple probe with a zgradient coil. Measurement techniques used include COSY (phase sensitive DQ-filtered), HSQC (optimized for ${}^{1}J_{C,H} = 160$ Hz), HMBC (optimized for ${}^{n}J_{C,H} = 10$ Hz), NOESY, ${}^{13}C$ (cpd-decoupled), and DEPT. The C,H coupling constants were taken from the proton coupled 13C NMR spectrum or a high resolution HSQC spectrum. All reactions were carried out under Ar. The solvents used were purified by distillation over the drying agents indicated and were transferred under Ar: THF, Et₂O (Mg/ anthracene), CH₂Cl₂ (P₄O₁₀), CH₃CN, Et₃N (CaH₂), MeOH (Mg), DMF (Desmodur, dibutyltin dilaurate), hexane, toluene (Na/K). Flash chromatography: Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). NMR: Spectra of organic compounds were recorded on a DPX 300 or DMX 600 spectrometer (Bruker) in the solvents indicated; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, coupling constants (J) in Hz. IR: Nicolet FT-7199 spectrometer, wavenumbers in cm⁻¹. MS (EI): Finnigan MAT 8200 (70 eV), HRMS: Finnigan MAT 95, MALDI: Bruker ICR. Melting points: Gallenkamp melting point apparatus (uncorrected). Optical rotation: Perkin Elmer 343 at $\lambda = 589$ nm (Na D-line). Elemental analyses: Kolbe, Mülheim/Ruhr. All commercially available compounds (Lancaster, Aldrich) were used as received.

Optimized synthesis of the phenylindenylidene complexes 3a, b: A twonecked flask equipped with a reflux condenser, a magnetic stirring bar, and an Ar supply was evacuated, flame dried, and flushed with Ar. The flask was charged with $[RuCl_2(PPh_3)_3]$ (10.37 g, 10.8 mmol). THF (600 mL) and diphenylpropargyl alcohol **5** (3.37 g, 16.2 mmol) were introduced and the resulting mixture was refluxed under Ar for 2.5 h. During this period, the mixture turned dark-red. For work-up, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo (12 mbar), the residue was suspended in hexane (400 mL) and the suspension stirred for about 3 h until the solid was finely ground and had a homogeneous appearance. The powdered solid was filtered off and dried in vacuo, affording complex **3a** in quantitative yield. The NMR data are compiled below.

 PCy_3 (9.39 g, 33.5 mmol) was added to a solution of complex **3a** in CH_2Cl_2 (250 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h at ambient temperature under Ar. The solvent was evaporated, the crude product suspended in hexane (400 mL). The suspension was stirred for about 3 h at ambient temperature, the finely powdered complex was filtered off and carefully washed with hexane (100 mL) in several portions. Drying of the product in vacuo afforded complex **3b** as an analytically pure, orange powder (7.90 g, 80 %).

Complex 3b: ¹H NMR (600.2 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C): $\delta = 8.67$ (dd, *J*(H-7,H-8) = 7.5 Hz, 1 H, H-8), 7.75 (d, 2 H, H-11), 7.52 (d, 1 H, H-13), 7.40 (dd, 2 H, H-12), 7.39 (s, 1 H, H-2), 7.38 (td, *J*(H-5,H-6) = *J*(H-6,H-7) = 7.3 Hz, 1 H, H-6), 7.29 (td, *J*(H-6,H-7) = *J*(H-7,H-8) = 7.5 Hz, 1 H, H-7), 7.27 (dd, *J*(H-5,H-6) = 7.3 Hz, 1 H, H-5); cyclohexyl signals: $\delta = 2.60, 1.77, 1.73, 1.66, 1.65, 1.52, 1.50, 1.47, 1.21, 1.19, 1.18; ¹³C NMR (150.9 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C): <math>\delta = 293.9$ (s, *J* = 8.1 Hz (t), *J*(P,C), C-1), 145.0 (s, C-9), 141.4 (s, C-4), 139.8 (s, C-3), 139.1 (d, ¹*J*(C,H) = 175 Hz, C-2), 136.8 (s, C-10), 129.41 (d, ¹*J*(C,H) = 163 Hz, C-8), 129.40 (2 C, d, C-12), 129.2 (d, C-7), 128.7 (d, C-6), 128.4 (d, C-13), 126.6 (2 C, d, C-11), 117.6 (d, ¹*J*(C,H) = 157 Hz, C-5); cyclohexyl signals: $\delta = 33.1$ (CH), 30.21, 30.16, 28.3, 28.1, 26.9 (all CH₂); ³¹P NMR (243.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C, rel. ext. H₃PO₄): $\delta = 32.6$.

Complex 3a: ¹H NMR (600.2 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C): δ = 7.54 (d, 1 H, H-13), 7.50 (d, 2 H, H-11), 7.34 (dd, 2 H, H-12), 7.31 (td, *J*(H-5,H-6) = *J*(H-6,H-7) = 7.5 Hz, 1 H, H-6), 7.25 (dd, *J*(H-5,H-6) = 7.5 Hz, 1 H, H-5), 7.08 (dd, *J*(H-7,H-8) = 7.3 Hz, 1 H, H-8), 6.67 (td, *J*(H-6,H-7) = *J*(H-7,H-8) = 7.4 Hz, 1 H, H-7), 6.38 (s, 1 H, H-2); phenyl group: δ = 7.54, 7.46 (*para*), 7.33; ¹³C NMR (150.9 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C): δ = 301.0 (s, *J*(PC) = 12.9 Hz (t), C-1), 145.4 (s, C-3), 141.8 (s, *J*(PC) = 2.7 Hz (t), C-9), 139.8 (s, C-4), 139.4 (d, *J*(PC) = 5.2 Hz (t), ¹*J*(C,H) = 175.4 Hz, C-2), 135.6 (s, C-10), 130.1 (d, C-6), 130.1 (d, C-7), 129.41 (d, 2 C, C-12), 129.36 (d, C-13), 129.33 (d, ¹*J*(C,H) = 165 Hz, C-8), 127.1 (d, 2 C, C-11), 118.6 (d, ¹*J*(C,H) = 160 Hz, C-5); phenyl signals: X part of ABX spin systems (A, B = ³¹P, X = ¹³C): δ = 135.2 (d, [*J*(PC) + *J*(P',C)] = 11.2 Hz, *C-ortho*), 131.2 (s, [*J*(P,C) + *J*(P',C)] = 42.8 Hz, *C-ipso*) 130.6 (d, C-*para*), 128.4 (d, [*J*(P,C) + *J*(P',C)] = 9.6 Hz, C-*meta*); ³¹P NMR (243.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 30 °C, rel. ext. H₃PO₄): δ = 28.7.

Representative procedure for RCM catalyzed by complex 3b. Synthesis of 2,5-dihydro-benzo[b]oxepine (29): A solution of allyl-(2-allylphenyl)ether (28; 167 mg, 0.96 mmol) and complex 3b (7 mg, 0.01 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) was stirred at ambient temperature until TLC showed complete conversion of the substrate (ca. 2 h). For work-up, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash chromatography affording compound 29 as a colorless syrup. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.19$ –7.01 (m, 5H), 5.86–5.83 (m, 1H), 5.49–5.43 (m, 1H), 4.58 (dt, J = 2.3, 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.50–3.46 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.7$, 136.1, 128.8, 127.8, 127.3, 125.7, 124.0, 121.4, 71.2, 31.8; IR (film): $\bar{\nu} = 2931$, 2882, 1724, 1602, 1583, 1489, 1455, 1230, 1062, 761 cm⁻¹; MS: m/z (%): 146 (100) [M]⁺, 131 (59), 127 (32), 115 (34), 103 (10), 91 (25), 89 (13), 77 (17), 72 (4), 63 (17), 51 (22), 39 (23), 27 (7). The analytical data were in agreement with those reported in the literature.^[31]

Eleven other compounds displayed in Table 2 have been prepared analogously. Their analytical and spectroscopic data were in agreement with those reported in the literature: $10,^{[32]}$ $12,^{[33]}$ $14,^{[34]}$ $17,^{[35]}$ $21,^{[38]}$ $23,^{[38]}$ $25,^{[39]}$ $31,^{[40]}$ $33,^{[13]}$ $39,^{[42]}$ $45,^{[16]}$ $47,^{[43]}$ $49,^{[19]}$ $51,^{[19]}$ $53,^{[9]}$ $55,^{[15]}$ $57,^{[19]}$ $59,^{[19]}$ The data of new compounds are compiled below.

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elemental analysis calcd (%) for $\rm C_{13}H_{20}O_4:$ C 64.98, H 8.39; found: C 64.86, H 8.31.

(*R*)-1,3-Dimethyl-cyclohexene (19): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 5.24 (s, 1 H), 2.20–2.05 (m, 1 H), 1.90–1.83 (m, 2 H), 1.80–1.66 (m, 2 H), 1.65–1.62 (m, 3 H), 1.58–1.43 (m, 1 H), 1.15–1.10 (m, 1 H), 0.94 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 133.3, 127.8, 31.2, 30.3, 30.0, 23.8, 22.0, 21.9; IR (film): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3038, 2950, 1671, 1454, 1376, 1133, 966, 867, 809 cm⁻¹; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 110 (27) [*M*]+, 95 (100), 82 (16), 67 (46), 55 (15), 41 (14).

(*S*)-5-Methyl-1-aza-9-oxa-bicyclo[5.3.0]dec-5-en-10-one (35): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 5.18 - 5.14$ (m, 1H), 4.48 - 4.41 (m, 1H), 4.36 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (dd, J = 7.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 - 3.76 (m, 1H), 3.22 - 3.15 (m, 1H), 2.23 - 2.19 (m, 2 H), 1.92 - 1.75 (m, 2 H), 1.72 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.1$, 141.9, 123.7, 68.8, 54.2, 45.1, 33.2, 26.2, 25.3; MS (EI): m/z (%): 167 (29) [M]+, 152 (100), 108 (20), 94 (12), 81 (26), 80 (11), 79 (11), 67 (13), 53 (10), 41 (20), 39 (16), 27 (11); IR (film): $\tilde{v} = 3496$, 2931, 1745, 1425, 1378, 1315, 1218, 1046, 761 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₉H₁₃NO₂): calcd 167.09463; found 167.09435.

(*S*)-1-Aza-10-oxa-bicyclo[6.3.0]undec-6-en-11-one (37): $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -84.8^{\circ}$ (c = 0.70, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 5.91 - 5.81$ (m, 1 H), 5.39 (dd, J = 10.9, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.47 - 4.37 (m, 2 H), 3.96 - 3.88 (m, 1 H), 3.93 - 3.30 (m, 2 H), 2.39 - 2.28 (m, 1 H), 2.17 - 2.05 (m, 1 H), 1.84 - 1.73 (m, 1 H), 1.67 - 1.43 (m, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 157.6$, 134.3, 127.0, 68.1, 53.7, 43.1, 27.0, 25.6, 25.4; MS (E1): m/z (%): 167 (70) $[M]^+$, 152 (77), 140 (14), 139 (17), 138 (39), 125 (20), 122 (25), 109 (16), 108 (32), 96 (14), 95 (27), 94 (51), 91 (12), 86 (11), 83 (13), 82 (31), 81 (49), 80 (85), 79 (37), 77 (14), 69 (13), 68 (36), 67 (75), 66 (13), 65 (12), 55 (22), 55 (65), 54 (55), 53 (33), 51 (10), 42 (25), 41 (100), 40 (11), 39 (60), 30 (14), 29 (16), 28 (32), 27 (35); IR (film): $\bar{\nu} = 3017$, 2930, 2859, 1747, 1652, 1420, 1247, 1222, 1183, 1053, 1029, 1005, 842, 778, 761, 739, 709, 689 cm⁻¹; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₉H₁₃NO₂: C 64.65, H 7.84, N 8.38; found: C 64.55, H 7.92, N 8.44.

1-(Toluene-4-sulfonyl)-2,3,4,7,8,9-hexahydro-1*H***-azonine (41)**: m.p. 103–104 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.74–7.70 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 2H), 5.57–5.46 (m, 2H), 2.97 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 4H), 2.47–2.41 (m, 4H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.90–1.81 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 143.1, 134.2, 130.0, 129.4, 127.5, 53.3, 28.2, 22.2, 21.4; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3005, 2966, 2922, 2857, 1661, 1595, 1490, 1462, 1330, 1156, 1095, 973, 808, 688, 549 cm⁻¹; MS: *m/z* (%): 279 (1) [*M*]⁺, 250 (1), 215 (1), 155 (3), 124 (100), 96 (18), 41(12); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₅H₂₁NO₂S: C 64.48, H 7.58; found: C 64.48, H 7.58.

Benzo[2,1-*i*]3,4,5,8-tetrahydrooxecin-2-one (43): Mixture of isomers: E:Z = 1:6.4; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 7.21 - 7.05$ (m, 2H), 6.93 -6.90 (m, 1H), 5.25 - 5.11 (m, 2H), 2.45 - 2.21 (m, 4H), 2.05 - 1.18 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): *E*-isomer (resolved signals): $\delta = 174.1$, 149.5, 131.8, 131.5, 131.1, 129.4, 126.9, 125.9, 124.0, 36.2, 34.3, 32.7, 26.6; *Z*-isomer (resolved signals): $\delta = 171.7$, 149.8, 132.3, 130.2, 130.0, 127.3, 126.9, 126.1, 123.4, 34.7, 30.2, 25.7, 25.1; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3062$, 3037, 2941, 2923, 1752, 1656, 1491, 1448, 1208, 1171, 1131, 753, 707, 545 cm⁻¹; MS: *m/z* (%): 202 (9) [*M*]⁺, 173 (19), 145 (11), 131 (11), 118 (47), 107 (11), 91 (10), 84 (100), 55 (23); elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₃H₁₄O₂: C 77.20, H 6.98; found: C 77.06, H 6.87.

Synthesis of the ADE-Ring Segment of Nakadomarin A

N-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-4-amino-1-butyne (63): Methanesulfonyl chloride (41.6 mL, 0.535 mol) was added at 0°C to a solution of 3-butyn-1-ol (62) (25.0 g, 0.357 mol) in Et₂O (500 mL) followed by dropwise addition of Et₃N (74.6 mL, 0.535 mol) over a period of 60 min. The resulting solution was stirred for 12 h at ambient temperature. The precipitate was then dissolved by addition of water and the aqueous phase was repeatedly extracted with tert-butyl methyl ether. The combined organic layers were subsequently washed with sat. aq. NH4Cl and brine and finally dried over Na2SO4. Evaporation of the solvent afforded a pale yellow syrup which was dissolved in THF (500 mL). Et₃N (101 mL, 0.725 mol) and p-methoxybenzylamine (100 mL, 0.759 mmol) were added and the resulting solution was refluxed for 14 h. A standard extractive work-up followed by flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate) afforded amine 63 (58.3 g, 68%) as a pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.25$ (d, J =8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.76 (s, 2 H), 2.80 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (dt, J = 6.6, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 2.00 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (br s, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.6$, 132.2, 129.3 (2 C), 113.8 (2 C), 82.5, 69.5, 55.2, 52.7, 47.2, 19.5; MS: m/z (%): 189 (6) $[M]^+$, 150 (20), 121 (100); IR (film): $\bar{\nu}$ = 3291, 3061, 3031, 2952, 2933, 2912, 2835, 2116, 1612, 1585, 1513, 1463, 1301, 1247, 1176, 1109, 1035, 815, 638 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₁₂H₁₅NO): calcd 189.11536; found 189.11525; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₂H₁₅NO: C 76.16, H 7.99, N 7.40; found: C 75.93, H 8.06, N 7.45.

N-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-amino-1-pent-2-ynoic

tert-butyl ester (64): Di-tert-butyldicarbonate (55.8 g, 0.256 mol) was slowly added to a solution of amine 63 (44.0 g, 0.233 mmol), DMAP (2.80 g, 23.2 mmol) and Et₃N (35.0 mL, 0.256 mol) in CH₂Cl₂ (500 mL) at 0 $^\circ C$ and the resulting mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 72 h. Standard extractive work-up followed by flash chromatography (silica gel, hexane/ ethyl acetate 15:1) provided N-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-4-amino-1-butyne (58.1 g, 86%) as a pale yellow syrup. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, rotamers): $\delta = 7.17$ (brs, 2 H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.32 (br s, 2H), 2.34 (br s, 2H), 1.96 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (brs, 9H); ¹³C NMR [75 MHz, CDCl₃, (resolved signals of rotamers)]: $\delta = 158.8$, 155.3, 130.2, 129.1 [128.5] (2C), 113.9 (2C), [82.0] 81.8, 79.9, 69.5, 55.2, [50.6] 49.8, 45.2, 28.4 (3 C), 18.2 [18.0]; MS (EI): m/z (%): 289 (4) $[M]^+$, 233 (23), 159 (19), 121 (100), 57 (36); IR (film): $\tilde{\nu} = 3294$, 3064, 3002, 2975, 2933, 2836, 2119, 1692, 1612, 1586, 1513, 1465, 1411, 1366, 1248, 1166, 1121, 1036, 882, 818, 774, 638 cm $^{-1}$; HRMS (C $_{17}H_{23}NO_3$): calcd 289.16779; found 289.16786; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₇H₂₃NO₃: C 70.56, H 8.01, N 4.84; found: C 70.41, H 8.09, N 4.88.

*n*BuLi (43.6 mL, 69.7 mmol, 1.60 μ in hexane) was slowly added at -78 °C to a solution of the compound obtained above (16.8 g, 58.1 mmol) in Et₂O (300 mL). After the mixture had been stirred for 30 min at that temperature, di-tert-butyldicarbonate (17.7 g, 81.3 mmol) was introduced, and stirring was continued for another 15 min at -78 °C before the mixture was allowed to reach ambient temperature. After 1 h, the reaction was quenched with sat. aq. NH₄Cl, the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate, and the combined organic phases were dried over Na2SO4. Evaporation of the solvent followed by flash chromatography of the residue (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate $10{:}1{\rightarrow}\,4{:}1)$ afforded the title compound 64 (21.7 g, 96%) as a colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$, rotamers): $\delta = 7.17$ (brs, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.33 (br s, 2H), 2.46 (br s, 2H), 1.49 (s, 18H); ¹³C NMR [75 Hz, $CDCl_3$, (resolved signals of rotamers)]: $\delta = 158.9, 158.8, 152.6, 130.2, 129.2$ [128.6] (2C), 113.9 (2C), 84.7, 83.2, 80.2, 75.3, 55.2, [50.8] 49.7, 44.4, 28.4 (3 C), 27.9 (3 C), 18.5; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 389 (<1) [*M*]⁺, 277 (29), 232 (41), 169 (10), 121 (100), 57 (52), 41 (10); IR (film); $\tilde{\nu} = 3063, 3002, 2978, 2934,$ 2837, 2241, 1704, 1612, 1586, 1513, 1468, 1410, 1368, 1282, 1251, 1163, 1121, 1074, 1036, 887, 845, 755 cm⁻¹; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{22}H_{31}NO_5$: C 67.84, H 8.02, N 3.69; found: C 67.92, H 8.08, N 3.66.

N-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-amino-1-pent-2-ynoic tert-butyl ester (65): A solution of compound 64 (17.8 g, 45.7 mmol) in Et₂O (100 mL) and tBuOH (5 mL) was treated with pTsOH · H₂O (17.4 g, 91.4 mmol) and the mixture was vigorously stirred (mechanical stirrer) for 16 h at ambient temperature. The precipitate formed was dissolved by addition of 2N NaOH (100 mL) and the resulting solution was repeatedly extracted with tert-butyl methyl ether. The combined organic layers were dried over Na_2SO_4 , the solvent was evaporated and the residue purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate) affording product 65 (9.70 g, 73%) as a pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.25$ (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J =8.6 Hz, 2 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 2 H), 2.84 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2 H), 2.51 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2 H), 1.60 (br s, 1 H), 1.50 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.7, 152.7, 132.0, 129.2$ (2 C), 113.8 (2 C), 84.7, 83.1, 75.4, 55.2, 52.6, 46.4, 28.0 (3 C), 19.9; MS (EI): m/z (%): 289 (< 1) $[M]^+$, 232 (20), 150 (17), 122 (11), 121 (100); IR (film): $\tilde{\nu} = 2978, 2934, 2835, 2237, 1705, 1612, 1570,$ 1513, 1461, 1369, 1279, 1249, 1161, 1129, 1074, 1035, 844, 754 cm⁻¹; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₇H₂₃NO₃: C 70.56, H 8.01, N 4.84; found: C 70.50, H 7.93, N 4.76.

(3*rac*, 5*R*)-1-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-3-(thioethoxycarbonyl)-2-pyrrolidinon-5-carboxylic methyl ester (67): Bis-(trimethylsilyl)-lithiumamide (14.3 g, 85.5 mmol) was slowly added to a solution of (*R*)-66 (10.4 g, 42.7 mmol) in THF (250 mL) at -78 °C. The resulting yellow solution was stirred for 1 h at that temperature before (chloro)thioformic ethyl ester (6.38 g, 51.2 mmol) was introduced and stirring was continued for another 60 min. The reaction was quenched by adding sat. aq. NH₄Cl at -78 °C. The mixture was extracted with *tert*-butyl methyl ether and water, the combined organic layers were washed with sat. aq. NH₄Cl and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was evaporated. Flash chromatography of the

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crude product (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate $2:1 \rightarrow 1:1$) afforded thioester **67** (13.5 g, 95%) as a colorless solid (mixture of diastereoisomers): m.p. 105-106°C; $[a]_{D}^{20} = +4.68°$ (c = 1.18, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.66$ (dd, J = 9.4, 3.0 Hz), 4.61 (dd, J = 9.4, 4.2 Hz) [1H], 3.78 (s), 3.77 (s) [3H], 2.99-2.70 (m, 3H), 2.62-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.21 (ddd, J = 9.0, 3.0 Hz), 2.16 (dd, J = 9.0, 3.0 Hz) [1H], 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.30-1.23 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR [75 MHz, CDCl₃, (resolved signals of the diastereoisomer)]: $\delta = 194.2$ [193.1], 171.4 [170.6], 167.5 [167.4], 149.0, 84.3 [84.1], [57.5] 57.0, [56.5] 55.7, [52.7] 52.6, 27.8 (3 C), 25.2 [24.4], [24.3] 24.1, [15.5] 14.2; MS: m/z (%): 231 (23), 172 (16), 170 (22), 143 (26), 142 (15), 110 (14), 57 (100), 41 (12); IR (film): $\tilde{\nu} = 3449$, 3343, 2978, 2934, 2877, 1793, 1753, 1724, 1677, 1599, 1455, 1439, 1371, 1314, 1288, 1254, 1212, 1152, 1071, 1017, 975, 844, 774 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₁₄H₂₁NO₆S+H): calcd 332.11678; found 332.11667; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₄H₂₁NO₆S: C 50.74, H 6.30, N 4.23; found: C 50.60, H 6.43, N 4.28.

(3rac, 5R)-1-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-3-{[(N-tert-butoxycarbonyl-N-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-but-3-yn-1-yl]-carbamoyl}-2-pyrrolidinon-5-carboxylic methyl ester (68): Silver trifluoromethanesulfonate (6.27 g, 24.4 mmol) was slowly added to a solution of thioester 67 (7.36 g, 22.2 mmol), amine 65 (8.03 g, 27.8 mmol) and (iPr)₂NEt (6.89 g, 53.3 mmol) in CH₃CN (150 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 14 h in the dark. The resulting suspension was filtered through a pad of Celite and the insoluble residues were thoroughly washed with ethyl acetate. Evaporation of the combined filtrates followed by flash chromatography of the residue (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate $2:1 \rightarrow 1:1$) afforded 68 as a mixture of diastereoisomers. Pale yellow foam (9.01 g, 73 %): m.p. $120 - 123 \,^{\circ}$ C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = -10.0^{\circ}$ (c = 1.15, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.20 - 7.11$ (m, 2 H), 6.91 -6.83 (m, 2H), 5.03-4.54 (m, 2H), 4.48-3.83 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s), 3.789 (s), 3.785 (s), 3.78 (s), 3.75 (s) [6H], 3.41-3.27 (m, 1H), 3.20-2.97 (m, 1H), 2.83-2.37 (m, 2 H), 2.30-2.23 (m), 2.07-1.98 (m) [1 H], 1.80 (br s, 1 H), 1.50 (s), 1.494 (s), 1.487 (s), 1.48 (s), 1.47 (s), 1.46 (s) [18H]; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 171.8$, 170.6, 169.7, 169.5, 169.2, 167.3, 167.2, 166.74, 166.70, 159.3, 159.0, 152.5, 152.0, 148.8, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 114.3, 114.2, 114.1, 84.2, 84.0, 83.52, 83.48, 83.2, 82.5, 76.7, 75.5, 62.0, 57.9, 57.8, 57.5, 57.3, 55.3, 55.2, 52.60, 52.58, 52.53, 52.48, 51.5, 50.5, 48.1,46.2, 46.0, 45.5, 45.0, 44.9, 44.1, 28.1, 27.91, 27.88, 27.8, 25.2, 25.1, 18.6, 17.4; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 558 (<1) [*M*]⁺, 232 (27), 216 (22), 215 (29), 172 (13), 121 (100), 57 (24), 41 (11); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2980$, 2240, 1790, 1751, 1706, 1651, 1613, 1514, 1457, 1370, 1285, 1252, 1153, 1075, 1033, 845, 755, 641 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₂₉H₃₈N₂O₉+H): calcd 559.26555; found 559.26617; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C29H38N2O9: C 62.35, H 6.86, N 5.01; found: C 62.19, H 6.95, N 4.88.

(3R, 5R, 10R)-10-(tert-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1,6-dioxa-2,7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane-2,3-dicarboxylic 2-tert-butyl ester-3methyl ester (70): A solution of amide 68 (9.01 g, 16.1 mmol) and (iPr)₂NEt (4.16 g, 32.2 mmol) in CH₃CN (300 mL) was refluxed for 16 h. The reaction mixture was extracted with tert-butyl methyl ether and sat. aq. NH4Cl, and the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in MeOH (250 mL), Pd on charcoal was added (4.50 g, 10% Pd) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 16 h under an atmosphere of H_2 (1 atm, introduced after three freeze-thaw cycles). For work-up, the catalyst was filtered off, the insoluble residues were carefully rinsed with ethyl acetate, the combined filtrates were evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography affording the spriocycle 70 as a colorless foam (7.22 g, 80%): m.p. 132-133 °C; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20} = +39.1^{\circ} (c = 1.30, \text{CHCl}_3)$; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta =$ 7.12 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.67 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (dd, J = 10.5, 3.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.32 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.25-3.14 (m, 2H), 2.87 (dd, J=13.8, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.46-2.37 (m, 1H), 2.33-2.21 (m, 4H), 1.72-1.68 (m, 1H), 1.49 (s, 9H), 1.41 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 171.2$, 171.0, 170.8, 167.8, 159.0, 149.1, 129.2, 128.4 (2 C), 114.0 (2 C), 83.8, 81.3, 57.2, 55.7, 55.2, 52.6, 50.1, 45.6, 39.0, 36.6, 32.0, 28.0 (3 C), 27.8 (3 C), 24.1; MS (EI): m/z (%): 560 (<1) [M]+, 460 (14), 432 (10), 404 (16), 403 (34), 387 (11), 376 (19), 359 (12), 317 (21), 163 (15), 122 (12), 121 (100), 57 (18), 41 (14); IR (film): $\tilde{\nu} = 2979$, 2934, 2254, 1789, 1727, 1643, 1612, 1513, 1457, 1438, 1393, 1369, 1308, 1248, 1154, 1035, 992, 947, 913, 844, 815, 733, 647 cm⁻¹; MALDI (C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₉+Na): calcd 583.2626; found 583.2624; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₂₉H₄₀N₂O₉: C 62.13, H 7.19, N 5.08; found: C 62.10, H 7.26, N 4.92.

(3*R*, 5*S*, 10*R*)-10-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1,6-dioxa-2,7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane-3-carboxylic methyl ester (71): $Mg(ClO_4)_2$

(751 mg, 3.37 mmol) was added to a solution of compound 70 (7.55 g, 13.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (100 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h at 50 °C. Standard extractive work-up followed by flash chromatography of the crude product (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate, $1:1 \rightarrow 1:2$) afforded title compound 71 (6.15 g, 99%) as a colorless foam: m.p. 66-67 °C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +49.6^{\circ}$ (c = 1.05, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta =$ 7.15 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 4.71 (d, J =14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.37 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.18 (dd, J = 10.0, 3.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.25-3.21 (m, 2H), 3.10 (dd, J=13.9, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.50-2.25 (m, 5H), 1.79-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 175.0, 171.6, 171.3, 168.9, 158.9, 129.1 (2 C), 128.6, 114.0 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 128.0$ 81.1, 55.2, 53.4, 53.3, 52.7, 50.0, 45.8, 38.1, 36.3, 34.9, 28.0 (3 C), 24.3; MS (EI): m/z (%): 460 (16) $[M]^+$, 432 (13), 404 (24), 403 (48), 387 (18), 376 (25), 317 (38), 163 (26), 162 (17), 136 (10), 122 (14), 121 (100), 57 (12); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3396, 2975, 2953, 2934, 1712, 1639, 1513, 1439, 1368, 1248, 1153, 1033,$ 957, 845, 816 cm $^{-1};$ HRMS (C $_{24}H_{32}N_2O_7$): calcd 460.22095; found 460.22077; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C24H32N2O7: C 62.59, H 7.00, N 6.08; found: C 62.65, H 6.88, N 6.03.

(3R, 5S, 10R)-10-(tert-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-3-(2-hydroxymethyl)-7-(4methoxy-benzyl)-1,6-dioxa-2,7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane (72): LiBH₄ (48.0 mg, 2.19 mmol) was added to a solution of methyl ester 71 (504 mg, 1.09 mmol) in THF (50 mL) at -20 °C, the cooling bath was removed after 5 min, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at ambient temperature. The reaction was quenched by addition of aq. sat. NH4Cl (20 mL), the aqueous phase was repeatedly extracted with ethyl acetate, the combined organic layers were dried over Na2SO4 and evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate) affording alcohol **72** as a colorless foam (388 mg, 82%); m.p. 65-68 °C; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20} =$ $+36.4^{\circ}$ (c = 0.470, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.18$ (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.68 (s, 1 H), 4.72 (s, 1 H), 4.63 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.50 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.78 - 3.76 (m, 2 H), 3.32 - 3.22 (m, 2H), 2.68 (dd, J = 14.2, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.49 - 2.12 (m, 5H), 1.77 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 175.3$, 171.3, 170.9, 159.0, 129.1 (2 C), 128.2, 114.1 (2 C), 81.1, 65.8, 55.3, 54.4, 53.1, 50.6, 46.3, 39.5, 36.6, 34.6, 28.1 (3 C), 24.1; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 432 (9) [*M*]⁺, 404 (11), 376 (17), 375 (34), 359 (17), 348 (21), 289 (29), 163 (25), 162 (13), 136 (10), 122 (13), 121 (100), 57 (11); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3398, 2974, 2932, 1725,$ 1698, 1617, 1514, 1456, 1439, 1368, 1248, 1154, 1033, 970, 945, 845, 814, 760 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₂₃H₃₂N₂O₆): calcd 432.22604; found 432.22628; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{23}H_{32}N_2O_6$: C 63.87, H 7.46, N 6.41; found: C 63.94. H 7.45. N 6.48.

(3R, 5S, 10R)-10-(tert-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1,6dioxa-2.7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane-3-carboxaldehvde (73): Dess – Martin periodinane (868 mg, 2.05 mmol) was added to a solution of alcohol 72 (590 mg, 1.36 mmol) in CH2Cl2 (10 mL). A solution of H2O (28.0 µL, 1.56 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (28 mL) was then added dropwise over a period of 30 min during which the mixture became turbid and a colorless precipitate started to form. After stirring for another 30 min at ambient temperature. Na₂S₂O₃ (10% in H₂O)/sat. aq. NH₄Cl (30 mL, 1:1) and tert-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) were added, the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate in several portions, the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was rapidly passed through a short column of silica gel using ethyl acetate as the eluent. This afforded aldehyde 73 (459 mg, 78%) as a colorless foam: m.p. 62-64°C; $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +37.7^{\circ}$ (c = 1.60, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 9.73$ (s, 1 H), 7.19-7.09 (m, 3 H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 4.62 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.40 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.90 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.25 - 3.22 (m, 2H), 2.86 (dd, J = 13.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.52–2.18 (m, 5H), 1.79–1.61 (m, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 9 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 200.2, 176.1, 171.3, 169.5,$ 159.0, 129.1 (2C), 128.3, 114.0 (2C), 81.0, 58.8, 55.2, 52.7, 50.0, 46.0, 37.6, 36.5, 33.8, 28.0 (3 C), 24.4; MS (EI): m/z (%): 432 (9) [M]+, 404 (11), 376 (17), 375 (34), 359 (17), 348 (21), 289 (29), 163 (25), 162 (13), 136 (10), 122 (13), 121 (100), 57 (11); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3398$, 2974, 2932, 1725, 1698, 1617, 1514, 1456, 1439, 1368, 1248, 1154, 1033, 970, 945, 845, 814, 760 $\rm cm^{-1};$ HRMS ($C_{23}H_{30}N_2O_6$): calcd 432.22604; found 432.22628; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{23}H_{30}N_2O_6 {:}\ C$ 63.87, H 7.46, N 6.41; found: C 63.94, H 7.45, N 6.48

(3*R*, 5*S*, 10*R*)-10-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-7-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3vinyl-1,6-dioxa-2,7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane (74): CH_2I_2 (2.20 mL, 27.3 mmol) was added to a suspension of zinc dust (3.20 g, 49.3 mmol; previously activated by washing with 2 N HCl and diethyl ether, followed by drying in high vacuum) in THF (100 mL). After the quite exothermic reaction had ceased after 30 min, Ti(OiPr)₄ (16.4 mL, 16.4 mmol, 1.00м in THF) was introduced and stirring was continued at ambient temperature for another 30 min. Aldehyde 73 (1.18 g, 2.73 mmol) was then added and the mixture was stirred for 14 h. The reaction was quenched with sat. aq. NH₄Cl (50 mL), the aqueous layer was extracted with tert-butyl methyl ether and ethyl acetate, the combined organic layers were washed with aq. $Na_2S_2O_3$ (10% w/w) and brine, and were dried over Na_2SO_4 . Evaporation of the solvent followed by flash chromatography of the residue (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate $2:1 \rightarrow 1:2$) provided 74 (985 mg, 84%) as a colorless foam: m.p. 78-81°C; $[a]_{D}^{20} = +42.6^{\circ}$ (c = 1.11, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR $(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{ CDCl}_3): \delta = 7.19 \text{ (d}, J = 8.7 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}), 6.84 \text{ (d}, J = 8.7 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}),$ 6.07 (ddd, J = 18.0, 10.0, 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.90 (s, 1 H), 5.17 - 5.12 (m, 2 H), 4.71 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.43 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.08 (ddd, J = 8.4, 8.4, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.29-3.25 (m, 2 H), 2.86 (dd, J=13.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.46–2.21 (m, 5H), 1.80–1.71 (m, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H); $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 175.1, 171.3, 169.4, 158.9, 139.5, 129.1 (2 C), 128.7, 116.6, 114.0 (2 C), 81.0, 55.22, 55.19, 54.9, 50.4, 46.0, 39.2, 38.9, 36.8, 28.0 (3 C), 24.2; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 428 (8) [*M*]⁺, 400 (13), 372 (13), 371 (48), 355 (21), 344 (30), 285 (39), 163 (28), 162 (13), 136 (11), 122 (13), 121 (100), 57 (12); IR (KBr): $\tilde{v} = 3265$, 3080, 2978, 2935, 2837, 1727, 1697, 1638, 1513, 1491, 1456, 1434, 1368, 1292, 1248, 1152, 1033, 996, 969, 925, 844, 814, 759, 662, 614, 515 cm $^{-1};$ HRMS ($C_{24}H_{32}N_2O_5):$ calcd 428.23118; found 428.23093; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C24H32N2O5: C 67.27, H 7.53, N 6.54; found: C 67.34, H 7.51, N 6.44.

(3R, 5S, 10R)-10-(tert-Butoxycarbonylmethyl)-2-(5-hexenyl)-7-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-3-vinyl-1,6-dioxa-2,7-diaza-spiro[4.5]decane (75): (130 mg, 5.42 mmol) was added in portions to a stirred solution of compound 74 (2.11 g, 4.92 mmol) in DMF (150 mL) at $0^{\circ}C$ and the mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 60 min until the evolution of H₂ had ceased. 6-Iodo-1-hexene (1.55 g, 7.38 mmol) was then introduced at 0°C and stirring was continued at ambient temperature for another 60 min. For work-up, sat. aq. $\rm NH_4Cl~(50~mL)$ and tert-butyl methyl ether (200 mL) were added, the aqueous layer was repeatedly extracted with ethyl acetate, the combined organic phases were washed with aq. HCl (1N) and brine, dried over Na2SO4 and evaporated. Flash chromatography of the crude product (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate 2:1) afforded diene 75 as a colorless foam (2.21 g, 88%): m.p. 84-87°C; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20} = +33.2^{\circ}$ (c = 1.09, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.19 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.05 (dt, J = 17.0, 9.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.86 - 5.73 (m, 1 H), 5.29 -5.21 (m, 2H), 5.05-4.93 (m, 2H), 4.74 (d, J=14.7 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (d, J= 14.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.01 (dt, J = 9.1, 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.56 (ddd, J = 13.6, 8.7, 6.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.29-3.25 (m, 2 H), 2.93 (ddd, J=13.6, 8.3, 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.70 (dd, J=13.9, 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.56-2.48 (m, 1 H), 2.32-2.04 (m, 6 H), 1.73–1.33 (m, 5H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 172.0$, 171.4, 169.9, 158.9, 139.2, 138.4, 128.9 (2 C), 128.7, 118.2, 114.7, 114.1 (2 C), 81.0, 60.1, 55.2, 55.1, 50.3, 46.2, 40.7, 39.8, 36.8, 36.4, 33.2, 28.0 (3 C), 26.3, 26.2, 24.3; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 510 (10) [*M*]⁺, 482 (16), 454 (22), 453 (43), 426 (32), 367 (36), 163 (31), 162 (15), 122 (11), 121 (100); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3076$, 2981, 2926, 1732, 1671, 1635, 1513, 1489, 1426, 1366, 1261, 1251, 1178, 1153, 1101, 1035, 996, 924, 848, 812, 758 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₃₀H₄₂N₂O₅): calcd 510.30937; found 510.30975; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{30}H_{42}N_2O_5$: C 70.56, H 8.29, N 5.49; found: C 70.39, H 8.22, N 5.38.

(8'R, 3S, 4R)-1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-4-(tert-butoxycarbonylmethyl)-spiro[(2-piperidone)-3,12'-(1'-aza-bicyclo[6.3.0]undec-6'-en-11'-one)] (76): A solution of diene 75 (446 mg, 0.873 mmol) and complex 3b (40.3 mg, 43.7 µmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (450 mL) was refluxed for 18 h. The reaction mixture was passed through a short pad of silica, the filtrate was evaporated and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, hexane/ ethyl acetate $2:1 \rightarrow 1:1$) affording compound 76 as a colorless foam (413 mg, 98 %): m.p. $84-86 \degree \text{C}$; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +28.9 \degree (c = 0.875, \text{CHCl}_3)$; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.20$ (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 5.93 (dt, J = 10.5, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.59 (dd, J = 10.6, 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.67 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.49 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.34 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.77-3.66 (m, 1H), 3.27-3.12 (m, 2H), 3.14 (dd, J=13.8, 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.82 (dd, J = 13.4, 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.44 – 2.00 (m, 8 H), 1.73 – 1.63 (m, 2 H), 1.54–1.40 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 171.5, 171.4, 169.9, 158.8, 134.1, 129.8, 129.1 (2C), 128.8, 114.0 (2C), 80.9, 56.1, 55.2, 53.6, 50.4, 45.3, 41.2, 39.5, 37.4, 36.8, 28.0 (3 C), 27.8, 27.0, 26.1, 24.5; MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%): 482 (11) [*M*]⁺, 454 (13), 426 (25), 425 (35), 409 (18), 398 (25), 339 (35), 163 (29), 162 (13), 122 (11), 121 (100); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3062, 2963,$

2931, 2868, 1727, 1677, 1638, 1513, 1491, 1456, 1438, 1420, 1366, 1354, 1248, 1153, 1109, 1095, 1032, 962, 925, 845, 811, 760, 710, 663, 610, 549 cm⁻¹; HRMS ($C_{28}H_{38}N_2O_5$): calcd 482.27807; found 482.27816; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{28}H_{38}N_2O_5$: C 69.68, H 7.94, N 5.80; found: C 69.76, H 8.03, N 5.69.

(8'R, 3S, 4R)-4-(Methoxycarbonylmethyl)-spiro[(2-piperidone)-3,12'-(1'aza-bicyclo-[6.3.0]undec-6'-en-11'-one)] (77): Compound 76 (2.07 g, 4.29 mmol) was dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (50 mL) and the solution was refluxed for 18 h. The acid was then removed in vacuo and the residue was dried at $< 10^{-3}$ Torr. To a solution of the crude product thus formed in toluene/MeOH (3.5:1, 100 mL) was slowly added a solution of (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane (2.00 m in hexane) until a pale yellow color persisted and no further evolution of gas could be detected. Stirring was continued for 30 min before so much HOAc was added dropwise that the yellow color completely disappeared. Evaporation of the solvent followed by purification of the crude product by flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/ methanol 20:1) delivered title compound 77 as a pale yellow foam (1.17 g, 85%). M.p. 103-106 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +19.4^{\circ}$ (c = 0.825, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR $(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3): \delta = 6.68 \text{ (br s, 1 H)}, 5.90 \text{ (dt, } J = 10.2, 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H)}, 5.49$ (dd, J = 10.2, 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.29 (quart, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.70 - 3.57 (m, 1 H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.40-3.31 (m, 2H), 3.01 (dd, J=13.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.49 - 2.08 (m, 7 H), 2.02 - 1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.76 - 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.45–1.30 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 172.5, 171.6, $170.9,\,134.3,\,129.4,\,55.5,\,53.3,\,51.7,\,41.0,\,40.7,\,38.6,\,36.8,\,35.1,\,27.7,\,26.9,\,26.2,$ 24.4; MS (EI): m/z (%): 321 (20), 320 (100) [M]+, 289 (24), 260 (15), 253 (12), 250 (11), 247 (29), 220 (20), 219 (24), 192 (13), 191 (24), 190 (25), 189 (23), 163 (12), 124 (15), 123 (14), 108 (10), 81 (11), 80 (16), 67 (12), 53 (11), 41 (18), 30 (10); IR (KBr); $\tilde{\nu} = 3442, 3090, 3020, 2931, 2867, 1736, 1666, 1491,$ 1438, 1345, 1285, 1254, 1171, 1086, 999, 948, 922, 862, 841, 783, 668, 570, 539 cm⁻¹; HRMS (C₁₇H₂₄N₂O₄): calcd 320.17361; found 320.17353; elemental analysis calcd (%) for $C_{17}H_{24}N_2O_4$: C 63.73, H 7.55, N 8.74; found: C 63.65, H 7.59, N 8.79.

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