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## A Synthetic Pathway to Either Enantiomer of Merrilactone A

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All reactions were carried out under an argon General. Tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether, atmosphere. dichloromethane were purified by passing through solvent columns.\* Other solvents were obtained commercially and were used as received. All other reagents were reagent grade and purified where necessary. Reactions monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using EM Science 60F silica gel plates (0.25 mm). Compounds were visualized by dipping the plates in as cerium sulfateammonium molybdate solution, followed by heating. column chromatography was performed over Scientific Adsorbents Inc. silica gel (32-63 mm). <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker-Spectrospin spectrometers. The chemical shifts are reported as d values (ppm) relative to TMS. Coupling constants (J) are reported in hertz. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Paragon 1000 FT-IR Spectrophotometer (NaCl plates, film). Resolution mass spectra were performed on a JEOL LC/MS system using chemical ionization. High-resolution mass

spectra were recorded on a JEOL-DX-303 HF mass spectrometer.

\*Pangborn, A.B.; Giardello, M.A.; Grubbs, R.H.; Rosen, R.K.; Timmers, F.J. Organometallics 1996, 15, 1518

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{MeO} \quad \text{OMe} \quad \text{MeI} \quad \text{MeO} \quad \text{OMe} \quad \text{CI} \quad \text{CI} \quad \text{CI} \quad \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \\ \text{CI} \quad \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \quad \text{OO}_2\text{Me} \end{array}$$

To a magnetically stirred solution of diisopropylamine (3.022 ml, 21.56 mmol) in anhydrous THF (80mL) cooled to - $78^{\circ}$ C was added dropwise *n*-BuLi (13.5 ml, 21.56 mmol) by syringe. After complete addition, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0°C and stirred for 15min. The reaction mixture was cooled to  $-78^{\circ}$ C, to it was added dropwise a solution of the diester 11 (7.0 g, 16.59 mmol) in THF (40 mL), and stirring was continued at -78°C for 1 hr and at -30°C for another 1 hr. The mixture was again cooled to  $-78^{\circ}$ C, and HMPA (4.996 mL, 28.72 mmol) was added followed by MeI (1.497 mL, 24.05 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at  $-78^{\circ}$ C for 1 hr and then slowly warmed up to rt and finally left at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture, after quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>,

filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Chromatography (0 to 10% EtOAc in Hexane) afforded **12** (6.83 g, 95%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  1.68 (s, 6H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 18.8, 52.0, 52.5, 52.8, 61.1, 79.8, 113.2, 131.2, 171.5; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1750.3, 1727.2, 1254.0; HRMS Found: 434.9925 (M+H), Calc. for  $C_{15}H_{19}Cl_4O_6$  434.9857;

$$CO_2Me$$
 mcPBA  $CH_2CI_2$   $CH_2OH$   $CH$ 

To a solution of diol 14 (980.3 mg, 3.85 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (25 mL) was added at 0°C mCPBA (1722 mg, 7.71 mmol) in one portion. The reaction was slowly warmed up to room temperature and stirred overnight. The mixture was concentrated to reduce the volume to approximately 10 mL and then applied to  $SiO_2$  column. Flash chromatography (50 to 100% EtOAc in hexanes) gave cyclic ether rac-16 (938.8 mg, 90%). H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  1.18 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.95 (s, 1H), 2.33 (d, J = 5.1, 1H), 2.75 - 2.89 (m, 3H), 3.44 (d, J = 9.0, 1H), 3.63 (d, J = 9.2, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.80 (d, J = 9.0, 1H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 4.08 (d, J = 5.3,

1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 18.8, 21.9, 34.4, 39.3, 44.5, 48.8, 51.8, 54.3, 55.4, 66.2, 76.7, 77.3, 88.4, 173.2; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3406.3, 2951.9, 2877.7, 1733.8, 1034.8; HRMS Found: 271.1538 (M+H), Calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 271.1467;

A solution of cyclic ether 16 (917.3 mg, 3.39 mmol) in DMF (18mL) was treated with PDC (10.2 g, 27.15 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 1 day. The reaction was worked up by poured into water (100 mL) and thoroughly extracted The ether extraction was washed with brine, with ether. dried with MgSO4, and concentrated in vacuo. keto-acid 24 was dissolved in dry acetone (25 mL). iodide (2.1mL, 33.9 mmol) and anhydrous potassium carbonate (4.7 g, 33.9 mmol) were added. After 10 hrs at reflux, the mixture was cooled, diluted with CH2Cl2, filtered and evaporated. The residue was dissolved in CH2Cl2 and purified by flash chromatography (20 to 50% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford keto-ester 17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.82 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 1.92 (t, J = 8.0, 1H), 2.05 (d, J = 5.6, 1H), 2.24 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 2.50 (s, 1H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3.30

3H), 3.32 (d, J = 8.9, 1H), 3.89 (d, J = 5.6, 1H), 4.20 (d, J = 8.9, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR ( $C_6D_6$ , 100 MHz): 17.7, 23.7, 34.2, 38.3, 51.6, 51.7, 51.8, 53.0, 54.9, 59.6, 79.6, 84.1, 171.1, 174.9, 203.2; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1772.0, 1734.0; LRMS Found: 297.04 (M+H), Calc.  $C_{15}H_{21}O_6$  297.12.

To a solution of keto-ester 17 (696.3 mg, 2.34 mmol) in MeOH (30 mL) was added MMPP (magnesium monoperoxyphthalate hexahydrate, tech 80%, 4.4 g, 7.02 mmol) in one portion at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature for 10hrs, the white suspension was diluted with water, acidified with 1 M HCl to pH 2-3, and extracted 3 times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The organic extract was washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , and rotary evaporated. Column chromatography (30 to 70% EtOAc in hexanes) gave carboxylic acid 18 (706.1 mg, 88%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  1.15 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.98 (dd, J = 5.6, J = 1.5, 1H), 2.44 (dd, J = 15.8, J = 9.7, 1H), 2.69 (d, J = 10.3, 1H), 2.98 (dd, J = 15.8, J = 4.1, 1H), 3.17 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.48 (d, J = 9.4, 1H),

3.67 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 4.04 (d, J = 9.4, 1H), 4.73 (d, J = 1.5, 1H); HRMS Found: 343.1383 (M-H), Calc. for  $C_{16}H_{23}O_{8}$  343.1471;

To a solution of carboxylic acid 17 (309.2 mg, 0.90 mmol) and mcPBA (401 mg, 1.80 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added DCC (369.9 mg, 1.80 mmoL) at 0°C with stirring. After 2hr, the precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate concentrated and subjected to flash chromatography (10 to 30% EtOAc in Hexanes) to give mixed peroxide 25 (369.2 mg, The mixed peroxide 25 (238.1 mg, 0.48 mmol) in benzene (15 mL) was refluxing for 10hrs with stirring. solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was redissolved in dry MeOH (10 mL) and treated with anhydrous K2CO3 (263 mg, 1.91 mmoL). After stirring for 5hrs at room temperature, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the solution diluted with filtered was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> flash chromatography (0 to purified by 30% EtOAc Hexanes) to afford 19 (105.5 mg, 70%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400

MHz):  $\delta$  1.14 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.85 (d, J = 6.8, 1H), 2.39 (dd, J = 15.6, J = 9.4, 1H), 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 15.6, J = 5.2, 1H), 3.06 (d, 11.1, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.48 (d, J = 9.4, 1H), 3.54 (dd, J = 11.1, J = 9.4, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.12 (d, J = 9.4, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz): 19.1, 21.5, 38.9, 45.1, 51.6, 52.0, 54.0, 54.8, 56.2, 61.4, 73.7, 84.6, 111.9, 172.9, 176.1; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3525.8, 2952.3, 1732.6, 1436.6; HRMS Found: 317.1597 (M+H), Calc. for  $C_{15}H_{25}O_{7}$  317.1522;

Boron trifluoride etherate (169 mL, 1.33 mmoL) was added dropwise to a solution of ketal 19 (105.5 mg, 0.33 mmol) and 1, 3-propanedithol (201 mL, 2.00 mmoL) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) at 0°C. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12hrs, then poured into saturated  $NaHCO_3$  and extracted 3 times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The  $CH_2Cl_2$  extract was dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to afford dithiane-lactone 20 (61.4 mg, 51%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  1.20 (s, 3H),

1.25 (s, 3H), 1.80 - 2.28 (m, 4H), 2.53 (dd, J = 16.2, J = 7.5, 1H), 2.82 - 2.95 (m, 5H), 3.43 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 3.66 (dd, J = 17.3, J = 8.7, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.89 (d, J = 10.0, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 4.4, 1H), 5.03 (d, J = 10.0, 1H); HRMS Found: 361.1160 (M+H), Calc. For  $C_{16}H_{25}O_{5}S_{2}$  361.1065;

Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodobenzene (120 mg, 0.27 mmoL) was added at 0°C to a stirred solution of dithiane-lactone 20 (61.0 mg, 0.17 mmoL), water (1 mL) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (9 mL). After it was stirred at room temperature for 10 min, the reaction was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution, and extracted 3 times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Drying (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and removal of solvents gave a residue which was purified by flash chromatography (30 to 60% EtOAc in Hexanes) to give aldehyde 26 (23.0 mg, 50%). To a solution aldehyde 26 (23.0 mg, 0.085 mmoL) in MeOH (2 mL) was added at 0°C NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.17 mmoL). After the mixture was stirred at 0°C for 1h, HOAc (0.2 mL) was added. The mixture was then

concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (40 to 70% EtOAc in Hexanes) to yield diol 21 (23.4mg, 100%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 1.11 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.44 (m, 1H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 2.34 (dd, J = 16.9, J = 8.0, 1H), 2.47 (dd, J = 7.3, J = 4.7, 1H), 2.81 (dd, J = 16.9, J = 4.1, 1H)), 3.44 - 3.80 (m, 4H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.82 (d, J = 9.8, 1H)), 4.80 (d, J = 9.8, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz): 15.6, 22.2, 29.7, 35.8, 42.5, 47.5, 52.1, 52.8, 59.9, 73.8, 77.2, 81.7, 174.3, 181.9; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3467.9, 2920.0, 1736.4; HRMS Found: 273.1337 (M+H), Calc. For C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 273.1260;

n-Tributylphosphine (46 mL, 0.18 mmoL) was added dropwise to a solution of diol 21 (10.1 mg, 0.037 mmoL) and onitrophenylselenocyanate (42 mg, 0.18 mmoL) in THF (2 mL). The whole solution quickly turned to red color. After stirring at room temperature for 2hrs, the solution was concentrated and chromatographed (10 to 50% EtOAc in

Hexanes) to give crude o-nitrophenyl selenide. Hydrogen peroxide (30%, 1mL) was added to a solution of selenide in (2 mL) at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature overnight, the reaction mixture was poured into saturated  $Na_2S_2O_3$  and extracted 3 times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The organic layers combined and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ filtered were concentrated in vacuo. Residue was purified by column chromatography (0 to 30% EtOAc in Hexane) to give alcohol 27 (8.0 mg, 86%). To a solution of alcohol 27 (5.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) was added  $Et_3N$  (8.2 mL, 0.060 mmol) then TBSOTf (9.0 mL, 0.040 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12hrs. The reaction mixture, after quenched with 0.1N HCl, was extracted 3 times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Chromatography (0 to 10% EtOAc in Hexane) afforded 22 (5.6 mg, 76%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  0.07 (s, 3H), 0.11 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 9H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 2.48 (dd, J = 15.8, J =7.3, 1H), 2.59 (dd, J = 15.8, J = 6.7, 1H), 3.05 (m, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.89 (d, J = 8.6, 1H), 3.90 (d, J = 3.6, 1H),4.19 (d, J = 8.6, 1H), 4.99 (d, J = 2.2, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 2.1)2.2, 1H); LRMS Found: 369.0 (M+1), Calc. 368.20.

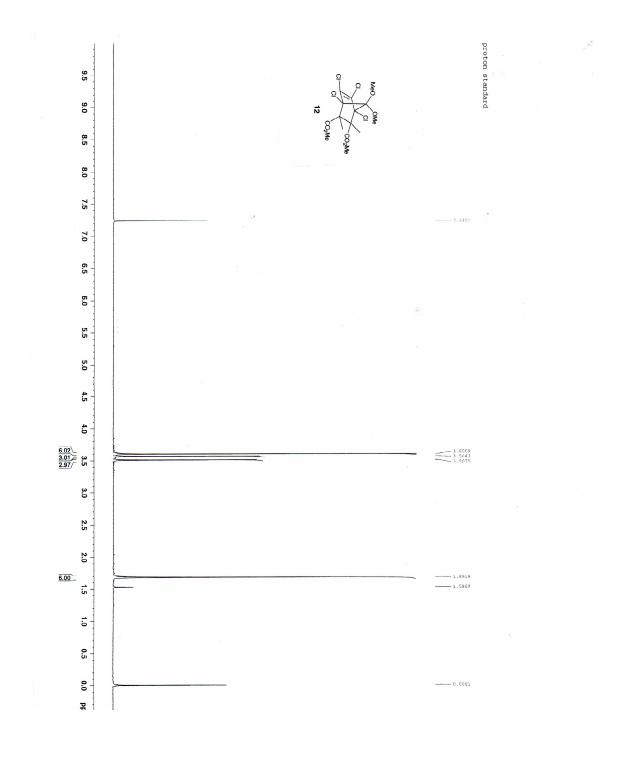
The ester 22 (4.0 mg, 0.011 mmol) was stirred with a solution of LiOH (1.4 mg, 0.033 mmol) in a mixture of MeOH (1.5 mL) and water (0.5 mL) at room temperature for 12 hrs, diluted with water, acidified with 1 M HCl to pH 2-3, and extracted 3 times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic extract was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and rotary evaporated. To a solution of crude carboxylic acid 28 in THF (0.5 mL), was added 1 mL of saturated aqueous NaHCO3. The mixture was cooled in an ice bath, treated with a solution of I2 (8.2 mg, 0.033 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), protected from light, and stirred at room teperature for 12 hrs. Excess I, was quenched by addition of saturated Na2S2O3, the mixture was diluted with water and extracted 3 times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. organic extract was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and rotary evaporated. Column chromatography (10 to 30% EtOAc in hexanes) gave iodolactone 6 (4.0 mg, 75%). 1H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.074 (s, 3H), 0.077 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 9H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 2.45 (dd, J = 19.1, J =2.3, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 11.5, J = 2.3, 1H), 3.34 (d, J = 2.3) 11.1, 1H), 3.35 (dd, J = 19.1, J = 11.5, 1H), 3.56 (d, J)

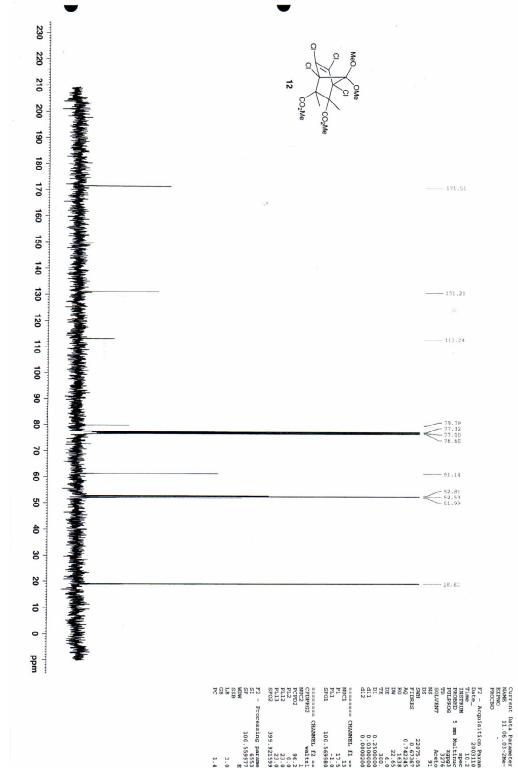
= 11.1, 1H), 3.82 (s, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 8.4, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): -5.0, -4.6, 8.0, 16.0, 16.4, 17.9, 25.7, 37.5, 56.1, 57.2, 61.3, 72.4, 87.9, 95.5, 173.7, 175.9; HRMS Found: 481.0907 (M+H), Calc. For  $C_{18}H_{301}O_{5}SiI$  481.0829;

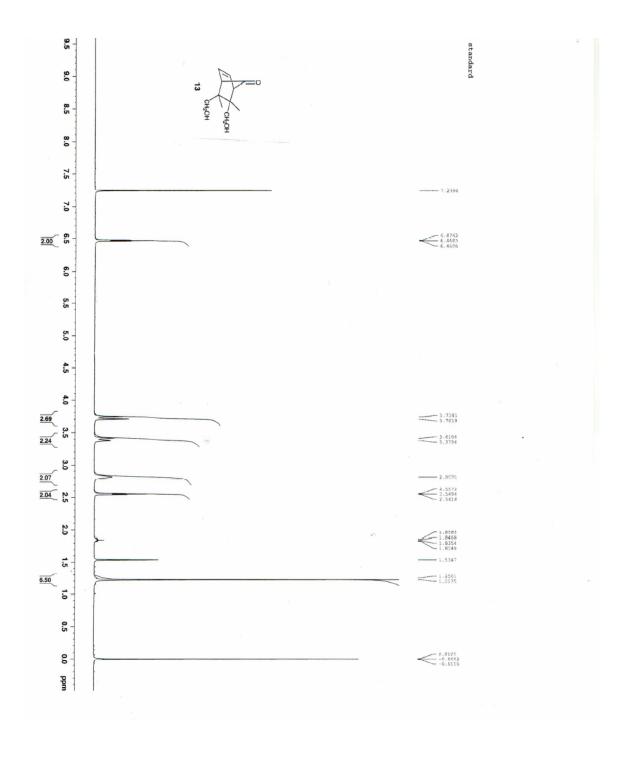
To a solution of diol 14 (21mg, 0.083 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1mL) was added a solution of DMDO in acetone (~0.07 M, 3.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred The solvent was removed to afford the crude for 20min. epoxide 23. H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  1.30 (s, 6H), 2.22 (s, 2H), 2.38 (t, J = 8.8, 1H), 2.83 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.08 (br, 2H), 3.37 (s, 2H), 3.50 (d, J = 10.9, 2H), 3.69 (s, 2H)3H), 4.21, (d, J = 10.9, 2H). The crude epoxide was dissolved in THF (0.5mL) and cooled to  $-78^{\circ}$ C. To this solution was added (S, S)-[Co<sup>III</sup>(salen)]-OAc (16 mg, 025) mmol, 0.3 eq.). The mixture was stirred at  $-78^{\circ}$ C for 48hr and kept in -25°C freezer for 48hr. The reaction mixture was loaded directly onto a SiO, column and purified by flash chromatography (50 to 100% EtOAc in Hexane) to afford of

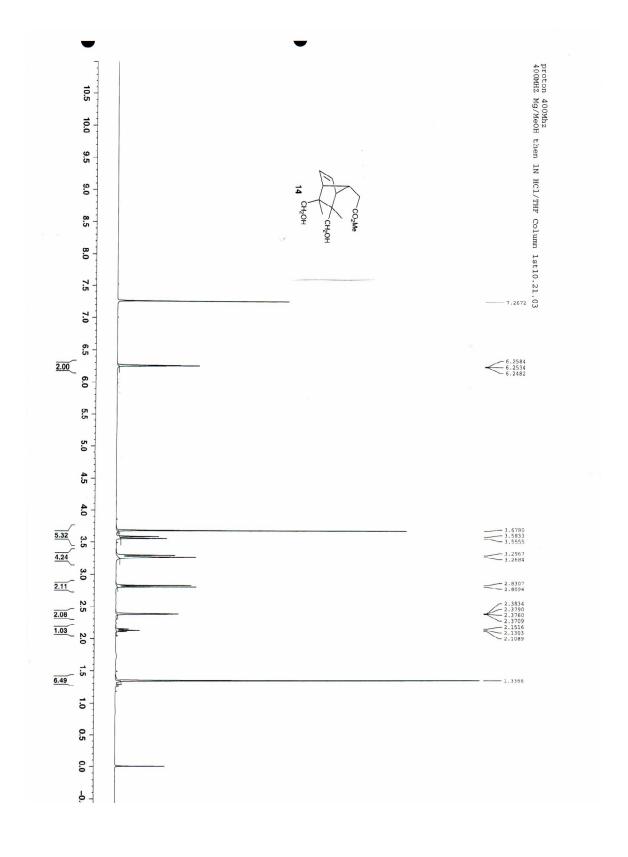
asymmetric 16 (19mg, 86%). For the purposes of determining the enantiomeric ratio, 16 was converted to the benzyl ester 16'. The enantiomers were analyzed by chiral HPLC as benzyl ester using a Chiracel AD column (15% IPA in hexanes, lml/min,  $t_R$  = 15.41, 18.33 min). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  1.16 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.93 (s, 1H), 2.31 (d, J = 5.2, 1H), 2.85 (m, 3H), 3.43 (d, J = 9.0, 1H), 3.61 (dd, J = 25.3, J = 10.3, 2H), 3.78 (d, J = 9.0, 1H), 3.90 (s, 1H), 4.06 (dd, J = 5.2, J = 1.6, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 7.36 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): 19.0, 21.9, 34.7, 39.5, 44.7, 48.9, 54.7, 55.6, 66.4, 66.8, 76.0, 77.7, 88.5, 128.0, 128.1, 128.4, 135.7, 172.3; IR (NaCl, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1732S (C=O); MS Found: 347.63 (M+H), Calc. For  $C_{20}H_{26}O_5$  346.18;  $[\alpha]D^{23}$  -10.9 (c 0.19, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for 16'.

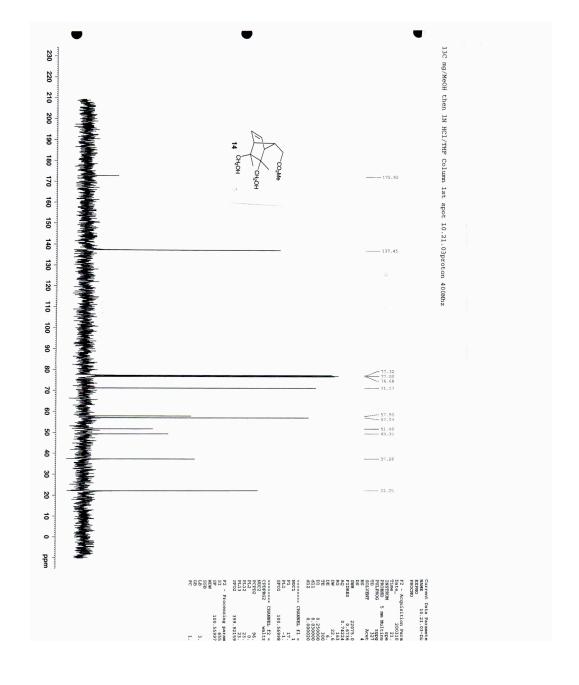
The procedure described above was repeated with (R, R)[Co<sup>III</sup>(salen)]-OAc catalyst, to afford **ent-16**, which was converted to benzyl ester **ent-16**'. [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>23</sup> 7.9 (c 0.34, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for **ent-16**'.

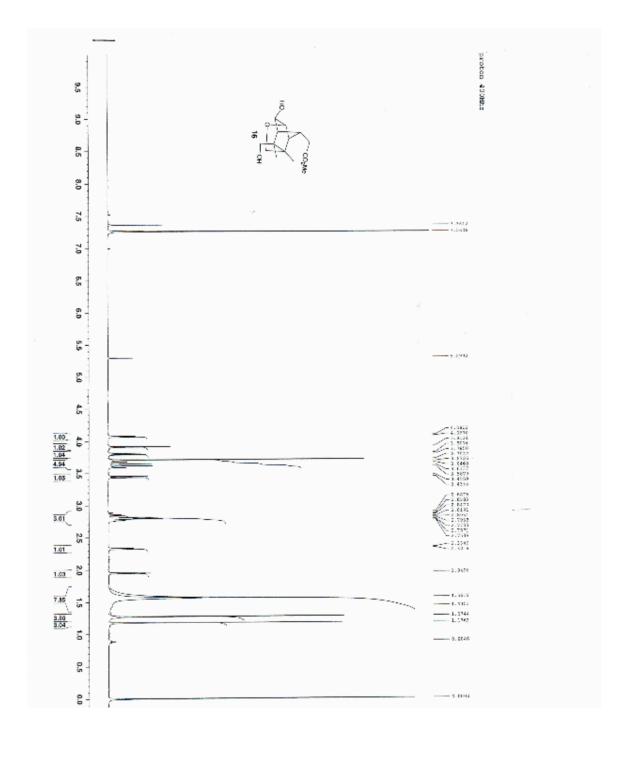


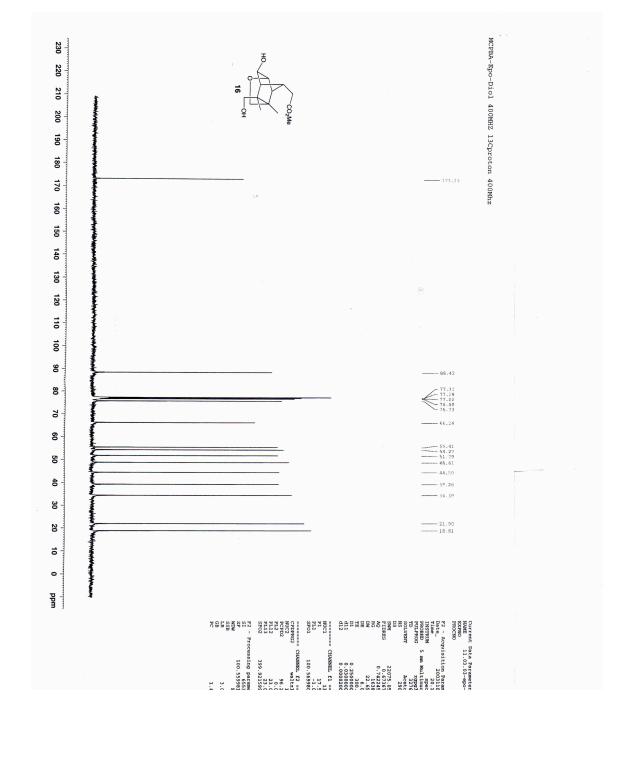


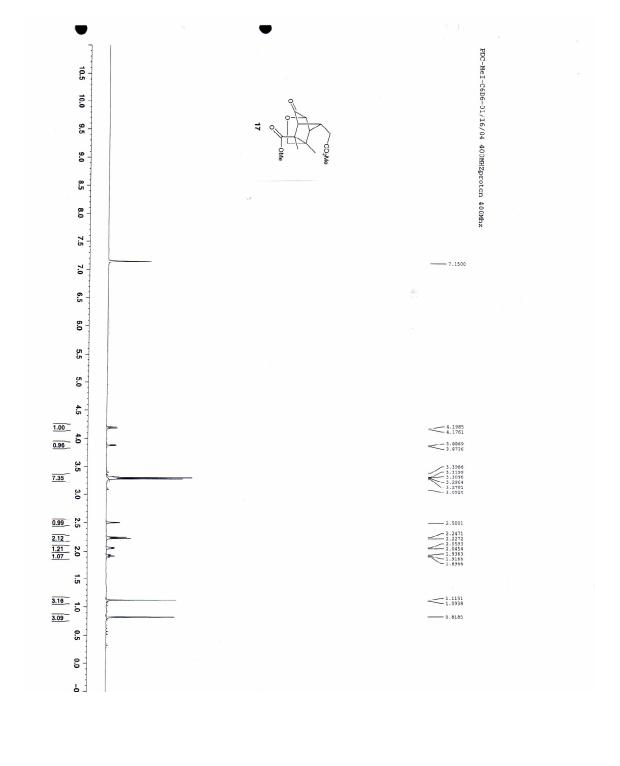


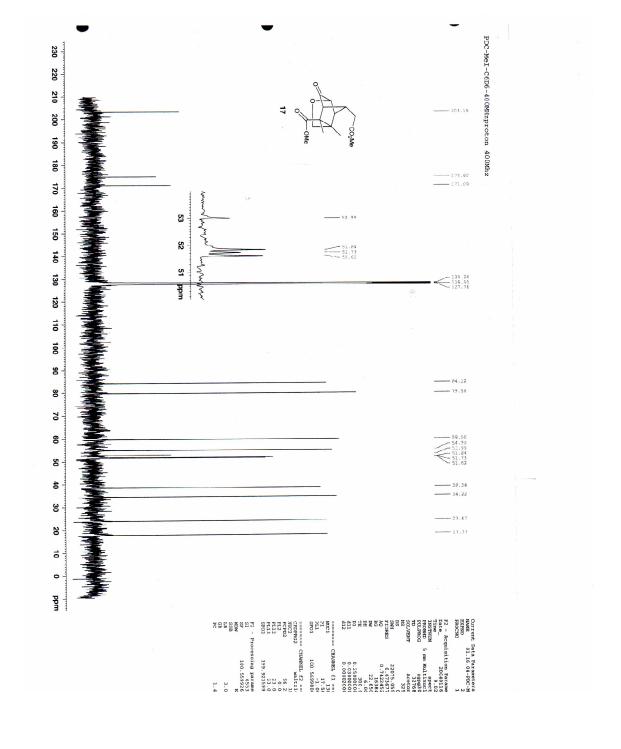


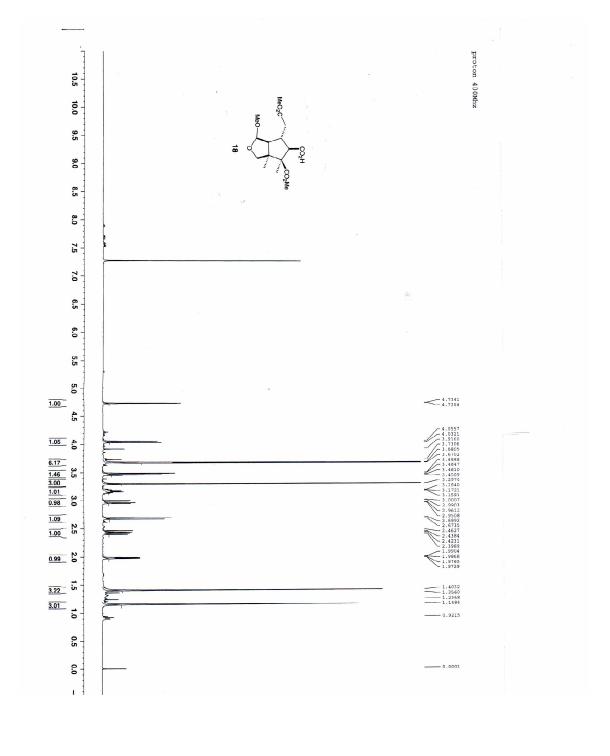


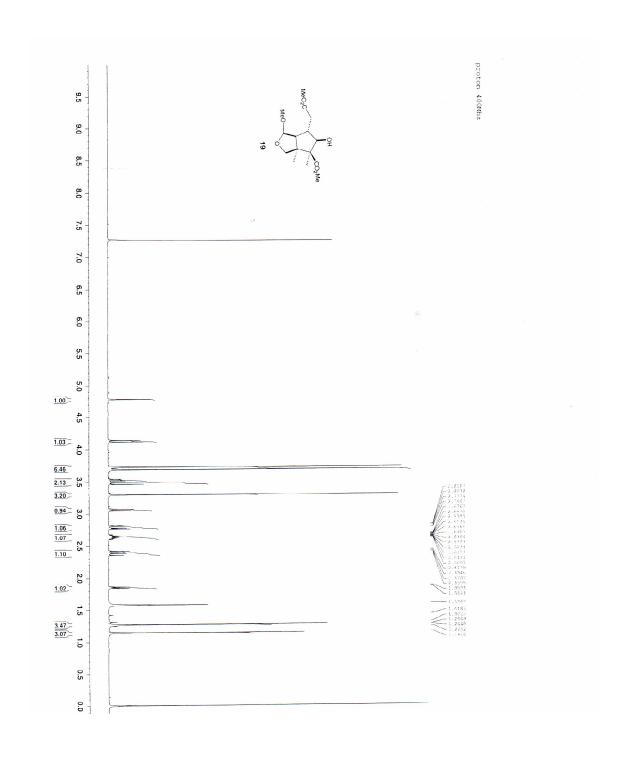


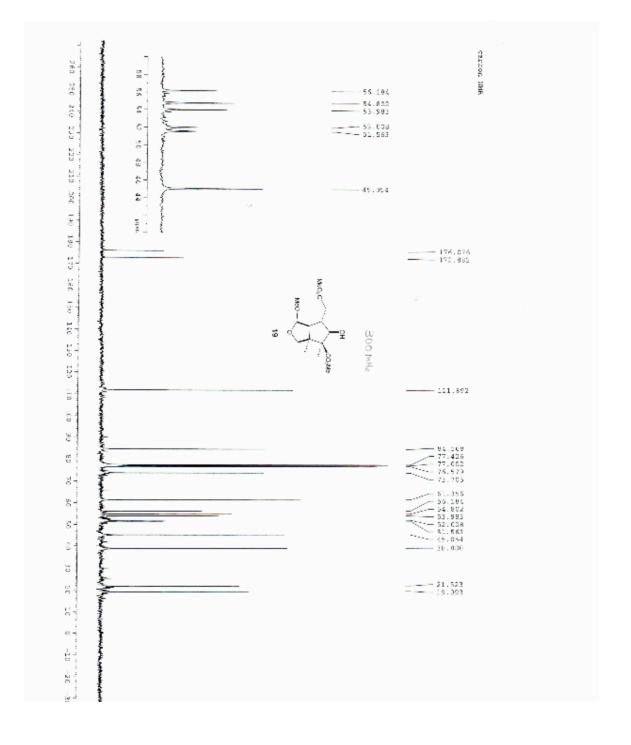


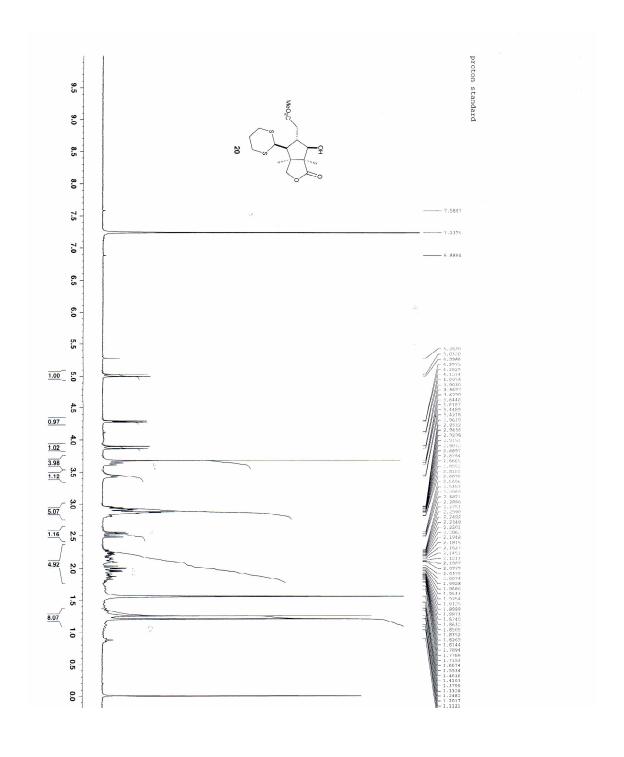


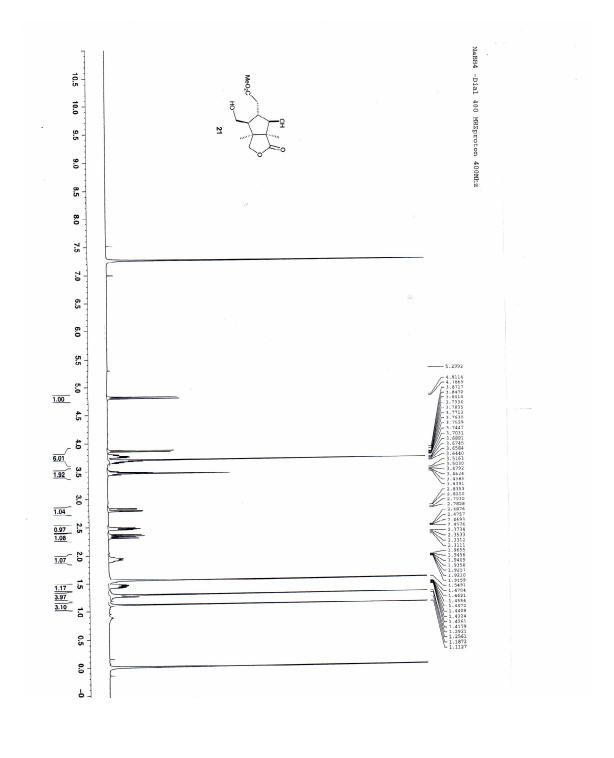


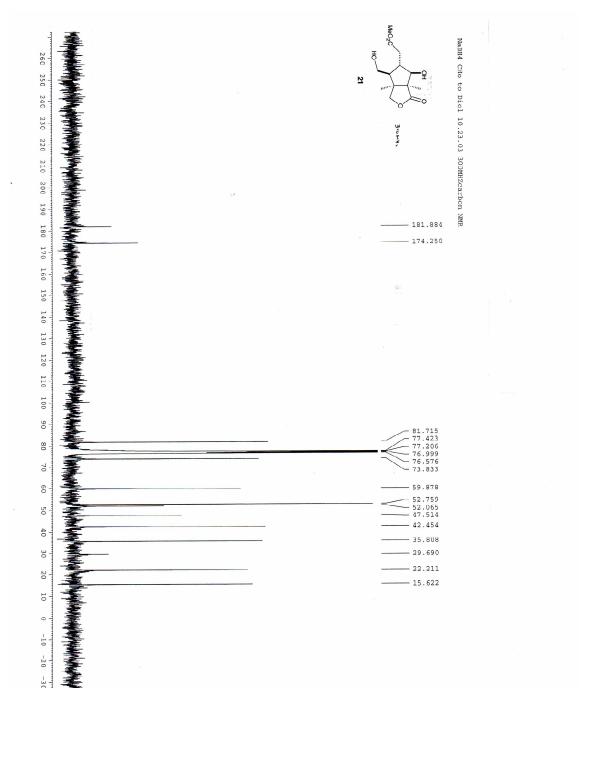


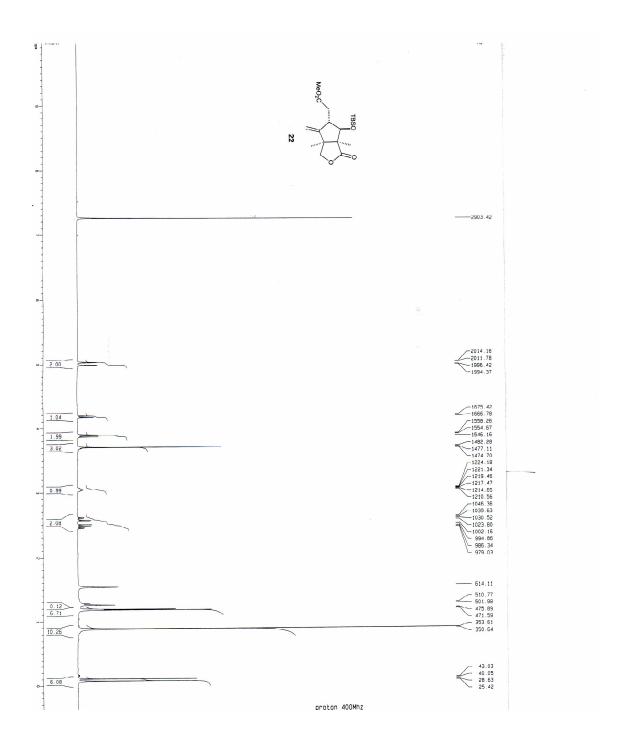


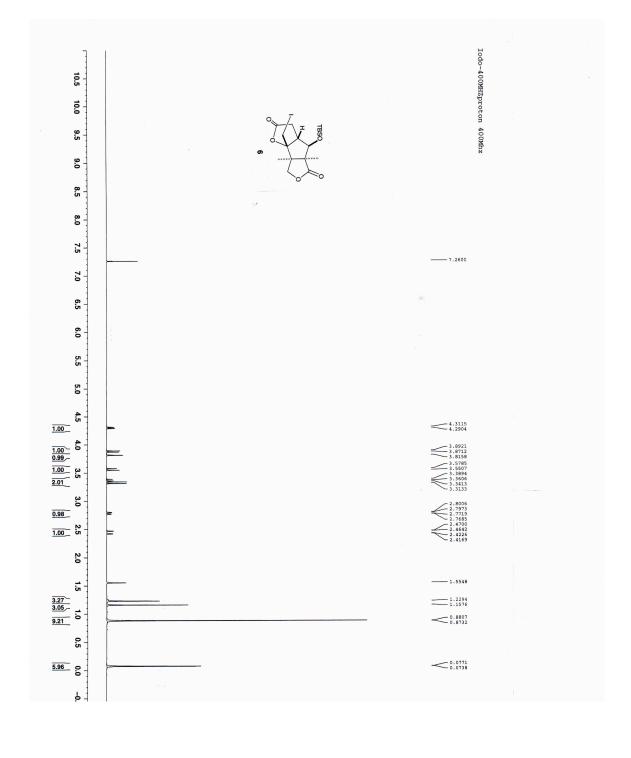


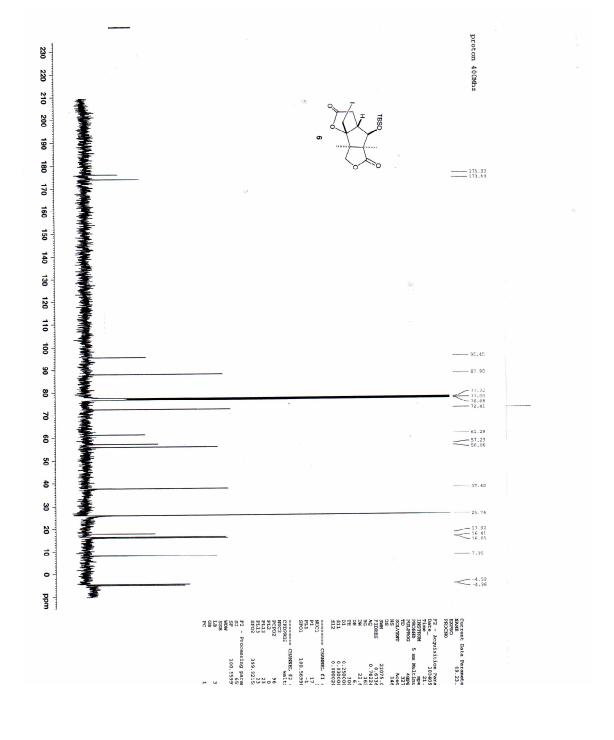


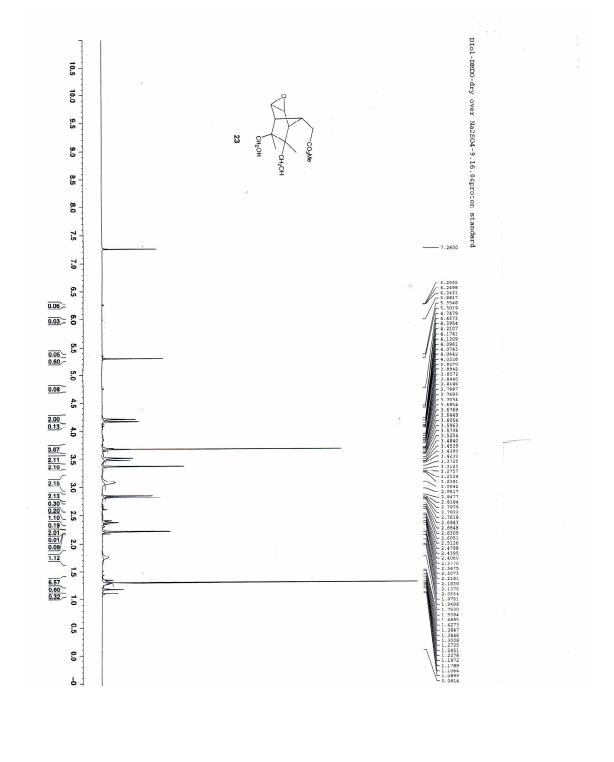












CHIRACEL AD 85:15

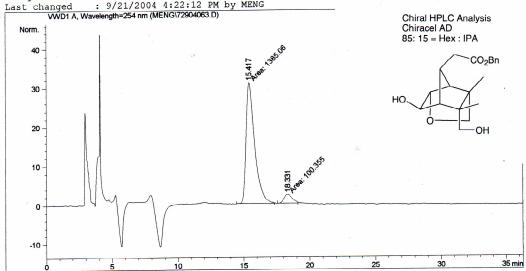
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Sample Name : CO2Bn-(S,S)--78C

Location : Vial 1

: MENG

Acq. Operator Acq. Method Acq. Operator
Acq. Method
C:\HPCHEM\1\METHODS\FURUUCHI.M
Last changed
Analysis Method
C:\HPCHEM\1\METHODS\FURUUCHI.M
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Analysis Method
C:\HPCHEM\1\METHODS\FURUUCHI.M
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Area Percent Report

Signal Sorted By 1.0000 Multiplier 1.0000 Dilution

Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

#	RetTime [min]	 [min]	mAU	Heiq [mAU	1	Area %
					20010	93.2440
_	15.417 18.331	0.7468 0.7435				6.7560

1485.41022 33.15862 Totals :

Results obtained with enhanced integrator!

\*\*\* End of Report \*\*\*

CHIRACEL AD 85:15

: 11/10/2004 2:36:53 PM Injection Date

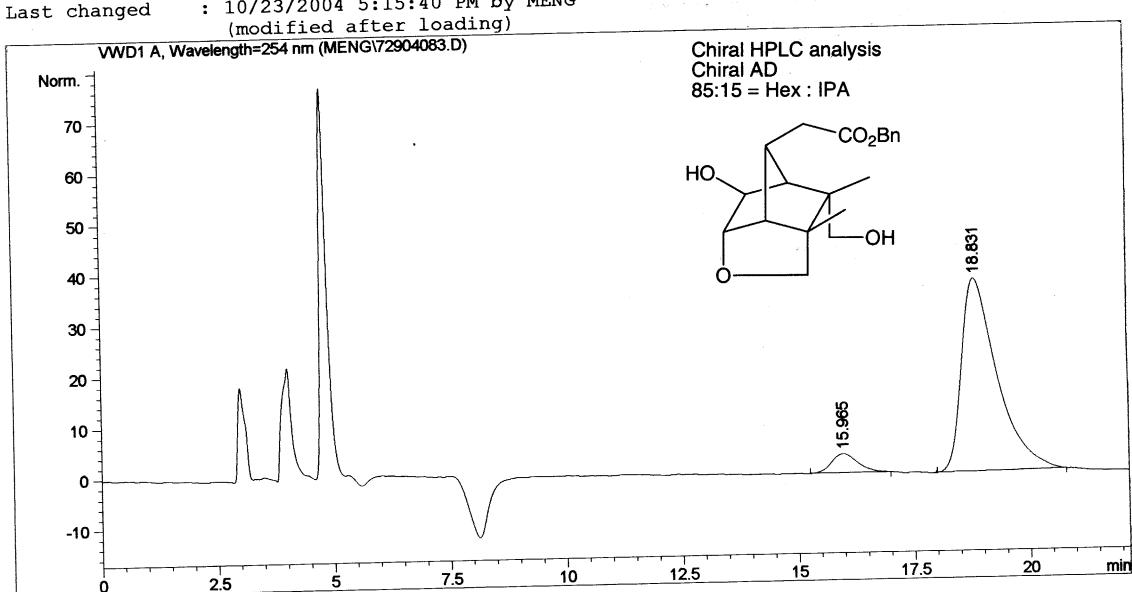
Sample Name Acq. Operator : Bn-R, R--78C

: MENG

Method

: C:\HPCHEM\1\METHODS\FURUUCHI.M

: 10/23/2004 5:15:40 PM by MENG



Location: Vial 1

Area Percent Report

Signal Sorted By 1.0000 Multiplier 1.0000 Dilution

Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

11	RetTime [min]		[min]	Area mAU *s			]	Area %
1	15.965 18.831	BB	0.6113 0.7906	151	.64317	3.	11500	6.9402 93.0598

Totals:

2185.00218 41.75358

Results obtained with enhanced integrator!

\*\*\* End of Report \*\*\*