Expanding the Scope of the Asymmetric Allenic Pauson–Khand Reaction Towards the Synthesis of Thapsigargin and Analogues

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Eric David Deihl, PhD

University of Pittsburgh, 2022

Thapsigargin is a potent inhibitor of sarco/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase. A prodrug of thapsigargin called mipsagargin has been investigated in clinical trials for treating several types of cancer. The ability to synthesize thapsigargin analogues would further the structure activity relationship studies of this biologically important compound. The asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand reaction affords enantioenriched cyclopentenones in a dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation process. Herein we report the use of the asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand reaction of furanyl tethered allene-ynes to rapidly form the carbocyclic core ring system of thapsigargin with good yields and enantioselectivities. The highest enantioselectivities observed in the asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand reaction were with an allene-yne having a chloroacetate group. Computational results show the good enantioselectivity is due to a high activation barrier for the competing racemic background reaction. Expanding the substrate scope to include a benzene tethered allene-yne resulted in low enantioselectivities. The products of the allenic Pauson-Khand reaction were further functionalized via hydrolysis and hydrogenation reactions. The asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand reaction of an allene-yne having a butanoyl group on the tether afforded products containing this important C8 group present in thapsigargin. The asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand reaction is poised to be used in the synthesis of thapsigargin and thapsigargin analogues.

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Preface

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1.0 Thapsigargin: a biologically active guaianolide natural product

Thapsigargin (Tg, **1.1**) is a sesquiterpene lactone of the guaianolide family of natural products (Figure 1). Tg was first isolated in 1978 by Christensen and coworkers from the plant *Thapsia garganica*, and the absolute configuration was assigned in 1985.¹ The discovery that Tg is a sub-nanomolar inhibitor of sarco/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase (SERCA) in 1990 spurred extensive research into this molecule.^{2, 3} SERCA is a calcium ion pump that is responsible for calcium homeostasis in cells. Inhibition of SERCA by Tg results in increased Ca²⁺ concentrations in the cytosol and leads to apoptosis.⁴ The ability of Tg to induce apoptosis motivated research into its use as a cancer treatment.^{5, 6}



Figure 1. Structure of thapsigargin

1.1 Mipsagargin a prodrug of thapsigargin

Because SERCA is found in healthy cells as well as cancer cells, Tg will indiscriminately kill cells. To avoid killing healthy cells, inactive prodrugs of Tg have been developed that are activated at the site of the tumor.⁵ Structure activity relationship (SAR) studies were performed to

determine the appropriate site for an inactivating peptide on the molecule.⁷ These SAR studies showed the C8 position was tolerant of a long carbon linker connecting the peptide to Tg. The prodrug mipsagargin (**1.2**) contains a long carbon linker connected to a small peptide residue. Mipsagargin does not inhibit SERCA, but in the presence of prostate specific membrane antigen (PSMA), the peptide is cleaved to release 12ADT-asp (**1.3**), a compound nearly equipotent to Tg (Scheme 1). Despite its name, prostate specific membrane antigen is expressed in the neovasculature of certain cancers allowing mipsagargin to potentially treat several types of cancer.⁸



Scheme 1. PSMA activation of mipsagargin

1.1.1 Clinical trial results of mipsagargin

Patients treated with mipsagargin in a phase I clinical trial tolerated the treatment well.⁹ Patients in the phase I trial with hepatocellular carcinoma had disease stabilization which led to a Phase II clinical trial. In a phase II clinical trial of patients with sorafenib resistant hepatocellular carcinoma, mipsagargin doubled the median time to progression of disease from approximately 63 days in the historic control population to 134 days in the mipsagargin treated patients.¹⁰ In a phase II clinical trial of patients with glioblastoma, 22% of patients experienced disease stabilization.¹¹ Despite the positive results from the phase II clinical trial, mipsagargin is not currently being investigated in clinical trials.⁶

1.1.2 Other prodrug approaches to thapsigargin based cancer therapeutics

A Tg prodrug **1.4** has been investigated to treat acute lymphoblastic leukemia.¹² Acute lymphoblastic leukemia cells overexpress folate receptors making this an attractive target for a folic acid conjugated prodrug. Tg conjugated to folic acid was inactive at inhibiting SERCA but entered cells in the presence of folate receptors. Once inside cells, the folic acid was cleaved to afford a C8 hydroxy Tg derivative **1.5** (Scheme 2). Tg derivative **1.5** inhibits SERCA but is less potent than Tg, with a relative IC₅₀ value ranging from 5.4 to 50 in two separate studies.^{13, 14} The authors proposed future studies using a linker to conjugate folic acid to Tg to afford a more bioactive product following hydrolysis for which findings have not been reported.





Scheme 2. Hydrolysis of folate conjugated thapsigargin analogue

Another approach to Tg-based prodrugs is linking albumin to Tg via a maleimide linker (Figure 2).¹⁵ Albumin is a protein that is highly concentrated in prostate cancer cells. Albumin in prodrug **1.6** is readily cleaved in prostate cancer cells releasing a potent Tg analogue. This prodrug showed good results in killing prostate cancer cell lines *in vitro*.



Figure 2. Albumin linked thapsigargin prodrug

1.2 Thapsigargin as a treatment for diseases other than cancer

Tg and Tg analogues have been investigated for treating several other diseases including malaria, sepsis, MRSA, and viruses such as influenza and SARS-CoV-2.¹⁶⁻²⁴ For example, priming Calu-3 cells with 0.5 μ M Tg prior to infection decreased the relative virus copy number by 96.6%.²⁰ Treating cells infected with SARS-CoV-2 with 0.5 μ M Tg 24 hours after infection resulted in an 81.4% relative decrease in virus copy number. Tg was highly effective against variants of SARS-CoV-2 including the highly transmissible Delta variant.²²

1.3 Previous total syntheses of thapsigargin

Tg is isolated from *Thapsia garganica* in low quantities ranging from 0.2-4.91% by dry weight.^{25, 26} Synthesis of Tg could reduce reliance on *Thapsia garganica* as the only commercial

source.²⁷ To date, there have been 3 total syntheses of Tg, each starting with carvone or dihydrocarvone (Scheme 3).²⁸⁻³² The first synthesis of Tg was completed in the lab of Steve Ley and used a Favorskii rearrangement to form the five-membered ring and a metathesis reaction of diene **1.8** to form the seven-membered ring.²⁸⁻³⁰ The Baran lab's synthesis of Tg began with dihydrocarvone and formed the 5,7-ring system of Tg with a photochemical rearrangement of **1.10**.³¹ P. A. Evan's synthesis of Tg began with (*R*)-carvone and formed the seven-membered ring via a pinacol coupling of **1.12**.³²

Ley synthesis of Tg



Scheme 3. Previous total syntheses of thapsigargin

1.3.1 Other synthetic strategies to access thapsigargin

Other groups' strategies directed towards the synthesis of Tg include metathesis, photochemical rearrangement, and allenic Pauson–Khand reactions.³³⁻³⁹ Tg can be accessed via semi-synthesis in 4 steps from the natural product nortrilobolide (**1.13**), which is also isolated from *Thapsia garganica*.⁴⁰ Tg can also be accessed from the closely related natural product trilobolide (**1.14**) (Figure 3).⁴¹ Trilobolide is isolated from the plant *Laser trilobum*, which grows abundantly in the Czech Republic.



Figure 3. Structures of nortrilobolide and trilobolide

1.3.2 Structure activity relationship studies of thapsigargin

SAR studies of Tg have been conducted mostly by extracting the natural product from *Thapsia garganica* and performing reactions to form new analogues.⁷ Most Tg analogues have been generated by selective hydrolysis of the ester groups followed by re-esterification to form new ester groups. The structural diversity of the carbocyclic skeleton for analogues generated using this strategy is limited. A few highly potent analogues have been synthesized in the course of completing total syntheses of Tg.^{42,43}



Figure 4. Some highly potent Tg analogues

Based on the SAR studies of Tg analogues, the most important groups to SERCA inhibition activity are the C3 angeloyl group, C7 hydroxyl group, C8 butanoyl group, C10 acetate group, and the C15 methyl group.^{7, 44} Based on this information, we propose a pharmacophore model of Tg for the synthetic design of analogues where the portion of the molecule responsible for activity is highlighted in yellow (Figure 5).⁴⁵⁻⁴⁸ This model is supported by SAR studies showing the lactone ring of Tg tolerates substantial changes with little to no decrease in SERCA inhibition activity.



Figure 5. Pharmacophore model of Tg

1.4 The allenic Pauson–Khand reaction

The Pauson–Khand reaction is a metal catalyzed [2+2+1] cyclocarbonylation reaction between an alkene, alkyne and carbon monoxide.⁴⁹⁻⁵¹ The allenic Pauson–Khand reaction (APKR) is a variant of the Pauson-Khand reaction involving an allene, alkyne, and carbon monoxide.^{52, 53} Both intermolecular and intramolecular variants of the APKR have been developed.⁵⁴⁻⁵⁶ The mechanism of the APKR involves an oxidative cyclization, CO insertion, and reductive elimination to afford the cyclopentenone product (Scheme 4).



Scheme 4. Mechanism of the APKR

The metal catalyst plays an important role in the allene double bond selectivity of the APKR. For instance, molybdenum favors reaction with the proximal double bond of the allene in the intramolecular APKR while rhodium usually reacts preferentially with the distal double bond (Scheme 5).⁵⁷⁻⁶¹ A few examples of rhodium catalyzed APKRs reacting with the proximal double bond have been reported.⁶²⁻⁶⁴ Reaction with the proximal double bond in these examples is the result of steric congestion, electronic factors or directing groups. DFT calculations show this double bond selectivity is influenced by the geometry of the metal center with rhodium adopting a square planar geometry in an early oxidative cyclization transition state, which favors reaction of the distal double bond of the allene.⁶⁵ Whereas in the case of molybdenum, the trigonal bipyramidal geometry of the oxidative cyclization step favors reaction with the proximal double bond. Other metals, including Co, Fe, Ir, Zr, and Ti, have been used in the APKR.^{54, 56, 57, 66-68}



Scheme 5. Allene double bond selectivity of the APKR

1.4.1 Transfer of allene axial chirality to the asymmetric APKR product

Chiral, non-racemic allenes undergo the APKR with a transfer of the axial chirality to an sp^3 hybridized carbon to afford enantioenriched ring-fused cyclopentenones.^{69, 70} For instance, enantioenriched allene **1.26** with an NTs containing tether underwent the APKR with complete transfer of chirality to afford enantioenriched α -methylcyclopentenone **1.27** (Scheme 6). Allenes with an oxygen or diester group in the tether experienced an erosion of the enantioselectivity due to scrambling of the axial chirality of the allene under the reaction conditions.



Scheme 6. Transfer of chirality in the APKR

1.4.2 The Asymmetric APKR

Chiral, racemic allenyl carboxyesters undergo a rhodium catalyzed asymmetric APKR in the presence of a chiral monodentate ligand.⁷¹⁻⁷³ Reacting racemic allene-yne **1.28** with Rh(cod)₂BF₄ and (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) at 70 °C under a carbon monoxide atmosphere afforded enantioenriched cyclopentenone **1.29** in 79% yield and 18:82 er (Scheme 7).⁷³ Lauren Burrows, a former group member, demonstrated that this asymmetric APKR is an example of a Type I Dynamic Kinetic Asymmetric Transformation (DyKAT) (Scheme 8).⁷⁴⁻⁷⁸ In this DyKAT process, the axial chirality of the allene is rapidly scrambled in the presence of the rhodium catalyst followed by a single enantioner of the allene reacting preferentially with the chiral catalyst complex to form enantioenriched APKR product.



Scheme 7. Asymmetric APKR of carbon tethered allene-yne



Scheme 8. Type I DyKAT process in the asymmetric APKR

1.5 Conclusions

Tg is an important biological tool and research into its clinical significance is continuing. Despite the failure of mipsagargin to advance to phase III clinical trials, Tg prodrugs conjugated to folic acid and albumin are being investigated to treat cancer. Tg as an antiviral drug is showing promise as a broad-spectrum inhibitor of viral replication. Large scale production of Tg has not been accomplished, but synthetic and semisynthetic production are potential options. The allenic Pauson–Khand reaction remains a viable strategy for the synthesis of Tg and Tg analogues.

2.0 The asymmetric APKR of furanyl tethered allene-ynes

*This Chapter was adapted from a manuscript coauthored by Eric D. Deihl, Luke T. Jesikiewicz, Logan J. Newman, Peng Liu, and Kay M. Brummond.*⁷⁹

We have designed a retrosynthetic strategy for accessing Tg using an asymmetric allenic Pauson-Khand approach. We envision synthesizing Tg **1.1** from **2.1** by converting the furan into a butenolide using *m*-CPBA, epoxidation of the butenolide double bond and ring opening followed by reduction of the ketone and esterification (Scheme 9).⁸⁰ **2.1** can be accessed from carbamate **2.2** via a modified Hoffman–Löffler–Freytag C–H functionalization reaction and esterification of the resulting tertiary alcohol.^{81, 82} **2.2** can be accessed from **2.3** by converting the C2 hydroxyl group to a carbamate. **2.3** could be accessed from APKR adduct **2.4** via hydrolysis of the acetyl group followed by a hydroxyl directed hydrogenation of the C1-C10 double bond.⁸³

Formation of the carbocyclic 5,7,5-ring system of **2.4** can be accessed via the asymmetric APKR of allene-yne **2.5** to selectively form the C2 stereocenter with the absolute configuration of Tg.⁷³ Allene-yne **2.5** can be accessed from propargyl acetate **2.6** via a rhodium catalyzed rearrangement.⁶³ Propargyl acetate **2.6** can be accessed from methyl ketone **2.7** via addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide and trapping with acetyl chloride.^{84, 85} Methyl ketone **2.7** can be accessed via conversion of the silyl group to a halogen and Sonogashira coupling and an amino acid catalyzed asymmetric aldol reaction of **2.8** and esterification of the resulting β -hydroxy group.⁸⁴⁻⁸⁷ Furan **2.8** can be accessed via a silyl shift of TMS protected alcohol **2.9** followed by deprotonation and methylation.^{88, 89}





Tg, 1.1



2.2



2.1



Scheme 9. Retrosynthetic strategy for thapsigargin

2.1 Synthesis of allene-ynes for the APKR

We began our synthesis of Tg and Tg analogues using model system 2.11 to study the asymmetric APKR of furanyl tethered allene-ynes (Scheme 10). We chose this model system because we were unsure of how the butanoyl group would impact this reaction and whether the furanyl ring would be tolerated in the asymmetric APKR.⁹⁰⁻⁹² We chose to include a furan in the tether of the allene-yne because it is a synthon for a lactone, and we were interested in testing

compounds containing furan rings, such as **2.12**, for their biological activity. Furans are present in some pharmaceuticals, but their metabolism to reactive compounds *in vivo* limits the testing of furan containing compounds in medicinal chemistry studies.⁹³ Based on previous work of a Tg analogue with a tetrahydrofuran giving nearly equipotent relative IC₅₀ values, we believe that an analogue containing a furan ring may also be highly active (Figure 6).⁷



Scheme 10. Model system to test the feasibility of the asymmetric APKR of furanyl tethered allen-ynes



Figure 6. Potent tetrahydrofuran containing thapsigargin analogue

We began our synthesis of allene-yne **2.10** by reacting 3-furfural (**2.14**) with propynylmagnesium bromide to afford propargyl alcohol **2.15** in 92% yield (Scheme 11). Propargyl alcohol **2.15** was reacted with *N*-bromosuccinimide (NBS) followed by 1 M HCl to afford furaldehyde **2.16** in 69% yield.⁹⁴ We initially performed this sequence of reactions in a one-pot two-step procedure, but the one-pot procedure was not always reproducible. For example, the first several times we performed the one-pot procedure we were able to obtain the desired product; however, the oxidative rearrangement reaction stopped working in the one-pot procedure for

unknown reasons, and we isolated the propargyl alcohol in low yields. Therefore, we opted for the two-pot procedure shown.



Scheme 11. Installation of alkyne moiety via oxidative rearrangement

2.1.1 Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction approach to the methyl ketone

We next sought to convert furaldehyde **2.16** to methyl ketone **2.20**. Our original strategy to synthesize methyl ketone **2.20** was to transform the aldehyde into an unsaturated nitrile using a Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons reaction followed by a reduction of the double bond and conversion of the nitrile to methyl ketone **2.20**.⁹⁵ Aldehyde **2.16** was converted to the unsaturated nitrile **2.17** in 84% yield as a 76:24 ratio of *E:Z* isomers that were not separated but taken on as a mixture to the next step (Scheme 12). Reduction of the double bond of **2.17** using 40 equiv of magnesium gave a 51% yield of nitrile **2.18**. The low yield was partially attributed to the formation of the overreduced product **2.19**. Dibromoethane was required for magnesium activation.⁹⁶ Using less magnesium did not improve the isolated yield or gave recovered starting material. For example, using 20 equiv of magnesium afforded 60% crude yield of **2.18** and 12% crude yield of **2.19**. Using 10 equiv of magnesium resulted in 10% of recovered starting material and only 12% isolated yield **2.19**.

Reacting nitrile **2.18** with methylmagnesium bromide and heating in a microwave reactor at 100 °C followed by hydrolysis with 15% H_2SO_4 afforded methyl ketone **2.20** in low yield (35-49%).⁹⁷ Conventional heating (oil bath) did not furnish **2.20**. Performing the reaction in refluxing

THF with a catalytic amount of Cu(I)Br gave no product.⁹⁸ Using methyllithium and refluxing the reaction mixture in diethyl ether gave trace amounts of **2.20**.⁹⁹ Due to inconsistent and low yields, poor scalability, requirement for specialized heating equipment and a large excess of methylmagnesium bromide, we abandoned this route. Furthermore, conversion of an alkyl nitrile to a dialkyl ketone is problematic due to the acidity of the hydrogens alpha to the nitrile.^{100, 101}



Scheme 12. Synthesis of methyl ketone 2.20 via nitrile intermediate

2.1.2 An unexpected electrocyclization reaction to form benzofurans

While investigating methods for reducing the double bond of unsaturated nitrile **2.17**, we attempted to form **2.18** using NaBH₄.¹⁰² Subjecting **2.17** to NaBH₄ in isopropanol at 75 °C for 27 h resulted in quantitative yield of benzofuran byproduct **2.21** and none of the desired nitrile **2.18** (Scheme 13). The ¹H NMR of **2.21** showed two doublets at 7.66 and 6.78 ppm corresponding to H_a and H_b and two singlets at 7.88 and 7.43 ppm corresponding to H_c and H_d as well as a methyl singlet at 2.65 ppm. The ¹³C NMR showed 9 signals from 106-157 ppm corresponding to the aromatic carbons and the nitrile carbon and the methyl carbon at 20.9 ppm. Mass spectrometry

data showed the exact mass of 158.0598 aligning with the benzofuran product. To determine whether this transformation was a thermal cyclization or promoted by NaBH₄, we heated **2.17** in isopropanol at 75 °C. After 22 h, only starting material was observed by ¹H NMR. At this point NaBH₄ was added and the reaction heated overnight at 75 °C. After purification, benzofuran **2.21** was isolated in 50% yield. These data demonstrate that NaBH₄ is required to form benzofuran **2.21**.



Scheme 13. Formation of benzofuran byproduct from acrylonitrile 2.17

We hypothesized that NaBH₄ may be acting as a base to promote the cyclization reaction due to the use of bases in similar cyclization reactions.¹⁰³ To test this hypothesis, triethylamine was used in place of NaBH₄ and afforded only recovered starting material. Changing the solvent from isopropanol to chloroform and increasing the equivalents of triethylamine from 0.1 to 1.5 equiv gave only 90% recovered starting material.

To determine whether the methyl group on the alkyne was important to the reaction, we reacted **2.22** containing a phenyl substituted alkyne with NaBH₄ in isopropanol at 75 °C which afforded recovered starting material (Scheme 14). This result shows that the substituent on the terminus of the alkyne may play a role in the reaction either by sterics or another factor. Due to the limited substrate scope of this reaction, we did not pursue this methodology further.



Scheme 14. Cyclization reaction of phenyl substituted alkyne

Based upon these results we propose that the NaBH₄ or sodium isopropoxide is promoting the isomerization of the propynyl group of **2.17** to an allene via a deprotonation/protonation sequence (Scheme 15). Allene **2.24** undergoes an electrocyclization reaction to afford **2.25** which undergoes a second protonation/deprotonation to afford benzofuran **2.21**.^{104, 105} This mechanistic hypothesis takes into consideration the need for NaBH₄ and is consistent with the nonreactivity of the phenyl substituted alkyne, which cannot form an allene and undergo this cyclization.



Scheme 15. Proposed mechanism for the electrocyclization reaction of 2.17

2.1.3 Aldol condensation approach to methyl ketone 2.20

We attempted to improve the synthesis of methyl ketone **2.20** via an aldol condensation reaction between acetone and **2.16** followed by a conjugate reduction of the enone. Reacting furaldehyde **2.16** with acetone and sodium hydroxide at 0 °C afforded the α , β -unsaturated ketone **2.26** in 67% yield (Scheme 16).¹⁰⁶ Next a 1,4-reduction of **2.26** using diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-1,4-

dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (Hantzsch ester, **2.27**) in refluxing benzene afforded some product but mostly starting material.¹⁰⁷ Performing the Hantzsch ester reduction in refluxing toluene afforded the desired product **2.20** in 74% yield with no recovered starting material.¹⁰⁸ Performing the reaction with Hantzsch ester **2.27** (3 equiv) and TiCl₄ (1.2 equiv) in THF resulted in an 83% yield of **2.20**.¹⁰⁹ Due to the operational simplicity, we chose to use conditions employing refluxing toluene with no TiCl₄. The aldol condensation strategy to form methyl ketone **2.20** was a great improvement over the Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons approach based upon a significantly higher yield of **2.20**, the reaction sequence could be performed on larger scale with oil bath heating, and a reduced number of steps. For example, the aldol strategy afforded 1.4 g of **2.20** in 50% yield in 2 steps from furan **2.16** compared to 80 mg of **2.20** in 15-20% yield in 3 steps for the Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction sequence.



Scheme 16. Access to methyl ketone 2.20 via aldol condensation reaction

2.2 Synthesis of allenyl carboxyesters

With methyl ketone **2.20** in hand, we turned to conditions developed by previous Brummond group members to transform the methyl ketone into allenyl carboxyesters.^{63, 73} Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide followed by trapping of the resulting propargyl alkoxide in situ with acetyl chloride afforded propargyl acetate **2.28a** in 59% yield (Scheme 17). Propargyl acetate **2.28a** was subjected to a Rh(II) catalyzed formal [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement to afford allenyl acetate **2.10a** in 64% yield. Allenyl carboxyesters **2.10b-2.10g** were synthesized in a similar manner. For detailed information on the synthesis of **2.10a-2.10g**, see *Org. Lett.* **2022**, 995-999.⁷⁹



Scheme 17. Synthesis of allenyl carboxyesters

We synthesized allene-ynes **2.10a-2.10g** for the following reasons. The acetate group in **2.10a** would be used to benchmark the yield and enantiomeric ratios for the 5,7,5-ring systems against the 5,7-ring systems previously reported.⁷³ An octanoate group in **2.10b** is present in Tg. The pivalate group in **2.10c** is a bulky alkyl group that may afford a highly enantioenriched product. Benzoate containing allene-yne **2.10d** was selected due to high enantioselectivities previously seen in the asymmetric APKR of an allenyl benzoate substrate.⁷³ The chloroacetate in

2.10g was selected for its ease of hydrolysis of this group which would aid in the synthesis of Tg.¹¹⁰

2.3 Testing the feasibility of the APKR and optimizing the asymmetric APKR

We subjected allene-yne **2.10a** to the APKR conditions using triphenylphosphine (PPh₃) as a ligand, under carbon monoxide (1 atm, balloon) in DCE at 70 °C.⁷³ This reaction afforded the APKR adduct **2.11a** in 70% yield (Table 1, entry 1). When allene-yne **2.10a** was subjected to the asymmetric APKR with (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) as ligand, the product was formed in 28% yield along with a side product, aldehyde **2.29** in 62% yield (Table 1, entry 2). We briefly examined different reaction conditions in an effort to increase the yield of the APKR product **2.11a** and decrease the formation of aldehyde **2.29**. Modifications to the CO concentration, solvent, temperature, and reaction concentration revealed that solvent concentration had the biggest impact on the yield of **2.11a**. For example, performing the APKR at higher dilution (0.01 M in DCE) afforded **2.11a** in 61% yield and aldehyde **2.29** in 21% yield (Table 1, compare entries 3 and 5). The enantioselectivity of the APKR was relatively unaffected by changes in reaction conditions when the reaction was performed in DCE. Performing the APKR in *o*-DCB afforded **2.11a** with an er of 74:26 (Table 1, entry 6).





entry	ligand	CO atm (%)	temp (°C)	solvent	time (h)	conc (M)	product 2.11a yield (%)	er	aldehyde 2.29 yield (%)
1	PPh ₃	100	70	DCE	4	0.02	70	-	0
2	L1	10	70	DCE	24	0.03	28	85:15	62
3	L1	100	70	DCE	4	0.03	36	83:17	26
4	L1	100	50	DCE	20	0.03	27	81:19	50
5	L1	100	70	DCE	20.5	0.01	61	82:18	21
6	L1	100	70	o-DCB	44	0.01	27 (34 brsm)	74:26	25 (31 brsm)

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With optimized conditions for the asymmetric APKR of furanyl tethered allene-ynes in hand, we examined allenyl carboxyesters **2.10b-g**. Allene-yne **2.10b** with an octanoate group afforded **2.11b** in 63% yield and 84:16 er (Scheme 18). Subjecting **2.10b** to the asymmetric APKR conditions with (*R*)-MonoPhos-alkene rather than (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene afforded **2.10b** in 65% yield and 16:84 er with the C2 stereochemistry and carboxyester group present in Tg. Allene-yne **2.10c** with a bulky *t*-bu group afforded **2.11c** in 43% yield and 78:22 er, lower than those with less bulky alkyl groups. Allene-ynes having aryl groups (benzoate, **2.10d**; naphthoate **2.10e**; and 4-Br-benzoate, **2.10f**) afforded **2.11d**, **2.11e**, and **2.11f** in moderate yield with good enantioselectivities. Allene-yne **2.10g** containing a chloroacetate group afforded **2.11g** in 57% yield with a 97:3 er.
Due to the excellent enantioselectivity observed for this latter system, we scaled up this reaction to 95 mg, affording **2.11g** in 56% yield and a 90:10 er. We cannot explain the slightly lower enantioselectivity on this scale.





2.3.1 Computational results of the asymmetric APKR of furanyl tethered allene-ynes

We collaborated with the group of Professor Peng Liu to computationally understand the origin of the high enantioselectivity in the asymmetric APKR of allenyl chloroacetate **2.10g**. All DFT calculations were performed by Luke Jesikiewicz and Logan Newman at the M06/6-311+G(d,p)/SDD/SMD (DCE)//B3LYP/6-31G(d)/LANL2DZ level of theory. Calculations of **2.10g** show that TS1, the transition state leading to the major enantiomer of **2.11g**, is 3.5 kcal/mol lower in energy than TS2 (Figure 7). TS3, the transition state of the background reaction leading to racemic product with a rhodium metal containing three CO ligands and no phosphoramidite ligand, is 8.7 kcal/mol higher in energy than TS1. The difference in energies between TS1 and TS2 can be rationalized by a favorable π - π stacking between the furan ring and ligand in TS1 that does not occur in TS2 (Figure 8).



Figure 7. Enantioselectivity determining oxidative cyclization transition states for 2.10g

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Figure 8. Transition state structures of chloroacetate 2.10g

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Calculations of **2.10a** show that TS4, the transition state leading to the major enantiomer of **2.11a**, is 3.9 kcal/mol lower in energy than TS5 (Figure 9). TS6, the transition state of the background reaction leading to racemic product with a rhodium metal containing three CO ligands and no phosphoramidite ligand, is 8.8 kcal/mol higher in energy than TS4. The greater energy differences between transition states for **2.10a** predict that the enantioselectivity of **2.11a** should be close to or greater than **2.11g**. The experimentally determined enantiomeric ratios are greater for **2.11g** than **2.11a** (97:3 versus 82:18) meaning there may be another transition state that has not been calculated that is important to this reaction. One possibility is that there is another background reaction catalyzed by a different active catalyst that is lower in energy than TS6 for **2.10a**. This lower energy transition state would cause erosion of enantioselectivity and lead to the experimentally observed enantioselectivities.



Figure 9. Enantioselectivity determining oxidative cyclization transition states for 2.10a

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2.3.2 NMR chemical shifts correlated to enantioselectivity

We compared the ¹³C NMR chemical shift values of the proximal allene carbon of the allene-yne starting materials to the ΔG of the APKR. ΔG was calculated from the equation $\Delta G =$

–RTln(*K*) where R is the gas constant, T is 70 °C, and *K* is the ratio of enantiomers. There was a low correlation when all 7 carboxyester groups, **2.10a-g**, were compared with an R² value of 0.7036 (Figure 10). When the alkyl and aromatic carboxyesters groups were compared separately, we saw good correlation with R² values of 0.9501 for alkyl carboxyester groups (Figure 11) and 0.9905 for aromatic groups (Figure 12). Substrates bearing alkyl carboxyester groups with proximal carbons with more downfield chemical shifts generally had higher er's. In contrast, substrates bearing aromatic carboxyester groups with proximal carbons with more upfield chemical shifts had higher er's. Despite the small sample size, the good correlation warrants additional investigation into whether ¹³C NMR chemical shifts can be predictive of enantioselectivity in the APKR.





Figure 10. ¹³C NMR chemical shift values vs $\Delta\Delta G^{\dagger}$ for all carboxyester groups 2.10a-g



Figure 11. ¹³C NMR chemical shift values vs $\Delta\Delta G^{\dagger}$ for alkyl groups 2.10a-c and 2.10g



Figure 12. ^{13}C NMR chemical shift values vs $\Delta\Delta G^{\dagger}$ for aromatic groups 2.10d-f

2.3.3 Hydrolysis of acyloxy cyclopentenones and determination of absolute stereochemistry

Computational results, as well as previous work on the asymmetric APKR, show that the R enantiomer is the predicted major enantiomer in the asymmetric APKR.⁷³ To confirm

stereochemistry, we grew an x-ray quality crystal of chloroacetate **2.11g** by slow diffusion in hexanes and DCM at 0 °C. X-ray analysis shows that the *R* enantiomer is the major enantiomer in the asymmetric APKR when (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene is used (Figure 13).



Figure 13. Thermal ellipsoid of 2.11g at 50% probability level

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We hypothesized that all of the substrates **2.10a-g** form the same major *R* enantiomer of products **2.11a-g**. To test this hypothesis, we hydrolyzed **2.11a**, **2.11d**, and **2.11g** using scandium triflate (Scheme 19).¹¹¹ Conditions developed by Hiyama and coworkers were used to hydrolyze acyloxy groups alpha to ketones while retaining stereochemistry. Hydrolysis of **2.11a**, **2.11d**, and **2.11g** afforded the same major enantiomeric product, alcohol (*R*)-**2.43** as determined by chiral

HPLC (Figure 14). We have assigned the absolute stereochemistry as the *R* enantiomer for 2.11b,2.11c, 2.11e, and 2.11f by analogy.



Scheme 19. Hydrolysis of APKR adduct



Figure 14. Chiral HPLC trace of 2.43 following hydrolysis of 2.11g

2.4 Synthesis of allene-ynes with different alkyne substituents

To determine the impact of the alkynyl group on yield and enantioselectivity in the asymmetric APKR of allene-ynes having a chloroacetate group, we synthesized three allene-ynes

having a phenyl, TMS, or a hydrogen group on the terminus of the alkyne in a manner similar to that used for allene-yne **2.10** in Scheme 17. Addition of phenylethynylmagnesium bromide to 3-furfural afforded propargyl alcohol **2.44**, which was subjected to an oxidative rearrangement to afford furaldehyde **2.45** in 75% yield (Scheme 20). **2.45** was reacted with acetone (10 equiv) and NaOH (0.4 equiv) to afford unsaturated ketone **2.46** in 77% yield. Using less acetone (2.5 equiv) resulted in **2.46** and the bis-aldol adduct **2.47**. Bis-aldol adduct **2.47** and unsaturated ketone **2.46** were not separable by column chromatography, so **2.47** was assigned via ¹H and ¹³C NMR as the mixture. Evidence for **2.47** was supported by resonances at 7.77, 7.60-7.56, 6.91, and 6.68 ppm and lack of a methyl ketone singlet resonance at 2.38 ppm in the ¹H NMR. The ¹³C NMR contains a carbonyl carbon at 188.5 ppm and no methyl ketone signal at 27.6 ppm.



Scheme 20. Synthesis of Phenyl substituted alkyne substrate

Addition of the lithium trimethylsilyl acetylide to 3-furfural afforded propargyl alcohol **2.48** in 81% yield (Scheme 21). **2.48** was subjected to an oxidative rearrangement (NBS, H₂O) to afford furaldehyde **2.49** in 77% yield. Subjecting furaldehyde **2.49** to NaOH and acetone gave the desilylated alkyne **2.51** in 67% yield (Scheme 22). To access the desired TMS substituted alkyne,

furaldehyde **2.49** was subjected to a Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction using dimethyl-2oxopropyl phosphonate and cesium carbonate to afford unsaturated ketone **2.50** in 77% yield.



Scheme 21. Synthesis of TMS substituted alkyne substrate



Scheme 22. Synthesis of terminal alkyne substrate

With unsaturated ketones **2.46**, **2.50**, and **2.51** in hand, we performed a 1,4-reduction using Hantzsch ester **2.27** and silica gel in refluxing toluene to afford saturated ketones **2.52a-c** (Scheme 23). Addition of ethynylmagensium bromide and trapping with chloroacetyl chloride in a one-pot procedure afforded propargyl chloroacetates **2.53a-c**. The chloroacetyl group was selected due to the high enantioselectivities seen in the APKR previously in the case of methyl substituted alkyne **2.10g**. Propargyl chloroacetates **2.53a-c** were then subjected to a rhodium catalyzed rearrangement to afford allenyl chloroacetates **2.54a-c**.



Scheme 23. Synthesis of allenyl chloroacetates with different alkynes

Subjecting allene-yne **2.54a** having a phenyl group on the terminus of the alkyne to the asymmetric APKR afforded **2.55a** in 59% yield with an excellent er of 99:1, the highest enantioselectivity of an asymmetric APKR to date (Scheme 24). Allene-yne **2.54b** containing a TMS group on the terminus of the alkyne afforded **2.55b** in moderate yields under both racemic and asymmetric conditions. The APKR of terminal alkyne **2.54c** afforded product **2.55c** in low yields under racemic and asymmetric conditions. The er's for both the TMS containing and terminal alkyne substrates **2.55b** and **2.55c** were both low relative to the chloroacetate containing substrates with methyl or phenyl substituted alkynes. We believe in the case of **2.55c** that this is due to the terminal alkyne reacting with the rhodium catalyst as evidenced by lower than expected ¹H NMR integrations for this hydrogen in the crude NMR. These low er's show that the chloroacetate group is not a group that will result in high enantioselectivities for all substrates, and other factors than the carboxyester group can influence the er of the asymmetric APKR.



Scheme 24. APKR results for different alkynes

2.5 Benzene tethered allene-yne in the APKR

To investigate the impact of the tether on the asymmetric APKR, a benzene ring tethered allen-yne was investigated (Scheme 25). Starting with 2-bromobenzaldehyde **2.56**, we performed a Sonogashira coupling with 1-propyne to afford alkyne **2.57** in 74% yield.¹¹² Reacting **2.57** with acetone and NaOH afforded unsaturated ketone **2.58** in 76% yield. Unsaturated ketone **2.58** was reacted with Hantzsch ester **2.27** in refluxing toluene to afford the saturated ketone product **2.59** in 77% yield. Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide to ketone **2.59** afforded the corresponding propargyl alkoxide that was trapped with chloroacetyl chloride in a one-pot procedure to afford

propargyl chloroacetate **2.60** in 76% yield. Propargyl chloroacetate **2.60** was reacted with $[Rh(OC(O)CF_3)_2]_2$ to afford allene-yne **2.61** in 85% yield.



Scheme 25. Synthesis of benzene tethered allene-yne

With allene-yne **2.61** in hand, we next sought to investigate the effect of the benzene tether on the APKR. Performing the APKR with $Rh(cod)_2BF_4$ and PPh₃ afforded racemic **2.62** in 68% yield. Performing the asymmetric APKR with the optimized conditions for the furanyl-based systems ($Rh(cod)_2BF_4$, (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene, 0.01M in DCE) gave inconsistent yields of the APKR adduct ranging from 36-64% over three runs. The er of the reaction was consistent with an average of 58:42. These results show that the furanyl ring is playing a role in the high enantioselectivity of the asymmetric APKR. We postulate that the low er in the APKR of **2.61** is due to a developing $A^{1,3}$ interaction between a hydrogen of the phenyl ring and the methyl group of the alkyne in the transition state of the enantiodetermining oxidative cyclization (Figure 15).



Figure 15. Destabilizing A^{1,3} interaction in the oxidative cyclization transition state of 2.61 in the APKR

2.6 Isolation of an indene byproduct in the synthesis of a furanyl tethered allene-yne

Next, we investigated the impact of the substitution pattern of the furanyl tethered alleneyne by exploring a substrate with the alkyne at the 3-position of the furan and the allenyl group at the 2-position. 3-Bromofuran-2-carbaldehyde **2.63** was reacted with 1-propyne in THF to afford **2.64** in 95% yield (Scheme 26). **2.64** was reacted with acetone to give the unsaturated ketone **2.65** in 80% yield. **2.65** was subjected to conjugate reduction conditions using Hantzsch ester **2.27** in refluxing toluene to afford ketone **2.66** in 66% yield. Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide to ketone **2.66** afforded the corresponding propargyl alkoxide that was trapped in situ with chloroacetyl chloride providing propargyl chloroacetate **2.67** in 63% yield.



Scheme 26. Synthesis of a furan substrate with an allene at the 2-position

Attempts to convert propargyl chloroacetate **2.67** into allenyl chloroacetate **2.68** using our standard conditions ([Rh(OC(O)CF₃)₂]₂ in toluene at 50 °C for 23.5 h) did not give the desired allenyl chloroacetate (Scheme 27). Instead, a byproduct was obtained whose structure was confirmed as indene product **2.70** via x-ray crystallography (Figure 16). We propose that **2.70** is formed via a multi-step process involving an intramolecular Diels-Alder reaction of intermediate **2.68** to afford oxanorbornene **2.69** followed by rhodium catalyzed ring opening and aromatization.^{113, 114} The transition-metal catalyzed ring opening of oxanorbornenes is a well-known process.¹¹⁵ Stopping the reaction at 2 h, before all starting material was consumed, resulted in a 23% recovery of starting material **2.67** and 34% yield of a mixture of allene **2.68** and a byproduct that is possibly oxanorbornene **2.69** in a 1:0.15 ratio.









Scheme 27. Possible mechanism of indene byproduct 2.70 formation



Figure 16. X-ray crystal structure of indene byproduct 2.70

We attempted to catalyze the rearrangement of the propargyl chloroacetate with transition metal catalysts other than rhodium to obtain the desired allenyl chloroacetate. To this end, we tested several different metals in this rearrangement reaction including AuCl₃, PtCl₂, and

AgSbF₆.^{63, 116-118} Reacting **2.67** with PtCl₂ in toluene at room temperature for 94 h or AgSbF₆ in DCM at room temperature for 23 h afforded recovered starting material and decomposition byproducts. The reaction with AuCl₃ in toluene at room temperature afforded some product after 23 h, but the reaction appeared to stop progressing after just a few hours according to NMR aliquots. Due to the inability to selectively synthesize the desired product we did not pursue this allene-yne substrate further.

2.7 Probing the mechanism for the formation of aldehyde byproduct 2.29

To control the diverging reactivity of the allene-yne to favor the formation of the APKR product, we sought to understand the mechanism for the formation of aldehyde byproduct. We hypothesized that the rhodium catalyst was responsible for aldehyde formation. To test this hypothesis, we subjected **2.10a** to the APKR conditions excluding the rhodium catalyst. After 19.5 h, starting material was recovered with no evidence of aldehyde **2.29** by ¹H NMR (Scheme 28, entry a). Performing the reaction in the presence of the rhodium catalyst under a nitrogen atmosphere and furfuryl alcohol (1.0 equiv) afforded aldehyde **2.29** in 50% yield (Scheme 28, entry b). Furfuryl alcohol was added to trap the acetyl group but the corresponding acetylated product was not observed by ¹H NMR of the crude reaction mixture. These results provide evidence that the rhodium catalyst is essential for the formation of aldehyde **2.29**.



Scheme 28. Probing the mechanism of aldehyde 2.29 formation

To investigate the formation of aldehyde byproduct on a substrate that would not participate in the APKR, allene **2.73** was prepared which lacked the alkynyl group. Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide to 2-octanone (**2.71**) followed by trapping with acetyl chloride afforded propargyl acetate **2.72** in 67% yield (Scheme 29). Reaction of propargyl acetate **2.72** to a rhodium catalyzed rearrangement afforded allenyl acetate **2.73**.



Scheme 29. Synthesis of a model allene substrate

With model allenyl acetate 2.73 in hand, we subjected it to the asymmetric APKR conditions in the presence of 5 equiv of D_2O (Scheme 30). Aldehyde 2.74 was obtained in 44% isolated yield along with 2.74-D. The ratio of 2.74:2.74-D was determined to be 75:25

corresponding to a 25% deuterium incorporation. The percent deuterium incorporation was based on the integration of the signal for the alkenyl resonance alpha to the aldehyde at 5.87 ppm relative to signals at 2.16 and 1.97 ppm in the ¹H NMR spectrum. The aldehyde signals for **2.74-D** show evidence of deuterium incorporation as the resonances at 9.99 and 9.95 ppm appear as singlets whereas the resonances for **2.74** appear as doublets at 9.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz) and 9.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz) ppm (Figure 17). This result shows that adventitious water may play some role in the hydrolysis of the allenyl acetate. However, an alternative mechanism must be operating as an excess of deuterium oxide gave only 25% deuterium incorporation. A possible mechanism for formation of **2.74-D** is shown in Scheme 31.



Scheme 30. APKR conditions for aldehyde synthesis from a model allene



Figure 17. NMR spectrum of 2.74-D



Scheme 31. Proposed mechanism of aldehyde formation and incorporation of deuterium

2.8 Hydroxyl-directed hydrogenation of the C1-C10 double bond

With an eye towards the synthesis of Tg and biologically active Tg analogues, we set out to selectively reduce the C1-C10 double bond of APKR adduct **2.11** and gain access to a 3-dimensional core resembling Tg. Because the facial selectivity of transition metal catalyzed hydrogenations can in principle be directed by a Lewis basic group, we focused our efforts on this reduction strategy having the C2 group serve as a directing group.¹¹⁹ This strategy takes advantage of the C2 stereochemistry afforded by the asymmetric APKR. Moreover, this C2 group can be transformed into a variety of Lewis basic groups that have been used successfully in directed hydrogenation reactions, such as hydroxyl, amide, carbamate, and ester groups.^{120, 121} One of the most common catalysts for directed hydrogenations is $[C_8H_{12}IrP(C_6H_{11})_3C_5H_5N]PF_6$ (Crabtree's catalyst).⁸³ This cationic 16-electron complex allows the directing group to coordinate to the metal center and direct the hydrogen to the same face of the alkene as the directing group.

Substrate 2.43 was selected over 2.11a-g because a hydroxyl group, in some cases, serves as a better directing group than a carboxyester group.¹²⁰ We face a few challenges in this directed hydrogenation strategy of substrate 2.43: 1) chemoselectivity may be an issue as there are three other carbon-carbon double bonds in 2.43; 2) C1-C10 is tetrasubstituted and conjugated to an enone system, making it less reactive.

Reacting **2.43** with Crabtree's catalyst in DCM under a balloon of hydrogen at room temperature gave no reaction after 2 h (Scheme 32). Performing the same experiment using degassed (freeze-pump-thaw) DCM gave only recovered starting material after 24 h. A control experiment was performed to test the quality of Crabtree's catalyst by reacting 3-methyl-2-buten-1-ol **2.79** to the same reaction conditions. After 18 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through a plug of silica to afford the hydrogenated product **2.80** as evidenced by the disappearance of the

vinyl proton resonance. While a yield was not obtained, this result supports that our reaction protocol using Crabtree's catalyst was effective at hydrogenating allylic alcohol containing substrates. Investigations using the Crabtree catalyst under more forcing conditions to reduce the relatively inert alkene of **2.43** will be performed by Fatemeh Haghighi in the group.¹²²



Scheme 32. Hydrogenation using Crabtree's catalyst

Due to the inability of Crabtree's catalyst to reduce the C1-C10 double bond of **2.43**, we investigated other catalysts to affect this transformation. Pd/C has been used previously to hydrogenate similar tetrasubstituted alkenes formed via the APKR and, in some cases, has been directed by hydroxyl groups.¹²³⁻¹²⁵ Reacting **2.43** with 10% Pd/C (0.1 equiv) in a 4:1 methanol:ethyl acetate solvent system under a hydrogen atmosphere for 30 minutes resulted in a complex mixture of products, none of which appeared to be the desired product based upon disappearance of the furanyl resonances in the crude ¹H NMR. Pd/BaSO₄ has been used previously on similar tetrasubstituted alkenes.¹²⁶ Reacting **2.43** with Pd/BaSO₄ in ethyl acetate under a hydrogen atmosphere resulted in complete recovery of starting material after 20 h.

Next, we investigated the effect of solvent on the palladium catalyzed hydrogenation. Reacting **2.43** with 10% Pd/C in ethyl acetate under a hydrogen atmosphere afforded the desired product **2.78** in 44% yield and approximately 1.4:1 dr (Scheme 33). The major diastereomer was assigned as the directed product via ¹H NMR coupling constants of the hydrogen alpha to the ketone. The coupling constant for H_a is 4.0 Hz and H_b is 7.0 Hz. Reported coupling constants for cyclopentenones are 2.2 Hz for *trans* hydrogens and 7.2 Hz for *cis* hydrogens.¹²⁷



Scheme 33. Hydrogenation of 2.43 using Pd/C

2.9 Conclusions

We have shown that furanyl tethered allene-ynes are tolerated in the asymmetric APKR, affording good yields and high enantioselectivities. The origin of the high enantioselectivities arises from a favorable π - π stacking between the furan ring and binap group of the phosphoramidite ligand according to computation. Allenyl chloroacetates afford high enantioselectivities in substrates bearing methyl and phenyl substituted alkynes. The moderate yielding asymmetric APKR is attributed to the propensity of the allenyl carboxy groups to form an aldehyde byproduct under the APKR reaction conditions. Performing the APKR under dilute conditions favors the formation of APKR product **2.11** over aldehyde **2.29**. We attribute this to the APKR being an intramolecular process while it is an intermolecular process that leads to aldehyde formation. A

hydroxyl directed hydrogenation of the APKR adduct using Crabtree's catalyst afforded no reaction. Using Pd/C for this hydrogenation worked with some diastereoselectivity.

Supporting Information

General Methods

All commercially available compounds were purchased and used as received unless otherwise noted. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether (Et_2O), and dichloromethane (DCM, CH₂Cl₂) were purified by passing through alumina using a Sol-Tek ST-002 solvent purification system. Toluene was purified by distilling from calcium hydride. Acetone was purified by refluxing over, and distillation from, KMnO₄ and stored over 4 Å molecular sieves. *o*-DCB was degassed using freeze-pump-thaw method (3x). Triphenylphosphine was purified by recrystallization with ethanol. Carbon monoxide (>99.99%) and 10% carbon monoxide in argon were purchased from Matheson. 33%(w/w) NaOH was prepared by dissolving NaOH in water. Purification of the compounds by flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (40-63 µm particle size, 60 Å pore size). TLC analyses were performed on silica gel F254 glass plates (250 µm thickness). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300, 400, or 500 MHz spectrometers. Spectra were referenced to residual chloroform (7.26 ppm, ¹H NMR; 77.16 ppm, ¹³C NMR). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm, multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), p (pentet), and m (multiplet). Coupling constants, J, are reported in hertz (Hz). All NMR spectra were obtained at rt. IR spectra were obtained using a Nicolet Avatar E.S.P. 360 FT-IR or Perkin Elmer Spectrum Two FT-IR. ESI mass spectrometry was performed on a Waters Micromass GCT high resolution mass spectrometer, while ES mass spectrometry was performed on a Waters Q-TOF Ultima API, Micromass UK Limited high resolution mass spectrometer. Chiral HPLC was performed on a Waters 600 HPLC using a Waters

996 photodiode array detector using a Chiralcel OD chiral column or ChiralPak IA-3 chiral column. All microwave reactions were carried out using a Biotage Initiator Exp. The microwave parameters were set to variable power, constant temperature, and the fixed hold time set to on. Optical rotations were measured using a Jasco P2000 polarimeter.





3-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)acrylonitrile (2.17). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.⁹⁵ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 250-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with NaH (550 mg of a 60% dispersion in mineral oil, 13.76 mmol) by temporary removal of the septum. The flask was evacuated and refilled with nitrogen (3 x) using a Schlenk manifold and nitrogen inlet adapter. THF (28.6 mL) was added and the solution was cooled by placing the flask in an icebath. A solution of diethyl cyanomethylphosphonate (2.1 mL, 13.1 mmol) in THF (9.8 mL) was added dropwise via syringe over 5 min. After stirring for 10 min, the ice-bath was removed, and the solution maintained for an additional 40 min. The reaction was cooled by placing in an icebath and a solution of 2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-carbaldehyde (**2.16**) (1.407 g, 10.55 mmol) in THF (9.3 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min via syringe. After 1 h at 0 °C, ¹H NMR showed complete consumption of starting material. Water (15 mL) was added to the flask, and the contents of the flask were transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with diethyl ether (5 x 25 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (1 x 25 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate,

filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 1.36 g (82%) of the title compound as a yellow solid in a 76:24 ratio of E:Z isomers. The isomers were not separated but taken on to the next step as a mixture.

EDD2-084

<u>MP</u> 151-163 °C

 $<u>^{1}H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>

7.35 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H)*, 7.33 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1 H)**, 7.30 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H)**,
7.27 (d, J = 2.0, 1 H)**, 7.13 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1 H)*, 6.48 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H)**,
5.65 (d, J = 16.8 Hz, 1 H)**, 5.30 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1 H)*, 2.18 (s, 3 H)**, 2.16 (s, 3 H)* ppm

* Indicates resonances corresponding to Z isomer where discernable

** Indicates resonances corresponding to E isomer where discernable

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

143.9, 143.8, 140.7, 139.2, 138.7, 124.4, 118.4, 108.5, 107.5, 97.4, 96.0, 94.1, 68.6, 4.9 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2214, 1631, 1147, 952 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₀H₈ON, 158.0606; found: 158.0599

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.65$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, *p*-anisaldehyde

Synthesis of saturated nitrile via dissolving metal reduction



3-(2-(prop-yl-yl-1-yl)furan-3-yl)propanenitrile (2.18). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.⁹⁵ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 100-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with magnesium turnings (2.48g, 101.8 mmol). The flask was evacuated and refilled 3 times with nitrogen. 3-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)Acrylonitrile (2.17) (400 mg, 2.54 mmol) and methanol (22.2 mL) were added to the flask and the solution was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath. Dibromoethane (0.8 mL, 9.28 mmol) was added dropwise over 2 min. After 4 h, ¹H NMR showed complete consumption of starting material and a 4:1 ratio of product 2.18 to byproduct 2.19. The reaction was diluted with dichloromethane (10 mL) and transferred to a beaker filled with cold HCl (0.5 M, 400 mL) and placed in an ice-bath. Concentrated HCl was added dropwise until magnesium was no longer visible. The contents of the beaker were transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with dichloromethane (4 x 75 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with NaHCO₃ (1 x 50 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue (273 mg) was carried forward to the next step without further purification. A small amount of the crude residue was purified silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/ hexanes) for characterization purposes.

EDD2-092



<u>¹H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.27 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.84 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.11 (s, 3 H) ppm

 $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

142.9, 135.5, 125.0, 119.3, 111.2, 93.8, 68.9, 21.8, 18.0, 4.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2919, 2248, 1495, 1427, 1180, 1145, 1076, 889, 752 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₀H₁₀ON, 160.0762; found: 160.0753

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.57$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, *p*-anisaldehyde

Byproduct of the dissolving metal reduction reaction of acrylonitrile 2.17

3-(2-(prop-1-en-1-yl)furan-3-yl)propanenitrile (2.19). Obtained as a byproduct in the dissolving metal reduction of acrylonitrile 2.17 in a 53:47 ratio of E:Z isomers that were inseparable by column chromatography.



 $\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.38 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H)*, 6.35 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.31 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H)*, 6.21-6.18 (m, 2 H), 6.11-6.08 (m, 1 H), 5.73-5.64 (m, 1 H)*,

2.79 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4 H), 2.53 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4 H), 2.05 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.2 Hz, 3 H),
1.88 (dd, J = 1.2, 3.6 Hz, 3 H)* ppm
* Indicates *E* isomer

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

150.1, 149.4, 141.6, 141.4, 126.3, 125.6, 119.3, 118.9, 117.3, 116.4, 115.1, 111.7, 111.3, 21.5, 21.2, 18.7, 18.7, 15.3 ppm

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₀H₁₂ON, 162.0913; found: 162.0910

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.61$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, *p*-anisaldehyde

Synthesis of methyl ketone via addition of Grignard reagent to nitrile



4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butan-2-one (2.20). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.⁹⁷ An oven-dried 2-5 mL microwave vial (part no. 351521) containing a magnetic stir bar and crimp cap (part no. 50-231-1209) was charged with 3-(2-(prop-yl-yl-1-yl)furan-3-yl)propanenitrile (2.18) (50 mg, 0.314 mmol) and THF (0.95 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere. Methylmagnesium bromide (1.1 mL 1 M solution in THF, 1.10 mmol, 3.5 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 3 min at rt. The solution was heated to 100 °C for 10 min in a Biotage Initiator microwave. The reaction was allowed to cool to rt and deionized water (0.08 mL) followed by sulfuric acid (15% v/v, 0.5 mL) were added dropwise via syringe and stirred at rt for 2 h. The resulting solution was transferred to a separatory funnel and extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (1 x 10 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue

was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 27 mg (49%) of the title compound as a pale-yellow liquid.



6-methylbenzofuran-5-carbonitrile (**2.21**). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 25-mL roundbottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, condenser, and septum was charged with NaBH₄ (9 mg, 0.24 mmol). The flask was evacuated and refilled 3 times with nitrogen. 3-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)Acrylonitrile (**2.17**) (25 mg, 0.159 mmol) in 2-propanol (2.5 mL) was added to the flask and the solution was placed in an oil bath (75 °C) and refluxed for 27 h. The crude reaction mixture was filtered through a short plug of silica gel using ethyl acetate and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to yield 27 mg (100%) of the title compound.

EDD2-067

¹<u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.88 (s, 1 H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.43 (s, 1 H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.65 (s, 3 H)

 $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

157.1, 146.6, 138.1, 126.5, 125.9, 118.8, 113.3, 107.8, 106.4, 20.9 ppm

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₀H₁₂ON, 158.0606; found: 158.0598

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.74$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, *p*-anisaldehyde



3-(2-(phenylethynyl)furan-3-yl)acrylonitrile (2.23). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with NaH (148 mg of a 60% dispersion in mineral oil, 3.69 mmol). The flask was evacuated and refilled with nitrogen 3 times using a Schlenk manifold and nitrogen inlet adapter. THF (7.7 mL) was added and the solution was cooled by placing in an ice-bath. A solution of diethyl cyanomethylphosphonate (0.58 mL, 3.52 mmol) in THF (2.6 mL) was added dropwise via syringe over 5 min. After stirring for 10 min, the ice-bath was removed, and the solution stirred for an additional 40 min. The reaction was cooled again by placing in an ice-bath and a solution of 2-(phenylethynyl)furan-3-carbaldehyde (2.22) (550 mg, 2.01 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) was added dropwise over 5 min via syringe. After 1 h at 0 °C, ¹H NMR showed complete consumption of starting material. The reaction was quenched with water and brine and extracted with diethyl ether (5 X 15 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (1 X 15 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, gravity filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 510 mg (83%) as a 78:22 ratio of E:Z isomers of the title compound as a beige solid.

EDD2-112

<u>MP</u> 39-42 °C

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.58-7.56 (m, 2 H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 6 H), *7.23 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 0.29 H), 6.57 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1 H), *5.38 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 0.29 H) ppm

* Indicates resonances corresponding to Z isomer where discernable

Impurity at 2.17 (s, 0.15 H)

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

144.8, 144.7, 140.4, 138.6, 138.4, 131.8, 131.8, 129.8, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 125.5,

125.4, 121.3, 118.3, 108.9, 107.9, 99.6, 96.7, 94.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2216, 1621, 1506, 1483, 1168 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₀ON, 220.0762; found: 220.0757 <u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.60$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, *p*-anisaldehyde



4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butan-2-one (2.20). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.¹⁰⁷ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 10-mL, round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, septa and nitrogen inlet adapter was charged with (*E*)-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)but-3-en-2-one (**2.26**) (35 mg, 0.20 mmol) in benzene (2.87 mL, 0.07 M). Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (Hantzsch ester, **2.27**) (64 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv) was added by temporary removal of the septa. The flask was lowered into a preheated oil bath (80 °C) and maintained for 21 h. TLC and NMR aliquots at this time showed incomplete consumption of starting material. The crude residue was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2.5-5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford a mixture of starting material, product, and Hantzsch pyridine.

EDD4-292



4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butan-2-one (2.20). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.¹⁰⁹ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 10-mL, round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, septa and nitrogen inlet adapter was charged with (*E*)-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)but-3-en-2-one (**2.26**) (35 mg, 0.201 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL, 0.2M) via syringe. Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (Hantzsch ester, **2.27**) (129 mg, 0.603 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added by temporary removal of the septa. TiCl₄ (0.24 mL of a 1 M solution in DCM, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added via syringe over 2 min. After 1 h, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was concentrated via rotary evaporation, the crude residue loaded onto a column, and purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5-10% EtOAc/ Hexanes) to afford 29 mg (83%) of the title compound as a vellow oil.

EDD4-302



2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)benzaldehyde (2.57). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.¹¹² A flame-dried, 2-necked, 100-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet needle, condenser, and septum was charged with 2-bromobenzaldehyde (2.56) (1.2 mL, 10.28 mmol), bistriphenylphosphine palladium(II)
dichloride (358 mg, 0.51 mmol), triethylamine (2.87 mL, 20.56 mmol), and THF (16.3 mL, 0.63 M). Nitrogen was bubbled through the solution for 5 min. 1-Propyne (11.3 mL of a 1 M in THF solution, 11.31 mmol), and CuI (50 mg, 0.26 mmol) was added and the flask lowered into a preheated oil bath (40 °C). After 2 h, an NMR aliquot showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5-10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 1.099g (74%) of the title compound as a brown oil.

EDD6-425

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

10.53 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.55-7.48 (m, 2 H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 1 H), 2.14 (s, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

192.4, 136.2, 133.8, 133.4, 128.0, 128.0, 127.1, 93.7, 75.7, 4.7 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

2242, 1693, 760 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₀H₉O, 145.0648; found: 145.0647

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.64$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



(*E*)-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-2-one (2.58). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.¹⁰⁶ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 2-

(prop-1-yn-1-yl)benzaldehyde (**2.57**) (984 mg, 6.83 mmol), deionized water (5.7 mL, 1.2 M) and acetone (5.0 mL, 68.3 mmol) via syringe. The solution was cooled in an ice-bath, and 33% w/w aqueous NaOH (0.33 mL, 2.73 mmol) was added dropwise over 1 min. The solution was allowed to warm to rt and after 4 h, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. 10% Sulfuric acid was added dropwise until the solution reached a pH 4 as determined using pH paper. The resulting solution was transferred to a separatory funnel and the organic layer separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl₃ (5 x 5 mL), the combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 953 mg (76% yield) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

EDD6-428

1 <u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

8.04 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1 H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 2 H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 2 H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.41 (s, 3 H), 2.15 (s, 3 H) ppm

$\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

198.8, 141.9, 135.8, 133.1, 130.0, 128.5, 128.1, 126.0, 125.4, 92.6, 77.5, 27.4, 4.7 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2246, 1668, 758 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₃H₁₃O, 185.0961; found: 185.0962

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.56$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)butan-2-one (2.59). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 100-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with (*E*)-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-2-one (**2.58**) (740 mg, 4.02 mmol), toluene (40.2 mL, 0.01 M), Hantzsch ester (**2.27**) (3.564g, 14.07 mmol), and silica gel (6.03 g) and lowered into a preheated oil bath (110 °C). After 20.5 h, an NMR aliquot showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was gravity filtered using a glass funnel fitted with filter paper. The filter paper was washed with ethyl acetate (25 mL), and the combined organics were concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was diluted in ethyl acetate, transferred to a separatory funnel and washed with 2 N HCl (5 x 5 mL) and brine (1 x 5 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5-15% ethyl acetate/ hexanes) to afford 577 mg (77%) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

EDD6-431

1 <u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.36 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.21-7.11 (m, 3 H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.78 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.15 (s, 3 H), 2.08 (s, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

208.4, 142.9, 132.5, 128.9, 127.9, 126.2, 123.5, 89.9, 78.2, 44.4, 30.1, 29.0, 4.6 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2249, 1712, 757 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₃H₁₅O, 187.1117; found: 187.1119 <u>TLC $R_f = 0.59$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA</u>



3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)pent-1-yn-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (2.60). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.⁷³ A flame-dried, 2necked, 100-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)butan-2-one (2.59) (570 mg, 3.06 mmol) and THF (10.2 mL). The solution was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath and ethynylmagnesium bromide (18.4 mL of a 0.5 M solution in THF, 9.18 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 10 min. After allowing to warm to rt over 60 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The flask was placed in an ice-bath and chloroacetyl chloride (0.85 mL, 10.71 mmol, 3.5 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 2 min. After 2 h, TLC showed complete consumption of the propargyl alcohol intermediate. Diethyl ether (10 mL) and deionized water (5 mL) were added to the flask, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3) x 10 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5 to 15% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 636 mg (72%) of the title compound as a light-yellow oil.

EDD6-435

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.37 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 2 H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 1 H), 4.00 (s, 2 H), 2.99-2.95 (m, 2 H), 2.67 (s, 1 H), 2.33-2.26 (m, 1 H), 2.20-2.13 (m, 1 H), 2.09 (s, 3 H), 1.81 (s, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

165.4, 142.9, 132.4, 129.0, 127.9, 126.2, 123.6, 89.7, 82.8, 78.2, 77.4, 74.6, 42.1, 41.5, 29.7, 26.5, 4.6 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2119, 1761, 759 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂Cl, 289.0989; found: 289.0991

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.65$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA

General Procedure A: Synthesis of allenyl esters via a formal [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement⁷³



3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)penta-1,2-dien-1-yl 2-chloroacetate (2.61). A flame-dried, single-necked, 25-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with rhodium(II) trifluoroacetate dimer (0.05 equiv, 16.0 mg, 0.024 mmol) in a nitrogen filled glovebox and sealed with a septum before removal. The flask was placed under a nitrogen atmosphere using a nitrogen manifold and an inlet needle. A solution of 3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-

yn-1-yl)phenyl)pent-1-yn-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.60**) (1 equiv, 139 mg, 0.48 mmol) in toluene (2.4 mL, 0.2 M) was added dropwise via syringe to the flask. The flask was lowered into a preheated 50 °C oil bath. After 2 h, consumption of starting material was observed by TLC. The flask was allowed to cool to rt, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, and the crude residue immediately purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 118 mg (85%) of the title compound as a clear liquid.

EDD6-438

¹<u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.36 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.31-7.30 (m, 1 H), 7.22-7.10 (m, 3 H), 4.12 (s, 2 H),

2.95-2.87 (m, 2 H), 2.46-2.37 (m, 2 H), 2.08 (s, 3 H), 1.89 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 3 H) ppm ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

189.8, 165.4, 143.2, 132.4, 128.7, 127.8, 126.1, 123.6, 117.1, 110.4, 89.7, 78.3, 40.9, 36.0, 32.6, 20.6, 4.6 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

2249, 1978, 1765, 756 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂Cl, 289.0989; found: 289.0992

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.71$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA

General Procedure B: Racemic APKR



1,4-dimethyl-2-oxo-2,3,5,6-tetrahydrobenzo[e]azulen-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.62**). Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (0.1 equiv, 3.0 mg, 0.0073 mmol) was weighed into a flame-dried 5-mL pear-shaped flask in a nitrogen glovebox and sealed with a septum. DCE (0.7 mL) was added under nitrogen to the flask and the solution was transferred via syringe to a flame-dried 25-mL Schlenk tube equipped with magnetic stir bar and septum. In a separate flask, triphenylphosphine (0.15 equiv, 2.9 mg, 0.011 mmol) was dissolved in DCE (0.7 mL) and added to the Schlenk tube via syringe. The resulting solution was stirred at rt under nitrogen for 30 min. The Schlenk tube was evacuated via the inlet needle and refilled with 100% carbon monoxide (3 x) using a separate inlet needle and stirred for 1 h. 3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)penta-1,2-dien-1-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.61**) (1.0 equiv, 20 mg, 0.0693 mmol) in DCE (0.3 mL) was added dropwise via syringe over 2 min. The tube was lowered into a preheated 70 °C oil bath and the reaction stirred for 71 h until complete by TLC. The volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, and the product was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% to 10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 15 mg (68%) of the title compound as a yellow solid.

EDD6-433

1 <u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.38-7.34 (m, 2 H), 7.31-7.29 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 1 H), 5.88, (s, 1 H), 4.18 (s, 2 H), 3.18-3.11 (m, 1 H), 2.79-2.76 (m, 1 H), 2.53-2.50 (m, 2 H), 2.04 (s, 3 H), 1.83 (s, 3 H) ppm

 $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

199.5, 166.4, 142.5, 140.2, 135.7, 133.5, 130.6, 130.6, 130.1, 128.9, 126.2, 74.6, 40.7, 37.3, 34.0, 23.3, 11.2 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

1746, 1698, 756 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₈H₁₈O₃Cl, 317.0939; found: 317.0925

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.48$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA

Waters 600 HPLC, UV/PDA detector, 318 nm, Daicel CHIRALCEL-OD, 250 X 4.6 mm column,

1% *i*PrOH/hexanes, Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Peak	Retention Time (min)	Peak area (%)		
Peak 1	22.75	50.44		
Peak 2	34.25	49.56		

Table 2. HPLC results for racemic 2.62



Figure 18. Chiral HPLC trace for racemic 2.62

General Procedure C: Asymmetric APKR



(R)-1,4-dimethyl-2-oxo-2,3,5,6-tetrahydrobenzo[e]azulen-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (2.62).

Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (0.1 equiv, 2.8 mg, 0.0069 mmol) and (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) (0.15 equiv, 4.1 mg, 0.010 mmol) were weighed into separate flame-dried 5-mL pear-shaped flasks in a nitrogen glovebox and each sealed with a septum. The flasks were placed under a nitrogen atmosphere via a Schlenk manifold and an inlet needle. Bis(1,5cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate and (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) were each dissolved in DCE (1.0 mL each) and the resulting solutions transferred via syringe to a flame dried Schlenk tube and stirred under nitrogen for 30 min. The tube was evacuated via the inlet needle attached to a balloon of CO and stirred for 1 h. 3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)penta-1,2-dien-1-yl 2chloroacetate (**2.61**) (1.0 equiv, 20 mg, 0.069 mmol) in DCE (0.01 M, 6.9 mL) was added dropwise via syringe. The tube was lowered into a preheated 70 °C oil bath and stirred until TLC showed complete consumption of starting material (69 h). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the product purified using silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (8 mg, 36%) as a yellow oil in a 59:41 ratio of enantiomers.

EDD6-434

Waters 600 HPLC, UV/PDA detector, 318 nm, Daicel CHIRALCEL-OD, 250 X 4.6 mm column, 1% *i*PrOH/hexanes, Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Peak	Retention Time (min)	Peak area (%)		
Peak 1	24.19	58.61		
Peak 2	36.84	41.39		

 Table 3. Chiral HPLC data for enantioenriched 2.62 run 1



Figure 19. Chiral HPLC trace for enantioenriched 2.62 run 1

Run 2: Follows general procedure C: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (2.8 mg, 0.0069 mmol), (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) (4.1 mg, 0.010 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)penta-1,2-dien-1-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.61**) (20 mg, 0.069 mmol), DCE (6.9 mL, 0.01 M). The reaction was stirred for 69 h in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 14 mg (64%) of the title compound as a yellow solid. The ¹H NMR matched that of racemic **2.62**.

EDD6-436

 $[\alpha]^{23.7}_{D} = -0.72 (c. = 0.65, CHCl_3)$

Waters 600 HPLC, UV/PDA detector, 318 nm, Daicel CHIRALCEL-OD, 250 X 4.6 mm column,

1% iPrOH/hexanes, Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Peak	Retention Time (min)	Peak area (%)		
Peak 1	24.29	58.39		
Peak 2	37.00	41.61		

0.012-0.010-0.008· 36.996 0.006-E 0.004-0.002-0.000 -0.002 AND ADDRESS 50.00 60.00 40.00 30.00 20.00 10.00 Minutes 59.9580 Minutes, 0.00744 AU Peak Type Codes Amount Units Int Type **Retention** Time Area % Area Height Name 108 Unknown 58.39 12797 Bb 1958806 24.294 Unknown 88 41.61 6287 36,996 1395698

Table 4. Chiral HPLC data for enantioenriched 2.26 run 2

Figure 20. Chiral HPLC trace for enantioenriched 2.26 run 2

Run 3: Follows general procedure C: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (2.8 mg, 0.0069 mmol), (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) (4.1 mg, 0.010 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 3-methyl-5-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)penta-1,2-dien-1-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.61**) (20 mg, 0.069 mmol), DCE (6.9 mL, 0.01 M). The reaction was stirred for 63 h in an oil bath (70 °C). The

crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give

11 mg (50%) of the title compound as a yellow solid. The ¹H NMR matched that of racemic **2.62**.

EDD6-439

Waters 600 HPLC, UV/PDA detector, 318 nm, Daicel CHIRALCEL-OD, 250 X 4.6 mm column,

Table 5. Chiral HPLC data for enantioenriched 2.26 run 3

1% *i*PrOH/hexanes, Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Peak	Retention Time (min)	Peak area (%)
Peak 1	24.18	57.31
Peak 2	36.78	42.69



Figure 21.Chiral HPLC trace for enantioenriched 2.26 run 3



3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-carbaldehyde (**2.64**). This compound was prepared as previously reported with some modifications.¹¹² A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 3-bromofuran-2-carbaldehyde (**2.63**) (1.00 g, 5.72 mmol), bistriphenylphosphine palladium(II) dichloride (201 mg, 0.286 mmol, 0.05 equiv), triethylamine (1.6 mL, 11.43 mmol, 2 equiv), and THF (9.1 mL, 0.63 M). Nitrogen gas was bubbled through into the solution for 5 min using a needle. 1-Propyne (6.3 mL of a 1 M solution in THF, 6.29 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and CuI (27 mg, 0.14 mmol, 0.025 equiv) were added and the flask was lowered into a preheated oil bath (40 °C). After 4 h, NMR showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 725 mg (95%) of the title compound as a sticky brown solid.

EDD6-445

$<u>^{1}H NMR</u>$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

9.75 (d, *J* = 0.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.11 (s, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

176.4, 153.0, 147.5, 120.6, 115.6, 95.3, 69.2, 4.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2247, 1672 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₈H₇O₂, 135.0446; found: 135.0443

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.6$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



(*E*)-4-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one (2.65). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-carbaldehyde (2.64) (724 mg, 5.40 mmol), water (4.5 mL, 252.1 mmol, 46.7 equiv), and acetone (0.99 mL, 13.50 mmol, 2.5 equiv) via syringe. The solution was cooled in an ice-bath, and $33\%_{(w/w)}$ NaOH (0.17 mL, 1.39 mmol) was added dropwise over 1 min. After allowing to warm to rt after 5 h, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. 10% Sulfuric acid was added until the solution reached a pH 4 as determined using pH paper. The resulting solution was transferred to a separatory funnel and the organic layer separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with CHCl₃ (5 x 5 mL), the combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10-15% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to afford 748 mg (80% yield) of the title compound as a brown solid.

EDD6-446

<u>MP</u> 43.6-49.1 °C

7.40 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 16.4, 1 H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 2.10 (s, 3 H) ppm

<u>¹³C NMR</u> (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

IR (Thin Film)

2249, 1666, 1606 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₁H₁O₂, 175.0759 found: 175.0757

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.5$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



4-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)butan-2-one (2.66). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 100-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with (*E*)-4-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one (**2.65**) (548 mg, 3.15 mmol), toluene (31.5 mL, 0.1 M), Hantzsch ester (**2.27**) (2.794g, 11.03 mmol), and silica gel (4.725 g) and lowered into a preheated oil bath (110 °C). After 46 h, an NMR aliquot showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was gravity filtered through filter paper using a glass funnel. The filter paper was washed with ethyl acetate (25 mL), and the organics concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was dissolved in ethyl acetate, transferred to a separatory funnel, extracted with 2 N HCl (5 x 5 mL), organic layer washed with brine (1 x 5 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5-10% ethyl acetate/ hexanes) to afford 366 mg (66%) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

EDD6-454

1 <u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.17 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.28 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.98 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.81

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

207.3, 157.2, 140.5, 113.1, 103.8, 88.6, 71.2, 41.4, 29.9, 21.4, 4.5 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2918, 1715cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₁H₁₃O₂, 177.0910; found: 177.0911

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.52$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



3-methyl-5-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)pent-1-yn-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (2.67). This

compound was prepared in a manner similar to that previously reported with some modifications.⁷³ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 25-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 4-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)butan-2-one (**2.66**) (107 mg, 0.607 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). The solution was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath and ethynylmagnesium bromide (3.6 mL of a 0.5 M solution in THF, 1.82 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 5 min. After allowing to warm to room temp over 60 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The flask was placed in an ice-bath and chloroacetyl chloride (0.17 mL, 2.12 mmol, 3.5 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 1 min. After 2 h, TLC showed complete consumption of the propargyl alcohol intermediate. Diethyl ether

(5 mL) and deionized water (3 mL) were added to the flask, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$, washed with brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 107 mg (63%) of the title compound as a light-yellow oil.

EDD6-448

 $\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.19 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.04-3.96 (ABq, *J*_{AB} = 14.8 Hz, 2 H), 2.97-2.93 (m, 2 H), 2.64 (s, 1 H), 2.37-2.18 (m, 2 H), 2.02 (s, 3 H), 1.77 (s, 3 H) ppm

<u>¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>

165.4, 157.4, 140.5, 113.1, 103.9, 88.6, 82.2, 76.6, 74.9, 71.3, 41.5, 39.3, 26.3, 22.2, 4.5 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

2120, 1763 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₆O₃Cl, 279.0783 found: 279.0790 <u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.68$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



3-methyl-7-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)-1H-inden-5-ol (2.70). A flame-dried, single-necked, 10-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with rhodium(II) trifluoroacetate dimer (0.05 equiv, 12.5 mg, 0.019 mmol) in a nitrogen filled glovebox and sealed with a septum before removal. The flask was placed under a nitrogen atmosphere using a nitrogen manifold and an inlet needle. A solution of 3-methyl-5-(3-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-2-yl)pent-1-yn-3-yl 2-chloroacetate (**2.67**) (1 equiv, 103 mg, 0.37 mmol) in toluene (1.85 mL, 0.2 M) was added dropwise via syringe to the flask. The flask was lowered into a preheated oil bath (50 °C). After 23.5 h, consumption of starting material was observed by TLC. The flask was allowed to cool to rt, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, and the crude residue immediately purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2-5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 18 mg (26%) of the title compound as a yellow solid.

EDD6-449

$<u>^{1}H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>

6.76 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.81 (bs, 1 H), 3.28 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.09 (s, 6 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

154.6, 147.7, 139.5, 139.2, 130.7, 119.8, 114.2, 106.5, 106.5 88.5, 37.1, 13.2, 4.6 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

3369, 2236 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₃H₁₃O, 185.0961 found: 185.0976

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.50$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



7-hydroxy-6,9-dimethyl-5,6,6a,7-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-*b***]furan-8(***4H***)-one (2.78). A flamedried, single-necked, 5-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd/C (10%) and the flask was evacuated and refilled 3 times with nitrogen. 7-Hydroxy-6,9dimethyl-5,7-dihydroazuleno[4,5-***b***]furan-8(***4H***)-one (2.43) (9 mg, 0.39 mmol) was added in ethyl acetate (0.78 mL, 0.05M) was added to the flask via syringe. The flask was evacuated and refilled 3 times with hydrogen gas. After 2.25 h, TLC showed consumption of starting material. The reaction solution was filtered through a pad of Celite using ethyl acetate (5 mL), the volatiles were removed** *in vacuo***, and the crude residue purified by silica gel flash chromatography (30% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 4 mg (44%) of the title compound as a yellow oil in a 1.4:1 dr.**

EDD4-253

 $\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.54 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1.34 H), 7.50 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.35 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.34 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1.44 H), 4.31 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.11 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1.57 H), 3.32-3.30 (m, 1.24 H), 2.93-2.91 (m, 1.71 H), 2.81-2.56 (m, 10 H), 2.12 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 4.6 H), 2.08 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3.5 H), 2.02-1.97 (m, 2.86 H), 1.84-1.78 (m, 2.28 H), 0.89 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 4.86 H), 0.67 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3.48 H) ppm

 $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)

208.3, 207.2, 154.7, 153.1, 148.1, 147.6, 145.0, 144.5, 132.4, 132.3, 131.1, 130.8, 115.0, 114.6, 74.9, 73.2, 54.1, 48.9, 34.6, 32.8, 31.2, 29.5, 22.9, 22.6, 14.5, 11.7, 10.1, 9.3 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

3389, 1687, 1605 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₄H₁₇O₃ 233.1172, found: 233.1195

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.20$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA

3.0 Effect of a remote C8 carboxy group on the asymmetric APKR

3.1 Importance of the C8 group of thapsigargin

The C8 group of Tg is important for a few reasons. First, this position is used to tether a peptide-containing group to Tg to create the inactive prodrug mipsagargin.¹⁰ Second, this group is important to the bioactivity of Tg by hydrogen bonding with water and interacting with hydrophobic residues of SERCA.⁷ The stereochemistry at the C8 position of Tg is also important to its inhibitory activity. For example, an analogue with a group having the opposite stereochemistry at C8 of Tg is over 3000 times less potent than Tg at inhibiting SERCA.¹²⁸ With conditions in hand for the asymmetric APKR, we investigated the impact of a C8 butanoyl group on the enantioselectivity, reactivity, and yield of this reaction.

3.2 First generation synthesis of a C8 carboxy substituted allene-yne via an aldol reaction using a β-keto ester

To synthesize the C8 (Tg numbering) carboxy substituted allene-yne aldehyde **2.16** was reacted with allyl acetoacetate, triethylamine (Et₃N), and trimethylsilyl chloride (TMSCl) in DMF and DCM (Scheme 34).¹²⁹ This multicomponent reaction afforded **3.1** in 30% yield. Decarboxylation of **3.1** using palladium(0) tetrakistriphenylphosphine (Pd(PPh₃)₄) and morpholine in THF afforded **3.2** in 59% yield.¹³⁰ Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide to **3.2** followed by trapping of the corresponding alkoxide in situ with acetyl chloride resulted in

diacetylated product **3.4** in 18% yield and none of the desired product **3.3**. Due to the poor yielding steps in this synthetic route and the lability of the trimethylsilyl protecting group, we investigated other ways to synthesize a C8 substituted allene-yne.



Scheme 34. β-Keto ester route to C8 carboxy containing allene-yne

3.3 Second generation synthesis of a C8 carboxy containing allene-yne via an aldol reaction using acetone

Next, we investigated a more direct route to prepare an allene-yne having a C8 carboxy group. Reacting **2.16** with acetone and $2\%_{(w/w)}$ aqueous NaOH at -10 °C afforded the racemic aldol addition product **3.5** in 72% yield (Scheme 35).¹³¹ It is important to note here that this successful 1,2-addition of acetone to **2.16** lays the foundation for future studies using a chiral organocatalyst to afford the either enantiomer of **3.5** enantioselectively.^{86, 87, 132} Esterification of

3.5 with butyric anhydride in the presence of Et_3N and DMAP afforded **3.6** in 72% yield. Addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide to **3.6** and trapping with acetyl chloride or chloroacetyl chloride afforded propargyl acetate **3.7a** in 50% yield and propargyl chloroacetate **3.7b** in 29% yield, respectively. Migration of the C8 butanoyl group to the newly formed tertiary alkoxide did not occur during addition of ethynylmagnesium bromide; this was confirmed at a later stage in the synthesis by the selective hydrolysis of the C2 carboxyester group in **3.9a** that showed the disappearance of the resonance at 1.94 ppm in the ¹H NMR spectrum (methyl singlet of C2 acetate group). Rhodium(II)-catalyzed rearrangement of **3.7a** and **3.7b** afforded **3.8a** in 76% yield and **3.8b** in 37% yield.



Scheme 35. Aldol addition strategy for the synthesis of C8 butanoyl allene-ynes

3.4 APKR of butanoyl containing allene-yne

Reacting **3.8a** with $Rh(cod)_2BF_4$ and PPh_3 under a CO atmosphere at 70 °C for 7 days afforded APKR adduct **3.9a** in 53% yield with a 2:1 dr according to resonances at 5.94 and 6.02 ppm in the NMR of the crude residue (Table 6, entry 1). Reacting **3.8a** under the optimized conditions established for the Rh(I)-catalyzed asymmetric APKR with 0.15 equiv of (S)-MonoPhos alkene (L1) as the chiral ligand resulted in a 53% yield of product 3.9a with a 1:1 dr. Increasing the temperature of the reaction from 70 °C to 90 °C shortened the reaction time from 7 days to 3 days and afforded the product in 44% yield (entry 3). Performing the APKR with 0.3 equiv of L1 at 90 °C resulted in a slower reaction (6 days vs 3 days) and 19% yield of the desired product (entry 4). Using (R)-MonoPhos-alkene afforded **3.9a** in 43% yield with a 1:1 dr (entry 5). The APKR of **3.8b** using PPh₃ as a ligand afforded **3.9b** in 52% yield and a 2:1 dr according to resonances at 5.83 and 5.88 ppm (entry 6). The asymmetric APKR of 3.8b using (S)-MonoPhos alkene (L1) afforded 3.9b in 47% yield and a 1.4:1 dr (entry 7). The yields obtained for compounds **3.9a** and **3.9b** having a C8 carboxy group are slightly lower than APKR products **2.11a**, and **2.11g** not having this group. Unfortunately, the cis and trans isomers of **3.9a** and **3.9b** were inseparable via column chromatography so the er's for each diastereomer cannot be determined with certainty.

Table 6. APKR of C8 substituted allene-ynes



Entry	R	Ligand	Time	Yield (%)	dr	Approximate er ^e
1	Me	PPh ₃	7 d	53%	2:1	-
2	Me	(S)-MonoPhos- alkene	7 d	53%	1:1	с
3 ^a	Me	(S)-MonoPhos- alkene	3 d	44%	1:1	c
4 ^a	Me	(S)-MonoPhos- alkene ^b	6 d	19%	1:1	с
5	Me	(<i>R</i>)-MonoPhos- alkene	5 d	43%	1:1	84:16 and 79:21 ^d
6	CH ₂ Cl	PPh ₃	5 d	52%	2:1	-
7	CH ₂ Cl	(S)-MonoPhos- alkene	6 d	47%	1.4:1	78:22 and 63:37 ^d

^a 90 °C, ^b 0.3 equiv, ^c er not determined, ^d er's determined by ¹H NMR via chiral shift reagent, ^e Baseline resolution of NMR resonances were not observed

3.4.1 Determination of enantiomeric ratios via chiral shift reagent

Subjecting **3.9a** to several chiral HPLC conditions (Chiralcel OD and ChiralPak IA-3 columns, different solvent systems, concentrations) resulted in incomplete separation of enantiomers. Because of the difficulty in separating all 4 stereoisomers of **3.9a** (*2R8R*; *2S8S*; *2R8S*;

2*S*8*R*) by chiral chromatography, we used a chiral shift reagent to determine the approximate er's for products **3.9a** and **3.9b** (entries 5 and 7, Table 6).¹³³



Figure 22. Structures of all four stereoisomers of the APKR

Chiral shift reagent europium tris[3-(heptafluoropropylhydroxymethylene)-(+)camphorate (Eu(hfc)₃, 10 mg) was dissolved in CDCl₃ (0.1 mL) and added to an NMR tube containing **3.9a** in CDCl₃ (Figure 23). Gradual addition of aliquots of the preprepared Eu(hfc)₃/CDCl₃ solution to **3.9a** in CDCl₃ showed the methyl singlet at 1.94 ppm splitting into four resonances at 2.07, 2.06, 2.04, and 2.02 ppm (Figure 24). Because baseline separation was not observed we estimate that the er for both the cis and trans diastereomers is approximately 82:18. This er value is based upon the products being formed with a 1:1 dr as determined by ¹H NMR and that the first set of peaks (2.07 and 2.06 ppm) correspond to the major enantiomer for both the cis and trans diastereomers and the second set of peaks (2.04 and 2.02 ppm) correspond to the minor enantiomer for both the cis and trans diastereomers. Based upon previous studies, the major enantiomer for both diastereomers is assumed to have the *S* absolute configuration at C2 (Figure 25). Work is ongoing in our lab by Fatemeh Haghighi to confirm that this is the case.



Figure 23. Structure of chiral shift reagent Eu(hfc)₃



f1 (ppm)

Figure 24. ¹H NMR of 3.9a with chiral shift reagent Eu(hfc)₃



Figure 25. Hypothesized enantiomers and diastereomers of 3.9a

Repeating the protocol described above for determining the er's for **3.9a**, the ¹H NMR of **3.9b** showed the resonances for the two diastereomers at 5.88 and 5.83 ppm (hydrogen alpha to the ketone) splitting into four peaks at 6.03, 5.99, 5.97, and 5.94 ppm (Figure 26). The er's based on the integrations of these peaks resulted in a 78:22 er and 63:37 er (Figure 27). It is important to note that the peaks at 5.99 and 5.97 ppm were not fully resolved so these ratios are approximations. The enantiomeric pairs were able to be assigned due to the dr of the purified products being approximately 1.6:1. This corresponds to resonances at 6.03 and 5.99 ppm being enantiomeric pairs and resonances at 5.97 and 5.94 ppm being enantiomeric pairs. The major diastereomer is

predicted to be the *trans* product, and the major enantiomer at C2 is the *R*-enantiomer when (S)-

MonoPhos-alkene is used.



Figure 26. ¹H NMR of 3.9b with chiral shift reagent Eu(hfc)₃



Figure 27. Hypothesized enantiomers and diastereomers of 3.9b

Because we did not get complete baseline resolution, we can only qualitatively interpret the er's of the products of each reaction. The er's for both diastereomers of acetate **3.9a** are similar to allenyl acetate **2.11a** with no remote stereocenter; however, both diastereomers of chloroacetate **3.9b** have much lower er's than the analogous **2.11g**. The remote stereocenter also plays a role in the er of *cis* and *trans* diastereomers. For example, **3.9b** has an er of approximately 78:22 for the major diastereomer and approximately 63:37 for the minor diastereomer. The low er for the minor diastereomer may be due to a destabilizing interaction between the butanoyl group and the phosphoramidite ligand in the transition state leading to the *cis* product (Figure 28). The transition state structures calculated for **2.11g** show the (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (**L1**) ligand in position to sterically clash with the butanoyl group at C8 for the *cis* product in **TS1**.



Figure 28. Transition state structure of 2.11g with no remote stereocenter

3.5 Conclusions

The direct addition of acetone to **2.16** using an aldol addition strategy afforded the C8 butanoyl containing allene-ynes in good yield. The APKR of C8 butanoyl allene-ynes **3.8a** and **3.8b** afforded products **3.9a** (allenyl acetate) and **3.9b** (allenyl chloroactate) in moderate yields. The long reaction times for both **3.8a** and **3.8b** could be decreased by using higher reaction temperatures but at the expense of product yield. The er's for the APKR of **3.9a** having a remote stereocenter, a C8 carboxy group, were comparable to that of **2.11a**, not having a group at C8; however, the er's of **3.9b** were much lower than **2.11g**. Work is ongoing in the lab to further develop the asymmetric APKR for C8 substituted allene-ynes and to demonstrate the utility of this asymmetric APKR approach in the synthesis of Tg and Tg analogues.

Supporting Information

Chapter 3

General Methods

All commercially available compounds were purchased and used as received unless otherwise noted. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether (Et₂O), and dichloromethane (DCM, CH₂Cl₂) were purified by passing through alumina using a Sol-Tek ST-002 solvent purification system. Toluene was purified by distilling from calcium hydride. Acetone was purified by refluxing over, and distillation from, KMnO₄ and stored over 4 Å molecular sieves. *o*-DCB was degassed using freeze-pump-thaw method (3x). Triphenylphosphine was purified by recrystallization with ethanol. Carbon monoxide (>99.99%) and 10% carbon monoxide in argon were purchased from Matheson. 2%(w/w) NaOH was prepared. Purification of the compounds by flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (40-63 µm particle size, 60 Å pore size). TLC analyses were performed on silica gel F254 glass plates (250 µm thickness). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300, 400, or 500 MHz spectrometers. Spectra were referenced to residual chloroform (7.26 ppm, ¹H NMR; 77.16 ppm, ¹³C NMR). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm, multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), p (pentet), and m (multiplet). Coupling constants, J, are reported in hertz (Hz). All NMR spectra were obtained at rt. IR spectra were obtained using a Nicolet Avatar E.S.P. 360 FT-IR or Perkin Elmer Spectrum Two FT-IR. ESI mass spectrometry was performed on a Waters Micromass GCT high resolution mass spectrometer, while ES mass spectrometry was performed on a Waters Q-TOF Ultima API, Micromass UK Limited high resolution mass spectrometer. Chiral HPLC was

performed on a Waters 600 HPLC using a Waters 996 photodiode array detector using a Chiralcel OD chiral column or ChiralPak IA-3 chiral column. Optical rotations were measured using a Jasco P2000 polarimeter.



allyl 3-oxo-2-((2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)((trimethylsilyl)oxy)methyl)butanoate

(3.1). This compound was prepared in a manner similar to that previously reported with some modifications.¹²⁹ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 10-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with triethylamine (0.24 mL, 1.73 mmol), allyl acetoacetate (0.15 mL, 1.13 mmol), TMSCl (0.19 mL, 1.5 mmol), and DMF (0.18 mL, 0.23 mmol). 2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-carbaldehyde (**2.16**) (100 mg, 0.75 mmol) in DCM (1.63 mL, 0.46 M) was added to the flask. After 23 h, aqueous NaHCO₃ was added and the contents of the reaction transferred to a separatory funnel. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (5 x 3 mL), and the combined organic layers dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2.5-10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 86 mg (30%) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

EDD3-189

$<u>^{1}H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>

7.24-7.23 (m, 1 H), 6.41-6.40 (m, 1 H), 5.98-5.71 (m, 1 H), 5.39-5.35 (m, 1 H), 5.33-5.15 (m, 2 H), 4.72-4.60 (m, 1 H), 4.48-4.45 (m, 1 H), 3.97 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 10.0

Hz, 1 H), 2.35 (s, 1.5 H)*, 2.15 (s, 1.5 H)*, 2.13 (s, 1.5 H)*, 2.09 (s, 1.5 H)*, 0.01 (s, 4.5 H)*, 0.00 (s, 4.5 H)* ppm

*denotes single diastereomer where discernable

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

201.5, 200.2, 167.3, 166.1, 143.2, 142.9, 135.4, 135.2, 131.8, 131.6, 128.5, 128.3, 119.0, 118.7, 109.5, 94.4, 94.0, 69.0, 68.8, 68.2, 66.6, 66.6, 66.2, 66.1, 65.5, 31.2, 29.9, 4.8, 4.8, -0.05, -0.1 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

1749, 1721, 843, 764 cm⁻¹

HRMSHRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + Na]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{24}O_5SiNa$, 371.1285, found: 371.1278TLC $R_f = 0.69$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)-4-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)butan-2-one (3.2). This compound was prepared in a manner similar to that previously reported with some modifications.¹³⁰ A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with allyl 3-oxo-2-((2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)((trimethylsilyl)oxy)methyl)butanoate (3.1) (86 mg, 0.25 mmol) in THF (12.4 mL, 0.02M), morpholine (64 μ L, 0.74 mmol), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (29 mg, 0.025 mmol). After 30 minutes, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, and

the crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2.5-15% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 86 mg (30%) of the title compound as a clear oil.

EDD3-191

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.23 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.22 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.99-2.94 (m, 1 H), 2.57-2.53 (m, 1 H), 2.17 (s, 3 H), 2.12 (s, 3 H), 0.04 (s, 9 H) ppm

<u>¹³C NMR</u> (125 MHz, CDCl₃)

206.8, 142.8, 133.8, 131.2, 109.5, 94.0, 69.1, 63.8, 52.2, 31.5, 4.8, 0.01 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

1717, 841, 764 cm⁻¹

HRMSHRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{14}H_{21}O_3Si$, 265.1260 found: 263.1092. Allother data supports the proposed structure, but the HRMS is 2 atomic units lowerthan predicted.

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.7$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)pent-4-yne-1,3-diyl diacetate (3.4). A flamedried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)-4-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)butan-2-one (3.2) (30 mg, 0.113 mmol) in THF (0.38 mL, 0.3M). The solution

was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath and ethynylmagnesium bromide (0.68 mL of a 0.5 M solution in THF, 0.34 mmol, 3 equiv) was added dropwise via syringe over 3 min. After allowing to warm to rt over 90 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The flask was placed in an ice-bath and acetyl chloride (40 μ L, 0.57 mmol) was added dropwise via syringe over 1 min. After 2.5 h, TLC showed complete consumption of the propargyl alcohol intermediate. Diethyl ether (3 mL) and deionized water (3 mL) were added to the flask, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 3 mL), washed with brine (1 x 2 mL), the combined aqueous layers back extracted with diethyl ether (1 x 3 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2.5-25% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 6 mg (18%) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

EDD3-193

$<u>^{1}H NMR</u>$ (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.16 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 5.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.65-2.61 (m, 1 H), 2.56 (s, 1 H), 2.45-2.41 (m, 1 H), 2.12 (s, 3 H), 2.04 (s, 3 H), 1.94 (s, 3 H), 1.74 (s, 3 H) ppm

$\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)

169.9, 169.2, 142.7, 135.2, 127.7, 109.9, 94.1, 83.4, 73.9, 73.0, 68.9, 65.3, 45.2, 26.9, 21.9, 21.3, 4.8 ppm; impurity at 29.8 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

3283, 1741 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₅Na, 325.1046 found: 325.1047 TLC $R_f = 0.52$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA


4-hydroxy-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butan-2-one (3.5). This compound was prepared in a manner similar to that previously reported with some modifications.¹³¹ A flamedried, 2-necked, 10-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-carbaldehyde (**2.16**) (97 mg, 0.72 mmol) and acetone (1.25 mL, 0.58 M). The flask was lowered into a -10 °C bath and 2% aqueous NaOH_(w/w) (0.17 mL, 4.2 M) was added dropwise. After 5.5 h, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The solution was neutralized with aqueous 0.5 M HCl, concentrated, diluted with H₂O, extracted with ethyl acetate (5 x 3 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (10-30% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 100 mg (72%) of the title compound as a yellow oil.

<u>¹H NMR</u> (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.27 (s, 1 H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.23-5.18 (m, 1 H), 3.20 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.00-2.77 (m, 2 H), 2.22 (s, 3 H), 2.11 (s, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

209.1, 142.9, 134.1, 130.0, 109.5, 94.0, 69.1, 62.9, 50.2, 30.8, 4.8 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

3416, 2235, 1707 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₁H₁₁O₃, 191.0708 found: 191.0708 <u>TLC $R_f = 0.19$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA</u>



3-oxo-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butyl butyrate (**3.6**). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 10-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 4-hydroxy-4-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butan-2-one (**3.5**) (108 mg, 0.56 mmol) in DCM (0.94 mL, 0.6 M), triethylamine (0.09 mL, 0.62 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (21 mg, 0.17 mmol, 0.3 equiv). The flask was cooled by placing in an icebath and butyric anhydride (0.1 mL, 0.62 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise. After 5 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. Saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (3 mL) was added and the solution transferred to a separatory funnel, extracted with diethyl ether (5 x 3 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 112 mg (76%) of the title compound as a yellow oil and unsaturated ketone **2.26** (9%) as a byproduct.

1 <u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.24 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.25-6.21 (m, 1 H), 3.14-3.07 (m, 1 H), 2.89-2.84 (m, 1 H), 2.26 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 2.18 (s, 3 H), 2.13 (s, 3 H), 1.67-1.60 (m, 2 H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3 H) ppm

 $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

204.6, 172.6, 143.8, 142.8, 135.2, 133.4, 127.6, 126.8, 125.1, 109.9, 108.1, 94.3, 68.9, 64.6, 48.5, 36.3, 30.4, 27.6, 18.5, 18.3, 13.7, 5.0, 4.9 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2235, 1729 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₄Na, 285.1103, found: 285.1085 TLC $R_f = 0.48$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



3-acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)pent-4-yn-1-yl butyrate (3.7a). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 25-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 3-oxo-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butyl (3.6) (345 mg, 1.32 mmol) and THF (4.4 mL). The solution was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath and ethynylmagnesium bromide (7.9 mL of a 0.5 M solution in THF, 3.96 mmol, 3 equiv), was added dropwise via syringe over 5 min. After allowing to warm to rt over 90 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The flask was placed in an ice-bath and acetyl chloride (0.47 mL, 6.6 mmol) was added dropwise via syringe over 2 min. After 2 h, TLC showed complete consumption of the propargyl alcohol intermediate. Diethyl ether (5 mL) and deionized water (5 mL) were added to the flask, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 15 mL), washed with brine, and the combined aqueous layers back extracted with diethyl ether (1 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 217 mg (50%) of the title compound as a brown liquid.

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.23 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.22-6.13 (m, 1 H), 2.62 (s, 1 H), 2.60-2.42 (m, 2 H), 2.65 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.12 (s, 3 H), 1.94 (s, 3 H), 1.74 (s, 3 H), 1.67-1.60 (m, 2 H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.2, 3 H) ppm

<u>¹³C NMR</u> (75 MHz, CDCl₃)

172.5, 169.3, 142.7, 142.6, 135.2, 128.0, 127.9, 109.9, 109.8, 94.1, 82.9, 74.3, 73.9,

73.0, 73.0, 65.4, 65.1, 45.5, 45.2, 36.4, 27.4, 26.8, 21.9, 18.4, 13.8, 4.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

1740, 1236 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₉H₂₂O₅Na, 353.1365, found: 353.1335 <u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.54$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA





(**3.8a**). Follows General Procedure A: Rhodium(II) trifluoroacetate dimer (4.0 mg, 0.006 mmol), 3-acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)pent-4-yn-1-yl butyrate (**3.7a**) (42 mg, 0.127 mmol), toluene (0.64 mL, 0.2 M). Silicycle SiliaMetS silica gel (200 mg, 40 equiv, 1.19 mmol/g) was added to the flask and stirred overnight. The solution was filtered through celite and the crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (3-5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 32 mg (76%) of the title compound as a clear liquid.

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.29-7.28 (m, 1 H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 7.23 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 6.37 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 6.36 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 6.01-5.97 (m, 1 H), 2.75-2.68 (m, 1 H), 2.57-2.48 (m, 1 H), 2.30-2.26 (m, 2 H), 2.11 (s, 3 H), 2.10 (s, 3 H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1.5 H)*, 1.85 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1.5 H)*, 1.67-1.60 (m, 2 H), 0.94-0.91 (m, 3 H) ppm

*denotes single diastereomer where discernable

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)

191.5, 191.4, 172.8, 172.7, 168.7, 168.7, 142.6, 142.6, 135.8, 135.5, 127.1, 127.0, 110.9, 110.0, 109.8, 109.7, 109.7, 94.0, 69.0, 69.0, 66.5, 66.4, 40.6, 40.6, 36.4, 36.3, 21.0, 21.0, 20.8, 20.7, 18.5, 13.8, 4.8, 4.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

1744, 1215 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₉H₂₂O₅Na, 353.1365 found: 353.1334 <u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.58$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



7-acetoxy-6,9-dimethyl-8-oxo-4,5,7,8-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-b]furan-4-yl butyrate

(3.9a). Follows general procedure B: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (1.9

mg, 0.0048 mmol), triphenyl phosphine (1.9 mg, 0.0072 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 5acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4-dien-1-yl butyrate (**3.8a**) (16 mg, 0.048 mmol), DCE (2.4 mL, 0.02 M). The reaction was stirred for 165 h in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (10-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (9 mg, 53%) as a yellow oil in an approximately 2:1 dr.

EDD4-275

 $\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.58 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.55 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 0.36 H), 6.54 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 0.61 H),
6.02 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 0.35 H), 5.94 (dd, J = 2.5 Hz, 8.5 Hz, 0.70 H), 5.82 (s, 0.34 H),
5.80 (s, 0.61 H), 2.92-2.68 (m, 2 H), 2.35-2.31 (m, 2 H), 2.22 (s, 3 H), 2.15 (s, 1 H),
H), 2.15 (s, 2 H), 1.94 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 3 H), 1.70-1.64 (m, 2 H), 0.95 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 3 H) ppm

$\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)

199.6, 199.5, 173.1, 173.0, 169.9, 169.8, 148.2, 146.9, 145.0, 145.0, 134.0, 133.9, 133.0, 132.4, 130.7, 130.5, 128.4, 128.3, 112.6, 112.6, 71.8, 71.7, 66.0, 65.8, 40.1, 39.8, 36.4, 36.4, 25.2, 24.9, 20.8, 18.6, 18.6, 13.8, 13.8, 10.3 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

2931, 1739, 1699 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₆Na, 381.1281 found: 381.1314

<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.43$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



(7R)-7-acetoxy-6,9-dimethyl-8-oxo-4,5,7,8-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-b]furan-4-yl

butyrate (3.9a). Follows general procedure C: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (1.9 mg, 0.0048 mmol), (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (3.0 mg, 0.0072 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 5-acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4-dien-1-yl butyrate (3.8a) (16 mg, 0.048 mmol), DCE (4.8 mL, 0.01 M). The reaction was stirred for 7 d in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (10-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (9 mg, 53%) as a yellow oil. The ¹H NMR matched that of racemic 3.9a.



(7S)-7-acetoxy-6,9-dimethyl-8-oxo-4,5,7,8-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-b]furan-4-yl

butyrate (3.9a). Follows general procedure C: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (2.4 mg, 0.0058 mmol), (*R*)-MonoPhos-alkene (3.6 mg, 0.0087 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 5-acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4-dien-1-yl butyrate (3.8a) (19 mg, 0.058 mmol), DCE (5.8 mL, 0.01 M). The reaction was stirred for 115 in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5-15%)

ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (9 mg, 43%) as a yellow oil. The ¹H NMR matched that of racemic **3.9a**.

EDD7-512



3-(2-chloroacetoxy)-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)pent-4-yn-1-yl

butyrate (3.7b). A flame-dried, 2-necked, 50-mL, round bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, nitrogen inlet adapter, and septum was charged with 3-oxo-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)butyl (**3.6**) (627 mg, 470 mg accounting for contaminant **2.26** in starting material, 2.4 mmol) and THF (8.0 mL). The solution was cooled by placing the flask in an ice-bath and ethynylmagnesium bromide (14.4 mL of a 0.5 M solution in THF, 7.2 mmol, 3 equiv), was added dropwise via syringe over 5 min. After allowing to warm to rt over 60 min, TLC showed complete consumption of starting material. The flask was placed in an ice-bath and chloroacetyl chloride (0.67 mL, 8.4 mmol) was added dropwise via syringe over 2 min. After 2 h, TLC showed complete consumption of the propargyl alcohol intermediate. Diethyl ether (5 mL) and deionized water (5 mL) were added to the flask, the mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 15 mL), and the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (5-30%

ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 190 mg (29% accounting for contaminant in SM) of the title compound as a brown liquid.

EDD7-521

$\frac{1}{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.38-6.37 (m, 1 H), 6.20 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 0.5 H), 6.13 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 0.5 H), 3.95-3.85 (m, 2 H), 2.67-2.46 (m, 2 H), 2.66 (s, 0.5 H), 2.61 (s, 0.5 H), 2.27 (t, *J* = 8.0, 2 H), 2.12 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.78 (s, 3 H), 1.63 (s, *J* = 7.2, 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

172.5, 172.5, 165.3, 165.3, 142.8, 142.7, 135.3, 135.3, 127.8, 127.6, 109.8, 109.8, 94.3, 82.5, 81.9, 75.3, 75.3, 75.2, 74.9, 68.9, 68.9, 65.2, 64.9, 45.3, 44.9, 41.4, 41.3, 36.4, 27.3, 26.7, 18.4, 18.4, 13.8, 4.8 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

2121, 1765, 1733 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₉H₂₁O₅ClNH₄, 382.1416 found: 382.1404 <u>TLC *R*_f = 0.53 (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes)</u>; silica gel, UV, PAA



5-(2-chloroacetoxy)-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4-dien-1-yl

butyrate (3.8b). Follows General Procedure A: Rhodium(II) trifluoroacetate dimer (4.0 mg, 0.006

mmol), 3-acetoxy-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)pent-4-yn-1-yl butyrate (**3.7b**) (42 mg, 0.127 mmol), toluene (0.64 mL, 0.2 M). The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (3-10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The product was blue-green in color. The product was dissolved in toluene (2.5 mL, 0.2 M) and Silicycle SiliaMetS silica gel (580 mg, 40 equiv, 1.28 mmol/g) was added to the flask and stirred for 4 h. The solution was filtered through celite and the crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (2-10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give 67 mg (37%) of the title compound as a clear liquid.

EDD7-522

<u>¹H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

7.30-7.29 (m, 0.5 H)*, 7.25-7.23 (m, 1.5 H), 6.37 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 6.36 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 0.5 H)*, 5.98 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.14-4.06 (ABq, $J_{AB} = 14.8$ Hz, 1 H)*, 4.11 (s, 1H)*, 2.76-2.69 (m, 1 H), 2.60-2.50 (m, 1 H), 2.28 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H)*, 2.28 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H)*, 2.12 (s, 1.5 H)*, 2.11 (s, 1.5 H)*, 1.87 (t, J = 1.6, 3 H), 1.69-1.59 (m, 2 H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3 H) ppm

*denotes single diasteromer where discernable

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)

191.6, 191.3, 172.7, 172.7, 165.1, 142.7, 142.7, 136.0, 127.0. 126.8, 112.3, 112.2, 110.4, 110.3, 109.7, 109.6, 94.1, 69.0, 68.9, 66.4, 66.3, 40.8, 40.8, 40.5, 40.4, 36.4, 36.3, 20.8, 20.7, 18.5, 13.8, 4.8, 4.8 ppm

<u>IR (Thin Film)</u>

1982, 1771, 1739 cm⁻¹

<u>HRMS</u> HRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₁₉H₂₁O₅ClNH₄, 384.1416 found: 384.1404 TLC $R_f = 0.53$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



7-(2-chloroacetoxy)-6,9-dimethyl-8-oxo-4,5,7,8-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-b]furan-4-yl butyrate (**3.9b**). Follows general procedure B: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (2.2 mg, 0.0055 mmol), triphenyl phosphine (2.2 mg, 0.0083 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 5-(2-chloroacetoxy)-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4dien-1-yl butyrate (3.8b) (20 mg, 0.055 mmol), DCE (2.8 mL, 0.02 M). The reaction was stirred for 114 h in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (5-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (11.5 mg, 52%) as a yellow oil and a 2:1 dr by crude NMR and ~3.5:1 dr after purification.

EDD7-523

$<u>^{1}H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>

7.59 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.55 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.02 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 0.23 H),
5.95 (dd, J = 2.5 Hz, 8.0 Hz, 0.83 H), 5.88 (s, 0.21 H), 5.83 (s, 0.77 H), 4.17-4.10 (m, 2 H), 2.93-2.71 (m, 2 H), 2.36-2.31 (m, 2 H), 2.23 (s, 3 H), 1.97 (s, 2.42 H),
1.96 (s, 0.64 H), 1.68-1.63 (m, 2 H), 0.98-0.92 (m, 3 H) ppm

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)

198.6, 173.1, 166.3, 148.5, 146.9, 145.2, 134.0, 133.4, 130.9, 127.6, 112.8, 73.2, 65.7, 40.7, 40.1, 36.4, 29.9, 25.5, 25.2, 18.6, 18.6, 13.8, 10.3 ppm

IR (Thin Film)

1733, 1700, 1695 cm⁻¹

HRMSHRMS-ESI+ (m/z): $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C20H22O6Cl, 393.1099 found: 393.1088<u>TLC</u> $R_f = 0.31$ (35% ethyl acetate/hexanes); silica gel, UV, PAA



(7R)-7-(2-chloroacetoxy)-6,9-dimethyl-8-oxo-4,5,7,8-tetrahydroazuleno[4,5-b]furan-

4-yl butyrate (3.9b). Follows general procedure C: Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)rhodium(I) tetrafluoroborate (2.2 mg, 0.0055 mmol), (*S*)-MonoPhos-alkene (3.4 mg, 0.0083 mmol), carbon monoxide (100%), 5-(2-chloroacetoxy)-3-methyl-1-(2-(prop-1-yn-1-yl)furan-3-yl)penta-3,4-dien-1-yl butyrate (**3.8b**) (20 mg, 0.055 mmol), DCE (5.5 mL, 0.01 M). The reaction was stirred for 137 h in an oil bath (70 °C). The crude residue was purified via silica gel flash chromatography (10-20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give the title compound (10.3 mg, 47%) as a 1.4:1 dr by crude NMR and 1.8:1 dr after purification as a yellow oil. The ¹H NMR matched that of racemic **3.9b**. **EDD7-524**

Appendix A NMR Spectra



































































































































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