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# Supporting Information for

# $Seminormal-BrCH_2CH_2OH-mediated\ electrochemical\ epoxidation$

# of unactivated olefins

Hong He,<sup>a,b</sup> Yanxia Lv,<sup>a,b</sup> Jing Hu,<sup>a</sup> Zhong-Wei Hou,<sup>\*a</sup> and Lei Wang<sup>\*a,b,c,d</sup>

- <sup>a</sup> Advanced Research Institute and School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Taizhou University, Jiaojiang, Zhejiang, 318000, P. R. China
- <sup>b</sup> Department of Chemistry, Huaibei Normal University, Huaibei, Anhui 235000, P. R. China
- <sup>c</sup> College of Material Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Key Laboratory of Organosilicon Chemistry and Material Technology, Ministry of Education, Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou, 311121, Zhejiang, P. R. China
- <sup>d</sup> State Key Laboratory of Organometallic Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, 200032, P. R. China
- \* E-mail: zhongwei.hou@tzc.edu.cn; leiwang88@hotmail.com

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#### **1. General Information**

Unless otherwise noted, chemicals and materials were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. All the solvents were treated according to the general methods. Flash column chromatography was performed with silica gel (200–300 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz Bruker FT-NMR spectrometer. Data were reported as chemical shifts in ppm relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.2 ppm) for <sup>13</sup>C NMR. The abbreviations used for explaining the multiplicities were as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. High resolution mass spectra (ESI HRMS) were recorded on an Agilent Technologies 6540 UHD Accurate-Mass Q-TOF LC/MS (ESI). Products were purified by flash chromatography on 200–300 mesh silica gels, SiO<sub>2</sub>. XINRUI® DJS-292B potentiostat made in China was used as a power supply device. The reticulated vitreous carbon (RVC) anode and Pt plate cathode are commercially available from Gaoss Union in China.

#### 2. General Procedure for the Electrosynthesis

#### 2.1 General Procedure for the Reaction

A 20 mL three-necked beaker-type cell was charged with alkene (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (50 mol%), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.). The cell was equipped with a reticulated vitreous carbon (RVC, 100 PPI, 1.2 cm x 0.8 cm x 0.8 cm) anode and a platinum plate (1 cm x 1 cm x 0.1 mm) cathode (Figure S1A and Figure S1B). MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O (6 mL/1 mL) was added. The electrolysis was carried out at room temperature using a constant current of 3 mA for 6 h (Figure S1C). After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was washed with 10 mL of saturated NaHSO<sub>3</sub> (aq.) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was chromatographed through silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:30) to give the desired product. The reaction setup have been reported in our previous work.<sup>1</sup>



Figure S1. The reaction setup

#### 2.2 General Procedure for the Gram-Scale Synthesis of 2



A gram-scale electrolysis was conducted in a 100 mL three-necked round-bottomed flask with a piece of RVC (1.2 cm x 2 cm x 2 cm) as the anode, a Pt plate as the cathode (1.5 cm x 1.5 cm x 0.3 mm), and a constant current of 40 mA for 14 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture consisted 3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl benzoate (1, 1.14 g, 6 mmol, 1 equiv.), BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (0.38 g, 50 mol%), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (1.53 g, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (0.99 g, 3 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) and MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O (78 mL/13 mL). After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was washed with 50 mL of saturated NaHSO<sub>3</sub> (aq.) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was chromatographed through silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:30) to give the desired product **2** (0.89 g, 72% yield).

#### 3. Mechanistic Studies

#### 3.1 Epoxidation of 1 with Br<sub>2</sub>



The epoxidation of 3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl benzoate (1) could be achieved in 91% yield with  $Br_2$  as the activated reagent under the conditions of no electricity, indicating that the success of the reaction probably depends on the generation of  $Br_2$  in situ.

#### 3.2 Oxygen-Labeling Experiments



Figure S2 High resolution mass spectroscopy (HRMS) of <sup>18</sup>O-2.

The oxygen-labeling experiment was conducted to understand the reaction mechanism. The product <sup>18</sup>O-2 was primarily obtained in 75% yield when using  $H_2^{18}O$  instead of  $H_2O$ , indicating that the oxygen atom in epoxy group of product comes from water (Figure S2).

#### 3.3 Bromohydroxylation of 36 without K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>



The bromohydroxylation product **37** was afforded in 30% yield by electrolyzing **36** in the absence of  $K_3PO_4$  and epoxy product **21** was simultaneously detected in 14% yield, supporting that an electrochemical epoxidation involves a bromohydroxylation process.

**4-Bromo-3-hydroxybutyl 4-methylbenzoate (37).** Colourless oil (17.4 mg, 30% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.59–4.48 (m, 1H), 4.49–4.39 (m, 1H), 4.05–3.94 (m, 1H), 3.57 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.14–2.00 (m, 1H), 2.02–1.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 144.0, 129.8, 129.3, 127.3, 68.2, 61.4, 39.8, 34.6, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 287.0277, Found: 287.0275.

#### 3.4 Base-facilitated intramolecular epoxidation of 37



The epoxidation product **21** could be obtained in 48% yield from **37** with  $K_3PO_4$  in a sulotion of MeCN/H<sub>2</sub>O. The addition of  $K_3PO_4$  could facilitate the conversion of the bromohydroxylation intermediate to the epoxidation product via an intramolecular nucleophilic substitution process with the release of Br<sup>-</sup>.

#### 3.5 Cyclic voltammetry studies

The cyclic voltammograms were recorded in an electrolyte of *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (0.1 M) in MeCN (5 mL) using a glassy carbon disk working electrode (diameter, 3 mm), a Pt wire auxiliary electrode and an Ag/AgCl reference electrode. The scan rate was 50 mV/s.



**Figure S3**. Cyclic voltammogram of  $nBu_4NBr$  (10 mM) in an electrolyte of  $nBu_4NBF_4$  (0.1 M) in MeCN (5 mL).  $E_{p/2} = 0.77$  V.



**Figure S4**. Cyclic voltammogram of 3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl benzoate (1, 10 mM) in an electrolyte of  $nBu_4NBF_4$  (0.1 M) in MeCN (5 mL).  $E_{p/2} = 2.10$  V.



**Figure S5**. Cyclic voltammogram of (3,3-dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl benzoate (**2**, 10 mM) in an electrolyte of  $nBu_4NBF_4$  (0.1 M) in MeCN (5 mL).  $E_{p/2} \ge 2.17$  V.

The cyclic voltammograms (CVs) of  $nBu_4NBr$ , alkene substrate 1 and epoxidation product 2 were tested in an electrolyte of  $nBu_4NBF_4$  (0.1 M) in MeCN (5 mL). The oxidation potential of Br<sup>-</sup> ( $E_{p/2} = 0.77$  V vs. Ag/AgCl) was significantly lower than that of the substrate 1 ( $E_{p/2} = 2.10$  V vs. Ag/AgCl) and product 2 ( $E_{p/2} \ge 2.17$  V vs. Ag/AgCl) (Figure S3, Figure S4, and Figure S5,), indicating the anodic oxidation of Br<sup>-</sup> were preferentially carried out. The cyclic voltammograms studies support our proposed mechanism.

#### 4. Unsuccessful Substrates



Scheme S1. Unsuccessful substrates in the reactions.

### 5. Characterization Data for the Electrolysis Products



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl benzoate (2).<sup>2</sup> Yellow oil (34.1 mg, 83% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11–8.02 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.39 (m, 2H), 4.58 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (dd, J = 12.1, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, J = 6.7, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.6, 133.3, 129.9 (2C), 128.5, 64.1, 60.7, 58.4, 24.7, 19.1.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 2-fluorobenzoate (3). Yellow oil (32.0 mg, 71% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01–7.91 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.48 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.09 (m, 2H), 4.56 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (dd, J = 12.1, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, J = 6.7, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.3 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 3.7$  Hz), 162.2 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 260.9$ Hz), 134.9 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 8.9$  Hz), 132.3, 124.1 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 3.7$  Hz), 118.4 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 9.5$  Hz), 117.2 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 22.1$  Hz), 64.3, 60.5, 58.5, 24.7, 19.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –109.1; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 225.0921, Found: 225.0926.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 2-bromobenzoate (4). Yellow oil (48.4 mg, 85% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.86–7.80 (m, 1H), 7.69–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.41–7.28 (m, 2H), 4.57 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, J = 12.1, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dd, J = 6.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.0, 134.5, 132.9, 131.8, 131.6, 127.3, 121.9, 64.6, 60.4, 58.4, 24.7, 19.1; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 285.0121, Found: 285.0120.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl [1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylate (5). Yellow oil (35.6 mg, 63% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.46–7.30 (m, 7H), 4.19–4.07 (m, 2H), 2.60 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.6, 142.8, 141.7, 131.6, 130.9, 130.6, 130.1, 128.5, 128.2, 127.4, 63.8, 60.1, 58.2, 24.6, 18.9; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 283.1329, Found: 283.1334.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 4-methoxybenzoate (6). Yellow oil (26.6 mg, 57% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07–7.98 (m, 2H), 6.97–6.86 (m, 2H), 4.57 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 12.1, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.13 (dd, J = 6.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 163.7, 132.0, 122.3, 113.8, 63.9, 60.9, 58.4, 55.6, 24.8, 19.2; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>: 237.1121, Found: 237.1125.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoate (7). White solid (37.7 mg, 69% yield); m.p. = 83.4–85.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.24–8.14 (m, 2H), 7.77–7.67 (m, 2H), 4.64 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, J = 12.1, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd, J = 7.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.4, 134.8 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 32.8$  Hz), 133.1, 130.3, 125.6 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 3.7$  Hz), 123.7 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272.9$  Hz), 64.7, 60.5, 58.5, 24.7, 19.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –63.1; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 275.0890, Found: 275.0888.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 4-nitrobenzoate (8).<sup>3</sup> The title compound was obtained by eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:5) as a yellow oil (32.2 mg, 64% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.23–8.15 (m, 2H), 7.74–7.69 (m, 2H), 4.64 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, J = 12.1, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dd, J = 7.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.7, 150.8, 135.2, 131.1, 123.8, 65.1, 60.4, 58.5, 24.8, 19.2.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 2,4,6-trimethylbenzoate (9). Yellow oil (27.1 mg, 54% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.87 (s, 2H), 4.50 (dd, J = 12.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dd, J = 12.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 6.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.0, 139.7, 135.4, 130.5, 128.6, 63.8, 60.5, 58.4, 24.7, 21.3, 20.0, 19.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 249.1485, Found: 249.1488.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 4-bromo-2-naphthoate (10). White solid (37.7 mg, 56% yield); m.p. = 77.7–78.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.00–8.92 (m, 1H), 8.38–8.30 (m, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.62 (m, 2H), 4.68 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, J = 12.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dd, J = 6.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.9, 132.6, 132.4, 130.6, 129.4, 129.1, 128.8, 128.0, 127.9, 126.7, 126.3, 64.5, 60.7, 58.5, 24.8, 19.2; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 341.0148, Found: 341.0152.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl isonicotinate (11). Yellow oil (30.0 mg, 72% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.81–8.74 (m, 2H), 7.91–7.83 (m, 2H), 4.62 (dd, J = 12.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, J = 12.1, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, J = 7.0, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.2, 150.8, 137.1, 123.1, 65.0, 60.4, 58.5, 24.7, 19.2; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 208.0968, Found: 208.0968.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 3-phenylpropiolate (12). Yellow oil (21.0 mg, 46% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.36 (m, 2H), 4.71 (dd, J = 12.2, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (dd, J = 12.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.43 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  153.7, 133.3, 131.1, 128.8, 119.5, 87.7, 80.3, 71.8, 67.1, 62.6, 27.6, 27.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 231.1016, Found: 231.1015.



(3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 2-phenylacrylate (13). Colourless oil (31.7 mg, 68% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.33 (m, 3H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 141.0, 136.6, 128.4 (2C), 128.3, 127.6, 64.2, 60.6, 58.4, 24.7, 19.1; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 233.1172, Found: 233.1170.



**3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 2-(4-isobutylphenyl)propanoate (14).** Yellow oil (33.0 mg, 57% yield, dr = 1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.24–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.13–7.06 (m, 2H), 4.35–4.23 (m, 1H), 4.10–4.00 (m, 1H), 3.79–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.04–2.83 (m, 1H), 2.44 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.90–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.53–1.48 (m, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.8, 140.8, 137.6, 129.5, 127.3, 63.8, 60.5, 58.3, 45.2, 45.1, 30.3, 24.7, 22.5, 19.0, 18.7, 18.6; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>27</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 291.1955, Found: 291.1958.



**3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl** (*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-*D*-alaninate (15). The title compound was obtained by eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:3) as a yellow oil (27.5 mg, 51% yield, dr = 1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.05 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.33 (m, 1H), 4.14–4.04 (m, 1H), 3.03–2.93 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.40 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.4, 155.2, 80.1, 64.3, 60.4, 60.3, 58.4, 49.4, 28.4, 24.6, 19.1, 19.0, 18.7; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. For C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>: 280.1519, Found: 280.1516.



(2-Methyloxiran-2-yl)methyl benzoate (16).<sup>4</sup> Yellow oil (28.4 mg, 74% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09–8.03 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.42 (m, 2H), 4.49 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.47 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.3, 133.4, 129.9, 128.6, 67.8, 55.1, 52.1, 18.7.



(*IR*,*2R*,*5R*)-5-Methyl-2-(2-methyloxiran-2-yl)cyclohexyl 4-bromo-1-naphthoate (17). The title compound was obtained by eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:50) as a white solid (58.4 mg, 72% yield, dr > 19:1); m.p. = 120.6–122.9 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.00–8.90 (m, 1H), 8.37–8.27 (m, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70–7.58 (m, 2H), 5.23–5.12 (m, 1H), 2.55 (s, 2H), 2.31–2.21 (m, 1H), 1.89–1.62 (m, 3H), 1.48–1.37 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.17 (q, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 1.04–0.92 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8, 132.6, 132.3, 130.4, 129.4, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8 (2C), 127.6, 126.3,

74.3, 58.1, 52.3, 49.3, 40.5, 33.9, 31.4, 28.3, 22.0, 17.4; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>BrNaO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 425.0723, Found: 425.0732.



**3-Methyloxiran-2-yl)methyl benzoate (18).**<sup>5</sup> Yellow oil (20.0 mg, 52% yield, dr = 10:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11–8.02 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 4.61 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.11–2.97 (m, 2H), 1.37 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.5, 133.3, 129.9, 129.8, 128.5, 65.2, 56.5, 52.7, 17.4.



**3-Phenyloxiran-2-yl)methyl 4-bromo-1-naphthoate (19).** Colourless oil (41.0 mg, 54% yield, dr > 19:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.01–8.93 (m, 1H), 8.38–8.32 (m, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.73–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.28 (m, 5H), 4.84 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50–3.42 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.6, 136.2, 132.6, 132.3, 130.6, 129.4, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7 (2C), 127.9, 127.8, 126.4, 126.3, 125.8, 65.0, 59.5, 56.7; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 383.0277, Found: 383.0273.



**2-(Oxiran-2-yl)ethyl benzoate (20).** Yellow oil (24.2 mg, 63% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09–8.00 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.40 (m, 2H), 4.53–4.43 (m, 2H), 3.16–3.06 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.78 (m, 1H), 2.60–2.52 (m, 1H), 2.15–1.92 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.6, 133.2, 130.2, 129.7, 128.5, 62.0, 49.8, 47.0, 32.2; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 193.0859, Found: 193.0852.



**2-(Oxiran-2-yl)ethyl 4-methylbenzoate (21).** Yellow oil (24.1 mg, 59% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.93 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.50–4.41 (m, 2H), 3.15–3.06 (m, 1H), 2.84–2.79 (m, 1H), 2.58–2.54 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.11–1.90 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 143.9, 129.8, 129.3, 127.5, 61.8, 49.8, 47.1, 32.2, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 207.1016, Found: 207.1013.



**2-(Oxiran-2-yl)ethyl 2-bromobenzoate (22).** Colourless oil (25.9 mg, 48% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.84–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.70–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.28 (m, 2H), 4.54–4.46 (m, 2H), 3.17–3.08 (m, 1H), 2.86–2.79 (m, 1H), 2.57 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.15–2.02 (m, 1H), 2.02–1.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.2, 134.5, 132.8, 132.2, 131.5, 127.4, 121.7, 62.7, 49.8, 47.1, 32.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrNaO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>: 292.9784, Found: 292.9796.



**Benzyl-3-(oxiran-2-yl)propanoate (23).**<sup>6</sup> Yellow oil (22.5 mg, 55% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41–7.30 (m, 5H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.04–2.95 (m, 1H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.56–2.46 (m, 3H), 2.07–1.93 (m, 1H), 1.87–1.73 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.8, 136.0, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 66.6, 51.4, 47.2, 30.6, 27.8.

*N*-((3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl)benzamide (24).<sup>7</sup> Yellow oil (37.8 mg, 92% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.34 (m, 3H), 4.16 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 5.4 Hz,

1H), 4.01 (dd, J = 17.5, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (dd, J = 17.5, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (s, 3H), 1.49 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.1, 133.4, 130.9, 128.2, 127.3, 51.0, 50.1, 27.5, 22.3.



*N*-(3-(Oxiran-2-yl)propyl)benzamide (25). Colorless oil (23.8 mg, 58% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80–7.73 (m, 2H), 7.55–7.40 (m, 3H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 4.33–4.14 (m, 1H), 3.91–3.83 (m, 1H), 3.63 (t, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 3.57–3.49 (m, 2H), 2.34–2.22 (m,1H), 1.98–1.73 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.9, 134.7, 131.7, 128.8, 127.0, 52.3, 39.2, 36.2, 33.5, 27.3.



*N*-((3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (26).<sup>8</sup> Colorless oil (30.7 mg, 60% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.29–5.14 (m, 1H), 3.28–3.16 (m, 1H), 3.03–2.91 (m, 1H), 2.88–2.80 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.8, 136.9, 129.9, 127.2, 61.9, 59.2, 42.8, 24.6, 21.7, 18.8.



**4-Chloro-***N***-((3,3-dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide (27).** Yellow oil (28.4 mg, 52% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.79–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.40 (m, 2H), 5.21– 5.09 (m, 1H), 3.30–3.18 (m, 1H), 2.95–2.84 (m, 1H), 2.83–2.75 (m, 1H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.16 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.5, 138.5, 129.7, 128.7, 61.9, 59.4, 43.0, 24.6, 18.9; HRMS (ESI) ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>CINNaO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 298.0275, Found: 298.0281.



*N*-((3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl)-4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (28). Colourless oil (23.5 mg, 41% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.40–8.35 (m, 2H), 8.10–8.05 (m, 2H), 5.31–5.28 (m, 1H), 3.49–3.37 (m, 1H), 3.05–2.93 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.2, 146.0, 128.4, 124.6, 61.8, 59.5, 43.1, 24.6, 18.9; HRMS (ESI) ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 309.0516, Found: 309.0524.

*N*-((3,3-Dimethyloxiran-2-yl)methyl)-*N*,4-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (29). Colourless oil (28.7 mg, 54% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.69–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 3.64–3.54 (m, 1H), 2.91–2.87 (m, 1H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 2.80–2.74 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.7, 134.3, 129.9, 127.5, 62.0, 57.6, 49.8, 35.7, 24.6, 21.6, 18.9; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 270.1158, Found: 270.1155.

#### 6. Synthesis and Characterization of Unknown Substrates



A round-bottom flask was charged with 1-bromo-3-methylbut-2-ene (5 mmol, 1 equiv.), carboxylic acid (6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.),  $K_2CO_3$  (1.38 g, 10 mmol, 2 equiv.) and MeCN (25 mL). The solution was refluxed for 12 h. After the reaction was completed,  $H_2O$  (50 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed through silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:50) to afford product.



**3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 2-fluorobenzoate (S1).** Yellow oil (662 mg, 64% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97–7.86 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.05 (m, 2H), 5.51–5.40 (m, 1H), 4.82 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.6 Hz), 162.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 259.7 Hz), 139.5, 134.4 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.2 Hz), 132.1, 123.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.8 Hz), 119.1 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.7 Hz), 118.5, 117.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 22.3 Hz), 62.3, 25.9, 18.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –109.7; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FNaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 231.0792, Found: 231.0799.



**3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl [1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carboxylate (S2).** Yellow oil (950 mg, 71% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.48 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.32 (m, 7H), 5.13–5.02 (m, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 142.3, 141.4, 139.1, 131.5, 131.1, 130.6, 129.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.2, 61.9, 25.8, 18.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 267.1380, Found: 267.1375.



**3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 2-(4-isobutylphenyl)acetate (S3).** Yellow oil (1.24 g, 95% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.23 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.37–5.27 (m, 1H), 4.67–4.50 (m, 2H), 3.71 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.53–2.40 (m, 2H), 1.95–1.80 (m, 1H), 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.50 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.8, 140.4, 138.9, 138.0, 129.3, 127.2, 118.7, 61.7, 45.2, 45.1, 30.2, 25.7, 22.4, 18.7, 18.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 297.1825, Found: 297.1836.

The mixture of 4-bromo-1-naphthoic acid (5 mmol, 1 equiv.) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL) was added dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC, 6 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 0.5 mmol, 0.1 equiv), then the corresponding enol (6 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added dropwise at 0 °C. The solution was warmed up to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. Then the mixture was filtered and washed with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 50 mL) and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed through silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1:50) to afford product.



**3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 4-bromo-1-naphthoate (S4).** Yellow oil (1.03 g, 65 yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.99–8.89 (m, 1H), 8.37–8.27 (m, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70–7.59 (m, 2H), 5.60–5.48 (m, 1H), 4.91 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.81 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.2, 139.7, 132.5, 132.3, 130.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 118.6, 62.3, 26.0, 18.3; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNa O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 341.0148, Found: 341.0162



(1R,2S,5R)-5-methyl-2-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexyl4-bromo-1-naphthoate(S5).Colourless oil (1.46 g, 76% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.90–8.83 (m, 1H), 8.35–8.28 (m, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68–7.57 (m, 2H), 5.23–5.12 (m, 1H), 4.90–4.79 (m, 2H), 2.41–2.21 (m, 2H), 1.84–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.74–1.66 (m, 1H), 1.58–1.43 (m, 1H), 1.28–1.14 (m, 1H), 1.11–0.99 (m, 1H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H),

0.92–0.78 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 146.4, 132.4, 132.2, 129.8, 129.0, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 126.5, 112.3, 74.7, 51.2, 40.6, 34.2, 31.6, 30.7, 22.2, 19.5; HRMS (ESI) ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>BrO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 387.0954, Found: 387.0951.



**Cinnamyl 4-bromo-1-naphthoate (S6).** White solid (1.58 g, 86% yield); m.p.= 63.1-64.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.04–8.94 (m, 1H), 8.39–8.31 (m, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.53–6.41 (m, 1H), 5.08 (dd, J = 6.5, 1.3 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.9, 136.3, 134.8, 132.6, 132.3, 130.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8 (2C), 127.1, 126.8, 126.4, 123.1, 66.0; HRMS (ESI) ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>: 389.0148, Found: 389.0161.

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# 8. NMR Spectra of the Products

### Compound 2



# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) .00± $1.03_{II}$ $2.05_{\mathrm{I}}$ 1.05<sub>4</sub> 1.03₌ .01<sub>∓</sub> 6.04= 12.5 12.0 11.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 f1 (ppm) 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5 8.0 77.5 CDCl3 77.2 CDCl3 76.9 CDCl3 64.3 60.5 158.5 164.3 164.3 163.5 160.9 135.0 135.0 134.9 132.3 132.3 124.1 124.1 118.5 118.4 117.3 117.3 ~ 24.7 ~ 19.1

- 6.0E+07 -- 5.5E+07

5.0E+07

4.5E+07

4.0E+07

3.5E+07 3.0E+07

-2.5E+07

2.0E+07

1.5E+07

5.0E+06

-5.0E+06

- 300000( . - 280000(

2600000 2400000



**Compound 3** 





## **Compound 5**







fl (ppm)





### **Compound 9**



210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

### **Compound 10**





f1 (ppm)



























210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

























#### **Compound S1**







210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

-200000

**Compound S3** 







#### **Compound S5**





