

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR

Improved methodology for the synthesis of 1 α ,25-dihydroxy-20-*epi*-vitamin D₃ (MC 1288) and Gemini analog Ro-438-3582

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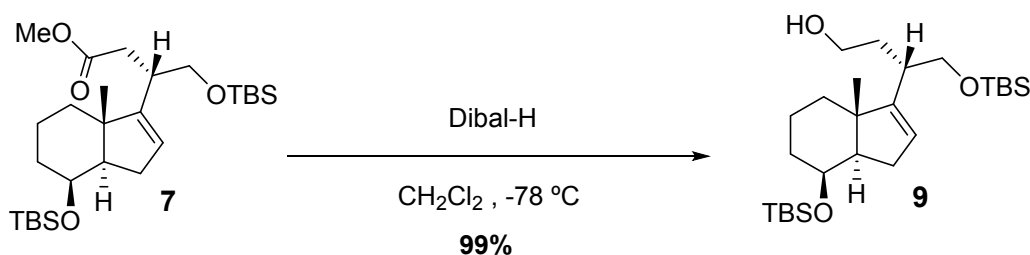
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Experimental procedure

General: Solvents were purified and dried by standard procedures before use. Melting points are uncorrected. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker ARX-400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ^1H NMR, 100.61 MHz for ^{13}C NMR) using TMS as internal standard (Chemical shifts in δ values, J in Hz). Flash chromatography (FC) was performed on silica gel (Merck 60, 230-400 mesh); analytical TLC was performed on plates precoated with silica gel (Merck 60 F254, 0.25mm); mass spectra (FAB, EI) were recorded using FISIONS VG and electron spray ionization (ESI-MS) spectroscopy was recorded using Bruker FTMS APEXIII. Melting points were obtained in open capillary tubes and are not corrected. Optical rotations were obtained using a Jasco P-2000 polarimeter. IR spectra were recorded with a JASCO FT/I(R)-6100 spectrophotometer.

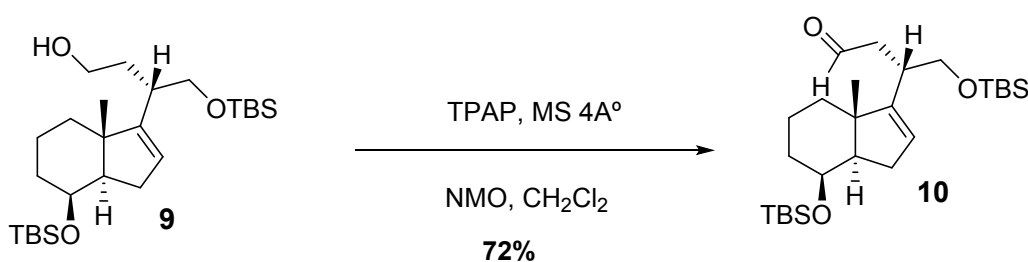
(*S*)-4-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-((3*aS*,7*S*,7*aR*)-7-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3*a*-methyl-3*a*,4,5,6,7,7*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-inden-3-yl)butan-1-ol (**9**)



To a solution ester **7** (1.4 g, 2.7 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) at $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ was added Dibal-H (8.3 mL, 8.3 mmol, 1M soln in hexane) and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. $t\text{BuOMe}$ (26 mL) and H_2O (3.2 mL) were added and the mixture allowed to reach room temperature. Stirring was continued till the formation of a white gel before adding H_2O (3.2 mL) and a 4 M aqueous solution of NaOH (3.2 mL). Stirring was continued till the formation of a white solid. Na_2SO_4 and silica gel were added and the mixture stirred for 20 min. The solid was separated by filtration and the filtrate was concentrated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 3% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording compound **9** (1.22 g, 99%) as a colourless liquid; Rf: 0.47 (20% EtOAc/Hexane); IR (NaCl, cm^{-1}): 3349, 2927, 2856, 1471, 1252, 1025, 833, 771, 667; $[\alpha]^{23}_{\text{D}}=$

+24.56 (c 1.32, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 5.35 (1H, d, *J*=1.7 Hz, H-16), 4.08 (1H, s, H-8), 3.61 (4H, m, H-21), 3.09 (1H, s, OH), 2.21 (2H, m), 1.83 (5H, m), 1.53 (3H, m), 1.26 (2H, m), 1.01 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.91 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.89 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.08 (6H, s, 2 CH₃-Si), 0.03 (6H, s, 2 CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 156.36 (C-17), 122.3 (CH-16), 68.87 (CH-8), 67.86 (CH₂-21), 61.72 (CH₂), 54.45 (CH-14), 47.01 (C-13), 37.85 (CH-20), 37.74 (CH₂), 35.22 (CH₂), 34.63 (CH₂), 31.05 (CH₂), 25.91 (CH₃-^tBu), 25.77 (CH₃-^tBu), 19.20 (CH₃-18), 18.27 (C-^tBu), 17.97 (CH₂), -4.86 (CH₃-Si), -5.19 (CH₃-Si), -5.35 (CH₃-Si), -5.45 (CH₃-Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%)]**: 491(M⁺+Na,44), 451 (16), 337 (M⁺-OTBS,100); **HRMS (ESI)**: 491.3317 calculated for C₂₆H₅₂NaO₃Si₂,found 491.3324.

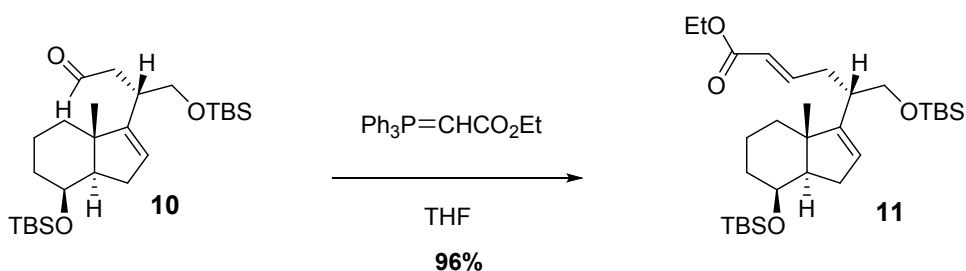
(S)-4-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-((3aS,7S,7aR)-7-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3a-methyl-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-inden-3-yl)butanal (10)



To a solution of alcohol **9** (497 mg, 1.057 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (11 mL) were added 4Å molecular sieves (235 mg), NMO (372 mg, 3.17 mmol) and a catalytic amount of TPAP. The resulting greenish suspension was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. The solvent was rotary evaporated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 1% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording aldehyde **10** (352 mg, 72%) as a colourless liquid; R_f: 0.94 (10% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹)**: 3419, 3405, 2928, 2856, 1716, 1471, 1252, 1061, 835; **[α]²³_D**= +25.84 (c 1.42, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 9.69 (1H, s, CHO), 5.43 (1H, s, H-16), 4.11 (1H, s, H-8), 3.72 (1H, dd, *J*=9.7/3.9 Hz, H-21), 3.48 (1H, t, *J*=9.8 Hz, H-21), 2.78 (1H, m), 2.60 (1H, ddd, *J*=15.9/7.2/2.9 Hz, H-22), 2.42 (1H, ddd, *J*=15.9/6.5/2.2 Hz, H-22), 2.23 (1H, dd, *J*=13.7/12.6 Hz), 1.90 (2H, m), 1.59 (5H, m), 1.30 (1H, m), 1.08 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.89 (18H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.00 (12H, s, 2 CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 202.9 (C=O), 154.2 (C-17), 124.3 (CH-16), 68.8 (CH-8), 66.9 (CH₂-21), 54.4 (CH-14), 47.4 (CH₂), 46.8 (C-13),

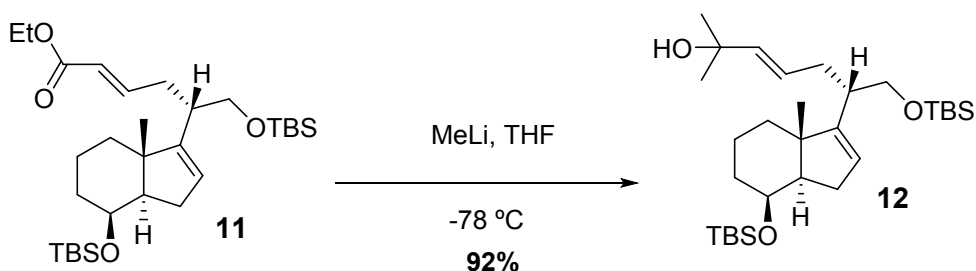
35.3 (CH₂), 35.2 (CH-20), 34.4 (CH₂), 31.1 (CH₂), 25.8 (CH₃-^tBu), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 19.3 (CH₃-18), 18.2 (C-^tBu), 17.9 (C-^tBu), 17.8 (CH₂), -4.8 (CH₃-Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si), -5.4 (CH₃-Si), -5.42 (CH₃-Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%)]**: 595 (100), 481 (9), 357 (M⁺-OTBS+Na,10); **HRMS (ESI)**: 466.3317 calculated for C₂₆H₅₀O₃Si₂, found 466.3324.

Ethyl(*S,E*)-6-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-5-((3*aS*,7*S*,7*aR*)-7-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3*a*-methyl-3*a*,4,5,6,7,7*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-inden-3-yl)hex-2-enoate (11**)**



To a solution of aldehyde **10** (352 mg, 0.75 mmol) in THF (6 mL) was added Ph₃P=CHCO₂Et (530 mg, 1.5 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solvent was rotary evaporated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 1% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording compound **11** (390 mg, 96%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.90 (10% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹)**: 2927, 2855, 1721, 1471, 1253, 1200, 1080, 834, 773, 677; **[α]_D²⁴**= +10.62 (c 1.37, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 6.92 (1H, m, H-23), 5.77 (1H, d, *J*=16 Hz, H-24), 5.37 (1H, s, H-16), 4.19 (2H, c, *J*=7 Hz, CH₂-OEt), 4.10 (1H, s, H-8), 3.59 (1H, dd, *J*=10/4 Hz, H-21), 3.48 (1H, t, *J*=10 Hz, H-21), 2.53 (1H, dd, *J*=16.2/7.8 Hz), 2.25 (3H, m), 1.90 (2H, m), 1.67 (3H, m), 1.47 (1H, m), 1.29 (3H, t, *J*=7 Hz, CH₃-OEt), 1.25 (1H, m), 1.01 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.9 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.89 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.03 (12H, s, 4 CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 166.6 (C=O), 154.5 (C-17), 148.4 (CH-23), 123.5 (CH-24), 122.3 (CH-16) 68.9 (CH-8), 66.3 (CH₂-21), 60.0 (CH₂-OEt), 54.3 (CH-14), 46.9 (C-13), 38.9 (CH-20), 35.2 (CH₂), 35.1 (CH₂), 34.6 (CH₂), 31.1 (CH₂), 25.9 (CH₃-^tBu), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 19.3 (C-^tBu), 18.3 (2 C-^tBu), 18.0 (CH₂), 14.3 (CH₃-OEt), -4.8 (CH₃Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si), -5.3(CH₃-Si), -5.4 (CH₃-Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%)]**: 559 (M⁺+Na,100), 403 (43); **HRMS (ESI)**: 537.3789 calculated for C₃₀H₅₇O₄Si₂, found 537.3793.

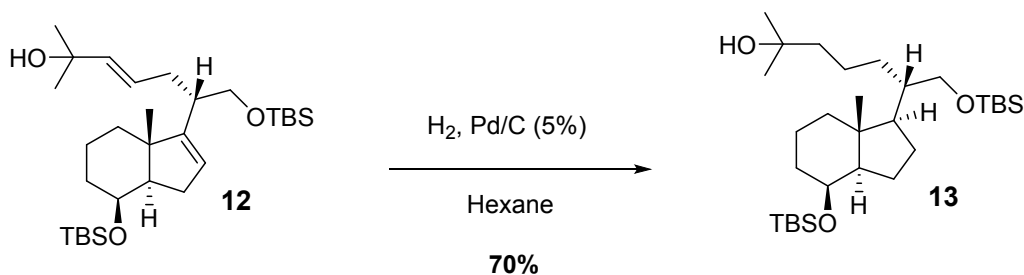
(*S,E*)-7-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-6-((3*aS*,7*S*,7*aR*)-7-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3*a*-methyl-3*a*,4,5,6,7,7*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-inden-3-yl)-2-methylhept-3-en-2-ol (12**)**



To a solution of ester **11** (65 mg, 0.121 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at -78 °C was added MeLi·LiBr (0.41 mL, 0.61 mmol, 1.5 M solution in ethyl ether) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. H₂O (20 mL) was added and the product extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were dried, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 20% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording compound **12** (58 mg, 92%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.43 (10% AcOEt/Hexano); **IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 3361, 2952, 2927, 2855, 1471, 1462, 1360, 834, 771; **[α]²²_D** = +26.49 (c 1.00, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 5.57 (2H, m, H-23, H-24), 5.32 (1H, s, H-16), 4.11 (1H, s, H-8), 3.55 (1H, m, H-22), 3.48 (1H, t, *J* = 9.3, Hz H-22), 2.35 (1H, m), 2.23 (2H, m), 2.10 (1H, m), 1.90 (2H, m), 1.65 (3H, m), 1.47 (3H, m), 1.30 (6H, 2 CH₃), 1.01 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.95 (18H, s, 6 CH₃-^{*t*}Bu), 0.05 (6H, s, 2 CH₃-Si), 0.03 (6H, s, 2 CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 155.2 (C-17), 139.4 (CH-24), 125.5 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 70.7 (C-25), 68.9 (CH-8), 66.3 (CH₂-22), 54.4 (CH-14), 46.8 (C-13), 39.5 (CH-20), 35.3 (CH₂), 35.2 (CH₂), 34.7 (CH₂), 31.1 (CH₂), 29.9 (CH₃), 29.9 (CH₃), 25.9 (CH₃-^{*t*}Bu), 25.8 (CH₃-^{*t*}Bu), 19.2 (CH₃-18), 18.3 (C-^{*t*}Bu), 18.0 (CH₂), -4.3 (CH₃-Si), -4.8 (CH₃-Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si), -5.3 (CH₃-Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%):** 505 (M⁺-OH, 100), 506 (27), 545

($M^+ + Na$, 12), 546 (3); **HRMS (ESI)**: 545.3817 calculated for $C_{30}H_{58}NaO_3Si_2$, found 545.3831.

(S)-7-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-6-((1R,3aR,4S,7aR)-4-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-1-yl)-2-methylheptan-2-ol (13)

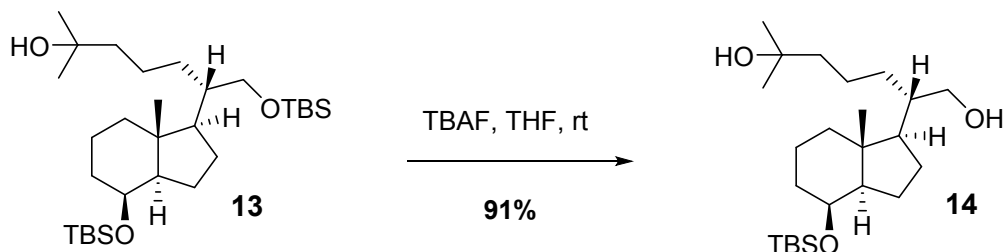


To a mixture of alcohol **12** (19 mg, 0.036 mmol) in hexane (2 mL) was added a catalytic amount of Pd/C (5%) and the suspension was stirred for 4 h at room temperature under H_2 . The use of hexane as a solvent was preferred because it gave better yields. Use of EtOAc for example gave low yields due to hydrogenolysis.

The mixture was then filtered through celite and the filtrate was rotary evaporated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 5% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording compound **13** (13 mg, 70%) as a colourless liquid, Rf: 0.26 (10% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (NaCl, cm^{-1})**: 3392, 2953, 2929, 2884, 2857, 1252, 853; **$[\alpha]^{24}_D = +13.80$** (c 2.56, $CHCl_3$); **1H -NMR ($CDCl_3, \delta$)**: 3.98 (1H, s, CH-8), 3.61 (1H, dd, $J=9.9/2.8$ Hz, H-21), 3.42 (1H, dd, $J=9.9/5.1$ Hz, H-21), 1.89 (1H, m), 1.73 (3H, m), 1.58-1.15 (15H, m), 1.19 (6H, s, CH_3 -26/ CH_3 -27), 0.90 (3H, s, CH_3 -18), 0.88 (9H, s, CH_3 - t Bu), 0.87 (9H, s, CH_3 - t Bu), 0.01 (6H, s, CH_3 -Si), -0.00 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si), -0.02 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si); **^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3, \delta$)**: 71.1 (C-25), 69.4 (CH-8), 63.2 (CH_2 -21), 52.9 (CH-14), 50.7 (CH-17), 44.6 (CH_2), 42.1 (C-13), 41.9 (CH-20), 40.5 (CH_2), 34.4 (CH_2), 29.7 (CH_2), 29.2 (CH_3 -26 o CH_3 -27), 29.1 (CH_3 -26 o CH_3 -27), 26.4 (CH_2), 25.9 (CH_3 - t Bu), 25.8 (CH_3 - t Bu), 22.9 (CH_2), 20.5 (CH_2), 18.2 (C- t Bu), 17.9 (CH_2), 17.7 (C- t Bu), 14.0 (CH_3 -18), -4.8 (CH_3 -Si), -5.2 (CH_3 -Si), -5.4 (CH_3 -Si), -5.5 (CH_3 -Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z , (%)]**: 215 (79), 471 (50), 509 ($M^+ - OH$, 36),

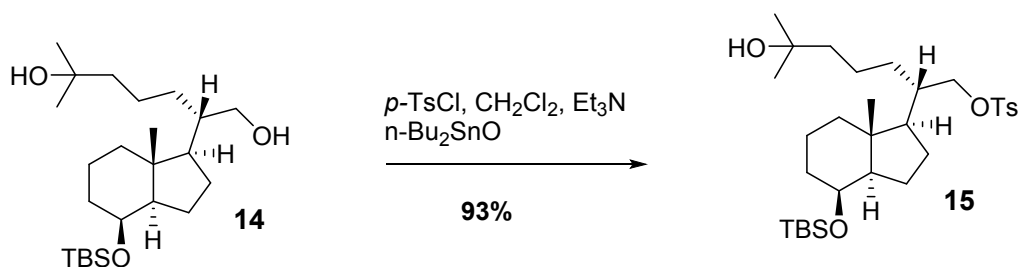
527 ($M^{+1}, 100$); **HRMS (ESI)**: 527.4310 calculated for $C_{30}H_{63}O_3Si_2$, found 527.4320.

(S)-2-((1R,3aR,4S,7aR)-4-((tert-butylidimethylsilyl)oxy)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-1-yl)-6-methylheptane-1,6-diol (14)



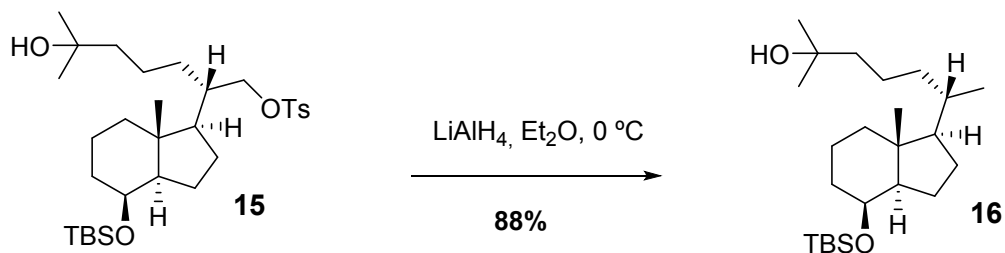
To a solution of **13** (140 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added TBAF (532 μ L of a 1 M solution in THF, 0.532 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h, quenched with an aqueous saturated solution of NH_4Cl (3 mL) and the product extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were dried, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 50% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording diol **14** (109 mg, 91%) as a white solid (mp: 113°C), Rf: 0.22 (50% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (NaCl, cm^{-1})**: 3366, 2953, 2929, 2884, 2858, 1252; **$[\alpha]^{30}_D = +5.74$** (c 0.61, $CHCl_3$); **1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$, δ)**: 3.97 (1H, s, CH-8), 3.67 (1H, dd, $J=11.0/2.8$, H-21), 3.47 (1H, dd, $J=11.0/5.2$ Hz, H-21), 2.23 (2H, s, 2 OH), 1.88 (1H, m), 1.77 (2H, m), 1.64 (1H, m), 1.56-1.14 (15H, m), 1.17 (6H, s, CH_3 -26/ CH_3 -27), 0.90 (3H, s, CH_3 -18), 0.86 (9H, s, CH_3 - t Bu), -0.02 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si), -0.03 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si); **^{13}C -NMR ($CDCl_3$, δ)**: 71.1 (C-25), 69.4 (CH-8), 63.5 (CH_2 -21), 52.9 (CH-14), 50.8 (CH-17), 44.2 (CH_2), 42.2 (C-13), 41.9 (CH-20), 40.5 (CH_2), 34.4 (CH_2), 29.6 (CH_2), 29.4 (CH_3), 29.3 (CH_3), 26.5 (CH_2), 25.8 (CH_3 - t Bu), 22.9 (CH_2), 20.7 (CH_2), 17.8 (CH_2), 17.7 (C- t Bu), 13.9 (CH_3 -18), -4.8 (CH_3 -Si), -5.2 (CH_3 -Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z , (%)]**: 395 (M^+ -OH, 21), 435 (M^+ +Na, 100); **HRMS (ESI)**: 435.3264 calculated for $C_{24}H_{48}NaO_3Si_2$, found 435.3262.

(S)-2-((1R,3aR,4S,7aR)-4-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-1-yl)-6-hydroxy-6-methylheptyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (15)



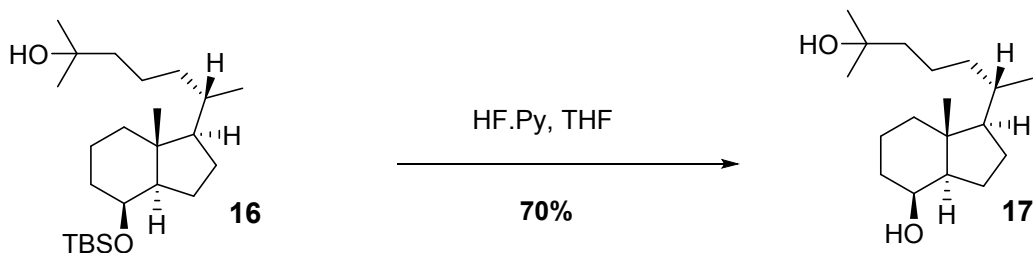
To a solution of diol **14** (70 mg, 0.169 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) were added p -TsCl (100 mg, 0.51 mmol), $n\text{-Bu}_2\text{SnO}_2$ (22 mg, 0.085 mmol) and Et_3N (0.15 mL, 1.02 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 4 days at room temperature, adding p -TsCl (0.17 mmol) and Et_3N (0.51 mmol) every 24 h. H_2O (10 mL) was added and the aqueous phase extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were dried, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 20% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording tosylate **15** (89 mg, 93%) as a colourless liquid, Rf: 0.83 (50% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (ATR, cm^{-1}):** 2957, 2923, 2852, 1463, 1377; **$[\alpha]^{23}_{\text{D}}$** = +15.762 (c 1.00, CHCl_3); **$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , δ):** 7.81 (2H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, CH-Ts), 7.36 (2H, d, J = 7.5 Hz, CH-Ts), 4.07 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H-21), 4.00 (1H, s, H-8), 3.94 (1H, m, H-21), 2.46 (3H, s, CH_3 -Ts), 1.92-1.02 (20H, m), 1.16 (6H, s, CH_3 -26/ CH_3 -27), 0.90 (3H, s, CH_3 -18), 0.89 (9H, s, CH_3 - ^tBu), 0.02 (6H, s, CH_3 -Si); **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , δ):** 144.6 (C-Ts), 133.0 (C-Ts), 129.8 (CH-Ts), 127.9 (CH-Ts), 71.7 (CH_2 -21), 70.8 (C-25), 69.2 (CH-8), 52.7 (CH-14), 50.3 (CH-17), 43.9 (CH_2), 42.1 (C-13), 40.3 (CH_2), 39.7 (CH-20), 34.3 (CH_2), 29.5 (CH_2), 29.3 (CH_3), 29.1 (CH_3), 26.3 (CH_2), 25.8 (CH_3 - ^tBu), 22.7 (CH_2), 21.6 (CH_3 -Ts), 20.4 (CH_2), 18.0 (C- ^tBu), 17.6 (CH_2), 13.8 (CH_3 -18), -4.8 (CH_3 -Si), -5.2 (CH_3 -Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z , (%)]:** 377.32 (M^+ -Ts-OH₂, 100), 549.34 (M^+ -OH, 17), 589.33 (M^+ +Na, 38); **HRMS (ESI):** 589.3353 calculated for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{54}\text{O}_5\text{SSi}$, found 589.3348.

(S)-6-((1R,3aR,4S,7aR)-4-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-1-yl)-2-methylheptan-2-ol (16)



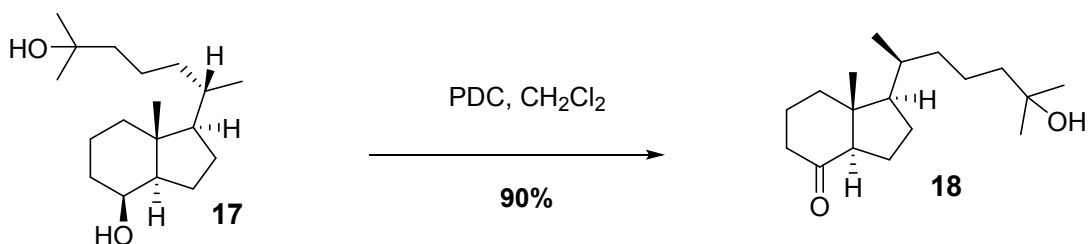
To a suspension of LiAlH_4 (80 mg, 2.06 mmol) in Et_2O (2.75 ml) at 0°C was added dropwise a solution of tosylate **15** (78 mg, 0.137 mmol) in Et_2O (1.5 mL). The cooling bath was then removed and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 16 h. H_2O (10 mL) was added and the product extracted with Et_2O (4 x 15 ml). The combined organic phases were dried, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 30% $\text{EtOAc}/\text{Hexane}$ as eluent, affording alcohol **16** (47 mg, 88%) as a colourless liquid, R_f : 0.59 (50% $\text{EtOAc}/\text{Hexane}$); **IR (ATR, cm^{-1})**: 3348, 2956, 2920, 2851, 1463, 1377; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} = -30.8320$ (c 0.25, CHCl_3); **$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , δ)**: 4.01 (1H, s, H-8), 1.95-1.05 (20H, m), 1.23 (6H, s, CH_3 -26/ CH_3 -27), 0.93 (3H, s, CH_3 -18), 0.91 (9H, s, CH_3 - ^tBu), 0.83 (3H, d, $J=6.4$ Hz, CH_3 -21), 0.03 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si), 0.01 (3H, s, CH_3 -Si); **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , δ)**: 71.1 (C-25), 69.5 (CH-8), 56.4 (CH), 53.1 (CH), 44.3 (CH_2), 42.2 (C-13), 40.7 (CH_2), 35.7 (CH_2), 34.7 (CH-20), 34.5 (CH_2), 30.3 (CH_3), 29.3 (CH_3), 27.2 (CH_2), 25.8 (CH_3 - ^tBu), 23.0 (CH_2), 20.8 (CH_2), 18.5 (CH_3 -21), 18.0 (C- ^tBu), 17.7 (CH_2), 14.0 (CH_3 -18), -4.8 (CH_3 -Si), -5.2 (CH_3 -Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z , (%)]**: 379.3394 (M^+ -OH, 100); **HRMS (ESI)**: 379.3390 calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{47}\text{OSi}$, found 379.3394.

(1R,3aR,4S,7aR)-1-((S)-6-hydroxy-6-methylheptan-2-yl)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-4-ol (17)



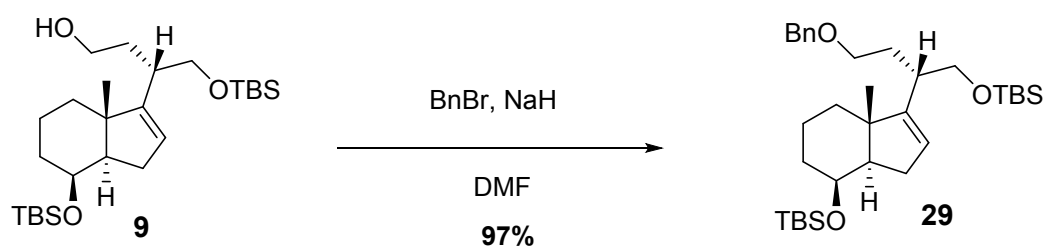
To a solution of alcohol **16** (87 mg, 0.219 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at 0°C was added dropwise HF-py 70% (2 mL). The cooling bath was then removed and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 3 days, HF-py 70% (2 mL) being added every 24 h. The mixture was recooled at 0°C and NaHCO₃ added dropwise till pH 6. The product was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were dried, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 50% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording diol **17** (43 mg, 70%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.22 (30% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (ATR, cm⁻¹)**: 3385, 2955, 2924, 2853, 1464, 1367; **[α]²¹_D** = +18.0644 (c 1.00, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 4.09 (1H, s, H-8), 2.01-1.26 (15H, m), 1.25 (6H, s, CH₃-26/CH₃-27), 1.23-1.07 (4H, m), 0.95 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.84 (3H, d, *J*=6.4 Hz, CH₃-21); **C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ)**: 71.1 (C-25), 69.4 (CH-8), 56.3 (CH), 52.7 (CH), 44.3 (CH₂), 41.9 (C-13), 40.3 (CH₂), 35.7 (CH₂), 34.7 (CH-20), 33.6 (CH₂), 29.3 (CH₃), 29.3 (CH₃), 27.1 (CH₂), 22.4 (CH₂), 20.9 (CH₂), 18.5 (CH₃-21), 17.5 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃-18); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%)]**: 195.09 (40), 248.11 (M⁺-2OH, 100), 283.26 (M⁺+1, 1), 311.21 (10); **HRMS (ESI)**: 283.2631 calculated for C₁₈H₃₅O₂, found 283.2636.

(1*R*,3*aR*,7*aR*)-1-((*S*)-6-hydroxy-6-methylheptan-2-yl)-7*a*-methyloctahydro-4*H*-inden-4-one (18**)**



To a solution of diol **17** (38 mg, 0.135 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.5 mL) was added pyridinium dichromate (PDC) (152 mg, 0.40 mmol) and the mixture stirred for 16 h, filtered over celite and the filtrate concentrated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 60% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording ketone **18** (33 mg, 90%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.20 (30% EtOAc/Hexane); **IR (ATR, cm⁻¹):** 3436, 2956, 2922, 2852, 1733, 1463, 1376, 1364, 1176; **[α]²²_D** = -38.744 (c 1.00, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 2.42 (1H, m, CH-14), 2.24 (2H, m, CH₂-9), 2.13-1.25 (15H, m), 1.25 (6H, s, CH₃-26/CH₃-27), 0.88 (3H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, CH₃-21), 0.65 (3H, s, CH₃-18); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 212.0 (C-8), 71.0 (C-25), 62.0 (CH-14), 56.2 (CH), 49.9 (C-13), 44.2 (CH₂), 40.9 (CH₂), 38.8 (CH₂), 35.9 (CH₂), 34.8 (CH-20), 29.3 (CH₃), 29.2 (CH₃), 27.1 (CH₂), 24.0 (CH₂), 20.8 (CH₂), 18.9 (CH₂), 18.5 (CH₃-21), 12.7 (CH₃-18); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%)]:** 248.11 (M⁺-OH₂, 100), 282.21 (M⁺⁺², 2.4), 303.23 (M⁺+Na, 2); **HRMS (ESI):** 303.2294 calculated for C₁₈H₃₂NaO₂, found 303.2300.

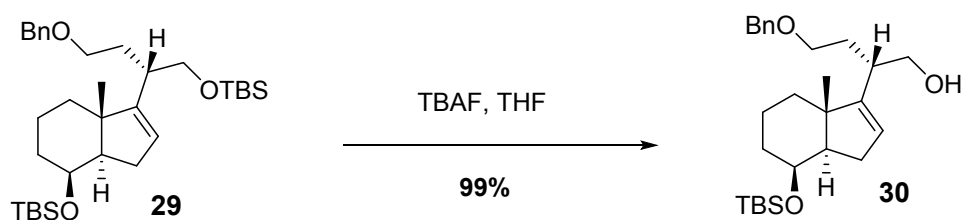
((3*aS*,7*S*,7*aR*)-3-((*S*)-4-(benzyloxy)-1-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)butan-2-yl)-3*a*-methyl-3*a*,4,5,6,7,7*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-inden-7-yl)oxy)(*tert*-butyl)dimethylsilane (29**)**



To a solution of alcohol **9** (1.12 g, 2.5 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added portionwise NaH (205 mg, 5.1 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) and the mixture stirred for 30 mn. Benzyl bromide (BnBr) (0.4 mL, 3.6 mmol) was added and the cooling bath removed. Stirring was continued for 24 h before quenching with H₂O (20 mL). The product was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated

to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 0.5% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, benzyl ether **29** (1.3 g, 97%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.75 (10% AcOEt/Hexano); IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹): 2949.68, 2931.33, 2878.25, 2857.45, 1025.64; [α]_D²¹ = +34.35 (c 2.14, CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ): 7.27 (5H, m, 5H-Bn), 5.34 (1H, s, H-16), 4.53 (2H, s, CH₂-Bn), 4.05 (1H, s ancho, H-8), 3.55 (1H, dd, J=9.7, 4.6 Hz, H-21), 3.43 (3H, m, H-21, 2H-23), 2.20 (2H, m), 2.0 (1H, m), 1.86 (2H, m), 1.71-1.33 (6H, m), 1.21 (1H, m), 0.99 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.86 (18H, s, CH₃-^tBu), -0.001 (12H, s, CH₃-Si); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ): 155.8 (C-17), 138.7 (C-Bn), 128.3 (CH_m-Bn), 127.6 (CH_o-Bn), 127.3 (CH_p-Bn), 122.6 (CH-16), 72.6 (CH₂-OBn), 69.7 (CH-8), 69.0 (CH₂-21), 67.3 (CH₂-23), 54.4 (CH-14), 46.8 (C-13), 36.4 (CH-20), 35.3 (CH₂), 34.6 (CH₂), 32.5 (CH₂), 31.0 (CH₂), 25.9 (CH₃-^tBu), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 19.3 (CH₃-18), 18.2 (C-^tBu), 17.9 (CH₂), -4.8 (CH₃-Si), -5.1 (CH₃-Si), -5.3 (CH₃-Si); MS (ESI) [m/z, (%): 559 (M⁺+1, 100), 557 (M⁺-1, 5), 451 (M⁺-OBn, 26), 427 (16); HRMS (ESI): 559.3997 calculated for C₃₃H₅₉O₃Si₂, found 559.3992.

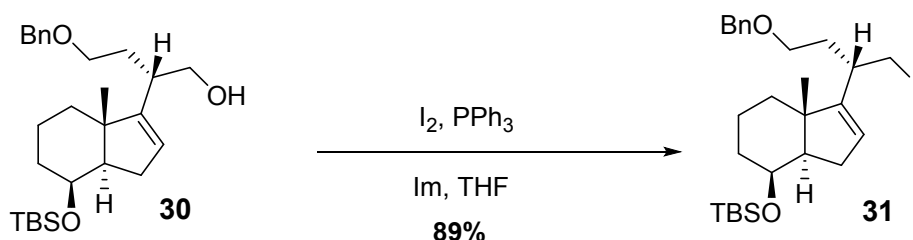
(S)-4-(benzyloxy)-2-((3aS,7S,7aR)-7-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3a-methyl-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-inden-3-yl)butan-1-ol (30)



To a solution of benzyl ether **29** (1.4 g, 2.7 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added TBAF (5.4 mL of a 1 M solution in THF, 5.4 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, quenched with an aqueous saturated solution of NH₄Cl (15 mL) and the product extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 1% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording

alcohol **30** (1.1 g, 99%) as a colourless liquid, Rf: 0.25 (10% EtOAc/Hexano); **IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹):** 3369.33, 2949.68, 2931.58, 2878.36, 2856.89, 1102.32; **[α]²²_D** = +19.78 (c 0.92, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 7.27 (5H, m, 5H-Bn), 5.42 (1H, s, H-16), 4.52 (2H, s, CH₂-Bn), 4.11 (1H, s ancho, H-8), 3.61 (2H, m, 2H-23), 3.55 (1H, m, H-21), 3.48 (1H, m, H-21), 2.41 (1H, m, H-15), 2.27 (1H, m, H-20), 1.95-1.66 (6H, m), 1.62 (1H, ddd, J=11.5, 6.1, 1.8 Hz), 1.48 (2H, m), 1.27 (1H, m), 1.06 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.91 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.05 (3H, s, CH₃-Si), 0.05 (3H, s, CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 155.7 (C-17), 137.9 (C-Bn), 128.3 (CH_m-Bn), 127.7 (CH_o-Bn), 127.6 (CH_p-Bn), 123.0 (CH-16), 73.1 (CH₂-OBn), 68.8 (CH-8), 68.6 (CH₂-21), 65.7 (CH₂-23), 54.6 (CH-14), 46.8 (C-13), 37.6 (CH-20), 35.2 (CH₂), 34.5 (CH₂), 32.8 (CH₂), 30.9 (CH₂), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 19.1 (CH₃-18), 18.1 (C-^tBu), 17.9 (CH₂), -4.9 (CH₃-Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si); **MS (FAB⁺) [m/z, (%):** 445 (M⁺⁺¹, 100), 444 (M⁺, 12), 353 (14), 337 (M⁺-OBn, 12), 313 (15); **HRMS (FAB⁺):** 445.3132 calculated for C₂₇H₄₅O₃Si, found 445.3130.

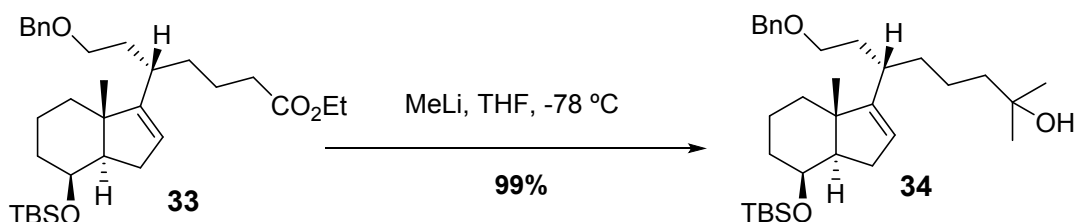
((3aS,7S,7aR)-3-((S)-4-(benzyloxy)-1-iodobutan-2-yl)-3a-methyl-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-inden-7-yl)oxy)(tert-butyl)dimethylsilane (31)



To a solution of alcohol **30** (521 mg, 1.26 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at room temperature were added sequentially PPh₃ (397 mg, 1.5 mmol) and imidazole (258 mg, 3.78 mmol). After cooling the mixture to 0 °C, I₂ (352 mg, 1.4 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 30 min. The reaction was quenched with an aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃ (40 mL) and the product extracted with EtOAc (30 mL). The organic phase was washed with a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 1%

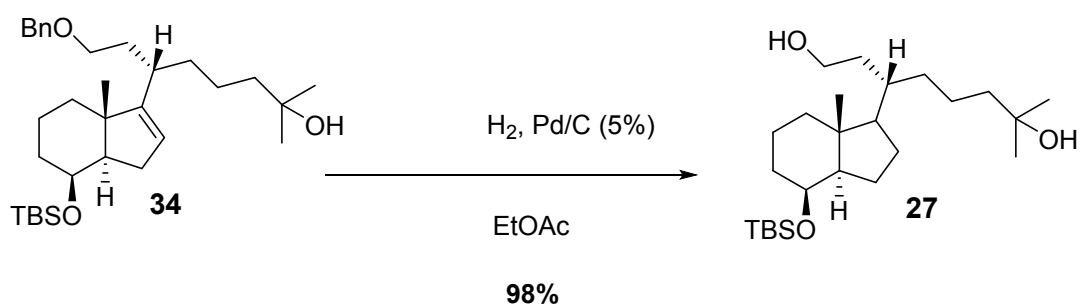
stirring continued for 2 h. The suspension was then filtered through celite and ethyl acetate (10 mL) was added. The organic phase was washed with a 10% aqueous solution of HCl (2 x 20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated, affording a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 1% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, giving ester **33** (76 mg, 70%) as a colourless liquid, R_f: 0.16 (10% AcOEt/Hexano); **IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹):** 2928.38, 2853.06, 2855.10, 1736.18, 1652.32; **[α]²³_D**= +17.18 (c 1.59, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 7.29 (5H, m, 5H-Bn), 5.29 (1H, s, H-16), 4.47 (2H, s, CH₂-Bn), 4.11 (2H, q, J=7.1 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 4.07 (1H, s ancho, H-8), 3.44 (2H, m, 2H-1'), 2.24 (2H, m, 2H-24), 2.12 (1H, m), 1.87 (2H, ddd, J=14.2, 5.6, 2.9 Hz, 2H-15), 1.79-1.55 (7H, m), 1.55-1.38 (5H, m), 1.30 (1H, m), 1.24 (3H, t, J= 7.1Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 1.01 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.89 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.02 (6H, s, CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 173.7 (C=O), 157.4 (C-17), 138.6 (C-Bn), 128.3 (CH_m-Bn), 127.6 (CH_o-Bn), 127.4 (CH_p-Bn), 121.7 (CH-16), 72.8 (CH₂-OBn), 69.0 (CH-8), 68.6 (CH₂-1'), 60.1 (OCH₂CH₃), 54.8 (CH-14), 46.7 (C-13), 35.5 (CH₂), 35.2 (CH₂), 34.6 (CH₂), 34.5 (CH₂), 34.0 (CH₂), 33.9 (CH-20), 33.8 (CH₂), 30.8 (CH₂), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 22.9 (CH₂), 19.2 (CH₃-18), 18.0 (C-^tBu), 17.9 (CH₂), 14.2 (OCH₂CH₃), -4.9 (CH₃-Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si); **EM (ESI) [m/z, (%):** 529 (M⁺+1, 100), 528 (M⁺, 26), 527 (M⁺-1, 32), 421 (M⁺-OBn, 22), 289 (40); **EMAR (ESI):** 529.3707 calculated for C₃₂H₅₃O₄Si, found 529.3705.

(S)-8-(benzyloxy)-6-((3aS,7S,7aR)-7-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3a-methyl-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-inden-3-yl)-2-methyloctan-2-ol (34)



To a solution of ester **33** (180 mg, 0.31 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at -78 °C was added MeLi·LiBr (1.1 ml, 1.6 mmol, 1.5 M solution in ethyl ether) and the mixture was stirred for 30 mn. H₂O (10 mL) was added and the product extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated to give a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 10% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording alcohol **34** (180 mg, 99%) as a colourless liquid, Rf: 0.1 (10% EtOAc/Hexano); **IR (NaCl, cm⁻¹):** 3394.15, 2930.31, 2856.06, 1365.35, 1026.91; **[α]²²_D**= +19.69 (c 1.76, CHCl₃); **¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 7.32 (5H, m, 5H-Bn), 5.28 (1H, s, H-16), 4.49 (1H, d, J=11.8 Hz, CH₂-Bn), 4.46 (1H, d, J=11.8 Hz, CH₂-Bn), 4.08 (1H, s ancho, H-8), 3.44 (2H, m, 2H-1'), 2.23 (1H, m, H-15), 2.13 (1H, m, H-15), 1.87 (2H, m), 1.77-1.54 (6H, m), 1.52-1.22 (8H, m), 1.18 (6H, s, CH₃-26, CH₃-27), 1.02 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.89 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), 0.03 (6H, s, CH₃-Si); **¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, δ):** 157.9 (C-17), 138.6 (C-Bn), 128.2 (CH_m-Bn), 127.6 (CH_o-Bn), 127.4 (CH_p-Bn), 121.5 (CH-16), 72.7 (CH₂-OBn), 71.0 (C-25), 69.1 (CH-8), 68.7 (CH₂-1'), 54.9 (CH-14), 46.7 (C-13), 44.1 (CH₂), 35.5 (CH₂), 35.2 (CH₂), 35.0 (CH₂), 34.6 (CH₂), 33.9 (CH-20), 30.8 (CH₂), 29.2 (CH₃-26 o CH₃-27), 29.1 (CH₃-26 o CH₃-27), 25.7 (CH₃-^tBu), 22.2 (CH₂), 19.3 (CH₃-18), 18.0 (C-^tBu), 17.9 (CH₂), -4.9 (CH₃-Si), -5.2 (CH₃-Si); **MS (ESI) [m/z, (%):** 514 (M⁺, 15), 513 (M⁺-1, 52), 421(82), 257 (32); **HRMS (ESI):** 513.3758 calculated for C₃₂H₅₃O₃Si, found 513.3757.

(3S)-3-((3aR,4S,7aR)-4-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7a-methyloctahydro-1H-inden-1-yl)-7-methyloctane-1,7-diol (27**)**



To a solution of alcohol **34** (191 mg, 0.37 mmol) in EtOAc (5 mL) at room temperature was added Pd/C (20 mg) and the mixture was stirred for 45 h under H₂ atmosphere. The mixture was then filtered through celite and the filtrate was rotatory evaporated to afford a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel using 10% EtOAc/Hexane as eluent, affording compound **27** (125 mg, 98%) as a colourless liquid.

¹H-RMN (CDCl₃, δ): 3.98 (1H, s, H-8), 3.63 (2H, m, CH₂-1'), 1.94-1.17 (20H, m), 1.19 (6H, s, CH₃-26/27), 0.90 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.87 (9H, s, CH₃-^tBu), -0.01 (3H, s, CH₃-Si), -0.02 (CH₃-Si); **¹³C-RMN (CDCl₃, δ):** 71.42 (C-25), 69.80 (CH-8), 61.01 (CH₂-1'), 53.92 (CH-14), 53.44 (CH-17), 44.81 (CH₂), 42.61 (C-13), 40.91 (CH₂), 36.41 (CH-20), 34.85 (CH₂), 34.63 (CH₂), 32.11(CH₂), 29.73 (CH₃-26/27), 29.66 (CH₃-26/27), 27.00 (CH₂), 26.20 (CH₃-^tBu), 23.27 (CH₂), 20.27 (CH₂), 18.41 (CH₂), 18.07 (C-^tBu), 14.32 (CH₃-18), -4.39 (CH₃-Si), -4.76 (CH₃-Si).

