# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# Easily accessible non-aromatic heterocycles with handles: 4-Bromo-2,3-dihydrofurans from 1,2-dibromohomoallylic alcohols

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#### I. General Information

All moisture sensitive reactions were run in a flame-dried reaction vessel under N<sub>2</sub>. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was dried using a J. C. Meyer Solvent Dispensing System (SDS) and dispensed under N<sub>2</sub>. All other solvents were dried over CaH<sub>2</sub> or 4 Å molecular sieves. Deuterated chloroform (CDCI<sub>3</sub>), was dried over 4 Å molecular sieves. All starting materials and reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received, with the exception of Zn, which was activated prior to use. <sup>1</sup>H NMR experiments were recorded on a 400 MHz spectrometer, <sup>13</sup>C NMR experiments were recorded at 100 MHz and <sup>19</sup>F experiments were recorded at 376 MHz. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm, and coupling constants (*J*) are given in Hz. The 7.26 resonance of residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> for proton spectra and the 77.23 ppm resonance of CDCl<sub>3</sub> for carbon spectra were used as internal references. Infrared spectra were obtained on a FTIR spectrometer. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS, ESI-TOF) data were obtained with electrospray ionization and a time-of-flight analyzer. Unless otherwise stated, reaction progress was monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) performed on glass plates coated with silica gel UV254. Visualization was achieved by ultraviolet light (254 nm), 0.5% KMnO<sub>4</sub> in 0.1 M aqueous NaOH solution and/or 5% phosphomolybdic acid in ethanol. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel, 40 microns flash silica. Homopropargyl alcohols **5a-e**, **5g-j**, and **5I-n** were prepared by a literature procedure,<sup>1</sup> and their <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra data match the values reported in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

### II. General procedure for the synthesis of homopropargyl alcohols 5f, 5k and 5o.<sup>1</sup>

Activated zinc powder (5.0 equiv), anhydrous THF (to make the overall concentration [0.4 M] with respect to aldehyde), aldehyde or ketone (1.0 equiv), 3-bromo-1-propyne (1.5 equiv) and 1,2-diiodoethane (1.0 equiv) were added to an oven-dried Erlenmeyer flask. The reaction mixture was sonicated for 2.5 h. After sonication, aqueous HCI (2 M, 2 mL/1.0 mmol of aldehyde/ketone) was added. The mixture was decanted, and the solution was extracted with

 $Et_2O$  (3x). The combined organic extracts were washed with saturated aqueous  $Na_2S_2O_3$  and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 80:20) to give homopropargyl alcohol **5f**, **5k** or **5o**.<sup>3</sup>



**1-Tetradecyn-4-ol (5f).** The general procedure was followed, and purification gave **5f** as a clear oil (0.238 g, 67%, 84:16 of **5f**:allene).<sup>4</sup> Characterization data for **5f**: IR (neat) 3314, 2922, 2853, 1709 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.77 (m, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, *J* = 16.7, 4.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (ddd, *J* = 16.7, 6.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (dd, *J* = 2.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.85 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 1.58–1.40 (m, 3H), 1.32–1.23 (m, 15H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  81.2, 71.0, 70.2, 36.5, 32.1, 29.8, 29.8, 29.8, 29.6, 27.6, 25.8, 22.9, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for *m/z* C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 233.1876, found 233.1870.



**4-Methyl-1-tridecyn-4-ol (5k).** The general procedure was followed, and purification gave **5k** as a yellow oil (0.229 g, 62%, 86:14 of **5k**:allene).<sup>4</sup> Characterization data for **5k**: IR (neat) 3410 (br), 3313, 2923, 2854, 1462, 1376 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.38 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (dd, *J* = 2.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.74 (s, 1H), 1.59–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.36–1.25 (m, 17H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  81.1, 71.9, 71.3, 41.4, 32.6, 32.1, 30.3, 29.8, 29.7, 29.5, 26.5, 24.2, 22.9, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for *m/z* C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 233.1876, found 233.1871.



**1-Phenyl-1-trifluoromethyl-3-butyn-1-ol (50).** The general procedure was followed, and purification gave **50** as a yellow oil (0.436 g, 85%, 90:10 of **50**:allene).<sup>4</sup> Characterization data for **50**: IR (neat) 3532 (br), 3302, 1154 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.68–7.60 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.40 (m, 3H), 3.17 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 1H), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (dd, *J* = 2.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.4, 129.2, 128.6, 126.6, 125.0 (q, *J*<sub>*C-F*</sup> = 270 Hz), 76.8, 75.7 (q, *J*<sub>*C-F*</sub> = 28.4 Hz), 73.7, 29.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –79.1; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>FO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 214.0605, found 214.0616.</sub>

### III. General procedure for *E*-dibromination of homopropargyl alcohols.

Following the method of Xiang *et al.*,<sup>5</sup> homopropargyl alcohol **5**<sup>6</sup> (1.0 equiv), activated molecular sieves (18% of the CuBr<sub>2</sub> mass used), CuBr<sub>2</sub> (2.5 equiv) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (to make the overall concentration [0.4 M]) were added to a flame dried test tube. The reaction mixture was stirred until the starting material was consumed (based on TLC, minimum 24 h). The mixture was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 90:10, except where noted) to give (*E*)-dibromohomoallylic alcohols **2**.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-phenyl-3-buten-1-ol (2a). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2a as a white solid (0.604 g, 89%):<sup>7 1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 (m, 5H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.13 (m, 1H), 3.25 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 4.9 Hz, 1H) 2.01 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.6, 128.6, 128.1, 125.9, 122.2, 105.4, 72.2, 46.3.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-(4-methylphenyl)-3-buten-1-ol (2b). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2b as a white solid (1.55 g, 78%): mp 50–51 °C; IR (neat) 3301 (br), 3083, 2921, 1422, 1032 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 5.07 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 4.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.95 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.8, 138.0, 129.4, 126.1, 122.5, 105.3, 72.3, 46.4, 21.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 319.9234, found 319.9189.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)-3-buten-1-ol (2c). The general procedure was followed and purification gave 2c as a white solid (0.361 g, 89%): mp 55–56 °C; IR (neat) 3323 (br), 2954, 1411, 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46–7.32 (m, 4H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.08 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (ddd, *J* = 14.5, 4.5, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 1,95 (bs, 1H) 1.33 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.3, 139.9, 125.8, 125.7, 122.6, 105.4, 72.2, 46.4, 34.8, 31.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NaO [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 382.9617, found 382.9610.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-buten-1-ol (2d). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2d as a clear yellow oil (0.59 g, 86%): IR (neat) 3379 (br), 1604, 1508, 1221 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 5.09 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 245.8$  Hz), 138.4 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 2.8$  Hz), 127.9 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 8.4$  Hz), 121.9, 115.6 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 21.9$  Hz), 105.7, 71.8, 46.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –114.2; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>FO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 321.9004, found 321.8996.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3-buten-1-ol (2e). The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc 95:5) gave 2e as a yellow oil (0.569 g, 82%): IR (neat) 3330 (br), 1322, 1164, 1112, 1065 cm<sup>-1</sup>; (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 5.17 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 4.1, 4.1 Hz 1H), 3.19 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  146.6, 130.3 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.1 Hz), 126.3, 125.6 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.5 Hz), 124.3, (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 270 Hz), 121.6, 106.1, 71.8, 46.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –284.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 352.8977, found 352.8983.



(*E*)-1,2-Dibromo-1-tetradecen-4-ol (2f). The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 95:5) gave 2f as a clear oil (0.370 g, 85%): IR (neat) 3344 (br), 2922, 2852, 1464, 1016 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.57 (s, 1H), 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.92 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.61 (s, 1H), 1.57–1.45 (m, 2H), 1.41–1.24 (m, 16H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  123.2, 104.9, 70.1, 44.9, 36.9, 32.1, 29.8, 29.7, 29.7, 29.5, 25.7, 22.8, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>26</sub>OBr<sub>2</sub>[M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 370.0331, found 370.0300.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-cyclohexyl-3-buten-1-ol (2g). The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 95:5) gave 2g as a clear oil (0.445 g, 80%): IR (neat) 3385 (br), 2921, 2850, 1448, 1102 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.59 (s, 1H), 3.85–3.79 (m, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (ddd, *J* = 14.3, 3.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 1.90–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.77 (m, 2H), 1.71–1.68 (m, 2H), 1.54–1.53 (m, 1H), 1.48–1.39 (m, 1H), 1.33–1.02 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  124.1, 105.0, 74.2, 43.6, 42.3, 29.6, 28.1, 26.8, 26.6, 26.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>[M – OH]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 294.9520, found 294.9479.



(*E*)-5,6-Dibromo-1-phenyl-5-hexen-3-ol (2h). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2h as a yellow oil (0.522 g, 84%): IR (neat) 3364 (br), 2919, 1495, 1042 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 3H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 4.09–4.03 (m, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.90–2.83 (m, 1H), 2.76–2.66 (m, 2H), 1.91–1.85 (m, 2H), 1.65 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.8, 128.7, 128.6, 126.2, 122.8, 105.2, 69.6, 44.9, 38.4, 32.1. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NaO [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 354.9304, found 354.9308.



(*E*)-1-Benzyloxy-4,5-dibromo-4-buten-2-ol (2i). The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 85:15) gave 2i as an orange oil (0.080 g, 25%): IR (neat) 3437 (br), 2922, 2858, 1453, 1089; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39–7.29

(m, 5H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.24–4.17 (m, 1H), 3.60 (dd, J = 9.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (dd, J = 9.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.4, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 14.4, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  138.0, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 122.3, 105.2, 73.7, 73.2, 68.8, 41.2; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 370.9253, found 370.9258.



(*E*)-4,5-Dibromo-2-phenylpent-4-en-2-ol (2j). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2j as a yellow oil (0.489 g, 85%): IR (neat) 3453 (br), 2975, 1445, 1069 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.54–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.23 (m, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 3.26 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 1H), 1.69 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  147.0, 128.4, 127.3, 124.9, 120.9, 106.7, 75.3, 50.1, 29.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> [M – OH]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 302.9207, found 302.9183.



(*E*)-1,2-Dibromo-4-methyl-1-tridecen-4-ol (2k). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2k as a yellow oil (0.482 g, 86%): IR (neat) 3410 (br), 3313, 2923, 2854, 1462, 1377 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.66 (s, 1H), 2.93 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (s, 1H), 1.58–1.54 (m, 2H), 1.42–1.39 (m, 2H), 1.30–1.27 (m, 15H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  121.7, 106.0, 74.0, 48.0, 42.9, 32.1, 30.3, 29.8, 29.7, 29.5, 26.9, 23.9, 22.9, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 352.0200, found 352.0225.



**1-[(***E***)-2,3-Dibromoprop-2-enyl]cyclopentanol (2I).** The general procedure was followed, and purification gave **2I** as a yellow oil (0.388 g, 85%): IR (neat) 3429 (br), 2957, 1087 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.64 (s, 1H), 3.03 (s, 2H), 1.86–1.66 (m, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  122.0, 105.7, 82.6, 47.2, 40.2, 23.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> [M – OH]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 266.9207, found 266.9192.



**1-[(***E***)-2,3-Dibromoprop-2-enyl]cyclohexanol (2m)**. The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 95:5) gave **2m** as a pale yellow liquid (0.621 g, 69%): IR (neat) 3456 (br), 2927, 1446, 1150 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.66 (s, 1H), 2.88 (s, 2H), 1.75 (s, 1H), 1.69–1.47 (m, 9H), 1.27–1.18 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  121.3, 106.0, 72.4, 49.1, 37.9, 25.7, 22.0; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O [M – H]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 294.9333, found 294.9332.



*trans*-2-[(*E*)-1,2-Dibromoethenyl]cyclohexanol (2n). The general procedure was followed, and purification gave 2n as a pale yellow oil (0.201 g, 61%): IR (neat) 3374 (br), 2930, 2856, 1447, 1026 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.55 (s, 1H), 3.67 (ddd, *J* = 9.7, 9.7, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (ddd, *J* = 13.0, 9.5, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.08–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.63 (m, 4H), 1.52–1.28 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.2, 104.0, 71.7, 50.9, 34.3, 29.4, 24.8, 24.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 281.9255, found 281.9257.



(*E*)-4,5-Dibromo-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenylpent-4-en-2-ol (2o). The general procedure was followed, and purification by gravity chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc, 90:10) gave 2o as a yellow oil (0.324 g, 46%, *E/Z* 20:1). Characterization of *E*-isomer (3o): IR (neat) 3563, 1152; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.64–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.38 (m, 3H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 3.59 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  135.5, 129.2, 128.5, 126.7, 125.47 (q, *J*<sub>*C-F*</sub> = 286.2 Hz), 117.6, 108.6, 77.6 (q, *J*<sub>*C-F*</sub> = 28.5 Hz), 42.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –79.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 371.8972, found 371.8960.

#### IV. General procedures for Cu-mediated cyclization

**Procedure A. For dibromohomoallylic alcohols (2a-e, 2j** and **2o) derived from aryl aldehydes/ketones.** Cul (10 mol%), 1,10-phenanthroline (20 mol%), and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (1.2 equiv) were added to a flame dried test tube, and the tube was capped with a septum. The system was backfilled 3x with N<sub>2</sub>, and *E*-dibromohomoallylic alcohol **2a-e**, **2j** or **2o** (1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (to make the overall concentration [0.05 M]) was added in one portion. The mixture was placed in an oil bath (80 °C) and stirred for 16 h. The resulting mixture was allowed to cool to rt, and Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added. The mixture was then stirred for 30 min. It was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O 97.5:2.5) to give 4-bromo-2,3-dihydrofurans **3a-e**, **3j** or **3o**.

**Procedure B. For dibromohomoallylic alcohols (2f-i and 2k-n) derived from alkyl aldehydes/ketones.** Cul (10 mol%), 1,10-phenanthroline (20 mol%), and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (1.5 equiv) were added to a flame dried test tube, and the tube was capped with a septum. The system was backfilled 3x with N<sub>2</sub>, and *E*-dibromohomoallylic alcohol **2f-i** or **2k-n** (1.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (to make the overall concentration [0.05 M]) was added in one portion. The mixture was placed in an oil bath (115 °C) and stirred for 16 h. The resulting mixture was allowed to cool to rt, and  $Et_2O$  (10 mL) was added. The mixture was then stirred for 30 min. It was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O 97.5:2.5) to give 4-bromo-2,3-dihydrofurans **3f-i** or **3k-n**.

**Procedure C. CuBr mediated cyclization for selected dibromohomoallylic alcohols.** CuBr (10 mol%), 1,10-phenanthroline (20 mol%), and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (1.5 equiv) were added to a flame dried test tube, and the tube was capped with a septum. The system was backfilled 3x with N<sub>2</sub>, and *E*-dibromohomoallylic alcohol **2** (1.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (to make the overall concentration [0.05 M]) was added in one portion. The mixture was placed in an oil bath (115 °C) and stirred for 16 h. The resulting mixture was allowed to cool to rt, and Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added. The mixture was then stirred for 30 min. It was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O 97.5:2.5) to give 4-bromo-2,3-dihydrofurans **3**.



**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-phenylfuran (3a)**. General procedure A was followed to provide **3a** as a yellow oil (0.058 g, 78%; also contains 0.001 g of **6a**—2%: based on GC/MS ratio of 98:2 of **3a:6a**): IR (neat) 2922, 1629, 1450, 1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.40–7.31 (m, 5H), 6.52 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddd, *J* = 14.7, 10.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.6, 141.7, 129.0,

128.5, 125.9, 92.0, 83.6, 44.0; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for  $C_{10}H_9BrO[M]^+ m/z$  223.9837, found 223.9827.

**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-phenylfuran (3a)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3a** as a yellow oil (0.033 g, 88%).



**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-(4-methylphenyl)furan (3b)**. General procedure A was followed to provide **3b** as a yellow oil (0.063g, 86%; also contains 0.002 g of **6b**—2%: based on GC/MS ratio of 98:2 of **3b:6b**): IR (neat) 2921, 1628, 1515, 1092 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.25 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (dd, J = 2.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (dd, J = 10.5, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (ddd, J = 14.8, 10.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (ddd, J = 14.8, 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 138.6, 138.2, 129.6, 126.0, 91.9, 83.6, 43.9, 21.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 239.9974, found 239.9980.



**4-Bromo-2-(4-***tert***-butylphenyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (3c)**. General procedure A was followed to provided **3c** as a clear oil (0.057 g, 74%; also contains 0.003 g of **6c**—3%: based on GC/MS ratio of 96:4 of **3c:6c**): IR (neat) 2961, 1629, 1267, 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.28 (m, 2H), 6.50 (dd, J = 2.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, J = 10.6, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (ddd, J = 14.8, 10.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (ddd, J = 14.8, 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.5, 144.5, 138.5, 125.8, 125.8, 91.9, 83.5, 43.7, 34.8, 31.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup>*m/z* 280.0463, found 280.0471.

**4-Bromo-2-(4-***tert***-butylphenyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (3c)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3c** as a clear oil (0.034 g, 87%).



**4-Bromo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (3d)**. General procedure A was followed to provide **3d** as a yellow oil (0.169 g, 67%; also contains 0.008 g of **6d**—3%: based on GC/MS ratio of 96:4 of **3d:6d**): IR (neat) 2925 1605, 1510, 1223, 1089 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.51 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (ddd, *J* = 14.9, 10.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (ddd, *J* = 14.9, 10.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 247.6 Hz), 144.4, 137.4 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 8.4 Hz), 127.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 8.4 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.7 Hz), 91.9, 82.9, 43.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –113.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrFO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 243.9723, found 243.9722.

**4-Bromo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (3d)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3d** as a yellow oil (0.023 g, 62%).



**4-Bromo-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (3e)**. General procedure A was followed to provide **3e** as a yellow oil (0.053 g, 69%; also contains 0.004 g of **6e**—4%: based on GC/MS ratio of 94:6 of **3e:6e**): IR (neat) 2927, 1620, 1322, 1066 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.64 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 10.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 8.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 145.7, 144.4, 130.5 (q *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.4 Hz), 126.0, 125.9 (q,

 $J_{C-F}$  = 3.5 Hz), 124.2 (q, J = 270 Hz), 91.9, 82.6, 43.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –62.6; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 293.9691, found 293.9684.



**4-Bromo-2-decyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (3f)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3f** as a yellow oil (0.050 g, 63%; also contains 0.005 g of **6f**—5%: based on GC/MS ratio of 93:7 of **3f:6f**): IR (neat) 2922, 2852, 1463, 1101 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.33 (dd, *J* = 2.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.64–4.56 (m, 1H), 2.88 (ddd, *J* = 14.5, 10.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (ddd, *J* = 14.5, 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.77–1.70 (m, 1H), 1.61–1.54 (m, 1H), 1.43–1.26 (m, 16 H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.3, 92.1, 83.1, 41.3, 36.3, 32.1, 29.8, 29.8, 29.8, 29.7, 29.5, 25.2, 22.9, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 288.1089, found 288.1086. **4-Bromo-2-decyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (3f)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3f** as a yellow oil (0.027 g, 70%).



**4-Bromo-2-cyclohexyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (3g)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3g** (0.048 g, 65%; also contains 0.002 g of **6g**—2%: based on GC/MS ratio of 97:3 of **3g:6g**): IR (neat) 2922, 2852, 1448, 1100 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.34 (dd, J = 2.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (ddd, J = 16.9, 9.6, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (ddd, J = 14.6, 10.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (ddd, J = 14.6, 9.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.87–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.78–1.75 (m, 2H), 1.70–1.62 (m, 2H) 1.59–1.50 (m, 1H), 1.31–1.17 (m, 3H), 1.07–0.94 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 92.2, 87.2, 43.1, 38.9, 28.3, 28.2, 26.6, 26.1, 25.9; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 230.0306, found 230.0316.

**4-Bromo-2-cyclohexyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (3g)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3g** as a yellow oil (0.021 g, 57%).



4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-(2-phenylethyl)furan (3h) and (E)-2-(bromomethylidene)-4-(2-phenylethyl)oxetane (4h). General procedure B was followed to provide 3h as a yellow oil (0.054 g, 72%; also contains 0.008 g of 6h-9%; based on GC/MS ratio of 89:11 of 3h:6h); IR (neat) 2926, 1628, 1453, 1099 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.33–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.20 (m, 14.6, 10.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82–2.67 (m, 2H), 2.53 (ddd, J = 14.6, 8.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.14–2.05 (m, 1H), 1.90 (dddd, J = 16.1, 9.6, 6.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.3, 141.4, 128.7, 128.7, 126.2, 92.1, 82.0, 41.3, 37.9, 31.6; HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> m/z 252.0150, found 252.0174. (E)-2-(Bromomethylidene)-4-(2-phenylethyl)oxetane (4h), a clear yellow oil, could also be isolated from general procedure B using purification by gravity column chromatography on deactivated silica (98:1:1 Hexanes/EtOAc/TEA). Characterization for (E)-2-(bromomethylidene)-4-(2-phenylethyl)oxetane (**4h**): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.17 (m, 3H), 5.31 (dd, J = 2.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.83–4.77 (m, 1H), 3.20 (ddd, J = 15.4, 6.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.82–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.70–2.62 (m, 1H), 2.20 (dddd, J = 13.8, 8.8, 7.9, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (dddd, J = 14.6, 9.3, 7.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.1, 140.8, 128.8, 128.6, 126.4, 79.6, 75.8, 37.8, 34.2, 30.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> m/z 252.0150, found 252.0155.

**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-(2-phenylethyl)furan (3h).** General procedure C was followed to provide **3h** as a yellow oil (0.028 g, 74%).



**2-Benzyloxymethyl-4-bromo-2,3-dihydrofuran (3i)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3i** as a yellow oil (0.063 g, 82%; also contains 0.002 g of **6i**—2%: based on GC/MS ratio of 98:2 of **3i:6i**): IR (neat) 2923, 2856, 1453, 1095 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38–7.29 (m, 5H), 6.36 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dddd, *J* = 10.4, 7.8, 6.4, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1 H), 4.58 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (ddd, *J* = 14.7, 10.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 7.9, 2.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.3, 138.0, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 92.4, 81.2, 73.7, 71.9, 38.1; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 268.0099, found 268.0100.



**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-methyl-2-phenylfuran (3j)**. General procedure A was followed to provide **3j** as a yellow oil (0.059 g, 79%; also contains 0.001 g of **6j**—1%: based on GC/MS ratio of 99:1 of **3j:6j**): IR (neat) 2975, 2926, 1632, 1118 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28–7.13 (m, 5H), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 1.8 Hz, IH), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.59 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  146.6, 143.5, 128.6, 127.5, 124.5, 91.1, 88.9, 50.3, 29.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 239.9973, found 239.9985.



**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-methyl-2-nonylfuran (3k)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3k** as a clear oil (0.058 g, 74%; also contains 0.001 g of **6k**—1%: based on GC/MS ratio

of 98:2 of **3k:6k**): IR (neat) 2923, 2853, 1629, 1140, 1115 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 6.28 (dd, *J* = 2.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 14.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dd, *J* = 14.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 1.63–1.59 (m, 2H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.29–1.27 (m, 14H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.6, 90.9, 88.9, 46.8, 41.4, 32.1, 30.2, 29.8, 29.5, 26.8, 24.0, 22.9, 14.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup>*m/z* 288.1089, found 288.1099.



**3-Bromo-1-oxaspiro[4.4]non-2-ene (3I)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3I** as a clear oil (0.048 g, 68%; also contains 0.003 g of **6I**—3%: based on GC/MS ratio of 95:5 of **3I:6I**): IR (neat) 2958, 2924, 1628, 1110 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.29 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 2H), 2.07–2.02 (m, 2H), 1.81–1.59 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCI<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.6, 96.5, 91.0, 45.7, 40.1, 23.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup>*m/z* 203.9993, found 203.9980.

**3-Bromo-1-oxaspiro[4.4]non-2-ene (3I)**. General procedure C was followed to provide **3I** as a yellow oil (0.018 g, 52%).



**3-Bromo-1-oxaspiro[4.5]dec-2-ene (3m)**. General procedure B was followed to provide **3m** as a clear oil (0.049 g, 67%; also contains 0.004 g of **6m**—5%: based on GC/MS ratio of 94:6 of **3m:6m**): IR (neat) 2975, 2926, 1632, 1118 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.31 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 1.78–1.60 (m, 8H), 1.45–1.43 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.4, 91.1, 88.4, 46.9, 37.3, 25.1, 22.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 216.0150, found 216.0153.



*trans*-3-Bromo-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydrobenzofuran (3n). General procedure B was followed to provide 3n as a clear oil (0.058 g, 80%; also contains 0.005 g of 6n—6%: based on GC/MS ratio of 94:6 of 3n:6n): IR (neat) 2938, 2860, 1065 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.52 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (ddd, *J* = 14.9, 11.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (dddd, *J* = 14.2, 11.6, 2.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.23–2.17 (m, 1H), 2.05–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.92–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.67 (dddd, *J* = 11.8, 11.8, 11.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.43–1.13 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.9, 101.9, 90.1, 51.7, 30.5, 28.3, 25.4, 24.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 201.9993, found 201.9994.

*trans*-3-Bromo-3a,4,5,6,7,7a-hexahydrobenzofuran (3n). General procedure C was followed to provide 3n as a clear oil (0.032 g, 88%).



**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-phenyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)furan (3o).** General procedure A was followed to provide **3o** as a yellow oil (0.046 g, 60%; also contains 0.009 g of **6o**—10%: based on GC/MS ratio of 83:14 of **3o:6o**): IR (neat) 2926, 2855, 1304, 1163, 1034 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.41 (m, 3H), 6.52 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.3, 136.9, 129.5, 128.7, 126.4, 124.3 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 283.3 Hz), 91.9, 88.0 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 30.8 Hz), 44.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ –81.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 291.9711, found 291.9720.

**4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-phenyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)furan (3o).** General procedure C was followed to provide **3o** as a yellow oil (0.062 g, 79%).

V. Synthesis and [Cu] mediated cyclization of internal alkene, (*E*)-3,4-dibromo-1-phenyl-3-hepten-1-ol (7).



**1-Phenyl-3-heptyn-1-ol (I).** Pentyne (1.44 mL, 14.7 mmol) and THF (55 mL) were added to a flame dried flask. The stirring solution was cooled to -78 °C and *n*-BuLi (5.86 mL, 14.7 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) was added dropwise under N<sub>2</sub>. The solution was stirred for 90 min at -78 °C, followed by the sequential addition of HMPA (5.10 mL, 29.3 mmol) and styrene oxide (1.68 mL, 14.7 mmol). The solution was allowed to warm to rt overnight. Saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (55 mL) was added, and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 50 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (100 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The crude product was purified by gravity chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 80:20) to give I as yellow oil (1.10 g, 40%): IR (neat) 3389 (br), 3031, 1494, 1454 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40–7.26 (m, 5H), 4.81 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.63–2.58 (m, 2H), 2.51 (brs, 1H), 2.17–2.12 (m, 2H), 1.56–1.46 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.0, 128.6, 127.9, 126.0, 83.7, 76.3, 72.8, 30.3, 22.5, 20.9, 13.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>*m/z* 188.1201, found 188.1205.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-1-phenyl-3-hepten-1-ol (7). The general procedure for dibromination was followed with 1-phenyl-3-heptyn-1-ol (I), and purification gave 7 as a yellow oil (0.534 g, 48%):<sup>8</sup> IR (neat) 3380 (br), 2961, 1039 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.11 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (dd, J = 14.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 14.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.75–2.62 (m, 2H), 2.15 (brs, 1H), 1.60 (sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.0, 128.6, 128.0, 126.1, 124.9, 117.2, 72.8, 50.2, 42.8, 20.9, 13.1; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 327.9462, found 327.9453.



(*E*)-2-(1-Bromobutylidene)-4-phenyloxetane (8) and 4-bromo-2-phenyl-5-propyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (9). Cul (0.0050 g, 0.029 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.091 g, 0.28 mmol) were added to a flame dried test tube. The system was backfilled 3x with N<sub>2</sub>, and (*E*)-3,4-dibromo-1-phenyl-3hepten-1-ol (7) (0.050 g, 0.14 mmol) in dioxane (2.8 mL) was added in one portion. The mixture was placed in an oil bath (100 °C) and stirred for 16 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to rt, and Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added. The mixture was then stirred for 30 min and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the crude product showed a 1:1 ratio of 8 and 9, as well as ~50% of the starting material. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O/TEA, 98:1:1) to give 8/9 (1:1) as a clear yellow oil (0.019 g, 50%). (*E*)-2-(1-Bromobutylidene)-4-phenyloxetane (8) was separable by careful column chromatography using the same solvent system (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O/TEA, 98:1:1): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.44–7.34 (m, 5H), 5.65 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (dd, *J* = 15.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 15.3, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41–2.37 (m, 2H), 1.56 (sextet, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.7, 140.2, 128.9, 128.9, 125.9, 97.3, 78.5, 37.9, 32.8, 21.2, 13.2. 4-Bromo-2-phenyl-5-propyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (**9**) was isolated by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O/TEA, 98:1:1): IR (neat) 3032, 2960, 1197, 1075 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.50 (dd, J = 10.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (m, 1H), 2.88 (m, 1H), 2.29 (m, 2H), 1.62 (sextet, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.3, 142.4, 129.0, 128.2, 125.6, 87.3, 81.5, 45.0, 28.5, 20.0, 13.9; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 266.0306, found 266.0320.

VI. Synthesis and [Cu] mediated cyclization of allyl-substituted dibromoalkene, (*E*)-3,4dibromo-2,2-dimethyl-1-phenyl-3-buten-1-ol (10).



**3,3-Dimethyl-2-methylene-4-phenyloxetane (II).** A solution of dimethyltitanocene (11.4 mL, 0.50 M in toluene, 5.70 mmol) and 3,3-dimethyl-4-phenyloxetan-2-one<sup>9, 10</sup> (0.500g, 2.84 mmol) was stirred in the dark at 85 °C in a pressure tube. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the disappearance of the starting material (8 h). The reaction mixture was poured into petroleum

ether (100 mL) and stirred overnight. The orange precipitate was filtered through a pad of Celite, and washed with petroleum ether until the filtrate was colorless. The filtrate was concentrated to ~one-tenth the volume, and the residue was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/NEt<sub>3</sub> 96:4) to give compound **II** as a yellow oil (0.212 g, 49%): IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2963, 2929, 1692, 1461, 908, 734, 650 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 0.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.5, 138.2, 128.5, 128.0, 125.5, 90.5, 76.4, 47.2, 26.7, 22.0; HRMS (FAB) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O [M + H]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 175.1122, found 175.1115.



**2,2-Dimethyl-1-phenyl-3-butyn-1-ol (III).** *n*-BuLi (1.5 mL, 2.5 M, 3.66 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of diisopropylamine (0.59 mL, 4.15 mmol) in dry THF (8 mL) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub>. The solution was allowed to warm to ambient temperature over 30 min and then cooled to 0 °C. 3,3-Dimethyl-2-methylene-4phenyloxetane (**II**) (0.212 g, 1.22 mmol) in THF (4 mL) was then added dropwise to the resulting solution. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the disappearance of starting material (30 min). H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) were added and the organic layer separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 5 mL), and the combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 80:20) to give **III** as a yellow oil (0.175 g, 83%).<sup>111</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42–7.28 (m, 5H), 4.51 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (s, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.8, 127.9, 127.7, 127.7, 80.3, 80.2, 70.8, 37.7, 26.3, 24.3.



(*E*)-3,4-Dibromo-2,2-dimethyl-1-phenyl-3-buten-1-ol (10). The general procedure was followed and purification gave 10 as a clear oil (0.245 g, 73%): IR (neat) 3458 (br), 3077, 2979, 1452, 1026 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40–7.27 (m, 5H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 5.25 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.03 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.2, 134.9, 128.0, 127.9, 101.3, 77.7, 49.0, 25.5, 24.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NaO [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 354.9304, found 354.9312.



(*E*)-2-(Bromomethylidene)-3,3-dimethyl-4-phenyloxetane (11) and 4-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (12). General procedure C and was followed and purification by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O/TEA, 98:1:1) gave 11 and 12 as an inseparable mixture (0.027 g, 73%, 42:58 mixture of 11:12): Characterization of (*E*)-2- (bromomethylidene)-3,3-dimethyl-4-phenyloxetane (11): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 137.4, 128.4, 128.2, 125.5, 91.1, 73.9, 48.4, 24.4, 19.6. Characterization of 4-bromo-3,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrofuran (12): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42–7.28 (m, 5H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.62 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.5, 137.5, 128.6, 128.4, 126.3, 107.3, 92.4, 48.6, 26.5, 22.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) of mixture calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrO [M + H]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 253.0223, found 253.0218.

# VII. Competition study





4-Bromo-3-buten-1-ol (V). 3-Butyn-1-ol (1.00 g, 14.3 mmol) was dissolved in acetone (48 mL). N-Bromosuccinimide (2.78 g, 15.7 mmol) and AgNO<sub>3</sub> (0.242 g, 1.43 mmol) were added. The reaction was stirred for 2 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) and water (50 mL). The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to give 4-bromo-3-butyn-1-ol (IV), which was used without further purification. 4-Bromo-3-butyn-1-ol (IV) (1.00 g, 6.71 mmol), p-toluenesulfonyl hydrazine (2.50 g, 13.4 mmol), sodium acetate (1.65 g, 20.1 mmol), and THF/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, 30 mL) were added to a round bottom flask. The solution was placed in an oil bath and heated at reflux for 4 h. The solution was allowed to cool to rt. Saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (100 mL) was added, and the solution was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated. A mixture of hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O (80:20, 50 mL) was added to the crude residue, and the resulting mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica. The eluant was concentrated to obtain V as a clear yellow oil (0.628 g, 59%): IR (neat) 3333 (br), 2926, 1623, 1314, 1044 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.29 (dt, J = 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dt, J = 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (ttd, J = 6.6, 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 131.4, 110.2, 61.3, 33.5; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 149.9680, found 149.9672.



(*Z*)-4-Bromo-3-butenal (VI). 4-Bromo-3-buten-1-ol (V) (0.579 g, 3.83 mmol) and DCM (28 mL) were added to a flame dried flask. The solution was cooled to 0 °C, and Dess-Martin periodinane (1.79 g, 4.22 mmol) was added in one portion. The solution was stirred for 30 min. Saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (50 mL) and saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL) were added, and the mixture was stirred until it became clear. The solution was then extracted with DCM (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (50 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated. A mixture of hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O (80:20, 100 mL) was added to the crude residue, and the resulting mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica. The eluent was concentrated under reduced pressure to give VI as a yellow oil (0.390 g, 42%), which was used immediately in the next reaction: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.73 (m, 1H), 6.47 (m, 1H), 6.40 (m, 1H), 3.40 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 1.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H).



(*Z*)-1,6-Dibromo-1,6-heptadiene-4-ol (19). Crude 4-bromo-3-butenal (VI) (0.390 g, 2.62 mmol), Sn powder (0.622 g, 5.42 mmol), 2,3-dibromopropene (0.768 mL, 7.85 mmol), and Et<sub>2</sub>O/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1 mixture, 5 mL) were added to a round bottom flask. Aqueous HBr (1 M, 4 drops) was added, and the mixture was stirred at rt overnight. The reaction was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate was washed with brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated. The crude mixture was purified by gravity chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 90:10) to give **19** as a yellow oil (0.418 g, 60%): IR (neat) 3364 (br), 1630, 1051 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.33 (dt, *J* = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (dt, *J* = 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 5.57 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.15–4.08 (m, 1H), 2.63–2.55 (m, 2H), 2.49–2.44 (m, 2H), 1.79 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.6, 130.3, 120.3, 110.6, 68.2, 49.0, 36.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 249.8993, found 249.8997.

**Competition reaction** 



4-[(Z)-3-Bromoprop-2-enyl]-2-methyleneoxetane (20) and 2-(2-bromoprop-2-enyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (21). The reaction conditions for general procedure A for the copper mediated cyclization were followed. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the crude product mixture showed a 1:1 ratio of **20** and **21**. The crude reaction mixture was purified by gravity column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O/TEA, 98:1:1) to give a mixture of compounds **20** and **21** as a yellow oil (0.054 g, 77%). Clean samples of each compound could be isolated by chromatography under the same conditions. Characterization of 4-[(E)-3-bromoprop-2-enyl]-2-methyleneoxetane (20): IR (neat)2923, 2857, 1724, 1051 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.36 (ddd, J = 7.1, 1.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (ddd, J = 7.0, 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (dddd, J = 6.1, 6.1, 6.1, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.15–4.13 (m, 1H), 3.77 (ddd, J = 3.5, 1.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (dddd, J = 14.9, 6.6, 2.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dddd, J = 14.9, 5.0, 2.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.72–2.69 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.1, 128.5, 111.4, 80.6, 77.1, 36.3, 33.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 188.9910, found 188.9913. Characterization of 2-(2-bromoprop-2-enyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran (21): IR (neat) 2922, 2853, 1740, 1461 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.27 (ddd, J = 4.8, 2.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.69– 5.68 (m, 1H), 5.53 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (ddd, J = 5.0, 2.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.87–4.81 (m, 1H), 2.84 (dd, J = 14.6, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dddd, J = 15.2, 10.1, 2.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (dd, J = 14.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (dddd, J = 15.2, 6.9, 2.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.1, 129.8, 119.3, 99.2, 78.7, 47.5, 34.2; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrO [M]<sup>+</sup> m/z 188.9910, found 188.9905.

### **VIII. Applications**

#### Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling



**2,3-Dihydro-2,4-diphenylfuran (22)**.  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (0.002 g, 0.002 mmol), XPhos (0.004 g, 0.009 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (0.094 g, 0.44 mmol), and phenylboronic acid (0.041 g, 0.33 mmol) were added to a flame dried Schlenk tube, and the tube was backfilled with N<sub>2</sub> (3x). 4-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-phenylfuran (**3a**) (0.050 g, 0.22 mmol) in *n*-butanol (0.44 mL) was added to the tube, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 95 °C for 4 h. It was then allowed to cool to rt, Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was filtered through a short pad of celite. The eluent was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by gravity chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 95:5) to give **22** as a yellow solid (0.030 g, 61%): mp 48.0–49.0 °C; IR (neat) 3029, 2920, 1626, 1104 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.15 (m, 5H), 7.09–7.05 (m, 1H), 6.91 (m, 1H), 5.62 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (ddd, *J* = 12.7, 10.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (ddd, *J* = 10.4, 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 142.8, 141.8, 134.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 126.0, 125.9, 124.3, 115.0, 83.7, 39.1; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 222.1045, found 222.1049.

Sonogashira Coupling



**2,3-Dihydro-2-(4-methylphenyl)-4-(2-phenylethynyl)furan (23)**.  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (~0.5 mg, ~0.002 mmol), Cul (~0.3 mg, ~0.002 mmol), and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (0.14 g, 0.42 mmol) were added to a flame dried test tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Phenylacetylene (0.028 mL, 0.25 mmol) and 4-bromo-2,3-dihydro-2-(4-

methylphenyl)furan (**3b**) (0.050 g, 0.21 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) were added. The system was backfilled with N<sub>2</sub> (3x) and placed in an oil bath at 60 °C to stir for 24 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) was added, and the mixture was filtered through a short pad of celite. The eluent was concentrated and purified by gravity chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/TEA 99:1) to give **23** as a yellow oil (0.040 g, 74%): IR (neat) 2922, 1515, 1093, 810 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 10.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 138.6, 138.3, 132.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7 126.0, 122.0, 91.9, 83.6, 81.8, 74.1, 43.9, 21.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O [M – C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup> *m/z* 159.0810, found 159.0807.

# IX. Additional details of the computational methods

10 nanoseconds of Molecular Dynamics simulations at a temperature of 80 °C were conducted for compounds **2a**, **2k**, **7**, **13**, and **19** in a fully solvated box of acetonitrile (see Fig S1). The size of the unit cell was approximately 25 Å×25 Å ×25 Å. Periodic boundary conditions were used within the NVT ensemble. The MD simulations were carried out with Desmond with the force field OPLSA3e,<sup>12</sup> within the Schrodinger 2019-4 suite. This recently developed force field represents the largest concerted parameterization effort aimed at organic molecules and provides extensive parameterization of valence and torsional terms.



Fig. S1. Example of solvated unit cell for compound 2a in acetonitrile.

The structure shown in Fig. 3, for which the ESP analysis was performed, is the global minimum at both the oplsa3e level and at the DFT. Indeed, we performed a conformational search at the MM level with oplsa3e and passed the three lowest energy minima (within 1 kcal/mol) to a DFT calculation using Jaguar<sup>13</sup> at the b3lyp-d3/lacvp\*\* level. Both levels of theory maintained the same ranking of energies. This same DFT level of theory was then used to determine ESP charges on the global energy minimum.

# X. References

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XI. <sup>1</sup>H AND <sup>13</sup>C NMR SPECTRA OF NEW COMPOUNDS


















 -281	-282	-283	-284	-285	-286	-287	-288	-289	-290	-291	ppm

-284.92



























77.67---











S57

-102	-104	-106	-108	-110	-112	/L 	-116	-118	-120	-122	ppm








































					J.								
-55	-60	-65	-70	-75	-80	-85	-90	-95	-100	-105	-110	-115	ŗ

-81.54





























S87