## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

## Electrochemical Ring-Opening 1,3-Dihydroxylation of Arylcyclopropanes with H2O

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## 1. General information

All glasswares were oven dried at 110 °C for several hours and cooled down under vacuum. Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on precoated plates of Silica Gel HF254 (0.2 mm, Yantai, China). Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200 mesh silica gel in petroleum (bp. 60-90 °C) and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker Advance III (400 MHz) spectrometers with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. All chemical shifts were reported relative to tetramethylsilane (0 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H), CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.16 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C), DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (2.50 ppm for  $^{1}$ H, 39.50 ppm for  $^{13}$ C), Methanol- $d_4$  (3.31 ppm for  $^{1}$ H, 49.00 ppm for  $^{13}$ C), and CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1.94 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H, 118.26 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C), respectively. Data is reported as follows: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), doublet of doublets (dd), quartet (q), multiplet (m), and broad (br). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on DIONEX UltiMate 3000 & Bruker Compact TOF mass spectrometer and a Waters Micromass GCT instrument. Cyclic voltammograms were obtained on a Autolab PGSTAT 302N from Metrohm-Autolab (BV, Utrecht, Netherlands).

## 2. Preparation of starting materials

## 2.1 Synthesis of the cyclopropanes

#### General procedure A: Suzuki coupling<sup>1</sup>

A three-neck (100 mL) flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with the aryl bromide (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), cyclopropylboronic acid (515.4 mg, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv.),  $K_3PO_4$  (3.18 g, 15.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv.),  $Cy_3P$  (140.2 mg, 0.5 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) and  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (67.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 0.06 equiv.). The reaction mixture was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Toluene (30.0 mL) and  $H_2O$  (1.0 mL) were added. The resultant mixture was heated at 100 °C until aryl halide was consumed (more than 10 h, detected by GC-MS). Next, the reaction mixture was

cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with ethyl acetate and H<sub>2</sub>O. The phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate, and then dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product purified by chromatography on silica gel.

## General procedure B: Simmons-Smith cyclopropanation<sup>2</sup>

An oven-dried round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added 15 mL anhydrous  $CH_2CI_2$  under Ar atmosphere. The solution was cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath and 10.0 mL  $Et_2Zn$  (10.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv., 1.0 M in hexanes) was added. Then a solution of trifluoroacetic acid (0.77 mL, 10.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 5 mL DCM was dripped very slowly into the reaction mixture via syringe. Upon stirring for 20 min, a solution of  $CH_2I_2$  (0.81 mL, 10.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 5 mL DCM was added. After an additional 20 min of stirring, a solution of the respective styrene derivative (5.0 mmol,

1.0 equiv.) in 5 mL DCM was added, and the ice bath was removed. After starting styrene derivative was consumed (more than 12 h, detected by GC-MS), the reaction mixture was quenched with 1M HCl (10 mL) and the phases were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and brine and then dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give the corresponding compound.

## General procedure C: synthesis of ester<sup>3</sup>

$$R^{1}COOH + R^{2}OH \xrightarrow{DCC, DMAP} R^{1}COOR^{2}$$

To a stirred solution of acid R¹COOH (1.0 equiv.) and *N*, *N*'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC, 2.0 equiv.) in DCM (0.2 M) were added 4-(*N*, *N*-dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP, 0.15 equiv.) and alcohol R²OH (1.0 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired products.

## Ibuprofen derivative (39a)

Reaction was performed in 1.0 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **39a** (222 mg, 0.66 mmol, 66%) as pale-yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.23 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.19 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.09 (q, J = 12.4 Hz, 2H), 3.81 – 3.71 (m, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.53 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.03 – 0.89 (m, 8H), 0.74 – 0.67 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7, 144.1, 140.6, 137.8, 133.2, 129.4, 128.1, 127.4, 125.8, 66.4, 45.3, 45.2, 30.3, 22.5, 18.6, 15.3, 9.4 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 359.1982; found, 359.1975.

## Sulbactam derivative (40a)

Reaction was performed in 1.5 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **40a** (351 mg, 1.0 mmol, 67%) as pale-yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.10 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.67 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 1H), 3.56 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 1.96 – 1.86 (m, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 3H), 1.01 – 0.94 (m, 2H), 0.71 – 0.64 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.8, 165.8, 147.6, 142.9, 127.0, 120.8, 63.4, 63.0, 61.3, 38.6, 20.6, 18.9, 15.1, 9.5 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 327.0876; found,372.0876.

## Diacetone-D-glucose derivative (41a)

Reaction was performed in 3.0 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **41a** (795 mg, 1.97 mmol, 66%) as colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.94 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.31 (m, 2H), 4.16 – 4.04 (m, 2H), 2.00 - 1.89 (m, 1H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.13 – 1.00 (m, 2H), 0.81 – 0.73 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.3, 150.9, 129.9, 126.6, 125.6, 112.5, 109.5, 105.3, 83.6, 80.1, 76.5, 72.8, 67.3, 27.0, 26.9, 26.4, 25.4, 15.9, 10.6, 10.6 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>7</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 427.1727; found, 427.1722.

## Probenecid derivative (42a)

Reaction was performed in 1.27 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **42a** (409 mg, 1.02 mmol, 80%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.93 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 – 7.05 (br, 4H), 3.21 – 3.05 (m, 4H), 2.02 – 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.63 - 1.49 (m, 4H), 1.03 – 0.94 (m, 2H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 0.70 (q, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.1, 148.4, 144.9, 142.1, 133.0, 130.8, 127.2, 126.9, 121.2, 50.0, 22.0, 15.1, 11.3, 9.3 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 402.1734; found,402.1728.

## **DL-Menthol derivative (43a)**

Reaction was performed in 1.85 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **43a** (200 mg, 0.67 mmol, 36%) as colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.90 (td, J = 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 2.07 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.68(m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.48(m, 2H), 1.17 – 0.98 (m, 4H), 0.96 – 0.87 (m, 7H), 0.81 – 0.72 (m, 5H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.3, 149.8, 129.8, 128.1, 125.4, 74.7, 47.4, 41.2, 34.5, 31.6, 26.6, 23.8, 22.2, 20.9, 16.7, 15.8, 10.3 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{20}H_{28}O_2[M+Na]^+$ , 323.1982; found, 323.1978.

#### Dehydrocholic acid derivative (45a)

Reaction was performed in 3.0 mmol according general procedure C, affording substrate **45a** (1.55 g, 2.91 mmol, 97%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.05 (q, J = 12.1 Hz, 2H), 2.97 – 2.75 (m, 3H), 2.45 – 2.18 (m, 9H), 2.16 – 2.09 (m, 2H), 2.05 – 1.91 (m, 5H), 1.91 – 1.77 (m, 3H),1.69 –1.54 (m, 2H)1.39 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H), 0.99 – 0.91 (m, 2H), 0.82 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 0.73 – 0.59 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 212.0, 209.1, 208.8, 174.0, 144.3, 133.2, 128.6, 125.9, 66.1, 57.0, 51.9, 49.1, 47.0, 45.8, 45.6, 45.1, 42.9, 38.7, 36.6, 36.1, 35.6, 35.4, 31.7, 30.6, 27.7, 25.3, 22.0, 18.7, 15.3, 11.9, 9.4 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{34}H_{44}O_5[M+Na]^+$ , 555.3081; found, 555.3081.

## 3. Investigation of the reaction conditions

Table 1. Reaction optimization for 1,3-dihydroxylation

After systematic examination of all the reaction parameters, it was found that diol (1) could be obtained in 75% isolated yield under 10 mA constant current in a simple undivided cell with carbon cloths as electrodes (Table 1, entry 1). Notably, carbon material was shown to be necessary (Table 1, entries 2-5). Among the solvent we have screened, CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> was proven to be better than CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> and DMSO (Table 1, entries 6-8). In addition, water soluble inorganic salts can also be used as electrolytes with moderate yields, such as Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and KHCO<sub>3</sub> (Table 1, entries 9 and 10). Adjusting the current to 5 mA or 12 mA led to lower yields (Table 1, entries 11 and 12). The amount of H<sub>2</sub>O has no obvious effect on the reaction (Table 1, entries 13 and 14). Finally, control experiment indicated the indispensable role of electric current (Table 1, entry 15).

	74,00 11111,111	•
Entry	Variation from Standard Conditions <sup>a</sup>	Yield of <b>1</b> (%)
1	Standard conditions	78 (75b)
2	C cloth (+), Cu (-)	69
3	C cloth (+), Pt (-)	78
4	C rode (+), Pt (-)	63
5	Pt (+), Pt (-)	trace
6	CH₃CN as the solvent	53
7	CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> as the solvent	30
8	DMSO as the solvent	trace
9	Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> as the electrolyte	39
10	KHCO <sub>3</sub> as the electrolyte	50
11	5 mA, 180 min	46
12	12 mA, 75 min	38
13	$0.5~\mathrm{mL~H_2O}$	75
14	1.0 mL H <sub>2</sub> O	69

15	Without electric current, under air	n.r.

<sup>a</sup>Standard conditions: carbon cloth anode, carbon cloth cathode (15 mm x 15 mm x 0.3 mm), constant current = 10 mA, **1a** (0.2 mmol), Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (0.2 mmol), 1.5 mL H<sub>2</sub>O, 8.5 mL acetone, RT, undivided cell under Ar. Yields were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as the internal standard. <sup>b</sup>Isolated yield was shown.

Table 2. Reaction optimization for electron-deficient arylcyclopropane

Conditions	H <sub>2</sub> O (X mL)	Acetone (Y mL)	HOAc (Z mL)	Yield of <b>12</b> (%)
А	0.8	9.0	0.2	71
В	1.5	8.5	0.2	63
C (general conditions)	1.5	8.5	0.0	42

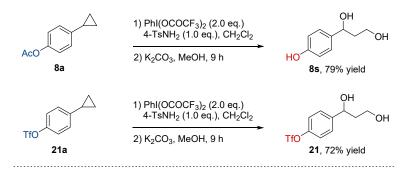
The controlled reaction demonstrated the significance of acetic acid in enhancing the yields of electron-deficient arylcyclopropanes, even with minimal variations in the amount of water or acetone present in the reaction system.

## Table 3. A comparison of our method with previous methods

We have evaluated the reaction conditions for compounds **8a**, **21a**, which involve a hydrolysis step, and the results show that such substrates are not well tolerated in the ref 8 and 9.

#### Ref. 8 method for substrates containing ester group:

#### Ref. 9 method for substrates containing ester group:



#### Our method for substrates containing ester group:

## NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR of 8s** (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  7.22 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.73 (dd, J = 8.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.73 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 2.05 – 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.91 – 1.81 (m, 1H) ppm.

## Table 4. Reaction of substrate scope to "push-pull"-substituted cyclopropanes

we have conducted experiments using two "push-pull" type cyclopropanes under our standard conditions as well as modified reaction conditions. However, neither of these substrates yielded 1,3-diols or  $\beta$ -hydroxy ketones. Instead, there was complete recovery of the starting material. Therefore, we must acknowledge that our method is not applicable for "push-pull" substituted cyclopropanes.

#### Substrate 1:

Conditions	X	Y	Z	Temp.	Yield of <b>s2</b>
А	1.5	8.5	0.0	rt	n.d.
В	1.5	8.5	0.0	50 °C	n.d.
С	0.8	9.0	0.2	50 °C	n.d.

#### Substrate 2:

# 4. Scope of the electrochemical ring-opening 1,3-dihydroxylation

## 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)propane-1,3-diol (1)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-cyclopropylbenzene **1a** (30.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI

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H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **1** (27.9 mg, 0.149 mmol, 75%) as a pale-yellow solid. The spectra of **1** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy:**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 5.29 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.70 – 4.61 (m, 1H), 4.58 – 4.48 (m, 1H), 3.48 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 1.80 – 1.60 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 145.2, 130.9, 127.8, 127.5, 68.8, 57.7, 42.1 ppm.

## 1- Phenylpropane-1,3-diol (2)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, cyclopropylbenzene **2a** (23.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI  $H_2O$  were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **2** (19.9 mg, 0.132 mmol, 65%) as a white solid. The spectra of **2** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>  $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## NMR Spectroscopy:

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 7.43 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 4.84 – 4.73 (m, 1H), 3.73 – 3.56 (m, 3H), 2.96 (s, 1H), 1.90 – 1.74 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 146.7, 129.1, 127.9, 126.6, 72.6, 60.4, 42.5 ppm.

## 1-(4-Fluorophenyl)propane-1,3-diol (3)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-4-fluorobenzene **3a** (27.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **3** (21.5 mg, 0.126 mmol, 63%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of **3** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy:**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 4.93 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 – 3.77 (m, 2H), 3.52 – 2.43 (br, 2H), 2.03 – 1.84 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.3 (d, J = 246.2 Hz), 140.2 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 127.4 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 115.4 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 73.8, 61.5, 40.6 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -115.10 – -115.18 (m) ppm.

## 1-(4-Bromophenyl)propane-1,3-diol (4)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via

vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-bromo-4-cyclopropylbenzene  $\bf 4a$  (39.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 Ml acetone, 0.8 Ml H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 Ml HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 120 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford  $\bf 4$  (31.0 mg, 0.134 mmol, 67%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of  $\bf 4$  corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

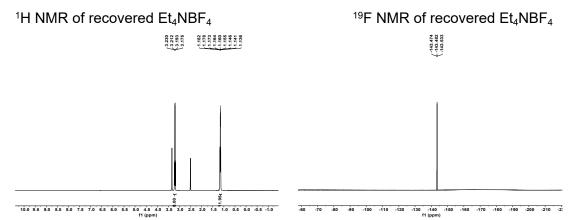
 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

#### NMR Spectroscopy:

**1H NMR** (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  7.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.79 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.76 – 3.64 (m, 1H), 3.64 – 3.54 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.78 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  145.9, 132.4, 128.9, 121.7, 71.6, 60.0, 42.7 ppm.

In addition, over-oxidation side product  $\beta$ -Hydroxy ketone **4s** was isolated in 20% yield, which could be further reduced to diol **4** (6.4 mg, 0.027 mmol) with 69% yield. <sup>2</sup> We can get a higher yield (81%) of the target product by two steps. Therefore, the reaction efficiency could be enhanced in this scenario by implementing an additional transformation. We are also pleased that the recovery of the electrolyte was successful, even in such a small-scale reaction. After extracting the aqueous solution, we were able to recycle 71% of the Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (31 mg, 0.142 mmol). This outcome provides further evidence of the practicality and feasibility of our method.



## 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)propane-1,3-diol (5)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 4-cyclopropyl-1,1-biphenyl **5a** (38.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 6.5 MI acetone, 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 2.0 MI NMP were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated by vacuo and then dissolve the crude product with dichloromethane and washed with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>CI aqueous (5 MI  $\times$  3). The organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated by vacuo. The crude product purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **5** (28.6 mg, 0.125 mmol, 63%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 5.01 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.01 – 3.77 (m, 2H), 2.65 (br, 2H), 2.11 – 1.93 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.5, 140.9, 140.6, 128.9, 127.4, 127.4, 127.2, 126.3, 74.2, 61.6, 40.5 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for  $C_{15}H_{16}O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, 228.1145; found, 228.1149.

## 1-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)propane-1,3-diol (6)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-(tert-butyl)-4-cyclopropylbenzene **6a** (34.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **6** (28.0 mg, 0.134 mmol, 67%) as a pale-yellow solid. The spectra of **6** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.40$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.95 – 4.88 (m, 1H), 3.87 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 2.81 – 2.71 (br, 1H), 2.70 – 2.61 (br, 1H), 2.09 – 1.86 (m, 2H), 1.32 (s, 9H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.7, 141.4, 125.5, 125.5, 74.1, 61.5, 40.5, 34.6, 31.5 ppm.

## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (7)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-4-methoxybenzene **7a** (29.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the

reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **7** (25.5 mg, 0.140 mmol, 70%) as a white solid. The spectra of **7** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>5</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.27 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.74 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.70 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 2.04 – 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.78 (m, 1H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  160.4, 138.3, 128.2, 114.7, 72.0, 60.2, 55.7, 42.7 ppm.

## 1-(4-Acetyloxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (8)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 4-cyclopropylphenyl acetate **8a** (35.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **8** (26.8 mg, 0.127 mmol, 64%) as a white solid.

## $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1 :1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 4.92 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.88 – 3.74 (m, 2H), 2.75 (br, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.02 – 1.83 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.9, 150.0, 142.2, 126.9, 121.7, 73.8, 61.4, 40.5, 21.2 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 233.0784; found, 233.0778.

## 1-(4-Carbomethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (9)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 4-cyclopropylbenzoate **9a** (35.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **9** (30.5 mg, 0.145 mmol, 73%) as a pale-yellow solid. The spectra of **9** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>6</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.98 (dd, J = 7.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.85 – 3.77 (m, 2H), 2.00 – 1.84 (m, 2H) ppm. (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.2, 149.7, 129.9, 129.3, 125.7, 73.7, 61.2, 52.2, 40.4 ppm.

## 1-(4-Acetylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (10)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub>

(43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 1-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)e than-1-one **10a** (32.0 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 9.0 Ml acetone, 0.8 Ml  $H_2O$  and 0.2 Ml HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 600 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **10** (19.8 mg, 0.102 mmol, 51%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.06 – 4.99 (m, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (br, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.01 – 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.80 (br, 1H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 198.2, 149.9, 136.4, 128.7, 125.9, 73.8, 61.4, 40.4, 26.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{11}H_{14}O_3$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 217.0835; found, 217.0829.

## 1-(4-Trifluoromethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (11)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzene **11a** (40.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **11** (29.7 mg, 0.126

mmol, 63%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of **11** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>7</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### NMR Spectroscopy

**1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.97 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.80 (m, 2H), 3.26 (br, 1H), 2.31 (br, 1H), 2.03 – 1.88 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.6, 143.1, 127.2 ,121.13, 120.6 (q, J =257.8 Hz), 73.7, 61.5, 40.5 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -57.90 ppm.

## 1-(4-Trifluoromethylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (12)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzene **12a** (37.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **12** (31.4 mg, 0.143 mmol, 71%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of **12** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.08 – 4.93 (m, 1H), 3.97 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.60 (br, 1H), 2.68 (br, 1H), 1.96 – 1.89 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.4, 129.8 (q, J = 32.4 Hz), 126.03, 125.5 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.3 (q, J = 272.9 Hz), 73.7, 61.4, 40.4 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.46 ppm.

## 1-(3-Trifluoromethylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (13)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzene **13a** (37.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 240 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **13** (27.3 mg, 0.124 mmol, 62%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of **13** corresponded to the data reported previously. <sup>1</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.57 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 5.05 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.93 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 2.58 (br, 2H), 2.05 – 1.89 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.5, 131.0 (q, J = 32.3 Hz), 129.1, 129.0, 124.4 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.1 (q, J = 273.3 Hz), 122.6 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 73.7, 61.4, 40.5 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.60 ppm.

## 1-(2-lsopropylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (14)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-cyclopropyl-2-isopropylbenzene **14a** (32.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **14** (19.0 mg, 0.098 mmol, 49%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

**1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 5.31 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.28 – 3.13 (m, 1H), 2.70 (br, 2H), 2.06 – 1.82 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.21 (m, 6H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.2, 141.0, 127.8, 126.2, 125.6, 125.5, 70.3, 61.8, 40.4, 28.2, 24.7, 23.9 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 217.1199; found, 217.1199.

## 1-(3-Bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (15)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 2-bromo-4-

cyclopropyl-1-methoxybenzene **15a** (45.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI  $H_2O$  were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **15** (22.0 mg, 0.084 mmol, 42%) as colorless oil. The spectra of **15** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>8</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.91 – 4.80 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.84 – 3.75(m, 2H), 3.17 – 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.03 – 1.80 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.2, 138.1, 130.8, 125.9, 111.9, 111.7, 73.2, 61.4, 56.4, 40.4 ppm.

## 1-(4-Carbamoylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (16)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 4-cyclopropylbenzamide **16a** (32.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 600 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **16** (15.0 mg, 0.077 mmol, 38%) as a pale-yellow solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.10$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 5.31 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.74 – 4.67 (m, 1H), 4.57 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.44 – 3.37 (m, 2H), 1.81 – 1.65 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  168.3, 149.9, 132.7, 127.5, 125.7, 69.5, 58.1, 42.4 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 196.0968; found, 196.0959.

## 1-(Thiophen-2-yl) propane-1,3-diol (17)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 2-cyclopropylthiophene **17a** (24.8 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **17** (9.8 mg, 0.062 mmol, 31%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## NMR Spectroscopy:

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.04 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.23 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.97 – 3.84 (m, 2H), 2.16 – 2.05 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 148.4, 126.9, 124.8, 123.6, 70.2, 61.4, 40.9 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 181.0294; found, 181.0296.

#### 1-(Benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)propane-1,3-diol (18)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 2-cyclopropylbenzo[b]thiophene **18a** (34.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **18** (17.5 mg, 0.084 mmol, 42%) as pale-yellow oil. **18a** (16.1 mg, 0.092 mmol) was recovered in 46% yield  $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 5.37 (dd, J = 7.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.01 – 3.86 (m, 2H), 3.19 – 2.96 (br, 1H), 2.25 – 2.09 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.57 (br, 1H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.2, 139.4, 137.1, 124.6, 124.2, 123.1, 122.3, 122.2, 70.0, 61.6, 38.7 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for  $C_{11}H_{12}O_2S$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, 208.0553; found, 208.0550.

## 1-(Dibenzo[b,d]furan-2-yl)propane-1,3-diol (19)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 2-cyclopropyldibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan **19a** (41.7 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 6.5 MI acetone, 1.5

MI  $H_2O$  and 2.0 MI NMP were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 180 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated by vacuo and then dissolve the crude product with dichloromethane and washed with saturated  $NH_4CI$  aqueous (5  $MI\times3$ ). The organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , concentrated by vacuo. The crude product purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **19** (25.5 mg, 0.105 mmol, 53%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## NMR Spectroscopy.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 8.17 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.77 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.36 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 5.14 – 4.95 (m, 1H), 3.96 – 3.54 (m, 2H), 2.24 – 1.84 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>) δ 157.9, 156.8, 141.4, 128.3, 126.5, 125.4, 125.3, 123.9, 121.7, 119.1, 112.5, 112.2, 72.4, 60.2, 43.1 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 265.0835; found, 265.0832.

## tert-Butyl 5-(1,3-dihydroxypropyl)-1H-indole-1-carboxylate (20)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, *tert*-butyl 5-cyclopropyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate **20a** (51.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **20** ( 12.2 mg , 0.042 mmol, 21%) as pale-yellow oil. **20a** ( 22.2 mg , 0.086 mmol) was recovered in 43% yield.

Rf = 0.20 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy:**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.16 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.70 – 2.58 (br, 1H), 2.12 – 2.06 (m, 1H), 2.02 – 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.67 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.9, 139.0, 130.9, 126.6, 122.2, 118.1, 115.4, 107.5, 83.9, 74.8, 61.7, 41.0, 28.4 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 292.1543; found, 292.1542.

## 4-(1,3-Dihydroxypropyl)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (21)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 4-cyclopropylphenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate **21a** (53.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 120 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **21** (40.2 mg, 0.134 mmol, 67%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.89 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 – 3.68 (m, 2H), 3.46 – 2.08 (m, 2H), 1.93 – 1.75 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.8, 145.0, 127.6, 121.5, 118.8 (q, J = 324.2 Hz), 73.5, 61.4, 40.5 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -72.89 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{10}H_{11}F_3O_5S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 323.0171; found, 323.0168.

## 1-(4-Tosyloxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (22)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 4-methylbenzenesulfonate **22a** (57.7 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 180 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **22** (30.1 mg, 0.093 mmol, 47%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.90 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 – 3.72 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 2.61 (br, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.96 – 1.79 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 148.8, 145.5, 143.5, 132.5, 129.9, 128.6, 127.0, 122.4, 73.6, 61.4, 40.5, 21.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{16}H_{18}O_5S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 345.0767; found, 345.0759.

## 3-Phenylbutane-1,3-diol (23)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via

vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, (1-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **23a** (26.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 Ml acetone and 1.5 Ml H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1, v/v) to afford **23** (19.1 mg, 0.115 mmol, 57%) as colorless oil. The spectra of **23** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>9</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

 $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 3.75 – 3.63 (m, 1H), 3.54 – 3.42 (m, 1H), 2.77 (br, 2H), 2.09 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.50 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.6, 128.4, 126.7, 124.9, 76.0, 60.5, 44.1, 31.1 ppm.

## 3-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)butane-1,3-diol (24)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)-1,1'-biphenyl **24a** (41.7 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 6.5 MI acetone, 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 2.0 MI NMP were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated by vacuo and then dissolve the crude product with dichloromethane and washed with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>CI aqueous (5 MI  $\times$  3). The organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated by vacuo. The crude product purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **24** (25.0 mg, 0.103 mmol, 52%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.65 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.54 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 3.68 – 3.46 (m, 2H), 2.09 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.57 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>) δ 148.4, 142.2, 140.5, 129.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 126.4, 75.1, 59.9, 46.4, 30.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 265.1199; found, 265.1194.

## 3-(4-Fluorophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (25)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-fluoro-4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **25a** (30.0 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **25** (17.4 mg, 0.094 mmol, 47%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.40$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.93 – 3.73 (m, 2H), 3.61 – 3.49 (m, 1H), 2.67 (br, 1H), 2.14 – 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.55 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.7 (d, J = 245.6 Hz), 143.4(d, J = 3.0 Hz), 126.6 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 115.0 (d, J = 21.2 Hz), 75.7, 60.4, 44.0, 31.2 ppm.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -116.95 – -117.05 (m) ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FO<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>, 184.0894; found, 184.0894.

## 3-(4-Chlorophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (26)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **26a** (33.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **26** (23.7 mg, 0.118 mmol, 59%) as pale-yellow oil. The spectra of **26** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>10</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.40$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.40 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 3.96 (br, 1H), 3.80 – 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.61 – 3.49 (m, 1H), 2.72 (br, 1H), 2.13 – 2.03 (m,1H), 2.02 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.53 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.2, 132.5, 128.4, 126.5, 75.7, 60.3, 43.8, 31.0 ppm.

## 3-(4-Bromophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (27)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via

vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-bromo-4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **27a** (42.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 Ml acetone, 0.8 Ml  $H_2O$  and 0.2 Ml HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **27** (25.2 mg, 0.103 mmol, 52%) as colorless oil. The spectra of **27** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>11</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.40$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.81 – 3.70 (m, 1H), 3.58 – 3.47 (m, 1H), 2.13 – 2.03 (m, 1H), 2.01 – 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.53 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.7, 131.4, 126.9, 120.6, 75.8, 60.3, 43.7, 31.0 ppm.

## 3-(4-lodophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (28)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-iodo-4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **28a** (51.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **28** (29.0 mg, 0.099 mmol, 50%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.40$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.81 – 3.71 (m, 1H), 3.59 – 3.47 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 2.03 (m, 1H), 2.01 – 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.52 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.4, 137.4, 127.2, 92.2, 75.8, 60.3, 43.7, 31.0 ppm. HRMS GC-EI (m/z) calculated for  $C_{10}H_{13}IO_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, 291.9955; found, 291.9951.

## 3-(4-Carbomethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-diol (29)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, methyl 4-(1-methylcyclopropyl)benzoate **29a** (38.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **29** (22.2 mg, 0.099 mmol, 49%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (br, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.80 – 3.71 (m, 1H), 3.56 – 3.45 (m, 1H), 3.05 – 2.66 (s, 1H), 2.16 – 2.08 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.98 (m, 1H), 1.55 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.2, 153.0, 129.7, 128.5, 125.1, 76.0, 60.3, 52.2, 43.7, 30.9 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 247.0941; found, 247.0941.

## 1,1-Diphenylpropane-1,3-diol (30)

S35

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1,1-diphenylcyclopropane **30a** (38.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9 MI acetone and 1 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 180 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1, v/v) to afford **30** (28.6 mg, 0.125 mmol, 63%) as a pale-yellow soild. The spectra of **30** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>12</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.46 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.28 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.21 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 3.60 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  148.6, 129.0, 127.6, 127.1, 78.8, 60.1, 44.1 ppm.

## 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(4-(cyclopropylmethoxy)phenyl)propane-1,3-diol (31)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-(1-

(4-(Cyclopropylmethoxy)phenyl)cyclopropyl)benzene**31a**(59.8 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 Ml acetone and 1.5 Ml H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 120 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford**31**(47.9 mg, 0.144 mmol, 72%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

## NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.13 (br, 1H), 3.78 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.75 – 3.64 (m, 2H), 2.68 – 2.26 (m, 3H), 1.30 – 1.19 (m, 1H), 0.69 – 0.57 (m, 2H), 0.40 – 0.27 (m, 2H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.2, 145.7, 138.6, 132.8, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 114.5, 78.9, 72.9, 60.5, 42.2, 10.4, 3.3 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 355.1071; found, 355.1063.

## 1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol (32)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 3',4'-dihydro-2'H-spiro[cyclopropane-1,1'-naphthalene] **32a** (31.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1, v/v) to afford **32** (20.9 mg, 0.109 mmol, 54%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.54 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 3.76 – 3.57 (m, 2H), 2.86 – 2.67 (m, 2H), 2.15 – 1.99 (m, 3H), 1.97 – 1.76 (m, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  143.4, 137.7, 129.8, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 73.0, 59.6, 45.3, 37.4, 30.7, 20.9 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{16}H_{12}O_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 215.1043; found, 215.1043.

## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-diol (33)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et4NBF4 (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-methoxy-4-((1S,2S)-2-methylcyclopropyl)benzene **33a** (32.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **33** (*cis-33*, 12.7 mg, 0.064 mmol, 32%; *trans-33*, 8.3 mg, 0.042 mmol, 21%. 1.5:1 d.r., based on isolated yield) as a white solid. The spectra of **33** corresponded to the data reported previously.<sup>13, 14</sup>

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

*cis*-31: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.88 (dd, J = 10.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.18 – 4.05 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.93 (br, 2H), 1.92 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.3, 136.9, 127.1, 114.1, 75.1, 68.9, 55.4, 47.2, 24.2 ppm.

*Trans*-31: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.99 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.12 – 4.01 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.65 (br, 2H), 1.93 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.23 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.1, 136.8, 127.0, 114.0, 71.5, 65.6, 55.4, 46.3, 23.6 ppm.

## 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-3-methylbutane-1,3-diol (34)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, cyclopropane-1,1-diyldibenzene **34a** (44.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI THF, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HFIP were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **34** (24.3 mg, 0.095 mmol, 47%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.63 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 5.04 (dd, J = 10.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (dd, J = 14.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 1.77 (dd, J = 14.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>) δ 146.1, 142.2, 141.4, 129.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.9, 127.3, 72.6, 72.0, 51.9, 30.9, 28.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 279.1356; found, 279.1352.

## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methylbutane-1,3-diol (35)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-(2,2-dimethylcyclopropyl)-4-methoxybenzene **35a** (35.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1, v/v) to afford **35** (17.0 mg, 0.081 mmol, 40%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 2:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

**1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.02 (dd, J = 11.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.97 (dd, J = 14.8, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (dd, J = 14.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.1, 137.1, 127.0, 114.0, 72.1, 71.7, 55.4, 50.5, 32.0, 27.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 233.1148; found, 233.1152.

## Fenofibrate derivative-1,3-diol (36)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and t wo carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (4

3.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vac uum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, fenofibrate deriv ative 36a (69.0 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and  $1.5 \text{ MI H}_2\text{O}$  were add ed. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room te mperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford 36 (47.0 mg, 0.124 mmol, 62%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 6.80 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.73 – 3.63 (m, 2H), 2.53 – 2.38 (m, 2H), 1.57 (s, 6H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.9, 154.5, 145.4, 140.2, 132.8, 128.4, 127.6, 127.1, 118.9, 79.2, 78.8, 60.4, 52.6, 42.1, 25.5 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>ClO<sub>5</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 401.1126; found, 401.1121.

### Ciprofibrate derivative-1,3-diol (37)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, ciprofibrate derivative **37a** (46.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **37** (27.5 mg, 0.102 mmol, 51%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v)

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ ) δ 7.25 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.75 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.71 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 2.02 – 1.79 (m, 2H), 1.55 (s, 6H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, Methanol- $d_4$ )  $\delta$  176.2, 155.9, 140.4, 127.9, 120.4, 80.4, 71.9, 60.1, 52.9, 42.6, 25.7 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{14}H_{20}O_5$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 291.1203; found, 291.1201.

### Ketoprofen derivative-1,3-diol (38)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, ketoprofen derivative **38a** (56.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 180 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **38** (28.4 mg, 0.09 mmol, 45%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

## **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 3.80 – 3.67(m, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.55 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (dd, J = 7.2, 2.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.2(9), 175.2(7), 147.2, 146.6, 140.6, 128.6, 128.4, 127.1, 126.1(1), 126.1(9), 126.0(3), 126.0(0), 125.5, 125.4, 125.1, 79.4, 60.5, 52.1, 45.7, 45.6, 42.3, 18.8, 18.7 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for  $C_{19}H_{22}O_4$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, 314.1513; found, 314.1513.

#### Ibuprofen derivative-1,3-diol (39)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, ibuprofen derivative **39a** (67.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 600 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **39** (30.4 mg, 0.082 mmol, 41%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.13 – 5.03 (m, 2H), 4.93 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.88 – 3.80 (m, 2H), 3.74 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.08 – 1.70 (m, 3H), 1.50 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7, 144.3, 140.7, 137.7, 135.5, 129.4, 128.0, 127.3, 125.9, 74.1, 66.2, 61.5, 45.2, 45.1, 40.5, 30.3, 22.5, 18.5 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 393.2036; found, 393.2035.

#### Sulbactam derivative-1,3-diol (40)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, sulbactam derivative **40a** (69.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1, v/v) to afford **40** (40.0 mg, 0.104 mmol, 52%) as colorless oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 2:1, v/v).

#### NMR Spectroscopy

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.93 (dd, J = 8.4, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 3.89 – 3.74 (m, 2H), 3.55-3.41 (m, 3H), 2.75 (br, 1H), 2.01 – 1.83 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.0, 165.8, 149.0, 143.2, 127.2, 121.0, 73.4, 63.3, 63.0, 61.3, 61.3, 40.5, 38.5, 20.6, 18.8 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 406.0931; found, 406.0923.

### Diacetone-D-glucose derivative-1,3-diol (41)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et4NBF4 (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, diacetone-D-glucose derivative **41a** (80.9 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **41** (42.0 mg, 0.096 mmol, 48%) as a white solid.

## $\mathbf{R}_{f}$ = 0.20 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.28 (m, 2H), 4.11 – 4.05 (m, 2H), 3.84 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (br, 1H), 2.77 (br, 1H), 1.96 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 150.5, 130.0, 128.7, 125.9, 112.5, 109.5, 105.3, 83.5, 80.1, 76.8, 73.5, 72.7, 67.3, 61.1, 40.5, 26.9, 26.8, 26.3, 25.3 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{22}H_{30}O_{9}[M+H]^{+}$ , 439.1963; found, 439.1956.

### Probenecid derivative-1,3-diol (42)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and probenecid derivative **42a** (80.3 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI  $H_2O$  and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **42** (32.5 mg, 0.08 mmol, 37%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v)

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

**1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.93 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.99 (dd, J = 8.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.94 – 3.81 (m, 2H), 3.19 – 3.05 (m, 4H), 2.06 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.50 (m, 4H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.1, 149.9, 145.0, 142.7, 132.9, 130.9, 127.3, 127.1, 121.6, 73.9, 61.5, 50.1, 40.6, 22.1, 11.3 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 458.1608; found, 458.1606.

#### DL-Menthol derivative-1,3-diol (43)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via

vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, DL-menthol derivative 43a (60.1 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.0 Ml acetone, 0.8 Ml H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 Ml HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 360 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford 43 (31.5 mg, 0.094 mmol, 47%) as colorless oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.00 (dd, J = 7.4, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (td, J = 10.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.93 – 3.78 (m, 2H), 3.71 (br, 1H), 2.93 (br, 1H), 2.12 – 2.15 (m, 1H), 1.98 – 1.89 (m, 3H), 1.75 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.62 – 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.15 – 1.03 (m, 2H), 0.96 – 0.87 (m, 7H), 0.77 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.2, 149.5, 130.0, 129.9, 125.6, 75.0, 73.8, 61.3, 47.3, 41.1, 40.4, 34.4, 31.5, 26.6, 23.7, 22.2, 20.9, 16.6 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{20}H_{30}O_4$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 357.2036; found, 357.2033.

#### Estrone derivative-1,3-diol (44)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (32.6 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, estrone derivative **44a** (55.6 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with

petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1, v/v) to afford **44** (26.7 mg, 0.066 mmol, 44%) as pale-yellow oil.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.30$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.09 (m, 4H), 4.06 (br, 1H), 3.86 – 3.63 (m, 2H), 2.93 – 2.79 (m, 2H), 2.56 – 2.45 (m, 3H), 2.42 – 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.30 – 2.22 (m, 1H), 2.19 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.37 (m, 8H), 0.89 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 221.2, 146.8, 144.3, 138.5(0), 138.5(8), 136.4(4), 136.4(0), 128.3, 126.9, 126.6, 126.5, 126.0, 125.3(9), 125.3(6), 123.5(3), 123.5(5), 79.2(4), 79.2(2), 60.5, 50.6, 48.1, 44.4, 42.2, 38.2, 36.0, 31.7, 29.7, 26.7, 25.7, 21.7, 14.0 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>, 404.2346; found, 404.2347.

## Dehydrocholic acid derivative-1,3-diol (45)

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and dehydrocholic acid derivative **45a** (106.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 9.0 MI acetone, 0.8 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.2 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 600 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford **45** (37.0 mg, 0.065mmol, 33%) as a white solid.

 $\mathbf{R}_f = 0.15$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 5.13 – 5.00 (m, 2H), 4.94 (dd, J = 8.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.89 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.26 (br, 1H), 2.94 – 2.76 (m, 3H), 2.47 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.36 – 2.15 (m, 8H), 2.14 – 2.08 (m, 2H), 2.03 – 1.90 (m, 6H), 1.86 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.64 – 1.53 (m, 1H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.31 – 1.15 (m, 4H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 0.81 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 212.2, 209.4, 209.0, 174.0, 144.6, 135.4, 128.5, 125.9, 73.9, 66.0, 61.4, 57.0, 51.8, 49.1, 46.9, 45.7, 45.6, 45.1, 42.9, 40.6, 38.7, 36.6, 36.1, 35.5, 35.3, 31.6, 30.5, 27.7, 25.2, 22.0, 18.7, 11.9 ppm.

**HRMS (ESI)** calculated for  $C_{34}H_{46}O_7[M+Na]^+$ , 589.3136; found, 589.3135.

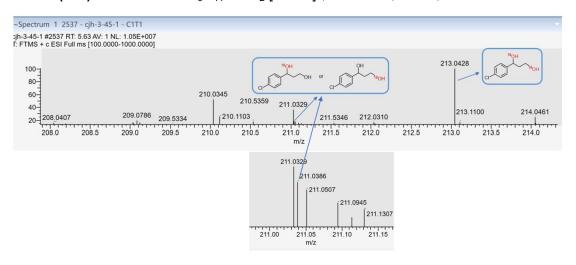
## 5. Mechanistic studies

### <sup>18</sup>O-Labeling experiment

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-cyclopropylbenzene **1a** (30.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 9.5 MI dry CH<sub>3</sub>CN and 0.5 MI H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to afford <sup>18</sup>**O-1** (16.4 mg, 0.086 mmol, 43%) as a pale-yellow solid. This result clearly indicated the hydroxyl groups were transformed from H<sub>2</sub>O.

### **NMR Spectroscopy:**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 4.94 (dd, J = 8.4, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.38 – 3.02 (br, 1H), 2.64 – 2.27 (br, 1H), 1.98 – 1.85 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 142.9, 133.3, 128.8, 127.2, 73.8, 61.5, 40.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>Cl<sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 213.0425; found, 213.0428.



## **Control experiment**

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, cyclopropylcyclohexane **46a** (24.8 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. The reaction system was monitored by TLC and NMR, and no desired product **46** could be detected.

## Cyclic voltammetry studies

Cyclic voltammograms were performed in a three-electrode cell under nitrogen at room temperature. The working electrode was a Pt electrode, the counter electrode was a

graphite rod. The reference was an Ag/AgCl electrode submerged in saturated aqueous KCl solution. 10 Ml CH<sub>3</sub>CN containing 100 Mm Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> was tested as blank background. 20 Mm Substrate, 100 Mm Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> and 10 Ml CH<sub>3</sub>CN were contained in the electrochemical cell in all experiments. The scan rate was 100 Mv/s.

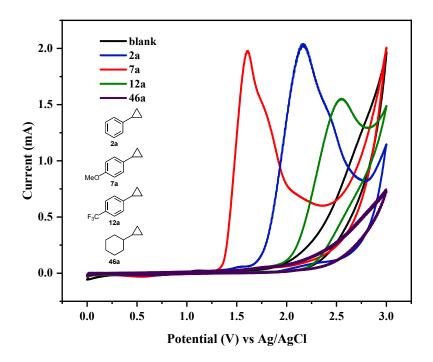


Figure S1. CV of 2a, 7a, 12a and 46a

Cyclic voltammograms at 100 Mv/s in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The black line is  $Et_4NBF_4$  (100 Mm). The blue line is 2a (20 Mm) +  $Et_4NBF_4$  (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2} = 1.94$  V). The red line is 7a (20 Mm) +  $Et_4NBF_4$  (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2} = 1.47$  V). The green line is 12a (20 Mm) +  $Et_4NBF_4$  (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2} = 2.27$  V). The purple line is 46a (20 Mm) +  $Et_4NBF_4$  (100 Mm). Cyclic voltammetry experiments showed that 46a has a high oxidation potential and no oxidation peak can be observed under 3 V. In comparison, arylcyclopropanes 2a, 7a and 12a all gave obvious oxidative peak. These results illustrated that aromatic system was essential for the anodic oxidation of cyclopropanes.

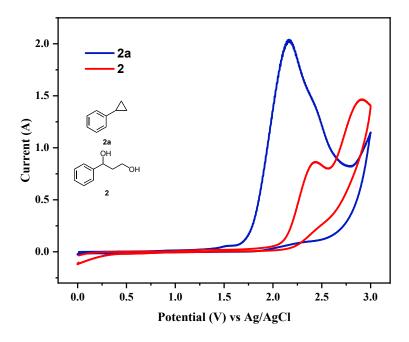


Figure S2. CV of 2a and 2

Cyclic voltammograms at 100 Mv/s in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The blue line is **2a** (20 Mm) + Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2}$  = 1.94 V). The red line is **2** (20 Mm) + Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2}$  = 2.24 V).

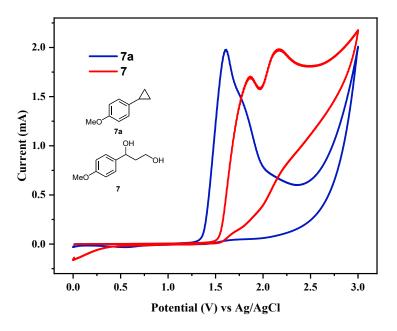


Figure S3. CV of 7a and 7

Cyclic voltammograms at 100 Mv/s in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.The blue line is **7a** (20 Mm) + Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2}$  = 1.47 V). The red line is **7** (20 Mm) + Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (100 Mm), ( $E_{p/2}$  = 1.65 V).

### Radical inhibition experiments

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-cyclopropylbenzene **1a** (30.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), TEMPO (62.5 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. The reaction system was monitored by TLC and NMR, and no desired product **1** could be detected.

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-cyclopropylbenzene **1a** (30.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), BHT (220.4 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. The reaction system was monitored by TLC and NMR, and no desired product **1** could be detected.

## Radical trapping experiment

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm  $\times$  15 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, 1-chloro-4-cyclopropylbenzene **1a** (30.5 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone, 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and CBrCl<sub>3</sub> (59.5 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at room temperature for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1, v/v) to afford **47** (8.3 mg, 0.034 mmol, 17%) as yellow oil and **1** (8.0 mg, 0.042 mmol, 21%) as a pale-yellow solid. Radical trapping experiment provided solid evidence for the formation of the putative benzyl radical.

 $\mathbf{R_f} = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1, v/v, 47).

 $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{f}} = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 1:1, v/v, 1).

#### **NMR Spectroscopy**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 5.19 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89 – 3.81 (m, 1H), 3.77 – 3.70 (m, 1H), 2.51 – 2.41 (m, 1H), 2.34 – 2.24 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.6, 134.4, 129.1, 128.9, 60.7, 50.8, 42.3 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrClO [M]<sup>+</sup>, 247.9598; found, 247.9598.

### Selective ring-opening experiment

In an oven-dried undivided three-necked bottle (30 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (15 mm × 15 mm × 0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (43.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, (2-benzylcyclopropyl)benzene **48a** (41.7 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 8.5 MI acetone and 1.5 MI H<sub>2</sub>O were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 10 Ma at 50 °C for 90 min. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to afford **48** (12.3 mg, 0.156 mmol, 25%, 1.6:1 d.r., based on NMR) as yellow oil. <sup>15, 116</sup> And the product **48**° and **48**° were not be produced. Cyclopropane substrate was recovered in 48% yield.

 $\mathbf{R_f} = 0.20$  (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1, v/v).

### **NMR Spectroscopy**

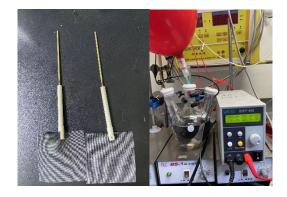
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.18 (m, 16.24H), 5.08 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H, trans-1,3-diol), 4.92 (dd, J = 9.2, 3.6 Hz, 0.61H, cis-1,3-diol), 4.22 – 4.03 (m, 1.63H), 2.86 – 2.76 (m, 3.30H), 2.03 – 1.82 (m, 3.34H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.6, 144.5, 129.6, 129.5, 128.8, 128.6, 128.6, 127.8, 127.5, 126.8, 126.8, 125.9, 125.7, 75.2, 73.7, 71.7, 70.1, 45.0, 44.7, 44.4, 44.1 ppm.

**HRMS GC-EI (m/z)** calculated for  $C_{16}H_{18}O_2[M]^+$ , 242.1301; found, 242.1305.

## 6. Gram scale reactions

In an oven-dried three-necked bottle (500 MI) equipped with a stir bar, and two carbon cloths (50 mm  $\times$  50 mm  $\times$  0.3 mm) as the anode and cathode. Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (1.74 g, 8 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction system was degassed via vacuum evacuation and backfilled with argon three times. Subsequently, **4a** (1.58 g, 8 mmol), 360 MI acetone, 32 MI H<sub>2</sub>O and 8.0 MI HOAc were added. Then the electrolysis system was stirred at a constant current of 100 Ma at room temperature for 12 hours. When the reaction finished, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1, v/v) to give the product **4** as yellow oil (48% yield, 0.89 g).



### 7. References

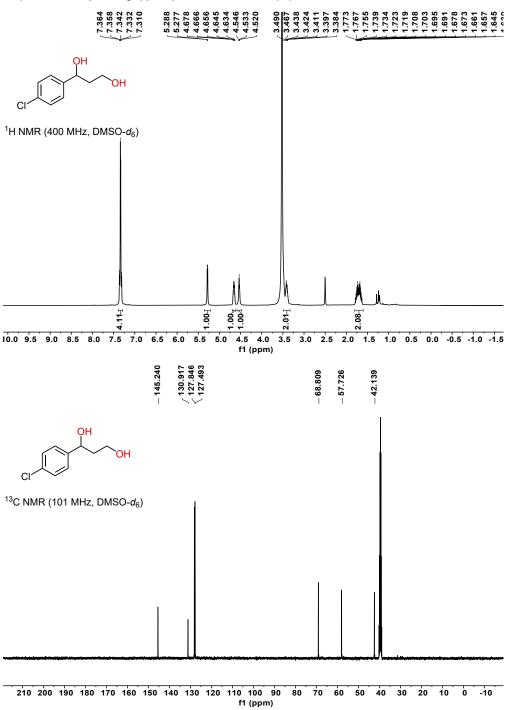
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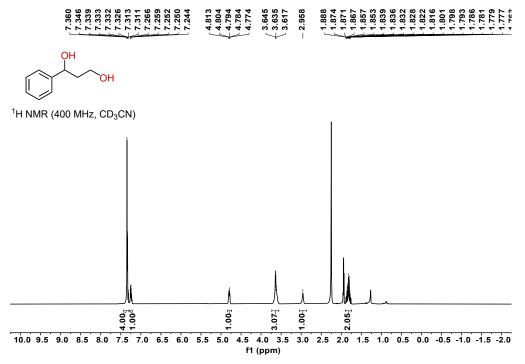
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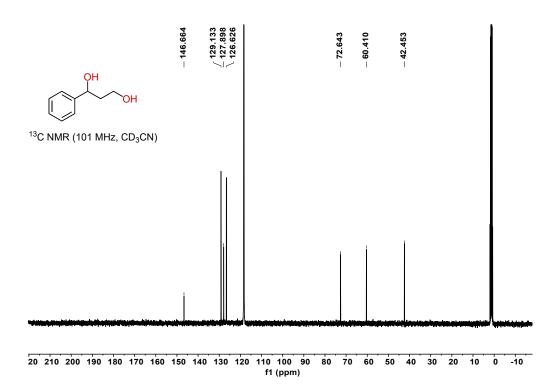
# 8. NMR spectra of products

## 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)propane-1,3-diol (1)

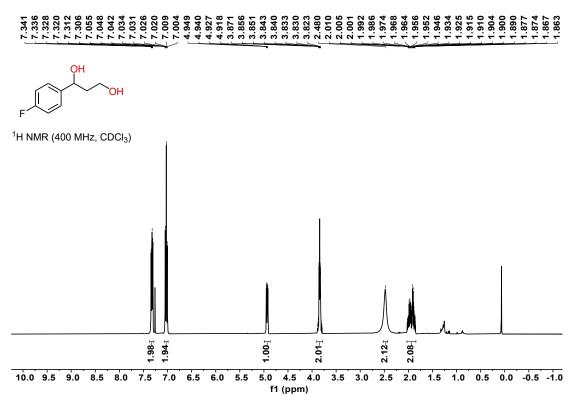


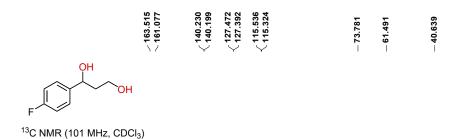
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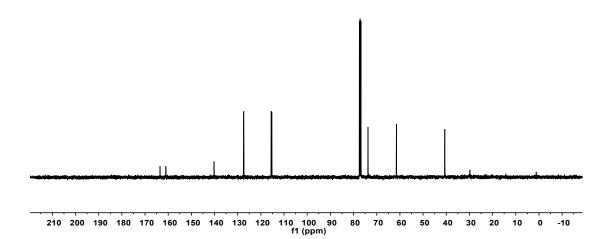


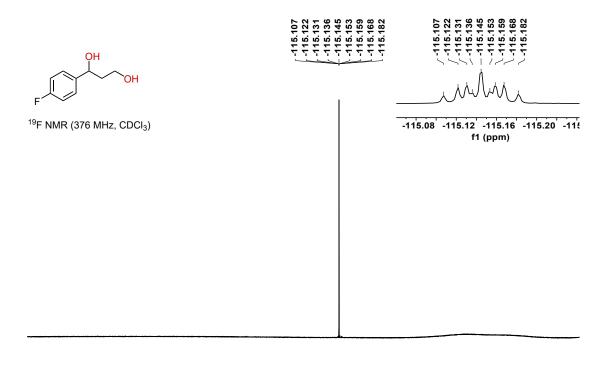


## 1-(4-Fluorophenyl)propane-1,3-diol (3)



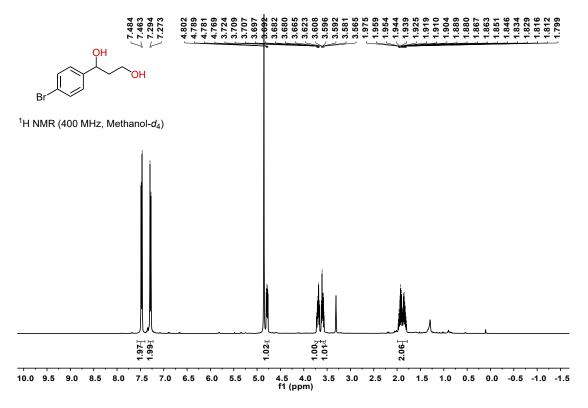


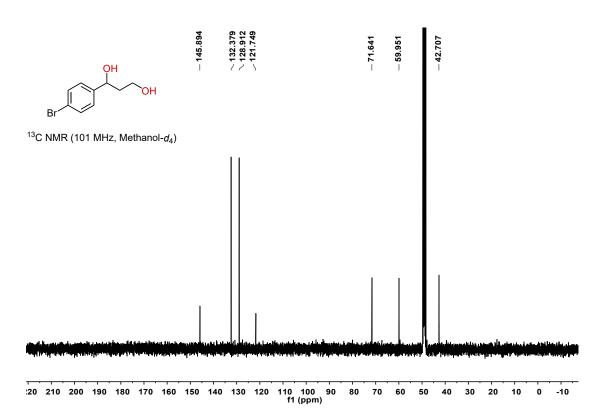




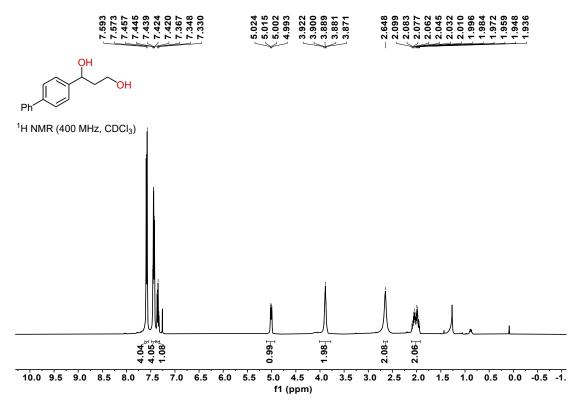
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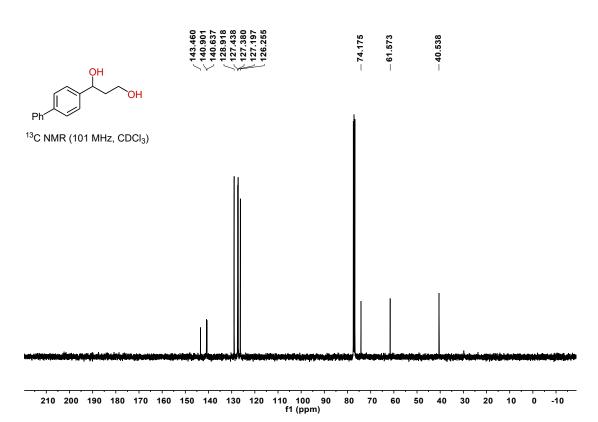
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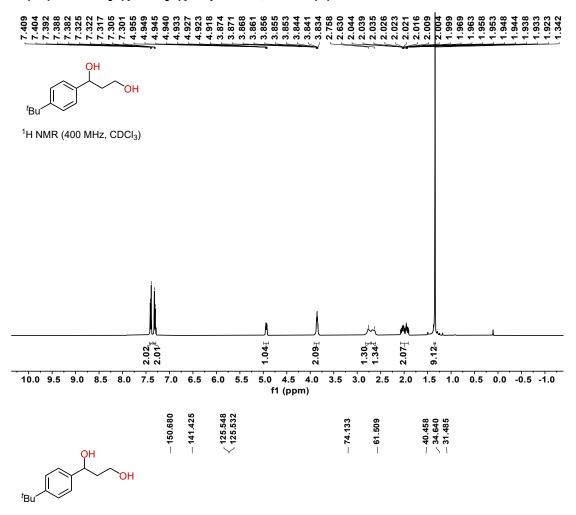


## 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)propane-1,3-diol (5)

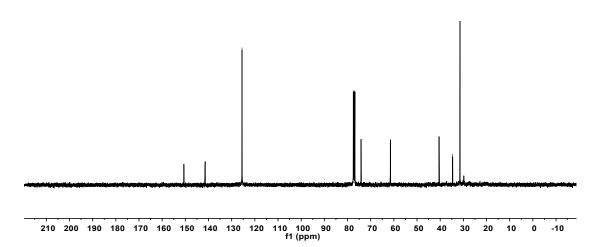




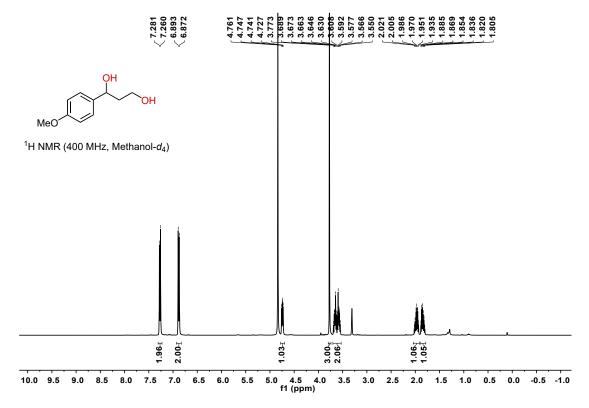
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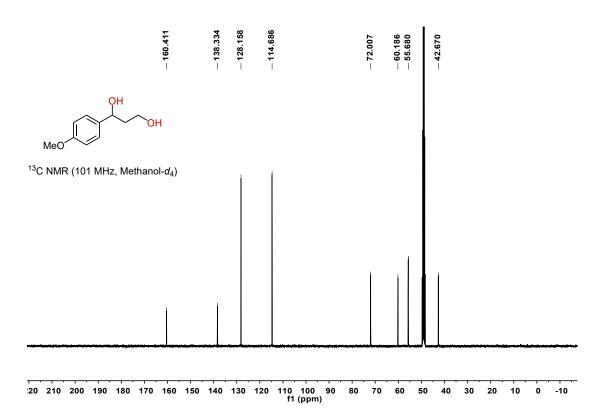


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

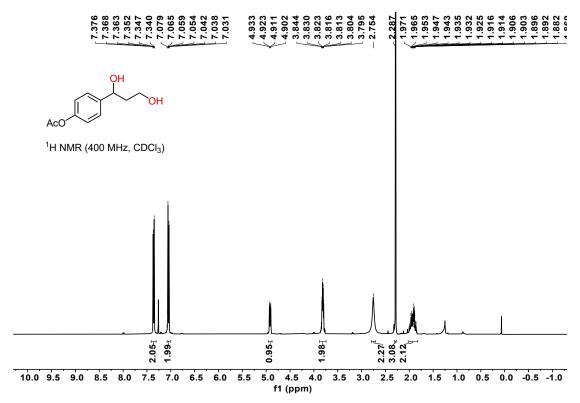


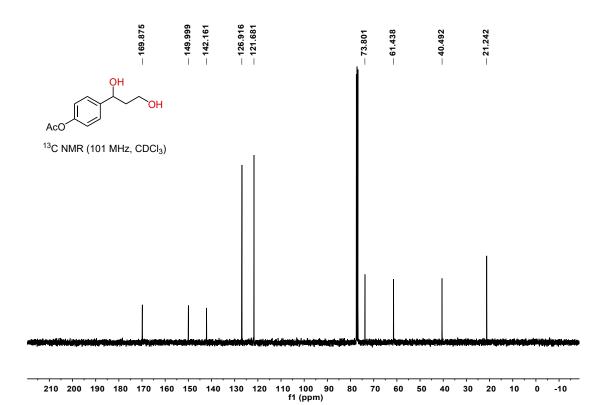
## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (7)





## 1-(4-Acetyloxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (8)

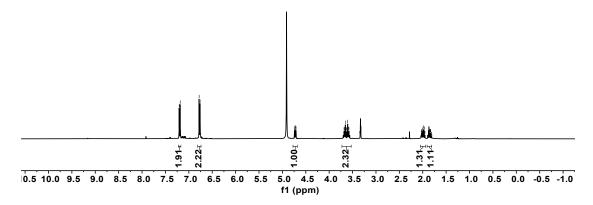




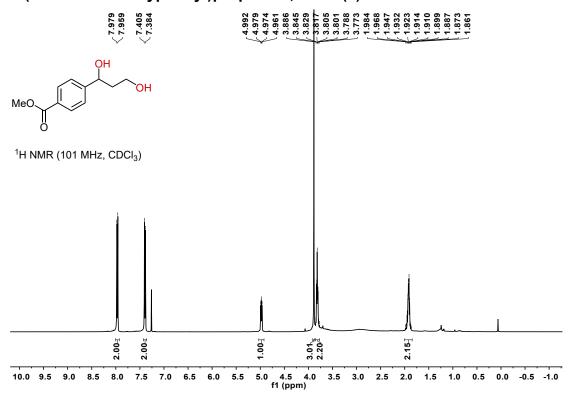
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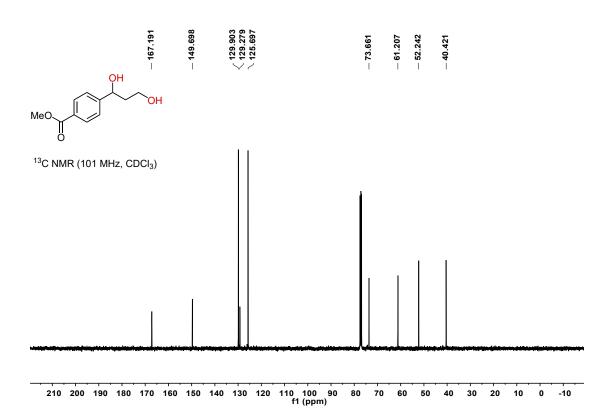


 $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol- $d_{4}$ )

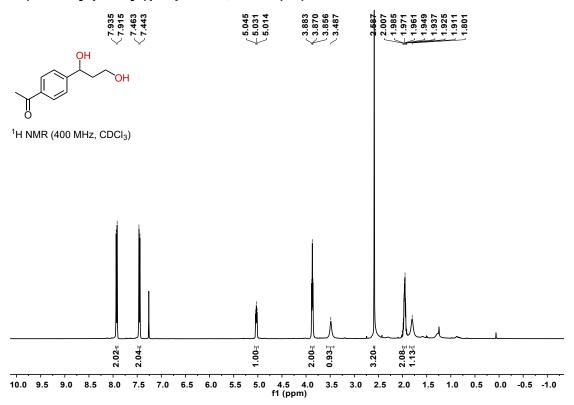


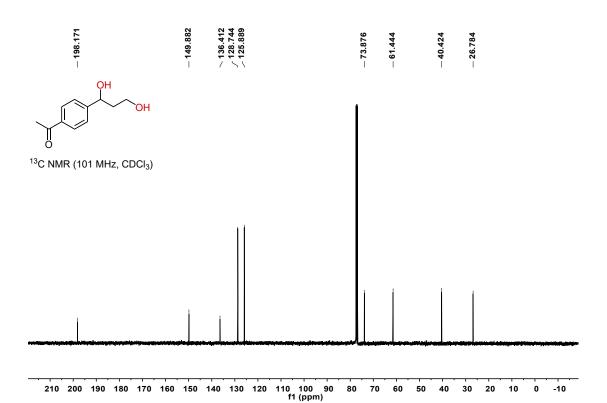
## 1-(4-Carbomethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (9)



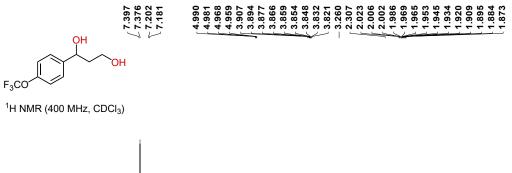


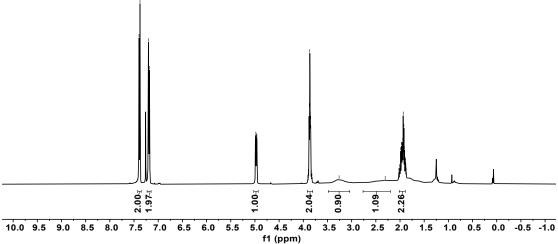
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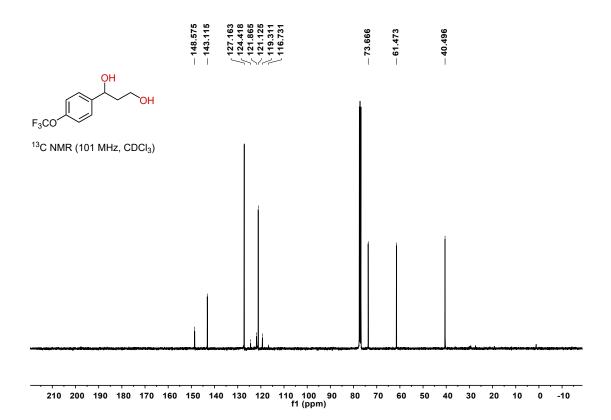


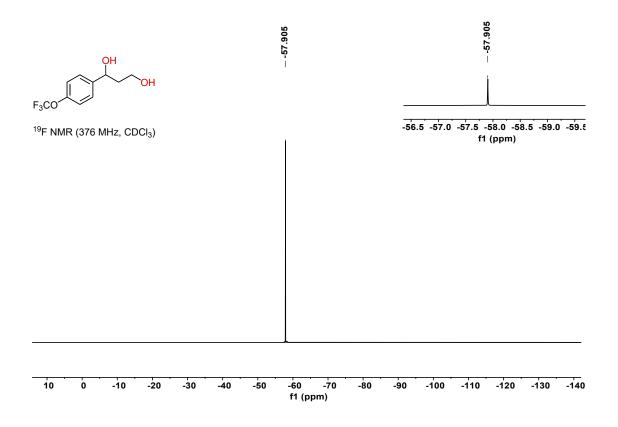


## 1-(4-Trifluoromethoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (11)



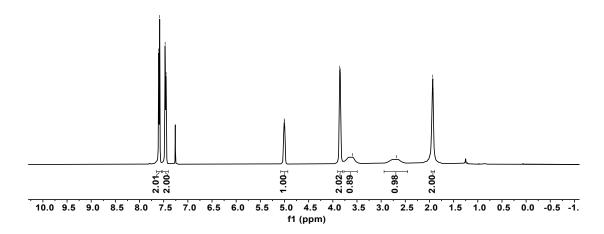


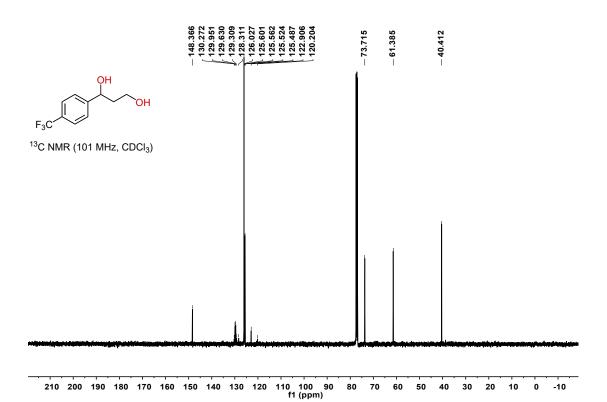


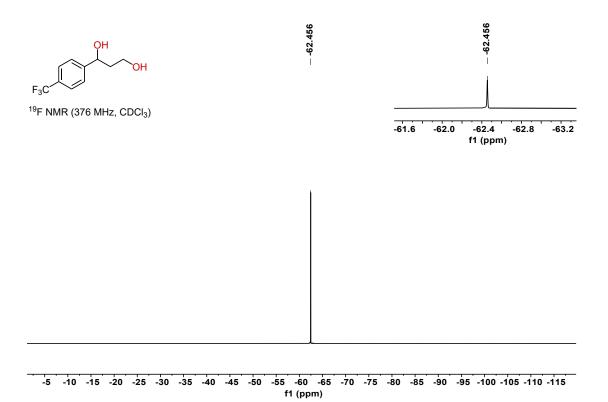


## 1-(4-Trifluoromethylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (12)

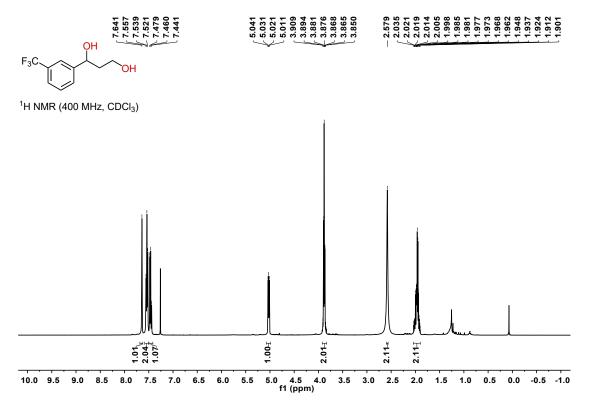


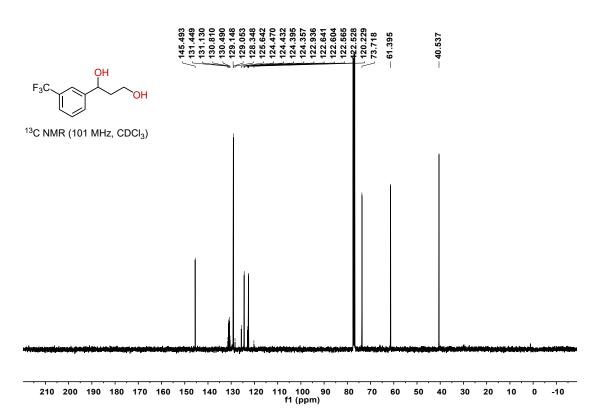


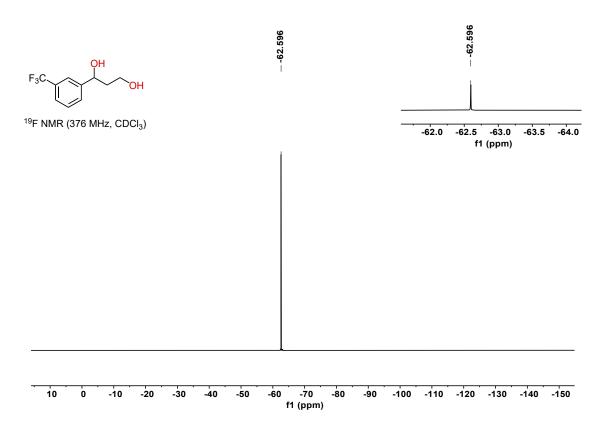




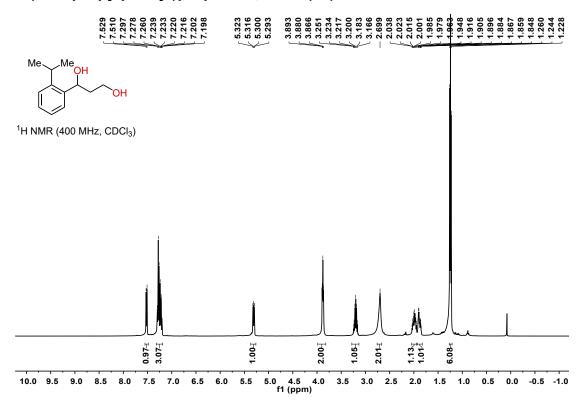
## 1-(3-Trifluoromethylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (13)



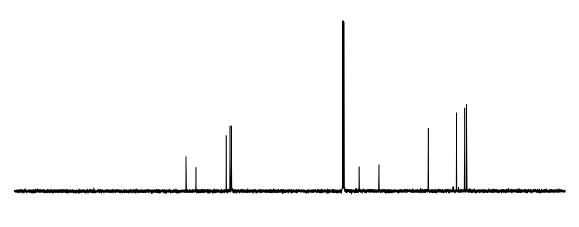




## 1-(2-Isopropylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (14)

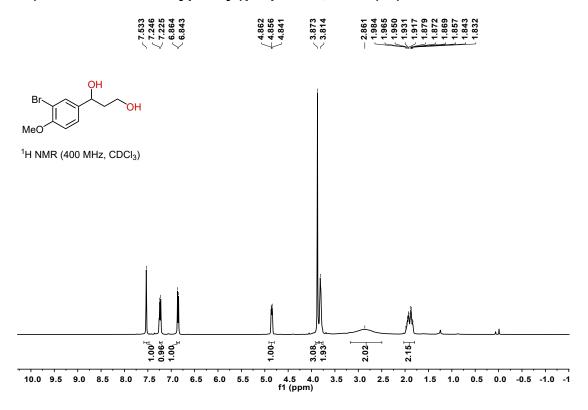


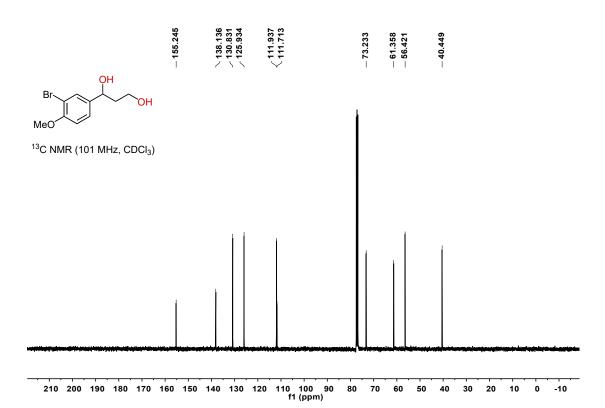




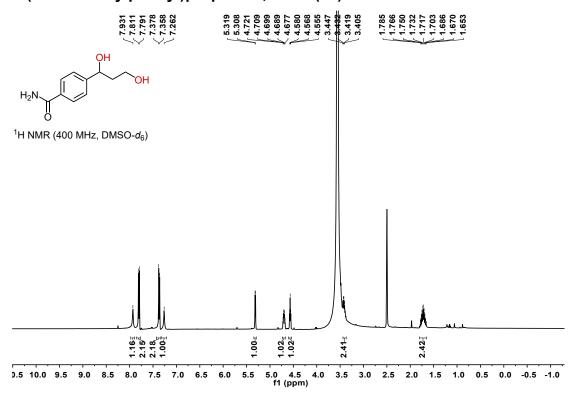
210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

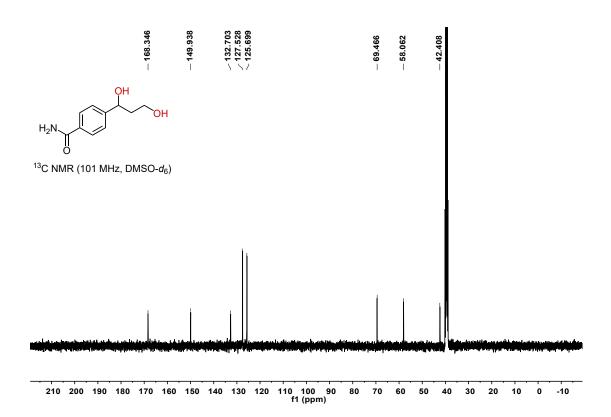
## 1-(3-Bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (15)



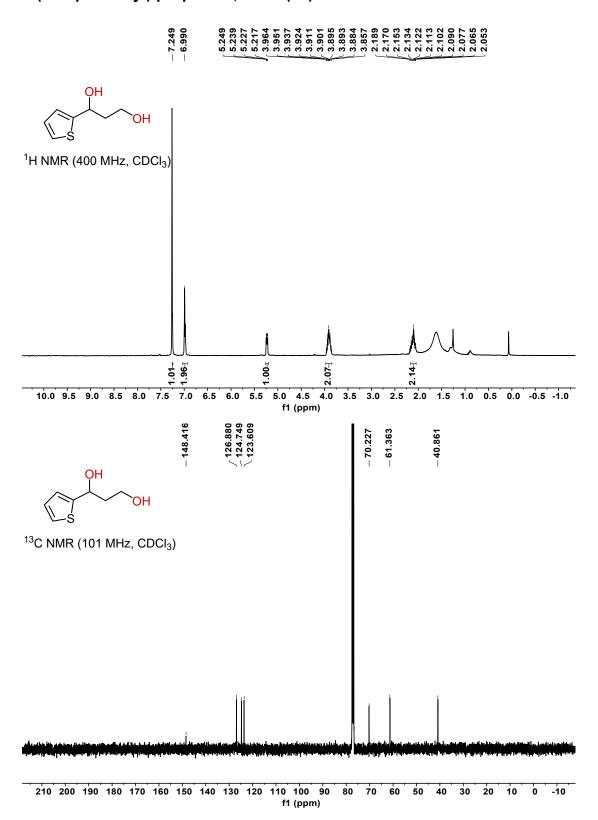


## 1-(4-Carbamoylphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (16)





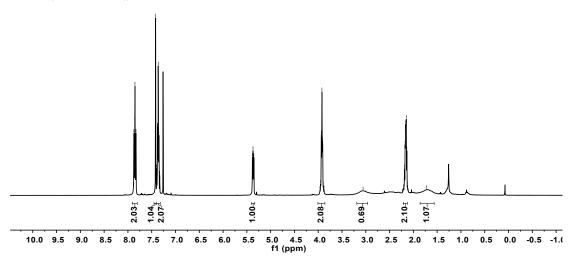
# 1-(Thiophen-2-yl) propane-1,3-diol (17)

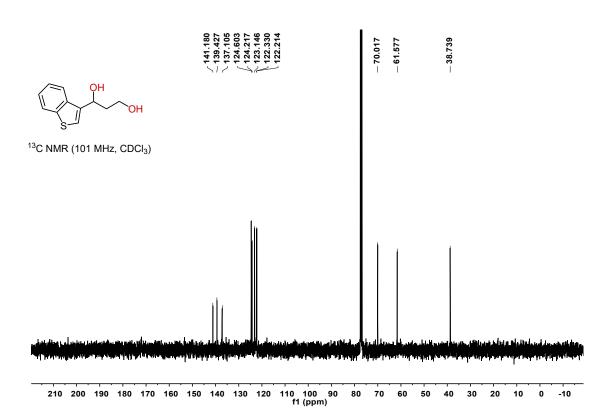


## 1-(Benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)propane-1,3-diol (18)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

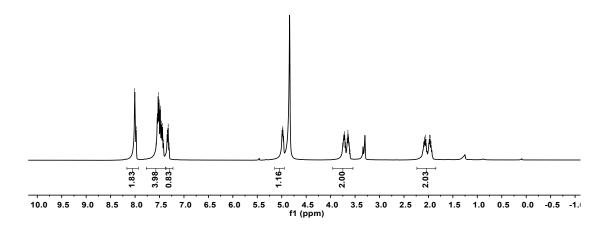


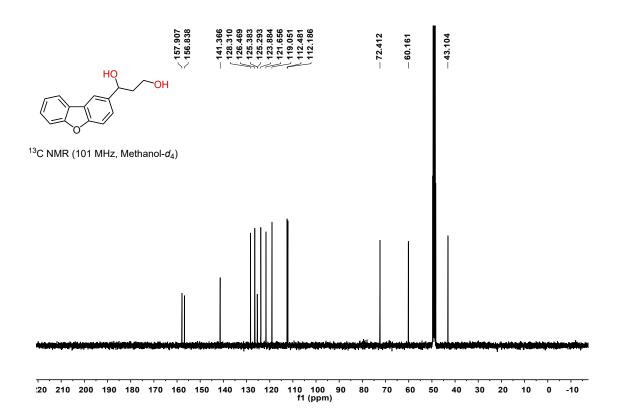


## 1-(Dibenzo[b,d]furan-2-yl)propane-1,3-diol (19)

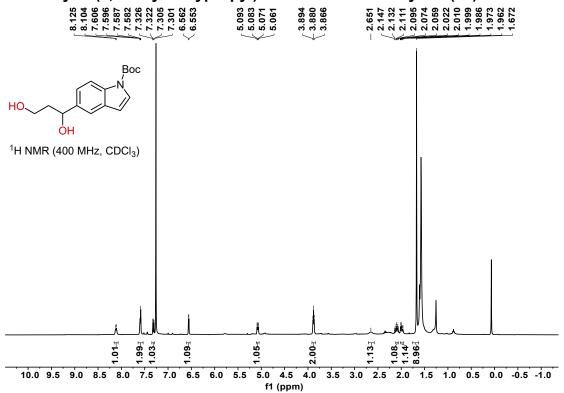


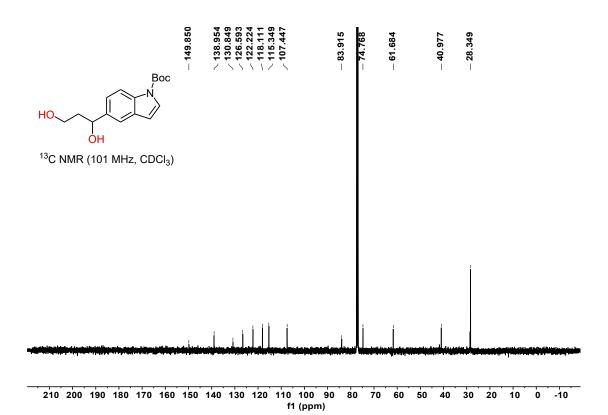
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d<sub>4</sub>)



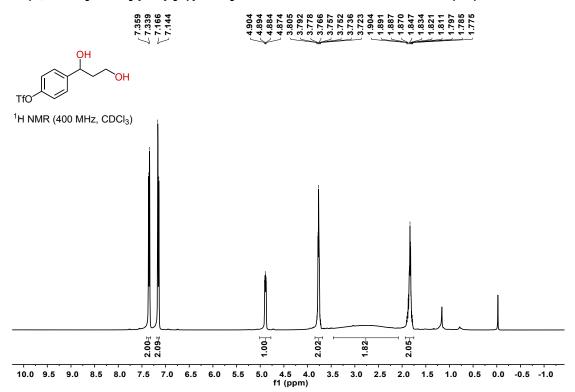


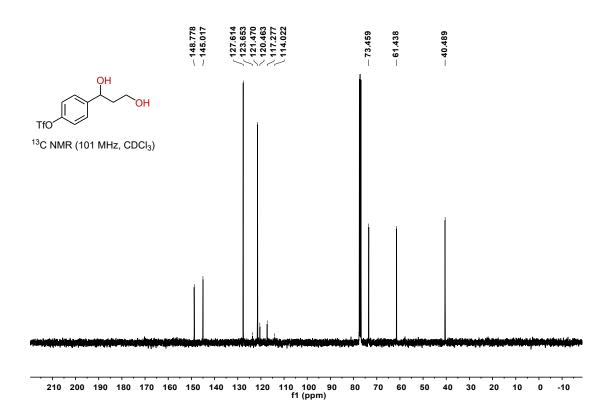
### tert-Butyl 5-(1,3-dihydroxypropyl)-1H-indole-1-carboxylate (20)

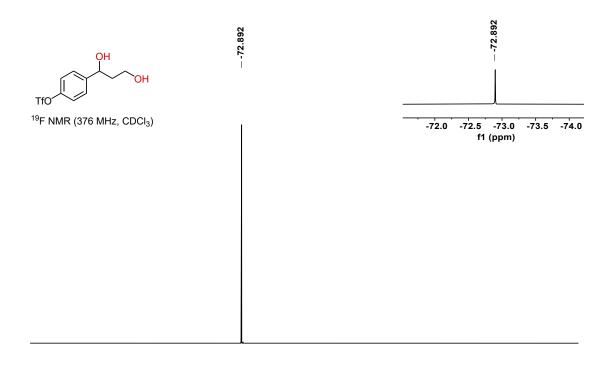




## 4-(1,3-Dihydroxypropyl)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (21)

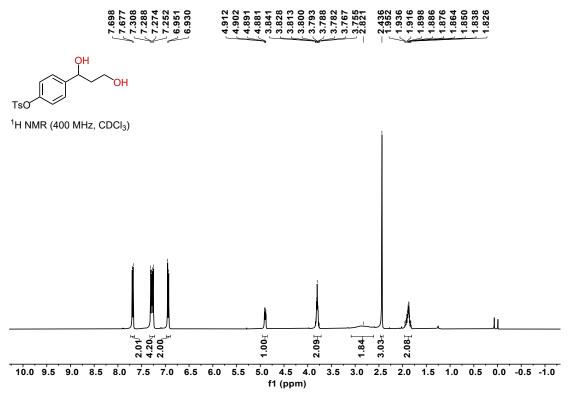


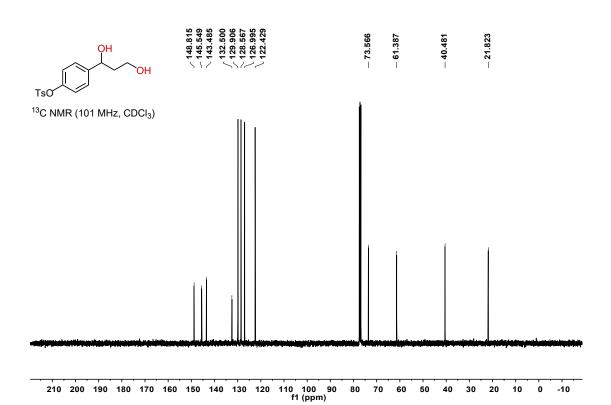




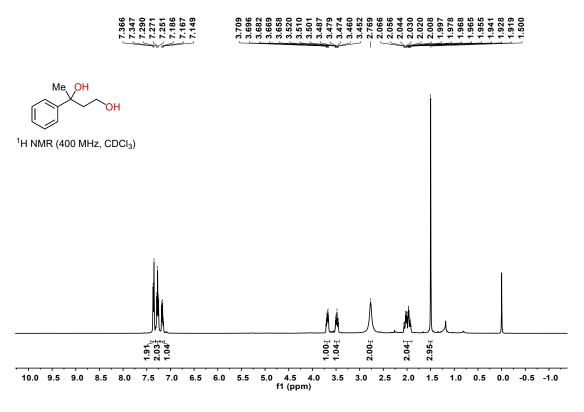
10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)

# 1-(4-Tosyloxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (22)

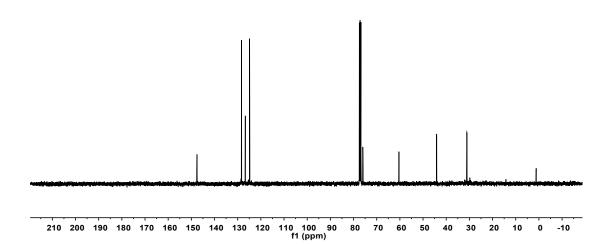




## 3-Phenylbutane-1,3-diol (23)



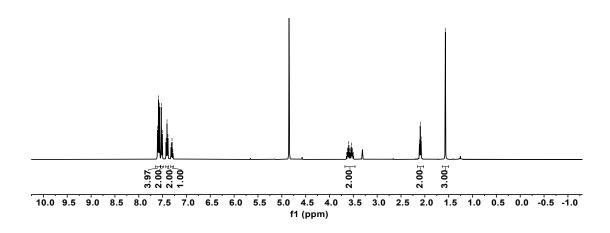


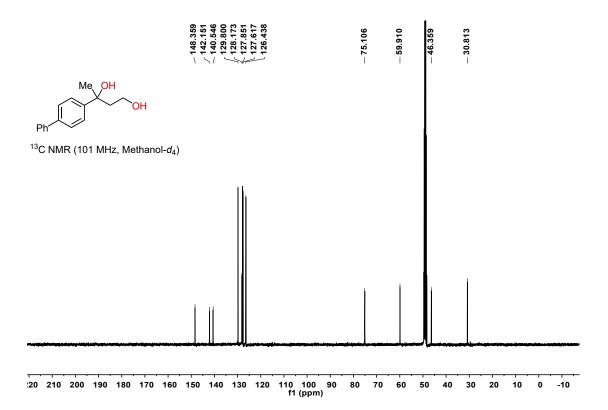


## 3-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)butane-1,3-diol (24)

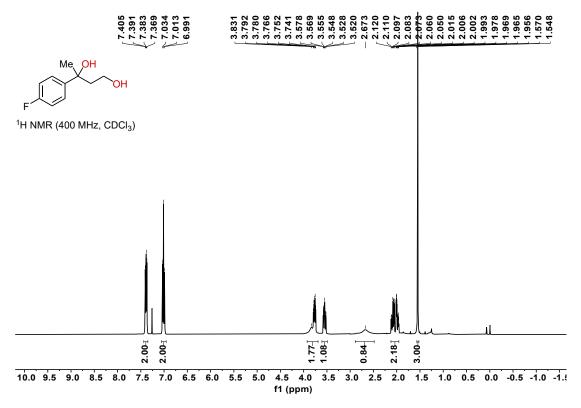


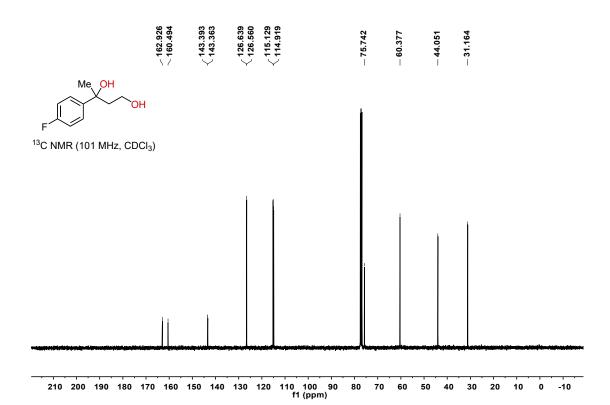
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>)

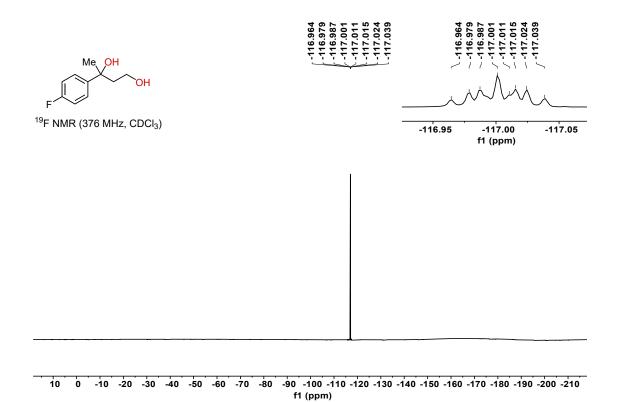




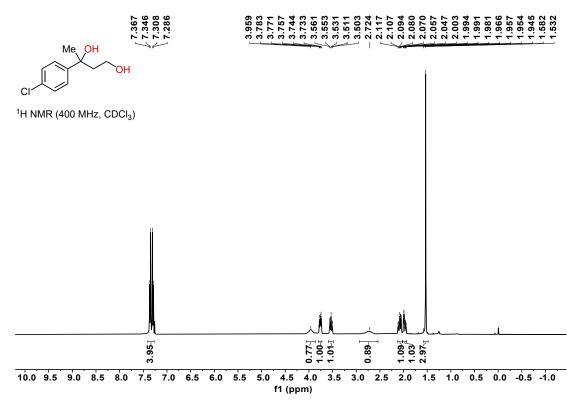
## 3-(4-Fluorophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (25)

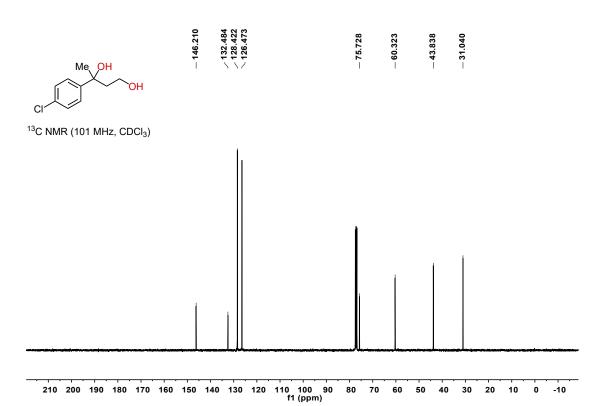




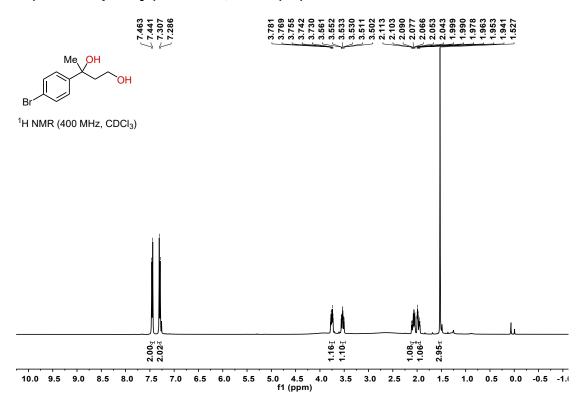


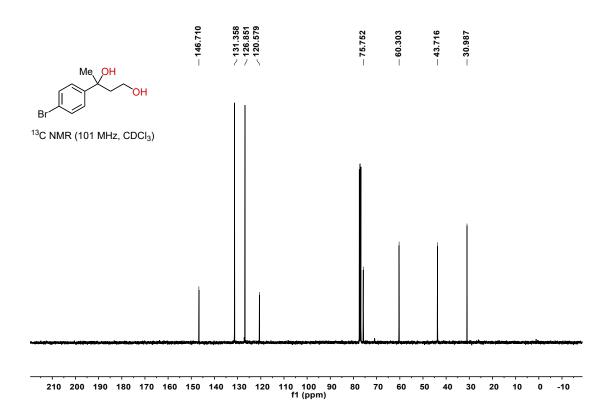
## 3-(4-Chlorophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (26)



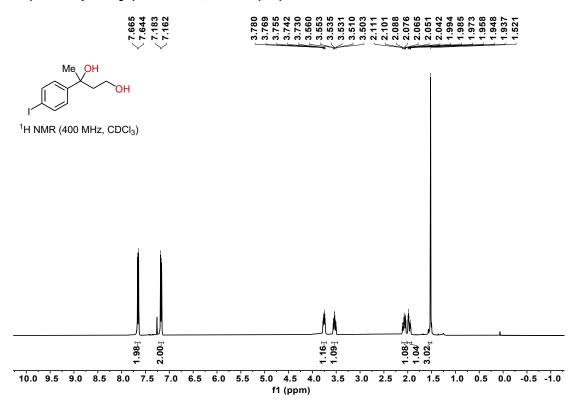


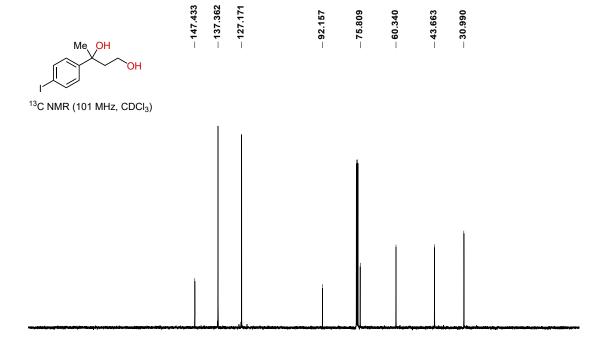
## 3-(4-Bromophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (27)





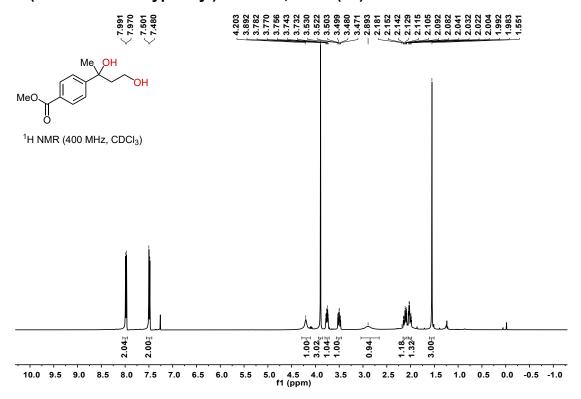
## 3-(4-lodophenyl)butane-1,3-diol (28)

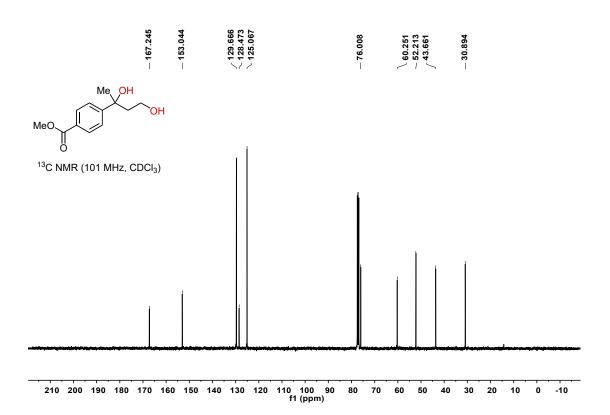




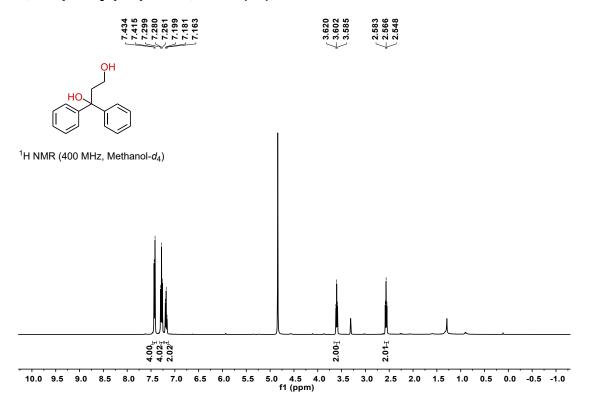
210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

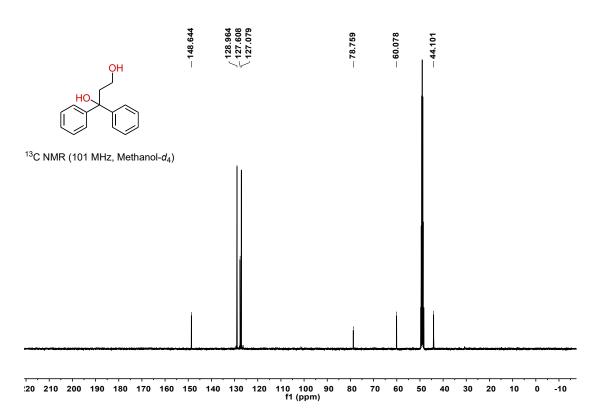
# 3-(4-Carbomethoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-diol (29)



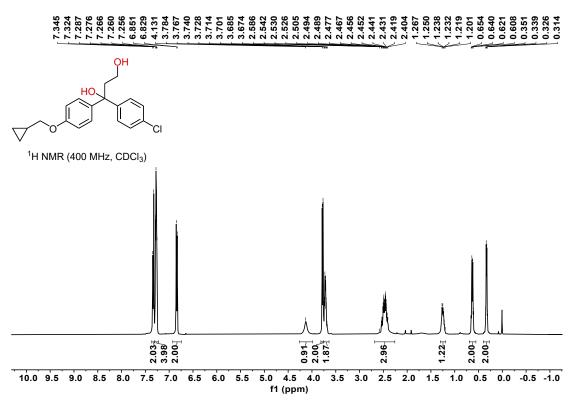


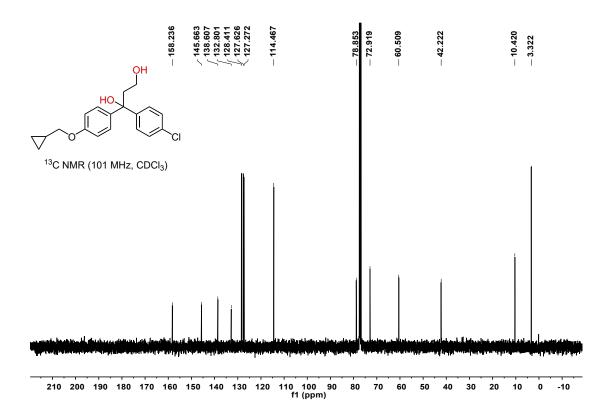
## 1,1-Diphenylpropane-1,3-diol (30)



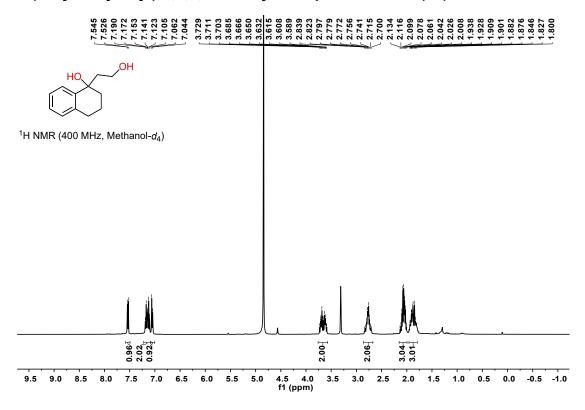


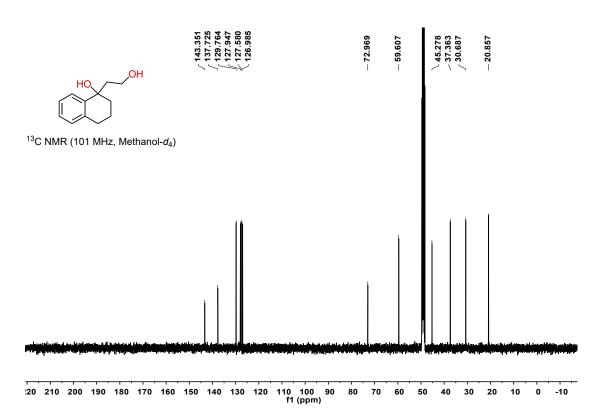
# 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(4-(cyclopropylmethoxy)phenyl)propane-1,3-diol (31)



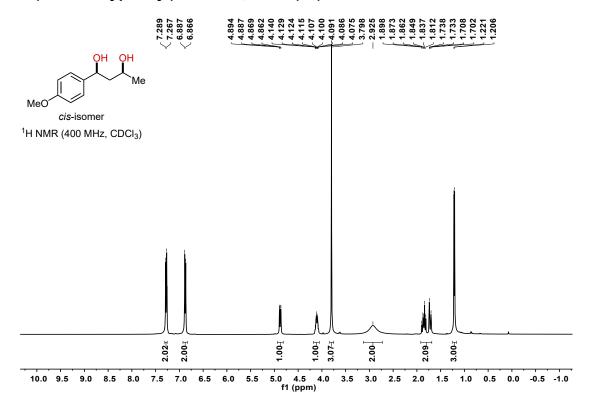


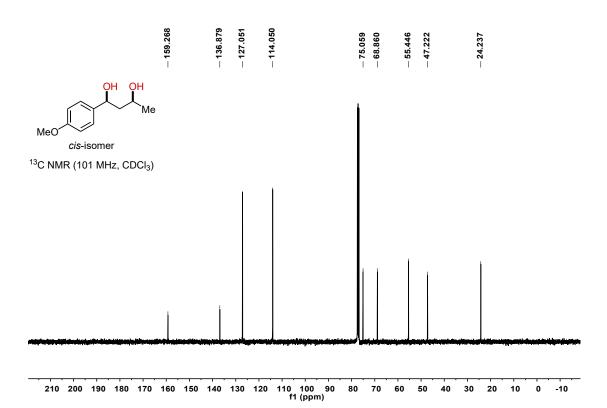
# 1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol (32)

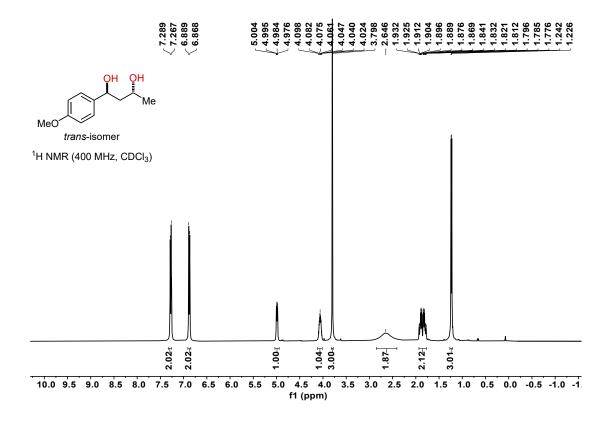


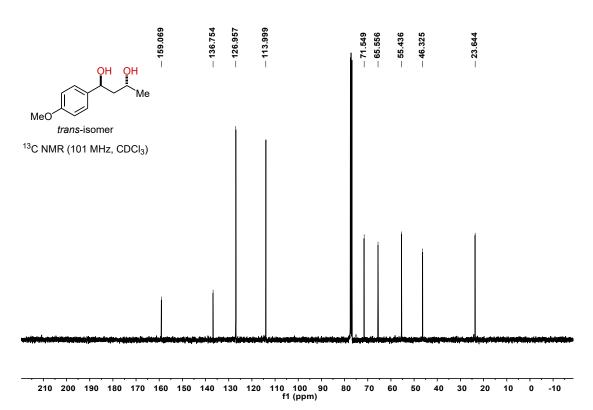


## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)butane-1,3-diol (33)

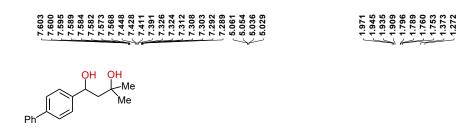




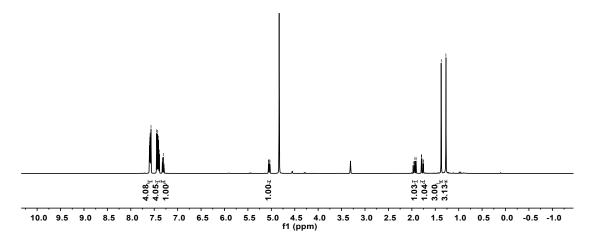


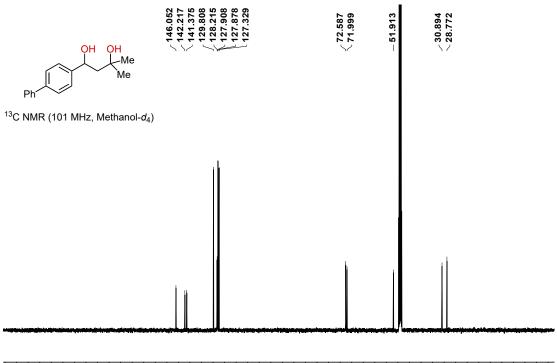


## 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-3-methylbutane-1,3-diol (34)



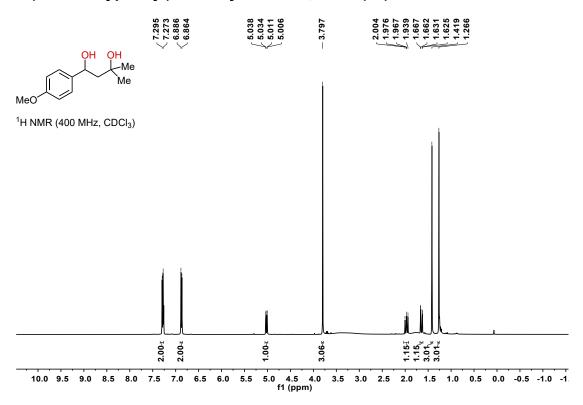
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>)

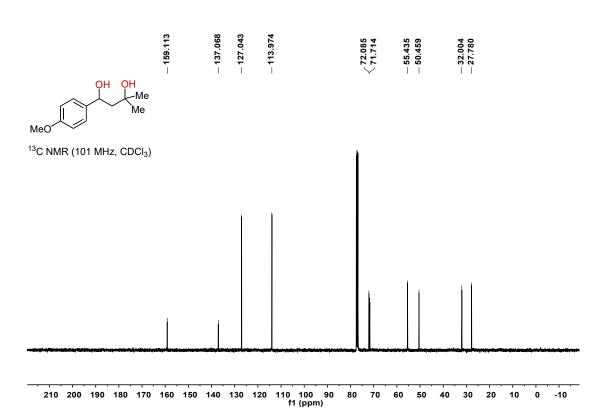




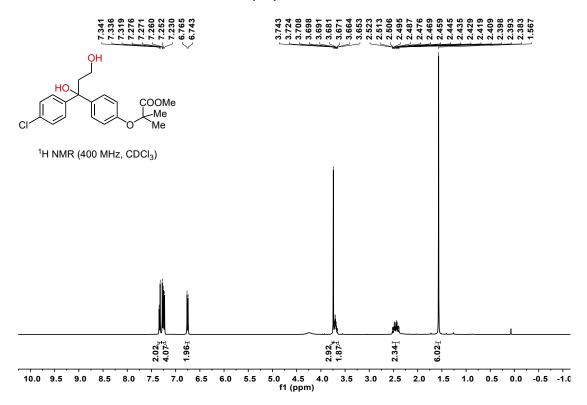
20 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)

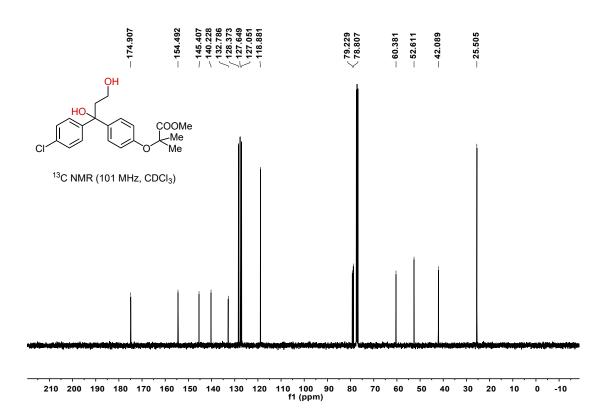
## 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methylbutane-1,3-diol (35)



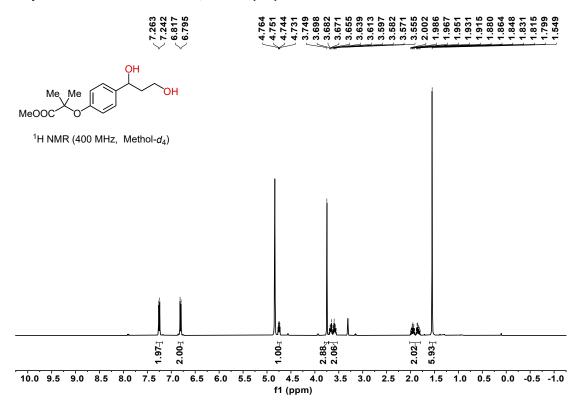


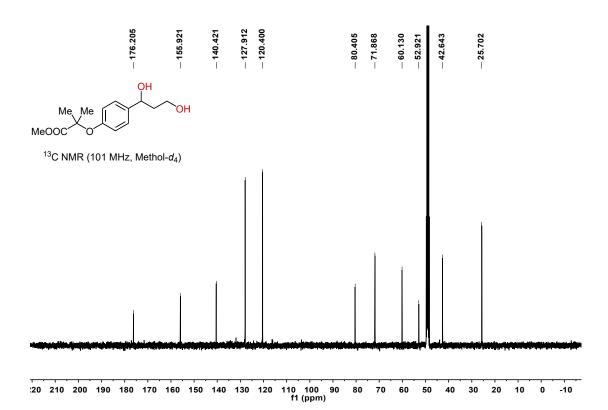
## Fenofibrate derivative-1,3-diol (36)



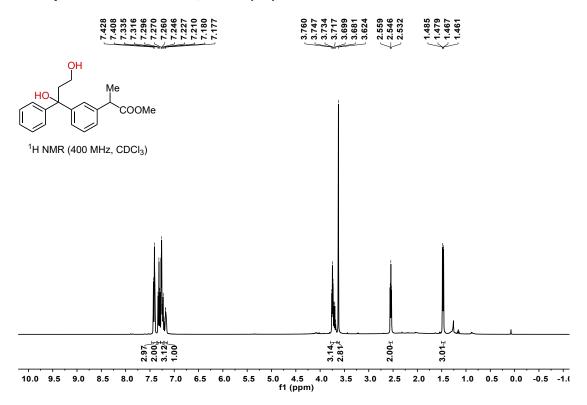


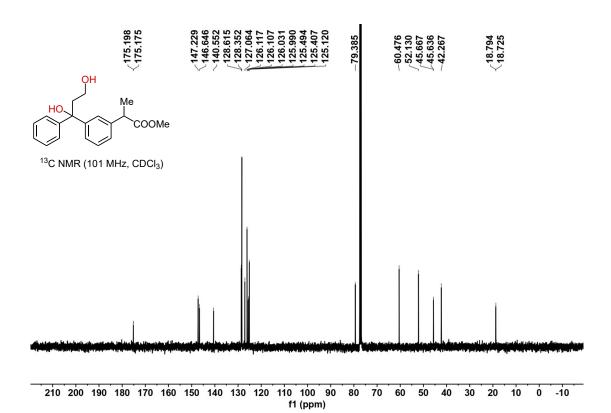
## Ciprofibrate derivative-1,3-diol (37)



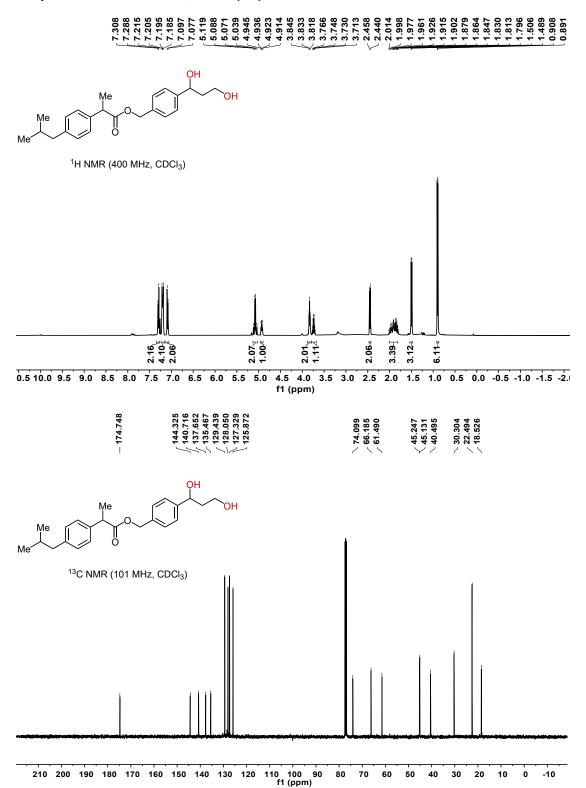


## Ketoprofen derivative-1,3-diol (38)

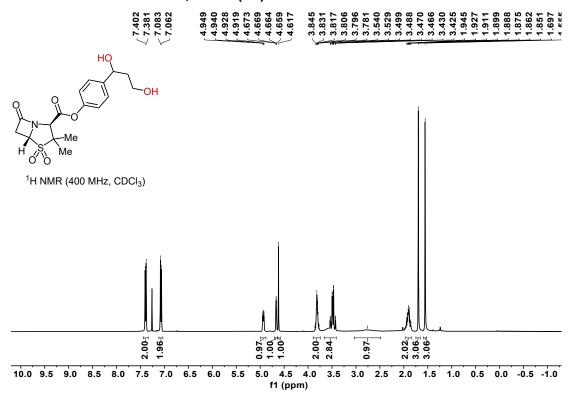


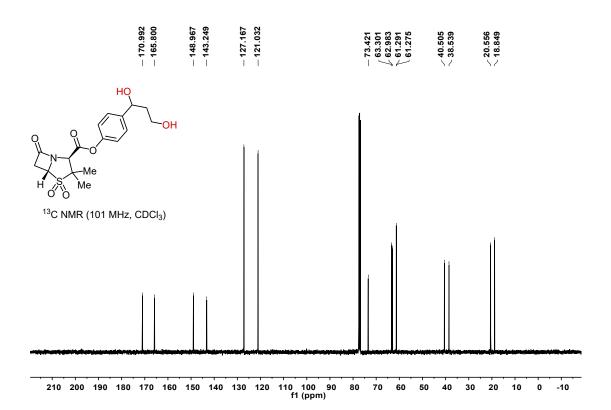


## Ibuprofen derivative-1,3-diol (39)

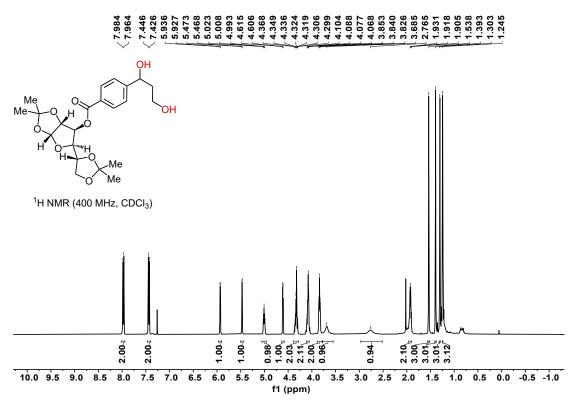


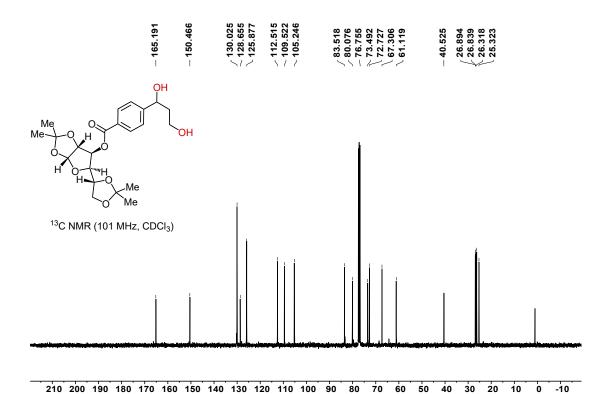
### Sulbactam derivative-1,3-diol (40)





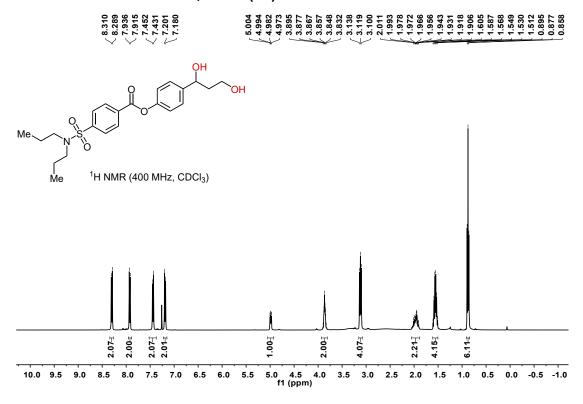
## Diacetone-D-glucose derivative-1,3-diol (41)

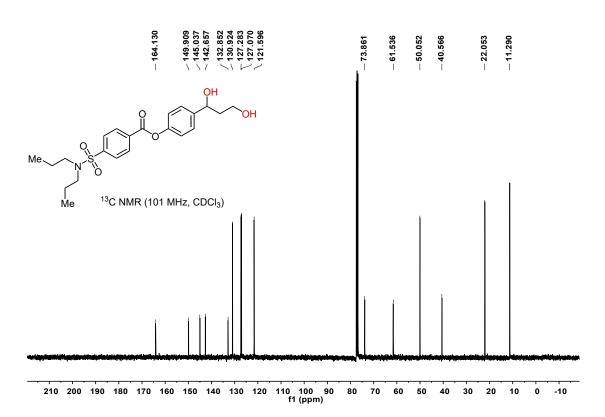




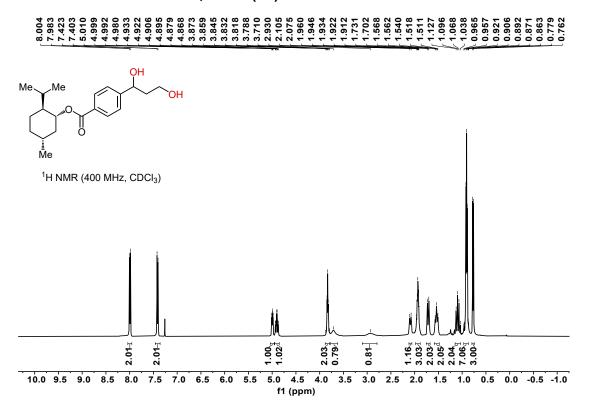
f1 (ppm)

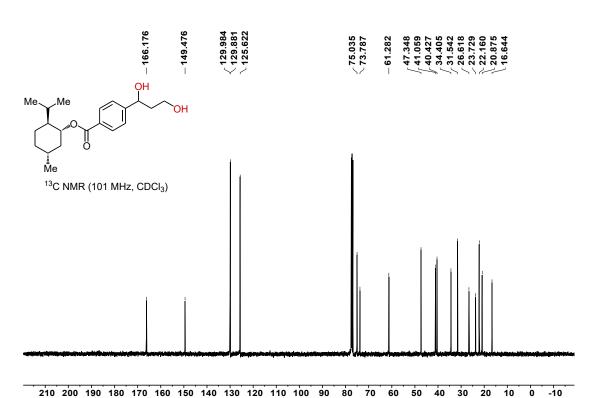
### Probenecid derivative-1,3-diol (42)





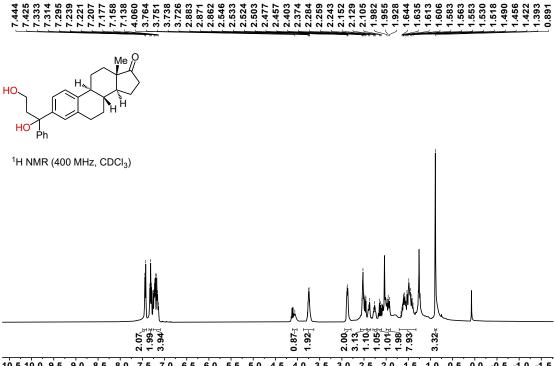
### DL-Menthol derivative-1,3-diol (43)

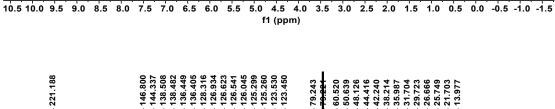


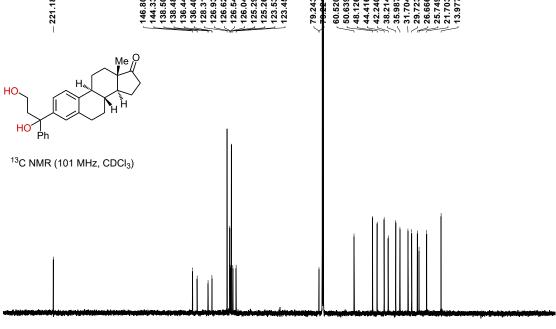


f1 (ppm)

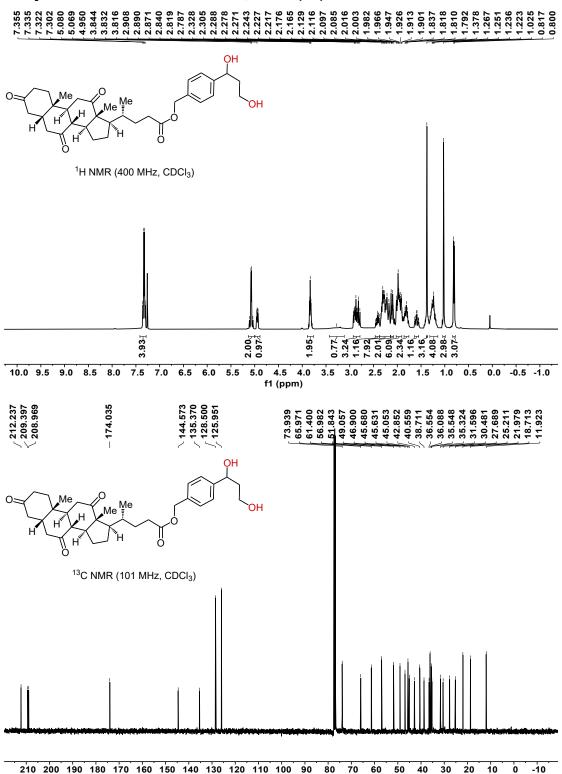
## Estrone derivative-1,3-diol (44)





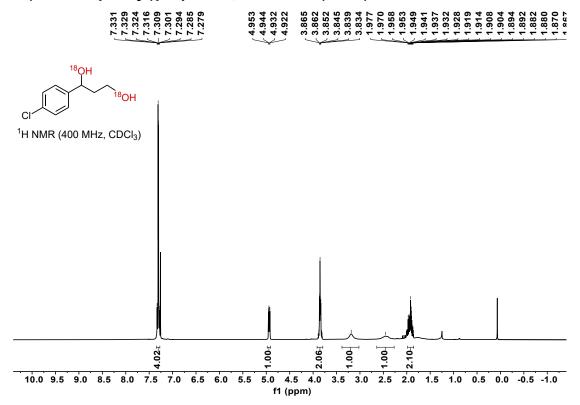


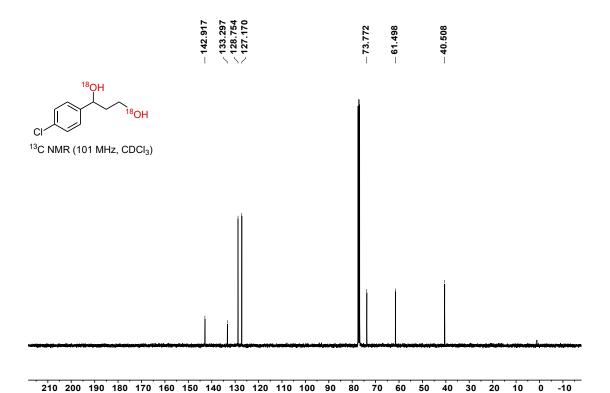
### Dehydrocholic acid derivative-1,3-diol (45)



f1 (ppm)

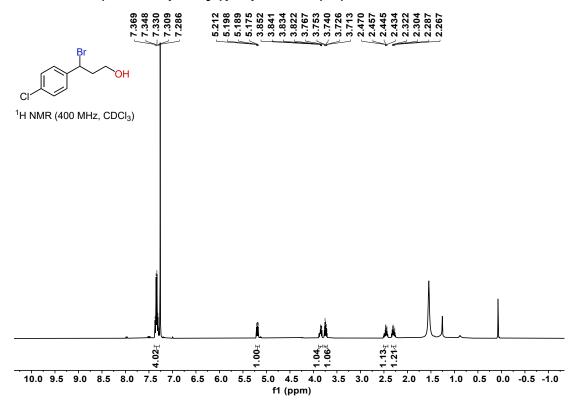
## 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)propane-1,3-diol-18O<sub>2</sub> (18O-1)

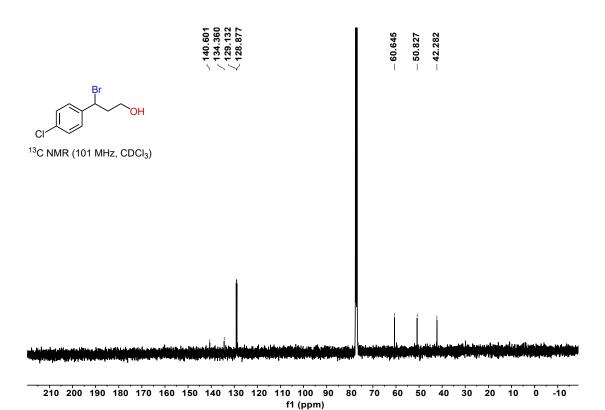




f1 (ppm)

## 3-Bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propan-1-ol (47)

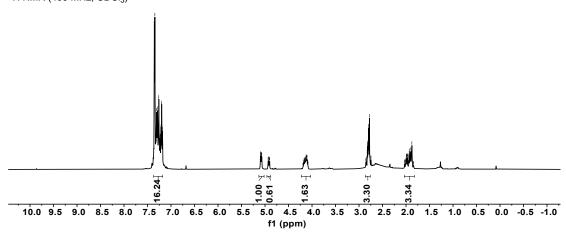


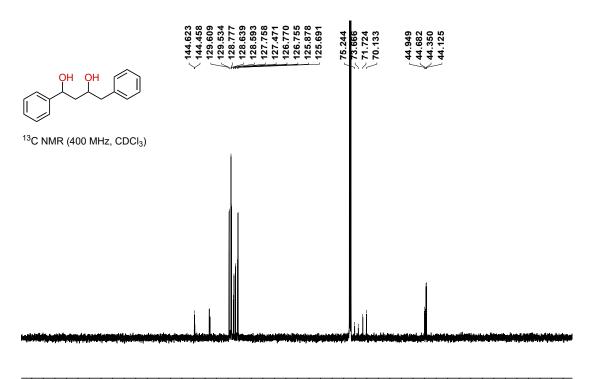


## 1,4-Diphenylbutane-1,3-diol (48)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





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)