

**Syntheses in enantiopure form of four diastereoisomeric naphthopyranquinones  
derived from aphid insect pigments**

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**Experimental**

**Ethyl ( $\alpha'S$  and  $R$ ,  $2S$ )-2-(2'-benzyloxy-3'-bromo-5'- $t$ -butyldimethylsilyloxy- $\alpha'$ -  
methylbenzyloxy)propanoate **29****

Using the method described above for the synthesis of the benzyl-epimeric mixture of methyl esters **22**, but with ethyl ( $S$ )-lactate replacing methyl ( $R$ )-lactate, the benzyl-epimeric mixture of ethyl esters **29** was assembled in a yield of 92%. (Found: C, 58.55; H, 6.8;  $M^+$ , 538.1588 and 536.1604.  $C_{26}H_{37}BrO_5Si$  requires C, 58.1; H, 6.9;  $M(^{81}Br)$ , 538.1573 and  $M(^{79}Br)$ , 536.1594);  $\delta_H$  (600 MHz, mixture of two diastereoisomers) 0.198 and 0.204 (each 3H, s,  $OSi(CH_3)_2C(CH_3)_3$ ), 0.21 (6H, s,  $OSi(CH_3)_2C(CH_3)_3$ ), 0.98 and 0.99 (each 9H, s,  $OSi(CH_3)_2C(CH_3)_3$ ), 1.34 and 1.35 (each 3H, d,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 2- $CH_3$ ), 1.36 and 1.41 (each 3H, d,  $J$  6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ - $CH_3$ ), 3.78 and 3.87 (each 1H, q,  $J$  6.8 Hz, 2-H), 4.01-4.17 (4H, m,  $CH_2CH_3$ ), 4.81 and 4.93 (2H, AB quartet,  $J$  10.7 Hz,  $OCH_2Ph$ ), 4.85 and

4.86 (each 1H, q, 6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ -H), 4.94 and 4.97 (2H, AB quartet,  $J$  11.0 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 6.88 and 7.01 (each 1H, d,  $J$  2.9 Hz, 4' and 6'-H), 6.93 and 6.99 (each 1H, d,  $J$  2.9 Hz, 4' and 6'-H) and 7.33-7.51 (10H, m, 2 x C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (150 MHz, mixture of two diastereoisomers) -4.58 and -4.56 (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), -4.51 (2 x (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 14.06 and 14.11 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.1 and 19.0 (C-3), 18.2 (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 23.2 and 23.6 ( $\alpha'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.6 (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 60.7 and 60.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 70.9 and 71.4 (C- $\alpha'$ ), 72.3 and 72.6 (C-2), 75.51 and 75.55 (OCH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 116.9 and 117.2 (C-3'), 117.1 and 117.8 (C-6'),<sup>a</sup> 123.8 and 124.1 (C-4'),<sup>a</sup> 127.99 and 128.01 (C-2'' and C-6''), 128.20 and 128.22 (C-4''), 128.48 and 128.52 (C-3'' and C-5''), 136.7 and 136.9 (C-1'),<sup>c</sup> 138.9 and 139.1 (C-1''),<sup>c</sup> 147.0 and 147.5 (C-2'),<sup>d</sup> 1152.7 and 152.9 (C-5'),<sup>d</sup> 172.7 and 173.5 (C=O);  $m/z$  538 [M<sup>+</sup> (<sup>81</sup>Br), 5%], 536 [M<sup>+</sup> (<sup>79</sup>Br), 5%], 447 (40), 445 (38), 421 (10), 419 (10), 347 (37), 345 (35), 331 (18), 330 (38), 329 (41), 328 (37), 327 (23), and 91 (100).

**( $\alpha'R$ , 2*S*)-2-(2'-Benzyloxy-3'-bromo-5'-*t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy- $\alpha'$ -methylbenzyloxy)propanol **26** and ( $\alpha'S$ , 2*R*)-2-(2'-benzyloxy-3'-bromo-5'-*t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy- $\alpha'$ -methylbenzyloxy)propanol **31****

Using the method described above for the reduction of the mixture of methyl lactates **22** to form the alcohols **23** and **30**, the mixture of ethyl lactates **29** was reduced with a limited amount of lithium aluminium hydride to provide the chromatographically separable alcohols **26** and **31**, for which the specific rotations were +58.8 ° and -22.9 ° ( $c$  1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>), in good agreement, but for sign, with those of the enantiomers **30** and **23** respectively.

**( $\alpha'$ S, 2R)-2-(2'-Benzyloxy-3'-bromo-5'-*t*-butyldimethylsilyloxy- $\alpha'$ -methylbenzyloxy)-propanal **27****

According to the method described above for the preparation of the aldehyde **24** from the alcohol **23**, the ( $\alpha'$ R, 2S) alcohol **26** (200 mg, 0.4 mmol) was converted, after chromatography (radial, 5% ethyl acetate-hexane), into the aldehyde **27** as a colourless oil (169 mg, 85%) [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> +21.3 ° (*c* 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); (Found: C, 59.2; H, 6.95; M<sup>+</sup>, 492.1337. C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>33</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub>Si requires C, 58.5; H, 6.75; M(<sup>79</sup>Br), 492.1331);  $\nu_{\max}$ (film)/cm<sup>-1</sup> 1739 (C=O) and 1596 and 1495 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.20 (6H, s, OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.98 (9H, s, OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.21 (3H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, 2-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.37 (3H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.61 (1H, dq, *J* 1.2 and 6.8 Hz, 2-H), 4.87 (1H, q, *J* 6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ -H), 4.94 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.90 (1H, d, *J* 2.9 Hz, 6'-H), 7.02 (1H, d, *J* 2.9 Hz, 4'-H) and 7.34-7.49 (5H, m, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 9.49 (1H, d, *J* 1.2 Hz, CHO);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  -4.5, (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 15.0 (C-3), 18.2 (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 23.4 ( $\alpha'$ -CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.6 (OSi(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 70.6 (C-2), 75.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 78.1 (C- $\alpha'$ ), 117.2 (C-3'), 117.4 (C-6'), 124.4 (C-4'), 128.1 (C-2'' and C-6''), 128.3 (C-4''), 128.6 (C-3'' and C-5''), 136.6 (C-1''), 138.7 (C-1'), 147.3 (C-2'), 152.9 (C-5') and 202.6 (C-1); *m/z* 494 [M<sup>+</sup> (<sup>81</sup>Br), 1%], 492 [M<sup>+</sup> (<sup>79</sup>Br), 1%], 359 (19), 357 (20), 329 (32), 191 (45), 91 (86) and 73 (100).

**( $\alpha'$ R, 2S)-2-(2'-Benzyloxy-3'-bromo-5'-hydroxy- $\alpha'$ -methylbenzyloxy)propanal **28****

According to the method described above for the preparation of the phenolic aldehyde **25** from the ( $\alpha'$ R, 2R) aldehyde **24**, the ( $\alpha'$ R, 2S) aldehyde **27** (130 mg, 0.26 mmol) was converted, after chromatography (radial, 5% ethyl acetate-hexane), into the phenolic

aldehyde **28** as a colourless oil (115 mg, 76%); (Found:  $(\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O})^+$ , 360.0352.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}_3$  requires  $\text{M}(^{79}\text{Br})$ , 360.0361);  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3386 (OH), 1732 (C=O) and 1602, 1575 and 1498 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.23 (3H, d,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 2- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.36 (3H, d,  $J$  6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ - $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.68 (1H, dq,  $J$  0.9 and 6.9 Hz, 2-H), 4.87 (1H, q,  $J$  6.4 Hz,  $\alpha'$ -H), 4.90 and 4.95 (each 1H, d,  $J$  11.1 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.85-4.97 (1H, br. s, OH), 6.96 (1H, d,  $J$  2.9 Hz, 6'-H), 7.04 (1H, d,  $J$  2.9 Hz, 4'-H), 7.35-7.49 (5H, m,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ) and 9.45 (1H, d,  $J$  0.9 Hz, CHO);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  14.9 (C-3), 23.3 ( $\alpha'$ - $\text{CH}_3$ ), 70.8 (C-2), 75.9 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 78.1 (C- $\alpha'$ ), 112.8 (C-6'), 117.6 (C-3'), 120.0 (C-4'), 128.2 (C-2'' and C-6''), 128.4 (C-4''), 128.6 (C-3'' and C-5''), 136.6 (C-1''), 138.7 (C-1'), 146.4 (C-2'), 153.4 (C-5') and 202.8 (C-1);  $m/z$  362  $[(\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O})^+ (^{81}\text{Br}), 4\%]$ , 360  $[(\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O})^+ (^{79}\text{Br}), 4\%]$ , 167 (6), 149 (22) and 91 (100).

**(1*R*,3*R*,4*R*)-7-Bromo-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone **59** and (1*R*,3*R*,4*R*)-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone **60****

A solution of compound **36** (168 mg, 0.43 mmol) in dry ethyl acetate (15  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was stirred with 10% palladium on carbon catalyst (100 mg,) under a hydrogen atmosphere for 1.5 h. The mixture was filtered through celite, concentrated and purified through rapid chromatography (radial, 35% ethyl acetate-hexane) to afford a oily unstable mixture **37** and **38** (130 mg, 0.43 mmol). This was immediately dissolved in acetonitrile (15  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and cerium(IV) ammonium nitrate (470 mg, 0.86 mmol) in water (3  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added drop-wise to the solution. After 20 min the reaction was quenched with water and exhaustively extracted with dichloromethane. The residue obtained upon work-up was chromatographed (radial, 15-25% ethyl acetate-hexane) to give both the brominated

quinone **59** and the debrominated quinone **60** as bright yellow crystals. The product of higher  $R_F$  was identified as **59** (63 mg, 51%) m.p. 144-145 °C (dichloromethane-hexane)  $[\alpha]_D^{+94}$  ° ( $c$  in 1.0  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); (Found: C, 46.25; H, 4.0;  $(\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O})^+$ , 267.9723.  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{BrO}_4$  requires C, 46.15; H, 3.9%;  $(\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O})$  ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 267.9735);  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3506 (OH), 1677 and 1652 (C=O) and 1589 and 1480 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.37 (3H, d,  $J$  6.4 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.47 (3H, d,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.25 (1H, d,  $J$  7.3 Hz, OH), 3.96 (1H, dq,  $J$  2.2 and 6.4 Hz, 3-H), 4.35 (1H, dd,  $J$  2.2 and 7.3 Hz, 4-H), 4.89 (1H, q,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 1-H) and 7.32 (1H, s, 6-H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  16.1 (3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 17.9 (1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.1 (C-3), 66.4 (C-4), 67.6 (C-1), 137.6 (C-7), 137.8 (C-6), 139.2 (C-8a), 144.7 (C-4a), 178.6 (C-8), 183.7 (C-5);  $m/z$  270  $[\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), 25%], 268  $[\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 17%], 255 (100), 253 (80) and 149 (84). The product of lower  $R_F$  was identified as **60** (20 mg, 22%) m.p. 126-127 °C (hexane-dichloromethane)  $[\alpha]_D^{+45.8}$  ° ( $c$  in 1.0  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); (Found: C, 63.45; H, 5.8;  $\text{M}^+$ , 208.0734.  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4$  requires C, 63.45; H, 5.8%;  $\text{M}$ , 208.0735);  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3495 (OH) and 1655 (C=O);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.37 (3H, d,  $J$  6.4 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.45 (3H, d,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.22 (1H, br. s, OH), 3.97 (1H, dq,  $J$  2.2 and 6.4 Hz, 3-H), 4.36 (1H, br. s, 4-H), 4.85 (1H, q,  $J$  6.9 Hz, 1-H) and 6.75 and 6.80 (each 1H, d,  $J$  10.8 Hz, 6- and 7-H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  16.1 (3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 17.9 (1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 61.1 (C-3), 66.5 (C-4), 67.0 (C-1), 136.3 (C-6), 136.8 (C-7), 138.6 (C-8a), 144.5 (C-4a), 186.3 (C-8) and 187.1 (C-5);  $m/z$  190  $[\text{M}^+-\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 26%], 177 (19), 164 (100), 147 (21), 136 (56) and 119 (17).

**(1*R*,3*S*,4*R*)-8-Benzyloxy-7-bromo-3,4-dihydro-4,5-dihydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran 39** and **(1*R*,3*S*,4*S*)-8-Benzyloxy-7-bromo-3,4-dihydro-4,5-dihydroxy-3,4-dihydro-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran 44**

The ( $\alpha'R$ , 2*S*) phenolic aldehyde **28** (200 mg, 0.53 mmol) was treated with titanium tetraisopropoxide (225 mg, 0.79 mmol) as described above for the phenolic aldehyde **25**, to afford the potentially unstable diols **39** and **44** as colourless oils in a ratio of 5:3 respectively. The product of higher  $R_F$  was identified as **39** (101 mg, 51%)  $[\alpha]_D +46.2^\circ$  ( $c$  1.0 in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); (Found:  $M^+$ , 378.0465.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_4$  requires  $M(^{79}\text{Br})$ , 378.0466);  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3450 and 3292 (OH) and 1597 and 1461 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.39 (3H, d,  $J$  6.1 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.53 (3H, d,  $J$  6.3 Hz, 1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.39 (1H, dq,  $J$  8.8 and 6.1 Hz, 3-H), 3.90-4.30 (2H, br. s, 4- and 5-OH), 4.55 (1H, dd,  $J$  0.7 and 8.8 Hz, 4-H), 4.69 and 4.99 (each 1H, d,  $J$  10.7 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.76 (1H, dq,  $J$  0.7 and 6.3 Hz, 1-H), 7.04 (1H, s, 6-H) and 7.34-7.49 (5H, m,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ );  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  17.9 (3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 22.0 (1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 71.0 (C-3), 71.9 (C-4), 73.5 (C-1), 75.0 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 117.5 (C-8), 119.6 (C-6), 122.5 (C-7), 128.4 (C-4''), 128.4 (C-2'' and C-6''), 128.5 (C-3'' and C-5''), 135.5 (C-1''), 136.6 (C-8a), 144.9 (C-4a) and 171.7 (C-5);  $m/z$  362 [ $M^+ - \text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), 8%], 360 [ $M^+ - \text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 8%], 255 (11), 149 (15), 91 (100) and 65 (16). The product of lower  $R_F$  was identified as **44** (60 mg, 30%)  $[\alpha]_D +55.2^\circ$  ( $c$  1.0 in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); (Found: C, 57.0; H, 5.2;  $M^+$ , 378.0465.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_4$  requires C, 57.0; H, 5.05%;  $M(^{79}\text{Br})$ , 378.0466);  $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3495 and 3265 (OH) and 1588 and 1495 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.34 (3H, d,  $J$  6.5 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.57 (3H, d,  $J$  6.3 Hz, 1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.59 (1H, dq,  $J$  1.6 and 6.5 Hz, 3-H), 4.39 (1H, d,  $J$  1.6 Hz, 4-H), 4.63 (1H, q,  $J$  6.3 Hz, 1-H), 3.80-4.30 (2H, br. s, 4- and 5-OH), 4.71 and 4.97 (each 1H, d,  $J$  10.7 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 7.06 (1H, s, 6-H), 7.34-7.45 (5H, m,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ );  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  16.8 (3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 21.9 (1- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 65.2 (C-3), 72.7 (C-4), 73.0 (C-1), 75.4 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 118.5 (C-8), 119.6 (C-6), 124.0 (C-7), 128.8 (C-4''), 128.9 (C-2'' and C-6''), 129.0 (C-3'' and C-5''), 136.0 (C-1''), 136.9 (C-8a), 146.0 (C-4a) and 152.3 (C-5);

m/z 363 [ $M^+$ -OH ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), 16%], 361 [ $M^+$ -OH ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 16%], 255 (12), 253 (12), 205 (8), 149 (42), 84 (100) and 65 (10).

**(1*R*,3*S*,4*R*)-7-Bromo-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5-8-quinone 63 and (1*R*,3*S*,4*R*)-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5-8-quinone 64**

A solution of the diol **39** (55 mg, 0.15 mmol) in dry ethyl acetate (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) was stirred with 10% palladium on carbon catalyst (55 mg) under a hydrogen atmosphere for 1.5 h. The mixture was filtered through celite, concentrated and purified through rapid chromatography (radial, 35% ethyl acetate-hexane) to afford the hydroquinonoid diols **40** and **41** as an unstable, oily mixture (42 mg, 0.15 mmol). This was immediately dissolved in acetonitrile (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) and cerium(IV) ammonium nitrate (159 mg, 0.29 mmol) in water (3 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added dropwise to the solution. After 20 min the reaction was quenched with water and exhaustively extracted with dichloromethane. The residue obtained upon work-up was chromatographed (radial, 15-25% ethyl acetate-hexane) to give the brominated quinone **63** and the debrominated quinone **64** as bright yellow crystals. The product of higher  $R_F$  was identified as **63** (18 mg, 43%), m.p. 116-118 °C (dichloromethane-hexane)  $[\alpha]_D +349.4^\circ$  ( $c$  in 1.0 CHCl<sub>3</sub>); (Found: C, 46.45; H, 3.9; (M-H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>, 267.9724. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub> requires C, 46.15; H, 3.9%; (M-H<sub>2</sub>O)( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 267.9735);  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3226 (OH) and 1666 and 1652 (C=O);  $\delta_H$  1.41 (3H, d,  $J$  6.2 Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.46 (3H, d,  $J$  6.7 Hz, 1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.41 (1H, dq,  $J$  8.3 and 6.2 Hz, 3-H), 3.57 (1H, d,  $J$  2.2 Hz, OH), 4.38 (1H, ddd,  $J$  2.2, 2.9 and 8.3 Hz, 4-H), 4.70 (1H, dq,  $J$  2.9 and 6.7 Hz, 1-H) and 7.25 (1H, s, 6-H);  $\delta_C$  18.2 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.5 (1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 67.6 (C-3), 70.5 (C-4), 73.0

(C-1), 137.8 (C-6), 138.0 (C-7), 140.8 (C-8a), 145.5 (C-4a), 178.8 (C-8) and 185.6 (C-5);  $m/z$  288 [ $M^+$  ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), 100%], 286 [ $M^+$  ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ), 98%], 215 (41), 213 (41), 164 (70), 136 (41), 107 (63), 77 (44) and 65 (20). The lower  $R_F$  product was identified as **64** (12 mg, 40%) and was obtained as an oil; (Found:  $(M+2H)^+$ , 210.0890.  $C_{11}H_{12}O_4$  requires  $(M+2H)$ , 210.0894).  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3230 (OH) and 1672 and 1654 (C=O);  $\delta_H$  1.41 (3H, d,  $J$  6.1 Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.45 (3H, d,  $J$  6.7 Hz, 1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.42 (1H, dq,  $J$  8.3 and 6.1 Hz, 3-H), 3.69 (1H, d,  $J$  2.0 Hz, OH), 4.38 (1H, ddd,  $J$  2.0, 2.9 and 8.3 Hz, 4-H), 4.67 (1H, dq,  $J$  2.9 and 6.7 Hz, 1-H) and 6.72 (2H, s, 6- and 7-H);  $\delta_C$  19.1 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.4 (1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 68.5 (C-3), 70.8 (C-4), 73.8 (C-1), 126.7 (C-8a), 136.9 (C-6), 138.0 (C-7), 141.0 (C-4a), 141.9 (C-8) and 186.3 (C-5);  $m/z$  164 [ $M^+-CH_3CHO$ , 100%], 147 (12), 136 (51), 108 (51) and 91 (22).

**(1*R*,3*S*,4*R*)-7-Bromo-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone**  
**63**

Using tetrahydrofuran as solvent as described above in the conversion of diol **32** into its quinone **12**, the diol **39** was transformed into the quinone **63** as the sole product in a yield of 70%.

**(1*R*,3*S*,4*S*)-7-Bromo-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone**  
**61 and (1*R*,3*S*,4*S*)-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone**  
**62**

A solution of the diol **44** (110 mg, 0.29 mmol) in dry ethyl acetate (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) was stirred with 10% palladium on carbon catalyst (110 mg) under a hydrogen atmosphere for 1.5 h. The mixture was filtered through celite, concentrated and purified through rapid

chromatography (radial, 35% ethyl acetate-hexane) to afford an unstable oily mixture **45** and **46** (80 mg, 0.28 mmol). This was immediately dissolved in acetonitrile (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) and cerium(IV) ammonium nitrate (303 mg, 0.55 mmol) in water (3 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added dropwise to the solution. After 20 min the reaction was quenched with water and exhaustively extracted with dichloromethane. The residue obtained upon work-up was chromatographed (radial, 15-25% ethyl acetate-hexane) to give the brominated quinone **61** and the debrominated quinone **62** as bright yellow crystals. The product of higher R<sub>F</sub> was identified as **61** (35 mg, 42%) m.p. 143-145 °C (dichloromethane-hexane) [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> +107 ° (*c* in 1.0 CHCl<sub>3</sub>); (Found: C, 46.2; H, 3.8; (M-H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>, 267.9724. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub> requires C, 46.15; H, 3.9%; (M-H<sub>2</sub>O) (<sup>79</sup>Br), 267.9735);  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3470 (OH) and 1672 and 1653 (C=O);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.37 (3H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54 (3H, d, *J* 6.6 Hz, 1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.13 (1H, *J* 8.1 Hz, OH), 3.59 (1H, dq, *J* 1.6 and 6.4 Hz, 3-H), 4.37 (1H, ddd, *J* 1.4, 1.6 and 8.1 Hz, 4-H), 4.67 (1H, dq, *J* 1.4 and 6.6 Hz, 1-H) and 7.32 (1H, s, 6-H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  16.1 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.6 (1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.6 (C-3), 70.4 (C-4), 72.2 (C-1), 137.6 (C-6), 137.8 (C-7), 140.2 (C-8a), 145.4 (C-4a), 179.1 (C-8) and 183.3 (C-5); *m/z* 270 [M<sup>+</sup>-H<sub>2</sub>O (<sup>81</sup>Br), 27%], 268 [M<sup>+</sup>-H<sub>2</sub>O (<sup>79</sup>Br), 16%], 255 (100), 253 (71) and 149 (17). The product of lower R<sub>F</sub> was identified as **62** (20 mg, 33%) as an orange oil; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> -55.9 ° (*c* in 1.0 CHCl<sub>3</sub>); (Found: C, 63.8; H, 5.6; (M+2H)<sup>+</sup>, 210.0890. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires C, 63.45; H, 5.8%; (M+2H), 210.0892);  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3569 (OH), 1655 (C=O) and 1602 (C=C);  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.37 (3H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.53 (3H, d, *J* 6.6 Hz, 1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08 (1H, br. s, OH), 3.59 (1H, dq, *J* 1.6 and 6.4 Hz, 3-H), 4.37 (1H, dd, *J* 1.4 and 1.6 Hz, 4-H), 4.64 (1H, dq, *J* 1.4 and 6.6 Hz, 1-H) and 6.73 and 6.80 (each 1H, d, *J* 10.2 Hz, 6- and 7-H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  16.1, (3-CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.6 (1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 61.6 (C-3), 69.9 (C-4), 73.3 (C-1), 136.0 (C-6), 137.1 (C-7), 139.7 (C-8a), 145.1 (C-4a),

185.9 (C-8) and 186.9 (C-5);  $m/z$  164 [ $M^+ - CH_3CHO$ , 100%], 147 (12), 136 (51), 108 (51) and 91 (22).

**(1*R*,3*S*,4*S*)-7-Bromo-3,4-dihydro-4-hydroxy-1,3-dimethylbenzo[*c*]pyran-5,8-quinone  
61**

Using tetrahydrofuran as solvent as described above in the conversion of diol **32** into its quinone **12**, the diol **44** was transformed into the quinone **61** as the sole product in a yield of 77%.