**Electronic Supplementary Information** 

Asymmetric Synthesis of a Tricyclic Benzofuran motif: A Privileged Core Structure in Biologically Active Molecules

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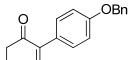
## General

Chemicals and solvents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Reactions involving oxygen and/or moisture sensitive reagents were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen using anhydrous Toluene. Toluene was distilled from benzophenone/sodium and used freshly distilled. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> on a JEOL JNM-EX 400-spectrometer at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively or <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra on a 500 Varian Unity Inova-spectrometer at 126 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm with the solvent residual peak as internal standard (CHCl<sub>3</sub> δ 7.26, CDCl3 δ 77.0). The reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC), on silica plated aluminum sheets (Silica gel 60 F254, E. Merck) detecting spots by UV (254 and 365 nm). Flash chromatography was performed on Merck Silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm). Optical rotation was measured on a Perkin Elmer polarimeter 341 LC. Gas chromatography/mass spectrometry analyses were performed on a Varian Saturn 2000 GCMS with a Supelco SLB-5ms fused silica capillary column using helium as carrier gas. Injector temperature 300°C, temperature program: 70 to 330 °C (12 °C/min) with 4 minutes hold time. The MS detector consisted of an ion trap with 70eV ionization. The HRMS-analyses were conducted by SP Sveriges Tekniska Forskningsinstitut Kemi och Materialteknik- Organisk analytisk kemi. Chiral HPLC chromatography analyses were performed on a Varian 9012Q/9050 UV-VIS detector using HPLC-grade solvents; n-hexane and isopropanol.

**8**: To a stirred solution of cyclohex-2-enone (3 g, 31.2 mmol) in 1:1 THF-H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5.18 g, 37.5 mmol), I<sub>2</sub> (1.18 g, 46.8 mmol) and DMAP (669 mg, 6.24 mmol) successively. The reaction was stirred for 16 h and then diluted with EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with sat. Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) and 0.1 M HCl (20 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by flash chromatography (pentane:EtOAc, 5:1). α-iodoenone **8** isolated as colorless wet crystals in 82% yield.<sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 Hz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (dd, J = 10.5, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.08 (dt, J = 12.6, 6.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.15, 159.43, 103.80, 37.19, 29.87, 22.78; m/z (EI) 222 (M+, 100%), 194 (50), 166 (14).

OBn

(HO)<sub>2</sub>B (4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)boronic acid. 4-Benzyloxyphenylbromide (14.0 g, 53.2 mmol) was dissolved in distilled THF (100 mL) in a septa equipped round-bottom flask. The solution was purged with N<sub>2</sub> and cooled to -75 °C in a CO<sub>2</sub>/acetone bath. N-Butyllithium (2.5 M in hexanes, 27 mL) was added slowly while maintaining the temperature below -65 °C. The mixture was stirred for 1 h below -65 °C and then triisopropyl borate (39 mL, 170 mmol) was added while maintaining the temperature at -65 °C. The resulting clear solution was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. Conc. HCl was added until a pH of 6-7 was reached. The reaction mixture was poured into diethyl ether (200 mL) and the organic layer was washed three times with water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The solvent was removed and the product was recrystallized from EtOAc/hexanes (1:10). Yield: 82%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.38, 137.51, 136.67, 128.63, 128.07, 127.53, 114.36, 99.77, 69.82.



**9**: To a Mw-vial containing, iodoenone **8**, (167 mg, 0.75 mmol),  $Na_2CO_3$  (159 mg, 1.5 mmol), Ar-B(OH)<sub>2</sub> (342 mg, 1.5 mmol), and Pd/C (40 mg, 5 mol%) was added DME (1.5

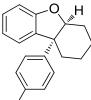
mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL). The mixture was degassed by alternating vacuum and N<sub>2</sub> three times, pre stirred for 5 min and then subjected to microwave irradiation (80 °C) for 15 min. Without removing the Mw-cap the reaction mixture was extracted with diethylether (5 x 3ml), the combined organic phase was dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), evaporated and purified by flash chromatography (pentane:EtOAc, 5:1). The title compound **9** was obtained in 168mg, 80% yield as an of white solid.<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.35 (m, J = 7.6, 6.6 Hz, 4H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (t, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (dd, J = 10.4, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (p, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.24, 158.36, 146.96, 139.74, 137.02, 129.76, 129.25, 128.56, 127.92, 127.43, 114.39, 69.98, 39.11, 26.60, 22.96; m/z (EI) 278 (M+, 48%), 187 (9), 91 (100).

**10**: A prestirred (10 min, rt) solution of (S)-(-)-2-Methyl-CBSoxazaborolidine (60mg, 0.22 mmol) and borane dimethyl sulfide complex (BMS) (0.377 mL, 0.75 mmol, 2M solution in toluene) in toluene (3 mL) was placed in an ice bath. The cold reaction mixture was then added a solution of 9 (200 mg, 0.72 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) via a syringe pump over 2h. The reaction was continued at 0 °C for an additional 2h before it was quenched with 2 ml of 1M HCl and diluted with 75 mL diethylether, extracted, washed with water (5mL), brine (5mL) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography (pentane:EtOAc, 10:1) to give the allylic alcohol 10 (168 mg, 83% yield and 98% ee) as an of white solid <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.49 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.14 - 6.07 (m, 1H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 4.68 (t, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.35 - 2.09 (m, 2H), 2.03 - 1.93(m, 1H), 1.91 - 1.57 (m, 4H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.00, 138.31, 136.97, 132.87, 128.54, 127.91, 127.43, 127.18, 127.03, 114.82, 69.96, 65.42, 31.51, 25.97, 17.26; *m/z* (EI) 281  $(M+1, 24\%), 171 (11), 128 (7), 91 (100); [\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ =+66.1 (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC: Diacel Chiralpak AD column (n-hexane: 2-Propanol = 95:5, flow rate 1 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm). Retention time (min): 27.9 (minor) and 31.3 (major). The racemic standard was prepared by reducing 9 under Luche conditions.3

12: To a stirred solution of 10 (85mg, 0.30 mmol), 2-iodophenol (133mg, 0.61 mmol), and PPh<sub>3</sub> (159 mg, 0.61 mmol) in toluene (15ml) was added DIAD (122 mg, 0.61 mmol) at 0°C. The solution was allowed to reach room temperature and stirred over night and then diluted with 15 mL toluene and quenched with 4ml 1 M NaOH. The organic layer was separated and washed with water (5 ml), brine (5ml) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The crude product was purified by flash chromatograph (pentane:EtOAc, 20:1) to render the product in 88mg, 60% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.77 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.22 (m, 8H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (td, J = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (dd, J = 5.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 2.45 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.26 – 2.13 (m, 2H), 2.07 – 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.75 – 1.63 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.82, 156.63, 139.70, 137.04, 135.07, 134.05, 129.81, 129.23, 128.50, 127.84, 127.40, 127.04, 122.41, 114.60, 113.55, 88.40, 73.24, 69.92, 27.42, 25.89, 17.10;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  = 26.9 (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC: Diacel Chiralpak AD column (n-hexane: 2-Propanol = 95:5, flow rate 1 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm). Retention time (min): 6.6 (minor) and 7.3 (major).

BnO **13**: To a vial containing  $Ag_2CO_3$  (56 mg, 0,20 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (5.2 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.2 mg, 0.010 mmol) was added a solution of aryl ether **12** (33 mg, 0.068 mmol) in toluene (1.5 mL). The mixture was degassed by alternating vacuum and N<sub>2</sub> three times and heated at 80° C in a sealed vial for 16h at which the completion and selectivity of the reaction was measured by crude-NMR. The reaction was directly purified by silica gel chromatography (pentane:EtOAc, 20:1) to yield the cyclic product as a colorless oil in 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50 – 7.27 (m, 7H), 7.17 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 – 6.93 (m,

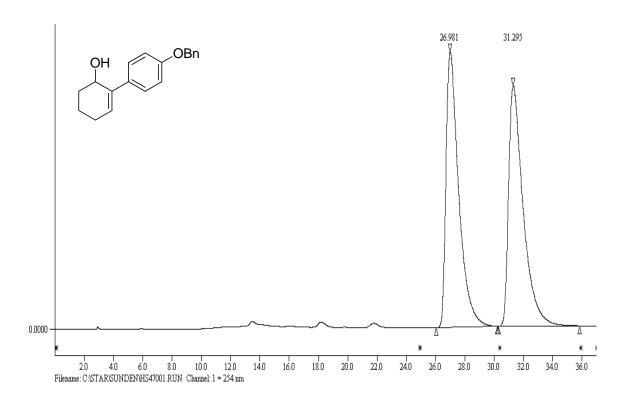
3H), 6.91 - 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.02 - 5.93 (m, 1H), 5.72 - 5.64 (m, 1H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.73 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.41 - 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.22 - 2.12 (m, 1H), 2.12 - 2.01 (m, 1H), 1.87 - 1.69 (m, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.94, 157.75, 136.96, 136.69, 134.42, 129.51, 129.38, 128.58, 128.36, 127.97, 127.48, 126.75, 124.67, 120.92, 114.56, 109.95, 89.59, 70.04, 53.27, 21.56, 18.96; m/z (EI) 354 (M+, 100%), 235 (2), 91 (7);  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +60.2$  (c 1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).



<sup>1.</sup> C. R. Johnson, J. P. Adams, M. P. Braun, C. B. W. Senanayake, P. M. Wovkulich and M. R. Uskokovi'c, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1992, **33**, 917-918.

<sup>2.</sup> F.-X. Felpin, J. Org. Chem., 2005, 70, 8575-8578.

<sup>3.</sup> A. L. Gemal and J. L. Luche, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1981, 103, 5454-5459.



Title :
Run File : C:\STAR\SUNDEN\HS47001.RUN
Method File : c:\star\sunden\untitled.mth
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Calculation Date: 18-MAR-10 5:40 PM Injection Date: 17-MAR-10 11:42 AM

Detector Type: 9050 Bus Address : 3 Sample Rate : 10.00 Hz Run Time : 44.987 min Operator : Operator Workstation: Instrument :
Channel : 1 = 254 nm

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Star Chromatography Workstation \*\*\*\*\*\* Version 4.51 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Run Mode : Analysis Peak Measurement: Peak Area Calculation Type: Percent

			Ret.	Time			Width	
Peak	Peak	Result	Time	Offset	Area	Sep.	1/2	Status
No.	Name	()	(min)	(min)	(counts)	Code	(sec)	Codes
1		49.9402	26.981	0.000	17617022	BB	58.3	
2		50.0598	31.295	0.000	17659234	BB	60.6	
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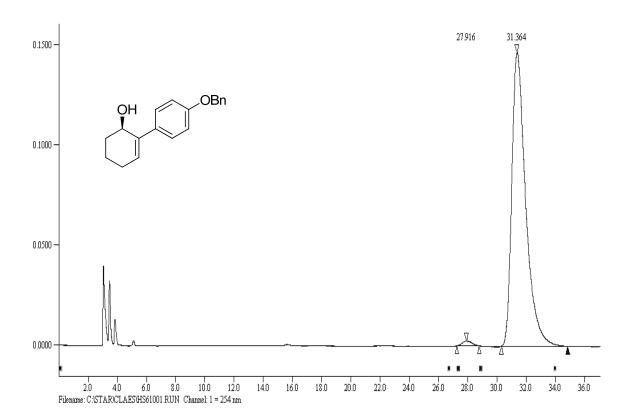
Multiplier: 1 Divisor: 1

Baseline Offset: -3 microAU

Noise (used): 40 microAU - monitored before this run

Manual injection Revision Log:

17-MAR-10 12:27 PM: Calculated results from channel 1 using method:



Title :
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Method File : c:\star\claes\untitled.mth
Sample ID : hs6110

Injection Date: 1-JUN-10 3:52 PM Calculation Date: 1-JUN-10 4:34 PM

Detector Type: 9050 Bus Address : 3 Sample Rate : 10.00 Run Time : 37.10 Operator : Operator : 3 : 10.00 Hz : 37.102 min Workstation: Instrument : 1
Channel : 1 = 254 nm

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Star Chromatography Workstation \*\*\*\*\*\* Version 4.51 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Run Mode : Analysis Peak Measurement: Peak Area Calculation Type: Percent

			Ret.	Time			Width	
Peak No.	Peak Name	Result ()	Time (min)	Offset (min)	Area (counts)	Sep. Code		Status Codes
1		1.1202	27.916	0.000	57717	BB	44.7	
2		98.8798	31.364	0.000	5094479	BB	62.3	U
	Totals:	100.0000		0.000	5152196			

Status Codes: U - User-defined peak endpoint(s)

Total Unidentified Counts : 5152196 counts

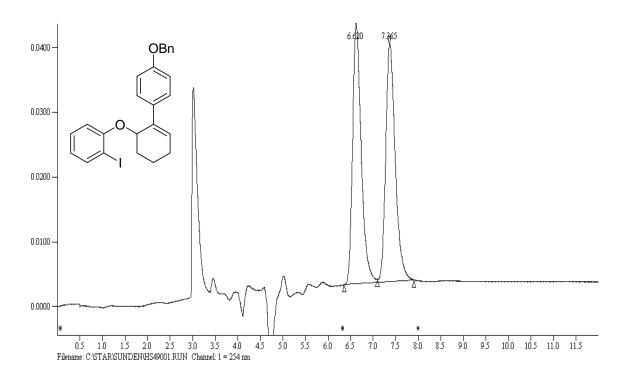
Detected Peaks: 2 Rejected Peaks: 0 Identified Peaks: 0

Multiplier: 1 Divisor: 1

Baseline Offset: -21 microAU

Noise (used): 116 microAU - monitored before this run

Manual injection



Title : C:\STAR\SUNDEN\HS49001.RUN
Method File : C:\star\sunden\hs49001.mth
Sample ID : hs4902

Injection Date: 20-MAY-10 4:19 PM Calculation Date: 10-JUN-10 11:23 AM

: Operator Operator : Workstation: Detector Type: 9050 Bus Address Sample Rate Run Time : 3 : 10.00 Hz : 17.102 min Instrument : : 1 = 254 nm Channel

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Star Chromatography Workstation \*\*\*\*\*\* Version 4.51 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Run Mode : Analysis - Subtract Blank Baseline Peak Measurement: Peak Area Calculation Type: Percent

			Ret.	Time			Width	
Peak	Peak	Result	Time	Offset	Area	Sep.	1/2	Status
No.	Name	()	(min)	(min)	(counts)	Code	(sec)	Codes
1		49.8528	6.620	0.000	281672	BV	12.1	
2		50.1472	7.365	0.000	283336	VB	13.4	
	Totals:	100.0000		0.000	565008			

Total Unidentified Counts: 565009 counts

Detected Peaks: 2 Rejected Peaks: 0 Identified Peaks: 0

Multiplier: 1 Divisor: 1

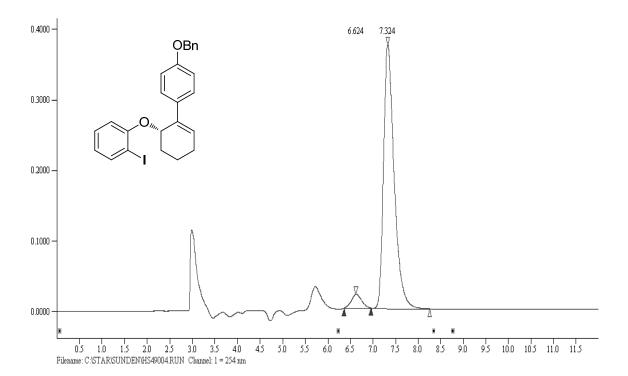
Baseline Offset: -6 microAU

Noise (used): 102 microAU - monitored before this run

Manual injection

Revision Log:

20-MAY-10 4:37 PM: Calculated results from channel 1 using method:



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Injection Date: 2-JUN-10 3:20 PM Calculation Date: 10-JUN-10 2:15 PM

Operator : Operator Workstation: Detector Type: 9050 Bus Address : 3 Bus Address : 3 Sample Rate : 10.00 Hz Run Time : 27.860 min Instrument : Channel : : 1 = 254 nm

\*\*\*\*\*\* Star Chromatography Workstation \*\*\*\*\*\* Version 4.51 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Run Mode : Analysis - Subtract Blank Baseline Peak Measurement: Peak Area Calculation Type: Percent

Peak No.	Peak Name	Result	Ret. Time (min)	Time Offset (min)	Area (counts)	Sep. Code	Width 1/2 (sec)	Status Codes
1		4.9799	6.624	0.000	167211	BV	15.0	U
2		95.0201	7.324	0.000	3190484	VB	14.6	U
	Totals:	100.0000		0.000	3357695			

Status Codes: U - User-defined peak endpoint(s)

3357694 counts Total Unidentified Counts:

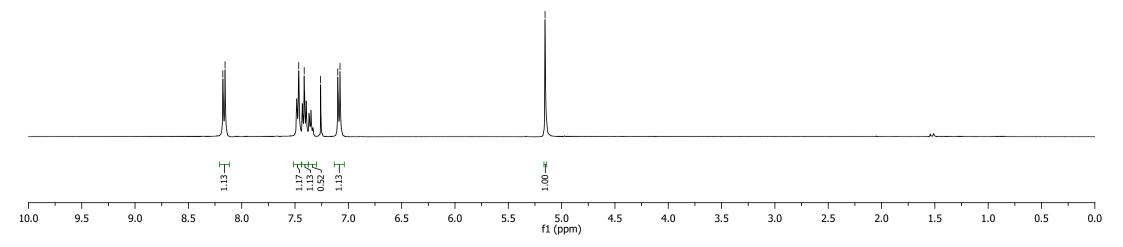
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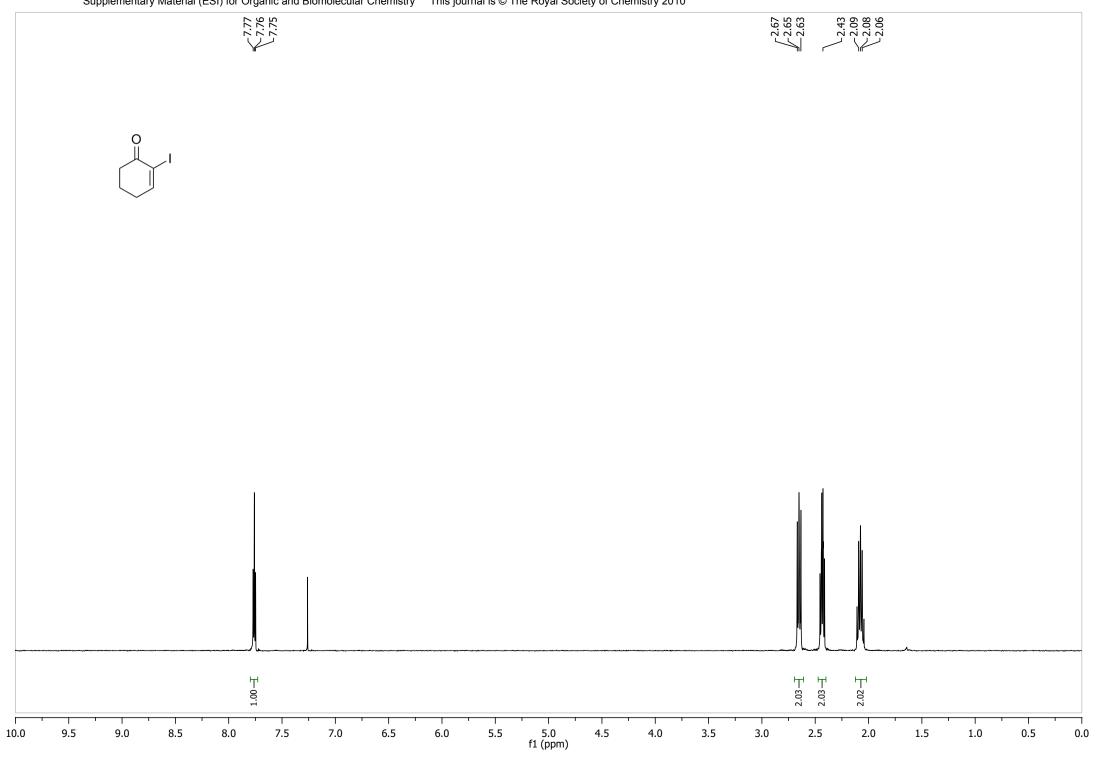
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Manual injection





5.0 f1 (ppm) 4.5

3.5

3.0

4.0

2.5

2.0

1.5

0.5

0.0

1.0

8.5

8.0

7.5

10.0

9.5

9.0

6.5

6.0

5.5

7.0

5.5 f1 (ppm)

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2.0

1.5

1.0

9.5

10.0

9.0

8.5

8.0

7.5

7.0

6.5

6.0

