# MODIFICATION OF HETEROAROTINOIDS TO ENHANCE THEIR RETINOIC ACID RECEPTOR-BINDING SPECIFICITY AND ANTI-CANCER ACTIVITY 

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## CHAPTER I

## HISTORICAL

## Introduction

The retinoids are a group of compounds that can be defined as molecules (natural or synthetic) that are structurally similar to retinol (1a, vitamin A), 9-cis-retinol (1b), 11-cisretinol, and 13-cis-retinol (see discussion on retinoid metabolism) and can elicit specific biological responses via binding to a specific receptor or set of receptors. ${ }^{122}$ A natural retinoid molecule consists of four isoprenoid units $\left[\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right]$ joined in a head-to-tail manner and can be divided into three parts, namely a trimethylated cyclohexene ring, a conjugated tetraene side chain, and a polar carboxylic acid end group. All-trans-retinoic acid (2, $t$-RA), 9-cis-retinoic acid (3, 9-c-RA), 11-cis-retinoic acid (4, 11-c-RA), and 13-cisretinoic acid (5, 13-c-RA) are some of the examples of naturally occurring retinoids. ${ }^{122}$


1a [Retinol, Vitamin A]


2 [Trans-Retinoic Acid]




5 [13-cis-Retinoic Acid]

Molecular modifications of natural retinoids has led to a wide variety of synthetic retinoids including arotinoids (molecules that have at least one aryl group in their basic structure), such as Am-580 (6) ${ }^{55}$ and Targretin (7, LGD 1069), ${ }^{12}$ and heteroarotinoids (molecules with at least one aryl moiety and a heteroatom in a fused ring) such as $8^{9}$ and $9 .{ }^{8}$ Many others are known ${ }^{122}$

AROTINOIDS


6 [Am 580]


7 [Targretin TM, LGD 1069]

HETEROAROTINOIDS


$$
\begin{array}{lc}
X=\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{~S}, \mathrm{NR} \cdot \\
R=\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Me}, \mathrm{Et} & \mathrm{G}=\mathrm{C}_{( }\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)=\mathrm{CH}_{1} \mathrm{CO}_{2}, \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{NH} \\
\mathrm{R}^{\prime}=\mathrm{Me}, \mathrm{iPr} & \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{NHC}(\mathrm{O}), \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{C}
\end{array}
$$



Experimentally, the role of vitamin $A$ in regulating the epithelial cell differentiation and maintenance was first demonstrated by Wolbach and Howe. ${ }^{135}$ They showed that feeding animals a diet deficient in vitamin A resulted in the appearance of hyperkeratinization, squamous metaplasia, and gross tumors in a variety of epithelial tissues in the experimental animals. This process resembled the induction of tumors by certain chemical carcinogens. ${ }^{45}$ Since carcinogen-induced metaplasia appeared similar to that resulting from vitamin A deficiency, attempts have been made to study the effects ofretinoids on the inhibition of induction and progression of cancer in various organ tissues
including pancreas, esophagus, lung, stomach, intestine, liver, urinary bladder, nervous system, mammary gland, and skin. ${ }^{60}$ Clinically, retinoids are useful for the treatment of skin disorders, ${ }^{119}$ in the inhibition of early stages of tumor progression, ${ }^{136}$ and are also being investigated in several other therapeutic areas including arthritis, ${ }^{132}$ dyslipidimias, ${ }^{115}$ and with prevention of HIV-induced lymphopenia. ${ }^{138}$ The ability of retinoids to regulate proliferation and differentiation in both normal and malignant cells in vitro and in vivo presents the opportunity for the use of retinoids in the treatment of a variety disorders.

## Nuclear Receptors for Natural and Synthetic Retinoids

The identification of cellular retinol and retinoic acid-binding proteins (CRBP and CRABP, respectively) led to the proposal that such retinoids might represent a specific intracellular receptor system. ${ }^{85}$ However, despite extensive biochemical research, no evidence has been presented to establish a decisive role of CRBP and CRABP as direct mediators of retinoid action on transcription. ${ }^{85}$ In late 1987, two independent groups were studying the steroid hormone receptors and discovered the novel nuclear receptors for retinoids, that is, retinoic acid receptor (RAR) and retinoid X receptor (RXR). ${ }^{48,106}$ This discovery not only offered an opportunity to analyze in detail the structure of the two members of the nuclear receptors but it also provided the necessary tools to study the influence of retinoids on the developmental control of genes and cell differentiation.

## Retinoic Acid Receptors (RARs)

The first isoform of the RAR family of nuclear receptors to be discovered was RAR $\alpha$, a polypeptide composed of 462 amino acid residues. ${ }^{48}$ However, there was evidence that RAR $\alpha$ was not the only nuclear receptor responsible for transduction of the retinoid signal. The discoveries of the several loci present in the human genome related to the

RAR $\alpha$ and the family of RAR $\alpha$-related genes, together with a close resemblance of gene product to that of RAR $\alpha$, led to new evidence that another isotype of RAR family receptors existed. ${ }^{92}$ The newly discovered, putative receptor has also been shown to respond to retinoic acid and was named RAR $\beta .^{5}$ In 1989 , while attempting to clone the mouse homologs of RAR $\alpha$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$, Chambon and colleagues discovered the third isotype of RARs and named it RARy ${ }^{21}$ In addition to finding three different isotypes of the RAR family, each of the isotypes has different functional isoforms that are distinguished from each other in the number of amino acids that make up the amino terminus domain. ${ }^{72,81,142}$ Thus, the RAR $\alpha$ isotype has isoforms $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha_{1}$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha_{2}{ }^{81} \operatorname{RAR} \beta$ has four isoforms $\operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{1}, \operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{2}, \operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{3}$, and $\operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{4},{ }^{142}$ and RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ isotype has isoforms RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{1}$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma_{2}{ }^{72}$ Each isoform of the RAR can be divided into five domains:

- ligand-independent-activation function (AF-1) (domain $A / B)$,
- DNA binding domain (DBD) (domain C),
- hinge (domain D),
- ligand binding domain (LBD) (domain E) which incorporates the ligand dependent-activation function (AF-2),
- and the functionally undefined C-terminus (F domain). ${ }^{33}$

The $A / B$ domain, located at the amino terminus of the polypeptide chain, is rich in proline, serine, and threonine which are non-acidic amino acid residues. The $A / B$ domain of RARs belongs to a distinct class of transcriptional regulators. ${ }^{97}$ The sequence and number of amino acid residues of the $A / B$ domain vary from one isoform of RAR to another. It is oneof the lowest conserved regions of the receptor (see Figure 1) ${ }^{33}$ The central core of the RAR receptor contains the DNA-binding region (domain C), which is responsible for the


Figure 1. Schematic representation of mouse RAR isoforms. The highly conserved DNA-and ligand-binding domains are represented by large open boxes, and less conserved regions are represented by thin open boxes. The numbers within larger boxes are the percent amino acid identity when compared to RAR $\alpha$. The numbers below the boxes represent domains as well as total length (last number) of the receptor in the terms of amino acid residues. ${ }^{72,81,142}$
recognition of a DNA sequence, the so called hormone response element [HRE, in the case of retinoids is the retinoic acid response element (RARE)]. ${ }^{43}$ This domain consists of two
motifs known as the 'zinc finger ${ }^{\text {'32 }}$ and the 'zinc twist'( Figure 2). ${ }^{131}$ The three amino acid residues, which are different among all isoforms of RAR isotypes, are located at the P-box


Figure 2. Schematic representation of P-Box and D-Box. The colored circles represent the amino acids responsible for specificity of binding to RARE. ${ }^{131}$
('zinc finger') and are responsible for the recognition and specificity of binding of RAR to the RARE $^{50}$ by insertion and making contact within the major groove of the DNA double helix. ${ }^{128}$ The D-box ['zinc twist'] is required for the recognition of half-site spacing of RARE ${ }^{130}$ and the formation of homo- or heterodimers with another nuclear receptor. ${ }^{54}$ The ligand binding domain (LBD) of RAR is complex and fulfills multiple functions. ${ }^{46}$ The LBD spans approximately 220 amino acid residues at the C-terminus of the receptor. ${ }^{33}$ The degree of similarity of the LBD between RAR isoforms is about $85-95 \%$, which suggests a different affinity for binding of the natural ligands $t$-RA (2) and $9-c$-RA (3) to the RAR.

The crystal structure of the human LBD of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{2}$ bound to $t$-RA (holo-LBD) has been determined by Renaud and co-workers (Figure 3). ${ }^{14}$ The LBD is composed of 229 amino acid residues which make up $9 \alpha$-helical structures (H1 to H12), two $\Omega$ (omega) loops, and two $\beta$-sheets. The numbering system was adopted from the crystal structure of apo- $\operatorname{RXR} \alpha{ }^{15}$ and the $\alpha$-helices were numbered according to the resemblance and in comparison to $\mathrm{RXR} \alpha$, but not sequentially. For example, helices $\mathrm{H} 2, \mathrm{H} 5$ and H 11 were omitted from the holo-LBD of the RAR $\gamma$ crystallographic structure because their helices do not exist after the receptor is bound to a ligand. ${ }^{14}$ The nine $\alpha$-helices remaining were organized into a three-layered structure with $\mathrm{H} 4, \mathrm{H} 6, \mathrm{H} 8$, and H 9 positioned between H 1 and H 3 on one side and H7, H10, and H11 on the other. ${ }^{14}$


Figure 3. The crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma$ co-crystallized with $t$-RA $[(2)$, TRA $] .{ }^{14}$

Two topologically conserved $\beta$-strands (BS1 and BS2) form the $\beta$-turn inserted between loop 1-3 (connecting H1 and H3) and H3. ${ }^{14}$ Twenty four amino acid residues of the LBD, which include Phe 201, Thr 227, Phe 230, Ser 231, Leu 233, Ala 234, Lys 236, Cys 237, Leu271, Met 272, Arg 274, Ile 275, Arg 278, Phe 288, Ser 289, Gly 303, Phe 304, Ala 394, Arg 396, Ala 397, Leu 400, Me t408, Ile 412, and Met 415, make up the ligand-binding pocket (LBP) ${ }^{14}$. The ligand-dependent activation-function 2 (AF-2) is located at the carbonyl terminus of the ligand binding domain ( $\alpha$-helix H 12 ). ${ }^{79}$ In addition to the two functionally important regions of the LBD (LBP, AF-2), the structural motif spanned by the amino terminus of $\alpha$-helix H 7 , the amino terminus of H 10 , the loop between $\alpha$-helices H 9 and H 10 , and the carboxyl terminus of H 9 provides a dimerization surface for the formation of homo- or heterodimers with other nuclear receptors including vitamin $D_{3}$, thyroid hormone receptor, RXR, and others. ${ }^{35}$ This dimerization domain has features in common with both the leucine zipper and helix-loop-helix motif which has been proposed as the dimerization structure in other DNA binding proteins. ${ }^{40}$

## Retinoic Acid X Receptors (RXR)

The studies of orphan nuclear receptors led to the discovery of a novel retinoic acidresponsive receptor with the same type of domain composition (domains A to F) as RAR and referred to as retinoid X receptor (RXR) ${ }^{88}$.The family of RXR consists of three different isotypes, $\operatorname{RXR} \alpha, \operatorname{RXR} \beta$, and $\operatorname{RXR} \gamma$, with sequence alignment homologies for DBDs of 92\% and $95 \%$ and LBDs of $86 \%$ and $89 \%$ for RXR $\beta$ and RXR $\gamma$, respectively, as compared to RXR $\alpha_{.90}$ Each isotype of the RXR family also has two isoforms, namely $\operatorname{RXR} \alpha_{1,2}$, $\operatorname{RXR} \beta_{1,2}$, and $\operatorname{RXR} \gamma_{1,2}{ }^{90}$ Because of the low degree of homologies between RXR $\alpha$ and RAR $\alpha$ over the entire length of the protein sequence, $27 \%$ for LBDs, and $61 \%$ for DBDs
(the highest), ${ }^{53}$ it was discovered that $9-c-$ RA (3) was a natural activating ligand for the RXR family. ${ }^{57}$ However, the $9-c$-RA (3) can also activate RARs with equal potency, ${ }^{9}$ which suggests that a more specific RXR ligand may exist. There is some evidence that phytanic acid (10) binds to $\mathrm{RXR} \alpha$, promotes the formation of the RXR/RAR response element

complex, and induces RXR $\alpha$ conformational changes similar to that induced by $9-c-\mathrm{RA}$ (3). ${ }^{80}$

The crystallographic structure of the LBD of RXR $\alpha$ (apo-LBD, not ligand bound to LBD-RXR $\alpha$ ) has been elucidated by Bourguet and co-workers (Figure 4). ${ }^{15}$ The LBD topology of RXR $\alpha$ can best be described as an antiparallel, $\alpha$-helical sandwich with the dimension of $38 \times 74 \times 25$ Å organized into a three-layered structure. ${ }^{15}$ The $\alpha$-helices H 4 , $\mathrm{H} 5, \mathrm{H} 8, \mathrm{H} 9$, and the N -terminus of H 11 are sandwiched between $\mathrm{H} 1, \mathrm{H} 2$, and H 3 on one side and H6, H7, and H10 on the other. ${ }^{15}$ Two short $\beta$-strands (BS1 and BS2), forming a $\beta$ hairpin, are the only $\beta$-structures of the domain. ${ }^{15}$ The LBD of RXR $\alpha$ also has a dimerization surface ( $\alpha$-helices $\mathrm{H} 10, \mathrm{H} 5$, and H 8 ), the C -terminal activation domain $\mathrm{AF}-2$ (amino acid residues sequence 450-FLMEMLE-458), and two proposed locations of the ligand binding pocket. ${ }^{15}$.The letters in the 450-FLMEMLE-458 represent various amino acids.


Figure 4. Crystallographic structure of the ligand binding domain (LBD) of RXR $\alpha$. ${ }^{15}$


## Retinoic Acid Z Receptor (RZR)

The RZR, whose name was proposed arbitrarily by its discoverer Carlberg and coworkers, ${ }^{3}$ is a member of the orphan receptors and exhibits a highly restricted brain-specific expression pattern. ${ }^{51}$ However, no natural ligand to activate this receptor has been identified, and the role and the function of RZR has yet to be determined. ${ }^{3}$ Due to a high expression of RZR in the pineal, thalamus, and hypothalamus glands, it has been suggested that RZR is important for physiological and developmental regulation of the central nervous system and for regulation of the circadian rhythm. ${ }^{4}$ Melatonin was suggested as a natural ligand for RZR, but more studies are needed to substantiate this claim. ${ }^{3,51}$ The thiazolidine diones 11 and 12 , which are synthetic moieties, have proven to be RZR specific ligands and induce potent RZR antiarthritic activity. ${ }^{96}$

## Distribution of the Retinoic Acid Receptors in Major Organ Tissues

A broad spectrum of biological activities are effected by retinoids, which suggests that these receptors play a unique role in mammalian development and homeostasis. The RAR $\alpha$ isotype is highly concentrated in brain tissue, specifically in the hippocampus and cerebellum, suggesting importance in the development and maintenance of the central nervous system. ${ }^{92}$ High levels of RAR $\beta$ expression genes were found in the kidney, prostate, spinal cord, cerebral cortex, and pituitary gland, with average levels detected in the liver, spleen, uterus, ovary, brain, and testes. ${ }^{4}$ The RAR $\gamma$ form was found in high levels in skin, ${ }^{98}$ lung, and urogenital tissue, ${ }^{66}$ as well as in average levels in cardiovascular tissue. ${ }^{63}$ The RXR isoforms are widely distributed and display both unique and combinatorial patterns of regulating transcription. ${ }^{89}$ The $\operatorname{RXR} \alpha$ is abundant in visceral tissues such as the liver,
spleen, kidney, lung, and muscle. ${ }^{66}$ The RXR $\beta$ is expressed in various levels in all tissues, and RXR $\gamma$ predominates in liver, kidney, lung, brain, retina, and adrenal tissues. ${ }^{61,98,116,118}$

## Metabolism of Retinoids and the Mechanism of Action for Retinoids and Retinoic Acid Receptors

The retinoids exert a variety of activities on the functions of numerous biological systems (Figure 5). ${ }^{31}$ Metabolism of dietary $\beta$-carotene or hydrolysis of dietary retinyl esters produces the parent and major circulating, natural occurring retinol which has no known biological activity but rather serves as a parent substrate for the biosynthesis of functional retinoids. ${ }^{17,18} \beta$-Carotene is metabolized in the small intestine to retinal which then binds to a cellular retinol-binding protein (CRBP), which, in turn, protects the retinal from oxidizing


Figure 5. Schematic representation of dietary retinoid metabolism. ${ }^{2,11,1,3,65,8,108,109}$ to retinoic acid. ${ }^{65}$ However, retinal is reduced to retinol by microsomal retinal reductase. ${ }^{65}$ Retinol produced from the hydrolysis of retinyl esters also complexes with CRBP and serves
as a reserve for the production of retinyl ester in a reverse reaction catalyzed by the enzyme lecithin:retinol acyltransferase (LRAT). ${ }^{86}$ The retinyl esters are then packaged into chylomicrones 22 with triacylglycerides and other fat-soluble vitamins and then are secreted into the lymph system. ${ }^{11}$ Triacylglycerides are then removed from the chylomicrones by lipoprotein lipase, and the retinyl esters remain with chylomicrone remnants. ${ }^{65}$ The retinyl esters are delivered to hepatic parenchyma cells of the liver where they are stored for future use or hydrolyzed back to retinol. ${ }^{65}$ Retinol is then bound to a retinol binding protein (RBP), which protects it from oxidation and isomerization, and is secreted into the plasma where the RBP-ROH further complexes with transthyretin (TTR, a plasma transport protein), thus protecting retinol from degradation in the kidney. ${ }^{65}$ Retinol palmitate constitutes $95 \%$ of stored retinyl ester in the liver. ${ }^{122}$

The precise mechanism of the uptake of retinol by a target cell is not known, but, there is some evidence for the existence of RBP receptors in the cell membrane. ${ }^{2}$ Once inside the cell, retinol is bound by an apo-cellular retinoid-binding protein (apo-CRBP, different from mucosal CRBP II in the small intestine), specific for retinol and retinal only, and a holo-CRBP-retinol complex is formed. ${ }^{82}$ The concentration ratio of holo-RBP/apoRBP controls the conversion of retinol to either retinoic acid or to a cellular retinyl ester via the inhibition of enzymes LRAT by apo-CRBP and the subsequent activation of retinyl ester hydrolase (REH). ${ }^{13,56}$ The holo-CRBP also serves as a substrate for microsomal retinol dehydrogenase ( RDH ) which oxidizes the retinol to retinaldehyde that remains bound to the CRBP, although with lesser affinity. ${ }^{108}$ It is assumed that the CRBP also mediates the transfer of retinal from RDH to the retinal dehydrogenase (RALDH) which converts retinal to retinoic acid. ${ }^{109}$ The newly formed retinoic acid is then bound with cellular apo-retinoic
acid-binding protein (apo-CRABP), resulting in holo-CRABP, and this complex plays a major role in retinoic acid metabolism and delivery to the nucleus of the cell. ${ }^{16,103}$ Retinoic acid is metabolized oxidatively through dehydrogenation resulting in the formation of 4-oxoretinoic acid or 18 -hydroxyretinoic acid, which then undergoes further metabolism. ${ }^{36}$ There is no evidence that 9 -cis-RA (3), 11-cis-RA (4), or 13-cis-RA (5) are enzymatically isomerized from all-trans-retinoic acid, ${ }^{101}$ with an exception of a proposal made by Hyaman and co-workers ${ }^{57}$ that $t$-RA (2) may be isomerized to the $9-c-\mathrm{RA}(3)$ in certain cells. The 9-cis-RA (3) originates from dietary 9-cis retinol (1b) or from the conversion of all-transretinyl esters, as in the case of 11- and 13-cis-retinol. ${ }^{123}$

The isomeric retinoic acids transported to the nucleus dissociate from CRABP and bind to one of the retinoic acid receptors [with $t-\mathrm{RA}$ (2) as the agonist, binding is restricted only to RAR isoforms, and 9-c-RA (3) as a pan-agonist binds to both RAR and RXR]. ${ }^{20,83}$ In unbound RARs or RXRs, helix H12 of the LBD points away from the core of the LBD. ${ }^{14,15}$ This creates an opening for the retinoic acids to enter the ligand binding pocket (LBP) of the ligand binding domain (LBD). ${ }^{14}$ The carboxylic end of the retinoic acids enters first by means of being drawn into the LBP via an electrostatic field gradient induced by basic amino acid residues in the LBP. These acids are then locked in this position through hydrophobic interactions induced by a bend of the $\alpha$-helix H11 which creates a continuous loop between H 10 and $\mathrm{H} 12 .{ }^{14}$ Helix H 12 then covers and traps the ligand in the LBP by the formation of a salt bridge $\left[\mathrm{CO}_{2} \cdots \mathrm{H}^{-}-\mathrm{N}^{+} \mathrm{H}_{2}\right]$ between the glutamic residues of $\mathrm{AF}-2$ (part of H 12 ) and lysine residues in $\mathrm{H} 4 .^{14}$ After binding of the ligand (retinoic acid or a synthetic retinoid which have agonistic effects), the receptors, which exist as tetramers ${ }^{20}$ in the nucleus in the absence of a ligand, dissociate into monomers. This prompts dramatic conformational changes
throughout the LBD region and directs the receptor toward the formation of homo- or heterodimers via the D-box (located in DBD, Figure 2) and the newly formed dimerization surfaces at the LBD. ${ }^{14,35,67,95,130}$ In addition to the dimer formation, the agonist-induced conformational change in the AF-2 domain (carboxyl-terminal of LBD, Figure 1) causes it to bind to and form complexes with transcriptional intermediary factors (TIF) such as estrogen recepter associating protein 160 (ERAP 160), ${ }^{52}$ receptor interacting protein 140 (RIP 140), ${ }^{27}$ TIF $1,{ }^{26,75}$ unidentified protein profile/thyroid hormone receptor interacting protein 1 (SUG1/TRIP1) ${ }^{78}$ and the transcription recognition sequence TATA binding protein (TBP). ${ }^{117}$ As a result of the complex formed between AF-2 and TIFs and the conformational change in the receptor, displacement of transcriptional silencing factors such as nuclear corepressor ( N -Cor) ${ }^{59,101}$ and silencing mediator of retinoic acid and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT) $^{73}$ in RARs occurs which, in the absence of an agonist, are bound to the hinge region (domain D) of the RAR (not $R X R$ ). ${ }^{24}$ Retinoic acid receptor homo- or heterodimers are then directed toward the DNA to initiate transcription. ${ }^{101,123}$

The release of the repressors ( N -cor, SMRT) from the hinge region not only depends upon binding of the agonist to the RAR member of a heterodimeric pair but also upon the binding polarity of the heterodimer to the DNA (if the RAR occupies the 3 ' end of the DNA, a repressor is released; if the RAR member of a dimeric pair binds to the $5^{\prime}$ side, the repressor remains bound to the RAR$){ }^{49}$ Once the tetramers dissociate into monomers because of retinoid binding, the ligand-independent-transactivation function $\mathrm{AF}-1$ ( $\mathrm{A} / \mathrm{B}$ domain) complexes with transcriptional factors that are specific to the promoter of the target gene. ${ }^{94}$ The homo- or heterodimeric pair of receptors binds to the DNA at a specific location of the promoter region named the retinoic acid response element (RARE). ${ }^{91}$ RAREs are
nucleotide sequences arranged in direct or inverted polydromic repeats, spaced by one, two, four, or five nucleotides. For instance, a DR2 designation is assigned to direct polydrome repeats (AGGTCA) spaced by 2 nucleotides (AA) such as the DNA sequence AGGTCA(AA) AGGTCA. ${ }^{59,73}$ The RAR/RXR heterodimer binds to DR2 and DR5 in such a manner that the RXR is positioned on the $5^{\prime}$ end and the RAR on the $3^{\prime}$ end of the DNA. ${ }^{73}$ The polarity of binding is reversed in the case of association of the RAR/RXR heterodimer with DR1, where the RAR occupies the $5^{\prime}$ position and RXR the $3^{\prime}$ position. ${ }^{59,123}$ The RXR/thyroid hormone receptor (THR) heterodimer recognizes the DR4, ${ }^{91}$ and RXR/vitamin $D_{3}$ receptor $\left(\mathrm{VD}_{3} \mathrm{R}\right)$ heterodimer recognizes $\mathrm{DR} 3{ }^{40}$ The crystallographic structure of the RXR/ THR heterodimer bound to the DNA has been solved (Figure 6). ${ }^{42,112}$ The connecting loop of $\mathrm{RXR} \alpha$, made up of basic amino acid residues, runs perpendicular to the DNA, and, together with the basic residues of P-box, makes a series of H -bonds with the negatively charged backbone of the DNA. ${ }^{42}$ Furthermore, the attachment of RXR in the major grove of the DNA is strengthen via a salt bridge formed at the dimerization surface which is made up of the THR's aspartate and the RXR $\alpha$ 's argenine residues. ${ }^{42}$ After binding of the homoor heterodimeric pair to RARE, the DNA makes a loop and is positioned in such a manner that interaction of the TIFs bound to RAR or RXR, with transcriptional machinery (elements needed for initiation and specification of transcription), located up- and downstream from the TATA box, is possible (Figure 7). ${ }^{59,73}$

One major use of retinoids as potential anticancer agents is in their ability to induce programmed cell death (apoptosis) in malignant cells. The apoptosis of a cell is induced by the binding of an agonist and/or antagonist to the retinoic acid receptor and the receptor
acting through the mechanism as described above (Figure 7 and related description). ${ }^{59,73,84,91}$ An antagonist is described as a compound that, after incorporation into the nuclear receptor,


Figure 6. Crystallographic structure of RXR/THR heterodimer DNA binding domains bound to DNA. ${ }^{42}$ Each Zn atoms (red balls) is coordinated to four cysteine residues.
abolishes or greatly reduces a basal transcriptional activity. ${ }^{69}$ The mechanism for binding an antagonist to the LBP of RAR or RXR, and the subsequent receptor activity after the antagonist is bound, is not well understood. It has been proposed that an antagonist enters the LBP in the same way as an agonist. ${ }^{47}$ However, because of structural differences
between the agonist and antagonist, the AF-2 of the LBD is not able to establish the same salt bridgebetween H 12 and H 4 . This situation results in the receptor undergoing a different

Figure 7. Schematic representation of RXR/RAR heterodimer interaction with DNA and transcriptional machinery of DNA. ${ }^{82,88}$ After activation of the

receptors by a ligand, the newly-formed heterodimer binds to the promoter region of the gene, located upstream from the TATA box, via DNA binding domains (DBD). Due to loop formation by DNA, the transcription intermediary factors (TIF) bound to the ligand binding domain (LBD) of the heterodimer are able to engage in chemical communication with transcriptional machinery proteins, such as TATA binding protein (TBP), etc. The A/B domain, which also recruits the TIFs, is responsible for specificity of DNA binding and cross-talk with enhancers of transcription. ${ }^{40,59}$
conformational change than the one induced by an agonist. ${ }^{42}$ The induced conformational changes by ligands depend upon the structure of the LBP, which in turn means that what is perceived as an antagonist for one isotype of receptor may act as an agonist in another. ${ }^{42,91}$

The differences in conformational changes of the receptors' dimeric pair, induced by antagonist binding, may cause the receptors to be incapable of complex formation with RAREs. ${ }^{40,91}$ However, a new antagonist-induced conformation of a receptor can bind the activation protein-1 [(AP-1), c-fos and c-jun genes products], nuclear factor-kappaB [(NFKB ) activator for c-myc, egr-1, LRF-1 cancer genes], and nuclear factor-IL6 (NF-LL6) proteins which are associated with the malignant transformation of cells. ${ }^{37}$ The binding of RAR/RXR heterodimer to AP-1, and/or NF-KB, and/or NF-ll6, or binding with transcription intermediary factors, such as cyclic-AMP binding protein (CBP), and competitively displacing these oncogenic proteins, protects DNA from such influence and essentially silences the activity of AP-1, NF-KB, and NF-IL6. ${ }^{94}$ Deactivation of the oncogenic proteins (AP-1, NF-kB), or their activity, reverses the action of the transcriptional machinery, and normal cell differentiation, which includes apoptosis induced by the agonist activated nuclear receptor, takes place. ${ }^{94}$

A third avenue by which retinoids can influence the homeostasis of cell is through the action of inverse agonism. ${ }^{40}$ An inverse agonist is defined as a compound which, upon binding to the retinoic acid receptor, causes a shift of receptor activity towards that of an active repressor as opposed to an active enhancer of transcription when the receptor is activated by an agonist. ${ }^{40}$ The conformational change of the receptor that is induced by the inverse agonist does not displace the co-repressor from the hinge (domain D), and, as a result, the retinoic acid receptor is actively involved in the transcriptional repression of target genes. ${ }^{42}$

In addition to these proposed mechanisms of action for the biological activity of retinoic acid receptors and their heterodimeric partners, RAR and RXR is believed to be
involved in a variety of positive and negative cross-talks mediated by the transcriptional integrator c-AMP binding protein (CBP), RNA polymerase II, and other transcription activating proteins. ${ }^{25,143}$

## Classification of Synthetic Retinoids Based on Their Biological Effect on Retinoic Acid Receptor

Since the discovery of retinoic acid receptors and because of a high interest in retinoids as potential anticancer agents, many new compounds have been synthesized to gain a better understanding in the nature of biological activity of retinoic acid receptors. Synthetic retinoids can be described according to RAR or RXR biological activity when induced by a retinoid in four ways:

- synthetic retinoids that can act as an agonist or an antagonist,
- retinoids that can exhibit either RAR or RXR selectivity or act as pan-agonists,
- retinoids that can show $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha, \operatorname{RAR} \beta$, or $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ isotype selectivity,
- and some retinoids that can preferentially induce target gene transactivation or AP-1 trans-repression. ${ }^{47}$

The existence of different types of receptors, response elements, and intermediary transcriptional proteins implies that retinoid physiology is mediated not by a single pathway, but by multiple pathways. Non-selective retinoids that can activate multiple pathways are likely to be associated with a high incident of adverse effects, and therefore the design of
new retinoids is aimed at specificity of ligand binding to only one isotype of retinoic acid receptor. These compounds and their agonist/antagonist activities are then separated into two classes of synthetic retinoids-Class I and Class II. ${ }^{47}$ Class I retinoids are defined as mono-specific agonistic or antagonistic ligands, like BMS753 (13), that act specifically on a given isotype within the retinoic acid family (RAR or RXR families of receptors). Moreover, this Class I group, even at the highest concentration tested, do not bind or only


weakly bind and activate other isotypes within the given family. ${ }^{47}$ Class II retinoids, such as BMS411 (14), bind with the same or similar affinity to all isotypes of the retinoic acid family (RAR or RXR family) but act as agonists for one isotype within the family and as antagonists for other isotypes. ${ }^{91}$

Mutational studies and sequence alignments of the LBDs of RAR $\alpha$, RAR- $\beta$, and RAR- $\gamma$ show that only three residues inside the binding pocket of the LBD are different for each isotype. ${ }^{14}$ The alanine 234 (Ala 234) in RAR $\gamma$ corresponds to serine 232 (Ser 232) and alanine 225 (Ala 225) in RAR $\alpha$ and $-\beta$, respectively. ${ }^{14}$ Furthermore, methionine 272 (Met 272) and alanine 397 (Ala 397) in RAR $\gamma$ correspond to isoleucine 270 (lle 270) and valine 395 (Val 395), respectively, for RAR $\alpha$ residues and to isoleucine 263 (lle 263) and valine 388 (Val 388) for RAR $\beta$ residues. ${ }^{14}$. Therefore, these residues were considered as prime candidates responsible for ligand binding selectivity within the RAR family. This hypothesis
was further supported by mutational studies by Ostrovsky and co-workers. ${ }^{104}$ However, the same sequence alignment also pointed to additional differences in the LBD of RAR's, but such may be of lesser importance in ligand binding selectivity. Site-directed mutagenesis of RAR $\alpha$ (and RAR $\beta$ and RAR $\gamma$ ) strongly suggests that polar amino acid residues, such as arginine and/or lysine, are needed for proper hydrogen bonding or salt-bridge formation between the carboxylic end of the ligand and the receptor. ${ }^{74}$

Due to the conformational adaption of 9-cis-RA (3) and the spacial arrangement of the RARs' binding pocket, RARs are also able to bind this pan-agonist. However, the activation by 9-cis-RA (3) of RAR $\gamma$ was less than the activation of this receptor by $t$-RA (2), whereas with RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$, the activation by 9-cis-RA (3) equaled or in some cases surpassed the activation by $t$-RA (2) of these two receptors. ${ }^{68}$ From the crystallographic structures of RAR $\gamma$ [co-crystallized with $t-\mathrm{RA}(2)$ and 9-cis-RA(3)], it was pointed out that a possible reason for the activity difference is that RAR $\gamma$ binds the 9-cis-RA (3) less favorably than RAR $\alpha$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$, a situation due to the interaction of 9-cis-RA (3) with amino acid residue Met 272. ${ }^{47}$ This interaction of the Met 272 residue with the ligand in RAR $\gamma$ corresponds to an interaction of the 9-cis-RA (3) with less bulkier residues in RAR $\alpha$ (lle 270) and RAR $\beta$ (Ile 263), which in turn results in a smaller distortion of the "active" conformation of the binding pocket. ${ }^{47}$ Mutation of the amino acid residue phenylalanine 230 (Phe 230) by glycine (Phe 230/Gly 230) in RARy resulted in the inactivation of the receptor. ${ }^{112}$ This fact was further substantiated by docking the RAR $\gamma$ specific ligand into the LBP, where, in a ligand-receptor flexible system, the orientation of the phenyl group of Phe 230 did not change. However, in docking a ligand that does not initiate biological activity of the receptor, the orientation of the phenyl group changed by a rotation of
approximately 60 degrees. ${ }^{9}$ Therefore, P230, although not important for selectivity of ligand binding, has to be taken into consideration because of its function as a "switch" between activity and inactivity of the receptor and its close 3-D proximity to the Ala 234, and Met $272 .{ }^{9}$

The activation of the RXR family receptors by $t$-RA (2) has not been observed. ${ }^{57}$ One possible explanation for this phenomenon is that homologues of the Ala 397 (valines in RAR $\alpha$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$ ) are leucine residues in all RXRs. ${ }^{57}$ In RXRs, these leucine residues interact directly with the $\mathrm{C}(19)$ methyl group of 9 -cis-RA (3) and, as a result, these bulkier residues restrict the size of the ligand bound to the receptor. ${ }^{137}$ Moreover, isoleucine 275 (lle 275) in the LBP of RARs corresponds to phenylalanine 313 (Phe 313) in RXR, and the orientation of Phe 313 sterically interferes with the binding of the more extended $t$-RA (2). This problem is overcome with 9-cis-RA (3) because it can assume a low energy "curved" conformation. ${ }^{9}$ However, in contrast to RARs, the amino acid sequence alignment of the LBD of RXRs does not reveal any major differences within the RXR family subtypes. ${ }^{137}$ This fact would suggest potential difficulties in designing specific ligands for RXR $\alpha$, RXR $\beta$, or RXR $\gamma$. If the RAR specific subtype activation stems from the interaction of the whole hydrophobic region of the ligand involving certain amino acid residues in the binding pocket and the simultaneous interaction between the linker of the ligand and the amino acid residues, ligand design should concentrate on an alteration of the hydrophobic region (heterocyclic ring fused to aryl ring) of a ligand. The hydrophilic, polar tail of the ligand

should remain intact so as to mimic the property of natural ligands $[t-R A(2)$ and $9-c i s-R A$ (3)]. If part of the linker and hydrophilic moiety of a ligand prove to be vulnerable to the activity of isomerases in vivo such as, for example, where a trans conformation is easily converted to a cis and vice versa, more rigid linkers (e.g. $L=$ aryne or aryl) might be required in the ligand in order to avoid isomerization and to allow P313 in RXRs to exclude the RAR specific ligands from binding. Designs of RAR specific Class I antagonists (having a large group in the hydrophobic region of the molecule) and Class II antagonists (having bulky hydrophobic and acidic moieties) are also feasible. ${ }^{129}$ Since agonists and antagonists have different mechanisms of action, co-administration of agonists and antagonists for the treatment of an undesirable condition may have a synergistic effect of value in chemotherapy. The benefit of co-administration of both types of ligands could arise from attack on a cancerous cell via induction of normal cell differentiation (action of agonist), induction of apoptosis (action of agonist and antagonist), and via disrupting the transcriptional machinery of the cancerous cell by competitive deactivation of AP-1 and NFKB cancer cell messenger proteins (action of antagonist).

Multiple compounds, which act on a retinoic acid receptor either as an agonist or antagonist with specificity of binding to only one family of receptors or only one isoform, have been synthesized. ${ }^{122}$ The Am $580(6 \text {, page } 2)^{10,55}$ has 70 times higher affinity for binding to RAR $\alpha$ than to RAR $\beta$ or to RAR $\gamma$. Another highly specific agonist for RAR $\alpha$ is BMS 753 (13, Table 1) ${ }^{47}$ This compound possesses a structural resemblance to compound 6. BMS $411(14 \text {, Table } 1)^{47}$ is an interesting compound because it acts as an antagonist for $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, but at the same time has an agonistic effect on $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$, which would suggest large conformational differences between RAR $\beta$ and the remaining two isotypes or
perhaps the conformation of the AF-2 region in RAR $\beta$ 's LDB can complex to TIFs without a major change induced by ligand binding.

The compounds LE $135(15)^{84}$ and LE $540(16)^{84}$ have bulky residues which bind to the RAR $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ with high affinity and are potent AP-1 activity inhibitors (Table I). Amides $\mathbf{1 7}^{129}$ and $18^{62}$ have very good activity via inducing differentiation in human promyelotic leukemia cells and in mouse embryonal carcinoma. Arotinoids 19-22, ${ }^{10}$ with locked geometries and additional bulky moieties at the hydrophobic region of the ligand, possess excellent inverse and antagonistic effects and structurally resemble 15 which also possesses similar effects on RAR $\beta$ and RAR $\gamma$.

## TABLE I

THE COLLECTION OF ENDOGENOUS RETINOIDS, AROTINOIDS, AND HETEROAROTINOIDS THAT EXHIBIT SOME OR TOTAL SPECIFICITY FOR ISOFORMS OF RAR OR RXR. ${ }^{\text {a }}$

| Compound <br> Structure, Name and Number |  | Isoform Selectivity |  |  |  |  |  | Activity Comments | Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | RAR |  |  | RXR |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ | $\beta$ | $\gamma$ | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ | $\gamma$ |  |  |
| Yohncont | $t$-RA <br> (2) | A | A | A |  |  |  | Natural ligand; binds and transactivates RAR family of receptors only. | 122 |
|  | 9-c-RA <br> (3) | A | A | A | A | A | A | Pan-agonist; activates both families of receptors RXR and RAR (slight lower). | 122 |
| $x_{n} M^{c o m}$ | Am 580 <br> (4) | A |  |  |  |  |  | $\mathrm{EC}_{50}=0.36 \mathrm{nM}$ in assay where $\mathrm{EC}_{50}=$ 2.12 nM for t -RA (2). | 55 |
|  | BMS 753 <br> (13) | A |  |  |  |  |  | As active as $t$-RA (2) in transcription activity at 10 -fold higher concentration. | 47 |



| 今h上遇 | UAB 7 <br> （25） |  |  | A |  |  |  | At $E C_{50}=2.5 \mathrm{n} M, \mathrm{UABS}$ is $5 \%$ better in preventing mouse skin papiloma than $t$－ RA（2）whose $\mathrm{EC}_{50}=3.0 \mathrm{nM}$ ；Lower toxicity than $t-R A(2)$ ． | 99 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | jUAB 8 <br> （26） |  |  | A |  |  |  | At $E C_{50}=1.5 \mathrm{nM}, \mathrm{UAB8}$ is $5 \%$ better in preventing mouse skin papiloma than $t$－ RA（2）whose $\mathrm{EC}_{50}=3.0 \mathrm{nM}$ ．Lower toxicity than $\epsilon$－RA（2）． | 99 |
|  | （9Z）UAB 7 <br> （27） |  |  |  | A | A | A | At 1 mM concentration， $95 \%$ as effective as $9-c-R A$（3）which is 7 nM in transcription activation，advantage RXR specific，not an pan－agonist． | 99 |
|  | BMS 961 <br> （28） |  | A | A |  |  |  | Compatible to $t-R A$（2）in initiation of transcription assay which is at 10 －fold higher concentration． | 47 |
| $\xi^{1}$ | BMS 614 <br> （29） | T |  |  |  |  |  | At $1 \mu M$ concentration completely antagonizes $t$－RA（2）（ $10 \mathrm{n} M$ ） transcriptional activity． | 47 |
|  | Tazarotine <br> （30） |  | A | A |  |  |  | In climical trial to treat skin disorders； highly receptor specific；very low toxicity and high RAR $\gamma$ selectivity． | 23 |
| Kohnior $r^{\text {oun }}$ | 4 HPR <br> （31） |  |  | A |  |  |  | Used in clinical trials in combination with tamoxifen，same transactivation CAT activity as $t$－RA（2） | 34 |
| $x^{10+1}$ | SI <br> （32） |  |  | A |  |  |  | Stereoselective，at 100 nM concentration achieves $90 \%$ efficacy in transactivation of transcription as compared to $t$－RA（2） which is 1 mM | 140 |
|  | 14B <br> （33） |  |  |  | A | A | A | Efficacy is over $120 \%$ in $\alpha$ and $\beta$ isotype and $233 \%$ in $\gamma$ isotype of RXR as compared to $9-c$－RA（3）． | 58 |
|  | $114 \mathrm{~B}$ <br> （34） |  |  |  | T | T | T | Low transactivation activity，but superior inducer of apoptosis 4 times as good as apoptotic activities of $9-c$－RA （3）． | 120 |
|  | C 3 <br> （35） |  |  |  | A | A | A | Co－transfection activity $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ values are low，total RXR selectivity， $\mathrm{EC}_{\text {so }}$ compatible to $9-c-$ RA（3）． | 70 |


${ }^{a}$ Retinoids and their specificity of binding.
$\mathrm{A}=$ agonist, $\mathrm{T}=$ antagonist, $\mathrm{I}=$ inverse agonist, $\mathrm{u}=$ unpublished data. $\mathrm{IC}_{50}=$ concentration of the retinoid that is required to displace $50 \%$ bound $t$-RA (2) from a receptor; $\mathrm{EC}_{50}=$ concentration that is required to induce $50 \%$ of maximal retinoic acid receptor activity. Empty blocks indicate no or minimal binding or activation of a receptor by a retinoid. For more details please see recommended references.

Somewhat unusual acyclic and highly flexible retinoids that are very active in the CAT assay (see page 30) are compounds 23 and 24 . $^{1}$ These compounds are not bound by CRABP and have very low toxicity toward the environment. ${ }^{129}$ Somewhat flexible retinoids, such as $\mathbf{2 5 - 2 7}, 99$ mimic the structural features of $t$-RA (2) and 9-c-RA (3). However, the
specificity of binding by these compounds is only enhanced marginally whereas 25 and 26 are RAR $\gamma$ specific, and 27 recognizes only the RXR family receptors.

A three-atom linker compound (three atoms between the aryl groups), namely BMS $961(28){ }_{,}^{47}$ proved to be a specific agonist for $\mathrm{RAR} \gamma$ and also bound with lesser affinity to RAR $\beta$ (Table 1). The highly specific RAR $\alpha$ antagonistic effects of $29^{47}$ were accomplished by the presence of a large naphthalene residue in the hydrophobic region of this ligand. Tazarotine (30) is a rigid, $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ and $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$ specific agonist that is currently in clinical trials for the treatment of skin diseases. ${ }^{23}$ Compound $31,{ }^{34}$ whose mechanism of action is not well understood, but appears to bind selectively the $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ and transactivate it through an agonistic effect, has a 10 atom linker between the hydrophobic moiety and aryl group. This structural feature is in agreement with that found in other RAR $\gamma$ specific ligands whose linker groups between aryl moieties are also longer than that for the ligands that are specific for RAR $\alpha$ or RAR $\beta$.

The stereospecific arotinoid $32,{ }^{140}$ which has the $S$ configuration at the linker, specifically activates $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ and to a lesser extent $\operatorname{RAR} \beta$, but not $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha$, whereas its $R$ isomer is less active. This would suggest that the molecular geometry of the ligand will enhance the receptor's specificity.

A flourine atom has also been incorporated in the synthesis of flexible compounds, such as 33, with structures resembling the 9-c-RA (3), but unlike 9-c-RA (3), which also binds to the RAR family of receptor, 33 (Table I) is only RXR specific. ${ }^{58}$ Heteroarotinoid 34 containing a 5-membered heterocyclic ring did not induce the activation of transcription. However, compound 34 is one of the most potent inducers of apoptosis, perhaps through an
antagonistic effect on the RXR receptors. ${ }^{120}$ Compounds 35 and 36 , with $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{N}$ systems, are RXR specific, the latter being one of the few compounds that is isotype-specific within the RXR family. ${ }^{70}$

Heteroarotinoid 37, a complex structure with an amide linker, exhibits high binding affinity for $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha$ and influences the receptor through the induction of antagonistic activities. ${ }^{127}$ Interestingly, heteroarotinoid 38 is a partial agonist, where it induces activity in all of the RAR isoform, but is somewhat selective for the $\alpha$-isoform in the RXR family. ${ }^{8}$ These compounds are reported to have the same transactivation effect on the RAR family of receptors as does $t$-RA (2). ${ }^{34,140}$ The structural differences of the very recent RAR $\beta$ specific 39 and RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ specific 40 are believed to be major contributors to their specificity. ${ }^{140}$ Compounds 41 and 42 exhibited excellent inhibition of cancer growth in vulvar cancer cell lines (unpublished data from Dr. Benbrook). Due to a high expression of RARY in urogenital tissue ${ }^{66}$ and an unusually high inhibition of cancer growth, these compounds are believed to express specificity for the RARY.

## Detection and Measurement of Retinoic Acid Receptor Activity

There are several methods for the detection of RAR or RXR ligand-induced activities. One of the most frequently used methods is the use of reporter assay to measure quantitatively the transcriptional activity of RAR, and RXR homo- or heterodimers. ${ }^{134}$ The reporter plasmid construct (Figure 8) consists of a reporter gene, such as lacZ or luciferase, driven by a minimal promoter containing a TATA motif on RARE. ${ }^{134}$ At the 5 ' end position of the RARE is a silencer (S) which acts to dampen any transcriptional activity originating upstream from the RARE. ${ }^{134}$ Additionally, there are several antibiotic selective genes ( $\mathrm{Ab}^{\text {r }}$ ),
restriction sites (RS), and an origin of replication(ORI) to ensure proper analysis of RARE's transcriptional influence on the reporter gene. ${ }^{134}$


Figure 8. .Schematic representation of reporter plasmid for measuring the transcriptional activity of RAR or RXR after activation by a ligand. ${ }^{134}$

A superior and convenient method in investigating the structural features of ligandreceptor complexes is the photoaffinity labeling assay. ${ }^{134}$ The sequence of events for the photoaffinity assay are as follows: (1) design and synthesis of an isoform specific,

photoreactive ligand, (2) photoaffinity labeling of the receptor, (3) sequential digestion of the labeled receptor by endoproteinases, (4) HPLC separation of digests to determine the amino acid sequence of the labeled site, and (5) mapping of the labeled site for comparison with the known amino acid sequence of the receptor. ${ }^{134}$. The compound ADAM-3 (43),
which is a photo-labeled derivative of the RAR $\alpha$ specific agonist Am 580 (6), was successfully utilized in the mapping of the ligand-receptor complex. ${ }^{134}$

## Toxicity of Retinoids

Many retinoids are administered primarily for dermatological conditions, such as psoriasis, acne, and disorders of keratinization. ${ }^{6,124}$ Toxicity has proven to be a significant problem in the long-term administration of retinoids. ${ }^{102}$ The most common, unwanted sideeffects from the administration of higher than normal doses of retinoids (hypervitaminosis) are skin desquamation, hyperbilirunemia, transaminase elevation, leupenia, diarrhea, headaches, mucocutaneous toxicity, and hypercalcemia. ${ }^{114}$ The synthetic retinoid TTNPB (44) is a more potent inducer of RAR transcriptional activity than $t$-RA (2) despite the fact that the binding affinity of TTNPB (44) to RARs is 10 times lower. However, arotinoid 44 is 1000 times more toxic then $t$-RA (2). ${ }^{107}$ It has been suggested that the higher activity and toxicity of TTNPB is due to an inability to complex with CRABP. ${ }^{124}$ The CRABP regulates the levels of retinoic acid in the cell and its transport to the nucleus where the $t$-RA (2) interacts with RARs. ${ }^{107}$ Since the concentration of TTNBP (44), which can't bind to CRABP, is not regulated and its metabolism is slowed down, TTNBP (44) remains in the cell and nucleus for long periods of time and therefore interacts more significantly with RARs. This may well be the major contributing factor for the TTNPB (44) teratogenecity. ${ }^{107}$ Intriguingly, when RAR $\alpha$ specific antagonist AGN 193109 (21) was coadministered with TTNBP (44) or administered to mice with preexisting toxicity from 44, 21 was able to accelerate significantly the recovery of the mice from the toxic effects of TTNPB. ${ }^{124}$

Targretin (7, page 2) is a RXR specific agonist and has an organic composition and structure which only slightly differs from TTNPB, but is much less toxic then TTNPB (44). ${ }^{70}$





Another possible avenue for decreasing the toxicological effect of retinoids is the utility of heteroarotinoids which are comparable in receptor activation to that activation induced by natural retinoids. ${ }^{6}$ Nearly full toxicity studies of heteroarotinoids 45, 46, and 47 revealed that the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) was $34 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{kg} /$ day, $32 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{kg} /$ day, and 9.4 $\mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{kg} /$ day, respectively. ${ }^{6}$ These data compared to the MTD of $t$-RA (2), which is 10 $\mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{kg} /$ day, shows reduced toxicity of 45 and 46 . Therefore 45 and 46 are 3-fold less toxic than $t$-RA (2) and 3000 -fold less toxic than TTNPB (44) whose MTD is $0.01 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{day} .{ }^{6}$ Design and synthesis of isoform-specific arotinoids or heteroarotinoids can also significantly decrease the unwanted side effect of retinoic acid receptors. ${ }^{23}$

## Molecular Modeling of Retinoids

Molecular modeling is a useful tool for the investigation of structure-activity relationships (SAR) in a variety of proteins-ligands complexes. Unfortunately, with exception of unrelated modeling work to our type of research, not much molecular modeling in the field of retinoid research has been done. ${ }^{39}$ Only in a recently published work by Gronemeyer and colleagues was consideration given to a study of SAR via docking of synthetic arotinoids into RAR isotypes in combination with mutagenic studies of the receptors. ${ }^{47}$ The data from docking of synthetic arotinoids were in agreement with the
biological data, where the specificity of binding was dependent only on a few residues. The computer-aided analysis was based on the existence of the LBD crystallographic structure of human holo-RAR $\gamma$ co-crystallized with $t$-RA (2). The LBP of RAR $\gamma$ was prepared for modification by extraction of 2 to obtain apo-RAR $\gamma$ LBP. ${ }^{14}$ The apo-RAR $\gamma$ was then modified by computer-aided mutagenesis to obtain the LBPs for RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$. The use of QUANTA/CHARMS, a module in a molecular modeling software package from Molecular Simulation Inc. (MSI), ${ }^{30}$ was utilized, and the amino acid residues of the LBP in RAR $\gamma$ that are responsible for selectivity were substituted with homologous amino acids of RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$ (see Experimental for details). ${ }^{47}$ The computer-aided mutation allowed for creation of the new LBP of RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$ with different amino acid composition which essentially translates to different shapes of the hydrophobic surface of the binding pockets of the receptors which resulted in new interaction property (energy of interaction, positioning of in the LBP) with the ligand. Conformational searches and evaluations of the selected arotinoids provided conformations of various energies which was done before the ligands were docked into the LBPs of RAR isotypes. The interaction energy values and visual inspection of docked ligands in the LBPs provided a possible explanation as to how the ligand might interact with the receptors. These data could then serve as valuable tools for the future design of RAR isotype-specific retinoids.

## CHAPTER II

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## RAR and RXR Isotype Specific Heteroarotinoids

The work addressed in this thesis had two central themes, namely the synthesis of several receptor-specific, or projected receptor-specific, heteroarotinoids and the development of a computer assisted analysis of the heteroarotinoids as a ligand in binding to a specific receptor. The new compounds $48-68$ which were prepared are listed below.









An approach to determine the suitability of a heteroarotinoid as a ligand to bind with the retinoic acid receptor was developed using several commercial programs and the computer in the Department of Biochemistry. Such programs addressed the following situations with respect to creating a "fixed" and "flexible" binding pocket in the receptor as well as a "fixed" and "flexible" ligand such as a heteroarotinoid. These programs were as follows along with their particular function in the analysis: The Molecular Simulation Inc. $(\mathrm{MSI})^{30}$ molecular modeling software package and its program modules were used in drawing and optimizing the conformations of compounds (Builder, MOPAC and Conformational Search Engine) and modification of the LBD of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ crystallographic structure (Biopolymer). The Sybyl $6.5^{126}$ molecular modeling package, which has modules QSAR with Comfa, Flexidock, and Superimposition, were used in predicting the activity, docking, and analysis of resulting ligand and receptor conformations, respectively.

The goal of the research was to synthesize a number of heteroarotinoids to be RAR isotype (RAR $\alpha, \operatorname{RAR} \beta$, or $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ ) or RXR isotype specific. The structure-activity investigation of previously prepared compounds in our laboratory, via the aid of computer modeling programs described later in this chapter and biological data published by us and other research groups, served as guide in designing heteroarotinoids 48-68. The ligand binding domain (LBD) of the crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma$ bound to $t$-RA (2) also provided a means for further exploration of the ligand-receptor interaction via docking of the ligands into the ligand binding pocket (LBP) of the receptor. Based on the type of heteroatom contained in the fused ring system, heteroarotinoids 48-68 were divided into three groups:






63




- oxygen heteroarotinoids, compounds 48-52,
- nitrogen heteroarotinoids, 53-59, and
- sulfur heteroarotinoids, 60-68.


## Oxygen Heteroarotinoids

Oxygen heteroarotinoids 48-50, where oxygen is part of the isochroman ring and the linker group is placed at the C5 position of the hydrophobic aryl moiety (which is different from previously made retinoids) were synthesized to map the hydrophobic region of the ligand binding pocket. Furthermore the methoxy group at the C 6 position was added to the enhance the bulk of the ligands in the hydrophobic region and to alter the bond rotational barrier of the linker group. The unusual nature of the linker group, with respect to the hydrophobic aryl moieties, was expected to reduce binding to the RAR family of receptors, and thus, the compounds might be RXR family specific. The other assumption was that if
the ligand was drawn into the binding pocket of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, via an electrostatic attraction of its anionic tail to the basic residues, such as arginine 278 (R278) and arginine 274 (R274) in the LBP, to form hydrogen bonds, the hydrophobic bulk of the ligand would prevent the receptor from trapping the ligand through a conformational change of $\alpha$-helix H 12 , which could ultimately lead to antagonistic activity of the RAR receptors. The results from the docking of these compounds by rendering them as flexible molecules (the ligand was allowed three degrees of freedom to translate within the LBP, and possessed free rotation around single bonds with restrained dihedral angles being altered) into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ being rendered as "fixed," with the exception of 48, suggest that these compounds might not be RAR $\gamma$ active due to the unfavorable energies of interaction (see Experimental).






However, heteroarotinoid 48 interacted favorably with the receptor's binding site without any significant steric hindrance. Compound 49 , which differs from 48 in that the linker is extended by one carbonyl moiety, did not dock favorably. Sufficiently strong H-bonds formed by the nitro group of 49 with basic residues of the LBP, the extra atom in the linker, and the limiting space in the LBP resulted in repulsive energies between the region of the amino acids that make up $\alpha$-helix H12 and the hydrophobic region of the ligand. After
deleting $\alpha$-helix H12 from the LBD of the crystallographic structure of the RARy, 49 interacted favorably with the receptor. This would suggest that 49 may express its influence on the receptor in the form of antagonistic activities. ${ }^{47}$ Compound 50 , which has a urea linker and a carboxylic ester at the polar end, instead of a thiourea linker and a nitro group, respectively (as compared to 48), did not exhibit the same binding property as heteroarotinoid 48 when docked in the RAR $\gamma$ LBP (for details, see discussion on pages 4651).

Heteroarotinoid 51, in which the replacement of hydrogen by a larger fluorine atom at the C 10 position could influence the $\mathrm{E} / \mathrm{Z}$ isomer ratio at the $\mathrm{C} 9-\mathrm{C} 10$ double bond, was designed as a ligand to specifically bind only to the RXR family of receptors. Additionally, a polyene side chain was retained in 51 , and the terminal group was changed to a semicarbazone. This change switches the function of the ligand's polar tail from being an H -bond acceptor to an H -bond donor at a physiological pH via interaction of $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ group with the hydroxy group of serine 289 (Ser 289) and the carbonyl oxygen in the receptor's backbone moieties located at the polar end binding region. This agent allowed a study of the importance of electrostatic interactions between the receptor and the ligand. Docking of 51 into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ resulted in a positive (unfavorable) energy of interaction which suggested steric hindrance between the ligand and the receptor due to bending of the side chain, and thus 51 could be specific for RXR.

The behavior of 52 with a four-atom linker between the aryl groups resembled that of compound 49 when the former was docked into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$. Thus, it could be concluded that a four-atom linker between two aryl moieties may be slightly too long for
receptor activation. However, these compounds may act as antagonists.

## Nitrogen Heteroarotinoids

Nitrogen heteroarotinoids 53-59 have a double bond incorporated into the fused ring







of the hydrophobic region. This addition to the heterocyclic ring changes the conformation of the hydrophobic portion of the ligand, as compared to previously synthesized retinoids. The double bond also serves as a probe in terms of the possible interaction or stacking of the $\pi$-electrons of the ligand with the phenyl rings of phenylalanine residues in the hydrophobic region of the LBP. It is not known what influence the latter has on the receptor activity. Additionally, the 3-D geometry of the hydrophobic region in $53-59$ was altered by deleting one methyl group from the C4 position. Moreover, different bond lengths and conformations of the flexible linkers and the side chain were varied slightly for comparison of effects on activity. Modulation of the polar tails of the ligand was done to explore the
region of the LBP which is responsible for H -bonding.
Compounds 53-55, which have three-atom linkers between aryl moieties, showed excellent interaction energies when docked as flexible molecules in the rigid LBP of RAR $\gamma$ (Figure 9, see Experimental for energy of interaction data). Heteroarotinoids 53-55 with a 3-atom linker between the aryl groups are similar to previously designed arotinoids with 3atom linkers in exhibiting RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ specificity. ${ }^{47,140}$ However, the urea and thiourea groups provide a semi-flexible linker region of the ligand for possible enhanced adaptation of the compounds around the amino acid residues responsible for selectivity in the RAR $\gamma$. Furthermore, possible H -bonding with the receptor is likely strengthened by the heteroatoms of the urea group present in the linker.

Based on visual inspection, the docked heteroarotinoids 56 and 57 , which were designed to discriminate against the RAR family, resembled the docked 9-c-RA (3) in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$. However, due to the cis double bond arrangement at the $\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{C} 12$ position in 56 and 57 , which is different from the cis double bond position in $9-c-\mathrm{RA}[(3), \mathrm{C} 9-\mathrm{C} 10]$, an unfavorable interaction of 56 and 57 with $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ occurred. This differs from the interaction of 3 with RAR $\gamma$. Considerable steric hindrance was observed with both heteroarotinoids between the hydrophobic region of the ligands and the residues Met 272, Ala 397, and Ile 275 of the LBP of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$. In addition to being RXR specific, 56 and 57, which have linker moieties extended by two atoms compared to the polyene chain of 9-cisRA (3), were originally designed to explore the LBP of RXRs and, hopefully, bind to only one of the RXR isoforms.

Compound 58 was conceived as being RXR specific due to its $E$ conformation
around the C9-C10 double bond. However, unlike 9-c-RA (3), compound 58 did not show a favorable interaction with the LBP of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ upon docking into the receptor (see Experimental). Placement of heteroarotinoid 59 within the cavity of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ was
(A)
(B)

(C)

Figure 9. Docking of heteroarotinoids 53 (A), 54 (B), and 55 (C) into the LBP of the crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma$. The distance ( $\AA$ ) from Ser 289 to the closest polar end oxygen of the ligand is shown for comparison.
accomplished without any major steric or electrostatic repulsion of the ligand by the receptor (see Exper-imental). Consequently, 59 may act as an pan-agonist, with possible lower toxicity then $9-c$-RA (3). ${ }^{44}$

## Sulfur Heteroarotinoids

The synthesis of sulfur heteroarotinoids 60-68 added yet another structural variation to studies on the mechanism of activation of retinoic acid receptors. The differences in stereochemistry of the linker groups due, in part, to the influence of the incorporated fluorine atom, were designed to discern activity differences among the two families of receptors RAR and RXR. The difference in size and electronic density of the fluorine atom at the C9 position, as compared to hydrogen, was also intended to explore the interactions of the ligand with the amino acid residues (such as Ala 234, Met 272, Leu 271, Ala 397, and Phe 230) which were responsible for ligand selectivity and the flexibility in the LBD of RAR $\gamma$. ${ }^{14}$



63



64



65


Docking of flexible 60 into the rigid LBP of RAR $\gamma$ did not result in a favorable interaction, and the results worsened as docking progressed to 61 and then to 62 . However, heteroarotinoids 63 and 64, which are the $Z$-isomer counterparts of compounds 60 and 61 , respectively, showed excellent interactive energies with $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ when docked in the LBD of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ (see Experimental). Compounds 60, 61, and 62 were designed specifically to activate the RXR family due to their $E$ configuration, and 63 and 64 , because of the $Z$ configuration about the C9-10 double bond, should activate the RAR. Furthermore, 64 was intended to be RAR $\beta$ specific since similar compounds with bulky groups around the C9 position had shown RAR $\beta$ specificity. ${ }^{47}$ Heteroarotinoid 65, a three-atom linker ligand, showed marginal energies of interaction when docked into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$, and thus could be RAR $\gamma$ specific. ${ }^{47}$ Interestingly, 66 and 67 , in which the bulk of the substituent group at C9 was increased, were rejected by the receptor's LBP due to spacial limitations. The intention to modify 65 at the C9 position with larger substituents (and progress to 66 and 67) was to explore the limit of selectivity of the RAR receptors, since the ligands interact near the C 9 area with the amino acid residues responsible for selectivity. ${ }^{14}$ The 3atom linker system with an ester moiety in 65-67 was devised to achieve RAR $\gamma$ specificity. ${ }^{47}$

Compound 68 was expected to have pan-agonist activity, since the linker and polar end are somewhat flexible. However, some restrictions on single bond rotations within the ene side chain were discovered when a computer-aided search for other conformations of the ligand was performed. One restriction arose from the addition of the methyl group at the C 7 position which forced the fluoro-substituted linker and thiosemicarbazone polar tail into only one conformation with minimum energy. Docking of flexible 68 into the rigid LBP
of RAR $\gamma$ was unfavorable, and the behavior of the compound did not resemble that of 9-cRA (3) with respect to interaction with RAR $\gamma$ (see Experimental). Therefore, heteroarotinoid 68 was expected to have preferential binding for the RXR family.

## Computer-Aided Activity Prediction

In addition to docking flexible ligands into LBP of the rigid crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma,{ }^{14}$ attempts were made to predict the activity of RAR and RXR isotypes (RAR $\alpha$, RAR $\beta$, and $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ ) upon induction by heteroarotinoids 48-68. The Comparative Molecular Field Analysis (CoMFA) is a three-dimensional, Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR) technique which ultimately allows the design and prediction of biological activities of molecules (see user manual for CoMFA use, also see reference 39). The idea underlying CoMFA is that differences in a target property are often related to the shapes of the non-covalent fields surrounding the test molecules. In order to input the shape of the molecular field into a QSAR table, the magnitudes of its steric (Lennard-Jones) and electrostatic (Coulomb) energy fields were sampled at regular intervals throughout a defined region. The most important parameter for the CoMFA calculation is the relative alignment of individual molecules when their molecular fields are calculated. The alignment of the ligands was done by mimicking the positioning of $t$-RA (2) in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ in the absence of receptor. This resulted in the $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$, and Z , coordinates of the hydrophobic and hydrophilic moieties of ligands to be in close approximation to $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$, and Z coordinates of $t$-RA (2), respectively. Therefore, properly aligned molecules have similar orientations in Cartesian space, and the generation of a QSAR by Partial Least Square (PLS) analysis gives a higher cross-validation number $q^{2}$. The number $q^{2}$ obtained from cross-validation of a

PLS analysis is a number which represents a percentage of "explained variation" in a ligand-activity relationship. For example, $q^{2}=0.55$, means, that the variation in activity exerted on the receptor by ligands can be explained (with $55 \%$ certainty) with respect to the variation in the hydrophobic and electrostatic force field (arrangements in 3-D space) of the aligned ligands. The same $\mathrm{q}^{2}$ also implies that $45 \%$ of the variation in structure-activity relationship cannot be justified. With a correlation coefficient of $\mathrm{r}^{2}=0.95$ applied to the cross-validated PLS analysis, accuracy of about $52 \%(55 \times 0.95)$ would be predicted for activity of new molecules. The $\mathrm{q}^{2}=0.4$ (minimum) and $\mathrm{r}^{2}=0.95$ (minimum) are acceptable numbers for this type of calculation. ${ }^{100}$

The database of retinoids (conformations obtained from docking ligands in the RAR $\gamma$ and in pseudo-RAR $\alpha$ and in RAR $\beta$; see Experimental for the latter two receptor modifications) with known and unknown biological activity was aligned through structural superimposition using the command "Align Database" in Sybyl 6.5. ${ }^{126}$ The same type of alignment of the database was performed for the compounds to be correlated in the prediction of activity in RXR isotypes. However, since the location of the LBP of RXR has not been elucidated ${ }^{15}$ several different conformations of the same ligand had to be evaluated for this type of calculation (see Experimental for details). The CoMFA for each compound was calculated and stored in a molecular spread sheet. The known biological data, which in this case were $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ values for the induction of transcription in $\mathrm{CV}-1$ cells, were entered as $\log \left(1 / \mathrm{EC}_{50}\right)$ and saved in a molecular spread-sheet. The summary of predicted $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ values [the $\log \left(1 / E C_{50}\right)$ was converted back to $E C_{50}$ values] for heteroarotinoids 48-68 are in Table II. The cross-validation $q^{2}$ values ranged from 0.43 to 0.58 , and the correlation
coefficient $r^{2}$ values range from 0.95 to 0.98 . This indicated that the accuracy percentage for prediction ranged from $41 \%$ to $58 \%$.

TABLE II
PREDICTED EC ${ }_{50}$ VALUES FOR COMPOUNDS 48-68 IN ACTIVATING TRANSCRIPTION OF THE CV-1 CELL LINE ${ }^{a}$.

| Compound | Predicted $\mathrm{EC}_{60}(\mu \mathrm{M})$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | RAR $\alpha$ | RARB | RARy | RXR $\alpha$ | RXRß | RXR $\gamma$ |
| $t-\mathrm{RA}(2)$ | 0.347 | 0.080 | 0.030 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 9-c-RA(3) | 0.195 | 0.050 | 0.040 | 0.100 | 0.200 | 0.140 |
| 48 | 6.610 | 14.500 | 0.140 | 0.890 | 0.260 | 0.870 |
| 49 | 0.813 | 7.760 | 8.910 | 5.010 | 1.620 | 1.700 |
| 50 | 6.460 | 10.700 | 2.240 | 0.930 | 0.350 | 0.710 |
| 51 | 0.617 | 0.220 | 1.050 | 0.120 | 0.150 | 0.170 |
| 52 | 22.390 | 9.330 | 13.500 | 7.410 | 1.350 | 12.000 |
| 53 | 2.040 | 0.180 | 0.030 | 6.760 | 9.550 | 89.100 |
| 54 | 6.310 | 0.230 | 0.060 | 2.950 | 6.760 | 41.700 |
| 55 | 2.040 | 0.590 | 0.060 | 0.930 | 0.980 | 5.750 |
| 56 | 22.390 | 1.860 | 30.900 | 4.900 | 4.370 | 0.200 |
| 57 | 2.400 | 0.660 | 1.050 | 0.290 | 0.170 | 0.190 |
| 58 | 0.330 | 0.150 | 0.410 | 0.130 | 0.120 | 0.180 |
| 59 | 20.890 | 4.270 | 1.820 | 0.280 | 0.280 | 0.130 |
| 60 | 0.350 | 0.040 | 0.030 | 72.400 | 70.800 | 166.000 |
| 62 | 0.520 | 0.310 | 0.030 | 0.650 | 0.350 | 0.420 |
| 62 | 0.148 | 0.040 | 0.220 | 67.600 | 42.700 | 4.680 |
| 63 | 1.550 | 0.050 | 0.980 | 1.620 | 1.740 | 0.510 |
| 64 | 1.350 | 0.260 | 2.450 | 0.620 | 1.660 | 0.190 |
| 65 | 8.910 | 9.550 | 7.760 | 0.520 | 0.420 | 0.140 |
| 66 | 1.660 | 0.130 | 0.550 | 0.080 | 0.290 | 0.120 |
| 67 | 2.820 | 5.750 | 3.470 | 1.820 | 1.290 | 0.100 |
| 68 | 3.450 | 5.980 | 4.123 | 2.134 | 2.412 | 0.095 |

${ }^{3} \mathrm{The} \mathrm{EC}_{50}(\mu \mathrm{M})$ values for $t$-RA (2) and 9-c-RA (3) are experimental values. ${ }^{28}$ The EC ${ }_{50}$

Graph 1 represents the predicted relative activity of heteroarotinoids 48-68 and $t$-RA [(2), actual experimental value] to that of 9-c-RA (3) which was arbitrarily set to $100 \%$ for each RAR and RXR receptor isotype. Heteroarotinoids 59, 63 and 64 appear to have predictable good activity with $\operatorname{RAR} \alpha$ as seen from Graph 1 . However, compound 59


Graph 1. Relative percentage of $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ for compounds $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{4 5 - 6 5}$ when compared to pan-agonist $9-c-\mathrm{RA}(3)$ which is $100 \%$. When isotype bars are missing for a specific compound, this signifies that the predicted activity is close to zero with respect to $9-c-R A(3) . \quad a=\alpha, b=\beta, g=\gamma$.
appears to have predictable pan-agonist activity, and 63 and 64 are also predicted to be RAR $\gamma$ and RAR $\beta$ active, respectively. Besides moderate predicted activity of compound
appears to have predictable pan-agonist activity, and 63 and 64 are also predicted to be RAR $\gamma$ and RAR $\beta$ active, respectively. Besides moderate predicted activity of compound 64 in RAR $\alpha$, it would appear that 64 may be RAR $\beta$ specific (yellow bar). Heteroarotinoids 53-55 and 65 have predictable specificity for activation of RAR $\gamma$ (blue bar). None of the compounds seem to be specific for RXR $\alpha$ (gray bar). Nevertheless, moderate $\operatorname{RXR} \alpha$ activity is predicted for heteroarotinoids 51 and 58 , and high activity is predicted with 59 and 67. The RXR $\beta$ specific activity (green bar) would appear to be true for 48 and 50 , although with low activity inducement. Heteroarotinoids 51, 57, and 58 would have high predicted RXR $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ activity and specificity.

Somewhat surprising are the predictions for compounds 66 and 68 as RXR $\gamma$ (magenta bar) specific. Another highly active, but non-specific RXR $\gamma$ ligand, appears to be compound 67, and heteroarotinoids 56 and 67 are also envisioned to be highly selective and with high activity for $\mathrm{RXR} \gamma$.

Of the tested heteroarotinoids $\mathbf{4 8 - 5 0}$ and 52 , only $\mathbf{4 8}$ showed promising activity in the inhibition of cancer growth (Graph 2) in ovarian cancer cells. This finding is in agreement with the data (see Experimental) obtained from docking ligand 48 into the LBP of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, in which 48 interacted in a favorable fashion with the receptor. However, compounds 49,50 , and 52 did not. Compound 50 , which differs from 48 in having oxygen instead of sulfur in the linker moiety and a carboxylic anion instead of a nitro group at the polar end of the molecule, expressed a different mode of docking than did 48 despite conformational similarities (Figure 10). The orientation of the hydrophobic region of ligand 50, with respect to the amino acid residues of the LBP, was different from the
orientation in 48. The C6 methoxy group in 48 lays parallel to the Phe 230 (red) whereas in 50 the C6 methoxy is orthogonal to the same residue. The distances between the the Ser 289 residue and carbonyl group of $\mathbf{5 0}$ and the nitro group of $\mathbf{4 8}$, with which active retinoids H-bond, are $4.38 \AA$ and $3.07 \AA$, respectively. Perhaps this is a major reason why compound


Graph 2. Percent inhibition of cancer growth in ovarian cancer cell lines by compounds 48-52.

50 did not dock favorably into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ and why $\mathbf{5 0}$ exhibited a poor inhibition effect on the cancer cell lines tested. The nitro group of 48, because of its polarity, makes stronger H-bonds than the carbonyl group of $\mathbf{5 0}$. After ligand $\mathbf{5 0}$ was taken into the LBP, H -bonds were established, and the conformational change that took place resulted in strong hydrophobic interactions between the ligand and the receptor at the non-polar region of the
ligand. Because of weaker H-bonds in 50 versus 48 and the strong hydrophobic interaction, the former was pulled deeper into the hydrophobic core of the receptor, which may have caused a weakening in the H -bond. A reorientation of $\mathbf{5 0}$ occurred in such a way that it no longer exhibited the same effect on the receptor as did 48.
(A)
(B)


Figure 10. Docking of flexible heteroarotinoid 48 (A) and 50 (B) into the rigid LBP of the crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma$. The nitro group of active 48 in RAR $\gamma$ was positioned in closer proximity ( $2.96 \AA$ ) to the OH group of Ser 289 (H-bonding site) than was the carbonyl group of RAR $\gamma$ inactive 50 (4.13 $\AA$ ). The corresponding distance in the crystallographic structure in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ co-crystallized with $t$-RA (2), was $2.76 \AA .{ }^{14}$

The key starting material for heteroarotinoids $48-50$ was 6 -methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochromane (69), which was synthesized using a published methods (Scheme I). ${ }^{87}$ Nitration of 69 with a mixture of acetic anhydride and concentrated nitric acid at $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ yielded a mixture of products with nitro groups being added at the C5 (30\%), and the C7

Scheme I

(50\%) positions, along with a compound dinitrated at the C 5 and C 7 (10\%) positions of the
benzene ring. The nitrated 5 -isomer 70 was separated from the mixture via flash chromatography and then reduced with a $\mathrm{NaBH}_{4} / \mathrm{LiCl} / \mathrm{NH}_{4}{ }^{+} \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$complex in ethylene glycol diethyl ether. ${ }^{113}$ However, this type of reduction failed to give a reasonable yield (30\%) of 71 even at reflux $\left(121^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ for 24 hours. Reduction of 70 with a titanium (III) chloride- HCl complex ${ }^{125}$ in acetic acid-water as a solvent, followed by workup of the reaction mixture with $30 \% \mathrm{NaOH}$, gave 6-methoxy-1,1,4,4,-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl-amine (71) in good yield (89\%). The reaction of 71 with 4-nitrophenylisothiocyanate, (4nitrophenyl)oxomethane isothiocyanate, and ethyl 4-isocyanatobenzoate in dry THF at room temperature afforded compounds $\mathbf{4 8}, \mathbf{4 9}$, and 50 , respectively, in reasonable yields as shown.

1-(4,4-Dimethylchroman-6-yl)ethan-1-one (72), which was synthesized according to a previously published method from our laboratory, ${ }^{87}$ was used as an intermediate for the synthesis of 51 (Scheme II). A Horner-Emmons type reaction of 72 with triethyl 2-fluorophosphono- acetate, in the presence of $n$-BuLi and DMPU in dry THF, gave ester 73 as a mixture of $E$ and $Z$ isomers. ${ }^{120}$ The separation of the $E$ isomer 73 from its $Z$ counterpart proved to be more difficult then separating the $E$ and $Z$ isomers of alcohol 74. The latter was obtained by the reduction of 73 with DIBAL-H at $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The $E$-isomer of 74 made up $57 \%$ of the mixture. Several attempts to reduce the unsaturated ester 73 directly to aldehyde 75, as reported by Zakharin and coworkers, failed. ${ }^{141}$ The product was a mixture of an alcohol and an aldehyde even when 1.0 equivalent of DIBAL-H was added dropwise to 73 at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and yields of the desired aldehyde ( $<10 \%$ ), after separation from the alcohol, were unacceptable. However, the $E$-aldehyde 75 was obtained from 74 through oxidation with

## Scheme II


$\mathrm{MnO}_{2}$ in acetone at room temperature with an overall yield of $54 \%$ from 73. Reacting aldehyde 75 with thiosemicarbazide dissolved in water with few drops of acetic acid afforded heteroarotinoid 51 as a white solid in good yield ( $82 \%$ ). ${ }^{44}$ The reduction of ketone 72, which was followed by a reaction of the resulting alcohol 76 with ethyl isocyanatobenzoate in THF, yielded the 4-atom linker heteroarotinoid 52 as a white solid
(69\%).

## Synthesis of Nitrogen Heteroarotinoids

A somewhat unusual reaction of aniline (77) with acetone, which was added at 156 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and in the presence of catalytic amounts of HCl and iodine, led to the formation of 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline(78)(SchemeIII). Interestingly, compound 78 was obtained

Scheme III

as a by-product as reported by deKoning and co-workers ${ }^{29}$ in attempts to synthesize $4-(\mathrm{N}$ -phenylamino)-4-methyl-2-pentanone [even in absence of $\mathrm{HCl}, 78$ (identified by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR) made up $80 \%$ of the mixture ( $52 \%$ overall yield) when separated from 4-( $N$-phenylamino)-4-methyl-2-pentanone]. ${ }^{29}$ However, the above method was convenient for our purposes where unsaturation in the heterocyclic ring was desired, and an addition of two equivalents of acetone and the subsequent cyclization of the ring allowed a one pot reaction. The yield ( $76 \%$ ) of 78 from 77 was increased by addition of catalytic amount of HCl as compared to reported yields (40\%). ${ }^{29}$ On average, the $N$-methylation of 78 with dimethyl sulfate to give 79 resulted in $20 \%$ lower yields as opposed to methylation with methyl iodide in DMSO and KOH. 1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline (79) was the key precursor for the nitrogen heteroarotinoids.

The amination procedure used in the reaction sequence $69 \rightarrow 70 \rightarrow 71$ (Scheme $I$ ) was
not successful for the preparation of amine 82. Perhaps the harsh acidic conditions for nitration and successive reduction of the nitro moiety to an amine group were responsible for the reaction failure. After reviewing several amination procedures for an arene ring, the most suitable method for $79 \rightarrow 82 \rightarrow 53(54,55)$ appeared to be that reported by Leblanc and coworkers. ${ }^{77}$ The conversion of 80 to 81 [bis(2,2,2-trichloroethyl) azodicarboxylate (81)] gave an excellent source of positive nitrogen for electron rich arenes (Scheme IV). ${ }^{77}$ Reagent 81 was synthesized from the reaction of hydrazine hydrate (80) with two equivalents of 2,2,2trichloroethyl chloroformate in the presence of sodium carbonate. Interestingly, after

## Scheme IV


workup, the resulting intermediate from 80 was oxidized with $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ in pyridine ${ }^{76,121}$ to yield 81 ( $56 \%$ from 80). Amine 82 was obtained via a convergent synthesis involving 79 and 81 . 1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline (79) was allowed to react with azo derivative 81 in a solution ( $3 M$ ) of lithium perchloride dissolved in dry diethyl ether, a process which was
followed by reduction of the product with zinc in acetic acid. ${ }^{76}$ Three-atom linker heteroarotinoids $53-55$ were then procured via a reaction of amine 82 with the respective isocyanates or isothiocyanates.

Heteroarotinoids 56 and 57 differ somewhat from 9-c-RA (3) where the cis arrangement of the double bond was moved from the C9 position to C11. Treatment of $1,2,2,4$-tetramethyl-1,2 dihydroquinoline (79) with a $\mathrm{DMF}-\mathrm{OPCl}_{3}$ complex at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a Vilsmeier-Haack reaction resulted in the production of aldehyde 83 (64\%) (Scheme V). ${ }^{19}$

## SchemeV



Reaction of aldehyde 83 with the lithium anion derived from ethyl 3,3-dimethylacrylate gave
lactone $84 .^{7}$ The strategic introduction of the 11-cis double bond was efficiently performed by means of a DIBAL-H reduction of 84 to give lactol $85(87 \%)$ which was then transformed upon treatment with HCl in dichloroethane to 11 -cis aldehyde $86{ }^{7}$ The chain extension of 86 into ester 56 was accomplished by a Homer-Emmons type reaction of triethyl 3-methyl-4phosphonocrotonate (trans:cis, $4: 1$ ) with aldehyde 86 in the presence of $n$-BuLi and DMPU. Heteroarotinoid 57 was obtained when 11-cis-aldehyde 86 and thiosemicarbazide were allowed to react in an ethanol-water mixture as solvents at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

Treatment of aldehyde 83 with the anion of triethyl 2-fluoro-2-phosphonoacetate in THF at $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ generated ester 87 as an $E$ isomer only (Scheme VI) as opposed to the generation of ester 73 in which both $E$ and $Z$ isomers were formed (Scheme II) for reasons unknown. The reduction of 87 to 88 , and subsequent oxidation, resulted in aldehyde 89 which was converted to 58 as shown.

Scheme VI


Heteroarotinoid 59 was synthesized by the reaction sequence $83 \rightarrow 90 \rightarrow 91 \rightarrow 92 \rightarrow 59$ (Scheme VII) which is similar to the reaction sequence $83 \rightarrow 87 \rightarrow 88 \rightarrow 89 \rightarrow 58$ described earlier (Scheme VI). Thiosemicarbazide reacted with aldehyde 92 (Scheme VII) and afforded the locked, fluorinated $E$ - isomer 59 with different properties at the polar end.

## Scheme VII



## Synthesis of Sulfur Heteroarotinoids

Thiochroman 93 was synthesized (Scheme VIII) according to modified procedures reported from our laboratory. ${ }^{125}$ Acylation of 93 by acetyl chloride, isobutyryl chloride, or isovaleryl chloride in the presence of a Lewis acid, resulted in ketones 94a, 94b, and 94c, respectively,. The yields from these reactions were directly proportional to the size of the R group in the acylating reagent. The condensation of the Horner-Emmons reagent, triethyl 2-fluoro-2-phosphonoacetate, with ketones 94a-c yielded esters 95a-c. The DIBAL-H reduction of these esters afforded the easily separable $E$ - and $Z$-isomers of alcohols 96a-c
plus $98 a$ and 98 b , respectively. Interestingly, the size of the R group may also play a role in determining the $E / Z$ isomeric ratio. The larger the R group, the less $Z$-isomer could be recovered. A conformational search, done via computer modeling using the program Discover ${ }^{30}$ where the torsional force and the V092 algorithm were options for searching and minimizing new conformations, respectively, revealed that the larger the R group, the more the side chain was displaced from conjugation with the arene ring. When the R group was methyl, the angle between the benzene ring and the double bond of the chain for minimal

## Scheme VIII


energy conformation was approximately 15 degrees. This angle became $\sim 45^{\circ}$ and $\sim 60^{\circ}$ when the $R$ groups were isopropyl and isovaleryl, respectively. Perhaps it may be the combination of the out of plane angle between the arene ring and the side chain double bond and the presence of fluorine that are responsible for the direction of the Horner-Emmons anion attack on the carbonyl carbon. Only a small amount of the alcohol $Z$-isomer 98 c could be recovered after separation from the $E$-isomer 96c. The alcohols 96a-c and 98a,b were oxidized to aldehydes $97 \mathrm{a}-\mathrm{c}$ and to $99 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$, respectively. These aldehydes were then converted to the final heteroarotinoids $60-62,63$, and 64 , respectively.

Reduction of ketones 94a-c by DIBAL-H led to the formation of alcohols $\mathbf{1 0 0 a} \mathbf{a}$ in very good yields (Scheme IX). Treatment of alcohol 100a with sodium hydride in THF, followed by the addition of methyl 4-(chlorocarbonyl)benzoate and workup with water, led to a substitution reaction of the alcohol functional group by chlorine and production of 101a. The required final product 65 was not obtained (reaction procedure is described in Experimental).Diesters $65-67$ were the products of an alternative procedure where alcohols 100a-c were esterified via the addition of monomethyl terephthalate in the presence of DCC and a catalytic amount of DMAP. However, the yields of these reactions were low possibly due to steric hindrance of the $R$ groups. When $R$ was the isopropyl group, the yields were the lowest, a possible indication that the isopropyl moiety presents a larger bulk than the isovaleryl group in which the tertiary carbon is further removed from the OH group in 100.

The synthetic procedure to obtain the 7-methylthiochroman 102 was essentially the same as that used to produce thiochroman $93 .{ }^{125}$ The presence of a methyl group at the C7 -position was reasoned to possibly increase the selectivity of the ligand 68 by the RAR $\gamma$

## Scheme IX


receptor via altering the rotational barrier of the side chain. The reaction sequence $93 \rightarrow 94 \rightarrow 95 \rightarrow 96 \rightarrow 97$ described previously (Scheme VIII) was the model for the conversion of $102 \rightarrow 103 \rightarrow 104 \rightarrow 105 \rightarrow 106$ (Scheme X). However, the yields for the Horner-Emmons reactionto produce ester 104 were lower (even at reflux) than for its counterpart 95 which does not have a C7 methyl group. Intriguingly, in addition to inducing lower yields, the C7 group may play a vital role in $E / Z$ isomer selectivity. The Horner-Emmons reagent used in the condensation with ketone 103 produced an $E / Z$ isomer ratio (85:15) that was much higher than in the unmethylated C7 counterpart 95a (55:45) (Scheme VIII). Molecular modeling also showed that the conformations of intermediates 103-106 had a 20 degree larger angle ( 35 degrees compared to 15 degrees), with respect to the side chain and the aryl ring than in intermediates 92a-95a. Therefore, besides reduction of the conjugation between the arene ring and the double bonds of the side chain, the C7 methyl group may also direct the attack of the Horner-Emmons anion on the carbonyl group in 103.

The $E / Z$ isomeric ratio for compounds $74,96 a-c, 98 a-c$, and 105 and proton chemical shifts of the groups attached to the $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ are in the Table III. The ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ chemical shifts were

## Scheme X


referenced to the trifluoroacetic acid-OD. It appears that the ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ absorbance in the $E$-isomer is at a lower frequency than in the $Z$-isomer. ${ }^{58}$ This is consistent with the proximity of the fluorine atom to the aryl ring as seen from molecular modeling.

In the $Z$ isomers, the fluorine atom is positioned closer to the plane of the benzene ring and more deshielded. Therefore, one might expect ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ chemical shifts to be more downfield in the $Z$ isomers than in the $E$ isomers. Interestingly, in the $Z$ isomers the methyl,


E-isomer


Z-isomer
the methylene, and the methine hydrogens (square box in representative compounds below) adjacent to the double bond appear to be more de-shielded than in the respective $E$ isomers analogs. The coupling constants between the adjacent hydrogen(s) and fluorine were larger for the $E$ isomer, and these values were consistent for all isomeric pairs. This could imply

TABLE III
NMR ANALYSIS OF ${ }^{4} \boldsymbol{J}^{1}{ }^{1}$, ${ }^{\prime}$ COUPLING IN THE E/Z ISOMERS. ${ }^{\text {a }}$

| Compound | E/Z Ratio | $\delta^{1}{ }_{H}(\mathrm{ppm})$ |  | $\delta{ }^{3} \mathrm{~F}$ (ppm) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (E)-74 | 57:43 | 1.84 | 3.4 | -118.49 |
| (2)-74 |  | 1.97 | 2.7 | -117.21 |
| (E)-96a | 55:45 | 2.02 | 3.9 | -117.76 |
| ( 2 )-98a |  | 2.03 | 3.3 | -117.58 |
| ( $E$ )-96b | 61:39 | 2.86 | 2.7 | -121.86 |
| ( 2 )-98b |  | 3.15 | 1.5 | -115.28 |
| (E)-96c | 90:10 | 2.26 | 2.3 | -128.49 |
| ( 2 )-98c |  | 2.64 | 1.4 | -118.86 |
| (E)-105 | 85:15 | 1.93 | 3.3 | -120.93 |
| (Z)-105 |  | 1.95 | 2.2 | -114.64 |

${ }^{2}$ The assigment of stereochemistry was by the Pawson method. ${ }^{105}$
that the primary influence of fluorine on the hydrogen atoms mentioned above is due to the size and proximity of the former to the latter, and heteronuclear influence via bond proximity may play role in hydrogen splitting.

## Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR) Study Via Molecular Modeling

The use of computer-aided analyses is becoming a standard method for evaluating structure-activity relationship analysis of new drugs and in the design of new medicinal
agents. To gain better insight into retinoic acid receptor interaction with ligands for the purpose of drug design, the binding of three compounds previously synthesized in our laboratory was assessed in terms of developing a rationale for the interaction with RAR $\gamma$. The heteroarotinoids 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl 1,4,4-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquino-line-6-carboxylate (107),4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl1,4,4,7-tetramethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquino-



line-6-carboxylate (108), and 4-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl 4,4-dimethyl-1-isopropyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline-6-carboxylate (109) were examined for docking in the RAR $\gamma$ receptor via the use of the SYBYL $6.5^{126}$ software package along with the docking program "Flexidock." Due to the structural variations among compounds 107, 108, and 109, differences in the activity of these compounds exist in terms of inhibiting cancer proliferation in two different cancerous vulvar cell lines (Graph 3). ${ }^{9}$ The heteroarotinoid 108 exhibited greater growth inhibition of the various cancer cell lines than did 9-c-RA (3) or one of the most potent synthetic retinoids TTNPB (45). ${ }^{9}$ Such differences in biological activity may be directly proportional to the ability of an agent to bind and activate the RAR $\gamma$. As the data indicated, heteroarotinoid 108 activated the RAR $\gamma$ better than did 9-cisRA (3) (Table IV). ${ }^{9}$ In comparison to compounds 107 and 109, which transactivate all receptors only moderately and without any specificities, considerable difference can be seen between the activation of RAR $\gamma$ and the rest of receptors by 108 , where the latter appears to be a $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ specific transactivating ligand. ${ }^{9}$

$\square$ SW954 答 SW962

## Graph 3. Percent of Growth Inhibition of Cancerous Vulvar Cell Lines SW954 (Empty Bars) and SW962 (Gray Bars)

The activation of RAR $\gamma$ by 108 posed questions in term of conformations involving the ligand-receptor interaction and differences in receptor activation of 108 from 107 since the former has only an additional methyl group at the C7 position. The latter heteroarotinoid has little or no influence on the activity of the receptor. The heteroarotinoid 109 , which differs from 108 in that an isopropyl moiety is bound to the heteroatom instead of a methyl group and is void of a C7 methyl group, also did not activate the RAR $\gamma$ to any measurable extent. ${ }^{9}$

Using the Flexidock program, heteroarotinoids $\mathbf{1 0 7 - 1 0 9}$ were docked into the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ (data taken from the crystallographic structural information) ${ }^{14}$ to investigate the ligand-receptor interaction. Compounds $t$-RA (2), which is an RAR family agonist, 9-c-RA (3), (pan-agonist), 6 (RAR $\alpha$ specific), 39 (RAR $\beta$ specific), 32, and 40 (RAR $\gamma$ specific) were docked for comparison purposes (Table I). In addition, the docking of $t$-RA (2) was to test the validity of the Flexidock program (see Experimental for molecular modeling). All of the compounds were docked as a carboxylic anion for the closest simulation of the biological

TABLE IV
EC $_{50}$ VALUES AND EFFICACY DATA FOR THE TRANSACTIVATION OF RETINOIC ACID RECEPTORS BY COMPOUNDS 107-109.a

| Heteroarotinoid |  | RAR |  |  | RXR |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ | $\gamma$ | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ | $\gamma$ |
| 107 | $\mathrm{EC}_{50}(\mathrm{n} M)^{\mathrm{a}}$ | 1128 | 256 | NA | 601 | 33 | 20 |
|  | (\% efficacy) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 45 | 64 | 0 | 47 | 53 | 52 |
| 108 | $\mathrm{EC}_{50}(\mathrm{n} M)^{\mathrm{a}}$ | 796 | 92 | 6 | 102 | 70 | 40 |
|  | (\% efficacy) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 64 | 63 | 103 | 53 | 55 | 52 |
| 109 | $\mathrm{EC}_{50}(\mathrm{n} M)^{\mathrm{a}}$ | 217 | 41 | NA | 12 | 47 | 27 |
|  | (\% efficacy) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 59 | 71 | 0 | 62 | 45 | 47 |

${ }^{\mathbf{a}}$ The potency $\left(\mathrm{EC}_{50}\right)$ is the concentration of the compound that can induce one half of the maximal activity of the receptor. 'The efficacy is derived from dividing the maximal activity induced by the heteroarotinoid by the maximal activity induced by the 9-c-RA (3). $\mathrm{NA}=$ not active. ${ }^{9}$
condition where carboxylic esters of retinoids were hydrolyzed and ligands exist as anions at a physiological pH of 7.4. ${ }^{17.52}$ Data from docking of a flexible ligand (a ligand has three degrees of translation, rotational degrees of freedom around each single bond and torsional degrees of freedom around dihedral angles) into the fixed crystallographic structure of the LBD of RAR $\gamma$ are summarized in Table V. A total of five calculation trials revealed that the interaction energies (interaction energy is equal to the energy of ligand-receptor complex minus the sum of the energy of a receptor before docking plus the energy of the ligand before docking) of heteroarotinoid 108 with RAR $\gamma$ were better then 107 but not better than for 109 or $9-c-R A(3){ }^{4}$ These results did not agree with the biological data (Table 4) where the efficacy of 108 was $103 \%$ in the vulvar cell line in comparison to 3 and superior in comparison to 109 which did not transactivate the RAR $\gamma$. These discrepancies
would suggest that the interaction energies of the flexible ligand-fixed receptor complex may be representative of the binding affinities of the ligand and receptor, but such may not be an indication of the level of receptor activation by the ligand.

TABLE V.

## DATA FROM DOCKING THE FLEXIBLE LIGANDS INTO THE FIXED

 CONFORMATION OF RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ LBD CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE. ${ }^{\text {a }}$| Ligand | Energy of Interaction (Kcal/mol) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | R1 <br> $(25,000)$ | R2 <br> $(20,000)$ | R3 <br> $(15,000)$ | R4 <br> $(30,000)$ | R5 <br> $(10,000)$ |
| $t$-RA (2) | -64.64 | -58.29 | -34.71 | -75.73 | -33.5 |
| 9-c-RA (3) | -15.38 | -9.32 | -7.44 | -17.33 | -5.38 |
| 107 | 8.35 | 12.58 | 21.49 | 5.38 | 22.98 |
| 108 | 2.47 | 3.61 | 5.72 | -1.36 | 9.34 |
| 109 | -37.52 | -30.63 | -29.51 | -45.29 | -25.61 |

${ }^{3}$ The notation R1 is the designation for the first trial, R2 for second, etc. The number following the trial designation $(25,000)$ is the generation number, that is the number of calculations which the program generates through adjustments of the translation of ligand in the LPB, rotation around ligand single bonds, and torsion about dihedral angles. Exactly 10,000 new conformations of the ligand are then generated for each generation. The calculation of interaction energies between 10,000 different conformations of the ligand and receptor is followed by scoring the results by picking the 20 conformations of the ligand with the best interaction energies with respect to the receptor. This process is then repeated 25,000 times. The higher the generation number, the more conformations are generated until the program examined that number of conformations where the energies of interaction remain essentially constant, and the results converge toward the 20 best ligand-receptor interacting conformations. Once the receptor is fixed, its conformation does not change.

One of the options for explaining the above observation is that the resulting crystal structure ${ }^{14}$ of RAR $\gamma$, which was co-crystallized with $t$-RA (2), although it may be in a minimal energy conformation, is not the active conformation of RAR $\gamma$. Another possibility is that some of the amino acid conformations within the crystal structure of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ are not important in the selectivity and activity of RAR $\gamma$. In addition, the more rigid
nature of the system in a flexible ligand-fixed receptor type of docking could prevent 108 from proper orientation for interaction with receptor. Conceivably, the crystal structure of RAR $\gamma$ may deviate slightly from the active conformation of the receptor. Actually, computer matching of the crystal structure of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ to the resulting conformation of RAR $\gamma$ after a flexible ligand-flexible receptor docking with $t$-RA (2), and the subsequential removal of the ligand, revealed only small differences in conformational energies. The root-mean-square-deviations (RMSD) of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ crystal structural amino acid residues superimposed upon the resulting conformation of the residues of the flexibleLBP ofRAR $\gamma$, after $t$-RA (2) docking, were less than $0.01 \AA$ in most of the cases with only a few differences as in: Phe $201(\mathrm{RMS}=0.1931 \AA)$, Lys $236(0.452 \AA)$, Cys $237(0.420 \AA)$, Arg $278(0.185 \AA)$, Ser $289(0.423 \AA)$, Leu $400(0.128 \AA)$, Ile $412(0.236 \AA)$, and $\operatorname{Met} 415(0.121$ $\AA$ ) observed. These small deviations of RMS values of less then $0.5 \AA$ were considered to be a match via modeling of non-related systems. ${ }^{139}$ The resulting conformation of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ after flexible-flexible docking, agreed reasonably well with that of the crystallographic structure of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$. Nevertheless, the crystallographic structure ${ }^{14}$ of RAR $\gamma$ co-crystallized with $t$-RA (2) may or may not be the active conformation of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ in solution.

The conformations of all the amino acids in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$, with deviation values noted above, are not considered to play a major role in ligand selectivity and receptor activity. ${ }^{14}$ This notion was further supported by mutagenic stadies done on the LBD of RAR $\gamma$ where three amino acid residues (Ala 234, Met 272, Ala 396) were found to be responsible for the selectivity of a ligand and one amino acid (Phe 230) was found to be responsible for the activation of receptor $\operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\gamma} .{ }^{14,68,74,104}$ The interpretation of the results
from Tables 4 and 5 could then imply that compounds 109 and $9-c$-RA (3), which activate RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ less than 108, favorably interact with residues of the LBP which are not important for activation of RAR $\gamma$. In contrast, 108 does not interact to the same extend with the same residues of the LBP as do 109 and 3.

The direct consequence of favorable interactions of compounds 109 and 9-c-RA (3) with amino acid residues that are not important for activation of RAR $\gamma$ is the unfavorable interaction of 109 and 3 with residues that are important for the activation of receptor. This proposition was further supported via docking flexible ligands into the flexible LBP of RAR $\gamma$ where all bonds in the crystallographic structure of RAR $\gamma$ were allowed to have the same degree of freedom as a ligand, and backbone rotation was also allowed (Table VI; the lower energy, the more favorable the interactions between the ligand and the amino acid residues; also see Figure 11). The flexible-flexible method of docking was to permit the atoms of the ligand and amino acid residues of the LBP to rearrange so as to obtain the minimum interaction energy. The resulting conformations of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ (void of the ligand), after docking $107,108,109$, and 3 ,were mathematically analyzed and visually compared with the resulting conformation of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ after docking $t$-RA (2) which was then removed after docking (Figure 12).

Superimposition of the resulting conformations of the receptor's LBP, after $\mathbf{1 0 8}$ was docked and then removed, on the resulting conformation of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$, after $t$-RA (2) was docked and removed, revealed only slight differences in RMSD values within the following residues: Phe 201 ( $0.397 \AA ̊$ ), Leu 233 ( $0.805 \AA ̊$ ), Lys 236 (1.192Å), Cys 237 ( $0.42 \AA ̊$ ), Ile 275 ( $0.185 \AA ̊$ ), Arg 278 ( $0.595 \AA$ ), Ser 289 ( $0.339 \AA ̊$ ), Phe 304 ( $0.134 \AA ̊$ ), and Met

408 ( $0.478 \AA$ ). However, the RMSD values resulting from the superimposition for the amino acid residues important in the selectivity and activity of $R A R \gamma$ were less then $0.1 \AA$, which signifies a reasonable match. The spacial arrangements of Phe 230, Ala 234, Met 272, and Ala397 residues in the LBP with 108 docked, in comparison to the same residues of the

## TABLE VI

INTERACTION ENERGIES BETWEEN THE LIGANDS AND THE LBP OF RARY IN THE FLEXIBLE LIGAND-FLEXIBLE RECEPTOR DOCKING MODE. ${ }^{\text {a }}$

| Ligand | Interaction Energy (Kcal/mol) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathrm{R} 1(60,000)$ | $\mathrm{R} 2(45,000)$ |
| $t$-RA (2) | -140.34 | -123.56 |
| $9-c-\mathrm{RA}(3)$ | -120.36 | -99.97 |
| 107 | -57.08 | -46.24 |
| 108 | -122.49 | -117.69 |
| 109 | -88.52 | -85.53 |

${ }^{\mathbf{a}}$ In the flexible-flexible docking mode, all ligands docked favorably with different energetic changes for the ligands and receptors, which ultimately produced conformations of receptors that were analyzed.

LBP with docked $t$-RA 2), were essentially the same. The receptor conformation of RAR $\gamma$, after 9-c-RA (3) was docked, removed, and compared to the conformation of the receptor after $t$-RA (2) was docked, differed in several ( residues Phe 230 ( $0.202 \AA$ ), Lys $236(0.698 \AA$ ), Phe 230 ( $0.501 \AA ̊$ ), Ser 231 ( $0.415 \AA$ ), Met 272 ( $1.061 \AA$ ), Ser 289 ( $0.378 \AA$ ), Phe 304 ( $0.143 \AA$ ), Leu 307 ( $0.263 \AA ̊$ ), Arg 396 ( $0.151 \AA$ ), Ile 412 ( $0.462 \AA ̊$ ), and Ile 275 ( $0.435 \AA ̊$ ). The RMSD values for the amino acid residues for the RAR $\gamma$-inactive heteroarotinoid 107 from $t$-RAinduced conformation of the receptor were: Phe $201(0.274 \AA)$, Phe $230(0.832 \AA)$, Ser 231
( $0.364 \AA$ ) , Lys $236(1.655 \AA)$, Cys $237(0.420 \AA)$, Met $272(1.358 \AA)$, Ile $275(0.235 \AA)$, Ser 289
( $0.524 \AA$ ) , Phe 304 ( $0.154 \AA$ ), Arg 396 ( $0.146 \AA$ ), Leu 400 ( $0.338 \AA$ ), Met 408 ( $0.174 \AA$ ), Ile 412 ( $0.144 \AA$ A), and Met 415 ( $0.121 \AA$ ). The RMSD values for the conformations of residues of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$, after the RAR $\gamma$-quiescent heteroarotinoid 109 was docked, as


Figure 11. Compounds 2 (A), $\mathbf{3}$ (B), $\mathbf{4 0}$ (C), 107 (D), 108 (E), and 109 (F) docked into the flexible LBP of RAR $\gamma$. The amino acids Phe 230 (red), Ala 234 (light blue), Leu 271(magenta), Met 272 (yellow), Ser 289 (orange), and Ala 397 (dark blue) are highlighted.
compared to the amino acids residues of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ after $\mathbf{2}$ was docked, were:
Phe 201 ( $0.182 \AA$ ), Trp 227 ( $0.45 \AA$ ), Phe 230 ( $0.893 \AA$ ), Lys 236 ( $1.320 \AA$ ), Cys 237
( $0.420 \AA$ ), Leu 271 ( $0.244 \AA$ ), Ile 275 ( $0.185 \AA$ ), Ser 289 ( $0.524 \AA$ ), Leu 400 ( $0.128 \AA$ ), and Met415 (0.121 $)$.


Figure 12. The LBP conformation resulting from $t$-RA (2) docking (blue) was superimposed upon conformations of the LBP which resulted from docking of 107 (magenta), 108 (yellow), 109 (red), and 3 (green). (A) side view, (B) view which resulted from (A) after a $90^{\circ}$ clockwise rotation about the vertical axis.

After visual inspection and cross-checking the conformational differences where the RMSD value was larger then $0.1 \AA$, it would be appropriate to suggest that in addition to
residues Phe 230, Met 272, Ala 234, and Ala 397, which were responsible for RAR $\gamma$ activity and selectivity, amino acid residue Leu 271 may also be important in the selectivity of the ligand. If Leu 271 was included as a ligand-selectivity factor residue, this could fill the void in the oval shape conformation within the LBP created by residues Phe 230, Ala 234, and Met 272. However, this conclusion is based only upon visual inspection of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ conformation after docking the ligands and needs to be further verified through site-directed mutagenesis of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$. Docking the arotinoids 32 and 40 (Table 1), RAR $\gamma$ specific ligands, via a flexible ligand-flexible receptor method, resulted in similar conformations of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ to those conformations of the LBP which were obtain after docking the $t$-RA (2) and heteroarotinoid 108. The docking of arotinoids 6 and 39 (Table I), which are RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$ specific, respectively, induced conformational changes in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ similar to the conformations of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ generated after 107 and 109 were docked (when compared by superimposition and visual inspection).

The orientation of the Phe 230 phenyl ring was different with respect to the remaining residues in the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ after docking the inactive ligands as compared to the orientation found after biologically active ligands were docked into the RAR $\gamma$. This fact supports findings from mutagenic studies which implicate Phe 230 as the primary residue responsible for the activity or inactivity of the RAR $\gamma$ receptor. ${ }^{14,37,68,104}$ The mutation of the Phe 230 residue to Ala 230 or to Gly 230 rendered the receptor inactive. ${ }^{14}$ In contrast, mutations in Ala 234, Met 272, and Ala 397 to different residues only partially abolished the activity of the receptor. ${ }^{14,37,68,104}$ In addition to the above mentioned mutagenic studies, a proposal can be made that it is not only the presence of Phe 230 in the LBP that is important
for receptor activity, but it is also the orientation of the Phe 230 towards the remaining residues which may play a role regarding the extent to which the receptor is activated. In other words, Phe 230 can act as a "switch" that regulates the level of RARy activity, and that activity can be switched off to deactivate the receptor.

The orientation difference of the Phe 230 phenyl ring between the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ conformations resulting from docking activating ligands ( 2,108 ) of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, and conformations that resulted from docking inactive ligands $(107,109)$ of RAR $\gamma$, was a rotation of the ring approximately 60 degrees. This small shift in position of the Phe 230 phenyl ring was perhaps of major importance since Phe 230 is part of the loop between $\alpha$ helices H 1 and H 3 , which in turn is important for the ligand binding domain's dimerization surface. Therefore, any changes that occur at the dimerization surface may prevent the formation of homo- or heterodimers and consequently disrupt the proper activity of the receptor. In the case of docking 9-c-RA (3), the phenyl ring of Phe 230 was rotated nearly 35 degrees apart from that of the active conformation of the receptor when $t$-RA (2) was docked. However, this change may not be significant enough to prevent receptor dimer formation. Moreover the interaction between heterodimeric partners at the dimerization surface may be only slightly weakened, and essentially the activity of 9-cis-RA-induced RAR $\gamma$ is not as strong as the activity induced by $t$-RA (2). The smaller change in the rotation of the Phe 230 phenyl ring caused by 3 could be due to the conformational change of the Met 272 residue which is pushed away from the core of the LBP cavity by the C19 methyl group of 3. As a result, the rest of the curved and distorted conformation of 9-c-RA (3) can be incorporated into the LBP without major disruption of the Phe 230 conformation.

The selectivity role of residues Ala 234, Met 272, Ala 397, and Leu 271 would appear to be exhibited through a series of hydrophobic interactions involving parts of the ligand. Since certain amino acid residues occupy the inner core of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$, the flexibility of such residues, with the exception of Met272, is somewhat limited. It is this limited flexibility of Ala 234, Leu 271, and Ala 397, that may direct the positioning of the ligand within the binding pocket. If part of the ligand is positioned in such manner that it can interact with these residues through van der Waals repulsion and attraction forces, as in the case of 108 where the C7 methyl group interacts with Ala 234 and Leu 271, then the rest of the ligand is positioned so as to induce the best interaction with the rest of the LBP. However, if the structure of the ligand is void of certain groups at specific locations, then the best interactions between the ligand and receptor must come from sources other then from the residues responsible for selectivity, which, in retrospect, may influence the conformation of the remaining residues, such as Phe 230 , of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ and eventually prevent activation of the RAR $\gamma$ receptor.

Understanding the ligand-receptor structure-activity relationship is very important in designing isoform specific agents for alleviating of unwanted side-effects. However, more research is needed, and perhaps the discovery of a new method that would enable studies of the dynamic nature of the receptor activities would be a step in the right direction.

## Summary

Computer-aided modeling was a good guide in the design of new heteroarotinoids with various linkage groups. The twenty-one new heteroarotinoids should serve as models in the understanding of the role of RAR and RXR families of receptors and, in general, the
mechanisms of action for all nuclear receptors. Furthermore the design of compounds described above was aimed at one receptor isotype-specific activation which eventually could serve as a platform for the invention of potentially effective anticancer agents with high activity and low toxicity. The refinement of heteroarotinoid structures, via adaptation of a fluorine atom property, repositioning of the key groups at the ligands non-polar end, altering the linker flexibility, and changing the polar end functionality could lead to better interaction between the receptor and the ligand.

## Suggestions for Future Work

Future research in retinoid chemistry should be focused on the generation of isoform specific, non-toxic heteroarotinoids. The specificity of the retinoid could be enhanced either by increasing the rigidity or by fine-tuning and manipulating the structure of ligands so as to create a good match for the three dimensional structure of only one isotype of RAR or of RXR. The former might be accomplished by the attachment of unsaturated rings structures to the linker which could reduce or minimize the ligand flexibility and lock the ligand into one conformation. One problem with this approach, however, is that the toxicity associated with poly-aryl moieties and their metabolites is known to cause variety of disorders. ${ }^{133}$ The introduction of a triple bond in the linker (as in 30) of a ligand structure may be another way to increase the rigidity of the heteroarotinoids. ${ }^{23}$

Matching the 3-D space of the active conformation in a receptor's LBP can be accomplished through careful studies of the LBP found in the crystallographic structures of a receptor as such become available, mapping the LBP with the aid of computer modeling software, and then deciding which part of the ligand structure needs alteration. A
combination of avenues for ligand design is perhaps a another way to address the problem.
Sulfur and nitrogen heteroarotinoids appear to have promising activity with an additional advantage being that the nitrogen compounds can easily be converted to their corresponding water soluble salts (added HX) which is helpful in drug formulation. Heteroarotinoids 110 and 111 are suggested structures for future exploration in retinoid research. Compound $\mathbf{1 1 0}$ has a semi-rigid linker whose orientation and conformation



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3} \\
& \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{CH}_{3} \text { for } \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{N} \\
& \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{NCH}_{3}, \mathrm{~S}, \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{Se} \\
& \mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{~N}, \mathrm{~S} \\
& \mathrm{Z}=\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Et}, \mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}, \mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NO}_{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

mimics that of $t$-RA (2) (Figure 13) and may specifically bind to the RAR family only. The placement of the Y group in the linker may further reduce the toxic effects of retinoids. When the $Y$ is nitrogen or sulfur, the increased polarity of the compound as a whole may reduce its fat soluble property, and thus the half life of the ligand stored in the fat tissue might be shortened. ${ }^{22}$ Additionally, such a Y moiety could provide a functional group that could be utilized for further refinement of structures to enhance the receptor selectivity via attachment of different moieties. Rigidity is increased through the introduction of a triple bond (as in 30) which could also enhance the selectivity by restraining the rotational freedom of the ligand and prohibiting conformational adaptation toward other isotypes. The overall dimensions and conformations of the ligands are still in close proximity to those of
$t$-RA (2) (Figure 13). Heteroarotinoid 111 has the same basic functionality as $\mathbf{1 1 0}$. However, due to its conformational resemblance to $9-c-R A(3)$, the former would likely bind to RXR whereas the latter should bind to RAR only. ${ }^{22}$
(A)

(B)



(D)


Figure 13. Comparison of $t$-RA [(2), A] with 110 (B) and 9-c-RA [(3), C] with 111 (D). The distances ( $\AA$ ) and overall conformation similarities between the two pairs of compounds were noted.

## CHAPTER III

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

## Molecular Modeling <br> Compound Drawing and Energy Minimization

All ligands were drawn using the Builder module and fragment library in Insight II Discover 97 (Molecular Simulation Inc. (MSI) 9685 Scranton Road, San Diego, CA, 921212777). ${ }^{30}$ The atom and bond types were assigned accordingly using the consistent valence force-field (cvff) parameters. The geometries of the ligands were optimized with the program MOPAC, a calculation module in the Insight II modeling package. The MOPAC parameters were set as follows:

- The electronic energy state was set to the "lowest" energy level with unrestricted electron spins where different spins use different orbitals,
- the calculation method was AM1,
- the convergent gradient was set to $0.1 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol} \AA$,
- the gradient minimizing type was Non Linear Least Square (NLLSQ) method which can detect transition state and local minimums, and
- the minimizer for geometry optimization of the ligands was the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shano (BFGS) method. ${ }^{38}$

The charges of the ligands were calculated using the Gasteiger-Huckel method with preassigned formal charges for the carboxylate anion as $-0.5 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ electrons for each oxygen
atom. After the geometry optimization for the ligands, the ligands were saved in "mol2" format for further use in Sybyl 6.5 (Tripos, Inc. 1699 Hanly Road, St. Louis, Mo, 631442913). ${ }^{126}$

## Protein Modification

The crystallographic structure of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ was obtained from the Protein Data Bank (PDB, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY, 11973). The PDB ID number for RAR $\gamma$ crystallographic structure was " 2 LBD", and the molecule was downloaded with the co-crystallized $t$-RA (2) and water molecules ( $\sim 100$ ). The protein was modified with the Biopolymer module in Sybyl 6.5 by deleting water molecules, ${ }^{126}$ extracting $t$-RA (2), checking atom and bond types, adding hydrogens and valencies, and calculating charges via the Kollman method. ${ }^{71}$ The total resulting electronic charge of modified RAR $\gamma$ was -3.04 $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ electrons. The pseudo-LBP of RAR $\alpha$ and pseudo-LBP of RAR $\beta$ were obtained from a modified LBP of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ by the mutation of three and two amino acid residues, respectively. ${ }^{47}$ The conversion of RAR $\gamma$ to pseudo-RAR $\alpha$ was done by mutating Ala 234 to Ser 234, Met 272 to Me 272, and Ala 397 to Val 397. Similarly, the RAR $\gamma$ to pseudoRAR $\beta$ conversion was done by changing two amino acid residues, Met 272 and Ala 397 to Ile 272, and Val 397, respectively. Since Ala 225 in RAR $\beta$ corresponds to Ala 234 in $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, the change was not made at this position. This mutation procedure was performed by using the Biopolymer module in Sybyl 6.5, and the mutated receptors were then minimized in Sybyl 6.5 via use of Amber force field with the Powell method of line search and the gradient RMS set to $0.005 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ Å. ${ }^{64}$. The minimization was allowed to proceed for 1000 iterations to give the final pseudo LBPs of RAR $\alpha$ and RAR $\beta$.

## Docking

The program Fexidock, which is a component of the Biopolymer module in the Sybyl 6.5 molecular modeling software package, was used for docking the ligands into the modified crystallographic structure of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$, pseudo-RAR $\alpha$, and pseudo-RAR $\beta$. Flexidock is a docking program that attempts to fit a mobile, usually flexible, ligand into a region of a fixed or flexible receptor. This can be viewed as a global optimization problem for which Flexidock's genetic algorithm calculation method is well suited. The genetic algorithm mimics evolutionary behavior and expresses potential solutions which are different conformations of a ligand-receptor complexes known as a population of "chromosomes". ${ }^{110}$ Each chromosome consists of a number of "genes" which are parameters to be optimized, such as torsional angles, rotations around bonds, or translation of the ligand in the binding pocket of the receptor. A fitness scoring function rates each chromosome, and the competition between chromosomes yields a set of results. ${ }^{71}$ Evolution occurs by a random change in the numerical value of the gene, referred to as a "mutation" or by chromosomes exchanging genes, known as a "crossover". Since the best solutions of the fittest generation are kept, the quality of the solution increases with time. Flexidock incorporates the van der Waals, electrostatic, torsional and constraint energy terms of the Tripos force field, while the bond stretching, angle bending, and out of plane bending terms, which are invariant in torsion-space optimization, are ignored. To calculate the interaction energy between the site and the ligand atoms, coordinates of the atoms are converted to an index in the lattice field. A simple linear expression then yields the energy of interaction between the site and a particular atom of the ligand, which, when summarized, yields the overall site-ligand
interaction energy. More precisely, the total energy of steric and electrostatic interactions between the ligand and the receptor is given by :
$\mathrm{E}_{\text {interaction }}=\sum_{\mathrm{i}} \sum_{\mathrm{j}}\left(\frac{\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{ij}}}{\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{12}}-\frac{\mathrm{Bij}}{\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{6}}+\frac{\mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{j}}}{\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{ij}} \varepsilon}\right)$
where:

- $A_{i j}$ and $B_{i j}$ are the Lennard-Jones steric attractive and repulsive contributions between atoms of the ligand and the receptor (units are: $\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1} \AA^{12}$ and $\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ $\AA^{6}$, respectively, for $A_{i j}$ and $B_{i j}$,
- $r_{i j}$ is the distance between the receptor atom and the grid point nearest to the atom of the ligand $(\AA)$,
- the $\epsilon$ is the potential well depth for ligand and receptor ( $\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ )
- the $q_{i}$ and $q_{j}$ are the atomic charges ( $\mathrm{kcal} /$ mol-electrons) in the ligand and receptor, respectively.


## Docking Procedure

The validity of the Flexidock program was checked by removing the $t$-RA (2) from the crystallographic structure of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$ and docking it back to the rigid structure of $\mathrm{RAR} \boldsymbol{\gamma}$ and then comparing the results (energies and conformations) from docking with the original crystallographic structure. Before re-docking the $t$-RA (2), the receptor was modified as described previously. In addition, the $t$-RA (2) was also modified by adding hydrogen atoms, charges, and checking for correct atom and bond types. The resulting conformation and the positioning of $t$-RA (2) into the binding pocked after docking was
analyzed and compared with the original LBD of $\operatorname{RAR} \boldsymbol{\gamma}$ co-crystallized with $t$-RA (2), via superimposition. The overall RMSD of the docked conformational complex was not larger than $0.4 \AA$ for any atoms of $t$-RA (2), a situation generally considered to validate a good match.

For docking the flexible ligand into the rigid receptor, the default parameters of the Flexidock program were used with the exception that the non-rotational ("non_rot")bonds were activated to allow for rotation around amide and ester bonds in the ligand. The ligands were pre-positioned in the ligand binding pocket (LBP) defined by the following residues: Phe 201, Thr 227, Phe 230, Ser 231, Leu 233, Ala 234, Lys 236, Cys 237, Leu 271, Met 272, Arg 274, Пle 275, Arg 278, Phe 288, Ser 289, Gly 303, Phe 304, Pro 306, Leu 307, Gly 393, Ala 394, Arg 396, Ala 397, Leu 400, Met 408, Ile 412, and Met 415 with a radius of about $6 \AA$ around the defined binding pocket. The random seed number, which specifies the initial population of ligand conformations, was set to 15,000 , and the generation number was different for each series of calculations (see Table III in the Discussion).

The tournament method, where a new parent conformation is chosen by competition between pairs of all conformations and the conformation with a predetermined potential that it would produce more-fit conformations of a new generation when mutated, was chosen as the scoring method (See the-Flexidock manual). After the calculation was completed, 20 ligand-receptor complexes with the best interaction energies were saved and compared with the resulting conformations involving the same ligand and receptor from previous series of calculations. The energies of interaction energies for compounds 48-68 with RAR $\gamma$ are in Table VII. The positive energies of interaction signified bad steric hindrance between the atoms of the ligand and the atoms of $\operatorname{RAR} \gamma$. The results in Table VII are a representation

TABLE VII
ENERGIES OF INTERACTION FROM DOCKING FLEXIBLE LIGAND INTO FIXED LBP OF RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{\mathbf{a}}$

| Heteroarotinoid | Interaction Energies (kcal/mol) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | R1 (35,000) | R2 (65,000) |
| $t$-RA (2) | -55.45 | -78.63 |
| 48 | -23.92 | -39.39 |
| 49 | 59.32 | 48.91 |
| 50 | 24.48 | 16.92 |
| 51 | 16.34 | 6.98 |
| 52 | 79.34 | 66.83 |
| 53 | -98.45 | -129.73 |
| 54 | -87.32 | -138.37 |
| 55 | -123.99 | -166.88 |
| 56 | 89.32 | 76.15 |
| 57 | 97.66 | 93.41 |
| 58 | 3.73 | -1.39 |
| 59 | -145.43 | -177.82 |
| 60 | 18.49 | 14.72 |
| 61 | 56.94 | 44.38 |
| 62 | 101.87 | 72.45 |
| 63 | -93.45 | -98.71 |
| 64 | 2.76 | -1.83 |
| 65 | -21.38 | -32.59 |
| 66 | 49.21 | 44.82 |
| 67 | 87.38 | 56.81 |
| 68 | 1.38 | -9.42 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The negative Energy of Interaction = Favorable; Positive Energy of Interaction = Not favorable
of only the best values for energy of interaction of two separate series of calculations. Each series of calculations resulted in twenty final conformations (millions of conformations are generated during calculations) of the ligand-receptor complex which were then ranked in descending order for energies of interaction between the ligand and the RARy.

Docking of a flexible ligand into the flexible receptor required some changes in the parameter default set of the Flexidock program, namely:

- to press for a more rigorous calculation of the interactive energy between the ligand and the receptor,
- the hydrogen van der Waals radii were change from $1.0 \AA$ to $1.5 \AA$,
- the hydrogen van der Waals epsilon was changed from 0.03 to 0.042 ,
- and the van der Waals cutoff distance was adjusted from $16 \AA$ to $8 \AA$,
- the parameter options "use_backbone" and "use_constrains" were turned on.
- the mutational windows for torsion and rotation were changed from 60 degrees to 30 degrees to assure the generation of additional ligand-receptor conformations and
- the generation number for two series of calculations for each docking procedure for a ligand was set at 45,000 and 60,000 .

The data from these calculation were saved in an appropriate database for future comparison and analysis.

## Superimposition of the Receptor Conformations

Following the flexible ligand-flexible receptor docking operations, the resulting conformations of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ were analyzed by superimposition onto the LBP of the RAR $\gamma$ conformation that resulted from docking $t$-RA (2). Prior to the superimposition of
receptor conformations on each other, the ligand structures were extracted and saved for future use. The Superimpose module in Sybyl 6.5 was used and "all" of the atoms from the ligand docked LBP of RAR $\gamma$ conformation were chosen to be superimposed on "all" the atoms of the LBP of RAR $\gamma$ that resulted from docking $t$-RA (2). A database with the Root Mean Square Deviations (RMSD) between two LBPs of RAR $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ conformations was created and saved.

## Conformational Search

The compounds used in the QSAR and CoMFA calculations and also 9-c-RA (3) used for docking purposes were searched for the minimal energy conformations that were best matched to the crystallographic structure ${ }^{14}$ of $t$-RA (2) co-crystallized with RAR $\gamma$. The crystallographic structure of $\mathbf{2}$ was then retrieved and modified via the addition of hydrogen atoms and charges. The program "Discover", which is a module of Insight II from MSI, was used for the conformational search. The method used for this conformational search was "Torsional Force" which is a subroutine of Discover. The Torsional Force employs an external force field that is applied about a specific dihedral angle during minimization. The force constant for this type of calculation was set to 200. The grid scan algorithm of each dihedral angle was set from 0 degrees to 360 degrees with an 18 degree step size. This implies that for each dihedral angle, 20 new conformations were created which were then minimized. Thus, with this set up for ligands with $n$ dihedral angles, $20^{n}$ conformations were generated for each ligand. The quasi-Newton-Rapshon algorithm (VA09A), ${ }^{38}$ which is time efficient, was chosen for the minimization with the derivative set to $0.001 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ $\AA$, and the minimization of each new conformation was run for 100 iterations. The resulting conformations of the compounds were then screened by the creation of a Ramachandran
plot ${ }^{111}$ with the two torsional angles as the X and Y axes and the energy value as a gradient with an energy rise of $1 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$. For compounds with more than two torsional angles, the process of screening conformations was repeated until all of the conformations with different tortional angles were evaluated. Twenty conformations of each ligand, which were energetically low, and resembled the crystallographic 3-D orientation of $t$-RA (2) retrieved fromRAR $\gamma$, were used for QSAR calculations. The conformation of 9-c-RA (3) which most resembled that of $t$-RA (2), which was slightly more "linearly stretched" than the minimal energy conformation of $9-c-R A(3)$ and deviated from the minimal energy conformatiom 9-$c$-RA(3) by only $0.87 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ (larger, than minimal conformation energy) in energy value, was chosen for the docking.

## Activity Prediction

The programs QSAR, CoMFA, and Molecular Spread Sheet were used for predicting the activity of RAR and RXR isotype receptors in the CV-1 cell by compounds $\mathbf{4 5} \mathbf{6 5}$. For predicting the activity in the receptor isotypes of $\mathrm{RXR}, 20$ conformations of each compound with a known $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ were used, and from these 20 conformations only one, in which the predicted $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ value was the closest to the actual value, was used in the prediction of activity of the $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ for the untested compounds 45-65. In the prediction of $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ values for the RAR isotypes ( $\alpha, \beta$, and $\gamma$ ), only the conformations of the ligands that were docked into RAR $\gamma$, pseudo RAR $\alpha$, and pseudo-RAR $\beta$, and then extracted from the RARs ligand binding pockets (LBPs), were used. A total of six predictions, one for each isotype of RAR and RXR, were run for each heteroarotinoid 45-65. Before the CoMFA calculation were applied, the database with all the compounds (compounds with known $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ values and 45-65) and their conformations were aligned via the command "AlignDatabase",
with additional manual positioning for the thiosemicarbazone compounds. The CoMFA field of ligand sets was calculated using the default set-up (Sybyl 6.5) and then entered into the Molecular Spread Sheet. The known $E C_{50}$ values were entered as $\log \left(1 / E C_{50}\right)$, and a Partial Least Square (PLS) analysis was done twice, first with cross-validation analysis (which gave $q^{2}$ ) and second with "non-validation" analysis (which gave $r^{2}$ ). The $q^{2}$ and $r^{2}$ values are summarized in Table VIII.

The data from QSAR analysis were analyzed via the command "View CoMFA" in which the graphic representation of the compound in steric and electrostatic fields could be viewed

TABLE VIII
THE $Q^{2}$ AND $R^{2}$ VALUES FROM PLS ANALYSIS. ${ }^{\mathbf{a}}$

| Receptor Isotype | $\mathbf{q}^{2}$ | $\mathbf{r}^{2}$ | \% certainty |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| RAR $\alpha$ | 0.43 | 0.97 | 42 |
| RAR $\beta$ | 0.58 | 0.95 | 55 |
| RAR $\gamma$ | 0.51 | 0.99 | 50 |
| RXR $\alpha$ | 0.49 | 0.95 | 47 |
| RXR $\beta$ | 0.56 | 0.99 | 55 |
| RXR $\gamma$ | 0.45 | 0.96 | 43 |

${ }^{2} q^{2}$ is the correlation coefficient of explained variation in activity-structure relationship, $r^{2}$ is the correlation coefficient, and the percent certainty is $\left(q^{2} \times r^{2}\right) \times 100$. The equation for calculating $q^{2}$ is given below where $Y_{\text {pred }}$ is a predicted value, $Y_{\text {actual }}$ is the actual experimental value, and $Y_{\text {mean }}$ is the best of the mean of all values that might be predicted.

$$
\mathrm{q}^{2}=1-\frac{\sum_{\mathrm{Y}}\left(\mathrm{Y}_{\mathrm{pred}}-\mathrm{Y}_{\text {attad }}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{\mathrm{Y}}\left(\mathrm{Y}_{\text {statad }}-\mathrm{Y}_{\text {mean }}\right)^{2}}
$$

of the ligands allowed for more detailed analysis and possible explanations of the
predicted activities as opposed to just superimposition of the ligands on each other and then trying to correlate the difference in activity to RMSD of atoms in the ligands. The predicted values were saved for further use.

## Chemistry

## General Information

Some ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$, and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were recorded on a ${ }^{\text {UNTY }}$ INOVA 400 NB NMR spectrometer operating at 399.99 Hz and 100.01 Hz , respectively. The broadband Gemini 2000 High-Resolution NMR ( 300 MHz ) spectrometer was also used for obtaining a few ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$, ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$, and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ spectra operating at $299.97 \mathrm{~Hz}, 75.12 \mathrm{~Hz}$, and 282.32 Hz , respectively. All ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ signals were referenced to TMS , and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ spectra were referenced to $\mathrm{F}_{3} \mathrm{CC}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{OD}$. The common refference for ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ is $\mathrm{F}_{3} \mathrm{CCO}_{2} \mathrm{H}^{105}$ The instrument's name and the nucleic examined appear in the parameter table which is at the top-left corner of a ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 2000 FT-IR as 'neat' or as KBr pellets. GC-MS spectra were obtained using an HP G1800A GCD system with acetone as the solvent of choice. Melting points were determined with a Thomas-Hoover melting point apparatus and were not corrected. All synthesis where carried out under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, unless indicated otherwise, and with the aid of magnetic stirrer.

All commercial reagents and reagent grade solvents were used without further purification unless described otherwise. The chromatography support used was J. T. Baker $40 \mu$ m mesh flash chromatographic packing. Elemental analysis were performed by Atlantic Microlabs, Inc. Norcross, GA, 30091.
[(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)amino][(4-nitrophenyl)amino]methane-1thione (48)
(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)amine [(71), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.85 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice and NaCl ), and 4-nitrophenylisothiocyanate (160.7 $\mathrm{mg}, 8.92 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 6 mL of dry THF was then added dropwise ( 1 h ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24 h . The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and resulting solid was recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :pentane, $1: 1$ ) to afford 48 as a light yellow solid (mp $\left.181-2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 251 \mathrm{mg}, 71 \%\right)$. IR (KBr pellet) $3368[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3214[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left[\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right] \delta 1.24\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $1.46\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.56\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 3.87\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 7.01[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.60[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 8.01[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $8.15[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.48[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left[\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right] \mathrm{ppm} 18.06$ $\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 26.72\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 28.91\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.54\left[\mathrm{C}_{2}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 56.10\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 75.55$ $\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 108.65\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right]$, 122.11-145.87[Ar-C], $181.15[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$; Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 60.70 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.06 ; \mathrm{N}, 10.11 ; \mathrm{S}, 7.71$. Found: C, $60.63 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.01 ; \mathrm{N}, 10.11 ; \mathrm{S}$, 7.69.
$N$-\{[(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)amino]tioxomethyl\}(4-nitrophenyl)carboxamide (49)
(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)amine [(71), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.85 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction
mixture was then cooled to $-5{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice and NaCl ), and ethyl (4nitrophenyl)oxomethanisocyanate ( $186 \mathrm{mg}, 8.92 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was then added dropwise ( 1 h ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24 h . The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting solid was recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{HCCl}_{3}\right.$ :pentane, $\left.1: 2\right)$ to afford 49 as a yellow solid [mp 179 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (dec), $\left.305 \mathrm{mg}, 81 \%\right]$. IR (KBr pellet) $3229[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3171[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 1686[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left[\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right] \delta 1.33\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.56\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.57\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right]$, $3.80\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 6.85[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.10[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.10$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.39[\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 10.85[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 11.82[\mathrm{~s}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right) \operatorname{ppm} 24.10\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 26.67\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.55\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $56.05\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 71.34\left[\mathrm{OC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 111.19\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 124.24-135.77[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 168.77$ $[C=O], 182.56[C=S] ;$ Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{5} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 59.58 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.68 ; \mathrm{N}, 9.47 ; \mathrm{S}, 7.23$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{5} \mathrm{~S} \cdot 0.6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}:$ C, $58.16 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.70 ; \mathrm{N}, 9.24 ; \mathrm{S}, 7.05$. Found: C, 57.98; H, 5.47; N, 9.15; S, 7.02.

Ethyl 4-\{[N-(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)carbamoyllamino\} benzoate(50)
(6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochroman-5-yl)amine [(71), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.85 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $N_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice NaCl ), and ethyl 4-isocyanatobenzoate ( 170.6 mg , $8.92 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was the added dropwise ( 1 h ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24
h. The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting solid was recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :pentane, 2:1) to afford 50 as a white solid ( $\mathrm{mp} 147-9^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, .265 \mathrm{mg}, 73 \%$ ); $\operatorname{IR}(\mathrm{KBr})$ $3343[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3201[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 1713[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1673[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left[\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right] \delta 1.23[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.26\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right],, 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.47\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 3.85$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 4.33\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 6.90[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.3$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.58[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.84[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.23[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-$ $H], 8.98[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left[\mathrm{D}_{3} \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CD}_{3}\right] \mathrm{ppm} 14.52\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right] 27.93\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $28.66\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.81\left[\mathrm{C}_{\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.88\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 71.73\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{2}\right], 75.37}\right.$ $\left[\mathrm{OC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 107.24\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 116.80-145.71[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 153.4[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 156.47[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$; Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{25} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}: \mathrm{C}, 67.58 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.08 ; \mathrm{N}, 6.56$. Found: C, $67.50 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.10 ; \mathrm{N}, 6.48$.

## \{[(1E,3E)-1-Aza-4-(4,4-dimethylchroman-6-yl)-3-fluoropenta-1,3-dienyllamino\}amino-

 methane-1-thione (51)Thiosemicarbazide ( $35.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.38 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved into 4 mL of water and AcOH ( 1 drop) was placed in a $10-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker. Then aldehyde $[(75), 95 \mathrm{mg}, 0.38 \mathrm{mmol}]$ was dissolved in 5 mL of $\mathrm{EtOH}(95 \%)$. The latter solution was warmed to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then was added dropwise to the thiosemicarbazide solution while hot. A precipitate formed immediately. The reaction mixture was set aside for 24 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then the solid was filtered off. Recrystallization (EtOAc:diethyl ether, 1:1) of the solid afforded an white solid 51 (mp 231-2 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 100.1 \mathrm{mg}, 82 \%$ ). IR (neat) $3444[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3304[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3205[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}]$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}\right) \delta 1.30\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.78\left[\mathrm{t}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.10[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.=\mathrm{C}_{-} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.19\left[\mathrm{t}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 6.27[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.98[\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.24[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.44[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 7.65[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=$
$20.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 8.21[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 11.31[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (DMSO- $\mathrm{d}_{6}$ ) ppm, $17.22\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 30.27\left[\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.57\left[\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 36.83\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 62.58\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right]$, $116.58[=C H], 121.81-131.67[\mathrm{CH}=C-\mathrm{Ph}], 153.32[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}] 178.75[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{FN} \mathrm{N}_{3} \mathrm{OS}: \mathrm{C}, 59.79 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.27 ; \mathrm{N}, 13.07$. Found: C, 59.67; H, 6.37; N, 13.10.

## Ethyl 4-\{[(4,4-Dimethylchroman-6-yl)ethoxy]carbonylamino\}benzoate (52)

Powdered sodium hydride ( $23 \mathrm{mg}, 0.97 \mathrm{mmol}, 95 \%$ ) was suspended in 5 mL of freshly distilled THF ( 5 mL ) in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and two addition funnels. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and 1-(4,4-dimethylchroman-6-yl)ethanol ( $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.97 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of THF was added dropwise ( 30 min ). The reaction mixture was stirred at this temperature ( 1 h ) after which time ethyl 4-isocyanatobenzoate ( $185 \mathrm{mg}, 0.97 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was added dropwise ( 1 h ). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT with continuous stirring for 8 h , followed by cooling to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and quenching with a solution of saturated, aqueous ammonium chloride ( 4 mL ). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were then washed with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and dried ( $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 24 \mathrm{~h}$ ). Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and recrystallization (ethyl acetate: $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}$ :hexane, $1: 1: 1$ ) afforded 52 as a white solid ( $\mathrm{mp} 109-11^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 262 \mathrm{mg}, 68 \%$ ). $\mathbb{R}\left(\mathrm{KBr}\right.$ pellet) $3302[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 1744[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1732[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.41[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.54\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.90\left[\mathrm{~d} ; 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right] 4.02\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right]$, $4.02\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.81\left[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right], 6.85[\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $7.05[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.65[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-$
$H], 8.05[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 14.02\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 14.10$ $\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.97\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 61.17\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 120.32-141.14[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 165.68[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$, 178.93 [ $C=0$ ]; Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{NO}_{5}: \mathrm{C}, 69.40 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.84 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.52$. Found: $\mathrm{C}, 69.27$; H, 6.92; N, 3.45 .

Ethyl 4-\{[(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl)carbamoyl]amino]benzoate (53)
(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl)amine (82, $150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.74 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice and NaCl ), and ethyl 4-isocyanatobenzoate ( 148.5 mg , $7.78 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was then added dropwise ( 30 min ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24 h. The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting solid was recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{HCCl}_{3}:\right.$ pentane, $\left.1: 1\right)$ to afford 53 as a white, flaky solid (mp $\left.211-12^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 206 \mathrm{mg}, 71 \%\right) . \mathrm{IR}$ ( KBr pellet) $3352[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3262[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 1709[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.29[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$; $\left.\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 1.36\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.63[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 1.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2,87[\mathrm{~s}, 3$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.37\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.33[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.47[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $6.67[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 6.97[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.13[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $H], 7.4[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.92[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $14.33\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.50\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 27.21\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.75\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.39[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.70\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 111.11\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 118.14\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 120.64-143.96[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$, $154.23[C=\mathrm{O}], 180.45[C=\mathrm{S}]$. TLC Analysis for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ showed one spot in the following solvent systems: hexane:diethyl ether: $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2},(1: 1: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} 0.46$; chloroform:pen-
tane, $(2: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} 0.40$; hexane:EtOAc, $(2: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} 0.18$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{3}: \mathrm{C}, 70.21$; $\mathrm{H}, 6.92 ; \mathrm{N}, 10.65$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{3} \cdot 0.3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}: \mathrm{C}, 68.63 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.01 ; \mathrm{N}, 10.44$. Found: C, 68.63; H, 6.75; N, 10.35.

## Ethyl 4-(\{[(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl)amino]thioxomethyl\}amino)-

 benzoate (54)(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl)amine (82, $150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.74 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF, was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice and NaCl ), and ethyl 4-isothiocyanatobenzoate (161 $\mathrm{mg}, 7.78 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was then added dropwise ( 30 min ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24 h . The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting solid was recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :pentane, 1:2) to afford 54 as a pale yellow solid (mp $\left.161-2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 275 \mathrm{mg}, 91 \%\right) . \mathbb{R}$ $\left(\mathrm{KBr}\right.$ pellet) $3344[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3289[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 1712[\mathrm{C}=O] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.34[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 1.37\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.60[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 1.95\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2,83[\mathrm{~s}, 3$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.35\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.36[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.51[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $6.94[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.13[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.60[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.75[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 8.01[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $14.30\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.53\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 27.77\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.86\left[\mathrm{~N}^{2}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.75[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.92\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 111.04\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 121.66\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 123.06-143.56[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$, $165.97[C=0], 179.92[C=S]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 67.45 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.65 ; \mathrm{N}, 10.26$. Found: C, 67.47; H, 6.66; N, 10.17.
[(4-Nitrophenyl)amino][(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl))amino]methane-1thione (55)
(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl)amine (82, $150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.74 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in an oven-dried, $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel. The reaction mixture was then cooled to $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice and NaCl ), and 4-nitrophenylisothiocyanate ( 141 mg , $7.78 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.05 \mathrm{eq}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was then added dropwise ( 30 min ). After the addition, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 24 h. The solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting solid was recrystallized (EtOAc:hexane, 1:1) to afford 55 as an orange-yellow solid (mp 172-3.5 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 184 \mathrm{mg}, 65 \%$ ). $\operatorname{IR}\left(\mathrm{KBr}\right.$ pellet) $3338[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3181[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.39[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 1.93\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2,82\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.30[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.52[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 6.92[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.02[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.67$ $[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 7.77[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.87[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 8.19[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Ar- $H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $18.52\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 27.89\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.91\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.85$ $\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 111.08\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 121.61\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 122.81-145.44[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 179.65[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. TLC Analysis for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ showed one spot in following solvent systems: hexane:diethyl ether: $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2},(1: 1: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} 0.40$; chloroform:pentane, $(2: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}} 0.19$; hexane:EtOAc, $(2: 1), \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ 0.14. Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ : C, 62.81; H, 5.80; N, 14.05. Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S} \cdot 1.37 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}: \mathrm{C}, 59.50 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.95 ; \mathrm{N}, 13.82$. Found: C, 59.26; H, 5.57; $\mathrm{N}, 13.47$.

Ethyl $(6 Z, 2 E, 4 E, 8 E)$-3,7-Dimethyl-9-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinolyl) nona-2,4,6,8-

## tetraenoate (56)

In a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was placed a solution of triethyl 3-methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate ( $145 \mathrm{mg}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 1 mL of THF which was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then was treated with DMPU (100 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.78 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(0.4 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M}$ solution in toluene). The mixture was stirred for 20 min and then cooled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of aldehyde $86(87 \mathrm{mg}, 0.31$ mmol ) dissolved in 1 mL of THF was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for an additional 1 h . This mixture was allowed to warm to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1.5 mL ) was added. An extraction with EtOAc ( $3 \times 1.5$ $\mathrm{mL})$ was followed by washing the extracts with water $(1 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine ( 1 x 1.5 mL each). The organic layer was then dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. The residue was purified with column chromatography (silica gel, hexane:diethyl ether, $2: 1$, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s}$ ) and then recrystallized $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :pentane, $1: 2$ ) to yield 56 as a bright red solid (mp $52-54{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 37 \mathrm{mg}$, 42\%). IR (neat) $1705[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1},{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.26\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.29[\mathrm{~s}, 6$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.03\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}, \mathrm{~J}=10.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right], 2.36\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}, \mathrm{~J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right], 2.83[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.18\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.25[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 5.77[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}] 6.31[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $=\mathrm{CH}], 6.45[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C} H], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H], 7.45[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $12.98\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.57\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 26.78\left[\mathrm{C}_{\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 27.75\left[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.21\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.43}\right.$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}\right], 59.53\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}\right], 110.58[=\mathrm{CH}], 118.20-155.04[\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ph}], 167.17[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{2}: \mathrm{C}, 79.76 ; \mathrm{H}, 8.97 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.57$. Found: C, 79.68; $\mathrm{H}, 9.06 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.23$.

## $\{[(3 Z, 1 E, 5 E)-1-A z a-4-m e t h y l-6-(1,2,2,4$-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinolyl) )hexa-1,3,5-

 trienyllamino aminomethane-1-thione (57)Thiosemicarbazide ( $71.31 \mathrm{mg}, 0.76 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved into 4 mL of water and AcOH ( 1 drop) was placed in a $10-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker. Then $200 \mathrm{mg}(0.71 \mathrm{mmol})$ of aldehyde 86 was dissolved in 5 mL of $\mathrm{EtOH}(95 \%)$. The latter solution was warmed to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then added dropwise to the thiosemicarbazide solution while hot. A precipitate formed immediately. The reaction mixture was set aside for 24 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then the solid was filtered off. Recrystallization (EtOAc:diethyl ether, 1:1) of the solid afforded an light orange solid 57 (mp 177-179 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 123 \mathrm{mg}, 41 \%$ ). $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3428[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3254[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3156[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ $\operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.32\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.01\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.06\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH} \mathrm{H}_{3}\right], 2.84$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.32[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.17[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.47[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.72[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $=\mathrm{C}-H], 7.14-7.25[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H] ; 7.88[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 7.91[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 9.28[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H]$, ${ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 18.57\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 27.64\left[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 30.79\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.63\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}\right]$, $110.55[=\mathrm{CH}], 121.81-155.04[\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ph}], 177.75[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}$, 67.08; H, 7.39; N, 15.64. Found: C, 66.95; H, 7.37; N, 15.52.
\{[(1E,3E)-1-Aza-3-fluoro-4-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(6-1,2-dihydroquinolyl))buta-1,3-dienyl] amino aminomethane-1-thione (58)

Thiosemicarbazide ( $33.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.37 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved into 3 mL of water and AcOH ( 1 drop) was placed in a $10-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker. Then aldehyde [(89), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.77 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in 4 mL of $\mathrm{EtOH}(95 \%)$. The latter solution was warmed to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then added dropwise to the thiosemicarbazide solution while hot. A precipitate formed immediately. The reaction mixture was set aside for 24 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then the solid was filtered off. Recrystallization (EtOAc:diethyl ether, 1:1) of the solid afforded an light yellow solid 58 (mp 77-79 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 86 \mathrm{mg}, 69 \%$ ). IR (neat) $3429[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3258[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3148[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$
$\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.01\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right]$, $2.84\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.36$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 5.83[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 6.47[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 7.14-7.25[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-\mathrm{H}] ; 7.78[\mathrm{~s}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 9.11[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 9.41[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 18.62\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $28.12\left[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 30.98\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 40.79\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.63[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}], 110.08[=\mathrm{CH}], 121.08-$ $145.04[\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ph}], 150.22[\mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{CF}], 177.75[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{FN}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 61.42$; $\mathrm{H}, 6.37 ; \mathrm{N}, 16.85$. The compound decomposed very quickly, and no satisfactory elemental analysis could be obtained.

## \{[(1E,3E)-1-Aza-4-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(6-1,2-dihydroquinolyl))buta-1,3-

 dienyllamino aminomethane-1-thione (59)Thiosemicarbazide ( $56.68 \mathrm{mg}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved into 4 mL of water and AcOH ( 1 drop) was placed in a $10-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker. Then aldehyde $92(150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in 5 mL of $\mathrm{EtOH}(95 \%)$. The latter solution was warmed to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then added dropwise to the thiosemicarbazide solution while hot. A precipitate formed immediately. The reaction mixture was set aside for 24 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then the solid was filtered off. Recrystallization (EtOAc:diethyl ether, 1:1) of the solid afforded an light yellow solid 59 $\left(\mathrm{mp} 51-52.5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 150 \mathrm{mg}, 73 \%\right) . \operatorname{RR}$ (neat) $3426[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3262[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3151[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.26\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.01\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right]$, $2.81\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.36$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 5.80[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{CH}], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.78[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.84-7.25[\mathrm{~m}$, $3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H], 7.38[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 8.20[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 10.71[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 16.62\left[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.12\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 28.98\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.63[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}], 58.79[\mathrm{~N}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 110.08[=\mathrm{CH}], 116.56[=\mathrm{CH}], 121.08-143.04[\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ph}], 178.35[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{FN}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 64.93 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.05 ; \mathrm{N}, 17.81$. The compound decomposed very quickly, and
no satisfactory elemental analysis could be obtained.

Ethyl (2E,4E,6E)-6-Fluoro-3-methyl-7-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))octa-

### 2.4.6-trienoate ( 60 )

A $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was charged with triethyl 3-methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate ( $119 \mathrm{mg}, 0.45$ mmol ), DMPU ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.45 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and THF ( 2 mL ). The mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $0.42 \mathrm{ml}(0.67 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring for 1 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, $120 \mathrm{mg}(0.41 \mathrm{mmol})$ of aldehyde 97a dissolved in 2 mL of dry THF was added (addition funnel). The new reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for 4 days. Quenching the reaction mixture with saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ) and extraction of the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the organic extracts with water ( $2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic extract was then dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$, the solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the residual oil was purified by flash chromatography $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :hexane, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) to give $122 \mathrm{mg}(81 \%)$ of ester 60 as a thick light yellow oil. IR (neat) $1712[\mathrm{OC}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}$ $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \boldsymbol{\delta} 1.28\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.39\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.98[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.18\left[2 \mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.18\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.87[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}]$, $6.5[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.59[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.90-7.26[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $14.29\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.15\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.85\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.17\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 59.77\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 63.74$ $\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.45-123.21[=\mathrm{C}], 126.23-151.32[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 166.92[\mathrm{OC}=0] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ (ref $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}$ in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) ppm -120.99 [m, 1 F, $\left.=\mathrm{CF}\right]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{24} \mathrm{H}_{31} \mathrm{FO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 71.60$; H, 7.76. Found C, 71.53; H, 7.82.

Ethyl (2E.4E,6E)-6-Fluoro-3,8-dimethyl-7-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6yl) nona-2,4,6-trienoate (61)

A $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was charged with triethyl 3-methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.22$ $\mathrm{mmol})$, DMPU ( $28 \mathrm{mg}, 0.22 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and THF ( 2 mL ). The mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $0.15 \mathrm{ml}(24 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring for 1 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, aldehyde 97 b ( $65 \mathrm{mg}, 0.20 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 2 mL of dry THF was added (addition funnel). The new reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT, and then it was stirred for 4 days. Quenching the reaction mixture with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ) and extraction of the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the organic extracts with water ( $2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine $(1 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic extract was then dried ( $\left.\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue by flash chromatography (diethyl ether:hexane, 1:1, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s})$ gave $63(1.44 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%)$ as a thick, light yellow oil. IR (neat) 1711 $[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \boldsymbol{\delta} 1.16\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.32\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.45$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.57\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.96[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.16\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H} ;=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.37\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.27\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.80$ $[\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.6[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.78[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.82[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Ar-H], $7.02[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $13.41\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 14.29\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 21.13\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 29.70\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.51\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $54.20\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 59.77\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.96-125.21[=\mathrm{C}], 127.74-151.07[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 166.88$ $[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{refC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-110.50[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{C} F]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{FO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 72.52 ; \mathrm{H}, 8.19$. Found: $\mathrm{C}, 72.66 ; \mathrm{H}, 8.19$.

Ethyl ( $2 E, 4 E, 6 E$ )-6-Fluoro-3,9-dimethyl-7-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3 H -benzo[3,4-e]thian-6y1) deca-2,4,6-trienoate (62)

A $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was charged with triethyl 3-methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate ( $58 \mathrm{mg}, 0.22$ mmol ), DMPU ( $28 \mathrm{mg}, 0.22 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and THF ( 2 mL ). The mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $0.15 \mathrm{ml}(24 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring for 1 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, aldehyde $97 \mathrm{c}(67 \mathrm{mg}, 0.20 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 2 mL of dry THF was added (addition funnel). The new reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT, and then it was stirred for 5 days. Quenching the reaction mixture with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ) and extraction of the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the organic extracts with water $(2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic extract was then dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue by flash chromatography (diethyl ether:hexane, 1:1, drop rate $=1$ drop $/ \mathrm{s}$ ) gave $62(44.3 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%)$ as a thick, light yellow oil. IR (neat) 1710 $[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.96\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.12\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.38[$ $\left.\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.45\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.62\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $2.13\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.22\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.66[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH} 2 \mathrm{CH}], 2.89$ [d, 3 $\left.\mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.21\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.80[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.60[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.688[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $=\mathrm{CH}], 6.82[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.02[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 13.41\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 14.29\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 21.13$ $\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 22.36\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 29.70\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.55\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.24\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 59.77[$ $\left.=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.96-125.21[=\mathrm{C}], 127.74-142.07[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 151.37[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 166.88[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}$ ) ppm -122.13.50 [m, $\left.1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}\right]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{37} \mathrm{FO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 72.93 ; \mathrm{H}$,
8.39. Found: C, 72.66; H, 8.19.

Ethyl ( $6 Z, 2 E, 4 E$ )-6-Fluoro-3-methyl-7-\{2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))octa-

## 2,4,6-trienoate (63)

A $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was charged with triethyl 3 -methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate ( $96 \mathrm{mg}, 0.36$ mmol ), DMPU ( $42 \mathrm{mg}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and THF ( 2 mL ). The mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $0.32 \mathrm{ml}(0.51 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring for 1 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, aldehyde 99a ( $96 \mathrm{mg}, 0.41 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 2 mL of THF was added (addition funnel). The new reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT , and then it was stirred for 4 days. Quenching the reaction mixture with saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride (1 $\mathrm{mL})$ and extraction of the mixture with ethyl acetate $(3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ was followed by washing the combined organic extracts with water ( $2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The organic extract was then dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$, the solvent was evaporated (rotovap), and the residual oil was purified by flash chromatography $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}\right.$ :hexane, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) to give $97 \mathrm{mg}(73 \%)$ of 63 as a thick, light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1710[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.24\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1: 40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.98[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.16\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.36\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.20\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $5.92[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.6[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.81[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 7.11-7.56[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ $\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 14.32\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.64\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.55\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.29\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$, $59.86\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 61.38\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.88-123.21[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}], 125.74-151.11[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 166.93$ $[\mathrm{OC}=0] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)\left(\operatorname{ref} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-122.32[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{24} \mathrm{H}_{31} \mathrm{FO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 71.60 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.76$. Found: C, $71.48 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.62$.

Ethyl (6Z,2E,4E)-6-Fluoro-3,8-dimethyl-7-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))nona-2,4,6-trienoate (64)

A $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was charged with triethyl 3-methyl-4-phosphonocrotonate (124 mg, 0.47 $\mathrm{mmol})$, DMPU ( $60 \mathrm{mg}, 0.47 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and THF ( 2 mL ). The mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $0.30 \mathrm{ml}(0.48 \mathrm{mmol})$ of $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring for 1 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, aldehyde $99 \mathrm{~b}(137 \mathrm{mg}, 0.43 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 2 mL of THF was added (addition funnel). The new reaction mixture was allowed to warm to RT , and then it was stirred for 4 days. Quenching the reaction mixture with a saturated, aqueous, solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ) and extraction of the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic extracts with water $(2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic extracts were then dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue by flash chromatography $\left((\mathrm{Et})_{2} \mathrm{O}\right.$ :hexane, $1: 1$, drop rate $=$ 1 drop/s) gave $64(101 \mathrm{mg}, 55 \%)$ as a thick, light yellow oil. $\operatorname{IR}$ (neat) $1712[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.06\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.24\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.37[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.57\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.16$ $\left[\mathrm{d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.36\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.25\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.65[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.6[\mathrm{~d}$, $1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.81[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.88[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.05[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.45[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 13.41\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $14.29\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 21.13\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 29.70\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.51\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.20\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 59.77$ $\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.37-125.21[=\mathrm{C}], 127.74-151.34[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 166.90[\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ (ref $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}$ in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) ppm -125.01 [d, $\left.1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}\right]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{FO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 72.52$;

H, 8.19. Found: C, 72.32; H, 8.54.
(2,2,4,4-Tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian6-yl))ethyl 4-(methoxycarbonyl)benzoate (65)
In a $50-\mathrm{mL}$, one-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was added at RT 2-methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))propan-1ol [(101a), $294.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.88 \mathrm{mmol}$ ] and 4-(methoxycarbonyl)benzoic acid ( $158 \mathrm{mg}, 0.88$ mmol) dissolved in 20 mL of $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. To this solution were added $N, N^{\prime}$ dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) ( $462 \mathrm{mg}, 2.2 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.5 \mathrm{eq}$ ) and DMAP ( $10.0 \cdot \mathrm{mg}$, catalytic amount), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 days at RT. Filtration of the reaction mixture, evaporation (rotovap) of solvent from the filtrate, and purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $10: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) of the residue after solvent evaporation afforded $65(200 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%)$ as a pale yellow, thick oil. IR (neat) $1729[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1722[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.39\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.69\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right] 1.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 6.19[\mathrm{q}, 1$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCHCH}_{3}\right], 7.18[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.09[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$ $7.46[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.12[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.13[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm, $14.25\left[\mathrm{OCHCH}_{3}\right], 31.65\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.50\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.85\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.37$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.05\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 52.39\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 54.23\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 81.94\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right]$, 124.37-142.22 [Ar-C], $165.74[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 166.29[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$. Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{24} \mathrm{H}_{28} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 69.87$; H, 6.84. Found: C, 70.11; H, 6.74.

In a $50-\mathrm{mL}$, one-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was added at RT 2-methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))propan-1ol [(101b), 300 mg 1.08 mmol$]$ and 4-(methoxycarbonyl)benzoic acid (194 mg, 1.08 mmol ) dissolved in 20 mL of $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. To this solution were added $N_{,} N^{\prime}$-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) ( $557 \mathrm{mg}, 2.7 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.5 \mathrm{eq}$ ) and DMAP ( 10.0 mg , catalytic amount), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 4 days at RT. Filtration of the reaction mixture, evaporation (rotovap) of solvent from the filtrate, and purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $10: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) of the residue after solvent evaporation afforded 66 as a pale yellow solid (mp $52-3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 190 \mathrm{mg}, 40 \%$ ). IR (neat) 1726 $[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1723[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.89\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.04[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 1.34\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.25[\mathrm{~m}, 1$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 5.79[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCHCH}], 7.08[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.09[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.36[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.12[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $H], 8.13[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 18.55\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 18.68\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.50$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.53\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.85\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.37\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 41.95\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$ $52.37\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 54.46\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 81.94\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 124.37-142.22[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 164.94[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$, $166.22[C=0]$. Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{32} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 70.88 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.32$. Found: $\mathrm{C}, 70.81 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.74$.

3-Methyl-1-(2,2,4.4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))butyl 4-(methoxycarbonyl). benzoate (67)

In a $50-\mathrm{mL}$, one-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was added at RT 3-methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4e]thian-6-yl))butan-1-ol [(100c), $300 \mathrm{mg}, 1.03 \mathrm{mmol}]$ and 4-(methoxycarbonyl)benzoic acid ( $185 \mathrm{mg}, 1.03 \mathrm{mmol}$ )
dissolved in 20 mL of $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. To this solution were added, $N, N^{\prime}$ '-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) ( $531 \mathrm{mg}, 2.57 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.5 \mathrm{eq}$ ) and DMAP ( 9.0 mg , catalytic amount), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 4 days at RT. Filtration of the reaction mixture, evaporation (rotovap) of solvent from the filtrate, and purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 8:1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded 67 as a white solid $\left(\mathrm{mp} 61-3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 200 \mathrm{mg}, 43 \%\right) . \mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1732[\mathrm{C}=0], 1723[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta$ $0.89\left[\mathrm{dd}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.84[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 1.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.25\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.93\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 6.05[\mathrm{~m}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCHCH}], 7.18[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.19[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$ $7.340[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.1[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.10[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $22.39\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 23.82\left[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 31.62\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.50\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.55$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.05\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 52.43\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 54.44\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 75.78[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{OC}=\mathrm{O}]$, 124.07-142.62[Ar-C]. $165.08[C=O], 166.31[C=O]$. Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{34} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{~S}: \mathrm{C}, 71.33$; H, 7.54. Found: C; 71.36; H, 7.65.
[[(1E,3E)-1-Aza-3-fluoro-4-(2,2,4,4,7-pentamethyl(3H-benzo)[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))penta-1,3dienyllamino aminomethane-1-thione (68)

Thiosemicarbazide $(60.00 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved into 4 mL of water and AcOH ( 1 drop) was placed in a $10-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker. Then 200 mg ( 0.65 mmol ) of aldehyde 106 was dissolved in 5 mL of $\mathrm{EtOH}(95 \%)$. The latter solution was warmed to $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then was added dropwise to the thiosemicarbazide solution while hot. A precipitate formed immediately. The reaction mixture was set aside for 24 h at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then the solid was filtered off. The recrystallization of the solid (EtOAc:diethyl ether, 2:1) afforded an white
solid $68\left(\mathrm{mp} 162-3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 178 \mathrm{mg}, 72 \%\right) . \mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3379[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3233[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3151[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}]$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (DMSO- $\left.d_{6}\right) 1.89\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.90\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.05[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right] 2.10\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.34\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 6.98[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.09[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$ $7.35[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=14.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 7.51[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 7.99[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H], 9.91[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H]$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (DMSO-d $\mathrm{d}_{6}$ ) ppm, $17.57\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 25.05\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right] 31.30\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.52$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.68\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.05\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.63\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$ 128.37-142.22 $[$ Ar$C], 151.61[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 179.83 .74[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{S}]$. Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{FN}_{3} \mathrm{~S}_{2}: \mathrm{C}, 60.12 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.90 ; \mathrm{N}$, 11.07. Found: C, 60.35 ; $H, 7.07 ;$ N, 11.22 .

## 6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethyl-5-nitroisochromane (70)

Into a $500-\mathrm{mL}$, singled necked, round bottomed flask, fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was added 6-methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochromane [(69), $18.0 \mathrm{~g}, 81.70 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in $\mathrm{Ac}_{2} \mathrm{O}(36 \mathrm{~mL})$ at $-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice/salt bath). A mixture of icecold concentrated $\mathrm{HNO}_{3}(18 \mathrm{~mL})$ and $\mathrm{Ac}_{2} \mathrm{O}(36 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added dropwise to the reaction mixture $\left(-5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 10 \mathrm{~min}\right)$ which was then stirred $(1 \mathrm{~h})$. The reaction mixture was poured into a solution of saturated $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}(300 \mathrm{~mL})$ and extracted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}(3 \times 120 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was washed with water $(150 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(150 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}\right.$, 12 h ). The solvent was evaporated (rotovap) to give a thick yellow oil. The oil was triturated with pentane to give a light yellow solid. Recrystallization ( $95 \% \mathrm{EtOH}$ ) gave 70 $(6.91 \mathrm{~g}, 32 \%)$ as a white solid; $\mathrm{mp} 82-83{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{RR}(\mathrm{KBr}) 1241\left[\mathrm{NO}_{2}\right] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 1.28\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.51\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.48[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}], 3.83\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right]$; $6.88[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.12[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $24.09\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 30.05\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 56.35\left[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 71.68\left[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.65\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$,
128.18-159.34 [Ar-C]; MS (EI) calcd $m / z\left(M^{+}\right)$for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{19} \mathrm{NO}_{4}: 265$; Found: 265.

## (6-Methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethylisochromane-5-yl)amine (71)

Into a 1-L, single-necked, round bottomed flask, equipped with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, condenser, and a magnetic stirrer was placed 6-methoxy-1,1,4,4-tetramethyl-5-nitroisochromane [(70) $5.7 \mathrm{~g}, 17.71 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in acetic acid ( 206 mL ) and water ( 42 mL ). Then the $\mathrm{TiCl}_{3} / \mathrm{HCl}$ complex ( $30 \%$ solution, $120 \mathrm{~g}, 177.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added dropwise, and the resulting purple reaction mixture was stirred ( $13 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{RT}$ ). The new mixture was cooled ( 0 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ), and $\mathrm{NaOH}(30 \%, 500 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added (dropwise, 4 h$)$. The reaction mixture was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc ( $8 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were washed with water $(2 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL})$ and saturated $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}(2 \times 100 \mathrm{~mL})$, and then the organic extract was dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Recrystallization ( $95 \% \mathrm{EtOH}$ ) gave amine $71(4.6 \mathrm{~g}, 89 \%)$ of as a white solid; $\mathrm{mp} 110-112{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\operatorname{IR}(\mathrm{KBr}) 3449\left[\mathrm{NH}_{2}\right], 3338$ $\left[\mathrm{NH}_{2}\right], \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.37\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.49\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.53[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 3.83\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right], 3.98[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{NH}]_{2}, 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.69[\mathrm{~d}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 27.02\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 29.73\left[\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 55.41[\mathrm{O}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 71.16\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 74.83\left[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 111.79\left[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 122.73-146.24[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$; MS (EI) calcd $m / z\left(\mathbf{M}^{+}\right)$for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{19} \mathrm{NO}_{4}: 235$. Found: 235 .

## Ethyl (2E)-3-(4,4-Dimethylchroman-6-yl)-2-fluorobut-2-enoate (73)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, was added ethyl-2-fluorophosphonoacetate ( $260 \mathrm{mg}, 1.08 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and DMPU ( $138 \mathrm{mg}, 1.08 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF . The reaction mixture was cooled to
$0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n$-BuLi ( $1.6 \mathrm{M}, 0.68 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.08 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added dropwise by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 1$-(4,4-dimethylchroman-6-yl)ethan-1-one [(72), 200 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.98 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 6 days at RT and then was quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride. Extraction with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic layers with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 5 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 2:1, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s}$ ) of the residue and, after solvent evaporation, $7(206 \mathrm{mg}, 72 \%)$ was recovered as a clear oil. IR (neat) $1728[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.15\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.30[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.82\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.09\left[\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.07\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.20[\mathrm{q}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 6.73[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 6.88[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H]$, $7.07[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 13.75\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 19.20\left[\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right]$, $30.55\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.97\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 37.47\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 60.88\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 63.05\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right]$, $116.50[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 126.41-145.77[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 153.38[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 160.34[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-124.15\left[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

## (2E)-3-(4.4-dimethylchroman-6-yl)-2-fluorobut-2-en-1-ol (74)

Ester 73 ( $206 \mathrm{mg}, 0.70 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution ( $1.5 \mathrm{M}, 0.93 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.40 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) of DIBAL-H in toluene was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h , and the reaction was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 2 mL of a saturated, aqueous
solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ( $1 \times 15$ $\mathrm{mL})$ and brine ( $1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Separation of the major component in the residue, via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 3$, drop rate $=$ 1 drop/s) and, after solvent evaporation, afforded $74(160 \mathrm{mg}, 92 \%)$ as a colorless oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3412[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1651[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.32\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.82$ $\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.00[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 2.09\left[\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.19\left[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{COH}\right], 4.20[\mathrm{q}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 6.53[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.78[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $\left.7.27[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 16.20\left[=\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right], 30.53\left[\mathrm{C}_{\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)}\right)_{2}\right]$, $30.97\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 37.47\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 58.88\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 63.05\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 116.76[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}]$, 118.69-152.77 [Ar-C], $156.38[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-118.51[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F}$, $\left.\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

## (2E)-3-(4,4-Dimethylchroman-6-yl)-2-fluoro-2-butenal (75)

Alcohol 74 ( $162 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.75 \mathrm{~g}, 17.25 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then was filtered through a 1-inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether:ethyl acetate, 1:1:1, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s}$ ) of the major component in the residue, afforded aldehyde 75 ( $95 \mathrm{mg}, 59 \%$ ) as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $2834[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1674[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \boldsymbol{\delta} 1.37[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.83\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.09$ [d $\left.\mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 4.21\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 6.73$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.98[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.24[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1$
$\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.01[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 17.20\left[=\mathrm{CHCH}_{3}\right], 30.43\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $30.87\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 37.34\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 63.05\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 116.76[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 118.69-152.77[\mathrm{Ar}-$ $C], 156.38[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 188.87[\mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-121.51\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

## 1-(4,4-Dimethylchroman-6-yl)ethan-1-ol (76)

Ketone 72 ( $150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.73 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF was placed in a 25mL , three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene ( $1.5 \mathrm{M}, 1.63 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.44 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:3). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 4 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate). The bi-phasic mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate $(3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by washing the extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(2 \times 10$ mL ) and brine ( $1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Separation of the major component after evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 1:3, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded alcohol $76(142 \mathrm{mg}, 94 \%)$ as a clear oil. IR (neat) $3401[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.23\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.42[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{HCCH}_{3}\right], 1.65[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.82\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 4.20\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 4.81[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $H \mathrm{COH}], 6.79[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.08[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.27[\mathrm{~d}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 24.85\left[(\mathrm{HO}) \mathrm{HCCH}_{3}\right], 30.58\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.97$ $\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 37.459\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 63.08\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 70.29\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 116.76[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 118.69-$ 152.77 [Ar-C].

Into a $500-\mathrm{mL}$, 4-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a thermometer, condensor, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and addition funnel connected to $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ and placed on top of another condensor, and distillation apparatus was added freshly distilled aniline ( $20.0 \mathrm{~g}, 0.21 \mathrm{~mol}$ ) together with a catalytic amount of iodine $(0.3 \mathrm{~g})$ and concentrated $\mathrm{HCl}(0.2 \mathrm{~mL})$. The reaction mixture was heated to $155^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then acetone ( $\sim 400 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was added slowly and at such a rate so that the temperature of the mixture did not fall bellow $140^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The unreacted acetone and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (a reaction byproduct) distilled off during the addition process. After addition of acetone ( $250 \mathrm{~mL}, \sim 3.5 \mathrm{~h}$ ), the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 1 h and was then allowed to cool to RT. Extraction with hexane ( $3 \times 100 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 100 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 100 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying ( $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}$ ). The hexane was evaporated (rotovap), and the resulting product was purified by distillation (bp $109-111{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 0.75 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}$ ) to yield 78 as a pale yellow oil (27.9 g, 76\%). IR (neat) $3301[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.41[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 2.18\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 3.79[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 5.45[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.55-7.15[\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.64\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 23.44\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.34\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $110.53\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 111.91\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 116.12-145.07[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$.

## .1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline (79)

In a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, was added powdered KOH ( $299 \mathrm{mg}, 5.7 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 10 mL of DMSO. The mixture was stirred at RT until all KOH dissolved, and then the temperature was adjusted to $10{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (water bath and ice). 2,2,4-Trimethyl-1,2dihydroquinoline $(1.00 \mathrm{~g}, 5.77 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 5 mL of DMSO was added dropwise,
followed immediately by the addition of $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{I}(1.09 \mathrm{~g}, 7.7 \mathrm{mmol})$. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 30 min and then was poured into 10 mL of ice-cold water. The mixture was extracted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}(3 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL})$. The combined organic extracts were washed with water ( $1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine $(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Evaporation (rotovap) of solvent and flash chromatography (silica gel, hexanes as only solvent, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s})$ of the residue afforded 2 as a yellow oil ( $0.784 \mathrm{~g}, 71 \%$ ). $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1048[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}]$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.37\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 2.23\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2,96[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.36[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.87-7.24[\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.64\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $25.74\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.60\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 54.53\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 111.43\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 112.51[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 118.12-144.56[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$.

## Bis(2,2,2-trichloroethyl) Azodicarboxylate (81)

In a 50-mL, three-necked flask equipped with magnetic stirrer, thermometer, and 25mL and $25-\mathrm{mL}$ dropping funnels was placed a solution of $1.0 \mathrm{~g}(0.023 \mathrm{~mol})$ of $85 \%$ hydrazine hydrate in 6 mL of $95 \%$ ethanol. The reaction flask was cooled in an ice bath, and $9.6 \mathrm{~g}(0.046 \mathrm{~mol})$ of 2,2,2-trichloroethyl chloroformate was added dropwise so that the temperature was kept below $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. During the addition of 1 equivalent of the chloroformate, a white precipitate formed. After exactly one-half of the chloroformate had been added, a solution of of sodium carbonate $(2.5 \mathrm{~g}, 0.024 \mathrm{~mol})$ in 10.0 mL of water was added dropwise ( 2 h ) along with the remaining chloroformate. The rate of addition of these two reagents was such that the flow of the chloroformate was faster than that of the sodium carbonate so that there was always an excess of chloroformate present. The temperature was kept below $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during the addition. As the second equivalent of chloroformate was
added, the white precipitate dissolved. After the addition of the reactants was complete (4 h), the reaction was allowed to stir for an additional 30 min while the solution warmed to RT. The reaction mixture was then transferred to a separatory funnel. The viscous, organic layer (bottom) was separated from the aqueous layer and was dissolved in 20 mL of ether. The reaction vessel was washed with 10 mL of ether, and this ether portion was used to extract the aqueous layer again. The ether layers were combined, dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 5 \mathrm{~h}\right)$, and then filtered, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure (rotovap).

Bromine ( $1.6 \mathrm{~g}, 20.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in 150 mL of dichloromethane was added dropwise (1 h) to a dichloromethane ( 500 mL ) solution of hydrazide ( $7.0 \mathrm{~g}, 18.2 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and pyridine ( $1.50 \mathrm{~g}, 20.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and solution was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (ice bath) under argon. The reaction mixture turned from colorless to yellow upon the addition. The reaction was complete after $30-60 \mathrm{~min}$ at RT as determined by TLC (silica gel, EtOAc:hexane, 1:1). The reaction mixture was then diluted to 1000 mL with dichloromethane, washed with $5 \% \mathrm{HCl}(2 \times 300$ mL ), saturated sodium bicarbonate ( 300 mL ), water ( 3 x 300 mL ) and saturated $\mathrm{NaCl}(1 \mathrm{x}$ 300 mL ) to give azide 81 as light yellow solid $\left[4.26 \mathrm{~g}, 56 \%, \mathrm{mp} 115-6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right.$ (LLit. ${ }^{76} 116.5-117$ $\left.{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$. $\operatorname{IR}(\mathrm{KBr}$ pellet $) 1786[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1723[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 5.08[\mathrm{~s}, 4 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{Cl}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{2}\right] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $77.45\left[\mathrm{Cl}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{2}\right], 93.09\left[\mathrm{Cl}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{2}\right], 158.42[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$.

## [1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinol-6-yl]amine (82)

1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline ( $1.00 \mathrm{~g}, 5.3 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of a 3 M solution of $\mathrm{LiOCl}_{4}$ in diethyl ether was placed in a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, roundbottomed flask equipped with a condensor, addition funnel, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet. To this solution was added dropwise bis(2,2,2-trichloroethyl) azodicarboxylate ( $4.5 \mathrm{~g}, 11.8 \mathrm{mmol}$, prepared
in our lab (see above) via reaction of 2,2,2,trichloroacetyl chloride and hydrazine (85\%), followed by reduction with $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ in pyridine) dissolved in 5 mL of diethyl ether at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The solution was then carefully warmed to $55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and stirred at this temperature for 3 h . The new reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and 5 mL of ice water was added. Extraction with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}(3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by washing the extracts with brine ( $1 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and drying $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)$ overnight, yielded an aryl azide $(2.58 \mathrm{~g}, 85 \%)$. This aryl azide was reduced, without purification, by dissolving it in 5 mL of concentrated acetic acid. To this solution was added approximately 1 equivalent by weight of Zn dust ( 2.6 g ). The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min , and $9 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of acetone was added by micro-pipette. After stirring the reaction mixture for 3 h at RT , the new mixture was filtered through a $1-\mathrm{cm}$ thick pad of celite. Then 5 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$ was added, and the mixture was extracted $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}, 3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}\right)$. Flash chromatography of the concentrated extracts with silica gel (hexane:EtOAc, 1:1) was used to purify the resulting amine obtained as a light brown solid 3, (mp $87-9^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 546 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%$ from 79). IR (neat) $3338[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}], 3224[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.30\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 1.97\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2,78\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $5.38[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.42[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=9.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \operatorname{Ar}-H], 6.48[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \operatorname{Ar}-H], 6.55[\mathrm{q}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=9.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.56[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}], 6.8[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $18.53\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 25.70\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.68\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 55.60\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 111.91[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 112.14\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 115.72-138.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]\right.$.

## 1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline-6-carbaldehyde (83)

Phosphorus oxychloride ( $4.1 \mathrm{~g}, 0.026 \mathrm{~mol}$ ) was added dropwise to DMF ( 12 mL ) at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a $50-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$
inlet. After the reaction of $\mathrm{OPCl}_{3}$ with DMF had subsided, 1,2,2,4-tetramethyl-1,2dihydroquinoline [(79), $5 \mathrm{~g}, 0.026 \mathrm{~mol}$ ] dissolved in 30 mL of DMF was slowly added at 0 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 24 h at RT and was then cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, after which cold water ( 5 mL ) was carefully added. The reaction mixture was extracted with methylene chloride ( $3 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), and the combined organic layers were washed with water $(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}\right.$, overnight). After evaporation (rotovap) of the solvents and refrigeration for 24 h , aldehyde 83 crystallized as a pale yellow solid (no purification required, $3.57 \mathrm{~g}, 64 \%$ ), mp $39-41^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. IR (pellet) 2733 [H-C-O], 1669 $[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.38\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.03\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH} H_{3}\right], 2.91[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.30[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.52[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $7.52[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.67[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $18.57\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 28.75\left[\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.21\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 57.60\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 109.14[=\mathrm{CH}]$, 121.76-150.04 [CH=C-Ph], $190.19[C=\mathrm{O}]$.

## 4-Methyl-6-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinolyl))-5,6-dihydropyran-2-one (84)

To a solution of of ethyl 3,3-dimethylacrylate ( $205 \mathrm{mg}, 1.5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and 3 mL of dry THF in a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was added dropwise (syringe) LDA ( $0.51 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.53 \mathrm{mmol}, 3 \mathrm{M}$ solution in toluene) at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h , after which $83(0.3 \mathrm{~g}, 1.46 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 2 mL of THF was added. After stirring the reaction mixture for 1 h at $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, the reaction was quenched with 1.5 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride. The resulting mixture was allowed to warm to RT and was then stirred for an additional 1 h . Extraction of the mixture with EtOAc ( $3 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing
the combined organic extracts with water ( $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 5 \mathrm{~h}\right)$, the solvent was removed (rotovap), and a thick, dark-red oil was recovered as $84(171 \mathrm{mg}, 43 \%)$. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1725[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.28[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.03\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.05\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2.91\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.25[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $=\mathrm{CH}], 5.91[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H], 7.45[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-H], 9.85[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-H]$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.57\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 28.75\left[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.21\left[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.60[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 109.14[=\mathrm{CH}], 121.76-150.04[\mathrm{Ph}-\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}], 168.35[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$.

## 4-Methyl-6-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinolyl))-5,6-dihydropyran-2-ol (85)

To a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet was slowly added a solution of $84(107 \mathrm{mg}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 2 mL of dry THF to a chilled solution $\left(-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ of DIBAL-H in hexane $(0.37 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.59 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M})$. The mixture was stirred for 20 min and was then quenched with 0.75 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (saturated solution of sodium and potassium tartrate, 1:1). After allowing the reaction mixture to warm to RT , the mixture was extracted with $\mathrm{EtOAc}(2 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL})$, and the extracts were washed with water ( $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 1 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After drying $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12\right.$ h), the solvent was evaporated (rotovap) to give a thick, red oil 85 [the only product as seen from TLC (hexane:EtOAc, $2: 1$ ) ( $92 \mathrm{mg}, 85 \%$ )]. Compound 85 was used in the next step without further purification. IR (neat) $3452[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$.

## (2Z,4E)-3-Methyl-5-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(1,2-dihydroquinolyl))penta2,4-dienal (86)

In a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and thermometer holder was placed lactol $85(150 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 2 mL of
$\mathrm{ClCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}$ (1,2-dichloroethane), and then 2 mL of $5 \% \mathrm{HCl}$ was added. The reaction mixture was warmed to $55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h . The reaction was monitored by TLC (hexane:EtOAc, 4:1) until completion. The mixture was then cooled to RT and carefully neutralized with a saturated, aqueous solution of $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$. The aqueous layer was extracted with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{CCl}_{2}$ (2 $x 3 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), and the combined extracts were washed with water ( $1 \times 2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 2$ $\mathrm{mL})$. After drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$ and evaporating the solvent (rotovap), the residue was purified with silica gel chromatography (hexane:EtOAc, 1:1) to yield a bright red oil as 86 $(87 \mathrm{mg}, 62 \%) . \mathrm{IR}$ (neat) $2785[\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}], 1655[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.28[\mathrm{~s}, 6$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.03\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.35\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=0.3 \mathrm{~Hz},=\mathrm{C}_{-} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2.91\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $5.25[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 5.91[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.25[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.45[\mathrm{~m}, 2$ $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 10.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 13.06\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.57\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $27.90\left[\mathrm{C}-\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.21\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.86\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.14[=\mathrm{CH}], 122.76-136.04$ $[\mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ph}], 191.04[\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$.

Ethyl (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl(6-1,2-dihydroquinolyl))prop-2-enoate (87)
Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, was added ethyl 2-fluorophosphono-acetate ( $224 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and DMPU ( $120 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n-\mathrm{BuLi}$ was added dropwise $(0.6 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.94 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M})$ by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for 1 h, 1,2,2,4-tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline-6carbaldehyde [(83), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}$ ] dissolved in 2 mL of dry THF was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 3 days at RT and was then quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride $(1.0 \mathrm{~mL})$. Extraction with ethyl acetate $(3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL})$
was followed by washing the combined organic layers with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine ( 1 x 25 mL ) and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 5 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 1.5:1, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s}$ ) of the residue, and, after solvent evaporation (rotovap), ester 87 ( $220 \mathrm{mg} 78 \%$ ) of was recovered as a clear oil. $\operatorname{IR}$ (neat) $1724[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.85\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.35\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.81[\mathrm{~s}$, $\left.3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.27\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.33[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.50[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $6.85[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=36.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 7.42[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.52[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 14.29\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.53\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 25.70[$ $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 28.68\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.60\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 61.32\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 110.91\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 118.14$ $\left[=C-C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 127.72-131.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 146.34[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 162.45[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]\right.$.

## (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-[(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl-6-(1,2-dihydroquinolyl))] 1 prop-2-en-1-ol (88)

Ester $87(220 \mathrm{mg}, 0.72 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in $25-\mathrm{mL}$, one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and was then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution ( $1.8 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.2$ mmol, 1.5 M ) of DIBAL-H in toluene was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:2). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine ( $1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12\right.$ h). Separation of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation (rotovap), by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether:EtOAc, 1:1:1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded 88 ( $182 \mathrm{mg}, 96 \%$ ) as a colorless oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3371[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.36$
$\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.86\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.41$ $\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{OH}\right], 6.35[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=20.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 6.46[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.93$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 6.95[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $18.53\left[=\mathrm{C}_{-} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 27.70\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 29.68\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.68\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.36[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 58.83\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 110.48\left[=C-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 111.34[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}] 111.54\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 123.72-\right.$ $130.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-113.65\left[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{C} F\right]$.
(2E)-2-Fluoro-3-[(1,2,2,4-tetramethyl-6-(1,2-dihydroquinolyl)]]prop-2-enal (89)
Alcohol $88(180 \mathrm{mg}, 0.70 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 5 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.75 \mathrm{~g}, 8.75 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1 -inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation, via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether:ethyl acetate, 2:1:0.1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde 89 ( $98 \mathrm{mg}, 54 \%$ ), as a light yellow oil. IR (neat) $2864[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1682[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-}$ ${ }^{1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.34\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH} H_{3}\right], 2.81\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $5.33[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.47[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.06[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.14[\mathrm{q}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ; 7.26[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=18.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 9.75[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=19.8$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{FCC}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.51\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 28.19\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.86\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $38.68\left[C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 57.36\left[=\mathrm{C}-C\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.48\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 116.54\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 123.72-130.78\right.$ $\left[\right.$ Ar-C], $151.34[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 182.35[C=0] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-131.44[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CHCF}]$.

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, was added ethyl 2-phosphonoacetate ( $217 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and DMPU ( $119 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n$-BuLi was added dropwise ( $64 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.03 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M}$ ) by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 1,2,2$,4-tetramethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline-6-carbaldehyde [(83), $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.93 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF was added dropwise ( 20 min ). The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 days at RT and then was quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ). Extraction with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic layers with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine (1 $\times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 2$, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s})$ of the residue (after solvent evaporation), $90(217 \mathrm{mg}, 82 \%)$ was recovered as a clear oil. IR (neat) $1703[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} N M R\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.33[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.34\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.99$ [d, $\left.3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.84\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.23[\mathrm{q}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.30[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=15.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{CH}], 6.48[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=$ $8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \operatorname{Ar}-H], 7.21[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.30[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $7.60[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=15.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{CH}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 14.40\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.54[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 30.68\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.60\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.32\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 63.96\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.53$ $\left[=C-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 112.14\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 121.72-147.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 167.92[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]\right.$.

## (2E)-3-[(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-6-(1,2-dihydroquinolyl) $]$ ]prop-2-en-1-ol (91)

Ester 90 ( $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.7 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF was placed in $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask fitted with a condenser, magnetic stirrer, and $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution ( $1.20 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.75 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.5 \mathrm{eq}, 1.5 \mathrm{M}$ ) of DIBAL-H in
toluene was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:2). After the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ( $1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine $(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Separation of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation, by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 1:2, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded $91(146 \mathrm{mg}, 86 \%)$ as colorless oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3342[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.29\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.58[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.99\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.80\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 4.26\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{OH}\right], 5.31[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}]$, $6.35[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=20.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 6.46[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 6.93[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{Ar}-H], 6.95[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.56\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $27.21\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.65\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 56.29\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 64.21\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 110.49\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $121.54\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 123.72-145.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]\right.$.

## (2E)-3-[(1,2,2,4-Tetramethyl-6-(1,2-dihydroquinolyl))]prop-2-enal (92)

Alcohol 91 ( $140 \mathrm{mg}, 0.57 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.55 \mathrm{~g}, 6.44 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and was then filtered through a 1-inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation, via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether:ethyl acetate, $2: 1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde 92 ( $90 \mathrm{mg}, 65 \%$ ), as a light yellow oil. IR (neat) $2837[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1697[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-}$
${ }^{1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.87[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{N}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 5.32[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CH}], 6.47[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 6.55[\mathrm{dd}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=15.9$ $\mathrm{Hz},=\mathrm{CHC}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{H}], 7.21[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.30[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;$ $7.26[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=15.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{CH}], 9.57[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{HCC}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $18.50\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 28.36\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.86\left[\mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 57.36\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.48[=\mathrm{C}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 121.54\left[=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}, 122.72-154.78[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 151.34[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 193.70[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]\right.$.

## 1-(2,2,4,4-Tetramethvl-3H-benzo[e]thiane)ethan-1-one (94a)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel was added $\mathrm{AlCl}_{3}(5.17 \mathrm{~g}, 38.77 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 25 mL of freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$. A solution of the 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3 H -benzo[e]thiane $[(\mathbf{9 3})$, $5.00 \mathrm{~g}, 24.24 \mathrm{mmol}$ ] and acetyl chloride ( $2.80 \mathrm{~g}, 40.11 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ ( 20 mL ) was then added dropwise at RT over period of 1 h . The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h and then poured into a $100-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker containing $\sim 30 \mathrm{~g}$ of crushed ice. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was then extracted with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 50$ $\mathrm{mL})$. Combined organic layers were washed with water ( $2 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right.$ ). Evaporation (rotovap) of solvent and distillation (bp 132-34 $\left.{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 0.75 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}\right)$ of the residual oil afforded ketone $94 \mathrm{a}(4.29 \mathrm{~g}, 75 \%)$ as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1681[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.39\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.55\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 7.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $H], 7.62[q, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 8.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left.\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.21\left[\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.58\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.53\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.42$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.41\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.78\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 125.70-142.51[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 196.78[\mathrm{C}=0]$.

## 2-Methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))propan-1-one (94b)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel was added $\mathrm{AlCl}_{3}(5.17 \mathrm{~g}, 38.77 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}(25 \mathrm{~mL})$. A solution of the 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3H-benzo[e]thiane [(93), $4.00 \mathrm{~g}, 19.38 \mathrm{mmol}]$ and isobutyryl chloride $(2.61 \mathrm{~g}, 21.32 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 20 mL of freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ was then added dropwise $(1 \mathrm{~h})$ at RT . The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h and was then poured into a $100-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker containing $\sim 30 \mathrm{~g}$ of crushed ice. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was then extracted with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 50$ $\mathrm{mL})$. Combined organic layers were washed with water ( $2 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right.$ ). Evaporation (rotovap) of solvent and distillation (bp 153-54 $\left.{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 0.75 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}\right)$ of the residual oil afforded ketone $94 \mathrm{~b}(3.59 \mathrm{~g}, 70 \%)$ as a light yellow oil. IR (neat) $1679[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.21\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.42[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.53\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 7.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$, $7.62[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=1.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \operatorname{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left.\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 19.21\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.58 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.53 \quad\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.42$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.41\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.78\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 125.70-142.51[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 203.59$ $[C=0]$.

## 3-Methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian6-yl))butan-1-one (94c)

Into a 100-mL, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel was placed $\mathrm{AlCl}_{3}(6.5 \mathrm{~g}, 48.46 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 25 mL of freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$. The solution of 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3 H -benzo[e]thiane [(93), 5.00 g, 24.23 mmol ] and isovaleryl chloride $(3.21 \mathrm{~g}, 26.65 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 20 mL of freshly distilled
$\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ was then added at RT over period of 1 h . The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h and was then poured into a $100-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker containing $\sim 30 \mathrm{~g}$ of crushed ice. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was then extracted with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were washed with water $(2 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$ and dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right.$ ). Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and distillation (bp 182-85 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 1.5$ mm Hg ) of the residual oil afforded ketone $94 \mathrm{c}\left(\mathrm{mp} 55-6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 4.60 \mathrm{~g}, 65 \%\right.$ ) as a light yellow solid. IR (neat) $1680[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.01\left[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40[\mathrm{~s}, 6$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.41\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.25\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.80$ $\left[\mathrm{d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 7.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.62[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 8.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 22.76\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 25.22$ $\left[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 31.60\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.52\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.47\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.44$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.81\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 125.63-142.47[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 198.22[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$.

## Ethyl (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-enoate (95a)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel flask was added ethyl 2-fluorophosphono-acetate ( $536 \mathrm{mg}, 2.21$ mmol ) and DMPU ( $283.2 \mathrm{mg}, 2.21 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n$ - BuLi was added dropwise $(1.38 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.21 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M})$ by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 1-(2,2,4,4$-tetramethyl-3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-1-one [(94a), $502 \mathrm{mg}, 2.00 \mathrm{mmol}$ ] dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was added dropwise (1h). The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 days at RT and was then quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 2 mL ). Extraction with ethyl acetate (3 $\mathrm{x} 25 \mathrm{~mL})$ was followed by washing the combined organic layers with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and
brine ( $1 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then drying ( $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}$ ). After solvent evaporation (rotovap), and flash chromatography (hexane:di-ethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) of the residue, 95a ( $394 \mathrm{mg}, 67 \%$ ) was recovered as a clear oil which was a mixture of $E$ and $Z$ isomers clear oils $(E: Z, 4: 1) . \mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1712[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.00\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right], 2.15\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$, $4.07\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 6.83[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ; 7.10[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 14.25\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 18.15\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 26.39\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.43\left[\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $55.59\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CS}\right], 60.19\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 110.65[=\mathrm{CH}], 115.03-131.14[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 140.99[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}]$, $165.34[\mathrm{RO}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-123.6\left[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

Ethyl (2E)-2-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2enoate (95b)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel was added ethyl 2-fluorophosphonoacetate ( $482 \mathrm{mg}, 1.99$ mmol ), DMPU ( $255 \mathrm{mg}, 1.99 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and 3 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.25 \mathrm{~mL}, 21.99 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 2$-methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))propan-1-one [(94b), $495 \mathrm{mg}, 1.98 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was added dropwise ( 30 min ). The reaction mixture was then stirred for 4 days at RT and then 2 days at reflux, after which time it was cooled to RT and quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ). Extraction with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 25$ mL ) and drying ( $\left.\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After solvent evaporation (rotovap), and flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) of the residue, ester $95 b$
( $342 \mathrm{mg}, 52 \%$ ) was recovered as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1702[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.35\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.23\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.01\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.48\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.14\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH} 2 \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $7.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.54[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.02[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $14.25\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 19.34\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $31.75\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.43\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.56\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.41\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $53.78\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.12\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 110.65\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 110.65[\mathrm{C}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 122.70-140.51[6 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 165.45[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR ppm -123.8 [q, 1 F , $\left.\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

Ethyl (2E)-2-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2enoate ( 95 c )

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel was added ethyl 2-fluorophosphonoacetate ( $530 \mathrm{mg}, 2.20$ mmol ), DMPU ( $280 \mathrm{mg}, 2.20 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), and 5 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n-\mathrm{BuLi}(1.33 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.20 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 \mathrm{M})$ was added by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 2$-methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3 H -benzo[3,4-e]thian6-yl))butan-1-one [(94c), $580 \mathrm{mg}, 2.00 \mathrm{mmol}]$ dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was added dropwise ( 30 min ). The reaction mixture was then stirred for 6 days at RT and then 2 days at reflux, after which it was cooled to RT and quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 1 mL ). Extraction with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 35 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 35 \mathrm{~mL})$ and drying ( $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}$ ). After solvent evaporation (rotovap) and flash chromatography
(hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) of the residue, ester 95 c ( $423 \mathrm{mg}, 56 \%$ ) was recovered as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1702[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.85[\mathrm{t}, 3$ $\left.\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.25\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.01$ [s, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.14\left[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 3.48\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.24\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH} 2 \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right]$, $7.18[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.54[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 8.02[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $14.25\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 19.34\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $31.75\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.43\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.56\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.41\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $53.78\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.12\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 110.65\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 110.65[\mathrm{C}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 122.70-140.51[6 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 165.45[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-125.8[\mathrm{q}$, $1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}$ ].
(2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2:2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-en-1-ol (96a) and (2Z)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-en-1-ol (98a)

Ester 95 a ( $631 \mathrm{mg}, 1.87 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene ( $3.75 \mathrm{~mL}, 5.61 \mathrm{mmo}, 11.5 \mathrm{M}$ ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, $1: 1$ ). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 2 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12\right.$ h). Separation of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation followed by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s), afforded 96a $[(E$
isomer) $390 \mathrm{mg}, 70 \%$ ] and 98 a [( $Z$ isomer), $127 \mathrm{mg}, 23 \%$ ] as colorless oils. The $E: Z$ ratio was $3: 1 ; \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ 's were 0.645 and 0.362 , respectively, for TLC with hexane:diethyl ether, (1:1).

The spectrum of 96a: $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3402[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1659[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 1.75[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-H], 4.18\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{COH}\right], 6.9-7.3[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}$ $31.56\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 118.81\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 119.05[=\mathrm{CF}], 125.70-156.44[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-117.65\left[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CF}\right]$.

The spectrum of 98a: $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3404[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1683[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 1.65[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-H], 4.41\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{COH}\right], 7.1-7.45[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-H],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm 32.56[2 C , $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 120.81\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 121.05[=\mathrm{CF}], 125.70-154.60[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{FNMR}$ $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-117.57\left[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{C} F\right]$.
(1E)-1-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-en-1-ol (96b)(1Z)-1-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-en-1ol (98b)

Ester 95b ( $402 \mathrm{mg}, 1.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was placed in a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H ( $2.20 \mathrm{~mL}, 3.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5 \mathrm{M}$ in toluene) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h and monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 2 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, $1: 1$ ). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ( $1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). Purification of the major component in the residue (after
solvent evaporation) by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $2: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded 112 mg (31\%) of 96b (E isomer) and $191 \mathrm{mg}(53 \%)$ of $\mathbf{9 8 b}$ ( Z isomer) ( $\mathrm{E}: \mathrm{Z}, 0.6: 1, \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ 's were 0.745 and 0.562 , respectively) as oils.

The spectrum of 96b: $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3359[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1686[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 1.01\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.58[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-$ $H], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.18\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 3.97\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 6.98[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm, $20.98\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.51\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.80$ [2 C, $\left.\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 33.56\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.31\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.25\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 59.54[\mathrm{C}$, $\left.\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 112.34\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 113.65\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 127.70-142.16[6 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ $\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-121.85[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{C} F]$.

The spectrum of 98b: IR (neat) $3347[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1688[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 0.98\left[\mathrm{dd}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.38\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.60[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-$ $H], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.86\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.40\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCH} \mathrm{H}_{2}\right], 6.80[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}$ $=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.10[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 21.89\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 30.60\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.68[2 \mathrm{C}$, $\left.\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.76\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 41.96\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.35\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 61.91[\mathrm{C}$, $\left.\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 110.34\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 111.34\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 127.23-142.16[6 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}],{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ $\operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-115.28[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{C} F]$.
(1E)-1-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-en-1-ol (96c) and (1E)-1-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-en-1-ol (98c)

Ester 95 c ( $300 \mathrm{mg}, 0.79 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was placed in a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene $(1.35 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.98 \mathrm{mmol}$, $1.5 M$ ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h and monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 2 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, $1: 1$ ). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ( $1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine ( $1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After solvent evaporation (rotovap) and separation of the major component in the residue by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop $/ \mathrm{s}), 96 \mathrm{c}(225 \mathrm{mg}, 85 \%)$ and $98 \mathrm{c}(21 \mathrm{mg}, 8 \%)$ were obtained as oils.

The spectrum of 96c: IR (neat) $3369[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1683[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 0.89\left[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.54[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 1.88[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.22\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}_{2}\right], 4.42[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 6.98[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.30$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 22.98\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 24.90\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $31.51\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.67\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 39.56\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 41.31\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.29$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], \quad 58.54 \quad\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], \quad 120.16 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right]_{\text {, }}$ 126.70-142.16 [ $\left.\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}\right]$, $155.21\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-117.36[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}]$.

The spectrum of 98c: $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3369[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1683[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 0.82\left[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.69[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 1.82[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.94\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.32\left[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}_{2}\right], 4.17[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 6.95[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.30$
$[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 22.24\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 24.79\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $31.58\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.87\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 38.56\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.31\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.43$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], \quad 72.73 \quad\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], \quad 122.16 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right]_{,}, 126.16-142.38$ [Ar-C], $156.21\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-118.76[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}]$.
(2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-enal (97a)
Alcohol 96a ( $390 \mathrm{mg}, 1.32 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(1.5 \mathrm{~g}, 17.25 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1-inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue (after solvent evaporation) via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl etherethyl acetate, $1: 1: 0.1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde 97a ( $212 \mathrm{mg}, 55 \%$ ), as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $2874[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1667[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.36\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.94[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.30\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 7.02[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.12[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.29[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $H], 9.31[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 17.98\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.58\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $32.53\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.49\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.31\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.95\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 126.16$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 126.16-142.86[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 155.70\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right] ; 182.69[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm - $131.32[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{C} F]$.
(2E)-2-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-enal (97b)
Alcohol 96b ( $112 \mathrm{mg}, 0.35 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.5 \mathrm{~g}, 6.75 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size:
$<5 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1 -inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde $97 \mathrm{~b}(67 \mathrm{mg}, 60 \%)$ as a yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $2814[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1687[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.11\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.38$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.21\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $6.88[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.05[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.45[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=$ $2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.78[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CH}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 20.78\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.65$ $\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.16\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.56\left[\mathrm{C}_{,} \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.45\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.23$ $\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 110.34\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 111.45\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 125.70-143.16[6 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$, $184.23[C=O] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{ref} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-128.3[\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{C} F]$.
(2E)-2-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl) pent-2-enal(97c)
Alcohol 96c ( $120 \mathrm{mg}, 0.35 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.55 \mathrm{~g}, 6.95 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size: $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1-inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether 2:1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s $)$ afforded aldehyde $97 \mathrm{c}(60 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%)$ as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $2869[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1687[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.90\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $1.34\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.40\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.72\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.59\left[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CHCH}_{2}\right], 6.88[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.15[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{J}=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CH}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$
ppm, $22.38\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 26.98\left[\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 31.58\left[2 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.61\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.56$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.45\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.42\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{HC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.93\left[\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 125.70-$ $142.16[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 183.23[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{ref} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-132.08[\mathrm{~m}, 1$ $\mathrm{F},=\mathrm{C} F]$.

## (2Z)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-enal (99a)

Alcohol 98 a ( $121 \mathrm{mg}, 0.43 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(0.8 \mathrm{~g}, 9.8 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size<5 $\mu \mathrm{m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1-inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue (after solvent evaporation) via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether:ethyl acetate, 1:1:0.1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde 99a ( $74 \mathrm{mg}, 59 \%$ ) as a light yellow oil. $\mathbb{I R}$ (neat) $2874[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1667[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.44\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right]$, $2.30\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H},=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 7.12-7.60[\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.98[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HC}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm, $17.98\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 31.58\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.53\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.49\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.31$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.95 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], \quad 126.16 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], \quad 126.16-142.86 \quad[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$, $155.70\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right] ; 181.69[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-131.86[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}]$.
(2Z)-2-Fluoro-4-methyl-3-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))pent-2-enal (99b)
Alcohol 98b ( $190 \mathrm{mg}, 0.59 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(1.00 \mathrm{~g}, 11.5 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and
then filtered through a 1 -inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded aldehyde $99 \mathrm{~b}(90 \mathrm{mg}, 48 \%)$ as a light yellow oil. IR (neat) $2832[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}] 1686[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.10\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.48$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.52\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 2.11\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 3.01\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $6.98[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.25[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.68[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=$ $2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.94[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}=\mathrm{CH}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 21.78\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 33.65$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.16\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 34.56 \quad\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.45 \cdot\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.23$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 112.34\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 113.42\left[\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CF}\right], 126.70-144.89[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 188.92$ $[C=O] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{ref} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CF}_{3}\right.$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-129.53[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F},=\mathrm{CF}]$.

## 2-Methyl-1-(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian6-yl))ethan-1-ol (100a)

Ketone 94 a ( $300 \mathrm{mg}, 1.20 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in a 25 mL , three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene ( 2.42 mL , 3.63 mmol 1.5 M ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:4). After the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 4 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate $(3 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by washing the extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$ then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After evaporation (rotovap) and separation of the major component of the solvent by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 1:2, drop rate $=1$ drop/s), alcohol $100 \mathrm{a}(269 \mathrm{mg}, 89 \%$ ) was obtained
as a clear oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3352[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.39\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.41$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.46\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.82[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.95\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right]$, $1.98\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.84\left[\mathrm{dd}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 7.07[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}$, Ar-H], $7.09[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.38[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm, $24.98\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 31.61\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.53\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.60\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $41.99\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.42\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 70.38\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], ~ 123.27-142.19[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}] .}\right.$

## 2-Methyl-1-[(2,2,4,4-tetramethyl(3 H -benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))]propan-1-ol (100b)

Ketone 94b ( $500 \mathrm{mg}, 1.81 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 6 mL of dry THF was placed in a 25 mL , three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene $(3.63 \mathrm{~mL}, 5.43$ mmol, 1.5 M ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:3). After the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 5 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 35 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 30$ mL ) and brine ( $1 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After evaporation (rotovap) and separation of the major component of the solvent by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 4$, drop rate $=1$ drop/s), alcohol $100 \mathrm{~b}(462 \mathrm{mg}, 92 \%)$ was obtained as a clear oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3425[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.78\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.01[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 1.26\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.32\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.85[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.96[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.27[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCHCH}], 6.98[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=$ $2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H], 7.09[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] 7.32[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-H] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR
$\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 18.36\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 18.92\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 31.51\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.70\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $35.19\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.36\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 41.95\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.46\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 80.35$ $\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right]$, 124.27-140.19 [Ar-C].

## 3-Methyl-1-[(2.2,4.4-tetramethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl) )]butan-1-ol (100c)

Ketone 94 c ( $500 \mathrm{mg}, 1.72 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 6 mL of dry THF was placed in a 25 mL , three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene ( 3.44 mL , $5.15 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5 \mathrm{M})$ was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:2). After the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 5 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 35 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(1 \times 35 \mathrm{~mL})$ then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After evaporation (rotovap) and separation of the components in the residue, of solvent, by flash chromatography (EtOAc, 1:4, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s}$ ), alcohol 100c ( $412 \mathrm{mg}, 82 \%$ ) was obtained as a clear oil. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $3385[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.95[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.39\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.41\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.47\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.65[\mathrm{bs}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.78\left[\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 4.87\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCHCH}_{2}\right], 7.12$ $[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.19[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] 7.40[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{CNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 22.21\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right], 123.16\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 24.82\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right]$, $31.59\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.60\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.59\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.00\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 48.95$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.45\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 72.35\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right], 123.27-142.19[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$.

## 6-(1-Chloro-2-isobutyl)-2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3H-benzo[e]thione (101b)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel $\mathrm{NaH}(17.00 \mathrm{mg}, 0.72 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added to 5 mL of dry THF at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h , and then ethyl 4 -(chlorocarbonyl)benzoate [(101b), $153 \mathrm{mg}, 0.72 \mathrm{mmol}$ ] dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was added dropwise. A cloudy precipitate formed during the addition, and the reaction mixture was then stirred for 4 hours after which time 2 drops of de-ionized water were added at RT. The cloudy reaction mixture cleared and was diluted with diethyl ether ( 20 mL ). The organic mixture was then washed with $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}(3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}), \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$, and brine $(1 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and the dried $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}\right.$, 12 h ). Evaporation of solvent (rotovap) and and flash chromatography (hexane:EtOAc, 1:1, drop rate $=1 \mathrm{drop} / \mathrm{s})$ afforded $101 \mathrm{~b}(163 \mathrm{mg}, 76 \%)$ as a clear oil. IR (neat) $1474[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Cl}], \mathrm{cm}^{-}$ ${ }^{1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.82\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.05\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 1.40[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.20\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 4.60[\mathrm{~d}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ClCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}\right], 7.05[\mathrm{q}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{~J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.07[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=8.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}]$ $7.32[\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}] ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}, 19.61\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 20.07$ $\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 31.56\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 32.62\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.46\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 36.63\left[\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$, $42.34\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.28\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 71.04\left[\mathrm{ClCH}_{2}\right], 124.97-142.30[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}]$.

## 1-(2,2,4,4,7-Pentamethyl-3Hbenzo[e]thiane)ethan-1-one (103)

Into a $50-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet, and an addition funnel was added $\mathrm{AlCl}_{3}(2.53 \mathrm{~g}, 19.33 \mathrm{mmol})$ and dissolved in 25 mL of freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$. A solution of the 2,2,4,4,7-pentamethyl-3 H -benzo[e]thiane [(102), $2.00 \mathrm{~g}, 9.08 \mathrm{mmol}]$ and acetyl chloride $(850 \mathrm{mg}, 10.56 \mathrm{mmol})$ dissolved in 20 mL
of freshly distilled $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ was then added dropwise ( 1 h ) at RT . The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h and then poured into a $100-\mathrm{mL}$ beaker containing $\sim 30 \mathrm{~g}$ of crushed ice. The layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was then extracted with diethyl ether ( $3 \times 50$ $\mathrm{mL})$. Combined organic layers were washed with water $(2 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine ( $1 \times 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then dried $\left(\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right.$ ). Evaporation (rotovap) of solvent and distillation (bp 163-64 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / 0.75 \mathrm{~mm} \mathrm{Hg}$ ) of the residual oil afforded ketone $103\left(\mathrm{mp} \mathrm{78-9}{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 1.47 \mathrm{~g}, 68 \%\right)$ as a light yellow solid. $\mathbb{R}$ (neat) $1600[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \boldsymbol{\delta} 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43$ $\left[\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.45\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 2.57\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 6.97$ [s, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.75[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 21.22\left[\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 29.12$ $\left.\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 31.54\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.70 \quad\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.42\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 42.31$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 53.87\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 128.70-139.40[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 200.59[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}]$.

## Ethyl (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4,7-pentamethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-enoate(104)

Into a $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel flask was added ethyl 2-fluorophosphono-acetate ( $505 \mathrm{mg}, 2.10$ mmol) and DMPU ( $267 \mathrm{mg}, 2.10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $n-\operatorname{BuLi}(1.31 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.10 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.6 M)$ was added dropwise by syringe. After stirring the reaction mixture for $1 \mathrm{~h}, 1$-(2,2,4,4,7-pentamethyl-3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-1-one ( $500 \mathrm{mg}, 1.90 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 4 mL of dry THF was added dropwise ( 1 h ). The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 days at RT and was then quenched with a saturated, aqueous solution of ammonium chloride ( 3 mL ). Extraction with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was followed by washing the combined organic layers with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(1 \times 20$ mL ) and brine ( $1 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 5 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. After solvent evaporation
(rotovap), followed by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, $1: 1$, drop rate $=1$ drop $/ \mathrm{s}$ ) of the residue and after solvent evaporation, $104(266 \mathrm{mg}, 40 \%)$ was recovered as a clear oil. IR (neat) $1712[\mathrm{C}=0] \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 0.85\left[\mathrm{t}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 1.42[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.98\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.45\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.57[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 3.97\left[\mathrm{q}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 6.97[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.75[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right)$ ppm $\left.13.61\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 21.22\left[\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 29.12\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 31.54\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.70$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 36.45\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 43.31\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 52.87\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{\left.\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 60.88\left[\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right] \text {, }}\right.$ 128.70-139.40[Ar-C], $145.88[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 160.98[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-124.77$ [d, $\left.1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

## (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2,2,4,4,7-pentamethyl(3H-benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl) but-2-en-1-ol (105)

Ester 104 ( $266 \mathrm{mg}, 0.76 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was placed in $25-\mathrm{mL}$, three-necked, round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ inlet and an addition funnel and then cooled to $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. A solution of DIBAL-H in toluene $(1.27 \mathrm{~mL}, 1.90 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.5 M ) was then added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h , and it was monitored by TLC (hexane:ethyl acetate, 1:2). After all of the starting material appeared to have reacted (TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 2 mL of a saturated, aqueous solution of Rochelle salt (sodium-potassium tartrate, 1:1). The bi-phasic mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), followed by washing the organic extracts with $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ( $1 \times 15 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and brine $(1 \times 20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and then drying $\left(\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}, 12 \mathrm{~h}\right)$. Separation of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation, by flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl ether, 1:1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s) afforded alcohol $105(216 \mathrm{mg}, 92 \%)$ as a colorless oil. $\operatorname{IR}$ (neat) $3353[\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1659[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}] \mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.35[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}$,
$\left.\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.42\left[\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.87[\mathrm{bs}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}], 1.97\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 1.98[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right], 2.14\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 3.97\left[\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HOCH} \mathrm{H}_{2}\right], 6.94[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.07[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-$ $\left.H],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 16.61\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 18.68\left[\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 31.54\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.61$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.04\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 42.05\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.27\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 58.88\left[\mathrm{HOCH}_{2}\right]$, $117.66[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}], 127.70-140.05[\mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}], 156.28[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}] .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-120.93$ [td, $1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}$ ].

## (2E)-2-Fluoro-3-(2, 2, 4, 4, 7-pentamethyl( 3 H -benzo[3,4-e]thian-6-yl))but-2-enal (106)

Alcohol 105 ( $200 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) dissolved in 3 mL of acetone was placed in a 25 mL , one-necked, round-bottomed flask, and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(1.0 \mathrm{~g}, 11.52 \mathrm{mmol}$, activated grade, size $<5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) was then added to the solution at RT. The suspension was stirred for 24 h and then filtered through a 1 -inch thick celite pad. Evaporation (rotovap) of the solvent and purification of the major component in the residue, after solvent evaporation, via flash chromatography (hexane:diethyl etherethyl acetate, 1:1:1, drop rate $=1$ drop/s), afforded aldehyde 106 ( $113 \mathrm{mg}, 57 \%$ ) as a light yellow oil. IR (neat) $2834[\mathrm{O}=\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}], 1692[\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}] \mathrm{cm}^{-}$ ${ }^{1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{HNMR}\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.35\left[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.43\left[\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 1.96\left[\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\right]$, $2.19\left[\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 2.21\left[\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}^{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 7.00[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 7.17[\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{H}], 9.15$ $[\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{HC}(\mathrm{O})],{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm} 18.22\left[=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 18.82\left[\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right], 31.52$ $\left.\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)\right], 32.47 \quad\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 35.03\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right] 42.15\left[\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right], 54.01$ $\left[\mathrm{SC}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right]$ ], 127.66-140.05 [ $\left.\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}, \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{C}\right], 154.73[\mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CH}] .182 .44[\mathrm{HC}(\mathrm{O})] ;{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{DCCl}_{3}\right) \mathrm{ppm}-132.98\left[\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{FC}=\mathrm{CCH}_{3}\right]$.

Plate I


IR Spectrum of 48

Plate II
standard ih observe

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 48

Plate III

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 48

Plate IV


Plate V


Plate VI

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 49

Plate VII


Plate VIII


Plate IX


Plate X


Plate XI

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 51

## Plate XII



Plate XIII

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 51

Plate XIV


Plate XV
standard in observe


${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 52

Plate XVI

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 52

Plate XVII


IR Spectrum of $\mathbf{5 3}$

Plate XVIII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 53

Plate XIX


Plate XX


Plate XXI

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 54

Plate XXII

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 54

Plate XXIII


Plate XXIV

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 55

Plate XXV


Plate XXVI


## Plate XXVII


${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 56

Plate XXVIII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 56

Plate XXIX


2D COSY NMR Spectrum of 56

Plate XXX


2D HETCOR NMR Spectrum of 56

Plate XXXI


Plate XXXII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 57

Plate XXXIII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 57

Plate XXXIV


IR Spectrum of 58

Plate XXXV


Plate XXXVI

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 58

## Plate XXXVII


${ }^{18}$ F NMR Spectrum of 58

Plate XXXVIII


Plate XXXIX

## standard ih observe




${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 59

Plate XL


Plate XLI


IR Spectrum of 60

Plate XLII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 60

Plate XLIII


## Plate XLIV


${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 60

Plate XLV


Plate XLVI
standard ih observe




${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 61

Plate XLVII

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 61

## Plate XLVIII

## 13c observe




${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 61

Plate XLIX


Plate L
standard 1 ih observe



Plate LI
expl :tdi3c



${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 62

Plate LII

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 62

Plate LIII


## Plate LIV


${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 63

## Plate LV


${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 63

Plate LVI


${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR Spectrum of 63

Plate LVII


Plate LVIII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 64

Plate LIX


## Plate LX






Plate LXI


Plate LXII

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 65

## Plate LXIII

expl stdisc




Plate LXIV


Plate LXV




Plate LXVI


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 66

Plate LXVII


## Plate LXVIII




${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 67

## Plate LXIX


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 67

Plate LXX


Plate LXXI

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 68

## Plate LXXII


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 68

## Plate LXXIII


${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 68

Plate LXXIV


Plate LXXV


Plate LXXVI

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 70

Plate LXXVII


Plate LXXVIII


Plate LXXIX

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 71

Plate LXXX


Plate LXXXI

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 73

Plate LXXXI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 73

## Plate LXXXIII




${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 73

Plate LXXXIV


IR Spectrum of 74

Plate LXXXV

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 74

Plate LXXXVI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 74

## Plate LXXXVII


${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 74

Plate LXXXVIII


Plate LXXXIX
standard in observe

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 76

Plate XC

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 76

IR Spectrum of 78

Plate XCII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 78

Plate XCIII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 78

Plate XCIV


IR Spectrum of 79

Plate XCV


Plate XCVI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 79

Plate XCVII


IR Spectrum of 81

Plate XCVIII
exp1 etdin



${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 81

Plate XCIX

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 81

Plate C


IR Spectrum of 82

Plate CI

${ }^{1} H$ NMR Spectrum of 82

Plate CII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 82

## Plate CIII



## Plate CIV



Plate CV


Plate CVI


Plate CVII




Plate CVIII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 84

Plate CIX


IR Spectrum of 85

## Plate CX

## standard ih observe



Plate CXI



${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 85

Plate CXII


Plate CXIII

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 86

Plate CXIV

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 86

## Plate CXV



Plate CXVI


Plate CXVII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 87

Plate CXVIII


IR Spectrum of 88

## Plate CXIX



## Plate CXX




${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 88

Plate CXXI

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 88

Plate CXXII


Plate CXXIII


Plate CXXIV



${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 89

## Plate CXXV




${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 89

Plate CXXVI


## Plate CXXVII


${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 90

Plate CXXVIII

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 90

Plate CXXIX


IR Spectrum of 91

Plate CXXX
standard in dbserve




Plate CXXXI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 91

Plate CXXXII


Plate CXXXIII

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 92

Plate CXXXIV

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 92

Plate CXXXV


IR Spectrum of 94a

Plate CXXXVI

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of $94 a$

## Plate CXXXVII

13c observe





Plate CXXXIX

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{9 4 b}$

Plate CXL

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 94 b

Plate CXLI


IR Spectrum of $94 \mathbf{c}$

## Plate CXLII



Plate CXLIII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 94 c

Plate CXLIV


IR Spectrum of 95a

Plate CXLV

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{9 5 a}$

Plate CXLVI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 95 a

Plate CXLVII



${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 95a

Plate CXLVIII


IR Spectrum of 96a

Plate CXLIX


## Plate CL



## Plate CLI


${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 96a

Plate CLII


IR Spectrum of 96b

## Plate CLIII


${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 96b

## Plate CLIV


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 96b

Plate CLV
$13 c$ observe
expl stdi3c


96b

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{9 6 b}$

Plate CLVI


Plate CLVII


## Plate CLVIII



## Plate CLIX





Plate CLX


IR Spectrum of 97a

Plate CLXI
expl etdih




${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 97 a

## Plate CLXII

13c observe


97a

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 97 a

## Plate CLXIII

tas oaserve



${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 97a

Plate CLXIV



## Plate CLXVI


${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 97b

Plate CLXVII

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 97 b

Plate CLXVIII


## Plate CLXIX


${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 97 c

## Plate CLXX





## Plate CLXXI

## 13c observe




${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 97 c

Plate CLXXII


## Plate CLXXIII



Plate CLXXIV

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 98 a

Plate CLXXV



${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 98a

Plate CLXXVI


IR Spectrum of 98 b

Plate CLXXVII


## Plate CLXXVIII


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 98 b

## Plate CLXXIX


${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 98b

Plate CLXXX

'H NMR Spectrum of 98c

Plate CLXXXI

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 98 c

Plate CLXXXII

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 98 c

## Plate CLXXXIII




${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 99a

## Plate CLXXXIV


${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 99 a

Plate CLXXXV

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 99a

Plate CLXXXVI


IR Spectrum of 100a

Plate CLXXXVII


Plate CLXXXVIII



${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{1 0 0} \mathrm{a}$

Plate CLXXXIX


Plate CXC

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 100b

Plate CXCI



${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{1 0 0 b}$

Plate CXCII


## Plate CXCIII



Plate CXCIV


Plate CXCV


IR Spectrum of $\mathbf{1 0 1 b}$

Plate CXCVI
standard in deserve



${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 101b

Plate CXCVII

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 101b

Plate CXCVIII


Plate CXCIX

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 103

Plate CC



${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectrum of 103

Plate CCI

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 104

## Plate CCII



${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 104

Plate CCIII

${ }^{19}$ F NMR Spectrum of 104


Plate CCV

${ }^{1}$ H NMR Spectrum of 105

Plate CCVI


105
${ }^{13}$ C NMR Spectrum of 105

## Plate CCVII


${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR Spectrum of $\mathbf{1 0 5}$

Plate CCVIII


Plate CCIX

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectrum of 106

## Plate CCX



Plate CCXI

${ }^{19}$ F Spectrum of 106

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VITA


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Doctor of Philosophy

Thesis: MODIFICATION OF HETEROAROTINOIDS TO ENHANCE THEIR RETINOIC ACID RECEPTOR-BINDING SPECIFICITY AND ANTI-CANCER ACTIVITY

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