# SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

# Application of the Variable Oxygen Probe to Derivatives of 2,6-Dimethyltetrahydropyran-2-ol: Evidence for Throughbond $n_0$ - $\sigma_{CC}$ - $\sigma^*_{CO}$ Interactions

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<b>SUPP Figures S1-S16</b> Thermal Ellipsoid plots for all compounds. Ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level for all structures. Those structures with $Z'= 2$ the entire contents of the asymmetric unit are shown.	Pages 2-6
<b>SUPP Figure S17</b> Plot of anti-CC <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>4</b> <b>SUPP Figure S18</b> Plot of ring CO <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>4</b> <b>SUPP Figure S19</b> Plot of ring CC(OR) <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>4</b> <b>SUPP Figure S20</b> Plot of anti-CC <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>5</b> <b>SUPP Figure S21</b> Plot of ring CO <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>5</b> <b>SUPP Figure S22</b> Plot of ring CC(OR) <i>vs</i> pKa (ROH) in <b>5</b>	Page 7 Page 7 Page 8 Page 8 Page 9 Page 9
Synthetic procedures and Melting points	Page 10-11
1H NMR Spectra for Synthesized compounds	Pages 12-18
Gaussian Cartesian Coordinates and Energies Calculated at B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p): References	Page 19-26 Page 26



**SI Figure S1**: Compound **4a**.



SI Figure S2: Compound 4b.



SI Figure S3: Compound 4c.



C4

C1

C6

C7

0

SI Figure S6: Compound 4f.



C6

SI Figure S7: Compound 4h.



SI Figure S9: Compound 5b.





SI Figure S11: Compound 5d.



SI Figure S12: Compound 5e.



SI Figure S13: Compound 5g. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



SI Figure S14: Compound 5g. CHCl<sub>3</sub>



SI Figure S15: Compound 5h.



SI Figure S16: Compound 5i.

# SI Figure S17



# SI Figure S18





SI Figure S20



# SI Figure S21



# SI Figure S22



### Synthetic procedures. Procedure for preparation of 4a, 5a, 5h, 4d and 5d are adapted from references<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Preparation of alcohols 4a and 5a

#### Step 1:

To a solution of homoallylic alcohol (300 mg, 3.48 mmol) in toluene (7.0 mL) at 0 °C were added acetaldehyde (0.097 mL, 1.74 mmol) p-TSA (1.04 g, 5.58 mmol) then the reaction was slowly warm to room temperature and stirred at 70 °C for 3 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with brine solution and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated potassium carbonate solution (15 mL), dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated the solvent to give crude product which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using 20% ethyl acetate-hexanes afforded Prins product (**5h**, 500 mg, 52%). The product was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.**Error! Bookmark not defined**.

#### Step 2:

To a solution of OTs compound (**5h**, 500 mg, 1.76 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) was added Mg powder (105.6 mg, 4.40 mmol) at ambient temperature and the resulting mixture was continued to stir at the same temperature for 6 h. After completion of the reaction cooled to 0°C were added conc. HCl (3.0 mL) and water (10.0 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 X 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under vacuum to give crude product which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using 50% diethyl ether-hexanes obtained desired product (**5a**, 200 mg, 59%). The NMR spectra were identical to literature data.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Step 3:

To a stirred solution of alcohol (**5a**, 200 mg, 1.53 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (6 mL) under argon atmosphere were added benzoic acid (1.15 g, 6.92 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.0 g, 7.67 mmol) at room temperature. After 5 min DAID (1.52 mL, 7.67 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at the same temperature and allowed to continue for 24 h. Then the reaction mixture was concentrated as such (without further work-up) and subjected to silica gel column chromatography using 20% ethyl acetate-hexanes acquired the desired benzoate compound The product was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.

#### Step 4:

A solution of benzoate above (350 mg, 1.25 mmol) in THF (18 mL) was added LiOH (263 mg, 6.27 mmol) in water (6 mL) at ambient temperature and the resulting mixture was continued to stir at the same temperature for 24 h. THF was removed under reduced pressure and the aqueous layer was diluted with more water (15 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 X 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under vacuum to give crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using 50% diethyl ether-hexanes obtained desired product (4a, 150 mg, 92%). The NMR spectra were identical to literature data.Error! Bookmark not defined.·Error!

#### General procedure to prepare benzoates and sulfonates:

To a stirred solution of alcohol (**4a** or **5a**, 100 mg, 0.76 mmol) in pyridine (5 mL) was added acid chloride (293 mg, 1.53 mmol) at 0 °C. Then the reaction was continued to stir for 24 h. Pyridine was removed from the reaction then diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 10 mL), then the organic layer was washed with aq. HC1 (2 x 10 mL). The organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by silica gel column chromatography using 5% ethyl acetate-hexanes gave desired product (**4c**, 120 mg, 55%). The products were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.

**Melting points:** 4c 85-86.4°C, 5c 101-107°C, 4d 103-104.5°C, 5d 93-95.3°C, 4e 181-182°C, 5e 99.3-101.6°C, 4f 62.2-63.7°C, 4h 60.2-61.3°C, 5h 85.2-87°C, 4i 75.6-79.9°C.

#### General procedure to prepare p-nitrophenoxyl ethers

The alcohol **4a** or **5a** (100 mg) in dry ether (20 ml) was treated with excess potassium hydride (50 mg) and stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes before treatment with p-nitrofluorobenzene (1.05 eq.). After 2 hours the reaction was quenched carefully with water. Excess water was added, and the mixture extracted with ether (3 x 20 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and evaporated down to a residue.

#### Compound 4b

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz):  $\delta = 8.16 - 8.21$  (m, 2 H) (Ar-H), 6.91 - 6.96 (m, 2 H) (Ar-H), 4.82 (bs 1H) (CHeq-OR), 3.87 - 3.96 (m, 2 H) (CO-CHax-CR), 1.91 (dd, *J*=14.3, 2.7 Hz, 2 H) (RC-CHeq-CR), 1.52 (ddd, *J*=14.3, 11.5, 2.7 Hz, 2 H) (RC-CHax-CR), 1.18 ppm (d, J = 6Hz 6H) (CH3) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl3, 101MHz):  $\delta = 162.5$ , 141.3, 126.0, 115.2, 71.5, 67.9, 36.4, 31.9, 29.7, 21.8, 14.1 ppm

#### Compound 5b

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 8.12 - 8.17 (m, 2 H) (Ar-H), 6.90 - 6.95 (m, 2 H) (Ar-H), 4.47 - 4.56 (m, 1 H) (CHax-OR), 3.56 (ddd, *J*=11.4, 6.0, 1.4 Hz, 2 H) (CO-CHax-CR), 2.05 -2.12 (m, 2 H) (RC-CHeq-CR), 1.29 - 1.40 (m, 2 H) (RC-CHax-CR), 1.24 ppm (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 6 H) (CH3) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl3, 101MHz):  $\delta$  = 206.9, 162.6, 141.3, 125.9, 115.3, 74.2, 71.3, 38.7, 30.9, 29.7, 21.7 ppm

#### **Compound 4f**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 7.91 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1 H) (Ar-H), 7.59 - 7.74 (m, 3 H) (Ar-H), 5.09 - 5.20 (m, 1 H) (CHeq-OR), 3.51 - 3.62 (m, 2 H) (CO-CHax-CR), 2.08 (dd, *J*=13.1, 4.5 Hz, 2 H) (RC-CHeq-CR), 1.27 - 1.38 (m, 3 H) (RC-CHax-CR), 1.22 - 1.26 ppm (d J = 6Hz, 6 H) (CH3) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl3, 101MHz):  $\delta$  = 164.9, 148.1, 132.9, 131.6, 129.8, 127.9, 123.9, 72.9, 71.3, 59.5, 38.1, 31.2, 29.7, 21.7 ppm

#### **Compound 4g**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz):  $\delta = 8.77$  (d, J=2.3 Hz, 1 H) (Ar-H), 8.51 - 8.56 (m, 1 H) (Ar-H), 7.98 (d, J=8.6 Hz, 1 H) (Ar-H), 5.46 - 5.51 (m, 1 H) (CHeq-OR), 3.67 - 3.77 (m, 2 H) (CO-CHax-CR), 1.91 (dd, J=14.9, 2.3 Hz, 2 H) (RC-CHeq-CR), 1.52 - 1.60 (m, 2 H) (RC-CHax-CR), 1.17 - 1.22 ppm (d J = 6Hz, 6 H) (CH3) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl3, 101MHz):  $\delta = 162.9$ , 132.9, 131.4, 127.3, 124.4, 119.5, 72.4, 68.3, 36.5, 31.4, 29.7, 21.8 ppm

#### Compound 5g 78%

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl3, 400MHz):  $\delta$  = 8.76 - 8.79 (m, 1 H) (Ar-H), 8.52 (dt, *J*=8.2, 1.8 Hz, 1 H) (Ar-H), 7.91 (dd, *J*=8.2, 1.2 Hz, 1 H) (Ar-H), 5.13 - 5.23 (m, 1 H) (CHax-OR), 3.51 - 3.62 (m, 2 H) (CO-CHax-CR), 2.05 - 2.12 (m, 2 H) (RC-CHeq-CR), 1.27 - 1.38 (m, 2 H) (RC-CHax-CR), 1.21 - 1.26 ppm (d, J = 6Hz, 6 H) (CH3) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl3, 101MHz):  $\delta$  = 163.2, 148.9, 148.0, 133.1, 131.2, 127.5, 119.6, 74.0, 71.3, 38.0, 21.7 ppm

# Compound 4b



# **Compound 5b**



#### **Compound 4c**



## **Compound 5c**



#### **Compound 4d**



## **Compound 5d**



# Compound 4e



Compound 5e



## **Compound 4f**



## **Compound 5f**



## **Compound 4h**



# **Compound 5h**



# **Compound 5i**



**Gaussian Cartesian Coordinates and Energies Calculated at B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p):** Energies given as sum of electronic and zero-point vibrational energies (E), sum of electronic and thermal enthalpies (H), sum of electronic and thermal Free energies (G), and zero-point vibrational energy (ZPVE) in Hartrees.

#### 4

E = -425.546958H = -425.536438 G = -425.580672 ZPVE = 0.205259

Symbol	Х	Y	Z
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0	0.02198700	-1.25993900	-0.00407800
С	-0.02213100	1.59409600	0.42974500
Н	-0.03219900	2.38116000	1.19534400
С	-1.18691600	-0.54752500	-0.28480000
Н	-1.17244300	-0.24502800	-1.34266000
С	-1.26779100	0.71131400	0.58630900
Н	-2.16847400	1.28524500	0.33560700
Н	-1.35981200	0.41017500	1.63661700
С	1.20688300	-0.50284600	-0.28921600
Н	1.17809000	-0.20111800	-1.34596900
С	1.24855900	0.75774600	0.58104000
Н	1.35399400	0.45958400	1.63015200
Н	2.11471300	1.37113500	0.31662500
С	-2.34116300	-1.50850700	-0.04896100
Н	-2.23641100	-2.39104900	-0.68355300
Н	-3.29609000	-1.02737900	-0.27853700
Н	-2.35895900	-1.83663900	0.99401100
С	2.39343900	-1.42336100	-0.05540200
Н	2.42687100	-1.74802300	0.98839500
Н	3.32928100	-0.90873600	-0.28981500
Н	2.31760000	-2.31045200	-0.68784300
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<b>4-</b> H <sub>2</sub> O <sup>+</sup>
E = -425.851573
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G = -425.886039
ZPVE = 0.216107

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0	0.01129800	-1.27061900	-0.00507800
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Н	-0.01463000	2.33311800	1.31807200
С	-1.18916800	-0.55922800	-0.29456700
Н	-1.16105700	-0.23030200	-1.34482700
С	-1.27530300	0.67726500	0.62151600
Н	-2.14922400	1.29924000	0.39817900
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С	1.20508300	-0.54505100	-0.28641900
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С	1.27040800	0.69239100	0.63018100
Н	1.39566600	0.35799100	1.66873900
Н	2.13839300	1.32475900	0.41292800
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0	-2.87026400	-0.00557700	-0.11326800
С	0.71099900	1.19945000	0.33252000
Н	0.74306000	1.19036200	1.43516500
С	-0.75673400	1.25248800	-0.11297000
Н	-1.24550400	2.14224100	0.29538600
Н	-0.78646000	1.32875100	-1.20805400
С	-1.51080400	-0.00294100	0.32951500
Н	-1.58938000	-0.00319900	1.42200300
С	0.71568200	-1.19664100	0.33232600
Н	0.74768900	-1.18758900	1.43497400
С	-0.75182500	-1.25533300	-0.11321600
Н	-0.78124600	-1.33150400	-1.20830700
Н	-1.23714100	-2.14705500	0.29495800
С	1.53467200	2.37019800	-0.17968400
Н	2.56866400	2.28678000	0.16132600
Н	1.12347200	3.31585400	0.18331700
Н	1.53396300	2.38701400	-1.27277600
С	1.54395000	-2.36407300	-0.18002400
Н	1.54318400	-2.38087700	-1.27311600
Н	1.13656600	-3.31136900	0.18300200
Н	2.57763900	-2.27653700	0.16087200
Н	-2.87699300	-0.00437900	-1.07704900

5

**5-**H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup>

E = -425.854075H = -425.842602G = -425.888806ZPVE = 0.216351

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0	-1.36930800	0.01969500	-0.17725900
0	2.92916800	-0.10150500	-0.15621200
С	-0.81321100	-1.17866600	0.34075800
Н	-0.86752200	-1.15901700	1.43920600
С	0.69172800	-1.26924200	-0.08069000
Н	1.14940600	-2.15892900	0.35515400
С	1.35241600	-0.01474800	0.39521600
Н	1.58400000	-0.02258600	1.45938100
С	-0.78327300	1.20325600	0.33717800
Н	-0.83552600	1.18812400	1.43592300
С	0.72439900	1.25397600	-0.08919800
Н	0.75258500	1.32061100	-1.18077100
Н	1.19439200	2.14037300	0.34439900
С	-1.61440400	-2.35319700	-0.19238800
Н	-2.65373800	-2.26020800	0.12490900
Н	-1.21985200	-3.29626800	0.19198200
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С	-1.55407200	2.39744600	-0.19778800
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Н	-2.59535900	2.33100800	0.11976400
Н	2.98280500	-0.31003600	-1.10558700
Н	0.71517500	-1.34077700	-1.17329200
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С	-1.27429000	-0.51513800	-0.28956800
Н	-1.27134000	-0.14557400	-1.32186900
С	-1.25674500	0.71001100	0.63968200
Н	-2.12439800	1.34823900	0.44566500
Н	-1.33132200	0.37525500	1.68268100
С	1.28684100	-0.53508000	-0.27857800
Н	1.29533000	-0.16890500	-1.31270700
С	1.27550900	0.69064900	0.64968800
Н	1.34054300	0.35690400	1.69432900
Н	2.16431700	1.31022100	0.47150600
С	-2.54191000	-1.35023000	-0.08367000
Н	-2.56893200	-2.20445500	-0.76712500
Н	-3.44293700	-0.75445800	-0.25880700
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С	2.54133800	-1.38767100	-0.06333500
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Н	2.56203400	-2.24085800	-0.74814100
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С	-0.00097300	-1.35307400	-0.08650200
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Н	-0.00791800	-1.77947200	0.92819400

# $\textbf{6-}H_2O^+$

E = -389.921079 H = -389.909514 G = -389.955751 ZPVE = 0.240467

Symbol	Х	Y	Ζ
0	0.01740500	2.24446000	-0.85494100
С	0.00764000	1.47899500	0.62209000
Н	0.00903900	2.34090500	1.28897400
С	-1.28172300	-0.53434900	-0.29611000
Н	-1.28278600	-0.17697100	-1.33414400
С	-1.27640500	0.69578100	0.63207300
Н	-2.13658800	1.35213600	0.45394900
Н	-1.38293900	0.36961400	1.67738400
С	1.28513400	-0.54671700	-0.28550600
Н	1.29822100	-0.18943600	-1.32349100
С	1.28397400	0.68346300	0.64262200
Н	1.37864800	0.35637400	1.68878400
Н	2.15188800	1.33150000	0.47166400
С	-2.55253500	-1.36199000	-0.07993000
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Н	2.57110700	-2.23593600	-0.74456700
Н	0.81486800	2.77925400	-1.01106500
Н	-0.77295200	2.78786600	-1.01732400
С	-0.00310300	-1.36137100	-0.08292400
Н	-0.00433400	-2.21127400	-0.77094300
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E = -389.610813H = -389.599988G = -389.644788ZPVE = 0.229204

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С	-1.28224000	-0.71237800	-0.33471200
Н	-1.29483100	-0.71565300	-1.43420400
С	-1.26326100	0.75579000	0.12511200
Н	-2.14425700	1.28827600	-0.24714600
С	-0.00033700	1.49083800	-0.33113700
Н	-0.00034400	1.54900400	-1.42499100
С	1.28255500	-0.71179800	-0.33470700
Н	1.29514300	-0.71506200	-1.43420000
С	1.26291200	0.75635700	0.12513000
Н	1.31273200	0.78822900	1.22420900
Н	2.14367000	1.28924700	-0.24711300
С	-2.54180900	-1.43798100	0.14997900
Н	-2.56787600	-2.47093400	-0.20987900
Н	-3.44893500	-0.93793900	-0.20222200
Н	-2.58052500	-1.46590900	1.24436800
С	2.54245000	-1.43683800	0.14997500
Н	2.58118300	-1.46475300	1.24436400
Н	3.44934900	-0.93638500	-0.20222400
Н	2.56898400	-2.46977800	-0.20988600
Н	-0.00098000	2.88666200	1.04792300
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С	0.00031800	-1.43048900	0.11772800
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Н	0.00033100	-1.50412500	1.21511100

 $7-H_2O^+$ 

E = -389.922171H = -389.910533G = -389.956983ZPVE = 0.240882

Symbol	Х	Y	Ζ
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С	-0.39046900	-1.40067900	0.10364700
Н	-0.68976400	-2.37228800	-0.29548500
С	-1.29360800	-0.31052800	-0.39064200
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С	-0.98791600	1.06920200	0.11269100
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Н	-2.83453400	-1.00653000	1.05090000
Н	-0.41292700	-1.44709400	1.20022900
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Н	2.44456600	0.59483300	-0.23398400
Н	1.50563900	0.36534700	1.22956700

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