

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Completion of this research work was possible with the help and support of several people. I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed in this journey. First and foremost, my deepest gratitude goes to my research supervisor, Prof. Ashutosh V. Bedekar, who introduced me to this exciting field of helicene chemistry. I consider it a great opportunity to have carried out my Ph.D. work under his guidance. His constant involvement, profound knowledge and interest in the subject proved to be a major contribution to this work. His constant guidance, support and a positive outlook towards research inspired me to work hard and to put more efforts in my research work. His constant encouragement, especially during the challenging times, was a great motivation. I sincerely thank him for his patience, support and invaluable guidance during the entire period of my research.

With lots of gratitude, I would like to thank Prof. Ashutosh V. Bedekar, Head, Department of Chemistry, for providing and allowing me to use the instrumental facilities for my research work. I am also thankful to Prof. Shailesh R. Shah and Prof. Anjali Patel, former Heads, Department of Chemistry, for the support during the initial phase of my research work.

The financial support obtained in the form of fellowship (SERB-DST project) followed by SHODH fellowship from the Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat (KCG) is greatly acknowledged.

I would like to thank all the teachers of our department for their constant help and support during my work. I express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Shailesh R. Shah, Dr. Arpita S. Desai and Prof. Sujit Baran Kumar for their co-operation in NMR analysis and single crystal X-ray analysis without which this work would not have been possible. I am also thankful to Prof. V. K. Singh (formerly associated with IIT-Bombay) for some fruitful discussions. I would like to thank Prof. Raymond Butcher (Howard University) for single crystal X-ray analysis; Prof. Rodney Fernandes (IIT-Bombay) and Prof. Surendra Singh (Delhi University) for HRMS analysis; Dr. Chandrakumar Appayee (IIT-Gandhinagar) and Dr. Ravishankara (Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.) for their help in CD analysis. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Jayaraman Kannappam and Dr. Aditya Khanvilkar, Apicore Pharmaceuticals Ltd. for providing certain chemicals during the course of my research work.

I would like to thank the office staff of chemistry department, especially Mr. K. J. Rane, Mr. Raval and Mrs. Revathi Ganesh for help in all administrative activities related directly or indirectly to my work. I would like to thank all the non-teaching staff of the department for extending basic help for my research.

I would like to specially thank Dr. Gourav Upadhyay, Dr. Rina Soni, Dr. Pratik Nariya, Mr. Atul Pandavadara and Ms. Astha Dwivedi for NMR analysis, Dr. Riddhi Gupta and Mr. Urmil Chheda for IR analysis, Dr. Blessy Rajan for mass analysis, Mr. Hiten Raval for single crystal analysis and Mrs. Priyanka Salunke for their help with UV-Vis Spectroscopy and computational analysis. I would like to thank all the instrument operators from the department for their timely help to complete this work.

I extend my special thanks to Dr. Krupa Patel who trained and helped me a lot during my early days of research. I greatly acknowledge my seniors Dr. Aditya Khanvilkar, Dr. Gourav Upadhyay, Dr. Riddhi Gupta, Dr. Blessy Rajan and Mr. Hiten Raval for their help, suggestions, guidance and friendly association during my Ph.D. work. I am extremely thankful to my colleagues Mr. Atul Pandavadara, Ms. Astha Dwivedi, Ms. Binal Parmar and Mr. Urmil Chheda for creating a joyful and positive atmosphere in the laboratory. I would also like to my department friends specially Ms. Krisha Shah and Ms. Falguni Shukla for making this entire period of research work, memorable. I would also like to thank my friends Ms. Prachi Bhatt for constant help, encouragement and support, Ms. Shachi Upadhyay and Ms. Aditi Singh for their warmth and support.

My appreciation also extends to Mr. Vraj Shah and Ms. Purva Kachhi with whom I have collaborated on their dissertation work.

Completion of my research work would not have been possible without the patience and support of my family. I am extremely thankful for the unconditional love and sacrifice made by my parents, Mrs. Dharmistha Bhalodi and Mr. Hasmukh Bhalodi and my parents-in-law Mrs. Geeta Gopani and Mr. Gopal Gopani for their emotional support and understanding. My special thanks to my brother Kush for his care and concern, despite the long distance. Last but not the least, I specially thank my husband, Mr. Ronak Gopani for supporting my decision to continue Ph.D. and bearing through all the consequences.

Above all, I owe it all to Almighty God for bestowing me with wisdom, health, and strength to undertake this research task and enabling me to its completion.

Esha H. Bhalodi