# CATALYTIC REDUCTIVE CARBENE AND VINYLIDENE TRANSFER REACTIONS

by

### **Conner M Farley**

### **A Dissertation**

Submitted to the Faculty of Purdue University

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of

### **Doctor of Philosophy**



Department of Chemistry
West Lafayette, Indiana
May 2020

# THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Prof. Christopher Uyeda, Chair

Department of Chemistry

Prof. Mingji Dai

Department of Chemistry

**Prof. Suzanne Bart** 

Department of Chemistry

**Prof. Abram Axelrod** 

Department of Chemistry

Approved by:

Dr. Christine Hrycyna

### To my family

Mom, Dad, Grandpa, Grandma, Jackson, Brianna, James

The love of my life, Hailey

The cabin in the mountains

The river that forks south

"Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not the fish they are after"
-Henry David Thoreau

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My first acknowledgement is to my advisor, Prof. Chris Uyeda. He isn't too keen on the sappy, emotional stuff but I'm going to write it anyway. I have spent the last five years completely inspired by his knowledge, communication abilities, and perspective. Everything that I have tried to do in graduate school, from the lab to the classroom, has involved some attempt to emulate his style. He taught me to look for ways to elevate our science. He has worked tirelessly with us to prepare our stories for the literature. He prioritized independence and let me work through what really excited me, even when I reported 35% yield in every subgroup and group meeting for eight straight months. But perhaps above all else, his door was *always* open. I will strive to model my independent career after the countless lessons that I learned from him. Thank you for everything, Chris. Cheers to a long career with many students who are as lucky as I am.

I spent my time as an undergraduate at University of Idaho working alongside and learning from a talented group that I am proud to call my colleagues. Thank you to Prof. Jakob Magolan for your confidence and direction toward a young, naïve chemistry student. Hailey, Joe, Kyle, Steve, and Leslie all provided me with an environment to lay a foundation of passion for scientific research through discussion. Our time in Moscow meant the world to me. Go Vandals!

I began my first year in the Uyeda group working alongside Talia, Doug, Heather, Ian, Sudipta, Colby, Mike, Jake, and You-Yun. I cannot even begin to express my gratitude for the patience that they showed toward me in the beginning. You-Yun Zhou helped me get my chemistry off of the ground on multiple occasions. Also, he had this calm, terse way of giving pep talks when chemistry was going horribly that always made me feel better. My graduate career wouldn't have been the same without You-Yun. Doug Hartline sat next to me in the office up until the time of his graduation, and was always willing to engage in discussion about an interesting paper that week. When I needed the right experiment, somehow Doug always knew just what to do. The occasional in-depth chat (debate) about which superhero movies are the best ones never failed to put a smile on our faces, either. Thank you for helping me get out of my shell, Doug. I was fortunate to have Talia Steiman as a bay-mate until the time of her graduation. Talia is a thorough and tenacious scientist, and I learned a great deal studying her example. I'll never forget the look on her face the day that I spilled t-BuLi all over the inside of the glovebox in my first year. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Nish Banka joined in my second year as an undergraduate student to work with me on cyclopentanation. Instantly, I was in awe of his enthusiasm and intelligence. We made a great team, and I didn't tell him enough how much it meant to me for him to be there. Nish is a fearless chemistry student, always striving to push his own limits in the laboratory. We made something to be proud of, and Nish was a critical piece to that puzzle. I will miss my daily conversations about science, science fiction, and fiction with my office mate John. Late nights at the (office) bar with Shawn and John are something I won't soon forget. Additionally, thank you to Annah, Sourish, Vibha, Kristen, Seul-Ah, Houng, and Qiang for being my teammates. The first year students Kyle, Wen, Mingxin, and Chris all possess the ingredients for highly successful PhDs. I admire you all and look very much forward to following your careers closely.

My family followed my graduate tenure every step of the way, and the thought of coming home to tell them all about it kept me focused more times than I can count. It's a long life full of good news ahead of us, thanks to all of you. I love you all. To my roommate of five years Will, thank you for taking a chance on recruitment weekend. We shared some times that I'll never forget. Finally, I want to acknowledge the love of my life Hailey. We did this together, step by step. Year by year. I missed you every single day that we were apart. Now, we are going places together. Thank you for always believing in me. You're my biggest inspiration.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

| LIST OF TABLES  | 7   |
|---|-----|
| LIST OF FIGURES   | 8   |
| ABSTRACT  | 10  |
| CHAPTER 1. CATALYTIC CYCLOOLIGOMERIZATION OF ENONES WITH THREE  |     |
| METHYLENE EQUIVALENTS   | 11  |
| CHAPTER 2. CATALYTIC [5+1]-CYCLOADDITIONS OF VINYLCYCLOPROPANES |     |
| AND VINYLIDENES   | 23  |
| CHAPTER 3. ORGANIC REACTIONS ENABLED BY CATALYTICALLY ACTIVE    |     |
| METAL-METAL BONDS   | 35  |
| APPENDIX A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER 2                | 53  |
| APPENDIX B. SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER 3                | 178 |
| VITA  | 340 |
| PUBLICATIONS  | 341 |

### LIST OF TABLES

| Table 1.1. Conversions of 1, yields of 2 (C3), and yields of 3 (C5) were determined from crude                         |
|--|
| reaction mixtures by GC analysis against mesitylene as an internal standard. Reaction conditions:                      |
| 1 (0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Zn (6.0 equiv), metal source (0.15 equiv), ligand (0.15 equiv), 1.25:1                       |
| CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> / DMA (0.3 mL). Selectivities for cyclopropane vs cyclopentane formation are expressed |
| as excess values, defined as $[(C5 - C3)/(C5 + C3)] \times 100\%$ .  |
| Table 2.1. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions: effect of reaction parameters. <sup>a</sup>                     |

### LIST OF FIGURES

| Figure 1.1. Cyclooligomerization strategies for the synthesis of cyclic molecules. (a) Transition-metal-catalyzed cyclotrimerization reactions of alkynes proceeding through metallacyclic intermediates. (b) A proposed cyclooligomerization reaction using a carbene as the propagating monomer. (c) A catalytic reductive $[2+1+1+1]$ -cycloaddition of enones with CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> /Zn to generate cyclopentanes.   |
|---|
| Figure 1.2. Substrate scope studies. Yields are of the isolated cyclopentane following purification C5/C3 ratios were determined from the crude reaction mixtures by <sup>1</sup> H NMR integration. Reaction conditions: enone (1.0 equiv, 0.21 mmol); Zn (6.0 equiv); Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub> (0.15 equiv); (±)- <b>L10</b> (0.15 equiv); CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL); DMA (0.4 mL); 22 °C, 16 h   |
| Figure 1.3. Baeyer–Villiger oxidations of aryl cyclopentyl ketone products  |
| Figure 1.4. Mechanistic experiments. (a) Experiment identifying the origin of the $-(CH_2)_3$ -fragment in product 3. (b) Excluding a mechanism involving cyclopropane ring-opening. (c) Excluding a mechanism involving a coupling of enone 1 and ethylene   |
| Figure 1.5. Hammett plot of the C5/C3 selectivity vs the substituent $\sigma$ parameters  |
| Figure 1.6. A proposed cyclooligomerization mechanism involving metallacycle ring expansion. The branch point for cyclopentane vs cyclopropane formation is highlighted   |
| Figure 2.1. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylcyclopropanes and 1,1-dichloroalkenes.   |
| Figure 2.2. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylcyclopropanes and vinylidenes. Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 2.1   |
| Figure 2.3. Synthesis of all- <i>meta</i> trisubstituted methylenecyclohexenes via [5 + 1]-cycloadditions Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 2.1   |
| Figure 2.4. Oxidation and isomerization reactions of cycloadducts. Reaction conditions: (1) Pd/C (10 wt%), ethylene glycol, 200 °C; (2) KOtBu, DMF, 0 °C; (3) SeO <sub>2</sub> , 1,4-dioxane, 100 °C 30   |
| Figure 2.5. Experiments probing potential (a) vinylcyclopropane ring-opening and (b) dicyclopropane rearrangement mechanisms. (c) Catalytic reductive methylenecyclopropanation of a terminal alkene. (d) Catalytic reductive addition/isomerization of vinylidenes to a vinylcyclobutane. Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 1. (e) Unified vinylidene [2 +2]-cycloaddition mechanism for the formation of [2 + 1]-cycloaddition, and coupling products |
| Figure 3.1. (A) Metal-ligand and metal-metal interactions provide complementary tools to control the electronic structure of transition metal catalysts. (B) Metal-metal bonds can serve as single site or multi-site catalysts.  |
| Figure 3.2. (A) Pd exhibits a propensity to form metal–metal bonded dimers in the +1 oxidation state. (B) Pd(I) dimers as off-cycle resting states or catalyst decomposition products in cross-coupling reactions. <sup>12,15,16</sup> (C) Pd(I) dimers as catalytic intermediates in transhalogenation   |

| reactions. <sup>17</sup> (D) Development of catalytic aryl halide trifluoromethylthiolation <sup>18</sup> , and trifluoromethylselenolation reactions <sup>19</sup>   |
|---|
| Figure 3.3. (A) Arene C–H borylations using Ir catalysts. <sup>30</sup> (B) From stoichiometric to catalytic C–H borylations using base metal catalysts. <sup>32</sup> (C) Photoinduced catalytic C–H borylations using heterobimetallic Fe/Cu catalysts. <sup>28</sup>   |
| Figure 3.4. (A) Designing catalytic vinylidene transfer reactions by suppressing the competing Fritsch–Buttenberg–Wiechell (FBW) rearrangement. (B) Dinuclear stabilization of vinyl ligands and a proposed $Ni_2$ -bound vinylidenoid. (C) Stoichiometric methylenecyclopropanation using a 1,1-dichloroalkene. (D) Catalytic reductive methylenecyclopropanations of alkenes. $^{36}$ |
| Figure 3.5. (A) Formation of Rh <sub>2</sub> carbene complexes using Rh <sub>2</sub> tetracarboxylate catalysts. (B) Rh <sub>2</sub> carbenes are highly reactive due to three-centered $\sigma$ - and $\pi$ -bonding interactions. (C) Regio- and stereoselective C–H insertion reactions using chiral Rh <sub>2</sub> catalysts. (52,53) 45   |
| Figure 3.6. (A) Ru <sub>2</sub> catalysts for the substitution reactions of propargylic alcohols. <sup>56</sup> (B) Ru–Ru interaction facilitates ligand substitution by stabilizing the low-coordinate state. <sup>61</sup> (C) Catalytic asymmetric propargylic substitutions using chiral Ru <sub>2</sub> catalysts. <sup>62</sup>   |

### **ABSTRACT**

Carbenes are reactive organic intermediates comprised of a neutral, divalent carbon atom. The reactivity of carbenes is often orthogonal to polar functional groups (nucleophiles and electrophiles), making them valuable intermediates for organic synthesis. For example, carbenes can engage in cheletropic reactions with olefins to form cyclopropane rings or undergo insertions into weak element-hydrogen bonds. The most established strategy for accessing carbene intermediates is through a redox-neutral decomposition of diazoalkanes to form a transient M=CR<sub>2</sub> species. Over the course of nearly a half-century of development, many instrumental synthetic methods have emerged that operate on this basis. Despite the combined utility of these methods, the scope of catalytic carbene transfer reactions remains largely constrained by the inherent instability of the starting materials. Diazoalkanes often require electron-withdrawing groups to provide stability through resonance effects.

Contrary to redox-neutral methods, reductive carbene transfer reactions utilize non-stabilized 1,1-dihaloalkanes as carbene precursors. The Simmons-Smith cyclopropanation reaction represents the most documented example of this class, and remains today as the most practical method for parent methylene (:CH<sub>2</sub>) transfer. Nevertheless, reductive carbene transfer processes have proven to be remarkably resistant to catalysis. Our group is interested in developing first-row transition metal catalysts which can initiate an oxidative addition into 1,1-dihaloalkanes, followed by a two-electron reduction with an outer-sphere reductant to provide access to a M=CR<sub>2</sub> intermediate for carbene transfer.

The application of this mechanistic hypothesis toward reductive methylene transfer using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the carbene source and a Ni catalyst is outlined in chapter one. The discovery of an unexpected cyclooligomerization of methylene carbenes is discussed. Mechanistic studies are presented, which are consistent with a pathway in which carbenes are iteratively inserted into an expanding metallacycle. In chapter two, the corresponding activation of 1,1-dichloroalkenes for vinylidene transfer in [5+1]-cycloadditions with vinylcyclopropanes is outlined. Finally, in the third and final chapter, organic reactions catalyzed by complexes which feature metal-metal bonds are reviewed.

# CHAPTER 1. CATALYTIC CYCLOOLIGOMERIZATION OF ENONES WITH THREE METHYLENE EQUIVALENTS

Reproduced with permission from Farley, C. F.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Banka, N.; Uyeda, C. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, 140, 40, 12710-12714. DOI: 10.1021/jacs.8b08296. Copyright 2018 American Chemical Society.

### 1.1 Abstract

Cyclic structures are highly represented in organic molecules, motivating a wealth of catalytic methods targeting their synthesis. Among the various ring-forming processes, cyclooligomerization reactions possess several attractive features but require addressing a unique challenge associated with controlling ring-size selectivity. Here we describe the catalytic reductive cocyclooligomerization of an enone and three carbene equivalents to generate a cyclopentane, a process that constitutes a formal [2 + 1 + 1 + 1]-cycloaddition. The reaction is promoted by a (quinox)Ni catalyst and uses  $CH_2Cl_2/Zn$  as the  $C_1$  component. Mechanistic studies are consistent with a metallacycle-based pathway, featuring sequential migratory insertions of multiple carbene equivalents to yield cycloalkanes larger than cyclopropanes.

### 1.2 Introduction

Cyclooligomerization reactions are a mechanistically interesting subclass of cycloadditions that currently have limited utility in organic synthesis. The potential value of these reactions derives from their ability to directly assemble cyclic molecules from the repeated coupling of a simple building block. However, this same feature introduces a significant challenge associated with controlling ring-size selectivity. The most prominent class of cyclooligomerization reactions involves the use of alkynes as substrates. Cyclotrimers are favored under most transition-metal-catalyzed conditions because of the high thermodynamic stability of benzenes relative to cyclobutadienes, cyclooctatetraenes, and higher-order annulenes. Cyclooligomerization reactions using other  $\pi$ -components, such as 1,3-dienes and allenes, have also been studied but generally exhibit poor selectivity and narrow substrate scopes. Catalytic alkyne cyclotrimerizations are commonly initiated by an oxidative coupling reaction at a low-

valent metal center to form a metallacyclopentadiene (Figure 1.1a). This intermediate then undergoes ring expansion through additional alkyne insertion events until the cyclic product is eliminated from the catalyst. In principle, a related mechanism may be accessible using a  $C_1$  component as the monomer unit (Figure 1.1b). For example, a [2+2]-cycloaddition between a  $M=CR_2$  species and an alkene would likewise generate a metallacycle, in this case a saturated metallacyclobutane. The reaction would then propagate by iterative insertions of carbene equivalents and terminate by C-C reductive elimination. Because the cycloalkane would be constructed one carbon at a time, any ring size is potentially accessible by this pathway. Here, we describe a catalytic reductive cocyclooligomerization of an enone and three methylene equivalents to generate a cyclopentane (Figure 1.1c). The reaction constitutes a formal [2+1+1]-cycloaddition and uses  $CH_2Cl_2$  as the  $C_1$  partner in combination with  $Z_1$  metal as a stoichiometric reductant.

# B A Proposed Cyclooligomerization Using a C<sub>1</sub> Component propagation H<sub>2</sub>C: initiation H<sub>2</sub>C: initiation H<sub>2</sub>C: Whethylene Source Up to >20:1 ring size selectivity

Figure 1.1. Cyclooligomerization strategies for the synthesis of cyclic molecules. (a) Transition-metal-catalyzed cyclotrimerization reactions of alkynes proceeding through metallacyclic intermediates. (b) A proposed cyclooligomerization reaction using a carbene as the propagating monomer. (c) A catalytic reductive [2 + 1 + 1 + 1]-cycloaddition of enones with  $CH_2Cl_2/Zn$  to generate cyclopentanes.

### 1.3 Catalyst Comparison and Optimization Studies

Table 1.1. Conversions of **1**, yields of **2** (C3), and yields of **3** (C5) were determined from crude reaction mixtures by GC analysis against mesitylene as an internal standard. Reaction conditions: **1** (0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Zn (6.0 equiv), metal source (0.15 equiv), ligand (0.15 equiv), 1.25:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ DMA (0.3 mL). Selectivities for cyclopropane vs cyclopentane formation are expressed as excess values, defined as  $[(C5 - C3)/(C5 + C3)] \times 100\%$ .

| Entry | Metal source           | Ligand | Conversion | Yield C3 | Yield C5 |
|-------|------------------------|--------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L1     | 38%        | 36%      | 2%       |
| 2     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L2     | 40%        | 26%      | 6%       |
| 3     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L3     | 38%        | 27%      | 6%       |
| 4     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L4     | 85%        | 16%      | 9%       |
| 5     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L5     | 93%        | 26%      | 17%      |
| 6     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L6     | 92%        | 32%      | 30%      |
| 7     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L7     | 92%        | 18%      | 29%      |
| 8     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L8     | 85%        | 25%      | 60%      |
| 9     | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L9     | 89%        | 21%      | 62%      |
| 10    | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L10    | 95%        | 12%      | 70%      |
| 11    | Ni(dme)Br <sub>2</sub> | L1     | 85%        | 21%      | 42%      |
| 12    | Co(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L1     | 0%         | 0%       | 0%       |
| 13    | Fe(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | L1     | 46%        | 0%       | 0%       |
| 14    | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>  | None   | 10%        | 0%       | 0%       |

We discovered the reductive cyclooligomerization unexpectedly while studying transition-metal-catalyzed variants of the Simmons-Smith reaction. The key intermediates of the

classical Simmons-Smith reaction are Zn carbenoids (XZnCH<sub>2</sub>Y species), which are electrophilic in character and known to react preferentially with electron-rich alkenes. Kanai et al. observed that electron-deficient alkenes, such as enones, are also amenable to cyclopropanation under CH<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub>/Zn conditions by the addition of NiX<sub>2</sub> salts in catalytic loadings. The active carbenoid species could not be unambiguously identified but was hypothesized to be a nucleophilic Ni=CH<sub>2</sub> complex that undergoes cyclopropanation by a stepwise [2 + 2]cycloaddition/C-C reductive elimination pathway. Studies by Grubbs, Miyashita, and Hillhouse probing the stoichiometric reactivity of Ni=CR<sub>2</sub> species and their associated nickelacyclobutanes lend credence to this proposal. Our initial interest was in examining ligand effects in the nickelcatalyzed Simmons-Smith reaction. Accordingly, catalysts generated from Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> and nitrogen-based bidentate ligands (L1-L10) were tested in the cyclopropanation of model enone 1 (Table 1.1). The relatively inert CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> reagent was selected as the methylene source because of the absence of any background cyclopropanation using Zn as a stoichiometric reductant. Across the range of ligand types examined, the yield of cyclopropane 2 was found to vary significantly but never exceed 36%. GC-MS analyses of the crude reaction mixtures indicated the formation of a single major byproduct with a mass corresponding to the enone (1) bearing three additional CH<sub>2</sub> equivalents. Subsequent isolation and spectroscopic characterization of this species revealed its structure to be a trans-disubstituted cyclopentane, derived from a formal reductive [2+1+1+1]-cycloaddition process. To the extent that other cyclooligomers, such as cyclobutanes or cyclohexanes, are formed, they fall below the limits of GC-MS detection; masses corresponding to these other cyclooligomers are found in trace quantities using other enones. The ratio of cyclopropane to cyclopentane is strongly dependent on the identity of the supporting ligand. For example, t-Bu-Biox L1 forms cyclopropane nearly exclusively (2:3 =18:1), whereas t-Bu-quinox **L10** is selective for cyclopentane formation (2:3 = 1:5.8).

### 1.4 Substrate Scope for the Catalytic Cyclooligomerization

Summarized in Figure 1.2 is the substrate scope of the nickel-catalyzed reductive cyclooligomerization reaction under conditions that were optimized for cyclopentane formation. Yields are of the isolated cyclopentane following separation from the cyclopropane byproduct. Common functional groups are tolerated, including nitriles, ethers, protected alcohols, protected

amines, electron-rich heterocycles, and esters. Thioethers are susceptible to ylide formation in the Simmons-Smith reaction but are left untouched under the catalytic cyclooligomerization conditions.

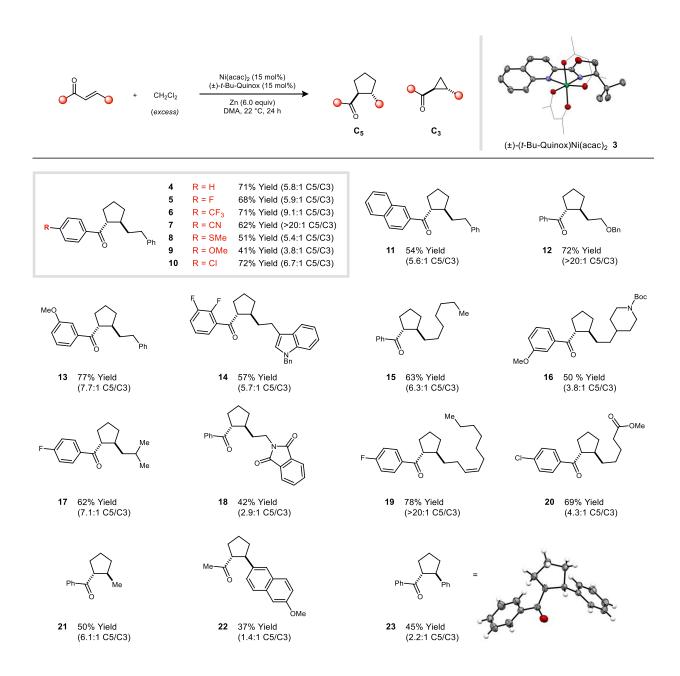


Figure 1.2. Substrate scope studies. Yields are of the isolated cyclopentane following purification. C5/C3 ratios were determined from the crude reaction mixtures by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration. Reaction conditions: enone (1.0 equiv, 0.21 mmol); Zn (6.0 equiv); Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.15 equiv); (±)-**L10** (0.15 equiv); CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL); DMA (0.4 mL); 22 °C, 16 h.

Likewise, aryl chlorides, which participate in nickel-catalyzed reductive cross-coupling reactions, are not competitively activated. A substrate possessing two alkenes, one conjugated with a ketone and the other substituted only with alkyl groups, reacts exclusively at the electron-deficient alkene (19). The highest selectivities for cyclopentane formation were observed using substrates containing an aryl ketone and an alkyl substituent at the  $\beta$ -position of the alkene. For example, methyl ketone 22 and chalcone 23, which do not fulfill these criteria, were viable substrates for the reaction but afforded only modest selectivities for cyclopentanation ( $\leq$ 2.2:1). The product of this latter reaction (23) proved to be a crystalline solid, whose structure was assigned by X-ray diffraction analysis.

The aryl ketones present in the cyclopentanation products may be converted to other useful functional groups by the Baeyer–Villiger oxidation (Figure 1.3). For example, **9** bearing an electron-rich 4-methoxyphenyl group is oxidized to ester **24** with high regioselectivity (rr = 14:1). The alternative regioisomeric ester is also accessible by employing the electron-deficient 4-trifluoromethyl group (**25**), which possesses a low migratory aptitude (rr = >20:1). Upon ester hydrolysis, the former product would provide a cyclopentane carboxylic acid and the latter a cyclopentanol.

MeO

Ph

TFA (2.0 equiv)

TFA (2.0 equiv)

22 °C, 48 h, 
$$CH_2CI_2$$

Ar

Ph

TFA (2.0 equiv)

Ar

Ph

25 65% Yield

(rr = >20:1)

Figure 1.3. Baeyer–Villiger oxidations of aryl cyclopentyl ketone products.

### 1.5 Mechanistic Studies Toward the Catalytic Cyclooligomerization

Given the unusual nature of this transformation, our first mechanistic experiment sought to confirm the origin of the  $-(CH_2)_3-$  fragment in product 3 (Figure 1.4). When the catalytic cyclopentanation of 1 was conducted using  $CD_2Cl_2$  in the place of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , the expected  $CD_2$ -incorporation was observed to form 3- $d_6$  (60% isolated yield). Second, a tandem cyclopropanation-ring-opening mechanism was ruled out by subjecting the separately synthesized cyclopropane 2 to the standard catalytic condition (Figure 1.4b). In this experiment, the cyclopropane was recovered in >98% yield, and no conversion to cyclopentane 3 was observed. Third, we examined a potential mechanism involving the oxidative coupling of enone 1 with ethylene, which could be generated from the reductive coupling of two  $CH_2Cl_2$  equivalents (Figure 1.4c). Miyashita previously observed the formation of ethylene from the dimerization of a proposed transient  $Ni=CH_2$  species. Furthermore, ethylene is known to undergo nickel-mediated oxidative coupling reactions with electron-deficient  $\pi$ -systems.

Figure 1.4. Mechanistic experiments. (a) Experiment identifying the origin of the  $-(CH_2)_3$ -fragment in product 3. (b) Excluding a mechanism involving cyclopropane ring-opening. (c) Excluding a mechanism involving a coupling of enone 1 and ethylene.

The catalytic cyclopentanation of enone **1** was carried out using labeled CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> under an atmosphere of nondeuterated ethylene gas. The presence of ethylene was found to inhibit the rate of cyclopentanation, but product **3-d**<sub>6</sub> was nonetheless obtained in fully deuterium-labeled form. This result suggests that either ethylene is not an intermediate in the reaction or that it is generated but remains tightly bound to Ni and thus cannot exchange with free ethylene.

Finally, during our substrate scope studies, we noted a pronounced dependence of the selectivity for cyclopropane versus cyclopentane formation on the electronic properties of the aryl ketone (Figure 1.5). For a series of 4-substituted aryl enones (3, 5–10), there is a linear relation between the selectivity values (C5/C3) and the substituent  $\sigma$  parameters ( $\rho$  = 0.45). Electron-withdrawing substituents result in the highest selectivities for cyclopentane formation.

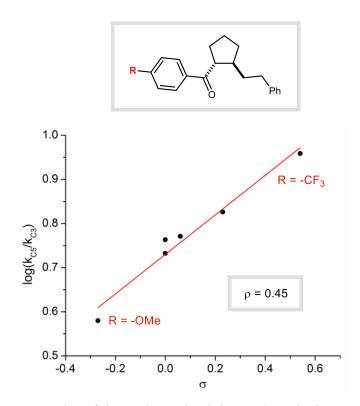


Figure 1.5. Hammett plot of the C5/C3 selectivity vs the substituent  $\sigma$  parameters.

One possible interpretation of this trend is in the context of the metallacyclebased mechanism proposed by Kanai. In this pathway, the selectivity for cyclopropanation versus cyclooligomerization would be governed by the relative rates of reductive elimination (termination) and carbene insertion (propagation) (Figure 1.6). Carbon—carbon reductive elimination reactions are known to be accelerated by the presence of an electron-donating group conjugated to one of the carbons undergoing bond formation; electron-donating groups generally destabilize M—C bonds to a greater extent than the product C—C bond. On the other hand, the carbene insertion step would likely be insensitive to the electronic properties of the aryl group. Previous kinetics studies have shown that CO migratory insertion reactions occur preferentially at more electron-rich M—C bonds. The analogous process in the reductive cyclooligomerization would therefore favor carbene insertion into the Ni—alkyl over the Ni— enolate bond such that the aryl group would exert only an indirect effect on the rate of this step.

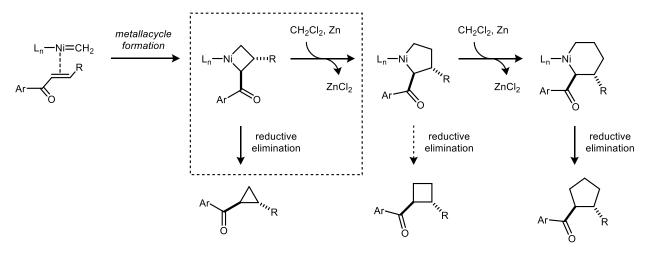


Figure 1.6. A proposed cyclooligomerization mechanism involving metallacycle ring expansion. The branch point for cyclopentane vs cyclopropane formation is highlighted.

### 1.6 Conclusions

In summary, zinc carbenoid additions to alkenes have been extensively studied since the seminal work of Emschwiller, Simmons, and Smith. However, in no cases have these reactions been observed to access pathways that lead to multiple CH<sub>2</sub> addition, presumably because of the concerted nature of the carbene-transfer mechanism. In this context, transition metal-bound carbenes are attractive as alternative CH<sub>2</sub> transfer agents because of their potential to react through stepwise organometallic pathways. By intercepting transient metallacyclic intermediates prior to C–C reductive elimination, it is possible to develop new transformations that form ring systems other than cyclopropanes. This strategy is demonstrated here in the context of a nickel-

catalyzed [2 + 1 + 1 + 1]-cycloaddition of enones using three methylene equivalents derived from  $CH_2Cl_2$  and six reducing equivalents supplied by Zn metal. Together, these results point to opportunities for the development of other multicomponent cycloaddition reactions using reductively generated  $CH_2$  as a  $C_1$  partner.

### 1.7 Acknowledgements

This research was supported by the NIH (R35 GM124791). X-ray diffraction data were collected using an instrument funded by the NSF (CHE-1625543). We thank Matthias Zeller for assistance with X-ray crystallography. C.U. is an Alfred. P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellow.

### 1.8 References

- (1) (a) Wilke, G. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **1963**, 2, 105–115. (b) Heimbach, P. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1973**, 12, 975–989. (c) Saito, S. In *Modern Organonickel Chemistry*; Tamaru, Y., Ed.; WileyVCH: Weinheim, 2005.
- (2) (a) Reppe, W.; Schweckendiek, W. Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem. 1948, 560, 104–116. (b) Vollhardt, K. P. C. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 1984, 23, 539–556. (c) Schore, N. E. Chem. Rev. 1988, 88, 1081–1119. (d) Saito, S.; Yamamoto, Y. Chem. Rev. 2000, 100, 2901–2916. (e) Agenet, N.; Buisine, O.; Slowinski, F.; Gandon, V.; Aubert, C.; Malacria, M. Org. React. 2007, 68, 1–302.
- (3) Müller, H.; Wittenberg, D.; Seibt, H.; Scharf, E. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl. 1965, 4, 327–332.
- (4) (a) Benson, R. E.; Lindsey, R. V. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1959, 81, 4247–4250. (b) De Pasquale, R. J. J. Organomet. Chem. 1971, 32, 381–393. (c) Englert, M.; Jolly, P. W.; Wilke, G. Angew. Chem. 1971, 83, 84–85. (d) Otsuka, S.; Nakamura, A.; Yamagata, T.; Tani, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1972, 94, 1037–1038.
- (5) (a) Whitesides, G. M.; Ehmann, W. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1969, 91, 3800–3807. (b) Hardesty, J. H.; Koerner, J. B.; Albright, T. A.; Lee, G.-Y. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1999, 121, 6055–6067. (c) Agenet, N.; Gandon, V.; Vollhardt, K. P. C.; Malacria, M.; Aubert, C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 8860–8871.
- (6) Boche, G.; Lohrenz, J. C. W. Chem. Rev. 2001, 101, 697–756.
- (7) (a) Hiroyoshi, K.; Nobuyuki, H. Chem. Lett. 1979, 8, 761–762. (b) Kanai, H.; Hiraki, N.; Iida, S. Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1983, 56, 1025–1029. (c) Hiroyoshi, K.; Yoshimasa, N.; Hideki, M. Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 1983, 56, 1592–1597.

- (8) (a) Grubbs, R. H.; Miyashita, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1978**, 100, 7418–7420. (b) Miyashita, A.; Ohyoshi, M.; Shitara, H.; Nohira, H. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1980**, 338, 103–111. (c) Miyashita, A.; Grubbs, R. H. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1981**, 22, 1255–1256.
- (9) (a) Mindiola, D. J.; Hillhouse, G. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 9976–9977. (b) Waterman, R.; Hillhouse, G. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, 125, 13350–13351.
- (10) Kosarych, Z.; Cohen, T. Tetrahedron Lett. 1982, 23, 3019–3022.
- (11) (a) Everson, D. A.; Jones, B. A.; Weix, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, 134, 6146–6159. (b) Weix, D. J. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 48, 1767–1775.
- (12) Amador, A. G.; Sherbrook, E. M.; Yoon, T. P. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 4722–4725.
- (13) (a) Hoberg, H.; Peres, Y.; Krüger, C.; Tsay, Y.-H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1987**, 26, 771–773. (b) Ogoshi, S.; Haba, T.; Ohashi, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 10350–10351.
- (14) Hansch, C.; Leo, A.; Taft, R. W. Chem. Rev. 1991, 91, 165–195.
- (15) Hartwig, J. F. *Inorg. Chem.* **2007**, 46, 1936–1947.
- (16) Alexander, J. J. In *The Metal—Carbon Bond*. Hartley, Fr., Patai, S., Eds.; Wiley: New York, **1985**.
- (17) Emschwiller, G. Compt. Rend. 1929, 188, 1555–1557.
- (18) (a) Simmons, H. E.; Smith, R. D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1959**, 81, 4256–4264. (b) Charette, A. B.; Beauchemin, A. *Org. React.* **2001**, 58, 1–415.

# CHAPTER 2. CATALYTIC [5+1]-CYCLOADDITIONS OF VINYLCYCLOPROPANES AND VINYLIDENES

Reproduced with permission from Farley, C. M.; Sasakura, K.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Kanale, V. V.; Uyeda, C." *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2020**, 142, 4598–4603. DOI: 10.1021/jacs.0c00356. Copyright 2020 American Chemical Society.

### 2.1 Abstract

Polysubstituted cyclohexenes bearing 1,3 (meta) substitution patterns are challenging to access using the Diels–Alder reaction (the *ortho–para* rule). Here we report a cobalt-catalyzed reductive [5 + 1]-cycloaddition between a vinylcyclopropane and a vinylidene to provide methylenecyclohexenes bearing all-meta relationships. Vinylidene equivalents are generated from 1,1-dichloroalkenes in combination with Zn as a stoichiometric reductant. Experimental observations are consistent with the intermediacy of a cobaltacyclobutane formed from a [2 + 2]-cycloaddition between a cobalt vinylidene and a vinylcyclopropane.

### 2.2 Introduction

The Diels–Alder reaction provides one of the most direct routes to polysubstituted cyclohexenes and has been used extensively in the synthesis of complex biologically active molecules.<sup>1</sup> Diels–Alder reactions between unsymmetrical dienes and dienophiles generally proceed with high regioselectivity to form cycloadducts bearing 1,2 and 1,4 substitution patterns (Figure 1). This selectivity principle applies to both normal and inverse electron-demand Diels–Alder reactions and is commonly referred to as the *ortho–para* rule.<sup>2</sup> Frontier molecular orbital interactions provide a rationale for this preference,<sup>3</sup> and it is challenging to overcome in order to access 1,3-substituted (*meta*) cycloadducts.

An alternative cycloaddition that yields six-membered carbocycles is the [5 + 1]-cycloaddition between a vinylcyclopropane and a carbene equivalent.<sup>4</sup> Sarel,<sup>5</sup> Aumann,<sup>6</sup> and Taber<sup>7</sup> have reported carbonylation reactions of vinylcyclopropanes using stoichiometric Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub>. Catalytic variants have also been developed using Co or Rh catalysts and CO gas.<sup>8</sup> In

these reactions, 1,3-substituted products can be generated provided that the metal complex is capable of selectively cleaving the less-hindered C–C bond of an unsymmetrically substituted vinylcyclopropane. It would be attractive to employ this approach more broadly in [5 + 1]-cycloadditions with  $C_1$  partners other than CO.

Recently, we reported that dinickel catalysts promote reductive [2 + 1]- and [4 + 1]-cycloaddition reactions using 1,1-dichloroalkenes as vinylidene precursors. In the course of these studies, we found that additions of 1,1-dichloroalkene 2 to vinylcyclopropane (1) yielded a mixture of the [2 + 1]- and [5 + 1]-cycloaddition products. Despite this promising initial finding, efforts to improve the selectivity for [5 + 1]-cycloaddition using a dinickel catalyst proved to be unfruitful. Furthermore, we were unable to adequately control the E/Z geometry of the exocyclic alkene. Here, we report that (quinox)Co catalysts promote high-yielding [5 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylidenes and vinylcyclopropanes. This method provides access to di- and trisubstituted methylenecyclohexenes bearing all-meta relationships.

Figure 2.1. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylcyclopropanes and 1,1-dichloroalkenes.

### 2.3 Catalyst Comparison and Optimization Studies

Optimized conditions for the reductive [5 + 1]-cycloaddition of dichloroalkene **2** and vinylcyclopropane **5** are shown in Table 2.1. A catalyst derived from Co(dme)Br<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%) and ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (6 mol%) provides cycloadduct **6** in 97% yield with nearly exclusive E stereochemistry (>20:1 E:Z) at the exocyclic double bond (entry 1). The reaction benefits from excess vinylcyclopropane. However, the additional 2.0 equiv remains unreacted and can be quantitatively reisolated from the crude reaction mixture during chromatographic purification. With a smaller excess of **5** (1.5 equiv), yields up to 73% could be obtained at a slightly elevated reaction temperature of 60 °C (entry 4). When dichloroalkene **2** was substituted with its dibromo counterpart **7**, low yields of **6** were obtained (entry 5).

Table 2.1. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions: effect of reaction parameters.<sup>a</sup>

| entry | changes from standard conditions <sup>b</sup>            | yield (3) | E:Z(3) |
|-------|--|-----------|--------|
| 1     | none   | 97%       | >20:1  |
| 2     | no Zn  | <1%       | _      |
| 3     | 1.5 equiv of <b>2</b>                                    | 42%       | >20:1  |
| 4     | 1.5 equiv of 2 at 60 °C instead of rt                    | 73%       | >20:1  |
| 5     | 7 instead of 2   | 15%       | >20:1  |
| 6     | Mn instead of Zn   | 93%       | >20:1  |
| 7     | TDAE instead of Zn                                       | <1%       | _      |
| 8     | Cp <sub>2</sub> Co instead of Zn                         | <1%       | _      |
| 9     | Cp <sub>2</sub> Co and ZnBr <sub>2</sub> instead of Zn   | 63%       | >20:1  |
| 10    | Ni(dme)Br <sub>2</sub> instead of Co(dme)Br <sub>2</sub> | <1%       | _      |
| 11    | Fe(dme)Br <sub>2</sub> instead of Co(dme)Br <sub>2</sub> | <1%       | _      |
| 12    | no (±)-t-Bu-Quinox                                       | <1%       | _      |
| 13    | 8 instead of (±)-t-Bu-Quinox                             | 83%       | >20:1  |
| 14    | 9 instead of (±)-t-Bu-Quinox                             | 15%       | >20:1  |
| 15    | 10 instead of (±)-t-Bu-Quinox                            | <1%       | _      |

"Yields and E:Z ratios of 6 were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of crude reaction mixtures containing 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. <sup>b</sup>Reaction conditions: 2 (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 5 (3.0 equiv), Zn (3.0 equiv), Co(dme)Br<sub>2</sub> (0.05 equiv), (±)-t-Bu-Quinox (0.06 equiv), DMA (0.75 mL), rt, 16 h.

Zn proved to be the optimal reductant, but Mn provided comparable yields (entry 6). Interestingly, Cp<sub>2</sub>Co, a soluble outersphere reductant, also promoted formation of **6** but only in the presence of added ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (entries 8 and 9). This result suggests that ZnX<sub>2</sub>, a reaction

byproduct formed under the standard conditions, may play a critical role in the catalytic mechanism.

When Co(dme)Br<sub>2</sub> was replaced with Fe(dme)Br<sub>2</sub> or Ni(dme)Br<sub>2</sub>, no conversion of dichloroalkene **2** was observed (entries 10 and 11). The reaction is highly sensitive to the structure of the ancillary ligand. The oxazoline portion can be varied to some extent with only moderate changes in yield (entry 13). However, ligands containing pyridine in the place of quinoline led to little or no yield of **6** (entries 14 and 15). Other nitrogen-based chelating ligands, including those commonly used in catalytic reductive cross-coupling reactions, <sup>10</sup> were also investigated but found to be ineffective at promoting the [5 + 1]-cycloaddition (see Supporting Information).

### 2.4 Substrate Scope Studies

1,1-Dichloroalkenes bearing alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl substituents undergo [5 + 1]-cycloaddition in high yield with model vinylcyclopropane **5** (Figure 2.2). Ketone-derived 1,1-dichloroalkenes are viable substrates and afford products containing hindered tetrasubstituted alkenes (products **16** and **17**). A variety of common functional groups are tolerated, including free alcohols, ethers, thioethers, esters, carbamates, sulfonamides, and boronate esters. Vinylcyclopropanes containing terminal alkenes (either monosubstituted or 1,1-disubstituted) generally react efficiently. Vinylcyclopropanes containing internal alkenes are a limitation of the method. For all products, E stereochemistry is favored at the exo methylene. The diastereomeric ratio is dependent on the nature of the substituent on the 1,1-dichloroalkene: aryl and heteroaryl groups provide the E diastereomer almost exclusively, whereas alkyl substituents lead to lower selectivities in the range of 5:1 to 12:1. The products generated in the [5 + 1]-cycloaddition possess a skipped diene, and no isomerization was observed during the reaction or during product isolation.

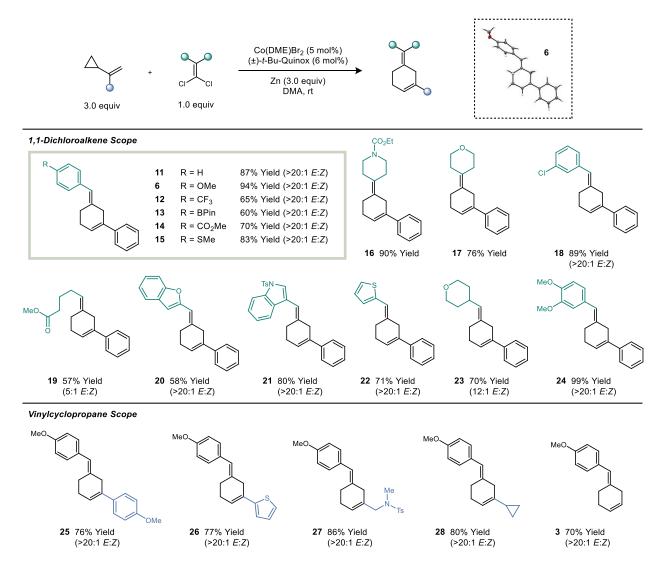


Figure 2.2. Catalytic reductive [5 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylcyclopropanes and vinylidenes. Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 2.1.

The [5 + 1]-cycloaddition provides access to all-*meta* trisubstituted methylenecyclohexenes using vinylcyclopropanes of the general structure shown in Figure 2.3. Vinylcyclopropane **29** was prepared in highly enantioenriched form and was converted into methylenecyclohexene **30** without any loss in enantiomeric excess. <sup>7a</sup> For all substrates that were examined, the catalyst only targeted the less hindered C–C bond of the cyclopropane. The alternative 1,2,4-regioisomer, which would be formed by cleavage of the more hindered C–C bond, was not detected. Organometallic mechanisms for cyclopropane ring-opening (either oxidative addition or σ-bond metathesis) are generally sensitive to steric effects. <sup>4,11</sup> However, a

recent nitrene cycloaddition produced the alternative 1,2,4-regioismers due to a proposed radical based ring-opening mechanism.<sup>12</sup>

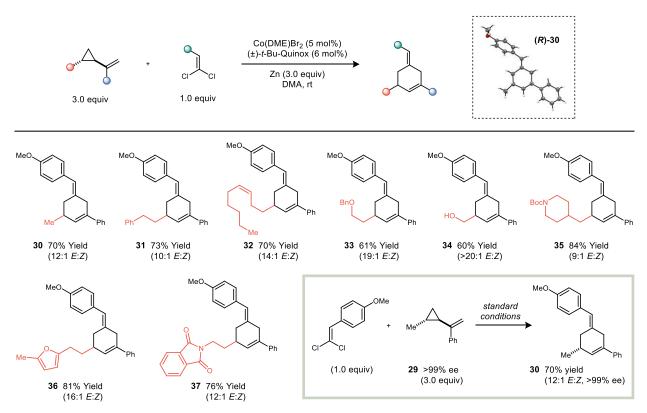


Figure 2.3. Synthesis of all-*meta* trisubstituted methylenecyclohexenes via [5 + 1]-cycloadditions. Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 2.1.

### 2.5 Product Derivatization Studies

The [5 + 1]-cycloadducts can be oxidized to form 1,3,5-trisubstituted aromatic products. Arenes of this type, possessing all-meta substitution patterns, would be challenging to synthesize through conventional aromatic substitution or cross-coupling approaches. Dehydrogenation reactions were accomplished using Pd/C as a catalyst without the need for an H<sub>2</sub> acceptor (products 38–42). Dehydrogenation of the methylenecyclohexenes could also be carried out with SeO<sub>2</sub> but led to concomitant oxidation of the benzhydryl group to a benzophenone (products 44 and 45). Finally, the skipped diene in the cycloaddition products can be isomerized into conjugation using KOt-Bu (products 43).

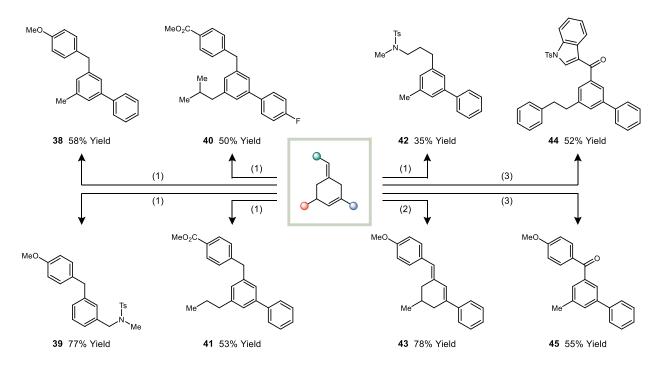


Figure 2.4. Oxidation and isomerization reactions of cycloadducts. Reaction conditions: (1) Pd/C (10 wt%), ethylene glycol, 200 °C; (2) KOtBu, DMF, 0 °C; (3) SeO<sub>2</sub>, 1,4-dioxane, 100 °C.

### 2.6 Reaction Mechanism Studies

Results pertaining to the mechanism of the reaction are summarized in Figure 3.5. Our first experiment was aimed at determining whether the (quinox)Co catalyst promotes the ring-opening of vinylcyclopropanes<sup>14</sup> in the absence of the 1,1-dichloroalkene. When subjected to the standard [5 + 1]-cycloaddition conditions, vinylcyclopropane 5 was recovered unreacted (Figure 2.5a). This result is consistent with a mechanism in which vinylidene formation precedes ring-opening of the vinylcyclopropane. We next considered a mechanism involving an initial [2 + 1]-cycloaddition followed by rearrangement to form a six-membered ring.<sup>15</sup> This mechanism was ruled out by subjecting dicyclopropane 4, the putative intermediate in this sequential mechanism, to the standard [5 + 1]-cycloaddition conditions. No conversion of 4 was observed after 48 h at room temperature (Figure 2.5b).

When allyl benzene (46), a monosubstituted alkene lacking the cyclopropane, was subjected to the standard [5 + 1]-cycloaddition conditions, a methylenecyclopropane product (47) was obtained (Figure 2.5c). Interestingly, the reaction is highly selective for the Z diastereomer.

This finding is in striking contrast to Ni<sub>2</sub> catalyzed methylenecyclopropanations, <sup>9a</sup> which generally produce near 1:1 E/Z mixtures for this class of alkenes. Taken together, these results suggest that the [2 + 1]- and [5 + 1]-cycloadditions may be mechanistically related and that a common step is responsible for determining the E/Z selectivity. Finally, unlike the [5 + 1]-cycloaddition, more hindered 1,1-disubstituted alkenes, such as  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, are unreactive, presumably due to the increased steric hindrance in the ring-closure step.

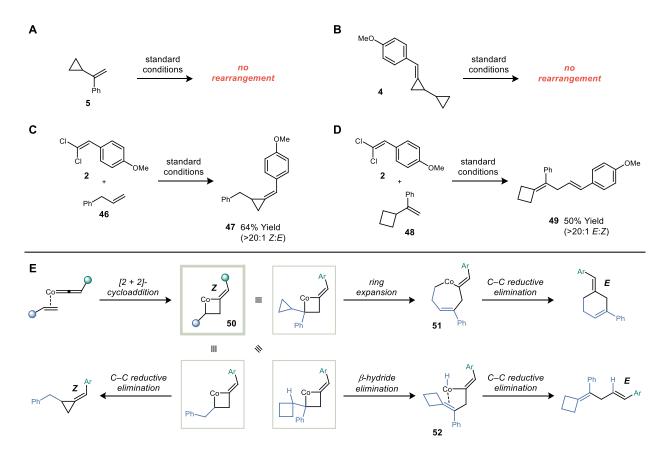


Figure 2.5. Experiments probing potential (a) vinylcyclopropane ring-opening and (b) dicyclopropane rearrangement mechanisms. (c) Catalytic reductive methylenecyclopropanation of a terminal alkene. (d) Catalytic reductive addition/isomerization of vinylidenes to a vinylcyclobutane. Reactions were conducted using the standard conditions shown in Table 1. (e) Unified vinylidene [2 + 2]-cycloaddition mechanism for the formation of [2 + 1]-cycloaddition, [5 + 1]-cycloaddition, and coupling products.

Cyclobutanes are moderately less strained than cyclopropanes<sup>16</sup> and generally less reactive toward transition metal catalyzed ring-opening processes.<sup>17</sup> Accordingly, vinylcyclobutane **48** did not yield the corresponding [6 + 1]-cycloaddition product, but instead

generated diene **49**, containing the intact cyclobutane ring (Figure 2.5d). The formation of this product can be rationalized by invoking a  $\beta$ -hydride elimination that outcompetes other ring-opening or ring-closing steps.

The three different products obtained from simple alkenes, vinylcyclopropanes, and vinylcyclobutanes can be rationalized according to a single general mechanism as shown in Figure 2.5e. Oxidative addition of the 1,1-dichloroalkene followed by Zn reduction would generate a Co(vinylidene) intermediate. [2 + 2]-cycloaddition of the Co(vinylidene) and the alkene forms a metallacyclobutane (50). The E/Z selectivity for all three product classes is established in this step of the mechanism and requires the alkene to approach the Co(vinylidene) from the less hindered face. From here, methylenecyclopropanes are generated by C–C reductive elimination. In the case of the vinylcyclopropane substrate, ring-expansion of metallacyclobutane 50 forms metallacycloheptene 51, which then undergoes reductive elimination to yield the [5 + 1]-cycloadduct. Finally, because cyclobutanes are less strained than cyclopropanes, intermediate 50 may undergo  $\beta$ -hydride elimination instead of ring expansion. C–H reductive elimination from 52 would yield the linear skipped diene product.

### 2.7 Conclusions

In summary, cobalt-catalyzed vinylidene [5 + 1]-cycloadditions are a useful complement to the Diels-Alder reaction in that they provide access to six-membered rings containing *meta* substitution patterns. The stereoselectivity of the reaction and the products generated from additions to simple alkenes and vinylcyclobutanes have led us to propose a cobaltacyclobutane intermediate, which may arise from a [2 + 2]-cycloaddition between a cobalt vinylidene species and an alkene. We are currently exploring other avenues to generate or intercept this intermediate as a platform to develop new reductive vinylidene transfer reactions.

### 2.8 References

- (1) (a) Nicolaou, K. C.; Snyder, S. A.; Montagnon, T.; Vassilikogiannakis, G. "The Diels-Alder reaction in total synthesis" *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2002**, *41*, 1668-1698; (b) Corey, E. J. "Catalytic enantioselective Diels-Alder reactions: Methods, mechanistic fundamentals, pathways, and applications" *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2002**, *41*, 1650-1667; (c) Carruthers, W. *Cycloaddition reactions in organic synthesis*; Pergamon Press: Oxford, 1990. (d) *Cycloaddition Reactions in Organic Synthesis*; Kobayashi, S., Jørgensen, K. A., Eds.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, Germany; 2002.
- (2) Fleming, I. Frontier Orbitals and Organic Chemical Reactions; Wiley: Chinchester, 2010.
- (3) (a) Houk, K. N. "Generalized frontier orbitals of alkenes and dienes. Regioselectivity in Diels-Alder reactions" J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1973, 95, 4092-4094; (b) Kahn, S. D.; Pau, C. F.; Overman, L. E.; Hehre, W. J. "Modeling chemical reactivity. 1. Regioselectivity of Diels-Alder cycloadditions of electron-rich dienes with electron-deficient dienophiles" J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1986, 108, 7381-7396.
- (4) Jiao, L.; Yu, Z.-X. "Vinylcyclopropane derivatives in transition-metal-catalyzed cycloadditions for the synthesis of carbocyclic compounds" *J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *78*, 6842-6848.
- (5) (a) Victor, R.; Ben-Shoshan, R.; Sarel, S. "Photochemically induced 1,5-insertion of carbon monoxide into vinylcyclopropane systems. A novel synthesis of cyclohexenones mediated by iron carbonyl" *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1970**, *11*, 4253-4256; (b) Sarel, S. "Metalinduced rearrangements and insertions into cyclopropyl olefins" *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1978**, *11*, 204-211.
- (6) Aumann, R. "Reactions of strained carbon-carbon bonds with transition metals. 7. Iron carbonyl complexes from vinylcyclopropane" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1974**, *96*, 2631-2632.
- (7) (a) Taber, D. F.; Kanai, K.; Jiang, Q.; Bui, G. "Enantiomerically pure cyclohexenones by Femediated carbonylation of alkenyl cyclopropanes" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 6807-6808; (b) Taber, D. F.; Joshi, P. V.; Kanai, K. "2,5-dialkyl cyclohexenones by Fe(CO)5-mediated carbonylation of alkenyl cyclopropanes: Functional group compatibility" *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 2268-2271.
- (8) (a) Kurahashi, T.; de Meijere, "[5+1] cocyclization of A. (cyclopropylmethylene)cyclopropanes and other vinylcyclopropanes with carbon monoxide catalyzed by octacarbonyldicobalt" Synlett 2005, 2005, 2619-2622; (b) Jiang, G.-J.; Fu, X.-F.; Li, Q.; Yu, Z.-X. "Rh(I)-catalyzed [5 + 1] cycloaddition of vinylcyclopropanes and Co for the synthesis of  $\alpha,\beta$ - and  $\beta,\gamma$ -cyclohexenones" Org. Lett. 2012, 14, 692-695; (c) Murakami, M.; Itami, K.; Ubukata, M.; Tsuji, I.; Ito, Y. "Iridiumcatalyzed [5 + 1] cycloaddition: Allenylcyclopropane as a five-carbon assembling unit J. *Org. Chem.* **1998**, *63*, 4-5.

- (9) (a) Pal, S.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Uyeda, C. "Catalytic reductive vinylidene transfer reactions" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 11686-11689; (b) Zhou, Y.-Y.; Uyeda, C. "Catalytic reductive [4 + 1]-cycloadditions of vinylidenes and dienes" *Science* **2019**, *363*, 857-862.
- (10) (a) Weix, D. J. "Methods and mechanisms for cross-electrophile coupling of csp2 halides with alkyl electrophiles" *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, *48*, 1767-1775; (b) Gu, J.; Wang, X.; Xue, W.; Gong, H. "Nickel-catalyzed reductive coupling of alkyl halides with other electrophiles: Concept and mechanistic considerations" *Org. Chem. Front.* **2015**, *2*, 1411-1421.
- (11) Souillart, L.; Cramer, N. "Catalytic C–C bond activations via oxidative addition to transition metals" *Chem. Rev.* **2015**, *115*, 9410-9464.
- (12) Combee, L. A.; Johnson, S. L.; Laudenschlager, J. E.; Hilinski, M. K. "Rh(II)-catalyzed nitrene-transfer [5 + 1] cycloadditions of aryl-substituted vinylcyclopropanes" *Org. Lett.* **2019**, *21*, 2307-2311.
- (13) Majetich, G.; Allen, S. "The use of hagemann's esters to prepare highly functionalized phenols and benzenes" *Arkivoc* **2010**, *4*, 104-124.
- (14) (a) Zuo, G.; Louie, J. "Highly active nickel catalysts for the isomerization of unactivated vinyl cyclopropanes to cyclopentenes" *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 2277-2279; (b) Hudlicky, T.; Kutchan, R.; Naqvi, S. M. *Org. React.* **1985**, *33*, 247.
- (15) Snellings, K. J.; Lewis, E. S. "Rearrangements of 2,2'-bis(methylene)dicyclopropyl" *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 4315-4317.
- (16) (a) Wiberg, K. B. "The concept of strain in organic chemistry" *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **1986**, 25, 312-322; (b) Dudev, T.; Lim, C. "Ring strain energies from ab initio calculations" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 4450-4458.
- (17) (a) Seiser, T.; Saget, T.; Tran, D. N.; Cramer, N. "Cyclobutanes in catalysis" *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 7740-7752; (b) Mack, D. J.; Njardarson, J. T. "Recent advances in the metal-catalyzed ring expansions of three- and four-membered rings" *ACS Catal.* **2013**, *3*, 272-286.

# CHAPTER 3. ORGANIC REACTIONS ENABLED BY CATALYTICALLY ACTIVE METAL-METAL BONDS

### 3.1 Abstract

Molecular transition metal catalysts are predominantly Werner-type coordination complexes, wherein a single metal ion surrounded by ligands functions as the sole locus of reactivity. A major focus of organometallic chemistry has been to understand how supporting ligands can be rationally modified in order to access more active and selective catalysts. Since the 1960's, however, it has been recognized that metals can also form direct metal-to-metal bonds, giving rise to an extraordinary diversity of multinuclear assemblies. If metal-metal bonding could be harnessed productively in catalysis, it would provide access to a large parameter space that is not available through ligand modification. This review highlights recent examples of organic transformations that were discovered using catalysts containing metal-metal bonds.

### 3.2 Introduction

Transition metal catalysis provides access to valuable organic transformations that would otherwise suffer from prohibitively high activation barriers or poor selectivity. Developing a catalyst for a reaction of interest is typically a lengthy process that begins with identifying an initial hit then carrying out systematic modifications in order to achieve the desired level of efficiency. One of the most powerful tools available to synthetic chemists for optimizing the performance of a catalyst is the identity of the supporting ligands. Supporting ligands exert an influence on the d-orbital structure of metal ions and thus control the types of organic substrates that can bind to a catalyst as well as the organometallic processes that are feasible (Figure 3.1a). Additionally, the steric environment of supporting ligands can be precisely engineered in order to achieve high levels of regio- or stereoselectivity.

Beyond coordinating ligands, transition metals are also capable of engaging in direct metal-to-metal interactions. Since the seminal work of Cotton in the 1960's, there have been considerable advances in our understanding of the electronic factors that underlie metal-metal

bonding.<sup>1,2</sup> There are now over 40,000 structurally characterized metal–metal bonds compiled in the Cambridge Structural Database between elements spanning much of the d-block.<sup>3</sup> The scope of metal–metal bonding interactions between two transition metals is particularly rich due to the availability of d-orbitals.<sup>4</sup> Examples range from strong metal–metal quintuple bonds to weak metallophilic interactions that are similar in strength to non-covalent hydrogen bonds.

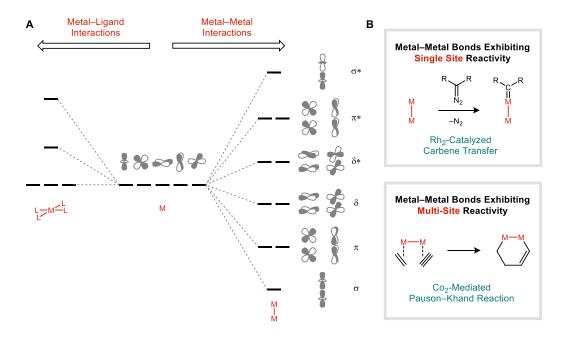


Figure 3.1. (A) Metal-ligand and metal-metal interactions provide complementary tools to control the electronic structure of transition metal catalysts. (B) Metal-metal bonds can serve as single site or multi-site catalysts.

Understanding how metal–metal bonding might play a role in catalysis, either beneficial or deleterious, is a research area that is still very much in its infancy.<sup>5-8</sup> Nevertheless, there is significant evidence to suggest that metal–metal bonds can give rise to unique catalytic properties that are challenging to access with just a single transition metal. Examples of catalysts featuring metal–metal bonds can be broadly divided into two categories (Figure 3.1b). In the first, only one of the two metals acts as the site of reactivity (single site reactivity), but the second metal nonetheless plays an important supporting electronic role. For example, Rh<sub>2</sub>-based catalysts generate unusually electrophilic carbene complexes due to three-centered bonding interactions in the Rh–Rh–CR<sub>2</sub> fragment.<sup>9</sup> In the second category, both metals directly bind substrates and mediate organometallic transformations (multi-site reactivity). One of the most

prominent examples in organic chemistry is the Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub>-mediated Pauson–Khand reaction<sup>10,11</sup>, which is initiated by a dinuclear oxidative coupling of an alkene and an alkyne to yield a dicobaltacyclic intermediate. In this Review, we highlight select cases in which metal–metal bonded catalysts carry out organic transformations that are not viable using their closest mononuclear counterparts. A focus of our discussion is on connecting the fundamental electronic properties of metal–metal bonds with observed catalytic phenomena.

# 3.3 Pd(I)-Pd(I) bonds in cross-coupling reactions: from off-cycle resting states to catalytic intermediates

One potential consequence of metal-metal bonding in a catalytic process is to create offcycle dimers that decrease the fraction of active catalyst and result in lower-than-expected turnover frequencies (Figure 3.2a). For example, the canonical mechanism of the Suzuki-Miyaura cross-coupling reaction invokes only the even oxidation states of Pd, specifically Pd(0) and Pd(II). However, recent studies from Hazari indicate that Pd(I)-Pd(I) species may also assemble under standard catalytic conditions and that the extent of catalyst dimerization may be a key determinant of reaction efficiency.<sup>12</sup> Prior to this work, Nolan had noted a striking enhancement in cross-coupling rates using a second-generation (IPr)Pd(cinnamyl)Cl precatalyst (IPr = 1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene) in the place of their previously reported (IPr)Pd(ally)Cl precatalyst. 13,14 Given that the allyl ligand is not retained during catalytic turnover, this enhancement was attributed to a faster rate of precatalyst activation. Hazari later recognized that the reduction of (IPr)Pd(allyl)Cl precatalysts using boronic acid and base leads to the formation of dimeric (IPr)<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>2</sub>(μ-allyl)(μ-Cl) species 1, which is in equilibrium with monomeric Pd(0). 12 By carrying out equilibrium constant measurements, it was shown that the cinnamyl group serves to sterically disfavor dimerization, leading to a higher fraction of active mononuclear catalyst.

Related phenomena have since been documented in other Pd-catalyzed reactions. Barnard reported the Pd-catalyzed aminocarbonylation of aryl chlorides using CO and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl.<sup>20,21</sup> In subsequent mechanistic studies, Hartwig observed that (dcpp)Pd<sub>2</sub>(CO)(H) dimer **2** (dcpp = dicyclohexylphosphinopropane) is generated under catalytic conditions and that it accumulates as the reaction progresses.<sup>15</sup> The dimer was determined to be an inactive catalyst state that forms

when the mononuclear (dcpp)Pd(CO)<sub>2</sub> complex, which is the dominant on-cycle resting state, undergoes protonation by NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. This finding suggests that longer-lived catalysts for Pd-catalyzed carbonylation reactions might be identified by designing sufficiently hindered supporting ligands to disfavor dimerization. In a similar vein, Ni-catalyzed reactions are also susceptible to the deleterious formation of Ni(I) dimers.

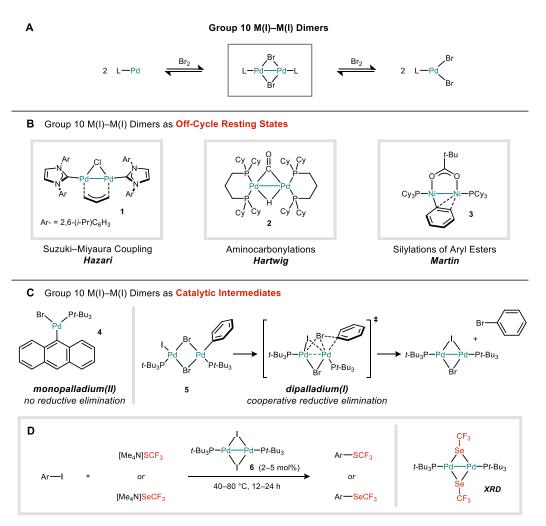


Figure 3.2. (A) Pd exhibits a propensity to form metal–metal bonded dimers in the +1 oxidation state. (B) Pd(I) dimers as off-cycle resting states or catalyst decomposition products in cross-coupling reactions. (C) Pd(I) dimers as catalytic intermediates in transhalogenation reactions. (D) Development of catalytic aryl halide trifluoromethylthiolation and trifluoromethylselenolation reactions.

Martin carried out mechanistic studies of a Ni-catalyzed C–Si cross-coupling reaction and discovered a series of dinuclear  $(Cy_3P)Ni_2(Ar)(OPiv)$  complexes (3) that are produced when

the Ar–OPiv substrate undergoes C–O oxidative addition at Ni(0). <sup>16,22</sup> Presumably, this dimer is formed because a transient Ni(II) species is rapidly captured by Ni(0). Unlike the Pd-catalyzed aminocarbonylation reaction, however, these dimers are in rapid equilibrium with on-cycle mononuclear Ni(II) due to a relatively facile disproportionation process. Consequently, the ability of the Ni catalyst to dimerize has the net effect of slowing down turnover but does not lead to catalyst deactivation.

A less common role of metal–metal bonded dimers in a cross-coupling process is to facilitate catalysis by lowering the activation barrier of the rate-determining step. For example, reductive eliminations become increasingly challenging as the reacting fragments become more electron deficient. This step represents one of the principal impediments to the development of Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions that involve weakly nucleophilic partners, such as fluoride or related polyfluorinated nucleophiles.<sup>23,24</sup> Nevertheless, the installation of fluorine has attracted significant interest in medicinal chemistry due to the ability of fluorine to block drug metabolism. Additionally, <sup>19</sup>F-labelled compounds have applications as PET imaging agents. One solution that has been employed is to oxidize Pd to the +4 oxidation state, thereby triggering a facile reductive elimination to Pd(II).<sup>25,26</sup> One drawback, however, is the need for a strong oxidant in order to access this unusually high-valent state of Pd.

An alternative approach is to couple a challenging C–X reductive elimination to the formation of a stabilizing Pd–Pd bond (Figure 3.2c). The net consequence of a dinuclear reductive elimination would be to delocalize the overall two-electron process over two redoxactive Pd atoms, allowing each to contribute only a single electron. In this context, Schoenebeck described a catalytic halide exchange reaction that converts an aryl iodide into an aryl bromide using *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBr.<sup>17</sup> The catalyst is the [(*t*-Bu<sub>3</sub>P)PdI]<sub>2</sub> dimer **6**. Mechanistic studies revealed that the isolable mononuclear (*t*-Bu<sub>3</sub>P)Pd(Ar)(Br) species **4** is incapable of undergoing C–Br reductive elimination. However, reductive elimination becomes facile using the dimeric analogue **5**, and kinetics studies indicate that the dimer remains intact during this process rather than undergoing a pre-equilibrium dissociation. Computational models of the reductive elimination transition state show partial Pd–Pd bonding (Pd–Pd = 2.79 Å), which is indicative of direct electronic communication between the two Pd centers. By exploiting this dinuclear mechanism,

Schoenebeck was able to discover the first catalytic C–SeCF<sub>3</sub> cross-coupling reaction of aryl iodides<sup>19</sup>, along with a related C–SCF<sub>3</sub> cross-coupling (Figure 3.2d).<sup>18</sup>

#### 3.4 Circumventing one-electron pathways to enable catalytic C–H borylations with Fe

As exemplified in the cross-coupling reactions described above, two-electron redox processes, such as oxidative addition and reductive elimination, underlie the mechanisms of many catalytic transformations. For this reason, noble transition metals feature prominently in homogeneous catalysis relative to their more abundant and less expensive first-row congeners. Base metal-catalyzed reactions often suffer from lower efficiencies due to competing one-electron processes, which can lead to side-product formation or catalyst degradation.<sup>27</sup> Cooperativity between two base metals has recently emerged as a strategy to combat this limitation. In these cases, two first-row transition metals that would individually undergo facile single-electron chemistry instead act in concert to achieve a net two-electron redox process.

One such example was recently described by Mankad in the context of a photochemical arene C–H borylation using heterobimetallic (IPr)Cu–Fp catalyst **12** (Fp = Fe(Cp)(CO)<sub>2</sub>).<sup>28</sup> C–H borylation reactions are of significant value in organic synthesis because they transform ubiquitous C–H bonds into valuable C–B linkages, which can then be parlayed into a range of other functional groups. The most general C–H borylation reactions currently rely on Ir-based catalysts that generate Ir(III)-boryl species (**7**) as key intermediates (Figure 3.3a).<sup>29-31</sup> However, prior to the development of Ir-catalyzed C–H borylations, Hartwig found that the very simple Fp–Bcat complex **8**, derived from the Fp anion and Cl–Bcat, was capable of borylating the C–H bond of benzene when activated with light (Figure 3.3b).<sup>32</sup> The metal-containing byproduct of this reaction is Fp–H **9**, which dimerizes and eliminates H<sub>2</sub> to form Fp<sub>2</sub> **10**. The Fp<sub>2</sub> dimer is sufficiently stable that it does not activate R<sub>2</sub>B–H reagents, a requisite step for catalytic turnover.

Mankad hypothesized that Fp<sub>2</sub> dimer formation could be circumvented by intercepting the transient Fp–H 9 with a reactive Cu–H species (11) to yield a Fe–Cu heterobimetallic complex (12).<sup>28</sup> Then, a bimetallic oxidative addition of H–Bpin would regenerate the Cu–H 11 and form the Fp–Bpin species required to activate the arene substrate. In support of this proposed

pathway, it was found that Fp–H, generated *in situ* from KFp and HCl, reacts with [(IPr)CuH]<sub>2</sub> **11** to provide the heterobimetallic (IPr)Cu–Fp complex **12**. This species was shown to undergo an endothermic oxidative addition<sup>33</sup> of H–Bpin to form [(IPr)CuH]<sub>2</sub> and Fp–Bpin, the species shown by Hartwig to undergo C–H borylation.

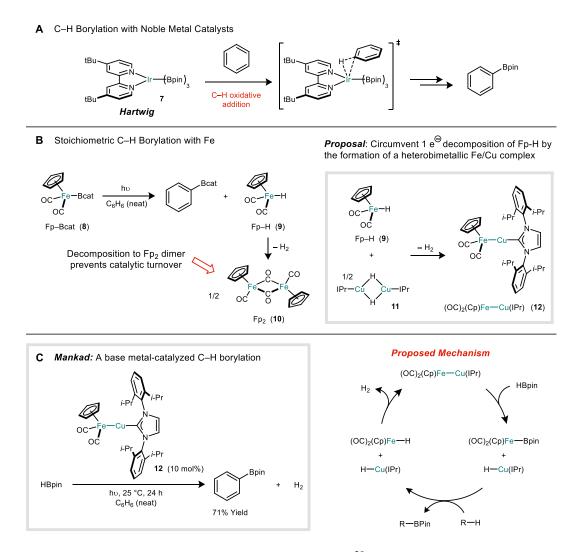


Figure 3.3. (A) Arene C–H borylations using Ir catalysts. <sup>30</sup> (B) From stoichiometric to catalytic C–H borylations using base metal catalysts. <sup>32</sup> (C) Photoinduced catalytic C–H borylations using heterobimetallic Fe/Cu catalysts. <sup>28</sup>

This sequence of stoichiometric reactions was combined to enable a catalytic protocol for arene C–H borylation using complex **12** as a catalyst (10 mol% loading) and a Hg lamp as the light source (Figure 3.3c).<sup>28</sup> Lending credence to the critical role of metal–metal cooperativity in this reaction, it was found that neither of the individual mononuclear components, Fp–Bpin or

(IPr)Cu–Cl, were effective catalysts on their own. Together, these studies illustrate that the twoelectron processes characteristic of noble metals can be emulated by exploiting bimetallic pathways that involve two base metals.

## $3.5~Ni_2$ catalysts suppress 1,2-rearragements of vinylidenes and promote transfer reactions to olefins

Group 10 elements such as Pd and Ni form metal-metal bonds in the odd-electron oxidation states but prefer to remain mononuclear in the M(0) and M(II) oxidation states. Consequently, when M(I)-M(I) dimers undergo redox reactions, such as oxidative addition or reductive elimination, the metal-metal bond is invariably cleaved.<sup>34</sup> Our group is interested in designing metal-metal bonds that are capable of remaining intact during a catalytic process rather than undergoing reversible dissociation and reassociation. In order to accomplish this goal, we employed a naphthyridine-diimine (NDI) pincer ligand, which possesses a highly conjugated  $\pi$ -system that is redox active and capable of being reduced at mildly anodic potentials.<sup>35</sup> The redox-active nature of the NDI ligand proved to be valuable in preparing stable dinuclear complexes of low-valent Ni. Free NDI reacts with Ni(COD)<sub>2</sub> (2.0 equiv) in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> to afford the  $[NDI]Ni_2(C_6H_6)$  complex 13. An analysis of the electronic structure of 13 reveals that Ni(0) has undergone an oxidation to Ni(I), which allows for the assembly of a stable metal-metal covalent single bond. Correspondingly, the ligand is reduced by two electrons to its 2- charge state. Common organic electrophiles react at the Ni–Ni bond to generate oxidative addition products in which the ligand has been returned to its neutral charge state. For example, complex 13 reacts with β-bromostyrene to yield Ni<sub>2</sub>(vinyl)Br complex **14** (Figure 4.4b). An unusual structural feature of 14 relative to mononuclear Ni(vinyl) complexes is the presence of a secondary  $\eta^2$ - $\pi$ interaction, which is enabled by the proximity of the two Ni atoms.

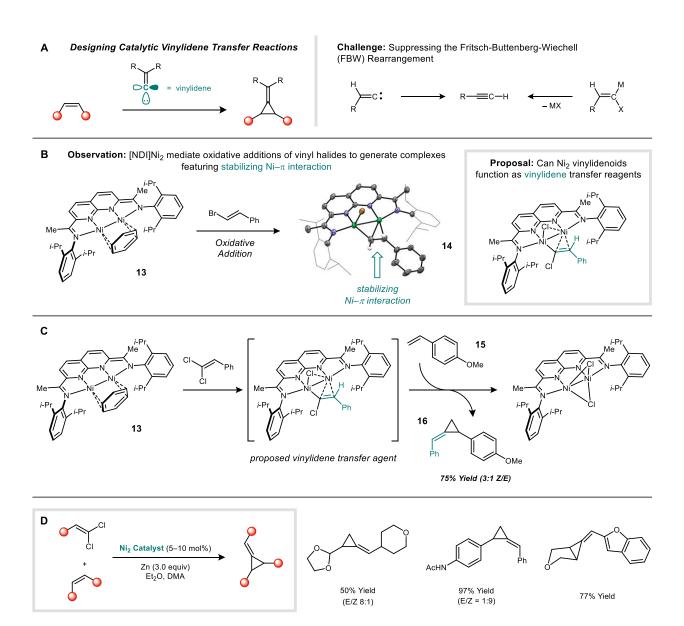


Figure 3.4. (A) Designing catalytic vinylidene transfer reactions by suppressing the competing Fritsch–Buttenberg–Wiechell (FBW) rearrangement. (B) Dinuclear stabilization of vinyl ligands and a proposed Ni<sub>2</sub>-bound vinylidenoid. (C) Stoichiometric methylenecyclopropanation using a 1,1-dichloroalkene. (D) Catalytic reductive methylenecyclopropanations of alkenes.<sup>36</sup>

The stability afforded to vinyl ligands by the dinuclear active site of **13** may be leveraged to carry out catalytic transfer reactions of vinylidenes (Figure 3.4a).<sup>36</sup> Vinylidenes exhibit similar reactivity patterns to carbenes but suffer from a competing rearrangement known as the Fritsch–Buttenberg–Wiechell (FBW) rearrangement, which generates the corresponding isomeric alkyne.<sup>37-39</sup> This rearrangement is the mechanistic basis for common alkynylation methods such as the Corey–Fuchs<sup>40</sup> and Seyferth–Gilbert homologation reactions.<sup>41,42</sup> According to

computational models, vinylidene rearrangements are exothermic by approximately 45 kcal/mol and, when the migrating group is a hydrogen atom, possess activation barriers as low as 1.5 kcal/mol.<sup>43</sup> Consequently, cyclopropanation reactions using free vinylidenes are only viable in specialized cases where the rearrangement can be sufficiently disfavored to allow the vinylidene to react productively with the olefin substrate.

In our early experiments, we noted that Ni<sub>2</sub> complex **13** reacts stoichiometrically with 1,1-dichloroalkenes to generate reactive vinylidene equivalents (Figure 3.4c).<sup>36</sup> These species were not sufficiently stable to be isolated but could be trapped in situ with an alkene to afford the corresponding methylenecyclopropane product in high yield. Notably, the reaction proceeds without any competing formation of a terminal alkyne byproduct, indicating that the metal complex is effectively serving to suppress the FBW rearrangement. This stoichiometric process was rendered catalytic by employing a suitable reductant that is capable of returning the oxidized Ni<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> catalyst to its initial reduced state. Accordingly, catalytic methylenecyclopropanation reactions of terminal alkenes and unhindered internal alkenes were accomplished using 1,1-dichloroalkenes in combination with Zn (Figure 3.4d).

## 3.6 Rh-Rh bonds form highly electrophilic carbene complexes that react with unactivated C-H bonds

Beyond the vinylidene transfer reaction described above, dinuclear catalysts have also enabled remarkable transformations of simple carbenes. A long-standing goal in organic synthesis is to develop selective catalytic processes that are capable of functionalizing a single C–H bond within a complex substrate. In this context, carbene transfer reactions have garnered significant interest, because free carbenes possess sufficiently high reactivity to undergo insertions into aliphatic C–H bonds, even in cases where there are no activating substituents present. The challenges for catalyst design are to avoid overly tempering the reactivity of the metal-bound carbene while maintaining an appropriate catalyst environment to control C–H bond selectivity.

Dirhodium tetracarboxylates were introduced as carbene insertion catalysts by Teyssié in the 1970's and have since emerged as being among the most synthetically useful catalysts for C–H

functionalization reactions.<sup>46,47</sup> While many other catalysts are also capable of decomposing diazoacetate reagents to form reactive carbene equivalents, Rh<sub>2</sub> catalysts are distinguished by their unusually high reactivity. The basic mechanistic framework for these reactions involves an initial binding event of the diazoalkane reagent to the metal catalyst, inducing N<sub>2</sub> elimination to form a metal-bound carbene (Figure 3.5a). This M=CR<sub>2</sub> species is then poised to undergo bond insertion through a concerted three-centered transition state.<sup>48-50</sup>

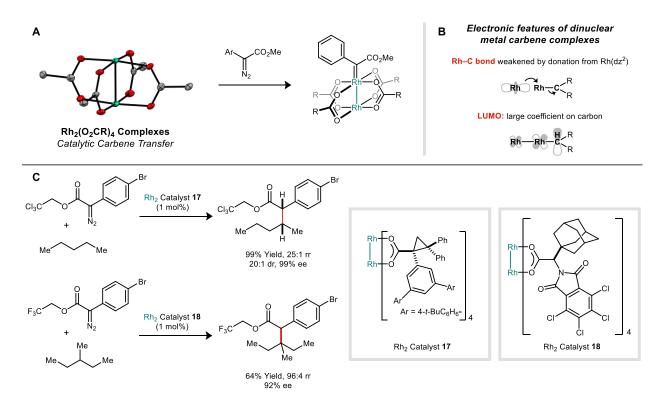


Figure 3.5. (A) Formation of Rh<sub>2</sub> carbene complexes using Rh<sub>2</sub> tetracarboxylate catalysts. (B) Rh<sub>2</sub> carbenes are highly reactive due to three-centered  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -bonding interactions. (C) Regio- and stereoselective C–H insertion reactions using chiral Rh<sub>2</sub> catalysts. 52,53

At the time of its initial discovery, there was little understanding of how the dinuclear nature of the Rh<sub>2</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>CR)<sub>4</sub> catalysts contributed to their remarkable reactivity. However, this question has recently been addressed using modern experimental and computational techniques. In 2013, Davies and Berry obtained direct spectroscopic data on an authentic donor–acceptor carbene bound to Rh<sub>2</sub>.<sup>54</sup> This work was quickly followed by the first crystallographic structure of a Rh<sub>2</sub> donor–acceptor carbene complex reported by Fürstner.<sup>55</sup> These data, combined with DFT modeling studies, have suggested two electronic factors that contribute to the high reactivity of

Rh<sub>2</sub> carbenes (Figure 3.5b).  $^{9,51}$  First,  $\sigma$ -bonding in the linear Rh–Rh–CR<sub>2</sub> fragment is a net three-centered/four-electron interaction, which has the effect of substantially weakening the Rh–CR<sub>2</sub> bond. This phenomenon can be viewed as a type of *trans* influence, where the high-energy dz<sup>2</sup> orbital of the second Rh donates into the Rh–CR<sub>2</sub>  $\sigma$ \*. Second, the LUMO of the Rh–Rh–CR<sub>2</sub> is a three-centered  $\pi$ \* orbital that is highly polarized toward carbon. This polarization causes the carbon to be electrophilic in character, facilitating its interaction with C–H  $\sigma$ -bonds. While it may be feasible to access similarly electrophilic M=CR<sub>2</sub> species using mononuclear catalysts, the weakening of the Rh–C  $\sigma$ -bond and the high LUMO coefficient on C are electronic features that are specifically conferred by the dinuclear nature of Rh<sub>2</sub> catalysts.

The high reactivity of Rh<sub>2</sub> carbenes provides a powerful platform for the development of selective C–H bond insertion reactions (Figure 3.5c). For example, Davies described the use of a hindered chiral catalyst to carry out regioselective insertions of carbenes into the more accessible secondary carbon of n-pentane.<sup>52</sup> The reaction proceeds with high diastereo- and enantioselectivity due to the highly engineered binding pocket of the catalyst. By decreasing the steric profile of the catalyst, more electrophilic tertiary carbons could be selectively targeted, again with high levels of stereocontrol.<sup>53</sup>

#### 3.7 Facile ligand exchange in Ru<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed propargylic substitution reactions

Hidai and Nishibayashi have also observed a beneficial effect of a dinuclear catalyst in a series of propargylic substitution reactions that proceed through allenylidene intermediates. <sup>56,57</sup> Metal-mediated propargylic substitutions have been extensively documented since the seminal work of Nicholas using Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub> and a Lewis acid to activate propargylic ethers. <sup>58</sup> However, rendering these processes catalytic has proven to be difficult due to the requirement for an oxidative demetallation step to release the product from the dicobalt complex. In 2000, Hidai and Nishibayashi demonstrated a catalytic substitution reaction of propargyl alcohols using simple alcohols as nucleophiles (Figure 3.6a). <sup>56</sup> The catalyst was the dinuclear Ru<sub>2</sub> complex 19, which was shown to react stoichiometrically with terminal alkynes to generate allenylidene species 20. <sup>59,60</sup> The proposed mechanism involves a sequence of vinylidene formation, via a 1,2-hydrogen atom shift, followed by dehydration. Notably, when monoruthenium complexes were

examined as catalysts, none were found to be active, despite their similar ability to convert alkynes into metal allenylidenes.

Hidai's studies suggest that whereas a single Ru site may be capable of mediating the stoichiometric steps of a propargylic substitution, the intermediates of this process do not fall at appropriate relative energies to promote facile catalytic turnover. To provide insight into the role of the metal-metal interaction in achieving efficient catalysis, Nakamura reported a computational study on the mechanism of substitution (Figure 3.6b).<sup>61</sup> The calculated pathway was shown to be akin to the mechanism of Rh<sub>2</sub> carbene transfer reactions in the sense that one metal center bears the carbene, while the second metal acts as a supporting metallaligand. In the case of Ru<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed substitution reactions, the Ru–Ru bond was proposed to stabilize the coordinatively unsaturated intermediate that forms when the product alkyne dissociates. Additionally, calculations suggested that the supporting Ru withdraws electron density from the active Ru, decreasing its back-bonding ability and accelerating the rearrangement of the alkyne to a metal vinylidene.

Many other catalysts have since been demonstrated to promote propargylic substitution reactions. However, the Ru<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed process remains unusual in the breadth of its nucleophile scope. A variety of simple heteroatom nucleophiles, such as alcohols, anilines, amides, and thiols are viable. In addition, carbon nucleophiles, such as simple ketones, undergo substitution even in the absence of an added base.  $\pi$ -Nucleophiles such as electron-rich arenes and simple alkenes also provide substitution products in high yield. Intramolecular variants of these processes provide access to polycyclic structures. Finally, highly enantioselective propargylic substitutions were carried out using Ru<sub>2</sub> catalysts bearing chiral thiolate ligands (Figure 3.6c). Enantioselectivities in the >90% ee range were demonstrated in both inter- and intramolecular reactions.

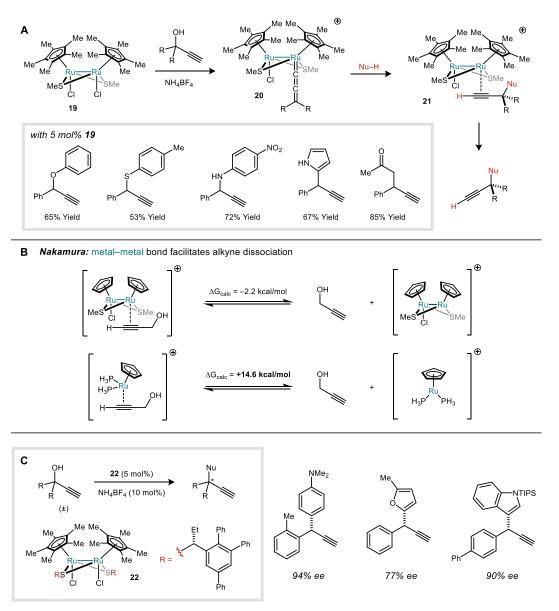


Figure 3.6. (A) Ru<sub>2</sub> catalysts for the substitution reactions of propargylic alcohols.<sup>56</sup> (B) Ru–Ru interaction facilitates ligand substitution by stabilizing the low-coordinate state.<sup>61</sup> (C) Catalytic asymmetric propargylic substitutions using chiral Ru<sub>2</sub> catalysts.<sup>62</sup>

#### 3.8 Concluding remarks

There are now several documented examples of catalytic processes in which the formation of a metal-metal bonded dimer either inhibits turnover or leads to irreversible catalyst deactivation. <sup>12,15,22</sup> In these cases, designing new sterically hindered ligands that impede dimerization may present future avenues to rationally improve catalytic efficiency. More

tantalizing are the few cases in which metal—metal bonding confers a uniquely beneficial effect that is challenging, or perhaps impossible, to replicate using a single transition metal.

Early examples of catalytically active metal-metal bonds were discovered serendipitously, without regard for how the metal-metal interaction might impact catalysis. Such is the case with Rh<sub>2</sub> tetracarboxylates, which were identified nearly half a century ago as being superior to other classes of mononuclear carbene transfer catalysts in certain C-H functionalization reactions. It was not until many decades later that modern experimental data and theoretical models have shed light on these empirical observations. In parallel with these advances, metal-metal bonded species are increasingly being identified from reactions, whose accepted mechanisms only involve mononuclear complexes. These cases appear to be particularly common in the Ni triad, where a catalyst can be diverted from a M(II)/M(0) cycle by a comproportionation process that forms a M(I)-M(I) dimer. A future goal in this field will be to take the mechanistic insights gleaned from these case studies to rationally design multinuclear catalysts that can capitalize on the delocalized electronic structure of metal-metal bonds.

#### 4.9 References

- (1) Cotton, F.A. J. Chem. Ed. 1983, 60, 713.
- (2) Cotton, F.A., Curtis, N.F., Harris, C.B., Johnson, B.F.G., Lippard, S.J., Mague, J.T., Robinson, W.R., Wood, J.S. *Science* **1964**, 145, 1305-1307.
- (3) Groom, C.R., Bruno, I.J., Lightfoot, M.P., Ward, S.C., *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B* **2016**, 72, 171-179.
- (4) Berry, J.F., Lu, C.C. *Inorg. Chem.* **2017**, 56, 7577-7581.
- (5) Thomas, C.M. Comments on Inorganic Chemistry 2011, 32, 14-38.
- (6) Buchwalter, P., Rosé, J., Braunstein, P. Chem. Rev. 2015, 115, 28-126.
- (7) Powers, I.G., Uyeda, C. ACS Catal. 2017, 7, 936-958.
- (8) Mankad, N. P. Non-Noble Metal Catalysis. 2019, pp 49–68.
- (9) Nakamura, E., Yoshikai, N., Yamanaka, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 7181-7192.

- (10) Pauson, P.L., Khand, I.U. Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 1977, 295, 2-14.
- (11) Magnus, P., Principe, L.M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1985, 26, 4851-4854.
- (12) Hruszkewycz, D.P., Balcells, D., Guard, L.M., Hazari, N., Tilset, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, 136, 7300-7316.
- (13) Marion, N., Navarro, O., Mei, J., Stevens, E.D., Scott, N.M., Nolan, S.P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 4101-4111.
- (14) Marion, N., Nolan, S.P. Acc. Chem. Res. 2008, 41, 1440-1449.
- (15) Wang, J.Y., Strom, A.E., Hartwig, J.F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2018, 140, 7979-7993.
- (16) Somerville, R.J., Hale, L.V.A., Gómez-Bengoa, E., Burés, J., Martin, R *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, 140, 8771-8780.
- (17) Bonney, K.J., Proutiere, F., Schoenebeck, F. Chem. Sci. 2013, 4, 4434-4439.
- (18) Yin, G., Kalvet, I., Schoenebeck, F. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2015, 54, 6809-6813.
- (19) Aufiero, M., Sperger, T., Tsang, A.S.-K., Schoenebeck, F. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 10322-10326.
- (20) Wu, X.-F., Neumann, H., Beller, M. Chem.–Eur. J. 2010, 16, 9750-9753.
- (21) Barnard, C.F.J. Organometallics **2008**, 27, 5402-5422.
- (22) Zarate, C., Martin, R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2014**, 136, 2236-2239.
- (23) Campbell, M.G., Ritter, T. *Chem. Rev.* **2015**, 115, 612-633.
- (24) Sather, A.C., Buchwald, S.L. Acc. Chem. Res. 2016, 49, 2146-2157.
- (25) Hull, K.L., Anani, W.Q., Sanford, M.S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 7134-7135.
- (26) Engle, K.M., Mei, T.-S., Wang, X., Yu, J.-Q. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2011, 50, 1478-1491.
- (27) Chirik, P.J., Wieghardt, K. *Science* **2010**, 327, 794-795.
- (28) Mazzacano, T.J., Mankad, N.P. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 17258-17261.
- (29) Chen, H., Schlecht, S., Semple, T.C., Hartwig, J.F. Science 2000, 287, 1995-1997.
- (30) Ishiyama, T., Takagi, J., Ishida, K., Miyaura, N., Anastasi, N.R., Hartwig, J.F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 390-391.

- (31) Cho, J.-Y., Tse, M.K., Holmes, D., Maleczka, R.E., Smith, M.R. Science **2002**, 295, 305-308.
- (32) Waltz, K.M., He, X., Muhoro, C., Hartwig, J.F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 11357-11358.
- (33) Jayarathne, U., Mazzacano, T.J., Bagherzadeh, S., Mankad, N.P. *Organometallics* **2013**, 32, 3986-3992.
- (34) Fafard, C.M., Adhikari, D., Foxman, B.M., Mindiola, D.J., Ozerov, O.V. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 129, 10318-10319.
- (35) Zhou, Y.-Y., Hartline, D.R., Steiman, T.J., Fanwick, P.E., Uyeda, C. *Inorg. Chem.* **2014**, 53, 11770-11777.
- (36) Pal, S., Zhou, Y.-Y., Uyeda, C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 11686-11689.
- (37) Stang, P.J. Chem. Rev. 1978, 78, 383-405.
- (38) Knorr, R. Chem. Rev. 2004, 104, 3795-3850.
- (39) Grainger, R.S., Munro, K.R. Tetrahedron 2015, 71, 7795-7835.
- (40) Corey, E.J., Fuchs, P.L. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1972**, 13, 3769-3772.
- (41) Seyferth, D., Marmor, R.S., Hilbert, P. J. Org. Chem. **1971**, 36, 1379-1386.
- (42) Gilbert, J.C., Weerasooriya, U. J. Org. Chem. **1982**, 47, 1837-1845.
- (43) Chang, N.-y., Shen, M.-y., Yu, C.-h. J. Chem. Phys. **1997**, 106, 3237-3242.
- (44) Davies, H.M.L., Manning, J.R. *Nature* **2008**, 451, 417.
- (45) White, M.C., Zhao, J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2018, 140, 13988-14009.
- (46) Demonceau, A., Noels, A.F., Hubert, A.J., Teyssié, P. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1981, 688-689.
- (47) Paulissen, R., Reimlinger, H., Hayez, E., Hubert, A.J., Teyssié, P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1973**, 14, 2233-2236.
- (48) Doyle, M.P. Chem. Rev. 1986, 86, 919-939.
- (49) Doyle, M.P., Duffy, R., Ratnikov, M., Zhou, L. Chem. Rev. 2010, 110, 704-724.

- (50) Doyle, M.P., Westrum, L.J., Wolthuis, W.N.E., See, M.M., Boone, W.P., Bagheri, V., Pearson, M.M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1993**, 115, 958-964.
- (51) Berry, J.F. Dalton Trans. **2012**, 41, 700-713.
- (52) Liao, K., Negretti, S., Musaev, D.G., Bacsa, J., Davies, H.M.L. Nature 2016, 533, 230.
- (53) Liao, K., Pickel, T.C., Boyarskikh, V., Bacsa, J., Musaev, D.G., Davies, H.M.L. *Nature* **2017**, 551, 609.
- (54) Kornecki, K.P., Briones, J.F., Boyarskikh, V., Fullilove, F., Autschbach, J., Schrote, K.E., Lancaster, K.M., Davies, H.M.L., Berry, J.F. *Science* **2013**, 342, 351-354.
- (55) Werlé, C., Goddard, R., Philipps, P., Farès, C., Fürstner, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, 138, 3797-3805.
- (56) Nishibayashi, Y., Wakiji, I., Hidai, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 11019-11020.
- (57) Miyake, Y., Uemura, S., Nishibayashi, Y. ChemCatChem 2009, 1, 342-356.
- (58) Teobald, B.J. *Tetrahedron* **2002**, 58, 4133-4170.
- (59) Takagi, Y., Matsuzaka, H., Ishii, Y., Hidai, M. Organometallics 1997, 16, 4445-4452.
- (60) Jing-Ping, Q., Dai, M., Youichi, I., Masanobu, H. Chem. Lett. 1998, 27, 1003-1004.
- (61) Ammal, S.C., Yoshikai, N., Inada, Y., Nishibayashi, Y., Nakamura, E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 127, 9428-9438.
- (62) Inada, Y., Nishibayashi, Y., Uemura, S. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 7715-7717.
- (63) Nishibayashi, Y. Synthesis **2012**, 44, 489-503.
- (64) Matsuzawa, H., Miyake, Y., Nishibayashi, Y. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 6488-6491.

#### APPENDIX A. SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER 2

#### 1. General Information

General considerations. Solvents were degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Commercially available anhydrous *N*,*N*-dimethylacetamide (DMA) subjected to additional drying over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, degassed, and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves. All other reagents and starting materials were purchased from commercial vendors and used without further purification unless otherwise noted. Liquid reagents were degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Zn powder (325 mesh, 99.9%) was purchased from Strem Chemicals, stored under inert atmosphere, and used without further purification. The [<sup>ipr</sup>NDI]Ni<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) complex was prepared according to previously reported procedures. The Ni(Ph,Me-acac)<sub>2</sub> and Ni(Ph<sub>2</sub>-acac)<sub>2</sub> complexes were prepared according to previously reported procedures.

**Physical methods.** <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were collected at room temperature on a Varian INOVA 300 MHz or a Bruker AV-III-800 NMR spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra are reported in parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane, using the residual solvent resonances as an internal standard. High-resolution mass data were obtained using a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer or a Thermo Electron Corporation MAT 95XP-Trap mass spectrometer. ATR-IR data were collected on a Thermo Scientific Nicolet Nexus spectrometer containing a MCT\* detector and KBr beam splitter with a range of 350–7400 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**X-Ray Crystallography.** Single crystals of **4** were coated with Fomblin oil and quickly transferred to the goniometer head of a Bruker Quest diffractometer with a fixed chi angle, a sealed tube fine focus X-ray tube, single crystal curved graphite incident beam monochromator, a Photon100 CMOS area detector and an Oxford Cryosystems low temperature device. Examination and data collection were performed with Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) at 150 K. Single crystals of **23** were also coated with Fomblin oil and quickly transferred to the goniometer

head of a Bruker Quest diffractometer with kappa geometry, an I- $\mu$ -S microsource X-ray tube, laterally graded multilayer (Goebel) mirror single crystal for monochromatization, a Photon2 CMOS area detector and an Oxford Cryosystems low temperature device. Examination and data collection were performed with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 1.54178 Å) at 150 K.

For both, data were collected, reflections were indexed and processed, and the files scaled and corrected for absorption using APEX3.<sup>4</sup> The space groups were assigned and the structures were solved by direct methods using XPREP within the SHELXTL suite of programs and refined by full matrix least squares against F2 with all reflections using Shelxl2018 using the graphical interface Shelxle.<sup>5-9</sup> If not specified otherwise H atoms attached to carbon and nitrogen atoms and hydroxyl hydrogens were positioned geometrically and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with carbon hydrogen bond distances of 0.95 Å for and aromatic C-H, 1.00, 0.99 and 0.98 Å for aliphatic C-H, CH2 and CH<sub>3</sub> moieties, respectively. Methyl H atoms were allowed to rotate but not to tip to best fit the experimental electron density. U<sub>iso</sub>(H) values were set to a multiple of U<sub>eq</sub>(C) with 1.5 for CH<sub>3</sub>, and 1.2 for C-H units, respectively. Complete crystallographic data, in CIF format, have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. CCDC 1854302–1854303 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.

In the structure of **4**, a toluene molecule was refined as three fold disordered. The benzene rings were constrained to resemble ideal hexagons with C-C bond distances of 1.39 Å. The three disordered moieties were restrained to have similar geometries.  $U_{ij}$  components of ADPs for disordered atoms closer to each other than 2.0 Å were restrained to be similar. Subject to these conditions the occupancy rates refined to 0.485(3), 0.342(3) and 0.173(3).

### 2. Reaction Optimization Studies

General Procedure for metal source comparison study. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with the metal source, (0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox **L10** (2.62 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn Powder (27 mg, 0.41 mmol, 6 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. A solution of (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1) (0.3 mL of a 0.23 M stock solution in 1.25:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:DMA containing 0.24 M mesitylene, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction was

stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. An aliquot was analyzed by GC.

| Entry           | Metal Source   | Conversion | Yield A | Yield B |
|-----------------|--|------------|---------|---------|
| 1               | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>                                    | 95%        | 70%     | 12%     |
| 2               | Ni(DME)Br <sub>2</sub>                                   | 85%        | 42%     | 21%     |
| 3               | Ni(DME)Cl <sub>2</sub>                                   | 93%        | 31%     | 13%     |
| 4               | $Ni(hfacac)_2 \cdot xH_2O$                               | 24%        | 0%      | 18%     |
| 5               | Ni(Ph,Me-acac) <sub>2</sub>                              | 95%        | 66%     | 10%     |
| 6               | Ni(Ph <sub>2</sub> -acac) <sub>2</sub>                   | 95%        | 70%     | 12%     |
| 7               | Ni(COD) <sub>2</sub>                                     | 77%        | 23%     | 36%     |
| 8               | Ni(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>       | 85%        | 24%     | 41%     |
| 9               | Co(DME)Br <sub>2</sub>                                   | 51%        | 0%      | 12%     |
| 10              | Fe(acac) <sub>2</sub>                                    | 46%        | 0%      | 0%      |
| 11              | Cu(acac) <sub>2</sub>                                    | < 1%       | 0%      | 0%      |
| 12              | NiI <sub>2</sub>   | 83%        | 9%      | 19%     |
| 13 <sup>a</sup> | NiI <sub>2</sub>   | 92%        | < 1%    | 17%     |
| 14 <sup>a</sup> | [iprNDI]Ni <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) | 86%        | 8%      | 39%     |

<sup>a</sup>No **L10** was added to the reaction

General Procedure for ligand comparison study. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (2.65 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ligand (0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn powder (27 mg, 0.41 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. A solution of (*E*)-1,5-

diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1) (0.3 mL of a 0.23 M stock solution in 1.25:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:DMA containing 0.24 M mesitylene, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox and diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. An aliquot was used for GC analysis.

| Entry | Ligand | Conversion | Yield A | Yield B |
|-------|--------|------------|---------|---------|
| 1     | L1     | 38%        | 36%     | 2%      |
| 2     | L2     | 40%        | 26%     | 6%      |
| 3     | L3     | 38%        | 27%     | 6%      |
| 4     | L4     | 85%        | 16%     | 9%      |
| 5     | L5     | 93%        | 26%     | 17%     |
| 6     | L6     | 92%        | 32%     | 30%     |
| 7     | L7     | 92%        | 18%     | 29%     |
| 8     | L8     | 85%        | 25%     | 60%     |
| 9     | L9     | 89%        | 21%     | 62%     |
| 10    | L10    | 95%        | 12%     | 70%     |
| 11    | L11    | 36%        | 7%      | 11%     |
| 12    | L12    | 2%         | 0%      | 0%      |
| 13    | L13    | 85%        | 29%     | 6%      |
| 14    | L14    | 92%        | 39%     | 19%     |
| 15    | L15    | 12%        | 1%      | 6%      |
| 16    | L16    | 82%        | 20%     | 12%     |

General Procedure for control experiments. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub>, (2.65 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox **L10** (2.62 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn Powder (27 mg, 0.41 mmol, 6 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. A solution of (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (**1**) (0.3 mL of a 0.23 M stock solution in 1.25:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:DMA containing 0.24 M mesitylene, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, exposed to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. An aliquot was used for GC analysis.

| Entry | Deviation from Standard<br>Conditions | Conversion | Yield A | Yield B |
|-------|---------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|
| 1     | None                                  | 95%        | 70%     | 12%     |
| 2     | No Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub> was added    | 0%         | 0%      | 0%      |
| 3     | No (±)-'Bu-Quinox was added           | 10%        | 0%      | 0%      |
| 4     | No Zn was added                       | 0%         | 0%      | 0%      |
| 5     | No DMA was added                      | 11%        | 0%      | 0%      |

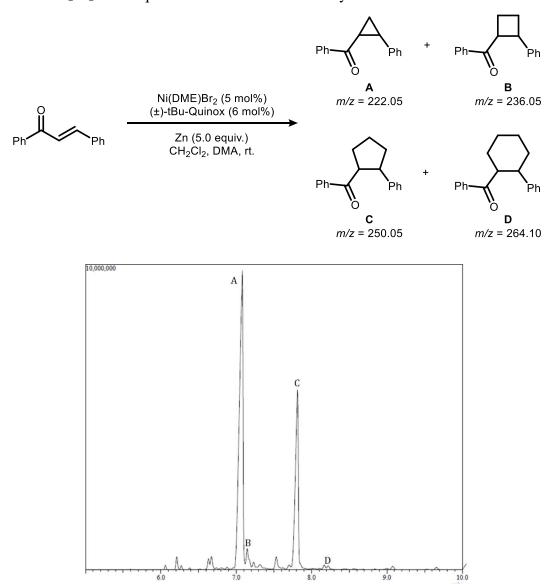
General Procedure for CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> equivalence study. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub>, (3.98 mg, 0.015 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox L10 (3.94 mg, 0.015 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn Powder (40.5 mg, 0.60 mmol, 6 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. A solution of (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1) (24.4 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and mesitylene (12.5  $\mu$ L) in DCM (X  $\mu$ L) was added. The reaction mixture was diluted up to 0.45 mL with DMA (Y  $\mu$ L). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, exposed to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. An aliquot was used for GC analysis.

| Entry | X                    | Y        | Conversion | Yield A | Yield B |
|-------|----------------------|----------|------------|---------|---------|
| 1     | 19.7 μL (3.0 equiv.) | 430.2 μL | 77%        | 33%     | 9%      |
| 2     | 62.5 μL (9.5 equiv.) | 387.5 μL | 70%        | 34%     | 13%     |
| 3     | 125 μL (19 equiv.)   | 325 μL   | 72%        | 38%     | 14%     |
| 4     | 250 μL (38 equiv.)   | 200 μL   | 96%        | 70%     | 14%     |

Under suboptimal reaction conditions, masses corresponding to the enone bearing 1, 2, 3, and 4 additional CH<sub>2</sub> equivalents were detected by GC/MS analysis using (*E*)-chalcone as a substrate.

Procedure for characterization of the crude product mixture profile. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(DME)Br<sub>2</sub>, (3.18 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox **L10** (3.14 mg, 0.012 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn Powder (67.5 mg, 1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. A solution of (E)-chalcone (43.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in DCM (0.5 mL) and DMA (50  $\mu$ L) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h,

the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, exposed to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . An aliquot was used for GC/MS analysis.



**Figure S1.** GC/MS spectrum of the crude reaction mixture using (*E*)-chalcone.

| Peak | Ret. Time | m/z    |
|------|-----------|--------|
| A    | 7.033 min | 222.05 |
| В    | 7.233 min | 236.05 |
| С    | 7.792 min | 250.05 |
| D    | 8.167 min | 264.10 |

### 3. Synthesis and Characterization of Enone Substrates

General procedure for the synthesis of Wittig reagents. A round-bottom flask was charged with a magnetic stir bar, the appropriate bromoketone (1 equiv) and toluene (1 M). A solution of PPh<sub>3</sub> (1 equiv) in toluene (0.5 M) was added dropwise. After 16 h, the precipitated triphenylphosphonium bromide salt was isolated by filtration, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and dried under vacuum. The crude triphenylphosphonium bromide salt was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 M), and 2 M aqueous NaOH (1 equiv) was added. After stirring for 16 h, the phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted 3x with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to provide the ylide as a solid, which was carried forward without purification.

General procedure for the synthesis of enone substrates. A round-bottom flask was charged with a stir bar, the Wittig reagent (2 equiv), the aldehyde (1 equiv), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 M). The mixture was heated at reflux. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

(*E*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S1). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (500 mg, 3.72 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-fluorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.96 g, 7.44 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a colorless oil (662 mg, 70% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.00 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.10 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.83 (dq, J = 15.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.74 – 2.57 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.14, 165.53 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 254.3$  Hz), 148.57, 140.73, 134.18 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 131.12 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 9.2$  Hz), 128.53, 128.42, 126.23, 126.18, 115.61 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.7$  Hz), 34.50, 34.48.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -107.36.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}FO$ : 255.1178; found: 255.1177

(*E*)-4-(5-phenylpent-2-enoyl)benzonitrile (S2). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (473 mg, 3.52 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-cyanophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.85 g, 7.04 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-4-(5-phenylpent-2-enoyl)benzonitrile as a white solid (561 mg, 61 % yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd, J = 7.9, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.15 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 6.79 (dt, J = 15.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (td, J = 8.3, 7.9, 6.2 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.51, 150.57, 141.10, 140.48, 132.41, 128.93, 128.60, 128.42, 126.35, 126.04, 118.09, 115.84, 34.62, 34.34.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{16}NO$ : 262.1226; found: 262.1229

(*E*)-1-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S3). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (539)

mg, 4.02 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-(methylthio)phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (3.43 g, 8.04 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (3) as a yellow solid (851 mg, 81% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.85 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 7.08 (dt, J = 15.3, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.79 (m, 1H), 2.85 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (q, J = 7.8, 7.3, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.51, 147.96, 145.43, 140.84, 134.11, 128.98, 128.51, 128.42, 126.19, 125.03, 34.54, 34.53, 14.84.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}OS$ : 283.1151; found: 283.1155

(*E*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S4). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (300 mg, 2.23 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-chlorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (1.87 g, 4.47 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 8% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a yellow oil (278 mg, 46% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.86 - 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.47 - 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36 - 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25 - 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.15 - 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.82 (dtd, J = 15.4, 1.5, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.72 - 2.55 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.49, 148.94, 140.69, 139.08, 136.16, 129.96, 128.82, 128.54, 128.41, 126.25, 126.15, 34.52, 34.46.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}ClO$ : 271.0084; found: 271.0086

(*E*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S5). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (435 mg, 3.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-methoxyphenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.67 g, 6.50 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a yellow oil (761 mg, 88% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.07 (dt, J = 15.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.82 (m, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.85 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.73 – 2.54 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.05, 163.31, 147.32, 140.93, 130.84, 130.76, 128.50, 128.42, 126.21, 126.16, 113.73, 55.47, 34.59, 34.51.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O_2$ : 267.1380; found: 267.1382

(*E*)-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S6). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (500 mg, 3.72 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and [(*p*-napthylbenzyl)methylene]triphenylphosphorane (2.13 g, 7.44 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a yellow solid (887 mg, 83% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.05 – 7.85 (m, 4H), 7.65 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.4 Hz, 3H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.02 (dt, J = 15.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd, J = 8.6, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.77 – 2.61 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.62, 148.27, 140.86, 135.43, 135.20, 132.51, 130.03, 129.47, 128.54, 128.46, 128.45, 128.31, 127.80, 126.71, 126.62, 126.22, 124.52, 34.57.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{18}O$ : 309.1250; found: 309.1252

(*E*)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S7). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (435 mg, 3.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 3-methoxyphenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.67 g, 6.50 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a yellow oil (383 mg, 44 % yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.15 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.85 (dt, J = 15.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (td, J = 7.8, 6.2 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.54, 159.80, 148.46, 140.81, 139.27, 129.45, 128.52, 126.56, 126.20, 121.14, 119.23, 112.82, 55.46, 34.52, 34.50.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O_2$ : 267.1380; found: 267.1385

(*E*)-5-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-2-en-1-one (S8). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-phenylpropanal (500 mg, 3.72 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-trifluoromethylphenacyltriphenylphosphorane (3.34 g, 7.44 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) provided (*E*)-5-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-2-en-1-one as a white solid (691 mg, 61% yield).

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.10 (dt, J = 15.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dt, J = 15.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 8.4, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (dtt, J = 8.0, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.00, 150.00, 140.68, 140.60, 133.91 (q,  $^{2}$  $^{2}$ J<sub>CF</sub> = 32.6 Hz), 128.84, 128.59, 128.44, 126.33, 125.57 (q,  $^{3}$ J<sub>CF</sub> = 3.8 Hz), 123.66 (q,  $^{1}$ J<sub>CF</sub> = 272.7 Hz), 34.61, 34.39.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -64.57.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{15}F_3O$ : 305.1148; found: 305.1145

(*E*)-5-(benzyloxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S9). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-(benzyloxy)propanal<sup>10</sup> (500 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1 equiv) and phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.31 g, 6.0 mmol, 2 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) provided (*E*)-5-(benzyloxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one as a colorless oil (720 mg, 89% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.14 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 7.00 – 6.90 (m, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.66 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (qd, J = 6.4, 1.1 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.73, 146.06, 138.10, 137.85, 132.66, 128.59, 128.51, 128.45, 127.73, 127.72, 127.47, 73.14, 68.39, 33.25.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O_2$ : 267.1380; found: 267.1376

(2*E*,6*Z*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)dodeca-2,6-dien-1-one (S10). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using *cis*-4-decenal (573 mg, 3.72 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-fluorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.96 g, 7.44 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) provided (2*E*,6*Z*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)dodeca-2,6-dien-1-one as a colorless oil (602 mg, 59 % yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.05 – 7.85 (m, 4H), 7.65 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.4 Hz, 3H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.02 (dt, J = 15.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd, J = 8.6, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.77 – 2.61 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{¹H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.17, 165.50 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 254.1$  Hz), 149.42, 134.29 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 131.46, 131.10 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 9.2$  Hz), 127.73, 125.78, 115.60 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.7$  Hz), 32.94, 31.51, 29.30, 27.28, 25.88, 22.56, 14.06.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -107.50.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{23}FO$ : 275.1806; found: 275.1812

(*E*)-2-(5-oxo-5-phenylpent-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (S11). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanal (200 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (897 mg, 1.96 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-2-(5-oxo-5-phenylpent-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione as a white solid (252 mg, 84 % yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.73 (dt, J = 5.2, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.45 (tt, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.07 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 3.92 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.40, 168.13, 144.34, 137.54, 134.08, 132.75, 131.96, 128.60, 128.53, 128.12, 123.35, 36.43, 31.68.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{15}NO_3$ : 306.1125; found: 306.1129

(*E*)-5-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-(2,3-difluorophenyl)pent-2-en-1-one (S12). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure with the following modification:

CHCl<sub>3</sub> was used instead of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the reaction was heated at 70 °C for 16 h using 3-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propanal<sup>11</sup> (254 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2,3-difluorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (1.21 g, 2.90 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% EtOAc in hexanes) provided (*E*)-5-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-(2,3-difluorophenyl)pent-2-en-1-one as a viscous dark-yellow oil (356 mg, 92% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.03 (m, 6H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.85 – 6.71 (m, 1H), 5.28 (s, 2H), 3.02 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.31 (dd, J = 256.3, 12.9 Hz), 150.34 (dd, J = 250.6, 13.0 Hz), 150.33, 137.63, 136.74, 134.88, 128.75, 127.87, 127.59, 126.73, 125.75, 125.46, 121.93, 119.12, 118.97, 117.86 (dd, J = 17.6, 1.1 Hz), 117.44, 117.35, 114.19, 109.84, 49.88, 33.53, 23.92.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+ C_{26}H_{21}F_2NO$ : 402.1664; found: 402.1661

(*E*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methylhex-2-en-1-one (S13). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using isovaleraldehyde (400 mg, 4.68 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-fluorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (3.7 g, 9.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) provided (*E*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methylhex-2-en-1-one as a light yellow oil (878 mg, 91 % yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.03 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.92 – 6.76 (m, 1H), 2.28 – 2.13 (m, 2H), 1.83 (dp, J = 13.3, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.96 (dd, J = 6.7, 0.5 Hz, 7H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.10, 165.49 (d,  $^{1}J_{CF}$  = 254.0 Hz), 149.11, 134.33 (d,  $^{4}J_{CF}$  = 3.0 Hz), 131.08 (d,  $^{3}J_{CF}$  = 9.2 Hz), 126.50, 115.60 (d,  $^{2}J_{CF}$  = 21.8 Hz), 42.13, 28.00, 22.47.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -107.55.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{13}H_{15}FO$ : 207.1180; found: 207.1179

methyl (E)-8-(4-chlorophenyl)-8-oxooct-6-enoate (S14). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl-6-oxohexanoate (250 mg, 1.73 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-chlorophenacyltriphenylphosphorane (1.44 g, 3.47 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% EtOAc in hexanes) provided methyl (E)-8-(4-chlorophenyl)-8-oxooct-6-enoate as a yellow oil (152 mg, 31% yield).

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.93 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.05 (dt, J = 15.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dt, J = 15.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.34 (qd, J = 6.8, 1.7 Hz, 4H), 1.78 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.57 (dq, J = 9.6, 6.8 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.41, 173.82, 149.64, 139.08, 136.20, 129.95, 128.85, 125.71, 51.58, 33.75, 32.46, 27.57, 24.48.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{18}ClO_3$ : 281.0939; found: 281.0937

**tert-butyl** (*E*)-4-(5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxopent-3-en-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (S15). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using tert-butyl 4-(3-oxopropyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (250 mg, 1.03 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 3-methoxyphenacyltriphenylphosphorane (850 mg, 2.07 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% EtOAc in hexanes) provided methyl (tert-butyl (E)-4-(5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxopent-3-en-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate as a light yellow oil (339 mg, 88% yield).

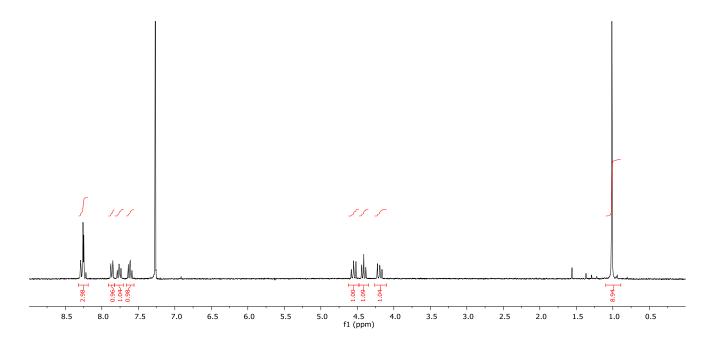
 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.87 (dt, J = 15.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (bs, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.66 (q, J = 10.9, 8.9 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 2H), 1.49 (s, 12H), 1.22 – 1.03 (m, 2H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  190.46, 159.82, 154.86, 149.56, 139.30, 129.48, 125.99, 121.08, 119.15, 112.91, 79.28, 77.22, 55.47, 35.54, 34.88, 29.91, 28.48. HRMS(ESI) (m/z): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: 374.2310; found: 374.2318

### 4. Synthesis of the (±)-t-Bu-Quinox ligand

(±)-**'Bu-Quinox** (**L10**). To a 500 mL round bottom flask were added quinoline-2-carboxaldehyde (3.4 g, 21.7 mmol, 1 equiv.), *t*-BuOH (100 mL), (±)-*t*-leucinol (2.8 g, 23.9 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and a magnetic stir bar. The mixture was stirred at 30 °C for 2 h under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (9.01 g, 65.2 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and I<sub>2</sub> (11.0 g, 43.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added, and the mixture was heated at 70 °C for 16 h. After cooling to ambient temperature, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated aqueous solution of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (~50 mL), which resulted in the solution turning from dark red to light yellow. Water was added (100 mL), and the solution was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 x 100 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (100 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (15% EtOAc in hexanes), providing (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (3.92 g, 71% yield) as a white crystalline solid. The spectral data match those previously reported.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 – 8.19 (m, 3H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 8.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 8.0, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (ddd, J = 10.1, 8.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.48 – 4.35 (m, 1H), 4.26 – 4.10 (m, 1H), 1.02 (s, 9H).



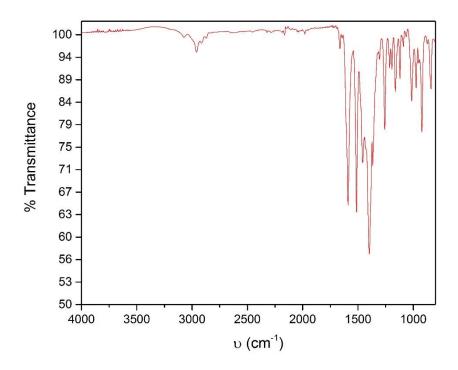
**Figure S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **L10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 273K)

## 5. Synthesis of the (±)-(<sup>t</sup>Bu-Quinox)Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> Complex

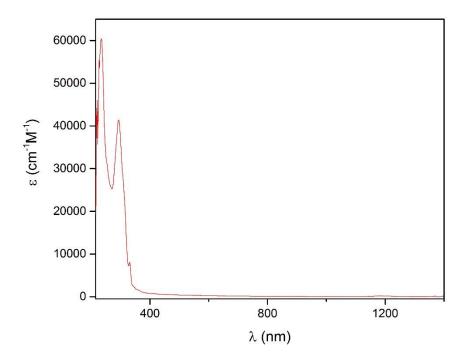
(±)-(*t*-**Bu-Quinox**)**Ni**(acac)<sub>2</sub> (**4**). In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with (±)-<sup>*t*</sup>Bu-Quinox (**L10**) (10.0 mg, 0.039 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (10.1 mg, 0.039 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (1 mL) and a magnetic stir bar. An immediate color change to dark green was observed. After stirring for 5 min, the mixture was lyophilized to yield (±)-(<sup>*t*</sup>Bu-Quinox)Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> as a green solid (19.5 mg, 98% yield). Single crystals of **4** suitable for x-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of a concentrated solution in toluene at room temperature. Complex **4** is NMR silent.

 $\mu_{eff} = 3.3 \ \mu_B$  (Evans method, 293 K, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)

Anal. Cald. for  $(C_{36}H_{32}N_2NiO_5)$ : C 61.03, H 6.31, N 5.48; found: C 60.86, H 6.42, N 5.24. UV-Vis-NIR (THF, nm  $\{M^{-1}cm^{-1}\}$ ): 235  $\{60391\}$ , 294  $\{41422\}$ , 389  $\{sh\}$ 



**Figure S3.** FT-IR of **4**.



**Figure S4.** UV-Vis-NIR spectrum of **4** in THF (0.0078 mM).

## 6. Substrate Scope Studies and Cyclopentane Characterization

General Procedure for the synthesis of cyclopentanes from enones. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (**L10**) (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn powder (81 mg, 1.23 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of the substrate (0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) and DMA (0.4 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

The ratios of C<sub>5</sub>:C<sub>3</sub> were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration from aliquots of the crude reaction mixtures. Reported yields are of the purified cyclopentane product. In all cases, the products were isolated exclusively with the *trans* relative stereochemistry.

(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)(phenyl)methanone (3). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1)<sup>13</sup> (48.8 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 5.8 : 1$ 

Run 1: 40.1 mg isolated (70% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 40.7 mg isolated (71% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.14 (td, J = 7.1, 6.5, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 3.41 (ddd, J = 11.0, 7.9, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.77 – 2.39 (m, 3H), 2.07 (dddd, J = 13.8, 12.1, 7.1, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 1.87 – 1.49 (m, 5H), 1.46 – 1.30 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 203.12, 142.53, 137.35, 132.82, 128.57, 128.38, 128.28, 128.24, 125.66, 52.95, 42.86, 37.48, 35.03, 32.71, 31.78, 25.14.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{22}O$ : 279.1743; found: 279.1746

(4-fluorophenyl)(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone (5). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S1) (52.5 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 5.9 : 1$ 

Run 1: 43.3 mg isolated (71% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 39.1 mg isolated (64% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.05 (m, 5H), 3.34 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (dddd, J = 39.0, 14.7, 9.8, 5.6 Hz, 3H), 2.15 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.71 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 4H), 1.67 – 1.56 (m, 1H), 1.38 (dd, J = 12.1, 8.1 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.45, 165.61 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 254.3$  Hz), 142.43, 133.69 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 130.96 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 9.3$  Hz), 128.29, 128.22, 125.70, 115.62 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.7$  Hz), 52.89, 42.84, 37.44, 35.00, 32.66, 31.73, 25.10.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –107.37.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{21}FO$ : 297.1649; found: 297.1651

(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (6). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-5-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-2-en-1-one (**S8**) (62.6 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 9.1 : 1$ 

Run 1: 51.4 mg isolated (72% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 49.9 mg isolated (70% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.04 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 3.37 (dd, J = 23.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.70 – 2.58 (m, 1H), 2.52 (ddd, J = 13.1, 10.3, 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.20 – 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.56 (m, 5H), 1.46 – 1.33 (m, 1H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.03, 142.27, 139.97, 134.12 (q,  $^{2}J_{CF}$  = 32.6 Hz), 128.66, 128.31, 128.20, 125.74, 125.63 (q,  $^{3}J_{CF}$  = 3.7 Hz), 123.64 (q,  $^{1}J_{CF}$  = 271.9 Hz), 53.27, 42.70, 37.36, 34.95, 32.62, 31.51, 25.11.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -64.6

**4-(2-phenethylcyclopentane-1-carbonyl)benzonitrile** (7). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-4-(5-phenylpent-2-enoyl)benzonitrile (**S2**) (54.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = >20 : 1$ 

Run 1: 39.4 mg isolated (63% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 38.2 mg isolated (61% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 3.34 (td, J = 9.3, 8.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (ddd, J = 15.4, 10.3, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.58 – 2.42 (m, 2H), 2.20 – 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.50 (m, 5H), 1.46 – 1.32 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.62, 142.17, 140.26, 132.46, 128.74, 128.33, 128.20, 125.79, 118.01, 116.08, 53.28, 42.69, 37.32, 34.93, 32.59, 31.45, 25.09.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{21}NO$ : 326.1515; found: 326.1514

(4-(methylthio)phenyl)(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone (8). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1-(4-methylthio)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S3) (58.3 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 5.4 : 1$ 

Run 1: 35.3 mg isolated (53% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 32.7 mg isolated (49% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.94 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.14 (td, J = 7.4, 6.8, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 3.35 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.42 (m, 6H), 2.18 – 1.96 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.50 (m, 5H), 1.43 – 1.30 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.09, 145.49, 142.53, 133.64, 128.82, 128.27, 128.23, 125.66, 125.05, 52.71, 42.93, 37.49, 35.03, 32.71, 31.81, 25.12, 14.83.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{24}OS$ : 325.1621; found: 325.1623

**(4-methoxyphenyl)(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone (9).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (**S5**) (54.9 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 40% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 3.8 : 1$ 

Run 1: 26.3 mg isolated (41% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 28.2 mg isolated (44% Yield), yellow oil

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.97 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.36 (td, J = 8.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.40 (m, 3H), 2.19 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.68 (m, 4H), 1.67 – 1.51 (m, 1H), 1.46 – 1.30 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.70, 163.31, 142.62, 130.63, 130.40, 128.26, 128.24, 125.63, 113.71, 55.47, 52.59, 43.00, 37.52, 35.06, 32.73, 31.91, 25.13.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{24}O_2$ : 309.1849; found: 309.1851

(**4-chlorophenyl**)(**2-phenethylcyclopentyl**)**methanone** (**10**)**.** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (**S4**) (55.8 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 30% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 6.7 : 1$ 

Run 1: 43.1 mg isolated (67% yield), clear oil

Run 2: 47.2 mg isolated (74% Yield), clear oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 3.34 (dt, J = 9.2, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (ddd, J = 13.6, 10.7, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.58 – 2.43 (m, 2H), 2.20 – 1.96 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.68 (m, 4H), 1.68 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.48 – 1.30 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.81, 142.39, 139.25, 135.60, 129.79, 128.87, 128.30, 128.22, 125.71, 52.94, 42.81, 37.42, 35.00, 32.66, 31.67, 25.11.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{21}ClO$ : 313.1354; found: 313.1352

**naphthalen-2-yl(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone** (11). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S6) (59.1 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 5.6 : 1$ 

Run 1: 34.3 mg isolated (51% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 37.9 mg isolated (56% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.47 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 3.59 (dt, J = 9.5, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.82 – 2.43 (m, 3H), 2.14 (dddd, J = 19.8, 12.3, 9.4, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.56 (m, 5H), 1.50 – 1.38 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 203.08, 142.51, 135.52, 134.71, 132.60, 129.88, 129.60, 128.46, 128.41, 128.34, 128.27, 128.24, 127.76, 126.73, 126.70, 125.66, 124.35, 53.00, 42.99, 37.49, 35.05, 32.77, 31.99, 25.19.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{24}H_{25}O$ : 329.1900; found: 329.1899

(2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopentyl)(phenyl)methanone (12). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-5-(benzyloxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (**S9**) (55.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 6% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5: C_3 = >20:1$ 

Run 1: 44.5 mg isolated (70% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 46.9 mg isolated (74% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.54 (ddt, J = 8.2, 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (ddt, J = 8.5, 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 4.36 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 2H), 3.56 – 3.30 (m, 3H), 2.55 (h, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.15 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.83 – 1.59 (m, 5H), 1.41 – 1.28 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.91, 138.45, 137.31, 132.71, 128.51, 128.40, 128.26, 127.63, 127.39, 72.85, 69.71, 52.73, 40.14, 35.20, 33.09, 31.69, 25.06.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{24}O_2$ : 309.1849; found: 309.1847

(3-methoxyphenyl)(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone (13). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S7) (55.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography ( $SiO_2$ , 1%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 7.7 : 1$ 

Run 1: 47.7 mg isolated (75% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 49.8 mg isolated (78% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.60 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.00 (m, 4H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.39 (ddd, J = 10.3, 7.9, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.42 (m, 3H), 2.24 – 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.85 – 1.50 (m, 5H), 1.46 – 1.31 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.94, 159.85, 142.52, 138.76, 129.52, 128.27, 128.24, 125.66, 120.99, 119.27, 112.72, 55.44, 53.07, 42.92, 37.45, 35.02, 32.70, 31.85, 25.13.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{24}O_2$ : 309.1849; found: 309.1852

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{21}F_3O$ : 347.1617; found: 347.1622

#### (2-(2-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)cyclopentyl)(2,3-difluorophenyl)methanonene

(14). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-5-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-(2,3-difluorophenyl)pent-2-en-1-one (S12) (82.9 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 5.7 : 1$ 

Run 1: 51.6 mg isolated (57% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 52.1 mg isolated (57% Yield), yellow oil

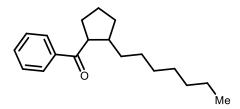
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 (ddd, J = 11.1, 7.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (ddd, J = 7.8, 4.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 7.08 (dddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 2.9, 1.2 Hz, 4H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 3.31 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (ddd, J = 15.2, 9.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (td, J = 9.2, 8.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 1.96 (m, 2H), 1.92 – 1.63 (m, 5H), 1.50 – 1.38 (m, 1H).

 $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}\ \text{NMR}\ (201\ \text{MHz},\ \text{CDCl}_{3})\ \delta\ 200.51,\ 153.37\ (\text{dd},\ ^{1}J_{\text{CF}}=256.2,\ ^{2}J_{\text{CF}}=13.0\ \text{Hz}),\ 150.38\ (\text{dd},\ ^{1}J_{\text{CF}}=250.8,\ ^{2}J_{\text{CF}}=13.0\ \text{Hz}),\ 137.76,\ 136.68,\ 134.36\ (\text{ap t},\ ^{4}J_{\text{CF}}=3.5\ \text{Hz}),\ 128.69,\ 134.36\ (\text{ap t},\ ^{4}J_{\text{CF}}=3.6\ \text{Hz})$ 

128.01, 127.49, 126.75, 125.25, 125.21 (dd,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 7.3$ ,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.4$  Hz), 121.65, 117.62 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 17.9$  Hz), 117.31 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 17.7$  Hz), 115.69, 109.59, 52.82, 49.78, 42.95, 35.98, 32.68, 31.56, 25.14, 24.18.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -132.07, -137.83.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{29}H_{27}F_2NO$ : 444.2133; found: 444.2136



(2-hexylcyclopentyl)(phenyl)methanone (15). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-1-phenyldec-2-en-1-one<sup>16</sup> (47.6 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 6.3 : 1$ 

Run 1: 34.6 mg isolated (65% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 32.5 mg isolated (61% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.00 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 3.35 (q, J = 8.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.52 – 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.15 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.85 – 1.61 (m, 3H), 1.52 – 1.06 (m, 13H), 0.90 – 0.80 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 203.42, 137.48, 132.70, 128.51, 128.37, 52.91, 43.09, 35.53, 32.71, 31.82, 31.70, 29.76, 29.24, 28.56, 25.14, 22.64, 14.09.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z): HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{28}O$ : 273.2213; found: 273.2215

#### tert-butyl-4-(2-(2-(3-methoxybenzoyl)cyclopentyl)ethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (16).

The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using *tert*-butyl-(E)-4-(5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxopent-3-en-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (**S15**) (77.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 3.8 : 1$ 

Run 1: 42.3 mg isolated (50% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 44.9 mg isolated (52% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 8.1, 7.6, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (br s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.29 (m, 1 H), 2.62 (t, J = 12.5 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (dq, J = 15.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.12 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.66 (m, 3H), 1.57 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 12H), 1.34 – 1.10 (m, 4H), 1.01 (tq, J = 10.8, 5.7, 5.0 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 203.03, 159.83, 154.88, 138.78, 129.53, 120.94, 119.17, 112.76, 79.11, 55.43, 53.08, 42.93, 36.01, 35.28, 32.68, 32.32, 31.84, 30.32, 28.48, 28.47, 25.07.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: 416.2795; found: 416.2792

(**4-fluorophenyl**)(**2-isobutylcyclopentyl**)**methanone** (**17**)**.** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methylhex-2-en-1-one (**S13**) (42.6 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 7.1 : 1$ 

Run 1: 32.8 mg isolated (64% yield), colorless oil

Run 2: 31.8 mg isolated (62% Yield), colorless oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 3.28 (dt, J = 9.1, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 – 2.41 (m, 1H), 2.12 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.61 (m, 3H), 1.53 – 1.41 (m, 1H), 1.33 – 1.13 (m, 3H), 0.84 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.70, 165.57 (d, J = 254.3 Hz), 133.83 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 130.94 (d, J = 9.3 Hz), 115.57 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 53.21, 45.15, 40.90, 32.78, 31.66, 26.93, 25.12, 23.39, 22.16.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -107.60.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{21}FO$ : 249.1649; found: 249.1646

**2-(2-(2-benzoylcyclopentyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione** (**18).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-2-(5-oxo-5-phenylpent-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (**S11**) (63.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 2.9 : 1$ 

Run 1: 27.2 mg isolated (38% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 32.1 mg isolated (45% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.80 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 8.2, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.73 – 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.47 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.63 – 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.19 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.93 – 1.58 (m, 5H), 1.50 – 1.33 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.51, 168.27, 137.06, 133.81, 132.86, 132.15, 128.56, 128.40, 123.15, 52.74, 40.02, 37.16, 34.06, 32.50, 31.75, 25.15.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{21}O_3$ : 348.1594; found: 348.1596

(*Z*)-(4-fluorophenyl)(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopentyl)methanone (19). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (2E,6Z)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)dodeca-2,6-dien-1-one (S10) (56.7 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.2% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5: C_3 = >20:1$ 

Run 1: 50.7 mg isolated (78% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 50.8 mg isolated (78% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 5.43 – 5.15 (m, 2H), 3.32 (q, J = 7.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (dq, J = 15.3, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 1.85 (m, 5H), 1.83 – 1.62 (m, 3H), 1.53 – 1.15 (m, 10H), 0.91 – 0.82 (m, 3H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.60, 165.59 (d,  $^{1}J_{CF}$  = 254.1 Hz), 133.77 (d,  $^{4}J_{CF}$  = 3.0 Hz), 130.95 (d,  $^{3}J_{CF}$  = 9.1 Hz), 130.16, 129.31, 115.59 (d,  $^{2}J_{CF}$  = 21.4 Hz), 52.79, 42.92, 35.62, 31.69, 31.50, 29.37, 27.15, 26.31, 25.11, 22.70, 14.06.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -107.53.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{29}FO$ : 317.2275; found: 317.2281

**methyl 5-(2-(4-chlorobenzoyl)cyclopentyl)pentanoate (20).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-8-(4-chlorophenyl)-8-oxooct-6-enoate (**S14**) (57.9 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 60% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 4.3 : 1$ 

Run 1: 46.1 mg isolated (69% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 42.6 mg isolated (64% Yield), yellow oil

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 – 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.34 – 3.21 (m, 1H), 2.41 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.30 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.15 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.78 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.11 (m, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.92, 174.12, 139.24, 135.62, 129.80, 128.86, 52.89, 51.44, 42.72, 35.02, 33.97, 32.61, 31.66, 28.06, 25.08, 25.05.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{24}ClO_3$ : 323.1409; found: 323.1412

(2-methylcyclopentyl)(phenyl)methanone (21) [100611-76-5]. The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*Z*)-1-phenylbut-2-en-1-one<sup>14</sup> (30.2 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). The spectral data matched those previously reported.<sup>15</sup>

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 6.1 : 1$ 

Run 1: 19.0 mg isolated (49% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 19.4 mg isolated (50% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 3.29 (q, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (tt, J = 14.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.14 – 2.00 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.88 – 1.66 (m, 3H), 1.37 – 1.29 (m, 1H), 1.03 (dd, J = 6.7, 0.6 Hz, 3H).

**1-(2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)cyclopentyl)ethan-1-one** (**22).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-4-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one (46.7 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 7% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 1.4 : 1$ 

Run 1: 21.3 mg isolated (39% yield), yellow oil

Run 2: 18.6 mg isolated (34% Yield), yellow oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71 (dd, J = 13.8, 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.42 (q, J = 9.1, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (q, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.27 – 2.20 (m, 1H), 2.17 – 2.09 (m, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.99 (ddd, J = 15.6, 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.97 – 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.91 – 1.81 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 210.73, 157.37, 139.56, 133.32, 129.06, 128.98, 127.17, 126.14, 125.48, 118.84, 105.62, 60.27, 55.31, 48.99, 35.87, 30.08, 29.87, 25.43.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}O_2$ : 269.1536; found: 269.1539

**phenyl(2-phenylcyclopentyl)methanone** (23) . The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-chalcone (43.0 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 50% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). Single crystals of 23 suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by cooling a saturated Et<sub>2</sub>O solution to -5 °C.

Ratio of  $C_5 : C_3 = 2.2 : 1$ 

Run 1: 23.7 mg isolated (45% yield), white solid

Run 2: 22.0 mg isolated (42% Yield), white solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.86 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.75 (m, 1H), 3.66 (q, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (td, J = 6.8, 6.3, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 2.03 – 1.76 (m, 4H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.19, 144.72, 136.95, 132.79, 128.46, 128.42, 127.36, 126.16, 109.32, 54.72, 48.32, 35.30, 32.01, 25.84.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O$ : 251.1430; found: 251.1433

# 7. Synthesis and Characterization of Representative Cyclopropanes

General procedure for the synthesis of cyclopropanes from enones. A flame-dried 100 mL flask was charged with solid NaH (60% in mineral oil, 1.2 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.2 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. The flask was placed under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, and DMSO (0.35 M) was added dropwise with stirring. After hydrogen evolution ceased, the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 15 min, during which time the solution became clear. The enone (1.0 equiv) was added by syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature. After 24 h, the reaction was quenched with water, and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was loaded onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (2). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (*E*)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1) (250 mg, 1.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv). (2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (2) was isolated by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) as a light yellow oil (78.8 mg, 30% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.00 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.45 (ddt, J = 8.3, 6.6, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 2.77 (ddd, J = 10.8, 9.2, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (dt, J = 8.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.88 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.59 (m, 1H), 1.53 – 1.39 (m, 1H), 0.91 (ddd, J = 7.8, 6.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 199.95, 141.66, 138.00, 132.61, 128.44, 128.41, 128.38, 127.97, 125.88, 35.60, 35.38, 26.58, 25.26, 18.75.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{19}O$ : 251.1430; found: 251.1431

(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (S16). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-4-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one (100 mg, 0.44 mmol, 1.0 equiv). 1-(2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)cyclopropyl)ethan-1-one (S16) was isolated by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) as a white solid (23.8 mg, 23% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.67 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (ddd, J = 15.9, 7.6, 2.2 Hz, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.66 (ddd, J = 9.1, 6.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.29 (ddd, J = 8.1, 5.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (ddd, J = 9.2, 5.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.49 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 206.88, 157.45, 135.34, 133.38, 128.89, 128.84, 127.05, 124.98, 124.50, 119.16, 105.65, 55.31, 32.87, 30.89, 29.29, 18.99.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{16}O_2$ : 241.1223; found: 241.1225

(4-fluorophenyl)(2-isobutylcyclopropyl)methanone (S17). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (E)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methylhex-2-en-1-one (S13) (255 mg, 1.24 mmol, 1.0 equiv). (4-fluorophenyl)(2-isobutylcyclopropyl)methanone (S17) was isolated by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) as a light yellow oil (95.0 mg, 35% yield).

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 2.37 (dt, J = 8.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.74 (dq, J = 13.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.66 – 1.54 (m, 1H), 1.54 – 1.45 (m, 1H), 1.45 – 1.19 (m, 3H), 0.93 (dd, J = 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 6H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 198.54, 165.53 (d,  $^{1}J_{CF}$  = 254.0 Hz), 134.48 (d,  $^{4}J_{CF}$  = 3.0 Hz), 130.50 (d,  $^{3}J_{CF}$  = 9.2 Hz), 115.53 (d,  $^{2}J_{CF}$  = 21.7 Hz), 42.74, 28.59, 25.73, 25.15, 22.61, 22.50, 19.26.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -107.85.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{17}FO$ : 221.1336; found: 221.1338

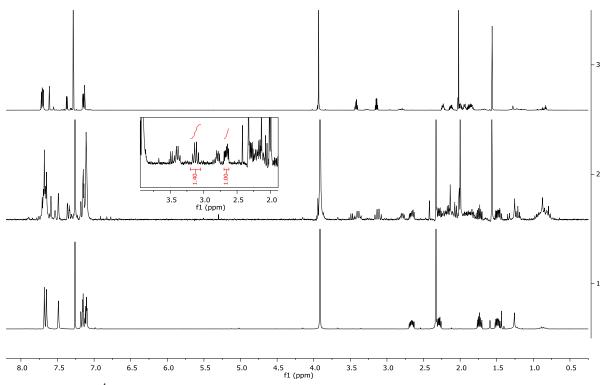
# 8. Assignment of Ratios Between the Cyclopentane and Cyclopropane Products

The assignment of the ratios between the cyclopentane and cyclopropane products were made using a combination of <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis and GC analysis of the crude reaction mixtures. Two product classes are discussed below. The remainder of the substrate classes were assigned by analogy.

Top spectrum (3): Isolated 22

Middle spectrum (2): Crude reaction mixture with ratio of 22: S16 indicated

Bottom Spectrum (1): Isolated S16

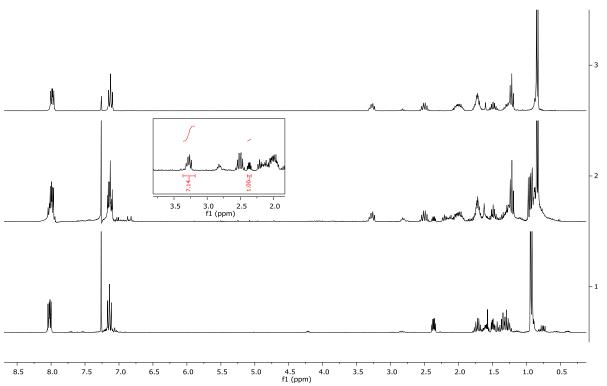


**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of isolated **22** (Top spectrum), crude reaction mixture (Middle spectrum), and isolated **S16** (Bottom Spectrum). (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 273 K).

Top spectrum (3): Isolated 17

Middle spectrum (2): Crude reaction mixture with ratio of 17: S17 indicated

Bottom Spectrum (1): Isolated **S17** 



**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of isolated **17** (Top spectrum), crude reaction mixture (Middle spectrum), and isolated **S17** (Bottom Spectrum). (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 273 K).

#### 9. Mechanistic Studies

(2-phenethylcyclopentyl-3,3,4,4,5,5- $d_6$ )(phenyl)methanone (3- $d_6$ ). In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (**L10**) (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn powder (81 mg, 1.23 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (1) (48.8 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1 equiv) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) and DMA (0.4 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) to provide (2-phenethylcyclopentyl-3,3,4,4,5,5- $d_6$ )(phenyl)methanone as a colorless oil (34.9 mg, 60% yield, > 99% deuterium incorporation).

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 3.39 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.44 (m, 3H), 1.77 (ddt, J = 13.1, 11.1, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.68 – 1.56 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 203.17, 142.53, 137.35, 132.80, 128.55, 128.37, 128.27, 128.22, 125.65, 52.81, 42.72, 37.42, 35.02.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{16}D_6O$ : 285.2120; found: 285.2122

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (2.65 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (**L10**) (2.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn Powder (27 mg, 0.41 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of (2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (**2**) (17.2 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.17 mL) and DMA (0.13 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, and an aliquot was used for GC analysis. The conversion of **2** was determined by integration against mesitylene (< 2% conversion). Compound **3** was not detected in the mixture.

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (2.65 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-<sup>1</sup>Bu-Quinox (2.65 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn Powder (27 mg, 0.41 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of (2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (**2**) (17.2 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (*E*)-5-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-2-en-1-one (**S8**) (20.9 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

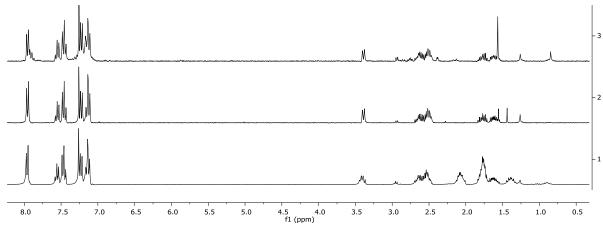
(0.17 mL) and DMA (0.13 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, and an aliquot was used for GC analysis. The conversions and yields were determined by integration against mesitylene.

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 10 mL Schenk tube was charged with Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (**L10**) (7.9 mg, 0.031 mmol, 0.15 equiv), Zn powder (81 mg, 1.23 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of (E)-1,5-diphenylpent-2-en-1-one (**1**) (48.8 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) and DMA (0.4 mL). The reaction mixture was removed the glovebox and immediately placed in liquid N<sub>2</sub>. The Schlenk tube was connected to a Schlenk line, the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere was evacuated, and the reaction vessel was back-filled with ethylene (1 atm). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 4 days, an aliquot of the crude reaction mixture was filtered through silica gel and used for NMR analysis (CDCl<sub>3</sub>). Spectra of the pure **3-**d<sub>6</sub> and **3** are shown for comparison to indicate complete d<sub>6</sub>-incorporation.

Top spectrum (3): Crude ethylene experiment mixture

Middle spectrum (2): Isolated 3-d6

Bottom Spectrum (1): Isolated 3



**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of crude ethylene experiment mixture (Top spectrum), isolated **3-d<sub>6</sub>**, (Middle spectrum), and isolated **3** (Bottom Spectrum). (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 273 K)

## 10. Cyclopentane Product Derivatization

**4-methoxyphenyl 2-phenethylcyclopentane-1-carboxylate** (**24**). A flame-dried microwave vial was charged with *m*CPBA (>77%, 95 mg, 0.55 mmol, 6.0 equiv), a solution of (4-methoxyphenyl)(2-phenethylcyclopentyl)methanone (**9**) (28.2 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 equiv) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL), and a magnetic stir bar. The vial was sealed, evacuated and backfilled three times with N<sub>2</sub>, and cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath. Trifluoroacetic acid (14 μL, 0.18 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added by syringe, and the vial was then wrapped in aluminum foil. The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 48 h, the crude reaction mixture was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (40% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) to provide 4-methoxyphenyl 2-phenethylcyclopentane-1-carboxylate as a colorless oil (23.6 mg, 81% yield, 14:1 selectivity).

 $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.00 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 6.91 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.80 – 2.52 (m, 3H), 2.29 (pd, J = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 1.90 (m, 4H), 1.84 – 1.62 (m, 3H), 1.43 – 1.24 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.43, 157.13, 144.36, 142.32, 128.36, 128.33, 125.77, 122.28, 114.40, 55.61, 50.38, 44.29, 37.32, 34.63, 32.68, 30.39, 24.91.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{24}O_3$ : 325.1798; found: 325.1802

**2-phenethylcyclopentyl 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoate** (**25**). A flame-dried microwave vial was charged with *m*CPBA (>77%, 124 mg, 0.72 mmol, 6.0 equiv), a solution of (2-phenethylcyclopentyl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (**6**) (41.4 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL), and a magnetic stir bar. The vial was sealed, evacuated and backfilled three times with N<sub>2</sub>, and cooled to 0 °C with an ice bath. Trifluoroacetic acid (18 μL, 0.24 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added by syringe, and the vial was then wrapped in aluminum foil. The reaction was stirred at 45 °C. After 48 h, the crude reaction mixture was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (20% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes) to provide 2-phenethylcyclopentyl 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoate as a colorless oil (27.9 mg, 65% Yield, >20:1 selectivity).

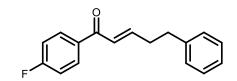
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 5.12 (dt, J = 6.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (ddq, J = 13.9, 9.4, 7.0, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.21 – 1.96 (m, 3H), 1.96 – 1.70 (m, 4H), 1.69 – 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.47 – 1.29 (m, 1H).

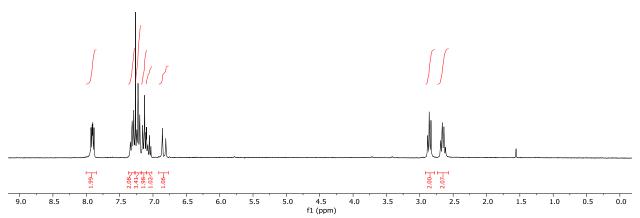
 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.18, 142.14, 134.28 (q,  $^{2}J_{CF}$  = 32.7 Hz), 133.96, 129.92, 128.33, 125.79, 125.33 (q,  $^{3}J_{CF}$  = 3.8 Hz), 123.67 (q,  $^{1}J_{CF}$  = 275.1 Hz), 82.63, 45.12, 35.44, 34.31, 32.01, 30.31, 22.82.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -64.61.

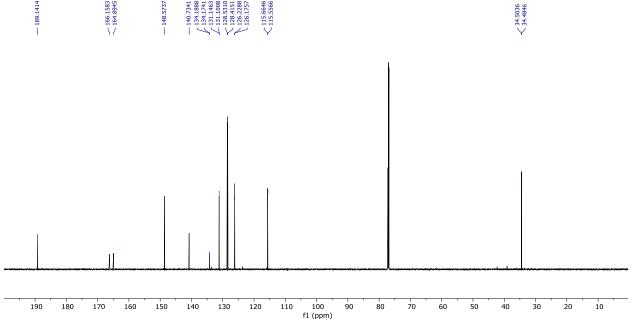
HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{21}F_3O_2$ : 385.1386; found: 385.1391

# 11. NMR Data for Enone Substrates

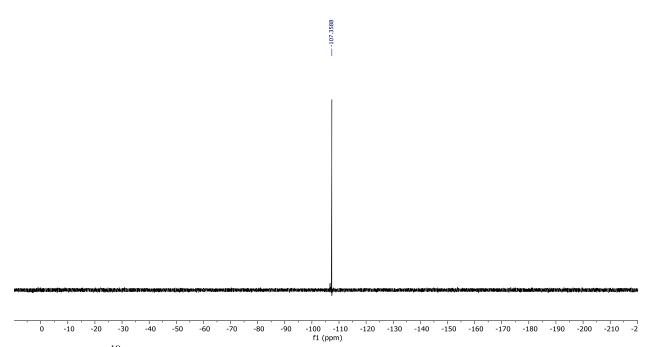




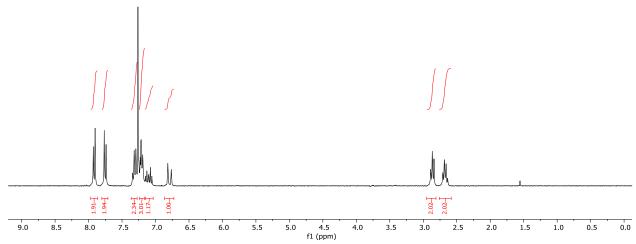
**Figure S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S1** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



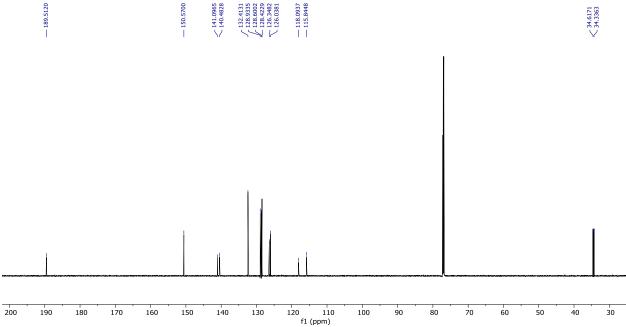
**Figure S9.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S1** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S10.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S1** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S11.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S2** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S12.**  ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$  NMR of **S2** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

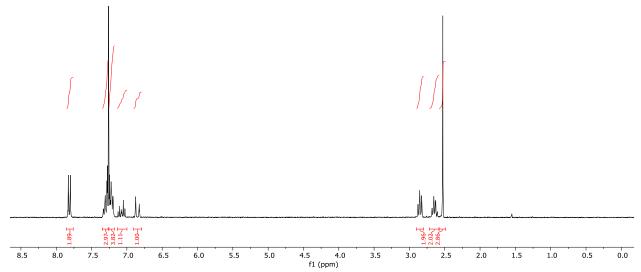
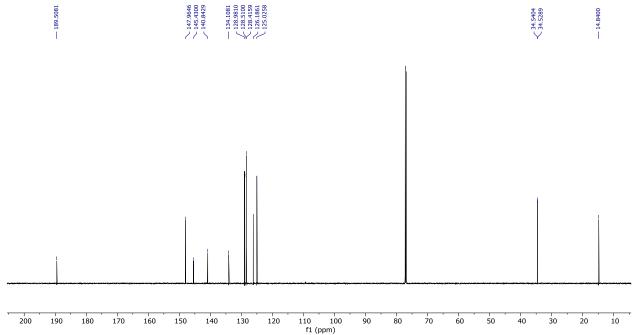
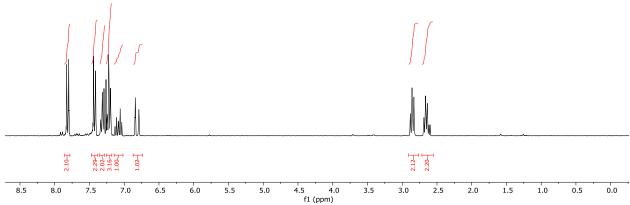


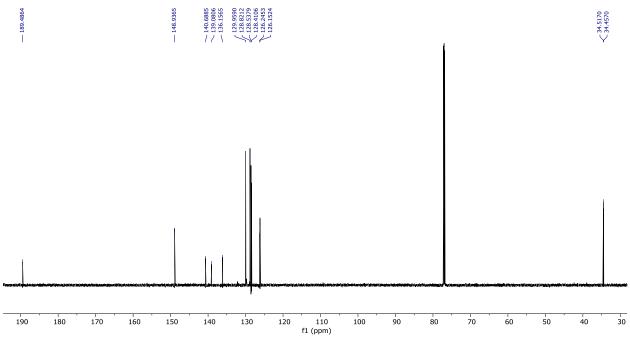
Figure S13.  $^{1}$ H NMR of S3 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



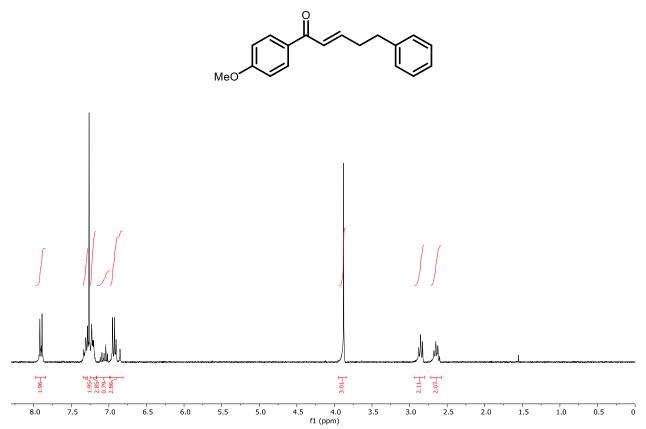
**Figure S14.**  ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$  NMR of **S3** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



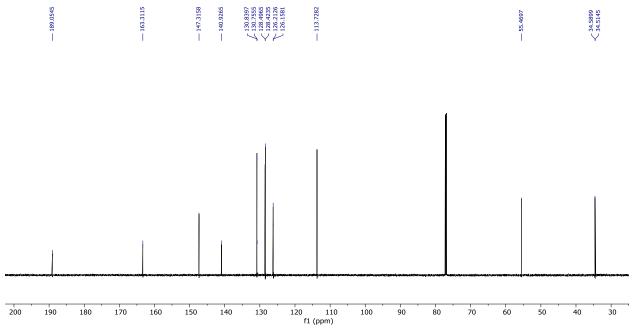
**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S4** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



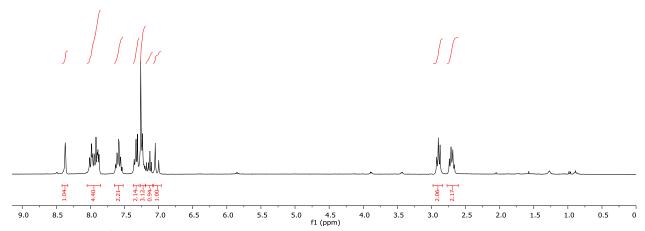
**Figure S16.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S4** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



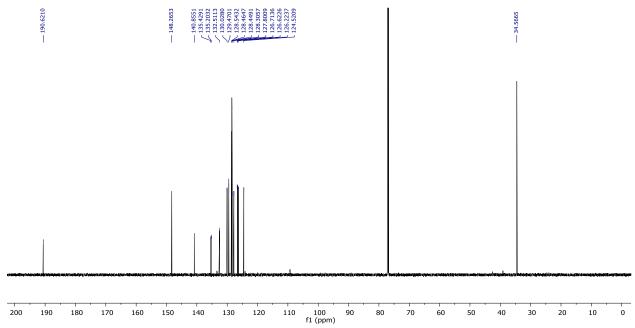
**Figure S17.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



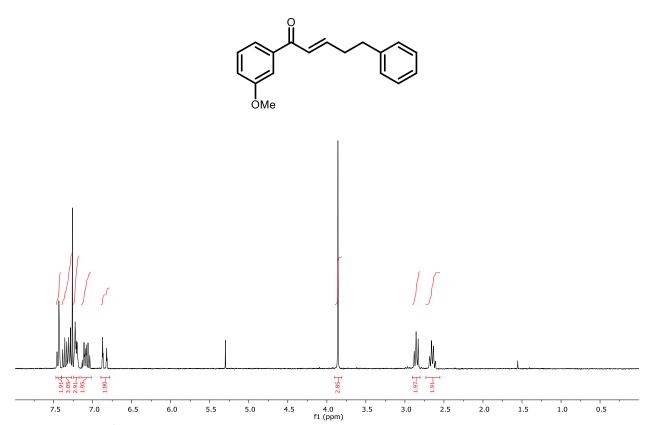
**Figure S18.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



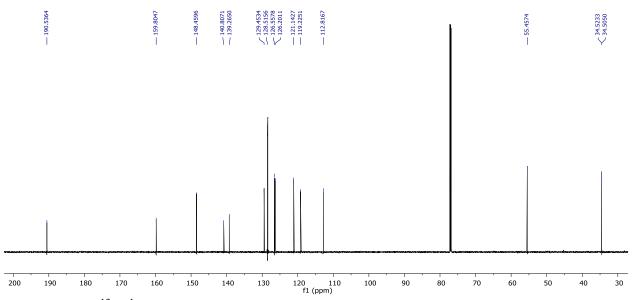
**Figure S19.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S6** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



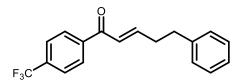
**Figure S20.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S6** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



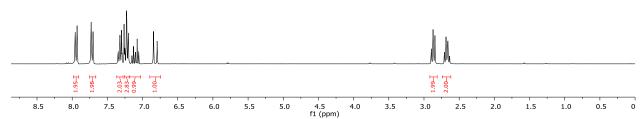
**Figure S21.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S7** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



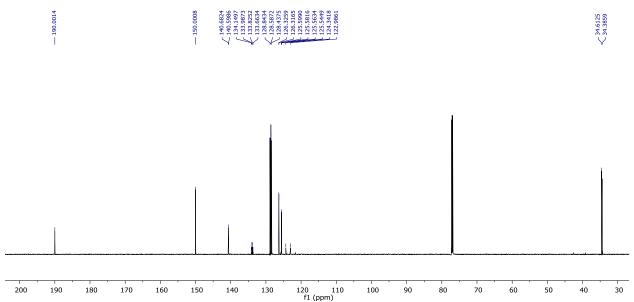
**Figure S22.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S7** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



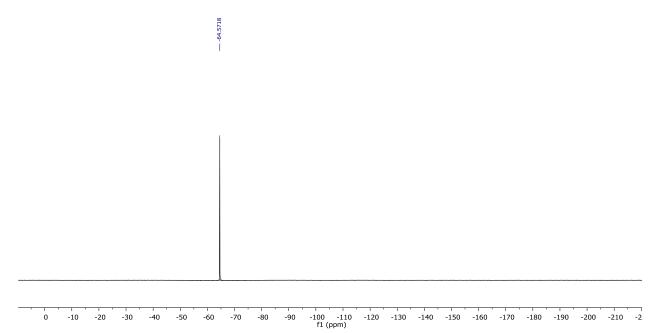




**Figure S23.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S8** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S24.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S8** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S25.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S8** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

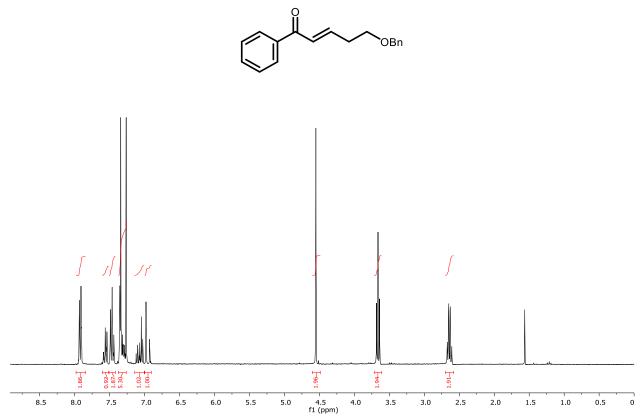
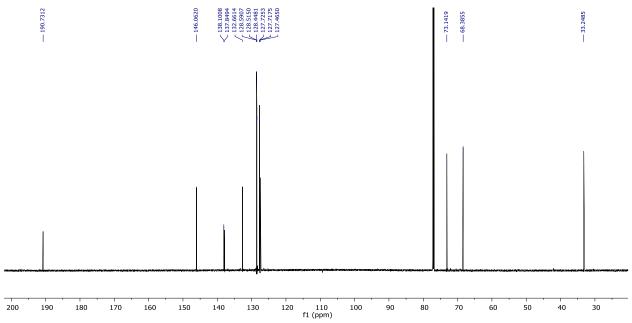
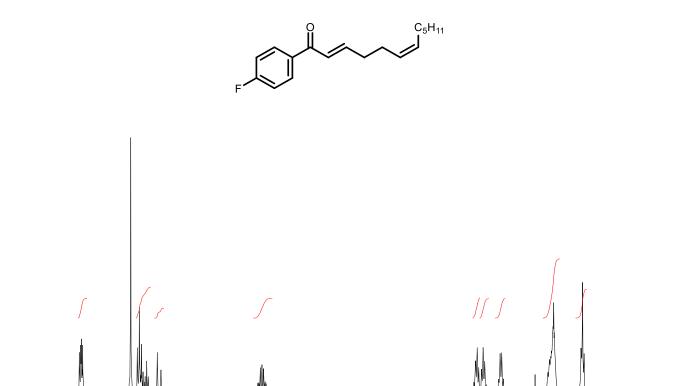


Figure S26.  $^{1}$ H NMR of S9 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



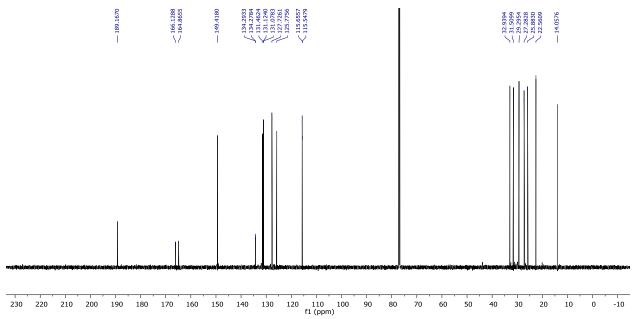
**Figure S27.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S9** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



6.5 **Figure S28.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

6.0

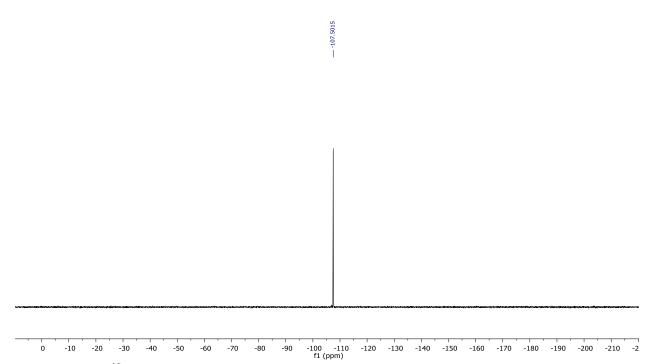
5.5



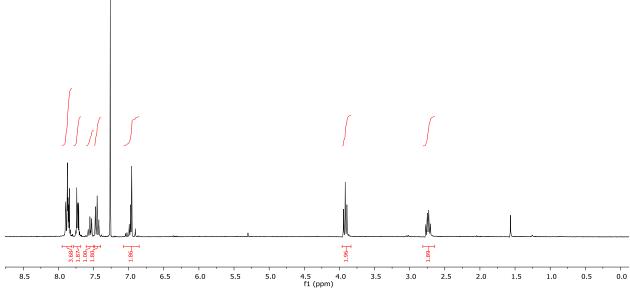
3.0

0.5

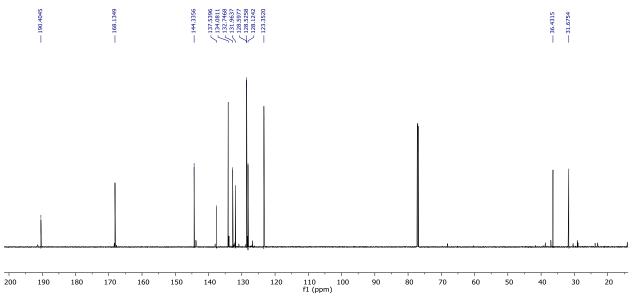
**Figure S29.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



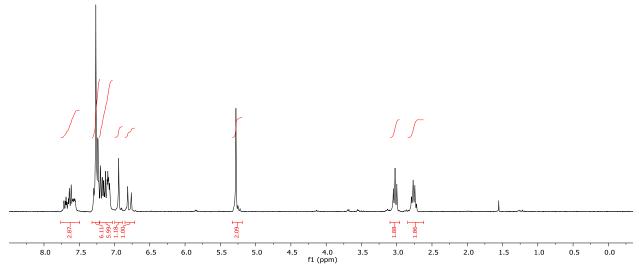
**Figure S30.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



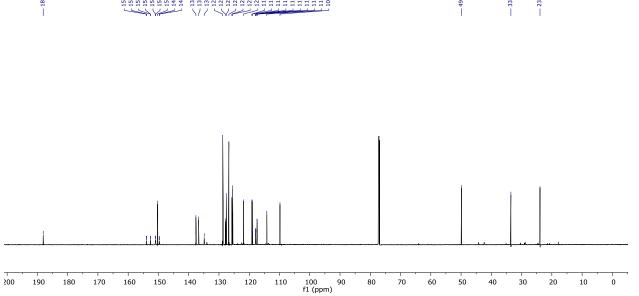
**Figure S31.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S11** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S32.**  ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$  NMR of **S11** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

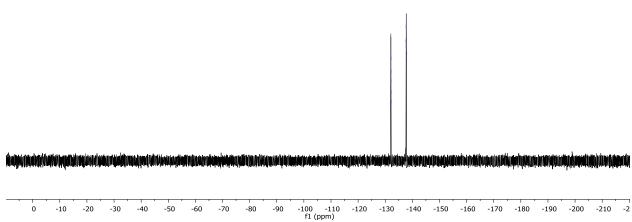


**Figure S33.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S12** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

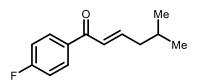


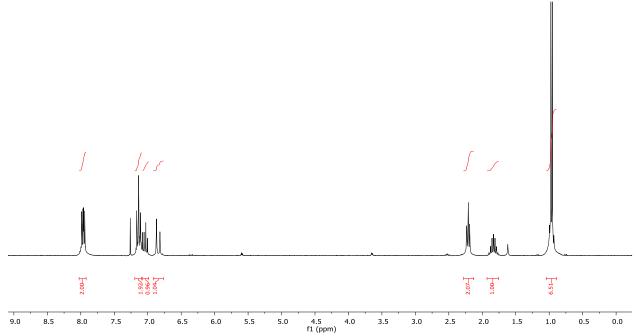
**Figure S34.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S12** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



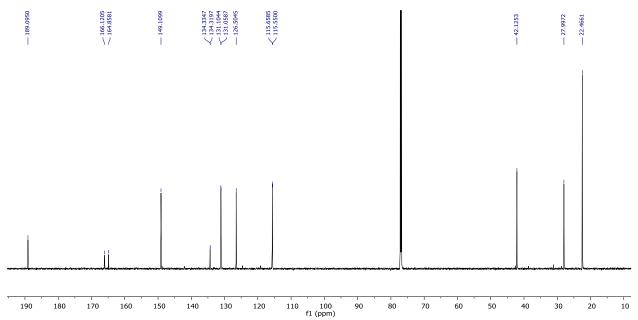


**Figure S35.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S12** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

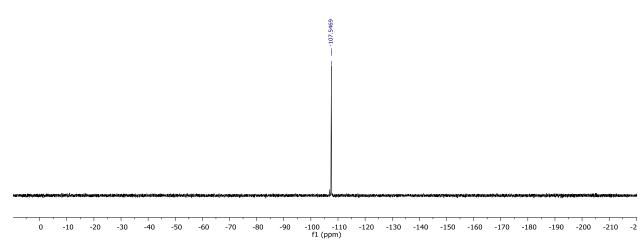




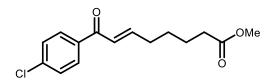
**Figure S36.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

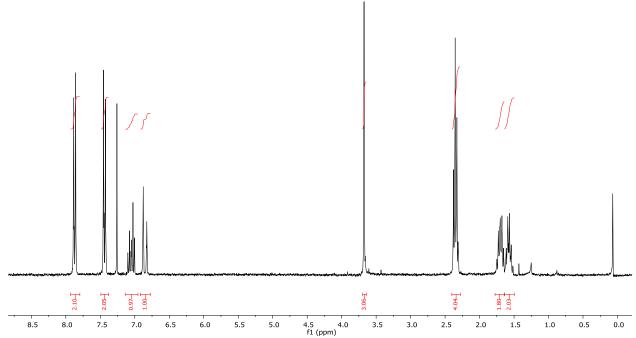


**Figure S37.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

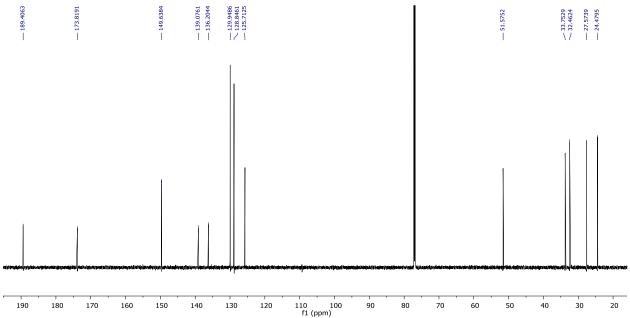


**Figure S38.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

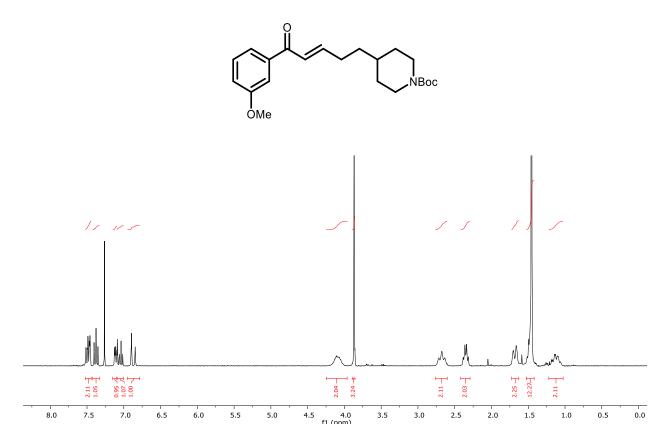




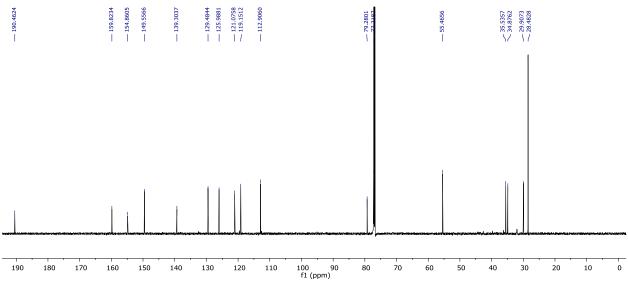
**Figure S39.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S40.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

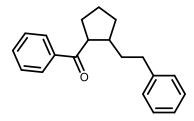


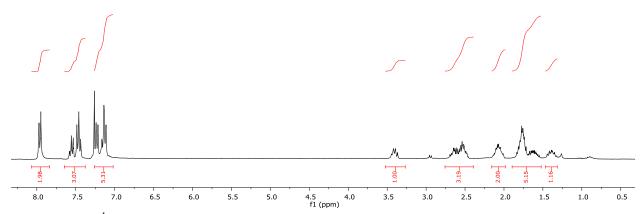
**Figure S41.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S15** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



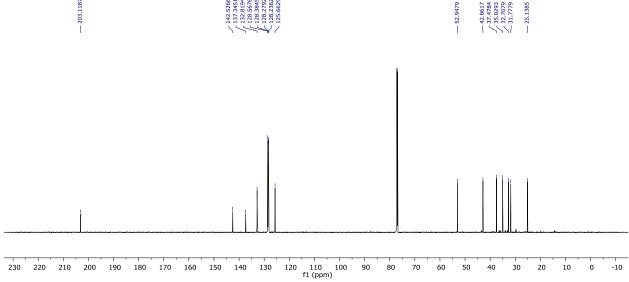
**Figure S42.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S15** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

## 12. NMR Data for Cyclopentanes

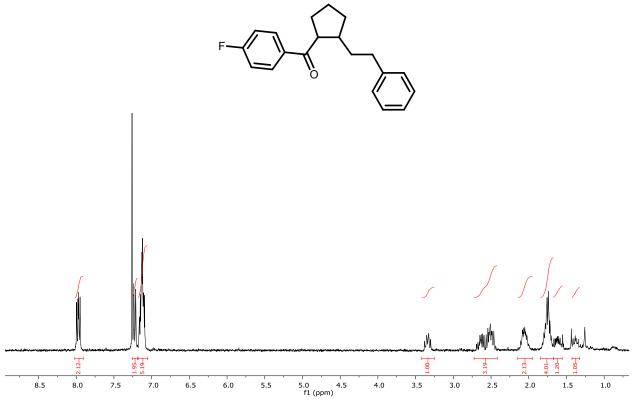




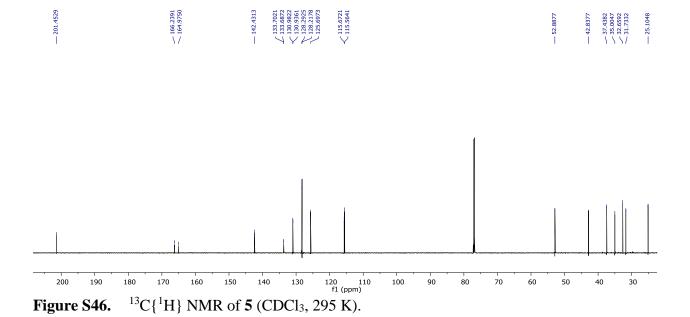
**Figure S43.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **3** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

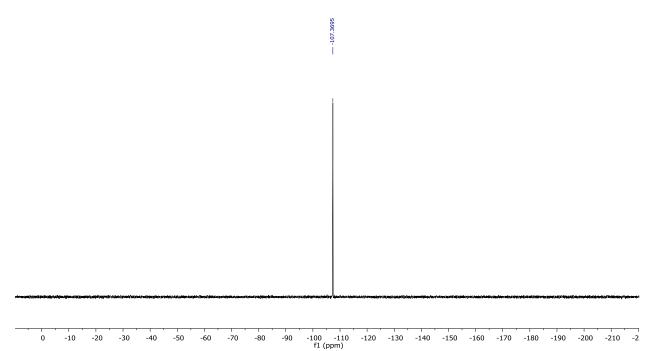


**Figure S44.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **3** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

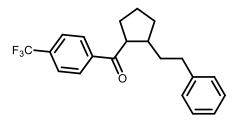


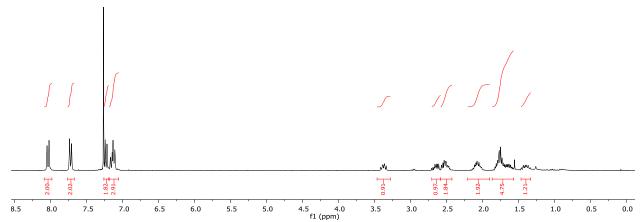
**Figure S45.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



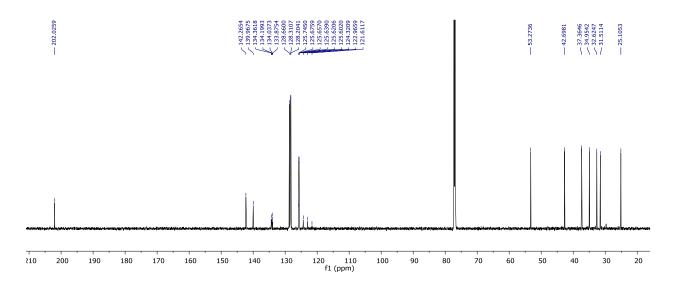


**Figure S47.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

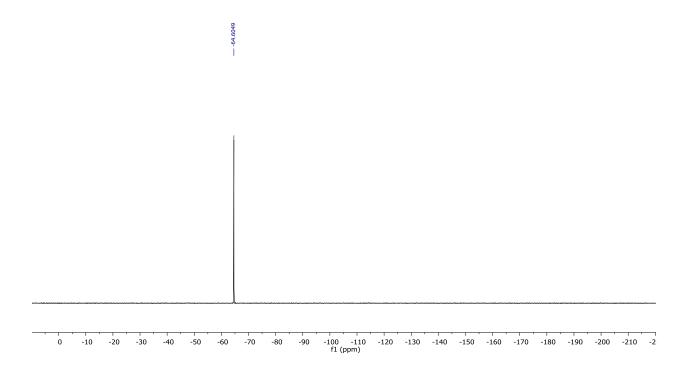




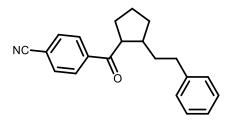
**Figure S48.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **6** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



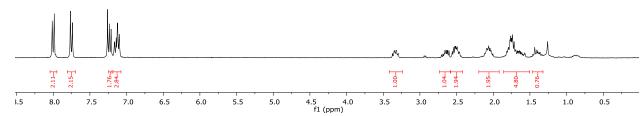
**Figure S49.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **6** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



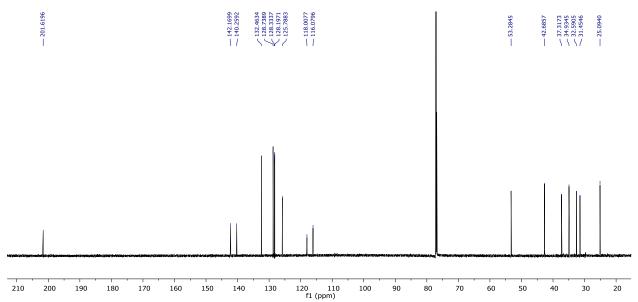
**Figure S50.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **6** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



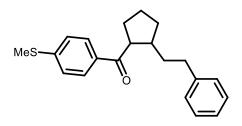


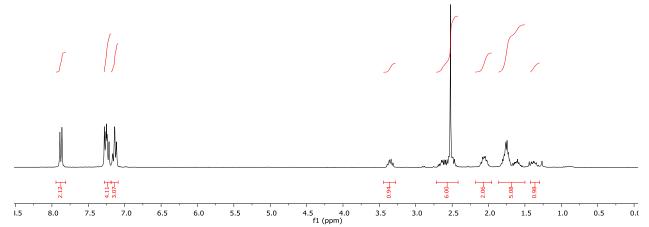


**Figure S51.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **7** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

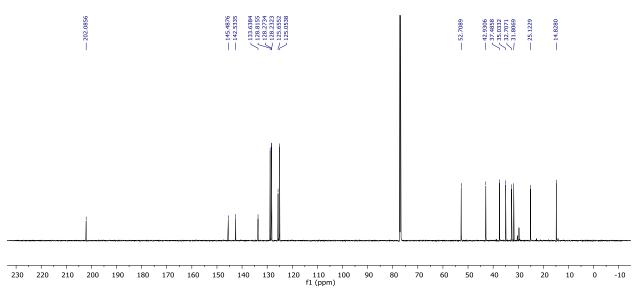


**Figure S52.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **7** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

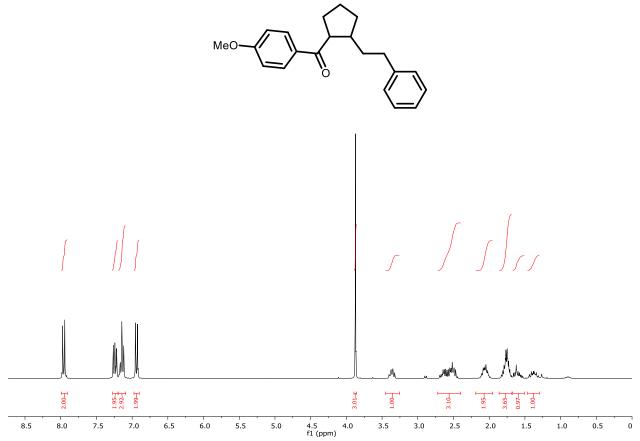




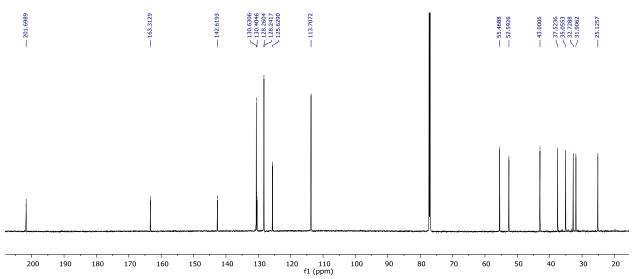
**Figure S53.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **8** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



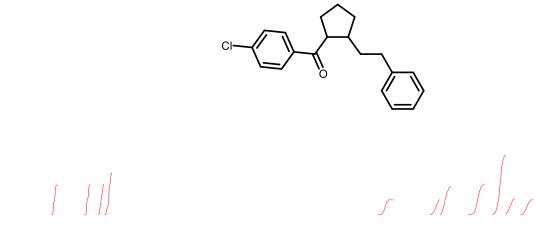
**Figure S54.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **8** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

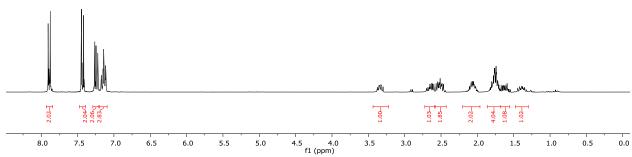


**Figure S55.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **9** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

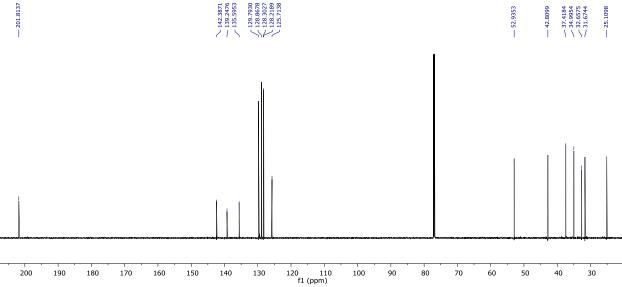


**Figure S56.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **9** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

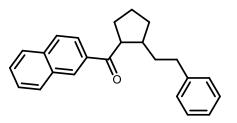


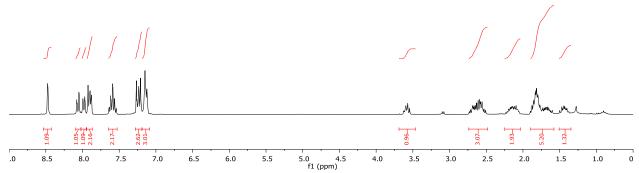


**Figure S57.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

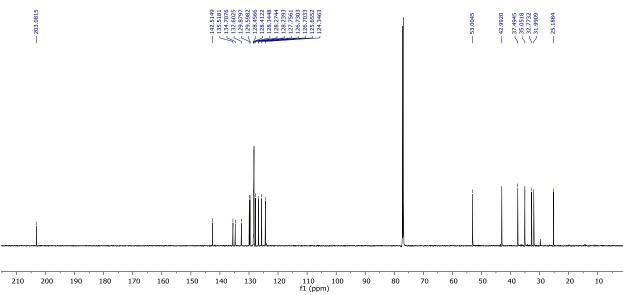


**Figure S58.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

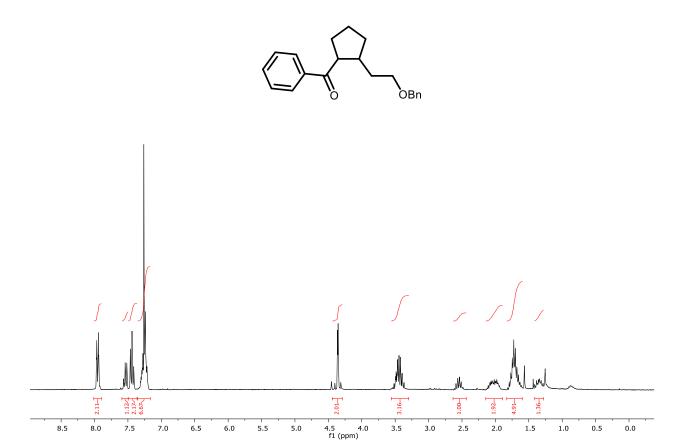




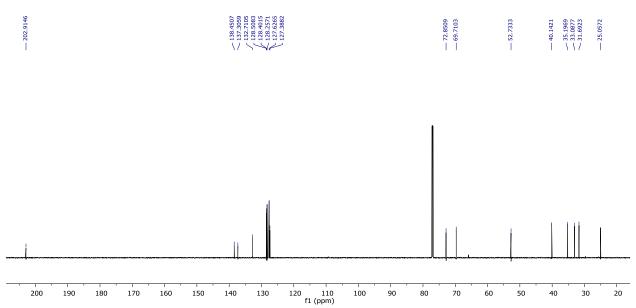
**Figure S59.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **11** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



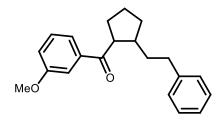
**Figure S60.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **11** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

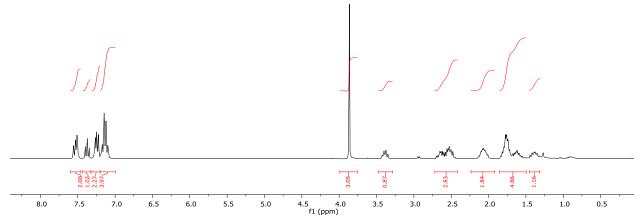


**Figure S61.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **12** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

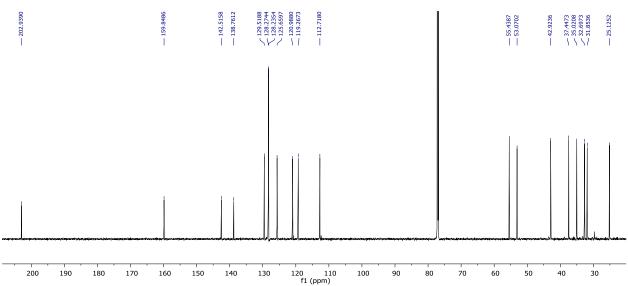


**Figure S62.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **12** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

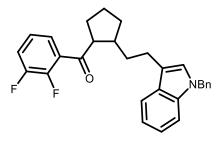


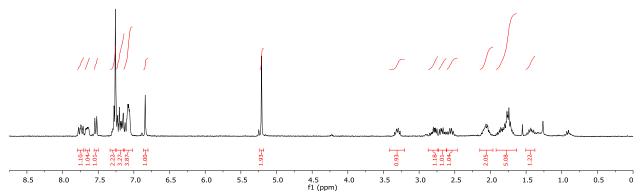


**Figure S63.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

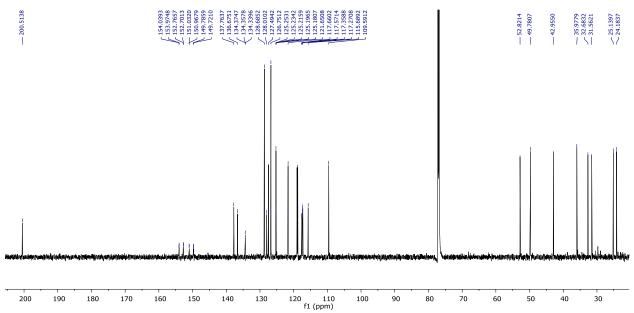


**Figure S64.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

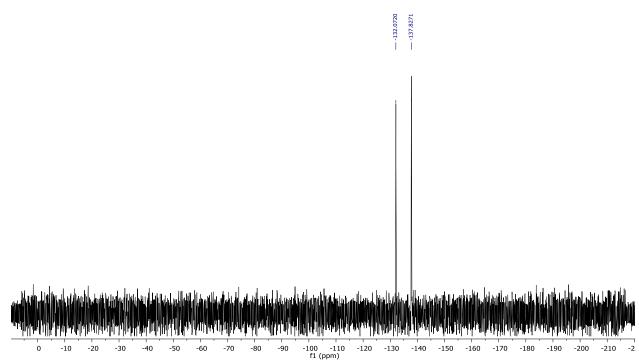




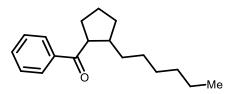
**Figure S65.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

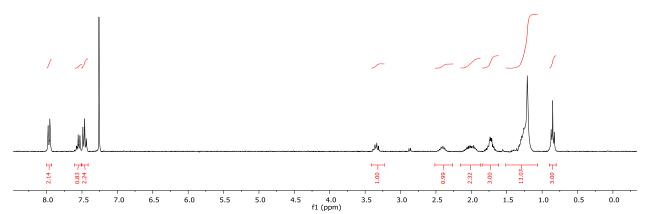


**Figure S66.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

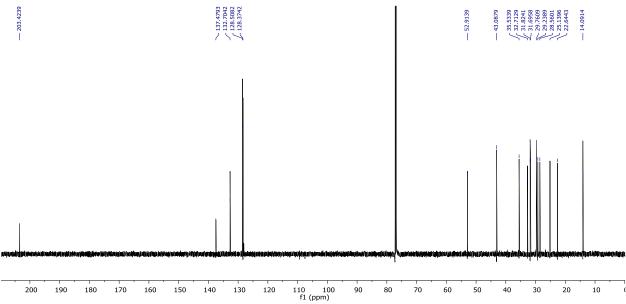


**Figure S67.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

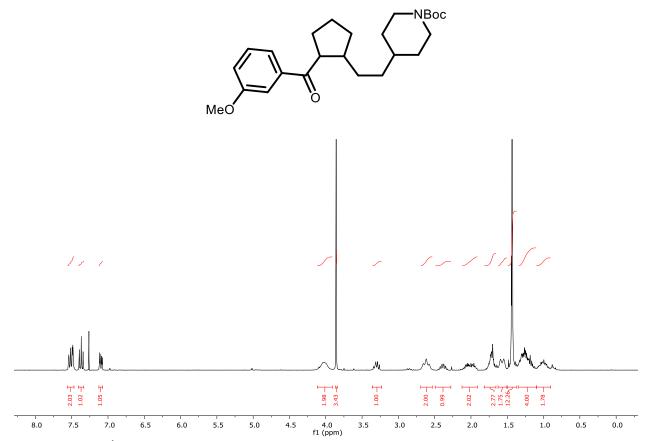




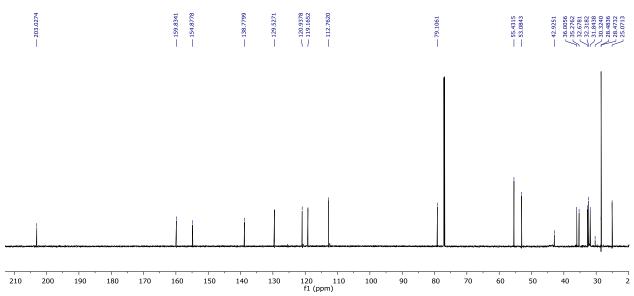
**Figure S68.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **15** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



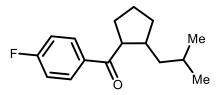
**Figure S69.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **15** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

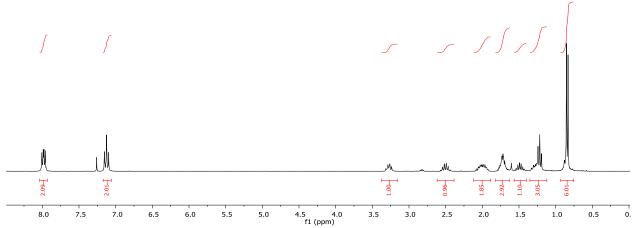


**Figure S70.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **16** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

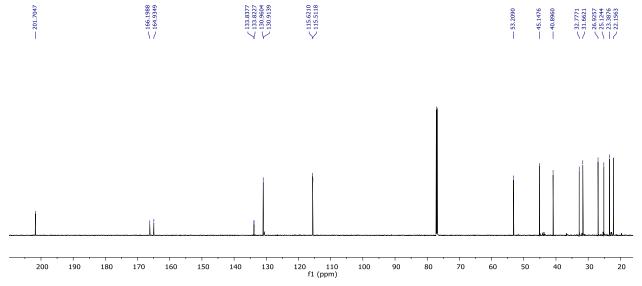


**Figure S71.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **16** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

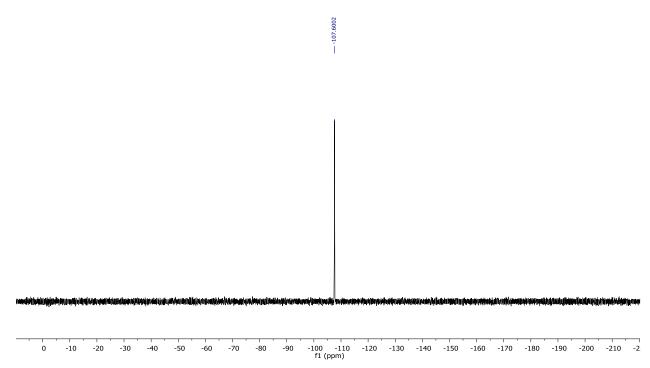




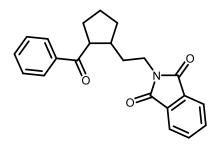
**Figure S72.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

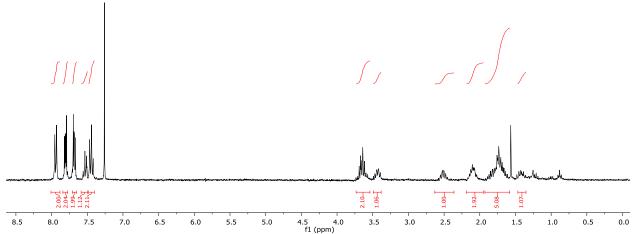


**Figure S73.**  $^{13}C\{^{1}H\}$  NMR of **17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

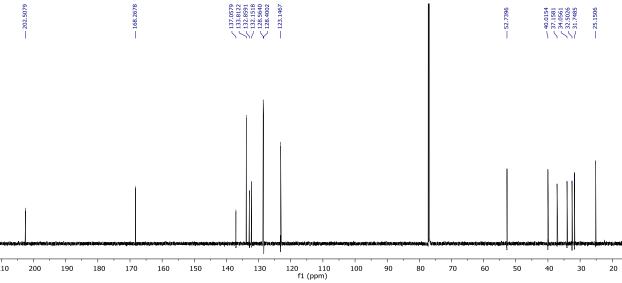


**Figure S74.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

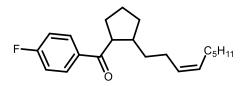


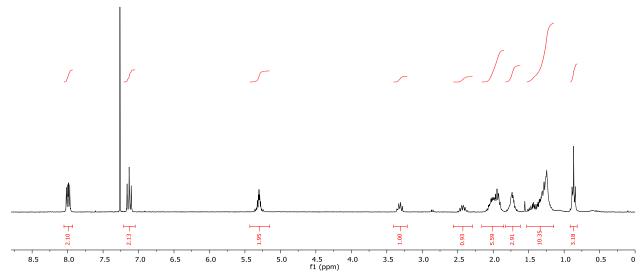


**Figure S75.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **18** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

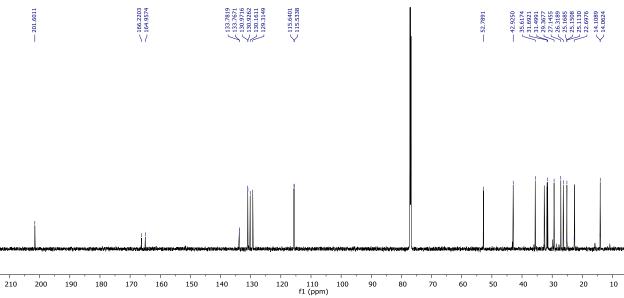


**Figure S76.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **18** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

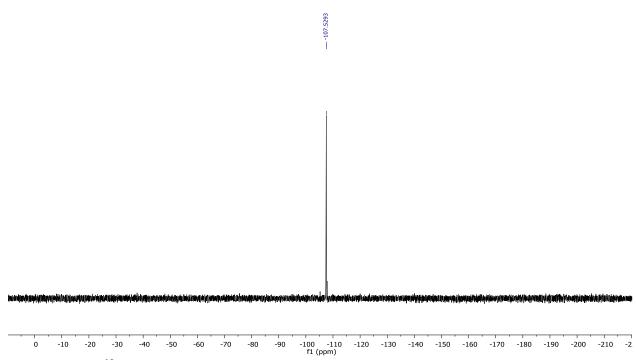




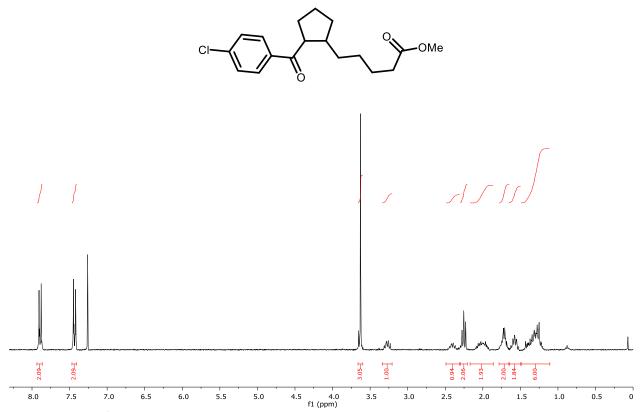
**Figure S77.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **19** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



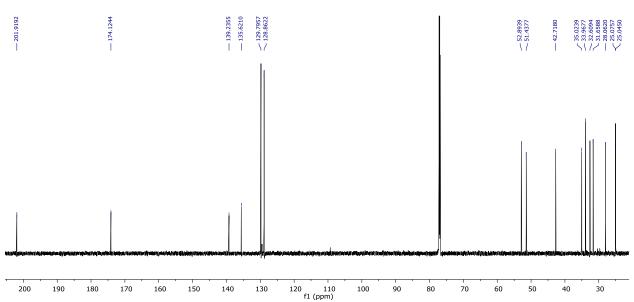
**Figure S78.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **19** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



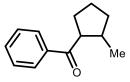
**Figure S79.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **19** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

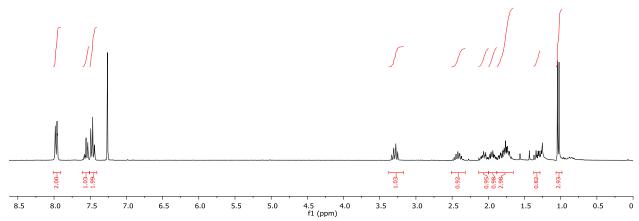


**Figure S80.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **20** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

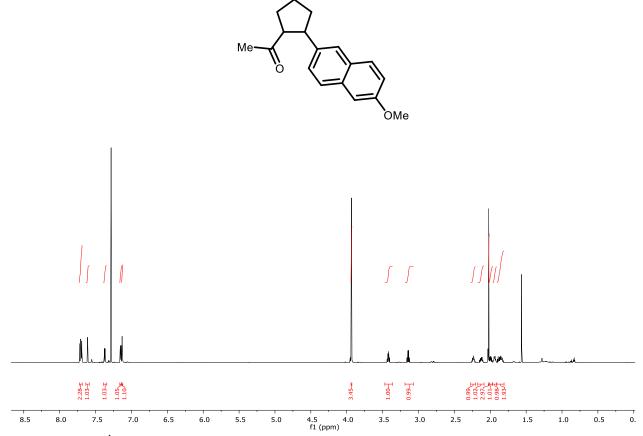


**Figure S81.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **20** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

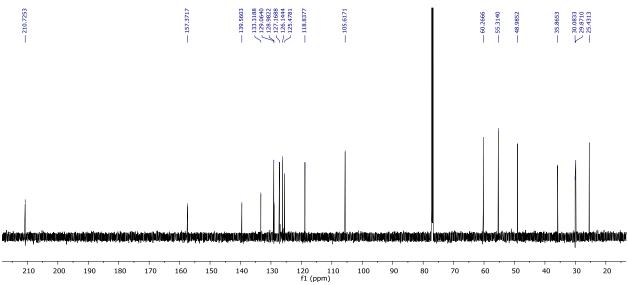




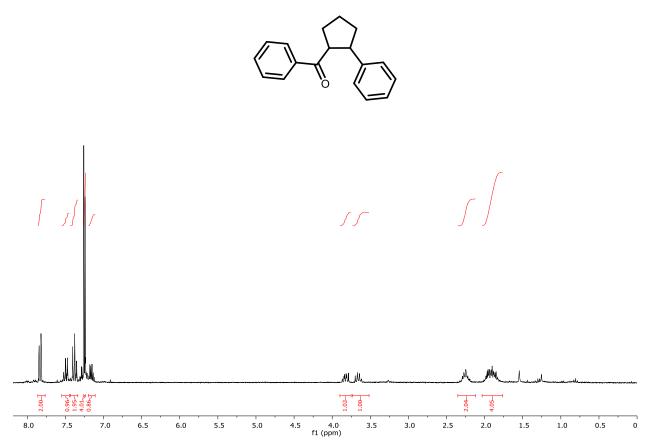
**Figure S82.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **21** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



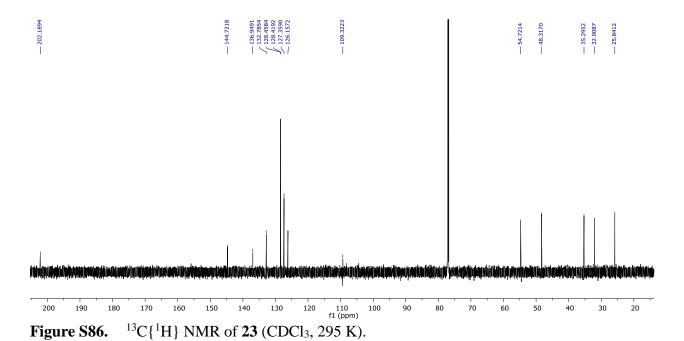
**Figure S83.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **22** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

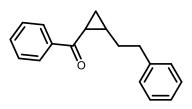


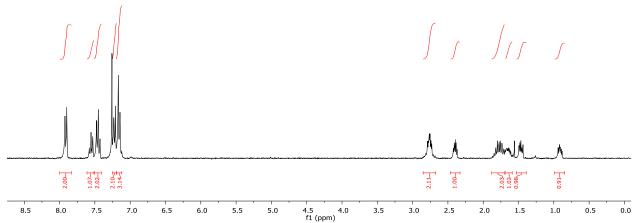
**Figure S84.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **22** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



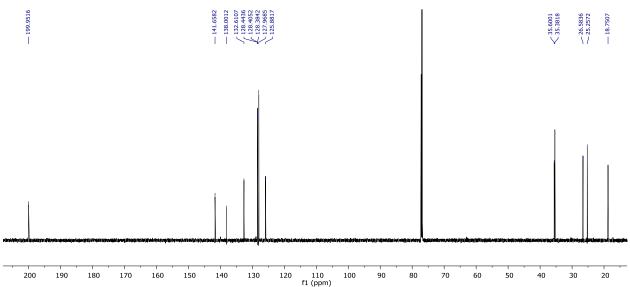
**Figure S85.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **23** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



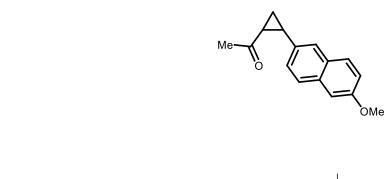


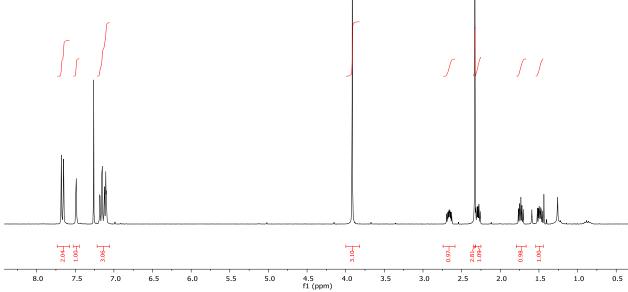


**Figure S87.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

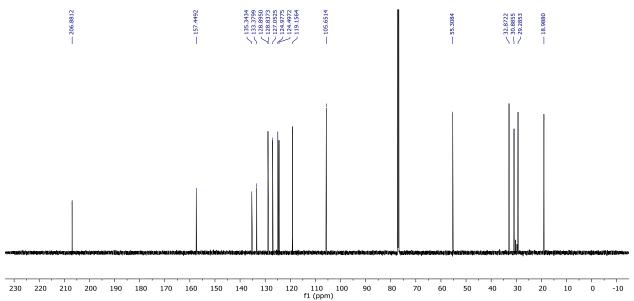


**Figure S88.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **2** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

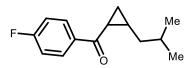


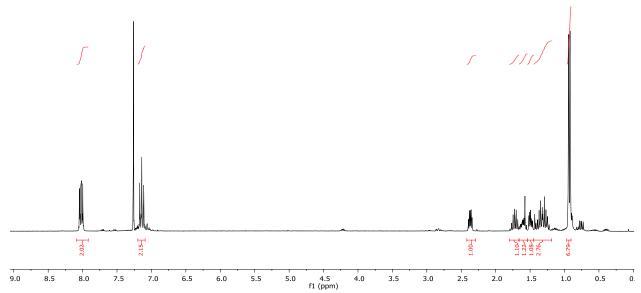


**Figure S89.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S16** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

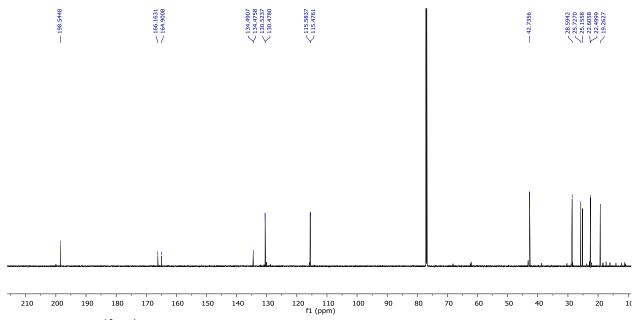


**Figure S90.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S16** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

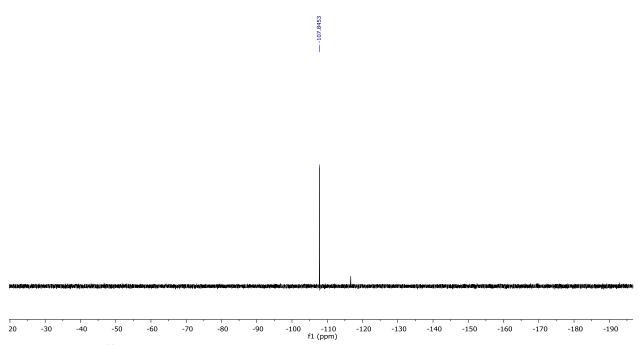




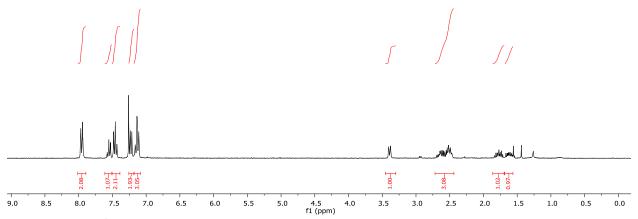
**Figure S91.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



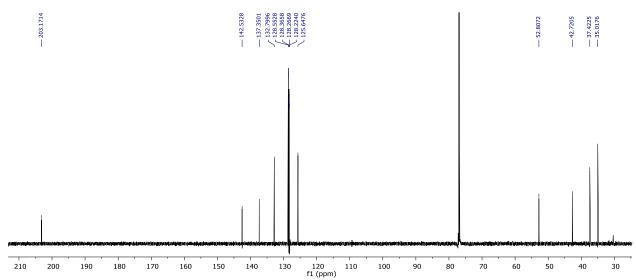
**Figure S92.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **S17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



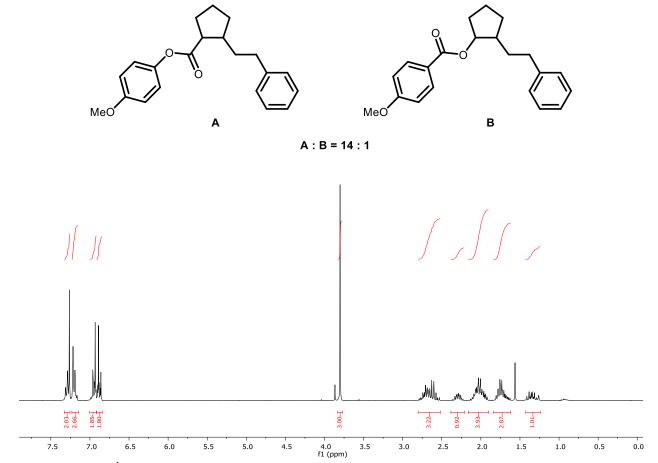
**Figure S93.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S17** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



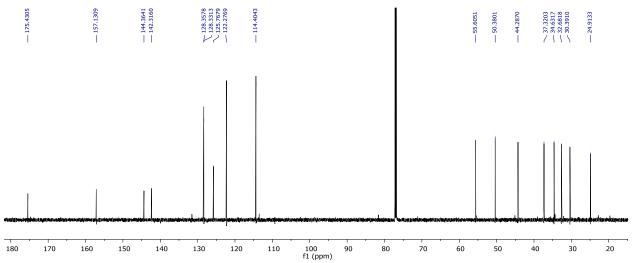
**Figure S94.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **3-***d*<sub>6</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



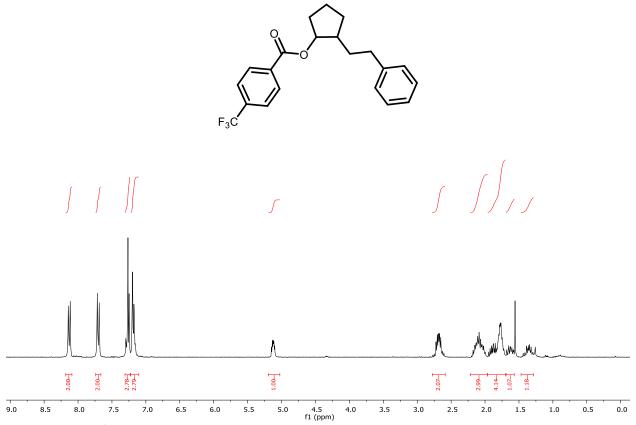
**Figure S95.**  ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$  NMR of **3-***d*<sub>6</sub> (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



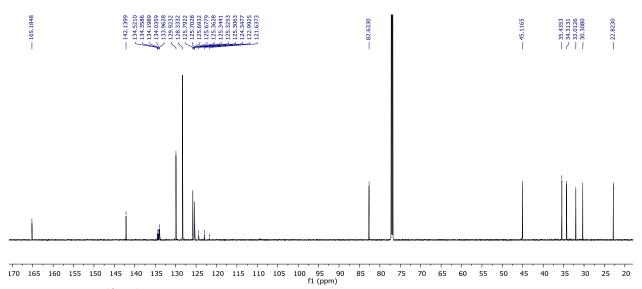
**Figure S96.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **24** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



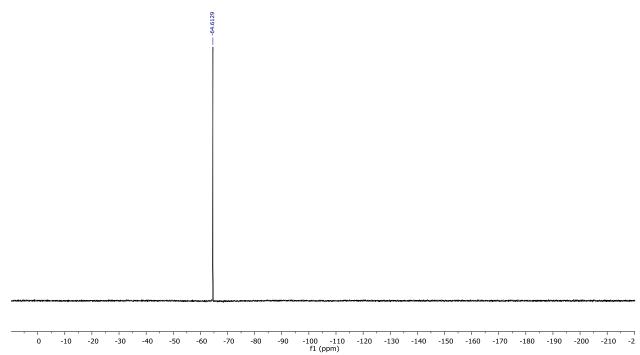
**Figure S97.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **24** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S98.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **25** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S99.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR of **25** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S100.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **25** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

# 13. IR Data for Enones and Cyclopentanes

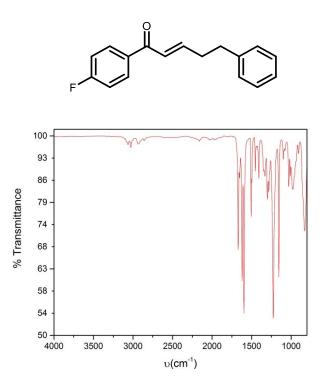


Figure S101. FT-IR of S1.

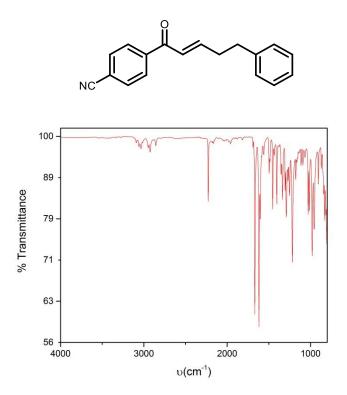


Figure S102. FT-IR of S2.

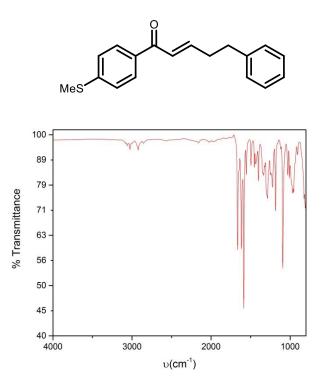


Figure S103. FT-IR of S3.

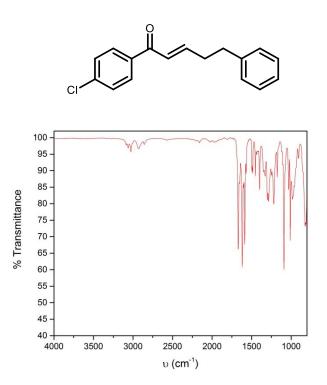


Figure S104. FT-IR of S4.

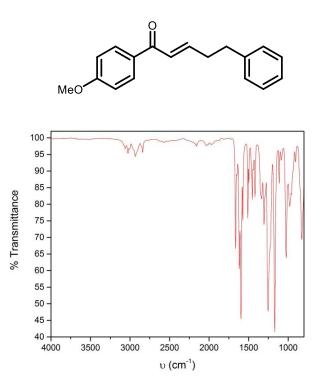


Figure S105. FT-IR of S5.

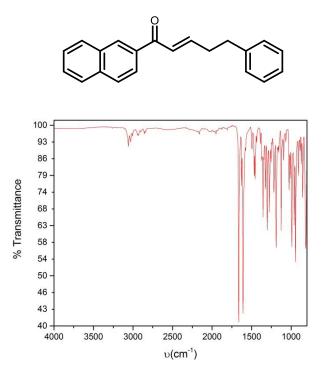


Figure S106. FT-IR of S6.

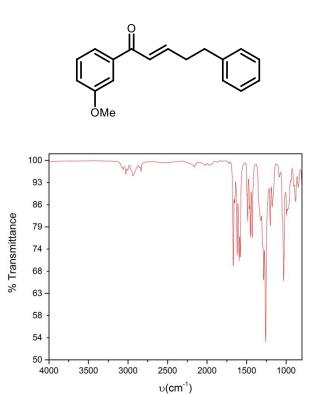


Figure S107. FT-IR of S7.

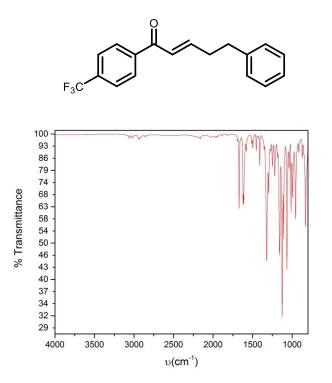


Figure S108. FT-IR of S8.

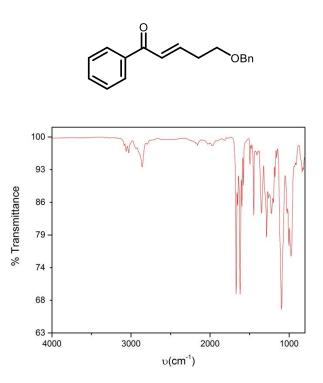


Figure S109. FT-IR of S9.

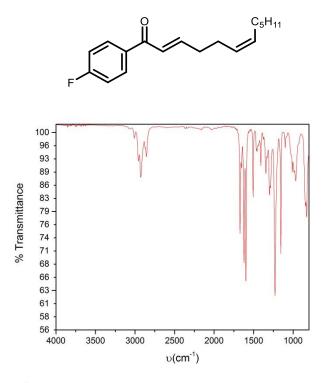


Figure S110. FT-IR of S10.

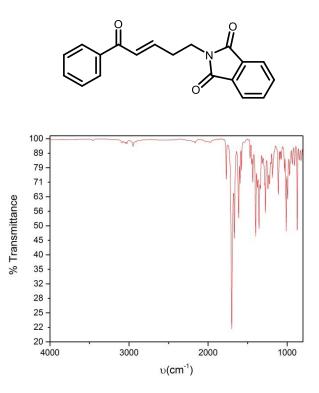


Figure S111. FT-IR of S11.

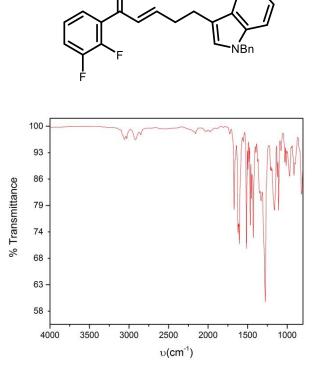


Figure S112. FT-IR of S12.

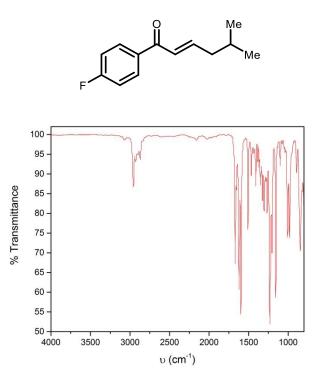


Figure S113. FT-IR of S13.

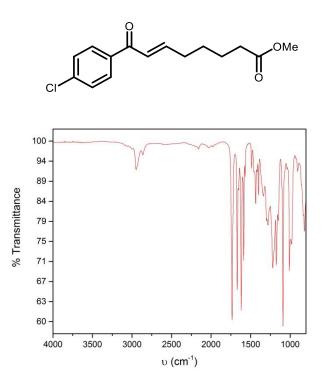
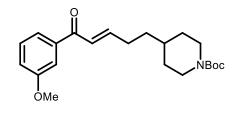


Figure S114. FT-IR of S14.



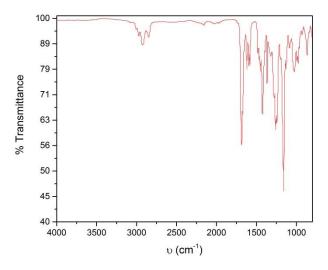
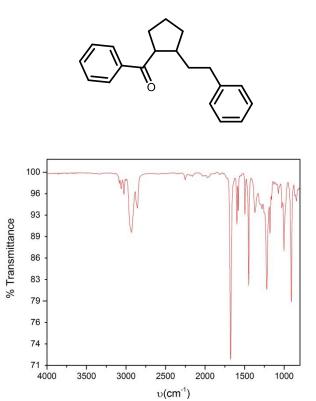


Figure S115. FT-IR of S15.



**Figure S116.** FT-IR of **3**.

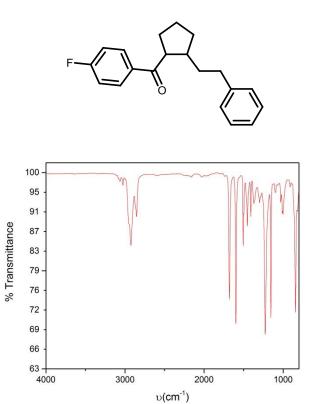
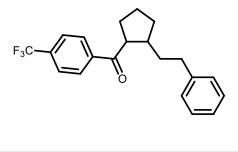


Figure S117. FT-IR of 5.



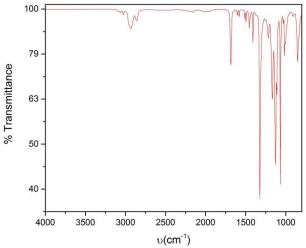
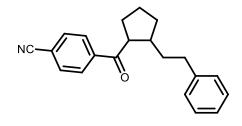
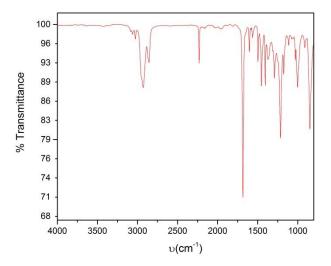


Figure S118. FT-IR of 6.





**Figure S119.** FT-IR of **7**.

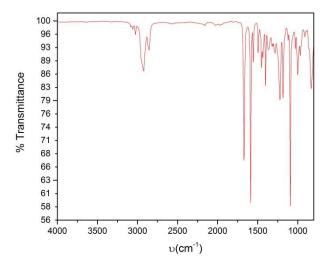
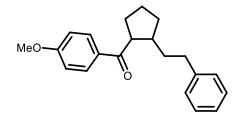


Figure S120. FT-IR of 8.



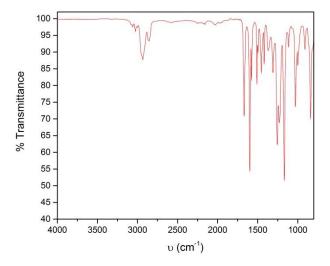


Figure S121. FT-IR of 9.

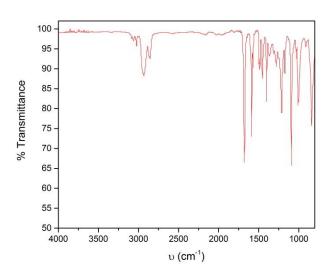
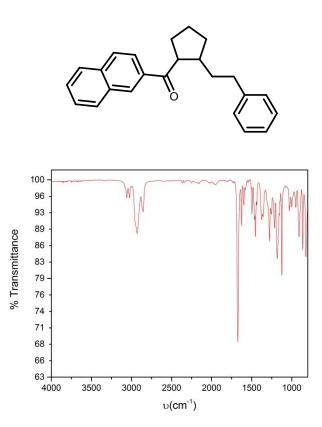


Figure S122. FT-IR of 10.



**Figure S123.** FT-IR of **11**.

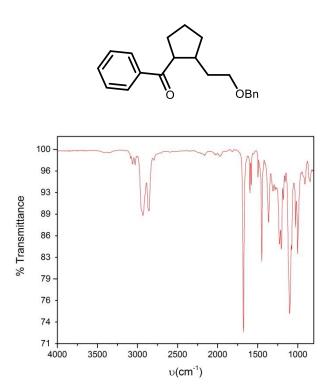
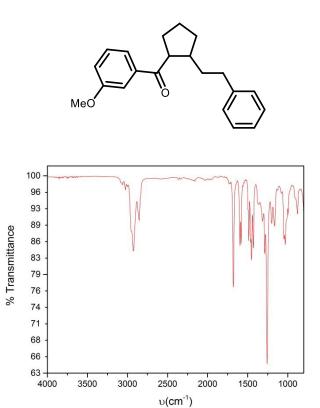
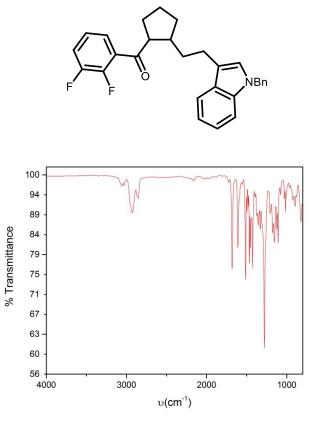


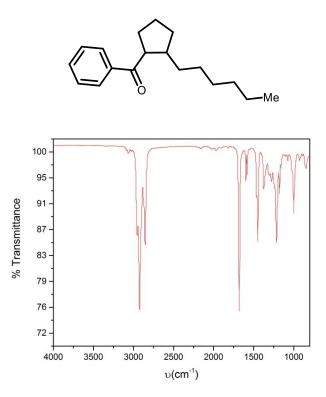
Figure S124. FT-IR of 12.



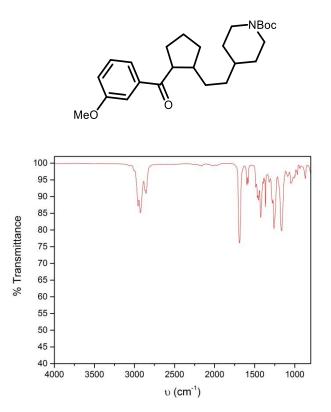
**Figure S125.** FT-IR of **13**.



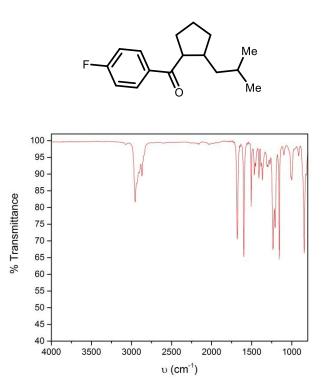
**Figure S126.** FT-IR of **14**.



**Figure S127.** FT-IR of **15**.



**Figure S128.** FT-IR of **16**.



**Figure S129.** FT-IR of **17**.

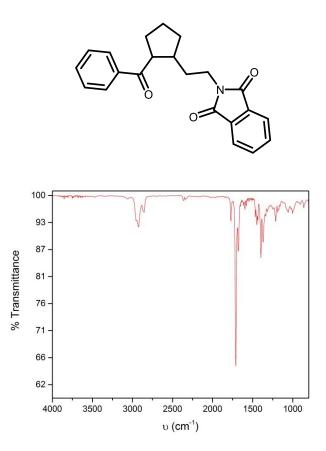
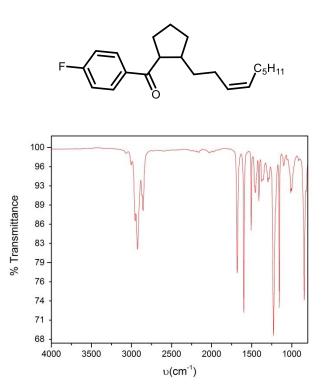
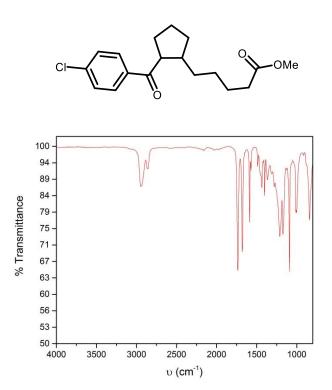


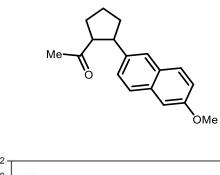
Figure S130. FT-IR of 18.

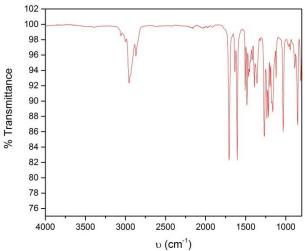


**Figure S131.** FT-IR of **19**.

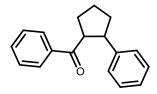


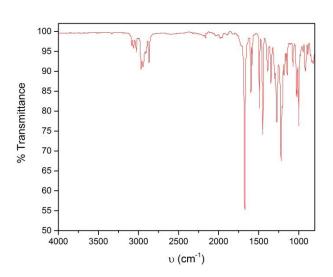
**Figure S132.** FT-IR of **20**.



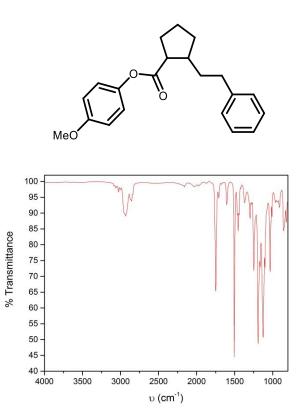


**Figure S133.** FT-IR of **22**.

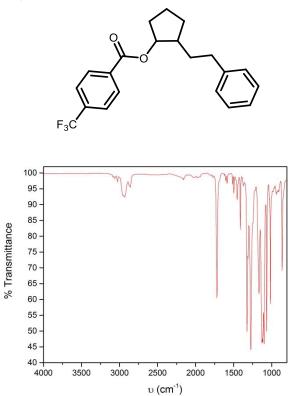




**Figure S134.** FT-IR of **23**.



**Figure S135.** FT-IR of **24**.



**Figure S136.** FT-IR of **25**.

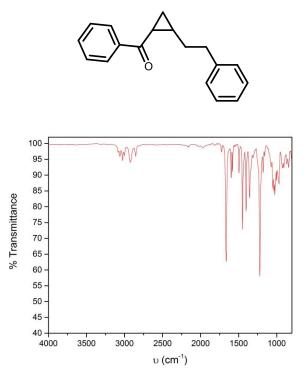
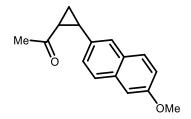


Figure S137. FT-IR of 2.



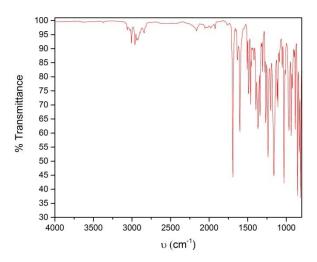


Figure S138. FT-IR of S16.

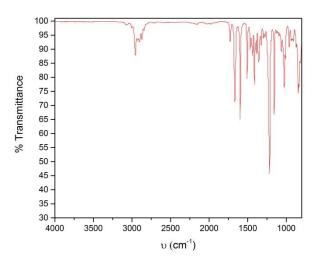
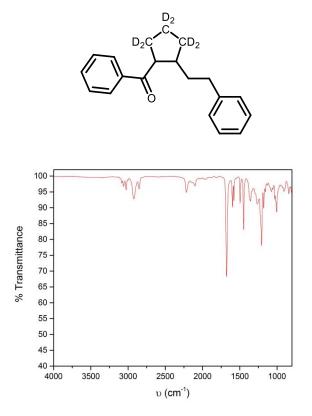
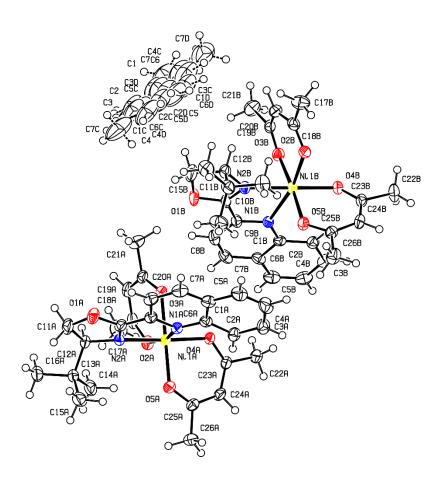


Figure S139. FT-IR of S17.



**Figure S140.** FT-IR of **3-***d*<sub>6</sub>.

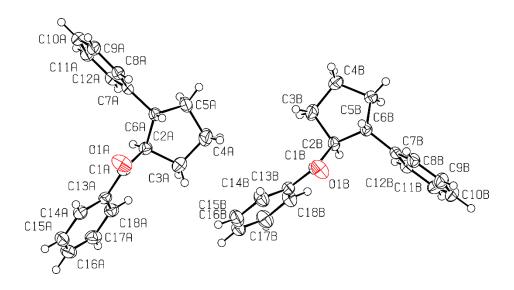
# 14. X-Ray Diffraction Data



**Compound 4** 

| Crystal data                |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Chemical formula            | C <sub>59</sub> H <sub>72</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>10</sub> |
| $M_{ m r}$                  | 1114.62  |
| Crystal system, space group | Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$   |
| Temperature (K)             | 150  |
| a, b, c (Å)                 | 8.8726 (5), 10.2560 (5), 32.4162 (17)  |
| α, β, γ (°)                 | 83.7260 (17), 82.6157 (18), 75.5173 (16)                                       |
| $V(Å^3)$                    | 2823.2 (3)   |
| Z                           | 2  |
| F(000)                      | 1180   |
| $D_x$ (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) | 1.311  |
| Radiation type              | Μο Κα  |
| No. of reflections for cell | 9434   |
| measurement                 |  |
| θ range (°) for cell        | 2.9–28.3   |

| measurement  |  |
|--|--|
| μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )  | 0.73   |
| Crystal shape  | Plate  |
| Colour   | Green  |
| Crystal size (mm)  | $0.19 \times 0.18 \times 0.05$   |
|  |  |
| Data collection  |  |
| Diffractometer   | Bruker AXS D8 Quest CMOS   |
|  | diffractometer   |
| Radiation source   | sealed tube X-ray source   |
| Monochromator  | Triumph curved graphite crystal  |
| Scan method  | ω and phi scans  |
| Absorption correction  | Multi-scan SADABS 2016/2: Krause, L., Herbst-Irmer, R., Sheldrick G.M. & Stalke D., J. Appl. Cryst. 48 (2015) 3-10 |
| $T_{ m min}$ , $T_{ m max}$  | 0.656, 0.746   |
| No. of measured, independent and observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ reflections | 37118, 13147, 10377  |
| Rint   | 0.039  |
| θ values (°)   | $\theta_{max} = 28.3,  \theta_{min} = 2.9$   |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\text{max}} (\mathring{A}^{-1})$                 | 0.668  |
| Range of h, k, l   | h = -11210, k = -13212, l = -43243   |
|  |  |
| Refinement   |  |
| Refinement on  | $F^2$  |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$                                      | 0.039, 0.089, 1.04   |
| No. of reflections   | 13147  |
| No. of parameters  | 787  |
| No. of restraints  | 568  |
| H-atom treatment   | H-atom parameters constrained  |
| Weighting scheme   | $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0222P)^2 + 2.0196P]$<br>where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$                                |
| $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}}$   | 0.002  |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} \text{ (e Å}^{-3})$  | 0.34, -0.41  |
| Extinction method  | SHELXL2018/3 (Sheldrick 2018), Fc*=kFc[1+0.001xFc <sup>2</sup> 23/sin(22)] <sup>-1/4</sup>                         |
| Extinction coefficient   | 0.0042 (3)   |



**Compound 23** 

| Crystal data                |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Chemical formula            | C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O           |  |
| $M_{\rm r}$                 | 250.32                                      |  |
| Crystal system, space       | Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$                  |  |
| group                       |   |  |
| Temperature (K)             | 150   |  |
| a, b, c (Å)                 | 5.6796 (6), 13.8004 (18), 17.618 (2)        |  |
| α, β, γ (°)                 | 98.691 (8), 91.838 (9), 93.043 (7)          |  |
| V (Å <sup>3</sup> )         | 1362.0 (3)                                  |  |
| Z                           | 4   |  |
| F(000)                      | 536   |  |
| $D_x$ (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> ) | 1.221                                       |  |
| Radiation type              | Cu <i>K</i> α                               |  |
| No. of reflections for cell | 9724  |  |
| measurement                 |   |  |
| θ range (°) for cell        | 2.5–80.3                                    |  |
| measurement                 |   |  |
| $\mu \text{ (mm}^{-1})$     | 0.57  |  |
| Crystal shape               | Fragment                                    |  |
| Colour                      | Colourless                                  |  |
| Crystal size (mm)           | $0.40 \times 0.23 \times 0.21$              |  |
|                             |   |  |
| Data collection             |   |  |
| Diffractometer              | Bruker AXS D8 Quest CMOS                    |  |
|                             | diffractometer                              |  |
| Radiation source            | I-mu-S microsource X-ray tube               |  |
| Monochromator               | Laterally graded multilayer (Goebel) mirror |  |
| Scan method                 | ω and phi scans                             |  |
| Absorption correction       | Multi-scan                                  |  |

|  | SADABS 2016/2: Krause, L., Herbst-Irmer, R., Sheldrick G.M. & Stalke D., J. Appl. |
|--|---|
|  | Cryst. 48 (2015) 3-10   |
| $T_{ m min}$ , $T_{ m max}$  | 0.474, 0.754  |
| No. of measured, independent and observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ reflections | 27448, 5832, 5311   |
| Rint   | 0.083   |
| θ values (°)   | $\theta_{max}=80.8,\theta_{min}=2.5$  |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{max} (\mathring{A}^{-1})$                        | 0.640   |
| Range of h, k, l   | $h = -7 \rightarrow 7, k = -16 \rightarrow 17, l = -22 \rightarrow 22$            |
|  |   |
| Refinement   |   |
| Refinement on  | $F^2$   |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$                                      | 0.051, 0.144, 1.06  |
| No. of reflections   | 5832  |
| No. of parameters  | 343   |
| No. of restraints  | 0   |
| H-atom treatment   | H-atom parameters constrained   |
| Weighting scheme   | $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0665P)^2 + 0.2621P]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$  |
| $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}}$   | < 0.001   |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} (e \text{ Å}^{-3})$  | 0.35, -0.26   |

# 15. References

- (1) Zhou, Y.-Y.; Hartline, D. R.; Steiman, T. J.; Fanwick, P. E.; Uyeda, C. *Inorg. Chem.* **2014**, 53 (21), 11770.
- (2) Krishnakumar, K. L.; Manju, R. Int. J. Pharm. Sci. Res. 2013, 4 (1), 392.
- (3) Soldatov, D. V; Henegouwen, A. T.; Enright, G. D.; Ratcliffe, C. I.; Ripmeester, J. A. *Inorg. Chem.* **2001**, *40* (7), 1626.
- (4) Bruker (2016). Apex3 v2016.9-0, Saint V8.34A, SAINT V8.37A, Bruker AXS Inc.: Madison (WI), USA, **2013/2014**.
- (5) SHELXTL suite of programs, Version 6.14, **2000-2003**, Bruker Advanced X-ray Solutions, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, Wisconsin: USA).
- (6) Sheldrick GM. Acta Crystallogr A. **2008**, 64 (1), 112–122.
- (7) Sheldrick GM. University of Göttingen, Germany, 2018.
- (8) Sheldrick GM. Acta. Crystallogr. Sect. C. Struct. Chem. 2015, 71 (1), 3–8.
- (9) Hübschle CB, Sheldrick GM, Dittrich B. J. Appl. Crystallogr. **2011**, 44 (6), 1281–1284.
- (10) Roque Peña, J. E.; Alexanian, E. J. Org. Lett. 2017, 19 (17), 4413.
- (11) Fridén-Saxin, M.; Pemberton, N.; da Silva Andersson, K.; Dyrager, C.; Friberg, A.; Grøtli, M.; Luthman, K. J. Org. Chem. 2009, 74 (7), 2755.
- (12) He, W.; Yip, K.-T.; Zhu, N.-Y.; Yang, D. Org. Lett. **2009**, 11 (24), 5626.
- (13) Paladhi, S.; Hwang, I.-S.; Yoo, E. J.; Ryu, D. H.; Song, C. E. Org. Lett. 2018, 20 (7), 2003.
- (14) Egi, M.; Yamaguchi, Y.; Fujiwara, N.; Akai, S. Org. Lett. 2008, 10 (9), 1867.
- (15) Paquette, L. A.; Maynard, G. D.; Ra, C. S.; Hoppe, M. J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54 (6), 1408.
- (16) Concellón, J. M.; Rodríguez-Solla, H.; Méjica, C. *Tetrahedron* **2006**, *62* (14), 3292.

# APPENDIX B. SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER 3

#### 1. General Information

General considerations. Solvents were degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, degassed, and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves. Liquid reagents were degassed and stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Zn powder (325 mesh, 99.9%) was purchased from Strem Chemicals, stored under inert atmosphere, and used without further purification. The [iprNDI]Ni2(C6H6) complex was prepared according to a previously reported procedure. The (±)-t-Bu-Quinox ligand was prepared according to a previously reported procedure. Unless otherwise noted, all 1,1-dichloroalkenes were prepared according to previously reported procedures. All other reagents and starting materials were purchased from commercial vendors and used without further purification unless otherwise noted.

**Physical methods.** <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were collected at room temperature on a Varian INOVA 300 MHz or a Bruker AV-III-800 NMR spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra are reported in parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane, using the residual solvent resonances as an internal standard. High-resolution mass data were obtained using a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer or a Thermo Electron Corporation MAT 95XP-Trap mass spectrometer. ATR-IR data were collected on a Thermo Scientific Nicolet Nexus spectrometer containing a MCT\* detector and KBr beam splitter with a range of 350–7400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Optical rotation data for **29** and **30** were obtained at room temperature using a Rudolph Autopol III S2 Polarimeter.

**X-Ray Crystallography.** Data were collected, reflections were indexed and processed, and the files scaled and corrected for absorption using APEX3.<sup>5</sup> The space groups were assigned and the structures were solved by direct methods using XPREP within the SHELXTL suite of programs<sup>6,7</sup> and refined by full matrix least squares against F<sup>2</sup> with all reflections using Shelxl2018<sup>8</sup> using the graphical interface Shelxle.<sup>9</sup> If not specified otherwise H atoms attached to carbon, boron and nitrogen atoms as well as hydroxyl hydrogens were positioned geometrically

and constrained to ride on their parent atoms. C-H bond distances were constrained to 0.95 Å for aromatic and alkene C-H and CH<sub>2</sub> and alkyne C-H moieties, and to 1.00, 0.99 and 0.98 Å for aliphatic C-H, CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub> moieties, respectively. Methyl H atoms were allowed to rotate but not to tip to best fit the experimental electron density. U<sub>iso</sub>(H) values were set to a multiple of U<sub>eq</sub>(C) with 1.5 for CH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> and OH, and 1.2 for C-H, CH<sub>2</sub>, B-H, N-H and NH<sub>2</sub> units, respectively. Additional data collection and refinement details, including description of disorder (where present) can be found in the Supporting Information. Complete crystallographic data, in CIF format, have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. CCDC 1973505–1973507 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.

# **Bruker Quest with Mo radiation:**

Single crystals of **6** and **49** were coated with Fomblin oil and quickly transferred to the goniometer head of a Bruker Quest diffractometer with a fixed chi angle, a sealed tube fine focus X-ray tube, single crystal curved graphite incident beam monochromator, a Photon100 CMOS area detector and an Oxford Cryosystems low temperature device. Examination and data collection were performed with Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) at 150 K.

# Bruker Quest with Cu radiation:

Single crystals of **30** were coated with Fomblin oil and quickly transferred to the goniometer head of a Bruker Quest diffractometer with kappa geometry, an I- $\mu$ -S microsource X-ray tube, laterally graded multilayer (Goebel) mirror single crystal for monochromatization, a Photon-II CMOS area detector and an Oxford Cryosystems low temperature device. Examination and data collection were performed with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 1.54178 Å) at 150 K.

#### 2. Reaction Optimization Studies

Initial detection of the [5 + 1]-product. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with [<sup>iPr</sup>NDI]Ni<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) (3.6 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), vinylcyclopropane (20.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.8 mL) and DMA (0.1 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad, concentrated, and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

General Procedure for ligand comparison study. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), the ligand (0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) dissolved in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere,

and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad, concentrated, and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

| Entry | Ligand | Conversion of 2 | Yield 6 | E/Z Ratio of <b>6</b> |
|-------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|
| 1     | L1     | > 99%           | 94%     | > 20 : 1              |
| 2     | L2     | > 99%           | 83%     | > 20 : 1              |
| 3     | L3     | > 99%           | 15%     | > 20 : 1              |
| 4     | L4     | 11%             | 0%      | N/A                   |
| 5     | L5     | 10%             | 0%      | N/A                   |
| 6     | L6     | 22%             | 0%      | N/A                   |
| 7     | L7     | 55%             | 0%      | N/A                   |
| 8     | L8     | 29%             | 7%      | > 20 : 1              |

General Procedure for standard condition comparison study. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with the metal source (0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (1.52 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), the reductant (0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of the 1,1-dihaloalkene (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), the vinylcyclopropane, and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) dissolved in DMA (0.75

mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad, concentrated, and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

| Entry | Deviation from Standard Conditions   | Yield 6 | E/Z of <b>6</b> |
|-------|--|---------|-----------------|
| 1     | none   | 97%     | >20:1           |
| 2     | 3.0 equiv Mn instead of Zn   | 93%     | >20:1           |
| 3     | 3.0 equiv TDAE instead of Zn   | < 1%    | NA              |
| 4     | 7 instead of 2   | 15%     | >20:1           |
| 5     | Ni(DME)Br <sub>2</sub> or Fe(DME)Br <sub>2</sub> instead of Co(DME)Br <sub>2</sub> | < 1%    | NA              |
| 6     | 1.5 equiv of <b>5</b>  | 42%     | >20:1           |
| 7     | 1.5 equiv of <b>6</b> at 60 °C instead of rt                                       | 73%     | >20:1           |
| 8     | No (±)-t-Bu-Quinox   | < 1%    | NA              |
| 9     | No Zn  | < 1%    | NA              |
| 10    | 3.0 equiv Cp <sub>2</sub> Co instead of Zn   | < 1%    | NA              |
| 11    | 3.0 equiv Cp <sub>2</sub> Co and 5.0 equiv ZnCl <sub>2</sub> instead of Zn         | 63%     | >20:1           |

### 3. Synthesis and Characterization of Vinylcyclopropane Substrates

General procedure A: synthesis of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones from aldehydes. A round-bottom flask was charged with a stir bar, the Wittig reagent (1.5 equiv), the aldehyde (1.0 equiv), and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (0.5 M). The mixture was heated at reflux. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

General procedure B: synthesis of *trans*-cyclopropylketones from  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones. A flame-dried round bottom flask was charged with solid NaH (60% in mineral oil, 1.2 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.2 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. The flask was placed under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, and DMSO (0.35 M) was added dropwise with stirring. After hydrogen evolution ceased, the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 15 min, during which time the solution became clear. The  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketone (1.0 equiv) was added by syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature. After 16 h, the reaction was quenched with water, and the mixture was extracted 3x with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

General procedure C: synthesis of *trans*-vinylcyclopropanes from *trans*-cyclopropylketones. A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with a stir bar, MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (1.5 equiv), and THF (~ 0.2 M). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, followed by dropwise addition of *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. A solution of the *trans*-cyclopropylketone in THF (1 mL) was added dropwise, and the reaction was then warmed to room temperature and stirred. After 2 h, the reaction was quenched with a saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted 3x with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic

layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

(1-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (S1). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using (2-phenethylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone<sup>2</sup> (1.06 g, 4.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (2.25 g, 6.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 2.52 mL, 6.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (25 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (100% hexanes) to provide (1-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (949 mg, 91% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 2.77 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.01 – 1.74 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.50 – 1.39 (m, 1H), 1.08 – 0.91 (m, 1H), 0.88 – 0.76 (m, 1H), 0.73 – 0.59 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.3, 142.3, 141.9, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.4, 126.2, 125.7, 108.9, 36.3, 35.8, 23.4, 21.1, 14.0.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{20}$ : 249.1638; found: 249.1643 TLC:  $R_f = 0.72$  (100% hexanes)

tert-butyl (E)-4-(4-oxo-4-phenylbut-2-en-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (S2). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure A without modification using tert-butyl 4-(2-oxoethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (1.0 g, 4.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (2.34 g, 6.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL). The product was

purified by column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide *tert*-butyl (*E*)-4-(4-oxo-4-phenylbut-2-en-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (1.35 g, 93% yield) as an orange solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (dt, J = 14.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (br s, 2H), 2.69 (t, J = 12.7 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 3H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.33 – 0.98 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.5, 154.8, 147.3, 137.8, 132.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.4, 79.4, 41.0, 39.8, 35.8, 32.0, 28.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{27}NO_3$ : 352.1883; found: 352.1887 TLC:  $R_f = 0.21$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

tert-butyl 4-((2-benzoylcyclopropyl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (S3). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure B without modification using S2 (1.35 g, 4.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.08 g, 4.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv), NaH (60% in mineral oil, 196 mg, 1.2 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide tert-butyl 4-((2-benzoylcyclopropyl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (741 mg, 53% yield) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (br s, 2H), 2.66 (t, J = 12.9 Hz, 2H), 2.51 – 2.35 (m, 1H), 1.80 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.38 – 1.01 (m, 3H), 1.00 – 0.79 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 199.9, 154.8, 137.9, 132.7, 128.5, 128.0, 79.2, 40.4, 36.5, 32.1, 28.5, 25.6, 25.1, 24.5, 19.2.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{29}NO_3$ : 344.2220; found: 344.2222 TLC:  $R_f = 0.27$  (15%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes)

$$\frac{\text{MePPh}_3\text{Br}}{\text{nBuLi}}$$

$$\frac{n\text{BuLi}}{\text{THF, 0 °C to rt}}$$

tert-butyl 4-((2-benzoylcyclopropyl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (S4). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using S3 (741 mg, 2.16 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (1.14 g, 3.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and nBuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 1.3 mL, 3.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (10 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide tert-butyl 4-((2-benzoylcyclopropyl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (448 mg, 61% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 2.67 (s, 2H), 1.71 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 2H), 1.62 – 1.49 (m, 2H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.41 – 1.34 (m, 1H), 1.25 – 1.18 (m, 1H), 1.18 – 1.05 (m, 2H), 0.98 – 0.92 (m, 1H), 0.84 – 0.76 (m, 1H), 0.69 – 0.56 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{¹H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.9, 149.4, 141.8, 128.2, 127.4, 126.1, 108.8, 79.2, 41.2, 36.7, 32.2, 28.5, 23.3, 18.9, 14.3.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{31}NO_2$ : 342.2428; found: 342.2426 TLC:  $R_f = 0.16$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-5-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (S5). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure A without modification using 3-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)propanal (1.4 g, 10.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (5.7 g, 15.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (20%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes) to provide (*E*)-5-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one (2.06 g, 84% yield) as an orange oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (dt, J = 15.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.73 – 2.56 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.9, 152.6, 150.6, 148.2, 137.9, 132.7, 128.6, 128.5, 126.6, 106.1, 106.0, 31.4, 26.8, 13.5.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{16}O_2$ : 241.1223; found: 241.1220 TLC:  $R_f = 0.29$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(2-(2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)ethyl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (S6). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure B without modification using S5 (2.06 g, 8.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (2.14 g, 9.71 mmol, 1.2 equiv), NaH (60% in mineral oil, 389 mg, 1.2 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide (2-(2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)ethyl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (1.02 g, 50% yield) as a light yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.96 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 5.81 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.48 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.90 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.58 (m, 1H), 1.53 – 1.40 (m, 1H), 1.02 – 0.85 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 199.9, 153.4, 150.3, 138.0, 132.6, 128.4, 128.0, 105.9, 105.8, 32.2, 27.8, 26.4, 25.0, 18.7, 13.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{18}O_2$ : 255.1380; found: 255.1382 TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{MePPh}_3\text{Br} \\ \text{nBuLi} \\ \text{THF, 0 °C to rt} \\ \text{2 h} \end{array}$$

**2-methyl-5-(2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)furan (S7).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using **S6** (1.02 g, 4.01 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (2.15 g, 6.01 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 2.4 mL, 6.01 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (20 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (100% hexanes) to provide 2-methyl-5-(2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)furan (403 mg, 42% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 5.92 – 5.80 (m, 2H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 2.72 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.98 – 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.72 – 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.50 – 1.34 (m, 1H), 1.08 – 0.90 (m, 1H), 0.88 – 0.73 (m, 1H), 0.71 – 0.58 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{¹H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.2, 150.2, 149.3, 141.8, 128.2, 127.4, 126.2, 109.0, 105.8, 105.4, 33.1, 28.0, 23.4, 21.0, 13.8, 13.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}O$ : 253.1587; found: 253.1585 TLC:  $R_f = 0.47$  (100% hexanes)

**2-(2-(2-benzoylcyclopropyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione** (**S8).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure B without modification using (*E*)-2-(5-oxo-5-phenylpent-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione<sup>2</sup> (1.16 g, 3.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv), NaH (60% in mineral oil, 182 mg, 1.2 equiv). The product was purified by

column chromatography (30% EtOAc in hexanes) to provide 2-(2-(2-benzoylcyclopropyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (424 mg, 35% yield) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.56 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 1.95 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.53 – 1.34 (m, 1H), 1.02 – 0.84 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 199.3, 168.2, 137.8, 133.9, 132.6, 132.0, 128.4, 127.9, 123.2, 37.5, 32.0, 24.5, 23.7, 18.2.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{17}NO_3$ : 320.1281; found: 320.1284 TLC:  $R_f = 0.21$  (30% EtOAc in hexanes)

**2-(2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (S9).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using **S8** (587 mg, 1.84 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (986 mg, 2.76 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 1.1 mL, 2.76 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (20 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (15% EtOAc in hexanes) to provide 2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (84 mg, 14% yield) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.89 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.76 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.83 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.08 – 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.65 – 1.56 (m, 1H), 1.51 – 1.35 (m, 1H), 1.09 – 0.87 (m, 1H), 0.83 – 0.72 (m, 1H), 0.72 – 0.59 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 148.7, 141.5, 133.9, 132.2, 128.1, 127.4, 126.1, 123.2, 109.3, 37.8, 32.8, 23.0, 18.3, 13.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{19}NO_2$ : 318.1489; found: 318.1487 TLC:  $R_f = 0.25$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(2*E*,6*Z*)-1-phenyldodeca-2,6-dien-1-one (S10). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure A without modification using *cis*-4-decenal (1.0 g, 6.48 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and phenacyltriphenylphosphorane (3.7 g, 9.72 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide (2*E*,6*Z*)-1-phenyldodeca-2,6-dien-1-one (1.50 g, 90% yield) as yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (dt, J = 15.5, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 5.54 – 5.26 (m, 2H), 2.47 – 2.32 (m, 2H), 2.32 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 2.03 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.42 – 1.19 (m, 6H), 0.95 – 0.80 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.9, 149.2, 138.0, 132.6, 131.4, 128.5, 128.5, 127.8, 126.2, 32.9, 31.5, 29.3, 27.3, 25.9, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{24}O$ : 256.1807; found: 256.1814 TLC:  $R_f = 0.39$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(**Z**)-(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (S11). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure B without modification using S10 (1.5 g, 5.85 mmol, 1.0 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.55 g, 7.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv), NaH (60% in mineral oil, 182 mg, 1.2 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to

provide (Z)-(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (778 mg, 49% yield) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 5.45 – 5.31 (m, 2H), 2.53 – 2.38 (m, 1H), 2.24 – 2.08 (m, 2H), 2.05 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.55 – 1.38 (m, 3H), 1.35 – 1.17 (m, 6H), 0.99 – 0.90 (m, 1H), 0.90 – 0.81 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 200.0, 138.1, 132.6, 130.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 33.8, 31.5, 29.4, 27.2, 26.9, 26.9, 25.2, 22.6, 18.9, 14.1.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{26}O$ : 271.2056; found: 271.2063 TLC:  $R_f = 0.43$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

$$\begin{array}{c} C_5H_{11} \\ \\ \hline \\ O \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ THF, \ 0 \ ^\circ C \ to \ rt \\ 2 \ h \\ \end{array}$$

(*Z*)-(1-(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (*S*12). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using *S*11 (778 mg, 2.87 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (1.54 g, 4.30 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 1.7 mL, 4.30 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (30 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (100% hexanes) to provide (*Z*)-(1-(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (473 mg, 61% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 5.49 – 5.33 (m, 2H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 2.32 – 2.12 (m, 2H), 2.12 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.53 (m, 1H), 1.50 – 1.24 (m, 9H), 1.03 – 0.88 (m, 3H), 0.86 – 0.76 (m, 1H), 0.74 – 0.57 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.5, 141.9, 130.3, 129.3, 128.1, 127.4, 126.1, 108.7, 34.5, 31.6, 29.5, 27.2, 27.1, 23.4, 22.6, 21.3, 14.1, 13.9.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{28}$ : 269.2264; found: 269.2262 TLC:  $R_f = 0.84$  (100% hexanes)

(2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (S13). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure B without modification using (E)-5-(benzyloxy)-1-phenylpent-2-en-1-one<sup>2</sup> (613 mg, 2.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv), trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (608 g, 2.76 mmol, 1.2 equiv), NaH (60% in mineral oil, 110 mg, 1.2 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide (2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (323 mg, 50% yield) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 3.58 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.64 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 1.96 – 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.77 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.56 – 1.43 (m, 1H), 1.04 – 0.85 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 200.0, 138.4, 138.0, 132.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.0, 127.6, 127.5, 73.1, 69.8, 33.7, 25.0, 24.2, 18.2.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{20}O_2$ : 281.1536; found: 281.1538 TLC:  $R_f = 0.22$  (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 & \text{MePPh}_3\text{Br} \\
 & \text{nBuLi} \\
\hline
 & \text{THF, 0 °C to rt} \\
 & 2 \text{ h}
\end{array}$$

(1-(2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (S14). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using S13 (322 mg, 1.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (616 mg, 1.73 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and *n*BuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 0.7 mL, 1.73 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (10 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide (1-(2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (209 mg, 65% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (m, 8H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.62 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.95 – 1.78 (m, 1H), 1.74 – 1.60 (m, 1H), 1.52 – 1.44 (m, 1H), 1.15 – 1.00 (m, 1H), 0.91 – 0.77 (m, 1H), 0.74 – 0.64 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.2, 141.8, 138.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 126.2, 109.1, 73.0, 70.2, 34.4, 23.1, 18.4, 13.6.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{22}O$ : 279.1743; found: 279.1742 TLC:  $R_f = 0.67$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br

$$nBuLi$$

THF, 0 °C to rt

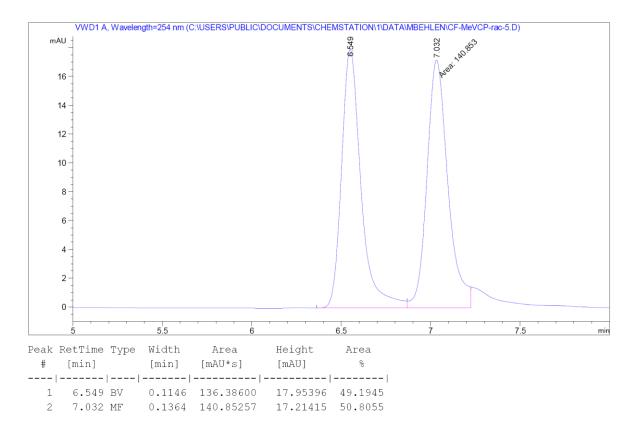
2 h

> 99% ee

> 99% ee

(1-((1R,2R)-2-methylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (29). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure C without modification using ((1R,2R)-2-methylcyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone<sup>10</sup> (1.9 g, 11.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv), MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (6.40 g, 17.9 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and nBuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 7.16 mL, 17.9 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (50 mL). The product was purified by column chromatography (100% hexanes) to provide (1-((1R,2R)-2-methylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (786 mg, 42% yield) as a clear, colorless oil. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>23</sup> = +71.8° (c 0.204, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Spectroscopic and mass spectrometry data were identical to those of the racemic product.<sup>11</sup>

HPLC: Chiralpak® OD-H column (100% hexane, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm) tr = 6.54 min (minor), 7.22 min (major): 1: >99 er.



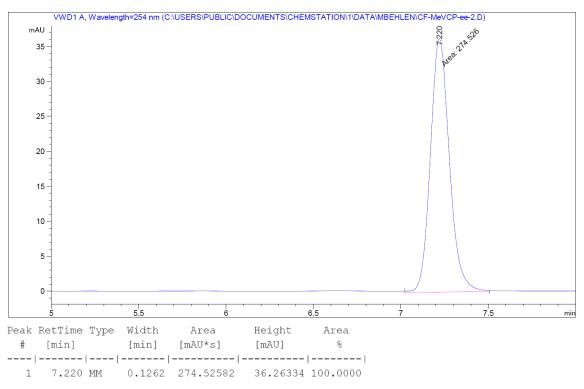


Figure S1. HPLC data for 29. (racemate, top; 29, bottom).

#### 4. Synthesis and Characterization of Vinylidene Substrates

General procedure for the synthesis of 1,1-dichlorolakenes from aldehydes. Under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, a round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Ph<sub>3</sub>P (4.0 equiv) and MeCN (5 mL/mmol). With stirring, a solution of the aldehyde (1.0 equiv) and CCl<sub>4</sub> (2.0 equiv) in MeCN (2 mL/mmol) was added dropwise over 1 h. Following addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL). The crude reaction mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

methyl 6,6-dichlorohex-5-enoate (S15). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 5-oxopentanoate (1.8 g, 13.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), triphenylphosphine (14.5 g, 55.3 mmol, 4.0 equiv), and CCl<sub>4</sub> (4.26 g, 2.69 mL, 27.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to provide methyl 6,6-dichlorohex-5-enoate (1.19 g, 44% yield) as a clear, colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.84 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.22 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.85 – 1.65 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.4, 128.6, 120.9, 51.6, 33.1, 28.8, 23.3.

 $HRMS(APCI) \ (m/z); \ [M+H]^+ \ Calcd \ for \ C_7H_{10}Cl_2O_2; \ 197.0131; \ found: \ 197.0129$ 

TLC:  $R_f = 0.29$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

N-(4,4-dichlorobut-3-en-1-yl)-N,4-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (S16). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using N,4-dimethyl-N-(3-

oxopropyl)benzenesulfonamide<sup>12</sup> (1.89 g, 7.83 mmol, 1.0 equiv), triphenylphosphine (8.22 g, 31.3 mmol, 4.0 equiv), and CCl<sub>4</sub> (2.41 g, 0.89 mL, 15.7 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The product was purified by column chromatography (30% EtOAc in hexanes) to provide N-(4,4-dichlorobut-3-en-1-yl)-N,4-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (869 mg, 36% yield) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.67 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.49 – 2.34 (m, 5H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.4, 134.4, 129.7, 127.3, 125.8, 122.2, 48.2, 34.7, 28.2, 21.4.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{12}H_{15}Cl_2NO_2S$ : 308.0273; found: 308.0271 TLC:  $R_f = 0.15$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

## 5. Substrate Scope Studies and Product Characterization

General Procedure for the [5 + 1]-Cycloaddition Reaction. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.54 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (1.52 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of the 1,1-dichloroalkene (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and the vinylcyclopropane (0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) dissolved in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

(*E*)-1-(cyclohex-3-en-1-ylidenemethyl)-4-methoxybenzene (3). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and vinylcyclopropane (20.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

14.1 mg isolated (70% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.16 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.81 – 5.65 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.89 (s, 2H), 2.55 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.25 – 2.10 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.7, 137.9, 130.5, 129.8, 126.8, 126.6, 122.1, 113.4, 55.1, 35.6, 27.1, 25.8.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{16}O$ : 201.1274; found: 201.1272 TLC:  $R_f = 0.51$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (6). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes). Single crystals of 6 suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by evaporation of a saturated Et<sub>2</sub>O solution at room temperature.

25.9 mg isolated (94% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.26 – 6.11 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.43 – 2.30 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{¹H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 141.5, 137.8, 136.4, 130.6, 129.9, 128.3, 126.9, 125.1, 124.2, 122.8, 113.6, 55.3, 37.9, 27.5, 25.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O: 277.1587; found: 277.1589

TLC:  $R_f = 0.46$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-benzylidene-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (11). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzene (17.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

21.5 mg isolated (87% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 6.27 – 6.10 (m, 1H), 3.39 – 3.25 (m, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.47 – 2.27 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.5, 139.0, 138.0, 136.3, 128.9, 128.3, 128.1, 126.9, 126.1, 125.1, 124.2, 123.4, 38.0, 27.5, 25.5.

 $HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M + H]^{+} Calcd for C_{19}H_{18}: 245.1325; found: 245.1327$ 

TLC:  $R_f = 0.61$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (12). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (24.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

20.5 mg isolated (65% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 6.27 – 6.14 (m, 1H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.47 – 2.32 (m, 2H).

 $^{13}$ C{ $^{1}$ H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.7, 141.3, 141.3, 136.1, 129.1, 128.4, 128.1(q,  $^{2}J_{CF} = 32.5$  Hz), 127.0, 125.1(q,  $^{3}J_{CF} = 3.6$  Hz), 125.1, 124.1(q,  $^{1}J_{CF} = 272.8$  Hz), 124.0, 122.3, 38.0, 27.4, 25.6.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -63.86.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{17}F_3$ : 315.1355; found: 315.1348

TLC:  $R_f = 0.51$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

# (E) - 2 - (4 - ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) phenyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) phenyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 4,4,5,5 - tetramethyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl-like ((4,5 - dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl] - ylidene) methyl-like ((4,5

**1,3,2-dioxaborolane** (**13**). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 2-(4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)phenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (29.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

22.3 mg isolated (60% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.78 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 3.31 (s, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.43 – 2.29 (m, 2H), 1.35 (s, 12H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.4, 141.0, 139.9, 136.2, 134.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.9, 125.1, 124.2, 123.5, 83.7, 38.1, 27.5, 25.6, 24.9.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{25}H_{29}BO_2$ : 372.2370; found: 372.2370 TLC:  $R_f = 0.46$  (5%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes)

methyl (*E*)-4-((4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)methyl)benzoate (14). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzoate (23.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes).

21.2 mg isolated (70% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 6.27 – 6.12 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.49 – 2.30 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 142.9, 141.3, 136.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 127.0, 125.1, 124.0, 122.8, 52.0, 38.1, 27.4, 25.7.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}O_2$ : 305.1536; found: 305.1538 TLC:  $R_f = 0.31$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-(4-((4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)methyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (15). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using (4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (21.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

24.2 mg isolated (83% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.24 – 7.13 (m, 4H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 6.26 – 6.11 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.42 – 2.28 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.4, 139.1, 136.3, 135.9, 135.0, 129.3, 128.3, 126.9, 126.6, 125.1, 124.1, 122.8, 38.0, 27.4, 25.6, 16.1.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{20}S$ : 293.1359; found: 293.1355 TLC:  $R_f = 0.45$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

**ethyl 4-(4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)piperidine-1-carboxylate (16).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using ethyl 4-(dichloromethylene)piperidine-1-carboxylate (23.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-

cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

28.0 mg isolated (90% yield), white solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.25 – 6.08 (m, 1H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 4H), 3.20 (s, 2H), 2.47 – 2.22 (m, 8H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.7, 142.0, 136.3, 128.3, 128.0, 126.8, 126.0, 125.1, 124.7, 61.2, 44.8, 44.4, 31.6, 29.3, 28.9, 27.3, 26.0, 14.8.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: 312.1985; found: 312.1956 TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

**4-(4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)tetrahydro-2H-pyran** (**17).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 4-(dichloromethylene)tetrahydro-2H-pyran (16.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

18.2 mg isolated (76% yield), white solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.30 – 6.06 (m, 1H), 3.69 (q, J = 5.4 Hz, 4H), 3.20 (s, 2H), 2.46 – 2.34 (m, 6H), 2.34 – 2.21 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.9, 136.3, 128.2, 126.9, 126.7, 125.7, 125.0, 124.6, 69.1, 68.8, 31.3, 30.8, 30.5, 27.3, 25.6.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{20}O$ : 241.1587; found: 241.1590 TLC:  $R_f = 0.74$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(3-chlorobenzylidene)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (18). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-chloro-3-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzene (20.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

25.1 mg isolated (89% yield), yellow oil, E/Z = >20 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.27 – 6.11 (m, 1H), 3.31 (s, 2H), 2.60 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.47 – 2.31 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.3, 140.5, 139.8, 136.1, 134.0, 129.4, 128.8, 128.4, 127.0, 127.0, 126.2, 125.1, 124.1, 122.2, 37.9, 27.4, 25.6.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M - H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{17}Cl$ : 279.0935; found: 279.0931 TLC:  $R_f = 0.69$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

methyl (*E*)-5-(4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)pentanoate (19). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 6,6-dichlorohex-5-enoate (19.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg,

0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

15.5 mg isolated (57% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 5:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.25 – 6.04 (m, 1H), 5.32 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.13 (s, 2H), 2.44 – 2.23 (m, 6H), 2.13 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.1, 141.5, 136.5, 136.4, 128.2, 126.7, 124.9, 124.0, 121.5, 51.4, 37.4, 33.4, 27.3, 26.4, 25.2, 24.7.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{22}O_2$ : 271.1693; found: 271.1691 TLC:  $R_f = 0.41$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-2-((4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)methyl)thiophene (20). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 2-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzofuran (21.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

16.7 mg isolated (58% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 6.27 – 6.20 (m, 1H), 3.36 (s, 2H), 3.01 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.53 – 2.42 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.2, 154.3, 142.8, 141.2, 136.0, 128.9, 128.4, 127.0, 125.1, 124.4, 123.8, 122.7, 120.4, 112.4, 110.9, 104.6, 38.3, 27.3, 26.8.

 $HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M + H]^{+} Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O: 287.1430; found: 287.1433$ 

TLC:  $R_f = 0.49$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-((4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)methyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indole (21). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indole (36.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 30% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

35.2 mg isolated (80% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 6.25 – 6.18 (m, 1H), 3.38 (s, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.45 – 2.36 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.8, 141.6, 141.3, 136.2, 135.3, 134.8, 131.2, 129.8, 128.4, 127.0, 126.8, 125.1, 124.8, 124.2, 123.2, 123.1, 119.8, 119.5, 113.6, 112.1, 37.8, 27.2, 26.6, 21.6.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: 440.1674; found: 440.1675 TLC:  $R_f = 0.30$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-2-((4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)methyl)thiophene (22). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 2-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)thiophene (17.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5%  $CH_2Cl_2$  in hexanes).

18.0 mg isolated (71% yield), yellow oil, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 6.25 – 6.14 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 2H), 2.78 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.50 – 2.36 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.3, 140.5, 138.7, 136.4, 128.3, 126.9, 126.7, 126.5, 125.1, 124.2, 123.9, 116.3, 38.1, 27.0, 26.5.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{16}S$ : 253.1046; found: 253.1048

TLC:  $R_f = 0.41$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

**4-**((**4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene**)**methyl**)**tetrahydro-2H-pyran** (**23**). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran (18.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

19.6 mg isolated (77% yield), white solid, E/Z = 12.5 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (t, J = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 2H), 2.65 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.41 – 2.26 (m, 4H), 1.57 – 1.38 (m, 4H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.5, 136.7, 133.2, 128.3, 127.5, 126.8, 125.0, 124.0, 67.8, 67.3, 37.5, 33.4, 31.2, 27.7, 25.3.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{22}O$ : 255.1743; found: 255.1740 TLC:  $R_f = 0.68$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (24). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-1,2-dimethoxybenzene (23.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

30.5 mg isolated (99% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.88 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 6.25 – 6.12 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 6H), 3.30 (s, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.44 – 2.31 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 148.6, 147.5, 141.5, 138.1, 136.4, 130.9, 128.3, 126.9, 125.1, 124.1, 123.1, 121.1, 112.2, 111.0, 55.9, 55.8, 37.9, 27.5, 25.6.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_2$ : 307.1693; found: 307.1691 TLC:  $R_f = 0.28$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-4'-methoxy-3-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (25). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 1-(1-cyclopropylvinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (52.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

23.2 mg isolated (76% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.19 – 5.96 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 3.26 (s, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.41 – 2.30 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.7, 157.9, 137.9, 135.7, 134.2, 130.6, 129.9, 126.1, 122.7, 122.5, 113.7, 113.6, 55.3, 55.3, 38.0, 27.4, 25.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_2$ : 307.1693; found: 307.1701 TLC:  $R_f = 0.32$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-2-(5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)thiophene (26). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2-(1-cyclopropylvinyl)thiophene (45.1

mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

24.3 mg isolated (86% yield), white solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.13 (dd, J = 4.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.02 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 6.31 – 6.16 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.41 – 2.28 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.0, 145.9, 137.0, 131.0, 130.4, 129.9, 127.2, 123.4, 123.2, 123.0, 121.4, 113.6, 55.3, 37.9, 27.2, 25.5.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}OS$ : 283.1151; found: 283.1154 TLC:  $R_f = 0.46$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

# $(E) \hbox{-N-} ((5\hbox{-}(4\hbox{-methoxybenzylidene}) \hbox{cyclohex-1-en-1-yl}) \hbox{methyl}) \hbox{-N,4-}$

dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (27). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and N-(2-cyclopropylallyl)-N,4-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (79.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

30.0 mg isolated (75% yield), yellow oil, E/Z = >20 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.87 (s, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.50 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.25 – 2.08 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 143.3, 136.9, 134.3, 132.5, 130.5, 129.9, 129.7, 127.5, 126.3, 122.9, 113.6, 56.3, 55.3, 36.3, 33.9, 26.8, 25.5, 21.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{27}NO_3S$ : 398.1784; found: 398.1787 TLC:  $R_f = 0.12$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-1-((3-cyclopropylcyclohex-3-en-1-ylidene)methyl)-4-methoxybenzene (28). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and ethene-1,1-diyldicyclopropane (32.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

16.8 mg isolated (70% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.55 – 5.44 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 2H), 2.49 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.18 – 2.08 (m, 2H), 1.43 – 1.27 (m, 1H), 0.70 – 0.53 (m, 2H), 0.53 – 0.42 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.8, 138.2, 130.7, 129.9, 127.1, 122.1, 119.2, 113.5, 55.3, 37.4, 26.9, 26.0, 16.9, 4.3.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{20}O$ : 241.1587; found: 241.1585

TLC:  $R_f = 0.44$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-5-methyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (30). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-methylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (47.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

20.3 mg isolated (70% yield), white solid, E/Z = 12.4 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.37 (d, J = 19.2 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 1H), 2.05 (dd, J = 13.0, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 1.09 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.8, 141.3, 137.0, 135.3, 133.6, 130.4, 129.9, 128.2, 126.9, 125.1, 123.2, 113.5, 55.2, 37.7, 33.8, 32.8, 21.7.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M - H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O$ : 291.1743; found: 291.1740 TLC:  $R_f = 0.43$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-3-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-5-phenethyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (31). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (74.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

27.8 mg isolated (70% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 10.0:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 3H), 7.12 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 6.17 – 6.05 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.37 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d, J = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 12.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.53 – 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.27 (dd, J = 13.4, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 1.87 – 1.57 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 142.3, 141.3, 136.7, 136.0, 133.7, 133.6, 130.5, 129.9, 128.3, 128.2, 126.9, 125.6, 125.1, 123.6, 113.6, 55.2, 38.0, 37.7, 37.2, 33.2, 31.2.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M - H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O: 381.2213; found: 381.2210

TLC:  $R_f = 0.39$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

## 3-((E)-4-methoxybenzylidene)-5-((Z)-non-3-en-1-yl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (32).

The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (*Z*)-(1-(2-(non-3-en-1-yl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (80.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

27.9 mg isolated (70% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 14.6 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 6.15 – 6.04 (m, 1H), 5.44 – 5.22 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.36 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 1H), 2.17 (dd, J = 12.6, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.96 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.53 – 1.16 (m, 8H), 0.92 – 0.84 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 141.5, 136.9, 135.8, 130.6, 130.4, 129.9, 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 126.9, 125.2, 123.5, 113.6, 55.2, 38.1, 37.3, 36.1, 31.5, 31.5, 29.4, 27.2, 24.6, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M - H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{29}H_{36}O$ : 399.2682; found: 399.2686 TLC:  $R_f = 0.44$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

 $(E) - 5 - (2 - (benzyloxy)ethyl) - 3 - (4 - methoxybenzylidene) - 2, 3, 4, 5 - tetrahydro-1, 1' - biphenyl \quad (33).$ 

The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (83.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

25.1 mg isolated (61% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 19.2 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 7H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 6.13 – 6.03 (m, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.62 – 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.35 (d, J = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (d, J = 17.5 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (s, 1H), 2.20 (dd, J = 12.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.89 – 1.72 (m, 1H), 1.72 – 1.58 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.5, 157.9, 141.3, 138.6, 136.7, 136.0, 130.5, 129.9, 128.7, 128.3, 127.6, 127.0, 125.2, 123.6, 113.6, 92.9, 73.0, 68.1, 55.3, 38.0, 35.9, 34.8, 31.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{29}H_{30}O_2$ : 433.2138; found: 433.2142 TLC:  $R_f = 0.37$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-(5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)methanol (34). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (2-(1-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene)

phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)methanol<sup>13</sup> (52.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 40% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

21.7 mg isolated (68% yield), light yellow solid, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.61 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (d, J = 19.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 1H), 2.43 (dd, J = 12.9, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 – 1.22 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.0, 141.0, 138.5, 135.9, 130.2, 129.9, 128.4, 127.3, 125.2, 124.5, 124.2, 113.7, 66.5, 55.3, 40.7, 38.1, 28.1.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_2$ : 307.1693; found: 307.1690 TLC:  $R_f = 0.21$  (30%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes)

#### tert-butyl-4-((5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-

yl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (35). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and tert-butyl 4-((2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (102.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

39.6 mg isolated (84% yield), yellow solid, E/Z = 8.6:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.33 (d, J = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (dd, J = 12.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H),

2.22 (dd, J = 12.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.73 - 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.45 (s, 10H), 1.40 - 1.16 (m, 4H), 1.03 (q, J = 11.6, 9.7 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.0, 154.9, 141.3, 136.7, 136.0, 130.5, 129.9, 128.8, 128.3, 127.0, 125.2, 123.8, 113.6, 79.2, 55.3, 42.7, 38.1, 36.5, 34.4, 33.2, 31.5, 29.7, 28.5. HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>40</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 474.3003; found: 474.2988

TLC:  $R_f = 0.13$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

### (E)-2-(2-(5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)ethyl)-5-

**methylfuran** (**36**). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2-methyl-5-(2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)furan (75.7 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in hexanes).

31.0 mg isolated (81% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 16.2:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 6.14 – 6.02 (m, 1H), 5.82 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.37 (d, J = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.16 (dd, J = 12.8, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 1.88 – 1.74 (m, 1H), 1.74 – 1.59 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.0, 154.1, 150.2, 141.4, 136.8, 136.2, 130.5, 129.9, 128.6, 128.3, 127.0, 125.2, 123.6, 113.6, 105.8, 105.5, 55.3, 38.0, 37.1, 34.4, 31.4, 25.5, 13.5.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{27}H_{28}O$ : 385.2162; found: 385.2166 TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

### (E)-2-(2-(5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-

yl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (37). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2-(2-(2-(1-phenylvinyl)cyclopropyl)ethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (95.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

34.2 mg isolated (76% yield), yellow oil, E/Z = 12.1 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.82 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.78 – 3.64 (m, 2H), 3.37 (d, J = 19.9 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 12.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 1H), 2.31 (dd, J = 12.9, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.79 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 158.0, 141.1, 136.7, 136.1, 133.9, 132.1, 130.3, 130.0, 128.3, 127.4, 127.1, 125.2, 124.1, 123.2, 113.7, 55.3, 37.9, 35.8, 35.3, 34.5, 31.2.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{30}H_{27}NO_3$ : 450.2063; found: 450.2067 TLC:  $R_f = 0.13$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

# $methyl \quad \textit{(E)-4-((5-propyl-4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-ylidene)} methyl) benzoate \quad (S17).$

The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzoate (23.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-propylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene<sup>13</sup> (55.9 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

25.2 mg isolated (73% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 8.2 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.40 (d, J = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d, J = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, J = 12.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 1H), 2.16 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 1.50 – 1.22 (m, 4H), 1.01 – 0.77 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 142.9, 141.2, 140.7, 135.2, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 127.0, 125.1, 123.2, 52.0, 38.3, 38.2, 37.6, 31.8, 20.0, 14.1.

 $HRMS(ESI) (m/z): [M + H]^{+} Calcd for C_{24}H_{26}O_{2}: 347.2006; found: 347.2005$ 

TLC:  $R_f = 0.40 (10\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O in hexanes})$ 

# methyl (E)-4-((4'-fluoro-5-isobutyl-4,5-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2H)-

**ylidene)methyl)benzoate** (S18). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using methyl 4-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)benzoate (23.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 1-fluoro-4-(1-(2-isobutylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene<sup>2</sup> (65.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

24.2 mg isolated (64% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = 8.1:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 6.08 – 5.95 (m, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.34 (d, J = 20.3 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 12.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 1H), 2.22 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.67 – 1.52 (m, 1H), 1.33 – 1.13 (m, 2H), 0.86 (dd, J = 6.6, 4.2 Hz, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 162.0 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 245.7$  Hz), 142.8, 140.2, 137.3 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.1$  Hz), 134.3, 129.4, 129.1, 128.7, 127.7, 126.6 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 8.0$  Hz), 123.4, 115.0 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.3$  Hz), 52.0, 45.4, 38.3, 35.3, 31.8, 25.1, 22.8, 22.4.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -117.34.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>: 379.2068; found: 379.2070

TLC:  $R_f = 0.30 (10\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O in hexanes})$ 

# (E) - 3 - ((5-phenethyl - 4, 5-dihydro - [1, 1'-biphenyl] - 3(2H) - ylidene) methyl) - 1 - tosyl - 1H-indole

(S19). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 3-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indole (36.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-phenethylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (74.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 30% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

39.4 mg isolated (72% yield), light yellow solid, E/Z = 3.9 : 1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.07 (m, 5H), 6.92 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 6.18 – 6.08 (m, 1H), 3.48 – 3.27 (m, 2H), 2.85 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.56 – 2.36 (m, 4H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.80 – 1.57 (m, 2H).

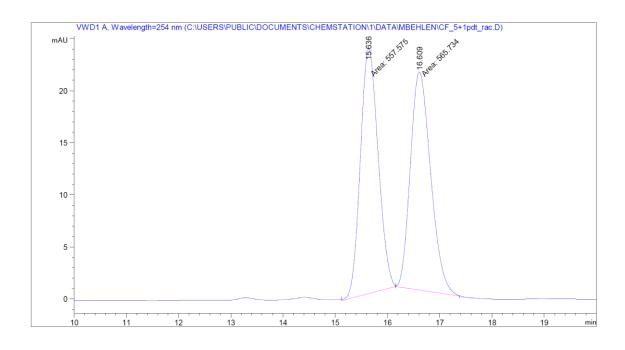
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.8, 142.0, 141.1, 140.5, 135.7, 135.1, 134.8, 131.2, 129.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 127.0, 126.6, 125.6, 125.1, 124.8, 123.2, 123.0, 119.8, 119.5, 113.6, 113.1, 37.9, 37.7, 37.2, 33.6, 32.1, 21.4.

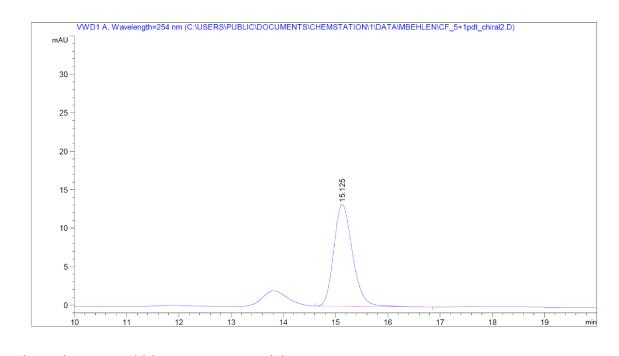
HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: 544.2305; found: 544.2302 TLC:  $R_f = 0.28$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(R,E)-3-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-5-methyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (30). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-((1R,2R)-2-methylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (47.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). Spectroscopic and mass spectrometry data were identical to those of the racemic product. Single crystals of 30 suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by cooling a saturated Et<sub>2</sub>O solution to -20 °C.

20.2 mg isolated (70% yield), white solid, E/Z = 12.3 : 1  $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -181^\circ$  (c 0.184, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HPLC: Chiralpak® OJ-H column (hexane/IPA = 98:2, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm) tr = 15.64 min (major), 16.61 min (minor): >99:1 er.



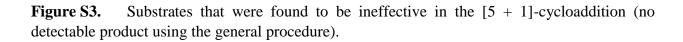


**Figure S2.** HPLC data for **30**. (racemate, top; (*R*)-**30**, bottom).

#### 1,1-Dichloroalkenes:

#### Vinylcyclopropanes:

$$F \longrightarrow Ph$$
 OTMS  $n$ -pent



#### 6. [5 + 1]-Product Derivatization

General procedure for the dehydrogenation reaction. A flame-dried round bottom flask was charged with the [5 + 1]-product (1.0 equiv), Pd/C (10 wt% on activated carbon, 10 wt% relative to the [5+1]-product), 1.0 mL ethylene glycol, and a magnetic stir bar. The reaction was refluxed at 200 °C and stirred. After 8 hr, the reaction was cooled to ambient temperature and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated under reduced pressure, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.<sup>14</sup>

**3-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (38).** The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using **30** (19.7 mg, 0.068 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Pd/C (10 wt%, 1.9 mg). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

11.4 mg isolated (77% yield), colorless oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.9, 141.9, 141.3, 141.3, 138.4, 133.2, 129.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 127.0, 125.7, 124.8, 113.8, 55.2, 41.0, 21.4.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}O$ : 289.1587; found: 289.1583

TLC:  $R_f = 0.42$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

N-(3-(4-methoxybenzyl)benzyl)-N,4-dimethylbenzenesulfonamide (39). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 27 (29.6 mg, 0.074 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and Pd/C (10 wt%, 2.9 mg). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (20%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes).

22.7 mg isolated (77% yield), yellow solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.72 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.00 (m, 5H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.0, 143.4, 142.1, 135.8, 134.3, 133.0, 129.8, 129.7, 128.8, 128.4, 127.6, 126.1, 113.9, 55.3, 54.1, 40.9, 34.4, 21.6.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{25}NO_3S$ : 396.1628; found: 396.1630 TLC:  $R_f = 0.15$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

methyl 4-((4'-fluoro-5-isobutyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)methyl)benzoate (40). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using S18 (24.6 mg, 0.065 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Pd/C (10 wt%, 2.5 mg). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (10%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes).

12.2 mg isolated (50% yield), colorless oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.49 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.96 – 1.79 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 162.3 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 246.6$  Hz), 146.4, 142.6, 140.3, 137.3 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 8.3$  Hz), 128.0, 125.9, 125.0, 115.4 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.4$  Hz), 52.0, 45.3, 41.9, 30.2, 22.3.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -117.47.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{25}H_{25}FO_2$ : 377.1911; found: 377.1909

TLC:  $R_f = 0.47$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

methyl 4-((5-propyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)methyl)benzoate (41). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using S17 (25.3 mg, 0.073 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Pd/C (10 wt%, 2.5 mg). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

13.3 mg isolated (53% yield), colorless oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 3.90 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 2.61 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 146.5, 143.5, 141.4, 141.2, 140.0, 129.8, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.1, 125.5, 125.2, 51.9, 41.9, 38.0, 24.5, 13.8.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{24}O_2$ : 345.1849; found: 245.1847

TLC:  $R_f = 0.53$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

### (E)-N,4-dimethyl-N-(3-(5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-[1,1]-biphenyl]-3(2H)-

ylidene)propyl)benzenesulfonamide (S20). In an  $N_2$ -filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.54 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (1.52 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of S16 (30.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-(2-methylcyclopropyl)vinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 48 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). Compound S20 is highly unstable and was used immediately in the dehydrogenation reaction.

20.9 mg isolated (53% yield), yellow oil

*N*,4-dimethyl-*N*-(3-(5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)propyl)benzenesulfonamide (42). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using **S20** (20.9)

mg, 0.053 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and Pd/C (10 wt%, 2.1 mg). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

7.3 mg isolated (35% yield), colorless oil

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.66 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 3.06 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 2.69 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.98 – 1.78 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.2, 141.7, 141.3, 141.3, 138.4, 134.5, 129.6, 128.6, 128.1, 127.4, 127.1, 127.1, 125.7, 124.4, 49.7, 34.7, 32.7, 29.3, 21.4, 21.4.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: 394.1835; found: 394.1833 TLC:  $R_f = 0.21$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-3-methyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,1'-biphenyl (43). A solution of 30 (24.3 mg, 0.083 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in DMF (1 mL) was cooled to 0 °C using an ice bath and stirred. To this solution was added KOtBu (10.8 mg, 0.097 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in one portion. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C. After 5 min, the reaction was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3x5 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated under reduced pressure, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

18.8 mg isolated (78% yield), white solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.50 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.89 (dd, J = 14.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, J = 16.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.93 (s, 1H), 1.11 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.1, 141.5, 137.4, 136.7, 130.7, 130.3, 128.7, 128.4, 127.3, 127.0, 125.0, 113.7, 55.3, 36.0, 34.9, 29.4, 21.8.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O$ : 291.1743; found: 291.1741 TLC:  $R_f = 0.45$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

General procedure for the Riley oxidation reaction. A flame-dried microwave vial was charged with the [5 + 1]-product (1.0 equiv), SeO<sub>2</sub> (3.0 equiv), 1.0 mL 1,4-dioxane, and a magnetic stir bar. The reaction was heated to 100 °C and stirred. After 30 min, the reaction was cooled to ambient temperature and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification.

(5-phenethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)(1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methanone (44). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using S19 (39.4 mg, 0.072 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and SeO<sub>2</sub> (24.1 mg, 0.22 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes).

20.7 mg isolated (52% yield), yellow solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.30 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.13 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.65 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 3.19 – 2.94 (m, 4H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.9, 145.8, 142.8, 141.6, 141.1, 140.2, 139.9, 135.0, 134.5, 133.5, 131.3, 130.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 127.2, 127.0, 126.1, 125.9, 125.6, 124.8, 122.8, 120.6, 113.17, 37.7, 30.3, 21.6.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{36}H_{29}NO_3S$ : 556.1941; found: 556.1937 TLC:  $R_f = 0.24$  (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(4-methoxyphenyl)(5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)methanone (45). The reaction was conducted according to the general procedure without modification using 30 (24.3 mg, 0.083 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and SeO<sub>2</sub> (28.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 3.0 equiv.). Isolated yields were determined following column chromatography (10% EtOAc in hexanes).

11.2 mg isolated (55% yield), colorless oil

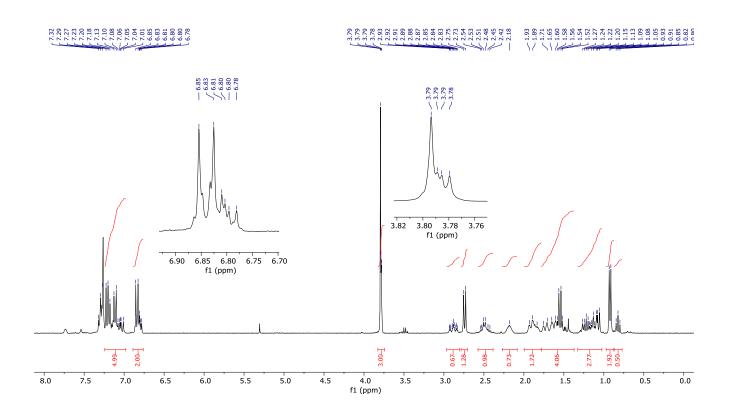
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 195.7, 163.3, 141.1, 140.4, 138.9, 138.6, 132.6, 131.4, 130.3, 129.1, 128.8, 127.6, 127.2, 125.7, 113.6, 55.5, 21.5.

HRMS(ESI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{18}O_2$ : 303.1380; found: 303.1382 TLC:  $R_f = 0.22$  (15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

**Attempted diastereoselective hydrogenation reaction.** In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 2-dram vial was equipped with a magnetic stir bar, **30** (20.3 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv), (*R*,*R*)-[COD]Ir[Cy<sub>2</sub>PThrePHOX] (6.0 mg, 0.0035 mmol, 0.05 equiv), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL). The vial

was capped and removed from the glovebox. A Parr bomb reactor vessel was placed under argon. The vial was uncapped and quickly placed into the Parr apparatus while under argon. The Parr apparatus was purged and backfilled with hydrogen (3x), then pressurized to 730 psi. After stirring for 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was filtered through a glass fiber pad. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the crude residue was analyzed using by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. The hydrogenated product was obtained as a mixture of all four possible diastereomers.



**Figure S4.** Crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for the hydrogenation of **30** using a chiral Ir catalyst to provide a diastereomeric mixture of products (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

#### 7. Mechanistic Studies

**Vinylcyclopropane rearrangement experiment.** In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The conversion of (1-cyclopropylvinyl)benzene was determined by integration against 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (< 1% conversion). 1-phenylcyclopentene was not detected in the mixture.

(*Z*)-1-((2-benzylcyclopropylidene)methyl)-4-methoxybenzene (47). In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4

mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and allylbenzene (35.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a  $SiO_2$  column for purification (5%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes).

16.0 mg isolated (64% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.25 (dd, J = 14.6, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (dd, J = 14.6, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.19 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.37 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 1.05 – 0.86 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.5, 140.5, 130.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 126.4, 126.1, 118.8, 113.9, 55.2, 37.7, 17.6, 7.8.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z): [M - H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O$ : 249.1247; found: 249.1127 TLC:  $R_f = 0.47$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), (±)-t-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), α-methylstyrene (35.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The conversion of 1-(2,2dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene determined by integration against was 1,3,5timethoxybenzene (>99% conversion). The product shown was not detected in the mixture.

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), (3-methylbut-1-en-2-yl)benzene (43.9 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The conversion of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene was determined by integration against 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (>99% conversion). The product shown was not detected in the mixture.

(*E*)-1-methoxy-4-((2-vinylcyclopropylidene)methyl)benzene (S21). A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with a stir bar, MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (3.82 g, 10.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and THF (30 mL). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, followed by dropwise addition of nBuLi (2.5 M in hexanes, 4.27 mL, 10.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. A solution of (*E*)-2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)cyclopropane-1-carbaldehyde<sup>15</sup> (1.33 g, 7.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (5 mL) was added dropwise, and the reaction was then warmed to room

temperature and stirred. After 2 hr, the reaction was quenched with a saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), providing (*E*)-1-methoxy-4-((2-vinylcyclopropylidene)methyl)benzene as a white solid (846 mg, 64% yield).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.59 – 5.39 (m, 1H), 5.18 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.27 – 2.08 (m, 1H), 1.84 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 1.40 – 1.28 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.7, 139.4, 130.5, 127.8, 125.4, 118.5, 113.8, 113.1, 55.2, 17.4, 12.8.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{13}H_{14}O$ : 187.1117; found: 187.1122 TLC:  $R_f = 0.49$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

(*E*)-2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,1'-bi(cyclopropane) (4). In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with [<sup>iPr</sup>PDI]CoBr<sub>2</sub> (44.8 mg, 0.06 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (140 mg, 2.14 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of **S21** (200 mg, 1.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> (280 mg, 1.61 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (8 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, concentrated under reduced pressure, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), providing (*E*)-2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,1'-bi(cyclopropane) as a yellow oil (190.5 mg, 89% yield).<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.46 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (q, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.75 – 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.48 (td, J = 8.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.15 – 0.99 (m, 2H), 0.52 – 0.38 (m, 1H), 0.31 – 0.04 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.5, 131.0, 127.6, 124.8, 117.5, 113.8, 55.2, 14.7, 11.6, 9.6, 3.9, 0.9.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{16}O$ : 201.1274; found: 201.1277 TLC:  $R_f = 0.57$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), (±)-*t*-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of **4** (20.0 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. An aliquot was filtered through a glass fiber pad and analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The conversion of **4** was determined by integration against 1,3,5-timethoxybenzene (< 1% conversion). Compound **3** was not detected in the mixture.

(*E*)-1-(4-cyclobutylidene-4-phenylbut-1-en-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzene (49). In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (1-cyclobutylvinyl)benzene<sup>17</sup> (47.5 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). Single crystals of 49 suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by cooling the purified, neat material to -20 °C.

14.5 mg isolated (50% yield), colorless oil, E/Z = >20:1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d, J = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 6.17 – 6.02 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.24 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.00 – 2.85 (m, 4H), 2.12 – 1.96 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.6, 140.0, 139.9, 130.6, 129.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.0, 126.3, 125.8, 113.7, 55.2, 34.5, 32.2, 30.8, 17.0.

HRMS(APCI) (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O$ : 291.1743; found: 291.1749 TLC:  $R_f = 0.54$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

[4+1] cycloaddition competition experiment. In an N<sub>2</sub>-filled glovebox, a 5-mL vial was charged with Co(DME)Br<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.05 equiv), ( $\pm$ )-t-Bu-Quinox (1.5 mg, 0.006 mmol, 0.06 equiv), Zn powder (19.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and a magnetic stir bar. To this mixture was added a solution of 1-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (20.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (E)-(3-cyclopropylbuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene (51.1 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DMA (0.75 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the crude reaction mixture was removed from the glovebox, opened to ambient atmosphere, and loaded directly onto a SiO<sub>2</sub> column for purification (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes). The [4+1] and [5+1] products were inseparable.

17.5 mg isolated (58% yield), white solid

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.1, 3H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.39 (d, J = 20.3 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (d, J = 20.3 Hz, 1H), 1.54 – 1.46 (m, 1H), 0.70 – 0.62 (m, 2H), 0.57 – 0.48 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (201 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.83, 144.29, 142.85, 142.22, 130.03, 129.48, 128.52, 127.29, 127.11, 125.83, 124.11, 113.33, 77.09, 76.93, 76.78, 55.08, 53.81, 41.98, 11.87, 5.52, 5.29.

LRMS(ESI) (m/z): [M - H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O: 302.4; found: 301.2

TLC:  $R_f = 0.53$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes)

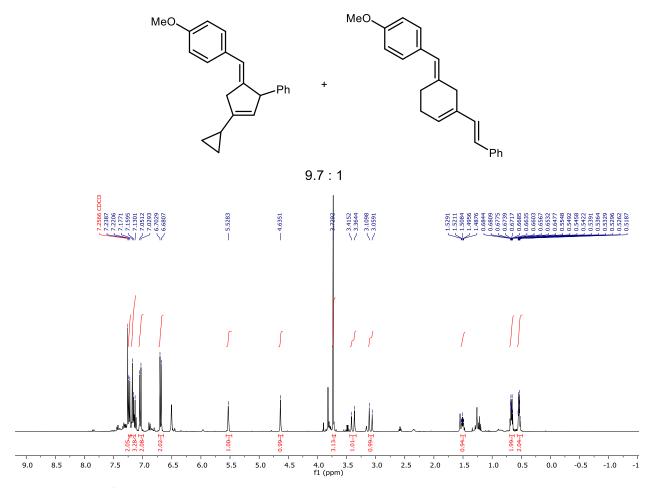


Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of competition experiment (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

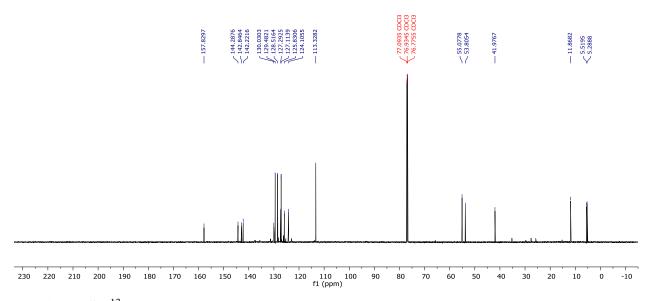
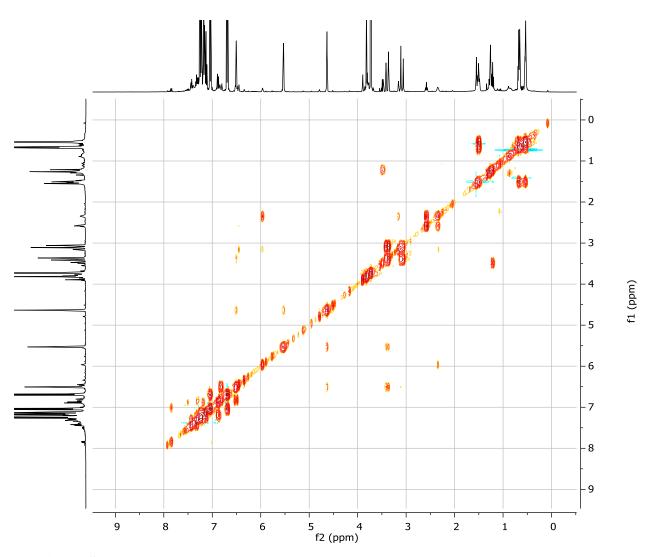


Figure S6. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of competition experiment (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S7.** COSY of competition experiment (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

# 8. NMR Data for Vinylcyclopropanes and Vinylidenes

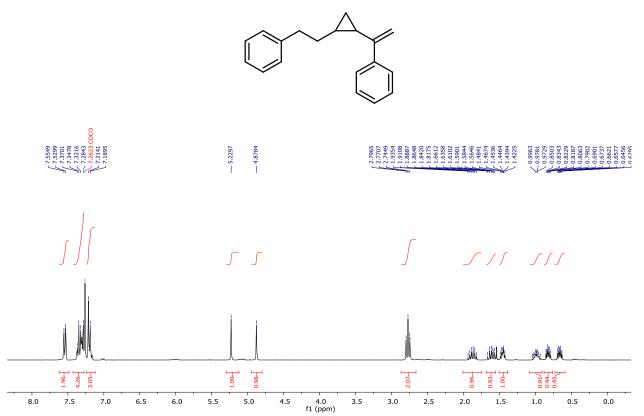


Figure S8.  $^1$ H NMR of S1 (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

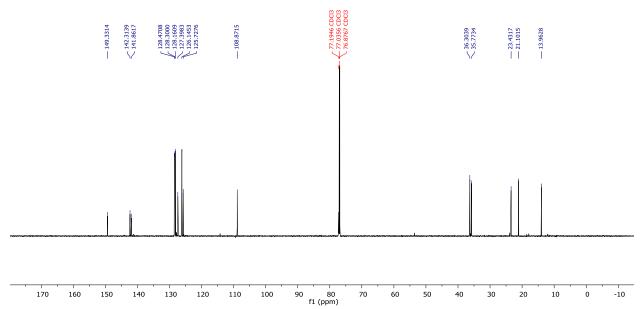
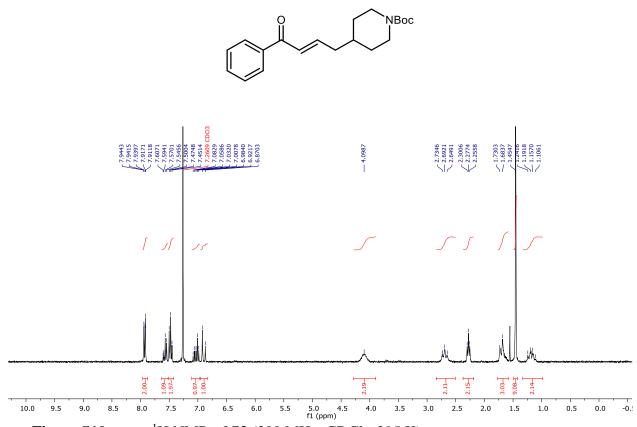
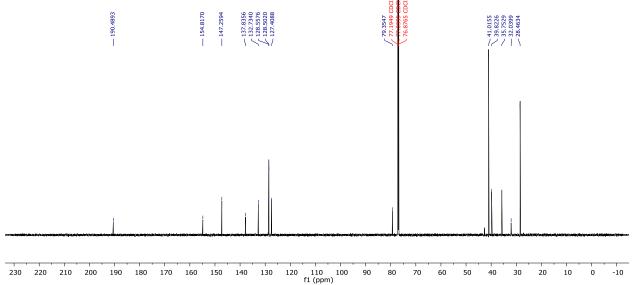


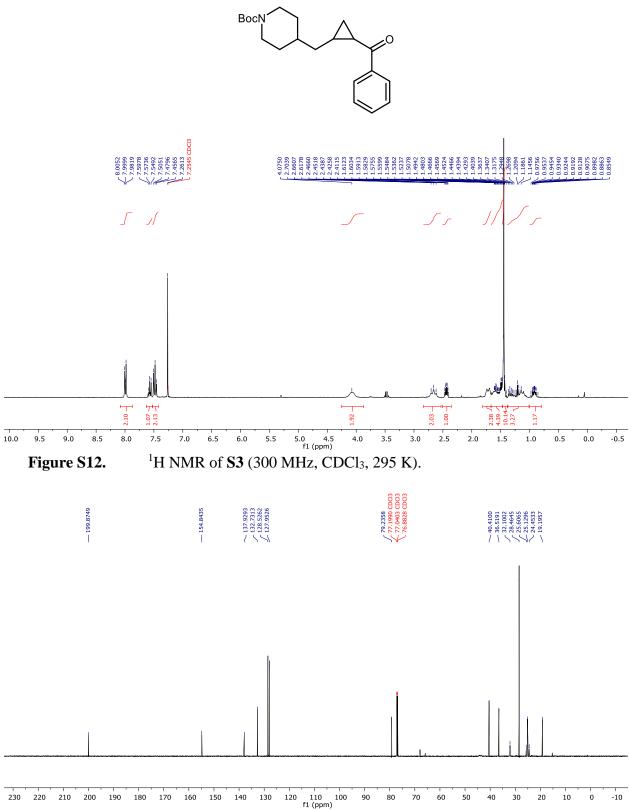
Figure S9.  $^{13}$ C NMR of S1 (800 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



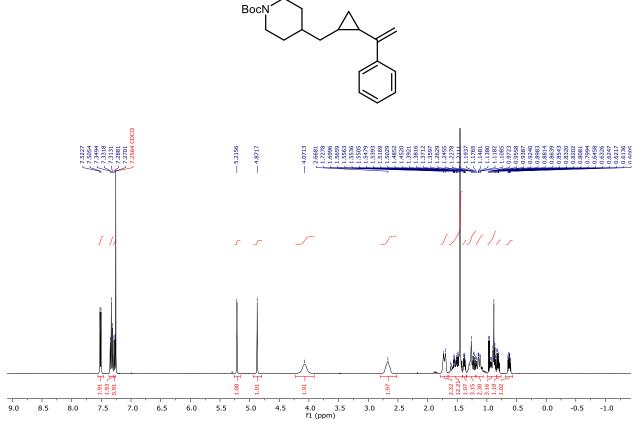
**Figure S10.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S2** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



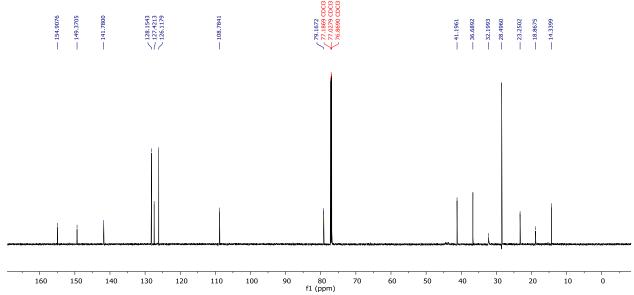
**Figure S11.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S2** (800 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



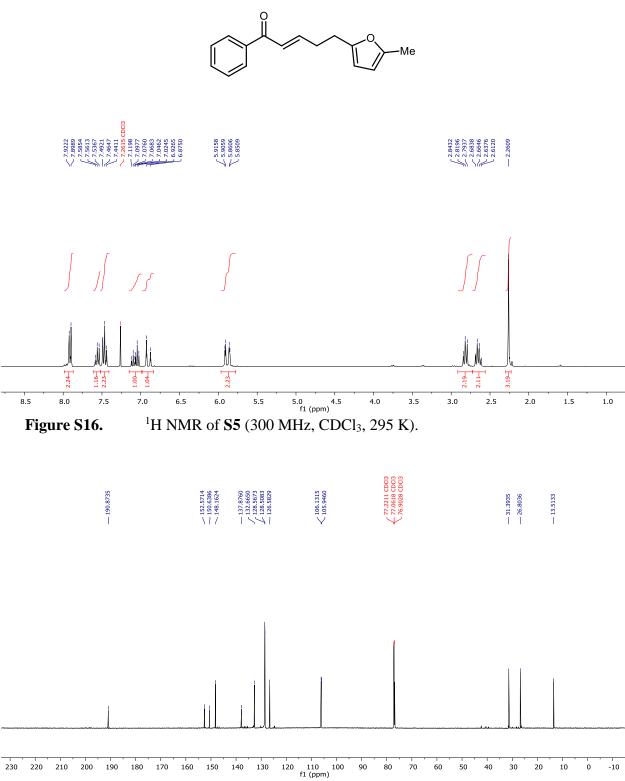
**Figure S13.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S3** (800 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



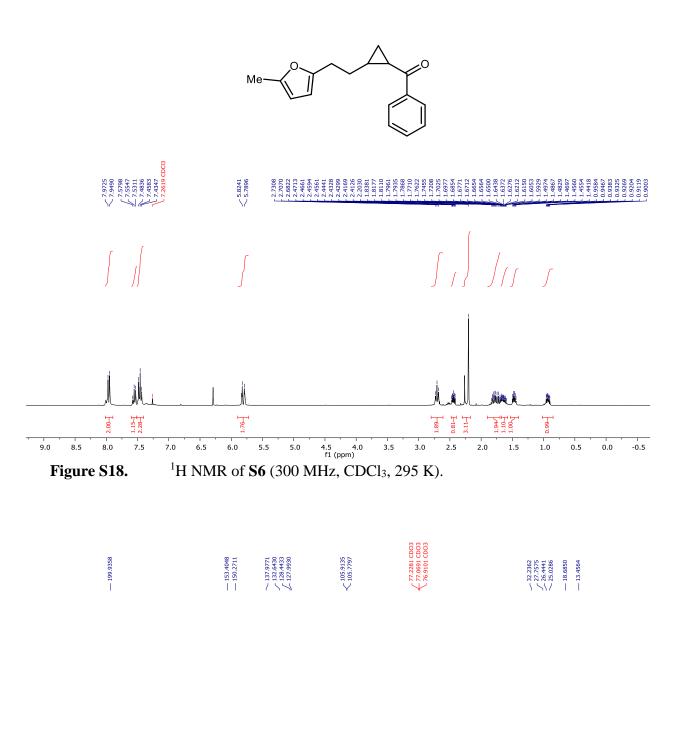
**Figure S14.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S4** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

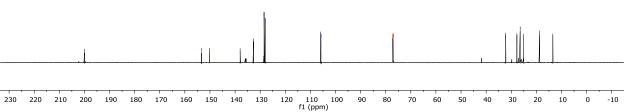


**Figure S15.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S4** (800 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

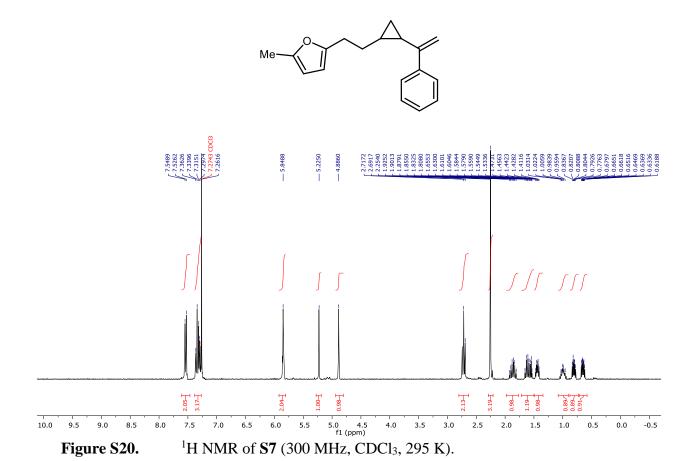


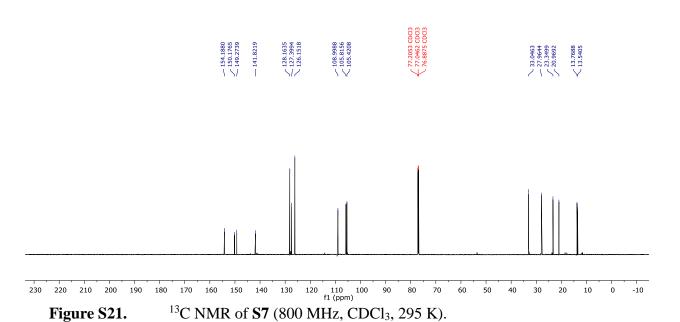
**Figure S17.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S5** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

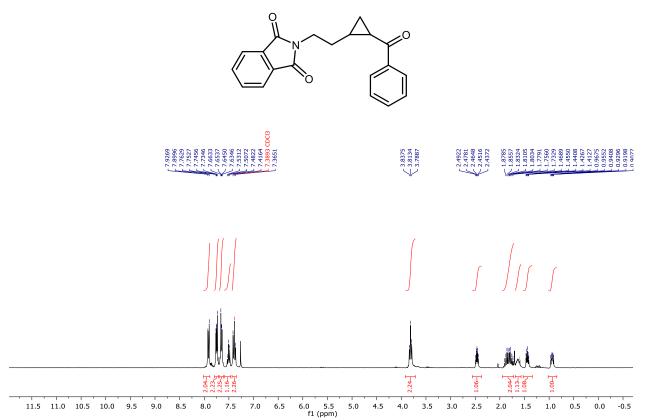




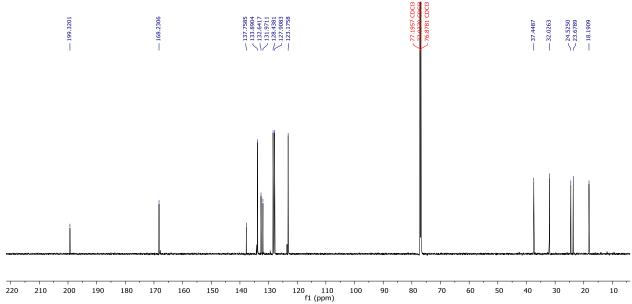
**Figure S19.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S6** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



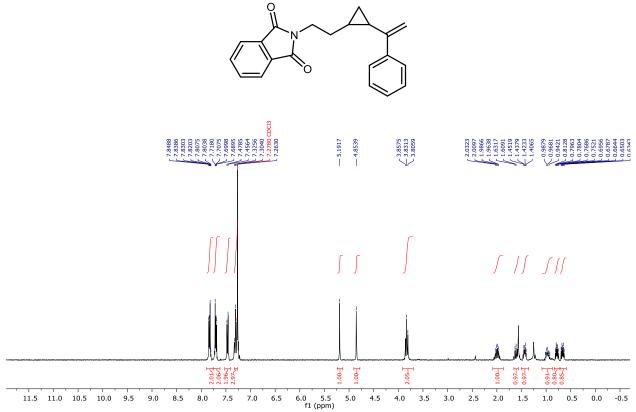




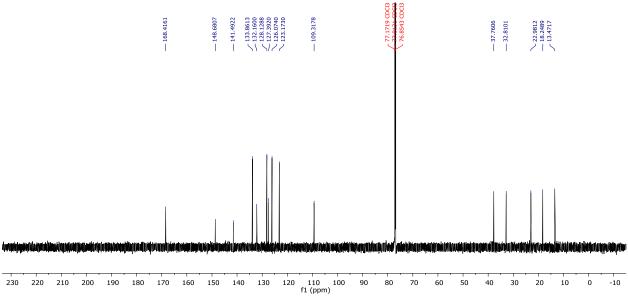
**Figure S22.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S8** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



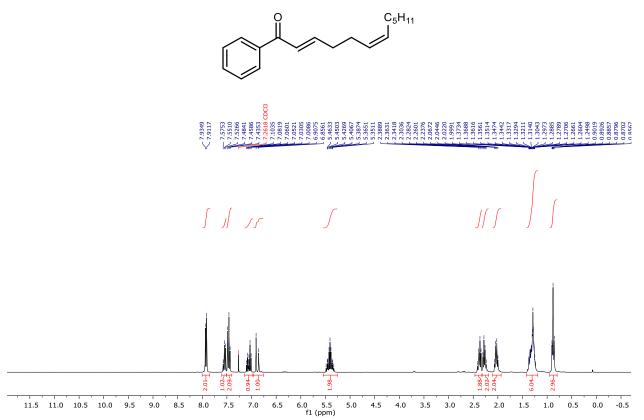
**Figure S23.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S8** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



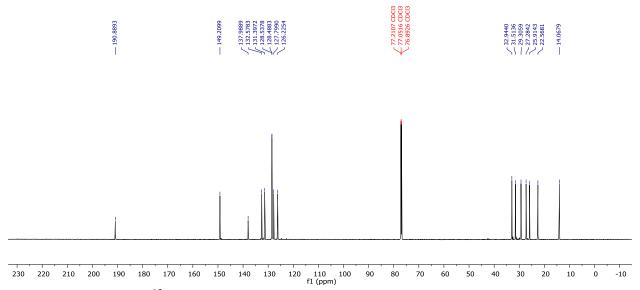
**Figure S24.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S9** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



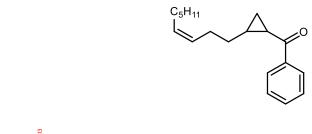
**Figure S25.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S9** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

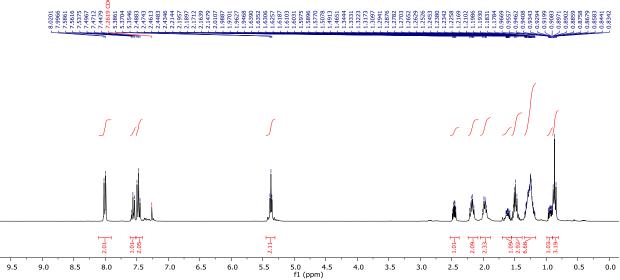


**Figure S26.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S10** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

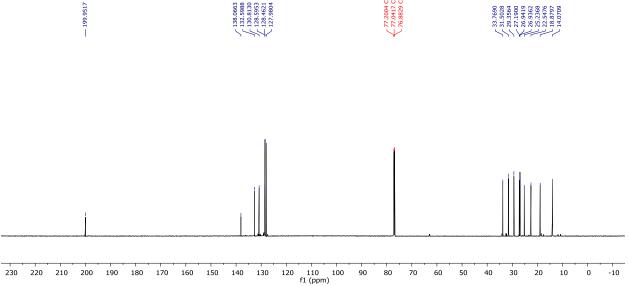


**Figure S27.** 13C NMR of **S10** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

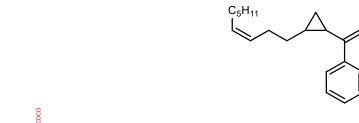




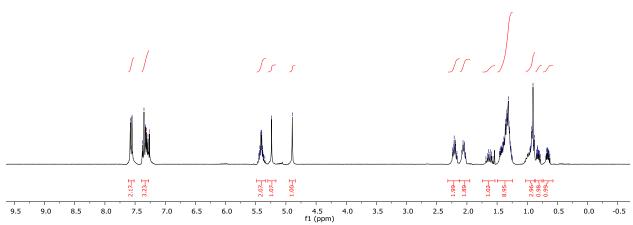
**Figure S28.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S11** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



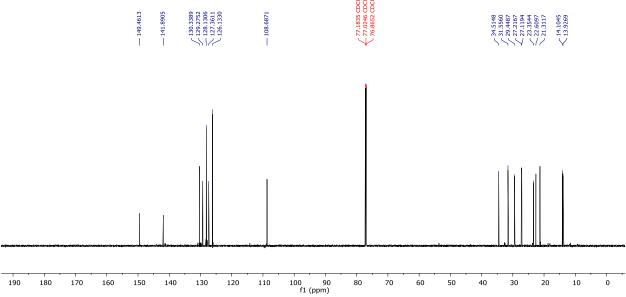
**Figure S29.** 13C NMR of **S11** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



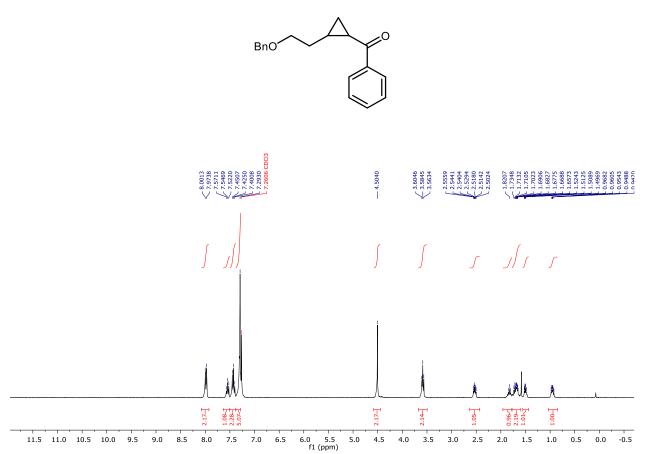




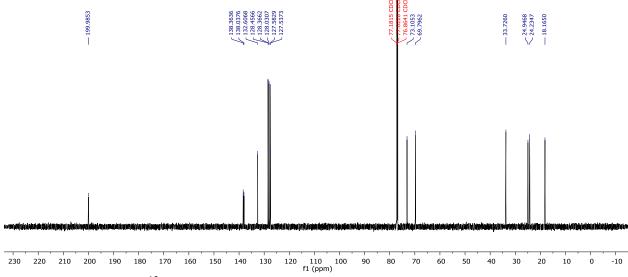
**Figure S30.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S12** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



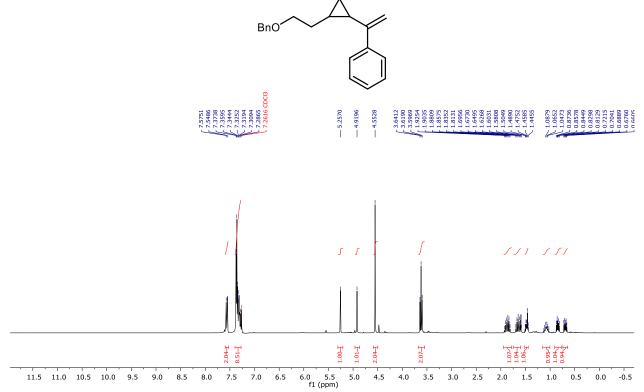
**Figure S31.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S12** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



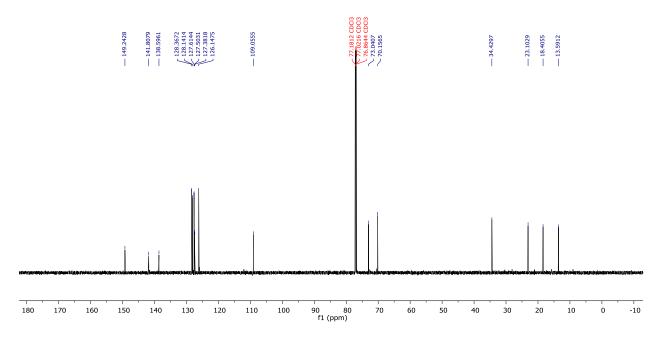
**Figure S32.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S13** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



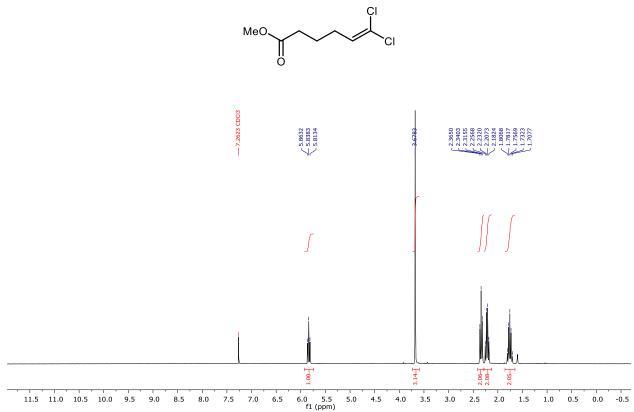
**Figure S33.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S13** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



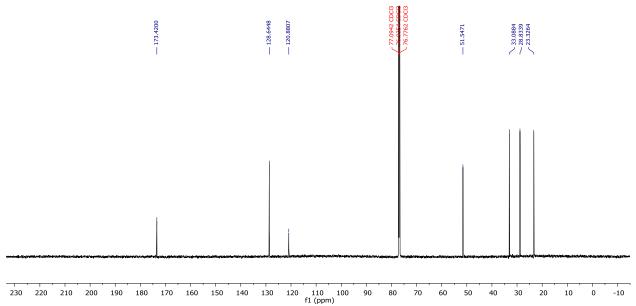
**Figure S34.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S14** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



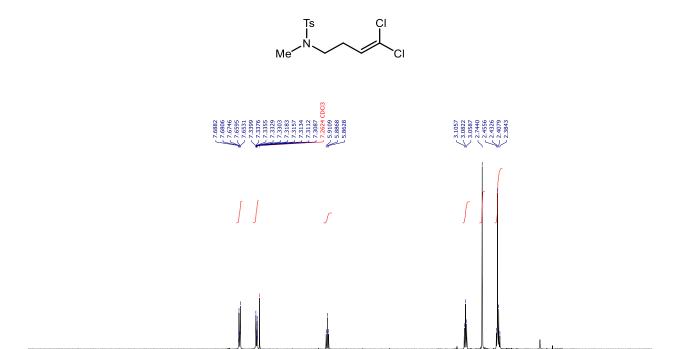
**Figure S35.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S14** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S36.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S15** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

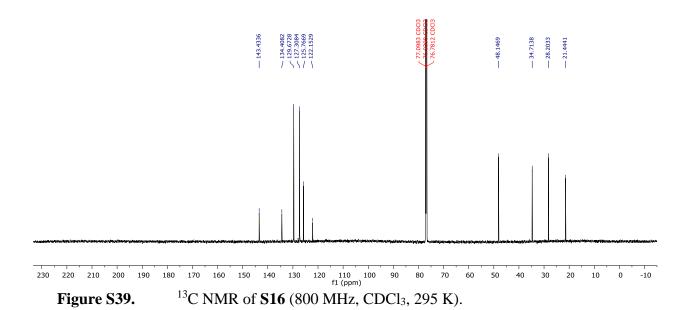


**Figure S37.** 13C NMR of **S15** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

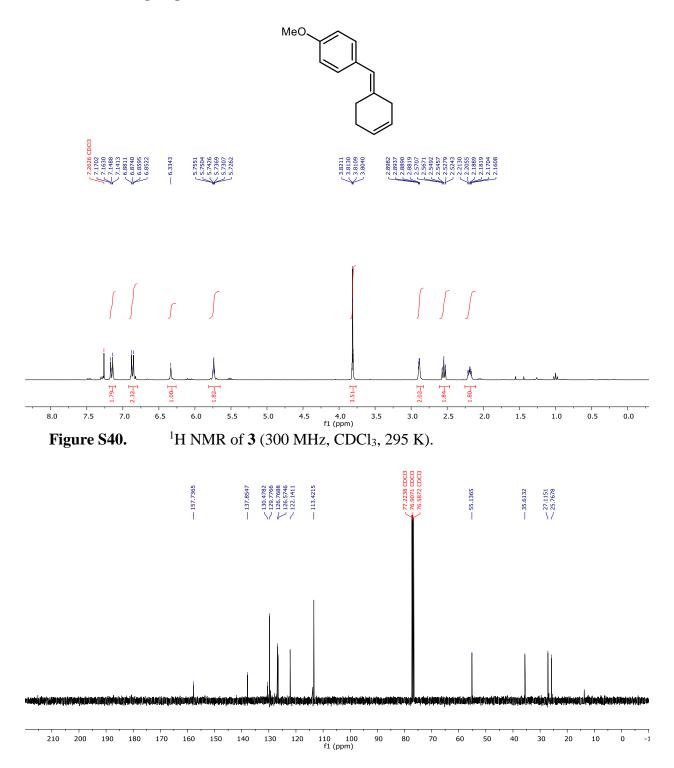


11.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 **Figure S38.** 

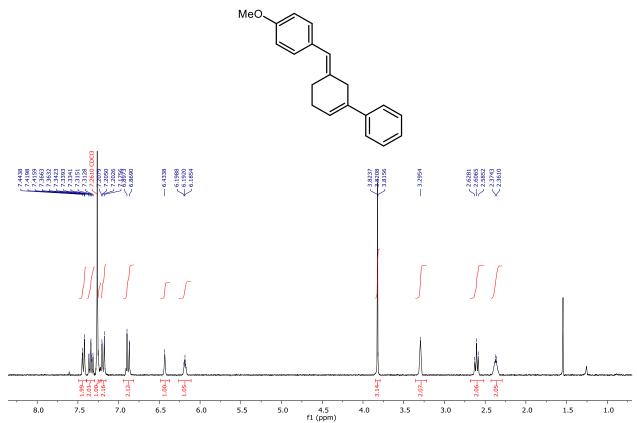
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S16** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



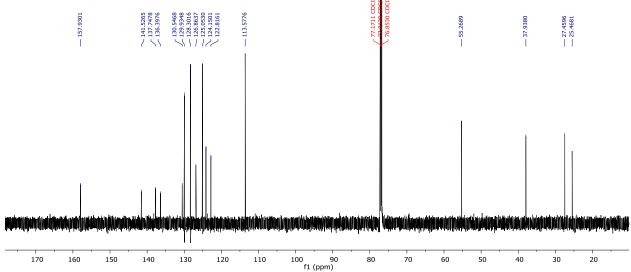
## 9. NMR Data for [5+1]-Products



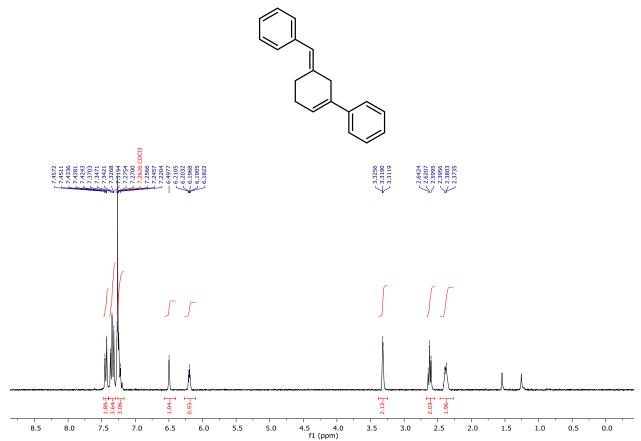
**Figure S41.** 13C NMR of **3** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



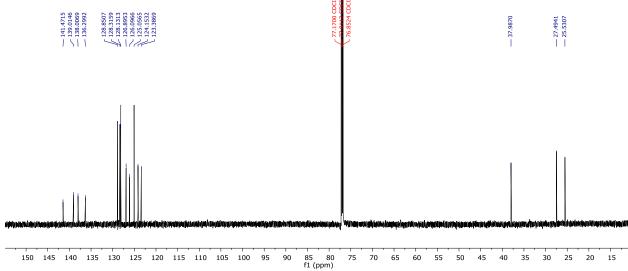
**Figure S42.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **6** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



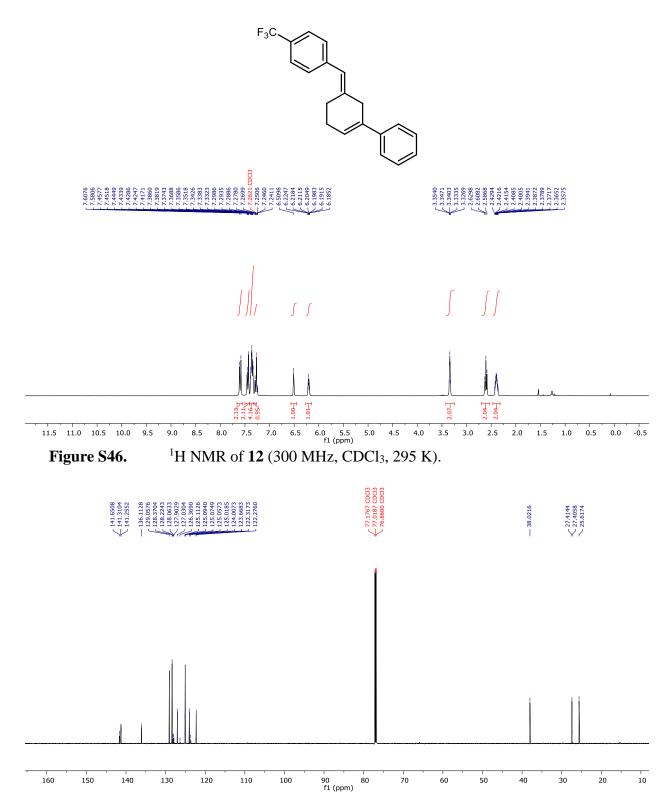
**Figure S43.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **6** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



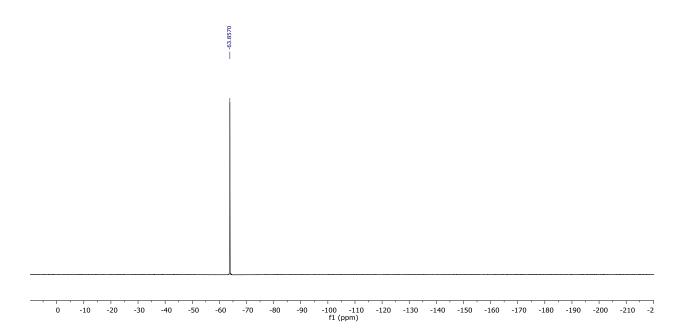
**Figure S44.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **11** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



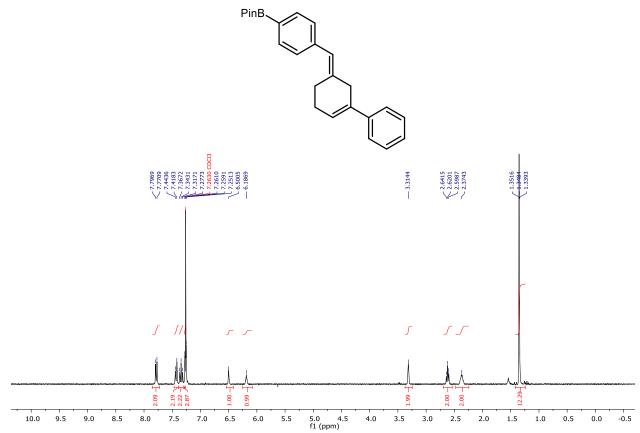
**Figure S45.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **11** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



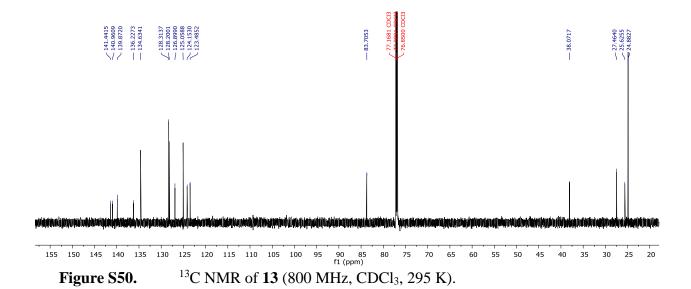
**Figure S47.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **12** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

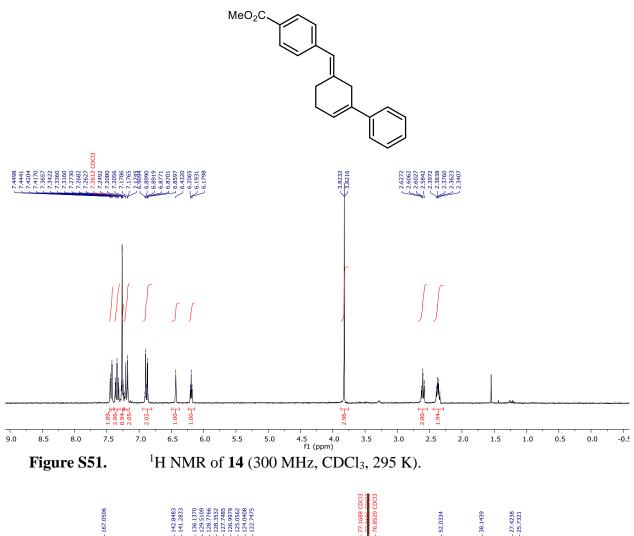


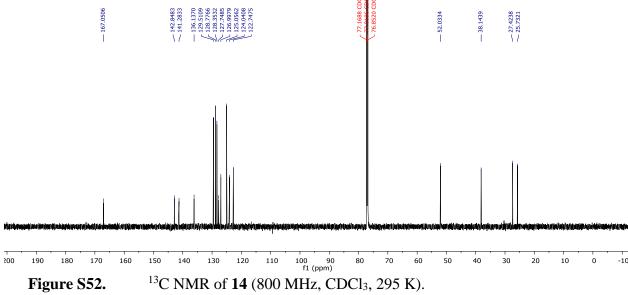
**Figure S48.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **12** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

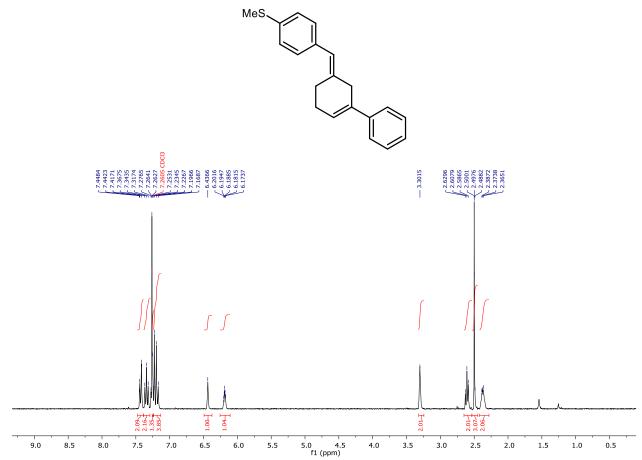


**Figure S49.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **13** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

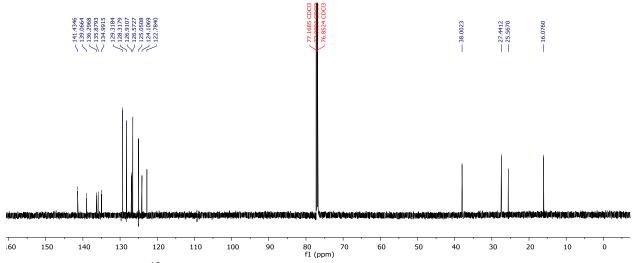




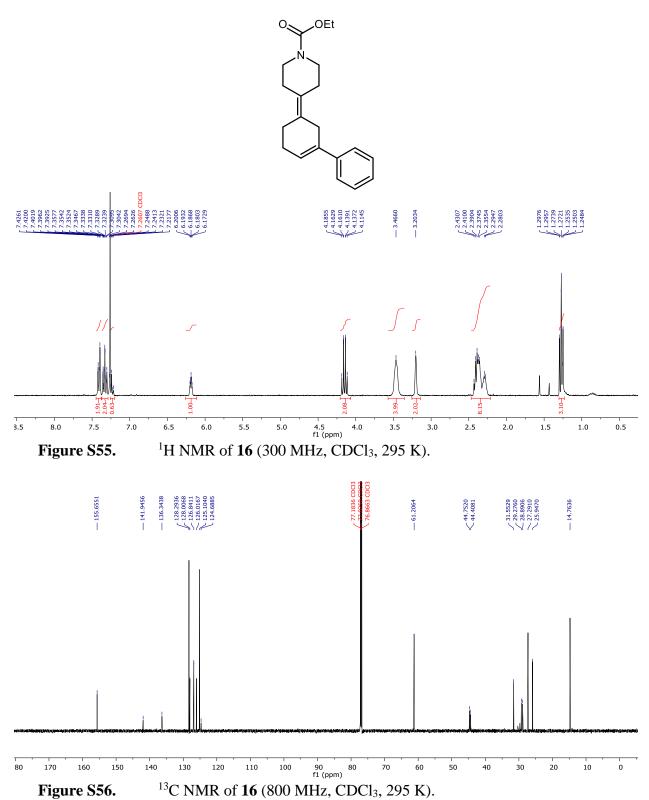




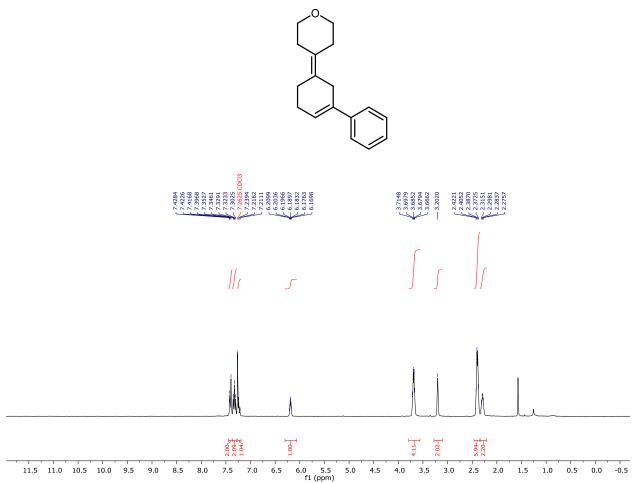
**Figure S53.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **15** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



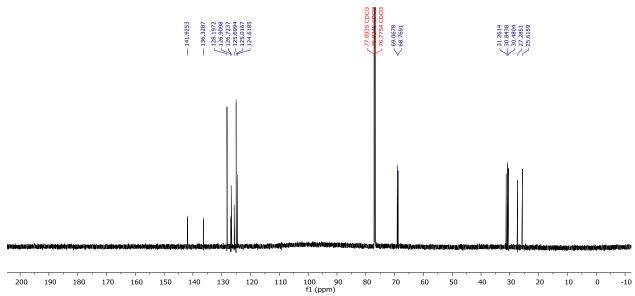
**Figure S54.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **15** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



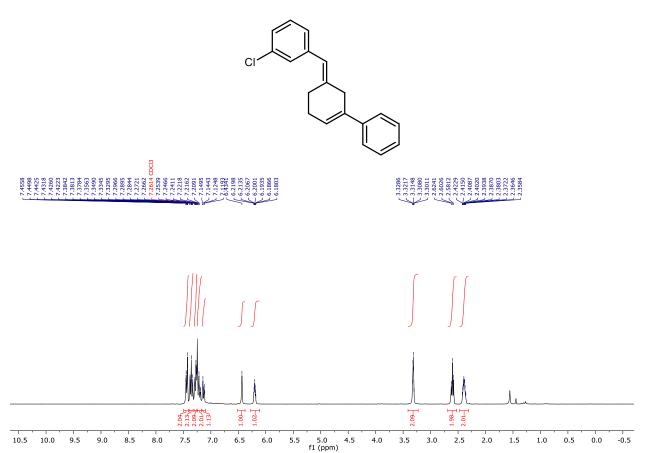
rigure 550. C TWIN OF TO (600 WITE, CDC13, 275 K)



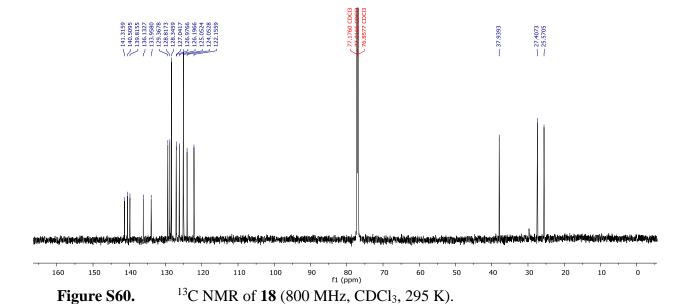
**Figure S57.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **17** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

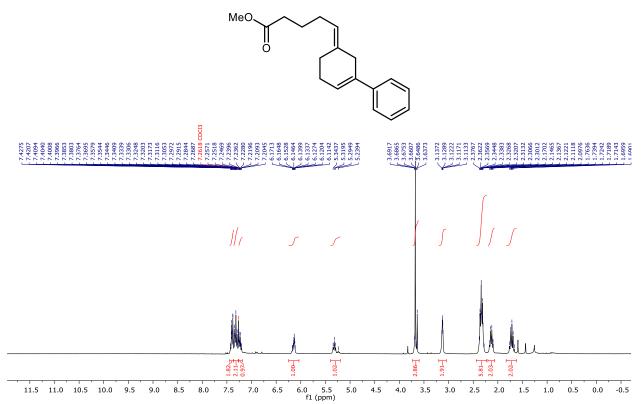


**Figure S58.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **17** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

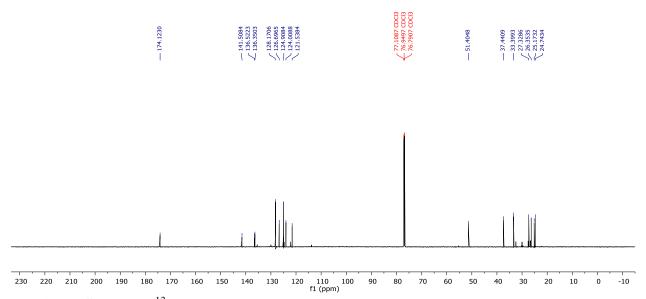


**Figure S59.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **18** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

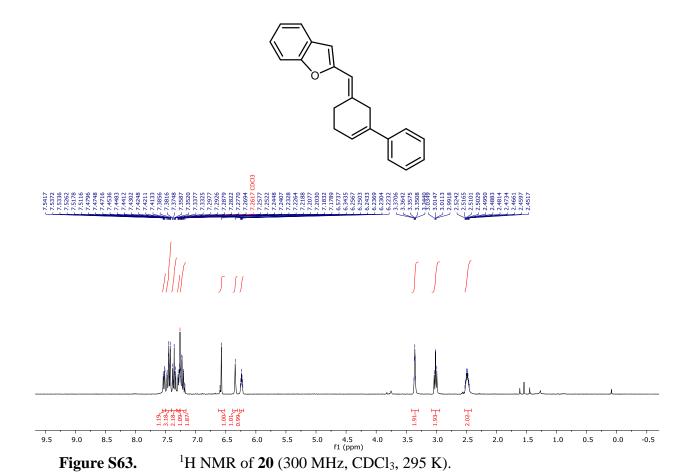


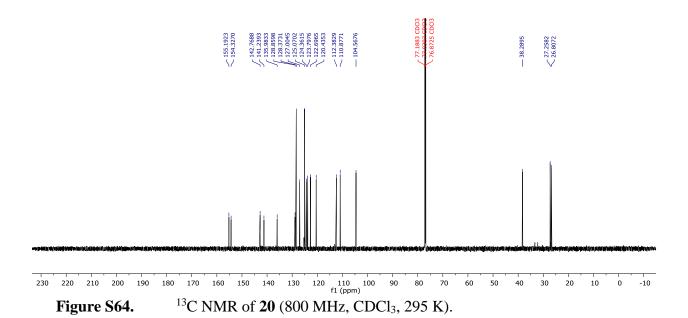


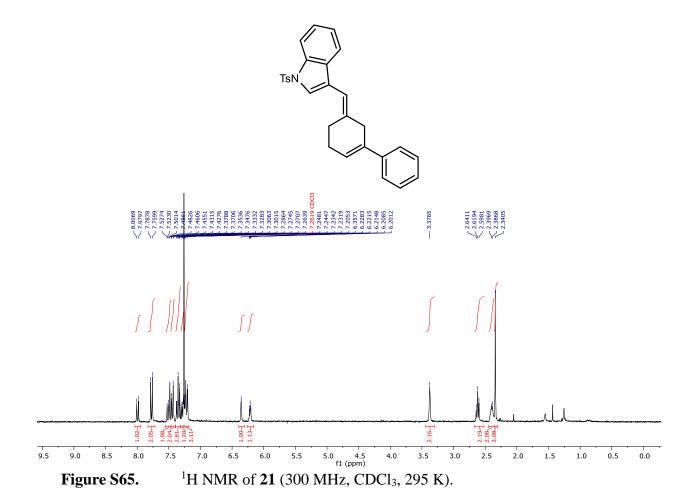
**Figure S61.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **19** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

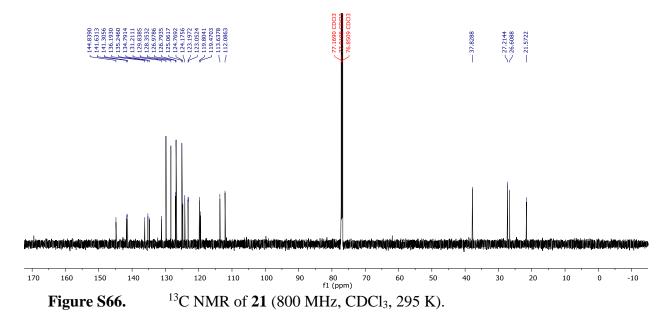


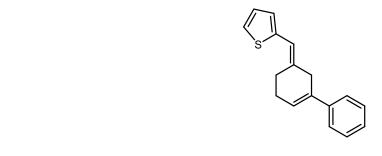
**Figure S62.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **19** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

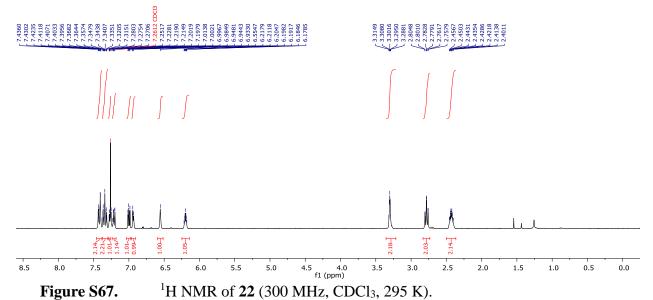


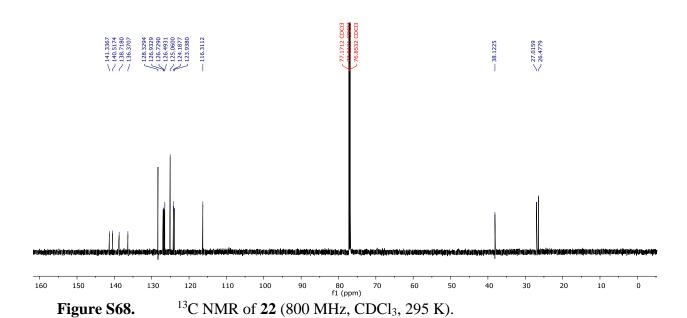


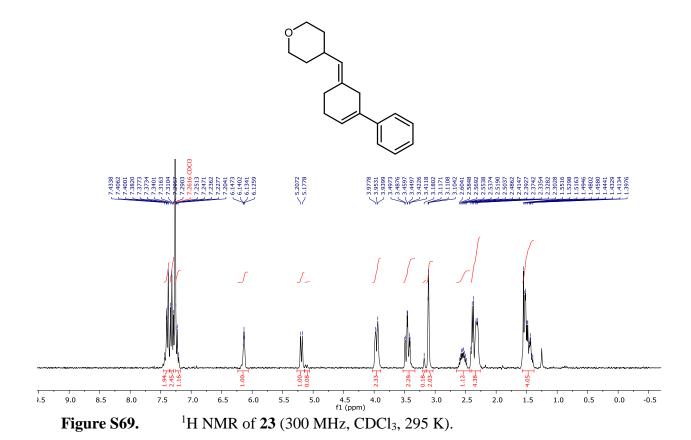


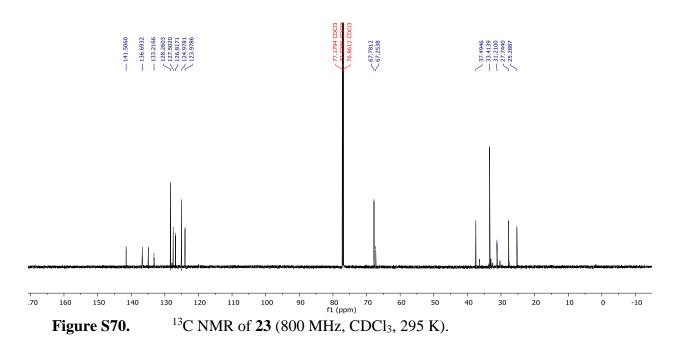


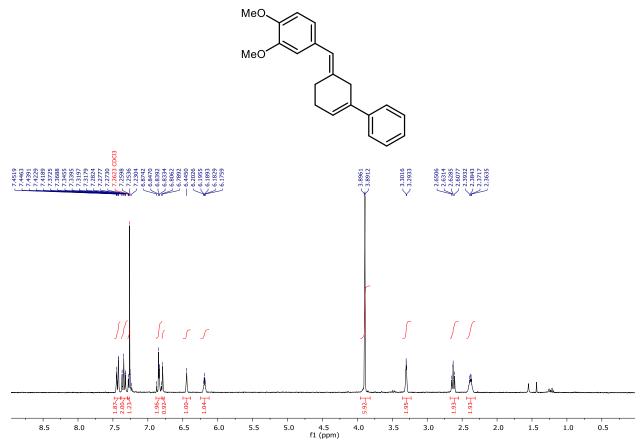




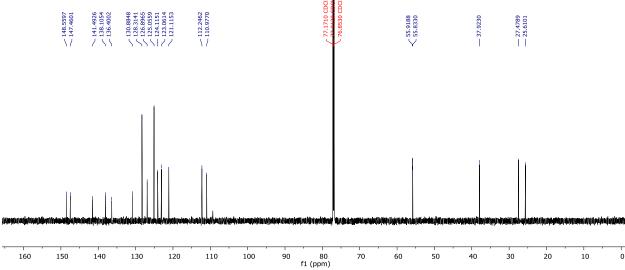




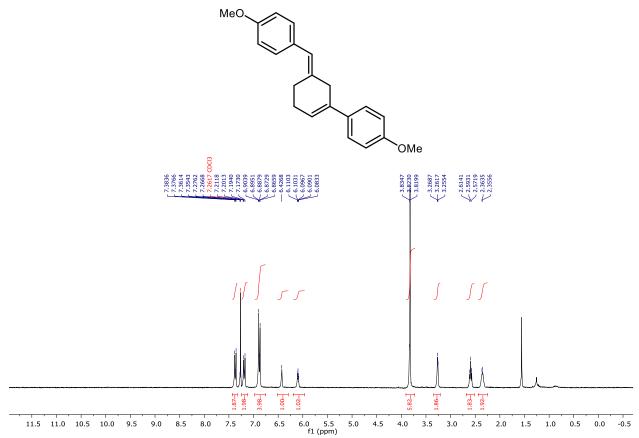




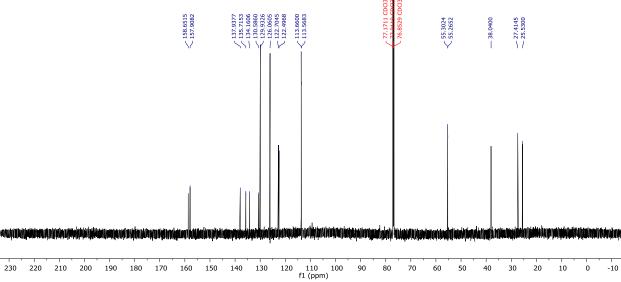
**Figure S71.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **24** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



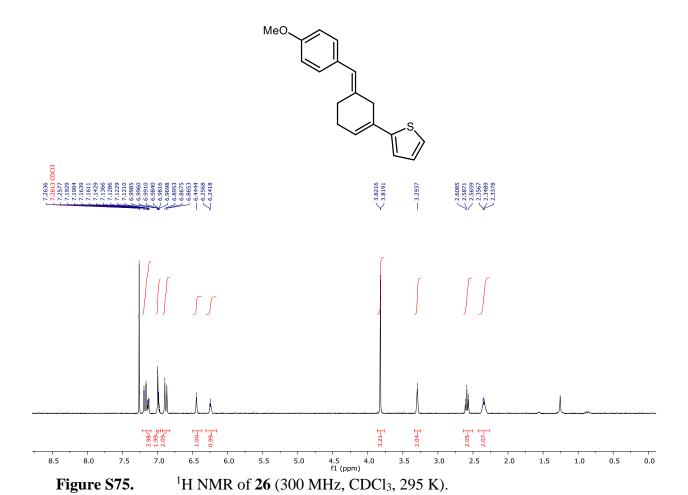
**Figure S72.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **24** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

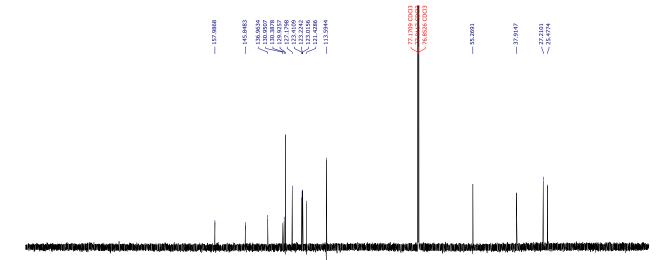


**Figure S73.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **25** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

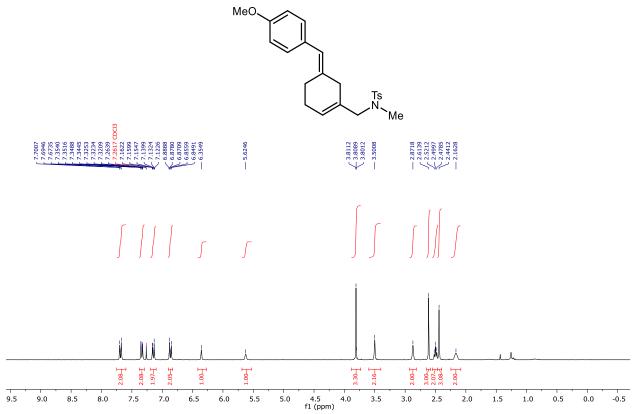


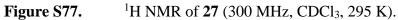
**Figure S74.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **25** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

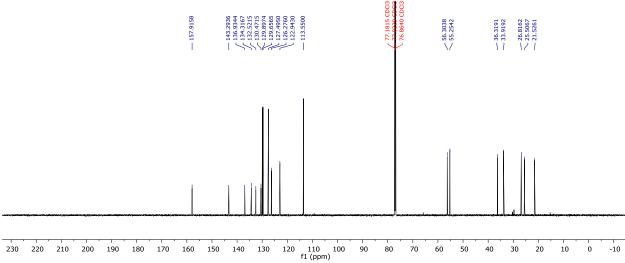




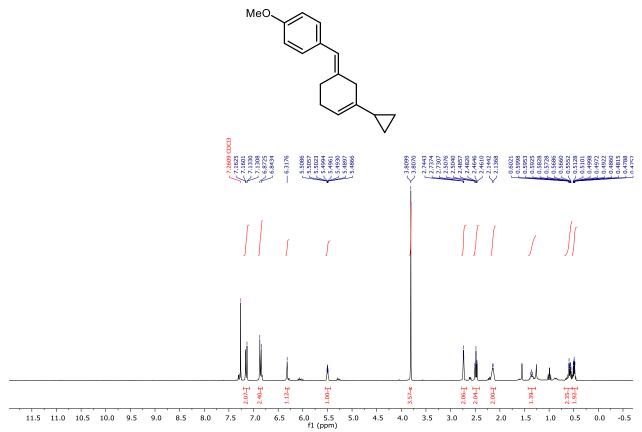
230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 f1 (ppm)



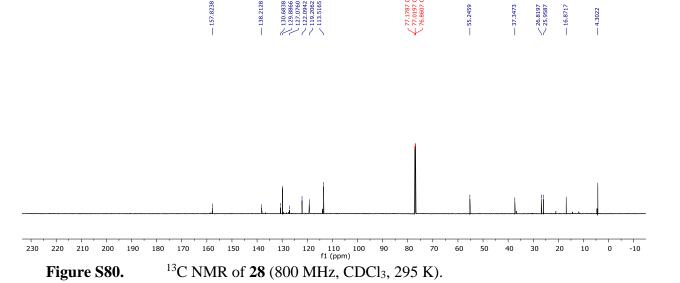


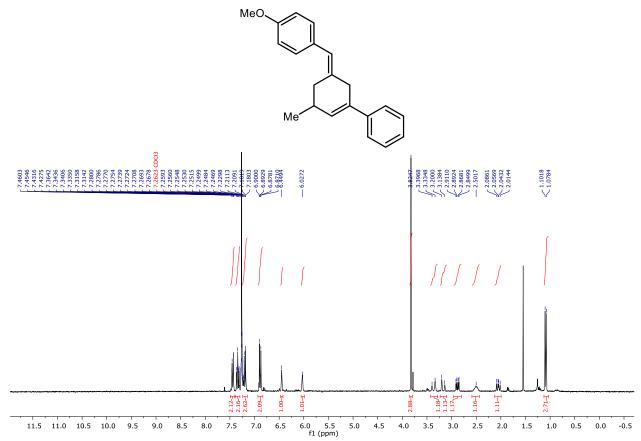


**Figure S78.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **27** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

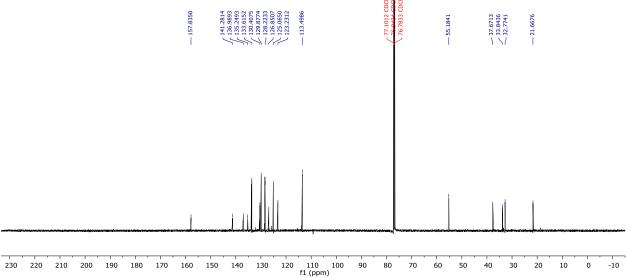


**Figure S79.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **28** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

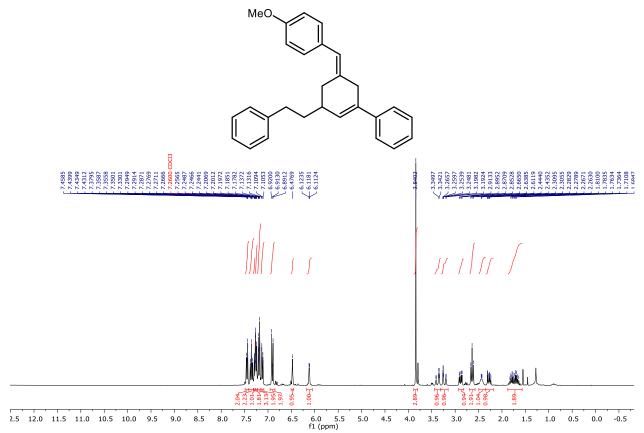




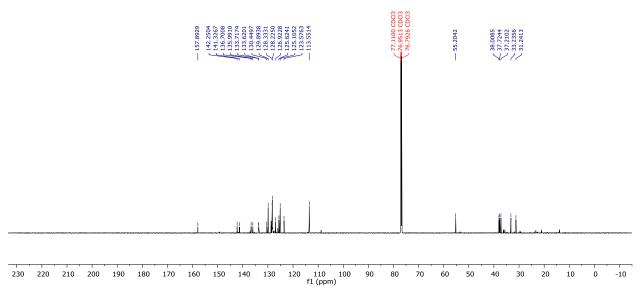
**Figure S81.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **30** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



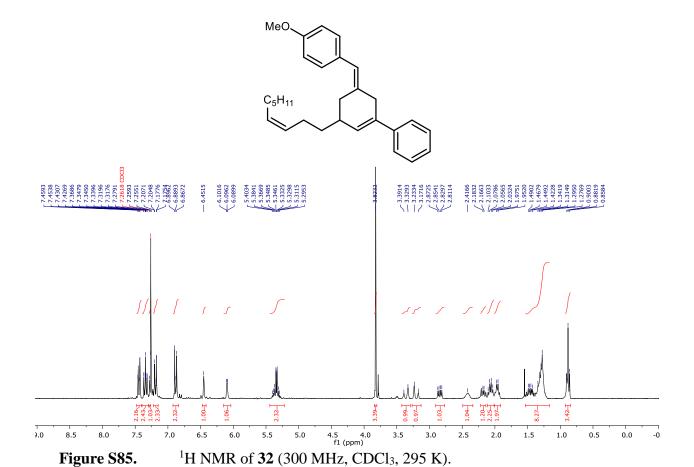
**Figure S82.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **30** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

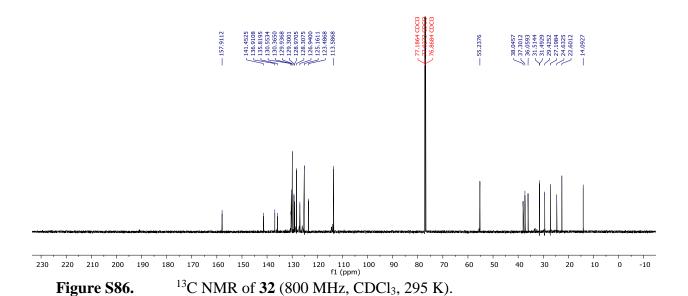


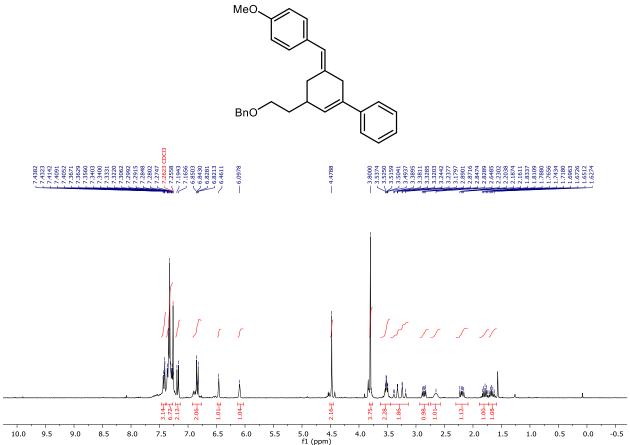
**Figure S83.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **31** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

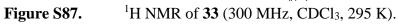


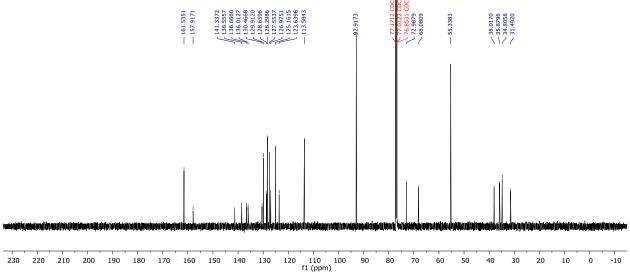
**Figure S84.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **31** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



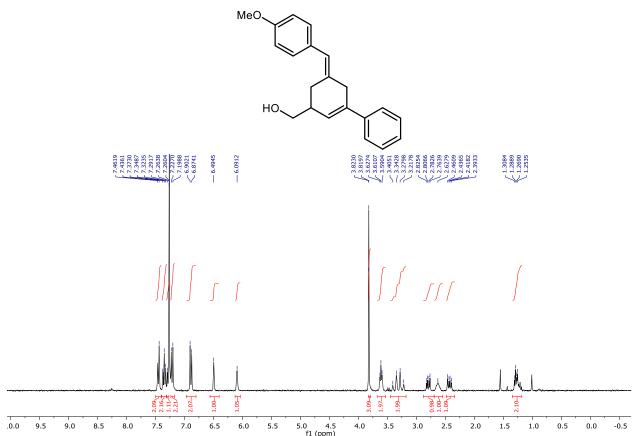


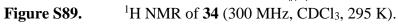


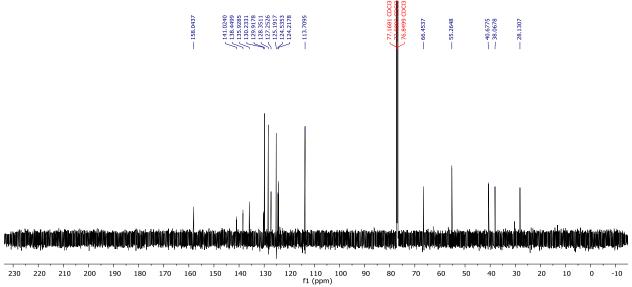




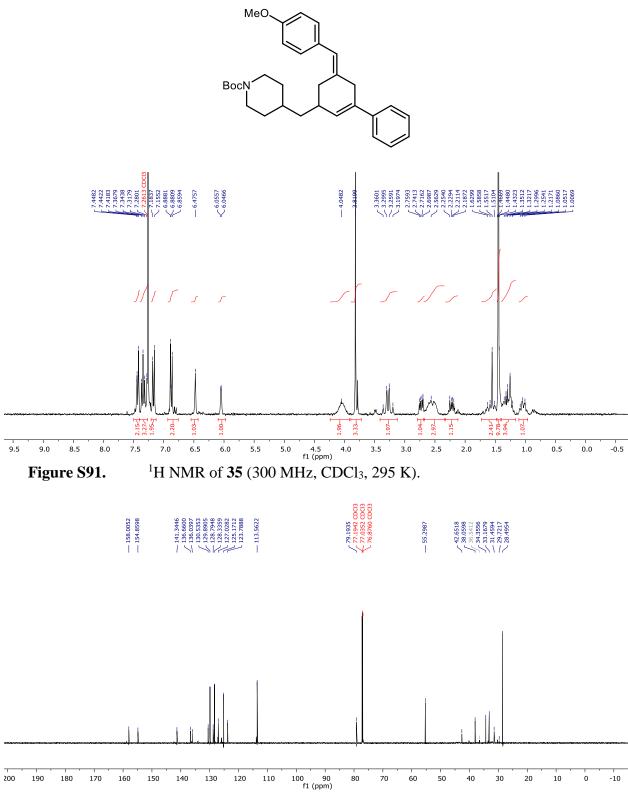
**Figure S88.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **33** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



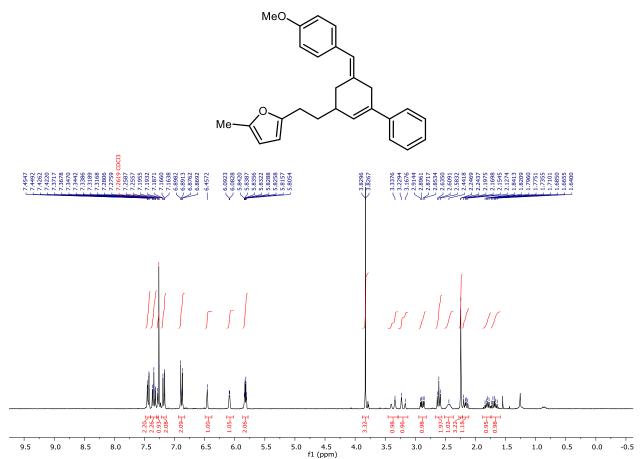




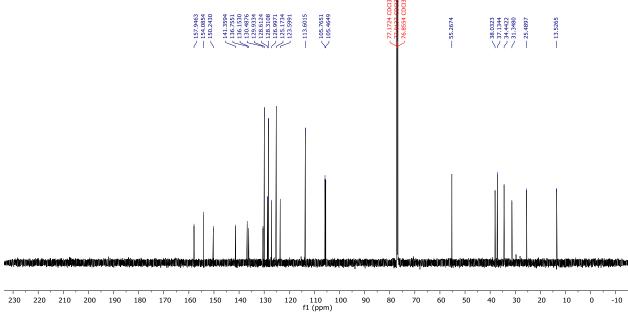
**Figure S90.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **34** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



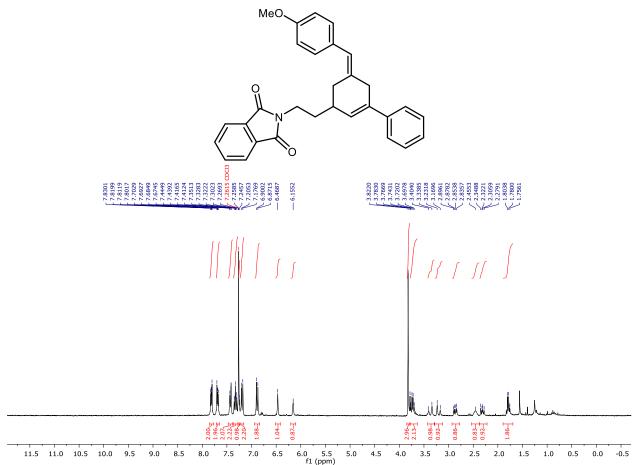
**Figure S92.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **35** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



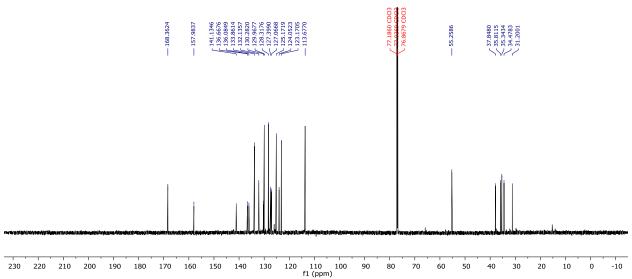
**Figure S93.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **36** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



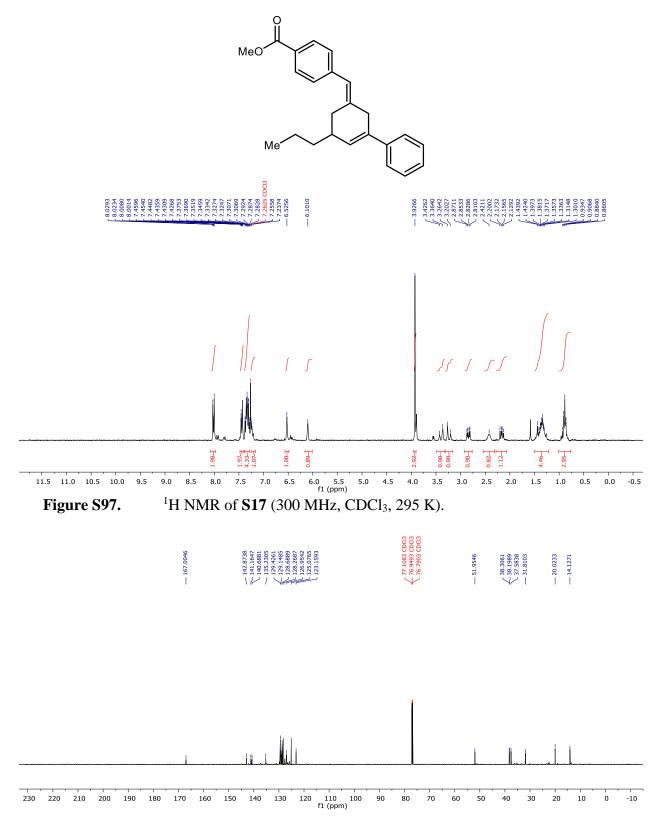
**Figure S94.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **36** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



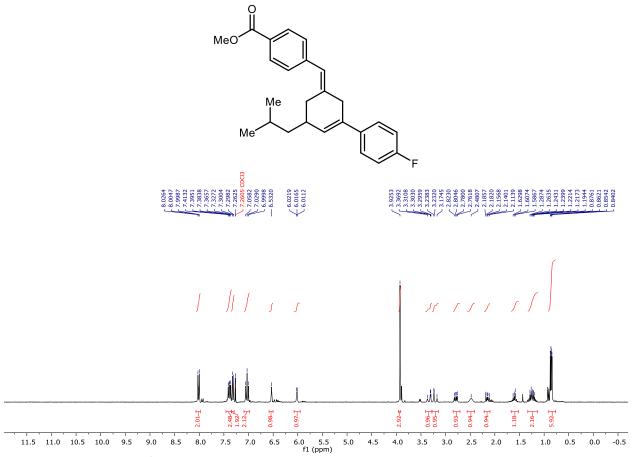
**Figure S95.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **37** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



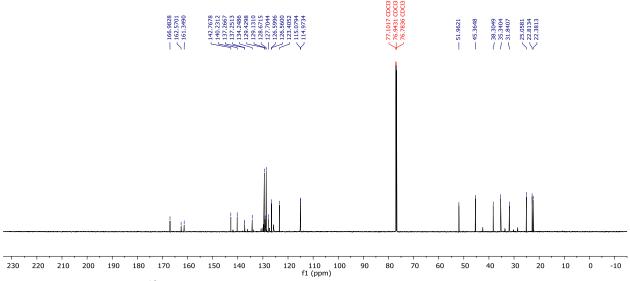
**Figure S96.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **37** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



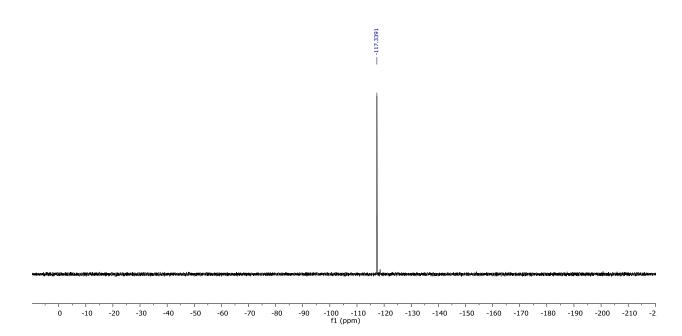
**Figure S98.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S17** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



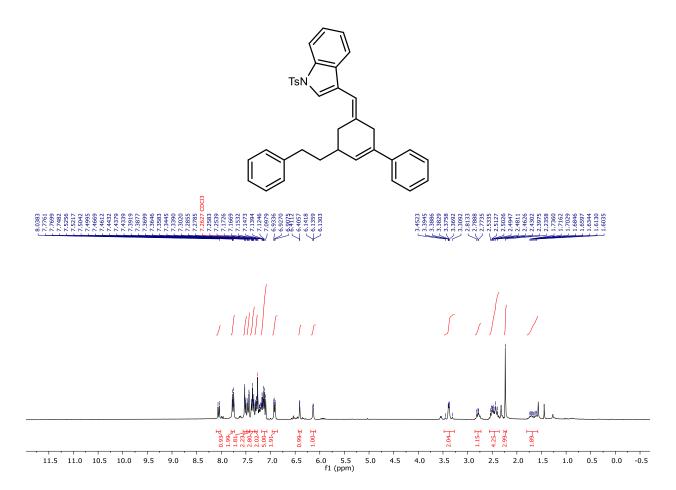
**Figure S99.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S18** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



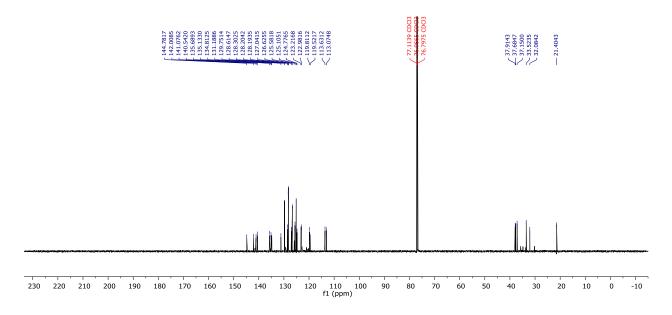
**Figure S100.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S18** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



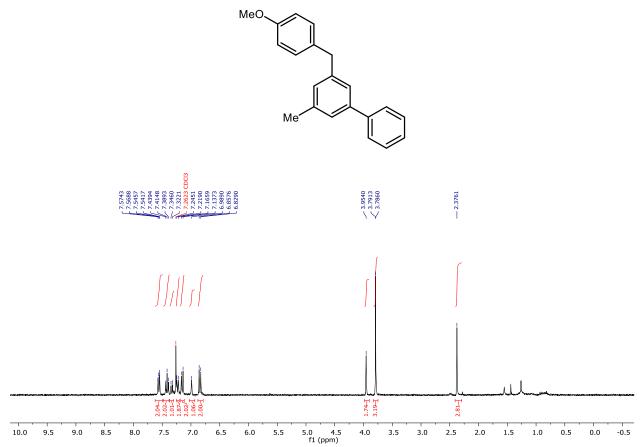
**Figure S101.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **S18** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



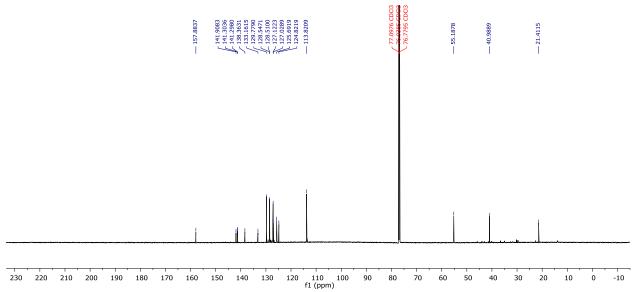
**Figure S102.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S19** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



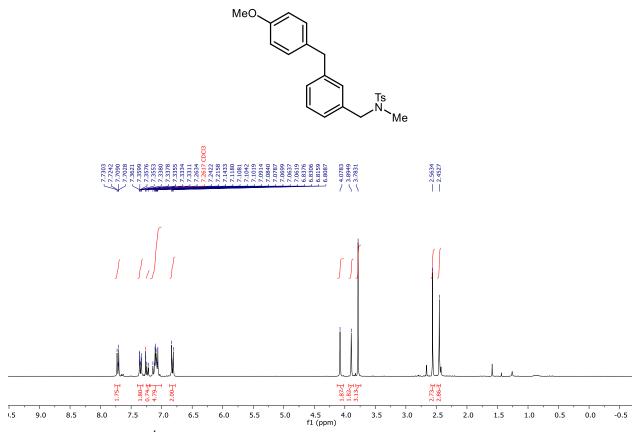
**Figure S103.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S19** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



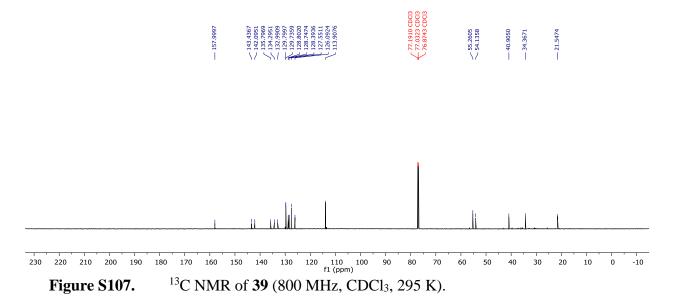
**Figure S104.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **38** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

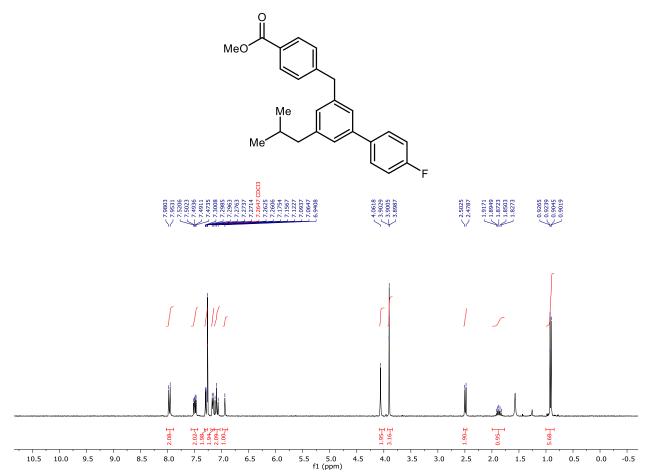


**Figure S105.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **38** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

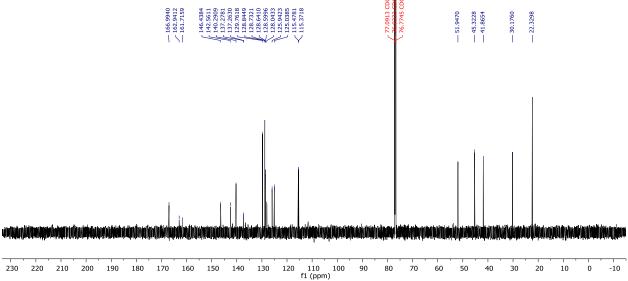


**Figure S106.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **39** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

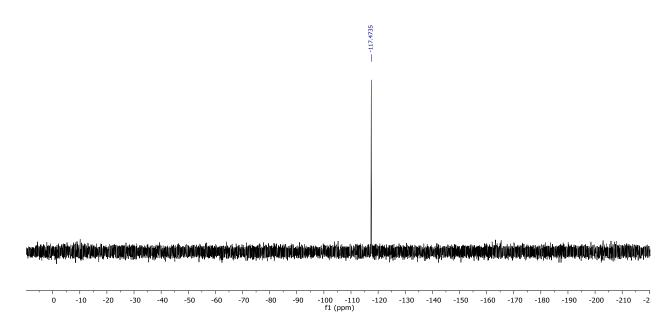




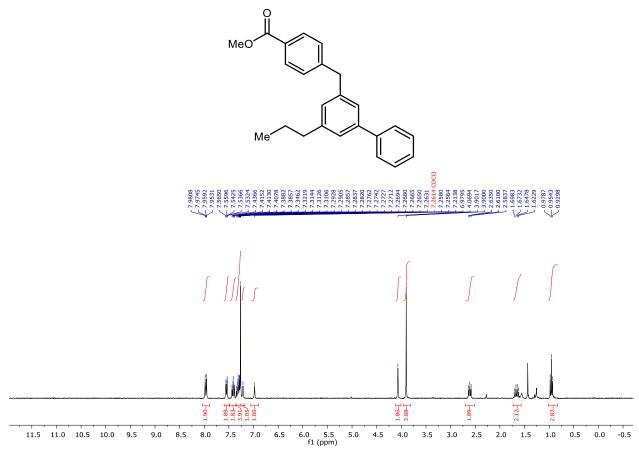
**Figure S108.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **40** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



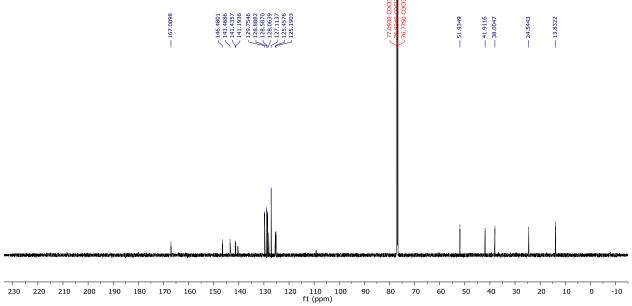
**Figure S109.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **40** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



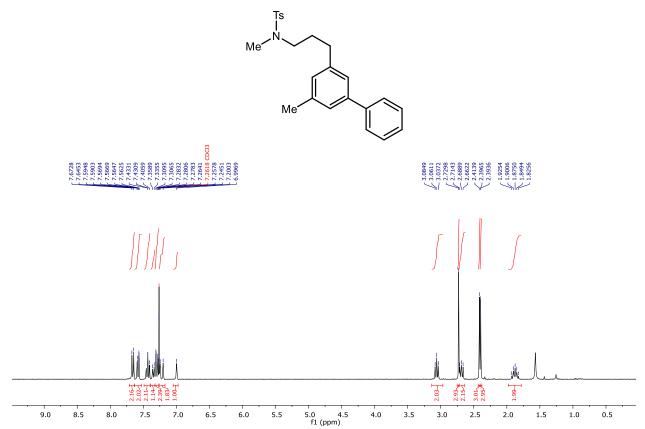
**Figure S110.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **39** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



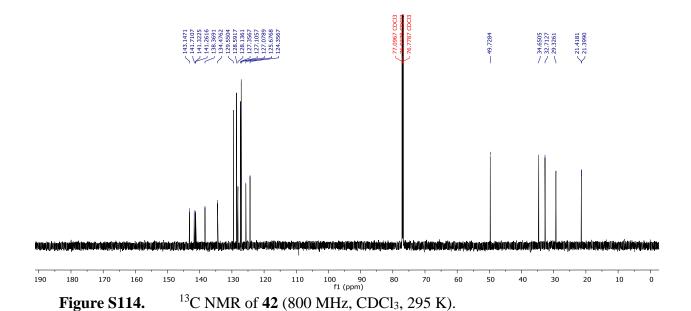
**Figure S111.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **41** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

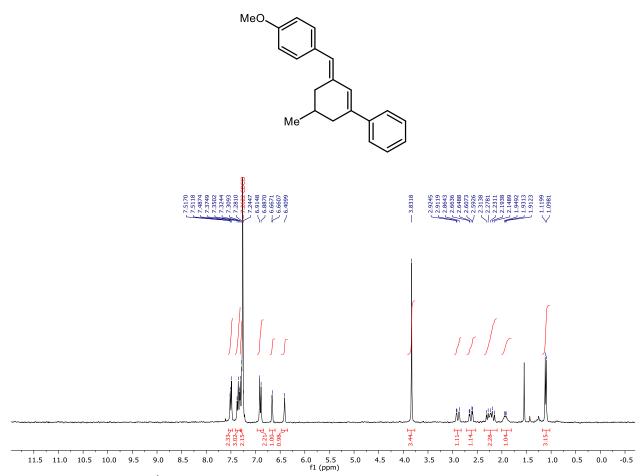


**Figure S112.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **41** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

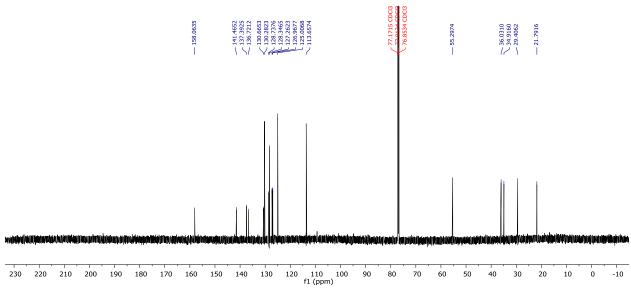


**Figure S113.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **42** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

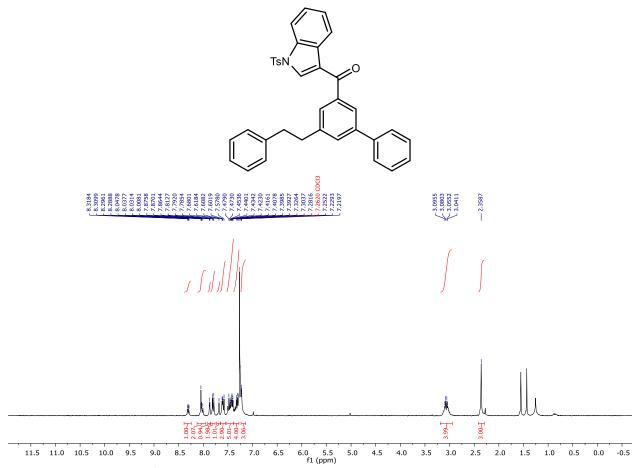




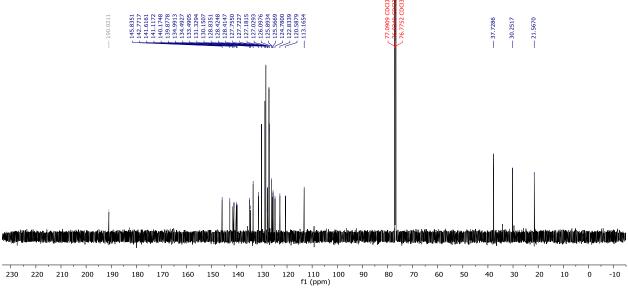
**Figure S115.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **43** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



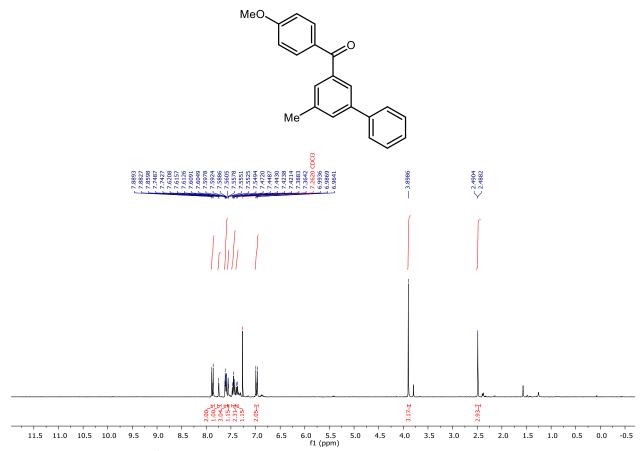
**Figure S116.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **43** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



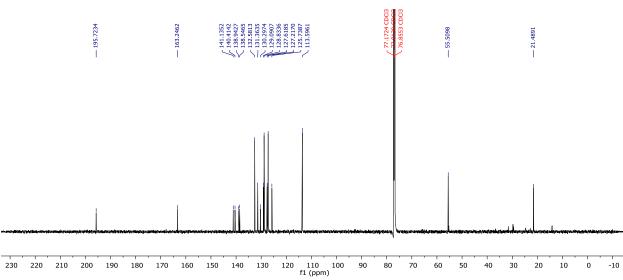
**Figure S117.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **44** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



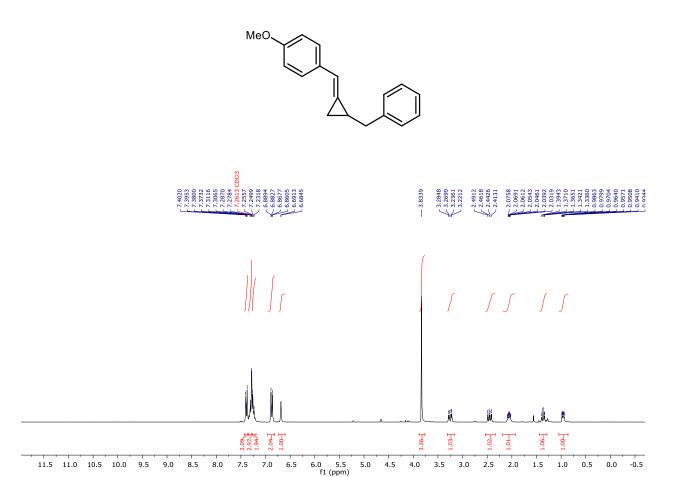
**Figure S118.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **44** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



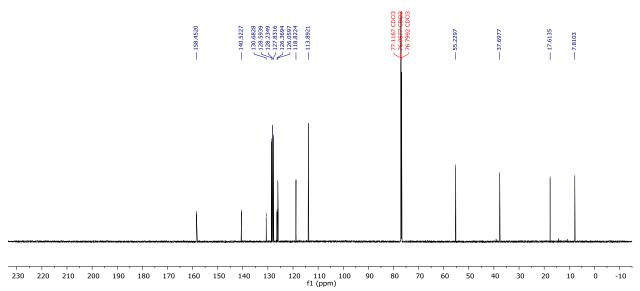
**Figure S119.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **45** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



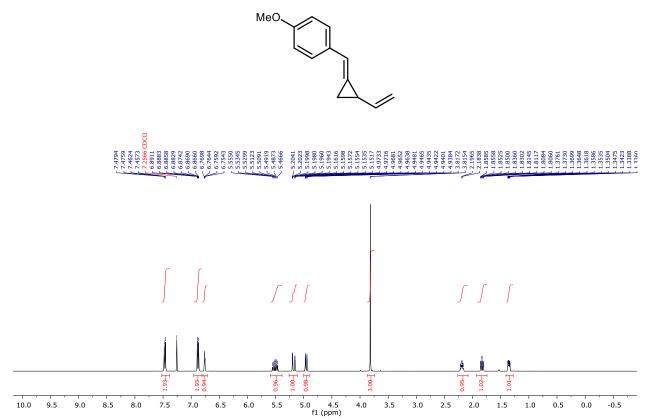
**Figure S120.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **45** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



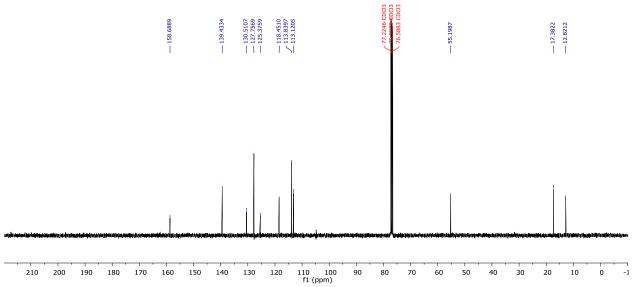
**Figure S121.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **47** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



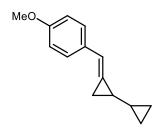
**Figure S122.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **47** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

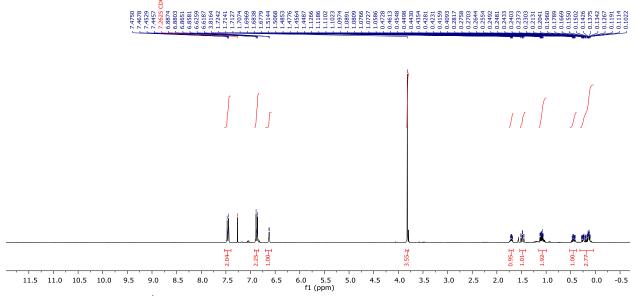


**Figure S123.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **S21** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

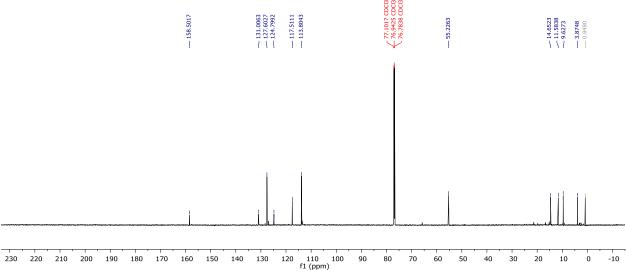


**Figure S124.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **S21** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



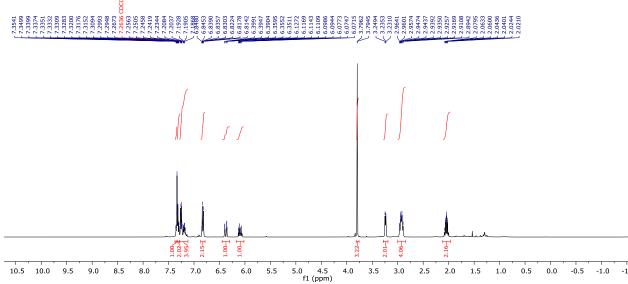


**Figure S125.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

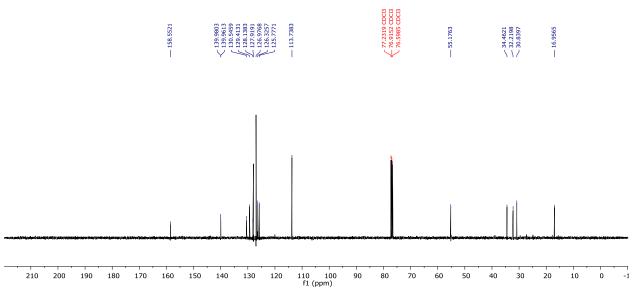


**Figure S126.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **4** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).





**Figure S127.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **49** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).



**Figure S128.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **49** (800 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 295 K).

## 10. IR Data for Vinylcyclopropanes and [5+1]-Products

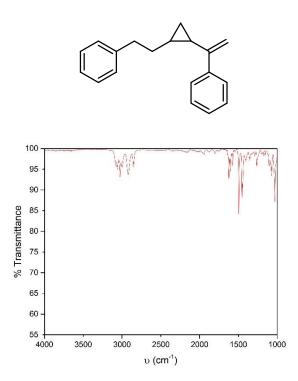


Figure S1. FT-IR of S1.

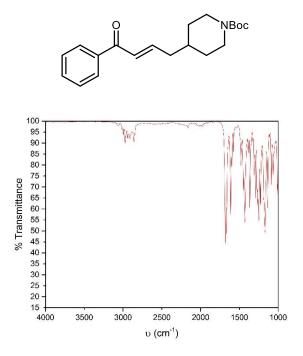
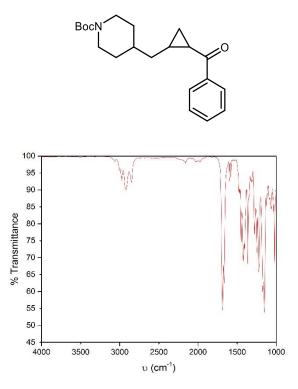
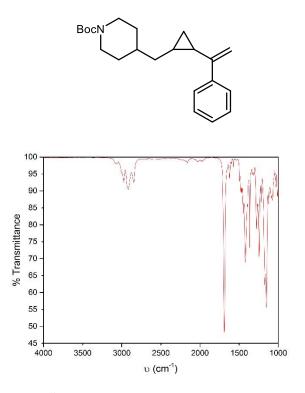


Figure S2. FT-IR of S2.



**Figure S3.** FT-IR of **S3**.



**Figure S4.** FT-IR of **S4**.

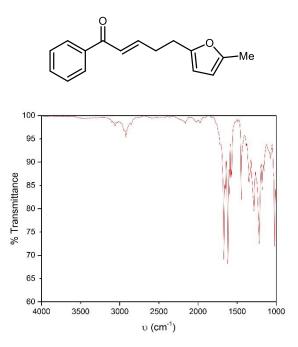
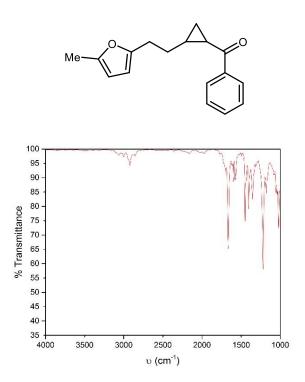


Figure S5. FT-IR of S5.



**Figure S6.** FT-IR of **S6**.

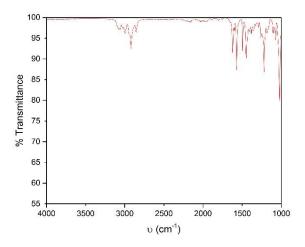


Figure S7. FT-IR of S7.

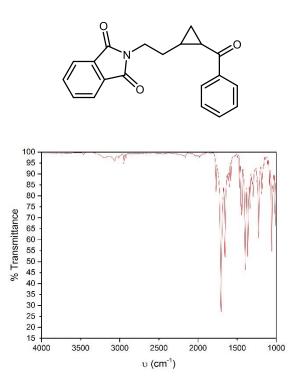
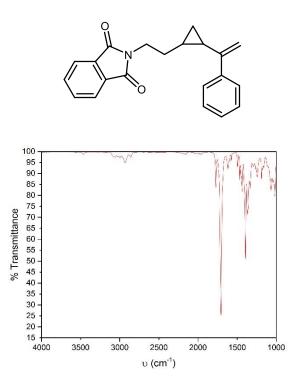
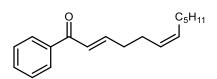


Figure S8. FT-IR of S8.



**Figure S9.** FT-IR of **S9**.



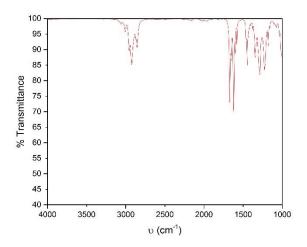


Figure S10. FT-IR of S10.

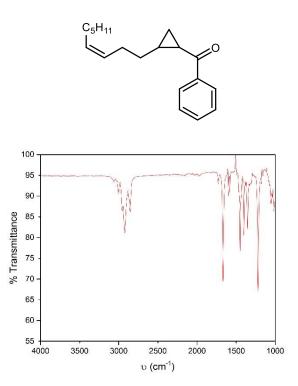


Figure S11. FT-IR of S11.

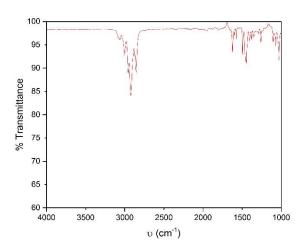


Figure S12. FT-IR of S12.

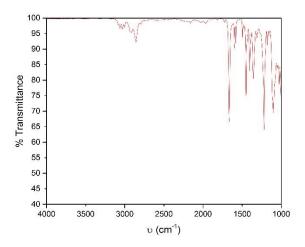


Figure S13. FT-IR of S13.

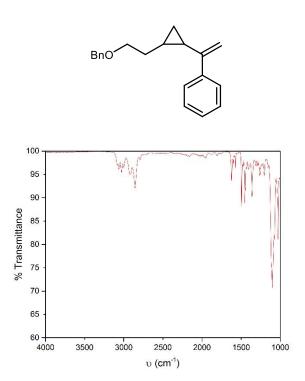


Figure S14. FT-IR of S14.

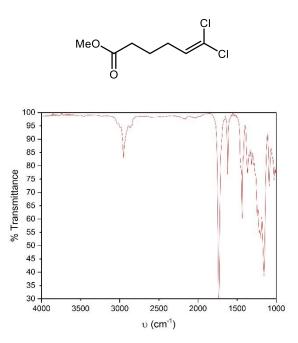


Figure S15. FT-IR of S15.

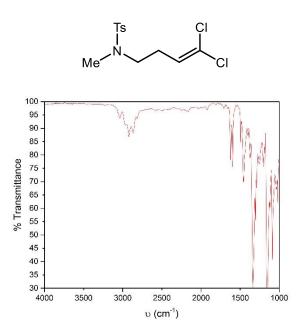
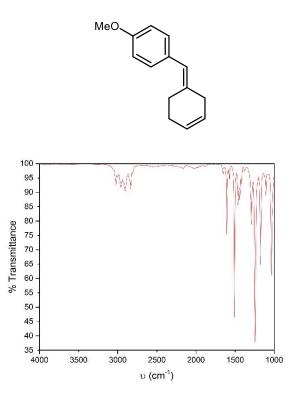
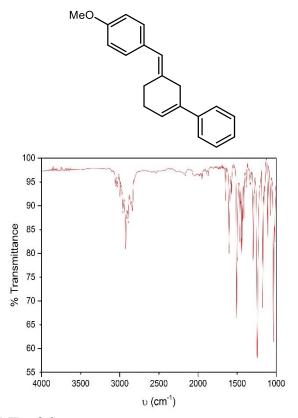


Figure S16. FT-IR of S16.



**Figure S17.** FT-IR of **3**.



**Figure S18.** FT-IR of **6**.

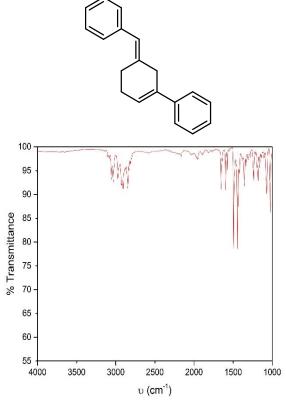


Figure S19. FT-IR of 11.

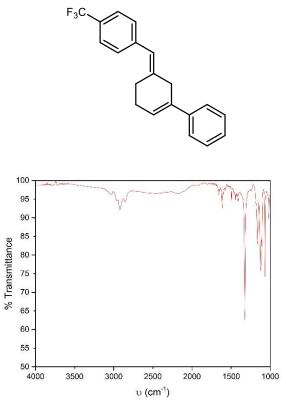


Figure S20. FT-IR of 12.

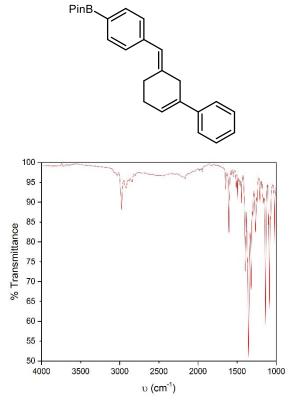


Figure S21. FT-IR of 13.

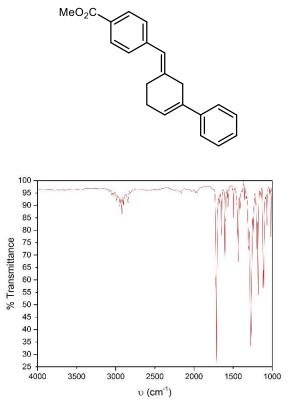


Figure S22. FT-IR of 14.

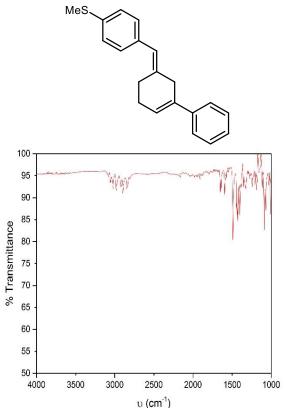
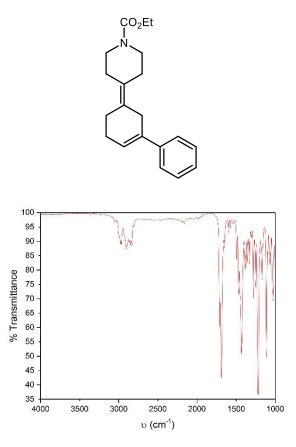
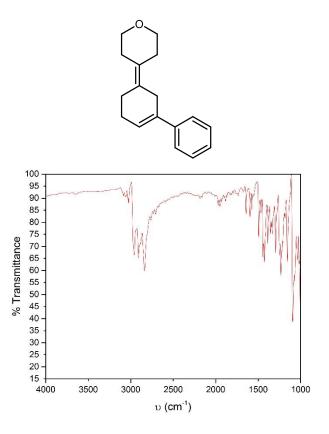


Figure S23. FT-IR of 15.



**Figure S24.** FT-IR of **16**.



**Figure S25.** FT-IR of **17**.

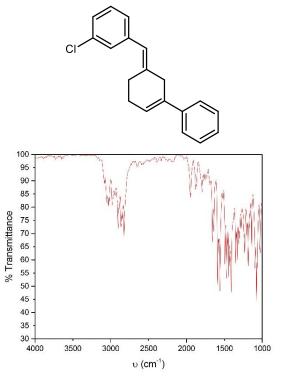


Figure S26. FT-IR of 18.

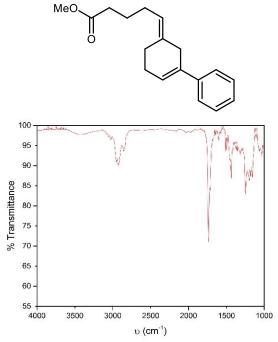


Figure S27. FT-IR of 19.

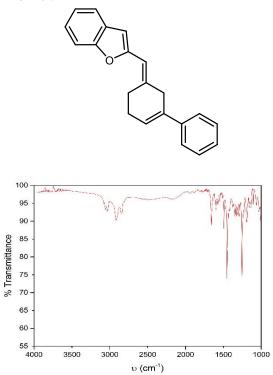


Figure S28. FT-IR of 20.

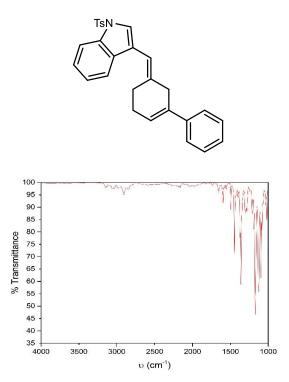


Figure S29. FT-IR of 21.

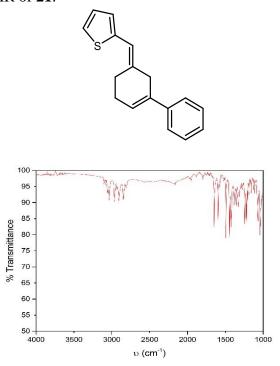


Figure S30. FT-IR of 22.

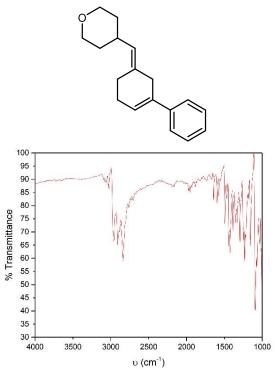


Figure S31. FT-IR of 23.

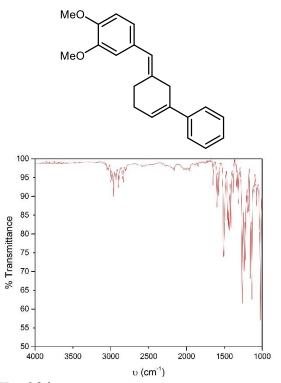


Figure S32. FT-IR of 24.

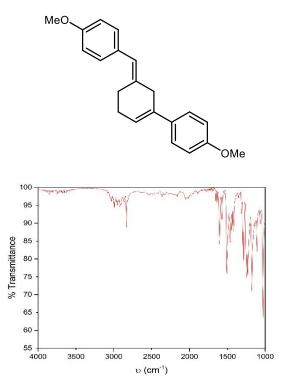


Figure S33. FT-IR of 25.

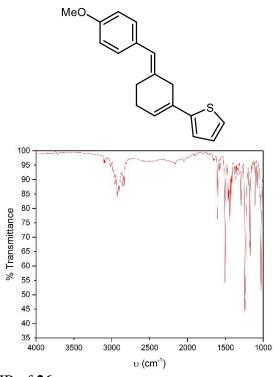


Figure S34. FT-IR of 26.

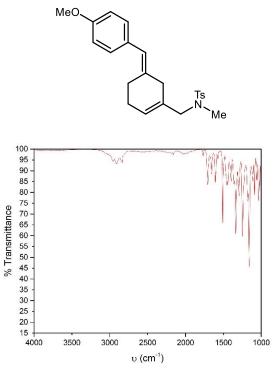


Figure S35. FT-IR of 27.

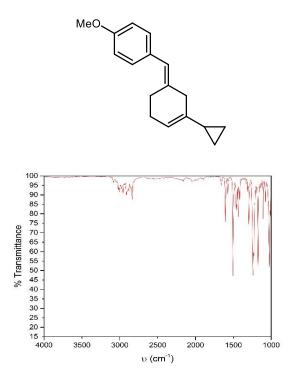


Figure S36. FT-IR of 28.

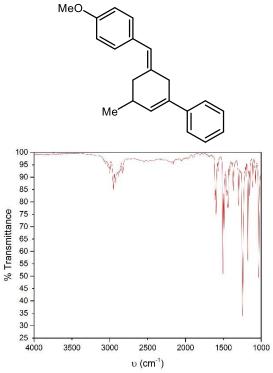


Figure S37. FT-IR of 30.

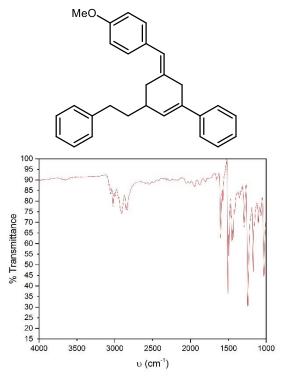


Figure S38. FT-IR of 31.

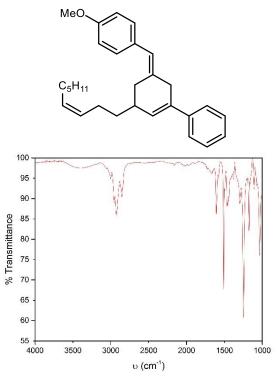


Figure S39. FT-IR of 32.

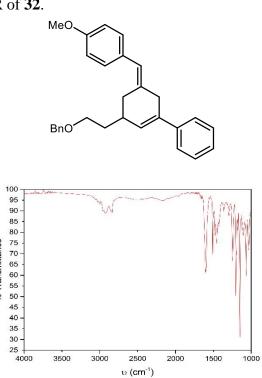


Figure S40. FT-IR of 33.

% Transmittance

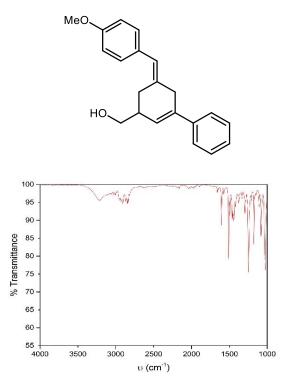


Figure S41. FT-IR of 34.

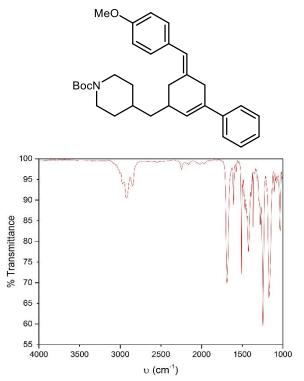


Figure S42. FT-IR of 35.

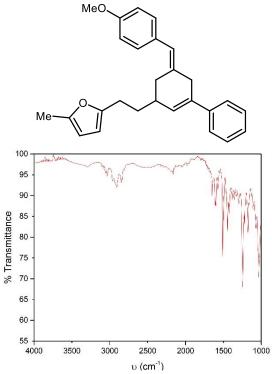
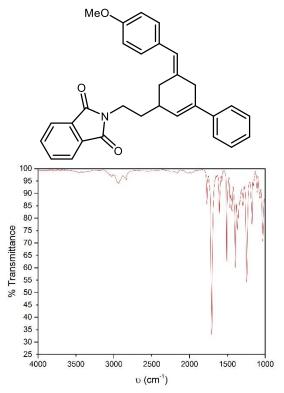


Figure S43. FT-IR of 36.



**Figure S44.** FT-IR of **37**.

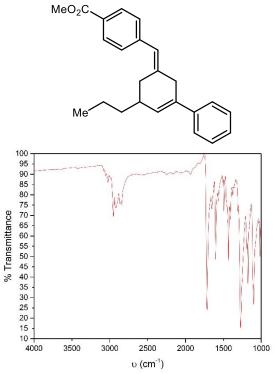


Figure S45. FT-IR of S18.

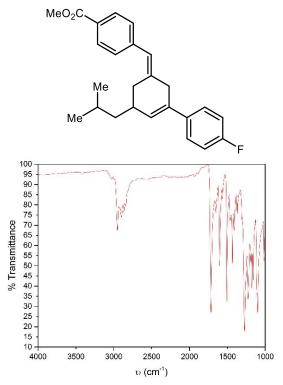


Figure S46. FT-IR of S19.

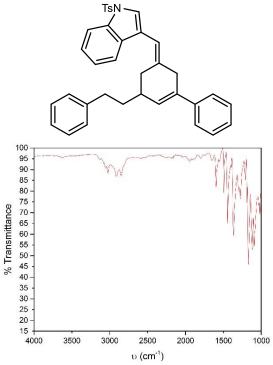


Figure S47. FT-IR of S20.

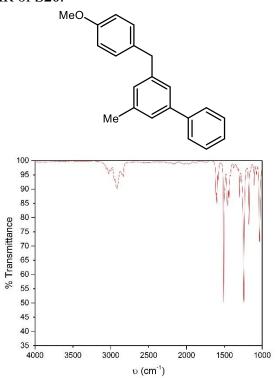
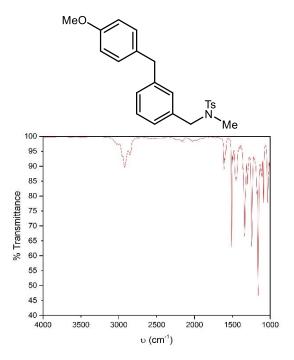


Figure S48. FT-IR of 38.



**Figure S49.** FT-IR of **39**.

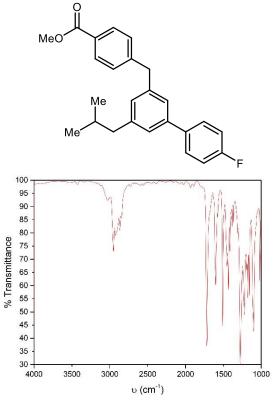


Figure S50. FT-IR of 40.

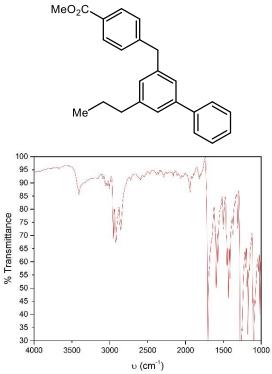


Figure S51. FT-IR of 41.

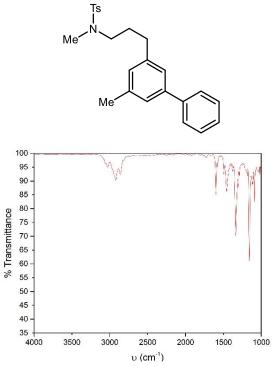


Figure S52. FT-IR of 42.

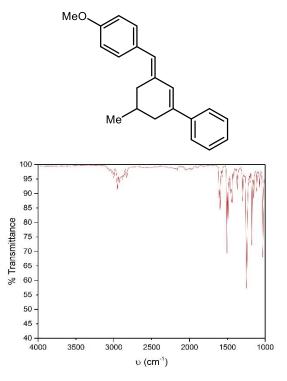


Figure S53. FT-IR of 43.

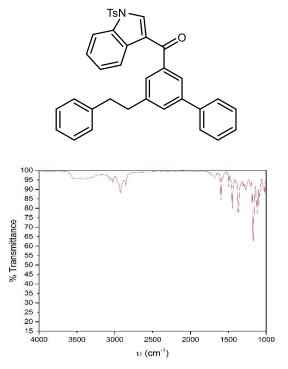


Figure S54. FT-IR of 44.

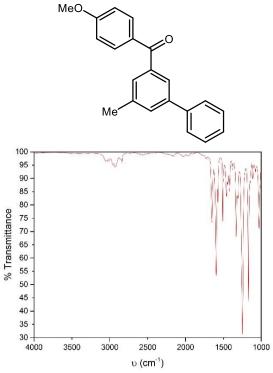


Figure S55. FT-IR of 45.

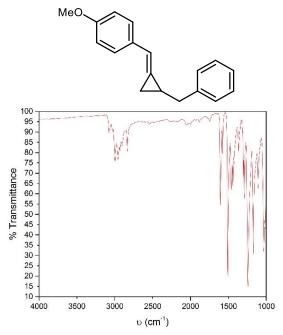


Figure S56. FT-IR of 47.

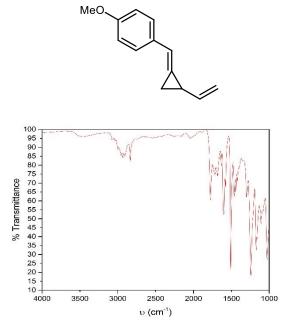


Figure S57. FT-IR of S21.

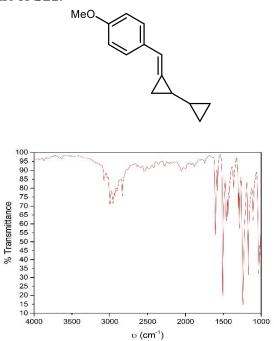
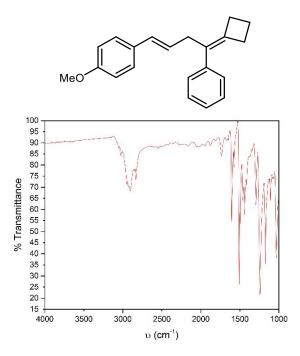
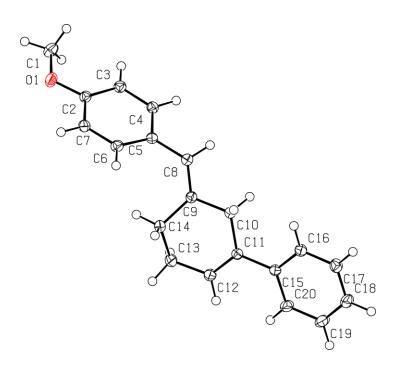


Figure S58. FT-IR of 4.



**Figure S59.** FT-IR of **49**.

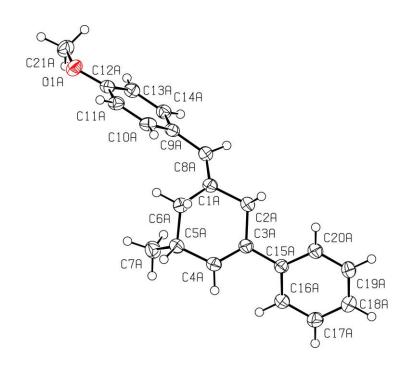
# 11. X-Ray Diffraction Data



# Compound 6

| Crystal data             | _                                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Chemical formula         | $C_{20}H_{20}O$                       |
| $M_{\rm r}$              | 276.36                                |
| Crystal system, space    | Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$            |
| group                    |                                       |
| Temperature (K)          | 150                                   |
| $a, b, c (\mathring{A})$ | 9.6419 (16), 9.7478 (14), 9.9639 (15) |
| a, b, γ (°)              | 65.235 (5), 62.617 (4), 67.916 (4)    |
| $V(Å^3)$                 | 735.3 (2)                             |
| Z                        | 2                                     |
| F(000)                   | 296                                   |
| $D_x (\text{Mg m}^{-3})$ | 1.248                                 |
| Radiation type           | Μο Κα                                 |
| No. of reflections for   | 9917                                  |
| cell measurement         |                                       |
| θ range (°) for cell     | 2.4–33.2                              |
| measurement              |                                       |
| $\mu  (mm^{-1})$         | 0.08                                  |
| Crystal shape            | Block                                 |
| Colour                   | Colorless                             |
| Crystal size (mm)        | $0.60 \times 0.40 \times 0.20$        |

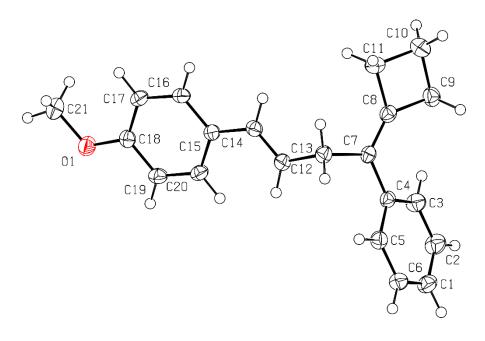
| Data collection   |  |
|---|--|
| Diffractometer  | Bruker AXS D8 Quest CMOS   |
|   | diffractometer   |
| Radiation source  | sealed tube X-ray source   |
| Monochromator   | Triumph curved graphite crystal  |
| Scan method   | ω and phi scans  |
| Absorption correction   | Multi-scan   |
|   | SADABS 2016/2: Krause, L., Herbst-Irmer, R., Sheldrick G.M. & Stalke     |
|   | D., J. Appl. Cryst. 48 (2015) 3-10                                       |
| $T_{\min}$ , $T_{\max}$   | 0.721, 0.747   |
| No. of measured,  | 20324, 5621, 4479  |
| independent and   |  |
| observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$   |  |
| reflections   |  |
| R <sub>int</sub>  | 0.027  |
| θ values (°)  | $\theta_{\text{max}} = 33.2, \ \theta_{\text{min}} = 2.4$                |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max} (\mathring{A}^{-1})$                      | 0.771  |
| Range of $h, k, l$  | $h = -14 \rightarrow 14, k = -15 \rightarrow 14, l = -15 \rightarrow 15$ |
|   |  |
| Refinement  |  |
| Refinement on   | $F^2$  |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$  | 0.046, 0.138, 1.03   |
| $wR(F^2)$ , $S$   |  |
| No. of reflections  | 5621   |
| No. of parameters   | 191  |
| No. of restraints   | 0  |
| H-atom treatment  | H-atom parameters constrained  |
| Weighting scheme  | $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0786P)^2 + 0.1416P]$                        |
|   | where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   |
| $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}}$  | 0.001  |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} \text{ (e Å}^{-3})$ | 0.39, -0.23  |



### Compound 30

|                          | 1  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Crystal data             |  |
| Chemical formula         | $C_{21}H_{22}O$                          |
| $M_{ m r}$               | 290.38                                   |
| Crystal system, space    | Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$               |
| group                    |  |
| Temperature (K)          | 150                                      |
| a, b, c (Å)              | 10.0693 (2), 10.1210 (2), 18.5597 (4)    |
| a, b, γ (°)              | 85.6232 (13), 85.2461 (14), 60.4624 (14) |
| $V(\mathring{A}^3)$      | 1638.59 (6)                              |
| Z                        | 4  |
| F(000)                   | 624                                      |
| $D_x (\text{Mg m}^{-3})$ | 1.177                                    |
| Radiation type           | Cu K□                                    |
| No. of reflections for   | 9828                                     |
| cell measurement         |  |
| θ range (°) for cell     | 4.8–79.6                                 |
| measurement              |  |
| $\mu  (\text{mm}^{-1})$  | 0.54                                     |
| Crystal shape            | Block                                    |
| Colour                   | Colourless                               |
| Crystal size (mm)        | $0.17 \times 0.15 \times 0.13$           |
|                          |  |
| Data collection          |  |

| Diffractometer  | Bruker AXS D8 Quest CMOS  |
|---|---|
|   | diffractometer  |
| Radiation source  | I-mu-S microsource X-ray tube   |
| Monochromator   | Laterally graded multilayer (Goebel) mirror   |
| Scan method   | □ and phi scans   |
| Absorption correction   | Multi-scan  |
|   | SADABS 2016/2: Krause, L., Herbst-Irmer, R., Sheldrick G.M. & Stalke                |
|   | D., J. Appl. Cryst. 48 (2015) 3-10  |
| $T_{\min}$ , $T_{\max}$   | 0.644, 0.754  |
| No. of measured,  | 25527, 12612, 11829   |
| independent and   |   |
| observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$   |   |
| reflections   |   |
| R <sub>int</sub>  | 0.039   |
| θ values (°)  | $\Box_{\max} = 80.6, \ \Box_{\min} = 2.4$   |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max} (\mathring{A}^{-1})$                      | 0.640   |
| Range of $h$ , $k$ , $l$  | $h = -12 \square 12, k = -12 \square 12, l = -23 \square 23$                        |
|   |   |
| Refinement  |   |
| Refinement on   | $F^2$   |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$  | 0.040, 0.104, 1.04  |
| $wR(F^2), S$  |   |
| No. of reflections  | 12612   |
| No. of parameters   | 802   |
| No. of restraints   | 3   |
| H-atom treatment  | H-atom parameters constrained   |
| Weighting scheme  | $w = 1/[\Box^2(F_0^2) + (0.0449P)^2 + 0.2845P]$                                     |
|   | where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$  |
| $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max}$   | 0.001   |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} (e \text{ Å}^{-3})$ | 0.28, -0.20   |
| Refinement on   | SHELXL2018/3 (Sheldrick 2018), $Fc^* = kFc[1+0.001xFc^2 \Box^3/\sin(2\Box)]^{-1/4}$ |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$  | 0.0008 (3)  |
| $wR(F^2)$ , S   |   |
| No. of reflections  | Flack x determined using 4857 quotients [(I+)-(I-)]/[(I+)+(I-)] (Parsons,           |
|   | Flack and Wagner, Acta Cryst. B69 (2013) 249-259).                                  |
| No. of parameters   | -0.04 (11)  |



## **Compound 49**

|                          | <b>.</b>                             |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Crystal data             |                                      |
| Chemical formula         | $C_{21}H_{22}O$                      |
| $M_{\rm r}$              | 290.38                               |
| Crystal system, space    | Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$           |
| group                    |                                      |
| Temperature (K)          | 150                                  |
| a, b, c (Å)              | 9.5996 (7), 9.8322 (7), 18.0348 (13) |
| a, b, γ (°)              | 87.595 (3), 77.541 (3), 75.984 (3)   |
| $V(\mathring{A}^3)$      | 1612.6 (2)                           |
| Z                        | 4                                    |
| F(000)                   | 624                                  |
| $D_x (\text{Mg m}^{-3})$ | 1.196                                |
| Radiation type           | Mo $K\square$                        |
| No. of reflections for   | 4620                                 |
| cell measurement         |                                      |
| θ range (°) for cell     | 2.3–30.5                             |
| measurement              |                                      |
| $\mu  (\text{mm}^{-1})$  | 0.07                                 |
| Crystal shape            | Plate                                |
| Colour                   | Colorless                            |
| Crystal size (mm)        | $0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5$          |
|                          |                                      |
| Data collection          |                                      |
| Diffractometer           | Bruker AXS D8 Quest CMOS             |
|                          |                                      |

|   | diffractometer   |
|---|--|
| Radiation source  | sealed tube X-ray source   |
| Monochromator   | □ and phi scans  |
| Scan method   | Multi-scan   |
|   | SADABS 2016/2: Krause, L., Herbst-Irmer, R., Sheldrick G.M. & Stalke |
|   | D., J. Appl. Cryst. 48 (2015) 3-10                                   |
| Absorption correction   | 0.642, 0.747   |
| $T_{\min}, T_{\max}$  | 76183, 9831, 6241  |
| No. of measured,  | 0.076  |
| independent and   |  |
| observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$   |  |
| reflections   |  |
| $R_{ m int}$  | $\Box_{\max} = 30.5, \ \Box_{\min} = 2.3$                            |
| θ values (°)  | 0.714  |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max} (\mathring{A}^{-1})$                      | $h = -13 \square 13, k = -14 \square 14, l = -25 \square 25$         |
|   |  |
| Refinement  |  |
| Refinement on   | $F^2$  |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$  | 0.055, 0.141, 1.01   |
| $wR(F^2)$ , S   |  |
| No. of reflections  | 9831   |
| No. of parameters   | 399  |
| No. of restraints   | 0  |
| H-atom treatment  | H-atom parameters constrained  |
| Weighting scheme  | $w = 1/[\Box^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.0615P)^{2} + 0.412P]$               |
|   | where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$                                       |
| $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max}$   | 0.001  |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} \text{ (e Å}^{-3})$ | 0.35, -0.27  |

#### 12. References

- (1) Zhou, Y.-Y.; Hartline, D. R.; Steiman, T. J.; Fanwick, P. E.; Uyeda, C. *Inorg. Chem.* **2014**, 53 (21), 11770.
- (2) Farley, C. M.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Banka, N.; Uyeda, C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2018**, 140 (40), 12710.
- (3) Zhou, Y.-Y.; Uyeda, C. Science. **2019**, *363* (6429), 857.
- (4) Pal, S.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Uyeda, C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139 (34), 11686.
- (5) Bruker (2016). Apex3 v2016.9-0, Saint V8.34A, SAINT V8.37A, Bruker AXS Inc.: Madison (WI), USA, **2013/2014**.
- (6) SHELXTL suite of programs, Version 6.14, **2000-2003**, Bruker Advanced X-ray Solutions, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, Wisconsin: USA.
- (7) Sheldrick, G. Acta Crystallogr A **2008**, 64 (1), 112.
- (8) Sheldrick, G. University of Gottingen, Germany, 2018.
- (9) Sheldrick, G. Acta. Crystallogr. Sect. C. Struct. Chem. 2015, 71 (1), 3.
- (10) Clarke, C.; Foussat, S.; Fox, D. J.; Pedersen, D. S.; Warren, S. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2009**, 7 (7), 1323.
- (11) Amador, A. G.; Sherbrook, E. M.; Yoon, T. P. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138 (14), 4722.
- (12) Feldman, K. S.; Folda, T. S. J. Org. Chem. 2016, 81 (11), 4566.
- (13) Chen, C.; Shen, X.; Chen, J.; Hong, X.; Lu, Z. Org. Lett. 2017, 19 (19), 5422.
- (14) Majetich, George; Allen, S. Arkivoc **2010**, 2010 (4), 104.
- (15) Shao, L.-X.; Li, J.; Wang, B.-Y.; Shi, M. Eur. J. Org. Chem. **2010**, 2010 (33), 6448.
- (16) Werth, J.; Uyeda, C. Chem. Sci. 2018, 9 (6), 1604.
- (17) Walker, J. C. L.; Oestreich, M. Org. Lett. 2018, 20 (20), 6411.

### **VITA**

Conner M. Farley was born in August 1993 in Boise, Idaho, where he grew up and attended Timberline High School. Following his high school graduation in 2011, he moved to Moscow, Idaho to study biochemistry at the University of Idaho. As an undergraduate student, he conducted three years of medicinal chemistry research in the laboratory of Prof. Jakob Magolan regarding the synthesis and antiausterity activity of functionalized coumarins. In 2015, he graduated with two bachelor's degrees in chemistry and biochemistry. He then attended Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana to pursue his doctorate in chemistry in the laboratory of Prof. Christopher Uyeda. In August 2020, Conner will begin a postdoctoral research appointment at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California in the area of natural product total synthesis. He hopes to become a professor of chemistry one day.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- (1) Farley, C. M.; Dibwe, D.F.; Ueda, J.; Hall, E.A.; Awale, S.; Magolan, J. "Evaluation of Synthetic Coumarins for Antiausterity Cytotoxicity against Pancreatic Cancers" *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2016**, 26, 1471-1474.
- (2) Farley, C. M.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Banka, N.; Uyeda, C. "Catalytic Cyclooligomerization of Enones with Three Methylene Equivalents" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2018**, 140, 12710–12714.
- (3) Farley, C. M.; Uyeda, C. "Organic Reactions Enabled by Catalytically Active Metal–Metal Bonds" *Trends in Chemistry*, **2019**, 1, 497-509.
- (4) Farley, C. M.; Sasakura, K.; Zhou, Y.-Y.; Kanale, V. V.; Uyeda, C. "Catalytic [5+1]-Cycloadditions of Vinylcyclopropanes and Vinylidenes" *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2020**, 142, 4598–4603.