# **Supporting Information**

## Visible-Light-Promoted Oxidation/Condensation of Benzyl Alcohols with *N*,*N*-Dialkylacetamides to Access Cinnamides

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#### Materials and methods

All the chemicals were purchased commercially, and used without further purification. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was conducted with 0.25 mm Tsingdao silica gel plates (60F-254) and visualized by exposure to UV light (254 nm) or stained with potassium permanganate. Flash column chromatography was performed using Tsingdao silica gel (60, particle size 0.040–0.063 mm). Reagents were purchased at the highest commercial quality and used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL spectrometers (at 400 MHz) and were reported relative to deuterated solvent signals. Data for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity, coupling constant (Hz) and integration. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were reported in terms of chemical shift. Mass spectrometric data were obtained using Bruker Apex IV RTMS. The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad.

#### General procedure for cinnamides synthesis



A flame-dried round bottom flask was equipped with magnetic stir bar and charged with benzyl alcohols **1** (0.246 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Eosin Y (0.00246 mmol, 0.01 equiv), KOH (1.228 mmol, 5.0 equiv), and *N*,*N*-dialkylacetamide (1.0 mL). Then the reaction mixture was irradiated by blue LEDs (18 *W*) under a balloon air atmosphere at room temperature until the starting material disappeared from the TLC. After that water (20 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc ( $5 \times 15$  mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine ( $2 \times 30$  mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated under the reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using hexane/EtOAc (2/1 to EtOAc) to afford the desired pure product **3** or **4** in 29-87% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra data of compounds 3a-3s, 4a-4h



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethylcinnamamide (3a): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.70-7.55 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.22 (m, 3H), 6.87-6.82 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.8, 142.4, 135.4, 129.6, 128.8, 127.8, 117.5, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 5445. (White solid, 32.6 mg, 78% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(naphthalen-2-yl)acrylamide (3b): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (s, 1H), 7.85-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.68-7.66 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.97 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8, 142.5, 134.0, 133.5, 132.9, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.8, 126.9, 126.7, 123.7, 117.6, 37.6, 36.1; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 5445. (White solid, 14.5 mg, 28% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)acrylamide (3c): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.51-8.46 (m, 1H), 8.22-8.20 (m, 1H), 7.86-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.43 (m, 3H), 6.95-6.91 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 139.8, 133.7, 133.2, 131.6, 129.9, 128.7, 126.7, 126.2, 125.5, 124.6, 123.9, 120.6, 37.6, 36.1; These data are consistent with literature values, see: I. Sato, H. Suzuki, Y. Yamashita and S. Kobayashi, *Org. Chem. Front.*, 2016, **3**, 1241. (White solid, 39.3 mg, 76% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(*p*-tolyl)acrylamide (3d): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.67-7.63 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18-7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86-6.82 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.0, 142.5, 139.9, 132.7, 129.6, 127.8, 116.3, 37.5, 36.0, 21.5; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 5445. (White solid, 27.3 mg, 63% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3e): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62-7.58 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83-6.79 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (m, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 142.6, 138.6, 137.0, 133.1, 130.1, 129.0, 125.5, 116.2, 37.5, 36.0, 19.8; These data are consistent with literature values, see: P. Wang, P. Verma, G. Xia, J. Shi, J. X. Qiao, S. Tao, P. T. W. Cheng, M. A. Poss, M. E. Farmer, K. Yeung and J. Yu, *Nature*, **551**, 489. (White solid, 25.4 mg, 54% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3f): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63-7.59 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.88-6.84 (d, *J* =

15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.07 (m, 3H), 2.33 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 167.0, 142.9, 138.4, 135.3, 131.5, 125.7, 116.9, 37.5, 36.1, 21.4; HRMS calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 204.1388, found: 204.1385. (White solid, 31.9 mg, 68% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3g): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.65-7.61 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.47 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.90-6.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.84-6.74 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 160.8, 142.1, 129.8, 129.4, 115.0, 114.3, 55.4, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 5445. (White solid, 36.2 mg, 76% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3h): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94-7.90 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.90 (m, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.5, 158.3, 138.0, 130.7, 129.1, 124.5, 120.7, 118.5, 111.2, 55.5, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, **53**, 5445. (Colorless oil, 37.5 mg, 74% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3i): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60-7.57 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.83 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 6.44-6.41 (m, 1H), 3.78 (m, 6H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 161.0, 142.4, 137.4, 118.1, 105.9, 101.6, 55.5, 37.5, 36.0; HRMS calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 236.1287, found: 236.1263. (White solid, 44.2 mg, 81% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3j): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61-7.57 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.81-6.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74-6.70 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (s, 2H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.9, 149.0, 148.3, 142.2, 129.9, 123.9, 115.4, 108.6, 106.4, 101.5, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: R. U. Pathan, and S. L. Patil, *Orient. J. Chem.*, 2008, 3, 709. (White solid, 31.1 mg, 54% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3k): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.65-7.61 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.37 (m,

5H), 6.96-6.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.77-6.73 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 160.0, 142.1, 136.7, 129.5, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 115.2, 115.1, 70.1, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: M. Oberholzer, R. Gerber and C. M. Frech, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2012, **354**, 627. (White solid, 56.8 mg, 87% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)acrylamide (3l): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67-7.63 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.89-6.85 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 149.9, 140.8, 134.1, 129.2, 121.2, 118.4, 37.5, 36.1; HRMS calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 260.0898, found: 260.0889. (Yellow oil, 44.4 mg, 73% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (4c): 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDC13)  $\delta$  7.68-7.64 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.38 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.88-6.84 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H); 13C NMR (100 MHz, CDC13)  $\delta$  167.0, 153.0, 142.3, 132.7, 127.7, 125.8, 116.6, 37.5, 36.0, 34.9, 31.3; HRMS calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 232.1701, found: 232.1712. (Colorless oil, 42.3 mg, 74% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3n): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62-7.58 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.39-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.31 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.87 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.07 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.3, 140.9, 137.3, 134.8, 130.1, 129.5, 127.3, 126.4, 118.9, 37.5, 36.1; These data are consistent with literature values, see: X. Yang, W. Wei, H. Li, R. Song and J. Li, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 12867. (White solid, 36.6 mg, 71% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylamide (30): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.77 (s, 1H), 7.70-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.94 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.2, 140.8, 136.2, 131.3, 129.4, 126.0, 124.0, 121.2, 119.4, 37.6, 36.1; These data are consistent with literature values, see: C. E. Gregerson, K. N. Trentadue, E. J. T. Phipps, J. K. Kirsch, K. M. Reed, G. D. Dyke, J. H. Jansen, C. B. Otteman, J. L. Stachowski and J. B. Johnson, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2017, **15**, 5944. (Pale yellow oil, 46.2 mg, 82% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(4-bromophenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3p): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61-7.57 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.37 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.90-6.86 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 141.1, 134.3, 132.0, 129.3, 123.7, 118.2, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: I. Sato, H. Suzuki, Y. Yamashita and S. Kobayashi, *Org. Chem. Front.*, 2016, **3**, 1241. (White solid, 32.5 mg, 55% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3q): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97-7.93 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.80 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.07 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 140.8, 135.7, 133.4, 130.5, 127.8, 127.6, 125.0, 120.9, 37.6, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: T. Weidlich, et al. *Monats. Chem.*, 2010, **141**, 205. (White solid, 45.4 mg, 68% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylacrylamide (3r): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63-7.59 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.85 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.5, 141.0, 135.4, 133.9, 129.3, 129.1, 129.0, 118.0, 37.5, 36.0; These data are consistent with literature values, see: S. W. Foo, S. Oishi and S. Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2012, 53, 5445. (White solid, 34.1 mg, 70% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)acrylamide (3s): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.81-7.77 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.70-6.67 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.5, 140.5, 135.3, 130.3, 128.1, 127.2, 116.1, 37.5, 36.1; These data are consistent with literature values, see: M. Rodríguez-Fernández, X. Yan, J. F. Collados, P. B. White and S. R. Harutyunyan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2017, **139**, 14224. (Pale yellow solid, 26.1 mg, 62% isolated yield)



(*E*)-*N*,*N*-diethylcinnamamide (4a): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73-7.69 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.85-6.81 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.53-3.45 (m, 4H), 1.28-1.18 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.8, 142.4, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.8, 117.9, 42.4, 41.2, 15.2, 13.3; These data are consistent with literature values, see: D. Chen, B. Zhang, X. Liu, X. Li, X. Yang, L. Zhou, *Synlett., Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 2018, **28**, 1149. (White solid, 35.9 mg, 64% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (4c): 7.72-7.69 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.76-6.72 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 4H), 3.04-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.94-1.86 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.8, 141.8, 135.4, 129.6, 128.8, 127.9, 118.9, 46.7, 46.2, 26.2, 24.4; These data are consistent with literature values, see: Y. Yamashita, et al., *Synlett.*, 2017, **28**, 1287. (White solid, 30.2 mg, 54% isolated yield)



(*E*)-3-phenyl-1-(piperidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (4d): 7.67-7.63 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.93-6.89 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.67-3.59 (m, 4H), 1.69-1.61 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.5, 142.2, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.8, 117.8, 47.1, 43.4, 26.8, 25.7, 24.7; These data are consistent with literature values, see: X. Yang, W. Wei, H. Li, R. Song and J. Li, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 12867. (White solid, 43.2 mg, 72% isolated yield)



(*E*)-1-(4-methylpiperidin-1-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (4e): 7.67-7.62 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 3H), 6.65-6.61 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.70-4.58 (m, 1H), 4.09-4.06 (m, 1H), 3.12-3.06 (m, 1H), 2.73-2.64 (m, 1H), 1.74-1.63 (m, 3H), 1.21-1.12 (m, 2H), 0.97-0.94 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.4, 142.3, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.8, 117.8, 65.3, 46.4, 42.8, 35.0, 33.9, 31.3, 21.8; HRMS calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 230.1545, found: 230.1556. (White solid, 33.5 mg, 53% isolated yield)



(*E*)-1-(3,5-dimethylpiperidin-1-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (4f): 7.66-7.62 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.36 (m, 3H), 6.93-6.89 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.71-4.68 (m, 1H), 3.99-3.96 (m, 1H), 2.66-2.51 (m, 1H), 2.14-2.08 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.63 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.76 (m, 7H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.2, 142.3, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.8, 117.9, 53.3, 49.5, 42.6, 32.4, 31.1, 19.2; HRMS calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO (M + H<sup>+</sup>): 244.1701, found: 244.1795. (White solid, 26.6 mg, 39% isolated yield)



(E)-1-morpholino-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (4g): 7.72-7.68 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H),
7.53-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.89-6.83 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.73-3.67 (m,
8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.7, 143.4, 135.2, 129.9, 128.9, 127.8, 116.6,
66.9, 46.3, 42.6; These data are consistent with literature values, see: X. Yang, W. Wei,
H. Li, R. Song and J. Li, *Chem. Commun.*, 2014, **50**, 12867. (White solid, 24.4 mg, 40% isolated yield)



(*E*)-1-(azepan-1-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (4h): 7.72-7.69 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.31 (m, 3H), 6.89-6.85 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.66-3.59 (m,

4H), 1.89-1.71 (m, 4H), 1.68-1.54 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.4, 142.3, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 128.5, 127.8, 117.9, 48.1, 46.6, 29.5, 27.7, 27.1, 26.7; These data are consistent with literature values, see: Y. Shao, X. Wu, S. Tian, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, 2012, **2012**, 1590. (White solid, 41.3 mg, 62% isolated yield)



(*E*)-cinnamonitrile (6): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.44-7.28 (m, 6H), 5.91-5.87 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.7, 133.6, 131.3, 129.2, 127.5, 118.3, 94.4. (Pale yellow oil, 25.0 mg, 52% isolated yield)



### **Control experiments on reaction parameters**



Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra



















































