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Beng et al.; Supporting Information

Supporting Information for:

Direct access to functionalized benzotropinones, azepanes, and piperidines by reductive cross-

coupling of α -bromo enones with α -bromo enamides

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Contents:

1. Typical and General procedures	S 2
2. Synthesis of selected substrates	S 3
3. Coupling of bromo eneformamides/enecarbamates with bromo enones	S 11
4. Elaboration of coupling products	S38
5. References	S45

1. Experimental Section

All experiments involving air and moisture-sensitive reagents such as cobalt precatalysts and phosphine ligands were carried out under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen and using freshly distilled solvents. All electrophiles such as aryl and vinyl bromides were newly purchased and used without further purification. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (230-400 mesh). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica plates. Visualization of the TLC plates was aided by UV irradiation at 254 nm or by KMnO₄ staining. Unless otherwise indicated, ¹H, ¹³C, DEPT-135, COSY 45, and HMQC NMR spectra were acquired using C₆D₆ or CDCl₃ as solvent at room temperature. Chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million (ppm).

Compounds 5^1 and 6^2 were prepared using known methods.

Compounds 7 to 9 were prepared using a procedure analogous to that employed by Georg for iodoenones.³

General Procedure A: Reductive Cross-Coupling⁴: To a solution of $CoBr_2$ (22 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol%), PPh₃ (26.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol%), and manganese powder (275 mg, 5 mmol, 5 equiv) in acetonitrile (5 mL) was added the aryl bromide (2 mmol, 2 equiv) at room temperature. A solution of the bromo eneformamide (1 mmol, 1 equiv) in acetonitrile (5 mL) was added slowly. After completion (as judged by TLC and GC-MS), the reaction mixture was treated with a mild acid such as 10% H₃PO₄ (aq) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the desired coupling product as an oil. Purification was carried out by flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N).

General Procedure B: Removal of Boc group

To the *N*-Boc-compound (1.0 equiv) dissolved in freshly distilled CH_2Cl_2 , was added CF_3CO_2H (3 equiv) under argon at 0 °C. The resulting solution was stirred for 3 h at this temperature and concentrated in vacuo to obtain the imine.

General Procedure C: *N*-acyl iminium reduction⁵

To a stirred solution of the crude enecarbamate or eneformamide (~0.1 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) were added NaBH₃CN (33 mg, 0.5 mmol, 5 equiv) at -40 °C (or at rt in the case of eneformamides) followed by TFA (0.08 mL, 1.0 mmol, 10 equiv). The resulting suspension was stirred for 5 h at this temperature (TLC and LCMS monitoring). The reaction was quenched with *satd*. NaHCO₃ (aq), diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) and the organic layer was separated. The

aqueous layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic layers dried over Na_2SO_4 (30 min), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude product.

General Procedure D: Catalytic hydrogenation

EtOAc was added to a flask containing 10% Pd/C at room temperature. The flask was degassed and placed under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen. A solution of the enamide in EtOAc was added. After complete addition, the nitrogen line was cut off and then replaced with a balloon of hydrogen. After complete consumption of the enamide (based on LC-MS and TLC monitoring), the mixture was filtered through a plug of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure.

Note: Compounds 1 and 3 were synthesized (from the corresponding tetralones) in the same way as compound 2, whose synthesis is outlined below:

The conversion from **B** to **D** follows a closely related sequence pioneered by Yang and coworkers.⁶



A solution of LHMDS (20 mL, 20 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added dropwise to a solution of tetralone **A** (20 mmol) in THF (100 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. TBSOTf (22 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added slowly at -78 °C and the stirring was continued for 2 h. The mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO₃(aq) and warmed to room temperature. Standard extractive workup with EtOAc and brine washes afforded silyl enol ether **B** in quantitative yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37 (1H, d), 6.71 to 6.66 (2H, overlapping doublet & singlet), 5.03 (1H, t), 3.78 (3H, s), 2.73 to 2.69 (2H, m), 2.30, to 2.25 (2H, m), 0.99 (9H, s), 0.17 (6H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.09, 148.33, 139.20, 126.98, 123.35, 113.41, 110.85, 102.73, 55.37, 28.91, 26.12, 22.45, 18.52, -4.26.





A suspension of potassium *tert*-butoxide (3 equiv) in petroleum ether (10 mL) was cooled to -20 °C and bromoform (3 equiv), diluted with petroleum ether (2 mL), was added followed by silyl enol ether **B** (2 mmol, 1 equiv). The mixture was warmed slowly to 0 °C. After complete consumption of **B** (LC-MS monitoring), the mixture was filtered through silica/Celite (1:1) and the filtrate was concentrated and used in the next step. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.15, 138.68, 130.17, 126.87, 112.88, 112.60, 61.10, 55.25, 48.69, 37.03, 27.03, 25.79, 24.48, 18.22, 10.11, -3.62, -3.89.





Crude dibromo cyclopropane **C** was dissolved in reagent grade acetone (10 mL) and AgClO₄·H₂O (2 equiv) and CaCO₃ (4 equiv) were added. After stirring for 17 h at room temperature, filtration through Celite and evaporation of the solvent provided bromo enone **4**. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.91 (1H, d), 6.83 (1H, t), 6.42 to 6.39 (1H, d), 6.33 (1H, s), 3.17 (3H, s), 2.21 to 2.18 (2H, m), 1.63 to 1.59 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 186.01, 163.42, 147.77, 141.95, 133.99, 131.82, 114.85, 112.33, 55.34, 34.07, 31.28.







To a solution of enone **4** (1 mmol) in benzene (5 mL) was added a fresh sample of DDQ (1 equiv) and the suspension was stirred at 150 °C, under microwave irradiation for 6 h (LC-MS monitoring). It was filtered through basic alumina and solid residue was washed several times with EtOAc. The combined filtrate was concentrated and purified by flash chromatography on silica eluting with Hexane/EtOAc (50:50 to 20:80) to afford **2** as a yellowish oil is 64% overall yield (from tetralone **A**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.62 (1H, d), 7.32 (1H, d), 6.77 to 6.74 (1H, d), 6.55 to 6.50 (2H, overlapping doublet and singlet), 5.67 to 5.61 (1H, dd), 3.15 (3H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 186.1, 162.3, 140.5, 138.1, 137.1, 136.8, 134.6, 129.6, 124.0, 118.3, 115.6, 54.6. HRMS calc for C₁₂H₉BrO₂ 263.9786, found 263.9994.







Prepared from **10** (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **1** (280 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30). Yield = 270 mg, 79%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.29 (1H, d), 7.36 (1H, d), 7.06 to 6.90 (3H, m), 6.60 (1H, d), 5.91 to 5.86 (1H, dd), 5.13 (1H, t), 3.56 to 3.53 (2H, t), 1.70 to 1.66 (2H, t), 1.42 to 1.39 (2H, m), 1.07 (9H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 187.7, 157.8, 141.7, 140.8, 137.3, 136.0, 134.6, 132.4, 131.9, 131.1, 130.4, 124.9, 52.4, 79.8, 44.0, 27.4, 23.3, 23.1. HRMS calc for C₂₁H₂₃NO₃ 337.1678, found 337.1682.





Prepared from **10** (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **2** (317 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30 to 20:80). Yield = 319 mg, 87%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.62 (1H, d), 7.33 (1H, d), , 6.75 (1H, d), 6.66 to 6.50 (2H, overlapping singlet and doublet), 5.67 to 5.61 (1H, dd), 5.14 to 5.12 (1H, t), 3.69 to 3.67 (2H, t), 3.35 (3H, s), 1.81 to 1.77 (2H, t), 1.51 to 1.43 (2H, m), 1.16 (9H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D6) δ 186.17, 168.45, 162.72, 140.91, 138.72, 137.03, 135.33, 135.17, 133.23, 125.41, 118.54, 115.87, 79.53, 54.42, 44.20, 27.51, 23.43, 23.41. HRMS calc for C₂₂H₂₅NO₄ 367.1684, found 367.1688.





Prepared from **10** (65 mg, 0.25 mmol) and bromo enone **3** (80 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20 to 50:50). Yield = 67 mg, 72%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.61 (1H, d), 7.32 (1H, d), 6.75 (1H, d), 6.55 to 6.50 (2H, two overlapping signals), 5.67 to 5.61 (1H, dd), 5.19 to 5.17 (1H, t), 3.75 to 3.73 (2H, t), 1.88 to 1.83 (2H, t), 1.57 to 1.47 (2H, m), 0.98 (9H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 186.17, 162.72, 140.91, 138.72, 137.03, 135.33, 135.17, 133.23, 125.41, 118.54, 115.87, 79.80, 44.01, 27.43, 23.38, 23.17. HRMS calc for C₂₁H₂₂NO₃Cl 371.1288, found 371.1281.





Prepared from **10** (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **4** (319 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedures A and B. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (40:60 to 100:0). Yield = 196 mg, 73%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 8.11 (1H, d), 6.89 (1H, t), 6.54 (1H, d), 6.45 (1H, s), 3.60 (3H, s), 3.10 to 3.07 (2H, t), 2.04 to 2.00 (2H, t), 1.71 to 1.67 (2H, m), 1.42 to 1.36 (4H, m), 1.19 to 1.15 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 185.49, 167.76, 162.03, 140.22, 136.34, 134.48, 132.54, 124.72, 117.86, 115.18, 54.76, 51.76, 48.14, 42.91, 41.30, 33.23, 30.18, 22.75. HRMS calc for $C_{17}H_{19}NO_2$ 269.1416, found 269.1422.





Prepared from **11** (189 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **5** (376 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20 to 50:50). Yield = 90 mg, 41%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 9.39 (1H, s), 6.01 to 5.98 (1H, t), 5.22 to 5.20 (1H, t), 3.46 to 3.43 (2H, m), 1.98 to 1.94 (2H, m), 1.77 to 1.73 (2H, m), 1.57 to 1.53 (2H, m), 1.35 to 1.22 (4H, m), 1.17 to 1.11 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 195.3, 160.6, 136.6, 121.9, 120.6, 116.85, 39.3, 29.3, 26.1, 23.5, 22.7, 21.9, 21.0. HRMS calc for C₁₃H₁₇NO₂ 219.1259, found 219.1265.

Note: The yield of 17 improves to 57% when 5 is added slowly over the course of an hour.







Prepared from **12** (51 mg, 0.25 mmol) and bromo enone **1** (62.5 mg, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30). Yield = 53 mg, 75%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) 9.37 (1H, s), 8.27 (1H, d), 7.29 (1H, d), 6.81 (1H, d), 6.58 to, 6.51 (1H, overlapping singlet and doublet), 5.73 to 5.70 (1H, dd), 5.20 to 5.17 (1H, t), 3.87 to 3.84 (2H, t), 1.94 to 1.89 (2H, m), 1.66 to 1.60 (2H, m), 1.43 to 1.37 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 187.79, 163.2, 141.71, 140.80, 137.32, 136.05, 124.98, 118.46, 116.12, 44.83, 27.43, 27.11, 24.25. HRMS calc for C₁₈H₁₇NO₂ 279.1259, found 279.1266.





Prepared from **12** (260 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **2** (319 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedures A and B. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (50:50 to 100:0). Yield = 242 mg, 86%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.48 (1H, d), 7.30 (1H, d), 6.79 (1H, d), 6.56 to 6.53 (2H, overlapping singlet and doublet), 5.70 to 5.65 (1H, dd), 3.20 (3H, s), 2.70 to 2.67 (2H, t), 2.23 to 2.21 (2H, m), 1.34 to 1.10 (6H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) 186.17, 168.45, 162.72, 140.91, 138.72, 137.03, 135.33, 135.17, 133.23, 125.41, 118.54, 115.87, 52.2, 42.09, 36.73, 30.34, 29.70, 23.14. HRMS calc for C₁₈H₁₉NO₂ 281.1416, found 281.1423.





Prepared from **12** (203 mg, 1.0 mmol) and bromo enone **5** (376 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (80:20 to 50:50). Yield = 110 mg, 47%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.98 (1H, s), 6.05 to 6.02 (1H, t) 5.61 to 5.57 (1H, t), 3.52 to 3.49 (2H, m), 2.04 to 1.99 (2H, m), 1.79 to 1.65 (4H, m), 1.42 to 1.12 (8H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 199.5, 161.95, 136.36, 128.52, 126.76, 120.81, 44.35, 29.49, 28.46, 27.84, 26.18, 24.69, 22.75, 21.94. HRMS calc for C₁₃H₁₇NO₂ 233.1416, found 233.1423.





Prepared from **10** (65 mg, 0.25 mmol) and dibromo quinone **6** (94 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1.2 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 70:30). Yield = 67 mg, 37%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 8.11 (1H, d), 7.56 (2H, d), 7.24 (1H, t), 7.09 to 6.96 (1H, t), 5.01 to 4.99 (1H, t), 3.62 to 3.59 (2H, t), 1.81 to 1.77 (2H, t), 1.50 to 1.44 (2H, m), 1.16 (9H, s). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 196.61, 190.06, 155.01, 136.80, 134.99, 134.66, 133.99, 133.76, 128.62, 127.95, 127.10, 126.78, 116.78, 80.19, 43.87, 27.38, 23.39, 23.01. HRMS calc for C₂₀H₂₀BrNO₄ 417.0576, found 417.0604.





Prepared from *p*-fluoro-β-bromostyrene (400 mg, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) and bromo enaminone **7** (341 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 50:50). Yield = 295 mg, 77%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.66 (1H, d), 7.25 to 6.75 (15H, m), 3.98 to 3.94 (1H, t), 3.74 to 3.61 (2H, m), 2.75 to 2.52 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 186.96, 152.14, 138.63, 136.12, 135.82, 135.78, 128.80, 128.74, 128.05, 127.92, 127.79, 127.68, 127.56, 127.44, 127.33, 127.06, 126.99, 126.82, 123.71, 123.69, 122.09, 115.40, 115.19, 108.58, 60.09, 57.02, 44.13. HRMS calc for C₂₆H₂₂FNO 383.1685, found 383.1694.







Prepared from β-bromo-*tert*-butylacrylate (206 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv) and bromo enaminone **8** (201 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 20:80). Yield = 156 mg, 69%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.63 (2H, m), 7.10 to 7.07 (5H, m), 6.90 (1H, s), 6.76 to 6.73 (1H, d), 6.41 (2H, unresolved signals), 3.91 to 3.86 (1H, t), 3.73 (1H, s), 3.41 (3H, s), 3.38 (3H, s), 3.24 (1H, d), 2.53 to 2.46 (2H, m), 1.50 (9H), s. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 187.1, 168.4, 161.4, 156.8, 150.0, 149.8, 139.6, 135.7, 130.1, 128.7, 128.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 119.0, 114.3, 111.8, 110.6, 106.6, 78.3, 59.6, 55.2, 55.2, 44.1, 28.1. HRMS calc for C₂₇H₃₁NO₅ 449.2202, found 449.2610.









Prepared from bromobenzene (2 mmol, 2 equiv) and bromo enaminone **7** (341 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 48 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 50:50). Yield = 229 mg, 62%. Spectroscopic data as reported.⁷ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 7.73 (1H, d), 7.44 (2H, d), 7.10 to 6.64 (12H, m), 4.07 to 4.04 (1H, dd), 3.91 (2H, m), 3.89 (3H, s), 2.91 (1H, dd), 2.82 (1H, dd). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 186.59, 158.98, 158.13, 151.44, 139.09, 136.53, 133.63, 128.91, 128.74, 128.62, 128.06, 127.92, 127.80, 127.76, 127.68, 127.56, 127.44, 127.00, 114.23, 113.64, 60.61, 56.78, 56.44, 54.52, 44.63. HRMS calc for C₂₅H₂₃NO₂ 369.1729, found 369.1733.





Prepared from allyl bromide (480 mg, 4 mmol, 4 equiv) and bromo enaminone **9** (386 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (70:30 to 100:0). Yield = 223 mg, 64%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.25 (2H, d), 7.45 to 7.14 (8H, m), 5.96 to 5.84 (1H, m), 5.13 to 5.05 (2H, m), 4.61 to 4.58 (1H, t), 4.47 (1H, d) 4.12 (1H, d), 3.00 to 2.89 (3H, m), 2.70 to 2.64 (1H, dd). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.1, 152.7, 147.8, 146.3, 137.1, 135.6, 129.2, 128.6, 128.1, 127.7, 124.4, 109.2, 60.1, 57.9, 43.4, 30.9. HRMS calc for C₂₁H₂₀N₂O₃ 348.1474, found 348.1479.







Prepared from allyl bromide (480 mg, 4 mmol, 4 equiv) and bromo enaminone **7** (341 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), using General Procedure A. T = 23 °C, time = 18 h; Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 50:50). Yield = 223 mg, 64%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 to 7.04 (11H, m), 5.95 to 5.88 (1H, m), 5.12 to 5.04 (2H, m), 4.51 to 4.47 (1H, t), 4.38 (1H, d), 4.14 (1H, d), 3.01 to 2.82 (2H, m), 2.78 to 2.72 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.15, 153.01, 138.76, 137.45, 136.23, 128.99, 128.86, 128.24, 128.09, 127.71, 127.19, 115.06, 108.37, 61.06, 57.20, 44.00, 30.88. HRMS calc for C₂₁H₂₁NO 303.1623, found 303.1628.







Prepared from **26** (60.3 mg, 0.20 mmol), and 10% Pd/C (30 mg), using **General Procedure D**, temp = 24 °C, time = 3 h. No purification required. Yield = 60 mg, 98%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 to 7.15 (11H, m), 4.49 to 4.43 (1H, t), 4.34 (1H, d), 4.11 (1H, d), 2.85 to 2.70 (2H, m), 2.22 to 2.06 (1H, m), 1.68 to 1.63 (1H, m), 1.53 to 1.45 (2H, m), 0.97 to 0.87 (3H, t). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.85, 152.54, 138.97, 136.40, 128.94, 128.83, 128.18, 128.02, 127.72, 127.21, 61.25, 57.04, 44.25, 29.42, 23.06, 13.84. HRMS calc for C₂₁H₂₃NO 305.1780, found 305.1784.





Prepared from **17** (55 mg, 0.25 mmol) using **General Procedure C**. Purification: Flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with hexane/EtOAc (90:10 to 70:30). Yield = 38 mg, 77%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, mixture of rotamers) δ 8.00 and 7.23 (1H, s), 6.09 to 6.04 (1H, t) 5.76 (1H, broad singlet), 4.10 to 3.96 (2H, m), 3.10 to 3.03 (2H, t), 2.70 to 2.61 (1H, dd), 2.09 to 0.75 (12H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 198.1, 160.15, 159.94, 134.93, 134.54, 120.42, 120.15, 47.44, 42.23, 40.56, 37.12, 32.08, 30.27, 29.29, 29.16, 26.02, 25.36, 24.64, 22.17, 22.12, 21.39, 21.33, 21.00, 20.51. HRMS calc for C₁₃H₁₉NO₂ 221.1416, found 221.1466.







Enecarbamate 14 (0.5 mmol) was deprotected using General Procedure B.

A solution of LHMDS (1 mL, 1 mmol, 1.0 M in THF, 2 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of deprotected **14** in THF (5 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 5 h at -78 °C (LCMS-monitoring). A precooled solution of Mander's reagent (methyl cyanoformate, 2.4 equiv) in THF (2 mL) was added slowly. Stirring was continued for 2 h prior to warming slowly to room temperature overnight. After quenching with saturated NaHCO₃ (aq), extractive workup with EtOAc followed by brine washes afforded the α -imino ester, which was used without further purification.

Methylation: A solution of NaHMDS (1 mL, 1 mmol, 1.0 M in THF, 2 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the imino ester in THF (5 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 10 min at -78 °C then for 1 h at -40 °C (LCMS-monitoring). After cooling to -78 °C, methyl iodide (3 equiv) was added slowly. The mixture was allowed to warm slowly to room temperature overnight. After quenching with saturated NH₄Cl (aq), extractive workup with EtOAc followed by brine washes afforded the desired crude 2,2-disubstituted imine. Purification by flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with Hexane/EtOAc (20:80) afforded the pure product in 59% yield from **14**. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.60 (1H, s), 6.44 to 6.24 (2H, m), 5.73 to 5.29 (3H, m), 4.18 to 4.10 (1H, unresolved triplet), 3.84 (3H, s), 3.39 (3H, s), 3.22 to 3.17 (1H, unresolved), 2.45 to 2.39 (1H, t), 2.00 to 1.91 (1H, m), 1.73 to 1.44 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.5, 171.1, 160.7, 160.6, 138.4, 138.4, 136.2, 135.0, 125.6, 124.8, 121.5, 120.9, 120.4, 118.6, 118.5, 112.3, 112.1, 57.8, 55.6, 44.2, 36.8, 36.4, 18.6, 14.2. HRMS calc for C₂₀H₂₁NO₄ 339.1471, found 339.1488.





A 5 mL tube was flame-dried, evacuated and flushed with nitrogen. A solution of dienophile **32** (1.0 mL, 0.1 M in benzene) was added to a solution of imino diene **31** (1.0 mL, 0.1 M in benzene) under nitrogen. The mixture was heated to 40 °C for 72 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to obtain the crude product as an oil. Purification by flash chromatography on silica (pretreated with 1% Et₃N) eluting with Hexane/EtOAc (70:30 to 10:90) afforded the pure product in 56% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_6D_6) δ 8.21 (1H, d), 7.35 to 7.33 (2H, d), 7.06 (1H, t), 5.91 (1H, d), 5.68 (1H, d), 4.95 (1H, d), 4.86 (1H, d) 4.26 (1H, s), 4.13 (1H, d), 3.12 (3H, s), 3.01 (1H, d), 2.48 to 2.42 (1H, t), 1.82 to 0.95 (7H, m). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.2, 191.2, 168.3, 161.4, 142.2, 141.6, 137.8, 137.3, 131.6, 128.6, 128.0, 112.8, 67.2, 54.1, 49.7, 43.5, 43.4, 37.2, 32.6, 28.9, 27.5. HRMS calc for C₂₅H₂₃NO₅ 417.1576, found 417.1582.





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