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Supporting Information

Belonging to the paper

Catalytic 1,2-Dihydronaphthalene and E-Aryl-Diene Synthesis via Co^{III}-Carbene Radical and o-Quinodimethane Intermediates

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Experimental data.

General Considerations

All manipulations were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. All solvents used for catalysis were dried over and distilled from sodium (toluene) or CaH₂ (dichloromethane, hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol). All chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers (either from Sigma-Aldrich or Fluorochem) and used without further purification. NMR spectra (¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁹F) were measured on a Bruker DRX 500, Bruker AMX 400, Bruker DRX 300 or on a Varian Mercury 300 spectrometer at r.t. unless noted otherwise. Individual peaks are reported as: multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), integration, coupling constant in Hz. Mass spectra of the newly synthesized compounds were recorded on an Agilent-5973 GC-MS spectrometer, and the corresponding HRMS data were recorded on a JEOL AccuTOF 4G via direct injection probe using CSI (Cold Spray Ionization). EPR spectra were recorded on a Bruker EMXplus spectrometer at room temperature (298 K).

General Procedure A, aldehyde protection.

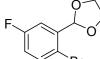
2-bromobenzaldehyde (1 eq), ethylene glycol (5 eq) and p-toluene sulfonic acid (0.03 eq) were combined in toluene (0.5 M) and refluxed for 24h. After cooling down the solution was extracted with water and EtOAc, after which the organic layers were dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was evaporated and column chromatography yielded the pure product.

2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane

The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (hexanes \rightarrow 20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a colorless liquid (90%).

B_Γ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.37 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 4.24 – 4.03 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.62, 133.00, 130.64, 127.83, 127.45, 122.96, 102.64, 65.51.

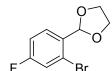
2-(2-bromo-5-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (40:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a colorless liquid (95%, 97% based on recovery of starting material).

Br 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (dd, J = 8.7, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 9.3, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (ddd, J = 8.7, 7.7, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.01 (m, 4H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.99 (d, J = 247.3 Hz), 138.93 (d, J = 6.9 Hz), 134.27 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 117.75 (d, J = 22.7 Hz), 116.82 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 115.13 (d, J = 24.3 Hz), 102.02 (d, J = 1.3 Hz), 65.56 (s). 19 F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -113.93 (s).

2-(2-bromo-4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a yellow oil (71%). 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (td, J = 8.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 4.29 – 3.94 (m, 4H).

2-(2-bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane

The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a colorless liquid (84%, 93% based on recovery of starting material).

Br 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 4.14 (ddt, J = 19.4, 9.0, 6.4 Hz, 4H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.03 (s), 133.75 (s), 130.16 (q, J = 33.0 Hz, ArC-CF₃), 127.32 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 126.94 (s), 125.06 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.83 (q, J = 272.7 Hz, CF₃), 102.03 (s, Ar-CH-O), 65.78 (s, O-CH₂CH₂-O). 19 F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.73.

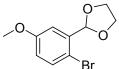
2-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a colorless liquid (89%).

Br ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 4.41 – 3.92 (m, 4H), 2.35 (s, 3H).

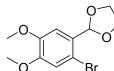
2-(2-bromo-5-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (1:0 \rightarrow 20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a colorless liquid (66%).

Br 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 8.7, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 4.23 – 4.03 (m, 4H), 3.82 (s, 3H).

2-(2-bromo-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



The reaction was performed according to general procedure A. The product was isolated after column chromatography (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a white solid (56%, 83% based on recovery of starting material).

O Br 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 4.26 – 3.98 (m, 4H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H).

General Procedure B, aldehyde introduction.

2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane (1 eq) in THF (0.5 M) was cooled down to -78°C. Then n-BuLi (1.5 eq) was added dropwise and stirred for 20 min. Next N,N-DMF (2 eq) was added dropwise and the mixture was allowed to warm to 0°C. The reaction was then quenched by addition of sat. NH_4Cl and water. This was extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic layers were dried over $MgSO_4$ and concentrated in vacuo. The product was purified by column chromatography.

2-(1,3-dioxolane-2-yl)benzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (9:1 H:Et) and obtained as a yellow liquid (87%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.44 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 0.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (td, J = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 4.29 – 4.03 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.82, 139.06, 134.46, 133.66, 130.20, 129.48, 127.01, 101.12, 65.39.

2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-fluorobenzaldehyde

The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (4:1 H:Et) and obtained as a yellow oil (97%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 8.6, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (td, J = 8.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 4.27 – 4.02 (m, 4H). ¹³C CDCl₃) δ 190.01 (s), 165.83 (d, J = 256.6 Hz), 142.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 133.16 (d, J = 9.5 Hz),

NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.01 (s), 165.83 (d, J = 256.6 Hz), 142.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 133.16 (d, J = 9.5 Hz), 130.81 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 116.39 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), 114.20 (d, J = 24.0 Hz), 99.87 (d, J = 1.4 Hz), 65.50 (s). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -102.70 (s). IR (neat) v 2960, 2892, 1693, 1604, 1588, 1236, 1160, 1112, 1065, 825 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₁₀H₉FO₃ [M]⁺ 196.05357, found 196.05364.

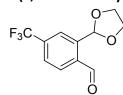
2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-5-fluorobenzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (20:1 \rightarrow 9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a yellow oil (51%).

F ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.40 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.6, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (td, J = 8.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 4.23 – 3.97 (m, 4H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.10.

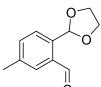
2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a yellow oil (64%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.47 (s, 1H), 8.10 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 4.29 – 3.97 (m, 4H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -63.21.

2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-5-methylbenzaldehyde

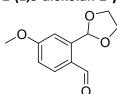


The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (3:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a yellow liquid (75%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.38 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 4.30 – 3.87 (m, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C

NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.17, 139.71, 136.35, 134.48, 134.43, 130.75, 127.31, 101.37, 65.44, 21.17. IR (neat) v 2957, 2923, 2890, 1691, 1072, 823 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for $C_{11}H_{12}O_3$ [M]⁺ 192.0786, found 192.0782.

2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (94%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.25 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 4.22 – 4.03 (m, 4H), 3.92 (s, 3H).

 ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.20, 163.79, 141.57, 133.25, 127.56, 114.21, 112.07, 100.30, 65.28, 55.53.

2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde

The reaction was performed according to general procedure B. The product was isolated after column chromatography (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc) as a white solid (88%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 4.28 - 4.04 (m, 4H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H).

General Procedure C, Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction.

A Schlenk was charged with NaH (60% in oil, 1.2 eq) and THF was added. After cooling to 0°C the phosphonate was slowly added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. 2-(1,3-dioxolane-2yl)benzaldehyde (1 eq) was then slowly added and the mixture was stirred for another 30 min. Then the mixture was extracted with Et₂O and sat. NaHCO₃, washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. The product was used without further purification.

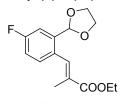
ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a colorless liquid and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (br s, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.22 (dd, J = 6.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.19 - 3.90(m, 4H), 1.93 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

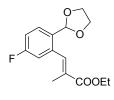
ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 9.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 5.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 5.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, J = 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H),5.83 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.19 – 3.98 (m, 4H), 1.92 (d, J = 1.5Hz, 3H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.81 (s).

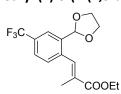
ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-5-fluorophenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 8.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (td, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 9.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.20 - 3.89 (m, 4H), 1.93 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282) MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.40.

ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellowish oil and used without further purification.

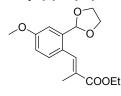
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.50 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.10 - 3.95 (m, 4H), 1.78(d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.67.

ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-5-methylphenyl)-2-methylacrylate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellowish oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.19 – 3.96 (m, 4H), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH_3 Ar), 1.93 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, CH_3 -allyl), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylacrylate

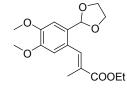


= 7.1 Hz, 3H).

The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellowish oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.22 – 4.02 (m, 4H), 3.86 (s, 3H, OMe), 1.99 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, allyl), 1.37 (t, J

ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a light green oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (br s, 1H, allyl), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 3.98 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90 – 3.83 (m, 4H, O CH_2CH_2O), 3.68 (s, 3H, OMe), 3.63 (s, 3H, OMe), 1.70 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 3H, CH_3 -allyl), 1.06 (t, J = 7.1, 3H).

2-(2-(2-methylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane

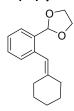


Under Schlenk conditions isopropyltriphenylphosphonium iodide was dissolved in THF and cooled down to -78 °C. Next BuLi was added dropwise and the solution was stirred for 1h at -78 °C and 1h at room temperature. Then the aldehyde was added and the solution was stirred for another 2h after which the reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried

over MgSO₄ and concentrated. The mixture was then purified by column chromatography (40:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to give the product as a colorless liquid (40%).

 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.14 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 4.26 – 3.85 (m, 4H), 1.91 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 1.69 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.17, 136.70, 135.37, 130.11, 128.78, 126.60, 125.83, 122.57, 101.79, 65.51, 26.23, 19.52.

2-(2-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane



Under Schlenk conditions at 10°C cyclohexyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (1 eq) in Et_2O (0.4M) was treated with n-BuLi (2.5M, 1.1 eq), The salt gradually dissolved to give a blood red solution. This was stirred for another 1.5h. Then a solution of 2-(1,3-dioxolane-2-yl)benzaldehyde (1.01 eq) in Et_2O (1.5M) was added slowly and the mixture was stirred over night at room temperature. The mixture was then concentrated, hexanes was added and a filtration was done to remove triphenylphosphine oxide. The filtrate was

concentrated and extracted with Et₂O, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated again to give the product as a white oil which was used without further purification

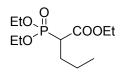
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.08 (m, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 4.22 – 3.95 (m, 4H), 2.33 – 2.22 (m, 2H), 2.19 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.45 (m, 6H).

ethyl (E)-2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)benzylidene)butanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 7.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.21 (dd, J = 6.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.19 – 3.98 (m, 4H), 2.36 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.00 (td, J = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 3H).

ethyl 2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)pentanoate



Under Schlenk conditions KO^tBu (1,1 eq) was added at 0°C to a solution of ethyl 2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)acetate (1 eq) in DMSO (1.0 M). This mixture was stirred at room temperature until the KO^tBu was dissolved. Then 1-bromopropane (1,1 eq) was added. Next the solution was stirred for 1 hour at 60°C. Finally the mixture

was poured into a saturated ammonium chloride solution and extracted with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to yield the product as a colorless liquid (93%).

 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.32 – 4.06 (m, 6H), 3.07 – 2.83 (m, 1H), 2.08 – 1.69 (m, 2H), 1.56 – 1.22 (m, 11H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). 31 P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.96. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₉H₁₈O₅P [M-Et]⁺ 237.08918, found 237.08902.

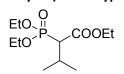
ethyl (E)-2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)benzylidene)pentanoate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.61 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.19 – 3.97 (m, 4H), 2.35 – 2.23 (m, 2H), 1.51 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.84 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

ethyl 2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)-3-methylbutanoate



Under Schlenk conditions KO^tBu (1,1 eq) was added at 0°C to a solution of ethyl 2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)acetate (1 eq) in DMSO (1.0 M). This mixture was stirred at room temperature until the KO^tBu was dissolved. Then 2-iodopropane (1,1 eq) was added. Next the solution was stirred for 1 hour at 60°C. Finally the mixture

was poured into a saturated ammonium chloride solution and extracted with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to yield the product as a yellow oil (95%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.32 – 4.02 (m, 6H), 2.69 (dd, J = 20.2, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (dq, J = 17.8, 8.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (dt, J = 10.2, 6.7 Hz, 9H), 1.12 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). ³¹P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.60.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)benzylidene)-3-methylbutanoate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a mixture of E and Z isomers in a 2:1 ratio and as a colorless oil and used without further purification.

Z-isomer: 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 4.18 – 3.97 (m, 4H), 3.94 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.94 – 2.72 (m, 1H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

E-isomer: 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 4.26 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.18 – 3.97 (m, 4H), 2.94 – 2.72 (m, 1H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.16 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H).

ethyl (E)-2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-methoxybenzylidene)butanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a light yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.18 – 3.96 (m, 4H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.37 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

ethyl (E)-2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4,5-dimethoxybenzylidene)butanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure C. The product was obtained as a yellow oil and used without further purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 4.28 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.20 – 4.10 (m, 4H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.39 (q, J = COOEt 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

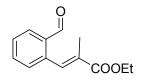
General Procedure D, aldehyde deprotection.

To a solution of ethyl (E)-3-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1 eq) in acetone (0.15 M) $FeCl_3$ (0.2 eq) was added. The reaction was stirred overnight. Then it was filtered over a plug of silica and eluted with EtOAc followed by removal of the solvent in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography.

General Procedure E, Heck coupling.

The alkene was filtered over basic alumina before the reaction. Under Schlenk conditions bromobenzaldehyde (1 eq) was dissolved in toluene (0.5M). Then $Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.02 eq), $P(o-tol)_3$ (0.04 eq), α -methylstyrene (1.5 eq) and triethylamine (2.5M) were added and the reaction was heated to reflux for 48h. The reaction was then cooled down to room temperature, diluted with water and extracted with DCM. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by column chromatography.

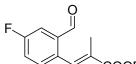
ethyl (E)-3-(2-formylphenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The residue was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and the product was obtained as yellow oil (62%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.94 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (td, J = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

ethyl (E)-3-(4-fluoro-2-formylphenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as yellow oil (42%).

COOEt 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.12 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.89 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.09 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 167.43 (s), 162.40 (d, J = 250.8 Hz), 135.42 (d, J = 6.2 Hz), 134.94 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 134.50 (s), 132.83 (s), 131.94 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 121.03 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 115.43 (d, J = 22.4 Hz), 61.24 (s), 14.29 (s), 14.05 (s). 19 F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.80 (s). IR (neat) v 2982, 2931, 2854, 1695, 1488, 1250, 1112 cm $^{-1}$. HRMS(EI+) calcd. for C₁₀H₈FO [M-COOEt+] 163.05592, found 163.05557.

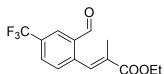
ethyl (E)-3-(5-fluoro-2-formylphenyl)-2-methylacrylate

0

The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 \rightarrow 4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (59%).

F COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.91 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.97 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 167.44 (s), 165.71 (d, J = 257.5 Hz), 141.86 (d, J = 9.2 Hz), 134.60 (s), 133.14 (s), 132.75 (d, J = 9.9 Hz), 130.51 (d, J = 2.5 Hz), 117.02 (d, J = 22.6 Hz), 115.92 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 61.42 (s), 14.40 (s), 14.18 (s). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -102.85. IR (neat) v 2983, 2932, 2852, 1698, 1575, 1257, 1233, 1114 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for $C_{11}H_8FO_3$ [M-Et]⁺ 207.0457, found 207.0466.

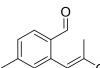
ethyl (E)-3-(2-formyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The residue was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and the product was obtained as a 7:1 mixture of E:Z isomers as a yellow oil (32%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 8.18 (br s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.88 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.15, 167.29, 142.29, 134.32, 134.10, 133.88, 131.08 (d, J = 33.7 Hz), 130.85, 130.13 (q, J = 3.4 Hz), 126.63 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.53 (d, J = 272.4 Hz), 61.54, 14.41, 14.26. ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -63.00. IR (neat) v 2985, 2854, 1702, 1330, 1253, 1169, 1127 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₃F₃O₃ [M]⁺ 286.0817 found 286.0823.

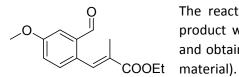
ethyl (E)-3-(2-formyl-5-methylphenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as an orange oil (56%).

COOEt ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.90 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.41, 167.87, 144.90, 139.02, 136.34, 131.90, 131.65, 130.54, 130.21, 129.37, 61.22, 22.00, 14.45, 14.22. IR (neat) v 2982, 2850, 2746, 1695, 1602, 1257, 1229, 1112, 821 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI+) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁O₃ [M-Et]+ 203.0708, found 203.0751.

ethyl (E)-3-(2-formyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylacrylate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as an orange oil (74%, 80% based on recovery of starting material)

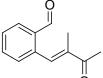
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 8.17 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H, OMe), 1.93 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, allyl), 1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.22, 167.79, 159.62, 135.33, 134.83, 131.66, 131.57, 131.37, 120.87, 112.26, 61.07, 55.61, 14.32, 14.09.

ethyl (E)-3-(2-formyl-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-methylacrylate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a white solid (22%).

O COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.02 (s, 1H), 8.08 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H, OMe), 3.95 (s, 3H, OMe), 1.91 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, allyl), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.91, 167.70, 153.69, 149.22, 135.32, 134.42, 132.67, 127.25, 111.54, 109.61, 61.29, 56.37, 56.24, 14.37, 13.92. IR (neat) v 2978, 2938, 2850, 1680, 1510, 1275, 1250, 1217, 1108 cm⁻¹. HRMS(El⁺) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₅ [M]⁺ 278.1154, found 278.1146.

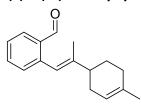
(E)-2-(2-methyl-3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)benzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure E. The product was purified by column chromatography (3:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a red brown oil (27%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.15 (s, 1H), 8.00 (br s, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, O 1H), 7.65 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H, C(O)Me), 1.85 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H allyl Me). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.22, 192.30, 139.69, 138.04, 137.79, 133.77, 133.75, 132.41, 130.29, 128.80, 26.13, 13.06. IR (neat) v 2924, 2849, 2745, 1696, 1668, 1246, 754 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₂O₂ [M]⁺ 188.0837, found 188.0823.

(E)-2-(2-(4-methylcyclohex-3-en-1-yl)prop-1-en-1-yl)benzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure E. The product was purified by column chromatography (40:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a 2:1 mixture of the E and Z isomers as a yellow liquid (47%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.29 (s, 1H, CHO, Z), 10.21 (s, 1H, CHO, E), 7.93 – 7.84 (m, 1H+1H, E+Z), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 1H+1H, E+Z), 7.43 – 7.31 (m, 1H+1H, E+Z), 7.30 – 7.19 (m, 1H+1H, E+Z), 6.60 (s, 1H, allyl CH, E), 6.53 (s, 1H, allyl CH,

Z), 5.48 - 5.43 (m, 1H, CH alkene cyclohexyl, E), 5.43 - 5.38 (m, 1H, CH alkene cyclohexyl, Z), 1.88 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H, allyl Me, Z), 1.71 - 1.67 (s, 3H, Me cyclohexyl, E), 1.65 (s, 3H, Me cyclohexyl, Z), 1.63 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H, allyl Me, E), 2.26 - 0.95 (m, 7H+7H, cyclohexyl, E+Z). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.86, 192.22, 154.19, 147.27, 142.74, 142.45, 134.06, 133.96, 133.71, 132.04, 131.63, 130.89, 130.74, 130.45, 129.16, 127.94, 127.08, 127.03, 126.94, 120.58, 120.52, 119.65, 43.07, 40.37, 37.58, 31.48, 31.00, 30.74, 30.63, 28.37, 28.01, 23.65, 23.59, 16.17. IR (neat) v 2961, 2919, 2834, 1693, 1643, 1596, 1449, 1208, 1192, 815, 795, 754 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{17}H_{20}O$ [M]+ 240.15141, found 240.15088.

(E)-2-(2-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)benzaldehyde

The reaction was performed according to general procedure E. The product was purified by column chromatography (40:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a 3:1 mixture of the E and Z isomers as an orange liquid (40%).

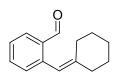
Ph ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.28 (s, 1H, CHO, E), 10.24 (s, 1H, CHO, Z), 7.98-6.90 (m, 10H+10H, E+Z), 2.32 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, Me, Z), 2.09 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H, Me, E). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.58, 142.61, 141.83, 140.64, 134.14, 133.78, 130.80, 129.04, 128.62, 127.94, 127.46, 126.10, 123.90, 17.48. IR (neat) v 3058, 2917, 2850, 2742, 1692, 1595, 755, 696 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₄O [M]⁺ 222.10446, found 222.10323.

2-(2-methylprop-1-en-1-yl)benzaldehyde

The reaction was performed according to general procedure E. The product was purified by column chromatography (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow liquid (63%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.22 (s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (td, J = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (br s, 1H), 1.96 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H), 1.66 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 3H).

2-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)benzaldehyde



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (hexanes) and obtained as yellow oil (59%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.28 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dddd, J = 7.9, 7.2, 1.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (ddt, J =

7.7, 1.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 2.41 – 2.30 (m, 2H), 2.12 (td, J = 5.9, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 1.79 – 1.46 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.84, 147.10, 141.97, 133.92, 133.58, 130.91, 127.72, 126.79, 117.75, 37.25, 29.82, 28.57, 27.66, 26.48.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-formylbenzylidene)butanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (58%).

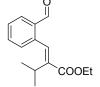
COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (td, J = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.29 (ddd, J = 7.7, 1.4, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (qd, J = 7.4, 0.6 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.72, 167.43, 139.07, 138.15, 135.75, 133.92, 133.78, 129.93, 129.69, 128.53, 61.10, 21.21, 14.43, 13.89.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-formylbenzylidene)pentanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (43%).

COOEt 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.39 – 2.17 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.79 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.61, 167.49, 139.08, 136.76, 136.05, 133.78, 133.64, 129.71, 129.61, 128.36, 60.98, 29.66, 22.39, 14.29, 14.02. IR (neat) v 2962, 1699, 1225, 1094, 756 cm $^{-1}$. HRMS(EI $^{+}$) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₃ [M] $^{+}$ 246.1256, found 246.1257.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-formylbenzylidene)-3-methylbutanoate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (27%).

E-isomer: 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 7.89 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.50 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 3.92 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (pd, J = 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 1.22 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

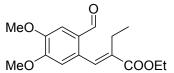
Z-isomer: 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.20 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.60 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 4.28 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (p, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.06, 168.92, 144.77, 140.70, 135.19, 133.95, 133.51, 129.62, 128.15, 127.85, 60.56, 32.44, 21.66, 13.72. IR (neat) v 2966, 1699, 1233, 1056, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{15}H_{18}O_3$ [M]+ 246.1256, found 246.1270.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-formyl-4-methoxybenzylidene)butanoate

The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (5:1 pet ether 40-60:EtOAc) and obtained as a light yellow oil (57%).

COOEt 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.35 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.34, 167.53, 159.72, 138.01, 135.07, 134.82, 131.84, 131.04, 121.11, 112.31, 61.03, 55.71, 21.17, 14.42, 13.87. IR (neat) v 2975, 2938, 1694, 1602, 1493, 1229, 1125, 708, 565 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₄ [M]⁺262.12051, found 262.12059.

ethyl (E)-2-(2-formyl-4,5-dimethoxybenzylidene)butanoate



The reaction was performed according to general procedure D. The product was purified by column chromatography (5:1 pet ether 40-60:EtOAc) and obtained as a white solid (50%).

MeO COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.06 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H+3H), 2.34 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.92, 167.34, 153.74, 149.17, 138.73, 134.94, 134.52, 127.14, 111.34, 109.60, 61.15, 56.35, 56.25, 21.42, 14.44, 13.88. IR (neat) v 2974, 2937, 1707, 1682, 1593, 1510, 1278, 1236, 1219, 1071, 1021, 747, 582 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₁₆H₂₀O₅ [M]⁺292.1311, found 292.1316.

General Procedure F, tosylhydrazone introduction.

To benzaldehyde (1 eq) in dry MeOH (1M) p-toluenesulfonyl hydrazide (1.11 eq) was added under rappid stirring. If the substrate doesn't dissolve within 15 min. the reaction was heated to 60°C for 1h, during which the substrate should dissolve quickly followed by precipitation of the product. Next the reaction was concentrated and triturated with Et_2O . The product was obtained by concentration of the ether solution.

ethyl (E)-2-methyl-3-(2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (1a)

ethyl (E)-3-(4-fluoro-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazono)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1b)

cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for $C_{20}H_{22}N_2O_4S$ [M]⁺ 386.13003, found 386.12849.

NNHTs F The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated by trituration and obtained as a white powder (73%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.60 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 COOEt (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, COO CH_2CH_3), 2.36 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 1.68 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H, CH_3 -allyl), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, COO CH_2CH_3). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.97 (s, C=O), 161.70 (d, J = 249.4 Hz, CF), 143.85 (s), 143.66 (s), 135.91 (s), 135.54 (s), 133.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 132.04 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 131.24 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 130.81 (s), 129.72 (s), 127.22 (s), 116.85 (d, J = 20.3 Hz), 111.83 (d, J = 22.8 Hz), 60.73 (s, COO CH_2CH_3), 21.04 (s, Ts Me), 14.18 (s, COO CH_2CH_3), 13.80 (s, allyl-Me). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ -112.74. IR

(neat) v 3165, 2986, 2921, 1674, 1443, 1271, 1184, 1125, 1090 cm $^{-1}$. HRMS(FD $^+$) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₁FN₂O₄S [M] $^+$ 404.1206, found 404.1210.

ethyl (E)-3-(5-fluoro-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1c)

NNHTs

F₃C

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as a white solid (78%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.45 (s, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H, alkene), 7.81 – F COOEt 7.58 (m, 4H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar Ts), 7.24 (td, J = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, J = 9.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, COO CH_2 CH₃), 2.35 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 1.69 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, CH₃-allyl), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, COOCH₂CH₃). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.80, 162.33 (d, J = 248.7 Hz), 144.23, 143.49, 137.19 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 136.00, 135.25, 131.34, 129.61, 128.51 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 128.03 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 127.16, 116.03 (d, J = 22.4 Hz), 115.78 (d, J = 22.1 Hz), 60.75, 20.99, 14.13, 13.75. ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ -110.81. IR (neat) v 3204, 2982, 2927, 1706, 1597, 1240, 1162, 1118, 1088 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₁FN₂O₄S [M]⁺ 404.1206, found 404.1216.

ethyl (E)-2-methyl-3-(2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate NNHTs (1d)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated by trituration and obtained as a 7:1 mixture of E:Z isomers a yellow solid (97%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.68 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (ddd, J = 11.0, 7.0, 2.1 Hz, 4H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.68 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.75, 143.70, 138.75, 135.91, 135.28, 132.41, 131.77, 130.86, 130.04, 129.68, 128.80 (q, J = 32.2 Hz), 127.15, 125.82 (q, J = 4.0 Hz), 123.78 (q, J = 272.3 Hz), 122.37 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 60.85, 30.67, 14.14, 13.80. ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO) δ -61.49. IR (neat) v 3186, 2984, 1710, 1327, 1270, 1256, 1165, 1126, 1078, 813, 667 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{21}H_{21}F_3N_2O_4S$ [M]+454.1174, found 454.1168.

ethyl (E)-2-methyl-3-(5-methyl-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (1e)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as an off white solid (91%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.35 (s, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.5, COOEt

1.9 Hz, 3H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 4.21 (qd, J = 7.1, 1.8 Hz, 2H, COO CH_2CH_3), 2.35 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 2.31 (s, 3H, Ar Me), 1.68 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H, CH_3 -allyl), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, COO CH_2CH_3). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 167.11, 145.42, 143.50, 139.60, 136.70, 136.05, 134.82, 130.26, 129.79, 129.63, 129.29, 128.70, 127.22, 126.20, 60.68, 21.04, 20.91, 14.20, 13.85. IR (neat) v 3189, 2923, 2853, 1704, 1165, 813 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for $C_{21}H_{24}N_2O_4S$ [M]⁺ 400.14568, found 400.14412.

ethyl (E)-3-(4-methoxy-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1f)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as a white solid (quantitative yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.45 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.80 – 7.71 (m, COOEt 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, COO CH_2 CH₃), 3.79 (s, 3H, Ar OMe), 2.36 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 1.72 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H, CH_3 -allyl), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, COOCH₂CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ 167.22, 159.03, 144.98, 143.58, 136.23, 135.93, 132.88, 131.22, 131.20, 129.63, 129.35, 127.24, 115.85, 110.43, 60.56, 55.30, 21.02, 14.19, 13.85. IR (neat) v 3188, 2925, 1705, 1251, 1167, 813 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for C₂₁H₂₄N₂O₅S [M]+ 416.14059, found 416.13968.

ethyl (E)-3-(4,5-dimethoxy-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1g)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as a yellow solid (79%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.3 COOEt Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H, OMe), 3.77 (s, 3H, OMe), 2.35 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 1.71 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H, allyl), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ 167.69, 167.18, 149.74, 148.20, 145.52, 143.47, 135.98, 131.18, 129.61, 128.34, 127.32, 124.20, 111.60, 107.81, 60.01, 55.74, 55.50, 21.05, 14.24, 13.60. IR (neat) v 3185, 2927, 1703, 1508, 1247, 1163, 1109, 1033, 547 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd.

4-methyl-N'-((E)-2-((E)-2-methyl-3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)benzylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide (1h)

for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₆S [M]⁺ 446.1512, found 446.1492.

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F and purified by column chromatography (2:1 hexanes:EtOAc). The product was isolated as a green powder (61%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.46 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.74 – 7.62 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.27 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H, C(O)Me), 2.34 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 1.60 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H, allyl Me). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 199.59, 145.85, 143.48, 138.52, 137.95, 136.02, 135.01, 131.22, 129.60, 129.54, 129.45, 128.44, 127.05, 126.83, 25.86, 20.96, 12.48. IR (neat) v 3185, 2923, 2853, 1664, 1366, 1328, 1165, 813, 667 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{19}H_{20}N_2O_3S$ [M]+ 356.11946, found 356.11987.

4-methyl-N'-((E)-2-((E)-2-(4-methylcyclohex-3-en-1-yl)prop-1-en-1-yl)benzylidene) benzenesulfonohydrazide (1*i*)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F and purified by column chromatography (1:2 Et₂O:hexanes). The product was isolated as a white solid (20%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.44 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.66 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tocyl), J

2H, tosyl), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, tosyl), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H, allyl CH), 5.43 (s, 1H, alkene cyclohexyl), 2.72 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 2.30 – 1.87 (m, 4H), 1.84 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H, allyl Me), 1.46 (s, 3H, cyclohexyl Me), 1.23 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 145.75, 145.09, 143.42, 137.99, 136.16, 133.18, 131.22, 129.95, 129.67, 129.51, 127.14, 126.73, 124.76, 120.45, 120.12, 42.23, 30.35, 30.12, 27.35, 23.32, 20.99, 15.61. IR (neat) v 3192, 2919, 1165, 758 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{24}H_{28}N_2O_2S$ [M]+408.1871, found 408.1881.

4-methyl-N'-((E)-2-((E)-2-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)benzylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide (1j)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as brown solid (quantitative yield). $^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d}_{6}) \ \delta \ 11.39 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 8.11 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 7.73 \ (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 \ Hz, 4\text{H}), 7.63 - 7.58 \ (m, 2\text{H}), 7.49 - 7.23 \ (m, 7\text{H}), 6.98 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 2.36 \ (s, 3\text{H}, Ts Me), 1.90 \ (d, J = 1.4 \ Hz, 3\text{H}, Me).}$

(E)-4-methyl-N'-(2-(2-methylprop-1-en-1-yl)benzylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide (1k)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as an off white solid (74%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.34 (s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (br s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 145.96, 143.40, 137.84, 137.31, 136.13, 131.19, 129.97, 129.62, 129.51, 127.17, 126.74, 124.86, 121.86, 25.64, 20.99, 19.00. IR (neat) v 3194, 2925, 1166, 669, 549 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{18}H_{20}N_2O_2S$ [M]+ 328.1245, found 328.1233.

(E)-N'-(2-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)benzylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide (1/)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was isolated as a white solid (96%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.39 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H),

7.65 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H, Ts Me), 2.23 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.86 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.66 – 1.45 (m, 4H), 1.35 (q, J = 6.4, 5.7 Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 145.94, 144.89, 143.40, 137.52, 136.16, 131.41, 130.00, 129.64, 129.55, 127.17, 126.76, 124.82, 118.61, 36.39, 29.18, 27.96, 26.93, 25.95, 21.00. IR (neat) v 3205, 3183, 2926, 2851, 2361, 2342, 1167 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{21}H_{24}N_2O_2S$ [M]+ 368.1558, found 368.1574.

ethyl 2-((E)-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)benzylidene)butanoate (1m)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was obtained as a 6:1 mixture of E:Z isomers and as an off white solid (96%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.45 (s, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.77 – 7.62 (m, 4H), 7.46 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.10 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.67, 145.10, 143.48, 136.52, 136.26, 136.04, 134.88, 131.22, 129.77, 129.61, 128.95, 128.43, 127.17, 126.21, 60.54, 21.00, 20.57, 14.14, 13.32. IR (neat) v 3186, 2978, 2935, 1707, 1448, 1242, 1168, 1048, 668, 548 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for $C_{21}H_{24}N_2O_4S$ [M]+ 400.1457, found

ethyl 2-((E)-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazono)methyl)benzylidene)pentanoate (1n)

400.1426.

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was obtained as a 6:1 mixture of E:Z isomers and as an off white solid (quantitative). $^{1}\text{H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-}d_{6}) \ \delta \ 11.46 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 7.95 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 7.81 - 7.56 \ (m, 4\text{H}), }$ $^{1}\text{H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-}d_{6}) \ \delta \ 11.46 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 7.95 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 7.81 - 7.56 \ (m, 4\text{H}), }$ $^{1}\text{H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-}d_{6}) \ \delta \ 11.46 \ (s, 1\text{H}), 4.22 \ (q, J = 7.1 \text{ Hz, 2H}), 3.42 - 3.34 \ (m, 2\text{H}), 2.35 \ (s, 3\text{H}), 2.12 - 2.04 \ (m, 2\text{H}), 1.29 \ (t, J = 7.1 \text{ Hz, 3H}), 0.63 \ (t, J = 7.3 \text{ Hz, 3H}). \ ^{13}\text{C NMR}$ $^{1}\text{LOS} \ \delta \ 166.84, 145.09, 143.44, 137.03, 136.07, 135.01, 134.93, 131.21, 129.73, 129.60, 128.98, 128.36, 127.16, 126.13, 60.53, 29.06, 21.55, 21.00, 14.13, 13.71. \ IR \ (neat) \ v \ 3194, 2962, 2364, 1708, 1227, 1168, 668, 548 \ cm^{-1}. \ HRMS(FD^+) \ calcd. \ for \ C_{22}H_{26}N_{2}O_{4}S \ [M]^+ \ 414.1613, \ found \ 414.1598.$

ethyl 3-methyl-2-((E)-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)benzylidene)butanoate (10)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was obtained as a 2:1 mixture of E:Z isomers and as a white solid (quantitative). E-isomer: 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_{6}) δ 11.47 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 10.2, 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.66 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 8.0, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 3.84 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.81 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.14 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 0.79 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). Z-isomer: 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_{6}) δ 11.49 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 10.2, 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.71 –

7.67 (m, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 8.0, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.81 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 168.31, 145.37, 143.44, 143.02, 136.58, 136.20, 130.87, 129.65, 129.38, 128.13, 127.77, 127.60, 127.13, 125.57, 59.88, 31.95, 21.20, 14.11, 13.41. IR (neat) v 3193, 2964, 2932, 2874, 1710, 1239, 1166, 1053, 668, 589, 549 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₄S [M]+ 414.1613, found 414.1618.

ethyl 2-((E)-4-methoxy-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)benzylidene)butanoate (1p)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The product was obtained as a 8:1 mixture of E:Z isomers and as a white solid (65%).

COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.23 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ 167.31, 159.46, 145.36, 144.01, 136.62, 136.42, 135.96, 133.17, 131.01, 130.08, 127.70, 127.68, 116.38, 111.11, 60.92, 55.73, 21.47, 21.00, 14.62, 13.87. IR (neat) v 3187, 2977, 2937, 1705, 1597, 1562, 1494, 1456, 1236, 1166, 1131, 1046, 907, 667, 548 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₅S [M]⁺ 430.1562, found 430.1549.

ethyl 2-((E)-4,5-dimethoxy-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazineylidene)methyl)benzylidene)butanoate (1q)

NNHTs The reaction was performed according to general procedure F. The MeO product was obtained as a 7.5:1 mixture of E:Z isomers and as a yellow solid (96%). MeO COOEt 1 H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.15 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ 166.73, 149.98, 148.64, 145.07, 143.41, 136.05, 136.00, 129.52, 128.25, 128.23, 127.25, 123.99, 111.63, 108.02, 60.44, 55.59, 55.44, 20.97, 20.68, 14.14, 13.24. IR (neat) v 3194, 2963, 2930, 2360, 2342, 1707, 1595, 1510, 1463, 1343, 1278, 1239, 1168, 1117, 1046, 668, 549 cm $^{-1}$. HRMS(FD $^+$) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₈N₂O₆S [M] $^+$ 460.1668, found 460.1669.

General Procedure G, catalytic reaction.

Under Schlenk conditions the tosyl hydrazone (1 eq), LiOtBu (1.2 eq) and [Co(TPP)] (0.05 eq) were put together after which the tube was evacuated for 15 min. and then refilled with N_2 . Next benzene (2 mL) was added and the mixture was heated to 60 °C over night in a dark fumehood. The mixture was then filtered over a silica plug and eluted with EtOAc. After concentration the product was purified by column chromatography.

ethyl 3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2α)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was isolated by column chromatography (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as red oil (89%)

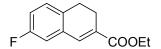
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.11 (m, 4H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (dd, J = 9.2, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (td, J = 8.1, 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.46, 136.98, 136.30, 132.62, 129.59, 129.40, 128.41, 127.64, 126.71, 60.62, 27.64, 22.26, 14.38.

ethyl 6-fluoro-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2b)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained COOEt as an yellow oil (76%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (ddd, J = 8.9, 5.9, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, COO CH_2 CH₃), 2.85 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -CH₂), 2.59 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar- CH_2 -CH₂), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, COOCH₂CH₃). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.43 (s, C=O), 163.35 (d, J = 249.8 Hz, CF), 139.80 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, CF-CH-C-C-CH-CH), 135.36 (s), 130.10 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, CF-CH-C-C-CH-CH), 129.03 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, CF-CH-C-C-CH-CH), 128.97 (s), 115.11 (d, J = 21.9 Hz, CF-CH-C-C-CH-CH), 113.59 (d, J = 21.7 Hz, CF-C-C-C-CH-CH), 60.77 (s, COOCH₂CH₃), 28.02 (s, Ar-CH₂-CH₂), 21.98 (s, Ar-CH₂-CH₂), 14.49 (s, COOCH₂CH₃). IR (neat) v 2979, 2903, 1703, 1494, 1299, 1237 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃FO₂ [M⁺] 220.0900, found 220.0909.

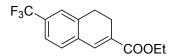
ethyl 7-fluoro-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2c)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (19:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a yellow oil (74%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.11 (dd, J = 8.3, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 4.28 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.83 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.70 – 2.49 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.26 (s), 161.74 (d, J = 243.8 Hz), 135.36 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 134.35 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 132.50 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 131.18 (s), 128.90 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 115.78 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 114.92 (d, J = 21.6 Hz), 60.90 (s), 27.04 (s), 22.61 (s), 14.46 (s). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -116.67. IR (neat) v 2980, 2896, 1706, 1493, 1277, 1232 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃FO₂ [M]⁺ 220.0900, found 220.0905.

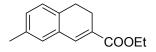
ethyl 6-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2d)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) COOEt and obtained as an red oil (65%)

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (td, J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.05 (s), 137.61 (s), 135.98 (s), 134.81 (s), 132.36 (s), 130.99 (q, J = 32.2 Hz), 128.45 (s), 124.55 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 124.16 (q, J = 272.1 Hz), 123.83 (q, J = 4.1 Hz), 61.03 (s), 27.64 (s), 22.24 (s), 14.46 (s). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.72. IR (neat) v 2982, 1704, 1317, 1272, 1162, 1117, 1068, 831, 738 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₃F₃O₂ [M⁺] 270.0868, found 270.0882.

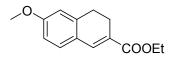
ethyl 7-methyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2e)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as an red oil (40%)

 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 – 6.97 (m, 3H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.65, 136.60, 136.32, 134.10, 132.63, 130.16, 129.64, 129.24, 127.60, 60.69, 27.35, 22.58, 21.09, 14.49. IR (neat) v 2929, 1700, 1275, 1227, 1198, 1170, 1070 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcld. for C₁₄H₁₆O₂ [M]⁺ 216.11503, found 216.11524.

ethyl 6-methoxy-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2f)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (6:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as an red oil (75%)

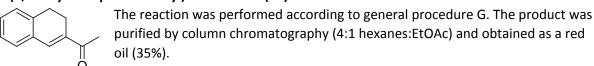
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.08 (m, 1H), 6.78 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 4.26 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H, OMe), 2.84 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (ddd, J = 9.5, 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.76, 160.73, 139.18, 136.22, 129.96, 126.90, 125.90, 113.88, 111.69, 60.55, 55.43, 28.33, 22.21, 14.52. IR (neat) v 2901, 2836, 1695, 1604, 1272, 1247, 1196, 1069, 1032, 808 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD+) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆O₃ [M+] 232.10994, found 232.10916.

ethyl 6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carboxylate (2g)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a red oil (71%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 4.26 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.81 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.69, 150.04, 147.70, 136.32, 130.47, 127.33, 125.43, 111.94, 111.30, 60.56, 56.26, 56.15, 27.66, 22.46, 14.53. IR (neat) v 2956, 2834, 1699, 1464, 1240, 1200 cm⁻¹. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₄ [M]⁺ 262.1205, found 262.1216.

1-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (2h)



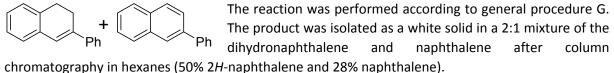
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H).

3-(4-methylcyclohex-3-en-1-yl)-1,2-dihydronaphthalene (2i)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (hexanes) and obtained as a light yellow oil (44%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.16 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 5.44 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.38 – 2.27 (m, 1H), 2.27 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20 – 1.93 (m, 4H), 1.88 (ddq, J = 12.6, 4.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.59 (ddt, J = 17.1, 11.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.61, 135.17, 134.88, 134.02, 127.22, 126.54, 126.16, 125.66, 120.73, 120.62, 41.13, 30.56, 30.53, 28.56, 27.68, 26.02, 23.69. IR (neat) v 3042, 2922, 2885, 2853, 2831, 1486, 1452, 1436, 747 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀ [M]⁺ 224.15650, found 224.15937.

3-phenyl-1,2-dihydronaphthalene with 2-phenylnaphthalene (2j)



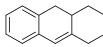
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H, naphthalene), 7.97 – 7.81 (m, 3H, naphthalene), 7.75 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 3H, naphthalene), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 2H, 2H-naphthalene), 7.50 (m, 4H, naphthalene), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 2H 2H-naphthalene) + 1H naphthalene), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H, 2H-naphthalene), 7.23 – 7.10 (m, 4H, 2H-naphthalene), 6.86 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H, 2H-naphthalene alkene), 2.97 (dd, J = 9.2, 6.9 Hz, 2H, 2H-naphthalene).

3-methyl-1,2-dihydronaphthalene (2k)

The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (hexane) and obtained as a colorless liquid (21%, 68% based on NMR with standard).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (q, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.32 – 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.41, 135.17, 134.17, 127.28, 126.49, 126.06, 125.20, 122.82, 28.99, 28.21, 23.66.

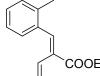
1,2,3,4,4a,10-hexahydroanthracene (2/)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (PE) and obtained as a white solid (17%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, J = 15.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, J = 15.4, 12.5 Hz, 1H), 2.52 – 2.32 (m, 2H), 2.25 – 1.98 (m, 2H), 1.93 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.20 (m, 3H).

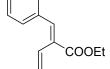
ethyl (E)-2-(2-methylbenzylidene)but-3-enoate (3m)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a red liquid (85%).

COOEt 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 6.51 (dd, J = 17.7, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (dd, J = 17.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (dt, J = 11.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.42 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.26, 138.54, 136.87, 134.39, 130.83, 129.96, 129.58, 129.50, 128.41, 125.37, 120.19, 60.83, 19.86, 14.18. IR (neat) v 3019, 1714, 1242, 1139, 1063, 923, 794, 748 cm⁻¹. HRMS(FD⁺) calcd. for $C_{14}H_{16}O_{2}$ [M]⁺ 216.1150, found 216.1145.

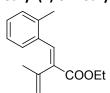
ethyl (E)-2-((E)-2-methylbenzylidene)pent-3-enoate (3*n*)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (100:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a colorless liquid (95%).

COOEt ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 6.32 (dq, J = 15.9, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.79 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.97, 136.93, 135.70, 134.92, 132.25, 131.09, 130.04, 129.64, 128.17, 125.44, 123.95, 60.89, 20.00, 19.24, 14.32. IR (neat) v 2929, 1713, 1446, 1373, 1296, 1238, 1130, 744 cm⁻¹. HRMS(El⁺) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₂ [M]⁺ 230.1307, found 230.1315.

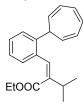
ethyl (E)-3-methyl-2-(2-methylbenzylidene)but-3-enoate (30)



The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (40:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and isolated containing 10% cycloheptatriene (*vide infra*) obtained as a yellow oil (83%). This compound was obtained as a mixture of ~90% **3o** and ~10% **4**. It proved difficult to isolate compound **3o**, free from **4**.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.12 (td, J = 7.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.85 – 4.71 (m, 1H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.91 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃, proton coupled) δ 167.39, 138.87 (d, J = 239.2 Hz), 137.41, 137.03, 135.79, 134.73, 129.93 (d, J = 57.8 Hz), 128.72 (d, J = 12.3 Hz), 128.25 (d, J = 11.6 Hz), 125.50 (d, J = 57.2 Hz), 117.90 (t, J = 18.6 Hz), 60.98 (t, J = 5.2 Hz), 22.88 (q, J = 29.8 Hz), 20.02 (q, J = 23.7 Hz), 14.27 (q, J = 39.1, 38.1 Hz). HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈O₂ [M]⁺ 230.1307, found 230.1315.

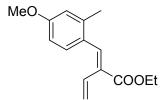
ethyl (Z)-2-(2-(cyclohepta-2,4,6-trien-1-yl)benzylidene)-3-methylbutanoate (4)



This compound was characterized from a mixture of ~90% **30** and ~10% **4**.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.72 (t, J = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 6.25 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.43 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.80 – 2.71 (m, 1H), 1.09 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for C₁₉H₁₈O [M-EtOH]⁺ 262.1358, found 262.1338.

ethyl (E)-2-(4-methoxy-2-methylbenzylidene)but-3-enoate (3p)

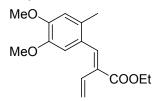


The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a red oil (89%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 6.50 (dd, J = 17.7, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d, J = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, J =

7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.71, 160.00, 139.28, 138.42, 131.52, 130.08, 129.73, 127.04, 119.99, 115.82, 110.90, 60.95, 55.35, 20.41, 14.44. IR (neat) v 2959, 2934, 2360, 1712, 1604, 1495, 1302, 1249, 1139, 1037, 819, 569 cm⁻¹. HRMS(EI⁺) calcd. for $C_{15}H_{18}O_3$ [M]⁺ 246.1256, found 246.1255.

ethyl (E)-2-(4,5-dimethoxy-2-methylbenzylidene)but-3-enoate (3q)



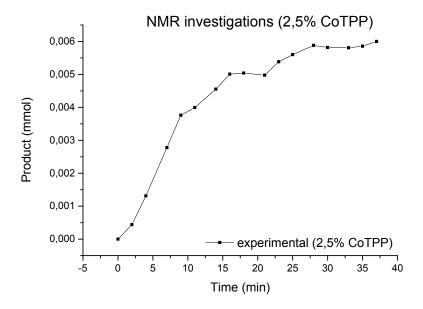
The reaction was performed according to general procedure G. The product was purified by column chromatography (6:1 hexanes:EtOAc) and obtained as a red oil (90%).

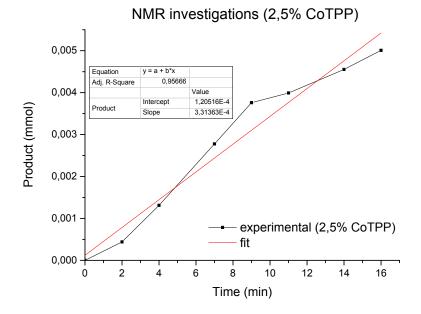
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (s, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.60 – 6.42 (m, 2H), 5.82 (dd, J = 17.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dt, J = 11.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz,

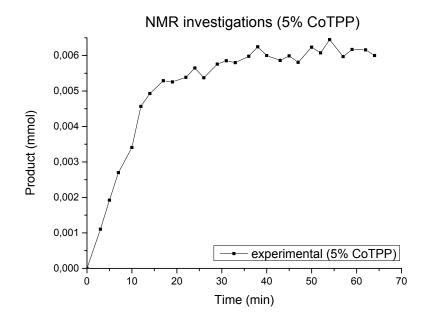
3H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl $_3$) δ 167.62, 149.30, 146.53, 138.61, 130.50, 130.13, 129.78, 126.38, 120.17, 113.30, 113.26, 60.98, 56.18, 55.98, 19.62, 14.43. IR (neat) v 2934, 2361, 2342, 1714, 1605, 1512, 1465, 1275, 1250, 1215, 1172, 1109, 1035, 1004, 868 cm $^{-1}$. HRMS(EI+) calcd. for C $_{16}$ H $_{20}$ O $_4$ [M]+ 276.1362, found 276.1363.

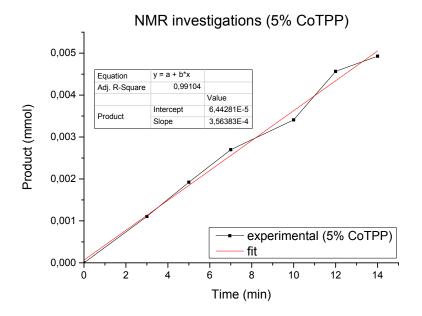
NMR kinetic investigations.

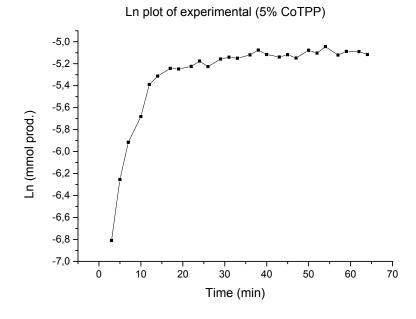
[Co(TPP)] (x eq, 671.65 g/mol), ethyl (E)-3-(4-fluoro-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazono)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1 eq, 0.006 mmol, 2.4 mg) and 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (0.1 eq, 0.006 mg, 0.10 mg) were combined in a pressure NMR tube which was then evacuated. LiO^tBu (1.2 eq, 0.0072 mmol, 0.6 mg) was dissolved in benzene-d (0.6 mL) and added to the pressure NMR tube. The resulting mixture was dissolved as much as possible by tilting and using a vortex. The tube was next entered in the preheated NMR machine (346K) with spinning and immediately spectra were measured with 16 scans.

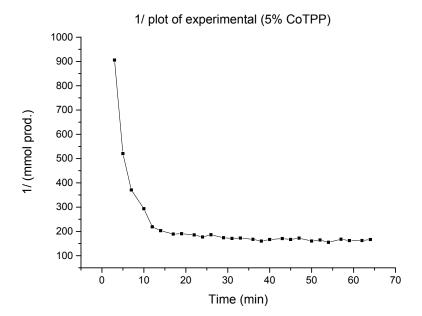






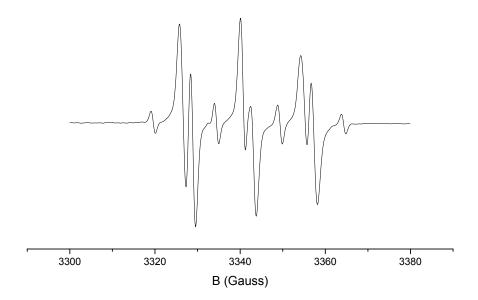






Spin trapping

Under Schlenk conditions ethyl (E)-3-(4-fluoro-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazono)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1 eq, 0.05 mmol) and LiOtBu (1.2 eq, 0.06 mmol) in dry benzene (1 mL) were heated to 60°C for 20 min. After cooling down a mixture of [Co(TPP)] (0.05 eq, 0.0025 mmol) and PBN (2 eq, 0.10 mmol) in dry benzene was added. This was stirred and a sample was transferred to an EPR tube and sealed with parafilm. The same solution was also investigated using ESI⁺. Note that the PBN (fragment) is drawn attached to the allylic carbon, but this could also be at the carbene carbon.



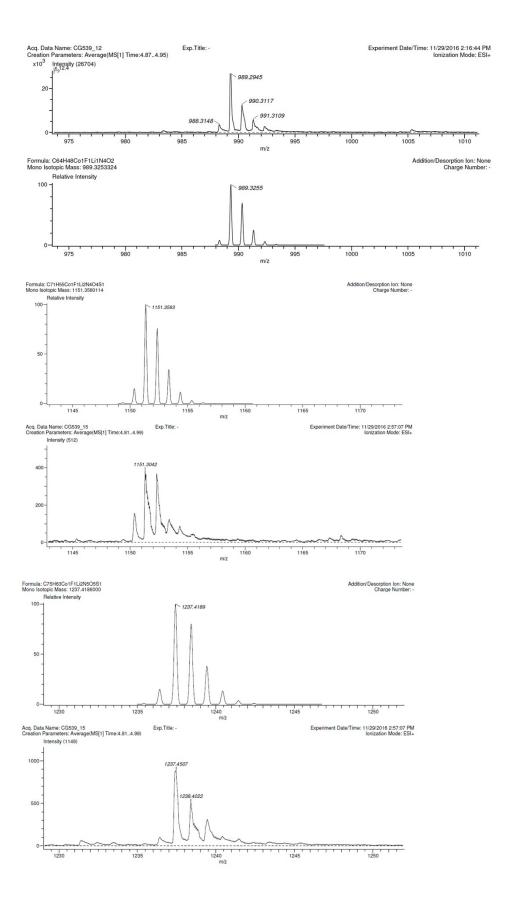
 $C_{64}H_{48}CoFLiN_4O_2$ Calcd. mass 989.3255 Found. 989.2945

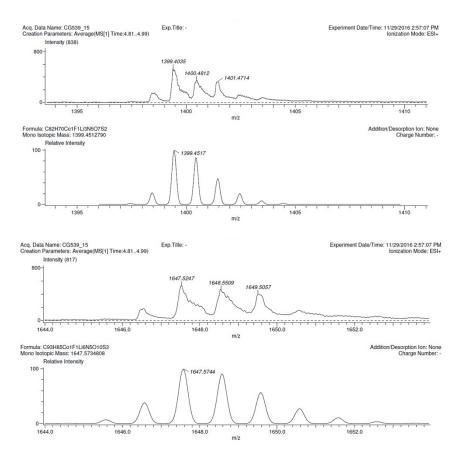
 $C_{71}H_{55}CoFLi_2N_4O_4S$ Calcd. mass 1151.3583 Found. 1151.3042

 $C_{75}H_{63}CoFLi_2N_5O_5S$ Calcd. mass 1237.4189 Found 1237.4507

 $C_{82}H_{70}CoFLi_3N_5O_7S_2$ Calcd. mass 1399.4517 Found 1399.4035

 $C_{93}H_{85}CoFLi_6N_5O_{10}S_3$ Calcd. mass 1647.5744 Found 1647.5247





Radical trapping

Under Schlenk conditions, ethyl (E)-3-(4-fluoro-2-((E)-(2-tosylhydrazono)methyl)phenyl)-2-methylacrylate (1 eq, 0.10 mmol), LiOtBu (1.2 eq, 0.12 mmol), TEMPO (2 eq, 0.20 mmol) and [Co(TPP)] (0.05 eq, 0.005 mmol) were put together after which the tube was evacuated for 15 min. and then refilled with N_2 . Next benzene (2 mL) was added and the mixture was heated to 60 °C over night in a dark fumehood. The mixture was then filtered over a silica plug and eluted with EtOAc. After concentration the product was purified by column chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to yield the product as a red oil (59%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (br s, 1H), 7.74 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 4.23 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H, allyl Me), 1.79 – 1.65 (m, 4H, C₁₅/C₁₇), 1.66 – 1.51 (m, 2H, C₁₆), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (s, 6H, TEMPO), 1.10 (s, 6H, TEMPO). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.18 (s, C₉), 165.85 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, C₁₃), 161.81 (d, J = 248.9 Hz, C₁), 138.34 (s, C₇), 133.65 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, C₄), 132.28 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, C₃), 131.27 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, C₅), 129.13 (s, C₈), 119.04 (d, J = 21.3 Hz, C₆), 117.36 (d, J = 23.4 Hz, C₂), 61.00 (s, C₁₄/C₁₈), 60.57 (s, C₁₁), 39.28 (s, C₁₅/C₁₇), 32.04 (s, C₁₉/C₂₁), 21.17 (s, C₂₀/C₂₂), 17.09 (s, C₁₆), 14.40 (s, C₁₂), 14.04 (s, C₁₀). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.74 (s). IR (neat) v 2978, 2933, 1752, 1712, 1489, 1262, 1174, 1112, 1041 cm⁻¹. HRMS

(EI⁺) calcd. for C₂₂H₃₀FNO₄ [M]⁺ 391.21589, found 391.21530.

List of Abreviations

M molar

EtOAc ethyl acetate

h hour(s)

min minutes

eq equivalents

N,N-DMF N,N-dimethylformamide

NMR nuclear magnetic resonance

IR infrared

THF tetrahydrofuran

sat. saturated

br s broad singlet

MHz mega hertz

calcd. calculated

PE petroleum ether 40-60°C

mL milliliter

DCM dichloromethane

PBN N-*tert*-butyl-α-phenylnitrone

TEMPO ...

Computational details

The mechanism of the [Co(por)]-catalyzed 1,2-dihydronaphthalene and E-aryl-diene formation reactions were explored computationally, using DFT. A simplified model porphyrin without meso-substituents was used to reduce computation time. Geometry optimizations were carried out with the Turbomole program package¹ coupled to the PQS Baker optimizer² via the BOpt package.³ We used unrestricted ri-DFT-D3 calculations at the BP86 level,⁴ in combination with the def2-TZVP basis set,⁵ and a small (m4) grid size. Grimme's dispersion corrections⁶ (version 3, disp3, 'zero damping') were used to include Van der Waals interactions. All minima (no imaginary frequencies) and transition states (one imaginary frequency) were characterized by calculating the Hessian matrix. ZPE and gas-phase thermal corrections (entropy and enthalpy, 298 K, 1 bar) from these analyses were calculated. The nature of the transition states was confirmed by following the intrinsic reaction coordinate. The relative free energies (ΔG°_{333K} in kcal mol¹¹) obtained from these calculations are reported in the main text. A separate archive file containing an excel sheet containing the energies and entropies (ΔG_{333K} , ΔG_{298K} , ΔH , ΔS , SCF+ZPE, SCF) and negative eigenvalues of the transition states and all optimized geometries (.pdb and .xyz format) is provided.

DFT calculations without dispersion corrections strongly underestimate the metal-ligand interactions, as was clear from a series of test calculations. We therefore employed Grimme's version 3 (disp3) dispersion corrections. Used as such, the computed dispersion corrected metal-ligand association/dissociation energies to/from the non-solvated [Co(por)] catalyst A are overestimated though. This is due to neglected dispersion interactions between the metal binding site of the catalyst and a solvent molecule in solution. We therefore used the Van der Waals π -complex between [Co(por)] catalyst A and a discrete toluene solvent molecule (interacting with catalyst at the metal binding site) as the energetic reference point in our calculations to prevent overestimation of the metal-ligand interactions as a result of such uncompensated dispersion forces. However, this approach also leads to an erroneous cancelation of all translational entropy contributions to the computed free energies. This is because the translational entropy contributions to substrate/product association/dissociation are counterbalanced by the translational entropy contributions resulting dissociation/association of the involved solvent molecule in the DFT calculated

thermodynamics (A-solv + L \leftarrow A-L + solv). This is not realistic in comparison to actual solution phase chemistry, for which the translational entropy contributions associated with substrate/product association/dissociation steps can of course not be neglected.⁷ Therefore we applied a translational entropy contribution of 20 cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ to the computed free energies of all substrate/product binding/dissociation steps in the catalytic cycle. See also the excel sheet in the separate archive file.

Energy Tables

Table S1. Free Energies, Enthalpies and Entropies.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4	ΔG_333K	∆G_298K	∆H_298K	ΔS
	kcal/mol	kcal/mol	kcal/mol	cal/mol/K
A	1.0	2.6	16.7	47.2
A_toluene_adduct -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
toluene				
diazo_substrate	0.0			0.0
N2				
В	0.4	-0.5	-8.1	-25.6
rs1	10.8	9.9	2.2	-26.1
C (+ N2)	-12.3	-11.7	-7.4	14.5
C_rotated (+ N2)	-11.2	-10.7	-6.8	13.1
TS2 (+ N2)	-6.7	-6.5	-4.9	5.3
D (+ N2)	-22.1	-21.7	-18.7	10.3
TS3 (+ N2)	-6.9	-6.6	-4.5	7.1
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-60.3	-59.3	-50.9	28.1
D (+ N2)	-22.1	-21.7	-18.7	10.3
E + A toluene adduct (+ N2)	-11.1	-9.8	1.2	36.9
ΓS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-7.2	-6.1	3.1	30.9
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-60.3	-59.3	-50.9	28.1
)'	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
rss	15.3	15.1	13.8	-4.4
rss' (Me other side)	15.9	15.8	15.0	-2.9
F' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-36.2	-35.7	-30.9	16.1
<u> </u>	7.0	7.8	14.3	21.9
rs8	9.0	9.6	14.5	16.6
G	-14.3	-13.4	-5.5	26.6

BP86, def2-TZVP, m4,	disp3				
		∆G_333K	∆G_298K	∆H_298K	ΔS
		kcal/mol	kcal/mol	kcal/mol	cal/mol/K
Ε'	trans	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ε"	cis	2.6	2.8	4.6	6.1
TS8		2.0	1.8	0.3	-5.3
G		-21.3	-21.1	-19.7	4.7
TS6	cis	7.2	9.7	9.4	-1.2
TS7	trans	12.4	9.6	6.8	-9.3
F'		-43.2	-43.4	-45.2	-5.7

Table S2. Free Energy Barriers 333K.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4, 333 K		neg. eigenv.		kcal/mol	barriers
A	-2371.75642	-	-2643.34648	1.0	
A_toluene_adduct -	-2643.34805	-	-2643.34805	0.0	
toluene	-271.59006	-	-2914.93811		
diazo_substrate	-724.58595	-	-3367.934	0.0	
N2	-109.5968	-			
3	-3096.35393	-	-3367.94399	0.4	
rs1	-3096.33727	-405.05 cm-1	-3367.92733	10.8	10.8
C (+ N2)	-2986.77731	-	-3367.96417	-12.3	
C_rotated (+ N2)	-2986.77555	-	-3367.96241	-11.2	
rs2 (+ N2)	-2986.76845	-1291.11 cm-1	-3367.95531	-6.7	5.6
O (+ N2)	-2986.79299	-	-3367.97985	-22.1	
rs3 (+ N2)	-2986.76874	-704.62 cm-1	-3367.9556	-6.9	15.2
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.08522	-	-3368.03007	-60.3	
) (+ N2)	-2986.79299	-	-3367.97985	-22.1	
E + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.00678	-	-3367.95163	-11.1	
rS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.00067	-273.84 cm-1	-3367.94552	-7.2	14.9
+ A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.08522	-	-3368.03007	-60.3	
o'	-3026.10368	-	-3407.29054	0.0	
rss	-3026.0793	-672.19 cm-1	-3407.26616	15.3	15.3
ΓS5' (Me other side)	-3026.07828	-704.62 cm-1	-3407.26514	15.9	15.9
-' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-654.39283	-	-3407.33768	-36.2	
<u>.</u>	-654.32392	-	-3407.26877	7.0	
rs8	-654.32068	-617.70 cm-1	-3407.26553	9.0	9.0
G	-654.35784	-	-3407.30269	-14.3	

BP86, def2-TZVP, m4, d	lisp3, free ene	ergies 333 K	
			∆G_333K
		G	kcal/mol
E'	trans	-654.32392	0.0
E"	cis	-654.31983	2.6
TS8		-654.32068	2.0
G		-654.35784	-21.3
TS6	cis	-654.30833	7.2
TS7	trans	-654.30408	12.4
F'		-654.39283	-43.2

Table S3. Free Energy Barriers 298K.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4, 298 K		neg. eigenv.		kcal/mol	barriers
A	-2371.74867	-	-2643.3341	2.6	
A_toluene_adduct -	-2643.33832	-	-2643.33832	0.0	
toluene	-271.58543	-	-2914.92375		
diazo_substrate	-724.57855	-	-3367.91687	0.0	
N2	-109.59415	-			
В	-3096.34171	-	-3367.92714	-0.5	
TS1	-3096.32509	-405.05 cm-1	-3367.91052	9.9	10.4
C (+ N2)	-2986.76551	-	-3367.94509	-11.7	
C_rotated (+ N2)	-2986.76383	-	-3367.94341	-10.7	
TS2 (+ N2)	-2986.75717	-1291.11 cm-1	-3367.93675	-6.5	5.2
D (+ N2)	-2986.78143	-	-3367.96101	-21.7	
ΓS3 (+ N2)	-2986.75735	-704.62 cm-1	-3367.93693	-6.6	15.1
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.07892	-	-3368.01139	-59.3	
D (+ N2)	-2986.78143	-	-3367.96101	-21.7	
E + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.99997	-	-3367.93244	-9.8	
TS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.9942	-273.84 cm-1	-3367.92667	-6.1	15.6
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.07892	-	-3368.01139	-59.3	
D'	-3026.09166	-	-3407.27124	0.0	
rss	-3026.06753	-672.19 cm-1	-3407.24711	15.1	15.1
TS5' (Me other side)	-3026.06642	-704.62 cm-1	-3407.246	15.8	15.8
F' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-654.38616	-	-3407.31863	-35.7	
E'	-654.31692	-	-3407.24939	7.8	
TS8	-654.31399	-617.70 cm-1	-3407.24646	9.6	9.6
G	-654.35058	-	-3407.28305	-13.4	

BP86, def2-TZVP, n	n4, disp3, free energies	298 K	
			∆G_298K
		G	kcal/mol
E'	trans	-654.31692	0.0
E"	cis	-654.31249	2.8
TS8		-654.31399	1.8
G		-654.35058	-21.1
TS6	cis	-654.30141	7.0
TS7	trans	-654.29726	12.3
F'		-654.38616	-43.4

Table S4. Enthalpy Barriers 298K.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4	H_298		SCF	ZPE_corr	H_corr	kcal/mol	barriers
A	-2371.68485	-2643.23157	-2371.97065	0.26715	0.2858	16.7	
A_toluene_adduct -	-2643.25822	-2643.25822	-2643.67769	0.39317	0.41947	0.0	
toluene	-271.54672	-2914.80494	-271.67806	0.12398	0.13134		
diazo_substrate	-724.5172	-3367.77542	-724.74601	0.21199	0.22881	0.0	
N2	-109.57176		-109.58042	0.00535	0.00866		
В	-3096.24162	-3367.78834	-3096.75714	0.47994	0.51552	-8.1	
TS1	-3096.22524	-3367.77196	-3096.73979	0.47918	0.51455	2.2	10.3
C (+ N2)	-2986.66876	-3367.78724	-2987.17331	0.4711	0.50455	-7.4	
C_rotated (+ N2)	-2986.66774	-3367.78622	-2987.17146	0.4703	0.50372	-6.8	
TS2 (+ N2)	-2986.6648	-3367.78328	-2987.16368	0.46666	0.49888	-4.9	2.5
D (+ N2)	-2986.68667	-3367.80515	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-18.7	
TS3 (+ N2)	-2986.66411	-3367.78259	-2987.16682	0.47018	0.50271	-4.5	14.2
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.0266	-3367.85658	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.9	
D (+ N2)	-2986.68667	-3367.80515	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-18.7	
E + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.94347	-3367.77345	-615.16006	0.202	0.21659	1.2	
TS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.94056	-3367.77054	-615.15628	0.20204	0.21572	3.1	21.7
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.0266	-3367.85658	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.9	
D'	-3025.9932	-3407.11168	-3026.52627	0.49841	0.53307	0.0	
TS5	-3025.97116	-3407.08964	-3026.50277	0.49758	0.53161	13.8	13.8
TS5' (Me other side)	-3025.96935	-3407.08783	-3026.50088	0.49728	0.53153	15.0	15.0
F' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-654.33093	-3407.16091	-654.57937	0.23374	0.24844	-30.9	
E'	-654.25896	-3407.08894	-654.50408	0.22932	0.24512	14.3	
TS8	-654.25855	-3407.08853	-654.50009	0.22687	0.24154	14.5	14.5
G	-654.29039	-3407.12037	-654.53665	0.22994	0.24626	-5.5	

BP86, def2-TZVP, m4, disp3						
				705		1 1 / 1
		Н	SCF	ZPE_cor	H_corr	kcal/mol
E'	trans	-654.259	-654.50408	0.22932	0.24512	0.0
E"	cis	-654.2516	-654.4967	0.22864	0.24508	4.6
TS8		-654.2586	-654.50009	0.22687	0.24154	0.3
G		-654.2904	-654.53665	0.22994	0.24626	-19.7
TS6	cis	-654.244	-654.4885	0.22919	0.24447	9.4
TS7	trans	-654.2408	-654.48507	0.22918	0.24428	6.8
F'		-654.3309	-654.57937	0.23374	0.24844	-45.2

Table S5. SCF+ZPE Barriers.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4	SCF+ZPE		SCF	ZPE_corr	H_corr	kcal/mol	barriers
A	-2371.7035	-2643.25758	-2371.97065	0.26715	0.2858	16.9	
A_toluene_adduct -	-2643.28452	-2643.28452	-2643.67769	0.39317	0.41947	0.0	
oluene	-271.55408	-2914.8386	-271.67806	0.12398	0.13134		
diazo_substrate	-724.53402	-3367.81854	-724.74601	0.21199	0.22881	0.0	
N2	-109.57507		-109.58042	0.00535	0.00866		
3	-3096.2772	-3367.83128	-3096.75714	0.47994	0.51552	-8.0	
rs1	-3096.26061	-3367.81469	-3096.73979	0.47918	0.51455	2.4	10.4
C (+ N2)	-2986.70221	-3367.83136	-2987.17331	0.4711	0.50455	-8.0	
C_rotated (+ N2)	-2986.70116	-3367.83031	-2987.17146	0.4703	0.50372	-7.4	
ΓS2 (+ N2)	-2986.69702	-3367.82617	-2987.16368	0.46666	0.49888	-4.8	3.3
O (+ N2)	-2986.71967	-3367.84882	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-19.0	
rs3 (+ N2)	-2986.69664	-3367.82579	-2987.16682	0.47018	0.50271	-4.5	14.5
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.03986	-3367.89945	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.8	
O (+ N2)	-2986.71967	-3367.84882	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-19.0	
E + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.95806	-3367.81765	-615.16006	0.202	0.21659	0.6	
ΓS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-614.95424	-3367.81383	-615.15628	0.20204	0.21572	3.0	22.0
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.03986	-3367.89945	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.8	
ס'	-3026.02786	-3407.15701	-3026.52627	0.49841	0.53307	0.0	
rss	-3026.00519	-3407.13434	-3026.50277	0.49758	0.53161	14.2	14.2
TS5' (Me other side)	-3026.0036	-3407.13275	-3026.50088	0.49728	0.53153	15.2	15.2
F' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-654.34563	-3407.20522	-654.57937	0.23374	0.24844	-30.3	
E'	-654.27476	-3407.13435	-654.50408	0.22932	0.24512	14.2	
rs8	-654.27322	-3407.13281	-654.50009	0.22687	0.24154	15.2	15.2
G	-654.30671	-3407.1663	-654.53665	0.22994	0.24626	-5.8	

BP86, def2-TZVP, m4, disp3						
		SCF+ZPE	SCF	ZPE_cor	H_corr	kcal/mol
E'	trans	-654.2748	-654.50408	0.22932	0.24512	0.0
E"	cis	-654.2681	-654.4967	0.22864	0.24508	4.2
TS8		-654.2732	-654.50009	0.22687	0.24154	1.0
G		-654.3067	-654.53665	0.22994	0.24626	-20.0
TS6	cis	-654.2593	-654.4885	0.22919	0.24447	9.7
TS7	trans	-654.2559	-654.48507	0.22918	0.24428	7.6
F'		-654.3456	-654.57937	0.23374	0.24844	-44.5

Table S6. SCF Barriers.

BP86, def2-TZVP, disp3, m4	SCF		SCF	ZPE_corr	H_corr	kcal/mol	barriers
A	-2371.97065	-2643.64871	-2371.97065	0.26715	0.2858	18.2	
A_toluene_adduct -	-2643.67769	-2643.67769	-2643.67769	0.39317	0.41947	0.0	
toluene	-271.67806	-2915.35575	-271.67806	0.12398	0.13134		
diazo_substrate	-724.74601	-3368.4237	-724.74601	0.21199	0.22881	0.0	
N2	-109.58042		-109.58042	0.00535	0.00866		
В	-3096.75714	-3368.4352	-3096.75714	0.47994	0.51552	-7.2	
TS1	-3096.73979	-3368.41785	-3096.73979	0.47918	0.51455	3.7	10.9
C (+ N2)	-2987.17331	-3368.43179	-2987.17331	0.4711	0.50455	-5.1	
C_rotated (+ N2)	-2987.17146	-3368.42994	-2987.17146	0.4703	0.50372	-3.9	
TS2 (+ N2)	-2987.16368	-3368.42216	-2987.16368	0.46666	0.49888	1.0	6.0
D (+ N2)	-2987.19086	-3368.44934	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-16.1	
TS3 (+ N2)	-2987.16682	-3368.4253	-2987.16682	0.47018	0.50271	-1.0	15.1
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.24626	-3368.50437	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.6	
D (+ N2)	-2987.19086	-3368.44934	-2987.19086	0.47119	0.50419	-16.1	
E + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.16006	-3368.41817	-615.16006	0.202	0.21659	3.5	
TS4 + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.15628	-3368.41439	-615.15628	0.20204	0.21572	5.8	21.9
F + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-615.24626	-3368.50437	-615.24626	0.2064	0.21966	-50.6	
D'	-3026.52627	-3407.78475	-3026.52627	0.49841	0.53307	0.0	
TS5	-3026.50277	-3407.76125	-3026.50277	0.49758	0.53161	14.7	14.7
TS5' (Me other side)	-3026.50088	-3407.75936	-3026.50088	0.49728	0.53153	15.9	15.9
F' + A_toluene_adduct (+ N2)	-654.57937	-3407.83748	-654.57937	0.23374	0.24844	-33.1	
E'	-654.50408	-3407.76219	-654.50408	0.22932	0.24512	14.2	
TS8	-654.50009	-3407.7582	-654.50009	0.22687	0.24154	16.7	16.7
G	-654.53665	-3407.79476	-654.53665	0.22994	0.24626	-6.3	

BP86, def2-TZVP, m4, disp3						
		SCF	SCF	ZPE_cor	H_corr	kcal/mol
E'	trans	-654.5041	-654.5041	0.22932	0.24512	0.0
E"	cis	-654.4967	-654.4967	0.22864	0.24508	4.6
TS8		-654.5001	-654.5001	0.22687	0.24154	2.5
G		-654.5367	-654.5367	0.22994	0.24626	-20.4
TS6	cis	-654.4885	-654.4885	0.22919	0.24447	9.8
TS7	trans	-654.4851	-654.4851	0.22918	0.24428	7.3
F'		-654.5794	-654.5794	0.23374	0.24844	-47.2

Optimized Geometries

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⁽⁷⁾ In solution the catalyst is completely surrounded by solvent molecules, leading to small translational entropy contributions to the toluene molecule association/dissociation steps. These are of little influence on the translational entropy contributions associated with substrate/product association/dissociation. Hence, the latter are not canceled by the former in toluene solution.