Supporting Information

Copper-Catalyzed Stereoselective Alkylhydrazination of Alkynes

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I. General Considerations

Reagents. Unless otherwise indicated, all reactions were carried out in Schlenk tube under an argon atmosphere with dry solvents. Anhydrous MeCN was purchased from Alfa Aesar and used as received. Ether/THF was dried and purified by distillation from sodium/benzophenone. MeOH and CH₂Cl₂ were distilled from CaH₂. CuBr was purchased from Aladdin. Other copper catalysts were purchased from Alfa Aesar, Strem, Aladdin or JK Chemical and used as received. All other reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received.

Analytical Methods. All new compounds were characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and HRMS. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV-400 or 500 MHz instrument in CDCl₃. All ¹H NMR spectra are reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (0 ppm). All ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in ppm relative to residual CHCl₃ (77.0 ppm). Coupling constants are reported in Hz with multiplicities denoted as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) and br (broad). Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on commercial silica gel plates (GF254) using UV light as a visualizing agent. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (200-300 mesh). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) was obtained on an ESI-LC-MS/MS or APCI-LC-MS/MS spectrometer.

II. Optimization of Reaction Conditions



Screening of equiv. of alkyne

3.0 equiv. of alkyne was selected.



Screening of loading of copper catalyst

20 mol% CuBr was selected.

Screening of reductant



III. Synthesis and characterization of alkynes

These alkynes were prepared according to the reported literatures. The ¹H NMR spectral data matched those of previous reported.



6-Ethynylisoquinoline (**1r**): the title compound was prepared according to the previous reported protocols using 6-bromoisoquinoline as starting metarial;^[2] a white solid, m.p. 115-117 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 8.55 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.3, 143.8, 135.2, 130.6, 130.0, 127.8, 127.6, 124.1, 120.0, 83.0, 79.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₈N⁺ [M+H]⁺ 154.0651, found 154.0651.

IV. General procedure for the alkylhydrazination of alkynes

General Procedure: In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, CuBr (5.7 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%), alkyne (1) (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) or its analogues (2) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and azocarboxylic esters (3) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (2.5 mL) under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. The mixture was cooled down to room temperature, filtered over Celite and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel) or preparative TLC to afford the related alkenylhydrazines.

V. Characterization data for the products and side products



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-**4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate** (**4a**): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethynylanisole (**1a**) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4a** (67.2 mg, 77% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.56-6.12 (m, 1H, -NH), 5.93 (br s, 1H), 4.94 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.29 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.2, 159.5, 155.6, 154.7, 137.5, 133.5, 130.9, 127.6, 113.2, 70.4, 69.7, 55.2, 51.6, 42.8, 27.3, 21.90, 21.88; C₂₂H₃₃N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 437.2282, found 437.2284.



Disopropyl 1-[(*E***)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4b**): The representative procedure was followed using 4-fluorophenylacetylene (**1b**) (72.1 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4b** (55.5 mg, 66% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.64-6.22 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.99-4.86 (m, 2H), 3.32 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H), 1.23-1.16 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 162.6 (d, *J* = 246.5 Hz), 155.6, 154.5, 137.1, 133.7, 131.5 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 114.8 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 70.6, 69.9, 51.6, 42.8, 27.3, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₀FN₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 425.2082, found 425.2086.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4c): The representative procedure was followed using 4chlorophenylacetylene (1c) (81.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4c (48.7 mg, 56% yield) as colorless solid, m.p. 105-109 °C. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.64-6.25 (m, 1H, -NH), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.00-4.82 (m, 2H), 3.30 (br s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 155.6, 154.4, 137.0, 134.3, 133.9, 131.0, 128.0, 70.7, 70.0, 51.7, 42.8, 27.3, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₀ClN₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 441.1787, found 441.1781.

X-Ray structure of 4c (CCDC 1948643)





Diisopropyl 1-[(*E***)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4d):** The representative procedure was followed using 4-bromophenylacetylene (**1d**) (108.6 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4d** (53.7 mg, 55% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.60-6.17 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.00-4.84 (m, 2H), 3.30 (br s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.8, 155.6, 154.4, 137.0, 134.4, 133.8, 131.3, 130.9, 122.5, 70.7, 69.9, 51.7, 42.8, 27.3, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₀BrN₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 485.1282, found 485.1285.



Disopropyl 1-[*(E)*-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-phenylbut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4e): The representative procedure was followed using phenylacetylene (1e) (61.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, 3:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4e (18.4 mg, 23% yield) as colorless sticky, because the polarity of 4e is very close to that of the byproduct SP-1. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.59-6.17 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.06-5.82 (br s, 1H), 5.02-4.83 (m, 2H), 3.23 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 155.6, 154.7, 137.6, 135.4, 133.8, 129.5, 128.4, 127.8, 70.5, 69.8, 51.5, 42.8, 27.4, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₁N₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 407.2177, found 407.2182.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-1-(4-ethylphenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4f): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethylphenylacetylene (1f) (78.1 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, 2.5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4f (54.5 mg, 63% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.13 (br s, 4H), 6.606.18 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.96 (br s, 1H), 4.94 (sept, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.22 (br s, 3H), 2.63 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.28 (s, 6H), 1.25-1.15 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.1, 155.6, 154.7, 144.4, 137.6, 133.7, 132.6, 129.4, 127.3, 70.3, 69.7, 51.5, 42.7, 28.6, 27.3, 21.9, 15.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₃₅N₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 435.2490, found 435.2496.



Disopropyl 1-{*(E)*-**1-**[**4-(cyanomethyl)phenyl]-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1yl}-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4g**): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethynylbenzeneacetonitrile (**1g**) (84.7 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 200:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford **4g** (52.4 mg, 59% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (br s, 4H), 6.67-6.23 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.99 (s, 1H), 5.00-4.88 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 3.30 (br s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 6H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 155.6, 154.5, 137.2, 135.5, 134.0, 130.5, 130.0, 127.4, 117.5, 70.7, 69.9, 51.6, 42.8, 27.3, 23.4, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₃₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺ 446.2286, found 446.2281.



Diisopropyl 1-{(*E*)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]but-1-en-1-yl}-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4h): The representative procedure was followed using 4-

ethynyl-α,α,α-trifluorotoluene (**1h**) (102.1 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 500:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford **4h** (37.3 mg, 39% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.37 (m, 2H), 6.68-6.25 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.01 (br s, 1H), 5.01-4.82 (m, 2H), 3.23 (br s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 6H), 1.27-1.10 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.7, 155.6, 154.3, 139.3, 136.8, 134.1, 130.3 (q, *J* = 32.1 Hz), 130.0, 124.7 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 123.9 (q, *J* = 270.5 Hz), 70.8, 70.1, 51.6, 42.8, 27.4, 21.84, 21.81; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₀F₃N₂O₆ [M+H]⁺ 475.2050, found 475.2044.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E***)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4i):** The representative procedure was followed using 3ethynylanisole (1i) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4i (72.5 mg, 83% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.74 (m, 3H), 6.78 (br s, 1H), 6.58-6.17 (m, 1H, -NH), 5.98 (br s, 1H), 5.01-4.88 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.27 (br s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 6H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6 H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 159.0, 155.6, 154.7, 137.4, 136.7, 133.9, 128.9, 121.8, 114.9, 114.1, 70.5, 69.8, 55.2, 51.5, 42.8, 27.3, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₃N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 437.2282, found 437.2275.



Disopropyl 1-[*(E***)-4-methoxy-1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4j):** The representative procedure was followed using 2ethynylanisole (**1j**) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4j** (50.0 mg, 58% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.31 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.14-5.94 (m, 1H), 4.97 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.92-4.77 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.36-3.13 (m, 3H), 1.32-1.10 (m, 18H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 157.0, 155.7, 154.6, 136.3, 134.0, 133.0, 129.9, 124.0, 119.8, 110.1, 70.1, 69.5, 55.5, 51.4, 42.9, 27.2, 21.9, 21.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₃N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 437.2282, found 437.2290.



Diisopropyl 1-[*(E)*-**1-**(**3-methylphenyl)**-**4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4k):** The representative procedure was followed using 3ethynyltoluene (**1k**) (69.7 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, 2.5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4k** (52.1 mg, 62% yield) as slightly yellow liquid. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.024 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.015 (s, 1H), 6.58-6.17 (m, 1H, -NH), 6.04-5.78 (m, 1H), 4.95 (sept, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (br s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.24 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 155.6, 154.7, 137.7, 137.3, 135.2, 133.8, 130.1, 129.0, 127.7, 126.5, 70.4, 69.7, 51.4, 42.8, 27.3, 21.9, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₂N₂O₆Na [M+Na]⁺ 443.2153, found 443.2159.



Diisopropyl 1-[*(E)*-**4-methoxy-1-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4l):** The representative procedure was followed using 2-ethynyl-6-methoxynaphthalene (1l) (109.3 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4l** (54.6 mg, 56% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.62-6.23 (m, 1H, -NH), 6.11-5.89 (m, 1H), 5.00-4.88 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.25-2.99 (m, 3H), 1.30 (s, 6H), 1.25-1.14 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 158.0, 155.6, 154.8, 137.7, 134.2, 133.9, 130.4, 129.6, 128.9, 128.0, 127.3, 126.3, 119.1, 105.6, 70.5, 69.7, 55.2, 51.5, 42.9, 27.4, 21.88, 21.85; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₃₅N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 487.2439, found 487.2445.





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yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4m): The representative procedure was followed using 5ethynylbenzo[1,3]dioxole (1m) (87.7 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4m (68.8 mg, 77% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.77-6.66 (m, 3H), 6.55-6.21 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.99-5.80 (m, 3H), 4.99-4.88 (m, 2H), 3.39 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.25-1.19 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.1, 155.5, 154.6, 147.5, 147.1, 137.3, 133.8, 129.0, 123.7, 109.8, 107.6, 101.1, 70.5, 69.8, 51.7, 42.7, 27.2, 21.92, 21.87; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₁N₂O₈ [M+H]⁺ 451.2075, found 451.2082.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-(pyridin-2-yl)but-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4n): The representative procedure was followed using 2-ethynylpyridine (1n) (61.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 50:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford 4n (34.1 mg, 42% yield) as brown sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.52 (br s, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (br s, 1H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.04-6.63 (m, 1H, -NH), 6.12 (s, 1H), 5.08-4.93 (m, 1H), 4.93-4.80 (m, 1H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 6H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 6H), 1.20-1.02 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.2, 155.8, 155.0, 154.3, 148.5, 137.7, 136.6, 136.0, 122.8, 122.5, 70.5, 69.9, 51.4, 43.0, 27.4, 22.0, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₃₀N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺ 408.2129, found 408.2136.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-(pyridin-3-yl)but-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (40): The representative procedure was followed using 3-ethynylpyridine (10) (61.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 50:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford 4o (58.4 mg, 72% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72-8.36 (m, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.33-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.03-6.62 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.08 (br s, 1H), 4.99-4.84 (m, 2H), 3.30 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.25-1.13 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.6, 155.6, 154.2, 150.4, 149.2, 137.3, 135.2, 131.5, 122.7, 70.8, 70.0, 51.8, 42.8, 27.4, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₃₀N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺ 408.2129, found 408.2130.



Diisopropyl 1-[*(E)*-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-(thiophen-2-yl)but-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4p): The representative procedure was followed using 2ethynylthiophene (1p) (64.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 500:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford 4p (50.5 mg, 62% yield) as slightly brown sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.63-6.26 (m, 1H, -NH), 6.24-5.97 (m, 1H), 4.96 (sept, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (sept, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (br s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 6H), 1.25 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H), 1.24 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 155.6, 154.6, 137.8, 136.6, 131.2, 129.3, 126.7, 126.6, 70.7, 69.9, 51.7, 42.9, 27.1, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₉H₂₉N₂O₆S [M+H]⁺ 413.1741, found 413.1743.



Diisopropyl 1-[*(E)*-**4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-(quinolin-3-yl)but-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4q): The representative procedure was followed using 3ethynylquinoline (1q) (91.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 2:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4q** (66.1 mg, 73% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.77 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25-6.83 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.31-6.02 (m, 1H), 5.06-4.83 (m, 2H), 3.12 (br s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 6H), 1.27-1.09 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.6, 155.7, 154.4, 151.0, 147.1, 136.9, 135.8, 135.1, 129.9, 129.0, 128.6, 128.0, 127.0, 126.9, 70.8, 69.9, 51.7, 42.9, 27.4, 21.9, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₃₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺ 458.2286, found 458.2288.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-**1-**(**isoquinolin-6-yl**)-**4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl**]-**1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate** (**4r**): The representative procedure was followed using 6-

ethynylisoquinoline (**1r**) (91.9 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 1:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4r** (60.2 mg, 66% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.17 (s, 1H), 8.50 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.76 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 6.09 (s, 1H), 5.01-4.83 (m, 2H), 3.09 (br s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 6H), 1.26-1.09 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.7, 155.7, 154.5, 152.0, 143.4, 137.6, 137.2, 135.0, 134.5, 128.5, 127.9, 127.6, 127.1, 120.6, 70.7, 69.9, 51.5, 42.9, 27.4, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₃₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺ 458.2286, found 458.2284.



Diethyl 1-[*(E)*-**4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4s**): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethynylanisole (**1a**) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diethyl azodicarboxylate (**3b**) (34.8 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, 2.5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc, twice) to afford **4s** (53.0 mg, 65% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.72-6.32 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.96 (br s, 1H), 4.20-4.13 (m, 4H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.29 (br s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H), 1.26-1.19 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.1, 159.5, 155.9, 155.2, 137.4, 133.8, 130.8, 127.4, 113.2, 62.6, 61.9, 55.1, 51.6, 42.8, 27.3, 14.33, 14.28; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₉N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 409.1969, found 409.1962.



Di(*tert*-**butyl**) **1-**[(*E*)-**4**-methoxy-**1**-(**4**-methoxyphenyl)-**3**,**3**-dimethyl-**4**-oxobut-**1**-en-**1**-yl]-**1**,**2**-hydrazinedicarboxylate (**4t**): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethynylanisole (**1a**) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and di-*tert*-butyl azodicarboxylate (**3c**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 6:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4t** (48.4 mg, 52% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals*. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.44-5.95 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.89 (br s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.29 (br s, 3H), 1.44 (br s, 18H), 1.27 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.3, 159.5, 155.0, 153.9, 138.0, 133.0, 130.8, 128.1, 113.1, 81.6, 81.1, 55.2, 51.6, 42.7, 28.2, 28.1, 27.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₃₇N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 465.2595, found 465.2603.



Dibenzyl 1-[(*E*)-4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4u): The representative procedure was followed using 4ethynylanisole (1a) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and dibenzyl azodicarboxylate (3d) (59.3 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, 2:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4u (50.7 mg, 48% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37-7.25 (m, 10H), 7.17-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.72-6.34 (m, 1H, -NH), 6.09-5.72 (m, 1H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.22 (br s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 159.6, 155.6, 155.0, 137.2, 135.65, 135.60, 134.3, 130.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.0, 113.3, 68.3, 67.6, 55.1, 51.6, 42.7, 27.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₃₃N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 533.2282, found 533.2288.



Di((2-methoxyethoxy)methyl) 1-[(*E*)-4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4v): The representative procedure was followed using 4-ethynylanisole (1a) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2methylpropionate) (2a) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and di-2-methoxyethyl azodicarboxylate (3e) (46.8 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 150:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford 4v (59.5 mg, 64% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.81-6.40 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.99 (s, 1H), 4.32-4.21 (m, 4H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.60-3.52 (m, 4H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.1, 159.6, 155.4, 155.1, 137.1, 134.3, 130.9, 127.2, 113.2, 70.45, 70.36, 65.6, 64.9, 58.9, 58.8, 55.2, 51.6, 42.8, 27.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₃N₂O₉ [M+H]⁺ 469.2181, found 469.2186.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-3-cyano-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylbut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4w): The representative procedure was followed using 4-ethynylanisole (1a)

(79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionitrile) (**2b**) (32.8 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **4w** (61.7 mg, 76% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.54-6.19 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.84-5.58 (m, 1H), 5.01-4.88 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 6H), 1.30-1.17 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 155.6, 154.4, 140.2, 131.2, 128.2, 126.3, 123.1, 113.6, 70.8, 70.1, 55.2, 31.1, 29.1, 21.91, 21.88; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₀N₃O₅ [M+H]⁺ 404.2180, found 404.2184.



Disopropyl 1-[(*E*)-3-cyano-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylpent-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4x): The representative procedure was followed using 4-ethynylanisole (1a) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), 2,2'-azodi(2-methylbutyronitrile) (2c) (38.5 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4x (60.0 mg, 72% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.60-6.20 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.79-5.46 (m, 1H), 5.00-4.89 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.78-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.28-1.18 (m, 12H), 1.07 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 155.5, 154.4, 140.2, 131.2, 128.2, 126.3, 121.9, 113.4, 70.8, 69.9, 55.1, 36.6, 35.2, 26.8, 21.88, 21.85, 9.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₂N₃O₅ [M+H]⁺ 418.2336, found 418.2334.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E***)-3-cyano-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,5-dimethylhex-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4y):** The representative procedure was followed using 4-ethynylanisole (1a) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), 2,2'-azobis(2,4-dimethyl)valeronitrile (2d) (49.7 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4y (42.0 mg, 47% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.58-6.09 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.85-5.52 (m, 1H), 5.00-4.89 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.97-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.29-1.17 (m, 12H), 1.00 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 155.6, 154.4, 139.4, 131.2, 129.2, 126.3, 122.3, 113.4, 70.8, 70.0, 55.2, 50.6, 35.2, 28.7, 25.7, 23.9, 23.4, 21.92, 21.89, 21.87; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₃₆N₃O₅ [M+H]⁺ 446.2649, found 446.2643.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-2-(1-cyanocyclohexyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (4z): The representative procedure was followed using 4-ethynylanisole (1a) (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), 1,1'-azobis(cyclohexanecarbonitrile) (2e) (48.9 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3a) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4z (37.5 mg, 43% yield) as yellow sticky. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.51-6.13

(m ,1H, -N*H*), 5.82-5.53 (m, 1H), 4.94 (sept, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.93-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.65-1.46 (m, 7H), 1.28-1.18 (m, 13H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 155.5, 154.5, 140.6, 131.0, 128.1, 126.8, 121.9, 113.6, 70.8, 70.0, 55.2, 36.8, 36.7, 24.8, 22.1, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₃₄N₃O₅ [M+H]⁺ 444.2493, found 444.2498.



Diisopropyl 1-(1-methoxy-2-methyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (**SP-1**): the title product was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 5:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **SP-1** as slight yellow liquid. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.52-6.20 (m, 1H, -N*H*), 5.07-4.84 (m, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 1.68 (br s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.8, 156.6, 154.9, 70.4, 69.8, 64.1, 52.4, 24.9, 23.7, 21.9, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₂₄N₂O₆Na [M+Na]+ 327.1527, found 327.1530.

OMe



1,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (SP-2) the title product was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 40:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **SP-2** as slight yellow solid. ¹H, ¹³C NMR spectral data matched those of previously reported.^[4] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 3.82 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 134.0, 114.1, 113.9, 81.2, 72.9, 55.3. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺ 263.1067, found 263.1065.

Substrates that didn't work:



VI. Synthetic applications



Erlotinib derivative (4aa): Following the general procedure of alkylhydrazination of alkynes, Erlotinib (236.1 mg, 0.6 mmol), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) (**2a**) (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (**3a**) (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) were used. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 30:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford **4aa** (86.1 mg, 61% yield) as white gem. *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.52-7.41 (m, 1H, -NHCO), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.27 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.10-5.86 (m, 1H), 5.03-4.81 (m, 2H), 4.31-4.10 (m, 4H), 3.89-3.67 (m, 4H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.29 (br s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 6H), 1.28-1.11 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.2, 156.3, 155.7, 154.9, 154.1, 153.3, 148.5, 147.2, 138.7, 137.4, 135.9, 133.9, 128.1, 125.0, 122.5, 121.7, 109.2, 108.5, 102.8, 70.7, 70.5, 70.3, 69.6, 68.8, 68.1, 59.0, 51.6, 42.9, 27.1, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₅H₄₇N₅O₁₀Na [M+Na]⁺ 720.3215, found 720.3234.



Methyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethyl-4-oxobutyrate (5). 4a (87.3 mg, 0.2 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (1.0 mL) was added 40% aqueous solution of HBr (2.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. The reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (20 mL) at 0 °C. After quenching the reaction, the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL \times 3). The organic layer was

dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 6:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford the desired compound **5** (49.1 mg, 98% yield) as colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 2H), 1.31 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.1, 177.9, 163.4, 130.1, 130.0, 113.6, 55.4, 51.8, 48.2, 40.0, 25.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₉O₄ [M+H]⁺ 251.1278, found 251.1280.



(*E*)-4-[1,2-bis(isopropoxycarbonyl)hydrazinyl]-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3enoic acid (6): To the solution of 4a (87.3 mg, 0.2 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL) was added aqueous lithium hydroxide (1 M, 0.5 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 minutes and then stirred at 70 °C for 9 hours. After cooled to room temperature, the mixture was acidified to pH 1 with 10% HCl. Ethyl acetate (10 mL) was added to dilute the solution. The organic layer was seperated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL×3). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, gradient from 50:1 to 10:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford the corresponding compound as colorless sticky (81.1 mg, 96% yield). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.82-6.60 (m, 3H), 6.02-5.83 (m, 1H), 5.00-4.83 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.34-1.11 (m, 18H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.3, 159.7, 155.5, 154.8, 138.1, 132.6, 131.2, 127.4, 113.1, 70.5, 69.8, 55.1, 42.7, 26.8, 21.91, 21.88; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₁N₂O₇ [M+H]⁺ 423.2126, found 423.2123.



To a solution of the **4** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added DIBAL-H (1.0 mL, 1.0 M in hexanes, 5.0 equiv.) over 5 min at -78 °C. The reaction mixutre was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h, then slowly warmed to room temparature overnight and quenched with saturated NH₄Cl (5 mL). The precipitate was filtered off and washed with EtOAc (10 mL). The filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 100:1 dichloromethane:methanol) to afford the corresponding primary alcohol **7**.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*E*)-**4-hydroxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethylbut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (7a): colorless sticky (32.1 mg, 41% yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 7.20 (d,** *J* **= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d,** *J* **= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.44-6.08 (m, 1H, -N***H***), 5.90-5.65 (m, 1H), 5.00 (sept,** *J* **= 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (sept,** *J* **= 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 2H), 1.27 (d,** *J* **= 6.4 Hz, 6H), 1.21 (d,** *J* **= 6.4 Hz, 6H), 0.89 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 159.7, 155.4, 155.2, 137.4, 136.9, 131.4, 127.9, 113.2, 72.7, 70.8, 69.7, 55.2, 38.7, 25.2, 22.1, 22.0, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₃₂N₂O₆Na [M+Na]⁺ 431.2153, found 431.2153.**



Diisopropyl 1-[*(E)*-**4-hydroxy-1-(chlorophenylphenyl)-3,3-dimethylbut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (7b): colorless sticky (72.3 mg, 88% yield); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 7.32-7.22 (m, 4H), 6.64-6.37 (m, 1H), 5.96-5.71 (m, 1H), 5.04-4.81 (m, 2H), 3.27 (s, 2H), 1.25 (d,** *J* **= 6.4 Hz, 6H), 1.23-1.14 (m, 6H), 0.87 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 155.4, 155.0, 137.3, 136.6, 134.4, 134.3, 131.6, 127.9, 72.6, 70.9, 69.8, 38.6, 25.0, 21.9, 21.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₉ClN₂O₅Na [M+Na]⁺ 435.1657, found 435.1658.**



Diisopropyl (E)-1-benzyl-2-[4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (8): To a solution of 4a (87.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in MeCN (2.0 mL) were added cesium carbonate (162.9 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) and benzyl bromide (68.4 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 \times 10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (3 \times 10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 petroleum ether: EtOAc) to afford 8 (103.0 mg, 98% yield) as colorless sticky. Tetrasubstituted hydrzines were reported and explained by the existence of up to four conformations, which have complicated ¹H and ¹³C spectra.^[5] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) & 7.39-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.11-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.79-6.63 (m, 2H), 5.67-5.44 (m, 1H), 4.92-4.41 (m, 4H), 3.83-3.72 (m, 3H), 3.39-3.19 (m, 3H), 1.36-0.88 (m, 18H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.1, 159.44, 159.39, 155.9, 154.1, 153.9, 137.0, 136.7, 136.2, 133.9, 131.3, 129.4, 128.8, 128.11, 128.07, 127.4, 127.3, 127.1, 112.9, 112.6, 70.2, 69.98, 69.93, 55.12, 55.09, 53.3, 51.6, 51.5, 42.7, 42.1, 27.5, 27.0, 22.0, 21.8, 21.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₉H₃₈N₂O₇Na [M+Na]⁺ 549.2571, found 549.2576.



Diisopropyl 1-[(E)-4-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-2-[(E)-oct-1-en-1-yl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (9): To an oven-dried reseatable screw-cap test tube, CuI (2.9 mg, 0.015 mmol, 10 mol%), 1,10-phenanthroline (5.4 mg, 0.03 mmol, 20 mol%), 4a (68.7 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1.05 equiv.) and Cs₂CO₃ (48.9 mg, 0.15 mmol) were added. The tube was evacuated and backfilled with argon. The (E)-1-iodo-1-octene (35.7 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and anhydrous DMF (0.8 mL) were added via syringe. The tube was sealed and stirred at 80 °C for 48 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine $(3 \times 10 \text{ mL})$, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 6:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 9 (47.0 mg, 57% yield) as slightly yellow sticky. Tetrasubstituted hydrzines were reported and explained by the existence of up to four conformations, which have complicated ¹H and ¹³C spectra.^[5] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.87-6.74 (m, 2H), 6.70-6.44 (m, 1H), 6.06-5.50 (m, 1H), 5.03-4.79 (m, 3H), 3.85-3.72 (m, 3H), 3.42-3.32 (m, 3H), 2.08-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.07 (m, 26H), 0.95-0.81 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.4, 176.2, 159.52, 159.48, 153.1, 152.8, 151.7, 136.9, 136.1, 131.7, 131.5, 126.3, 125.0, 124.6, 112.8, 112.6, 111.1, 110.6, 70.7, 70.4, 70.1, 55.1, 51.65, 51.6, 42.7, 31.7, 30.2, 30.1, 29.5, 29.4, 28.7, 28.6, 27.5, 27.40, 27.37, 22.6, 21.98, 21.89, 21.81, 21.77, 21.67, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₇Na [M+Na]⁺ 569.3197, found 569.3198.



Diisopropyl 1-[(*Z*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-4-oxobut-1-en-1-yl]-1,2hydrazinedicarboxylate (4c-*Z*): To an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, 4c-*E* (88.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), dry toluene (2.0 mL), trifluoroacetic acid (68.4 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added. The reaction mixutre was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, then quenched with saturated NaHCO₃ (3 mL) and washed with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (3×10 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 8:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford 4c-*Z* as colorless sticky (43.8 mg, 50% yield); *Due to the presence of amide rotamers, the product gives two sets of NMR signals.* ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.55 (m, 1H, -N*H*, *deuterium exchange*), 5.71-5.51 (m, 1H), 5.01-4.76 (m, 2H), 3.79-3.62 (m, 3H), 1.43 (s, 6H), 1.35-0.92 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 177.7, 155.3, 154.9, 154.0, 153.7, 138.4, 136.7, 135.7, 134.1, 133.9, 132.6, 128.9, 128.1, 128.0, 71.0, 70.8, 69.8, 69.6, 52.8, 52.6, 43.5, 26.5, 26.4, 21.9, 21.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₂₉ClN₂O₆Na [M+Na]⁺ 463.1606, found 463.1610.

Analysis of stereochemistry of 4c-Z and 4c-E

The *E*-configuration of **4c** was confirmed through X-ray analysis. Examples in **scheme 3** and **scheme 4** also show similar NMR signals to **4c**-*E*. (especially the signal of olefin hydrogen) So the configuration of these compounds were assigned as *E*-configuration. For *Z*-isomer, the chemical shifts of OMe (about 0.4 ppm shifts to the low fields), alkyl hydrogen, olefin hydrogen and aryl hydrogen varied. The NOESY experiments of **4c**-*Z* and **4c**-*E* were conducted to further check the configurations of the double bonds. For **4c**-*Z*, NOE effect between olefin hydrogen and aryl hydrogen was observed. Meanwhile, no NOE effect was detected between methyl hydrogen and aryl hydrogen. For **4c**-*E*, the results are contrast to **4c**-*Z*. The following crude spectrum showed the stereoselectivity of the reaction.

NOESY of 4c-Z and 4c-E





A comparation of ¹H NMR between 4c-Z and 4c-E



Crude ¹H NMR spectrum of standard conditions



VII. Mechanistic study

7.1 Radical inhibiting experiments



In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, CuBr (5.7 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%), alkyne **1a** (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) **2a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), DIAD **3a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-piperidinyloxy (TEMPO, 62.5 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (2.5 mL) under Ar atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. The residue was detected on High Resolution Mass (MS) analysis. The reaction was totally inhibited, and **10** was detected by the HRMS.



7.2 Possible intermediates



Preparation of starting material:



Methyl (*E*)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (11). The title compound was prepared according to the previous reported protocols^[6], and the ¹H NMR spectral data matched those of previously reported.



Diisopropyl 1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl]-1,2-hydrazinedicarboxylate (12). The title compound was prepared according to previous reported literature with 4-methoxyacetophenone as starting material.^[7] To a solution of 4-methoxyacetophenone (1.50 g, 10.0 mmol) and DIAD (2.42 g, 12.0 mmol) in anhydrous THF (15 mL) was added dropwise PPh₃ (3.14 g, 12.0 mmol) in anhydrous THF (15 mL) at 0 °C under argen atmosphere. The solution was stirred at room temperture for 12 h. When the reaction was complete, the solution was concentrated and dissolved in petroleum ether/ EtOAc (3:1) until white solid precipitated, then the mixture was

filtered and the filtrate was concentrated. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 6:1 petroleum ether:EtOAc) to afford **12** as slightly yellow sticky. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.96-6.67 (m, 3H), 5.28 (s,1H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 5.06-4.94 (m, 1H), 4.89 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.32-1.22 (m, 6H), 1.19-1.05 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 155.7, 154.6, 146.6, 129.8, 127.4, 113.6, 108.1, 70.7, 69.9, 55.3, 21.9, 21.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₂₅N₂O₅ [M+H]⁺ 337.1758, found 337.1763.

Procedure:

eq b: In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, CuBr (2.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), **11** (24.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and **3a** (20.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (1.3 mL) under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. No desired product was detected.

eq c: In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, CuBr (5.7 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%), 12 (67.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 2a (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (2.5 mL) under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. After cooled to room temperature, internal standard *p*-nitroacetophenone (33.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) was added for ¹H NMR experiment, a 16% yield of 4a was detected. Product was also isolated for checking the stereochemistry of new formed C-C double bond.



In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, CuBr (5.7 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20mol%), alkyne **1a** (79.2 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) **2a** (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and **3f** (46.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (2.5 mL) under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. A messy TLC profile was observed and **4t** was not detected by ¹H NMR.



In an oven-dried resealable screw-cap test tube, commercially available **13** (98.8 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), dimethyl 2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionate) **2a** (46.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and **3a** (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were mixed in anhydrous MeCN (2.5 mL) under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C oil path for 8 h. **4e** was not detected by TLC and ¹H NMR.

VIII. References

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IX. Copies of NMR spectra





































































































fl (ppm)


















































