Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of *O*-Vinyl Oximes for the Synthesis of Highly Substituted Pyrroles

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I. General Experimental Information

Unless otherwise indicated, all commercially available reagents and solvents were used directly from the supplier without further purification. THF, toluene and DCM were dried over sodium / benzophenone, sodium and calcium carbonate respectively and purified by distillation prior to use. Solvents used for column chromatography were of technical grade. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60-120) mesh. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and a potassium permanganate solution. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR were recorded at ambient temperature using CDCl₃ (7.27 ppm) or toluene-d⁸ (2.09). Chemical shift values are expressed as parts per million (ppm) and *J* values are in Hertz. Splitting patterns are indicated as s: singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, q: quartet or combination, br.s broad singlet or m: multiplet. The melting points reported are uncorrected. Microwave reactions were run in a sealed reaction vessel in a Biotage Initiator 2.0 microwave and the temperature of the reaction was monitored by IR.

II. Preparation of vinyl oximes (4a-5e)

General Procedure A: To a stirred solution of DABCO (0.1 equiv) and oxime (1 equiv) in dichloromethane at -10 °C was added drop wise a solution of an alkyne (1 equiv) in dichloromethane over 15 minutes. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 12 hours. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

Preparation of vinyl oximes 4a-4i and 5a-5e



4a

Dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z*)-(1-Phenylethylidene)amino)oxy)maleate (4a).

Vinyl oxime **4a** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (45 mg, 0.37 mmol) and (*E*)-acetophenone oxime (500 mg, 3.7 mmol) in dichloromethane (32 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.61 mL, 0.37 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (6:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z*)-(1-phenylethylidene)amino)oxy)maleate (**4a**, 762 mg, 79%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:8), which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱ IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹), 3435, 3086, 2953, 2888, 2494, 1956, 1722, 1642, 1573, 1437, 1308, 1274, 1135, 1026, 946, 844, 637 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₄H₁₅NO₅Na, 300.0848; found, 300.0849.

For (*E*)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.68-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 3H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$: 165.1, 163.0, 160.2, 153.5, 134.7, 129.9, 128.1, 126.5, 105.5, 52.7, 50.4, 13.8.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.70-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 3H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$; 13.8, 50.3, 52.7, 96.1, 126.5, 128.0, 129.8, 134.6, 153.46, 160.1, 163.0, 165.1.



Dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z***)-(1-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (4b)**. Vinyl oxime **4b** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (19 mg, 0.17 mmol) and (*E*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethanone oxime (300 mg, 1.7 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.27 mL, 1.7 mmol) in dichloromethane (4.5 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (6:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z*)-(1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (**4b**, 452 mg, 84%) as an orange solid that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9). m.p. 58-60°C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3630, 3569, 3044, 2848, 2337, 1804, 1725, 1654, 1524, 1437, 1348, 1275, 1179, 901; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₇Na, 345.0693; found, 345.0699.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.24 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.6, 162.6, 158.3, 153.1, 148.8, 140.7, 127.6, 123.8, 107.4, 53.0, 51.9, 13.6.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.68 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.1, 162.8, 162.8, 159.7, 149.1, 140.2, 127.7, 123.9, 97.2, 53.1, 51.8, 13.9.



4c

Dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z***)-(1-(4-Bromophenyl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (4c)**. Vinyl oxime **4c** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (13 mg, 0.11 mmol) and (*E*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethanone oxime (250 mg, 1.1 mmol) in dichloromethane (8 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.19 mL, 1.1 mmol) in dichloromethane (3 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (7:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z*)-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-ethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (**4c**, 317 mg, 76 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3630, 3569, 3044, 2954, 2848, 2337, 1804, 1725, 1654, 1524, 1348, 1275, 954, 855; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₄H₁₄BrNO₅Na, 377.9953; found, 377.9951.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.53-7.49 (m, 4H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.9, 162.8, 159.2, 153.3, 133.5, 131.7, 128.1, 124.7, 106.1, 52.8, 51.8, 13.5.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.55-7.53 (m, 4H), 5.91 (s, 1H) 3.94 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.4, 160.7, 152.2, 135.7, 133.0, 131.9, 128.2, 125.3, 96.3, 53.0, 51.7, 13.7.





Dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z***)-(1,2-Diphenylethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (4d)**. Vinyl oxime **4d** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (46 mg, 0.38 mmol) and (*E*)-1,2-diphenylethanone oxime (800 mg, 3.8 mmol) in dichloromethane (32 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.62 mg, 3.8 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (6:1 Petrol:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z*)-(1,2-diphenylethylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (**4d**, 1.06 g, 85 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3630, 2412, 3011, 2954, 2848, 2412, 1724, 1652, 1447, 1365, 1272, 1109, 1025, 885; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₂₀H₁₉NO₅Na, 376.1161; found, 376.1162.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.66 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 6H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.7, 162.6, 160.7, 152.7, 135.2, 133.4, 129.9, 128.41, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.21, 128.2, 126.8, 126.79, 126.3, 106.1, 52.5, 51.4, 33.1.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.73 (dd, J = 7.0, 1.36 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.41 (m, 10H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 4.24-4.20 (m, 2H), 3.94, (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 161.7, 161.3, 158.5, 142.9, 134.6, 132.8, 130.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 128.33, 128.31, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0, 126.5, 96.2, 52.7, 51.3, 33.3.



Dimethyl 2-(((E/Z)-(1-Phenylpropylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (4e). Vinyl oxime **4e** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (28 mg, 0.25 mmol) and (E/Z)-propiophenone oxime oxime (375 mg, 2.5

mmol) in dichloromethane (20 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.41 mL, 2.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (7:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E/Z*)-(1-phenylpropylidene)amino)oxy)-fumarate (**4e**, 507 mg, 74%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:4). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3645, 3007, 2876, 1723, 1634, 1436, 1366, 1274, 1274, 1273, 979, 908; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₅H₁₇NO₅Na, 314.1004; found, 314.1001.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.68-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.42 (m, 3H), 6.08 (s, 1 H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.78-3.75 (m, 3H), 2.94 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.1, 164.7, 163.1, 153.7, 133.6, 130.2, 128.5, 126.8, 105.5, 52.8, 51.7, 21.2, 11.0.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.74-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 3H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.92 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.7, 166.5, 160.8, 133.2, 130.7, 128.7, 128.1, 127.0, 105.9, 53.0, 51.6, 28.7, 11.3.



Dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z***)-Butan-2-ylideneamino)oxy)fumarate (4f)**. Vinyl oxime **4f** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (56 mg, 0.46 mmol) and (*E*/*Z*)-butan-2-one oxime (400 mg, 4.6 mmol) in dichloromethane (32 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.76 mL, 4.6 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z*)-butan-2-ylideneamino)oxy)fumarate (**4f**, 906 mg, 86%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E*:*Z* mixture (1:9). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3643, 3010, 2855, 2224, 1707, 1642, 1572, 1393, 1283, 1127, 1048, 869, 843, 633; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₀H₁₅NO₅Na, 252.0848; found, 252.0841.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.96 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.37 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.1, 164.7, 163.3, 154.3, 104.4, 52.7, 51.6, 28.8, 14.8, 10.3.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.82 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.53 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.5, 165.3, 165.0, 104.7, 95.1, 52.9, 51.5, 23.4, 18.9, 9.9.



Dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z***)-Pentan-2-ylideneamino)oxy)fumarate (4g)**. Vinyl oxime **4g** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (48 mg, 0.40 mmol) and (*E*/*Z*)-pentan-2-one oxime (400 mg, 4.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (32 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.65 mL, 4.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z*)-pentan-2-ylideneamino)oxy)fumarate (**4g**, 568 mg, 59 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9) as a colourless oil. IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3653, 3017, 2859, 2235, 1735, 1667, 1567, 1343, 1278, 1188, 1034, 835, 841, 623; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₁H₁₇NO₅Na, 266.1004; found, 266.1009.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.94 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.27 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.57 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.96 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.0, 163.6, 163.2, 154.4, 104.4, 52.6, 51.5, 37.2, 19.2, 14.9, 13.5.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.84 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2 H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.65 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.0, 164.1, 163.2, 154.1, 104.5, 53.4, 51.5, 31.9, 19.4, 19.0, 14.0.



4h

Dimethyl 2-(((*E*/**Z)-(3,4-Dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-ylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (4h)**. Vinyl oxime **4h** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (34mg, 0.28 mmol) and (*E*)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one oxime (400 mg, 2.8 mmol) in dichloromethane (24 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.46 mL, 2.8 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (7:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-(((*E*/*Z*)-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-ylidene)amino)oxy)fumarate (**4h**, 696 mg, 82%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3667, 3445, 3023, 2956, 2878, 2446, 1746, 1612, 1568, 1479, 1275, 1142, 1123, 1058, 958, 613; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₆H₁₇NO₅Na, 326.1004; found, 326.1005.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.94 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 2 H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 3.15 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.94-2.91 (m, 2H), 2.06 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.1, 163.0, 159.1, 153.7, 140.6, 130.3, 128.7, 126.4, 124.9, 104.9, 52.7, 51.7, 29.5, 25.0, 21.1.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.13 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.34 (m, 2H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.06 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.97 (s, 2H), 2.03 (q, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.5, 163.1, 160.8, 160.7, 140.9, 130.8, 128.8, 128.4, 126.5, 125.1, 95.7, 52.9, 51.5, 29.3, 25.1, 21.1.



Dimethyl 2-((Cyclohexylideneamino)oxy)but-2-enedioate (4i). Vinyl oxime **4i** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (37 mg, 0.31 mmol) and cyclohexanone oxime (350 mg, 3.1 mmol) in dichloromethane (24 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of dimethylacetylene dicarbonate (0.51 mL, 3.1 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 2-((cyclohexylideneamino)oxy)but-2-enedioate (**4i**, 735 mg, 93%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (1:9). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3631, 3411, 3011, 2952, 2860, 2412, 1722, 1638, 1552, 1436, 1272, 1179, 1123, 1026, 928, 627; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₂H₁₇NO₅Na, 278.1004; found, 278.1004.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.88 (s, 1, H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.67-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.24-2.21 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.70 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.9, 165.1, 163.3, 154.3, 104.2, 52.7, 51.5, 31.5, 26.7, 26.2, 25.6, 25.4.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.77 (s, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.54-2.51 (m, 2H), 2.28-2.25 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.62 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.6, 164.7, 162.3, 152.3, 104.7, 52.9, 51.4, 32.1, 27.0, 25.3, 23.4, 18.8.

5a

Ethyl 3-(((*E/Z*)-(1-Phenylethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (5a).

Vinyl oxime **5a** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (36 mg, 0.3 mmol) and (E)-acetophenone oxime (400 mg, 3.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (24 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of ethyl propiolate

(0.28 mL, 3.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (4:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford ethyl 3-(((E/Z)-(1-phenylethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (**5a**, 503 mg, 72%) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (8:1). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3180, 2961, 2872, 2728, 1701, 1615, 1573, 1465, 1312, 1129, 1048, 896, 840, 640; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C_{13H15}NO₃Na, 256.0950; found, 256.0957.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.11 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.46 (m, 3H), 5.71 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.6, 161.9, 160.3, 134.58, 130.4, 128.6, 126.9, 97.3, 59.8, 14.3, 13.6.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.68-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.49 (m, 3H), 4.94 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.11 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.2, 159.9, 159.2, 134.6, 130.2, 128.3, 125.9, 94.3, 59.7, 14.1, 13.6.



Ethyl 3-(((*E***)-(1-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (5b)**. Vinyl oxime **5b** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (27 mg, 0.22 mmol) and (*E*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethanone oxime (400 mg, 2.2 mmol) in dichloromethane (16 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of ethyl propiolate (0.21 mL, 2.2 mmol) in dichloromethane (6 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (4:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 3-(((*E*)-(1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (**5b**, 416 mg, 71 %) as an orange solid. m.p 52-53°C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3234, 2936, 2868, 2758, 1725, 1677, 1524, 1489, 1398, 1125, 1078, 801, 677; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.73 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.14, 1.53 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.3 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.2, 161.4, 158.3, 148.8, 140.5, 127.4, 123.7, 98.2, 60.0, 14.3, 13.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₂O₃Na, 301.0800; found, 301.0801.

Ethyl 3-(((E/Z)-(1,2-Diphenylethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (5c). Vinyl oxime 5c was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (300 mg, 0.14 mmol) and (E)-1,2-diphenylethanone oxime (300 mg, 1.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (12 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of ethyl propiolate (0.135 mL, 1.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (4 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica

gel (4:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 3-(((*E/Z*)-(1,2-diphenylethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (**5c**, 408 mg, 93 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (8:1). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3146, 2924, 2846, 2732, 1777, 1624, 1576, 1447, 1325, 1125, 1057, 875, 647; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $C_{19}H_{19}NO_3Na$, 332.1263; found, 332.1265.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.16 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 3H), 5.76 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.5, 161.7, 157.2, 135.3, 133.7, 130.4, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 127.1, 126.7, 97.7, 59.9, 33.5, 14.3.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.41 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 3H), 5.44 (d, J = 7.1Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.0, 160.4, 156.3, 135.4, 134.1, 131.3, 130.6, 129.6, 128.79, 128.72, 128.64, 12862, 121.5, 104.3, 98.5, 60.5, 58.0, 29.7, 14.2



Ethyl 3-(((*E*/*Z*)-(3,4-Dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-ylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (5d). Vinyl oxime 5d was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (42 mg, 0.34 mmol) and (*E*)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one oxime (500 mg, 3.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (24 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of ethyl propiolate (0.32 mL, 3.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petrol:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 3-(((*E*/*Z*)-(1,2-diphenylethylidene)amino)oxy)acrylate (5d, 886 mg, 77 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (9:1). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3136, 2935, 2858, 2725, 1779, 1625, 1547, 1437, 1329, 1125, 1089, 899, 617; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₅H₁₇NO₃Na, 282.1106; found, 282.1109.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.12 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.86 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.7, 162.1, 159.4, 140.6, 130.4, 128.89, 128.86, 126.5, 124.9, 97.1, 59.8, 29.5, 25.0, 21.2, 14.4.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.52 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.3 (d, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.84 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.94 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.9, 150.5, 143.7, 137.6, 130.2, 127.6, 125.9, 124.7, 122.0, 94.0, 61.3, 25.4, 24.3, 19.3, 12.0.



Ethyl 3-((cyclohexylideneamino)oxy)acrylate (5e). Vinyl oxime **5e** was synthesized according to general procedure A. To a stirred solution of DABCO (40 mg, 0.35 mmol) and cyclohexanone oxime (400 mg, 3.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (24 mL) was added drop wise a mixture of ethyl propiolate (0.35 mL, 3.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (9 mL). The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (6:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 3-((cyclohexylideneamino)oxy)acrylate (**5e**, 747 mg, 80 %) as a colourless oil that is an inseparable *E:Z* mixture (9:1). IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3392, 3084, 2985, 2942, 2863, 2224, 1701, 1654, 1440, 1394, 1316, 1281, 1176, 1071, 960, 862, 641; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₁H₁₇NO₃Na, 234.1106; found, 234.1108.

For (E)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.93 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.54-2.51 (m, 2H), 2.34-2.30 (m, 2H), 1.65-1.62 (m, 6H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.8, 166.4, 162.1, 96.1, 59.7, 31.7, 26.8, 26.2, 25.7, 25.4, 14.3.

For (Z)-isomer: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.34 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.75-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.37-2.33 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.72 (m, 6H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.9, 165.5, 159.5, 93.2, 59.5, 31.4, 26.8, 26.6, 25.7, 25.4, 14.8.

III. Preparation of Pyrroles (6a-7i)

General Procedure B: A mixture of vinyl oxime (1.0 equiv), PPh₃AuCl (0.1 equiv) and silver salt (0.1 equiv) in toluene was heated to 100 °C for 40 minutes under microwave irradiation. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

General Procedure C: A mixture of vinyl oxime (1.0 equiv), PPh₃AuCl (0.1 equiv) and AgBF₄ (0.1 equiv) in toluene was heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

General Procedure D: To a stirred solution of oxime (1.0 equiv) and alkyne (1.0 eqv) in toluene were added PPh₃AuCl (0.1 equiv) and AgOTf (0.1 equiv) and the resultant mixture was heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

Preparation of pyrroles 6a-6c and 7a-7i



Ethyl 5-Phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (6a).

Method 1

Silver trifluoromethanesulfonate: Pyrrole **6a** was synthesized according to general procedure B. Vinyl oxime **5a** (100 mg, 0.43 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (24 mg, 0.043 mg, 0.043 mmol) and AgOTf (11 mg, 0.043 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 40 minutes under microwave irradiation. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford ethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (**6a**, 47 mg, 52%) as an orange oil, which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱ

Silver tetrafluoroborate: Pyrrole **6a** was synthesized according to general procedure B. Vinyl oxime **5a** (80 mg, 0.34 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (17 mg, 0.034 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6.7 mg, 0.034 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 40 minutes under microwave irradiation. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (7:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford ethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (**6a**, 50 mg, 68%) as an orange oil, which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱ

Method 2: Pyrrole **6a** was synthesized according to general procedure C. Vinyl oxime **5a** (80 mg, 0.34 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (17 mg, 0.034 mmol) and AgBF₄ (7 mg, 0.034 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (12:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford ethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (**6a**, 54 mg, 69%) as an orange oil, which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱ

Method 3: Pyrrole **6a** was synthesized according to general procedure D. To a stirred solution of acetophenone oxime (80 mg, 0.60 mmol) and ethyl propiolate (0.056 mL, 0.60 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) were added PPh₃AuCl (29 mg, 0.06 mmol) and AgOTf (15 mg, 0.06 mmol) and the resultant mixture was heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum/EtOAc) to afford ethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (**6a**, 37 mg, 22%) as an orange oil, which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱ IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3699, 3631, 2992, 2943 2838, 1708, 1626, 1486, 1392, 1217, 1073, 891, 838, 640 cm-1; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.77 (br.s, 1H), 7.52-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.30-723 (m, 1H), 6.92-6.93 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm c}$ 164.9, 133.0, 131.7, 129.0, 127.0, 124.1, 118.1, 106.7, 59.9, 14.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₃H₁₃NO₂Na, 238.0844; found, 238.0845.



Ethyl 4,5-Diphenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (6b). Pyrrole **6b** was synthesized according to general procedure C. Vinyl oxime **5b** (80 mg, 0.26 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (12 mg, 0.026 mmol) and AgBF₄ (5.0 mg, 0.026 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 4,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (**6b**, 43 mg, 57 %) as an orange solid, which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱⁱ m.p. 191-193 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3904, 3885, 3654, 3011, 2930, 2434, 2412, 2244, 1727, 1601, 1568, 1521, 1476, 1194, 1087, 1017, 928, 849, 662; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,CDCl₃) δ_H 9.09 (br.s, 1H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.31 (m, 6H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δc 161.2, 135.4, 133.1, 131.9, 128.7, 128.4, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 124.0, 122.5, 116.7, 60.5, 14.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₉H₁₇NO₂Na, 314.1157; found, 314.1156.



Ethyl 4,5-Dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole-3-carboxylate (6c). Pyrrole **6c** was synthesized according to general procedure C. Vinyl oxime **5c** (80 mg, 0.31 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (15 mg, 0.031 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6 mg, 0.031 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (8:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford ethyl 4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole-3-carboxylate (**6c**, 49 mg, 51 %) as an orange oil. IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3913, 3888, 3625, 3081, 2923, 24199, 2247, 17411, 1609, 1567, 1545, 1496, 1133, 1097, 965, 851, 669; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,CDCl₃) δ_H 9.22 (br.s, 1H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.05-3.01 (m, 2H), 2.84-2.81 (m, 2H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_c 160.0, 136.3, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 127.2, 127.0, 126.6, 121.7, 119.9, 114.2, 60.3, 29.7, 21.4. 14.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅NO₂Na, 336.1000; found, 336.1001.



Dimethyl 5-Phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7a).

Method 1: Pyrrole **7a** was synthesized according to general procedure C. Vinyl oxime **4a** (80 mg, 0.30 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (15 mg, 0.03 mmol) and AgBF₄ (8 mg, 0.03 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7a**, 63 mg, 85 %) as a white solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.^{iv}

Method 2: Pyrrole **7a** was synthesized according to general procedure D: To a stirred solution of oxime (80 mg, 0.60 mmol) and dimethyacetylene dicarbonate (0.01 mL, 0.60 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) were added PPh₃AuCl (29 mg, 0.06 mmol) and AgBF₄ (15 mg, 0.06 mmol) and the resultant mixture was heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7a**, 137 mg, 88%) as a white solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.^{iv} m.p. 142-144 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm-¹) 3667, 3689, 3479, 3045, 2889, 2098, 1781, 1621, 1589, 1459,1398, 1112, 987, 801, 687; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.63 (br.s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.2, 160.6, 134.8, 130.2, 129.2, 129.1 128.4, 124.8, 124.7, 122.7, 121.5, 110.7, 52.3, 51.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd for C₁₄H₁₃NO₄Na, 282.0742; found, 282.0741.



7b

Dimethyl 5-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7b). Pyrrole **7b** was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime **4b** (80 mg, 0.25 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (12 mg, 0.025 mmol) and AgBF₄ (5 mg, 0.025) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (6:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 5-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7b**, 60 mg, 83 %) as an orange solid. m.p. 98-101 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm-1) 3697, 3634, 3411, 3067, 2856, 2078, 1791, 1611, 1578, 1490,1392, 1189, 985, 809, 612; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.81 (br.s, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.96-3.93 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 163.7, 160.4, 147.1, 136.1, 132.0, 125.1, 124.7, 124.6, 121.8, 113.0, 52.5, 52.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₄H₁₂NO₆Na, 327.0593; found, 327.0591.



(4-Bromophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7c). Pyrrole 7c was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime 4c (80 mg, 0.22 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (11 mg, 0.022 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6 mg, 0.022 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5:1 Petrol: EtOAc) to afford (4-bromophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7c, 44 mg, 61 %) as a white solid. m.p. 132-134 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3689, 3634, 3423, 3087, 2887, 2087, 1721, 1653, 1565, 1489,1398, 1180, 998, 899, 634; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.86 (br.s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.1, 160.6, 133.7, 132.2, 131.0, 126.3, 122.9,122.2, 121.5, 110.9, 52.3, 51.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₄H₁₂BrNO₄Na, 359.9847; found, 359.9841.



Dimethyl 4,5-Diphenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7d). Pyrrole **7d** was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime **4d** (80 mg, 0.24 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (12 mg, 0.024 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6 mg, 0.024 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 4,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7d**, 63 mg, 79 %) as an orange solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.ⁱⁱⁱ m.p. 190-192 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3621, 3433, 2997, 2886, 2542, 2011, 1732, 1604, 1476, 1350, 1296, 1165, 1096, 980, 908, 840, 640; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.53-9.47 (br.s, 1H), 7.33-7.22 (m, 10H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s,3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.3, 160.6, 133.3, 133.0, 130.8, 129.8, 128.4, 127.8, 127.2, 123.2, 122.9, 119.9, 52.3, 52.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₂₀H₁₇NO₄Na, 358.1055; found, 358.1059



Dimethyl 4-Methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7e). Pyrrole **7e** was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime **4g** (80 mg, 0.29 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (14 mg, 0.029 mmol), AgBF₄ (7 mg, 0.029, mmol) and toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (7:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 4-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7e**, mg 82 %) as a white solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.^{iv} m.p. 148-150°C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3488, 3056, 2998, 2512, 1767, 1679, 1589, 1409, 1338, 1297, 1127, 1198, 1056, 1064, 945, 878, 649; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.36 (br.s, 1H), 7.52-7.56 (m, 5H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H) 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ ¹³C 166.1, 160.7, 133.0, 128.9,

128.87, 128.67, 128.09, 127.6, 127.59, 122.1, 120.3, 118.8, 52.0, 51.9, 10.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}NO_4Na$, 296.0899; found, 296.0891.



Dimethyl 4,5,6,7-Tetrahydro-1H-indole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7f). Pyrrole 7f was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime 4f (80 mg, 0.31 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (16 mg, 0.031 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6 mg, 0.031 mmol) and in (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 hours. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford dimethyl 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-indole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7f, 63 mg, 87 %) as an orange solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.^v m.p. 138-140 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3435, 3903, 2979, 2562, 1769, 1658, 1597, 1480, 1379, 1269, 1179, 1098, 1047, 949, 898, 658; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.02 (br.s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2 H), 1.79-1.77 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.6, 160.8, 132.1, 121.6, 119.8, 118.7, 51.8, 51.6, 22.9, 22.6, 22.4, 22.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₂H₁₅NO₄Na, 260.0899; found, 260.0899.



Dimethyl 5-Ethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate/ **Dimethyl 4,5-Dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7g)**. Pyrroles **7g** was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime **4g** (80 mg, 0.44 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (22 mg, 0.044 mmol) and AgBF₄ (9 mg, 0.044 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford an inseparable (*1:4*) mixture of dimethyl 5-ethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate / dimethyl 4,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (**7g**, 50 mg, 54 %) as an orange oil. IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹); 3864, 3745, 3011, 3292, 2423, 2423, 1726, 1689, 1508, 1474, 1279, 1081, 929, 662; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₀H₁₃NO₄Na, 234.0742; found, 234.0741

For dimethyl 4,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.24 (br.s, 1H), 6.43-6.38 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.64 (q, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 3H);¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.2, 160.5, 129.4, 121.0, 118.8, 118.4, 51.8, 51.7, 11.1, 9.7.

For dimethyl 5-ethyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.03 (br.s, 1H), 3.89-3.86 (m, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.0, 160.5, 137.8, 121.0, 118.7, 110.2, 53.3, 52.0, 20.5, 13.0.



Dimethyl 5-Propyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate/ **Dimethyl 5-Ethyl-4-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate** (7h). Pyrrole 7h was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime 4h (80 mg, 0.33 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (16 mg, 0.033 mmol) and AgBF₄ (6 mg, 0.033 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 hours. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (9:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) to afford an inseparable (2:3) mixture of dimethyl 5-propyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate / dimethyl 5-ethyl-4-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7h, 44 mg, 61 %) as an orange oil. IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹); 3822, 3712, 3014, 3282, 2489, 2489, 1798, 1645, 1578, 1478, 1289, 1061, 997, 612; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₁H₁₅NO₄Na, 248.0899; found, 248.0897.

For dimethyl 5-propyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.36-9.33 (m, 1H), 6.43 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.6 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.04 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 164.6, 160.8, 134.4, 120.7, 120.5, 111.1, 52.0, 51.9, 29.7, 22.3, 13.6.

For dimethyl 5-ethyl-4-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2,3-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.07-9.04 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.50 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H);¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 166.4, 160.5, 129.3, 128.6, 124.9, 118.4, 51.9, 51.7, 18.0, 15.5, 11.0.



Dimethyl 4.5-Dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole-2,3-dicarboxylate (7i). Pyrrole 7i was synthesized according to general procedure D. Vinyl oxime 4i (80 mg, 0.26 mmol), PPh₃AuCl (13 mg, 0.26 mmol) and AgBF₄ (5 mg, 0.26 mmol) in toluene (2.5 mL) were heated to 100 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (8:1 Petroleum:EtOAc) afford dimethyl 4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole-2,3to dicarboxylate (7i, 66 mg, 89 %) as a white solid and which had spectra identical to that reported in the literature.^{v1} m.p. 177-179 °C; IR (CHCl₃) v (cm⁻¹) 3425, 3998, 2979, 2572, 1768, 1685, 1597, 1479, 1397, 1257, 1197, 1097, 1048, 997, 898, 696; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.75 (br.s, 1H), 7.43-.7.39 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 2H). 7.23-7.19 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.91-3.89 (m, 3H), 2.96 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.94-2.91 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 165.2, 160.9, 136.3, 131.3, 128.6, 127.6, 127.59, 127.0, 126.7, 126.6, 123.2, 121.4, 120.2, 119.1, 52.1, 51.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for C₁₆H₁₅NO₄Na, 308.0899; found, 308.0895.

IV. References

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Microwave data



Status: OK Absorption level: Normal Vial type: 2.0-5.0 ml Pre-stirring: 15 Initial power: 0 Dynamic deflector optimization:On

Step Time °C bar W FHT Cooling Stir Rate

00:40:00 100 Off Off On Off 60	00
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Temperature (C)



Pressure (bar)







Status: OK Absorption level: Normal Vial type: 2.0-5.0 ml Pre-stirring: 15 Initial power: 0 Dynamic deflector optimization:On

Step Time °C bar W FHT Cooling Stir Rate

00:40:00	100	Off	Off	On	Off	600

Temperature (C)

1






