

## Supporting Information

### Zinc-mediated CH-activation of tetrahydrofuran under mild conditions for the regioselective addition to aryl-propiolates

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## Experimental

### General

All experiments were carried out under an atmosphere of argon in dried flasks and anhydrous solvents. All used reagents and reactants were purchased and used as received or previously synthesized. The solvents were dried using common procedures, distilled and then stored over molecular sieves (MS 4Å) under an atmosphere of argon.

### General procedure for the CH-activation of THF

**A:** Zinc powder (99.999% purity; 78.5 mg; 1.2 mmol), 1,1-dibromo-2,2,3,3-tetramethylcyclopropane (256 mg, 1.0 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (3.8 mg, 0.02 mmol) were dissolved in 1.0 mL of THF and after stirring for 2 minutes at room temperature the alkyne (0.40 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 40 °C until either alkyne or dibromocyclopropane were consumed. The reaction was monitored by GC/MS spectroscopy and after complete conversion the mixture was cooled to 0 °C, 2 mL of 1 M HCl were added, stirred for 15 min, warmed to room temperature, diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted three times with diethyl ether. The organic layers were combined, dried over magnesium sulphate, the solvent was evaporated and the crude product was purified by column chromatography to give the pure alkenes and in some cases unconsumed alkyne.

**B:** Iron(II)bromide (10 Mol%), zinc powder ( $\geq 98.5\%$  purity; 3.0 eq.), 1,1-dibromo-2,2,3,3-tetramethylcyclopropane (2.0 eq.) and triphenylphosphine (15 Mol%) were dissolved in THF (0.4 M) and conc. hydrobromic acid (2  $\mu\text{L}/\text{mmol}$  alkyne) was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 minutes at room temperature before the alkyne (1.0 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 40 °C until either alkyne or dibromocyclopropane were consumed. The reaction was monitored by GC/MS spectroscopy and after complete conversion the mixture was cooled to 0 °C, 4 mL of 1 M HCl (4.0 eq.) were added, stirred for 15 min, warmed to room temperature, diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted three times with diethyl ether. The organic layers were combined, dried over magnesium sulphate, the solvent was evaporated and the crude product was purified by column chromatography to give the pure alkenes and in some cases unconsumed alkyne; or (without quenching) passed through a short pad of silica and then purified by column chromatography.

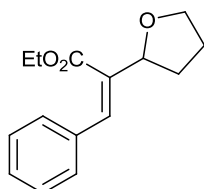
Note: To all reported eluents 1% of dichloromethane was added.

### Synthesis of 1,1-dibromo-2,2,3,3-tetramethylcyclopropane

The synthesis of dibromocyclopropane **5** was performed adopting a protocol published by *Spyvee*.<sup>[1]</sup> To a solution of 2,3-dimethylbutene (4.21 g, 50.0 mmol) in *n*-pentane (15 mL) potassium *tert*-butylate (6.17 g, 55.0 mmol) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Then CHBr<sub>3</sub> (4.6 mL, 52.5 mmol) was added dropwise over a period of 20 min. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C and 1 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then diluted with *n*-pentane (75 mL) and washed with water. The organic phase was dried over magnesium sulphate, the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using *n*-pentane as eluent to give the desired product as white crystals (10.5 g, 41.0 mmol, 82%).

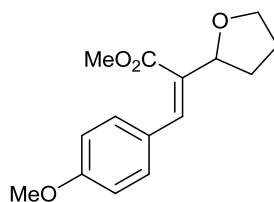
<sup>[1]</sup>C. Frost, P. Linnane, P. Magnus, M. Spyvee *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *51*, 9139-9142.

### Synthesis of ethyl 3-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6a)



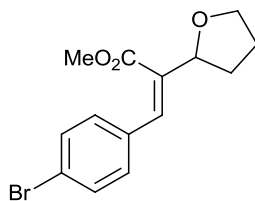
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from ethyl 3-phenylpropionate (69.7 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 11:1) as colorless oil (81.1 mg, 0.33 mmol, 82%, *E/Z* = 38:62). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):** δ = 7.73 (s, 1 H), 7.42-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.88 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.08-3.95 (m, 1H), 3.92-3.77 (m, 1H), 2.37-1.87 (m, 4H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *Z*-isomer: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):** δ = 7.42-7.22 (m, 5H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.77-4.70 (m, 1H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.08-3.95 (m, 1H), 3.92-3.77 (m, 1H), 2.37-1.87 (m, 4H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR data of the mixture of isomers **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):** δ = 168.4, 167.0, 141.2, 135.7, 135.0, 133.7, 131.4, 129.2, 128.4, 128.3 (2 C), 128.0, 127.8, 79.5, 74.9, 69.1, 68.7, 60.6, 60.5, 31.7, 31.1, 27.2, 25.6, 14.2, 13.7, (1 C<sub>sp2</sub> is overlapping and not resolved). **IR (film):** 2977, 2873, 1711, 1637, 1491, 1449, 1377, 1294, 1234, 1205, 1127, 1056, 1027, 928, 870, 753, 696, 480. **MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = 246 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 4), 200 (7), 173 (100), 131 (30), 115 (9), 103 (11). **HR-MS (ESI):** *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 269.1159; found: 269.1147.

### Synthesis of methyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6b)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propionate (76.1 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 8:1 to 5:1) as colorless oil (78.4 mg, 0.30 mmol, 75%, *E/Z* = 47:53). NMR data of the mixture of isomers: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 4.92 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.73-4.66 (m, 1H), 4.10-4.01 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.80 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.35-1.88 (m, 8H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 169.2, 167.5, 160.0, 159.5, 141.5, 133.1, 131.6, 131.5, 131.0, 129.9, 127.9, 127.3, 113.8, 113.6, 79.8, 74.9, 69.0, 68.7, 55.3, 55.2, 51.6, 51.5, 31.8, 30.9, 27.2, 25.6. **IR (film)**: 2951, 2875, 1713, 1605, 1510, 1440, 1384, 1302, 1248, 1176, 1126, 1032, 979, 928, 828, 753, 665, 522. **MS (EI)**: *m/z* (%) = 262 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 6), 230 (6), 203 (100), 161 (28). **HR-MS (ESI)**: *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 285.1097; found: 285.1095.

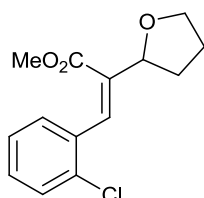
### Synthesis of methyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6c)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)propionate (95.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 11:1) as colorless oil (98.0 mg, 0.31 mmol, 79%, *E/Z* = 35:65). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer**: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.94 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.83-3.75 (m, 1H), 2.31-1.85 (m, 4H). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *Z*-isomer**: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 4.74-4.67 (m, 1H), 4.05-3.94 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.31-1.85 (m, 4H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR data of the mixture of isomers** **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 168.5, 167.1, 140.1, 136.0, 134.6, 134.1, 133.7, 131.5, 131.3, 130.7, 130.6, 129.9, 122.8, 122.0, 79.3, 74.8,

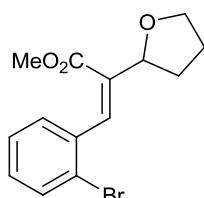
69.1, 68.7, 51.7 (2 C), 31.7, 31.1, 27.1, 25.6. **IR (film):** 2951, 2873, 1716, 1638, 1586, 1486, 1437, 1380, 1335, 1209, 1128, 1058, 1011, 977, 911, 816, 729, 648, 494. **MS (EI):**  $m/z$  (%) = 310 ( $[M^+]$ , 5), 251 (100), 209 (39), 199 (32), 115 (35), 102 (37), 71 (30). **HR-MS (EI):**  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $C_{14}H_{15}O_3Br$ : 310.0205; found: 310.0196.

### Synthesis of methyl 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6d)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(2-chlorophenyl)propiolate (77.8 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 10:1) as colorless oil (91.0 mg, 0.34 mmol, 85%, *E/Z* = 32:68).  $^1H$  NMR data of the *E*-isomer:  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.20 (m, 4H), 4.77 (t,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.87-3.79 (m, 1H), 2.37-1.88 (m, 4H).  $^1H$  NMR data of the *Z*-isomer:  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.50-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 1.5, 1H), 4.93-4.86 (m, 1H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.37-1.88 (m, 4H).  $^{13}C$  NMR data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}C$  NMR (75 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.8, 166.7, 138.7, 137.0, 134.9, 134.7, 133.8, 133.7, 133.1, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 129.1, 128.9, 126.4, 126.2, 78.7, 75.3, 69.0, 68.7, 51.8, 51.5, 31.9, 31.1, 27.0, 25.3. **IR (film):** 2951, 2875, 1717, 1642, 1436, 1376, 1330, 1236, 1207, 1126, 1055, 980, 913, 832, 737, 694, 647, 610, 544, 454. **MS (EI):**  $m/z$  (%) = 266 ( $[M^+]$ , 1), 231 (67), 207 (100), 165 (39), 101 (18). **HR-MS (ESI):**  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $C_{14}H_{15}ClO_3+Na^+$ : 289.0602; found: 289.0603.

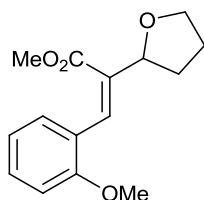
### Synthesis of methyl 3-(2-bromophenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6e)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(2-bromophenyl)propiolate (95.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 11:1) as colorless oil (106 mg, 0.34 mmol, 85%, *E/Z* = 26:74).  $^1H$  NMR data of the *E*-isomer:  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.71 (s, 1H),

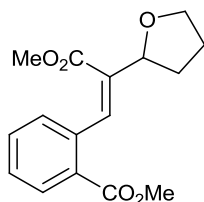
7.59 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.09 (m, 3H), 4.69 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.00-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80-3.72 (m, 1H), 2.30-1.81 (m, 4H).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.55$  (dd,  $J = 7.7, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 1.3$ , 1H), 4.84 (ddd,  $J = 6.7, 5.4, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.10-4.01 (m, 1H), 4.00-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 2.30-1.81 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 167.6, 166.7, 140.8, 136.9, 136.8, 135.6, 134.4, 132.7, 132.5, 132.3, 130.5, 129.8, 129.5, 129.1, 127.0, 126.8, 123.7, 123.2, 78.6, 75.3, 69.0, 68.7, 51.8, 51.5, 31.8, 31.1, 27.0, 25.3$ . **IR (film)**: 2951, 2874, 1716, 1642, 1434, 1375, 1329, 1238, 1206, 1126, 1057, 1028, 980, 911, 832, 731, 665, 611, 445. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 310 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 1), 251 (60), 231 (100), 209 (25), 115 (22), 102 (25). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}_3 + \text{Na}^+$ : 333.0097; found: 333.0095.

### Synthesis of methyl 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6f)



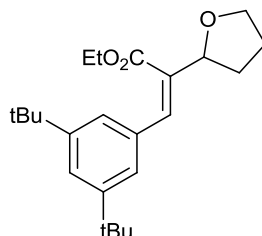
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)propionate (76.1 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 8:1 to 5:1) as colorless oil (93.6 mg, 0.36 mmol, 890%, *E/Z* = 35:65).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  data of the *E*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.87$  (s, 1H), 7.36-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.83 (m, 1H), 4.83 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.08-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.34-1.83 (m, 4H).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  data of the *Z*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.36$ -7.26 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd,  $J = 7.6, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.91-6.83 (m, 2H), 4.79-4.73 (m, 1H), 4.08-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 2.34-1.83 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 168.8, 167.1, 157.5, 156.9, 138.4, 135.0, 132.7, 130.3, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5, 124.9, 123.9, 120.1$  (2 C), 110.4, 79.6, 75.3, 69.0, 68.6, 55.4, 55.3, 51.5, 51.3, 31.8, 30.8, 27.2, 25.6 (2  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}$  are overlapping and are not resolved). **IR (film)**: 2950, 2875, 1714, 1637, 1595, 1441, 1383, 1296, 1242, 1123, 1053, 980, 918, 749, 491. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 262 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 4), 230 (9), 203 (100), 161 (21), 131 (17), 115 (12). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_4 + \text{Na}^+$ : 285.1097; found: 285.1096.

### Synthesis of methyl 2-(3-methoxy-3-oxo-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)prop-1-enyl)benzoate (6g)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 2-(3-methoxy-3-oxoprop-1-ynyl)benzoate (87.3 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 3:1) as slightly yellow oil (99.9 mg, 0.34 mmol, 86%, *E/Z* = 29:71). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.16 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.29 (m, 2H), 4.58 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.76-3.67 (m, 1H), 2.31-1.76 (m, 4H). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *Z*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.00 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 5.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13-4.04 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 2.31-1.76 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR data of the mixture of isomers <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 167.8 (2 C), 167.0, 166.9, 142.7, 139.1, 137.2, 135.3, 134.3, 132.0, 131.9, 131.7, 130.6, 130.3, 130.2, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.4, 78.5, 75.5, 68.9, 68.7, 52.2, 52.0, 51.7, 51.2, 31.9, 31.1, 27.0, 25.3. IR (film): 2952, 2875, 2252, 1714, 1642, 1599, 1569, 1436, 1374, 1257, 1203, 1127, 1057, 965, 913, 824, 727, 648, 614, 523. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 258 ([M<sup>+</sup>-MeOH], 3), 219 (100), 199 (48), 174 (13), 157 (18), 115 (13), 71 (13). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>5</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 313.1046; found: 313.1042.

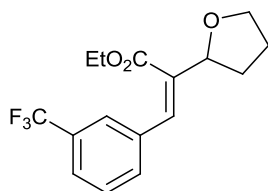
### Synthesis of ethyl 3-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6h)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from ethyl ethyl 3-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)propiolate (143 mg, 0.50 mmol), which was stirred for 32 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 15:1) as colorless oil (133 mg, 0.37 mmol, 74%, *E/Z* = 44:56). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz,

2H), 4.88 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.28 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.20-3.98 (m, 1H), 3.79 (ddd,  $J = 7.7, 7.6, 5.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.43-2.31 (m, 1H), 2.26-1.85 (m, 3H), 1.36 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.33 (s, 18H).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.32$  (t,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 4.75-4.69 (m, 1H), 4.20-3.98 (m, 3H), 3.93-3.84 (m, 1H), 2.26-1.85 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 18H), 1.11 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 168.9, 167.2, 150.6, 150.4, 142.6, 135.0, 134.8, 134.1, 132.9, 132.1, 123.6, 122.6$  (2 C), 122.1, 79.8, 75.2, 69.1, 68.7, 60.6, 60.5, 34.8 (2 C), 31.6, 31.4 (2 C), 31.2, 27.3, 25.6, 14.3, 13.9. **IR (film)**: 2960, 2871, 2250, 1714, 1634, 1593, 1468, 1366, 1329, 1242, 1202, 1124, 1058, 911, 875, 769, 730, 647, 517. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 358 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 1), 285 (100), 269 (15), 255 (30), 57 (54). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}^+$ : 381.2400; found: 381.2392.

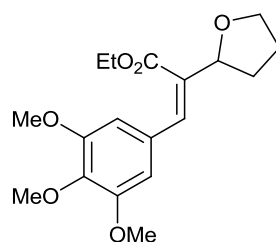
### Synthesis of ethyl 2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)-3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate (**6i**)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from ethyl ethyl 3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propiolate (121 mg, 0.50 mmol), which was stirred for 20 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 12:1) as colorless oil (107 mg, 0.34 mmol, 68%,  $E/Z = 35:65$ ).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  data of the *E*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.70$  (s, 1H), 7.61-7.38 (m, 4H), 4.81-4.73 (m, 1H), 4.28 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.05-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.75 (m, 1H), 2.34-1.88 (m, 4H), 1.36 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  data of the *Z*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.61$ -7.38 (m, 4H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 4.81-4.73 (m, 1H), 4.13 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.05-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.93-3.85 (m, 1H), 2.34-1.88 (m, 4H), 1.10 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H).  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -63.63$  (s, *Z*-isomer),  $-63.68$  (s, *E*-isomer).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 167.7, 166.6, 139.1, 137.6, 136.7, 135.8, 135.5, 132.2, 131.6, 131.5, 131.1$ -130.3 (m, 2 C), 130.0, 128.7, 128.5, 125.9 (q,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1 C), 125.2-124.9 (m, 2 C), 124.3 (q,  $J = 3.7$  Hz, 1 C), 122.2, 79.1, 75.0, 69.1, 68.8, 60.9, 60.8, 31.8, 31.3, 27.0, 25.6, 14.2, 13.7. **IR (film)**: 2980, 2876, 1715, 1644, 1444, 1378, 1328, 1289, 1206, 1166, 1123, 1061, 914, 866, 802, 733, 700, 659, 510, 450, 409. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 314 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 1), 241 (100), 199 (43), 171 (13), 151 (14), 71 (14). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_3\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}^+$ : 337.1022; found: 337.1015.

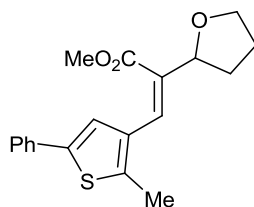


### Synthesis of ethyl 2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)acrylate (6j)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from ethyl 3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)propionate (132 mg, 0.50 mmol), which was stirred for 48 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 3:1) as slightly yellow oil (97.8 mg, 0.29 mmol, 58%, *E/Z* = 54:46). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.65 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, 2H), 4.88 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (dq, *J* = 7.1, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 4.10-3.75 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 6H), 2.37-1.86 (m, 4H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *Z*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 6.77-6.75 (m, 1H), 6.55 (s, 2H), 4.73-4.67 (m, 1H), 4.16 (dq, *J* = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 4.10-3.75 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 2.37-1.86 (m, 4H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR data of the mixture of isomers <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 168.6, 167.0, 152.9, 152.8, 141.6, 138.4, 138.0, 135.5, 133.2, 131.2, 130.8, 130.3, 106.6, 105.6, 79.5, 75.0, 69.0, 68.7, 60.9, 60.8, 60.7, 60.6, 56.1, 56.0, 31.6, 30.9, 27.2, 25.6, 14.2, 13.9. IR (film): 2943, 2877, 2838, 2250, 1711, 1629, 1579, 1504, 1457, 1418, 1382, 1330, 1238, 1120, 1053, 1005, 916, 832, 778, 730, 642, 525, 436. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 336 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 60), 275 (21), 262 (100), 207 (48), 115 (22). HR-MS (ESI): *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 359.1465; found: 359.1464.

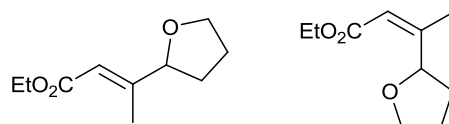
### Synthesis of methyl 3-(2-methyl-5-phenylthiophen-3-yl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (6k)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from methyl 3-(2-methyl-5-phenylthiophen-3-yl)propionate (103 mg, 0.40 mmol) and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 10:1 to 8:1) as slightly yellow oil (97.5 mg, 0.30 mmol, 74%, *E/Z* = 42:58). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the *E*-isomer: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.56-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 4.98 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.12-3.96 (m, 2H), 3.93-3.79 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.33-1.88

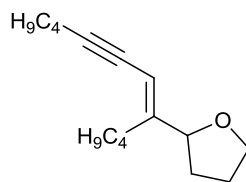
(m, 4H).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.56-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.82 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H) 4.79-4.72 (m, 1H), 4.12-3.96 (m, 2H), 3.93-3.79 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.33-1.88 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  data of the mixture of isomers  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 168.7, 167.4, 140.2, 140.0, 139.6, 138.7, 134.8, 134.2, 134.0, 133.4, 133.3, 133.0, 132.1, 128.9, 128.8, 127.4, 127.2, 125.6, 125.4, 125.0, 124.3, 123.3, 79.5, 75.4, 69.0, 68.7, 51.7, 51.6, 32.0, 30.7, 27.1, 25.6, 14.0, 13.7. **IR (film)**: 2949, 2869, 1713, 1602, 1496, 1438, 1383, 1333, 1242, 1126, 1054, 980, 920, 839, 755, 689, 554, 471. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 328 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 37), 269 (46), 237 (100), 165 (27), 155 (50), 85 (39), 71 (71). **HR-MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_3\text{S}$ : 328.1133; found: 328.1119.

### Synthesis of (*E*)- and (*Z*)-ethyl 3-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)but-2-enoate (**6l**)



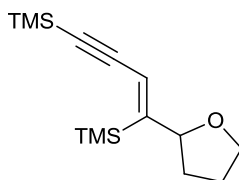
The title compounds were prepared according to the general procedure **B** from ethyl but-2-ynoate (112 mg, 1.0 mmol), which was stirred for 48 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 15:1) as colorless oils (30.4 mg, 0.17 mmol, 17%, *E*-isomer; and 42.8 mg, 0.23 mmol, 23%, *Z*-isomer). Analytical data of the *E*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 5.96-5.93 (m, 1H), 4.31 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99-3.81 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.09 (m, 1H), 2.08 (d,  $J$  = 1.0 Hz, 3H), 1.95-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.59 (m, 1H), 1.26 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.0, 158.8, 113.5, 82.3, 68.9, 59.6, 31.2, 25.6, 15.3, 14.3. **IR (film)**: 2976, 2871, 1711, 1654, 1448, 1371, 1315, 1272, 1222, 1144, 1074, 1042, 920, 872, 811, 732, 650, 576, 480. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 184 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 6), 155 (26), 139 (26), 111 (100), 97 (18), 69 (35). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3+\text{Na}^+$ : 207.0992; found: 207.0991. Analytical data of the *Z*-isomer:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 5.67-5.65 (m, 1H), 5.46 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.95-3.79 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.28 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.80 (d,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 3H), 1.59-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.8, 161.3, 116.2, 77.5, 69.0, 59.7, 31.3, 26.4, 19.0, 14.2. **IR (film)**: 2978, 2868, 1710, 1643, 1444, 1378, 1233, 1149, 1047, 926, 857, 797, 732, 653, 563, 455, 409. **MS (EI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = 184 ( $[\text{M}^+]$ , 12), 155 (100), 139 (26), 113 (60), 97 (19), 85 (18), 69 (24). **HR-MS (ESI)**:  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3+\text{Na}^+$ : 207.0992; found: 207.0991.

### Synthesis of 2-(dodeca-5-en-7-yn-5-yl)tetrahydrofuran (6m)



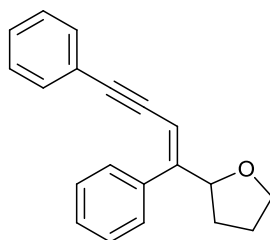
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from dodeca-5,7-diyne (162 mg, 1.0 mmol), which was stirred for 56 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 50:1 to 25:1) as colorless oil (60.9 mg, 0.26 mmol, 26%, *E/Z* = >99:1; recovered starting material: 81.2 mg, 0.50 mmol). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 5.55 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.76 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.31 (m, 3H), 2.15-1.99 (m, 2H), 1.94-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.30 (m, 9H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 154.1, 104.2, 94.2, 80.8, 77.9, 68.4, 31.4, 31.0, 30.7, 30.5, 25.7, 22.9, 21.9, 19.3, 13.9, 13.6. **IR (film):** 2932, 2865, 2213, 1715, 1670, 1458, 1375, 1321, 1252, 1180, 1056, 925, 854, 732, 641, 457, 411. **MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = 234 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 8), 191 (8), 177 (100), 91 (12). **HR-MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O: 234.1984; found: 234.1984.

### Synthesis of (1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)but-1-en-3-yne-1,4-diyl)bis(trimethylsilane) (6n)



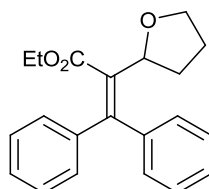
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from 1,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)buta-1,3-diyne (194 mg, 1.0 mmol), which was stirred for 24 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 50:1) as colorless oil (75.4 mg, 0.28 mmol, 28%, *Z/E* = >99:1; recovered starting material: 82.3 mg, 0.42 mmol). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 6.33 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (dt, *J* = 7.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (dt, *J* = 8.1, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.14-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.45 (m, 1H), 0.24 (s, 9H), 0.18 (s, 9H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 159.0, 116.3, 105.2, 99.7, 81.6, 68.4, 32.8, 25.4, -0.3, -1.0. **IR (film):** 2959, 2896, 2133, 1567, 1453, 1409, 1348, 1248, 1179, 1089, 1053, 957, 833, 757, 696, 648, 522, 436. **MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = 266 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 14), 223 (19), 193 (16), 150 (28), 135 (15), 73 (100). **HR-MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>26</sub>OSi<sub>2</sub>: 266.1522; found: 266.1530.

### Synthesis of 2-(1,4-diphenylbut-1-en-3-ynyl)tetrahydrofuran (6o)



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **B** from 1,4-diphenylbutadiyne (202 mg, 1.0 mmol), which was stirred for 48 h and obtained after usual workup and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 25:1) as slightly yellow oil (112 mg, 0.41 mmol, 41%, *E/Z* = >20:1; recovered starting material: 94.8 mg, 0.47 mmol). NMR data of the major isomer: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.58-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.25 (s, 5H), 6.13 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 7.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (dt, *J* = 8.1, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.87 (m, 1H), 2.11-1.99 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.59 (m, 1H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 153.6, 137.9, 131.3, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 123.8, 105.1, 92.8, 88.0, 81.0, 68.8, 32.0, 25.5. **IR (film)**: 3058, 2973, 2868, 2247, 2195, 1954, 1886, 1679, 1594, 1490, 1443, 1377, 1323, 1271, 1179, 1066, 911, 856, 753, 732, 691, 576, 524, 480. **MS (EI)**: *m/z* (%) = 274 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 100), 246 (38), 231 (30), 217 (55), 202 (91), 102 (20). **HR-MS (EI)**: *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O: 274.1358; found: 274.1359.

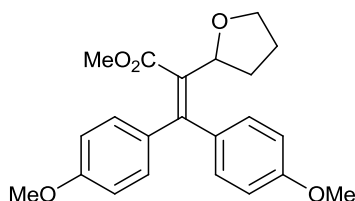
### Synthesis of ethyl 3,3-diphenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (9a)



The title compound was prepared from ethyl 3-phenylpropiolate (69.7 mg, 0.40 mmol) according to the general procedure **A**. After 6 h at 40 °C the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and iodobenzene (81.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) was added, followed by the addition of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (11.6 mg, 0.01 mmol) and the mixture was again stirred at 40 °C under argon atmosphere for additional 17 h. The product was obtained after filtration through a short pad of silica and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 10:1) as pale yellow solid (115 mg, 0.36 mmol, 89%). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.38-7.18 (m, 10H), 4.59 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (dq, *J* = 7.1, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.92-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.73 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 8.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.41-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.03-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.86-1.71 (m, 1H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ =

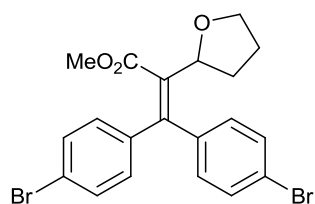
169.0, 145.1, 141.4, 139.9, 134.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6 (2 C), 78.0, 68.9, 60.5, 31.4, 26.5, 13.6. **IR (neat):** 3053, 2980, 2929, 2873, 1707, 1625, 1490, 1445, 1367, 1307, 1257, 1146, 1106, 1041, 935, 864, 811, 768, 735, 700, 632, 587, 519, 460, 406. **MS (EI):**  $m/z$  (%) = 322 ( $[M^+]$ , 3), 276 (90), 249 (100), 207 (25), 178 (52). **HR-MS (ESI):**  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_3+Na^+$ : 345.1461; found: 345.1454.

### Synthesis of methyl 3,3-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (9b)



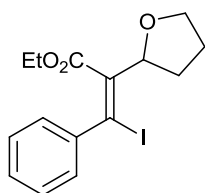
The title compound was prepared from methyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propiolate (76.1 mg, 0.40 mmol) according to the general procedure A. After 20 h at 40 °C the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 4-iodoanisole (93.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) was added, followed by the addition of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (11.6 mg, 0.01 mmol) and the mixture was again stirred at 40 °C under argon atmosphere for additional 20 h. The product was obtained after filtration through a short pad of silica and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 4:1) as pale yellow solid (113 mg, 0.31 mmol, 76%).  **$^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):**  $\delta$  = 7.14 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.61 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.72 (ddd,  $J$  = 8.1, 8.0, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.35-2.21 (m, 1H), 2.03-1.73 (m, 3H).  **$^{13}C$  NMR (75 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):**  $\delta$  = 170.1, 159.2 (2C), 145.0, 134.1, 132.6, 132.4, 130.6, 129.9, 113.6, 113.3, 78.3, 68.8, 55.2, 55.1, 51.6, 31.3, 26.5. **IR (neat):** 2950, 2869, 1715, 1605, 1508, 1457, 1322, 1286, 1244, 1176, 1131, 1033, 981, 922, 830, 734, 590, 560, 517, 420. **MS (EI):**  $m/z$  (%) = 368 ( $[M^+]$ , 14), 336 (100), 309 (94), 291 (21), 277 (28), 265 (26), 207 (35). **HR-MS (ESI):**  $m/z$  (%) = calculated for  $C_{22}H_{24}O_5+H^+$ : 369.1697; found: 369.1707.

### Synthesis of methyl 3,3-bis(4-bromophenyl)-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate (9c)



The title compound was prepared from methyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)propiolate (95.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) according to the general procedure **A**. After 9 h at 40 °C the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 1-bromo-4-iodobenzene (113 mg, 0.40 mmol) was added, followed by the addition of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (11.6 mg, 0.01 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under argon atmosphere for additional 15 h. The product was obtained after filtration through a short pad of silica and column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 10:1) as pale yellow solid (143 mg, 0.31 mmol, 77%). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.51 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (dt, *J* = 7.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.77-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.34-2.20 (m, 1H), 2.02-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.73 (m, 1H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):**  $\delta$  = 169.0, 142.6, 139.5, 138.1, 135.3, 131.7, 131.3, 130.8, 130.1, 122.3, 77.8, 69.0, 51.8, 31.4, 26.4. (2 C<sub>sp2</sub> are overlapping). **IR (neat):** 2951, 2879, 1723, 1628, 1584, 1484, 1432, 1393, 1313, 1256, 1185, 1135, 1056, 1009, 946, 816, 744, 691, 655, 606, 509. **MS (EI):** *m/z* (%) = 466 ([M<sup>+</sup>], 1), 434 (71), 407 (100), 365 (18), 284 (19), 256 (19), 189 (18), 176 (29). **HR-MS (ESI):** *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 488.9496; found: 488.9494.

### Synthesis of (*E*)-ethyl 3-iodo-3-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)acrylate



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure **A** from ethyl 3-phenylpropiolate (69.7 mg, 0.40 mmol). After 16 h at 40 °C the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and iodine (355 mg, 1.4 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under argon atmosphere for additional 1.5 h. The mixture was quenched with sodium thiosulphate solution and extracted with diethyl ether. The organic layers were combined, dried over magnesium sulphate, the solvent was evaporated and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (*n*-pentane:diethyl ether = 12:1). The *E*-isomer was

isolated as slightly yellow oil (58.7 mg, 0.16 mmol, 39%). The *Z*-isomere (~25-30%) was contaminated with small amounts of inseparable **6a** and could not be obtained in pure form. Analytical data are given for the purified *E*-isomer: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 7.34-7.20 (m, 5H), 4.81 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.83 (m, 4H), 2.54-2.42 (m, 1H), 2.24-1.89 (m, 3H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**: δ = 165.1, 144.5, 143.1, 128.5, 128.0 (2C), 103.1, 86.1, 69.6, 60.9, 31.0, 26.1, 13.5. **IR (film)**: 2969, 2872, 1716, 1620, 1448, 1368, 1264, 1140, 1059, 1017, 920, 868, 797, 761, 731, 693, 623, 516. **MS (EI)**: *m/z* (%) = 326 ([M<sup>+</sup>-EtOH], 12), 299 (24), 245 (62), 129 (31), 115 (17), 102 (17), 71 (100). **HR-MS (ESI)**: *m/z* (%) = calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>IO<sub>3</sub>+Na<sup>+</sup>: 395.0115; found: 395.0115.

NMR spectra of the products:

