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Triflic acid catalysed intermolecular hydroamination of alkenes with Fmoc-NH₂ as the amine source

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1. General information

All starting materials were purchased from BLD Pharmatech (India) Pvt.Ltd., Tokyo Chemical Industry (India) Pvt.Ltd, and Sigma Aldrich Chemicals Pvt.Ltd and were used as received. All reactions were carried out in oven-dried (110 °C) glassware. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel TLC plates (aluminum sheets coated with silica gel, Merck) and visualized by UV lamp ($\lambda = 254$ nm) and/or stained using vanillin or KMnO₄. The products were purified by column chromatography using petether/ethyl acetate binary solvent as the eluent and silica gel as the stationary phase (100–200 mesh or 200–400 mesh). Melting points were determined on a BK-programmable melting point apparatus (max = 320 °C) and were uncorrected. ¹H, ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$, ${}^{19}F{}^{1}H$ NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker ASCEND[™] 400 MHz spectrometer instrument in CDCl₃ (purchased from SynNMR) or D₂O solvent at 25 °C until and otherwise mentioned. All spectra were processed using TopSpin 4.4.1 software. Chemical shift (δ) values were reported in ppm (parts per million) from tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance as the internal standard ($CDCI_3 = 7.26$ ppm for ¹H NMR, 77.16 ppm for ¹³C{¹H} NMR; $D_2O = 4.79$ ppm for ¹H NMR). NMR signals are reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, brs = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), and coupling constants (J) in Hz, and integration value. The VT-NMR analysis was carried out in a screw cap NMR tube. A capillary containing 0.1M C₆F₆ in CDCl₃ was used as a reference for ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR. HPLC analysis was conducted using a reverse phase C18 column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d., 3 µm), maintained at 25 °C, using the following method file: overall running time = 6 minutes, acetonitrile -80% and water -20%as an isocratic mixture; flow rate = 0.2 mL/minute; injection volume = 1 μ L. A photodiode array (PDA) detector set at 254 nm. The obtained data was further plotted in OriginLab software 2024. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Thermo Fisher Scientific-Exactive mass spectrometer operated in Time-of-flight mass spectrometry (TOF-MS) mode upon dissolving in acetonitrile at IISER Berhampur.

2. Experimental Section

2.1 Reaction method development

General procedure for reaction optimization and NMR yield calculation



In an oven-dried 10 mL screw cap reaction vial, styrene (**1a**, 40 μ L, 0.344 mmol) and Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 83.3 mg, 0.344 mmol) in CHCl₃ (690 μ L, 0.5 M) were taken, and triflic acid (1.56 μ L, 0.017 mmol, 5 mol%) was added to the mixture and stirred at 60 °C for 12 h in a preheated metal block. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After 12 h, to the reaction mixture, 1,3,5-trimethoxy benzene (TMB) (57.9 mg, 0.344 mmol) was added as an NMR standard and stirred for 5 minutes at RT. An aliquot amount (50 μ L) was taken in an NMR tube, and 550 μ L CDCl₃ was added, then ¹H NMR was recorded. The percentage of NMR yield was calculated from the crude ¹H NMR using the following method.

Procedure followed to isolate the product:

After reaction completion, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. After removal of solvent, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (200 – 400 mesh) using pet ethers: ethyl acetate binary solvent mixture (100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ethers) to get the (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl(1-phenylethyl)carbamate product (**3a**) and 9-(((2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-yl)methoxy)methyl)-9H-fluorene product (**4a**).

NMR yield for (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate (3a):

Molar ratio of the compounds (Product 3a / TMB) = [(observed integral of 3a / 1) / (observed integral of TMB / 9)].

The molar amount of product $3a = [molar ratio of the compounds (3a / TMB) \times mmol of TMB].$

Percentage Yield Calculation

NMR yield = molar amount of product $3a \times$ molecular weight of the product Percent yield of product = (observed NMR yield / Theoretical yield) × 100 Example of NMR spectrum for yield calculation:



Figure S1: Representative crude ¹H NMR analysis of the reaction mixture with 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as the internal standard to calculate yield. Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 1:1 at 0.344 mmol scale.

Calculated NMR yield for (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate (3a):

Molar ratio of the compounds (Product 3a / TMB) = [(0.47 /1) / (9 / 9)]

The molar amount of product $3a = [0.47 \times 0.344]$

Percentage yield Calculation:

NMR yield = $0.1616 \times 343.1572 = 55.61$ mg Percent yield of product = $(55.61/118) \times 100 = 47\%$





| Entry | Tomporaturo (°C) | Time (h) | Yield | ^a (%) |
|-------|------------------|----------|-------|------------------|
| | Temperature (C) | rime (n) | 3a | 4a |
| 1. | 40 | 12 | Op | 0 |
| 2. | 60 | 12 | 35 | 4 ^c |
| 3. | 80 | 4 | 47 | 6 ^c |
| 4. | 100 | 12 | 0 | - |
| 5 | 100 | 0.5 | 37 | 8 ^c |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 1:1 at 0.344 mmol scale. ^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard. ^b Starting material **2a** was not consumed.

^c Isolated yield after column chromatography.

Table S2. Solvent screening



| Entry | Solvent | Yield ^a (%) |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | 1,4-Dioxane | 0 ^b |
| 2. | THF | 0 ^b |
| 3. | ACN | 0 ^b |
| 4. | Toluene | 35 |
| 5. | Cyclohexane | 24 |
| 6. | DCM [°] | 25 ^d |
| 7. | <i>p</i> -Xylene | 33 |
| 8. | 1,2–DCE | 35 |
| 9. | CHCI ₃ | 47 |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 1:1 at 0.344 mmol scale. ^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard. ^b Starting material **2a** was not consumed.

^c Reaction at room temperature. ^d Isolated yield after column chromatography

Table S3. Catalyst screening



| Entry | Catalyst | Yield ^a (%) |
|-------|--|------------------------|
| 1. | CF ₃ COOH | 0 ^b |
| 2. | CH ₃ COOH | 0 ^b |
| 3. | НСООН | 0 ^b |
| 4. | (C ₆ H ₅) ₂ P(O)OH | 0 ^b |
| 5. | <i>p</i> -TSA | Trace |
| 6. | 1 M HCI·Et ₂ O | 0 ^b |
| 7. | CH ₃ SO ₃ H | 15 |
| 8. | H ₂ SO ₄ | 31 |
| 9. | (CF ₃ SO ₂) ₂ NH | 29 ^c |
| 10. | TfOH | 47 |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 1:1 at 0.344 mmol scale. ^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard. ^b Starting material **2a** was not consumed.

^c **4a** by-product formation was observed and 6% isolated after column purification.

Table S4. Reagent equivalent screening



| Entry | Condition ^ª (Styrene: Fmoc-NH ₂) | Yield ^b (%) |
|-------|--|------------------------|
| 1. | 1:1 | 47 |
| 2. | 3:1 | 63 |
| 3. | 4:1 | 56 |
| 4. | 1:3 | 43 |
| 5. | 3:1 | 64 [°] |

^a Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ ratio at 0.344 mmol. ^b Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard. ^c Reaction was conducted under an argon atmosphere and molecular sieves.

Table S5. Catalyst loading screening



| Entry | Catalyst Loading | Yield (%) | |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| 2. | 1 mol % | Trace | |
| 3. | 5 mol % | 47ª | |
| 4. | 10 mol % | 81 ^b | |
| 5. | 20 mol % | 86 ^b | |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ ratio 3:1 at 0.344 mmol of Fmoc-NH₂. ^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard. ^b Isolated yield after column chromatography.

Table S6. Reaction time screening



| Entry | Time (h) | Yield ^ª (%) |
|-------|----------|------------------------|
| 1. | 4 | 82 |
| 2. | 5 | 91 |
| 3. | 6 | 85 |
| 4. | 7 | 83 |
| 5. | 12 | 81 |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 3:1 at 0.344 mmol scale of Fmoc-NH₂. ^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene was used as an internal standard.

Table S7. Control reaction



| Entry | Condition | Result ^ª |
|-------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Without styrene | No product formation |
| 2. | Without Fmoc-NH ₂ | No product formation |
| 3. | Without catalyst | No product formation |

Styrene: Fmoc-NH₂ = 3:1 at 0.344 mmol scale. ^a Adjudged by the TLC.

2.2 Substrate Scope and Characterization Data

General procedure for the substrate scope (GPS-1)

To an oven-dried 10 mL screw cap vial with a PTFE-coated magnetic stir bar (10 mm \times 6 mm), Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 121 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and vinyl arene (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) were added. Then, CHCl₃ (0.5 M, 1 mL) was added. Finally, TfOH (0.05 mmol, 10 mol%, 5 µL) was added using a 50 µL glass syringe. Then the vial was closed with a PTFE screw cap and stirred (500 rpm) at 60 °C (pre-heated metal block) for 5 h. After 5 h, TLC was checked using 20% ethyl acetate in hexane. Further, it was purified by silica gel column chromatography (200 – 400 mesh) using 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether as a mobile phase.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate (3a):



Procedure: Synthesized from styrene (1.5 mmol, 174 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

Large scale reaction: $FmocNH_2$ (1.0 g, 4.14 mmol), styrene (1.5 mL, 12.4 mmol), TfOH (37.4 μ L, 0.414 mmol).

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45^1$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 158 mg; 91% (Large scale: 1.26 g; 89%).

Physical state: White crystalline solid.

Melting point: 79 °C (156°C)².

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (br d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.29 (m, 9H), 5.06 (br s, 1H), 4.88 (br t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (br d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (br t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (br d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.1, 141.4, 128.8, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 126.1, 125.1, 125.1, 120.1, 66.6, 50.8, 47.4, 22.5.

Spectral data matches with previously reported literature¹.

MS (HRMS,TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₃H₂₁NO₂Na]⁺: 366.1470; Found: 366.1482.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl(1-(p-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate (3b):



Procedure: Synthesized from 4-methyl styrene (1.5 mmol, 198 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.55$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 130 mg; 73%.

Physical state: White crystalline solid.

Melting point: 132 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H; H_i), 7.61 (br d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H; H_o), 7.42 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H; H_m), 7.33 (br t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H; H_n), 7.22–7.13 (m, 4H; $H_{c\&d}$), 5.08 (br s, 1H; *NH*), 4.86 (br t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H; H_f), 4.43 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H; H_i), 4.22 (br t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H; H_f), 2.37 (s, 3H; H_a), 1.50 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 3H; H_g).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7 (*C_h*), 144.1 (*C_k*), 141.4 (*C_p*), 140.6 (*C_e*), 137.1 (*C_b*), 129.4 (*C_d*), 127.7 (*C_m*), 127.1 (*C_n*), 126.0 (*C_c*), 125.1 (*C_o*), 120.0 (*C_i*), 66.6 (*C_i*), 50.5 (*C_f*), 47.4 (*C_j*), 22.4 (*C_g*), 21.2 (*C_a*).

Hydrogen and carbon peaks were assigned with the help of DEPT-135 and 2D NMR.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₄H₂₃NO₂Na]⁺: 380.1621; Found: 380.1641.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3c):



Procedure: Synthesized from 4-*tert*-butyl styrene (1.5 mmol, 275 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 162 mg; 81%.

Physical state: obtained as a pale-yellow oil, which turns to a yellowish-white puffy solid while drying under a high vacuum.

Melting point: 59 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (br d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.36–7.31 (br s, 2H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 2H; merges with CDCl₃), 5.01 (br s, 1H), 4.86 (br s, 1H), 4.42 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H), 1.33 (s, 9H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 150.4, 144.1, 141.4, 140.4, 127.8, 127.2, 125.9, 125.7, 125.2, 125.2, 120.1, 66.6, 50.4, 47.4, 34.6, 31.5, 22.3.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₇H₂₉NO₂Na]⁺: 422.2096; Found: 422.2105.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethyl)carbamate (3d):



Procedure: Synthesized from 4-phenyl styrene (1.5 mmol, 270 mg) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.39$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 132 mg; 63%.

Physical state: obtained as a colorless oil, which turns into a white puffy solid while drying under a high vacuum.

Melting point: 83 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (br s, 2H), 7.63–7.50 (m, 6H), 7.48–7.35 (m, 9H), 5.13 (br s, 1H), 4.95 (br s, 1H), 4.48 (br d, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 4.25 (br s, 1H), 1.55 (br d, J = 5.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.0, 142.6, 141.4, 140.9, 140.4, 128.9, 127.8, 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 127.1, 126.5, 125.1, 120.1, 66.6, 50.5, 47.4, 22.5.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₉H₂₅NO₂Na]⁺: 442.1783; Found: 442.1797.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)carbamate (3e):



Procedure: Synthesized from 2-(4-vinylphenyl)naphthalene (1.5 mmol, 316 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 3 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.44$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 135 mg; 57%.

Physical state: White solid.

Melting point: 108 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.95–7.88 (m, 4H), 7.78–7.71 (m, 5H), 7.63 (br s, 2H), 7.52 (br s, 2H), 7.42 (br s, 3H), 7.34 (br s, 2H), 5.13 (br s, 1H), 4.96 (br s, 1H), 4.48 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 4.25 (br s, 1H), 1.55 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.0, 142.7, 141.4, 140.3, 138.2, 133.8, 132.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.8, 127.2, 126.6, 126.4, 126.3, 126.1, 125.8, 125.6, 125.1, 125.1, 120.1, 66.6, 50.5, 47.4, 22.5.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₃₃H₂₇NO₂Na]⁺: 492.1939; Found: 492.1943.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(anthracen-9-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3f):



Procedure: Synthesized from 9-(4-vinylphenyl)anthracene (1.5 mmol, 465 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 4 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.43$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 135 mg; 52%.

Physical state: Yellow solid.

Melting point: 144 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68–7.66 (m, 4H), 7.48–7.44 (m, 4H), 7.42–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.35–7.33 (m, 4H), 5.16 (br s, 1H), 5.06 (br s, 1H), 4.52 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (br s, 1H), 1.63 (br s, 3H; merges with H₂O peak).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.9, 144.1, 144.1, 141.5, 137.9, 136.7, 131.7, 131.5, 130.4, 128.5, 127.8, 127.2, 127.0, 126.7, 126.1, 125.5, 125.2, 125.1, 120.1, 66.7, 50.7, 47.5, 22.6.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₃₇H₂₉NO₂Na]⁺: 542.2096; Found: 542.2103.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3g):



Procedure: Synthesized from 4-bromostyrene (1.5 mmol, 200 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.42$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ethers).

Yield: 154 mg; 73%.

Physical state: White solid.

Melting point: 156 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (br s, 2H), 7.46–7.39 (m, 4H), 7.31–7.29 (br s, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 5.01 (br s, 1H), 4.80 (br s, 1H), 4.43 (br s, 2H), 4.19 (br s, 1H), 1.45 (br d, J = 4.8 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.6, 143.9, 142.7, 141.4, 131.8, 127.8, 127.2, 125.0, 121.2, 120.1, 120.1, 66.6, 50.3, 47.4, 22.4.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₃H₂₀BrNO₂Na]⁺: 444.0575; Found: 444.0578.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3h):



Procedure: Synthesized from 4-fluorostyrene (1.5 mmol, 180 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.50$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 123 mg; 68%.

Physical state: Obtained as white oil and crystallizes slowly.

Melting point: 80 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (br s, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35–7.26 (m, 4H; merges with CDCl₃), 7.02 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.03 (br s, 1H), 4.84 (br s, 1H), 4.44 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (br s, 1H), 1.47 (br d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (d, *J* = 245.5 Hz), 155.7, 144.0, 144.0, 141.5, 127.8, 127.7 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz; *partially overlaps with 127.8 peak*), 127.2, 125.1, 120.1, 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 66.6, 50.2, 47.4, 22.5.

¹⁹**F**{¹**H**} **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –115.4.

Some minor peaks were also in ¹⁹F{¹H} observed that could not be identified.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₃H₂₀FNO₂Na]⁺: 384.1376; Found: 384.1382.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)ethyl)carbamate (3i):



Procedure: Synthesized from 3-vinyl-1,1'-biphenyl (1.5 mmol, 193 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 80 mg; 38%.

Physical state: obtained as an off-white gel, which turns to an off-white puffy solid while drying under a high vacuum.

Melting point: 136 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (br d, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 7.66–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.56 (br d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52–7.40 (m, 8H), 7.34 (br d, J = 6.9 Hz , 2H), 5.27 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (br s, 1H), 4.50 (d, J = 6.2 Hz 2H), 4.26 (br s, 1H), 1.56 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.0, 141.7, 141.4, 141.1, 129.2, 128.8, 128.8, 127.7, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 126.3, 125.1, 125.0, 124.9, 120.0, 66.6, 50.8, 47.3, 22.5.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₉H₂₅NO₂Na]⁺: 442.1783; Found: 442.1793.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl(1-(3-(naphthalen-2-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3j):



Procedure: Synthesized using 2-(3-vinylphenyl)naphthalene (1.5 mmol, 346 mg) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.43$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 98 mg; 42%.

Physical state: White solid, obtained as an off-white gel, given a pet ether wash and drying on high vacuum, obtained as a puffy white solid.

Melting point: 134 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.95–7.88 (m, 3H), 7.78–7.75 (m, 3H), 7.68 (br s, 1H), 7.64–7.61 (m, 2H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.39–7.36 (br s, 2H), 7.34–7.31 (m, 3H), 5.17 (br s, 1H), 4.99 (br s, 1H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (br s, 1H), 1.59 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.2, 144.0, 141.7, 141.4, 138.5, 133.8, 132.8, 132.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.3, 127.8, 127.2, 126.6, 126.5, 126.1, 126.0, 125.7, 125.1, 125.1, 124.8, 120.1, 66.7, 50.9, 47.4, 22.7.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₃₃H₂₇NO₂Na]⁺: 492.1939; Found: 492.1930.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(2-chlorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate (3k):



Procedure: Synthesized using 1-chloro-2-vinylbenzene (1.5 mmol, 193 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 8 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 27 mg; 14%.

Physical state: obtained as an off-white gel, which turns to an off-white solid while drying under vacuum.

Melting point: 82 °C.

Note: Undergoes slow decomposition during high vacuum or heat.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (br d, J = 7.64 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 6.12 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.21 (m, 2H; merges with CDCl₃), 5.25–5.18 (m, 2H), 4.41 (d, J = 6.70 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (br s, 1H), 1.49 (d, J = 5.88 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.4, 144.0, 141.4, 130.2, 128.5, 127.8, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 126.9, 125.1, 120.1, 119.9, 66.7, 48.8, 47.4, 21.4.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₃H₂₀CINO₂Na]⁺: 400.1080; Found: 400.1089.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)carbamate (3l):



Procedure: Synthesized using 2-vinylnaphthalene (1.5 mmol, 232 mg) by following the GPS-1 for 4 h.

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 114 mg; 58%

Physical state: obtained as an off-white gel, which turns to an off-white solid while drying under a high vacuum.

Melting point: 98 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.56 (m, 5H), 7.46–7.33 (m, 9H), 5.05 (br s, 1H), 4.91 (br d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (br d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (br s, 1H), 1.53 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 144.1, 141.4, 133.5, 132.9, 128.7, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.1, 126.3, 126.0, 125.5, 125.1, 124.5, 120.1, 66.7, 50.9, 47.4, 22.5.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₇H₂₃NO₂Na]⁺: 416.1626; Found: 416.1629.

9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethyl (tetrahydropyran-2-yl)carbamate (3m):



Procedure: Synthesized using 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (1.5 mmol, 140 μ L) by following the GPS-1 for 10 min.

Large scale reaction: $FmocNH_2$ (1.0 g, 4.14 mmol), 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (1.2 mL, 12.4 mmol), TfOH (37.4 μ L, 0.414 mmol).

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.32$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 117 mg; 72% (Large scale: 1 g; 74%).

Physical state: White solid.

Melting point: 136 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (br d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (br s, 1H), 4.41 (br s, 2H), 4.22 (s, 1H), 3.98 (d, J = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (br s, 1H), 1.88–1.79 (m, 3H), 1.57–1.51 (m, 2H; *merges with H*₂O), 1.41–1.38 (m, 1H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.6, 144.0, 141.4, 127.8, 127.2, 125.2, 120.1, 80.1, 67.3, 67.1, 47.2, 31.5, 25.1, 23.0.

Spectral data matches with previously reported literature³.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for $[C_{20}H_{21}NO_{3}Na]^{+}$: 346.1419; Found: 346.1437.

(9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1S,4R)-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-ylcarbamate (3n):



Procedure: Synthesized using (1R,4S)-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-ene (1.5 mmol, 141 mg) by following the GPS-1 for 5 h.

TLC profile: 20% Ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.45$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% Ethylacetate in pet ether).

Yield: 103 mg; 62%.

Physical state: white crystalline solid.

Melting point: 135 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.63 (br s, 1H), 4.40 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (br s, 1H), 3.53 (br s, 1H), 2.24 (t, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 2H), 1.78 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 1.48–1.43 (m, 2H), 1.30–1.26 (m, 2H), 1.14–1.12 (m, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.8, 144.2, 141.5, 127.8, 127.1, 125.2, 120.1, 66.5, 54.5, 47.5, 42.5, 40.5, 35.8, 35.5, 28.3, 26.4.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+Na]⁺): Calcd for [C₂₂H₂₃NO₂Na]⁺: 356.1627; Found: 356.1639.

2.3 Deprotection of hydroamination product



Deprotection of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate (3a)

In a 10 mL RB, (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylmethyl)carbamate (**3a**, 180 mg, 0.524 mmol) was taken in methanol (0.25 M), and 2 equiv KOH (58.8 mg, 1.05 mmol) were added and stirred at RT for 5 min, after the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, 20% ethyl acetate in hexane) reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. Water was added to the residue, and the organic compound was extracted with DCM. The organic layers combined and were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was dissolved in acetone (0.5 M), and an acetone solution (0.5 M) of 1.5 equiv of oxalic acid (70.8 mg, 0.786 mmol) was added dropwise into it. Resulted precipitate was filtered out and washed with acetone to remove the excess oxalic acid.

1-Phenylethylamineoxalate (5a)

Yield: 64 mg; 58%.

Physical state: White solid.

Melting point: 178 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 7.51–7.47 (m, 5H), 4.55 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.66 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, D₂O) δ 173.3, 137.8, 129.3, 129.2, 126.5, 51.0, 19.3.

Spectral data matches with previously reported literature⁴.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS): Cacld for $[M-C_2O_4NH_3]^+ = [C_8H_9]^+$: 105.0704, Found: 105.0707.

Deprotection of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(p-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate (3b)



In a 10 mL RB (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(*p*-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate (187 mg, 0.524 mmol) was taken in Methanol (0.25 M), and 2 equiv KOH (58.8 mg, 1.05 mmol) were added and stirred at RT for 5 min. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, 20 % ethyl acetate in hexane), the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and a water workup was done with DCM. The organic layer collected was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was dissolved in acetone (0.5 M), and an acetone solution (0.5 M) of 1.5 equiv of oxalic acid (70.8 mg, 0.786 mmol) was added dropwise into it. Resulted precipitate was filtered out and washed with acetone to remove the excess oxalic acid

1-(p-tolyl)ethanaminium oxalate (5b):

Yield: 94 mg; 80%.

Physical state: White solid.

Melting point: 198 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 7.36–7.30 (m, 4H), 4.49 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.61 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, D₂O) δ 167.9, 139.5, 134.8, 129.7, 126.5, 50.7, 20.1, 19.2.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS): Cacld for $[M-C_2O_4NH_3]^+ = [C_9H_{11}]^+$: 119.0861, Found: 119.0870.

2.4 Reaction mechanistic analysis:

NMR analysis

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR analysis:

To an oven-dried screw cap NMR tube containing C_6F_6 (0.1 M in CDCl₃) in a closed capillary, 0.5 mL CDCl₃ was added, followed by TfOH (50 µL,1 equiv) (*Note: white turbidity was observed*). After recording ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR, Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**; 6 mg; × 10 times) / hydroamination product (**3a**; 8.9 mg × 10 times) was added portion-wise (0.1 equiv to 1 equiv; like titration), and ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR was recorded.

Note: The NMR tube was carefully tilted up and down to get a proper mixing, and C_6F_6 was used as a reference – 165 ppm.

a) After adding 0.2 equiv Fmoc-NH₂, a new peak was observed at -80.6 ppm, and the TfOH peak (-79.1 ppm) completely disappeared⁵. Adding 0.5 equiv. and 1 equiv. Fmoc-NH₂ resulted in a slight shift (-81.4 and -81.7 ppm)





 b) After adding 0.2 equiv 3a, a new peak was observed at -80.4, and the TfOH peak (-79.1 ppm) disappeared completely⁵. Adding 0.5 equiv. and 1 equiv. 3a, resulted in a slight shift (-81.0 and -81.6 ppm).



Figure S3: ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR analysis of **3a** with gradually added TfOH (0.2 eq., 0.5 eq., and 1 eq.)

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR reaction monitoring at 55 °C:



To an oven-dried screw cap NMR tube containing C_6F_6 (0.1 M in CDCl₃) in a closed capillary, CDCl₃ (0.5 M, 0.5 mL) was added using an oven-dried needle with a glass syringe, followed by TfOH (0.025 mmol, 10 mol%, 2.5 μ L). After recording ¹H and ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR, Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 60.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1 equiv) was added, and ¹H and ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR were recorded. At last, styrene (**1a**, 0.75 mmol, 3 equiv, 87 μ L) was added, and ¹H and ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR were recorded.

Then, the NMR probe temperature was raised to 55 °C gradually, and $^{19}F\{^{1}H\}$ NMR was recorded every hour.

Note: Due to the limited solubility of Fmoc-NH₂ and shimming issues, ¹H NMR could not be recorded. Peaks were analyzed by keeping C_6F_6 as a reference at –165 ppm.

The addition of TfOH to CDCl₃ results in immediate white turbidity. In ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR, two peaks were observed at -79.1 ppm, corresponding to homogenously dissolved TfOH, and a small broad peak at -82.4 ppm due to immediate moisture absorption. These data closely agreed with the previously reported chemical shift values and studies^{5,6}.

Adding Fmoc-NH₂ to this results in the interaction between Fmoc-NH₂ and TfOH. After adding styrene to this, no changes were observed in ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR chemical shift values. The ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR recorded each hour shows the overlapping of two peaks at –81.2 ppm. This showed that FmocNH₂ (**2a**) and hydroamination product (**3a**) have hydrogen bonding interaction with TfOH during the reaction, and no free TfOH was observed.



Figure S4: Stacked ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectra of reaction monitored at 55 °C.

¹H NMR analysis:

To an oven-dried NMR tube (separate analysis), styrene (**1a**; 0.75 mmol, 3 equiv, 87 μ L) / Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**; 60.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1 equiv) / hydroamination product (**3a**; 89.2 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1 equiv)was added, followed by 0.5 mL CDCl₃. After recording ¹H NMR, TfOH was added gradually (0.1 equiv. to 1 equiv.), and ¹H was recorded after each addition.

Note: The NMR tube was carefully tilted up and down to get proper mixing.

 a) After adding 0.1 equiv of TfOH (10 mol%) to the styrene, immediate decomposition and color change were observed (**Figure S5**). Adding further, TfOH did not show any further changes⁷.



b) Adding 0.2 equiv of TfOH to Fmoc-NH₂ results in the disappearance of the NH peak at 4.71 ppm and a new broad peak at 8.69 ppm. Adding 0.5 equiv results in the peak shifting to 9.66 ppm and broadening. After reaching 1 equiv. of TfOH, a broad peak was observed at 13.03 ppm. Also, the CH₂ peak (doublet; 4.42 ppm) and CH peak (triplet; 4.24 ppm) showed considerable deshielding as they moved to 4.62 ppm and 4.25 ppm, respectively.



The CO group may also get protonated (like the protonation of carbamic acids), which is well known for carbamate groups^{8–10}. However, the observed pattern shows that NH₂ peaks were immediately undergoing exchange, and slowly, C=O may get protonated reversibly.

c) Adding 0.1 equiv of TfOH to **3a** results in the partial disappearance of the NH peak at 5.24 ppm and a new broad peak at 10.07 ppm. Adding 0.2 equiv results in a complete conversion of the NH peak at 5.25 ppm and a new broad peak at 12.55 ppm. After reaching 0.5 equiv and 1 equiv of TfOH, a broad peak was observed at 13.67 ppm and 14.14 ppm, respectively. While the CH proton of benzylic carbon results in slow decomposition due to benzylic deprotection by strong acids¹¹.



The CO group may also get protonated (like the protonation of carbamic acids), which is well known for carbamate groups^{8,9,12}. However, the NH proton's fast exchange was observed. Due to the decomposition and this competitive protonation, assigning becomes impractical.

Kinetic analysis^{13–17}

The reaction progress was monitored by LC-MS instrument using the HPLC reverse phase C18 column (100 mm \times 2.1 mm i.d., 3 µm), using the optimized method file mentioned below, and the photodiode array (PDA) detector set at 254 nm.

Overall running time: 6 minutes, acetonitrile – 80% and water – 20% as an isocratic mixture; flow rate = 0.2 mL/minute; injection volume = 1 μ L.

General procedure followed for the kinetic analysis:

Reaction setup for the standard reaction:

To a 30 mL oven-dried reaction vial with a magnetic stir bar (15 mm \times 6 mm), Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 242 mg, 1 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added, followed by styrene (**1a**, 316 mg, 3 mmol, 3 equiv., 348 μ L). 2 mL of CHCl3 (0.5 M) was added to the resulting white slurry. Finally, CF₃SO₃H (15.3 mg, 10 mol%, 9 μ L)) was added using a 100 μ L glass syringe. It was closed with a PTFE screw cap and placed in a pre-heated metal block at 60 °C for 6 hours with stirring (500 rpm).

The same procedure was followed for the different excess experiments of FmocNH₂, styrene, and catalyst loading. The reagent volume was recalculated according to the changes.

Sample preparation for HPLC analysis:

Every 30 minutes, the reaction vial was removed from the heating block and allowed to cool down for a minute. 10 μ L of reaction crude aliquot was taken out using a 100 μ L micropipette and diluted to 2 mL using acetonitrile in a vial. It was further analyzed after obtaining the data from HPLC analysis.

(Due to the limited solubility of Fmoc-NH₂, a tip was completely dipped into the bottom of the reaction mixture to take aliquot)
Concentration calculation and VTNA plotting:

The concentration of the formed product was calculated from the observed area in LC using a calibrated method file and linear fitting method. The obtained concentration was multiplied by the dilution factor to get the actual reaction mixture concentration. The obtained concentrations from all the reactions were plotted in the Variable Time Normalization Analysis (VTNA) Excel sheet developed by Prof. Jordi Burés and co-workers. The average time and obtained concentrations were used for the final plots and the error bar.

Note: Some samples showed a slight drift in the retention time. However, the MS(ESI) m/z data confirmed the presence of the compound.



Calibration curve for 1a, 2a and 3a:

Figure S8: HPLC calibration curve of styrene (1a)



Figure S9: HPLC calibration curve of Fmoc-NH₂ (2a)



Figure S10: HPLC calibration curve of the product (3a)



Figure S11:HPLC profile of 1a, 2a and 3a with retention time



Figure S12: Reaction progress was monitored for 6 hours (*Retention time: 2 to 6 minutes was zoomed for clarity*). As the reaction goes on, the **1a** and **2a** areas decreased, and the **3a** area increased.



Figure S13: Conversion profile of 1a and 2a to 3a (%). An acceptable mass balance is observed in the standard reaction.

Standard reaction monitoring:



Concentration details of the reactants in the reaction mixture:

| Reactant | Amount added | Actual concentration in 2 mL CHCI ₃ |
|----------|--------------------------|--|
| 1a | 348 μL (3 mmol) | 1.5 M |
| 2a | 242 mg (1 mmol) | 0.5 M |
| TfOH | 9 μL (0.1 mmol; 10 mol%) | 0.05 M |

Concentration details of LCMS sample:

| Reactant | Actual concentration in 2 mL CHCl ₃ | The final concentration of the LCMS sample (diluted with 2 mL CH₃CN; dilution factor is 200) |
|----------|--|--|
| 1a | 1.5 M | 10 μL × 1.5 M = x × 2 mL = 7.5 mM |
| 2a | 0.5 M | 10 μL × 0.5 M = x × 2 mL = 2.5 mM |
| TfOH | 0.05 M | 10 μL × 0.05 M = x × 2 mL = 0.25 mM |

The obtained HPLC concentration values were finally multiplied by 0.2, the dilution factor for mM to M.

Same excess and catalyst inhibition experiments:

The same excess reaction and reaction with the product were added to find out any possibility of catalytic deactivation or product inhibition.

| Reaction condition | Actual [M] in 2 mL CHCl₃ (Reaction mixture) | | The final concentration of the LCMS sample (diluted with 2 |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| | | | mL CH₃CN) |
| | 1a | 348 μL; 1.5 M | 10 μL × 1.5 M = x × 2 mL |
| | Tu Tu | | = 7.5 mM |
| Standard reaction | 2a | 242 mg: 0.5 M | 10 μL × 0.5 M = x × 2 mL |
| Standard reaction | Za | 242 mg, 0.5 m | = 2.5 mM |
| | TfOH | 9 JUL : 0.05 M | 10 μL × 0.05 M = x × 2 mL |
| | non | ο με, 0.00 W | = 0.25 mM |
| | 1a | 209 μL; 0.9 M | 10 μL × 0.9 M = x × 2 mL |
| Samo overes | | | = 4.5 mM |
| | 2a | 145 mg; 0.3 M | 10 μL × 0.3 M = x × 2 mL |
| | | | = 1.5 mM |
| | TfOH | 9 μL; 0.05 M | 10 μL × 0.05 M = x × 2 mL |
| | | | = 0.25 mM |
| | 1a | 209 JUL 1 0 9 M | 10 μ L × 0.9 M = x × 2 mL |
| | , a | 200 µ2, 0.0 m | = 4.5 mM |
| | 2a | 145 mg [.] 0.3 M | 10 μ L × 0.3 M = x × 2 mL |
| Product added | | i të mg, etë m | = 1.5 mM |
| | TfOH | 9 ul : 0.05 M | 10 μL × 0.05 M = x × 2 mL |
| | | ο με, 0.00 M | = 0.25 mM |
| | 3a | 137 ma: 0.2 M | 10 μ L × 0.2 M = x × 2 mL |
| | Vu | 107 mg, 0.2 m | = 0.2 mM |

| Standard reaction (set 1) | | | S | tandard reaction | i (set 2) |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.43938 | 0.08831538 | 0.50 | 0.4282 | 0.0860682 |
| 1.00 | 0.77324 | 0.15542124 | 1.00 | 0.79214 | 0.15922014 |
| 1.50 | 1.00717 | 0.20244117 | 1.50 | 0.96502 | 0.19396902 |
| 2.00 | 1.10098 | 0.22129698 | 2.00 | 1.05788 | 0.21263388 |
| 2.50 | 1.19371 | 0.23993571 | 2.50 | 1.23584 | 0.24840384 |
| 3.00 | 1.28546 | 0.25837746 | 3.00 | 1.31001 | 0.26331201 |
| 3.50 | 1.42528 | 0.28648128 | 3.50 | 1.44778 | 0.29100378 |
| 4.00 | 1.57421 | 0.31641621 | 4.00 | 1.60492 | 0.32258892 |
| 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.34793301 | 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.34793301 |
| 5.00 | 1.83804 | 0.36944604 | 5.00 | 1.81952 | 0.36572352 |
| 5.50 | 1.84221 | 0.37028421 | 5.50 | 1.88132 | 0.37814532 |

| Time (h) | Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.086758 | 0.001581091 |
| 1.00 | 0.156538 | 0.002672864 |
| 1.50 | 0.197219 | 0.00596091 |
| 2.00 | 0.215886 | 0.00609526 |
| 2.50 | 0.242955 | 0.005958082 |
| 3.00 | 0.259547 | 0.003471894 |
| 3.50 | 0.287306 | 0.003181981 |
| 4.00 | 0.317913 | 0.00434305 |
| 4.50 | 0.346202 | 0 |
| 5.00 | 0.365756 | 0.002619124 |
| 5.50 | 0.372353 | 0.005530989 |

| Same excess (set 1) | | | Same excess (| set 2) | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.000 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.184 | 0.09175 | 0.50 | 0.178 | 0.08896 |
| 1.00 | 0.266 | 0.13275 | 1.00 | 0.258 | 0.12916 |
| 1.50 | 0.302 | 0.1512 | 1.50 | 0.316 | 0.15793 |
| 2.00 | 0.346 | 0.17281 | 2.00 | 0.369 | 0.18456 |
| 2.50 | 0.372 | 0.18608 | 2.50 | 0.412 | 0.2058 |
| 3.00 | 0.414 | 0.20719 | 3.00 | 0.441 | 0.22049 |
| 3.50 | 0.440 | 0.2198 | 3.50 | 0.471 | 0.23554 |
| 4.00 | 0.470 | 0.23497 | 4.00 | 0.509 | 0.25469 |
| 4.50 | 0.505 | 0.25252 | 4.50 | 0.542 | 0.27114 |
| 5.00 | 0.575 | 0.28735 | 5.00 | 0.590 | 0.2952 |
| 5.50 | 0.597 | 0.29851 | 5.50 | 0.608 | 0.30387 |

| | Time shift | Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation |
|-------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| t (h) | Time+1.5 (h) | | ([3a]) |
| 0.00 | 1.50 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 2.00 | 0.090355 | 0.001972828 |
| 1.00 | 2.50 | 0.130955 | 0.002538513 |
| 1.50 | 3.00 | 0.154565 | 0.004758829 |
| 2.00 | 3.50 | 0.178685 | 0.008308505 |
| 2.50 | 4.00 | 0.19594 | 0.013944146 |
| 3.00 | 4.50 | 0.21384 | 0.00940452 |
| 3.50 | 5.00 | 0.22767 | 0.011129861 |
| 4.00 | 5.50 | 0.24483 | 0.013944146 |
| 4.50 | 6.00 | 0.26183 | 0.013166328 |
| 5.00 | 6.5 | 0.291275 | 0.005550788 |
| 5.50 | 7.00 | 0.30119 | 0.003790092 |

| Product (3a) added (set 1) | | | Product (3a) add | ed (set 2) | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0.381 | 0.19032 | 0.00 | 0.370 | 0.18496 |
| 0.50 | 0.438 | 0.21909 | 0.50 | 0.430 | 0.21502 |
| 1.00 | 0.491 | 0.24539 | 1.00 | 0.493 | 0.2463 |
| 1.50 | 0.573 | 0.28674 | 1.50 | 0.560 | 0.28012 |
| 2.00 | 0.599 | 0.29942 | 2.00 | 0.592 | 0.29584 |
| 2.50 | 0.634 | 0.31684 | 2.50 | 0.630 | 0.31494 |
| 3.00 | 0.671 | 0.3355 | 3.00 | 0.699 | 0.34963 |
| 3.50 | 0.753 | 0.37625 | 3.50 | 0.762 | 0.3812 |
| 4.00 | 0.811 | 0.40574 | 4.00 | 0.783 | 0.3914 |
| 4.50 | 0.883 | 0.44137 | 4.50 | 0.845 | 0.42241 |
| 5.00 | 0.939 | 0.46938 | 5.00 | 0.916 | 0.45818 |
| 5.50 | 0.984 | 0.49183 | 5.50 | 0.964 | 0.48194 |

| | Time shift | Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation |
|-------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| t (h) | Time+1.5 (h) | | ([3a]) |
| 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.18764 | 0.003790092 |
| 0.50 | 2.00 | 0.217055 | 0.002877925 |
| 1.00 | 2.50 | 0.245845 | 0.000643467 |
| 1.50 | 3.00 | 0.28343 | 0.004681047 |
| 2.00 | 3.50 | 0.29763 | 0.002531442 |
| 2.50 | 4.00 | 0.31589 | 0.001343503 |
| 3.00 | 4.50 | 0.342565 | 0.009991419 |
| 3.50 | 5.00 | 0.378725 | 0.003500179 |
| 4.00 | 5.50 | 0.39857 | 0.010139911 |
| 4.50 | 6.00 | 0.43189 | 0.013406745 |
| 5.00 | 6.5 | 0.46378 | 0.007919596 |
| 5.50 | 7.00 | 0.486885 | 0.006993286 |



Figure S14: standard reaction (yellow color), same excess (shown in red color) with 1.5 h time shift and product added reaction (green color).

When time shift was adjusted to 1.5 h, the same excess experiment showed the expected deviation (Red), which strongly supports the product inhibition due to the interaction between TfOH and 2a / 3a.

Order of styrene (1a):

3 different reactions were analyzed to find out the order of styrene (1a).

| 1a loading | Actual [1a] in 2 mL CHCl₃ | The final concentration of the LCMS sample (diluted with 2 mL CH₃CN; dilution factor is 200) |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Standard reaction | 348 μL; 1.5 M | 10 μL × 1.5 M = x × 2 mL |
| (3 mmol) | | = 7.5 mM |
| Higher loading | 464 μL; 2 M | 10 μ L × 2 M = x × 2 mL |
| (4 mmol) | | = 10 mM |
| Higher loading | 581 μL; 2.5 M | 10 μL × 2.5 M = x × 2 mL |
| (5 mmol) | | = 12.5 mM |

| Standard reaction (set 1) | | | Standard react | on (set 2) | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.43938 | 0.087876 | 0.50 | 0.4282 | 0.08564 |
| 1.00 | 0.77324 | 0.154648 | 1.00 | 0.79214 | 0.158428 |
| 1.50 | 1.00717 | 0.201434 | 1.50 | 0.96502 | 0.193004 |
| 2.00 | 1.10098 | 0.220196 | 2.00 | 1.05788 | 0.211576 |
| 2.50 | 1.19371 | 0.238742 | 2.50 | 1.23584 | 0.247168 |
| 3.00 | 1.28546 | 0.257092 | 3.00 | 1.31001 | 0.262002 |
| 3.50 | 1.42528 | 0.285056 | 3.50 | 1.44778 | 0.289556 |
| 4.00 | 1.57421 | 0.314842 | 4.00 | 1.60492 | 0.320984 |
| 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 | 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 |
| 5.00 | 1.83804 | 0.367608 | 5.00 | 1.81952 | 0.363904 |
| 5.50 | 1.84221 | 0.368442 | 5.50 | 1.88132 | 0.376264 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.086758 | 0.001581091 |
| 0.156538 | 0.002672864 |
| 0.197219 | 0.00596091 |
| 0.215886 | 0.00609526 |
| 0.242955 | 0.005958082 |
| 0.259547 | 0.003471894 |
| 0.287306 | 0.003181981 |
| 0.317913 | 0.00434305 |
| 0.346202 | 0 |
| 0.365756 | 0.002619124 |
| 0.372353 | 0.005530989 |

| Higher 1a reaction (4 mmol) (set-1) | | Hig | her 1a reaction (| 4 mmol) (set-2) | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.46711 | 0.093422 | 0.50 | 0.48536 | 0.097072 |
| 1.00 | 0.98904 | 0.197808 | 1.00 | 0.88339 | 0.176678 |
| 1.50 | 1.23707 | 0.247414 | 1.50 | 1.2609 | 0.25218 |
| 2.00 | 1.45727 | 0.291454 | 2.00 | 1.38887 | 0.277774 |
| 2.50 | 1.64482 | 0.328964 | 2.50 | 1.53281 | 0.306562 |
| 3.00 | 1.77788 | 0.355576 | 3.00 | 1.71368 | 0.342736 |
| 3.50 | 1.90342 | 0.380684 | 3.50 | 1.87466 | 0.374932 |
| 4.00 | 1.99861 | 0.399722 | 4.00 | 1.96067 | 0.392134 |
| 4.50 | 1.96022 | 0.392044 | 4.50 | 1.99123 | 0.398246 |
| 5.00 | 2.06858 | 0.413716 | 5.00 | 2.0893 | 0.41786 |
| 5.50 | 2.10761 | 0.421522 | 5.50 | 2.10663 | 0.421326 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.095247 | 0.00258094 |
| 0.187243 | 0.014941166 |
| 0.249797 | 0.003370071 |
| 0.284614 | 0.009673221 |
| 0.317763 | 0.015840606 |
| 0.349156 | 0.009079251 |
| 0.377808 | 0.004067278 |
| 0.395928 | 0.005365526 |
| 0.395145 | 0.004385476 |
| 0.365756 | 0.002619124 |
| 0.372353 | 0.005530989 |

| Higher 1a reaction (5 mmol) (set-1) | | Higher 1a reaction (5 mmol) (set-2) | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.52054 | 0.104108 | 0.50 | 0.50391 | 0.100782 |
| 1.00 | 1.00698 | 0.201396 | 1.00 | 0.97297 | 0.194594 |
| 1.50 | 1.26922 | 0.253844 | 1.50 | 1.15662 | 0.231324 |
| 2.00 | 1.51654 | 0.303308 | 2.00 | 1.39463 | 0.278926 |
| 2.50 | 1.69579 | 0.339158 | 2.50 | 1.67138 | 0.334276 |
| 3.00 | 1.88874 | 0.377748 | 3.00 | 1.81683 | 0.363366 |
| 3.50 | 1.95691 | 0.391382 | 3.50 | 1.93924 | 0.387848 |
| 4.00 | 2.03942 | 0.407884 | 4.00 | 2.0102 | 0.40204 |
| 4.50 | 2.1125 | 0.4225 | 4.50 | 2.11663 | 0.423326 |
| 5.00 | 2.07401 | 0.414802 | 5.00 | 1.93536 | 0.387072 |
| 5.50 | 1.9446 | 0.38892 | 5.50 | 1.85497 | 0.370994 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.102445 | 0.002351837 |
| 0.197995 | 0.00480974 |
| 0.242584 | 0.015924045 |
| 0.291117 | 0.017240678 |
| 0.336717 | 0.003452095 |
| 0.370557 | 0.01016961 |
| 0.389615 | 0.002498915 |
| 0.404962 | 0.004132332 |
| 0.422913 | 0.00058407 |
| 0.400937 | 0.019608071 |
| 0.379957 | 0.012675596 |



Figure S15: VTNA plots of 3a with respect to 1.5 M, 2 M, and 2.5 M concentrations of 1a having orders 0 to 1.5.

Applying the VTNA analysis, a significant overlap between the curves was obtained for an order of **1a**, equal to 1 with respect to **3a** formation. This exactly matches the expected styrene involvement in one catalytic cycle.

Order of Fmoc-NH₂ (2a):

| 2a loading | Actual [2a] in 2 mL CHCl₃ | The final concentration of the LCMS sample (diluted with 2 mL CH ₃ CN; dilution factor is 200) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Standard reaction (1 mmol) | 242 mg; 0.5 M | 10 μL × 0.5 M = x × 2 mL = 2.5 mM |
| Lower loading (0.6 mmol) | 145 mg; 0.3 M | 10 μL × 0.3 M = x × 2 mL = 1.5 mM |
| Higher loading (1.4 mmol) | 338 mg; 0.7 M | 10 μL × 0.7 M = x × 2 mL = 3.5 mM |

3 different reactions were analyzed to find out the order of FmocNH_2 (2a).

| Standard reaction (set 1) | | | Standard reaction | on (set 2) | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.43938 | 0.087876 | 0.50 | 0.4282 | 0.08564 |
| 1.00 | 0.77324 | 0.154648 | 1.00 | 0.79214 | 0.158428 |
| 1.50 | 1.00717 | 0.201434 | 1.50 | 0.96502 | 0.193004 |
| 2.00 | 1.10098 | 0.220196 | 2.00 | 1.05788 | 0.211576 |
| 2.50 | 1.19371 | 0.238742 | 2.50 | 1.23584 | 0.247168 |
| 3.00 | 1.28546 | 0.257092 | 3.00 | 1.31001 | 0.262002 |
| 3.50 | 1.42528 | 0.285056 | 3.50 | 1.44778 | 0.289556 |
| 4.00 | 1.57421 | 0.314842 | 4.00 | 1.60492 | 0.320984 |
| 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 | 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 |
| 5.00 | 1.83804 | 0.367608 | 5.00 | 1.81952 | 0.363904 |
| 5.50 | 1.84221 | 0.368442 | 5.50 | 1.88132 | 0.376264 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.086758 | 0.001581091 |
| 0.156538 | 0.002672864 |
| 0.197219 | 0.00596091 |
| 0.215886 | 0.00609526 |
| 0.242955 | 0.005958082 |
| 0.259547 | 0.003471894 |
| 0.287306 | 0.003181981 |
| 0.317913 | 0.00434305 |
| 0.346202 | 0 |
| 0.365756 | 0.002619124 |
| 0.372353 | 0.005530989 |

| Lower 2a reaction (set 1) | | | Lower 2a react | ion (set 2) | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.23749 | 0.047498 | 0.50 | 0.29078 | 0.058156 |
| 1.00 | 0.64888 | 0.129776 | 1.00 | 0.63053 | 0.126106 |
| 1.50 | 0.81685 | 0.16337 | 1.50 | 0.7194 | 0.14388 |
| 2.00 | 0.93076 | 0.186152 | 2.00 | 0.8587 | 0.17174 |
| 2.50 | 1.00305 | 0.20061 | 2.50 | 1.00034 | 0.200068 |
| 3.00 | 1.09272 | 0.218544 | 3.00 | 1.10431 | 0.220862 |
| 3.50 | 1.11157 | 0.222314 | 3.50 | 1.13105 | 0.22621 |
| 4.00 | 1.14141 | 0.228282 | 4.00 | 1.17396 | 0.234792 |
| 4.50 | 1.2034 | 0.24068 | 4.50 | 1.22439 | 0.244878 |
| 5.00 | 1.21083 | 0.242166 | 5.00 | 1.22754 | 0.245508 |
| 5.50 | 1.2142 | 0.24284 | 5.50 | 1.23584 | 0.247168 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.052827 | 0.03768172 |
| 0.127941 | 0.012975409 |
| 0.153625 | 0.068907556 |
| 0.178946 | 0.050954115 |
| 0.200339 | 0.001916259 |
| 0.219703 | 0.008195368 |
| 0.224262 | 0.01377444 |
| 0.231537 | 0.023016326 |
| 0.242779 | 0.014842171 |
| 0.243837 | 0.011815754 |
| 0.245004 | 0.015301791 |

| Higher 2a reaction (set 1) | | | Higher 2a reaction | on (set 2) | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.49505 | 0.09901 | 0.50 | 0.49421 | 0.098842 |
| 1.00 | 0.81067 | 0.162134 | 1.00 | 0.88818 | 0.177636 |
| 1.50 | 1.12982 | 0.225964 | 1.50 | 1.0932 | 0.21864 |
| 2.00 | 1.27074 | 0.254148 | 2.00 | 1.26581 | 0.253162 |
| 2.50 | 1.38028 | 0.276056 | 2.50 | 1.51206 | 0.302412 |
| 3.00 | 1.5457 | 0.30914 | 3.00 | 1.64179 | 0.328358 |
| 3.50 | 1.72611 | 0.345222 | 3.50 | 1.77401 | 0.354802 |
| 4.00 | 1.83589 | 0.367178 | 4.00 | 1.90153 | 0.380306 |
| 4.50 | 1.92852 | 0.385704 | 4.50 | 2.10959 | 0.421918 |
| 5.00 | 2.00155 | 0.40031 | 5.00 | 2.26279 | 0.452558 |
| 5.50 | 2.05693 | 0.411386 | 5.50 | 2.27967 | 0.455934 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0 | 0 |
| 0.098926 | 0.000118794 |
| 0.169885 | 0.010961569 |
| 0.222302 | 0.00517885 |
| 0.253655 | 0.000697207 |
| 0.289234 | 0.018636506 |
| 0.318749 | 0.013589178 |
| 0.350012 | 0.006774083 |
| 0.373742 | 0.009282898 |
| 0.403811 | 0.025607165 |
| 0.426434 | 0.036944915 |
| 0.43366 | 0.031500193 |



Figure S16: VTNA plots of 3a using 1.5 M, 2 M, and 2.5 M concentrations of 2a having orders 0, 0.5, and 1.

Applying the VTNA analysis, a significant overlap between the curves was obtained for an order of **2a**, equal to 0.5, with respect to **3a** formation. The interaction with TfOH resulted in the fractional value of order (0.5).

Order of catalyst (TfOH):

| TfOH loading | Actual [2a] in 2 mL CHCl₃ | The final concentration of the LCMS sample (diluted with 2 mL CH ₃ CN; dilution factor is 200) |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| Standard reaction (0.1 mmol; 10 mol%) | 9 μL; 0.05 M | 10 μL × 0.5 M = x × 2 mL = 0.25 mM |
| Higher loading (0.15 mmol; 15 mol%) | 13.5 μL; 0.075 M | 10 μL × 0.3 M = x × 2 mL = 0. 375mM |
| Higher loading (0.2 mmol; 20 mol%) | 18 μL; 0.1 M | 10 μL × 0.7 M = x × 2 mL = 0.5 mM |

3 different reactions were analyzed to find out the order of TfOH.

| Standard reaction (set 1) | | | Standard reaction (set 2) | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.43938 | 0.087876 | 0.50 | 0.4282 | 0.08564 |
| 1.00 | 0.77324 | 0.154648 | 1.00 | 0.79214 | 0.158428 |
| 1.50 | 1.00717 | 0.201434 | 1.50 | 0.96502 | 0.193004 |
| 2.00 | 1.10098 | 0.220196 | 2.00 | 1.05788 | 0.211576 |
| 2.50 | 1.19371 | 0.238742 | 2.50 | 1.23584 | 0.247168 |
| 3.00 | 1.28546 | 0.257092 | 3.00 | 1.31001 | 0.262002 |
| 3.50 | 1.42528 | 0.285056 | 3.50 | 1.44778 | 0.289556 |
| 4.00 | 1.57421 | 0.314842 | 4.00 | 1.60492 | 0.320984 |
| 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 | 4.50 | 1.73101 | 0.346202 |
| 5.00 | 1.83804 | 0.367608 | 5.00 | 1.81952 | 0.363904 |
| 5.50 | 1.84221 | 0.368442 | 5.50 | 1.88132 | 0.376264 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 0 | 0 | | |
| 0.086758 | 0.001581091 | | |
| 0.156538 | 0.002672864 | | |
| 0.197219 | 0.00596091 | | |
| 0.215886 | 0.00609526 | | |
| 0.242955 | 0.005958082 | | |
| 0.259547 | 0.003471894 | | |
| 0.287306 | 0.003181981 | | |
| 0.317913 | 0.00434305 | | |
| 0.346202 | 0 | | |
| 0.365756 | 0.002619124 | | |
| 0.372353 | 0.005530989 | | |

| 15 mol% TfOH reaction (set 1) | | 15 mol% TfOH reaction (set 2) | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.28407 | 0.056814 | 0.50 | 0.35577 | 0.071154 |
| 1.00 | 0.93213 | 0.186426 | 1.00 | 0.69414 | 0.138828 |
| 1.50 | 1.13978 | 0.227956 | 1.50 | 0.90095 | 0.18019 |
| 2.00 | 1.32609 | 0.265218 | 2.00 | 1.12907 | 0.225814 |
| 2.50 | 1.57543 | 0.315086 | 2.50 | 1.24047 | 0.248094 |
| 3.00 | 1.67673 | 0.335346 | 3.00 | 1.38475 | 0.27695 |
| 3.50 | 1.77114 | 0.354228 | 3.50 | 1.54381 | 0.308762 |
| 4.00 | 1.8585 | 0.3717 | 4.00 | 1.74105 | 0.34821 |
| 4.50 | 1.9661 | 0.39322 | 4.50 | 1.81411 | 0.362822 |
| 5.00 | 2.01125 | 0.40225 | 5.00 | 1.85028 | 0.370056 |
| 5.50 | 2.02289 | 0.404578 | 5.50 | 1.96703 | 0.393406 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 0 | 0 | | |
| 0.063984 | 0.010139911 | | |
| 0.162627 | 0.033656869 | | |
| 0.204073 | 0.033775663 | | |
| 0.245516 | 0.027862836 | | |
| 0.28159 | 0.047370497 | | |
| 0.306148 | 0.041292208 | | |
| 0.331495 | 0.032149317 | | |
| 0.359955 | 0.016609938 | | |
| 0.378021 | 0.021494632 | | |
| 0.386153 | 0.022764596 | | |
| 0.398992 | 0.007899797 | | |

| 20 mol% TfOH reaction (set 1) | | 20 mol% TfOH reaction (set 2) | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | LC | Reaction | | LC | Reaction |
| t (h) | concentration | concentration | t (h) | concentration | concentration |
| | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) | | [3a] (mM) | [3a] (M) |
| 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.50 | 0.44828 | 0.089656 | 0.50 | 0.49218 | 0.098436 |
| 1.00 | 0.90697 | 0.181394 | 1.00 | 0.78222 | 0.156444 |
| 1.50 | 1.17124 | 0.234248 | 1.50 | 1.04147 | 0.208294 |
| 2.00 | 1.32346 | 0.264692 | 2.00 | 1.26518 | 0.253036 |
| 2.50 | 1.51966 | 0.303932 | 2.50 | 1.45404 | 0.290808 |
| 3.00 | 1.67671 | 0.335342 | 3.00 | 1.68139 | 0.336278 |
| 3.50 | 1.81388 | 0.362776 | 3.50 | 1.84532 | 0.369064 |
| 4.00 | 1.9958 | 0.39916 | 4.00 | 1.99996 | 0.399992 |
| 4.50 | 2.04237 | 0.408474 | 4.50 | 2.05274 | 0.410548 |
| 5.00 | 2.00853 | 0.401706 | 5.00 | 2.03068 | 0.406136 |
| 5.50 | 2.02105 | 0.40421 | 5.50 | 2.02727 | 0.405454 |

| Average ([3a]) | Standard deviation ([3a]) | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 0 | 0 | | |
| 0.094046 | 0.006208398 | | |
| 0.168919 | 0.017642314 | | |
| 0.221271 | 0.018352249 | | |
| 0.258864 | 0.008242037 | | |
| 0.29737 | 0.009280069 | | |
| 0.33581 | 0.000661852 | | |
| 0.36592 | 0.004446287 | | |
| 0.399576 | 0.000588313 | | |
| 0.409511 | 0.001466539 | | |
| 0.403921 | 0.003132483 | | |
| 0.404832 | 0.000879641 | | |



Figure S17: VTNA plots of 3a using 10 mol%, 20 mol%, and 30 mol% of TfOH with the time normalized to 0, 0.5, and 1.

Applying the VTNA analysis, a significant overlap between the curves was obtained for an order of **TfOH**, equal to 0.5, with respect to **3a** formation. The interaction with FmocNH_2 resulted in the fractional value of order (0.5).

2.5 Control Experiments

Hydroamination with Fmoc-NH₂ in the presence of TEMPO



In a 5 ml screw-capped vial styrene (**1a**, 43.2 μ L, 0.372 mmol) and Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 30 mg, 0.124 mmol) were taken in CHCl₃ (0.5 M), and followed by triflic acid (1.12 μ L, 0.012 mmol), TEMPO (19.4 mg, 0.124 mmol) was added into the vial and the mixture was stirred at 60 °C in a preheated metal block for 5 h. The reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, the crude mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified using column chromatography on silica gel petether: ethyl acetate (95:5) binary solvent mixture to get the (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate **3a** (35 mg; 83 %).

Hydroamination with Fmoc-NH₂ in the presence of a base (Et₃N):



In a 5 ml screw-capped vial, styrene (**1a**, 43.2 μ L, 0.372 mmol) and Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 30 mg, 0.124 mmol) were taken in CHCl₃ (0.5 M), and Et₃N (17.3 μ L, 0.124 mmol) followed by triflic acid (1.12 μ L, 0.012 mmol) were added into vial and the mixture was stirred at 60 °C in a preheated metal block for 6 h to 12 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. No desired product formation was observed.

Hydroamination reaction in CDCI₃:



To an oven-dried 10 mL screw cap vial with a magnetic stir bar (10 mm \times 6 mm), Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 121 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and styrene (**1a**, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv, 174 µL) were added. Then, CDCl₃ (0.5 M, 1 mL) was added using an oven-dried needle with a glass syringe. Finally, TfOH (0.05 mmol, 10 mol%, 5 µL) was added using a 50 µL glass syringe. Then the vial was closed with a PTFE screw cap and placed in the pre-heated metal block at 60 °C for 5 h with constant stirring (500 rpm). After 5 h, TLC was checked and purified as mentioned for substrate **3a** (133 mg; 78%).

The integration value of the CH₃ peak at 1.51 ppm in ¹H NMR did not show any changes. The splitting pattern of the CH₃ peak at 22.5 ppm in ¹³C{¹H} NMR remains as a singlet, and no triplet pattern was observed.

Hydroamination with Fmoc-protected amines:



In a 5 ml screw-capped vial with a stir bar, styrene (**1a**, 51 μ L, 0.438 mmol) and **3a** (50 mg, 0.146 mmol) or **3x** (48 mg, 0.146 mmol) were taken in CHCl₃ (0.5 M), and followed by triflic acid (10 mol%). This mixture was stirred at 60 °C in a preheated metal block for 20 h. The reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. No desired product formation was observed.

Synthesis of 9-(((2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-yl)methoxy)methyl)-9H-fluorene (4a) from Fmoc-NH₂:



In a 5 ml screw-capped vial, Fmoc-NH₂ (**2a**, 40 mg, 0.167 mmol) was taken in CHCl₃ (0.5 M), and triflic acid (1.49 μ L, 0.016 mmol) and water (2.98 μ L, 0.167 mmol) were added into the vial, and the mixture was stirred at 60 °C in a preheated metal block for 12 h. After 12 h, the crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using pet ether: ethyl acetate (90:6) binary solvent as eluent to give the corresponding 9-(((2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-yl)methoxy)methyl)-9H-fluorene.

9,9'-(oxybis(methylene))bis(9H-fluorene) (4a)¹⁸:

TLC profile: 20% ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.38$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 20% ethyl acetate in petether).

Yield: 24 mg; 38%.

Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 101 °C.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.00–3.98 (m, 1H), 3.92 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.5, 141.7, 127.7, 127.2, 124.8, 120.2, 65.3, 50.5

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS): Calcd for [M–C₁₄H₁₁O]⁺: 179.0860; Found: 179.0873.

2.6 Table of unreacted substrates

The following substrates were tried for hydroamination reaction under the optimized condition. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. No desired product formation was observed.

Non-activated alkenes and alkynes and activated alkenes



Conjugated vinyl arenes



 α , β substituted vinyl arenes





Vinylarenes with EWG and EDG



 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{R} &= \mathsf{NO}_2, \\ &= \mathsf{CF}_3, \\ &= \mathsf{OMe} \end{aligned}$

 $= NH_2$



R = Br

 CI (observed reaction in 8 h but the product underwent decomposition on isolation)

2.7 Synthesis of 2-(3-vinylphenyl)naphthalene



3-Bromostyrene (326 µl, 2.5 mmol) is charged into a 50 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirrer with naphthylboronic acid (320 mg, 2.75 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (87 mg, 0.073 mmol) under argon. Argon sparge toluene (6 mL) and potassium carbonate (380mg, 2.75 mmol) dissolved in water (2 mL) were added using a syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred under reflux for 2 h. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled and passed through celite using DCM (20 mL). The crude was washed with water, and the aqueous phase was extracted twice with DCM (2 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (15 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and the solvents removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using pet ether as eluent.

2-(3-vinylphenyl)naphthalene:

TLC profile: 6% Ethyl acetate in hexane; $R_f = 0.60$.

Purification: 200–400 mesh silica gel; column chromatography (eluent: 100% pet ether to 5% ethyl acetate in pet ether).

Yield: 414 mg; 72%.

Physical state: Yellow liquid.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.99–7.92 (m, 3H), 7.83–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.68–7.67 (m, 1H), 7.58–7.51 (m, 4H), 6.94–6.86 (m, 1H), 5.93 (d, J = 17.5 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.6, 138.5, 138.3, 137.0, 133.8, 132.8, 129.1, 128.5, 128.3, 127.8, 127.1, 126.4, 126.1, 126.0, 125.7, 125.6, 125.2, 114.3.

MS (HRMS, TOF-MS [M+H]⁺): Calcd. For [C₁₈H₁₅]⁺: 231.1174; Found: 231.1201.

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4. ¹H/¹³C {¹H} NMR and HRMS spectra of compounds

1H_Sty_Fmoc







Figure S20: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate



Figure S21: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-phenylethyl)carbamate



Figure S22: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(p-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S23: ¹³C{¹H} and DEPT-135 NMR spectra of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(*p*-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate




Figure S24: COSY of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl(1-(p-tolyl)ethyl)carbamate (3b) in CDCl₃. Alkyl and aryl regions were zoomed separately.









Figure S26: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S27: ¹³C{¹H} spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S28: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S29: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethyl)carbamate







Figure S30: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)carbamate





Figure S31: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S32: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(anthracen-9-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S33: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-(anthracen-9-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



1H_p-Br

Figure S34: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S35: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S36: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S37: ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S38: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S39: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)ethyl)carbamate





Figure S40: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of ((9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S41: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(3-(naphthalen-2-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S42: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(3-(naphthalen-2-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S43: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(2-chlorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S44: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1-(2-chlorophenyl)ethyl)carbamate



Figure S45: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethyl (tetrahydropyran-2-yl)carbamate



Figure S46: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethyl (tetrahydropyran-2-yl)carbamate



Figure S47: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethyl (tetrahydropyran-2-yl)carbamate



Figure S48: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethyl (tetrahydropyran-2-yl)carbamate



Figure S49: ¹H NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1S,4R)-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-ylcarbamate



Figure S50: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of (9H-fluoren-9-yl)methyl (1S,4R)-bicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-ylcarbamate



Figure S51: ¹H NMR spectrum of 1-Phenylethylamineoxalate



Figure S52: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 1-Phenylethylamineoxalate



Figure S53: ¹H NMR spectrum of 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethanaminium oxalate



Figure S54: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethanaminium oxalate



Figure S55: ¹H NMR spectrum of 9,9'-(oxybis(methylene))bis(9H-fluorene)



Figure S56: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of **9,9'-(oxybis(methylene))bis(9***H*-fluorene)



Figure S57: ¹H NMR spectrum of 2-(3-vinylphenyl)naphthalene



Figure S58: ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 2-(3-vinylphenyl)naphthalene
HRMS Spectra

































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