

Supporting Information

Deoxygenative *ortho*-Benzylation of Aryl Iodides with Benzyl Alcohol via Palladium/Norbornene Cooperative Catalysis

Shaowen Ling, Shuaichen Zheng, Baolong Xu, Hui Liu, Xinjin Li, Feng-Gang Sun*

School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shandong University of Technology, 266 West Xincun Road, Zibo 255049, P. R. China.

Table of Contents

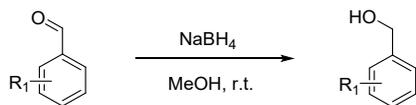
General Information.....	S2
Preparation of substrates.....	S2
Optimization of Reaction Conditions	S4
Mechanistic Experiments.....	S7
Scale-up of the model reaction	S9
Synthesis and Characterization of Compound 4	S10
References.....	S28
Copies of ¹ H, ¹³ C, and ¹⁹ F NMR spectra	S29

General Information

DMF, DMA, DMSO, toluene and CH₃CN solvents were dried from CaH and purified by distillation before being used. Purifications of reactions products were carried out by column chromatography on silica gel (200-300 mesh) using a mixture of petroleum ether (60-90°C), dichloromethane and ethyl acetate as eluent. ¹H NMR (400 MHz), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz), and ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz) were measured on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) were reported in ppm relative to the residual solvent signal (CDCl₃ δ = 7.26 for ¹H NMR and δ = 77.0 for ¹³C NMR). Chemical shifts (ppm) were recorded with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal reference standard. Multiplicities are given as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublets), td (triplet of doublets) or m (multiplet). Electrospray mass spectra were obtained using Bruker micrOTOF-Q II 10410 Mass Spectrometer. Unless otherwise noted, all other commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification.

Preparation of substrates

General Procedure 1 (2r-2t, 2w-2z, 2A-2C)



Benzaldehyde derivatives (1.00 mmol) in methanol (15 mL), sodium borohydride (2.00 mmol) and stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Usual work-up, quantitative yield.²

These substrates were prepared according to the **general procedure 1**. Analytical data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR) matches with the literature reports.¹⁻⁵

General Procedure 2

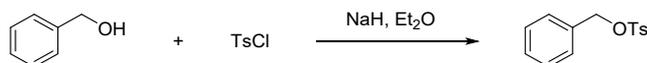


To a solution of 2-iodobenzyl alcohol (4.27 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry DMF (7 mL) were successively added imidazole (6.42 mmol, 1.5 equiv), DMAP (0.43 mmol, 10.0

mol%) and TBSCl (6.42 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature before quenching with H₂O and extracting with Et₂O. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica afforded iodide as a colourless oil.

Analytical data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR) matches with the literature reports.⁶

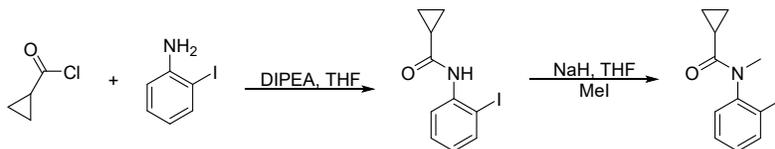
General Procedure 3



Sodium hydride (60% dispersion in oil, 420 mg, 10.50 mmol) was added to a solution of benzyl alcohol (1.08 g, 10.00 mmol) in diethyl ether (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at reflux for 16 h. The mixture was cooled to -20 °C and a solution of p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (1.91 g, 10.00 mmol) in diethyl ether (10 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 3 h and was stirred at room temperature for a further hour. The mixture was filtered to give a clear solution, which was then cooled to -78 °C. The resultant white precipitate was collected and dried to give the product as a white solid (1.04 g, 3.96 mmol, 40%).

Analytical data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR) matches with the literature reports.⁷

General Procedure 4

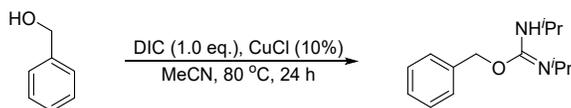


Cyclopropane carbonyl chloride (1.04 g, 10.40 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of 2-iodoaniline (2.00 g, 9.13 mmol) and *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (1.53 g, 11.90 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at 0 °C under nitrogen. The solution was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirring was continued for a further four hours. The reaction mixture was then diluted with diethyl ether (50 mL) and washed with brine (2 × 30 mL) and then water (30 mL). The ether layer was then dried with Na₂SO₄ and filtered, and the solvent was removed at reduced pressure. The product was purified by

recrystallization from the mixed solvents of dichloromethane and hexane, yielding cyclopropane carboxylic acid (2-iodo-phenyl)-amide as a white solid.

Analytical data (^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR) matches with the literature reports.⁸

Synthesis of isourea



DIC (10.00 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added to a mixture of phenylmethanol (10.00 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and anhydrous CuCl (1.00 mmol, 10 mol%) in MeCN (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. Thereafter, pentane (80 mL) was added and the suspension filtered over alumina (neutral, activity grade I) and the filter plug was flushed with DCM. Thereafter, the filtrate was washed twice with aq. ammonia (2 M). The organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. Drying under high vacuum afforded the compound as a liquid.

Analytical data (^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR) matches with the literature reports.⁹

Optimization of Reaction Conditions

Table 1. Screening of Base^a

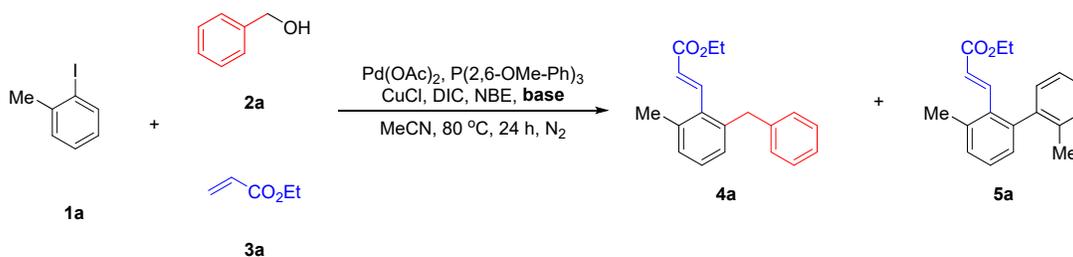
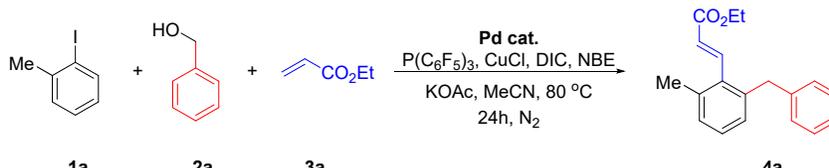


Table 3. Screening of [Pd]^a

Reaction scheme showing the synthesis of **4a** from **1a**, **2a**, and **3a** using various Pd catalysts. The reaction conditions are: Pd cat., P(C₆F₅)₃, CuCl, DIC, NBE, KOAc, MeCN, 80 °C, 24h, N₂.

entry	[Pd]	yield (%)
1	Pd(OAc) ₂	48
2	Pd(PPh ₃) ₄	8
3	Pd(dba) ₂	47
4	PdCl ₂	40
5	PdCl ₂ (dppf)	7
6	Pd(TFA) ₂	39
7	[Pd(allyl)Cl] ₂	45
8	Pd(PPh ₃) ₂ Cl ₂	35
9	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃	50
10 ^b	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃	78
11 ^c	Pd₂(dba)₃	88

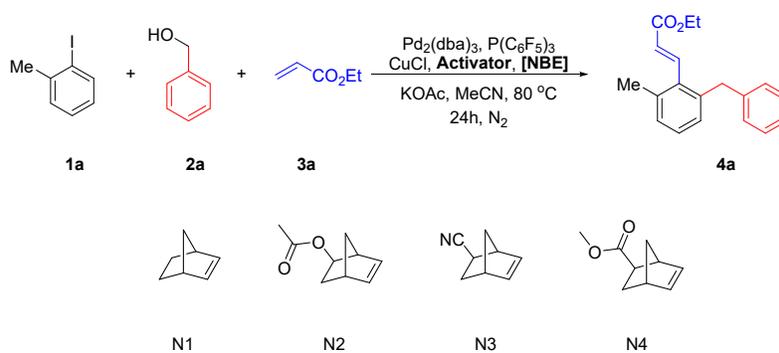
^a Reaction conditions: substrate **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), **3a** (0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), [Pd] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), P(C₆F₅)₃ (0.05 mmol, 25 mol%), NBE (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DIC (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), KOAc (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), CuCl (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), MeCN (2.0 mL), 80 °C, 24 h, N₂. Isolated yields. ^b **2a** (0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv). ^c **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv).

Table 4. Screening of Temperature and Solvent^a

entry	solvent	T (°C)	yield (%)
1	MeCN	80	88
2	MeCN	90	64
3	MeCN	100	55
4	MeCN	110	43
5	MeCN	120	20
6	toluene	80	trace
7	dioxane	80	trace
8	DCE	80	trace

^a Reaction conditions: substrate **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), **3a** (0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Pd₂(dba)₃ (0.01 mmol, 5 mol%), P(C₆F₅)₃ (0.05 mmol, 25 mol%), NBE (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), DIC (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), KOAc (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), CuCl (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), solvent (2.0 mL), T, 24 h, N₂. Isolated yields.

Table 5. Screening of [NBE] and Activator ^a

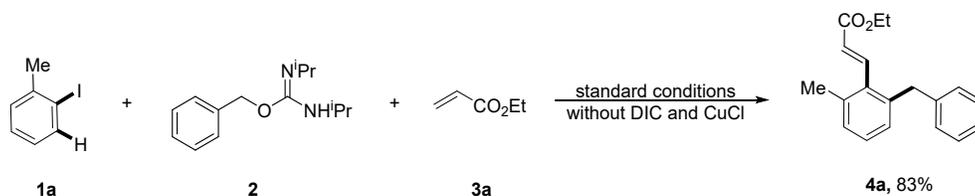


entry	[NBE]	Activator	yield (%)
1	N1	DIC	88
2	N2	DIC	18
3	N3	DIC	23
4	N4	DIC	15
5	N1	DMO	0
6	N1	DCC	65

^a Reaction conditions: substrate **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), **3a** (0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Pd₂(dba)₃ (0.01 mmol, 5 mol%), P(C₆F₅)₃ (0.05 mmol, 25 mol%), [NBE] (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), Activator (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), KOAc (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), CuCl (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), MeCN (2.0 mL), 80 °C, 24 h, N₂. Isolated yields.

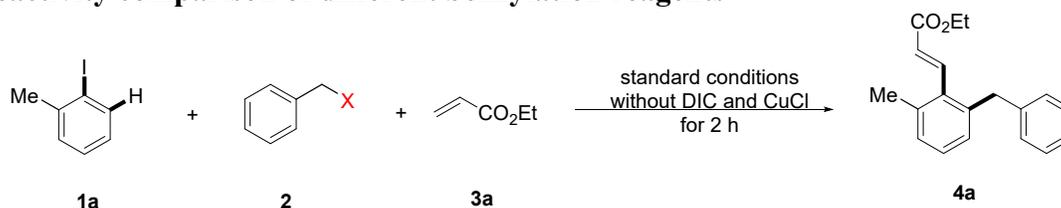
Mechanistic Experiments

Reaction with preformed isourea



A Schlenk-tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd₂(dba)₃ (5 mol%, 0.01 mmol), P(C₆F₅)₃ (25 mol%, 0.05 mmol), KOAc (2.0 equiv, 0.4 mmol) and then evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Afterwards, 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a** (1.0 equiv, 0.2 mmol), norbornene (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), isourea **2** (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), ethyl acrylate **3a** (1.2 equiv, 0.24 mmol), MeCN (2 mL) were added consecutively under N₂ atmosphere. The tight tube was stirred and heated at 80 °C in the oil bath for 24 h. Upon the completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the product **4a**.

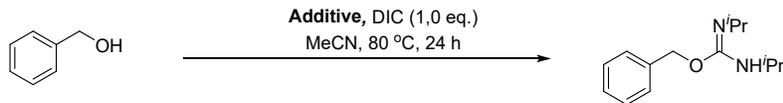
Reactivity comparison of different benzylation reagents



X	Yield / %
OTs	20
Br	15
Cl	12
methyl oxalate	< 5
OCN ⁱ PrNH ⁱ Pr	32

A Schlenk-tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd₂(dba)₃ (5 mol%, 0.01 mmol), P(C₆F₅)₃ (25 mol%, 0.05 mmol), KOAc (2.0 equiv, 0.4 mmol) and then evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Afterwards, 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a** (1.0 equiv, 0.2 mmol), norbornene (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), benzylation reagents **2** (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), ethyl acrylate **3a** (1.2 equiv, 0.24 mmol), MeCN (2 mL) were added consecutively under N₂ atmosphere. The tight tube was stirred and heated at 80 °C in the oil bath for 2 h. Upon the completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the product **4a**.

Investigation of the Isoourea Formation

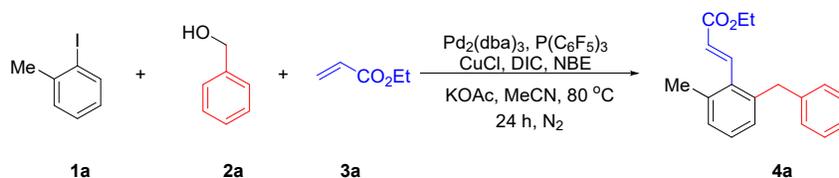


Entry	Additive	Yield/% ^a
1	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ (10 mol %)	< 10
2	P(C ₆ F ₅) ₃ (25 mol %)	N.D.
3	CuCl (10 mol %)	93
4	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ (10 mol %), P(C ₆ F ₅) ₃ (25 mol %)	< 10

^a Reaction was analyzed via GC-MS.

A Schlenk-tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Afterwards, phenylmethanol **2a** (0.6 mmol), DIC (1.0 eq.), MeCN (2 mL) and additive were added consecutively under N₂ atmosphere. The tight tube was stirred and heated at 80 °C in the oil bath for 24 h. An aliquot was taken, filtered over a short plug of silica and analyzed via GC-MS.

Scale-up of the model reaction



A Schlenk-tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd₂(dba)₃ (5 mol%, 0.25 mmol), P(C₆F₅)₃ (25 mol%, 1.25 mmol), KOAc (2.0 equiv, 10.0 mmol), CuCl (10 mol%, 0.5 mmol) and then evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Afterwards, 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a** (1.0 equiv, 5.0 mmol), norbornene (3.0 equiv, 15.0 mmol), benzyl alcohol **2a** (3.0 equiv, 15.0 mmol), ethyl acrylate **3a** (1.2 equiv, 6.0 mmol), DIC (3.0 equiv, 15.0 mmol), MeCN (50 mL) were added consecutively under N₂ atmosphere. The tight tube was stirred and heated at 80 °C in the oil bath for 24 h. Upon the completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the product **4a** (937.6 mg, 67%).

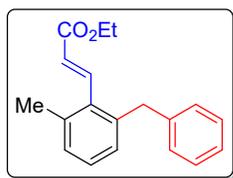
Synthesis and Characterization of Compound 4

General Procedure 6



A Schlenk-tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd₂(dba)₃ (5 mol%, 0.01 mmol), P(C₆F₅)₃ (25 mol%, 0.05 mmol), KOAc (2.0 equiv, 0.4 mmol), CuCl (10 mol%, 0.02 mmol) and then evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Afterwards, 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1** (1.0 equiv, 0.2 mmol), norbornene (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), benzyl alcohol **2** (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), alkene **3** (1.2 equiv, 0.24 mmol), DIC (3.0 equiv, 0.6 mmol), MeCN (2 mL) were added consecutively under N₂ atmosphere. The tight tube was stirred and heated at 80 °C in the oil bath for 24 h. Upon the completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the product **4**.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4a**)¹⁰



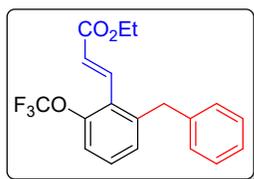
Compound **4a** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4a** as a white solid. 88% yield (49.4 mg). m.p. 65-66 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.79 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.48, 143.31, 140.43, 139.17, 136.50, 134.38, 128.84, 128.69, 128.38, 128.22, 128.08, 126.02, 124.39, 60.50, 39.73, 21.13, 14.26;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁O₂ 281.1536; Found 281.1541.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)acrylate (**4b**)



Compound **4b** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-(trifluoromethyl)benzene **1b**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4b** as colorless oil 68% yield (47.3 mg).

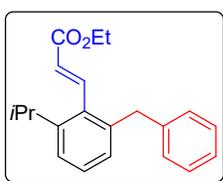
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 3H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.38, 147.40, 142.23, 139.30, 136.99, 129.56, 128.89, 128.75, 128.60, 127.65, 126.42, 125.58, 120.36(q, *J* = 256 Hz), 119.06, 60.61, 39.45, 14.18;

¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -56.93;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₁₈F₃O₃ 351.1203; Found 351.1206.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-isopropylphenyl)acrylate (**4c**)¹⁰



Compound **4c** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-isopropylbenzene **1c**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4c** as a white solid. 80% yield (49.3 mg). m.p. 64-65 °C.

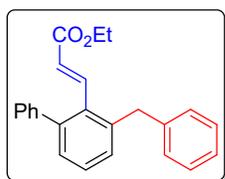
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 3.12 (hept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.18 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.19, 146.93, 143.82, 140.49, 138.43, 133.79, 128.91,

128.33, 128.29, 127.62, 125.95, 124.84, 123.43, 60.49, 39.93, 29.94, 23.85, 14.25;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{21}H_{25}O_2$ 309.1849; Found 309.1850.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(3-benzyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acrylate (4d**)¹⁰**



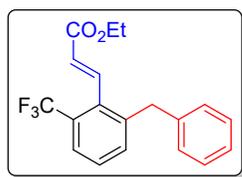
Compound **4d** was prepared from 2-iodo-1,1'-biphenyl **1d**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4d** as a white solid. 75% yield (51.3 mg). m.p. 77-78 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.71 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.26 (m, 8H), 7.23-7.14 (m, 5H), 5.63 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.14-4.09 (m, 4H), 1.21 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 166.25, 143.08, 142.30, 141.11, 140.32, 139.59, 133.15, 129.71, 128.88, 128.78, 128.47, 128.36, 128.07, 127.08, 126.12, 124.82, 60.22, 39.84, 14.15;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{24}H_{23}O_2$ 343.1693; Found 343.1687.

ethyl (*E*)-3-ethyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)benzoate (4e**)¹⁰**



Compound **4e** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-(trifluoromethyl)benzene **1e**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 70:1) afforded **4e** as a white solid. 65% yield (43.4 mg). m.p. 75-78 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.81 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.35 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.96 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

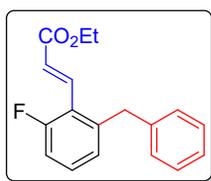
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 165.63, 140.58, 140.37, 139.45, 134.24, 133.67, 128.88,

128.78(q, $J = 29$ Hz), 128.60, 128.02, 126.49, 126.41, 124.18(q, $J = 6$ Hz), 123.90(q, $J = 273$ Hz), 60.72, 39.32, 14.20;

^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -58.14;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{O}_2$ 335.1253; Found 335.1261.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-fluorophenyl)acrylate (**4f**)¹⁰



Compound **4f** was prepared from 1-fluoro-2-iodobenzene **1f**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4f** as a white solid. 80% yield (45.5 mg). m.p. 67-68 °C.

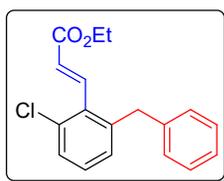
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.78 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.53 (dd, $J = 16.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.03, 161.94 (d, $J = 252.0$ Hz), 142.63 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 139.49, 135.80, 130.36 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz), 128.68, 128.62, 126.41, 126.38, 124.25 (d, $J = 13.0$ Hz), 121.66 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 114.42 (d, $J = 24.0$ Hz), 60.52, 39.31 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 14.25;

^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3): -110.68;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{FO}_2$ 285.1285; Found 285.1282.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-chlorophenyl)acrylate (**4g**)¹⁰



Compound **4g** was prepared from 1-chloro-2-iodobenzene **1g**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4g** as a white solid. 75% yield

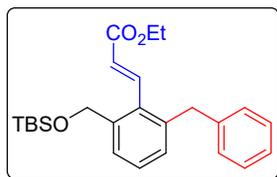
(44.8 mg). m.p. 75-76 °C.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.76 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 6.18 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.17, 141.25, 140.39, 139.69, 133.74, 133.38, 129.21, 129.03, 128.79, 128.55, 128.06, 126.34, 125.81, 60.65, 39.79, 14.24;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{ClO}_2$ 301.0990; Found 301.0988.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-(((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (**4h**)



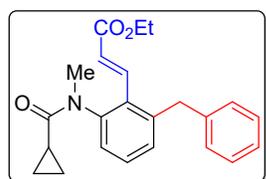
Compound **4h** was prepared from *tert*-butyl((2-iodobenzyl)oxy) dimethylsilane **1h**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4h** as colorless oil. 73% yield (59.8 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.82 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 3H), 6.06 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 1.33 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.11 (s, 6H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.32, 142.09, 140.28, 139.35, 138.99, 133.47, 129.30, 128.86, 128.39, 126.11, 126.06, 124.83, 63.40, 60.48, 39.53, 25.90, 18.32, 14.24, -5.32;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_3\text{Si}$ 411.2350; Found 411.2353.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-(*N*-methylcyclopropanecarboxamido)phenyl)acrylate (**4i**)



Compound **4i** was prepared from *N*-(2-iodophenyl)-*N*-methylcyclopropanecarboxamide **1i**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by

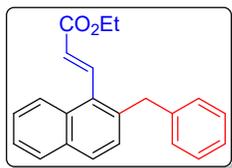
flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 10:1) afforded **4i** as colorless oil. 30% yield (21.8 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.05 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (s, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.26-1.21 (m, 1H), 1.01-0.95 (m, 2H), 0.62-0.57 (m, 2H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.47, 166.06, 142.61, 141.51, 139.57, 139.33, 133.18, 130.17, 129.71, 128.78, 128.58, 127.16, 126.38, 124.76, 60.68, 39.61, 36.82, 14.18, 12.47, 8.58, 8.14;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₆NO₃ 364.1907; Found 364.1900.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-naphthalen-1-yl)acrylate (**4j**)¹⁰



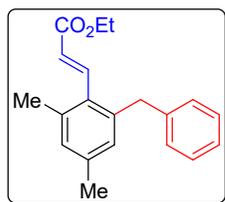
Compound **4j** was prepared from 1-iodonaphthalene **1j**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4j** as a white solid. 90% yield (56.9 mg). m.p. 73-75 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.20 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06-8.04 (m, 1H), 7.84-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.0 Hz, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.34, 142.51, 140.51, 136.39, 132.28, 131.52, 131.42, 128.83, 128.76, 128.48, 128.40, 128.27, 126.59, 126.14, 126.08, 125.61, 125.09, 60.67, 39.61, 14.31;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₂₁O₂ 317.1536; Found 317.1542.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-4,6-dimethylphenyl)acrylate (4k**)¹⁰**



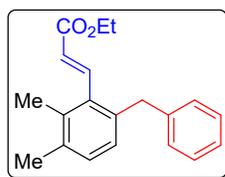
Compound **4k** was prepared from 1-iodo-2,4-dimethylbenzene **1k**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4k** as a white solid. 91% yield (53.5 mg). m.p. 77-78 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 5.83 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.64, 143.26, 140.54, 139.26, 138.16, 136.59, 131.35, 129.67, 128.96, 128.77, 128.35, 125.96, 123.73, 60.39, 39.70, 21.15, 21.09;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃O₂ 295.1693; Found 295.1696.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(6-benzyl-2,3-dimethylphenyl)acrylate (4l**)¹⁰**



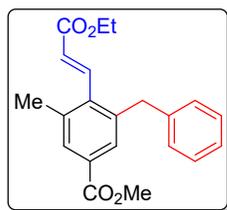
Compound **4l** was prepared from 1-iodo-2,3-dimethylbenzene **1l**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4l** as a white solid. 72% yield (52.3 mg). m.p. 64-65 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.79 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.40, 144.42, 140.67, 136.44, 135.17, 134.84, 134.64, 129.69, 128.84, 128.34, 127.48, 125.93, 124.72, 60.46, 39.70, 20.41, 17.13, 14.28;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃O₂ 295.1693; Found 295.1688.

methyl (*E*)-3-benzyl-4-(3-ethoxy-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)-5-methylbenzoate (4m)



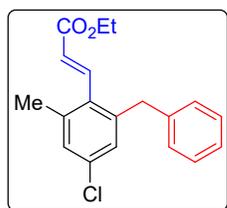
Compound **4m** was prepared from methyl 4-iodo-3-methylbenzoate **1m**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 20:1) afforded **4m** as colorless oil. 70% yield (47.3 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78-7.72 (m, 3H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.76, 165.96, 142.36, 139.76, 139.36, 139.20, 136.77, 129.59, 129.47, 129.03, 128.67, 128.43, 126.18, 125.34, 60.61, 52.07, 39.68, 20.99, 14.19.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₁H₂₃O₄ 339.1591; Found 339.1596.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-4-chloro-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (4n)



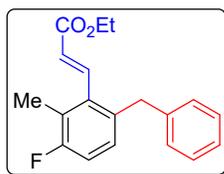
Compound **4n** was prepared from 4-chloro-1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1n**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4n** as colorless oil. 90% yield (56.5 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.19, 142.11, 141.07, 139.51, 138.37, 133.78, 132.85, 128.81, 128.56, 128.52, 127.87, 126.32, 124.92, 60.58, 39.56, 20.99, 14.24;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀ClO₂ 315.1146; Found 315.1147.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(6-benzyl-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4o**)



Compound **4o** was prepared from 1-fluoro-3-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1o**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4o** as colorless oil. 87% yield (51.8 mg).

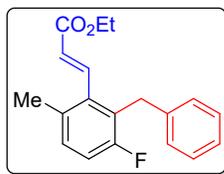
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.89-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 2.14 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.21, 160.05 (d, *J* = 243.0 Hz), 142.33 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 140.27, 136.44 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 134.71 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 128.83, 128.76, 128.52, 126.23, 125.46, 123.41 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 114.82 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz), 60.70, 39.36, 12.46, 12.40;

¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -117.81;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀FO₂ 299.1442; Found 299.1450.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-3-fluoro-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4p**)



Compound **4p** was prepared from 4-fluoro-2-iodo-1-methylbenzene **1p**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4p** as colorless oil. 90% yield (53.6 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08-6.97 (m, 4H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

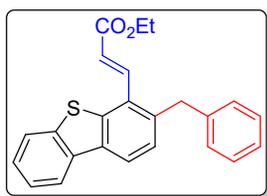
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.27, 159.67 (d, *J* = 242.0 Hz), 142.35 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 139.66, 136.35 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 132.08 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 129.80 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 128.50,

128.31, 126.16, 126.01 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz), 125.21, 115.07 (d, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 60.69, 32.00, 20.65, 14.32;

^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -119.23;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{FO}_2$ 299.1442; Found 299.1439.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(3-benzylidibenzo[*b,d*]thiophen-4-yl)acrylate (4q) (8:2 *E/Z* ratio)



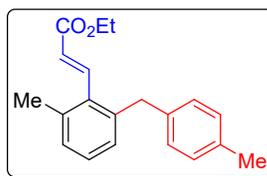
Compound **4q** was prepared from 4-iododibenzo[*b,d*]thiophene **1q**, phenylmethanol **2a** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 10:1) afforded **4q** as a white solid with a 8:2 *E/Z* ratio. 40% yield (29.8 mg). m.p. 102-103 °C.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.20 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 0.8H), 8.14-8.08 (m, 2H), 8.02 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.85 (m, 0.8H), 7.81-7.79 (m, 0.2H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 1.6H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 1.6H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.8H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 3.2H), 6.73 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 0.8H), 6.26 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 0.2H), 4.33-4.27 (m, 3.2H), 4.11 (s, 0.4H), 3.92 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 0.4H), 1.37 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2.4H), 0.90 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 0.6H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.79, 164.96, 141.41, 141.12, 140.17, 140.05, 139.49, 139.18, 139.11, 135.10, 128.92, 128.73, 128.57, 128.53, 128.36, 127.64, 126.83, 126.58, 126.36, 126.28, 126.07, 125.02, 124.63, 124.28, 123.16, 122.68, 122.53, 122.34, 121.42, 121.37, 120.69, 60.71, 60.24, 39.57, 39.44, 14.31, 13.67;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ 373.1257; Found 373.1257.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-methyl-6-(4-methylbenzyl)phenyl)acrylate (4r)



Compound **4r** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, *p*-tolylmethanol **2r** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4r** as colorless oil. 76%

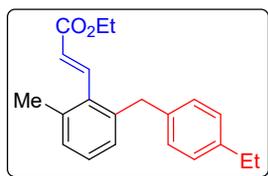
yield (44.6 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.85 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 3H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.01 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.28 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.36 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.50, 146.51, 143.40, 139.46, 137.71, 136.41, 134.36, 128.71, 128.61, 128.19, 128.05, 126.41, 124.35, 60.46, 39.30, 33.63, 24.00, 21.14, 14.26;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$ 295.1442; Found 295.1444.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(4-ethylbenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4s**)



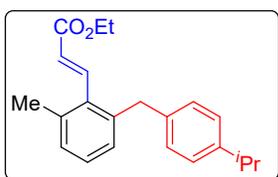
Compound **4s** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (4-ethylphenyl)methanol **2s** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4s** as colorless oil. 78% yield (48.0 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.85 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.04 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H), 6.00 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.63 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.49, 143.37, 141.88, 139.48, 137.57, 134.32, 128.75, 128.60, 128.19, 128.01, 127.86, 124.33, 60.45, 39.31, 28.37, 21.13, 15.58, 14.26;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_2$ 309.1849; Found 309.1843.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(4-isopropylbenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4t**)



Compound **4t** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (4-isopropylphenyl)methanol **2t** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column

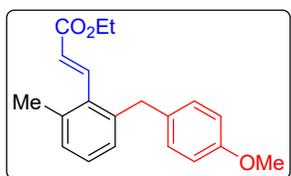
chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4t** as colorless oil. 80% yield (51.5 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.11 (m, 4H), 7.06-7.04 (m, 3H), 5.99 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.88 (hept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.50, 146.51, 143.40, 139.46, 137.71, 136.41, 134.36, 128.71, 128.61, 128.19, 128.05, 126.41, 124.35, 60.46, 39.30, 33.63, 24.00, 21.14, 14.26;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₂₃O₂ 323.2006; Found 323.2010.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4u**)



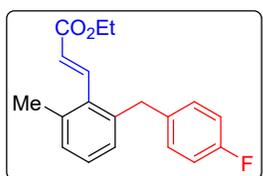
Compound **4u** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (4-methoxyphenyl)methanol **2u** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 20:1) afforded **4u** as colorless oil. 67% yield (41.5 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.83-6.81 (m, 2H), 5.98 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.50, 157.84, 143.33, 139.65, 136.47, 134.26, 132.47, 129.76, 128.61, 128.20, 127.91, 124.29, 113.77, 60.47, 55.17, 38.86, 21.13, 14.27;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃O₃ 311.1642; Found 311.1643.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(4-fluorobenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4v**)



Compound **4v** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (4-fluorophenyl)methanol **2v** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column

chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4v** as colorless oil. 67% yield (39.9 mg).

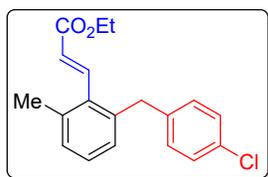
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08-6.99 (m, 3H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.49, 161.36 (d, *J* = 244.1 Hz), 143.22, 139.05, 136.70, 136.15 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 134.41, 130.23 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 128.92, 128.36, 128.02, 124.51, 115.22 (d, *J* = 21.2 Hz), 60.60, 39.04, 21.17, 14.33;

¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -117.27;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀FO₂ 299.1442; Found 299.1437.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (**4w**)



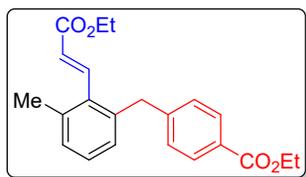
Compound **4w** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (4-chlorophenyl)methanol **2w** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4w** as colorless oil. 48% yield (30.1 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.04-7.01 (m, 3H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.35, 143.05, 138.92, 138.57, 136.64, 134.36, 131.80, 130.11, 128.92, 128.47, 128.30, 127.98, 124.50, 60.52, 39.11, 21.07, 14.25;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀ClO₂ 315.1146; Found 315.1143.

ethyl (*E*)-4-(2-(3-ethoxy-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)-3-methylbenzyl)benzoate (4x)



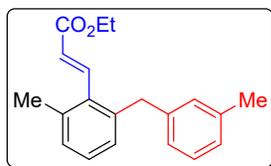
Compound **4x** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, ethyl 4-(hydroxymethyl)benzoate **2x** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 30:1) afforded **4x** as colorless oil. 53% yield (37.3 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.52, 166.33, 145.81, 143.03, 138.21, 136.69, 134.44, 129.68, 128.98, 128.78, 128.34, 128.33, 128.09, 124.57, 60.78, 60.54, 39.80, 21.08, 14.29, 14.24;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₂₅O₄ 353.1747; Found 353.1749.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-methyl-6-(3-methylbenzyl)phenyl)acrylate (4y)



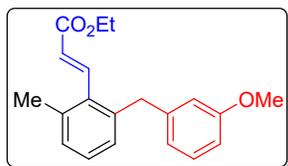
Compound **4y** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, *m*-tolylmethanol **2y** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4y** as colorless oil. 82% yield (48.2 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.01 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.42, 143.31, 140.30, 139.28, 137.87, 136.40, 134.34, 129.61, 128.59, 128.22, 128.16, 128.03, 126.74, 125.88, 124.35, 60.42, 39.64, 21.33, 21.08, 14.24;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{20}H_{23}O_2$ 295.1693; Found 295.1686.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(3-methoxybenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (4z)



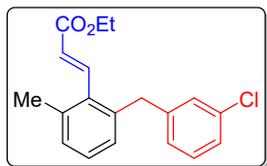
Compound **4z** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (3-methoxyphenyl)methanol **2z** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4z** as colorless oil. 80% yield (49.6 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.82 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.75-6.66 (m, 3H), 5.98 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.48, 159.61, 143.28, 142.07, 138.96, 136.50, 134.37, 129.33, 128.71, 128.24, 128.06, 124.39, 121.29, 114.63, 111.30, 60.49, 55.05, 39.75, 21.12, 14.25;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{20}H_{23}O_3$ 311.1642; Found 311.1644.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-(3-chlorobenzyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (4A)



Compound **4A** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (3-chlorophenyl)methanol **2A** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4A** as colorless oil. 87% yield (54.6 mg).

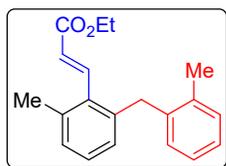
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.77 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.13 (m, 4H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.04-6.98 (m, 2H), 5.94 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.34, 143.02, 142.53, 138.17, 136.68, 134.43, 134.18, 129.59, 129.00, 128.88, 128.34, 128.08, 127.02, 126.28, 124.61, 60.57, 39.43, 21.08,

14.26;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}ClO_2$ 315.1146; Found 315.1147.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-methyl-6-(2-methylbenzyl)phenyl)acrylate (4B)



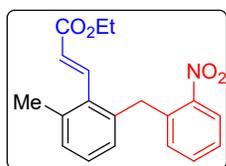
Compound **4B** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, *o*-tolylmethanol **2B** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4B** as colorless oil. 73% yield (42.9 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.83 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.12 (m, 5H), 6.93 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd, $J = 6.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.01 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.98 (s, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 166.46, 143.07, 138.67, 138.47, 136.38, 136.37, 134.27, 130.10, 129.49, 128.47, 128.21, 127.31, 126.32, 125.96, 124.32, 60.47, 37.20, 21.08, 19.57, 14.22;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for $C_{20}H_{23}O_2$ 295.1693; Found 295.1688.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-methyl-6-(2-nitrobenzyl)phenyl)acrylate (4C)



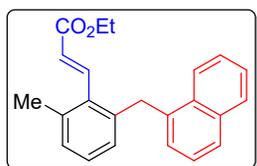
Compound **4C** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, (2-nitrophenyl)methanol **2C** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 10:1) afforded **4C** as colorless oil. 60% yield (39.2 mg).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.96 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (td, $J = 7.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.84-6.82 (m, 1H), 5.93 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (s, 2H), 4.23 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.17, 149.12, 142.73, 136.80, 136.69, 135.49, 134.65, 133.00, 132.08, 129.06, 128.33, 127.44, 127.37, 124.83, 124.78, 60.59, 36.53, 20.99, 14.19;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4$ 326.1387; Found 326.1392.

ethyl (*E*)-3-(2-methyl-6-(naphthalen-1-ylmethyl)phenyl)acrylate (**4D**)



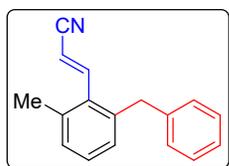
Compound **4D** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, naphthalen-1-ylmethanol **2D** and ethyl acrylate **3a** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4D** as colorless oil. 83% yield (54.7 mg).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.93 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.77 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.81 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.08 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 4.21 (q, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.46, 143.02, 138.73, 136.48, 136.26, 134.25, 133.79, 131.99, 128.65, 128.57, 128.30, 127.60, 127.18, 127.10, 126.00, 125.57, 125.52, 124.55, 123.97, 60.52, 36.84, 21.15, 14.19;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$ 331.1693; Found 331.1698.

(*E*)-3-(2-benzyl-6-methylphenyl)acrylonitrile (**4E**)



Compound **4E** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, phenylmethanol **2a** and acrylonitrile **3E** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 20:1) afforded **4E** as colorless oil. 72% yield (33.5 mg).

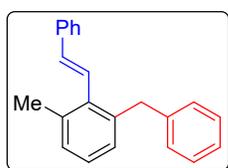
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.51 (d, $J = 17$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.20 (m,

2H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 3H), 5.40 (d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 149.73, 140.01, 138.59, 136.48, 133.48, 129.15, 129.04, 128.73, 128.62, 128.47, 126.30, 117.52, 102.88, 39.73, 20.93;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$ 234.1277; Found 234.1285.

(*E*)-1-benzyl-3-methyl-2-styrylbenzene (4F)



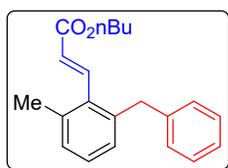
Compound **4F** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, phenylmethanol **2a** and styrene **3F** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4F** as colorless oil. 58% yield (32.9 mg).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.51 (d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 3H), 5.40 (d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 149.73, 140.01, 138.59, 136.48, 133.48, 129.15, 129.04, 128.73, 128.62, 128.47, 126.30, 117.52, 102.88, 39.73, 20.93;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}$ 285.1638; Found 285.1645.

(*E*)-1-benzyl-3-methyl-2-styrylbenzene (4G)



Compound **4G** was prepared from 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene **1a**, phenylmethanol **2a** and butyl acrylate **3G** according to **general procedure 6**, and purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 50:1) afforded **4G** as colorless oil. 80% yield

(49.2 mg).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.81 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 3H), 7.04 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.20

(t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.72-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.47-1.38 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H);

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.55, 143.23, 140.43, 139.13, 136.51, 134.41, 128.81, 128.71, 128.38, 128.21, 128.11, 126.02, 124.43, 64.41, 39.77, 30.68, 21.12, 19.16, 13.74;

HRMS (ESI) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_2$ 309.1849; Found 309.1855.

References

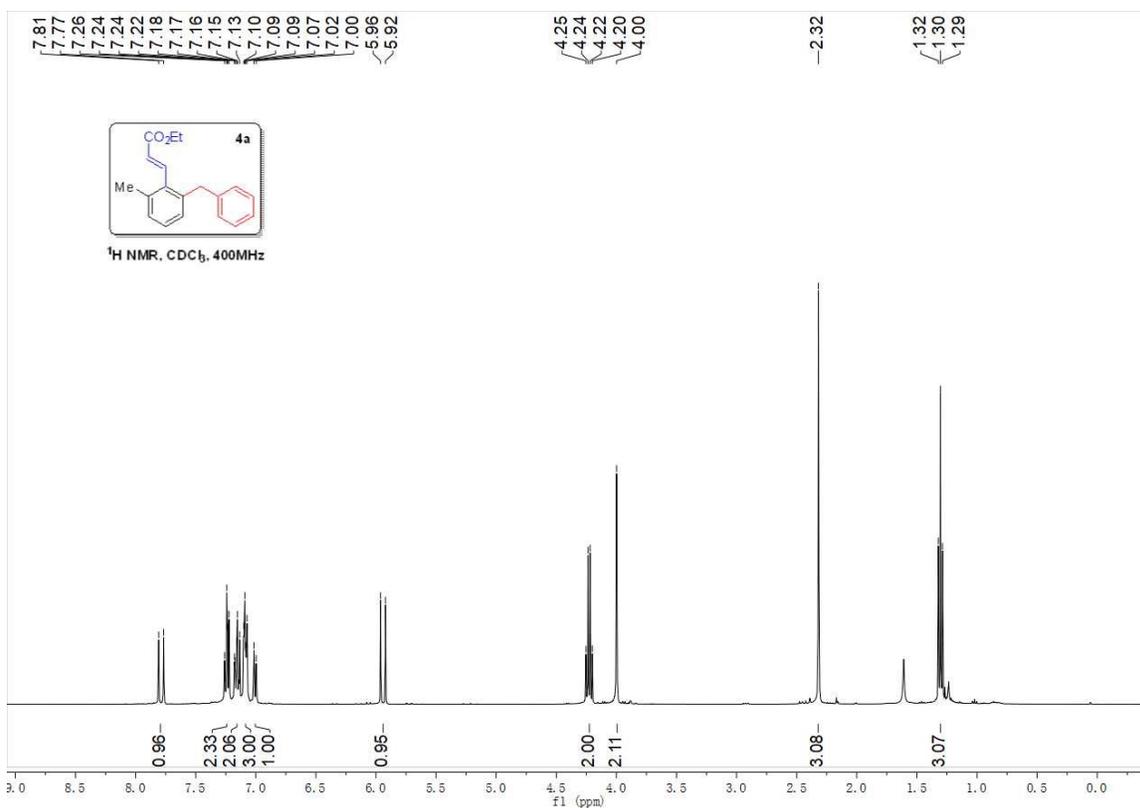
- [1] S. Parihar, A. Kumar, A. K. Chaturvedi, N. K. Sachan, S. Luqman, B. Changkija, M. Manohar, O. Prakash, D. Chanda, F. Khan, C. S. Chanotiya, K. Shanker, A. Dwivedi, R. Konwar, A. S. Negi, Synthesis of combretastatin A4 analogues on steroidal framework and their anti-breast cancer activity, *J. Steroid Biochem. Mol. Biol.*, **2013**, *137*, 332-344.
- [2] Q. Yu, D. Zhou, Y. Liu, X. Huang, C. Song, J. Ma, J. Li, Iron-Catalyzed, Directed Benzylic Borylation, *Org. Lett.*, **2023**, *25*, 47-52.
- [3] S. S. Kotha, N. Sharma, G. Sekar, An Efficient, Stable and Reusable Palladium Nanocatalyst: Chemoselective Reduction of Aldehydes with Molecular Hydrogen in Water, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2016**, *358*, 1694-1698.
- [4] S. Okumura, S. Hattori, L. Fang, Y. Uozumi, Multielectron Reduction of Esters by a Diazabenzacenaphthenium Photoredox Catalyst, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2024**, *146*, 16990-16995.
- [5] F. J. Ruiz-Mendoza, E. Campos-Dominguez, A. Álvarez-Hernández, D. Mendoza-Espinosa, Synthesis and catalytic applications of NHC–metal complexes supported on *p*-*tert*-butylcalix[4]arene frameworks, *New J. Chem.*, **2024**, *48*, 14021-14028.
- [6] S. Zhao, S. Yang, G. Du, D. Zhang, H. Liu, F. G. Sun, *ortho*-Acylation of Aryl Iodides Enabled with Imides via Palladium/Norbornene/CuI Catalysis, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2022**, *364*, 3506-3511.
- [7] E. C. Frye, C. J. O'Connor, D. G. Twigg, B. Elbert, L. Laraia, D. G. Hulcoop, A. R. Venkitaraman, D. R. Spring, Palladium-Catalysed Cross-Coupling of Vinylsiloxanes with Benzylic and Allylic Halides and Sulfonates, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2012**, *18*, 8774-8779.
- [8] A. Ishaq, J. M. Storey, W. T. Harrison, Short I \cdots O Interactions in the Crystal

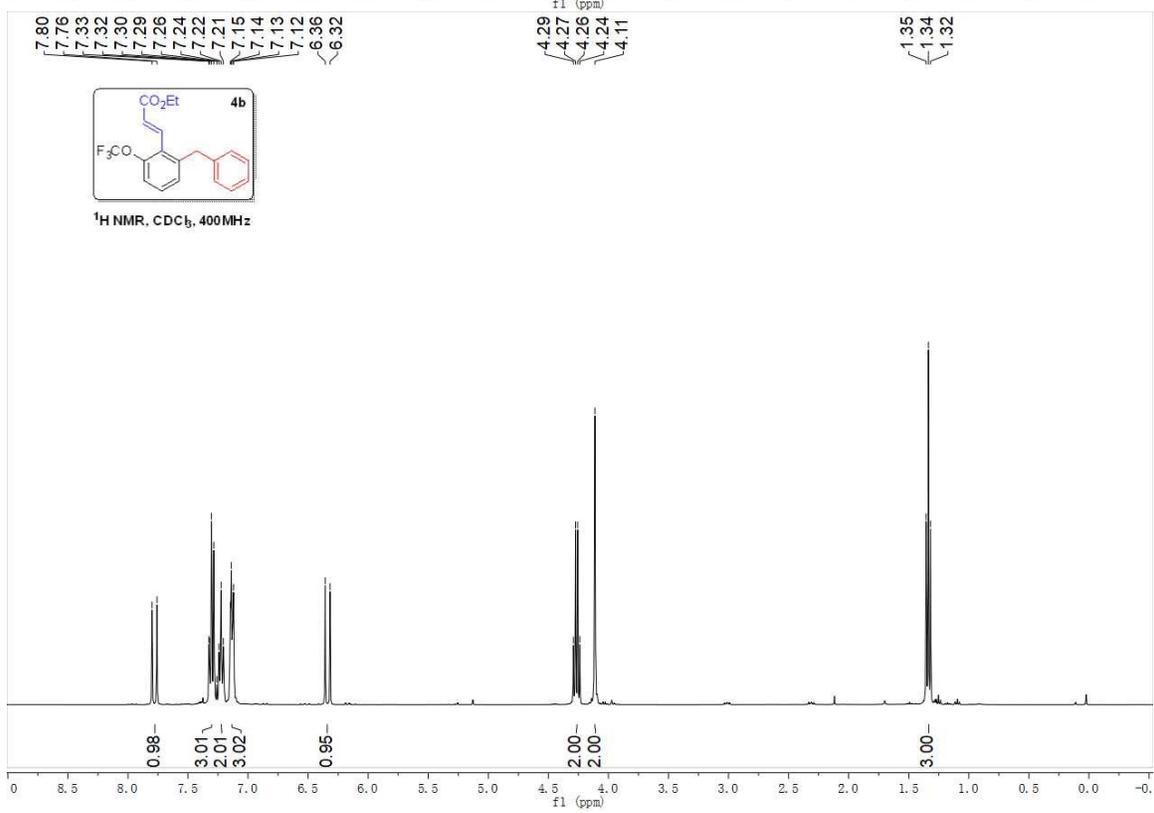
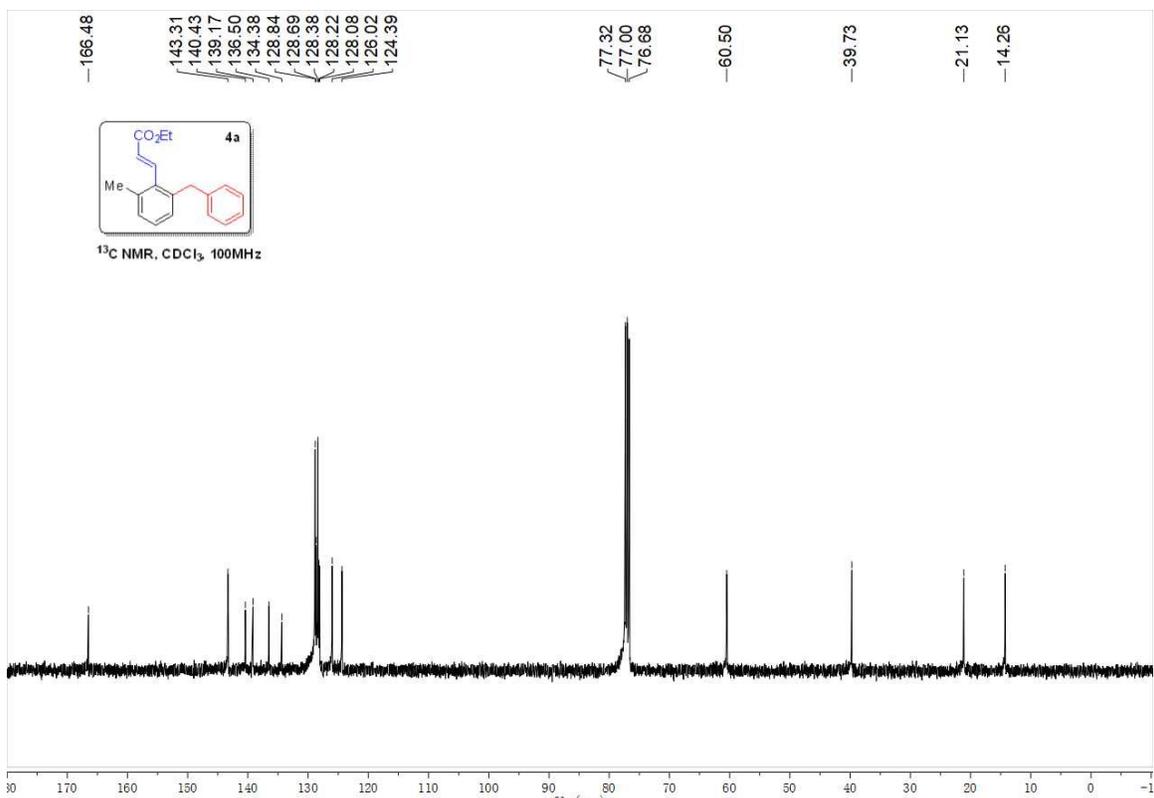
Structures of Two 2-Iodo-Phenyl Methyl-Amides as Substrates for Radical Translocation Reactions, *Chemistry*, **2023**, *5*, 1233-1242.

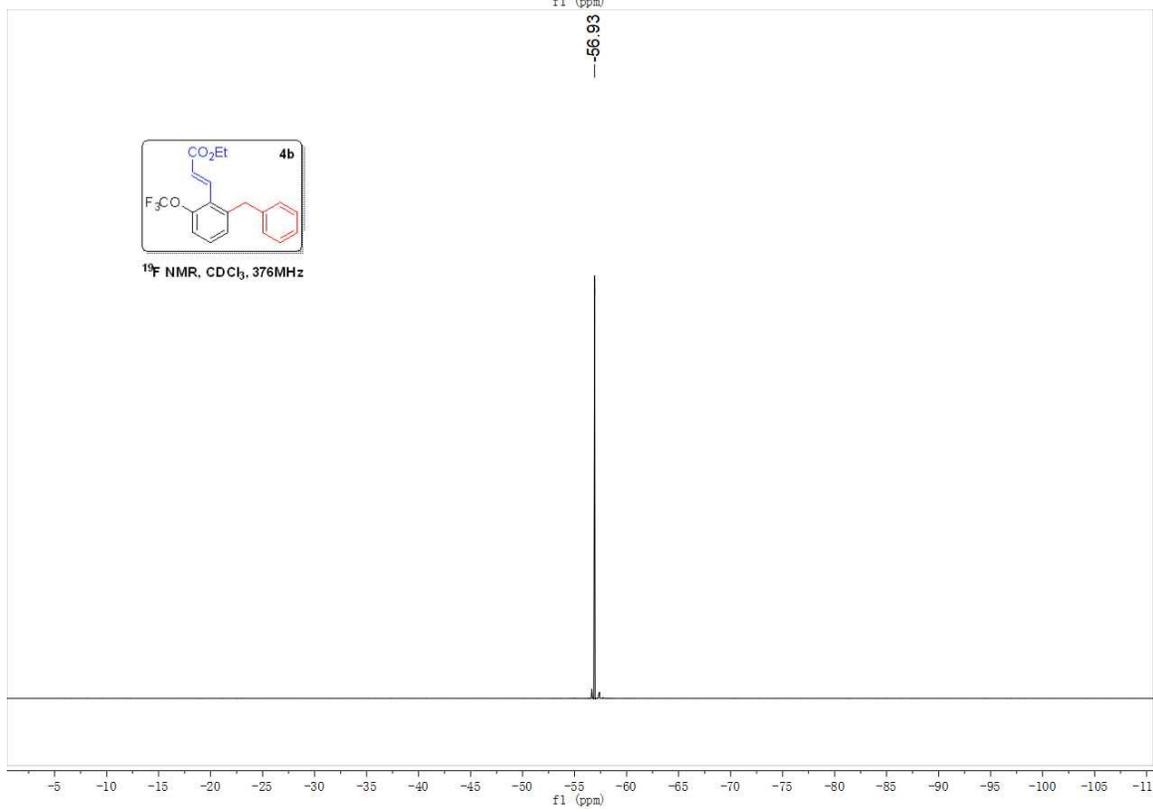
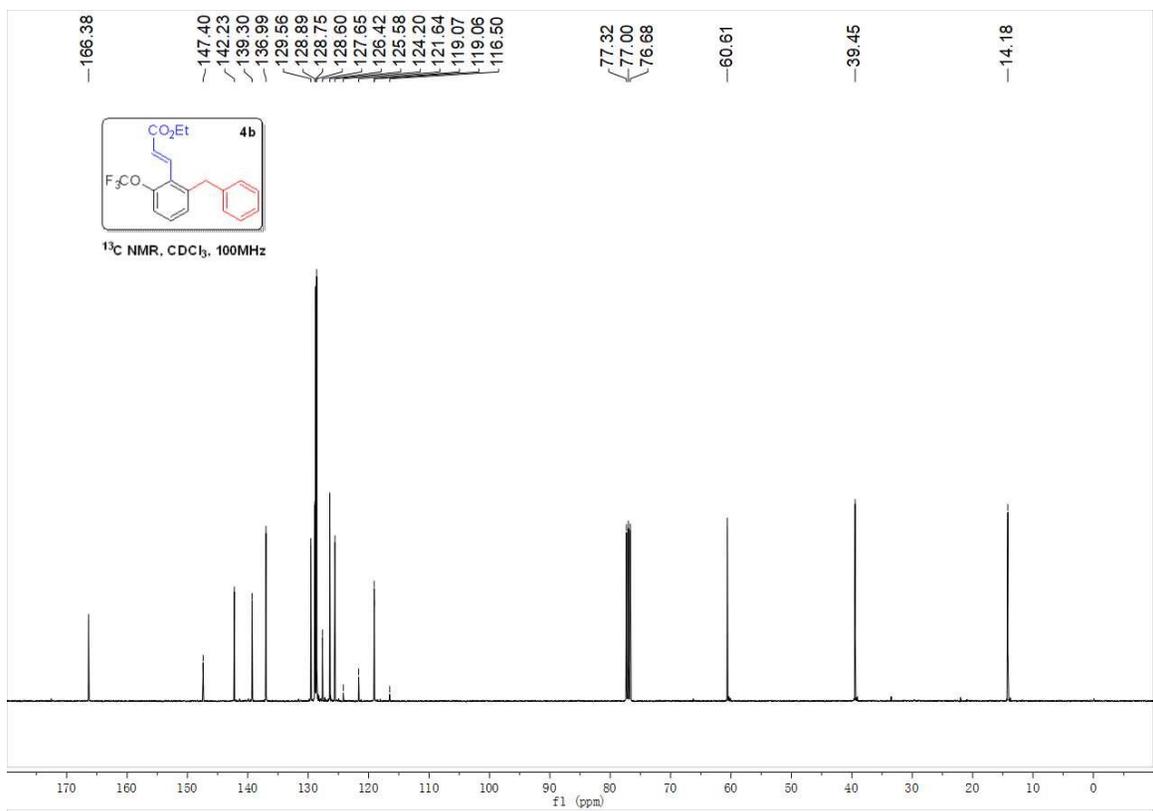
[9] J. Pícha, M. Buděšínský, I. Hančlová, M. Šanda, P. Fiedler, V. Vaněk, J. Jiráček, Efficient synthesis of phosphonodepsipeptides derived from norleucine, *Tetrahedron*, **2009**, *65*, 6090.

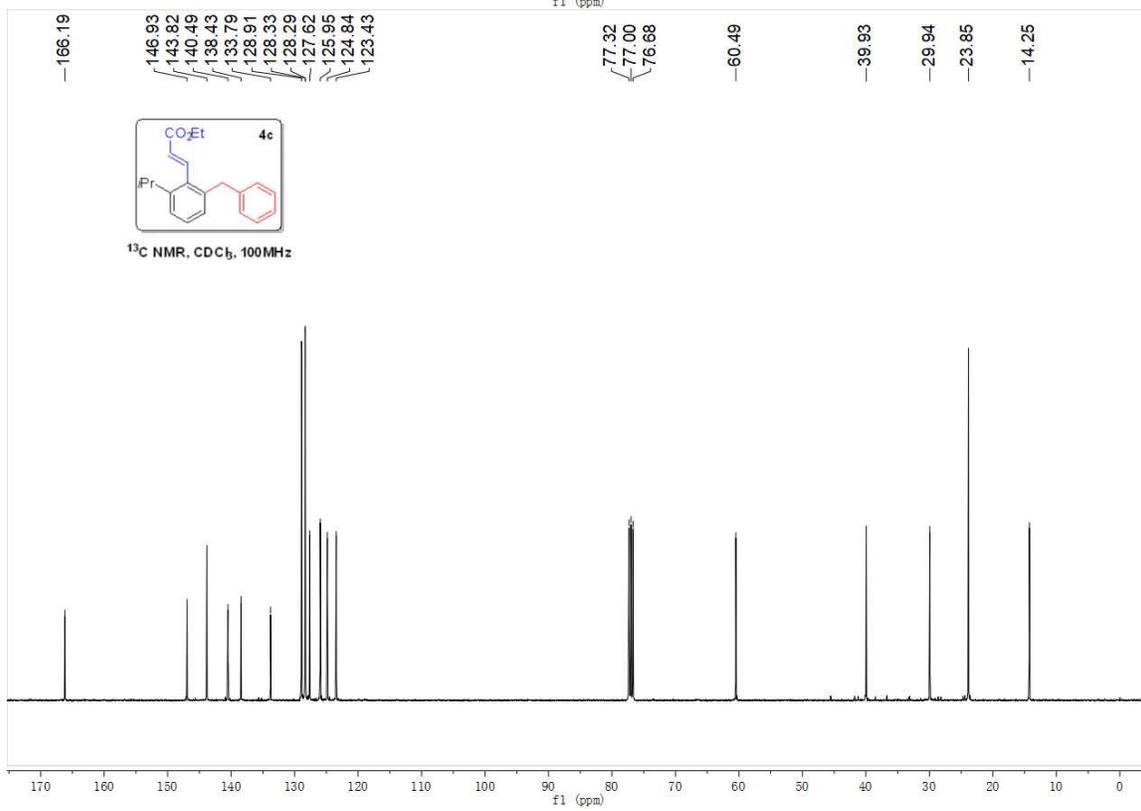
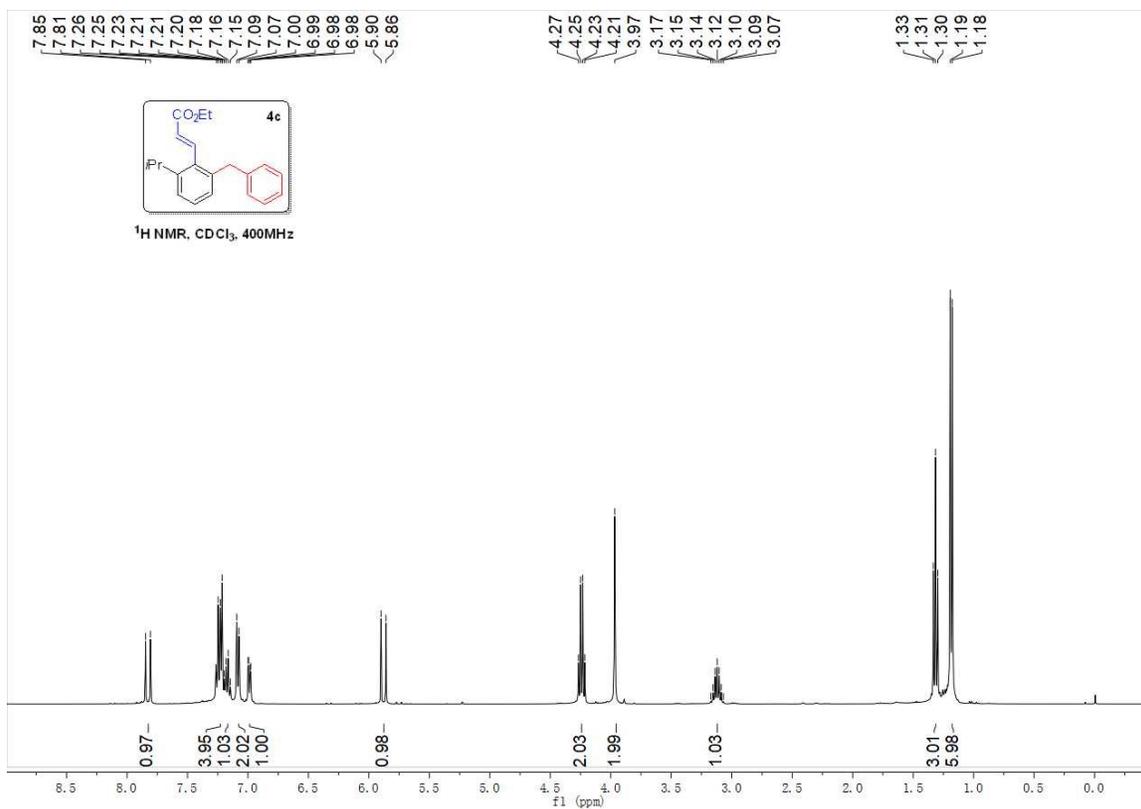
[10] M. L. Han, J. J. Chen, H. Xu, Z. C. Huang, W. Huang, Y. W. Liu, X. Wang, M. Liu, Z. Q. Guo, H. X. Dai, Palladium/Norbornene-Catalyzed Decarbonylative Difunctionalization of Thioesters, *JACS Au.*, **2021**, *1*, 1877-1884.

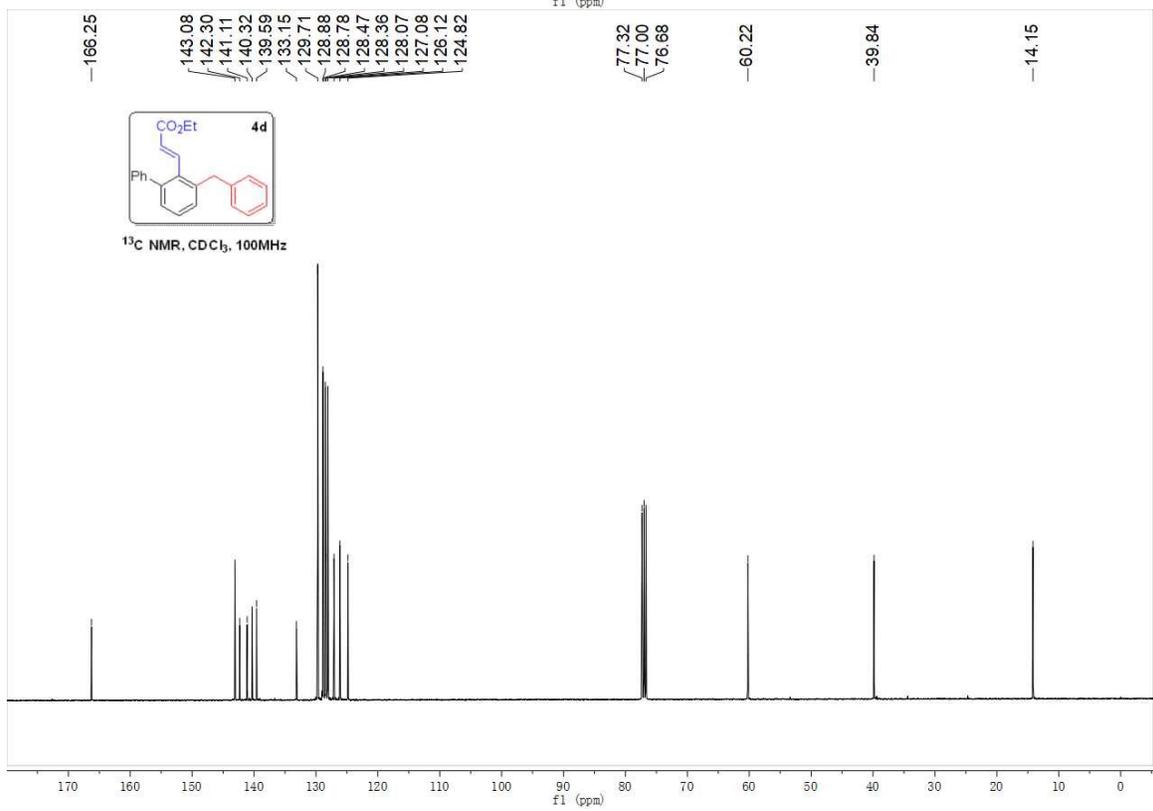
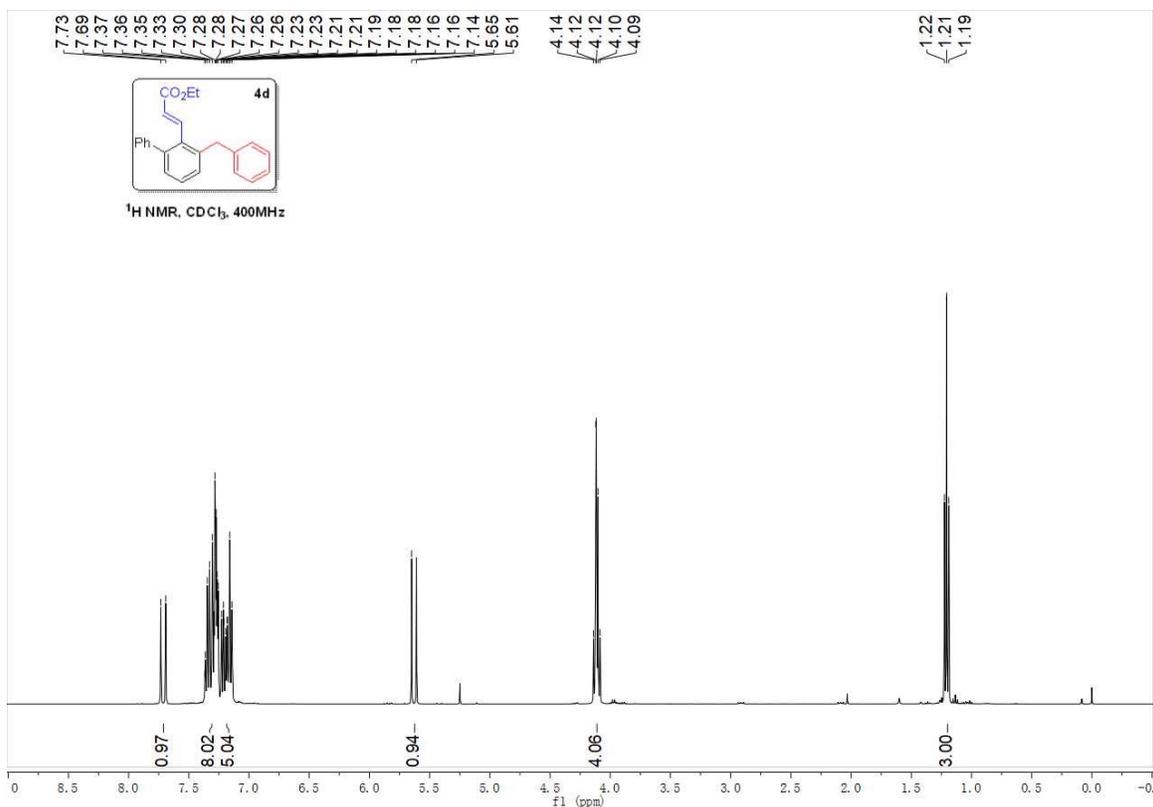
Copies of ^1H , ^{13}C , and ^{19}F NMR spectra

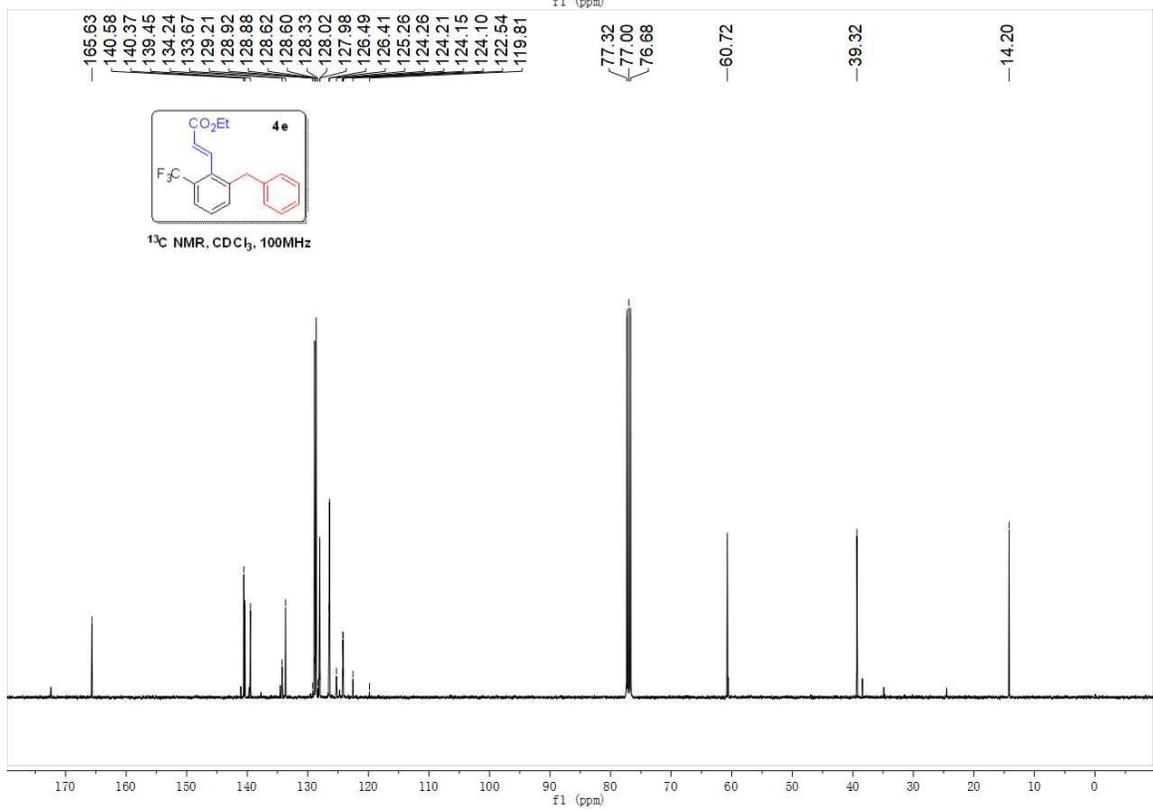
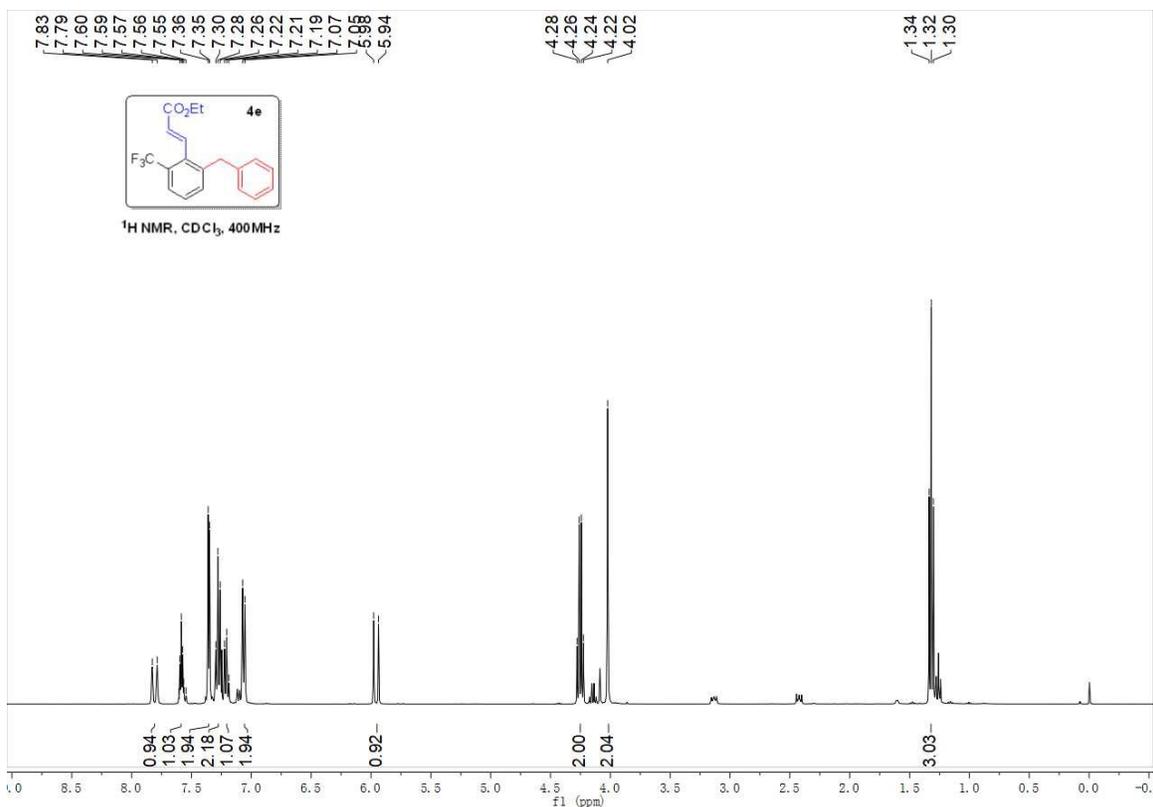


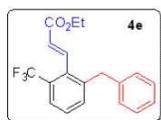




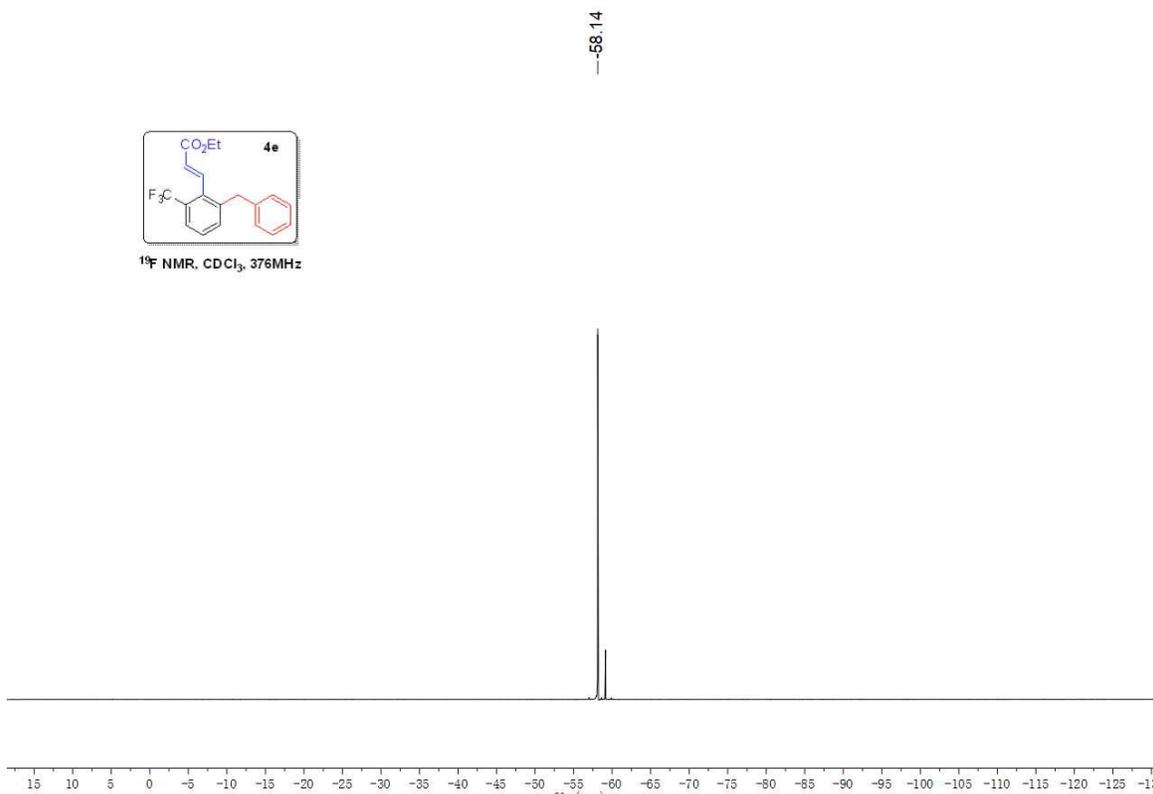




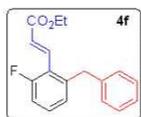




¹⁹F NMR, CDCl₃, 376MHz



7.80
7.76
7.31
7.29
7.27
7.26
7.25
7.23
7.22
7.20
7.18
7.15
7.13
7.03
7.01
6.99
6.99
6.55
6.51
4.27
4.25
4.23
4.21
4.13
1.34
1.32
1.30



¹H NMR, CDCl₃, 400MHz

