

Supporting information for

Direct allylation of benzaldehydes via Copper-catalyzed domino

Knoevenagel-decarboxylation-sp³-C-H-activation sequence

Yaping Zhao, Lu Sun, Tieqiang Zeng, Jiayi Wang, Yanqing Peng, Gonghua Song*

Shanghai Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, School of Pharmacy, East China
University of Science and Technology, Shanghai 200237, P.R. China

E-mail: ghsong@ecust.edu.cn;

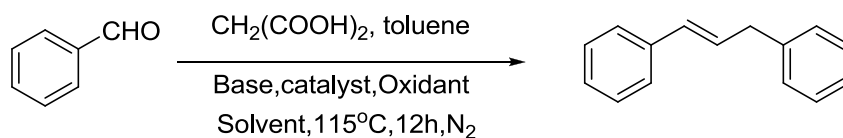
Fax: +86-21-64252603

General Information: All reactions were carried out under an N₂ atmosphere condition. CuO was purchased from Aladdin-reagent with high purity (99.5%). All reagents were used as supplied without further purified and dried. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel 48-75 μ m and reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using UV light (254 nm). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectra were recorded on a BrukerAvance 400 MHz NMR spectrometer using d₆-DMSO as solvent and tetramethylsilane as internal standard (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet). MS analyses were performed on Agilent 5975 GC-MS instrument (EI). HRMS analyses were performed on Waters Micromass GCT instrument (EI).

General procedures for Copper-catalyzed allylation of benzaldehydes. Malonic (52 mg, 0.5 mmol) and CuO (4.8 mg, 0.06 mol) were added into a 10 mL Schlenk flask. Then toluene (2 mL), benzaldehyde (31 μ l, 0.3 mmol), DTBP (120 μ l, 1.2mmol), piperidine(20 μ l, 0.2 mmol) were added at room temperature. The reaction vessel was purged with N₂ for three times. The mixture was stirred at 125 °C for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and water. The organic phase was washed with brine, dried with MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100 : 1) to afford the corresponding product.

Experimental data:

Table S1 : Optimization of reaction conditions.^a

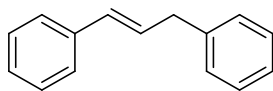


entry	catalyst	oxidant	base	solvent	yield ^b (%)
1	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	68
2	CuBr ₂	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	53
3	CuCl ₂	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	22
4	Cu(OAc) ₂	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	40
5	CuSO ₄	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	38
6	CuI	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	50
7	Cu ₂ O	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	21
8	CuCl	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	34
9	CuBr	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	38
10	Cu	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	44
11	Fe ₃ O ₄	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	30
12	Ferrocene	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	42
13	CuO	DCP	piperidine	toluene	48
14	CuO	H ₂ O ₂	piperidine	toluene	NR
15	CuO	PhCOOOtBu	piperidine	toluene	33
16	CuO	TBHP	piperidine	toluene	24
17	CuO	DTBP	DBU	toluene	11
18	CuO	DTBP	Triethylamine	toluene	5
19	CuO	DTBP	-	toluene	trace
20 ^c	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	43
21 ^d	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	69
22	CuO	DTBP	piperidine 0.1mmol	toluene	8
23	CuO	DTBP	piperidine 0.3mmol	toluene	65

24	CuO	DTBP	piperidine 0.5mmol	toluene	36
25	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	DMF	trace
26	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	DMSO	trace
27	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	NMP	trace
28	CuO	DTBP	piperidine	chlorobenzene	trace
29	CuO	DTBP 2.0equiv	piperidine	toluene	33
30	CuO	DTBP 6.0equiv	piperidine	toluene	40
31 ^e	CuO105 °C	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	NR
32 ^f	CuO125 °C	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	77
33 ^g	CuO135 °C	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	69
34 ^h	CuO125°C	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	49
35	CuO 10mmol%	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	55
36	CuO 30mmol%	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	42
37	-	DTBP	piperidine	toluene	11

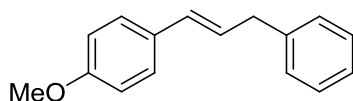
^a Catalytic conditions: benzaldehyde (0.3 mmol), malonic (0.5mmol), toluene (0.5mmol), solvent (2 mL), base (0.2 mmol), catalyst (20mol%), oxidant (4 equiv), 115 °C (oil bath temperature, unless otherwise noted), 12h, N₂. ^b GC yields were given using dodecane as the internal standard. ^c 6h. ^d 24h. ^e 105 °C, N₂. ^f 125 °C, N₂. ^g 135 °C, N₂. ^h 125 °C, air.

Characterization of the corresponding products:



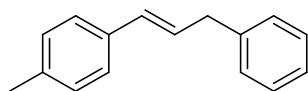
(E)-1,3-diphenylpropene (3-1a).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.38 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.33 (m, 6H), 7.18 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.48 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.46 – 6.38 (m, 1H), 3.52 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 140.52, 137.50, 130.99, 129.88, 129.02, 128.96, 128.92, 127.58, 126.53, 126.44, 39.06. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}$, 194.1; found, 194.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 194.1095. Found: 194.1096.



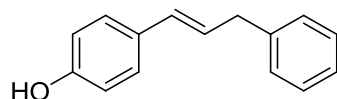
(E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1b).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.35 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.42 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.30 – 6.22 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.69 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 158.97, 140.80, 130.46, 130.17, 128.91, 128.89, 127.63, 127.43, 126.46, 114.43, 55.51, 39.05. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}$, 224.1; found, 224.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 224.1201. Found: 224.1202.



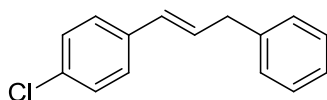
(E)-1-(4-Methyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1c).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.33 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.39 – 6.32 (m, 1H), 3.50 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 140.65, 136.79, 134.73, 130.84, 129.59, 128.93, 128.90, 128.77, 126.49, 126.36, 39.06, 21.19. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}$, 208.1; found, 208.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 208.1252. Found: 208.1251.



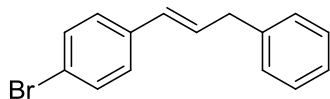
(E)-4-(3-phenylprop-1-enyl)phenol (3-1d).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.48 (s, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 3H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 3H), 6.66 (dd, J = 17.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 5.78 – 5.55 (m, 2H), 5.07 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (dd, J = 15.9, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 15.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 164.36, 162.50, 141.74, 136.89, 135.27, 132.84, 132.02, 127.58, 120.43, 116.28, 113.90, 89.25, 42.20. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}$, 210.1; found, 210.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 210.1045. Found: 210.1046.



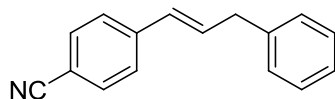
(E)-1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1e).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.43 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.26 - 7.19 (m, 3H), 6.48 - 6.46 (m, 2H), 3.52 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 140.31, 136.46, 131.91, 130.97, 129.71, 128.96, 128.93, 128.14, 126.57, 39.01. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}$, 228.1; found, 228.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 228.0706. Found: 228.0706.



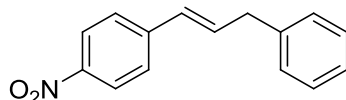
(E)-1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1f).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.48 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.38 - 7.19 (m, 7H), 6.49 - 6.42 (m, 2H), 3.51 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 140.27, 136.81, 131.88, 131.08, 129.78, 128.97, 128.93, 128.49, 126.58, 120.44, 39.03. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{Br}$, 272.0; found, 272.0. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{Br}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 272.0201. Found: 272.0200.



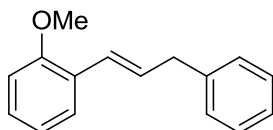
(E)-4-(3-phenylprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile (3-1g).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 - 7.19 (m, 5H), 6.72 - 6.64 (m, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 142.26, 139.92, 134.38, 132.98, 129.70, 129.02, 129.00, 128.98, 127.23, 126.68, 119.45, 109.73, 39.09. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}$, 219.1; found, 219.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 219.1048. Found: 219.1047.



(E)-4-(3-phenylprop-1-enyl)nitrobenzene (3-1h).

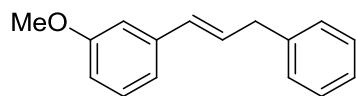
^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.13 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 - 7.15 (m, 6H), 6.73 (m, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 151.26, 149.11, 144.52, 140.28, 134.03, 133.78, 133.73, 132.11, 131.45, 129.06, 43.92. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_2$, 239.1; found, 239.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 239.0946. Found: 239.0949.



(E)-1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1i).

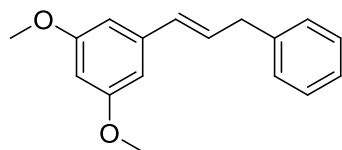
^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.44 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.18(m, 6H), 6.97 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.42 - 6.34 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.52 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 156.47, 140.73, 130.22, 128.93, 128.90, 128.79, 126.67, 126.47, 125.96, 125.57,

120.96, 111.70, 55.81, 39.37. GC/MS (m/z): $[M]^+$ calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O, 224.1; found, 224.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O $[M]^+$: 224.1201. Found: 224.1202.



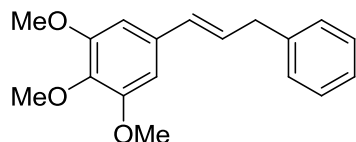
(E)-1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1j).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (dd, J = 9.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 6.45–6.40 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.52 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.99, 140.48, 138.99, 130.93, 130.22, 130.01, 128.97, 128.92, 126.53, 118.99, 118.99, 113.46, 111.51, 55.44, 39.04. GC/MS (m/z): $[M]^+$ calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O, 224.1; found, 224.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O $[M]^+$: 224.1201. Found: 224.1202.



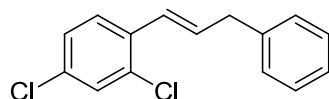
(E)-1-(3,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1k).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 6.58 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 2H), 6.50 – 6.43 (m, 1H), 6.40 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 6H), 3.51 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.07, 140.44, 139.59, 131.03, 130.46, 128.99, 128.91, 128.82, 126.54, 104.42, 99.92, 55.58, 39.03. GC/MS (m/z): $[M]^+$ calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂, 254.1; found, 254.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂ $[M]^+$: 254.1307. Found: 254.1308.



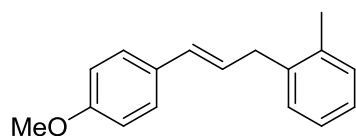
(E)-1-(3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1l).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.33–7.19 (m, 5H), 6.71 (s, 2H), 6.42 – 6.36 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.50 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 153.45, 140.58, 137.34, 133.28, 131.04, 129.30, 129.01, 128.91, 126.52, 103.80, 60.47, 56.25, 39.06. GC/MS (m/z): $[M]^+$ calcd for C₁₈H₂₀O₂, 284.1; found, 284.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for C₁₈H₂₀O₂ $[M]^+$: 284.1412. Found: 284.1413.



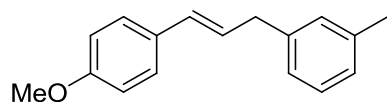
(E)-1-(2,4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylpropene (3-1m).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.67 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 6.77 – 6.67 (m, 1H), 6.59 – 6.47 (m, 1H), 3.57 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 139.85, 134.46, 134.25, 132.62, 129.28, 129.01, 128.96, 128.58, 128.01, 126.66, 125.48, 39.15. GC/MS (m/z): $[M]^+$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂Cl₂, 262.0; found, 262.0. HRMS (EI+) calcd for C₁₅H₁₂Cl₂ $[M]^+$: 262.0316. Found: 262.0320.



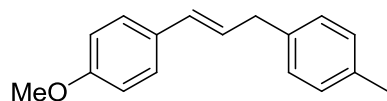
(E)-3-(2-Methylphenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-propene (3-2b)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.31 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.10 (m, 4H), 6.85 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.26-6.18 (m, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.46 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.70, 143.58, 141.08, 135.20, 135.07, 134.96, 134.16, 132.33, 131.38, 131.35, 131.21, 119.17, 60.25, 41.41, 24.21. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$, 238.1; found, 238.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 238.1358. Found: 238.1359.



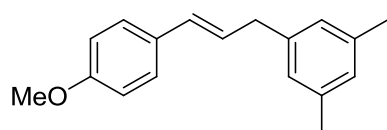
(E)-3-(3-Methylphenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-propene (3-2c)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.33 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05-7.00 (m, 3H), 6.89 - 6.50 (m, 2H), 6.41 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28-6.20 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.45 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 158.97, 140.69, 137.92, 130.37, 130.19, 129.55, 128.77, 127.63, 127.49, 127.10, 125.99, 114.43, 55.51, 39.04, 21.45. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$, 238.1; found, 238.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 238.1358. Found: 238.1360.



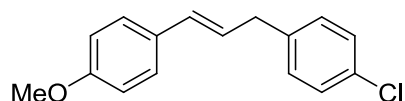
(E)-3-(4-Methylphenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-propene (3-2d)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.33 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 4H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.39 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.31 - 6.17 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.44 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 158.94, 137.65, 135.37, 130.24, 130.21, 129.45, 128.80, 127.67, 127.59, 114.43, 55.51, 38.63, 21.07. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$, 238.1; found, 238.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 238.1358. Found: 238.1359.



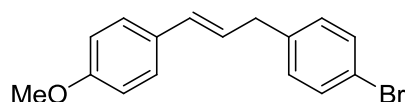
(E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-propene (3-2e)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.32 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 2H), 6.85 - 6.82 (m, 5H), 6.40 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.26 - 6.18 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.40 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.70, 145.34, 142.51, 135.01, 134.96, 132.63, 132.37, 132.31, 131.43, 119.18, 60.27, 43.77, 26.10. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}$, 252.1; found, 252.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}^+]$: 252.1514. Found: 252.1513.



(E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-propene (3-2f)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28 – 6.20 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.48 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.03, 139.86, 131.09, 130.83, 130.78, 130.06, 128.80, 127.68, 126.88, 114.44, 55.53, 38.21. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClO}$, 258.1; found, 258.1. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClO}$ $[\text{M}]^+$: 258.0811. Found: 258.0813.



(E)-3-(4-Bromophenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-propene (3-2g)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28 – 6.20 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.47 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.04, 140.30, 131.72, 131.20, 130.86, 130.05, 127.68, 126.80, 119.51, 114.44, 55.53, 38.27. GC/MS (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$, 302.0; found, 302.0. HRMS (EI+) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}$ $[\text{M}]^+$: 302.0306. Found: 302.0306.

Copy of NMR Spectra for desired products:

