Supplementary Information

'Vinylogous reactivity of silver(I)-vinylcarbenoids'

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Table of Contents

1. Experimental Section	S-2
1.1 General Considerations	S-2
1.2 Procedures and Characterization Data	S-3
2. Computational Studies	S-17
2.1 General Computational Considerations	S-17
2.2 Calculated Structures and Properties	S-18
2.3 Single Point Energy Calculations	S-29
3. NMR Data for Selected New Compounds	S-30
References	S-75

1. Experimental Section

1.1 General Considerations

All reactions were conducted in flame-dried glassware under an inert atmosphere of dry argon. All reagents were used as received from commercial suppliers, unless otherwise stated. Dichloromethane solvent was obtained from drying columns (Grubbs type solvent purifier) and degassed by bubbling argon through the solvent for >15 min prior to use. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel (230-400 mesh). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on aluminium-backed plates, pre-coated with silica gel $(0.25 \text{ mm}, 60 \text{ F}_{254})$, which were developed using standard visualizing agents: UV fluorescence (254 nm) and phosphomolybdic acid/ Δ . Melting points were determined using a Mel-Temp electrothermal melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectrometers at 600, 500, 400 or 300 MHz. Tetramethylsilane (TMS) ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm), or residual protonated solvent peak of chloroform ($\delta = 7.26$ ppm), were used as internal standards and data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, qu = quintet, m = multiplet, and br = broad), integration and coupling constants in Hz. 13 C NMR spectra were recorded at 150, 125, 100 or 75 MHz. The solvent was used as internal standard (CDCl₃ δ =77.0) and spectra were obtained with complete proton decoupling. Infrared (IR) spectra were aquired using a Thermo Scientific Nicolet iS10 FTIR spectrometer and the wavenumbers are reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm⁻¹). Diastereomer and regioisomer ratios were determined by integration of the ¹H NMR spectra of crude reaction mixtures.

1.2 Procedures and Characterization Data



(*E*)-Methyl 2-diazo-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (1): Synthesized by published procedure.^{1 1}H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.20 (t, 1H, *J* = 7 Hz), 6.48 (d, 1H, *J* = 16 Hz), 6.20 (d, 1H, *J* = 16 Hz), 3.85 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic properties were consistent with published data.¹



(*E*)-Methyl 2-diazo-4-(4-methoxy)phenylbut-3-enoate (7). Synthesized by published procedure.¹ ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.29 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.86 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.29 (d, 1H, J = 16.0 Hz), 6.14 (d, 1H, J = 16.0 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic properties were consistent with published data.¹



Hexyl 2-diazo-3-butenoate (10). According to published procedures.² A solution of 2,2,6-trimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-one (53.5 g, 0.38 mol) and hexanol (47 mL, 38.2 g, 0.37 mol, 1 equiv.) in xylenes (300 mL) was heated to 130-140°C for 1-1.5 h until all acetone was distilled off. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*. The residue was diluted with MeCN (400 mL) and added *p*-ABSA (107 g, 0.45 mol, 1.2 equiv.) and NEt₃ (108 mL, 0.77 mol, 2.1 equiv.). The mixture was stirred vigorously for 10 h at ambient temperature. The thick suspension was then filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in*

vacuo. The resulting residue was triturated with a 1:1 mixture of Et₂O/pet.ether (3 X 200 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford a yellow/orange oil. The oil was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and MeOH (500 mL) and cooled to 0°C in an ice bath. NaBH₄ was added in portions over 1.5 h and the mixture was stirred for several hours at ambient temperature. The mixture was then concentrated *in vacuo* and diluted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic phase was washed with water (3X), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in vacuo to afford a yellow oil. To a dry flask was added the oil, NEt₃ and CH₂Cl₂. The mixture was cooled to 0°C and added trifluoroacetic anhydride drop-wise over 30 min and stirred for further 2-3 h after addition at ambient temperature. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography (5-10% Et₂O/pet.ether) to afford an orange liquid 10. Data for 10: FTIR (neat): v_{max}/cm^{-1} 2958, 2932, 2860, 2085, 1705, 1616, 1468, 1389, 1308, 1267, 1158, 1108. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.16 (dd, 1H, J = 17.2, 11.2 Hz), 5.11 (d, 1H, J = 11.2 Hz), 4.85 (d, 1H, J = 17.2 Hz), 4.20 (t, 2H, J = 6.4 Hz), 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.31 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, 3H, J = 6.4Hz). Consistent with previously reported data.²



Data for (**Z**)-methyl 4-methoxy-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (**Z**-4). ¹HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.47-7.28 (m, 5H), 6.32 (dd, 1H, J = 11.5, 9 Hz), 5.97 (d, 1H, J = 9 Hz), 5.87 (d, 1H, J = 11.5 Hz), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 3H). Data for (**E**)-methyl 4-methoxy-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (**E**-4). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.44-7.29 (m, 5H), 6.97 (dd, 1H, J = 6, 15.5 Hz), 6.10 (d, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 4.78 (d, 1H, J = 6 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.33

(s, 3H). Data for (*E*)-methyl 2-methoxy-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (5) and (*Z*)-methyl 2methoxy-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (6). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41-7.28 (m, 5H), 6.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.5), 6.20 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7, 15.5), 4.43 (d, 1H, *J* = 7), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.46 (s, 3H). Consistent with previously reported results.³

General Procedure for X–H insertions with Ag-catalyst: To a flame dry round-bottom flask, covered with Al-foil, was added Ag(I)-catalyst (0.05-0.1 equiv.), CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) and substrate (1.5-2.1 equiv.). The reaction mixture was kept under an inert and dry argon-atmosphere. The mixture was then cooled to 0 °C with an ice/water bath. The vinyldiazoacetate (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL, 0.1 M) was added to the former solution drop-wise by syringe pump addition over 1-2 h. The reaction was then allowed to slowly reach ambient temperature and stirred for further 2-12 h until TLC analysis showed full conversion of the diazo compound. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo* and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, Et₂O/pentane mixtures) to afford the product(s).



(*E*)-Methyl 2-benzyloxy-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (3). Colourless oil. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3028, 2951, 1748, 1450, 1435, 1199, 1096, 967, 734, 693. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41-7.25 (m, 10H), 6.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 16 Hz), 6.25 (dd, 1H, *J* = 16, 7.2 Hz), 4.66 (q AB, 2H), 4.60 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ

171.1, 137.1, 135.8, 134.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 128.0, 127.9, 126.7, 123.6, 78.5, 71.3,
52.3. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* 300.1592 (C₁₈H₁₈O₃+NH₄ requires 300.1594).



(*E*)-Methyl 4-benzyloxy-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (2). Colourless oil. TLC (20% Et₂O/pentane): $R_f = 0.46$. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3087, 3063, 3030, 2949, 2864, 1720, 1658, 1494, 1454, 1435, 1392, 1273, 1195, 1168, 1102, 1040, 1027. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38-7.28 (m, 10H), 7.01 (dd, 1H, J = 16.0, 5.5 Hz), 6.15 (d, 1H, J = 16.0, 1.5 Hz), 4.98 (dd, 1H, J = 5.0, 1.5 Hz), 4.53 (d AB, 1H), 4.45 (d AB, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 147.7, 138.9, 137.9, 137.8, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 120.5, 79.7, 70.4, 51.6. HRMS (EI): m/z 282.1261 (C₁₈H₁₈O₃ requires 282.1250).



(*E*)-methyl 2-((4-nitrobenzyl)oxy)-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (9a). TLC (10% Et₂O/hexane): $R_f = 0.27$. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.22 (d, 2H, J = 9 Hz), 7.57 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.41 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.34 (t, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.29 (t, 1H, J = 5.4 Hz), 6.79 (d, 1H, J = 16.2 Hz), 6.27 (dd, 1H, J = 16.2, 7.2 Hz), 4.78 (d AB, 1H, J = 13.2 Hz), 4.72 (d AB, 1H, J = 13.2 Hz), 4.64 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR

(150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.6, 147.5, 144.9, 135.5, 134.9, 128.7, 128.5, 126.8, 123.7, 123.7, 123, 79.4, 70.0, 52.5. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2924, 1747, 1518, 1344, 1107, 736, 691. MS (neg-APCI): m/z 326 (100%, M-H). HRMS (neg-APCI): m/z 326.10328 (C₁₈H₁₇O₅N-H requires 326.1034).



(*E*)-methyl 4-((4-nitrobenzyl)oxy)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (8a). ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃) δ 2 (12, dH,), 2 (12, dH,), 5 (mH,), 1 (16, 5.2, ddH,), 1 (16, 4.0, ddH,), 1 (16, 4.0, ddH,), 2 (t ABH,), 3 (sH,). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.5, 147.2, 146.9, 145.4, 138.1, 128.8, 128.6, 127.5, 127.1, 123.5, 120.5, 80.5, 69.1, 51.6. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2950, 1720, 1519, 1344, 729, 699. HRMS (pos-APCI): *m/z* 328.11844 (C₁₈H₁₇O₅N+H requires 328.11795).



(*E*)-methyl 4-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)but-3-enoate (9b). White solid. Mp = 64-66 °C. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3396, 3024, 2952, 1735, 1601, 1504, 1432, 1202, 1158, 968, 748, 691. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38 (dm, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz), 7.31 (tm, 2H, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.16 (tm, 2H), 6.81-6.73 (m, 2H), 6.66 (dm, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.29 (dd, 1H, J = 16, 6.0 Hz), 4.74 (br t, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.66 (br s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.2, 146.2, 136.0, 133.0, 129.3, 128.6, 128.0, 126.7, 124.8, 118.3, 113.5, 58.8, 52.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* 268.13309 (C₁₇H₁₇O₂N+H requires 268.13321).



(*E*)-methyl 4-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)but-2-enoate (8b). Colourless oil. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3384, 3027, 2949, 1713, 1657, 1600, 1501, 1434, 1275, 1168. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.39-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2.5H), 7.09 (d, 0.5H, J = 5.6 Hz), 6.74 (t, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.59 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.10 (dd, 1H, J = 16.0, 1.6 Hz), 5.06 (d, 1H, J = 4.4 Hz), 4.05 (bs, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 148.0, 146.6, 139.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.2, 127.4, 121.4, 118.2, 113.5, 59.5, 51.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z 268.13315 (C₁₇H₁₇O₂N+H requires 268.13321).



(*E*)-methyl 4-phenyl-2-(2-phenylacetoxy)but-3-enoate (9c). Colourless oil. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3029, 2953, 1740, 1497, 1454, 1436, 1206, 1142, 1029, 967. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38-7.25 (m, 10H), 6.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 16 Hz), 6.25 (dd, 1H, *J* = 16, 7.2 Hz), 5.65 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz), 3.79 (bs, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.7, 168.9, 135.4, 135.2, 133.3, 129.4, 128.6, 128.6, 127.2, 126.8, 120.5, 73.3, 52.7, 40.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* 328.15422 (M+NH₄ requires 328.15433).



(*E*)-methyl 4-phenyl-4-(2-phenylacetoxy)but-2-enoate (8c). Colourless oil. TLC (20% EtOAc/hexane): $R_f = 0.42$. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3031, 2950, 1722, 1661, 1243, 1170, 1139, 978, 696. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.36-7.25 (m, 10H), 6.98 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 5.2 Hz), 6.39 (dd, 1H, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz), 5.94 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 1.6 Hz), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.1, 166.2, 144.6, 136.9, 133.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 127.2, 121.2, 74.4, 51.7, 41.3 LRMS (ESI): m/z 328 (100), 278 (4). HRMS (ESI): m/z 328.15431 (M+NH₄ requires 328.15433).



(*E*)-Methyl 2-(3-methylbut-2-enoxy)-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (9d). TLC (20% Et₂O/hexane): $R_f = 0.24$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.76 (d, 1H, J = 16 Hz), 6.23 (dd, 1H, J = 16, 6.8 Hz), 5.40 (tt, 1H, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz), 4.57 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 1.6 Hz), 4.10 (m AB, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 138.4, 135.9, 134.1, 128.6, 128.2, 126.7, 124, 120.1, 78.5, 65.9, 52.3, 25.8, 18.1. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2915, 1750, 1198, 967, 736, 691. HRMS (pos-APCI): m/z 261.14851 (C₁₆H₂₀O₃+H requires 261.14852).



(*E*)-Methyl 4-(3-methylbut-2-enoxy)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (8d). Yellow oil. FTIR (neat film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) 3063, 3029, 2973, 2949, 2858, 1724, 1659, 1493, 1453, 1436, 1378, 1303, 1271, 1245, 1195, 1168, 1115, 1061, 1026. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37-7.30 (m, 5H), 6.99 (dd, 1H, J = 15.5, 5.5 Hz), 6.07 (d, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 5.36 (m, 1H), 4.94 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.95 (d, 2H, J = 7.0 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 148.0, 139.3, 137.4, 128.6, 128.1, 127.1, 120.7, 120.4, 79.6, 65.2, 51.5, 25.7, 18.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z 260.1406 (C₁₆H₂₀O₃ requires 260.1407).



(*E*)-Methyl 2-(pent-3-ynoxy)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (9e). TLC (20% Et₂O/hexane): $R_f = 0.32$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.78 (d, 1H, J = 16 Hz), 6.22 (dd, 1H, J = 16, 7.2 Hz), 4.59 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 1.6 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.70-3.59 (m, 2H), 2.54-2.48 (m, 2H), 1.77 (t, 3H, J = 2.4 Hz). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171 (4°), 135.8 (4°), 134.2 (3°), 128.6 (3°), 128.2 (3°), 126.7 (3°), 123.6 (3°), 79.9 (3°), 77 (4°), 75.2 (4°), 68.4 (2°), 52.3 (1°), 20 (2°), 3.5 (1°). FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2919, 1749, 1198, 1107, 967, 736, 691. MS (neg-APCI): *m/z* 257 (100%, M-H), 219 (4%), 197 (3%), 190 (11%). HRMS (neg-APCI): *m/z* 257.11823 (C₁₆H₁₈O₃-H requires 257.11832).



(*E*)-Methyl 4-(pent-3-ynoxy)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (8e). TLC (15% Et₂O/pentane): $R_f = 0.33$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38-7.29 (m, 5H), 6.97 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 5.6 Hz), 6.12 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 1.6 Hz), 4.95 (dd, 1H, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.55-3.46 (m, 2H), 2.46-2.40 (m, 2H), 1.77 (t, 3H, J = 2.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 147.6, 138.9, 128.7, 128.3, 127.1, 120.4, 80.8, 76.8, 75.6, 67.6, 51.6, 20.1, 3.4. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2918, 1722, 1271, 1167, 1103, 699. MS (negAPCI): m/z 257 (100%), 219 (5%), 190 (5%). HRMS (neg-APCI): m/z 257.11827 (C₁₆H₁₈O₃-H requires 257.11832).



(*E*)-methyl 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (9f). TLC (40% EtOAc/hexanes): $R_f = 0.16$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.40 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.35-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.78 (d, 1H, J = 15.6 Hz), 6.23 (dd, 1H, J = 16.4, 7.2 Hz), 4.60 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 1.6 Hz), 3.83-3.74 (m, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.68-3.62 (m, 1H), 2.57 (t, 1H, J = 6 Hz). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.4, 135.7, 134.3, 128.6, 128.3, 126.7, 123.4, 79.9, 71.4, 61.7, 52.4. FTIR (film): v_{max}/cm^{-1} 3456 (OH), 2952, 1736, 1065, 969, 738, 692. HRMS (ESI): m/z 259.09393 (C₁₃H₁₆O₄+Na requires 259.09408).



(*E*)-methyl 4-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (8f). TLC (40% EtOAc/hexanes): $R_f = 0.25$. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37 (t, 2H, J = 6.6 Hz), 7.33-7.30 (m, 3H), 6.99 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 5.4 Hz), 6.10 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 1.8 Hz), 4.96 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 1.2 Hz), 3.75 (bs, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.73-3.55 (m, 1H), 3.53-3.50 (m, 1H), 2.06 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 147.3, 138.7, 128.8, 128.4, 127.1, 120.5, 81.2, 70.1, 61.9, 51.6. FTIR (film): v_{max}/cm^{-1} 3428 (OH), 2950, 1719, 1274, 1169, 1042, 699. MS (ESI): m/z 259 (100%, M+Na). HRMS (ESI): m/z 259.09395 (C₁₃H₁₆O₄+Na requires 259.09408).



(*E*)-methyl 2-(benzyloxy)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)but-3-enoate (9g). TLC (20% EtOAc/hexanes): $R_f = 0.27$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.40-7.29 (m, 7H), 6.86 (dt, 2H, J = 8.8, 2.8 Hz), 6.70 (d, 1H, J = 16 Hz), 6.11 (dd, 1H, J = 16, 6.8 Hz), 4.64 (q AB, 2H), 4.57 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.3, 159.7, 137.2, 134.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128, 128, 127.9, 121.4, 114, 78.8, 71.1, 55.3, 52.3. FTIR (film): $v_{max}/cm^{-1}2923, 1747, 1511, 1251, 1174, 1028, 698.$



(*E*)-Methyl 4-benzyloxy-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)but-2-enoate (8g). TLC (20% Et₂O/pentane): $R_f = 0.21$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.36-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.25 (dt, 2H, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz), 7.00 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 5.2 Hz), 6.90 (dt, 2H, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz), 6.13 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 2.0 Hz), 4.94 (dd, 1H, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz), 4.47 (q AB, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 159.6, 147.9, 137.9, 130.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6, 127.6, 120.1, 114.1, 79.2, 70.1, 55.3, 51.6. FTIR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2950, 1721, 1510, 1246, 1167, 1028, 831. MS (neg-APCI): m/z 311 (100%, M-H), 279 (20%), 264 (9%). HRMS (neg-APCI): m/z 311.1287 ([C₁₉H₂₀O₄-H] requires 311.12888).



(*E*)-methyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(phenylamino)but-2-enoate (8h). TLC (30% Et₂O/hexanes): $R_f = 0.25$. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.48 (t, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.35 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.21 (bs, 5H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 6.07 (dd, 1H, J = 15.6, 1.2 Hz), 4.99 (bt, 1H, J = 4.8 Hz), 4.02 (bd, 1H, J = 3.6 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 159.4, 148.3, 146.6, 131.9, 129.1, 128.6, 121.1, 118.0, 114.3, 113.4, 58.9, 55.2, 51.5. FTIR (film): v_{max}/cm^{-1} 3385, 2950, 1713, 1600, 1502, 1246, 1168. MS (neg-APCI): m/z 296 (100%, M-H), 264 (26%, M-H-OMe). HRMS (neg-APCI): m/z 296.12923 (C₁₈H₁₉O₃N-H requires 296.12922).



(*E*)-Hexyl 4-benzyloxybut-2-enoate (13). TLC (10% Et₂O/hex): $R_f = 0.22$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37-7.30 (m, 5H), 6.98 (dt, 1H, J = 15.6, 4.4 Hz), 6.14 (dt, 1H, J = 15.6, 2.0 Hz), 4.57 (s, 2H), 4.19 (dd, 2H, J = 4.4, 2.0 Hz), 4.14 (t, 2H, J = 6.4 Hz), 1.69-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.27 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, 3H, J = 6.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.3, 144.1, 137.7, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 121.4, 72.7, 68.6, 64.6, 31.4, 28.6, 25.5, 22.5, 14. IR (film): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2930, 1718, 1271, 1169, 1119, 1022, 697. HRMS (pos-APCI): m/z 277.17979 (M+H requires 277.17982).



(*E*)-*tert*-butyl 2-(4-(hexyloxy)-4-oxobut-2-en-1-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (*E*-14). Colourless oil. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2956, 2932, 2859, 1740, 1720, 1655, 1493, 1330, 1313, 1266, 1161, 1121, 1061. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.23 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.2, 1.6 Hz), 7.11 (dt, 1H, *J* = 16.0, 6.4 Hz), 6.10 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 5.99 (m, 1H), 5.78 (dt, 1H, *J* = 15.6, 1.6 Hz), 4.12 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 3.76 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H), 1.37 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 149.2, 146.1, 131.1, 122.3, 121.5, 112.7, 110.1, 83.8, 64.4, 31.5, 31.4, 28.6, 27.9, 25.6, 22.5, 14.0. HRMS (pos-APCI): *m/z* 336.2155 ([C₁₉H₂₈O₄N] requires 336.2169).



(*Z*)-*tert*-butyl 2-(4-(hexyloxy)-4-oxobut-2-en-1-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (*Z*-14). Colourless oil. FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2957, 2932, 2860, 1743, 1720, 1644, 1493, 1458, 1406, 1371, 1337, 1319, 1236, 1172, 1124, 1064. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.22 (bs, 1H), 6.40 (dt, 1H, *J* = 11, 7.0 Hz), 6.08 (bs, 1H), 6.01 (bs, 1H), 5.85 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 4.23 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 4.12 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H), 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.31 (m, 4H), 0.89 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.0 Hz). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.4, 149.4, 146.5, 132.7, 121.2, 120.0, 112.0, 110.1, 83.7, 64.2, 31.4, 28.7, 28.6, 27.9, 25.6, 22.5, 14.0. MS (EI): *m/z* (rel. int) 336 (19), 252 (31), 236 (100). HRMS (EI): *m/z* 336.2168 ([C₁₉H₂₈O₄N+H] requires 336.2169).



(*E*)-methyl 4-(furan-2-yl)-4-phenylbut-2-enoate (15). FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3029, 2950, 1723, 1654, 1495, 1454, 1435, 1314, 1272, 1236, 1195, 1166, 1038, 1010, 982, 913, 742, 700. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 6.32 (m, 1H), 6.07 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 5.79 (dd, 1H, *J* = 15.5, 1.0 Hz), 4.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 154.0, 147.3, 142.2, 139.0, 128.8, 128.3, 127.4, 122.6, 110.3, 107.3, 51.6, 47.5. MS (EI): *m/z* 242, 210, 183, 153. HRMS (EI): *m/z* 242.0944 ([C₁₅H₁₄O₃] requires *m/z* 242.0937).



(±)-Methyl 4-phenyl-8-oxabicyclo[3.2.1]octa-2,6-diene-2-carboxylate (16). FTIR (neat): v_{max} /cm⁻¹ 3028, 2993, 2951, 1712, 1633, 1494, 1452, 1437, 1355, 1337, 1294, 1276, 1203, 1076, 1042. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.31-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 6.74 (bs, 1H), 6.66 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.0, 1.5 Hz), 5.53 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.5, 1.5 Hz), 5.21 (bs, 1H), 5.12 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 4.10 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.5, 2.5 Hz), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.2, 139.5, 139.0, 136.3, 135.7, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 82.4, 75.9, 51.8, 42.9. MS (EI): *m*/*z* 242, 210, 183, 153. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* 242.0941 (C₁₅H₁₄O₃ requires *m*/*z* 242.0937).

2. Computational Studies

2.1 General Computational Considerations

All calculations were performed with the Gaussian '09 software package.⁵ Density Functional Theory was employed with the 3-parameter hybrid functional B3LYP^{6,7} to locate stationary points on the potential energy surface (PES). The structures were subjected to full geometry optimization with a basis set consisting of the 1997 Stuttgart relativistic small-core effective core-potential [Stuttgart RSC 1997 ECP]⁸⁻¹⁰ for Ag, augmented with two 4f-functions ($\zeta f(Ag) = 2.5$ and 0.7).^{11,12} The Ag f-exponents were obtained from Reference 11.¹¹ The split valence basis set 6-31G* was used in the optimization and frequency calculations for all other atoms (C, H, O, F, N and S). This composite basis set is abbreviated 6-31G*[Ag-RSC+4f].¹³. The main discussion in this chapter is based on single-point energies obtained at the B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[Ag-RSC+4f]//B3LYP/6-31G*[Ag-RSC+4f] level, corrected with zero-point energies from B3LYP/6-31G*[Ag-RSC+4f] calculations. Heavy-atom basis set definitions and corresponding pseudopotential parameters were obtained from the EMSL basis set exchange library.^{14,15} All stationary points were characterized by normal coordinate analysis at the B3LYP/6-31G*[Ag-RSC+4f] level of theory. For transition states TS-IIIa and TS-IIIb, full geometry optimization was also carried out at the B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[Ag-RSC+4f] level of theory at temperature=273.15 K, also including the effects of dichloromethane as solvent ($\varepsilon = 8.93$) through the Integral Equation Formalism Polarizable Continuum Model (IEFPCM).^{5,16} All transition states were confirmed to have only one imaginary vibrational mode corresponding to movement along the reaction coordinate.¹⁷ Equilibrium structures were confirmed to have zero imaginary vibrational

modes.¹⁷ Transition states were further characterized by intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC) analysis using default parameters, followed by geometry optimization, to confirm that the stationary points were smoothly connected to each other.⁷ The calculated harmonic zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE) are reported unscaled. Calculated structures have been visualized using Mercury.¹⁸⁻²¹

2.2 Calculated Structures and Properties

The structure and properties of dinitrogen N_2 has been reported prevously.¹³

Structure 1



Route= #N B3LYP/6-31G(d) 5d OPT FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-685.074915835 Hartree ZPE=0.192102 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-684.868734 Hartree Enthalpy=-684.867790 Hartree Free Energy=-684.925867 Hartree Entropy=122.234 cal/mol-K

С	0.00000000	0.00000000	0.00000000
0	-1.14345900	0.86973700	0.00015300
С	-2.34334700	0.24352200	0.00017400
С	-3.46440300	1.19519200	0.00016700
С	-4.84540200	0.74138500	0.00019700
С	-5.95071200	1.51481500	0.00000400
Η	-5.83196600	2.59889600	-0.00023000
С	-7.34161200	1.05509200	0.00006400
С	-8.37151600	2.01488400	0.00004300
С	-9.71336700	1.63783900	0.00010800
С	-10.0605500	0.28624200	0.00018800
С	-9.05034600	-0.68153100	0.00019000
С	-7.71098900	-0.30515700	0.00013000
Η	-6.94521800	-1.07537100	0.00011500
Η	-9.30961400	-1.73708800	0.00023500
Η	-11.1051270	-0.01266000	0.00022900
Η	-10.4872250	2.40097800	0.00009300
Η	-8.10920100	3.07057200	-0.00002500
Η	-4.90493200	-0.34286000	0.00041000
Ν	-3.17734000	2.47980800	0.00019100
Ν	-2.97204100	3.60025700	0.00027500
0	-2.48871700	-0.96321200	0.00017800
Η	0.00021200	-0.63394600	0.89056200
Η	0.86654400	0.66160600	-0.00052400
Η	-0.00044900	-0.63450300	-0.89016500

AgOTf

Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT FREQ

RB3LYP Energy=-1108.4255488 Hartree ZPE=0.027984 Hartree

Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm

Internal Energy=-1108.388303 Hartree

Enthalpy=-1108.387359 Hartree

Free Energy=-1108.435123 Hartree

Entropy=100.527 cal/mol-K

Ag-carbenoid VC, s-cis



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT FREQ

RB3LYP Energy=-1684.03545538 Hartree ZPE=0.212141 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1683.800273 Hartree Enthalpy=-1683.799328 Hartree Free Energy=-1683.882131 Hartree Entropy=174.273 cal/mol-K

S	$0.00000000 \ 0.0000000 \ 0.0000000$
С	-1.26023500 -1.37231700 -0.00007400
F	-2.02450100 -1.29090400 -1.08842700
F	-0.62600500 -2.55745200 -0.00010400
F	-2.02435300 -1.29085600 1.08839700
0	0.83992200 -0.30533700 1.22535900
Ag	g 2.65949800 -1.01978100 -0.00004000
0	-0.74019300 1.25463200 -0.00003600
0	0.84001100 -0.30513800 -1.22543800

S	0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000
С	-0.75891600 0.16976700 1.69140200
F	-1.88543700 -0.53965000 1.77817100
F	0.10277100 -0.27665000 2.62630500
F	-1.02926700 1.45450700 1.94591300
0	-1.02154100 0.42944400 -0.94963000
0	1.25020600 0.79428700 0.09088500
Ag	3 2.28610900 -1.97792500 0.48186100
0	0.28245500 -1.50195000 -0.04685500
С	4.29961900 -1.99943600 0.93474800
С	5.03088200 - 3.25915100 1.21420400
0	5.00391600 -4.12114500 0.18641600
С	5.66374300 - 5.38316600 0.41268100
Η	6.71113300 -5.22590400 0.68234700
Η	5.58431600 - 5.92241100 - 0.53052400
Η	5.16240300 - 5.93077100 1.21460300
0	5.54652900 - 3.47827900 2.29505700
С	5.05167700 -0.82678700 1.02590200
С	4.44152600 0.40257600 0.77770900
Η	3.37080600 0.38068600 0.57274100
С	5.03329500 1.70503700 0.74533600
С	4.17081700 2.79690400 0.46904900
С	4.67102500 4.09275800 0.43231000
С	6.03083800 4.31777500 0.66846400
С	6.89834100 3.24831300 0.94145100
С	6.40965800 1.95234000 0.97889100
Н	7.08224300 1.12660100 1.18736600
Н	7.95207300 3.43800200 1.12159800
Н	6.42255200 5.33085800 0.63939400
Η	4.00799900 4.92574500 0.22059800
Η	3.11720800 2.59886500 0.28785500
Η	6.11238700 -0.87339100 1.27424100



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-1793.54344838 Hartree

ZPE=0.221452 Hartree

Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm

Internal Energy=-1793.296804 Hartree

Enthalpy=-1793.295859 Hartree

Free Energy=-1793.383213 Hartree

Entropy=183.850 cal/mol-K

Diazocomplex LA-II

С 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000 Ag 2.39926400 - 2.88368000 - 0.41383400 F 7.04389700 -2.59168300 -1.36390600 F 5.47220100 - 1.09006300 - 1.50418600 F 7.03677100 -0.89473500 -0.00103700 0 6.15287100 - 3.46128600 1.40049800 0 4.34544000 - 1.69890500 1.17003500 С 6.26483400 -1.77157500 -0.65860400 0 4.40527200 - 3.61231600 - 0.39586400 С -2.26357300 -2.86190800 -0.34747600 Ο -1.75219000 -1.52778000 -0.14528300 С -0.42596300 -1.36876700 -0.20281000 S 5.22126700 - 2.72707700 0.55089800 С 1.38383900 0.48044600 0.01914800 С 1.74346800 1.76422600 -0.19235000 Η 0.96113500 2.48385200 -0.43842100 С 3.09027100 2.33508100 -0.14661200 С 3.25373400 3.68601200 -0.50770200 С 4.51264300 4.28289600 -0.50498100 С 5.63564900 3.53747500 -0.14168000 С 5.48774500 2.19542100 0.22395600 С 4.23074100 1.59831000 0.22943400 Η 4.14466200 0.56082700 0.53566300 6.35417000 1.60425300 0.50389500 Η Η 6.61984800 3.99795100 -0.14058800 Η 4.61620100 5.32705900 -0.78745800 Η 2.38163300 4.26847200 -0.79730200 2.12572700 -0.27674800 0.25959200 Η Ν -0.98427700 0.87376500 0.16880300 N -1.79033000 1.66058200 0.30561400 0.32333400 - 2.33487300 - 0.41944300 0 H -1.98613900 -3.22833400 -1.33839500 H -3.34496500 -2.76346700 -0.26147900 H -1.87474700 -3.53695200 0.41808600

С	$0.00000000 \ 0.0000000 \ 0.00000000$
Ag	1.89330400 -1.01426300 -0.73937500
F	4.15058900 - 5.23900300 0.38447900
F	2.53451400 -4.54105000 -0.89783000
F	4.54022300 - 4.78730400 - 1.70862000
0	5.67395000 - 2.60432600 0.06598400
0	3.75710400 - 1.90490700 - 1.40772000
С	3.84804700 -4.42252100 -0.62809700



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-1793.52861111 Hartree ZPE=0.220344 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1793.282657 Hartree Enthalpy=-1793.281713 Hartree Free Energy=-1793.372585 Hartree Entropy=191.256 cal/mol-K

0 3.31444300 - 2.37206800 0.97083400 С 0.72235100 3.52900000 -0.82612800 0 0.60069800 2.27752900 -0.11407600 С 0.02163300 1.27490500 -0.79469100 S 4.23455800 - 2.66059400 - 0.16552600 С -0.93255700 -1.08222700 -0.40918800 С -1.23576600 -2.18814400 0.30032600 Η -0.74451800 -2.34834400 1.26082600 С -2.16725100 -3.24895200 -0.09155100 С -2.25556100 -4.39621900 0.71841700 С -3.11692500 -5.44188600 0.39187800 С -3.91263100 -5.36000900 -0.75153000 С -3.84043900 -4.22354900 -1.56432500 С -2.98158900 -3.17892900 -1.23894300 Η -2.95021700 -2.30078300 -1.87760700 Η -4.46035200 -4.15094300 -2.45364900 H -4.58616400 -6.17253500 -1.00883700 Η -3.16510100 -6.31963000 1.03014700 Η -1.63448000 -4.46713400 1.60827600 H -1.35791100 -0.88207700 -1.38824000 Ν 0.21522400 0.16685900 1.32658100 Ν 0.39641100 0.26320900 2.43578700 0 -0.42546500 1.34946900 -1.91796600 Η 1.34405200 3.39484600 -1.71432700 1.19603500 4.21172000 -0.12212400 Η H -0.26428500 3.89361600 -1.11955700

N₂ extrusion **TS-I**



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) freq RB3LYP Energy=-1793.50054591 Hartree

С	0 0000000 0 0000000 0 0000000
F	0.72485500 -0.86033900 -0.71511200
F	-0.69856500 0.78232700 -0.84423200
F	0.82734000 0.78194900 0.70993300
S	-1.16250800 -0.89737800 1.14379000
0	-0.32667000 -1.77859900 1.95301900
0	-1.91552200 0.18637100 1.82051200
0	-2.04457100 -1.63788400 0.13763200
Ag	3.95262900 -0.74367900 -0.07427200
0	-5.95889800 -0.03086800 -0.13579100
С	-6.41779300 1.05224700 0.32376500
С	-5.70422400 2.26812400 0.16561400
С	-4.35681000 2.52696200 0.52412600
С	-3.71708400 3.61810800 -0.01229300
Η	-4.30341600 4.22278500 -0.70421500
С	-2.37460300 4.09054800 0.23981600
С	-1.96977600 5.30027900 -0.36881600

ZPE=0.218060 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1793.256992 Hartree Enthalpy=-1793.256047 Hartree Free Energy=-1793.344194 Hartree Entropy=185.520 cal/mol-K

N₂ extrusion TS-II



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) freq RB3LYP Energy=-1793.51738041 Hartree ZPE=0.218744 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1793.273272 Hartree Enthalpy=-1793.272328 Hartree Free Energy=-1793.360288 Hartree Entropy=185.128 cal/mol-K

С	-0.68776700	5.80088900	-0.17518200
С	0.21777500	5.09409200	0.62235900
С	-0.16347700	3.88872800	1.22362600
С	-1.44737100	3.38845000	1.04446600
Η	-1.71922200	2.44461700	1.50543000
Η	0.54591400	3.33115900	1.82668800
Η	1.22274300	5.47929200	0.77185200
Η	-0.39082000	6.73390900	-0.64504000
Η	-2.67607800	5.84144800	-0.99376100
Η	-3.83168500	1.88126900	1.23124100
0	-7.66648900	1.09712300	0.80220200
С	-8.44000500	-0.11426200	0.70502700
Η	-8.57004500	-0.40354100	-0.34084100
Η	-9.40100800	0.13040800	1.15718400
Η	-7.95544500	-0.92644500	1.25163200
Ν	-6.83424100	3.53009200	1.00078900
Ν	-7.31572300	4.53243600	0.93771500

С	$0.00000000 \ 0.00000000 \ 0.00000000$
Ag	g -2.05191100 -0.58050400 0.19248700
F	-5.99489000 2.05331000 -1.09238000
F	-4.33948100 0.88806200 -1.89615300
F	-6.26409900 -0.06194400 -1.52790100
0	-6.06636100 0.31443700 1.45518700
0	-4.13650300 -0.89599400 0.42143600
С	-5.40712400 0.85332400 -1.07283000
0	-3.88489300 1.51160300 0.99096600
С	1.76715600 -3.04021900 -1.18478100
0	1.15035700 -2.07269600 -0.31053900
С	0.75796300 -0.92753100 -0.90173300
S	-4.85226500 0.43881200 0.65570300
С	0.25465700 1.43155800 -0.17824700
С	-0.67681000 2.36544600 0.14673100
Η	-1.63039500 2.01529600 0.54203600
С	-0.58254900 3.81095600 0.00476800
С	-1.73563500 4.56950400 0.29459200
С	-1.72181800 5.95635300 0.16793300
С	-0.55744900 6.60661300 -0.24610000
С	0.59590100 5.86607900 -0.53413300
С	0.58653800 4.48211300 -0.41017300
Η	1.48876100 3.91942700 -0.63084100
Η	1.50155400 6.37379900 -0.85359500
Η	-0.54413000 7.68864700 -0.34394400
Η	-2.61755400 6.52830900 0.39147200

- H -2.63972100 4.05452600 0.61010400
 H 1.21006000 1.71597800 -0.61567100
 N 0.60413500 -0.38844600 1.54021200
 N 0.75559400 -0.42403000 2.64147600
 O 0.91908800 -0.66296500 -2.07388000
 H 1.05467500 -3.36552900 -1.94671500
- Н 2.04840800 3.87199400 0.53981200
- H 2.64611800 2.60905500 1.66931300

Vinylogous addition TS-IIIb



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-1799.75858898 Hartree ZPE=0.266859 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.466018 Hartree Enthalpy=-1799.465074 Hartree Free Energy=-1799.553452 Hartree Entropy=186.007 cal/mol-K

0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000 Ο С 0.77396400 0.38132900 -1.60498500 F -4.51555600 -0.78953400 -3.22044200 F -2.37377700 -0.82219600 -2.82727900 F -3.69811800 -2.18392600 -1.76294600 0 -5.11853900 0.04925900 -0.31517500 0 -2.62737300 0.08228600 -0.04564000 -3.73992300 1.62062900 -1.68044100 Ο Ag -1.76070800 2.43853900 -1.93129200 0.28300000 2.77612500 -1.87174000 С С 0.88464600 4.14883200 -1.91996900 0 -0.05731600 5.10423000 -1.74241600 С 0.42501900 6.45696900 -1.75730100 Η 1.16473900 6.61055500 -0.96661900 Η -0.45237100 7.08183900 -1.59034300 Η 0.88513700 6.68621900 -2.72226500 0 2.06081100 4.40913400 -2.09999700 С 1.17647700 1.78115000 -1.62178200 С -3.60236600 -0.95203200 -2.26601100 Η -0.15693000 0.18975100 -2.13203400 С 1.75240000 -0.71611000 -1.72288000 С 1.31370500 -1.94253000 -2.25403500 С 2.19671900 - 3.00896800 - 2.39676200 С 3.52970300 - 2.86578500 - 2.00207600 С 3.97605000 -1.65434300 -1.46662600 С 3.09551200 -0.58394900 -1.32843300 Η 3.45600700 0.35355500 -0.91747200 Η 5.01238000 -1.54282300 -1.16140800 Η 4.22100700 - 3.69649400 - 2.11328400 Η 1.84818300 - 3.94896000 - 2.81417700 Η 0.27406700 - 2.04955300 - 2.55356400 Η 2.22931900 2.01856400 -1.47153700 -3.81990000 0.31679700 -0.91735900 S С 0.40934800 0.76876800 1.14767100 -0.22714900 0.47084100 1.98362500 Η

Н 1.44840900 0.50945000 1.35623600

- Н 0.31219100 1.84088000 0.95616500
- Н -0.99958200 0.08571800 -0.11548500

Vinylogous addition TS-IIIb in DCM@0°C

Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint temperature=273.15 OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) freq SCRF=(PCM,Solvent=dichloromethane) RB3LYP Energy=-1799.77810003 Hartree ZPE=0.266453 Hartree Conditions=273K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.489191 Hartree Enthalpy=-1799.488326 Hartree Free Energy=-1799.566623 Hartree Entropy=179.872 cal/mol-K 0 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000С 0.80130800 0.38750900 -1.57650500 F -4.67078400 -0.84608600 -3.05475100 F -2.51788500 -0.88609600 -2.73346400 F -3.82150900 -2.14717000 -1.52870200 O -5.19284600 0.21145600 -0.24344500 O -2.70413300 0.20625100 0.02353300 O -3.79040400 1.65189200 -1.71475800 Ag -1.76466500 2.44051100 -1.98723800 С 0.28299900 2.77968000 -1.88390900 С 0.84296300 4.15644200 -1.95472100 0.06742300 5.04929400 -1.29855700 0 С 0.53655800 6.41105100 -1.30211600 Η 1.53186200 6.47657900 -0.85549400 Н -0.18607700 6.96952300 -0.70791000 Η 0.57235600 6.79707000 -2.32401800 0 1.86088700 4.47305100 -2.54928900 С 1.17614100 1.79872400 -1.59051200 С -3.71827900 -0.95833700 -2.12728300 H -0.10676500 0.17171700 -2.13439100 С 1.81645300 -0.67858700 -1.66658100 С 1.44542100 -1.90508100 -2.24812000 С 2.36893000 - 2.94002200 - 2.36815500 С 3.67392800 -2.76612400 -1.89742700 С 4.05220200 -1.55530800 -1.30940400 С 3.13245500 -0.51497400 -1.19572800 Η 3.44200700 0.41980800 -0.73982400 Η 5.06542600 - 1.42058800 - 0.94315200 4.39592900 - 3.57237900 - 1.98963600 Η 2.07371400 - 3.87901400 - 2.82638100 Η H 0.42853400 - 2.03867100 - 2.60782900 Η 2.22067600 2.04046700 -1.39642500 S -3.88220600 0.40415300 -0.86777600 С 0.50113700 0.66339000 1.18484900 Н -0.10565200 0.32821400 2.02767900 Η 1.53366600 0.33972100 1.31581800 Η 0.44587200 1.74884900 1.07542400 H -0.98077700 0.17076400 -0.09138100

Vinylogous Ylide YL-IIb



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint **OPT FREQ** RB3LYP Energy=-1799.75921383 Hartree ZPE=0.267225 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.466034 Hartree Enthalpy=-1799.465090 Hartree Free Energy=-1799.553743 Hartree Entropy=186.586 cal/mol-K

0 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000 С 0.76515000 0.39447400 -1.36596700 F -4.46492200 -0.86410500 -2.98605600 -2.31786400 -0.86818600 -2.61771700 F -3.61102400 -2.25046000 -1.54166500 F -5.01709600 -0.06576900 -0.03692400 0 -2.52718200 0.03965400 0.15089100 0 -3.73310600 1.55104800 -1.44714400 0 Ag -1.77857800 2.46388600 -1.69991000 0.26157500 2.81803200 -1.60465500 С С 0.84948500 4.19761200 -1.60932900 0 -0.11890000 5.14489700 -1.64778400 С 0.34728200 6.50233200 -1.65019300 Η 0.92873000 6.71104200 -0.74772600 -0.55036500 7.12027200 -1.68083200 Η Η 0.97507500 6.68947300 -2.52572700 Ο 2.03487200 4.47830600 -1.58430000 С 1.15444000 1.83005700 -1.37134800 С -3.53690600 -1.01812500 -2.04552000 Η -0.06906000 0.20723000 -2.04110700 С 1.82874100 -0.64889900 -1.51695800 С 1.49159500 -1.85654900 -2.14849500 С 2.43846100 - 2.86691200 - 2.30104000 С 3.73623600 - 2.68448300 - 1.81677500 С 4.08155300 -1.48931300 -1.18275800 С 3.13524700 -0.47499100 -1.03471400 Η 3.42302100 0.45295800 -0.55040400 Η 5.09054900 -1.34240900 -0.80827200 Η 4.47709300 - 3.47009100 - 1.93625000 Η 2.16553600 - 3.79352800 - 2.79760100 Η 0.47904200 -1.99914400 -2.51851900 Η 2.20627800 2.07210600 -1.22026500 -3.75595300 0.24617200 -0.69250400 S 0.47590000 0.54491200 1.25795500 С H -0.19863200 0.16414900 2.02496600 Η 1.48562400 0.16379400 1.41100100 0.46439100 1.63567200 1.22753100 Η H -1.02821300 0.10772000 -0.07562600

Carbenoid Ylide YL-IIa

- 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000 0 С 0.56888200 0.45968900 -1.31284800 F -0.96399100 -5.35402000 -2.34611800 F
 - 0.64244200 3.91396500 2.04253000



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-1799.75997515 Hartree ZPE=0.266276 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.467784 Hartree Enthalpy=-1799.466839 Hartree Free Energy=-1799.554658 Hartree

Entropy=184.829 cal/mol-K

Carbenoid addition TS-IIIa

-0.01467100 -5.17704200 -0.39493300
-2.79404100 -3.90302400 -0.37981900
-0.85789900 -2.34946600 -0.04699800
-1.96196100 -2.52502100 -2.30035400
-0.74284700 -0.69303200 -2.65033300
2.53412900 -1.10988600 -1.08154800
0.31417200 1.91107900 -1.51291900
-0.63440500 2.41462100 -0.68446700
-0.97605300 3.79178700 -0.91996300
-0.09853900 4.43320600 -0.80547300
-1.73160100 4.03413100 -0.17225600
-1.38006000 3.91800300 -1.92791400
0.88296400 2.57383100 -2.36160300
1.96733200 0.03266400 -1.52383800
-0.42308500 -4.50640400 -1.47294300
1.91489600 -1.83058000 -0.54776300
3.92427800 -1.53091600 -1.28799600
4.26920700 -2.87201300 -1.03433000
5.57066000 - 3.33085900 - 1.22949400
6.56230400 -2.45632600 -1.67764500
6.23838900 -1.11872100 -1.92553000
4.93912800 -0.65931800 -1.72866100
4.71297400 0.38871000 -1.90458000
7.00553800 -0.42779800 -2.26533100
7.57876100 -2.80991000 -1.82682300
5.80972000 -4.37242600 -1.03169400
3.49754000 - 3.56036400 - 0.69673100
2.53425800 0.73725700 -2.12868700
-1.66869700 -3.21002800 -0.98950700
0.65587900 0.34709100 1.26156400
1.71682200 0.10566200 1.19971500
0.48632500 1.41148400 1.41366800
0.15482500 -0.24273500 2.02908300
-0.36656900 -0.98006200 -0.04227100

0	0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000
С	0.83381400 0.33232800 -1.55664000
F	-3.33970800 -4.21338300 -2.17876200
F	-1.46921200 -3.56162000 -1.27323000
F	-3.26847300 -3.73257800 -0.05723800
0	-4.68329300 -1.52964900 -1.63545800
0	-2.49516800 -0.87179200 -0.58692500
0	-2.60110000 -1.45217600 -3.02264100
Ag	3 -0.61403000 -0.58804200 -2.81845400



Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) freq RB3LYP Energy=-1799.75390321 Hartree ZPE=0.266259 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.461766 Hartree Enthalpy=-1799.460822 Hartree Free Energy=-1799.548490 Hartree Entropy=184.513 cal/mol-K

Carbenoid addition TS-IIIa in DCM@0°C

Route= #N b3lyp/gen pseudo=read gfprint temperature=273.15

OPT=(TS,CalcFC,NoEigenTest) freq SCRF=(PCM,Solvent=dichloromethane) RB3LYP Energy=-1799.77458523 Hartree ZPE=0.265645 Hartree Conditions=273K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-1799.486307 Hartree

Enthalpy=-1799.485442 Hartree

Free Energy=-1799.562567 Hartree

Entropy=177.179 cal/mol-K

С	2.66025700 -1.30448500 -1.85738500
С	0.70028900 1.82405800 -1.59128800
0	-0.48760800 2.27761300 -1.14799500
С	-0.69505400 3.69658400 -1.26396600
Η	0.07124500 4.24245300 -0.70777600
Η	-1.68257100 3.87871500 -0.84091200
Η	-0.66256400 4.00066700 -2.31345000
0	1.56492900 2.53502500 -2.06836000
С	2.21289000 -0.11971000 -1.38117400
С	-2.81319800 -3.39819600 -1.26657700
Η	1.94113000 -1.92489600 -2.39328300
С	4.00836200 -1.86185400 -1.75632400
С	4.25565500 -3.12477300 -2.32742800
С	5.52023800 -3.70609300 -2.26555300
С	6.56557200 -3.03253600 -1.63142300
С	6.33781600 -1.77537000 -1.06038500
С	5.07518800 -1.19571600 -1.11959700
Η	4.91706500 -0.21804600 -0.67476200
Η	7.14976700 -1.24696000 -0.56865800
Н	7.55362500 -3.48155500 -1.58216500
Η	5.68969800 -4.68153000 -2.71253500
Η	3.44300400 - 3.64951200 - 2.82433800
Н	2.89891800 0.56074400 -0.87722300
S	-3.22944500 -1.62361100 -1.65079900
С	0.38687500 -1.19751800 0.71585100
Η	0.22916100 -2.08867600 0.10385200
Η	1.43599500 -1.09533800 0.98537700
Η	-0.23558900 -1.23763400 1.61186400
Η	-0.95941000 -0.12237800 -0.25859600

O 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000
C 0.85372100 0.36008800 -1.64844900
F -3.30657700 -4.24352500 -2.22810000
F -1.47559200 -3.56796200 -1.26326000
F -3.30871800 -3.76533900 -0.10359400
O -4.72203600 -1.61466800 -1.70503700
O -2.58609900 -0.87656900 -0.61855700
O -2.63041900 -1.47189500 -3.05681500
Ag -0.60644000 -0.56231000 -2.89413000
C 2.63455800 -1.31615100 -1.92147600
C 0.71245700 1.84557600 -1.65698100
O -0.41253000 2.31968300 -1.09953900
C -0.61715000 3.74300700 -1.20934300
H 0.21286900 4.28496400 -0.75044200

Η	-1.54589100 3.94191200 -0.67613700
Η	-0.70743300 4.03312400 -2.25906400
0	1.53157100 2.54530300 -2.23370700
С	2.21546000 -0.10742500 -1.46705500
С	-2.81373200 -3.42380300 -1.29620700
Η	1.90245600 -1.92629800 -2.45062100
С	3.96492100 -1.90381800 -1.80448000
С	4.19770600 -3.15580100 -2.40855200
С	5.44937700 -3.76365500 -2.33823000
С	6.49364000 -3.12991500 -1.66057100
С	6.27870000 -1.88672400 -1.05280000
С	5.02955400 -1.27907500 -1.12092200
Н	4.87892800 -0.31753100 -0.64040500
Н	7.08896700 -1.39360300 -0.52365000
Η	7.47094500 -3.60062100 -1.60344200
Н	5.60997100 -4.72833700 -2.81056100
Н	3.38545300 - 3.64847100 - 2.93722600
Η	2.91627400 0.55711500 -0.96232700
S	-3.25688800 -1.65993200 -1.69328400
С	0.43603800 -1.18532500 0.70349400
Н	0.32170700 -2.07741600 0.08259900
Н	1.48037800 -1.04078700 0.97285700
Η	-0.17529600 -1.26880900 1.60471600
Η	-0.94323200 -0.14938400 -0.26522400

MeOH

Route= #N B3LYP/6-31G(d) 5d OPT FREQ RB3LYP Energy=-115.712204002 Hartree ZPE=0.051473 Hartree Conditions=298K, 1.00000 atm Internal Energy=-115.657440 Hartree Enthalpy=-115.656496 Hartree Free Energy=-115.683451 Hartree Entropy=56.733 cal/mol-K

- C 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.0000000
- O -1.41021400 0.14214000 0.00001300
- H -1.79812400 -0.74538000 -0.00002400
- Н 0.37469100 -0.52481100 -0.89294500
- Н 0.41788400 1.01051900 -0.00077500
- Н 0.37512500 -0.52369400 0.89342500

2.3 Single Point Energy Calculations

Single-point energies were calculated for the structures at the B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)[Ag-RSC+2(4f)]//B3LYP/6-31G*[Ag-RSC+2(4f)] level of theory. The results are summarized in Table S-1 below.

Structure	Single pt	ZPE from	E+ZPE
	Energy	6-31G*	(Hartree)
	(Hartree)	(Hartree)	
Ag_CrbndInsTS TS-IIIa	-1800.244639	0.266259	-1799.97838
Ag_LAcoor_synN2lossTS	-1793.972281	0.266276	-1793.706005
Ag_CrbndYlide YL-IIa	-1800.252006	0.266276	-1799.98573
Ag_PVCrbnd_sTrans VC	-1684.470259	0.211753	-1684.258506
Ag_MeoH_Crbnd_COMPLEX	-1800.25491	0.265394	-1799.989516
Ag_VnlgsYLIDE YL-IIb	-1800.249796	0.267225	-1799.982571
Ag_VnlgADDTS_ TS-IIIb	-1800.249531	0.266859	-1799.982672
Ag_N2TS TS-II	-1793.998863	0.218744	-1793.780119
Ag_LAcmpxAN2DISSTS TS-I	-1793.981735	0.21806	-1793.763675
AgOTf_MPVD_N2Ccoord LA-II	-1794.009475	0.220344	-1793.789131
AgOTf_MPVD_LAcoord1 LA-I	-1794.02295	0.221452	-1793.801498
Ag_CrbndsCis s- <i>cis</i> VC	-1684.480248	0.212141	-1684.268107
MPVD 1	-685.3004567	0.192102	-685.1083547
AgOTf	-1108.688454	0.027984	-1108.66047
N2	-109.5629655	0.0056	-109.5573655
МеОН	-115.769755	0.051473	-115.718282

Table S-1: Single point energies and calculated E+2	ZPE.
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3. NMR Data for Selected New Compounds

This section contains ¹H and ¹³C NMR data for new compounds





Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Science This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2011




























Pulse Sequence: s2gul Solvent: CDC18 Amblent temperature INDVA-S09 "tocmy.chem.buffelo.edu"

Helan, delay 2,400 Sec Pulse 34.8 degrees Acq, time 1,301 Sec Width 13008.8 Hz 16 repetitions Descent H1, 439,3034062 NHz DATA PROCESSING Line Brondening 0.7 Hz FT 5126 45536 Total time 1 pin, 18 sec

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ppn.

4

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180 160 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 ppm

















Pulse Sequence: 12pul Solvent: CDC15 Ambient temperature DMOWA-500 "tocay.chem.buffalo.edu"

Helan, detay 2.600 sec Pulse 34.6 degrees Acq. time 1.891 sec Width 10006.9 Mz 16 repetitions DATA PROCESSING Line broadening 0.7 Hz PT size 65306 Total time 1 min, 10 sec



Compound Z-14








Pulso Sequencer sipul Solvent: CDC13 Ambient temperature IMOVA-SIO "topsy.chem.buffalo.edu"

Relax, delay 2.000 sec Pulse 14.6 degrees Ace, time 1.001 sec Width 20000.0 Hz 16 repetitions descript H1, 400.00040 HHz DATA PROCESSING Line broadening 0.7 Hz FT else 5535 Total time 1 min, 18 sec

Ö CO₂CH₃ н Ρń

Compound 16





References

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