# **Supporting Information**

Ph<sub>3</sub>As-catalyzed Wittig-Type Olefination of Aldehydes with Diazoacetate

in the Presence of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

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General Information All reactions were carried out under  $N_2$  unless otherwise noted. All carbonyl compounds and solvents were purified according to standard methods unless otherwise noted.

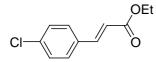
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a VARIAN Mercury 300 MHz spectrometer in chloroform-d. All signals are reported in ppm with the internal TMS signal at 0.0 ppm or chloroform signal at 7.26 ppm as a standard. The data are reported as (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quadruplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a VARIAN Mercury 300 MHz spectrometer in chloroform-d. All signals are reported in ppm with the internal chloroform signal at 77.0 ppm as a standard.

Fe(TCP)Cl was synthesized according to literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

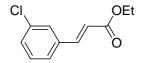
# Part I Experimental Part

1. General procedure for Iron(III) Porphyrin and Triphenylarsine-catalyzed Olefination Reaction. Fe(TCP)Cl (2.5 mg, 0.003 mmol), Ph<sub>3</sub>As (37 mg, 0.12 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (210 mg, 1.2 mmol) were mixed in a Schlenk tube. The tube was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen. Aldehyde (0.6 mmol) was added, followed by toluene (3.0 mL) and water (1.25 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and 2.0 equiv of EDA (126 uL, 1.2 mmol) was added within 8 h via a syringe pump or in portions. After the reaction was complete, the resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel) to give the product.

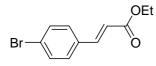
## **Characterization data of Compounds**



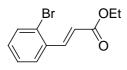
(E)-ethyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)acrylate  $3a^2$  (Table 1, entry 1) was synthesized from 4-chlorobenzaldehyde 1a. 97% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.64 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.41 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



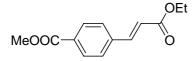
(E)-ethyl 3-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylate  $3b^3$  (Table 1, entry 2) was synthesized from 3-chlorobenzaldehyde 1b. 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.69 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.54-7.51 (m, 2 H), 7.39-7.37 (m, 2 H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



(E)-ethyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)acrylate  $3c^4$  (Table 1, entry 3) was synthesized from 4-bromobenzaldehyde 1c. 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 6.43 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

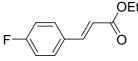


(E)-ethyl 3-(2-bromophenyl)acrylate  $3d^5$  (Table 1, entry 4) was synthesized from 2-bromobenzaldehyde 1d. 91% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  8.05 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.61-7.59 (m, 2 H), 7.35-7.20 (m, 2 H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 1 H), 6.38 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.28 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

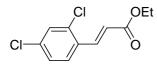


(E)-methyl 4-(3-ethoxy-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzoate  $3e^6$  (Table 1, entry 5) was synthesized from methyl 4-formylbenzoate 1e. 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  8.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz , 2 H), 7.70 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.7Hz, 2 H), 6.52 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.94 (s, 3 H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

(E)-ethyl 3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate  $3f^7$  (Table 1, entry 6) was synthesized from 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde 1f. 89% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/ TMS)  $\delta$  7.70 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.65 (s, 4 H), 6.53 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

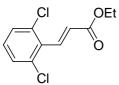


(E)-ethyl 3-(4-fluorophenyl)acrylate  $3g^8$  (Table 1, entry 7) was synthesized from 4-fluorobenzaldehyde 1g. 92% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.65 (d , J =15.9 Hz , 1 H) , 7.54-7.49 (m , 2 H) , 7.11-7.05 (m , 2 H) , 6.36 (d , J = 15.9 Hz , 1 H) , 4.27 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

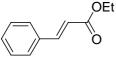


(E)-ethyl 3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)acrylate 3h<sup>9</sup> (Table 1,

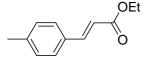
entry 8) was synthesized from 2,4-dichlorobenzaldehyde **1h**. 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  8.01 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz , 1 H) ,7.57-7.54 (m , 1 H) ,7.45-7.44 (m , 1 H) ,7.28-7.25(m , 1 H) ,6.42 (d, *J* = 15.9 HZ , 1 H) ,4.28 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



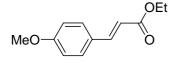
Cl (E)-ethyl 3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)acrylate  $3i^{10}$  (Table 1, entry 9) was synthesize from 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde 1i. 71% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.39-7.34 (m, 2 H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 1 H), 6.59 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.28 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



ethyl cinnamate  $3j^{11}$  (Table 1, entry 10) was synthesized from benzaldehyde 1j. 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.70 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.55-7.52 (m, 2 H), 7.40-7.38 (m, 3 H), 6.45 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.27 (q, J =7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

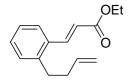


(E)-ethyl 3-p-tolylacrylate  $3k^{12}$  (Table 1, entry 11) was synthesized from 4-methylbenzaldehyde 1k. 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.66 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2 H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2 H), 6.39 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.25 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.37 (s, 3 H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

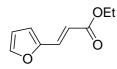


(E)-ethyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate  $3l^{13}$  (Table 1, entry 12) was synthesized from 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 11. 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.64

(d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 6.31 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.25 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.83 (s, 3 H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



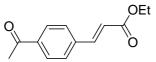
(E)-ethyl 3-(2-(but-3-enyl)phenyl)acrylate 3m (Table 1, entry 13) was synthesized from 2-(but-3-enyl)benzaldehyde 1m. Fe(TCP)Cl was added in portions, 3.0 equivalent EDA was added to the system within 12h. 78% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  8.02 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.58 (d, *J*=8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.35-7.21 (m, 3 H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.93-5.80 (m, 1 H), 5.10-5.00 (m, 2 H), 4.28 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.90-2.84 (m, 2 H), 2.37-2.30 (m, 2 H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.9, 142.0, 141.3, 137.4, 132.9, 130.0, 129.9 126.5, 126.4, 119.5, 115.3, 60.4, 35.4, 32.7, 14.3; IR(KBr) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> 1716, 1634, 1313, 1177; MS (EI, m/z, rel. intensity) 230 (2.6), 157 (27), 117 (100), 115 (86), 91 (28); HRMS(EI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 230.1307; found: 230.1309.



(E)-ethyl 3-(furan-2-yl)acrylate  $3n^{14}$  (Table 1, entry 14) was synthesized from furan-2-carbaldehyde 1n. 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.48 (s, 1 H), 7.43 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.60 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.48-6.46 (m, 1 H), 6.32 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.25 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

COOEt (E)-ethyl undec-2-enoate  $3o^{15}$  (Table 1, entry 15) was synthesized from nonanal 10. Fe(TCP)Cl was added in portions, 3.0 equivalent EDA was added to the system within 12 h. 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  6.96 (dt, J = 15.6, 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.81 (dt, J = 15.6, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.22-2.15 (m, 2 H), 1.51-1.41 (m, 2 H), 1.32-1.22 (m, 13 H), 0.87 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H).

COOEt **(E)-ethyl 3-cyclohexylacrylate 3p**<sup>16</sup> (Table 1, entry 16) was synthesized from cyclohexanecarbaldehyde **1p**. 78% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  6.92 (dd, J = 6.6, 15.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.77 (dd, J = 15.9, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.15-2.12 (m, 1 H); 1.78-1.70 (m, 4 H), 1.36-1.12 (m, 9 H).



(E)-ethyl 3-(4-acetylphenyl)acrylate  $3q^{17}$  (Table 1, entry 17) was synthesized from 4-acetylbenzaldehyde 1q. 93% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.98 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.71 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 2 H), 6.53 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.63 (s, 3 H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). F<sub>3</sub>C (OEt

(E)-ethyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,4,4-trifluorobut-2-enoate  $3r^{18}$  (Table 1, entry 18) was synthesized from 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethanone 1r. 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/TMS)  $\delta$  7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz,2 H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 6.62 (s,1 H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

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