Supporting Information Ru-Catalyzed Highly Chemo- and Enantioselective Hydrogenation of γ-Halo-γ,δ-Unsaturated-β-Keto Esters under Neutral Conditions

Xin Ma,[†] Wanfang Li,[†] Xiaoming Li,[†] Xiaoming Tao,[†] Weizheng Fan,[†] Xiaomin Xie,[†] Tahar Ayad,[§] Virginie Ratovelomanana-Vidal[§] and Zhaoguo Zhang^{*,†,‡}

[†]School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 800 Dongchuan Road, Shanghai 200240, China, [‡]Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, 345 Lingling Road, Shanghai 200032, China, [§]ENSCP Chimie ParisTech, Laboratoire Charles Friedel (LCF), CNRS, UMR 7223, 75005 Paris, France

zhaoguo@sjtu.edu.cn

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General and Materials

General: All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques unless otherwise noted. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and spectra were obtained on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. The chemical shifts for ¹H NMR were recorded in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance as the internal standard. The chemical shifts for ¹³C NMR were recorded in ppm using the central peak of CDCl₃ (77.16 ppm), DMSO-*d*₆ (39.52 ppm) or Acetone-*d*₆ (29.84 ppm) as the internal standard. Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hz and refer to apparent peak multiplications. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (300-400 mesh).

Materials: Commercially available reagents were used throughout without further purification other than those detailed below. The solvents used in catalyst preparation and hydrogenation reactions were pretreated by the following procedures: MeOH and EtOH were distilled over magnesium under nitrogen. CH_2Cl_2 were distilled over calcium hydride under nitrogen. *n*-PrOH was distilled over first sodium tetrahydroborate then calcium hydride under nitrogen.

1. Preparations of 1a-n and their spectra data



1.1 Preparations of methyl 2-chloro-3-arylacrylates



5a was synthesized follow a modified reported procedure.³ To a pre-heated (oil bath temperature 55-60 °C) suspension of reduced iron power (95.0 g, 1.70 mol, 3.0 eq. commercial, activated by stirring in 3% HCl for 10 min, washed with pure water, EtOH and Et₂O successively, dried under vacuum.) in 1.3 L anhydrous THF, a THF solution (170 mL) of benzaldehyde (60.0 g, 0.57 mol, 1.0 eq.) and methyl trichloroacetate (126.6 g, 0.68 mol, 95% wt, 1.2 eq.) was added dropwise within 6 hours. The reaction was exothermic and the color of reaction mixture darkened gradually. After addition, stirred for another 1-2 h then quenched by water. (The dechlorinated byproduct methyl cinnamate formed when aldehyde was only partial converted, quenched the reaction when the amount of methyl cinnamate was >2%, monitored by GC) Filtered through Celite, the solvent was evaporated off, and the residual was dissolved with EtOAc (500 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under vacuum, the residual was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petrol ether/EtOAc = 50/1) to give 66.5 g product, as pale yellow oil (*Z*/*E* = 7/1). Yield: 60%.

Z-**5a**¹: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.86 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0, 137.3, 132.9, 130.7, 130.3, 128.6, 121.8, 53.4.

E-**5a**²: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0, 137.4, 133.7, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 122.4, 52.8.



Methyl 2-chloro-3-(p-tolyl)acrylate⁴

Yield: 59%, pale yellow solid (Z/E = 5/1).

Z-**5b**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.79 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 140.9, 137.3, 130.9, 130.2, 129.4, 120.8, 53.4, 21.6.

E-**5b**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 – 7.12 (m, 5H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.2, 139.2, 137.7, 130.8, 129.1, 128.6, 121.5, 52.8, 21.4.

Methyl 2-chloro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate¹

Yield: 62%, pale yellow solid (Z/E = 5/1).

Z-5c^{1: 1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 – 7.83 (m, 3H), 6.98 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 161.1, 136.8, 132.7, 125.4, 119.0, 114.0, 55.3, 53.2. *E*-5c: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 –7.30 (m, 2H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.89 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 160.2, 137.9, 130.6, 125.9, 120.0, 113.7, 55.2, 52.8.



Methyl 2-chloro-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)acrylate²

Yield: 43%, pale yellow oil (Z/E = 5/1).

Z-5d: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 6.99 – 6.93 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 159.3, 137.0, 133.8, 129.4, 123.3, 121.7, 116.0, 115.4, 55.1, 53.2.

E-**5d**²: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.90 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.9, 159.1, 136.7, 134.7, 129.2, 122.4, 120.8, 114.5, 113.6, 55.0, 52.7.



Methyl 2-chloro-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)acrylate

Yield: 60%, pale yellow oil (Z/E = 6/1).

Z-**5e**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.09 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.2, 158.1, 132.5, 131.7, 130.2, 122.1, 122.0, 120.3, 110.7, 55.7, 53.4. HRMS Calculated for C₁₁H₁₁ClO₃ (M+Na) 249.0294, found: 249.0287.

E-**5e**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.94 – 6.89 (m, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 156.7, 134.0, 130.6, 129.9, 123.2, 122.9, 120.4, 110.7, 55.6, 52.8. HRMS Calculated for C₁₁H₁₁ClO₃ (M+Na) 249.0294, found: 249.0300.

Methyl 2-chloro-3-(4-chlorophenyl)acrylate⁵

Yield: 56%, white solid (Z/E = 7/1).

Z-**5f**⁵: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 136.3, 136.0, 132.0, 131.4, 129.0, 122.4, 53.6. *E*-**5f**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H).

 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 136.6, 134.9, 132.1, 129.9, 128.6, 123.1, 52.9.

Methyl 2-chloro-3-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylate

Yield: 45%, white solid (Z/E = 10/1), *E*-**5**g was not isolated.

Z-5g: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.68 (dt, *J* = 6.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 135.8, 135.6, 134.6, 130.29, 130.26, 129.9, 128.8, 123.3, 53.6. HRMS Calculated for C₁₀H₈Cl₂O₂ (M+H) 230.9980, found: 230.9967.



Methyl 2-chloro-3-(2-chlorophenyl)acrylate⁶

Yield: 44%, yellow oil (Z/E = 20/1), E-5h was not isolated.

Z-**5h**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (s, 1H), 7.99 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 134.8, 134.1, 131.4, 130.9, 130.7, 129.7, 126.6, 124.6, 53.5.

Methyl 2-chloro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)acrylate⁷

Yield: 56%, white solid (Z/E = 8/1).

Z-**5i**⁷: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.9, 163.6 (d, *J* = 252.8 Hz), 136.0, 132.9 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 121.5, 115.8 (d, *J* = 21.7 Hz), 53.5.

E-5i: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.07 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 163.0 (d, *J* = 250.1 Hz), 136.9, 130.7 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 122.5, 115.5 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz), 52.9.



Yield: 51%, white solid (Z/E = 8/1).

Z-**5j**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.7, 136.0, 132.1, 131.9, 131.8, 124.7, 122.5, 53.6. HRMS Calculated for C₁₀H₈BrClO₂ (M+Na) 296.9294, found: 296.9296.

E-5j: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.7, 136.7, 132.7, 131.6, 130.2, 123.3, 53.1. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 164.3, 136.4, 133.8, 132.3, 131.3, 123.6, 123.5, 53.3. HRMS Calculated for C₁₀H₈BrClO₂ (M+H) 274.9474, found: 274.9481.



Methyl 2-chloro-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate¹

Yield: 51%, white solid (Z/E = 9/1).

Z-**5k**¹: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.89 (m, 3H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 136.4, 135.6, 131.6 (q, *J* = 32.8 Hz), 130.7, 125.5 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 124.3, 123.8 (q, *J* = 272.4 Hz), 53.7.

E-**5k**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 137.4, 136.2, 130.7 (q, *J* = 32.8 Hz), 128.8, 125.3 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 124.9, 124.0 (q, *J* = 271.8 Hz), 53.0.

(4E)-Methyl 2-chloro-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoate^{1,2}

Yield: 41%, Z: yellow solid , E: pale yellow oil (Z/E = 4/1).

(2Z,4E)-**51**¹: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 (dd, J = 10.8, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.21 (dd, J = 15.7, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 142.3, 138.1, 135.9, 129.6, 129.0, 127.6, 122.9, 122.2, 53.2.

(2E, 4E)-**5l**²: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (dd, J = 15.7, 11.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.06 (dd, J = 11.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.2, 142.6, 141.6, 136.1, 129.3, 128.8, 127.6, 124.0, 120.7, 52.8.

1.2 Preparations of (Z)-2-chloro-3-arylacrylic acids





To a solution of **5a** (15.3 g, 78.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in THF (100 mL), an aqueous solution (100 mL distilled water) of LiOH·H₂O (9.8 g, 233.2 mmol, 3.0 eq.) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 hours at room temperature. Most solvent was rotavapored off, distilled water was added until a clear solution formed. The aqueous solution was washed with DCM (10 mL), then an aqueous solution (80 mL) of BaCl₂·2H₂O (22.8 g, 93.0 mmol, 1.2 eq.) was added,⁹ white precipitate formed immediately, filtered after 30 min, washed with distilled water in several portions. The white barium salt was suspended in 100 mL distilled water, acidified with concentrated HCl to pH=1. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (100 mLx2), dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was removed under vacuum, the crude acid (12.8 g) was purified by recrystallization, and white long-needle crystal was obtained (7.8 g, 55% yield) from 30:1 Hexanes/EtOH. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.91 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.1, 139.6, 132.7, 131.1, 131.0, 128.8, 121.0.



(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(p-tolyl)acrylic acid¹⁰

Recrystallized from 5.5:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white solid. Yield: 62%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.59 (s, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 164.1, 140.5, 136.2, 130.6, 130.0, 129.4, 121.5, 21.2.



(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylic acid¹¹

Recrystallized from 5:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white solid. Yield: 66%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.49 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.89 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 164.3, 160.9, 136.0, 132.7, 125.2, 119.7, 114.3, 55.4.



(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)acrylic acid

Recrystallized from 30:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white needle crystal. Yield: 70%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.37 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 159.6, 139.5, 133.9, 129.8, 123.9, 121.2, 117.0, 115.8, 55.5. HRMS Calculated for C₁₀H₉ClO₃ (M+Na) 235.0138, found: 235.0128.



(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)acrylic acid¹¹

Recrystallized from 20:1 Hexanes/EtOH, pale yellow needle crystal. Yield: 52%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2, 158.4, 134.6, 132.3, 130.4, 121.7, 121.1, 120.4, 110.8, 55.8.

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-chlorophenyl)acrylic acid¹¹

Recrystallized from 6:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white needle crystal. Yield: 54%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.73 (s, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.7, 135.0, 134.8, 132.1, 131.6, 128.8, 123.2.

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylic acid¹²

Recrystallized from 30:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white needle crystal. Yield: 40%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.90 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dt, *J* = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 138.0, 134.8, 134.4, 130.8, 130.6, 130.0, 129.2, 122.5

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(2-chlorophenyl)acrylic acid¹²

Recrystallized from 30:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white crystal. Yield: 64%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.06 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 136.3, 135.2, 131.4, 131.2, 130.9, 129.9, 126.8, 123.8.

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)acrylic acid

Recrystallized from 10:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white crystal. Yield: 51%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.66 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 7.93 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.9, 162.8 (d, J = 249.6 Hz), 135.1, 132.9 (d, J = 8.6 Hz), 129.3 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 122.3, 115.8 (d, J = 21.7 Hz). HRMS Calculated for C₉H₆CIFO₂ (M+Na) 201.0119, found: 201.0128.



(Z)-3-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-chloroacrylic acid¹³

Recrystallized from 5:1 Hexanes/EtOH, pale yellow crystal. Yield: 62%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.73 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.7, 135.0, 132.2, 131.9, 131.7, 123.7, 123.3.

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylic acid

Recrystallized from 10:1 Hexanes/EtOH, white crystal. Yield: 44%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.87 (s, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.5, 136.8, 134.8, 130.9, 129.8 (q, J = 32.1 Hz), 125.4 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 125.1, 123.9 (q, J = 272.2 Hz). HRMS Calculated for C₁₀H₆ClF₃O₂ (M+H) 251.0087, found: 251.0079.



(2Z,4E)-2-Chloro-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoic acid¹¹

Z/E Methyl esters could be completely separated by flash chromatography, Z-acid was obtained directly after hydrolysis, BaCl₂•2H₂O was not added. Yellow solid. Yield: 98%

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.42 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.5, 142.4, 137.3, 135.7, 129.6, 129.0, 127.6, 122.8, 122.5.

1.3 Preparations of 1a-n



(Z)-Ethyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

To a solution of **6a** (16.7 g, 91.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in anhydrous THF (150 mL), CDI (17.9 g, 106.0 mmol, 1.1 eq.) was added in several portions, after addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. In another flask, MgCl₂ (10.5 g, 110.0 mmol, 1.2 eq.) and potassium 3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoate (38.9 g, 229.0 mmol, 2.5 eq.) were suspended in anhydrous THF (150 mL) under nitrogen, stirred for 1 hour. To this white suspension, the acid-Im solution was added dropwise. After addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 h then quenched by water, acidified with 2M HCl to pH=2, extracted with EtOAc (100 mLx2). Combined organic layer was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petrol ether/EtOAc = 50/1) to give 16.2 g product, as off-white solid. Yield: 70%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.88 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.44 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.1, 167.3, 167.0, 136.6, 133.6, 132.6, 131.2, 131.1, 130.8, 130.4, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 124.0, 90.7, 61.6, 60.7, 45.9, 14.2, 14.1. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃ClO₃ (M+Na) 275.0451, found: 275.0441.



To a solution of **6a** (3.0 g, 16.4 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in anhydrous THF (50 mL), CDI (3.4 g, 90 wt%, 18.1 mmol, 1.1 eq.) was added in several portions, after addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. In another flask, to a mixture of MgCl₂ (1.9 g, 19.7 mmol, 1.2 eq.) and 3-oxo-3-propoxypropanoic acid (6.7 g, 90 wt%, 41.1 mmol, 2.5 eq. prepared from 1:1 Meldrum's acid and *n*-PrOH in reflux toluene¹⁴) in anhydrous THF (50 mL) under nitrogen, Et₃N solution (4.2 g, 41.1 mmol, 2.5 eq. in 10 mL THF) was added dropwise at 0 °C, then the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. To this white suspension, the acid-Im solution was added dropwise. After addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 h then quenched by water, acidified with 2M HCl to pH=2, extracted with EtOAc (50 mLx2). Combined organic layer was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petrol ether/EtOAc = 80/1) to give 1.1 g product, as pale yellow solid. Yield: 26%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 4.14 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 1.68 (sex, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.44 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 4.17 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (sex, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.7, 173.3, 167.4, 167.1, 136.6, 133.7, 132.6, 131.24, 131.15, 130.9, 130.5, 129.5, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 124.1, 90.8, 67.3, 66.4, 46.1, 22.1, 22.0, 10.5, 10.4. HRMS Calculated for C₁₄H₁₅ClO₃ (M+Na) 289.0607, found: 289.0608.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

Same procedure with 1a but potassium 3-methoxy-3-oxopropanoate was used. Yield: 83%, pale yellow

solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.89 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.34 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.6, 173.5, 167.5, 167.4, 136.7, 133.7, 132.6, 131.4, 131.2, 130.9, 130.6, 129.6, 128.8, 128.5, 124.0, 90.4, 52.7, 51.8, 45.8. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₁ClO₃ (M+Na) 261.0294, found: 261.0287.

(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-(p-tolyl)pent-4-enoate

Yield: 80%, pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.35 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.6, 167.7, 167.6, 141.7, 140.0, 136.8, 131.41, 131.35, 130.9, 130.6, 129.9, 129.5, 129.3, 127.6, 123.0, 90.1, 52.6, 51.7, 45.8, 21.7, 21.6. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃ClO₃ (M+Na) 275.0451, found: 275.0437.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 81%, yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.92 – 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 6.99 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.36 (s, 1H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.6, 167.9, 167.7, 161.8, 160.7, 136.5, 133.5, 132.5, 131.0, 126.33, 126.27, 125.3, 121.6, 114.3, 114.0, 89.6, 55.5, 55.4, 52.6, 51.7, 45.8. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃ClO₄ (M+Na) 291.0400, found: 291.0398.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 61%, yellow oil, frozen in freezer. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.35 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.00 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.5, 167.5, 167.3, 159.6, 159.5, 136.6, 134.9, 133.8, 131.3, 129.7, 129.5, 128.6, 124.1, 124.0, 123.3, 116.9, 115.9, 115.5, 90.5, 55.4, 55.3, 52.6, 51.8, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃ClO₄ (M+Na) 291.0400, found: 291.0403.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 61%, yellow oil, gradually frozen in freezer. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.12 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.34 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 8.00 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.03 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.1, 173.4, 167.6, 167.5, 158.4, 157.9, 132.3, 132.2, 130.9, 130.1, 130.0, 129.0, 126.6, 124.0, 122.4, 121.4, 120.2, 120.1, 110.6, 110.5, 90.0, 55.6, 55.5, 52.4, 51.6, 45.5. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃ClO₄ (M+Na) 291.0400, found: 291.0410.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 65%, off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.33 (s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.4, 167.4, 167.1, 136.9, 135.4, 135.2, 132.4, 132.1, 131.8, 131.0, 130.0, 129.1, 128.8, 124.5, 90.7, 52.7, 51.9, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₀Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 294.9905, found: 294.9905.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 68%, white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.88 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.32 (s, 1H), 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.4, 173.3, 167.3, 166.8, 135.3, 134.9, 134.7, 134.4, 134.2, 130.7, 130.6, 130.1, 129.9, 129.8, 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 125.3, 90.9, 52.7, 51.9, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₀Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 294.9905, found: 294.9897.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 51%, white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.31 (s, 1H), 8.00 – 7.96 (m, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.90 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.0, 173.4, 167.3, 166.8, 135.4, 134.8, 133.8, 132.3, 131.4, 131.24, 131.16, 130.9, 130.8, 130.3, 129.9, 129.7, 128.6, 126.7, 126.6, 126.5, 91.2, 52.8, 51.9, 45.8. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₀Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 294.9905, found: 294.9900.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 59%, off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.92 – 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.34 (s, 1H), 7.83 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.5, 173.5, 167.5, 167.2, 163.5 (d, *J* = 253.8 Hz), 163.1 (d, *J* = 251.4 Hz), 135.3, 133.4 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 132.6 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 130.1, 129.9 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 128.8 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 128.1, 123.6, 116.0 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J* = 21.7 Hz), 90.4, 52.65, 51.8, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₀ClFO₃ (M+Na) 279.0200, found: 279.0194.



(Z)-Methyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4-chloro-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 64%, off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.33 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.4, 173.4, 167.4, 167.0, 135.2, 132.5, 132.0, 131.9, 131.8, 131.4, 130.1, 128.9, 125.4, 124.6, 123.8, 90.7, 52.7, 51.9, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₀BrClO₃ (M+Na) 338.9400, found: 338.9391.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate

Yield: 48%, off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.34 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.4, 173.3, 167.3, 166.6, 137.1, 136.0, 134.6, 132.0 (q, *J* = 32.5 Hz), 131.1, 130.9 (q, *J* = 32.5 Hz), 130.6, 130.4, 129.7, 126.2, 125.6 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 125.4 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 123.9 (q, *J* = 272.3 Hz), 123.8 (q, *J* = 272.7 Hz), 91.3, 52.7, 51.9, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₀ClF₃O₃ (M+Na) 329.0168, found: 329.0177.



(4Z,6E)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-7-phenylhepta-4,6-dienoate

Yield: 89%, yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 7.57 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.22 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.19 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.23 (dd, J = 15.6, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.3, 173.4, 167.5, 166.7, 144.5, 140.6, 137.8, 136.3, 135.8, 132.2, 130.0, 129.4, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 127.8, 127.4, 124.8, 123.3, 122.9, 90.2, 52.6, 51.7, 45.7. HRMS Calculated for C₁₄H₁₃ClO₃ (M+Na) 287.0451, found: 287.0443.



2. Preparations of 3a-c and their spectra data

It was failed while preparing **3** using the same procedure as **1**, the yield of last step was very low (<10%). Condensation with methyl acetate gave 3a in 66% yield.

3b and 3c were prepared in similar route.



To a solution of methyl cinnamate (150.0 g, 925.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CCl₄ (400 mL), bromine (155.0 g, 971.0 mmol, 1.05 eq.) was added dropwise at 0 °C, precipitate formed gradually. After addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. DCM was added to dissolve the solid, and then washed with saturated NaHSO₃ solution and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was rotavapored off, the crude product was recrystallized by Hexanes and DCM to give pure 7 (253.5 g, 85% yield) as white crystal. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 5.34 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 137.6, 129.5, 129.0, 128.2, 53.6, 50.7, 46.8.



Ethyl 2,3-dibromo-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoate¹⁶

Precipitated from CCl₄, filtered and wash with small portions of cold CCl₄, pure enough for next step. Yield: 75%. White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.88 (m, 2H), 5.36 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 160.2, 129.7, 129.4, 114.3, 62.7, 55.4, 51.2, 47.4, 14.0.

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Ethyl 2,3-dibromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate

No precipitate formed during addition of bromine. Purified by flash chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc = 50/1). Yield: 70%. White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.36 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 141.6, 131.4 (q, *J* = 32.7 Hz), 128.6, 126.0 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 123.8 (q, *J* = 272.4 Hz), 62.9, 49.1, 46.5, 14.0.



(Z)-2-Bromo-3-phenylacrylic acid¹⁷

To a solution of **7a** (34.4 g, 107.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in DCM (200 mL), Et₃N (17.1 g, 169.0 mmol, 1.6 eq.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature, and then washed with 3 M HCl and brine. DCM was rotavapored off, the crude product (Z/E = 1/1.8) was dissolved with THF (100 mL), and an aqueous solution (80 mL distilled water) of LiOH+H₂O (13.5 g, 321.0 mmol, 3.0 eq.) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 hours at room temperature. Most solvent was rotavapored off, distilled water was added until a clear solution formed. The aqueous solution was washed with DCM (10 mL), then an aqueous solution (100 mL) of BaCl₂•2H₂O (31.3 g, 128.1 mmol, 1.2 eq.) was added, white precipitate formed immediately, filtered after 30 min, washed with distilled water in several portions. The white barium salt was suspended in 100 mL distilled water, acidified with concentrated HCl to pH=1. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (100 mLx2), dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was removed under vacuum, the crude acid (7.6 g) was purified by recrystallization, and white long-needle crystal was obtained (5.2 g, 69% yield) from 30:1 Hexanes/EtOH. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2, 143.6, 133.4, 131.0, 130.8, 128.7, 111.6.



(Z)-Methyl 2-bromo-3-phenylacrylate¹⁸

Some esterification methods were tired and EDC was chosen because it could minimize the *Z/E* isomerization. To a suspension of acid **9a** (2.8 g, 12.3 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in DCM (30 mL), EDC (2.8 g, 14.8 mmol, 1.2 eq.) was added in several portions at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min, and then MeOH (15 mL) was added, stirred for 24 h. Solvent was rotavapored off, the residual was dissolved with DCM (30 mL), washed with 5% HCl and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc = 30/1), 2.5 g (85% yield) pale yellow oil was obtained. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.89 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.7, 141.0, 133.5, 130.24, 130.20, 128.4, 112.4, 53.5.



(Z)-Methyl 2-bromo-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate¹⁹

Yield: 45% based on crude Z-acid **9b**. White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.95 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.88 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.2, 161.3, 140.7, 132.6, 126.2, 114.0, 109.6, 55.5, 53.6.



(Z)-Methyl 2-bromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate

Yield: 40% based on crude Z-acid **9c**. Off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 139.6, 137.3, 131.6 (q, J = 32.6 Hz), 130.4, 125.5 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 123.9 (q, J = 272.1 Hz), 115.3, 53.9.



(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

To a solution of diisopropylamine (2.0 g, 20.1 mmol, 2.55 eq.) in anhydrous THF (20 mL) under nitrogen, n-BuLi (2.4 M in hexane, 8.2 mL, 19.7 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was added dropwise at -10 °C, after addition, stirred for 30 min at -5~0 °C. Cooled down to -65 °C, methyl acetate (1.5 g, 19.7 mmol, 2.5 eq.) solution (5 mL anhydrous THF) was added dropwise, keeping temperature below -60 °C. After addition, stirred for 20 min at -65~-55 °C. Cooled down again to -78 °C, a solution of 8a (1.9 g, 7.9 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added dropwise, keeping temperature below -70 °C. After addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min at -70~-65 °C, then warmed to -60~-55 °C for another 30 min. When the reaction was completed, monitored by TLC, poured into 2 M HCl (50 mL) and ether (50 mL), organic layer was separated, washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvent was rotavapored off, the residual was purified by flash chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc = 40/1), 1.5 g (66% yield) yellow oil was obtained. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.91 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.79 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 5.91 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.1, 173.3, 167.8, 167.4, 141.0, 135.0, 134.4, 133.2, 130.8, 130.6, 130.0, 129.4, 128.5, 128.2, 120.9, 114.9, 92.1, 52.5, 51.7, 45.8. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₁BrO₃ (M+Na) 304.9789, found: 304.9794.



(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate

Yield: 80%. Pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.97 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.98 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.45 (s, 1H), 7.85 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 6.95 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.3, 173.6, 167.8, 166.6, 161.9, 160.7, 140.8, 134.7, 133.2, 132.3, 130.8, 127.0, 125.8, 118.3, 114.2, 113.9, 91.5, 55.6, 55.4, 52.7, 51.8, 46.1. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃BrO₄ (M+Na) 334.9895, found: 334.9897.



(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-oxo-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate

Yield: 54%. Pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) Ketone form: δ 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 8.2, 0.6 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). Enol form: δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 8.2, 0.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.2, 173.2, 167.3, 167.1, 139.0, 138.1, 136.9, 133.5, 131.8 (q, J = 32.7 Hz), 130.7 (q, J = 32.7 Hz), 130.6, 130.1, 125.4 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 125.2 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 123.9 (q, J = 272.3 Hz), 123.7 (q, J = 272.2 Hz), 123.0, 117.4, 93.0, 52.6, 51.8, 45.9. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₀BrF₃O₃ (M+Na) 372.9663, found: 372.9667.

3. Typical procedure for the asymmetric hydrogenation

To a 20 mL Schlenk tube were added [Ru(benzene)Cl₂]₂ (5.0 mg, 0.01 mmol) and (*S*)-SunPhos (14.8 mg, 0.022 mmol) under nitrogen. The tube was vacuumed and purged with nitrogen again before addition of freshly distilled and freeze-and-thaw degassed EtOH/CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL/2 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at 50 °C for 1 h and then cooled to room temperature. The solvent was then removed under vacuum to give the catalyst as a brownish yellow solid. The catalyst was dissolved in degassed MeOH (8 mL) and then the solution was equally divided into 4 vials which contained 1 mmol substrates (2 mL MeOH each). Then the vials were taken into an autoclave. The autoclave was purged three times with H₂ and the required pressure of H₂ was set. The autoclave was stirred under specified reaction conditions. After being cooled to ambient temperature and careful release of the hydrogen, the autoclave was opened and the solvent was evaporated. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiralpak IC-3 column after passing the samples through a short pad of silica gel eluted with petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.

4. Spectra and HPLC data of 2a-n and 4a-c



(Z)-Ethyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 4.79 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.20 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.34 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.74 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.9, 134.0, 133.6, 129.3, 128.3, 128.2, 125.1, 72.5, 61.1, 40.0, 14.2. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 12.7 min, t₂ = 15.3 min or hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm, t₁ = 26.7 min, t₂ = 33.5 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅ClO₃ (M+Na) 277.0607, found: 277.0597.

2b

(Z)-Propyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 4.80 – 4.73 (m, 1H), 4.11 (td, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 3.36 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.74 (m, 2H), 1.67 (sex, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.1, 134.1, 133.5, 129.4, 128.34, 128.26, 125.3, 72.6, 66.8, 40.0, 22.0, 10.4. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 22.8 min, t₂ = 28.5 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₄H₁₇ClO₃ (M+Na) 291.0764, found: 291.0767.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 4.81 – 4.75 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.30 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.75 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.4, 134.1, 133.5, 129.4, 128.34, 128.28, 125.3, 72.6, 52.2, 39.9. The *Z*-olefin was confirmed by 1D-NOE. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 29.2 min, t₂ = 35.0 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₃ClO₃ (M+Na) 263.0451, found: 263.0444.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(p-tolyl)pent-4-enoate

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 4.80 – 4.73 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 – 2.74 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 138.2, 132.6, 131.2, 129.3, 129.0, 125.2, 72.6, 52.1, 39.9, 21.4. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 21.3 min, t₂ = 25.6 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅ClO₃ (M+Na) 277.0607, found: 277.0585.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.80 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.21 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.75 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.4, 159.5, 131.4, 130.8, 126.6, 124.8, 113.7, 72.7, 55.3, 52.1, 39.9. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 28.4 min, t₂ = 34.4 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅ClO₄ (M+Na) 293.0557, found: 293.0566.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.86 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.79 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.32 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.74 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 159.3, 135.3, 133.8, 129.2, 125.0, 122.0, 114.6, 114.0, 72.5, 55.2, 52.0, 39.9. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 24.1 min, t₂ = 28.8 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅ClO₄ (M+Na) 293.0557, found: 293.0546.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.97 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.85 – 4.79 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.14 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 – 2.78 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 157.2, 134.0, 129.8, 129.5, 122.9, 120.8, 120.1, 110.4, 72.7, 55.5, 52.0, 40.0. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 90/10, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 22.8 min, t₂ = 28.4 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅ClO₄ (M+Na) 293.0557, found: 293.0553.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 4.78 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.31 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.72 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.4, 134.1, 134.0, 132.6, 130.7, 128.6, 124.1, 72.5, 52.2, 39.8. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 16.6 min, t₂ = 19.5 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₂Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 297.0061, found: 297.0056.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.40 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.71 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 135.8, 135.0, 134.2, 129.5, 129.1, 128.2, 127.5, 123.9, 72.4, 52.2, 39.8. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.5 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 24.5 min, t₂ = 27.6 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₂Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 297.0061, found: 297.0070.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 4.85 – 4.79 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.33 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.94 – 2.78 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.1, 136.3, 133.8, 132.6, 130.6, 129.4, 129.2, 126.4, 122.6, 72.2, 52.1, 39.8. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 28.5 min, t₂ = 31.2 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₂Cl₂O₃ (M+Na) 297.0061, found: 297.0045.



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate

Pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 4.78 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.30 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.74 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 162.3 (d, *J* = 248.7 Hz), 133.3, 131.1 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 124.1, 115.3 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 72.5, 52.1, 39.8. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 17.2 min, t₂ = 20.2 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₂ClFO₃ (M+Na) 281.0357, found: 281.0359.



(Z)-Methyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4-chloro-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate

White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (s, 4H), 6.85 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.77 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.35 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.72 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 134.3, 133.0, 131.5, 130.9, 124.2, 122.2, 72.5, 52.2, 39.7. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 25.4 min, t₂ = 30.7 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₂BrClO₃ (M+Na) 340.9556, found: 340.9554.



¹²m (*Z*)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 4.80 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.40 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.96 – 2.73 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 137.7, 136.0, 129.9 (q, *J* = 32.5 Hz), 129.7, 125.2 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 124.1 (q, *J* = 272.0 Hz), 123.9, 72.4, 52.1, 39.8. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 19.5 min, t₂ = 23.0 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₂ClF₃O₃ (M+Na) 331.0325, found: 331.0331.



(4Z,6E)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-7-phenylhepta-4,6-dienoate

Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.76 – 4.70 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.22 (br, 1H), 2.86 – 2.72 (m, 2H). The *Z*-geometry of C4-C5 double bond was confirmed by 1D-NOE. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 136.8, 136.2, 134.5, 128.8, 128.4, 126.9, 125.9, 123.0, 71.7, 52.1, 39.7. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 23.6 min, t₂ = 27.7 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₄H₁₅ClO₃ (M+Na) 289.0607, found: 289.0617.

(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate

Pale yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 4.81 – 4.75 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.77 (m, 2H). The *Z*-olefin was confirmed by 1D-NOE. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 134.9, 129.2, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 73.8, 52.2, 40.6. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 25.9 min, t₂ = 31.7 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₂H₁₃BrO₃ (M+Na) 306.9946, found: 306.9936.



(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate

Racemate: white solid. Enantio-rich form: yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.92 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.78 – 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.19 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.76 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 159.5, 130.7, 128.0, 127.2, 125.0, 113.6, 73.9, 55.3, 52.1, 40.6. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 90/10, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 18.4 min, t₂ = 22.9 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₅BrO₄ (M+Na) 337.0051, found: 337.0075.

4c (Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate White solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.82 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.40 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.97 – 2.75 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 138.6, 130.0 (q, J = 32.5 Hz), 129.4, 129.3, 127.2, 125.2 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 124.1 (q, J = 272.0Hz), 73.6, 52.2, 40.3. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 15.4 min, t₂ = 18.6 min. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₂BrF₃O₃ (M+Na) 374.9820, found: 374.9815.

5. Typical procedure for the racemates of 2a-n and 4a-c

To a solution of 1c (200.5 mg, 0.840 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and CeCl₃•7H₂O (313.1 mg, 0.840 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in MeOH (3 mL), NaBH₄ (35.0 mg, 0.924 mmol, 1.1 eq.) was added in several portions, then the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min, quenched by saturated NH₄Cl solution. Most solvent was rotavapored off, the residual was extracted with EtOAc (10 mLx2), dried over Na₂SO₄. Concentrated

and then purified by flash chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc = 5/1) to give 182.3 mg pale yellow oil. Yield: 90%.

6. Typical procedure for debromination of 4a-c and spectra data of 4a'-c'



(E)-Methyl 3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate²⁰

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube were added PdCl₂(dppf)·CH₂Cl₂ (5.6 mg, 6.91 µmol, 5 mol %) and **4a** (39.4 mg, 0.14 mmol, 96.3% ee) under nitrogen, toluene (3 mL) was added, and then an aqueous solution (0.5 mL) of HCO₂Na•2H₂O (144.0 mg, 1.38 mmol, 10 eq.) was added. The mixture was stirred for 5 min at room temperature before it was heated at 120 °C for 2 h. The color changed to dark, TLC showed **4a** was consumed completely. EtOAc (5 mL) and water (2 mL) were added to the cold reaction mixture, after layers separation, the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (5 mL) again. Combined organic layer was rotavapored to dryness, the residual was purified by flash chromatography (Hexanes/EtOAc = 5/1) to give 27.9 mg pale yellow oil. Yield: 98%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.77 – 4.70 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.00 (brs, 1H), 2.72 – 2.59 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 136.3, 130.6, 130.0, 128.5, 127.7, 126.5, 68.8, 51.8, 41.4. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 90/10, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 19.1 min, t₂ = 22.0 min. 95.8% ee.



4a'

(E)-Methyl 3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate

Yield: 99%. Pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.88 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75 – 4.67 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.94 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.71 – 2.58 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.8, 159.4, 130.5, 129.2, 127.8, 127.7, 114.1, 69.2, 55.4, 52.0, 41.6. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 90/10, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 33.1 min, t₂ = 38.2 min. 96.3% ee. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₆O₄ (M+Na) 259.0946, found: 259.0951.



4c' (E)-Methyl 3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate

Yield: 92%. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.79 – 4.71 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.30 (brs, 1H), 2.73 – 2.57 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 140.0, 132.6, 129.6 (q, J = 32.5

Hz), 129.4, 126.8, 125.6 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 124.2 (q, J = 271.7 Hz), 68.6, 52.1, 41.2. HPLC (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 0.8 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm): t₁ = 20.7 min, t₂ = 23.4 min. 95.7% ee. HRMS Calculated for C₁₃H₁₃F₃O₃ (M+Na) 297.0714, found: 297.0728.

(E)-Methyl 3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate²¹

Same procedure with **1**, 60% yield from cinnamic acid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.90 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 0.4H)(enol), 7.63 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 6.81 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.7H)(ketone), 6.45 (dd, J = 15.9, 1.4 Hz, 0.5H)(enol), 5.18 (s, 0.4H)(enol), 3.78 (s, 1.2H)(enol), 3.77 (s, 1.8H)(ketone), 3.72 (s, 1.4H)(ketone). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.2, 173.2, 169.3, 167.5, 144.8, 137.0, 135.3, 134.1, 131.0, 129.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.6, 127.6, 125.2, 121.8, 91.7, 52.5, 51.4, 47.3.

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Copy of ¹H & ¹³C NMR of 1-4 and 5e, 5g, 5j, 6d, 6i, 6k, 7c, 8c

(Z)-Ethyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate (1a)



20 210 120 110 100 90 chemical shift (ppm) -1



(Z)-Propyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-enoate (1b)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-(p-tolyl)pent-4-enoate (1d)



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate (1e)



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate (1f)



(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate (1g)













(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-oxo-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate (1m)






(Z)-Propyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoate (2b)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(p-tolyl)pent-4-enoate (2d)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate (2e)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(3-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate (2f)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate (2g)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate (2h)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate (2i)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate (2j)









(Z)-Methyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4-chloro-3-hydroxypent-4-enoate (2l)





(Z)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate (2m)





(4Z,6E)-Methyl 4-chloro-3-hydroxy-7-phenylhepta-4,6-dienoate (2n)









(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopent-4-enoate (3b)



(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-oxo-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate (3c)





(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate (4b)





(Z)-Methyl 4-bromo-3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate (4c)







(E)-Methyl 3-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enoate (4b')





(E)-Methyl 3-hydroxy-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pent-4-enoate (4c')





(Z)-Methyl 2-chloro-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (Z-5e)









(Z)-Methyl 2-chloro-3-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylate (Z-5g)





(Z)-Methyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-chloroacrylate (Z-5j)





(*E*)-Methyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-chloroacrylate (*E*-5j)





30 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -1 chemical shift (ppm)

(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)acrylic acid (6d)





(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)acrylic acid (6i)



(Z)-2-Chloro-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylic acid (6k)

Ethyl 2,3-dibromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (7c)



(Z)-Methyl 2-bromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate (8c)



HPLC copies of 2a-n and 4a-c, 4a'-c'



Racemate (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)



Scheme 1, L = (S)-SunPhos







Scheme 1, L = (R)-DTBM-SunPhos


Scheme 1, L = (R)-BINAP



Scheme 1, L = (S)-SEGPhos







Scheme 1, L = (R)-SYNPhos







1	12.658	11636829	42.255	545878	45.580	15.5% ee
2	15.208	15902835	57.745	651746	54.420	
Totals		27539664	100.000	1197625	100.000	

Table 1



Racemate (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)



Retention time changed a little due to temperature changed. We don't have thermostatted column compartment.



100.000

908876

100.000

Racemate (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)



Totals

Racemate (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)

34774070



Racemate (Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)



Table 1, entry 1 (2a) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)





Table 1, entry 2 (2a) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 95/5, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)

Table 1, entry 3 (2a) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)





Table 1, entry 3 (2c) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)

Table 1, entry 4 (2a) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm)





Table 1, entry 4 (**2b**) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹)

Table 1, entry 5 (2b) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹)





Table 1, entry 6 (2c) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹)

Table 1, entry 7 & Table 2, entry 1 (2c) (hexane/*i*-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹)



Table 2, entry 2 (2d)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm

22124424

34349008



100.000

677105

100.000

100.000



100.000

1160949

Table 2, entry 3 (2e)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm





Table 2, entry 4 (2f)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



1	24.107	744569	2.627	19645	3.111	94.7% ee
2	28.725	27596554	97.373	611912	96.889	
Totals		28341124	100.000	631557	100.000	



Table 2, entry 5 (2g)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 90/10, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



1	22.832	303726	1.509	9490	1.839	97.0% ee
2	28.278	19829582	98.491	506622	98.161	
Totals		20133308	100.000	516112	100.000	



Table 2, entry 6 (2h)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm

15184908



100.000

548233

100.000



Table 2, entry 7 (2i)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.5 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm





Table 2, entry 8 (2j)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm





Table 2, entry 9 (2k)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm





Table 2, entry 10 (21)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



Totals				
	28512829	100.000	650344	100.000



Table 2, entry 11 (**2m**)

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 97/3, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



2	23.100	19665860	97.429	385923	97.329	
Totals		20184905	100.000	396513	100.000	



Table 2, entry 12 (**2n**)



Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.7 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



1	23.299	524440	2.933	14145	3.077	94.1% ee
2	27.267	17358130	97.067	445542	96.923	
Totals		17882570	100.000	459687	100.000	

Racemate

Totals



100.000

654891

100.000

21998883

Scheme 2 4a-c

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



2	31.702	21082008	98.147	584157	97.796	00.070
Totals		21480019	100.000	597322	100.000	





Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 90/10, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm







Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.6 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm





Scheme 2 4a'-c'

Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 90/10, 0.9 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm







Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 90/10, 1.0 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm







Chiralpak IC-3 column, hexane/i-PrOH 95/5, 0.8 mL min⁻¹, 254 nm



