

Supporting Information for:

## Synthesis of Tetrasubstituted Allenes via a 1,4-Palladium Migration/Carbene Insertion/ $\beta$ -H Elimination Sequence

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### Table of Contents

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. General Information  | S2  |
| 2. General Procedure for Synthesis of Allenes   | S3  |
| 3. Gram-Scale Synthesis   | S8  |
| 4. Parallel Experiments and KIE Studies   | S8  |
| 5. References   | S11 |
| 6. <sup>1</sup> H NMR, <sup>13</sup> C NMR and <sup>19</sup> F NMR Spectras of Products | S12 |

## 1. General Information

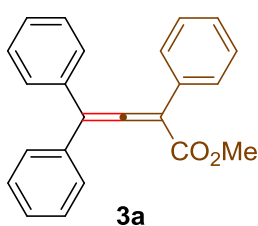
Commercially available reagents were used without further purification unless specified. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium/benzophenone before use. Unless otherwise stated, reactions were performed with freshly dried solvents utilizing standard Schlenk techniques under pre-dried argon. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates. TLC plates were visualized by exposure to short wave ultraviolet light (254 nm, 365 nm) and were dipped into a solution of KMnO<sub>4</sub>. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (40-63 μm) under a positive pressure of air. NMR-spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II 400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are quoted in ppm downfield of tetramethylsilane. The residual solvent signals were used as references for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: δ H = 7.26 ppm, δ C = 77.16 ppm;). <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra are not calibrated by an internal reference. The multiplicity of all signals was described with standard abbreviations: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quintet = quint, heptet = hept, m = multiplet, br = broad resonance. Coupling constants (*J*) are quoted in Hz.

GC-MS spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies 7890A GC-system with an Agilent 5975C VL MSD or an Agilent 5975 inert Mass Selective Detector (EI) and a HP-5MS column (0.25 mm x 30 m, film: 0.25 μm). High-resolution mass spectrometry was measured using an Agilent 6210 TOF LC/MS spectrometer or a Waters Quattro micro GC/MS/MS spectrometer. The synthesis method and data of aryl bromides (**1**) and diazo compounds (**2**) were reported following the related references.<sup>1-4</sup>

## 2. General Procedure for Synthesis of Allenes

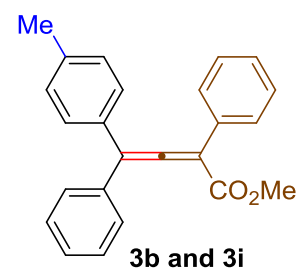
To a 25 mL Schlenk tube charged with a stir bar, aryl bromides (**1**) (0.2 mmol), diazoesters (**2**) (0.3 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (4.48 mg, 0.02 mmol), DPEPhos (16.2 mg, 0.03 mmol) and CsOAc (58 mg, 0.3 mmol) were added. After filled with argon, anhydrous THF (2 mL) were added *via* a syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C in an oil bath for 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was washed with brine (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After that the organic phase was filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude products were purified by silica gel chromatography (PE/EA = 20:1 ~ 5:1) to afford pure products (**3**).

### Methyl 2,4,4-triphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (**3a**)



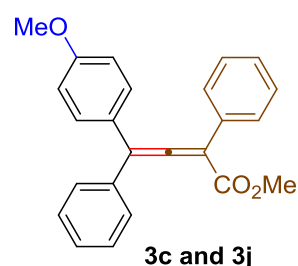
White solid, 73-75 °C **m.p.**; 54.1 mg, 83% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.64-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.26 (m, 13H), 3.86 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.62, 166.39, 134.75, 132.44, 128.83, 128.78, 128.58, 128.39, 128.33, 128.05, 114.82, 105.30, 52.64; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 326 (M<sup>+</sup>, 5.63), 91 (100), 167 (37.23), 150 (36.03); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 326.1307; found: 326.1315.

### Methyl 2,4-diphenyl-4-(p-tolyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (**3b** and **3i**)



White solid, 73-76 °C **m.p.**; 49.6 mg, 73% yield for **3b** and 44.2 mg, 65% yield for **3i**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.23 (m, 10H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.64, 166.48, 138.36, 134.90, 132.58, 131.71, 129.56, 128.79, 128.67, 128.55, 128.34, 127.97, 114.70, 105.15, 52.61, 21.37; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 340 (M<sup>+</sup>, 80.37), 281 (100), 325 (70.52), 265 (59.67); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 340.1463; found: 340.1457.

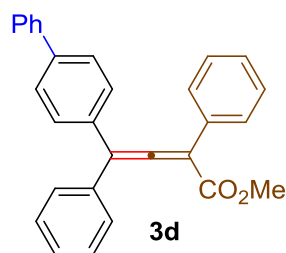
### Methyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (**3c** and **3j**)



White solid, 77-80 °C **m.p.**; 47.7 mg, 67% yield for **3c** and 55.5 mg, 78% yield for **3j**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.23 (m, 10H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.60, 166.53, 159.84, 135.05, 132.68, 130.01, 128.81, 128.80, 128.57, 128.36, 128.33, 127.96, 126.78, 114.31, 105.08, 55.49, 52.64; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 356

(M<sup>+</sup>, 60.00), 297 (100), 252 (57.94), 105 (57.59); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 356.1412; found: 356.1408.

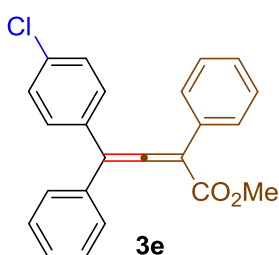
#### Methyl 4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (**3d**)



White solid, 93-97 °C **m.p.**; 60.3 mg, 75% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.69-7.55 (m, 6H), 7.53-7.24 (m, 13H), 3.85 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.84, 166.43, 141.30, 140.64, 134.72, 133.65, 132.42, 129.17, 128.99, 128.90, 128.63, 128.49, 128.38, 128.11, 127.67, 127.58, 127.19, 114.60, 105.41, 52.75; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 402 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1.17), 84 (100), 86 (66.50), 47 (19.14); **HRMS** (EI):

m/z calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 402.1620; found: 402.1625.

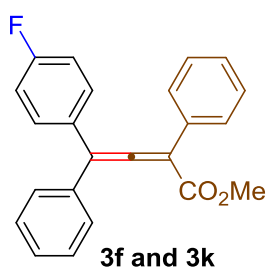
#### Methyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (**3e**)



White solid, 81-87 °C **m.p.**; 55.4 mg, 77% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.61-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.23 (m, 12H), 3.86 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.44, 166.22, 134.38, 134.34, 133.33, 132.18, 130.05, 129.08, 128.97, 128.72, 128.66, 128.62, 128.34, 128.23, 114.02, 105.63, 52.76; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 360 (M<sup>+</sup>, 58.27), 301 (100), 265 (92.01), 345 (56.13); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl [M]<sup>+</sup>:

360.0917; found: 360.0912.

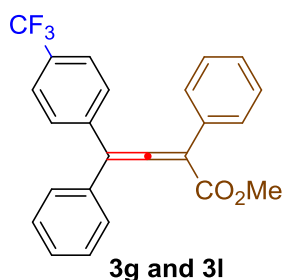
#### Methyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (**3f** and **3k**)



White solid, 78-81 °C **m.p.**; 57.1 mg, 83% yield for **3f** and 51.6 mg, 75% yield for **3k**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.62-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 10H), 7.04 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 214.38, 166.32, 162.85 (d, J = 247.6 Hz), 134.65, 132.32, 130.51 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 128.93, 128.66 (d, J = 6 Hz), 128.56, 128.33, 128.16, 115.87 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 114.02, 105.44, 52.71; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -

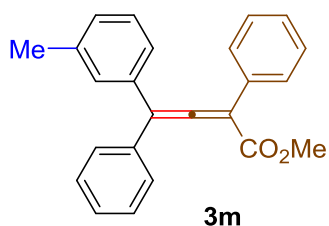
113.94; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 344 (M<sup>+</sup>, 65.95), 285 (100), 105 (96.07), 283 (63.95); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>: 344.1213; found: 344.1208.

### Methyl 2,4-diphenyl-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3g and 3l)



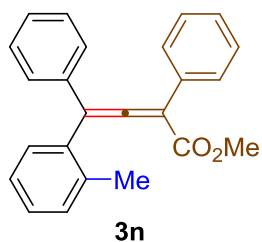
White solid, 87-88 °C **m.p.**; 63.0 mg, 80% yield for **3g** and 57.5 mg, 73% yield for **3l**;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.67-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.55-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.22 (m, 8H), 3.87 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.69, 166.08, 138.77, 134.08, 131.91, 130.40 (q,  $J = 33$  Hz), 129.06, 128.77, 128.72, 128.36, 125.87, 125.84, 125.80, 125.77 (q,  $J = 3.3$  Hz), 124.17 (q,  $J = 271$  Hz), 114.03, 105.96, 52.82.  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -62.63; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 394 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 67.16), 335 (100), 105 (66.43), 173 (52.34); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2\text{F}_3$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$ : 394.1181; found: 394.1175.

### Methyl 2,4-diphenyl-4-(m-tolyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3m)



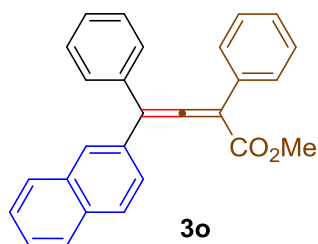
White solid, 73-75 °C **m.p.**; 53.0 mg, 78% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.67-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.19 (m, 11H), 7.15 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.63, 166.49, 138.53, 134.89, 134.62, 132.52, 129.32, 129.22, 128.81, 128.73, 128.70, 128.58, 128.35, 128.01, 125.95, 114.86, 105.17, 52.65, 21.61; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 340 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 53.26), 281 (100), 105 (69.33), 165 (41.22); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$ : 340.1463; found: 340.1467.

### Methyl 2,4-diphenyl-4-(o-tolyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3n)



White solid, 77-79 °C **m.p.**; 44.2 mg, 65% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.58 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.22 (m, 12H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  213.19, 166.44, 137.36, 134.44, 133.96, 132.56, 130.69, 130.38, 128.95, 128.56, 128.52, 128.11, 128.01, 127.18, 126.29, 112.89, 104.88, 52.51, 20.16; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 340 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 6.62), 84 (100), 86 (64.45), 47 (16.97); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$ : 340.1463; found: 340.1470.

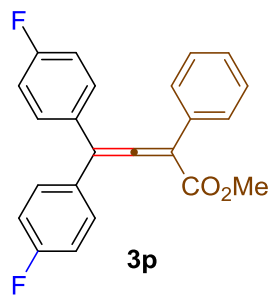
### Methyl 4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3o)



White solid, 102-104 °C **m.p.**; 53.4 mg, 71% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.85 (d,  $J = 10.2$  Hz, 3H), 7.81-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.39 (dd,  $J = 13.6, 7.3$  Hz, 4H), 7.31 (d,  $J = 5.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  215.04, 166.44, 134.82, 133.54, 133.25, 132.43, 132.12, 128.98, 128.93, 128.74, 128.63, 128.57, 128.51, 128.40, 128.30, 128.11, 127.81, 126.57, 126.54, 126.50, 115.00, 105.46, 52.73; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 376

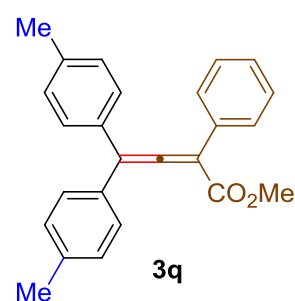
( $M^+$ , 1.13), 105 (100), 77 (61.86), 167 (42.22); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{27}H_{20}O_2$ : 376.1463; found: 376.1463.

#### Methyl 4,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-phenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3p)



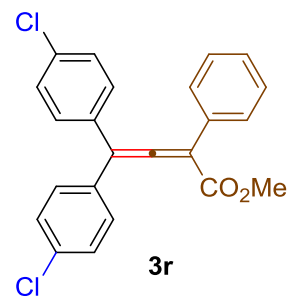
White solid, 83-85 °C **m.p.**; 54.3 mg, 75% yield;  **$^1H$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.61-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.35 (m, 7H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 4H), 3.86 (s, 3H);  **$^{13}C$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.11, 166.21, 162.91 (d,  $J = 247.1$  Hz), 132.18, 130.64, 130.61, 130.41 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz), 128.49 (d,  $J = 37.6$  Hz), 128.26, 116.09, 115.87, 113.21, 105.57, 77.48, 77.16, 76.84, 52.79;  **$^{19}F$  NMR** (376 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  -113.01; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 362 ( $M^+$ , 6.75), 84 (100), 86 (84.65); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{23}H_{16}F_2O_2$ : 362.1118; found: 362.1115.

#### Methyl 2-phenyl-4,4-di-p-tolylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3q)



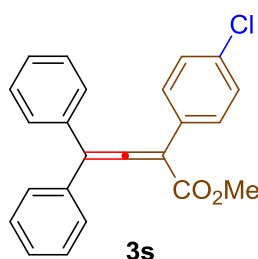
White solid, 87-89 °C **m.p.**; 46.0 mg, 65% yield;  **$^1H$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.64-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.26 (m, 7H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 6H);  **$^{13}C$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.65, 166.55, 138.29, 132.71, 131.85, 129.52, 128.67, 128.53, 128.33, 127.90, 114.57, 104.98, 52.59, 21.38; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 354 ( $M^+$ , 0.71), 84 (100), 167 (63.96), 86 (63.93); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{25}H_{22}O_2$  [ $M$ ] $^+$ : 354.1620; found: 354.1619.

#### Methyl 4,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3r)



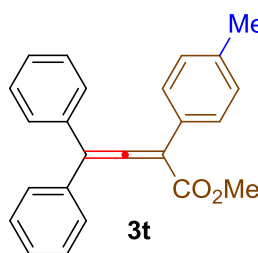
White solid, 92-95 °C **m.p.**; 61.4 mg, 78% yield;  **$^1H$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.56 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.27 (m, 11H), 3.86 (s, 3H);  **$^{13}C$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.27, 166.01, 134.58, 132.91, 131.88, 129.96, 129.21, 128.73, 128.39, 128.33, 113.20, 105.94, 52.86; **EI-MS** ( $m/z$ , %): 394 ( $M^+$ , 60.64), 335 (100), 139 (71.71), 265 (68.23); **HRMS** (EI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{23}H_{16}O_2Cl_2$  [ $M$ ] $^+$ : 394.0527; found: 394.0522.

### Methyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3s)



White solid, 87-89 °C **m.p.**; 57.6 mg, 80% yield; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.27 (m, 12H), 3.85 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.77, 166.16, 134.49, 133.96, 130.94, 129.65, 128.92, 128.80, 128.78, 128.58, 115.24, 104.36, 52.76; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 360 (M<sup>+</sup>, 52.19), 105 (100), 301 (71.32), 265 (68.21); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 360.0917; found: 360.0910.

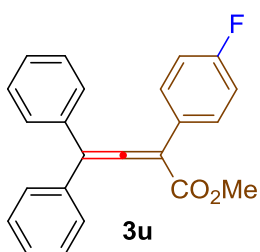
### Methyl 4,4-diphenyl-2-(p-tolyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3t)



White solid, 84-90 °C **m.p.**; 53.7 mg, 79% yield; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.30 (m, 10H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.47, 166.58, 137.96, 134.88, 129.40, 129.32, 128.82, 128.81, 128.34, 128.22, 114.68, 105.21, 52.67, 21.36; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 340 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2.83), 84 (100), 86 (65.17), 47 (18.68); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

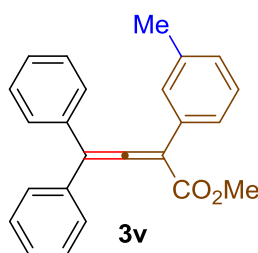
[M]<sup>+</sup>: 340.1463; found: 340.1467.

### Methyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3u)



White solid, 79-81 °C **m.p.**; 44.7 mg, 65% yield; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.62-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 10H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.58, 166.36, 162.60 (d, *J* = 246.4 Hz), 134.63, 130.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 128.90, 128.78, 128.51, 115.65 (d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 114.99, 104.36, 52.73; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.94; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 344 (M<sup>+</sup>, 65.95), 285 (100), 105 (96.07), 283 (63.95); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FO<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 344.1213; found: 344.1208.

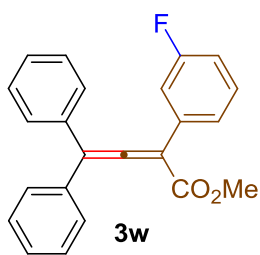
### Methyl 4,4-diphenyl-2-(m-tolyl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3v)



White solid, 79-81 °C **m.p.**; 55.0 mg, 81% yield; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.30-7.45 (m, 12H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 214.49, 166.51, 138.18, 134.85, 132.33, 128.94, 128.88, 128.82, 128.81, 128.48, 128.35, 125.47, 114.67, 105.38, 52.63, 21.67; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 340 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2.83), 84 (100), 86 (65.17), 47 (18.68); **HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for

C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 340.1463; found: 340.1459.

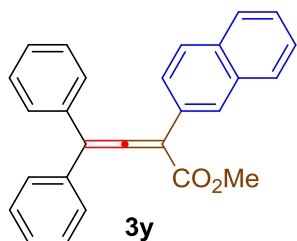
### Methyl 2-(3-fluorophenyl)-4,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3w)



White solid, 69-74 °C **m.p.**; 48.1 mg, 71% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.68-7.21 (m, 13H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 3.85 (d,  $J = 3.1$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  214.86, 166.03, 163.0 (d,  $J = 236$  Hz), 134.58, 134.42, 129.99, 128.87 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz), 128.61, 123.97, 115.37, 114.93 (d,  $J = 21.1$  Hz), 104.41, 52.82;  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -112.85; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 344 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 65.95), 285 (100), 105 (96.07), 283 (63.95); **HRMS**

(EI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FO}_2$ : 344.1213; found: 344.1208.

### Methyl 2-(naphthalen-2-yl)-4,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (3y)

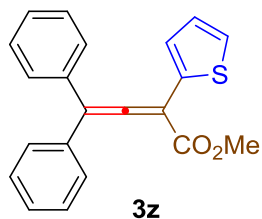


White solid, 101-105 °C **m.p.**; 54.1 mg, 72% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  8.23 (s, 1H), 7.86-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 6H), 7.42-7.34 (m, 6H), 3.90 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  215.18, 166.52, 134.75, 133.54, 132.98, 129.57, 128.89, 128.86, 128.57, 128.48, 128.17, 127.67, 127.46, 126.40, 126.33,

126.05, 115.15, 105.39, 52.76; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 376 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 10.01), 84 (100), 86 (63.29), 57 (49.28);

**HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}^+$ ]: 376.1463; found: 376.1466.

### Methyl 4,4-diphenyl-2-(thiophen-3-yl)buta-2,3-dienoate (3z)



White solid, 71-75 °C **m.p.**; 55.1 mg, 83% yield;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.89 (dd,  $J = 2.7, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 9H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  215.05, 166.28, 134.76, 131.77, 128.87, 128.46, 127.36, 125.32, 123.81, 115.08, 101.11, 52.66; **EI-MS** (m/z, %): 332 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 8.98), 84 (100), 86 (62.13), 47 (32.21);

**HRMS** (EI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{SO}_2$  [ $\text{M}^+$ ]: 332.0871; found: 332.0876.

## 2. Gram-Scale Synthesis

To a 250 mL Schlenk tube charged with a stir bar, aryl bromides (**1a**) (4.5 mmol), diazoesters (**2a**) (6.75 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (101.1 mg, 0.45 mmol), DPEPhos (363.5 mg, 0.675 mmol) and  $\text{CsOAc}$  (1.3 g, 6.75 mmol) were added. After filled with argon, anhydrous THF (45 mL) were added via a syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C in an oil bath for 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was washed with brine (30 mL) and extracted with EA (3  $\times$  25 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After that the organic phase was filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude products were purified by silica gel chromatography (PE/EA = 20:1) to afford pure products (**3a**), as a white solid (79%, 1.16 g).



### 3. Parallel Experiments and KIE Studies

#### (1) Synthesis of *d*<sub>2</sub>-**1a**:

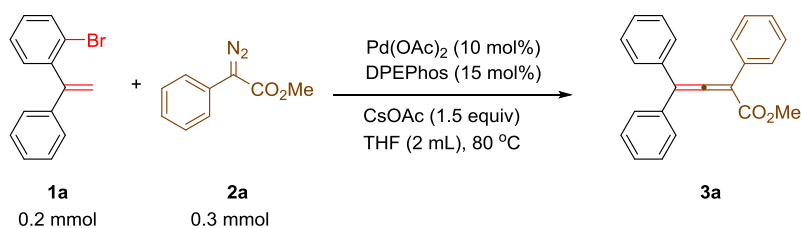


In a J-Young Schlenk tube,  $\text{PPh}_3$  (2.5 mmol, 656 mg, 1.0 equiv) in 3.5 mL THF was added, and  $\text{CD}_3\text{I}$  (2.5 mmol, 0.16 mL, 1.0 equiv) was then added dropwise into the solution, which resulted in the immediate appearance of a white suspension. After the addition was complete, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 2 h. During the cooling of the reaction mixture to room temperature, a large amount of a white precipitate was formed, and the resulting white solid was isolated on a filter, washed with EA (3 x 10 mL) and dried under vacuum to give 998 mg of  $[\text{PPh}_3(\text{CD}_3)]\text{I}$  (98% yield). 96% D atom incorporation ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis).

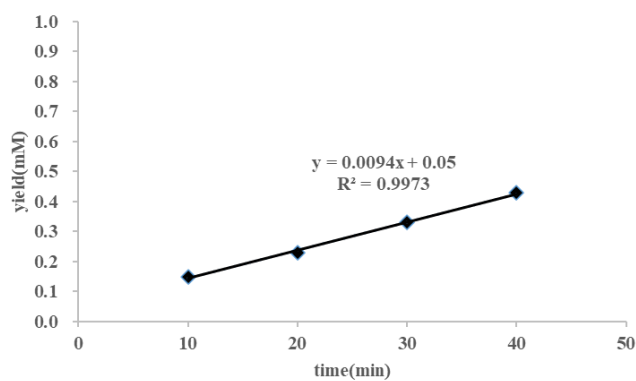
An oven dried flask charged with  $[\text{PPh}_3(\text{CD}_3)]\text{I}$  (2.4 mmol, 998 mg, 1.1 equiv.) and THF (7.0 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Then 2.5 M *n*-BuLi (2.43 mmol, 0.97 mL, 1.2 equiv) was added dropwise and the resulting yellow suspension was stirred for 30 minutes. To this suspension, a solution of aryl bromides (**1a**) (2.25 mmol, 587.5 mg, 1.0 equiv) was added in one portion and the resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature and further stirred at room temperature for 5 h. Water and EA were added to the reaction mixture, separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EA (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography using hexanes as eluent to obtain the product **1a-D<sub>2</sub>** as a colorless oil, 431 mg, 74% (two steps), 94% D atom incorporation ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis).

#### (2) Parallel Experiments:

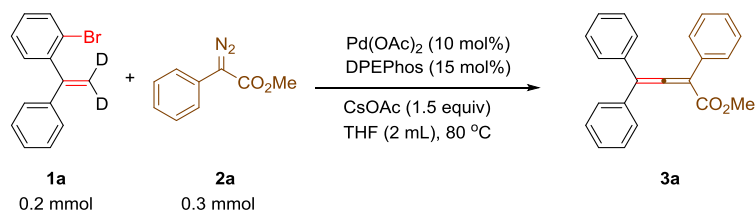
The parallel reactions of aryl bromides (**1a**) were carried out under the reaction conditions which were described in Figures S1 and S2, stopped at arbitrary reaction times, and analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy (Figures S1 and S2). As a result, the slope values of two graphs were 0.0094 mM/min and 0.002 mM/min, respectively, and thus the KIE value was 4.7.



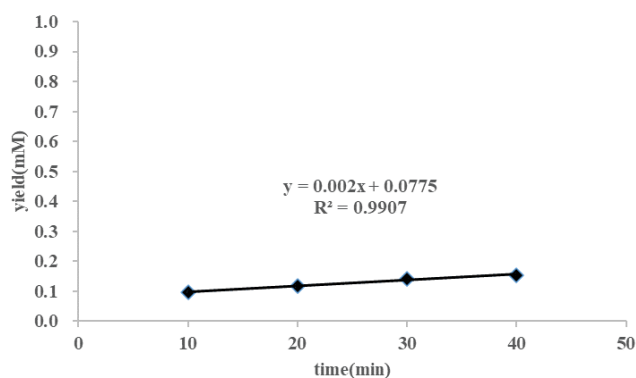
| entry | time (min) | <sup>1</sup> H NMR (%) | product (mmol) |
|-------|------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1     | 10         | 0.15                   | 0.30           |
| 2     | 20         | 0.23                   | 0.46           |
| 3     | 30         | 0.33                   | 0.66           |
| 4     | 40         | 0.43                   | 0.86           |



**Figure S1.** Determination of a reaction rate when **1a** was used as a substrate.



| entry | time (min) | <sup>1</sup> H NMR (%) | product (mmol) |
|-------|------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1     | 10         | 0.10                   | 0.19           |
| 2     | 20         | 0.12                   | 0.23           |
| 3     | 30         | 0.14                   | 0.28           |
| 4     | 40         | 0.15                   | 0.31           |



**Figure S2.** Determination of a reaction rate when **1a-D<sub>2</sub>** was used as a substrate.

## 5. References

- [1] T.-J. Hu, G. Zhang, Y.-H. Chen, C.-G. Feng and G.-Q. Lin. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2016**, *138*, 2897.
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- [3] M.-Y. Li, P. Han, T.-J. Hu, D. Wei, G. Zhang, A. Qin, C.-G. Feng, B. Z. Tang, G.-Q. Lin. *iScience*, **2020**, *23*, 100966.
- [4] G. Zhang, Y.-K. Song, F. Zhang, Z.-J. Xue, M.-Y. Li, G.-S. Zhang, B.-B. Zhu, J. Wei, C. Li, C.-G. Feng, G.-Q. Lin. *Nat. Commun.* **2021**, *12*, 728.

# $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR and $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR Spectras of Products

