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Supplementary Information

Recyclable Picolinamide-Derived Ligand-Controlled Branched-Selective Hydroesterification of Alkynes with Alcohols and Phenols

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1. Tables and Figures.

Entry	Representative substrate	Catalyst	Conditions	Selectivity	Ref.
1	//	Pd(OAc) ₂ 2-PyPPh ₂ , MsOH	60 °C 60 bar	99%	Drent 1993 ^[1]
2	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L1, MsOH	50 °C, 40 bar MeOH	>99%	Matteoli 2001 ^[2]
3	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L2, TsOH	100 °C, 60 bar MeOH	86%	Woollins 2002 ^[3]
4	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L3, MsOH	50 °C, 10 bar MeOH	86%	Green 2004 ^[4]
5	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ BINAP, Al(OTf) ₃	80 °C, 35 bar MeOH	99%	Williams 2011 ^[5]
6	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L4, TsOH	80 °C, 20 bar (CO/H ₂) MeCN	99%	Brüggeller 2012 ^[6]
7	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L5, TsOH	60 °C, 45 bar MeOH	95%	Sparkes 2017 ^[7]
8	<i>₩</i> ₄	PdCl ₂ S-L6 , TsOH	60 °C, 60 bar MeCN	99%	Li 2018 ^[8]
9	Ph	Pd(acac) ₂ S-L7, TsOH	80 °C, 40 bar MeOH	95%	Beller 2018 ^[9]
10	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ L5, TsOH	25 °C, 40 bar MeOH	>99%	Our results 2022 ^[10]
11	Ph	Pd(OAc) ₂ S-L8, MsOH	50 °C, 40 bar MeOH	>99%	Doherty 2006 ^[11]
12	Ph	Pd(MeCN) ₂ Cl ₂ S-L9 , H ₂ O	110 °C, 30 bar MeOH/Toluene	95	Liu 2019 ^[12]

Table S1. Selected examples of alkyne esterification reactions with CO.











S-L1



S-L2

S-L3

Ph₂P^w PPh₂ S-L4

Ph₂P

PPh₂











S-L9

Table S2. Ligand Screening.^a

	Ph + CO - 1 (20 bar)	Pd(OAc) ₂ (1 mol%) Ligand (1.5 mol%) TsOH (4 mol%) MeOH (10 eq.) MTBE 25 °C, 1 h	OMe Ph thed 2' , linear	Ле
N L9 MeO-PEG2000-0 L13	MeO N PPh ₂ L10 MeO-[i PPh ₂ MeO-[i	$h_{2} \qquad \qquad$	MeO-PEG5000-O	$ \begin{array}{c} $
	PPh ₂ PPh ₂	PPh ₂ PPh ₂		
Entry	Ligands	Conversion (%)	Yield (%)	<i>b/l</i> ratio (2 : 2')
1	L9	66	62	> 99:1
2	L10	74	69	> 99:1
3	L11	63	55	>99:1
4	L12	80	73	> 99:1
5	L13	>99	97 (93 ^{<i>b</i>})	> 99:1
6	L14	92	86	> 99:1
7	L15	82	75	98:2
8	L16	N.d.	_	_
9	L17	N.d.	_	_
10	L18	N.d.	_	_

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with 1 (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in MTBE (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with ¹H NMR and GC analysis. ^{*b*} isolated yield.

Table S3. Effects of palladium precursors.^a

Ph 1	L L + CO (20 bar)	[Pd] (1 mol%) .13 (1.5 mol%) isOH (4 mol%) Ph [*] 	Dome Ph OMe branched 2', linear
Entry	Pd salts	Conv. (%)	<i>b/l</i> ratio
1	Pd(MeCN) ₂ C	$_{2} >99 (90^{b})$	>99:1
2	PdCl ₂	85	>99:1
3	PdBr ₂	35	65:35
4	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHC	<5	n.d.
5	Pd(TFA) ₂	82	>99:1
6	$Pd(OAc)_2$	>99 (93 ^b)	>99:1

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with **1** (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in MTBE (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with GC analysis, and yields were determined with ¹H NMR using tetrachloroethane as an internal standard. ^{*b*}Isolated yield.

Table S4. Effect of solvents.^a

	Ph + 1 ⁽²	Pd(OAc) ₂ (1 mol%) L13 (1.5 mol%) TsOH (4 mol%) 0 bar) MeOH (10 eq.) solvent 25 °C, 1 h	Ph OMe O 2, branched	O Ph OMe 2', linear
Entry	Solvents	Conv. (%)	Yield (%)	b/l ratio
1	MTBE	>99	95	>99:1
2	CHCl ₃	>99	94	>99:1
3	2-Me THF	>99	90	>99:1
4	Et ₂ O	>99	92	>99:1
5	THF	90	84	>99:1
6	EtOAc	92	86	>99:1

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with **1** (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in solvent (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with GC analysis, and yields were determined with ¹H NMR using tetrachloroethane as an internal standard.

Table S5. Effect of acids.^a

Ph +	- 00	Pd(OAc) ₂ (1 mol%) L13 (1.5 mol%) acid (4 mol%)	Ph	
Pn + 1	(20 bar)	MeOH (10 eq.) MTBE 25 °C, 1 h	2 , branched	2', linear
Entry	Acids	Conv	. (%)	<i>b/l</i> ratio
1	-	n.	d.	-
2	TsOH	>9	99	>99:1
3	MSA	7	2	>99:1
4	TFA	2	5	-

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with **1** (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in MTBE (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with ¹H NMR and GC analysis.

Table S6. Effect of catalyst loading.^a

Ph +	co –	Pd(OAc) ₂ (x mol%) L13 (y mol%) TsOH (z mol%)	Ph	O Ph
1	(20 bar)	MeOH (10 eq.) MTBE 25 °C, 1 h	Ö 2, branched	2', linear
Entry	Pd:L:acid	Conv.	. (%)	<i>b/l</i> ratio
1	1:1:4	96	5	>99:1
2	1:1.5:4	>9	9	>99:1
3	1:2:4	91	l	>99:1
4	0.5:0.75:2	2 75	5	>99:1

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with 1 (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in MTBE (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with ¹H NMR and GC analysis.

Table S7. Catalyst recycling.^{a,b}

	Ph + 1	Pd(OAc) ₂ (1 mol%) L13 (1.5 mol%) TsOH (4 mol%) CO (20 bar) MeOH (10 eq.) MTBE 25 °C, 1 h	Ph OMe O 2, branched	Ph OMe 2', linear
Entry	Runs	Conv. (%)	<i>b/l</i> ratio	Pd leaching ^b
1	1	>95	99:1	< 0.1%
2	2	>95	99:1	< 0.1%
3	3	>95	99:1	< 0.1%
4	4	>95	99:1	< 0.1%
5	5	>95	99:1	< 0.1%
6	6	90	99:1	0.12%

^{*a*}Reactions were performed with 1 (0.5 mmol) and MeOH (10 eq.) in MTBE (1 mL). The conversions and b/l ratios were determined with ¹H NMR and GC analysis. ^{*b*}Pd leaching was determined by ICP-MS.



Figure S1. FT-IR spectra of indicated compounds.

Figure S2. MALDI analysis of indicated compounds.







a. XPS survey spectra. b. C 1s spectra. c. P 2p spectra. d. Pd 3d spectra.





a. XPS survey spectra. b. C 1s spectra. c. P 2p spectra. d. Pd 3d spectra.



Figure S5. Surface chemical composition and chemical state of Pd/L13 after 5 runs.

a. XPS survey spectra. b. C 1s spectra. c. P 2p spectra. d. Pd 3d spectra.

The XPS spectra of the catalyst show consistent major peaks after five cycles, aligning with its robust catalytic performance upon recycling.

Figure S6. TEM images of Pd/L13 complex.



a. TEM image. b-d. HAADF-STEM.

Figure S7. TEM images of Pd/L10 complex.



a. TEM image. b-c. HAADF-STEM.

2. General Procedures

Commercial reagents and solvents were ordered from Aldrich, TCI, and Bidepharm. Reagents and solvents were used as received unless otherwise stated. Where necessary, solvents were purified by passing through columns of alumina using a solvent purification system. Commercially available alkyne substrates were used as received, and other alkynes were prepared according to our previous procedure^[10, 13]. Air- and moisture-sensitive synthesis were performed under nitrogen atmosphere with oven-dried glassware. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (100-200 mesh). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on EM reagents 0.25 mm silica 60-F plates.

NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AVANCE III (400 MHz) spectrometer. ¹H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million on the δ scale, and are referenced from the residual protium in the NMR solvent (CDCl₃: δ 7.26 (CHCl₃), CD₃OD: δ 3.31 (CHD₂OD), DMSO-d₆: δ 2.50 $(DMSO-d_5)$). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet), coupling constant(s) in Hertz, integration]. 13 C NMR spectra are reported in parts per million on the δ scale, and are referenced from the carbon resonances of the solvent (CDCl₃: δ 77.16, CD₃OD: δ 49.00, DMSO-*d*₆: δ 39.52). ³¹P {¹H} NMR spectra are reported in parts per million on the δ scale. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift (assignment). GC-MS analysis was carried out on Agilent 7820A GC system and Angilent 5977B MSD. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Bruker micrOTOF spectrometer with electron spray ionization (ESI). Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time of flight mass spectra (MALDI-TOF-MS) were recorded on ultrafleXtreme. Infrared data (IR) were obtained with a Thermo Fisher Scientific FT-IR. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) analysis was perforemed at FEI Talos F200X G2. X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS) were recorded on AXIS Kratos Supra⁺. The Pd leaching was determined by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) using Agilent 7800 ICP-MS.

3. Preparation and characterization of PEG-supported ligands

Ligands L9 and L10 were prepared according to our previous procedure ^[10]. Ligand L16-L18 were commercially available and used without further purification.

Synthesis of L11



2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (SI-1)

To a solution of 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (0.48 g, 1.8 mmol) and methyl 5-hydroxypicolinate (0.33 g, 2.2 mmol) in DMF (10 mL), cesium carbonate (0.71 g, 2.2 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel with DCM/MeOH (50:1) as eluent to give **SI-1** (0.30 g, 65% yield).

Physical State: colorless sticky oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.21-4.16 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.86-3.80 (m, 2H), 3.68-3.61 (m, 2H), 3.53-3.48 (m, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.4, 157.5, 140.2, 138.6, 126.5, 120.4, 71.8, 70.8, 69.4, 68.0, 59.1, 52.6.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₈NO₅ [M+H]⁺: 256.1180, found: 256.1179.

N,N-bis(2-(diphenylphosphaneyl)ethyl)-5-(2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethoxy)picolinamide (L11)

To a solution of SI-1 (0.30 g, 1.2 mmol) in THF/H₂O (v/v = 9/1, 10 mL) sodium hydroxide (0.20 g, 4.8 mmol) was added at room temperature. The reaction was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a colourless solid. The solid was used directly in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of the above solid and bis(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)ethyl)ammonium chloride (0.67 g, 1.4 mmol) in dry DCM (20 mL), HATU (0.45 g, 1.2 mmol) and DIPEA (0.30 g, 2.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with DCM (10 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel with DCM/MeOH (20:1) as eluent to give L11 (0.30 g, 58% yield).

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.99 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.27 (m, 16H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.23-4.14 (m, 2H), 3.94-3.86 (m, 2H), 3.78-3.71 (m, 2H), 3.62-3.50 (m, 6H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.51-2.43 (m, 2H), 2.41-2.31 (m, 2H).

¹³**C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 168.2, 155.4, 146.4, 137.9 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 137.6 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz), 136.0, 132.8 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 132.6 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 128.8, 128.63, 128.57, 128.5, 124.9, 121.4, 72.0, 70.9, 69.6, 67.9, 59.2, 47.1 (d, *J* = 28.9 Hz), 44.3 (d, *J* = 24.1 Hz), 27.9 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz), 26.3 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz).

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -20.57, -20.83.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₃₉H₄₃N₂O₄P₂ [M+H]⁺: 665.2693, found: 665.2690.

Synthesis of L12



PEG1000-mesylate (SI-2) [14]

To a solution of methoxypolyethylene glycols (MeO-PEG-OH, 4.20 g, 4.0 mmol, M.W. = 1000) and Et₃N (2.20 mL, 16.0 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (50 mL), MsCl (0.94 g, 8.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then refluxed at 60 °C for 6 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-2** (3.72 g, 92%). **Physical State:** colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 4.36-4.26 (m, 2H), 3.72-3.68 (m, 2H), 3.64-3.53 (m, 86H), 3.51-3.45 (m, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 71.9, 70.6-70.4 (overlapping signals), 69.3, 69.0, 59.0, 37.7.

PEG1000-picolinic acid (SI-3)

To a solution of **SI-2** (3.72 g, 3.7 mmol) and methyl 5-hydroxypicolinate (0.73 g, 4.8 mmol) in DMF (50 mL), cesium carbonate (7.19 g, 22.1 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The mixture was concentrated to afford a colourless solid. The solid was used directly in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of the above solid in THF/H₂O (v/v = 9/1, 80 mL), sodium hydroxide (0.59 g, 14.7 mmol) was added. The reaction was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added dropwise to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-3** (3.36 g, 80%).

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD): δ 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.30-4.24 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.87 (m, 2H), 3.68-3.61 (m, 86H), 3.58-3.54 (m, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 172.3, 157.8, 148.5, 138.2, 126.3, 122.4, 72.6, 71.6, 71.2-70.6 (overlapping signals), 69.3, 59.2.

PEG1000-picolinamide (L12)

To a solution of **SI-3** (3.36 g, 3.0 mmol) and bis(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)ethyl)ammonium chloride (1.81 g, 3.6 mmol) in dry DCM (30 mL), HATU (1.37 g, 3.6 mmol) and DIPEA (0.78 g, 6.0 mmol) were added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added dropwise to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give L12 (2.77 g, 59%). The catalyst loading of PEG-supported ligand L12 was calculated as 0.69 mmol/g. The catalyst loading (mmol/g) of PEG-supported ligands was determined using ¹H NMR with tetrachloroethane (TCE) as an internal standard. The calculation was performed according to the following equation:

$$Cat. loading = \frac{n_{TCE} \times R_{lig/TCE}}{W_{lig}}$$

Where n_{TCE} represents the molar amount of TCE, $R_{lig/TCE}$ represents the normalized integration ratio of the ligand to TCE, and W_{lig} represents the weight of ligand

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.38-7.17 (m, 17H), 4.28-4.18 (m, 2H), 3.93-3.87 (m, 2H), 3.74-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.70-3.55 (m, 84H), 3.55-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.47-3.37 (m, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.51-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.23 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 170.4, 157.2, 147.0, 139.3 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 138.7 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz), 137.6, 133.8 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 133.6 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz), 129.98, 129.95, 129.74 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz),

129.67 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 125.5, 122.9, 72.8, 71.7, 71.5, 71.4-71.1 (overlapping signals), 70.5, 69.3, 59.1, 47.9 (d, *J* = 26.6 Hz), 44.8 (d, *J* = 24.7 Hz), 28.5 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz), 27.2 (d, *J* = 14.2 Hz). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, MeOD): δ -21.02, -21.38.

Synthesis of L13



PEG2000-mesylate (SI-4) [15]

To a solution of methoxypolyethylene glycols (MeO-PEG-OH, 8.10 g, 4.0 mmol, M.W. = 2000) and Et₃N (2.22 mL, 16.0 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (50 mL), MsCl (0.92g, 8.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was then refluxed at 60 °C for 6 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-4** (7.90 g, 96%). **Physical State:** colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3**): δ 4.38-4.29 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.76 (m, 2H), 3.75-3.72 (m, 2H), 3.70-3.54 (m, 176H), 3.53-3.39 (m, 4H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H).

PEG2000-picolinic acid (SI-5)

To a solution of **SI-4** (7.90 g, 3.8 mmol) and methyl 5-hydroxypicolinate (0.76 g, 4.9 mmol) in DMF (50 mL), cesium carbonate (7.42 g, 22.8 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated to afford a colourless solid. The solid was used directly in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of the above solid in THF/H₂O (v/v = 9/1, 80 mL), sodium hydroxide (0.61 g, 15.2 mmol) was added at room temperature. The reaction was then stirred at room temperature for 12

h. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added dropwise to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-5** (7.13 g, 84%).

Physical State: colourless solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD): δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.35-4.11 (m, 2H), 3.93-3.85 (m, 2H), 3.83-3.50 (m, 180H), 3.49-3.41 (m, 2H), 3.36 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 172.4, 157.7, 148.4, 137.8, 126.1, 122.4, 72.9, 71.7-71.2 (overlapping signals), 70.6, 69.2, 59.1.

PEG2000-picolinamide (L13)

To a solution of **SI-6** (7.13 g, 3.2 mmol) and bis(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)ethyl)ammonium chloride (1.81 g, 3.8 mmol) in dry DCM (30 mL), HATU (1.44 g, 3.8 mmol) and DIPEA (0.83 g, 6.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give L13 (5.05 g, 62%). The catalyst loading of PEG-supported ligand L13 was calculated as 0.41 mmol/g.

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 8H), 7.32-7.18 (m, 9H), 4.29-4.15 (m, 2H), 3.96-3.87 (m, 2H), 3.85-3.77 (m, 2H), 3.74-3.71 (m, 2H), 3.70-3.55 (m, 178H), 3.55-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.46-3.41 (m, 2H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.35-2.24 (m, 2H).

¹³**C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD**): δ 170.4, 157.2, 147.0, 139.3 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz), 138.7 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 137.6, 133.8 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 133.6 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 130.1, 130.0, 129.8, 129.7, 125.6, 122.9, 72.9, 71.8-71.3 (overlapping signals), 70.6, 69.4, 59.1, 47.9 (d, *J* = 26.9 Hz), 44.9 (d, *J* = 24.3 Hz), 28.5 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz), 27.2 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz).

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, MeOD) δ -21.02, -21.46.

Synthesis of L14



PEG4000-mesylate (SI-6) ^[15]

To a solution of methoxypolyethylene glycols (MeO-PEG-OH, 8.35 g, 2.0 mmol, M.W. = 4000) and Et₃N (1.20 mL, 8.0 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (50 mL), MsCl (0.48 g, 4.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then refluxed at 60 °C for 6 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-6** (7.90 g, 95%).

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 4.33-4.31 (m, 2H), 3.88-3.36 (m, 286H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 71.9, 70.6-70.5 (overlapping signals), 69.3, 69.0, 59.0, 37.7.

PEG4000-picolinic acid (SI-7)

To a solution of **SI-6** (7.90 g, 1.9 mmol) and methyl 5-hydroxypicolinate (0.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in DMF (50 mL), cesium carbonate (3.71 g, 11.4 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated to afford a colourless solid. The solid was used directly in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of the above solid in THF/H₂O (v/v = 9/1, 80 mL), sodium hydroxide (0.31 g, 7.6 mmol) was added. The reaction was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added

dropwise to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-7** (6.58 g, 76%).

Physical State: colourless solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.11-7.99 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.32 (m, 1H), 4.99-4.93 (m, 2H), 4.33-4.21 (m, 2H), 3.92-3.44 (m, 284H), 3.36 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 172.0, 157.5, 148.9, 138.0, 126.2, 122.1, 73.4, 72.8, 71.7-71.0 (overlapping signals), 70.6, 69.2, 61.9, 59.1.

PEG4000-picolinamide (L14)

To a solution of **SI-7** (6.58 g, 1.4 mmol) and bis(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)ethyl)ammonium chloride (0.83 g, 1.7 mmol) in dry DCM (30 mL), HATU (0.66 g, 1.7 mmol) and DIPEA (0.22 g, 3.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give L14 (3.64 g, 57%). The catalyst loading of PEG-supported ligand L14 was calculated as 0.22 mmol/g.

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 8.01-7.99 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 5H), 7.34-7.23 (m, 17H), 4.24-4.22 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.88 (m, 2H), 3.86-3.49 (m, 286H), 3.45-3.42 (m, 2H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.49-2.44 (m, 2H), 2.31-2.27 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 170.5, 157.2, 147.1, 139.3 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 138.7 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 137.7, 133.8 (d, J = 10.9 Hz), 133.6 (d, J = 10.9 Hz), 129.99, 129.95, 129.74 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 129.67 (d, J = 2.5 Hz), 125.5, 122.9, 72.9, 71.8, 71.6-71.2 (overlapping signals), 70.6, 69.4, 59.1, 48.0 (d, J = 25.9 Hz), 44.9 (d, J = 24.8 Hz), 28.5 (d, J = 14.1 Hz), 27.2 (d, J = 14.2 Hz).
³¹P NMR (162 MHz, MeOD): δ -21.02, -21.37.

Synthesis of L15



PEG5000-mesylate (SI-8)

To a solution of methoxypolyethylene glycols (MeO-PEG-OH, 10.45 g, 2.0 mmol, M.W. = 5000) and Et₃N (1.20 mL, 8.0 mmol) in dry DCM (50 mL), MsCl (0.48 g, 4.0 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then refluxed at 60 °C for 6 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-8** (8.55 g, 85%). **Physical State:** colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 4.39-4.35 (m, 2H), 3.82-3.79 (m, 2H), 3.77-3.74 (m, 2H), 3.67-3.60 (m, 504H), 3.55-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.47-3.44 (m, 2H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 71.7, 70.8-70.1 (overlapping signals), 69.1, 68.8, 58.8, 37.5.

PEG5000-picolinic acid (SI-9)

To a solution of **SI-8** (8.50 g, 1.7 mmol) and methyl 5-hydroxypicolinate (0.34 g, 2.3 mmol) in DMF (50 mL), cesium carbonate (4.46 g, 13.7 mmol) was added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The suspension was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The mixture was concentrated to afford a colourless solid. The solid was used directly in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of the above solid in THF/H₂O (v/v = 9/1, 70 mL), sodium hydroxide (0.13 g, 6.8 mmol) was added. The reaction was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added

to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give **SI-9** (6.61 g, 75%).

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD): δ 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.13-7.97 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.31 (m, 1H), 4.31-4.23 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.86 (m, 2H), 3.84-3.80 (m, 4H), 3.75-3.53 (m, 502H), 3.49-3.44 (m, 4H), 3.36 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 170.0, 157.5, 148.8, 137.9, 126.2, 122.2, 73.4, 72.8, 71.7-71.1 (overlapping signals), 70.5, 62.0, 59.1.

PEG5000-picolinamide (L15)

To a solution of **SI-9** (6.60 g, 1.3 mmol) and bis(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)ethyl)ammonium chloride (0.83 g, 1.7 mmol) in dry DCM (30 mL), HATU (0.66 g, 1.7 mmol) and DIPEA (0.22 g, 3.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with DCM (50 mL). The mixture was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was added to cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (100 mL). The resulting precipitates were collected, washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (50 mL) and dried to give L15 (3.64 g, 57%). The catalyst loading of PEG-supported ligand L15 was calculated as 0.18 mmol/g.

Physical State: colourless amorphous solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.43 (m, 6H), 7.42-7.14 (m, 16H), 4.26-4.21 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.87 (m, 4H), 3.83-3.79 (m, 4H), 3.73-3.53 (m, 504H), 3.48-3.44 (m, 4H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.37-2.24 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 170.2, 157.1, 147.0, 139.2 (d, J = 12.7 Hz), 138.7 (d, J = 12.6 Hz), 137.5, 133.7 (d, J = 10.9 Hz), 133.6 (d, J = 11.1 Hz), 130.1, 129.9, 129.74 (d, J = 4.1 Hz), 129.67 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 125.6, 122.8, 72.8, 71.7, 71.7-71.1 (overlapping signals), 70.5, 69.3, 59.1, 47.8 (d, J = 26.7 Hz), 44.8 (d, J = 25.0 Hz), 28.5 (d, J = 14.4 Hz), 27.1 (d, J = 14.2 Hz).
³¹P NMR (162 MHz, MeOD): δ -21.10, -21.42.

4. General procedure for Pd-catalyzed hydroesterification of alkynes

A 10 mL reaction tube with a Teflon-coated stirring bar was charged with $Pd(OAc)_2$ (1.2 mg, 1.0 mol%), **L13** (18.4 mg, 1.5 mol%), TsOH (3.4 mg, 4.0 mol%), and nucleophile (10 eq, 5.0 mmol) in MTBE (1.0 mL). Alkyne (0.5 mmol) was added to the mixture. The tube was placed into a 300-mL stainless steel Parr autoclave (WP-MSAR-250A) equipped with an insert suitable for 4 reaction vials for conducting parallel reactions. The autoclave was purged three times with 20 bar of nitrogen and then pressurized with 20 bar of carbon monoxide. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir (800 rpm) at 25 °C for 1 h, and the pressure was carefully released. The reaction mixture was centrifugated and an aliquot of the supernatant was analyzed with GC to determine the conversions and b/l ratios. The supernatant was concentrated under reduced pressure, and yields were determined by ¹H NMR analysis using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard. The pure product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

5. Characterization data of α , β -unsaturated carboxylic esters methyl 2-phenylacrylate (2)



75.1 mg, 93% yield.
Physical State: light yellow oil
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53-7.32 (m, 5H), 6.38 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.4, 141.4, 136.8, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 52.3.
HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁O₂ [M+H]⁺: 163.0754, found: 163.0753.

methyl 2-(o-tolyl)acrylate (3)

73.4 mg, 84% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.22-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.15-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.3, 141.7, 137.2, 136.2, 130.0, 129.6, 128.9, 128.3, 125.8, 52.4, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for $C_{11}H_{13}O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 177.0910, found: 177.0911.

methyl 2-(m-tolyl)acrylate (4)

72.5 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)**: δ 7.26-7.08 (m, 4H), 6.30-6.22 (m, 1H), 5.95-5.81 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 168.9, 143.0, 138.8, 138.0, 129.9, 129.8, 129.0, 126.8, 126.4, 52.6, 21.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 177.0910, found: 177.0912.

methyl 2-(p-tolyl)acrylate (5)

72.0 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 169.0, 142.7, 139.2, 135.1, 129.7, 129.1, 126.2, 52.6, 21.2. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 177.0910, found: 177.0909.

methyl 2-(4-isobutylphenyl)acrylate (6)

OMe

93.3 mg, 85% yield. **Physical State:** light yellow oil ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.49 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.95-1.83 (m, 1H), 0.93 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.6, 142.0, 141.3, 134.1, 129.0, 128.1, 126.2, 52.3, 45.3, 30.3, 22.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₉O₂ [M+H]⁺: 219.1380, found: 219.1377.

methyl 2-(2-fluorophenyl)acrylate (7)



81.9 mg, 91% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.41-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7, 161.2, 158.8, 136.6, 130.9 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 130.2 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 124.1 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 115.6 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz), 52.5.

¹⁹F NMR (**376** MHz, CDCl₃): δ -113.76.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀FO₂ [M+H]⁺: 181.0659, found: 181.0661.

methyl 2-(2-chlorophenyl)acrylate (8)

OMe ö

77.0 mg, 78% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.47-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 3H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.6, 140.3, 136.6, 133.4, 131.0, 129.6, 129.4, 129.3, 126.9, 52.5.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀ClO₂ [M+H]⁺: 197.0364, found: 197.0362.

methyl 2-(2-bromophenyl)acrylate (9)

102.6 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.64-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.4, 141.9, 138.7, 132.6, 131.0, 129.7, 129.3, 127.5, 123.4, 52.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀BrO₂ [M+H]⁺: 240.9859, found: 240.9861.

methyl 2-(3-fluorophenyl)acrylate (10)



79.6 mg, 88% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD**): δ 7.42-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD): δ 168.2, 163.8 (d, *J* = 243.8 Hz), 141.6 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 140.3 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 128.3, 125.2 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 52.7.

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, MeOD): δ -111.81.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀FO₂ [M+H]⁺: 181.0659, found: 181.0662.

methyl 2-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylate (11)

CI-.OMe

81.3 mg, 83% yield.Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.27 (m, 3H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 140.2, 138.5, 134.1, 129.5, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 126.7, 52.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀ClO₂ [M+H]⁺: 197.0364, found: 197.0366.

methyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)acrylate (12)

102.8 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.60-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.39 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H),

5.90 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.9, 140.3, 135.7, 131.4, 130.1, 127.6, 122.6, 52.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀BrO₂ [M+H]⁺: 240.9859, found: 240.9856.

methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (13)

82.9 mg, 86% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.37 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.27 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.87-3.77 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.6, 159.7, 140.7, 129.6, 129.2, 125.4, 113.6, 55.3, 52.2. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₃ [M+H]⁺: 193.0859, found: 193.0857.

methyl 2-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)acrylate (14)



96.6 mg, 87% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 6.60-6.52 (m, 2H), 6.49-6.42 (m, 1H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.1, 160.5, 141.3, 138.6, 127.1, 106.6, 100.3, 55.4, 52.3. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅O₄ [M+H]⁺: 223.0965, found: 223.0964.

methyl 2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)acrylate (15)

82.5 mg, 83% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.02-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.83-6.70 (m, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).

¹³**C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 166.3, 163.9 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz), 161.5 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz), 139.7 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz), 139.4 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 111.7-111.4 (m, 2C), 103.7 (t, *J* = 25.4 Hz), 52.5.

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -110.20.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for $C_{10}H_9F_2O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 199.0565, found: 199.0562.

methyl 2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate (16)



91.7 mg, 80% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.6, 140.4, 140.3, 130.3 (q, *J* = 32.4 Hz), 128.9, 128.7, 125.2 (q, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J* = 272.0 Hz), 52.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀F₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 231.0627, found: 231.0626.

methyl 2-(4-cyanophenyl)acrylate (17)

67.3 mg, 72% yield.
Physical State: colorless oil
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.2, 141.3, 139.9, 132.0, 129.4, 129.2, 118.7, 112.0, 52.6.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 188.0706, found: 188.0707.

methyl 4-(3-methoxy-3-oxoprop-1-en-2-yl)benzoate (18)

OMe MeOOC

87.6 mg, 80% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 166.7, 141.2, 140.6, 129.8, 129.4, 128.4, 128.4, 52.4, 52.2. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 221.0808, found: 221.0812.

methyl 2-(naphthalen-2-yl)acrylate (19)

ОМе Ĉ

84.1 mg, 79% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.97-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.91-7.82 (m, 3H), 7.60-7.49 (m, 3H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5, 141.3, 134.2, 133.2, 133.1, 128.4, 127.7, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4, 126.5, 126.4, 126.2, 52.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{13}O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 213.0910, found: 213.0906.

methyl 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)acrylate (20)



100.9 mg, 83% yield.

Physical State: colourless solid

¹**H NMR** (**400 MHz**, **CDCl**₃): δ 7.86-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.7, 158.2, 141.4, 134.4, 132.0, 129.9, 128.6, 127.4, 126.7, 126.60, 126.56, 119.2, 105.7, 55.4, 52.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅O₃ [M+H]⁺: 243.1016, found: 243.1017.

methyl 2-(2-fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)acrylate (21)



108.4 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.66-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 2H), 6.51-6.41 (m, 1H), 6.06-5.95 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8, 159.3 (d, *J* = 247.7 Hz), 139.9 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 137.6 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 135.4 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 129.0 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 128.9 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz), 128.6, 127.9, 127.7, 124.3 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 24.4 Hz), 52.4.

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -118.10.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₄FO₂ [M+H]⁺: 257.0972, found: 257.0968.

methyl 2-(3-benzoylphenyl)acrylate (22)



109.5 mg, 80% yield.

Physical State: light yellow oil

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87-7.79 (m, 3H), 7.78-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.44 (m, 3H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 196.4, 166.8, 140.4, 137.5, 137.4, 137.0, 132.6, 132.4, 130.2, 130.0, 129.9, 128.4, 128.2, 52.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₅O₃ [M+H]⁺: 267.1016, found: 267.1013.

dimethyl 2,2'-(1,3-phenylene)diacrylate (23)

MeO

98.7 mg, 80% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.50-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.29 (m, 3H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 2H), 5.92 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.1, 141.0, 136.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 52.2.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅O₄ [M+H]⁺: 247.0965, found: 247.0963.

methyl 2-benzylacrylate (24)

ОМе

75.1 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.31-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.30-6.07 (m, 1H), 5.49-5.31 (m, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5, 140.2, 138.8, 129.2, 128.5, 126.5, 126.4, 52.0, 38.2.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 177.0910, found: 177.0909.

methyl 2-methylene-4-phenylbutanoate (25)

89.3 mg, 88% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.17 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.55-5.45 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.86-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.56 (m, 2H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.7, 141.5, 139.9, 128.6, 128.4, 126.1, 125.5, 51.9, 35.0, 34.0. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 191.1067, found: 191.1064.

methyl 2-methylenedecanoate (26)



86.5 mg, 87% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 6.17-6.09 (m, 1H), 5.54-5.47 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.35-2.22 (m, 2H), 1.49-1.39 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.22 (m, 10H), 0.92-0.82 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.0, 140.9, 124.6, 53.6, 51.9, 32.0, 29.5, 29.4, 29.4, 28.5, 22.8, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₂₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 199.1693, found: 199.1691.

methyl 2-methyleneundecanoate (27)



87.6 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 6.24-6.02 (m, 1H), 5.67-5.45 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.40-2.17 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.35-1.19 (m, 12H), 0.93-0.81 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.1, 141.0, 124.6, 51.9, 32.0, 29.7, 29.6, 29.5, 29.4, 28.5, 22.8, 14.3.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₃H₂₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 213.1849, found: 213.1852.

methyl 2-methylenedodecanoate (28)



99.7 mg, 88% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.23-6.06 (m, 1H), 5.62-5.44 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.50-1.40 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.22 (m, 14H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.1, 141.0, 124.6, 51.9, 32.1, 32.0, 29.8, 29.7, 29.6, 29.5, 29.4, 28.5, 22.8, 14.3.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₇O₂ [M+H]⁺: 227.2006, found: 227.2003.

methyl 2-methylene-4-phenoxybutanoate (31)



80.1 mg, 78% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.34-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.00-6.90 (m, 3H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.4, 158.8, 136.7, 129.6, 127.6, 120.9, 114.7, 114.7, 66.2, 52.1, 32.1.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅O₃ [M+H]⁺: 207.1016, found: 207.1015.

methyl 5-chloro-2-methylenepentanoate (32)

CI

70.6 mg, 87% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR** (**400 MHz**, **CDCl**₃): δ 6.29-6.16 (m, 1H), 5.71-5.50 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.45 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.85 (p, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³**C NMR** (**100 MHz**, **CDCl**₃): δ 167.1, 138.4, 126.7, 119.4, 52.1, 31.1, 24.3, 16.6. **HRMS** (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₇H₁₂ClO₂ [M+H]⁺: 163.0520, found: 163.0521.

methyl 2-((9H-carbazol-9-yl)methyl)acrylate (33)



99.8 mg, 75% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.28-6.20 (m, 1H), 5.26-5.16 (m, 2H), 5.10-5.05 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.5, 140.4, 134.8, 126.0, 125.8, 123.2, 120.5, 119.5, 108.9, 52.3, 43.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for $C_{17}H_{16}NO_2$ [M+H]⁺: 266.1176, found: 266.1174.

methyl 2-((1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)methyl)acrylate (34)

97.3 mg, 79% yield.

Physical State: colourless solid

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.91-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.76-7.68 (m, 2H), 6.34-6.23 (m, 1H), 5.64-5.49 (m, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.8, 165.8, 134.4, 134.2, 132.0, 126.1, 123.5, 52.2, 38.3. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 246.0761, found: 246.0762.

methyl 4-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-2-methylenebutanoate (35)



105.9 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: colourless solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.43-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.22 (m, 2H), 5.71 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 2.27 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.3, 166.9, 137.2, 134.0, 132.1, 127.5, 123.3, 52.1, 36.9, 31.5. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 260.0917, found: 260.0918.

methyl 5-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-2-methylenepentanoate (36)



115.4 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: colourless solid

¹**H NMR** (**400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.83-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.63 (m, 2H), 6.18-6.10 (m, 1H), 5.62-5.53 (m, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.68-3.63 (m, 2H), 2.33 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.90-1.75 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.4, 167.4, 139.3, 134.0, 132.2, 125.5, 123.2, 51.9, 37.5, 29.2, 27.2.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₆NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 274.1074, found: 274.1071.

methyl 2-((1H-indol-1-yl)methyl)acrylate (37)

88.7 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.74-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.33-6.21 (m, 1H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.2, 136.4, 136.1, 128.7, 128.5, 126.3, 121.9, 121.1, 119.7, 109.6, 102.0, 52.2, 46.9.
HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 216.1019, found: 216.1022.

methyl 2-methylene-4-(thiophen-3-ylmethoxy)butanoate (38)

85.3 mg, 75% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.31-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 1H), 6.24-6.19 (m, 1H), 5.69-5.61 (m, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.60 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5, 139.6, 137.4, 127.4, 126.8, 126.0, 122.7, 68.6, 68.2, 51.9, 32.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₅O₃S [M+H]⁺: 227.0736, found: 227.0734.

3-(methoxycarbonyl)but-3-en-1-yl thiophene-3-carboxylate (39)



88.0 mg, 73% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.10-8.00 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.31-6.23 (m, 1H), 5.73-5.60 (m, 1H), 4.42 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.2, 162.7, 136.7, 133.8, 132.8, 128.0, 127.6, 126.1, 63.1, 52.2, 31.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₄S [M+H]⁺: 241.0529, found: 241.0527.

3-(methoxycarbonyl)but-3-en-1-yl benzo^[14]thiophene-3-carboxylate (40)

О. ОМе

110.8 mg, 76% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR** (**400 MHz**, **CDCl**₃): δ 8.59 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.91-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.39 (m, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.78-5.71 (m, 1H), 4.54 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.2, 162.7, 140.1, 136.8 (m), 127.6, 127.2, 125.5, 125.1, 124.8, 122.6, 63.1, 52.2, 31.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅O₄S [M+H]⁺: 291.0686, found: 291.0685.

ethyl 2-phenylacrylate (41)

79.5 mg, 93% yield.
Physical State: colorless oil
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.47-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.31 (m, 3H), 6.36 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.9, 141.7, 136.9, 128.4, 128.23, 128.19, 126.6, 61.2, 14.3.
HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 177.0910, found: 177.0908.

isopropyl 2-phenylacrylate (42)

86.8 mg, 89% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.47-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.30 (m, 3H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.23-5.10 (m, 1H), 1.32 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.5, 142.0, 137.0, 128.4, 128.16, 128.15, 126.2, 68.7, 21.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 191.1067, found: 191.1069.

propyl 2-phenylacrylate (43)^[16]



87.1 mg, 85% yield.
Physical State: yellow oil
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.51-7.28 (m, 5H), 6.35 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.81 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0, 141.7, 136.9, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 126.5, 65.1, 30.7, 19.3, 13.8.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₇O₂ [M+H]⁺: 205.1223, found: 205.1226.

octyl 2-phenylacrylate (44)

107.2 mg, 82% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56-7.28 (m, 5H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.81-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.18 (m, 11H), 1.03-0.80 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0, 141.7, 136.9, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 126.5, 65.4, 31.8, 29.3, 28.6, 26.0, 22.7, 14.2.

HRMS (**ESI**): Calcd. for C₁₇H₂₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 261.1849, found: 261.1851.

cyclohexyl 2-phenylacrylate (45)

97.5 mg, 85% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)**: δ 7.52-7.30 (m, 5H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.03-4.87 (m, 1H), 2.05-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.25 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.3, 142.0, 137.0, 128.4, 128.1, 126.2, 73.4, 31.6, 25.5, 23.7. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉O₂ [M+H]⁺: 231.1380, found: 231.1382. 3-chloropropyl 2-phenylacrylate (46)

96.2 mg, 86% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.53-7.31 (m, 5H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.24-2.11 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.6, 141.3, 136.6, 128.31, 128.28, 128.2, 127.1, 61.8, 41.3, 31.6.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄ClO₂ [M+H]⁺: 225.0677, found: 225.0676.

2,2,2-trifluoroethyl 2-phenylacrylate (47)

94.2 mg, 84% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.53-7.32 (m, 5H), 6.58-6.44 (m, 1H), 6.12-6.00 (m, 1H), 4.72-4.55 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.0, 139.9, 136.0, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 123.2 (q, *J* = 277.4 Hz), 60.9 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz).

¹⁹F NMR (**376** MHz, CDCl₃): δ -73.40.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for $C_{11}H_{10}F_3O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 231.0627, found: 231.0624.

benzyl 2-phenylacrylate (48)^[16]

77.0 mg, 65% yield. **Physical State:** yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.47-7.29 (m, 11H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.6, 141.3, 136.7, 136.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.22, 128.18, 127.2, 66.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 239.1067, found: 239.1069.

phenyl 2-phenylacrylate (49)^[16]



99.0 mg, 81% yield.

Physical State: colorless oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.62-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.3, 151.0, 140.9, 136.4, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 126.0, 121.7. (one signal of aromatic carbon is missing).

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 225.0910, found: 225.0909.

p-tolyl 2-phenylacrylate (50)

II O

104.3 mg, 88% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.62-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.4, 148.7, 141.0, 136.4, 135.6, 130.0, 128.44, 128.41, 128.29, 128.25, 121.3, 20.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 239.1067, found: 239.1066.

4-chlorophenyl 2-phenylacrylate (51)



101.0 mg, 78% yield. **Physical State:** yellow oil ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H), 7.16-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³**C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 165.0, 149.4, 140.6, 136.2, 131.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 123.1. **HRMS (ESI):** Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₂ClO₂ [M+H]⁺: 259.0520, found: 259.0525.

4-methoxyphenyl 2-phenylacrylate (52)

116.3 mg, 92% yield.

Physical State: yellow oil

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ 7.65-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.99-6.83 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.6, 157.4, 144.4, 140.9, 136.4, 128.44, 128.43, 128.33, 128.26, 122.4, 114.5, 55.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₅O₃ [M+H]⁺: 255.1016, found: 255.1010.

6. Catalyst recycling.

A 10 mL reaction tube with a Teflon-coated stirring bar was charged with $Pd(OAc)_2$ (1.2 mg, 1.0 mol%), **L13** (18.4 mg, 1.5 mol%), TsOH (3.4 mg, 4.0 mol%), and methanol (0.2 mL, 5 mmol) in MTBE (1.0 mL). Phenylacetylene (51.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) was added to the mixture. The tube was placed into a 300-mL stainless steel Parr autoclave (WP-MSAR-250A). The autoclave was purged three times with 20 bar of nitrogen and then pressurized with 20 bar of carbon monoxide. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir (800 rpm) at 25 °C for 1 h, and the pressure was carefully released. The reaction mixture was centrifugated and an aliquot the supernatant was analyzed with GC to determine the conversions and *b/l* ratios. The supernatant was concentrated under reduced

pressure, and yields were determined by ¹H NMR analysis using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard. The solid obtained after centrifuge was washed with cold *tert*-butyl methyl ether (5.0 mL \times 3), dried under reduced pressure, and used in the next cycle with the same condition and procedure.

7. Gram scale synthesis of methyl 2-phenylacrylate.



A 250 mL reaction tube with a Teflon-coated stirring bar was charged with Pd(OAc)₂ (69.2 mg, 1.0 mol%), **L5** (1.18 g, 1.5 mol%), TsOH (0.21 g, 4.0 mol%), and MeOH (9.93 g, 12.5 mL, 0.31 mol) in MTBE (100.0 mL). Phenylacetylene (3.15 g, 30.9 mmol) was added to the mixture. The tube was placed into a 500-mL stainless steel Parr autoclave (YZPR-500). The autoclave was purged three times with 20 bar of nitrogen and then pressurized with 20 bar of carbon monoxide. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir (800 rpm) at 25 °C for 4 h, and the pressure was carefully released. The reaction mixture was centrifugated and an aliquot of the supernatant was analyzed with GC to determine the conversions and *b/l* ratios. The supernatant was concentrated under reduced pressure, and yields were determined by ¹H NMR analysis using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel with *n*-hexane/ethyl acetate = 20:1 as eluent to give **2** (4.56 g, 91% yield, *b:l* = 99:1).

8. References

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9. NMR spectra













140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 -20 -40 -60 -80 -100 -120 -140 -160 -180 -200 -220 -24C f1 (ppm)























130 110 90 70 50 30 10 -10 -30 -50 -70 -90 -110 -130 -150 -170 -190 -210 -230 f1 (ppm)





















f1 (ppm)
























0 -20 -40 -60 -80 -100 -120 -140 -160 -180 -200 f1 (ppm)























































$\begin{array}{c} 7.45\\ 7.45\\ 7.45\\ 7.45\\ 7.45\\ 7.45\\ 7.44\\ 7.42\\ 7.42\\ 7.39\\ 6.05\\ 6.05\\ 6.05\\ 6.05\\ 6.06\\ 6.05\\ 6.06\\$












f1 (ppm)



