

Supporting Information
for
Cobalt-catalyzed directed C–H alkenylation of
pivalophenone N–H imine with alkenyl phosphates

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Experimental details and characterization data of new compounds

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Material and methods

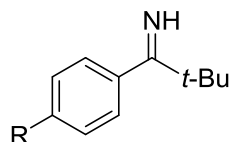
General. All reactions dealing with air and moisture-sensitive compounds were carried out in oven-dried reaction vessels under nitrogen atmosphere. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck 60 F254 silica gel plates. Flash column chromatography was performed using 40–63 μ m silica gel (Si 60, Merck). ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{31}P nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a JEOL ECA-400 (400 MHz), Bruker AV-300 (300 MHz), or AV-400 (400 MHz) NMR spectrometer. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield from the internal standard, tetramethylsilane (0 ppm), and ^{31}P NMR spectra are reported in reference to an external standard, 85% phosphoric acid (0 ppm). Gas chromatography (GC) analysis was performed on a Shimadzu GC-2010 system equipped with glass capillary column DB-5 (Agilent J&W, 0.25 mm id $\times$ 30 m, 0.25 μ m film thickness). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained with a Q-Tof Premier LC HR mass spectrometer. Melting points were determined using a capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

Materials. Unless otherwise noted, commercial reagents were purchased from Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, and other commercial suppliers and were used as received. THF was distilled over Na/benzophenone. Anhydrous CoBr_2 (>98%) was purchased from Alfa Aesar and used as received. Grignard reagents were prepared from the corresponding alkyl halides and magnesium turnings in THF, and titrated before use. $\text{IEt}\cdot\text{HCl}$,¹ $\text{L1}\cdot\text{HBr}$,² and $\text{L2}\cdot\text{HCl}$ ³ were prepared according to literature procedures.

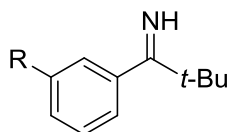
Preparation of the starting materials

Preparation of aryl imines

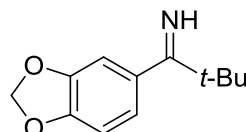
All imines shown below were synthesized according to the literature procedures⁴ and purified by recrystallization or distillation. Spectral data for **1a**⁵, **1b,c**⁶, **1d**⁴, **1e-g**⁶, **1h**⁵, and **1i-l**⁶, showed good agreement with the literature data.



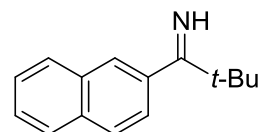
1a (R = H)
1b (R = Me)
1c (R = Ph)
1d (R = OMe)
1e (R = OCF₃)
1f (R = NMe₂)
1g (R = F)



1h (R = Me)
1i (R = OMe)
1j (R = F)



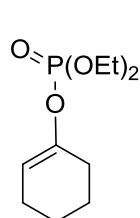
1k



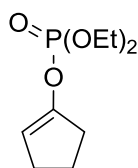
1l

Preparation of alkenyl phosphates

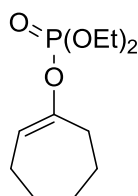
Enol phosphate esters **2a-j** were prepared according to the procedure described by Kumada and coworkers⁷. Spectral data for **2a**⁷, **2b**⁷, **2c**⁸, **2f**⁷, and **2i**⁷ showed good agreement with the literature data.



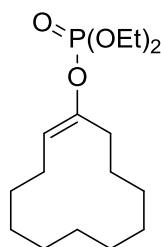
2a



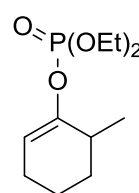
2b



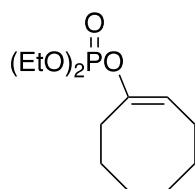
2c



2f

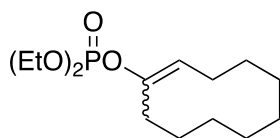


2i

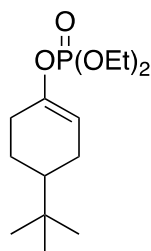


(E)-Cyclooct-1-en-1-yl diethyl phosphate (2d): Colorless liquid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.37 (tt, *J* = 8.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.14–4.04 (m, 4H), 2.32–2.26 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 2H), 2.06–1.97 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.55 (m, 2H), 1.54–1.43 (m, 6H), 1.33–1.25 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

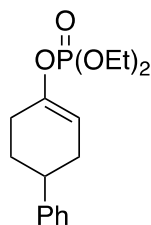
CDCl₃): δ 149.7 (d, J_{C-P} = 9.3 Hz), 112.7 (d, J_{C-P} = 4.9 Hz), 64.1 (d, J_{C-P} = 6.0 Hz), 30.1, 29.4 (d, J_{C-P} = 4.4 Hz), 27.6, 26.2, 26.0, 25.2, 16.2 (d, J_{C-P} = 6.9 Hz); $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -5.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₂H₂₄O₄P [M + H]⁺ 263.1412, found 263.1408.



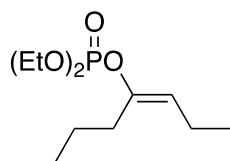
Cycloodec-1-en-1-yl diethyl phosphate (*E/Z* = ca. 1:1) (2e): Light yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, both isomers): δ 5.21 (td, J = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H, minor), 4.99 (td, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H, major), 4.14–4.04 (m, 4H, both), 2.38–2.09 (m, 4H, both), 1.57–1.25 (m, 18H, both); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, both isomers): δ 148.1 (d, J = 9.3 Hz), 147.0 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 117.4 (d, J = 6.9 Hz), 114.9 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 64.13 (d, J = 6.2 Hz), 64.06 (d, J = 6.2 Hz), 34.8, 27.4 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 27.1, 26.9, 26.1 (two signals overlapped), 25.5, 25.4, 25.2, 25.0, 24.6 (two signals overlapped), 24.2, 23.9, 20.9, 20.6, 16.22 (d, J = 6.6 Hz), 16.18 (d, J = 6.6 Hz); $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -5.4. HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₄H₂₈O₄P [M + H]⁺ 291.1725, found 291.1728.



4-(*tert*-Butyl)cyclohex-1-en-1-yl diethyl phosphate (2g): Light yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.41 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.13–4.09 (m, 4H), 2.28–2.00 (m, 3H), 1.86–1.76 (m, 2H), 1.34–1.21 (m, 8H), 0.83 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 147.8 (d, J_{C-P} = 8.6 Hz), 110.6 (d, J_{C-P} = 5.4 Hz), 64.2 (d, J_{C-P} = 6.0 Hz), 43.5, 32.2, 28.9 (d, J_{C-P} = 3.8 Hz), 27.4, 25.1, 24.1, 16.3 (d, J_{C-P} = 6.8 Hz); $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -5.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₄H₂₈O₄P [M + H]⁺ 291.1725, found 291.1729.

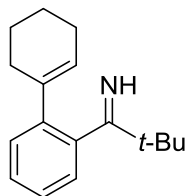


Diethyl (1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl) phosphate (2h): Light yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.29 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.22–7.17 (m, 3H), 5.59–5.55 (m, 1H), 4.21–4.12 (m, 4H), 2.83–2.75 (m, 1H), 2.49–2.19 (m, 4H), 2.03–1.83 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 147.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 9.0$ Hz), 145.7, 128.4, 126.8, 126.2, 110.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.4$ Hz), 64.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 6.0$ Hz), 39.3, 31.5, 29.6, 28.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 4.1$ Hz), 16.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 6.7$ Hz); $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -5.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_4\text{P}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 311.1412, found 311.1413.



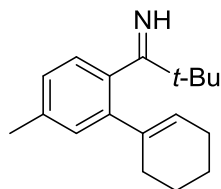
(E)-Diethyl hept-3-en-4-yl phosphate (2j): Light yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.45–5.41 (m, 1H), 4.14–4.06 (m, 4H), 2.34 (dd, $J = 12.8, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.04–1.98 (m, 2H), 1.82–1.74 (m, 1H), 1.63–1.32 (m, 4H), 1.30 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H), 1.05 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 151.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 9.6$ Hz), 110.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 4.0$ Hz), 64.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.4$ Hz), 32.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 4.7$ Hz), 31.4, 24.2, 19.6, 18.4, 16.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 6.8$ Hz); $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -5.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_4\text{P}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 251.1412, found 251.1416.

Cobalt-catalyzed C–H alkenylation of pivalophenone imines with alkenyl phosphates



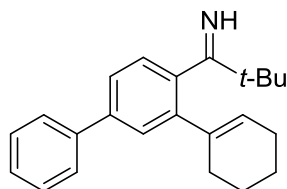
Typical procedure: 2,2-dimethyl-1-(2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (**3aa**). A 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with **L2**·HCl (9.5 mg, 0.020 mmol), CoBr₂ (4.4 mg, 0.020 mmol), and THF (0.30 mL). The resulting solution was cooled in an ice bath, followed by the addition of *t*-BuCH₂MgBr (2.0 M in THF, 0.20 mL, 0.40 mmol). After stirring for 30 min, 2,2-dimethyl-1-phenylpropan-1-imine (**1a**, 33 mg, 0.20 mmol) and cyclohex-1-en-1-yl diethyl phosphate (**2a**, 70 mg, 0.30 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature, stirred for 12 h, and then filtered through a short silica gel column, which was washed with ethyl acetate (5 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ 50:1:1) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (43 mg, 88%).

*R*_f 0.54 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.33 (brs, 1H), 7.28–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.03–6.99 (m, 1H), 5.70 (brs, 1H), 2.32–2.25 (m, 2H), 2.15–2.09 (m, 2H), 1.75–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.58 (m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.9, 141.0, 140.5, 137.6, 129.4, 128.1, 127.8, 127.4, 126.0, 40.4, 30.3, 29.4, 25.8, 23.2, 22.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₇H₂₄N [M + H]⁺ 242.1909, found 242.1910.



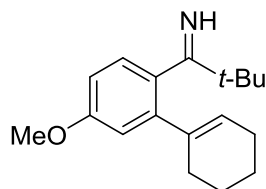
2,2-Dimethyl-1-(5-methyl-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3ba): Light yellow oil (43 mg, 85%). *R*_f 0.53 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.24 (brs, 1H), 7.01–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (t, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.30–2.24 (m, 2H), 2.14–2.08 (m, 2H), 1.74–1.57 (m, 2H), 1.17 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR

(100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.1, 141.0, 137.8, 137.5, 129.2, 128.9 (two signals overlapped), 127.4, 126.8, 40.4, 30.4, 29.5, 25.9, 23.3, 22.1, 21.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆N [M + H]⁺ 256.2065, found 256.2062.



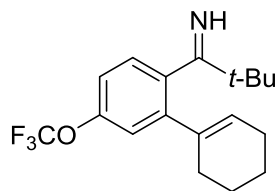
2,2-Dimethyl-1-(2''',3'',4'',5''-tetrahydro-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4'-yl)propan-1-imine (3ca):

Light yellow oil (55 mg, 86%). *R_f* 0.48 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.91 (brs, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 4H), 7.38–7.32 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.77–5.74 (m, 1H), 2.36–2.30 (m, 2H), 2.17–2.11 (td, *J* = 6.1, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 1.76–1.70 (m, 2H), 1.67–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.21 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.8, 141.6, 140.9, 140.8, 139.5, 137.8, 129.6, 129.0, 128.0, 127.7, 127.3, 127.1, 124.8, 40.5, 30.5, 29.5, 25.9, 23.3, 22.1; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₂₃H₂₈N [M + H]⁺ 318.2222, found 318.2223.

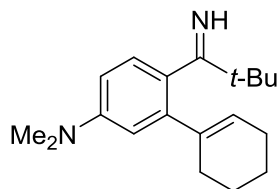


1-(5-Methoxy-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3da):

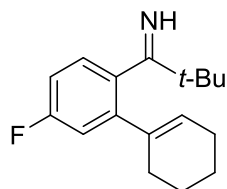
Light yellow oil (46 mg, 83%). *R_f* 0.37 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.85 (brs, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.73–6.69 (m, 2H), 5.71–5.68 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.28–2.23 (m, 2H), 2.13–2.08 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.65 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.57 (m, 2H), 1.16 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.9, 159.0, 142.7, 137.7, 133.3, 129.4, 128.6, 113.5, 111.4, 55.4, 40.5, 30.2, 29.5, 25.8, 23.2, 22.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆NO [M + H]⁺ 272.2014, found 272.2015.



2,2-Dimethyl-1-(5-(trifluoromethoxy)-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3ea): Light yellow oil (51 mg, 79%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.45 (brs, 1H), 7.04 (s, 3H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.30–2.23 (m, 2H), 2.29–2.24 (m, 2H), 1.74–1.59 (m, 4H), 1.16 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 190.9, 148.7, 143.2, 136.7, 130.8 (two signals overlapped), 129.0, 120.7 (d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 257.2 Hz), 120.6, 118.4, 40.6, 30.1, 29.3, 25.8, 23.1, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{NOF}_3$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 326.1732, found 326.1732.

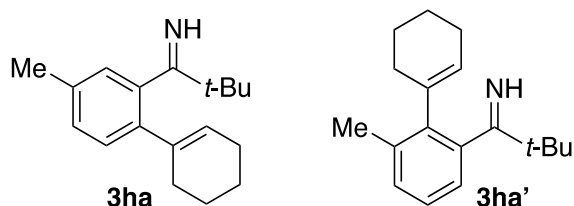


6-(1-Imino-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-N,N-dimethyl-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-amine (3fa): Light yellow oil (47 mg, 82%). R_f 0.45 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.45 (brs, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.70–5.66 (m, 1H), 2.95 (s, 6H), 2.28–2.24 (m, 2H), 2.14–2.08 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.58 (m, 4H), 1.19 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 192.2, 150.0, 142.3, 138.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.3, 112.0, 110.0, 40.7, 40.5, 30.4, 29.7, 25.8, 23.3, 22.1; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 285.2331, found 285.2333.



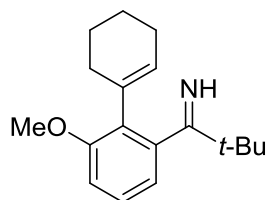
1-(5-Fluoro-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ga): Light yellow oil (42 mg, 81%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.39 (brs, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.2, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 6.92–6.85 (m, 2H), 5.76–5.72 (m, 1H), 2.28–2.23 (m, 2H), 2.14–2.09 (m, 2H), 1.74–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.57 (m, 2H), 1.15 (s, 9H); ^{13}C

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.2, 162.2 (d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 246.4$ Hz), 143.4 (d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.0$ Hz), 136.8, 130.4, 129.2 (d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.7$ Hz), 114.8 (d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.1$ Hz), 113.0 (d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.3$ Hz), 40.6, 30.1, 29.4, 25.8, 23.2, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₇H₂₃NF [M + H]⁺ 260.1815, found 260.1815.



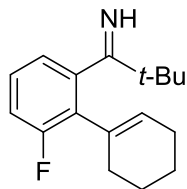
2,2-Dimethyl-1-(4-methyl-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3ha):

Light yellow oil (39 mg, 76%, obtained as an inseparable mixture with minor regioisomer **3ha'** (ratio = 3:1 as determined by ¹H NMR)). *R_f* 0.54 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, major isomer): δ 9.28 (s, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.66 (s, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.28–2.22 (m, 2H), 2.13–2.07 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.66 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.57 (m, 2H), 1.17 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, major isomer): δ 192.2, 138.2, 137.5, 135.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.0, 125.8, 123.4, 40.4, 30.4, 29.5, 25.9, 23.3, 22.1, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆N [M + H]⁺ 256.2065, found 256.2065.



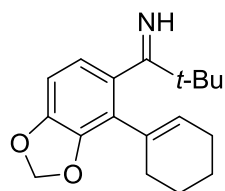
1-(6-Methoxy-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ia):

Light yellow oil (43 mg, 79%). *R_f* 0.46 (hexane/EtOAc/NEt₃ = 10/1/1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.25 (brs, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.55–5.50 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.29–2.09 (m, 4H), 1.76–1.58 (m, 4H), 1.20 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 190.9, 157.4, 143.2, 135.0, 130.0, 129.3, 127.1, 119.1, 110.2, 56.0, 39.9, 30.0, 29.9, 25.7, 23.1, 22.2; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆NO [M + H]⁺ 272.2014, found 272.2017.



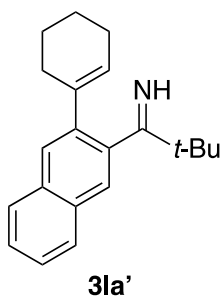
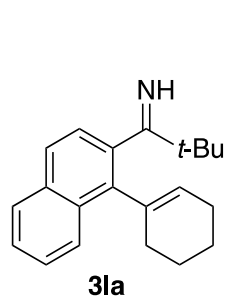
1-(6-Fluoro-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ja):

Light yellow oil (41 mg, 79%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.26 (brs, 1H), 7.18–7.12 (m, 1H), 7.00–6.95 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.66–5.62 (m, 1H), 2.21–2.17 (m, 2H), 2.16–2.09 (m, 2H), 1.74–1.60 (m, 4H), 1.18 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 190.0, 160.3 (d, $^1J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 245.8 Hz), 143.5, 132.1, 131.3, 128.8 (d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 17.1 Hz), 127.6 (d, $^3J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 8.9 Hz), 122.6, 115.1 (d, $^2J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 23.5 Hz), 40.2, 30.1, 29.6, 25.7, 23.0, 22.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{NF}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 260.1815, found 260.1817.



1-(4-(Cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ka):

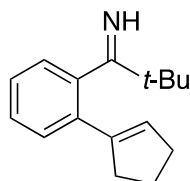
Light yellow oil (48 mg, 84%). R_f 0.45 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.87 (s, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 5.73–5.69 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.27 (m, 2H), 2.16–2.10 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.59 (m, 4H), 1.16 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.0, 146.8, 144.8, 132.6, 131.2, 123.4, 120.8, 106.4, 101.0, 100.2, 40.4, 29.5, 29.0, 25.8, 23.0, 22.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 242.1909, found 242.1912.



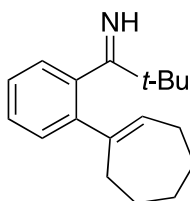
1-(1-(Cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)naphthalen-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3la):

Light yellow oil (48 mg, 82%, obtained as an inseparable mixture with minor regioisomer **3la'** (ratio = 4:1 as determined by ^1H NMR)). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 ,

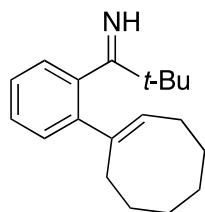
major isomer): δ 9.29 (s, 1H), 7.97–7.93 (m, 1H), 7.84–7.77 (m, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.72–5.68 (m, 1H), 2.31–2.15 (m, 4H), 1.82–1.63 (m, 4H), 1.28 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , major isomer): δ 191.3, 138.8, 138.1, 136.1, 133.1, 132.4, 129.7, 128.2, 126.6, 126.5, 126.4, 126.1, 124.1, 39.9, 32.3, 30.4, 25.7, 23.2, 22.3; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 292.2065, found 292.2068.



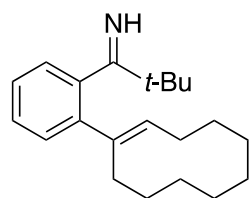
1-(2-(Cyclopent-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ab): Light yellow oil (39 mg, 85%). R_f 0.48 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.41 (brs, 1H), 7.27–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.85–5.82 (m, 1H), 2.68–2.63 (m, 2H), 2.50–2.41 (m, 2H), 1.99–1.89 (m, 2H), 1.15 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 192.2, 142.6, 135.1, 134.8, 131.8, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 126.4, 47.4, 36.6, 34.0, 29.0, 23.7; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 228.1752, found 228.1757.



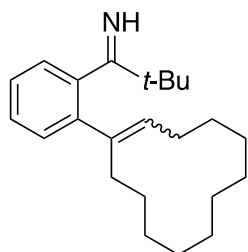
1-(2-(Cyclohept-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ac): Light yellow oil (40 mg, 79%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.34 (brs, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.02 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.45–2.41 (m, 2H), 2.22–2.17 (m, 2H), 1.82–1.76 (m, 2H), 1.67–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.57–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.5, 144.7, 143.3, 134.1, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 127.1, 125.9, 43.7, 35.9, 32.7, 29.7, 29.2, 27.4, 26.8; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 256.2065, found 256.2065.



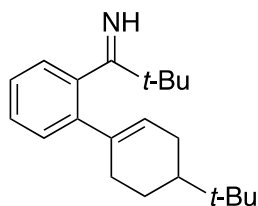
1-(2-(Cyclooct-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ad): Light yellow oil (46 mg, 86%). R_f 0.54 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.25 (brs, 1H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.45–2.40 (m, 2H), 2.24–2.17 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.51 (m, 8H), 1.18 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.8, 142.0, 140.9, 140.7, 132.4, 129.2, 127.8, 127.0, 126.1, 40.3, 31.4, 29.8 (two signals overlapped), 29.5, 27.2, 27.0, 26.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 270.2222, found 270.2226.



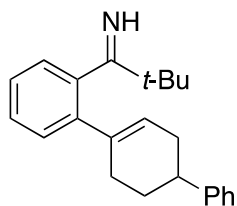
(E)-1-(2-(cyclodec-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ae): Light yellow oil (49 mg, 82%, E/Z > 10:1 as judged from ^1H NMR). R_f 0.54 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.36 (brs, 1H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.45–2.40 (m, 2H), 2.24–2.17 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.51 (m, 8H), 1.18 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.8, 141.5, 140.8 (two signals overlapped), 133.5, 130.0, 128.9, 126.5, 126.2, 40.3, 30.0, 28.3, 28.0, 27.4, 27.1, 25.5, 25.1, 21.5, 21.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 298.2535, found 298.2531. The E -stereochemistry was assigned in light of our previous study on a related C–H alkenylation reaction.²



1-(2-(Cyclododec-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (*E/Z* = 4/1) (3af): Light yellow oil (51 mg, 78%). R_f 0.56 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , both isomers): δ 9.33 (brs, 1H, both isomers), 7.35–7.09 (m, 3H, both isomers), 7.04 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H, major isomer), 6.97 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H, minor isomer), 5.78 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H minor isomer), 5.34 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H major isomer), 2.46–2.16 (m, 4H, both isomers), 1.60–1.19 (m, 25H, both isomers); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , major isomer): δ 191.3, 141.7, 141.4, 140.7, 133.3, 131.3, 127.8, 126.4, 126.1, 47.4, 40.3, 29.9, 27.6, 27.3, 25.7, 25.2, 24.9, 24.8, 24.7, 22.62, 22.56; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{37}\text{N}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 326.2848, found 326.2846. The *E*-stereochemistry of the major isomer was assigned in light of our previous study on a related C–H alkenylation reaction.²

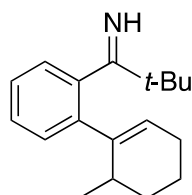


1-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (3ag): Light yellow oil (50 mg, 84%). R_f 0.64 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.27 (brs, 1H), 7.28–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.72–5.68 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.11 (m, 3H), 1.94–1.82 (m, 2H), 1.32–1.14 (m, 11H), 0.89 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.9, 140.7, 140.5, 137.5, 129.7, 128.2, 127.8, 127.4, 126.1, 43.7, 40.4, 32.4, 31.9, 29.5, 27.4, 24.7; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 298.2535, found 298.2534.



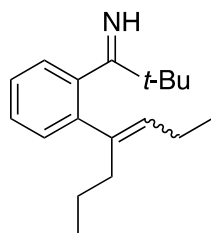
2,2-Dimethyl-1-(2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1':4',1''-terphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3ah):

Light yellow oil (54 mg, 85%). R_f 0.48 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.29 (brs, 1H), 7.34–7.18 (m, 8H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.82–5.78 (m, 1H), 2.88–2.80 (m, 1H), 2.59–2.35 (m, 3H), 2.30–2.20 (m, 1H), 2.08–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.90–1.79 (m, 1H), 1.21 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.8, 146.9 (two signals overlapped), 140.5, 137.7, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 126.4, 126.3, 40.5, 39.6, 34.1, 31.1, 30.4, 29.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 318.2222, found 318.2222.



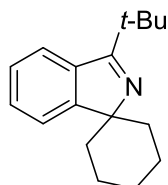
2,2-Dimethyl-1-(2'-methyl-2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3ai):

Light yellow oil (45 mg, 88%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.34 (brs, 1H), 7.26–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.68–5.58 (m, 1H), 2.58–2.42 (m, 1H), 2.22–2.06 (m, 2H), 1.89–1.64 (m, 2H), 1.44–1.19 (m, 11H), 0.84 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 191.6, 144.1, 140.8, 140.5, 130.6, 128.7, 127.7, 126.4, 126.0, 40.3, 33.0, 31.5, 30.0, 26.2, 20.3, 19.8; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 256.2065, found 256.2061.



1-(2-(Hept-3-en-4-yl)phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-imine (*E/Z* = 4/1) (3aj): Light yellow oil (46 mg, 90%). R_f 0.52 (hexane/EtOAc/ NEt_3 = 10/1/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , major isomer): δ 9.30 (brs, 1H), 7.26–7.13 (m, 3H), 7.05–7.02 (m, 1H), 5.37 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.29–2.24 (m, 2H), 2.14 (p, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (s, 9H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , major isomer): δ 191.4, 141.6, 140.7, 140.5, 134.4, 130.5, 127.8, 126.6, 126.1, 40.3, 34.2, 29.9, 22.1, 21.8, 14.4, 14.2; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 258.2222, found 258.2224. The *E*-stereochemistry of the major isomer was assigned in light of our previous study on a related C–H alkenylation reaction.²

Cyclization of alkenylated N–H imine under peroxide photolysis



3'-(*tert*-Butyl)spiro[cyclohexane-1,1'-isoindole] (4): 2,2-Dimethyl-1-(2',3',4',5'-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propan-1-imine (3aa, 48 mg, 0.20 mmol) was weighed into a 10 mL vial containing a stirring bar and then dissolved in *t*-BuOO*t*-Bu (0.5 mL). The vial was placed in Luzchem LZC-4V photoreactor and irradiated at 254 nm for 12 h. Then the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was subjected to silica gel chromatography (eluent: hexane/EtOAc 100:1) to afford the title product as a yellow oil (39 mg, 81%).

R_f 0.41 (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.72–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 2H), 2.05–1.93 (m, 2H), 1.82–1.72 (m, 2H), 1.71–1.56 (m, 4H), 1.49–1.40 (m, 11H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 175.4, 160.8, 137.1, 127.2, 126.7, 123.9, 122.0, 75.6, 36.3, 35.5, 28.9, 26.2, 23.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$ 242.1909, found 242.1912.

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NMR Spectra

