Alkene Oxyamination using Malonoyl Peroxides: Preparation of Pyrrolidines and Isoxazolidines

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ABSTRACT: Treatment of homoallylic *N*-tosyl amines or allylic *N*-tosyl hydroxylamines with 1.5 equiv of a malonoyl peroxide provides a stereoselective method to access functionalized pyrrolidines and isox-azolidines. This metal free alkene oxyamination proceeds in 55–85% yield and up to 13:1 *trans*-selectivity. In addition, the relative stereochemistry of the oxygen and nitrogen substituents can be inverted through an oxidation/reduction sequence. Mechanistic investigations show a higher reactivity for hydroxyl nucleophiles over sulfonamide nucleophiles revealing a preference for dioxygenation over oxyamination.

The vicinal functionalization of alkenes is one of the most studied transformations in organic synthesis. This is particularly the case for the introduction of new carbon—heteroatom bonds generating up to two new stereogenic centers. For example, exquisite success has been achieved in dihydroxylation processes whereby the majority of alkene building blocks can be transformed stereo- and enantioselectively into the corresponding *syn-* or *anti*-diol using commercial reagents under mild and efficient conditions.^{1–3}

Whilst significant efforts have been devoted to the di-oxygenation of alkenes, methods for oxyamination are substantially less developed, despite the accordant potential for the products in pharmaceutical and agrochemical research.⁴ The majority of methods developed for oxyamination involve the use of transition metal catalysts, including osmium,^{5,6} rhodium,⁷ palladium,⁸ copper⁹ and iron.¹⁰ Metal free methods have also been described and include both iodine(0)¹¹ and iodine(III)¹² species as the reagent. Despite the extensive inroads made in the development of effective methods for the oxyamination of alkenes using these processes significant opportunities still exist in the area with regards to regio- and stereoselectivity along with substrate scope and the use of more environmentally benign catalysts, reagents, and reaction conditions.

We have recently shown that malonoyl peroxide **1** and its derivatives are versatile reagents for both the *syn*-¹³ and *anti*-dioxygenation^{14,15} of alkenes. In the preparation of oxygen heterocycles transformations proceed through the reaction of the substrate alkene **2** with the malonoyl peroxide to give a dioxonium intermediate **3**¹⁶ which can react stereoselectively in an intramolecular fashion with either an alcohol or a carboxylic acid to give the corresponding tetrahydrofuran or γ -lactone respectively (Scheme 1). Encouraged by the success of this work we sought to discover if the overall strategy could be applied to the preparation of nitrogen containing heterocycles through the reaction of alkenes tethered directly to a nitrogen nucleophile (e.g. **5**). Within this paper we describe the development of a simple and effective intramolecular oxyamination procedure to deliver 2-hydroxypyrrolidine derivatives **7** in a stereoselective manner.

Scheme 1. Intramolecular Oxidative Cyclizations



Our investigation began with the reaction of a homoallylic amine 8a (R = Ts) with malonovl peroxide 1 (Table 1). Chlorinated solvents, which had proved effective in both the syn- and anti-dioxygenation of alkenes,^{13,14} led to slow consumption of starting materials with no clear indication of the desired pyrrolidine product 9a (R = Ts) (entries 1 and 2). However, reaction of 8a with 1.5 equiv of malonoyl peroxide 1 at room temperature for 5 h in hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) followed by hydrolysis of the product led to the desired trans-3-hydroxypyrrolidine 9a in an excellent 69% isolated yield and a 1:9 cis:trans selectivity (entry 3). Drying the HFIP solvent over 3 Å molecular sieves for 24 h prior to use provided the product in a similar yield and improved selectivity (entry 4; 71%; 1:13 cis:trans). Interestingly, despite extensive efforts to induce similar reactivity with alternative amide **8b** (entry 5), carbamate 8c and 8d (entries 6 and 7) and sulfonamide 8e (entry 8) substituents on the nitrogen nucleophile, similar reactivity patterns could not be observed upon complete consumption of starting material. In each of these transformations numerous products were present in the ¹H NMR of the crude reaction mixture with no clear evidence for the formation of the target pyrrolidines. This suggests that both the electronics and sterics of the nitrogen nucleophile are crucial to observing the desired reactivity and that N-tosylsulfonamides provide the environment required to promote reactivity.

Table 1. Influence of Nitrogen Substituent



^aAll reactions performed in duplicate at 0.5 M concentration for 5 h. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy on crude reaction mixture. ^cIsolated yield of major isomer. ^dSolvent dried over 3 Å molecular sieves for 24 h prior to use. DNs: 2,4-dinitrophenylsulfonyl.

Confirmation of the structure of the cyclized pyrrolidine **10**, prior to hydrolysis, came from single crystal X-ray crystallography (Figure 1). This structure clearly shows the *trans*-relationship between the phenyl group from the alkene substrate and the ester group from the malonoyl peroxide reagent. Overall, this provides a convenient, mild and effective method for the *anti*-oxyamination of alkenes.



Figure 1. Single-crystal X-ray structure of pyrrolidine 10.

Having established an efficient method for the oxyamination of **8a** (R = Ts) we went on to examine some of the scope of the process (Table 2). Substitution on all positions of the aromatic ring was tolerated with *p*- (entry 2; 66%; 1:7 *cis:trans*), *m*- (entry 3; 71%; 1:6 *cis:trans*) and *o*-tolyl (entry 4; 72%) substrates effectively undergoing the intramolecular oxyamination process. Chloride substitution was also well tolerated (entries 6 and 7), providing the products in up to 67% isolated yield which could readily be diversified. Alternative substitution on the aromatic ring that was also investigated included a *p*-phenyl substituent (entry 5; 72%; 1:9 *cis:trans*) and an acetal group (entry 8; 55%; 1:9 *cis:trans*).



^aYields quoted are isolated yields of major isomer. ^bDiastereoselectivity determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy on the crude reaction mixture. ^cReaction conducted at 50 ° C for 20 h. ^d*Cis*-alkene substrate used.

A limitation was encountered with the introduction of the strongly electron withdrawing trifluoromethyl substituent which was significantly slower than the other substrates examined. Conducting the reaction at a higher temperature of 50 °C for 20 h gave the product **20** in just 19% isolated yield (entry 9). Whilst ¹H NMR spectroscopy supported the structure of **20** it was not possible to determine the stereoselectivity due to overlapping signals. Introduction of further substitution on the alkene substrate was also possible with the diphenyl-substituted pyrrolidine **21** being isolated in an excellent 82% yield (entry 10), providing the most efficient pyrrolidine synthesis examined within this study. Use of a *Z*-alkene substrate gave the *cis*-pyrrolidine product **22** as a 5:1 mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-isomers (entry 11).

Mechanistically we believe that the reaction is proceeding as outlined in Figure 2. Nucleophilic attack of the substituted alkene 23 on the peroxide 1 leads to 24 which cyclizes intramolecularly to give the dioxonium species 25 as defined previously for alkene dihydroxylation.¹⁶ Subsequent cyclization of the nitrogen nucleophile forms the pyrrolidine ring 27 with a *trans*-relationship of the newly formed C— O and C—N bonds. This mechanistic pathway is consistent with previous investigations into the reactivity of malonoyl peroxide 1 and accounts for the stereoselectivities observed within the process.



Figure 2. Proposed mechanistic pathway for the intramolecular oxyamination procedure.

In order to understand the mechanism of this transformation further we prepared the probe molecule **28**, to ascertain if differences in nucleophilicity between heteroatoms could influence the outcome of the cyclization (Scheme 2). Compound **28** is a tetra-substituted alkene which contains both an alcohol and a sulfonamide nucleophile. Reaction of **28** under standard cyclization conditions followed by esterification of the crude product gave the tetrahydrofuran **29** (46%). The pyrrolidine **30** was not detected by ¹H NMR spectroscopy on the crude reaction mixture. This shows that on formation of a dioxonium ion intermediate **32** the more nucleophilic pendant heteroatom reacts selectively through carbon atom **A**. In addition, we also isolated a small amount of the bicyclic compound **31** (7%) which results from direct cyclization of the oxygen heteroatom on carbon atom **B** of the dioxonium intermediate **32**. We believe this product is formed due to the increased steric encumbrance of carbon atom A, reducing the reactivity

of this center.





To expand the scope of the transformation to alternative nitrogen containing heterocycles we prepared the hydroxylamine derivatives **33** and **35** and reacted each with 1.5 equiv **1** (HFIP, 40 °C, 18 h) (Scheme 3). The elevated temperature and extended reaction times necessary to bring about reaction suggest a reduced nucleophilicity of the nitrogen heteroatom within these substrates. After treatment of the crude reaction mixture with TMSCHN₂ the isoxazolidines **34** (80%; 1:10 *cis:trans*) and **36** (85%; 1:7 *cis:trans*) were isolated after purification by column chromatography. This provides an efficient and highly stereoselective method for the preparation of the 4-hydroxyisoxazolidine framework from readily accessible alkene substrates.





The structure of the isoxazolidine product **37**, prior to esterification, was confirmed by single crystal X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 3). In contrast to the structure of the pyrrolidine analogue **10** the nitrogen atom adopts a tetrahedral geometry in this structure, with the isoxazolidine ring having a

more puckered conformation. The apparent reduced nucleophilicity of the hydroxylamine derivatives **33** and **35** was surprising. Whilst we are unable to unequivocally explain this observation at present, the different structures of compounds **10** and **37** suggest that the conformation of the substrates may affect reactivity.



Figure 3. Single crystal X-ray structure of isoxazolidine 37.

Reaction of the 3-hydroxypyrrolidine **9a** with IBX (3 equiv) in acetonitrile gave the pyrrolidinone **38** in 85% isolated yield (Scheme 4). Reduction of this ketone with DIBAL-H in THF at rt for 3 h gave the *cis*-substituted product **22** (6:1 *cis:trans*; 78%). This sequence provides an alternative access to the diasteremeric pyrrolidine product **22** without independent preparation of the Z-alkene substrate enhancing the overall use of the process described and the diversity of structures accessed using this methodology.

Scheme 4. Inverting Relative Stereochemistry of Pyrrolidine Ring



In summary, we have described a simple and effective method for the intramolecular oxyamination of alkenes. Through optimization of the nitrogen substituent we have shown that the oxyamination procedure can be induced at room temperature by treatment of an alkene substrate with 1.5 equiv of malonoyl peroxide **1** in HFIP. The product can be isolated in good yield and up to 13:1 *trans:cis* ratio. The related isoxazolidines can also be prepared from the appropriate hydroxylamine substrate. In addition, the relative stereochemistry of the two newly formed carbon—heteroatom bonds can be changed by preparation of the *Z*-alkene substrate or through a simple oxidation-reduction sequence, further expanding the scope of this useful transformation. A mechanistic probe showed there is a preference for reaction of the dioxonium intermediate with an alcohol over a sulfonamide nucleophile revealing a preference for dioxygenation over oxyamination. Current efforts are focused on developing an intermolecular variant of this procedure and we will report on our findings in the near future.

Experimental Section

Synthesis of malonoyl peroxide (1).¹⁵ Methane sulfonic acid (30 mL) was placed in a round bottomed flask equipped with a large magnetic stirrer bar and immersed in a bath of water at 22 °C. Urea hydrogen peroxide (9.8 g, 104.0 mmol) was added in a single portion and stirred for 30 seconds. Cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylic acid (5.0 g, 38.5 mmol) was added in a single portion and the reaction stirred vigorously for 18 h. The reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of ice (80 g) and ethyl acetate (100 mL) and the layers separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 × 100 mL) and the combined organics were washed with NaHCO₃ (2 × 50 mL), brine (20 mL) and dried over MgSO₄. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure gave the desired peroxide 1 (3.5 g, 27.3 mmol, 71%). m.p. 90 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 1827, 1798, 1358; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.10 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 23.7, 19.9.

Synthesis of 2-(But-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.¹⁷ A dry three-neck flask was charged with potassium phthalimide (3.6 g, 19.2 mmol) in DMF (12 mL). 4-Bromobut-1-ene (1.5 mL, 14.8 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at reflux for 5 h. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, poured onto ice and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 50 mL). The combined organics were washed with 0.2 M KOH (50 mL), H₂O (50 mL), dried over MgSO4, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation to afford the *title compound* (2.8 g, 13.8 mmol, 93%) as a brown solid which was used without further purification. m.p. 49–51 °C, Lit¹⁸ [52–53 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3075, 2974, 2939, 1772, 1705; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.72–7.68 (m, 2H), 5.79 (ddt, *J* = 17.1, 10.2, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.47–2.42 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 134.6, 134.0, 132.3, 123.3, 117.7, 37.5, 33.0; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 202.1 [M+H]⁺.

General Procedure 1: Heck Coupling.¹⁹ A dry three-neck flask fitted with a condenser was charged with aryl iodide (1.1 equiv) and Et₃N (2.0 equiv) in MeCN (0.05 M). 2-(But-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 equiv) was added followed by $P(o-tol)_3$ (10 mol%) and $Pd(OAc)_2$ (5 mol%). The mixture was stirred at reflux until completion by TLC. The solution was allowed to cool to room temperature, passed through a plug of Celite[®] and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The crude residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with 2 M HCl (× 2), H₂O (× 2), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography with hexane:EtOAc mixtures afforded the target compounds.

(*E*)-2-(4-Phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²⁰ Phenyl iodide (1.7 mL, 14.8 mmol) and Et₃N (3.7 mL, 26.8 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (270 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (2.7 g, 13.4 mmol), P(o-tol)₃ (407 mg, 1.3 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (150 mg, 0.7 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 16 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (2.2 g, 7.9 mmol, 60%) as a white solid. m.p. 138–139 °C, Lit²⁰ [133.5–135.5 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3054, 3025, 2935, 1695; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.20–7.18 (m, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.63–2.59 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.3, 137.3, 133.9, 132.6, 132.1, 128.5, 127.2, 126.2, 126.1, 123.2, 37.6, 32.2; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 278.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-2-(4-*p*-Tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²¹ 4-Iodotoluene (600 mg, 2.7 mmol) and Et₃N (700 μ L, 5.0 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (50 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (500 mg, 2.5 mmol), P(o-tol)₃ (75 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (28 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 24 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (432 mg, 1.5 mmol, 60%) as a white solid. m.p. 121–122 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3023, 2922, 2854, 1708; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d, *J* =

15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.62–2.57 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 137.1, 134.6, 134.0, 132.6, 132.3, 129.3, 126.2, 125.2, 123.4, 37.8, 32.4, 21.3; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 292.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-2-(4-*m*-Tolyl)but-3-*en*-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²¹ 3-Iodotoluene (350 µL, 2.7 mmol) and Et₃N (700 µL, 5.0 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (50 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (500 mg, 2.5 mmol), P(*o*-tol)₃ (75 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (28 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 20 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (528 mg, 1.8 mmol, 73%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3055, 2940, 2857, 1712; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.11–7.09 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.63–2.58 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 138.1, 137.3, 134.0, 132.8, 132.3, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 126.0, 123.43, 123.37, 37.8, 32.4, 21.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 292.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-2-(4-o-Tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²¹ 2-Iodotoluene (350 µL, 2.7 mmol) and Et₃N (700 µL, 5.0 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (50 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (500 mg, 2.5 mmol), P(o-tol)₃ (75 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (28 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 16 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (300 mg, 1.0 mmol, 42%) as a white solid. m.p. 132–134 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3056, 3017, 2939, 2855, 1706; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.83 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14–7.06 (m, 3H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dt, *J* = 15.6, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.66–2.61 (m, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 136.6, 135.2, 134.1, 132.3, 130.8, 130.2, 127.7, 127.3, 126.2, 126.0, 123.4, 37.8, 32.6, 19.8; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 292.0 [M+H]⁺.

*(E)-2-(4-(4-Chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.*²² 1-Chloro-4-iodobenzene (1.3 g, 5.5 mmol) and Et₃N (1.4 mL, 10.0 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (100 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-

3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 g, 4.97 mmol), P(*o*-tol)₃ (151 mg, 0.5 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (56 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 42 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (1.1 g, 3.4 mmol, 68%) as a white solid. m.p. 130–131 °C, Lit²² [130.5–132.0 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3058, 3025, 3002, 2939, 1699; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.62–2.58 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 135.9, 134.1, 133.0, 132.2, 131.5, 128.8, 127.5, 127.1, 123.4, 37.6, 32.4; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 328.9 [M+NH₄]⁺.

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-Chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²³ 1-Chloro-3-iodobenzene (2.0 g, 8.4 mmol) and Et₃N (2.1 mL, 15.2 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (150 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.53 g, 7.6 mmol), P(*o*-tol)₃ (232 mg, 0.8 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (86 mg, 0.4 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 48 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (1.8 g, 5.8 mmol, 76%) as a brown solid. m.p. 106–108 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3056, 3025, 2935, 2854, 1708; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.72–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 3H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.63–2.59 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 139.2, 134.6, 134.1, 132.2, 131.5, 129.8, 128.0, 127.3, 126.3, 124.5, 123.4, 37.6, 32.2; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 329.0 [M+NH₄]⁺.

(*E*)-2-(4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione. 4-Iodo-1,1'-biphenyl (1.7 g, 6.1 mmol) and Et₃N (1.5 mL, 11.0 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (110 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.1 g, 5.5 mmol), P(o-tol)₃ (168 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (62 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 72 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (0.8 g, 2.3 mmol, 41%) as a white solid. m.p. 198 °C (decomp); IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2987, 2935, 2879, 1720; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.72–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.53–7.50 (m,

2H), 7.44–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 1H), 6.47 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (d, J = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.67–2.61 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 140.9, 140.2, 136.5, 134.1, 132.31, 132.26, 128.9, 127.3, 127.1, 126.7, 126.5, 123.4, 37.7, 32.5 (1 carbon missing); LRMS (ES + APCI) m/z: 371.1 [M+NH₄]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₄H₂₀NO₂ 354.1494; found 354.1491.

(*E*)-2-(4-(4-(1,3-Dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione. 2-(4-Iodophenyl)-1-dioxalane (3.0 g, 10.9 mmol) and Et₃N (2.8 mL, 19.7 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (200 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (2.0 g, 9.9 mmol), P(*o*-tol)₃ (301 mg, 1.0 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (111 mg, 0.5 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 72 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (1.6 g, 4.6 mmol, 46%) as a white solid. m.p. 120–121 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3026, 2945, 2883, 1706; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 4.12–4.10 (m, 2H), 4.04–4.00 (m, 2H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.63–2.59 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 138.4, 136.9, 134.1, 132.4, 132.2, 127.0, 126.8, 126.3, 123.4, 103.7, 65.4, 37.7, 32.4; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 350.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₁H₂₀NO₄ 350.1392; found 350.1387.

(*E*)-2-(4-(4-Trifluoromethylphenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.²⁴ 1-Iodo-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (803 µL, 5.5 mmol) and Et₃N (1.4 mL, 9.9 mmol) were dissolved in MeCN (100 mL) followed by addition of 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 g, 5.0 mmol), P(*o*-tol)₃ (151 mg, 0.5 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (56 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 1 and the resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 18 h. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (1.2 g, 3.5 mmol, 70%) as a white solid. m.p. 150 °C decomp; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2997, 2866, 1699; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84–7.83 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.31–6.25 (m, 1H), 3.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.66– 2.62 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 140.8, 134.2, 134.1, 132.2, 131.5, 129.3, 127.7 (*J*_{C-F} = 348.5 Hz), 126.4, 125.6 (*J*_{C-F} = 3.75 Hz), 123.4, 37.5, 32.4; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 346.0 [M+H]⁺.

Synthesis of 2-(4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione.^{17,25–27} To a three-neck round-bottom flask dried and flushed with argon was added (3 hydroxypropyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (2.6 g, 6.6 mmol) in anhydrous THF (12 mL). The resulting suspension was cooled to -10 °C using a NaCl/ice bath. A 1 M solution of LiHMDS (15 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at -10 °C for 1 h. Benzophenone (1.0 g, 5.5 mmol) was then added dropwise and stirred at -10 °C for 2 h. The mixture was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for a further 18 h. A saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (50 mL) was then added. The organic layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 × 100 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40–60 °C):EtOAc 6:4) afforded 4,4 diphenylbut 3-en-1-ol (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol, 81%) as a colourless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.19 (m, 6H), 6.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.46–2.41 (m, 2H), 1.39 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.3, 142.4, 139.8, 129.9, 128.2, 128.1, 127.2, 127.1, 125.2, 62.6, 33.3.

To a solution of 4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-ol (300 mg, 1.3 mmol) in a 48% solution of HBr (1.6 mL) was added tetrabutylammonium bromide (17 mg, 0.1 mmol). The mixture was stirred at reflux for 18 h. The mixture was then allowed to cool to rt and diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and H₂O (10 mL). The organic layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 20 mL), washed with NaHCO₃ (50 mL), brine (50 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford (4-bromobut-1-ene-1,1-diyl)dibenzene (350 mg, 1.2 mmol, 91%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44–7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.19–7.17 (m, 2H), 6.09 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.71–2.66 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.3, 142.1, 139.6, 129.7, 128.3, 128.1, 127.29, 127.26, 125.7, 32.9, 32.6.

A dry three-neck flask was charged with potassium phthalimide (360 mg, 1.9 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (10 mL). (4-bromobut-1-ene-1,1diyl)dibenzene (558 mg, 1.9 mmol) was added and mixture was stirrer at

reflux for 18 h. The mixture was allowed to cool to rt, poured into ice and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 50 mL). The organics were washed with 0.2 M KOH (50 mL), H₂O (50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40–60 °C):EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (600 mg, 1.7 mmol, 88%) as a white solid. m.p. 120–121 °C, Lit²⁸ [119–120 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2967, 2921, 2908, 2872, 1718, 1701; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83–7.78 (m, 2H), 7.71–7.66 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.18 (m, 8H), 7.02–6.99 (m, 2H), 6.07 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.81–3.78 (m, 2H), 2.57–2.52 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.3, 144.5, 142.5, 139.6, 134.0, 132.3, 129.8, 128.3, 128.2, 127.5, 127.2, 125.2, 123.3, 37.8, 29.0 (1 carbon missing); LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 354.0 [M+H]⁺.

General Procedure 2: Removal of phthalimide and tosylation.²⁹ To a solution of the (*E*)-2-(4-arylbut-3en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 equiv) in EtOH (0.3 M) was added hydrazine monohydrate (2.0 equiv). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min and at reflux for a further 30 minutes. After cooling to room temperature a 2 M solution of NaOH was added (50 mL). The solvent was evaporated before extracting the organics with EtOAc (3×50 mL) and drying over MgSO4. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation to give the free amine compound which was used without further purification. The crude reaction mixture was dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (0.3 M) under an argon atmosphere and Et₃N (1.5 equiv) was added. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (1.0 equiv) and DMAP (0.3 equiv) were added in one portion. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with 2 M HCl (100 mL) and brine (100 mL). The organics were dried over MgSO4 and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation to give a crude material which was purified by silica gel chromatography eluting with hexane:EtOAc mixtures to afford the tosylated compound.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-N-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (**8a**).²⁹ To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (2.2 g, 7.4 mmol) in EtOH (32 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (771 μ L, 15.8 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-phenylbut-3-en-1-amine. To a solution of (E)-4-phenylbut-3-en-1-amine (1.2 g, 7.9 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (65 mL) was added Et₃N (2.3 mL, 16.2 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (1.8 g, 9.8 mmol) and DMAP (0.6 g, 4.9 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* **8a** (1.8 g, 6.0 mmol, 74%) as a white solid. m.p. 52–54 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3272, 3058, 3023, 2922; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 6H), 7.24–7.21 (m, 1H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (bs, 1H), 3.13–3.09 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.39–2.35 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.2, 136.9, 133.5, 129.9, 128.7, 127.7, 127.3, 126.3, 125.6, 42.7, 33.2, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 319.1 [M+NH₄]⁺.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-N-(4-(p-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide.³⁰ To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(p-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (430 mg, 1.5 mmol) in EtOH (6.0 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (143 μ L, 3.0 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(p-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(*p*-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine (165 mg, 1.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 mL) was added Et₃N (210 µL, 1.5 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (190 mg, 1.2 mmol) and DMAP (37 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (192 mg, 0.6 mmol, 61%) as a white solid. m.p. 82–84 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3276, 3047, 3017, 2939; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.12–3.08 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.37–2.34 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.5, 137.2, 134.1, 133.4, 129.9, 129.4, 127.3, 126.2, 124.5, 42.7, 33.1, 21.7, 21.3; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 316.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-N-(4-(m-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide.²¹ To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(m-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (340 mg, 1.2 mmol) in EtOH (4.5 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (113 μ L, 2.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(m-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(*m*-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine (189 mg, 1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (4.0 mL) was added Et₃N (245 μ L, 1.8 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (223 mg, 1.2 mmol) and DMAP (43 mg, 0.4 mmol) according to

General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (145 mg, 0.5 mmol, 39%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3277, 3023, 2919, 2861; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (dt, J = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.11–3.07 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.38–2.33 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.5, 138.2, 137.1, 136.9, 133.4, 129.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.3, 127.0, 125.5, 123.4, 42.7, 33.1, 21.6, 21.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 316.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-N-(4-(o-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide.²¹ To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(o-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (275 mg, 0.9 mmol) in EtOH (3.6 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (92 μ L, 1.9 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(o-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(*o*-tolylbut)-3-en-1-amine (151 mg, 0.9 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 mL) was added Et₃N (200 µL, 1.4 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (179 mg, 0.9 mmol) and DMAP (35 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (64 mg, 0.2 mmol, 22%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3272, 3021, 2922, 2865; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.15–7.11 (m, 3H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dt, *J* = 15.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (bs, 1H), 3.11 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.42–2.37 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.2, 136.1, 135.2, 131.2, 130.4, 129.8, 127.5, 127.4, 127.0, 126.2, 125.6, 42.8, 33.4, 21.6, 19.9; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 316.0 [M+H]⁺.

(E)-2-(4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide. To a solution of (E)-2-(4-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (300 mg, 0.9 mmol) in EtOH (3.5 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (82 µL, 1.7 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (E)-4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3-en-1-amine (189 mg, 0.9 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) was added Et₃N (177 μ L, 1.3 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (162 mg, 0.9 mmol) and DMAP (31 mg, 0.3

mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (75 mg, 0.2 mmol, 23%) as a white solid. m.p. 126–128 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3276, 3051, 3025, 2922, 2865; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (at, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.14–3.10 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.41–2.37 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 140.8, 140.4, 137.1, 136.0, 132.9, 129.9, 128.9, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.0, 126.7, 125.8, 42.7, 33.2, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 378.0 [M+NH₄]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NO₂S 378.1528; found 378.1522. (*E*)-*N*-(4-(4-Chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide.³¹ To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(4-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (444 mg, 1.4 mmol) in EtOH (5.5 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (138 µL, 2.8 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-amine (150 mg, 0.8 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) was added Et₃N (172 µL, 1.2 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (157 mg, 0.8 mmol) and DMAP (30 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (57 mg, 0.2 mmol, 20%) as a white solid. m.p. 90–92 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3360, 3250, 2947, 2826; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.30 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.10–3.07 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.37–2.33 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.1, 135.5, 133.1, 132.0, 129.9, 128.8, 127.5, 127.2, 126.6, 42.6, 33.1, 21.6; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 336.0 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-*N*-(4-(3-Chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide. To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(3-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.8 g, 5.8 mmol) in EtOH (22 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (560 μ L, 11.5 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(3-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(3-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1-amine (1.1 g, 5.8 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added Et₃N (1.2 μ L, 8.7 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (1.1 g, 5.8 mmol) and DMAP (0.2 g, 1.7 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (0.4 g, 1.2 mmol, 21%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3272, 3060, 3025, 2921, 2870; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (bs, 1H), 3.12–3.08 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.39–2.35 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 138.8, 137.1, 134.6, 131.9, 129.9, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 126.1, 124.6, 42.6, 33.1, 21.7 (1 carbon missing); LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 352.9 [M+NH4]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉³⁵CINO₂S 336.0825; found 336.0823.

(*E*)-*N*-(4-(4-(1,3-Dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide. To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(4-(1,3-dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (400 mg, 1.1 mmol) in EtOH (4.5 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (111 μ L, 2.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-(4-(4-(1,3-dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-(4-(4-(1,3-dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-1-amine (250 mg, 1.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 mL) was added Et₃N (240 μ L, 1.7 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (217 mg, 1.1 mmol) and DMAP (42 mg, 0.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatog-raphy (hexane:EtOAc 6:4) afforded the *title compound* (260 mg, 0.7 mmol, 61%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3264, 3026, 2948, 2883; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.27 (m, 4H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 4.43 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15–4.11 (m, 2H), 4.05–4.01 (m, 2H), 3.13–3.08 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.39–2.34 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.8, 137.3, 137.1, 133.0, 130.0, 127.3, 126.9, 126.33, 126.26, 103.7, 65.4, 42.6, 33.2, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 374.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₀H₂₄NO₄S 374.1426; found 374.1420.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-N-(4-(4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide. To a solution of (*E*)-2-(4-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 g, 2.9 mmol) in EtOH (11 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (280 μ L, 5.8 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-4-(4-(trifluoro)phenyl)but-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of (*E*)-4-(4-(trifluoro)phenyl)but-3-en-1-amine (623 mg, 3.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (9.6 mL) was added Et₃N (604 μ L, 4.3 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (551 mg, 2.9 mmol) and DMAP (106 mg, 0.9 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (409 mg, 1.1 mmol, 38%) as a white solid. m.p. 121–122 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3330, 3244, 2991, 2875; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.14–6.08 (m, 1H), 4.39 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.15–3.11 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.42–2.39 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.7, 140.4, 137.1, 132.0, 129.9, 129.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 33.1 Hz), 128.7, 127.3, 126.4, 125.6 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 124.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 272.0 Hz), 42.6, 33.3, 21.6; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 370.0 [M+H]⁺.

N-(4,4-Diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide. To a solution of 2-(4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (280 mg, 0.8 mmol) in EtOH (3.0 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (77 μ L, 1.6 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give 4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-amine.

To a solution of 4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-amine (176 mg, 0.8 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.6 mL) was added Et₃N (165 μ L, 1.2 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (166 mg, 0.9 mmol) and DMAP (29 mg, 0.2 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (200 mg, 0.5 mmol, 67%) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3281, 3053, 3023, 2922; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 5H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.10 (m, 2H), 5.97 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (bs, 1H), 3.07–3.02 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.30–2.24 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.7, 143.4, 142.1, 139.6, 137.0, 129.8, 128.4, 128.2, 127.35, 127.31, 127.2, 124.7, 43.1, 29.9, 21.6; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 378.1 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NO₂S 378.1528; found 378.1521.

(*E*)-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)acetamide (**8b**).³² To a cooled (0 °C) solution of (*E*)-4-phenylbut-3-en-1amine (200 mg, 1.4 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (6 mL) was added Et₃N (206 μ L, 2.0 mmol) followed by addition of acetyl chloride (97 μ L, 1.4 mmol). The resultant mixture was then stirred at rt for 18 h, before washing with a 1 M HCl solution (20 mL) followed by 1 M NaOH solution (20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation affording the *title compound* **8b** (190 mg, 1.0 mmol, 72%) as a yellow semi-solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.35– 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (bs, 1H), 3.42–3.37 (m, 2H), 2.45–2.39 (m, 2H), 1.96 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.2, 137.3, 132.5, 128.7, 127.5, 127.0, 126.2, 39.1, 33.2, 23.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 190.1 [M+H]⁺.

tert-Butyl (E)-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)carbamate (8c).³³ To a solution of (*E*)-4-phenylbut-3-en-1-amine (316 mg, 2.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4 mL) was added K₂CO₃ (591 mg, 4.3 mmol) followed by addition of di*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (468 mg, 2.1 mmol). The resultant mixture was then stirred at 40 °C for 18 h, before the addition of H₂O (20 mL) and the stirring was extended for an extra hour. Layers were separated and the organic layer was washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* **8c** (441 mg, 1.8 mmol, 83%) as a colourless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.30 (at, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (bs, 1H), 3.30–3.25 (m, 2H), 2.43–2.38 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.1, 137.4, 132.4, 128.7, 127.4, 127.2, 126.2, 40.2, 33.7, 28.6 (1 carbon missing); LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 248.1 [M+H]⁺.

Benzyl (E)-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)carbamate (8d).²¹ To a solution of (*E*)-4-phenylbut-3-en-1-amine (308 mg, 2.1 mmol) in H₂O (10 mL) and acetone (21 mL) was added NaHCO₃ (200 mg, 2.4 mmol) followed by addition of benzyl chloroformate (335 μ L, 2.4 mmol). The resultant mixture was then stirred at rt for 18 h, before evaporation of the solvent and the precipitate was filtered affording the *title compound* **8d** (498 mg, 1.8 mmol, 85%) as a white solid. m.p. 90–92 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35–7.28 (m,

9H), 7.24–7.1 (m, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 4.83 (bs, 1H), 3.38–3.34 (m, 2H), 2.46–2.41 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.3, 137.1, 136.6, 132.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.1, 127.3, 126.6, 126.1, 66.6, 40.5, 33.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 282.1 [M+H]⁺.

(*E*)-2,4-Dinitro-N-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (**8**e). To a cooled (0 °C) solution of (*E*)-4phenylbut-3-en-1-amine (200 mg, 1.4 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (14 mL) was added Et₃N (284 μ L, 2.0 mmol) followed by addition of 2,4-dinitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (471 mg, 1.8 mmol). The resultant mixture was then stirred at rt for 18 h, before quenching with a saturated solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL). The organic layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 50 mL), washed with brine (100 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* **8**e (502 mg, 1.3 mmol, 98%) as a yellow solid. m.p. 130–132 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.36–8.34 (m, 1H), 8.27–8.24 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.11–7.08 (m, 2H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (bt, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.46–3.42 (m, 2H), 2.46–2.41 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.2, 147.7, 139.8, 136.2, 133.8, 131.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.0, 125.9, 125.1, 120.7, 43.9, 33.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 378.1 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₆H₁₆N₃O₆S 378.0760; found 378.0746.

General Procedure 3: Oxyamination procedure for the synthesis of pyrrolidines. Malonoyl peroxide **1** (1.5 equiv) was added to a solution of alkene 11 (1.0 equiv) in HFIP (0.5 M). The mixture was stirred at rt for 5 h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the resulting residue was directly treated with 1 M NaOH:THF (1:1 (0.1 M)). The solution was stirred at 60 °C for 18 h, allowed to cool to rt and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (× 3). The combined organics were washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded the crude pyrrolidine product. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography eluting with hexane:EtOAc mixtures afforded the target compound **12**.

(\pm)-2-Phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (**9a**).³⁴ Reaction of (E)-4-methyl-N-(4-phenylbut-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide **8a** (25 mg, 0.08 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (16 mg, 0.12 mmol) in HFIP (0.2 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (0.8 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:13 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **9a** (18 mg, 0.06 mmol, 71%) as a white solid. m.p. 148–149 °C, Lit³⁴ [155–156 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3474, 3065, 3034, 2929, 2892; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.28–7.26 (m, 1H), 4.66 (bs, 1H), 4.18 (bs, 1H), 3.73 (td, *J* = 9.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (td, *J* = 9.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.07–2.00 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.73 (m, 1H), 1.37–1.38 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.7, 139.9, 134.7, 129.7, 128.7, 128.9, 127.7, 126.3, 79.1, 72.0, 46.8, 31.5, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 318.0 [M+H]⁺.

(±)-2-(*p*-*Tolyl*)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (13). Reaction of (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(4-(*p*-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (61 mg, 0.48 mmol) in HFIP (0.7 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (3.2 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:7 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **13** (69 mg, 0.21 mmol, 66%) as a white solid. m.p. 135–136 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3401, 3029, 2960, 2899; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.62 (bs, 1H), 4.13 (bs, 1H), 3.70 (ddd, *J* = 9.3, 8.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (td, *J* = 9.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.07–1.97 (m, 1H), 1.75–1.69 (m, 1H), 1.54 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 137.3, 137.1, 134.7, 129.7, 129.3, 127.9, 126.2, 79.0, 71.8, 46.8, 31.5, 21.7, 21.2; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 332.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₃S 332.1320; found 332.1316.

(±)-2-(*m*-Tolyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (14). Reaction of (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(4-(*m*-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (30 mg, 0.24 mmol) in HFIP (0.3 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (1.9 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:6 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **14** (37 mg, 0.11 mmol, 71%) as a white solid. m.p. 102–104 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3525, 3489, 3478. 3462, 3447, 2950, 2921; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (at, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (bs, 1H), 4.14 (bs, 1H), 3.71 (ddd, J = 9.4, 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (td, J = 9.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.07–1.98 (m, 1H), 1.76–1.70 (m, 1H), 1.55 (bd, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 139.9, 138.3, 134.8, 129.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.0, 123.4, 79.0, 72.0, 46.9, 31.5, 21.7, 21.6; LRMS (ES + APCI) m/z: 332.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₃S 332.1320; found 332.1316.

(±)-2-(o-Tolyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (15). Reaction of (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(4-(o-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (61 mg, 0.48 mmol) in HFIP (0.6 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (3.2 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:4.6 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **15** (76 mg, 0.23 mmol, 72%) as a white solid. m.p. 173–175 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3504, 3064, 2948, 2922, 2854; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.12 (m, 3H), 4.85 (bs, 1H), 4.06 (bs, 1H), 3.76 (td, *J* = 8.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (ddd, *J* = 11.0, 9.3, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.10–2.01 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.74 (m, 1H), 1.59 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 138.2, 134.8, 134.4, 130.5, 129.7, 127.8, 127.5, 126.4, 126.2, 77.6, 69.7, 46.9, 31.5, 21.7, 19.6; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 332.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₃S 332.1320; found 332.1317.

(\pm)-2-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (16). Reaction of (E)-2-(4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)but-3en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (40 mg, 0.11 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide 1 (20 mg, 0.16 mmol) in HFIP (0.2 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (1.0 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:9 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **16** (30 mg, 0.08 mmol, 72%) as a white solid. m.p. 190–192 °C, decomp.; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3450, 3010, 2947, 2920; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.50–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.45–7.40 (m, 4H), 7.29–7.23 (m, 3H), 4.70 (bs, 1H), 4.22 (bs, 1H), 3.77–3.73 (m, 1H), 3.55 (dt, J = 16.8, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.11–2.05 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.50 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.7, 140.9, 140.7, 139.0, 134.7, 129.7, 128.9, 127.9, 127.5, 127.3, 126.8, 79.1, 71.8, 46.9, 31.6, 21.7 (missing 1 carbon); LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 394.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NO₃S 394.1477; found 394.1472.

(±)-2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (17). Reaction of (*E*)-*N*-(4-(4-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (100 mg, 0.30 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (57 mg, 0.45 mmol) in HFIP (0.6 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (2.6 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:9 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **17** (69 mg, 0.20 mmol, 67%) as a white solid. m.p. 169–171 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3558, 3499, 2937, 2889; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31– 7.26 (m, 6H), 4.60 (bs, 1H), 4.11 (bs, 1H), 3.72–3.69 (m, 1H), 3.52–3.47 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.02–1.95 (m, 1H), 1.75–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.58 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.8, 138.6, 134.4, 129.8, 128.8, 128.9, 127.9, 127.7, 78.9, 71.4, 46.9, 31.5, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 351.9 [M]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉³⁵ClNO₃S 352.0774; found 352.0772.

(±)-2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (18). Reaction of (*E*)-*N*-(4-(3-chlorophenyl)but-3-en-1yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (60 mg, 0.18 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (34 mg, 0.27 mmol) in HFIP (0.4 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (0.4 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:6 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **18** (33 mg, 0.09 mmol, 52%) as a white solid. m.p. 96–98 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3489, 3062, 2952, 2922, 2954; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25–7.21 (m, 3H), 4.63 (bs, 1H), 4.12 (bs, 1H), 3.70 (td, *J* = 9.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (td, *J* = 9.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.06–1.96 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.73 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.9, 142.2, 134.6, 134.5, 130.0, 129.9, 129.8, 127.8, 126.5, 124.6, 78.9, 71.4, 46.9, 31.6, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 351.9 [M]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉³⁵ClNO₃S 352.0774; found 352.0770. (±)-2-(4-(1,3-Dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (19). Reaction of (*E*)-*N*-(4-(4-(1,3-dioxalan-2-yl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (200 mg, 0.54 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide 1 (103 mg, 0.80 mmol) in HFIP (1.1 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (5.3 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol (1:9 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 1:1) gave the *title compound* **19** (115 mg, 0.30 mmol, 55%) as a white solid. m.p. 146–148 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3517, 3054, 2922, 2887, 2852, 1702; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 4.66 (bs, 1H), 4.13–4.07 (m, 3H), 4.05–4.00 (m, 2H), 3.71–3.66 (m, 1H), 3.51 (dt, *J* = 9.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.01–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.73–1.75 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.7, 141.1, 137.4, 134.7, 129.7, 127.9, 126.8, 126.4, 103.6, 78.9, 71.8, 65.4, 46.9, 31.4, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 390.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₀H₂₄NO₅S 390.1375; found 390.1370.

(±)-1-Tosyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-3-ol (20). Reaction of (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(4-(4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (50 mg, 0.1 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (35 mg, 0.3 mmol) in HFIP (0.6 mL) according to General Procedure 3 warming up to 50 °C, followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (2.6 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) gave the *title compound* **20** (10 mg, 0.03 mmol, 19%) as a white solid. m.p. 119–120 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3541, 2996, 2888; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.69 (bs, 1H), 4.15 (bs, 1H), 3.74–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.55–3.50 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.01–1.95 (m, 1H), 1.78–1.74 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.1, 144.0, 134.3, 130.0 (*J*_{C-F} = 13.8 Hz), 129.8, 127.9, 126.8, 125.7 (*J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 124.2 (*J*_{C-F} = 272.0 Hz), 78.9, 71.5, 47.0, 31.6, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 386.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₈H₁₉F₃NO₃S 386.1038; found 386.1030.

(±)-2,2-Diphenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (21). Reaction of N-(4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (80 mg, 0.21 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide 1 (41 mg, 0.32 mmol) in HFIP (0.4 mL) according to General Procedure 3 followed by hydrolysis in 1 M NaOH:THF (2.1 mL, 1:1) gave the crude alcohol. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 6:4) gave the *title compound* **21** (68 mg, 0.17 mmol, 82%) as a white solid. m.p. 153–154 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3502, 3054, 2980, 2954; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.20–7.17 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.86–6.83 (m, 2H), 4.79 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 8.4, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.17–2.10 (m, 1H), 1.77–1.67 (m, 1H), 1.43 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.3, 139.0, 138.5, 138.2, 130.8, 130.0, 128.9, 127.93, 127.89, 127.7, 126.6, 79.2, 77.1, 46.4, 30.6, 21.5 (1 carbon missing); LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 394.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NO₃S 394.1477; found 394.1471.

(±)-2-Phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (22). Malonoyl peroxide 1 (45 mg, 0.35 mmol) was added to a solution of (*Z*)-4-methyl-*N*-(4-(*p*-tolyl)but-3-en-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide³⁵ (70 mg, 0.23 mmol) in HFIP (0.5 mL) and mixture stirred at rt for 5 h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the resulting residue was directly treated with 1 M NaOH:THF (2 mL (1:1)). The solution was stirred at 60 °C for 18 h, allowed to cool to rt and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3×50 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over MgSO₄. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure afforded the crude pyrrolidine product (4:1 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (EtOAc:Hexane 4:6) gave the *title compound* **22** (37 mg, 0.11 mmol, 50 %), as a white solid. m.p. 114–116 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3452, 2974, 2872, 1325, 1156; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.28 (m, 7H), 4.74 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.25–4.15 (m, 1H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.64 (ddd, *J* = 10.7, 7.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.89 (ddt, *J* = 16.3, 6.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.80–1.69 (m, 1H), 1.09 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.7, 136.5, 135.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 126.3, 73.7, 67.7, 47.2, 32.5, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 318.0 [M+H]⁺.

2-(3-Bromo-4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione. Bromine (0.3 mL, 5.7 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of 2-(4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 g, 2.8 mmol) in 1,2-DCE (5 mL) at room temperature. The resulting solution was stirred for 15 h before the solvent was

removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved with a solution of KOH (0.6 g, 11.3 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) and stirred for 30 min. The solids were then separated by filtration and filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure affording the *title compound* (1.2 g, 2.7 mmol, 98%) as a cream solid that was used without further purification. m.p. 192–193°C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2942, 1699, 1123, 695; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.71 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.24 (m, 5H), 7.23–7.17 (m, 1H), 7.16–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.01–6.95 (m, 2H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.08 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 144.4, 142.9, 139.8, 133.9, 132.3, 129.0, 128.5, 128.6, 128.1, 127.4, 127.4, 123.3, 122.9, 37.7, 37.0; LCMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 331.9, 434.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₄H₁₉⁷⁹BrNO₂ 432.0599; found 432.0589.

2-(3-(Diphenylmethylene)pent-4-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione. To a solution of 2-(3-bromo-4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (1.0 g, 2.3 mmol) in degassed EtOH (10 mL) was added potassium vinyltrifluoroborate (0.4 g, 2.8 mmol), and Pd(dppf)Cl₂ (0.2 g, 0.2 mmol) under a N₂ atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt before the addition of Et₃N (0.8 mL, 5.6 mmol). The mixture was then heated to 120 °C and stirring was continued for 48 h. The reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The resulting solid was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), washed with H₂O (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40-60 °C):EtOAc 9:1) afforded the *title compound* (350 mg, 0.9 mmol, 40% (80% pure)) as a cream solid. m.p. 135–137°C; IR $(ATR)/cm^{-1}$: 3024, 1696, 1399, 1104, 988; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37–7.14 (m, 8H), 7.09 (dd, J = 6.5, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (dd, J = 17.5, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (d, J = 17.5 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, J = 7.2Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 144.4, 142.2, 141.9, 136.0, 133.7, 132.3, 130.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 126.9, 123.1, 114.5, 37.5, 28.1; LCMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: = 380.5 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₆H₂₂NO₂ 380.1651; found 380.1638.

2-(3-(Diphenylmethylene)-5-hydroxypentyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione. To a solution of 2-(3-(diphenylmethylene)pent-4-en-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (220 mg, 0.6 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2 mL) was added BH₃ (1.0 M in THF, 0.9 mL, 0.9 mmol) under a N_2 atmosphere. The resulting solution was stirred at rt for 4 h. After this time a 2 M solution of NaOH (2 mL) was added followed by H₂O₂ (28% w/w, 2 mL) and the mixture was further stirred for 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by the addition of a 2 M solution of HCl (10 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 10 mL). The combined organics were washed with a saturated solution of $Na_2S_2O_5$ (2 × 10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40–60 °C): EtOAc 1:1) afforded the *title compound* (80 mg, 0.2 mmol, 33%) as a cream solid. m.p. 137–139°C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3434, 2964, 1685, 1399, 1043; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.07 (m, 4H), 7.06–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.87–6.83 (m, 2H), 3.81 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t, J = 6.5Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.77 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 143.7, 142.6, 142.1, 133.8, 132.4, 131.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 126.5, 126.4, 123.1, 61.3, 36.4, 35.7, 30.6; LCMS (ES + APCI) m/z: = 398.3 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₆H₂₄NO₃ 398.1756; found 398.1755.

N-(3-(Diphenylmethylene)-5-hydroxypentyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (28). To a solution of 2-(3-(diphenylmethylene)-5-hydroxypentyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (120 mg, 0.3 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (30 µL, 0.6 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give 5-amino-3-(diphenylmethylene)pentan-1-ol.

To a solution of 5-amino-3-(diphenylmethylene)pentan-1-ol in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL) was added Et₃N (60 μ L, 0.3 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (58 mg, 0.3 mmol) and DMAP (11 mg, 0.09 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (cyclohexane:EtOAc 7:3) afforded the *title compound* **28** (67 mg, 0.2 mmol, 53%) as a colourless gum. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2878, 1322, 1153, 700; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29–7.23 (m, 6H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.16–

7.12 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 2H), 4.96 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.42–2.38 (m, 4H), 1.75 (bs, 1H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 143.2, 142.4, 137.0, 131.4, 129.6, 129.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 128.2, 127.0, 126.6, 126.6, 61.0, 41.7, 35.2, 32.0, 21.6; LCMS (ES + APCI) m/z: = 422.3 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₅H₂₈NO₃S 422.1790; found 422.1786.

Oxidative heterocyclisation with probe compound (**28**). Reaction of *N*-(3-(diphenylmethylene)-5-hydroxypentyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **28** (170 mg, 0.4 mmol) and malonoyl peroxide **1** (77 mg, 0.8 mmol) in HFIP (1.0 mL) according to General Procedure 5 to give a crude material. The crude was dissolved in PhMe (1.0 mL) and MeOH (0.5 mL) before the addition of TMS-CHN₂ (2 M in Et₂O, 1.0 mL, 2.02 mmol) according to General Procedure 5. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (cyclohexane:EtOAc 3:1) afforded the cyclised furan compound **29** (104 mg, 0.2 mmol, 46% over 2 steps) as a colourless gum and bicycle product (16 mg, 0.03 mmol, 7%) as a colourless gum.

1-Methyl 1-(3-(2-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)ethyl)-2,2-diphenyltetrahydrofuran-3-yl) cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (29). IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2954, 1722, 1438, 1323; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.16 (m, 8H), 4.69 (bs, 1H), 4.12–4.02 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.86–2.76 (m, 1H), 2.77–2.64 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.36–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.20 (ddd, *J* = 15.0, 8.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 1.61–1.55 (m, 1H), 1.49–1.45 (m, 1H), 1.41–1.35 (m, 1H), 1.20–1.14 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (151MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 170.0, 168.6, 143.1, 142.6, 142.0, 137.0, 129.5, 127.9, 127.8, 127.2, 127.2, 127.0, 126.9, 126.1, 90.3, 88.7, 64.0, 52.6, 39.1, 35.9, 34.4, 28.8, 21.5, 16.7, 16.5; LCMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: = 586.3 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+Na]⁺ calcd. for C₃₁H₃₃NNaO₇S 586.1875; found 586.1873.

Methyl 1-(5-(2-((4-methylphenyl)sulphonamide)ethyl)-6,6-diphenyl-2,7,8-trioxabicyclo[3.2.1]octan-1-yl)cyclopropane-1-carboxylate (31). IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2954, 1723, 1328, 1161, 1040; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.41–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.21 (m, 8H), 5.14 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.75–3.67 (m, 1H), 3.58 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.14–3.07 (m, 1H), 2.99 (dt, *J* = 8.6, 4.2

Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.00 (td, *J* = 12.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.92–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.74 (m, 1H), 1.54 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 1.50–1.45 (m, 1H), 1.41–1.32 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.7, 143.3, 141.1, 139.8, 136.8, 129.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.7, 127.1, 118.1, 90.7, 86.1, 59.2, 52.5, 39.3, 35.1, 29.3, 29.1, 21.5, 14.6, 13.4; LCMS (ES + APCI) *m*/*z*: = 586.3 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z*: [M+Na]⁺ calcd. for C₃₁H₃₃NNaO₇S 586.1875; found 586.1972.

General Procedure 4: Mitsunobu reaction. A dry three-neck flask was charged with cinnamyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), PPh₃ (1.1 equiv) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (1.1 equiv) in anhydrous THF (0.25 M). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and diethyl azodicarboxylate (2.2 M in PhMe, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise. The mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 2.5 h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation before purification by silica gel flash column chromatography with hexane:EtOAc mixtures afforded the target compound.

2-(*Cinnamyloxy*)*isoindoline-1,3-dione.*³⁶ Cinnamyl alcohol (2.2 g, 16.0 mmol), PPh₃ (4.6 g, 17.6 mmol) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (2.9 g, 17.6 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous THF (64 mL) before the dropwise addition of diethyl azodicarboxylate (2.2 M in PhMe, 8.0 mL, 17.6 mmol) according to the General Procedure 4. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (4.3 g, 15.4 mmol, 96%) as a white solid. m.p. 148–150 °C, Lit³⁷ [116–118 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3058, 3028, 2948, 1790; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.74–7.71 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.24 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0, 137.7, 136.0, 134.6, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 127.1, 123.7, 122.2, 78.8; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 297.0 [M+NH₄]⁺.

(*E*)-2-((3-(4-Chlorophenyl)allyl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione. (*E*)-3-(4-Chlorophenyl)prop-2-en-1-ol (300 mg, 1.8 mmol), PPh₃ (513 mg, 2.0 mmol) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (320 mg, 2.0 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous THF (7.0 mL) before the dropwise addition of diethyl azodicarboxylate (2.2 M in PhMe, 0.9 mL, 1.96 mmol) according to General Procedure 4. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* (200 mg, 0.6 mmol, 35%) as a white solid. m.p.

138–140 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3050, 2948, 1788, 1742; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.74–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 4H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 7.0, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 136.0, 134.5, 134.3, 134.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 123.5, 122.8, 78.4; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 314.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₇H₁₃³⁵CINO₃ 314.0584; found 314.0583.

*N-(Cinnamyloxy)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (33).*³⁸ To a solution of 2-(cinnamyloxy)isoindoline-1,3dione (4.5 g, 16.1 mmol) in EtOH (62 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (1.6 mL, 33.8 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give *O*-cinnamylhydroxylamine.

To a solution of crude *O*-cinnamylhydroxylamine (16.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (65 mL) was added Et₃N (27 mL, 19.3 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (3.4 g, 17.7 mmol) and DMAP (0.6 g, 4.8 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* **33** (2.9 g, 9.6 mmol, 60%) as a white solid. m.p. 109–110 °C, Lit³⁷ [103 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3220, 3058, 3026, 2924, 2870; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.25 (m, 7H), 6.91 (bs, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 6.8, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.1, 136.3, 136.0, 133.8, 129.9, 128.77, 128.75, 128.4, 126.9, 122.9, 78.1, 21.8; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 321.0 [M+NH₄]⁺.

(*E*)-*N*-((3-(4-Chlorophenyl)allyl)oxy)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**35**). To a solution of (*E*)-2-((3-(4-chlorophenyl)allyl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (202 mg, 0.6 mmol) in EtOH (2.3 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (61 μ L, 1.3 mmol) according to General Procedure 2 to give (*E*)-*O*-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)al-lyl)hydroxylamine.

To a solution of crude (*E*)-*O*-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)allyl)hydroxylamine(0.6 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.2 mL) was added Et₃N (120 μ L, 0.8 mmol) followed by *p*-TsCl (107 mg, 0.6 mmol) and DMAP (22 mg, 0.2 mmol) according to General Procedure 2. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 8:2) afforded the *title compound* **35** (102 mg, 0.3 mmol, 54%) as a white solid. m.p. 116–118 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3216, 3064, 2922, 2852; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J*

= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27–7.25 (s, 4H), 7.04 (bs, 1H), 6.54 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dt, J = 15.9, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (bd, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.0, 134.7, 134.4, 133.9, 133.7, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 123.6, 77.6, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m*/*z*: 355.0 [M+NH₄]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₁₆H₁₇³⁵CINO₃S 338.0618; found 338.0616.

General Procedure 5: Oxidative cyclisation for the synthesis of isoxazolidines. Malonoyl peroxide 1 (1.5 equiv) was added to a solution of alkene 33 or 34 (1.0 equiv) in HFIP (0.5 M). The mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 18 h before removal of the solvent by rotary evaporation. The residue was dissolved in PhMe (0.2 M) and MeOH (0.5 M) and a solution of TMS-CHN₂ in Et₂O (2.0 equiv) was added drop-wise. The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h before the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification of the crude material by silica gel flash column chromatography with petroleum ether (40–60 °C):Et₂O mixtures afforded the target compounds.

(±)-1-(((-3-Phenyl-2-tosylisoxazolidin-4-yl)oxy)carbonyl)cyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid (**3**7). To a solution of *N*-(cinnamyloxy)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **33** (151 mg, 0.50 mmol) in HFIP (1.0 mL) was added malonoyl peroxide **1** (96 mg, 0.75 mmol) according to General Procedure 5 (without the TMS-CHN₂ methyl ester formation) to give crude isoxazolidine (1:10 *cis:trans*). Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (EtOAc then EtOAc:AcOH 0.5%) afforded the *title compound* **37** (178 mg, 0.41 mmol, 83%) as a white solid for characterisation and X-ray analysis purposes. m.p. 137–139 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3550, 2930, 2852,1716, 1660; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.19 (bs, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.34 (m, 7H), 5.61 (ddd, *J* = 6.0, 3.1, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (bs, 1H), 4.44 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.18–2.14 (m, 1H), 2.06–2.03 (m, 1H), 1.99–1.93 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.3, 170.0, 145.5, 136.3, 133.7, 129.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.7, 126.5, 84.9, 74.6, 66.9, 25.6, 23.5, 23.2, 21.9; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 432.0 [M+H]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M–H]⁻ calcd. for C₂₁H₂₀NO₇S 430.0960; found 430.0954.

(±)-1-Methyl 1-((3R,4S)-3-phenyl-2-tosylisoxazolidin-4-yl) cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**34**). To a solution of *N*-(cinnamyloxy)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **33** (185 mg, 0.43 mmol) in HFIP (0.9 mL) was added malonoyl peroxide **1** (82 mg, 0.65 mmol) according to General Procedure 5 to give crude isoxazolidine (1:10 *cis:trans*) which was dissolved in PhMe (2.2 mL) and MeOH (0.9 mL) before the addition of TMS-CHN₂ (2 M in Et₂O, 0.43 mL, 0.86 mmol) according to General Procedure 5. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40–60 °C):EtOAc 6:4) afforded the *title compound* **34** (154 mg, 0.35 mmol, 80% over two steps) as a colourless oil. IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3028, 3062, 2954, 1727; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.35 (m, 4H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (ddd, *J* = 6.1, 4.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (bs, 1H), 4.38 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.67–1.51 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 169.4, 145.2, 137.3, 133.9, 129.8, 129.2, 129.0, 128.3, 126.6, 83.8, 74.4, 67.0, 53.0, 27.9, 21.9, 17.6, 17.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 463.0 [M+NH₄]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₂H₂₄NO₇S 446.1273; found 446.1266.

(±)-1-((3*R*,4*S*)-3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-tosylisoxazolidin-4-yl) 1-methylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (36). To a solution of (*E*)-*N*-((3-(4-chlorophenyl)allyl)oxy)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide 35 (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) in HFIP (0.4 mL) was added malonoyl peroxide 1 (38 mg, 0.29 mmol) according to General Procedure 5 to give crude isoxazolidine (1:7 *cis:trans*) which was dissolved in PhMe (1.0 mL) and MeOH (0.4 mL) before the addition of TMS-CHN₂ (2 M in Et₂O, 0.2 mL, 0.40 mmol) according to General Procedure 5. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (petroleum ether (40–60 °C):EtOAc 6:4) afforded the *title compound* **36** (80 mg, 0.17 mmol, 85% over 2 steps) as a white solid. m.p. 110–112 °C; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 3040, 2930, 2904, 1719, 1697; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.47–5.45 (m, 1H), 5.41 (bs, 1H), 4.35–4.34 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.66–1.52 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 169.5, 145.3, 135.8, 134.3, 133.6, 129.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.0, 83.7, 74.2, 66.5, 53.0, 27.9, 21.9, 17.6, 17.5; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 497.0 [M+NH₄]⁺; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ calcd. for C₂₂H₂₃³⁵CINO₇S 480.0889; found 480.0879. (±)-2-Phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-one (38).³⁹ (2R,3S)-2-Phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol **9a** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) was dissolved in degassed MeCN (1.6 mL). IBX (265 mg, 0.95 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. The mixture was filtered through Celite[®] and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. Purification by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 4:6) afforded the *title compound* **38** (84 mg, 0.27 mmol, 85%) as a colourless oil. m.p. 124–126 °C, Lit⁴⁰ [140–141 °C]; IR (ATR)/cm⁻¹: 2950, 2924, 2855, 1753; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 7H), 4.59 (s, 1H), 3.94 (ddd, *J* = 10.6, 9.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (dt, *J* = 10.7, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63–2.55 (m, 1H), 2.49–2.42 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 208.3, 144.4, 135.6, 133.9, 130.0, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 127.0, 67.3, 44.2, 35.9, 21.7; LRMS (ES + APCI) *m/z*: 316.1 [M+H]⁺.

(±)-2-Phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-ol (22).³⁹ To a cooled (0 °C) solution of (±)-2-phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidin-3-one **38** (64 mg, 0.20 mmol) in THF (1 mL) was added a solution of DIBAL-H (1 M in THF, 0.3 mL, 0.30 mmol). The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 3 h, before quenching with a 2 M solution of HCl (5 mL) and diluted with EtOAc (5 mL). The organic layer was separated and further extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure affording the *title compound* **22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 78%) as a colourless oil as a diastereomeric mixture (6:1 *cis:trans*). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.28 (m, 7H), 4.74 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.25–4.15 (m, 1H), 3.80–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.64 (ddd, *J* = 10.7, 7.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.89 (ddt, *J* = 16.3, 6.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.80–1.69 (m, 1H), 1.09 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H).

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

NMR spectra for all compounds reported, X-ray data for 10 and 36 and DSC data for 1 (PDF).

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