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# Synthesis of Allenyl Esters by Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons Reactions of Ketenes Mediated by *i*-PrMgBr

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Abstract: The synthesis of conjugated allenyl esters (trisubstituted allenes) was achieved by the Mg(II)-mediated Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction of methyl bis(2,2,2trifluoroethyl)phosphonoacetate with di-substituted ketenes. In addition, a novel access to  $\alpha$ -fluorinated allenyl carboxamides (tetra-substituted allenes) is presented.

Key words: Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction, allene, ketene, Grignard reagent, fluorine

Since the first synthesis of glutinic acid (allene-1,3dicarboxylic acid) in 1887,<sup>1</sup> allenes have attracted considerable attention as chemical curiosities.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, allene derivatives have recently been established as versatile building blocks in organic synthesis, including asymmetric synthesis.<sup>3</sup> Allenic structures are also found in natural products and pharmaceutical agents.<sup>4</sup> We have already established a characteristic method of synthesizing conjugated allenyl esters from diethyl  $\alpha$ -alkynyl- $\alpha$ -methoxy malonates via a cascade reaction,<sup>5</sup> and suggested the possibility of developing novel inhibitors of cysteine protease based on several biomimetic reactions using the conjugated allenyl compounds and their precursors.<sup>6</sup> On the other hand, the Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons (HWE) reaction of phosphonoacetates with aldehydes (or ketones) is one of the most useful methods of synthesizing  $\alpha,\beta$ unsaturated esters.<sup>7</sup> There are, however, only a limited number of reports concerning the HWE reaction of ketene for the preparation of allenyl esters.<sup>8,9</sup> We now describe a facile one-pot synthesis of allenvl esters (tri- or tetra-substituted allenes) by HWE reactions of ketenes using *i*-PrMgBr as a base.

We first investigated HWE reactions of methyl bis(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phosphonoacetate (Still-Gennari reagent,  $1)^{10,11}$  with a di-substituted ketene, which was prepared in situ from 2-phenylpropionyl chloride (5a) and triethylamine,  $\frac{12}{12}$  as shown in Table 1. Phosphonoacetate 1 is a typical Z-selective HWE reagent due to an electron-withdrawing effect of two trifluoroethoxy groups on its phosphorus atom. As expected, the desired conjugated allenyl ester 6a (trisubstituted allene) was obtained by the HWE reaction of 1 in good to excellent yields using bases such as n-BuLi, NaH, and *i*-PrMgBr (Table 1, entries 1-3). Among these, *i*-PrMgBr afforded allenyl ester **6a** in an almost quantitative yield (98%).<sup>13,14</sup> We have already reported stereoselective HWE reactions for the preparation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated esters using *i*-PrMgBr.<sup>15</sup> Thus, HWE reagents **2-4** were investigated

in the HWE reaction mediated by *i*-PrMgBr for the preparation of conjugated allenyl esters **6a** and **6a**' (Table 1, entries 4-6). As a result, Z-selective HWE reagent **2** (Ando reagent)<sup>16,17</sup> also furnished **6a**' in an excellent yield (96%). It appears that increasing the Z-selectivity of HWE reagents in the reaction with aldehydes and ketones tends to increase the chemical yields of allenyl ester **6a** (Table 1, entries 3, 5, 6).

 Table 1
 HWE reactions of phosphonoacetates 1-4 with phenyl methyl ketene prepared in situ from 2-phenylpropionyl chloride (5a)

$R^{1}O_{P}O_{P}O_{P}CO_{2}R^{3}$ $1-4$ $1: R^{1} = R^{2} = CF$ $2: R^{1} = R^{2} = PF$ $3: R^{1} = CF_{3}CH$ $4: R^{1} = R^{2} = R^{3}$	base (1.1 equiv) THF 0 °C, 1 h $F_3CH_2, R^3 = Me$ $I, R^3 = Et$ $I, R^2 = Me, R^3 =$ = Me	Et <sub>3</sub> N (2 equiv) Ph_COCI Me <b>5a</b> (2 equiv) THF 0 °C, 1 h	<ul> <li>Ph → H Me CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>3</sup></li> <li>6a,a'</li> <li>6a: R<sup>3</sup> = Me</li> <li>6a': R<sup>3</sup> = Et</li> </ul>
Entry HWE	reagent Ba	se	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1 1	1 n-BuL		68 ( <b>6a</b> )
2 1	1 NaH		5 ( <b>6a</b> )
3 1	<i>i</i> -PrMgBr		98 ( <b>6a</b> )
4 <b>2</b>	<i>i</i> -P	rMgBr	96 ( <b>6a'</b> )
5 <b>3</b>	<i>i</i> -P	rMgBr	81 ( <b>6a</b> )
6 4	<i>i</i> -P	rMgBr	72 ( <b>6a</b> )

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yields.

To explore the substrate scope of the HWE reaction, a range of in situ-generated ketenes from the corresponding acyl chlorides **5a-h** were subjected to reaction with HWE reagent **1** as shown in Table 2. In all cases investigated, HWE reactions of di-substituted ketenes derived from acyl chlorides **5b-e** proceeded smoothly to afford 90-100% yields of the desired allenyl esters **6b-e** (tri-substituted allenes) (Table 2, entries 1-4). On the other hand, the HWE reaction of mono-substituted ketenes derived from acyl chlorides **5f-h** resulted in the formation of allenyl esters **6f-h** (di-substituted allenes) in low yields (Table 2, entries

5-7). It is interesting to note that a similar HWE reaction of ketenes derived from **5f-h** with  $\alpha$ -methylated Still-Gennari reagent (7)<sup>18</sup> afforded the corresponding allenyl esters **8f-h** (tri-substituted allenes) in higher yields than those of **6f-h** (Table 2, entries 8-10). The HWE reaction of 7 with phenyl methyl ketene derived from acyl chloride **5a** furnished allenyl esters **8a** (tetra-substituted allene) in 89% yield (Table 2, entry 11).

Table 2	HWE reactions of phosphonoacetates 1,7 with various			
ketenes prepared in situ from acid chlorides <b>5a-h</b>				

CF <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Q CF <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> O <sup>-</sup> 1 1: R =	O P→CO₂Me → R 0 I,7 H, 7: R = Me	Et F PrMgBr 1 equiv) THF °C, 1 h	3N (2 equiv) 3N (2 equiv) R <sup>2</sup> 5a-h (2 equiv) THF 0 °C, 1 h	$R^1$ , $R^2$ , $CO_2Me$ <b>6b-h</b> : R = H <b>8a,f-h</b> : R = Me
Entry	HWE reagent	R <sup>1</sup>	$\mathbb{R}^2$	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	<b>1</b> (R = H)	Ph	Et	100 ( <b>6b</b> )
2	<b>1</b> (R = H)	Ph	Ph	100 ( <b>6c</b> )
3	<b>1</b> (R = H)	4-NO <sub>2</sub> Ph	Me	90 ( <b>6d</b> )
4	<b>1</b> (R = H)	4-MeOPh	Me	97 ( <b>6e</b> )
5	<b>1</b> (R = H)	Ph	Н	29 ( <b>6f</b> )
6	<b>1</b> (R = H)	Bn	Н	38 ( <b>6g</b> )
7	<b>1</b> (R = H)	<i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	Н	22 ( <b>6h</b> )
8	7 (R = Me)	Ph	Н	40 ( <b>8f</b> )
9	7 (R = Me)	Bn	Н	69 ( <b>8g</b> )
10	7 (R = Me)	<i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	Н	65 ( <b>8h</b> )
11 <sup>b</sup>	7 (R = Me)	Ph	Me	89 ( <b>8a</b> )

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yields.

<sup>b</sup> Reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h.

We next investigated the use of ethyl 2-fluoro-2diethylphosphonoacetate (9)<sup>19,20</sup> in place of 1 as the HWE reagent in order to obtain a fluorinated allenyl ester. To the best of our knowledge, there are very few examples of the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -fluorinated allenyl esters.<sup>21</sup> As a result, the desired product 12a (tetrasubstituted allene) was obtained in moderate yield (Table 3, entry 1). However, the HWE reaction of phosphonoacetic acid 10 using a 2.1 equivalent of *i*-PrMgBr did not proceed at all (Table 3, entry 2). Finally, it appeared that the HWE reaction of Weinreb amide 11<sup>22</sup> with di-substituted ketenes derived from acyl chlorides 5a-c afforded fluorinated allenyl carboxamides 14a-c (tetra-substituted allenes) in 71-100% yields (Table 3, entries 3-8).<sup>23</sup> Unfortunately, poor yields of fluorinated allenyl carboxamides 14f-h (tri-substituted allenes) were obtained in the HWE reaction of Weinreb amide 11 with mono-substituted ketenes derived from acyl chlorides **5f-h** (Table 3, entries 9-12).

Table 3HWE reactions of  $\alpha$ -fluorophosphonoacetates 9-11 withvarious ketenes prepared in situ from acid chlorides  $5a-c_1f-h$ 

EtO EtO 99: X = 0	→ PrMgBr (1.1 equiv) F -11 DEt, <b>10</b> : X = OH, <b>11</b> : X =	Et <sub>3</sub> N (2 equ R <sup>1</sup> COCI R <sup>2</sup> <b>5a</b> - (2 equiv) THF 0 °C, 1 I N(OMe)Me	iv) <b>c,f-h</b> →	R <sup>1</sup> F R <sup>2</sup> COX 12-14
Entry	HWE reagent	$R^1$	R <sup>2</sup>	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	<b>9</b> (X = OEt)	Ph	Me	ca. 57 ( <b>12a</b> ) <sup>b</sup>
2 <sup>c</sup>	10 ( <mark>X</mark> = OH)	Ph	Me	0 ( <b>13a</b> )
3	11 [ $\frac{X}{X} = N(OMe)Me$ ]	Ph	Me	71 ( <b>14a</b> )
4 <sup>d</sup>	11 [X = N(OMe)Me]	Ph	Me	90 ( <b>14a</b> )
5 <sup>e</sup>	$11 \left[\frac{X}{X} = N(OMe)Me\right]$	Ph	Me	100 ( <b>14a</b> )
6	$11 \left[\frac{X}{X} = N(OMe)Me\right]$	Ph	Et	71 ( <b>14b</b> )
7 <sup>e</sup>	$11 \left[\frac{X}{X} = N(OMe)Me\right]$	Ph	Et	94 ( <b>14b</b> )
8	11 [ <mark>X</mark> = N(OMe)Me]	Ph	Ph	92 (14c)
9	11 [ <mark>X</mark> = N(OMe)Me]	Ph	Η	0 ( <b>14f</b> ) <sup>f</sup>
10	11 [ <mark>X</mark> = N(OMe)Me]	Bn	Η	0 ( <b>14g</b> ) <sup>g</sup>
11 <sup>e</sup>	11 [ $X = N(OMe)Me$ ]	Bn	Η	ca. 14 $(14g)^{b,h}$
12	$11 \left[ \frac{X}{X} = N(OMe)Me \right]$	<i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	Н	$0 (14h)^{i}$
<sup>a</sup> Inclote	d mialda			

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yields.

<sup>b</sup> Small amount of impurities were included.

<sup>c</sup> 2.1 equiv of *i*-PrMgBr was used.

<sup>d</sup> Reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h.

<sup>e</sup> Reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h.

<sup>f</sup> HWE reagent 11 was recovered (ca. 54%).

<sup>g</sup> HWE reagent **11** was recovered (ca. 40%).

<sup>h</sup> HWE reagent 11 was recovered (ca. 20%).

<sup>i</sup> HWE reagent **11** was not recovered.

In conclusion, we have developed a facile method of synthesizing conjugated allenyl esters 6 and 8 by the Mg(II)-mediated HWE reaction of 1 and 7 with disubstituted ketenes, which were prepared in situ from the corresponding acid chlorides. For the first time,  $\alpha$ -fluorinated allenyl carboxamides 14 have also been prepared successfully using the Mg(II)-mediated HWE reaction of 11 with di-substituted ketenes. We believe that the proposed method of synthesizing conjugated allenyl carboxylic acid derivatives is a valuable addition to the chemistry of allenes.

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#### **Supporting Information**

Supporting information for this article is available online at http://

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- (13)Typical Procedure: To a solution of methyl bis(2,2,2trifluoroethyl)phosphonoacetate (1) (40 µL, 0.188 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1.9 mL) was added i-PrMgBr (0.77 mol/L in THF, 269 µL, 0.207 mmol), and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h under argon. After adding triethylamine (53 µL, 0.377 mmol) and 2phenylpropionyl chloride (5a) (56 µL, 0.377 mmol), the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h under argon. The reaction mixture was treated with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq (2 mL) and then extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (20 mL x 3). The extract was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The oily residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography [n-hexane-AcOEt (12.5:1 to 11:1)] to afford allenyl ester 6a (34.7 mg, 98%).
- (14) The spectroscopic data of **6a** are as follows: Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.21 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 5.90 (q, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.40 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.2, 52.1, 89.5, 105.5, 126.2, 127.9, 128.6, 134.3, 166.1, 214.0; IR (neat) 2951, 1948, 1722, 1495, 1437, 1392, 1263, 1209, 1151 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 211.0735; found, 211.0732. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.57; H, 6.43. Found: C, 76.27; H, 6.54%.
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- The spectroscopic data of 14a are as follows: Yellow oil (23) (37.6 mg, 100%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.35  $(d, {}^{5}J_{C,F} = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}), 3.26 (s, 3\text{H}), 3.51 (s, 3\text{H}), 7.31$ -7.40 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  18.3, 33.7, 61.6, 118.9 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{C,F} = 12.0$  Hz), 126.8 (d,  ${}^{5}J_{C,F} = 2.7$  Hz), 128.7, 129.1 (d,  ${}^{6}J_{C,F} = 1.7$ Hz), 129.6 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{C,F} = 234.8$  Hz), 134.4 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{C,F} = 1.7$ Hz), 162.0 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{C,F} = 40.1$  Hz), 193.2 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{C,F} = 18.7$ Hz); IR (neat) 2937, 1954, 1652, 1462, 1444, 1417, 1386, 1155 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS m/z: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 258.0906; found, 258.0896. Anal. Calcd for . Ca. .ound: t C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 66.37; H, 6.00; N, 5.95. Found: C, 66.08; H, 6.02; N, 5.89%.

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# **Supporting Information**

for

# Facile Synthesis of Allenyl Esters by

# Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons Reactions of Ketenes Mediated by i-PrMgBr

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- **1. General Information**
- 2. Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterizations
  - 2.1 General procedure for the preparation of allenyl esters 6a-e, 8a,f-h
  - 2.2 General procedure for the preparation of allenyl carboxamides 14a-c
- 3. NMR spectra

#### **1. General Information**

IR spectra were obtained using a JASCO FT/IR-6200 IR Fourier transform spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV500 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  values (parts per million) using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Electron spray ionization mass spectra (ESIMS) were recorded on a Waters LCT Premier spectrometer. Elemental combustion analyses were performed using a J-SCIENCE LAB JM10. All reactions were monitored by TLC employing 0.25-mm silica gel plates (Merck 5715; 60 F<sub>254</sub>). Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel [Kanto Chemical 60N (spherical, neutral); 63-210 µm]. Anhydrous THF was used as purchased from Kanto Chemical. Triethylamine was distilled prior to use. All other reagents were used as purchased.

#### 2. Experimental Procedures and Compound Characterizations

#### 2.1 General procedure for the preparation of allenyl esters 6a-e, 8a,f-h

Methyl 4-Phenylpenta-2,3-dienoate (6a)



To a solution of methyl bis(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phosphonoacetate (1) (40  $\mu$ L, 0.188 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1.9 mL) was added *i*-PrMgBr (0.77 mol/L in THF, 269  $\mu$ L, 0.207 mmol), and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h under argon. After adding triethylamine (53  $\mu$ L, 0.377 mmol) and 2-phenylpropionyl chloride (**5a**) (56  $\mu$ L, 0.377 mmol), the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h under argon. The reaction mixture was treated with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq (2 mL) and then extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mL x 3). The extract was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The oily residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography [*n*-hexane–AcOEt (12.5:1 to 11:1)] to afford allenyl ester **6a** (34.7 mg, 98%). Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.21 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 5.90 (q, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.40 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.2, 52.0, 89.5, 105.5, 126.2, 127.9, 128.6, 134.2, 166.1, 214.0; IR (neat) 2951, 1948, 1722, 1495, 1437, 1392, 1263, 1209, 1151 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 211.0735; found, 211.0732. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.57; H, 6.43. Found: C, 76.27; H, 6.54%.

### Methyl 4-Phenylhexa-2,3-dienoate (6b)

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.18 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 2.50-2.63 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 5.97 (t, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.40 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  12.2, 23.0, 52.0, 91.3, 112.4, 126.4, 127.8, 128.6, 134.1, 166.3, 213.7; IR (neat) 2970, 1945, 1720, 1592, 1495, 1453, 1436, 1398, 1258, 1209, 1151, 1032 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 225.0891; found, 225.0889.

## Methyl 4,4-Diphenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (6c)

Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.78 (s, 3H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 7.33-7.38 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 52.2, 90.4, 114.2, 128.3, 128.7, 128.8, 134.2, 165.8, 214.7; IR (neat) 3420, 3058, 2950, 1942, 1723, 1493, 1435, 1386 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 273.0891; found, 273.0871.

Methyl 4-(4-Nitrophenyl)penta-2,3-dienoate (6d)

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.25 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 6.00 (q, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.21 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.1, 52.3, 90.5, 104.5, 123.9, 126.9, 141.3, 147.2, 165.3, 214.5; IR (neat) 2953, 1948, 1721, 1593, 1518, 1437, 1346, 1297, 1262 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 256.0586; found,

256.0577.

Methyl 4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)penta-2,3-dienoate (6e)

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.18 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.89 (q, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.90 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.33 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.3, 52.1, 55.3, 89.4, 105.0, 114.0, 126.2, 127.4, 159.3, 166.3, 214.0; IR (neat) 2952, 2838, 2551, 2052, 1946, 1715, 1606, 1513, 1437, 1390, 1255, 1113 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 241.0841; found, 241.0824.

Methyl 2-Methyl-4-phenylpenta-2,3-dienoate (8a)

Colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.97 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 7.23-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.38 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.2, 16.4, 52.2, 96.9, 103.6, 126.1, 127.4, 128.5, 135.5, 168.1, 211.4; IR (neat) 2989, 2952, 1947, 1715, 1598, 1494, 1436, 1372, 1207, 1191, 1120, 1067 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 225.0891; found, 225.0882.

Methyl 2-Methyl-4-phenylbuta-2,3-dienoate (8f)

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.00 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 6.47 (q, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.1, 52.3, 97.3, 99.1, 127.4, 127.7, 128.8, 132.4, 167.5, 212.4; IR (neat) 2951, 1949, 1716, 1435, 1274, 1122 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Methyl 2-Methyl-5-phenylpenta-2,3-dienoate (8g)

Colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.86 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 3.39-3.49 (m, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 5.58-5.64 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.33 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.1, 34.7, 52.1, 93.3, 95.8, 126.5, 128.4, 128.5, 139.2, 168.2, 210.7; IR (neat) 2951, 1960, 1716, 1435, 1275, 1122 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Methyl 2-Methyldeca-2,3-dienoate (8h)

Colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.89 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.23-1.39 (m, 6H), 1.40-1.47 (m, 2H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 2.10 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 5.43-5.48 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.1, 15.3, 22.7, 28.0, 28.6, 28.8, 31.6, 52.0, 93.9, 95.3, 168.5, 210.1; IR (neat) 2928, 2857, 1960, 1717, 1436, 1275, 1123 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 2.2 General procedure for the preparation of allenyl carboxamides 14a-c

2-Fluoro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-phenylpenta-2,3-dienamide (14a)



To a solution of diethyl {1-fluoro-2-[methoxy(methyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl]phosphonate (**11**) (40.0 mg, 0.156 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1.6 mL) was added *i*-PrMgBr (0.74 mol/L in THF, 231 µL, 0.171 mmol), and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h under argon. After adding triethylamine (43 µL, 0.311 mmol) and 2-phenylpropionyl chloride (**5a**) (46 µL, 0.311 mmol), the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 18 h under argon. The reaction mixture was treated with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq (5 mL) and then extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (50 mL x 3). The extract was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The oily residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography [CHCl<sub>3</sub>–AcOEt (50:1)] to afford α-fluorinated allenyl carboxamide **14a** (37.6 mg, 100%). Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.35 (d, <sup>5</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 7.31-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.3, 33.6, 61.6, 118.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 126.8 (d, <sup>5</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 2.7 Hz), 128.7, 129.1 (d, <sup>6</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 129.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 234.8 Hz), 134.4 (d, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 162.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 40.1 Hz), 193.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 18.7 Hz); IR (neat) 2937, 1954, 1652, 1462, 1444, 1417, 1386, 1155 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 258.0906;

found, 258.0896. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 66.37; H, 6.00; N, 5.95. Found: C, 66.08; H, 6.02; N, 5.89%.

#### 2-Fluoro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-phenylhexa-2,3-dienamide (14b)

Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.23 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 2.63-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 7.30-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  12.0 (d, <sup>5</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 1.8 Hz), 25.0, 33.7, 61.5, 125.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 12.1 Hz), 126.9 (d, <sup>5</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 2.6 Hz), 128.8, 129.1 (d, <sup>6</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 132.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 234.6 Hz), 134.3 (d, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 162.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 40.2 Hz), 192.8 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 18.8 Hz); IR (neat) 2972, 2937, 1950, 1660, 1456, 1384, 1153 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 272.1063; found, 272.1061. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.45; H, 6.47; N, 5.62. Found: C, 67.16; H, 6.54; N, 5.47%.

#### 2-Fluoro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4,4-diphenylbuta-2,3-dienamide (14c)

Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.28 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 7.38-7.42 (m, 6H), 7.44-7.47 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  33.7, 61.7, 125.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 12.1 Hz), 128.7 129.1 (d, <sup>5</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 3.1 Hz), 129.2, 131.0 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 235.1 Hz), 134.7, 161.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 39.9 Hz), 195.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 19.2 Hz); IR (neat) 2936, 1945, 1660, 1444, 1385, 1155 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 320.1063; found, 320.1060.

# 3. NMR spectra























