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REISSERT-LIKE ALKENYLATION OF AZAAROMATIC COMPOUNDS WITH ALKENYLZIRCONOCENE CHLORIDE COMPLEXES

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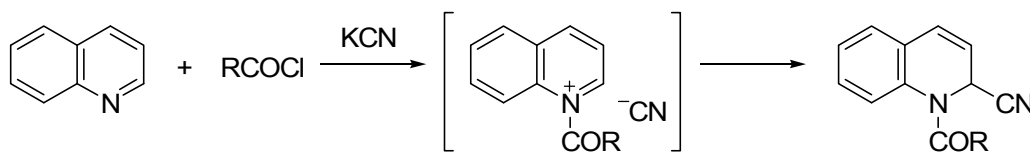
Abstract –Reissert-like alkenylation of azaaromatic compounds by the use of alkenylzirconocene chloride as a nucleophile was carried out in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of ClCO₂Et. The regioselectivity of the nucleophilic attack depends on reacting heterocycles, solvent, and the presence of copper catalyst. Thus, the reaction of quinoline derivatives with alkenylzirconocene chloride in MeNO₂ proceeded in a preferential 1,2-addition manner to give *N*-ethoxycarbonyl-2-alkenyl-1,2-dihydroquinolines, and the reaction of pyridine in CH₂Cl₂ under Cu(I)-catalyzed conditions proceeded in a 1,4-addition manner to give *N*-ethoxycarbonyl-4-alkenyl-1,4-dihydropyridine. The alkenylation of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline with alkenylzirconocene chloride was also carried out in an enantioselective manner under Cu(I)/chiral Box-catalyzed conditions to give alkenylated tetrahydroisoquinoline compound (75%ee).

INTRODUCTION

Nucleophilic additions of carbon nucleophiles to *N*-acyliminium ions provide us with efficient procedures for the preparation of amine derivatives, and the procedure has been applied to the synthesis of alkaloids and medicinally significant molecules.¹ One of the typical reactions applied to azaaromatics, known as the Reissert reaction, employs a cyanide nucleophile in the presence of *N*-acylating agents affording *N*-acyl-2-cyano-1,2-dihydroheterocycles (Scheme 1).² On the other hand, Reissert-like reactions of the azaaromatic compounds using organometallics (Mg,³ Cu,⁴ Sn,⁵ and their allyl⁶ or alkynyl species⁷) or metal enolates⁸ instead of the cyanide nucleophile have been extensively studied to enhance the chemical value of the Reissert reaction. Recently, it was shown that alkenyl boronic acid (Petasis-type reaction)⁹ or

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of the aluminum¹⁰ was another choice of organometallics for the Reissert-like alkenylation process.



Scheme 1. Reissert reaction

In our continuous study about the carbon-carbon bond formation using organozirconocene chloride complexes as a synthetic reagent,^{11,12} we are tempted to examine the use of organozirconocene chloride complexes for the Reissert-like alkenylation. Although the alkenylzirconocene chlorides are readily accessible through the hydrozirconation of alkyne compounds with Schwartz reagent $[\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{H})\text{Cl}]^{13}$ or by the treatment of alkenyl halide with Negishi reagent $[\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}-n\text{Bu}_2]^{14}$, the poor reactivity of the complexes toward the electrophiles, such as aldehydes, ketones and imines, often hampered their use for organic synthesis. Thus, the search for catalysts and/or activating agents is necessitated to achieve the objective carbon-carbon bond forming reactions. Our recent work revealed that the reaction of alkenylzirconocene chloride complexes and 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline in the presence of acylating agent brought about the enantioselective formation of 1-alkenyl-2-acyltetrahydroisoquinoline under the Cu(I)/chiral Box-catalyzed conditions.¹⁵ It was also found that Reissert-like alkenylation of quinoline with alkenylzirconocene chloride was promoted by the activation through acylating agent without the use of Cu(I)-catalyst, albeit the poor regioselectivity (1,2- vs 1,4-addition).¹⁵ In this paper, we describe the influence upon the regioselectivity of the Reissert-like alkenylation of azaaromatic compounds with alkenylzirconocene chlorides.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the outset, we focused on the improvement of the regioselectivity in the reaction of quinoline (**1a**) and (*E*)-styrylzirconocene chloride (**2a**, 2 equiv) in the presence of ethyl chloroformate (ClCO_2Et , 1.2 equiv) (Table 1). In CH_2Cl_2 solvent, treatment of **1a** with ClCO_2Et at 0 °C for 30 min followed by the addition of **2a** to the reaction mixture proceeded the Reissert-like alkenylation at ambient temperature within 2 h (by TLC) to afford a mixture of 1,2-adduct **3a** (70%) and 1,4-adduct **4a** (25%) (**3a/4a** = 2.8/1) (entry 1). The use of nitromethane (MeNO_2) solvent, however, suppressed the formation of 1,4-adduct **4a** (3-7%, entries 5-7), and the yield of 1,2-adduct **3a** was improved up to 82% in the presence of 2.4 equiv of ClCO_2Et (**3a/4a** = 27/1) (entry 7). Thus, the solvent choice is important for the regioselective formation of 1-acyl-2-alkenylation product **3a**, albeit other examined solvents (toluene, THF and CH_3CN) are unattractive (entries 2-4). Based on the results, the Reissert-like reactions of quinoline derivatives **1** with

2a and ClCO_2Et were examined in either CH_2Cl_2 or MeNO_2 solvent (Table 2). The reactions of quinoline derivatives **1a-d** in CH_2Cl_2 completed at ambient temperature within 2 h (by TLC), except for the nitro-substituted **1e** (24 h). In all cases examined, however, a considerable amount of 1,4-adducts **4a-e** (10-36%) were formed along with 1,2-adducts **3a-e** (63-83%) (left column, Table 2). The use of MeNO_2 as a solvent brought about the improved 1,2-regioselectivities for the additions (**3a-e**: 52-93%, **4a-e**: 3-9%) (right column).

Table 1. Optimization for the regioselective Reissert-like alkenylation of quinoline (**1a**) with **2a**

Entry	Solvent	Time (h)	Yield		Recovery of 1a (%) ^a
			3a (%) ^a	4a (%) ^a	
1	CH_2Cl_2	2	70 ^b	25 ^b	-
2	toluene	2	38	23	11
3	THF	2	36	35	17
4	MeCN	2	26	6	43
5	MeNO_2	2	33	4	40
6	MeNO_2	14	49	7	7
7 ^c	MeNO_2	14	82 ^b	3 ^b	-
8 ^d	CH_2Cl_2	2	46	35	-

^a The yield was determined by $^1\text{H-NMR}$ analysis. ^b Isolated yield. ^c ClCO_2Et : 2.4equiv.

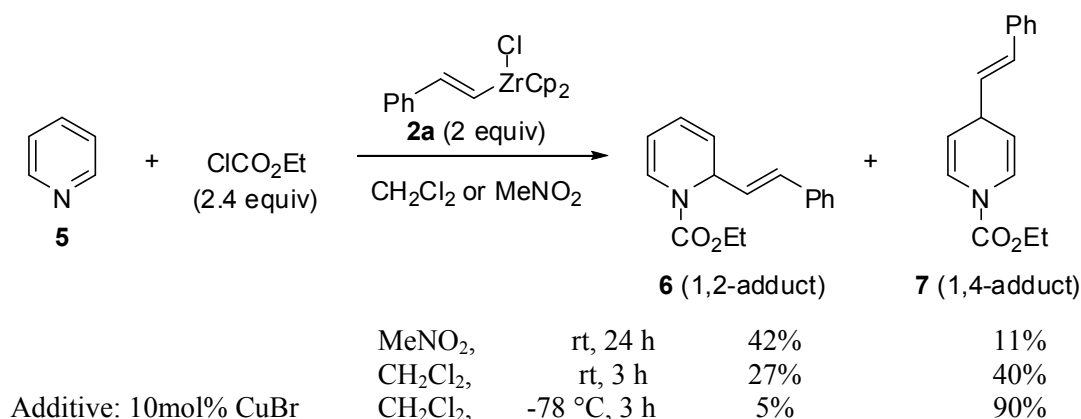
^d Additive: 10 mol% CuBr .

Table 2. Reissert-like alkenylation of quinoline derivatives **1** with **2a**

1	R^1	R^2	Reaction in CH_2Cl_2 ^a			Reaction in MeNO_2 ^b		
			Time (h)	3 (%) ^c	4 (%) ^c	Time (h)	3 (%) ^c	4 (%) ^c
1a	H	H	2	70	25	14	82	3
1b	H	Me	2	70	22	14	82	5
1c	Me	H	2	83	10	14	93	4
1d	MeO	H	2	63	36	14	74	5
1e	NO_2	H	24	66	23	22	52	9

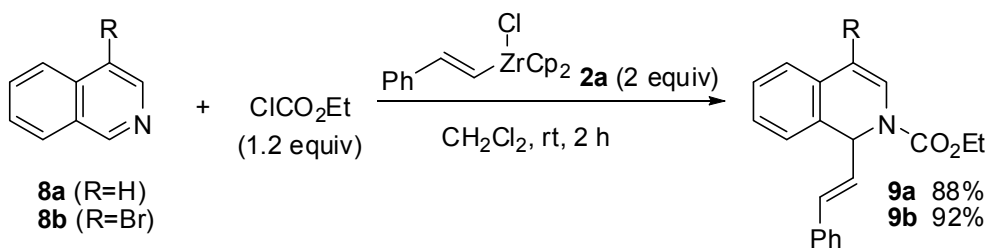
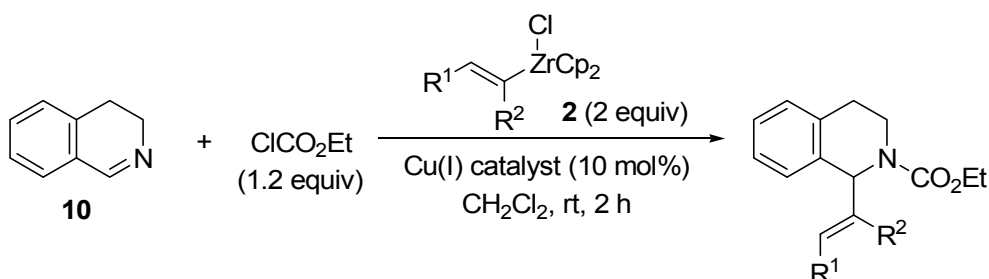
^a ClCO_2Et : 1.2 equiv. ^b ClCO_2Et : 2.4equiv. ^c Isolated yield.

In the reaction of pyridine (**5**) and **2a** in the presence of ClCO₂Et, however, the use of MeNO₂ afforded a mixture of regioisomers **6** and **7** (53%) with a poor 1,2-regioselectivity (**6/7** = 3.8/1) (Scheme 2). It should be noted that the alkenylation in CH₂Cl₂ brought about the nonselective formation of products (67%, **6/7** = 1/1.4). The 1,4-regioselectivity was remarkably enhanced by the addition of catalytic CuBr (10 mol%) to the reaction mixture at -78 °C to give a mixture of products in high yield (95%, **6/7** = 1/18). Contrary to the reaction of pyridine, CuBr-catalyzed reaction of quinoline (**1a**) did not give an improved selectivity of regioisomers (81%, **3a/4a** = 1.3/1) (Table 1, entry 8) under otherwise identical conditions with pyridine. The presence of ClCO₂Et is essential to bring about the reaction in every examined case. Thus, it is necessary to activate the azaaromatic compounds as shown in Scheme 1. Although details about the solvent effect and the role of the Cu(I)-catalyst for the regioselectivity remain uncertain at present,¹⁶ it has been reported that the addition of Cu(I)-catalysts to Grignard reagents^{3a} or the use of organocoppers⁴ led to the preferred formation of the Reissert-like 1,4-addition product.



Scheme 2. Reissert-like alkenylation of pyridine (**5**) with **2a**

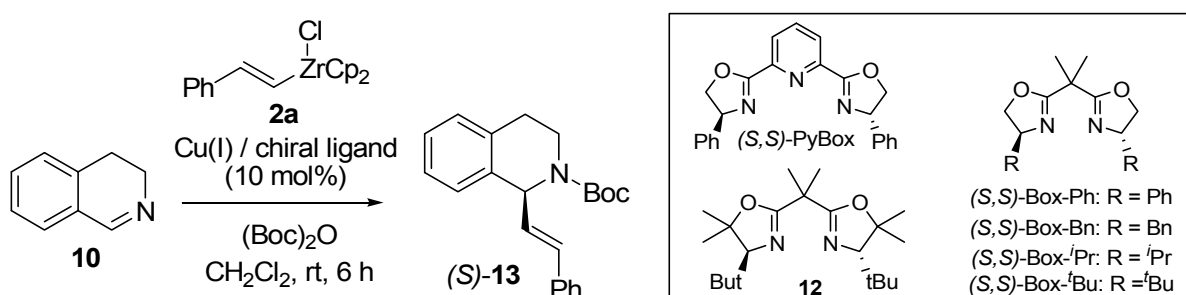
The alkenylation of isoquinoline derivative **8a** or **8b** with **2a** in the presence of ClCO₂Et proceeded smoothly in CH₂Cl₂ at ambient temperature giving rise to the corresponding product **9a** or **9b** as a sole product in high yield (Scheme 3). Extension of the alkenylation using **2a** to 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**10**) reveals that Cu(I) catalyst in the coexistence of *N*-acylating agent is required to bring about the efficient formation of alkenylated tetrahydroisoquinoline **11a** (Table 3). Among the examined Cu(I) catalysts,¹⁷ Cu(OTf) (Entry 3) or [Cu(MeCN)₄]PF₆ (Entries 4-7) showed high efficiency for the formation of **11**, and alkyl-substituted alkenylzirconocenes (**2b**, **2c** and **2d**) were also efficient nucleophiles in the reaction.

Scheme 3. Alkenylation of isoquinolines **8** with **2a**Table 3. Reissert-like alkenylation of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**10**) with **2a**

Entry	2	R ¹	R ²	Cu(I)	11	Yield (%) ^a
1 ^b	2a	Ph	H	-	11a	36
2				CuBr		68
3				CuOTf		81
4				[Cu(MeCN) ₄]PF ₆		87
5	2b	<i>n</i> Bu	H	[Cu(MeCN) ₄]PF ₆	11b	78
6	2c	<i>t</i> Bu	H	[Cu(MeCN) ₄]PF ₆	11c	72
7	2d	Et	Et	[Cu(MeCN) ₄]PF ₆	11d	80

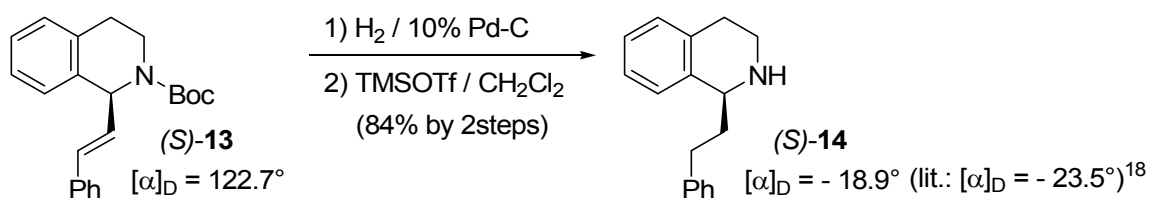
^a Isolated yield. ^b Reaction time: 16 h.

An attempt to carry out the enantioselective addition of **2a** to **10** using Cu(I)/chiral ligand catalytic systems indicated that chiral Box ligands to Cu(I) catalyst turned out to be fairly efficient in a sense of chiral induction (Table 4). Thus, by using a [Cu(MeCN)₄]PF₆ and (*S,S*)-Box ligand **12**,¹⁸ the reaction of **10** with **2a** and di-*t*-butyl dicarbonate [(Boc)₂O] as an *N*-acylating agent at 0 °C for 24 h afforded (*S*)-**13** (75%ee) in 65% yield (Entry 12). The absolute configuration of (*S*)-**13** was determined by the conversion to compound **14**¹⁹ whose absolute configuration has been established (Scheme 4).

Table 4. Enantioselective reactions of **2a** and **10**

Entry	Cu(I)	ligand	Yield (%) ^a	ee (%) ^b
1	CuOTf	(<i>S,S</i>)-PyBox-Ph	67	22
2		(<i>S,S</i>)-Box-Ph	87	30
3		(<i>S,S</i>)-Box-Bn	89	32
4		(<i>S,S</i>)-Box- <i>i</i> Pr	84	40
5		(<i>S,S</i>)-Box- <i>t</i> Bu	74	44
6	[Cu(MeCN) ₄]PF ₆	(<i>S,S</i>)-Box- <i>t</i> Bu	90	50
7 ^c		(<i>S,S</i>)-Box- <i>t</i> Bu	63	68
8 ^c		12	65	75

^a Isolated yield. ^b Ee was determined by HPLC analysis (Chiralpak AD). ^c 0 °C, 24 h.



Scheme 4. Determination of the absolute configuration of (*S*)-**13**

CONCLUSIONS

The alkenylzirconocene chloride complex was found to be an efficient nucleophile for the Reissert-type alkenylation of azaaromatic compounds in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of ClCO₂Et. In the reaction, solvent effect (MeNO₂ or CH₂Cl₂) and/or the presence of Cu-catalyst are important for the regioselectivity of the alkenylation of quinolines and pyridines. The enantioselective addition of the alkenylzirconocene chloride to 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline was also achieved by the Cu(I)/chiral Box ligand catalytic system to give the biologically attractive tetrahydroisoquinoline compound in an optically active form.²⁰ We believe that the reactivity of alkenylzirconocene chloride described in the present paper indicates a new possibility for the use of organozirconocene complexes in organic synthesis.

EXPERIMENTAL

All melting points were taken on a Yanaco SP-M1 melting point apparatus (Yanagimoto Co.) and were uncorrected. IR spectra were taken on a HORIBA FT-710 FT-IR spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured in CDCl₃ with a Bruker AV300M FT NMR spectrometer at 300 and 75 MHz, and the chemical shifts are given in ppm using CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm) for ¹H NMR and CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) for ¹³C NMR as an internal standard, respectively. Mass spectra and HRMS were recorded by FAB method on a

JMS-HX110 Mass spectrometer. Elemental analysis were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 240B or Elemental Vavio EL. For the TLC analysis, Merck precoated TLC plates (silica gel 60 F₂₅₄) were used. Column chromatography was performed on Silica gel 60N (63-200 μm , Kanto Kagaku Co., Ltd.). All of the organic solvents were dried over appropriate drying agents. Unless otherwise stated, all reactions were conducted under an argon atmosphere.

Starting Materials. 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**10**) was prepared by previously reported procedure.²¹ All other compounds were commercially available.

General procedure for the preparation of alkenylzirconocene chlorides **2 in CH₂Cl₂.** To a suspension of Cp₂Zr(H)Cl (258 mg, 1.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL) was added an alkyne compound (1.2 mmol) at an ambient temperature. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at the same temperature, the CH₂Cl₂ solutions were used in the following experiments without any changes.

Preparation of (*E*)-styrylzirconocene chloride (2a**) in MeNO₂.** According to the above manner, the solution of **2a** in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL) was prepared from Cp₂Zr(H)Cl (258 mg, 1.0 mmol) and phenylalkyne (132 μL , 1.2 mmol). After the CH₂Cl₂ was removed in vacuo, MeNO₂ (2.0 mL) was added to the residue.

General procedure for the Reissert-like alkenylation of **2 with azaaromatic compounds.** A premixed solution (30 min at 0 °C) of an azaaromatic compound (0.5 mmol) and ClCO₂Et (0.6 or 1.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ or MeNO₂ (3.0 mL) was added to a solution of **2** (1.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ or MeNO₂ (2.0 mL) at an ambient temperature. After the consumption of the starting material (by TLC analysis), the reaction mixture was diluted with ether and filtered through a short alumina column. After concentration of the filtrate to dryness, the subsequent purification gave the corresponding acyl-alkenylated compound **3**, **4**, **6**, **7**, and/or **9**.

Ethyl 2-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (3a**).** IR (neat) ν 1716 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.33 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 4.21-4.35 (m, 2H), 5.66-5.70 (m, 1H), 6.00-6.08 (m, 2H), 6.47-6.56 (m, 1H), 7.00-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.28 (m, 6H), 7.61 (br.d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.5, 54.3, 62.2, 124.1, 124.3, 125.6, 126.4, 126.7, 126.9, 127.1, 127.6, 127.7, 128.5, 131.5, 134.7, 136.5, 154.3; FAB-LM m/z 305.3 (M+H⁺); FAB-HM Calcd for C₂₀H₂₀NO₂ 306.1494, Found 306.1481. Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₁₉NO₂: C, 78.66; H, 6.27; N, 4.59. Found: C, 78.59; H, 6.36; N, 4.57.

Ethyl 4-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (4a**).** IR (neat) ν 1716 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.36 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 4.16 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0, 5.0 Hz), 4.32 (q, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 5.28 (dd, 1H, J = 7.8, 5.0 Hz), 6.16 (dd, 1H, J = 15.7, 8.0 Hz), 6.41 (d, 1H, J = 15.7 Hz), 7.06-7.34 (m, 9H), 8.04 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.5, 41.5, 62.5, 111.1, 121.4, 125.0, 126.2, 126.3, 127.4, 128.5, 128.7, 129.4, 131.6, 135.8, 137.0, 152.6; FAB-LM m/z 304.2 (M+H⁺); FAB-HM Calcd for C₂₀H₂₀NO₂ 306.1494, Found 306.1483.

Ethyl 3-methyl-2-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (3b). IR (neat) ν 1712 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.34 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.97 (s, 3H), 4.19-4.39 (m, 2H), 5.44 (d, 1H, $J = 7.3$ Hz), 6.00 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.7, 7.3$ Hz), 6.30 (s, 1H), 6.35 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$ Hz), 7.00-7.06 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.31 (m, 6H), 7.59 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.6, 20.7, 58.9, 62.2, 121.4, 124.0, 124.1, 124.4, 125.7, 126.6, 126.7, 127.7, 128.4, 131.8, 133.4, 136.5, 136.7, 154.2; FAB-LM m/z 319.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ 320.1651. Found 320.1658.

Ethyl 3-methyl-4-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (4b). IR (neat) ν 1719 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.36 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.83 (s, 3H), 3.91 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 4.32 (q, 2H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 6.08 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.5, 8.3$ Hz), 6.41 (d, 1H, $J = 15.5$ Hz), 6.83-6.84 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.37 (m, 8H), 8.01 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 18.5, 47.6, 62.4, 119.7, 121.3, 121.5, 124.8, 126.4, 126.6, 127.3, 128.5, 128.6, 129.3, 130.3, 131.6, 135.8, 137.0, 152.6; FAB-LM m/z 319.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ 320.1651. Found 320.1642.

Ethyl 6-methyl-2-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (3c). IR (neat) ν 1722 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.33 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 4.20-4.38 (m, 2H), 5.65-5.70 (mt, 1H), 5.99-6.09 (m, 2H), 6.47-6.53 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, 1H, $J = 1.7$ Hz), 7.00 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.3, 1.7$ Hz), 7.15-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.48-7.50 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 20.8, 54.3, 62.1, 124.1, 125.7, 126.6, 126.7, 126.9, 127.7, 128.3, 128.4, 131.4, 132.2, 133.6, 136.6, 154.4; FAB-LM m/z 319.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ 320.1651. Found 320.1659. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2$: C, 78.97; H, 6.63; N, 4.39. Found: C, 78.81; H, 6.72; N, 4.29.

Ethyl 6-methyl-4-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (4c). Mp 50 $^\circ\text{C}$; IR (KBr) ν 1729 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.34 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 4.12 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0, 5.0$ Hz), 4.32 (q, 2H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 5.26 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0, 5.0$ Hz), 6.16 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.7, 8.0$ Hz), 6.42 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$ Hz), 6.95-7.08 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.38 (m, 5H), 7.94 (d, 1H, $J = 8.5$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 20.7, 41.6, 62.4, 110.9, 121.2, 126.2, 126.4, 127.4, 127.5, 128.5, 129.1, 129.2, 131.8, 133.3, 134.5, 137.1, 152.6; FAB-LM m/z 319.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ 320.1651, Found 320.1641.

Ethyl 6-methoxy-2-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (3d). IR (neat) ν 1716 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.28 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.16-4.33 (m, 2H), 5.65-5.69 (m, 1H), 5.99-6.07 (m, 2H), 6.45-6.52 (m, 2H), 6.62 (d, 1H, $J = 2.9$ Hz), 6.74 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.9, 2.9$ Hz), 7.13-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.50-7.52 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.6, 54.2, 55.5, 62.1, 111.2, 113.1, 125.5, 125.6, 126.6, 127.7, 128.0, 128.4, 131.5, 136.5, 154.4, 156.1; FAB-LM m/z 335.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_3$ 336.1600. Found 336.1602.

Ethyl 6-methoxy-4-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (4d). IR (neat) ν 1716 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.35 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 3.96 (s, 3H), 4.12 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0, 4.9$ Hz), 4.31 (q, 2H, $J = 7.1$

Hz), 5.24 (dd, 1H, $J = 7.8, 4.9$ Hz), 6.14 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.7, 8.0$ Hz), 6.32 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$ Hz), 6.68 (d, 1H, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 6.78 (dd, 1H, $J = 9.2, 3.0$ Hz), 7.04-7.07 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.99 (d, 1H, $J = 9.2$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 41.8, 55.5, 62.4, 110.5, 112.2, 113.4, 122.5, 126.1, 126.4, 127.4, 128.5, 129.5, 130.1, 130.8, 131.5, 152.6, 156.6; FAB-LM m/z 335.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_3$ 336.1600. Found 336.1598.

Ethyl 6-nitro-2-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (3e). Mp 125 °C; IR (KBr) ν 1720 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.38 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.31-4.38 (m, 2H), 5.71-5.75 (m, 1H), 6.03 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8, 6.6$ Hz), 6.10-6.24 (m, 1H), 6.47-6.52 (m, 1H), 6.61-6.65 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.81-7.90 (m, 1H), 7.97-8.12 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.4, 45.1, 54.8, 63.1, 121.8, 122.9, 124.1, 124.5, 126.6, 127.2, 128.2, 131.8, 132.5, 135.9, 140.2, 143.5, 153.7; FAB-LM m/z 351.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 351.1345. Found 351.1344. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$: C, 68.56; H, 5.18; N, 8.00. Found: C, 68.85; H, 5.26; N, 7.74.

Ethyl 6-nitro-4-[(*E*)-styryl]quinoline-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (4e). Mp 71 °C; IR (KBr) ν 1735 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.40 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.26 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.1, 5.0$ Hz), 4.37 (q, 2H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 5.34 (dd, 1H, $J = 7.8, 5.0$ Hz), 6.15 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.7, 8.1$ Hz), 6.47 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$ Hz), 7.10 (d, 1H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 7.22-7.41 (m, 5H), 8.06-8.29 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.4, 41.3, 63.4, 110.7, 115.6, 121.8, 121.9, 122.3, 124.4, 125.7, 126.5, 127.8, 128.6, 130.1, 130.3, 130.7, 136.4, 144.3; FAB-LM m/z 351.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 351.1345. Found 351.1351.

Ethyl 2-[(*E*)-styryl]pyridine-1(2*H*)-carboxylate (6). Mp 52 °C; IR (KBr) ν 1716 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.34 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.20-4.30 (m, 2H), 5.26-5.59 (m, 3H), 5.99-6.04 (m, 1H), 6.18-6.25 (m, 1H), 6.44-6.58 (m, 1H), 6.70-6.84 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.41 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 53.3, 62.3, 105.3, 120.5, 122.0, 124.9, 125.6, 127.7, 128.5, 131.2, 136.7, 155.7; FAB-LM m/z 255.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ 256.1338. Found 256.1336.

Ethyl 4-[(*E*)-styryl]pyridine-1(4*H*)-carboxylate (7). IR (neat) ν 1718 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.32 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 3.74-3.77 (m, 1H), 4.26 (q, 2H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.86-4.93 (m, 2H), 6.15 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8, 7.4$ Hz), 6.36 (d, 1H, $J = 15.8$ Hz), 6.77-6.92 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.42 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 36.2, 62.5, 108.5, 120.8, 122.8, 126.3, 127.0, 128.5, 132.9, 137.2, 150.2; FAB-LM m/z 254.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ 256.1338. Found 256.1332.

Ethyl 1-[(*E*)-styryl]isoquinoline-2(1*H*)-carboxylate (9a). IR (neat) ν 1712 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.36 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.26-4.39 (m, 2H), 5.87 (d, 1H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 6.01 (br.s, 1H), 6.29 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8, 6.0$ Hz), 6.38 (d, 1H, $J = 15.8$ Hz), 6.96 (br.s, 1H), 7.07-7.34 (m, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.4, 57.3, 62.2, 108.0, 124.7, 124.9, 126.6, 126.7, 127.0, 127.6, 127.8, 128.3, 130.9, 136.5, 153.1; FAB-LM m/z 305.2 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ 306.1494. Found 306.1489.

Ethyl 4-bromo-1-[(E)-styryl]isoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxylate (9b). IR (neat) ν 1733 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.34 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 4.25-4.32 (m, 2H), 5.80-6.03 (m, 1H), 6.20-6.27 (m, 1H), 6.35 (d, 1H, $J = 15.7$ Hz), 6.89-7.35 (m, 9H), 7.48-7.51 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.5, 57.2, 62.9, 103.3, 124.9, 125.6, 128.3, 128.5, 131.0, 136.1, 153.5; FAB-LM m/z 383.1 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2\text{Br}$ 384.0599. Found 383.0526. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2\text{Br}$: C, 62.51; H, 4.72; N, 3.65. Found: C, 62.65; H, 5.11; N, 3.57.

Cu(I)-catalyzed acyl-alkenylation of 2a with pyridine (5). A premixed solution (30 min at 0 °C) of pyridine (40 mL, 0.5 mmol) and ClCO_2Et (114 mL, 1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3.0 mL) was added to solution of **2a** (1.0 mmol) with CuBr (7.2 mg, 50 μmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2.0 mL) at -78 °C. After being stirred at -78 °C for 3 h, the yields of **6** and **7** was determined by $^1\text{H-NMR}$ analysis using toluene as a internal standard.

Cu(I)-catalyzed acyl-alkenylation of 2 with 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (10). A premixed solution (30 min at 0 °C) of pyridine (40 mL, 0.5 mmol) and ClCO_2Et (114 mL, 1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3.0 mL) was added to solution of **2a** (1.0 mmol) with $[\text{Cu}(\text{MeCN})_4]\text{PF}_6$ (18.6 mg, 50 μmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2.0 mL) at an ambient temperature. After the consumption of the starting material (by TLC analysis), workup and purification as above described yielded **11**.

Ethyl 3,4-dihydro-1-[(E)-styryl]isoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxylate (11a). IR (neat) ν 1704 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.29 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 2.73-2.81 (m, 1H), 2.90-3.01 (m, 1H), 3.29-3.33 (m, 1H), 4.12-4.25 (m, 2H), 5.78-5.81 (m, 1H), 6.32 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8, 5.6$ Hz), 6.41 (d, 1H, $J = 15.8$ Hz), 7.13-7.37 (m, 10H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.8, 28.7, 38.5, 56.3, 61.5, 126.2, 126.5, 126.8, 127.7, 128.1, 129.0, 129.1, 131.4, 134.7, 136.6, 155.6; FAB-LM m/z 307.4 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ 308.1651. Found 308.1644. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2$: C, 78.15; H, 6.89; N, 4.56. Found: C, 77.98; H, 7.09; N, 4.52.

Ethyl 1-[(E)-hex-1-enyl]-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxylate (11b). IR (neat) ν 1714 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.88 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.24-1.38 (m, 4H), 1.29 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 2.02 (dt, 2H, $J = 6.8, 6.8$ Hz), 2.73 (dt, 1H, $J = 16.0, 3.7$ Hz), 2.86-2.99 (m, 1H), 3.19-3.33 (m, 1H), 4.03-4.32 (m, 3H), 5.49 (dt, 1H, $J = 14.9, 6.8$ Hz), 5.50-5.66 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.23 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.8, 14.7, 22.1, 28.6, 31.2, 31.8, 38.1, 56.1, 61.2, 125.9, 126.5, 127.9, 128.7, 129.3, 132.9, 134.4, 135.6, 155.4; FAB-LM m/z 288.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_2$ 288.1964. Found 288.1956. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: C, 75.22; H, 8.77; N, 4.87. Found: C, 75.01; H, 8.76; N, 4.74.

Ethyl 3,4-dihydro-1-[(E)-3,3-dimethylbut-1-enyl]isoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxylate (11c). IR (neat) ν 1716 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.99 (s, 9H), 1.28 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 2.73 (dt, 1H, $J = 16.0, 3.7$ Hz), 2.86-3.00 (m, 1H), 3.18-3.30 (m, 1H), 4.12-4.31 (m, 3H), 5.46 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.4, 5.5$ Hz),

5.51-5.67 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.25 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.7, 28.7, 29.4, 32.9, 38.1, 56.3, 61.2, 123.9, 126.0, 126.5, 127.9, 128.8, 134.5, 135.8, 143.7, 155.5; FAB-LM m/z 288.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_2$ 288.1964. Found 288.1971.

Ethyl 1-[(*E*)-hex-3-en-3-yl]-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-2(*1H*)-carboxylate (11d). IR (neat) ν 1704 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.87 (t, 3H, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 1.05 (t, 3H, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 1.27 (t, 3H, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.94-2.09 (m, 3H), 2.13-2.28 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dt, 1H, $J = 16.0, 3.8$ Hz), 2.84-3.01 (m, 1H), 3.19-3.37 (m, 1H), 3.92-4.35 (m, 3H), 4.80 (t, 1H, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 5.59-5.85 (m, 1H), 6.98-7.05 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.20 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.6, 14.3, 14.7, 20.8, 21.6, 28.1, 37.5, 58.3, 61.2, 125.4, 126.5, 128.6, 131.8, 135.2, 135.4, 141.0, 155.7; FAB-LM m/z 288.3 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_2$ 288.1964. Found 288.1965. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: C, 75.22; H, 8.77; N, 4.87. Found: C, 74.95; H, 8.84; N, 4.66.

Enantioselective acyl-alkenylation of 2a with 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (10). A premixed solution (30 min at 0 °C) of **10** (65.6 mg, 0.5 mmol) and $(\text{Boc})_2\text{O}$ (131 mg, 1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3.0 mL) was added at 0 °C to solution of **2a** (1.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2.0 mL), which was pretreated with a premixed solution (5 min at a ambient temperature) of $[\text{Cu}(\text{MeCN})_4]\text{PF}_6$ (18.6 mg, 50 μmol) and Box ligand **12** (11.8 mg, 50 μmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.0 mL). After being stirred at 0 °C for 24 h, the workup and purification as above described yielded **13** (115.7 mg, 69%, 75% ee, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = 122.7$).

***tert*-Butyl 3,4-dihydro-1-[(*E*)-styryl]isoquinoline-2(*1H*)-carboxylate (13).** IR (neat) ν 1698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.52 (s, 9H), 2.71-2.79 (m, 1H), 2.88-2.99 (m, 1H), 3.23-3.29 (m, 1H), 4.07-4.13 (m, 1H), 5.69-5.71 (m, 1H), 6.29 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.8, 5.8$ Hz), 6.40 (d, 1H, $J = 15.8$ Hz), 7.12-7.34 (m, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 28.5, 28.8, 79.9, 126.2, 126.3, 126.5, 126.8, 127.6, 128.1, 128.5, 128.9, 129.3, 131.1, 134.9, 134.9, 136.7, 154.7; FAB-LM m/z 336.4 ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$); FAB-HM Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_2$ 336.1964. Found 336.1962. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$: C, 78.77; H, 7.51; N, 4.18. Found: C, 78.84; H, 7.63; N, 4.18.

Conversion of 13 to (*R*)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-phenethylisoquinoline (14). Under hydrogen atmosphere, a solution of **13** (124.4 mg, 0.37 mmol, 75% ee) and 10% Pd-C (150 mg) was stirred at an ambient temperature for 12 h. After concentration of the obtained filtrate by the removal of Pd-C, a solution of the residue in CH_2Cl_2 (5.0 mL) was treated with TMSOTf (130 μL , 0.72 mmol) at an ambient temperature for 10 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. NaHCO_3 and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic extracts was dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 and concentrated on vacuo. The residue was purified on silica gel column chromatography to give **14** (73.5 mg, 84%, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} = -18.9$). **14** was identified by ^1H -NMR spectrum reported in the literature.¹⁹

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