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Iron-Catalyzed C-C Bond Formation via Direct Functionalization of C-H Bonds Adjacent to Heteroatoms

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Contents

1) Experimental details and characterization data for all compounds;

2) Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra for all compounds.

1) Experimental details and characterization data for all compounds

General information: ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL 300 MHz spectrometer and the chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (δ) relative to internal standard TMS (0 ppm) for CDCl₃. The peak patterns are indicated as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; dd, doublet of doublet of doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; q, quartet. The coupling constants, *J*, are reported in Hertz (Hz). ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained at JEOL 75.4 MHz and referenced to the internal solvent signals (central peak is 77.0 ppm in CDCl₃). CDCl₃ was used as the NMR solvent. Mass spectra were determined with AEI-MS 50 for EI-MS. APEX II (Bruker Inc.) for HR-MS and ESI-MS. IR spectra were recorded by a Nicolet 5MX-S infrared spectrometer. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel 200-300. All reagents were weighed and handled in air at room temperature. Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere. All reagents were purchased from Acros, Aldrich, TCI, and Strem and used without further purification.

General procedure for products 3: To a mixture of THF 1a (1 mL) and Fe₂(CO)₉ (9.2 mg, 0.025 mmol), ethyl benzoylacetate 2a (0.25 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. *tert*-Butyl peroxide (0.139 mL, 0.75 mmol) was added dropwise into the mixture. The resulting mixture was stirred under reflux condition for 1 h or as noted in the text. The resulting reaction mixture was mixed with a small amount of silica gel and concentrated, then purified by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:20). The fraction with an R_f = 0.3 (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6) was collected and to give the desired product 3a.



Ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propanoate (3a)^[1]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.3$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.05-8.01(m, 4H), 7.62-7.55(m, 2H), 7.50-7.44(m, 4H), 4.74-4.64(m, 2H), 4.46(d, J = 9.0Hz, 1H), 4.41(d, J = 9.0Hz, 1H), 4.17(q, J = 7.2Hz, 2×2H), 3.92-3.69(m, 4H), 2.28-2.15(m, 2H), 1.99-1.84(m, 4H), 1.57-1.45(m, 2H), 1.18(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.5, 193.2, 167.8, 167.4, 136.7, 136.2, 133.7, 133.3, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 78.0, 77.6, 68.1, 68.0, 61.5, 61.3, 60.1, 59.2, 30.1, 29.9, 25.4, 25.3, 13.9, 13.8; MS(EI) *m/z*(%): 216, 193, 189, 157, 147, 105(100), 77, 71, 28.



1,3-diphenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propane-1,3-dione (**3b**)^[2]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.4$). ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.01-7.95(m, 4H), 7.58-7.38(m, 6H), 5.43(d, J = 8.4Hz, 1H), 4.83(ddd, J = 8.1, 6.9, 6.9Hz, 1H), 3.84-3.69(m, 2H), 2.35-2.26(m, 1H), 1.93-1.71(m, 2H), 1.69-1.65(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.6, 194.3, 136.8, 136.4, 133.6, 133.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 79.3, 68.0, 62.7, 30.5, 25.4; MS(EI) *m/z*(%): 224, 189, 105(100), 77, 71, 51, 27.



1-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (**3c**)^[3]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_{f1} = 0.3$, $R_{f2} = 0.25$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): v_{max} 1717, 1665, 1590, 1570, 1449, 1354, 1283, 1209, 1167, 1068, 1001, 968, 923, 806, 761, 690cm⁻¹; **One diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.03-8.00(m, 2H), 7.63-7.57(m, 1H), 7.51-7.46(m, 2H), 4.80-4.72(m, 1H), 4.55(d, J = 9.3Hz, 1H), 3.92-3.73(m, 2H), 2.28(s, 3H), 2.22-2.12(m, 1H), 1.95-1.85(m, 2H), 1.50-1.38(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 8.05-7.99(m, 2H), 7.62-7.54(m, 1H), 7.52-7.42(m, 2H), 4.73-4.65(m, 1H), 4.60(d, J = 8.7Hz, 1H), 3.85-3.67(m, 2H), 2.17(s, 3H), 2.00-1.89(m, 2H), 1.69-1.60(m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 202.0, 194.9, 137.0, 133.6, 128.8, 128.7, 78.1, 68.7, 67.9, 29.9, 29.2, 25.5.



3-oxo-N,3-diphenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propanamide (**3d**). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:2, $R_{f1} = 0.4$, $R_{f2} = 0.35$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): ν_{max} 1686, 1648, 1594, 1545, 1495, 1441, 1325, 1213, 1180, 1064, 1001, 902, 757, 690cm⁻¹; **One diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.81(s, 1H), 8.06-8.02(m, 2H), 7.63-7.46(m, 5H), 7.34-7.25(m, 2H), 7.13-7.08(m, 1H), 4.61-4.51(m, 2H), 3.92-3.71(m, 2H), 2.20-2.11(m, 1H), 2.04-1.88(m, 2H), 1.76-1.68(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 199.1, 164.3, 137.5, 137.1, 134.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 124.5, 119.8, 80.7, 68.4, 60.9, 29.4, 25.4; **The other diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.93(s, 1H), 8.04(d, *J* = 8.1Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.46(m, 5H), 7.32-7.26(m, 2H), 7.11-7.06(m, 1H), 4.61-4.53(m, 2H), 3.97-3.82(m, 2H), 2.19-2.09(m, 1H), 1.97-1.86(m, 2H), 1.75-1.64(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 197.0, 165.5, 137.7, 136.6, 133.9, 128.9, 128.8, 124.3, 119.9, 78.7, 68.7, 60.4, 30.3, 25.4; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 309(M⁺), 291, 239, 204, 147, 120, 119, 105(100), 93, 77, 71, 66, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₉NO₃; 309.1365; found: 309.1367.



Ethyl 3-oxo-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)butanoate (3e)^[4]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.3$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 2:1. Two diasteromers: ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 4.48-4.40(m, 3H), 4.28-4.15(m, 6H), 3.89-3.71(m, 6H), 3.58(d, J = 8.7Hz, 1H), 3.51(d, J = 9.3Hz, 2H), 2.31(s, 6H), 2.25(s, 3H), 2.21-2.10(m, 3H), 1.96-1.83(m, 9H), 1.32-1.24(m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 201.9, 201.3, 167.8, 167.4, 76.9, 76.6, 68.0, 67.9, 65.2, 64.9, 61.4, 61.2, 30.2, 29.8, 29.7, 29.6, 25.4, 25.2, 25.1, 13.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 200(M⁺), 199, 157, 127, 111, 85, 71(100), 43, 29.



Tert-butyl 3-oxo-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)butanoate (**3f**). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.4$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 2:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): v_{max} 1740, 1711, 1362, 1254, 1147, 1064, 844cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 4.44-4.35(m, 3H), 3.87-3.71(m, 6H), 3.48(d, J = 8.7Hz, 1H), 3.41(d, J = 9.6Hz, 2H), 2.29(s, 6H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.20-2.11(m, 6H), 1.95-1.86(m, 6H), 1.48(s, 9H), 1.45(s, 18H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 202.3, 201.9, 167.0, 166.6, 82.1, 82.0, 79.9, 77.4, 76.6, 68.1, 67.9, 66.2, 66.1, 30.2, 29.7, 29.4, 27.9, 27.8, 25.5, 25.2; MS (EI) m/z (%):182, 172, 129, 127, 113, 111, 97, 85, 71(100), 57, 43, 41; MS(ESI) m/z(%): 228.1(M⁺); HRMS calcd for C₁₂H₂₀O₄: 228.1362; found: 228.1361.



Allyl 3-oxo-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)butanoate (3g). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.2$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1744, 1715, 1648, 1354, 1267, 1151, 1064, 985, 918cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 5.98-5.83(m, 2H), 5.38-5.24(m, 4H), 4.67(d, J = 5.7Hz, 2H), 4.62(d, J = 5.7Hz, 2H), 4.49-4.41(m, 2H), 3.88-3.71(m, 4H), 3.62(d, J = 8.4Hz, 1H), 3.55(d, J = 9.6Hz, 1H), 2.31(s, 3H), 2.25(s, 3H), 2.24-2.12(m, 2H), 1.96-1.84(m, 4H), 1.68-1.53(m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 201.8, 201.2, 167.5, 167.1, 131.4, 131.2, 118.9, 118.7, 76.9, 76.6, 68.1, 67.9, 65.9, 65.8, 65.1, 64.8, 30.3, 29.9, 29.8, 29.7, 25.4, 25.2; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 212(M⁺), 211, 181, 169, 153, 149, 127, 111, 71(100), 43, 41; HRMS calcd for C₁₁H₁₆O₄: 212.1049; found: 212.1023.



Ethyl 2-(1,4-dioxan-2-yl)-3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate (**3h**). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.3). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): v_{max} 1735, 1682, 1590, 1445, 1271, 1205, 1113, 993, 881cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 7.96-7.91 (m, 4H), 7.55-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 4H), 4.46-4.36 (m, 4H), 4.15-4.01 (m, 4H), 3.85-3.25 (m, 12H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.2Hz, 3H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 192.8; 191.8, 167.2, 166.5, 136.7, 135.9, 133.9, 133.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 74.0, 73.9, 69.4, 69.2, 66.8, 66.7, 66.4, 66.3, 61.7, 61.6, 56.7, 55.7, 13.8, 13.7; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 278(M⁺), 276, 235, 232, 205, 192, 173, 149, 147, 105(100), 86, 77, 73, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₅: 278.1154; found: 278.1153.



2-(1,4-dioxan-2-yl)-1,3-diphenylpropane-1,3-dione (**3i**). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.2$). IR (neat): v_{max} 1694, 1669, 1590, 1441, 1279, 1205, 1118, 985, 910cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.00-7.91(m, 4H), 7.59-7.38(m, 6H), 5.42 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.70(ddd, J = 9.3, 9.3, 2.4Hz, 1H), 4.00(dd, J = 11.4, 2.4Hz, 1H), 3.79-3.57(m, 4H), 3.41(dd, J = 11.1, 9.6Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.8, 192.8, 136.9, 136.2, 133.8, 133.5, 128.8, 128.7, 75.6, 69.9, 67.1, 66.5, 59.4; MS (EI) m/z (%): 310(M⁺), 308, 224, 205, 171, 105(100), 86, 77, 51; MS(ESI) m/z(%):310.1(M⁺); HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₈O₄: 310.1205; found: 310.1195.



Ethyl 2-(1,4-dioxan-2-yl)-3-oxobutanoate (3j). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.2). The ratio of two diasteromers is 2:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1744, 1715, 1441, 1358, 1275, 1180, 1113, 1080, 1026, 885cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 4.33-4.15(m, 9H), 3.94-3.86(m, 3H), 3.79-3.54(m, 15H), 3.39(d, J = 11.1Hz, 2H), 3.36(d, J = 11.4Hz, 1H), 2.29(s, 6H), 2.25(s, 3H), 1.32-1.24(m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 201.0, 200.2, 167.1, 166.5, 73.6, 73.0, 69.3, 69.0, 66.7, 66.6, 66.4, 66.3, 61.9, 61.7, 61.6, 61.1, 29.9, 29.8, 14.0, 13.9; MS (EI) m/z (%): 216(M⁺), 214, 197, 174, 173, 145, 130, 116, 101, 87, 86(100), 85, 73, 43; HRMS calcd for C₁₀H₁₆O₅: 216.0998; found: 216.0997.



Ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenyl-2-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)propanoate (**3k**)^[1]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_{f1} = 0.4$, $R_{f2} = 0.3$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **One diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.03-8.00(m, 2H), 7.59-7.54(m, 1H), 7.50-7.43(m, 2H), 4.47(d, J = 9.3Hz, 1H); 4.25-4.10(m, 3H), 3.86-3.82(m, 1H), 3.43(ddd, J = 11.4, 11.4, 3.0Hz, 1H), 1.87-1.79(m, 2H), 1.60-1.44(m, 4H), 1.18(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.7, 167.1, 137.1, 133.3, 128.7, 128.5, 76.6, 68.7, 61.4, 59.8, 29.7, 25.7, 23.1, 14.0; **The other diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.06-8.03(m, 2H), 7.62-7.57(m, 1H), 7.51-7.44(m, 2H), 4.46(d, J = 9.6Hz, 1H); 4.25-4.10(m, 3H), 4.03-3.99(m, 1H), 3.51(ddd, J = 11.1, 11.1, 3.0Hz, 1H), 1.81-1.50(m, 6H), 1.18(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 192.6, 167.8, 136.5, 133.7, 128.7, 128.6, 77.1, 68.9, 61.5, 60.7, 29.8, 25.7, 23.1, 14.0; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 230, 204, 203, 192, 171, 147, 125, 105(100), 77, 69, 57, 41, 29.



Ethyl 2-(1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran-1-yl)-3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate (**3l**). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.3$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): v_{max} 1735, 1682, 1590, 1445, 1279, 1196, 1035, 1018, 748cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.03-7.97(m, 4H), 7.59-7.12(m, 14H), 6.18(d, J = 9.3Hz, 1H), 6.15(d, J = 8.4Hz, 1H), 5.15-4.98(m, 4H), 4.73(d, J = 8.1Hz, 1H), 4.67(d, J = 9.0Hz, 1H), 4.20(q, J = 7.2Hz, 2H), 4.14(q, J = 7.2Hz, 2H), 1.19(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H), 1.13(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.1, 193.0, 167.1, 167.0, 139.5, 139.4, 139.3, 139.2, 136.4, 133.8, 133.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 127.5, 127.4, 122.7, 122.5, 121.1, 121.0, 82.8, 82.7, 72.6, 72.5, 61.7, 61.5, 61.2, 60.0, 13.9, 13.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 310(M⁺), 237, 205, 171, 149, 119, 118(100), 105, 90, 89, 77, 63, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₈O₄: 310.1205; found: 310.1207.



Ethyl 2-(isochroman-1-yl)-3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate (3m). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.3). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1740, 1682, 1590, 1491, 1445, 1362, 1275, 1205, 1147, 1088, 1001, 748, 686cm⁻¹; ⁻¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.00-7.90(m, 4H), 7.58-7.49(m, 2H), 7.46-7.38(m, 4H); 7.18-7.01(m, 8H), 5.76(d, J = 7.8Hz, 1H), 5.75(d, J = 7.8Hz, 1H), 4.93(d, J = 7.8Hz, 1H), 4.88(d, J = 6.9Hz, 1H), 4.20-4.08(m, 4H), 3.72-3.61(m, 2H), 3.56-3.45(m, 2H), 3.01-2.54(m, 4H), 1.15(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H), 1.13(t, J=7.2Hz, 3H); ⁻¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.2, 193.0, 168.0, 167.0, 137.2, 136.4, 135.8, 135.6, 134.3, 133.9, 133.5, 133.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.2, 125.1, 124.9, 74.5, 73.8, 63.3, 63.2, 61.6, 61.4, 61.3, 60.3, 28.7, 28.5, 13.8, 13.8; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 324(M⁺), 279, 251, 219, 173, 149, 133, 105(100), 77, 51; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₂₀O₄: 324.1362; found: 324.1360.



Ethyl 2-benzoyl-3-ethoxybutanoate (3n). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.4$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 2:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): v_{max} 2980, 1735, 1677, 1603, 1445, 1362, 1217, 1093, cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.07-7.88(m, 6H), 7.61-7.54(m, 3H), 7.50-7.41(m, 6H), 4.49(d, J = 9.6Hz, 1H), 4.48(d, J = 9.3Hz, 2H), 4.31(qd, J = 9.1, 6.0Hz, 2H), 4.28(dq, J = 9.1, 6.0Hz, 1H), 4.21-4.11(m, 6H), 3.73-3.18(m, 6H), 1.31(d, J = 6.0Hz, 6H), 1.26-1.10(m, 12H), 1.06(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H), 0.98(t, J = 7.2Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.1, 167.5, 143.4, 137.3, 133.7, 133.6, 133.5, 133.2, 132.7, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 74.6, 74.5, 64.9, 64.7, 63.7, 61.6, 61.4, 61.3, 61.1, 61.0, 60.6, 55.5, 45.9, 39.3, 18.2, 18.1, 16.4, 15.4, 15.3, 15.2, 15.1, 15.0, 14.0, 13.9, 13.8, 13.7, 13.1; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 264(M⁺), 220, 191, 173, 159, 144, 115, 105(100), 100, 77, 73, 45. HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₂₀O₄: 264.1362; found: 264.1361.



2-(1-ethoxyethyl)-1,3-diphenylpropane-1,3-dione (**3o**)^[5]. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.3$). ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.02-7.93(m, 4H), 7.58-7.50(m, 2H), 7.47-7.37(m, 4H), 5.46(d, J = 9.0Hz, 1H), 4.51(dq, J = 9.0, 6.0Hz, 1H), 3.59(dq, J = 9.3, 9.3Hz, 1H), 3.30(dq, J = 9.0, 9.0Hz, 1H), 1.28(d, J = 6.0Hz, 3H), 0.95(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.9, 193.8, 137.5, 136.6, 133.5, 133.1, 128.7, 128.7, 128.5, 76.0, 64.9, 63.6, 19.0, 15.1.



 $(3p)^{[6]}$. 2-benzoyl-3-methoxy-3-phenylpropanoate Isolated by Ethyl flash column chromatography(ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_{f1} = 0.3$, $R_{f2} = 0.25$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 2:1. One diasteromer: ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.09(d, J=8.7Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.17(m, 8H), 5.07(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H), 4.79(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H), 3.86(q, J = 6.9Hz, 2H), 3.14(s, 3H), 0.93(t, J = 0.9Hz, 2H), 3.14(t, J = 0.9Hz, 3H), 3.14(t, J = 0.9Hz, 3H), 3.14(t, J = 0.6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 192.8, 166.3, 138.4, 137.0, 133.5, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 82.2, 61.5, 61.3, 56.8, 13.7; The other diasteromer: ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 7.83(d, J = 8.7Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.15(m, 8H), 5.06(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H), 4.82(d, J = 10.2Hz, 1H); 4.31-4.17(m, 2H), 3.22(s, 3H), 1.24(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 192.1, 167.3, 138.4, 136.2, 133.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.9, 82.2, 62.3, 61.7, 56.8, 14.1; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 294, 280, 251, 239, 207, 178, 161, 131, 121, 105(100), 91, 77, 51, 29.



Ethyl 2-benzoyl-3-(benzyloxy)-3-phenylpropanoate (3q). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.4). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1735, 1677, 1445, 1292, 1205, 1123, 1084, 1059, 1022, 740cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.11-8.08(m, 2H), 7.85-7.82(m, 2H), 7.60-7.17(m, 24H), 7.07-7.04(m, 2H), 5.32(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H); 5.31(d, J = 10.2Hz, 1H), 4.93(d, J = 10.2Hz, 1H), 4.88(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H), 4.38(q, J = 12.0Hz, 2H), 4.32(s, 2H), 4.19(q, J = 7.2Hz, 2H), 3.87(dq, J = 7.2, 1.8Hz, 2H), 1.18(t, J= 7.2Hz, 3H), 0.93(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 192.8, 192.0, 167.3, 166.3, 138.5, 137.8, 137.7, 137.1, 136.2, 133.5, 133.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 80.4, 80.3, 70.9, 70.7, 62.3, 61.6, 61.5, 61.3, 14.0, 13.6; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 297, 281, 251, 207, 178, 146, 105(100), 91, 77, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₄(M⁺-CH₂Ph): 297.1127; found: 297.1124.



Ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrothiophen-2-yl)propanoate (3r). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_{f1} = 0.45, R_{f2} = 0.4). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. **Two diasteromers:** IR (neat): ν_{max} 1735, 1682, 1596, 1447, 1367, 1278, 1212, 1175, 1159, 1098, 1026, 1001, 984, 701, 683cm⁻¹; **One diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.08-8.02(m, 2H), 7.64-7.58(m, 1H), 7.56-7.45(m, 2H), 4.47(d, J = 10.5Hz, 1H), 4.30-4.10(m, 3H), 2.94-2.82(m, 2H), 2.18-1.92(m, 3H), 1.55-1.46(m, 1H), 1.18(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.0, 168.0, 136.4, 133.8, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 61.7, 61.6, 47.5, 35.0, 32.3, 30.1, 13.9; **The other diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.07-8.02(m, 2H), 7.61-7.54(m, 1H), 7.52-7.44(m, 2H), 4.47(d, J = 9.9Hz, 1H), 4.24-4.09(m, 3H), 2.91-2.81(m, 2H), 2.23-1.93(m, 4H), 1.16(t, J = 6.9Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.2, 167.8, 136.1, 133.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 62.3, 61.6, 46.6, 34.5, 32.3, 30.2, 13.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 278(M⁺), 233, 205, 192, 173, 149, 127, 105(100), 101, 85, 77, 58; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₃S: 278.0977; found: 278.0976.



1,3-diphenyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propane-1,3-dione (**3**s). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.4). IR (neat): v_{max} 1722, 1694, 1663, 1597, 1578, 1447, 1276, 1228, 1198, 1180, 979, 732, 715, 689cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.04-7.96(m, 4H), 7.60-7.37(m, 6H), 5.36(d, J = 10.2Hz, 1H), 4.44-4.37(m, 1H), 2.93-2.81(m, 2H), 2.69-2.57(m, 1H), 2.23-1.86(m, 2H), 1.70-1.58(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.3, 194.2, 136.3, 136.2, 133.8,

133.4, 128.9, 128.6, 65.6, 48.5, 35.0, 32.2, 30.2; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 310(M⁺), 224, 205(100), 186, 147, 105, 85, 77, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₈O₂S: 310.1028; found: 310.1030.



1-phenyl-2-(tetrahydrothiophen-2-yl)butane-1,3-dione (3t). Isolated bv flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_{f1} = 0.4$, $R_{f2} = 0.35$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1721, 1671, 1596, 1447, 1355, 1278, 1208, 1182, 1156, 969, 933, 845, 817, 690 cm⁻¹; **One diasteromer:** ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.06-8.02(m, 2H), 7.65-7.60(m, 1H), 7.54-7.38(m, 2H), 4.60(d, J = 10.8Hz, 1H), 4.31-4.22(m, 1H), 2.92-2.87(m, 2H), 2.19(s, 3H), 2.15-1.86(m, 3H), 1.52-1.43(m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 201.9, 194.9, 134.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.6, 127.0, 70.7, 47.6, 35.3, 32.5, 30.0, 28.3; The other diasteromer: ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.04-8.00(m, 2H), 7.63-7.57(m, 1H), 7.54-7.42(m, 2H), 4.59(d, J = 10.8Hz, 1H), 4.33-4.24(m, 1H), 2.86-2.82(m, 2H), 2.14(s, 3H), 2.11-1.93(m, 3H), 1.71-1.62(m, 1H); 13 C NMR (ppm) δ 202.5, 194.8, 133.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 127.0, 72.1, 46.8, 34.4, 32.2, 30.2, 27.7; MS (EI) m/z (%): $248(M^+)$, 223, 205(100), 171, 149, 143, 127, 105, 85, 77, 43; HRMS calcd for $C_{14}H_{16}O_2S$: 248.0871; found: 248.0872.



Ethyl 3-oxo-2-(tetrahydrothiophen-2-yl)butanoate $(3u)^{[8]}$. Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.5). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 2948, 1740, 1715, 1443, 1358, 1270, 1205, 1172, 1020cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 4.25-4.16(m, 4H), 4.03-3.91(m, 2H), 3.60(d, J = 10.5Hz, 2×1H), 2.86-2.82(m, 4H), 2.27(s, 3H), 2.26(s, 3H), 2.21-1.91(m, 6H), 1.68-1.53(m, 2H), 1.29(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H), 1.28(t, J =

7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 201.5, 201.3, 167.9, 167.7, 67.4, 66.9, 61.6, 61.5, 46.0, 45.8, 34.7, 34.5, 32.3, 32.1, 30.1, 29.9, 29.6, 29.2, 14.0, 13.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 216(M⁺), 190, 173, 143, 127(100), 99, 87, 85, 59, 43; HRMS calcd for C₁₀H₁₆O₃S: 216.0820; found: 216.0822.



Ethyl 2-((methyl(phenyl)amino)methyl)-3-oxo-3-phenylpropanoate (3v). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, R_f = 0.5). IR (neat): v_{max} 2987, 1733, 1684, 1599, 1506, 1448, 1328, 1222, 1118, 1028, 988, 945, 744, 679cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 7.94-7.91(m, 2H), 7.58-7.54(m, 1H), 7.46-7.40(m, 2H), 7.26-7.21(m, 2H), 6.76-6.70(m, 3H), 4.77(t, J = 6.6Hz, 1H), 4.17-4.02(m, 4H), 2.90(s, 3H), 1.15(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 194.6, 168.7, 148.2, 136.3, 133.7, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 116.9, 112.4, 61.7, 52.2, 52.0, 39.2, 13.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 311 (M⁺), 207, 175, 158, 133, 107, 105(100), 77; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃: 311.1521; found: 311.1519.

General procedure for products 3a-D: To a mixture of THF-d₈ (1 mL) and Fe₂(CO)₉ (9.2 mg, 0.025 mmol), ethyl benzoylacetate 2a (0.25 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. *tert*-Butyl peroxide (0.139 mL, 0.75 mmol) was added dropwise into the mixture. The resulting mixture was stirred under reflux condition for 10 h. The resulting reaction mixture was mixed with few silica gel and concentrated, then purified by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:20). The fraction with an $R_f = 0.3$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6) was collected and to give the desired product 3a-D.



Ethyl 3-oxo-3-phenyl-2-(2,3,3,4,4,5,5,-D-tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propanoate (3a-D). Isolated by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6, $R_f = 0.3$). The ratio of two diasteromers is 1:1. Two diasteromers: IR (neat): v_{max} 1737, 1682, 1597, 1448, 1368, 1298, 1232, 1184, 1052, 1033, 1001, 758, 706, 690, 685cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (ppm) δ 8.05-8.01(m, 4H), 7.62-7.55(m, 2H), 7.51-7.44(m, 4H), 4.45(s, 1H), 4.40(s, 1H), 4.21-4.11(m, 4H), 1.18(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H), 1.17(t, J = 7.2Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (ppm) δ 193.6, 193.3, 167.9, 167.5, 136.8, 136.3, 133.7, 133.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 61.6, 61.4, 60.0, 59.2, 13.9, 13.8; MS(EI) m/z(%): 269(M⁺), 250, 223, 196, 164, 117, 105(100), 77, 51; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₁D₇O₄: 269.1644; found: 269.1645.

General procedure for experiment of KIE: To a mixture of THF (0.5 mL), THF-d₈ (0.5 mL) and Fe₂(CO)₉ (9.2 mg, 0.025 mmol), ethyl benzoylacetate **2a** (0.25 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. *tert*-Butyl peroxide (0.139 mL, 0.75 mmol) was added dropwise into the mixture. The resulting mixture was stirred under reflux condition for 10 h. The resulting reaction mixture was mixed with few silica gel and concentrated, then purified by flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:20). The fraction with an R_f= 0.3 (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:6) was collected and to give the desired product **3a** and **3a-D**.



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2) Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra for all compounds.



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