

氧化锌促进的醛与 $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{Br}^-]$ 的 Wittig 偕二氟烯基化反应

于蛟 林锦鸿 肖吉昌\*

(中国科学院上海有机化学研究所 有机氟化学重点实验室 中国科学院大学 上海 200032)

**摘要** 以氧化锌为碱实现了醛与二氟甲基磷盐 $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{Br}^-]$ 的 Wittig 偕二氟烯基化反应。虽然磷盐中二氟甲基上的氢原子具有一定酸性,但是碱不一定就会与其发生中和反应而使磷盐转化为叶立德。碱也有可能进攻磷原子而产生具有亲核性的二氟甲基物种,从而发生亲核二氟甲基化。以氧化锌为碱可抑制二氟甲基化,有利于 Wittig 反应;此外,氧化锌及其产生的锌盐都可经简单过滤而除去,方便产物纯化。

**关键词** Wittig; 偕二氟烯基化; 醛; 二氟甲基磷盐; 氧化锌

ZnO-Promoted Wittig *gem*-Difluoroolefination of Aldehydes with  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{Br}^-]$ Yu, Jiao<sup>a</sup> Lin, Jinhong<sup>a</sup> Xiao, Jichang\*

(Key Laboratory of Organofluorine Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032)

**Abstract** Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehydes with difluoromethyl phosphonium salt ( $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{Br}^-$ ) by using zinc oxide as a base is described. Although the proton in the  $\text{CF}_2\text{H}$  group is acidic and a base could easily lead to its deprotonation to form ylide ( $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2^-$ ), the attack of the base at the positive phosphorus atom may also take place to produce a nucleophilic  $[\text{HCF}_2^-]$  equivalent, and then nucleophilic difluoromethylation instead of Wittig reaction would occur. The use of ZnO as the base favored the Wittig reaction and the nucleophilic difluoromethylation was not observed. Furthermore, the excessive ZnO and  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  salts produced from ZnO could be easily removed by filtration, which may be convenient for the purification process.

**Keywords** Wittig; *gem*-difluoroolefination; aldehydes; difluoromethyl phosphonium salt; zinc oxide

## 1 Introduction

Due to the unique properties of fluorine element such as strong electronegativity and small atomic radius, the incorporation of fluorine atom(s) or fluorine-containing group into organic molecules, especially pharmaceuticals, may result in profound modification of their physicochemical properties, including lipophilicity, membrane permeability, and binding selectivity to target receptors in the body.<sup>[1]</sup> *gem*-Difluorovinyl group is a valuable fluorine-containing moiety and *gem*-difluoroolefin derivatives have been considered as potential enzyme inhibitors.<sup>[2]</sup> Besides, the *gem*-difluorovinyl group is very electrophilic

and could be conveniently transformed further to afford other useful products.<sup>[3]</sup> Consequently, significant efforts have been devoted to the development of efficient methods for the synthesis of *gem*-difluoroolefins.<sup>[4]</sup> Many strategies have been well established, such as  $\beta$ -elimination of functionalized difluoromethyl compounds,<sup>[5]</sup> transition metal-catalyzed coupling with *gem*-difluorovinyl-containing reagents,<sup>[3a,4c,6]</sup> and *gem*-difluoroolefination of carbonyl compounds including Julia reaction,<sup>[7]</sup> Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction<sup>[8]</sup> and Wittig reaction.<sup>[9]</sup> Obviously, Wittig reaction is one of the most attractive approaches due to its high efficiency and mild reaction conditions.

Phosphonium ylide ( $\text{R}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2^-$ ) is a key intermediate in

\* Corresponding author. E-mail: jchxiao@sioc.ac.cn

Received June 15, 2018; revised July 6, 2018; published online July 24, 2018.

Dedicated to Professor Qingyun Chen on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Project supported by the National Basic Research Program of China (973 Program, No. 2015CB931903), the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Nos. 21421002, 21472222, 21502214, 21672242), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (Nos. XDA02020105, XDA02020106), and the Key Research Program of Frontier Sciences (CAS) (No. QYZDJSSW-SLH049).

国家重点基础研究发展计划(973 计划, No. 2015CB931903)、国家自然科学基金(Nos. 21421002, 21472222, 21502214, 21672242)、中国科学院(Nos. XDA02020105, XDA02020106)、中国科学院前沿科学重点研究计划(No. QYZDJSSW-SLH049)资助项目。

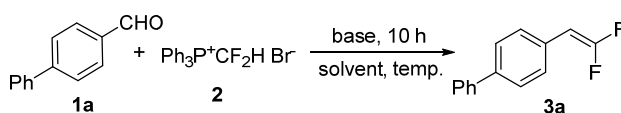
the Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination reaction. It can be generated from difluoromethylene phosphonium salts such as  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{CO}_2^-]$ ,<sup>[10]</sup>  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{X}^-]$ <sup>[11]</sup> or  $[\text{R}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{Br}\cdot\text{X}^-]$ ,<sup>[12]</sup> or generated by a reaction of difluorocarbene with a trivalent phosphine.<sup>[9b,9c,13]</sup>  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{CO}_2^-$ , an efficient phosphonium ylide reagent developed by us recently,<sup>[10b,13,14]</sup> could readily undergo decarboxylation under warming conditions to generate the phosphonium ylide. We found that decarboxylation of  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{CO}_2^-$  under acidic conditions could afford difluoromethyl phosphonium salts  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{X}^-]$ .<sup>[15]</sup> It is reasonable to conceive that phosphonium ylide can be produced from this difluoromethyl salt via deprotonation by a base, and Wittig reaction of aldehydes would then be easily achieved. Interestingly, our investigation revealed that aldehydes may react with the phosphonium salt by a Wittig reaction process<sup>[11]</sup> or a nucleophilic difluoromethylation process,<sup>[15]</sup> depending on the base used. A base does not necessarily deprotonate the phosphonium salt to form ylide. The attack of the base at the phosphorus atom may occur to generate a nucleophilic  $[\text{HCF}_2^-]$  equivalent and thus the difluoromethylation instead of Wittig reaction would take place.<sup>[15]</sup> 1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) was found to be a suitable base for the Wittig reaction path.<sup>[11]</sup> But the use of this organic base may result in an inconvenient purification process since a tedious procedure such as flash column chromatography or extraction may be needed to remove excessive DBU and its protonated form. We found that zinc oxide (ZnO) could act as an efficient base to achieve Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehydes. Nucleophilic difluoromethylation was suppressed and both excessive ZnO and  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  salts produced from ZnO could be easily removed by filtration. The preliminary results are described herein.

## 2 Results and discussion

Various metal oxides were screened in our initial attempts at the Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehyde **1a** with phosphonium salt **2** (Table 1, Entries 1~6) and it was found that ZnO could well promote the reaction (Entry 6). Unlike ZnO, other zinc salts such as  $\text{ZnCl}_2$  and  $\text{Zn}(\text{OH})_2$  were not effective (Entries 7~9). A brief survey of the reaction solvent (Entries 10~13) revealed that a good yield could be obtained in a polar solvent such as *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) or *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (DMAc) (Entries 6 and 7). The reaction temperature has an important effect. Lowering the reaction temperature to 80 °C dramatically suppressed the desired process (Entry 14). A comparable yield was obtained at 90 °C or 100 °C (Entries 15~16), and further elevating to 140 °C led to the decrease in the yield (Entry 17). ZnO has to be used in the same equivalent with that of salt **2**. Otherwise the yield would be decreased (Entry 18 vs. Entry 6). Three equivalent of phosphonium salt **2** was necessary. Low yields would be obtained by decreasing the loading of this salt (Entries 19~20). To our delight, the presence of 4 Å mo-

lecular sieves gave the desired product in 91% yield (Entry 21). No reaction was observed without the presence of ZnO, reflecting the important role of ZnO (Entry 22).

**Table 1** Screening reaction conditions<sup>a</sup>

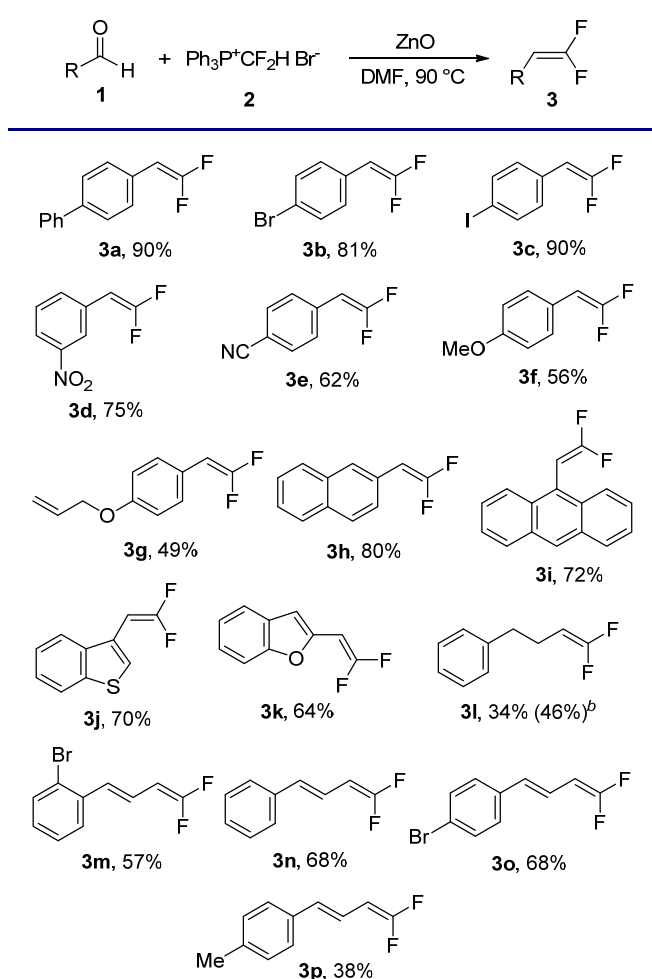


Entry	Base	<b>1a</b> : <b>2</b> : base <sup>b</sup>	Solvent	Temp./°C	Yield <sup>c</sup> /%
1	NaO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	13
2	MgO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	ND
3	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	ND
4	CaO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	ND
5	CuO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	ND
6	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	70
7	ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	ND
8	Zn(OH) <sub>2</sub>	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	26
9	ZnF <sub>2</sub>	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	120	10
10	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMAc	120	70
11	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	120	68
12	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	Tetrahydrofuran	120	38
13	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	Toluene	120	19
14	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	80	36
15	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	90	74
16	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	100	74
17	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	140	63
18	ZnO	1 : 3 : 1	DMF	120	54
19	ZnO	1 : 1 : 1	DMF	120	21
20	ZnO	1 : 2 : 2	DMF	120	46
21 <sup>d</sup>	ZnO	1 : 3 : 3	DMF	90	91
22	—	1 : 3 : 0	DMF	90	ND

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), salt **2**, base and solvent (1.5 mL) at the indicated temperature for 10 h; <sup>b</sup> Molar ratio of **1a** : **2** : base; <sup>c</sup> The yields were determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy; <sup>d</sup> 15 h of reaction time was used, and 300 mg 4 Å molecular sieves were added.

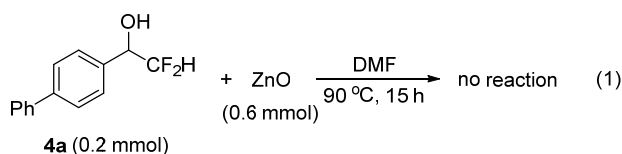
With the optimized reaction conditions in hand (Table 1, Entry 18), then the substrate scope of the Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehydes was investigated. As shown in Table 2, electron-deficient and electron-neutral aryl aldehydes could all be converted smoothly into desired products in good yields (**3a**~**3e**, **3h**~**3k**). In the case of electron-rich aryl aldehydes, moderate yields were obtained (**3f**~**3g**), probably due to the deactivation of the carbonyl group. Various functional groups were tolerated, such as halide, nitro, cyanide and terminal vinyl groups. Compared with aryl aldehydes, alkyl aldehydes showed lower reactivity and the expected product was obtained in a low yield (**3l**).  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated aldehydes could also be well transformed into the final products in moderate yields (**3m**~**3p**).

Since we have previously found that aldehyde may react with phosphonium salt **2** to afford difluoromethyl alco-

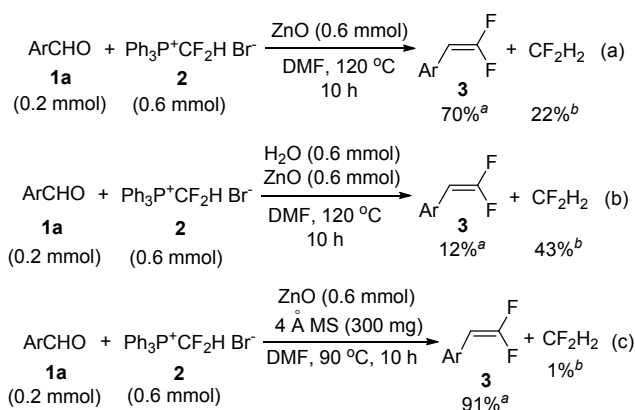
**Table 2** Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehydes

<sup>a</sup> **1** (1 mmol), salt **2** (3 mmol), ZnO (3 mmol) and 4 Å molecular sieves (1.5 g) in DMF (7.5 mL) at 90 °C for 15 h. Isolated yields. <sup>b</sup> The yield in parenthesis was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy.

hols,<sup>[15]</sup> it is reasonable to question that if olefins are generated from difluoromethyl alcohols. It was found that difluoromethyl alcohol **4a** remained intact in the presence of ZnO, indicating that the path via alcohols could be excluded (Eq. 1). Therefore, the reaction should proceed via phosphonium ylide  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2^-$  formed by deprotonation of phosphonium salt **2** with ZnO. Indeed, salt **2** could react with ZnO and many unknown fluoro-species were detected by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy (Eq. 2). The reason for generating unknown species is that ylide  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2^-$  is highly active and would readily undergo side reactions without the presence of a substrate.



Since difluoromethyl phosphonium salt **2** was deprotonated by ZnO, the question arises as to whether the hydroxide in  $\text{Zn}(\text{OH})_2$  or  $\text{ZnBr}(\text{OH})$  produced from ZnO was also a base for deprotonation. We believe that the hydroxide does not act as a base taking into account the following experimental evidence. Firstly, if it is a base, ZnO would not be needed to be used in stoichiometric amount compared with salt **2**. But a decreased loading of ZnO led to the decrease in the yield (Table 1, Entry 15 vs. Entry 6). Secondly, our previous observation of nucleophilic reaction with phosphonium salts indicates that hydroxide anion may prefer to attack the positive phosphonium atom.<sup>[15,16]</sup> This process would generate a nucleophilic  $[\text{HCF}_2^-]$  equivalent, which may be quenched by water to produce  $\text{H}_2\text{CF}_2$ . Indeed, although 70% yield could be obtained in the absence of 4 Å molecular sieves, a large amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{CF}_2$  was also formed (Scheme 1a), which may be because trace amount of water is present in the reaction system. The external addition of water almost completely suppressed the Wittig reaction, and  $\text{H}_2\text{CF}_2$  was produced as a major byproduct (Scheme 1b). Water might be favorable for dissolving zinc salt  $[\text{Zn}(\text{OH})_2]$  and  $\text{ZnBr}(\text{OH})$ , and then the attack of hydroxide at positive phosphonium turned out to be a dominate path. Almost no  $\text{H}_2\text{CF}_2$  was observed in the presence of 4 Å molecular sieves (Scheme 1c), further supporting that hydroxide would not protonate phosphonium salt **2**.

**Scheme 1** Effects of water

<sup>a</sup> The yield was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy based on aldehyde **1a** as the limiting reagent; <sup>b</sup> the yield was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopy based on salt **2** as the limiting reagent.

### 3 Conclusions

In summary, we have developed ZnO-promoted Wittig *gem*-difluoroolefination of aldehydes with phosphonium salt  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{P}^+\text{CF}_2\text{H}\cdot\text{Br}^-]$ . Although the phosphonium salt may act as a  $[\text{HCF}_2^-]$  equivalent to attack aldehyde, this nucleophilic difluoromethylation process was suppressed by using ZnO as the base. The excessive ZnO and Zn<sup>II</sup> salts produced from ZnO could be easily removed by filtration, which may be convenient for the purification process.

## 4 Experimental section

### 4.1 General information

$^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were detected on a 500, 400 or 300 MHz NMR spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained on GC-MS or LC-MS (ESI). High resolution mass data were recorded on a high resolution mass spectrometer in the EI or ESI mode. The mass analyzer types for HRMS-EI, HRMS-ESI, and HRMSMALDI are time-of-flight, Fourier transform mass spectrometer, and Fourier transform mass spectrometer, respectively. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained commercially and used without further purification.

### 4.2 Typical procedure for the reaction of phosphonium salts with aldehyde (products 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e, 3h, 3i, 3l, 3m, 3n, 3o and 3p)

Into a 20 mL sealed tube were added aldehyde **1a** (1.0 mmol, 182.2 mg, 1.0 equiv.), phosphonium salts **2** (3 mmol, 1179.6 mg, 3 equiv.), ZnO (3 mmol, 244.2 mg, 3 equiv.), 4 Å molecular sieves (1.5 g) and DMF (7.5 mL) under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 10 h. After being cooled to room temperature, the mixture was directly subjected to flash column chromatography to afford the final product.

4-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**3a**):<sup>[11]</sup> 90% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.63~7.55 (m, 4H), 7.48~7.32 (m, 5H), 5.32 (dd,  $J=26.3$ , 3.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -81.87 (dd,  $J=30.6$ , 26.3 Hz, 1F), -83.81 (dd,  $J=30.6$ , 3.8 Hz, 1F).

1-Bromo-4-(2,2-difluorovinyl)benzene (**3b**):<sup>[11]</sup> 81% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.45 (d,  $J=8.5$ , 2H), 7.19 (d,  $J=8.5$ , 2H), 5.22 (dd,  $J=25.9$ , 3.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -81.28 (dd,  $J=29.2$ , 25.9 Hz, 1F), -83.12 (dd,  $J=29.2$ , 3.6 Hz, 1F).

1-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)-4-iodobenzene (**3c**):<sup>[17]</sup> 90% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.65 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 2H), 5.21 (dd,  $J=26.5$ , 3.5 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -80.83 (t,  $J=26.5$ , 1F), -82.75 (dd,  $J=26.5$ , 3.5 Hz, 1F).

4-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)benzonitrile (**3e**):<sup>[11]</sup> 62% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.63 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.34 (dd,  $J=25.6$ , 3.4 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -77.80 (dd,  $J=25.6$ , 20.4 Hz, 1F), -79.47 (dd,  $J=20.4$ , 3.4 Hz, 1F).

2-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)naphthalene (**3h**):<sup>[11]</sup> 80% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.83~7.72 (m, 4H), 7.51~7.41 (m, 3H), 5.43 (dd,  $J=26.2$ , 3.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -81.95 (dd,  $J=30.8$ , 26.2 Hz, 1F), -83.67 (dd,  $J=30.8$ , 3.8 Hz, 1F).

9-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)anthracene (**3i**): 72% yield. Yellow solid, m.p. 100.2~101.2 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.38 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d,  $J=8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.57~7.38 (m, 4H), 5.92 (d,  $J=26.4$  Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -81.72 (t,  $J=26.4$  Hz, 1F), -84.31 (d,  $J=26.4$  Hz, 1F);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,

$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 155.79 (dd,  $J=294.0$ , 290.6 Hz), 131.41 (s), 130.35 (s), 128.89 (s), 127.73 (s), 126.16 (s), 125.39 (s), 125.30 (s), 122.54 (dd,  $J=6.9$ , 2.3 Hz), 76.43 (dd,  $J=28.5$ , 20.1 Hz); IR (neat)  $\nu$ : 1732, 1316, 1302, 1193, 1179, 1070, 917, 931, 890, 872, 804, 788, 740, 727, 639, 528  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (EI) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  240.0751; found 240.0756.

(4,4-Difluorobut-3-en-1-yl)benzene (**3l**):<sup>[10b]</sup> 34% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.33~7.14 (m, 5H), 4.15 (dt,  $J=25.4$ , 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.34~2.22 (m, 2H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -89.04 (d,  $J=47.3$  Hz, 1F), -91.08 (dd,  $J=47.3$ , 25.4 Hz, 1F).

(*E*)-1-Bromo-2-(4,4-difluorobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene (**3m**): 57% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.59~7.43 (m, 2H), 7.31~7.20 (m, 1H), 7.12~7.03 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J=15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd,  $J=15.8$ , 10.9 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (dddd,  $J=23.7$ , 10.9, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -84.35 (t,  $J=23.7$  Hz, 1F), -85.82 (d,  $J=23.7$  Hz, 1F);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 157.13 (dd,  $J=298.0$ , 292.6 Hz), 136.64 (s), 133.09 (s), 129.64 (dd,  $J=11.7$ , 3.4 Hz), 128.84 (s), 127.54 (s), 126.49 (s), 123.58 (s), 120.56 (dd,  $J=4.7$ , 2.3 Hz), 82.94 (dd,  $J=27.9$ , 16.7 Hz); IR (neat)  $\nu$ : 2925, 1867, 1716, 1625, 1467, 1437, 1352, 1296, 1264, 1185, 1113, 1043, 1024, 961, 934, 847, 749  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (EI) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{BrF}_2$  243.9699; found 243.9697.

(*E*)-(4,4-Difluorobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene (**3n**):<sup>[11]</sup> 68% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.42~7.18 (m, 5H), 6.66 (dd,  $J=15.9$ , 10.9 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d,  $J=15.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.14 (dd,  $J=26.5$ , 10.9 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -85.32 (t,  $J=26.5$  Hz, 1F), -87.03 (d,  $J=26.5$  Hz, 1F).

(*E*)-1-Bromo-4-(4,4-difluorobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene (**3o**):<sup>[18]</sup> 68% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.43 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.24 (dd,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.64 (dd,  $J=15.9$ , 10.9 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d,  $J=15.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd,  $J=23.9$ , 10.9 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -84.59 (t,  $J=23.9$  Hz, 1F), -86.20 (d,  $J=23.9$  Hz, 1F).

(*E*)-1-(4,4-Difluorobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)-4-methylbenzene (**3p**):<sup>[18]</sup> 38% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.27 (d,  $J=8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J=8.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.60 (dd,  $J=15.9$ , 10.8 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d,  $J=15.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.11 (dd,  $J=24.3$ , 10.8 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : -85.82 (dd,  $J=27.8$ , 24.3 Hz, 1F), -87.61 (d,  $J=27.8$  Hz, 1F).

### 4.3 Typical procedure for the reaction of phosphonium salt with aldehydes (products 3d, 3f, 3g, 3j and 3k)

Into a 20 mL sealed tube were added aldehyde **1d** (1.0 mmol, 151.0 mg, 1.0 equiv.), phosphonium salt **2** (3 mmol, 1179.6 mg, 3 equiv.), ZnO (3 mmol, 244.2 mg, 3 equiv.), 4 Å molecular sieves (1.5 g) and DMF (7.5 mL) under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 10 h. The solid was removed by filtration. The filtrate was diluted with water (50 mL) and then the crude product was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (20



mL $\times$ 3). The combined organic layers were washed with water (20 mL $\times$ 3). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed by concentration under reduced pressure, and the residue was subjected to flash column chromatography to afford the final product.

1-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)-3-nitrobenzene (**3d**):<sup>[17]</sup> 75% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.39 (dd,  $J=24.5, 3.1$  Hz, 1H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -78.99 (t,  $J=24.5$  Hz, 1F), -80.73 (dd,  $J=24.5, 3.1$  Hz, 1F).

1-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (**3f**):<sup>[11]</sup> 56% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.25 (d,  $J=9.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 2H), 5.21 (dd,  $J=26.4, 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -84.69 (dd,  $J=36.8, 26.4$  Hz, 1F), -86.50 (dd,  $J=36.8, 3.9$  Hz, 1F).

1-(Allyloxy)-4-(2,2-difluorovinyl)benzene (**3g**):<sup>[10b]</sup> 49% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.24 (d,  $J=8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J=8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.10~5.99 (m, 1H), 5.41 (d,  $J=17.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.29 (d,  $J=10.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.20 (dd,  $J=26.4, 3.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.53 (dt,  $J=5.3, 1.5$  Hz, 2H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -84.55 (dd,  $J=36.5, 26.4$  Hz, 1F), -86.38 (dd,  $J=36.5, 3.8$  Hz, 1F).

3-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)benzo[b]thiophene (**3j**):<sup>[11]</sup> 70% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.86 (d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.44~7.34 (m, 2H), 5.59 (dd,  $J=25.7, 2.2$  Hz, 1H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -80.70 (t,  $J=25.7$  Hz, 1F), -84.54 (dd,  $J=25.7, 2.2$  Hz, 1F).

2-(2,2-Difluorovinyl)benzofuran (**3k**):<sup>[10b]</sup> 64% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.52 (d,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J=8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.28~7.17 (m, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 5.44 (dd,  $J=25.1, 1.8$  Hz, 1H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : -75.95 (dd,  $J=25.1, 16.2$  Hz, 1F), -82.21 (dd,  $J=16.2, 1.8$  Hz, 1F).

**Supporting Information:** <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>19</sup>F/<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of products. The Supporting Information is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://sioc-journal.cn/>.

## References

- (a) Ojima, I. *Fluorine in Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Biology*, Blackwell Publishing, Chichester, **2009**.  
(b) Meanwell, N. A. *J. Med. Chem.* **2011**, *54*, 2529.  
(c) Wang, J.; Sánchez-Roselló, M.; Aceña, J. L.; del Pozo, C.; Sorochinsky, A. E.; Fustero, S.; Soloshonok, V. A.; Liu, H. *Chem. Rev.* **2014**, *114*, 2432.  
(d) Zhou, Y.; Wang, J.; Gu, Z.; Wang, S.; Zhu, W.; Aceña, J. L.; Soloshonok, V. A.; Izawa, K.; Liu, H. *Chem. Rev.* **2016**, *116*, 422.
- (a) McDonald, I. A.; Lacoste, J. M.; Bey, P.; Palfreyman, M. G.; Zreika, M. *J. Med. Chem.* **1985**, *28*, 186.  
(b) Weintraub, P. M.; Holland, A. K.; Gates, C. A.; Moore, W. R.; Resvick, R. J.; Bey, P.; Peet, N. P. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2003**, *11*, 427.  
(c) Altenburger, J.-M.; Lassalle, G. Y.; Matrougui, M.; Galtier, D.; Jetha, J.-C.; Bocskai, Z.; Berry, C. N.; Lunven, C.; Lorrain, J.; Herault, J.-P.; Schaeffer, P.; O'Connor, S. E.; Herbert, J.-M. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2004**, *12*, 1713.
- (a) Nguyen, B. V.; Burton, D. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 7758.  
(b) Yokota, M.; Fujita, D.; Ichikawa, J. *Org. Lett.* **2007**, *9*, 4639.  
(c) Qiao, Y.; Si, T.; Yang, M.-H.; Altman, R. A. *J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, *79*, 7122.
- (a) Tozer, M. J.; Herpin, T. F. *Tetrahedron* **1996**, *52*, 8619.  
(b) Burton, D.; Yang, Z.-Y.; Qiu, W. *Chem. Rev.* **1996**, *96*, 1641.  
(c) Ichikawa, J. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2000**, *105*, 257.  
(d) Chelucci, G. *Chem. Rev.* **2012**, *112*, 1344.
- (a) Mae, M.; Amii, H.; Uneyama, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 7893.  
(b) Amii, H.; Kobayashi, T.; Terasawa, H.; Uneyama, K. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, *3*, 3103.  
(c) Ichikawa, J.; Ishibashi, Y.; Fukui, H. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, *44*, 707.  
(d) Ichikawa, J.; Fukui, H.; Ishibashi, Y. *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 7800.  
(e) Miura, T.; Ito, Y.; Murakami, M. *Chem. Lett.* **2008**, *37*, 1006.
- (a) Crowley, P. J.; Howarth, J. A.; Owton, W. M.; Percy, J. M.; Stansfield, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 5975.  
(b) Goegsig, T. M.; Soebjerg, L. S.; Lindhardt, A. T.; Jensen, K. L.; Skrydstrup, T. *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, *73*, 3404.
- (a) Prakash, G. K. S.; Wang, Y.; Hu, J.; Olah, G. A. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2005**, *126*, 1361.  
(b) Zhao, Y.; Huang, W.; Zhu, L.; Hu, J. *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 1444.  
(c) Wang, X.-P.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C.; Zheng, X. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, 928.  
(d) Cao, C.-R.; Ou, S.; Jiang, M.; Liu, J.-T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2017**, *58*, 482.
- (a) Edwards, M. L.; Stemerick, D. M.; Jarvi, E. T.; Matthews, D. P.; McCarthy, J. R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1990**, *31*, 5571.  
(b) Piettre, S. R.; Cabanas, L. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 5881.
- (a) Serafinowski, P. J.; Brown, C. A. *Tetrahedron* **2000**, *56*, 333.  
(b) Nowak, I.; Robins, M. *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 721.  
(c) Thomason, C. S.; Martinez, H.; Dolbier, W. R., Jr. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2013**, *150*, 53.  
(d) Wang, F.; Li, L.; Ni, C.; Hu, J. *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, *10*, 344.
- (a) Herkes, F.; Burton, D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1967**, 1311.  
(b) Zheng, J.; Cai, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Guo, Y.; Xiao, J.-C. *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 7513.
- Li, Q.; Lin, J.-H.; Deng, Z.-Y.; Zheng, J.; Cai, J.; Xiao, J.-C. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2014**, *163*, 38.
- (a) Nae, D. G.; Burton, D. J. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **1971**, *1*, 123.  
(b) Nae, D. G.; Burton, D. J. *Synth. Commun.* **1973**, *3*, 197.
- Zheng, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Cai, J.; Xiao, J.-C. *Chem.-Eur. J.* **2013**, *19*, 15261.
- (a) Deng, X.-Y.; Lin, J.-H.; Zheng, J.; Xiao, J.-C. *Chem. Commun.* **2015**, *51*, 8805.  
(b) Zheng, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Deng, X.-Y.; Xiao, J.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 532.  
(c) Zheng, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Yu, L.-Y.; Wei, Y.; Zheng, X.; Xiao, J.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 6150.  
(d) Zheng, J.; Wang, L.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C.; Liang, S. H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 13236.  
(e) Zheng, J.; Cheng, R.; Lin, J.-H.; Yu, D. H.; Ma, L.; Jia, L.; Zhang, L.; Wang, L.; Xiao, J.-C.; Liang, S. H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 3196.  
(f) Yu, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 16669.
- Deng, Z.; Lin, J.-H.; Cai, J.; Xiao, J.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 3206.
- (a) Deng, Z.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C. *Nat. Commun.* **2016**, *7*, 10337.  
(b) Deng, Z.; Liu, C.; Zeng, X.-L.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C. *J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *81*, 12084.
- Nenajdenko, V. G.; Varseev, G. N.; Korotchenko, V. N.; Shastin, A. V.; Balenkova, E. S. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2003**, *124*, 115-118.
- Ichitsuka, T.; Takanohashi, T.; Fujita, T.; Ichikawa, J. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2015**, *170*, 29.

(Li, L.; Fan, Y.)