Supporting Information

Geminal Silicon/Zinc Reagent as equivalent of difluoromethylene bis-carbanion

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General Methods. All reactions were performed in Schlenk flasks under an argon atmosphere. DMF was distilled under vacuum from P_2O_5 and stored over MS 4A. Tetrahydrofuran was either vacuum transferred from sodium/benzophenone (for small scale experiments) or distilled from LiAlH₄ prior to use. Diglyme was distilled from sodium. Column chromatography was carried out employing silica gel (230-400 mesh). Precoated silica gel plates F-254 were used for thin-layer analytical chromatography visualizing with UV and/or acidic aq. KMnO₄ solution.

(Bromodifluoromethyl)trimethylsilane (1),¹ CoBr₂·dppe,² [1-(bromomethyl)vinyl]benzene (4c),³ (6-bromocyclohex-1-en-1-yl)benzene (4d)⁴ were prepared according to literature procedures.

Commercial reagents.

Allyl chloride (**4a**) methallyl chloride (**4b**), 3-bromocyclohexene (**4e**), cesium fluoride. Commercial aldehydes were distilled under vacuum prior to use.

Methyl 4-bromobut-2-enoate (4f).⁵



A suspension of methylcrotonate (8.5 g, 85 mmol) and *N*-bromosuccinimide (15.9 g, 89 mmol) in carbon tetrachloride (40 mL) brought to reflux followed by addition of benzoylperoxide (10 mg). Then, the mixture was refluxed for 9 hours irradiating with CFL bulb (13 W). During this time two portions of benzoylperoxide (10 mg each portion) were added after three-hour intervals. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, quenched with water, and extracted with hexane twice. The combined organic phase was dried with Na₂SO₄, concentrated on a rotary evaporator, and the residue was distilled under vacuum. The fraction boiling at 95–98 °C/20 Torr was collected as a colorless liquid. Yield 10.2 g (67%).

Mixture of isomers, E/Z 13: 1.

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: *E*-isomer, 3.70 (m, 3H), 3.97 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.3), 5.99 (d, 2H, *J* = 15.6), 6.96 (dt, 1H, *J* = 15.6, 7.3); selected signals of *Z*-isomer, 4.49 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0), 5.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.8), 6.37 (dt, 1H, *J* = 10.8, 8.0).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: *E*-isomer, 29.1, 51.8, 124.2, 142.0, 165.8; selected signals of *Z*-isomer, 25.9, 51.5, 121.5, 143.1.

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⁴ Zemtsov, A. A.; Kondratyev, N. S.; Levin, V. V.; Struchkova, M. I.; Dilman, A. D. J. Org. Chem. 2014, 79, 818–822.

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Prepartion of isopropylzinc iodide (*i***-PrZnI).** 2-Iodopropane (20 mmol, 2 mL) was added to a stirred suspension of zinc dust (120 mmol, 7.85 g) in THF (7 mL), and the mixture was vigorously stirred. The exothermic reaction begins, and the temperature was allowed to rise until the solvent starts boiling. At this point, THF (33 mL) was added gradually at such a rate to maintain the temperature slightly below refluxing point. When all THF was added, the reaction flask was immersed into room temperature water bath, and the remaining 2-iodopropane (80 mmol, 8 mL) was added within two minutes. The resulting mixture was stirred 18 hours. The stirring was discontinued, and the unreacted zinc was allowed to settle down (ca. 20 h). The concentration of organozinc reagent was determined by iodometric titration.

Preparation of difluoro(trimethylsilyl)methylzinc bromide (2).

Me₃Si ZnBr

Diglyme (15 mL) was added to a solution of *i*-PrZnI (15 mL of 2M solution in THF, 30 mmol), and the reaction flask was immersed in ice/water bath. Then, Me₃SiCF₂Br (5.08 g, 25 mmol) and CoBr₂·dppe (0.25 mmol, 153 mg) were successively added. The mixture was stirred for 20 min to form dark grey homogeneous solution, which was kept for 20 hours at 5 °C. The concentration of the reagent **2** was determined by ¹⁹F NMR spectroscopy using PhCF₃ as internal standard to be 0.67M. Yield 90%.

Analysis of **2** can be conveniently performed by measuring ¹⁹F NMR spectra of reaction mixtures without deuterated co-solvent:

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, THF/diglyme), δ : -130.4 (s, major), -130.7 (s, minor); major : minor = 93 : 7.

Preparation of crystals. An aliquot of a solution of **2** was concentrated [first, the vacuum of about 10-20 Torr was applied at room temperature; then, oil pump vacuum was used with heating in water bath at 30 °C]. The residue was dissolved in methyl *tert*-butyl ether (*ca.* double volume of the residue), and the solution was allowed to stand overnight in the freezer (ca. -30 °C) to afford clear colorless crystals of Me₃SiCF₂ZnBr·diglyme. Mp 72–74 °C.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃CN), δ: 0.02 (s, 9H); diglyme: 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.45–3.5 (m, 4H), 3.53–3.60 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃CN), δ: -4.6 (t, J = 3.5), 58.9, 70.8, 72.2, 159.5 (t, J = 272.9).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: –132.3 (s, 2F).

Synthesis of silanes 5a,b. Reagent 2 (22.5 mmol) was prepared from 25 mmol of Me₃SiCF₂Br. From the obtained solution, volatile components (THF, *i*-PrI) were evaporated under vacuum [first, the vacuum of about 10-20 Torr was applied at room temperature; then, oil pump vacuum was used with heating in water bath at 30 °C]. The residue was cooled with ice/water bath, allylating substrate (4a or 4b, 27.5 mmol) and CuCN (1.25 mmol, 112 mg) were added, and the mixture was allowed to warm slowly (during 5 h) to room temperature and stirred for additional 12 h. The product and a part of diglyme were distilled from the reaction mixture at 12 Torr collecting in a receiver flask cooled to -30 °C. The collected distillate was washed with water (5 mL), aqueous HCl (1M, 3×5 mL), water (3 mL) and brine (3 mL). The liquid was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and distilled at atmospheric pressure.

(1,1-Difluorobut-3-enyl)(trimethyl)silane (**5a**). Me₃Si

Yield 3.24 g (88%). Bp 120–122 °C. Colorless liquid.

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 0.20 (s, 9H), 2.63 (td, 2H, *J* = 21.1, 6.7), 5.12–5.29 (m, 2H), 5.76– 5.96 (m, 1H).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -4.2 (t, *J* = 2.0), 41.4 (t, *J* = 21.0), 119.9, 129.1 (t, *J* = 259.7), 129.9 (t, *J* = 8.3).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -112.7 (t, *J* = 21.1).

Calcd for C₇H₁₄F₂Si (164.27): C, 51.18; H, 8.59. Found: C, 51.18; H, 8.58.

(1,1-Difluoro-3-methylbut-3-enyl)(trimethyl)silane (**5b**). Me₃Si

Yield 2.72 g (68%). Colorless liquid. Bp 136-148 °C.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 0.18 (s, 9H), 1.84 (s, 3H), 2.56 (t, 2H, *J* = 22.0), 4.86 (s, 1H), 4.96 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 4.2 (t, J = 1.7), 23.8 (t, J = 1.7), 44.6 (t, J = 20.3), 116.4, 129.8 (t, J = 260.2), 138.8 (t, J = 5.3).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -110.4 (t, *J* = 22.0).

Calcd for C₈H₁₆F₂Si (178.29): C, 53.89; H, 9.05. Found: C, 53.74; H, 9.11.

Synthesis of silanes 5c,d.

Reagent 2 (5 mmol) was prepared from 5.5 mmol of Me₃SiCF₂Br. The obtained solution was cooled with ice/water bath, allylating reagent (4c or 4d, 5 mmol) and CuCN (0.25 mol, 22 mg) were added, and the mixture was allowed to warm slowly (during 5 h) to room temperature and stirred for additional 12 h. The mixture diluted with water (7 mL) and the product was extracted with hexane (3×5 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with HCl (1M, 3×5 mL), water (3 mL) and brine (3 mL), dried with MgSO₄, and concentrated on a rotary evaporator. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel.

Yield 0.84 g (70%). Colorless oil.

Chromatography: hexane/ $CH_2Cl_2 = 20/1(R_f 0.11)$.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 0.22 (s, 9H), 3.11 (t, 2H, *J* = 21.1), 5.36 (s, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 7.28– 7.53 (m, 5H).

Me₃Si

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -4.2 (t, *J* = 2.2), 41.4 (t, *J* = 20.7), 118.5, 126.4, 127.6, 128.3, 129.1 (t, *J* = 260.8), 140.7 (t, *J* = 5.3), 141.7.

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -110.7 (t, *J* = 21.1).

Calcd for C₁₃H₁₈F₂Si (240.36): C, 64.96; H, 7.55. Found: C, 64.77; H, 7.51.

[Difluoro(2-phenylcyclohex-2-en-1-yl)methyl](trimethyl)silane (5d).



Yield 1.12 g (80%). Colorless oil. The compound is prone to oxidation upon storage on air. Chromatography: hexane/CH₂Cl₂ = $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$. R_f = 0.81 (hexane/CH₂Cl₂, 10/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 0.20 (s, 9H), 1.60–1.93 (m, 3H); 1.97–2.13 (m, 1H), 2.20–2.35 (m, 2H), 3.21–3.44 (m, 1H), 6.11 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.9), 7.19–7.38 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -3.5 (t, J = 2.5), 18.2 (d, J = 3.5), 24.3 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.4), 25.5, 42.1 (dd, J = 17.0, 19.0), 126.3, 128.0, 131.6, 135.0 (t, J = 4.6), 136.9, 144.7.

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -112.5 (dd, 1F, J = 322.8; 28.5), -99.7 (dd, 1F, J = 322.8, 8.9).

Calcd for $C_{16}H_{22}F_2Si$ (280.43): C, 68.53; H, 7.91. Found: C, 68.55; H, 8.13.

[Cyclohex-2-en-1-yl(difluoro)methyl](trimethyl)silane (5e).



Reagent 2 (19.8 mmol) was prepared from 22 mmol of Me₃SiCF₂Br. From the obtained solution, volatile components (THF, *i*-PrI) were evaporated under vacuum [first, the vacuum of about 10-20 Torr was applied at room temperature; then, oil pump vacuum was used with heating in water bath at 30 °C]. The residue was cooled with ice/water bath, 3-bromocyclohexene (20 mmol, 2.30 mL) and CuCN (1 mmol, 90 mg) were added, and the mixture was allowed to warm slowly (during 5 h) to room temperature and stirred for additional 12 h. The mixture diluted with water (5 mL) and the product was extracted with pentane (3×5 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with HCl (1M, 3×5 mL), water (3 mL) and brine (3 mL), dried with MgSO₄. Pentane was evaporated at atmospheric pressure and the product was distilled under vacuum [86–90 °C (bath temperature)/8 Torr] to afford 3.19 g (79%) of **5e** as a colorless liquid.

¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 0.21 (s, 9H), 1.40–1.67 (m, 2H); 1.72–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.95–2.11 (m, 2H), 2.51–2.86 (m, 1H), 5.64–5.77 (m, 1H), 5.81–5.96 (m,1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -3.2 (t, J = 2.5), 21.6, 23.1 (t, J = 5.8), 25.1, 43.8 (t, J = 19.7), 123.9 (dd, J = 7.2, 9.4), 130.4, 130.7 (t, J = 262.3).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: –117.3 (dd, 1F, J = 317.1, 21.3), –114.5 (dd, 1F, J = 317.1, 16.6). Calcd for C₁₀H₁₈F₂Si (204.33): C, 58.78; H, 8.88. Found: C, 58.81; H, 8.86.

Reaction of bromide 4f with reagent 2.



Reagent 2 (3 mmol) was prepared from 3.3 mmol of Me₃SiCF₂Br. The obtained solution was cooled with ice/water bath, bromide 4f (537 mg, 3 mmol) and CuCN (0.15 mol, 13 mg) were added, and the mixture was kept for 17 h in ice/water bath. The mixture diluted with water (3 mL) and the product was extracted with pentane (3×5 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with HCl (1M, 3×5 mL), water (3 mL) and brine (3 mL), dried with MgSO₄. The solvent was evaporated by heating under atmospheric pressure, and the residue was chromatographed on a short pad of silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc = 25/1. Yield 493.5 mg (74%).

Mixture of **5f-** α /**5f-** γ , 1 : 1 (for **5f-** α , *E*/*Z* = 13 : 1). Colorless oil.

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: *E*-**5f**-*α* and **5f**-*γ*, 0.15 (s, 9H), 0.17 (s, 9H), 2.70 (tdd, 2H, *J* = 20.5, 7.5, 1.5), 3.52 (ddd, 1H, 19.1, 15.0, 9.5), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 5.21–5.38 (m, 2H), 5.86–6.04 (m, 2H), 6.93 (dt, 1H, *J* = 15.4, 7.5). Selected signals of minor isomer (*Z*-**5f**-*α*): 3.26 (tdd, *J* = 22.0, 7.0, 1.8), 6.30–6.43 (m).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), -4.5 (t, J = 2.3), -3.7 (t, J = 2.3), 39.3 (t, J = 21.6), 51.6, 52.2, 57.4 (t, J = 21.3), 121.5, 125.6, 127.0 (t, J = 267.8), 128.3 (t, J = 260.8), 129.4 (dd, J = 8.1, 5.8), 139.8 (t, J = 8.3), 166.2, 169.2 (dd, J = 7.5, 5.8).
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -115.6 (dd, 1F, J = 324.3, 19.1), -113.4 (dd, 1F, J = 324.3, 15.0), -112.9 (t, 2F, J = 20.5); minor isomer (Z-**5**f-α), -114.8 (t, 2F, J = 22.0).

Calcd for C₉H₁₆F₂O₂Si (222.30): C, 48.63; H, 7.25. Found: C, 48.73; H, 7.40.

Reaction of aldehydes with silanes 5a-e leading to alcohols 6a-l (general procedure A).

Cesium fluoride (11 mg, 0.075 mmol) was added to a solution of aldehyde (0.5 mmol) and silane 5 (0.65 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) at room temperature, and the mixture was stirred for 18 h. Then, $Bu_4NF\cdot 3H_2O$ (205 mg, 0.65 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. For the work-up, water (7 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with methyl *tert*-butyl ether (3×3 mL). The combined organic phases were filtered through Na₂SO₄, concentrated under vacuum, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

2,2-Difluoro-1-phenylpent-4-en-1-ol (6a).



Yield 88 mg (89%). Colorless oil. Bp 85-91 °C (bath temp.)/0.40 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.40 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 2.40–2.60 (m, 2H), 2.63–2.86 (m, 1H), 4.88 (td, 1H, J = 10.3, 4.0), 5.15–5.30 (m, 2H), 5.84 (ddt, 1H, J = 17.2, 10.3, 7.1), 7.36–7.51 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 37.2 (t, J = 24.3), 75.1 (t, J = 28.2), 120.6; 122.5 (t, J = 246.6), 127.6, 128.4, 128.7, 128.8, 136.6 (t, J = 2.2).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -110.1 (dm, 1F, J = 248.0), -109.1 (dm, 1F, J = 248.0). Calcd for C₁₁H₁₂F₂O (198.21): C, 66.66; H, 6.10. Found: C, 66.67; H, 6.19.

2,2-difluoro-1-thien-2-ylpent-4-en-1-ol (6b).



Yield 77 mg (75%). Pale-yellow oil. Bp 76–80 °C (bath temp.)/0.55 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.30 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 2.52–2.91 (m, 3H), 5.14 (td, 1H, J = 10.7, 4.6), 5.19–5.33 (m, 2H),

5.78–5.94 (m, 1H), 7.01–7.09 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.41 (m, 1H).

- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 37.4 (t, J = 24.3), 71.6 (t, J = 29.9), 120.9, 122.1 (t, J = 247.2), 125.3, 126.4, 126.9, 128.6 (t, J = 5.0), 139.0 (t, J = 2.2).
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -110.7 (dtd, 1F, J = 248.0, 19.1, 12.7), -109.5 (dddd, 1F, J = 248.0, 19.1, 15.9, 10.0).

Calcd for C₉H₁₀F₂OS (204.24): C, 52.93; H, 4.94. Found: C, 52.69; H, 4.78.



Yield 103 mg (92%). Colorless oil.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.34 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 2.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.6), 2.60–2.94 (m, 2H), 4.42–4.58 (m, 1H), 5.21– 5.38 (m, 2H), 5.81–5.99 (m, 1H), 6.28 (dd, 1H, *J* = 16.1, 6.4), 6.80 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.1), 7.27–7.49 (m, 5H).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 37.5 (t, J = 24.3), 73.8 (t, J = 28.8), 120.8, 122.6 (t, J = 246.6), 125.6 (t, J = 3.3), 126.9, 128.4, 128.8, 128.9 (t, J = 5.5), 134.6, 136.1.
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -111.3 (ddt, 1F, J = 248.0, 21.2, 11.7), -109.3 (dddd, 1F, J = 248.0, 22.3, 13.8, 9.6).

Calcd for $C_{13}H_{14}F_{2}O$ (224.25): C, 69.63; H, 6.29.Found: C, 69.73; H, 6.31.

4,4-Difluoro-2,2-dimethyl-1-phenylhept-6-en-3-ol (6d).



Yield 91 mg (72%). Colorless oil. Bp 110–120 °C (bath temp.)/0.39 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1. Rf 0.21 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.05 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.99 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.8), 2.64 (d, 1H, *J* = 13.2), 2.71–2.94 (m, 2H), 2.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 13.2), 3.49 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 21.3, 8.8, 4.0), 5.21–5.31 (m, 2H), 5.79–5.94 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.35 (m, 5H).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 23.6, 23.9, 38.6, 40.3 (t, J = 25.4), 46.3, 76.4 (dd, J = 27.7, 25.4), 120.4, 125.2 (t, J = 249.4), 126.3, 128.0, 129.6 (dd, J = 7.2, 3.9), 131.0, 138.3.
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -108.6 (dtd, 1F, *J* = 252.2, 19.1, 10.6), -101.6 (dt, 1F, *J* = 252.2, 21.3).
- Calcd for C₁₅H₂₀F₂O (254.32): C, 70.84; H, 7.93. Found: C, 70.87; H, 7.99.

4,4-Difluoro-1-phenylhept-6-en-3-ol (6e).



Yield 31 mg (27%). Colorless crystals. Mp 26–28 °C. Bp 89–103 °C (bath temp.)/0.45 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1. R_f 0.21 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.77–2.08 (m, 3H), 2.56–2.85 (m, 3H), 2.94 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 9.5, 5.2), 3.67–3.83 (m, 1H), 5.18–5.29 (m, 2H), 5.84 (ddt, 1H, *J* = 17.4, 10.1, 7.3), 7.20–7.36 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 31.7 (t, J = 2.8), 31.8, 37.5 (t, J = 24.9), 72.1 (t, J = 28.8), 120.6, 123.2 (t, J = 245.5), 126.2, 128.59, 128.63, 129.0 (t, J = 5.5), 141.3.

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -112.7 (dtd, 1F, J = 250.1, 20.1, 12.7), -109.6 (dddd, 1F, J = 250.1, 23.3, 14.8, 8.5).

Calcd for C₁₃H₁₆F₂O (226.26): C, 69.01; H, 7.13.Found: C, 68.94; H, 7.29.

2,2-Difluoro-4-methyl-1-phenylpent-4-en-1-ol (6f).



Yield 99 mg (93%). Colorless crystals. Mp 41–43 °C. Bp 94–108 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.44 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.32 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 1.85 (s, 3H), 2.45 (ddd, 1H, J = 24.2, 13.8, 11.0), 2.62 (d, 1H, J = 3.6), 2.73 (dt, 1H, J = 24.7, 13.7), 4.86–4.88 (m, 2H), 5.01 (br, 1H), 7.36–7.50 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 23.6, 40.2 (t, *J* = 23.8), 75.1 (t, *J* = 28.2), 116.8, 122.7 (t, *J* = 247.7), 127.6, 128.3, 128.7, 136.6, 137.7 (t, *J* = 2.8).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -109.1 (ddt, 1F, J = 249.1, 23.3, 11.7), -107.7 (dddd, 1F, J = 249.1, 23.3, 13.8, 9.6).

Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄F₂O (212.24): C, 67.91; H, 6.65. Found: C, 67.94; H, 6.77.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,2-difluoro-4-methylpent-4-en-1-ol (6g).



Yield 128 mg (88%). Colorless crystals. Mp 37–39 °C. Bp 118–121 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.45 Torr. Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.38 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 1.83 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.42 (ddd, 1H, J = 25.3, 14.7, 11.9), 2.64 (d, 1H,

J = 4.0), 2.70 (dt, 1H, *J* = 25.3, 14.7), 4.76–4.86 (m, 1H), 4.86 (br, 1H), 5.00 (br, 1H), 7.33 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7), 7.52 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 23.6, 40.2 (t, *J* = 23.8), 74.5 (t, *J* = 28.6), 117.1, 122.6 (t, *J* = 248.3), 122.9, 129.4, 131.6, 135.5 (d, *J* = 3.3), 137.5 (t, *J* = 2.8).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -109.1 (ddt, 1F, J = 250.1, 25.3, 11.9), -107.2 (dddd, 1F, J = 250.1, 25.3, 14.7, 11.9).

Calcd for C₁₂H₁₃BrF₂O (291.13): C, 49.51; H, 4.50. Found: C, 49.36; H, 4.62.

2,2-Difluoro-4-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylpent-4-en-1-ol (6h).



Yield 48 mg (45%). Colorless crystals. Mp 55–56 °C. Bp 80–85 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.18 Torr. Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $5/1 \rightarrow 3/1$. R_f 0.22 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.86 (s, 3H), 2.52 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 25.0, 15.0, 8.1), 2.84 (dt, 1H, *J* = 23.5, 15.0), 4.86 (dt, 1H, *J* = 15.0, 5.3), 4.90–4.93 (br, 1H), 5.00 (br, 1H), 5.38 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.3), 7.31 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 4.7), 7.40–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.73 (td, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 1.5), 8.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.7).

¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 23.7, 40.5 (t, J = 23.4), 72.8 (t, J = 29.8), 116.8, 123.0 (t, J = 249.1),

123.1 (t, *J* = 2.8), 123.6, 136.8, 137.6 (d, *J* = 4.3), 147.9, 154.0 (d, *J* = 4.3).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -110.9 (dddd, 1F, *J* = 250.1, 23.5, 15.0, 8.1), -105.6 (dddd, 1F, *J* = 250.1, 25.0, 15.0, 5.3).

Calcd for C₁₁H₁₃F₂NO (213.22): C, 61.96; H, 6.15, N, 6.57. Found: C, 61.92; H, 6.26, N, 6.61.

1-Cyclohexyl-2,2-difluoro-4-methylpent-4-en-1-ol (6i).



Yield 90 mg (82%). Colorless crystals. Mp 39–41 °C. Bp 81–85 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.37 Torr. Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$. R_f 0.21 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.06–1.37 (m, 5H), 1.63–1.98 (m, 7H), 1.85 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.52–2.83 (m, 2H), 3.50 (dtd, 1H, *J* = 16.5, 7.3, 4.6), 4.90 (br, 1H), 5.00 (br, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 23.7 (t, J = 2.2), 26.1, 26.3, 26.4, 27.3, 30.3 (t, J = 2.2), 38.4, 41.5 (t, J = 24.3), 76.3 (dd, J = 27.6, 26.5), 116.7, 124.2 (t, J = 247.7), 138.2 (dd, J = 4.4, 2.2).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: –107.8 (dddd, 1F, J = 251.2, 23.3, 16.5, 10.6), –104.9 (dddd, 1F, J = 251.2, 23.3, 15.9, 7.3).

Calcd for C₁₂H₂₀F₂O (218.28): C, 66.03; H, 9.24. Found: C, 66.16; H, 9.44. (*1E*)-4,4-Difluoro-2-methyl-1,6-diphenylhepta-1,6-dien-3-ol (**6***j*).



Yield 121 mg (77%). Colorless oil.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$. R_f 0.39 (hexanes/EtOAc, 5/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.97 (s, 3H), 2.22 (br d, 1H, *J* = 4.4), 3.07–3.40 (m, 2H), 4.29–4.43 (m, 1H), 5.38 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 7.24–7.51 (m, 10H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 14.9 (t, J = 2.8), 38.6 (t, J = 24.3), 77.8 (dd, J = 28.8, 26.5), 120.0, 122.9 (t, J = 249.4), 126.4, 127.1, 127.8, 128.3, 128.5, 129.2, 130.5, 133.7, 136.9, 140.4 (dd, J = 4.4, 2.2), 141.4.

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: -107.4 (ddt, 1F, *J* = 249.1, 21.8, 9.2), -105.4 (ddd, 1F, *J* = 249.1, 12.1, 8.5).

Calcd for C₂₀H₂₀F₂O (314.37): C, 76.41; H, 6.41. Found: C, 76.37; H, 6.44.

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,2-difluoro-2-(2-phenylcyclohex-2-en-1-yl)ethanol (6k).



The product is formed as mixture of isomers (1/1). Yield 167 mg (96%).

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $10/1 \rightarrow 5/1$.

Upper isomer

84 mg. Colorless crystals. Mp 118-120 °C (hexanes). Rf 0.12 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.63–1.95 (m, 3H), 1.98 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.6), 2.21–2.34 (m, 3H), 3.56– 3.70 (m, 1H), 4.25 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 20.7, 5.6, 3.9), 6.12 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.9), 7.19 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2), 7.23– 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.42 (m, 4H).

- ¹³C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 18.2 (d, J = 2.8), 22.9 (d, J = 7.1), 25.5, 38.1 (dd, J = 24.1, 21.3),
 72.9 (dd, J = 32.7, 25.6), 123.0 (dd, J = 255.5, 249.9), 126.6, 127.2, 128.3, 128.7, 129.4, 133.5,
 134.2, 134.4, 135.3, 143.8.
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -115.1 (ddd, 1F, *J* = 252.2, 21.2, 3.9), -106.7 (dd, 1F, *J* = 252.2, 20.7).
- Calcd for C₂₀H₁₉ClF₂O (348.81): C, 68.87; H, 5.49. Found: C, 69.00; H, 5.34.

Lower isomer

83 mg. Colorless crystals. Mp 55–58 °C (pentane). Rf 0.11 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 1.67–1.95 (m, 3H), 2.19–2.38 (m, 4H), 3.36–3.51 (m, 1H), 4.74 (ddd, 1H, J = 16.5, 7.8, 5.1), 6.06 (t, 1H, J = 3.7), 7.17–7.33 (m, 9H).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 18.2 (d, J = 3.3), 23.9 (dd, J = 5.5, 2.2), 25.4, 39.2 (dd, J = 22.7, 20.5), 73.8 (dd, J = 30.6, 26.0), 123.4 (t, J = 253.2), 126.64, 126.70, 128.3, 128.5, 129.6 (d, J = 2.2), 132.4, 134.62, 134.65 (t, J = 3.3), 135.2 (d, J = 2.2), 144.1.
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -108.9 (ddd, 1F, J = 255.4, 21.2, 7.8), -105.4 (dt, 1F, J = 255.4, 16.5).

HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃ClF₂NO (M + NH₄): 366.1431. Found: 366.1439.

2-Cyclohex-2-en-1-yl-2,2-difluoro-1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethanol (61).



Mixture of isomers 1 : 1.

Yield 113 mg (88%). Colorless crystals. Mp 40–46 °C. Bp 140–145 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.08 Torr.

Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, $20/1 \rightarrow 10/1$. R_f 0.23 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

- ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ: 1.41–1.74 (m) and 1.76–2.08 (m) (7H), 2.50–2.61 (m, 1H), 2.63– 2.88 (m, 1H), 4.87–5.02 (m, 1H), 5.61–5.69 (m) and 5.73–5.82 (m) (1H), 5.86–6.00 (m, 1H), 7.03–7.13 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.49 (m, 2H).
- ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 21.0, 21.2, 22.2 (t, *J* = 4.4), 22.7 (t, *J* = 4.4), 24.73, 24.78, 39.4 (t, *J* = 22.7), 73.2 (t, *J* = 28.8), 73.5 (t, *J* = 28.2), 115.36 (d, *J* = 21.6), 115.41 (d, *J* = 21.6), 122.54 (t, *J* = 5.5), 122.58 (t, *J* = 5.5), 123.2 (t, *J* = 249.4), 123.3 (t, *J* = 249.4), 129.71 (t, *J* = 6.6), 129.75 (t, *J* = 6.6), 131.2, 131.5, 132.6 (m, *J* = 3.3), 163.1 (d, *J* = 247.3).
- ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -116.9 (d, 1F, *J* = 10.6), -116.8 (d, 1F, *J* = 12.7), -116.7 (dt, 1F, *J* = 250.1, 14.8), -115.7 (ddd, 1F, *J* = 250.1, 17.0, 10.6), -114.0 (tt, 1F, *J* = 8.5, 6.4), -113.9 (tt, 1F, *J* = 8.5, 6.4).

Calcd for C₁₄H₁₅F₃O (256.26): C, 65.62; H, 5.90. Found: C, 65.76; H, 6.09.

Synthesis of products 6m and 7.

Reaction of benzophenone with 5a was performed according to general procedure A.

2,2-Difluoro-1,1-diphenylpent-4-en-1-ol (6m).



Yield 41 mg (30%). Colorless oil. Bp 123–124 °C (bath temp.)/ 0.04 Torr.

Chromatography CH₂Cl₂. R_f 0.81 (CH₂Cl₂).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 2.73 (td, 2H, J = 19.2, 7.3), 2.91 (s, 1H), 5.12–5.30 (m, 2H), 5.92 (ddt, 1H, J = 16.9, 10.5, 7.3), 7.31–7.44 (m, 6H), 7.61–7.70 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : 37.6 (t, J = 24.3), 80.3 (t, J = 25.4), 120.1, 124.8 (t, J = 253.2),

127.7 (t, *J* = 2.5), 127.9, 128.2, 129.1 (t, *J* = 4.4), 141.8.

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃), δ : -107.0 (t, 2F, *J* = 19.2).

Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆F₂O (274.31): C, 74.44; H, 5.88. Found: C, 74.48; H, 5.82.

(2Z)-2-Fluoro-1,1-diphenylpenta-2,4-dien-1-ol (7).



Yield 32 mg (25%). Colorless crystals. Mp 45–49 °C (pentane). Chromatography hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1. R_f 0.27 (hexanes/EtOAc, 10/1).

Signal assignment and double bond geometry is based on 2D NMR spectra: ¹H-¹H COSY, ¹H-¹³C HSQC, ¹H-¹³C HMBC, ¹H-¹H NOESY, ¹H-¹⁹F HOESY.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆), δ : 5.13 (d, 1H, J = 10.7, H_E), 5.26 (d, 1H, J = 17.3, H_Z), 5.69 (dd, 1H, J = 35.4, 10.7, H(3)), 6.57 (dt, 1H, J = 17.3, 10.7, H(4)), 6.62 (br, 1H, OH), 7.25–7.39 (m, 10H, 2Ph).

¹³C NMR (50 MHz, DMSO-d₆), δ: 78.0 (d, *J* = 27.0), 108.6 (d, *J* = 9.9), 118.4 (d, *J* = 2.8), 127.2, 127.4, 127.8, 129.0 (d, *J* = 52.5), 143.7, 161.7 (d, *J* = 271.1).

¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d₆), δ : -110.1 (d, 1F, *J* = 35.4).

Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅FO (254.30): C, 80.29; H, 5.95. Found: C, 80.32; H, 5.99.
































































S44

























S56














































S79



S78











