

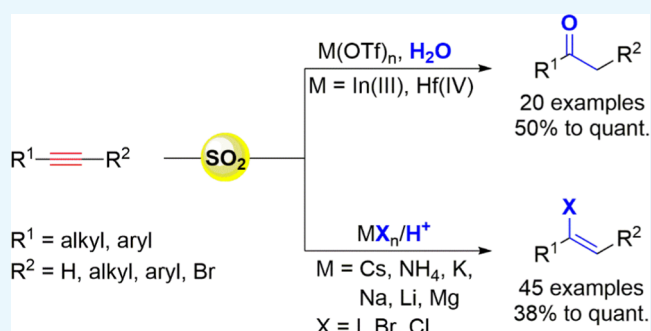
# In(III) and Hf(IV) Triflate-Catalyzed Hydration and Catalyst-free Hydrohalogenation of Aryl Acetylenes in Liquid Sulfur Dioxide

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## Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** The use of liquid sulfur dioxide as a reaction solvent to promote chemical transformations of alkynes has been explored. First, a combination of liquid SO<sub>2</sub> and In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> or Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> as a catalyst allows to perform hydration of aryl alkynes under mild conditions without a direct addition of Brønsted acid. Second, novel catalyst-free conditions for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -vinyl iodides, bromides, and chlorides from aryl alkynes have been developed in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> using group I and II metal halides and ammonium iodide as the halide ion sources.



## INTRODUCTION

Alkyne hydration is an atom-efficient strategy toward carbonyl compounds.<sup>1–3</sup> Traditionally, the synthesis of ketones by Markovnikov addition of water to the C≡C bond is carried out using stoichiometric amount of toxic Hg(II) salts under strongly acidic conditions.<sup>4</sup> A great number of alternative hydration conditions, including transition-metal catalysis, have been developed over the past decades.<sup>1–3,5–12</sup> Also, several metal-free systems based on the combination of strong protic acid (e.g., TsOH or TfOH) with weakly acidic and hydrogen-bond-forming reaction medium have been reported.<sup>13,14</sup> Recently, several procedures for metal triflate-catalyzed alkyne hydration have been established revealing contributory effect of triflate ion on the Lewis acid properties of the corresponding metal ion and its ability to activate the C≡C bond. In 2013, Gao et al. developed In(III) triflate-catalyzed hydration of both terminal and internal alkynes in the presence of catalytic amount of *p*-TsOH in 1,2-dichloroethane.<sup>15</sup> After 3 years, Zeng et al. employed the same catalyst for hydration of 1-haloalkynes in acetic acid.<sup>16</sup> A similar substrate scope was examined for Ga(III) triflate-catalyzed reaction in acetic acid by Liang et al. in 2015,<sup>17</sup> while a combination of Cu(II) triflate and acetic acid published by Jha group in 2014 is applicable only for aryl acetylenes.<sup>18</sup> To the best of our knowledge, there are only two reports that describe triflate-catalyzed alkyne hydration in the absence of Brønsted acid additive. These reactions are carried out in ethyl acetate at elevated temperatures in the presence of Cu(II)<sup>19</sup> or Ag(I)<sup>20</sup> triflate as a catalyst. The latter is effective only for terminal alkynes. Besides employing these Brønsted acid-free protocols, catalyst loading has to be increased to 10–20 mol % instead of 0.2–2.5 mol % used in the methods mentioned previously.

Also, vinyl halides are versatile intermediates in organic synthesis, especially as substrates for the transition metal-catalyzed C–C cross-coupling reactions. Hydrohalogenation of alkynes is one of the easiest ways to obtain these valuable compounds.<sup>21</sup> The hydrohalogenation regioselectivity of a terminal C≡C bond mainly depends on the choice of reagents. As the direct addition of HX (X = I, Br or Cl) to the alkyne is nonselective and often leads to low yield and undesirable side reactions, various multicomponent reagent systems have been developed to obtain one regioisomer, exclusively. Highly regioselective methods for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -vinyl bromides and iodides from terminal alkynes include alkyne haloboration<sup>22</sup> or Ni(II)-catalyzed hydroalumination<sup>23</sup> and subsequent acidic workup or addition of halonium source, respectively. Another strategy is *in situ* generation of HX (X = I, Br) employing following combinations of reagents: trimethylsilyl iodide/H<sub>2</sub>O,<sup>24</sup> trimethylsilyl chloride (TMSCl)/NaI/H<sub>2</sub>O,<sup>25</sup> TMSCl/LiBr/tetraethylammonium bromide,<sup>26</sup> CuO·HBF<sub>4</sub>/I<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>3</sub>SiH,<sup>27</sup> and BI<sub>3</sub>/N,N-diethylaniline.<sup>28</sup> Recently, Kawaguchi et al. have published a method for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -vinyl iodides using iodine and Ph<sub>2</sub>P(O)H.<sup>29</sup> The latter reduces iodine as well as serves as a proton source. Later, they made an improvement by replacing Ph<sub>2</sub>P(O)H with PPh<sub>3</sub> and water.<sup>30</sup> This modification allowed to perform a sequential C–C cross-coupling reaction in the same pot. Another recently published approach toward the  $\alpha$ -vinyl iodides from terminal alkynes is a CeCl<sub>3</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O-catalyzed hydroiodination employing NaI as the iodide ion source.<sup>31</sup> Although highly regioselective, most of these methods are not

Received: August 4, 2018

Accepted: December 4, 2018

Published: December 21, 2018

atom-efficient and lead to a high amount of both organic and inorganic wastes. In contrast, selective synthesis of  $\alpha$ -vinyl chlorides from monosubstituted acetylenes is poorly studied. The latest examples include direct Markovnikov addition of HCl to the alkynes catalyzed by  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RuCl}(\text{cod})]$ <sup>32</sup> or commercially available nanogold catalyst.<sup>33</sup>

As the alkyne hydration and hydrohalogenation can be facilitated by Lewis acid additives, we became curious to explore whether liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  as a solvent bearing Lewis acid properties will have the same promoting effect. Due to its relatively high boiling point (bp  $-10.05^\circ\text{C}$ ) and low vapor pressure (ca. 3 bar at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ) compared to other gases,<sup>34</sup>  $\text{SO}_2$  can be easily liquefied and handled in its liquid state. Compared to conventional solvents, liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  has some considerable advantages: (1) it dissolves both organic and inorganic salts, due to the high dipole moment (1.6 D);<sup>35</sup> (2) it is commercially available ( $\leq 5$  EUR/kg) in high purity (99.98%,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content  $\leq 50$  ppm); and (3) its removal from the reaction mixture does not require heating under reduced pressure. Since Walden observations of carbenium ion stability in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  at the beginning of the 20th century,<sup>36</sup> the application of liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  as a solvent has been slowly expanded.<sup>37–47</sup>

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Prompted by the fact that metal triflates are an emerging catalyst class in hydroelementation reactions in general and that besides the title reactions, also triflate-catalyzed protocols for hydroalkoxylation,<sup>48,49</sup> hydroamination,<sup>50,51</sup> and hydrothiolation<sup>52,53</sup> are known, we started our study by screening a series of metal triflates  $\text{M}(\text{OTf})_n$  as catalysts for the alkyne hydration in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  employing phenyl acetylene (**1a**) as a model substrate (Table 1). In almost all cases, a formation of the desired acetophenone (**2a**) was observed. Conversion to **2a** did not exceed 13% in the presence of  $\text{Cu}(\text{I,II})^a$  and

$\text{Yb}(\text{III})$  triflates (Table 1, entries 1–3), while the use of  $\text{Al}(\text{III})$ ,  $\text{Bi}(\text{III})$ , or  $\text{Ag}(\text{I})^a$  triflate improved the conversion of the starting material to above 60% (Table 1, entries 4–6).  $\text{Sc}(\text{III})$  and  $\text{In}(\text{III})$  triflates exhibited comparably high catalytic activity providing  $>70\%$  of acetophenone (**2a**) (Table 1, entries 7 and 8), but  $\text{Hf}(\text{OTf})_4$  proved to be the most active hydration catalyst providing full conversion (Table 1, entry 9). The presence of vinyl triflate **3a** (Table 1, entries 3 and 6) in the crude reaction mixture may point to the reaction mechanism through this compound as an intermediate. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report on  $\text{Hf}(\text{OTf})_4$ -catalyzed alkyne hydration.

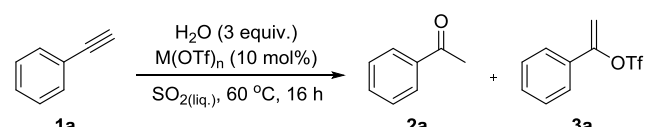
Based on economic considerations,  $\text{In}(\text{OTf})_3$  was the catalyst of choice for further optimization of the reaction conditions (see Table S3, Supporting Information). It was found that 10 mol % loading of  $\text{In}(\text{OTf})_3$  and  $100^\circ\text{C}$  are the optimal conditions for the hydration of phenyl acetylene (**1a**) in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  (Table S3, entry 4). To avoid a practical problem associated with the isolation of rather volatile product **2a**, we continued the optimization studies with 4-ethynylbiphenyl (**1b**). Using this more reactive substrate, catalyst loading could be reduced to 1 mol % and the temperature to  $60^\circ\text{C}$  without a significant loss in the product yield (Table S3, entry 7). Moreover, a formation of the desired ketone **2b** was observed even in the absence of the catalyst at elevated temperature (20% isolated yield at  $105^\circ\text{C}$ : Table S3, entry 6). On the other hand, when the amount of the water additive was reduced to 1 equiv in the presence of catalyst, the conversion of acetylene **1b** diminished, considerably (Table S3, entry 9).

It is also worth mentioning that the hydration of phenyl acetylene (**1a**) practically did not proceed in conventional solvents such as EtOAc, MeCN, dimethyl sulfoxide, 1,4-dioxane, and sulfolane under optimized reaction conditions (3 equiv  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 10 mol %  $\text{In}(\text{OTf})_3$ ,  $100^\circ\text{C}$ ).

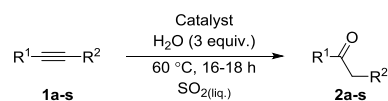
To test the Brønsted acidity of the reaction medium, we performed a control experiment: a solution of  $\text{PhNHBoc}$  (1 equiv) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3 equiv) in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  was heated at conditions equal to those for the optimized hydration process of 4-ethynylbiphenyl (**1b**) (Table S3, entry 7). The acid-labile test substrate was recovered with 96% isolated yield after chromatographic purification. This experiment shall indicate that the overall acidity of the system should not be considered as significantly acidic. We hypothesize that liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  as solvent is a weak Lewis acid and is not efficient in stabilizing  $\text{HSO}_3^-$  anion. Therefore, the equilibrium  $\text{SO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{HSO}_3^-$  is not efficiently shifted to the right in the liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  medium.

Substrate scope for  $\text{In}(\text{III})$  or  $\text{Hf}(\text{IV})$  triflate-catalyzed alkyne hydration in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  under optimized conditions is summarized in Table 2. The reactivity of an alkyne and consequently a choice of the catalyst and its loading depend on the electronic effects of the substituents. Hence, phenyl acetylenes **1d–j** containing electron-donating substituents (Alk-, AlkO-, ArO-) reacted smoothly in the presence of  $\leq 1$  mol %  $\text{In}(\text{OTf})_3$  (Table 2, entries 6–12). It should be mentioned that the hydration occurred only to the benzylic position of diyne **1j**, leaving the internal  $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$  bond of the side chain unreacted (Table 2, entry 12). Taking alkyne **1f** as an example, we demonstrated that the hydration procedure can be performed in gram scale by using a substrate/solvent mass ratio of 1:20 (Table 2, entry 8). Despite the presence of Lewis basic nitrogen in *para*-amino-substituted phenyl acetylenes **1k,l**, the corresponding aryl ketones **2k,l** were isolated in good

**Table 1. Catalyst Screening for the Alkyne Hydration in Liquid  $\text{SO}_2$ <sup>a</sup>**

		<sup>1</sup> H NMR yields of products <b>2a</b> , <b>3a</b> , and recovered starting material <b>1a</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>		
entry	catalyst $\text{M}(\text{OTf})_n$ (10 mol %)	<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>	<b>3a</b>
1	$\text{CuOTf}\cdot\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$	73	1	0
2	$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$	67	8	0
3	$\text{Yb}(\text{OTf})_3\cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$	58	13	1
4	$\text{Al}(\text{OTf})_3$	18	49	0
5	$\text{Bi}(\text{OTf})_3$	12	62	0
6	$\text{AgOTf}$	26	64	6
7	$\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$	11	72	0
8	$\text{In}(\text{OTf})_3$	8	75	0
9	$\text{Hf}(\text{OTf})_4$	0	80	0

<sup>a</sup>Reactions were carried out using **1a** (1 mmol),  $\text{M}(\text{OTf})_n$  (10 mol %), and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3 equiv) in liquid  $\text{SO}_2$  ( $25 \pm 5$  g) at  $60^\circ\text{C}$  for 16 h in a pressure reactor. <sup>b</sup>Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra on the crude reaction mixture using diphenyl methane as an internal standard, samples were prepared by filtration of reaction mixture in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  through a celite layer.

Table 2. Substrate Scope for In(III) and Hf(IV) Triflate-Catalyzed Alkyne Hydrations in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

Entry	Substrate <b>1a-s</b>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Catalyst		Yield of compound <b>2</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>
				M(OTf) <sub>n</sub>	mol%	
1 <sup>c</sup>	<b>1a</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	10	<b>2a</b> , quant. <sup>d</sup>
2	<b>1b</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2b</b> , 89
3	<b>1c</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2c</b> , 22
4				In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	5	<b>2c</b> , 76 <sup>d</sup>
5				Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	1	<b>2c</b> , quant.
6	<b>1d</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2d</b> , quant.
7	<b>1e</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2e</b> , quant.
8	<b>1f</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2f</b> , quant.
9	<b>1g</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2g</b> , quant.
10	<b>1h</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2h</b> , 95
11	<b>1i</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	0.5	<b>2i</b> , quant.
12	<b>1j</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2j</b> , 87
13	<b>1k</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2k</b> , 70
14	<b>1l</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2l</b> , 50
15	<b>1m</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	5	<b>2m</b> , 56
16	<b>1n</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2n</b> , 74 <sup>d</sup>
17	<b>1o</b>		H	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	1	<b>2o</b> , 79 <sup>d</sup>
18	<b>1p</b>		Me	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	5	<b>2p</b> , 9 <sup>e</sup>
19 <sup>f</sup>				Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	5	<b>2p</b> , 82
20 <sup>f</sup>	<b>1q</b>		<i>n</i> -Bu	Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	5	<b>2q</b> , 53
21 <sup>f</sup>	<b>1r</b>		Ph	Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	5	<b>2r</b> , 66
22 <sup>g</sup>	<b>1s</b>		Br	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	10	<b>2s</b> , 55

<sup>a</sup>The reactions were carried out using **1** (0.5–4.5 mmol) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor. <sup>b</sup>Isolated yield, if not stated otherwise.

<sup>c</sup>The reaction was carried out at 100 °C. <sup>d</sup>Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using diphenyl methane as an internal standard. <sup>e</sup>Gas chromatography (GC)–mass spectrometry (MS) analysis of the reaction extract: 88% **1p**, 9% **2p**. <sup>f</sup>The reaction was carried out at 70 °C. <sup>g</sup>The reaction was carried out at 80 °C; formation of 1-(1,2-dibromovinyl)-4-propylbenzene as a side product was observed.

yields (Table 2, entries 13 and 14). Even *N*-Boc-protected aniline **1m** as an acid-labile substrate provided product **2m** with 56% yield (Table 2, entry 15). Also, heterocyclic substrate like 3-ethynylthiophene (**1n**) was compatible with our newly developed hydration conditions in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> in the presence of 1 mol % In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (Table 2, entry 16).

An enhanced hydration reactivity in the presence of Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> was demonstrated in the cases of substrates **1c** and **1p** (Table 2, entries 5 and 19). Thus, a quantitative yield of **2c** was obtained in the presence of 1 mol % Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub>, whereas 5 mol % In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> provided lower yield (Table 2, entry 5 vs 4). This was even more pronounced for the substrate **1p**, where the switch between both catalysts changed the yield from 9 to 82% (Table 2, entry 18 vs 19). Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> performed well also for other disubstituted acetylenes like **1q,r** (Table 2, entries 20 and 21), whereas 1-haloalkyne **1s** was converted to the corresponding  $\alpha$ -haloketone **2s** in the presence of 10 mol % In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (Table 2, entry 22). Although aliphatic alkynes did not react under the optimized reaction conditions, cyclopropyl acetylene (**1o**) formed the hydration product **2o** in good yield (Table 2, entry 17). Such a result could be explained by the ability of cyclopropyl ring to stabilize the  $\alpha$ -vinyl carbenium ion.<sup>54</sup>

Phenyl acetylenes **1t–v** with electron-withdrawing substituents had notably reduced reactivity compared to the substrates containing electron-donating groups (Table 3).

**Table 3. In(III) and Hf(IV) Triflate-Catalyzed Hydrations of Electron-Poor Aryl Acetylenes **1t–v** in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>**

entry	1	R	catalyst	mol %	compound distribution in the reaction mixture (%) <sup>b</sup>		
					1	2	3
1	<b>1t</b>	4-F	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	5	66	32	2
2			In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	10		>99 <sup>c</sup>	
3			Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	1	24	73	3
4			Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	5		>99 <sup>c</sup>	
5	<b>1u</b>	2-F	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	10	58	27	15
6			Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	5	70	30	
7	<b>1v</b>	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	10	97		3
8			Hf(OTf) <sub>4</sub>	10	44		56 (45) <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The reactions were carried out using **1** (0.6–1.2 mmol) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor. <sup>b</sup>Determined by GC–MS.

<sup>c</sup>Quant. yield: determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using diphenyl methane as an internal standard. <sup>d</sup>Isolated yield based on the initial amount of triflate ion.

Thus, despite the positive mesomeric effect of fluorine atom, its negative inductive effect reduces the reactivity of *p*-fluorophenyl acetylene (**1t**) (Table 3, entries 1–4). As a result, to reach full conversion of alkyne **1t**, 5 mol % Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> or 10 mol % In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> was required (Table 3, entries 4 and 2). Interestingly, for a sterically hindered *o*-fluoro-substituted analogue **1u**, 10 mol % In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> provided higher conversion of starting material than 5 mol % Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> (Table 3, entry 5 vs 6). Employing alkyne **1v**, practically no ketone **2v** was observed (Table 3, entries 7 and 8). Instead, under Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub>-catalyzed conditions, the corresponding vinyl triflate

**3v** was formed and isolated in 45% yield based on the initial triflate content in the reaction mixture (Table 3, entry 8).

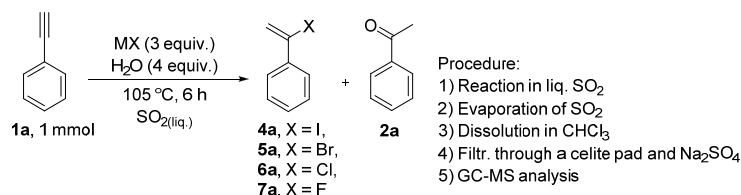
Generation of vinyl triflates **3a** (Table 1, entries 3 and 6) and **3t–v** (Table 3, entries 1, 3, 5, 7, and 8) might indicate that the hydration proceeds through these species as the intermediates (see Scheme S1, Supporting Information). Stability of triflate **3** is higher when the benzylic carbenium ion intermediate during the hydrolysis process is destabilized with the electron-withdrawing groups. At first sight, we cannot exclude that the transformation **1** → **3** can occur due to the presence of trace amounts of triflic acid, which might be released after hydrolysis of the metal triflate.<sup>55–59</sup> Therefore, a control experiment **1b** → **2b** was performed in the presence of TfOH (1 mol %) (see Table S3, entry 8, Supporting Information). The latter provided product **2b** only with 15% isolated yield contrary to 89% in the presence of In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (Table S3, entry 8 vs 7). At this point, we conclude that under the developed experiment conditions, trace amounts of TfOH, which might be present in the reaction mixture, can act as a background mediator, but the observed excellent catalytic activity of In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> and Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> should be mainly attributed to the nonhydrolyzed salt.

Inspired by the successful alkyne hydration employing liquid SO<sub>2</sub> as the solvent, we next turned our attention to alkyne hydrohalogenation. With reference to the Lewis acid-catalyzed hydroiodination of alkynes published by Bartoli et al.,<sup>31</sup> we screened a reactivity of the group I and II metal halides and ammonium halides toward phenyl acetylene (**1a**) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> under constant conditions (Table 4). The tested fluorides turned out to be unreactive under these conditions. For chlorides, slightly higher reactivity was observed, although the content of the desired  $\alpha$ -vinyl chloride **6a** in the reaction filtrate did not exceed 13% (GC–MS). LiBr and MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O exhibited the highest reactivity among bromides, providing 96 and 77% (GC–MS) contents of  $\alpha$ -bromostyrene (**5a**) in the reaction filtrate, respectively. Finally, all tested iodides led to the consumption of the starting material. LiI led to a mixture of acetophenone (**2a**) and unidentified side products. Also, NaI provided ketone **2a** from alkyne **1a**, albeit in a quantitative manner. Gratifyingly, K, Cs, and ammonium iodides provided the desired vinyl iodide **4a** in a good to excellent content with less than 5% of ketone **2a** as an impurity (GC–MS). We can assume that the relatively unstable  $\alpha$ -iodostyrene does further hydrolyze to acetophenone (**2a**) under the investigated reaction conditions.

We suggest that the difference of the reactivity among halides could be explained by their solubility in liquid SO<sub>2</sub>. It is known that the alkali metal halides are soluble in liquid SO<sub>2</sub>, but their solubility decreases in the order I<sup>−</sup> > Br<sup>−</sup> > Cl<sup>−</sup> > F<sup>−</sup>.<sup>60</sup> Furthermore, the ability of sulfur dioxide to bind fluoride ion in a stable fluorosulfite ion can explain that the reactivity of fluorides is completely suppressed under these conditions.<sup>39</sup> At the same time, a difference between halides bearing the same anion indicates that also cationic part of salt has its own effect on the course of the reaction. It should be mentioned that NH<sub>4</sub>I was identified as a novel source of both H<sup>+</sup> and I<sup>−</sup> ions required for alkyne hydroiodination. NH<sub>4</sub>I as a reagent does not require the water additive, which makes the experimental procedure even simpler.

With the screening results in hand (Table 4), we turned to the investigation of the substrate scope. It was found that each hydrohalogenation system still required a “secondary optimization” depending on the used substrates. The investigated



Table 4. Halide Reactivity Screening for Alkyne Hydrohalogenation in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

Entry	MX	I <sup>-</sup>			Br <sup>-</sup>			Cl <sup>-</sup>			F <sup>-</sup>		
		1a	4a	2a	1a	5a	2a	1a	6a	2a	1a	7a	2a
1	Li <sup>+</sup>	-	-	48	-	96	<1	89	11	-	>99	-	-
2	Na <sup>+</sup>	-	-	>99	97	2	<1	99	<1	<1	>99	-	-
3	K <sup>+</sup>	-	96	4	96	4	-	98	1	1	>99	-	-
4	Cs <sup>+</sup>	-	90	4	87	11	-	not tested			>99	-	-
5 <sup>b</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	not tested			14	77	1	86	13	2	>99	-	-
6	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	16	83	1	99	1	-	98	<1	<1	94	-	6

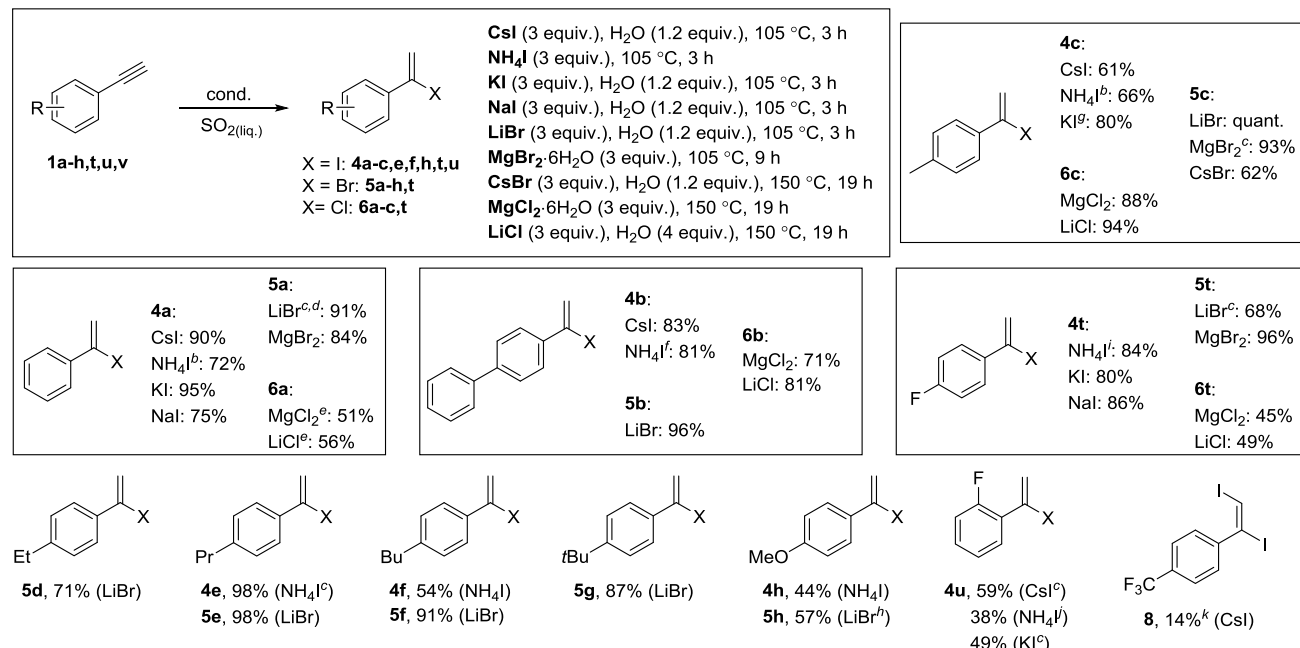
<sup>a</sup>The reactions were carried out in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor; the numbers describe the composition of the crude reaction mixture determined by GC-MS; the best results are highlighted in green. <sup>b</sup>MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O or MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O was used, respectively.

alkyne hydrohalogenations proceeded cleanly and provided easily analyzable mixtures of  $\alpha$ -vinyl halide, unreacted starting material, and ketone. Therefore, product yields were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using internal standard. The full data set can be found in the [Supporting Information](#) (CsI: [Tables S4 and S5](#); NH<sub>4</sub>I: [Table S6](#); KI: [Table S7](#); NaI: [Table S8](#); LiBr: [Tables S9 and S10](#); CsBr and MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O: [Table S11](#); LiCl and MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O: [Table S12](#)). The substrate scope of hydrohalogenation of terminal aryl acetylenes is depicted in [Scheme 1](#). NH<sub>4</sub>I, LiBr, NaI, KI, and CsI appeared to be the most reactive halides, which required 3 h at 105 °C to provide optimal yields of the expected products. Also, MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O was reasonably reactive, albeit it required 9 h at 105 °C and a higher excess (3 equiv). In the least reactive category, we can place CsBr, MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, and LiCl, which required much higher temperature (150 °C) and prolonged reaction times (19 h).

The yields of hydroiodination products exhibited the largest data scattering. This can be explained by a compromise between the aryl alkyne reactivity and the hydrolytic stability of the formed vinyl iodide. In general, electron-donating substituents ([Scheme 1](#); **1b**: R = Ph, **1c**: R = Me, **1e**: R = Pr) and weakly deactivation substituents (**1t**: R = F) gave good to excellent yields of products **4a–c**, **4e**, and **4t**. Strong electron-donating substituents (**1b**: R = OMe) and ortho-substituted systems (e.g., **1u**) resulted in mediocre yields of vinyl iodides due to the formation of ketone side product or diminished reactivity, respectively. In this context, it is clear that only salts bearing non-Lewis acidic cations (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>,

K<sup>+</sup>, Cs<sup>+</sup>) can be successfully used in hydroiodination reactions in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (see also remark on the synthesis of vinyl bromide **5h** in the presence of LiBr; vide infra). Finally, substrate **1v** possessing F<sub>3</sub>C substituent stayed rather intact and gave 14% of a side product, which was identified as 1-(1,2-diiodovinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (**8**). We have also tested NaHSO<sub>3</sub> as an additional proton source for alkyne protonation step (see [Table S6](#), entry 10, [Supporting Information](#)), but this led to a reduced rate of the hydrohalogenation reaction. On the other hand, triphenylphosphine as a reductant of molecular iodine possibly formed in the reaction mixture slightly improved the conversion of alkynes **1** to the desired iodides **4** ([Table S6](#), entries 3, 7, and 15).

Next, we turned our attention to the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -vinyl bromides **5**. First, the reactivity of LiBr was tested ([Scheme 1](#), see [Tables S9 and S10](#), [Supporting Information](#)). The influence of the substituent electronic effects on the course of the reaction was not so significant as in the case of vinyl iodide synthesis. Thus, aryl acetylenes **1a–g** provided up to quantitative yields of  $\alpha$ -vinyl bromides **5a–g**. By employing alkyne **1a**, we demonstrated that the hydrobromination can be excellently performed (91% of product **5a**) in gram scale using a substrate/solvent mass ratio of 1:14. In contrast to iodides, no formation of the corresponding 1,2-dibromides was observed. Interestingly, a combination of more reactive alkyne **1h**, LiBr (3 equiv), and H<sub>2</sub>O (1.2 equiv) in liquid sulfur dioxide already at –10 °C provided the expected halide **5h** in 57% yield. On the other hand, the same combination at 105 °C

Scheme 1. Hydrohalogenation of Terminal Aryl Acetylenes **1** in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The reactions were carried out using **1** (0.6–1.1 mmol) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor; yields were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using diphenyl methane or *m*-tolyl aldehyde (for **4h** and **5h**) as an internal standard; if not stated otherwise. <sup>b</sup>0.5 equiv PPh<sub>3</sub> was added. <sup>c</sup>Reaction time 6 h. <sup>d</sup>Concentration substrate/solvent 1:14 (g/g). <sup>e</sup>Reaction time 24 h. <sup>f</sup>Reaction carried out at 70 °C for 14 h. <sup>g</sup>Reaction carried out at 80 °C. <sup>h</sup>Reaction carried out in a two-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a dry ice condenser at –10 °C for 6 h. <sup>i</sup>Reaction carried out using 1.2 equiv NH<sub>4</sub>I at 80 °C for 18 h. <sup>j</sup>Reaction time 14 h. <sup>k</sup>Isolated yield.

Table 5. Hydrohalogenation of Cyclopropyl Acetylene (**1o**) in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

<b>1o</b> $\xrightarrow[\text{SO}_2(\text{liq.})]{\text{MX (3 equiv.), H}_2\text{O (1.2 equiv.)}}$ <b>9a, X = I</b> + <b>10a, X = I</b> + <b>11a, X = I</b> <b>9b, X = Br</b> + <b>10b, X = Br</b> + <b>11b, X = Br</b>					
cond. A: 105 °C, 3 h cond. B: 60 °C, 8 h					
entry	MX	cond	<sup>1</sup> H NMR yields (%) <sup>b</sup>		
			9	10	11
1	CsI	A	9a, 23	10a, 16	11a, 7
2		B	9a, 55	10a, 23	11a, 7
3	NH <sub>4</sub> I	A		10a, 54	11a, 29
4		B	9a, 42	10a, 17	11a, 7
5	LiBr	A		10b, 58	11b, 27
6		B		10b, 66	11b, 27

<sup>a</sup>Reactions were carried out using **1o** (1.2 mmol) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor; reaction with NH<sub>4</sub>I was performed without the water additive. <sup>b</sup>Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using diphenyl methane as an internal standard.

provided ketone **2h** (Table S10, entry 1). On the contrary, the tested iodides did not react at such a low temperature. We also discovered that the formation of ketone **2** was facilitated when methanol instead of water was used as a proton source for the hydrobromination of alkyne **1e** (Table S9, entry 13). MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O behaved similar to LiBr, although a prolonged reaction time was required to provide sufficient conversion of the starting material (Scheme 1 and Table S11, Supporting Information). Also, CsBr can be used as a bromide source (transformation **1c** → **5c**), albeit it required harsher reaction conditions and provided only 62% of product **5c** (Scheme 1, see Table S11, entry 3, Supporting Information).

On the basis of the successful modification of reaction conditions in bromide series, we also explored a possibility to

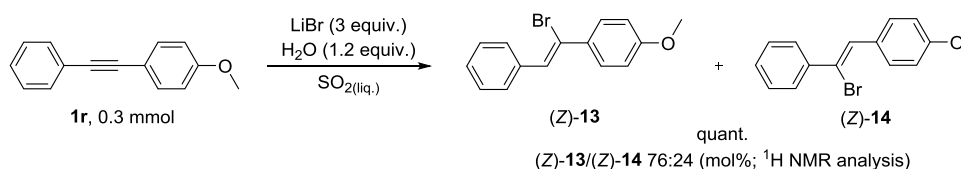
enhance the reactivity of chloride ion sources. A comparable reactivity was observed when MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O or LiCl was used at 150 °C (Scheme 1 and see Table S12, Supporting Information). Alkynes **1b** and **1c** containing weakly electron-donating groups reacted smoothly, and the expected α-vinyl chlorides **6b** and **6c** were obtained in good yields (Table S12, entries 3–6). When less reactive phenyl acetylene (**1a**) or 4-fluorophenyl acetylene (**1t**) was subjected to the same conditions, reaction yields were affected by incomplete conversion of the starting material (Table S12, entries 1, 2, 7, and 8).

Unfortunately, acetylenes containing acyclic aliphatic substituents did not form the desired α-vinyl halides under the developed conditions. LiBr was absolutely unreactive, but CsI

Table 6. Hydrohalogenation of Phenylpropyne (**1p**) in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

entry	MX	T (°C)	time (h)	<sup>1</sup> H NMR yield of (E)-12 + (Z)-12 (%) <sup>b</sup>	E/Z <sup>c</sup>
1	CsI	90	16	<b>12a</b> , 86	64/36
2	LiBr	105	16	<b>12b</b> , 83	75/25

<sup>a</sup>Reactions were carried out using **1p** (0.8–1.0 mmol) in liquid SO<sub>2</sub> (25 ± 5 g) in a pressure reactor. <sup>b</sup>Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using diphenyl methane as an internal standard. <sup>c</sup>Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.

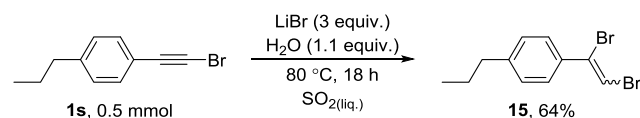
Scheme 2. Hydrobromination of Alkyne **1r** in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub>

and NH<sub>4</sub>I led to the formation of iodination products with varying conversion levels of the starting material (see Tables S13 and S14, Supporting Information). Gratifyingly, cyclopropyl acetylene (**1o**) exhibited a high reactivity, and full conversion was observed in all of the tested conditions (Tables 5 and S15). Depending on the halide ion source and the reaction conditions, a mixture of geometrical isomers of dihydrohalogenations **10** and **11** with or without desired cyclic vinyl halide **9** was obtained. In both temperature regimes (60 and 105 °C), CsI produces all possible products **9a**–**11a** (Table 5, entries 1 and 2). The reaction with NH<sub>4</sub>I exhibited a higher temperature dependence (Table 5, entries 3 and 4). Thus, at 105 °C, NH<sub>4</sub>I gave only the rearranged products **10a** and **11a** in 83% total yield. LiBr gave dibromides **10b** and **11b** in synthetically useful yields with average **10b**/**11b** ratio 2.3:1 in either of the tested temperature regimes (Table 5, entries 5 and 6).

Finally, we performed hydrohalogenation reactions by employing internal alkynes with at least one aromatic substituent attached to the triple bond. As expected, in the case of phenylpropyne (**1p**), C-halogen bond was formed at the benzylic position, and products **12a,b** were isolated as a mixture of geometrical isomers with the (E)-isomer being the major one (Table 6).

Hydrobromination of alkyne **1r** was (Z)-selective, and the formation of regioisomers (Z)-**13** and (Z)-**14** was observed (Scheme 2). Apparently, the steric effects of the substrate forbid the formation (E)-isomers.

1-Bromoalkyne **1s** was compatible only with our hydrobromination conditions, leading to the desired vinyl bromide **15** in good yield (Scheme 3). When iodides were used under similar reaction conditions, only the formation of a complex mixture was observed.

Scheme 3. Hydrobromination of Alkyne **1s** in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub>

In conclusion, we have discovered novel conditions for alkyne hydration and hydrohalogenation by taking advantages of liquid SO<sub>2</sub> as a polar solvent with Lewis acid properties that is capable of dissolving both organic and inorganic substances. As a result, a combination of In(OTf)<sub>3</sub> or Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> as a catalyst and liquid SO<sub>2</sub> as a solvent allowed us to develop effective method for the hydration of electron-rich terminal and internal aryl alkynes without the direct addition of Brønsted acid. Catalyst loading can be lowered to less than 1 mol % for alkynes containing strong electron-donating groups. It has to be mentioned that Hf(OTf)<sub>4</sub> has found an application in this chemical transformation for the first time. By employing simple reagent systems like CsI, KI, NaI, LiBr, or LiCl/H<sub>2</sub>O as well as solo reagents like NH<sub>4</sub>I, MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, and MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, we have succeeded in the hydrohalogenation of electron-rich aromatic alkynes in liquid SO<sub>2</sub>. Most of these salts are used as halide sources in alkyne hydrohalogenation for the first time. Moreover, ammonium iodide works as both iodide and proton donor in a reaction mixture without the need for water additive. Finally, the facilitated vinyl carbenium ion formation in liquid sulfur dioxide and its quenching with nucleophiles like water or halides opens possibilities for the design of other similar transformations that would profit from the Lewis acidic and ionizing properties of liquid SO<sub>2</sub>.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Experimental Details.** Reactions at temperature above the boiling point of SO<sub>2</sub> (−10 °C) were carried out in a stainless steel pressure reactor. For reactions below SO<sub>2</sub> boiling point, a two-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a dry ice condenser was used. The solvents for reaction workup and chromatographic purification were freshly distilled prior to use. Commercially available reagents were used as received. Composition of the final reaction mixture was determined by Agilent Technologies 6890N gas chromatograph coupled with Agilent Technologies 5975B mass spectrometer (electron ionization (EI)) (for method description, see the Supporting Information). Chromatographic purification was monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on E. Merck Kieselgel 60 F<sub>254</sub> with detection by UV light or a solution of potassium permanganate as a visualizing agent. Column chromatography

was performed on silica gel (60 Å, 40–60 µm, ROCC). Preparative chromatography for compounds (Z)-12 and (Z)-13 was performed on Macherey-Nagel Sil G-25 (60 Å, 5–17 µm) plates with detection by UV light. IR spectra were recorded in KBr with Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) PerkinElmer Spectrum BX spectrometer (4000–450 cm<sup>-1</sup>). Melting point was recorded with a Fisher Digital Melting Point Analyzer model 355 apparatus. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker 300 MHz spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Chemical shifts (δ) and coupling constants (J) are reported in ppm and Hz, respectively. The residual solvent peak is used as an internal reference (7.26 and 77.16 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, respectively). For quantitative <sup>1</sup>H NMR relaxation, time was increased (*d*<sub>1</sub> = 10). High-resolution mass (HRMS) (electrospray ionization (ESI)) were recorded with an Agilent 1290 Infinity series ultra-high pressure liquid chromatography connected to an Agilent 6230 time-of-flight mass spectrometer or (atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI)) on 7 T solariX XR (Bruker Daltonik GmbH) Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometer equipped with an APCI source.

**General Procedure for Alkyne Hydration in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub>.** Alkyne (0.5–4.5 mmol), water (3 equiv), and catalyst (see Tables 2 and 3) were placed into a stainless steel reactor equipped with a glass tube and a magnetic stirring bar. The vacuum/argon cycles were performed and sulfur dioxide (25 ± 5 g) was transferred into the reactor at –78 °C by distillation. The reactor was sealed and the reaction was performed under pressure (~8 bar) at 60 °C for 16–18 h. Then, the reactor was cooled down to room temperature and connected to either the storage cylinder of SO<sub>2</sub> for the solvent recycling or a trap containing aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution for SO<sub>2</sub> removal. The solid residue was partitioned between dichloromethane (DCM) (10–20 mL) and water (5–15 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (3 × 5–10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Concentration of the filtrate under reduced pressure gave a residue that was fractionated by column chromatography (EtOAc/Hex) to provide pure product. Note: for volatile hydration products 2a, 2c, 2n, 2o, and 2t, yield was determined by quantitative <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of the reaction extract using diphenyl methane as an internal standard.

**Acetophenone (2a).**<sup>19</sup> Yield quant. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.99–7.92 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.2, 137.2, 133.2, 128.7, 128.4, 26.7. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 120.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 6.21 min.

**1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (2b).**<sup>19</sup> Yield 109 mg (99%). White solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.29 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.66–7.59 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.37 (m, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 197.9, 145.9, 140.0, 136.0, 129.1 (2C), 128.4, 127.4 (2C), 26.8. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 196.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 8.40 min.

**1-(*p*-Tolyl)ethan-1-one (2c).**<sup>19</sup> Yield quant. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.0, 144.0, 134.8, 129.3, 128.5, 26.6, 21.7. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 134.2; *t*<sub>R</sub> 6.65 min.

**1-(4-Ethylphenyl)ethan-1-one (2d).**<sup>15</sup> Yield 359 mg (quant.). Yellow oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.48 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (q, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.7

Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.0, 150.2, 135.0, 128.7, 128.2, 29.0, 26.6, 15.3. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 148.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 6.95 min.

**1-(4-Propylphenyl)ethan-1-one (2e).**<sup>15</sup> Yield 348 mg (quant.). Yellow oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.54 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.0, 148.6, 135.1, 128.8, 128.6, 38.1, 26.6, 24.3, 13.9. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 162.2; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.24 min.

**1-(4-Butylphenyl)ethan-1-one (2f).**<sup>61</sup> Yield 360 mg (quant.). Yellow oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.59 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.62 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.0, 148.9, 135.0, 128.7, 128.6, 35.8, 33.4, 26.6, 22.5, 14.0. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 176.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.52 min.

**1-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (2g).**<sup>62</sup> Yield 370 mg (quant.). Yellow oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.41 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 198.0, 156.9, 134.7, 128.4, 125.6, 35.2, 31.2, 26.7. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 176.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.35 min.

**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (2h).**<sup>19</sup> Yield 332 mg (95%). Yellowish solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.28 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 196.9, 163.6, 130.7, 130.5, 113.8, 55.6, 26.5. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 150.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.13 min.

**1-(4-Phenoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (2i).**<sup>19</sup> Yield 346 mg (quant.). Yellowish solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.35 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.03 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 196.9, 162.2, 155.6, 132.0, 130.7, 130.2, 124.8, 120.3, 117.4, 26.6.

**1-(4-(*But-2-yn-1-yloxy*)phenyl)ethan-1-one (2j).** Yield 81 mg (87%). Pale yellow solid. mp 61–62 °C. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.38 (Hex/EtOAc 6:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.70 (q, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 1.85 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 196.9, 161.8, 130.9, 130.6, 114.7, 84.6, 73.4, 56.6, 26.5, 3.8. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 188.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 8.01 min. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 189.0910; found 189.0929. IR (FT-IR): 2240, 1680, 1275 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**1-(4-Aminophenyl)ethan-1-one (2k).**<sup>63</sup> Yield 81 mg (70%). Brownish solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.46 (Hex/EtOAc 1:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.41–3.84 (br s, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 196.6, 151.2, 130.9, 128.0, 113.9, 26.2. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 135.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.31 min.

**1-(4-(Dimethylamino)phenyl)ethan-1-one (2l).**<sup>64</sup> Yield 57 mg (50%). Sulfur solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.46 (Hex/EtOAc 7:3). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.87 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.05 (s, 6H), 2.50 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 196.5, 153.5, 130.6, 125.6, 110.8, 40.2, 26.1. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 163.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 7.64 min.

***tert*-Butyl (4-Acetylphenyl)carbamate (2m).**<sup>65</sup> Yield 66 mg (56%). White solid. *R*<sub>f</sub> 0.53 (Hex/EtOAc 7:3). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.95–6.78 (br s, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 197.1, 152.3, 143.1, 131.9, 130.0,



117.5, 81.4, 28.4, 26.5. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  235.1;  $t_R$  8.34 min.

**1-(Thiophen-3-yl)ethan-1-one (2n).**<sup>19</sup> Yield 74%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.03 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 2.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd,  $J$  = 5.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd,  $J$  = 5.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 192.4, 142.7, 132.5, 127.1, 126.5, 27.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  126.0;  $t_R$  6.13 min.

**1-Cyclopropylethan-1-one (2o).**<sup>11</sup> Yield 79%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.98–1.88 (m, 1H), 1.06–0.98 (m, 2H), 0.91–0.84 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 209.0, 30.0, 21.1, 10.6.

**Propiophenone (2p).**<sup>19</sup> Yield 88 mg (82%). Yellow oil.  $R_f$  0.48 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.97 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (tt,  $J$  = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 3.01 (q,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 201.0, 137.1, 133.0, 128.7, 128.1, 31.9, 8.4. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  134.1;  $t_R$  6.61 min.

**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)hexan-1-one (2q).**<sup>66</sup> Yield 51 mg (53%). Yellow oil.  $R_f$  0.39 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.94 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.79–1.65 (m, 2H), 1.41–1.29 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 199.4, 163.4, 130.4 (2C), 113.8, 55.6, 38.4, 31.8, 24.5, 22.7, 14.1. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  206.2;  $t_R$  8.15 min.

**1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylethan-1-one (2r).**<sup>67</sup> Yield 72 mg (66%). Yellow solid.  $R_f$  0.61 (Hex/EtOAc 7:3). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.19 (m, 5H), 6.93 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 196.4, 163.7, 135.1, 131.1, 129.8, 129.5, 128.8, 126.9, 113.9, 55.6, 45.4. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  226.1;  $t_R$  8.73 min.

**2-Bromo-1-(4-propylphenyl)ethan-1-one (2s).**<sup>62</sup> Yield 61 mg (55%). Yellow oil.  $R_f$  0.46 (Hex/EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.67 (s,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 191.1, 149.8, 131.8, 129.2, 129.1, 38.2, 31.1, 24.3, 13.9. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  241.1;  $t_R$  8.01 min.

**1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (2t).**<sup>15</sup> Yield quant. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.98 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 196.6, 165.9 (d,  $J$  = 255 Hz), 133.8 (d,  $J$  = 3 Hz), 131.1 (d,  $J$  = 9 Hz), 115.8 (d,  $J$  = 22 Hz), 26.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  138.1;  $t_R$  6.03 min.

**1-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)vinyl Trifluoromethanesulfonate (3v).**<sup>68</sup> Yield 38 mg (45%). Yellowish oil.  $R_f$  0.32 (Hex). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.74–7.61 (m, 4H), 5.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 152.1, 135.6, 132.3 (q,  $J$  = 33 Hz), 126.2 (q,  $J$  = 4 Hz), 125.8, 123.8 (q,  $J$  = 272 Hz), 118.7 (q,  $J$  = 320 Hz), 106.7. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  320.1;  $t_R$  6.65 min.

**General Procedure for Alkyne Hydrohalogenation in Liquid SO<sub>2</sub>.** Alkyne, halide, and water (for the following halides: LiCl, LiBr, NaI, KI, CsBr, and CsI) or alkyne and halide (for the following halides: NH<sub>4</sub>I, MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, and MgBr<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O) were placed in a stainless steel reactor equipped with a glass tube and a magnetic stirring bar. The vacuum/argon cycles were performed, and sulfur dioxide (25 ± 5 g) was transferred into the sealed reactor at –78 °C by

distillation. The reactor was sealed, and the reaction was performed under pressure at elevated temperature ( $p \sim 20$  bar at 105 °C) for the time specified in Tables 5 and 6, Schemes 1–3. Then, the reactor was cooled down to room temperature and connected to either the storage cylinder of SO<sub>2</sub> for the solvent recycling or a trap containing aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution for SO<sub>2</sub> removal. To the solid residue, ~10 mL of DCM or chloroform was added. The resulting mixture was filtered through cotton wool or celite layer and (variations): (1) evaporated; (2) evaporated, treated with hexane and silica gel, filtered, and evaporated; (3) washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 10% Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and evaporated; and (4) washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and evaporated. The obtained final residue was quantitatively analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy using diphenyl methane or *m*-tolyl aldehyde (only for 4h and 5h) as an internal standard.

**(1-Iodovinyl)benzene (4a).**<sup>69</sup> Yield 235 mg (94%; purity 96%; CsI). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.60–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.27 (m, 3H), 6.48 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 141.8, 129.0, 128.4, 128.2, 127.4, 107.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  230.0;  $t_R$  6.93 min.

**4-(1-Iodovinyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (4b).** Yield 255 mg (99%; purity 84%; CsI). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.65–7.51 (m, 6H), 7.50–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.33 (m, 1H), 6.53 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 141.8, 140.6, 140.3, 129.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.4, 127.2, 107.2. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  306.0;  $t_R$  8.87 min. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>I 306.9978; found 306.9991.

**1-(1-Iodovinyl)-4-methylbenzene (4c).**<sup>69</sup> Yield 162 mg (70%; purity 87%; NH<sub>4</sub>I). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 139.0, 129.0, 128.1, 126.6 (2C), 107.9, 21.2. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  244.0;  $t_R$  7.30 min.

**1-(1-Iodovinyl)-4-propylbenzene (4e).** Yield 212 mg (quant.; purity 95%; NH<sub>4</sub>I). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 0.96 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 143.8, 139.1, 128.4, 128.1, 126.5, 107.9, 37.7, 24.5, 13.9. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  272.1;  $t_R$  7.75 min. HRMS (APCI)  $m/z$ :  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>I 273.01347; found 273.01333.

**1-Butyl-4-(1-iodovinyl)benzene (4f).** Yield 167 mg (86%; purity 63%; NH<sub>4</sub>I). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.61 (q,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (s,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 144.1, 139.1, 128.4, 128.1, 126.6, 107.9, 35.4, 33.6, 22.5, 14.1. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  286.1;  $t_R$  8.01 min. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[M + K]^+$  calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>IK 324.9850; found 324.9850.

**1-(1-Iodovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (4h).**<sup>69</sup> Yield 195 mg (82%; purity 79%; NH<sub>4</sub>I). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 160.1, 134.3, 129.5, 125.7, 113.5, 107.4, 55.5. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  260.0;  $t_R$  7.64 min.

**1-Fluoro-4-(1-iodovinyl)benzene (4t).** Yield 198 mg (91%; purity 92%; NH<sub>4</sub>I). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.55–

7.44 (m, 2H), 7.05–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.41 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.06 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 163.0 (d,  $J = 248$  Hz), 138.1 (d,  $J = 3$  Hz), 129.9 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz), 127.5, 115.2 (d,  $J = 22$  Hz), 105.8 (d,  $J = 2$  Hz). The NMR data are not consistent with previously reported values.<sup>70</sup> GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  248.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  6.83 min.

(*E*)-1-(1,2-Diodovinyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (**8**).<sup>71</sup> Yield 56 mg (14%).  $R_{\text{f}}$  0.69 (Hex).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.64 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.36 (s, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 146.7, 130.9 (q,  $J = 32$  Hz), 129.1, 125.7 (q,  $J = 4$  Hz), 123.9 (q,  $J = 274$  Hz), 93.8, 82.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI):  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.76 min,  $m/z$  424.9  $[\text{M}]^+$ .

(1-Iodovinyl)cyclopropane (**9a**).<sup>72</sup> Yield 55% (CsI); obtained mixture of **9a**, **10a**, and **11a** in 85% combined yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 6.07 (t,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.67 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.57–1.44 (m, 1H), 0.78–0.68 (m, 2H), 0.67–0.59 (m, 2H). GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  193.9;  $t_{\text{R}}$  5.06 min.

2,5-Diiodopent-2-ene (**10a**, **11a**).<sup>73</sup> Yield 316 mg (83%: **10a**, 54% + **11a**, 29%;  $\text{NH}_4\text{I}$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : (**11a**): 6.12 (tq,  $J = 7.5$ , 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.65–2.56 (m, 2H), 2.41–2.34 (m, 3H). (**10a**): 5.50 (tq,  $J = 6.7$ , 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.73–2.65 (m, 2H), 2.53–2.48 (m, 3H). GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ : 321.8 (**10a**) and 321.9 (**11a**);  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.01 (**10a**) and 7.18 (**11a**) min.

(1-Iodoprop-1-en-1-yl)benzene (**12a**).<sup>74</sup> Yield 181 mg (92%; purity 94%; CsI; (*E*)/(*Z*) 64:36 mol %).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.49–7.42 (m, 2H (*Z*)), 7.37–7.22 (m, 8H), 6.57 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H (*E*)), 5.99 (q,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 1H (*Z*)), 1.97 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 3H (*Z*)), 1.64 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H (*E*)).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 143.3, 141.5, 137.9, 133.7, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 106.8, 95.3, 23.7, 18.0. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  244.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.15 (*E*) and 7.31 (*Z*) min.

(1-Bromovinyl)benzene (**5a**).<sup>32</sup> Yield 167 mg (83%; purity 89%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.64–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.29 (m, 3H), 6.13 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.79 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 138.7, 131.1, 129.2, 128.4, 127.5, 117.8. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  183.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  6.60 min.

4-(1-Bromovinyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (**5b**).<sup>75</sup> Yield 261 mg (quant.; purity 80%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.69 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.65–7.55 (m, 4H), 7.47 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.19 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 142.0, 140.3, 137.5, 130.8, 129.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.2, 127.1, 117.7. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  258.1;  $t_{\text{R}}$  8.60 min.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-methylbenzene (**5c**).<sup>76</sup> Yield 190 mg (quant.; purity 99%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.51 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.09 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 139.3, 135.8, 131.2, 129.0, 127.3, 116.9, 21.3. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  197.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.00 min.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-ethylbenzene (**5d**). Yield 190 mg (quant.; purity 68%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.52 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.09 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.74 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 (q,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.25 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.7, 136.1, 131.2, 127.9, 127.5, 117.0, 28.7, 15.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  211.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.22 min. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{Br}$  211.0117; found 211.0143.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-propylbenzene (**5e**). Yield 185 mg (quant.; purity 90%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.52 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.09 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.74 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.66 (s,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 0.96 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 144.1, 131.3, 128.5, 127.3, 126.0, 116.9, 37.8, 24.5, 13.9. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  225.1;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.51 min. HRMS (APCI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{Br}$  225.02731; found 225.02734.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-butylbenzene (**5f**).<sup>77</sup> Yield 166 mg (quant.; purity 91%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.51 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.09 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.73 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.63 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.61 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.37 (s,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 144.3, 136.1, 131.3, 128.4, 127.4, 116.9, 35.4, 33.6, 22.5, 14.1. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  239.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.76 min.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-(*tert*-butyl)benzene (**5g**).<sup>78</sup> Yield 165 mg (quant.; purity 84%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.55 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.10 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 152.5, 135.9, 131.2, 127.2, 125.4, 117.0, 34.8, 31.4. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  239.1;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.61 min.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (**5h**).<sup>76</sup> Yield 150 mg (93%; purity 61%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.53 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.01 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.67 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 160.3, 131.2, 130.8, 128.8, 116.0, 113.6, 55.5. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  212.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  7.37 min.

1-(1-Bromovinyl)-4-fluorobenzene (**5t**).<sup>75</sup> Yield 159 mg (91%; purity 75%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.64–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.10–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.05 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.76 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 163.2 (d,  $J = 249$  Hz), 134.9 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz), 129.8, 129.3 (d,  $J = 9$  Hz), 117.8, 115.3 (d,  $J = 22$  Hz). GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  201.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  6.48 min.

2,5-Dibromopent-2-ene (**10b**, **11b**).<sup>79</sup> Yield 230 mg (85%: **10b**, 58% + **11b**, 27%; LiBr).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : (**11b**): 5.86 (tq,  $J = 7.5$ , 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.64–2.54 (m, 2H), 2.27–2.22 (m, 3H). (**10b**): 5.71 (tq,  $J = 6.7$ , 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.77–2.65 (m, 2H), 2.33–2.27 (m, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : (**10b**): 125.8, 125.3, 34.9, 31.3, 29.0; (**11b**): 128.7, 122.6, 33.0, 31.1, 23.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI):  $t_{\text{R}}$  6.34 (**10b**) and 6.48 (**11b**) min,  $m/z$  227.9  $[\text{M}]^+$ .

(1-Bromoprop-1-en-1-yl)benzene (**12b**).<sup>80,81</sup> Yield 182 mg (97%; purity 86%; LiBr; (*E*)/(*Z*) 75:25 mol %).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.64–7.18 (m, 10H), 6.36–6.22 (m, 2H), 1.96 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H (*Z*)), 1.68 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H (*E*)). GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  197.0;  $t_{\text{R}}$  6.78 (*E*) and 6.95 (*Z*) min.

(*Z*)-1-(1-Bromo-2-phenylvinyl)-4-methoxybenzene ((*Z*)-**13**).<sup>82</sup> Yield 88 mg (quant.; LiBr) for a mixture of (*Z*)-**13** and (*Z*)-**14**; (*Z*)-**13**/*(Z)*-**14** 76:24 mol %. Sample for NMR analysis isolated by preparative thin-layer chromatography.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.70 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 160.2, 136.7, 133.7, 129.3 (2C), 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 124.1, 113.8, 55.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  289.1;  $t_{\text{R}}$  9.05 min.

(*Z*)-1-(2-Bromo-2-phenylvinyl)-4-methoxybenzene ((*Z*)-14).<sup>83</sup> Yield 88 mg (quant.; LiBr) for a mixture of (*Z*)-13 and (*Z*)-14; (*Z*)-13/(*Z*)-14 76:24 mol %. Sample for NMR analysis isolated by preparative thin-layer chromatography. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.18–7.08 (m, 4H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 160.0, 136.5, 132.6, 131.9, 130.9, 128.8, 128.4, 127.5, 123.8, 114.1, 55.4. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 289.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 8.74 min.

1-(1,2-Dibromovinyl)-4-propylbenzene (15). Yield 139 mg (97%; purity 66%; LiBr). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.67 (s, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.96 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 144.5, 134.4, 129.3, 128.5, 121.9, 102.5, 38.1, 24.4, 14.0. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 304.0; *t*<sub>R</sub> 8.02 min. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> 304.9358; found 304.9371. Configuration of the double bond is not determined.

4-(1-Chlorovinyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (6b). Yield 81% (LiCl). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.66–7.55 (m, 4H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 142.0, 140.3, 139.8, 135.9, 129.0, 127.8, 127.2, 127.1, 126.9, 112.6. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 214.2; *t*<sub>R</sub> 8.37 min. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl 215.0622; found 215.0617.

1-(1-Chlorovinyl)-4-methylbenzene (6c).<sup>84</sup> Yield 94% (LiCl). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 140.1, 139.3, 134.3, 129.1, 126.4, 111.9, 21.3. GC–MS (70 eV, EI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> 152.1; *t*<sub>R</sub> 6.63 min.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acsomega.8b01630.

Description of GC–MS method used to determine the content of the reaction mixtures, detailed study on catalytic activity of Cu(II) and Ag(I) triflates, complete tables of alkyne hydrohalogenation experiments, and copies of NMR spectra, including representative spectra of quantitative NMR analysis (PDF)

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

## ■ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the Latvian Council of Science Grant No. LZP-2018/1-0315. The authors are indebted to Professor Ivo Leito for helpful discussions on the acidity of trace amounts of water in liquid sulfur dioxide.

## ■ ADDITIONAL NOTE

<sup>a</sup>For a detailed study on the catalytic activity of Ag(I) and Cu(II) triflates in EtOAc and liquid SO<sub>2</sub>, see Tables S1 and S2 (Supporting Information), respectively.

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