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Base-Mediated Claisen Rearrangement of CF₃-Containing Bisallyl Ethers

Yoko Hamada, Rio Matsunaga, Tomoko Kawasaki-Takasuka, and Takashi Yamazaki*

Division of Applied Chemistry, Institute of Engineering, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, 2-24-16 Nakamachi, Koganei 184-8588, Japan
* Correspondence: tyamazak@cc.tuat.ac.jp; Tel.: +81-42-388-7038

Abstract: We have previously clarified that the strongly electron-withdrawing CF₃ group nicely affected the base-mediated proton migration reactions of CF₃-containing propargylic or allylic alcohols to afford the corresponding α,β-unsaturated or saturated ketones, respectively, which was applied this time to the Claisen rearrangement after O-allylation of the allylic alcohols, followed by isomerization to the corresponding allyl vinyl ethers, enabling the desired rearrangement in a tandem fashion, or in a stepwise manner where a palladium catalyst attained an excellent diastereoselectivity.

Keywords: Claisen rearrangement; isomerization; trifluoromethyl; Cieplak rule

1. Introduction

It is widely understood that strategic entry of fluorine atoms or fluorinated groups to adequate molecules gave strong impact to the original character in many instances, and thus development of novel methods for the construction of a variety of such compounds has attracted significant attention of researchers working in the field of synthetic organic chemistry, material science, and biologically active compounds [1–5]. For this reason, we have been studying to realize facile preparation of such molecules, and recently reported an interesting proton transfer starting from both propargylic [6] and allylic alcohols [7], enabling to form diverse α,β-enones and saturated ketones, respectively, just by their treatment with very convenient as well as easy-to-handle tertiary amines. The representative example for the latter was described in Scheme 1. Presence of the electron-withdrawing CF₃ group was considered to play a crucial role in activation of a proton, H⁺, at the allylic position of 1, and its abstraction was actually realized by the action of such a weak base as DBU under the toluene refluxing condition which resulted in the simple isomerization to the intermediates, Int-1, followed by the conversion to their keto form 2 to complete this interesting sequence. This reaction mechanism was proved by our own computation for the transition state [7] as well as by experimental employment of the deuterated substrate by the other group [8]. On the basis of this successful as well as convenient proton shift process starting from the CF₃-containing allylic alcohols 1, we envisaged its interesting extension from the synthetic point of view: thus, our idea was that the bisallylic ethers 2 possibly readily synthesized by way of the O-allylation of 1 were recognized as the potential substrates for the Claisen rearrangement as long as the proton shift of 3 to 4 was possible. It is worthwhile to note that, except for our previous report [9], there are no such examples to prepare the compounds 5 by way of Claisen rearrangement irrespective of the substituents R², while there are some reports on the alkylation methods to alternatively get access to 5 [10–13]. We thus started our research for the novel utilization of the CF₃-containing bisallylic ethers 3 as the potent substrates for the [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement via the facile isomerization to the corresponding allyl...
Scheme 1. Isomerization of allylic alcohols 1 by the proton shift.

Table 1. Optimization of the reaction conditions for the O-allylation of 1a.

| Entry | Base (equiv) | PTC | Solvent | AllylBr (equiv) | Temp. (°C) | Time (h) | Yield 1 (%) | Recovery 1 (%) |
|-------|-------------|-----|---------|----------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| 1     | NaH (1.1)   | –   | THF     | 1.1            | rt         | 16       | 4           | [35]           | 0              |
| 2     | t-BuOK (2.0)| –   | THF     | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | 45          | 17             | 35             |
| 3     | DBU (1.1)   | –   | THF     | 5.0            | rt         | 16       | 0           | 0              | 99             |
| 4     | BuLi (1.1)  | –   | THF     | 1.1            | rt         | 16       | 0           | 0              | 99             |
| 5     | NaOH 1 (24)| BuNi| DCM     | 5.0            | rt         | 16       | [92]        | trace          | 0              |
| 6     | NaOH 2 (24)| BnEt3NCl| DCM | 5.0          | rt         | 16       | 79          | 2              | 18             |
| 7     | NaOH 3 (24)| BuNBr| DCM | 5.0          | rt         | 16       | [92]        | 2              | 0              |
| 8     | NaOH 4 (24)| BuNi| THF     | 5.0            | rt         | 16       | 82          | trace          | 18             |
| 9     | NaOH 5 (24)| BuNi| CHCl3  | 5.0            | rt         | 16       | [41]        | 0              | 0              |
| 10    | NaOH 6 (24)| BuNi| DCM     | 4.0            | rt         | 16       | [92]        | trace          | trace          |
| 11    | NaOH 7 (24)| BuNi| DCM     | 3.0            | rt         | 16       | [88]        | 2              | 0              |
| 12    | NaOH 8 (24)| BuNi| DCM     | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | [89]        | 3              | trace          |
| 13    | NaOH 9 (24)| BuNi| DCM     | 1.5            | rt         | 24       | 79          | trace          | trace          |
| 14    | NaOH 10 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 1.1            | rt         | 48       | [74]        | 6              | 0              |
| 15    | BuLi 1 (1.1)| –   | THF     | 1.1            | reflux     | 16       | 24          | 15             | 60             |
| 16    | BuLi 1 (1.0)| –   | THF     | 1.0            | rt         | 6        | 58          | 0              | 42             |
| 17    | NaOH 11 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | 54          | 2              | 44             |
| 18    | NaOH 12 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | 69          | 6              | 25             |
| 19    | NaOH 13 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | 77          | 3              | 16             |
| 20    | NaOH 14 (6)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | 39          | 2              | 58             |
| 21    | NaOH 15 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 16       | [69]        | 2              | 29             |
| 22    | NaOH 16 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 24       | [83]        | 4              | 13             |
| 23    | NaOH 17 (24)| BuNi| DCM    | 2.0            | rt         | 48       | [98]        | trace          | trace          |

1 Determined by $^{19}$F NMR and yields after isolation were shown in brackets. 2 A 6 M aqueous solution was used. 3 2 and 10 M aqueous solutions were used for Entries 17 and 18, respectively. 4 Alkoxide was prepared by the addition of BuLi at 0 °C for 10 min, followed by changing the temperature as depicted. 5 3.0 equiv of HMPA was added.
2. Results and discussion

2.1 Preparation of bisallyl ethers

Preparation of the CF₃-containing allylic alcohols 1 was carried out in a stereoselective fashion following to our own developed method like 1) reactions of adequate Grignard reagents with CF₃CO₂Et to construct the ketones CF₃-C(O)-R¹, 2) their Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reactions with (EtO)₂P(O)CH₂C(O)R² [14], and 3) NaBH₄ reduction of the obtained α,β-unsaturated ketones. Important to note is the fact that the sequences 1) and 2) could be performed without isolation of the intermediary trifluorinated ketones which allowed the possible formation of 1 even with a “small” R¹ whose isolation is usually difficult due to their low boiling points and high volatility [7,15].

Optimization of the reaction conditions for the O-allylation was initially performed using the allylic alcohol 1a as the representative model whose results are summarized in Table 1. First of all, investigation of a base clarified that an excess amount of an 6 M NaOH aqueous solution was the best among tested for the construction of the desired 3a (Entries 1 to 5). Because BuLi unexpectedly recorded complete recovery (Entry 4), we further changed the reaction temperature or the reactivity by the addition of HMPA but both did not give any fruitful results (Entries 5 or 16, respectively). Formation of the saturated ketone 2a as the byproduct was interpreted as a result of abstraction of a proton at C¹ in 1a, followed by re-protonation at C³, and the stronger bases showed the clear tendency to prefer this isomerization except for BuLi. After fixing the base as 6 M NaOH aq., further brief check of a phase transfer catalyst (PTC) pointed out that Bu₄NI was the reagent of choice (Entries 5 to 7) in combination with DCM as a solvent (Entries 5, 8, and 9). Entries 10 to 14 were carried out for determination of the best amount of allyl bromide and it was concluded that 2.0 equiv was suffice for our purpose. Final examination on the

Table 2. Formation of bisallylic ethers 3.

| Entry | R¹         | R²         | Comp. | Isolated yield ¹ (%) |
|-------|------------|------------|-------|----------------------|
| 1     | Ph         | Ph         | a     | 98 (2)               |
| 2     | p-MeOC₆H₄ | Ph         | b     | 90 (2)               |
| 3     | p-F₆H₄    | Ph         | c     | 84 (7)               |
| 4     | Et         | Ph         | d     | 90 (trace)           |
| 5     | Ph(CH₂)₂  | Ph         | e     | 81 (5)               |
| 6     | Ph(CH₂)₂  | p-MeOC₆H₄ | f     | 71 (0)               |
| 7     | Ph(CH₂)₂  | p-Br₆H₄   | g     | 87 (4)               |
| 8     | Ph         | Ph(CH₂)₂  | h     | 55² (0)              |
| 9     | Ph         | Et         | i     | 54² (0)              |

¹ Yields determined by ¹⁹F NMR were shown in parentheses. ² In these cases, about 40% of the substrates were recovered.
concentration (Entries 12, 17, and 18), the equiv (Entries 12, 19, and 20) of NaOH, and the reaction period (Entries 12, 22, and 23) led to the final conclusion that the conditions shown in Entry 23 was the best of all for the O-allylation of 1a.

The optimized reaction conditions determined as above were employed for the synthesis of a variety of the O-allylated CF3-containing ethers 3 whose results are collected in Table 2. In spite of obtaining the side product, ketones 2, in small amounts, good to excellent isolated yields were attained for the construction of the desired bisallylic ethers 3 in many instances. However, this was not the case for the substrates 1 possessing alkyl substituents as R2 whose electron-donating effect seemed to lower the acidity of a OH group to slow down the reaction rate and consequently led to recovery of the substrates to some extent (Entries 8 and 9). In our previous report on the 1,3-proton shift of the compounds 1 to the ketones 2 [7], the clear substituent effect for R2 was experimentally as well as computationally manifested, and aromatic groups were required for the smooth promotion of this isomerization by effective increase of the acidity of the proton at C1. It is important to mention that the clear contrast was pointed out for the substituents R1 whose effect was, different from the instance of R2, only limited.

Table 3. Base-mediated isomerization of bisallyl ethers 3.

| Entry | R1     | R2     | Comp. | Temp. (°C) | Time (h) | Yield 1,2 (%) | Recovery 3 (%) |
|-------|--------|--------|-------|------------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1     | Ph     | Ph     | a     | rt         | 96       | [73] 16       | (88:12) 0      |
| 2     | Ph     | Ph     | a     | reflux     | 6        | [69] [27] (74:26) | 0              |
| 3,3   | Ph     | Ph     | a     | reflux     | 2        | 15 59         | 20             |
| 4,3   | Ph     | Ph     | a     | reflux     | 3        | 0 [91] (68:32) | 0              |
| 5     | p-MeOC6H4 | Ph | b     | rt         | 24       | 10 0          | 88             |
| 6     | p-MeOC6H4 | Ph | b     | 40        | 48       | [52] 7        | 31             |
| 7     | p-MeOC6H4 | Ph | b     | reflux     | 24       | 15 85         | (73:27) 0      |
| 8,3   | p-MeOC6H4 | Ph | b     | reflux     | 15       | 0 [88] (66:34) | 0              |
| 9     | p-FC6H4 | Ph     | c     | reflux     | 48       | [62] 0        | 31             |
| 10    | p-FC6H4 | Ph     | c     | reflux     | 96       | [84] 6        | 0              |
| 11,3  | p-FC6H4 | Ph     | c     | reflux     | 3        | 0 [91] (65:35) | 0              |
| 12    | Et     | Ph     | d     | reflux     | 24       | 3 0          | 96             |
| 13    | Et     | Ph     | d     | reflux     | 48       | [59] 17       | 16             |
| 14,3  | Et     | Ph     | d     | reflux     | 48       | 0 [87] (55:45) | trace          |
| 15    | Ph(CH2)2 | Ph | e     | reflux     | 24       | 5 0          | 88             |
| 16,3  | Ph(CH2)2 | Ph | e     | reflux     | 24       | [62] 5        | 19             |
| 17    | Ph(CH2)2 | p-MeOC6H4 | f | reflux     | 24       | 0 0          | quant          |
| 18    | Ph(CH2)2 | p-MeOC6H4 | f | reflux     | 48       | [42] 13       | 43             |
| 19,3  | Ph(CH2)2 | p-MeOC6H4 | f | reflux     | 48       | 0 [56] (50:50) | 34             |
| 20    | Ph(CH2)2 | p-BrC6H4 | g     | reflux     | 24       | 30 0         | 69             |
| 21    | Ph(CH2)2 | p-BrC6H4 | g     | reflux     | 96       | [99] 0        | 0              |
| 22    | Ph(CH2)2 | p-BrC6H4 | g     | reflux     | 24       | [79] 13       | 0              |
| 23,3  | Ph(CH2)2 | p-BrC6H4 | g     | reflux     | 10       | 0 [85] (55:45) | 0              |

1 Determined by 19F NMR and yields after isolation were shown in brackets. 2 Diastereomer ratios determined by 19F NMR was shown in parentheses. 3 Toluene was used as a solvent.
2.2. Preparation of allyl vinyl ethers 4 and one-pot isomerization-Claisen rearrangement from 3

The requisite bisallyl ethers 3 in hand, we have at first undertaken the base-promoted isomerization of 3 to 4 (Table 3). Application of 0.5 equiv of DBU as a base was because of its high potency for our previous system to achieve the proton migration of 1 to 2 [7]. As a result, it was observed that the desired isomerization of the bisallyl ether 3a proceeded in a very smooth fashion at room temperature to furnish the corresponding allyl vinyl ether 5a as a single stereoisomer (Entry 1). Stereochemistry of 5a was presumed to be Z on the basis of the fact that the exclusive formation of the (Z)-enol silyl ether by the action of LDA to the structurally similar propiophenone due to the unfavorable steric congestion between the methyl and phenyl groups in the corresponding (E)-isomer [16]. Because the attachment of an aromatic group as R2 was found to be essential for the realization of the facile isomerization of 1 to 2, all compounds 3 employed here possessed benzene-based R2 and thus, all of the products 4 were considered to have the same (Z)-stereochemistry. Under room temperature stirring for 4 days, [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement of (Z)-4a simultaneously proceeded and the desired product 5a was constructed in 16% yield with the 88% syn preference (please refer to the section 2.4 for the explanation of the syn selectivity).

Because of the relatively slow reaction rate as described in Entry 1, attempt to raise the reaction temperature was conducted to find out that reflux in THF gave strong influence to the conversion of 3a which was significantly accelerated with recording almost quantitative combined yields of 4a and 5a (Entry 2). Solvent change to toluene provided 45 °C difference for the reflux temperature which seemed to be sufficient for the sequential isomerization-Claisen rearrangement to produce 91% of the desired product 5a as a 68:32 diastereomer mixture only in 3 h (Entries 3–4). Necessity of 15 h for completion of the reaction was interpreted as the destabilization of the transition state by the electron-donating MeO group at the p-position of a phenyl moiety in R1 of 3b (Entry 8). This is in good contrast to the case of the substrate 3c with a fluorine atom at the same position and 3 h reflux in toluene was enough to afford 91% yield of the product 5c (Entry 11). In both instances of 3b and 3c, 40 °C and room temperature reactions alternatively led to the formation of the allyl vinyl ethers 4b and 4c in moderate to good yields, respectively (Entries 6 and 10).

The similar substituent effect of R1 was clearly understood by comparison of the results in Entries 12–23 with the others, and retardation of this isomerization was observed by incorporation of alkyl groups for R1 but in a less effective manner than the case of R2 which completely inhibited the elimination of a proton from C1 and thus, no transformation of 1 to 2 was observed [7]. In the case of 3d with R1=Et, 48 h reflux was necessary for the direct transformation to 5d which attained in 87% isolated yield but with the decreased diastereoselectivity to 55:45. In the case of the substrate 3e to 3g with a Ph(CH2):CF3 moiety as R1, almost similar outcomes were recorded for the chemical yields as well as the stereoselectivities irrespective of variation of the reaction periods.

Scheme 2. Effect of DBU for the epimerization of the rearranged product 5a.

![Scheme 2](image-url)
For acquiring information on the effect of the reaction temperature and time towards the diastereoselectivity, the isolated product 5a (syn:anti=74:26) was submitted to the rearrangement conditions using toluene as a solvent (Scheme 2). Thus, reflux for 3 h demonstrated the slight decrease of the isomeric ratio to 68:32 which was further lowered to 66:34 after the prolonged reaction time to 24 h. On the other hand, the initial proportion was completely retained when 5a was stirred at room temperature, or under reflux without the base, DBU. This brief study proved that a weak base DBU was found to have an ability for epimerization of 5a at least in part, which was nicely explained the experimental facts shown in Entries 1, 2, and 4 as well as 7 and 8 in Table 3: the lower the reaction temperature became, the better the diastereomer ratios were obtained. For the instances of the substrates 3 with an alkyl substituent as R′, the lower selectivity obtained was similarly understood as a consequence of requirement of longer reaction times which would cause the higher chance of epimerization at the α position to the carbonyl group in 5.

2.3. Improvement of the diastereoselectivity of the Claisen rearrangement products 5

Because it was our interpretation that the low diastereoselectivity of the rearranged products 5 was attributed to the requirement of the harsh conditions like refluxing in toluene at 111 °C, modification of the present system was considered by the addition of appropriate activators for the purpose of lowering the reaction temperature. As described in Table 4, 20 mol% of typical Lewis acids like TiCl4, BF3·OEt2, and AlCl3 were independently added to a CH2Cl2 solution containing 4a at 0 °C to prove that cleavage of the allylic ether part was occurred as the main pathway to yield the ketone 2a along with a minor quantity of the requisite rearranged product 5a (Entries 1 to 3, Table 4). Further decrease of the reaction temperature in the case of TiCl4 was carried out with the

Table 4  Claisen rearrangement of 5 mediated by additives.

| Entry | R1 | Comp. | Solvent | Additive | Temp. (°C) | Time (h) | Yield (%) 5 2 |
|-------|----|-------|---------|----------|------------|----------|--------------|
| 1     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | TiCl4 (20) | 0          | 6        | 24 (67:33) 71 |
| 2     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | BF3·OEt2 (20) | 0          | 6        | 2 (~) 68   |
| 3     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | AlCl3 (20)  | 0          | 6        | 6 (83:17) 45 |
| 4     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | TiCl4 (20)  | ~80        | 6        | 0 99          |
| 5     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | Sc(OTf)2 (20) | 0          | 6        | 1 (~) 40   |
| 6     | Ph | a     | HFIP    | –         | rt        | 72       | 66 (76:24) 6 |
| 7     | Ph | a     | THF     | PdCl2:(PhCN): (10) | 25          | 5        | 77 (92:8) 2 |
| 8     | Ph | a     | CH2Cl2  | PdCl2:(PhCN): (10) | 25          | 5        | 80 (90:10) 12 |
| 9     | Ph | a     | Toluene | PdCl2:(PhCN): (10) | 25          | 5        | [70] (95:5) 0 |
| 10    | \(p\)-MeOC6H4 | b | Toluene | PdCl2:(PhCN): (10) | 25          | 5        | [81] (95:5) 2 |
| 11    | \(p\)-FC6H4 | c | Toluene | PdCl2:(PhCN): (10) | 25          | 5        | [65] (94:6) 0 |

1 Determined by \(^{19}F\) NMR and yields after isolation were shown in brackets. 2 Diastereomer ratios determined by \(^{19}F\) NMR were shown in parentheses. 3 Inseparable isomers 6 was observed by \(^{19}F\) NMR (8% in Entry 9, 6% in Entry 10, and 4% in Entry 11).
expectation to inhibit this unfavorable route, but 2a was again the sole product obtained even at −80 °C (Entry 4). The similar consequence was noticed for Sc(OTf)₃ (Entry 5), and like the cases of other triflates like Mg(OTf)₂, Yb(OTf)₃, Gd(OTf)₃ (not shown in Table 4) [17], the total amounts of fluorinated compounds obtained were only in a range of 40% to 60% including 5a in less than 5% yields. However, interesting to note is the fact that weakly acidic but non-nucleophilic 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-ol (HFIP) [18] promoted the reaction nicely to afford 5a in 66% yield after stirring for 3 days at room temperature (Entry 6).

At the next stage, application of PdCl₂(PhCN)₂ was implemented on the basis of our previous experience on the usefulness of this catalyst for the Ireland-Claisen rearrangement [9,19,20]: as a result, 10 mol% of this catalyst was found to be quite effective for excellent conversion of 4a to 5a even at room temperature. After brief examination of the solvent, toluene recorded smooth transformation without forming 2a and the desired product 5a was obtained in 70% yield (Entries 7 to 9). The additional benefit was the increase of the diastereoselectivity from 68:32 (Entry 4, Table 3) to 95:5 (Entry 9) where, in line with our expectation, the lowering of the reaction temperature from 111 °C (toluene reflux) to 25 °C would at least in part play a significant role. This pertinent condition was also able to improve the outcome of the reaction for the both substrates 4b (R¹: p-MeOC₆H₄) and 4c (R¹: p-FC₆H₄), attaining the same level of the excellent selectivity in 81% and 65% isolated yields, respectively (Entries 10 and 11). One drawback of this Pd-catalyzed process is the formation of the byproducts 6 in a range of 4 to 8% [21] (Entries 9 to 11) which was not possible to be removed completely. As described in Scheme 3, subject- tion of the thermally rearranged product 5a as a 70:30 diastereomer mixture to this Pd-catalyzed conditions led to the formation of 10% of 6a (determined by ¹⁹F NMR), which unambiguously proved that, at least in part, 6a was obtained as the result of isomerization of 5a.

Scheme 3. Control experiment for the olefinic isomerization

![Scheme 3 diagram]

2.4. Discussion on the reaction mechanism

First of all, on the diastereoselectivity of the present Claisen rearrangement, production of the syn-isomer was highly expected on the basis of our previous report as shown in Scheme 4 [9]. Thus, Michael addition of butyroyloxazolidinone-based enolate to allyl 4,4,4-trifluorobut-2-enoate, followed by the capture of the resultant enolate by TMSCl furnished the intermediary ketene silyl acetal Int-1 [22,23]. This intermediate Int-1 was then experienced the Ireland-Claisen rearrangement with the aid of a catalytic amount of PdCl₂(PhCN)₂ to afford the rearranged product 7 in a highly stereoselective manner along with the unrearranged Michael adduct 8 in 63% and 32% yields, respectively. Stereochemistry of 7 was crystallographically confirmed as 2,3-anti,3,4-syn, the latter of which was conveniently explained by the Cieplak rule [24]. Because incipient transition states in general are electron-deficient, the reactions occur from the face where the better stabilization is attained by the electron donation from the adjacent C-C bond (Figure 1). Suppose that the rearrangement was occurred from the si-face (by way of TS-si), TS σ⁻ should
be better stabilized by electron-donation from the electron-richer $\sigma_{C-R1}$ orbital which rather than the participation of the electron-deficient $\sigma_{C-CF3}$. This rule consistently explained the preferential formation of the syn-isomer as determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

Scheme 4. Tandem Michael addition-Ireland-Claisen rearrangement of allyl (E)-4,4,4-trifluorobutenoate.

Figure 1. Cieplak model for interpretation of the diastereoselectivity obtained.

Validity of the Cieplak rule has previously reported by us for the Michael addition of enolates [25] with the same R-C(CF$_3$)H-branched structure at the allylic $\gamma$-position of the acceptors, allowing to receive the nucleophilic attack unanimously from the side where the CF$_3$ group is situated.
In the case of the thermal rearrangement shown in Table 3, there are two distinct groups of 5a-c and 5d-g in terms of the diastereoselectivity obtained which was interpreted in the section 2.2 as a result of the lower activating character by the electron-donating R’ moieties in the latter group, thereby requiring a longer reaction time with possible higher chance of epimerization. Another explanation would be made from the standpoint of steric requirement: the smaller substituents for the latter group as R’ (Et and PhCH2CH2 with the revised Taft Es values (Es’) [26] of 0.08 and 0.35, respectively) than the case of the former (for example, 2.31 and 0.78 Es’ values for Ph and CF3, respectively; the bigger numbers indicate the more steric bulkiness) would alleviate the unfavorable steric factors for the approach from the electronically less favorable re-face, thereby the diastereoselectivity was more or less lowered.

3. Conclusion

As depicted above, we have succeeded in development of a new route of the Claisen rearrangement starting from the base-mediated isomerization of the bisallylic alcohols 3 to the allyl vinyl ethers 4, and the following formation of the rearranged products 5 were found to be realized in a one-pot manner when the reactions were conducted under toluene reflux conditions. Excellent alternative method was to treat 4 with such a catalyst as PdCl2(PPh3)4 in toluene, and in spite of contamination by a small amount of isomerization products 6, the highest diastereomeric ratio of 95:5 was recorded which are well compared with the ones of 68:32 obtained by the direct thermal rearrangement from 3a. The weakly acidic HFIP was another choice for the present process which, in spite of requirement of 3 days for completion, the reaction nicely proceeded with recording good yield as well as stereoselectivity.

4. Materials and Methods

4.1. General Information.

Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification. All manipulations involving air-sensitive materials were performed under argon. Anhydrous Et2O, THF and CH2Cl2 were purchased and were used without further purification.

1H, 13C, and 19F NMR spectra were recorded with a JEOL JNM-LA300 (1H: 300 MHz, 13C: 75 MHz, and 19F: 283 MHz) in CDCl3. Chemical shifts were recorded in parts per million (ppm), downfield from internal tetramethylsilane (for 1H and 13C NMR, Me4Si: δ 0.00 ppm, and for 19F NMR, CFCl3 δ =-163.0 ppm). 13C NMR spectra of minor isomers may not be fully reported due to difficult visualization of peaks with small intensities even after a long data acquisition time. Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained on a JASCO FT/IR-4100 spectrometer, and all spectra were reported in wave numbers (cm⁻¹). High resolution mass spectra in a FAB mode were acquired on a JEOL JMS-700. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel 60 F254 (Merck) was routinely used for monitoring reactions. Column chromatography was conducted with silica gel 60 N (spherical, neutral, 63–210 nm, Kanto).

4.2. General procedure for the preparation of bisallyl ethers.

4.2.1. (E)-1,1,1-Trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}but-2-ene (3a).

To a 30 mL round-bottomed flask containing 0.14g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a (0.50mmol), 0.12 g of allyl bromide (1.0 mmol), 0.018 g of tetrabutylammonium iodide (0.050 mmol), and 5 mL of DCM was added 2 mL of 6 M NaOH aq. (12.0 mmol) and the whole solution was stirred for 48 h at room temperature. After quenching by 1.5 mL of 6 M HCl aq., the reaction mixture was extracted by DCM three times which was dried over anhydrous Na2SO4. Filtration of the desiccant and evaporation of the volatiles furnished a crude mixture which was chromatographed with silica-
gel using Hex:AcOEt=6:1 as an eluent to afford 0.16 g of the title compound (0.49 mmol) in 98% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.71 (Hex:AcOEt=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 3.79 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 6.0, 1.5 Hz), 3.86 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.7, 1.5 Hz), 4.75 (1H, d, J=9.3 Hz), 5.11 (1H, dq, J=10.2, 1.5 Hz), 5.17 (1H, dq, J=17.1, 1.8 Hz), 5.82 (1H, ddt, J=17.4, 10.3, 5.4 Hz), 6.57 (1H, dq, J=9.3, 1.5 Hz), 7.20-7.44 (10H, m). 13C NMR: δ 69.1, 76.7, 117.4, 123.1 (q, J=272.9 Hz), 126.9, 128.2, 128.5, 128.7, 128.9, 129.7, 131.5, 132.5 (q, J=30.4 Hz), 134.1, 135.9 (q, J=5.6 Hz), 139.6. 19F NMR: δ –67.77 (s). IR (neat): ν 3064, 3031, 2861, 1494, 1454, 1374, 1254, 1174, 1124, 1064, 702. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C36H33FO6, 539.1304, found 539.1320.

4.2.2. (E)-1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene (3b).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.16 g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1b (0.51 mmol) was employed and 0.15 g of the title compound (0.43 mmol) was isolated in 83% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.37 (Hex:AcOEt=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 3.76-3.90 (2H, m), 3.86 (3H, s), 4.78 (1H, d, J=9.0 Hz), 5.10-5.21 (2H, m), 5.84 (1H, ddt, J=17.1, 10.2, 5.4 Hz), 6.55 (1H, dq, J=9.6, 1.5 Hz), 6.95 (2H, dt, J=8.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.16-7.26 (4H, m), 7.30-7.38 (3H, m). 13C NMR: δ 55.2, 69.1, 76.8, 113.9, 117.3, 123.2 (q, J=272.9 Hz), 123.5, 126.9, 128.2, 128.7, 130.9, 139.2 (q, J=30.4 Hz), 134.2, 135.7 (q, J=5.0 Hz), 139.7, 160.0. 19F NMR: δ –67.93 (s). IR (neat): ν 3008, 2936, 2840, 1609, 1515, 1455, 1251, 1124, 927, 835, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C38H33FO10, 549.1410, found 549.1381.

4.2.3. (E)-1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene (3c).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.15 g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1c (0.51 mmol) was employed and 0.14 g of the title compound (0.42 mmol) was isolated in 84% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.57 (Hex:AcOEt=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 3.76-3.87 (2H, m), 4.71 (1H, d, J=9.3 Hz), 5.10-5.20 (2H, m), 5.82 (1H, ddt, J=17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz), 6.60 (1H, dq, J=9.3, 1.8 Hz), 7.12 (2H, tt, J=8.7, 2.1 Hz), 7.18-7.25 (4H, m), 7.29-7.39 (3H, m). 13C NMR: δ 69.1, 76.8, 115.7 (q, J=21.1 Hz), 117.4, 122.9 (q, J=272.9 Hz), 126.9, 127.4 (d, J=3.1 Hz), 128.4, 128.8, 131.4 (q, J=30.4 Hz), 131.6 (d, J=8.7 Hz), 134.1, 136.5 (q, J=5.0 Hz), 139.4, 163.1 (d, J=248.8 Hz). 19F NMR: δ –67.96 (3F, s), –113.33-113.43 (1F, m). IR (neat): ν 3031, 2862, 1605, 1513, 1455, 1317, 1236, 1175, 1124, 842, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C37H29FO12, 537.1216, found 537.1228.

4.2.4. (E)-1-Phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene (3d).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.12 g of (E)-1-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-en-1-ol 1d (0.50 mmol) was employed and 0.12 g of the title compound (0.45 mmol) was isolated in 90% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.34 (Hex:AcOEt=10:1). 1H NMR: δ 1.09 (3H, t, J=7.8 Hz), 2.27-2.40 (2H, m), 3.89-4.01 (2H, m), 5.11 (1H, d, J=8.7 Hz), 5.22 (1H, dq, J=10.2, 1.8 Hz), 5.27 (1H, dq, J=17.1, 1.5 Hz), 5.92 (1H, ddt, J=17.4, 10.5, 5.7 Hz), 6.26 (1H, dq, J=8.7, 1.5 Hz), 7.26-7.40 (5H, m). 13C NMR: δ 13.5, 19.5, 69.2, 76.0, 117.5, 124.3 (q, J=273.5 Hz), 126.9, 128.2, 128.8, 132.6 (q, J=27.9 Hz), 133.7 (q, J=5.6 Hz), 134.3, 139.9. 19F NMR: δ –68.54 (s). IR (neat): ν 2982, 2944, 2884, 1731, 1454, 1322, 1252, 1177, 1063, 926, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C16H17F3O, 270.1226, found 270.1206.

4.2.5. (E)-1,5-Diphenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene (3e).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.16 g of (E)-1,5-diphenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-en-1-ol 1e (0.52 mmol) was employed and 0.15 g of the title compound (0.42 mmol) was isolated in 81% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.63 (Hex:AcOEt=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 2.55-2.82 (4H, m), 3.82-3.83 (1H, m), 3.835-3.844 (1H, m), 4.97 (1H, d, J=9.0 Hz), 5.18-5.29 (2H, m), 5.89 (1H, ddt, J=17.1, 10.2, 5.7 Hz),
4.2.6. (E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene (3f).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.17 g of (E)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-en-1-ol 1f (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 48 h at 40 °C to furnish 0.091 g of 1f. 

IR (neat): v 3029, 3012, 2871, 1495, 1455, 1326, 1218, 1165, 1120, 765, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C33H33F3O, 437.1617, found 437.1631.

4.2.7. (E)-1-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene (3g).

Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenylbut-2-en-1-ol 1a, 0.19 g of (E)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-en-1-ol 1g (0.51 mmol) was employed and 0.19 g of the title compound (0.44 mmol) was isolated in 87% yield as a colorless oil.

IR (neat): v 3011, 2866, 1590, 1487, 1325, 1164, 1119, 1071, 1011, 762, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C33H29BrF3O, 425.0722, found 425.0757.

4.3. General procedure for the preparation of ally vinyl ethers.

4.3.1. (E)-4,4,4-Trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-1-ene (4a).

In a two-necked 30 mL round-bottomed flask were added under an argon atmosphere 0.16 g of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a (0.50 mmol), 0.039 g of DBU (0.25 mmol), and THF (5.0 mL), and the whole mixture was stirred for 96 h at room temperature. After quenching the reaction by the addition of H2O and usual workup, the crude material was purified by silica-gel chromatography using Hex:DCM=10:1 as an eluent to furnish 0.12 g (0.36 mmol) of the title compound as a colorless oil in 73% yield.

IR (neat): v 3033, 2931, 1654, 1495, 1251, 1165, 1119, 1052, 930, 771, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C33H33F3O, 319.1304, found 319.1313.

4.3.2. (E)-4,4,4-Trifluoro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene (4b).

Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.18 g of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3b (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 48 h at 40 °C to furnish 0.091 g of the title compound (0.26 mmol) was isolated in 52% yield as a colorless oil.
4.3.3. (E)-4,4,4-Trifluoro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]but-1-ene (4c).

Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]but-2-ene 3a, 0.17 g of (E)-1,1-trifluoro-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-4-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]but-2-ene 3c (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 96 h at room temperature to furnish 0.14 g of the title compound (0.42 mmol) was isolated in 84% yield as a colorless oil.

Rf=0.37 (Hex:DCM=3:1). 1H NMR: δ 8.03 (3H, s), 4.03 (1H, ddt, J=12.9, 5.7, 1.2 Hz), 4.14 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.7, 1.2 Hz), 4.69 (1H, quint, J=9.6 Hz), 5.17 (1H, dq, J=10.2, 1.2 Hz), 5.23 (1H, dq, J=17.1, 1.5 Hz), 5.56 (1H, d, J=9.6 Hz), 5.87 (1H, ddt, J=17.3, 10.5, 5.7 Hz), 6.86-6.96 (2H, m), 7.30-7.40 (5H, m), 7.42-7.47 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 45.6 (q, J=29.2 Hz), 55.1, 71.1, 107.4 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 114.0, 117.7, 126.4 (q, J=279.8 Hz), 126.7, 127.8 (q, J=19.2 Hz), 128.5, 128.8, 129.9, 133.4, 134.8, 156.9, 159.2. 19F NMR: δ −71.07 (d, J=9.0 Hz). IR (neat): ν 3061, 2934, 1613, 1514, 1251, 1163, 1110, 1036, 992, 828, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C20H18F3O: 349.1410, found 349.1451.

4.3.4. (E)-1-Phenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-1-ene (4d).

Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]but-2-ene 3a, 0.14 g of (E)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1-phenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]pent-2-ene 3d (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 48 h with refluxing to furnish 0.08 g of the title compound (0.30 mmol) was isolated in 59% yield as a colorless oil.

Rf=0.49 (Hex:DCM=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 0.98 (3H, t, J=7.5 Hz), 1.40-1.53 (1H, m), 1.79-1.93 (1H, m), 3.34-3.51 (1H, m), 4.09-4.20 (2H, m), 4.99 (1H, d, J=9.9 Hz), 5.21 (1H, dq, J=10.5, 1.2 Hz), 5.27 (1H, dq, J=17.1, 1.5 Hz), 5.95 (1H, ddt, J=17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz), 7.34-7.39 (3H, m), 7.45-7.48 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 11.3, 21.7, 42.0 (q, J=26.6 Hz), 71.2, 107.7 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 117.6, 126.7, 127.2 (q, J=279.1 Hz), 128.5, 128.7, 133.5, 135.1, 138.1. 19F NMR: δ −71.98 (d, J=9.3 Hz). IR (neat): ν 2972, 2880, 1659, 1323, 1254, 1173, 1121, 1068, 997, 922, 698. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C17H14F3O: 270.1226, found 270.1236.

4.3.5. (E)-1,5-Diphenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-1-ene (4e).

Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]but-2-ene 3a, 0.17 g of (E)-1,5-diphenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-3-(trifluoro-methyl)pent-2-ene 3e (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 24 h with refluxing to furnish 0.11 g of the title compound (0.31 mmol) was isolated in 62% yield as a colorless oil.

Rf=0.43 (Hex:DCM=6:1). 1H NMR: δ 1.71-1.84 (1H, m), 2.05-2.18 (1H, m), 2.57-2.80 (2H, m), 3.47-3.64 (1H, m), 4.10 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.7, 1.2 Hz), 4.17 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.4, 1.2 Hz), 5.05 (1H, d, J=10.2 Hz), 5.17-5.29 (2H, m), 5.91 (1H, ddt, J=17.1, 10.5, 5.7 Hz), 7.16-7.22 (3H, m), 7.26-7.32 (2H, m), 7.35-7.42 (3H, m), 7.46-7.49 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 30.4 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 32.8, 40.2 (q, J=26.6 Hz), 71.1, 107.4 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 117.5, 126.0, 126.8, 127.1 (q, J=279.1 Hz), 128.39, 128.42, 128.5, 128.8, 133.5, 135.0, 141.3, 158.3. 19F NMR: δ −71.93 (d, J=9.0 Hz). IR (neat): ν 3029, 2931, 1658, 1496, 1455, 1255, 1164, 1114, 932, 772, 698. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C21H19F3O: 346.1539, found 346.1546.

4.3.6. (E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-3-(trifluoromethyl)-pent-1-ene (4f).
Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.19 g of (E)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3f (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 48 h with refluxing to furnish 0.079 g of the title compound (0.21 mmol) was isolated in 42% yield as a colorless oil.

Rf=0.40 (Hex:DCM=6:1). ³H NMR: δ 1.70-1.83 (1H, m), 2.06-2.18 (1H, m), 2.56-2.66 (1H, m), 3.45-3.62 (1H, m), 3.84 (3H, s), 4.09 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.4, 1.5 Hz), 4.16 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.4, 1.5 Hz), 4.95 (1H, d, J=10.2 Hz), 5.18 (1H, dq, J=10.5, 1.8 Hz), 5.26 (1H, dq, J=17.4, 1.8 Hz), 5.91 (1H, ddt, J=17.3, 10.4, 5.7 Hz), 6.89-6.93 (2H, m), 7.16-7.21 (3H, m), 7.26-7.31 (2H, m), 7.38-7.43 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR: δ 30.5 (q, J=1.3 Hz), 32.8, 40.2 (q, J=26.6 Hz), 55.3, 71.1, 105.9 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 113.8, 117.4, 126.8, 127.2 (q, J=279.1 Hz), 127.4, 128.1, 128.36, 128.42, 133.6, 141.4, 158.0, 160.1. ¹⁹F NMR: δ −72.01 (d, J=9.0 Hz). IR (neat): ν 2930, 2954, 1608, 1511, 1291, 1253, 1111, 1034, 932, 840, 699. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C₂₀H₁₅F₈O₂, 377.1723, found 377.1728.

4.3.7. (E)-1-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-1-ene (4g).

Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.21 g of (E)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3g (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 96 h at room temperature to furnish 0.21 g of the title compound (0.21 mmol) was isolated in 99% yield as a colorless oil.

Rf=0.46 (Hex:DCM=6:1). ¹H NMR: δ 1.71-1.84 (1H, m), 2.07-2.22 (1H, m), 2.56-2.82 (2H, m), 3.48-3.62 (1H, m), 4.07 (1H, ddt, J=12.6, 5.4, 1.2 Hz), 4.14 (1H, ddt, J=12.9, 5.7, 1.2 Hz), 5.05 (1H, d, J=9.9 Hz), 5.20 (1H, dq, J=10.2, 1.5 Hz), 5.24 (1H, dq, J=17.1, 1.5 Hz), 5.89 (1H, ddt, J=17.3,10.4, 5.7 Hz), 7.17-7.22 (3H, m), 7.27-7.36 (4H, m), 7.50-7.54 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR: δ 30.3 (q, J=1.8 Hz), 32.8, 40.3 (q, J=27.3 Hz), 71.3, 108.2 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 117.7, 122.9, 126.1, 127.0 (q, J=279.7 Hz), 128.3, 128.38, 128.41, 131.7, 133.2, 133.9, 141.1, 157.3. ¹⁹F NMR: δ −71.86 (d, J=9.3 Hz). IR (neat): ν 3029, 2931, 2871, 1658, 1486, 1330, 1255, 1169, 933, 822, 699. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C₂₀H₁₄BrF₈O₂, 424.0644, found 424.0661.

4.4. General procedure for the Claisen rearrangement of allyl vinyl ethers.

4.4.1. 4,4,4-Trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)butan-1-one (5a).

Method 1. By heating (Isomerization-rearrangement).

In a two-necked 30 mL round-bottomed flask were added under an argon atmosphere 0.16 g of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a (0.50 mmol), 0.039 g of DBU (0.25 mmol), and toluene (5.0 mL), and the whole mixture was refluxed for 3 h. After quenching the reaction by the addition of H₂O and usual workup, the crude material was purified by silica-gel chromatography using Hex:AcOEt=10:1 as an eluent to furnish 0.15 g (0.46 mmol) of an inseparable 68:32 diastereomer mixture of the title compound as a colorless oil in 91% yield.

Method 2. Rearrangement of enol ethers with the aid of a palladium catalyst.

In a two-necked 30 mL round-bottomed flask were added under an argon atmosphere 0.16 g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-1-(prop-2-en-1-yloxy)but-1-ene 4a (0.50 mmol), 0.019 g of PdCl₂(PhCN)₂ (0.05 mmol), and toluene (5.0 mL), and the whole mixture was stirred for 5 h at room temperature. After passing short-path chromatography, the mixture was purified by silica-gel chromatography using Hex:DCM=6:1 as an eluent to furnish 0.11 g (0.35 mmol) of an inseparable 95:5 diastereomer mixture of the title compound as a colorless oil in 70% yield.

Rf=0.40(Hex:AcOEt=10:1). IR (neat): ν 3066, 2956, 1683, 1596, 1448, 1254, 1165, 1120, 1001, 923, 702. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C₂₆H₁₈F₄O₂, 381.1226, found 381.1259.

Major isomer

¹H NMR: δ 1.98-2.06 (1H, m), 2.15-2.27 (1H, m), 3.99 (1H, dq, J=10.8, 8.7 Hz), 4.24 (1H, td, J=10.4, 3.6 Hz), 4.72-4.83 (2H, m), 5.43 (1H, dddd, J=16.2, 10.2, 7.5, 6.6 Hz), 7.40-8.04
The byproduct possibly (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)butan-one (6a) as a 73:27 diastereomer mixture was observed as an inseparable mixture with 5a whose representative NMR data were described below.

Method 1. Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.18 g of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3b (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 5 h under reflux to furnish 0.14 g of an inseparable 65:35 diastereomer mixture.

Method 2. Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-1-(prop-2-en-1-yloxy)but-1-ene 4a, 0.17 g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-1-ene 4b (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 5 h to furnish 0.14 g (0.45 mmol) of an inseparable 66:34 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 88% yield as a colorless oil.

IR (neat): ν: 3066, 2959, 2839, 1682, 1516, 1248, 1034, 924, 826, 716, 687. HRMS (ESI+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C30H23F3O2, 439.1410, found 439.1444.

Minor isomer

1H NMR: δ 2.00-2.08 (1H, m), 2.14-2.25 (1H, m), 3.83 (3H, s), 3.94 (1H, quint, J=9.0 Hz), 4.18 (1H, td, J=9.9, 3.9 Hz), 4.74-4.81 (2H, m), 5.44 (1H, d, J=16.8, 10.2, 7.7, 6.8 Hz), 6.94 (2H, d, J=8.4 Hz), 7.26-7.37 (2H, m), 7.45-7.53 (2H, m), 7.58-7.64 (1H, m), 8.00 (2H, d, J=7.2 Hz). 13C NMR: δ 36.1, 44.2, 51.1 (q, J=25.8 Hz), 55.2, 114.2, 118.0, 124.7 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 127.1 (q, J=279.9 Hz), 128.0, 128.3, 128.4, 128.7, 130.1, 130.7, 130.80, 133.0, 133.3, 137.5, 159.6 (q, J=1.2 Hz), 201.5. 19F NMR: δ ~68.24 (d, J=9.3 Hz).

Major isomer

1H NMR: δ 2.67 (2H, t, J=6.9 Hz), 3.68 (3H, s), 3.86-3.89 (1H, m), 4.31 (1H, dt, J=10.5, 6.3 Hz), 4.96 (1H, d, J=10.2 Hz), 5.03 (1H, d, J=16.8 Hz), 5.64 (1H, d, d, J=16.8, 9.9, 7.2 Hz), 6.70 (2H, d, J=8.7 Hz), 7.14 (2H, d, J=8.7 Hz), 7.26-7.37 (3H, m), 7.68 (2H, d, J=7.5 Hz). 13C NMR: δ 35.5 (q, J=2.1 Hz), 47.0, 50.1 (q, J=26.5 Hz), 55.0, 113.8, 118.3, 126.1 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 130.5 (q, J=289.0 Hz), 133.3, 133.5, 137.4, 159.1 (q, J=1.2 Hz), 200.5. 19F NMR: δ ~64.92 (d, J=9.0 Hz).

4.4.3. 4,4,4-Trifluoro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-2- (prop-2-en-1-yl)butan-1-one (5c).

Method 1. Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.17 g of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-4-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-2-ene 3c (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 3 h under reflux to furnish 0.15 g (0.46 mmol) of an inseparable 65:35 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 91% yield as a colorless oil.

Method 2. Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-1,3-diphenyl-1-(prop-2-en-1-yloxy)but-1-ene 4a, 0.17 g of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1-((prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-1-ene 4b.
ene 4c (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 5 h to furnish 0.11 g (0.33 mmol) of an inseparable 94:6 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 65% yield as a colorless oil.

RF=0.37 (Hex:AcOEt=6:1). IR (neat): ν 3080, 2982, 1684, 1608, 1513, 1448, 1254, 1167, 1121, 924, 829. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C15H23FO: 337.1210, found 337.1202.

**Major isomer**

1H NMR: δ 1.98-2.06 (1H, m), 2.13-2.24 (1H, m), 4.00 (1H, dq, J=10.8, 8.6 Hz), 4.19 (1H, ddd, J=10.5, 9.8, 4.0 Hz), 4.73-4.83 (2H, m), 5.43 (1H, dddd, J=16.8, 10.2, 7.7, 6.6 Hz), 6.83-8.01 (9H, m).

13C NMR: δ 35.9, 44.0, 51.0 (q, J=26.1 Hz), 115.9 (d, J=21.1 Hz), 118.2, 126.3 (q, J=278.8 Hz), 127.9, 128.3, 128.7, 131.4 (d, J=8.0 Hz), 133.0, 133.4, 137.3, 162.7 (d, J=247.5 Hz), 201.1.

19F NMR: δ −68.15 (3F, d, J=9.0 Hz), −114.41 − −114.30 (1F, m).

**Minor isomer**

1H NMR: δ 2.69 (2H, t, J=6.6 Hz), 3.87 (1H, quint, J=9.9 Hz), 4.31 (1H, dt, J=10.5, 6.3 Hz), 4.98 (1H, d, J=10.2 Hz), 5.04 (1H, d, J=17.4 Hz), 5.64 (1H, ddt, J=16.8, 9.9, 7.2 Hz), 6.83-8.01 (9H, m).

13C NMR: δ 35.4, 47.0, 50.2 (q, J=27.3 Hz), 115.4 (d, J=21.7 Hz), 118.6, 126.9 (q, J=280.3 Hz), 128.0, 128.5, 129.9-130.0 (m), 130.7 (d, J=7.5 Hz), 133.2, 137.2, 162.3 (d, J=246.9 Hz), 200.2.

19F NMR: δ −64.77 (3F, d, J=9.3 Hz), −115.00 − −115.12 (1F, m).

### 4.4.1. 1-Phenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-1-one (5d)

**Method 1.** Instead of (E)-1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}but-2-ene 3a, 0.14 g of (E)-1-phenyl-1-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3d (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 48 h under reflux to furnish 0.12 g (0.44 mmol) of an inseparable 55:45 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 87% yield as a colorless oil.

**Method 2.** Instead of (E)-4,4,4-trifluoroc-1,3-diphenyl-1-(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy)but-1-ene 4a, 0.14 g of (E)-1-phenyl-1-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-1-ene 4d (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 5 h to furnish 0.041 g (0.33 mmol) of an inseparable 57:43 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 65% yield as a colorless oil. Because it is not possible to completely assign all the peaks to major and minor isomers, the peaks observed were described.

RF=0.43 (Hex:AcOEt=10:1). 1H NMR: δ 0.99 (3H, q, J=7.5 Hz), 1.60-1.78 (2H, m), 2.34-2.47 (1H, m), 2.50-2.71 (2H, m), 3.83-3.90 (1H, m), 4.93-5.07 (2H, m), 5.59-5.74 (1H, m), 7.46-7.51 (2H, m), 7.57-7.61 (1H, m), 7.90-7.95 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 11.9 (q, J=1.3 Hz), 12.2 (q, J=0.6 Hz), 17.7 (q, J=1.8 Hz), 19.8 (q, J=2.4 Hz), 31.4, 34.1 (q, J=1.2 Hz), 43.5 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 43.9 (q, J=1.2 Hz), 45.4 (q, J=38.5 Hz), 45.7 (q, J=38.5 Hz), 117.3, 117.8, 128.0 (q, J=281.6 Hz), 128.2 (q, J=281.0 Hz), 128.2, 128.3, 128.7, 128.8, 133.2, 133.3, 134.4, 134.8, 136.4, 137.3, 200.5, 200.8. 19F NMR: δ −66.72 (d, J=9.0 Hz; minor), −67.96 (d, J=9.0 Hz; major). IR (neat): ν 2975, 1683, 1597, 1448, 1253, 1170, 1141, 921, 688, 553, 523. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C15H23FO, 270.1226, found 270.1212.

### 4.4.5. 1,5-Diphenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-1-one (5e)

**Method 1.** Instead of (E)-1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}but-2-ene 3a, 0.17 g of (E)-1,5-diphenyl-1-{(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy}-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3e (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 18 h under reflux to furnish 0.14 g (0.50 mmol) of an inseparable 55:45 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 84% yield as a colorless oil. Because it is not possible to completely assign all the peaks to major and minor isomers, the peaks observed were described.

RF=0.51 (Hex:AcOEt=10:1). 1H NMR: δ 1.87-1.98 (2H, m), 2.30-2.42 (1H, m), 2.53-2.83 (4H, m), 3.81-3.91 (1H, m), 4.93-5.07 (2H, m), 5.55-5.73 (1H, m), 7.07-7.29 (5H, m), 7.42-7.46 (2H, m), 7.47-7.57 (1H, m), 7.82-7.87 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 26.1 (q, J=1.8 Hz), 28.2 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 30.9, 33.4, 33.7, 34.1, 43.0 (q, J=24.8 Hz), 43.9 (q, J=24.8 Hz), 43.8 (q, J=1.8 Hz), 44.0 (q, J=1.2 Hz), 117.3, 117.9, 126.1, 126.2, 128.0 (q, J=281.0 Hz), 128.1 (q, J=281.0 Hz), 128.16, 128.21, 128.3, 128.4 (2C), 128.5, 128.70, 128.73, 133.19, 133.23, 134.3, 134.8, 136.1, 137.2,
140.5, 140.7, 200.0, 200.6. 19F NMR: δ –66.99 (d, J=9.0 Hz; minor), –68.04 (d, J=9.0 Hz; major). IR (neat): ν 3064, 3028, 2953, 1685, 1448, 1254, 1155, 1117, 1001, 921, 700. HRMS (ESI+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C27H21BrFO3, 347.1617, found 347.1618.

4.4.6. 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-1-one (5f).

Method 1. Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-({prop-2-en-1-yl}oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.19 g of (E)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1-({prop-2-en-1-yl}oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3f (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 18 h under reflux to furnish 0.11 g (0.28 mmol) of an inseparable 50:50 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 56% yield as a colorless oil. Because it is not possible to completely assign all the peaks to major and minor isomers, the peaks observed were described.

RF=0.34 (Hex:AcOEt=10:1). 1H NMR: δ 1.85-1.99 (2H, m), 2.30-2.40 (1H, m), 2.54-2.78 (4H, m), 3.77-3.87 (1H, m), 3.865 (3H, s), 3.869 (3H, s), 4.92-5.07 (2H, m), 5.54-5.72 (1H, m), 6.89-6.95 (2H, m), 7.08-7.29 (5H, m), 7.83-7.90 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 26.2 (q, J=1.8 Hz), 28.3 (q, J=2.5 Hz), 31.0, 33.5 (q, J=1.3 Hz), 33.8 (q, J=1.3 Hz), 34.6 (q, J=1.3 Hz), 43.3 (q, J=24.8 Hz), 43.3 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 43.5 (q, J=24.8 Hz), 55.41, 55.43, 113.89, 113.93, 117.1, 117.8, 126.07, 126.11, 128.1 (q, J=281.6 Hz), 128.2, 128.3, 128.8, 128.9, 130.3, 130.6 (2C), 134.5, 135.1, 140.7, 140.9, 163.7 (2C), 198.4, 199.0. 19F NMR: δ –66.96 (d, J=11.3 Hz), –68.10 (d, J=9.3 Hz). IR (neat): ν 3064, 2938, 1675, 1601, 1510, 1172, 1116, 1031, 843, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M]+ calcd. for C28H23BrFO3, 376.1694, found 376.1692.

4.4.7. 1-(4-Bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-2-(prop-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pentan-1-one (5g).

Method 1. Instead of (E)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,4-diphenyl-4-({prop-2-en-1-yl}oxy)but-2-ene 3a, 0.21 g of (E)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-1-({prop-2-en-1-yl}oxy)-3-(trifluoromethyl)pent-2-ene 3g (0.50 mmol) was employed and stirring was continued for 18 h under reflux to furnish 0.18 g (0.42 mmol) of an inseparable 55:45 diastereomer mixture of the title compound was isolated in 85% yield as a colorless oil. Because it is not possible to analyze these peaks completely, the peaks observed were described.

RF=0.34 (Hex:AcOEt=20:1). 1H NMR: δ 1.90-2.00 (2H, m), 2.26-2.40 (1H, m), 2.54-2.84 (4H, m), 3.71-3.82 (1H, m), 4.93-5.07 (2H, m), 5.52-5.69 (1H, m), 7.06-7.31 (5H, m), 7.56-7.63 (2H, m), 7.66-7.71 (2H, m). 13C NMR: δ 26.1 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 27.8 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 31.0, 33.2, 33.7, 33.9, 42.8 (q, J=24.1 Hz), 43.759 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 43.763 (q, J=24.8 Hz), 43.9 (q, J=1.9 Hz), 117.6, 118.1, 126.1, 126.2, 127.9 (q, J=281.0 Hz), 128.0 (q, J=284.1 Hz), 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 128.46, 128.48, 128.53, 129.6, 129.7, 131.97, 132.0, 134.2, 134.5, 134.8, 135.9, 140.4, 140.6, 199.0, 199.6. 19F NMR: δ –67.15 (d, J=11.3 Hz; major), –68.03 (d, J=9.0 Hz; minor). IR (neat): ν 3064, 3028, 2949, 1685, 1585, 1397, 1254, 1158, 923, 747, 700. HRMS (FAB+, m/z): [M+H]+ calcd. for C27H20BrFO3, 425.0722, found 425.0757.

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online. 1H and 13C NMR charts for the new compounds 3a-3g, 4a-4g, 5a-5g.

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