

# A novel resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block: application to the solid-phase synthesis of CF<sub>3</sub>-containing acrylates and 4-isoxazolecarboxylates

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## Abstract

A novel resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (**3**) was prepared. Stereospecific Suzuki cross-coupling of compound **3** with a variety of aryl boronic acids gave the corresponding resin-bound coupling products (**4**), which can be cleaved with sodium methoxide to afford methyl (*E*)-3-aryl-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5**). 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition of compound **3** with aryl nitrile oxides followed by cleavage with TFA led to methyl 3-aryl-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate regioselectively, which was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis. © 2001 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Trifluoromethyl; Solid-phase synthesis; 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition

## 1. Introduction

Solid-phase organic synthesis (SPOS) has attracted much attention over the past decade [1–4], as a powerful tool in the rapid synthesis of small molecule libraries for drug discovery [5–10]. It is known that introduction of fluorine into an organic molecule often leads to changes in biological activities [11,12]. Recently, great efforts have been made in the search for practical and efficient methods for the synthesis of selectively fluorinated organic compounds [13,14]. Due to our continuing interest in organofluorine chemistry [15–18], we tried to investigate the preparation and application of polymer-supported fluoro-containing building blocks. Herein we report the preliminary results for the preparation of a novel resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block and its palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions with aryl boronic acids and 1,3-dipolar cyclo-addition reaction with aryl nitrile oxides.

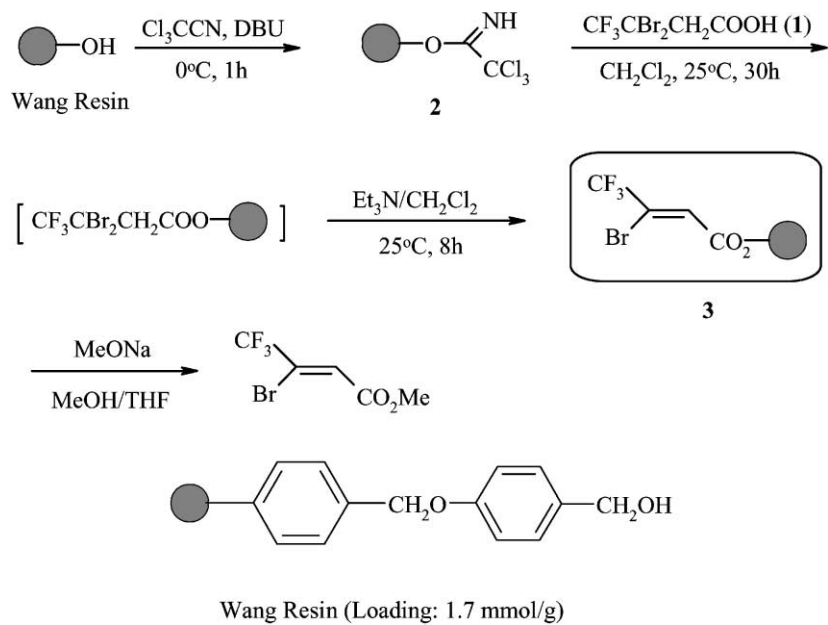
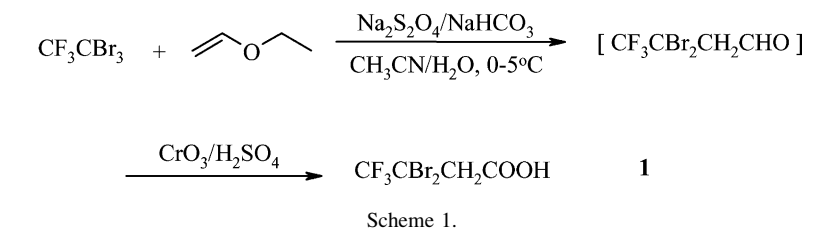
## 2. Results and discussion

3,3-Dibromo-4,4,4-trifluorobutyrid acid (**1**) was prepared previously as an intermediate through the sodium

dithionite-initiated addition on reaction of 1,1,1-tribromo-2,2,2-trifluoroethane with vinyl ethyl ether followed by Jones' oxidation [19], and is considered as a suitable CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (Scheme 1).

For attaching 3,3-dibromo-4,4,4-trifluorobutyric acid (**1**) onto Wang resin (Scheme 1), initial attempts using 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride, 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate and diisopropylethylamine (EDC-HOBt-DIPEA) or Mitsunobu reaction conditions have been made but gave very poor results. So we activated Wang resin by using Hanessian's procedure [20], namely treatment of Wang resin with trichloroacetonitrile in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in the presence of 1,8-diazabicyclo [5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) to give Wang trichloroacetimidate resin **2**, which reacted with 3,3-dibromo-4,4,4-trifluorobutyric acid (**1**) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> followed by elimination with triethylamine to afford the corresponding resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3**. The reaction of Wang trichloroacetimidate resin **2** with acid **1** was monitored by FT-IR spectroscopy which showed the disappearance of bands (3340, 1664 cm<sup>-1</sup>) associated with trichloroacetimidate and appearance of a strong band at 1749 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Similarly, <sup>19</sup>F NMR indicated that the configuration of the double bond was *Z* form [19] after the cleavage from the resin. The structure and loading of the resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3** was confirmed by cleavage with MeONa in MeOH/THF (1:4) [21] to give the corresponding methyl ester [19] (Scheme 2).

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Suzuki coupling reaction of the resin-bound  $\text{CF}_3$ -containing building block **3** with aryl boronic acids was first investigated. Recently, solid-phase Suzuki coupling reactions have been widely investigated [22–28]. Under normal Suzuki conditions, the coupling reaction with a variety of aryl boronic acids proceeded smoothly, affording the corresponding resin-bound coupling products **4** in good yields. Treatment of resin-bound coupling products with MeONa in MeOH/THF (1:4) followed by the purification on a silica gel column led to the corresponding methyl esters **5**, which are characterized by MS,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR and HRMS, etc. (Scheme 3). The detailed results of Suzuki coupling reactions were summarized in Table 1.

For compound **5d**, a byproduct was also isolated in yield of 26% based on the initial loading of the Wang resin (1.7 mmol/g) and proved to be the Michael addition product (**6**) of **5d** with methanol (Scheme 4).

Solid-phase 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction has been well studied recently [29–38] as a very powerful method to synthesize a variety of heterocycle compounds such as isoxazolines, isoxazoles, pyrrolidines, tetrahydrofurans and so on. For the preparation of  $\text{CF}_3$ -containing heterocycles, the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction of  $\text{CF}_3$ -containing building block **3** with aryl nitrile oxides was studied in detail. A variety of oximes **7**, which are the precursors of nitrile oxides in the presence of base, were

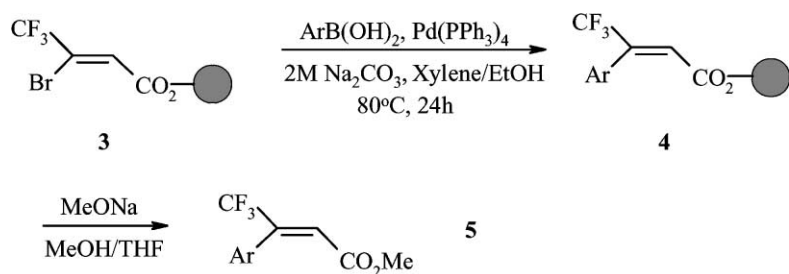


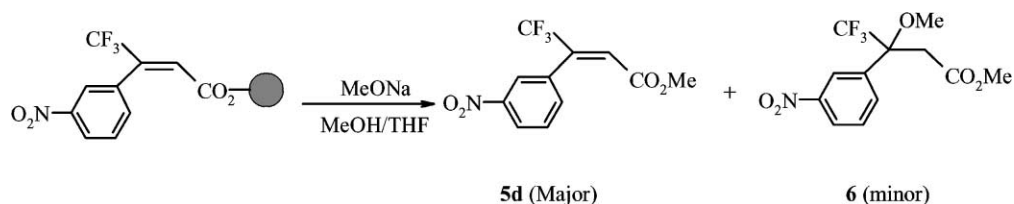
Table 1  
Suzuki coupling reactions of resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3**

Entry	ArB(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Final coupling products	MS (EI) (M <sup>+</sup> )	Yield <sup>a</sup> (%)
1		 <b>5a</b>	230	43
2		 <b>5b</b>	236	27
3		 <b>5c</b>	260	35
4		 <b>5d</b>	275	49
5		 <b>5e</b>	274	36
6		 <b>5f</b>	248	33
7		 <b>5g</b>	260	42
8		 <b>5h</b>	276	49

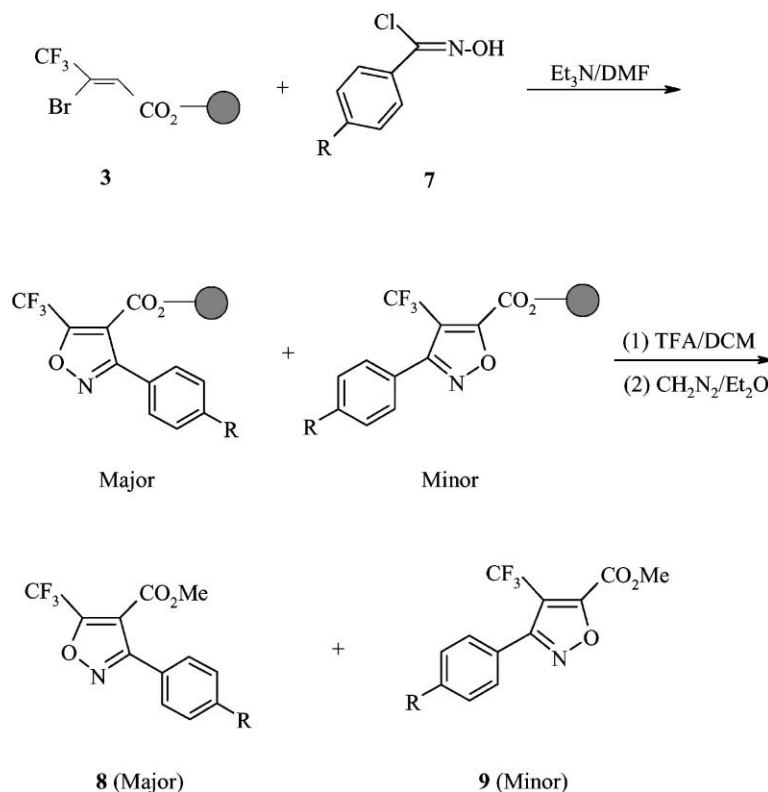
<sup>a</sup> Isolated yields were based on the initial loading of Wang resin (1.7 mmol/g).

prepared according to the literature procedures [39]. The CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3** reacted with oximes in the presence of Et<sub>3</sub>N in DMF, affording a mixture of 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition products (**8** and **9**) after cleavage with 10% TFA/DCM solution followed by the treatment with diazomethane in Et<sub>2</sub>O (Scheme 5). The ratio of the

two isomers was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis and the detailed result summarized in Table 2. The major isomers, 3-aryl-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8**), were isolated by chromatography on a silica gel column, and characterized by MS (EI), HRMS, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>19</sup>F NMR [40].



Scheme 4.



Scheme 5.

Table 2

1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reaction of CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3** with oximes

Entry	R–	$\delta_{\text{CF}_3}$ of <b>8</b> (ppm)	$\delta_{\text{CF}_3}$ of <b>9</b> (ppm)	Ratio of <b>8/9</b> <sup>a</sup>	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)
1	MeO	21.9	14.0	13:1	48 ( <b>8a</b> )
2	EtO	21.9	14.0	13:1	43 ( <b>8b</b> )
3	Me	22.0	14.0	14:1	32 ( <b>8c</b> )
4	H	22.0	14.1	8:1	27 ( <b>8d</b> )
5	Cl	22.0	14.1	18:1	21 ( <b>8e</b> )
6	PhO	22.0	14.0	14:1	38 ( <b>8f</b> )
7	BnO	21.9	14.0	13:1	34 ( <b>8g</b> )

<sup>a</sup> The ratio of **8/9** was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis of the crude methyl ester mixture.<sup>b</sup> Isolated yields based on initial loading of Wang resin (1.7 mmol/g).

### 3. Conclusions

3,3-Dibromo-4,4,4-trifluorobutyric acid, which was isolated for the first time, reacted with Wang resin through trichloroacetonitrile activation to afford a novel resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (Z)-Wang 3-bromo-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate. The resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block underwent Suzuki coupling reactions with a variety of aryl boronic acids to give methyl (E)-3-aryl-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenates in good yield. Furthermore, a series of methyl 3-aryl-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylates were prepared by 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of (Z)-Wang 3-bromo-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate with the precursors of aryl nitrile oxides. Construction of fluori-

nated compound libraries by using resin-bound fluorinated building blocks is on the way.

### 4. Experimental

#### 4.1. General

Wang resin (1.7 mmol/g) was obtained from Polymer Laboratories Inc. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 282 MHz, respectively, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solutions with a Bruker AM300 instrument. Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm downfield from internal tetramethylsilane (for <sup>1</sup>H NMR) or trifluoroacetic acid (for <sup>19</sup>F NMR). Mass spectra were

obtained on a HP5989A analytical spectrometer. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bio-Rad FTS-185 spectrometer.

#### 4.1.1. Preparation of resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (3)

Resin **2** was prepared from Wang resin according to Hanessian's method [20]. For high loaded Wang resin (1.70 mmol/g), the reaction should be repeated. Theoretical loading for resin **2** was 1.31 mmol/g. The CF<sub>3</sub>-containing acid was prepared according to the literature [19].

To a suspension of resin **2** (3.0 g, 3.93 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 ml), acid **1** (3.54 g, 11.79 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was shaken for 30 h at 25°C. The resin was filtered, washed successively with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, DMSO, THF and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (three times for each solvent) and dried in vacuum. To a suspension of this resin intermediate in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 ml), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.64 ml, 11.79 mmol) was added. The mixture was shaken for 8 h at 25°C. The resin was filtered, washed successively with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, DMSO, THF and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (three times for each solvent) and dried in vacuum to give resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (**3**) (3.19 g). Theoretical loading for resin **3** was 1.23 mmol/g.

#### 4.1.2. General procedure for the Suzuki coupling

To a degassed suspension of resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block (**3**, 200 mg, 0.246 mmol) in xylene (5.0 ml), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (29 mg, 0.025 mmol), 2 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.31 ml, 0.615 mmol), EtOH (0.2 ml) and aryl boronic acid (0.984 mmol, 4.0 eq.) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred under argon for 24 h at 80°C. After cooling to room temperature, the resin was filtered, washed successively with DMF, DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1), THF, MeOH and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (three times for each solvent) and dried in vacuum to give resin **4**. Resin **4** was treated with a solution of MeONa (0.05 mmol) in MeOH/THF (1:4, 4.0 ml) for 5 h, removed by filtration and washed with THF (5.0 ml) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 ml). The combined filtrates were concentrated and purified by flash chromatography to give methyl (*E*)-3-aryl-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenates.

Methyl (*E*)-3-phenyl-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5a**): oil, yield: 43%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.34 (m, 2H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.4 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 230 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, calcd.: 230.0555; found: 230.0561.

Methyl (*E*)-3-(3-thienyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5b**): oil, yield: 27%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.7 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 236 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, calcd.: 236.0119; found: 236.0110.

Methyl (*E*)-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5c**): oil, yield: 35%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.32 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.5 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 260 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, calcd.: 260.0660; found: 260.0661.

Methyl (*E*)-3-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5d**): oil, yield: 49%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 8.32 (m, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.64 (m, 2H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.4 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 275 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, calcd.: 275.0405; found: 275.0410.

Methyl (*E*)-3-(3-ethoxyphenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5e**): oil, yield: 36%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.30 (m, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.5 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 274 (*M*<sup>+</sup>).

Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5f**): oil, yield: 33%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.3 (s, 3F), -34.4 (m, 1F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 248 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, calcd.: 248.0460; found: 248.0463.

Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5g**): oil, yield: 42%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.57 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.6 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 260 (*M*<sup>+</sup>).

Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-methylthiophenyl)-4,4,4-trifluoro-2-butenate (**5h**): oil, yield: 49%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.24 (m, 4H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 9.6 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 276 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, calcd.: 276.0432; found: 276.0627.

Methyl 3-methoxy-3-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,4,4-trifluorobutylate (**6**): oil, yield: 28%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.26 (dd, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 46.1 Hz, 15.7 Hz, 2H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ 1.57 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI) *m/z* 307 (*M*<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI) C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, calcd.: 307.0667; found: 307.0660.

#### 4.1.3. General procedure for the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction

To a suspension of resin-bound CF<sub>3</sub>-containing building block **3** (200 mg, 0.246 mmol) in DMF, chloro oxime **7** (5.0 eq.) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.51 ml, 3.69 mmol) were added. The mixture was shaken for 12 h. After that, the resin was filtered, washed successively with DMF, DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1), THF, MeOH and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (three times for each solvent), dried in vacuum. The resin was treated with 10% TFA/DCM for 3 h, removed by filtration and washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 ml × 2). The combined filtrates were concentrated. The residue was then treated with CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O (>0.1 N, 2.0 ml) for 10 min. The solution was concentrated to give the crude ester mixture. The ratio was determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis. Chromatography of the crude ester mixture gave the major products, 3-aryl-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylates (**8**).

Methyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8a**): oil, yield: 48%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 7.64 (dd, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (dd, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR δ

14.0 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI)  $m/z$  301 ( $M^+$ ). HRMS (EI)  $C_{13}H_{10}NF_3O_4$ , calcd.: 301.0562; found: 301.0570.

Methyl 3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8b**): oil, yield: 43%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.63 (dd,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dd,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 4.1 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.46 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.0 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI)  $m/z$  315 ( $M^+$ ).

Methyl 3-(4-methylphenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8c**) [40]: oil, yield: 32%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.57 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H) 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.0 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI):  $m/z$  285 ( $M^+$ ).

Methyl 3-phenyl-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8d**) [40]: oil, yield: 27%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.67 (m, 2H), 7.52 (m, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.1 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI):  $m/z$  271 ( $M^+$ ).

Methyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8e**) [40]: oil, yield: 21%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.64 (m, 2H), 7.48 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.1 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI):  $m/z$  307, 305 ( $M^+$ ).

Methyl 3-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8f**): oil, yield: 38%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.66 (dd,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.09 (m, 4H), 3.90 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.0 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI)  $m/z$  363 ( $M^+$ ). HRMS (EI)  $C_{18}H_{12}NF_3O_4$ , calcd.: 363.0718; found: 363.0726.

Methyl 3-(4-benzyloxyphenyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-4-isoxazolecarboxylate (**8g**): oil, yield: 34%.  $^1H$  NMR  $\delta$  7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.09 (m, 2H), 5.14 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{19}F$  NMR  $\delta$  14.0 (s, 3F) ppm; MS (EI)  $m/z$  377 ( $M^+$ ). HRMS (EI)  $C_{19}H_{14}NF_3O_4$ , calcd.: 377.0875; found: 377.0882.

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