



Accepted Article

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This manuscript has been accepted after peer review and appears as an Accepted Article online prior to editing, proofing, and formal publication of the final Version of Record (VoR). This work is currently citable by using the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) given below. The VoR will be published online in Early View as soon as possible and may be different to this Accepted Article as a result of editing. Readers should obtain the VoR from the journal website shown below when it is published to ensure accuracy of information. The authors are responsible for the content of this Accepted Article.

To be cited as: Eur. J. Org. Chem. 10.1002/ejoc.201701539

Link to VoR: http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/ejoc.201701539



Continuous Flow Synthesis of Urea-Containing Compound Libraries Based on the Piperidin-4-one Scaffold

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Abstract: The advantages of performing reactions in continuous flow versus the classic batch processes render flow chemistry a suitable technique for library synthesis. Inspired by our recent work to create fluorine-containing nitrogen heterocycles and by the potential of the urea group in drug design, we herewith describe the combination of both aspects in the continuous flow synthesis of two libraries of urea derivatives based on the piperidin-4-one scaffold.

Introduction

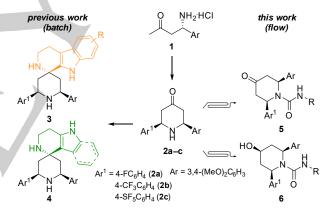
The urea group represents an important functionality in pharmaceutical and agrochemical products.¹ Urea-containing molecules possess an immense potential in drug design as a result of their capability for hydrogen-binding to biomolecular targets.² Moreover, ureas are widely used in drug design for the modulation of several factors, such as selectivity, stability, toxicity and pharmacokinetic profile of lead molecules.² Examples of active compounds containing a urea are depicted in Figure 1. Trimefluor,³ a selective pre- and post-emergence herbicide for use in cotton, and triflumuron,⁴ a broad spectrum insecticide against chewing insects commercialized by Bayer CropScience, are examples of bioactive molecules containing a urea group. Another example of a urea-containing pharmaceutical is vestipitant,⁵ a selective antagonist for the NK₁ receptor.

Figure 1. Biologically active compounds containing a urea group.

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Recently, we reported an enantio- and diastereoselective synthesis of piperidin-4-ones 2a-c from the enantiopure amino ketone 1 (Scheme 1).⁶ Compounds 2a-c, containing three different fluorine functionalities (F, CF₃ and SF₅) to enhance their bioactivity and metabolic profile,⁷ were synthesized and further derivatized into a novel library of spirocyclic compounds (3 and 4) under classic batch processes via a diastereoselective Pictet–Spengler cyclization.⁶

The inherent potential of this scaffold (2a–c) for derivatization combined with the advantages of flow chemistry for library synthesis⁸ (including excellent heat exchange and fast mixing for better reaction control, automated small scale optimization and rapid automated compound library preparation) encouraged us to further develop a new class of urea derivatives in flow (5 and 6) based on scaffolds 2a–c (Scheme 1).



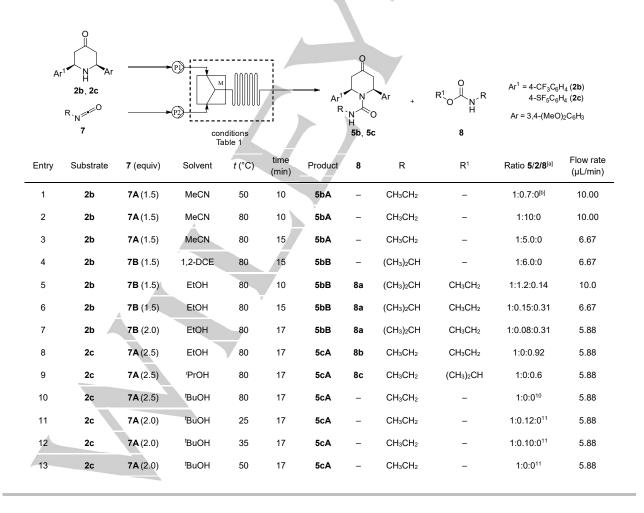
Scheme 1. Previously reported work (batch) and this work (flow) based on scaffolds 2a-c.

Results and Discussion

We started our investigations by testing the reactivity of our amines (**2b** and **2c**) with alkyl isocyanates (ethyl [**7A**] or isopropyl isocyanate [**7B**], 1.5 equiv) varying solvent, temperature and reaction time (see Table 1 for summarized results and Supporting Information [SI] for the entire optimization process). All reactions were carried out in a borosilicate glass reactor (channel width 600 μm , channel depth 500 μm and effective reactor volume 100 μL). The microreactor was placed into a microreactor holder, which automatically aligns with the fluidic connections and makes contact with the temperature controlled metal plate in the microreactor holder. Then, the inlet modules were connected through the microreactor holder with the inlet ports of the

microreactor and the outlet tubing was also placed at the outlet port. The tubing was connected to the syringes, which were connected to the pumps. The two solutions, one containing the piperidin-4-ones (2b or 2c) and the other one with the isocyanates 7 were pumped and brought together inside of the microreaction (Table 1). Initially, we used solvents such as MeCN or 1,2dichloroethane in a temperature range of 50-80 °C and reaction times of 10-15 minutes (entries 1-4). Low conversions to ureas 5bA and 5bB were obtained in all these cases and only a slightly higher conversion to 5bA (ratio 5bA/2b 1:0.7) was achieved when we used MeCN at 50 °C (entry 1). The use of EtOH at 80 °C and a reaction time of 10 minutes provided a ratio of 1:1.2 for 5bB/2b (entry 5). An increase of the reaction time to 15 minutes (entry 6) gave higher conversion into product **5bB** (1:0.15). By increasing the amount of isocyanate (2.0 and 2.5 equiv, entries 7 and 8, respectively), nearly full conversion to 5bB and full conversion to 5cA were obtained. However, carbamate 8 was also formed in the reaction mixture when EtOH was used as solvent, as a result of the nucleophilic attack of EtOH to the isocyanate. Therefore, we explored the use of bulkier alcohols as solvent (PrOH and ^tBuOH) to avoid the formation of **8**. Thus, the reaction of piperidin-4-one 2c with ethyl isocyanate (2.5 equiv) in the presence of propan-2-ol gave full conversion to urea 5cA and less formation of the carbamate 8 (entry 9) whereas the formation of 8 was completely suppressed when tert-butyl alcohol was used (entry 10).10 With this result in hands, we tried to decrease the temperature of the reaction and the amount of isocyanate used. We confirmed that when using 2.0 equiv of ethyl isocyanate and temperatures between 25-35 °C full conversion was not reached (entries 11 and 12). Finally, we found that the use of 2.0 equiv of ethyl isocyanate at 50 °C in BuOH were the suitable conditions to obtain full conversion to compound 5cA (entry 13). Once the conditions for the synthesis of aliphatic ureas were optimized, we attempted the synthesis of the arvl derivatives. Therefore, we first explored the reaction of 2b with 2,4-difluorophenyl isocyanate (7E, 1.5 equiv) at 80 °C in EtOH and a reaction time of 20 minutes; the reaction, however, did not show any conversion to product 5bE and it resulted in a mixture of 2b and carbamate 8 (ratio 2b/8d 1:0.50; entry 14).

Table 1. Optimization process for the synthesis of alkyl and aryl ureas 5b and 5c.



14	2b	7E (1.5)	EtOH	80	20	5bE	8d	$2,4-F_2C_6H_3$	CH₃CH₂	0:1:0.50	5.00
15	2b	7E (1.3)	1,2-DCE	80	17	5bE	_	2,4-F ₂ C ₆ H ₃		1:0:0	5.88

[a] Calculated by ¹H NMR of the fraction of the collected product. [b] Analyzed by ¹H NMR of the fraction of stabilization time.

By changing the solvent to 1,2-dichloroethane, and using 1.3 equiv of isocyanate **7E**, full conversion to compound **5bE** was obtained (entry 15).

With the final conditions in hands, five isocyanates **7A–E** (alkyl and aryl isocyanates with different substituents on the phenyl ring, Figure 2) were selected for the generation of a 15-compound library (Table 2). For all experiments, three fractions (stabilization time, collected product and residual) were collected in separated vials and final products were analyzed directly by ¹H NMR from the fraction of collected product. This fraction always started after running three cycles of the stabilization time (see [SI] for experimental details).¹²

The reaction of piperidin-4-ones **2a–c** with alkyl isocyanates **7A** and **7B** gave full conversions to products **5aA–cB** in very good to excellent yields (83–92%).

Figure 2. Isocyanates used for the generation of the library.

2a
$$\Rightarrow$$
 F₃C \Rightarrow F₃C \Rightarrow

[a] Reaction carried out in 'BuOH at 50 °C in 17 minutes using 2.0 equiv of isocyanate. [b] Reaction carried out in 1,2-dicloroethane at 80 °C in 17 minutes using 1.3 equiv of isocyanate. [c] Conversion calculated by ¹H NMR of the fraction of collected product. [d] Isolated yield of the fraction of collected product.

We also obtained full conversions to ureas 5aC-cE when aryl isocyanates (7C-E) were used. Very good to excellent yields were obtained for compounds 5aC, 5aE, 5bC and 5cC-cE. Good yields were obtained for compounds 5aD and 5bD whereas compound 5bE was obtained with a moderate yield. The excess of isocyanates was removed in vacuo as much as possible so that only small amounts of the least volatile isocyanates remained in the reaction mixtures. The crude mixtures of compounds 5bA and 5bB showed the presence of a minor product in a 1:0.1 ratio according to their ¹H NMR spectra. We attributed these mixtures to be either rotamers of the urea group or a possible mixture of atropisomers, with the carbamoyl group (almost) perpendicular to the piperidine ring (Figure 3), both caused by the congested 2,6diphenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide framework. For ureas 5bC and 5bD, the ratio of the isomers could not be measured accurately whereas for the rest of ureas only one of both isomers was observed.

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 Ar^{7}
 A

Figure 3. Rotamers and atropisomers of 5bA and 5bB.

Optimization of these reactions to obtain full conversion was crucial because no further column chromatography was required. Purifying these poorly soluble ureas generally requires polar solvents such as MeOH, but in case of sterically congested ureas methanolysis¹³ may take place in the purification process. In this case, methanolysis occurred because the nitrogen in the piperidine ring might not be fully conjugated anymore with the carbonyl and therefore MeOH can form a hydrogen bond with the nitrogen. To analyze the reactivity of these ureas in MeOH, we dissolved urea 5aC in CD₃OD and monitored the mixture by ¹H NMR (Scheme 2). We observed that compound 5aC was still present after 1-4 h, but after 19 h at room temperature compound 5aC transformed into piperidin-4-one 2a (protonated and deuterated substrates), phenyl isocyanate 7C and carbamates 9 and 10 (relative abundance 9/10 30:70). 1H NMR showed a mixture of compounds which was confirmed by GC-MS (Scheme 2).

Scheme 2. Methanolysis of ureas 5aC and 5cB

We also studied the decomposition of the aliphatic urea **5cB**, which also showed the presence of carbamates **9** and **10** (detected by GC-MS) and the starting material **2c** (protonated and deuterated substrates).

Finally, a diastereoselective reduction of ketone **2c** was carried out in flow using LiBH₄ as reducing reagent to provide full conversion to a 10:1 mixture of piperidinols **11** and **12** (Scheme 3). The workup of this reaction was performed offline after the reaction mixture was completely collected in the corresponding vial. The reduction of ketone **2b** was performed in batch using N-Selectride¹⁴ to give alcohol **12**.¹⁵

Scheme 3. Reduction of 2a and 2c with N-Selectride and LiBH₄.

Then, we decided to perform the urea synthesis using as starting material amino alcohol 11 (Table 3). Initially, we performed the reaction between 11 and isocyanate 7B using the conditions previously developed for aliphatic isocyanates (*BuOH, 17 min and 50 °C). We decreased the amount of 7B to 1.0 equiv, to firstly test the reactivity of our hindered amine in the presence of the nucleophilic alcohol. We confirmed by ¹H NMR that only the amine group reacted with the isocyanate and therefore the corresponding carbamate was not observed. However, while using 1.0 equiv of isocyanate, a ratio 11/6b 1:0.5 was obtained. Thus, we increased the amount of isocyanate 7B to 1.5 equiv and full conversion to urea 6b was achieved (84% yield). When we applied these conditions using ethyl (7A) and benzyl (7F) isocyanates, amino alcohol 11 was converted with full conversion to ureas ${\bf 6a}$ and ${\bf 6c}^{16}$ in 85 and 99% yield, respectively. Finally, two additional examples with aryl isocyanates (7C and 7D) were synthesized. In this case, the use of 1.1 equiv of isocyanate in 1,2-DCE at 80 °C was sufficient to reach full conversion to ureas 6d and 6e. For compounds 6a-e, a 6:1 ratio of conformers was obtained.

Table 3. Library of ureas 6a-e based on amino alcohol 11.

[a] Reaction carried out in 'BuOH at 50 °C in 17 minutes using 1.5 equiv of isocyanate. [b] Reaction carried out in 1,2-dicloroethane at 80 °C in 17 minutes using 1.1 equiv of isocyanate. [c] Conversion calculated by ¹H NMR of the fraction of collected product. [d] Isolated yield of the fraction of collected product.

As previously mentioned, the presence of the conformers (rotamers or atropisomers) was caused by the hindered rotation around one of the single N-CO bonds of the urea. 17 NOESY experiments of compound 13a (the major product of reaction between alcohol 12 and isocyanate 7B) showed correlations between the NH of the urea with both benzylic protons (Table 4), indicating therefore the existence of atropisomerism (in case of rotamers, each rotamer would show only one correlation with one benzylic proton). 18 The assignment of the characteristic protons is depicted in Table 4. Chemical shifts of compounds 13a and 13b19 present a considerable difference, not only for the benzylic protons H² and H⁶ (entries 1 and 5), but also for protons H⁴ and H⁷ (entries 3 and 6). We were also able to confirm that the major product of the stereoisomers was compound 13a, which showed a correlation between the NH proton of the urea and both benzylic protons, H² and H⁶. The clarification of these two products was done by NOESY studies.

Table 4. Chemical shifts (ppm) of atropisomers 13a and 13b in CDCl₃.

Entry	¹H	ppm (13a)	ppm (13b)
1	H ²	4.89	4.36
2	H ³	2.11/1.84	2.20-2.10/2.00-1.89
3	H ⁴	4.43	4.16

4	H ⁵	2.70/2.00	2.37/2.20–2.10
5	H^6	5.65	5.12
6	H ⁷	3.80-3.70	3.58–3.49
7	H ⁸	0.88	0.72
8	H ⁹	0.74	0.60

Conclusions

In summary, we have synthesized a small library of ureas in continuous flow. The reactions utilized for their syntheses were achieved in a reaction time of 17 min without further need of purification rendering drug-like molecules. Moreover, we have also reduced diastereoselectively the ketone group in flow in 3 min reaction time. Additional urea formation of amino alcohol 11 was also performed to create five different urea derivatives. NMR studies confirmed the formation of conformers caused by the hindered rotation around one of the single N–CO bonds of the urea. The elucidation of these species to be identified as either rotamers or atropisomers could not be clarified. This methodology could be applied to a wide range of substrates as a tool to prepare libraries of potentially bioactive molecules.

Experimental Section

General information: Reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without purification. Standard syringe techniques were applied for the transfer of dry solvents and air- or moisture-sensitive reagents. Reactions were followed by ¹H NMR, and R_F values were obtained, using thin layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel-coated plates (Merck 60 F254) with the indicated solvent mixture. Detection was performed with UV light, and/or by charring at ca. 150 °C after dipping into a solution of KMnO₄. Infrared spectra were recorded on an IR-ATR Bruker spectrometer. High-resolution or accurate measurement (ΔM < 3mmu or 5ppm) were recorded on a JEOL AccuTOF-CS JMS-T100CS for Electrospray (spectra recorded in infusion in MeOH containing 50nM PPG-475 as internal mass-drift compensation standard) or JEOL AccuTOF-GCv JMS-T100GCv (GC/Electron Ionization MS, column bleeding at high temperature used as internal mass drift compensation standard) for methanolysis experiments. NMR spectra were recorded at 298 K on a Varian Inova 400 (400 MHz), Bruker Avance III 400 MHz or Bruker Avance III 500 MHz spectrometer in the solvent indicated. Chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) with respect to tetramethylsilane (0.00 ppm) as internal standard for ¹H NMR; and CDCl₃ (77.16 ppm) as internal standard for ¹³C NMR. Coupling constants are reported as J values in hertz (Hz). ¹H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, dq = doublet of quartets, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets, quint = quintet, t = triplet, td = triplet of doublets, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz), and integration. Compounds were fully characterized by ¹H, ¹³C, COSY, HSQC, HMBC and NOESY. Reactions were carried out using the FlowStart Evo equipment and microreactors purchased by FutureChemistry (futurechemistry.com accessed Sep 11. 2017). At very low flow rates, stabilization and pressure of the equipment may take long; therefore, a stabilization time is calculated and run before the collecting product fraction. The stabilization time is calculated following equation 1:

Stabilization Time = $3 \times Reactor\ Volume/Total\ Flow\ Rate$ (Eq1)

For all reactions, products were analyzed from the collected fraction and therefore calculations and yields and based on this fraction.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Alkyl Ureas 5aA, 5aB, 5bA, 5bB, 5cA and 5cB

<u>Solution A</u>: piperidin-4-one (**2a–c**, 1.0 equiv) dissolved in 'BuOH (99.8–100.2 mM). <u>Solution B</u>: alkyl isocyanate (**7A** or **7B**, 2.0 equiv) dissolved in 'BuOH (0.1 M). Solution A (1.96 μ L/min) was combined with B (3.92 μ L/min) inside the glass microreactor (internal volume: 100 μ L). The reaction was performed at 50 °C for 17 min.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-N-ethyl-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aA

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2a** (3.63 mg, 0.011 mmol) in 'BuOH (99.8 mM) with **7A** afforded urea **5aA** (3.67 mg, 9.16 µmol). '**1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.39–7.31 (m, 2 H), 7.08–7.01 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.75 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.64 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.00 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.22 (dd, J = 9.7, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.40 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 3.18–3.07 (m, 3 H), 2.88–2.73 (m, 2 H), 2.60 (dd, J = 17.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). '¹³C **NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.8, 162.1 (d, J = 247.5 Hz), 159.1, 150.1, 149.0, 139.0 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 134.9, 128.4 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 117.9, 116.0 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 111.4, 108.9, 56.1, 56.0, 52.4, 46.1, 43.6, 36.2, 15.2. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3420, 2967, 1722, 1639, 1511, 1264, 1228, 1025. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for ($C_{22}H_{25}FN_2O_4$ + Na)* = 423.16906, found 423.16916 ($|\Delta|$ = 1.0 ppm). R_F : 0.27 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). **Yield**: 83%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-N-ethyl-4-oxo-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5bA

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2b** (4.68 mg, 0.012 mmol) in 'BuOH (100.2 mM) with **7A** afforded urea **5bA** (4.74 mg, 0.011 mmol). '**1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.66–7.60 (m, 2 H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.75 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.1, 0.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.54 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.20 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.12 (dd, J = 10.2, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.44 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.67 (s, 3 H), 3.23–3.11 (m, 3 H), 2.86 (dd, J = 18.4, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.61 (dd, J = 17.5, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.2, 159.1, 150.3, 149.2, 147.4, 134.6, 129.9 (indirect observation), 127.3, 126.1 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 124.0 (q, J = 272.2 Hz), 117.9, 111.5, 108.7, 56.6, 56.1, 56.0, 52.3, 46.6, 42.9, 36.2, 15.2. FTIR [\bar{v} (cm $^{-1}$)]: 3422, 2970, 1722, 1635, 1517, 1327, 1264, 1238, 1123, 725. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₃H₂₅F₃N₂O₄ + Na)* = 473.16586, found 473.16547 (|Δ| = 2.0 ppm). R_F : 0.28 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). Yield: 85%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-*N*-ethyl-4-oxo-6-[4-(pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5cA

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2c** (2.21 mg, 5.05 µmol) in 'BuOH (99.9 mM) with **7A** afforded urea **5cA** (2.37 mg, 4.66 µmol). '**1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.81–7.71 (m, 2 H), 7.55–7.49 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.76 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.48 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.25 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.07 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.47 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.66 (s, 3 H), 3.24–3.09 (m, 3 H), 2.88 (dd, J = 18.5, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.72 (dd, J = 17.6, 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.61 (dd, J = 17.6, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). '¹⁹**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.9, 159.0, 153.1 (indirect observation), 150.4, 149.2, 147.2 (indirect observation), 134.4, 127.3, 126.7 (indirect observation), 117.9, 111.5, 108.5, 56.8, 56.1, 55.9, 51.9, 46.8, 42.7, 36.3, 15.2. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3431, 2925, 1723, 1643, 1518, 1264, 1239, 844 **RMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for ($C_{12}H_{25}F_{5}N_{2}O_{4}S$ + Na)* = 531.13474, found 531.13535 ($|\Delta|$ = 0.1 ppm). R_{F} : 0.26 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). **Yield**: 92%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-isopropyl-4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aB

oxopiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aB According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2a** (3.50 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 'BuOH (99.8 mM) with **7B** afforded **5aB** (3.72 mg, 8.98 μmol). '**H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.40–7.31 (m, 2 H), 7.09–7.00 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.75 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.1, 0.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.67 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.95 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.23 (dd, J = 9.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.29 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.88–3.80 (m, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.10 (dd, J = 18.2, 5.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.83 (dd, J = 17.7, 9.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.79 (dd, J = 18.2, 5.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.61 (dd, J = 17.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.8, 162.2 (d, J = 247.3 Hz), 158.4, 150.2, 149.0, 139.1 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 135.1, 128.5 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 117.9, 116.0 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 111.4, 109.1, 56.1, 55.9, 52.5, 46.0, 43.7, 43.2, 23.3, 23.0. **FTIR** [\bar{v} (cm⁻¹)]: 3420,

2969, 1721, 1639, 1605, 1510, 1263, 1228, 1026, 854. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{23}H_{27}FN_2O_4 + Na)^* = 437.18471$, found 437.18465 ($|\Delta| = 1.4$ ppm). R_F : 0.41 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). **Yield**: 84%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-N-isopropyl-4-oxo-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5bB

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2b** (4.10 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 'BuOH (100.2 mM) with **7B** afforded **5bB** (4.48 mg, 9.65 μmol). ¹**H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.66–7.60 (m, 2 H), 7.57–7.51 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.75 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.2, 0.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.55 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.16 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.11 (dd, J = 10.2, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.33 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.88–3.82 (m, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.18 (dd, J = 18.4, 4.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.87 (dd, J = 18.4, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.61 (dd, J = 17.5, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.82 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.2, 158.3, 150.3, 149.2, 147.5, 134.8, 129.9 (indirect observation), 127.3, 126.1 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 122.5 (indirect observation), 17.9, 111.5, 108.7, 56.5, 56.1, 56.0, 52.3, 46.5, 43.3, 42.9, 23.3, 23.0. FTIR [\bar{v} (cm⁻¹)]: 3417, 2968, 1722, 1642, 1516, 1326, 1262, 1238, 1123, 767. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₄Hz₇F₃N₂O₄ + Na)⁺ = 487.18151, found 487.18134 (|Δ| = 1.5 ppm). R_F: 0.41 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). **Yield**: 89%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-N-isopropyl-4-oxo-6-[4-(pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5cB

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2c** (4.76 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 'BuOH (99.9 mM) with **7B** afforded **5cB** (5.22 mg, 9.99 μmol). '**1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.78–7.73 (m, 2 H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 2 H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.75 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.49 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.49 (dd, J = 10.4, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.36 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.66 (s, 3 H), 3.18 (dd, J = 18.4, 4.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.89 (dd, J = 18.4, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.71 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.60 (dd, J = 17.5, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 38C (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 31C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.9, 158.3, 152.9 (indirect observation), 150.4, 149.3, 147.4, 134.6, 127.3, 126.8–126.6 (m), 117.9, 111.5, 108.5, 56.8, 56.2, 55.9, 51.8, 46.8, 43.3, 42.6, 23.3, 23.0. FTIR [\bar{v} (cm⁻¹)]: 3421, 2970, 1723, 1642, 1517, 1263, 1238, 842. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₃H₂₇F₅N₂O₄S + Na)* = 545.15039, found 545.15003 (|Δ| = 1.7 ppm). RF: 0.45 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). **Yield**: 92%.

Synthesis and Full Characterization of Aryl Ureas 5aC-aE, 5bC-bE and 5cC-cE

Solution A: piperidin-4-one (2a–c, 1.0 equiv) dissolved in 1,2-DCE (78.5–102.5 mM). Solution B: aryl isocyanate (7C, 7D or 7E, 1.3 equiv) dissolved in 1,2-DCE (0.1 M). Solution A (2.56 μL/min) was combined with B (3.32 μL/min) inside the glass microreactor (internal volume: 100 μL). The reaction was performed at 80 °C for 17 min.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxo-N-phenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aC

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2a** (2.59 mg, 7.86 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (88.9 mM) with **7C** afforded **5aC** (3.15 mg, 7.02 μmol). **¹H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCI₃]: 7.45–7.38 (m, 2 H), 7.25–7.18 (m, 2 H), 7.12–7.05 (m, 2 H), 7.05–6.98 (m, 3 H), 6.89–6.83 (m, 2 H), 6.65 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.60 (s, 1 H), 6.19 (t, J = 5.3 Hz, 1 H), 5.35 (dd, J = 10.1, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.89 (s, 3 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.21 (dd, J = 18.4, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.95–2.85 (m, 2 H), 2.67 (dd, J = 17.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C **NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCI₃]: 207.2, 162.3 (d, J = 247.8 Hz), 156.6, 150.6, 149.5, 138.6, 138.5 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 134.3, 129.1, 128.6 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 123.7, 120.0, 118.1, 116.3 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 111.7, 108.9, 56.6, 56.2, 56.1, 52.3, 46.3, 43.4. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3388, 2924, 1722, 1662, 1510, 1265, 1235, 1026, 754. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₆H₂₅FN₂O₄ + Na)⁺ = 471.16906, found 471.16910 (|Δ| = 1.1 ppm). **R**_F: 0.24 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1). **Yield**: 89%.

(2S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-oxo-N-phenyl-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5bC

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2b** (2.1 mg, 5.54 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (82.8 mM) with **7C** afforded **5bC** (2.43 mg, 4.87 μmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.69–7.64 (m, 2 H), 7.62–7.57 (m, 2 H), 7.25–7.19 (m, 2 H), 7.06–6.99 (m, 3 H), 6.89–6.85 (m, 2 H), 6.64 (s, 1 H), 6.53–6.51 (m, 1 H), 6.41 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.22 (dd, J = 10.8, 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.89 (s, 3 H), 3.65 (s, 3 H), 3.29 (dd, J = 18.6, 4.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.98 (dd, J = 18.6, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.80 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.66 (dd,

J = 17.5, 4.8 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.6, 156.7, 150.7, 149.7, 146.7, 138.5, 133.9, 130.2 (indirect observation), 129.1, 127.4, 126.2 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 125.9 (indirect observation), 123.9, 120.0, 118.1, 111.7, 108.6, 57.3, 56.2, 56.0, 51.9, 46.9, 42.6. FTIR [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3391, 2939, 1722, 1663, 1597, 1517, 1442, 1327, 1265, 1238, 755. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for ($C_{27}H_{25}F_3N_2O_4 + Na$)⁺ = 521.16586, found 521.16560 ($|\Delta|$ = 1.6 ppm). R_F : 0.70 (heptane/AcOEt, 1:2). Yield: 88%.

$\label{eq:condition} \begin{tabular}{ll} (2S,6\it{R})-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-oxo-6-[4-(pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl)phenyl]-N-phenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide 5cC \end{tabular}$

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2c** (2.49 mg, 5.69 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (102.5 mM) with **7C** afforded **5cC** (3.22 mg, 5.79 μmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.81–7.75 (m, 2 H), 7.61–7.55 (m, 2 H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2 H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 3 H), 6.90–6.86 (m, 2 H), 6.67 (s, 1 H), 6.49–6.47 (m, 1 H), 6.47–6.43 (m, 1 H), 5.16 (dd, J = 11.0, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.89 (s, 3 H), 3.63 (s, 3 H), 3.28 (dd, J = 18.7, 3.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.00 (dd, J = 18.7, 5.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.77 (dd, J = 17.5, 11.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.66 (dd, J = 17.5, 4.9 Hz, 1 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.3, 156.6, 153.4 (indirect observation), 150.9, 149.7, 146.9, 138.4, 133.8, 129.1, 127.4, 126.9–126.8 (m), 123.9, 120.1, 118.1, 111.7, 108.3, 57.6, 56.2, 55.9, 51.5, 47.0, 42.4. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3389, 2926, 1725, 1663, 1598, 1518, 1265, 1238, 844. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₆H₂₅F₅N₂O₄S + Na)⁺ = 579.13474, found 579.13534 (|Δ| = 0.1 ppm). **R**_F: 0.22 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1). **Yield**: 99%.

(2S,6R)-N-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aD

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2a** (2.4 mg, 7.28 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (90.2 mM) with **7D** afforded **5aD** (2.58 mg, 5.34 μmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.09 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.98–6.90 (m, 1 H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 2 H), 7.11–7.04 (m, 2 H), 7.02 (s, 1 H), 6.98–6.90 (m, 1 H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.73 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 6.15 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.50 (dd, J = 9.3, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.17 (dd, J = 18.3, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.94 (dd, J = 17.7, 9.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.88 (dd, J = 18.4, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.73 (dd, J = 17.7, 5.1 Hz, 1 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.2, 162.3 (d, J = 247.7 Hz), 156.5, 150.2, 149.3, 138.0 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 135.8, 133.7, 129.0, 128.6 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 127.5, 124.0, 123.1, 122.3, 118.5, 116.3 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 111.7, 109.2, 56.2, 56.1, 53.0, 46.2, 43.8. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3365, 2931, 1723, 1666, 1510, 1306, 1264, 1026. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₈H₂₄ClFN₂O₄ + Na)⁺ = 505.13063, found 505.13076 (|Δ| = 0.3 ppm). R_F : 0.35 (heptane/ACOEt, 2:1). **Yield**: 73%.

(2S,6R)-N-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-oxo-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5bD

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one 2b (1.98 mg, 5.22 µmol) in 1,2-DCE (82.8 mM) with 7D afforded 5bD (2.15 mg, 4.03 μmol). ¹H NMR [500 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.09 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 2 H), 7.60-7.56 (m, 2 H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 2 H), 7.04 (s, 1 H), 6.95 (ddd, J = 8.1, 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 2 H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 6.65 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.31 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.43 (dd, J = 9.7, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H), 3.70 (s, 3 H), 3.22 (dd, J = 18.5, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.94 (dd, J = 18.5, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.87 (dd, J = 17.6, 9.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (dd, J = 17.6, 5.1 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR [126 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.4, 156.4, 150.2, 149.3, 146.3, 135.6, 133.2, 130.2 (q, J = 32.7Hz), 128.9, 127.4, 127.2, 126.1 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 124.1, 123.7 (q, J = 272.5Hz, indirect observation), 123.1, 122.2, 118.5, 111.7, 108.8, 56.6, 56.0, 55.9, 52.8, 46.5, 43.0. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3356, 2961, 1724, 1666, 1593, 1517, 1439, 1327, 1263, 1234, 1124, 754. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{27}H_{24}CIF_3N_2O_4 + Na)^+ = 555.12689$, found 555.12901 ($|\Delta| = 2.8$ ppm). R_F: 0.33 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1). Yield: 77%.

$\label{eq:continuous} (2S,6R)-N-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-oxo-6-[4-(pentafluoro-<math>\lambda^6$ -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5cD

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2c** (3.4 mg, 7.77 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (78.5 mM) with **7D** afforded **5cD** (4.6 mg, 7.78 μmol). **¹H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.09–8.05 (m, 1 H), 7.79–7.75 (m, 2 H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 2 H), 7.24–7.20 (m, 2 H), 7.05 (s, 1 H), 6.96 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.3, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.60 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.32 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.40 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.60 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.80 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 Hz, 1

9.7, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H), 3.68 (s, 3 H), 3.21 (dd, J = 18.6, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.94 (dd, J = 18.6, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.86 (dd, J = 17.6, 9.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (dd, J = 17.6, 5.1 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCls]: 206.3, 156.4, 153.3 (indirect observation), 150.4, 149.5, 146.4, 135.6, 133.2, 129.1, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0–126.8 (m), 124.3, 123.2, 122.4, 118.6, 111.8, 108.7, 56.9, 56.2, 56.0, 52.5, 46.7, 42.9. FTIR [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm $^{-1}$)]: 3360, 2961, 2838, 2258, 1725, 1686, 1593, 1517, 1440, 1306, 1263, 1234, 1145, 1027, 842, 751. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₆H₂₄ClFsN₂O₄S + Na) $^+$ = 613.09632, found 613.09446 ($|\Delta|$ = 3.02 ppm). Yield: 99%.

(2S,6R)-N-(2,4-Difluorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-oxopiperidine-1-carboxamide 5aE

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one 2a (2.30 mg, 6.98 µmol) in 1,2-DCE (87.6 mM) with 7E afforded 5aE (3.28 mg, 6.77 μmol). ¹H NMR [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.01 (td, J = 9.1, 5.9Hz, 1 H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 2 H), 7.12-7.05 (m, 2 H), 6.86-6.77 (m, 3 H), 6.74-6.67 (m, 2 H), 6.64 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.15 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 5.37 (dd, J = 1.8 Hz, 1 H)J = 9.9, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.20 (dd, J = 18.5, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.91 (dd, J = 17.7, 9.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.88 (dd, J = 18.5, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.68 (dd, J = 17.7, 4.9 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 207.0, 162.3 (d, J = 248.0 Hz), 158.2 (dd, J = 245.2, 11.4 Hz), 156.4, 152.6 (dd, J = 246.0, 12.0 Hz), 150.3, 149.4, 138.1 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 133.6, 128.6 (d, J = 3.3 Hz) = 8.1 Hz), 123.5 (dd, J = 10.4, 3.8 Hz), 122.7 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.4 Hz), 118.3, 116.3 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 111.7, 111.1 (dd, J = 21.6, 3.7 Hz), 108.9, 103.4 (dd, J = 26.7, 23.3 Hz), 56.5, 56.10, 56.06, 52.6, 46.2, 43.4. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3379, 2936, 1721, 1665, 1534, 1511, 1256, 1228, 1025, 962, 849. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{26}H_{23}F_3N_2O_4 + Na)^+ = 507.15021$, found 507.15113 ($|\Delta|$ = 0.7 ppm). R_F : 0.29 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1). Yield: 97%.

$\label{eq:condition} (2S,6R)-N-(2,4-\text{DifluorophenyI})-2-(3,4-\text{dimethoxyphenyI})-4-\text{oxo-6-[4-(trifluoromethyI)phenyI]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5bE}$

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one **2b** (1.37 mg, 3.61 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (82.8 mM) with **7E** afforded **5bE** (1.07 g, 2.00 μmol). ¹**H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.01 (td, J = 9.1, 5.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.70–7.64 (m, 2 H), 7.60–7.55 (m, 2 H), 6.88–6.79 (m, 3 H), 6.73 (s, 1 H), 6.72 (ddd, J = 11.0, 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.54–6.52 (m, 1 H), 6.35 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.26 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.66 (s, 3 H), 3.27 (dd, J = 18.6, 4.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.95 (dd, J = 18.6, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.82 (dd, J = 17.6, 10.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.67 (dd, J = 17.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.5, 156.4, 158.2 (d, J = 244.4 Hz), 152.3 (dd, J = 243.9, 11.6 Hz), 150.5, 149.6, 146.5, 133.2, 130.2 (indirect observation), 127.4, 126.2 (q, J = 3.5 Hz), 123.8 (q, J = 270.3 Hz, indirect observation), 123.4 (dd, J = 10.4, 3.9 Hz), 122.8 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz), 118.4, 111.8, 111.2 (dd, J = 21.6, 3.8 Hz), 108.5, 103.5 (dd, J = 26.6, 23.3 Hz), 57.2, 56.1, 56.0, 52.3, 46.7, 42.7. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3381, 2927, 1723, 1667, 1611, 1535, 1518, 1327, 1257, 1126, 1026. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₇H₂₃F₅N₂O₄ + N₄)⁺ = 557.14702, found 557.14825 (|Δ| = 1.2 ppm). **R**_F: 0.31 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1). **Yield**: 55%.

(2S,6R)-N-(2,4-Difluorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-oxo-6-[4- $(pentafluoro-\lambda^6$ -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 5cE

According to the general procedure, the reaction of piperidin-4-one 2c (1.87 mg, 4.27 µmol) in 1,2-DCE (82.9 mM) with **7E** afforded **5cE** (2.2 mg, 3.7 μ mol). ¹H NMR [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.00 (td, J = 9.1, 5.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.83-7.74 (m, 2 H), 7.60-7.52 (m, 2 H), 6.88-6.80 (m, 3 H), 6.79-6.68 (m, 2 H), 6.49 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.38 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.22 (dd, J =10.7, 4.9 Hz, 1 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 3.65 (s, 3 H), 3.27 (dd, J = 18.6, 4.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.97 (dd, J = 18.6, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.80 (dd, J = 17.6, 10.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.68 (dd, J = 17.6, 4.9 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C NMR [126 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 206.2, 158.3 (dd, J = 245.7, 11.4 Hz), 156.4, 153.5–153.1 (m), 152.7 (dd, J = 245.7, 11.5 Hz), 150.6, 149.7, 146.5, 133.1, 127.4, 127.0–126.9 (m), 123.4 (dd, J = 10.5, 3.7 Hz), 122.9 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz), 118.4, 111.8, 111.2 (dd, J = 21.7, 3.6 Hz), 108.3, 103.5 (dd, J = 26.6, 23.3 Hz), 57.4, 56.2, 55.9,51.9, 46.9, 42.5. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3376, 2962, 1725, 1666, 1610, 1534, 1517, 1257, 843. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{26}H_{23}F_7N_2O_4S + H)^+$ = 593.13395, found 593.13686 ($|\Delta|$ = 4.0 ppm). **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{26}H_{23}F_7N_2O_4S + Na)^+ = 615.11590$, found 615.11657 ($|\Delta| = 0.2$ ppm). R_F : 0.25 (heptane/AcOEt, 2:1), Yield: 87%,

Synthesis and Full Characterization of Amino Alcohols 11 and 12

(2S,4R,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidin-4-ol 11

<u>Solution A</u>: piperidin-4-one **2c** (8.4 mg, 0.019 mmol) dissolved in THF (50.3 mM). <u>Solution B</u>: LiBH₄ (2 M solution in THF; 1.5 equiv) dissolved in THF (75 mM). Solution A (13.33 μ L/min) was combined with B (20 μ L/min) inside the glass microreactor (internal volume: 100 μ L). The reaction was performed at 21 °C for 3 min.

¹H NMR [500 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.75–7.69 (m, 2 H), 7.57–7.52 (m, 2 H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.99–3.92 (m, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 3.81 (dd, J = 11.3, 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.21–2.10 (m, 2 H), 1.62–1.46 (m, 2 H). ¹³C NMR [126 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 153.0 (indirect observation), 149.2, 148.5, 148.2, 136.7, 127.2, 126.3 (quint, J = 4.0 Hz), 118.9, 111.2, 110.1, 69.9, 59.7, 59.4, 56.09, 56.07, 43.9, 43.8. FTIR [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 2936, 2839, 1517, 1262, 1232, 1027, 845, 815. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₁₉H₂₂F₅NO₃S + H)⁺ = 440.13188, found 440.13125 (|Δ| = 1.44 ppm). Yield: 76%.

(2S,4S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidin-4-ol 12

N-Selectride (3.95 mL, 3.95 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) was added to a solution of piperidin-4-one ${\bf 2b}$ (500 mg, 1.32 mmol) in dry THF (96 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction was stirred for 1 hour and it was quenched with H₂O (100 mL). The solution was allowed to reach 21 °C and then AcOEt was added. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered off and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by SCX-2 column to afford amino alcohol 12 (456 mg, 1.20 mmol). ^{1}H NMR [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.66-7.53 (m, 4 H), 7.04-6.97 (m, 2 H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.40-4.32 (m, 2 H), 4.25 (dd, J = 11.7, 2.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 1.95–1.87 (m, 2 H), 1.86–1.70 (m, 2 H). ¹³C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 149.4, 149.1, 148.4, 137.5 (indirect observation), 129.4 (indirect observation), 127.3, 125.5 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.0 (indirect observation), 118.9, 111.3, 110.2, 66.2, 56.09, 56.07, 56.0, 55.7, 41.66, 41.65. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 2936, 1517, 1465, 1326, 1263, 1163, 1123, 1067, 1027, 806. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{20}H_{22}F_3NO_3 + H)^+ = 382.16300$, found 382.16336 ($|\Delta|$ = 0.94 ppm). Yield: 91%.

Synthesis and Full Characterization of Alkyl Ureas 6a-c

Solution A: compound 11 (1.0 equiv) dissolved in 'BuOH (94.3–96.5 mM). Solution B: alklyl isocyanate (7A, 7B or 7F, 1.5 equiv) dissolved in 'BuOH (0.1 M). Solution A (2.35 µL/min) was combined with B (3.53 µL/min) inside the glass microreactor (internal volume: 100 µL). The reaction was performed at 50 °C for 17 min.

(2S,4R,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-*N*-ethyl-4-hydroxy-6-[4-(pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 6a

According to the general procedure, the reaction of amino alcohol **11** (2.37 mg, 5.39 µmol) in 'BuOH (94.6 mM) afforded urea **6a** (2.33 mg, 4.56 µmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.74–7.70 (m, 2 H), 7.70–7.65 (m, 2 H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 6.57 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.39 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.43 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.40 (dd, J = 11.7, 4.3 Hz, 1 H), 4.27–4.14 (m, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.69 (s, 3 H), 2.93 (qd, J = 7.3, 5.4 Hz, 2 H), 2.43 (dt, J = 13.3, 6.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.24–2.10 (m, 2 H), 1.94 (dt, J = 13.5, 11.2 Hz, 1 H), 1.78 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1 H). ¹³C **NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 160.7, 152.7 (indirect observation), 149.9, 148.9, 148.7 (indirect observation), 135.7, 128.1, 126.3–126.1 (m), 118.7, 111.4, 109.5, 65.8, 59.2, 56.1, 56.0, 55.3, 41.2, 37.8, 35.7, 14.8 **FTIR** [$\overline{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3414, 2937, 1627, 1517, 1263, 1140, 1027, 846, 594. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for ($C_{22}H_{27}F_5N_2O_4S + Na)^*$ = 533.15094, found 533.15027 ($|\Delta|$ = 1.26 ppm). **Yield**: 85%.

(2S,4R,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-hydroxy-N-isopropyl-6- $[4-(pentafluoro-\lambda^6$ -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 6b

According to the general procedure, the reaction of amino alcohol **11** (2.80 mg, 6.37 μ mol) in 'BuOH (94.3 mM) afforded urea **6b** (2.76 mg, 5.34 μ mol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.73–7.68 (m, 2 H), 7.68–7.63 (m, 2 H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.62 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.19 (dd, J = 7.4, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.36–4.28 (m, 2 H), 4.24–4.12 (m, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 1 H), 2.46–2.35 (m, 1 H), 2.21–2.08 (m, 2 H), 1.99–1.87 (m, 1 H), 0.75 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.61 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H). ¹³C **NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 160.3, 152.7 (indirect observation), 149.8, 148.9, 148.4, 135.5, 128.2, 126.2–126.0 (m), 119.0, 111.4, 109.9, 66.2, 59.7, 56.2, 56.0, 42.4, 41.4, 38.4, 22.8, 22.5.

FTIR $[\bar{\nu}\ (cm^{-1})]$: 3404, 2967, 1704, 1627, 1517, 1465, 1263, 1140, 1027, 844, 595. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for $(C_{29}H_{29}F_5N_2O_4S+H)^+$ = 525.18464, found 525.18665 ($|\Delta|$ = 3.82 ppm). **Yield**: 84%.

(2S,4R,6R)-N-Benzyl-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-hydroxy-6-[4-(pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 6c

Äccording to the general procedure, the reaction of amino alcohol **11** (2.00 mg, 4.55 μmol) in 'BuOH (96.5 mM) afforded urea **6c** (2.60 mg, 4.54 μmol). **¹H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.76–7.66 (m, 4 H), 7.21–7.12 (m, 3 H), 6.80 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.77–6.72 (m, 3 H), 6.54 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.44 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.80 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.47 (dd, J = 11.5, 4.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.27–4.19 (m, 1 H), 4.17 (dd, J = 14.8, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.05 (dd, J = 14.8, 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H), 3.63 (s, 3 H), 2.44 (dt, J = 13.1, 6.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.24 (dt, J = 14.4, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.15 (dt, J = 13.5, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 1.97 (dt, J = 13.7, 11.1 Hz, 1 H), 1.82 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 160.5, 152.6 (indirect observation), 149.9, 148.9, 148.7, 138.4, 135.6, 128.5, 128.2, 127.3, 127.2, 126.3–126.2, 118.7, 111.5, 109.4, 65.6, 59.0, 56.1, 55.9, 55.2, 45.1, 40.9, 37.6. **FTIR** [\bar{v} (cm⁻¹)]: 3410, 2936, 1690, 1560, 1541, 1263, 1139, 1027, 842, 750, 595. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (Cz₇₇H₂₉F₅N₂O₄S + Na)* = 595.16659, found 595.16478 (|Δ| = 3.04 ppm). **Yield**: 99%.

Synthesis and Full Characterization of Aryl Ureas 6d and 6e

Solution A: compound 11 (1.0 equiv) dissolved in 1,2-DCE (95.6–105.0 mM). Solution B: aryl isocyanate (7C–E, 1.1 equiv) dissolved in 1,2-DCE (0.1 M). Solution A (2.80 μL/min) was combined with B (3.08 μL/min) inside the glass microreactor (internal volume: 100 μL). The reaction was performed at 80 °C for 17 min.

(2S,4R,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-hydroxy-6-[4-(pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl)phenyl]-N-phenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide 6d

According to the general procedure, the reaction of amino alcohol **11** (2.57 mg, 5.85 μmol) in 1,2-DCE (95.6 mM) afforded urea **6d** (3.26 mg, 5.84 μmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.80–7.76 (m, 2 H), 7.75–7.70 (m, 2 H), 7.20–7.14 (m, 2 H), 6.99–6.90 (m, 4 H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.56 (s, 1 H), 6.51 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1 H), 5.80 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.61 (dd, J = 12.0, 4.3 Hz, 1 H), 4.36–4.24 (m, 1 H), 3.88 (s, 3 H), 3.62 (s, 3 H), 2.58 (dt, J = 14.3, 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.37 (dt, J = 14.9, 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.18 (dt, J = 13.6, 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 2.03 (dt, J = 13.7, 11.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.89–1.85 (m, 1 H). 13 **C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 157.6, 152.6 (indirect observation), 150.4, 149.3, 148.9, 138.5, 135.3, 129.0, 128.2, 126.4–126.2 (m), 123.6, 119.8, 118.5, 111.6, 109.1, 65.1, 59.1, 56.2, 55.9, 53.8, 41.0, 36.6. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3388, 2933, 2841, 1686, 1647, 1501, 1443, 1420, 1264, 1237, 1140, 1027, 843, 754. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₆Hz₂₇FsN₂O₄S + Na)⁺ = 581.15094, found 581.14995 (|Δ| = 1.70 ppm). **Yield**: 99%.

(2S,4R,6R)-N-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-hydroxy-6-[4-(pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 6e

According to the general procedure, the reaction of amino alcohol **11** (3.40 mg, 7.74 µmol) in 1,2-DCE (105.0 mM) afforded urea **6e** (3.81 mg, 6.42 µmol). **1H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 8.01 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.79–7.75 (m, 2 H), 7.75–7.70 (m, 2 H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 2 H), 6.97 (s, 1 H), 6.95–6.87 (m, 2 H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 6.61 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.83 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.85 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.39–4.37 (m, 1 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H), 3.65 (s, 3 H), 2.57 (dt, J = 14.4, 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.36 (dt, J = 14.9, 5.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.26 (dt, J = 13.9, 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.09 (dt, J = 13.9, 10.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.87 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1 H). 13 C NMR [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 157.1, 152.6 (indirect observation), 150.1, 149.1, 148.5, 135.8, 134.8, 129.0, 128.2, 127.5, 126.5–126.3 (m), 123.9, 123.0, 122.0, 119.0, 111.8, 109.2, 64.9, 58.3, 56.2, 56.0, 54.0, 40.8, 36.6. FTIR [\$\overline{\nu} (cm $^{-1}$)]: 3362, 2936, 2838, 2258, 1735, 1663, 1517, 1439, 1263, 1140, 1027, 843, 754. HRMS [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₈H₂₆CIF₅N₂O₄S + H)* = 593.13002, found 593.12885 (| Δ | = 1.98 ppm). Yield: 83%.

Synthesis and Full Characterization of Ureas 13a and 13b

(2S,4S,6R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-hydroxy-N-isopropyl-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidine-1-carboxamide 13a and 13b

Isopropyl isocyanate (**7B**; 0.01 mL, 0.12 mmol) was added to a solution of piperidin-4-ol **12** (46.2 mg, 0.12 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.2 mL) at 21 °C and the reaction was stirred for 20 hours. The solvent was removed under vacuo and the crude was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂ \rightarrow CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 10:1) to afford compounds **13a** and **13b** (21.5 mg, 0.046 mmol). **Combined yield**: 38%.

13a: ¹**H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.59–7.49 (m, 4 H), 6.84–6.74 (m, 2 H), 6.64 (bs, 1 H), 5.65 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 4.90 (dd, J = 10.0, 4.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.43 (quint, J = 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.33 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1 H), 3.83 (s, 3 H), 3.82–3.71 (m, 1 H), 3.71 (s, 3 H), 2.76–2.64 (m, 1 H), 2.15–2.07 (m, 1 H), 2.00 (dt, J = 15.0, 5.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.84 (dt, J = 14.9, 3.8 Hz, 1 H), 0.89 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.74 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 159.3, 149.7, 148.65–148.59 (m), 148.5, 136.1, 129.2 (q, J = 32.6 Hz), 127.4, 125.5 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 122.8 (indirect observation), 118.3, 111.3, 109.6, 62.4, 56.0, 55.9, 54.1, 52.1, 42.8, 39.6, 36.1, 23.2, 22.9. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3415, 2965, 2937, 1619, 1517, 1465, 1327, 1262, 1164, 1123, 1070, 1019, 808. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₄H₂₉F₃N₂O₄ + Na)* = 489.19771, found 489.19701 (| Δ | = 1.43 ppm).

13b: ¹**H NMR** [400 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 7.69–7.62 (m, 2 H), 7.61–7.54 (m, 2 H), 6.90–6.84 (m, 1 H), 6.81 (dd, J = 8.2, 0.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.67 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 5.12 (dd, J = 7.3, 5.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.36 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.32 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.23–4.11 (m, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 3.60–347 (m, 1 H), 2.41–2.33 (m, 1 H), 2.20–2.10 (m, 2 H), 2.01–1.91 (m, 1 H), 0.72 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 3 H), 0.61 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H). ¹³**C NMR** [101 MHz, δ (ppm), CDCl₃]: 160.4, 149.7, 148.8, 148.4, 135.6, 129.4 (indirect observation), 128.2, 125.4, 122.9 (indirect observation), 119.1, 111.3, 110.0, 66.3, 59.6, 56.7, 56.1, 56.0, 42.4, 41.2, 38.7, 22.8, 22.5. **FTIR** [$\bar{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹)]: 3414, 2930, 1620, 1517, 1465, 1325, 1263, 1164, 1122, 1027, 842. **HRMS** [ESI (m/z)] calcd for (C₂₄H₂₉F₃N₂O₄ + Na)⁺ = 489.19771, found 489.19688 ([Δ] = 1.70 ppm).

Acknowledgements

This work has been supported by the FP7 Marie Curie Actions of the European Commission via the ITN ECHONET Network (MCITN-2012-316379).

Keywords: continuous flow • nitrogen heterocycles • urea functionality • atropisomers • piperidin-4-one

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- [19] Compounds 13a and 13b were isolated after column chromatography of the reaction in batch of amino alcohol 12 and isopropyl isocyanate 7B.

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FULL PAPER

Layout 2:

FULL PAPER

Key Topic* Library synthesis in flow

Alejandra Riesco-Domínguez, Daniel Blanco-Ania and Floris P. J. T. Rutjes*

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Title: Continuous Flow Synthesis of Urea-Containing Compound Libraries Based on the Piperidin-4-one Scaffold.

Two libraries of ureas based on the piperidin-4-one scaffold have been developed in continuous flow and twenty drug-like compounds were synthesized in moderate to high yields.

