## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Benzylic C-H trifluoromethylation of phenol derivatives

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## 1. General

<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were measured on a JEOL JNM-ECA-500 spectrometer at 500 and 470 MHz, respectively. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECA-500 spectrometer at 125 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported downfield from TMS ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) or CDCl<sub>3</sub> for <sup>1</sup>H NMR. For <sup>13</sup>C NMR, chemical shifts were reported in a scale relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub>. For <sup>19</sup>F NMR, chemical shifts were reported in a scale relative to a CFCl<sub>3</sub> external standard ( $\delta = 0$  ppm). Infrared spectra were measured on a SHIMADZU IRPrestige-21 and only diagnostic absorptions are listed. ESI-MS and APCI-MS data were taken on a Bruker micrOTOF-QII-<sub>RSL</sub>. EI-MS data were taken on a JEOL JMS-700V. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel N-60 (40-100 µm) purchased from Kanto Chemical Co., Inc. TLC analysis was performed on Silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub>-coated glass plates (Merck). Visualization of TLC plates was carried out by means of ultraviolet (UV) irradiation at 254 nm and/or by spraying 12-molybdo(VI)phosphoric acid ethanol solution as the developing agent.

Dehydrated *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF), *N*-methylpyrrolidone (NMP), dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), and dichloromethane (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd. Dehydrated acetonitrile (MeCN) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. LLC., and dehydrated methanol (MeOH) was purchased from Kishida Chemical Co., Ltd. CuI, CuOAc, CuCl, Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, Fe(OAc)<sub>2</sub> were obtained from commercial sources, and used as received. Other reagents were purified by usual methods. Togni reagent was prepared according to literature procedures.<sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> K. Stanek, R. Koller and A. Togni, J. Org. Chem., 2008, 73, 7678.

## 2. Preparation of substrates

All phenol derivatives were used as purchased from commercial sources or were prepared according to literature procedures.

## 2.1. 6-(tert-butyl)-2-methoxy-4-methylphenol (1b)



## **2.1.1. Synthesis of S1**<sup>[2]</sup>

To a solution of 2-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol (5.0 g, 30.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (76 mL) was added Br<sub>2</sub> (1.56 mL, 30.4 mmol, 1 equiv.) in one portion at 0 °C. After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **S1** (7.42 g, quant.) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.39$  (s, 9H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 ppm (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 20.5$ , 29.4, 35.2, 111.9, 127.3, 129.6, 130.2, 137.2, 148.1 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3512, 3007, 2965, 2922, 2870, 1570, 1474, 1447, 1393, 1364, 1329, 1277, 1196, 1175, 854, 835 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## **2.1.2.** Synthesis of 1b<sup>[3]</sup>

To a solution of **S1** (500 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (11 mL) were added CuBr (90.4 mg, 0.63 mmol, 0.3 equiv.), EtOAc (124  $\mu$ L, 1.26 mmol, 0.6 equiv.), and a MeOH solution of NaOMe (0.42 mL, 5 M, 5 equiv.) at room temperature. After stirring for 10 h at 70 °C, the reaction was quenched with 1N HCl, and the organic materials were extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[2]</sup> M. Nabika, H. Katayama, T. Watanabe, H. Kawamura-Kuribayashi, K. Yanagi and A. Imai, *Organomet.*, 2009, **28**, 3785.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[3]</sup> P. Cacioli and JA Reiss, Australian J. Chem., 1984, **37**, 2525.

was washed with brine and dried over  $MgSO_4$ . After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to provide **1b** (363 mg, 89%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.40 (s, 9H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 5.82 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 6.70 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 21.4, 29.4, 34.5, 56.1, 109.3, 119.3, 127.8, 135.1, 141.9, 146.4 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3530, 3007, 2959, 1595, 1487, 1456, 1360, 1152, 1072 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: *m*/*z* = 193.1223, Found: 193.1230.

#### OMOM OMOM MOMCI, NaH CO<sub>2</sub>H <sup>7</sup>Buli CO~ DMF, rt, 3 h Et<sub>2</sub>O 0°C S2 **S**3 омом N<sub>3</sub>P(O)(OPh)<sub>2</sub>, Et<sub>3</sub>N NHCbz <sup>t</sup>Bu NHCbz HC toluene, 80 °C MeOH/THE 0 °C then, benzyl alcohol S4 1c

## 2.2. Benzyl (3-(tert-butyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl) carbamate (1c)

## 2.2.1. Synthesis of S2<sup>[4]</sup>

To a suspension of NaH (1.11 g, 60% in oil, 27.7 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) was added a DMF solution (30 mL) of 2-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol (3.04 g, 18.5 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, chloromethylmethylether (1.83 mL, 24 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. After stirring for 3 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with 1N HCl at 0 °C. The mixture was extracted with *n*-hexane and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **S2** (3.82 g, 99%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.39 (s, 9H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 5.20 (s, 2H), 6.96 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 ppm (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>[4]</sup> H. Hanaoka, Y. Imamoto, T. Hino and Y. Oda, J. Organomet. Chem., 2006, **691**, 4968.

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): *δ* = 20.8, 29.9, 34.8, 55.9, 94.2, 114.3, 127.2, 127.5, 130.3, 138.1, 154.0 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3007, 2957, 2924, 2910, 1497, 1159, 1144, 1072, 1013 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 2.2.3. Synthesis of S3

To a solution of S2 (500 mg, 2.4 mmol) in  $Et_2O$  (10 mL) was added a *n*-BuLi solution in *n*-hexane (4.5 mL, 1.6 M, 7.2 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 2 h, the mixture was cooled to – 78 °C. Carbon dioxide was bubbled to the reaction mixture. After stirring the reaction mixture for 20 min, the reaction was quenched with 1N HCl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was used without any further purification in the next step.

#### 2.2.3. Synthesis of S4

To a solution of **S3** (586 mg, 2.32 mmol) in toluene (9.9 mL) was added diphenylphosphoryl azide (0.62 mL, 2.9 mmol) over 5 min. Triethylamine (0.41 mL, 2.9 mmol) was then added to the reaction mixture over 3 min. After stirring for 30 min at 80 °C, benzyl alcohol (0.30 mL, 2.9 mmol) was added to the mixture. After stirring for 14 h at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was used without any further purification in the next step.

#### 2.2.4. Synthesis of 1c

To a solution of **S4** (300 mg, 0.84 mmol) in THF/MeOH (2 mL/2 mL) was added 10% aqueous HCl solution (4.2 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 4 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1c** (242 mg, 98%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.42$  (s, 9H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 6.70 (brs, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.40 ppm (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 20.8$ , 29.8, 34.9, 68.0, 121.0, 124.9, 125.5, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 129.4, 135.5, 139.5, 145.3, 155.6 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3420, 3229, 2957, 2918, 1693, 1599, 1530, 1454, 1361, 1256, 1240, 1076, 961, 910, 854 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O+H]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 314.1756, Found: 314.1748.



#### 2.3. Ethyl 3-(3-(tert-butyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl) propanoate (1d)

#### 2.3.1. Synthesis of S5

To a solution of **S2** (3.0 g, 14.4 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (72 mL) was added a *n*-BuLi solution in *n*-hexane (13.1 mL, 1.65 M, 21.6 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 3 h at room temperature, DMF (1.37 mL, 17.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 min at 0 °C, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **S5** (3.28 g, 97%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.42 (s, 9H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 5.00 (s, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 10.20 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 20.8, 30.7, 34.8, 57.5, 102.3, 127.1, 130.5, 133.5, 134.1, 143.3, 158.0, 191.4 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3007, 2965, 2913, 2870, 1682, 1603, 1472, 1454, 1387, 1258, 1161, 1074, 953, 808 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+Na]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* = 259.1310, Found: 259.1303.

## 2.3.2. Synthesis of S6

To a suspension of NaH (406 mg, 60% in oil, 10.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) in THF (28 mL) was added triethyl phosphonoacetate (2.0 mL, 10.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) dropwise at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min at 0 °C, a THF solution (10 mL) of **S5** (2.0 g, 8.46 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. After additional stirring for 2 h at the same temperature, the reaction was quenched with water. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **S6** (2.75 g, 88%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.33$  (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 4.26 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 6.36 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 8.05 ppm (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.3$ , 21.0, 30.8, 34.9, 57.5, 60.3, 101.1, 118.1, 125.9, 128.7, 130.2, 133.1, 141.7, 143.2, 153.7, 167.0 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2965, 1701, 1634, 1466, 1437, 1400, 1368, 1263, 1163, 1074, 1042, 961, 860 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 306.1831, Found: 306.1834.

## 2.3.3. Synthesis of S7

Palladium on carbon (200 mg, 10 w/w %), ethanol (33 mL) and **S6** (2.0 g, 6.53 mmol) were added to the flask under nitrogen. After replacement of nitrogen with hydrogen, the mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Solid materials were removed by filtration and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **S7** (1.99 g, 99%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.25$  (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.61-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.99-3.02 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.96 (s, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 ppm (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.2$ , 21.0, 26.7, 31.1, 34.9, 35.1, 57.1, 60.3, 100.2, 126.4, 128.9, 133.0, 134.1, 142.9, 152.9, 173.2 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2961, 1726, 1466, 1437, 1398, 1373, 974, 935 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 331.1885, Found: 331.1878.

#### 2.3.4. Synthesis of 1d

To a solution of **S7** (150 mg, 0.49 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added 10% aqueous HCl solution (4.0 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 h at 60 °C, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1d** (115 mg, 89%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.23 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.41 (s, 9H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.71-2.73 (m, 2H), 2.84-2.86 (m, 2H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.0, 20.8, 24.2, 29.8, 34.8, 35.8, 61.4, 126.0, 128.2, 128.6, 129.0, 138.1, 150.9, 176.2 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3337, 2959, 2914, 2872,

1709, 1476, 1447, 1412, 1240, 1194, 1167, 1051, 1015, 862 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for  $[C_{16}H_{24}O_3-H]^-: m/z = 263.1647$ , Found: 263.1645.



2.4. Ethyl (E)-5-(3-(tert-butyl)-2-hydroxy- 5-methylphenyl) pent-2-enoate (1e)

## 2.4.1. Synthesis of S8

A solution of **S7** (1.0 g, 3.24 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added to a suspension of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (184 mg, 4.86 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in THF (16 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with careful addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (0.72 mL) and 15% NaOH (0.18 mL). After filtration, the filtrate was poured into Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was used without any further purification in the next step.

#### 2.4.2. Synthesis of S9

To a solution of  $(\text{COCl})_2$  (494 mg, 3.89 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was added DMSO (0.28mL, 3.9 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring for 5 min, a solution of **S8** (871 mg, 3.27 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The stirring was continued for an additional 15 min at -78 °C, followed by addition of Et<sub>3</sub>N (2.3 mL, 16.2 mmol) in one portion. After stirring for 10 min, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm up to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **S9** (822mg, 96% in 2 steps) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.38, (s, 9H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.75-2.79 (m, 2H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 4.95 (s, 2H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 9.82 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 21.0, 24.0, 31.2, 34.9, 44.7, 57.2, 100.3, 126.5, 129.0, 133.2, 133.9, 143.1, 153.0, 202.2 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3420, 2959, 2876, 2727, 1722, 1603, 1452, 1400, 1361, 1072, 864 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+Na]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* = 287.1623, Found: 287.1616.

## 2.4.3. Synthesis of S10

To a suspension of NaH (91 mg, 60% in oil, 2.27 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) in THF (9.5 mL) was added triethyl phosphonoacetate (0.45 mL, 2.27 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) dropwise at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min at 0 °C, a THF solution (4 mL) of **S9** (500 mg, 1.89 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. After stirring for 5 h at 0 °C, the reaction was quenched with water. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 15/1) to provide **S10** (619 mg, 98%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.29$  (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.51 (dt, J = 6.9, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.83 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.5Hz, 2H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 5.86 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 7.01-7.06 ppm (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.2, 21.0, 29.6, 31.1, 33.3, 34.9, 57.1, 60.1, 100.2, 121.4, 126.3, 128.9, 133.0, 134.4, 143.0, 148.6, 152.9, 166.7 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2959, 2930, 2872, 1709, 1653, 1466, 1437, 1398, 1369, 1273, 1161, 1072, 1036, 976, 935, 864 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na]<sup>+</sup>: <math>m/z = 357.2042$ , Found: 357.2036.

#### 2.4.4. Synthesis of 1e

To a solution of **S10** (500 mg, 1.49 mmol) in THF/EtOH (4 mL/3.5 mL) was added Amberlyst 15 (100 mg) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h at room temperature, the solid materials were removed by filtration and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **1e** (365 mg, 84%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.41 (s, 9H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.49-2.54 (m, 2H), 2.69-2.73 (m, 2H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 5.86-5.89 (m, 1H), 6.81 (s, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.04 ppm (td, *J* = 6.9, 16.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125)

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.2, 20.8, 28.9, 30.0, 32.4, 34.2, 60.2, 121.9, 125.8, 126.9, 128.0, 129.2, 135.7, 148.1, 149.9, 166.6 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2959, 1709, 1456, 1447, 1369, 1317, 1271, 1172 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: *m*/*z* = 289.1804, Found: 289.1799.

#### 2.5. 2-(tert-Butyl)-6-(triethylsilyl)-4-methylphenol (1f)



#### 2.5.1. Synthesis of S11

To a solution of **S1** (300 mg, 1.23 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (6.2 mL) were added chlorotriethylsilane (0.21 mL, 1.23 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and imidazole (83.7 g, 1.23 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). After stirring for 1.5 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with aqueous  $NH_4Cl$ . The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was used without any further purification in the next step.

## 2.5.2. Synthesis of 1f

To a solution of **S11** (445 mg) in THF (10 mL) was added a *n*-BuLi solution in hexane (0.8 mL, 1.55 M, 1.23 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring for 5h, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1f** (305 mg, 89%, in 2 steps) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 0.83-0.89$  (m, 6H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 9H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 ppm (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 4.08$ , 7.61, 20.9, 30.1, 34.0, 122.8, 128.9, 129.0, 134.1, 134.4, 157.4 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3640, 3605, 3007, 2957, 2911, 2876, 1578, 1495, 1458, 1425, 1391, 1375, 1308, 1240, 1167, 1115, 1005, 931, 871, 849 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>OSi–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 277.1988, Found: 277.1983.



#### 2.6. 2-(tert-Butyl)-6-(methoxymethyl)-4-methylphenol (1g)

#### 2.6.1. Synthesis of S12

To a solution of **S5** (500 mg, 2.12 mmol) in MeOH (11 mL) was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (120 mg, 3.17 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) at 0 °C. After stirring for 1 h, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **S12** (501 mg, 99%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.38$  (s, 9H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 4.97 (s, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.11 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 20.9$ , 31.1, 34.8, 57.1, 61.5, 100.5, 128.0, 129.9, 133.7, 134.8, 142.7, 154.0 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3447, 3007, 2961, 2872, 1605, 1472, 1437, 1395, 1362, 1261, 1153, 1136, 1065, 1107, 980, 866 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: *m*/*z* = 238.1569, Found: 238.1565.

## 2.6.2. Synthesis of S13

To a solution of **S12** (400 mg, 1.68 mmol) in DMF (5.6 mL) were added NaH (101 mg, 60% in oil, 2.52 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and MeI (160  $\mu$ L, 2.52 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) at 0 °C. After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with 1N HCl. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was used without any further purification in the next step.

## 2.6.3. Synthesis of 1g

To a solution of **S13** (412 mg) in THF/MeOH (4.2 mL/4.2 mL) was added 3N HCl (10 mL). After stirring for 12 h at 40 °C, the reaction mixture was neutralized with 1N NaOH. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column

chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 4/1) to provide **1g** (308 mg, 88% in 2steps) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.40 (s, 9H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.58 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 20.7, 29.6, 34.6 57.9, 74.7, 122.1, 126.8, 127.6, 128.0, 136.8, 153.1 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3368, 2953, 2922, 2866, 2828, 1481, 1474, 1373, 1360, 1148, 1078, 892 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: *m/z* = 207.1385, Found: 207.1379.

## 2.7. 2-(tert-Butyl)-4-methyl-6-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-phenol (1h)



To a flask containing Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (127 mg, 0.11 mmol, 5 mol%), 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid (385 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (668 mg, 6.3 mmol, 3 equiv.) and **S1** (500 mg, 2.1 mmol) were added THF (7 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL). After stirring for 9 h at 90 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and EtOAc (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1h** (488 mg, 86%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.43 (s, 9H), 2.30 (s. 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 ppm (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 20.8, 29.6, 34.8, 55.2, 114.7, 126.9, 128.2, 128.4, 128.5, 129.4, 130.6, 135.8, 148.9, 159.2 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3545, 3007, 2959, 2913, 2866, 1609, 1512, 1466, 1443, 1420, 1393, 1362, 1288, 1244, 1177, 1034, 868, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>–H]<sup>-</sup>: *m/z* = 269.1536, Found: 263.1540.

#### 2.8. 2-(tert-Butyl)-4-methyl-6-phenylphenol (1i)



To a flask containing Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (127 mg, 0.11 mmol, 5 mol%), phenylboronic acid (307 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (668 mg, 6.3 mmol, 3 equiv.) and **S1** (500 mg, 2.1 mmol) were added THF (7 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL). After stirring for 9 h at 90 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and EtOAc (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1i** (490 mg, 97%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.43$  (s, 9H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.49 ppm (dd, J = 6.9, 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 20.8$ , 29.7, 34.8, 127.3, 127.9, 128.3, 128.6, 128.7, 129.4, 129.5, 136.0, 137.4, 148.7 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3551, 3007, 2961, 2918, 2870, 1601, 1497, 1468, 1454, 1429. 1362, 1329, 1256, 1194, 1163, 868, 806 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 239.1436, Found: 239.1430.

## 2.9. 6-(tert-Butyl)-4-methyl-2-(thiophen-3-yl)-phenol (1j)



To a flask containing  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (127 mg, 0.11 mmol, 5 mol %), 3-thienylboronic acid (320 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1.2 equiv.),  $Na_2CO_3$  (668 mg, 6.3 mmol, 3 equiv.) and **S1** (500 mg, 2.1 mmol) were added THF (7 mL) and  $H_2O$  (2 mL). After stirring for 9 h at 90 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and EtOAc (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified

by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **1j** (373 mg, 72%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.44 (s, 9H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 5.45 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 ppm (dd, *J* = 3.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 20.8, 29.6, 34.8, 123.1, 123.4, 127.3, 128.0, 128.7, 128.7, 136.0, 137.8, 149.1 ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3532, 3007, 2961, 2916, 1468, 1445, 1391, 1361, 1327, 1238, 1196, 1182, 864, 843 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>OS–H]<sup>-</sup>: *m*/*z* = 245.1000, Found: 245.0993.

## 3. Benzylic trifluoromethylation of phenol derivatives

## 3.1. Typical experimental procedure for the trifluoromethylation of phenol derivatives

CuI (3.8 mg, 10 mol %) and Togni reagent II (94.8 mg, 1.5 equiv.) were added to a Schlenk flask, which was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was evacuated and back-filled with argon. DMF (1 mL) and **1a** (35.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) were then added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C and diluted with EtOAc. The solution was washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **2a** (45.8 mg, 93%).

## 3.2.1. 2-(tert-Butyl)-6-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2a)



Colorless oil; 45.8 mg, 93%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.42$  (s, 9H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.56 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 7.04 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 15.9$ , 29.6, 34.5, 39.7 (q, J = 30.0 Hz), 121.3, 123.2, 126.0 (q, J = 276.7 Hz) 127.0, 130.1, 135.8, 152.5 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3607,

2959, 1601, 1483, 1435, 1360, 1300, 1285, 1260, 1177, 1136, 1086, 831, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: *m/z* = 245.1153, Found: 245.1150.

## 3.2.2. 6-(tert-Butyl)-2-methoxy-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2b)



Colorless oil; 42.5 mg, 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.40$  (s, 9H), 3.28 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.78 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.3$ , 34.6, 40.2 (q, J = 30.0 Hz), 56.1, 110.0, 120.2 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 121.2, 126.0 (q, J = 275.0 Hz) 135.5, 144.1, 146.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3528, 3034, 2961, 2909, 2870, 1599, 1491, 1433, 1377, 1362, 1153, 1138, 1086, 1072, 808, 691, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for  $[C_{13}H_{17}F_3O_2-H]^-$ : m/z = 261.1097, Found: 261.1100.

## 3.2.3. N-Benzyloxycarbonyl-2-amino-6-(*tert*-butyl)-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2c)



Colorless oil; 65.6 mg, 86%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.43$  (s, 9H), 3.25 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1 H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.41 ppm (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.7$ , 35.0, 39.6 (q, J = 30.0 Hz), 68.2, 121.7, 122.2, 125.8 (q, J = 277.1 Hz) 125.8, 126.1, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 135.3, 139.9, 147.5, 155.7 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.0$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3316, 2952, 1695, 1533, 1477, 1454, 1285, 1261, 1240, 1138, 1084 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 380.1474, Found: 380.1466.

## 3.2.4. Ethyl 3-(3-(*tert*-butyl)-2-hydroxy-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2d)



Colorless oil; 57.2 mg, 86%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.24$  (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.41 (s, 9H), 2.73-2.75 (m, 2H), 2.86-2.89 (m, 2H), 3.25 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.84 ppm (s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.0, 24.3, 29.7, 34.9, 35.7, 39.7$  (q, J = 29.4 Hz), 61.6, 121.4, 126.0 (q, J = 276.6 Hz) 127.3, 128.5, 129.9, 138.6, 153.2, 176.3 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3319, 2963, 2913, 1757, 1707, 1477, 1437, 1379, 1360, 1290, 1258, 1138, 1086, 1015 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 333.1678, Found: 333.1671.

# 3.2.5. Ethyl (*E*)-5-(3-(*tert*-butyl)-2-hydroxy-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenyl)pent-2-enoate (2e)



Colorless oil; 56.7 mg, 79%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.28$  (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 2.50-2.55 (m, 2H), 2.72-2.75 (m, 2H), 3.25 (q, J = 10.5 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 5.85 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.98-7.04 ppm (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.2$ , 28.8, 29.9, 32.1, 34.3, 39.7 (q, J = 29.4 Hz), 60.3, 121.6, 121.6, 122.1, 125.9 (q, J = 277.1 Hz), 127.2, 129.3, 136.1, 147.7, 152.2, 166.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 10.5 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3602, 2963 ,1713, 1468, 1433, 1360, 1260, 1196, 1138, 1086 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 359.1834, Found: 359.1828.

## 3.2.6. 6-(tert-Butyl)-2-triethylsilyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2f)



Colorless oil; 40.9 mg, 59%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 0.87$  (q, J = 7.9 Hz, 6H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 9H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 3.29 (q, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.19 ppm (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 4.0, 7.5, 30.0, 34.0, 39.8$  (q, J = 29.4 Hz), 121.6 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 123.3, 126.1 (q, J = 276.6 Hz) 130.1, 134.8, 135.5, 159.4 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 11.0 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3638, 2959, 2913,

2856, 1497, 1458, 1360, 1267, 1152, 1138, 1119, 1084, 1107, 910 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for  $[C_{12}H_{15}F_{3}O-H]^{-}$  (The triethylsilyl group was removed by fragmentation under APCI conditions): m/z = 231.0991, Found: 231.0996.

## 3.2.7. 6-(*tert*-Butyl)-2-methoxymethyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2g)



Colorless oil; 34.3 mg, 62%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.41$  (s, 9H), 3.26 (q, J = 10.7 Hz, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 4.64 (s, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.87 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.4$ , 34.7, 39.6 (q, J = 29.6 Hz), 58.2, 74.5, 120.5 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 122.4, 125.9 (q, J = 277.1 Hz), 127.8, 128.9, 137.3, 155.3 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.2$  ppm (t, J = 10.7 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3356, 2957, 2870, 2830, 1605, 1481, 1437, 1360, 1298, 1141, 1088, 968, 943 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 275.1259, Found: 275.1256.

## 3.2.8. 6-(*tert*-Butyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)- 4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2h)



Colorless oil; 56.8 mg, 84%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.44$  (s, 9H), 3.31 (q, J = 10.6 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 5.46 (s, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.37 ppm (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.5$ , 34.9, 39.7 (q, J = 29.8 Hz), 55.4, 114.9, 121.2 (q, J = 2.4 Hz), 126.0 (q, J = 276.6 Hz) 128.2, 128.7 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 129.6, 130.7, 136.4, 151.0, 159.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.0$  ppm (t, J = 10.6 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3009, 1607, 1514, 1466, 1435, 1360, 1319, 1281, 1254, 1138, 1088, 831 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 337.1410, Found: 337.1395.

## 3.2.9. 6-(tert-Butyl)-2-phenyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2i)



Colorless oil; 31.5 mg, 51%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.45$  (s, 9H), 3.32 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 5.48 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.53 ppm (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.5$ , 34.9, 39.7 (q, J = 29.6 Hz), 121.3, 126.0 (q, J = 277.1 Hz), 128.2, 128.5, 129.0, 129.3, 129.5, 129.5, 136.6, 136.7, 150.9 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.0$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3545, 2963, 2916, 2872, 1601, 1470, 1431, 1360, 1317, 1285, 1256, 1136, 1088, 1078, 908, 831, 808 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 307.1310, Found: 307.1305.

#### 3.2.10. 6-(tert-Butyl)-2-(thiophen-3-yl)- 4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2j)



Colorless oil; 49.0 mg, 78%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.44$  (s, 9H), 3.31 (q, J = 10.9 Hz, 2H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 1.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 1.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 ppm (dd, J = 2.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 29.5$ , 34.9, 39.7 (q, J = 29.4 Hz), 121.2, 121.2, 123.6, 123.8, 126.0 (q, J = 275.1 Hz), 127.7, 128.6, 129.2, 136.6, 137.1, 151.2 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 10.9 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3526, 2923, 2914, 1468, 1137, 1362, 1283, 1258, 1138, 1182, 1088, 843 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 313.0874, Found: 313.0862.

## 3.2.11. 2-(tert-Butyl)-6-methyl-4-(1,1,1-trifluoropropan-2-yl)phenol (2k)



Colorless oil; 27.6 mg, 53%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.41 (s, 9H), 1.47 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.28-3.35 (m, 1H), 4.77 (s, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 7.05 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.8 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 16.0, 29.7, 34.5, 43.6 (q, *J* = 27.6 Hz), 123.0, 125.5,

127.4 (q, J = 279.5 Hz) 127.6, 128.2, 135.6, 152.4 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -71.6$  ppm (d, J = 8.5 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3625, 2959, 2934, 2872, 1670, 1601, 1483, 1435, 1387, 1261, 1165, 1125, 1094, 995, 880 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (APCI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 259.1304, Found: 259.1312.

## 3.2.12. 2-Methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)naphthalen-1-ol (2l)



Colorless oil; 38.9 mg, 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 2.42$  (s, 3H), 3.75 (q, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.19-8.22 ppm (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 15.5$ , 36.3 (q, J = 30.0 Hz), 115.6, 118.3, 121.7, 123.6, 124.6, 125.3, 126.1, 126.2 (q, J = 277.5 Hz) 132.1, 132.6, 149.1 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -65.0$  ppm (t, J = 11.0 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3603, 2915, 1603, 1580, 1514, 1468, 1385, 1346, 1269, 1254, 1136, 1098, 1045, 937, 897, 833, 689, 648, 594 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 239.0684, Found: 239.0676.

## 3.2.13. 2,6-Dimethyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2m)



Colorless oil; 29.4 mg, 72%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 2.25$  (s, 6H), 3.23 (q, J = 10.9 Hz, 2H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 6.91 ppm (s, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 15.8$ , 39.4 (q, J = 28.8 Hz), 121.6 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 123.2, 125.9 (q, J = 277.1 Hz) 130.3, 152.0 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.2$  ppm (t, J = 10.9 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3607, 2926, 1491, 1308, 1285, 1261, 1157, 1138, 1086 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 203.0684, Found: 203.0680.

## 3.2.14. 2,6-di-tert-Butyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (2n)

Colorless oil; 52.5 mg, 91%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.44$  (s, 18H), 3.27 (q, J = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 7.06 ppm (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 30.2$ , 34.3, 40.1 (q, J = 29.4 Hz), 120.9 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 126.1 (q, J = 276.6 Hz), 126.8, 136.1, 153.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.1$  ppm (t, J = 11.1 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3690, 3640, 2961, 1601, 1437, 1358, 1285, 1260, 1138, 1086 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 287.1623, Found: 287.1618.

## 4. Applications of trifluoromethylated products

## 4.1. Further transformations of 2a



## 4.1.1. Removal of tert-butyl group



To a solution of **2a** (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) in toluene (4 mL) was added  $H_2SO_4$  (1 drop). After stirring for 12 h at 120 °C, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, and the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **4** (78 mg, quant.) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 2.25$  (s, 3H), 3.25 (q, J = 10.9 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.05 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 15.6$ , 29.8 (q, J = 29.8 Hz), 115.1, 122.2, 124.1, 125.9 (q, J = 277.0), 128.8, 132.8, 153.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.3$  ppm (t, J = 10.9 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3599, 3326, 2943, 1616, 1514, 1456, 1431, 1327, 1306, 1263, 1240, 1196, 1180, 1138, 1082, 949, 907, 810 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 189.0527, Found: 189.0520.

## 4.1.2. Triflation of 4 to provide 5



To a solution of **4** (60 mg, 0.32 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.2 mL) was added pyridine (51  $\mu$ L, 2.0 equiv.) and Tf<sub>2</sub>O (81  $\mu$ L, 1.5 equiv.) at 0 °C. After stirring for 2 h, the reaction was quenched with water, followed by extraction of the reaction mixture with EtOAc and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 20/1) to provide **5** (101 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 2.39$  (s, 3H), 3.36 (q, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.45 ppm (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 16.3$ , 39.5 (q, J = 31.0 Hz), 118.6 (q, J = 320.7 Hz), 121.6, 125.4 (q, J = 276.6 Hz), 129.4, 130.5 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 131.4, 133.9, 148.3 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -65.6$  (t, J = 11.0 Hz), -73.7 ppm (s); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1497, 1422, 1360, 1261, 1244, 1140, 1094, 949, 910, 880, 817 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 322.0098, Found: 322.0101.

#### 4.1.3. Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction of 5 to provide 6



Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (11.6 mg, 5 mol%), phenylboronic acid (29.3 mg, 0.24 mmol), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (63.6 mg, 0.60 mmol) and **5** (64 mg, 0.20 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk flask. Toluene (2 mL) was added to the flask under an atmosphere of argon. After stirring for 10 h at 100 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and EtOAc was added to the mixture. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 20/1) to provide **6** (101 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 2.29$  (s, 3H), 3.39 (q, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.44 ppm (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 20.4$ , 39.9 (q, J = 29.8 Hz), 125.8 (q, J = 273.0 Hz), 126.9, 127.5, 128.1, 129.0 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 129.1, 130.1, 132.1, 135.8, 141.3, 141.8 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -65.6$  ppm (t, J = 11.0 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3032, 2011, 1485, 1443, 1433, 1358, 1260, 1138, 1084, 1011, 822 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>: m/z = 250.0969, Found: 250.0961.

## 4.2. Synthesis of compound 9<sup>[5]</sup>



<sup>[5]</sup> V. Gerusz, A. Denis, F. Faivre, Y. Bonvin, M. Oxoby, S. Briet, G. LeFralliec, C. Oliveira, N. Desroy, C. Raymond, L. Peltier, F. Moreau, S. Escaich, M. Vongsouthi, S. Floquet, E. Drocourt, A. Walton, L. Prouvensier, M. Saccomani, L. Durant, J.-M. Genevard, V. Sam-Sambo and C. Soulama-Mouze, *J. Med. Chem.*, 2012, **55**, 9914.

#### 4.2.1. Removal of tert-butyl group of 2b



To a solution of **2b** (150 mg, 0.57 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) was added  $H_2SO_4$  (1 drop). After stirring for 12 h at 120 °C, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, followed by extraction of the reaction mixture with EtOAc and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 5/1) to provide **7** (103 mg, 88%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 3.29$  (q, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 5.60 (s, 1 H), 6.78-6.80 (m, 2H), 6.89 ppm (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 39.8$  (q, J = 28.6 Hz), 55.9, 112.4, 114.5, 121.8, 123.3, 125.9 (q, J = 276.6 Hz), 145.6, 146.5 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -66.2$  ppm (t, J = 11.0 Hz); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3543, 2941, 2849, 1609, 1518, 1464, 1454, 1435, 1376, 1302, 1277, 1261, 1155, 1138, 1128, 1084, 1036 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 205.0476, Found: 205.0472.

## 4.2.2. Reaction of 7 with 2,6-difluoropyridine to provide 8



To a solution of 7 (50 mg, 0.24 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) was added KOH (13.6 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) at ambient temperature. After stirring for 30 min. at 0 °C, 2,6-difluoropyridine (18.9  $\mu$ L, 0.26 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added to the reaction mixture. After stirring for 12 h at 110 °C, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl at room temperature. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to provide **8** (64 mg, 90%) as a colorless solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.38 (q, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 6.57 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 1.7, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.92 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 ppm (dd, *J* = 7.9, 15.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 40.0 (q, *J* = 29.8 Hz), 55.9, 102.1 (d, *J* = 35.8 Hz), 106.6 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 114.7, 122.9 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz), 125.7 (q, *J* = 277.8 Hz), 128.3 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 141.8, 143.2 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 151.6, 161.1, 162.3 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz), 163.0 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -65.7 (t, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 3F), -68.5 ppm (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1F); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1605, 1578, 1512, 1441, 1360, 1312, 1275, 1260, 1157, 1128, 1086, 1005 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>: *m*/*z* = 302.0804, Found: 302.0794.

## 4.2.3. Demethylation of 8



To a solution of **8** (50 mg, 0.17 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) was added a BBr<sub>3</sub> solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.7 mL, 1.0 M, 10 equiv.) at -78 °C. After stirring for 12 h at 0 °C, the reaction was quenched with MeOH, and the reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was diluted with EtOAc, washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 7/1) to provide **9** (35.2 mg, 72%) as a colorless solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.34 (q, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 2H), 6.06 (s, 1 H), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.82-6.86 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.81 ppm (dd, *J* = 7.9, 15.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 39.7 (q, *J* = 29.8 Hz), 103.4 (d, *J* = 33.4 Hz), 107.3 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 119.6, 121.9, 122.6, 125.6 (q, *J* = 277.6 Hz), 128.6, 140.9, 144.1 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 148.0, 161.0, 161.5 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz) 163.0 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -65.7 (t, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 3F), -67.6 ppm (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1F); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3566, 2945, 1607, 1582, 1508, 1441, 1362, 1310, 1260, 1238, 1140, 1121, 1003 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>: *m/z* = 288.0648, Found: 288.0641.

## 5. Aromatic trifluoromethylation of phenol derivatives

| $ \begin{array}{c} {}^{t}Bu \\ \hline \\ Hu \\ \hline \\ \\ Hu \\ \hline \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ $ |   |                |                           |                           |                           |
|---|---|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Entry   | Catalyst                                | Solvent        | Yield of <b>2a</b><br>[%] | Yield of <b>3a</b><br>[%] | Recovery of <b>1a</b> [%] |
| 1   | CuI                                     | MeOH           | 5                         | 23                        | 53                        |
| 2   | CuOAc                                   | MeOH           | 16                        | 26                        | 58                        |
| 3   | [(MeCN) <sub>4</sub> Cu]PF <sub>6</sub> | MeOH           | <5                        | 32                        | 60                        |
| 4   | Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>                    | MeOH           | 18                        | 28                        | 47                        |
| 5   | [(MeCN) <sub>4</sub> Cu]PF <sub>6</sub> | <i>i</i> -PrOH | trace                     | 6                         | 89                        |
| 6   | [(MeCN) <sub>4</sub> Cu]PF <sub>6</sub> | t-BuOH         | 6                         | 54                        | 34                        |

## 5.1. Screening of reaction conditions

## 5.2. Typical experimental procedure for aromatic trifluoromethylation

[(MeCN)<sub>4</sub>Cu]PF<sub>6</sub> (7.5 mg, 10 mol %) and Togni reagent II (94.8 mg, 1.5 equiv.) were added to a Schlenk flask, which was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was evacuated and back-filled with argon. *t*-BuOH (1 mL) and **1a** (35.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) were then added to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C and diluted with EtOAc. The solution was washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to provide **3a** (26.6 mg, 54%) as a colorless oil.

## 5.3.1. 6-(tert-butyl)-2,4-dimethyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenol (3a)

<sup>7</sup>Bu CF<sub>3</sub>

Colorless oil; 26.6 mg, 54%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.41$  (s, 9H), 2.33 (q, J = 2.3 Hz, 3H), 2.41 (q, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 6.99 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 12.5$  (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 21.7 (d, J = 4.8 Hz), 29.5, 34.5, 122.8, 125.8 (q, J = 275.9 Hz), 125.9 (q, J = 28.8 Hz), 128.1, 128.7, 138.7, 151.2 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -52.9$  ppm (m); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3611, 2961, 2874, 1483, 1456, 1435, 1410, 1391, 1304, 1288, 1165, 1134, 1115, 1024, 978 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O–H]<sup>-</sup>: m/z = 245.1153, Found: 245.1147. HSQC and HMBC spectra were attached in section 7.

## 5.3.2. 2-(tert-butyl)-6-methoxy-4-methyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenol (3b)



Colorless oil; 25.2 mg, 48%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.53$  (s, 9H), 2.41 (q, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 6.53 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 21.8$  (q, J = 4.8 Hz), 31.0 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 38.3, 56.1, 110.3, 121.2 (q, J = 30.2 Hz), 125.7 (q, J = 275.0 Hz), 130.3 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 136.6, 143.8, 147.6 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -46.8$  ppm (m); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3609, 2961, 1410, 1304, 1288, 1165, 1134, 1115, 1024 cm<sup>-1</sup>; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 59.53%; H, 6.53%. Found: C, 59.66%; H, 6.56%. HSQC and HMBC spectra were attached in section 7.

## 5.3.3. 2,4,6-trimethyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenol (3m)



Colorless oil; 20.4 mg, 50%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.34 (q, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 3H), 2.38 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 3H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 6.85 ppm (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 12.5 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 16.0, 21.1 (q, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 123.1, 125.8 (q, *J* = 275.9 Hz), 126.1, 126.2 (q, *J* = 28.8 Hz), 128.5, 132.0, 150.7 ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -52.9 ppm (m); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3609, 1487, 1456, 1315, 1254, 114, 1115, 1001 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for [C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O-H]<sup>-</sup>: *m/z* = 203.0684, Found: 203.0679.

#### 7. The reaction in the presence of TEMPO



CuI (3.8 mg, 10 mol %), Togni reagent II (63.2 mg, 1.0 equiv.) and TEMPO (31.3 mg, 1.0 equiv.) were added to a Schlenk flask, which was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was evacuated and back-filled with argon. DMF (1 mL) and **1a** (35.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) were then added to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 1 h and diluted with EtOAc. The solution was washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was submitted to <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis to determine the yield of **11** using  $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ -trifluorotoluene as an internal standard. The residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 10/1) to provide **10** (13.5 mg, 38%).

Colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.40$  (s, 18H), 2.23 (s, 6H), 2.76 (s, 4H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.93 ppm (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 16.0, 29.8, 34.5, 37.9, 122.8, 125.1, 128.4, 133.3, 135.3, 150.7$  ppm; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3609, 2957, 2860, 1601, 1481, 1435, 1362, 1196 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>): Calcd. for  $[C_{24}H_{34}O_2-H]^-$ : m/z = 353.2481, Found: 353.2477.

## 7. NMR spectra





























S34





S35











































































































































S79







**S**81





































