

Supporting Information

Multifunctional Odorless Isocyano(triphenylphosphoranylidene)- acetates: Synthesis and Direct One-Pot Four-Component Ugi/Wittig Cyclization to Multisubstituted Oxazoles

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1. General Information:

Reactions were generally carried out in an appropriate round bottom flask with magnetic stirring. Unless otherwise noted, materials were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Dichloromethane was used after distillation. Column chromatography purifications were performed under “flash” conditions using 400–630 mesh silica gel. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on silica gel 60 F254 plates, which were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Melting points were uncorrected. HRMS was measured on an Agilent 6224 TOF LC/MS spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Varian Mercury 600 spectrometer and resonances were relative to TMS. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = single, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 600 (150 MHz) with complete proton decoupling spectrophotometers (CDCl₃: 77.0 ppm).

2. Experimental Procedures and Characterization Data

General procedure for the preparation of 3a-b.

Anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL), PPh₃ (39 mmol, 10.2 g), NEt₃ (78 mmol, 7.9 g) and α-isocyano ester **2** (30 mmol) were placed in a reaction flask which had been dried with a heat-gun under high-vacuum. The homogeneous mixture was then cooled to 10–15 °C, and CCl₄ (39 mmol, 6.0 g) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was added dropwise over a period of about 30 minutes. The mixture was kept at the temperature for 8–12 h while the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica flash chromatography with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:3) as the eluent afforded the desired products **3**.

Characterization Data

3a: ethyl 2-isocyano-2-(triphenyl-λ⁵-phosphanylidene)acetate

White solid, yield 58%, mp 185–186 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.66–7.53 (m, 15H, Ar-H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1.34H, 0.67OCH₂), 3.82 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 0.66H, 0.33OCH₂), 1.29 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, 0.67CH₃), 0.54 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H, 0.33CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 168.7 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 23.6 Hz), 167.5 (Minor, d, ²*J*_{PC} = 18.3 Hz), 162.0, 160.4 (Minor), 133.6, 133.5, 132.9, 129.0, 128.9, 124.1, 123.6, 123.0, 59.3, 58.5 (Minor), 49.8 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 157.7 Hz), 14.8, 13.8 (Minor); HRMS calculated for [C₂₃H₂₀NO₂P+Na]⁺: 396.1124, found: 396.1129.

3b: methyl 2-isocyano-2-(triphenyl-λ⁵-phosphanylidene)acetate

White solid, yield 53%, mp 191–192 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.66–7.52 (m, 15H, Ar-H), 3.71 (s, 2.4H, 0.8CH₃), 3.25 (s, 0.6H, 0.2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 168.9 (d, ²*J*_{PC} = 23.9 Hz), 162.1, 133.6, 133.5, 133.0, 129.0, 128.9, 123.3, 122.7, 50.8, 49.71 (Minor), 49.69 (d, ¹*J*_{PC} = 156.3 Hz); HRMS calculated for [C₂₂H₁₈NO₂P+H]⁺: 360.1148, found: 360.1150.

General procedure for the synthesis of 7a-q by using secondary amines.

To a magnetically stirred solution of aldehyde **4** (1 mmol), amine **5** (1 mmol) and isocyanide **3** (1 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added slowly a solution of acid **6** (1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 12–24 h, and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the CH₂Cl₂ solution was evaporated under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:15) as the eluent to afford products **7a-q**.

Characterization Data

7a: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 87%; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.05 (dd, $J_1 = 5.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.47 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.15 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.20 (s, 1H, CH), 4.43 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 2.70-2.53 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.03 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 6H, 2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 164.5, 162.8, 162.1, 161.5, 154.9, 136.8, 133.7, 132.3, 130.7, 129.6, 128.7, 126.4, 123.2, 115.6, 63.4, 61.4, 43.8, 14.3, 11.9; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{ClFN}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}]^+$: 453.1352, found: 453.1356.

7b: methyl 5-(2-bromophenyl)-2-((4-chlorophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 81%; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.68 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.48-7.29 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 5.22 (s, 1H, CH), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.71-2.54 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.02 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 6H, 2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.9, 161.6, 154.7, 136.6, 133.6, 133.0, 132.5, 131.7, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 126.9, 123.5, 63.3, 52.1, 43.6, 11.8; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{BrClN}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}]^+$: 477.0575, found: 477.0600.

7c: ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-2-((diethylamino)(phenyl)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 86%, mp 65-66 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.93 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.58 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.50 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 5.22 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 2.70-2.56 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.39 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.02 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 6H, 2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.4, 162.1, 154.6, 138.1, 131.5, 129.9, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 126.9, 125.9, 124.6, 64.1, 61.4, 43.7, 14.3, 11.8; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}]^+$: 457.1121, found: 457.1144.

7d: ethyl 2-((3-bromophenyl)(dibenzylamino)methyl)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 78 %; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.91 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.69 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.46-7.20 (m, 15H, Ar-H), 5.24 (s, 1H, CH), 4.45 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 3.79 (d, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 2H, 2CH_2^a), 3.66 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 2H, 2CH_2^b), 1.42 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.0, 160.2, 154.6, 139.8, 138.4, 136.4, 131.5, 131.2, 130.1, 129.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.2, 127.1, 125.2, 122.7, 62.0, 61.5, 55.0, 14.3; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{28}\text{BrClN}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}]^+$: 637.0864, found: 637.0870.

7e: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)-5-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 88%; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.00 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.46-7.30 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 5.21 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 2.69-2.54 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.39 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.02 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 6H, 2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.0, 161.6, 155.7, 136.8, 133.5, 130.2, 129.5, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 126.9, 126.6, 63.3, 61.3, 43.7, 14.2, 11.9; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Na}]^+$: 435.1446, found: 435.1449.

7f: ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-2-(phenyl(piperidin-1-yl)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 77%; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.60-7.27 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 6.57 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.76 (s, 1H, CH), 4.44 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 2.50-2.33 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.60-1.40 (m, 9H, 3CH_2 and CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.5, 161.4, 147.4, 144.3, 142.1, 137.2, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 125.1, 115.2, 112.1, 69.1, 61.2, 52.5, 25.8, 24.2, 14.3; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{Na}]^+$: 403.1628, found: 403.1635.

7g: ethyl 2-((diethylamino)(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)-5-(furan-2-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 79%; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.59-7.49 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.02 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.57 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 5.20 (s, 1H, CH), 4.44 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, OCH_2), 2.68-2.57 (m, 4H, 2NCH_2), 1.42 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.02 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 6H, 2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.1, 161.5, 161.4, 147.4, 144.4, 142.0, 133.7, 129.9, 129.8, 125.0, 115.3, 115.2, 115.1, 112.1, 63.1, 61.2, 43.6, 14.3, 11.8; HRMS calculated for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{Na}]^+$: 409.1534, found: 409.1547.

7h: ethyl 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-((dibenzylamino)(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 82%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.52-7.05 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 5.25 (s, 1H, CH), 4.44 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.78 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H, 2CH₂^a), 3.67 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 2H, 2CH₂^b), 1.41 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.2, 162.0, 161.6, 160.8, 154.4, 138.6, 136.3, 133.1, 130.2, 130.1, 129.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.1, 125.3, 115.5, 115.4, 61.9, 61.5, 54.9, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₃₃H₂₈ClFN₂O₃ + H]⁺: 555.1845, found: 555.1854.

7i: ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-2-((4-chlorophenyl)(piperidin-1-yl)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 80%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.75 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.47-1.38 (m, 13H, 5CH₂ and CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.9, 161.4, 154.8, 135.9, 133.9, 131.6, 129.9, 129.7, 128.8, 127.0, 125.8, 124.8, 68.4, 61.5, 52.5, 25.9, 24.2, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₂₄H₂₄BrClN₂O₃ + H]⁺: 503.0732, found: 503.0748.

7j: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)-5-(p-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 82%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.90 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 5.19 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.67-2.54 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.2, 161.3, 156.1, 140.6, 137.0, 133.6, 129.6, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 126.1, 124.2, 63.3, 61.3, 43.8, 21.5, 14.3, 12.0; HRMS calculated for [C₂₄H₂₇ClN₂O₃ + Na]⁺: 449.1602, found: 449.1605.

7k: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(dipropylamino)methyl)-5-(p-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 78%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 5.23 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.56-2.41 (m, 7H, 2CH₂ and CH₃), 1.50-1.38 (m, 7H, 2CH₂ and CH₃), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.2, 161.2, 156.0, 140.6, 137.1, 133.4, 132.0, 129.8, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 126.0, 124.2, 63.2, 61.2, 52.6, 21.4, 20.5, 14.3, 11.6; HRMS calculated for [C₂₆H₃₁ClN₂O₃ + Na]⁺: 477.1915, found: 477.1920.

7l: ethyl 2-((dibenzylamino)(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)-5-(p-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 81%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.37-7.20 (m, 12H, Ar-H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.26 (s, 1H, CH), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.82 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H, 2CH₂^a), 3.64 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H, 2CH₂^b), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.1, 162.2, 161.5, 160.3, 155.9, 140.6, 138.7, 133.3, 130.2, 130.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.1, 126.3, 124.1, 115.4, 115.3, 61.4, 61.3, 54.9, 21.5, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₃₄H₃₁FN₂O₃ + H]⁺: 535.2391, found: 535.2410.

7m: ethyl 2-((3-bromophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)-5-ethyloxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 73%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.65 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 5.10 (s, 1H, CH), 4.39 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.05 (q, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.65-2.46 (m, 4H, 2CH₂), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.01 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.1, 161.5, 160.9, 140.8, 131.1, 130.8, 129.8, 126.8, 126.3, 122.4, 63.3, 60.8, 43.7, 19.6, 14.3, 12.0, 11.8; HRMS calculated for [C₁₉H₂₅BrN₂O₃ + H]⁺: 409.1121, found: 409.1131.

7n: methyl 2-((benzyl(methyl)amino)(4-bromophenyl)methyl)-5-ethyloxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 71%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.49-7.25 (m, 9H, Ar-H), 4.90 (s, 1H, CH), 4.38 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.56 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂^a), 3.46 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂^b), 3.05 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.13 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C

NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.1, 161.6, 160.5, 138.4, 136.8, 131.6, 130.1, 128.6, 128.2, 127.1, 126.4, 122.0, 66.6, 60.9, 59.0, 39.4, 19.7, 14.3, 12.0; HRMS calculated for [C₂₃H₂₅BrN₂O₃ + H]⁺: 457.1121, found: 457.1128.

7o: ethyl 2-((benzyl(methyl)amino)(4-bromophenyl)methyl)-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 82%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.51-7.24 (m, 9H, Ar-H), 5.01 (s, 1H, CH), 4.44 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.65 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂^a), 3.54 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂^b), 2.22 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.7, 161.6, 154.1, 138.1, 136.4, 131.9, 131.7, 130.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.2, 125.3, 125.2, 124.6, 122.3, 66.7, 61.7, 59.1, 39.6, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₂₈H₂₄BrF₃N₂O₃ + H]⁺: 573.0995, found: 573.1010.

7p: methyl 5-(2-bromophenyl)-2-((4-bromophenyl)(diethylamino)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 84%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.48-7.34 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 5.20 (s, 1H, CH), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.71-2.53 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂), 1.02 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.8, 161.6, 154.6, 137.1, 133.0, 132.4, 131.7, 131.5, 130.0, 128.7, 128.6, 126.9, 123.5, 121.7, 63.3, 52.1, 43.6, 11.8; HRMS calculated for [C₂₂H₂₂Br₂N₂O₃ + H]⁺: 521.0070, found: 521.0082.

7q: methyl 5-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-((diethylamino)(p-tolyl)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 82%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.51-7.33 (m, 6H, Ar-H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.19 (s, 1H, CH), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.70-2.54 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.8, 161.8, 153.2, 137.6, 134.9, 134.1, 132.3, 131.5, 129.8, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 126.7, 126.3, 63.9, 52.1, 43.5, 21.1, 11.6; HRMS calculated for [C₂₃H₂₅ClN₂O₃ + Na]⁺: 435.1446, found: 435.1456.

General procedure for the synthesis of 7r-v by using primary amines.

To a magnetically stirred solution of Schiff base (1 mmol) (prepared from aldehyde **4** and primary amine **5** in the presence of catalytic amount of HOAc) and isocyanide **3** (1 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added slowly a solution of acid **6** (1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 12-24 h, and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the CH₂Cl₂ solution was evaporated under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:15) as the eluent to afford products **7r-v**.

7r: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(p-tolylamino)methyl)-5-ethyloxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 56%, mp 67-69 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.65 (s, 1H, CH), 4.83 (s, 1H, NH), 4.38 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.05-2.94 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.20 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.0, 161.4, 161.2, 143.4, 137.0, 134.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.4, 127.9, 126.7, 113.8, 61.0, 56.0, 20.3, 19.6, 14.3, 11.9; HRMS calculated for [C₂₂H₂₃ClN₂O₃ + Na]⁺: 421.1289, found: 421.1299.

7s: ethyl 2-((4-bromophenyl)((4-chlorophenyl)amino)methyl)-5-ethyloxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 61%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.47 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.60 (s, 1H, CH), 5.05 (s, 1H, NH), 4.38 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.04-2.95 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.9, 161.6, 160.6, 144.2, 136.9, 132.2, 129.1, 128.7, 126.8, 123.4, 122.5, 114.7, 61.1, 55.9, 19.7, 14.3, 11.9; HRMS calculated for [C₂₁H₂₀BrClN₂O₃

+Na]⁺: 485.0238, found: 485.0214.

7t: ethyl 2-((3-chlorophenyl)((4-chlorophenyl)amino)methyl)-5-isopropylloxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 64%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.49 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.37-7.28 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.62 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.07 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H, NH), 4.39 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.74-3.69 (m, 1H, CH), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.27 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.19 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 164.8, 161.9, 160.3, 144.2, 140.0, 134.9, 130.3, 129.1, 128.7, 127.1, 125.8, 125.1, 123.4, 114.7, 61.1, 55.9, 26.2, 20.6, 20.3, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₂₂H₂₂Cl₂N₂O₃ +Na]⁺: 455.0900, found: 455.0903.

7u: ethyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)((4-chlorophenyl)amino)methyl)-5-(p-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 52%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.71 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.03 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, NH), 4.41 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.8, 160.7, 156.3, 144.2, 141.0, 136.3, 134.5, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 126.4, 123.7, 123.5, 114.8, 61.5, 55.9, 21.5, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₂₆H₂₂Cl₂N₂O₃ +Na]⁺: 503.0900, found: 503.0899.

7v: ethyl 2-((benzylamino)(4-chlorophenyl)methyl)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 67%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.97 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.46-7.26 (m, 9H, Ar-H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.10 (s, 1H, CH), 4.42 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.84 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂^a), 3.77 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂^b), 2.06 (s, 1H, NH), 1.39 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 164.5, 162.9, 162.2, 162.0, 154.9, 139.0, 136.9, 134.2, 130.7, 130.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 127.3, 126.6, 123.0, 115.6, 115.4, 61.5, 59.1, 51.5, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₂₆H₂₂ClF₂N₂O₃ +H]⁺: 465.1376, found: 465.1388.

General procedure for the synthesis of 8a-n.

To a magnetically stirred solution of isocyanides **3** (1 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added slowly a solution of acid **6** (1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 24-48 h, and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the CH₂Cl₂ solution was evaporated under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with EtOAc/petroleum ether (1:10) as the eluent to afford products **8a-n**.

Characterization Data

8a: ethyl 5-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate⁴

Light yellow oil, yield 86%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.06 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.91 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.47-7.46 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.40 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.8, 155.3, 148.9, 130.3, 128.3, 128.2, 126.6, 126.5, 61.3, 14.1; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₁NO₃ +Na]⁺: 240.0631, found: 240.0643.

8b: ethyl 5-(4-chlorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate²

White solid, yield 90%, mp 101-103 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.93 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.42 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.8, 154.4, 149.0, 136.5, 129.7, 128.7, 126.8, 125.1, 61.5, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₀ClNO₃ +Na]⁺: 274.0241, found: 274.0247.

8c: ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate²

White solid, yield 82%, mp 109-110 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.92 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.42 (t, *J* = 6.6

Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.8, 154.4, 149.0, 131.7, 129.9, 126.9, 125.5, 125.0, 61.6, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₀BrNO₃ + Na]⁺: 317.9736, found: 317.9744.

8d: ethyl 5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 87%, mp 103-105 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.01 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.54 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.29 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 160.9, 151.8, 150.4, 137.2, 135.0, 132.9, 129.8, 129.7, 126.9, 125.0, 61.4, 14.0; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₉Cl₂NO₃ + Na]⁺: 307.9852, found: 307.9863.

8e: ethyl 5-(*p*-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate²

White solid, yield 83%, mp 84-85 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.89 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.41 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.9, 155.7, 148.6, 140.8, 129.0, 128.3, 126.0, 123.8, 61.3, 21.4, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₃H₁₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 254.0788, found: 254.0796.

8f: ethyl 5-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 74%, mp 68-69 °C (Lit.⁴ mp 70-71 °C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.87 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.41 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.0, 161.1, 155.7, 148.3, 130.0, 125.2, 119.1, 113.7, 61.2, 55.3, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₃H₁₃NO₄ + Na]⁺: 270.0737, found: 270.0747.

8g: ethyl 5-(3-nitrophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 81%, mp 87-89 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 9.04 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.51 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 8.03 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.44 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.5, 152.6, 149.6, 148.1, 133.9, 129.6, 128.2, 128.1, 124.8, 123.3, 61.9, 14.1; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₀N₂O₅ + Na]⁺: 285.0482, found: 285.0485.

8h: ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 72%, mp 91-92 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.88 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.68-7.62 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 6.60 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.3, 148.4, 147.1, 144.6, 141.8, 124.9, 115.6, 112.2, 61.3, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₀H₉NO₄ + Na]⁺: 230.0424, found: 230.0441.

8i: ethyl 5-(2-chlorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate²

Light yellow oil, yield 82%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.01 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.53-7.37 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 4.31 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.0, 152.9, 150.2, 134.2, 132.1, 131.6, 129.8, 129.4, 126.5, 126.4, 61.2, 13.9; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₀ClNO₃ + Na]⁺: 274.0241, found: 274.0251.

8j: methyl 5-(4-chlorophenyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 80%, mp 111-113 °C (lit.³ mp 113-115 °C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.07 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.93 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 3.96 (s, 3H, OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.2, 154.5, 149.0, 136.6, 129.6, 128.7, 126.5, 124.9, 52.4; HRMS calculated for [C₁₁H₈ClNO₃ + Na]⁺: 260.0085, found: 260.0089.

8k: methyl 5-(*o*-tolyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 85%, mp 98-100 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.97 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 3.84 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.28 (s, 3H, OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.7, 156.2, 149.7, 137.8, 130.7, 130.5, 130.3, 127.9, 126.3, 125.4, 52.0, 19.9; HRMS calculated for [C₁₂H₁₁NO₃ + Na]⁺: 240.0631, found: 240.0644.

8l: ethyl 5-isopropylloxazole-4-carboxylate¹

Light yellow oil, yield 71%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.78 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 4.39 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.84-3.80 (m, 1H, CH), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.31 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 164.2, 161.9, 148.5, 125.1, 60.8, 25.8, 20.4, 14.1; HRMS calculated for [C₉H₁₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 206.0788, found: 206.0805.

8m: ethyl 5-((4-chlorophenoxy)methyl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

Light yellow oil, yield 83%; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.92 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.43 (s, 2H, CH₂), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 161.2, 156.2, 152.7, 150.6, 130.0, 129.4, 126.7, 116.1, 61.6, 59.8, 14.2; HRMS calculated for [C₁₃H₁₂ClNO₄ + H]⁺: 282.0528, found: 282.0523.

8n: ethyl 5-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate

White solid, yield 78%, mp 128-129 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.60 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.29-7.01 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 6.43 (s, 1H, CH), 4.51 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.48 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 162.1, 160.1, 151.2, 149.8, 129.1, 129.0, 126.4, 123.4, 119.1, 117.0, 61.4, 35.0, 14.3; HRMS calculated for [C₁₉H₁₅NO₄ + Na]⁺: 344.0893, found: 344.0903.

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3. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds 3a-b, 7a-v, 8a-n











































































