Supporting Information

K₂S₂O₈-Promoted Direct Thiocyanation of Pyrazolin-5-ones with Ammonium Thiocyanate at Room Temperature

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1. General information

All reactions were performed in flame-dried glassware. Liquids and solutions were transferred with syringes. All solvents and chemical reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with tetramethylsilane as an internal in CD₃OD or in CDCl₃. Mass analyses and HRMS were obtained by ESI on a TOF mass analyzer. Column chromatography on silica gel (200–300 mesh) was used for the routine purification of the reaction products. The column output was monitored by TLC on silica gel (100–200 mesh) precoated on glass plates (15 × 50 mm), and spots were visualized by UV light at 254 nm. Commercially available chemicals were obtained from Acros Organics, Alfa Aesar, Adamas-beta, and J&K. Starting materials (pyrazolones) were prepared according to the literature procedures.^{1, 2}

2. General procedures for synthesis of C-4 thiocyanated pyrazoles 3



Acetonitrile (2 mL) was added to a mixture of pyrazolone 1 (0.2 mmol), ammonium thiocyanate 2 (0.6 mmol), and $K_2S_2O_8$ (0.4 mmol) in a 10 mL round-bottomed flask at room temperature. The reaction vessel was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. After completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by silica gel column by using dichloromethane and methanol as a mixed eluent to provide the desired products **3a-u**. **Gram-scale synthesis of 3a:** Acetonitrile (30 mL) was added to a mixture of pyrazolone **1a** (10 mmol, 1.74 g), ammonium thiocyanate **2** (30 mmol, 2.28 g),

 $K_2S_2O_8$ (20 mmol, 5.4 g) in a 100 mL round-bottomed flask at room temperature. The reaction vessel was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. After completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column using a mixture of dichloromethane and methanol as eluent to provide the desired product **3a** (1.97g, 85%).

3. Radical trapping experiments



Acetonitrile (2 mL) was added to a mixture of pyrazolone **1a** (0.2 mmol), ammonium thiocyanate **2** (0.6 mmol), $K_2S_2O_8$ (0.4 mmol), TEMPO (62.5 mg, 2.0 equiv) or BQ (43.2 mg, 2.0 equiv) in a 10 mL round-bottomed flask at room temperature. The reaction vessel was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. After completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column using a mixture of dichloromethane and methanol as eluent to provide the desired product **3a**.

4. Characterization data of products 3a-3u



Methyl-1-phenyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3a). Compound 3a was obtained in 89% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.54 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (dd, J = 12.6, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.65, 151.38, 134.99, 129.11 (2C), 127.44, 122.07 (2C), 110.76, 82.20, 11.55. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₈N₃OS (M-H)⁻230.0394, found 230.0388.



(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3b). Compound 3b was obtained in 82% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.77 (s, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 162.25, 160.41(d, *J*_{CF}= 34.0 Hz), 151.58, 131.28 (d, *J*_{CF}= 3.8 Hz), 124.26 (d, *J*_{CF}= 8.8 Hz), 116.00 (d, *J*_{CF}= 23.9 Hz), 110.88, 81.80, 11.70; ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ -116.53 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₈FN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 248.0299, found 248.0295.



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol** (**3c**). Compound **3c** was obtained in 77% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ 158.59, 151.42, 135.42, 131.29, 128.32 (2C), 122.38 (2C), 110.69, 79.10, 10.44. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₇ClN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 264.0004, found 263.9998.



1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3d).** Compound **3d** was obtained in 94% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.85 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.62, 152.17, 134.28, 132.18 (2C), 123.19 (2C), 120.70, 110.88, 82.14, 11.87. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₇BrN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 307.9499, found 307.9495.



1-(4-(*Tert*-butyl)phenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3e). Compound 3e was obtained in 71% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H

NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 11.44 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H, -tBu). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.20, 150.35, 150.20, 131.92, 125.60 (2C), 121.33 (2C), 110.34, 34.19, 30.83, 10.97. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₆N₃OS (M-H)⁻ 286.1020, found 286.1013.



1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3f).** Compound **3f** was obtained in 78% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 9.27 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H).¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.43, 158.89, 150.50, 127.78, 124.42 (2C), 114.25 (2C), 110.93, 81.77, 55.52, 11.46. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀N₃O₂S (M-H)⁻ 260.0499, found 260.0497.



3-Methyl-4-thiocyanato-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3g). Compound 3g was obtained in 77% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 163.14, 153.88, 142.88, 127.79 (q, J_{CF} = 32.8 Hz), 126.95 (q, J_{CF} = 3.8 Hz, 2C), 124.53, 121.51 (2C), 113.39, 78.32, 12.70; ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ -63.88 (s, 3F). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₇F₃N₃OS (M-H)⁻298.0267, found 298.0262.



Ethyl 4-(5-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)benzoate (3h). Compound 3h was obtained in 78% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 8.06 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 165.59, 159.97, 152.19, 141.19, 129.63 (2C), 126.73, 119.43 (2C), 111.00, 78.34, 60.41, 12.81, 10.69. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₄N₃O₃S (M+H)⁺ 304.0750, found 304.0748.



3-Methyl-4-thiocyanato-1-(m-tolyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3i). Compound 3i was obtained in 81% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 7.44 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 158.82, 150.84, 138.64, 136.33, 128.21, 127.01, 122.05, 118.63, 110.73, 79.35, 19.65, 10.24. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₂N₃OS (M+H)⁺ 246.0696, found 246.0699.



1-(3-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3j).** Compound **3j** was obtained in 82% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR

(500 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 7.53 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.04 (td, J = 8.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 163.27, 161.33, 158.86, 151.68, 138.23 (d, $J_{CF}=11.3$ Hz), 129.81 (d, $J_{CF}=10.1$ Hz), 116.03 (d, $J_{CF}=3.8$ Hz), 112.25 (d, $J_{CF}=21.4$ Hz), 110.67, 107.75 (d, $J_{CF}=26.5$ Hz), 79.22, 10.42; ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ -113.88 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₇FN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 248.0299, found 248.0293.



1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3k).** Compound **3k** was obtained in 79% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.74 (s, 1H), 7.33 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 162.25, 160.54, 151.58, 131.29, 124.29, 124.22, 116.10, 115.91, 110.88, 81.80, 11.70. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₇ClN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 264.0004, found 263.9997.



1-(3-Bromophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3l).** Compound **3l** was obtained in 82% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 7.91 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (ddd, J = 8.1, 2.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 159.31, 152.21, 138.44, 130.28, 129.00, 123.84, 122.01, 119.59, 111.12, 79.69, 10.93. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₇BrN₃OS (M-H)⁻ 307.9499, found 307.9492.



3-Methyl-4-thiocyanato-1-(o-tolyl)-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3m).** Compound **3m** was obtained in 84% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.73 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.90 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 161.03, 150.67, 136.32, 133.36, 131.14, 129.81, 127.60, 126.67, 111.05, 80.63, 17.64, 11.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀N₃OS (M-H)⁻ 244.0550, found 244.0545.



1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3n).** Compound **3n** was obtained in 82% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ 160.11, 157.75, 155.74, 151.42, 130.07 (d, *J*_{CF}= 7.6 Hz), 128.17, 124.04 (d, *J*_{CF}= 3.8 Hz), 115.84 (d, *J*_{CF} = 18.9 Hz), 111.03, 77.32, 10.44; ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, Methanol-*d*₄) δ -122.56 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{11}H_7FN_3OS$ (M-H)⁻ 248.0299, found 248.0293.



1-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (30).** Compound **30** was obtained in 83% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.98 (s, 1H), 7.11 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.06 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.52, 150.60, 137.56, 136.28, 132.63, 130.01, 123.39, 119.74, 110.80, 81.95, 19.74, 19.37, 11.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃OS (M+H)⁺ 260.0852, found 260.0856.



1-(3-Chloro-4-methylphenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol** (3p). Compound **3p** was obtained in 95% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.43 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.53, 151.81, 135.07, 134.50, 134.04, 131.10, 122.15, 119.78, 111.03, 81.70, 19.65, 11.80. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₁ClN₃OS (M+H)⁺ 280.0306, found 280.0332.



1-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-3-methyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H*-pyrazol-5-ol (3q). Compound 3q was obtained in 87% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.94 (s, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H, -2CH₃). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.46, 150.83, 138.92 (2C), 134.81,

129.17, 119.89 (2C), 110.70, 82.03, 21.17, 11.44. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃OS (M+H)⁺ 260.0852, found 260.0857.



3-Methyl-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3r).** Compound **3r** was obtained in 87% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 8.09 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 7.5, 5.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 148.47, 140.95, 123.56, 122.59, 121.27, 118.00, 116.97, 116.69, 115.89, 115.36, 109.67, 108.92, 100.36, 69.42, 8.64. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₃OS (M+H)⁺ 282.0696, found 282.0699.



Ethyl-1-phenyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3s).** Compound **3s** was obtained in 94% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 10.39 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 2.67 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 160.71, 156.45, 134.97, 129.02 (2C), 127.37, 122.15 (2C), 111.01, 81.30, 19.83, 12.52. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀N₃OS (M-H)⁻244.0550, found 244.0547.



1,3-Diphenyl-4-thiocyanato-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3t).** Compound **3t** was obtained in 93% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dt, *J* = 14.3, 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 159.27, 152.29, 135.65, 130.46, 129.00, 128.82, 128.44, 128.31, 127.52, 122.33, 111.62, 80.48. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₀N₃OS (M-H)⁻292.0550, found 292.0544.



Isopropyl-4-thiocyanato-1-(m-tolyl)-1*H***-pyrazol-5-ol (3u).** Compound **3u** was obtained in 89% yield according to the general procedure. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 3.25 (p, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Methanol- d_4) δ 159.38, 158.40, 136.51, 128.29, 126.45, 122.08, 111.06, 77.73, 26.84, 19.61. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃OS (M+H)⁺ 260.0852, found 260.0853.

5. Reference

1. Y.-Y. Huang, H.-C. Lin, K.-M. Cheng, W.-N. Su, K.-C. Sung, T.-P. Lin, J.-J. Huang, S.-K. Lin and F. F. Wong, *Tetrahedron.*, 2009, **65**, 9592.

2. X.-j. Wang, J. Tan and K. Grozinger, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2000, **41**, 4713.

6. Copies of NMR spectra for compounds 3a-3u





¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **3b**:

















¹⁹F NMR spectrum of 3g:









¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **3j**:











¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **3n**:















