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## Copper-Catalyzed Radical Cascade Cyclization for Synthesis of CF<sub>3</sub>-Containing Tetracyclic Benzimidazo[2,1-*a*]iso-quinolin-6(5*H*)-ones

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#### 1. General Conditions

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Ascend<sup>TM</sup> 400 or a Bruker Ascend<sup>TM</sup> 600 spectrometer in deuterated solvents containing TMS as an internal reference standard. All high-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured on a mass spectrometer by using electrospray ionization orthogonal acceleration time-of-flight (ESI-OA-TOF), and the purity of all samples used for HRMS (>95%) was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopic analysis. Melting points were measured on a melting point apparatus equipped with a thermometer and were uncorrected. All the reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using GF254 silica gel-coated TLC plates. Purification by flash column chromatography was performed over SiO<sub>2</sub> (silica gel 200–300 mesh).

#### 2. Typical Experimental Procedure

#### 2.1 The general procedure for the synthesis of 1<sup>1</sup> (1f as an example):



**Step 1:** In a round-bottomed flask (50 mL) equipped with a magnetic stirrer, a mixture of *o*-methylbenzaldehyde (5.0 mmol, 578  $\mu$ L) and NaHSO<sub>3</sub> (11.0 eq, 5.73 g) in H<sub>2</sub>O (20.0 mL) was prepared. When the mixture reached refluxing temperature, *o*-phenylenediamine (5.0 mmol, 541 mg) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred for appropriate time. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was vacuum filtered after cooling to room temperature by a glass funnel. The residues were washed by water (20 mL × 2), dried in air dry oven to give the corresponding product.

**Step 2:** To the solution of 2-(*o*-tolyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (3 mmol, 625 mg) and DMAP (0.6 mmol, 73 mg) in DCM (0.5 M) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (6 mmol, 834 $\mu$ L) and methacryloyl chloride (6 mmol, 581  $\mu$ L) at 0 °C. The solution was warmed up to room temperature and stirred for 12 h. The reaction was complete according to TLC analysis, and water (20 mL) was added to the mixture, which was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL × 3). Then the organic solvent was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography with Ethyl acetate and Petroleum ether as eluent to give **1f**.

#### 2.2 The general procedure for the synthesis of 3



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (15 mL) with a stir bar was charged with olefinic amide **1** (0.3 mmol), **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (10 mol%, 5.7 mg) and DCE (2 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for appropriate time. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched by NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat. aq. 15 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL × 3). Then the organic solvent was concentrated in vacuo and residue was purified by flash column chromatography with ethyl acetate and Petroleum ether as eluent to give **3**.

2.3 Gram scale-up reactions.



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (150 mL) with a stir bar was charged with 2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (3.82 mmol, 1002 mg), **Togni-II** (1.5 equiv, 1811 mg), CuI (1 mol%, 7.3 mg) and DCE (40 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 4 h. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched by NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat. aq. 150 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL × 3). Then the organic solvent was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography with Ethyl acetate and Petroleum ether as eluent to give **3a** (542.6 mg, 43% yield).



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (150 mL) with a stir bar was charged with 2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (3.82 mmol, 1002 mg), **Togni-II** (1.5 equiv, 1811 mg), CuI (10 mol%, 73 mg) and DCE (40 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 4 h. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched by NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat. aq. 150 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL × 3). Then the organic solvent was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography with Ethyl acetate and Petroleum ether as eluent to give **3a** (908.5 mg, 72% yield).

#### 3. Control experiment

#### **3.1 Control experiment in the presence of TEMPO**



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (15 mL) with a stir bar was charged with 2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (0.3 mmol, 78.7 mg), **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (10 mol%, 5.7 mg), radical scavenger TEMPO (2.0 equiv, 93.8 mg) and DCE (2 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 1 h and then monitored by TLC. No desired product **3a** was detected, suggesting that this transformation might occur *via* a radical process. The **TEMPO-CF<sub>3</sub>** singal wasn't detected by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis.<sup>2</sup>



#### 3.2 Control experiment in the presence of ethene-1,1-diyldibenzene



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (15 mL) with a stir bar was charged with 2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (0.3 mmol, 78.7 mg), **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (10 mol%, 5.7 mg), the radical scavenger 1,1-Diphenylethylene (2.0 equiv, 108.2 mg) and DCE (2 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 1 h and monitored by TLC. Only trace of product **3a** was obtained and 63% of (3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-ene-1,1-diyl)dibenzene **4** was obtained, suggesting that this transformation might occur *via* a radical process.

#### 3.3 Control experiment in the presence of BHT



With no precautions to exclude air or moisture, the screw-cap test tube (15 mL) with a stir bar was charged with 2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (0.3 mmol, 78.7 mg), **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (10 mol%, 5.7 mg), the radical scavenger BHT (2.0 equiv, 132.2 mg) and DCE (2 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 1 h and monitored by TLC. Only 41% of product **3a** was obtained and 28% of 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol **5** was obtained, suggesting that this transformation might occur *via* a radical process.

#### 4. Product Characterization

5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3a)



2-methyl-1-(2-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1a** (78.7mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (115 - 117 °C) in 74% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.15; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.52 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 3.55 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 3.01 – 2.89 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.13, 149.37, 144.16, 138.54, 131.77, 131.52, 128.57, 126.59, 126.45, 126.29, 125.97, 125.04 (q, J = 277.0 Hz), 122.52, 120.08, 115.83, 45.40 (q, J = 2.0 Hz), 44.31 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 31.08; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.35; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 331.1053, found: 331.1057.

3-methoxy-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3b)



1-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1b** (87.7mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (133 – 135 °C) in 72% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.45 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.07 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.51 – 3.41 (m, 1H), 2.94 – 2.85 (m, 1H), 1.74 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.12, 162.52, 149.56, 144.25, 140.62, 131.42, 128.42, 126.17, 125.45, 125.03 (q, J = 278.8 Hz), 119.64, 115.67, 115.35, 114.10, 112.53, 55.75, 45.50 (q, J = 2.0 Hz), 44.09 (q, J = 28.0 Hz), 31.20; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.28; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1158, found: 361.1158.

3,5-dimethyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3c)



2-methyl-1-(2-(p-tolyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1c** (82.9mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (169 – 171 °C) in 74% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.3; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.35 - 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 - 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 3.50 - 3.41 (m, 1H), 2.97 - 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.26, 149.64, 144.28, 142.39, 138.63, 131.52, 129.66, 126.96, 126.40, 126.18, 125.69, 125.09 (q, J = 278.7 Hz), 119.92, 115.76, 45.32 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 44.06 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 31.08, 22.01; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.33; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1209, found: 345.1201.

3-(benzyloxy)-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinol-in-6(5*H*)one (3d)



1-(2-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one**1d**(110.5mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with**Togni-II**(2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (95 – 97 °C) in 67% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 30:1): 0.15; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.46 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.36 (m, 7H), 7.16 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 5.21 – 5.14 (m, 2H), 3.49 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.89 – 2.79 (m, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.06, 161.62, 149.47, 144.30, 140.60, 136.03, 131.42, 128.90, 128.54, 128.36, 127.71, 126.14, 125.00 (q, J = 278.3 Hz), 125.44, 119.68, 115.65, 115.60, 115.00, 113.44, 70.60, 45.45 (q, J = 1.8 Hz), 44.09 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 31.10; <sup>19</sup>F **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.31; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 437.1471, found: 437.1463.

1-methoxy-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3e)



1-(2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1e** (87.7mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (155 – 157 °C) in 68% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 4:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.39 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.93 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 4.13 (s, 3H), 3.50 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.96 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 1.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.03, 159.00, 147.48, 144.47, 141.07, 132.13, 130.38, 125.98, 125.92, 125.03 (q, *J* = 278.9 Hz), 120.70, 118.88, 115.60, 111.88, 111.12, 56.76, 45.18 (q, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 44.37 (q, *J* = 27.6 Hz), 31.39; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -61.27; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1158, found: 361.1159.

#### 1,5-dimethyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3f)



2-methyl-1-(2-(o-tolyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1f** (82.9mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (154 – 156 °C) in 70% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 100:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.43 – 8.35 (m, 1H), 7.88 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 3.55 – 3.42 (m, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.00 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.32, 149.60, 144.32, 140.38, 139.60, 131.84, 130.68, 130.37, 125.99, 125.14 (q, J = 278.6 Hz), 124.51, 121.12, 120.38, 115.88, 45.35 (q, J = 1.9 Hz), 44.34 (q, J = 27.6 Hz), 31.63, 24.90; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -61.20; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1209, found: 345.1193.

#### 2,5-dimethyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3g)



2-methyl-1-(2-(*m*-tolyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1g** (82.9mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (107 - 109 °C) in 63% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 15:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.37 – 8.32 (m, 2H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 3.51 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.96 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.36, 149.60, 144.16, 138.63, 135.70, 132.88, 131.55, 126.53, 126.50, 126.23, 125.86, 125.08 (q, J = 278.6 Hz), 122.22, 120.01, 115.82, 45.16 (q, J = 1.4 Hz), 43.99 (q, J = 27.6 Hz), 31.13, 21.10; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.33; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1209, found: 345.1210.

methyl 5-methyl-6-oxo-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1*a*]isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (3h)



Methyl 4-(1-methacryloyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)benzoate **1h** (96.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (182 - 184 °C) in 72% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.38 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 8.18 – 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.55 – 3.44 (m, 1H), 3.08 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 1.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.64, 166.04, 148.28, 144.14, 138.68, 132.85, 131.52, 129.36, 128.11, 126.59, 126.55, 126.27, 124.96 (q, J = 279.1 Hz), 120.42, 115.93, 52.78, 45.44 (q, J = 1.9 Hz), 44.07 (q, J = 28.0 Hz), 30.83; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.39; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 389.1108, found: 389.1079.

5-methyl-6-oxo-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoq-uinoline-3carbonitrile (3i)



4-(1-methacryloyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)benzonitrile **1i** (86.2 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (201 - 203 °C) in 64% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 15:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.63 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.39 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.88 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.81 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 3.57 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 2.98 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 1.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 169.76, 147.30, 144.13, 139.44, 131.71, 131.52, 130.81, 127.20, 127.05, 126.80, 126.57, 124.81 (q, J = 278.8 Hz), 120.68, 117.89, 115.99, 115.14, 45.36 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 44.08 (q, J = 27.9 Hz), 30.75; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.33; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 356.1005, found: 356.0970.

5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3j)



2-methyl-1-(2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1j** (99.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure.

The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (147 - 149 °C) in 56% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 40:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.65 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.41 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 3.58 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.92 (m, 1H), 1.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.24, 147.83, 144.09, 139.13, 133.39 (q, J = 32.9 Hz),131.52, 127.15, 126.71, 126.65, 125.83, 125.46 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.88 (q, J = 278.8 Hz), 123.75 (q, J = 3.5 Hz), 123.61 (q, J = 272.7 Hz), 120.52, 115.96, 45.53 (q, J = 1.8 Hz), 44.02 (q, J = 27.8 Hz), 30.90; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.40, -62.99; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.0927, found: 399.0928.

3-fluoro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3k)



1-(2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1k** (84.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (127 - 129 °C) in 53% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 30:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.57 – 8.49 (m, 1H), 8.37 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 7.84 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 3.55 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.94 – 2.79 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.48, 164.87 (d, J = 253.5 Hz), 148.57, 144.15, 141.28 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 131.45, 129.02 (d, J =9.0 Hz), 126.39, 126.02, 124.92 (q, J = 278.7 Hz), 120.08, 119.12 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 116.67 (d, J =22.4 Hz), 115.80, 113.65 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 45.54 (q, J = 1.8 Hz), 44.16 (q, J = 28.0 Hz). 30.93; <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.42, -106.25; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0959, found: 349.0923.

3-chloro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (31)



1-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one 11 (89.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (194 – 196 °C) in 61% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 40:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.35 - 8.32 (m, 1H), 7.83 - 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.52 - 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.48 - 7.43 (m, 3H), 3.52 - 3.42 (m, 1H), 2.94 - 2.84 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.34, 148.43, 144.13, 140.23, 138.04, 131.47, 129.21, 127.84, 126.83, 126.43, 126.20, 124.91 (q, J = 278.8 Hz), 121.22, 120.18, 115.82, 45.37 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 44.10 (q, J = 27.9 Hz), 30.83; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.37; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 365.0663, found: 365.0626.

#### 3-bromo-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3m)



1-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1m** (102.4 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (244 - 246 °C) in 52% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 30:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.41 – 8.32 (m, 2H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 3.54 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.97 – 2.82 (m, 1H), 1.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.30, 148.51, 144.15, 140.35, 132.10, 131.50, 129.81, 127.90, 126.47, 126.32, 126.25, 121.66, 124.92 (q, J = 279.0 Hz), 120.22, 115.84, 45.32 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 44.12 (q, J = 27.9 Hz), 30.87; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.37; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 409.0158, found: 409.0120.

#### 1-fluoro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3n)



1-(2-(2-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1n** (84.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (30 mol%, 17.1 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a light yellow solid (226 - 228 °C) in 53% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 10:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.41 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.97 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 3.56 – 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.00 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 1.78 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.46, 160.67 (d, J = 263.0 Hz), 145.48 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 144.40 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 140.95, 132.37 (d, J = 9.3 Hz), 130.47, 126.53, 126.38, 124.94 (q, J = 278.6 Hz), 122.61 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 120.83, 116.45 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 115.73, 112.05 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 45.27 (q, J = 1.8 Hz), 44.32 (q, J = 28.1 Hz), 31.29; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.27, -106.45; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0959, found: 349.0949.

2-chloro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (30)



1-(2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **10** (89.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (165 – 167 °C) in 75% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.3; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.52 (s, 1H), 8.37 – 8.32 (m, 1H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.54 – 3.42 (m, 1H), 2.95 – 2.84 (m, 1H), 1.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  170.57, 148.04, 144.03, 136.76, 134.93, 131.83, 131.50, 128.16, 126.50, 126.38, 126.12, 124.94 (q, J = 278.9 Hz), 124.18, 120.32, 115.86, 45.23 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 43.96 (q, J = 27.8 Hz), 30.97; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** 

(376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -61.31; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 365.0663, found: 365.0654.

#### 7-methyl-7-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[h]benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-8(7H)-one (3p)



2-methyl-1-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1p** (93.7 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (238 - 240 °C) in 55% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 100:1): 0.1; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 10.55 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.46 – 8.43 (m, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.97 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 3.61 – 3.51 (m, 1H), 3.12 – 3.02 (m, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.25, 149.56, 144.24, 139.05, 133.12, 132.66, 130.50, 129.05, 128.60, 128.39, 127.31, 126.28, 126.21, 125.07 (q, J = 279.2 Hz), 123.20, 120.44, 117.98, 115.90, 45.68 (q, J = 1.6 Hz), 43.85 (q, J = 28.0 Hz), 31.01; <sup>19</sup>F **NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.57; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1209, found: 381.1189.

7-methyl-7-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-4,5-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*][1,4]dioxino[2,3*f*]isoquinolin-8(7*H*)-one (3q)



1-(2-(2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one 1q (96.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (149 – 151 °C) in 41% yield. **Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 10:1): 0.15; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.32 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.33 (m, 4H), 3.76 – 3.67 (m, 1H), 3.40 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.05, 149.71, 146.68, 144.39, 141.57, 131.49, 126.88, 126.13, 125.71 (q, J = 278.3 Hz), 125.37, 120.20, 119.65, 118.70, 116.23, 115.73, 64.25, 64.05, 45.06 (q, J = 1.9 Hz), 40.43 (q, J = 27.4 Hz), 26.46; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -62.90; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 389.1108, found: 389.1108.

6-methyl-6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*][1,4]dioxino[2,3g]isoquinolin-7(6*H*)-one (3q')



1-(2-(2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one 1q (96.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (182 – 184 °C) in 29% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 5:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.31 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 4.35 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 3.46 – 3.36 (m, 1H), 2.88 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.31, 149.34, 147.23, 144.23, 144.10, 132.42, 131.53, 126.13, 125.50, 125.08 (q, J = 278.8 Hz), 119.75, 116.14, 115.68, 115.19, 114.69, 64.87, 64.37, 45.01, 4.24 (q, J = 27.8 Hz), 31.29; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.32; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 389.1108, found: 389.1093.

1,3,5-trimethyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3r)



1-(2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1r** (87.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (136 - 138 °C) in 79% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 100:1): 0.1; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.38 (dd, J = 6.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 6.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 3.51 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.96 – 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.45, 149.83, 144.39, 140.73, 140.19, 139.70, 132.87, 130.67, 125.91, 125.73, 125.17 (q, J = 279.2 Hz), 125.06, 120.19, 118.49, 115.80, 45.27 (q, J = 1.7 Hz), 44.32 (q, J = 27.5 Hz), 31.65, 24.68, 21.69; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.16; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 359.1366, found: 359.1366.

1,3-dichloro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3s)



1-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1s** (99.4 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg), CuI (30 mol%, 17.1 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (240 - 242 °C) in 68% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 40:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.39 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.94 – 7.89 (m, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 3.54 – 3.45 (m, 1H), 2.93 – 2.83 (m, 1H), 1.78 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 169.55, 145.96, 143.95, 142.50, 136.75, 134.94, 132.06, 130.55, 126.94, 126.48, 125.88, 124.81 (q, J = 278.7 Hz), 121.03, 119.42, 115.83, 45.58, 44.38 (q, J = 28.2 Hz), 31.26; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -61.21; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.0273, found: 399.0245.

# 2,4-dichloro-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3t)



1-(2-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)-2-methylprop-2-en-1-one **1t** (99.4 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (168 - 170 °C) in 69% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 50:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.59 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.38 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 4.04 – 3.93 (m, 1H), 3.48 – 3.37 (m, 1H), 1.97 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 170.78, 147.24, 144.05, 135.52, 134.50, 134.45, 132.80, 131.50, 126.78, 126.65, 126.50, 125.77, 125.30 (q, J =278.4 Hz), 120.44, 116.00, 46.41 (q, J = 1.7 Hz), 40.15 (q, J = 27.6 Hz), 25.61; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -62.90; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.0273, found: 399.0253.

4-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]thieno[2,3-*c*]pyridin-5(4*H*)-one (3u)



2-methyl-1-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1u** (80.5 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a yelow solid (137 - 139 °C) in 53% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 20:1): 0.1; <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.33 – 8.27 (m, 1H), 7.80 – 7.75 (m, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.47 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.87 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.60, 146.22, 144.21, 144.02, 131.12, 130.92, 126.23, 125.94, 125.61, 124.91 (q, J = 278.4 Hz), 124.19, 119.96, 115.34, 45.21 (q, J = 2.1 Hz), 44.01 (q, J = 28.0 Hz), 29.81; <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ – 62.12; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 337.0617, found: 337.0609.

#### 5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-a][2,6]naphthyridin-6(5H)-one (3v)



2-methyl-1-(2-(pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one **1v** (79.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) was reacted with **Togni-II** (2.0 equiv, 189.6 mg) according to General Procedure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid  $(134 - 136 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C})$  in 56% yield.

**Rf** (petroleum ether: EtOAc = 3:1): 0.2; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.91 – 8.72 (m, 2H), 8.41 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 3.59 – 3.45 (m, 1H), 3.10 – 2.96 (m, 1H), 1.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  170.06, 149.43, 148.94, 146.90, 143.99, 132.73, 131.54, 129.50, 127.17, 126.76, 124.88 (q, *J* = 278.6 Hz), 120.80, 118.73, 116.01, 44.02 (q, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 43.80 (q, *J* = 27.9 Hz), 30.52; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  – 61.36; **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 332.1005, found: 332.1004.

#### (3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-ene-1,1-diyl)dibenzene (4)<sup>3</sup>



<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.40 – 7.30 (m, 6H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 6.12 (q, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 152.61 (q, J = 5.6 Hz), 140.27, 137.41, 129.53, 129.25 (q, J = 1.8 Hz), 128.63, 128.62, 128.18, 128.11, 123.24 (q, J = 270.7 Hz), 115.58 (q, J = 34.0 Hz); <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -55.57.

#### 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)phenol (5)<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): *δ* 7.34 (s, 2H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 3.54 (q, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (s, 19H); <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): *δ* -66.14.

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#### 5. NMR Spectra of products





















































































