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Supplementary Information

for

A bench stable *N*-trifluoroacetylnitrene equivalent for a simple synthesis of 2-trifluoromethyloxazoles

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1. General information

Solvents and materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using Silica gel 60 plates (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany). Silica gel column chromatography was performed using Kanto silica gel 60 (particle size 63–210 µm, Kanto, Tokyo, Japan) and Chromatorex BW-300 (Fuji silysia, Aichi, Japan). Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were recorded on JNM-AL 400 (JEOL) at 400 MHz or Avance I 600 (Bruker Biospin AG, Switzerland) at 600 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported relative to Me₄Si (δ 0.00) in CDCl₃. Multiplicity was indicated by one or more of the following: s (singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); m (multiplet); br (broad). Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) spectra were recorded on a JNM-AL 400 at 100 MHz or on an Avance I 600 at 150 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported relative to CDCl₃ (δ 77.0). Fluorine nuclear magnetic resonance (¹⁹F NMR) spectra were recorded on a JNM-AL 400 at 376 MHz. Infrared spectra were recorded on a FT/IR-4100 Fourier-transform infrared spectrometer (JASCO, Tokyo, Japan) ATR (attenuated total reflectance). High resolution mass spectra were recorded on a LCMS-IT-TOF (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) for ESI-MS. All melting points were measured on BÜCHI M-565 melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

2. Preparation of iminoiodinane 6



To a solution of trifluoroacetamide (1.1 g, 10 mmol) in pyridine/ether (13 mL, ca. 54v/v% pyridine in ether) was added 2-nitroiodobenzene diacetate 7^{S1} (1.8 g, 5.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After being stirred at the same temperature for 12 hours, the precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with ether several times to give desired imoinoiodinane **6** (1.36 g, 76%).

Yellow solid; m.p. 117–119 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO) δ : 8.54 (1H, dd, J = 8.2, 1.4 Hz), 8.07 (1H, ddd, J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.5 Hz), 7.96 – 7.81 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.70 (q, J = 32.0 Hz), 145.81, 137.79, 132.13, 130.11, 127.84, 115.48 (q, J = 288.8 Hz), 108.27; ¹⁹F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO) δ : –68.09; FAB-HRMS Calcd. for C₈H₅F₃IN₂O₃ [M+H]⁺ 360.9297; Found: 360.9301; IR (ATR) 1512, 1319, 1183, 1126 cm⁻¹.

Single crystals of imoinoiodinane **6** (CCDC 2080533) were obtained by recrystallization from CHCl₃. A suitable crystal was selected and loop on a XtaLAB AFC11 (RCD3): quarter-chi single diffractometer. The crystal was kept at 93 K during data collection. Using Olex2,^{S2} the structure was solved with the ShelXT^{S3} structure solution program using Intrinsic Phasing and refined with the ShelXL^{S4} refinement package using Least Squares minimization.

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for imoinoiodinane 6				
Empirical formula	$C_8H_4F_3IN_2O_3$			
Formula weight	360.03			
Temperature/K	93			
Crystal system	monoclinic			
Space group	P2 ₁ /c			
a/Å 4.9637(2))			
b/Å 20.0442(42(7)			
c/Å 10.3335(4	5(4)			
α /° 90				
β/° 101.298(-	01.298(4)			
γ /° 90				
Volume/Å ³	1008.19(7)			
Z 4				
ρ calcg/cm ³	2.372			
μ /mm ⁻¹ 25.461				
F(000) 680.0				
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.3 \times 0.1 \times 0.1$			
Radiation	$CuK\alpha$ ($\lambda = 1.54184$)			
2Θ range for data collection/° 8.824 to 146.52				
Index ranges $-4 \le h \le 5, -24 \le k \le 22, -12 \le l \le 12$				
Reflections collected 9201				
Independent reflections 1959 [Rint = 0.0469, Rsigma = 0.0259]				
Data/restraints/parameters 1959/0/154				
Goodness-of-fit on	F^2 1.118			
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)] R1 = 0.0641, wR2 = 0.1774				
Final R indexes [all data] $R1 = 0.0650, wR2 = 0.1789$				
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³ 3.50/-3.62				

3. Effect of solvent and equivalent of iodinane

Table S2. Effect of solvent for the [3+2] cyclization of alkyne with iodinane



entry	iminoiodinane	solvent	yield ^a
1	5	CH ₂ Cl ₂	41%
2	6	CH_2CI_2	56% ^b
3 ^c	6	CH ₂ Cl ₂	28% ^b
4	6	MeCN	21%
5	6	THF	trace
6	6	MeNO ₂	0%

^a Unless otherwise noted ¹⁹F NMR yield was indicated

using 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzoic acid as internal standard.

^b Isolated yield. ^c 1.0 equiv of **6** was employed.

When one equivalent of iodinane **6** was employed, the yield of **9a** decreased significantly (entry 3, Table S2), presumably due to the partial decomposition of iodinane **6**. Among the solvents screened, the use of dichloromethane resulted in the best yield (entry 2 vs entries 4-6, Table S2).

4. DFT-TD experiments

As similarly as our previous report,^{S5} we calculated the excitation energy of iodinane **6** using a timedependent density functional theory (DFT-TD)^{S6} method at the B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level, based on the optimized X-ray structure, using the Gaussian 09 program.^{S7} The basis sets implemented in the program were used, and the DGDZVP basis set was used for iodine.^{S8} As a result, the energy gap between the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) and Rydberg orbital (RY* (2) I) of **6** corresponded to the 355 nm wavelength (Figure S1).



Figure S1. DFT-TD experiments of iminoiodinane 5 and 6

5. NBO analyses of iodinane 5

The natural bond orbital (NBO) analyses of the intramolecular XB interaction were estimated to be 7.99 kcal/mol (the oxygen atom of the *N*-trifluoroacetyl group and the iodine atom, Figure S2A) and 8.50 kcal/mol (the oxygen atom of the nitro group and the iodine atom, Figure S2B). No intermolecular XB interaction was found in iminoiodinane **5**.



Figure S2. NBO analyses of iodinane 5

6. Preparation of alkynes

Alkynes **8a–j** and *p*-ethynylaniline were purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. Alkyne **8k** was prepared as described below.



To a stirred solution of 1-adamantanecarboxylic acid (2.15 g, 11.95 mmol) in EtOAc (20 mL) was added oxalyl chloride (0.97 mL, 11.10 mmol) followed by a few drops of DMF (66 μ L, 0.85 mmol) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 3 h (**solution A**). In another flask, *p*-ethynylaniline (1.00 g, 8.54 mmol) was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), and saturated aqueous bicarbonate solution (20 mL) was added. To a vigorously stirred bi-phase mixture, was added **solution A**, as described above, and the whole mixture was stirred for 12 hours. The organic phase was separated, washed with 1N HCl (20 mL) and saturated aqueous bicarbonate solution (20 mL). The

organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated to afford the crude solid, which was recrystallized from CH_2Cl_2/n -hexane to afford the pure anilides **8h** (1.46 g, 61%).

Colorless needles; m.p. 173–174°C (CH₂Cl₂/*n*-hexane); ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.52 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz,), 7.44 (2H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (1H, brs), 3.04 (1H, s), 2.13–2.08 (3H, m), 1.96 (6H, m), 1.82–1.70 (6H, m); ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 176.2, 138.6, 132.9, 119.6, 117.4, 83.5, 76.7, 41.6, 39.2, 36.4, 28.1; EI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₉H₂₁NO [M]⁺ 279.1623; Found: 279.1623; IR (ATR) 3288, 2900, 1655 cm⁻¹.

7. General procedure for photo-induced formal [3+2]-cyclization of alkynes with iminoiodinanes



Alkyne **8b** (13.2 mg, 0.10 mmol) and iminoiodinane **6** (72.0 mg, 0.20 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (1.0 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 hours under UV light (λ = 365 nm) irradiation. After concentration under reduced pressure, the reaction mixture was directly purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: CHCl₃) to give oxazole **9b** (17.4 mg, 71%).

5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9b)



From 13.2 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8b**, 17.4 mg (71%) of **9b** was obtained as colorless oil; ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.63 (2H, d, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.32 (1H, s), 6.98 (2H, d, J = 8.8 Hz), 3.86 (3H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 160.9, 154.1, 149.2 (q, J = 43.9 Hz), 126.5, 120.9, 119.0, 116.6 (q, J = 270.0 Hz), 114.6; ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -65.49; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₁H₉F₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 244.0580; Found: 244.0585; IR (ATR) 1150 cm⁻¹.

5-(p-Tolyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9c)



From 11.6 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8c**, 11.4 mg (50%) of **9c** was produced as Colorless oil; ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.58 (2H, d, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.39 (1H, s), 7.27 (2H, d, J = 8.2 Hz), 2.40 (3H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 154.2, 149.5 (q, J = 43.9 Hz), 140.2, 129.8, 124.9, 123.5, 121.7, 116.6 (q, J = 270.4 Hz), 21.4; ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -65.55; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₁H₉F₃NO [M+H]⁺ 228.0631; Found: 228.0632; IR (ATR) 1149 cm⁻¹.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9d)



From 13.7 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8d**, 8.6 mg (35%) of **9d** was produced as white solid; m.p. 56.0–57.1 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.64 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.46–7.45 (3H, m); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 152.9, 150.0 (q, *J* = 43.9 Hz), 136.0, 129.5, 126.2, 124.7, 122.7, 116.5 (q, *J* = 270.4 Hz); ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : –65.55; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₀H₆ClF₃NO [M+H]⁺ 248.0085; Found: 248.0088; IR (ATR) 1138 cm⁻¹.

5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9e)



From 18.1 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8e**, 16.0 mg (55%) of **9e** was produced as white solid; m.p. 37.8–41.8 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.61 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.57 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.46 (1H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 153.0, 150.0 (q, *J* = 43.9 Hz), 132.5, 126.3, 125.2, 124.2, 122.8, 116.5 (q, *J* = 270.4 Hz); ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : –65.55; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₀H₆BrF₃NO [M+H]⁺ 291.9579; Found: 291.9592; IR (ATR) 1139 cm⁻¹.

Methyl 4-(2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazol-5-yl)benzoate (9f)



From 16.0 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8f**, 11.1 mg (41%) of **9f** was obtained as white solid; m.p. 95.9–97.2 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.14 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.78 (2H, d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.57 (1H,

s), 3.96 (3H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 166.2, 152.9, 150.5 (q, J = 44.3 Hz), 131.2, 130.4, 130.1, 124.7, 124.0, 116.4 (q, J = 270.8 Hz), 52.4; ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -65.58; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₂H₉F₃NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 272.0529; Found: 272.0516; IR (ATR) 1710, 1140 cm⁻¹.

2-(Trifluoromethyl)-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)oxazole (9g)



From 85.0 mg (0.50 mmol) of **8g** and 36.0 mg (0.10 mmol) of **6**, 17.4 mg (62% based on **6**) of **9g** was produced as white solid; m.p. 48.1–49.3 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.83 (2H, d, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.74 (2H, d, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.57 (1H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 152.5, 150.6 (q, J = 44.3 Hz), 131.7 (q, J = 33.3 Hz), 129.5, 126.2 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 125.2, 124.0, 123.6 (q, J = 270.8 Hz), 116.4 (q, J = 270.0 Hz); ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : –62.87, –65.61; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₁H₄F₆NO [M–H]⁻ 280.0203; Found: 280.0201; IR (ATR) 1137 cm⁻¹.

5-Decyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9h)



From 83.2 mg (0.50 mmol) of **8h** and 36.0 mg (0.10 mmol) of **6**, 7.0 mg (25% based on **6**) of **9h** was produced as colorless oil; ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 6.89 (1H, s), 2.71 (2H, t, J = 7.7 Hz), 1.70–1.65 (2H, m), 1.35–1.28 (14H, m), 0.88 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 156.3, 149.6 (q, J = 42.8 Hz), 123.4, 116.5 (q, J = 270.0 Hz), 31.9, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 29.1, 29.0, 27.2, 25.4, 22.7, 14.1; ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -65.79; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₃F₃NO [M+H]⁺ 278.1726; Found: 278.1734; IR (ATR) 1137 cm⁻¹.

4-Methyl-5-phenyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9i)



From 11.6 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8i**, 10.8 mg (48%) of **9i** was produced as colorless oil; ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.65 (2H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.49 (2H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.41 (1H, t, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 2.49 (3H, s); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 148.2 (q, *J* = 43.9 Hz), 148.2, 132.7, 129.0, 129.0, 127.4, 126.0,

116.6 (q, J = 270.4 Hz), 13.1; ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -65.67; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₁H₉F₃NO [M+H]⁺ 228.0631; Found: 228.0633; IR (ATR) 1154 cm⁻¹.

4,5-Diphenyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazole (9j)



From 17.8 mg (0.10 mmol) of **8j** 12.1 mg (42%) of **9j** was produced as colorless oil; ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.66–7.64 (4H, m), 7.42–7.39 (6H, m); ¹³C-NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 149.2 (q, J = 42.8 Hz), 148.0, 136.0, 130.7, 129.9, 128.9, 128.9, 128.8, 128.0, 127.3, 127.1, 116.6 (q, J = 271.1 Hz); ¹⁹F-NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : –65.67; ESI-HRMS Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₂F₃NO [M+H]⁺ 290.0787; Found: 290.0788; IR (ATR) 1169 cm⁻¹.

N-(4-(2-(Trifluoromethyl)oxazol-5-yl)phenyl)adamantane-1-carboxamide (9k)



From 27.9 mg (0.1 mmol) of **8k**, 12.9 mg (33%) of **9k** was obtained as off-white solid; m.p. 136–138 °C (CHCl₃) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.68 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.65 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz,), 7.42 (1H, brs), 7.39 (1H, s), 2.17–2.09 (3H, m), 1.98 (6H, m), 1.80 –1.71 (6H, m); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.3, 153.7, 149.5 (q, *J* = 44.1 Hz), 139.6, 125.8, 121.9, 121.7, 120.1, 116.6 (q, *J* = 269.6 Hz), 41.7, 39.3, 36.4, 28.1; ¹⁹F-NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : –65.58; EI-HRMS Calcd. for C₂₁H₂₁F₃N₂O₂ [M]⁺ 390.1555; Found: 390.1558; IR (ATR) 3319, 2905, 1655 cm⁻¹.

8. Effect of radical scavengers



To a mixture of phenylacetylene **8a** (10.2 mg, 0.10 mmol) and iminoiodinane **6** (72.0 mg, 0.20 mmol) in dichloromethane (1.0 mL) was added 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-*p*-cresol (BHT, 22.0 mg, 0.10 mmol) or

2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl (TEMPO, 15.6 mg, 0.10 mmol) at the ambient temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 hours under UV light (λ = 365 nm) irradiation. After concentration of volatiles under reduced pressure, ¹⁹F NMR yields of **9a** were calculated using 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzoic acid as an internal standard.

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10. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR charts

6 ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)



8k ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)





9b ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



9c ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



9d ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)





9f ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



9g ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)





9i¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



9j ¹H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



9k ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

