## **Visible-Light-Promoted S-Trifluoromethylation of Thiophenols**

## with Trifluoromethyl Phenyl Sulfone

Zhiqiang Wei<sup>a,b</sup>, Zhengzhao Lou<sup>a,b</sup>, Chuangfa Ni<sup>a</sup>, Wei Zhang<sup>a</sup>, and Jinbo Hu\*<sup>a,b</sup>

 <sup>[a]</sup>Key Laboratory of Organofluorine Chemistry, Center for Excellence in Molecular Synthesis, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 345 Ling-Ling Road, Shanghai 200032, China.
<sup>[b]</sup>School of Physical Science and Technology, ShanghaiTech University, 100 Haike Road, Shanghai 201210, China.
E-mail: jinbohu@sioc.ac.cn

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## **1. General Information**

Unless otherwise mentioned, all solvents and reagents are purchased from commercial sources and used as received. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), N, N-dimethyl formamide (DMF) were dried by passing through a solvent purification system. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 376 MHz. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 101 MHz. <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts were determined relative to internal (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Si (TMS) at  $\delta$  0.00 ppm or to the signal of the residual protonated solvent: CDCl<sub>3</sub> at  $\delta$  7.26 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR chemical shifts were determined relative to internal or external CFCl<sub>3</sub> at  $\delta$  0.00 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts were determined relative to the signal of the solvent:  $CDCl_3$  at  $\delta$  77.16 ppm. Data for <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F NMR were recorded as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, td = triplet of doublets, qt = quartet of triplets, tq = triplet of quartets, br = broad, hept = heptet). Mass spectra were obtained on a mass spectrometer. High-resolution mass data were recorded on a high-resolution mass spectrometer. The LEDs were manufactured by Zhejiang Gulinwa Electronic Corporation.

### 2. Synthesis of Substrate (1x)



Colorless oil. The synthesis of this compound refers to this literature.<sup>1</sup>

((3a*R*,5*R*,5a*S*,8a*S*,8b*R*)-2,2,7,7-tetramethyltetrahydro-5*H*-bis([1,3]dioxolo)[4,5b:4',5'-d]pyran-5-yl)methyl 4-mercaptobenzoate (1x). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (ddd, *J* = 7.1, 4.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.9, 138.4, 130.3, 128.1, 127.0, 109.7, 108.8, 96.3, 71.1, 70.7, 70.5, 66.2, 63.9, 26.02, 25.98, 25.0, 24.5. MS (ESI, m/z): 397.0 (M+H<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) 397.1316, found 397.1309. IR (film): 2987, 2934, 2558, 1716, 1595, 1404, 1382, 1273, 1212, 1007, 1069, 1007, 918, 899, 758, 733, 689, 512, 481 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## 3. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions

### Typical procedures for optimization of the reaction conditions

Under dry N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, to sealed tube were added PhSO<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub> (**2a**) (0.6 mmol, 126.0 mg, 1.2 equiv), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.0 mmol, 325.0 mg, 2.0 equiv) and dry DMAc (5.0 mL), then PhSH (0.5 mmol, 55.0 mg, 1.0 equiv) was added. The mixture was irradiated by a 24 W blue LED for 24 h.

Table 1 Survey of reaction conditions for trifluoromethylation of Arylthiophenol<sup>a</sup>



Entry	Solvent	Time (h)	Base	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>
1 <sup>[c]</sup>	DMF	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	Trace
2	DMF	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	61
3	DMAc	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	72
4	DMSO	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	33
5	NMP	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	72
6	DMPU	12	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	52
7	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	12	$Cs_2CO_3$	3
8	DMAc	12	$K_3PO_4$	64
9	DMAc	12	$K_2CO_3$	54
10	DMAc	12	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	58
11	DMAc	12	NaH	61
12	DMAc	18	$Cs_2CO_3$	72
13	NMP	18	$Cs_2CO_3$	80
14	NMP	24	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	81
15 <sup>[d]</sup>	NMP	24	$Cs_2CO_3$	81
16 <sup>[e]</sup>	NMP	24	$Cs_2CO_3$	72

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions : **1**' (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), solvent (5.0 mL); <sup>b</sup>Determined by 19F NMR spectroscopy using trifluoromethoxybenzene as an internal standard. <sup>c</sup>In dark environment; <sup>d</sup>**2a** (0.55 mmol, 1.1 equiv); <sup>e</sup>Under white light irradiation.

## 4. Perfluoroalkylation of Thiophenols with Perfluoroalkyl

## phenyl Sulfones



1a



2a









#### **Typical procedures**

Under dry N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, to sealed tube were added **1a** (0.50 mmol, 93.1 mg, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.55 mmol, 115.5 mg, 1.1 equiv),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (1.00 mmol, 325.0 mg, 2.0 equiv), dry NMP (5.00 mL). The mixture was irradiated by a 24 W blue LED for 24 h. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched by saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, then the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O for 3 times. The organic phase was combined and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel by using petroleum ether as an eluent to provide **3a** as white solid (103.0 mg, 81%).



[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (3a) The product (103.2 mg, 81% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.65–7.59 (m, 4H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.39 (m, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –42.72 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.9, 139.7, 136.7, 129.7 (q, J = 309.4 Hz), 129.0, 128.19, 128.17, 127.3,123.1 (q, J = 2.2 Hz). All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (3b) The product (82.9 mg, 71% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (*n*-pentane) as a colorless liquid.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.57 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (s, 9H). <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –43.03 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  154.4, 136.1, 129.7 (q, J = 307.9 Hz), 126.6, 120.9 (q, J = 2.2 Hz), 34.9, 31.1. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



(4-Methoxyphenyl)(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (3c) The product (78.1 mg, 75% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (*n*-pentane) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.56 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –43.99 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.9, 138.3, 129.6 (q, J = 308.2 Hz), 115.0, 114.8 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 55.4. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



**Bis(4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)phenyl)sulfane (3d)** The product (187.4 mg, 97% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.59 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -42.65 (s, 6F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  138.7, 137.0, 131.6, 129.4 (q, J = 308.3 Hz), 123.55 (q, J = 2.3 Hz). MS (EI, m/z): 386 (M<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (EI): Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>28</sub>F<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (M<sup>+</sup>) 385.9687, found 385.9693. IR (film): 2927, 2852, 1571, 1476, 1391, 1119, 1088, 1013, 817, 756, 579, 504 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**Mesityl(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (3e)** The product (79.1 mg, 72% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.99 (s, 2H), 2.52 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.99 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.3, 141.4, 130.2 (q, J = 309.3 Hz), 129.6, 120.1 (q, J = 1.7 Hz), 22.1, 21.1.<sup>3</sup>



*N*-(4-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)phenyl)acetamide (3f) The product (88.0 mg, 75% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.47 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –44.66 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.6, 142.6, 137.3, 129.9 (q, *J* = 307.0 Hz), 119.8, 116.4 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 23.5. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



Methyl(4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)phenyl)sulfane (3g) The product (104.0 mg, 93% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (*n*-pentane) as a colorless liquid.. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.56 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -43.30 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.3, 136.7, 129.5 (q, J = 308.3 Hz), 126.3, 119.7 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 15.0. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



Methyl 4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoate (3h) The product (107.7 mg, 91% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 40:1) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.05 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -41.88 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.1, 135.6, 132.2, 130.4, 129.9, 129.3 (q, *J* = 309.1 Hz), 52.5. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>4</sup>



**Methyl 2-((trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoate (3i)** The product (91.3 mg, 77% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 40:1) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.73–7.71 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.40 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.41 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 132.72, 132.69 (q, J = 2.4 Hz), 132.5, 130.9, 129.5 (q, J = 310.1 Hz), 128.7, 128.3 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 52.6. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>5</sup>



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoic acid (3j)** The product (63.4 mg, 57% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR

(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (td, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -41.23 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.2, 133.50, 132.1, 132.0 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 130.4, 130.0 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 129.5 (q, J = 310.1 Hz), 128.44. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>6</sup>



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoic acid (3k)** The product (90.2 mg, 81% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.40 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -42.46 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 141.3, 137.8, 132.5, 130.8, 129.8, 129.4 (q, *J* = 310.7 Hz), 125.4 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz). All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>7</sup>



4-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoic acid (3l) The product (90.1 mg, 81% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -41.65 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 135.5, 131.19, 131.16 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 131.0, 129.3 (q, J = 308.5 Hz). All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



4-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)benzonitrile (3m) The product (90.1 mg, 81% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -41.56 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.0, 132.9, 130.5, 129.0 (q, J = 309.9 Hz), 117.6, 114.6. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



1-(4-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)phenyl)ethan-1-one (3n) The product (76.3 mg, 69% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 40:1) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.80 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.0, 138.5, 135.7, 130.8, 129.3 (q, J = 309.4 Hz), 129.1, 26.7. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>4</sup>



(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (30) The product (123.5 mg, 96% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 4:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.96 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.2 Hz,

2H), 3.06 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.47 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.7, 136.2, 131.4 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 129.1 (q, J = 309.1 Hz), 128.3, 44.3. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>8</sup>



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)pyridine (3p)** The product (72.4 mg, 81% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (*n*-pentane:Et<sub>2</sub>O = 20:1) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.61–8.59 (m, 1H), 7.71 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ddd, J = 7.6, 4.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –40.22 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.7, 149.5 (q, J = 2.8 Hz), 137.7, 129.4 (q, J = 309.1 Hz), 128.2 (q, J = 1.9 Hz), 123.80. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>6</sup>



**4,6-Dimethyl-2-**((trifluoromethyl)thio)pyrimidine (3q) The product (89.3 mg, 86% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 30:1) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.84 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 6H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –40.85 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.2, 164.5 (q, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 128.4 (q, *J* = 307.5 Hz), 118.1, 23.8. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>9</sup>



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)pyrimidine (3r)** The product (83.1 mg, 92% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (*n*-pentane: $Et_2O = 20:1$ ) as a colorless

liquid. <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.62 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.10 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.9 (q, J = 3.2 Hz), 158.0, 128.3 (q, J = 307.8 Hz), 119.0. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)thio)benzo[d]thiazole (3s)** The product (88.3 mg, 75% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –40.22 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  153.1, 151.7 (q, J = 3.0 Hz), 137.9, 128.2 (q, J = 312.1 Hz), 127.0, 126.7, 124.1, 121.3. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



(4-Nitrophenyl)(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (3t) The product (40.0 mg, 36% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE) as a light yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.26 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.39 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.2, 136.1, 132.6 (q, J = 2.4 Hz), 129.0 (q, J = 308.8 Hz), 124.4. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>2</sup>



Methyl(4-((perfluoroethyl)thio)phenyl)sulfane (3u) The product (132.7 mg, 97% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -82.50 (t, J = 3.5 Hz, 3F), -92.31 (q, J = 3.7 Hz, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.7, 137.4, 126.2, 123.1–119.4 (m), 118.0 (t, J = 3.1 Hz), 117.7-114.1 (m), 14.9. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>10</sup>



**4,6-Dimethyl-2-((perfluoroethyl)thio)pyrimidine (3v)** The product (84.1 mg, 65% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 50:1) as a clolorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.88 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 6H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –82.86 (t, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 3F), –92.73 (q, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.3, 163.6, 123.5-119.6 (m), 118.6, 117.7–113.9 (m), 23.8. All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>9</sup>



**Methyl(4-((perfluoropropan-2-yl)thio)phenyl)sulfane (3w)** The product (82.8 mg, 51% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -73.86 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 6F), -157.58 (hept, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1F). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.9, 137.7, 126.1, 120.3 (qd, *J* = 287.8 Hz, 30.2 Hz), 118.1, 99.6–96.5 (m), 14.9. **MS** (EI, m/z): 324 (M<sup>+</sup>). **HRMS** (EI): Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>7</sub>S<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (M<sup>+</sup>) 323.9872, found 323.9871. **IR** (film): 2925, 2848, 1578, 1478, 1284, 1223, 1187, 1105, 1074, 1013, 960, 941, 813, 754, 716, 509



((3aR,5*R*,5a*S*,8a*S*,8b*R*)-2,2,7,7-Tetramethyltetrahydro-5*H*-bis([1,3]dioxolo)[ 4,5-*b*:4',5'-*d*]pyran-5-yl)methyl 4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)benzoate (3x) The product (210.8 mg, 91% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 10:1) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.05 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (ddd, *J* = 7.0, 4.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –41.88 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.4, 135.5, 132.1, 130.5, 129.9 (q, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 129.3 (q, *J* = 309.5 Hz), 109.7, 108.8, 96.3, 71.1, 70.7, 70.5, 66.0, 64.4, 25.99, 25.95, 24.9, 24.5. MS (ESI, m/z): 465.0 (M+H<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) 465.1189, found 465.1184. IR (film): 2989, 2936, 1727, 1399, 1383, 1273, 1212, 1165, 1116, 1071, 1008, 919, 898, 857, 764, 693, 511 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## 5. Preparation of Trifluoromethyl-heteroaryl Sulfones



4a, 74%, 1.57 g

#### **Typical procedures**

Under dry N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, to sealed tube were added **pyridine-2-thiol** (10.0 mmol, 1.11 g, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (11.0 mmol, 2.31 g, 1.1 equiv),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (20.0 mmol, 6.5 g, 2.0 equiv), dry DMAc (50.0 mL). The mixture was irradiated by a 24 W blue LED for 12 h. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched by saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution, then the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O for 3 times. The organic phase was combined and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give a brown liquid. To a 100 mL, three-neck flask were added the above obtained brown liquid, and NaIO<sub>4</sub> (25.0 mmol, 5.33 g, 2.5 equiv), RuCl<sub>3</sub> xH<sub>2</sub>O (1.0 mg), CCl<sub>4</sub> (10.0 mL), CH<sub>3</sub>CN (10.0 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (20.0 mL) were added, The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (DCM) for 3 times. Then the organic phase was combined and dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel by using a 10:1 mixture of PE/ethyl acetate (EA) as an eluent to provide **4a** as white solid (1.57 g, 74%).



**2-((Trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)pyridine** (**4a**) The product (1.57 g, 74% yield) was urified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 10:1) as white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.85 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.29 – 8.16 (m, 1H), 8.08 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 4.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –75.83 (s,

3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.4, 151.1, 138.8, 129.7, 126.3, 119.8 (q, *J* = 327.6 Hz). All the characterization data are consistent with previous report.<sup>11</sup>



**4,6-Dimethyl-2-((trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)pyrimidine (4b)** The product (1.96 g, 82% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1) as white solid. Mp: 38 – 39 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35 (s, 1H), 2.63 (s, 6H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  – 73.69 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.2, 161.0, 124.7, 119.9 (q, J = 327.9 Hz), 23.9. MS (DART, m/z): 241.0 (M+H<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (DART): Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) 241.0253, found 241.0252. IR (film): 2936, 1597, 1510, 1436, 1371, 1205, 1114, 633, 608, 563, 521 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**2-Methyl-6-**((**trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)pyridine** (**4c**) The product (1.34 g, 74% yield) was purified with silica gel chromatography (PE:EA = 10:1) as white solid. Mp: 70 – 71 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.00 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –75.75 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.6, 150.4 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 138.5, 129.1, 123.4, 119.8 (q, *J* = 327.8 Hz), 24.2. MS (FI, m/z): 225 (M<sup>+</sup>). HRMS (DART): Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>3</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> (M<sup>+</sup>) 225.0066, found 225.0072. IR (film): 3114, 3061, 2919, 1593, 1456, 1367, 1254, 1215, 1173, 1147, 1102, 985, 911, 867, 975, 762, 618, 589, 546, 524, 511 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 6. Cyclic Voltammetry Study

The cyclic voltammetry measurements were performed on an EG & G-Princeton Applied Research CHI660E A18407 electrochemical workstation, using a standard three-electrode setup with two platinum wire electrode (a working electrode and a counter electrode) and a Ag/AgCl (3 M KCl) system in anhydrous CH<sub>3</sub>CN as the reference electrode. All solutions of the compounds under the study were in the supporting electrolyte *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (0.2 M) with the voltage scan rate of 0.05 V s<sup>-1</sup>. Solutions (5 mL) were thoroughly bubbled with dry nitrogen for 15 min to remove oxygen before any experiment and kept under positive pressure of nitrogen. Under these experimental conditions, the [FeCp<sub>2</sub>]/[FeCp<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> couple was located at  $E_{1/2}$  = +0.42 V in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The first reduction potentials of fluoroalkyl sulfones: cathodic peak potential *vs*. SCE (the saturated calomel electrode). *E* (V *vs*. SCE) = *E* (V *vs*. Ag/AgCl) –0.03 V (potentials for reference electrode: Ag/AgCl (3 M KCl): +0.21 V, SCE: +0.24 V)





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# 8. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of Isolated Compounds



240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)



.

#### 143.88 139.69 136.74 136.74 134.28 134.28 131.21 131.21 128.19 128.19 128.19 128.19 128.13 128.13 125.09 125.09 125.09



240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)





240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 11 (ppm)







240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)















-80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 f1 (ppm)

-70

-30 -40 -50 -60

30 20

10

0 -10 -20











240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 r1 (ppm)











240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 11 (ppm)











240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 f1 (ppm)



3s, <sup>1</sup>H NMR 400 MHz,  $\text{CDCI}_3$ 







240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 fl (ppm)









240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 11 (ppm)







**3x**, <sup>19</sup>F NMR 376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>



#### 165.37 135.53 135.53 133.89 132.12 132.12 130.82 130.82 130.52 130.52 130.52 129.91 122.99 122.99 122.99 122.69 122.69 122.69 122.69 122.69 122.65 122.65 122.65 122.65 122.65 123.75 123.75 12 -- 96.32 71.11 70.75 70.48 66.06 64.39 25.99 25.95 24.92 24.46



**3x**, <sup>13</sup>C NMR 101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>





100 80 60 40 20 0 -20 -40 -60 -80 -100 -140 -160 -180 -200 -220 -240 -260 -280 -300 f1 (ppm)









240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 50 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 11 (ppm)