# Enantioselective organocatalytic oxa-Michael addition of oximes to $\beta$ -CF<sub>3</sub>- $\beta$ -disubstituted nitroalkenes: efficient synthesis of $\beta$ -amino- $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl alcohol

Feng-Lei Liu, Jia-Rong Chen\*, Bin Feng, Xiao-Qiang Hu, Li-Hua Ye, Liang-Qiu Lu and Wen-Jing Xiao\*

The Key Laboratory of Pesticide & Chemical Biology, Ministry of Education; College of Chemistry, Central China Normal University, 152 Luoyu Road, Wuhan, Hubei, 430079, People's Republic of China

chenjiarong@mail.ccnu.edu.cn; wxiao@mail.ccnu.edu.cn;

#### **Supporting Information**

#### **Table of Contents**

1. General Information	S-3
2. Materials	S-3
3. Reaction Optimization	S-3
4. Experimental Procedures, Characterizations and Copies of HPLC Chromatograms	S-5
5. References	S-17
6. X-Ray Single Crystal Structure of Product <b>3e</b>	S-17
7. Application of the Michael Reaction Product <b>3a</b>	S-18
8. Copies of <sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR <sup>19</sup> F Spectra	S-20

#### **1. General Information**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian-Mercury 400 MHz or 600 MHz spectrophotometers. Solvent for NMR is CDCl<sub>3</sub>, unless otherwise noted. Chemical shifts are reported in delta ( $\delta$ ) units in parts per million (ppm) relative to the singlet (0 ppm) for tetramethylsilane (TMS). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = single, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on recorded on Varian Mercury 400/600 (100/150 MHz) with complete proton decoupling. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to the central line of the heptalet at 77.0 ppm for CDCl<sub>3</sub> Mass spectra were measured on a Bruker micrOTOF Q II. Enantiomeric ratios were determined by chiral HPLC on Agilent 1100 series with chiral columns (chiralpak IC column, chiralpak AD-H column) with hexane and *i*-PrOH as solvents. Optical rotations were measured with JASCO P-1020 polarimeter.

#### 2. Materials

Unless otherwise noted, all trifluoromethylated nitroalkenes were prepared according to the known literature;<sup>1</sup> difluoromethylated nitroalkene **4** was prepared according to the known literature.<sup>1,2</sup> Bifuntional organocatalysts  $A^{3a}$ ,  $B^{3b}$ ,  $C^{3c}$ ,  $D^{3d}$ ,  $E^{3e}$  were prepared according to literature procedures. Dichloromethane was freshly distilled from calcium hydride. Ethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran (THF) and toluene were distilled from sodium / benzophenone. Other solvents were also purified before using. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC), and column chromatography purifications were performed using 200-300 mesh silica gel.

#### 3. Reaction Optimization

**Table S1** Catalyst Screen for Conjugate Addition of 4-Methoxybenzaldehyde Oxime 1a to (E)-(3,3,3-trifluoro-1-nitroprop-1-en-2-yl)benzene  $2a^a$ 





Entry	Catslyst	t	Yield $(\%)^b$	e.r. <sup>c</sup>
1	В	6 d	31	42:58
2	С	7 d	47	84:16
3	D	6 d	trace	n.d. <sup>e</sup>
4	Ε	6 d	46	40:60
5	В	96 h	71	$30:70^{d}$
6	С	105 h	54	84:16 <sup>d</sup>
7	Α	72 h	75	$88:12^{d}$

<sup>*a*</sup> The reactions were carried out with 0.40 mmol (2.0 equiv) of **1a**, 0.20 mmol (1.0 equiv) of **2a** and 5 mol% **B-E** in toluene (1.0 mL) at rt. <sup>*b*</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>*c*</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC. <sup>*d*</sup> 10 mol% catalyst was uesd. <sup>*e*</sup> Not determined.

**Table S2** Conjugated Addition of 4-Methoxybenzaldehyde Oximes **1a-h** to (E)-(3,3,3-trifluoro-1-nitroprop-1-en-2-yl)benzene **2a**<sup>*a*</sup>



Entry	$R^1$	Product	<i>t</i> (h)	Yield $(\%)^b$	e.r. <sup>c</sup>
1	4-MeOPh (1a)	3a	50	91	92:8
2	2-MeOPh (1b)	3b <i>'</i>	48	74	74:26
3	3-MeOPh (1c)	3c′	48	95	86:15
4	2,4-MeOPh (1d)	3d <i>'</i>	48	89	78:22
5	4-MePh (1e)	3e′	48	90	88:12
6	4- <sup><i>t</i></sup> BuPh ( <b>1f</b> )	3f′	48	87	87:13
7	2-naphthyl (1g)	3g′	48	95	60:40
8	3-PhO (1h)	3h <i>'</i>	48	85	89:11

<sup>*a*</sup> The reactions were carried out with 0.40 mmol (2.0 equiv) of **1**, 0.20 mmol (1.0 equiv) of **2a** and 10 mol% **A** in mesitylene (1.0 mL) at rt. <sup>*b*</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>*c*</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC.

#### 4. Experimental Procedure and Characterizations.



Oxime **1a** (0.40 mmol) was added to a solution of trifluoromethylated alkenes **2** (0.20 mmol) and organocatalyst **A** (0.02 mmol) in 1.0 mL of mesitylene at 0  $^{\circ}$ C. After completion (monitored by TLC analysis), the desired products **3** were purified by flash column chromatography.

(*S*, *E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitro-2-phenylpropan-2-yl) oxime (**3a**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2a** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (75% yield, 93:7 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.37$  (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 3H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 151.5, 131.8, 129.5, 129.2, 128.4, 126.7, 123.4(q, J = 287.6 Hz), 123.3, 114.2, 83.2 (q, J = 27.3 Hz), 73.6, 55.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.6$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for  $[C_{17}H_{15}F_{3}N_{2}O_{4} + H]^{+}$ : 369.1057, found 369.1062. M.P. = 79.7-81.7 °C;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -67.2$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak IC-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 98:2, 0.7 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 13.30 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 14.48 min).



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitro-2-(m-tolyl)propan-2-yl) oxime (**3b**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2b** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (74% yield, 93:7 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.37$  (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 151.5, 138.3, 131.8, 130.4, 129.3, 128.4, 127.2, 123.8, 123.5, 123.4 (q, J = 287.6 Hz), 121.9, 114.3, 83.2 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 73.6, 55.3, 21.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.7$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 383.1213, found 383.1219. M.P. = 83.6-85.2 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>27</sup><sub>D</sub> = -71.7 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 9.05 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 9.89 min).



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitro-2-(p-tolyl)propan-2-yl) oxime (**3c**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2c** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (70% yield, 90.5:9.5 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 5.72 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 161.7, 151.5, 139.6, 129.2, 128.8, 126.6, 123.5, 123.4 (q, *J* = 287.4 Hz),114.2, 83.2 (q, *J* = 27.8 Hz), 73.7, 55.2, 21.0; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.8$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for  $[C_{18}H_{17}F_3N_2O_4 + H]^+$ : 383.1213, found 383.1214. M.P. = 103.7-105.1 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -59.9$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak IC-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 0.5 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 14.51 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.43 min).



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (**3d**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2d** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (77% yield, 95:5 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.37$  (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.19 (s, 2H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 151.4, 138.1, 131.7, 131.3, 129.2, 124.3, 123.5, 123.4 (q, J = 287.4 Hz), 114.2, 83.2 (q, J = 27.4 Hz), 73.5, 55.2, 21.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.7$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 397.1370, found 397.1374. M.P. = 115.0-116.8 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]  $\frac{28}{D}$  = -54.5 (C = 0.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 7.30 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 7.78 min).



(S,E)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (3e)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2e** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 4 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (71% yield, 92:8 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.35$  (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.71 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 160.4, 151.5, 129.3, 128.2, 123.50, 123.4 (q, J = 287.3 Hz), 114.3, 113.9, 83.2 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 73.7, 55.3, 55.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -75.0$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.1162, found 399.1169. M.P. = 115.6-117.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -77.7$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 18.45 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 19.86 min).



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Туре	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU ]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Туре	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU ]	Area %
1	18.298	BV	0.3790	4459.86963	182.04749	49.9022	1	18.446	BV	0.3800	1018.35699	41.41745	8.2899
2	19.700	VB	0.4153	4477.34570	168.26591	50.0978	2	19.856	VB		1.12659e4	418.25153	91.7101

(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (**3g**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2g** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a colourless oil (87% yield, 93.5:6.5 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 161.9, 151.9, 134.7, 133.9, 129.9, 129.7, 129.4, 127.2, 124.9, 123.1 (q, *J* = 287.7 Hz), 114.3, 82.8 (q, *J* = 28.0 Hz), 73.5, 55.3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -74.8 (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 403.0667, found 403.0669. [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> = -79.2 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 11.51 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 12.78 min).



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (**3h**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2h** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (67% yield, 89:11 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.35$  (s, 1H), 7.55 (s, 2H), 7.54 (s, 2H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 5.73 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.8$ , 151.8, 135.9, 130.4, 129.3, 128.8, 128.2, 123.2, 123.1 (q, J = 287.5 Hz) 114.3, 83.0 (q, J = 27.9 Hz), 73.6, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.9$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup>: 403.0667, found 403.0674. M.P. = 105.2-107.3 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>27</sup><sub>D</sub> = -51.6 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 14.96 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.91 min).



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (**3i**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2i** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (86% yield, 87:13 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.35$  (s, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 5.71 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 161.8$ , 151.9, 131.7, 130.9, 129.3, 128.5, 124.2, 123.2, 123.0 (q, J = 287.8 Hz), 114.3, 83.0 (q, J = 27.8 Hz), 73.5, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.9$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 447.0162, found 447.0168. M.P. = 111.1-113.2 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]  $_{D}^{28} = -40.4$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 15.87 min, t<sub>2</sub> =17.08 min)



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitro-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propan-2-yl) oxime (**3j**)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1** (0.40 mmol), **2j** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a colourless oil (80% yield, 79:21 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.37$  (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 5.77 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.9$ , 152.1, 135.8, 131.7 (q, J = 32.7 Hz), 129.4, 127.4, 125.5, 123.6 (q, J = 270.3 Hz), 123.1, 121.6 (q, J = 287.5 Hz), 114.3, 83.0 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 73.5, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -63.4$  (s, 3F), -74.7 (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +Na]<sup>+</sup>: 459.0755, found 459.0751. [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>26</sup><sub>D</sub> = -44.4 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak OD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 99:1, 0.7 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 35.99 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 40.90 min).



Peak #	RetTime [ [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU ]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Туре	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU ]	Area %
1	35.350 1	BB	0.9783	1.00667e4	155.13893	50.1322		35.994	BB	1.0486	2275.68311	31.81261	20.7450
2	40.393 H	BB	1.1083	1.00136e4	132.79504	49.8678	2	40.904	BB	1.0927	8694.08496	119.39623	79.2550

(S,E)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(naphthalen-2-yl)-3-nitropropan-2-yl) oxime (3k)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2k** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a white solid (83% yield, 91:9 er). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.44$  (s, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.85 (m, 3H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 5.83 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 151.7, 133.4, 132.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.3, 127.5, 127.2, 127.0, 126.6, 123.5, 123.4, 123.4 (q, J = 287.3 Hz), 114.3, 83.5 (q, J = 27.7 Hz), 73.8, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.5$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (MALDI): calcd for [C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 419.1219, found 419.1213. M.P. = 128.5-130.0 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>26</sup> = -47.3 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 19.75 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 22.90 min).



(S,E)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-3-nitro-2-(thiophen-3-yl)propan-2-yl) oxime (31)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2l** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a yellow solid (69% yield, 90.5:9.5 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.33$  (s, 1H), 7.57 (s, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 5.65 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.7$ , 151.5, 132.2, 129.2, 126.2, 125.9, 125.4, 123.3, 123.1 (J = 287.1 Hz), 114.3, 82.4 (q, J = 28.6 Hz), 74.4, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -75.1$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S +H]<sup>+</sup>: 375.0621, found 375.0623. M.P. = 84.0-85.7 °C;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = -57.6$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak IC-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 0.5 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 17.20 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 18.29 min).



(S,E)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1,1-trifluoro-2-(nitromethyl)-4-phenylbutan-2-yl) oxime (3m)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **2m** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C for 3 d to provide the title compound as a colourless oil (71% yield, 73:27 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.23 (s, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.89 (s, 2H), 2.39 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 161.7, 151.6, 140.5, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 126.3, 124.1 (q, *J* = 287.5 Hz), 123.3, 114.3, 81.8 (q, *J* = 27.4 Hz), 75.0, 55.2, 33.0, 28.9; <sup>19</sup>F

NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.1$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for  $[C_{19}H_{19}F_3N_2O_4 +H]^+$ : 397.1370, found 397.1370.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{26} = -26.3$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak OD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 14.08 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 17.20 min).



**Table S3** Catalyst screen for the reaction with substrate  $2m^a$ 



Entry	Catslyst	t	Yield $(\%)^b$	e.r. <sup>c</sup>
1	F	3 d	48	39:61
2	G	3d	52	85:15
3	Н	3d	32	31.5:68.5

<sup>*a*</sup> The reactions were carried out with 0.40 mmol (2.0 equiv) of **1a**, 0.20 mmol (1.0 equiv) of **2m** and 10 mol% catalyst in mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C. <sup>*b*</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>*c*</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC.



**Table S4** Oxa-Michael addition of oxime to  $\beta$ -CF<sub>2</sub>H- $\beta$ -disubstituted nitroalkene 5<sup>*a*</sup>



<sup>*a*</sup> The reactions were carried out with 0.40 mmol (2.0 equiv) of **1a**, 0.20 mmol (1.0 equiv) of **4** and 10 mol% catalyst in mesitylene (1.0 mL) at 0 °C. <sup>*b*</sup> Conducted at room temperature. <sup>*c*</sup> Conducted at -10 °C. <sup>*d*</sup> Conducted at -10 °C, x = 20. <sup>*e*</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>*f*</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC.

(E)-(3,3-difluoro-1-nitroprop-1-en-2-yl)benzene (4)



Prepared according to the known literature (yellow oil). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.46 (s, 3H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 6.34 (t, *J* = 54.4 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 139.8 (t, *J* = 20.0 Hz ), 138.5 (t, *J* = 12.5 Hz ), 130.0, 128.8, 128.6, 127.7, 112.5(t, *J* = 243.5 Hz ); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -119.0 (s, 2F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 222.0337, found 222.0335.

(E)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(1,1-difluoro-3-nitro-2-phenylpropan-2-yl) oxime (5)



Prepared according to the general procedure from **1a** (0.40 mmol), **4** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene (1.0 mL) at -10 °C for 42 h to provide the title compound as a colourless oil (80% yield, 85:15 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (t, *J* = 54.0 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 161.6, 151.6, 132.7, 129.2, 129.1, 128.4, 126.8, 123.4, 114.2, 113.3 (t, *J* = 247.5 Hz), 82.8 (t, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 76.5, 55.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -128.5 - -131.92 (m, 2F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> +H]<sup>+</sup>: 351.1151, found 351.1154. [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>19</sup> = 17.3 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 85:15, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 9.99 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 10.61 min).



Michael addition of thiol 8 to  $\beta$ -CF<sub>3</sub>- $\beta$ -disubstituted nitroalkene 2a



Thiol 9 (0.22 mmol) was added to a solution of trifluoromethylated alkene 2a (0.20 mmol) and organocatalyst I (0.02 mmol) in 1.5 mL of mesitylene-Et<sub>2</sub>O (V/V = 2:1) at -78 °C. After

completion (monitored by TLC analysis), the desired products **10** were purified by flash column chromatography.

Prepared according to the general procedure from **9** (0.22 mmol), **2a** (0.20 mmol), mesitylene-Et<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL, V/V = 2:1) at -78 °C for 30 min to provide the title compound as a colourless oil (70% yield, 58:42 e.r.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 5.11 – 5.03 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 141.4, 137.9, 131.51, 130.0, 129.1, 128.5, 127.7, 125.3 (q, *J* = 283.0 Hz), 124.0, 75.5, 60.3 (q, *J* = 26.7 Hz), 21.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -66.1 (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S +Na]<sup>+</sup>: 364.0595, found 364.0607. HPLC (Chiralpak OD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 95:5, 1.0 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 7.77 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 8.88 min).



#### 5. References

- (1) J.-R. Gao, H. Wu, B. Xiang, W.-B. Yu, L. Han and Y.-X. Jia, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2013, 135, 2983.
- (2) T. Kitazume, M. Asai, T. Tsukamoto and T. Yamazaki, J. Fluorine Chem., 1992, 56, 271.
- (3) (a) B. Vakulya, S. Varga, A. Csampai and T. Soos, *Org. Lett.*, 2005, 7, 1967; (b) M. Amere, M. C. Lasne and J. Rouden, *Org. Lett.*, 2007, 9, 2621; (c) W. Yang and D.-M. Du, *Org. Lett.*, 2010, 12, 5450; (d) J. P. Malerich, K. Hagihara and V. H. Rawal, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2008, 130, 14416; (e) F.-G. Zhang, Q.-Q. Yang, J. Xuan, H.-H. Lu, S.-W. Duan, J.-R. Chen and W.-J. Xiao, *Org. Lett.*, 2010, 12, 5636.
- (4) J. Weng, Y.-B. Li, R.-B. Wang, F.-Q. Li, C. Liu, A.-S. Chan and G. Lu, J. Org. Chem., 2010, 75, 3125.

#### 6. X-Ray Single Crystal Structure of Product 3e

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry This journal is The Royal Society of Chemistry 2014



#### 7. Application of the Michael Reaction Product 3a



(*S*,*E*)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde O-(3-amino-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenylpropan-2-yl) oxime 6<sup>4</sup>

Activated Zn powder (975 mg, 15 mmol) was added carefully to a solution of **3a** (110.5 mg, 0.30 mmol) and trimethylsilyl chloride (1.14 mL, 37.2 mmol) in EtOH (5.0 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 2 h, cooled to rt and adjusted to weakly basic (pH = 8) with 28% NH<sub>4</sub>OH in H<sub>2</sub>O. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layer was washed with saturated brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then removed under reduced pressure. Finally, purification by flash chromatography gave **6** as a white solid (72 mg, 71% yield, 93% ee).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.55 (s, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 2.4 Hz , 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.47 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H).1.67 (brs, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 161.5$ , 151.0, 134.6, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 127.2, 125.1 (q, J = 274.4 Hz ), 123.9, 114.2, 85.4 (q, J = 21.8 Hz), 55.3, 44.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -74.6$  (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (MALDI): calcd for  $[C_{17}H_{17}F_3N_2O_2+H]^+$ : 339.1415, found 339.1419. M.P. = 63.2-65.7 °C;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -18.7$  (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 90:10, 0.7 mL/min; 254 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 14.02 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.45 min).



#### (S)-3-amino-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenylpropan-2-ol 7<sup>3e</sup>

A suspension solution of **3a** (147.3 mg, 0.40 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (221 mg) in EtOAc (6 mL) was stirred under 25 atm of hydrogen for 24 h. After the reaction mixture was filtered from Celite, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography to give **7** as a white solid (64.4 mg, 78% yield, 96% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): $\delta$  = 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 3.56 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 1.44 (br, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 137.3, 128.5, 128.3, 126.2, 125.7 (q, *J* = 285.3 Hz), 74.0 (q, *J* = 27.0 Hz), 45.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -79.0 (s, 3F). HRMS m/z (MALDI): calcd for [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO +H]<sup>+</sup>: 206.0787, found 206.0780. M.P. = 89.1-90.8 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>26</sup><sub>D</sub> = +36.75 (C = 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); HPLC (Chiralpak IC-H column, hexane/2-propanol = 90:10, 0.7 mL/min; 215 nm, 25 °C, t<sub>1</sub> = 9.91 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 12.04 min).



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



#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3a

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3a



# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3a





#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3b

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3b





# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3b

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3c





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3c

#### <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3c





#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3d

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3d





# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3d

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3e





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3e

# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3e





#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3g

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3g





# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3g

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3h





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3h

# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3h





#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3i

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3i



<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3i



#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3j





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3j

# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3j





#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3k

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3k





#### <sup>19</sup>F NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3k

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3l





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 31

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 31



#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 3m



#### <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3m





# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 3m

#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 4

# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 5



#### <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 5



#### <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 5



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 6



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 6



<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 6



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 7



# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7



#### <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7



#### <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of product 10



# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 10



# <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 10

