# Supporting information

# Silver-mediated oxidative trifluoromethylthiolation of cycloalkanols by C-C bond cleavage: regioselective approach to distally trifluoromethylthiolated ketones

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# General

All manipulations were conducted with a standard *Schlenk* tube under  $N_2$ . All solvents and chemicals were used as received from the suppliers (*Alfa*, *Aldrich*, *Acros*, *TCI*).

Flash column chromatography was carried out on silica gel (200-300 mesh). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  plates.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a *Bruker AV-300* spectrometer or a *Bruker AV-500* spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical shifts (in ppm) were referenced to tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained by the same NMR spectrometer and were calibrated with CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = 77.00$  ppm). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectra were recorded on a *Bruker AV-300* spectrometer and using CFCl<sub>3</sub> as external standard. Data for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are reported as follows: chemical shifts ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet or unresolved, br s = broad singlet), coupling constant (Hz) and integration. Data for <sup>13</sup>C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift and multiplicity where appropriate. Mass spectra were performed on an *Aglient 6530 Q-TOF* for HRMS. The yields were determined on a *METTLER TOLEDO ME 104* balance (accuracy: 0.1 mg).

Tertiary cyclopropanols **3a-3d** were prepared by the addition of Grignard reagent to the corresponding esters according to the reported method.<sup>[1]</sup> Tertiary cyclobutanols **1a-1n**, cyclopentanols **3e-3i**, and cyclohexanol **3j** were prepared by the addition of Grignard reagent to the corresponding ketones according to the reported method.<sup>[2]</sup>

General procedure for silver-mediated oxidative

trifluoromethylthiolation of cycloalkanols:

# Method A:

Cycloalkanol (0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The reaction was monitored with TLC. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

# Method B:

Cycloalkanol (0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and  $K_2S_2O_8$  (0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The reaction was monitored with TLC. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

# Method C:

Cycloalkanol (0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and  $K_2S_2O_8$  (0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 6 h. The reaction was monitored with TLC. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

# Physical data of the compounds

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2a)

According to Method A with 1-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol 1a (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (202.7 mg,

0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2a** as colourless oil (49.5 mg, 70%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.92-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 2H), 3.11 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.18-2.13 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.3, 139.8, 135.0, 131.0 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 304.1 Hz), 129.4, 129.0, 36.3, 29.3 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 2.0 Hz), 23.6; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  - 39.87; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 283.0166, found 283.0159.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2b)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1b** (41.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2b** as colourless oil (41.2 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.02-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 2H), 3.11 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.13 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.0, 165.9 (d, *J* = 253.3 Hz), 133.1 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 130.6 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz), 36.2, 29.4 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 23.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.89, -103.83; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>4</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 267.0461, found 267.0464.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2c)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-bromophenyl)cyclobutanol **1c** (56.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2c** as colourless oil (50.3 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.87-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.59 (m, 2H), 3.10 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.11 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.5, 135.4, 132.0, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.2 Hz),

129.5,128.5, 36.3, 29.3 (q, J = 2.3 Hz), 23.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -39.77; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 326.9661, found 326.9656.

1-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2d)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)cyclobutanol **1d** (54.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2d** as colourless oil (52.1 mg, 66%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.17 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.23-2.14 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.6, 139.3, 134.7 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz), 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 128.3, 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 123.3 (q, *J* = 271.2 Hz), 36.6, 29.3 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 23.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.87, -62.12; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>6</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 317.0429, found 317.0428.

1-(4-(Trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2e)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)cyclobutanol **1e** (58.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2e** as colourless oil (57.2 mg, 69%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.04-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.13 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.14 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.0, 152.8 (q, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 134.9, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.2 Hz), 130.0, 120.5, 120.3 (q, *J* = 257.4 Hz), 36.3, 29.3 (q, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 23.6; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.91, -56.60; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 333.0378, found 333.0380.

#### 1-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2f)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)cyclobutanol **1f** (51.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2f** as colourless oil (58.2 mg, 76%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.45 (m, 2H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.11(m, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.3, 157.1, 134.1, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.2 Hz), 128.0, 125.6, 36.3, 35.1, 31.0, 29.5 (q, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 23.8; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.87; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 305.1181, found 305.1190.

#### 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2g)



According to **Method A** with 1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)cyclobutanol **1g** (56.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2g** as white solid (55.1 mg, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.05-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.37 (m, 1H), 3.16 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.1, 146.0, 139.8, 135.4, 131.0 (q, *J* = 305.5 Hz), 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 36.4, 29.4 (q, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 23.8; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.82; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 325.0868, found 325.0870.

#### 1-(4-Phenoxyphenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2h)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-phenoxyphenyl)cyclobutanol **1h** (60.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2h** as colourless oil (49.7 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97-7.89 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 2H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.09 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.10 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.1, 162.2, 155.5, 131.4, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 130.2, 130.1, 124.7, 120.2, 117.4, 36.1, 29.4, 23.8; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.85; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 341.0818, found 341.0827.

#### 1-(2-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2i)



According to **Method A** with 1-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)cyclobutanol **1i** (54.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2i** as white solid (49.0 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.72 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.04-2.99 (m, 4H), 2.19-2.12 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  202.8, 140.0 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 131.9, 131.0 (q, *J* = 303.8 Hz), 130.2, 126.9-126.7 (m), 123.6 (q, *J* = 272.0 Hz), 40.9, 29.0 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 23.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.88, -57.00; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>6</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 317.0429, found 317.0434.

#### 1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2j)



According to **Method A** with 1-(3-chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1j** (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2j** as colourless oil (50.1 mg, 71%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.92 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 1H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.13 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.3, 138.2, 135.1, 133.2, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 130.0, 128.1, 126.0, 36.5, 29.3, 23.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.86; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 283.0166, found 283.0168.

#### 1-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2k)



According to **Method A** with 1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1k** (54.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2k** as colourless oil (51.2 mg, 65%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.11 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  196.3, 137.9, 136.2, 133.5, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 130.8, 130.0, 127.0, 36.4, 29.3 (q, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 23.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.84; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 316.9776, found 316.9778.

#### 1-(Thiophen-2-yl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2l)

\_SCF₃

According to **Method A** with 1-(thiophen-2-yl)cyclobutanol **11** (38.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **21** as colourless oil (38.4 mg, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 1H), 3.08 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.11 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.5, 143.9, 133.8, 131.9, 131.0 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 128.2, 37.1, 29.3, 24.0; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.85; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 255.0120, found 255.0123.

#### 1-Phenyl-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2m)



According to **Method A** with 1-phenylcyclobutanol **1m** (37.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2m** as colourless oil (40.2 mg, 65%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.96 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.42 (m, 2H), 3.14 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.12 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.6, 136.7, 133.3, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 128.7, 128.0, 36.4, 29.4, 23.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.87; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 249.0555, found 249.0563.

#### 1-Cyclohexyl-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-one (2n)

According to **Method A** with 1-cyclohexylcyclobutanol **1n** (38.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2n** as colourless oil (25.3 mg, 40%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.91 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.36-2.30 (m, 1H), 1.99-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.84-1.77 (m, 4H), 1.69-1.66 (m,

1H), 1.38-1.19 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  212.5, 131.0 (q, J = 304.4 Hz), 50.9, 38.2, 29.3, 28.5, 25.8, 25.6, 23.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -41.06; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 255.1030, found 255.1026.

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-2-one (4a)



According to **Method B** with 1-(4-chlorobenzyl)cyclopropanol **3a** (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4a** as colourless oil (31.5 mg, 45%). <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 2H), 3.04 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  204.5, 133.4, 131.8, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.7 Hz), 130.7, 129.0, 49.2, 42.0, 23.4; <sup>19</sup>F **NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.43; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> m/z 304.9991, found 304.9995.

#### 1-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-2-one (4b)



According to **Method B** with 1-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzyl)cyclopropanol **3b** (51.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4b** as colourless oil (33.4 mg, 44%). <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.03 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  205.5, 150.3, 130.3, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 129.0, 125.8, 49.7, 41.7, 34.5, 31.3, 23.5; <sup>19</sup>F **NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.48; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> m/z 327.1006, found 327.1006.

1-Phenyl-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-3-one (4c)<sup>[3]</sup>



According to **Method B** with 1-phenethylcyclopropanol **3c** (40.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 80/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4c** as colourless oil (23.2 mg, 35%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 3H), 3.05 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  206.7, 140.5, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 128.6, 128.3, 126.3, 44.3, 42.8, 29.6, 23.3 (q, *J* = 1.9 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.43; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> m/z 285.0537, found 285.0537.

1-Phenyl-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)heptan-3-one (4d)



According to **Method** C with 2-ethyl-1-phenethylcyclopropanol **3d** (47.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4d** as colourless oil (25.2mg, 35%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.17 (m, 3H), 3.56-3.51 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.85 (m, 3H), 2.80-2.74 (m, 3H), 1.77-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.3Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  206.4, 140.6, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.7 Hz), 128.5, 128.3, 126.2, 48.2, 44.7, 42.4, 29.6, 27.9, 11.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -38.22; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 291.1031, found 291.1024.

1-Phenyl-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-1-one (4e)



According to **Method A** with 1-phenylcyclopentanol **3e** (40.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 80/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4e** as colourless oil (33.4 mg, 51%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.59-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 2H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.90-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.78 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  199.4, 136.9, 133.1, 131.1 (q,

J = 304.1 Hz), 128.6, 128.0, 37.6, 29.7, 29.1, 22.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  - 40.07; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> m/z 285.0537, found 285.0538.

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-1-one (4f)



According to **Method A** with 1-phenylcyclopentanol **3f** (49.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4f** as colourless oil (31.2 mg, 42%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.93-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.41 (m, 2H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H); 1.82-1.78 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.0, 139.6, 135.1, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 129.4, 128.9, 37.6, 29.7, 29.0, 22.8; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.06; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 297.0328, found 297.0327.

#### 1-(4-(Trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-1-one (4g)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)cyclopentanol **3g** (61.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4g** as colourless oil (49.4 mg, 57%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.89-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.78 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.7, 152.7, 135.1, 131.1 (q, *J* = 303.8 Hz), 130.0, 120.5, 120.3 (q, *J* = 257.1 Hz), 37.7, 29.7, 29.1, 22.8; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.08, -56.56; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 347.0540, found 347.0546.

#### 1-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-1-one (4h)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)cyclopentanol **3h** (54.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O =100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4h** as colourless oil (35.3 mg, 44%). <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 2H), 2.99 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.77 (m, 2H), 1.34 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 199.0, 156.9, 134.3, 131.1 (q, J = 304.1 Hz), 128.0, 125.5, 37.5, 35.1, 31.0, 29.7, 29.1, 23.0; <sup>19</sup>**F** NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -40.07; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 319.1344, found 319.1338.

#### 1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-5-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pentan-1-one (4i)



According to **Method A** with 1-(3-chlorophenyl)cyclopentanol **3i** (49.0 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4i** as colourless oil (46.7 mg, 63%). <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 1H), 2.99 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.76 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  198.0, 138.4, 135.0, 133.0, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 130.0, 128.1, 126.0, 37.8, 29.7, 29.0, 22.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.05; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 297.0328, found 297.0334.

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-6-((trifluoromethyl)thio)hexan-1-one (4j)



According to **Method A** with 1-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclohexanol **3j** (52.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 μL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv). Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) gave the desired product **4j** as colourless oil (24.1 mg, 31%). <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.40 (m, 2H), 2.95 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.90 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.80-1.72 (m, 4H), 1.53-1.48 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 198.6, 139.5, 135.3, 131.2 (q, *J* = 303.8 Hz), 129.4, 128.9, 38.1, 29.6 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 29.3, 28.0, 23.4; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -40.07; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> m/z 333.0304, found 333.0300.

# Transformations of 2a

(5-(4-Chlorophenyl)pent-4-yn-1-yl)(trifluoromethyl)sulfane (5)



To a solution of (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane (0.30 mL, 0.6 mmol, 2 M in hexanes) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 mL), *n*BuLi (0.38 mL, 0.6 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise at -78 °C. After the mixture was stirred for 1 h at -78 °C, a solution of **2a** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for another 5 h. After it was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (5 mL), the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) on silica gel to give product **5** (50.1 mg, 60%) as colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 2H), 3.05 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.02-1.98 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  133.9, 132.8, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 128.6, 122.0, 88.8, 80.9, 28.8 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 28.4, 18.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.91; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 279.0222, found 279.0224.

#### 3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-6-((trifluoromethyl)thio)-1-(trimethylsilyl)hex-1-yn-3-ol (6)



To a solution of trimethylsilylacetylene (58.9 mg, 0.6 mmol) in THF (1 mL), *n*BuLi (0.38 mL, 0.6 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise at -78 °C. After the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, a solution of **2a** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed up to room temperature gradually and further stirred for overnight. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (5 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (2×10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over

MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 100/1, v/v) on silica gel to give product **6** (65.6 mg, 58%) as colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 2H), 2.94-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.37 (br s, 1H), 2.01-1.75 (m, 4H), 0.22 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.8, 133.8, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.4 Hz), 128.4, 126.9, 106.6, 91.9, 72.7, 43.7, 29.7, 25.0, 0.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -39.99; **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OSSi [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 381.0723, found 381.0724.

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-((trifluoromethyl)thio)butan-1-ol (7)



To a stirred solution of **2a** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) in MeOH (2 mL), NaBH<sub>4</sub> (22.7 mg, 0.6 mmol) was added in one portion at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min. After it was quenched by saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (3 mL), the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (5 mL× 3). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 10/1, v/v) on silica gel to afford product **7** (65.5 mg,77%) as colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 2H), 4.69-4.62 (m, 1H), 2.89-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.02 (br s, 1H), 1.87-1.68 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.7, 133.5, 131.1 (q, *J* = 304.1 Hz), 128.7, 127.1, 73.2, 37.5, 29.7, 25.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -40.03; HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z 285.0328, found 285.0332.

## Lager scale experiment



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1a** (1.09 g, 6.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (3.13 g, 15.0 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (4.87 g, 18.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (950 mg, 12.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (60 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The reaction was monitored with TLC. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography. Flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 50/1, v/v) gave the desired product **2a** as colourless oil (1.18 g, 70%).

#### Mechanistic studies

(1) Radical inhibition and capturing experiments:



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1a** (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), pyridine (40 ul, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-piperidinyloxy (TEMPO) (97.7 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The formation of **2a** was completely suppressed. High-resolution mass spectra analysis of the reaction mixture showed that TEMPO-trapped products **8** and **9** were formed.



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1a** (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgSCF<sub>3</sub> (130.6 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), pyridine (40 ul, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol (BHT) (137.7 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The formation of **2a** was completely suppressed.

(2) Control experiment:



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)cyclobutanol **1a** (45.5 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv), CuSCF<sub>3</sub> (102.4 mg, 0.625 mmol, 2.5 equiv),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (202.7 mg, 0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and pyridine (40 ul, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were placed in a dry *Schlenk* tube under N<sub>2</sub>. Acetonitrile (2.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h. The reaction did not afford the desired product **2a**.

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S31




















































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S76

















































