# Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>-promoted defluorination and functionalization of α-CF<sub>3</sub> carbonyl compounds in the presence of N-, O-, and/or Snucleophiles

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### **General Experimental:**

The chemicals and reagents were purchased from Acros, Alfa Aesar, and National Chemical Reagent Group Co. Ltd., P. R. China, and used without further purification. Anhydrous solvents (THF, MeOH, DMF, DCM, and CH<sub>3</sub>CN) used in the reactions were dried and freshly distilled before use. Petroleum ether (PE) used had a boiling range of 60–90 °C. All the reactions were carried out under Ar atmosphere, otherwise stated else. Oxygen and/or moisture sensitive solids and liquids were transferred appropriately. Concentration of solutions in *vacuo* was accomplished using a rotary evaporator fitted with a water aspirator. Residual solvents were removed under high vacuum (0.1-0.2 mm Hg). The progress of the reactions was monitored by TLC (silica-coated glass plates) and visualized under UV light, and by using iodine, ceric ammonium molybdate stain or phosphomolybdic acid. Melting points were measured on a SGW X-4 microscopy melting point apparatus without correction. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded either on a 400 MHz Varian Instrument at 25 °C or 600 MHz Bruke Instrument at 25 °C, using TMS as an internal standard, respectively. Multiplicity is tabulated as s for singlet, d for doublet, dd for doublet of doublet, t for triplet, and m for multiplet. Coupling constants (J) are reported in Hertz. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were completely hetero-decoupled and measured at 150 MHz. HRMS spectra were recorded on Finnigan- Mat-95 mass spectrometer, equipped with ESI source. Single crystal X-ray diffraction measurements were performed with a diffractometer working with graphitemonochromated Cu Ka radiation.

#### **Experimental Procedures:**

The preparation of compound 3 or 4 in Table 2:



**Method a**: To a solution of 3,3,3-trifluoropropanoic acid derivatives (1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added the mono-dentate S-, O-, and N-nucleophiles (2.0 mmol) and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (2.0 mmol)at 0 °C and then stirred for 2 h at under Ar. The reaction was ended with a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution (10 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (DCM, 20 mL\*3). After workup, the product was purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum Ether/Ethyl Acetate, PE/EA).

**Method c**: To a solution of ethyl 3,3,3-trifluoropropanoate (1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL), was added the mono-dentate S-, O-, and N-nucleophiles (2.0 mmol) and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (2.0 mmol) at 45 °C for 2 h at under Ar. The reaction was ended with a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution (10 mL) and extracted with DCM (20 mL\*3). After workup, the product was purified by flash chromatography (PE /EA).

**Method d**: To a solution of ethyl 3,3,3-trifluoropropanoate (1.0 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (5 mL), was added the mono-dentate S-, O-, and N-nucleophiles (2.0 mmol) and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (2.0 mmol)at 45 °C for 2 h at under Ar. The reaction was ended with a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution (10 mL) and extracted with DCM (20 mL\*3). After workup, the product was purified by flash chromatography (PE /EA).

The preparation of the compounds in Table 3:



To a solution of ethyl 3,3,3-trifluoropropanoate (1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL), was added the bidentate nucleophiles (1.0 mmol) and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (2.0 mmol) at 45 °C for 2 h at under Ar. The reaction was ended with a saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution (10 mL) and extracted with DCM (20 mL\*3). After workup, the product was purified by flash chromatography (PE /EA).

### Spectral data of all compounds:

Ethyl 3,3-bis(p-tolylthio)acrylate (3aa).



3aa

The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=80/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 80/1), **Mp** 85-86 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.09 – 6.88 (m, 6H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 3.92 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.04 – 0.97 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.4, 163.0, 140.5, 140.4, 137.0, 135.4, 130.7, 129.6, 126.7, 125.5, 107.1, 59.8, 21.5, 21.4, 14.4.

**HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 345.0978; found 345.0973.

Ethyl 3,3-bis(m-tolylthio)acrylate (3ab).





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=100/1) as a pale yellow liquid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 100/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 6.98 (m, 6H), 5.21 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (qd, *J* = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.12 (td, *J* = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 4H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.5, 161.9, 139.8, 138.7, 137.5, 135.8, 134.1, 132.4, 130.9, 130.9, 130.2, 129.7, 129.0, 128.7, 108.4, 60.1, 21.4, 21.3, 14.5.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 345.0978; found 345.0969.

Ethyl 3,3-bis(o-tolylthio)acrylate (3ac)





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=60/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 60/1), **Mp** 84-85 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.68 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.08 (m, 7H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.7, 160.9, 144.6, 143.0, 138.2, 136.7, 131.4, 130.9, 130.9, 130.6, 129.4, 128.8, 127.4, 126.6, 106.6, 60.0, 21.4, 20.4, 14.5. **HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 345.0978; found 345.0974.





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=20/1) as a pale yellow liquid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 20/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.69 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.99 – 6.84 (m, 4H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 6H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.7, 164.7, 161.5, 161.2, 138.9, 137.4, 120.8, 119.7, 115.6, 114.5, 106.5, 60.0, 55.5, 14.6.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 377.0876; found 377.0868.

Ethyl 3,3-bis((4-nitrophenyl)thio)acrylate (3ae)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=80/1) as a white foamy solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 80/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.25 – 8.08 (m, 4H), 7.65 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 5H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.4, 151.4, 148.3, 147.9, 139.9, 138.8, 135.6, 132.8, 127.0, 124.5, 124.2, 123.6, 119.7, 61.1, 14.4.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}N_2O_6S_2$  407.0372; found 407.0378.

Ethyl 3,3-bis((4-chlorophenyl)thio)acrylate (3af)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=100/1) as a pale yellow liquid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 100/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 – 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 159.6, 138.0, 136.8, 136.6, 136.3, 130.2, 129.2, 128.8, 127.7, 110.1, 60.3, 14.5.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}Cl_2O_2S_2$  384.9885; found 384.9887.

Ethyl 3,3-bis(butylthio)acrylate (3ag)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=100/1) as a clear liquid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 100/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.63 (s, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.79 – 1.58 (m, 4H), 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.28 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (qd, *J* = 7.6, 3.6 Hz, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl3) δ 165.3, 160.6, 106.3, 59.9, 33.8, 31.5, 31.4, 29.64, 22.3, 22.2, 14.7, 13.8, 13.8.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 277.1291; found 277.1286.



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=60/1) as a white solid.  $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.25 (PE/EA = 60/1). **Mp** 123-124 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.06 (m, 11H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.6, 163.5, 140.0, 139.9, 136.4, 135.7, 134.8, 130.1, 129.0, 127.9, 127.9, 127.5, 125.8, 124.8, 105.9, 65.1, 20.9, 20.7.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 407.1134; found 407.1130.

Naphthalen-2-yl 3,3-bis(p-tolylthio)acrylate (3ca)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=20/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 20/1). **Mp** 121-122 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 (dd, *J* = 22.1, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.18 – 7.06 (m, 6H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.6, 164.0, 148.7, 141.1, 141.0, 137.2, 135.8, 134.0, 131.5, 131.1, 123.0, 129.3, 127.9, 127.8, 126.6, 126.5, 125.6, 125.4, 121.7, 118.8, 105.5, 21.7, 21.6. **HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 443.1134; found 443.1142.

3,3,3-Trifluoro-N-methyl-N-(p-tolyl)propenamide (3da)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=15/1) as a white solid.  $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.20 (PE/EA = 15/1). **Mp** 144-145 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (m, 4H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.98 (s, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.5, 157.4, 141.5, 140.2, 139.5, 137.0, 135.3, 130.1, 129.9, 129.6, 127.5, 127.0, 110.2, 36.9, 21.6, 21.5, 21.3.

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 406.1294; found 406.1319.

N-(p-tolyl)-3,3-bis(p-tolylthio)acrylamide (3fa).



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=8/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 8/1). Mp 116-117 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.57 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (s, 2H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 35.3, 7.6 Hz, 6H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H),  $\delta$  5.30 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.2, 158.0, 140.5, 136.4, 135.8, 135.6, 133.6, 130.8, 129.8, 129.6, 127.5, 119.7, 112.4, 21.6, 21.6, 21.1.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 406.1294; found 406.1319.





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=40/1) as a clear liquid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 40/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.21 – 7.03 (m, 6H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (s, 1H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.33 – 2.32 (m, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.4, 166.1, 151.9, 150.5, 136.1, 134.4, 130.7, 130.2, 120.6, 119.0, 80.8, 59.8, 21.1, 21.0, 14.6.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 313.1434; found 313.1441.

Ethyl (Z)-3-fluoro-3-(N-(p-tolyl)acetamido)acrylate (4ak)



4ak

The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=4/1) as a clear liquid.  $R_f = 0.25$  (PE/EA = 4/1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl) δ 7.26 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.40 (d, J = 27.1 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 4H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.2, 164.0, 159.1, 157.2, 139.5, 136.1, 130.8, 127.7, 94.7, 94.6, 60.7, 23.9, 23.8, 21.3, 14.4.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNNaO<sub>3</sub> 288.1006; found 288.0987.

1-Phenyl-3,3-bis(p-tolylthio)prop-2-en-1-one (3ga)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=45/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 45/1). **Mp** 141-142 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (td, J = 5.8, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 4H), 7.50 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.19 (m, 4H),  $\delta$  6.41 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 186.3, 167.8, 140.9, 140.8, 139.2, 136.9, 135.7, 131.9, 130.9, 129.9, 128.5, 128.0, 127.4, 126.4, 112.0, 21.7, 21.6.

**HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> 377.1028; found 377.1031.

*Ethyl 2-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-2-ylidene)acetate (5am)* 



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE /EA = 20/1) as a pale yellow solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 20/1), **Mp** 84-85 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.35 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 4.22 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.6, 166.4, 145.3, 143.8, 124.8, 124.6, 110.7, 109.9, 70.7, 59.9, 14.7.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 207.0652; found 207.0645.

Ethyl (Z)-2-(benzo[d][1,3]oxathiol-2-ylidene)acetate (5an)





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=75/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.23$  (PE/EA = 75/1), **Mp** 115-116 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.43 – 1.21 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.6, 168.5, 152.3, 127.0, 124.7, 124.6, 122.0, 111.3, 89.2, 60.3, 14.7.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S 223.0423; found 223.0422.





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=75/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.23$  (PE/EA = 75/1), **Mp** 115-116 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (q, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 4.43 (brs, 4H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H). 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.8, 159.2, 150.4, 149.1, 138.5, 137.6, 132.6, 132.5, 119.0, 118.9, 115.8, 115.6, 112.5, 112.0, 107.7, 60.2, 14.6.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{18}N_2NaO_2S_2$  369.0702; found 369.0700.

Ethyl 2-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5aq)



5aq

The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=20/1) as a white solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 20/1), **Mp** 56-57 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.72 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.10 (m, 2H), 4.25 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.2, 159.7, 151.3, 141.3, 125.3, 124.6, 120.2, 110.8, 62.1, 35.5, 14.2.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 206.0812; found 206.0813.

Ethyl 2-(6-methylbenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5as)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=18/1) as a yellow liquid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 18/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57 – 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.40 – 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2, Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.3, 159.8, 149.6, 141.5, 134.5, 126.4, 120.1, 110.2, 62.1, 35.6, 21.6, 14.3.

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 220.0968; found 220.0967.

Ethyl 2-(5-methylbenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5at)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=18/1) as a pale yellow solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 18/1), **Mp** 58-59 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.3, 159.2, 151.6, 139.1, 135.7, 125.8, 119.5, 110.9, 62.1, 35.5, 21.9, 14.3.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 220.0968; found 220.0969.

Ethyl 2-(6-nitrobenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5au)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=13/1) as a pale yellow solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 13/1), **Mp** 77-79 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.46 (dt, *J* = 6.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (dq, *J* = 8.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H),  $\delta$  4.28 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 164.5, 150.4, 146.5, 145.6, 120.8, 120.4, 107.6, 62.5, 35.7, 14.3.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 251.0662; found 251.0665.

Ethyl 2-(5-nitrobenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5av)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=20/1) as a pale yellow solid.  $R_f = 0.20$  (PE/EA = 20/1), **Mp** 87-88 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.46 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.91 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.1, 159.6, 150.6, 139.3, 130.3, 124.6, 120.0, 110.7, 61.4, 34.6, 13.5.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 251.0662; found 251.0663.

Ethyl 2-(6-chlorobenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5aw)



5aw

The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=15/1) as a black solid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 15/1), **Mp** 85-86 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (dt, J = 8.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (q, J = 1.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dt, J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H),  $\delta$  4.25 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.1, 159.6, 150.6, 139.3, 130.3, 124.6, 120.0, 110.7, 61.4, 34.6, 13.5.

**HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub> 240.0422; found 240.0419.

Ethyl 2-(5-chlorobenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5ax)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=30/1) as a pale yellow solid.  $R_f = 0.23$  (PE/EA = 30/1), **Mp** 85-86 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.70 (q, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dt, J = 8.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dq, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.9, 161.2, 149.9, 142.4, 130.2, 125.7, 120.3, 111.6, 62.3, 35.5, 14.3.

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub> 240.0422; found 240.0419.

Ethyl 2-(5-methoxybenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)acetate (5ay)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=30/1) as a white liquid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 10/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (dd, J = 8.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 4.24 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.2, 160.5, 157.4, 146.0, 142.2, 113.9, 110.9, 103.2, 62.1, 56.1, 35.6, 14.3.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 236.0917; found 236.0916.

Dimethyl 2,2'-(((3-ethoxy-3-oxoprop-1-ene-1,1-diyl)bis(oxy))bis(2,1-phenylene))diacetate (3az)





The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=5/1) as a clear liquid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 5/1).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.48 – 6.83 (m, 8H),  $\delta$  4.35 (s, 1H), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 2H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 170.9, 165.7, 164.9, 151.8, 150.7, 132.0, 131.4, 129.3, 128.5, 126.7, 126.6, 126.2, 125.4, 121.2, 119.8, 79.9, 59.7, 52.2, 52.1, 35.4, 35.3, 14.5. **HRMS-ESI** (*m/z*): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>8</sub> 429.1544; found 429.1550.

Methyl 3,3-bis(p-tolylthio)acrylate (3ha)



The resultant residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EA=15/1) as a white foamy solid.  $R_f = 0.21$  (PE/EA = 15/1). **Mp** 82-83 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 6.93 (m, 6H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.0, 163.8, 140.8, 140.7, 137.2, 135.7, 130.9, 129.9, 126.9, 125.6, 106.8, 51.3, 21.7, 21.5.

**HRMS-ESI** (m/z):  $[M + H]^+$  calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 331.0821; found 331.0826.



Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of all compound:























fl (ppm)

































