Photoinduced intramolecular carbosulfonylation of

alkynes: access to sulfone-containing dibenzazepines

from sulfur dioxide

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Supporting Information

- 1. General experimental methods (S2).
- 2. General experimental procedure and characterization data (S2-S14).
- 3. UV/Vis Absorption Spectra (S14).
- 4. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds **3** and **4** (S15-S75).
- 5. Crystal structure determination of compound **3a** (S76-S77).

General experimental methods:

Unless otherwise stated, all commercial reagents were used as received. All solvents were dried and distilled according to standard procedures. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (60-Å pore size, 32-63 μ m, standard grade). Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using glass plates precoated with 0.25 mm 230-400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Thin layer chromatography plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Organic solutions were concentrated on rotary evaporators at ~20 Torr at 25-35 °C. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra are recorded in parts per million from internal tetramethylsilane on the δ scale. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker DRX-400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. All chemical shift values are quoted in ppm and coupling constants quoted in Hz. High resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) spectra were obtained on a micrOTOF II Instrument.

General experimental procedure for the reaction of alkynes **1**, $(DABCO) \cdot (SO_2)_2$, and aryldiazonium tetrafluoroborates **2**.



Alkynes **1** (0.2 mmol) was added to a mixture of aryldiazonium tetrafluoroborate **2** (0.3 mmol), DABCO·(SO₂)₂ (0.2 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂·6H₂O (2 mol%) in DMSO (2.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The mixture was placed around a blue LED (30 W) and stirred under blue light irradiation for 24 h at room temperature. After completion of reaction as indicated by TLC, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) then extracted with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The organic phases were combined and washed with brine before dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified directly by flash column chromatography (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give the corresponding product **3**.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5yl)ethan-1-one (**3**a)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 6H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9 (q, *J* = 36.6 Hz), 149.0, 144.8, 138.0, 135.5, 134. 7, 134.3, 134.1, 131.8, 130.8, 130.5, 130.2, 130.0, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 126.2, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.7, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3034, 1699, 1319, 1211, 1147; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₈NO₃NaSF₃⁺ (M+Na⁺): 480.0857, found: 480.0866.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(11-((*m*-tolylsulfonyl)methylene)-6,11-dihydro-5*H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3b**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 149.4, 140.8, 139.8, 135.6, 134.7, 134.5, 134.3, 134.2, 131.7, 130.8, 130.6, 130.3, 129.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 126.3, 124.7, 116.2 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.7, 21.3; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ - 67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3034, 1695, 1318, 1265, 1148; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₈NO₃NaSF₃⁺ (M+Na⁺): 480.0857, found: 480.0861.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(11-(((4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)methylene)-6,11-dihydro-5*H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3c**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 156.9 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 148.4, 135.5, 134.7, 134.3, 134.1, 132.5, 132.1, 130.8, 130.5, 130.2, 129.9, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 126.2, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 114.6, 55.7, 50.7; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3034, 1693, 1318, 1210, 1143, 1088; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{24}H_{18}NO_4F_3NaS^+$ (M+Na⁺): 496.0806, found: 496.0807.



(Z)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(11-(((4-(methylthio)phenyl)sulfonyl)methylene)-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3d**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 149.1, 147.4, 136.5, 135.5, 134.7, 134.2, 134.1, 131.7, 130.7, 130.6, 130.3, 129.5, 128.9, 128.2, 127.9, 127.9, 126.2, 125.6, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.5 Hz), 50.7, 14.7; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3032, 2923, 1702, 1577, 1319, 1152; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{24}H_{18}NO_3F_3NaS_2^+$ (M+Na⁺): 512.0578, found: 512.0579.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(11-(((4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl)methylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3e**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8 (d, *J* = 256.4 Hz), 156.8 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 149.9, 137.0 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 135.5, 134.5, 134.2, 134.1, 131.3, 130.7 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 129.5, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 126.3, 116.7 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz), 116.2 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.7; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0, -103.3; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3016, 1707, 1485, 1319, 1144; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{23}H_{15}NO_3F_4NaS^+$ (M+Na⁺): 484.0606, found: 484.0612.



(*Z*)-1-(11-(((3-Bromophenyl)sulfonyl)methylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (**3f**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td, *J* = 6.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 150.7, 142.8, 136.8, 135.5, 134.4, 134.3, 134.0, 131.0, 130.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 129.6, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 126.4, 126.2, 123.4, 116.2 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.7; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3020, 1690, 1327, 1208, 1147; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₅NO₃F₃NaSBr⁺ (M+Na⁺): 543.9806, found: 543.9810.



Methyl-(*Z*)-4-(((5-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)-5,6-dihydro-*11H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-11ylidene)methyl)sulfonyl)benzoate (**3**g)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.5 (q, *J* = 36.4 Hz), 150.9, 144.8, 135.5, 134.8, 134.5, 134.3, 134.1, 130.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 129.5, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 126.3, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.3 Hz), 52.7, 50.9, 29.7; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3030, 1750, 1696, 1318, 1201, 1181; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₁₈NO₅F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 524.0755, found: 524.0758.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(2-methyl-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3h**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.0 (q, *J* = 36.6 Hz), 149.4, 144.7, 139.1, 138.3, 134.5, 134.5, 134.2, 132.9, 131.6, 131.2, 131.1, 130.2, 130.0, 129.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 126.0, 116.2 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.8, 21.6, 21.2; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻) ¹): 3031, 2918, 1696, 1496, 1319, 1213, 1147; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₀NO₃F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 494.1014, found: 494.1021.



(*Z*)-1-(3-Bromo-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)-2,2,2trifluoroethan-1-one (**3**i)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.92 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.7 (q, *J* = 36.8 Hz), 147.8, 145.0, 137.8, 136.5, 133.9, 133.8, 132.2, 132.1, 132.1, 130.4, 130.1, 129.6, 129.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 123.5, 116.0 (q, *J* = 288.5 Hz), 50.6, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3081, 3029, 1702, 1319, 1205, 1149; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{24}H_{17}NO_3F_3NaSBr^+$ (M+Na⁺): 557.9962, found: 557.9962.



(*Z*)-1-(2-Chloro-8-methyl-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (**3j**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8 (q, *J* = 37.0 Hz), 147.8, 144.9, 138.0, 137.9, 136.4, 134.8, 134.0, 133.5, 132.0, 131.3, 130.8, 130.6, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 128.2, 127.7, 127.6, 116.0 (q, *J* = 288.0 Hz), 50.4, 21.6, 20.8; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3023, 2923, 1699, 1480, 1222, 1144; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₁₉NO₃F₃NaSCl⁺ (M+Na⁺): 528.0624, found: 528.0627.



(*Z*)-1-(3-Bromo-9-methyl-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (**3k**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.6 (q, *J* = 37.0 Hz), 148.1, 144.9, 138.0, 137.8, 136.5, 133.9, 133.6, 132.1, 132.0, 131.9, 131.3, 130.8, 130.1, 130.0, 129.5, 128.2, 127.7, 123.4, 116.0 (q, *J* = 286.1 Hz), 50.4, 21.6, 20.8; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3037, 2923, 1713, 1316, 1152, 1093; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₁₉NO₃F₃NaSBr⁺ (M+Na⁺): 572.0119, found: 572.0124.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(9-methyl-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3**I)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8 (q, *J* = 36.7 Hz), 149.3, 144.7, 138.1, 137.8, 135.5, 134.8, 134.1, 131.5, 131.1, 130.8, 130.5, 130.0, 130.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.7, 126.3, 116.2 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.5, 21.6, 20.8; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3040, 2926, 1699, 1316, 1144, 1083; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₀NO₃F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 494.1014, found: 494.1017.



(*Z*)-1-(8-Bromo-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)-2,2,2trifluoroethan-1-one (**3m**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 19.2 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9 (q, *J* = 37.0 Hz), 147.7, 144.9, 137.8, 136.2, 135.4, 134.2, 133.3, 132.3, 131.1, 131.0, 130.9, 130.8, 130.1, 129.0, 127.7, 126.3, 124.3, 116.0 (q, *J* = 288.5 Hz), 50.3, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.1; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3039, 2923, 1702, 1319, 1152, 1088; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇NO₃F₃NaSBr⁺ (M+Na⁺): 557.9962, found: 557.9968.



(*Z*)-1-(9-Bromo-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)-2,2,2trifluoroethan-1-one (**3n**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9 (q, *J* = 36.9 Hz), 147.3, 145.0, 137.7, 136.0, 135.4, 134.1, 133.2, 133.0, 132.8, 132.0, 130.9, 130.8, 130.1, 129.9, 129.0, 127.8, 126.3, 121.3, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.4 Hz), 50.3, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3031, 2923, 1707, 1324, 1155, 1083; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇NO₃F₃NaSBr⁺ (M+Na⁺): 557.9962, found: 557.9971.



Methyl-(*Z*)-11-(tosylmethylene)-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepine-9-carboxylate (**3o**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.00 (d, *J* = 17.5 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.9, 157.0 (q, J = 36.9 Hz), 147.8, 145.0, 139.2, 137.7, 135.4, 134.6, 134.4, 132.8, 130.9, 130.8, 130.7, 130.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.6, 127.8, 126.3, 116.1 (q, J = 288.5 Hz), 52.5, 50.7, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -70.0; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3037, 2959, 1707, 1319, 1152; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{26}H_{20}NO_5F_3NaS^+$ (M+Na⁺): 538.0912, found: 538.0910.



(*Z*)-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(13-(tosylmethylene)-7,13-dihydro-*8H*-benzo[6,7]azepino[3,4*c*]quinolin-8-yl)ethan-1-one (**3p**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.76 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (q, *J* = 37.4 Hz), 153.3, 147.8, 146.7, 145.1, 137.6, 137.3, 135.7, 134.0, 132.5, 131.4, 131.1, 131.0, 130.1, 129.9, 129.2, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 126.7, 126.6, 116.2 (q, *J* = 281.0 Hz), 54.1, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -67.1; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3062, 2923, 1699, 1485, 1324, 1147, 1083; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₇H₁₉N₂O₃F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 531.0966, found: 531.0967.



Methyl-(*Z*)-11-(tosylmethylene)-5-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepine-6-carboxylate (**3q**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 157.4 (q, *J* = 36.9 Hz), 148.5, 144.8, 138.0, 134.7, 134.3, 132.5, 131.3, 131.0, 130.0, 130.0, 129.8, 129.4, 129.0, 127.8, 127.7, 116.1 (q, *J* = 288.3 Hz), 60.8, 53.1, 21.6; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -66.5; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3042, 2953, 1757, 1696, 1316, 1172; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₀NO₅F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 538.0912, found: 538.0909.



(Z)-1-(11-(Tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (3r)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.07 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.9, 152.1, 144.7, 138.5, 138.5, 136.3, 136.2, 134.7, 131.5, 130.7, 130.0, 129.9, 129.8, 128.8, 128.3, 128.3, 127.6, 127.2, 126.9, 48.1, 22.1, 21.6; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3017, 1657, 1305, 1144; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₂₁NO₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 426.1140, found: 426.1138.



(*Z*)-1-(9-Methyl-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3s**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.02 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.8, 152.3, 144.7, 138.5, 138.5, 137.0, 136.4, 134.5, 133.1, 131.1, 130.7, 130.7, 130.0, 129.8, 129.2, 128.3, 128.2, 127.6, 126.9, 47.9, 22.1, 21.6, 20.8; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3051, 2918, 1674, 1591, 1316, 1149, 1088; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NO₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 440.1296, found: 440.1290.



(*Z*)-1-(11-(Tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-*5H*-benzo[*e*]pyrido[3,2-*b*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3t**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.7, 154.8, 152.2, 149.2, 144.6, 138.1, 135.9, 135.5, 135.0, 132.7, 132.2, 130.2, 129.9, 129.0, 128.2, 128.2, 127.5, 125.1, 47.9, 22.2, 21.7; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3031, 1671, 1310, 1147, 1088; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₂₀N₂O₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 427.1092, found: 427.1096.

(2-Tosylethene-1,1-diyl)dibenzene (4)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.8, 143.9, 139.3, 138.7, 135.7, 130.4, 129.9, 129.5, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 21.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₈O₂NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 357.0925, found: 357.0927.

General experimental procedure for the Suzuki coupling with **3n**



The sulfonated dibenzazepine **3n** (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv), 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid **5** (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Na₂CO₃ (0.6 mmol, 6 equiv) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.005 mmol, 5 mol%) were suspended in a degassed solvent mixture of toluene/H₂O/EtOH (5:3:1 v/v/v, 4.5 mL) in a sealed tube under N₂ atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 20 h. After completion of reaction as indicated by TLC, the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The organic phases were combined and washed with brine before dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by preparative TLC (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate = 3:1) to give the desired product **6** in 71% yield.

(*Z*)-2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-11-(tosylmethylene)-6,11-dihydro-5*H*dibenzo[*b*,*e*]azepin-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**6**)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 – 7.72 (m, 3H), 7.57 – 7.45 (m, 6H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 5.97 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 156.9 (q, *J* = 36.4 Hz), 149.1, 144.8, 140.8, 137.9, 135.5, 134.6, 132.2, 131.9, 131.9, 131.0, 130.6, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.2, 127.7,

127.6, 126.3, 116.2 (q, J = 288.2 Hz), 114.4, 55.4, 50.5, 21.6; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3021, 2926, 1707, 1607, 1488, 1247, 1149; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₁H₂₄NO₄F₃NaS⁺ (M+Na⁺): 586.1276, found: 586.1273.

UV/Vis Absorption Spectra

The UV/Vis absorption spectra of DMSO solutions of **1a** (0.0.25 M), DABSO (0.0.25 M), and **2a** (0.0.25 M) are shown in Figure S1.



Figure S1. UV/Vis absorption spectra for 1a, DABSO and 2a in DMSO.











































S35


















S44











S49



























S62




























Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for **3a**.

Identification code	ga_200108e_a	
Empirical formula	C24 H18 F3 N O3 S	
Formula weight	457.45	
Temperature	293(2) К	
Wavelength	1.34138 Å	
Crystal system	Triclinic	
Space group	P-1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.1482(9) Å	α = 98.241(3)°.
	b = 12.6677(13) Å	β = 97.455(3)° .
	c = 19.356(2) Å	$\gamma = 99.310(3)^{\circ}.$
Volume	2163.7(4) Å ³	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.404 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	1.168 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	944	
Crystal size	0.400 x 0.350 x 0.220 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	4.065 to 58.498°.	
Index ranges	-11<=h<=11, -16<=k<=16, -24<=l<=24	
Reflections collected	80905	
Independent reflections	9246 [R(int) = 0.0495]	
Completeness to theta = 53.594°	99.1 % ⁷⁶	

Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.752 and 0.668	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	9246 / 39 / 607	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.061	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0575, wR2 = 0.1786	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0598, wR2 = 0.1815	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.630 and -0.469 e.Å ⁻³	