Base-promoted one-pot three-component desulphurization

cross-coupling access to 4-cyanoimidazole

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1. General information

All glassware was oven-dried at 100 °C for 3 hours and cooled down under the atmospheric environment. All the reaction prepared using the solvent of methyl *tert*-butyl ether (AR), BrCH₂Br (AR) was purchased from Adamas. Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. The thin-layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum (b. p. 60-90 °C). ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁹F NMR data were recorded with Bruker Advance III (500 MHz) spectrometers with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. All chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm and coupling constants (*J*) in Hz. All chemical shifts are reported relative to tetramethylsilane and *d*-solvent peaks (77.00 ppm, CDCl₃, 44.00 ppm, DMSO-d6).

2. General procedure for DBU-promoted one-pot three-component desulphurization cross-coupling access to 4-cyanoimidazole



In an oven-dried round-bottom flask (25 mL) equipped with a stir bar, **a** (2.0 mmol), alkyl 2-isocyanoacetates **b** (2.0 mmol), TMSCN (2.0 mmol, 253 μ L), MTBE/EDB (2.0 mL, v = 3 : 1) were combined and added, and then DBU (3.0 equiv, 896.4 μ L) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred under room temperature for 2 h. When the reaction was finished, the desired product can be obtained by filtering the solid precipitate and washing with petroleum ether.

3. Large-scale synthesis of 1d and application.



Scheme S1. Large-scale synthesis of 1d and application. Reaction conditions of application. i: 1d (0.2 mmol), EtOH, 0°C, H₂O₂ (1.0 mL), K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv), 25 °C, 12 h. ii: 1d (0.2 mmol), cyclohexylmagnesium bromide (3.0 equiv), THF (1.0 mL), N₂, 3 h, then H₂O (0.23 mL), H₂SO₄ (10% aq., 0.43 mL), stir 30 min, NaOH (30% aq.), pH = 8.

Large-scale synthesis of 1d: In an oven-dried round-bottom flask (50 mL) equipped with a stir bar, **1a** (10.0 mmol, 1.35 g), ethyl 2-isocyanoacetates **1b** (10.0 mmol, 1.13 g), TMSCN (10.0 mmol, 0.99 g), MTBE/EDB (10.0 mL, v = 3 : 1) were combined and added, and then DBU (3.0 equiv, 4.482 mL) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred under room temperature for 10 h. When the reaction was finished, the desired product can be obtained (2.412 g, 87%) by filtering the solid precipitate and washing with petroleum ether.

1f: In an oven-dried round-bottom flask (25 mL) equipped with a stir bar, **1d** (0.2 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol at 0 $^{\circ}$ C, and then H₂O₂ (1.0 mL) and K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv) were added. The reaction was transferred to room temperature and stirred overnight. When the reaction was finished, the desired product **1f** can be obtained by column chromatography with a yield of 98%.

1g: In an oven-dried round-bottom flask (25 mL) equipped with a stir bar, **1d** (0.2 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol at 0 ° C, and then H_2O_2 (1.0 mL) and K_2CO_3 (2.0 equiv) were added. The reaction was transferred to room temperature and stirred overnight. When the reaction was finished, the desired product **1g** can be obtained by column chromatography with a yield of 94%.



Scheme S2. The synthesis of pesticide derivatives 35d.

4. Detail descriptions for products



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-phenyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (1d): yellow solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 85% isolated yield (409.7 mg), filtrated yield: 82% (395.2 mg). m. p. = 101-103 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 142.1, 139.9, 133.8, 130.4, 130.3, 124.4, 109.7, 109.2, 61.9, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₁N₃O₂: 242.0925; found: 242.0925.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(p-tolyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (2d): yellow solid was obtained with 81% filtrated yield (413.1 mg). m. p. = 123-125 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.9, 140.8, 139.9, 131.3, 130.8, 124.2, 109.7, 109.3, 61.9, 21.2, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₃N₃O₂: 256.1081; found: 256.1081.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (3d): yellow solid was obtained with 75% filtrated yield (405 mg). m. p. = 128-131 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, J = 7.1

Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.9, 160.2, 141.7, 140.1, 126.5, 125.9, 115.3, 109.8, 109.6, 61.9, 55.7, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₃N₃O₃: 272.1030; found: 272.1029.



Ethyl 1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4d): yellow solid was obtained with 84% filtrated yield (498.9 mg). m. p. = 90-92 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 153.9, 142.0, 139.9, 131.2, 127.2, 123.9, 109.8, 109.2, 61.9, 34.9, 31.1, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₁₉N₃O₂: 298.1551; found: 298.1551.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (5d): yellow solid was obtained with 78% filtrated yield (404 mg). m. p. = 140-142 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.22 (dd, J = 11.3, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.33 (d, J = 252.1 Hz), 160.0, 142.0, 140.0, 129.85 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 126.72 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 117.44 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 109.5, 109.4, 62.0, 14.1. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -109.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀FN₃O₂: 260.0830; found: 260.0830.



Ethyl 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (6d): yellow solid was obtained with 75% filtrated yield (412.5 mg). m. p. = 141-143 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.40 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 142.2, 139.8, 136.6, 132.2, 130.5, 125.8, 109.5, 109.2, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClN₃O₂: 276.0534; found: 276.0534.



Ethyl 1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (7d): yellow solid was obtained with 72% filtrated yield (459.4 mg). m. p. = 143-145 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 142.2, 139.8, 133.5, 132.7, 126.0, 124.6, 109.5, 109.1, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀BrN₃O₂: 320.0029; found: 320.0021.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-iodophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (8d): yellow solid was obtained with 61% filtrated yield (447.7 mg). m. p. = 170-172 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.45 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 142.3, 139.7, 139.5, 133.4, 126.0, 109.5, 109.0, 96.1, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀IN₃O₂: 367.9890; found: 367.9886.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (9d): yellow solid was obtained with 81% filtrated yield (500.5 mg). m. p. = 150-152 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 142.6, 139.8, 136.5, 132.5 (q, J = 33.6 Hz), 127.6 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 124.9, 123.5 (q, J = 273.2 Hz), 109.4, 108.9, 62.1, 14.1. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀F₃N₃O₂: 310.0798; found: 310.0796.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (10d): yellow solid was obtained with 85% filtrated yield (552.5 mg). m. p. = 132-134 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.39 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 150.2, 142.2, 140.0, 132.0, 126.3, 122.5, 120.7 (q, *J* = 262.6 Hz), 109.5, 109.2, 62.0, 14.0. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -58.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀F₃N₃O₃: 326.0747; found: 326.0747.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (11d): yellow solid was obtained with 62% filtrated yield (354.6 mg). m. p. = 178-180 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR

(126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 148.5, 143.0, 139.6, 138.4, 125.9, 125.3, 109.3, 108.8, 62.3, 14.1. HRMS
(ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀N₄O₄: 287.0775; found: 287.0773.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(4-cyanophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate, hydrogen salt (12d): yellow solid was obtained with 50% filtrated yield (266 mg). m. p. = 150-152 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 142.8, 139.6, 137.0, 134.3, 125.1, 117.0, 114.6, 109.3, 108.8, 62.2, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀N₄O₂: 267.0877; found: 267.0877.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(m-tolyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (13d): yellow solid was obtained with 64% filtrated yield (326.4 mg). m. p. = 104-106 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 142.0, 140.7, 139.9, 133.7, 131.1, 130.0, 124.9, 121.5, 109.7, 109.2, 61.9, 21.3, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₃N₃O₂: 256.1081; found: 256.1081.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(3-fluorophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (14d): yellow solid was obtained with 58% filtrated yield (300.4 mg). m. p. = 150-152 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.96 (d, *J* = 251.6 Hz), 159.9, 142.3, 139.8, 134.8 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 120.3 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 117.6 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 112.3 (d, *J* = 25.0 Hz), 109.4, 109.1, 62.0, 14.1. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -108.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀FN₃O₂: 260.0830; found: 260.0830.



Ethyl 1-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (15d): yellow solid was obtained with 60% filtrated yield (330 mg). m. p. = 130-132 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 12.7, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 142.3, 139.8, 136.1, 134.6, 131.4, 130.7, 124.8, 122.7, 109.4, 109.1, 62.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClN₃O₂: 276.0534; found: 276.0533.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (16d): yellow solid was obtained with 72% filtrated yield (444.9 mg). m. p. = 133-135 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dt, J = 22.5, 8.0 Hz, 3H), 4.50 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 142.4, 139.9, 134.2, 133.0 (q, J = 33.8 Hz), 131.2, 127.9, 127.2 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 122.3 (q, J = 273.4 Hz), 121.6 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 109.3, 109.1, 62.1, 14.1. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀F₃N₃O₂: 310.0798; found: 310.0797.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(o-tolyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (17d): yellow solid was obtained with 70% filtrated yield (357 mg). m. p. = 101-103 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.3, 140.7, 134.7, 132.7, 131.8, 131.1, 127.5, 127.1, 110.4, 109.4, 61.9, 17.2, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₃N₃O₂: 256.1081; found: 256.1081.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(2-fluorophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (18d): yellow solid was obtained

with 62% filtrated yield (321.1 mg). m. p. = 70-72 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 12.7, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 156.0 (d, *J* = 254.0 Hz), 141.7, 140.8 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 132.5 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 127.4, 125.5 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz), 121.6 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 117.5 (d, *J* = 19.2 Hz), 110.1, 109.2, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀FN₃O₂: 260.0830; found: 260.0830.

Ethyl 1-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (19d): yellow solid was obtained with 62% filtrated yield (341 mg). m. p. = 78-80 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.54 (m, 2H), 4.49 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 141.4, 140.9, 132.3, 131.3, 131.2, 131.2, 128.6, 128.3, 110.4, 109.1, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClN₃O₂: 276.0534; found: 276.0534.



Ethyl 1-(2-bromophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (20d): yellow solid was obtained with 59% filtrated yield (376.4 mg). m. p. = 90-92 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.45 (m, 2H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 141.3, 140.8, 134.3, 132.9, 132.5, 129.0, 128.7, 121.0, 110.4, 109.1, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀BrN₃O₂: 320.0029; found: 320.0026.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (21d): yellow solid was obtained with 68% filtrated yield (365.8 mg). m. p. = 136-138 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 6H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.8, 140.3, 140.0, 133.6, 131.9, 122.0, 109.7, 109.2, 61.8, 21.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₅N₃O₂: 270.1237; found: 270.1237.



Ethyl 1-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (22d): yellow solid substance was obtained with 63% filtrated yield (475.0 mg). m. p. = 112-114 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 2H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.6, 142.8, 139.9, 135.0, 134.2 (q, J = 34.8 Hz), 125.1, 124.2 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.4 (q, J = 274.0 Hz), 109.1, 109.0, 62.3, 14.0. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7, 62.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₉F₆N₃O₂: 378.0672; found: 378.0668.



Ethyl 1-benzoyl-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (23d): yellow oil was obtained with 57% isolated yield (306.6 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 3H), 4.42 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9, 155.5, 149.0, 130.4, 128.5, 128.4, 126.7, 126.6, 110.2, 61.4, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₁N₃O₃: 270.0873; found: 270.0873.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (24d): yellow solid was obtained with 65% filtrated yield (378.3 mg). m. p. = 115-117 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.56 (m, 4H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.7, 141.4, 134.2, 131.5, 129.8, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 127.6, 125.1, 125.1, 121.0, 111.3, 109.3, 61.9, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₁₃N₃O₂: 292.1081; found: 292.1076.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(pyridin-3-yl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (25d): yellow solid was obtained with 51% filtrated yield (246.8 mg). m. p. = 135-137 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.83 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 151.6, 145.3, 142.6, 139.8, 132.1,

130.7, 124.6, 109.3, 62.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₁₀N₄O₂: 243.0877; found: 243.0877.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-methyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (26d): yellow solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 71% isolated yield (254.2 mg). m. p. = 83-85 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (s, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 141.2, 140.8, 109.7, 109.6, 61.7, 33.4, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₈H₁₀N₃O₂: 180.0768; found: 180.0765.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-ethyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (27d): yellow solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 73% isolated yield (281.8 mg). m. p. = 76-78 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (s, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.4, 139.6, 109.7, 108.6, 61.7, 42.5, 15.9, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₉H₁₂N₃O₂: 194.0924; found: 194.0922.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-isopropyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (28d): yellow oil was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 67% isolated yield (277.4 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (s, 1H), 4.65 – 4.55 (m, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 141.3, 137.7, 109.9, 108.1, 61.8, 51.2, 22.9, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₀H₁₄N₃O₂: 208.1081; found: 208.1080.

Ethyl 1-(tert-butyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (29d): yellow solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 45% isolated yield (198.9 mg). m.

p. = 74-76 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (s, 1H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.77 (s, 9H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 143.6, 137.7, 111.4, 106.9, 61.7, 59.6, 29.6, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₃O₂: 222.1237; found: 222.1233.



Ethyl 5-cyano-1-phenethyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (30d): yellow solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 82% isolated yield (441.2 mg). m. p. = 71-73 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.37 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.14 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 141.2, 140.4, 135.6, 129.1, 128.5, 127.6, 109.7, 108.6, 61.8, 48.9, 36.8, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₆N₃O₂: 270.1237; found: 270.1235.



Methyl 5-cyano-1-phenyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (31d): yellow solid was obtained with 66% filtrated yield (299.6 mg). m. p. = 139-141 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.45 (m, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 141.8, 140.0, 133.7, 130.4, 130.3, 124.4, 109.6, 109.2, 52.6. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₉N₃O₂: 228.0768; found: 228.0766.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(2-iodophenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (32d): yellow solid was obtained with 51% isolated yield (373.3 mg). m. p. = 95-97 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.50 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 141.4, 140.7, 140.6, 136.5, 132.6, 129.8, 128.2, 109.1, 96.1, 62.0, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀IN₃O₂: 367.9891; found: 367.9891.

Ethyl 1-(4-chloro-2-iodophenyl)-5-cyano-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (33d): yellow oil was

obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/3) with 38% isolated yield (304.0 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 141.5, 140.6, 140.0, 138.1, 135.1, 130.1, 128.7, 110.3, 108.9, 96.6, 62.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z:* [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₉ClIN₃O₂: 401.9501; found: 401.9501.

Ethyl 5-cyano-1-(2-iodo-5-methylphenyl)-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (34d): yellow solid was obtained with 35% filtrated yield (266.7 mg). m. p. = 108-110 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 141.3, 140.7, 140.6, 140.1, 136.3, 133.5, 128.8, 110.3, 109.1, 91.7, 62.0, 20.8, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₂IN₃O₂: 382.0047; found: 382.0043.



Ethyl 5-(iminomethyl)-1-phenyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (1f): white solid was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) with 98% isolated yield (47.6 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.32 (m, 2H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.49 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.48 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.7, 159.5, 140.2, 137.0, 133.0, 130.5, 129.0, 129.0, 125.8, 62.2, 14.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃O₂: 244.1081; found: 244.1080.

Cyclohexyl 5-cyano-1-phenyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (**1g**): yellow oil was obtained by column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/1) with 94% isolated yield (55.5 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 5.24 – 4.98 (m, 1H), 2.04 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.87 – 1.77 (m, 2H), 1.72 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.52 (m, 1H), 1.49 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.31 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.6, 142.5, 139.9, 133.9, 130.3, 130.3,

124.4, 109.8, 109.0, 74.6, 31.4, 25.3, 23.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H] ⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₃O₂: 296.1394; found: 296.1392.

5. Copies of product NMR Spectra









500 MHz, CDCl₃











 7.7
 7.45

 7.45
 7.75

 7.45
 7.75

 7.755
 4.45

 7.755
 4.42

 8.6
 7.723

 8.6
 7.723

 1338
 5.1

COOEt сN 500 MHz, CDCl₃

1. 3.00 -2:00 2:00 2:00 4 2.03⊣ 5.5 5.0 f1 (ppm) 8.5 8.0 7.5 4.5 10.0 9.5 6.5 6.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 9.0 7.0 4.0

¹³C NMR

162.2 152.2 153.9	141.9 140.0	129.7 126.6 126.6 117.2 117.2 109.5 109.5	77.3 77.0 76.7	61.9	14.0
512	17	Y Y Y Y	· · · ·	ĩ	1











¹³C NMR

	 142.2 142.2 136.6 132.1 130.5 125.7 	√109.5	₹77.3 ₹77.0 76.7	- 62.0	- 14.1
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1.44 1.42 1.41









Br 500 MHz, CDCl₃



¹³C NMR









€1.43 1.42 1.40





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







200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm) ---58.1 ---62.9



0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 -35 -40 -45 -50 -55 -60 -65 -70 -75 -80 -85 -90 -95 -105 -115 f1 (ppm)



200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm) ¹H NMR





¹³C NMR

-159.7	/ 142.8 / 139.6 / 137.0	125.1	 ✓ 117.0 ✓ 114.5 ✓ 109.3 ✓ 108.7 	77.3 76.7	62.2	 1,1	
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12d

1.45 1.45 1.42









¹³C NMR

9.0

8.5

8.0 7.5 6.5

7.0

6.0 5.5

9.5

163.9 159.9 159.9	142.3 139.8 134.8 134.8 134.8 134.8 117.7 1120.2 109.4 109.0 109.0 109.0	77.3 77.0 76.7	62.0	14.1
512	MUL ULL	\checkmark		

4.0

3.5

3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0

0.5

0.0 -0





















Me N COOEt

500 MHz, CDCl₃



¹³C NMR

— 160.1	141.3 140.6 132.6 131.7 131.7 127.0 127.0	× 110.4 × 109.3	77.3 76.7 76.7	-61.8	2.17 1.14	f
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¹³C NMR











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











160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 f1 (ppm) 00 190 180 170







27d























200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 f1 (ppm)













77.3 77.0 76.7 74.6









