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# Facile Assembly of 1-[(Trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines through Reaction of 2-Alkynylbenzaloxime with Silver (Trifluoromethyl)thiolate

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**Keywords:** Synthetic methods / Nitrogen heterocycles / Alkynes / Silver / Fluorine / Sulfur

1-[(Trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines can be assembled through silver(I)-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaloxime with silver (trifluoromethyl)thiolate in the presence of *p*-

methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride. The (trifluoromethyl)thio moiety (SCF<sub>3</sub>) could be easily introduced into the scaffold of isoquinoline under mild conditions.

## Introduction

The importance of isoquinolines in synthetic organic chemistry and pharmaceuticals is well-recognized,<sup>[1,2]</sup> and this privileged scaffold is present in a broad range of natural products and drug molecules. Compounds with the core of isoquinoline often show remarkable biological activities. In the meantime, due to the increasing interest in fluorine chemistry,<sup>[3]</sup> the construction of fluorinated heterocycles has attracted growing attention recently.<sup>[4]</sup> Among the N-heterocycles, fluorinated isoquinolines have served as building blocks for the design and synthesis of biologically active compounds, including antiproliferative drugs, myosin inhibitors, and agents for reducing intraocular pressure.<sup>[5]</sup> Therefore, continuous efforts have focused on the synthesis of fluorinated isoquinolines.<sup>[6]</sup> For example, Liu and co-workers reported the generation of 4-fluoroisoquinolines through a silver-catalyzed intramolecular oxidative amino-fluorination of alkynes by using *N*-fluorobenzenesulfonimide (NSFI) as the fluorine source (Figure 1).<sup>[6a]</sup> From the viewpoint of studies of chemical genetics using natural product-like compounds, a biological evaluation of the use of diverse fluorinated isoquinolines would be beneficial.

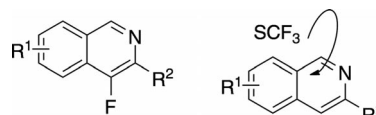


Figure 1. Fluorinated isoquinolines.

In the past few years, the introduction of a (trifluoromethyl)thio moiety (SCF<sub>3</sub>) into small molecules has been a hot field in fluorine chemistry.<sup>[7,8]</sup> The attractive intrinsic properties of this group (such as its high lipophilicity) has prompted its rapid development. For instance, Billard reported the electrophilic trifluoromethanesulfanylation of organometallic species with trifluoromethanesulfanamides for C–SCF<sub>3</sub> bond formation.<sup>[7b]</sup> Aryl trifluoromethyl thioethers could be synthesized through trifluoromethylthiolation of aryl boronic acids with TMSCF<sub>3</sub> and elemental sulfur or by using AgSCF<sub>3</sub> in coupling reactions.<sup>[7c,7f]</sup> Because (trifluoromethyl)thio-substituted compounds are usually used as candidates in pharmaceutical and agrochemical applications, we became interested in the introduction of the (trifluoromethyl)thio moiety into the scaffold of isoquinoline (Figure 1).

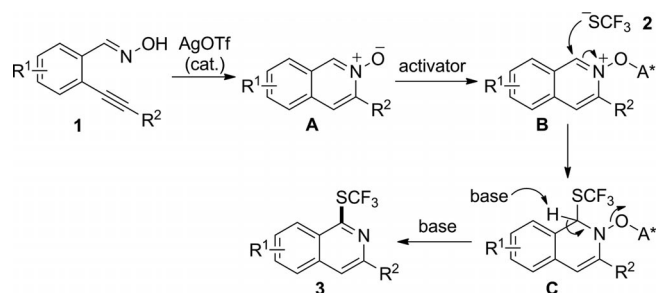
Recently, the reactivity of 2-alkynylbenzaloxime has been extensively explored, and these studies have provided a facile route to isoquinoline derivatives.<sup>[9]</sup> For example, 1-aryloxyisoquinolines could be generated through silver-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaloxime with phenols.<sup>[9d]</sup> During the transformation, a phosphonium salt or sulfonyl chloride was essential for the activation of the *N*-oxide formed in situ. In light of these results, we hypothesized that a silver-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaloxime with AgSCF<sub>3</sub><sup>[10]</sup> might allow the formation of (trifluoromethyl)thio-substituted isoquinolines under suitable conditions. The proposed synthetic route is presented in Scheme 1.

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Scheme 1. The proposed route to (trifluoromethyl)thio-substituted isoquinolines.

## Results and Discussion

The initial studies were carried out for the reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime **1a** with  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  (**2**) catalyzed by 10 mol-% silver triflate in the presence of  $i\text{Pr}_2\text{NEt}$  (DIPEA) in 1,4-dioxane (Table 1). Initially, a range of activators including acid chloride, sulfonyl chloride, and phosphonyl chloride were evaluated. However, no reaction took place when acetic acid chloride was used (Table 1, entry 1). The result was not improved when  $\text{PhCOCl}$ ,  $t\text{BuCOCl}$ , or  $\text{Ph}_2\text{POCl}$  were employed (Table 1, entries 2–4). To our delight, the desired 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline **3a**

Table 1. Initial optimization of the reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime **1a** with  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  (**2**).<sup>[a]</sup>

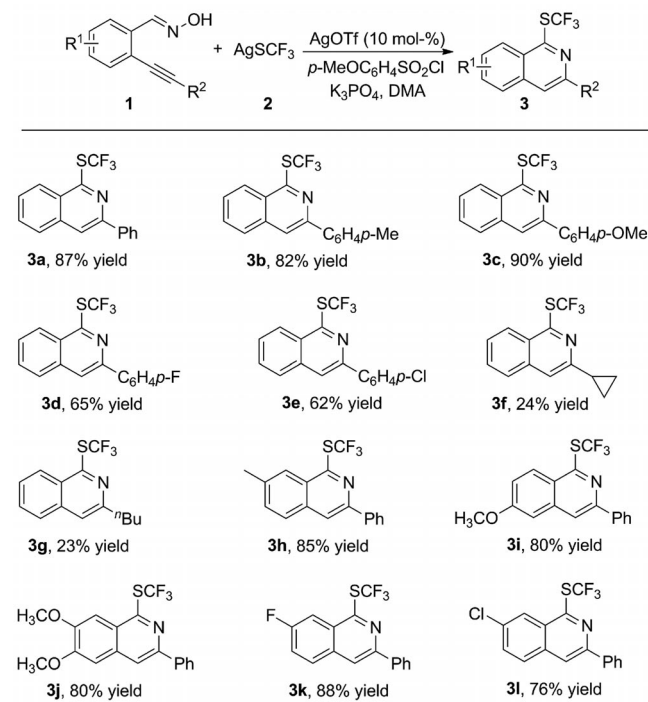
Entry	RCl	Base	Solvent	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>
1	$\text{CH}_3\text{COCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	n.r.
2	$\text{PhCOCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	5
3	$t\text{BuCOCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	n.r.
4	$\text{Ph}_2\text{POCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	n.r.
5	$\text{PhSO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	16
6	$\text{TsCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	20
7	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	27
8	$p\text{-NO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	5
9	$\text{MsCl}$	DIPEA	1,4-dioxane	10
10	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	45
11	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	DCE	44
12	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	THF	38
13	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	toluene	35
14	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	MeCN	44
15	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	DMSO	26
16	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	DMF	50
17	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DIPEA	DMA	55
18	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{Et}_3\text{N}$	DMA	56
19	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$	DMA	44
20	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	DBU	DMA	44
21	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	DMA	87
22	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{NaOAc}$	DMA	46
23	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$	DMA	50
24	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{NaHCO}_3$	DMA	42
25	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	pyridine	DMA	39
26	$p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$	$t\text{BuOK}$	DMA	n.r.

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol),  $\text{AgOTf}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  **2** (0.3 mmol), base (0.9 mmol), RCl (0.3 mmol), solvent (2.0 mL), 25 °C. [b] Isolated yield based on **1a**; n.r.: no reaction.

was obtained in 16% yield when benzenesulfonyl chloride was added in the reaction (Table 1, entry 5). Other sulfonyl chlorides were then screened (Table 1, entries 6–9), and it was found that the addition of  $p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$  gave the best result (27% yield; Table 1, entry 7). Further screening of solvents revealed that the reaction proceeded efficiently in  $N,N$ -dimethylacetamide (DMA), leading to the expected product **3a** in 55% yield (Table 1, entry 17). The reaction was subsequently examined in the presence of various bases (Table 1, entries 18–26). Gratifyingly, the desired product **3a** was generated in 87% yield when the reaction was performed in the presence of  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (Table 1, entry 21).

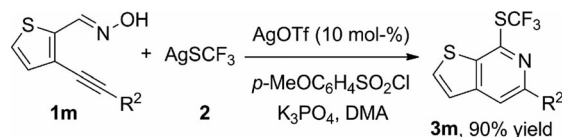
The generality of this silver(I)-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime with silver (trifluoromethyl)thiolate in the presence of  $p$ -methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride was then examined under the optimized conditions. The results are shown in Table 2. A range of 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines could be produced as expected. The nature of the substituents on the triple bond of the 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oximes affected the final outcome. 2-Alkynylbenzaldehyde oximes with a range of aryl groups attached on the triple bond reacted with silver (trifluoromethyl)thiolate smoothly, giving the corresponding products in good yields. However, the yields were low when the aryl group attached on the triple bond was replaced by an alkyl group. For instance, cyclopropyl-substituted 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquin-

Table 2. Synthesis of 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines through silver-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime **1** with  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  (**2**).<sup>[a,b]</sup>



[a] Reaction conditions: 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime **1** (0.2 mmol),  $\text{AgOTf}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  **2** (0.3 mmol),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (0.9 mmol),  $p\text{-MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$  (0.3 mmol), DMA (2.0 mL), 25 °C. [b] Isolated yield based on **1**.

oline **3f** was formed in 24% yield, and compound **3g**, with an *n*-butyl group, was obtained in 23% yield. This might be due to the reactivity of the alkyl-substituted substrates, since the reaction did not go to completion and was stopped at the isoquinoline *N*-oxide stage. With respect to substrates with substituents on the aromatic ring of 2-alkynylbenzaloximes, all reactions worked well under the standard conditions, leading to the desired products in good yields. Interestingly, thiophenyl-incorporated substrate **1m** was also found to be a good reactant, affording the corresponding product **3m** in 90% yield (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2. Reaction of compound **1m** with  $\text{AgSCF}_3$ . Reaction conditions: 3-(phenylethynyl)thiophene-2-carbaldehyde oxime (**1m**; 0.2 mmol),  $\text{AgOTf}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  **2** (0.3 mmol),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (0.9 mmol), *p*- $\text{MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$  (0.3 mmol), DMA (2.0 mL), 25 °C.

## Conclusions

We have reported a facile assembly of 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines through silver(I)-catalyzed reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaloxime with silver (trifluoromethyl)thiolate in the presence of *p*-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride. The (trifluoromethyl)thio moiety ( $\text{SCF}_3$ ) could be easily introduced into the scaffold of isoquinoline under mild conditions. Further exploration of the utility of  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  for the generation of other fluorinated *N*-heterocycles is ongoing in our laboratory.

## Experimental Section

**General Procedure for the synthesis of 1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinolines:** 2-Alkynylbenzaloxime **1** (0.2 mmol) was added to a solution of  $\text{AgOTf}$  (10 mol-%) in DMA (1.0 mL) under  $\text{N}_2$ . After stirring at 70 °C for 1 h,  $\text{AgSCF}_3$  **2** (0.3 mmol),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (0.9 mmol), and *p*- $\text{MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}$  (0.3 mmol) were added followed by DMA (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at 25 °C until completion of reaction (indicated by TLC analysis; typically overnight), then the mixture was purified by flash column chromatograph ( $\text{EtOAc}/n$ -hexane, 1:100) to give the desired product **3**.

**3-Phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3a):** Yield 53.0 mg (87%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.20–8.15 (m, 3 H), 8.06 (s, 1 H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.75–7.71 (m, 1 H), 7.64–7.60 (m, 1 H), 7.53–7.50 (m, 2 H), 7.45–7.41 (m, 1 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 150.6, 138.0, 137.4, 131.1, 129.3 (q,  $J$  = 301.6 Hz), 129.1, 128.9, 127.9, 127.8, 126.8, 124.9, 121.6, 116.2 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.13 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 306.0559; found 306.0586.

**3-(*p*-Tolyl)-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3b):** Yield 53.5 mg (82%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.07–8.03 (m, 3 H), 7.92 (m, 1 H), 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.63 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.26 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.39 (s, 3 H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 150.7, 150.3, 139.1, 137.5, 135.3, 129.6, 129.3 (q,  $J$  = 307.2 Hz), 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 126.7, 124.9, 124.7, 115.7, 21.9 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.07 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 320.0715; found 320.0715.

**3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3c):** Yield 60.4 mg (90%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.10 (m, 3 H), 7.91 (s, 1 H), 7.81 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.66 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 160.5, 150.5, 150.3, 137.6, 131.0, 130.7, 129.3 (q,  $J$  = 307.2 Hz), 128.1, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 124.9, 115.0, 114.2, 55.4 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.12 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NOS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 336.0664; found 336.0662.

**3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3d):** Yield 42.0 mg (65%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.14–8.07 (m, 3 H), 7.91 (s, 1 H), 7.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.68 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.59–7.55 (m, 1 H), 7.15 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 163.5 (d,  $J$  = 247.3 Hz), 150.6, 149.6, 134.2, 131.1, 129.2 (q,  $J$  = 310.9 Hz), 128.5 (q,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 127.9 (d,  $J$  = 18.5 Hz), 127.2, 124.7 (d,  $J$  = 20.7 Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J$  = 11.0 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J$  = 11.5 Hz) ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.13, –133.25 (Ar-F) ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_4\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 324.0465; found 324.0458.

**3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3e):** Yield 42.0 mg (62%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.13–8.09 (m, 3 H), 7.98 (s, 1 H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.74–7.71 (m, 1 H), 7.64–7.60 (m, 1 H), 7.46–7.44 (m, 2 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 150.8, 149.4, 137.3, 136.5, 135.1, 131.2, 129.2 (q,  $J$  = 300.7 Hz), 129.0, 128.2, 128.0, 127.9, 124.9, 116.1 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.13 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClF}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 340.0169; found 340.0165.

**3-Cyclopropyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3f):** Yield 13.0 mg (24%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.66–7.63 (m, 1 H), 7.52–7.48 (m, 1 H), 7.46 (s, 1 H), 2.15–2.08 (m, 1 H), 1.17–1.14 (m, 2 H), 1.03–0.99 (m, 2 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 156.3, 137.1, 130.7, 129.6 (q,  $J$  = 300.7 Hz), 126.7, 126.6, 124.8, 117.1, 16.6, 9.7 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.22 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 270.0559; found 270.0552.

**3-*n*-Butyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3g):** Yield 12.5 mg (23%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.27 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.72–7.68 (m, 1 H), 7.62–7.58 (m, 1 H), 7.50 (s, 1 H), 2.96 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 1.85–1.77 (m, 2 H), 1.45–1.36 (m, 2 H), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 156.2, 137.5, 130.7, 129.3 (q,  $J$  = 300.7 Hz), 127.4, 126.9, 125.8, 119.5, 37.4, 31.7, 22.3, 13.9 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.45 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 286.0872; found 286.0854.

**7-Methyl-3-phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3h):** Yield 54.4 mg (85%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.16–8.14 (m, 2 H), 7.95 (s, 1 H), 7.86 (s, 1 H), 7.73 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.51–7.46 (m, 3 H), 7.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 2.53 (s, 3 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 149.9, 149.5, 138.3, 138.2, 135.7, 133.3, 129.4 (q,  $J$  = 300.7 Hz), 128.8, 127.6, 126.6, 123.7, 116.1, 22.0 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = –39.09 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 320.0715; found 320.0707.

**6-Methoxy-3-phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3i):** Yield 53.7 mg (80%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.16–8.14 (m, 2 H), 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.92 (s, 1 H), 7.50–7.47 (m, 2 H),



7.43–7.39 (m, 1 H), 7.21–7.19 (m, 1 H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1 H), 3.93 (s, 3 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 161.4, 151.2, 149.6, 139.7, 138.2, 129.4$  (q,  $J = 306.9$  Hz), 129.0, 128.8, 127.0, 126.8, 123.6, 120.9, 115.9, 105.3, 55.6 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -39.10$  ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NOS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 336.0664; found 336.0658.

**6,7-Dimethoxy-3-phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3j):** Yield 58.6 mg (80%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.10$  (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2 H), 7.86 (s, 1 H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 7.40–7.37 (m, 2 H), 7.05 (s, 1 H), 4.02 (s, 3 H), 4.00 (s, 3 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 153.5, 150.9, 149.8, 146.7, 138.3, 134.4, 129.5$  (q,  $J = 307.2$  Hz), 128.8, 128.7, 126.5, 124.6, 115.9, 105.5, 103.6, 56.2 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -39.11$  ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2\text{S}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 366.0770; found 366.0774.

**7-Fluoro-3-phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3k):** Yield 57.0 mg (88%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.14$ –8.12 (m, 2 H), 8.00 (s, 1 H), 7.88–7.85 (m, 1 H), 7.79–7.76 (m, 1 H), 7.51–7.45 (m, 3 H), 7.43–7.39 (m, 1 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 161.1$  (d,  $J = 250.1$  Hz), 150.5, 149.5, 137.7, 134.6, 130.5 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 129.2, 129.1 (q,  $J = 307.8$  Hz), 128.9, 128.5 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 126.7, 116.2, 109.1 (d,  $J = 22.8$  Hz) ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -39.16, -108.8$  (Ar-F) ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_4\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 324.0465; found 324.0458.

**7-Chloro-3-phenyl-1-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]isoquinoline (3l):** Yield 51.7 mg (76%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.16$ –8.15 (m, 3 H), 78.03 (s, 1 H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.68–7.65 (m, 1 H), 7.53–7.49 (m, 2 H), 7.46–7.42 (m, 1 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 151.1, 149.5, 137.6, 135.8, 132.7, 132.2, 129.4, 129.3, 129.0$  (q,  $J = 300.7$  Hz), 128.9, 128.6, 126.8, 124.2, 115.9 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -39.10$  ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClF}_3\text{NS}^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 340.0169; found 340.0155.

**5-Phenyl-7-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]thieno[2,3-c]pyridine (3m):** Yield 56.0 mg (90%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.10$ –8.07 (m, 3 H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1 H), 7.50–7.46 (m, 2 H), 7.43–7.40 (m, 2 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 153.0, 147.3, 141.8, 139.3, 138.3, 131.2, 129.3$  (q,  $J = 308.2$  Hz), 129.1, 128.9, 126.9, 124.1, 114.7 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (378 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = -38.89$  ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_3\text{NS}_2^+$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}^+$ ] 312.0123; found 312.0114.

**Supporting Information** (see footnote on the first page of this article): Experimental procedures, characterization data,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of 3.

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