

## **Supporting Information**

### **Transformation of Anionically Activated Trifluoromethyl Groups to Heterocycles under Mild Aqueous Conditions**

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## **1. General Experimental Information**

Commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Products were obtained either by filtration or further purification by using either recrystallization from solvents such as MeOH, or by using normal phase silica gel chromatography. Normal phase chromatography was carried out using prepacked SiO<sub>2</sub> cartridges eluted with gradients of hexanes and ethyl acetate or methylene chloride and methanol. Low resolution MS chromatograms were obtained on a Shimadzu HPLC system running DISCOVERY VP® software, coupled with a Waters ZQ mass spectrometer running MassLynx version 3.5 software using the following methods:

Method A: A linear gradient using solvent A (10% methanol, 90% water, 0.1% of TFA) and solvent B (90% methanol, 10% water, 0.1% of TFA); 0-100% of solvent B over 4 min and then 100% of solvent B over 1 min. Column: PHENOMENEX® Luna 5 µm C18 (4.5 × 50 mm). Flow rate was 4 ml/min. and UV detection was set to 220 nm.

Method B: A linear gradient using solvent A (10% methanol, 90% water, 0.1% of TFA) and solvent B (90% methanol, 10% water, 0.1% of TFA); 0-100% of solvent B over 2 min and then 100% of solvent B over 1 min. Column: PHENOMENEX® Luna 5 µm C18 (2.0 × 30 mm). Flow rate was 1 ml/min. and UV detection was set to 220 nm.

Method C: A linear gradient using solvent A (98% water, 2% methanol, 0.1% formic acid) and solvent B (methanol, 0.1% formic acid); 0-100% of solvent B over 2 min and then 100% of solvent B over 1 min. Column: PHENOMENEX® Luna 3 µm C18 (2.0 × 30 mm). Flow rate was 1 ml/min. and UV detection was set to 220 nm.

All the compounds were confirmed for molecular weight using accurate mass LCMS. A Thermo Fisher LTQ Orbitrap mass spectrometer in line with a Waters Acquity UPLC allowed collection of molecular ion data with accuracy <5 ppm.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on either Bruker or JEOL fourier transform spectrometers operating at frequencies as follows: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: 400 MHz (Bruker or JEOL) or 500MHz (JEOL). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: 100 MHz (Bruker or JEOL). Spectra data are reported in the format: chemical shift (multiplicity, coupling constants, and number of hydrogens). Chemical shifts are specified in ppm downfield of a tetramethylsilane internal standard ( $\delta$  units, tetramethylsilane = 0 ppm) and/or referenced to solvent peaks, which in <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra appear

at 2.49 ppm for CD<sub>3</sub>SOCD<sub>3</sub>, 3.30 ppm for CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 7.24 ppm for CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and 11.50 ppm for CF<sub>3</sub>COOD and which in <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra appear at 39.7 ppm for CD<sub>3</sub>SOCD<sub>3</sub>, 49.0 ppm for CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 77.0 ppm for CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and 164.20 and 116.60 for CF<sub>3</sub>COOD. All <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were proton decoupled.

The purity of the compounds was checked by using the following orthogonal HPLC conditions:

Method A: A linear gradient using solvent A (5% acetonitrile, 95% water, 0.05% TFA) and solvent B (95% acetonitrile, 5% water, 0.05% TFA); 10-100% of solvent B over 10 min and then 100% of solvent B over 5 min. Column: Sunfire C18 3.5 μm (4.6 × 150 mm). Flow rate was 2 ml/min, and UV detection was set to 220 nm. The LC column was maintained at room temperature.

Method B: A linear gradient using solvent A (5% acetonitrile, 95% water, 0.05% TFA) and solvent B (95% acetonitrile, 5% water, 0.05% TFA); 10-100% of solvent B over 10 min and then 100% of solvent B over 5 min. Column: Xbridge Phenyl 3.5 μm (4.6 × 150 mm). Flow rate was 2 ml/min, and UV detection was set to 220 nm. The LC column was maintained at room temperature.

## 2. Representative Procedure and Characterization Data of Compounds

General procedures: To a reaction vessel (such as a 20-ml scintillation vial or a round bottomed flask) equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added the anionically activated aromatic/heteroaromatics CF<sub>3</sub> substrate (1 mmol) and the amine nucleophile (1–1.4 mmol), followed by the addition of 1 N NaOH solution (3 or 4 mL, 3 or 4 equiv). The resulting reaction mixture was heated using a heating block or an oil bath while stirring at 40–90 °C for the time period indicated in the tables in the manuscript. The reaction was cooled to room temperature and the mixture was neutralized by addition of either 1 N HCl or HOAc. The precipitate was collected by filtration, and was rinsed with either 1 N HCl (2 ×) followed by H<sub>2</sub>O (2 ×), or with H<sub>2</sub>O (4 ×). (Caution: During the work-up to neutralize the mixture with 1N HCl or HOAc, highly toxic HF may be generated, and the corresponding waste should be neutralized with an inorganic base and then properly disposed.) The filter cake was dried under vacuum and the purity was checked by orthogonal HPLC. For compounds with purity less than 95%, the solids were either

recrystallized from methanol or further purified by silica gel column chromatography by using either hexanes/ethyl acetate or methylene chloride/methanol as the eluent.

**Representative procedure for transformation of anionically activated aromatic CF<sub>3</sub> group to heterocyclic compound 2-(Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)phenol (3):** 2-(Trifluoromethyl)phenol (163 mg, 1 mmol) and 2-aminophenol (132 mg, 1.2 mmol) were stirred in 1 N NaOH (3 mL, 3 mmol) in a capped 20-ml scintillation vial on a Pie-Block. The mixture was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. After cooling, 1 N HCl (ca. 3 mL) was added with stirring and the resulting slurry was filtered. The filter cake was rinsed with cold 1 N HCl (2 × 5 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 5 mL), and then dried under vacuum for 16 h to give compound **3**<sup>1</sup> (200 mg, 94 % yield) as a light tan solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.46 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.67 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.10, 158.93, 149.33, 140.21, 133.76, 127.32, 125.58, 125.21, 119.77, 119.45, 117.62, 110.86. LCMS (ESI) 212.1 (M+H), retention time = 4.21 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 212.07060, found 212.07025. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 96.5%, retention time = 12.439 min (Method A); 96.1%, retention time = 10.103 min (Method B).

**Representative procedure for transformation of anionically activated NH-containing heteroaromatic CF<sub>3</sub> group to heterocyclic compound 2-(1H-Imidazol-4-yl)-5-nitrobenzo[d]oxazole (24):** In a 100-mL three-neck round-bottomed flask equipped with a condenser, a thermometer and a magnetic stirring bar, a mixture of 4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole (0.272 g, 2 mmol), 2-amino-4-nitrophenol (0.308 g, 2 mmol) and 1 N NaOH (8 mL, 2 mmol) was heated to 90 °C in an oil bath under nitrogen for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was neutralized with 1 N HCl (8 mL). The resulting suspension was filtered. The filter cake was washed with water (3 × 10 mL) and dried by vacuum suction for 18 h. The filter cake was then crystallized from MeOH (reflux then cooled down to 5 °C) to afford **24** (0.41 g, 1.781 mmol, 89 % yield) as off-white solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.55 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, *J* = 9.2 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ 161.35, 152.76, 144.19, 141.42, 137.58, 126.50, 122.28, 119.97, 114.11, 110.53. LCMS (ESI) 231.0 (M+H), retention time = 1.27 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 231.05130, found 231.05128. Orthogonal HPLC

purity: 96.8, retention time = 4.415 min (Method A); 96.6 %, retention time = 4.500 min (Method B).

The following examples were made according to similar procedures as those for compounds **3** and **24**:

**2-(Benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)phenol (4):**<sup>2</sup> 88% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.50 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 11.2, 4.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.46, 158.07, 151.91, 132.86, 132.69, 128.53, 126.78, 125.62, 122.26, 121.60, 119.63, 117.98, 116.89. LCMS (ESI) 228.0 (M+H), retention time = 2.28 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NOS 228.04780, found 228.04784. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.6%, retention time = 14.929 min (Method A); 99.6%, retention time = 12.479 min (Method B).

**2-(1-Methyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)phenol (5):**<sup>3</sup> 71% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.27 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.39 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (td, J = 15.0, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (td, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 156.61, 151.77, 141.35, 135.70, 131.35, 130.25, 122.37, 121.94, 119.00, 118.43, 116.43, 115.79, 110.31, 31.64. LCMS (ESI) 225.1 (M+H), retention time = 1.90 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 225.10230, found 225.10187. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 99.6%, retention time = 3.691 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 4.510 min (Method B).

**2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenol (6):**<sup>4</sup> 55% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.22 (s, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 8.6, 7.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (ddd, J = 9.0, 3.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 4.46 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 2H), 4.06 (t, J = 9.4 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 165.30, 159.01, 133.49, 127.68, 118.81, 116.34, 110.15, 66.94, 52.86. LCMS (ESI) 164.1 (M+H), retention time = 0.98 min (Method C). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 164.07060, found 164.06981. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 100%, retention time = 5.381 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 4.661 min (Method B).

**2-(4,5-Dihydrothiazol-2-yl)phenol (7):** 74% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.63 (s, 1H), 7.93 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 6.60 (m, 2H), 5.23 – 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.52 – 3.37 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.51, 158.28, 133.06, 130.42, 119.09, 116.62, 115.78, 63.13, 31.36. LCMS (ESI) 178.0 (M-H), 180.1 (M+H), retention time = 1.85

min (Method C). HRMS ( $M + H$ )<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_9H_{10}NOS$  180.04780, found 180.04723.

Orthogonal HPLC purity: 100%, retention time = 3.715 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 4.553 min (Method B).

**2-(Oxazolo[5,4-b]pyridin-2-yl)phenol (8):** 68% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.00 (s, 1H), 8.39 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.17 – 6.94 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 162.35, 158.09, 158.04, 144.85, 134.43, 131.52, 128.24, 128.09, 121.83, 120.06, 117.33, 110.24. LCMS (ESI) 213.0 (M+H), retention time = 2.00 min (Method C). HRMS ( $M + H$ )<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{12}H_9N_2O_2$  213.06590, found 213.06534. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 99.8%, retention time = 10.088 min (Method A); 99.4%, retention time = 8.456 min (Method B).

**2-(1H-Perimidin-2-yl)phenol (9):** 82% yield. Dark reddish solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 14.80 (s, br, 1H), 10.72 (s, br, 1H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.01 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.70 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 0.7 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 161.11, 154.67, 134.77, 133.29, 126.20, 120.98, 117.95, 112.77. LCMS (ESI) 261.1 (M+H), retention time = 1.53 min (Method B). HRMS ( $M + H$ )<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{17}H_{13}N_2O$  261.10230, found 261.10159. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 93.8%, retention time = 5.623 min (Method A); 93.2%, retention time = 5.946 min (Method B).

**5-(5-(Dimethylamino)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)pyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (10):** 69% yield. Light yellow solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.62 (s, 2H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 3.06 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.73, 162.05, 150.26, 148.13, 139.10, 104.41, 40.88. LCMS (ESI) 240.1 (M+H), retention time = 0.77 min (Method A). HRMS ( $M + H$ )<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_8H_{10}N_5O_2S$  240.05500, found 240.05449. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 94.6%, retention time = 1.74 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 1.93 min (Method B).

**5-(5-Methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)pyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (11):** 77% yield. Slightly yellowish solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.61 (m, *br*, 2H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 163.34, 160.14, 150.47, 145.06, 98.23, 10.49. LCMS (ESI) 195.0 (M+H), retention time = 0.52 min (Method A). HRMS ( $M + H$ )<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_7H_7N_4O_3$  195.05130, found 195.05078. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 86.5%, retention time = 2.158 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 2.200 min (Method B).

**5-(3-Methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)pyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (12):** 80% yield. Off-white solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  11.93 (s, br, 1H), 11.58 (s, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.69, 166.43, 159.68, 150.34, 147.57, 98.51, 11.07. LCMS (ESI) 195.0 (M+H), retention time = 0.74 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 195.05130, found 195.05090. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 100%, retention time = 3.548 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 4.148 min (Method B).

**2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazole-6-sulfonamide (15):** 97% yield. Off-white solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.96 (s, 1H), 8.22 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.91 (dd,  $J$  = 8.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.11 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.04 (m, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  164.29, 157.94, 150.80, 141.59, 139.98, 134.62, 128.43, 123.68, 120.23, 117.48, 117.10, 111.75, 110.49. LSMS (ESI) = 291.0, retention time = 1.84 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S 291.04340, found 291.04300. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 96.7%, retention time = 12.211 min (Method A), 97.2%, retention time = 12.423 min (Method B).

**2-(5-(Ethylsulfonyl)benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)phenol (16):** 94% yield. Slightly tan solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.91 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d,  $J$  = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (q,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.12 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  164.32, 157.86, 151.88, 140.26, 135.58, 134.46, 128.29, 125.40, 119.94, 119.40, 117.29, 111.95, 110.20, 49.44, 7.19. LCMS 304.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.01 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S 304.06380, found 304.06378. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.2%, retention time = 13.976 min (Method A); 97.4%, retention time = 13.782 min (Method B).

**2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylbenzo[d]oxazole-6-sulfonamide (17):** 91% yield. White solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.97 (s, 1H), 8.22 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd,  $J$  = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 2.65 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  165.01, 157.97, 148.67, 143.41, 134.62, 131.77, 128.39, 124.70, 120.03, 119.74, 117.36, 110.94, 110.27, 37.61. LCMS 319.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.10 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S 319.07470, found 319.07352. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.9%, retention time = 14.801 min (Method A); 99.0%, retention time = 14.424 min (Method B).

**2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazole-5-sulfonic acid (18):** 92% yield. Pale yellowish solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  11.13 (s, 1H), 8.47 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.75 (q,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 3.28 (m, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  162.92, 157.64, 148.64, 146.20, 138.81, 133.94, 127.63, 123.80, 119.92, 117.14, 116.15, 110.39, 110.05. LCMS 292.0 (M+H), retention time = 2.89 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$  292.02740, found 292.02747. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.4%, retention time = 7.441 min (Method A); 100.0%, retention time = 4.863 min (Method B).

**2-Amino-3-(2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazol-5-yl)propanoic acid (19):** 87% yield. Off-white solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CF<sub>3</sub>COOD)  $\delta$  8.33 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd,  $J$  = 8.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (ddd,  $J$  = 17.2, 9.1, 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (ddd,  $J$  = 16.2, 8.2, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 3.84 (d,  $J$  = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (dd,  $J$  = 11.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, CF<sub>3</sub>COOD)  $\delta$  173.76, 165.51, 161.06, 149.90, 142.42, 136.47, 132.39, 131.81, 130.89, 124.69, 119.26, 118.47, 107.19, 57.18, 37.25. LCMS 299.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.99 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  299.10270, found 299.10266. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 96.5%, retention time = 4.626 min (Method A); 96.4%, retention time = 5.228 min (Method B).

**1-(2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)-5-methylbenzo[d]oxazol-7-yl)ethanone (20):** 96% yield. Off-white solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.26 – 11.25 (m, 1H), 8.00 (dd,  $J$  = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd,  $J$  = 27.7, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.10 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 6.88 (m, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  194.78, 163.54, 158.99, 146.32, 141.70, 135.41, 134.21, 127.32, 126.80, 124.46, 121.35, 119.95, 117.77, 110.27, 30.58, 21.54. LSMS (ESI) = 268.1, retention time = 2.33 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H) $^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_3$  268.09680, found 268.09668. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 100%, retention time = 16.312 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 14.996 min (Method B).

**2-(5-Chloro-7-nitrobenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)phenol (21):** 98% yield. Light tan solids.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.75 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 6.58 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  165.57, 158.36, 149.99, 145.92, 141.85, 135.32, 128.96, 121.55, 120.45, 117.70, 116.01, 114.55, 110.23. LCMS (ESI) 291.0 (M+H), retention time = 2.41 min (Method B). HRMS (M – H) $^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_6\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_4$  289.00210, found 289.00153. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.6%, retention time = 16.672 min (Method A); 96.9%, retention time = 15.856 min (Method B).

**2-(6-Bromo-5-methoxybenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)phenol (22):** 93% yield. Off-white solids.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.15 (s, 1H), 8.05 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (ddd, *J* = 8.7, 7.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 7.00 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.91, 158.90, 158.35, 142.44, 141.35, 134.17, 127.56, 119.91, 117.66, 116.92, 110.41, 102.66, 102.09, 56.44. LCMS (ESI) 320.0, 322.0 (M+H), retention time = 2.57 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub> 319.99170, found 319.99219.

Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.4%, retention time = 13.757 min (Method A); 95.0%, retention time = 11.148 min (Method B).

**2-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1H-imidazol-4-yl)benzo[d]oxazole-5-carbonitrile (23):** 92 % yield. Off-white solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.49 (bs, 1H), 8.30 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ 151.59, 145.49, 141.39, 132.98, 128.29, 127.70, 126.44, 122.95, 118.15, 111.49, 106.70. LCMS (ESI) 321.0 (M+H), retention time = 1.99 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O 321.05380, found 321.05359. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 95.8%, retention time = 8.658 min (Method A); 100%, retention time = 7.691 min (Method B).

**4-Hydroxy-phenyl-benzoxazole (25):**<sup>5</sup> 98% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.31 (s, 1H), 8.18–7.92 (m, 2H), 7.72 (ddd, *J* = 5.7, 3.8, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.85 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 162.72, 160.92, 150.00, 141.74, 129.26, 124.67, 124.54, 119.21, 117.13, 116.07, 110.53. LC-MS (ESI) 212.2 (M+H), retention time = 1.94 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 212.07060, found 212.07074. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.6%, retention time = 7.721 min (Method A); 99.6%, retention time = 6.550 min (Method B).

**6-(Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-3-ol (26):** 95% yield. Light brownish solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.84 (s, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.30 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 161.67, 156.08, 150.29, 141.43, 138.65, 136.11, 125.44, 125.04, 124.81, 122.87, 119.81, 110.99. LCMS (ESI) 213.1 (M+H), retention time = 1.61 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 213.06590, found 213.06630. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 95.0%, retention time = 6.335 min (Method A); 95.3%, retention time = 5.623 min (Method B).

**2-Amino-phenyl-benzoxazole (27):**<sup>6</sup> 42% yield. Off-white solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 7.99 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.24 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 7.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 164.77, 150.66, 150.28, 143.27, 133.64, 129.53, 126.04, 125.65, 120.30, 117.52, 117.29, 111.30, 109.13. LCMS (ESI) 211.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.23 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 211.08860, found 211.08731. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 99.1%, retention time = 11.308 min (Method A); 99.3%, retention time = 9.479 min (Method B)

**4-Amino-phenyl-benzoxazole (28):**<sup>7</sup> 84% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.98 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (ddd, *J* = 6.4, 5.4, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 6.88 – 6.57 (m, 2H), 5.97 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 163.55, 152.47, 149.83, 142.06, 128.90, 124.27, 123.96, 118.67, 113.50, 112.70, 110.19. LCMS (ESI) 211.1 (M+H), retention time = 1.71 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 211.08860, found 211.08731. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.8%, retention time = 8.451 min (method A); 99.8%, retention time = 7.155 min (Method B).

**5-(Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)pyridin-2-amine (29):** 84% yield. White solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.33 (ddd, *J* = 4.6, 2.1, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (s, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 162.05, 161.70, 149.77, 148.37, 141.69, 135.62, 124.48, 124.39, 118.90, 110.53, 110.38, 107.92. LCMS (ESI) 212.1, retention time = 2.14 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O 212.08190, found 212.08192. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.3%, retention time = 3.876 min (Method A); 96.6%, retention time = 4.386 min (Method B).

**4-(Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-amine (30):** 45% yield. Brownish solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.71 (ddd, *J* = 9.2, 4.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.27 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 169.03, 158.49, 149.64, 141.35, 138.25, 125.21, 124.69, 119.62, 112.55, 110.69. LC-MS (ESI) 218.0 (M+H), retention time = 1.53 min (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS 218.03830, found 218.03876. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 98.2%, retention time = 9.348 min (Method A); 98.1%, retention time = 9.861 min (Method B).

**5-(Benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)pyrimidine-2,4(1H,3H)-dione (31):** 98% yield. Light tan solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.05 – 11.66 (m, 1H), 11.56 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.91 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.16 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 160.15, 158.95, 150.51, 149.68,

146.37, 141.06, 124.86, 124.58, 119.22, 110.58, 100.75. LCMS (ESI) 230.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.08 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 230.05600, found 230.05580. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 96.5%, retention time = 4.146 min (Method A); 96.4%, retention time = 3.868 min (Method B).

**2-(1H-Pyrazol-3-yl)benzo[d]oxazole (32)**: 86% yield. Light brownish solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.61 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.87 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 158.57, 149.73, 141.25, 139.60, 130.68, 125.28, 124.74, 119.62, 110.87, 106.02. LC-MS (ESI) 184.1 (M–H), 186.1 (M+H), retention time = 2.92 min (Method A). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O 186.06620, found 186.06656. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.3%, retention time = 6.121 min (Method A); 97.8%, retention time = 5.393 min (Method B).

**2-(1H-Imidazol-4-yl)benzo[d]oxazole (33)**: 76 % yield. Off-white solids. . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.85 (bs, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.71 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.39 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), δ 148.82, 140.88, 137.09, 123.84, 123.77, 118.40, 109.79. LCMS (ESI) 186.0 (M+H), retention time = 1.18 (Method B). HRMS (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O 186.06620, found 186.06656. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.5%, retention time = 3.486 min (Method A); 98.9%, retention time = 3.760 min (Method B).

**5-(1H-Indol-2-yl)-N,N-dimethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-amine (34)**: 58% yield. Light tan solids. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.89 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 170.74, 149.75, 137.05, 128.53, 127.72, 122.95, 120.53, 119.77, 111.78, 102.76, 41.25 ppm. LCMS (ESI) 245.1 (M+H), retention time = 3.24 (Method A). HRMS (M – H)<sup>-</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S 243.07100, found 243.07037. Orthogonal HPLC purity: 97.7%, retention time = 7.723 min (Method A); 98.9%, retention time = 7.105 min (Method B).

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