# Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted Pyrazoles and Isoxazoles from Terminal Alkynes, Aldehydes, Hydrazines, and Hydroxylamine

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**Supporting Information** 

**ABSTRACT:** The reaction of terminal alkynes with *n*-BuLi, and then with aldehydes, followed by the treatment with molecular iodine, and subsequently hydrazines or hydroxylamine provided the corresponding 3,5-disubstituted pyrazoles or isoxazoles in good yields with high regioselectivity, through the formations of propargyl secondary alkoxides and  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones. The present reactions are one-pot preparation of 3,5-



disubstituted pyrazoles from terminal alkynes, aldehydes, molecular iodine, and hydrazines, and 3,5-disubstituted isoxazoles from terminal alkynes, aldehydes, molecular iodine, and hydroxylamine.

## INTRODUCTION

Pyrazoles and isoxazoles are extensively used as heterocyclic units of medicines and agrochemicals.<sup>1</sup> Pyrazoles, in particular, have been studied for more than a century as an important class of heterocyclic compounds<sup>2</sup> and have continued to attract considerable attention due to the broad range of biological activities, including analgesic,<sup>3</sup> antibacterial,<sup>4</sup> antidepressant,<sup>5</sup> anti-inflammatory,<sup>6,7</sup> antimicrobial,<sup>6,8</sup> antiobesity,<sup>9</sup> antiviral,<sup>10</sup> appetite suppressant,<sup>11</sup> cholesterol-lowering,<sup>12</sup> hypoglycemic,<sup>13</sup> antihypertensive,<sup>14</sup> and anticancer<sup>15</sup> activities. Pyrazoles serve as building blocks for pharmaceutical and agricultural research, and Celebrex,<sup>7</sup> Viagra,<sup>16</sup> Zometapine,<sup>17</sup> Cyenopyrafen,<sup>18</sup> Fenpyroximate,<sup>19</sup> and Tebufenpyrad<sup>20</sup> are well-known compounds bearing a pyrazole unit. Pyrazoles are generally synthesized by (i) the reaction of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds with hydrazines, 21 (ii) the reaction of  $\alpha_{\beta}$ -unsaturated or doubly unsaturated aldehydes or ketones with hydrazines,<sup>22</sup> and (iii) the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction of diazoalkanes or nitrilimines with alkenes or alkynes<sup>23</sup> and are occasionally prepared by (iv) the functionalization of unsubstituted or less substituted pyrazoles.<sup>24</sup> Although the major route to pyrazoles involves the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of diazomethanes to alkynes,<sup>23</sup> other methods with metals, Lewis acids, or bases were also recently reported.<sup>25–35</sup> More recently, the TsOHcatalyzed Mannich-type-cyclization-oxidation of arylhydrazines, aromatic aldehydes, and terminal arylalkynes to form 1,3,5triarylpyrazoles was reported.<sup>36</sup> However, that report should be questioned, as we performed the same reaction carefully but were unable to obtain pyrazoles at all using the described procedures and conditions.<sup>36</sup> Namely, treatment of benzaldehyde (1.0 equiv), phenylhydrazine (1.0 equiv), phenylacetylene (1.2 equiv), and p-toluenesulfonic acid in dichloroethane (0.5 M) at room temperature for 24 h did not give the corresponding pyrazole at all.

Isoxazoles possess important biological activities, such as anti-inflammatory,<sup>37</sup> antimicrobial,<sup>38</sup> anticancer,<sup>39</sup> and antino-

ciceptive<sup>40</sup> activities. Although the major route to isoxazoles is the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of nitrile oxides to alkynes,<sup>23</sup> other methods were also reported recently.<sup>41–44</sup> On the other hand, terminal alkynes and aldehydes are easily available, and therefore, the preparation of pyrazoles and isoxazoles with those compomds is a very attractive option. However, to the best of our knowledge, the one-pot preparation of pyrazoles and isoxazoles using terminal alkynes and aldehydes with hydrazine and hydroxylamine is little studied. Here, as part of our investigation of the synthetic use of molecular iodine in organic synthesis,45 we would like to report the one-pot preparation of pyrazoles by reacting a terminal alkyne with *n*-BuLi and then aldehydes, followed by the treatment with molecular iodine and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and the subsequent reaction with hydrazines, and the preparation of isoxazoles by reacting a terminal alkyne with *n*-BuLi and then aldehydes, followed by the treatment with molecular iodine and K2CO3 and the subsequent reaction with hydroxylamine.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 2a at 0 °C generated the adduct, propargyl secondary alkoxide (I). Further treatment of the propargyl secondary alkoxide solution with molecular iodine in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$  under refluxing conditions, followed by the treatment with hydrazine provided 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpyrazole 3a in 20–30% yields. The reason for the low yield of 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpyrazole 3a was that the oxidation of propargyl secondary alkoxide (I) with molecular iodine did not proceed efficiently in THF solution. Therefore, after the formation of the propargyl secondary alkoxide (I), THF was removed by evaporation, and *t*-BuOH was added to promote the oxidation

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to the  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II). Once the  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II) was formed, the reaction with hydrazine occurred smoothly to give 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpyrazole 3a in 86% yield in one pot, as shown in Table 1. The fourth step for the formation

#### Table 1. Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted 1H-Pyrazoles 3



 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Method $A$: evaporation; $I_2$ (1.6 equiv.), $K_2CO_3$ (3.0 equiv.), $t$-BuOH (3 mL), reflux, 2 h $M$ thod $B$: evaporation; TEMPO (10 mol%), DIB (1.2 equiv.), DCE (3 mL), $r.t., 4 h. $M$ thod $C$: Toluene was used instead of THF at 1st step. } \end{array}$ 

conc. HCl aq., Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>•9H<sub>2</sub>O (10mol%), TEMPO (10 mol%), r.t., 24 h. Solvent was evaporated before 4th step, and *t*-BuOH (3 mL) was added.



<sup>*at*</sup>-BuOH (3 mL) was added without removal of THF. <sup>*b*</sup>Reaction time was 4 h at third step. <sup>*c*</sup>Overall yield from isolated ketone (II), and the mixture was treated with NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (1.1 equiv) in *t*-BuOH (3 mL) at refluxing temperature for 1 h. <sup>*d*</sup>Reaction time was 18 h at third step.

of pyrazole proceeded at room temperature. However, refluxing conditions gave pyrazole 3a in a much higher yield than that achieved at room temperature. Thus, treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of aromatic aldehydes, such as 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 2a, 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b, 2-methylbenzaldehyde 2c, 3-methylbenzaldehyde 2d, benzaldehyde 2e, 4-chlorobenzaldehyde 2f, 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde 2g, 3,4-(dimethoxy)-benzaldehyde 2h, 1-naphthaldehyde 2i, 2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde 2j, and furfural 2k, and the subsequent treatment with

molecular iodine and  $K_2CO_3$  in *t*-BuOH and then hydrazine under refluxing conditions (Method A) generated the corresponding 3-aryl-5-phenylpyrazoles 3a-3k in good yields under the same procedure and conditions, as shown in Table 1. When *t*-BuOH was added to the THF solution without removal of THF at the third step, the yields of pyrazoles were decreased to 70–79%. Moreover, in the third step involving the oxidation of propargyl secondary alkoxide (I) derived from furfural **2k**, a TEMPO-catalyzed (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (DIB) oxidation system<sup>46</sup> (Method B) instead of a molecular iodine with  $K_2CO_3$ oxidation system was used to promote the clean oxidation to  $\alpha$ alkynyl ketone (II).

The same treatment of 4-methoxyphenylacetylene 1b, 4methylphenylacetylene 1c, 4-chlorophenylacetylene 1d, 2pyridylacetylene 1e, and 1-octyne 1f with n-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in t-BuOH (Method A) and then hydrazine under refluxing conditions generated the corresponding 5-aryl-3-(4'methylphenyl)pyrazoles 30-3r and 5-hexyl-3-(4'methylphenyl)pyrazole 3s in good yields. In the third step for the oxidation of propargyl secondary alkoxide (I) derived from 2-pyridylacetylene, a TEMPO-catalyzed DIB oxidation system (Method B) instead of a molecular iodine with  $K_2CO_3$ oxidation system was used to promote the clean oxidation to  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II). The same treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0  $^{\circ}$ C, followed by the addition of aliphatic aldehydes, such as propionaldehyde 21 and cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde 2m, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in t-BuOH (Method A), or TEMPO with DIB in 1,2-dichloroethane (Method B), did not generate  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II), because the oxidation of adducts (I) did not occur at all. However, it was found that the oxidation of adducts (I) with  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO<sup>47</sup> in toluene (Method C) proceeded smoothly to generate  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II), and further treatment of isolated  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II) bearing ethyl and cyclohexyl groups with hydrazine generated 3-ethyl-5-phenylpyrazole 31 and 3-cyclohexyl-5-phenylpyrazole 3m in 62 and 65% yields, respectively. In contrast, the same treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of pivalaldehyde 2n, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and  $K_2CO_3$  in *t*-BuOH (Method A) generated  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II) smoothly, and the further treatment with hydrazine provided 3-t-butyl-5-phenylpyrazole 3n in 71% yield in one pot. This may be due to the higher electron density of the oxygen atom of adduct alkoxide (I) than those of adducts (I) formed from the reaction of lithium phenylacetylide with propionaldehyde and cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde (electron-donating ability increases as follows: Et <  $c-C_6H_{11}$  < t-Bu). Here, when the direct in situ oxidation of adducts (I) derived from the reaction of lithium phenylacetylide with propionaldehyde 2l and cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde **2m** was carried out with  $Fe(NO_3)_3$ in the presence of TEMPO, the yields of 3-ethyl-5-phenylpyrazole 31 and 3-cyclohexyl-5-phenylpyrazole 3m were low. The low yields obtained when the reaction was carried out in one pot using  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO, might have been due to the oxidation of hydrazine with oxidizing species, i.e.,  $Fe(NO_3)_3$ , which was used in the third step. Therefore, after the isolation of the  $\alpha$ -propargyl alcohols from adducts (I) derived from propionaldehyde 2l and cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde 2m, and the oxidation of  $\alpha$ -propargyl alcohols with  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO in toluene

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(Method C) gave  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II) in higher than 80% yield. When isolated  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II) were treated with hydrazine, 3-ethyl-5-phenylpyrazole 31 and 3-cyclohexyl-5-phenylpyrazole 3m were obtained in good yields. When methylhydrazine instead of hydrazine was used, after the reaction of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi and then 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b, followed by the oxidation with molecular iodine and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in *t*-BuOH (Method A) under the same procedure and conditions, 1-methyl-3-(4'-methyl-phenyl)-5-phenylpyrazole 5 was obtained in 90% yield as a single isomer, as shown in Scheme 1 (eq 1). On the other hand,

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DL	1) <i>n</i> -BuLi (1.1 equiv.) THF (3 mL), 0 °C, 1.5 h		
2.0 mmol	2) 4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CHO ( <b>2b</b> ) (1.05 equiv.) THF (2 mL), 0 °C - r.t., 1 h	- (18)	
1a	3) evaporation; I <sub>2</sub> (1.6 equiv.), K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv.) <i>t</i> -BuOH (3 mL), reflux, 2 h	$C_6H_4Me-4$	
	4) <b>Me</b> NHNH <sub>2</sub> (2.0 equiv.) reflux, 1 h	Ph <sup>-</sup> N <sup>-</sup> N <sup>-</sup> <b>Me</b> 90% yield 5	
Ph—=== 2.0 mmol 1a	1) <i>n</i> -BuLi (1.1 equiv.) THF (3 mL), 0 °C, 1.5 h	- (Ia)	
	2) 4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CHO ( <b>2b</b> ) (1.05 equiv.) THF (2 mL), 0 °C - r.t., 1 h		
	3) evaporation; I <sub>2</sub> (1.6 equiv.), K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv.) <i>t</i> -BuOH (3 mL), reflux, 2 h	HO N	
	4) <b>Ph</b> NHNH <sub>2</sub> (2.0 equiv.) TBAI (0.1 equiv.), H <sub>2</sub> O (3 mL), reflux, 5 h	$\begin{bmatrix} 4-\text{MeC}_{6}\text{H}_{4}^{\prime} \text{N}_{1}^{\prime \prime} \\ P\text{h} \end{bmatrix}$	
	$\frac{5) \operatorname{TsOH} \cdot \operatorname{H}_2 O (2.5 \text{ equiv.})}{2}$		
	r.t., 1 h	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N Ph	
		89% yield (97:3) 6	
Ph—=== 2.0 mmol Ia	1) <i>n</i> -BuLi (1.1 equiv.) THF (3 mL), 0 °C, 1.5 h	(19)	
	2) 4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CHO ( <b>2b</b> ) (1.05 equiv.) THF (2 mL), 0 °C - r.t., 1 h	(11)	
	3) evaporation; I <sub>2</sub> (1.6 equiv.), K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv.) <i>t</i> -BuOH (3 mL), reflux, 2 h		
	4) $AcNHNH_2$ (2.0 equiv.) Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.0 equiv.), reflux, 5 h	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> $N$ $Ac$ 71% vield	
		7	

Scheme	1.	Preparation	of	1,3,5-Trisubstituted	1H-Pyrazoles
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when phenylhydrazine instead of hydrazine was used under the same procedure and conditions, dehydration to the pyrazole skeleton did not proceed smoothly, and therefore, *p*-TsOH was added for the dehydration at the fifth step at room temperature to give 1-phenyl-5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3-phenylpyrazole **6** in 89% yield with high regioselectivity, including a trace amount of 1-phenyl-3-(4'-methylphenyl)-5-phenylpyrazole (eq 2). These results indicate that the methylamino group of methylhydrazine reacts at the  $\beta$ -position of alkynyl ketone (**II**), whereas the amino group of phenylhydrazine reacts at the  $\beta$ -position of alkynyl ketone (**II**). The structures of pyrazoles **5** and **6** were

supported by X-ray analysis. When acylhydrazine instead of hydrazine was used, after the reaction of phenylacetylene **1a** with *n*-BuLi and then 4-methylbenzaldehyde **2b**, followed by the oxidation with molecular iodine and  $K_2CO_3$  in *t*-BuOH (Method A) under the same procedure and conditions, 5-hydroxypyrazoline intermediate 7, which was not dehydrated, was obtained in 71% yield (eq 3). In this case, the aromatization to 1-acetylpyrazole through the dehydration of intermediate 7 is precluded by the *N*-acetyl group, an electron-withdrawing group.

Then, the one-pot preparation of isoxazoles using hydroxylamine instead of hydrazine was conducted under the same procedure and conditions. Treatment of phenylacetylene **1a** with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of 4methoxybenzaldehyde **2a**, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and  $K_2CO_3$  in *t*-BuOH (Method A) and then hydroxylamine·HCl under refluxing conditions generated a mixture of 5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole **4a** and 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylisoxazole **4a**' in 91% yield (8:1), as shown in Table 2 (entry 1). To improve the regioselective

 Table 2. Optimal Conditions for Regioselective Preparation

 of 3,5-Disubstituted Isoxazole 4a

Ph	1) <i>n</i> -BuLi (1.1 equiv.) THF (3 mL), 0 °C, 1.5 h		
1a	2) 4-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -CHO ( <b>2a</b> ) (1.05 equiv.) THF (2 mL), 0 °C - r.t., 1 h		
	3) evaporation; I <sub>2</sub> (1.6 equiv.), K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv.) <i>t</i> -BuOH (3 mL), reflux, 2 h 4-MeOC	eH4 Ph	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> OMe-4
	4) NH <sub>2</sub> OH•HCl (2.5 equiv.),additive reflux, 5 h	4a	4'a
entry	additive	4a/4a'	yield (%)
1	none	8:1	91
2	TsOH·H <sub>2</sub> O (1.0 equiv)	2:1	82
3	TfOH (1.0 equiv)	1:1.2	80
4	Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.0 equiv)	20:1	88
5	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> NEt (1.0 equiv)	30:1	86
6	DBU (1.0 equiv)	49:1	79
7	TBAI (0.1 equiv)	8:1	92
8 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	H <sub>2</sub> O (3 mL)	>99:1	85
9 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	TBAI (0.1 equiv), H <sub>2</sub> O (3 mL)	>99:1	88
$10^a$	Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.0 equiv), H <sub>2</sub> O (3 mL)	>99:1	81
$11^a$	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> NEt (1.0 equiv), H <sub>2</sub> O (3 ml	L) >99:1	78
$12^a$	DBU (1.0 equiv), $H_2O$ (3 mL)	>99:1	76
<sup>a</sup> After	fourth step reaction. TsOH·H-O	(2.5 equiv) was	added, and

"After fourth step reaction,  $TsOH \cdot H_2O$  (2.5 equiv) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt.

formation of 5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole 4a, various acids and bases as an additive were used at the fourth step, and it was found that the addition of water (3 mL), water (3 mL) with tetrabutylammonium iodide (TBAI), or water (3 mL) with tetriary amines, such as  $Et_3N$ , *i*- $Pr_2NEt$ , and DBU, gave 5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole 4a in high yields with high regioselectivity (>99:1) (entries 8–12). Especially, addition of water (3 mL) with TBAI gave 5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole 4a in the best yield with high regioselectivity (entry 9).

On the basis of these optimum conditions, treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of aromatic aldehydes, such as 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 2a, 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b, 2-methylbenzaldehyde 2c, 3-methylbenzaldehyde 2d, benzaldehyde 2e, 4-chlorobenzaldehyde 2f, 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde 2g, 3,4(dimethoxy)benzaldehyde **2h**, 1-naphthaldehyde **2i**, 2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde **2j**, and furfural **2k**, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and  $K_2CO_3$  in *t*-BuOH (Method A) and then hydroxylamine·HCl generated the corresponding 3-phenyl-5-arylisoxazoles **4a**–**4k** in good yields with high regioselectivity, as shown in Table 3. It was found





<sup>*a*</sup>Reaction time was 4 h at third step. <sup>*b*</sup>TBAI, H<sub>2</sub>O, and TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O were not added. <sup>*c*</sup>Overall yield is from isolated ketone (II), and the mixture was treated with NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (1.1 equiv), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.6 equiv), and TBAI (0.1 equiv) in *t*-BuOH (3 mL) at refluxing conditions for 5 h. Then, TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (1.0 equiv) was added, and the mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. <sup>*d*</sup>THF was not removed. <sup>*e*</sup>TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O was not added. <sup>*f*</sup>Reaction time was 18 h at third step.

that intermediates (III) were not efficiently dehydrated smoothly and the addition of *p*-TsOH to the reaction mixture at the fifth step at room temperature increased the yields of 3,5disubstituted isoxazoles. The same treatment of phenylacetylene **1a** with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of pivalaldehyde **2n**, and the subsequent treatment I<sub>2</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in *t*-BuOH (Method A), and then with hydroxylamine·HCl under refluxing conditions, and finally the treatment with *p*-TsOH at room temperature generated the corresponding 5-t-butyl-3-phenylisoxazole 4n in 90% yield in one pot. On the other hand, the same treatment of phenylacetylene 1a with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0  $^{\circ}$ C. followed by the addition of propionaldehyde 2l and cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde 2m, and the subsequent treatment with  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO in toluene (Method C) gave  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketones (II) bearing ethyl and cyclohexyl groups in good yields. Treatment of the isolated alkynyl ketones (II) bearing ethyl and cyclohexyl groups with hydroxylamine·HCl under refluxing conditions, followed by treatment with p-TsOH at room temperature provided 5-ethyl-3-phenylisoxazole 41 and 5-cyclohexy-3phenylisoxazole 4m in 68 and 62% yields, respectively. In contrast, the one-pot preparation of 5-ethyl-3-phenylisoxazole 4l and 5-cyclohexy-3-phenylisoxazole 4m through the oxidation of alkoxide (I) to alkynyl ketone (II) by  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO (Method C), and the subsequent treatment with hydroxylamine·HCl under refluxing conditions was not effective again, and the yields were 26 and 30%, respectively. The same treatment of 4-methoxyphenylacetylene 1b, 4-methylphenylacetylene 1c, 4-chlorophenylacetylene 1d, 2-pyridylacetylene 1e, and 1-octyne 1f with *n*-BuLi in THF at 0 °C, followed by the addition of 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b, and the subsequent treatment with molecular iodine and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in t-BuOH (Method A) and then hydroxylamine·HCl under refluxing conditions generated the corresponding 3-aryl-5-(4'methylphenyl)isoxazoles 40-4q and 3-hexyl-5-(4'methylphenyl)isoxazole 4s in good yields with high regioselectivity. However, 5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3-(2'-pyridyl)isoxazole 4r was not obtained, and precursor IIIr containing a hydroxy group at 5-position, using Method B for oxidation, was obtained in 56% yield. It is known that the aromatic resonance energy of isoxazoles is lower than that of pyrazoles,<sup>48</sup> and therefore, we believe that the formation of isoxazoles through the dehydration of intermediates (III) is not efficient. Therefore, the addition of *p*-TsOH to cyclization intermediates (III) promoted the dehydration to give isoxazoles smoothly, as shown in Table 3. The structure of 5-(4'-chlorophenyl)-3phenylisoxazole 4f was supported by X-ray analysis.

A plausible reaction mechanism for the formation of pyrazoles and isoxazoles is shown in Scheme 2. The formed lithium acetylide reacts with aldehyde to form propargyl secondary alkoxide (I), which is further oxidized to  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II) by molecular iodine in the presence of  $K_2CO_3$ (Method A) mainly, and in some cases, DIB in the presence of TEMPO (Method B) or  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO (Method C). Once  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II) is formed, it smoothly reacts with hydrazine to provide pyrazole, mainly through the Michael-type addition of hydrazine to  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II), the 5-exo-trig cyclization onto the ketone group, and the subsequent dehydration. As a related reaction, treatment of 4methylphenyl phenylethynyl ketone,  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone, with benzylamine (1.2 equiv) as amine nucleophile, in 1,2dichloroethane for 11 h at 80 °C gave 2-benzylamino-2phenylethenyl 4'-methylphenyl ketone,  $\beta$ -aminovinyl ketone, in 93% yield. For isoxazoles,  $\alpha$ -alkynyl ketone (II) smoothly reacts with hydroxylamine through the Michael-type addition by hydroxylamine to form  $\beta$ -(*N*-hydroxyamino)vinyl ketone (**IV**). Then, the 5-exo-trig cyclization onto the ketone group and subsequent dehydration occur. The addition of *p*-TsOH at the fifth step promotes the dehydration to form 3,5-disubstituted isoxazoles.

Scheme 2. Plausible Reaction Mechanism



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3,5-Disubstituted pyrazoles and isoxazoles were prepared in good yields with high regioselectivity in one pot by the treatment of terminal alkynes with aromatic aldehydes, molecular iodine (in some cases, DIB or  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO), and hydrazines, and of terminal alkynes with aromatic aldehydes, molecular iodine (in some cases, DIB or  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  in the presence of TEMPO), and hydroxylamine, respectively. The present reaction is a simple and practical method for the preparation of various 1,3-disubstituted pyrazoles and isoxazoles from easily available compounds.

### EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Methods.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured on 500 and 400 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts were recorded as follows: chemical shift in ppm from internal tetramethylsilane on the  $\delta$  scale, multiplicity (s = singlet; d = doublet; t = triplet; q = quartet; m = multiplet; br = broad), coupling constant (Hz), integration, and assignment. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were measured on 125 and 100 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts were recorded in ppm from the solvent resonance employed as the internal standard (deuterochloroform at 77.0 ppm). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured on orbitrap mass spectrometers. Characteristic peaks in the infrared (IR) spectra were recorded in wave numbers, cm<sup>-1</sup>. Melting points were uncorrected. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using 0.25 mm silica gel plates (60F-254). The products were purified by short column chromatography on silica gel 60 (63–200 mesh).

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted 1*H*-Pyrazoles 3a–3j, 3l–3q, 3s, 3t (with Method A). A solution of *n*-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (206 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 2a (286 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2.1. Then, the solvent was removed, and I<sub>2</sub> (812 mg, 3.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (830 mg, 6.0 mmol), and *t*-BuOH (3 mL) were added to the residue, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, hydrazine monohydrate (194  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h under refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (3 × 20 mL).

organic layer was washed with brine and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ . Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/AcOEt = 2:1) yielded 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazole **3a** (434 mg, 86%).

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted 1H-Pyrazoles 3k, 3r (with Method B). A solution of n-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (205 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of furfural 2k (202 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0  $^\circ\text{C}\textsc{,}$  and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and 2,2,6,6tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl (TEMPO, 31 mg, 0.2 mmol), (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (2.4 mmol, 773 mg), and 1,2-dichloroethane (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, hydrazine monohydrate (194  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h under refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/AcOEt = 2:1) yielded 3-(2'-furyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazole 3k (320 mg, 76%).

General Procedure for the Praparation of Substituted 1H-Pyrazoles 3l, 3m (with Method C). A solution of n-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (204 mg 2.0 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. Propionaldehyde 21 (151  $\mu$ L, 2.1 mmol) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Then, conc. HCl aq. was added until the solution became acidic, and then Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·9H<sub>2</sub>O (81 mg, 0.2 mmol) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl (TEMPO, 31 mg, 0.2 mmol) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. Then, the solvent was removed, and then hydrazine monohydrate (194  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol) and t-BuOH (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h under refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with 4 M HCl aq. and was extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (3 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ AcOEt = 2:1) yielded 3-ethyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole 3l (104 mg, 30%).

**3-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3a).** White solid (434 mg, 86% yield): mp 165–166 °C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 156–158 °C); IR (ATR) 3135, 2914, 1619, 1508, 1460, 1297, 1253, 1187 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 3.81 (s, 3H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 55.3, 99.4, 114.2, 123.9, 125.6, 126.9, 128.1, 128.8, 131.5, 159.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ON<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 251.1179, found 251.1172.

**3-(4'-Methylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3b).** White solid (469 mg, >99% yield): mp 177–178 °C (lit, <sup>49</sup> mp 170–172 °C); IR (ATR) 3134, 2908, 1605, 1508, 1457, 1307, 1268, 1175 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.39 (s, 3H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.3, 99.9, 125.5, 125.6 128.2, 128.8, 129.6, 138.3; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.1230, found 235.1225.

**3-(2'-Methylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3c).** White solid (350 mg, 75% yield): mp 104–105 °C; IR (ATR) 3206, 3019, 1572, 1492, 1457, 1308, 1259, 1176 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.44 (s, 3H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 7.17–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 20.8, 103.0, 125.6, 126.0, 128.0, 128.5, 128.7, 128.9, 130.9, 136.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.1230, found 235.1228.

**3-(3'-Methylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3d).** White solid (356 mg, 76% yield): mp 141–142 °C(lit.,<sup>50</sup> mp 120–124 °C); IR (ATR) 3204, 3030, 1566, 1457, 1293, 1268, 1162 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.38 (s, 3H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz,

1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H),; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 21.3$ , 99.7, 122.7, 125.5, 126.2, 127.7, 128.5, 128.6, 131.0, 131.3, 138.2, 148.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{15}N_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.1230, found 235.1227.

**3,5-Diphenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3e, Commercially Available).** White solid (388 mg, 88% yield): mp 196–197  $^{\circ}$ C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 197–199  $^{\circ}$ C).

**3-(4'-Chlorophenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3f).** White solid (466 mg, 91% yield): mp 203–204 °C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 214–215 °C); IR (ATR) 3141, 2923, 1733, 1567, 1456, 1308, 1270, 1184 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 6.81 (s, 1H), 7.35–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.66–7.70 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  = 101.0, 126.0, 127.8, 129.1, 129.4, 129.9, 130.1, 133.4, 147.1, 147.2; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Cl (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 255.0684, found 255.0678.

**3-(4'-Trifluoromethylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole** (3g). White solid (395 mg, 68% yield): mp 225–226 °C (lit.,  $^{51}$  mp 226 °C).

**3-(3',4'-Dimethoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3h).** White solid (456 mg, 81% yield): mp 143–144 °C; IR (ATR) 3251, 2972, 1590, 1466, 1253, 1237, 1140 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.25–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 55.2, 55.7, 98.8, 108.4, 111.0, 118.0, 125.3, 127.7, 128.5, 131.1, 148.7, 148.8; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 281.1285, found 281.1279.

**3-(1'-Naphthyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3i).** White solid (411 mg, 76% yield): mp 145–146 °C(lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 140–142 °C).

**5-Phenyl-3-(2'-thienyl)-1H-pyrazole (3j).** White solid (377 mg, 83% yield): mp 184–185 °C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 187–188 °C).

**3-(2'-Furyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3k).** White solid (320 mg, 76% yield): mp 173–174 °C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 170–172 °C).

**3-Ethyl-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3l).** White solid (104 mg, 30% yield): mp 80-81 °C (lit.,<sup>52</sup> mp 82.5 °C).

**3-Cyclohexyl-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (3m).** White solid (192 mg, 42% yield): mp 138 °C (lit.,<sup>49</sup> mp 135–137 °C).

**3-(tert-Butyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazole (3n).** White solid (286 mg, 71% yield): mp 118–119 °C (lit.,<sup>53</sup> mp 119–120 °C). **5-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(4"-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazole** 

**5**-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-**3**-(4''-methylphenyl)-**1***H*-pyrazole (**30**). White solid (443 mg, 83% yield): mp 167–168 °C (lit.,<sup>54</sup> mp 170 °C).

**3,5-Di(4'-methylphenyl)-1***H***-pyrazole (3p).** White solid (469 mg, 94% yield): mp 220–221 °C (lit.,<sup>55</sup> mp 221–223 °C).

**5-(4'-Chlorophenyl)-3-(4"-methylphenyl)-1***H***-pyrazole (3q). White solid (412 mg, 76% yield): mp 223–224 °C (lit.,<sup>51</sup> mp 209 °C); IR (ATR) 3111, 2855, 1491, 1385, 1304, 1721, 1172 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) \delta = 2.40 (s, 3H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d,** *J* **= 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,** *J* **= 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d,** *J* **= 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,** *J* **= 8.3 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) \delta = 20.8, 99.5, 125.0, 126.7, 128.6, 129.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Cl (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 269.0840, found 269.0840.** 

**3-(4'-Methylphenyl)-5-(2"-pyridyl)-1***H***-pyrazole (3r).** White solid (320 mg, 68% yield): mp 169 °C; IR (ATR) 3217, 3042, 1597, 1565, 1454, 1313, 1296, 1177 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.39 (s, 3H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.22–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.74–7.77 (m, 4H), 8.69 (td, *J* = 4.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.3, 100.2, 120.1, 122.9, 125.5, 129.4, 137.0, 137.8, 149.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 236.1182, found 236.1179.

**5-Hexyl-3-(4'-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazole (3s).** White solid (377 mg, 77% yield): mp 81–82 °C; IR (ATR) 3239, 2926, 2854, 1566, 1530, 1446, 1377, 1263, 1110 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.22–1.36 (m, 6H), 1.61 (quin, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 14.0, 21.2, 22.5, 26.5, 29.0, 29.2, 31.6, 100,6, 125.6, 129.3, 137.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 243.1856, found 243.1854.

General Procedure for the Prepration of 3,5-Disubstituted 1-Methylpyrazole 5 (with Method A). A solution of *n*-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (206 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4-methylbenzaldehyde **2b** (252 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and I<sub>2</sub> (812 mg, 3.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (830 mg, 6.0 mmol), and *t*-BuOH (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, methylhydrazine (209  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h under refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (3 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/CHCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1) yielded 1-methyl-3-(4'-methylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole **5** (449 mg, 90%).

**1-Methyl-3-(4'-methylphenyl)-5-phenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (5)**.<sup>56</sup> White solid (449 mg, 90% yield): mp 131–132 °C; IR (ATR) 3335, 2973, 2915, 1526, 1484, 1437, 1089, 1048 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.37 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.48 (m, SH), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.2, 37.5, 103.0, 125.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 129.3, 130.7, 137.3, 144.9, 150.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 249.1386, found 249.1385.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted 1-Phenylpyrazole 6 (with Method A). A solution of *n*-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (205 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b (252 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and I<sub>2</sub> (812 mg, 3.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (830 mg, 6.0 mmol), and t-BuOH (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, phenylhydrazine (394 µL, 4.0 mmol), tetrabutylammonium iodide (74 mg, 0.2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 5 h under refluxing conditions. Then, p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (951 mg, 5.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was guenched with sat. aq.  $Na_2SO_3$  and was extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (3 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/CHCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1) yielded 5-(4'-methylphenyl)-1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazole 6 (558 mg, 89%).

**5-(4'-Methylphenyl)-1,3-diphenyl-1***H***-pyrazole (6).** White solid (558 mg, 89% yield): mp 110–111 °C (lit., <sup>57</sup> mp 174 °C); IR (ATR) 3377, 3057, 2973, 1593, 1493, 1456, 1359, 1175 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.34 (s, 3H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.26–7.44 (m, 8H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.2, 104.9, 125.3, 125.8, 127.3, 127.6, 127.9, 128.5, 128.6, 128.8, 129.1, 133.1, 138.2, 140.2, 144.4, 151.8; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 311.1543, found 311.1541.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted 1-Acetylpyrazoline 7 (with Method A). A solution of *n*-BuLi (1.58) M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (206 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4-methylbenzaldehyde 2b (252 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and I<sub>2</sub> (812 mg, 3.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (830 mg, 6.0 mmol), and *t*-BuOH (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, acethydrazide (296 mg, 4.0 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (279  $\mu$ L, 4.0 mmol) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 5 h at refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>  $(3 \times 20)$ mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/  $CHCl_3 = 1:3$ ) yielded 1-acetyl-5-hydroxy-5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3phenyl-1H-pyrazoline 7 (423 mg, 71%).

1-Acetyl-5-hydroxy-5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-pyrazoline (7). White solid (423 mg, 71% yield): mp 133-134 °C; IR (ATR) 3374, 2974, 1650, 1600, 1434, 1360, 1329, 1243, 1173 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 3.35 (d, J = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, I = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, I =8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.68-7.72 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  =21.0, 22.3, 50.5, 93.8, 123.7, 126.5, 128.7, 129.4, 130.4, 131.1, 137.8, 140.9, 152.6, 170.8; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{19}O_2N_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 295.1441, found 295.1441

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted Isoxazoles 4a-4q, 4s, 4t (with Method A). A solution of n-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (204 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde 2a (286 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and  $\mathrm{I}_2$ (812 mg, 3.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (830 mg, 6.0 mmol), and t-BuOH (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, hydroxylamine hydrochloride (348 mg, 5.0 mmol), tetrabutylammonium iodide (74 mg, 0.2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 5 h under refluxing conditions. Then, p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (951 mg, 5.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/CHCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1) yielded 5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole 4a (441 mg, 88%)

General Procedure for the Preparation of 3,5-Disubstituted Isoxazoline IIIr (with Method B). A solution of *n*-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to 2-pyridylacetylene 1e (207 mg 2.0 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. A solution of 4methylbenzaldehyde 2b (252 mg, 2.1 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to the mixture at  $0^{\circ}$ C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Then, the solvent was removed, and 2,2,6,6tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl (TEMPO, 31 mg, 0.2 mmol), (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (2.4 mmol, 773 mg), and 1,2-dichloroethane (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 2 h under refluxing conditions. Then, hydroxylamine hydrochloride (348 mg, 5.0 mmol), tetrabutylammonium iodide (74 mg, 0.2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 5 h under refluxing conditions. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq.  $Na_2SO_3$  and was extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (3 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 4:1) yielded 5hydroxy-5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3-(2'-pyridyl)-1H-pyrazole IIIr (285 mg, 56%).

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Substituted Isoxazoles 4l, 4m (with Method C). A solution of n-BuLi (1.58 M in hexane, 1.39 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added dropwise to phenylacetylene 1a (204 mg 2.0 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) at 0 °C, and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. Propionaldehyde 2l (151  $\mu$ L, 2.1 mmol) was added to the mixture at 0 °C, and the obtained mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Then, conc. HCl aq. was added until the solution became acidic, and then Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·9H<sub>2</sub>O (81 mg, 0.2 mmol) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl (TEMPO, 31 mg, 0.2 mmol) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. Then, the solvent was removed. Hydroxylamine hydrochloride (348 mg, 5.0 mmol), tetrabutylammonium iodide (74 mg, 0.2 mmol), t-BuOH (3 mL), and H2O (3 mL) were added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 5 h under refluxing conditions. Then, p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (951 mg, 5.0 mmol) was added, and the obtained mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with 4 M HCl aq. and was extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (3 × 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na2SO4. Purification by short column chromatography on silica gel

 $(hexane/CHCl_3 = 1:1)$  yielded 5-ethyl-3-phenylisoxazole 41 (91 mg, 26%).

5-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4a). White solid (410 mg, 87% yield): mp 124 °C (lit.,<sup>58</sup> mp 126–127 °C)

5-(4'-Methylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4b). White solid (441 mg, 88% yield): mp 135 °C (lit.,<sup>58</sup> mp 135–136 °C).

5-(2'-Methylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4c). White solid (342 mg, 72% yield): mp 38-39 °C; IR (ATR) 3053, 1566, 1490, 1399, 1232 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.54 (s, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 7.28-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.48 (m, 3H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 21.4$ , 100.5, 126.2, 126.8, 127.0, 128.4, 128.9, 129.1, 129.9, 130.0, 131.3, 136.2, 162.6, 170.5; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ON (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 236.1070, found 236.1068.

5-(3'-Methylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4d). White solid (354 mg, 75% yield): mp 111-112 °C; IR (ATR) 3109, 1587, 1490, 1462, 1397, 1084 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.43 (s, 3H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.85-7.88 (m, 2H);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.4, 97.3, 123.0, 126.4, 126.8, 127.3, 128.9 (2C), 129.2, 130.0, 131.0, 138.8, 162.9, 170.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{14}ON (M + H)^+$  236.1070, found 236.1069.

**3,5-Diphenylisoxazole (4e, Commercially Available).** White solid (420 mg, 95% yield): mp 138–139 °C (lit.,<sup>58</sup> mp 140–141 °C). 5-(4'-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4f). White solid (369 mg, 72% yield): mp 175-177 °C (lit.,<sup>58</sup> mp 177-179 °C).

5-(4'-Trifluoromethylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4g). White solid (356 mg, 61% yield): mp 184-185 °C; IR (ATR) 3110, 1600, 1465, 1394, 1320, 1109 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 6.94$ (s, 1H), 7.47–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.85–7.89 (m, 2H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 79.0, 123.8 (q.  $J_{C-F} = 272.3 \text{ Hz}$ ), 126.1, 126.2, 126.8, 128.9, 129.0, 130.2, 130.7, 132.1 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 33.6 Hz), 163.2, 168.9; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{11}ONF_3 (M + H)^+$  290.0787, found 290.0795.

5-(3',4'-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4h). White solid (428 mg, 76% yield): mp 106–107 °C (lit.,<sup>59</sup> mp 90 °C); IR (ATR) 3126, 1605, 1505, 1468, 1399, 1251 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.85-7.88 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  = 55.9, 56.0, 96.4, 108.6, 111.2, 119.1, 120.4, 126.8, 128.9, 129.2, 129.4, 149.2, 150.7, 163.0, 170.3; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{16}O_3N (M + H)^+$  282.1125, found 282.1124.

5-(1'-Naphthyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4i). White solid (405 mg, 74% yield): mp 161–162 °C (lit.,<sup>60</sup> mp 76 °C); IR (ATR) 3107, 1563, 1509, 1457, 1402, 1272 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 6.94 (s, 1H), 7.46–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.55 (dt, J = 9.5, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.86–7.95 (m, 6H), 8.36 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta =$ 97.8, 122.9, 124.7, 125.6, 126.8, 126.9, 127.3, 127.8, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 129.1, 130.0, 133.0, 133.9, 163.1, 170.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{14}ON (M + H)^+ 272.1070$ , found 272.1068.

**3-Phenyl-5-(2'-thienyl)isoxazole (4j).** White solid (340 mg, 75% yield): mp 93–94 °C (lit.,<sup>61</sup> mp 95–96 °C).

5-(2'-Furyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4k). White solid (238 mg, 56%

yield): mp 76 °C (lit.,<sup>11</sup> mp 76–77 °C). **5-Ethyl-3-phenylisoxazole (41).**<sup>62</sup> Colorless oil (91 mg, 26%) yield): IR (ATR) 2978, 1601, 1578, 1471 1442, 1407, 1232 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 1.35 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 2.83 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 7.41–7.48 (m, 3H), 7.76–7.82 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 11.7, 20.2, 98.1, 126.7, 128.8, 129.4, 129.7, 162.3, 175.3; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ON (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 174.0913, found 174.0913.

5-Cyclohexyl-3-phenylisoxazole (4m). White solid (137 mg, 30% yield): mp 73-74 °C; IR (ATR) 2923, 1595, 1578, 1471, 1440, 1405, 1309 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 1.24 - 1.55$  (m, 5H), 1.71-1.77 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.87 (m. 2H), 2.07-2.14 (m, 2H), 2.82 (tt, J = 11.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.78-7.80 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 25.7, 25.8, 31.2, 36.4, 97.0, 126.7, 128.8, 129.5, 129.7, 162.1, 178.4; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{18}ON (M + H)^+$  228.1383, found 228.1381.

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**5-(tert-Butyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (4n).** White solid (361 mg, 90% yield): mp 49–50 °C (lit,  $^{63}$  mp 41 °C); IR (ATR) 2971, 1594, 1576, 1465, 1438, 1402, 1275 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 1.40 (s, 9H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 7.40–7.46 (m, 3H), 7.78–7.80 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 28.9, 32.8, 96.4, 126.7, 128.8, 129.5, 129.7, 162.1, 181.7; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ON (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 202.1226, found 202.1226.

3-(4'-Methoxyphenyl)-5-(4"-methylphenyl)isoxazole (40). White solid (456 mg, 86% yield): mp 149 °C (lit.,<sup>64</sup> mp 150–150.5 °C).

**3,5-Di(4'-methylphenyl)isoxazole (4p).** White solid (431 mg, 86% yield): mp 149–150 °C (lit., mp 152–152.5 °C).

**3**-(4'-Chlorophenyl)-5-(4"-methylphenyl)isoxazole (4q). White solid (407 mg, 75% yield): mp 193–194 °C (lit., mp 199.5–200 °C); IR (ATR) 3111, 1601, 1497, 1428, 1379, 1262, 1093 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.42 (s, 3H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.5, 96.7, 124.6, 125.8, 127.7, 128.0, 129.2, 129.7, 135.9, 140.7, 161.9, 170.9; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ONCl (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 270.0680, found 270.0681.

**5-Hydroxy-5-(4'-methylphenyl)-3-(2"-pyridyl)isoxazoline** (IIIr). White solid (285 mg, 56% yield): mp 123–124 °C; IR (ATR) 3198, 1573, 1476, 1443, 1286, 1179 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 2.36 (s, 3H), 3.56 (d, *J* = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), ; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 21.1, 48.2, 108.6, 121.7, 124.4, 125.5, 129.1, 136.5, 137.7, 138.6, 149.0, 149.2, 159.0; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 255.1128, found 255.1127.

**3**-Hexyl-5-(4'-methylphenyl)isoxazole (4s). White solid (335 mg, 69% yield): mp 38 °C; IR (ATR) 2927, 1602, 1516, 1468, 1421, 1421, 1264 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.29–1.35 (m, 4H), 1.36–1.42 (m, 2H), 1.70 (quin, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 1.5 (NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 14.0, 21.4, 22.5, 26.1, 28.3, 28.9, 31.5, 98.5, 125.0, 125.6, 129.5, 140.1, 164.7, 169.6; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ON (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 244.1696, found 244.1695.

#### ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **S** Supporting Information

 $^{1}$ H NMR and  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra of all pyrazoles and isoxazoles, and X-ray analysis data of pyrazoles **6** and 7, and isoxazole **4f**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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#### Notes

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