

Cu-Catalyzed Aminodifluoroalkylation of Alkynes and α -Bromodifluoroacetamides

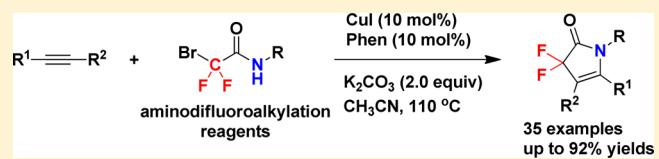
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Supporting Information

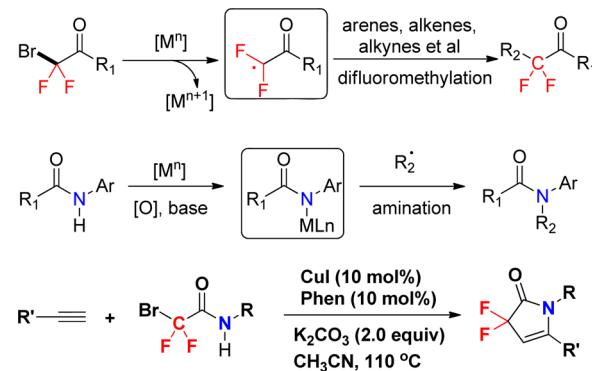
ABSTRACT: The copper-catalyzed highly regioselective aminodifluoroalkylation of alkynes and α -bromodifluoroacetamides was realized for the first time. With this method, 3,3-difluoro-1*H*-pyrrol-2(3*H*)-ones were constructed in a single step from various alkynes and α -bromodifluoroacetamides substrates without using any extra oxidant.



The introduction of fluorine atoms or fluorinated moieties can alter molecular physical and chemical properties and biological activities in a dramatic way.¹ Nitrogen-containing heterocycles are the key core of bioactive molecules.² Therefore, efficient synthesis of fluorinated nitrogen-containing heterocycles is highly desirable for exploration of new pharmaceuticals.³ As part of our ongoing study on amino-fluorination reaction of alkenes and aminoarylation of alkynes using *N*-fluorobenzenesulfonimide (NFSI) as nitrogen source and the fluorine or aryl source,⁴ we try to synthesize fluorinated nitrogen-containing heterocycles directly from alkynes by seeking a reagent with both fluorine and nitrogen moieties. Our literature survey showed that α -bromodifluoroacetamides might be suitable reagents for this purpose.⁵ As we know, the gem-difluoromethylene group (CF_2) not only acts as lipophilic hydrogen bond donors and as bioisosteres of alcohols and thiols but also may significantly improve the biological stability.⁶ Very recently, via reductive cleavage of C–Br bond, α -bromodifluoroacetamides were successfully utilized as a fluoroalkyl radical reagent which can be trapped by a series of unsaturated compounds.^{5c,d} On the other hand, in the presence of transition metal, oxidant, and base, α -bromodifluoroacetamides may also be used as a suitable reagent for amination via cleavage of N–H bond in *N*-aryl amides.⁷ Therefore, we reasoned that in the presence of one suitable catalyst, the above two processes could be consequentially realized to fulfill a catalytic cycle. Thus, the gem-difluoro group and nitrogen atom can be simultaneously installed into an unsaturated C–C bond, which will lead a gem-difluorinated aza-heterocycle (Scheme 1).

In contrast to the recent significant progress in the difluoromethylation of arenes^{5b,8} and difluoromethylation difunctionalization of alkenes,^{5d,9} efficient difluoroalkylation of less reactive alkynes are less abundant. Recently, examples of metal-catalyzed difluoromethylation difunctionalization of alkynes such as halodifluoroalkylation, aryldifluoromethylation, cyanodifluoroalkylation, and carbodifluoroalkylation was real-

Scheme 1. Aminodifluoromethylation of Alkynes and Our Strategy



ized to provide molecules with important difluoroalkyl units ($\text{C}=\text{CCF}_2\text{R}$).¹⁰ However, to our knowledge, aminodifluoroalkylation of simple alkynes has never been reported. Herein, we report the first example of a copper-catalyzed highly regioselective aminodifluoroalkylation of alkynes with α -bromodifluoroacetamides as both fluorine and nitrogen sources for facile access to a series of fluorinated aza-heterocycles 3,3-difluoro-1*H*-pyrrol-2(3*H*)-ones¹¹ (Scheme 1).

We began our investigation utilizing the reaction between ethynylbenzene **1a** and 2-bromo-2,2-difluoro-*N*-(*p*-tolyl)-acetamide **2a** as the model reaction (Table 1). With CuI as the catalyst in the presence of K_2CO_3 in MeCN, the model reaction was performed at 110 °C for 2 h under air, and no desired aminodifluoroalkylation product was observed (Table 1, entry 1). When 10 mol % pyridine was added to the above reaction, intermolecular aminodifluoroalkylation product **3a** was obtained in 18% yield (Table 1, entry 2). We were pleased to discover that 1,10-phenanthroline (Phen) was an extremely

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Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions^a

entry	metal	ligand	additive	solvent	yield (%) ^b
1	CuI	none	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	0
2	CuI	pyridine	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	18
3	CuI	bipy	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	9
4	CuI	Ph ₃ P	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	7
5	CuI	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	92
6	CuI	Phen	none	CH ₃ CN	trace
7	none	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	trace
8	CuI	Phen	KO'Bu	CH ₃ CN	15
9	CuI	Phen	Et ₃ N	CH ₃ CN	29
10	CuBr	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	86
11	CuCl	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	90
12	Cu(O Tf) ₂	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	41
13	Cu(O Ac) ₂	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	45
14	CuI	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	EtOH	6
15	CuI	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	DMF	8
16	CuI	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	EtOAc	19
17 ^c	CuI	Phen	K ₂ CO ₃	CH ₃ CN	24

^aReactions were carried out with **1a** (0.45 mmol), **2a** (0.3 mmol), metal (10 mol %), ligand (10 mol %), and additive (2.0 equiv) in 3 mL of solvent under an air atmosphere at 110 °C for 2 h unless noted otherwise. ^bYield of the isolated product. ^cThe reaction was performed at 90 °C. Phen = 1,10-phenanthroline, Tf = trifluoromethanesulfonyl, bipy = 2,2'-bipyridine.

efficient ligand for promoting the reaction, affording **3a** in 92% yield (Table 1, entries 3–5). Control reactions demonstrated that base and catalyst were essential to the reaction (Table 1, entries 6 and 7). Other bases such as KO'Bu and Et₃N were not as effective as K₂CO₃ (Table 1, entries 8 and 9). Further investigation on different copper salts revealed that CuBr and

CuCl were also efficient catalysts for this transformation, affording product **3a** in satisfying 86 and 90% yields, respectively (Table 1, entries 10 and 11). With Cu(O Tf)₂ and Cu(O Ac)₂ as catalysts, **3a** was provided in 41 and 45% yields, respectively (Table 1, entries 12 and 13). Other solvents (e.g., EtOH, DMF, and EtOAc) were examined but did not lead to any significant improvement (Table 1, entries 14–16). When the reaction was performed at 90 °C, **3a** was isolated in 24% yield (Table 1, entry 17). It should be noted that the transformation from **1a** into **3a** represents the first direct aminodifluoroalkylation from alkynes.

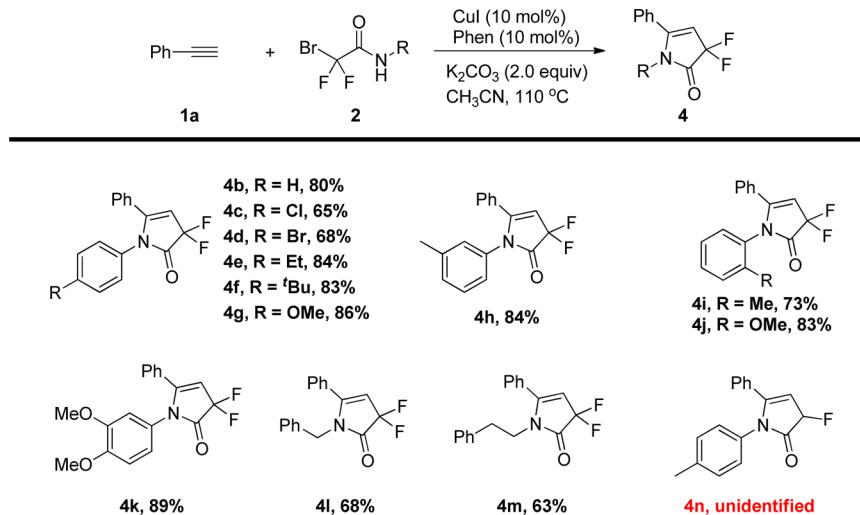
With the optimized reaction conditions in hand (Table 1, entry 5), the scope of the aminodifluoroalkylation of alkynes was examined, and the results are shown in Table 2. The reaction of **2a** and a variety of alkynes derivatives afforded the desired aminodifluoroalkylation products **3** in 55–92% yields. Halo-substituted phenylacetylenes (**1b**–**1d**, **1k**, **1l**, **1s**, and **1t**) were tolerated in the aminodifluoroalkylation reaction and could be very useful for further transformations. Phenyl-acetylene substrates bearing electron-withdrawing substituents such as F, Cl, Br, and nitro were effectively converted into the corresponding products in moderate to excellent yields. Substrates with electron-donating substituents on the aromatic ring underwent aminodifluoroalkylation smoothly to afford the desired products (**3e**–**3j** and **3n**–**3r**) in good yields. In addition, heteroaromatic alkynes such as 3-ethynylthiophene **1u** were also effective to provide **3u** in 72% yield. Internal alkynes were subsequently examined. Starting from prop-1-yn-1-ylbenzene **1v** and but-1-yn-1-ylbenzene **1w**, **3v** and **3w** were obtained in 85 and 82% yields, respectively. However, from the substrates hex-1-yne **1x** and diphenylacetylene **1y**, no reactions occurred, and the substrate **2a** was completely recovered. Remarkably, in all cases, the reactions proceeded smoothly under air, and high regioselectivities were observed.

To further explore the potential of this efficient aminodifluoroalkylation reaction, a variety of α -bromodifluoroacetamides was investigated. As shown in Table 3, α -bromodi-

Table 2. Reactions of Alkynes **1** with **2a**^a

1	2a	3
R ¹ -C≡C-R ²	CuI (10 mol%) Phen (10 mol%) K ₂ CO ₃ (2.0 equiv) CH ₃ CN, 110 °C	
 3a, R = H, 92% 3b, R = F, 91% 3c, R = Cl, 85% 3d, R = Br, 82% 3e, R = Me, 82% 3f, R = Et, 81%		 3g, R = Pr, 83% 3h, R = 'Bu, 82% 3i, R = 'Bu, 84% 3j, R = n-amyl, 80%
 3s, R = F, 59% 3t, R = Cl, 55%		 3l, R = Cl, 76% 3m, R = NO ₂ , 70% 3n, R = Me, 72% 3o, R = CH ₃ CONH, 68% 3p, R = 'BuCONH, 68% 3q, R = PhCONH, 71% 3r, R = BocNH, 64%
 3u, 72%		 3v, 85% ^b
 3w, 82% ^b		 3w, 82% ^b
 3x, 0%		 3x, 0%
 3y, 0%		 3y, 0%

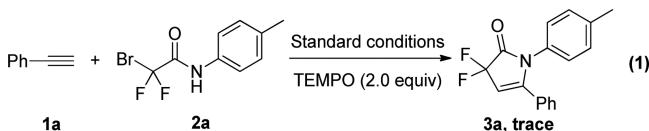
^aReactions were carried out with **1** (0.45 mmol), **2a** (0.3 mmol), CuI (10 mol %), Phen (10 mol %), and K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (3 mL) under air atmosphere at 110 °C for 2 h. Yield of the isolated product. ^bThe reaction was run for 4 h.

Table 3. Reactions of Ethynylbenzene **1a** with α -Bromodifluoroacetamides **2**^a

^aReactions were carried out with **1a** (0.45 mmol), **2** (0.3 mmol), CuI (10 mol %), Phen (10 mol %), and K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (3 mL) under air atmosphere at 110 °C for 2 h. Yield of the isolated product.

fluoroacetamides with different substituents at the aromatic ring could be converted to the desired products **4b**–**4k** in moderate to good yields. Slightly decreased but acceptable yields were also achieved for reactions starting from *ortho*-substituted aryl amides (**2i** and **2j**). Remarkably, we found that not only *N*-aryl substrates but also *N*-alkyl substrates worked well, affording **4l** and **4m** in 68 and 63% yields, respectively. However, the desired annulation product was not observed between the reaction of ethynylbenzene with monofluoroacetamide 2-bromo-2-fluoro-*N*-(*p*-tolyl)acetamide **2n**.¹²

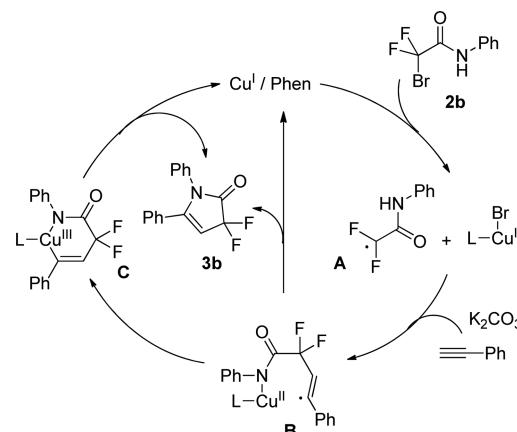
To gain insight into the mechanism of this transformation, a radical trapping experiment was performed. When the radical scavenger 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine *N*-oxide (TEMPO, 2.0 equiv) was added to the aminodifluoroalkylation reaction of **1a** under the optimal conditions, no desired products were isolated, and 80% **2a** was recovered (eq 1). The results indicate



that a radical pathway may be involved under the catalytic system. On the basis of the present experimental results and literature precedent, a possible mechanism was proposed as described in Scheme 2. Initially, the reaction of CuI and **2b** gave a radical intermediate A and Cu^{II} species via a single electron transfer (SET) process.^{5c} Subsequently, addition of the in situ generated fluoroalkyl radical A to the C–C triple bond of alkyne leads to the formation of vinyl radical^{10c,e} which, with Cu^{II} species, gave the intermediate B in the presence of K₂CO₃. Nitrogen atom transfer from Cu^{II} to the adduct radical produces the aminodifluoroalkylation product and regenerates Cu^I,¹³ which enters into the next catalytic circle. On the other hand, we could not exclude another pathway: Cu^{II}-amido species reacts with vinyl radicals to form vinyl-Cu^{III}-amido species C, which then undergoes the final reductive elimination to give the desired annulation product.^{7a,10c,e,14}

In summary, we developed the first example of copper-catalyzed radical aminodifluoroalkylation reaction of alkynes for the synthesis of 3,3-difluoro-1*H*-pyrrol-2(3*H*)-ones. The high

Scheme 2. Plausible Reaction Mechanism



regioselectivity, broad substrate scope, no extra oxidant, and low loading of the copper catalyst make the aminodifluoroalkylation reactions very attractive. We believe that it should prompt further research in the area of transition-metal catalyzed aminodifluoroalkylation reactions and related chemistry using α -bromodifluoroacetamides as both difluoroalkyl and nitrogen sources.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further treatment unless otherwise indicated. All reactions were run under air with no precautions taken to exclude moisture. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Varian instrument (400, 100, and 376 MHz). Melting points were obtained with a micro melting point XT4A Beijing Keyi electrooptic apparatus and are uncorrected. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on Bruker microTof. All reactions were monitored by TLC with Taizhou GF254 silica gel coated plates. Flash column chromatography was carried out using 200–300 mesh silica gel at increased pressure.

General Procedure for the Preparation of **1o–**1r**.** Substrates **1o**–**1q** were prepared by the reaction of corresponding anilines (**1** mmol) and acyl chlorides (1.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature. Substrate **1r** was prepared according to literature procedure.¹⁵

1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.66 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.27–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.41 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 100.4 (t, $J = 24.0$ Hz), 112.7 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 127.8, 127.9, 128.4, 128.7, 129.2, 130.9, 132.1, 133.6, 154.0 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.5 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –109.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{ClF}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 306.0497, found 306.0487.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4d. Colorless oil (71.0 mg, 68%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.66 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.45 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 100.5 (t, $J = 24.0$ Hz), 112.7 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 121.6, 127.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.7, 130.9, 132.2, 132.6, 154.0 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.5 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –109.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{BrF}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 349.9992, found 349.9987.

1-(4-Ethylphenyl)-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4e. Colorless oil (75.3 mg, 84%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.21 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 2.62 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 15.2, 28.4, 99.8 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.9 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 126.5, 127.9, 128.4, 128.5, 128.8, 130.6, 131.1, 144.1, 154.6 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.9 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 300.1200, found 300.1190.

1-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4f. White solid (81.4 mg, 83%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. Mp: 121–123 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.29 (s, 9H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.28–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.39 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 31.2, 34.6, 99.8 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.9 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 125.9, 126.1, 127.9, 128.4, 128.8, 130.6, 130.8, 151.0, 154.6 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.9 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 328.1513, found 328.1518.

3,3-Difluoro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4g. White solid (77.7 mg, 86%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. Mp: 142–143 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.78 (s, 3H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 6.82 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 55.4, 99.6 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.8 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 114.3, 126.2, 128.0, 128.0, 128.5, 128.7, 130.6, 154.6 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 159.0, 167.0 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 302.0993, found 302.0984.

3,3-Difluoro-5-phenyl-1-(m-tolyl)-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4h. Colorless oil (71.9 mg, 84%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.30 (s, 3H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.16–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.2, 99.8 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.8 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 123.7, 127.3, 127.9, 128.4, 128.7, 128.8, 130.6, 133.5, 139.1, 154.6 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.8 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 286.1043, found 286.1033.

3,3-Difluoro-5-phenyl-1-(o-tolyl)-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4i. Colorless oil (62.4 mg, 73%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.19 (s, 3H), 5.66 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 7.23–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 17.9, 99.3 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.8 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 126.8, 127.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.8, 129.1, 130.7, 131.3, 132.8, 136.3, 154.9 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.7 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 286.1043, found 286.1045.

1-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4j. Colorless oil (75.0 mg, 83%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.52 (s, 3H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.35 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 55.3, 98.5 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.1, 113.0 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 120.8, 122.5, 127.1, 128.1, 129.5, 129.6, 130.2, 130.2, 154.9, 155.7 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 167.2 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –111.1 (d, $J = 304.6$ Hz, 1F), –109.4 (d, $J = 300.8$ Hz, 1F) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 302.0993, found 302.0991.

1-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4k. White solid (88.4 mg, 89%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60/1 as eluent for column chromatography. Mp: 130–131 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 5.63 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, $J_1 = 2.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 55.9, 55.9, 99.5 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 110.4, 110.9, 112.8 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 119.3, 126.3, 127.9, 128.4, 128.8, 130.5, 148.5, 149.0, 154.6 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 166.8 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –110.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 332.1098, found 332.1096.

1-Benzyl-3,3-difluoro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4l. Colorless oil (58.2 mg, 68%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 70/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.65 (s, 2H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 6.89–6.92 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.23 (m, 5H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 44.4, 100.0 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 113.0 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 127.2, 127.7, 127.9, 128.7, 128.7, 129.0, 130.7, 135.8, 155.0 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 168.1 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –112.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 286.1043, found 286.1037.

3,3-Difluoro-1-phenethyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2(3H)-one 4m. Colorless oil (56.6 mg, 63%). Petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 70/1 as eluent for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.68 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.70 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 6.91–6.93 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.26 (m, 5H), 7.43–7.53 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 34.3, 42.3, 99.7 (t, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 112.8 (t, $J = 244.0$ Hz), 126.7, 127.7, 128.6, 128.8, 128.9, 129.0, 130.6, 137.3, 154.9 (t, $J = 11.0$ Hz), 167.9 (t, $J = 30.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ –112.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2\text{NO}$, [M + H]⁺ m/z 300.1200, found 300.1204.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

§ Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: [10.1021/acs.joc.7b01313](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01313).

^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, and ^{19}F NMR spectra for compounds 1, 2, 3, and 4 ([PDF](#))

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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