# TETRABROMOMETHANE-MEDIATED DESULFURIZATION FOR SYNTHESIS OF ISOTHIOCYANATES FROM AMINES



A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Chemistry Department of Chemistry FACULTY OF SCIENCE Chulalongkorn University Academic Year 2020 Copyright of Chulalongkorn University

# การใช้สารเตตระโบรโมมีเทนเปนตัวกลางในการกาจัดซัลเฟอรสาหรับการสังเคราะหไอโซไทโอไซยา เนตจากเอมีน



วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาวิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาเคมี คณะวิทยาศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ปีการศึกษา 2563 ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

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ไอโซไทโอไซยาเนตถือเป็นส่วนประกอบสำคัญสำหรับอุตสาหกรรมยา โดยวิธีดั้งเดิมในการเตรียมไอโซ ไทโอไซยาเนตเกี่ยวข้องกับการกำจัดซัลเฟอร์ของเกลือไดไทโอคาร์บาเมตจากเอมีนโดยใช้ตัวออกซิไดซ์ ถึงแม้ว่า ้วิธีการเหล่านั้นจะมีประสิทธิภาพ แต่อย่างไรก็ตามทุกวิธีจำเป็นต้องใช้รีเอเจนต์ที่เป็นพิษ ตัวออกซิไดซ์ที่แรง การ ้สังเคราะห์หลายขั้นตอน สภาวะที่รุนแรง และโลหะเป็นตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาในปริมาณที่มาก ดังนั้นในงานวิจัยนี้เราจึง พัฒนา 2 วิธีการสังเคราะห์ที่ไม่รุนแรงสำหรับไอโซไทโอไซยาเนตจากเอมีนโดยใช้รีเอเจนต์ที่เป็นพิษต่ำ สำหรับ กระบวนการแรก เราสามารถแสดงการใช้ซาฟารินโอ เป็นตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาเชิงแสงเพื่อเปลี่ยนเกลือไดไทโอคาร์ บาเมตของ 4-โบรโมอนิลีนเป็น 4-โบรโมฟีนิลไอโซไทโอไซยาเนต โดยได้ผลผลิต 48% ในหม้อเดียวภายใต้การ ฉายแสงสีขาว สำหรับกระบวนการที่สอง คาร์บอนเตตระโบรไมด์ที่เป็นสารในเชิงพาณิชย์และเป็นพิษต่ำถูกใช้ใน กระบวนการกำจัดซัลเฟอร์ จากการตรวจสอบการเพิ่มประสิทธิภาพพบว่าการใช้สมมูล 1.5 ของคาร์บอนเตตระ โบรไมด์ในการมีอยู่ 3.0 ที่สมมูลของ 1,8-ไดเอโซไบไซโคล อันเดค-7-อีน เป็นเบสในตัวทำละลายอะซิโตไนไทรล์ ให้สภาวะที่เหมาะสมที่สุด โดยภายใต้สภาวะนี้ เราสามารถสังเคราะห์ไอโซไทโอไซยาเนตได้ 32 ตัวอย่างโดยให้ ผลผลิตปานกลางถึงดีเยี่ยม นอกจากนี้เราสามรรถขยายวิธีการนี้เพื่อเตรียมไทโอยูเรียที่ไม่สมมาตรผ่านการ ้สังเคราะห์ไอโซไทโอไซยาเนตในแหล่งกำเนิดในหม้อเดียว การสังเคราะห์ไอโซไทโอไซยาเนตและไทโอยูเรียที่ไม่ สมมาตรที่พัฒนาขึ้นนั้นสามารถปรับขนาดเป็นหนึ่งกรัมให้ผลผลิตดี จากการศึกษากลไกพบว่าโบรโมฟอร์ และซัลเฟอร์ที่ตรวจพบโดย นิวเคลียส แม็กเนติก เรโซแนน (NMR) และ สแกนนึ่ง อิเลกตรอน ไมโครสโคป/ เอ็กซเรย์ สเปกโทรสโกปี (SEM/EDX) หลักฐานนี้ให้กลไกที่เสนอแนะว่า คาร์บอนเตตระโบรไมด์ทำหน้าที่เป็นอิ เล็กโตรไฟล์เพื่อกระตุ้นการกำจัดซัลเฟอร์ ประโยชน์ของปฏิกิริยานี้ประกอบด้วย การสังเคราะห์แบบหม้อเดียว ใช้ สภาพปฏิกิริยาแบบอากาศเปิด และสารกำจัดซัลเฟอร์ที่เป็นพิษต่ำ

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Isothiocyanate Unsymmetric thiourea Desulfurization Photocatalyst Carbon tetrabromide

Saharat Techapanalai : TETRABROMOMETHANE-MEDIATED DESULFURIZATION FOR SYNTHESIS OF ISOTHIOCYANATES FROM AMINES. Advisor: Prof. SUMRIT WACHARASINDHU, Ph.D. Co-advisor: Prof. MONGKOL SUKWATTANASINITT, Ph.D.

Isothiocyanate considered as an important building block for pharmaceutical industry. Traditional methods for preparation of isothiocyanate involved the desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt from amine using oxidizing agent. Although those methods are efficient, however, all of them require the use of toxic reagent, strong oxidizing agent, multiple step synthesis, harsh condition and large amount of metal catalyst. Therefore, in this research, we develop two mild methods to synthesize isothiocyanates from amines using low toxic reagent. For the first process, we were able to demonstrate the use of photocatalyst, safranin O to convert dithiocarbamate salt of 4-bromoaniline into 4-brophenyl isothiocyanate in 48% yield in one-pot under white LED irradiation. For the second process, commercially and low toxic CBr<sub>4</sub> was used for desulfurization process. Based on our optimize investigation, we found that the use of  $CBr_4$  1.5 equivalences in the presence of 3.0 equivalences of DBU as base in acetonitrile give the optimized condition. Under this condition, we were able to synthesize 32 examples of isothiocyanates in moderate to excellent yields. Moreover, we were able to extend this methodology to prepare unsymmetrical thioureas via the in situ generation of isothiocyanate in one-pot. The synthesis of isothiocyanates and unsymmetrical thioureas were able to prepare a one-gram scale in good yields. The mechanistic study revealed that CHBr<sub>3</sub> and sulfur were detected by NMR and SEM/EDX. This evidence suggests that CBr<sub>4</sub> act as an electrophile to induce the desulfurization process. The benefit of this reaction includes one-pot synthesis, open air condition and low toxic desulfurizing agent.

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Student's Signature ..... Advisor's Signature ..... Co-advisor's Signature .....

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Saharat Techapanalai

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
	iii
ABSTRACT (THAI)	iii
	iv
ABSTRACT (ENGLISH)	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	V
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF SCHEMES	1
LIST OF TABLES	3
LIST OF FIGURES	4
LIST OF PICTURES	10
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	11
1.1 Overview	13
1.2 Introduction to isothiocyanate	13
1.3 Reviews on synthesis of isothiocyanates	14
1.3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanates from amine	18
1.3.1.1 Reviews on thiocarbonylation transfer reagents	18
1.3.1.2 Reviews on oxidative desulfurization	19
1.3.1.2.1 Reviews on non-metal oxidative desulfurization (Table 1.1)	19
1.3.1.2.2 Review on metal catalyst as an oxidizing agent (Table 1.2)	23
1.4 Introduction to Carbon tetrabromide	24
1.4.1 Reviews for carbon tetrabromide with organosulfur	24

1.4.2 Reviews for carbon tetrabromide with Vilsmeier-Haack reagent	26
1.5 Objective of this research	28
CHAPTER II EXPRIMENTAL	30
2.1 Chemical reagents, equipment and instrument for synthesis and	30
Characterization	30
2.2 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate via light mediated Vilsme Haack reagent	eier- 30
2.2.1 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate from amines (1a) un visible light source	nder 30
2.2.2 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate from amines (1a) un ultraviolet light source	nder 31
2.3 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate using photocatalysts	32
2.4 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanates and unsymmetric thiour using carbon tetrabromide	eas 32
2.4.1 Reaction optimization	32
2.5 The substrate scopes of isothiocyanates and unsymmetric thioureas	33
2.5.2 General experiment procedure B: unsymmetric thioureas 3a – 3i	33
2.5.3 Synthesis of isothiocyanate derivatives	33
2.5.4 Synthesis derivatives of unsymmetric thiourea	46
2.5.5 Gram-scale synthesis	51
2.5.5.1 Gram-scale synthesis of isothiocyanate	51
2.5.5.1 Gram-scale synthesis of unsymmetric thiourea	51
CHAPTER III RESULT & DISCCUSION	52
3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate via light mediated Vilsmeier-Haack reagent	52

3.1.1 Effect of light sources for desulfurization via Vilsmeier-Haack reagent	. 53
3.2 Synthesis of isthiocyanate using photocatalysts	. 57
3.2.1 Photocatalyst and light sources screening	. 58
3.3 Synthesis of isthiocyanate by using carbon tetrabromide	. 60
3.2.1 Optimized condition	. 60
3.2.1.1 Solvent screening <sup>a</sup>	. 61
3.2.1.2 Base Screening <sup>a</sup>	. 62
3.2.1.3 Amount of $CS_2$ and $CBr_4^a$	. 63
3.2.2 Substrate scope of amines	. 64
3.2.2.1 Aromatic amines carrying halogen groups <sup>a</sup>	. 64
3.2.2.2 Aromatic amines carrying electron donating groups <sup>a</sup>	. 65
3.2.2.3 Aromatic amine carrying electron withdrawing groups <sup>a</sup>	. 66
3.2.2.4 Benzylamines scope <sup>a</sup>	. 67
3.2.2.5 Aliphatic amines scope <sup>a</sup>	. 67
3.2.2.6 Hetero and homocyclic amines scope <sup>a</sup>	68
3.2.2.7 Amino phenols and its derivatives scope <sup>a</sup>	69
3.2.3 Substrate scopes for unsymmetric thiourea	70
3.2.4 Gram-scale synthesis of isothiocyanate and unsymmetric thiourea	71
3.2.5 By-product detection by SEM/EDX	72
3.2.6 Proposed mechanism	73
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION	75
REFERENCES	77
APPENDIX	84
VITA	149



# LIST OF SCHEMES

Scheme 1.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using carbontetrabromide	13
Scheme 1.2 A various substrate for synthesis of isothiocyanates	. 15
Scheme 1.3 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from isocyanide	. 15
Scheme 1.4 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from amide	. 15
Scheme 1.5 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from aldoxime	. 16
Scheme 1.6 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from iminophosphorane	. 16
Scheme 1.7 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from phosphoramidate	. 17
Scheme 1.8 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from isocyanate	. 17
Scheme 1.9 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from formamide	. 17
Scheme 1.10 Two strategies for the synthesis of isothiocyanates from amine	. 18
Scheme 1.11 The thiocarbonylation of amine with various thiocarbonyl transfer	
reagent	. 19
Scheme 1.12 Desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt with desulfurizing agent	. 19
Scheme 1.13 Acetylation using CBr4 as a catalyst	. 24
Scheme 1.14 Synthesis of dithiocarbamates (3') using CBr <sub>4</sub>	. 25
Scheme 1.15 Synthesis of 2-aminobenzothiazole using CBr <sub>4</sub>	. 25
Scheme 1.16 Synthesis of symmetric thioureas and thiuram disulfides using $CBr_4$	. 26
Scheme 1.17 The comparison of a) traditional and b)new Vilsmeier-Haack reagent	. 27
Scheme 1.18 Light-mediated Vilsmeier-Haack reagent for synthesis of organic	
compounds	. 28
Scheme 1.19 Synthesis plan of isothiocyanate from amines in our research	. 29
Scheme 3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate via desulfurization process	52
Scheme 3.2 The study for synthesis of isothiocyanate from 4-bromoaniline	. 53
	ГO

Scheme 3.4 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using photocatalyst	58
Scheme 3.5 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using CBr <sub>4</sub>	60
Scheme 3.6 The optimized condition with various parameters	60
Scheme 3.7 Aromatic amines carrying halogen groups	65
Scheme 3.8 Aromatic amines carrying electron donating groups. Error! Bookmark defined.	not
Scheme 3.9 Aromatic amine carrying electron withdrawing groups Error! Bookn	nark

Scheme 3.9 Aromatic amine carrying electron withdrawing groups .... Error! Bookmark not defined.

Scheme 3.10 Benzylamines scope	67
Scheme 3.11 Aliphatic amines scope	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.12 Hetero and homocyclic amines scope	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.13 Amino phenols and its derivatives scope	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.14 Unsymmetric thioureas scope	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.15 Gram-scale synthesis	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.16 By-product detection	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Scheme 3.17 Proposed mechanism	
Scheme 4.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using 1) photo	ocatalyst <b>2</b> ) CBr <sub>4</sub> mediator76

# LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1 Review on non-metal oxidative desulfurization	21
Table 1.2 Review on metal catalyst as an oxidizing agent	23
Table 3.1 light source screening	. 54
Table 3.2 Effect of light and DMF	. 56
Table 3.3 Photocatalysts and light sources screening	59
Table 3.4 Effect of solvent type	. 61
Table 3.5 Effect of Base	62
Table 3.6 The amount of CS <sub>2</sub> and CBr <sub>4</sub>	. 64



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## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1 Natural and bioactive compounds of isothiocyanates	14
Figure 1.2 The example of sulfur-containing heterocyclic compounds from	
isothiocyanates	14
Figure 3.1 Comparison <sup>1</sup> HNMR spectrum from irradiation of isothiocyanate using L	JV
254 nm and UV 365 nm light source	55
Figure A1 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2a</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	85
Figure A2 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2a (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	85
Figure A3 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2b (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	86
Figure A4 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2b</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	86
Figure A5 <sup>19</sup> F-NMR spectrum of <b>2b</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 470 MHz)	87
Figure A6 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2c</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	88
Figure A7 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2c</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	88
Figure A8 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2d (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	89
Figure A9 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2d (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	89
Figure A10 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2e</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	90
Figure A11 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2e</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	90
Figure A12 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2f</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	91
Figure A13 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2f</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	91
Figure A14 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2g</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	92
Figure A15 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2g (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	92
Figure A16 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2h (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	93
Figure A17 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2h (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	93
Figure A18 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2i (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	94
Figure A19 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2i (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	94

Figure A20 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2j (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A21 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2j (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A22 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2k (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A23 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2k (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A24 <sup>19</sup> F-NMR spectrum of <b>2k</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 470 MHz)	
Figure A25 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2l (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A26 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2l (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A27 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2m (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A28 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2m (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A29 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2n (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A30 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2n (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A31 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 20 (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A32 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>20</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A33 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2p</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A34 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2p</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A35 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2q</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A36 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2q</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A37 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2r (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A38 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2r</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A39 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2s (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A40 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2s (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A41 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2t (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	
Figure A42 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2t (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	
Figure A43 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2u (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	

Figure A44 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2u</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	107
Figure A45 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2v (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	108
Figure A46 $^{13}$ C-NMR spectrum of $2v$ (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	108
Figure A47 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2w (DMSO-d6, 500 MHz)	109
Figure A48 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2w (DMSO-d6, 500 MHz)	109
Figure A49 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2x</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> 500 MHz)	110
Figure A50 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2x</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	110
Figure A51 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2y (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	111
Figure A52 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2y</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	111
Figure A53 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2z (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	112
Figure A54 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2z (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	112
Figure A55 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2aa (CDCl <sub>3</sub> 500 MHz)	113
Figure A56 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2aa (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	113
Figure A57 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2bb (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	114
Figure A58 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2bb (DMSO, 125 MHz)	114
Figure A 59 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2cc (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	115
Figure A60 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2cc (DMSO, 125 MHz)	115
Figure A61 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2dd (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	116
Figure A62 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2dd (DMSO, 125 MHz)	116
Figure A63 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>2ee</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	117
Figure A64 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>2ee</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	117
Figure A65 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 2ff (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	118
Figure A66 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 2ff (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	118
Figure A67 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>3a</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	119

Figure A68 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3a (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	119
Figure A69 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3b (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	120
Figure A70 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3b (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)	120
Figure A71 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3c (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	121
Figure A72 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3c (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)	121
Figure A73 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3d (DMSO-d6 500 MHz)	122
Figure A74 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3d (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)	122
Figure A75 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of <b>3e</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	123
Figure A76 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>3e</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 125 MHz)	123
Figure A77 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3g (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	125
Figure A78 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3g (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	125
Figure A79 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3h (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	126
Figure A80 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of <b>3h</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	126
Figure A81 <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of 3i (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	127
Figure A82 <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of 3i (CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 500 MHz)	127
Figure A83 GC/MS spectrum of 2a	128
Figure A84 GC/MS spectrum of 2b	128
Figure A85 GC/MS spectrum of 2c	128
Figure A86 GC/MS spectrum of 2d	129
Figure A 87 GC/MS spectrum of 2e	129
Figure A88 GC/MS spectrum of 2f	129
Figure A89 GC/MS spectrum of 2h	130
Figure A 90 GC/MS spectrum of 2i	130
Figure A91 GC/MS spectrum of 2j	130

Figure A92 GC/MS spectrum of 2k	131
Figure A93 GC/MS spectrum of 21	131
Figure A94 GC/MS spectrum of 2m	131
Figure A95 GC/MS spectrum of 2n	132
Figure A96 GC/MS spectrum of 20	132
Figure A97 GC/MS spectrum of 2p	132
Figure A98 GC/MS spectrum of 2q	133
Figure A99 GC/MS spectrum of 2r.	133
Figure A100 GC/MS spectrum of 2s	133
Figure A101 GC/MS spectrum of 2u	134
Figure A102 GC/MS spectrum of 2w	134
Figure A103 GC/MS spectrum of 2x	135
Figure A104 GC/MS spectrum of 2y	135
Figure A105 GC/MS spectrum of 2z	135
Figure A106 GC/MS spectrum of 2aa	136
Figure A107 GC/MS spectrum of 2bb	136
Figure A108 GC/MS spectrum of 2cc	136
Figure A109 HRMS spectrum of 2dd	137
Figure A110 GC/MS spectrum of 2ee	138
Figure A111 HRMS spectrum of 2ff	139
Figure A112 HRMS spectrum of 3a	140
Figure A113 HRMS spectrum of 3b	141
Figure A114 HRMS spectrum of 3c	142
Figure A115 HRMS spectrum of 3d	143

Figure A116 HRMS spectrum of 3e	144
Figure A117 HRMS spectrum of 3f	145
Figure A118 HRMS spectrum of 3g	146
Figure A119 HRMS spectrum of 3h	147
Figure A120 HRMS spectrum of 3i	148



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# LIST OF PICTURES

Picture 3.1 Our photoreactor in this study A,B) Visible light. C,D) Ultraviolet light .	53
Picture 3.2 SEM-EDX results from by-product detection	73



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<sup>1</sup> H-NMR	proton nuclear magnetic resonance
13C-NMR	carbon nuclear magnetic resonance
19F-NMR	fluorine nuclear magnetic resonance
CDCl <sub>3</sub>	deuterated chloroform solvent
DMSO-d6	deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide solvent
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	acetonitrile
EtOAc	ethyl acetate
EtOH	ethanol
<i>i</i> -PrOH	isopropanol
DMSO	dimethyl sulfoxide
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	dichloromethane
DMF	N, N-dimethyl formamide
THF	tetrahydrofuran
DMAP	dimethyl aminopyridine
DBU	1,8-dizabicyclo undec-7-ene
Et <sub>3</sub> N	triethylamine
DABCO	1,4-diazabicyclo octane
DIPEA	diisopropyl ethylamine
K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	potassium carbonate
Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	cesium carbonate
NaOAc	sodium acetate
NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	sodium carbonate
КОН	potassium hydroxide
Ru(bpy) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	cis-dichlorobis(bipyridine)ruthenium (II)
Eosin Y	disodium 2- (2,4,5,7-tetrabromo-3-oxido-6-oxoxanthen-
	9- yl)benzoate
Roes Bengal	4,5,6,7-Tetrachloro-3´,6´-dihydroxy-2´,4´,5´,7´-tetraiodo-3
	H -spiro [ [2]benzofuran-1,9´-xanthen]-3-one

Safranin O	3,7-diamino-5-phenylphenazin-5-ium
	Pyrene benzo(d,e,f)phenanthrene
mmol	millimole
mL	milliliter
nm	nanometer
GC-MS	gas chromatography mass spectrometer
HRMS	high resolution mass spectroscopy
ppm	part per million
cm	centimeter (s)
S	singlet (NMR)
d	doublet (NMR)
dd	doublet of doublet (NMR)
Hz	hertz
h	hour (s)
min	minute
j	coupling constant
m	miltiplet (NMR)
mg	milligram
m/s	mass per charge
TLC 🤉	thin layer chromatography
% yield CHUL	percentage yield
ee	enantiomeric excess
°C	degree Celsius
LED	light emitting diode
UV	ultraviolet

### CHAPTER I

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Overview

Isothiocyanates are important building block for construction sulfur-containing heterocyclic compounds. They are found in various applications such as pharmaceuticals, natural products and organic materials. Traditionally, isothiocyanates were prepared from direct thiocarbonylation between amine with various thiocarbonyl transfer reagents. However, the reaction required anhydrous solvent, strong exothermic and required the use of toxic reagent. In recent years, the oxidative desulfurization between amine and carbon disulfide to deliver isothiocyanate has been tremendously studied due to their benefit such as high atom economy and ease of practical operation. However, such method involves the use of heavy metals and strong oxidizing agents. Therefore, the safe and efficient method for preparation of isothiocyanate is still challenged. In this work, we replace the toxic oxidizing agent into carbon tetrabromide which is a commercially available, cheap and less hazardous reagent to prepare isothiocyanate from amines as shown in scheme 1.1.



Scheme 1.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using carbon tetrabromide.

#### 1.2 Introduction to isothiocyanate

Isothiocyanates have been known as important class of organic compounds and they are common subunits in various natural products and bioactive compounds. For example, sulforaphane (1) was isolated from Japanese wasabi spice<sup>1, 2</sup> which shown antioxidant and anti-cancer activity. Moreover, moringa isothiocyanate<sup>3, 4</sup> (2) processed high inflammatory bioactivity. In addition, the simple isothiocyanate such as phenyl (3), benzyl (4), phenylethyl (5) and allyl isothiocyanates (6) was found in the brassicale vegetables showing antibiotic<sup>5</sup>, anticancer<sup>6-9</sup> and antitumor<sup>10, 11</sup> activities (Figure 1.1).



Figure 1.1 Natural and bioactive compounds of isothiocyanates.

Moreover, isothiocyanate was used fluorescence biomarkers for biomolecule in medical and biological diagnostics<sup>12-14</sup>. In addition, in organic synthesis, isothiocyanates are useful building block for construction of sulfur-containing heterocyclic compounds to prepare various therapeutic drugs, natural products and bioactive compounds<sup>15-18</sup> as shown in **Figure 1.2**.



Quinoline derivatives

**Figure 1. 2** The example of sulfur-containing heterocyclic compounds from isothiocyanates

## 1.3 Reviews on synthesis of isothiocyanates

In general, isothiocyanates can be prepared from 8 different staring material such as 1) isocyanide (8) 2) amide (9) 3) aldoxime (10) 4) Iminophosphorane (11) 5)

phosphoramidate (12) 6) isocyanate (13) 7) N-formamide (14) and 8) amine (7) as summarize in **Scheme 1.1**. We will discuss each substrate in the following section.



Scheme 1.2 A various substrate for synthesis of isothiocyanates

1. Isocyanide (8)

In 1991, Fujiwara and coworker<sup>19</sup> reported the use corresponding isocyanide (8) with element sulfur in the presence element as a catalytic amount. Triethylamine was used as a base in THF. Aliphatic and aromatic isothiocyanates were isolated in good to excellent yield as shown in **Scheme 1.3**.



Scheme 1. 3 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from isocyanide

### 2. Amide (9)

In 1991, Penso and coworker<sup>20</sup> reported the use of amide derivatives (**9**) as starting material to react with carbon disulfide in presence of the mixture between potassium carbonate and sodium hydroxide. Aliphatic and aromatic isothiocyanates were generated in low to excellent yields as shown in **scheme 1.4**.



Scheme 1. 4 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from amide

#### 3. Aldoxime (10)

In 1997, Kim and coworker<sup>21</sup> reported the two methods for synthesis of isothiocyanates from the reaction between aldoxime (**10**) with ether *N*-chlorosuccinimide (**Method I**) or mixture of HCl, DMF, Oxone (**Method II**) to generate chloro-oxime (**10**') intermediate. The treatment of thioureas with intermediate gave isothiocyanates in good to excellent yields as shown in **Scheme 1.5**.



Scheme 1.5 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from aldoxime

4. Iminophosphorane (11)

In 1982, Molina and coworker<sup>22</sup> reported the use of Iminophosphorane (**11**) as starting material which were generated from amines with triphenylphosphine dibromide. Then intermediate **11** can reacted with either  $CO_2$  or  $CS_2$  to provide isocyanate (**13**) and isothiocyanate in good to excellent yields as shown in **scheme** 



Scheme 1.6 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from iminophosphorane

### 5. Phosphoramidate (12)

In 1989, Zwierzak and coworker<sup>23</sup> reported the preparation of aliphatic and aromatic isocyanates from phosphoramidate (**12**) derivatives. It reacted with NaH to undergo deprotonation and reacting further with  $CS_2$  to generate isothiocyanate in good to excellent yields under reflux condition as shown in **scheme 1.7**.



Scheme 1.7 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from phosphoramidate

#### 6. Isocyanate (13)

In 2005, Populian and coworker<sup>24</sup> reported the utilization of isocyanate (**13**) as staring material. It reacted with Lawesson's reagent under solvent-free condition mediating by microwave irradiation to provide aliphatic and aromatic isothiocyanates in moderate to excellent yield as shown in **Scheme 1.8**.



Scheme 1.8 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from isocyanate

#### 7. Formamide (14)

In 2004, Liang and coworker<sup>25</sup> reported the preparation of isothiocyanate from formamide derivatives (14) and sulfur powder in presence of bis(trichloromethy) carbonate (BTC) and selenium powder. They obtained isothiocyanate in good to excellent yield as shown in **scheme 1.9**.

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Scheme 1.9 Synthesis of isothiocyanate from formamide

Even though above reports demonstrated highly efficient synthesis of isothiocyanates, most of processes required multiple steps synthesis of starting materials. Unlike above starting materials, amine was considered as one of the most highly available starting material. However, many methods for the preparation of isothiocyanate has been extensively studied until now and we will discuss the details in next section. 1.3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanates from amine

The typical synthesis of isothiocyanates from amine involve two strategies (Scheme 1.10). The first method (Scheme 1.10, Top) is the direct thiocarbonylation of amine with thiocarbonyl transfer reagent to deliver isothiocyanates in one step. The Second method (Scheme 1.10, Bottom) is the treatment of amine with carbon disulfide in presence of base following of desulfurization to give isothiocyanate.



Scheme 1.10 Two strategies for the synthesis of isothiocyanates from amine

1.3.1.1 Reviews on thiocarbonylation transfer reagents

The direct synthesis of isothiocyanate via thiocarbonyl transfer reagents in one pot method was summarized in **Scheme 1.11**. In 1932, Johnson and Dyer<sup>26</sup> first reported the use of thiophosgene (**15**) as a thiocarbonyl reagent to provide corresponding isothiocyanate in good yield. The first step is attacking of amine to the thiophosgene along with the leaving of chloride ion. Then the elimination takes place to generate isothiocyanate. With the same concept, there are various thiocarbonyl transfer reagents were reported such as *N*,*N*-thiocarbonyl-di-imidazole (**16**)<sup>27</sup>, thiocarbonyl-2,2'-pyridine (**17**)<sup>28</sup>, (Thiocarbonyldioxy)dibenzotriazole (**18**), chlorothionoformate (**19**)<sup>29</sup> and (Me<sub>4</sub>N)SCF (**20**)<sup>30</sup>.

Although, various thiocarbonyl transfer reagents gave high yields of isothiocyanates in one pot fashion. Due to the high reactive property of those thiocarbonyl transfer reagents. However, most of them therefore generate high temperature from strong exothermic property, toxic reagent and required anhydrous condition.



Scheme 1.11 The thiocarbonylation of amine with various thiocarbonyl transfer reagent

1.3.1.2 Reviews on oxidative desulfurization

The alternative method is treatment of amine with carbon disulfide in presence of base to form dithiocarbamate salt (X) following by desulfurization to give isothiocyanate in two pot fashion (Scheme 1.12). Although, it required two steps synthesis. However, the carbon and sulfur atom in final product came from  $CS_2$  which is cheap and highly available. Therefore, this method is more atom economy and has been studied extensively. The desulfurization can be divided into two processes including the use of 1) non-metal oxidizing agents and 2) metal oxidizing agents.



Desulfurizing agents : 1) non-metal oxidizing agent 2) metal oxidizing agent

Scheme 1.12 Desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt with desulfurizing agent

1.3.1.2.1 Reviews on non-metal oxidative desulfurization (Table 1.1) In 1997, Li and coworker<sup>31</sup> reported the use of hydrogen peroxide (21) as an oxidizing agent for desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) in stoichiometric amount to produce corresponding aromatic isothiocyanate in good to excellent yields as shown cosorker<sup>32</sup> used 2005, Su and in Table 1.1, entry 1. Later, in bis(trichloromethyl)carbonate (BTC) (22) and trichloromethyl chloroformate (TCF) (23)

as activator to provide isothiocyanate product in low to excellent yield as shown in Table 1.1, entry 2. In 2007, Wong and Dolman<sup>33</sup> utilize tosyl chloride (TsCl) (24) for oxidative desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) as seen in Table 1.1, entry 3. Under this condition, intermediate dithiocarbamate salt (X) reacted with tosyl chloride to provide isothiocyanate in moderate to excellent yields. In 2008, Much and coworker<sup>34</sup> reported the use of tertiary butyl dicarbamate (Boc<sub>2</sub>O) (**25**) as reagent for desulfurizing agent in one-pot fashion to provide isothiocyanate product in moderate to quantitative yields as shown in Table 1.1, entry 4. In 2007, Lai and coworker<sup>35</sup> demonstrated the desulfurization using chlorosilane derivatives (26) as decomposition reagent of dithiocarbamate salt (X) via one-pot and two-pots methods as shown in Table 1.1, entry 5. In 2008, Patel and coworker<sup>36</sup> reported the use of (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (DIB) (27) for oxidative desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) as seen in Table 1.1, entry 6. This process provided the desired isothiocyanates in moderate to excellent yields. Later, same group<sup>37</sup> reported similar method but used iodine (28) as an activator to produce corresponding isothiocyanate in good to excellent yields as shown in Table 1.1, entry 7. Moreover, the same group<sup>38</sup> also reported the utilization of 1,10-(ethane-1,2-diyl) dipyridinium bistribromide (EDPBT) (29) for oxidative desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) as shown in Table 1.1, entry 8. Under this condition, 1,10-(ethane-1,2-diyl) dipyridinium bistribromide (EDPBT) (29) can generate bromine (Br<sub>2</sub>) in situ then reacted with dithiocarbamate salt  $(\mathbf{X})$  following by desulfurization to provide isothiocyanates in good to excellent yields. Similarly, Jamir and coworker<sup>38</sup> reported the use of ethyl triphenyl phosphonium tribromide (ETPPTB) (30) as activator to produce corresponding isothiocyanate in good to excellent yields as shown in Table 1.1, entry 9. Recently, in 2017, Kuotsu and coworker<sup>39</sup> demonstrated the similarly method using tetrapropylammonium tribromide (TPATB) (31) as activator to provide isothiocyanates in good to excellent yields as shown in Table 1.1, entry 10. In addition, the reactions on water for desulfurization were developed by Patel<sup>40</sup> and  $Fu^{41}$  using methyl arylate (32) and  $Na_2S_2O_8$  (33), respectively to provide isothiocyanates in good to excellent yields as seen in Table 1.1, entries 11 and 12. Moreover, the desulfurization in the absent of desulfurizing agents were

demonstrated using ball milling<sup>42</sup> under solvent-free condition (**Table 1.1 , entry 13**) and microwave irradiation<sup>43</sup> in dichloromethane at 90 ° C (**Table 1.1, entry 14**). In contrast, ball milling method limited to only aromatic isothiocyanate substrates while microwave irradiation method provided low to excellent yields of isothiocyanate substrates.

Table 1.1 Review on non-metal oxidative desulfurization

Entry	Desulfurizing agent	Condition	Process	Yield
1	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	<b>21</b> (1-6 eq.), THF, 0-40 °C,	one-pot	84-95%
	21 (Hydrogen peroxide)	2h		
2	CI3C~~~CCI3	<b>22</b> or <b>23</b> (0.3 eq.), CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ,	one-pot	25-86%
	22 ( <i>bis-</i> (trichloromethyl)	4-6 h., 0°C-rt		or
	carbonate)	V (I acception )		65-95%
	or	A AND		
		A State		
	23 (Trichloromethyl			
	chloroformates)	างกรณมหาวทยาลย		
3	CI-S	<b>24</b> (1.1 eq.), THF, 1h, rt	one-pot	34-99%
	<b>24</b> (Tosyl chloride)			
4		<b>25</b> (1.0 eq.), DMAP (1-3%	one-pot	63-quant.
	25 (di-tert-butyl	mol), EtOH, 20 min, rt		
	carbamate)			
5	R <sup>2</sup> ₄₋nSiCl <sub>n</sub>	<b>26</b> (2.0 eq.), DABCO or	one-pot	31-92%
	26 (Chlorosilane	Et₃N (2.0 eq.), 4-20 h,	and	
	derivatives)	0°C-rt	two-pots	
6	OAc OAc	<b>27</b> (1.0 eq.), THF, 1h, rt	two-pots	34-99%

	27 ((Diacetoxyiodo)			
	benzene)			
7	l <sub>2</sub>	<b>28 (</b> 1.0 eq.), H <sub>2</sub> O/EtOAc,	two-pots	77-92%
	<b>28</b> (lodine)	NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 15-30 min, rt		
8	Br <sub>3</sub>	<b>29</b> (0.5 eq.), Et <sub>3</sub> N (2.0 eq.),	two-pots	70-96%
		CH₃CN, 10 min, 0°C		
	Br <sub>3</sub>			
	29 (dipyridinium			
9		<b>30</b> (10 eq.) EtaN (15 eq.)	two-nots	65-87%
	Br <u>)</u>			05 01 /0
	F → Br	$CH_3CN, UC$		
	Br			
	30 (ethyltriphenyl			
	phosphonium tribromide)			
10	$ $ $\wedge$ $Br_3$ $\wedge$ $N^+$	<b>31</b> (1.0 eq.), NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (2.0	two-pots	77-92%
	$\sim$	eq.), EtOAc/H <sub>2</sub> O, 10-15		
	31	min, 0°C		
	(tetrapropylammonium			
1 1		22(1(ar)) + 0.15 + rt	ture reate	(7.010/
11		<b>32</b> (1.6 eq.), H <sub>2</sub> O, 1.5 h, h	two-pots	07-91%
	<b>32</b> (Methyl acrylate)	งกรณ์แหาวิทยาลัย		
12	$Na_2S_2O_8$	<b>33</b> (1.0 eq.), K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	one-pot	20-99%
	<b>33</b> (Sodium persulfate)	(1.0 eq.), H <sub>2</sub> O, 1h, rt	and	
			two- pots	
13	-	Ball milling, KOH (1.0 eq.),	one-pot	52-97%
		vibrated around 1,800		
		round per minute, rt.		
14	-	Microwave irradiation, 20	two-pots	25-98%
		min., 90°C		

From literature review, although there are many reports on the synthesis of isothiocyanate using various reagents in desulfurization process in one-pot or two pots fashion, most of them required the stepwise reaction or stochiometric amount of strong oxidizing agents or harsh condition.

1.3.1.2.2 Review on metal catalyst as an oxidizing agent (Table 1.2)

Besides, the use of organic activators, there are report on metal catalyst as an oxidizing agent for desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X). The dithiocarbamate salts (X) were prepared *in situ* from reaction of amine and CS<sub>2</sub> in presence of base following by the addition of metal catalysts such as cobalt (II) chloride<sup>44</sup> (CoCl<sub>2</sub>) (34) (Table 1.2, entry 1), copper (II) sulfate<sup>45</sup> (CuSO<sub>4</sub>) (35) (Table 1.2, entry 2), iron (III) sulfate<sup>46</sup> (Fe<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>) (36) (Table 1.2, entry 3) and iron(III) chloride<sup>47</sup> (FeCl<sub>3</sub>) (37) (Table 1.2, entry 4). Although, all reactions proceed at room temperature to provide corresponding isothiocyanates in moderate to excellent yields. However, those reactions required large amount of metal catalyst at 50% mol.

Table 1.2 Review on metal catalyst as an oxidizing agent.



Entry	Condition	
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1	1. CS <sub>2</sub> (10 eq.), NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (2.0 eq.), 1h., rt.	50-95%
	2. <b>CoCl</b> <sub>2</sub> (50 mol%), EtOAc, 3h., rt.	
2	1. CS <sub>2</sub> (10 eq.), Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.0 eq.), EtOAc/H <sub>2</sub> O 1h., rt.	34-99%
	2. <b>CuSO</b> <sub>4</sub> (50 mol%), Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.0 eq.), 2 h., rt.	
3	1. CS <sub>2</sub> (10 eq.), NaOAc (1.0 eq.), DMSO, 1h., rt.	60-97%
	2. <b>Fe<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)</b> <sub>3</sub> (50 mol%), NaOAc (1.0 eq.) H <sub>2</sub> O, 2h., rt.	
4	1. CS <sub>2</sub> (10 eq.), NaOAc (1.0 eq.), Acetone, 2h., rt.	65-98%
	2. <b>FeCl</b> <sub>3</sub> (50 mol%), NaOAc (1.0 eq.), 2h., rt.	
1		

### 1.4 Introduction to Carbon tetrabromide

Carbon tetrabromide (CBr<sub>4</sub>), also known as tetra bromomethane, is a commercially available white solid which is stable at room temperature, easy to handle and low toxic reagent. In addition, carbon tetrabromide has been reported as a brominating agent, catalyst or mediator to prepare various chemicals. For example, in combination of carbon tetrabromide with tertiary phosphine, it has been used for the bromination of various functional groups such as alcohol (Appel reaction)<sup>48-51</sup>, *N*-heterocycle<sup>52</sup> and ether<sup>53</sup>. Moreover, carbon tetrabromide was reported as a catalyst in many organic transformation reactions including, acetalization and tetrahydropyranylation<sup>54</sup>.

1.4.1 Reviews for carbon tetrabromide with organosulfur

From above benefits, carbon tetrabromide also has been utilized to functionalize various organosulfur. In 2007, Wu and coworker<sup>55</sup> reported the use of carbon tetrabromide in catalytic amount to promote the acetylation of phenol, alcohol and thiol derivatives with acid anhydride in low to excellent yields as shown in **Scheme 1.13**.



Scheme 1.13 Acetylation using CBr<sub>4</sub> as a catalyst

In 2008, Yuan and coworker<sup>56</sup> reported the multi-component reaction between secondary amine (1'),  $CS_2$  and active methylenes (2') using carbon tetrabromide as a mediator to provide dithiocarbamates (3') in good to excellent yields as seen in **Scheme 1.14**. The key step reaction is the treatment of amine with  $CS_2$  to generate dithiocarbamate salt (X) following by nucleophilic attack of sulfur on  $CBr_4$  to form sulfenyl bromide (4') electrophilic species.



Scheme 1.14 Synthesis of dithiocarbamates (3') using CBr<sub>4</sub>.

In 2015, Yadav and coworker<sup>57</sup> reported the use of carbon tetrabromide as a mediator for preparation of 2-aminobenzothiazole (7') from the reaction of ketones (5') and thioureas (6') in moderate to excellent yields as shown in Scheme 1.15. From proposed mechanism, it is important to note that  $CBr_4$  can promote the formation of sulfenyl bromide (4') which is the key step in the present of heterocyclization reaction to provide target products.



Scheme 1.15 Synthesis of 2-aminobenzothiazole using CBr<sub>4</sub>

In addition, carbon tetrabromide also has been reported in desulfurization reaction. In 2008, liu and coworker<sup>58</sup> reported the preparation of symmetrical thioureas (8') and thiuram disulfide (9') from amine (Scheme 1.16). In this work,  $CBr_4$  was used as mediator to prepare sulfenyl bromide (4'). The addition of primary amine led to target thioureas in good to excellent yields (Scheme 1.16, eq. 1) while the addition of secondary amines led to thiuram disulfides in moderate to excellent yields (Scheme 1.16, equation 2).



Scheme 1.16 Synthesis of symmetric thioureas and thiuram disulfides using CBr<sub>4</sub>

1.4.2 Reviews for carbon tetrabromide with Vilsmeier-Haack reagent

Besides, the use of carbon tetrabromide as a mediator, there are reported the use of carbon tetrabromide under photochemical method to prepare carboxylic acid<sup>59, 60</sup> and dibromo acetophenone<sup>61</sup> under aerobic condition. Later, carbon tetrabromide has been used to replace conventional Vilsmeier-Haack reaction. Typically, Vilsmeier-Haack reaction<sup>62, 63</sup> is a chemical reaction of a substituted amide with phosphorus oxychloride to generate Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (Y) *in situ* and reacted with an electron-rich aromatic hydrocarbon to produce an aryl aldehyde or ketone as shown in **Scheme 1.17a**. However, generating of the Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (Y) required toxic phosphorus oxychloride and high temperature condition. For the past decade, the new Vilsmeier-Haack reagents (Y) were modified by the reduction of CX<sub>4</sub> to form the intermediate such as carbene, radical reacting with amide derivatives to generate Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (Y) as demonstrate in **Scheme 1.17b**.


Scheme 1.17 The comparison of a) traditional and b)new Vilsmeier-Haack reagent

In 2011, Stephenson and Coworker<sup>64</sup> first reported a visible-light-mediated conversion of alcohols into halides with Vilsmeier-Haack type reagent (Y) from the reaction between CBr<sub>4</sub> and DMF in good to excellent yield as shown in Scheme 1.18, Route A. Later, in 2012, the same research group<sup>65</sup> reported a visible light mediated for preparation of acid anhydride derivatives with Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (Y) from cross-coupling of carboxylic acid derivatives as shown in Scheme 1.18, Route B. Similarly, in 2014, Yadav and coworkers<sup>66</sup> provided the new preparation of amide derivatives from the activation of keto oximes by using eosin Y as photocatalyst via Beckmann rearrangement as shown in Scheme 1.18, Route C. In 2015, Mccallum and Barriault<sup>67</sup> reported the preparation of amides from corresponding carboxylic acids with amines via Vilsmeier-Haack reagent using only UVA light (365 nm. LED) without any photocatalyst in moderate to excellent yields as shown in Scheme 1.18 (route D)





Based on above review on oxidative desulfurization to prepare isothiocyanate derivatives from amines, most of them require stepwise synthesis, large amount of strong oxidizing agents and harsh condition. To avoid the use of strong oxidizing agent and harsh condition, we intended to replace the process with carbon tetrabromide under 1) photo-organic synthesis mediating by Vilsmeier-Haack reagent or 2) mediating agent due to their low toxic reagent and easy to handle which has never been reported before.

หาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

### 1.5 Objective of this research KORN UNIVERSITY

In this research, we aim to develop one-pot synthesis of isothiocyanates from amines via the oxidative desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X). We plan to use two oxidative desulfurization process including 1) photo reaction with Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (**Method I**) and 2) carbon tetrabromide mediator (**Method II**) as shown in **Scheme 1.19**.



Scheme 1.19 Synthesis plan of isothiocyanate from amines in our research

For Method I, various parameters such as light source and amount of DMF will be investigated. For Method II, the reaction parameters including solvent, base, amount of carbon disulfide, amount of carbon tetrabromide, temperature and reaction time will be studied to determine the optimized condition. Then, the substrate scope of amines including aryl amines, benzylamines, aliphatic amines, chiral amine, phenolic amines and NH-protected or OH-protected amines will be tested to grade reaction generality. Finally, the mechanistic studies will be conducted to propose the mechanism process of oxidative desulfurization process using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) and scanning electron microscope (SEM) equipped with x-ray spectroscopy (EDX).

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย Chulalongkorn University

### CHAPTER II

#### **EXPRIMENTAL**

# 2.1 Chemical reagents, equipment and instrument for synthesis and Characterization

All chemicals and solvents were obtained from commercially available suppliers such as Sigma-Aldrich and TCI (Japan) and were used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed with precoated Merck silica gel 60 F254 plates(0.25 mm for thick layer) and visualized at 254 nm using an ultraviolet lamp. Column chromatography was performed with Silicycle silica gel 60-200 µm. (70-230 mesh). <sup>1</sup>HNMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR and <sup>19</sup>F spectra were obtained with JEOL JNM-ECZ500R/S1 NMR spectrometers operating at 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H or 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C or 470 MHz for <sup>19</sup>F nuclei. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded using electron spray ionization (ESI) with a MicroTOF Bruker mass spectrometer and electron spray ionization (ESI) with Gas chromatography mass spectrometer. White LED (Philip LED 19W Durable Brightness Daylight E27) and green LED (SMD 5050 LED, 12W) were used as the visible light source.

### 2.2 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate via light mediated Vilsmeier-Haack reagent

**2.2.1** General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate from amines (**1a**) under visible light source

NCS

**1-Bromo-4-isothiocyanatobenzene** (**2a**) A mixture of 4-bromoaniline **1a** (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (20 mL.) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) and *N*, *N*-dimethyl formamide (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol) were added and stirred at room

temperature under white or green LED irradiation for 16 hours. After reaction complete, the reaction mixture was washed with water (1x4 mL) and the organic portion was extracted with EtOAc (3x5 mL). The organic layer was eliminated water by Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford **2a** the results were summarized in Table **3.1**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 6.99 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.0, 132.8, 130.6, 127.3, 120.9. GC-MS: m/z: 215.0 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrNS: 214.9).

**2.2.2** General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate from amines (1a) under ultraviolet light source

Br

**1-Bromo-4-isothiocyanatobenzene (2a)**. A mixture of 4-bromoaniline **1a** (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (20 mL.) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) and *N*, *N*-dimethyl formamide (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol) were added and stirred at room temperature under 254 nm or 365 nm. UV LED irradiation for 2-6 hours. After reaction complete, the reaction mixture was washed with water (1x4 mL) and the organic portion was extracted with EtOAc (3x5 mL). The organic layer was eliminated water by Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford **2a** and the results were summarized in Table **3.1**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 6.99 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.0, 132.8, 130.6, 127.3, 120.9. GC-MS: m/z: 215.0 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrNS: 214.9).

2.3 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanate using photocatalysts



**1-bromo-4-isothiocyanatobenzene** (**2a**) A mixture of 4-bromoaniline **1a** (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) was dissolved by acetonitrile (20 mL.) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 hours. Then, photocatalysts (0.05 eq., 0.029 mmol) was added and at room temperature under green or white LEDs for 16 hours. After reaction complete, the reaction mixture was washed with water (1x4 mL) and the organic portion was extracted with EtOAc (3x5 mL). The organic layer was eliminated water by Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford **2a** and the results were summarized in Table **3.2**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 6.99 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.0, 132.8, 130.6, 127.3, 120.9. GC-MS: m/z: 213.0 : 215.0 (1:1) (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrNS: 212.9 : 214.9 (1:1)).

# 2.4 General procedure for synthesis of isothiocyanates and unsymmetric thioureas using carbon tetrabromide

2.4.1 Reaction optimization

We studied optimized condition by working reaction on different parameter which were listed below

Solvent: Ethyl acetate, Ethanol, *i*-propanol, Acetone, *N*, *N*-dimethyl sulfoxide, acetonitrile

Base: DBU, TEA, DIPEA, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaOAc

Amount of carbon disulfide: 1.5-3 equivalent

Amount of carbon tetrabromide: 0-2 equivalent

### 2.5 The substrate scopes of isothiocyanates and unsymmetric thioureas

#### 2.5.1 General experiment procedure A: isothiocyanates 2a – 2ff

A mixture of amine (1) (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. After reaction complete, the reaction mixture was washed with water (1x4 mL) and the organic portion was extracted with EtOAc (3x5 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ . After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford isothiocyanates 2a - 2ff

#### 2.5.2 General experiment procedure B: unsymmetric thioureas 3a – 3i

A mixture of *p*-toluidine (**1f**) (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, secondary amine (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours. After reaction complete, the reaction mixture was washed with water (1x6 mL) and the organic portion was extracted with EtOAc (3x10 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford unsymmetric thioureas 3a - 3i

### 2.5.3 Synthesis of isothiocyanate derivatives

Br

**1-bromo-4-isothiocyanatobenzene** (**2a**). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-bromoaniline (**1a**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and

stirred at room temperature for 1 hour afford 2a in 105.4 mg, 85% yield as a white solid: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 6.99 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.0, 132.8, 130.6, 127.3, 120.9. GC-MS: m/z: 213.0 : 215.0 (1:1) (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrNS: 212.9 : 214.9 (1:1)).

# F

1-fluoro-4-isothiocyanatobenzene (2b). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-fluoroaniline (1b, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2b in 79.8 mg, 90% yield as a colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.23 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 6.96 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  162.1, 160.2, 136.0, 127.4, 116.7. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -110.19. GC-MS: m/z: 153.0 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>ClNS: 153.1).



**1-chloro-4-isothiocyanatobenzene (2c).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-chloroaniline (**1c**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2c** in 73.5 mg, 75% yield as a white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.23 – 7.12 (m), 7.08 – 6.96 (m). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  136.9, 133.0,130.0, 123.0, 127.0. GC-MS: m/z: 169.1 : 171.1 (3:1) (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>FNS: 169.0 : 171.0 (3:1)).

I NCS

1-iodo-4-isothiocyanatobenzene (2d). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-iodoaniline (1d, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2d in 142 mg, 94% yield as a white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.23 – 7.12 (m), 7.08 – 6.96 (m). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  138.8, 137.1, 131.3, 127.5, 92.0. GC-MS: m/z: 261.0 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>INS: 260.9).

### NCS I

1-iodo-2-isothiocyanatobenzene (2e). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-iodoaniline (1d, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2d in 113.5 mg, 75% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.92 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.32 (td, 1H, *J* = 7.9, 1.3 Hz), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.96 (td, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 1.5 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  162.2, 160.2, 136.0, 127.4, 116.7. GC-MS: m/z: 261.0 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>INS: 260.9).



isothiocyanatobenzene (2f). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using aniline (1f, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2f in 75 mg, 84% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.37 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR

(125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  135.4, 131.3, 129.6, 127.4, 125.8. GC-MS: m/z: 135.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NS: 135.0).

## NCS

1-isothiocyanato-4-methylbenzene (2g). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using p-toluidine (1g, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2g in 82.1 mg, 95% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.11 (m, 4H, *J* = 6.2, 5.2 Hz), 2.34 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.6, 134.5, 130.2, 128.4, 125.6, 21.3. GC-MS: m/z: 149.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NS: 149.2).

NCS

2-isothiocyanato-1,3-dimethylbenzene (2h). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 2,6-dimethylaniline (1h, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2h in 89.7 mg, 95% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.16 – 6.94 (m, 3H), 2.37 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  136.6, 135.1, 129.6, 128.0, 127.0, 18.8. GC-MS: m/z: 163.1 (calced for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NS: 163.2).



**1-isothiocyanato-4-methoxybenzene (2i).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using p-anisidine (**1i**, 1.0 eq., 0.58)

mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2i** in 84.3 mg, 88% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.18 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.87 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.6, 134.0, 127.0, 123.6, 114.9, 55.6. GC-MS: m/z: 165.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NOS: 165.0).



1-isothiocyanato-2-methoxybenzene (2j). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using *o*-anisidine (1j, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2j in 89.1 mg, 93% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz), 6.93 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.0, 139.8, 128.3, 125.5, 120.7, 111.5, 56.0. GC-MS: m/z: 165.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NOS: 165.0).



1-isothiocyanato-4-(trifluoromethyl) benzene (2k). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-(trifluoromethyl)-aniline (1j, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2j in 89.1 mg, 93% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.61 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  138.3, 135.0, 129.5, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 126.9, 126.1, 124.7, 122.5, 120.4. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -62.5, GC-MS: m/z: 203.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>4</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NS: 203.0).



**1-isothiocyanato-3-nitrobenzene (2l).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 3-nitroaniine (**1l**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2l** in 65.8 mg, 63% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **δ** 8.14 – 8.09 (m, 1H), 8.06 (d, 1H, J = 1.9 Hz), 7.68 – 7.41 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **δ** 148.8, 139.7, 133.3, 131.6, 130.6, 121.9, 120.8. GC-MS: m/z: 180.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: 180.0).



ethyl 4-isothiocyanatobenzoate (2m). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-ethylamino benzoate (1m, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2m in 90.0 mg, 75% yield as colorless solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.02 (dd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz), 7.36 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 4.36 (q, 2H), 1.37 (t, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  165.5, 137.8, 135.6, 131.1, 129.1, 125.7, 61.4, 14.3. GC-MS: m/z: 207.1 (calced for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: 207.0).



**4-isothiocyanatobenzonitrile (2n).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-aminobenzonitrile (**1n**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at

room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2n** in 37.2 mg, 40% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.67 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  139.8, 136.2, 133.7, 126.6, 118.0, 110.7. GC-MS: m/z: 160.0 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S: 160.0).



3-isothiocyanatobenzonitrile (2o). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 3-aminobenzonitrile (1o, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2o in 58.4 mg, 63% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.56 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  139.4, 133.1, 130.8, 130.5, 130.1, 128.9, 117.3, 114.0. GC-MS: m/z: 160.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S: 160.0).



(isothiocyanatomethyl)benzene (2p). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using benzylamine (1p, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2p in 63 mg, 73% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.34 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.2, 3.9 Hz), 7.31 (dt, 2H, *J* = 7.3, 1.5 Hz), 4.70 (s). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  134.3, 131.6, 129.0, 128.4, 126.9, 48.7. GC-MS: m/z: 149.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NS: 149.0).



1-(isothiocyanatomethyl)-4-methoxybenzene (2q). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-methoxy benzylamine (1q, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2q in 67.5 mg, 65% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  134.3, 131.6, 129.1, 128.5, 126.9, 48.7. GC-MS: m/z: 179.1 (M), 121.1 (M-NCS) (calced for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NOS: 179.0).



(isothiocyanatomethylene) dibenzene (2r). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using diphenylmethanamine (1r, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2r in 92.3 mg, 71% yield as yellow oil: HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.40 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 6H), 5.99 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  139.3, 134.6, 132.0, 130.2, 129.0, 128.4, 126.7, 64.7. GC-MS: m/z: 224.1 (M-1), 167.1 (M-NCS) (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NS: 225.1).



(1-isothiocyanatoethyl) benzene (2s). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 1-phenylethan-1-amine (1s, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in

acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2s** in 79.4 mg, 84% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.33 (dd, 3H), 4.91 (q, 1H), 1.67 (d, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  140.3, 132.4, 129.0, 128.3, 125.5, 57.1, 25.1. GC-MS: m/z: 163.1 (M), 105.1 (M-NCS) (calced for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NS: 163.0).

# NCS

isothiocyanatocyclohexane (2t). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using cyclohexylamine (1t, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2t in 65.4 mg, 80% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.74 – 3.58 (m, 1H), 1.96 – 1.81 (m, 2H), 1.79 – 1.57 (m, 4H), 1.52 – 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.43 – 1.30 (m, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 127.2, 55.5, 33.3, 29.8, 25.1, 23.3. GC-MS: m/z: 141.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NS: 141.1).

### NCS

**1-isothiocyanatohexane (2u).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using hexylamine (**1u**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2u** in 78.8 mg, 95% yield as colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.48 (t, 2H), 1.71 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.43 – 1.35 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.21 (m, 4H), 0.91 – 0.84 (m, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  129.5, 45.1, 31.0, 30.0, 26.3, 22.5, 14.0. GC-MS: m/z: 115.1 (M-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NS: 143.1).



Methyl (S)-2-isothiocyanato-3-phenylpropanoate (2v). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using L-phenylalanine methyl ester hydrochloride (1v, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2v in 43.6 mg, 34% yield as orange oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.38 – 7.28 (3H, m), 7.24 – 7.21 (2H, m), 4.48 (1H, dd, J = 8.4, 4.8 Hz), 3.80 (3H, s), 3.25 (1H, dd, J = 13.8, 4.7 Hz), 3.13 (1H, dd, J = 13.8, 8.4 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  168.5, 138.0, 135.1, 129.4, 128.8, 127.7, 60.9, 53.2, 39.8.



5-Isothiocyanato-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (2w). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 5-aminobenzimidazole (1w, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2w in 72 mg, 71% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, 1H), 7.60 (d, 1H), 7.24 (dd, 1H, J = 8.5, 1.3 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6):  $\delta$  144.7, 138.2, 137.0, 132.5, 124.6, 121.3, 116.7, 113.6. GC-MS: m/z: 175.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S: 175.0).



**5-isothiocyanato-1H-indole (2x).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 5-aminoindole (**1w**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4

hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2w** in 81.7 mg, 81% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.28 (s, 1H), 7.51 (t, 1H), 7.33 (d, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dt, 1H, J = 8.6, 4.4 Hz), 6.53 (t, 1H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  134.4, 128.1, 126.2, 123.1, 120.2, 118.1, 112.0, 103.1. GC-MS: m/z: 174.1 (calced for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S: 174.0).



**1** -isothiocyanatonaphthalene (2y). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using napthelene-1amine (1y, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2y in 82.6 mg, 77% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.09 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.4, 0.5 Hz), 7.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.1, 0.6 Hz), 7.76 (p, 1H, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 7.62 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  136.1, 134.1, 129.3, 128.5, 127.8, 127.5, 127.2, 125.5, 123.5, 122.8. GC-MS: m/z: 185.1 (calced for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NS: 185.0).

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4-isothiocyanatophenol (2z). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-aminophenol (1z, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2z in 68.3 mg, 78% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.18 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 6.87 – 6.65 (m, 2H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 154.8, 134.0, 127.3, 123.8, 116.4. GC-MS: m/z: 151.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NOS: 151.0).



3-isothiocyanatophenol (2aa). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 3-aminophenol (1aa, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2aa in 73.5 mg, 84% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.81 – 6.77 (m, 1H), 6.77 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.68 (t, 1H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.4, 135.5, 132.2, 130.6, 118.5, 114.9, 112.8. GC-MS: m/z: 151.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NOS: 151.0).



**benzo[d]oxazole-2(3H)-thione (2bb).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 3-aminophenol (**1aa**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2aa** in 71.0 mg, 84% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): **δ** 11.26 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, 1H), 7.27 (dd, 2H, J = 10.6, 4.4 Hz), 7.24 (t, 1H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6): **δ** 180.6, 148.7, 131.8, 125.7, 124.3, 111.0, 110.5. GC-MS: m/z: 151.1 (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>NOS: 151.0).



**6-methylbenzo[d]oxazole-2(3H)-thione (2cc).** According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 3-aminophenol (**1aa**, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and

stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford **2aa** in 77.5 mg, 81% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6):  $\delta$  7.33 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.02 (d, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.32 (s, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6):  $\delta$  180.7, 146.9, 135.4, 131.7, 124.9, 111.1, 110.0, 21.3. GC-MS: m/z: 165.1 (calced for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NOS: 165.0).

### NCS NHTs

*N*-(2-isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (2dd). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using *N*-(2-aminophenyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (1dd, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2dd in 95.2 mg, 54% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO): δ 7.98 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.92 (d, 2H), 7.41 (d, 2H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 2.40 – 2.27 (s, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 169.1, 146.8, 134.1, 131.5, 131.2, 130.3, 128.8, 126.0, 124.1, 114.0, 110.7, 21.7. HRMS: [M+2H+Na] 329.1654 (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 304.0340).



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tert-butyl(4-isothiocyanatophenoxy) dimethylsilane (2ee). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)aniline (1ee, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2ee in 133.7 mg, 87% yield as dark-brown oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.16 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.65 (m, 2H), 0.96 (m, 9H), 0.18 (m, 6H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  155.0, 134.0, 127.0, 124.2, 121.1, 25.7, -4.38. GC-MS: m/z: 265.2 (calced for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOSSi: 265.1).



4-isothiocyanatophenyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (2ff). According to the general experiment procedure A, the reaction was performed by using 4-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)aniline (1ff, 1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) in acetonitrile 2 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour to afford 2ee in 122.1 mg, 69% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **δ** 7.67 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **δ** 147.9, 145.9, 137.1, 132.0, 130.4, 130.0, 128.6, 127.0, 123.9, 21.8. HRMS: [M+Na] 328.0084 (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 328.0078).

2.5.4 Synthesis derivatives of unsymmetric thiourea

1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3a). According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, *p*-anisidine (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 h to afford **3a** in 138.8 mg, 88% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO): **\delta** 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.27 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 6.98 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.1, 158.7, 137.7, 134.7, 130.2, 127.7, 125.6, 114.8, 55.6, 21.1. HRMS: [M+Na] 295.0866 (calced for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaOS: 295.0881).



**1-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3b).** According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL.) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour Next, aniline (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 h to afford **3b** in 92.6 mg, 66% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): **\delta** 9.64 (s, 2H), 7.44 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.34 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6): 180.1, 140.6, 137.4, 133.6, 129.4, 128.9, 124.8, 124.4, 124.1, 21.0. HRMS: [M+Na] 265.0769 (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaS: 265.0775).



1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3c). According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL.) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, 4-chloroaniline (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3c** in 112 mg, 70% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): **\delta** 9.74 (s, 1H), 9.71 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.3, 2.4 Hz), 7.28 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.09 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6): 180.1, 148.2, 139.0, 137.1, 134.4, 129.5, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 125.8, 125.8, 124.4, 119.1 115.6, 20.8. HRMS: [M+Na] 299.0375 (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>-NaS: 299.0386).



1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3d). According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, 4-bromoaniline (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3d** in 112 mg, 70% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6): **δ** 7 9.74 (s, 1H), 9.71 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33 (dd, 2H, J = 9.3, 2.4 Hz), 7.28 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.09 (t, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d6): 180.2, 139.5, 137.1, 134.4, 129.5, 128.8, 125.8, 124.6, 21.0. HRMS: [M-H] 319.0578 (calced for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>NaS: 318.9905).



**1-benzyl-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3e).** According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, benzylamine (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3e** in 111.4 mg, 70% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **§** 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m,2H), 7.26 (dd, 3H, J = 9.4, 4.5 Hz), 7.18 (d, 2H, J =8.2 Hz), 7.10 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 181.0, 137.9, 137.3, 133.0, 130.9, 128.9, 127.8, 127.7, 125.7, 49.5, 21.1. HRMS: [M+K-2H] 293.1091 (calced for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>KN<sub>2</sub>S: 293.0515).



**1-(1-phenylethyl)-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3f).** According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, 1-phenylethylamine (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3f** in 90.8 mg, 58% yield as yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **δ** 7.77 (s,1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.05 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.51 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 179.5, 142.3, 137.6, 133.3, 130.8, 130.4, 129.2, 128.2, 129.1, 127.6, 126.1, 126.0, 125.6, 125.5, 54.4, 21.4. HRMS: [M+Na] 293.1091 (calced for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaS: 293.1088).



1-benzhydryl-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3g). According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, diphenylmethanamine (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3g** in 80.8 mg, 42% yield as white solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **§** 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.31 (t, 4H, , J = 7.3 Hz), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.18 (dd, 5H, J = 7.3, 5.3 Hz), 7.07 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 2.33

(s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.4, 140.8, 137.7, 133.2, 130.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 125.5, 62.5, 21.2. HRMS: [M-H] 331.1264 (calced for  $C_{21}H_{20}N_2S$ : 332.1347).



**1-cyclohexyl-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3h).** According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, cyclohexylamine (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3h** in 103.5 mg, 72% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **Š** 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.05 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.24 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.54 (m, 3H), 1.48 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 1.15 – 1.04 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 178.9, 137.5, 133.3, 130.9, 125.4, 54.1, 32.8, 32.6, 25.5, 24.7, 21.1. HRMS: [M+Na] 271.1237 (calced for  $C_{14}H_{20}N_2NaS$ : 271.1245).

1-butyl-3-(p-tolyl) thiourea (3i). According to the general experiment procedure B. A mixture of *p*-toluidine (1.0 eq, 0.58 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (2 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, butylamine (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol) was added in the mixture and stirred for 3 hours to afford **3i** in 109.4 mg, 85% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **\delta** 8.01 (s), 7.25 - 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 5.95 (s, 1H), 3.58 (t, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.55 – 1.44 (m, 2H), 1.34 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 0.88 (t, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 180.3, 137.6, 133.3, 130.8, 125.6, 45.3, 31.1, 21.1, 20.1, 13.7. HRMS: [M+H] 223.1224 (calced for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S: 222.1191).

#### 2.5.5 Gram-scale synthesis

### 2.5.5.1 Gram-scale synthesis of isothiocyanate

General procedure A was followed, the reaction was performed by 4bromoaniline (**1a**, 1.0 eq., 5.8 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 17.4 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 17.4 mmol) in acetonitrile 20 mL for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.0 eq., 5.8 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour afford **2a** in 980 mg, 79% yield as a white solid: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 6.99 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  136.9, 132.8, 130.5, 127.2, 120.8. GC-MS: m/z: 213.0 : 215.0 (1:1) (calced for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrNS: 212.9 : 214.9 (1:1)).

### 2.5.5.1 Gram-scale synthesis of unsymmetric thiourea

General procedure B was followed, A mixture of *p*-toluidine (**1f**) (1.0 eq, 9.33 mmol), carbon disulfide (3.0 eq., 28.0 mmol) and DBU (3.0 eq., 28.0 mmol) were dissolved by acetonitrile (20 mL) in Pyrex glass tube. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then, carbon tetrabromide (1.5 eq., 14 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. Next, *p*-anisidine (**1i**) (1.5 eq., 14 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 3 h to afford **3a** in 1.75 g, 69% yield as yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (500 MHz, DMSO): **§** 9.64 (s, 2H), 7.44 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.34 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO): 180.1, 140.6, 137.4, 133.6, 129.4, 128.9, 124.8, 124.4, 124.1, 21.0. HRMS: [M+Na] 265.0769 (calced for  $C_{14}H_{14}N_2NaS$ : 265.0775).

### CHAPTER III

### **RESULT & DISCCUSION**

In this work, we developed the synthesis of isothiocyanate from amines in one pot fashion. The first step involves the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X) via the treatment of CS<sub>2</sub>. The second step is the desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) into the target isothiocyanate. Our work will focus on developing the method for desulfurization process using various desulfurizing agents.



Scheme 3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate via desulfurization process.

### 3.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate via light mediated Vilsmeier-Haack reagent

The first desulfurization method that we plan to use was photochemical reaction via Vilsmeier-Haack reagent. Therefore, we first built our photoreactors equipped by either 1) Visible light or 2) Ultraviolet (UV) bulb. There are two light sources for visible photo reactor including 19W white LED (**Picture 3.1, A**) and SMD 5050 LED, 12W green LED (**Picture 3.1, B**). The reaction vessel that used for visible light photo reaction was made from simple borosilicate glass. On the other hand, the UV photo reactor were equipped with either 254 nm UV lamp (**Picture 3.1, C**) or 365 nm UV lamp (**Picture 3.1, D**). Importantly, the quartz was used as reaction vessel due to it excels at transmitting UV light.



Picture 3.1 Our photoreactor in this study A,B) Visible light. C,D) Ultraviolet light.

**3.1.1** Effect of light sources for desulfurization via Vilsmeier-Haack reagent 4-Bromoaniline (**1a**) was used as a model substrate for optimized study for preparation of isothiocyanate (**Scheme 3.2**). The first step was the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (**X**) from the reaction between 4-bromoaniline **1a** and  $CS_2$  in presence of DBU as base. The second step was desulfurization via Vilsmeier-Haack light- mediated by using carbon tetrabromide and *N*,*N*-dimethyl formamide (DMF) to provide isothiocyanate **2a**. The parameter that we focus on this study was the light source.



Scheme 3.2 The study for synthesis of isothiocyanate from 4-bromoaniline

First, we tested the light source irradiation including white LED, green LED, 254 nm. UV. and 365 nm. UV. The treatment of  $CS_2$  in the presence of DBU to **1a** 

leaded to the complete consume of starting material (1a) within 20 hours. Under visible light irradiation for 16 hours by white LED (Table 3.1, entry 1) and green LED (Table 3.1, entry 2) with the addition of 2.0 equivalences of  $CBr_4$  and 2.0 equivalence of DMF in acetonitrile, the isothiocyanate 2a was isolated in 61% and 51% yields, respectively. The low yield of product 2a was probably due to the decomposition of product under the long irradiation time. Switching the visible light sources to ultraviolet light sources, after the reaction provided product 2a in 65-80% yields in case of 254 nm UV irradiation (Table 3.1, entry 2-4). While using 365 nm UV irradiation, the product 2a was received in slightly better yields (70-77%, Table3.1, entry 6-8 ) under the same irradiation time. To test the stability of product 2a under UV irradiation, we irradiated isothiocyanate 2a under both ultraviolet light sources for 4 hours. Both reactions were monitored by <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectroscopy to check the decomposition of isothiocyanate product (Figure 3.1). From NMR result, we found newly unidentified peak at aromatic region (7.4-7.5 ppm) and down field peak at 9.97 ppm indicating the composition from 254 nm. UV irradiation case (Figure 3.1, TOP). while UV 365 nm. gave clean NMR spectrum of isothiocyanate 2a (Figure 3.1, Bottom). Therefore, UV 365 nm. LED light is suitable light source for further study.

Table 3.1 light source screening<sup>a</sup>

$Br \xrightarrow{H_2} CS_2 (3.0 \text{ eq.}), DBU (3.0 \text{ eq.}), CH_3CN, 20 \text{ h, rt} \xrightarrow{H_3CN} CH_3CN, 20 \text{ h, rt} \xrightarrow{H_3CN} CH_3CN, 20 \text{ h, rt} \xrightarrow{H_3CN} CH_3CN, C$
--

Entry	Light source	Time	%Yieldª
1	White LED	16	61
2	Green LED	16	51
3	UV 254 nm	2	68
4	UV 254 nm	4	80
5	UV 254 nm	6	65
6	UV 365 nm	2	70

7	UV 365 nm	4	77	
8	UV 365 nm	6	76	
<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: 4-bromoamiline (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), CS <sub>2</sub> (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),				
DBU (1.74 mmol), CBr <sub>4</sub> (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol), DMF (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol), MeCN (2				
mL), Isolated yield.				





Next, we tested the necessity of the light source and  $CBr_4/DMF$ . We therefore ran the control experiment when the reaction test tube was covered by aluminum foil and carried in parallel with the reaction irradiated by 365 nm UV LED (**Table 3.2**, **entry 1-2**). Moderate yield of isothiocyanate **2a** was obtained. This result suggested that light had little effect on the reaction. When we carried in the absence of  $CBr_4$ and DMF under irradiation by 254 nm and 365 nm UV LED, isothiocyanate **2a** was isolated in 16% and 26% yields respectively (**Table 3.2**, **entries 3**, **4**). This finding that suggested that  $CBr_4$  and DMF is crucial factor in our reaction. Next, we ran the reaction under daylight condition and reduced the equivalence of  $CBr_4$  from 2.0 equivalence to 1.0 equivalence. Isothiocyanate **2a** was isolated in good yield (**Table 3.2, entry 5**). This information indicated that light source has no effect and 1.0 equivalent of CBr<sub>4</sub> is sufficient. Moreover, we reduced the time of dithiocarbamate salt (**X**) formation from 20 hours to 4 hours. The target isothiocyanate **2a** was isolated in 78% yield (**Table 3.2, entry 6**). Finally, we carried the reaction without the addition of DMF at the second step. As expected, isothiocyanate **2a** was isolated in 76% yield (**Table 3.2, entry 7**).

Entry	Light Source	CBr <sub>4</sub> (eq.)	DMF (eq.)	%Yieldª
1	UV 365 nm.	2.0	2.0	77
2	Covered with	2.0	2.0	52
	Aluminium foil			
3	UV 254 nm		2.0	16
4	UV 365 nm		2.0	26
5	Daylight 🗸 👘	1.0	2.0	76
6 <sup>b</sup>	Daylight	1.0	2.0	78
7	Daylight	1.0	-	76
<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: 4-bromoamiline (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), CS <sub>2</sub> (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),				
DBU (1.74 mmol), CBr <sub>4</sub> (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol), DMF (2.0 eq., 1.16 mmol), CH <sub>3</sub> CN (2 mL),				
isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> 1 h. in first step NGKORN UNIVERSITY				

Table 3.2	Effect of	light and	DMF <sup>a</sup>	3.0
				A 100 March 1

This observation suggested two knowledges. The first one is the use of  $CBr_4$  under visible light is not required. Therefore, in **section 3.2** we studied the possibility to use other photocatalysts in the absence of  $CBr_4$ . On the other hand, such result suggested that  $CBr_4$  can use for desulfurization directly. We therefore turned our attention to use  $CBr_4$  as only reagent without the need of light and DMF (Vilsmeier-Haack) and the result will be discussed further in **Section 3.3**.

### 3.2 Synthesis of isthiocyanate using photocatalysts

In this section, we planed to study the synthesis of isothiocyanate via photochemical using dye as photocatalyst. In recently years, our group reported the funtionalization of organosulfur using photocatalysts to perform oxidative cross coupling thiol to disulfide compounds<sup>68</sup> and oxidative desulfurization to convert thiol to 2-aminobenzoxazole<sup>69</sup> and guadinine<sup>70</sup> derivatives (**Scheme 3.3**). For disulfide synthesis, the singlet oxygen as act as an oxidizing agent to generate the corresponding thiol radical (**A**) which can undergo homocoupling to provide disulfide products (**Scheme 3.3**, **eq. 1**). Interestingly, in oxidative desulfurization reaction, the transformation of thiol in to thiol radical (**A**) via singlet electron transfer which can undergo coupling with superoxide to produce peroxysulfur (**B**) intermediate. The elimination of organosulfur took place by substitution by amines to obtaine target 2-aminobenzoxazole or guadinine derivatives (**Scheme 3.3**, **eq. 2 and 3**).

### Previous methods from our group



Scheme 3.3 Reviews on organosulfur of previous where method from our group

Based on above idea, we planned to investigate the synthesis of isothiocyanate using photocatalyst. We hypothesized that under photochemical and photocatalytic system, the dithiocarbamate radical **A** was formed via by singlet electron transfer (SET) under photochemical reaction and generating superoxide. Then, the coupling reaction of superoxide and dithiocarbamate radical **A** produces peroxysulfur (**B**) intermediate followed by desulfurization to obtain target isothiocyanate (**Scheme 3.4**).



Scheme 3.4 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using photocatalyst

**3.2.1** Photocatalyst and light sources screening

4-Bromoaniline (1a) and carbon disulfide were used as a model substrate for optimized study for preparation of isothiocyanate under visible light irradiation in presence of photocatalysts. We tried the reaction using Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as catalyst with white LED. After the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X), we added 5 mol% of Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and irradiated by white LED for 16 hours. The product **2a** was formed in 38% (**Table 3.3, entry 2**) along with recovered staring material **1a** 31% yield. With this promising result, other photocatalyst including Eosin Y, Rose Bengal, Safranin O and pyrene (**Table 3.3**) were screened under similar condition. We found that Safranin O gave the best result providing compound **2a** in 48% yield (**Table 3.3**, **entry 5**). We would like to note that the recovering starting material **1a** was received

in 30-40% even though the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X) was completely occurred (observing from TLC). We therefore suspected that the dithiocarbamate salt (X) was decomposed to starting material during the desulfurization. Moreover, we ran the control experiment which Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was used as catalyst and carried the photoreaction by covering with aluminium foil (**Table 3.3, entry 1**). Isothiocyanate **2a** was isolated in 6% yield along with recovered starting material **1a** 61%. Finally, the control experiment in without photocatalyst was irradiated by white LED. Isothiocyanate **2a** was obtained in 9% yield along with recovered starting material **1a** in 52% (**Table 3.3, Entry 3**)

Table 3.3 Photocatalysts and light sources screening<sup>a</sup>



Entry	Photocatalyst	Light source	%Yieldª (2a)	Starting material
	(5 mol%)			1a (% recovery)
1	Ru(bpy) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Covered with aluminium foil	6	61
2	Ru(bpy) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	White LED	38	31
3	-	White LED	9	52
4	EosinY	Green LED	29	35
5	Roes Bengal	White LED	22	32
6	Safranin O	White LED	48	mixture
				compounds
7	Pyrene	White LED	24	38
8 <sup>b</sup>	Ru(bpy) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	White LED	35	42
<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: 4-bromoamiline (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), CS <sub>2</sub> (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), DBU				
(1.74 mmol), Photocatalyst (0.05 eq., 0.029 mmol), MeCN (2 mL), Isolated yield. $^{ m b}$ 1% of				
Ru(bpy) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>				

Although the moderate yields were received, this is the first example to prepare isothiocyanate in catalytic version which we plan to further investigate in the near future.

#### 3.3 Synthesis of isthiocyanate by using carbon tetrabromide

Based on results from section **3.1**, the use of  $CBr_4$  alone was possible as seen in **Table 3.1**, entry **7**. We hypothesized that the desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) for prepration the corresponding isothiocyanate (2) can proceed through **Scheme 3.5**. Therefore, we began to investigate this reaction as presented in the following section.



Scheme 3.5 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using CBr<sub>4</sub>

3.2.1 Optimized condition

The optimization of isothiocyanate was studied using 4-bromoaniline (1a) as a model starting material for desulfurization operated with carbon tetrabromide as desulfurizing agent. We planned to investigate various parameters including type of solvents, amount of carbon disulfide, base, reaction times and amount of carbon tetrabromide to provide 4-bromophenyl isothiocyanate (2a) as shown in Scheme 3.6. The yield of this reaction was obtained from the purification by column chromatography and confirmed by mass spectroscopy which those data were shown in next subtopic.



Scheme 3.6 The optimized condition with various parameters

### **3.2.1.1** Solvent screening<sup>a</sup>

Various solvents such as CH<sub>3</sub>CN, EtOAc, EtOH, *i*-propanol, acetone and DMSO were tested and the yields of isothiocyanate were presented in **Table 3.4**. Initially, the formation of dithiocarbamate (X) were carried under various solvents in the presence of  $CS_2$  and DBU 3.0 equivalences followed by the treatment of  $CBr_4$  1.0 equivalence for 2 hours. We found that  $CH_3CN$  gave the best result and provide isothiocyanate in 74% (**Table 3.4, entry 6**). In other solvent systems, the starting material (**1a**) was remained due to the poor solubility in such solvent. Therefore, acetonitrile was used for further study.

Table 3.4 Effect of solvent type<sup>a</sup>



	Entry	Solvent	%Yield <sup>b</sup>	
	1	EtOAc	52	
	2	EtOH	10	
4	าพ3ลงก	<i>i</i> -Propanol	ยาล 18	
2	4	Acetone	22 vers <sup>22</sup>	
	5	DMSO	46	
	6	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	74	
	<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: 4-bromoaniline			
	(1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), CS <sub>2</sub> (3.0 eq., 1.74			
	mmol), CBr4 (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol) DBU			
	(3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), Solvent (2.0 mL).			
	<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield			

### 3.2.1.2 Base Screening<sup>a</sup>

Next, organic and inorganic bases were investigated and summarized in **Table 3.4**. We performed the reaction in acetonitrile using carbon disulfide 3.0 equivalences and  $CBr_4$  1.0 equivalence. Among organic bases, DBU gave the high yield of isothiocyanate (**2a**) in 74% (**Table 3.5, entry 1-3**). On the other hand, when we switched to inorganic base such as  $K_2CO_3$ ,  $Cs_2CO_3$  and NaOAc, the isothiocyanates were obtained in lower yields, respectively (43-0%, **Table 3.5, entry 4-6**). We found that it is probably due to the poor formation of dithiocarbamate salt (**X**) in the first step causing poor solubility of those bases. Based on these results, we selected DBU (**Table 3.5, entry 1**) as base for further study.

Table 3.5 Effect of Base<sup>a</sup>


#### **3.2.1.3** Amount of CS<sub>2</sub> and CBr<sub>4</sub><sup>a</sup>

In this section, we would like to investigate the amount of CS<sub>2</sub> which used for the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X) and the amount of  $CBr_4$  which used for desulfurization during the second step (Table 3.6). We carried the reaction using 3.0 equivalences of DBU in acetonitrile. When only 1.5 equivalences of carbon disulfide were used, we observed the remaining starting material 1a and only 53% of isothiocyanate was produced (Table 3.6, entry 1). To ensure the complete conversion of 1a into the corresponding thiocarbamate salt (X), 3.0 equivalences of carbon disulfide was added (Table 3.6, entry 2). The product 2a was isolated in 74% yield without the remaining starting material. On the other hand, increasing the amount of CS<sub>2</sub> to 5.0 equivalences gave no significant improvement (Table 3.6, entry 3). Therefore, the use of 3.0 equivalence of  $CS_2$  was sufficient to convert amine 1a to dithiocarbamate salt (X) and was used for further study. Then, we studied the amount of CBr<sub>4</sub> for desulfurization step using 3.0 equivalences of CS<sub>2</sub> (Table 3.6, entry 4-6). When the reaction was performed without CBr<sub>4</sub>, only 12% of isothiocyanate was isolated (Table 3.6, entry 4). Using 1.5 equivalence of CBr<sub>4</sub>, the isothiocyanate were produced in 85% after 2 hours (Table 3.6, entry 6). During the addition of CBr<sub>4</sub> we observed the increase of temperature which could result in the decomposition of the intermediate or product. Therefore, we carried the desulfurization step at 0°C. However, the isothiocyanates was isolated in slightly lower yield (78%) (Table 3.6, entry 7). We hypothesized that there were remaining unreacted dithiocarbamate salt (X). Then, when we reduced the desulfurization time from 2 to 1 hour, we received the similar yield of isothiocyanate 2a (Table 3.6, entry 8). Therefore, this condition was used as our optimize condition for further study.

Table 3.6 The amount of  $CS_2$  and  $CBr_4^a$ 

Br NH <sub>2</sub> CS <sub>2</sub> (eq.) DBU (3.0 eq.) CH <sub>3</sub> CN, 4h, rt		CBr <sub>4</sub> (eq.) 2h, rt	Br 2a
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Entry	CS <sub>2</sub> (eq.)	CBr4 (eq.)	%Yieldª	
1	1.5	1.0	53	
2	3.0	1.0	74	
3	5.0	1.0	75	
4	3.0		12	
5	3.0	0.5	53	
6	3.0	1.5	85	
7 <sup>c</sup>	3.0	1.5	78	
8 <sup>d</sup>	3.0	1.5	85	
<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: 4-bromoaniline (1.0 eq., 0.58				
mmol), CS <sub>2</sub> (1.5-5.0 eq., 0.87-0.29 mmol), CBr <sub>4</sub> (0-1.5				
eq., 0-0.87 mmol) DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), CH₃CN				
(2.0 mL). <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>C</sup> The reaction was perform				
under 0-5 °C. <sup>d</sup> the desulfurization time for 1 h.				

### 3.2.2 Substrate scope of amines

With the optimized condition in our hands as presented in **Table 3.6**, entry 8, we next expanded the scope of our reaction. Various amines such as aryl amines, benzyl amines, bicyclic amines, aliphatic amines and amino phenols were tested under our optimized condition to prepare the corresponding isothiocyanates.

3.2.2.1 Aromatic amines carrying halogen groups<sup>a</sup>.

Aryl amines containing halogen atoms such as 4-bromo (**1a**), 4-fluoro (**1b**), 4chloro (**1c**), 4-iodo (**1d**) and 2-iodo (**1e**) were subjected to optimize condition and isothiocyanates (**2a-2e**) were isolated in good to excellent yields (**Scheme 3.7**).



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield. Scheme 3.7 Aromatic amines carrying halogen groups<sup>a</sup>.

3.2.2.2 Aromatic amines carrying electron donating groups<sup>a</sup>

First, aniline (1f) was first tested, and we were able to isolate isothiocyanate (2f) in 84% yield (Scheme 3.8). Then, various aryl amines carrying electron donating groups such methyl (1g), 2,6-dimethyl (1h), 4-methoxy (1i) and 2-methoxy (1j) were studied. The isothiocyanate derivatives (2g-2j) were isolated in 88-95% yields. Interestingly, aromatic amine carrying NH-Ts (1dd) group tolerated under our condition and provided the target isothiocyanate (2dd) in 54% yield (Scheme 3.8).



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield. Scheme 3.8 Aromatic amines carrying electron donating groups<sup>a</sup>

## 3.2.2.3 Aromatic amine carrying electron withdrawing groups<sup>a</sup>

Aromatic amines containing with electron withdrawing groups such as 4trifluoromethyl (1k), nitro (1l), ethyl benzoate (1m) and 4-cyano (1n) and 3-cyano (1o) groups had strong effect on the reaction efficiency providing low to moderate yields of isothiocyanates (2k-2o) as shown in Scheme 3.9. We observed the remaining starting materials in all cases indicating that the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X) is poor in our reaction. So, we increased the amount of  $CS_2$ from 3.0 equivalences to 5.0 equivalences. Fortunately, the yield of target isothiocyanates (2k-2o) were dramatically increased (Scheme 3.9). Therefore, we hypothesized that the first step which is the formation of dithiocarbamate salt (X) is the rate determining step in our process.



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>5.0 eq. of  $CS_2$ 

Scheme 3.9 Aromatic amine carrying electron withdrawing groups<sup>a</sup>

#### **3.2.2.4** Benzylamines scope<sup>a</sup>

Next, we expanded amine substrates into benzylamine derivatives as shown in **Scheme 3.10**. Under optimized condition, benzylamine (**1p**) can be converted into isothiocyanate (**2p**) in 73% yield as shown in **Scheme 3.10**. Similarly, 4-methoxy benzylamine (**1q**), benzhydryl amine (**1r**) and 1-phenylethylamine (**1s**) were subjected to the thiocarbamate formation following by desulfurization to provide corresponding isothiocyanates (**2q-2s**) in 65-84% yields as shown in **Scheme 3.10**.



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: Amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield. Scheme 3.10 Benzylamines scope<sup>a</sup>

## 3.2.2.5 Aliphatic amines scope<sup>a</sup>

Then, we extended our methodology to prepare isothiocyanates from aliphatic amines. Primary aliphatic amines such as cyclohexylamine (**1t**) and hexylamine (**1u**) were converted into corresponding isothiocyanate in excellent yields under optimized condition as shown in **Scheme 3.11**. Then, the chiral amino acid L-phenylalanine methyl ester hydrochloride was carried under the optimal condition and provided target isothiocyanate **2v** in 34% as seen in **Scheme 3.11**. Although, the yield of this transformation was moderate due to the poor solubility of L-phenylalanine methyl ester hydrochloride in acetonitrile.



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield.

Scheme 3.11 Aliphatic amines scope<sup>a</sup>

3.2.2.6 Hetero and homocyclic amines scope<sup>a</sup>

Next, we expanded amine substrates into bicyclic amine derivatives such as 5-aminobenzimidazole (1w), 5-aminoindole (1x) and 1-napthylamine (1y) as shown in Scheme 3.12. The corresponding isothiocyanates (2w-2y) were isolated in 71-81% yields as shown in Scheme 3.12. We would like to note that the nitrogen containing heterocycle in substrate 1w and 1x were easy to undergo oxidation.



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: Amine (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield.

Scheme 3.12 Hetero and Homocyclic amines scope<sup>a</sup>

#### 3.2.2.7 Amino phenols and its derivatives scope<sup>a</sup>

Next, we extended our scope into aryl amine bearing hydroxy group in various positions such as 4-aminophenol (1z), 3-aminophenol (1aa), 2-aminophenol (1bb) and 2-amino-5-methylphenol (1bb) as shown in Scheme 3.13. For 4aminophenol (1z) and 3-aminophenol (1aa) were reacted with  $CS_2/CBr_4$  providing the corresponding isothiocyanates 2z and 2aa in good to excellent yields (Scheme 3.13). This observation suggested that the phenolic group can tolerate to our reaction condition. Interestingly, when 2-hydroxyaniline derivatives such as 1bb and 1cc were subjected to our reaction condition, we did not observe expected isothiocyanates 2bbx and 2ccx. Mercaptobenzoxales 2bb and 2cc were isolated in excellent yields (Scheme 3.13). We believe that the intermediate of isothiocyanates 2bbx and 2ccx were rapidly underwent intramolecular cyclization with adjacent phenolic groups. Although, the phenol group can be survived in the reaction, we would like to test our condition to other common alcohol protecting groups. Therefore, 4aminophenols with tert-butyl silyl (1ee) and tosyl groups protecting (1ff) were subjected to our reaction condition providing the expected isothiocyanates 2ee and 2ff in good to excellent yields. Importantly, we did not observed the free phenol isothiocyanate (2z) indicating that such protecting groups are tolerated in our reaction condition (Scheme 3.13).

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<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: 4-bromoaniline (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol),  $CS_2$  (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CBr_4$  (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (2.0 mL), isolated yield. Scheme 3.13 Amino phenols and its derivatives scope<sup>a</sup>

## 3.2.3 Substrate scopes for unsymmetric thiourea

With the successful in desulfurization of dithiocarbamate salt (X) to synthesize isothiocyanates, we would like to extend our method to prepare unsymmetrical thiourea in one-pot fashion from amines. The reason is because thiourea derivatives are important for bioactive compounds and important building block in medicinal chemistry. Following by our developed methodology, we plan to add amines into *in situ* generated isothiocyanate to provide unsymmetric thioureas (Scheme 3.14). *p*-toluidine (1f) was chosen as a model to convert into *p*-tolyl isothiocyanate (2f) *in situ* which was future reacted with 1.5 equivalence of amines. Aromatic amines such as *p*-anisidine (1i), aniline (1f), 4-choloroaniline (1c), 4-bromoaniline (1a), benzylamine (1p), 1-phenylethylamine (1s) and benzhydryl amine (1r) and aliphatic amines such as cyclohexyl amine (1t) and butylamine (1u) were reacted smoothly providing the unsymmetrical thioureas (3a-3i) in 34-88% yields (Scheme 3.14). However, bulky amines such as benzhydryl amine and cyclohexylamine and poor nucleophile such as butylamine gave low yields of target thioureas. Therefore, the amount of amines

was increased to 3.0 equivalences. Fortunately, we were able to prepare unsymmetrical thioureas **3g-3i** in much better yields (42-85%) (**Scheme 3.14**)



<sup>a</sup>Reaction condition: *p*-toluidine **1f** (1.0 eq., 0.58 mmol), CS<sub>2</sub> (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), CBr<sub>4</sub> (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), DBU (3.0 eq., 1.74 mmol), CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL), secondary amine (1.5 eq., 0.87 mmol), Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>1.74 mmol of second amine was perform. **Scheme 3.14** Unsymmetric thioureas scope<sup>a</sup>

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# 3.2.4 Gram-scale synthesis of isothiocyanate and unsymmetric thiourea

After the successful preparation of isothiocyanates and unsymmetrical thioureas in laboratory scale, the gram-scale preparation isothiocyanate was considered (Scheme 3.15, eq. 1). 1.0 gram of 4-bromoaniline 1a was subjected to our optimized condition providing isothiocyanate in 79% yield. Moreover, 1.0 gram of *p*-toluidine was converted into thiourea (X) in one-pot fashion via 1) formation of dithiocarbamate with  $CS_2$  2) desulfurization with  $CBr_4$  and 3) addition with p-anisidine to provide thiourea in 69% yield (Scheme 3.15, eq. 2).



3.2.5 By-product detection by SEM/EDX

We hypothesized that the by-product of our reaction must contain sulfur which came from desulfurization reaction under the optimized condition as shown in **Scheme 3.16**. Therefore, we set the reaction and filtrate the solid precipitate. After filtration, it washed with acetonitrile and dried over high vacuum. The solid was exposed to characterize with scanning electron microscope (SEM) equipped with x-ray spectroscopy (EDX). The SEM/EDX results indicated that the particles contain with sulfur, carbon and bromine as a main element distributing in surface on particle (**Picture 3.2**). Importantly, the element distribution revealed that carbon and bromide elements bind together as they both are located in the same area while the sulfur atom displayed independently in another surface area. The result suggests that the formation of S<sub>8</sub> atom as the most stable form<sup>71</sup> as shown in **Picture 3.2**.







**By-product particle** 

#### SEM image

EDX image

Picture 3.2 SEM-EDX results from by-product detection

3.2.6 Proposed mechanism

Based on the results from mechanistic study and reviews<sup>56-58</sup>. We proposed the reaction mechanism of our reaction as shown in Scheme 3.17. Initially, the amine reacted with carbon disulfide in presence of DBU to generate dithiocarbamate salt (X) intermediate which undergo nucleophilic attack to bromine atom of carbon tetrabromide leading to the formation of intermediate of sulfenyl bromide (4'). Then, sulfur atom that attached to bromine was eliminated to give isothiocyanate (Scheme 3.17). The by-product of this reaction is bromoform (CHBr<sub>3</sub>) which was identified by NMR spectroscopy (singlet at  $\pmb{\delta}$  = 6.82 ppm.) along with S\_8 and DBU-Br salt were detected in SEM/EDX experiment.

73



Scheme 3.17 Proposed mechanism



## CHAPTER IV

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we developed 2 methods including photocatalytic and stoichiometry desulfurization process of dithiocarbamate salt (X). For photocatalysis, we could prepare 4-bromophenyl isothiocyanate in 48% yield from 4-bromoaniline in the present of safranin O as photocatalyst as shown in Scheme 4.1. However, generality of this method was limited. Therefore, we decided to investigate this photocatalytic method in the near future. For stoichiometry desulfurization process, we successfully synthesize isothiocyanate derivatives by using  $CBr_4$  as a mediator. Under optimize condition, a various amine carrying halogen atom, electron donating, electron withdrawing group, heterocyclic, aliphatic, phenolic and protecting group are able to tolerate under our optimize condition. In addition, isothiocyanate derivatives were obtained in moderate to excellent yield for 32 examples. Moreover, we also prepare unsymmetrical thiourea from the generating of isothiocyanate in situ which are able to react with aliphatic and aromatic amine in moderate to excellent yield for 9 examples as shown in Scheme 4.1. Gram-scale synthesis of isothiocyanates and unsymmetric thioureas are accomplished under optimize condition in good yield. Based on mechanistic study including NMR monitoring and SEM/EDX, we proposed the mechanism involving 1) the nucleophilic attack dithiocarbamate salt (X) to bromine atom of carbon tetrabromide 2) the formation of intermediate of sulfenyl bromide intermediate 3) desulfurization process. Importantly, our condition offers several advantages such as the use of low toxic reagent, easy procedure in open-air condition, one-pot fashion and gram scalability.



Scheme 4.1 Synthesis of isothiocyanate using 1) photocatalyst 2) CBr<sub>4</sub> mediator



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Figure A7 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2c (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A9 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2d (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)







Figure A13 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2f (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A15 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2g (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)









Figure A23 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2k (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)





Figure A26 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2l (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)


Figure A28 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2m (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)









Figure A34 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2p (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A36 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2q (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A38 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2r (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A40 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2s (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)





Figure A44 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2u (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)







Figure A48 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of 2w (DMSO-d6, 500 MHz)



Figure A50 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2x (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A52 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2y (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A54 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2z (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A56 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2aa (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A58 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2bb (DMSO, 125 MHz)



Figure A60 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2cc (DMSO, 125 MHz)



Figure A62 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2dd (DMSO, 125 MHz)



Figure A64 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2ee (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)



Figure A66 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 2ff (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)





Figure A70 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 3b (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)



Figure A72 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 3c (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)



Figure A74 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 3d (DMSO-d6, 125 MHz)





Figure A76 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 3f (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)

124







Figure A82 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of 3i (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)



Figure A85 GC/MS spectrum of 2c



Figure A88 GC/MS spectrum of 2f



Figure A91 GC/MS spectrum of 2j















Figure A102 GC/MS spectrum of 2w










Figure A109 HRMS spectrum of 2dd





Figure A111 HRMS spectrum of 2ff



Figure A112 HRMS spectrum of 3a



Figure A113 HRMS spectrum of 3b



Figure A114 HRMS spectrum of 3c



Figure A115 HRMS spectrum of 3d



Figure A116 HRMS spectrum of 3e



Figure A117 HRMS spectrum of 3f



Figure A118 HRMS spectrum of 3g



Figure A119 HRMS spectrum of 3h



Figure A120 HRMS spectrum of 3i

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