

## A New Approach to $\beta$ -Fluoropyrroles Based on the Michael Addition of Isocyanomethylide Anions to $\alpha$ -Fluoroalkenyl Sulfones and Sulfoxides

Hidemitsu UNO,\* Katsuji SAKAMOTO, Takashi TOMINAGA, and Noboru ONO†

Advanced Instrumentation Center for Chemical Analysis Ehime University, Bunkyo-cho 2-5, Matsuyama 790

† Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Ehime University, Bunkyo-cho 2-5, Matsuyama 790

(Received December 28, 1993)

The reactions of 2-aryl-1-fluorovinyl phenyl sulfones with carbanions derived from isocyanoacetates gave mixtures of 3-aryl-4-fluoro-2-pyrrolecarboxylates and 3-aryl-4-fluoro-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-isocyanobutanoates, simple Michael addition products, in variable ratios depending upon the conditions employed. On the other hand, the reaction of 1-fluoro-1-propenyl phenyl sulfone afforded mainly the simple Michael addition products in moderate yields as well as a small amount of 4-phenylsulfonyl-3-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylates and a trace amount of 4-fluoro-3-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylates. 1-Fluoropropenyl phenyl sulfoxide underwent mainly the simple Michael addition to give butenoates and a small amount of 4-fluoro-2-pyrrolecarboxylates.

Substitution of a hydrogen atom of biologically important molecules for fluorine has proven to be not only making useful medicinals but also a powerful tool in fundamental studies of biochemical and metabolic processes<sup>1)</sup> and in vivo imaging studies of a certain kind of receptors by positron emission tomography<sup>2)</sup> using positron emitting <sup>18</sup>F nucleus.<sup>3)</sup> Although a pyrrole skeleton is often found in biologically active compounds, studies on the fluorine-containing analogues are rare probably due to the lack of efficient methods for the introduction of a fluorine atom into the pyrrole nucleus.<sup>4)</sup> The Shiemann reaction of pyrroles, which would be thought to be the most reliable method led to low yields. For example, the photochemical Shiemann reaction of 2-ethoxycarbonyl-4-pyrrolediazonium tetrafluoroborates was reported to give the corresponding 4-fluoropyrroles in 12–17% yields.<sup>5)</sup>

We thought that fluoropyrroles might be prepared from  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl phenyl sulfones by applying the new successful synthesis of pyrroles based on the addition of stabilized isocyanomethylide anions to appropriate Michael acceptors followed by the spontaneous ring closure.<sup>6)</sup> From a mechanistic point of view, this reaction may contain some interesting problems; whether do the intermediate  $\alpha$ -fluoro- $\alpha$ -phenylsulfonyl carbanions formed by the Michael addition of isocyanomethylide anions to  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl sulfones behave as carbanionoids or as carbenoids? Which group of fluorine or benzenesulfinate leaves from the carbenoid intermediates in the latter case<sup>7)</sup> or from the pyrroline intermediates in the former case? In this paper, we discuss about our study on the reaction of  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl phenyl sulfones and sulfoxides with isocyanomethylide anions giving 2,3,4-trisubstituted pyrroles and 3-fluoro-substituted isocyanides.

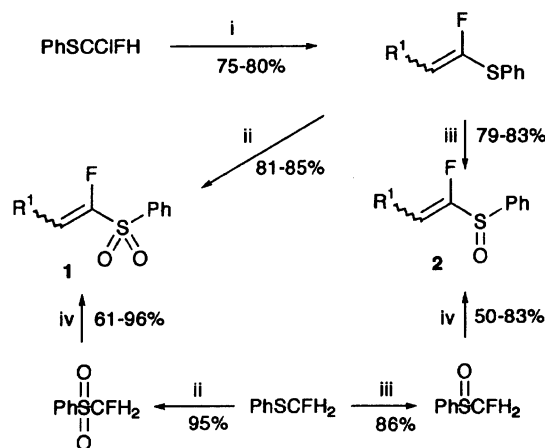
### Results and Discussion

**Preparation of  $\alpha$ -Fluoroalkenyl Phenyl Sulfones **1** and Sulfoxides **2**.** The sulfones **1** and sulfoxides **2** were easily prepared according to the reported procedures: i) condensation of chlorofluorometh-

yl phenyl sulfide with aldehydes followed by oxidation with one or two equiv of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (mCPBA)<sup>8)</sup> or ii) condensation of fluoromethyl phenyl sulfone or sulfoxide with aldehydes<sup>9)</sup> (Scheme 1). Both routes gave the similar results except for *E*:*Z* selectivity. The former route provided about 1:1 mixtures of *E*:*Z* isomers, whereas *E*-isomers were preferentially obtained by the latter route (*E*:*Z* ratio was ca. 2:1 for aliphatic aldehydes and >9:1 for aromatic ones).

#### Reaction of Sulfones **1** with Isocyanoacetates.

Initially, we applied the reaction conditions used in the reaction of nitroolefins with isocyanoacetates.<sup>6a–6c)</sup> Thus, 2-(4-biphenyl)-1-fluorovinyl phenyl sulfone (**1a**) was refluxed with ethyl isocyanoacetate (2.8 equiv) in the presence of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU; 2 equiv). However, the reaction did not take place and the starting sulfone was recovered in a 70% yield. This result is attributed that the vinyl sulfone **1a** is a poorer Michael acceptor than nitroolefins<sup>6a–6c)</sup> and  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.<sup>6d)</sup> Next, we



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: i)  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ ,  $\text{MeLi-LiBr}$ ,  $\text{R}^1\text{CHO}$ , THF,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . ii) mCPBA (2 equiv),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $0^\circ\text{C} \rightarrow \text{r.t.}$  iii) mCPBA (1 equiv),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $0^\circ\text{C} \rightarrow \text{r.t.}$  iv) LDA (2 equiv),  $\text{ClP(O)(OEt)}_2$ , THF,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $\text{R}^1\text{CHO}$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C} \rightarrow \text{r.t.}$

Table 1. Reaction of Sulfones **1** with Isocyanoacetates **3**

Entry	Sulfone <sup>a)</sup>		Isocyanoacetate		Base (equiv)	Yield/%			
	<b>1</b>	R <sup>1</sup>	<b>3</b>	R <sup>2</sup> (equiv)		<b>1</b> <sup>b)</sup>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
1	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	NaH (2.0)	30	5	Trace	25 <sup>c)</sup>
2	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.4)	NaH (4.0)	3	15	Trace	14 <sup>d)</sup>
3	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (4.2)	NaH (4.2)	35	8	Trace	—
4	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	KH (2.0)	63	10	—	10 <sup>d)</sup>
5	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (3.5)	KH (3.5)	59	14	—	14 <sup>d)</sup>
6	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (4.0)	KH (4.0)	3	15	—	14 <sup>d)</sup>
7	<b>1a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.8)	KH (2.8) <sup>e)</sup>	48	35	—	—
8	<b>1b</b>	4-MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	KH (2.0)	60	8	—	6 <sup>d)</sup>
9	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (1.0)	NaH (1.0) <sup>f)</sup>	23	—	—	36 <sup>g)</sup>
10	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	NaH (1.5)	—	Trace	21	58 <sup>d)</sup>
11	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.2)	NaH (1.8)	—	Trace	33	58 <sup>d)</sup>
12	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	NaH (4.0)	—	Trace	33	—
13	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3b</b>	<i>t</i> -Bu (2.0)	NaH (2.0)	30	—	30	—
14	<b>1c</b>	Me	<b>3b</b>	<i>t</i> -Bu (2.0)	KH (2.0)	31	—	28	—

a) *E*:*Z*=1:1—9:1. b) *E*:*Z*>9:1. c) The diastereomer ratio was 37:7:1:1. d) The ratio was not determined. e) Kriptofix 222® (0.4 equiv) was added. f) DMF was used as a solvent. g) The diastereomer ratio was 6:4:3:2.

changed the base for sodium hydride. The sulfone **1a** was treated with 2 equiv of ethyl sodioisocyanoacetate in THF at room temperature to give a mixture of fluoropyrrole **4aa** (5%) and butanoate **6aa** (25%) as well as 30% recovery of the starting sulfone (*E*:*Z*>9:1; Eq. 1). A higher temperature (reflux) or a longer reaction time (2 d) did not improve either yield or selectivity but only brought about consumption of **1a**.

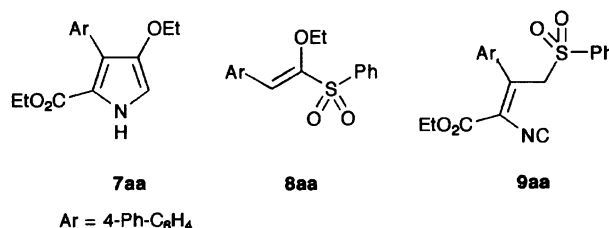
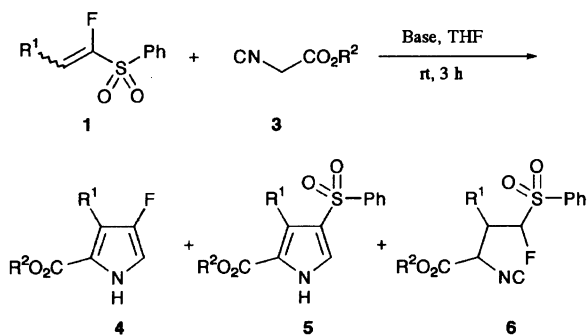


Chart 1.



(1)

In order to improve the yield and selectivity of **4aa**, various reaction conditions were examined and some of them are listed in Table 1. The best selectivity of **4aa** was obtained by using 2.8 equiv each of potassium hydride and ethyl isocyanoacetate (**3a**) in the presence of 4,7,13,16,21,24-hexaoxa-1,10-diazabicyclo[8.8.8]hexacosane (Kriptofix 222®; 0.4 equiv), although the conversion was still low (Entry 7). In these reactions, another expected pyrrole **5aa** was formed in very small amount (<5%). The bad material balance observed is due to formation of considerable numbers of by-products, some of which were identified as **7aa**, **8aa**, and **9aa** by diagnosis of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and GC-MS (Chart 1). Isomerization of the starting **1** was observed under basic reaction conditions employed: when *Z*-rich **1a** (*E*:*Z*=1:4)

was treated with 2 equiv each of **3a** and sodium hydride at room temperature for 3 h, a similar result as Entry 1 was obtained and the isomer ratio of the recovered **1a** (44%) was *E*:*Z*=7:2.

On the other hand, the reaction of aliphatic **1c** with the same Michael donor proceeded fairly well to give 58% of butanoate **6ca**, 21% of phenylsulfonylpyrrole **5ca**, and a trace amount of fluoropyrrole **4ca** (Entry 10). Use of an excess amount of potassium hydride against the isocyanoacetate led to complete disappearance of **6ca** almost without affecting the yields of pyrroles (Entry 12). The reaction of **1c** with *t*-butyl isocyanoacetate **3b** afforded **5cb** as the only identifiable product.

### Reaction of Sulfoxides **2** with Isocyanoacetates **3**.

The similar reaction of  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl sulfoxides **2**, which were considered as poorer Michael acceptors than **1**, was conducted (Eq. 2, Table 2). We anticipated that the reaction would give simple addition product **10** and 4-phenylsulfinylpyrrole, because a benzenesulfenate anion is thought as a poorer leaving group than a benzenesulfinate anion. The reaction of **2a** with **3a**, however, proceeded sluggishly and gave only fluoropyrrole **4aa** and a very trace amount of a simple Michael addition

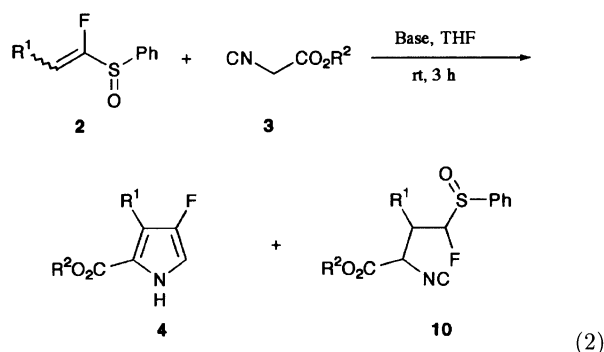
Table 2. Reaction of Sulfoxides **2** with Isocyanacetates **3**

Entry	Sulfoxide <sup>a)</sup>		Isocyanacetate		Base (equiv)	Yield/%		
	<b>2</b>	R <sup>1</sup>	<b>3</b>	R <sup>2</sup> (equiv)		<b>2</b> <sup>b)</sup>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
1	<b>2a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (1.8)	NaH (2.0)	54	14	—
2	<b>2a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	NaH (5.0)	35	10	—
3	<b>2a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.8)	KH (2.8)	44	12	—
4	<b>2a</b>	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (3.5)	KH (3.4)	Trace	22	—
5	<b>2c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (1.2)	KH (1.2)	30	3	43 <sup>c)</sup>
6	<b>2c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (1.7)	KH (1.7)	—	9	51 <sup>d)</sup>
7	<b>2c</b>	Me	<b>3a</b>	Et (3.4)	KH (3.4)	—	5	58 <sup>d)</sup>
8	<b>2c</b>	Me	<b>3b</b>	<i>t</i> -Bu (1.8)	KH (4.0)	—	7	50 <sup>e)</sup>
9	<b>2d</b>	PhCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (2.0)	NaH (5.0)	—	15	9 <sup>d)</sup>
10	<b>2d</b>	PhCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	<b>3a</b>	Et (3.0)	KH (2.2)	—	5	50 <sup>f)</sup>

a) *E*:*Z*=1:1—9:1. b) *E*:*Z*=>9:1. c) The major four-diastereomer ratio was 8:4:3:2.

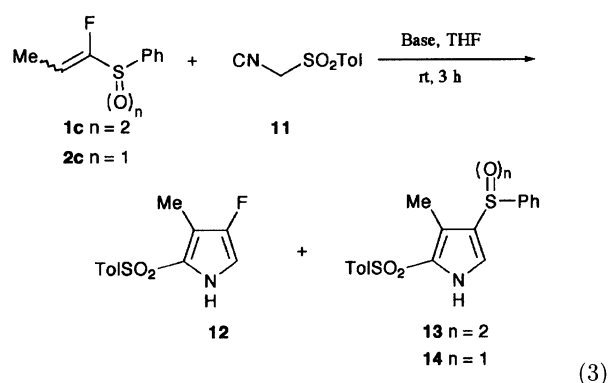
d) The ratio was not determined. e) The major four-diastereomer ratio was 25:11:5:4. f) The major four-diastereomer ratio was 10:7:3:2.

product in addition to a large amount of the starting material. On the other hand, the simple addition products **10** were obtained from the reactions of **2c** and **2d** in moderate yields as well as a small amount of 4-fluoropyrroles **4**.



**Reaction with Tosylmethyl Isocyanide (11).** The reaction of tosylmethyl isocyanide (**11**) giving 2,5-unsubstituted pyrroles was extensively studied by van Leusen and other groups.<sup>10)</sup> The tosyl group was usually eliminated during the course of reactions. The reaction of 1-fluoro-1-propenyl sulfone **1c** with **11**, however, gave mixtures of 4-fluoro-2-tosylpyrrole **12** and 4-phenylsulfonyl-2-tosylpyrrole **13** in low yields (Eq. 3, Table 3). 2,5-Unsubstituted pyrroles could not be obtained. A similar mixture of 4-fluoro-2-tosylpyrrole **12** and 4-phenylsulfonyl-2-tosylpyrrole **14** was obtained in the reaction of 1-fluoro-1-propenyl sulfoxide **2c**. It is worth of not-

ing that none of simple Michael addition product was obtained in both reactions of **1c** and **2c** with **11**.

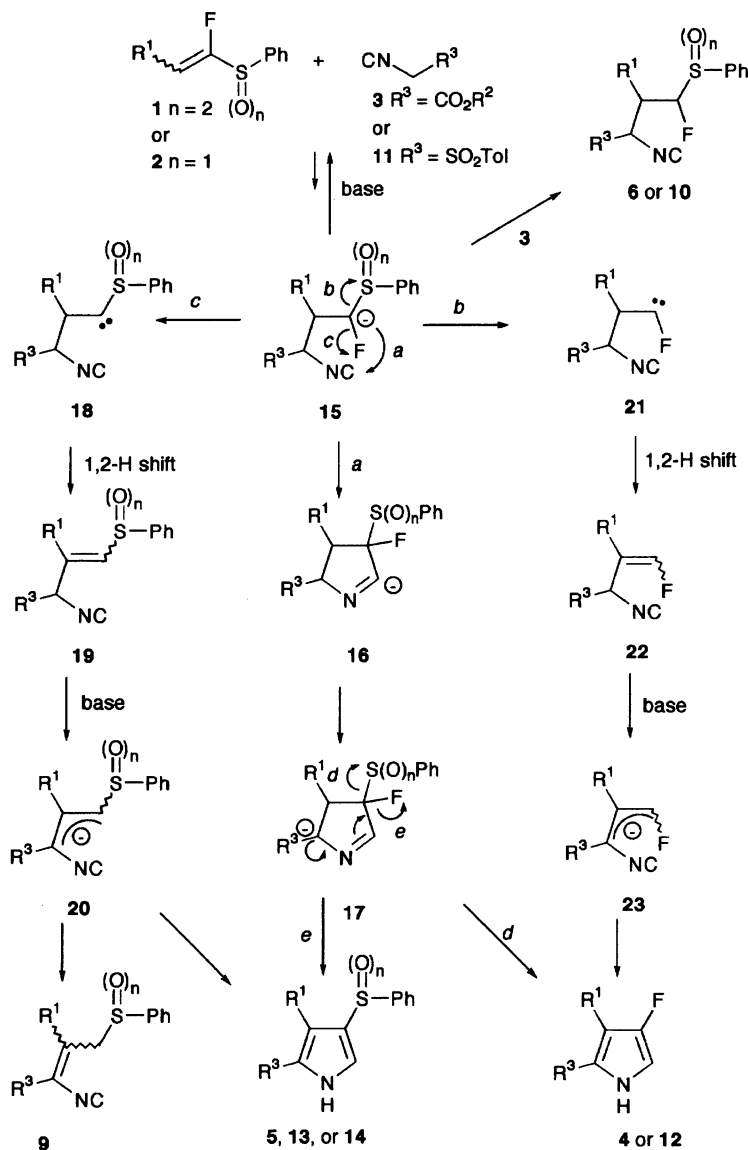


**Reaction Mechanism Consideration.** Michael adduct anion **15** is thought to decompose in three different ways: Proton abstraction forming **6** or **10**; intramolecular addition to the isocyno group giving pyrrolidine **17**, which then undergoes 1,4-elimination of benzenesulfonate, benzenesulfonate, or fluoride to afford **4** or **5**; and  $\alpha$ -elimination of fluoride, benzenesulfonate, or benzenesulfonate followed by 1,2-hydrogen shift of the resulting carbenes to give **19** or **22** (Scheme 2). The Michael addition of the stabilized carbanions derived from **3** or **11** to the fluorovinyl sulfones **1** or sulfoxides **2** is considered to be a rather unfavorable process especially in the case of 2-aryl derivatives, where sterically bulky aryl groups decrease the reactivity at the  $\beta$ -position. Thus, concentration of the Michael intermediate **15** would be very low and it would tend to undergo the cyclization or  $\alpha$ -elimination rather than capture of an acidic proton from **3** or **11**. Thus yields of **6** and **10** were low in cases of **1a**, **1b**, and **2a**, and yields of **6ca** were greatly increased in the presence of neutral **3a** (Table 1, Entries 10 and 11). Moreover when tosylmethyl isocyanide (**11**), of which methylene protons are less acidic than **3**, was employed, the formation of simple Michael addition products was completely suppressed.

The tendency observed in the pyrrole formation (4

Table 3. Reaction of 1-Fluoro-1-propenyl Sulfone **1c** and Sulfoxide **2c** with Tosylmethyl Isocyanide (**11**)

Entry	Substrate	<b>11</b>	NaH	Yield/%		
		equiv	equiv	<b>1c/2c</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13/14</b>
1	<b>1c</b>	2.0	2.0	60	8	23
2	<b>1c</b>	2.0	4.0	46	7	18
3	<b>2c</b>	2.0	2.0	40	18	17
4	<b>2c</b>	2.0	4.0	35	24	24



Scheme 2. Possible reaction pathways.

vs. 5) from 1 Table 1, Entries 1—8 vs. Entries 10—14) would be understood by assuming that the pathway *a* is the main route to the pyrroles 4 and 5. In the case of 2-aryl-1-fluorovinyl sulfones **1a** and **1b**, steric interaction between  $\text{R}^1$  and benzenesulfonyl groups in **17** would be expected and thus would facilitate departure of the benzenesulfinate anion from **17**. The carbene routes to pyrroles via **19** and **22**, however, could not be excluded because **9aa**, which was derived from the carbene **18**, was obtained from the reaction mixture.<sup>11)</sup> In the reaction of sulfoxides **2** with **3**, selective formation of fluoropyrroles rather than sulfinylpyrroles is interesting, but mechanism remains unclear.

**Summary.** We have shown that  $\beta$ -fluoropyrroles which are very difficult to access can be prepared from the reaction of  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl sulfones and sulfoxides with isocyanomethyl anions, although the yields are low. Studies on respective transformations of 4-fluoropyrrolicarboxylates and 4-fluorobutanoates into fluori-

nated porphyrins and  $\alpha$ -amino acids<sup>12)</sup> are under way and the results will be reported elsewhere.

### Experimental

Melting points are uncorrected. Unless otherwise specified, NMR spectra were obtained with a JEOL GSX-270 spectrometer at ambient temperature by using  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as a solvent, tetramethylsilane as an internal standard for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ , and  $\text{CFCl}_3$  as an internal standard for  $^{19}\text{F}$ . Mass spectra were measured with a Hitachi M80B-LCAPI spectrometer under the following ionizing conditions: EI (electron impact, 20 eV) and CI (chemical ionization, 70 eV, methane or isobutane as CI gas). Column chromatography was carried out using Wakogel C-200. Ether and THF were distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl. Other commercially available materials were used without further purification. Fluoromethyl phenyl sulfide was prepared in good yields (75—85%) from the reaction of chloromethyl phenyl sulfide with spray-dried  $\text{KF}^{13)}$  according to the literature procedure.<sup>14)</sup> Isocyanacetates **2a** and **2b** were prepared from the cor-

responding *N*-fomylglycine esters using POCl<sub>3</sub> and triethylamine.<sup>15</sup> Tolylmethyl isocyanide **11** was prepared according to the literature method.<sup>16</sup>

**2-(4-Biphenyl)-2-fluoroethenyl Phenyl Sulfone (1a):** Colorless crystals, mp 165–167 °C (*E* isomer, hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =6.94 (1H of *Z* isomer, d, *J*=22.3 Hz), 7.10 (1H of *E* isomer, d, *J*=34.8 Hz), and 7.3–8.1 (both 14H, m); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–111.78 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=22 Hz) and –125.08 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=35 Hz); IR (KBr) 3044, 1486, 1440, 1408, 1310, 1086, and 1040 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 339 (*M*<sup>+</sup>+1, 19), 338 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 83), 213 (14), 194 (100), 185 (59), and 125 (21). Found: C, 70.92; H, 4.46%. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 70.99; H, 4.47%.

**1-Fluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl Phenyl Sulfone (1b):** Colorless crystals: mp 75–77 °C (hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =3.83 (3H of *E* isomer, s), 3.85 (3H of *Z* isomer, s), 6.86 (1H of *Z* isomer, d, *J*=22.7 Hz), 6.91 (2H of *E* isomer, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 6.92 (2H of *Z* isomer, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.01 (1H of *E* isomer, d, *J*=35.4 Hz), 7.46 (2H of *Z* isomer, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.54 (2H of *E* isomer, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.59 (both 2H, m), 7.68 (both 1H, m), 7.90 (2H of *Z* isomer, m), and 8.00 (2H of *E* isomer, m); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–114.01 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=23 Hz) and –128.82 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=35 Hz); IR (KBr) 2832, 1656, 1606, 1512, 1344, 1312, 1256, 1168, 1098, 1054, and 1036 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 293 (*M*<sup>+</sup>+1, 13), 292 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 74), 167 (26), 156 (27), 150 (100), and 139 (77). Found: C, 61.51; H, 4.39%. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FO<sub>3</sub>S: C, 61.63; H, 4.48%.

**1-Fluoro-1-propenyl Phenyl Sulfone (1c):** Colorless oil, oven temp 100 °C/0.2 mmHg (1 mmHg $\approx$ 133.322 Pa). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.81 (3H of *E* isomer, dd, *J*=7.3 and 3.1 Hz), 2.14 (3H of *Z* isomer, dd, *J*=7.9 and 3.1 Hz), 5.93 (1H of *Z* isomer, dq, *J*=23.5 and 7.9 Hz), 6.31 (1H of *E* isomer, dq, *J*=32.0 and 7.3 Hz), 7.5–7.7 (both 3H, m), and 7.9–8.0 (both 2H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =9.45 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=4 Hz), 10.05 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=4 Hz), 113.92 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=7 Hz), 115.67 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=15 Hz), 128.01 (*Z* isomer), 128.32 (*E* isomer), 129.25 (both), 134.20 (*E* isomer), 134.32 (*Z* isomer), 137.33 (*E* isomer), 138.28 (*Z* isomer), 152.49 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=280 Hz), and 154.67 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=294 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–116.82 (*Z* isomer, dq, *J*=22 and 3 Hz) and –129.78 (*E* isomer, dq, *J*=32 and 3 Hz); IR (neat) 1676, 1450, 1336, 1310, 1296, 1176, 1142, 1088, 1038, 1024, and 1000 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 200 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 3), 125 (100), 109 (3), 97 (18), and 77 (48). Found: C, 53.60; H, 4.45%. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 53.99; H, 4.53%.

**1-Fluoro-1-propenyl Phenyl Sulfoxide (2c):** Colorless oil, oven temp 75 °C/0.2 mmHg, <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.78 (3H of *E* isomer, dd, *J*=7.5 and 2.9 Hz), 2.06 (3H of *Z* isomer, dd, *J*=7.5 and 3.2 Hz), 5.80 (1H of *Z* isomer, dq, *J*=17.2 and 7.6 Hz), 5.85 (1H of *E* isomer, dq, *J*=34.5 and 7.2 Hz), and 7.5–8.0 (both 5H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =9.37 (*E* isomer d, *J*=4 Hz), 10.62 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=5 Hz), 110.63 (*E* isomer, d, *J*=7 Hz), 113.90 (*Z* isomer, d, *J*=14 Hz), 124.46 (*E* isomer\*), 124.85 (*Z* isomer\*), 129.14 (both), 131.28 (*Z* isomer\*), 131.56 (*E* isomer\*), 139.51 (*Z* isomer\*, d, *J*=2 Hz), 140.19 (*E* isomer\*), 157.48 (*Z* isomer\*, d, *J*=312 Hz), and 158.46 (*E* isomer\*, d, *J*=311 Hz) (\*The assignment may be changeable); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–127.02 (*Z* isomer, dq, *J*=17 and 2 Hz) and –129.98 (*E* isomer, dq, *J*=34 and 2 Hz); IR (neat) 1668, 1480, 1448, 1306, 1154, 1088, 1054, 1022, and 1000 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 184 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 10), 167

(35), 136 (44), 125 (30), 109 (100), 97 (15), and 77 (60).

**General Procedure for the Reaction of Sulfones 1 and Sulfoxides 2 with Isocynoacetates 3 and Tosylmethyl Isocyanide (11).** Sodium hydride or potassium hydride (washed by dry hexane to remove the mineral oil) was suspended in 10 ml of THF under a nitrogen atmosphere. To the suspension was slowly added isocyanide at 0–5 °C and then the mixture was stirred for 10 min. A solution of  $\alpha$ -fluoroalkenyl sulfone **1** or sulfoxide **2** (0.5 mmol) in 1 ml of THF was added to the milky yellow suspension at room temperature. After 3 h, the reaction was quenched with saturated aq ammonium chloride and the mixture was extracted with ether (3 $\times$ 30 ml). The ethereal extract was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–ether).

**Ethyl 3-(4-Biphenyl)-4-fluoro-2-pyrrolecarboxylate (4aa):** Colorless crystals, mp 142–143 °C (hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.26 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 4.27 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz), 6.81 (1H, t, *J*=3.4 Hz), 7.3–7.7 (9H, m), and 8.89 (1H, br); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =14.16, 60.67, 106.45 (d, *J*=28 Hz), 115.55 (d, *J*=3 Hz), 117.70 (d, *J*=12 Hz), 126.42, 127.09, 127.24, 128.74, 129.35 (d, *J*=3 Hz), 130.71 (d, *J*=1 Hz), 140.17, 140.96, 149.98 (d, *J*=244 Hz), and 160.75 (d, *J*=3 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–166.29 (t, *J*=3 Hz); IR (KBr) 3292, 1668, 1486, 1424, 1288, 1198, 1104, and 1022 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 310 (*M*<sup>+</sup>+1, 15), 309 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 72), 305 (14), 291 (67), 263 (100), 245 (71), 234 (16), and 217 (20). HRMS Found: *m/z* 309.1158. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: M, 309.1165.

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-pyrrolecarboxylate (4ba):** Colorless crystals, mp 65–67 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.25 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 3.85 (3H, s), 4.25 (2H, q, *J*=7.1 Hz), 6.78 (1H, t, *J*=3.5 Hz), 6.94 (2H, m), 7.47 (2H, m), and 8.80 (1H, br); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =14.19, 55.25, 60.53, 106.31 (d, *J*=28 Hz), 113.18, 115.31 (d, *J*=4 Hz), 122.61 (d, *J*=2 Hz), 128.42, 131.49 (d, *J*=1 Hz), 149.93 (d, *J*=243 Hz), 158.95, and 160.82 (d, *J*=3 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–166.82 (t, *J*=3.3 Hz); IR (KBr) 3292, 1666, 1536, 1496, 1426, 1292, 1260, 1104, and 1020 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* 264 (*M*<sup>+</sup>+1, 10), 263 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 55), 217 (100), 202 (8), 174 (19), and 146 (9). Found: *m/z* 263.0955. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>: M, 263.0955.

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-3-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylate (4ca):** Colorless crystals, mp 59–60 °C (hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.37 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 2.26 (3H, s), 4.32 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz), 6.65 (1H, t, *J*=3.5 Hz), and 8.58 (1H, br); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =7.84 (d, *J*=1 Hz), 14.38, 60.31, 106.09 (d, *J*=28 Hz), 113.39 (d, *J*=14 Hz), 116.29 (d, *J*=5 Hz), 151.17 (d, *J*=240 Hz), and 161.69 (d, *J*=3 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–168.21 (t, *J*=3 Hz); IR (KBr) 3288, 1682, 1472, 1430, 1282, 1154, and 1102 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 172 (*M*<sup>+</sup>+1, 7), 171 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 72), 142 (25), 125 (100), 97 (29), and 70 (15). HRMS Found: *m/z* 171.0696. Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>: M, 171.0695.

***t*-Butyl 4-Fluoro-3-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylate (4cb):** Colorless crystals, mp 97–99 °C (hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$ =1.57 (9H, s), 2.23 (3H, s), 6.61 (1H, t, *J*=3.5 Hz), and 8.61 (1H, br); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$ =7.89, 28.42, 81.14, 105.23 (d, *J*=28 Hz), 112.66 (d, *J*=14 Hz), 117.52 (d, *J*=5 Hz), 151.20 (d, *J*=239 Hz), and 160.97 (d, *J*=3 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$ =–168.31 (t, *J*=3 Hz); IR (KBr) 3308, 1674, 1528, 1464, 1416, 1400, 1372, 1286, 1262, 1146, and 1098 cm<sup>–1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (rel intensity) 199 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, 16), 143 (74),

125 (100), 97 (7), and 71 (3). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  199.0994. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{14}FNO_2$ : M, 199.1006.

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-3-(2-phenylethyl)-2-pyrrolicarboxylate (4da):** Pale yellow crystals, mp 120 °C (hexane/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ).  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.37 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.1 Hz), 2.86 (2H, m), 3.05 (2H, m), 4.31 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.1 Hz), 6.64 (1H, t,  $J$ =3.7 Hz), 7.1–7.3 (5H, m), and 8.64 (1H, br);  $^{19}F$ NMR  $\delta$ =−168.04 (t,  $J$ =3 Hz); IR (KBr) 2984, 2940, 2164, 1758, 1694, 1526, 1468, 1428, 1390, 1272, 1216, 1034, and 738  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 261 ( $M^+$ , 34), 170 (100), 142 (57), 126 (18), 124 (81), and 91 (50). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  263.1232. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}FNO_2$ : M, 263.1231.

**Ethyl 3-(4-Biphenyl)-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-pyrrolicarboxylate (5aa):** Obtained as an impure form;  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.35 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.20 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 7.26 (1H, d,  $J$ =4.3 Hz), 7.3–7.8 (12H, m), and 8.00 (2H, m) (NH could not be seen). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  405.1070. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}FNO_2$ : M, 405.1045.

**Ethyl 3-Methyl-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-pyrrolicarboxylate (5ca):** Pale yellow crystals, mp 129–130 °C (hexane/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ).  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.33 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 2.40 (3H, s), 4.31 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 7.45–7.55 (3H, m), 7.58 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.4 Hz), 7.92 (2H, m), and 9.99 (1H, br);  $^{13}C$ NMR  $\delta$ =10.19, 14.26, 60.90, 121.88, 125.23, 126.04, 126.31, 126.97, 129.01, 132.74, 142.47, and 161.14; IR (KBr) 3240, 3120, 2936, 1680, 1484, 1448, 1420, 1390, 1358, 1314, 1262, 1146, 1098, 1052, and 1000  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 293 ( $M^+$ , 100), 264 (12), 248 (23), 246 (25), and 149 (27). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  293.0735. Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}NO_4S$ : M, 293.0721.

***t*-Butyl 3-Methyl-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-pyrrolicarboxylate (5cb):** Pale yellow crystals, mp 165 °C (hexane/ $CH_2Cl_2$ ).  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.55 (9H, s), 2.38 (3H, s), 7.45–7.55 (3H, m), 7.56 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.7 Hz), 7.91 (2H, m), and 10.49 (1H, br);  $^{13}C$ NMR  $\delta$ =10.20, 28.18, 82.25, 122.97, 124.65, 125.41, 125.69, 126.83, 128.90, 132.60, 142.48, and 160.79; IR (KBr) 3324, 2980, 2932, 1696, 1556, 1480, 1450, 1400, 1370, 1304, 1258, 1178, 1052, and 1000  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 321 ( $M^+$ , 0.8), 265 (100), 221 (77), 183 (14), 170 (14), 156 (17), and 154 (25); (CI) 350 ( $M^+$ +Et, 9), 322 ( $M^+$ +1, 100), 294 (8), 266 (46), 222 (16), and 188 (12). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  321.1038. Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{19}NO_4S$ : M, 321.1033.

**Ethyl 3-(4-Biphenyl)-4-fluoro-2-isocyano-4-phenylsulfonylbutanoate (6aa):** Obtained as a mixture of four diastereomers (A : B : C : D=31 : 7 : 1 : 1), pale yellow oil.  $^1H$ NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.15 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 4.13 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 4.2–4.3 (1H, m), 5.05 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.4 Hz), 5.66 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.3 and 8.6 Hz), and 7.3–7.9 (14H, m); (isomer B, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.28 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.14 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.61 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.1 Hz), and 5.87 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.9 and 10.6 Hz);  $^{13}C$ NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =13.87, 44.81 (d,  $J$ =18 Hz), 57.43 (br, d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 63.23, 100.06 (d,  $J$ =225 Hz), 127.04, 127.51, 127.72, 127.75, 128.83, 129.40, 129.46, 129.73, 134.90, 135.47, 139.96, 142.27, and 163.89; (isomer B, typical signals)  $\delta$ =46.53 (d,  $J$ =17 Hz), 57.52, 63.40, 100.90 (d,  $J$ =225 Hz), 134.79, and 164.10;  $^{19}F$ NMR  $\delta$ =−175.59 (B, dd,  $J$ =48 and 5 Hz), −178.46 (A, dd,  $J$ =47 and 11 Hz), −179.64 (C, dd,  $J$ =46 and 9 Hz), and −186.64 (D, dd,  $J$ =48 and 30 Hz); IR (KBr) 2148, 1758, 1334, 1290, 1216, 1156, 1088, 1064, and 1040  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 451 ( $M^+$ , 26), 309 (47), 255 (9), 198 (100), 179

(12), 141 (25), and 83 (55).

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-2-isocyano-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylsulfonylbutanoate (6ba):** Obtained as an impure mixture of four diastereomers (A : B : C : D=5 : 4 : 1 : <1);  $^1H$ NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.18 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 3.77 (3H, s), 4.0–4.3 (3H, m), 4.97 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.6 Hz), 5.58 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.5 and 9.0 Hz), and 6.7–7.9 (9H, m); (isomer B, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.24 (3H, d,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 3.84 (3H, s), 5.30 (1H, d,  $J$ =3 Hz), and 5.80 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48 and 3 Hz).

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-2-isocyano-3-methyl-4-phenylsulfonylbutanoate (6ca):** Obtained as a mixture of four diastereomers (A : B : C : D=6 : 4 : 3 : 2), pale yellow oil.  $^1H$ NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.34 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 1.37 (3H, dd,  $J$ =7.0 and 1.2 Hz), 3.15 (1H, m), 4.33 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 4.72 (1H, d,  $J$ =2.8 Hz), 5.03 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.8 and 9.3 Hz), and 7.6–8.0 (5H, m); (isomer B)  $\delta$ =1.23 (3H, dd,  $J$ =7.0 and 2.8 Hz), 1.34 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 3.15 (1H, m), 4.33 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 5.03 (1H, dd,  $J$ =4.0 and 1.2 Hz), 5.14 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.0 and 7.6 Hz), and 7.6–8.0 (5H, m); (isomer C, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.29 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 1.52 (3H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.26 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 4.43 (1H, d,  $J$ =2.8 Hz), and 5.18 (1H, dd,  $J$ =47.5 and 9.9 Hz); (isomer D, typical signals)  $\delta$ =4.51 (1H, d,  $J$ =5.5 Hz), and 5.36 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.1 and 3.5 Hz);  $^{13}C$ NMR  $\delta$ =9.81 (B, d,  $J$ =8 Hz), 10.47 (A, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 10.57 (D\*, d,  $J$ =9 Hz), 13.05 (C\*, d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 13.86 (C\*), 13.93 (D\*), 13.99 (B), 14.01 (A), 34.71 (B, d,  $J$ =21 Hz), 35.21 (A, d,  $J$ =17 Hz), 35.71 (D\*, d,  $J$ =20 Hz), 36.64 (C\*, d,  $J$ =16 Hz), 57.10 (A, br d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 58.48 (C\*, br), 58.82 (B, br d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 58.88 (D\*, br), 63.10 (C\*), 63.34 (B), 63.37 (A), 63.40 (D\*), 99.79 (D\*, d,  $J$ =225 Hz), 100.70 (B, d,  $J$ =223 Hz), 101.39 (A, d,  $J$ =221 Hz), 101.51 (D\*, d,  $J$ =220 Hz), 129.2–129.6 (*o*-, *m*-, and *p*-aromatic carbons), 134.98 (C\*), 135.06 (A), 135.11 (B), 135.39 (D\*), 161.05 (B, br), 162.77 (D\*, br), 162.85 (A, br), 162.94 (C\*, br), 164.39 (B, d,  $J$ =1 Hz), 164.54 (C\*), 164.63 (A, d,  $J$ =1 Hz), and 164.74 (D\*) (\*The assignment may be changeable.);  $^{19}F$ NMR  $\delta$ =−172.99 (C, dd,  $J$ =48 and 4 Hz), −175.78 (A, dd,  $J$ =48 and 7 Hz), −185.28 (B, dd,  $J$ =48 and 10 Hz), and −188.77 (D, dd,  $J$ =48 and 20 Hz); IR (KBr) 2148, 1756, 1450, 1332, 1212, and 1158  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (CI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 314 ( $M^+$ +1, 100), 287 (15), 243 (9), 172 (46), 144 (68), 125 (60), 88 (44), and 77 (26).

**Ethyl 3-(4-Biphenyl)-4-ethoxy-2-pyrrolicarboxylate (7aa):** Obtained as an impure form;  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.23 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 1.33 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 3.90 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.24 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 6.60 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.0 Hz), 7.3–7.7 (14H, m), and 8.78 (1H, br s); MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 336 ( $M^+$ +1, 20), 335 ( $M^+$ , 86), 289 (100), 260 (48), 232 (8), and 205 (18).

**(*E*)-2-(4-Biphenyl)-1-ethoxyethyl Phenyl Sulfone (8aa):** Obtained as an impure form;  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.34 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 4.18 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 5.27 (1H, s), 7.3–7.7 (10H, m), 7.70 (2H, m), and 7.98 (2H, m),  $^{13}C$ NMR  $\delta$ =15.36, 70.79, 122.24, 126.95, 127.31, 127.80, 128.34, 128.84, 129.07, 130.24, 130.62, 133.52, 139.03, 139.97, 142.29, and 152.19; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 364 ( $M^+$ , 22), 195 (17), 194 (100), 167 (8), 165 (26), and 125 (8). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  364.1115. Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{20}O_3S$ : M, 364.1131.

**Ethyl 3-(4-Biphenyl)-2-isocyano-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-butenate (9aa):** Obtained as an impure form;  $^1H$ NMR  $\delta$ =1.02 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.3 Hz), 4.10 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.3 Hz),

5.29 (2H, s), 7.1–7.3 (4H, m), 7.3–7.6 (8H, m), and 7.65 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$ =13.74, 53.41, 60.92, 122.04, 125.79, 126.65, 127.02, 127.37, 127.47, 128.40, 128.80, 129.34, 130.08, 131.00, 132.57, 140.46, 140.82, 141.57, and 160.51; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 432 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ , 29), 431 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 385 (22), 267 (13), 244 (26), 216 (15), 193 (16), and 167 (11). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  431.1195. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ : M, 431.1190.

**Ethyl 4-Fluoro-2-isocyano-3-methyl-4-phenylsulfonfylbutanoate (10ca):** Obtained as a mixture of eight diastereomers (A : B : C : D : E : F : G : H = 16 : 8 : 6 : 4 : 2 : 2 : <1 : <1), a pale yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.12 (3H, d,  $J$ =6.7 Hz), 1.31 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 2.94 (1H, m), 4.28 (2H, q,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.80 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.1 Hz), 5.00 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.2 and 7.9 Hz), and 7.3–7.8 (5H, m); (isomer B, typical signals)  $\delta$ =4.64 (1H, d,  $J$ =4.0 Hz) and 5.04 (1H, dd,  $J$ =49.1 and 1.7 Hz); (isomer C, typical signals)  $\delta$ =4.49 (1H, d,  $J$ =4.0 Hz) and 5.16 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.2 and 8.9 Hz); (isomer D, typical signals)  $\delta$ =4.36 (1H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz) and 5.01 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.2 and 4.2 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$ =7.38 ( $\text{E}^*$ , d,  $J$ =9 Hz), 8.93 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =7 Hz), 9.26 ( $\text{F}^*$ , d,  $J$ =9 Hz), 9.23 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 10.37 (A, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 12.51 (B, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 13.73 (B), 13.80 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 13.86 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 13.88 (A), 35.82 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =16 Hz), 35.91 (A, d,  $J$ =16 Hz), 35.99 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =20 Hz), 37.65 (B, d,  $J$ =16 Hz), 56.83 (A, br d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 58.3–58.7 (B, C, and D, br), 62.87 (B), 63.06 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 63.14 (A and  $\text{C}^*$ ), 105.37 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =226 Hz), 106.24 (B and  $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =226 Hz), 106.82 (A, d,  $J$ =225 Hz), 124.73 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 124.76 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 124.92 (A, d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 125.16 (B, d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 129.1–129.7, 131.5–132.3, 138.90 (A, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 138.95 (B, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 139.82 (C and D), 162.32 (B), 162.46 (A), 162.55 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 164.57 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 164.62 (B), 164.69 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), and 164.87 (A) (\*The assignment may be changable.);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR  $\delta$ =–178.93 (B, dd,  $J$ =48 and 7 Hz), –180.33 (A, dd,  $J$ =49 and 11 Hz), –188.74 (C, dd,  $J$ =48 and 22 Hz), –189.21 (E, dd,  $J$ =50 and 28 Hz), –190.97 (F, dd,  $J$ =47 and 5 Hz), –191.62 (D, dd,  $J$ =49 Hz and  $J$ =29 Hz), –195.9 (G, m), and –196.3 (H, m); IR (neat) 2940, 2148, 1754, 1704, 1634, 1276, 1210, 1088, 1050, and 1024  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (CI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 298 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ , 2), 271 (2), 235 (1), 210 (3), 198 (6), 170 (100), 144 (21), 142 (41), 117 (21), and 86 (6).

***t*-Butyl 4-Fluoro-2-isocyano-3-methyl-4-phenylsulfonfylbutanoate (10cb):** Obtained as a mixture of eight diastereomers (A : B : C : D : E : F : G : H = 25 : 11 : 5 : 4 : 3 : <1 : <1 : <1), a pale yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.13 (3H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 1.50 (9H, s), 2.88 (1H, br), 4.66 (1H, d,  $J$ =2.8 Hz), 4.95 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.5 and 8.6 Hz), and 7.3–7.7 (5H, m); (isomer B, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.40 (3H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.35 (1H, d,  $J$ =4.0 Hz), and 5.16 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.2 and 8.6 Hz); (isomer C, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.23 (3H, d,  $J$ =6.1 Hz), 4.48 (1H, d,  $J$ =4.0 Hz), and 5.05 (1H, dd,  $J$ =49 and 2 Hz); (isomer D, typical signals)  $\delta$ =1.27 (3H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), 4.21 (1H, d,  $J$ =7.0 Hz), and 4.97 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.2 and 4.0 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$ =7.20 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =8 Hz), 8.70 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =7 Hz), 9.51 ( $\text{E}^*$ , d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 10.02 (A, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 12.54 (B, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 27.36 (B), 27.50 (A), 27.61 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 35.79 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =20 Hz), 35.90 (A, d,  $J$ =17 Hz), 37.31 (B, d,  $J$ =16 Hz), 37.52 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =17 Hz), 57.24 (A, br m), 59.20 (B, C, and D, br m), 84.21 (B), 84.47 (A), 84.52 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 84.60 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 105.38 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =228 Hz), 105.44 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =233 Hz), 106.27 (B, d,  $J$ =228 Hz), 106.67 (A, d,  $J$ =226 Hz), 124.64 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,

$J$ =1 Hz), 124.66 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =1 Hz), 124.87 (A, d,  $J$ =1 Hz), 125.18 (B, d,  $J$ =1 Hz), 129.1–129.4, 132.0–132.2, 138.68 (B, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 138.80 (A, d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 139.69 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =4 Hz), 139.71 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =5 Hz), 161.7–162.1 (br m), 162.93 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 163.20 (B), 163.31 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), and 163.56 (A) (\*The assignment may be changable.);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR  $\delta$ =–179.44 (B, dd,  $J$ =48 and 7 Hz), –180.43 (E, dd,  $J$ =48 and 10 Hz), –188.48 (D, dd,  $J$ =48 and 24 Hz), –188.57 (C, dd,  $J$ =48 and 24 Hz), and –191.99 (E, dd,  $J$ =50 and  $J$ =30 Hz); IR (neat) 2980, 2148, 1748, 1372, 1308, 1260, 1156, 1080, and 1052  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (CI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 326 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ , 4), 270 ( $\text{MH}^+ - \text{CH}_2 = \text{CMe}_2$ , 90), 252 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{O}-t\text{-Bu}$ , 23), 250 (54), 144 (85), 127 (90), and 166 (100). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  326.1199. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{FNO}_3\text{S} + \text{H}^+$ : M, 326.1224.

**Ethyl 3-[Fluoro(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-isocyano-5-phenylpentanoate (10da):** Obtained as a mixture of eight diastereomers (A : B : C : D : E : F : G : H = 10 : 7 : 3 : 2 : 1 : <1 : <1 : <1), a pale yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (isomer A)  $\delta$ =1.20 (3H, t,  $J$ =7.2 Hz), 1.8–2.2 (2H, m), 2.6–2.9 (3H, m), 4.16 (2H, m), 4.54 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.5 Hz), 5.12 (1H, dd,  $J$ =48.5 and 8.1 Hz), and 7.2–7.7 (10H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$ =13.67 (A), 13.69 (B), 26.21 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 26.52 (B, d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 26.71 (A, d,  $J$ =6 Hz), 31.96 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 32.72 (B), 33.00 (A, d,  $J$ =1 Hz), 33.92 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 38.05 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =18 Hz), 39.45 (B, d,  $J$ =18 Hz), 40.34 (A, d,  $J$ =19 Hz), 40.9 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =18 Hz), 55.4 ( $\text{C}^*$ , br), 56.2 ( $\text{D}^*$ , br), 56.79 (B, br), 57.01 (A, br), 63.01 (A and B), 63.29 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 104.2 ( $\text{D}^*$ , d,  $J$ =227 Hz), 104.4 ( $\text{C}^*$ , d,  $J$ =227 Hz), 105.78 (B, d,  $J$ =228 Hz), 106.11 (A, d,  $J$ =226 Hz), 123.62 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 124.56 (B, d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 124.66 (A, d,  $J$ =2 Hz), 124.82 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 126.15 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 126.18 (A), 126.24 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 126.29 (B), 128–128.3, 128.3–128.6, 129.26 (B), 129.34 (A), 129.41 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 129.58 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 131.83 ( $\text{C}^*$ ), 131.97 (B), 132.02 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 132.12 (A), 139.61 (C), 139.65 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 139.77 (B), 140.13 (A), 162.1 ( $\text{C}^*$ , br), 162.54 (A, br), 162.6 ( $\text{D}^*$ , br), 162.75 (B, br), 164.60 (A), 164.8 ( $\text{D}^*$ ), 164.88 (B), and 165.26 ( $\text{C}^*$ ) (\*The assignment may be changable.);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR  $\delta$ =–181.80 (F, br d,  $J$ =49 Hz), –186.26 (C, dd,  $J$ =48 and 26 Hz), –187.26 (A, dd,  $J$ =48 and 24 Hz), –187.80 (B, dd,  $J$ =50 and 27 Hz), –187.99 (E, d,  $J$ =47 Hz), –190.23 (D, dd,  $J$ =47 and 9 Hz), and –193.32 (G, dd,  $J$ =46 and 13 Hz); IR (neat) 2980, 2148, 1752, 1604, 1086, 1048, 1024, and 1000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (CI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 388 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ , 3), 283 (5), 267 (4), 262 (4), 255 (76), 238 (31), 143 (42), 129 (100), 127 (38), and 111 (70). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  388.1381. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{FNO}_3\text{S} + \text{H}^+$ : M, 388.1381.

**4-Fluoro-3-methyl-2-tosylpyrrole (12):** Pale yellow crystals, mp 52 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$ =2.15 (3H, s), 2.39 (3H, s), 6.67 (1H, t,  $J$ =3.7 Hz), 7.27 (2H, m), 7.75 (2H, m), and 9.48 (1H, br s); IR (KBr) 3144, 3010, 2920, 1595, 1506, 1320, 1304, 1204, 1146, 1096, 1084, 1058, and 912  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 253 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 29), 223 (40), 159 (100), 139 (40), 131 (49), 107 (29), 92 (68), and 91 (81). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  253.0571. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{FNO}_2\text{S}$ : M, 253.0572.

**3-Methyl-4-phenylsulfonyl-2-tosylpyrrole (13):** Pale yellow crystals, mp 162–164 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$ =2.28 (3H, s), 2.38 (3H, s), 7.25 (2H, m), 7.44–7.57 (3H, m), 7.58 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.7 Hz), 7.72 (2H, m), 7.87 (2H, m), and 10.51 (1H, br s); IR (KBr) 2920, 1538, 1448, 1358, 1304, 1180, 1146, and 1088  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 376 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ , 22), 375 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 361 (5), 311 (6), 169 (15), and 139 (24). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  375.0597. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : M,

375.0597.

**3-Methyl-4-phenylsulfinyl-2-tosylpyrrole (14):** Pale yellow viscous oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$   $\delta$ =2.20 (3H, s), 2.40 (3H, s), 7.04 (1H, d,  $J$ =3.4 Hz), 7.27 (2H, m), 7.48 (3H, m), 7.60 (2H, m), 7.71 (2H, m), and 10.0 (1H, br s); MS (EI)  $m/z$  (rel intensity) 359 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 31), 342 (43), 311 (32), 204 (20), 187 (100), and 139 (22). HRMS Found:  $m/z$  359.0647. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{S}_2$ : M, 359.0648.

## References

- 1) "Biomedical Aspects of Fluorine Chemistry," ed by R. Filler and Y. Kobayashi, Kodansha Ltd. and Elsevier Biochemical Press, Tokyo and New York (1982).
- 2) T. Suhara, in "Atarashii Nou No Reseputa," ed by N. Ogawa, Sekai Hoken Tsushinsha, Osaka (1989), Part III, Chap 3.
- 3) K. Watanabe, T. Fukumura, S. Sasaki, M. Maeda, and S. Takehara, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, **39**, 3211 (1991), and references cited therein.
- 4) For general aspects for fluorination of pyrroles, see: R. A. Jones, in "Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry," ed by A. R. Katritzky and C. W. Rees, Pergamon Press (1984), Vol. 4, Chap. 3.05, p. 213, and for recent preparation of fluoropyrroles based on 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of azomethine ylides, see: J. Leroy, M. Rubinstein, and C. Wakselman, *J. Fluorine Chem.*, **25**, 255 (1984).
- 5) A. Suzuki, H. Toi, Y. Aoyama, and H. Ogoshi, *Heterocycles*, **33**, 87 (1992); H. Onda, H. Toi, Y. Aoyama, and H. Ogoshi, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **26**, 4221 (1985).
- 6) a) N. Ono, M. Bougauchi, and K. Maruyama, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **33**, 1629 (1992); b) N. Ono, H. Kawamura, M. Bougauchi, and K. Maruyama, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, **1989**, 1580; c) D. H. R. Barton and S. Z. Zard, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, **1985**, 1098; d) A. M. van Leusen, "Lectures in Heterocyclic Chemistry," ed by R. N. Castle and S. W. Schneller, HeteroCoporation, Orem, Utah (1980), Vol. 5, p. S111.
- 7) A benzenesulfinate ion was reported to leave preferentially from a difluoro(phenylsulfonyl)methanide ion giving difluorocarbene, see: J. Hine and J. J. Porter, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **82**, 6178 (1960).
- 8) H. Uno, K. Sakamoto, F. Semba, and H. Suzuki, *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.*, **65**, 210 (1992).
- 9) J. R. McCarthy, D. P. Matthews, M. L. Edwards, D. M. Stermerick, and E. T. Jarvi, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **31**, 5449 (1990).
- 10) For a recent report on pyrrole synthesis using tosylmethyl isocyanide, see: D. van Leusen, E. van Echten, and A. M. van Leusen, *J. Org. Chem.*, **57**, 2245 (1992), and extensive references cited therein.
- 11) A similar electrocyclic ring closure as **9** to **5** under basic conditions was reported: N. Engel and W. Steglich, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.*, **17**, 676 (1978).
- 12) J. T. Welch and S. Eswarakrishnan, "Fluorine in Bioorganic Chemistry," John Wiley & Sons, New York (1991).
- 13) N. Ishikawa, T. Kitazume, T. Yamazaki, Y. Mochida, and T. Tatsuno, *Chem. Lett.*, **1981**, 761.
- 14) K. N. Moore and J. Wemple, *Synthesis*, **1977**, 791. Another preparation of fluoromethyl phenyl sulfide based on the fluoro Pummerer reaction, see: J. R. McCarthy, N. P. Peet, M. E. LeTourneau, and M. Inbasekaren, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **107**, 735 (1985).
- 15) U. Schöllkopf, D. Hoppe, and R. Jentsch, *Chem. Ber.*, **108**, 1580 (1975).
- 16) A. M. van Leusen, H. Siderius, B. E. Hoogenboom, and D. van Leusen, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1972**, 5337.