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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Cu-catalyzed Chlorotrifluoromethylation of Alkenes with CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl

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Graphical abstract

Chlorotrifluoromethylation of various alkenes, including aryl alkenes,  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated alkenes and alkyl alkenes, with CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl catalyzed by a simple Cu complex is described.

#### Highlights

- CHLOROTRIFLUOROMETHYLATION WITH CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>CL CATALYZED BY SIMPLE SYSTEM CONSISTING OF CUCL<sub>2</sub> AND PYRIDINE WAS ACHIEVED.
- A WIDE SUBSTRATE SCOPE AND GOOD FUNCTIONAL GROUP TOLERANCE WERE OBSERVED.
- High yields were obtained under mild conditions.

**Abstract:** Although CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl is an efficient chlorotrifluoromethylation reagent, an expensive transition metal complex usually has to be used. We found that CuCl<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed chlorotrifluoromethylation of alkenes with CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl occurred smoothly under mild conditions. A wide substrate scope and good functional group compatibility were observed.

Keywords: Chlorotrifluoromethylation, Alkenes, Catalysis, Copper, Fluorine

#### 1. Introduction

Due to its strong electron-withdrawing nature (Hammett constants  $\sigma_p = 0.43$ ,  $\sigma_m = 0.54$ ) and high lipophilicity (Hansch constant  $\pi = 0.88$ ) [1, 2], trifluoromethyl group (CF<sub>3</sub>) has proven to be a valuable functionality in medicinal chemistry and agrochemistry [3-6], and many CF<sub>3</sub>-containing pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals have been developed, such as Fluoxetine, Efavirenz, Pleconaril and Acifluorfen. The high demand for the biologically active CF<sub>3</sub>-molecules has stimulated significant efforts to develop efficient methods for the installation of CF<sub>3</sub> group [7-10]. Difunctionalization-type trifluoromethylation of alkenes [11, 12], including hydrotrifluoromethylation [13-15], oxtrifluoromethylation [16-18], carbotrifluoromethylation

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