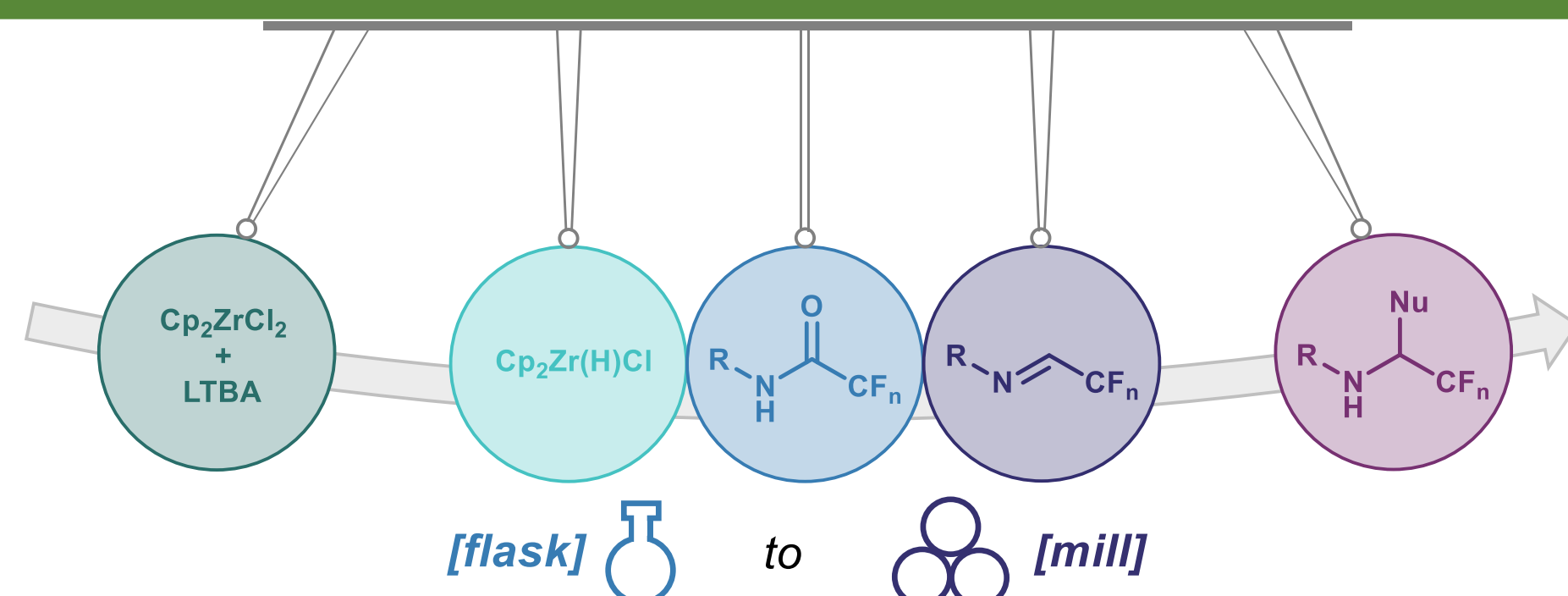


From flask to mill: reductive functionalization of fluoroacetamides as a case study for transferring solvent-based reactions to the solid state

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From flask to mill



mechanochemical Schwartz's reagent generation

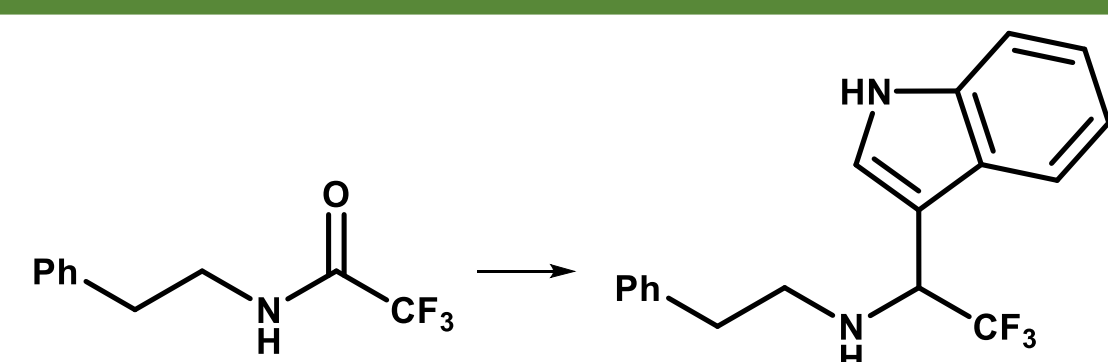
no chromatography

three-steps one-jar

more green

The step-by-step adaptation of a solution-based methodology for the reductive functionalization of fluoroacetamides to a ball-milling conditions was developed. The solid-state, two-steps one-jar strategy based on the partial reduction of amides by an in situ mechanochemically generated zirconocene chloride hydride (Schwartz's reagent) and tandem nucleophilic addition of indole to afford high-value functionalized fluorinated amines. In addition, the sustainable approach was complemented by operationally simple purification by an acidic resin.

Methodology transfer



[flask]

1) $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{H})\text{Cl}$
THF, 45 min, rt
2) TFA, indole
THF, 16 h, rt

[mill]

1) Cp_2ZrCl_2 , $\text{LiAlH}(\text{tBuO})_3$
500 rpm, 1 h
2) 4-nitrophenol, indole
toluene (LAG)
500 rpm, 2 h

Optimization of grinding auxiliaries

grinding auxiliaries

entry grinding auxiliary amide conversion^[b] [%]

1	molecular sieves 4A	0
2	silica gel	0
3	neutral Al_2O_3	0
4	NaCl	32
5	Na_2SO_4	90
6	soda-lime glass beads	96

mass transfer



without grinding auxiliary



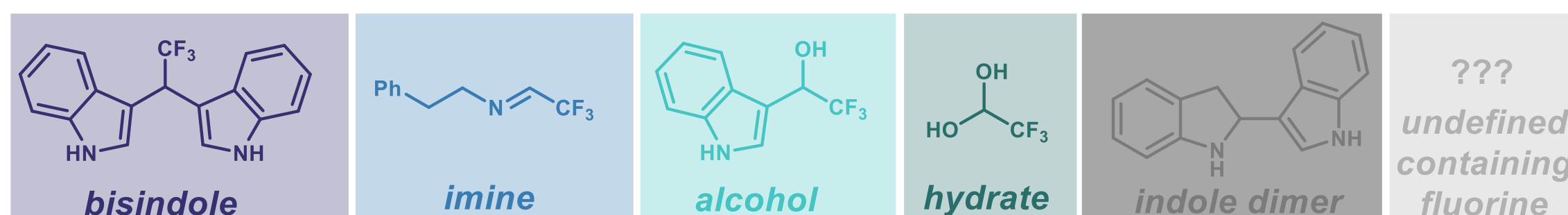
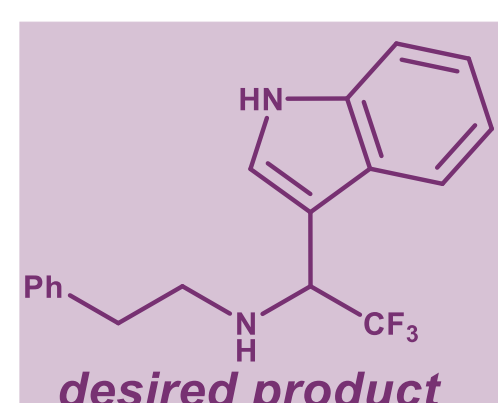
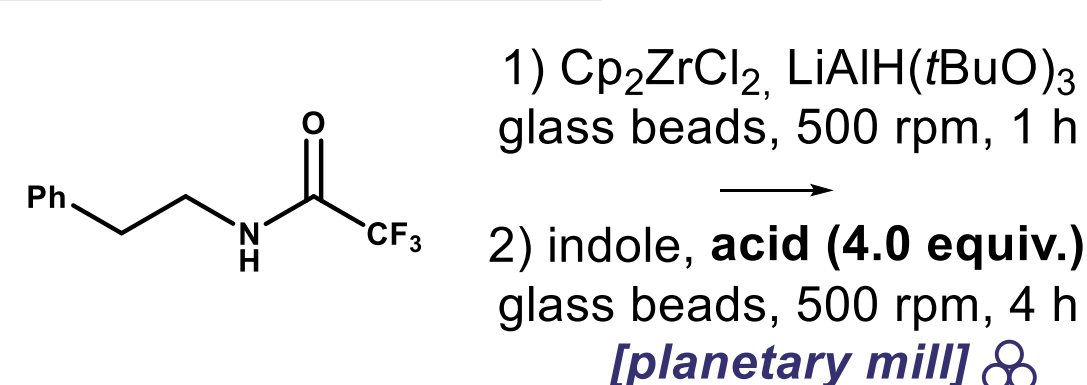
with grinding auxiliary



with grinding auxiliary and intervals with direction reversal

Adaption and optimization

reaction and possible by-products



influence of acid on products distribution

acid	indole dimer	product to fluorinated byproducts ratio	distribution of fluorinated products
none	no	1 : 1.55	39% 14% 11% 8% 25%
$\text{Et}_3\text{N} \cdot \text{HCl}$	no	1 : 4.15	19% 12% 14% 43% 12%
PhOH	no	1 : 0.43	70% 17%
NH_4Cl	no	1 : 3.50	22% 7% 16% 11% 35% 8%
H_3BO_3	no	1 : 0.84	54% 7% 28%
4-nitrophenol	no	1 : 0.09	92%
PhCOOH	no	1 : 0.98	51% 15% 8% 21%
camphorsulphonic	yes	1 : 0.66	60% 8% 7% 24%
$\text{HClO}_4 \cdot \text{SiO}_2$	yes	1 : 0.62	62% 23% 9%

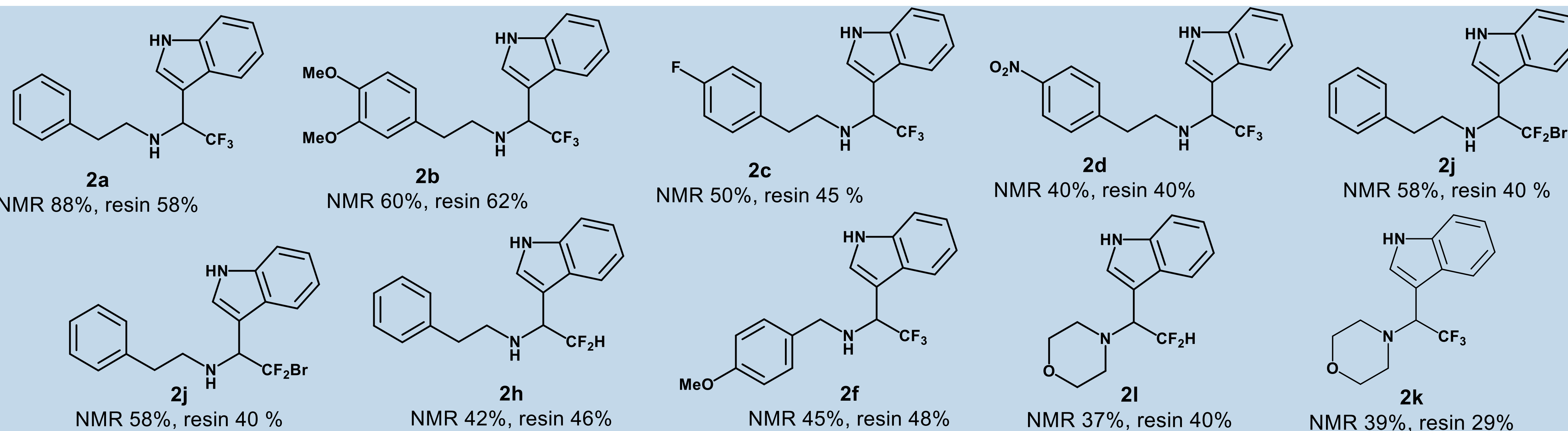
Reaction time and liquid additives impact

time, liquid assistance and control experiments

reducing system time [h] (2nd step) LAG (2nd step) atmosphere yield [%]

$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	2	-	inert	68
$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	4	-	inert	63
$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	2	MeCN	inert	40
$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	2	hexane	inert	62
$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	2	toluene	inert	78
$\text{Cp}_2\text{ZrCl}_2/\text{LTBA}$	2	toluene	air	50
$\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{H})\text{Cl}$	2	toluene	inert	20
LTBA	2	toluene	inert	0

Scope of amides



Sustainability of the process

green metrics

type of the process	sEF (the less the better)	cEF (the less the better)	EcoScale (the more the better)
in solution	2666	8894	42
mechanochemically	106	5861	51

Acknowledgements

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ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng., **2022**, 10 (32), 10486-10492.

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