

Continuous Process Intensification

Mechanochemistry: The Oldest Real Chemistry

Anil Kumar



GenZ Materials
Continuous Process Intensification



Types of Chemistry

Thermochemistry

Heating/Cooling

Photochemistry

Light

Electrochemistry

Electric Field

Sonochemistry

Sound

Mechanochemistry

Mechanical Force

Magnetochemistry

Magnetic Field

Mechanochemistry

The Most Ancient Chemistry



Mechanochemistry

313 BC

THEOPHRASTI
DE LAPIDIBVS
LIBER,

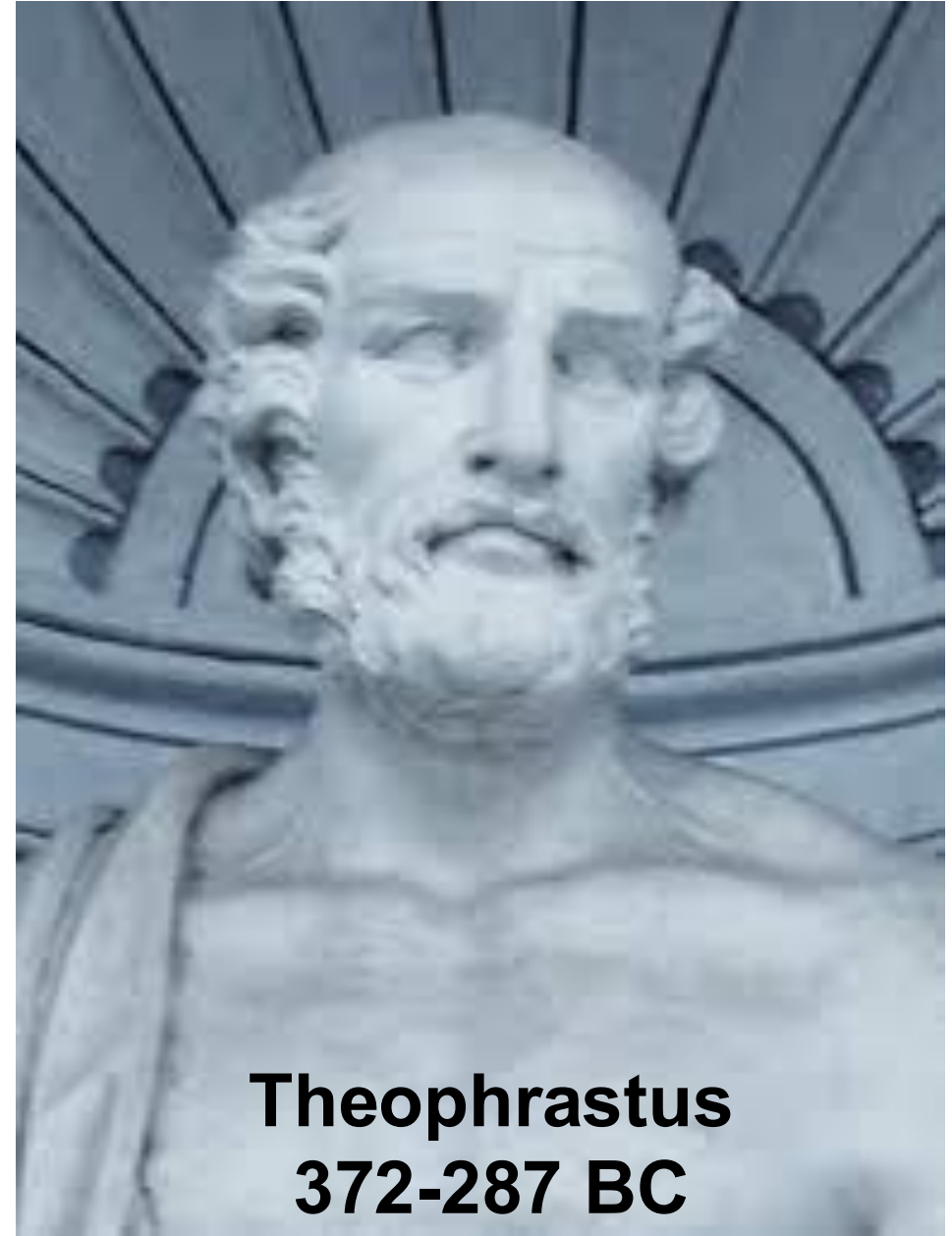
*Ab ADRIANO TURNERO
Latinitate donatus.*



LVTETIÆ,
Ex Officina Federici Morelli Typographi Regij,
in vico Iacobæo, ad insigne Fontis.

M. D. LXXVIII.

CVM PRIVILEGIO REGIS.



Theophrastus
372-287 BC

Mechanochemistry

Possibly the first documented extraction of a metal from its compound



Described by Theophrastus in 4th century B.C.

Reaction proceeds despite extremely low solubility of HgS ($K_{\text{sp}} = 10^{-54}$), by grinding in the presence of acetic acid (vinegar)



Avoids heating or aggressive reagents!

Mechanochemistry

The “Dutch Method”: Synthesis of lead white pigment

Theophrastus in his book *On Stones*
Plinius in *Naturalis Historia* (AD 77-79).



Mild temperatures (heated by horse dung) and readily scalable



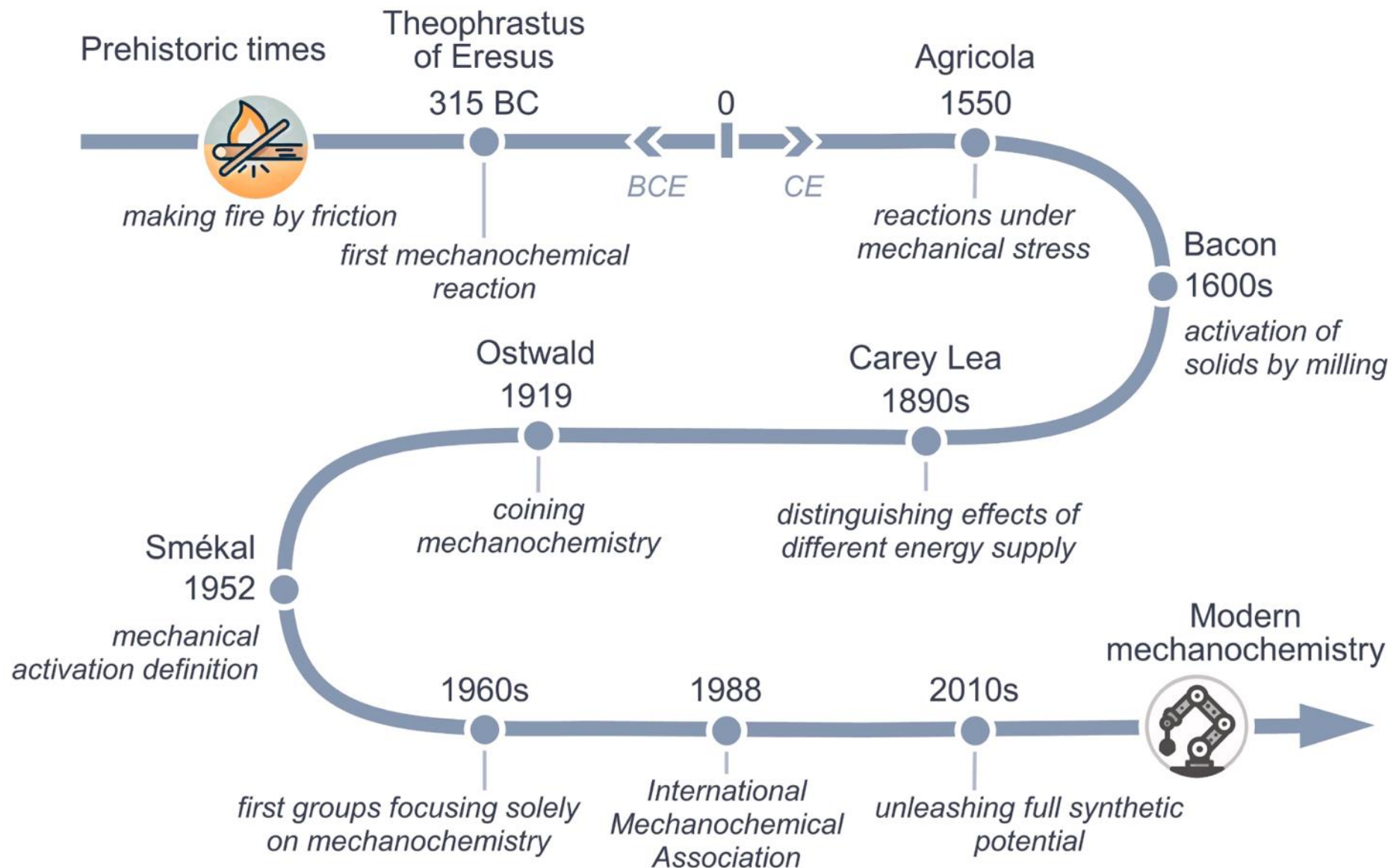
Mild temperatures (heated by horse dung) and readily scalable

Mechanochemistry



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZQQAshqBc&list=PLdesNkcRuf70shzcrbWS8dwixJdnSVYWD&index=3>

Mechanochemistry: Historical Perspective



Mechanochemistry

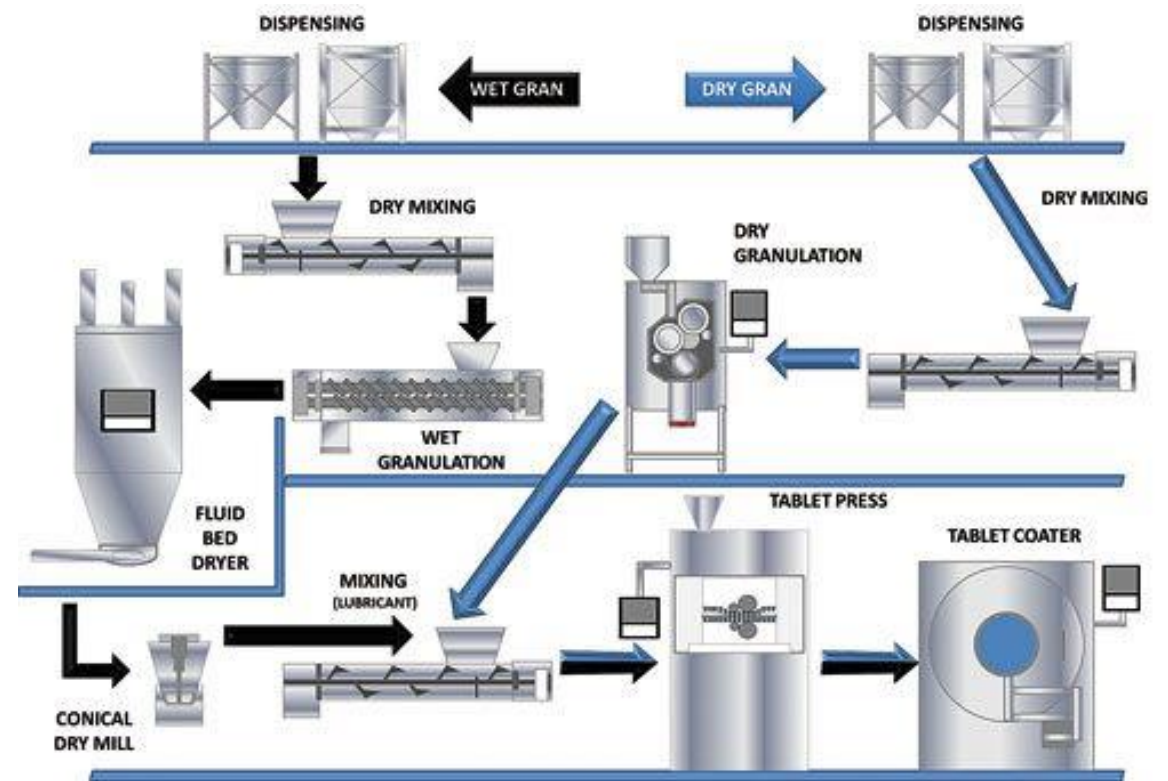


IUPAC Top Ten Emerging Technologies in Chemistry 2019

Mechanochemistry



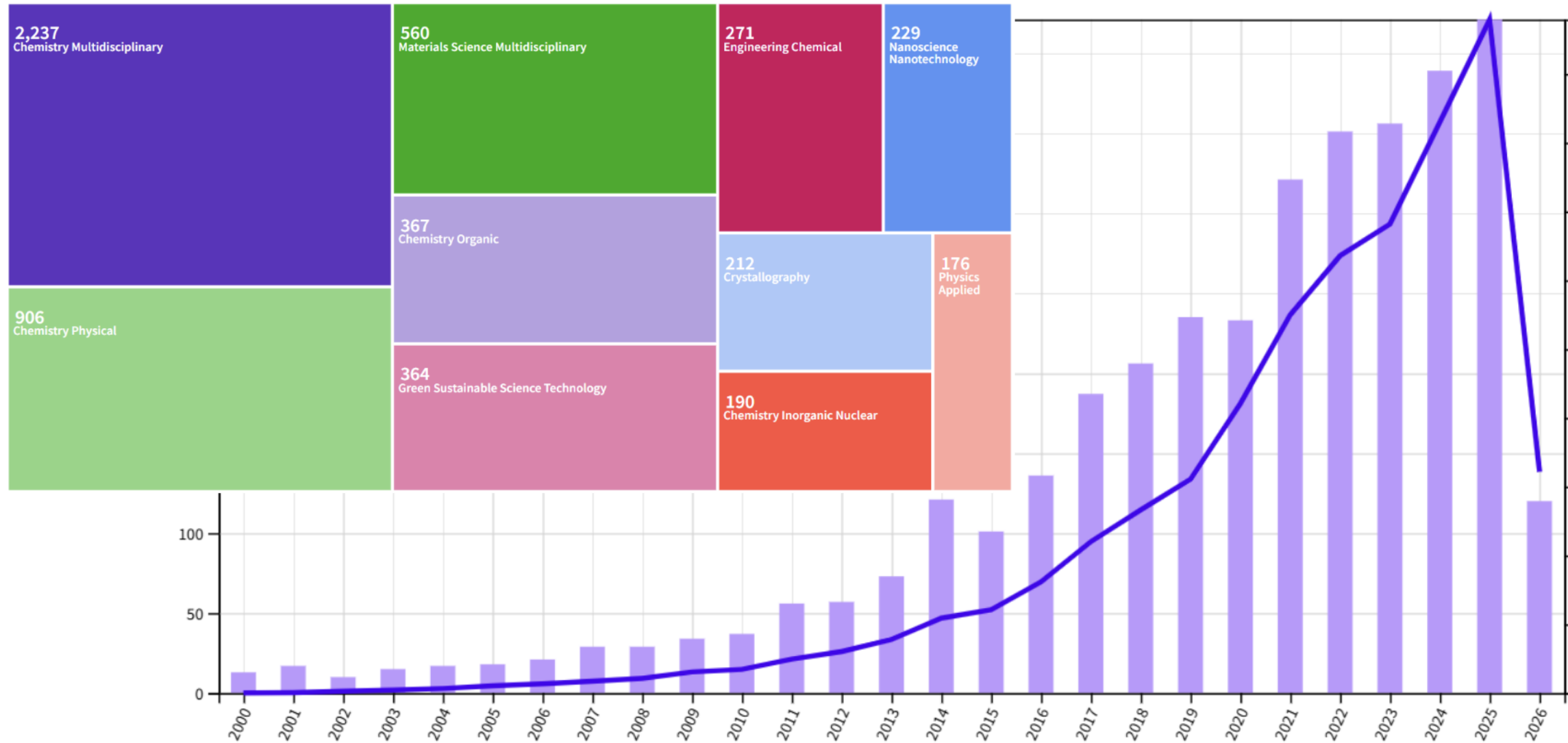
Food Industry



Tablet Formulations

Bulk Chemical/Materials Synthesis ?????

Mechanochemistry – Number of Publications 2000-2026 (ca. 3600)



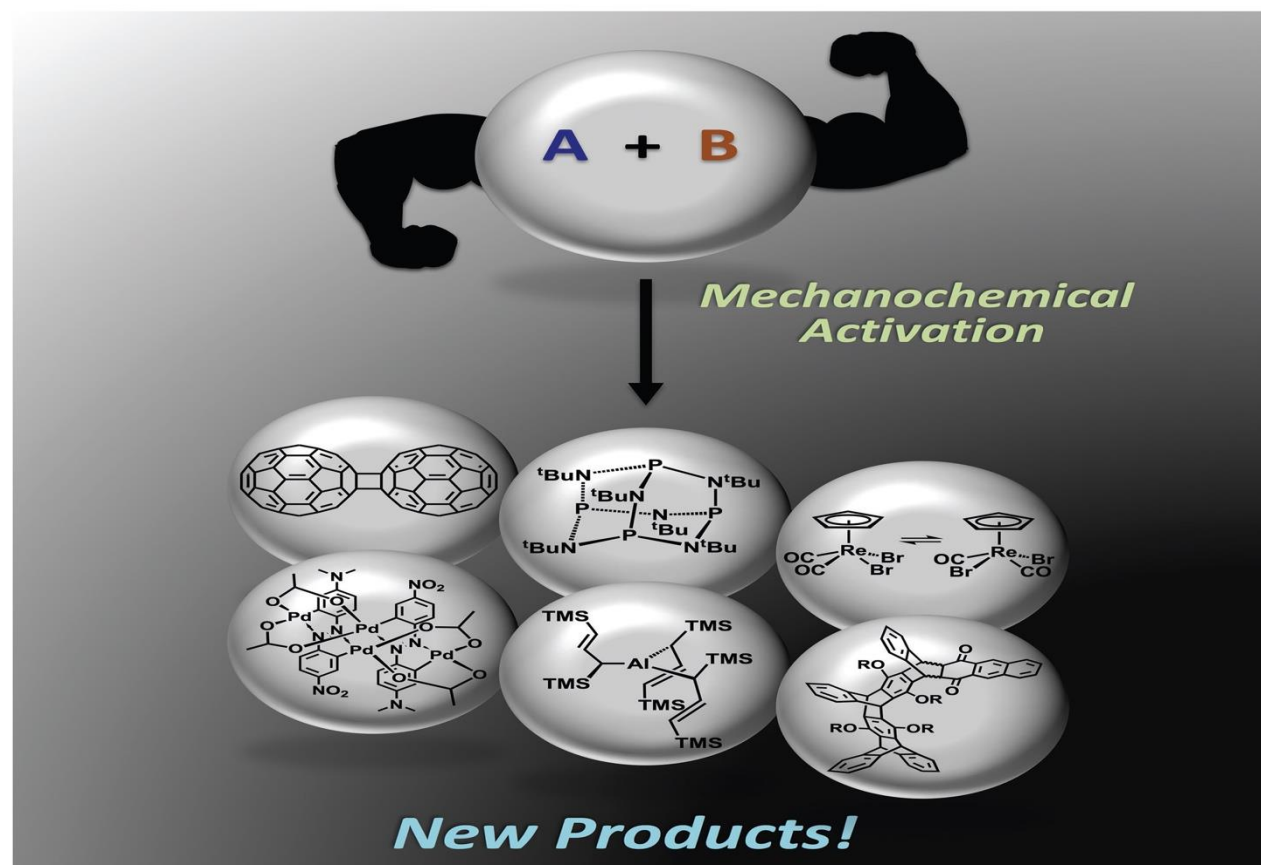
Web of Science Search May 4 2026: Topic “Mechanochemistry” / Research Area: “Chemistry”
cf. <https://www.cas.org/resources/cas-insights/mechanochemistry>

Mechanochemistry

JOC

The Journal of Organic Chemistry

APRIL 21, 2017 VOLUME 82, NUMBER 8 pubs.acs.org/joc



ACS Publications
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www.acs.org

Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemistry – Sustainability as Driver (Minimizing Solvent Usage)

Green metrics in mechanochemistry

Nicolas Fantozzi,^a Jean-Noël Volle,^a Andrea Porcheddu,^{id b} David Virieux,^{id a} Felipe García^{id *cd} and Evelina Colacino^{id *a}

Chem. Soc. Rev. **2023**, 52, 6680

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2024**, 63, e202414745

Meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals with Mechanochemistry

Jasna Alić,* Moritz-Caspar Schlegel, Franziska Emmerling,* and Tomislav Stolar*

Comparison of traditional and mechanochemical production processes for nine active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs)

Emília P. T. Leitão^{id *}

RSC Sustainability **2024**, 2, 3655

Linking mechanochemistry with the green chemistry principles: Review article

Sergi Arfelis^{a,b,c}, Ana I. Martín-Perales^{b,d}, Remy Nguyen^e, Antonio Pérez^b, Igor Cherubin^{b,f}, Christophe Len^{e,g}, Irene Malpartida^{b,h}, Alba Bala^{a,c}, Pere Fullana-i-Palmei

Heliyon **2024**, 10, e34655

LCA as a Tool to Detect Environmental “Hot Spots” in Early-Stage Mechanochemical Synthesis of Organic Dyes

Or Galant, Aseel Aborome, Aaron S. McCalmont, Stuart L. James, Michael Patrascu, and Sabrina Spatari*

ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. **2023**, 11, 12155

Mechanochemistry Can Reduce Life Cycle Environmental Impacts of Manufacturing Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

Or Galant, Giacomo Cerfeda, Aaron S. McCalmont, Stuart L. James, Andrea Porcheddu, Francesco Delogu, Deborah E. Crawford, Evelina Colacino, and Sabrina Spatari*

ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. **2022**, 10, 1430

Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemistry – A Rediscovered Branch of Chemistry

Books

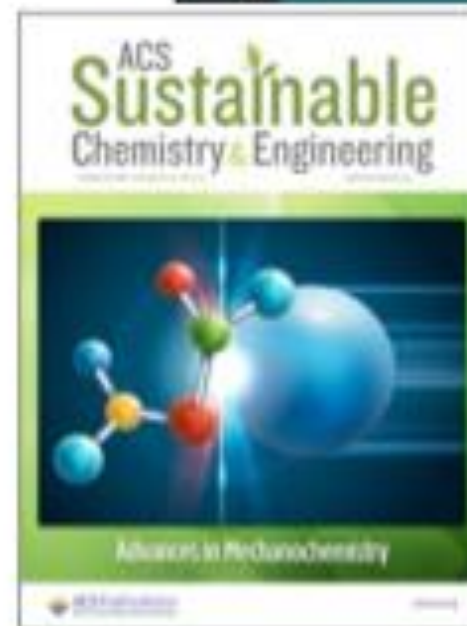
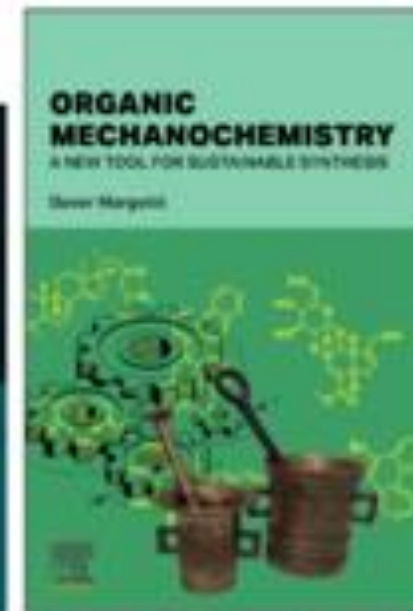
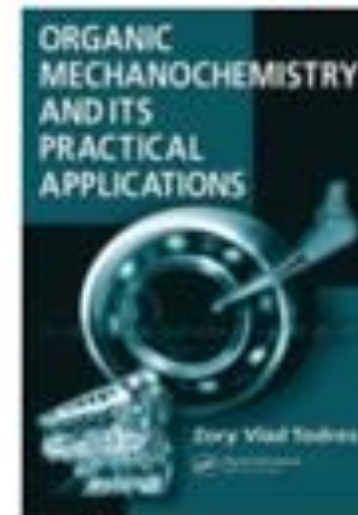
- Margetić, D. *Organic Mechanochemistry - A New Tool for Sustainable Synthesis*; Elsevier, 2025

Special Issues

- ACS Sust. Chem. Eng. 2021 (virtual SI)
- Chem. Commun. 2012/13 (themed collection)
- Chem. Eur. J. 2025 (virtual hot topic)

Reviews - Synthetic Organic Mechanochemistry

- James, S. et al. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2012, 41, 413
- Friščić, T. et al. *ACS Cent. Sci.* 2017, 3, 13
- Browne, D. L. et al. *Chem. Sci.* 2018, 9, 3080
- Lamaty, F. et al. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2022, e202101516
- Borchardt, L. et al. *Chem. Commun.* 2022, 58, 1661
- Porcheddu, A. et al. *ChemSusChem* 2022, 15, e202200362
- Colacino, E. et al. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2023, 52, 6680
- Stolar, T.; Emmerling, F. et al. *Chem* 2026, 12, 102880



Mechanochemistry

ADVANTAGES OF MECHANOCHEMICAL PROCESSES vs. SOLUTION METHODS

No need of extra reagents (activation by milling) or in excess.

Reactants economy, Waste economy

Higher yields and better selectivity compared to solution syntheses

Better green chemistry metrics

Allows process intensification and « *higher throughput* »

Energy economy

Dramatic increase of kinetics
(better contact of the reactants)

Time economy

Access to new compounds and 'impossible' molecules to obtain in solution
(mechanistic phenomena observed in solid-state chemistry can be different)

New reactivities = Innovation in the chemical space

Use of (benign) insoluble reactants without drawbacks
linked to solubility and/or steric hindrance

Ambient temperature, no heating required -
Simplicity of the experimental set-up

To reduce or avoid quantity of organic solvents (including in the work-up) then
limiting environmental impact in facilities (waste reduction / solvent recycling).

Reduced waste disposal costs and worker exposure to harmful VOS.



MECHANOCHEMISTRY



Mechanochemistry

CMCC Mechanochemistry Discussions



@cmcc-mechanochemistry · 654 subscribers · 51 videos

Welcome to the Mechanochemistry Discussions! This seminar series is hosted by the NSF ... >

chem.tamu.edu/cmcc/online_seminars.php and 1 more link



CMCC Member Productions

Updated 7 days ago

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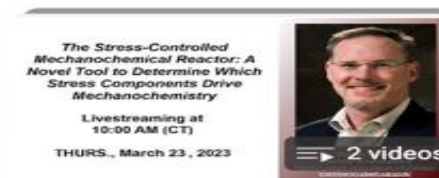
YouTube Shorts

[View full playlist](#)



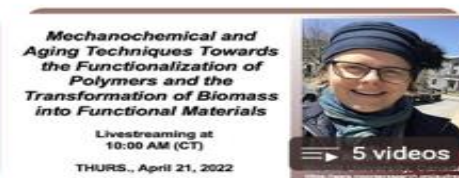
Polymer Mechanochemistry

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Mechanochemistry with an Atomic Force Microscope

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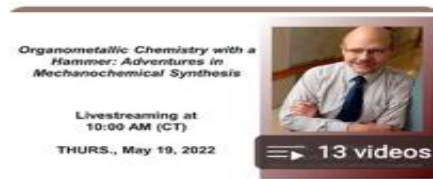
Green Chemistry & Mechanochemical Treatments...

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Mechanochemistry of Materials

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Inorganic Synthesis in Mechanochemistry

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Organic Synthesis in Mechanochemistry

[View full playlist](#)



High Pressure Studies

Updated 5 days ago

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Overviews of Mechanochemistry

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Theoretical Mechanochemistry

Updated 5 days ago

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All Mechanochemistry Discussions Seminars

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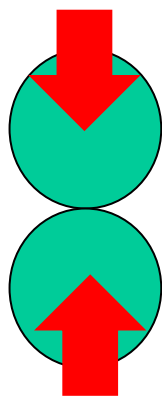
Seminarios mecanoquímicos en español

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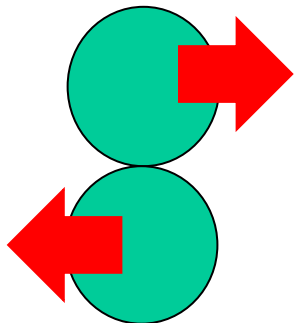
<https://www.youtube.com/@cmcc-mechanochemistry/playlists>

Mechanochemistry

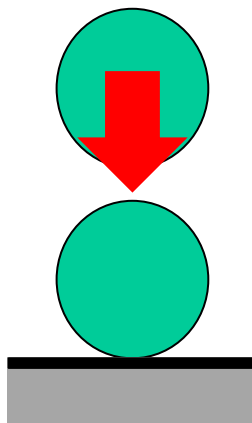
A mechanochemical reaction is defined as “a chemical reaction that is induced by the direct absorption of mechanical energy” (IUPAC Compendium of Chemical Terminology 2009)



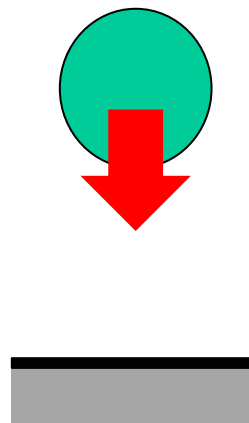
Pressure



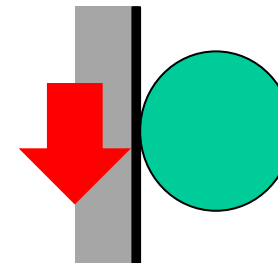
Friction



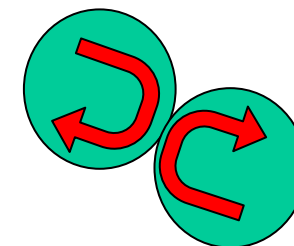
Shock



Impact



Shear



Torsion

<https://www.wab-group.com/flow-chemistry/>

Mechanochemistry

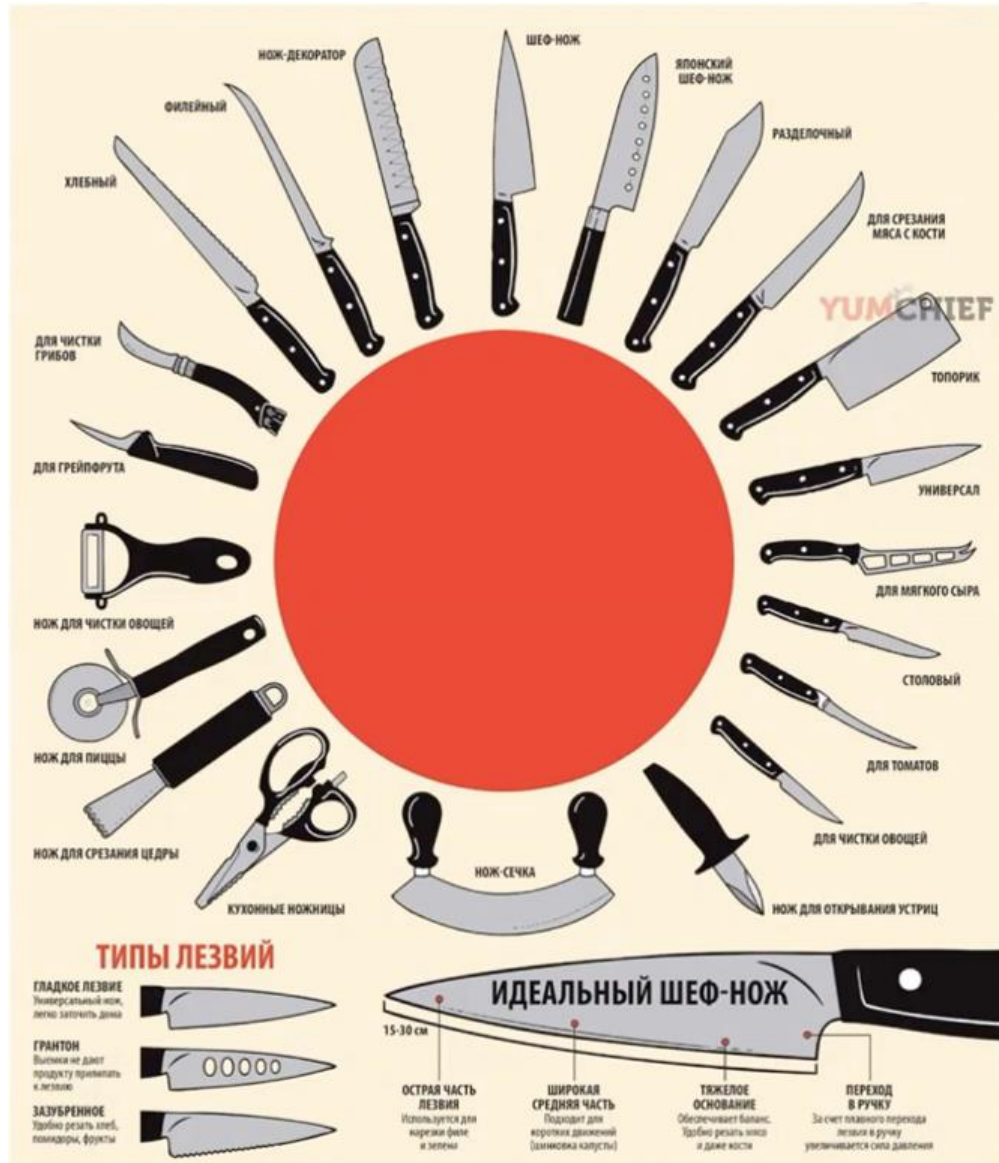
What happens **DURING** impacts?

- Vibrational and electronic excitation
- Generation of defects
- Heating
- Mixing
- Comminution (generation of surfaces, size decrease)
- Reaction itself

What happens **BETWEEN** impacts?

- Annealing or re-grouping of defects,
- Cooling (heating for exothermic reactions)
- Relaxation of stresses
- Reaction itself

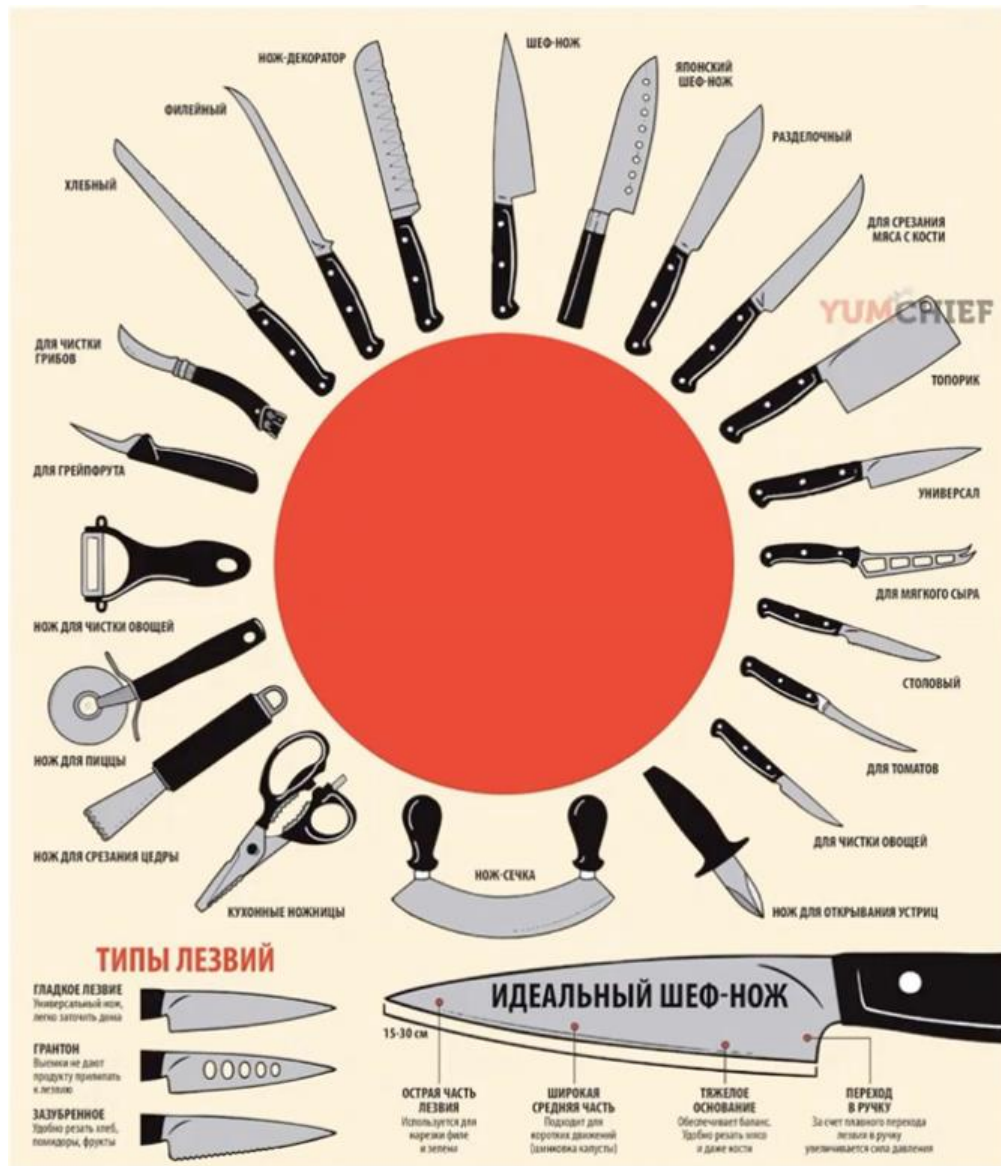
Mechanochemistry



<https://www.pinterest.ru/pin/675821487817105608/>

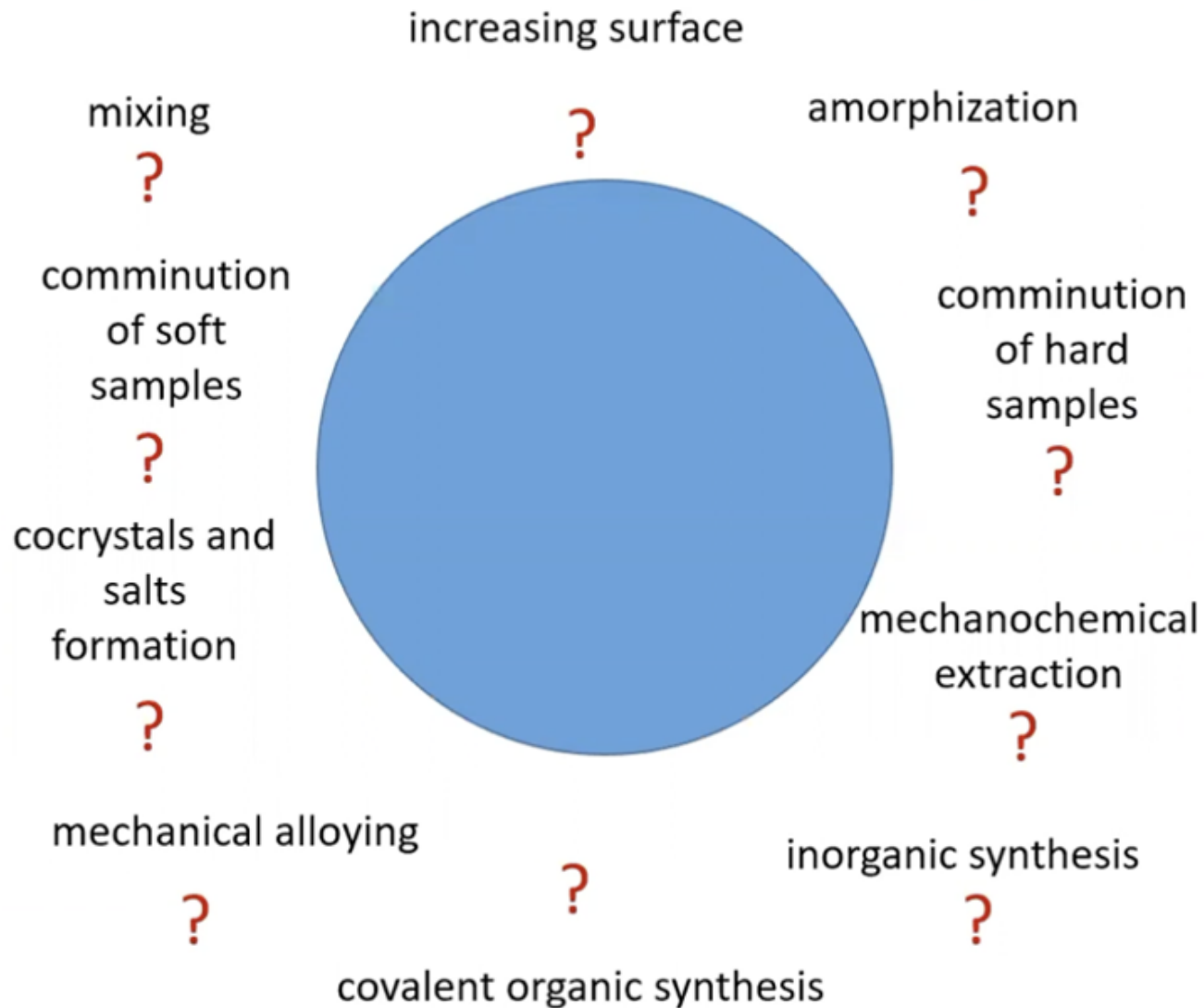
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPzykk79K0&list=PLdesNkcRuf70shzcrbWS8dwixJdnSVYWD>

Mechanochemistry



<https://www.pinterest.ru/pin/675821487817105608/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPzykk79K0&list=PLdesNkcRuf70shzcrbWS8dwixJdnSVYWD>



Mechanochemistry

Types of Mechanochemical Reactions



Organic Chemistry Hot Paper

Angewandte
International Edition Chemie

Experimental Isolation of Single Impact, Cumulative Energy, Aging, and Liquid-Assisted Grinding Effects in Mechanochemical Reactions

- Type I: reactions completed under mechanical impact
 - conversion occurs exclusively during active milling
 - scales linearly with the cumulative energy (E_{total})
- Type II: reactions that continue via aging after mechanical activation
 - impact triggers transformations that progress in the absence of further mechanical input
 - post-impact reactivity correlates with imparted single-impact energy
- LAG reactions remain firmly impact-driven
 - product yields continue to scale linearly with E_{impact} for both reaction types



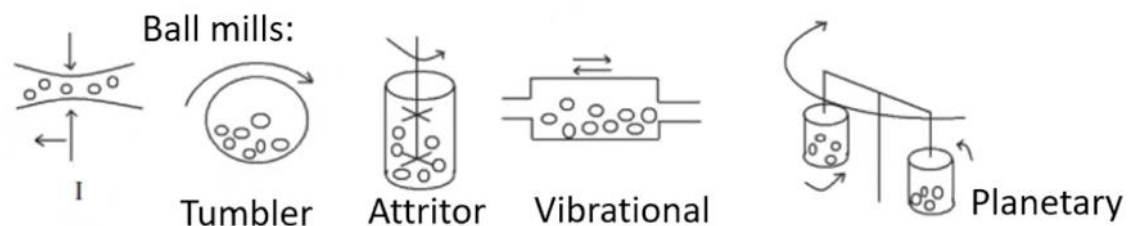
horizontal mixer mill (MM500)
14 mL PFA jar, 1 × Ø 15 mm ball

Templ, J.; Borchardt, L. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2026**, 65, e23191

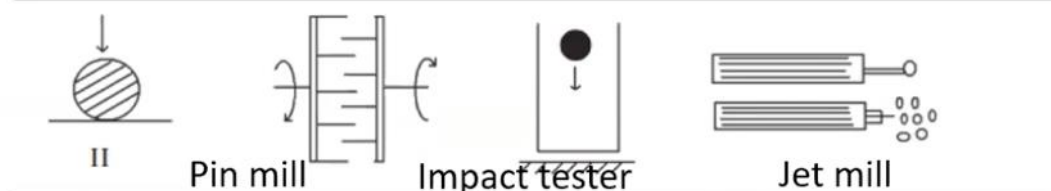
Mechanochemistry

Main types of mechanical action and main types of instruments

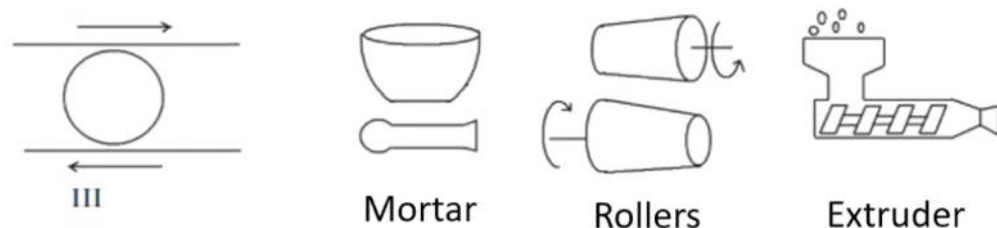
Impact + shear



Impact



Shear



Electro, Photo, Acoustic, Thermal, Magnetic...
coupled with mechano

Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemistry – Critical Operational Parameters (Milling)

General Parameters

- Type of mill (e.g. mixer or planetary)
- Material of mill and balls
- Grinding agents (liquids or solids)
- Temperature

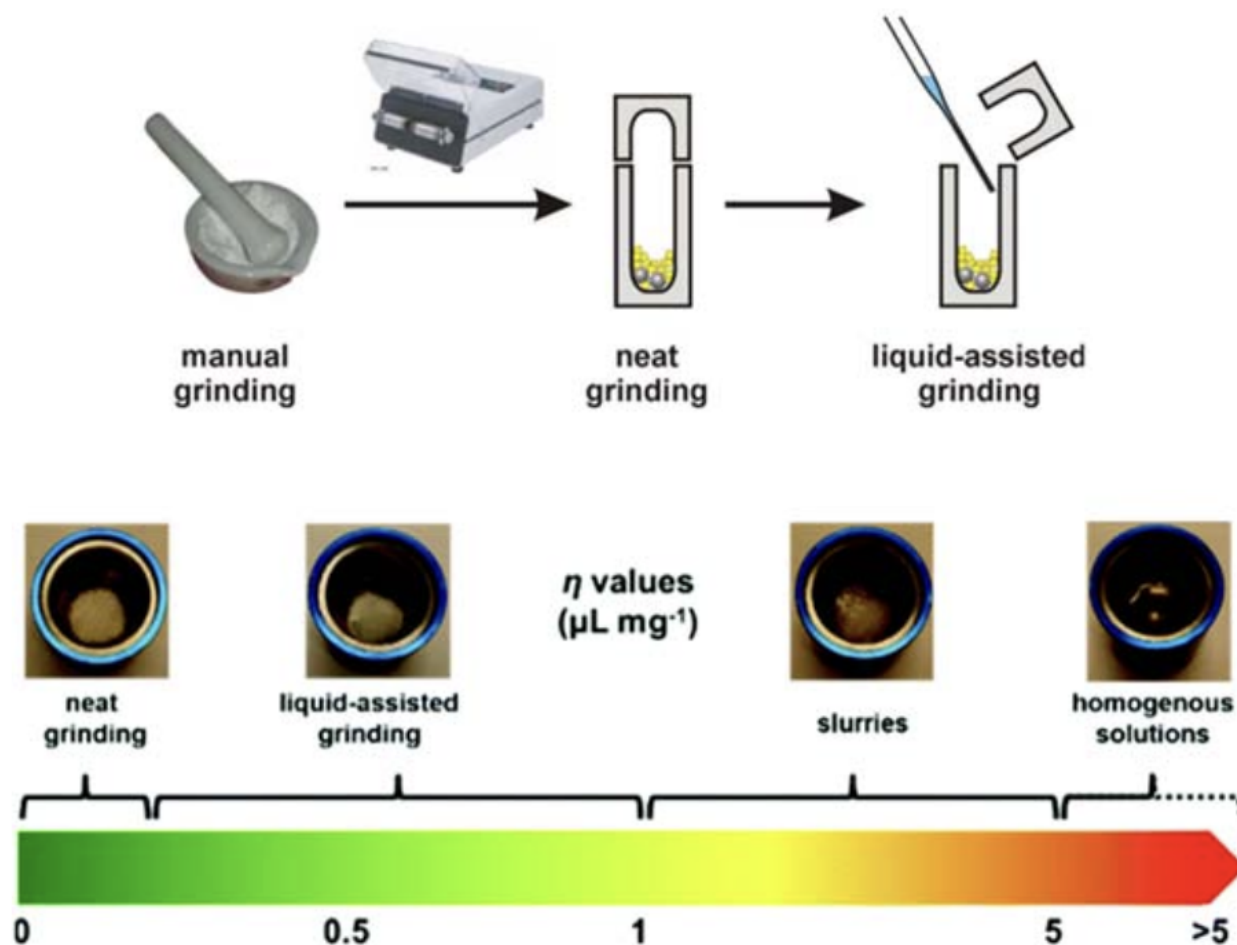


Specific (Numerical) Milling Parameters

- Cavity or jar volume
- Ball diameter
- Number of balls
- Volume of reactants
- Volume ratio of balls : sample : free space
- Milling oscillating frequency (or rpm)
- Milling time



Mechanochemistry – Liquid-Assisted Grinding (LAG)



LAG uses a small amount of a liquid to accelerate reactions, as well as to enable and direct transformations that do not take place by neat grinding.

*A value of $\eta = 0$ corresponds to neat grinding, $\eta > 10 \mu\text{L/mg}$ corresponds to a typical solution reaction, while **LAG lies in the range of $\approx 0\text{--}1 \mu\text{L/mg}$** . In that range, reactivity appears independent of reactant solubility, distinguishing LAG from slurry reactions ($\eta > 1 \mu\text{L/mg}$) in which low solubility does hinder reactivity.*

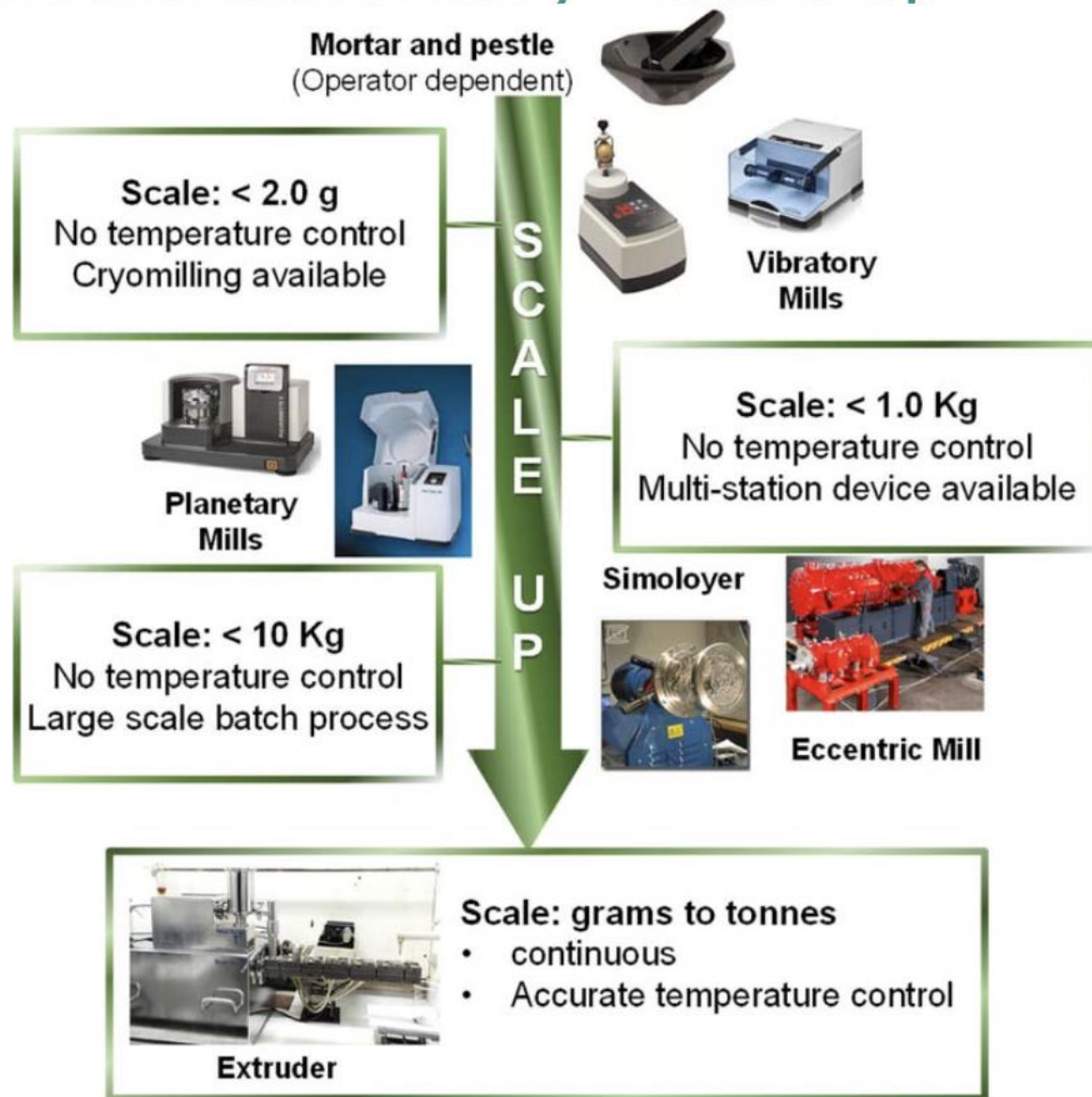
$$\eta = \frac{V(\text{LAG liquid, } \mu\text{L})}{m(\text{reagents, mg})}$$

Friščić, T.; Childs, S. L.; Rizvic, S. A. A.; Jones, W. *CrystEngComm* **2009**, 11, 418

Friščić, T. et al. *ACS Cent. Sci.* **2017**, 3, 13; Wenger, L. E.; Hanusa, T. P. *Chem. Commun.* **2023**, 59, 14210

Breinsperger, J. et al. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2026**, 32, e03536; Fang, Y. et al. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2026**, 368, e70372

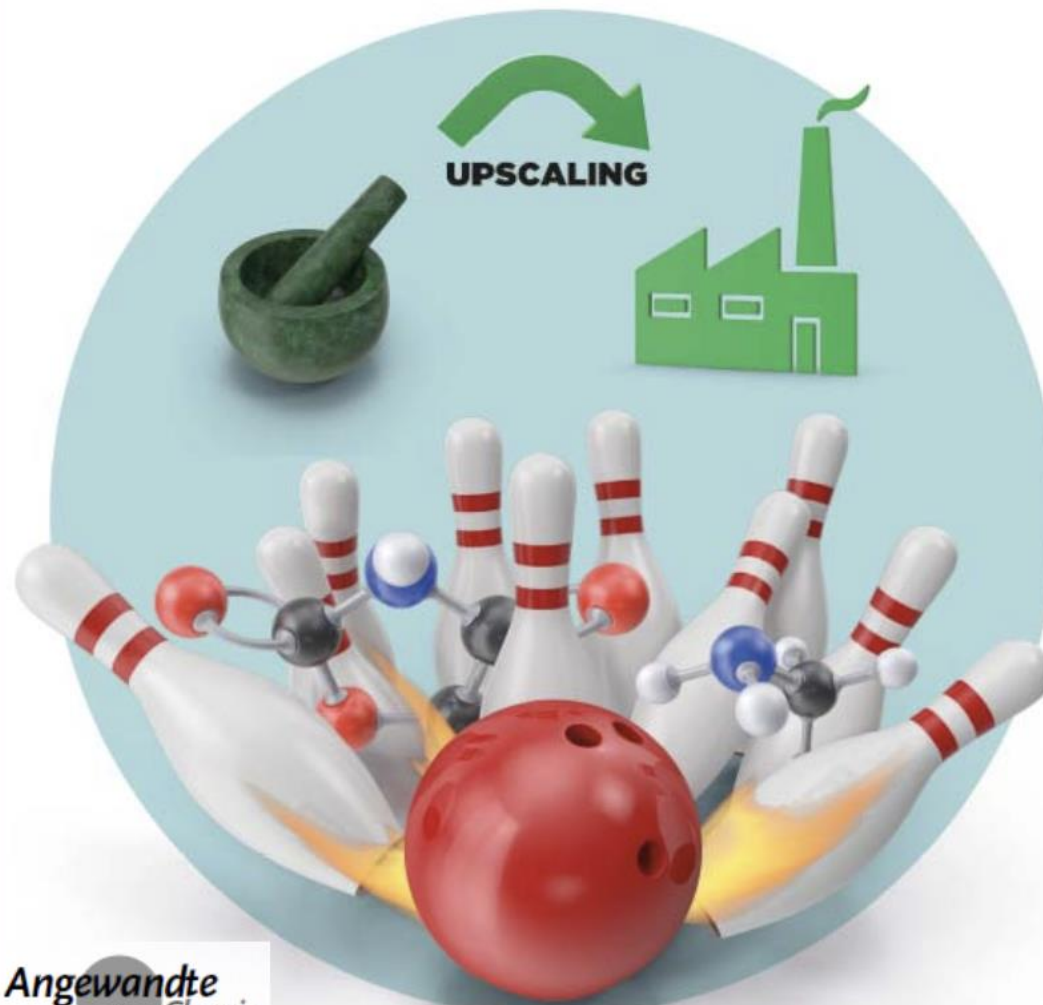
Mechanochemistry – Scale-up



Mechanochemistry *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2023**, 62, e202300819

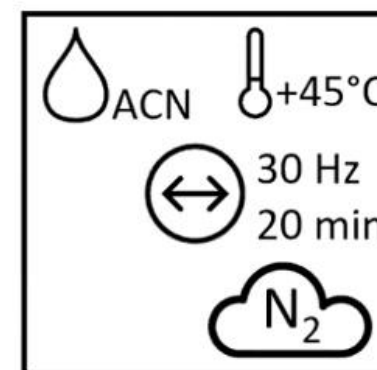
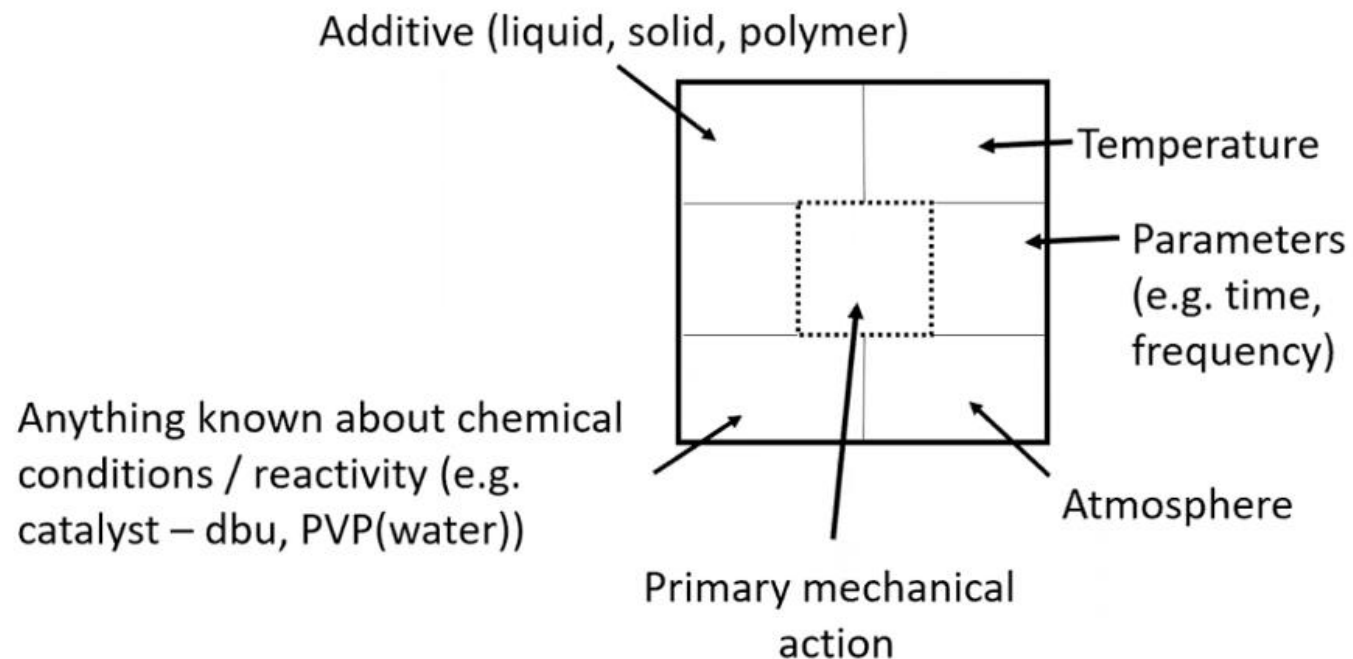
Tinkering with Mechanochemical Tools for Scale Up

Javier F. Reynes, Valerio Isoni, and Felipe García**



Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemical Notations

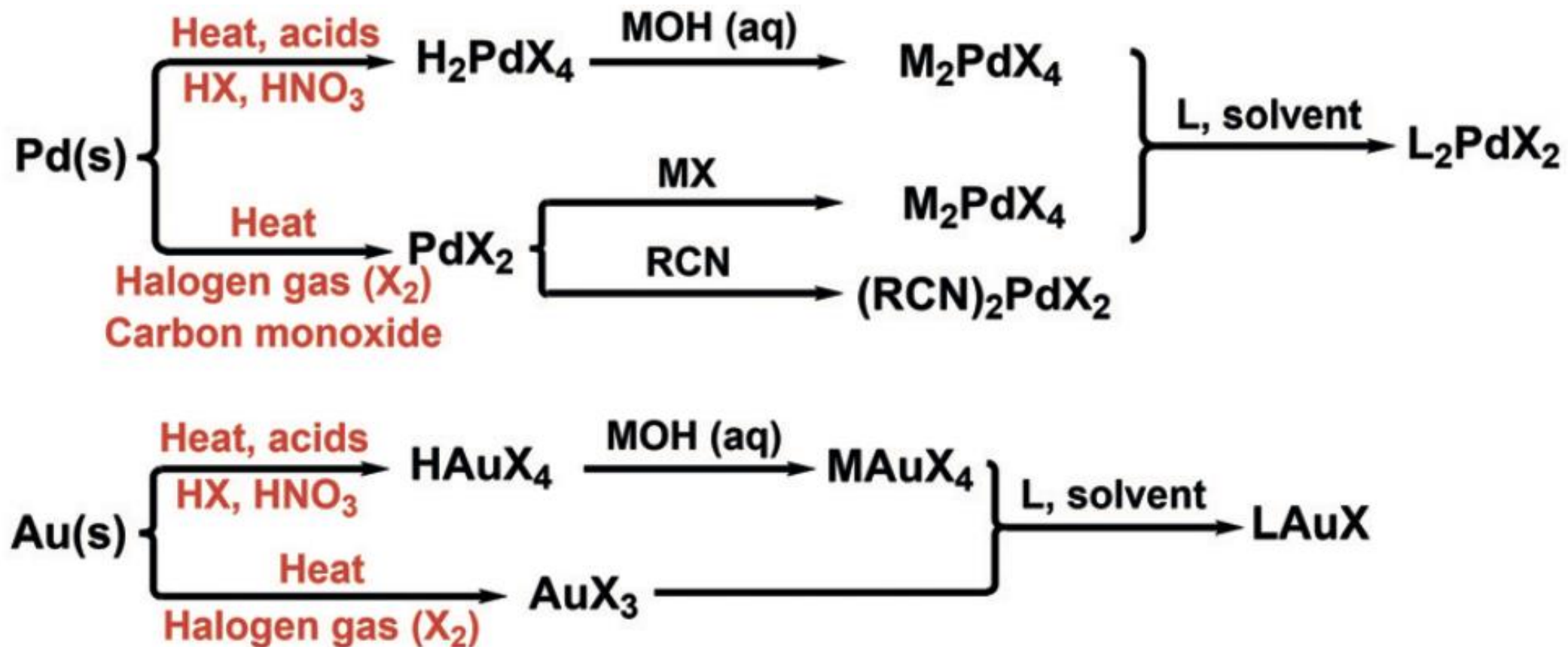


Michalchuk, A. A., Boldyreva, E. V., Belenguer, A. M., Emmerling, F., & Boldyrev, V. V. (2021). Tribochemistry, mechanical alloying, mechanochemistry: what is in a name?. *Frontiers in Chemistry*, 9, 359

Mechanochemistry

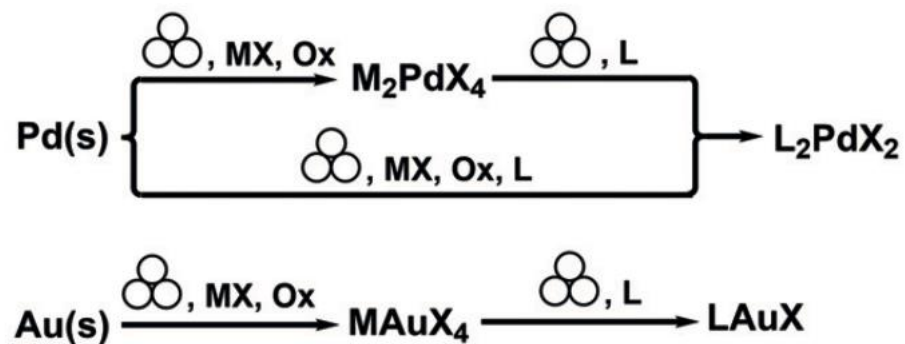
Metal Recycling and Processing:

Traditional Method Aqua Regia: Extremely Polluting



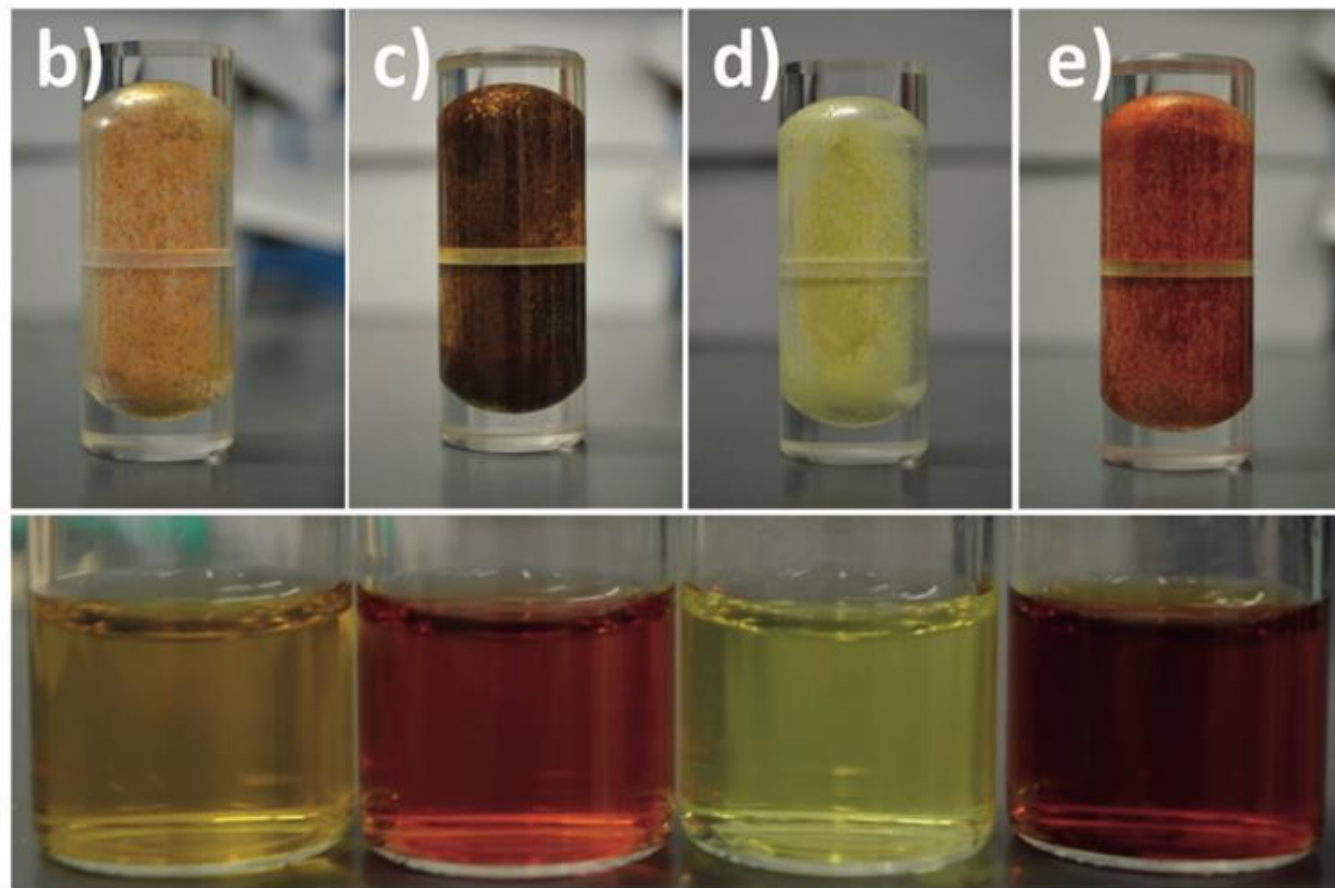
Mechanochemistry

Metal Recycling and Processing:



 = solvent-free,
 room-temperature
 ball milling

X = Cl, Br, I
 M = K, NH₄
 Ox = oxidant
 L = ligand



b) (NH₄)₂PdCl₄; c) (NH₄)₂PdBr₄; d) NH₄AuCl₄; e) NH₄AuBr₄.

Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemistry

International Edition: DOI: 10.1002/anie.201810141

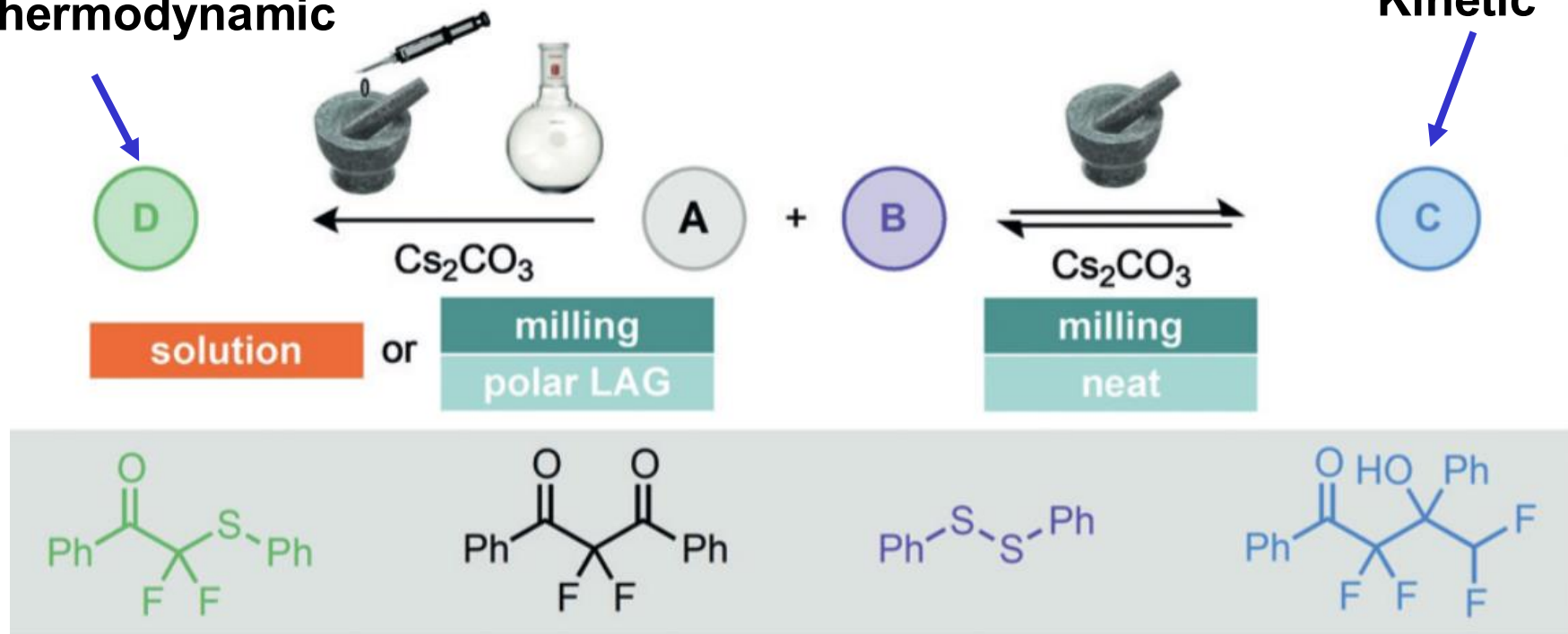
German Edition: DOI: 10.1002/ange.201810141

Switching Chemoselectivity: Using Mechanochemistry to Alter Reaction Kinetics

Joseph L. Howard, Michael C. Brand, and Duncan L. Browne*

Thermodynamic

Kinetic

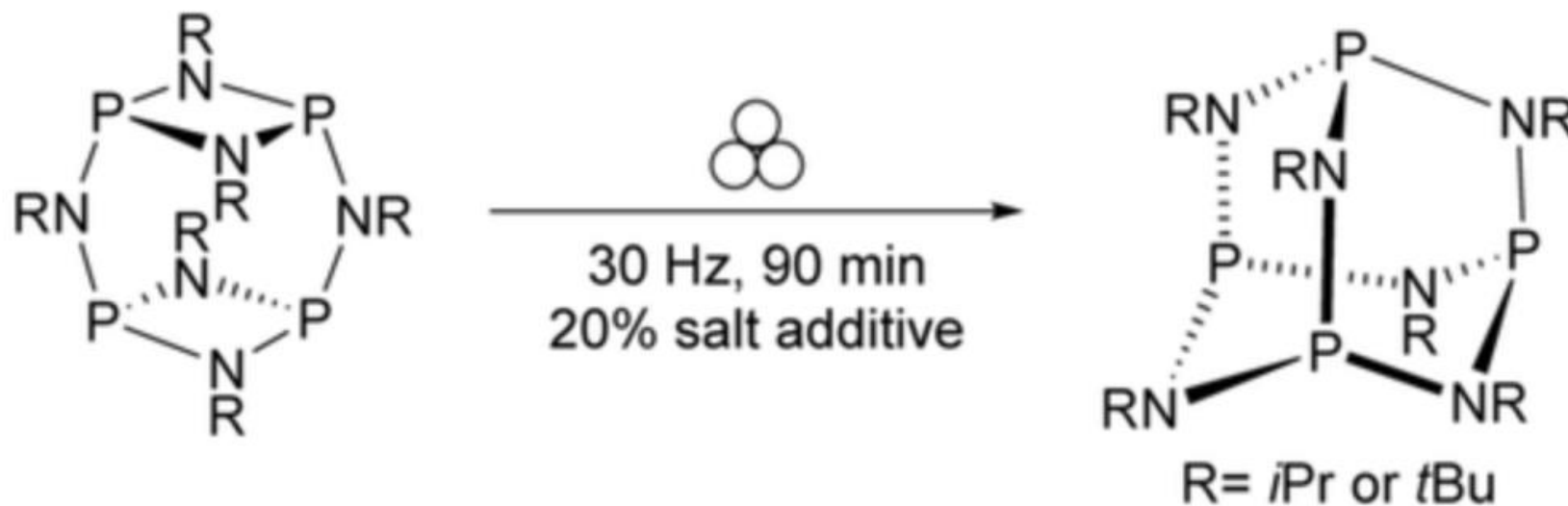


Communication |  Full Access

The First Synthesis of the Sterically Encumbered Adamantoid Phosphazane $P_4(N^tBu)_6$: Enabled by Mechanochemistry

Yan X. Shi, Dr. Kai Xu, Dr. Jack K. Clegg, Dr. Rakesh Ganguly, Dr. Hajime Hirao, Prof. Dr. Tomislav Friščić, Prof. Dr. Felipe García 

First published: 19 August 2016 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201605936> | Citations: 99



Mechanochemistry

nature
nanotechnology

ARTICLES

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-020-00809-9>



Mechanochemistry for ammonia synthesis under mild conditions

Gao-Feng Han ¹, Feng Li ¹, Zhi-Wen Chen ^{2,3} ✉, Claude Coppex ⁴, Seok-Jin Kim ¹, Hyuk-Jun Noh¹, Zhengping Fu^{5,6}, Yalin Lu ^{5,6}, Chandra Veer Singh ³, Samira Siahrostami ⁴ ✉, Qing Jiang ² ✉ and Jong-Beom Baek ¹ ✉

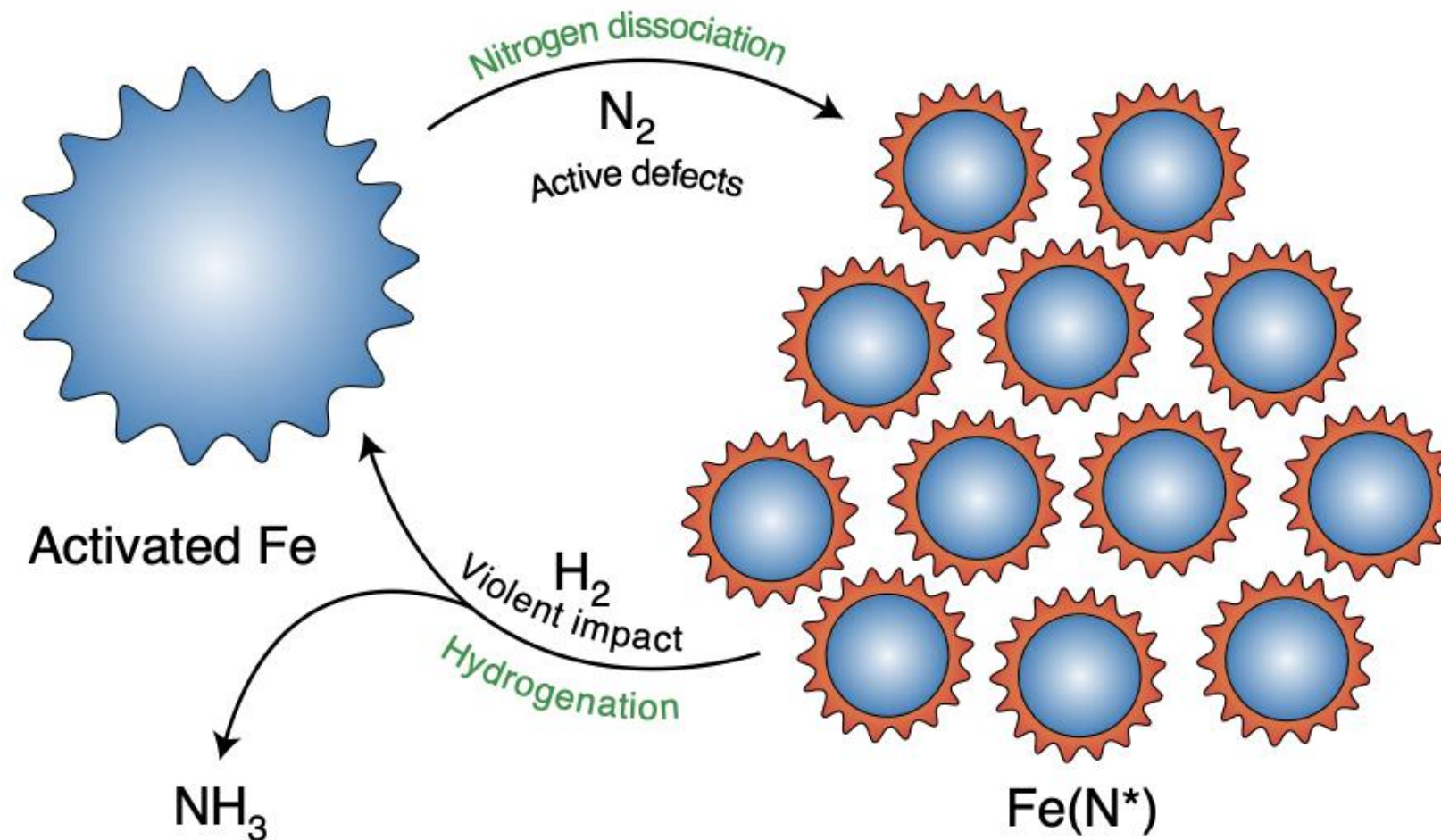
Haber–Bosch process at 400–500 °C and above 100 bar.

Mechanochemical method at 45 °C and 1 bar using Iron-based catalyst

Haber–Bosch process : 25 vol%, 450 °C, 200 bar

Mechanochemical method: 82.5 vol%,

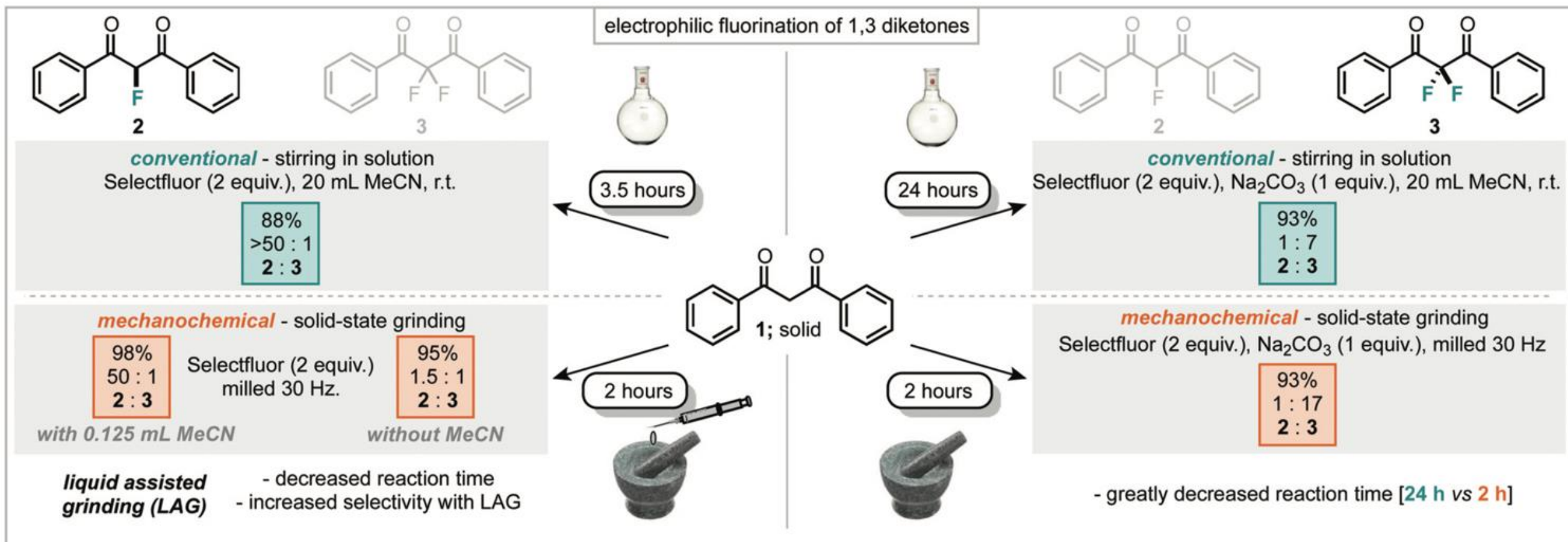
Mechanochemistry



High defect density and violent impact at the iron catalyst

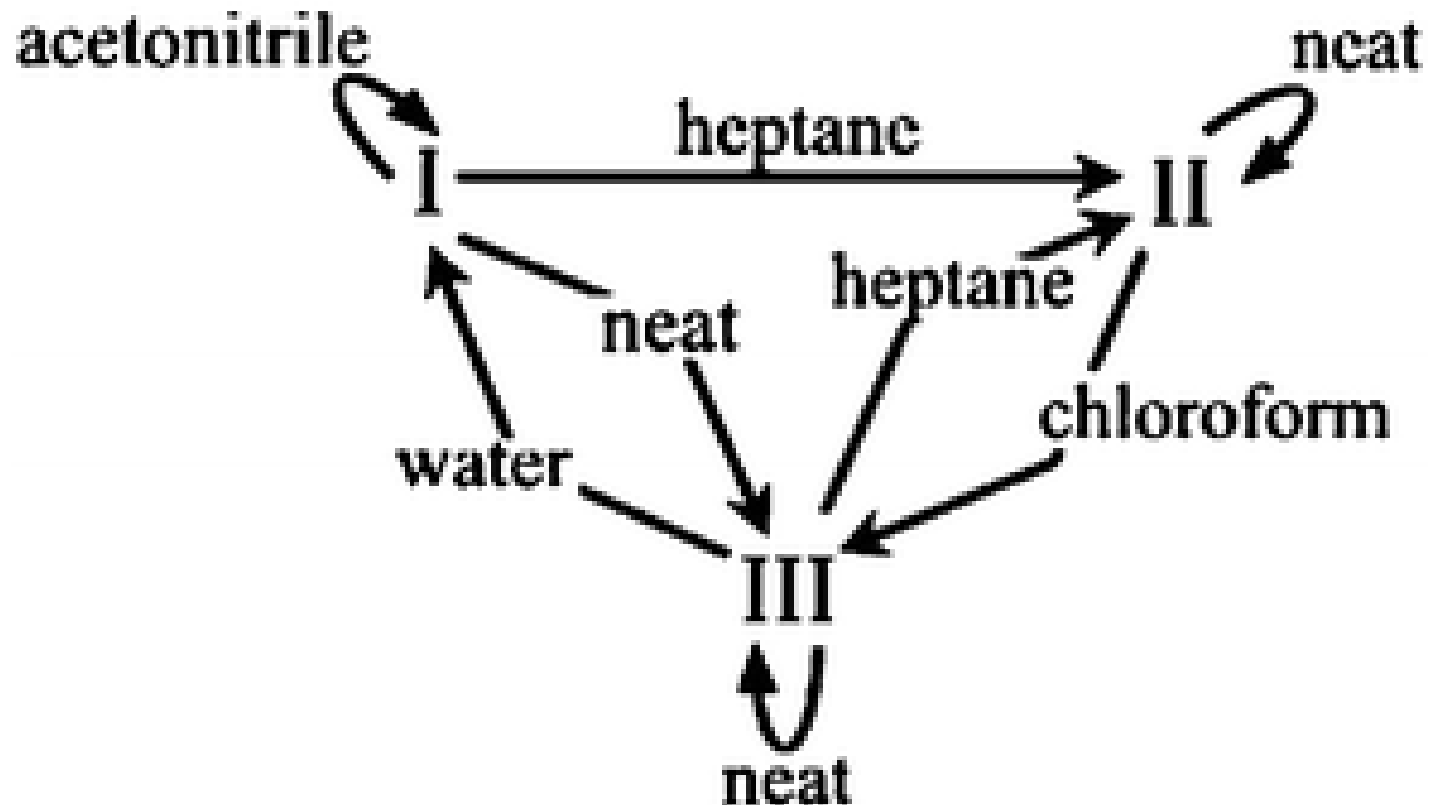
Mechanochemistry

Reactivity Control via LAG



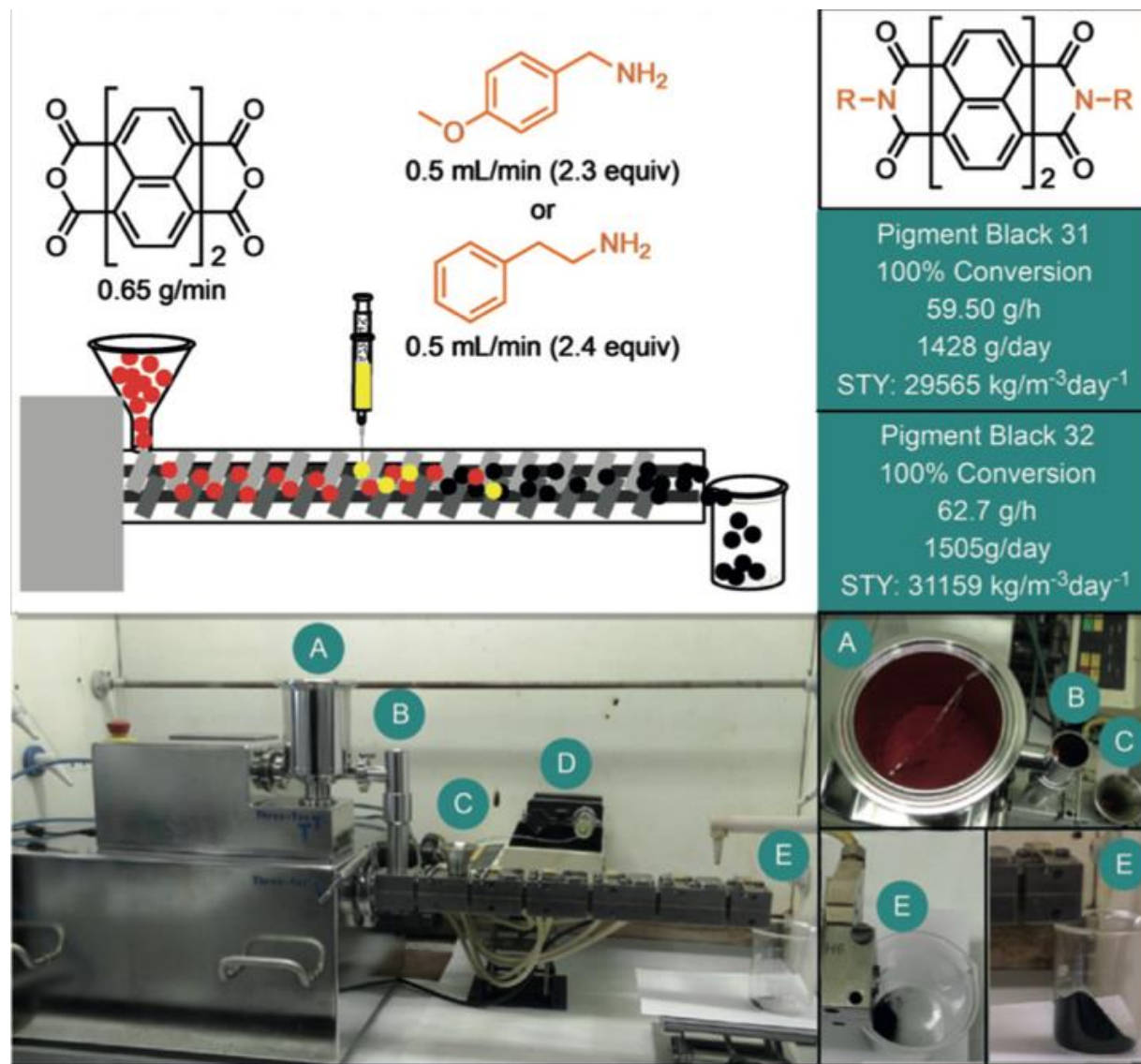
Mechanochemistry

Solvent-Assisted Polymorph Transformation Anthranilic Acid



Mechanochemistry

Greener Dye Production via TSE



Mechanochemistry

Mechanoredox Catalysis

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HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 366, NO. 6472 > REDOX REACTIONS OF SMALL ORGANIC MOLECULES USING BALL MILLING AND PIEZOELECTRIC MATERIALS

REPORT



Redox reactions of small organic molecules using ball milling and piezoelectric materials

KOJI KUBOTA , YADONG PANG , AKIRA MIURA , AND HAJIME ITO [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 20 Dec 2019 • Vol 366, Issue 6472 • pp. 1500-1504 • DOI: 10.1126/science.aay8224

13,027 228



Redox catalysis in a ball mill

Mixing solid reactants in a ball mill is a promising means of avoiding the copious solvent waste associated with most chemical syntheses. Kubota *et al.* now report that adding a piezoelectric catalyst to the mix can promote bond formation through apparent electron transfer cycles (see the Perspective by Xia and Wang). Specifically, barium titanate activates aryl diazonium salts toward homocoupling and

CURRENT ISSUE

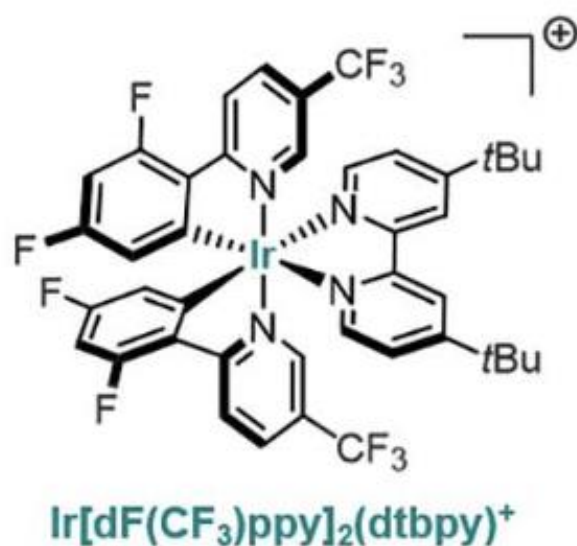


Mechanochemistry

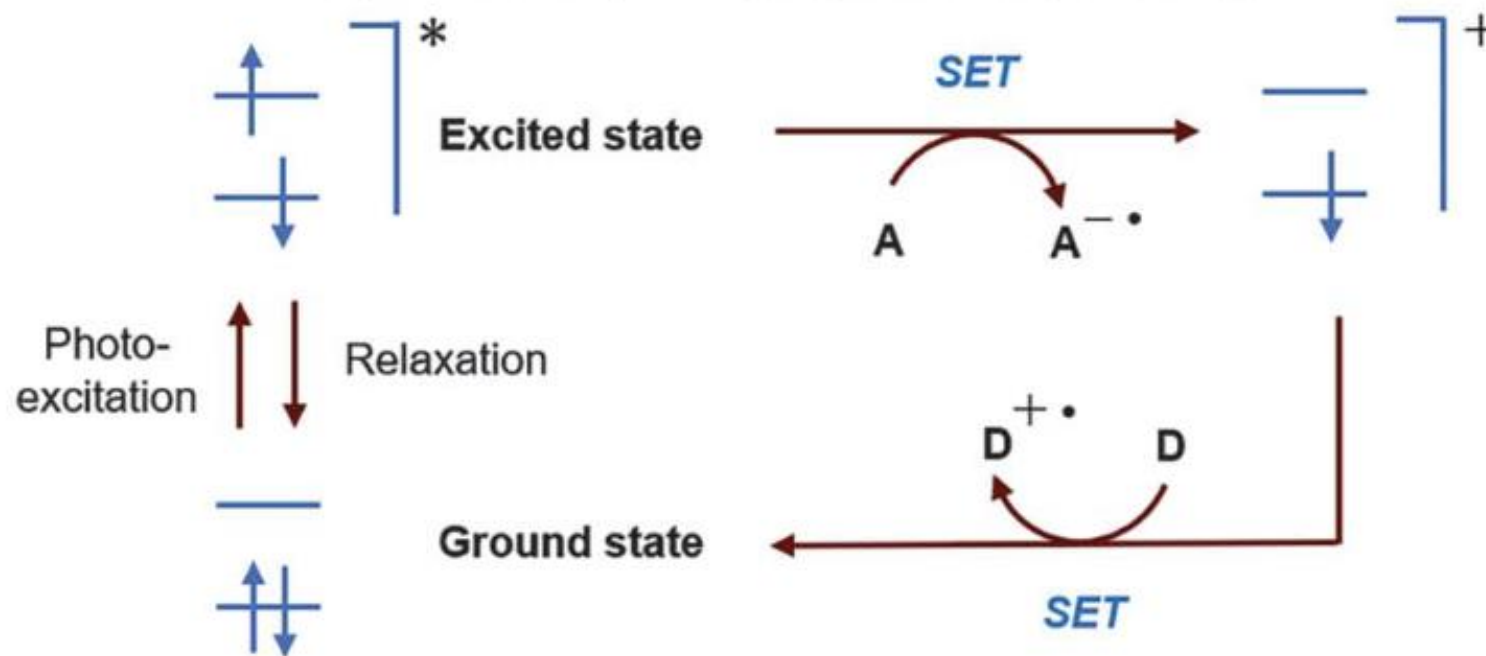
Mechanoredox Catalysis

A

*Photoredox system
(well-established)*



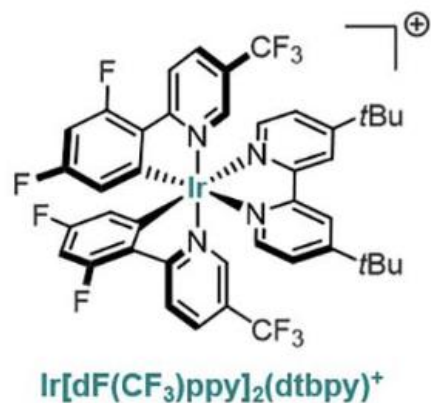
General photoredox paradigm (oxidative quenching)



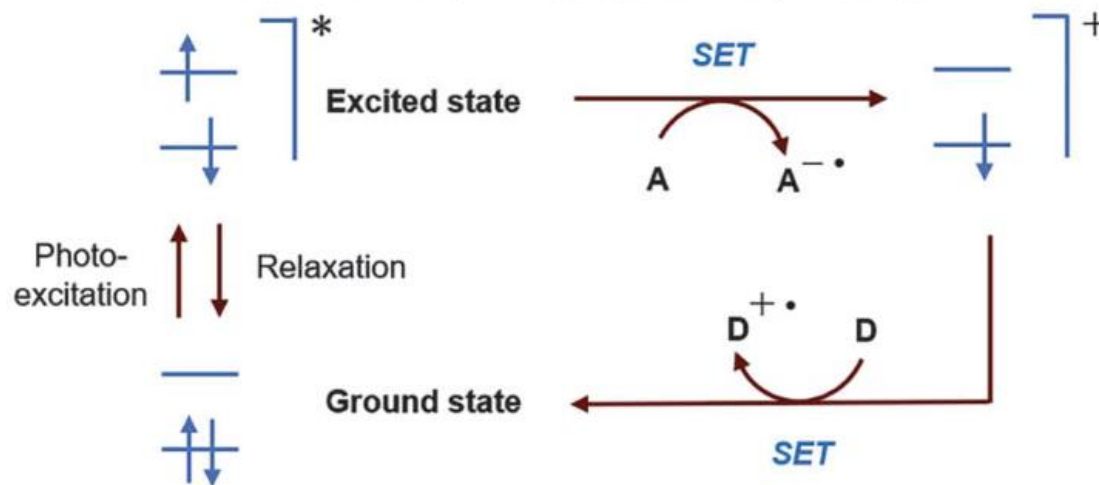
Mechanochemistry

Mechanoredox Catalysis

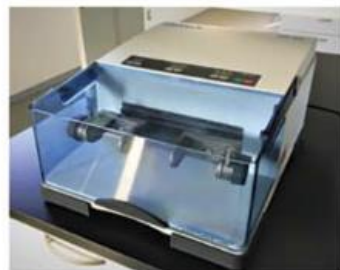
A Photoredox system (well-established)



General photoredox paradigm (oxidative quenching)

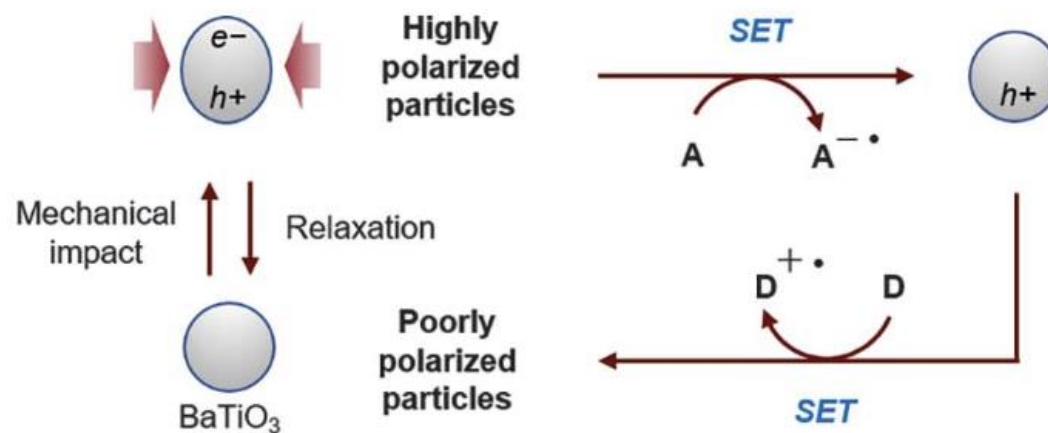


B Mechanoredox system (this work)



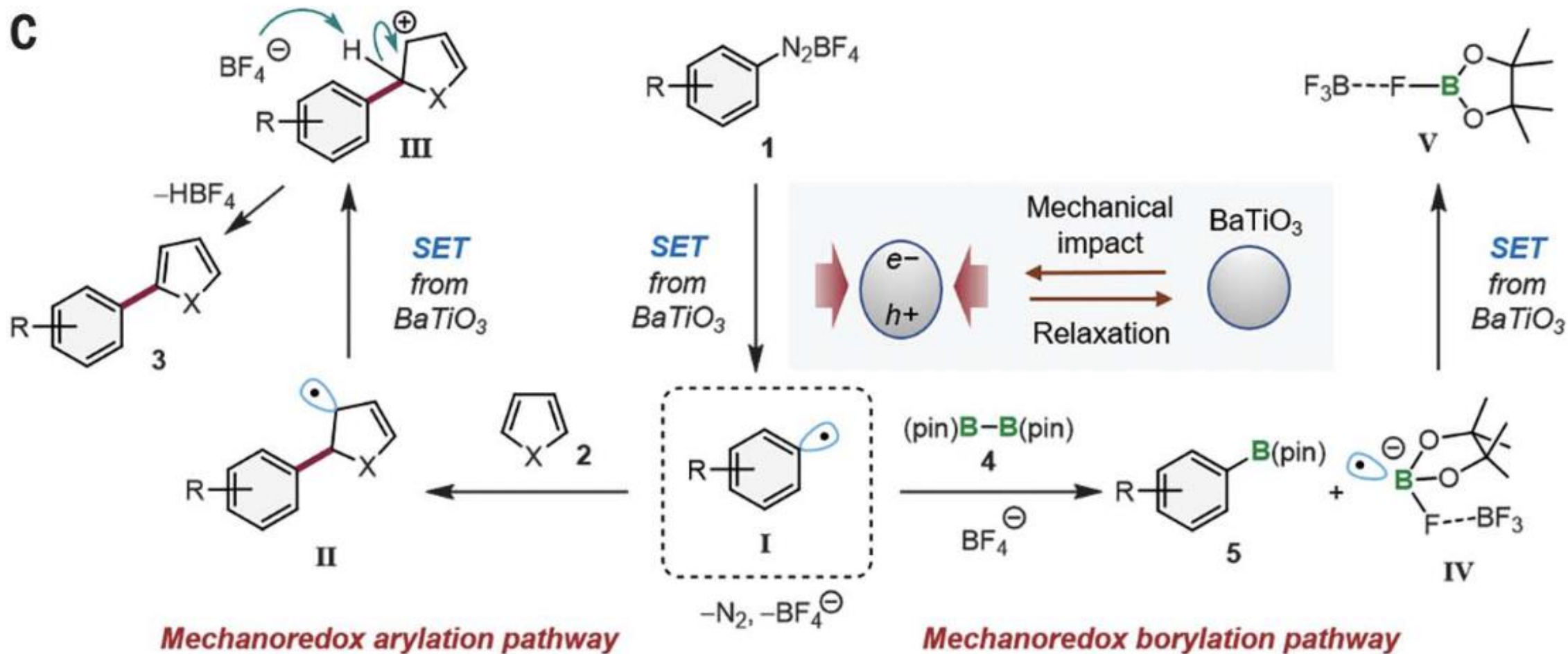
Ball mill and
piezoelectric materials

Proposed mechanoredox paradigm (oxidative quenching)



Mechanochemistry

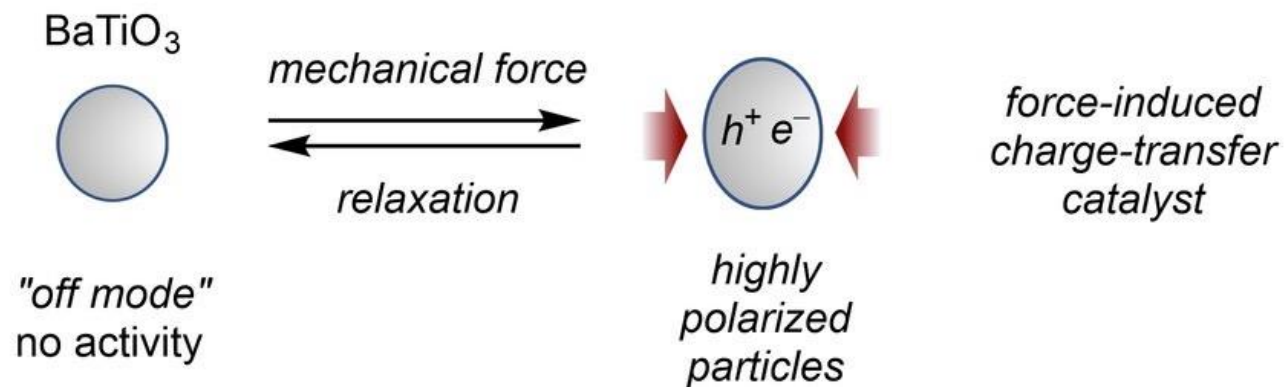
Mechanoredox Catalysis



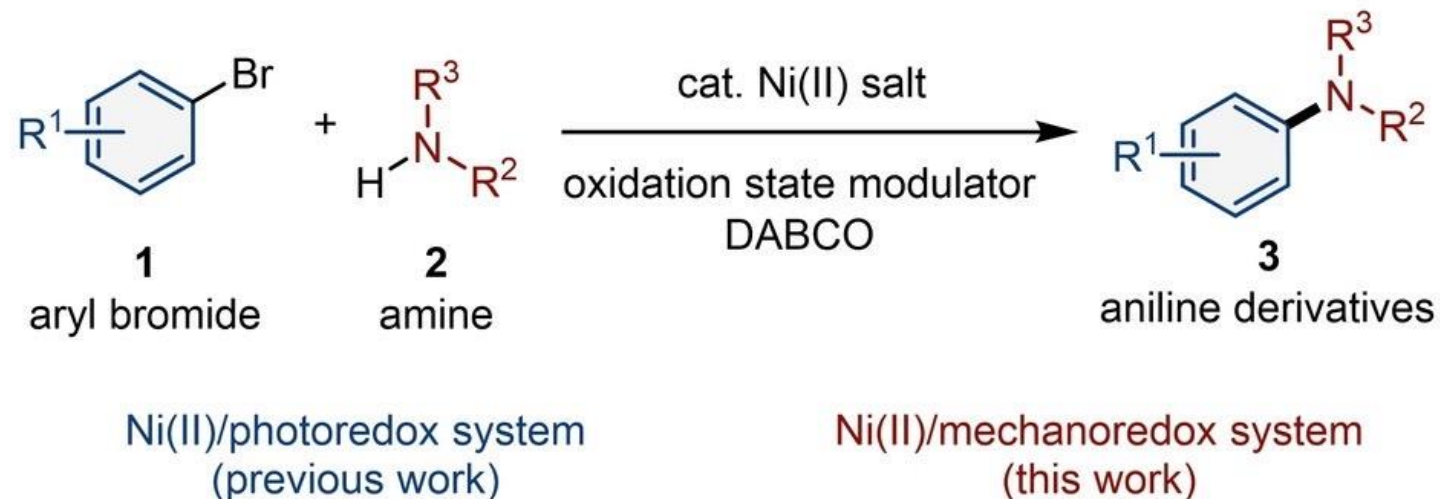
Mechanochemistry

Mechanoredox Catalysis

(a) Mechanoredox system (new force-induced platform)

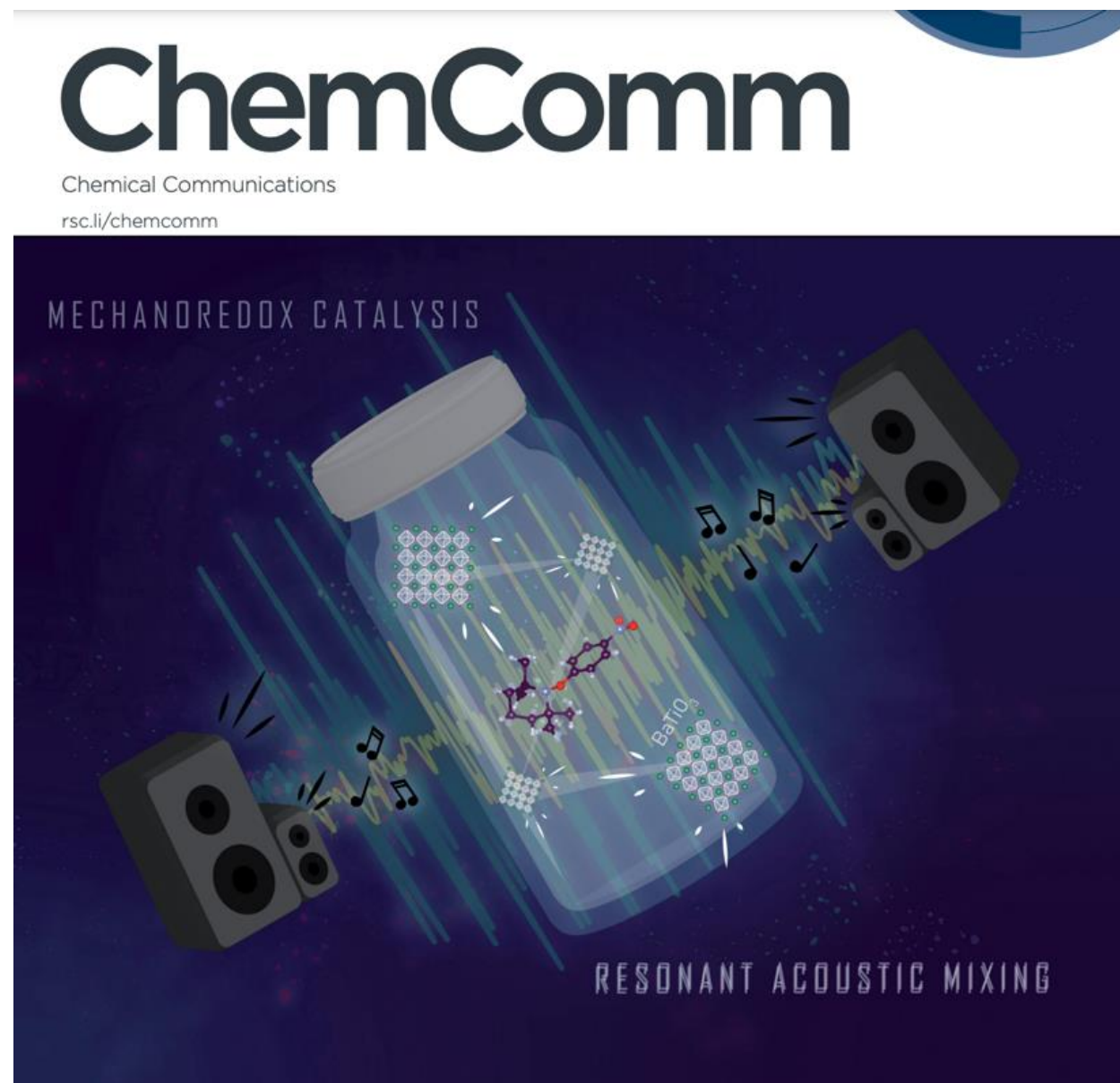


(b) Arylamination catalyzed by Ni(II) salt



Mechanochemistry

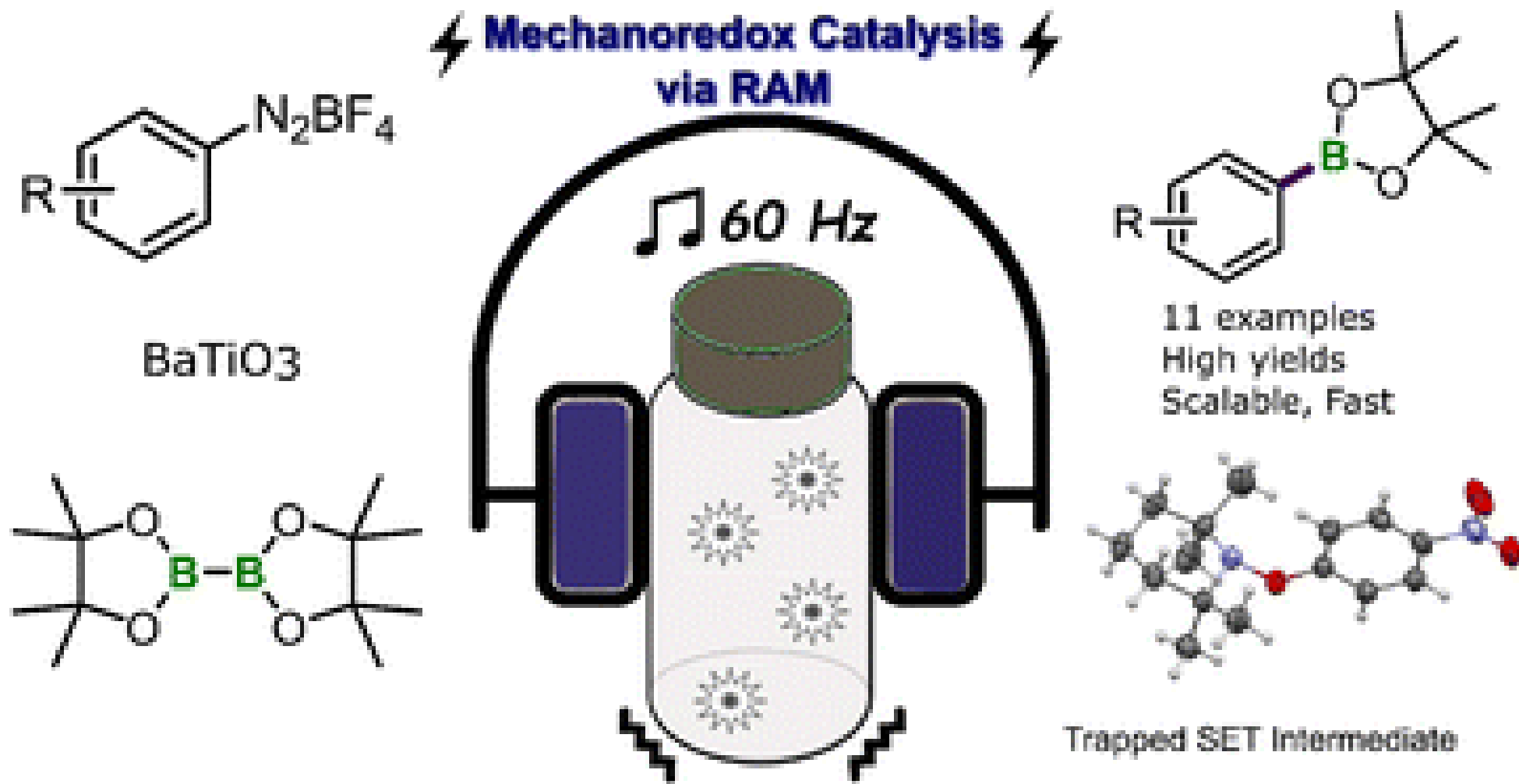
Mechanoredox Catalysis



Chem. Commun. 2023, 59, 1010–1013.

Mechanochemistry

Mechanoredox Catalysis



Mechanochemistry

Asymmetric Organocatalysis

Is Solvent Critical: Solvation-Desolvation?



Full Paper |  Full Access

A Highly Efficient Asymmetric Organocatalytic Aldol Reaction in a Ball Mill

Belén Rodríguez Dr., Angelika Bruckmann, Carsten Bolm Prof. Dr. 

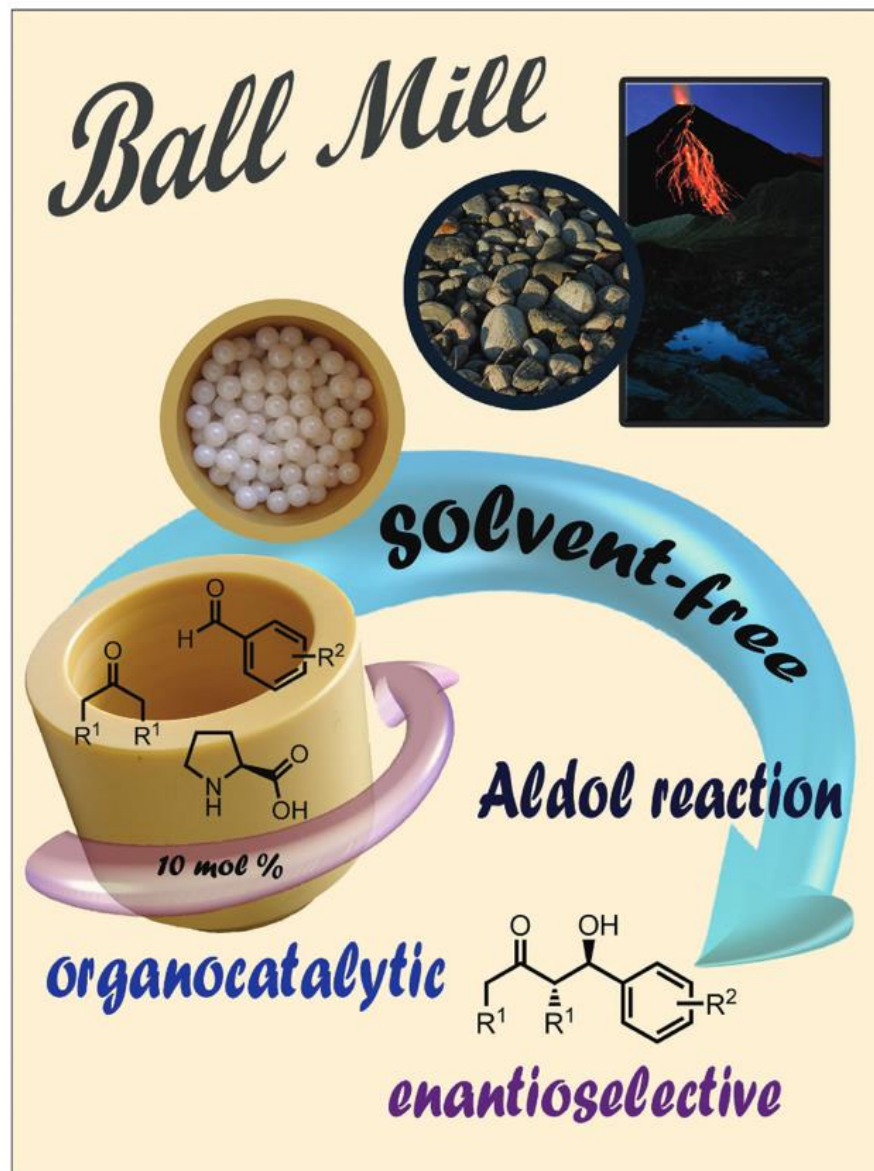
First published: 22 May 2007 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.200700188> | Citations: 227

Mechanochemistry

CHEMISTRY
A EUROPEAN JOURNAL

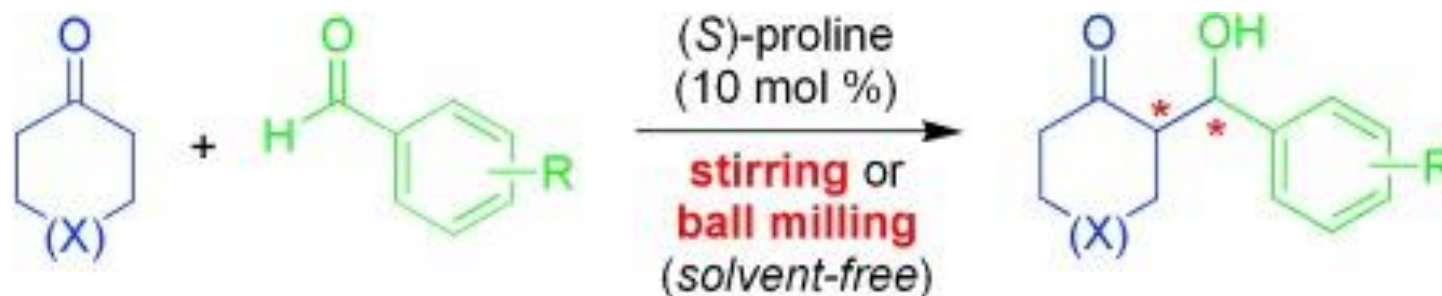
FULL PAPER

DOI: 10.1002/chem.200700188



Mechanochemistry

Asymmetric Organocatalysis



Anti-aldol products with up to >99 % enantiomeric excess (*ee*)

method	time (h)	yield (%)	<i>anti:syn</i>	<i>ee</i> (%)
ball milling	5.5	99	89:11	94
stirring in a flask	96	98	87:13	94

C-H Bond formation



Communication |  Full Access

Mechanochemical Rhodium(III)-Catalyzed C—H Bond Functionalization of Acetanilides under Solventless Conditions in a Ball Mill[†]

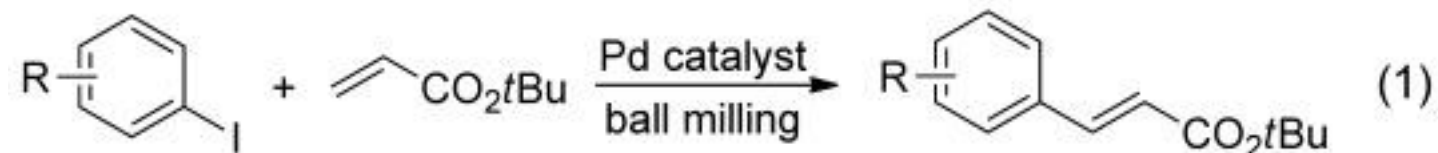
Gary N. Hermann, Peter Becker, Prof. Dr. Carsten Bolm 

First published: 07 May 2015 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201502536> | Citations: 103

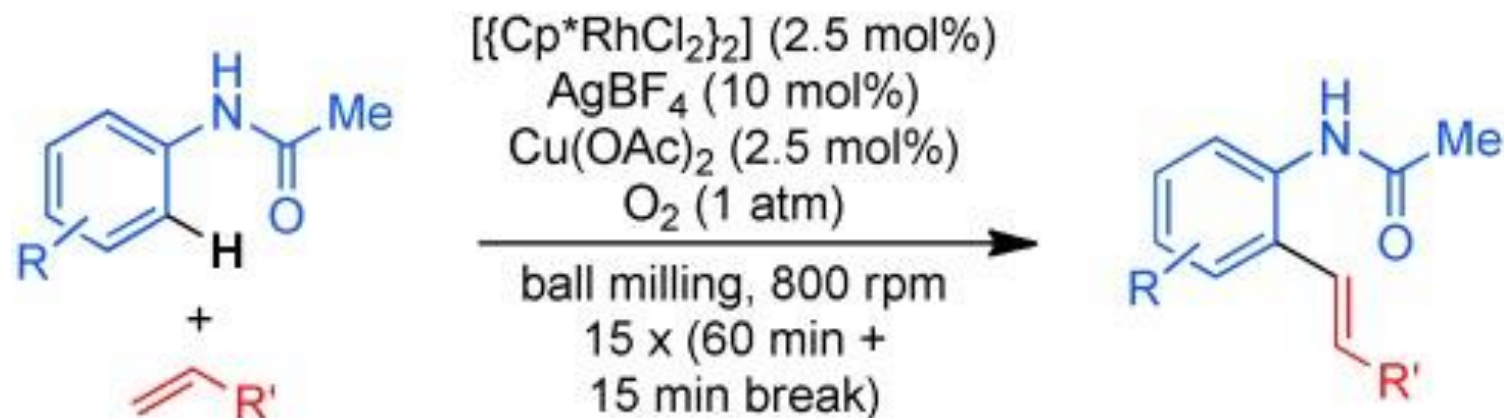
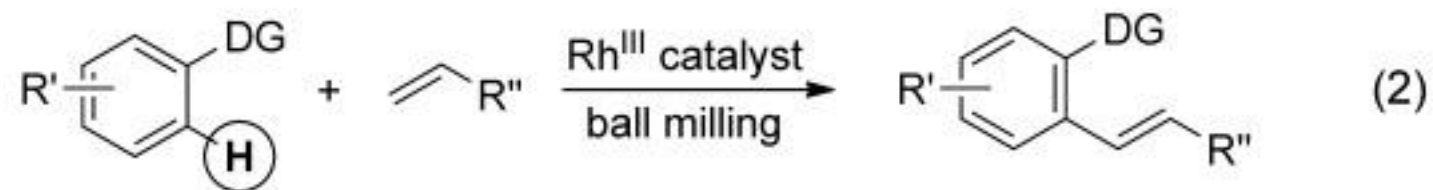
Mechanochemistry

C-H Bond formation

Previous work: Mechanochemical Mizoroki–Heck reaction



This work: Mechanochemical oxidative Heck reaction



Mechanochemistry

Grignard formation and reaction with Gaseous CO₂



Communication |  Open Access |  

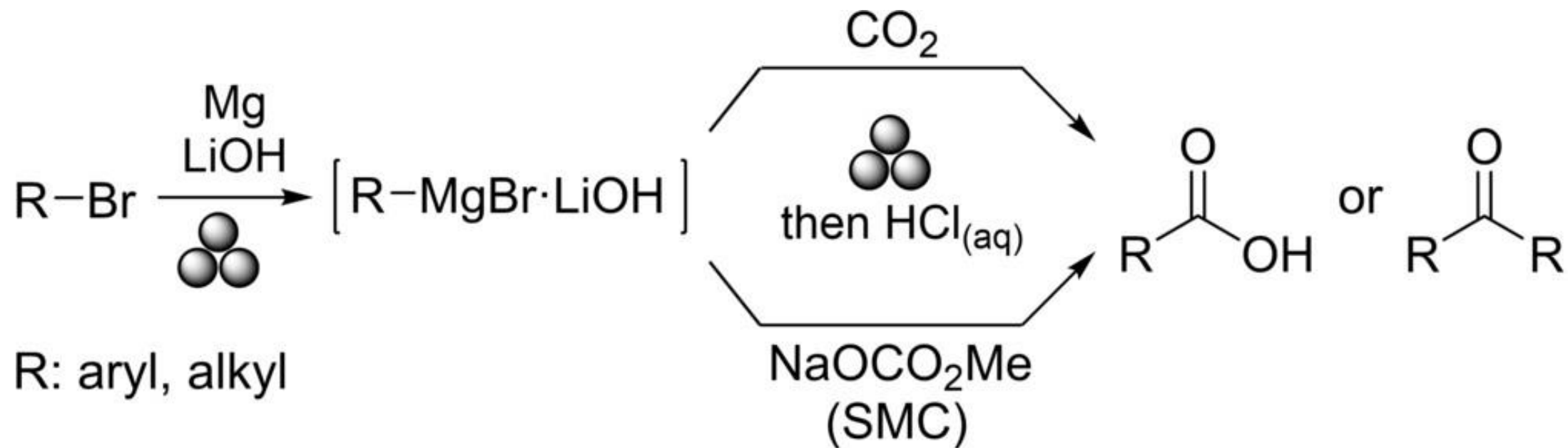
Mechanochemical Grignard Reactions with Gaseous CO₂ and Sodium Methyl Carbonate**

Victoria S. Pfennig, Romina C. Villella, Julia Nikodemus, Prof. Dr. Carsten Bolm 

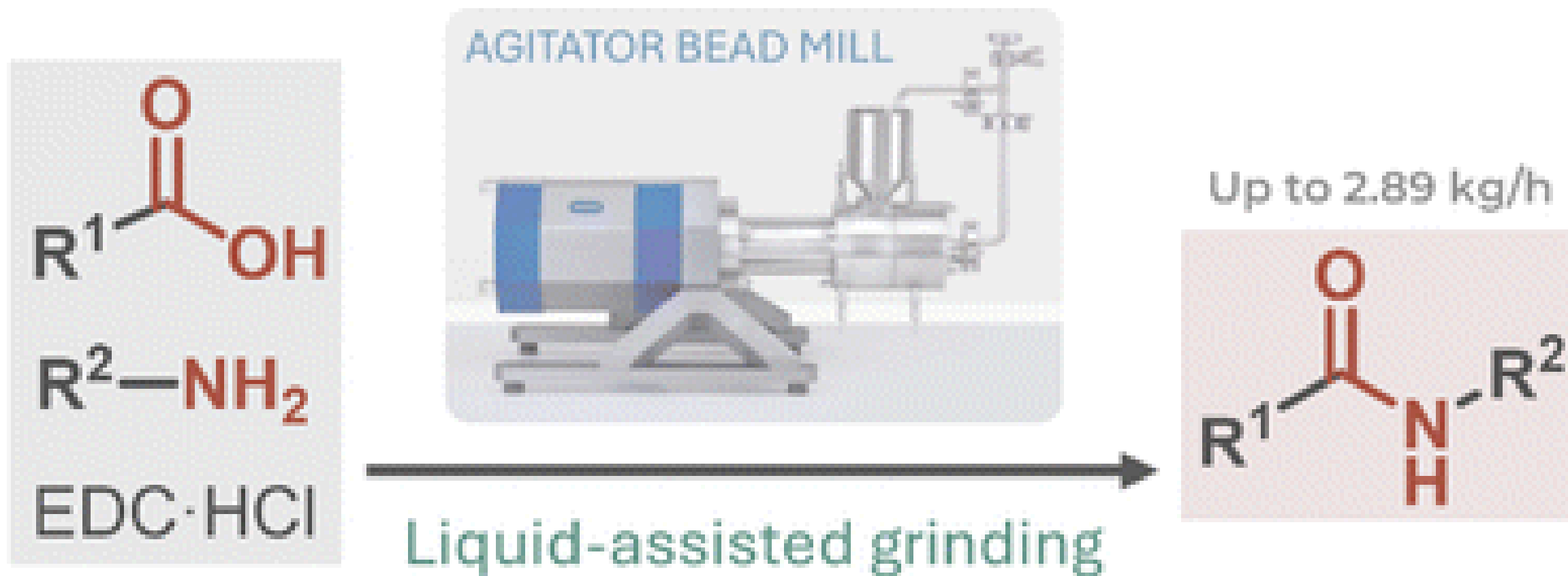
First published: 23 December 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202116514> | Citations: 64

Mechanochemistry

Grignard formation and reaction with Gaseous CO₂

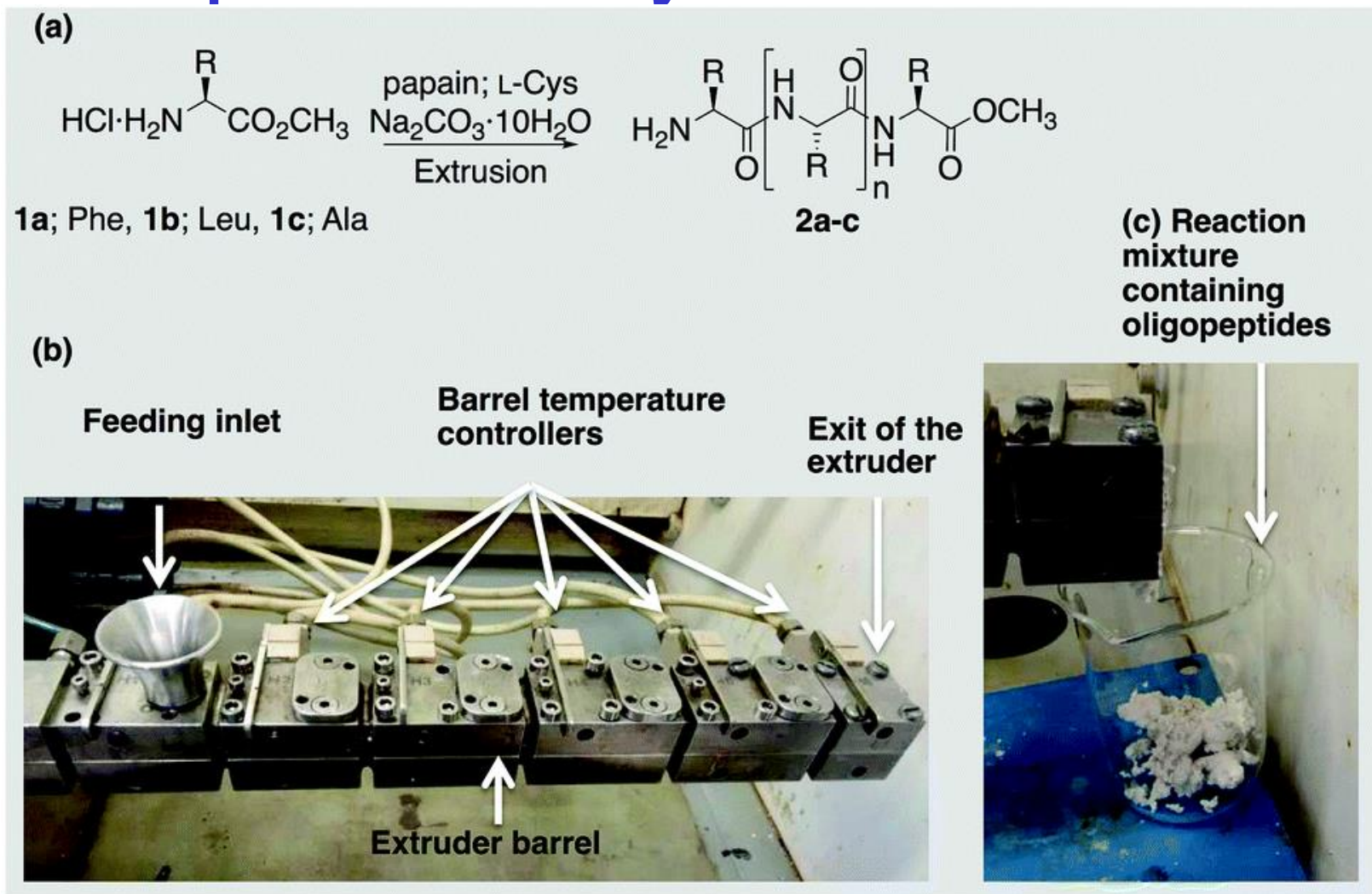


Amide Synthesis



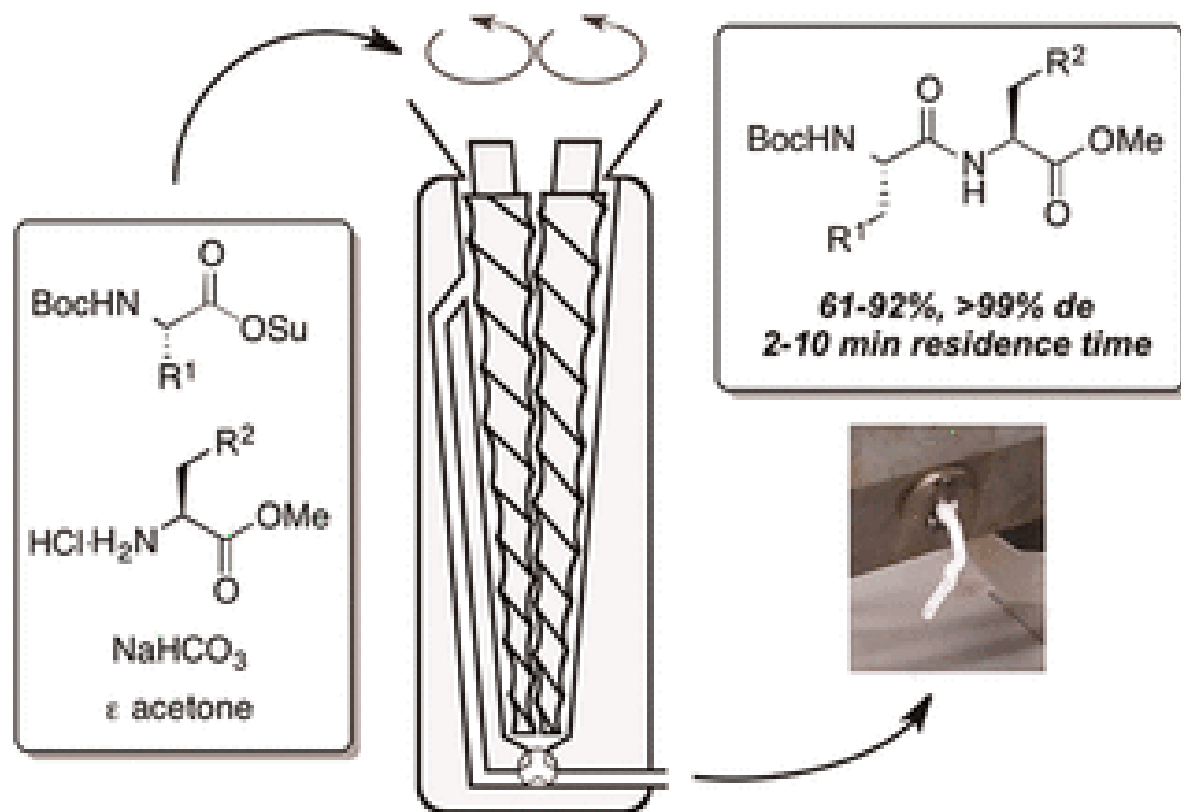
Mechanochemistry

Peptide Chemistry



Mechanochemistry

Peptide Chemistry



**Peptide Couplings
by Reactive Extrusion**

**CMR-free
Solid-tolerant
Efficient
Fast
Versatile
Continuous**

N-Alkylation

Angewandte
International Edition
Chemie

GDCh
GERMAN
CHEMICAL SOCIETY

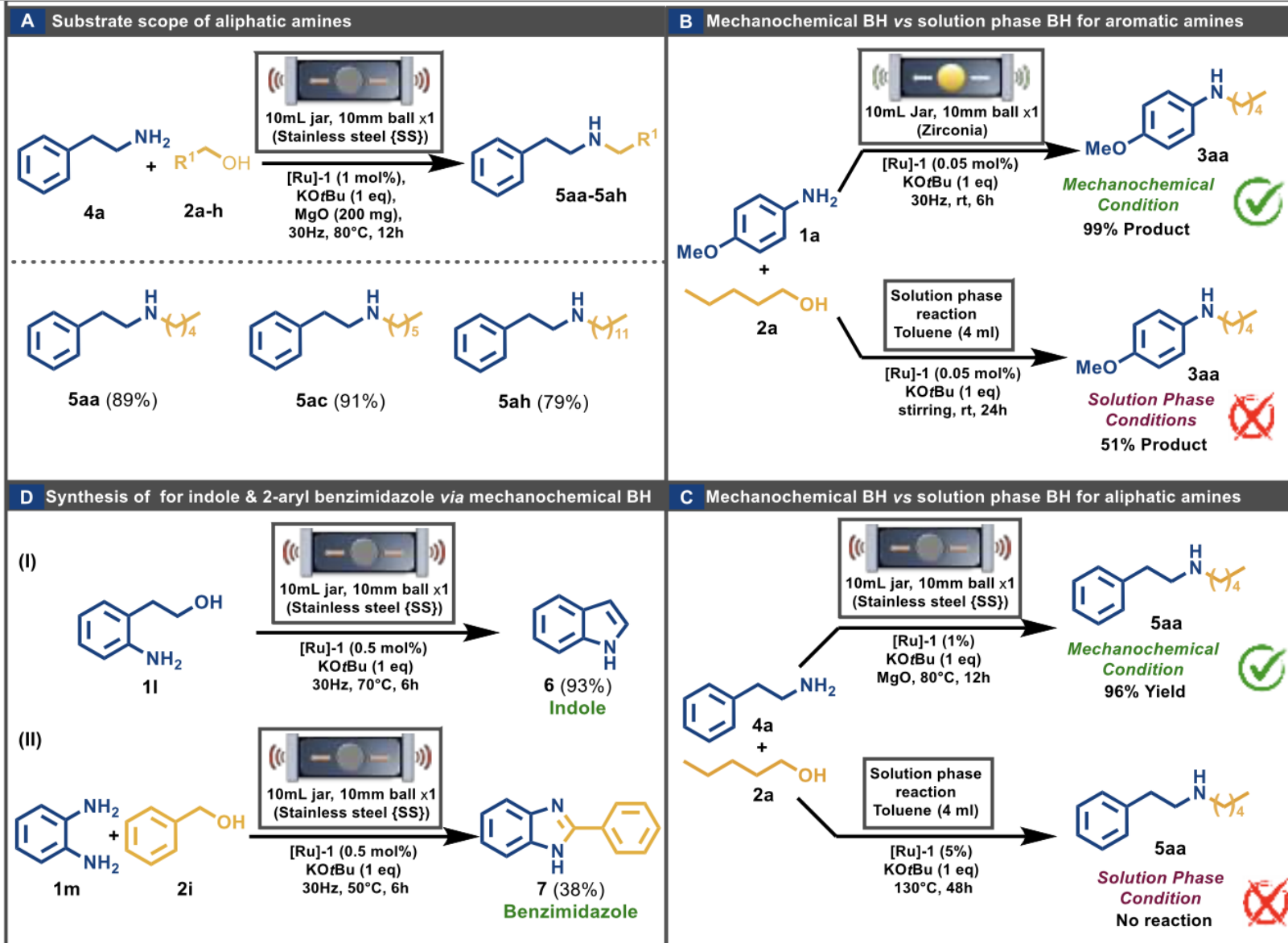
Research Article | [Open Access](#) |  

Mechanochemistry-Driven Borrowing Hydrogen Processes for Ru-Catalyzed *N*-Alkylation: A Pathway to Enhanced Sustainability and Efficiency

[Sourav Behera](#), [Dr. Dipak J. Fartade](#), [Dr. Rita Mocci](#) , [Michela Matta](#), [Prof. Lidia De Luca](#),
[Prof. Andrea Porcheddu](#) 



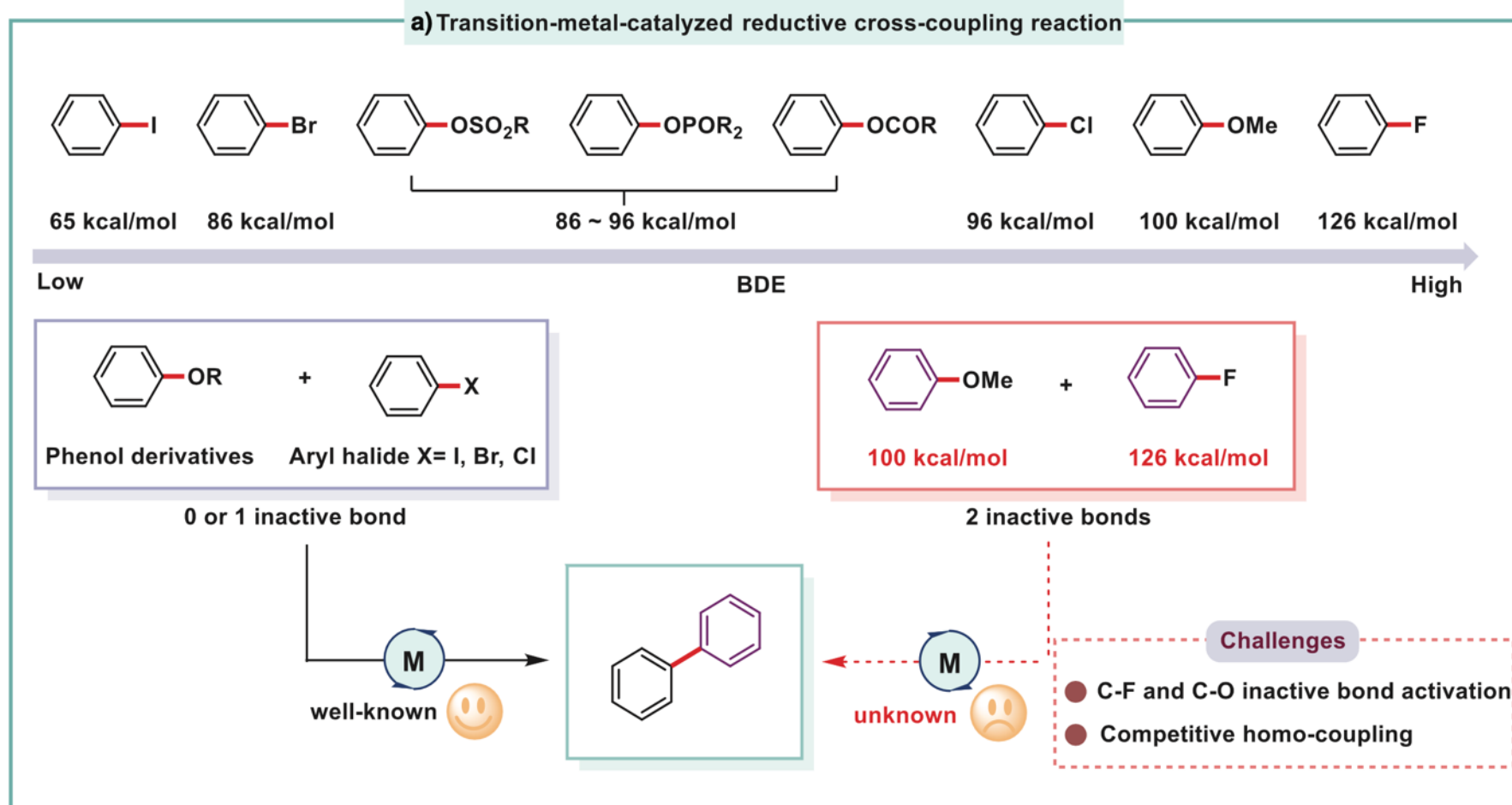
Amide Synthesis



How to cite: *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2025**, 64, e202424186
doi.org/10.1002/anie.202424186

Mechanochemistry**Mechanochemically Enabled Formal Reductive Cross-Coupling Reaction Between Aryl Ethers and Aryl Fluorides**

Tianfen Liu, Xuemei Zhang, Qingqing Wang, and Zhong Lian*



How to cite: *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2025**, 64, e202424186
doi.org/10.1002/anie.202424186

Mechanochemistry**Mechanochemically Enabled Formal Reductive Cross-Coupling Reaction Between Aryl Ethers and Aryl Fluorides**

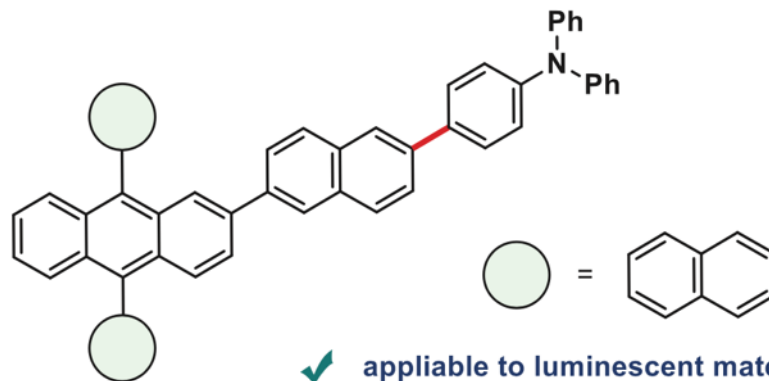
Tianfen Liu, Xuemei Zhang, Qingqing Wang, and Zhong Lian*

b) This work

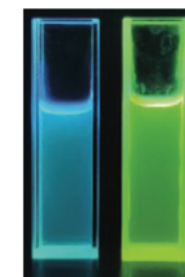
- ✓ fast and efficient
- ✓ room temperature
- ✓ easy to scale-up
- ✓ operationally-simple
- ✓ good to excellent yields
- ✓ short reaction time
- ✓ minimal-solvent conditions



- ✓ polymer degradation

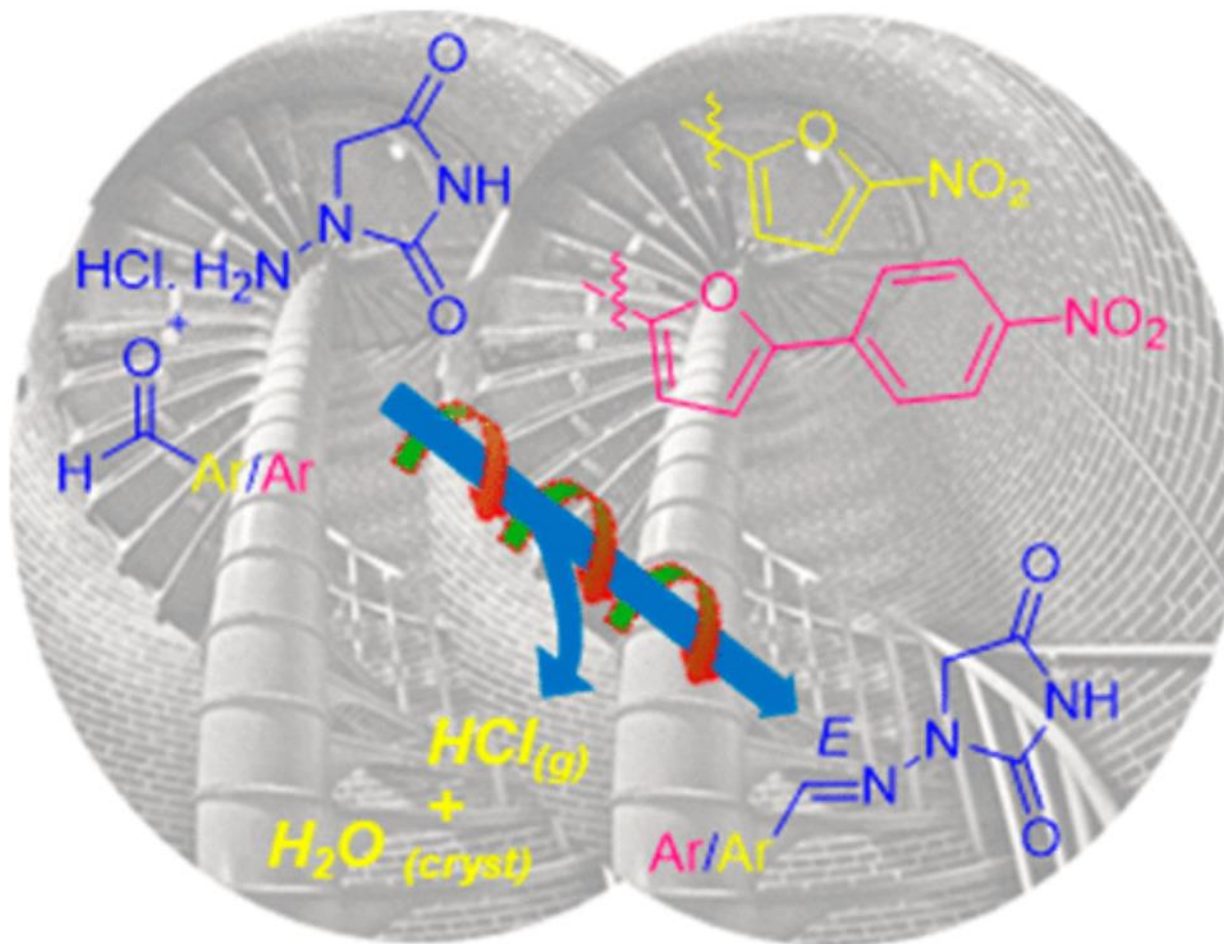


- ✓ applicable to luminescent materials



Mechanochemistry

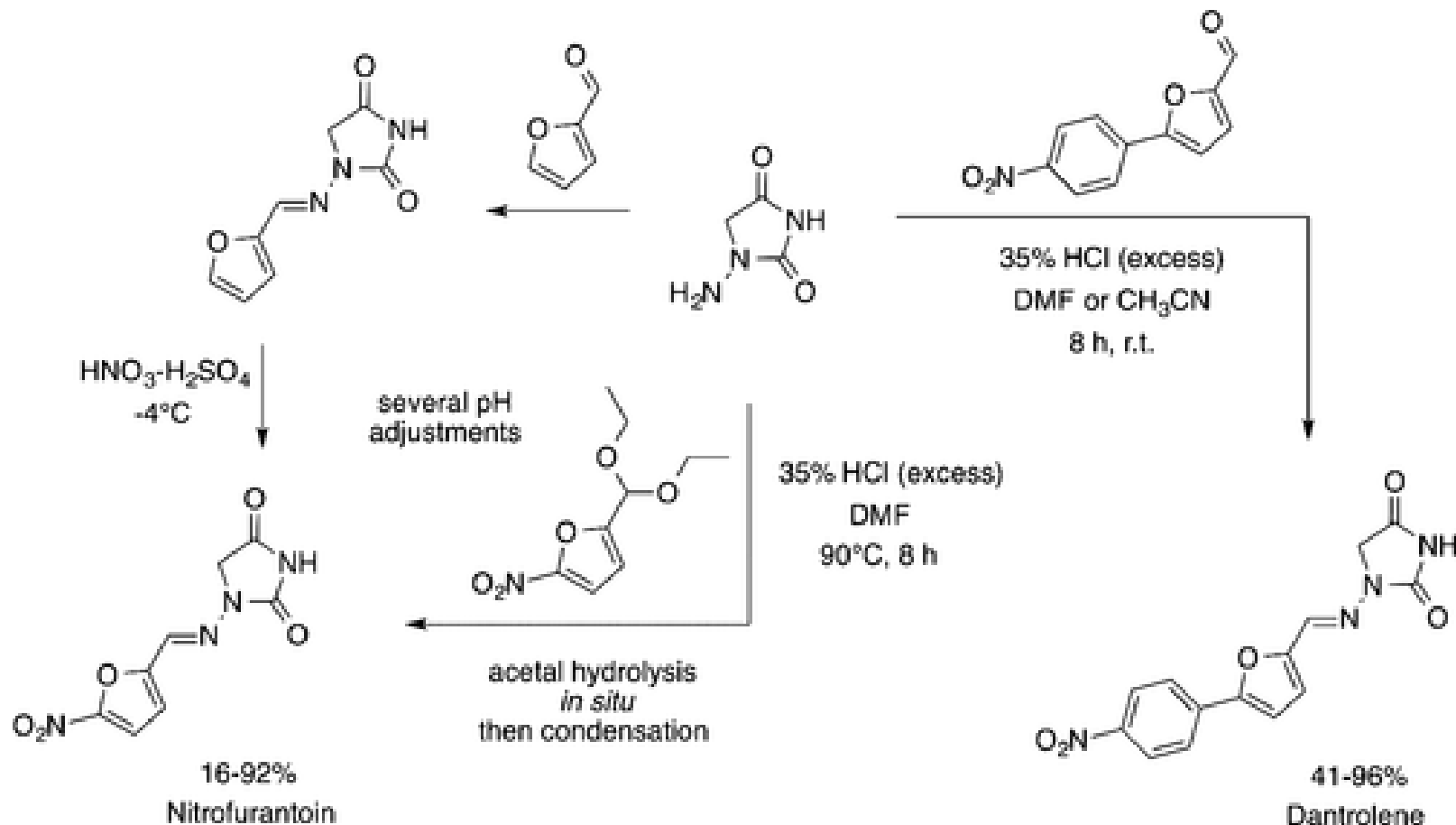
Mechanochemistry API Synthesis via TSE



Continuous Manufacturing of APIs

Mechanochemistry

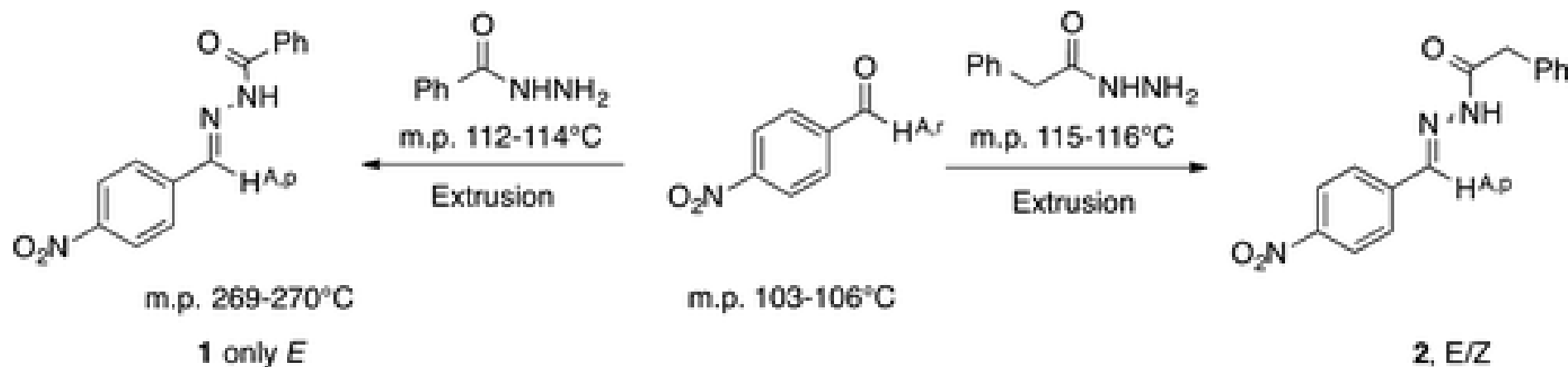
Hydrazone-Based API Synthesis via TSE



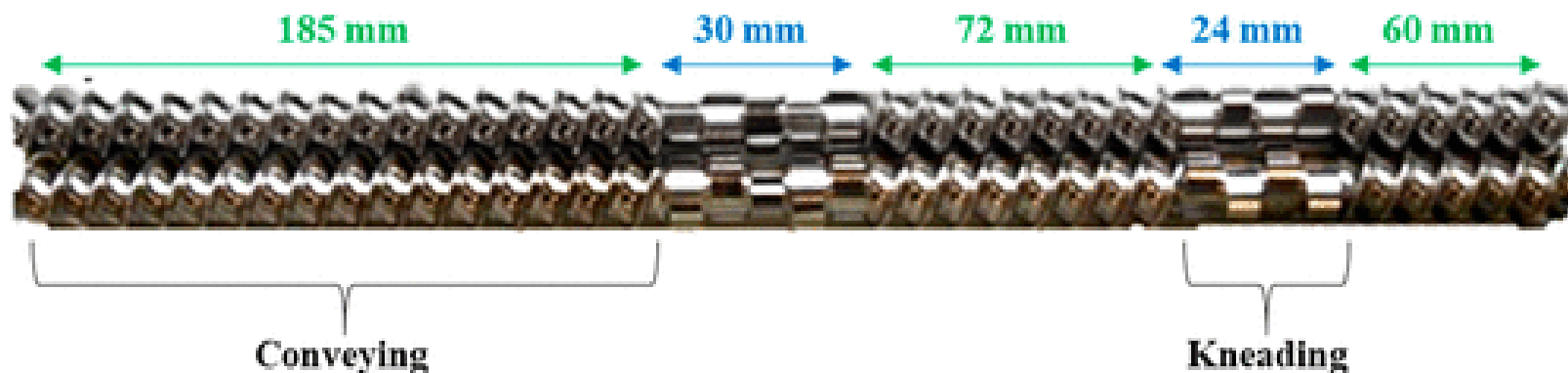
Conventional Industrial Production

Mechanochemistry

Hydrazone-Based API Synthesis via TSE

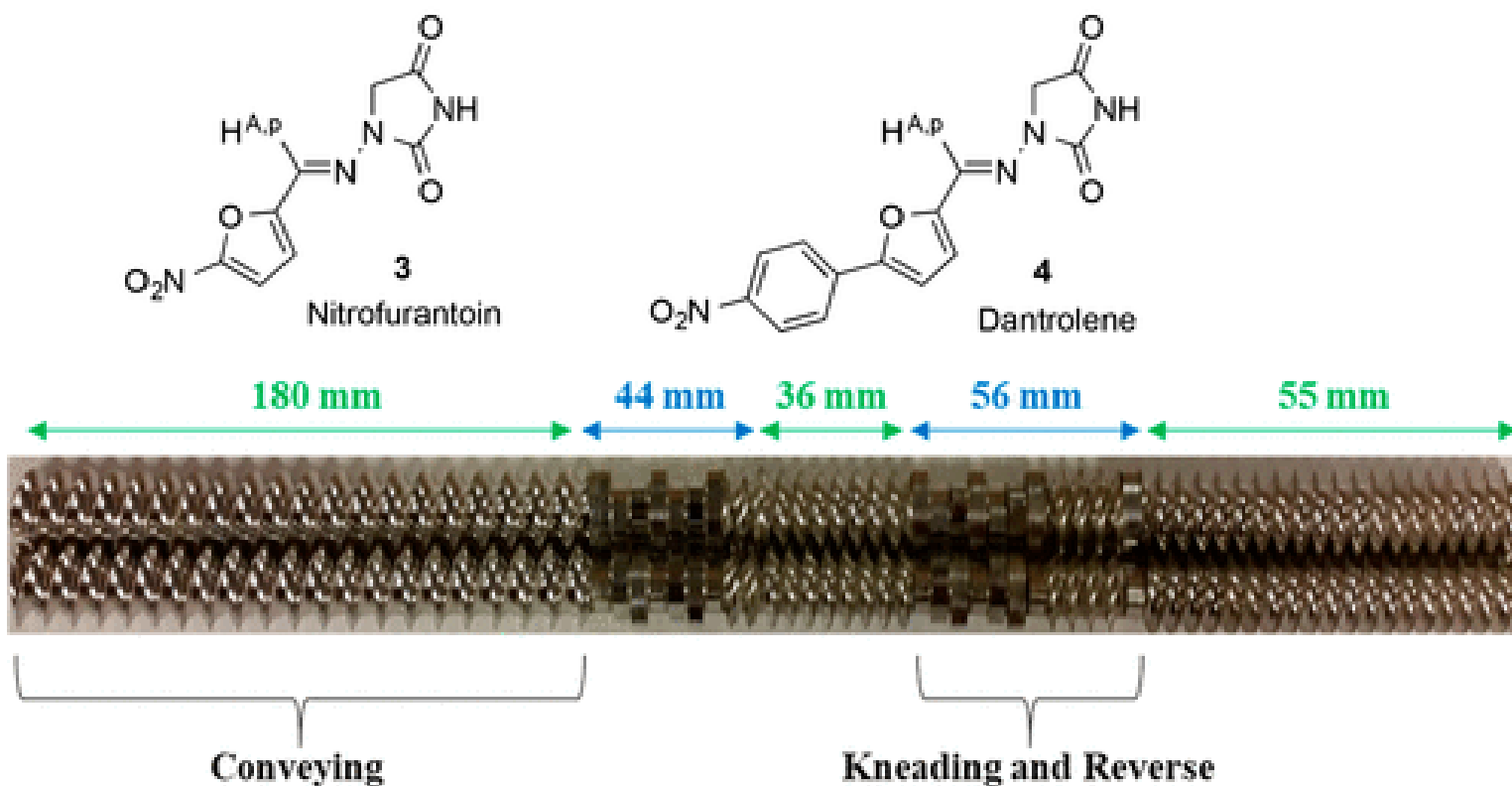
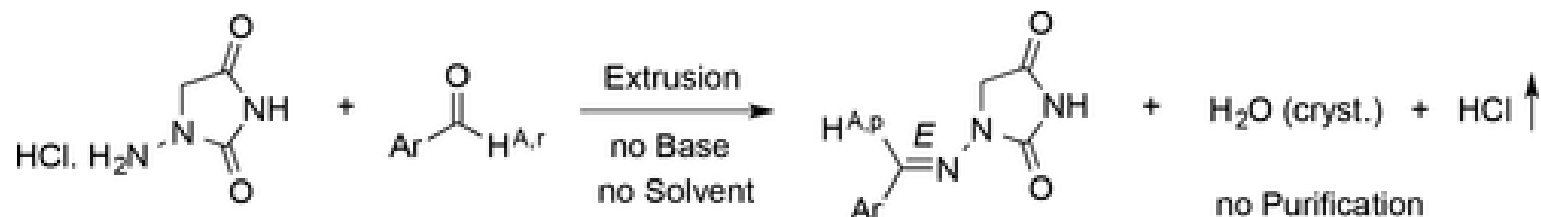


Model Reactions



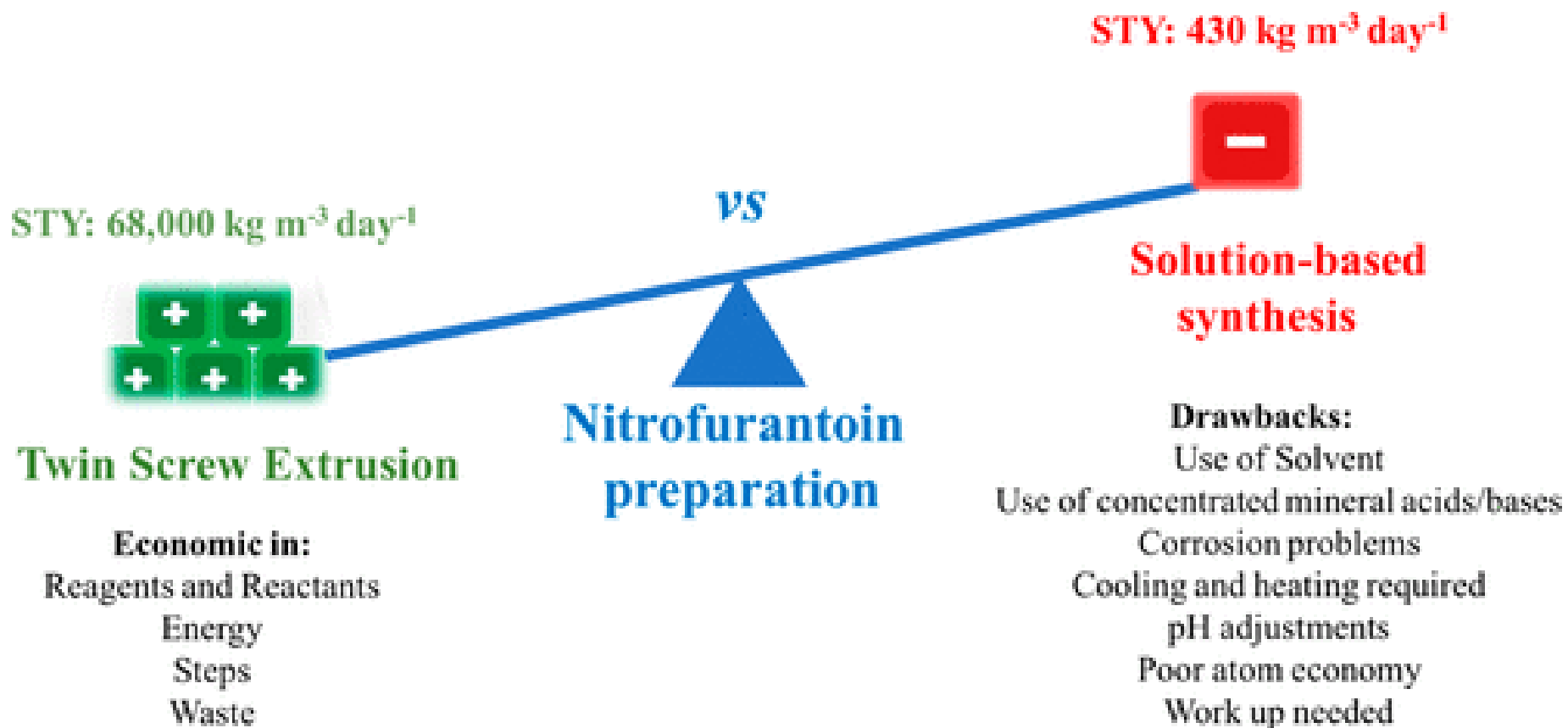
Mechanochemistry

Hydrazone-Based API Synthesis via TSE



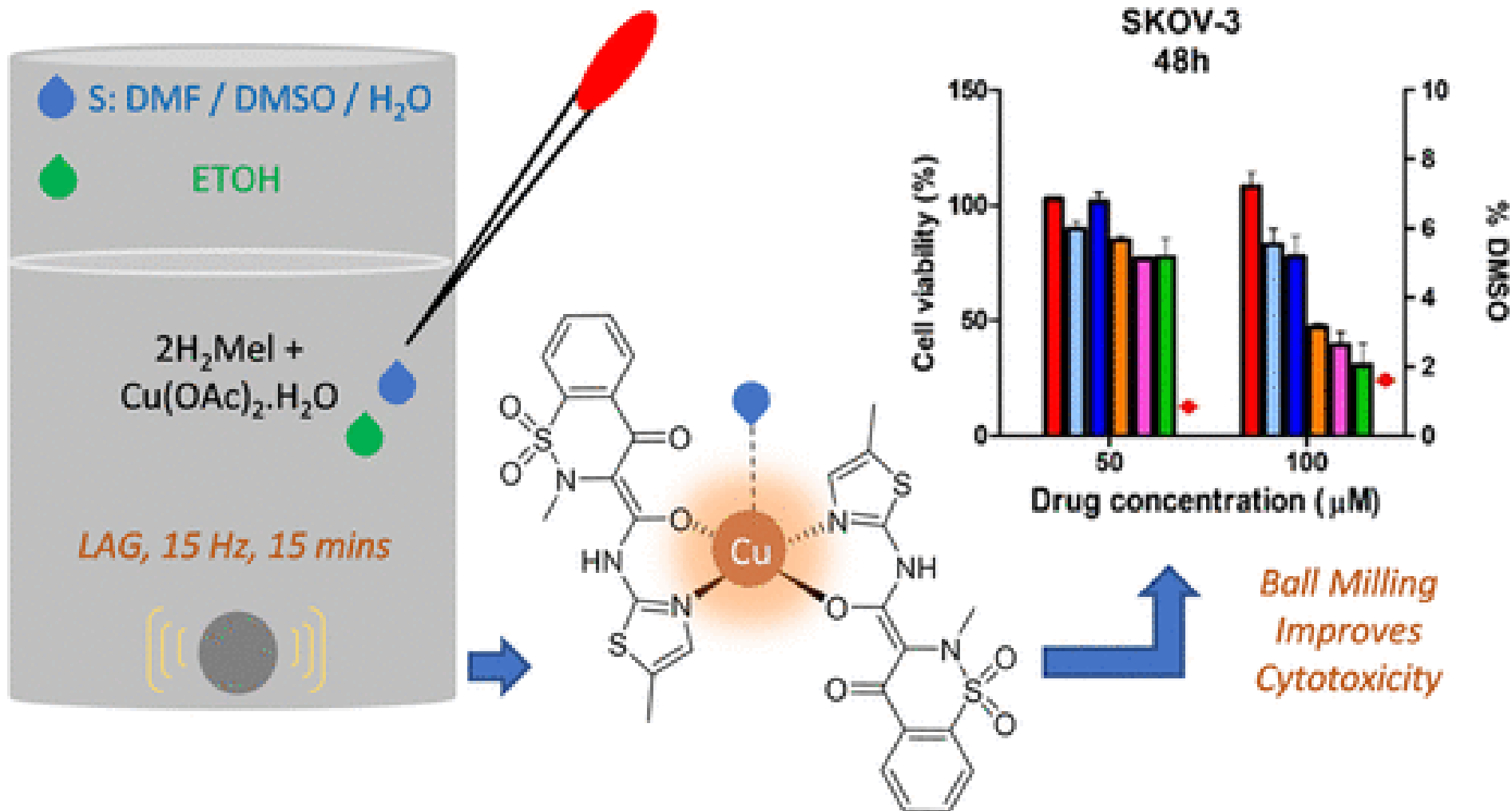
Mechanochemistry

Hydrazone-Based API Synthesis via TSE



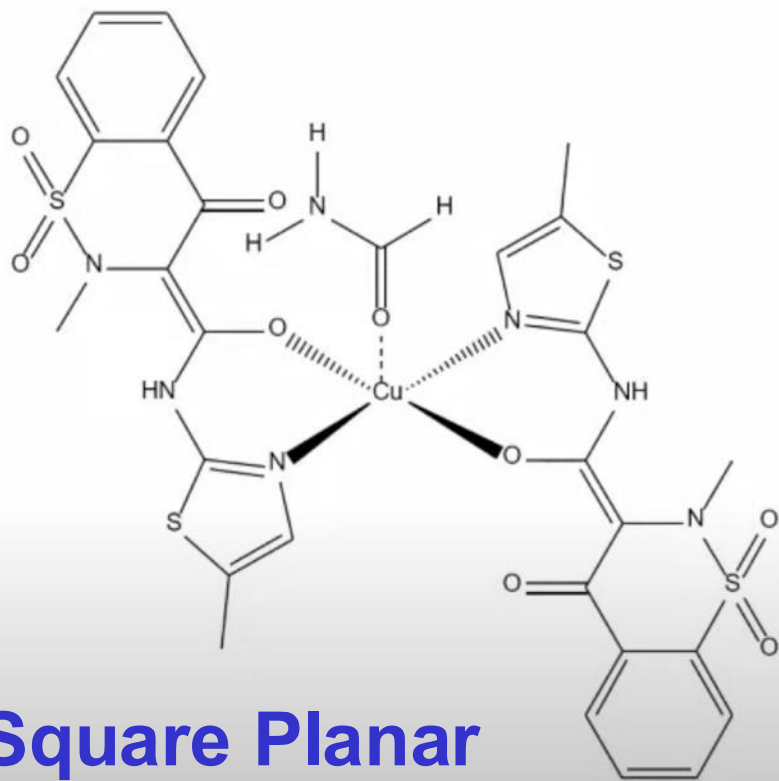
Mechanochemistry

Cytotoxicity of Mechanochemically Prepared Cu(II) Complexes

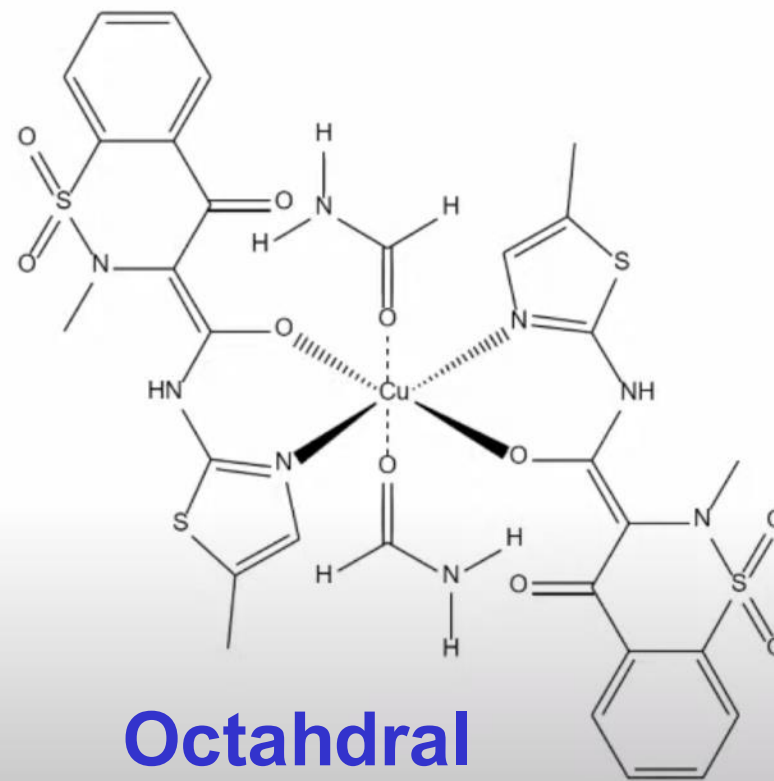


Mechanochemistry

Cytotoxicity of Mechanochemically Prepared Cu(II) Complexes



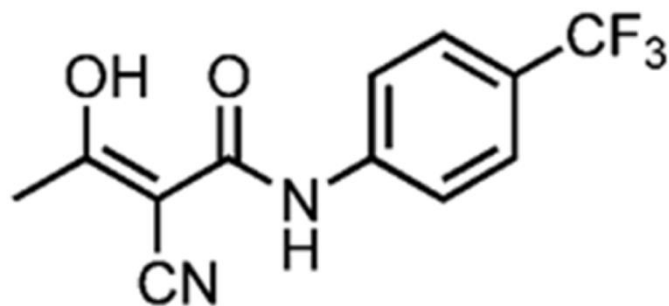
Conventional Synthesis



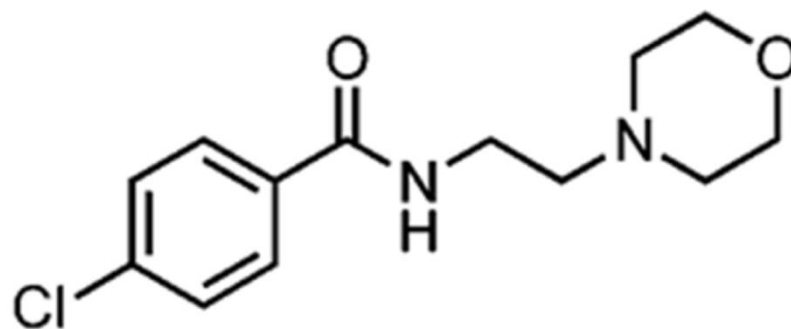
Ball Mill Synthesis

Mechanochemistry

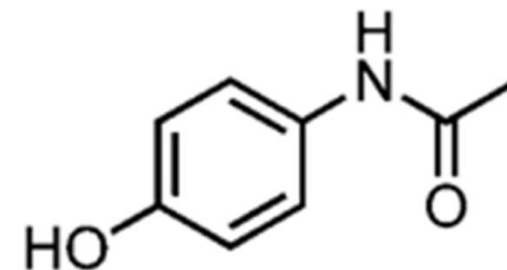
API via TSE



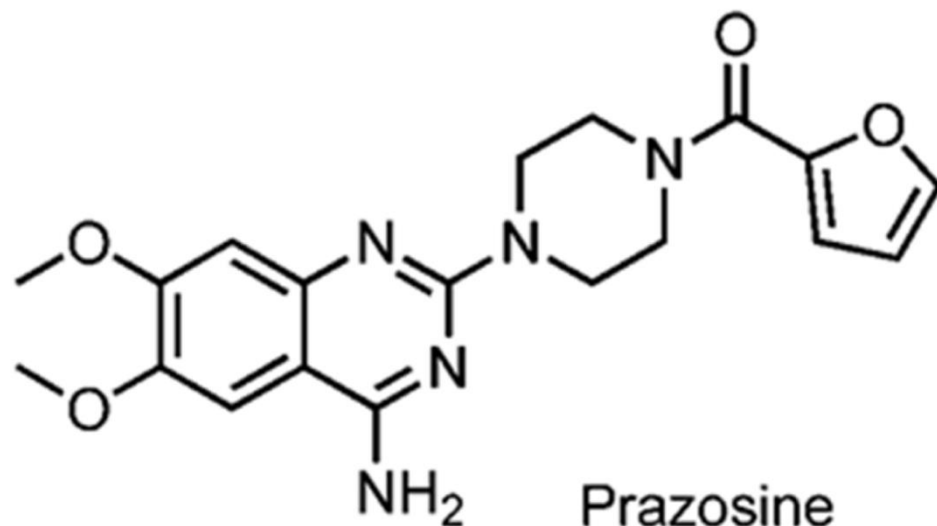
Teriflunomide



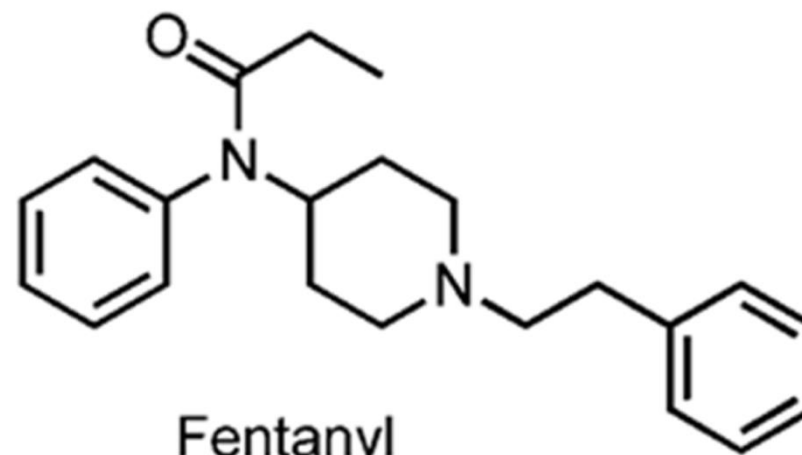
Moclobemide



Paracetamol

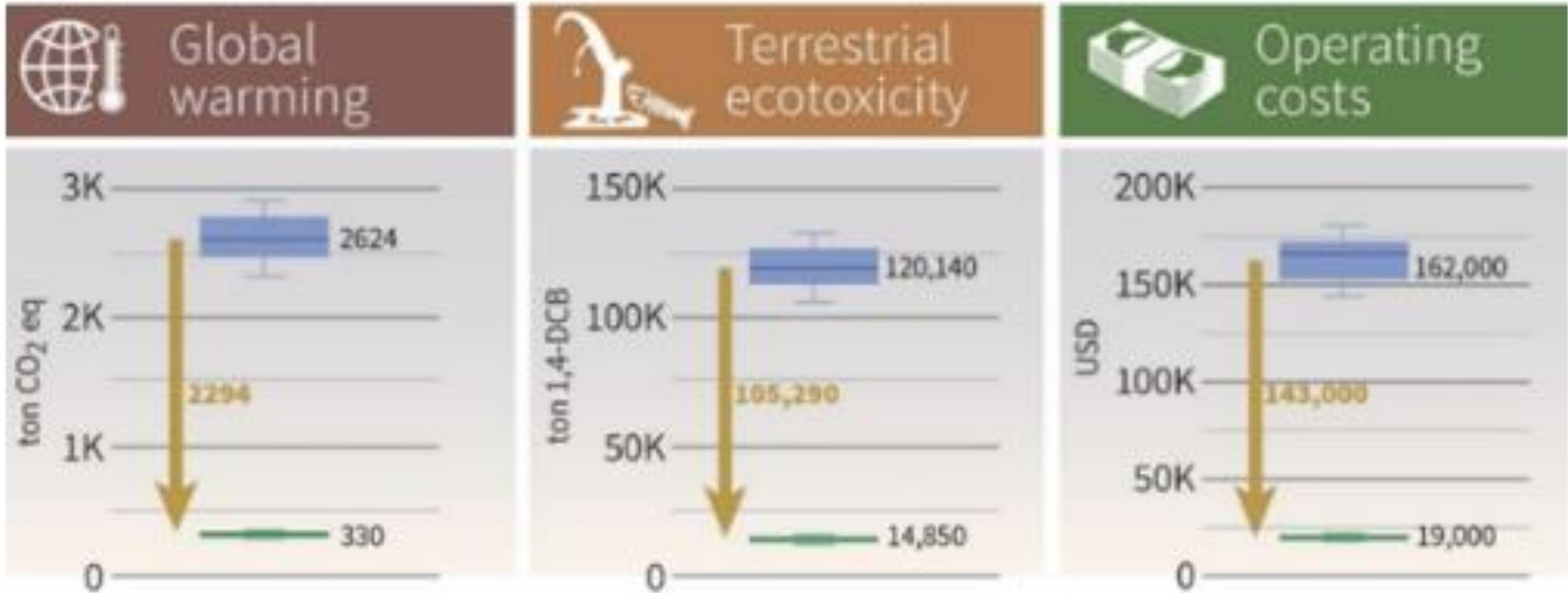


Prazosine

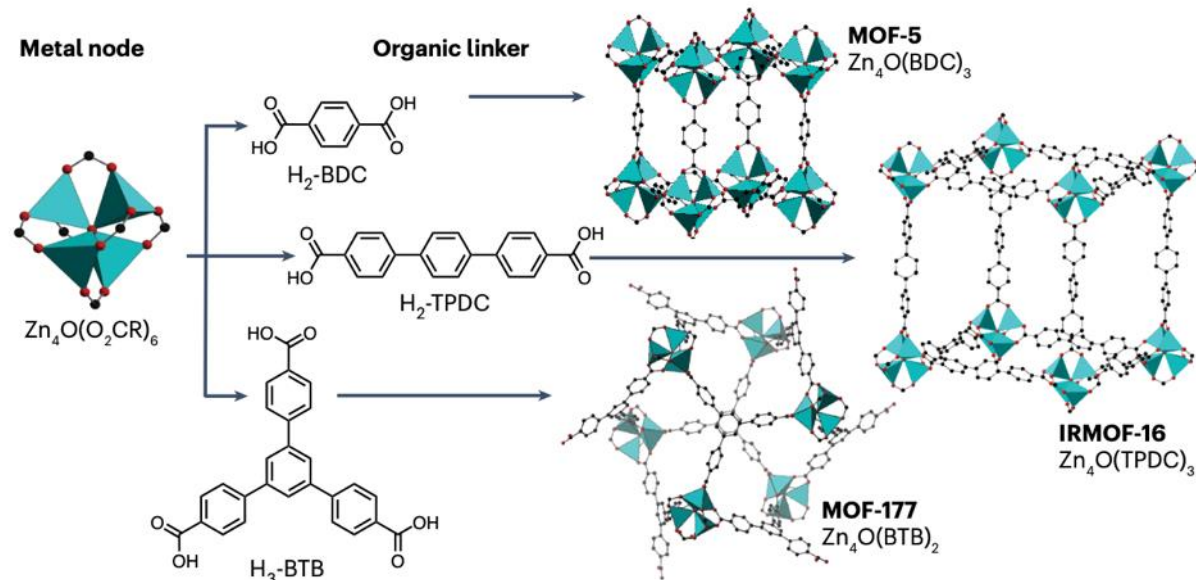


Fentanyl

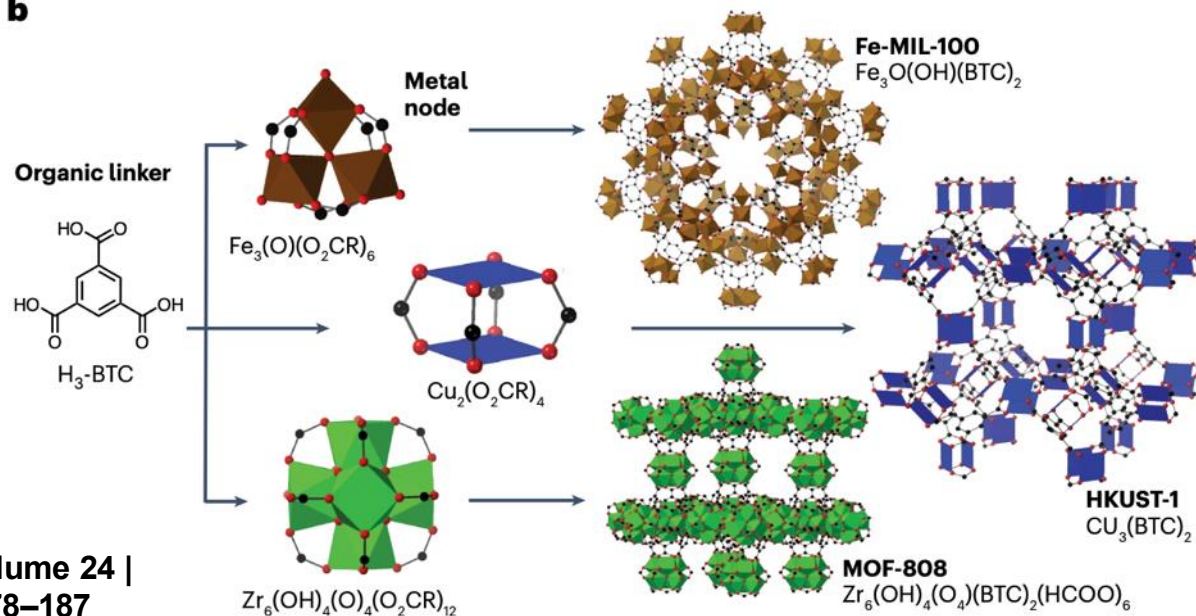
Mechanochemistry



PCP/MOF in the world

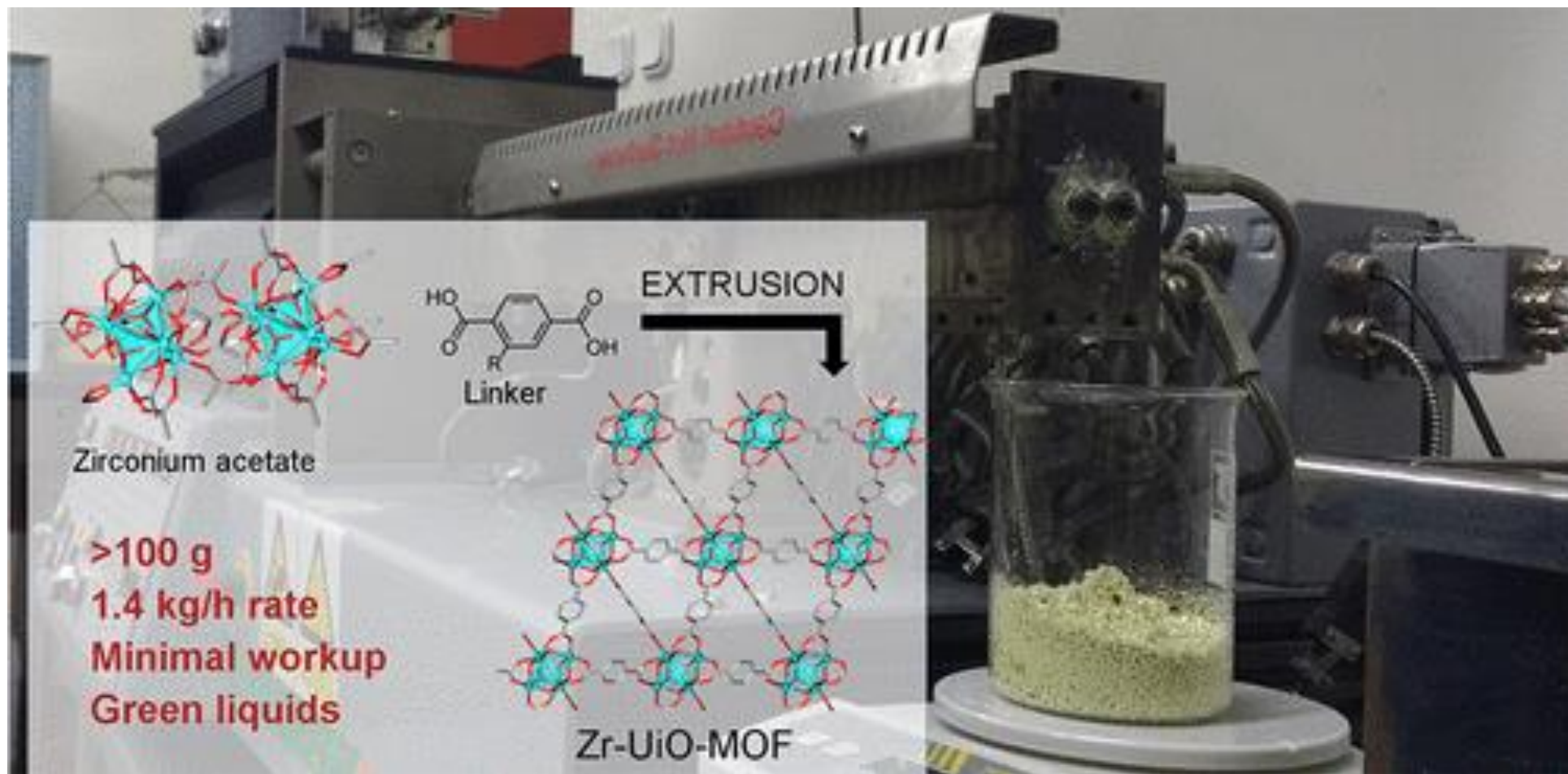


b



Mechanochemistry

MOF: Water Assisted



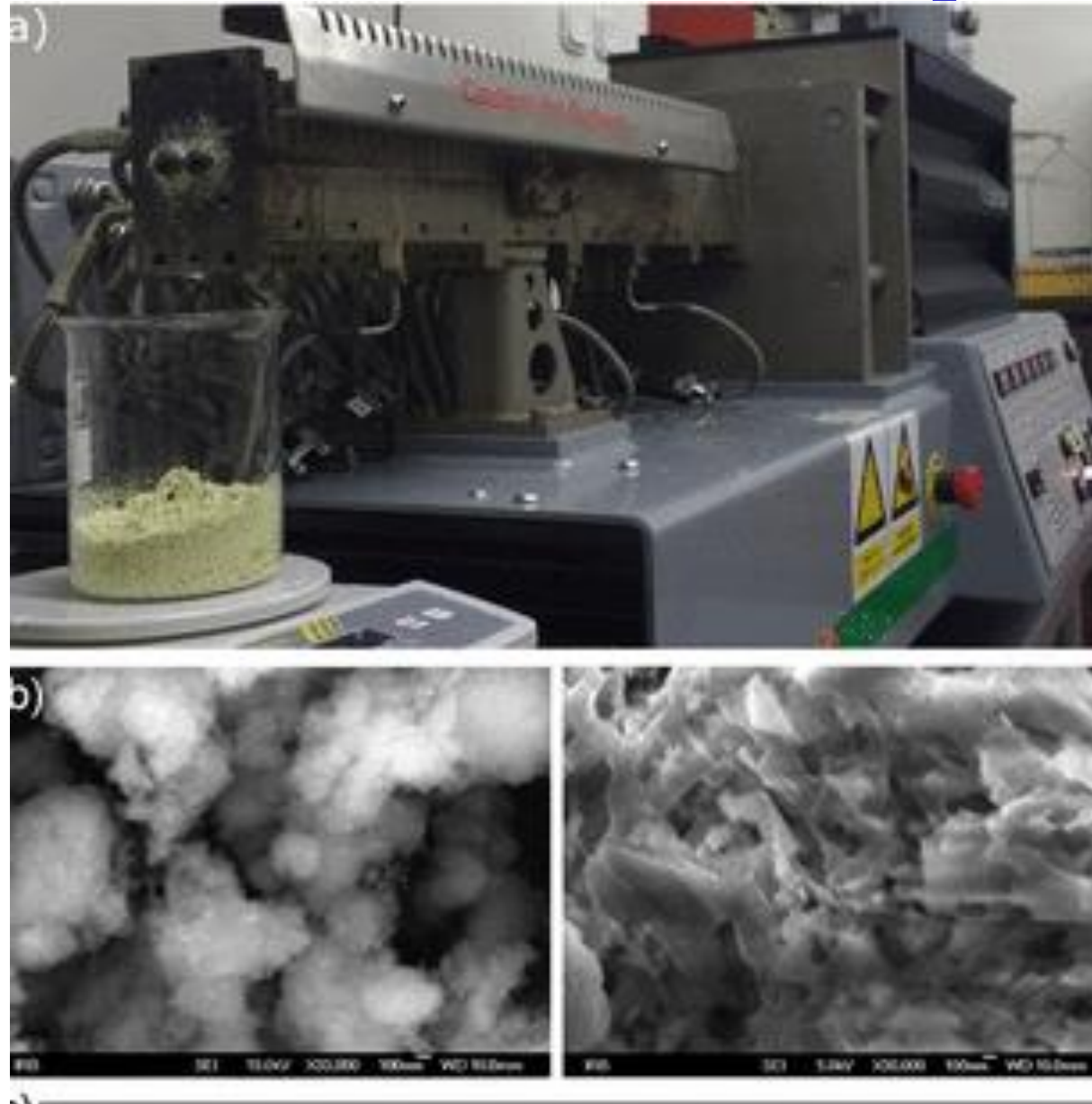
Mechanochemistry

MOF Production via TSE



Chem. Sci., 2015,6, 1645-1649

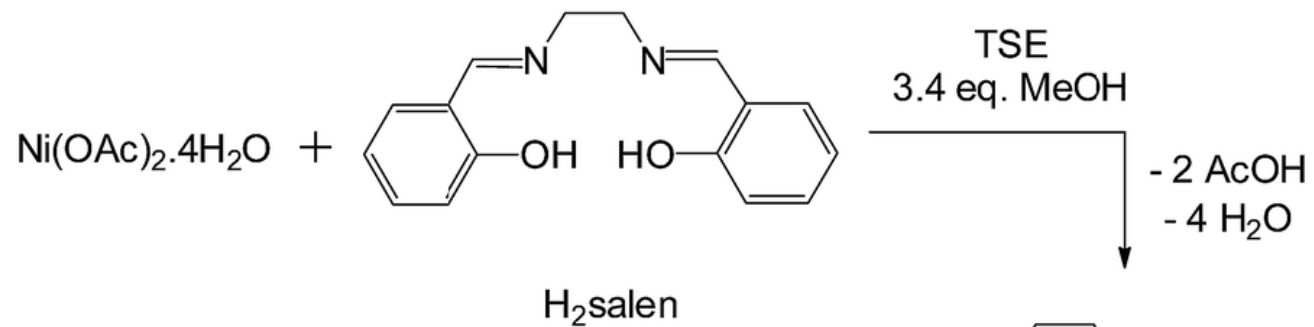
Mechanochemistry



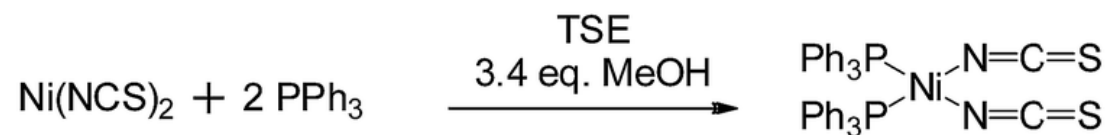
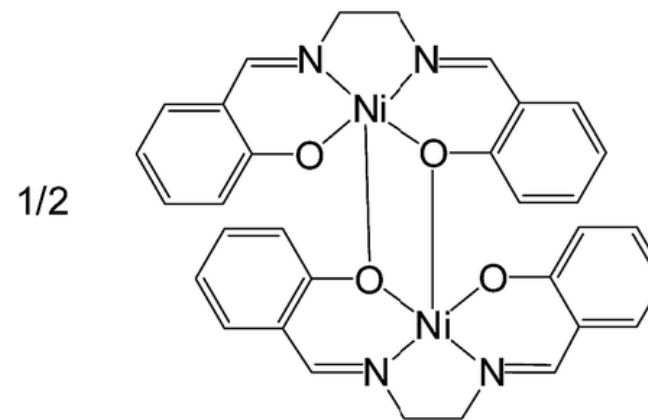
ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. 2018, 6, 11, 15841–15849

Mechanochemistry

MOF Production via TSE



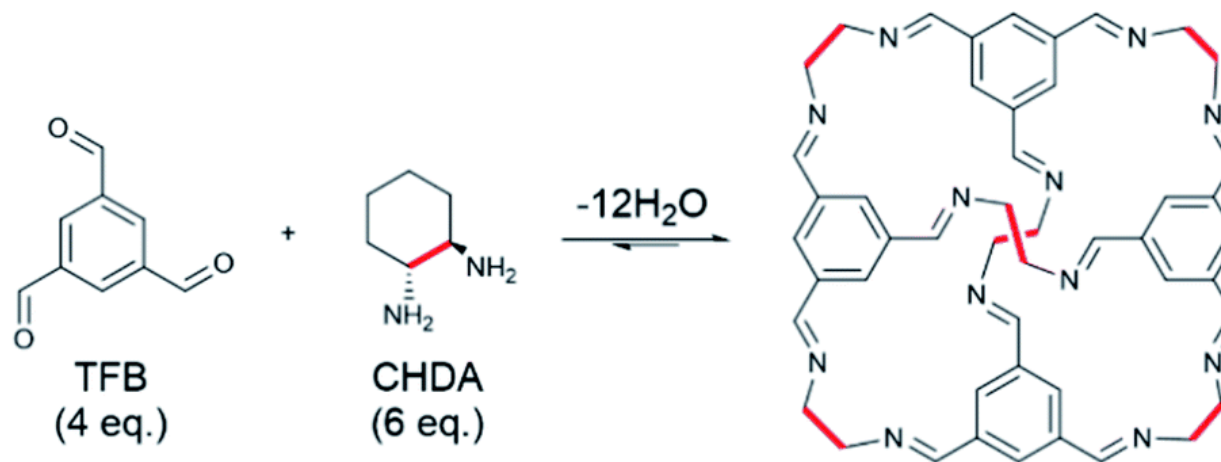
Model Reaction



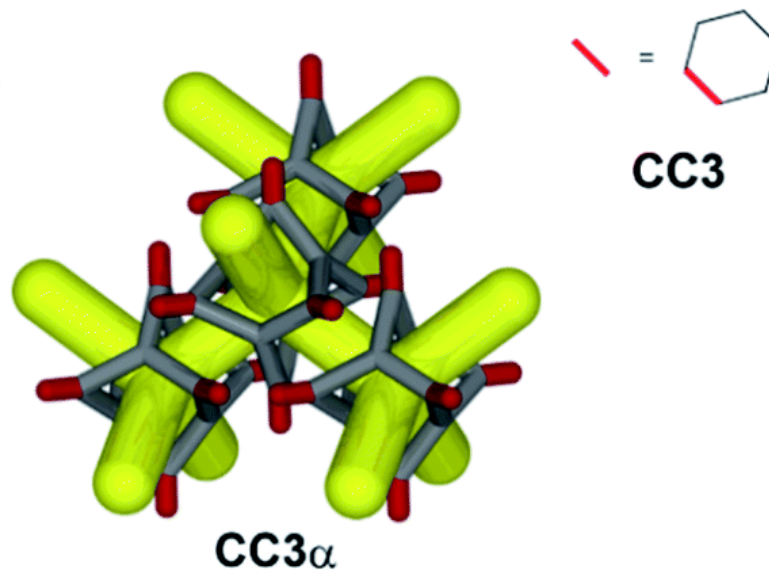
Mechanochemistry

Porous Organic Cage via TSE

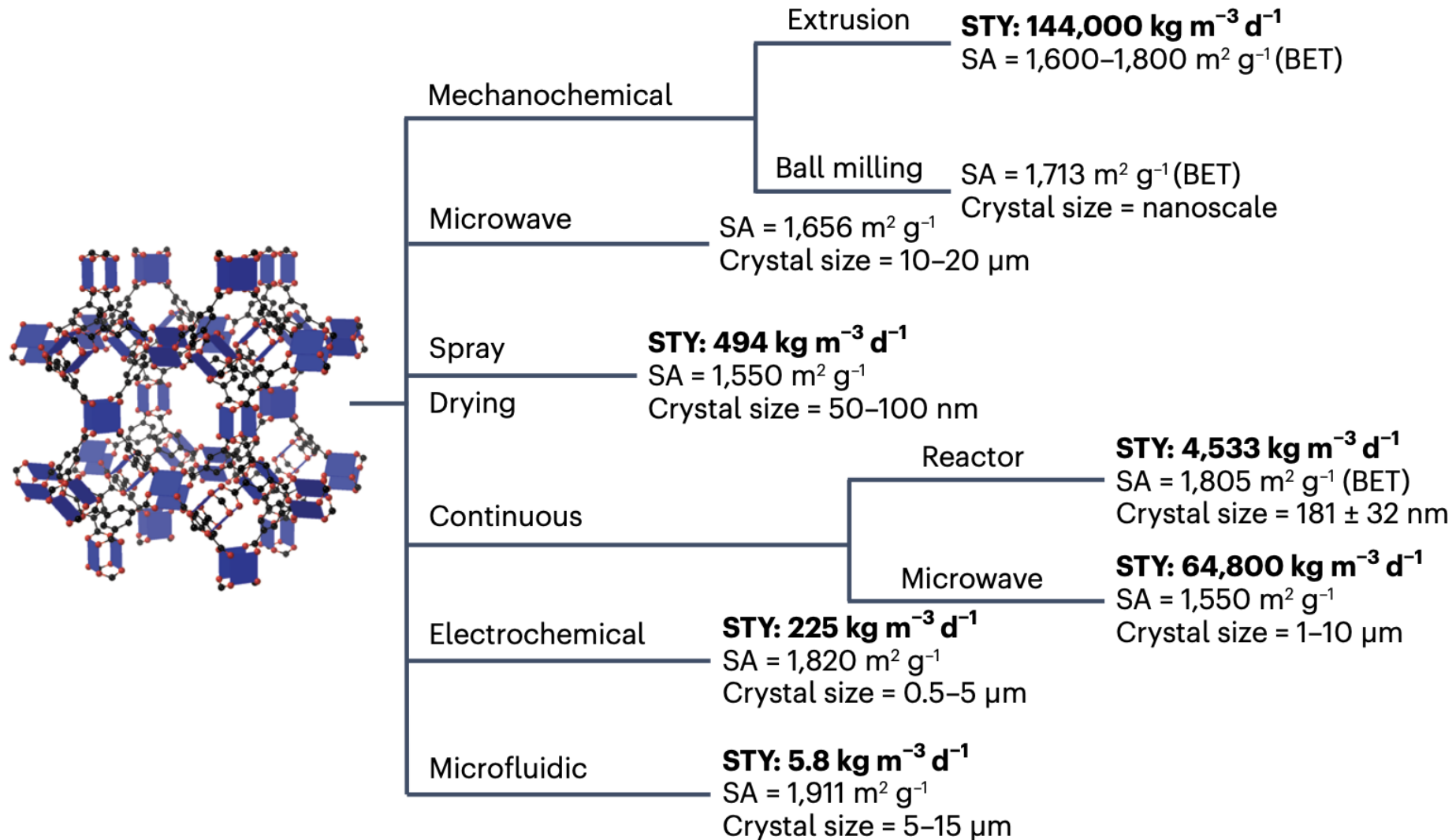
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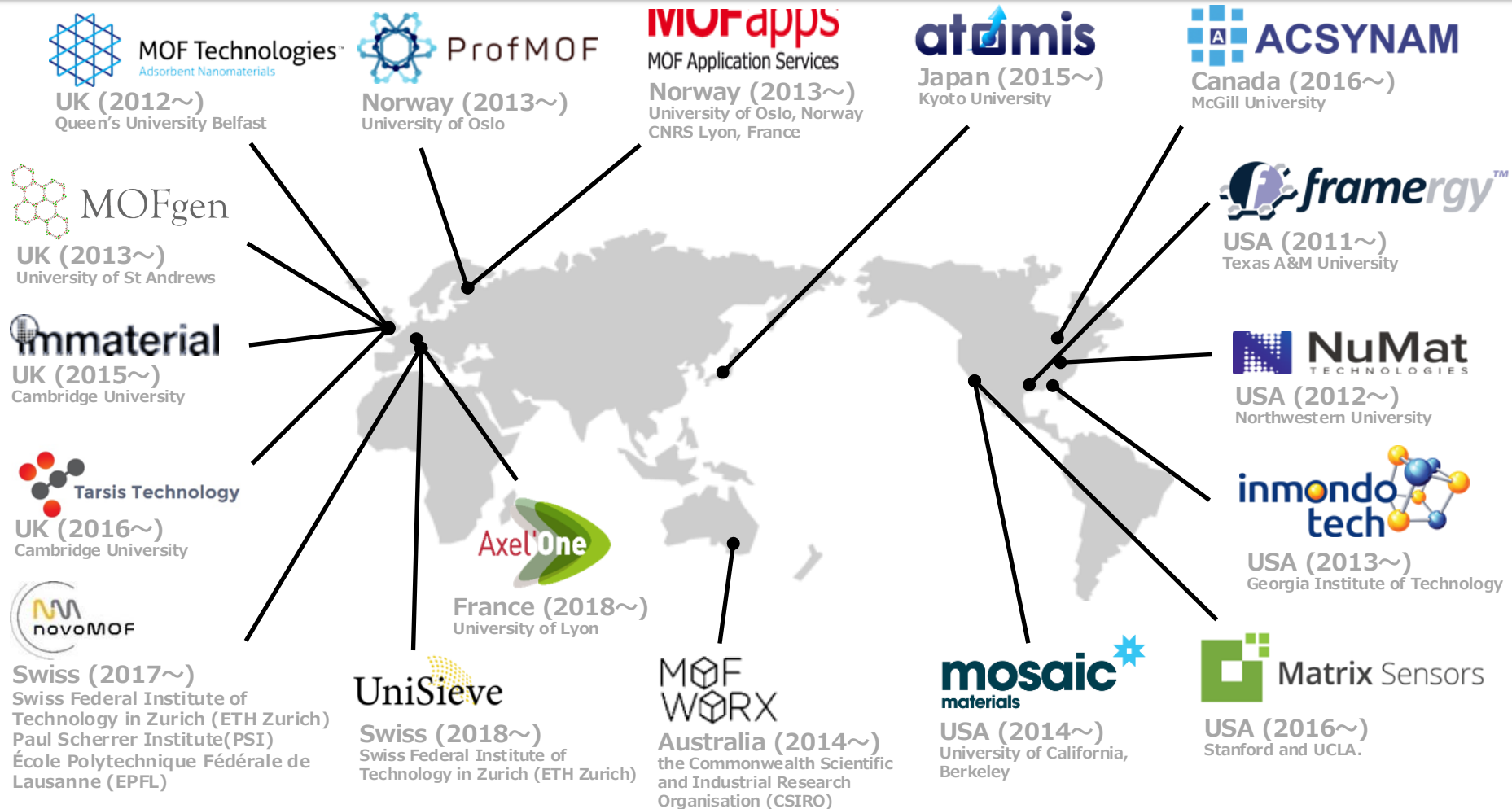
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PCP/MOF in the world

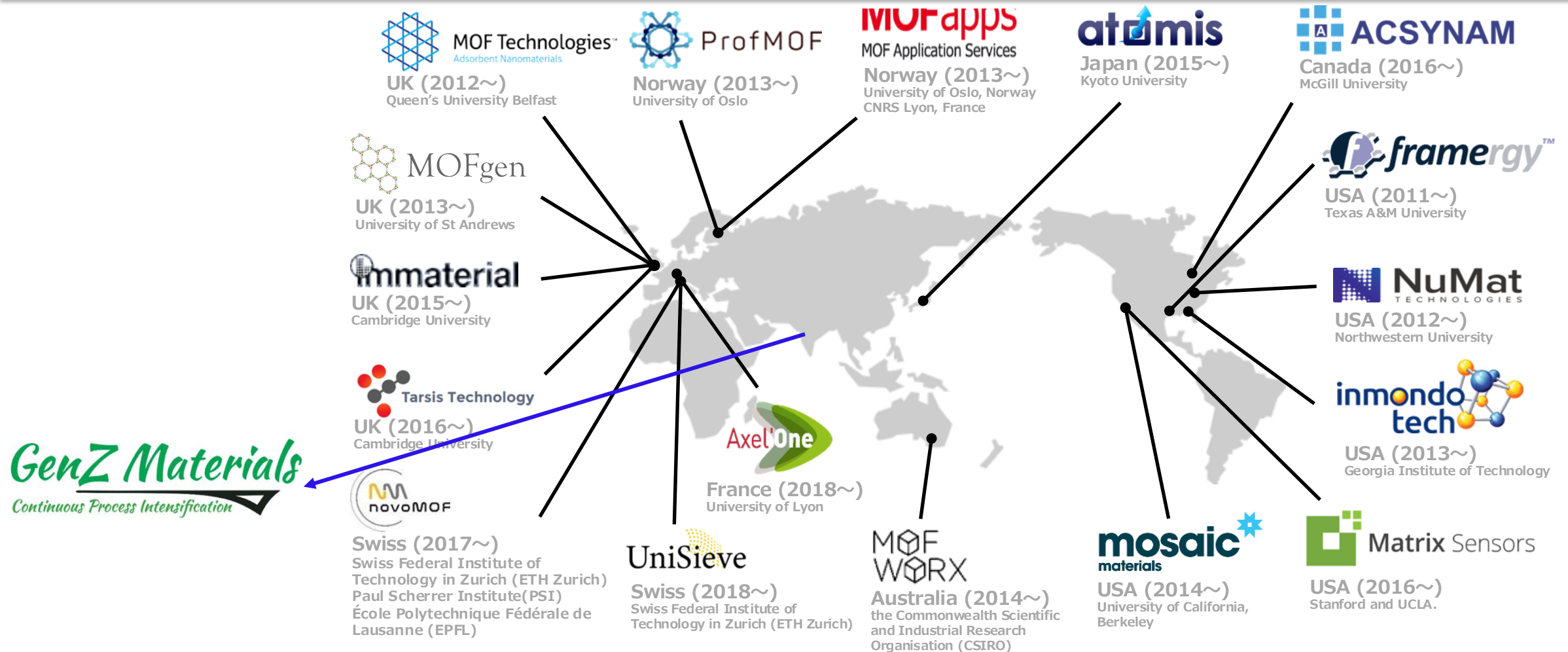


Venture Companies for PCP/MOF in the world



- 17 start-ups (US:5, UK:4, JPN:1, AUS:1, CAN:1, FRA:1)
- Commercialization by NuMat TECH. and MOF Tech.
NuMat TECHNOLOGIES: Safty cylinder for specific gases in Semicondutor(ION-X)
MOF Technologies: Materials for keeping fruits and vegetables fresh (TrPick™)

Venture Companies for PCP/MOF in the world



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- Commercialization by NuMat TECH. and MOF Tech.
NuMat TECHNOLOGIES: Safty cylinder for specific gases in Semicondutor(ION-X)
MOF Technologies: Materials for keeping fruits and vegetables fresh (TrPick[™])

Mechanochemistry

Mechanochemists want to shake up industrial chemistry

Using mechanical force to drive reactions offers greener routes to molecules, but chemists need to demonstrate that mechanochemistry can work on industrial scales

by **Fernando Gomollón-Bel**, special to C&EN

August 11, 2022 | A version of this story appeared in **Volume 100, Issue 28**



Credit: MOF Technologies

Researchers at MOF Technologies work with extruders to use mechanochemistry to develop new materials.

MOST POPULAR IN SYNTHESIS

Mechanochemical reaction oxidizes C-H bonds in polymers

Five-membered aryne thought to be impossible synthesized in nickel complex

The elements of a green catalyst

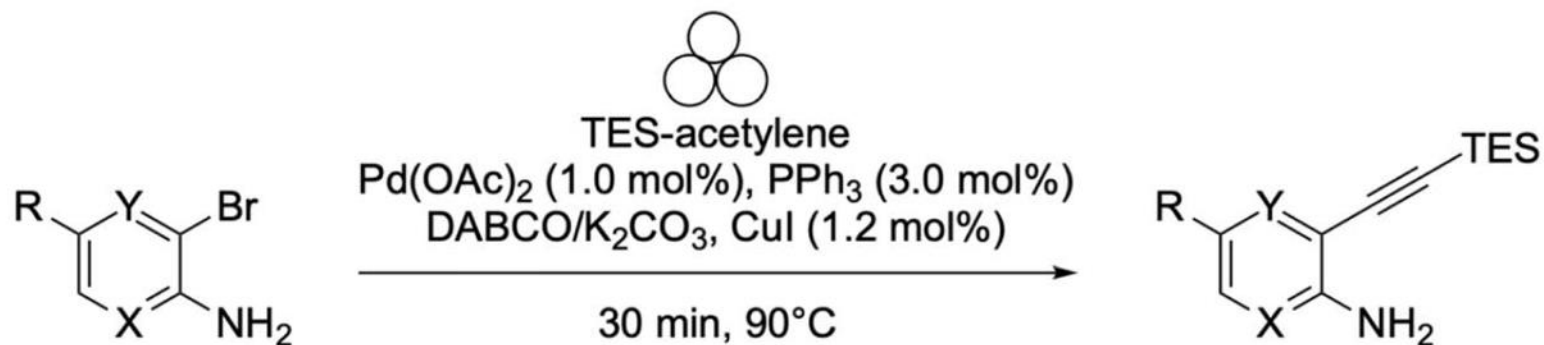
Chemistry in Pictures: Fluorescent filtration

COX-2 radiotracer could pinpoint very early stages of neurodegenerative diseases

MOF Technologies, based in Belfast, Northern Ireland
15kg/hr MOF

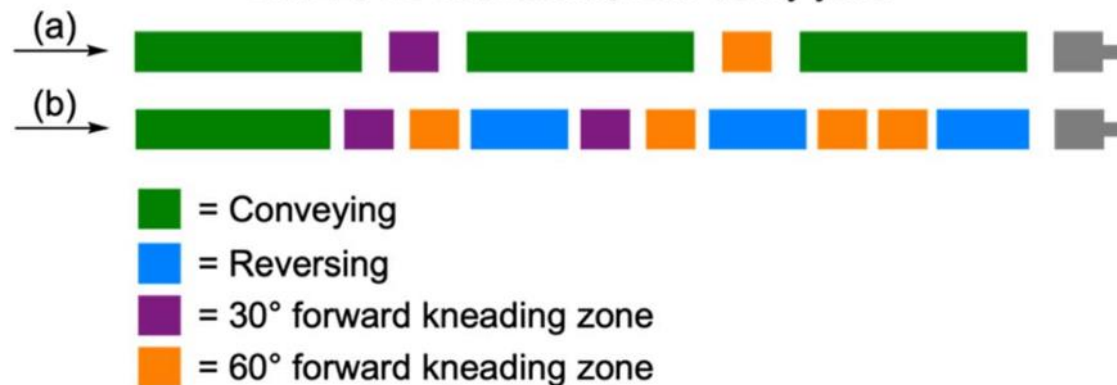
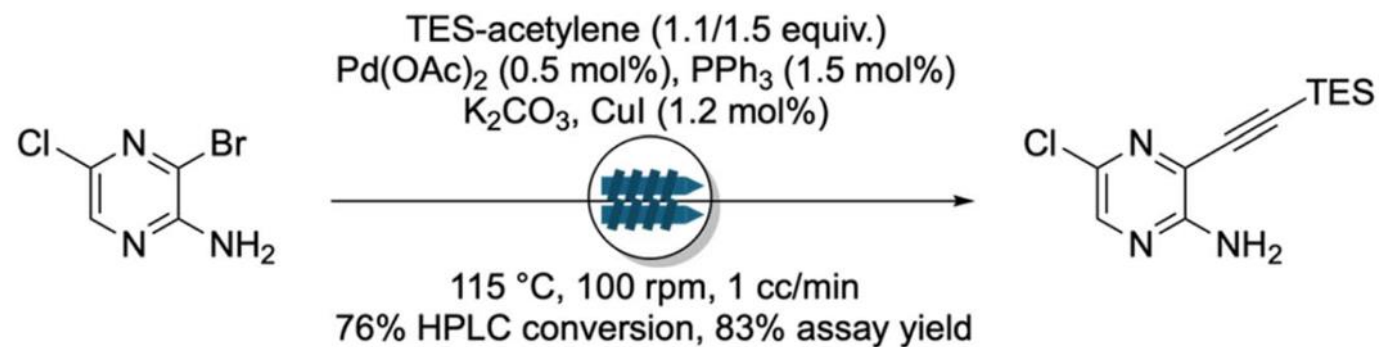
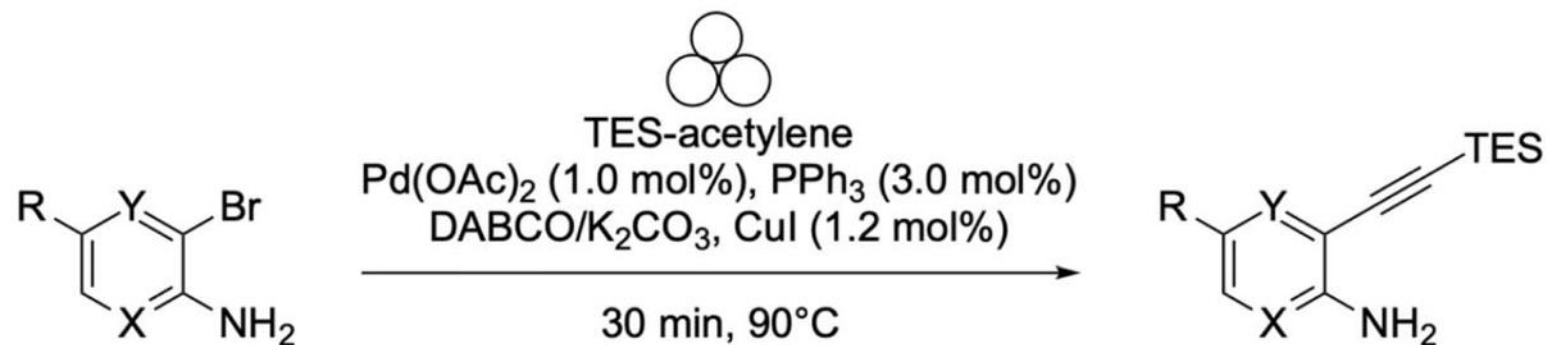
Mechanochemistry

Transition metal-catalysed reactions



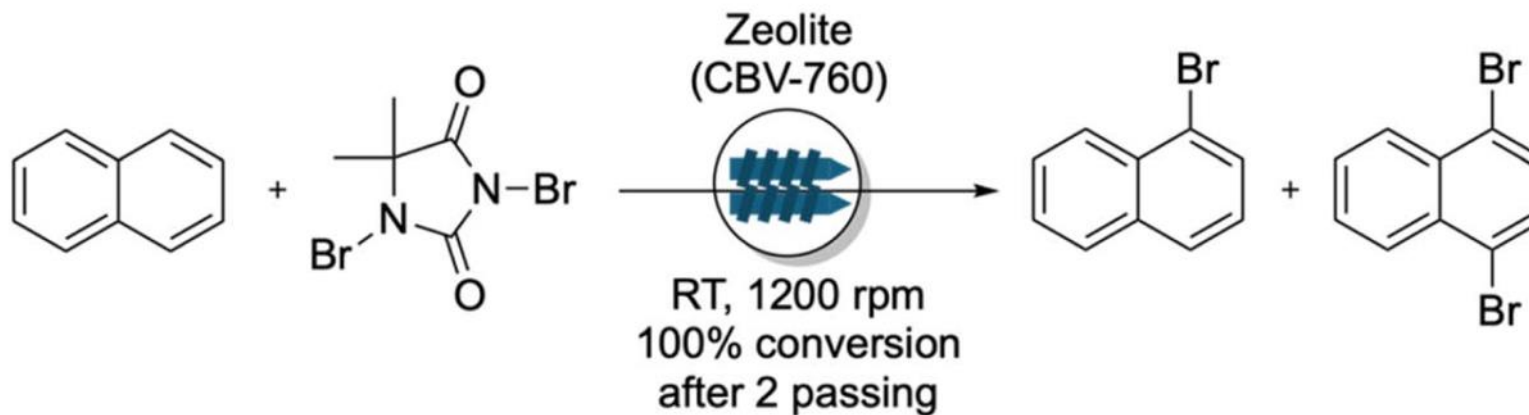
Mechanochemistry

Transition metal-catalysed reactions



Mechanochemistry

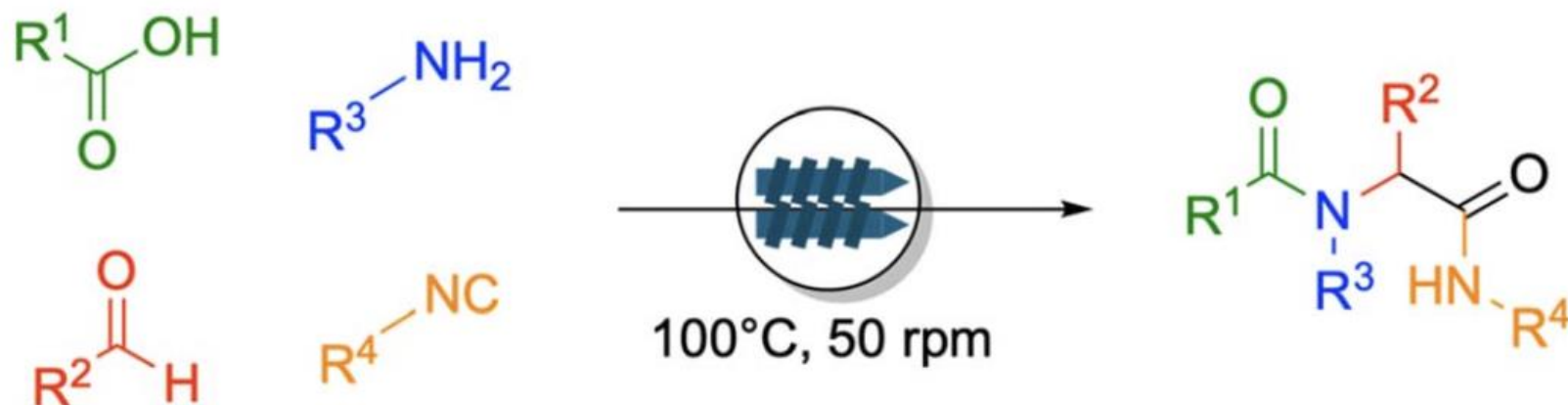
Bromination



-  = Conveying
-  = Reversing
-  = 30° forward kneading zone
-  = 60° forward kneading zone
-  = 90° forward kneading zone

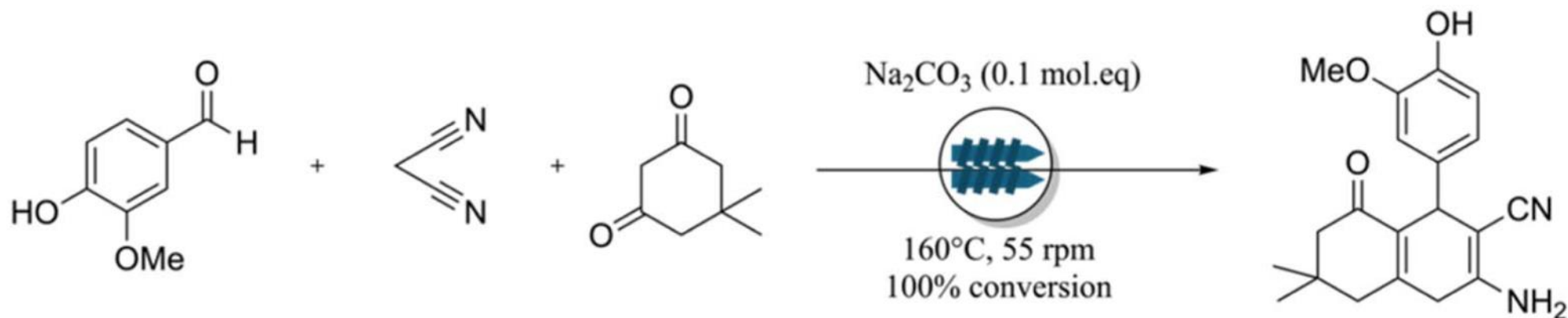
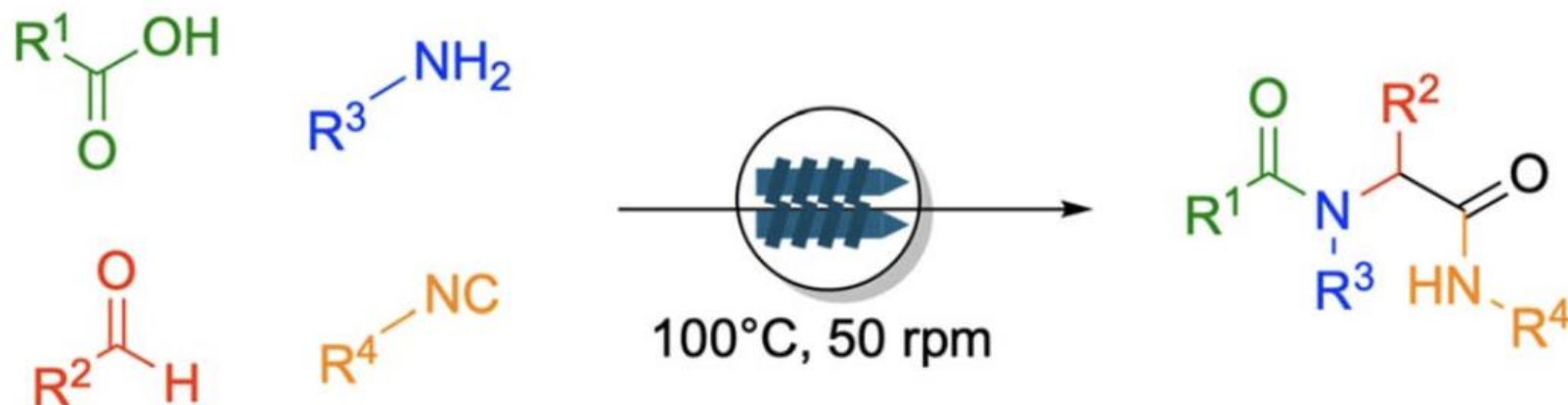
Mechanochemistry

Multicomponent reaction (MCRs)



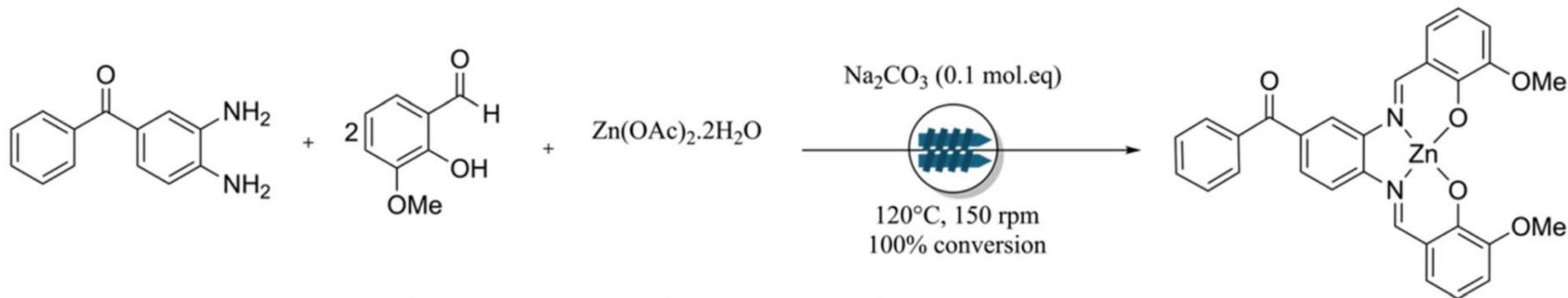
Mechanochemistry

Multicomponent reaction (MCRs)



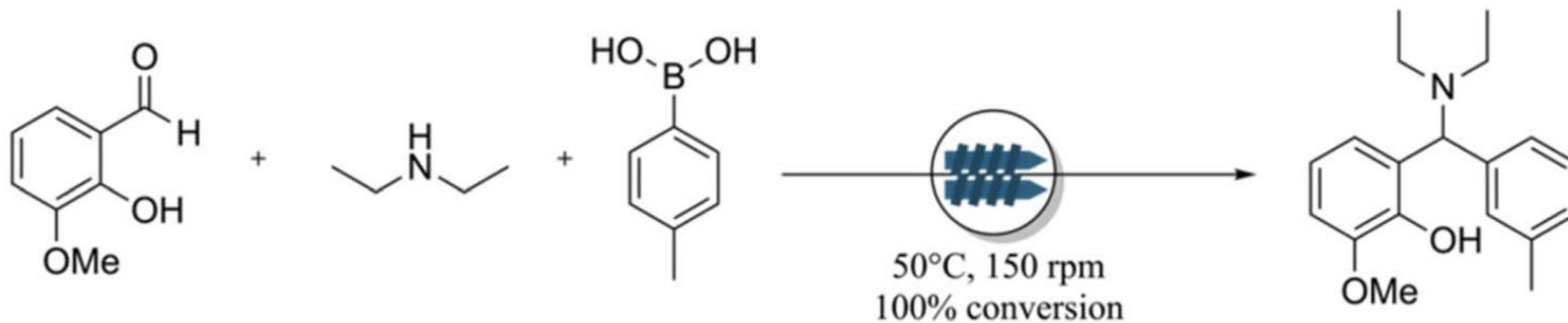
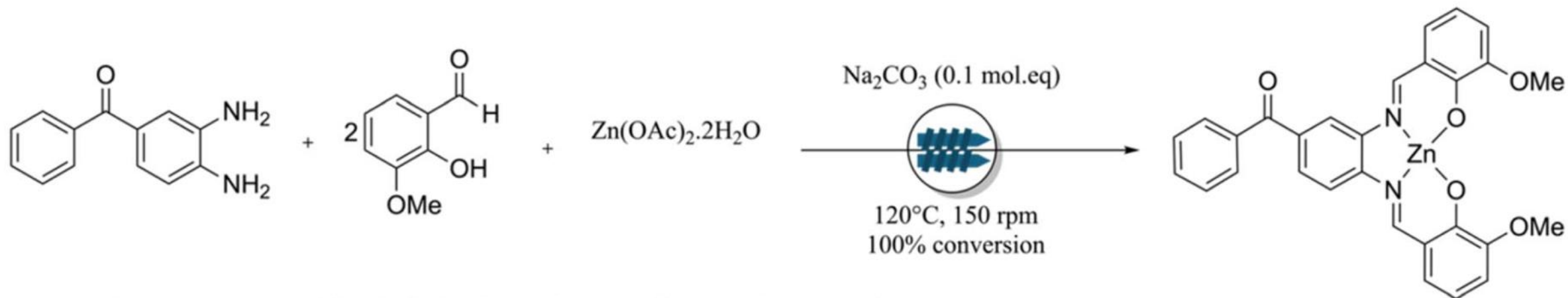
Mechanochemistry

Multicomponent reaction (MCRs)



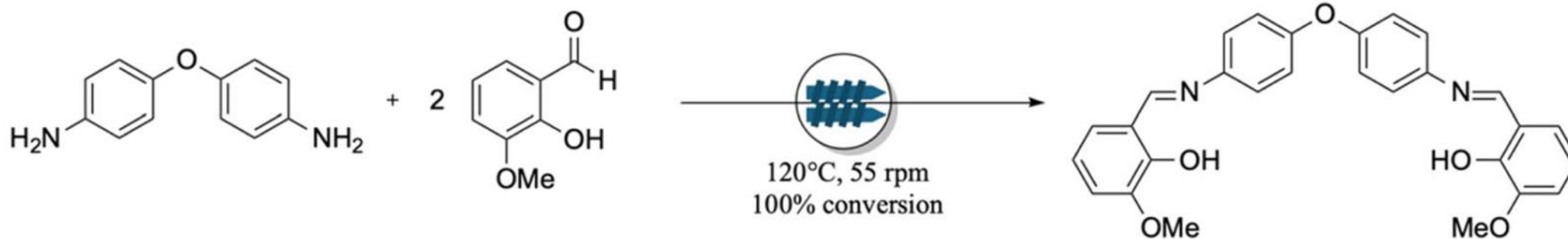
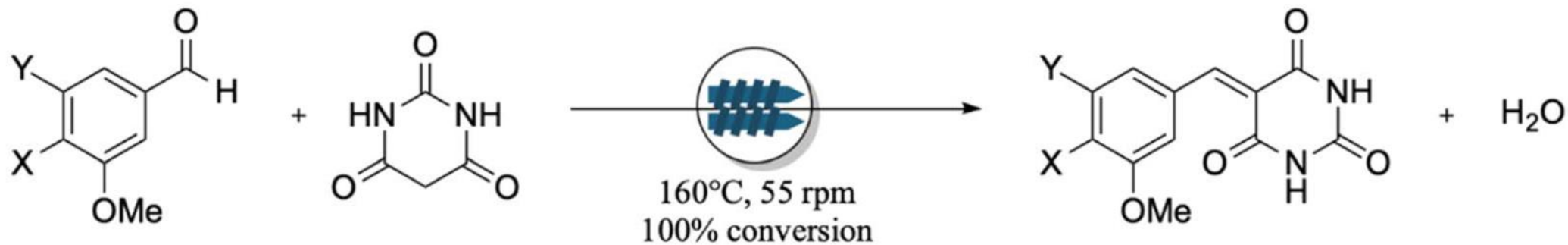
Mechanochemistry

Multicomponent reaction (MCRs)



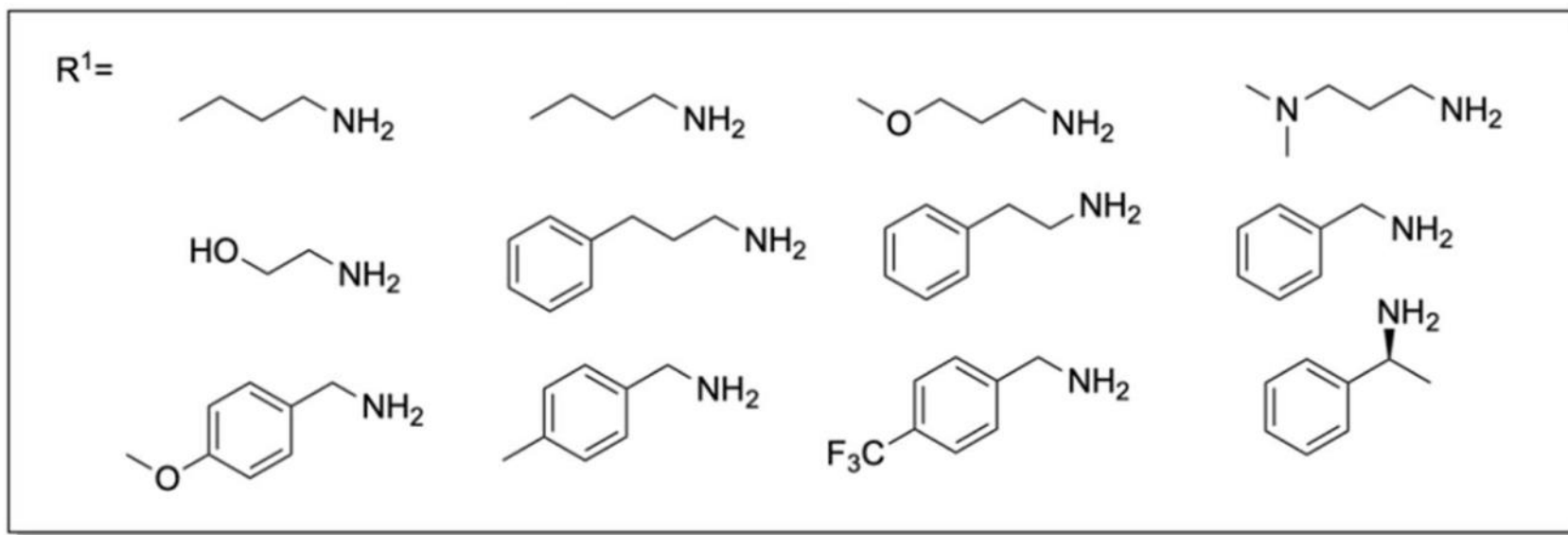
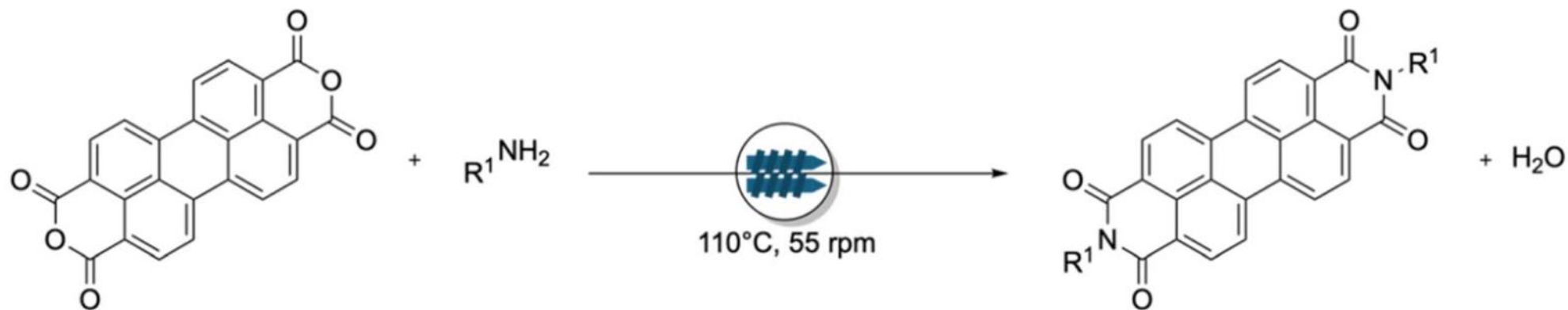
Mechanochemistry

Condensation reaction



Mechanochemistry

Condensation reaction: Perylene Based Dyes

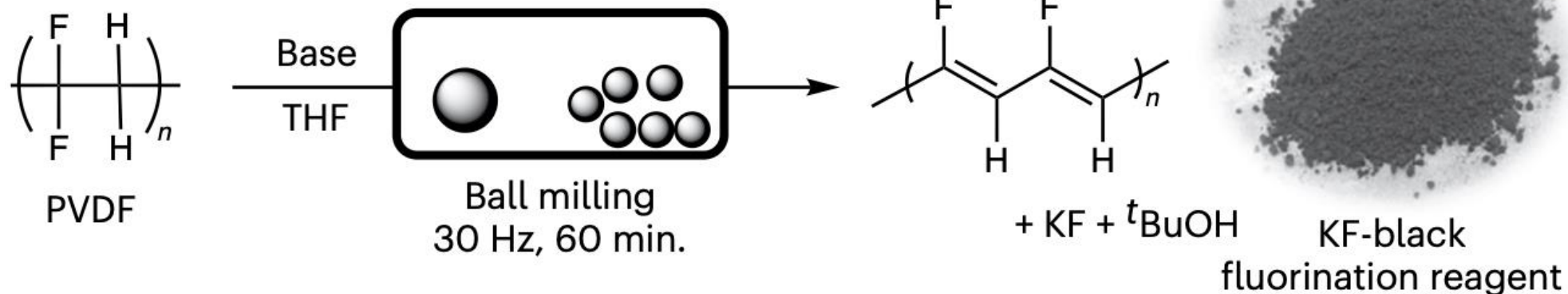


Mechanochemical pathway for converting fluoropolymers to fluorochemicals

Received: 10 July 2024

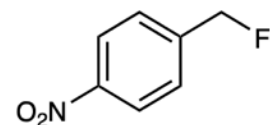
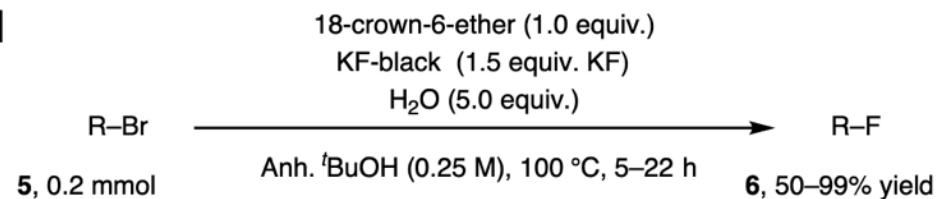
Accepted: 19 May 2025

Masashi Hattori ^{1,3}, Debarshi Saha ^{2,3}, Muhamad Zulfaqr Bacho ² & Norio Shibata ^{1,2} 

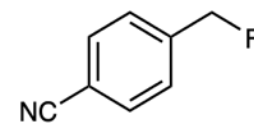


Mechanochemistry

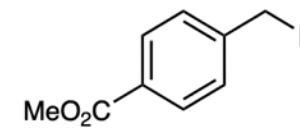
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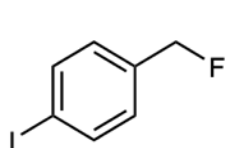
6a, 99%^a



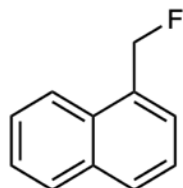
6b, 55%^a, 54%^d



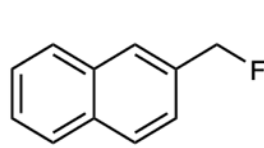
6c, 75%^a



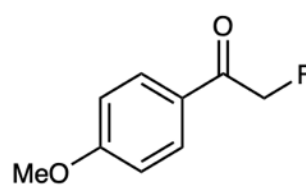
6d, 54%^a, 56%^d



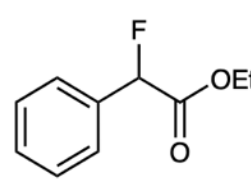
6e, 73%^a



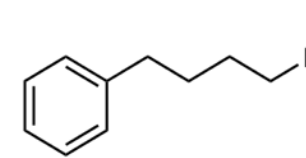
6f, 80%^a



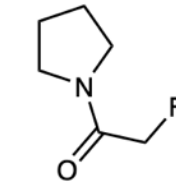
6g, 84%^a



6h, 50%^a, 68%^d

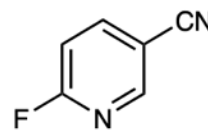
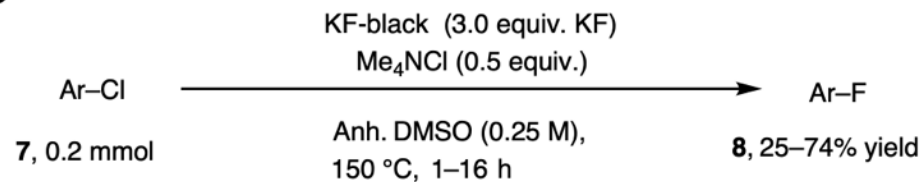


6i, 58%^a

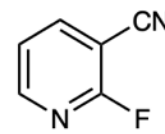


6j, 79%^a

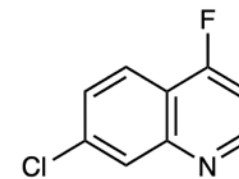
e



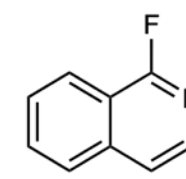
8a, 66%^a



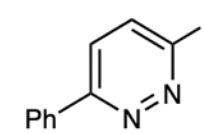
8b, 44%^a



8c, 25%^a

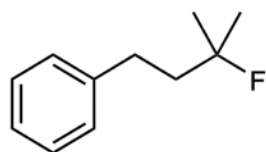
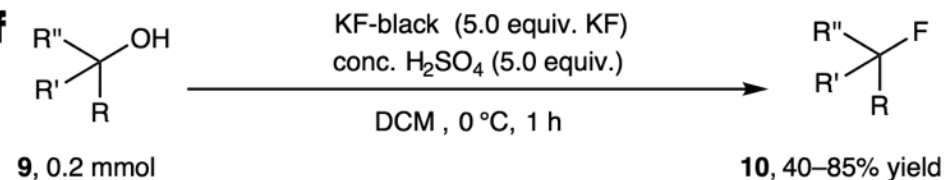


8d, 39%^a

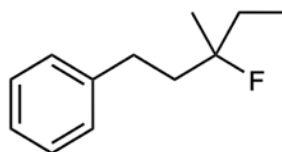


8e, 74%^a

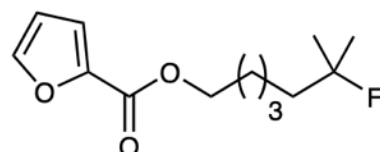
f



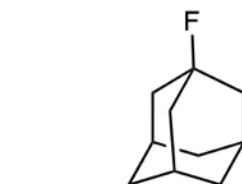
10b, 64%^a



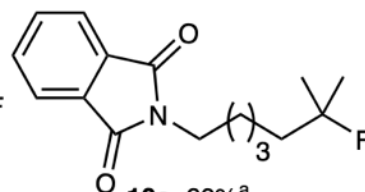
10c, 40%^a



10d, 85%^a

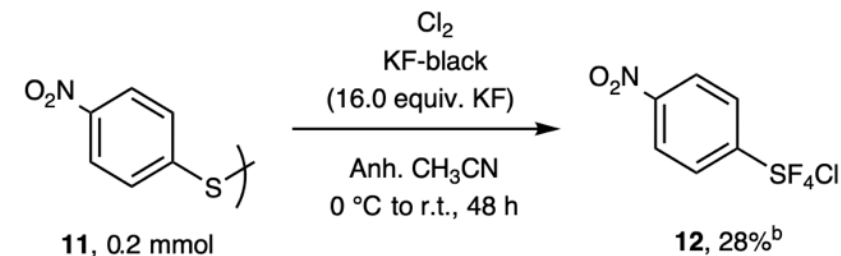


10a, 51%^a



10e, 60%^a

g





Article

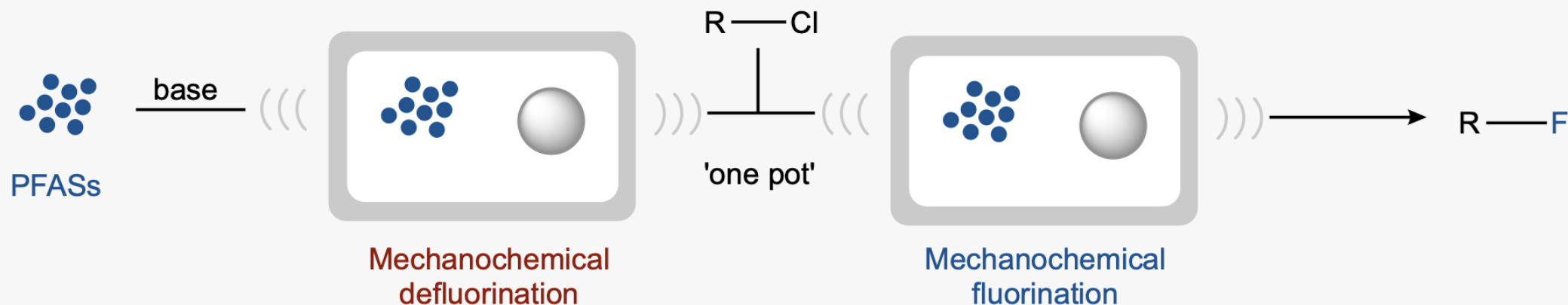
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-026-70766-9>

Single-pot mechanochemically-enabled fluorine atom closed-loop economy using PFASs as fluorinating agents

Received: 25 August 2025

Hao Long^{1,2}, Georgina Kirby^{1,2} & Lutz Ackermann¹✉

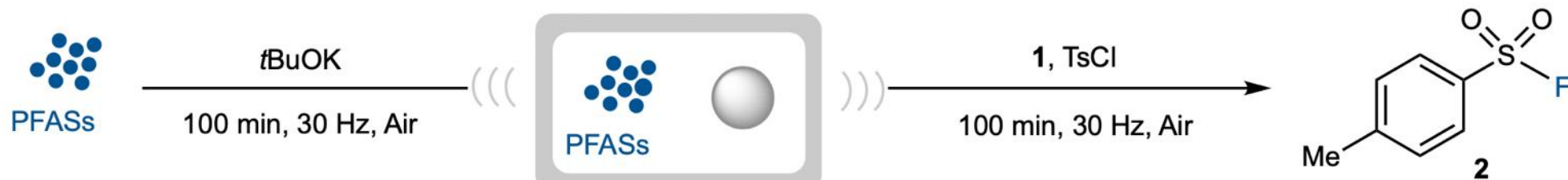
Accepted: 2 March 2026



- one-pot defluorination-fluorination process for PFASs treatment
- solvent and column-free
- commercial and daily plastics
- scale up to 10 grams
- compatible with PTFE

Mechanochemistry

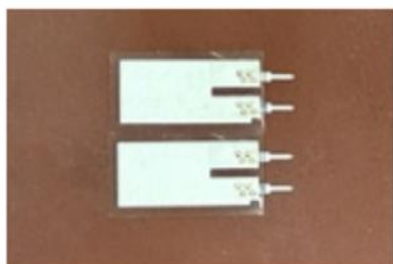
Mechanochemical Recycling of PFASs for SuFEx



a) Robustness of the mechano-recycling of PFASs



38, Sewage filter
93%



39, Sensor
94%



40, Transfer membrane
98%



41, PVDF rod
92%



42, Infusion tube
97%



43, PVDF plate
85%



44, Filter membrane
96%



45, Plastic pipe
95%



End-consumer waste
90% (940 mg)

Continuous Process Intensification

Mechanochemistry: The Oldest Real Chemistry

Anil Kumar



GenZ Materials
Continuous Process Intensification

