



Model Reactions for Library Synthesis Using X-Cube Flash

ThalesNano Flow Chemistry Seminar and User
Group Meeting

Gellért Sipos
sanofi-aventis/Chinoin Zrt.

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sanofi aventis

Because health matters



Hit Recognition Using X-Cube Flash?

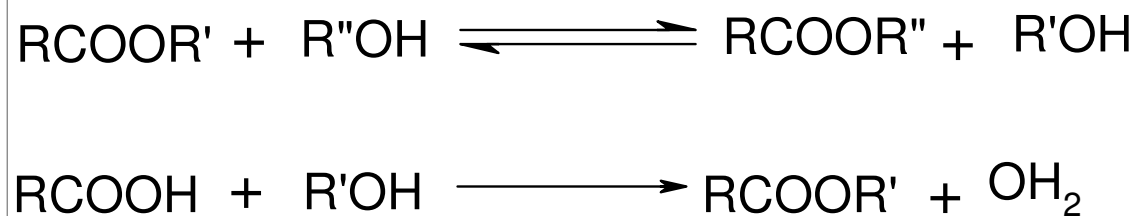
- Need for novel technologies to enable fast track and cost effective hit identification
- Limitations of HTS and VS
- Importance of fragment-based lead discovery
- Library design
 - One bead - one compound or...

- Diversity orientated synthesis → **Make dynamic combinatorial libraries with X-Cube Flash**
 - Fast
 - Cheap: low quantity from the starting materials
 - Green
- **Coupled with screening and reequilibrating**



Esterification and Transesterification

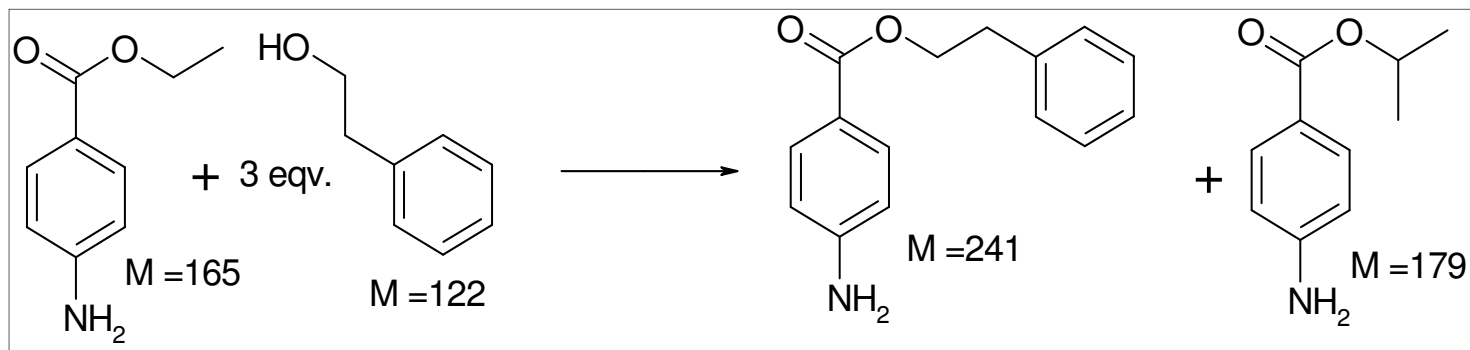
- Many possibility for the activation (transesterification)¹
 - Acid catalyst
 - H₂SO₄, H₃PO₄, HCl etc.
 - Base catalyst
 - KO^tBu, NH₃, DBU etc.
 - Lewis-acid and metal-alkoxide catalyst
 - Titanium-alkoxide catalysts (Ti(OiPr)₄)



¹ Junzo Otera; Chem. Rev. 1993, 93, 1449-1470



Transesterification- XCF or MW



Green
background
→
Microwave

Red
background
→ X-Cube
Flash

XCF / MW	Solvent	Catalyst	T / °C	p / bar	t / min	*Product / %	*iPr-ester / %	*Starting materials / %
SG-79	xylene	-	190		55	0	-	100
SG-80	xylene	30 mol% Ti(OiPr) ₄	170		35	77	4	19
SG-75	xylene	-	150	80	16	0	-	100
SG-75/2	xylene	-	170	80	16	1	-	99
SG-77	xylene	60 mol% Ti(OiPr) ₄	170	80	16	38	15	34

*All percentage data is based on LC-MS



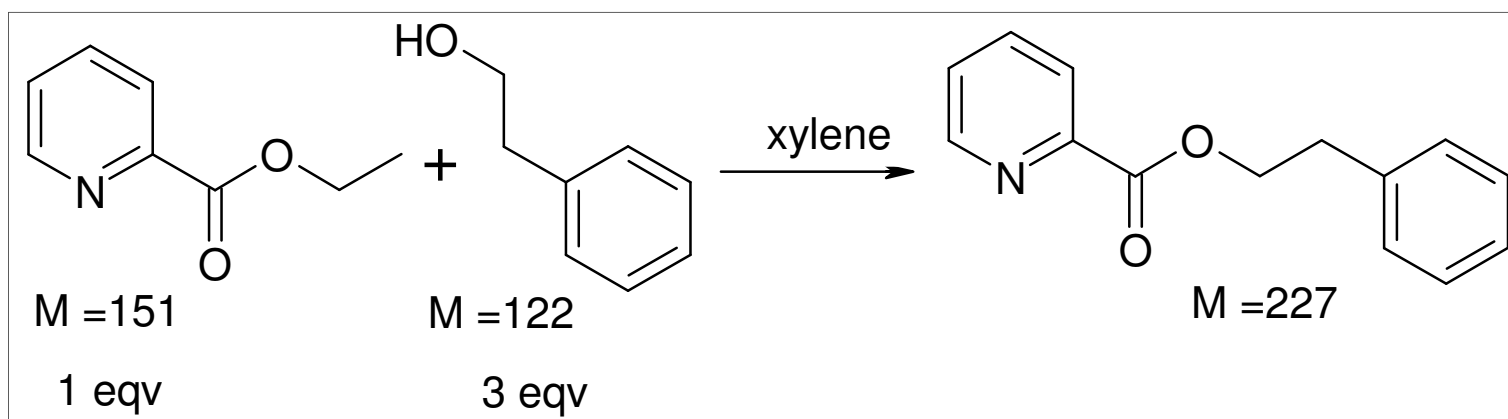
Transesterification

■ SG-84

- XCF 90 bar, 180 C, 20 min
- 30 % expected compound

■ SG-85

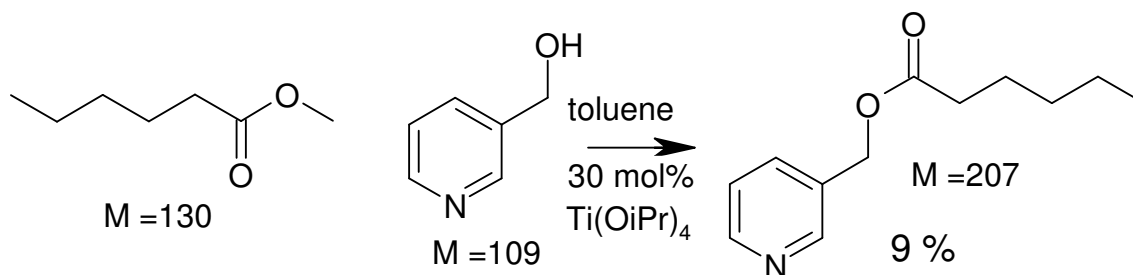
- XCF 90 bar, 180 C, 20 min
- 20 mol% $\text{Ti}(\text{OiPr})_4$ catalyst
- 45 % expected compound



Transesterification

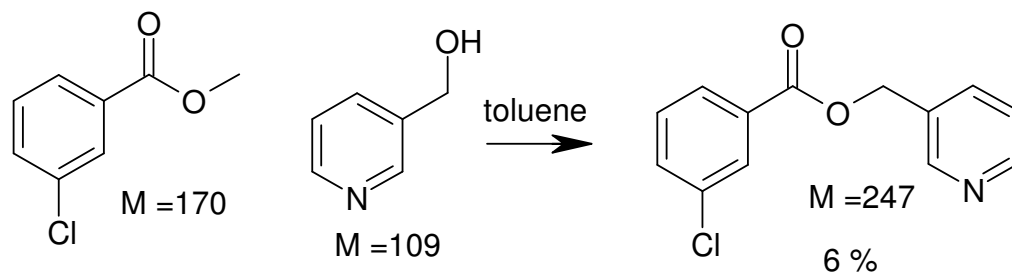
SG-123

- XCF 90 bar, 170 C, 16 min



SG-125

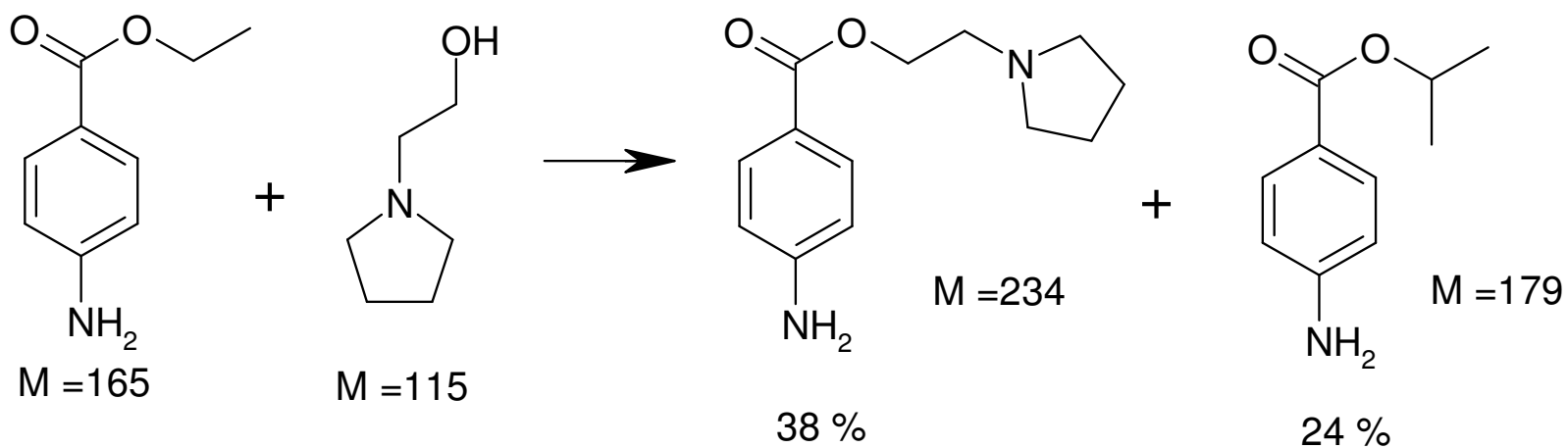
- Precipitation affected by $\text{Ti}(\text{OiPr})_4$
- 2 drop cc. H_2SO_4
- XCF 90 bar, 170 C, 16 min



Transesterification

SG-111

- XCF 170 C, 150 bar, 16 min
- 60 mol% $\text{Ti}(\text{OiPr})_4$
- 3 eqv. alcohol

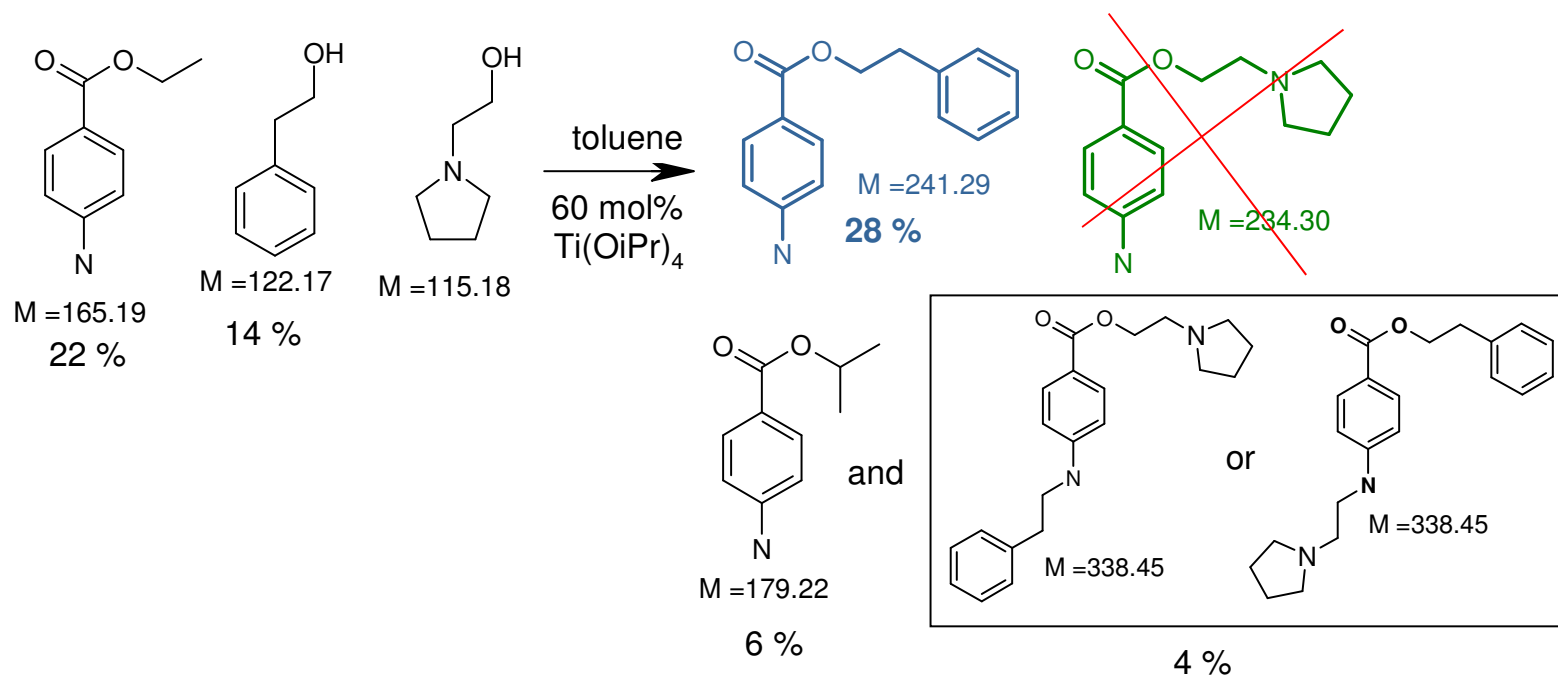




Transesterification - Library Synthesis I.

Library synthesis I. – SG-112

- XCF 170 C, 150 bar, 16 min
- Each alcohol was 3 equivalent

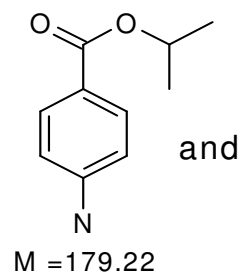
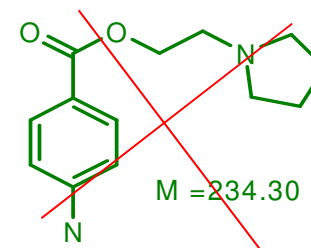
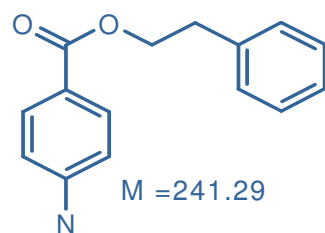
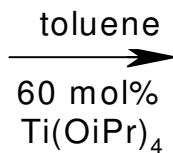
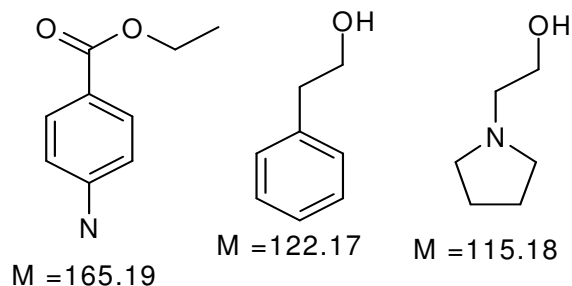




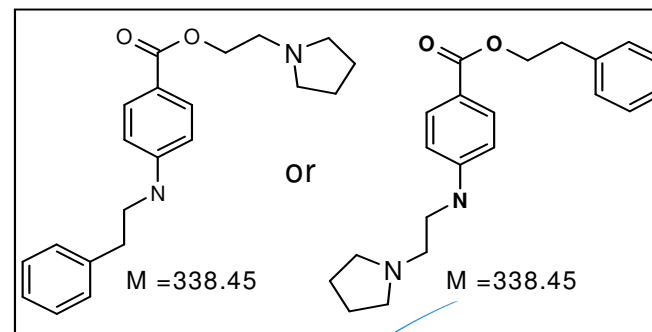
Transesterification - Library Synthesis II.

Library synthesis II. – SG-116

- 1 equivalent from the starting materials
- Conditions: toluene, 60 mol% Ti(OiPr)₄, 80 bar, 16 min residence time
- Blockage problems ☹️



and



T/ C	241 / %	234 / %	179 / %	338 / %	165 / %	122 / %
150	4	0	4	≈ 1	63	9
170	15	0	26	≈ 1	38	9
190	21	0	27	≈ 1	32	9
210	12	0	3	≈ 1	55	12

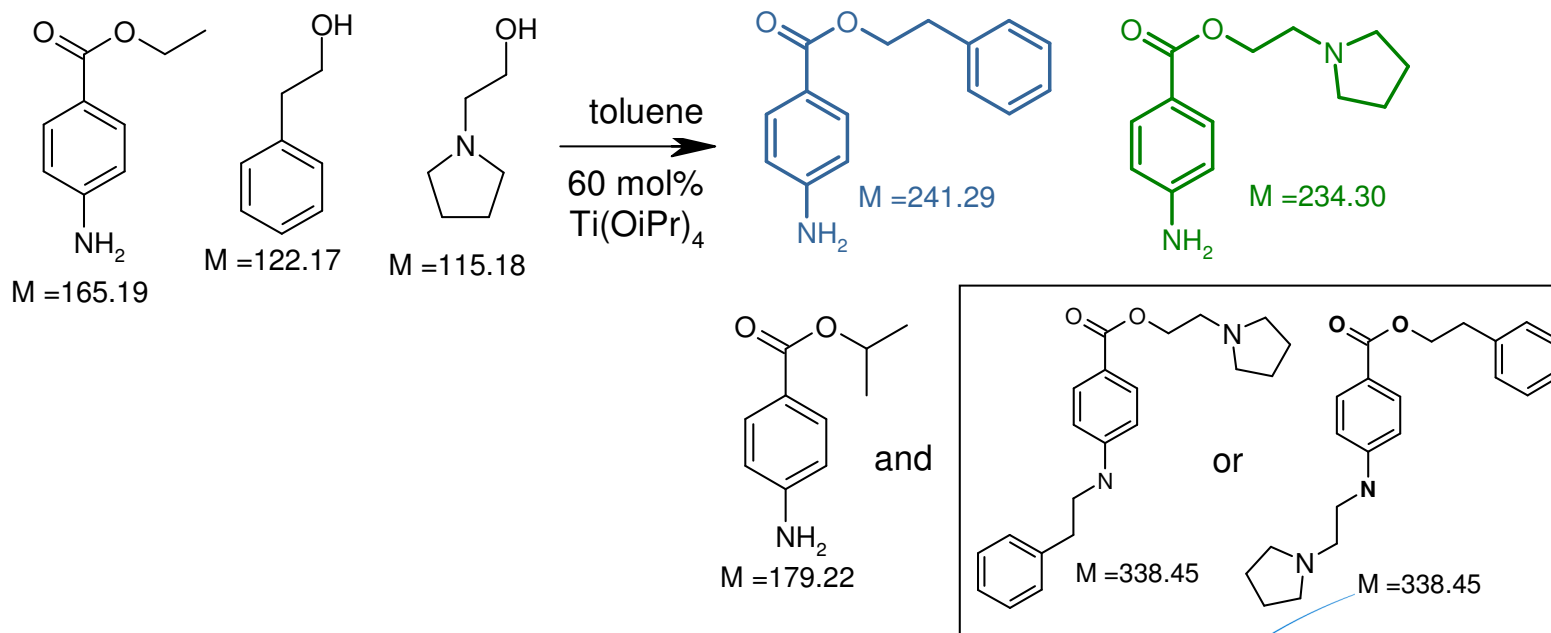


Transesterification - Library Synthesis III.

Library synthesis III. – SG-117

- 0.5 equivalent from the alcohols
- Conditions: toluene, 60 mol% Ti(OiPr)₄, 90 bar, 16 min

T/ C	241 / %	234 / %	179 / %	338 / %	165 / %	122 / %
170	11	3	23	0	57	
190	20	5	19	0	44	

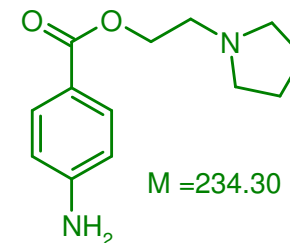
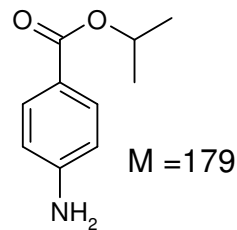
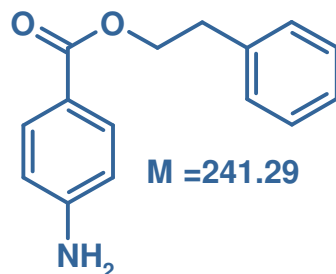
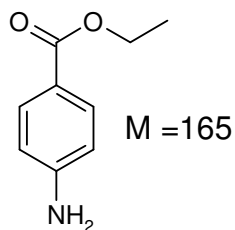




Transesterification - Library synthesis IV.

Summarization table

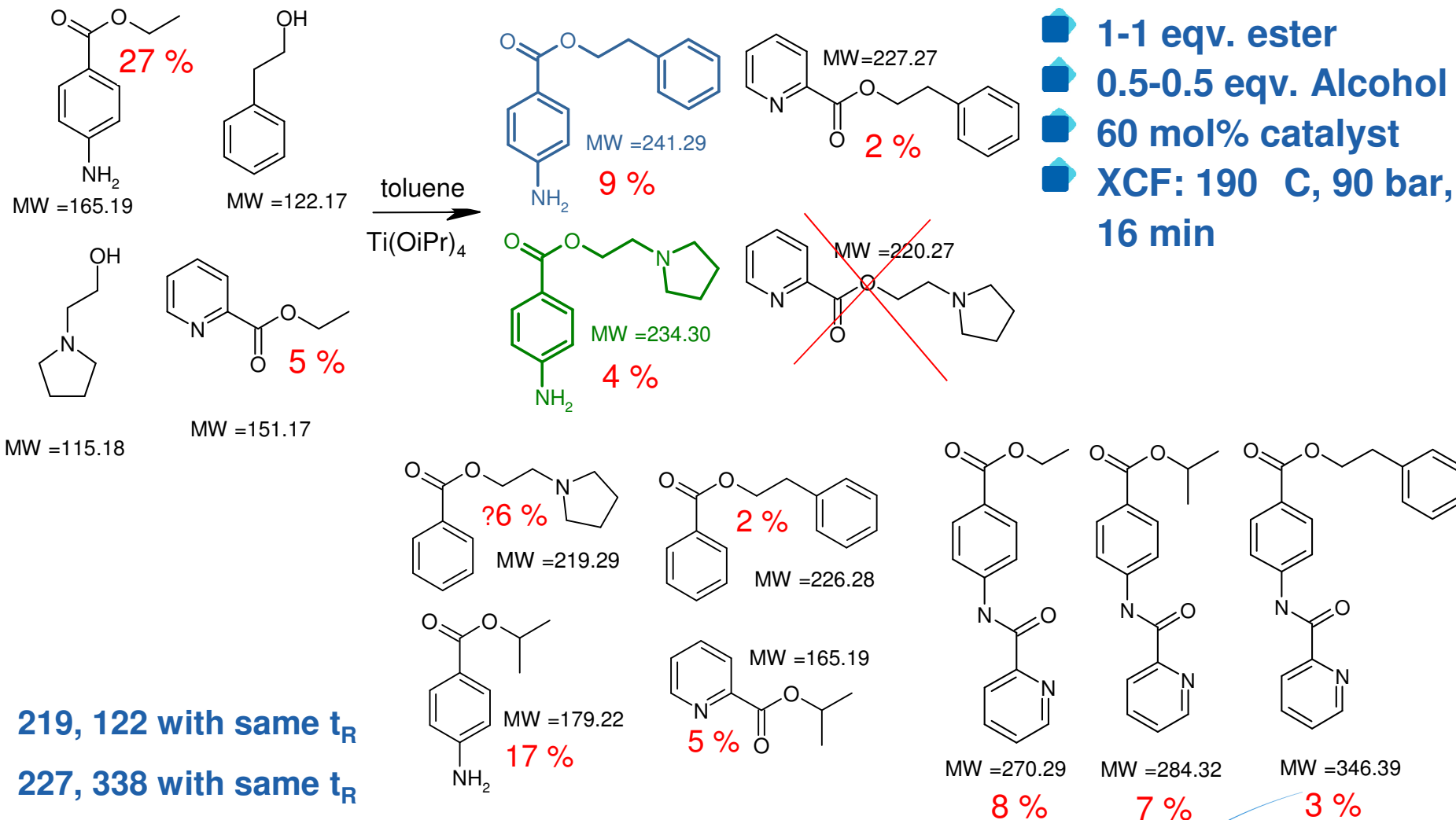
Conditions: toluene, 60 mol% catalyst, 16 min



XCF	Alcohol / equiv.	T / °C	p / bar	241 / %	234 / %	179 / %	338 / %	165 / %	122 / %
SG-112	3	170	150	28	0	6	4	22	14
SG-116-1	1	150	80	4	0	4	≈ 1	63	9
SG-116-2	1	170	80	15	0	26	≈ 1	38	9
SG-116-3	1	190	80	21	0	27	≈ 1	32	9
SG-116-4	1	210	80	12	0	3	≈ 1	55	12
SG-117-1	0,5	170	90	11	3	23	0	57	
SG-117-2	0,5	190	90	20	5	19	0	44	



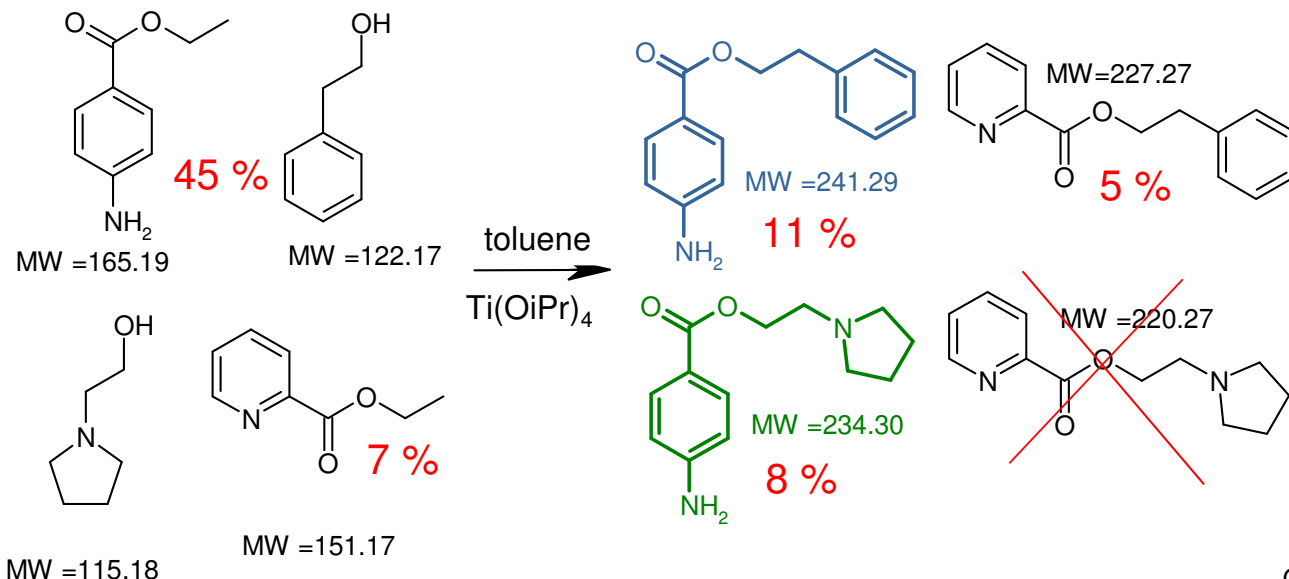
Transesterification - Library Synthesis V. SG-118





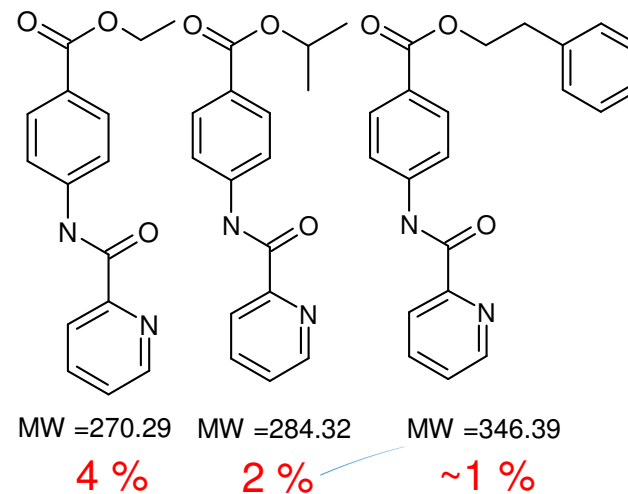
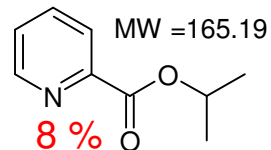
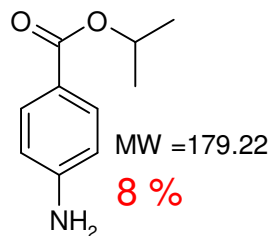
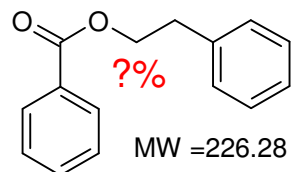
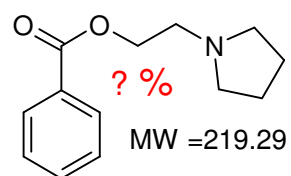
Transesterification - Library Synthesis V.

SG-120



- 1-1 eqv. ester
- 1-1 eqv. alcohol
- 60 mol% catalyst
- XCF: 90 bar, 16 min
- 170 C → ☹️
- 190 C → 😊
- Blockage problems ☹️

122, 165(s) with same t_R

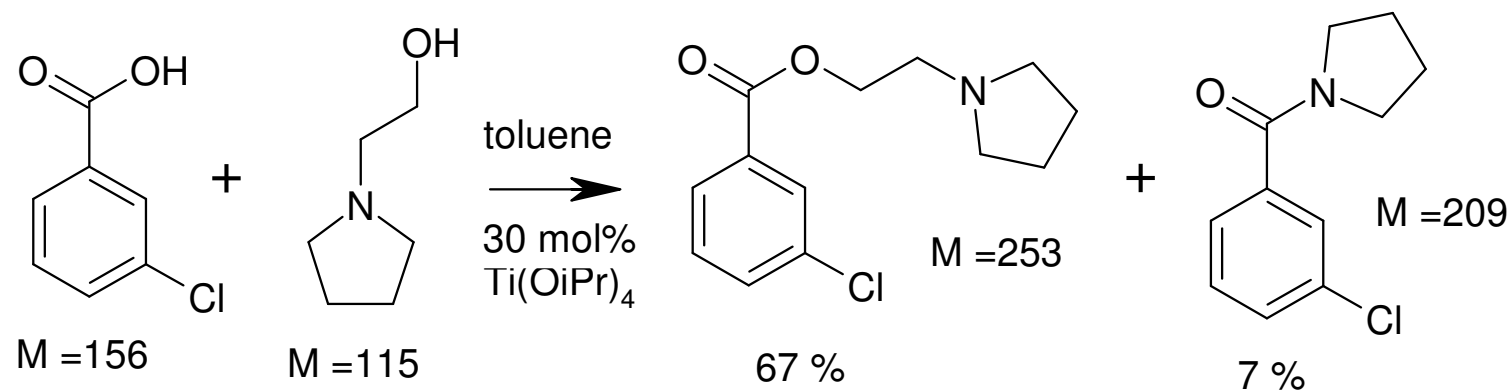




Esterification

■ X-Cube Flash 190 C, 90 bar, 16 min

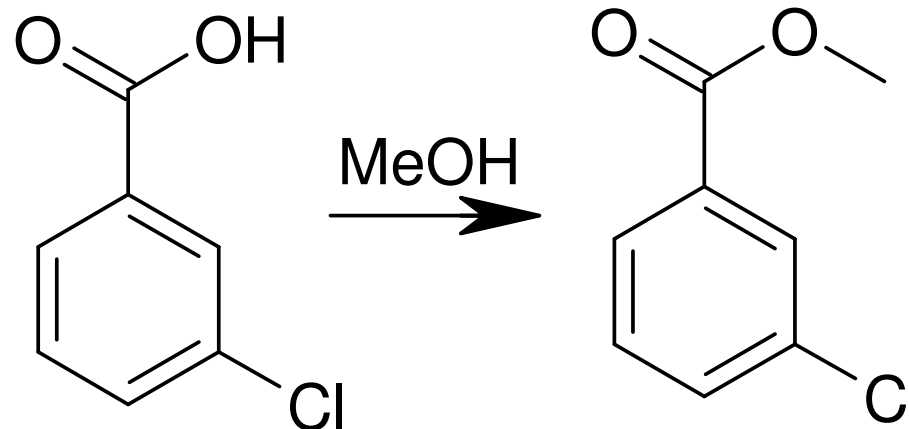
■ 3 equivalent alcohol



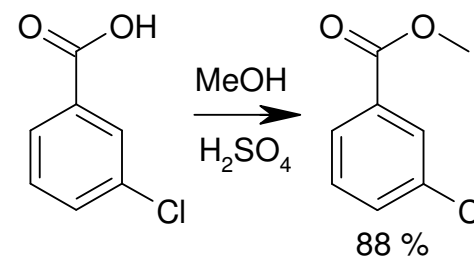
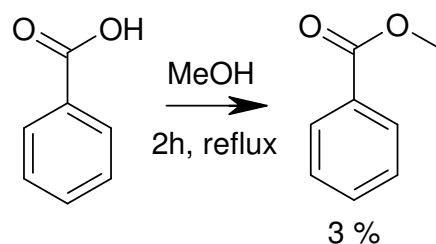


Esterification under supercritical conditions

- 245 C, 150 bar, 16 min
 - Purity > 99 %
 - High yield (>95 %)
- 350 C, 150 bar, 16 min
 - Degradation



- Benzoic acid + MeOH → 3 % ester¹
- m-chloro-benzoic acid + MeOH in the presence of H₂SO₄ in ultrasonicator bath → 88 % ester after 5 hour²

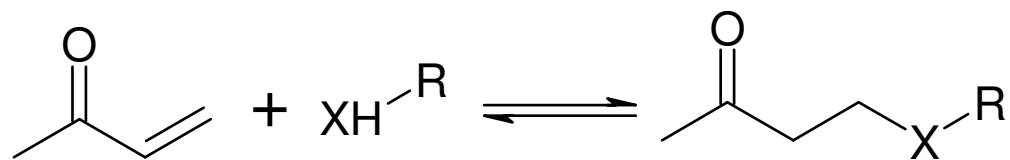
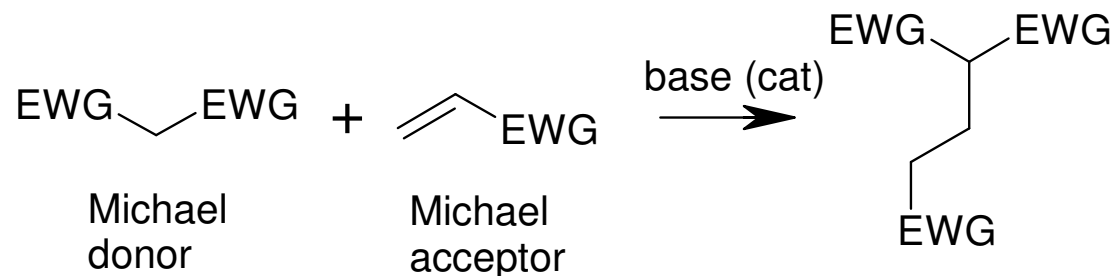


- 1 Kumar, Chattopadhyay; Tetrahedron Letters, Vol. 28, pp 3713-3714, 1987
- 2 Maikap et al.; Synthetic Communications, 20(15), 2267-2271, 1990



Michael-addition

- Useful method for the mild formation of C-C, C-S, C-N, C-O bond
- Thermodynamically controlled
- Reversible



X = S, O, NH



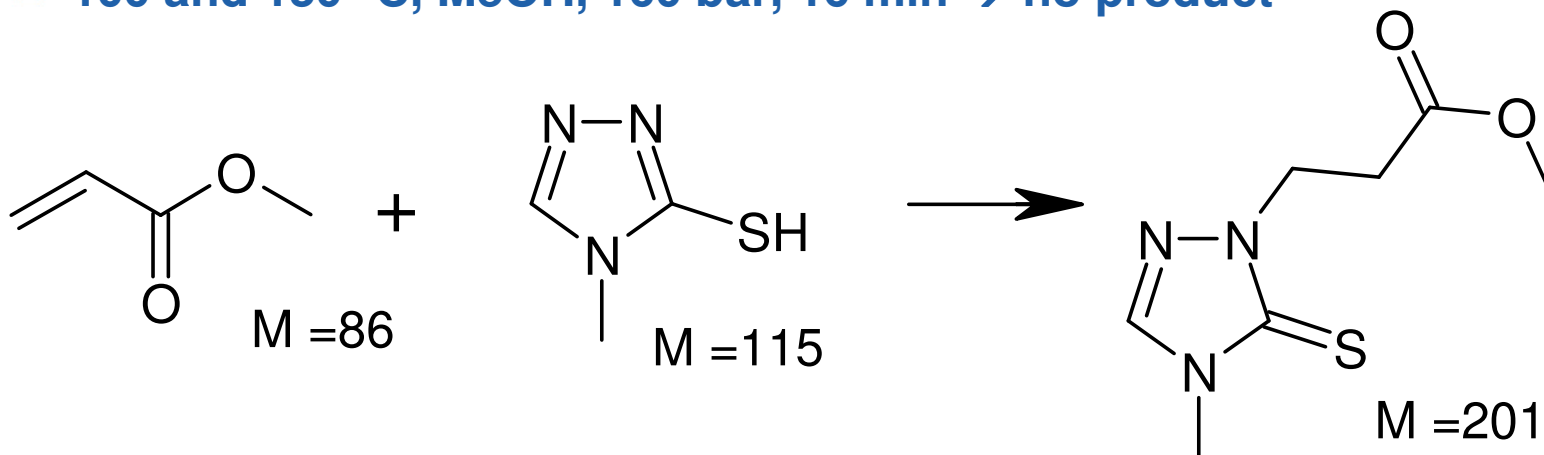
Michael-addition I.

Batch

- Conditions: MeOH, 20 mol% NaOH, 40 °C, 20-48 h
- Polymerisation of methyl-acrylate
- Mainly aza-Michael (Batch)
 - 3 isomer could arise (based on LC-MS)
 - Only the main component was isolated

XCF

- 100 and 150 °C, MeOH, 160 bar, 16 min → no product





Michael-addition II.

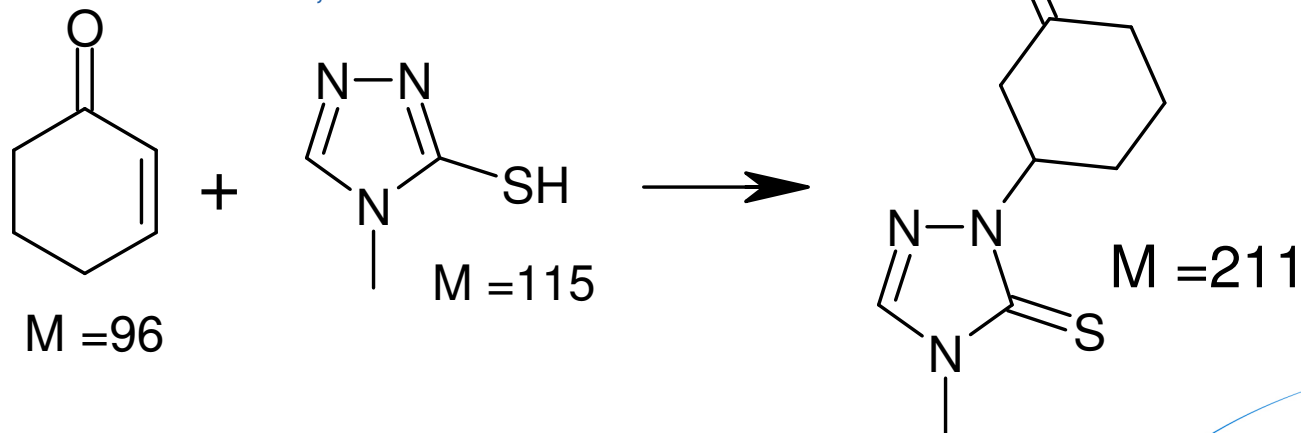
Batch

- Conditions: EtOH, 20 mol% NaOH, 20 – 48 h
- After 22 h 60 % from 211

XCF

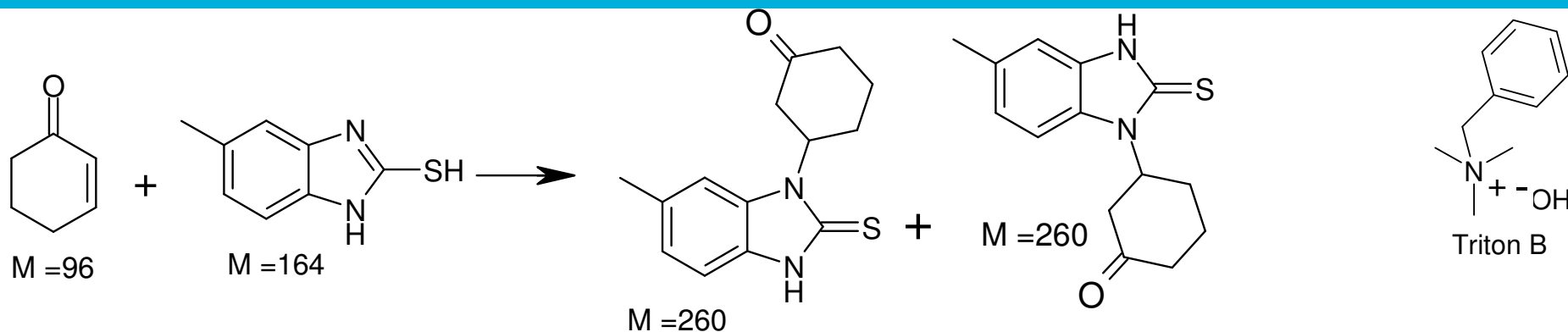
- Conditions: 160 bar, 16 min, without catalyst!

- 60 C → 30,5 %
- 100 C → 43,4 %
- 150 C → 5 %
- 200 C → 2,5





Michael-addition III.



XCF / Batch	Catalyst	T / C	t / min	260 / %	356 / %
Batch	20 mol% NaOH	RT	40 h	70	<1
XCF	-	100	32	1,3	-
XCF	-	150	32	0,3	-
XCF	10 mol% Triton B	100	16	10	-
XCF	10 mol% Triton B	150	16	0	-
XCF	100 mol% Triton B	100	16	5* **	-
XCF	20 mol% Triton B	100	16	11*	-
XCF	20 mol% Triton B	160	16	0**	-
XCF	40 mol% Triton B	100	16	13**	-
XCF	40 mol% Triton B	160	16	0**	-

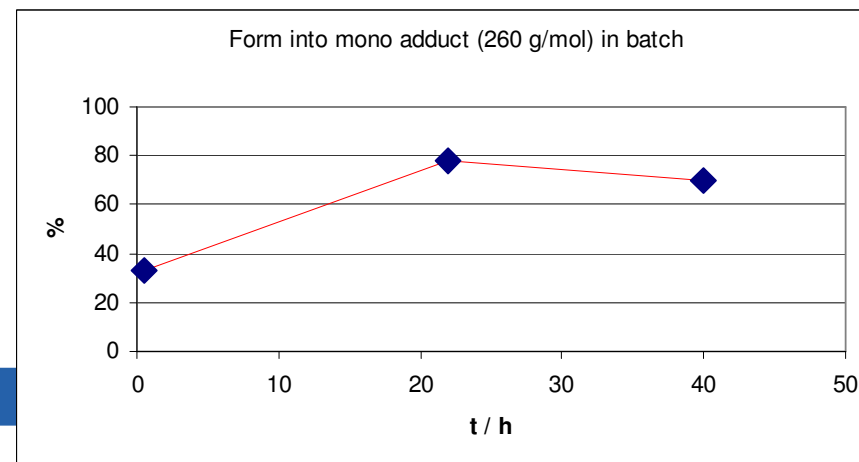
General conditions:

■ Batch: 1 bar, EtOH

■ XCF: 160 bar, MeOH

* after 3 hour circulation ≈ 0

** benzylation of 164





Summing up and recommendations

■ Esterification, transesterification suitable for library synthesis

■ Limitations

- Homogenous solution
- Sometimes separation from the solution after the loop
- Detection (difficulties if too many products)

■ Michael-addition

- No problem with solubility (yet)
- Necessary to optimize the conditions
- Water as solvent?

■ Recommendations for X-Cube Flash

- Use high pressure
- Do not use flow rate under 0.5 ml/min
- Use diluted solutions
- Always wash the loop with excess of the solvent



Many thanks for your attention