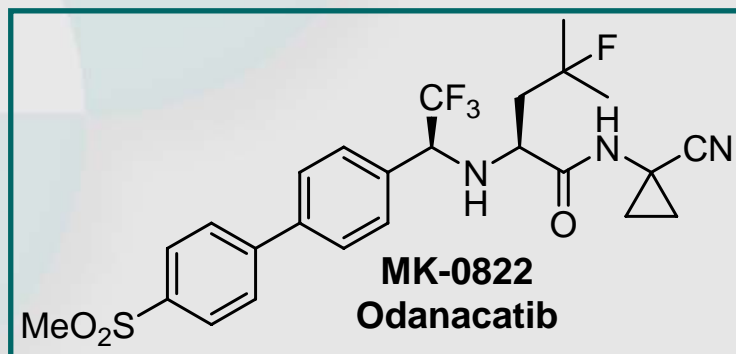


# The Discovery & Development of Odanacatib

## A Selective Inhibitor of Cathepsin K for the Treatment of Osteoporosis



Greg Hughes\*,† Paul D. O'Shea,† Paul N. Devine,‡ Bruce Foster,‡ Don Gauthier,‡ John Limanto,‡ Matthew Truppo,‡  
David Pollard,‡ John Naber,† Daniel J. McKay,† Ralph P. Volante‡

† Merck Frosst Center for Therapeutic Research, 16711 Transcanada Hwy, Kirkland, QC, H9H 3L1, Canada. ‡  
Department of Process Research, Merck Research Laboratories, Rahway, NJ 07065, USA.

25<sup>th</sup> Process Development Symposium  
Churchill College, Cambridge, UK  
March 13, 2007

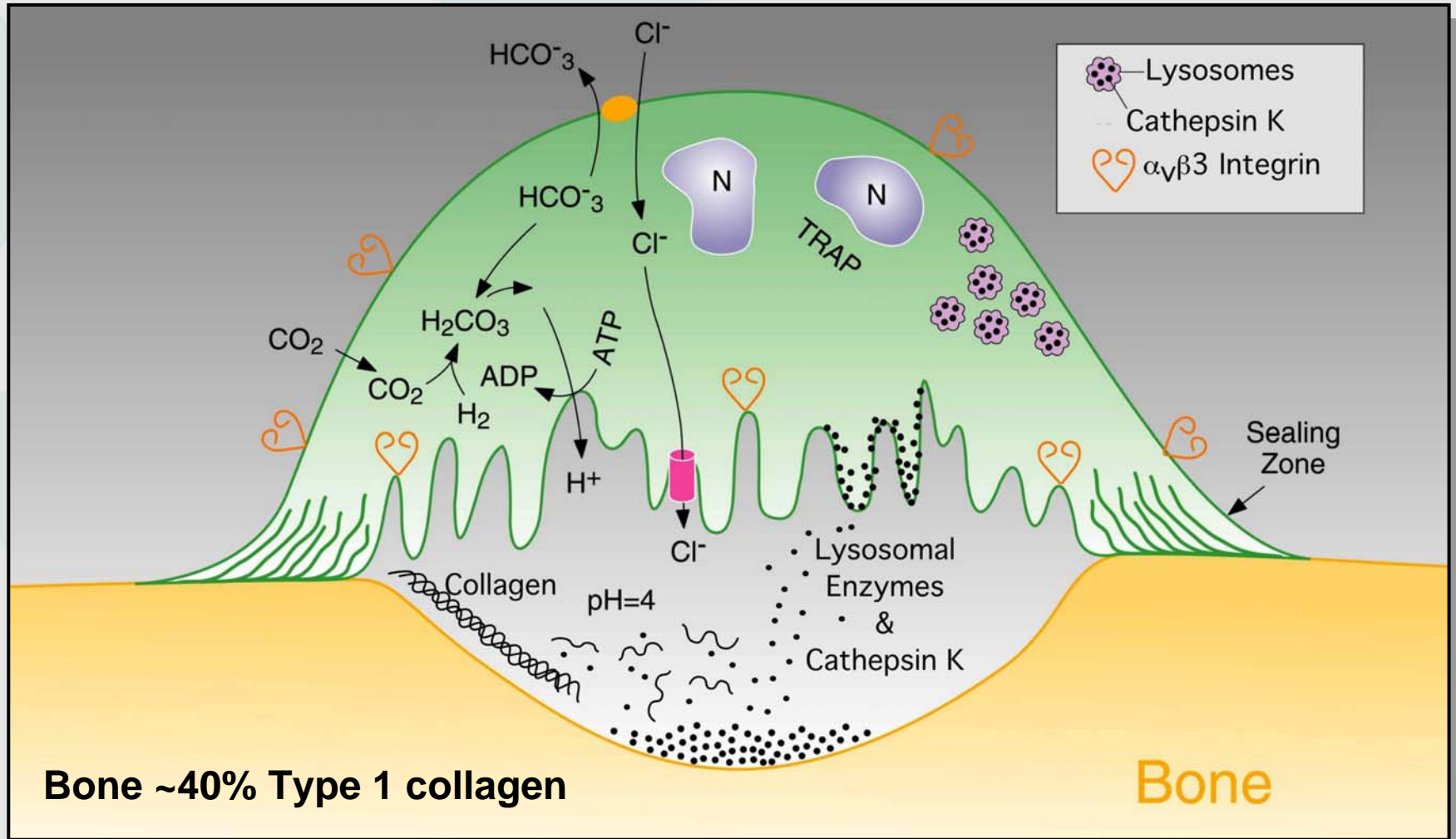
# Outline

- Background
  - Justification for pursuing new Osteoporosis mechanisms
  - Biological Rationale for pursuing a Cathepsin K inhibitor
  - Medicinal Chemistry Summary
    - SAR development
    - Metabolism issues
  - Synthetic Approaches to L-873724 & MK-0822
- Chemistry used in the 1<sup>st</sup> GMP Delivery of MK-0822
- Development of a Manufacturing Route for MK-0822

# Osteoporosis

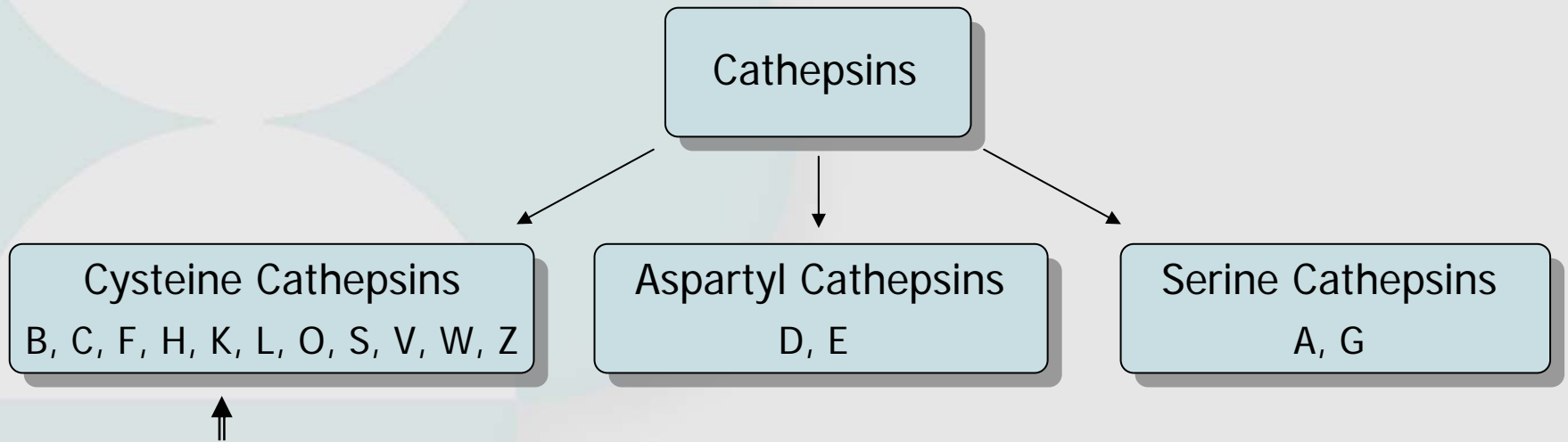
- Decreased bone density and mass. Increased fracture risk.
- Estimated 200 million osteoporosis sufferers worldwide. Strikes ~1 in 4 women and 1 in 8 men over 50 ys.
- 650,000 hip fractures/yr in US-Europe. Majority caused by osteoporosis. 20% will die from fracture & 50% will be disabled.
- Cost of hospitalization in US-Europe : Currently ~ \$22 b/year.
- Need exists for improved therapies

# Osteoclastic Bone Resorption



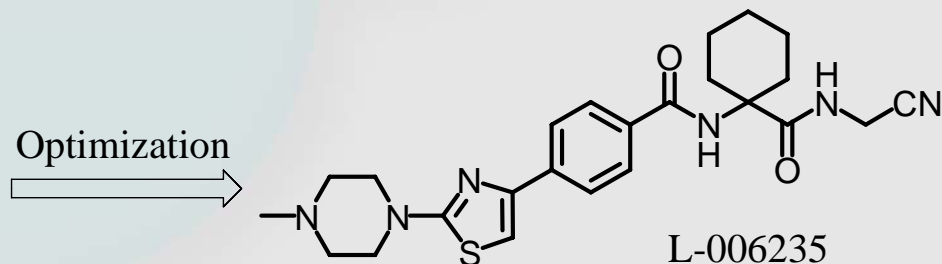
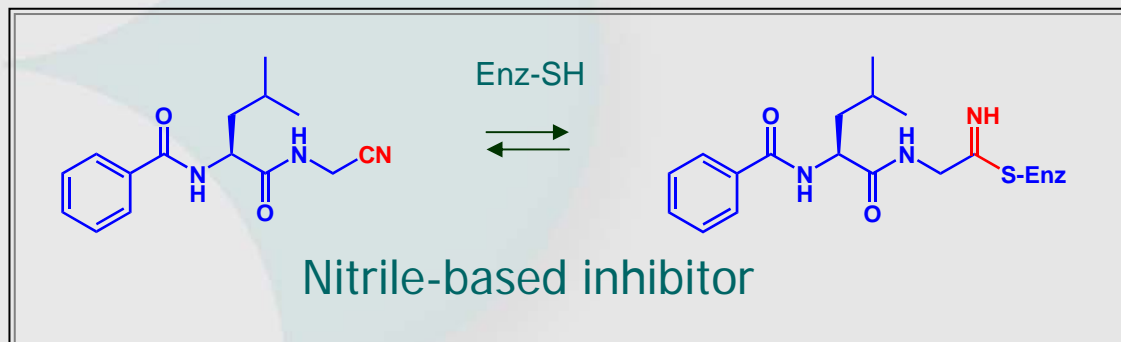
Bone resorption by osteoclasts is the initial step in remodeling

# Cathepsins: Lysosomal Proteases



- Cathepsins have optimal activity at acidic pH found in lysosomes
- Cathepsin K is a cysteine protease highly expressed in osteoclasts
  - Efficiently degrades bone collagen
  - Cat K null mice have osteopetrotic phenotype, but otherwise healthy
- Cat K represents a promising target for the treatment of osteoporosis

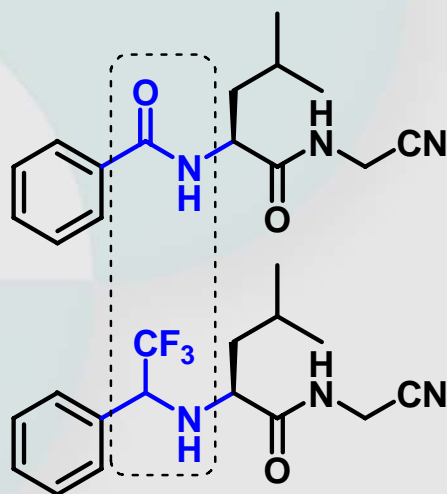
# Reversible Cat K Inhibitors



J. Med. Chem. **48** 7520 (2005)

- 0.2 nM vs Cat K; 5 nM in osteoclast bone resorption assay
- >5000-fold selective over related cathepsins in purified enzyme assays
- Efficacious in monkey model of osteoporosis at 3 mg/kg/day
- Selectivity is lost in whole cell assays

# Amide Replacement: Trifluoroethylamine



Cat K  
IC<sub>50</sub> (nM)

51

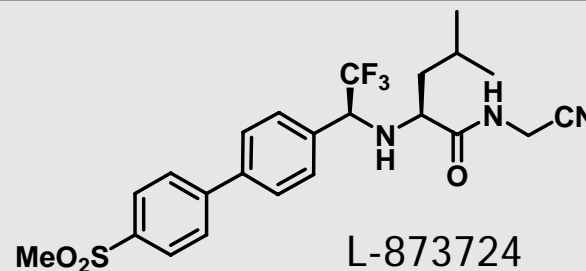
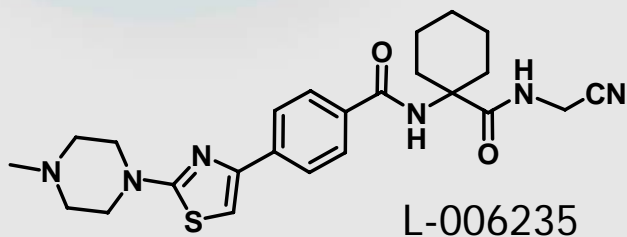
4

- Non-basic amine (pKa = 1.5) that it is not protonated at physiological pH
- Retains the H-bond donating properties of an amide bond

# L-873724 has Similar Potency in Whole Cells and Purified Cathepsins

Inhibition of Cathepsins, IC<sub>50</sub> (nM)

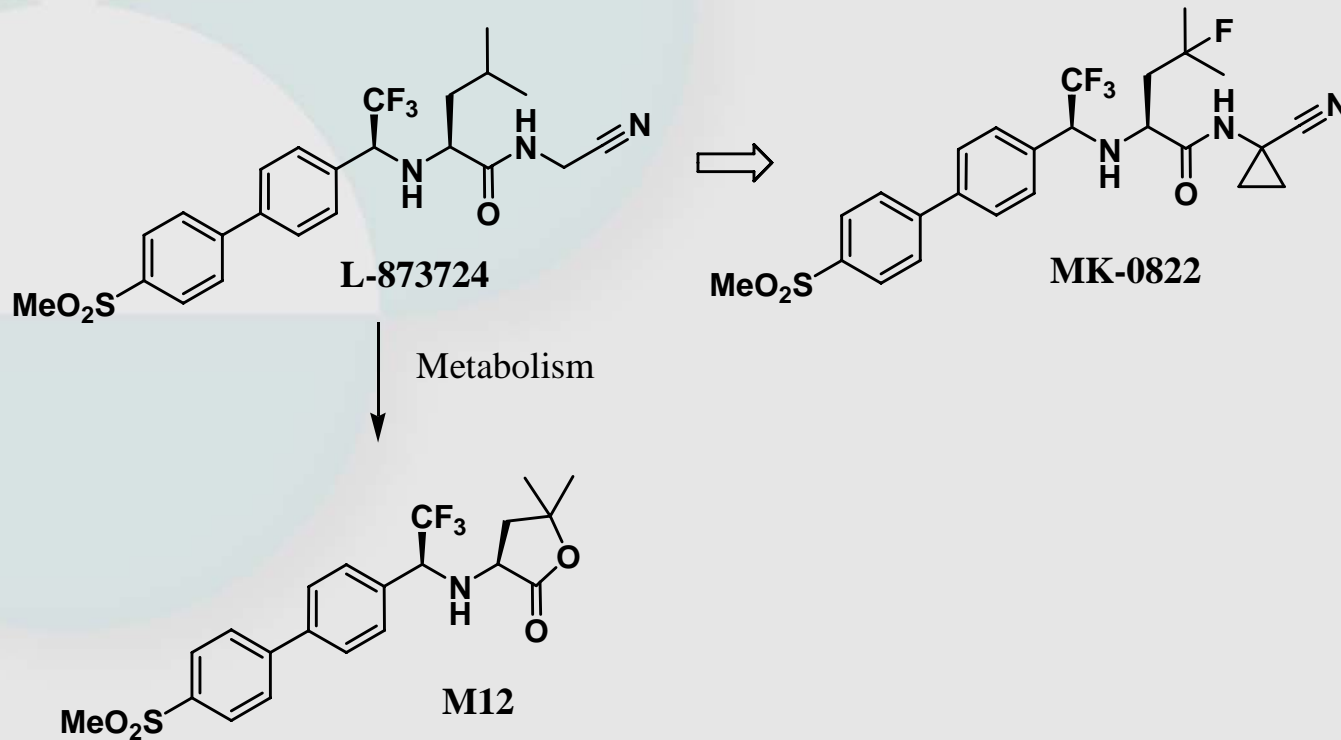
	Cathepsin B		Cathepsin L		Cathepsin S	
	Enzyme	Cell	Enzyme	Cell	Enzyme	Cell
L-006235	1100	17	6300	340	47000	790
L-873724	5240	4800	264	1220	178	94



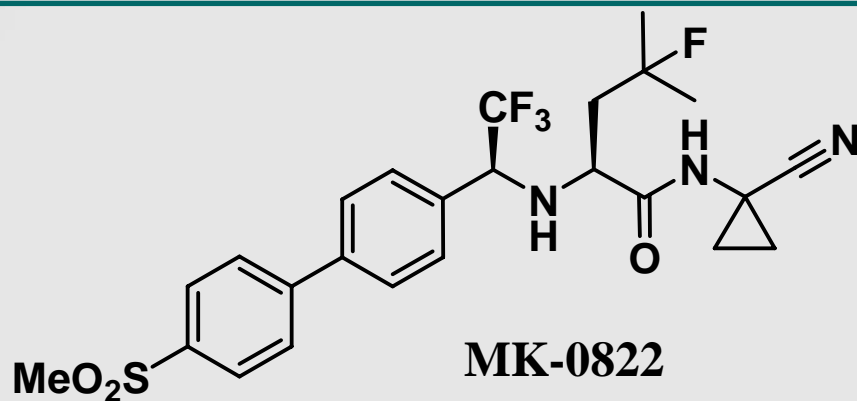
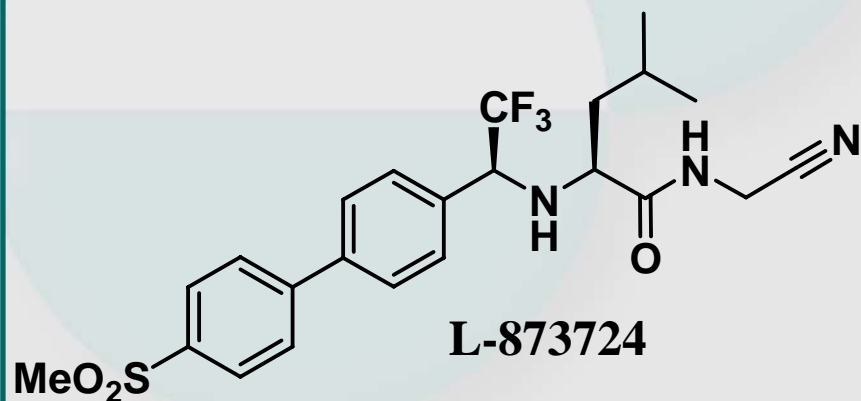
- Selectivity profile of L-873724 is maintained in whole cell assays



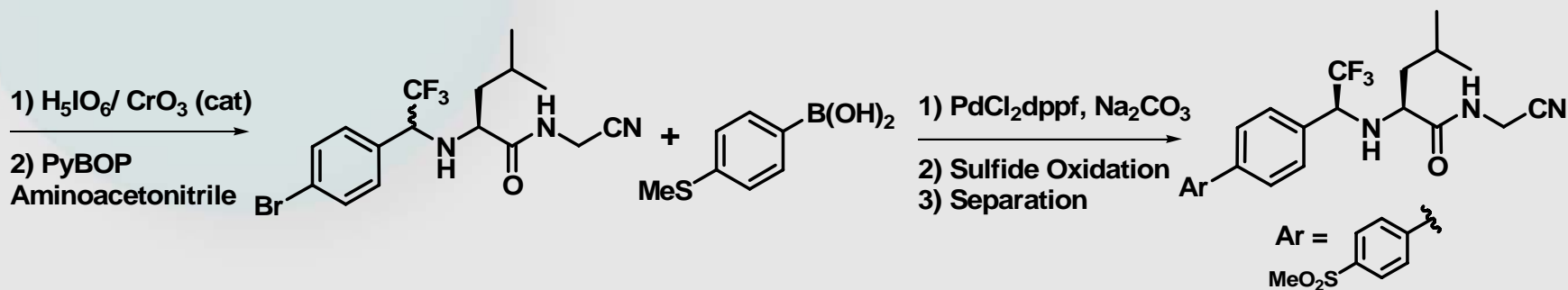
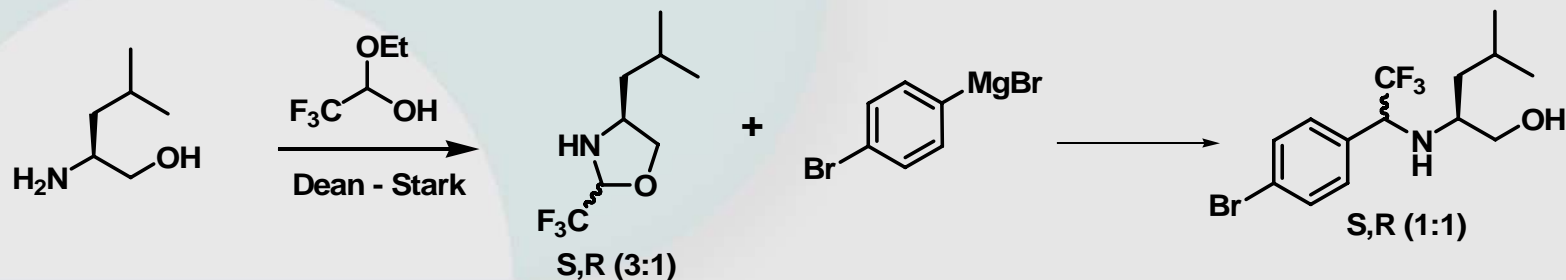
# Fixing Metabolic Liabilities



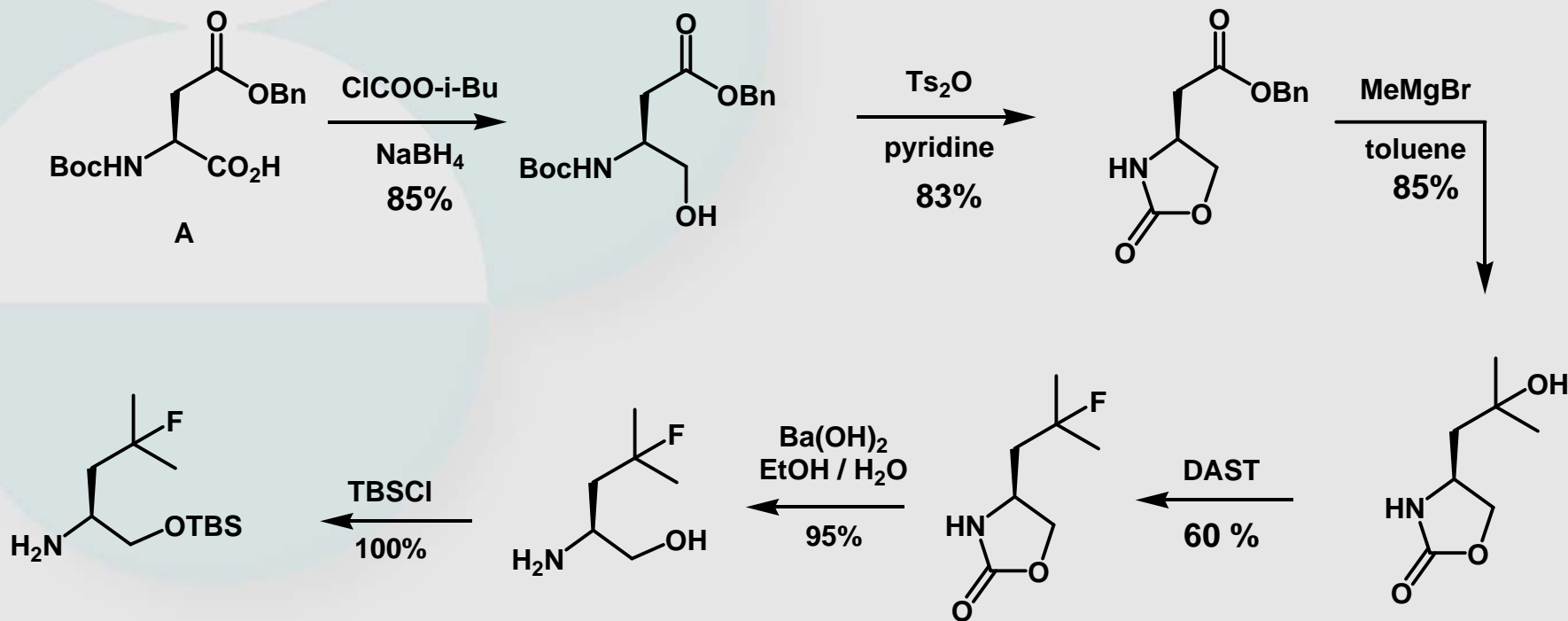
# Medicinal Chemistry Synthesis of L-873724 & Odanacatib



# Medicinal Chemistry Approach to L-837724



# Medicinal Chemistry Approach to Fluoroleucinol

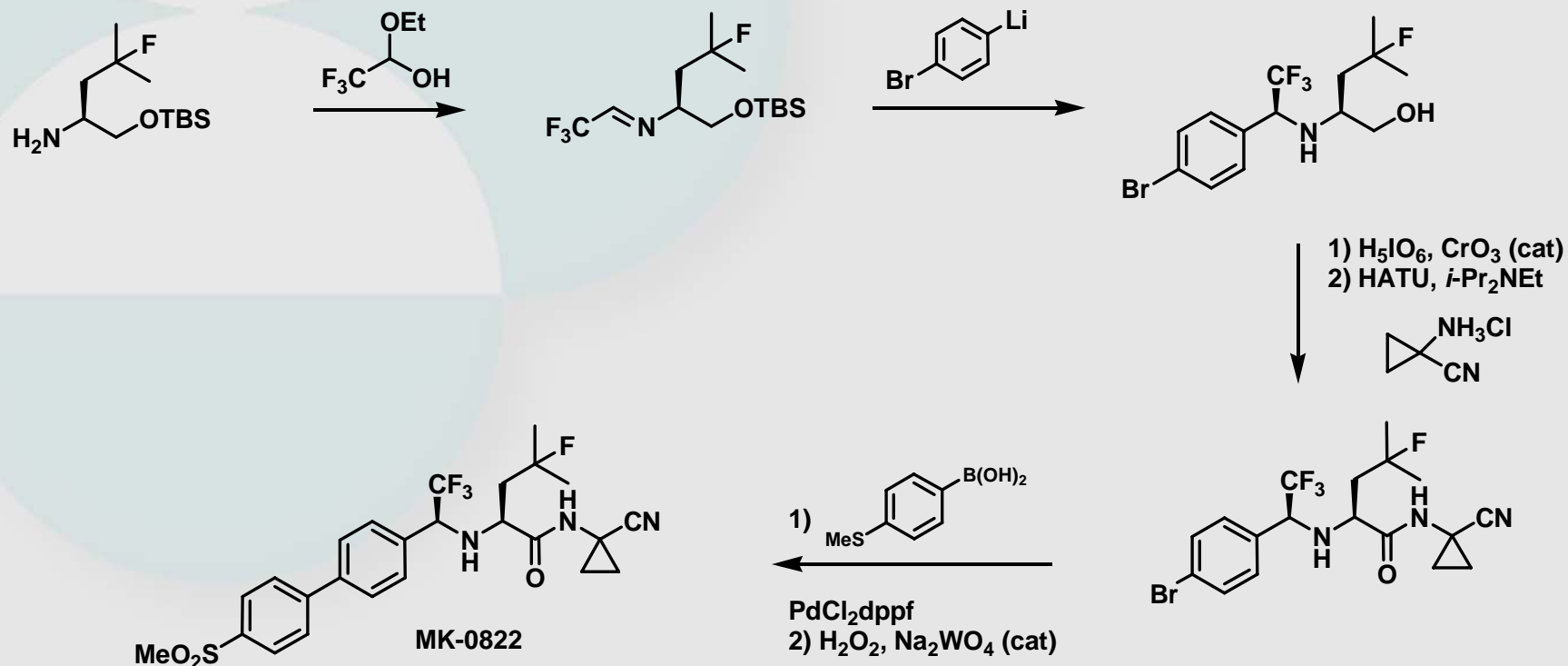


## Scale-up Issues:

- **A** is expensive
- Formylation & work up of 3° alcohol is tedious and irreproducible
- DAST is not a process friendly reagent
- Isolation of Fl-leucinol requires continuous extraction (1 wk)

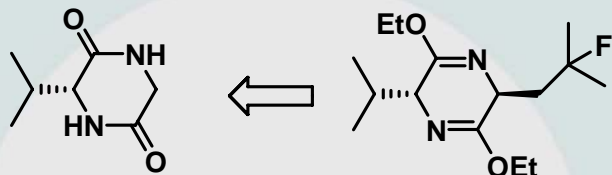
# Synthesis of MK-0822

Aryl lithium addition to  $\text{CF}_3$ -imine

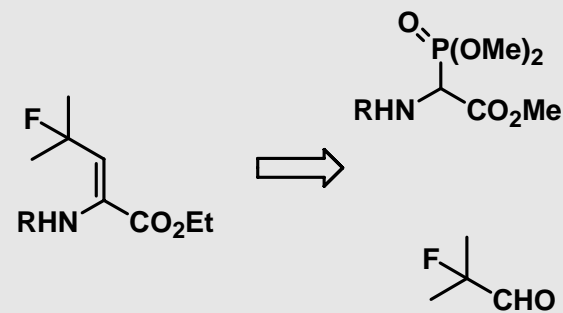


- 40 g of MK-0822 prepared to support characterization
- Oxidation state issues
- Protecting group manipulations
- Pd in final step
- HATU

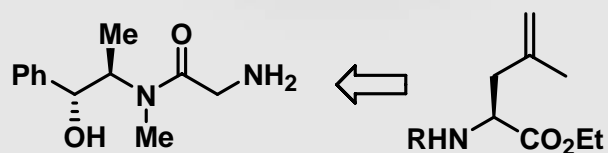
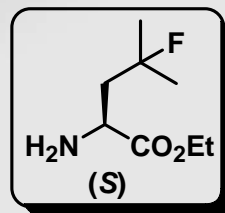
# Fluoroleucine-Retrosynthesis



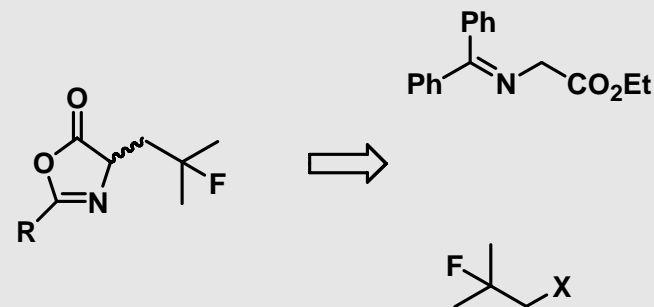
Schoellkopf Alkylation



Enamide Hydrogenation

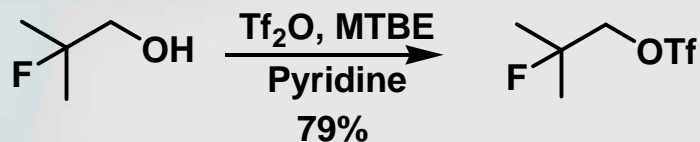
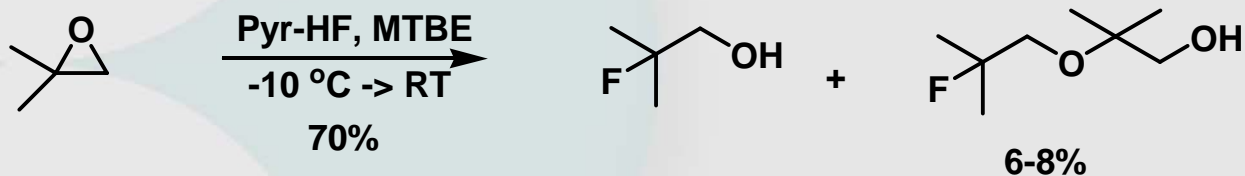


Alkylation/Hydrofluorination



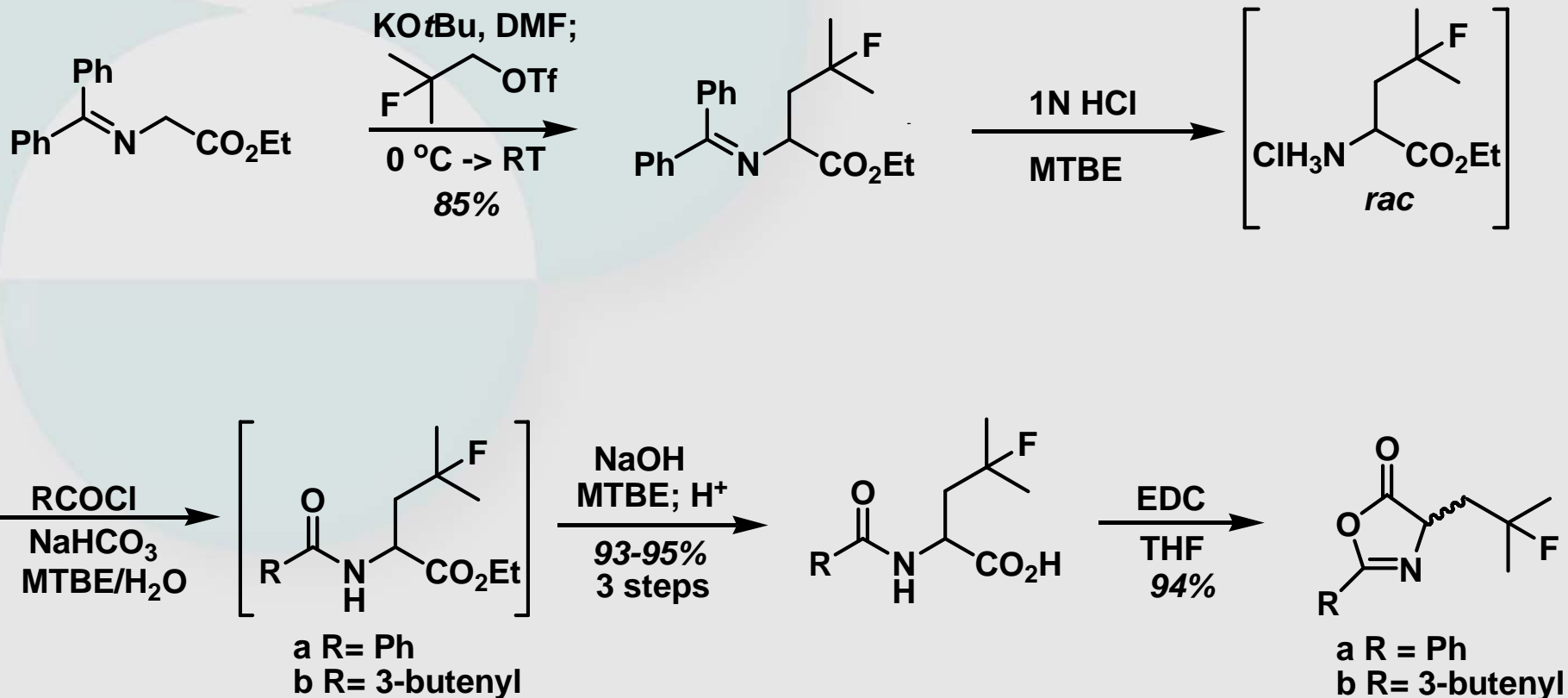
Oxazolinone Resolution

# Synthesis of F-Containing Electrophiles



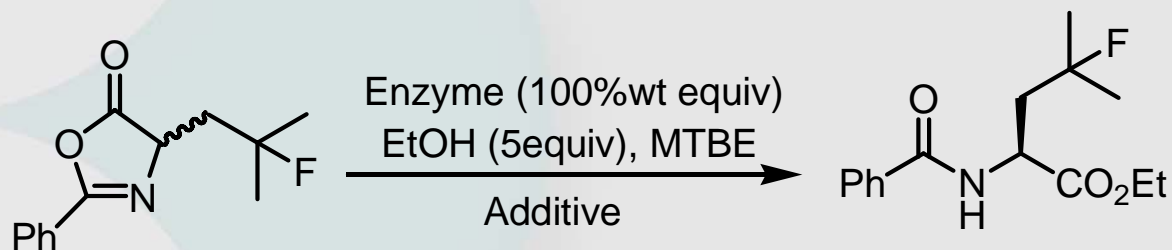
- OTs, I and Br analogues were insufficiently reactive electrophiles

# Synthesis of Oxazolinones

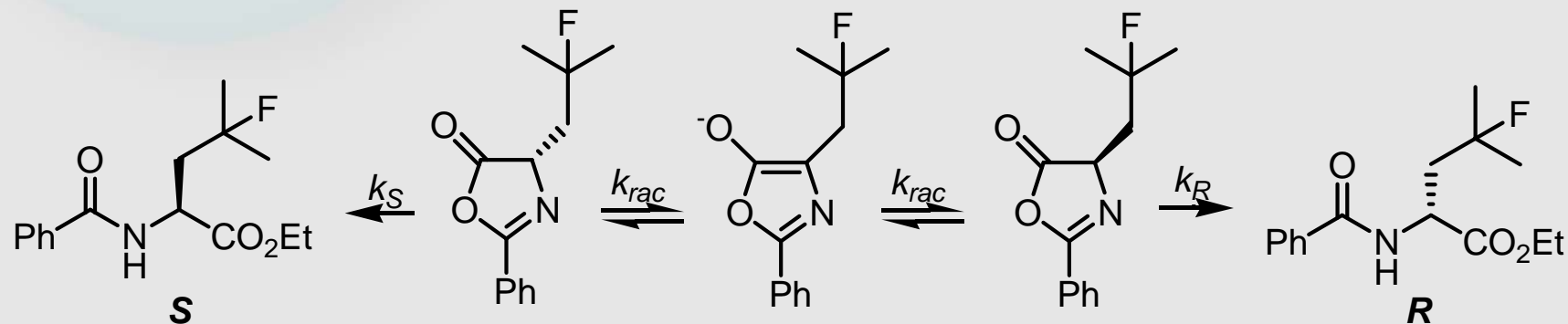




# Dynamic Kinetic Resolution of Oxazolinones

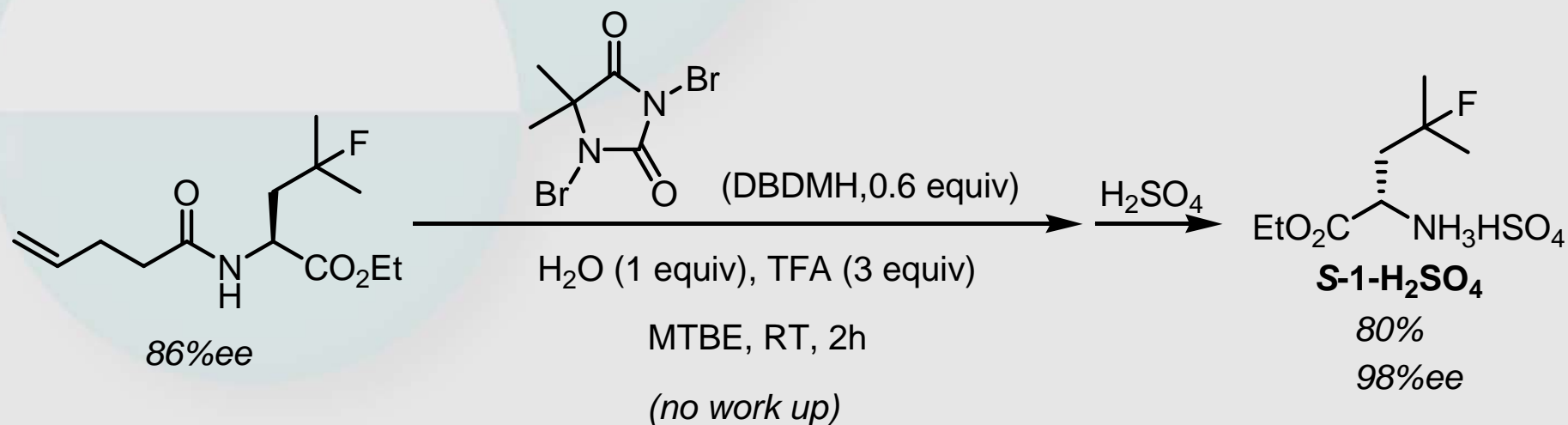


Enzymes	Additive	Temp (°C)	Time (h)	Results	
				ee (%)	Yield (%)
none	none	50	48		<2
Immobilized Lipase CAL B ( <i>Novozyme-435</i> )	none	50	12	70	
	none	37	16	84	
	Et <sub>3</sub> N (20mol%)	37	4	94	73
	<b>Et<sub>3</sub>N (20mol%)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>80</b>

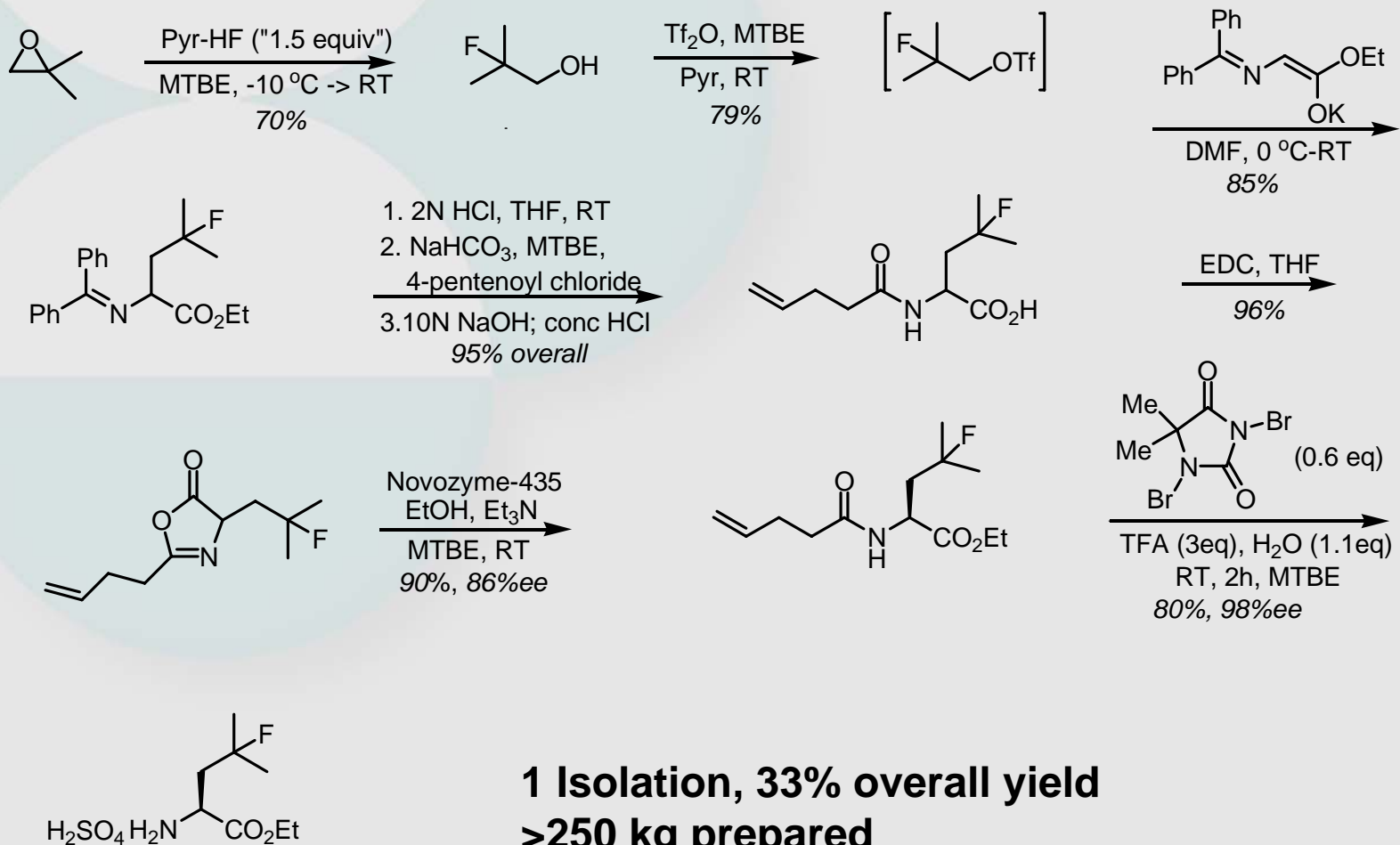


$$k_{rac} \gg k_S \gg k_R$$

# Deprotection of N-Pentenamide F-Leucine Ester



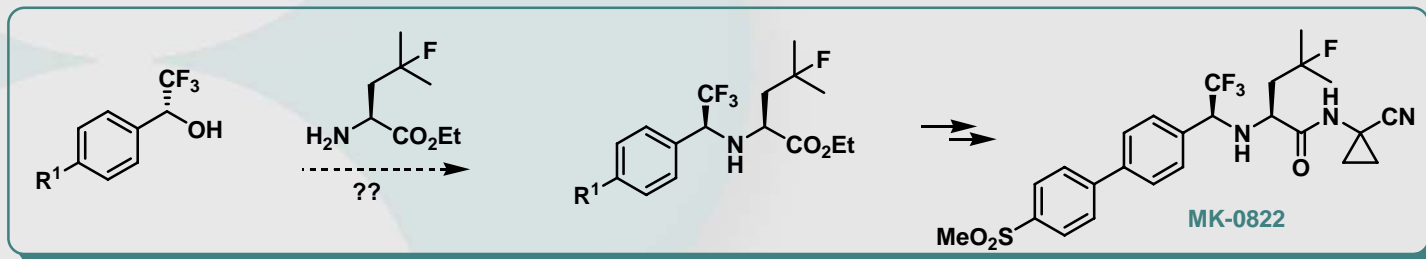
# Fluoroleucine Synthetic Sequence



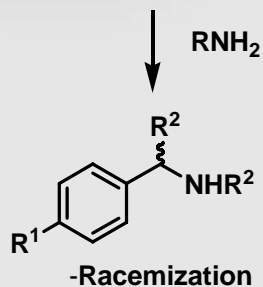
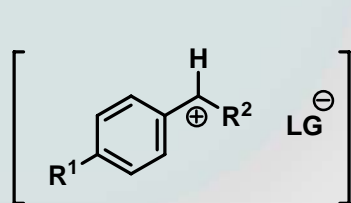
**1 Isolation, 33% overall yield  
>250 kg prepared**

# Nucleophilic Displacement Route

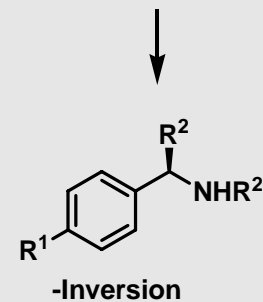
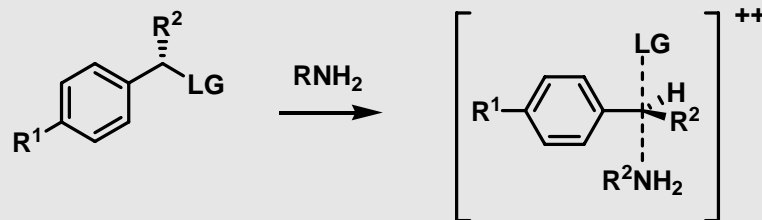
“Two wrongs makes a right”



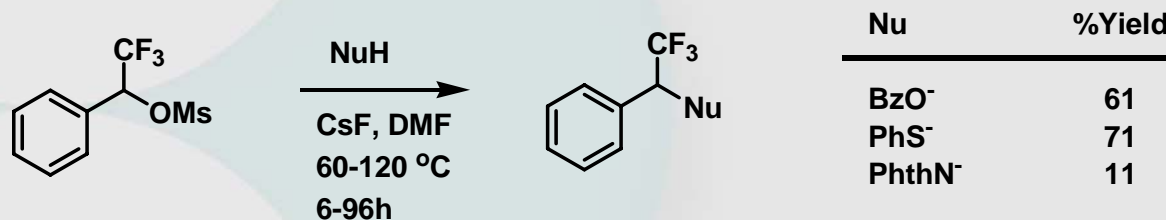
**S<sub>N</sub>1 Displacement:**



**S<sub>N</sub>2 Displacement:**



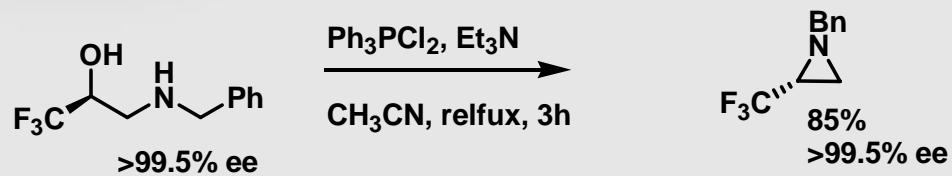
# S<sub>N</sub>2 Displacement Approach



Hagiwara, T.; Tanaka, K.; Fuchikami, T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, 37, 8187.



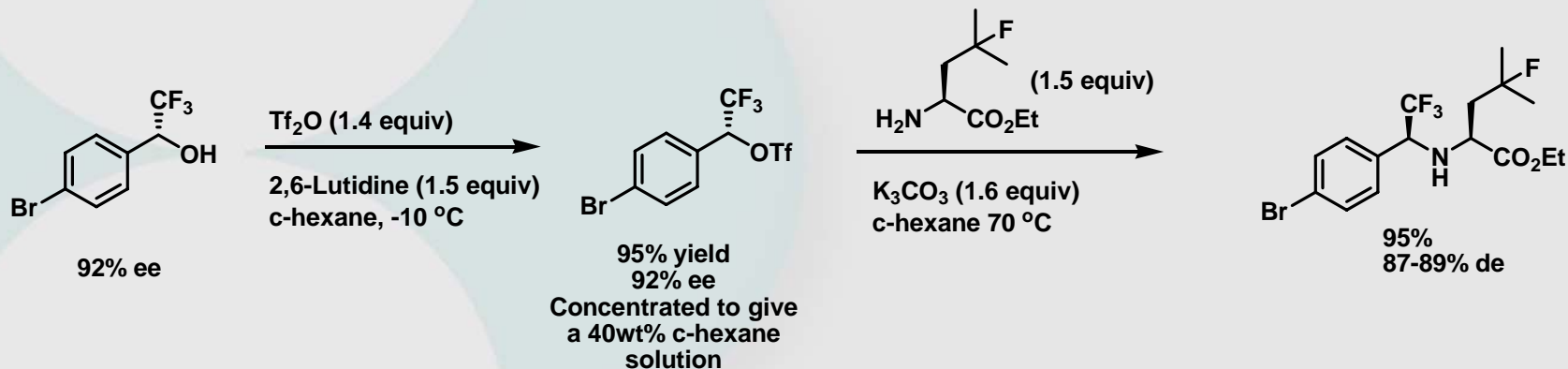
Hagiwara, T.; Ishizuka, M.; Fuchikami, T. *Nippon Kagaku Kaishi* **1998**, 11, 750.



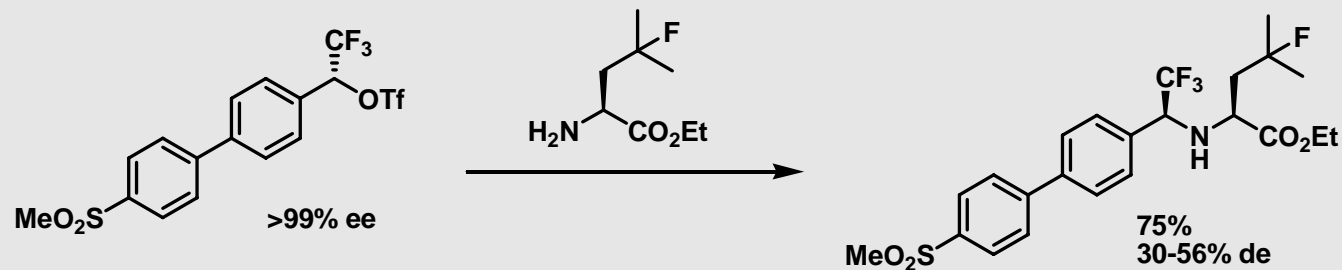
Katagiri, T.; Ihara, H.; Takahashi, M.; Kashino, S.; Furuhashi, K.; Uneyama, K. *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry*, **1997**, 8, 2933.

# S<sub>N</sub>2 Displacement Approach

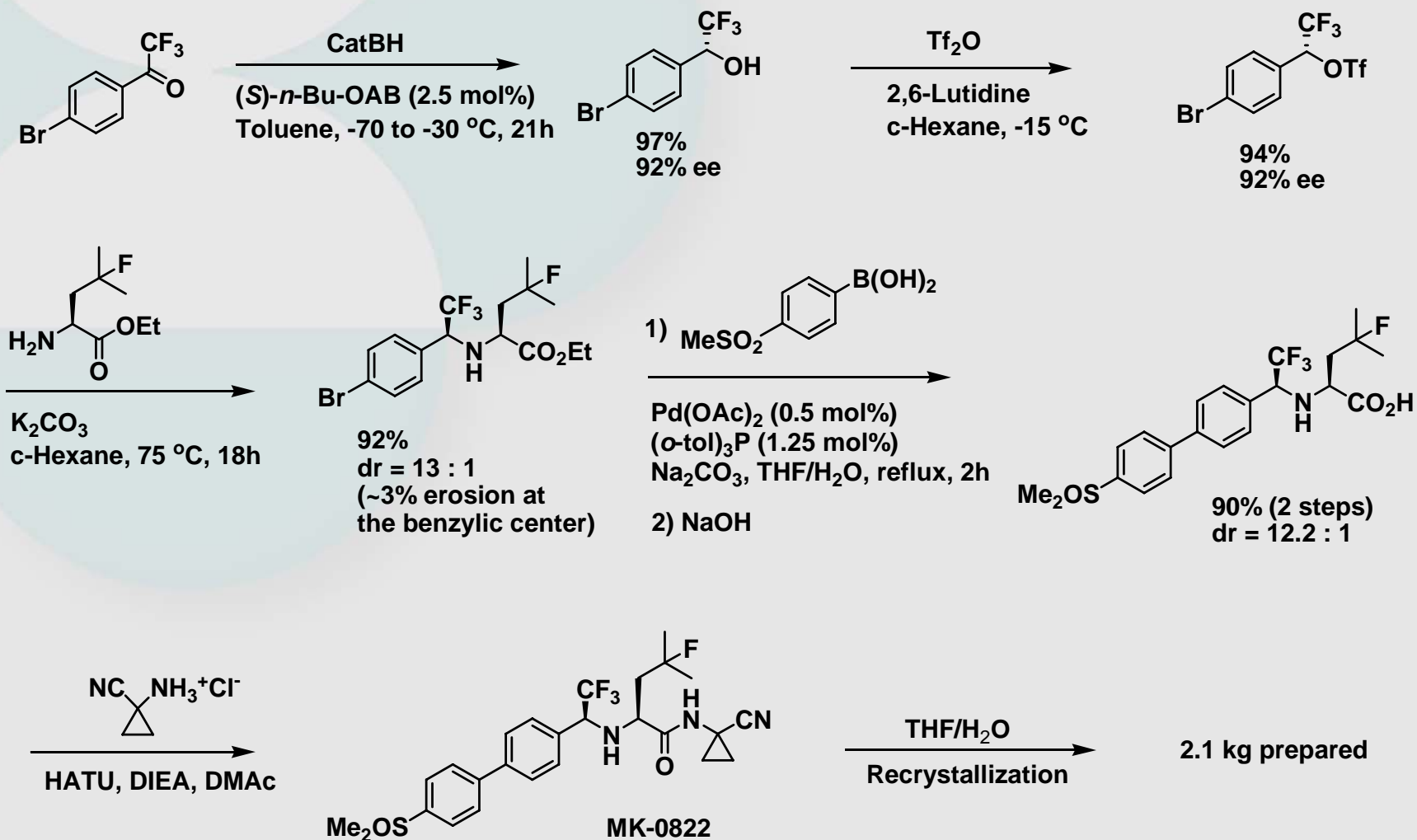
## Ideal Displacement Condition



- Erosion of Stereochemistry is minimized by:
  - lower temperatures
  - non-polar solvents
  - insoluble triflate salt
  - concentrated reactions
  - electron deficient substrates



# Kg Scale Delivery - Displacement Approach

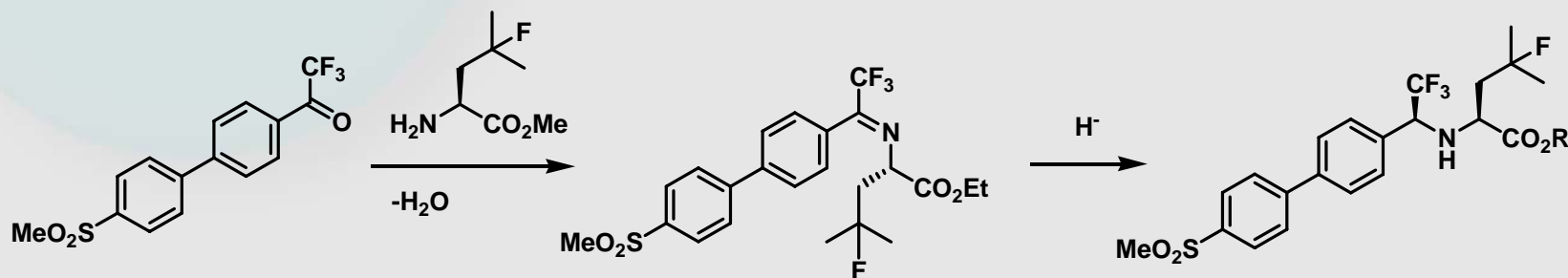


# S<sub>N</sub>2 Displacement Approach

## Issues with the Synthesis

To be Addressed in Long Term Route

- Creates a stereocenter, then tries hard to retain it
- Not optimally convergent as the Suzuki coupling can not be performed off-line
- FI-leucine salt break
- These problem could both be addressed with a reductive amination approach:

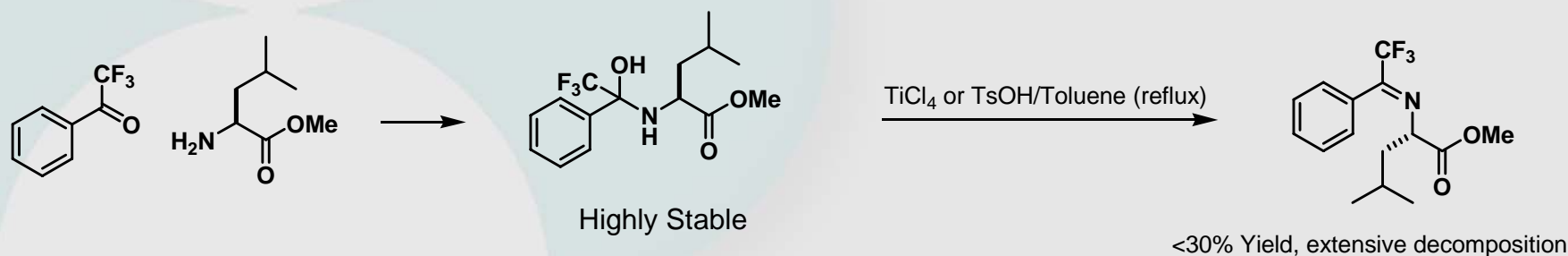




# Barriers to Reductive Amination with 2,2,2-Trifluoroacetophenones

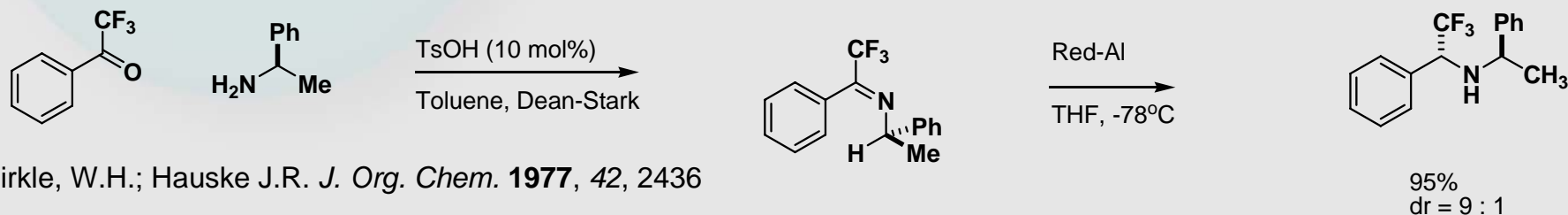
## Issues:

### A. Dehydration of tetrahedral aminal intermediates.

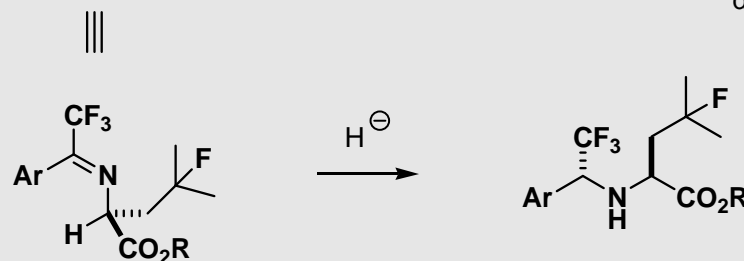


C.L. Barney, E.W. Huber, J.R. McCarthy,  
*Tetrahedron Lett.* **1990**, 31, 5547

### B. Facial selectivity of the reductions.

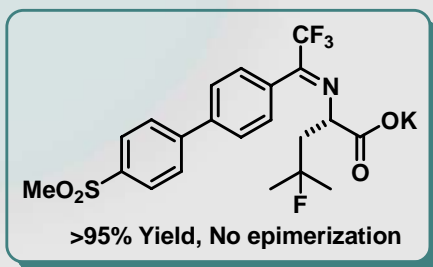
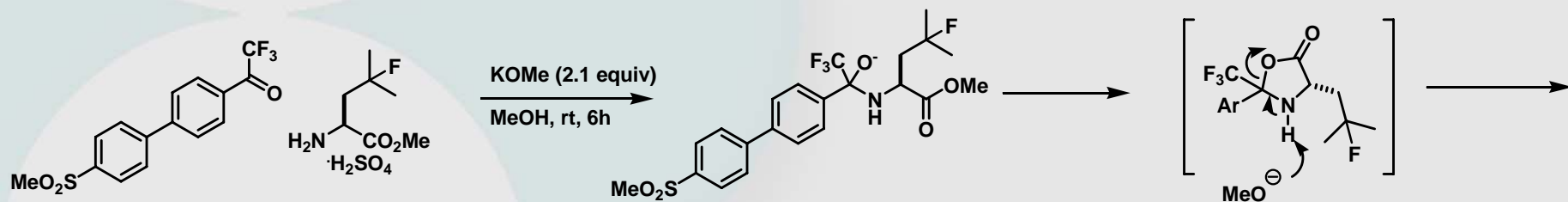


-Pirkle, W.H.; Hauske J.R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1977**, 42, 2436



# Reductive Amination Approach

## Base Mediated Imine Formation

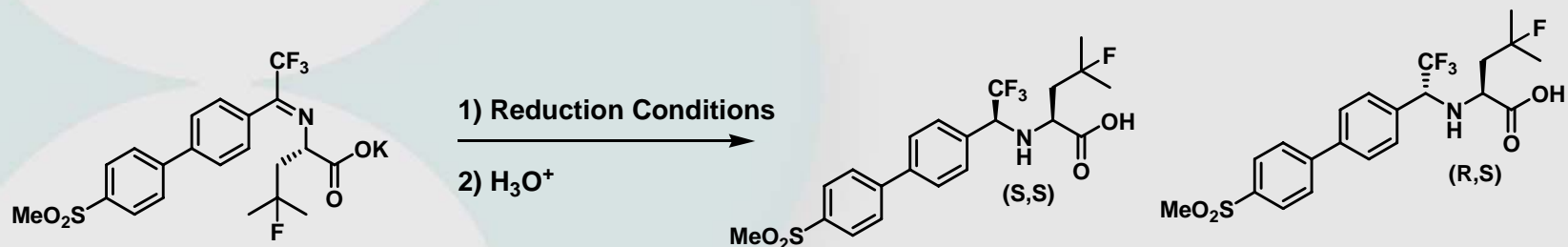


- Single imine isomer
- *E* geometry confirmed by nOe between <sup>i</sup>Bu and o-protons

Hughes, G., Devine, P. N.; Naber, J. R.; O'Shea, P. D.; Foster, B. S.; McKay, D.; Volante, R. P., *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2007**, *45*, 1839.

# Reductive Amination Approach

## Development of an (*S,S*) Selective Reduction



Entry	Reduction Conditions	%Conv(%Yield)	( <i>S,S</i> ) : ( <i>R,S</i> )*
1	H <sub>2</sub> (1 atm), Pd(OH) <sub>2</sub> /C, MeOH, rt	60	1 : 2
2	CatB-H, S-CBS (10 mol%), rt	100	1 : 5
3	Red-Al, THF, 0°C	100(40)	1 : 26
4	NaBH <sub>4</sub> , THF/ H <sub>2</sub> O, rt	100(86)	1 : 25
5	Zn(OTf) <sub>2</sub> , CatB-H, THF, rt	100(80)	3 : 1
6	NaBH <sub>4</sub> , ZnCl <sub>2</sub> , THF, rt	100	2 : 1

\* Determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR

# Reductive Amination Approach

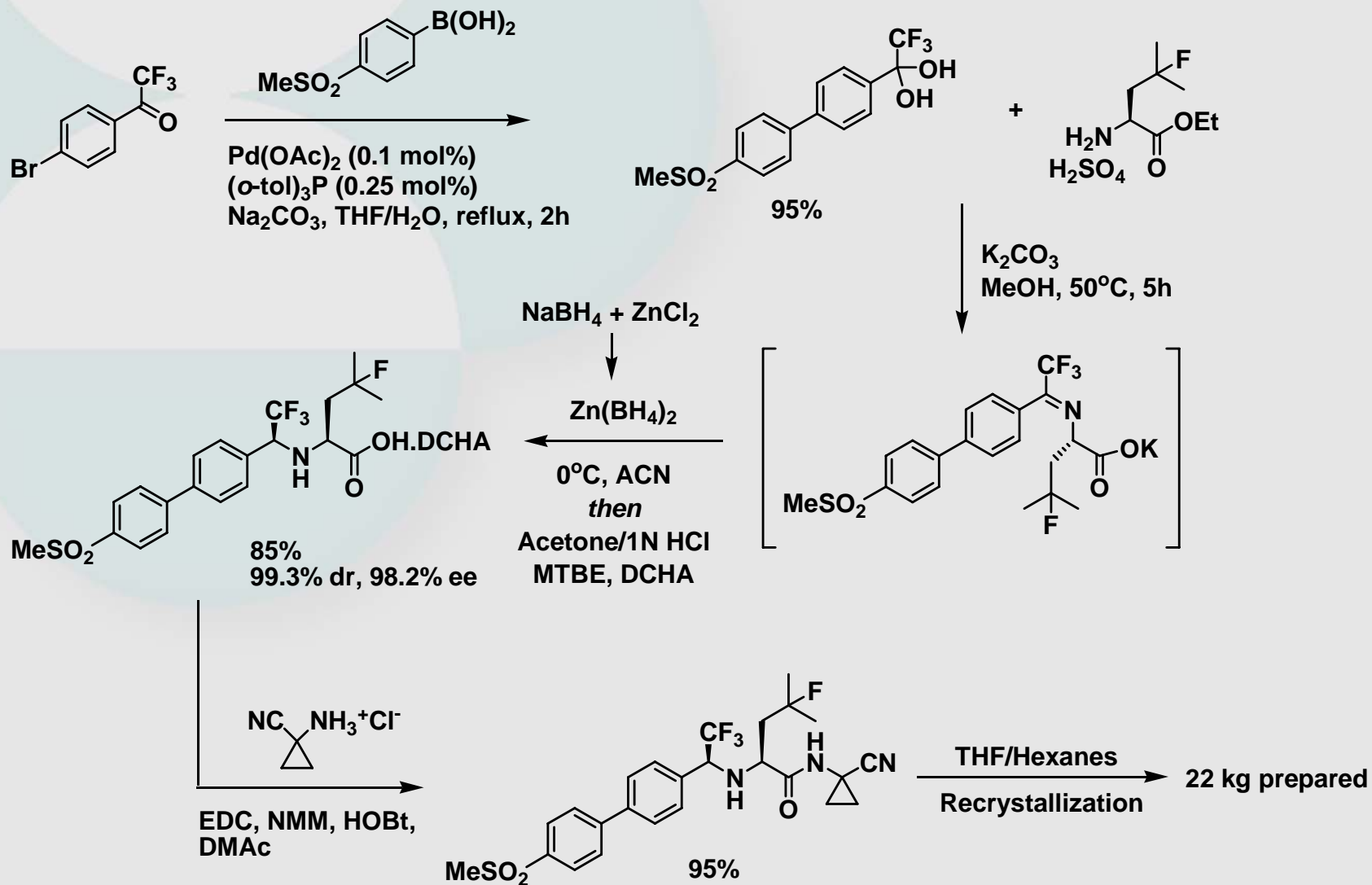
## Development of an (*S,S*) Selective Reduction



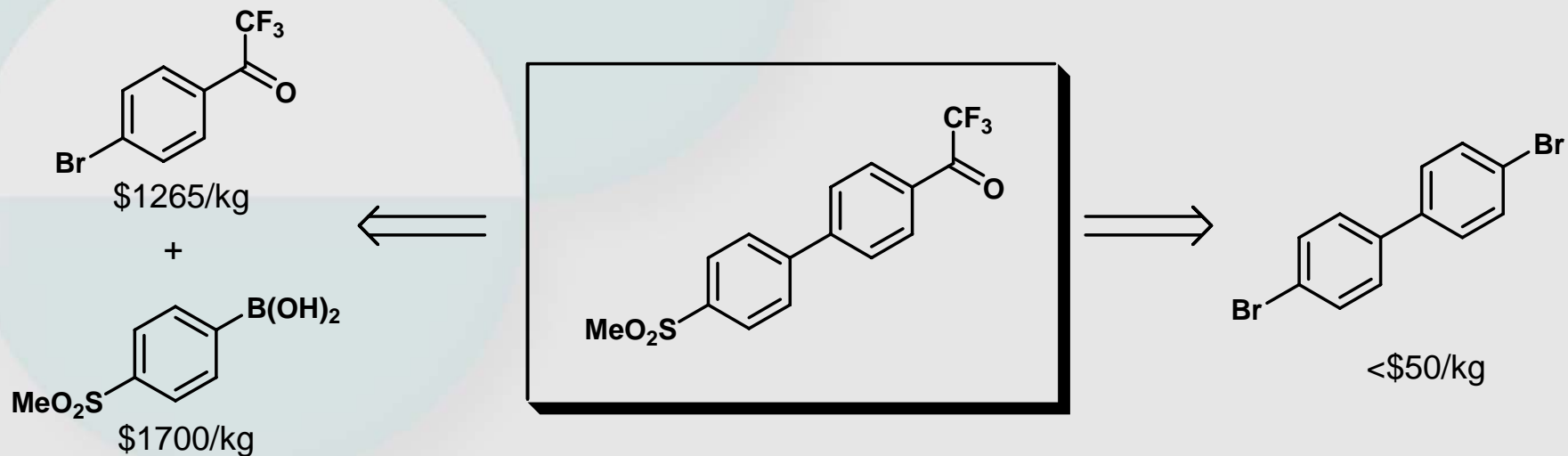
Entry	Solvent	Temp (°C)	Yield	( <i>S,S</i> ) : ( <i>R,S</i> ) <sup>*</sup>
1	Toluene	23	90	1 : 1
2	MTBE	23	90	1.6 : 1
3	THF	23	90	2 : 1
4	MeOH	23	50	1 : 3
5	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	23	90	8 : 1
6	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	-10	95	17 : 1

\* Measured by <sup>19</sup>F NMR analysis

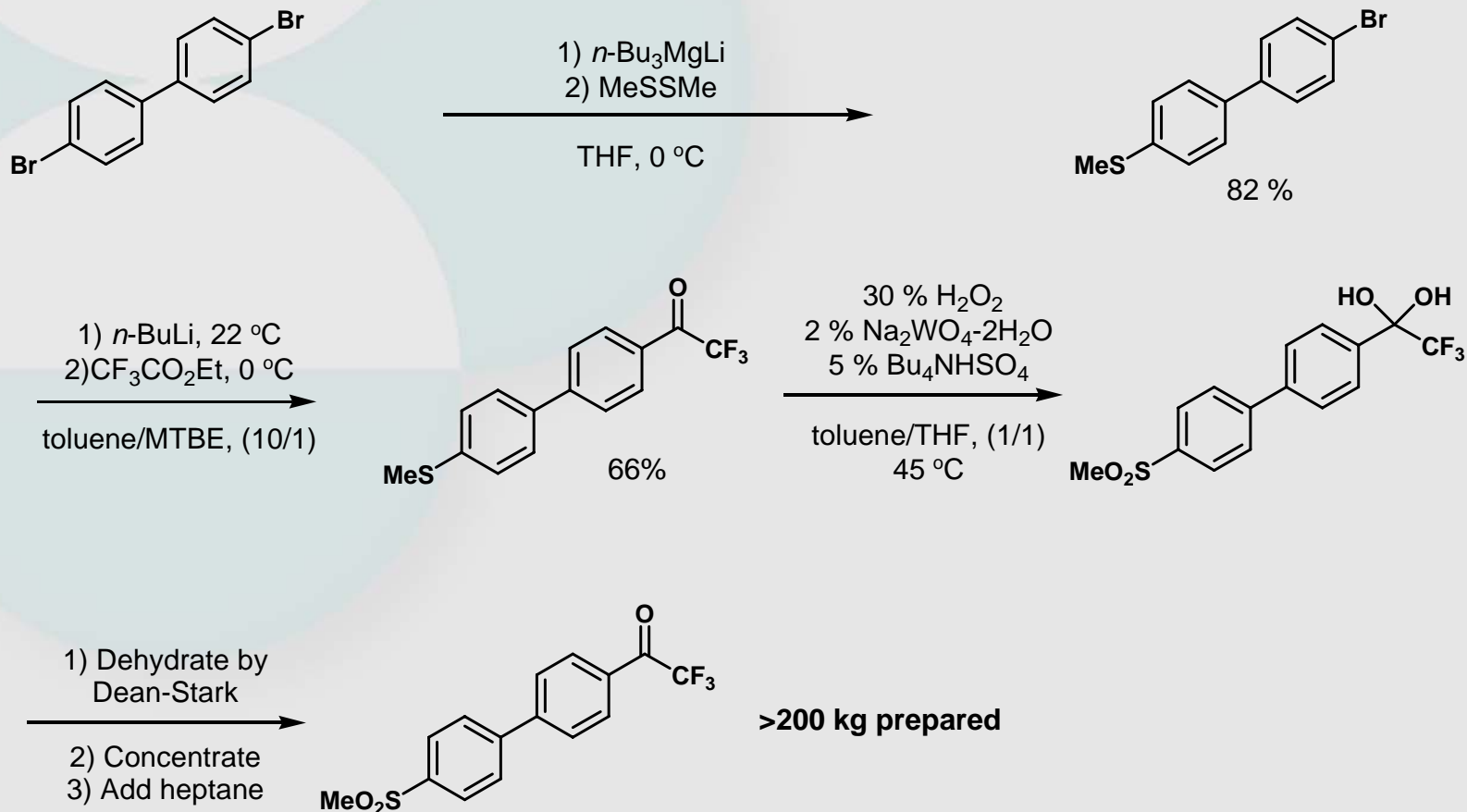
# Kg Scale Delivery – Reductive Amination Approach



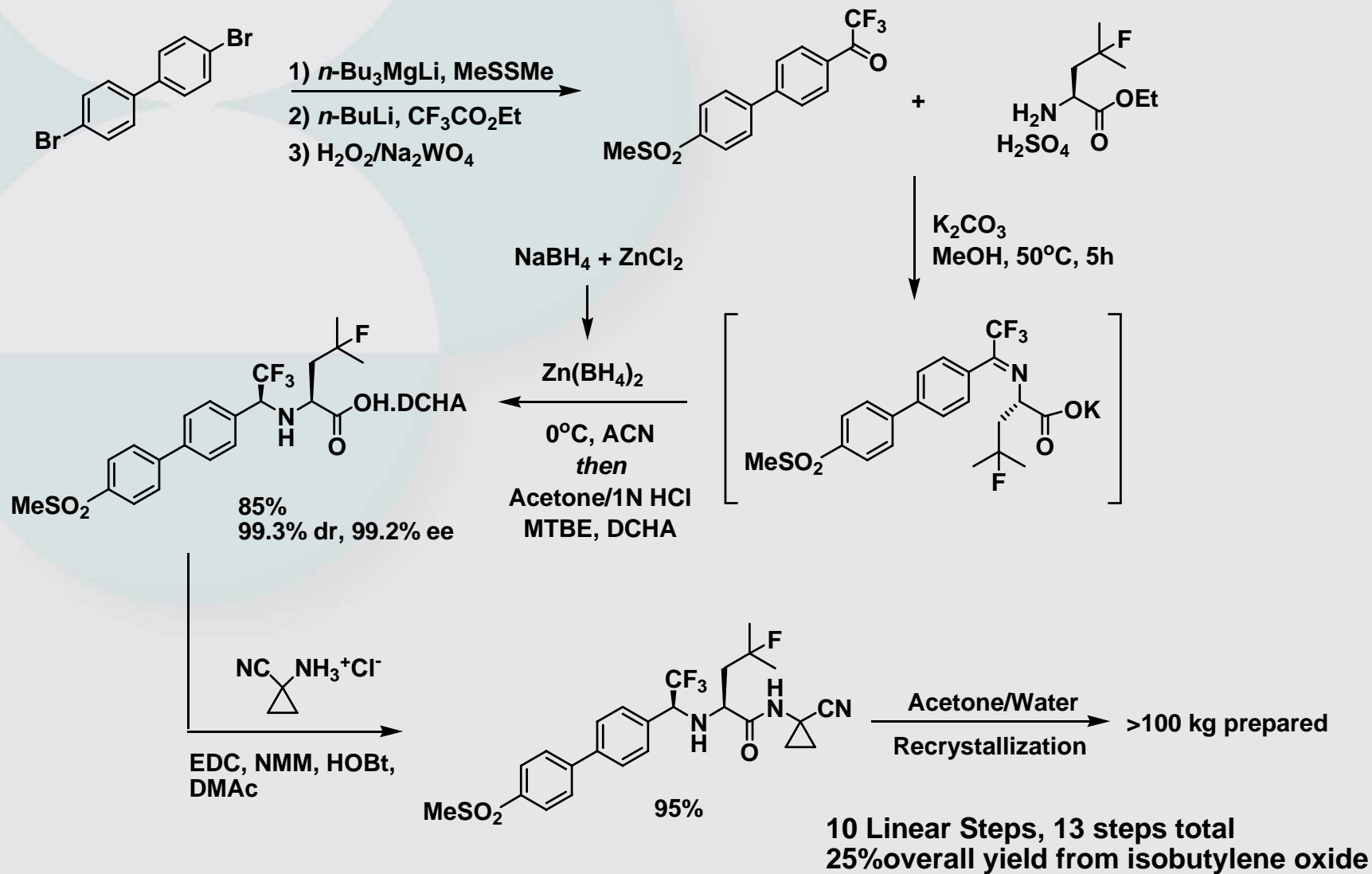
# Cost of Biaryl Fragment



# Biaryl Synthesis



# Optimized Route





# Conclusions

- Diastereoselective organometallic addition to trifluoroethyl imines generated from oxazolidines was developed.
- An asymmetric synthesis of fluoroleucine was developed using an enzyme mediated aza-lactone ring opening.
  - > 250 kg have been prepared.
- A first generation synthesis featuring an unprecedented S<sub>N</sub>2 displacement of a chiral benzyltrifluoromethyl alcohol with an amino ester was developed.
  - 2.1 kg of Odanacatib prepared.
- A second generation synthesis featuring a new Zn(BH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> mediated *syn* selective reduction of a trifluoromethyl imine was developed.
  - >120 kg of Odanacatib prepared.

# Acknowledgements

## **Process Research (Montreal):**

Francis Gosselin  
Christian Nadeau  
Greg Hughes  
Danny Gauvreau  
Sarah Dolman  
Amelie Roy  
Philippe Dagneau

## **(Rahway):**

Paul Devine  
Bruce Foster  
Don Gauthier  
John Limanto  
Rich Desmond  
Cheng Chen  
Bob Reamer  
Ian Davies  
Skip Volante

## **Process Research (T-Lab)**

Ian Cottrell  
John Edwards  
Adrian Goodyear  
Mike Ashwood

## **(Biocatalysis):**

Matt Truppo  
Dave Pollard  
Jeff Moore  
Ali Shafiee

## **(Polymorph/ Salt Screening):**

Jen Chilenski  
Kara Somerville  
Louis Crocker

## **Analytical:**

Tiebang Wang  
Tom Hooker  
Maria Ferrentino

## **Pilot Plant**

Bill Izzo  
Adam Fine

## **Medicinal Chemistry**

Laird Trimble  
Cameron Black  
Chun Sing Li  
Renata Oballa  
Jacques Yves Gauthier  
Vouy Linh Truong  
Dan Mackay