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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

for

Continuous-flow synthesis of fluorine-containing fine chemicals with integrated benchtop NMR analysis

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1. Lab plant flow chart with liquid control system



Scheme S1 Flow chart of THTMD-XL lab plant with integrated liquid control system and benchtop NMR analysis.

Pumps

Supplier: Knauer GmbH

P-01 Knauer Smartline P100 with 10 mL pump head Flow rate: max. 10 mL/min Pressure: max. 400 bar

P-purge Knauer Smartline K-501 with 10 mL pump head Flow rate: max. 10 mL/min Pressure: max. 400 bar

Heating cartridge in THTMD

Supplier: Hotrod[®] Typ HHP 20 mm Diameter: 20 mm, length: 200 mm, maximum power: 2500 W, voltage supply: 230 V Integrated thermocouple: *TIC-001* NiCr-Ni Typ K Connection cable: 1500 mm

Control unit for heating cartridge in THTMD

Supplier: Fraunhofer ICT-IMM Voltage supply : 230 V Integrated controller: JUMO iTRON B70.2040

Cartridges

Supplier: Fraunhofer ICT-IMM *CART1* length 5 cm, ¼" stainless steel pipe (1.4435), V = 0.8 mL *CART2* length 18 cm, 3/8" stainless steel pipe (1.4435), V = 7 mL *CART3* length 15 cm, ¼" stainless steel pipe (1.4435), V = 2.4 mL Frits für ¼" tubes: pore size 10 µm, thickness: 1 mm, stainless steel (1.4401) Connectors: Swagelok® 1/16" connection nut with clamp ring

3-Way valves

Supplier: Swagelok[®] Type: SS-41GXS1 1/16" connectors, stainless steel body (1.4401), Packung aus modifiziertem PTFE, working pressure: 172 bar (2500 psig), maximum temperature: +148 °C

Dosing valves

Supplier: Swagelok[®] Type: SS-SS2-KZ-VH 1/8" connectors, stainless steel body 1.4401, working pressure: 137 bar, maximum temperature: +148 °C, material O-ring: Kalrez (FFKM), complete blocking not possible, dosing with micrometer screw

Flipper magnetic valves

Supplier: Bürkert Type: 6650

3/2-Way universal passage, seal: FFKM, construction material: PEEK, voltage: 24 V, maximum pressure: 1 bar Additional components: cable head Typ 2504 with integrated booster- and power reduction electronic, 24 V/DC, connection plate material: PEEK with UNF1/4-28-F connectors

Gas-liquid separator

Supplier: Fraunhofer ICT-IMM Construction based upon literature data from: Ley et al. *Green Chem.*, **2013**, *15*, 2050. Liquid feed capillary: 1/16" OD, 127 µm ID, stainless steel Gas feed capillary: 1/8" stainless steel Gas withdrawing capillary: ¼" stainless steel Separator body: FEP tubing, 14 mm OD, 12 mm ID, length 100 mm Screw connection material for separator body: Teflon

Nitrogen mass flow controller for g/l-splitter

Supplier: Bronkhorst[®] Type: F-201C-FAC-22-P, S.N. M2207388B, 5 ls/min, maximum pressure: 4 bar (a), working temperature: 20 °C, signal out 0-5 V, signal in 0-5 V with control box for 5 V mass flow controller

Sensors and regulation units

a) Temperature detection (single unit)

Supplier: TC direct

- *TI-001* Typ K, diameter: 0,5 mm, length: 150 mm, material: stainless steel (1.4541), connection cable: 2000 mm with PFA isolation
- b) Pressure detection Supplier: Landefeld

PI-001/PI-002

MIDAS Type 1001, pressure range: 0-100 bar, material of contacting elements for measurement: stainless steel 1.4571 and 1.4542, temperature range of measuring medium: -20°C to +125 °C, voltage feed: 10-30 V DC, output signal: 4 to 20 mA



Figure S1 Detailed description of lab plant.



Figure S2 Detailed description of liquid control system.

2. Tube Heat Transfer Micro Device XL (THTMD-XL)



Figure S3 Microstructured inner tube in full length (left) and close-up of microstructure (right) of THTMD-XL.



3. Capillary photoreactor

Figure S4 1st Generation of the capillary photoreactor with blue, green and red LED.

Light Emitting Diods

Supplier: Cree, Inc. Type: XP-E series XPEROY-L1-0000-00A01 (royal blue, 445 nm) XPEGRN-L1-0000-00C01 (green, 520 nm) XPERED-L1-0000-00501 (red, 630 nm)

Central Heat Exchanger and LED carrier

Supplier of CAD design: Fraunhofer ICT-IMM External company for 3D printing (selective laser melting): FIT prototyping GmbH

Power Supply for LEDs

Supplier: Basetech GmbH Type: BT-305

Cryostat for LED cooling Supplier: Julabo

Type: F10 with HC E07 (control unit)

4. SNR measurement of ¹⁹F NMR experiments with CF₃ signal



Figure S5 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl) benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.6 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_i = 0.5 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S6 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.3 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 0.5 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S7 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.15 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_i = 0.5 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S8 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.6 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 2 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S9 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.3 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 2 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S10 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.15 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 2 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S11 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with c = 0.6 mol L⁻¹ with $f_1 = 4$ mL min⁻¹; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S12 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.3 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 4 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.



Figure S13 ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl alcohol in DMSO with $c = 0.15 \text{ mol } L^{-1}$ with $f_1 = 4 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$; scan numbers from bottom to top: 4, 8, 16, 64.

5. Software interface



Figure S14 Front end of the LabView-based software interface for LCS and NMR spectrometer control.



a. Electronic communication with NMR spectrometer via LabView



ActiveTimeScanInSeconds	Apodization
1,38416	0,2
DigitalResolutionInHz	Experiment
0,38147	1
NumberOfPoints	NumberOfScans
4096	1
PeakIntegrationMethod	PulseWidthInMicrosecon
1	29,992
ReceiverGain	ScanDelayInSeconds
9	10
Solvent	SolventGroup
2	1
SpectralCentreInPpm	SpectralWidthInPpm
-165	204
TimePerScanInSeconds	TotalDurationInSeconds
11,3842	11,3842
ZeroFillingFactor	<u> </u>
10	
, ,	
	ЛК



b. Electronic communication with HPLC pump and magnetic valves via LabView











6. Experimental

Online- and offline-NMR spectroscopy

¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded with a NMReady-60e benchtop NMR spectrometer (Nanalysis Corp.) with Larmor frequencies of 58.63 MHz for ¹H and 55.17 MHz for ¹⁹F. High-resolution ¹H and ¹³C spectra were recorded with an Avance III HD 300 NMR spectrometer (Bruker BioSpin GmbH) with Larmor frequencies of 300.13 MHz for ¹H and 75.48 MHz for ¹³C.

Glassware from Norell Inc. was used for standard NMR tubes and for the manufacturing of the flow cell. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Deutero GmbH. NMR spectra were processed with ACD/NMR Processor software (academic edition) from ACD/Labs.

Chemical shifts are reported relative SiMe₄ (¹H: δ = 0.00 ppm) and CFCI₃ (¹⁹F: δ = 0.00 ppm). As internal standards the residual DMSO-d₆ solvent proton signal (2.50 ppm) was used.

Krapcho decarboxylation

10.8 g (0.04 mol, 1 eq) Ethyl (3,5-dichloropyridin-2-yl)(difluoro)acetate (**1**) was dissolved in a DMSO-water mixture (97/3, v/v; 100 mL) and lithium chloride (3.39 g, 0.08 mol, 2 eq) was added. The suspension was stirred at room temperature until all LiCl has dissolved resulting in a clear and colourless solution.

The substrate solution was pumped with various flow rates and at various temperatures through the THTMD, the gas-liquid splitter and into the flow cell for online NMR analysis. The dark brown reaction solution was collected in one vessel and stirred into cold water (200 mL). The resulting suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 80 mL). The organic phases were combined, washed with water (2x 50 mL) and dried with Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated at 40 °C under reduced pressure and subjected to flash chromatography with cyclohexane as eluent. The purified product was used for ¹H NMR analysis in standard NMR tubes with DMSO-d₆ as solvent.



¹H-NMR (300 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 8.75 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 53.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 146.7 (CH), 146.1 (t, *J* = 23.1, C), 138.4 (CH), 133.7 (C), 130.3 (C), 111.8 (t, *J* = 239.9 Hz, CH).^{1,2}

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Ruppert-Prakash reaction with TMS-CF₃

Benzaldehyde (1.77 g, 0.017 mol, 1 eq) and TMS-CF₃ (2.84 g, 0.02 mol, 1.2 eq) were mixed with 100 mL DMSO resulting in a clear and colourless solution.

The substrate solution was pumped at various temperatures through the THTMD and analysed online with the benchtop NMR spectrometer. The slightly yellow reaction solution was collected in one vessel and stirred into cold water (200 mL). The resulting suspension was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 80 mL). The organic phases were combined, washed with water (2x 50 mL) and dried with Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated at 40 °C under reduced pressure and subjected to flash chromatography with cyclohexane as eluent. The purified product was used for ¹H NMR analysis in standard NMR tubes with DMSO-d₆ as solvent.



¹H-NMR (300 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.36 (m, 3H), 5.40 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 0.07 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 135.5 (C), 129.1 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 124.5 (q, *J* = 282.8 Hz, C), 71.6 (q, *J* = 30.8 Hz, CH), -0.34 (CH₃).³

Ruppert-Prakash reaction with TMS-C₂F₅

Method 1:

Benzaldehyde (1.77 g, 0.017 mol, 1 eq) and TMS-C₂F₅ (3.84 g, 0.02 mol, 1.2 eq) were mixed with 100 mL DMSO resulting in a clear and colourless solution. Vigorous stirring was necessary in this case for breaking the binary phase system between DMSO and TMS-C₂F₅. The substrate solution was used as described above for the Ruppert-Prakash reaction with TMS-CF₃.

Method 2:

Benzaldehyde (1.77 g, 0.017 mol, 1 eq) and TMS-C₂F₅ (3.84 g, 0.02 mol, 1.2 eq) were each mixed with 50 mL DMSO resulting in clear and colourless solution. Vigorous stirring was necessary for the DMSO / TMS-C₂F₅ mixture for breaking the binary phase system between the two liquids.

Both solutions were pumped separately with two HPLC pumps into a static T-piece mixer and via the cartridge – reactor – cartridge cascade of the lab plant into the flow cells for NMR analysis. The flow rates of both HPLC pumps were kept equal so that a constant substrate concentration of 0.2 M was given throughout the complete runtime. During the run time various temperatures were applied at the THTMD.



¹H-NMR (300 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 7.52-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 3H), 5.40 (dd, *J* = 19.7 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 0.01 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 134.6 (C), 129.2 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 119.0 (qt, *J* = 288.3 Hz, 36.3 Hz C), 113.0 (tq, *J* = 261.9 Hz, 35.2 Hz), 71.0 (dd, *J* = 30.1 Hz, 21.5 Hz, CH), 0.52 (CH₃).^{3,4}

Dye-sensitized C-H arylation of furan with a trifluoromethylated diazonium salt

3-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (5.2 g, 0.02 mol, 1 eq) was dissolved in DMSO (50 mL). Eosin Y (138.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 0.01 eq) was dissolved in a solvent mixture of DMSO and furan (35.5/14.5, v/v).

Both reaction solutions were pumped separately with two HPLC pumps into a static T-piece mixer and via the capillary microreactor and the gas-liquid splitter into the flow cells for online NMR analysis. The flow rates of both HPLC pumps were kept equal so that a constant substrate concentration of 0.2 M was given throughout the complete runtime. The dark yellow reaction solution was collected in one vessel and stirred into cold water (200 mL). The resulting suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 80 mL). The organic phases were combined, washed with water (2x 50 mL) and dried with Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated at 40 °C under reduced pressure and subjected to flash chromatography with cyclohexane as eluent. The purified product was used for ¹H NMR analysis in standard NMR tubes with DMSO-d₆ as solvent.



¹H-NMR (300 MHz; **CDCl**₃): δ 7.94 (br.s, 1H), 7.86-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 3H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 3.44 Hz, 0.69 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, *J* = 3.44 Hz, 1.83 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz; CDCl₃): δ 152.4 (C), 142.8 (CH), 131.1 (q, *J* = 31.9 Hz, C), 129.1 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 124.1 (q, *J* = 272.9 Hz, C), 123.7 (q, *J* = 3.3 Hz, CH), 120.5 (q, *J* = 3.3 Hz, CH), 111.9 (CH), 106.3 (CH).⁵ ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; **DMSO-d**₆): δ 7.96-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 1.83 Hz, 0.73 Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 0.73 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1.83 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz; DMSO-d₆): δ 151.9 (C), 144.1 (CH), 131.7 (C), 130.4 (CH), 130.3 (q, *J* = 31.9 Hz, C), 127.4 (CH), 124.5 (q, *J* = 271.8 Hz, C), 124.0 (q, *J* = 3.3 Hz, CH), 120.0 (q, *J* = 3.3 Hz, CH), 112.7 (CH), 108.0 (CH).



Figure S 15 Top: Static T-mixer with incoming orange Eosin Y solution and colourless substrate solution resulting in deep pink solution; Bottom: colour change of the substrate solution from deep pink (bottom part of the reactor) to dark yellow upon irradiation with green light. Formation of gas slugs due to the expulsion of molecular nitrogen during the reaction. Internal light source is switched off for taking the picture.

7. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of Krapcho decarboxylation in continuous-flow















8. High-resolution ¹H / ¹³C NMR spectrum of purified 2 (DMSO-d₆)





9. ¹H NMR spectrum of partly hydrolysed TMS-CF₃ in DMSO-d₆

10. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of Ruppert-Prakash reaction with TMS-CF₃ in continuous-flow (non-dried DMSO)









High-resolution ¹H / ¹³C NMR spectra of purified 4 (DMSO-d₆) 11.



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12. ¹H NMR spectrum of partly hydrolysed TMS-C₂F₅ in DMSO-d₆











14. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of Ruppert-Prakash reaction with TMS-C₂F₅ in continuous-flow (dry DMSO)





15. High-resolution ¹H / ¹³C NMR spectra of purified 5 (DMSO-d₆)





16. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of dye-sensitized C-H arylation in continuous-flow













High-resolution ¹H / ¹³C NMR spectrum of purified 7 (DMSO-d₆) 17.









18. High-resolution ¹H NMR spectrum of purified 7 (300 MHz, CDCl₃)





19. References

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