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Title (Delete the unnecessary): Dr.

Family Name: PIROVANO First Name(s): Valentina

Institution: Dipartimento di Scienze Farmaceutiche, Sezione di Chimica Generale e Organica, Università degli Studi di Milano

Mailing Address: Via Venezian, 21

City: Milano Zip Code: 20133 Country: Italy

Tel: 02 50314474 Fax: 02 50314476 E-mail: valentina.pirovano@unimi.it

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C-3 functionalization of indoles with methyl 2-acetamidoacrylate under Gold(I), Silver or Brønsted acids catalysis

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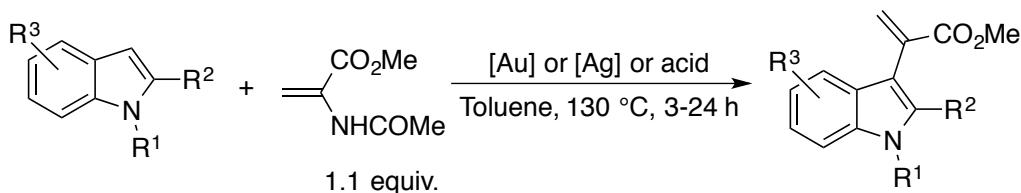
C-3 functionalization of indoles with methyl 2-acetamidoacrylate under Gold(I), Silver or Brønsted acids catalysis

Valentina Pirovano^a, Monica Dell'Acqua^a, Giorgio Abbiati^a and Elisabetta Rossi^a

^aDipartimento di Scienze Farmaceutiche-DISFARM, Sez. Di Chimica Generale e Organica "A. Marchesini", Via Venezian 21, 20133, Milano, Italy

e-mail: valentina.pirovano@unimi.it

The chemical modification of indoles through direct functionalization of their C–H bonds constitute a widespread research area of continuous interest for organic synthesis since this scaffold is present in a huge variety of natural product families, medicines or drug candidates, among others.¹ In particular, the formation of a new C–C bond by means of innovative catalytic systems represents an alternative to traditional Friedel-Crafts reactions and allows the use of less toxic reagents and to operate in milder conditions. Among metals, gold catalysts have been employed to this scope in the last years.² In our research group, in particular, we get interested in investigating the reactivity of indoles towards α -amidoacrylates, as specific class of enones, in the presence of gold or silver catalysts. Thus, under the optimized reactions conditions we were able to synthesize a series of α -indolylacrilates in high yields.⁴ Furthermore an acid-catalyzed version of this reaction was also explored achieving similar results.



References:

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2. M. Dell'Acqua, D. Facoetti, V. Pirovano, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi, *Targets in Heterocyclic Systems* **2011**, *15*, 86-139.
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