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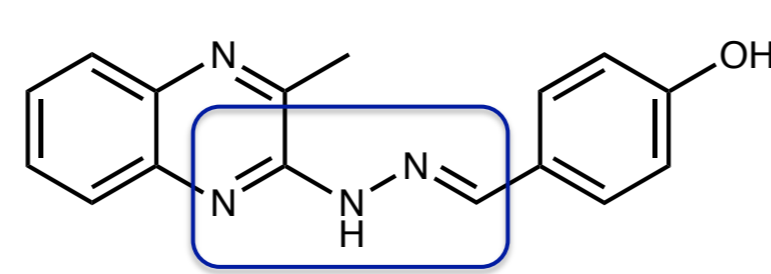
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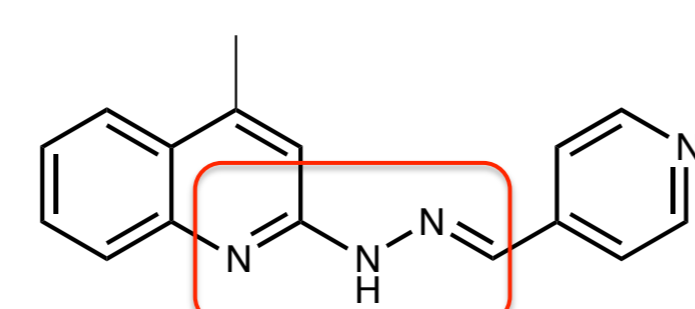
## Introduction

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder characterized by both motor and cognitive dysfunctions.<sup>1</sup> Different pathways are implicated in the development of PD and recently a few compounds demonstrated a promising profile as anti-PD agents:

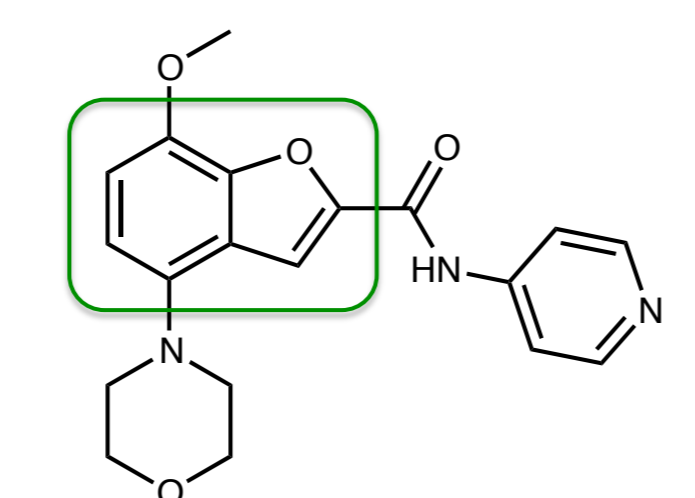
- Benzylidene hydrazinyl-3-methylquinazoline compounds as potent positive allosteric modulators of **metabotropic receptor subtype 4 (mGluR4)**,<sup>2</sup>



- 2-(2-Arylidenehydrazinyl)quinolone derivatives targeting the catalytic domain of **leucine-rich repeat kinase 2 (LRRK2)**,<sup>3</sup>



- Benzofuran-2-carboxamide compounds as selective antagonists of **adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptors**.<sup>4</sup>



## Aim of the work

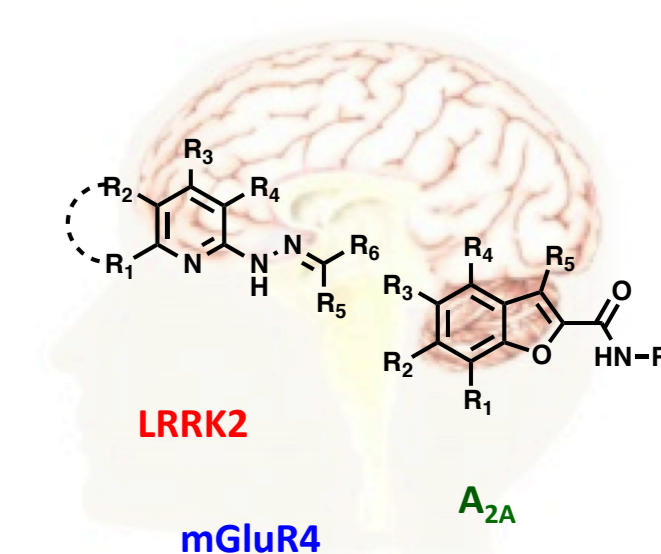
We decided to develop **new diversity-oriented synthesis around key pharmacophore hydrazone and benzofuran fragments** for the discovery of novel anti-Parkinson's agents.

This **pharmacophore fragment decoration approach** could be considered as a good compromise between a target-based and a phenotypic drug discovery approach.

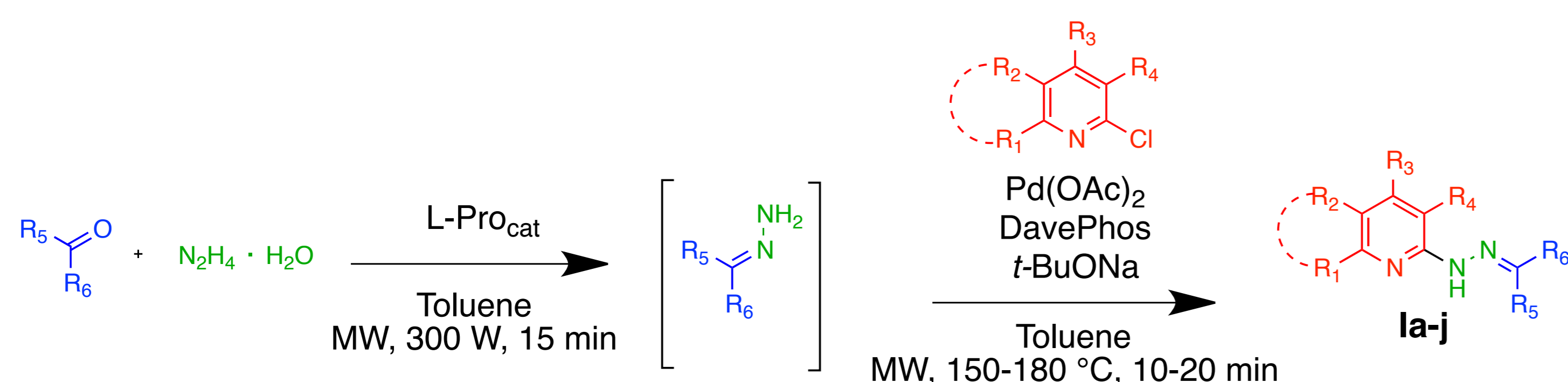
- ✓ **VERSATILE**, starting from commercially available reagents

- ✓ **FASTER than the common procedures**,<sup>5,6</sup> using the microwave irradiation

- ✓ **PRACTICAL**, combining the advantages of multistep protocols (high chemical diversity) and multicomponent reactions (atom- and cost-efficiency).



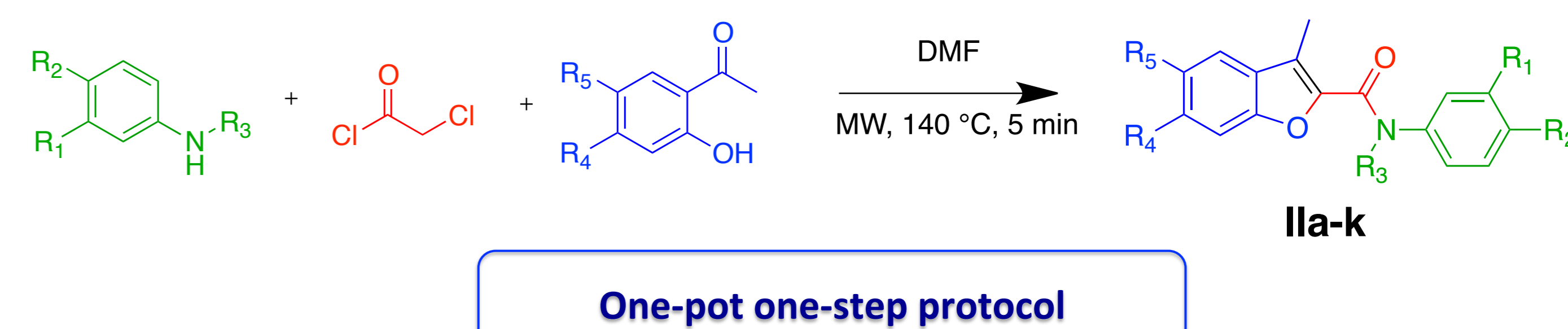
## Synthesis of heteroaryl hydrazone derivatives



**I<sup>st</sup> STEP:** Proline-catalysed conversion of ketone or aldehyde into the corresponding hydrazone;  
**II<sup>nd</sup> STEP:** Pd-catalysed amination of the heteroaryl chloride.

Compound	Ketone/Aldehyde	Heteroaryl chloride	Product (Yield=26-49%)
Ia			
Ib			
Ic			
Id			
Ie			
If			
Ig			
Ih			
Ii			
Ij			

## Synthesis of benzofuran derivatives



One-pot one-step protocol

Compound	Acetophenone	Aniline	Product (Yield=15-59%)
IIa			
IIb			
IIc			
IId			
IIe			
IIf			
IIg			
IIh			
IIi			
IIj			
IIk			

## Conclusions

We report the development of **new MCR approaches** for the rapid synthesis of highly functionalized **heteroaryl hydrazone and benzofuran derivatives**, that are considered **privileged scaffold in the treatment of Parkinson's disease**.

## References

- 1) J. Jancovic, *J Neurol Neurosurg*, **2008**, *79*, 368-376; 2) R. Williams et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, **2009**, *19*, 962-966; 3) H. Yun et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, **2011**, *21*, 2953-2957; 4) R. J. Nevagi et al., *Eur. J. Med. Chem.*, **2015**, *97*, 561-581; 5) B. E. Sleebbs et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, **2013**, *56*, 5514-5540; 6) L. De Luca et al., *Curr. Med. Chem.*, **2009**, *16*, 1-20.