

Master Course  
in Organic Chemistry

2018-19

methods and design  
in organic synthesis



UNIVERSITAT DE  
BARCELONA

Pere Romea

# THE LORD OF THE RINGS

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

by John R. R. Tolkien



## 6.3. Making rings (I)



*membered rings are excellent benchmarks to test  
any kind of reactivity*

*promoted by nucleophiles,  
radicals,  
electrophiles*

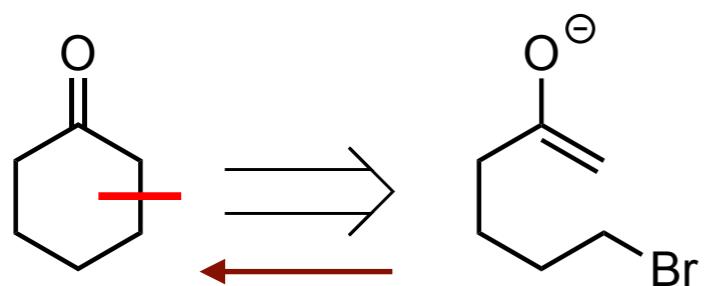
*pericyclic processes,*

*cascade sequences*

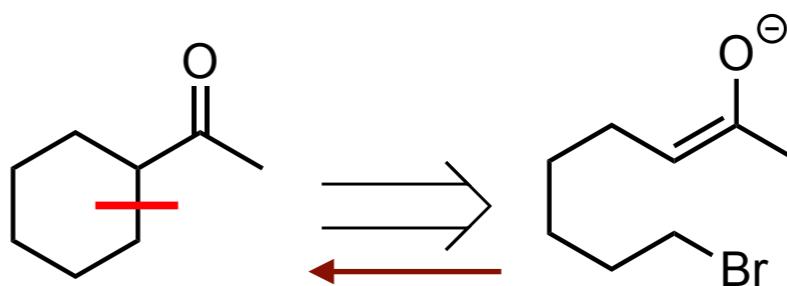
*& others (BIRCH REACTION)*



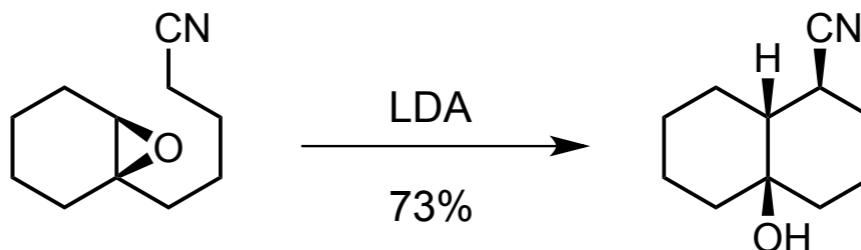
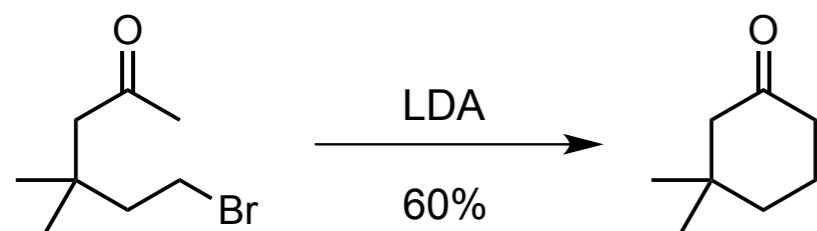
## Alkylation Reactions

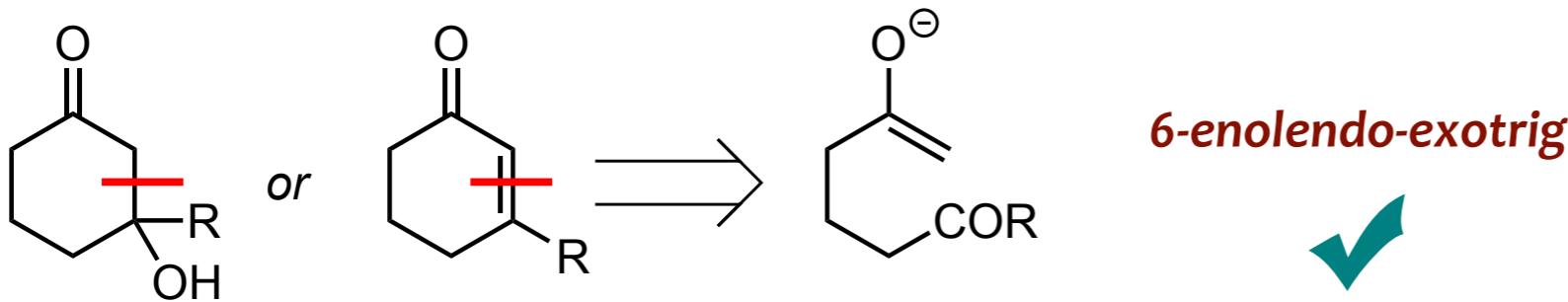


**6-enolendo-exotet**

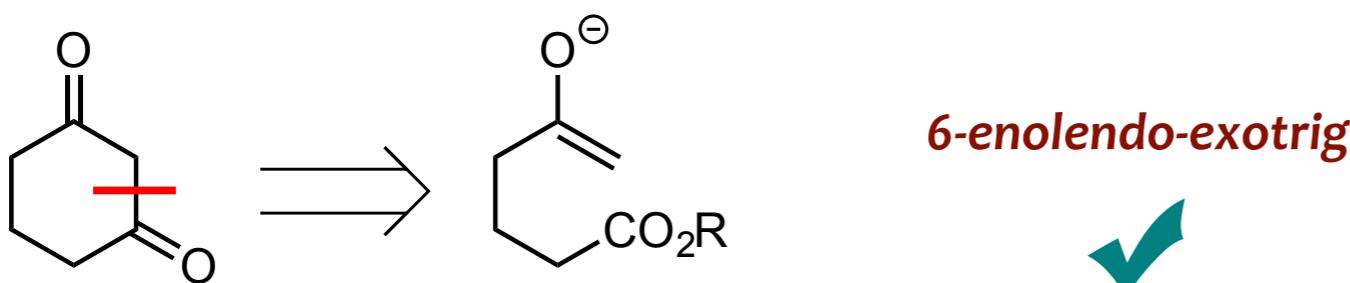
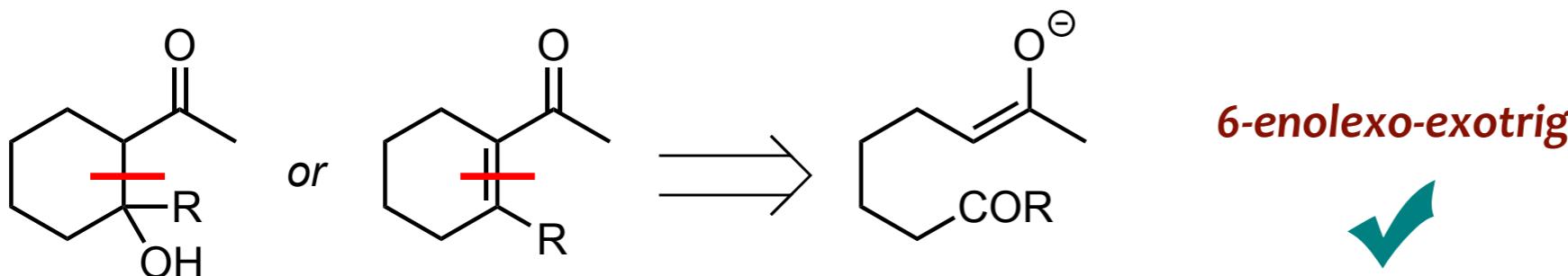


**6-enolexo-exotet**

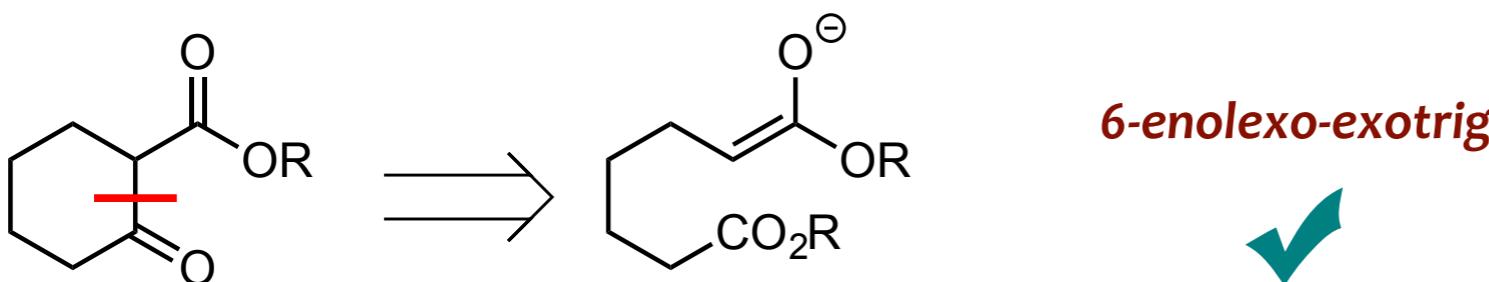


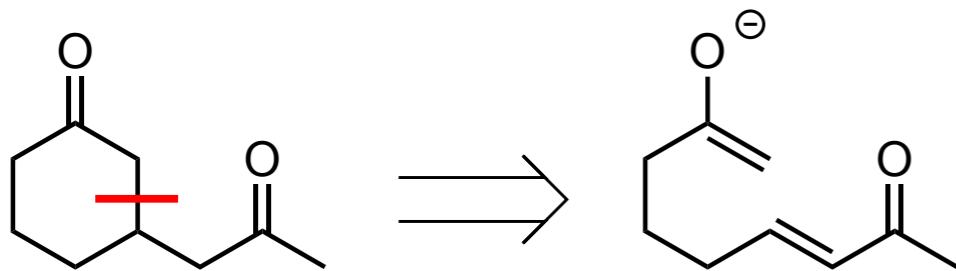


## Aldol Reactions



## Dieckmann Reactions

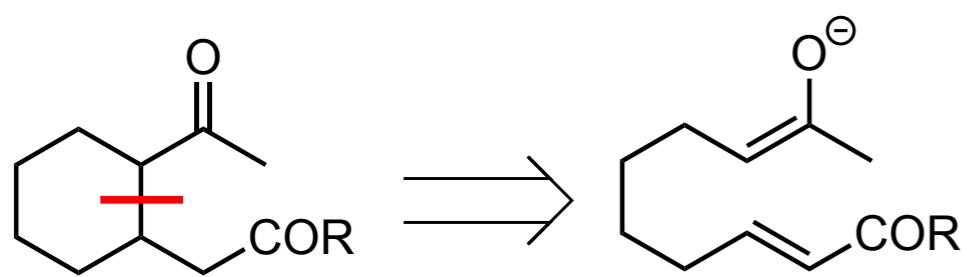




6-enolendo-exotrig



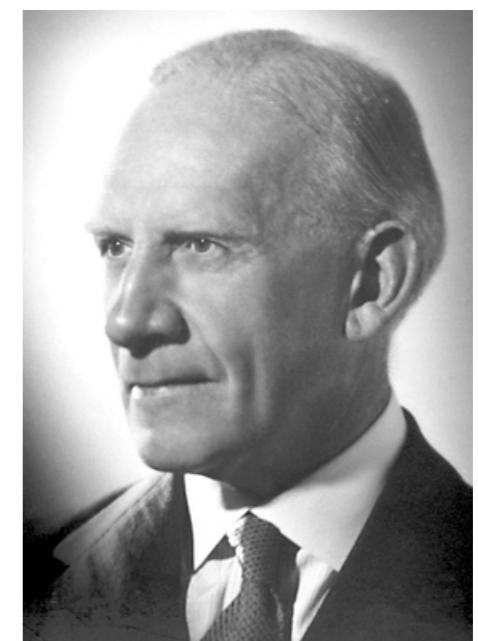
Michael Reactions



6-enolexo-exotrig

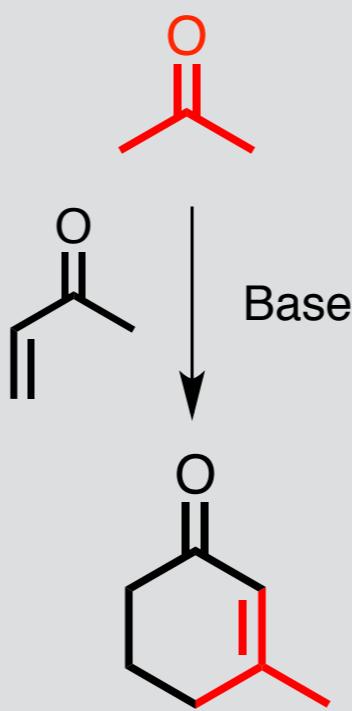


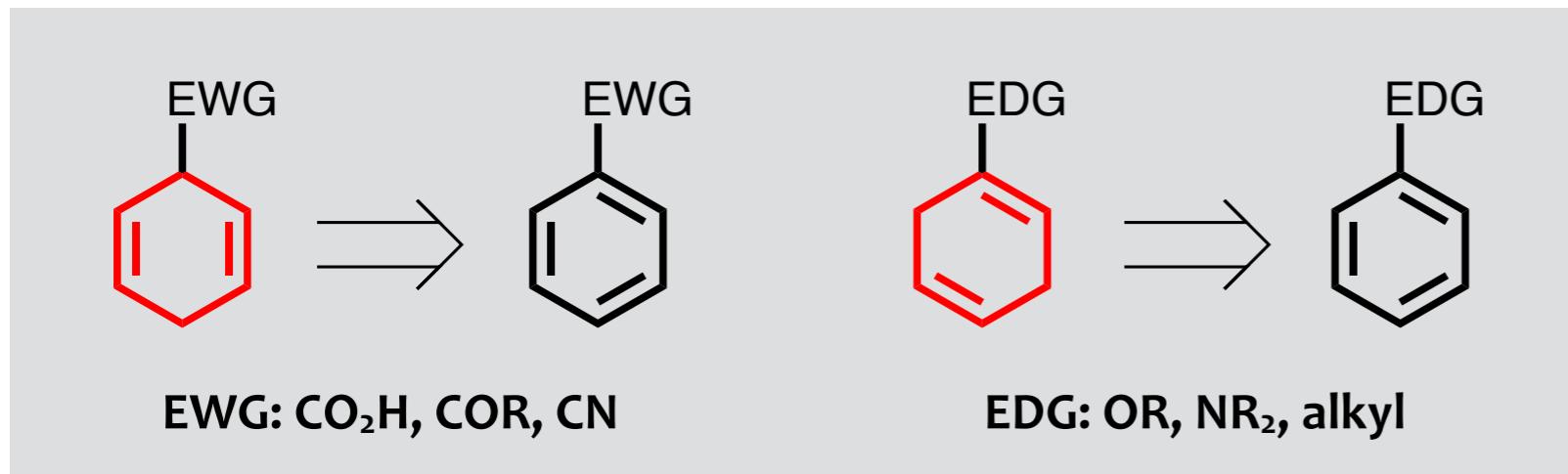
Sir Robert Robinson  
(1886-1975)



## Robinson annulation

Michael addition of a carbonyl to an enone followed by an intramolecular aldol condensation

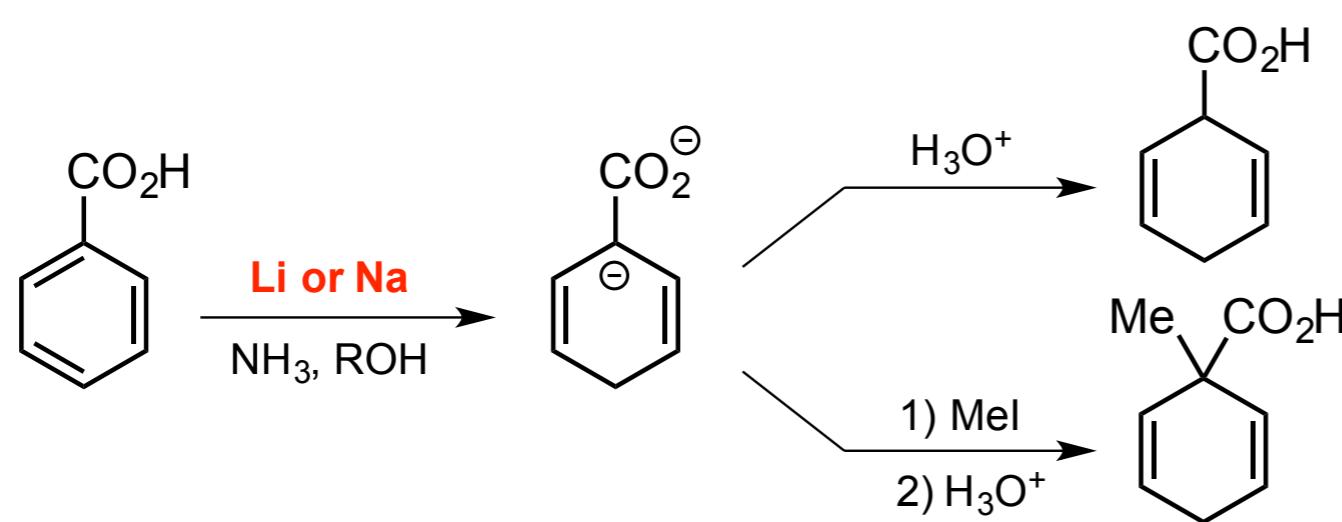
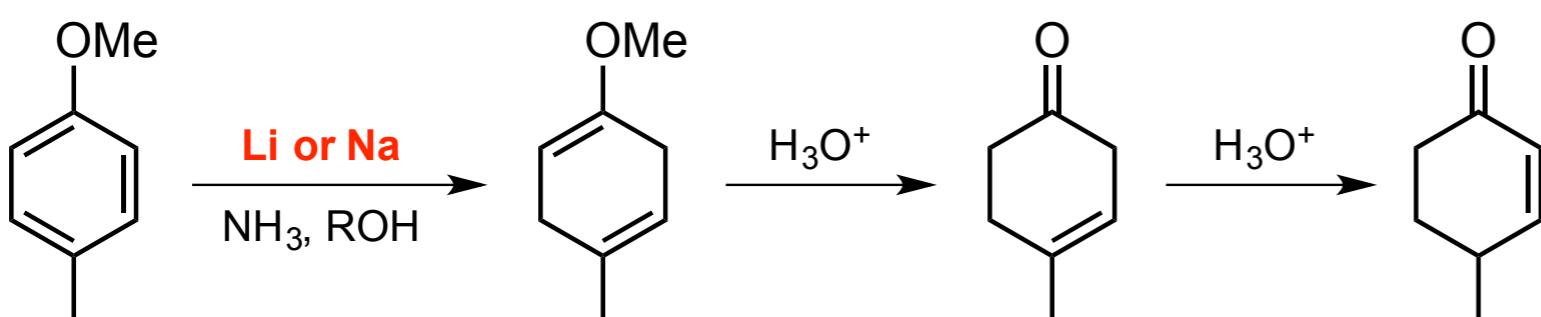
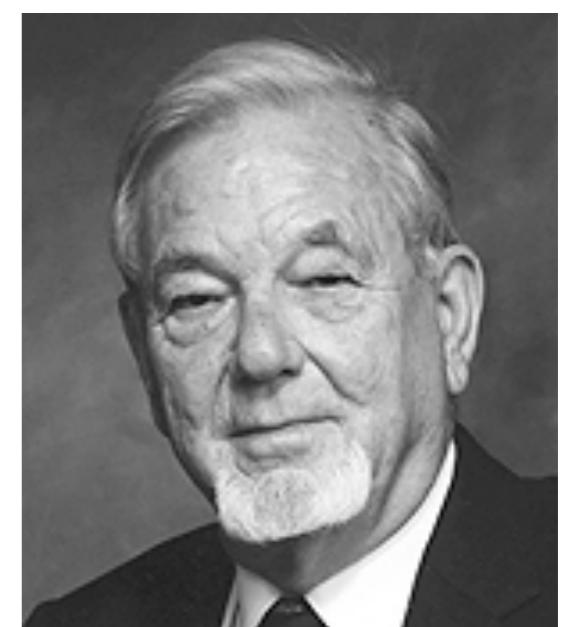




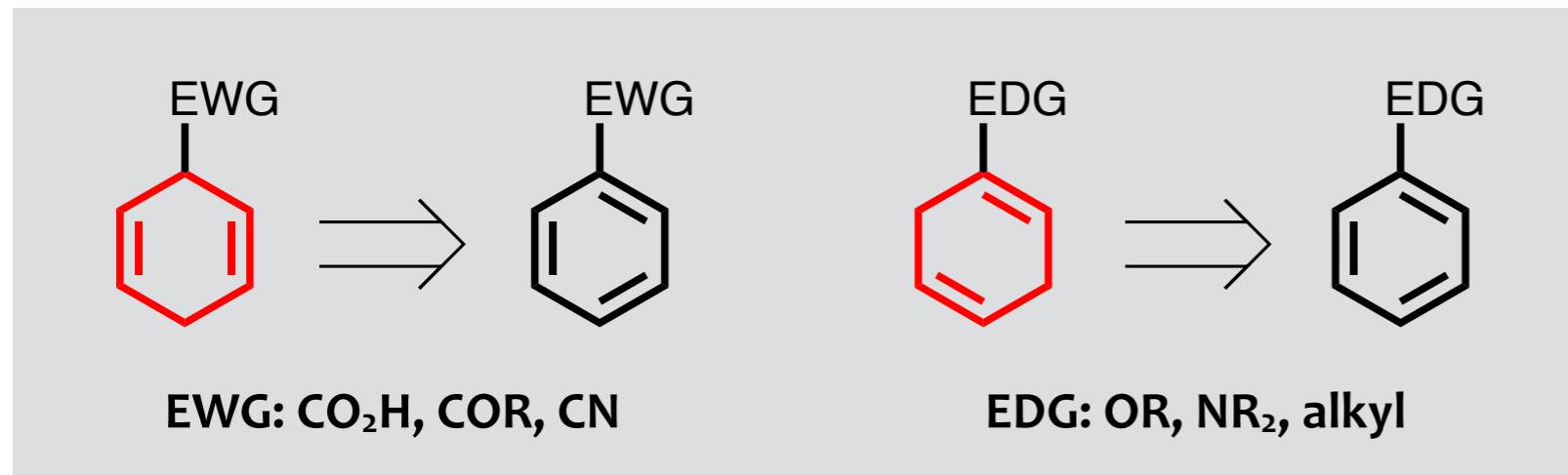
## Birch Reduction



**Arthur John Birch**  
(1915-1995)



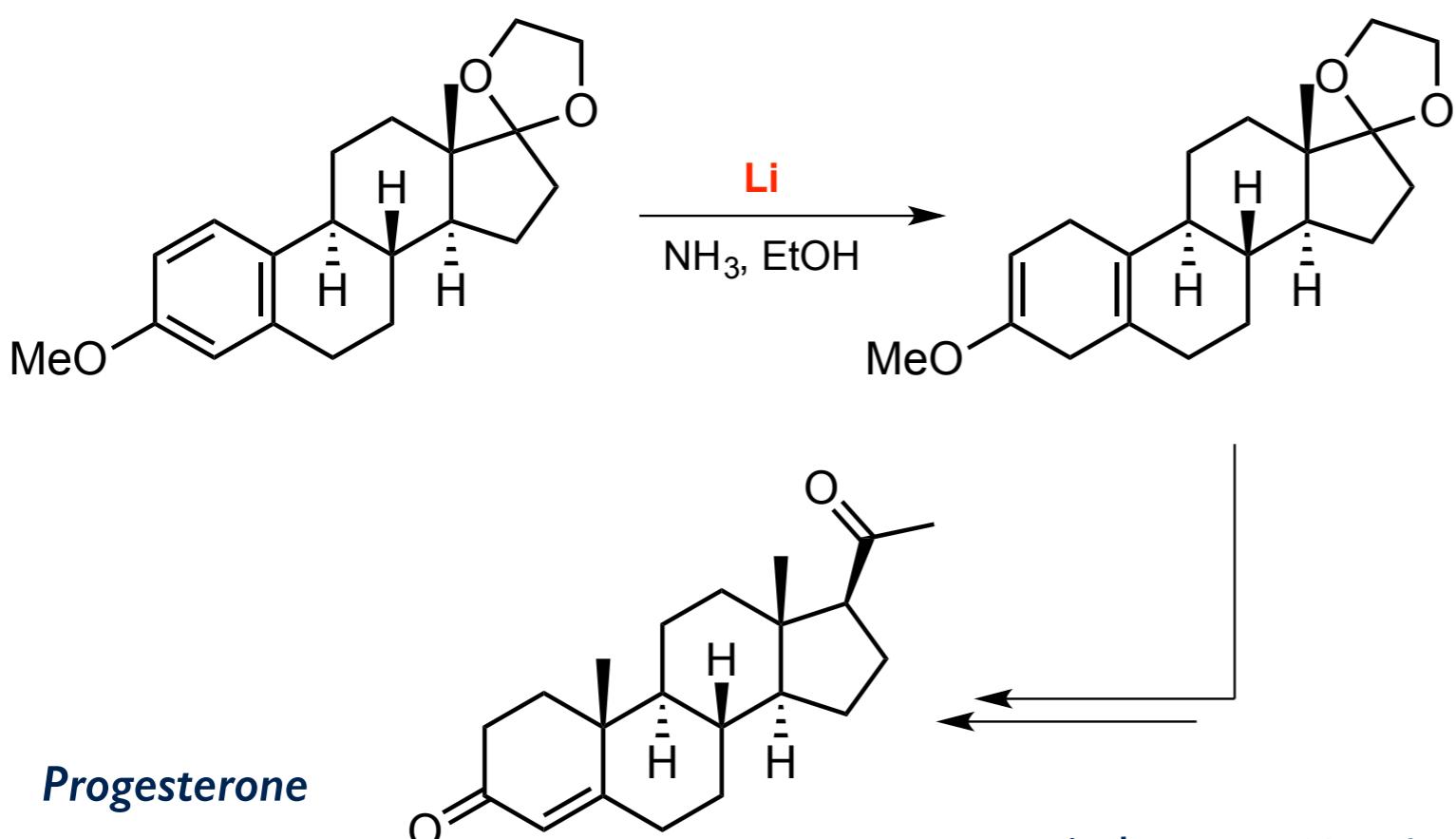
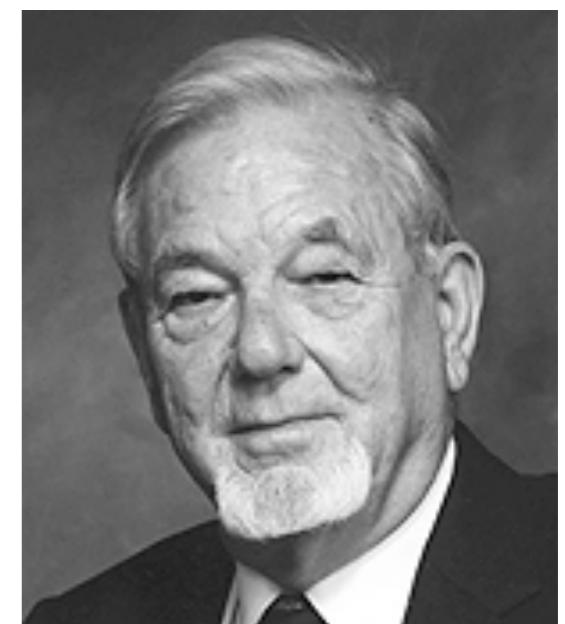
*Sir Robert Robinson  
was his PhD supervisor*



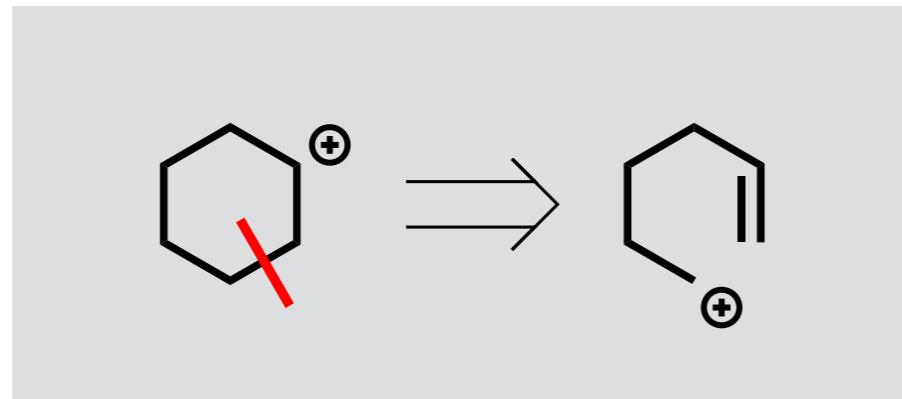
## Birch Reduction



**Arthur John Birch**  
(1915-1995)



**Sir Robert Robinson**  
was his PhD supervisor



## Cationic cyclizations

### Initiation

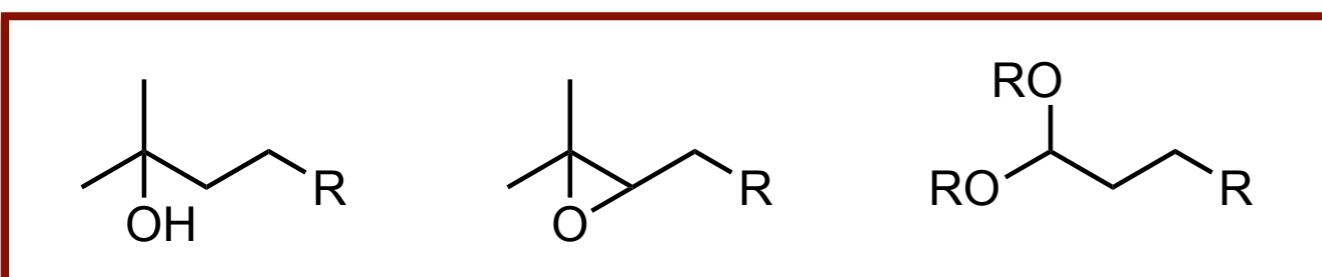
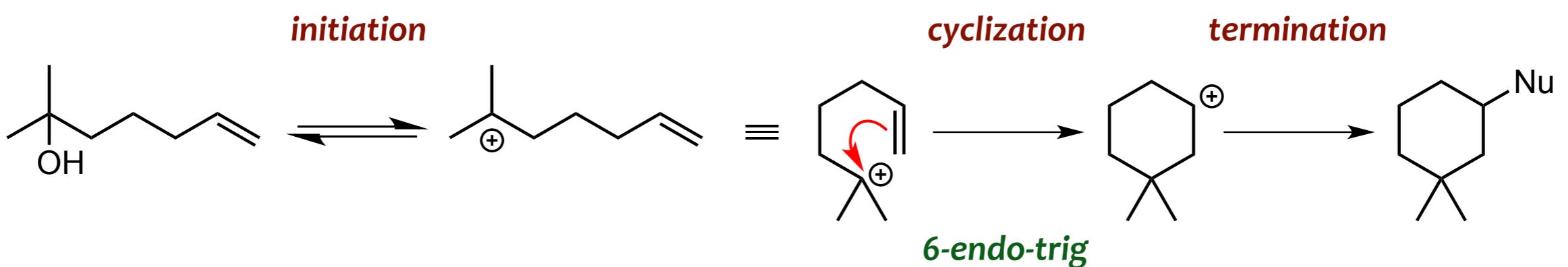
generation of the cationic center

### Cyclization

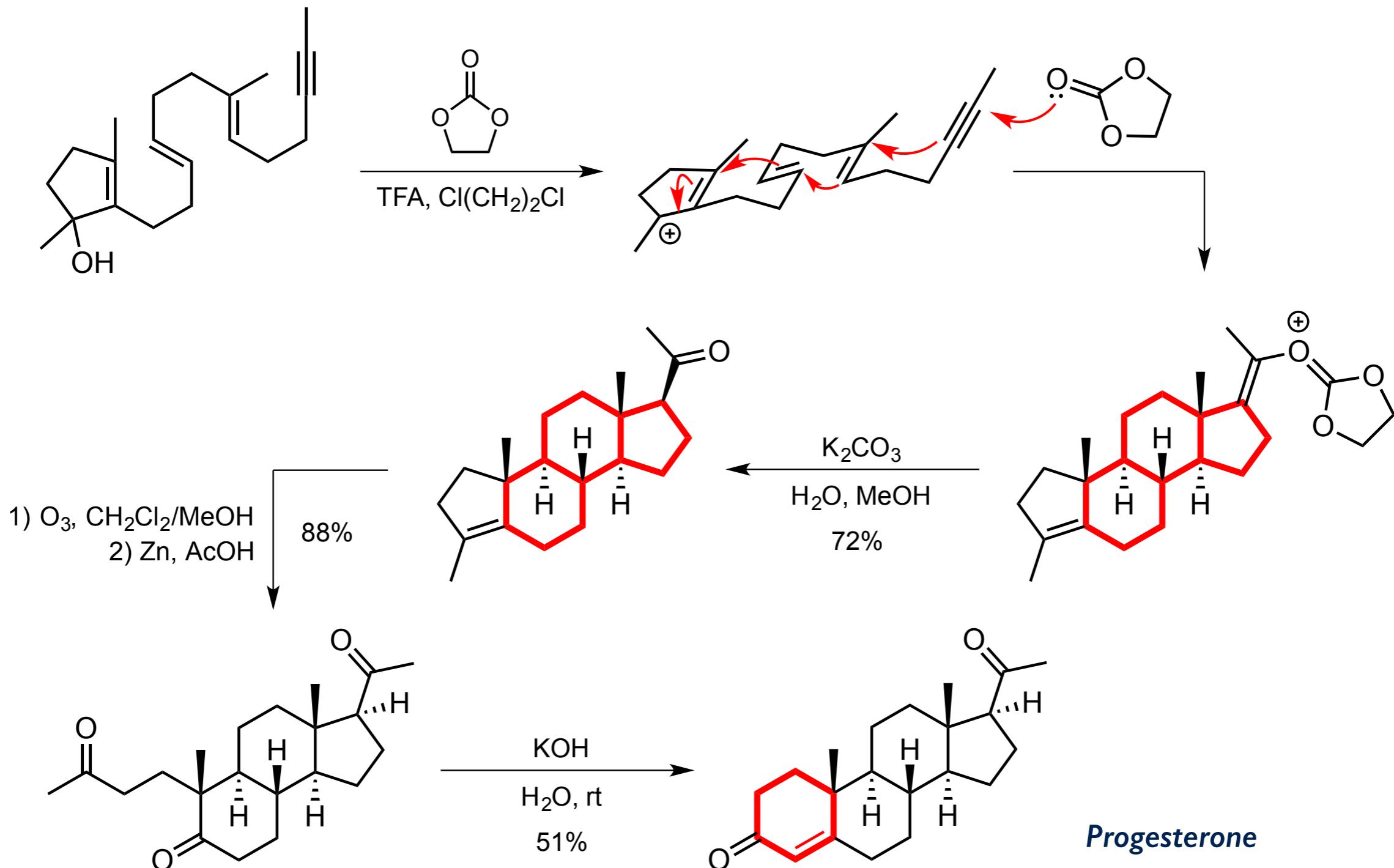
interaction of the cationic center with a  $\pi$ -bond

### Termination

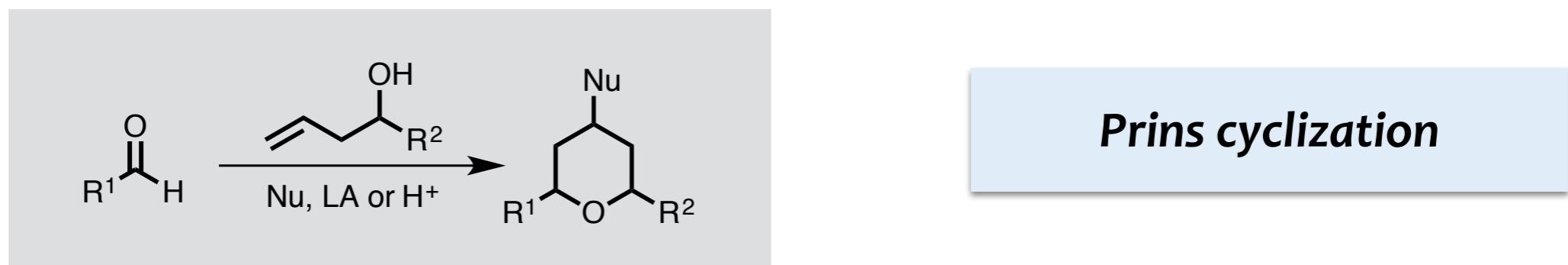
fate of the resultant cation



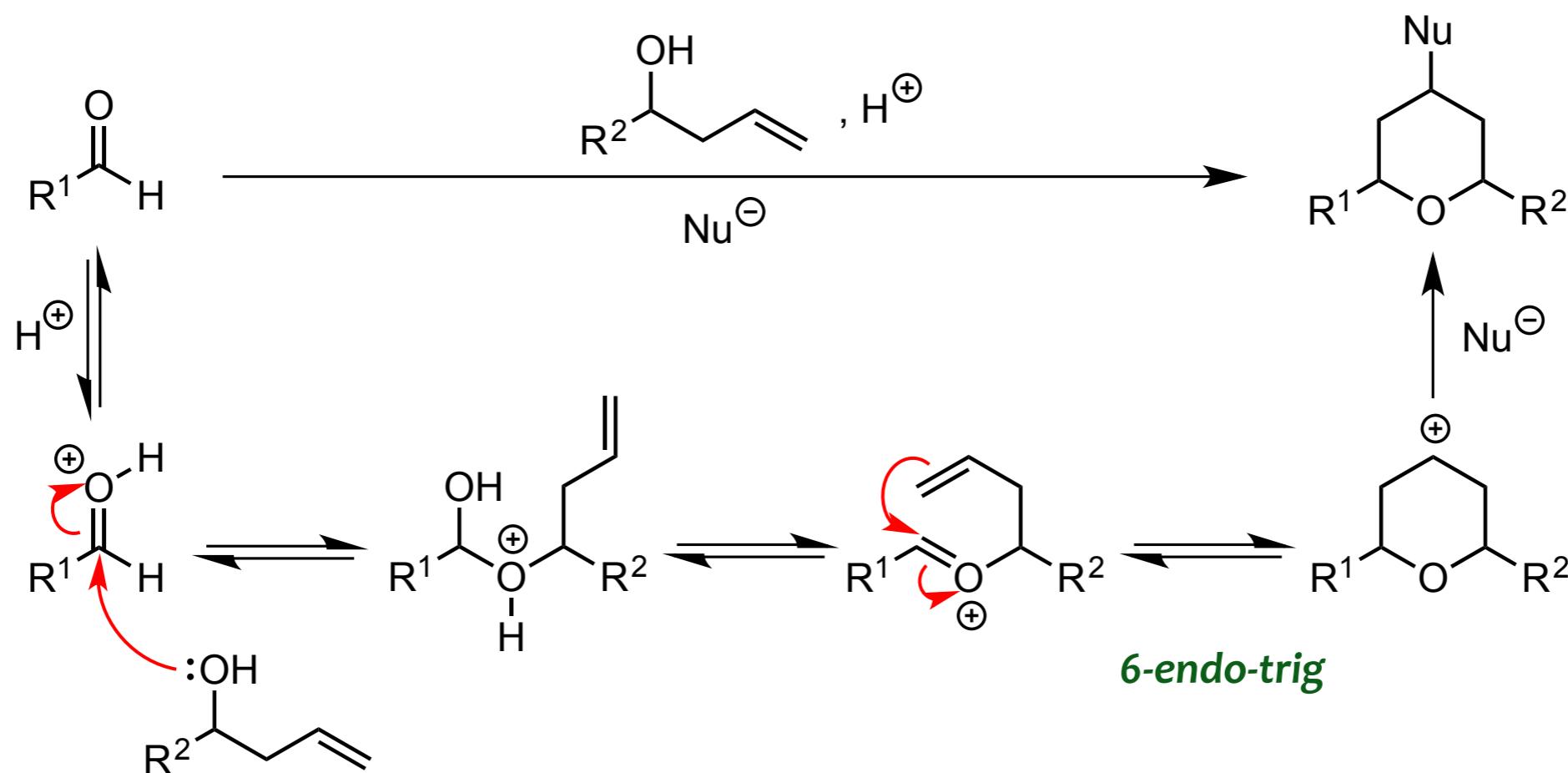
## 6-Membered Rings



The **Prins reaction** refers to the acid mediated attack of an alkene to a carbonyl

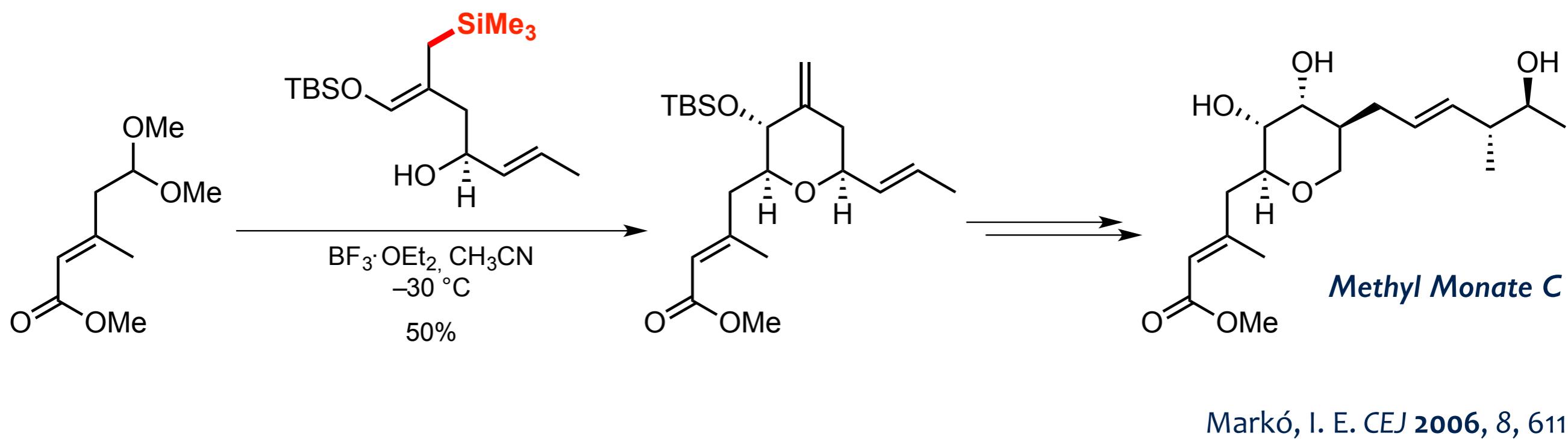
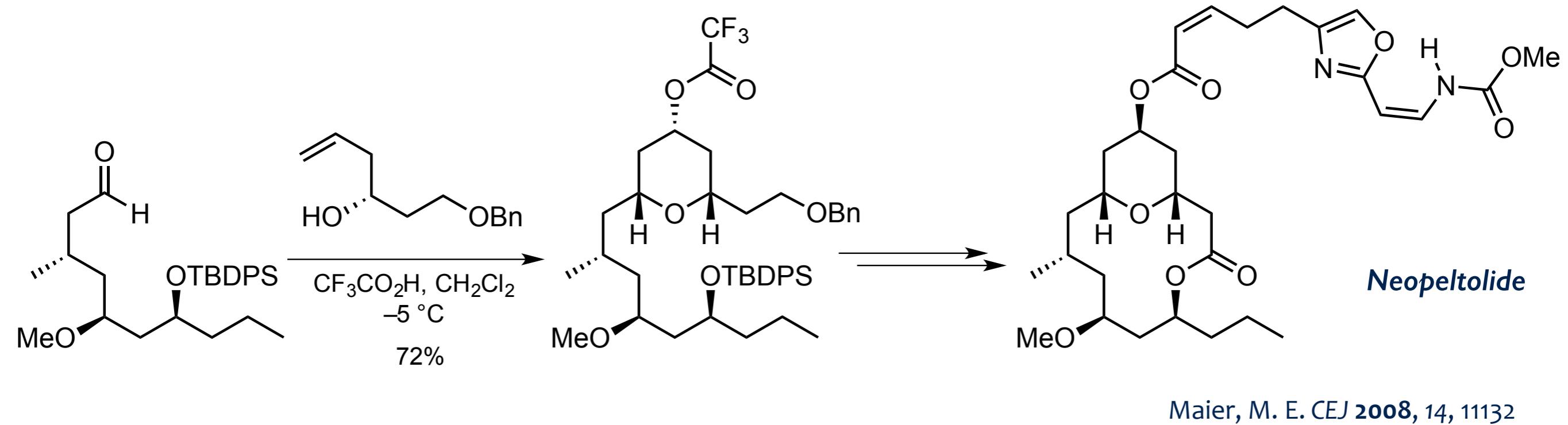


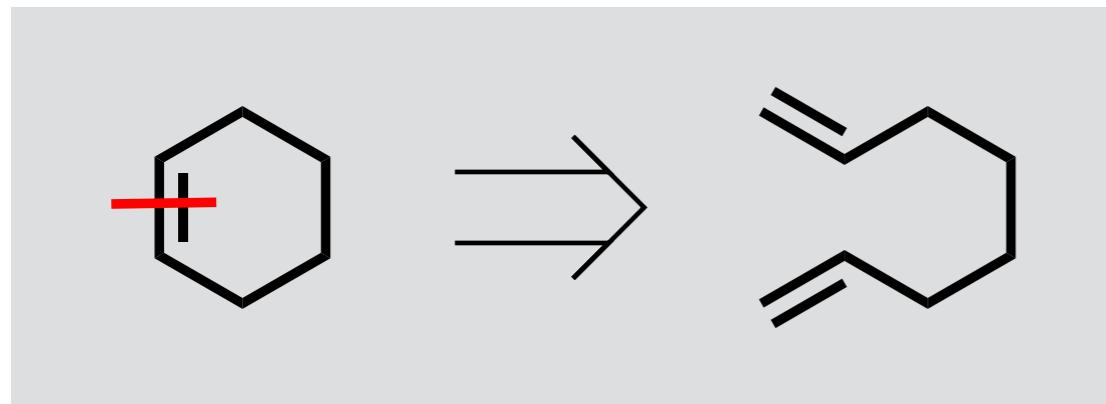
**Prins cyclization**



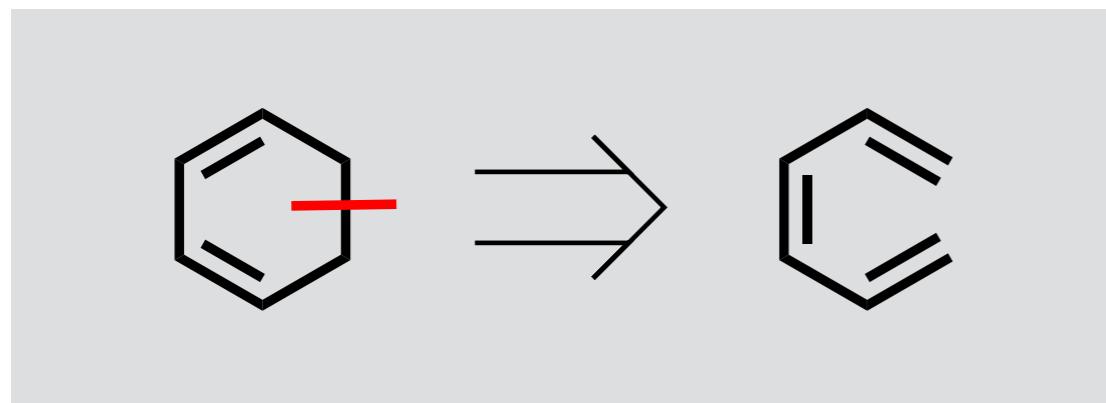
**6-endo-trig**

## 6-Membered Rings

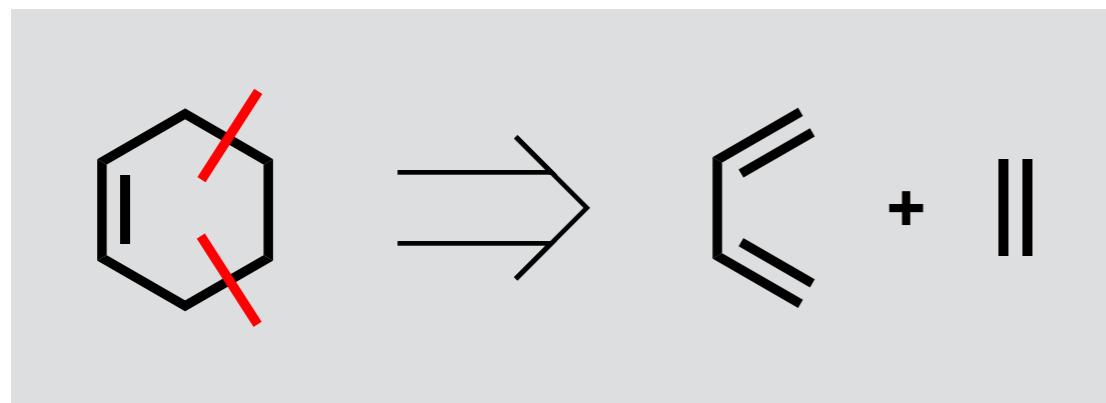




**Ring Closing Metathesis (RCM)**



**Electrocyclic Rearrangement**



**Diels Alder Cycloaddition**

*The venerable Diels-Alder reaction: a straightforward route to six-membered rings*

*The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1950 ...*

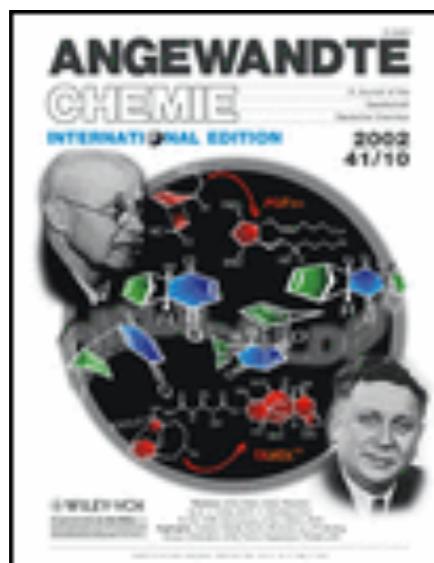


Otto Diels



Kurt Alder

*... for their discovery and development of the diene synthesis*



For a review on the Diels-Alder reaction in total synthesis:

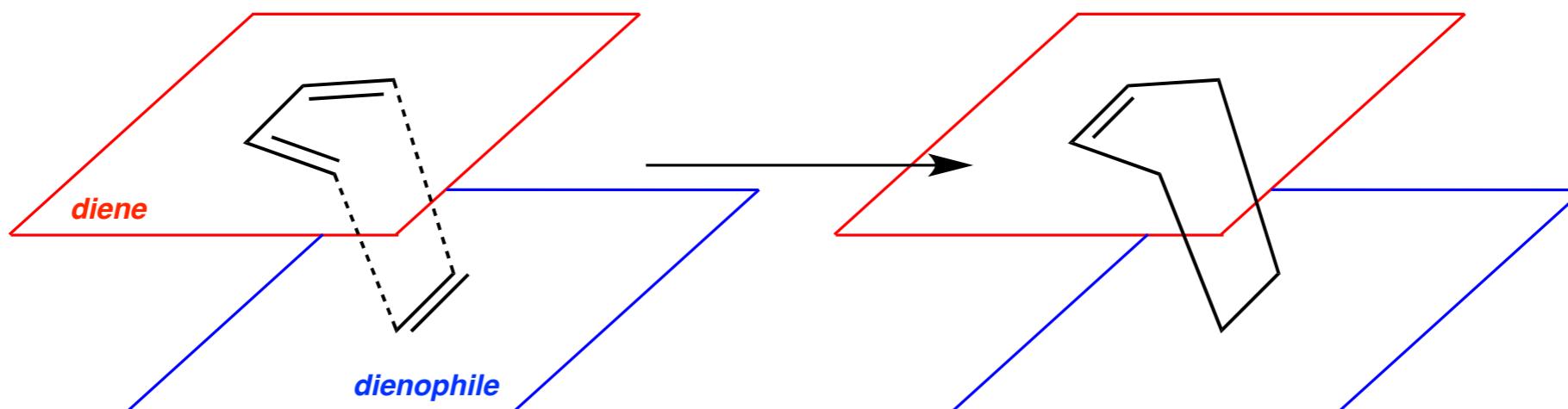
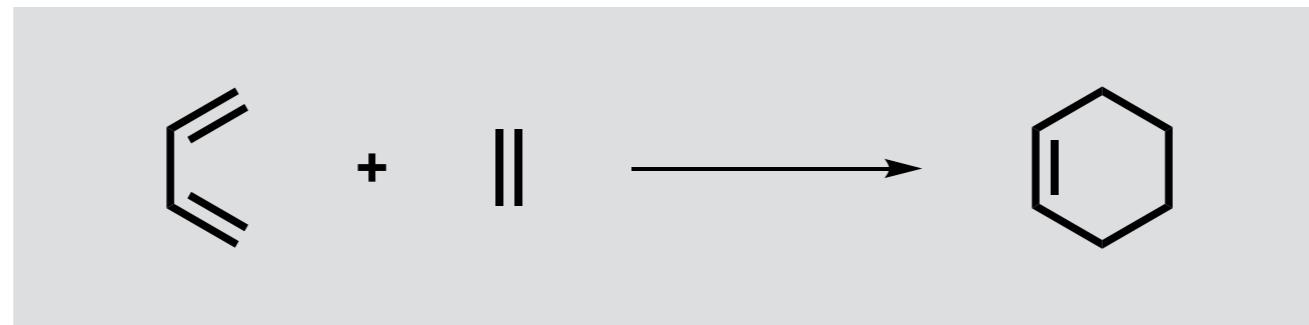
Nicolaou, K. C. ACIE **2002**, 41, 1668

For a recent view on industrial applications of the Diels-Alder reaction:

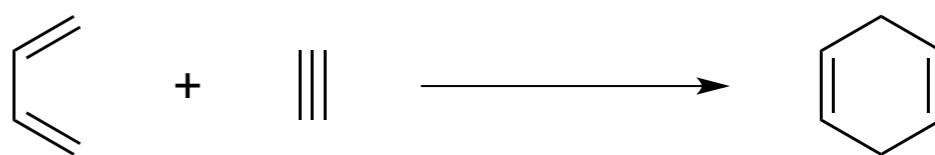
Funel, J.-A. ACIE **2013**, 52, 3822

# Diels-Alder Reaction: Key Concepts

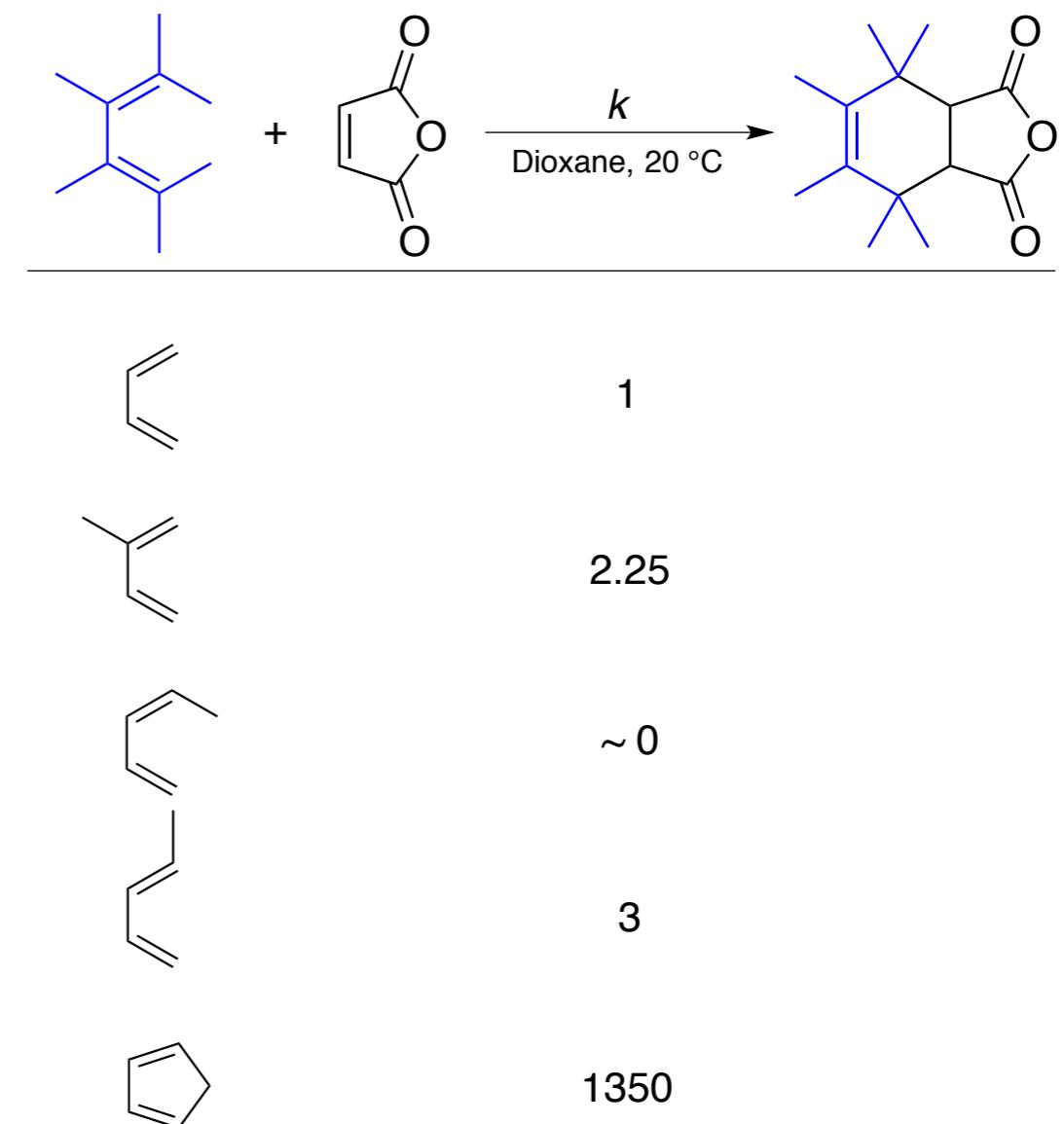
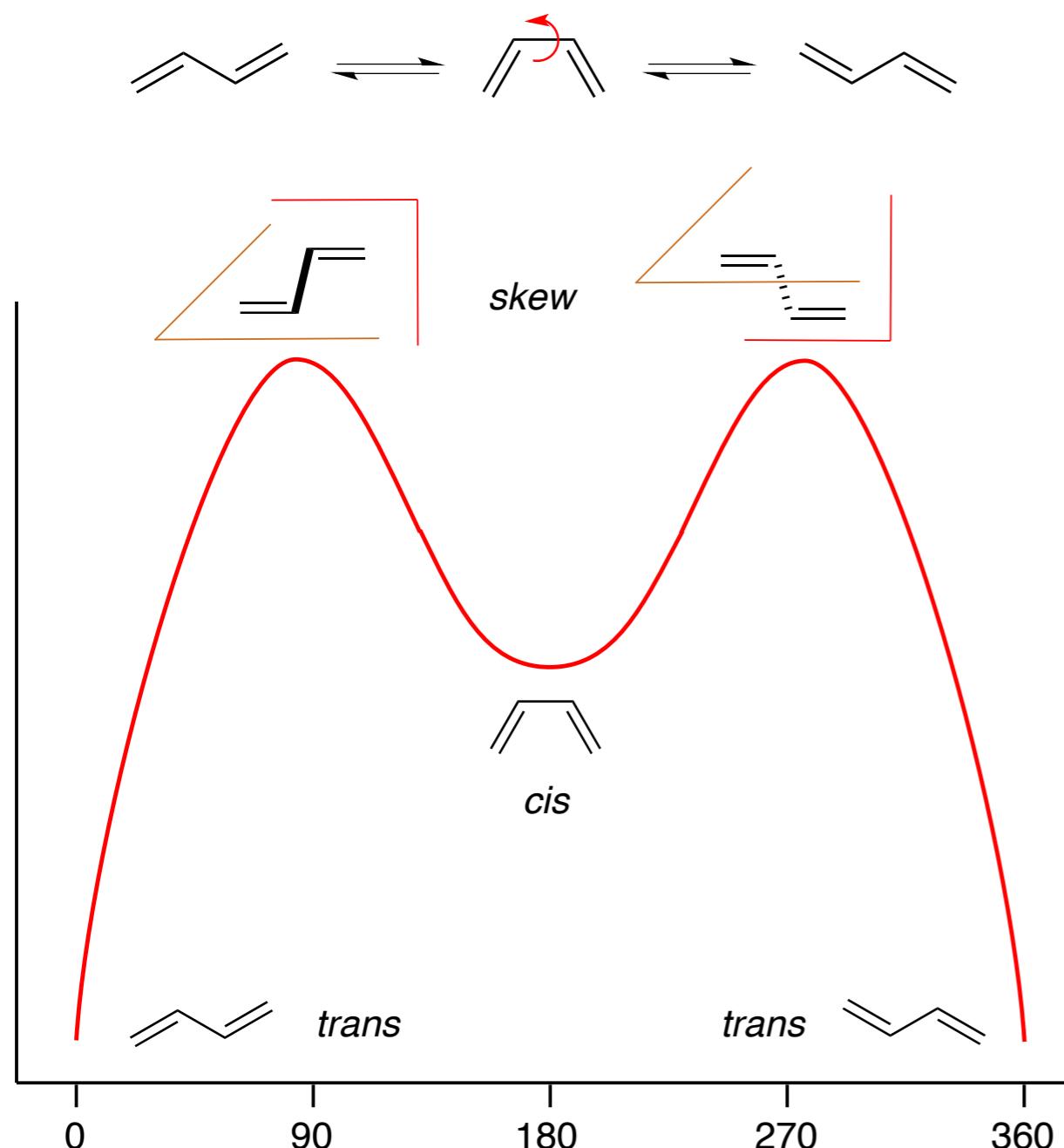
The venerable **Diels-Alder reaction** is a  $[4\pi_s + 2\pi_s]$  cycloaddition



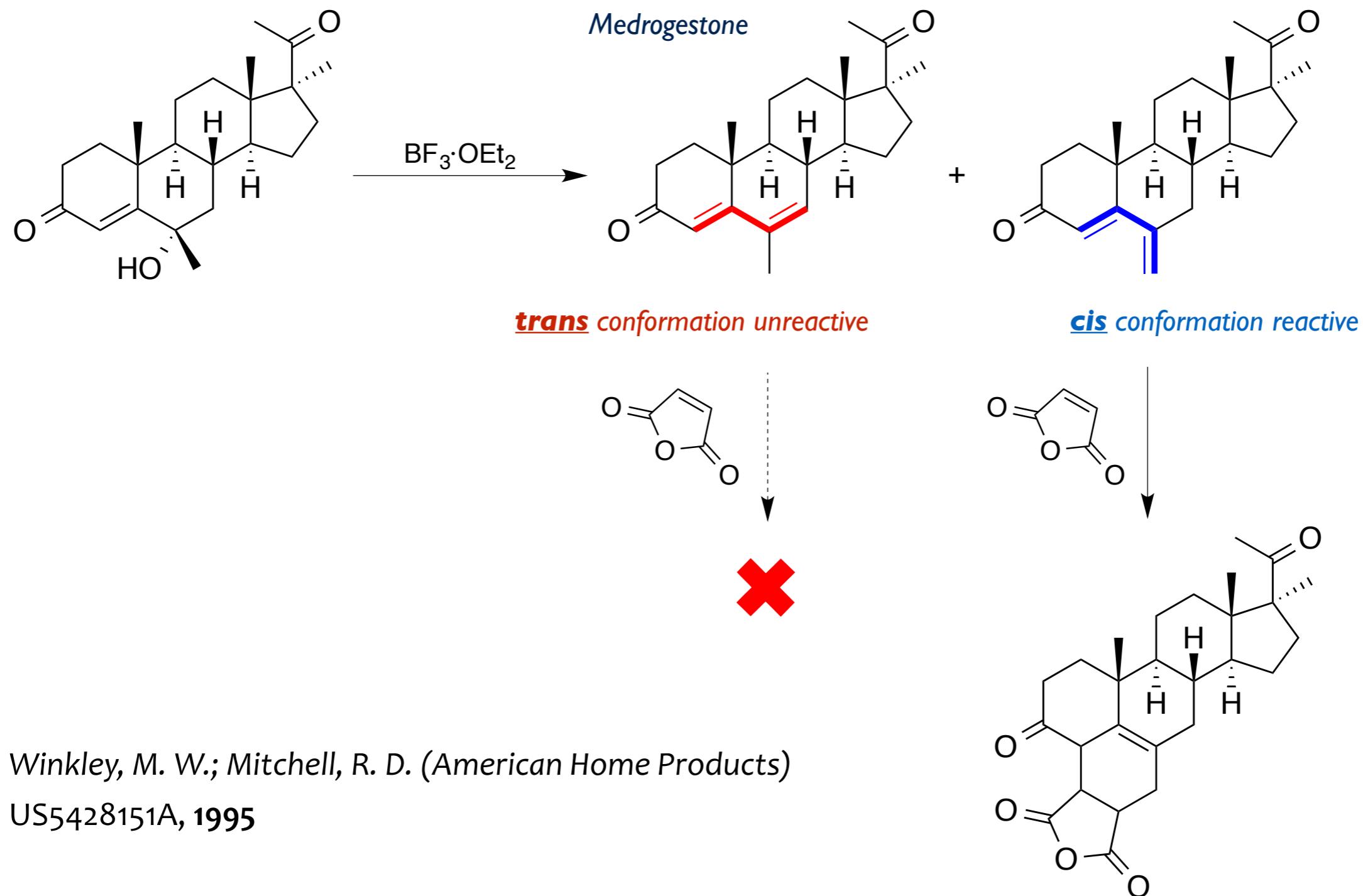
Remember that an alkyne can also participate in the process



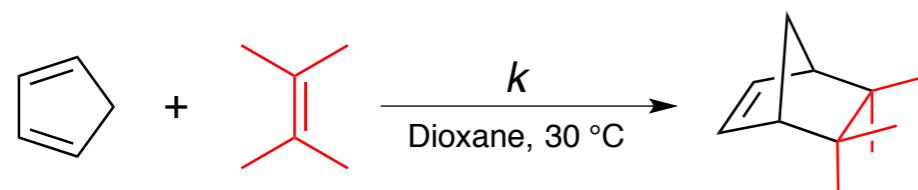
The kinetics of the reaction depends on **conformational ...**



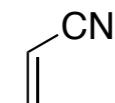
Occasionally, the lack of conformational freedom can be useful ...



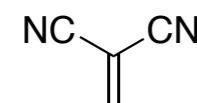
... and **electronic issues**.



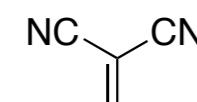
$\parallel$       ~0



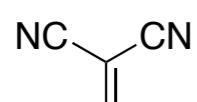
1



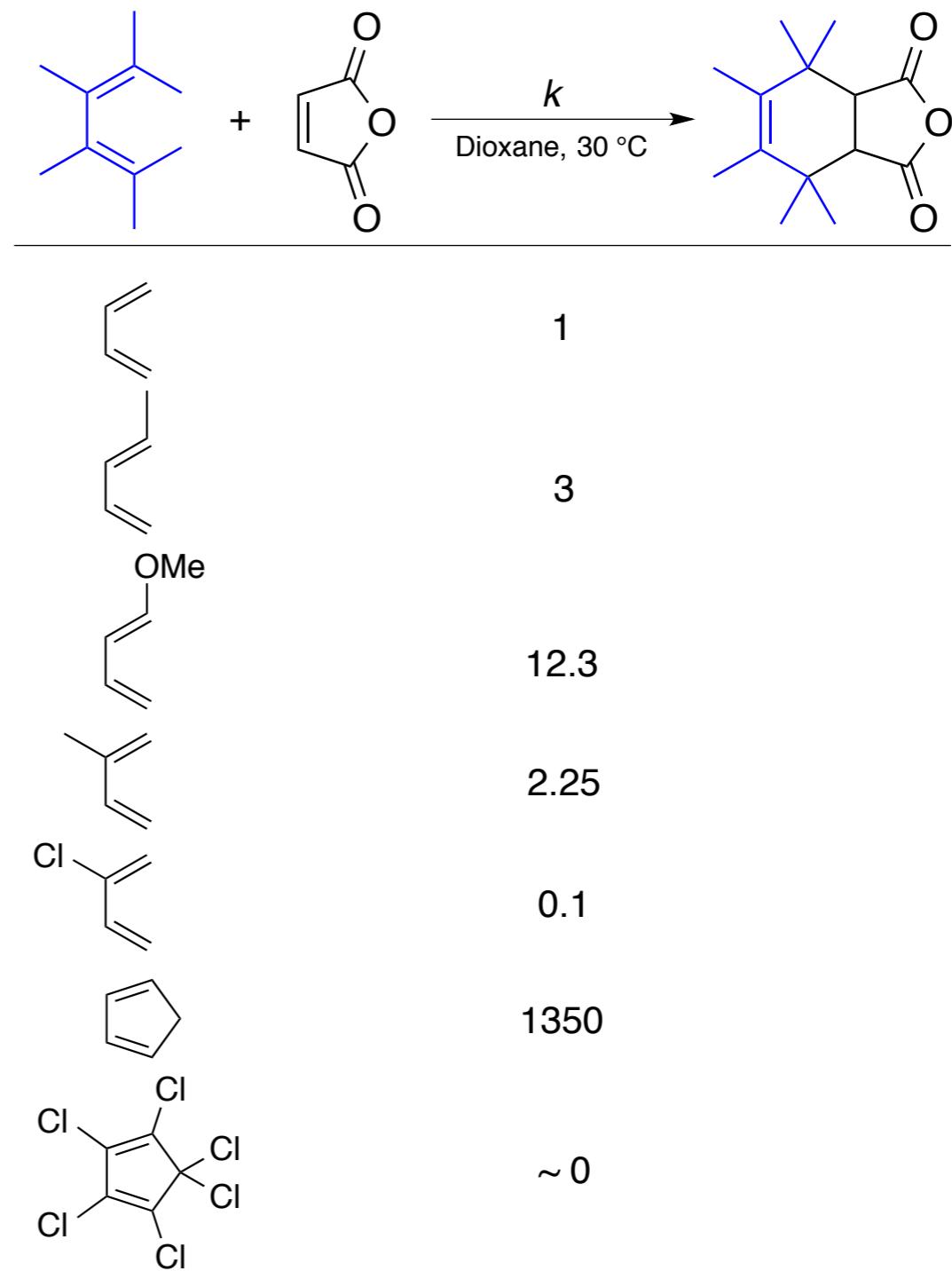
$5 \cdot 10^4$



$5 \cdot 10^5$



$5 \cdot 10^7$



**Essential:**

electronically rich diene & electronically poor dienophile

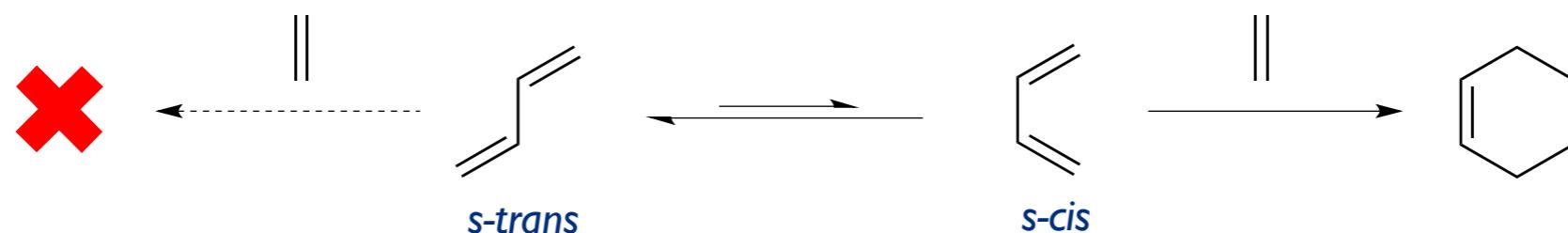
Complementary character.

For reviews on mechanistic aspects of the Diels-Alder reaction:

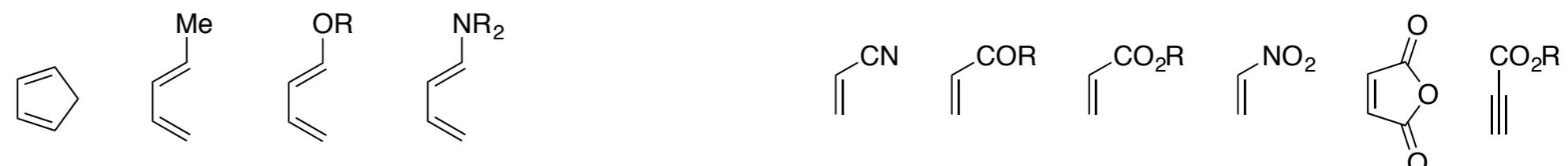
Sauer, J. ACIEE 1967, 6, 16 ; Sustmann, R. ACIEE 1980, 19, 779

In Diels-Alder reactions under **Normal electronic demand**

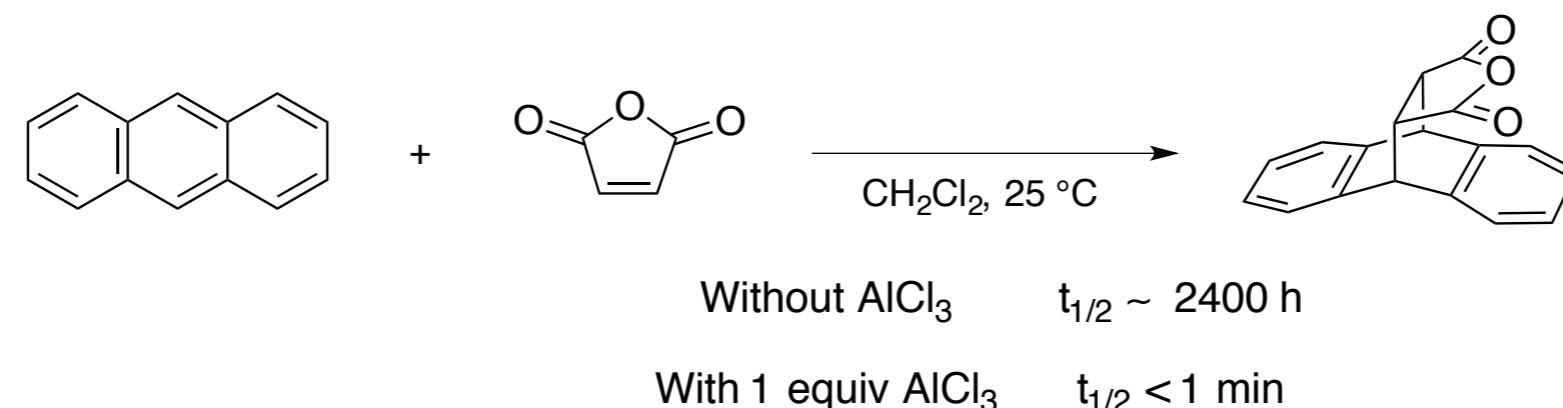
■ diene must be able to achieve the *s-cis* conformation



■ diene should contain electondonating groups (EDG); dienophile, electronwithdrawing groups (EWG)

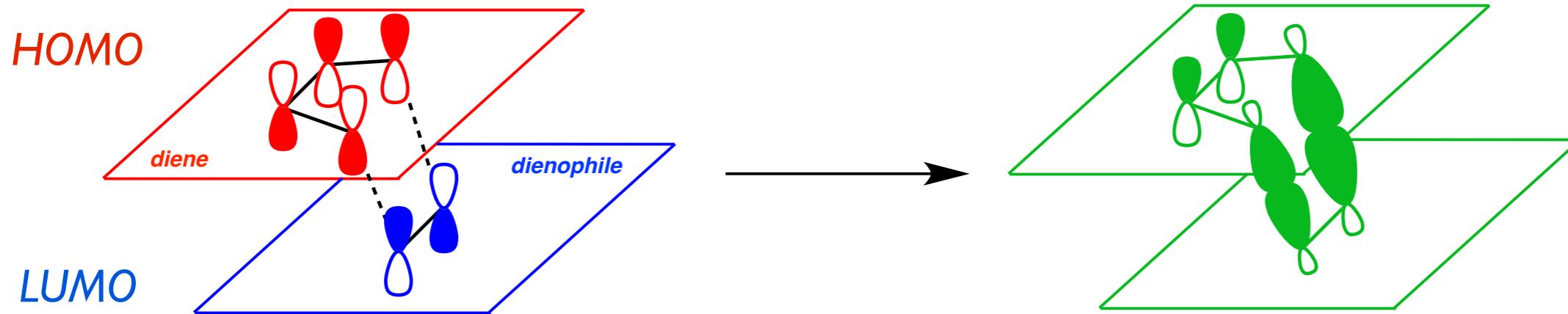


■ Lewis acids catalyze such cycloadditions



# Diels-Alder Reaction: FMO

The mechanistic pathway of the Diels-Alder reaction can be rationalized through FMO analysis

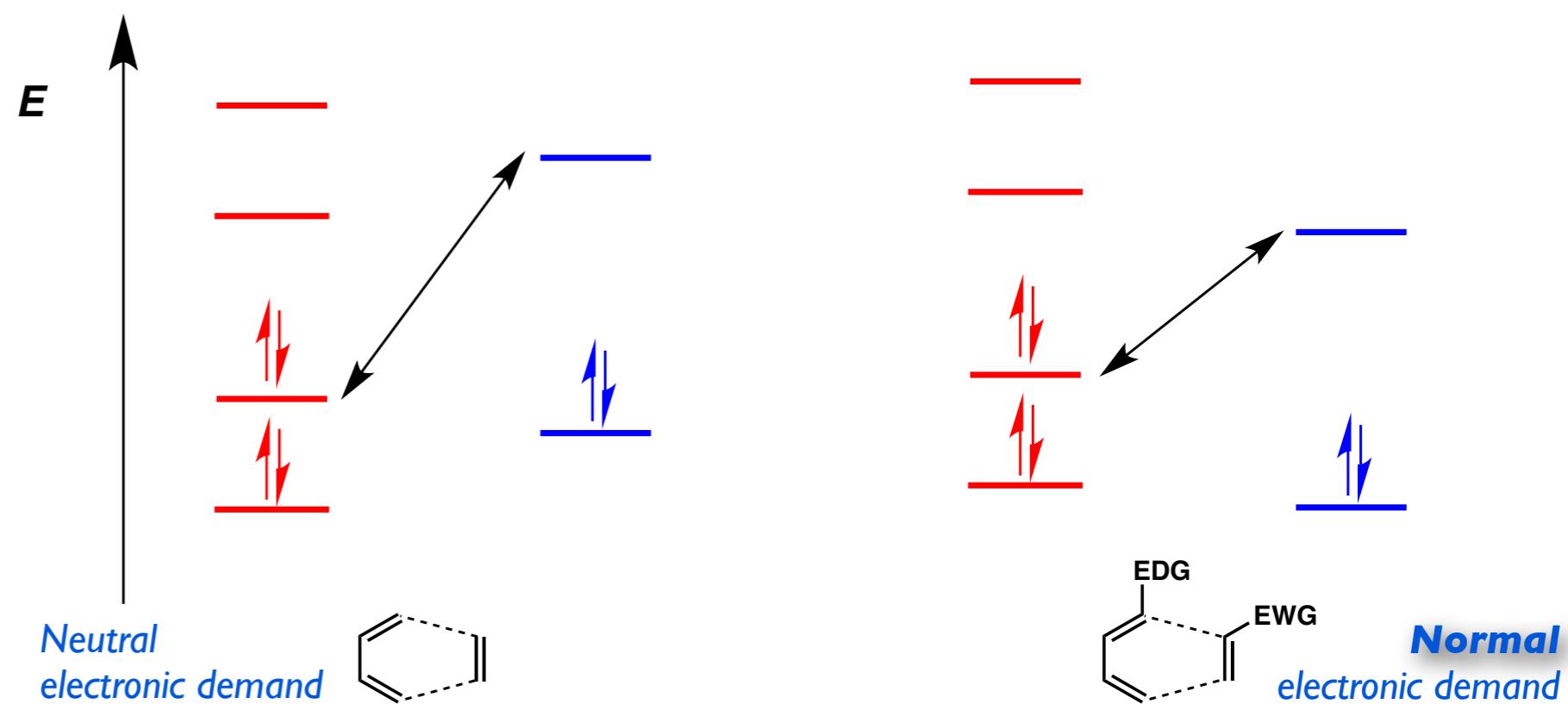


*Thermodynamics:* broken bonds, 3  $\pi$   
new bonds, 2  $\sigma$  + 1  $\pi$

**2  $\sigma$  - 2  $\pi$**

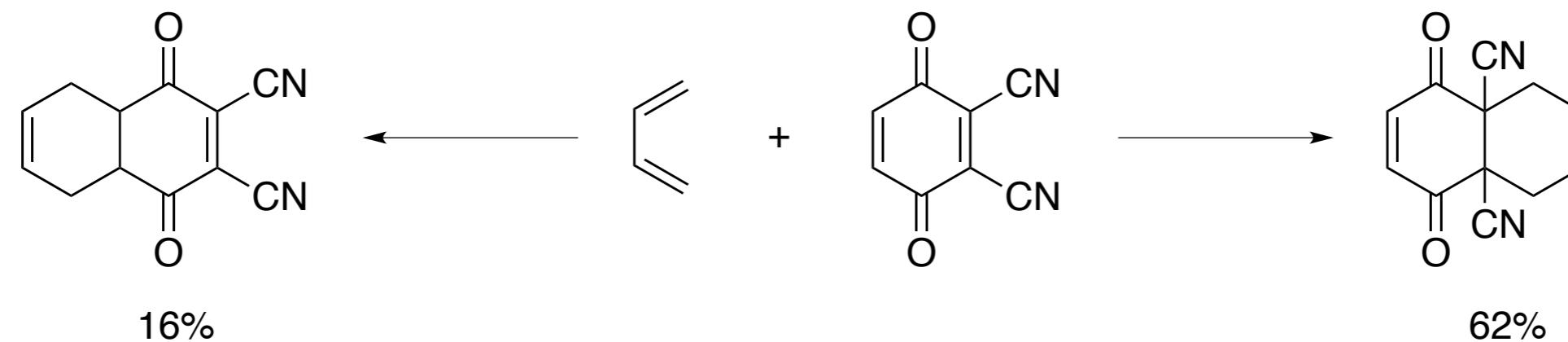
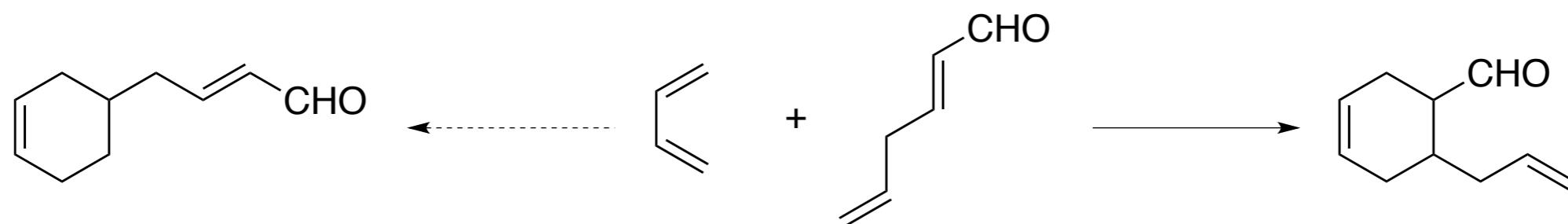
**The critical energy difference:**  
 $E(\text{LUMO}) - E(\text{HOMO})$   
The closer the two orbitals are in energy,  
the better they interact

**Kinetics:** As  $\Delta E$  decreases for  
the relevant ground state FMOs,  
reaction rate increases



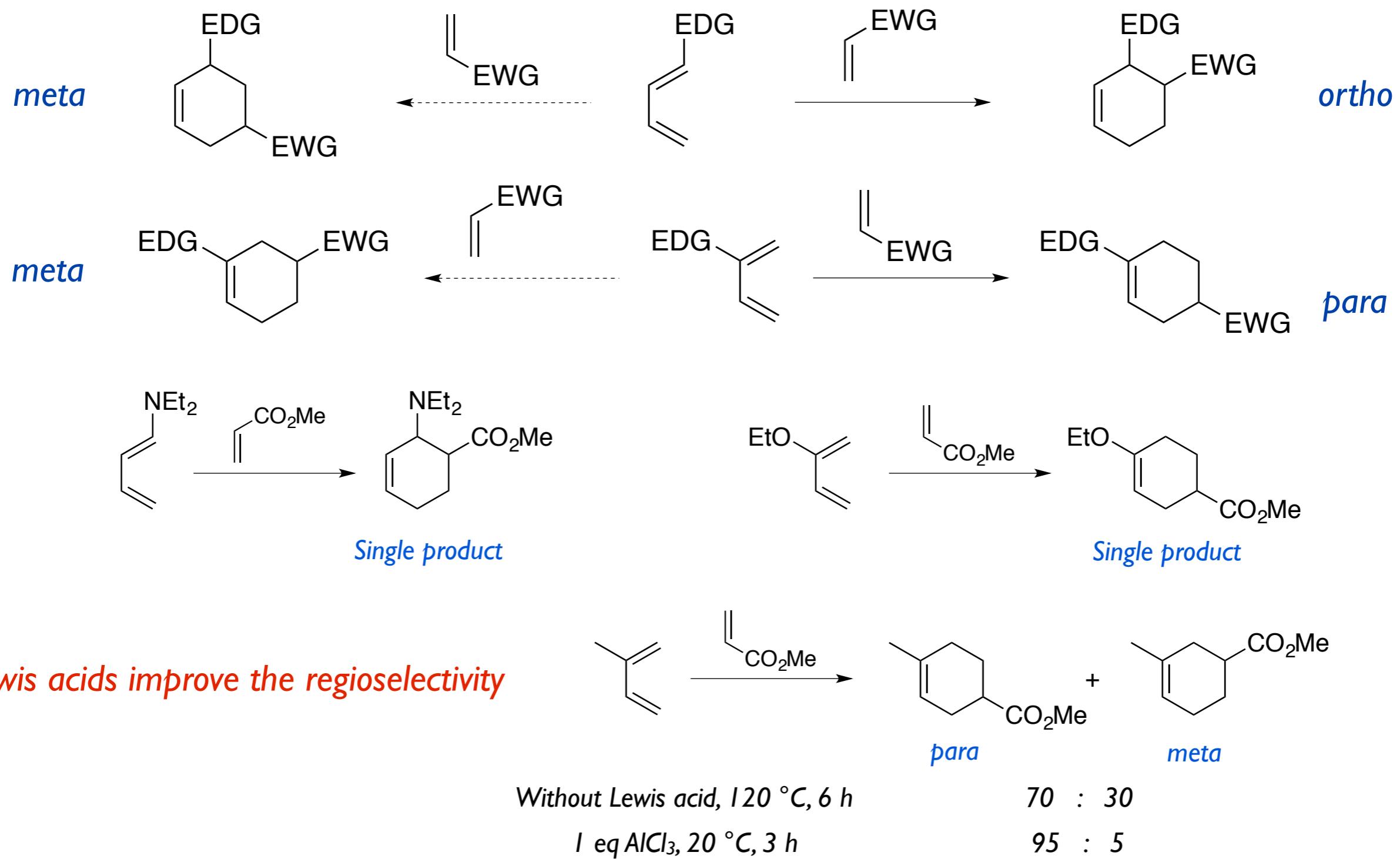
The HOMO-LUMO interaction and the cyclic transition state provide outstanding levels of **selectivity** ...

## ■ **Choselectivity (Siteselectivity): rich diene / poor dienophile**



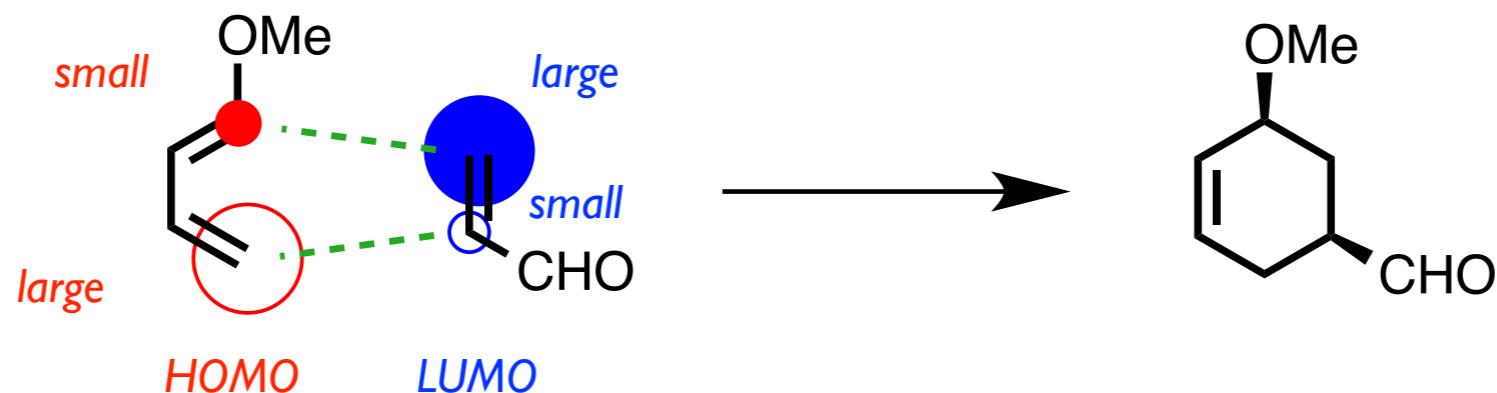
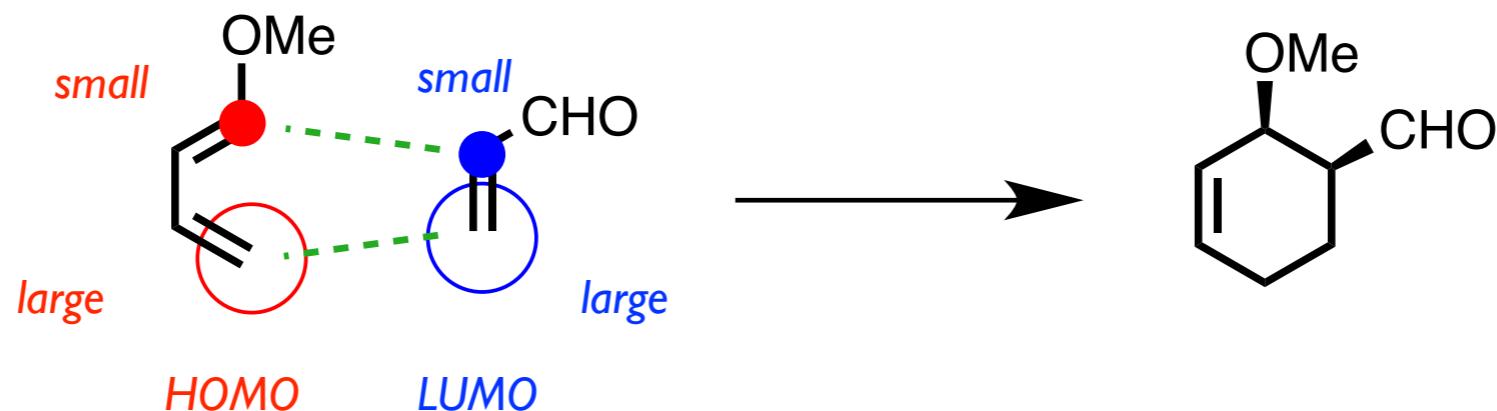
# Diels-Alder Reaction: Regioselectivity

## ■ Regioselectivity: ortho-para rule



## Diels-Alder Reaction: Regioselectivity

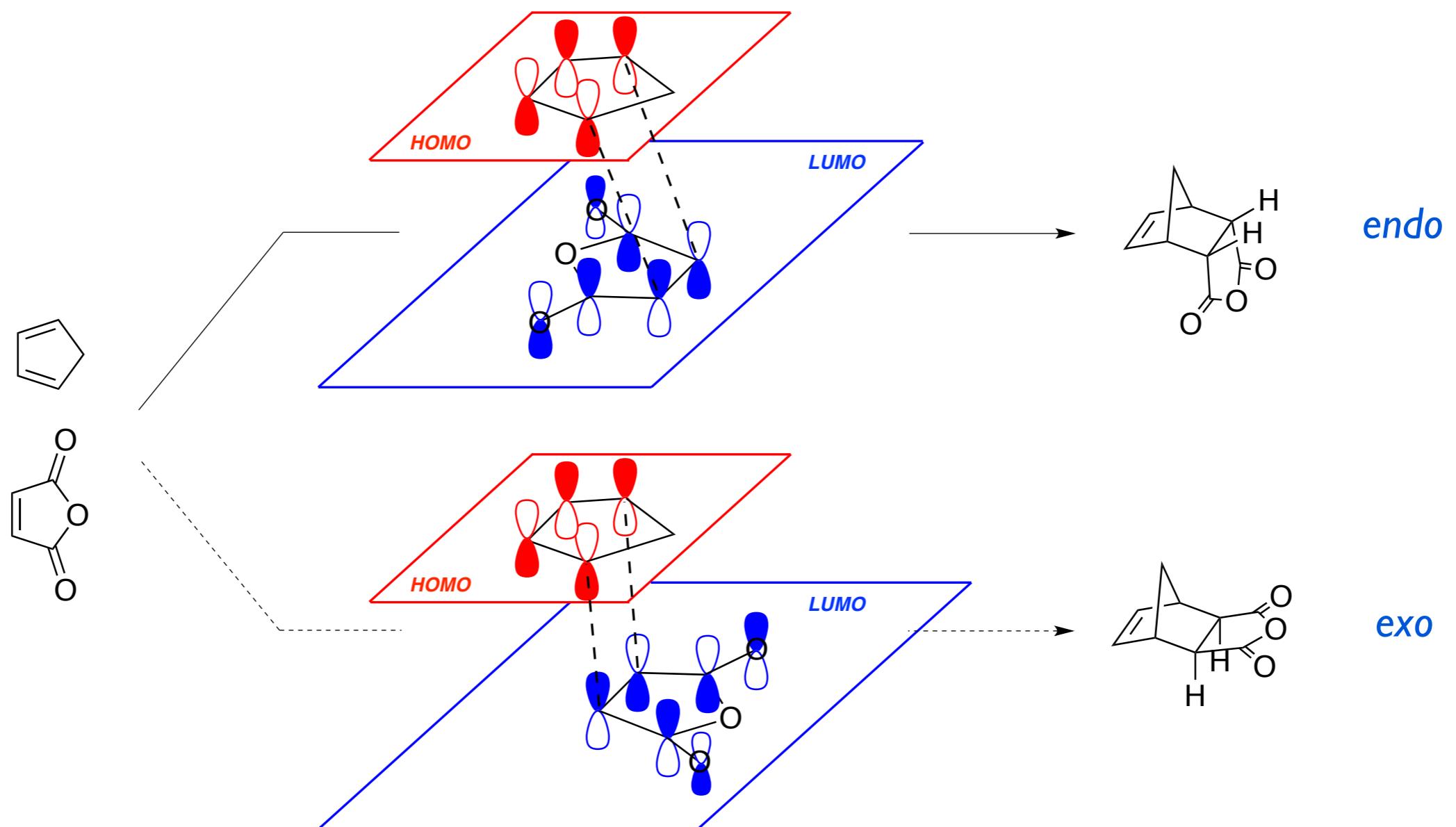
The **ortho-para rule** can be understood through analysis of FMO orbitals



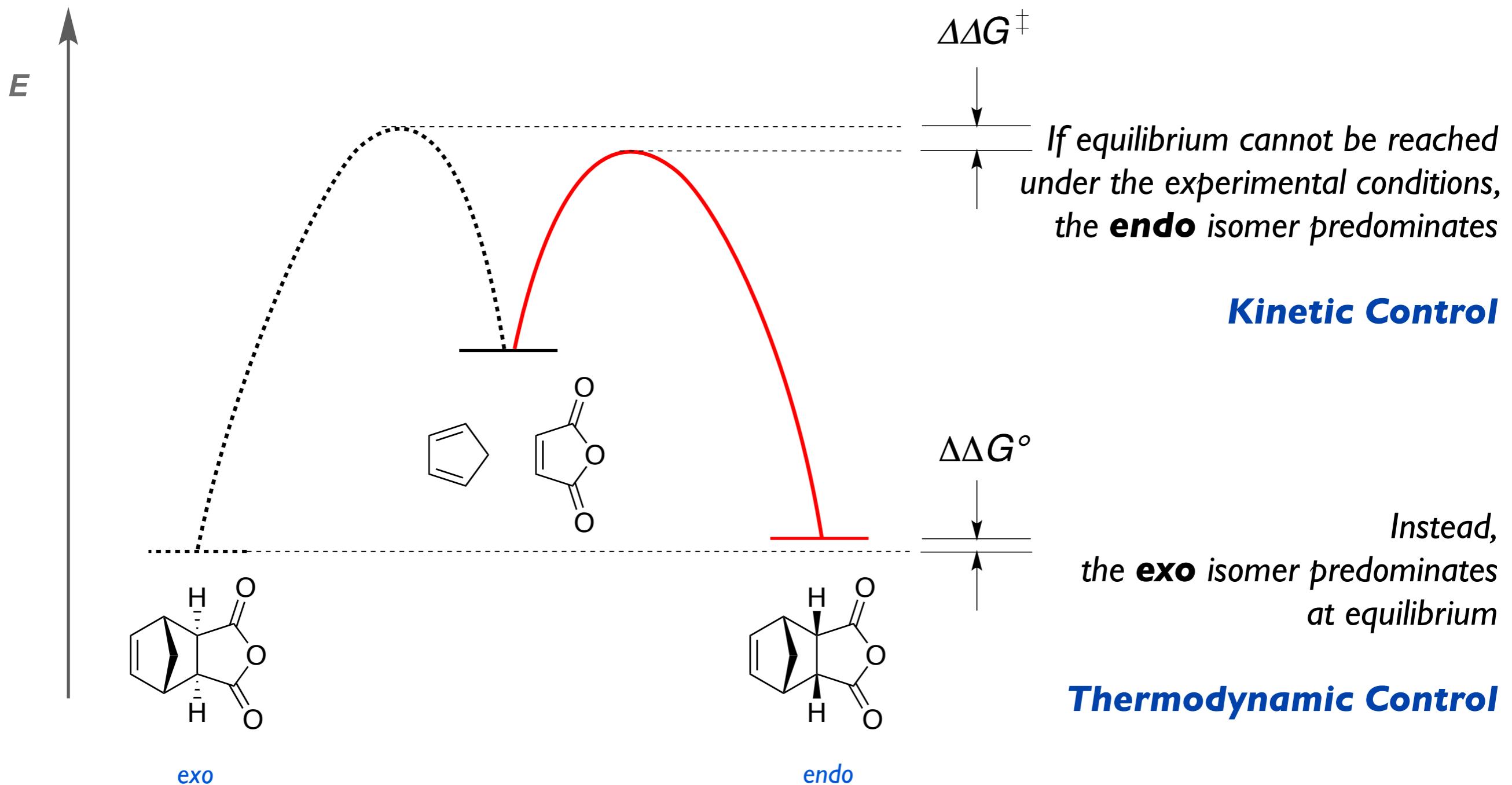
**Large/Large & Small/Small interactions are better than  
Large/Small & Small/Large interactions**

# Diels-Alder Reaction: Stereoselectivity

## ■ **Stereoselectivity:** endo rule



## Kinetic vs Thermodynamic Control

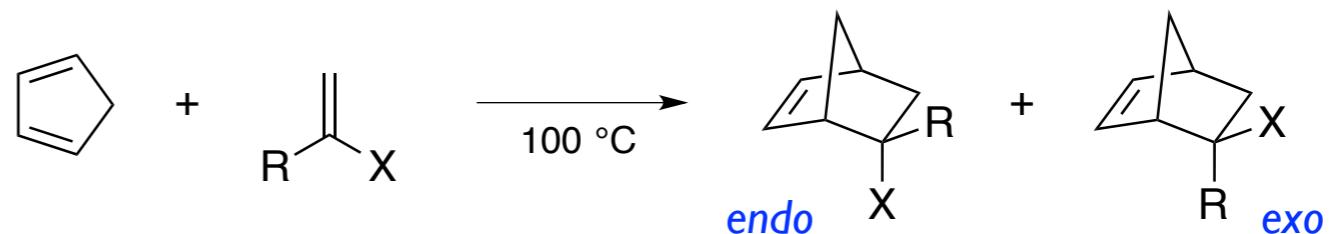


# Diels-Alder Reaction: Stereoselectivity

- **Endo** stereoselectivity is excellent with planar dienophiles

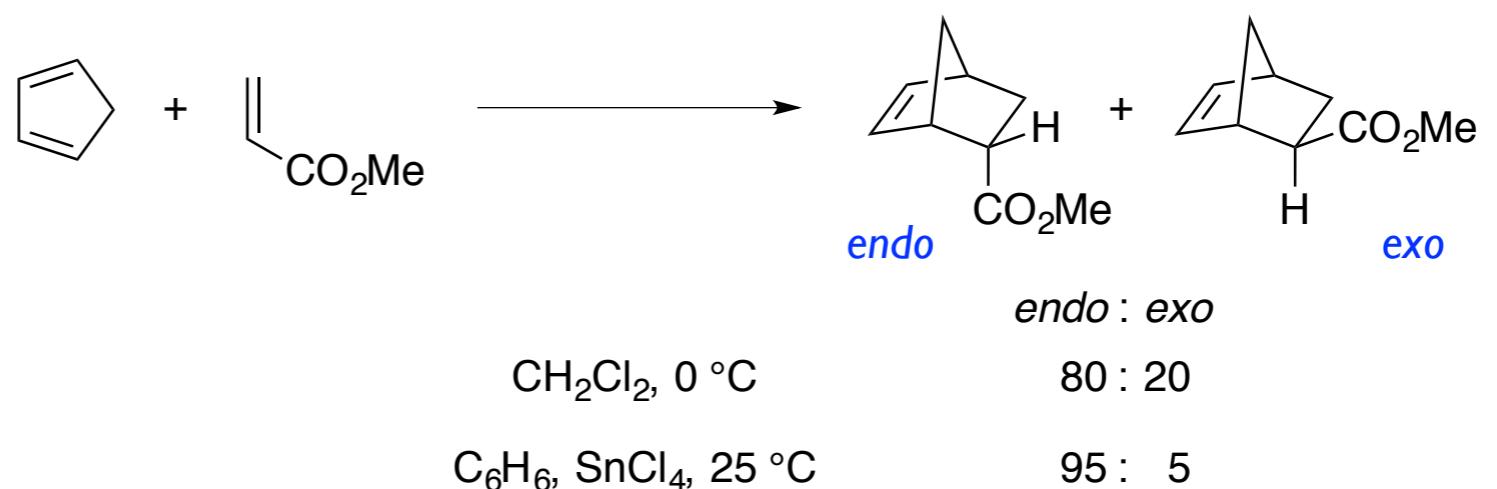


- **Exo** diastereomers are preferred with a substituted dienophiles



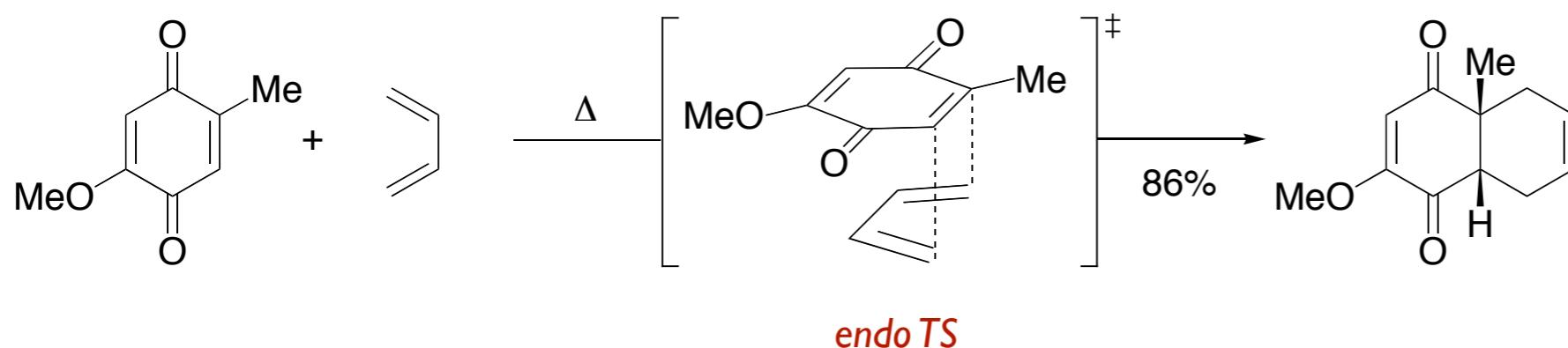
| R  | X     | <i>endo : exo</i> |
|----|-------|-------------------|
| H  | CN    | 55 : 45           |
| H  | COOMe | 71 : 29           |
| H  | CHO   | 71 : 29           |
| Me | CN    | 16 : 84           |
| Me | COOMe | 32 : 68           |
| Me | CHO   | 24 : 76           |

- Lewis acids improve **endo** stereoselectivity



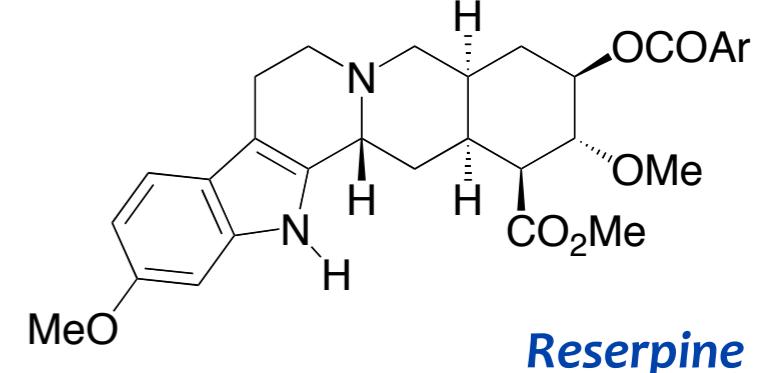
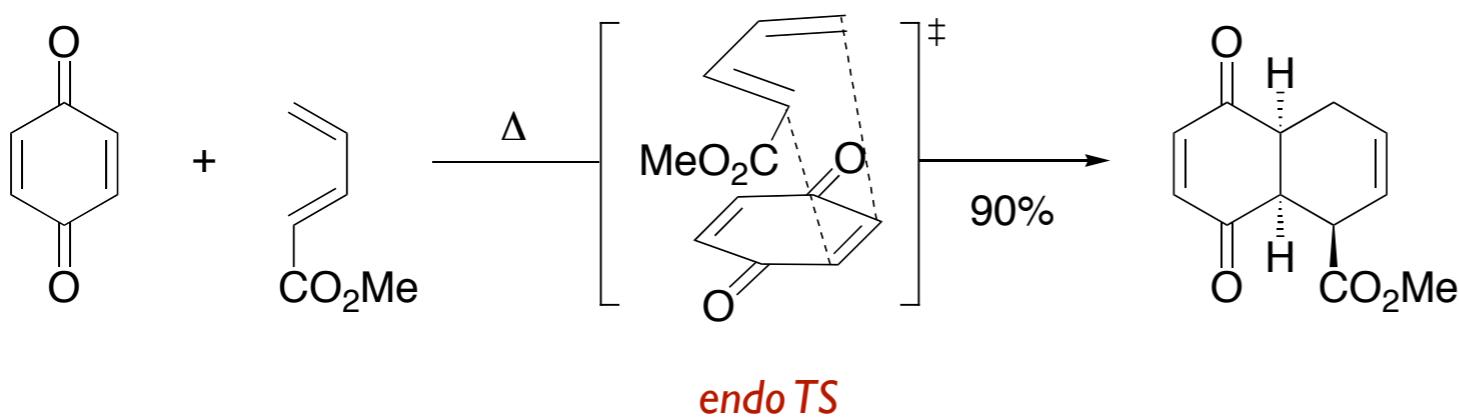
# Diels-Alder Reaction in Synthesis

*Classical syntheses by Woodward took advantage of Diels-Alder reaction ...*



Woodward, R. B. JACS **1952**, 74, 4223

*... even with dienes containing EWG groups ...*

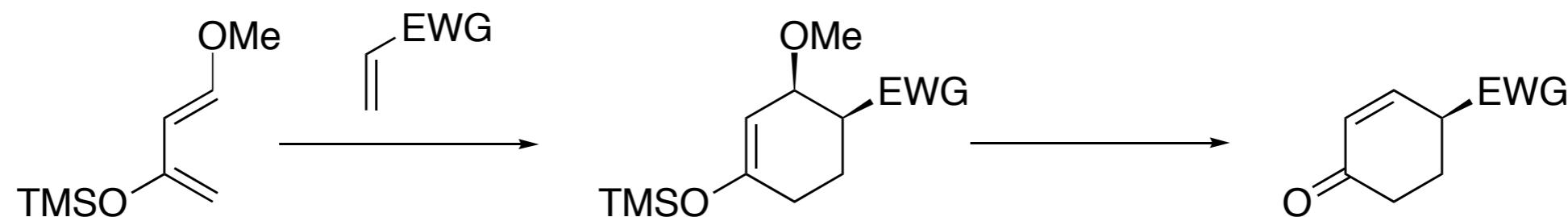
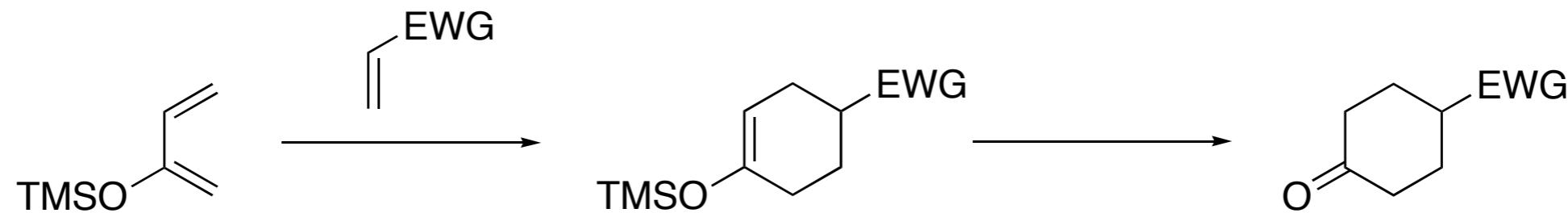


Woodward, R. B. JACS **1956**, 78, 2023, 2657

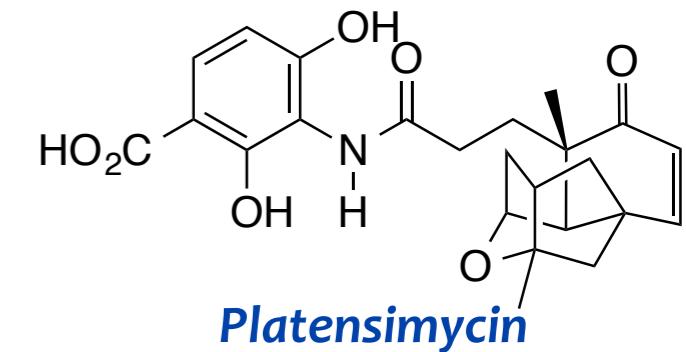
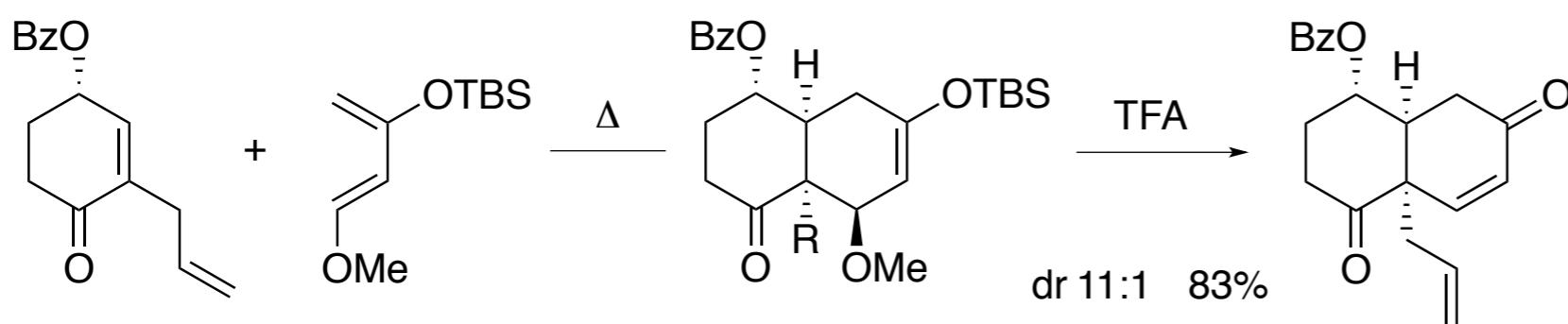
For a review on quinones as dienophiles in Diels-Alder reaction:

Moody, C. J. ACIE **2014**, 53, 2056

*In fact, electronrich dienes containing  $R_3SiO$  substituents are very useful ...*

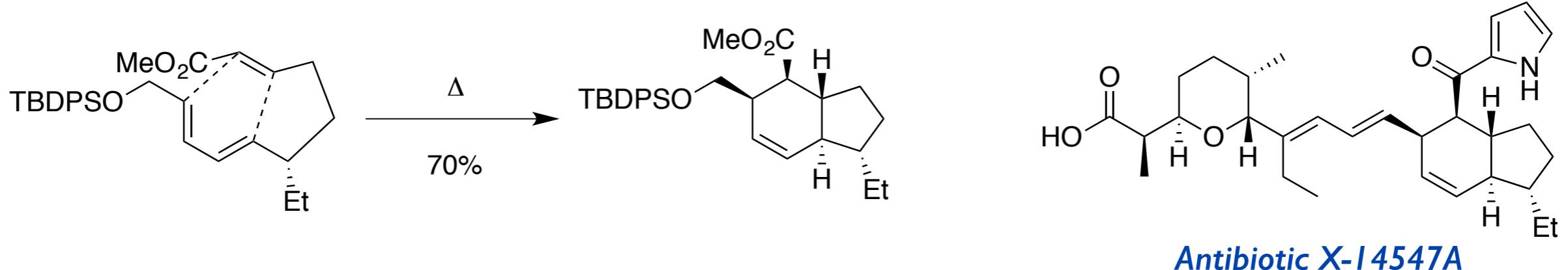
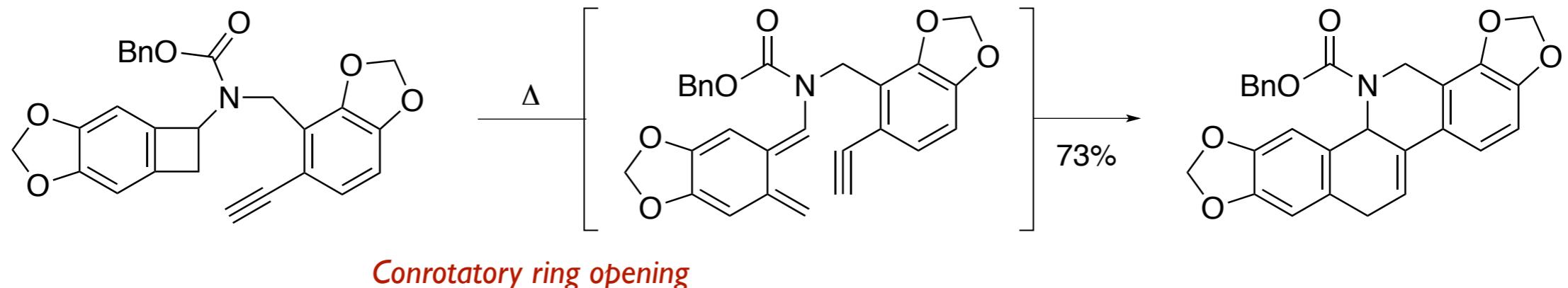


*Danishefsky's diene*

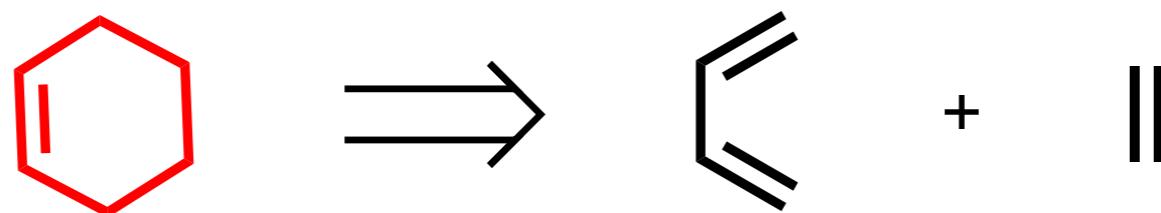


# Diels-Alder Reaction in Synthesis

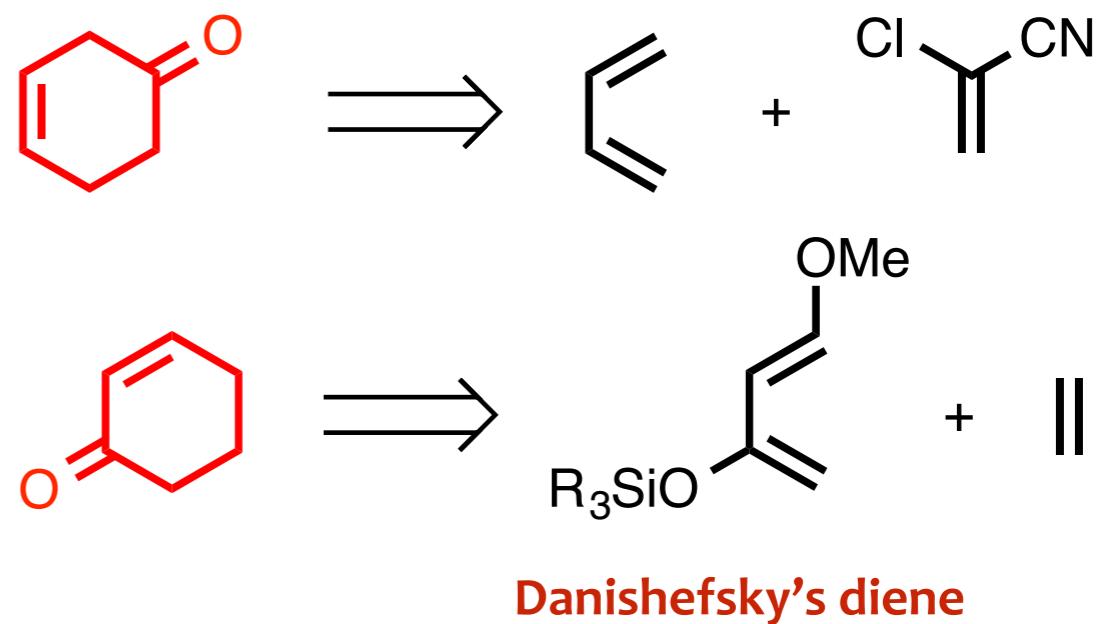
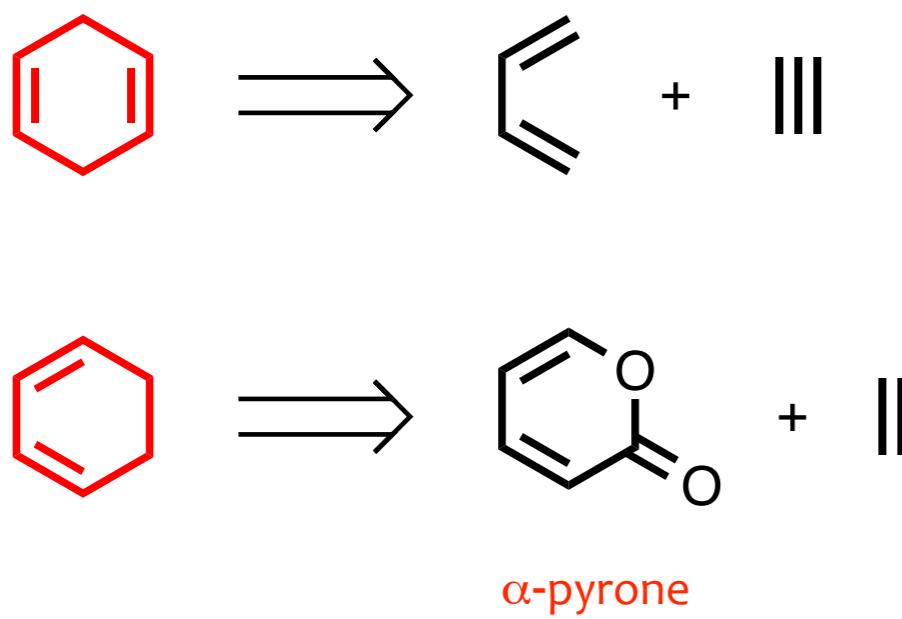
Intramolecular Diels-Alder (IMDA) reactions are very efficient ...



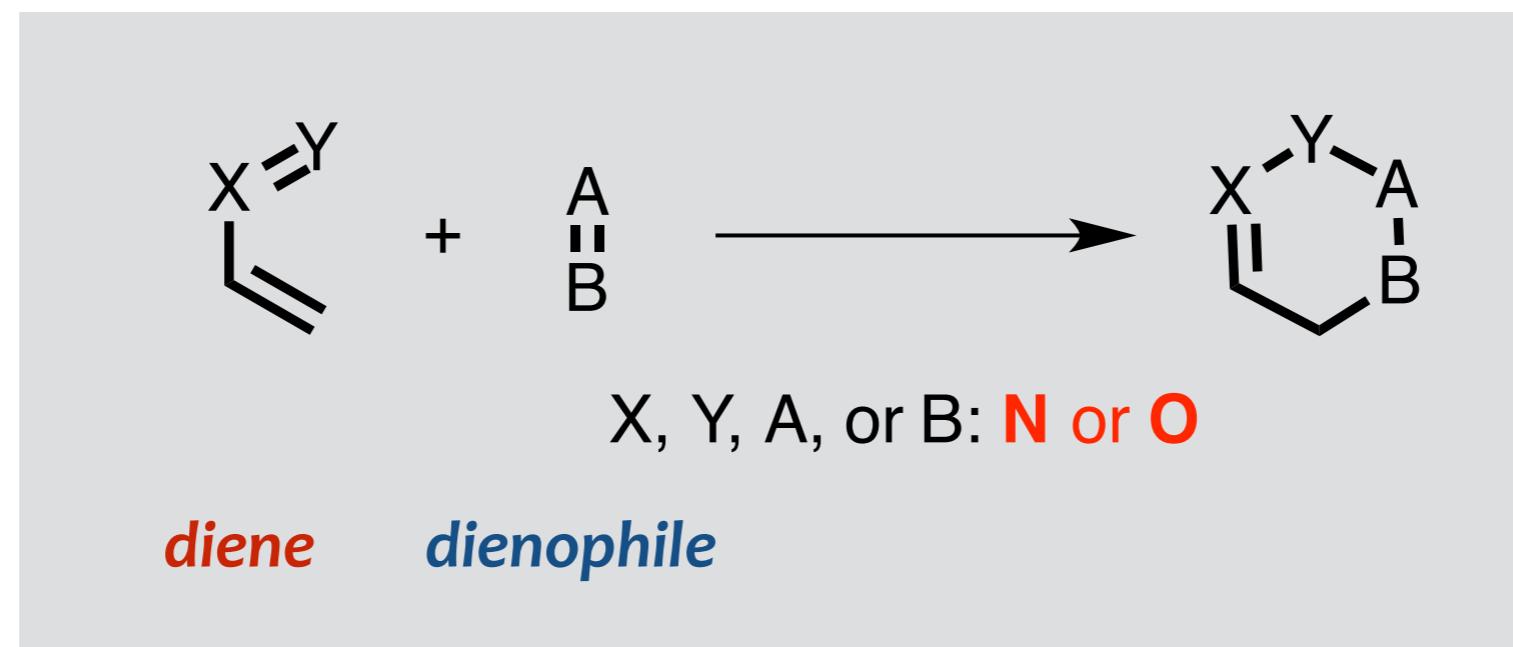
**Retron:** molecular substructure that enables certain transformations



**Supra Retron:** molecular substructure that can be associated with a variant of a general transform



The substitution of a C atom of one of the reagents involved in the former **carbo** Diels-Alder gives rise to a new  $[4\pi_s + 2\pi_s]$  cycloaddition named **hetero** Diels-Alder

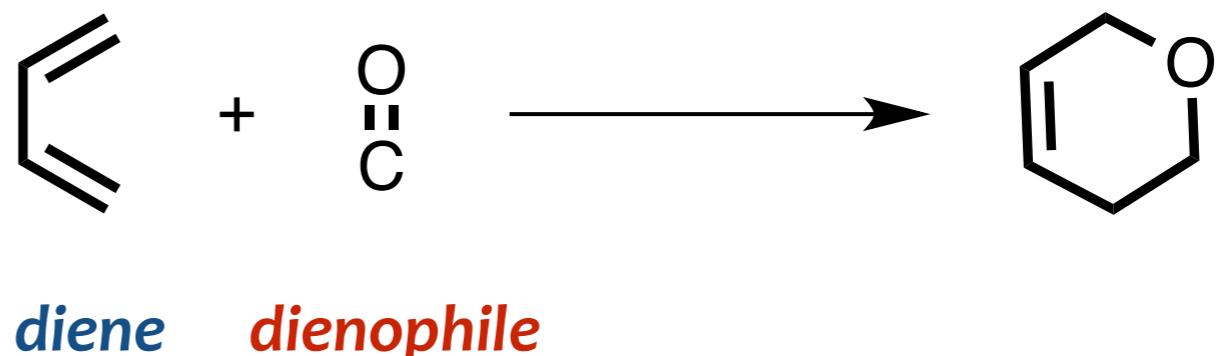
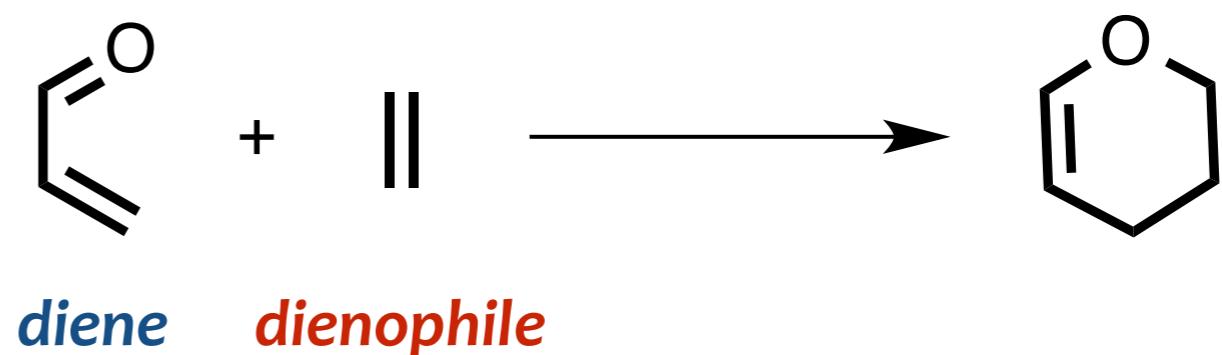


**Thermodynamics:** broken bonds,  $3\pi$   
new bonds,  $2\sigma + 1\pi$

**2σ - 2π**

**KEEP ALSO IN MIND THE ENTROPIC FACTOR**

The **hetero Diels-Alder** reactions are mechanistically much more complex than the related **carbo Diels-Alder** reactions, but one can also differentiate **normal** and **inverse HDA**

**Normal HDA** $HOMO_{\text{diene}} - LUMO_{\text{dienophile}}$ **Inverse HDA** $HOMO_{\text{dienophile}} - LUMO_{\text{diene}}$ 

For reviews on HDA reactions see, Jorgensen, K. A. ACIE 2000, 39, 3558; EJOC 2004, 2093  
 Feng, X. Synlett 2007, 2147; Pellissier, H. Tet 2009, 65, 2839  
 Miller, M. J. ACIE 2011, 50, 5630; Kumar, K.; Waldmann, H. ACIE 2014, 53, 11146

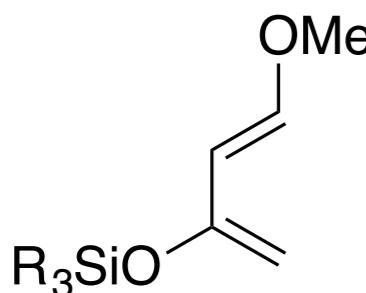
# Oxa Hetero Diels-Alder

**Normal HDA**

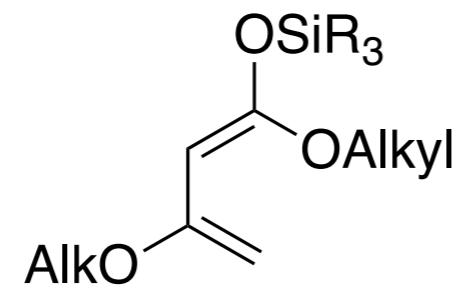


*electron-rich  
diene*

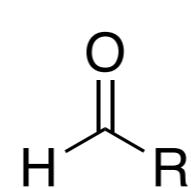
*electron-poor  
dienophile*



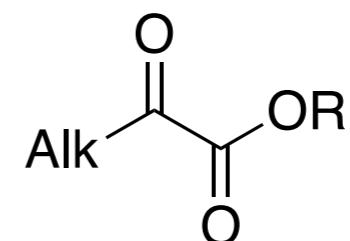
*Danishefsky dienes*



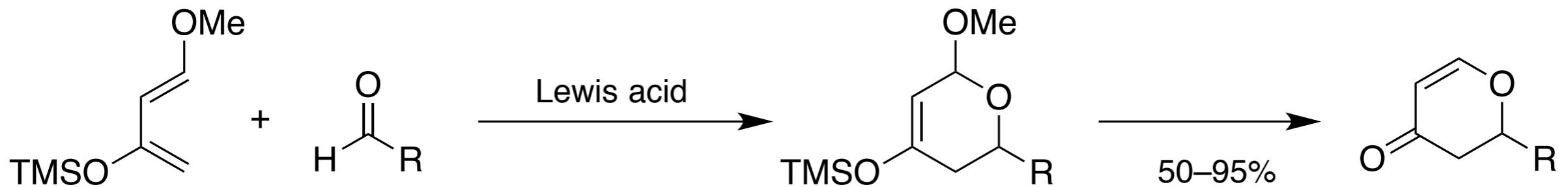
*Brassard dienes*



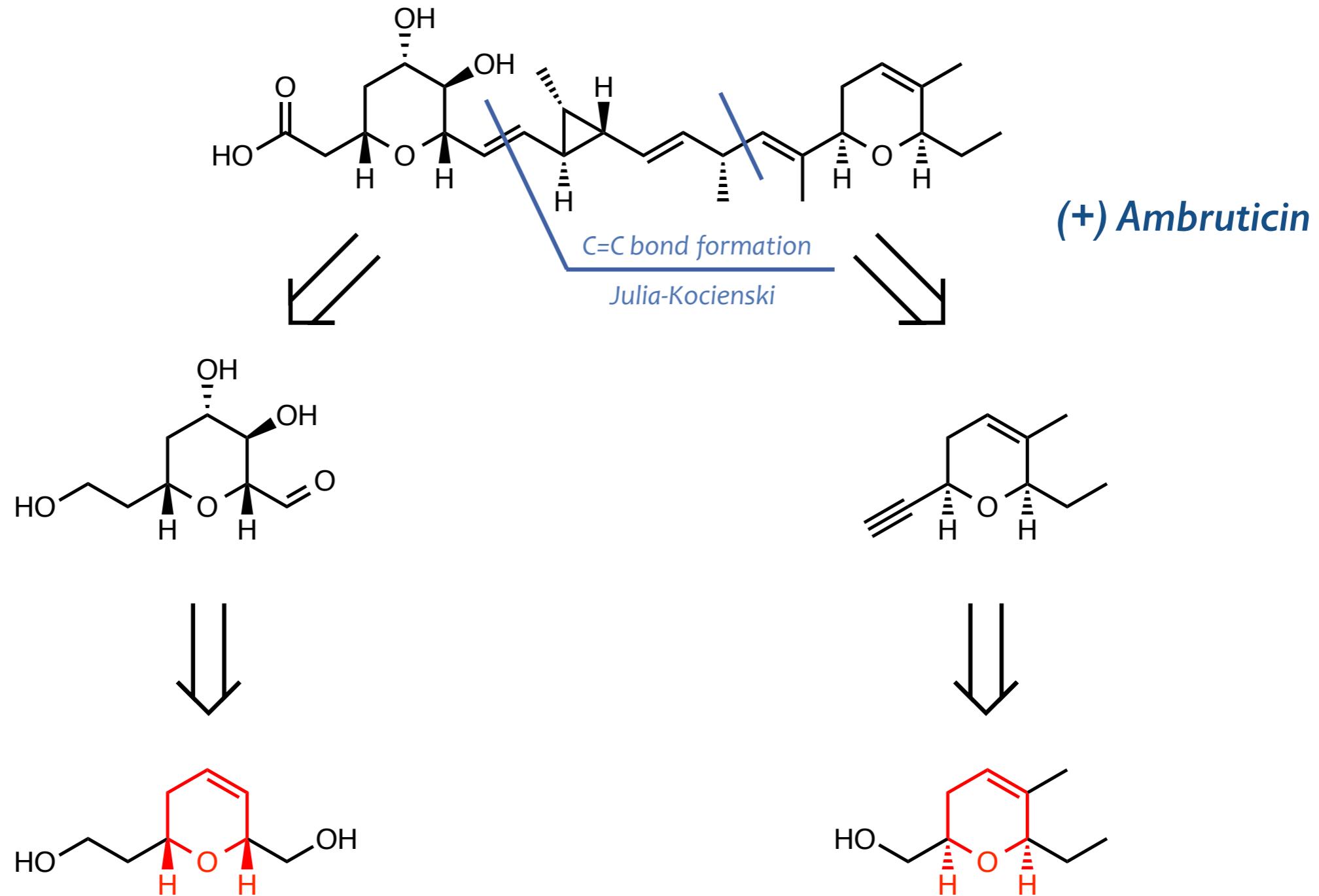
*Aldehydes*



*α-Oxoesters*



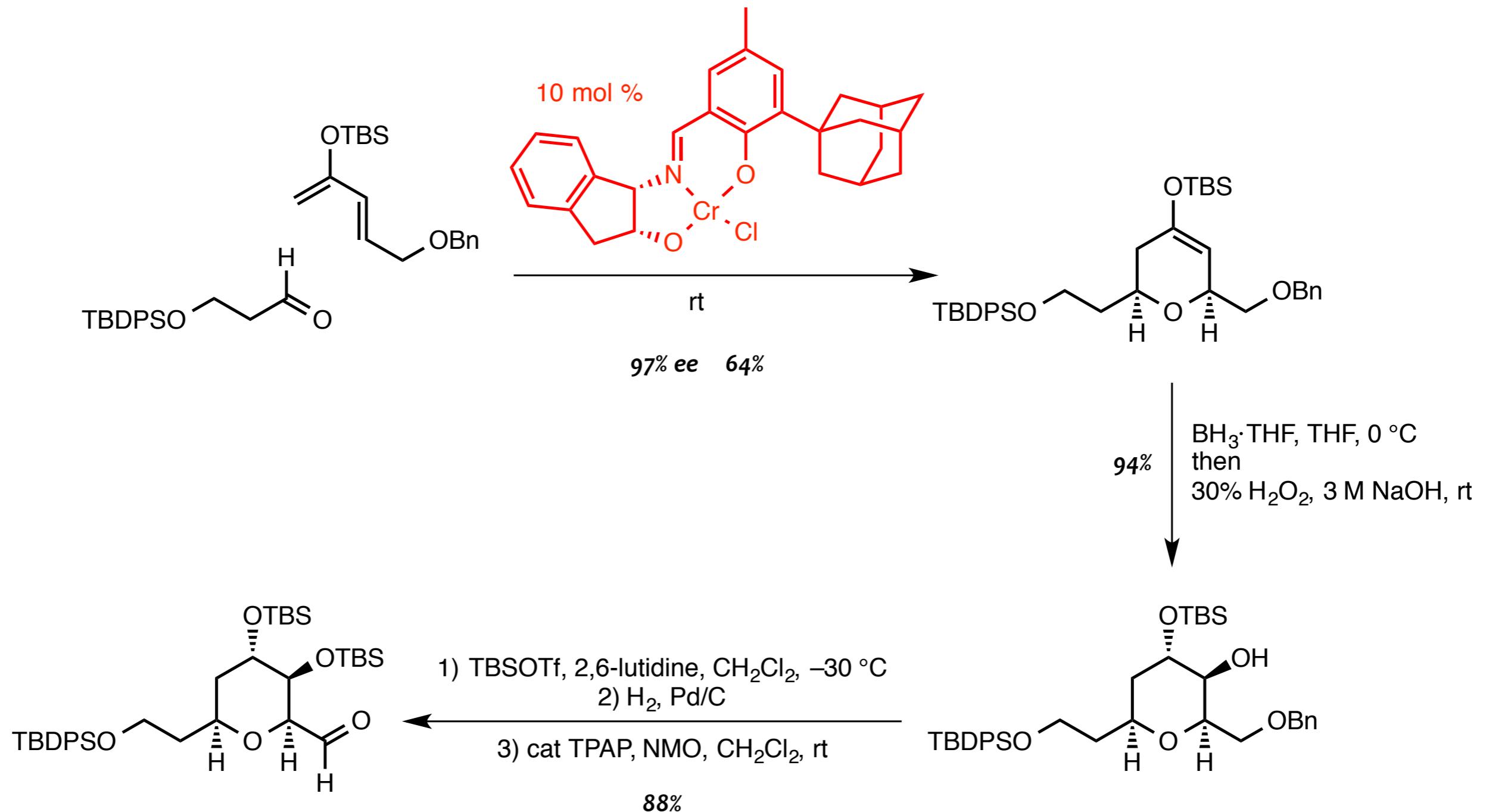
# Stereoselective Synthesis of (+) Ambruticin



Asymmetric HDA provides a quick access  
to both pyran heterocycles

Jacobsen, E. N.  
JACS 2001, 123, 10772

# Stereoselective Synthesis of (+) Ambruticin



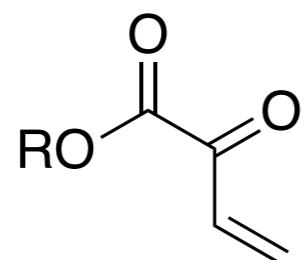
# Oxa Hetero Diels-Alder

**Inverse HDA**

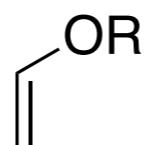


*electron-poor  
diene*

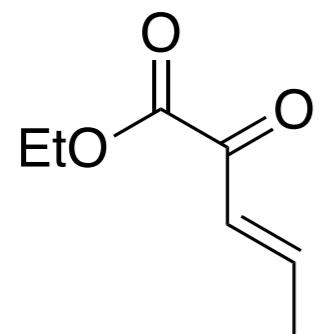
*electron-rich  
dienophile*



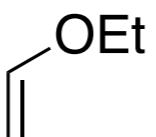
*Deactivated enones*



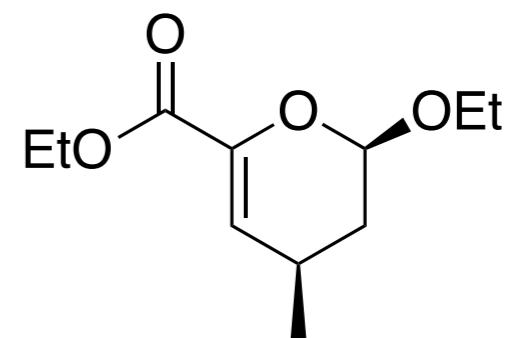
*Vinyl ethers*



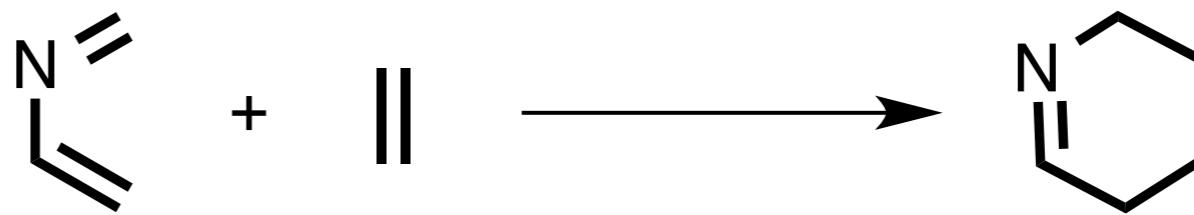
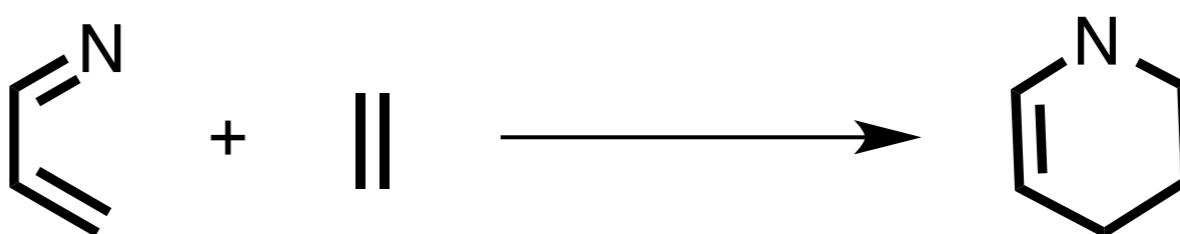
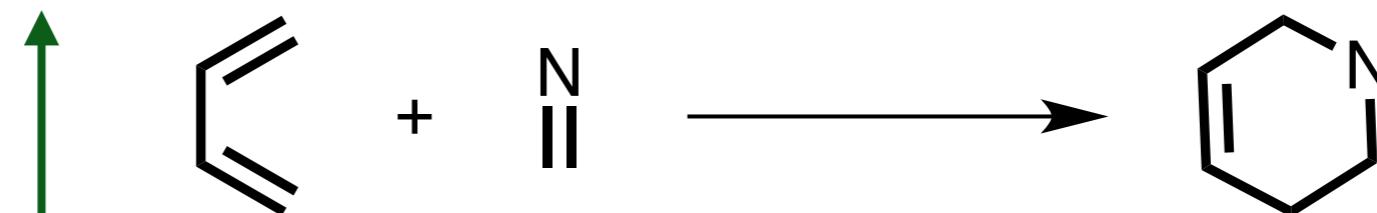
+



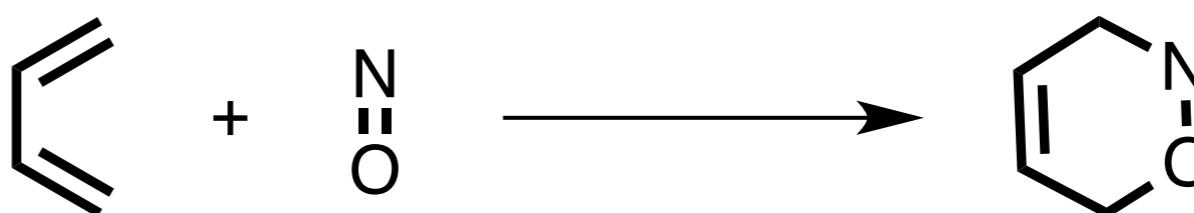
Lewis acid  
95%



Aza Diels Alder



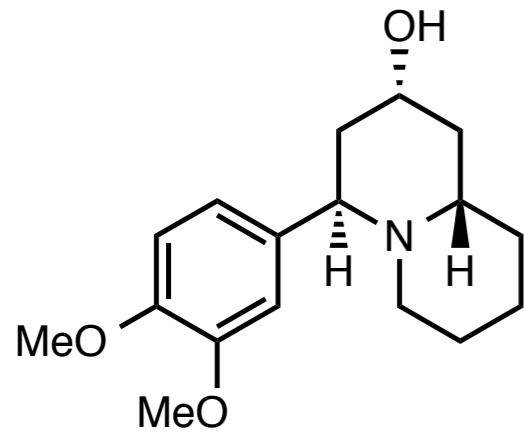
Nitroso Diels Alder



For reviews on as HDA reactions see, Oh, T. *Tet* **2001**, *57*, 6099

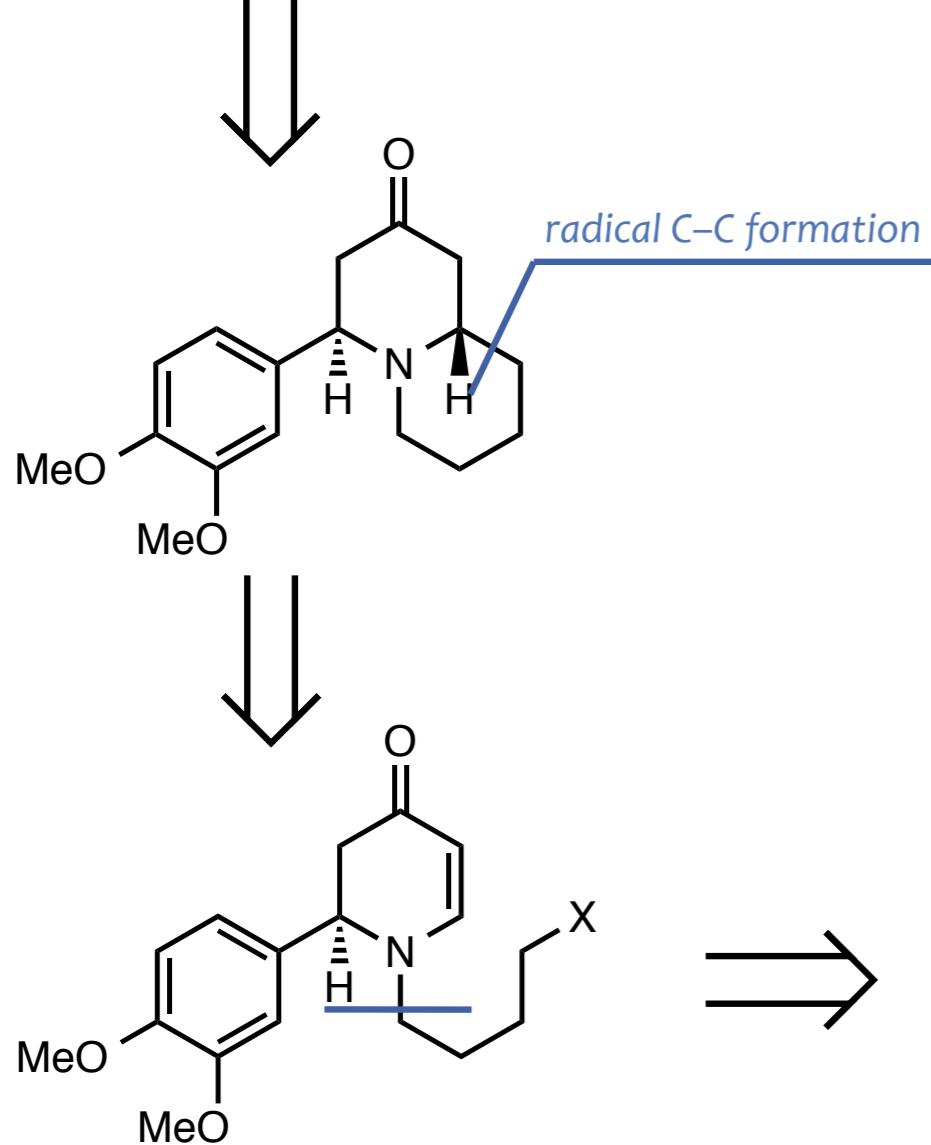
Masson, G. *CSR* **2013**, *42*, 902

# Stereoselective Syntheses of (+) Lasubines

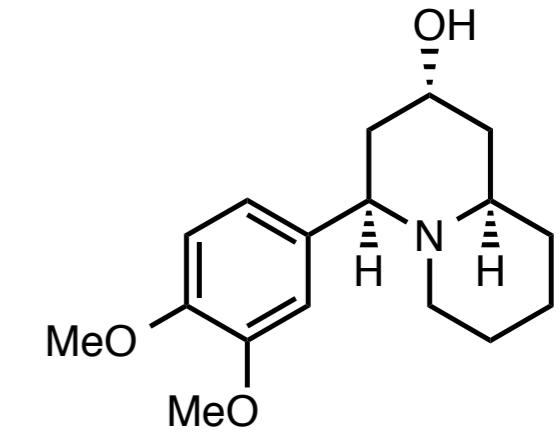


(+) *Lasubine I*

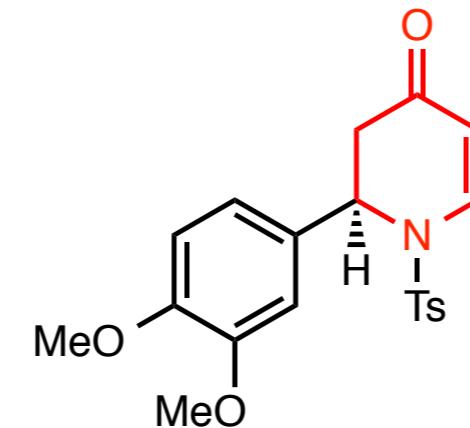
Carretero, J. C. *JOC* 2007, 72, 10294



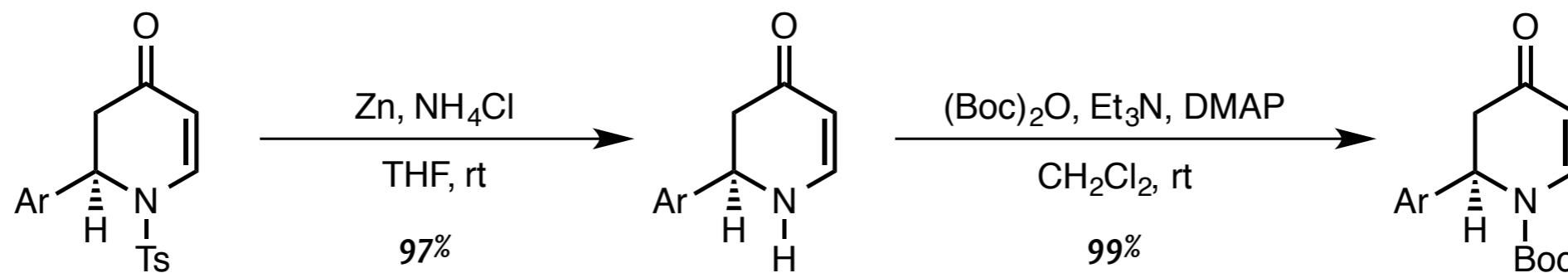
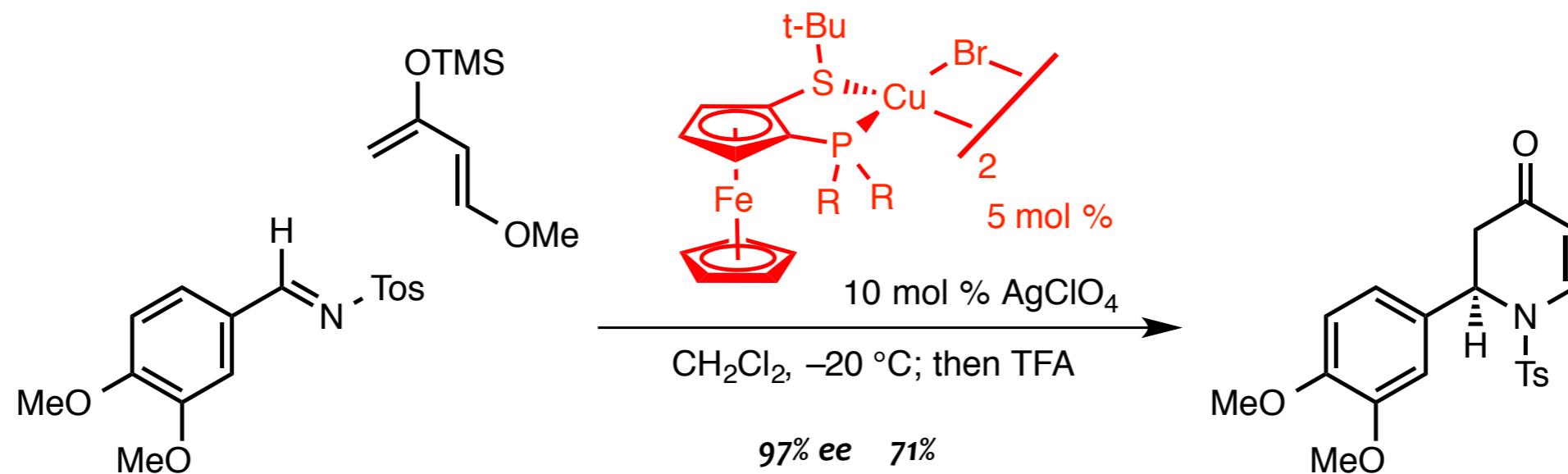
(+) *Lasubine II*



heterolytic C-C formation



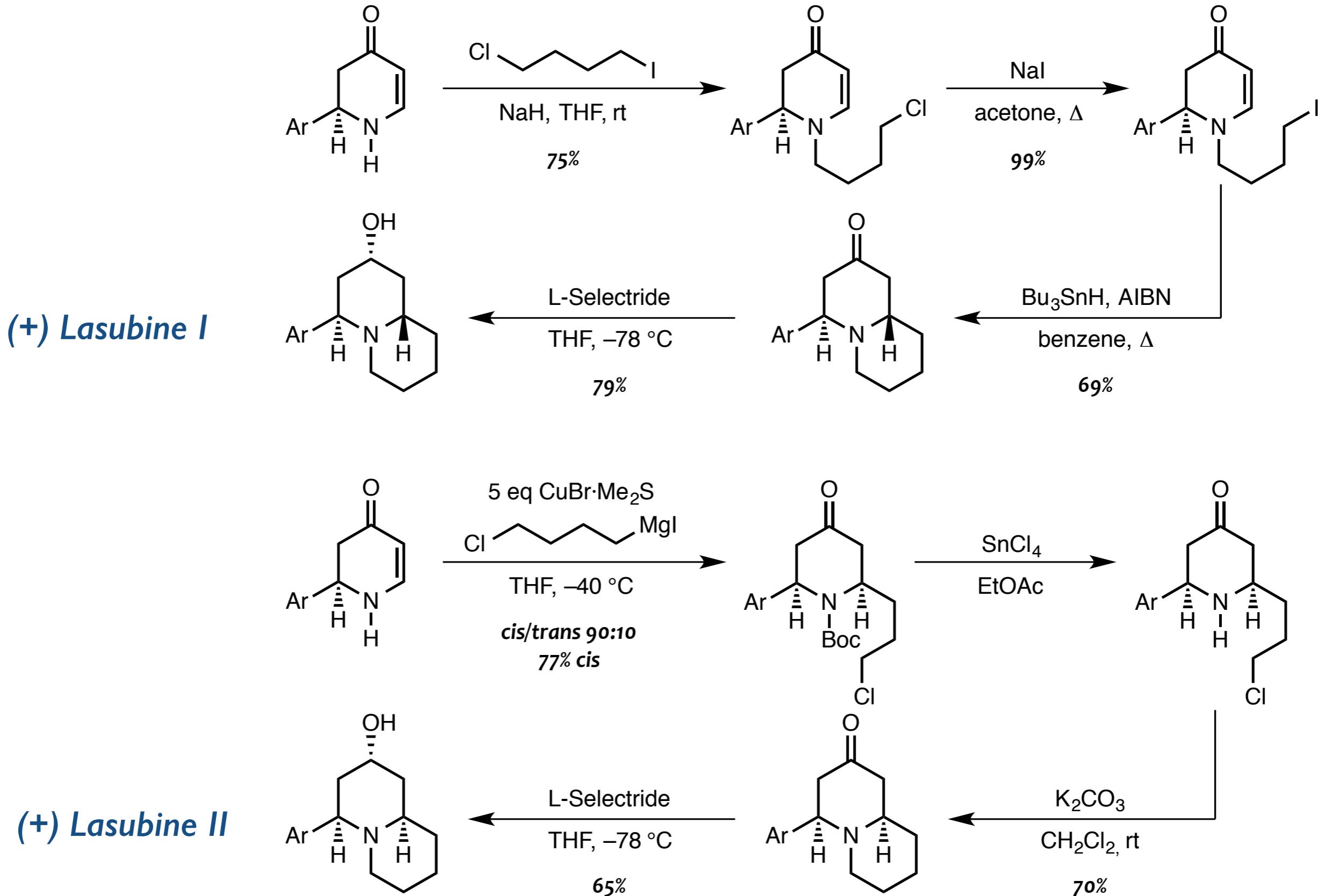
# Stereoselective Syntheses of (+) Lasubines



(+) *Lasubine I*

(+) *Lasubine II*

# Stereoselective Syntheses of (+) Lasubines





What do I wear in bed?

Marilyn Monroe



**Five membered rings are highly valuable substrates and  
a huge variety of approaches have been devised**

**The synthetic methods for the 5-membered-rings are similar  
but not identical to those for 6-membered-rings**

**Radical cascades Nazarov 1,3-Dipolar cycloadditions Pauson-Khand**

## 5-Membered Rings

|   | Exo |      |     | Endo |      |     |
|---|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|
|   | Tet | Trig | Dig | Tet  | Trig | Dig |
| 3 | ✓   | ✓    | ≈   | ✗    | ✗    | ✗   |
| 4 | ✓   | ✓    | ≈   | ✗    | ✗    | ✗   |
| 5 | ✓   | ✓    | ✓   | ✗    | ✗    | ≈   |
| 6 | ✓   | ✓    | ✓   | ✗    | ✓    | ✓   |
| 7 | ✓   | ✓    | ✓   | ✗    | ✓    | ✓   |

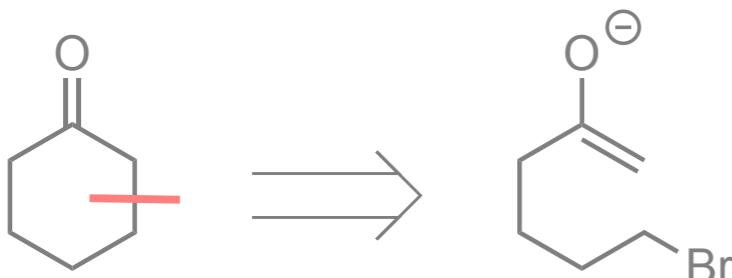
## 5-Membered Rings

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### *Enolendo-Exo*

### *Enolexo-Exo*

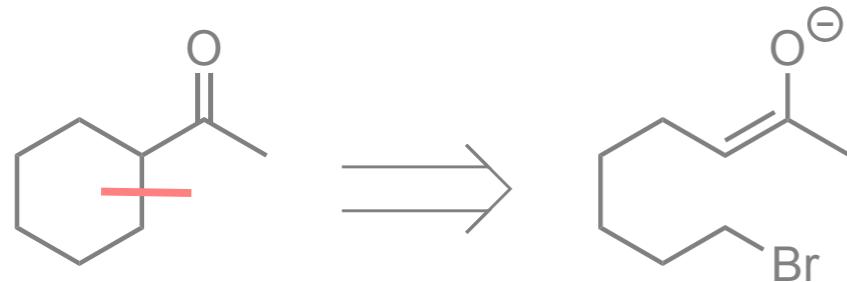
|   | <i>Tet</i> | <i>Trig</i> | <i>Tet</i> | <i>Trig</i> |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 3 | ✗          | ✗           | ✓          | ✓           |
| 4 | ✗          | ✗           | ✓          | ✓           |
| 5 | ✗          | ✗           | ✓          | ✓           |
| 6 | ✓          | ✓           | ✓          | ✓           |
| 7 | ✓          | ✓           | ✓          | ✓           |



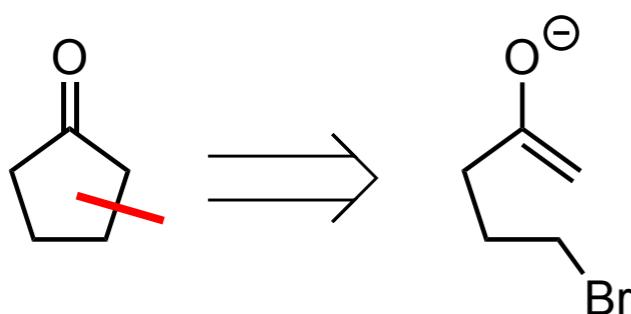
6-enolendo-exotet



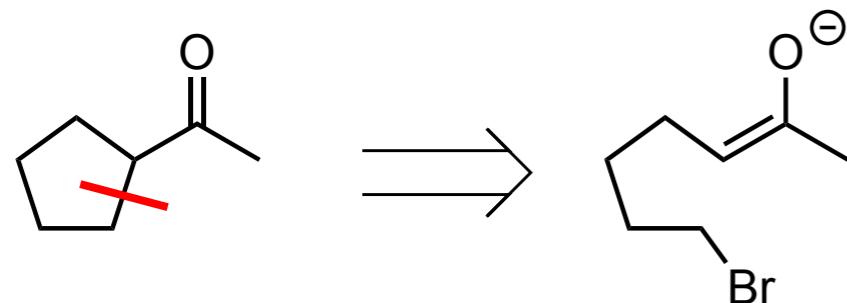
## Alkylation reactions



6-enolexo-exotet

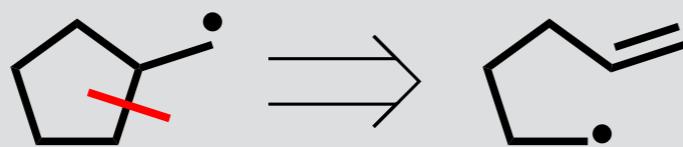


5-enolendo-exotet



5-enolexo-exotet





## Radical cyclizations

### Initiation

generation of the radical center

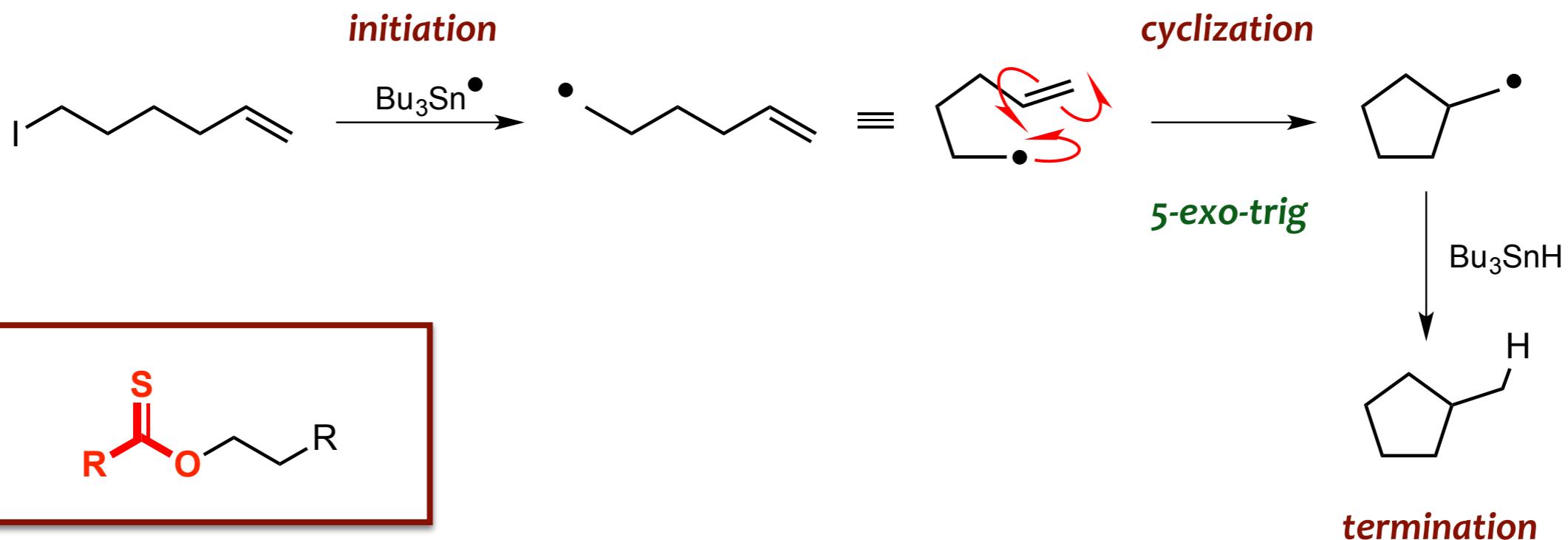
### Cyclization

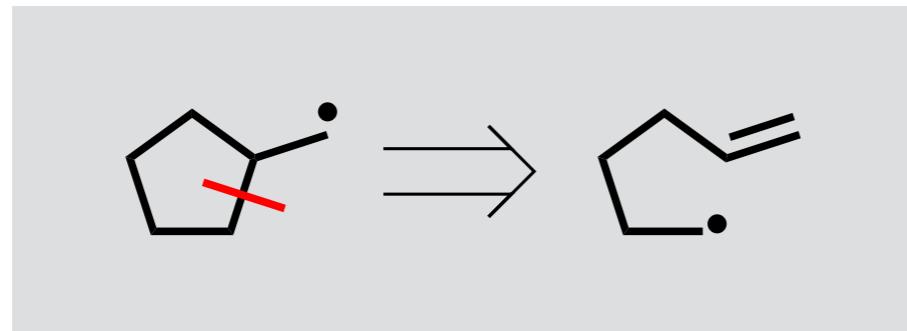
interaction of the radical center with a  $\pi$ -bond

### Termination

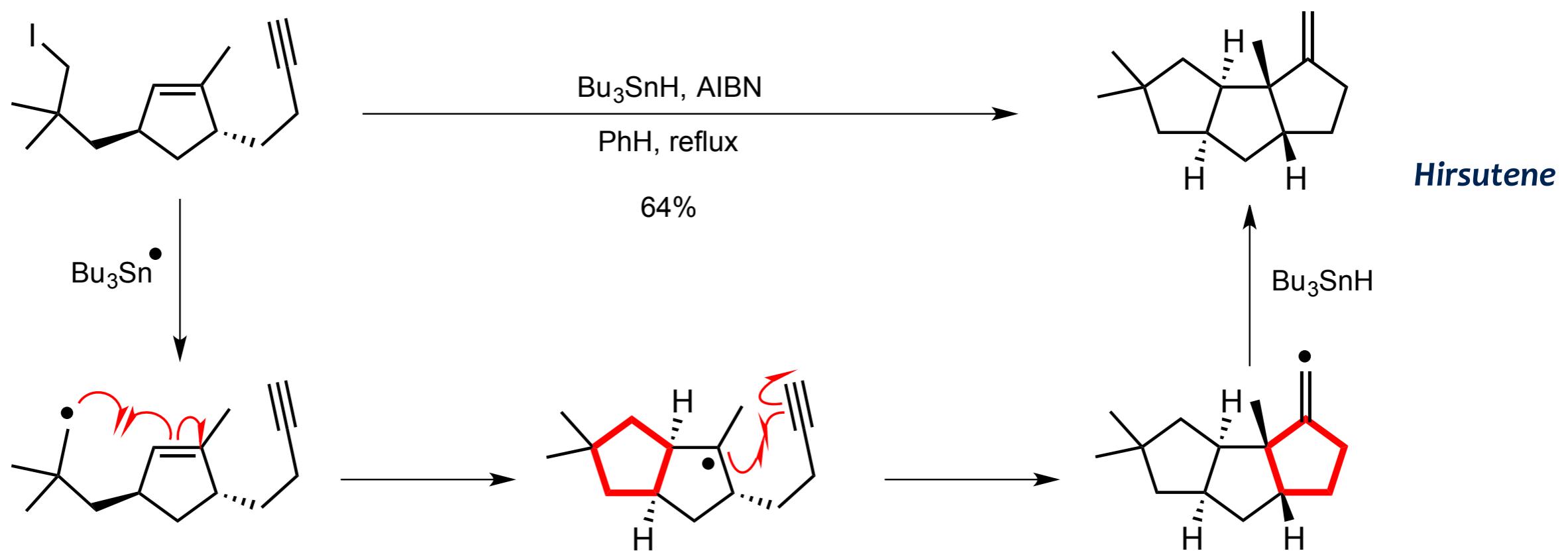
fate of the resultant radical

Radical cyclizations tolerate  
a large variety of FG



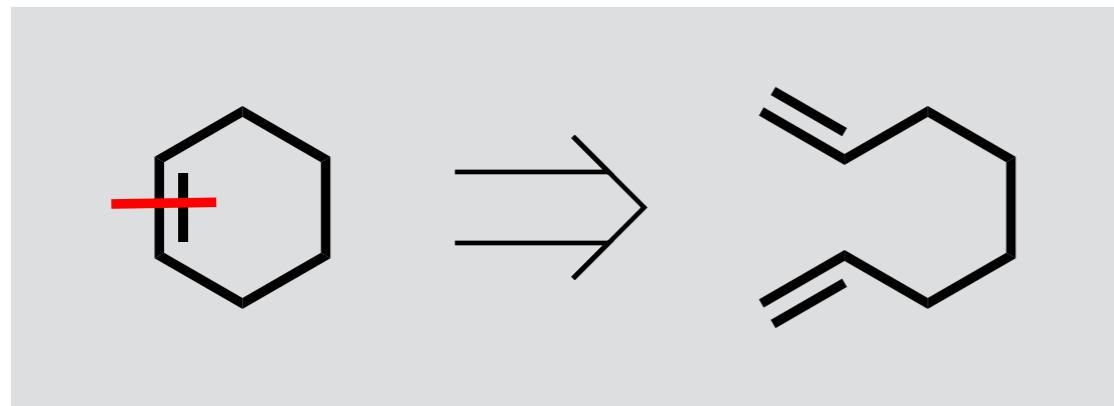


## Radical cyclizations

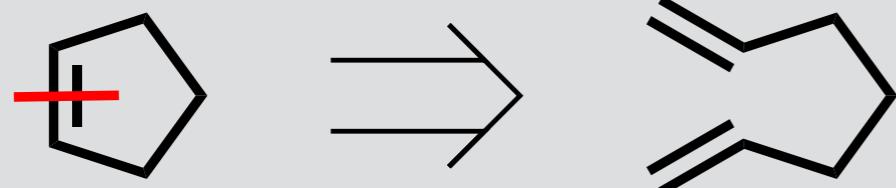


## 5-Membered Rings

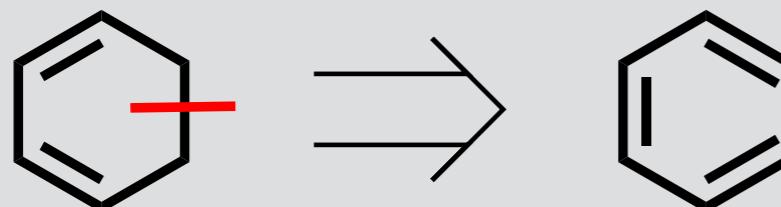
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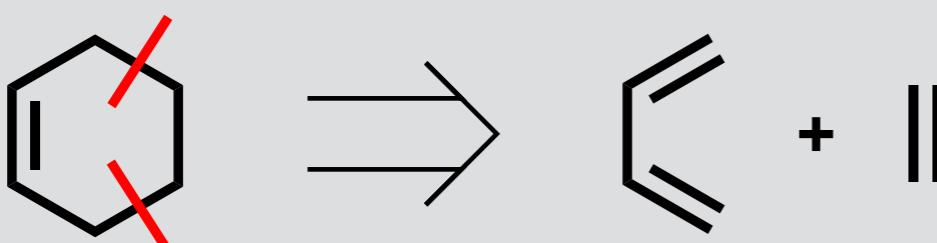
***Ring Closing Metathesis (RCM)***



**Ring Closing Metathesis (RCM)**

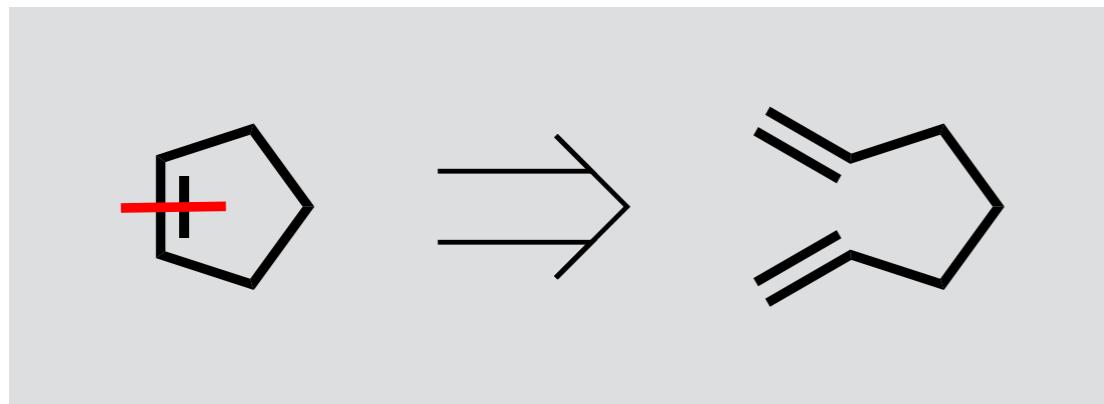


**Electrocyclic Rearrangement**

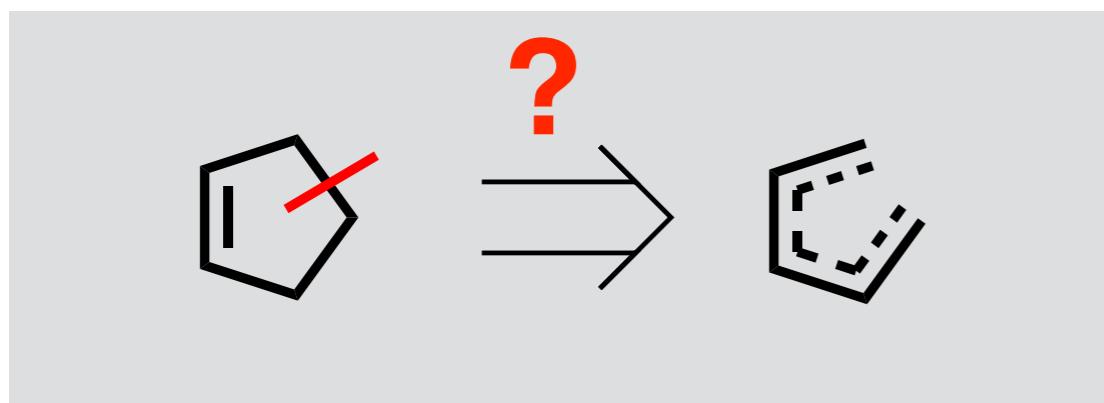


**Diels Alder Cycloaddition**

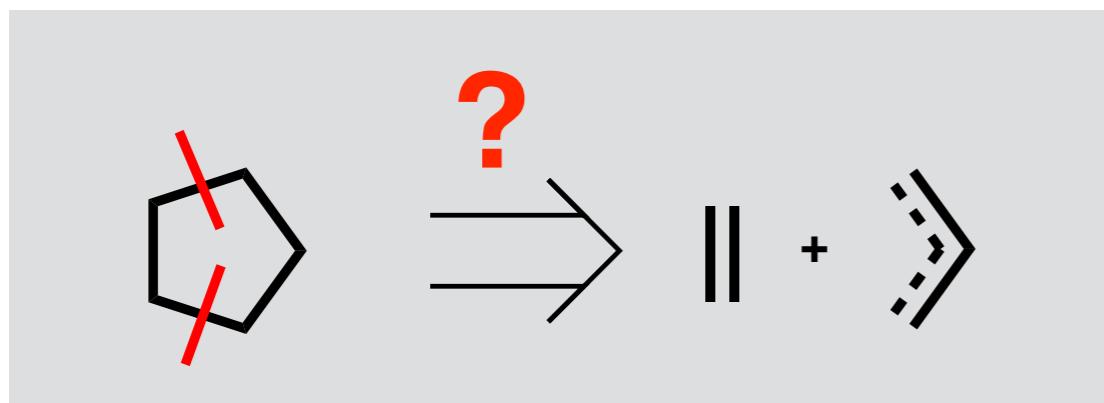
## 5-Membered Rings



**Ring Closing Metathesis (RCM)**

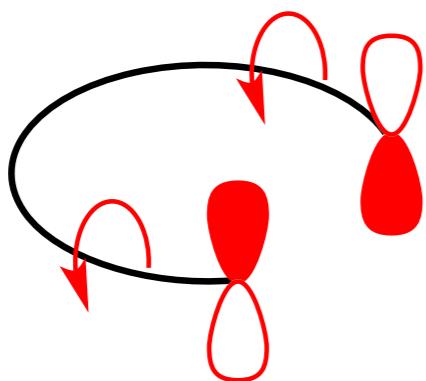
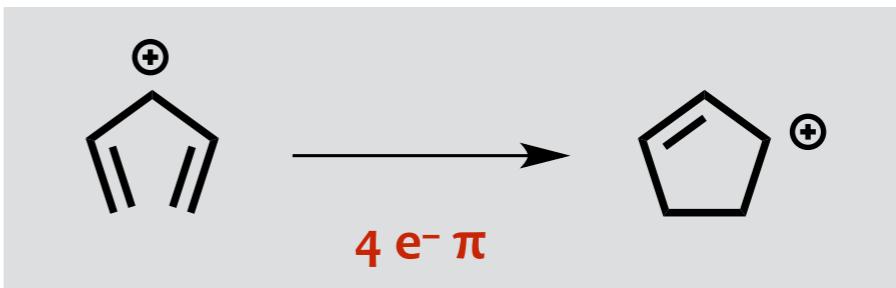


**Electrocyclic Rearrangement**



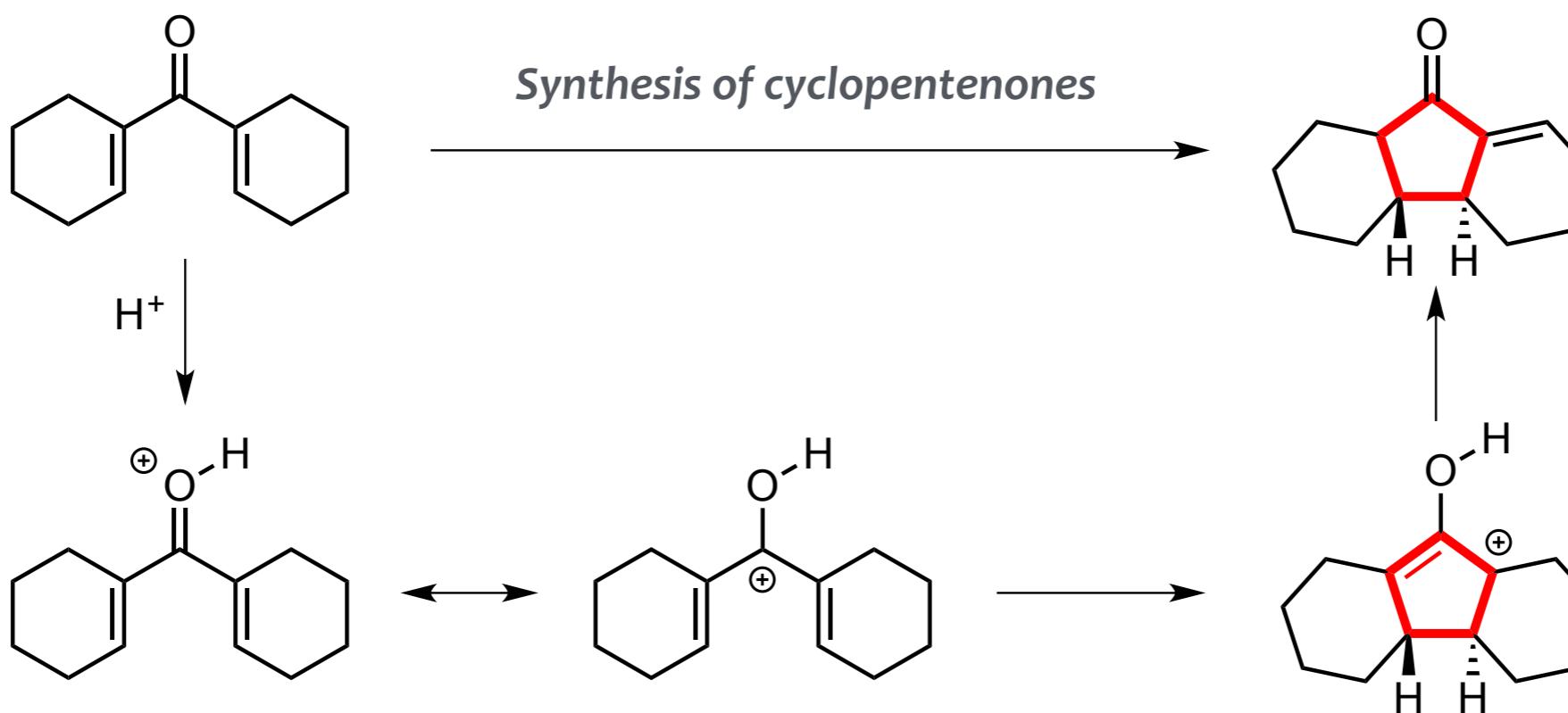
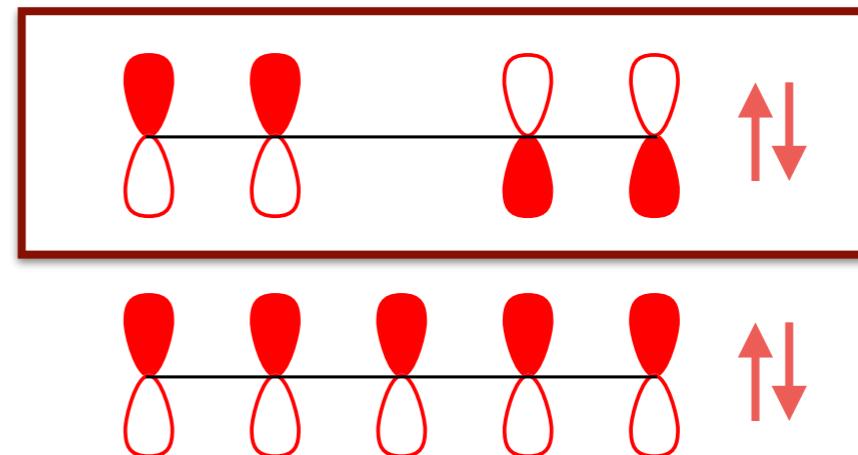
**Cycloaddition**

**Nazarov: an electrocyclic reaction**

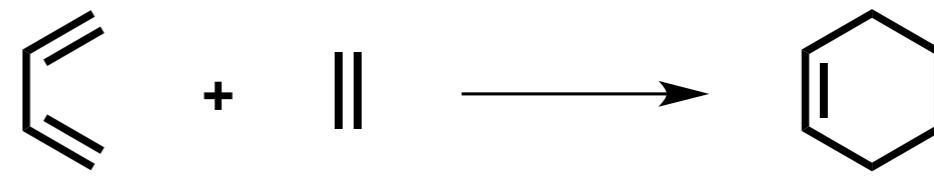


conrotatory under thermal conditions

HOMO



## Diels-Alder cycloaddition



diene      dienophile

$4 e^- \pi$

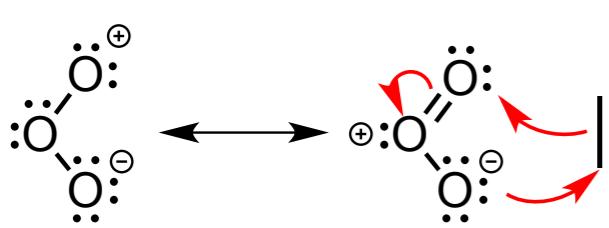
4 atoms

$2 e^- \pi$

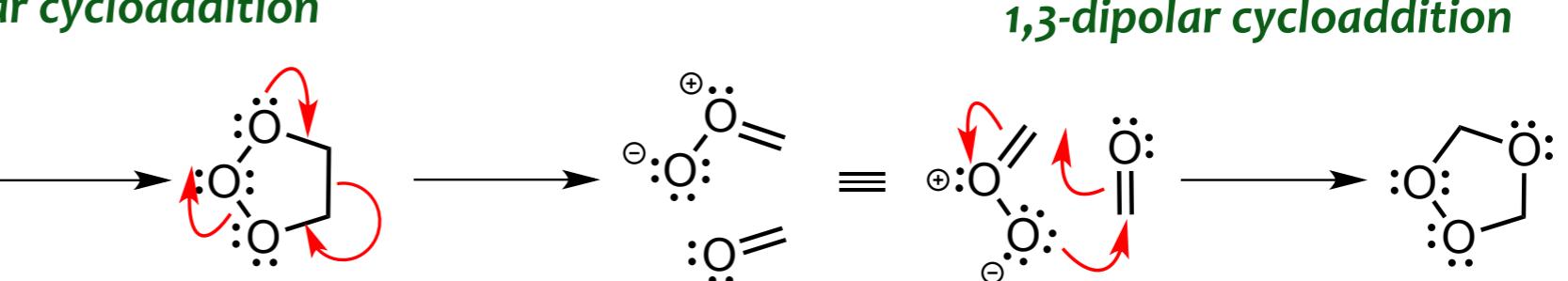
2 atoms

**Is it possible to find a diene with  $4 e^- \pi$  and just 3 atoms?**

## 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition



Ozone  
an example of 1,3-dipole



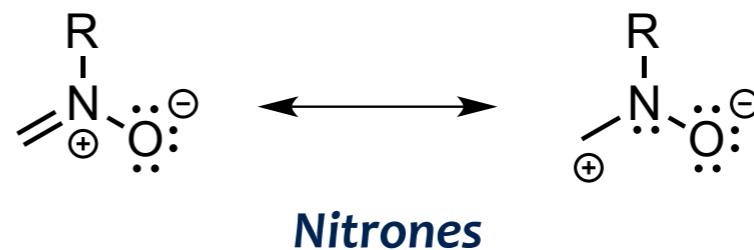
retro cycloaddition

## 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition

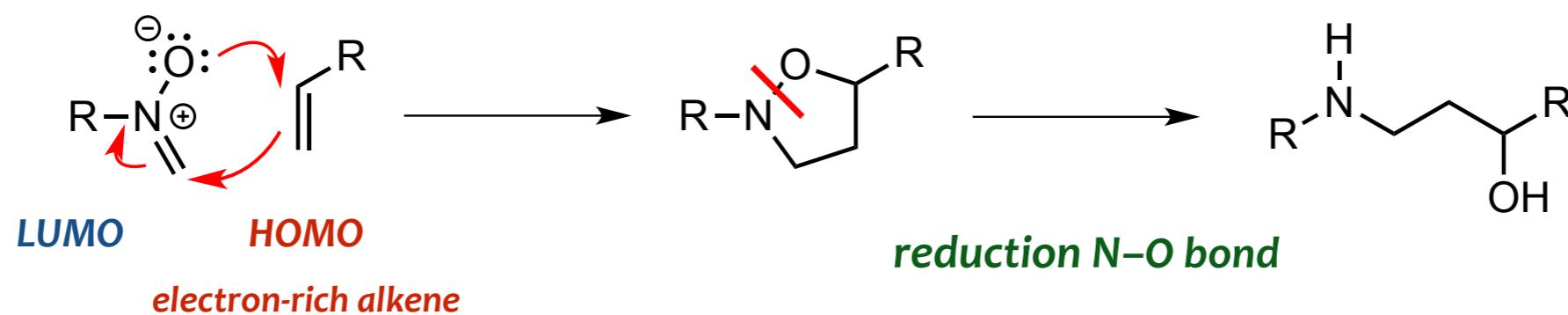
1,3-dipole

**Any other dipoles? Other 1,3-dipolar cycloadditions?**

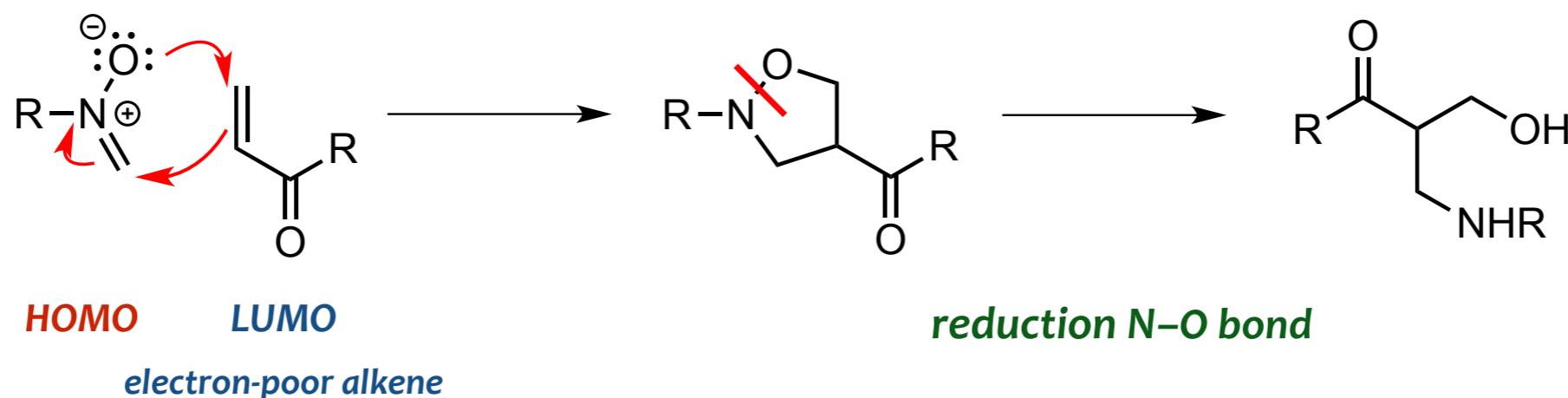
## 1,3-Dipolar cycloadditions

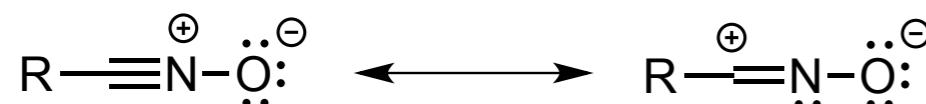


### 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition

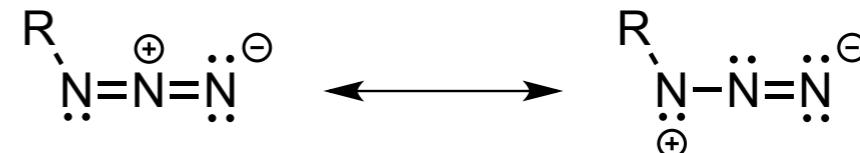


### 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition

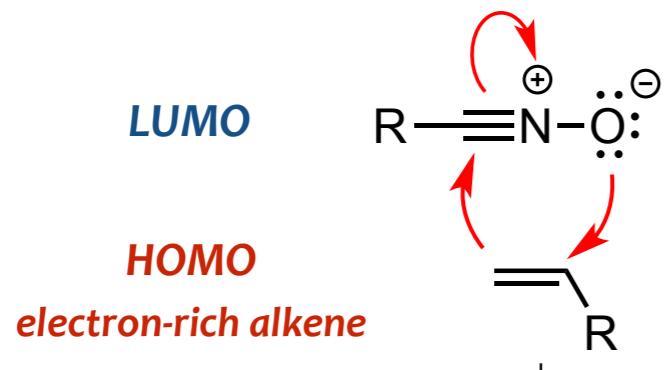




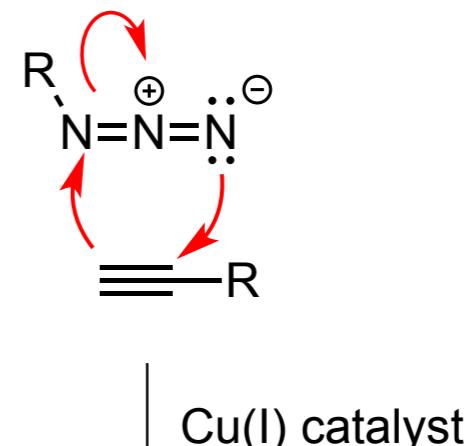
**Nitrile oxides**



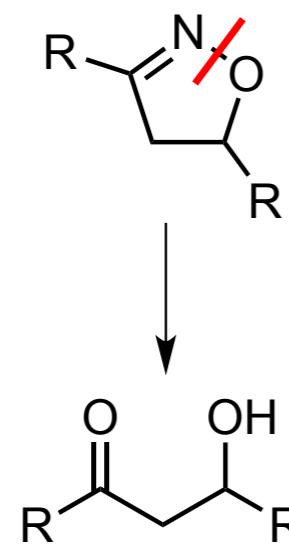
**Azides**



**1,3-dipolar cycloaddition**



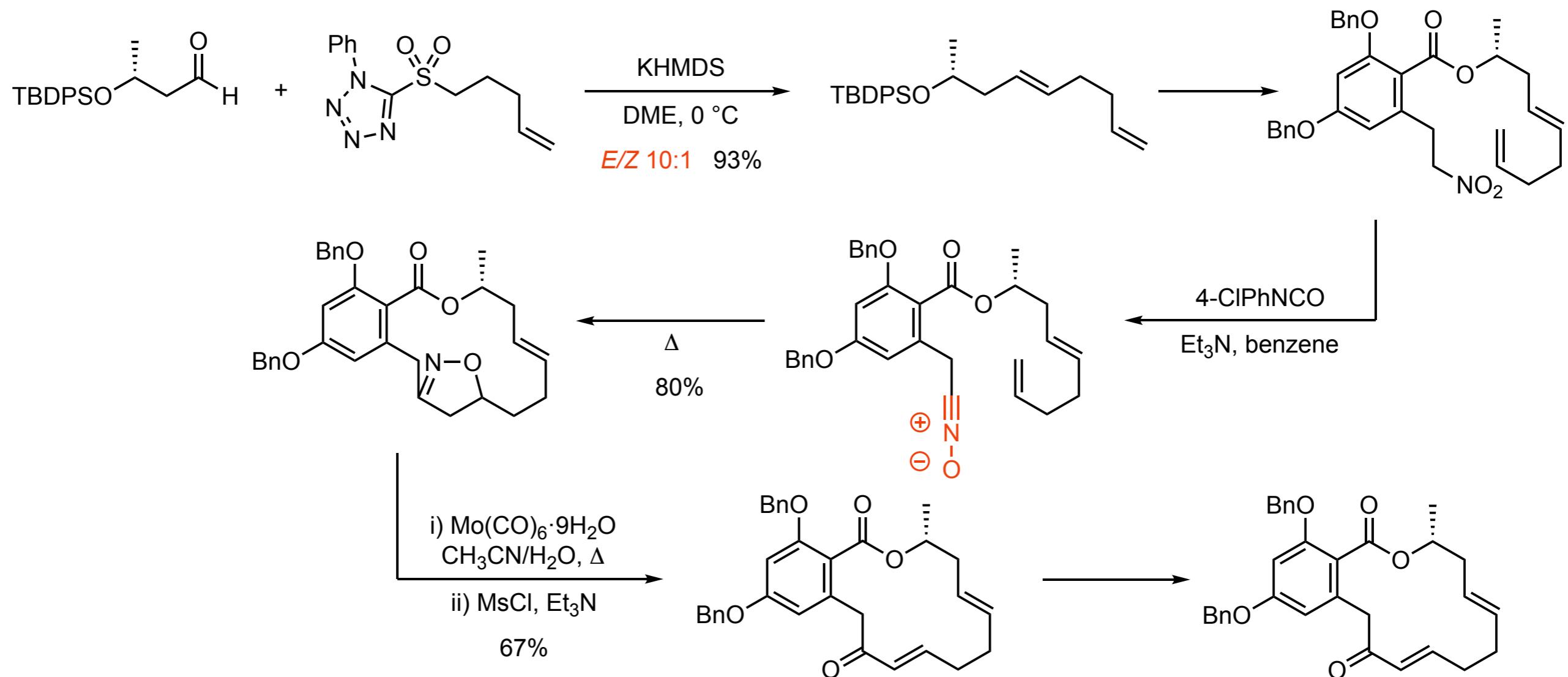
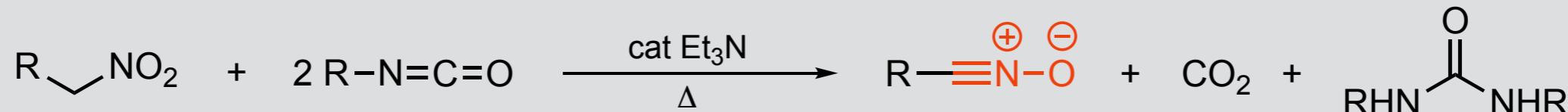
**reduction N–O bond**



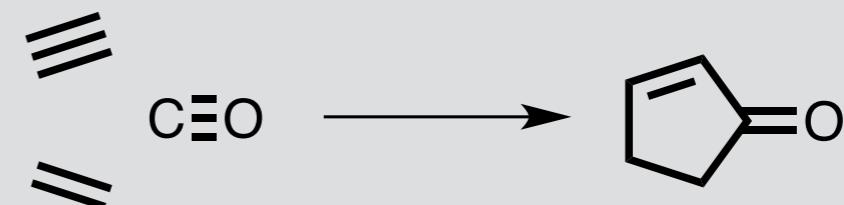
**Click Chemistry**

Sharpless, B. K. ACIE 2001, 40, 2004

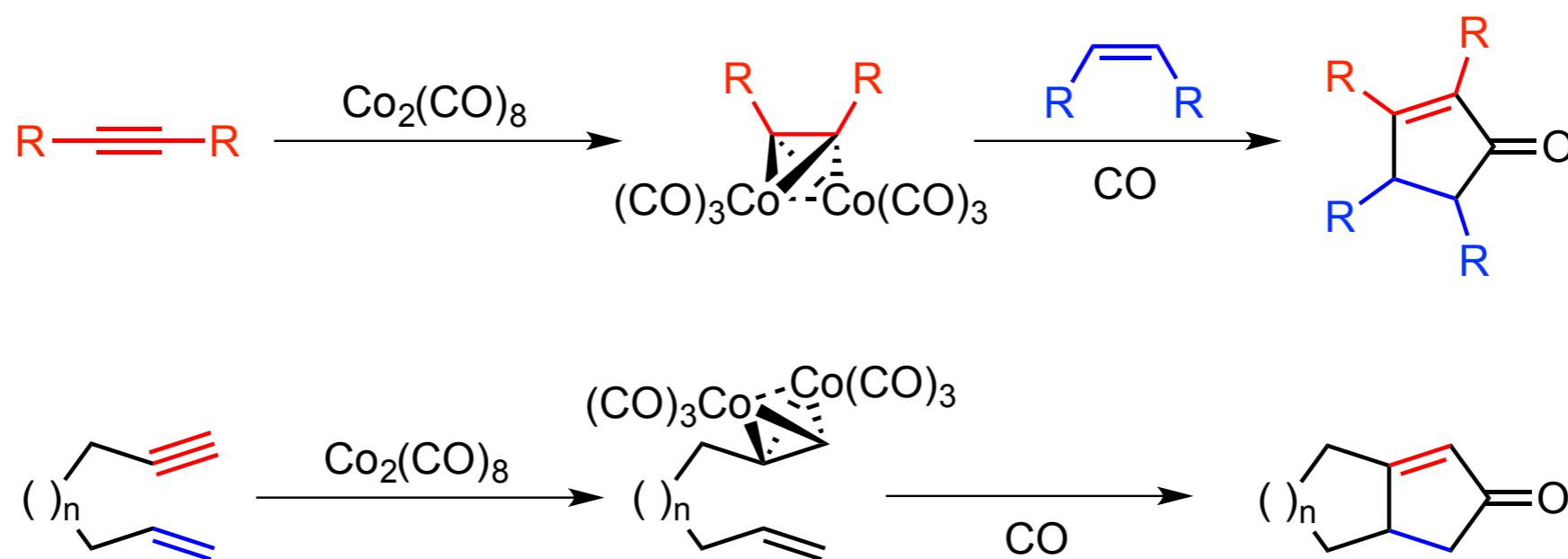
## 5-Membered Rings



**Pauson-Khand reaction (PKR)**

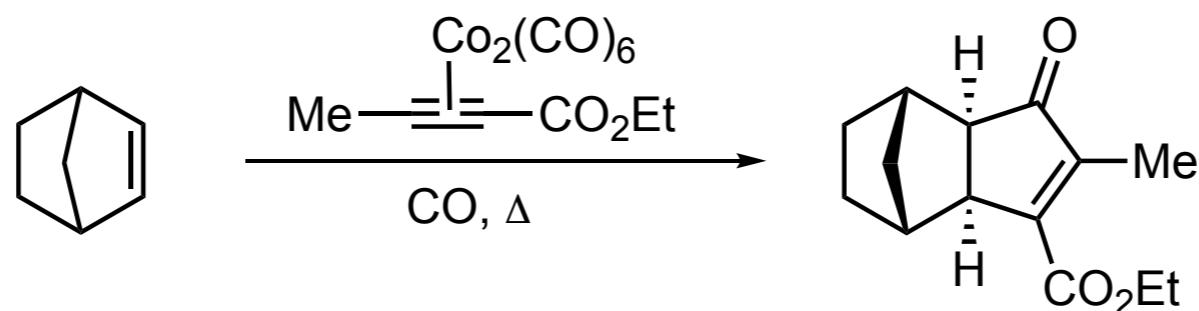
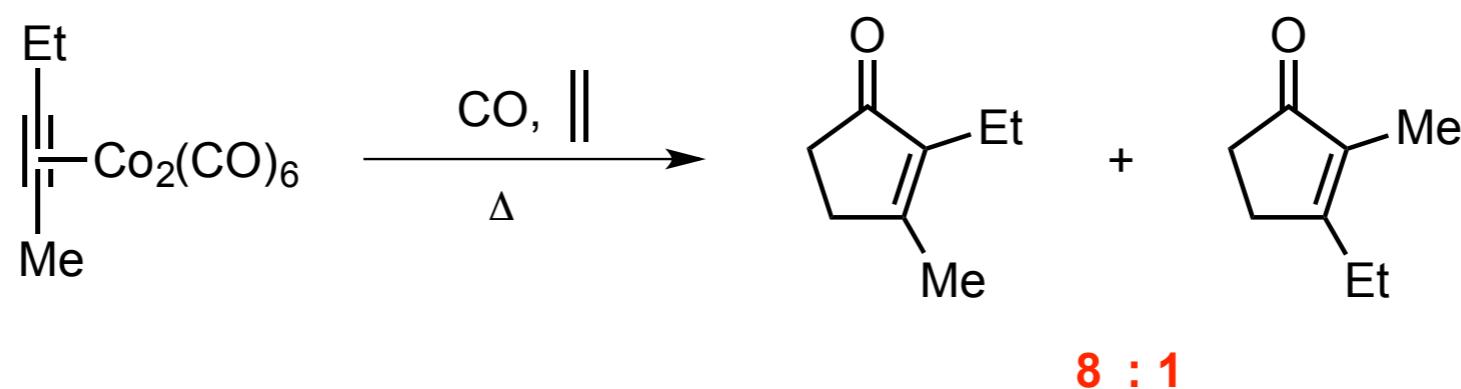
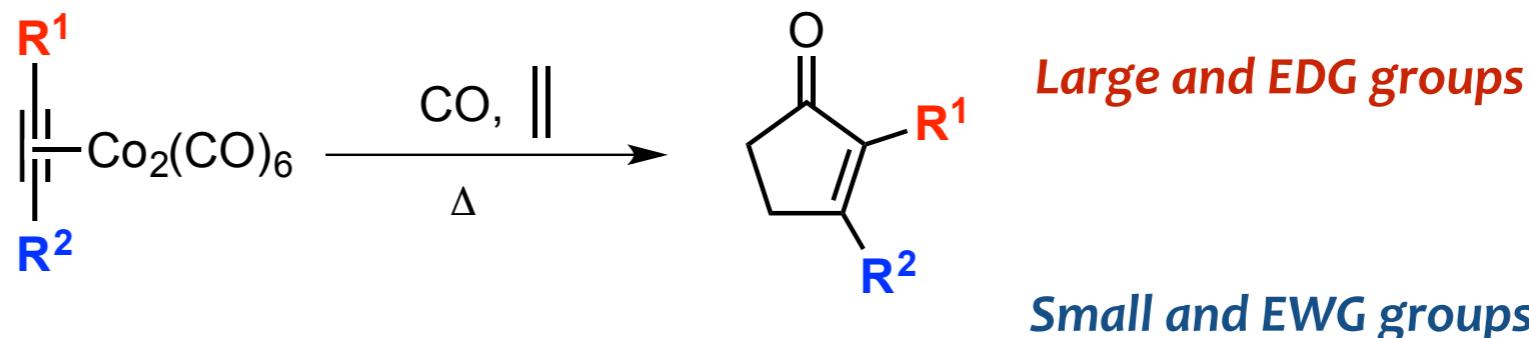


**A formal [2+2+1] cycloaddition of an alkyne, an alkene and CO**



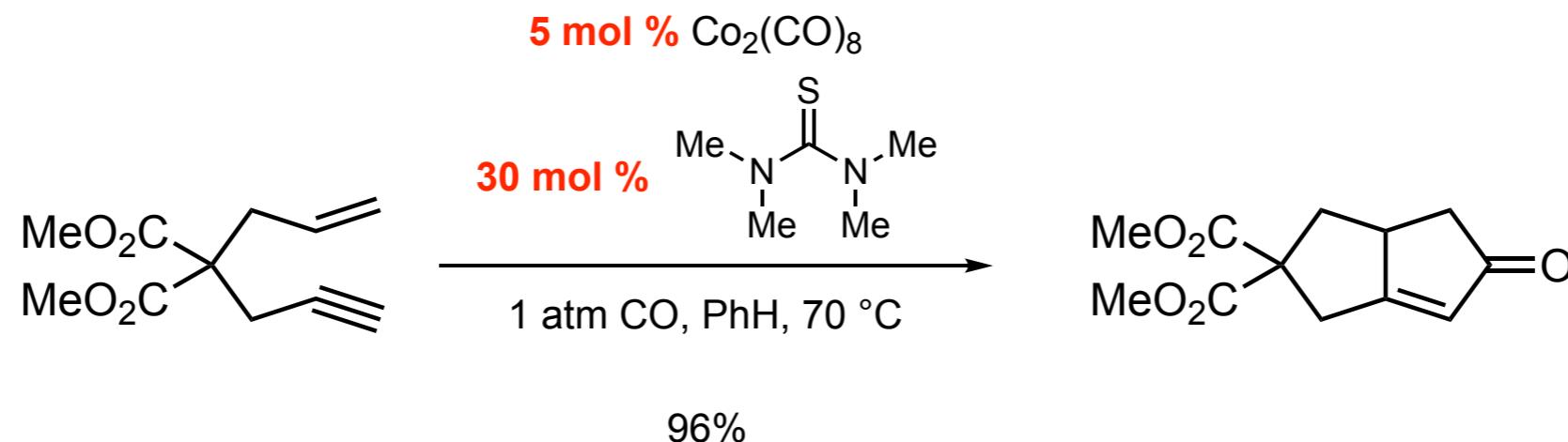
**leading to the inter or intramolecular synthesis of cyclopentenones**

*PKR can be highly regioselective ...*

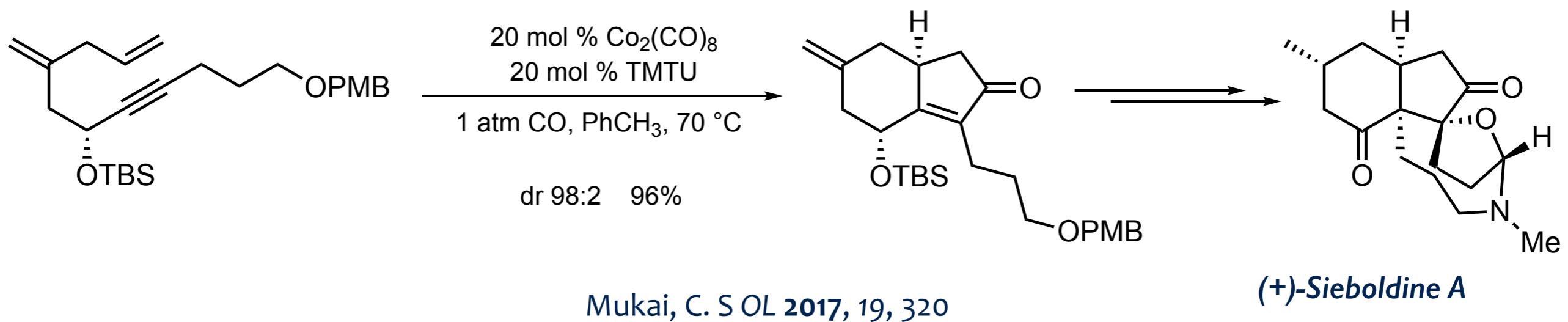


Laschat, S. *Synlett* **2005**, 2547; Riera, A. *JOC* **2014**, 79, 10999

*can be carried out under catalytic conditions...*



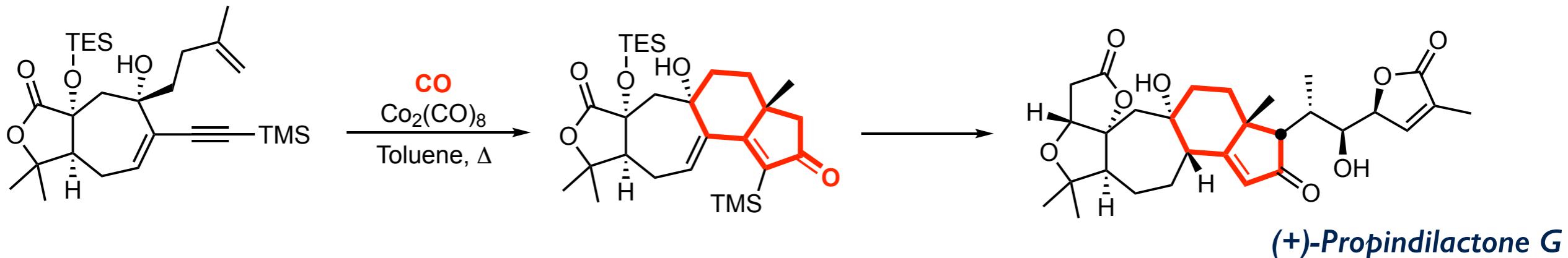
Chen, J. S *OL* 2005, 7, 593



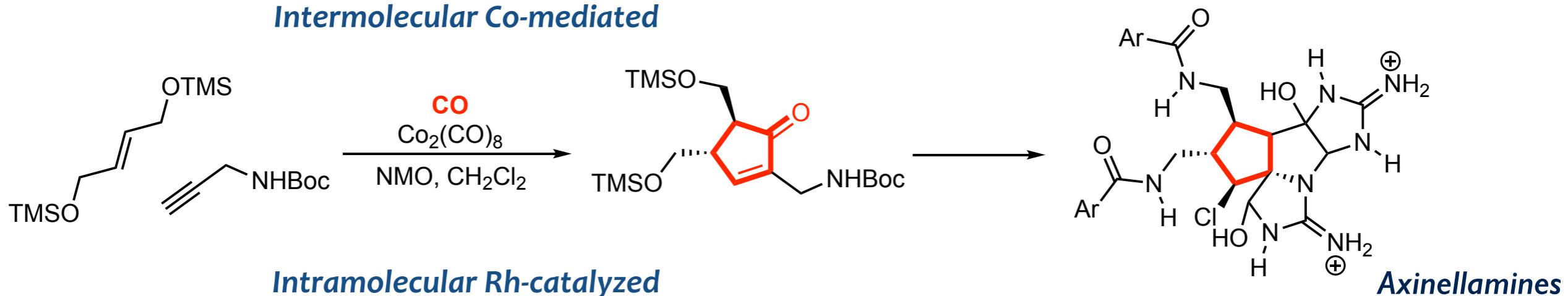
*... and become high enantioselective*

Therefore, the PK reaction is an intra or intermolecular cycloaddition between an alkyne, an alkene, and CO promoted or catalysed by Co, but also Rh, Ir, ...

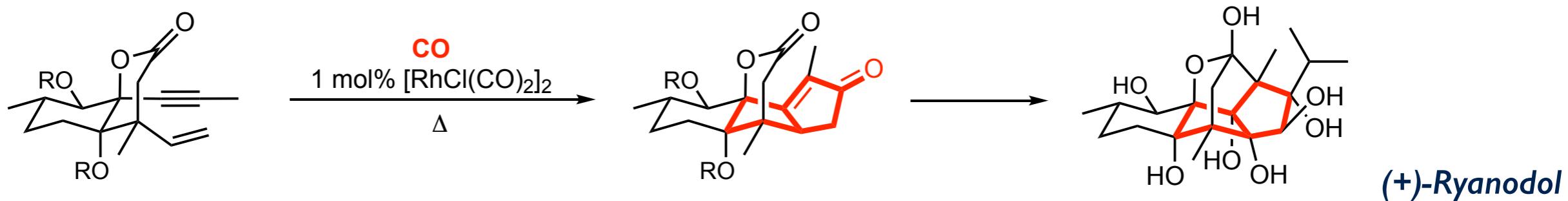
### Intramolecular Co-mediated



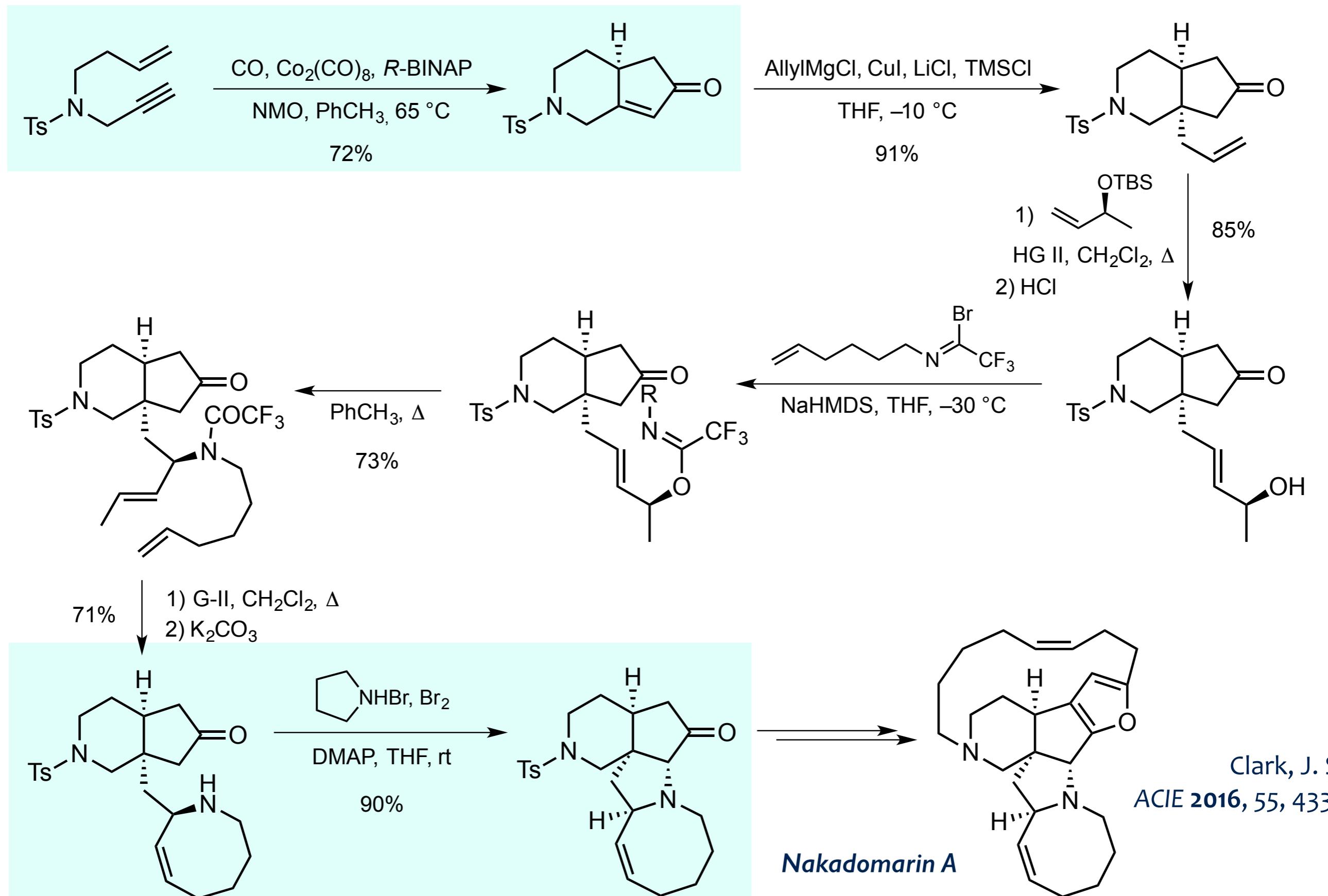
### Intermolecular Co-mediated



### Intramolecular Rh-catalyzed



## 5-Membered Rings



Occasionally, the alkene ( $C=C$  bond) may be replaced by a carbonyl ( $C=O$  bond) to produce a conjugated butyrolactone through a formal  $[2+2+1]$  cycloaddition

### hetero Pauson-Khand reaction (h-PKR)

