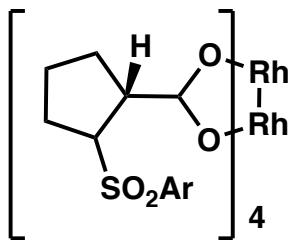
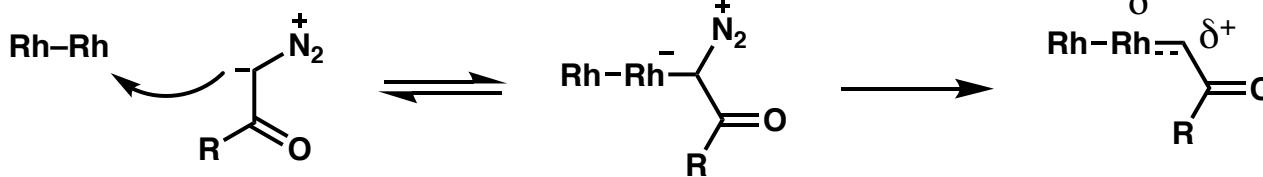
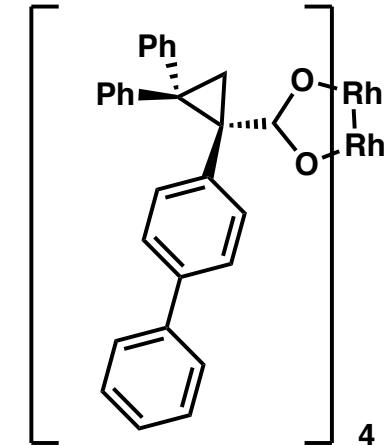
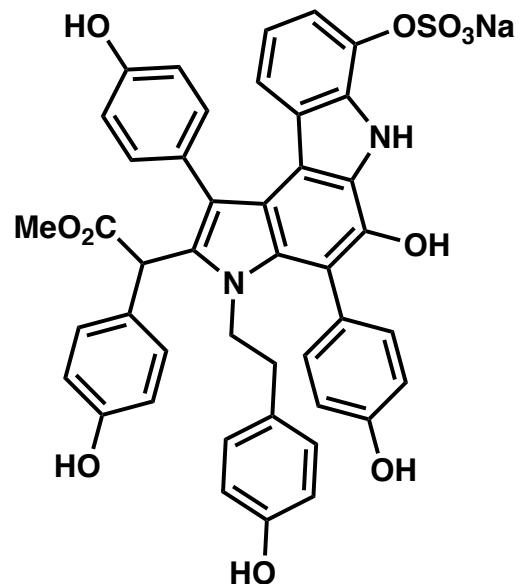


Rhodium Carbene and C–H functionalization



Elizabeth Goldstein
Stoltz/Reisman Lit Meeting
December 15th, 2017



Seminar Outline

I. Introduction to Carbenes

II. Mechanism of C–H insertion

III. Intramolecular C–H insertion

IV. Intermolecular C–H insertion

V. C–H insertion in Synthesis

VI. Further Resources

Seminar Outline

I. Introduction to Carbenes

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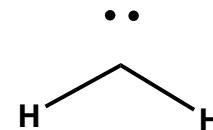
V. C–H insertion in Synthesis

VI. Further Resources

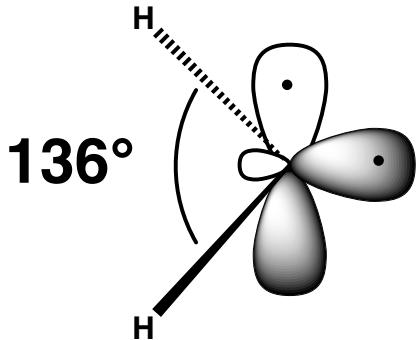
What is a Carbene?

a neutral, divalent carbon atom with 2 unpaired electrons.

Can exist in 2 electronic states: triplet or singlet.



Triplet:

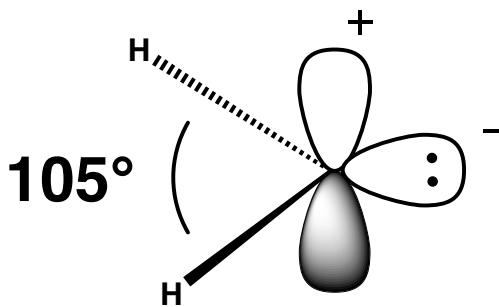


ground state of most carbenes

can be thought of as diradicals

partially filled p and sp^2 orbitals

Singlet:



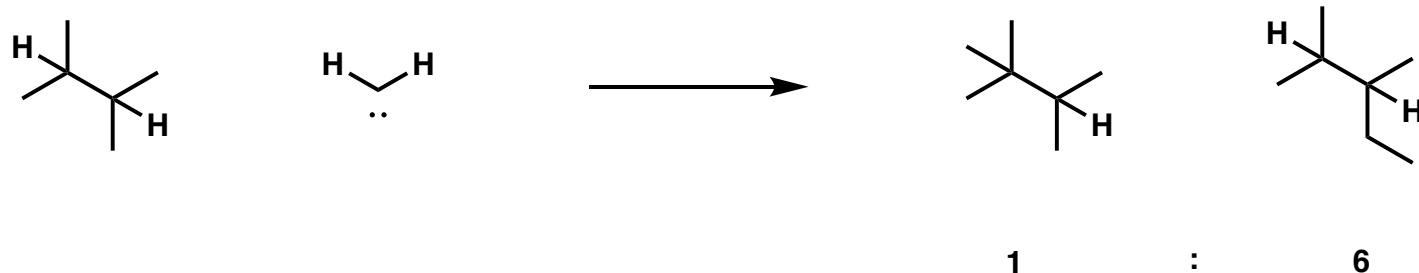
substituents on the carbene carbon can lead to a singlet ground state

can be thought of as a zwitterion

empty p orbital (+) and filled sp^2 hybrid orbital (-)

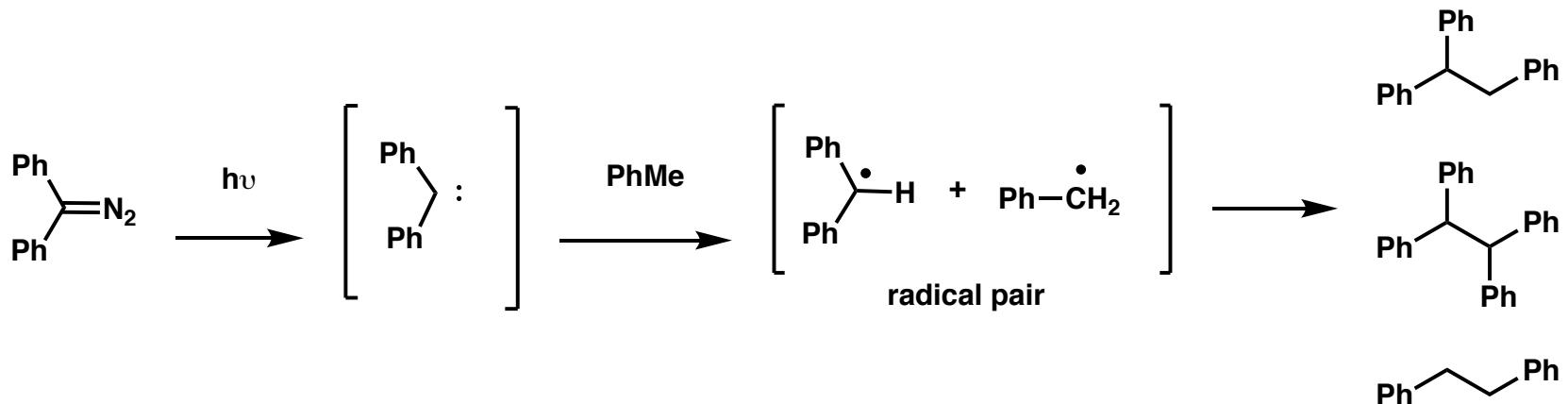
Reactivity of Free Carbenes

Free Carbenes undergo insertion reactions yielding a statistical mixture of products.



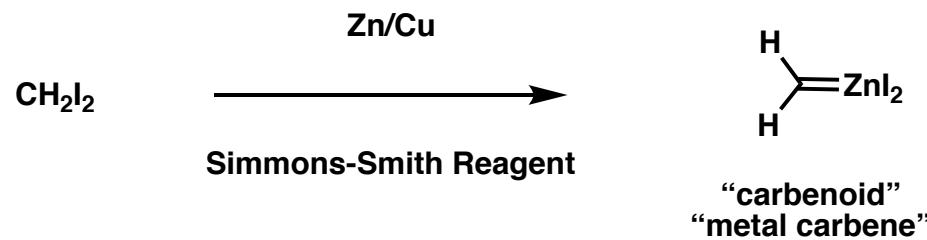
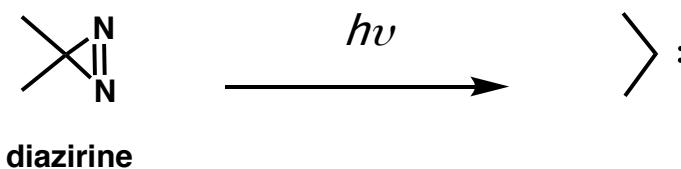
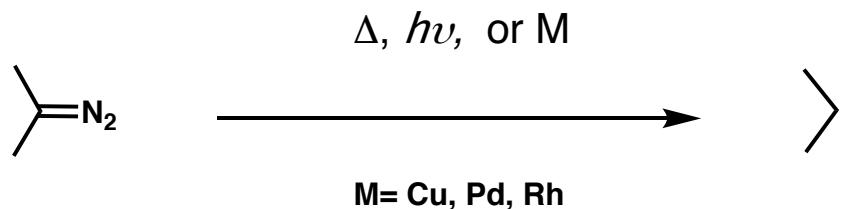
"methylene must be classified as the most indiscriminate reagent known in organic chemistry"

von E. Doering, JACS 1956, 78, 3224.

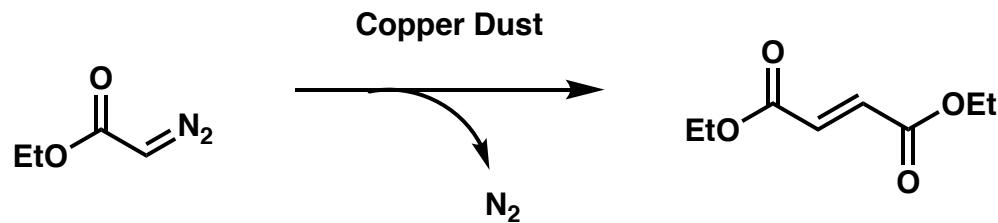
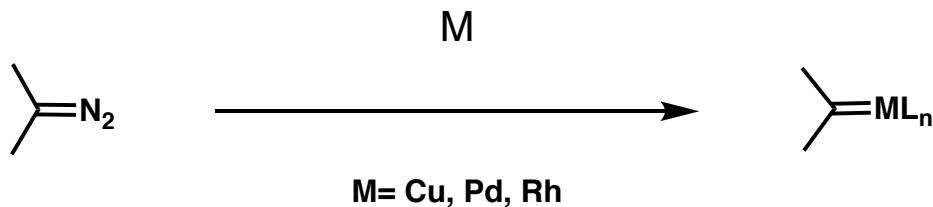


Closs, JACS 1969, 91, 4549 & 4554.

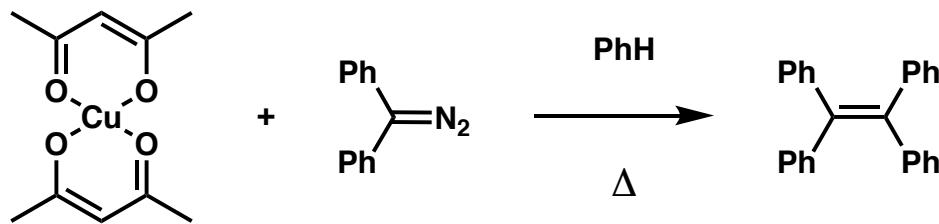
Generation of Carbenes



Generation of Metal Carbenes/Carbenoids

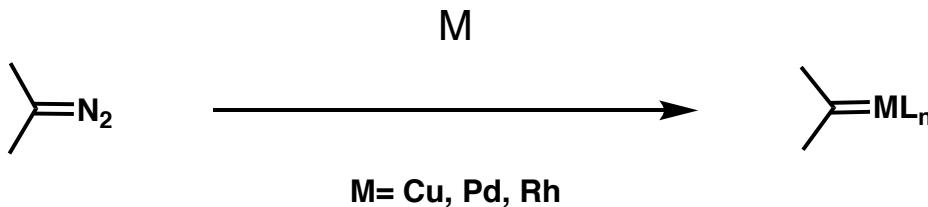


Silberrad, *J.Chem. Soc., Trans.* **1906**, 89, 179.

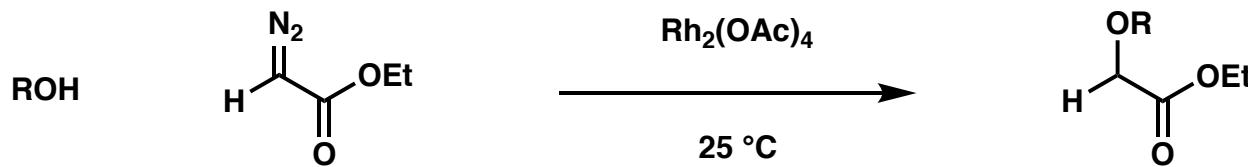


Noyori, *TL* **1966**, 59

Generation of Metal Carbenes



First Example of $\text{Rh}_2(\text{OAc})_4$ catalyzed Diazo decomposition:



Teyssie, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1973**, 2233.

“The discovery by Teyssie and co-workers that Rhodium (II) acetate, a binuclear rhodium compound with one available coordination site per metal center, is an exceptionally effective catalyst for a wide variety of catalytic transformations involving diazo compounds holds singular importance in the history of this developing methodology.”

—Doyle, *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1986**, 19, 348–356.

Why Rhodium Carbenes

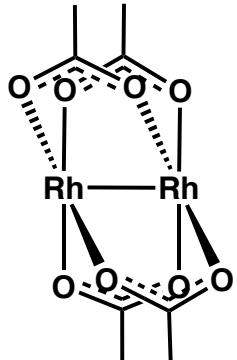
Metal Carbenes are less reactive than free carbenes

Lower reactivity allows for the possibility of controlling selectivity

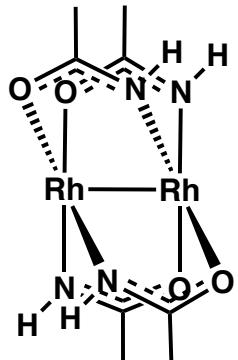
Rhodium carbenes have become popular due to their selectivity and ease of catalyst modification

Compounds are usually air-stable and are relatively easy to handle.

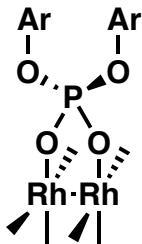
The following catalyst classes were some of the first utilized:



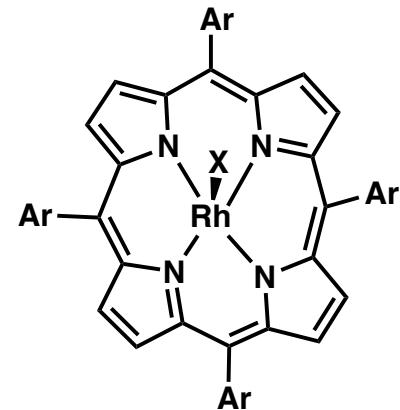
Teyssie
TL 1973, 2233



Bernal, Bear
Inorg. Chem. 1986, 25, 260



Doyle
TL 1992, 33, 5983 & 5987



Callot
TL 1980, 21, 3489



Doyle
TL 1981, 22, 1783

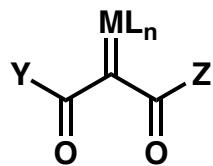


Doyle
Inorg. Chem. 1984, 23, 3684

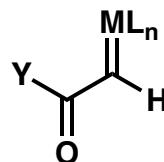
Classes of Carbenes

Selectivity in C-H insertion reactions can be tuned by electronics in the Carbene or Catalyst.

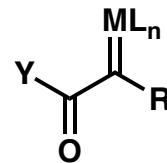
Acceptor/Acceptor



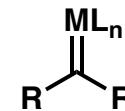
Acceptor



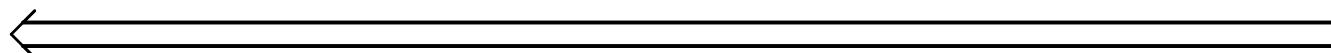
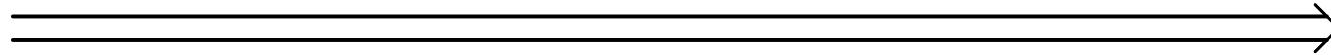
Donor/Acceptor



Donor/Donor



increasing stability and selectivity



increasing reactivity and electrophilicity

More reactive carbenes can be difficult to use selectively.

More stable carbenes can be difficult to form

Most commonly used classes are acceptor and donor/acceptor

acceptor carbenes are commonly used in intramolecular C-H insertions

donor/acceptor carbenes have been utilized in many asymmetric C-H insertions

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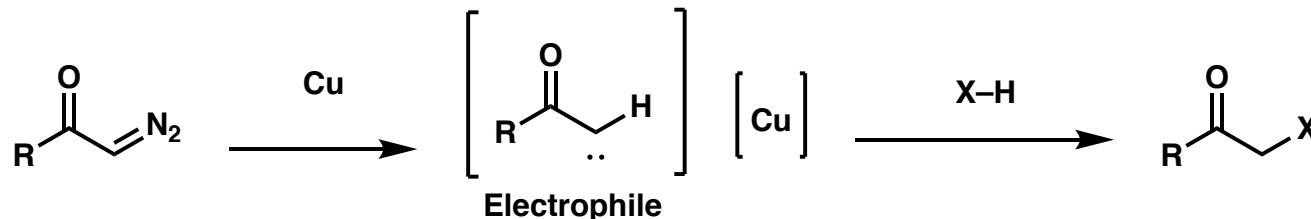
IV. Intermolecular C–H insertion

V. C–H insertion in Synthesis

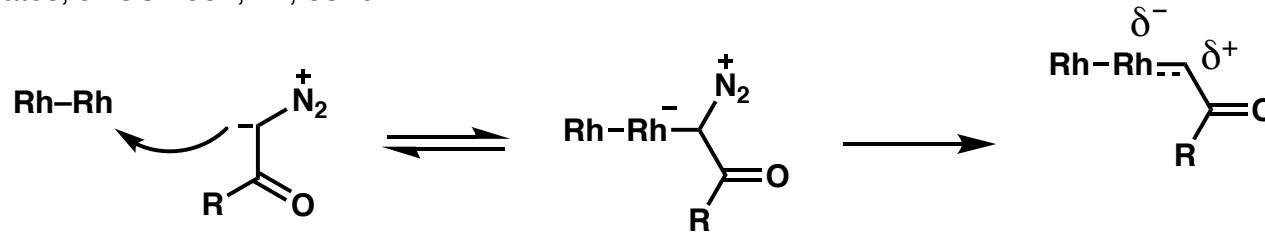
VI. Further Resources

Metal Carbenes

Yates proposed that metal carbenes were transient electrophiles that could react with nucleophiles:

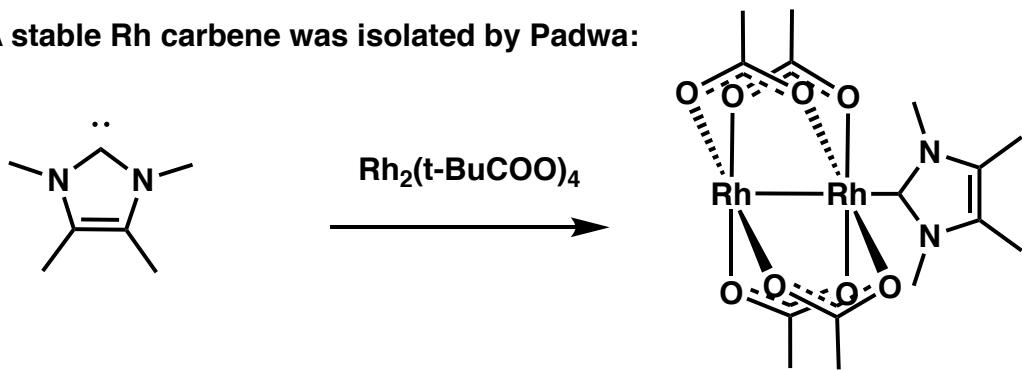


Yates, JACS 1952, 74, 5376

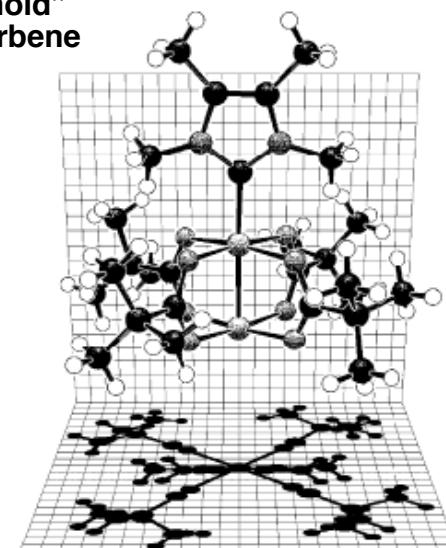


Pirrung, JACS 1996, 118, 8162.

A stable Rh carbene was isolated by Padwa:



Arduengo, Padwa, Snyder, JACS 2001, 123, 11318



Electronics of Carbenes

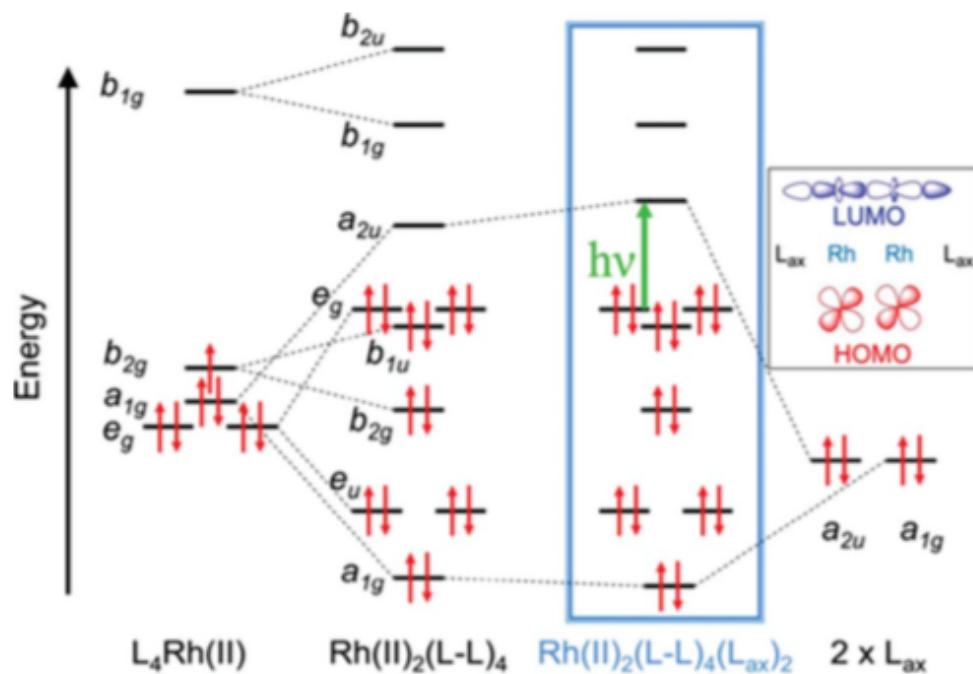
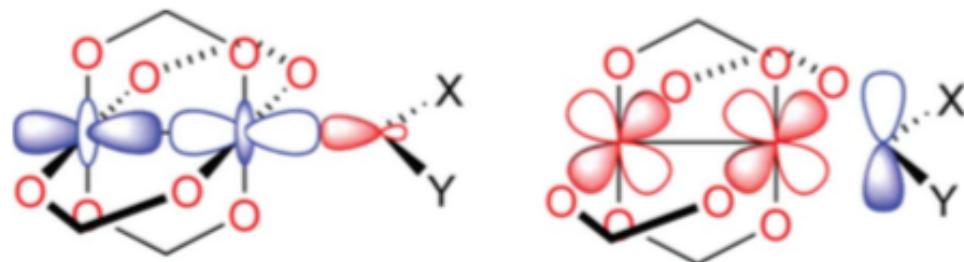
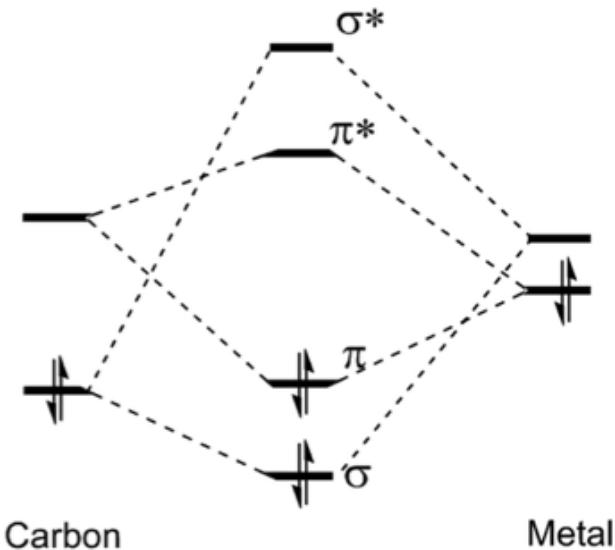


Diagram of orbital overlap between Rhodium complex and Carbene



Molecular Orbital Diagram of Fischer Carbene



Donor/Acceptor carbenes are similar to Fischer carbenes.

Donor/Acceptor carbenes display more σ electronic character on the carbene carbon, and more π electronic character on the metal center, resulting in more electrophilic character on the carbene carbon.

Traditional Fischer carbenes are more stable due to the presence of a heteroatom that also lowers the electrophilicity

Metal Carbenes

A more “relevant” metal carbene has been isolated and studied.

This donor/acceptor type carbene has been investigated for physical and chemical properties.

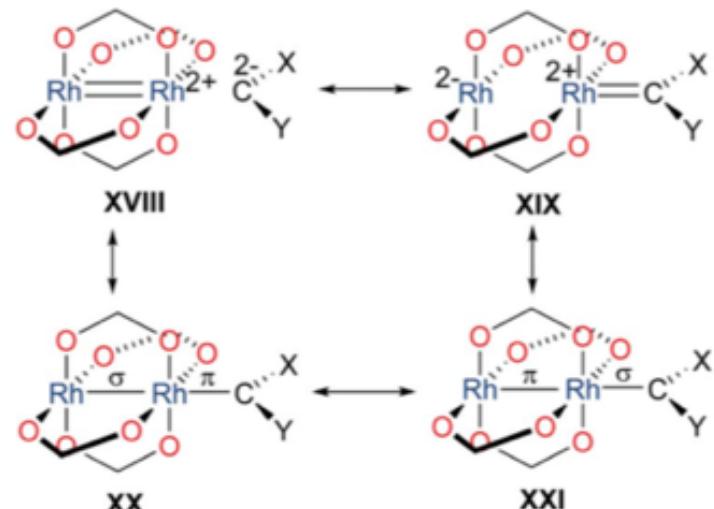
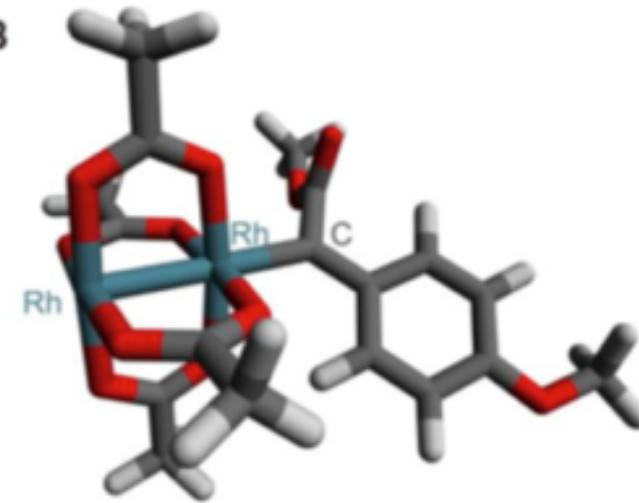
The isolated carbene can be utilized in stoichiometric C–H functionalization reactions in comparable yields

first confirmation that a genuine rhodium carbene is formed under these reaction conditions (as proposed by Pirrung)

Exhibits similar Raman vibrations to those previously observed for Fischer-type carbenes

NMR spectroscopy reveals that the cabenoid carbon is highly deshielded.

The Rh-Rh=C bonding framework has been shown to follow the 3-center orbital paradigm (i.e. The double bond character is distributed between the three centers (the two Rhodiums and the carbene carbon))



C–H functionalization

C–H functionalization has become a very popular field of study recently

Direct C–H functionalization can introduce complexity quickly

C–H bonds are very prevalent in organic molecules

Selectivity can therefore be a problem

Directing groups can be utilized to improve selectivity

Alternatively, sterics and electronics can be used to influence selectivity

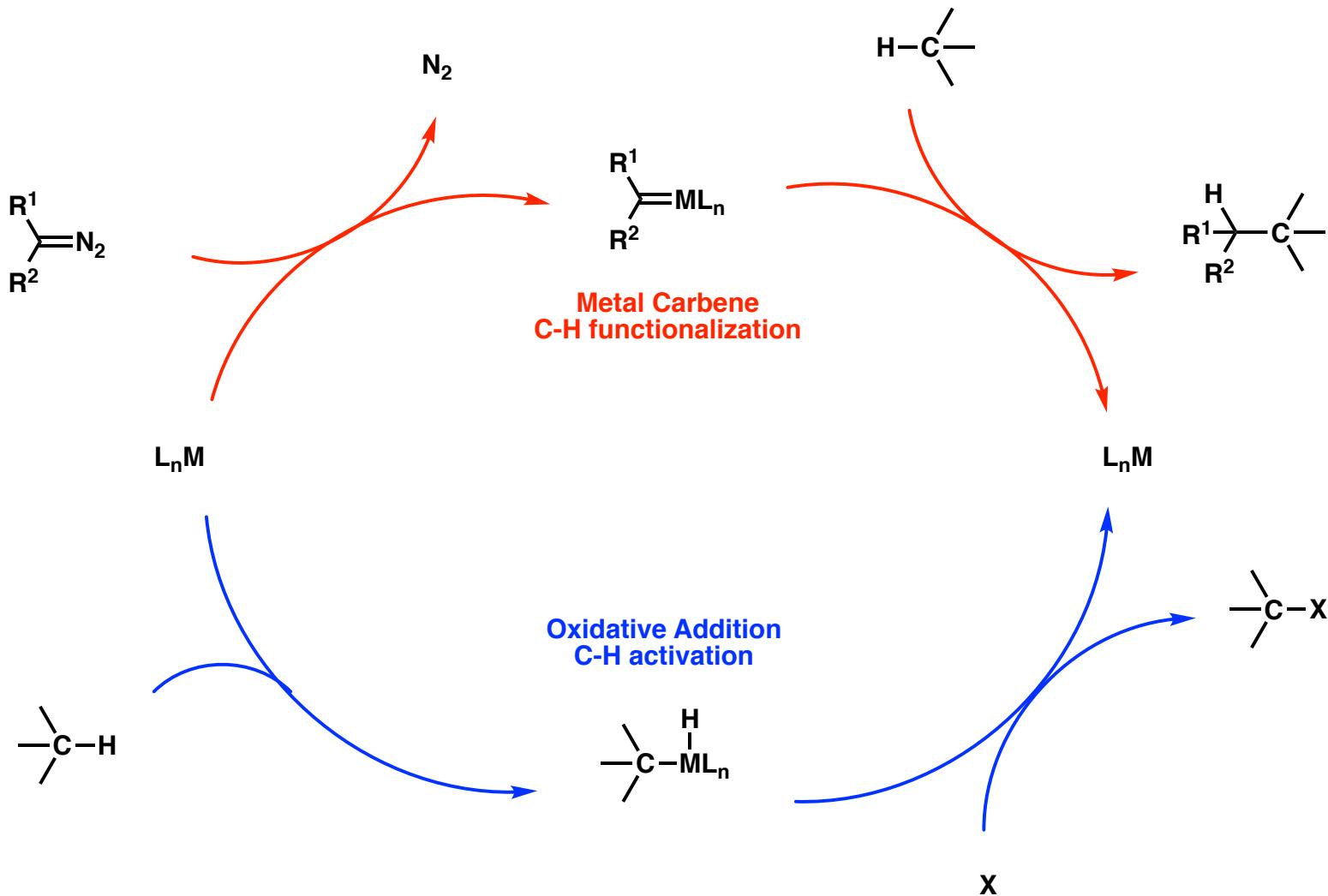
There are many different types of C–H functionalization

C–H oxidations are common functionalization reactions

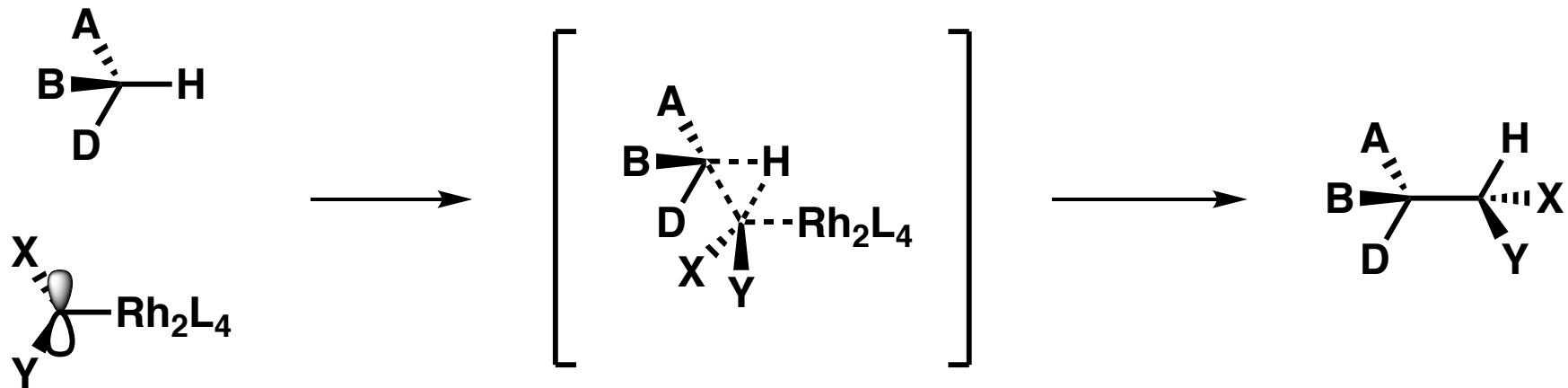
metal carbene C–H functionalization proceeds through a different mechanism



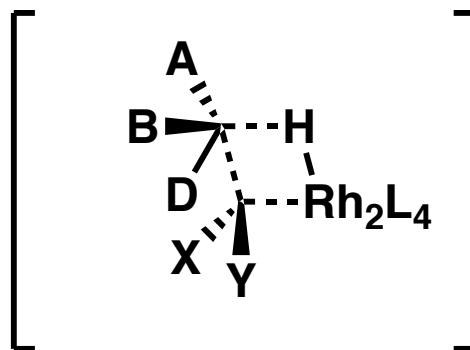
Mechanism of C–H functionalization



Mechanism of C–H functionalization



Carbenoids empty p orbital interacts
with the σ–bond of the C–H bond

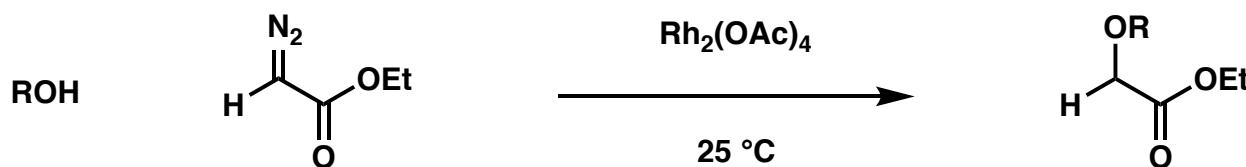


bond formation may proceed as
Rhodium dissociates (top)

Or there may be a transfer of H to
Rhodium followed by reductive
elimination (bottom)

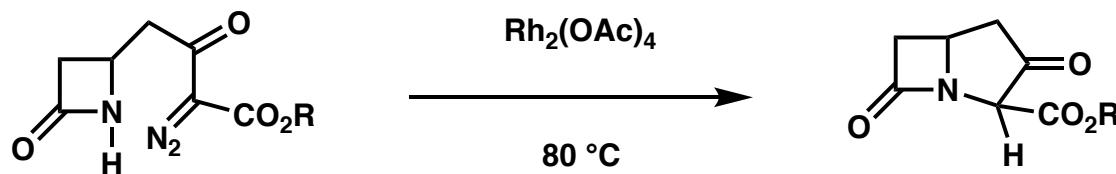
Reactivity of Rhodium Carbenes

Insertion into O–H bond:



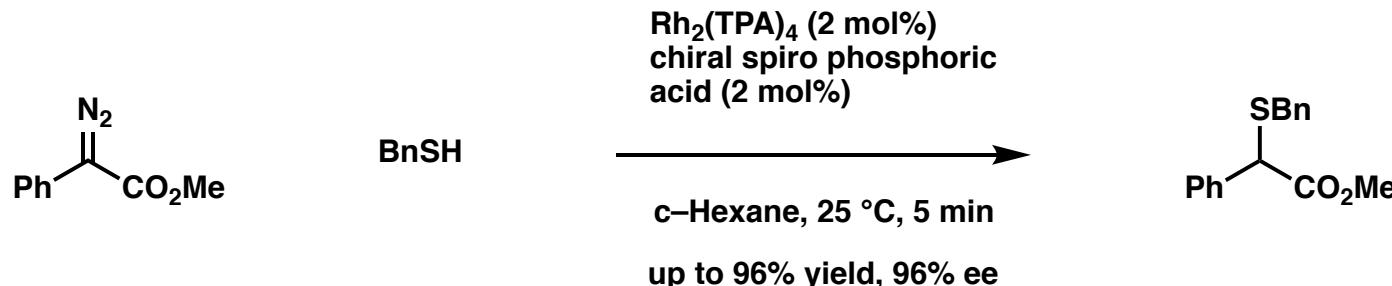
Teyssie, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1973**, 2233.

Insertion into N–H bond:



Ratcliffe, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1980**, 21, 31

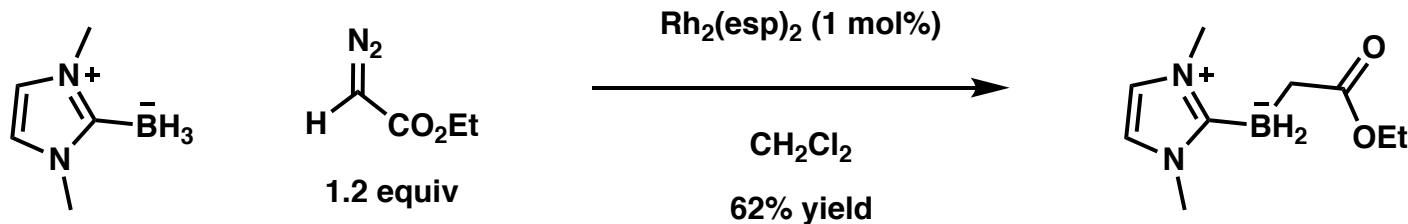
Insertion into S–H bond:



Zhu, Yu, Zhou *Chem Sci.* **2014**, 5, 1442–1448.

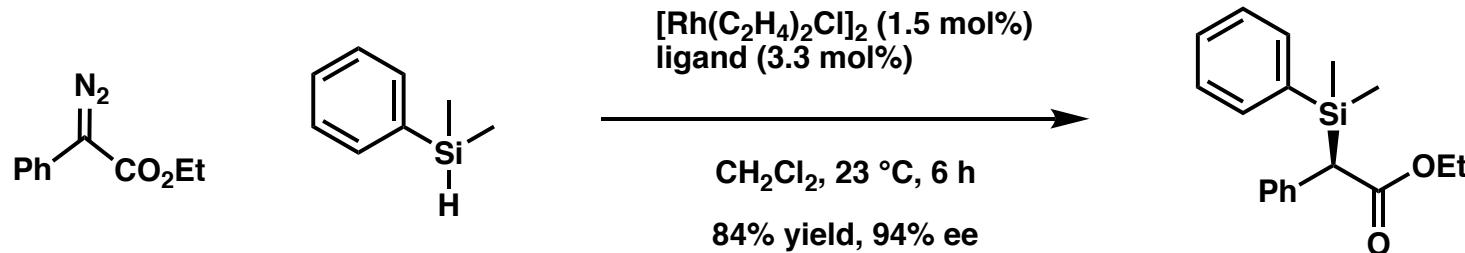
Reactivity of Rhodium Carbenes

Insertion into B–H bond:



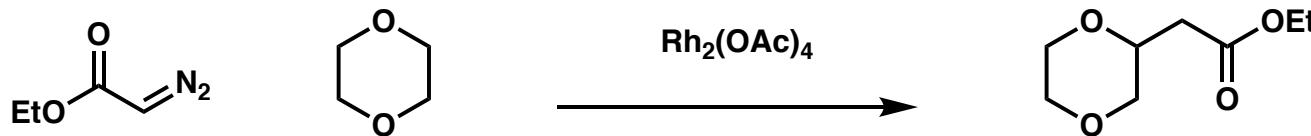
Curran, JACS 2013, 135, 12076–12081.

Insertion into Si–H bond:



Xu, JACS 2016, 138, 1498–1501.

Insertion into C–H bond:



Alonso, Tetrahedron 1989, 45, 69.

Seminar Outline

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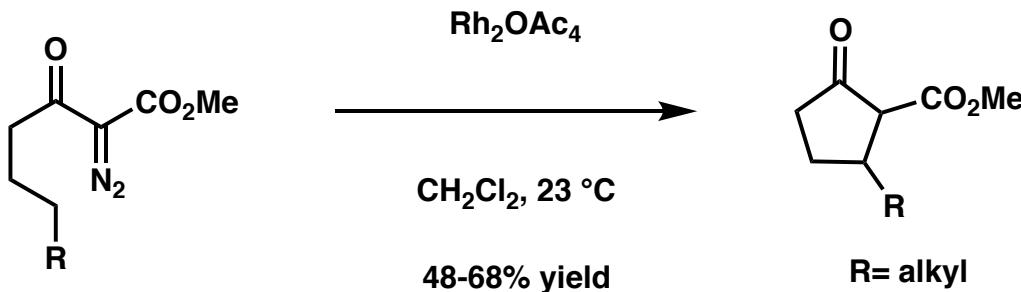
III. Intramolecular C–H insertion

IV. Intermolecular C–H insertion

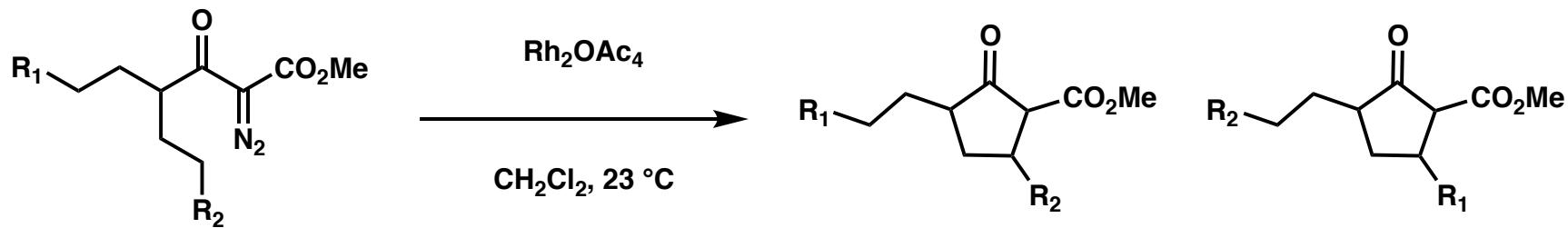
V. C–H insertion in Synthesis

VI. Further Resources

Intramolecular C–H insertion



Competition Experiments to determine inherent selectivity:

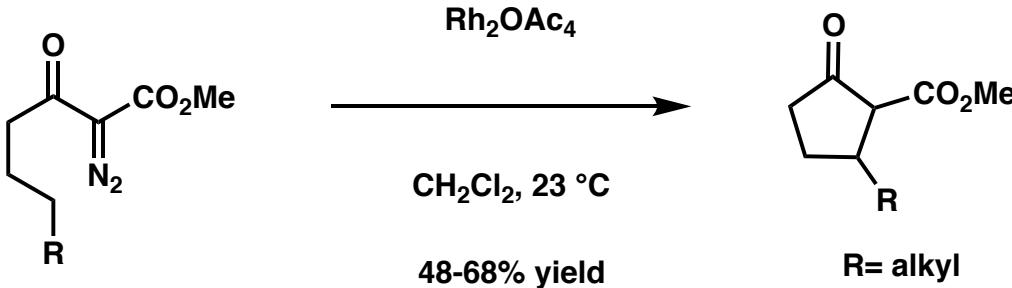


methine > methylene > methyl, potentially due to electron donating ability of alkyl groups.

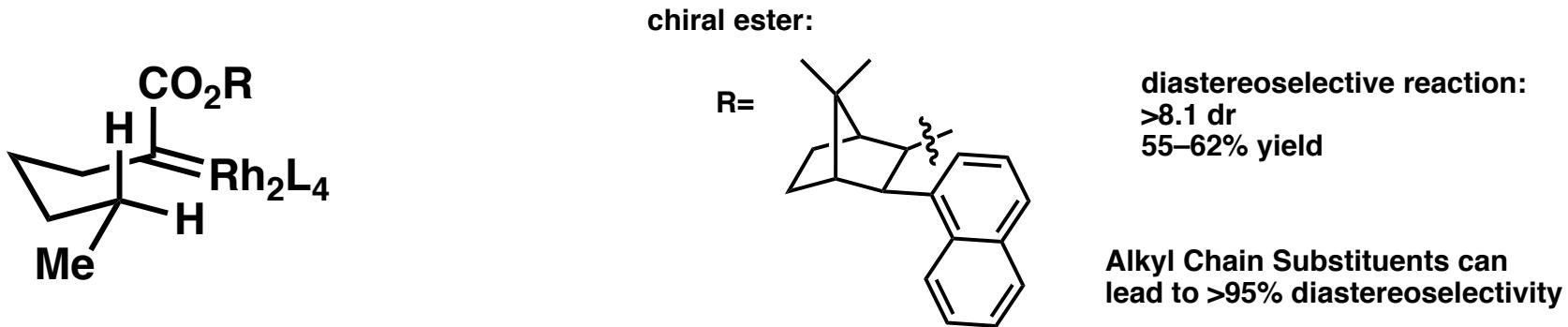
allylic and benzylic methylenes also disfavored due to their electron withdrawing characteristics

insertion into aromatic rings occur readily

Intramolecular C–H insertion



High selectivity for 5-membered ring formation can be explained by a highly ordered transition state:



The Hydrogen in the ring is the one that is transferred

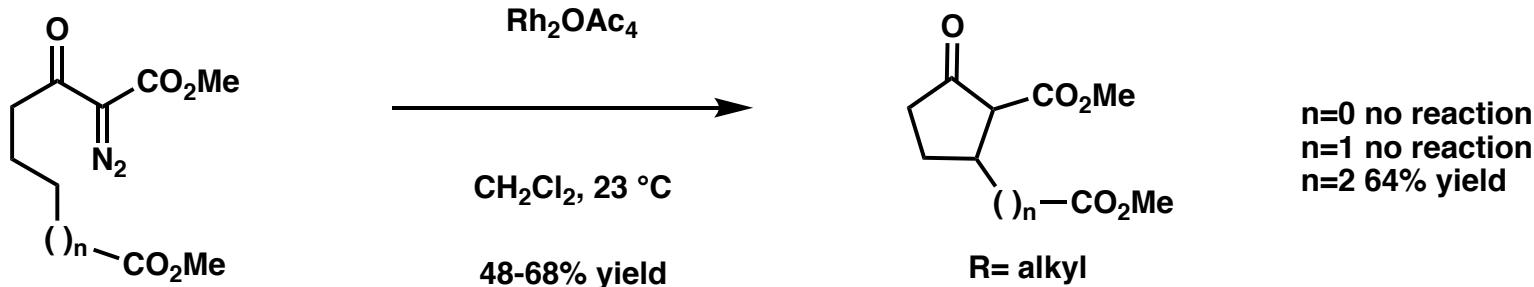
The alkyl group is equatorial

diastereoselectivity can be achieved by destabilizing one of the chair-like transition states.

This can be done by using a chiral ester (see above) or substitution on the alkyl chain.

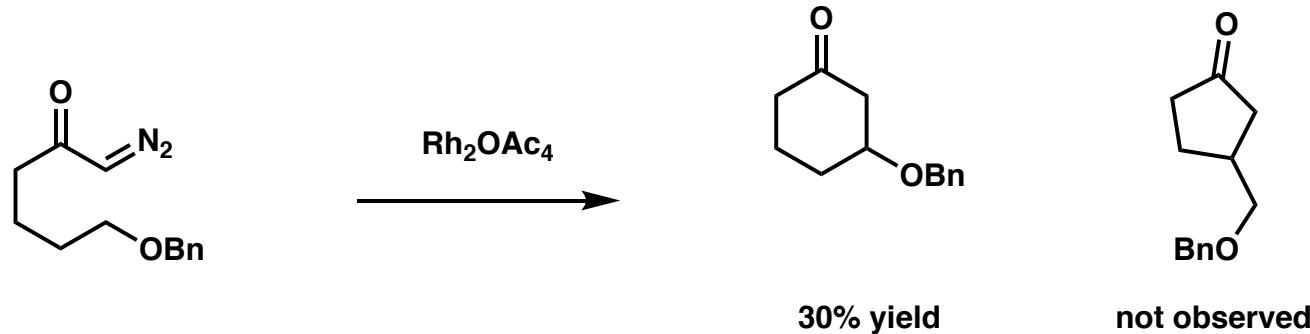
Intramolecular C–H insertion

electron-withdrawing groups inhibit adjacent C–H bonds.



Stork, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1988**, *29*, 2283.

Alkoxy groups activate C–H bonds.



Spero, *Tetrahedron* **1991**, *47*, 1765.

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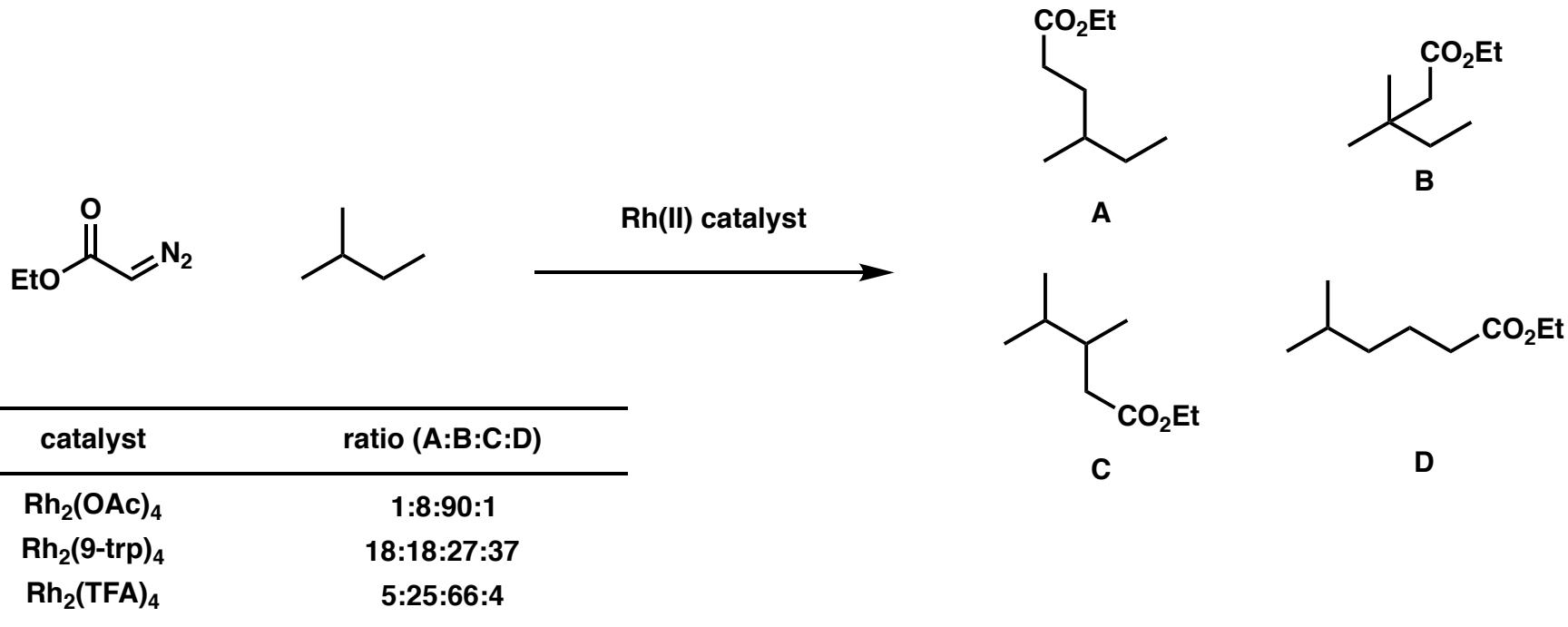
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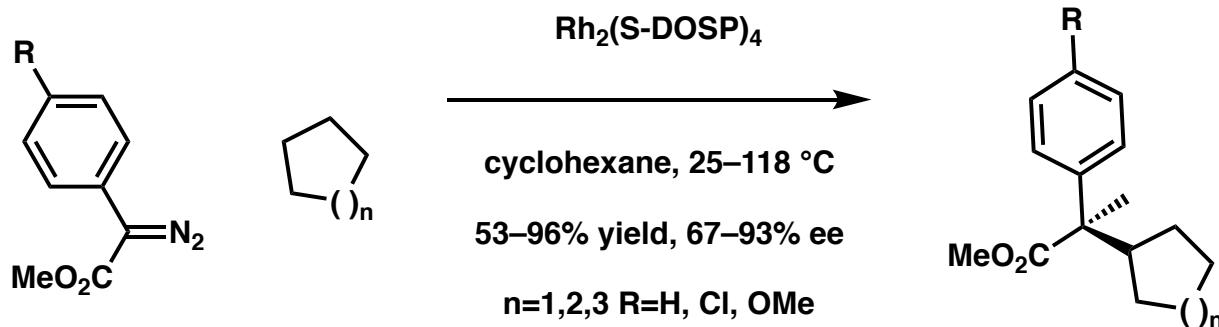
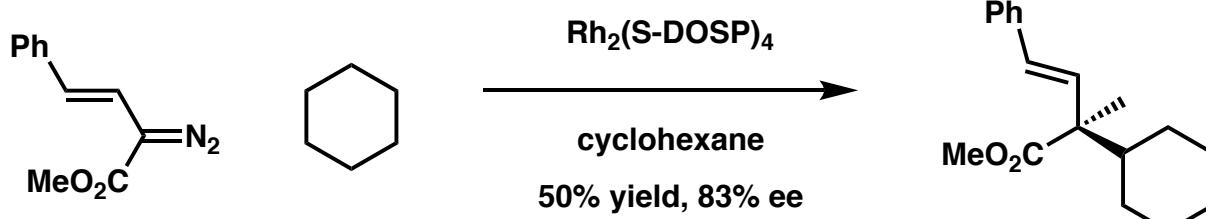
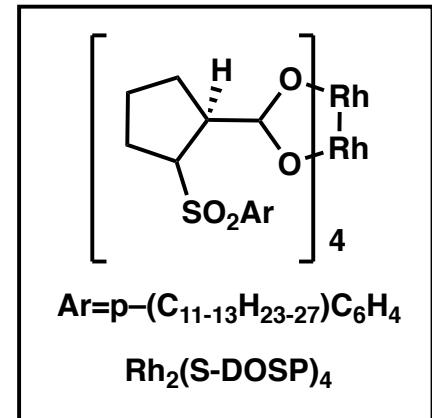
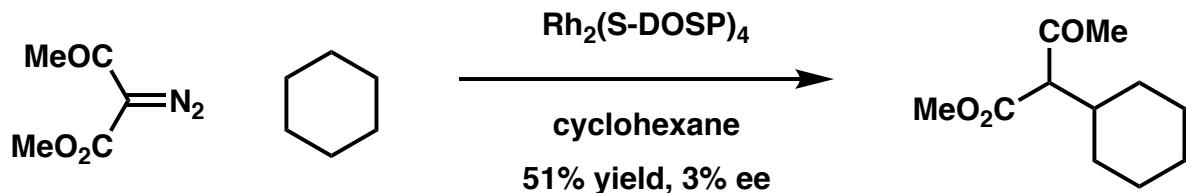


Teyssie, *Bull. Soc. Chim. Belg.* **1984**, 93, 945

“Intermolecular CH insertions of carbenes and metal carbenoids have the reputation of being unselective, resulting usually in mixtures of products and are, therefore, considered of no synthetic significance. In addition to their lack of selectivity, the intermolecular carbenoid insertions suffer from competing secondary reactions, such as formation of formal carbene dimers.”

Müller, *Tetrahedron* **2000**, 56, 1725–1731

Intermolecular C–H insertion



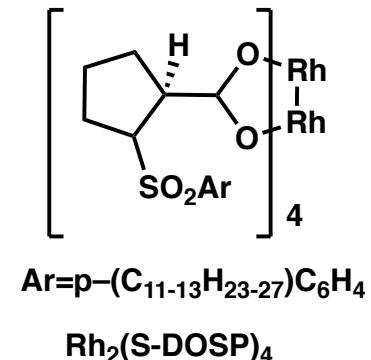
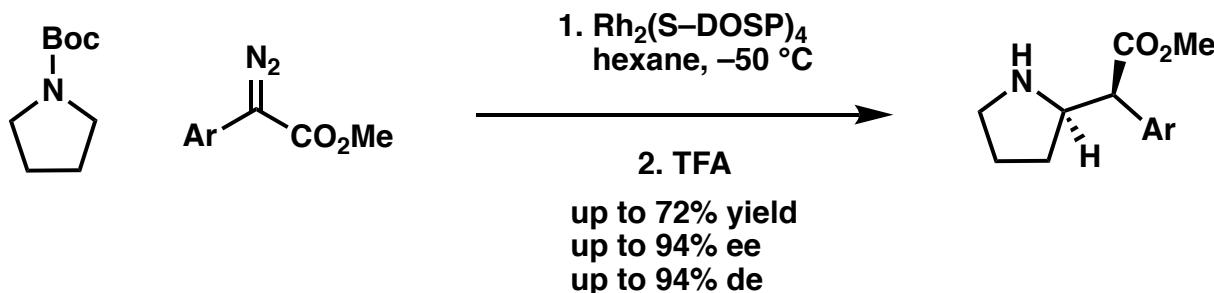
Davies, JACS 1997, 119, 9075–9076.

It was later shown that the enantioselectivity could be improved to 88–96% by performing the reaction at 10°C, with no appreciable loss in yield.

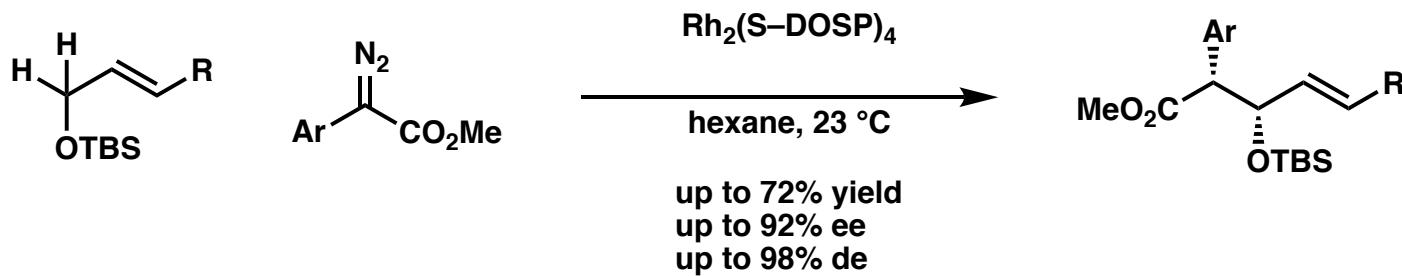
Davies, JACS 2000, 122, 3063–3070.

Intermolecular C–H insertion

Early site selectivity was achieved by using heteroatom directing groups:



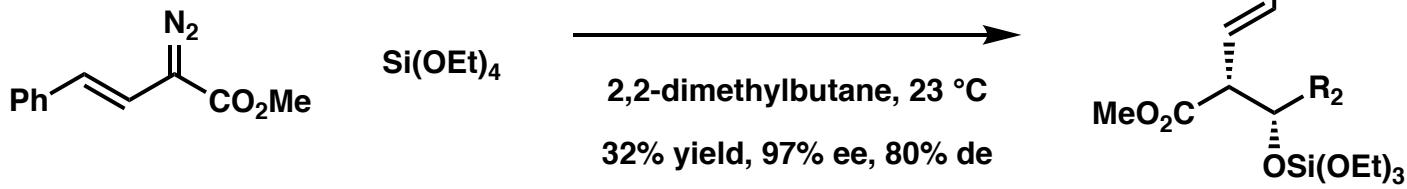
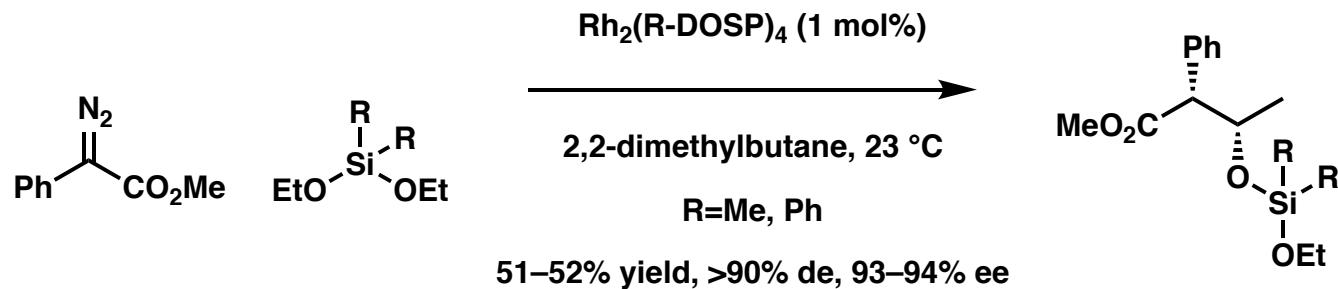
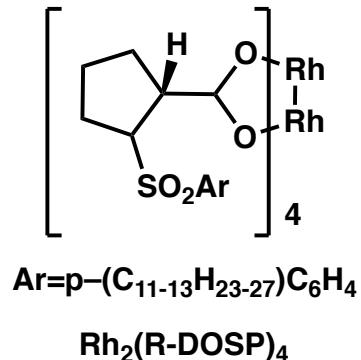
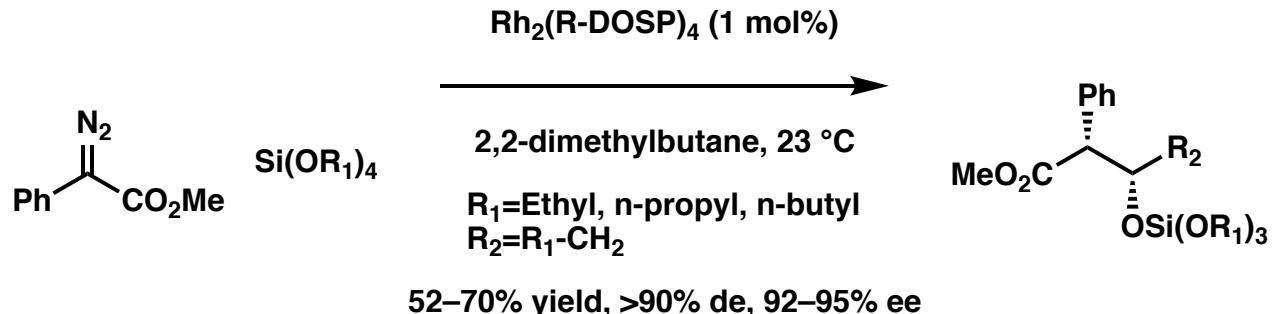
Davies, JACS 1999, 121, 6509–6510



Davies, Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 383–386.

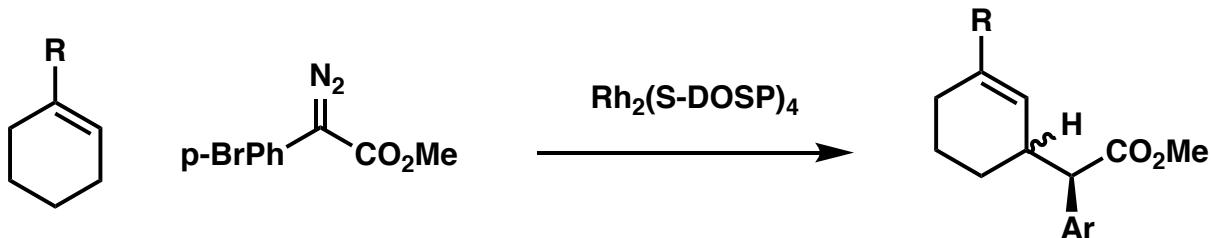
Intermolecular C–H insertion

C–H insertion can act as a formal aldol reaction leading to syn–aldol products

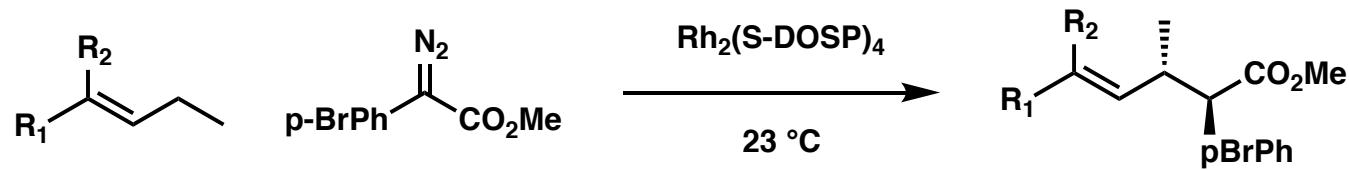
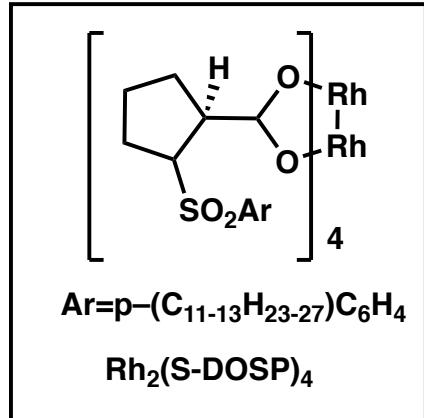


Intermolecular C–H insertion

C–H insertion can also act as a formal claisen reaction



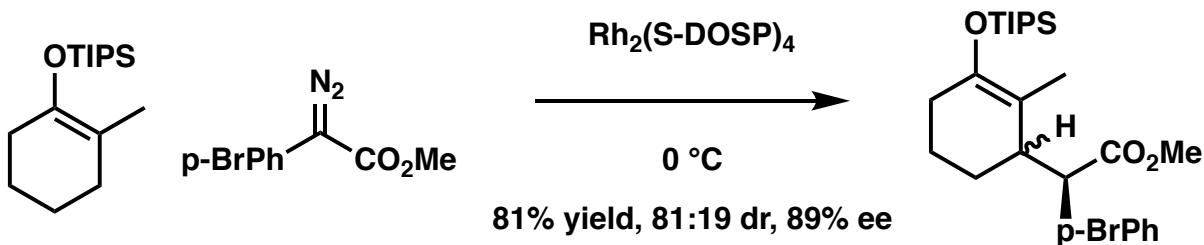
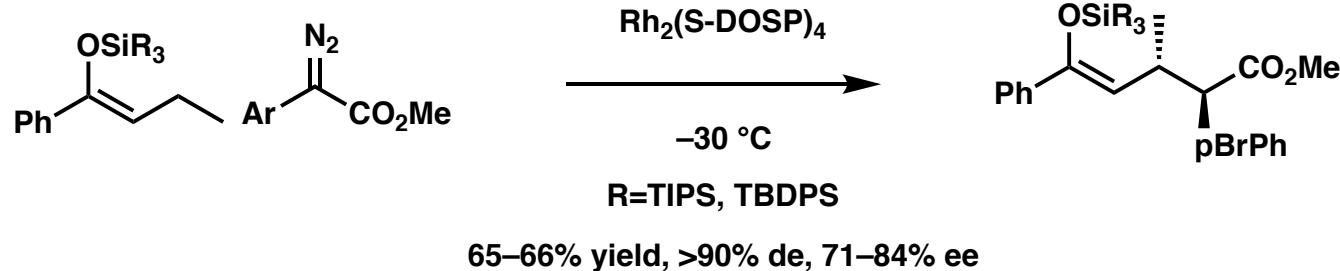
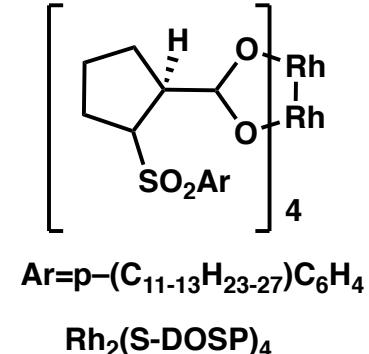
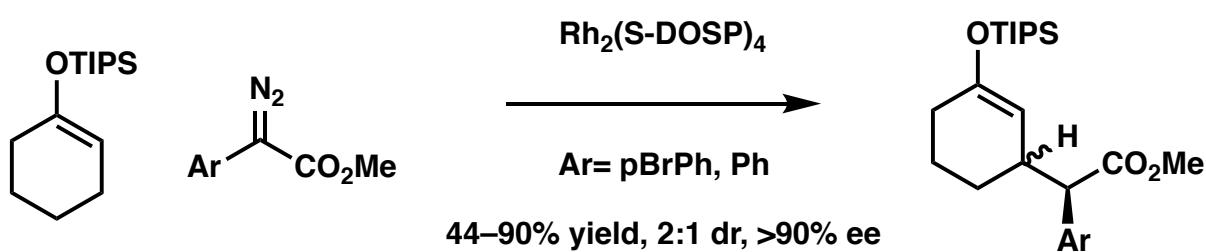
R	yield	de	ee
TMS	48	40	88
TBDPS	64	88	95



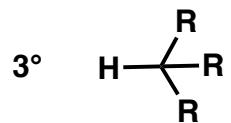
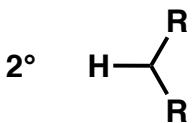
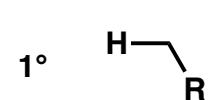
R ₁	R ₂	yield	dr	ee (major)	ee (minor)
Me	Me	67	75:25	86	66
Et	H	56	56:44	92	80
Ph	Ph	33	85:15	96	30

Intermolecular C–H insertion

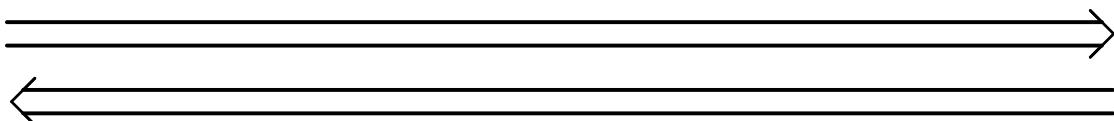
C–H insertion can also act as a formal michael reaction



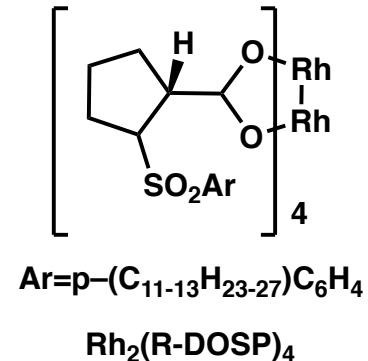
Intermolecular C–H insertion



Increasing Reactivity due to electronics

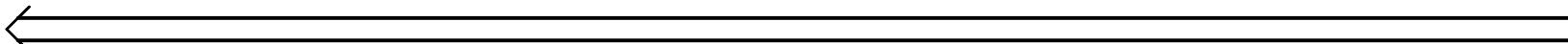


Increasing reactivity due to sterics



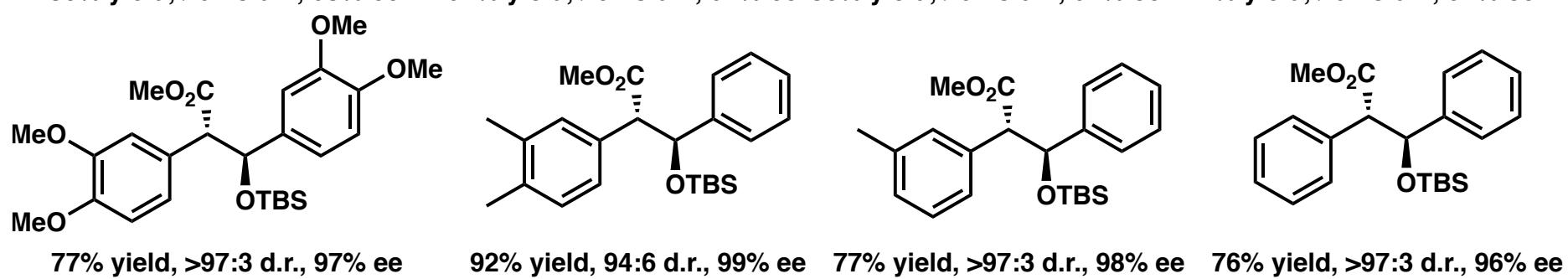
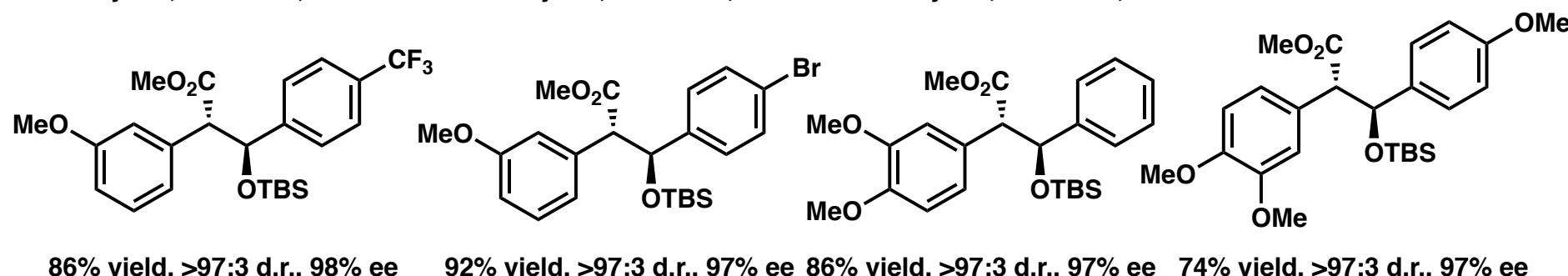
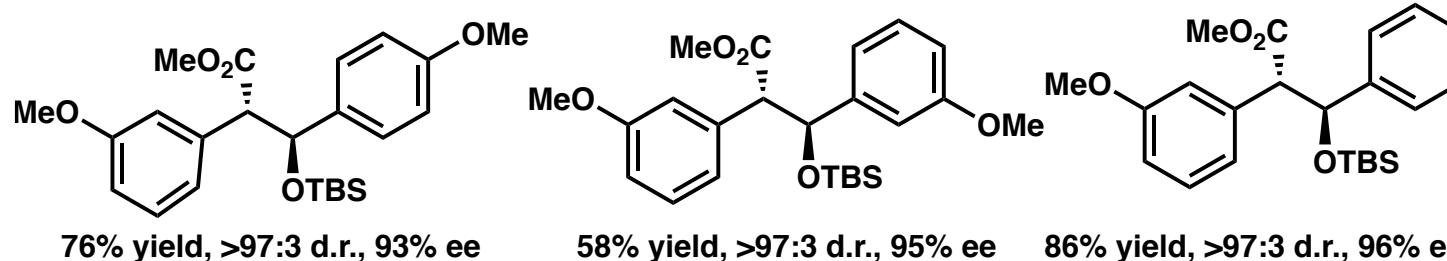
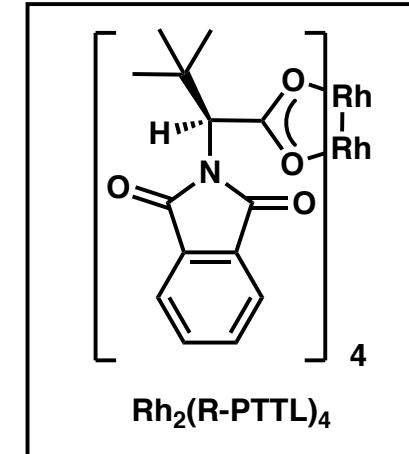
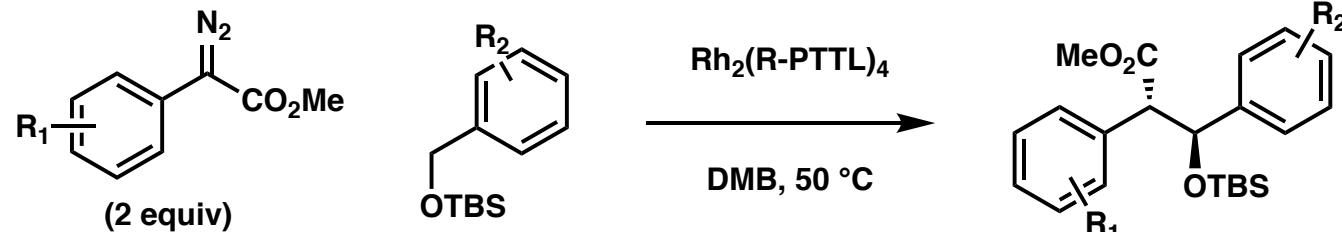
Relative rates with $\text{Rh}_2(\text{R-DOSP})_4$

26,000	24,000	2700	1700	1.0	0.66	0.078	0.011

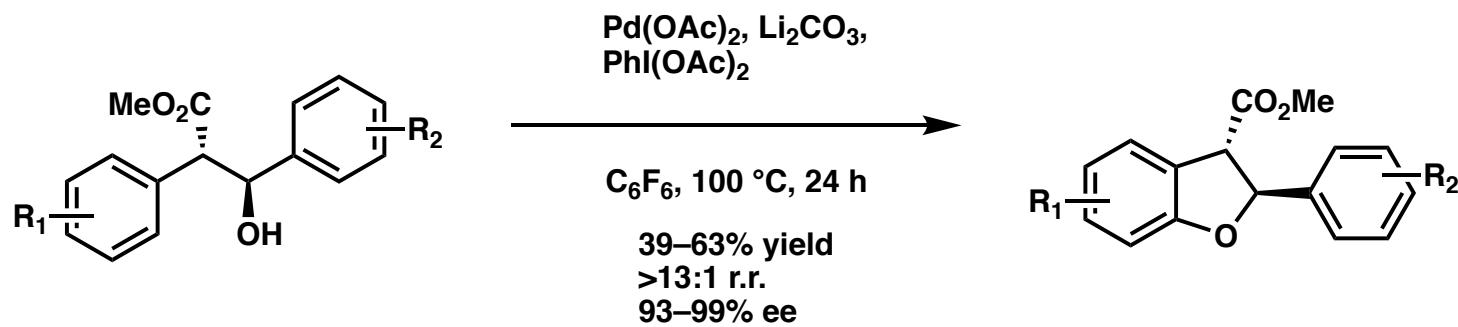
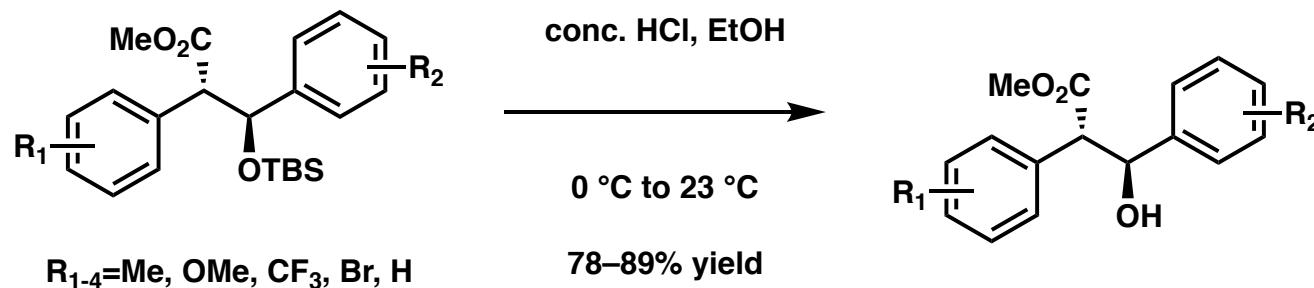


increasing rate of reactivity

Intermolecular Insertion

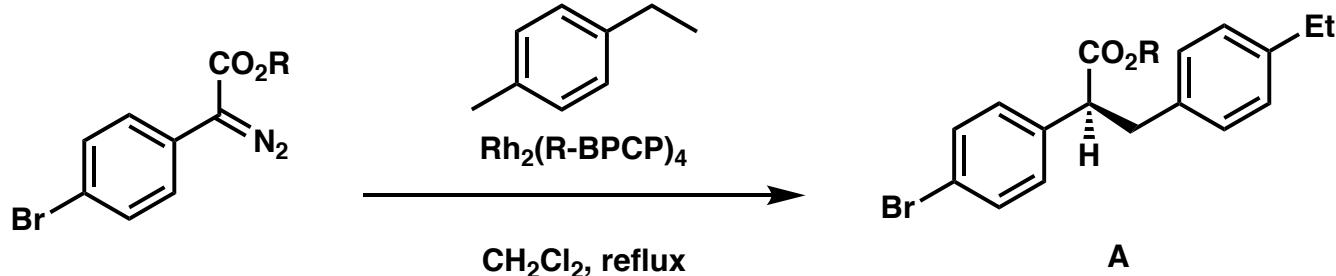


Intermolecular Insertion

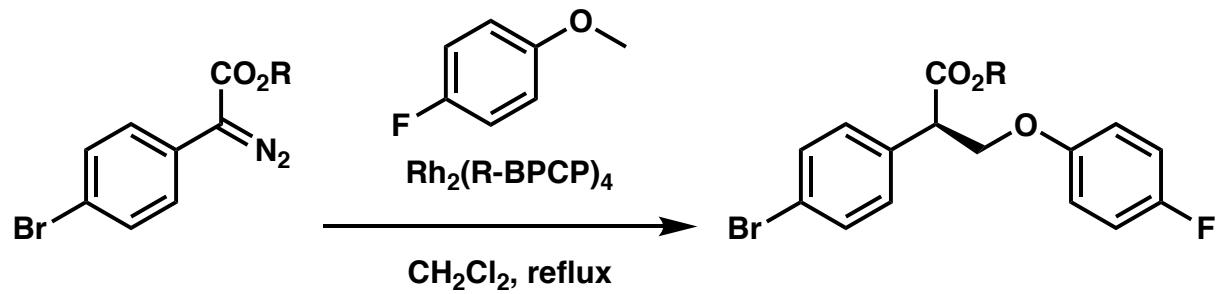
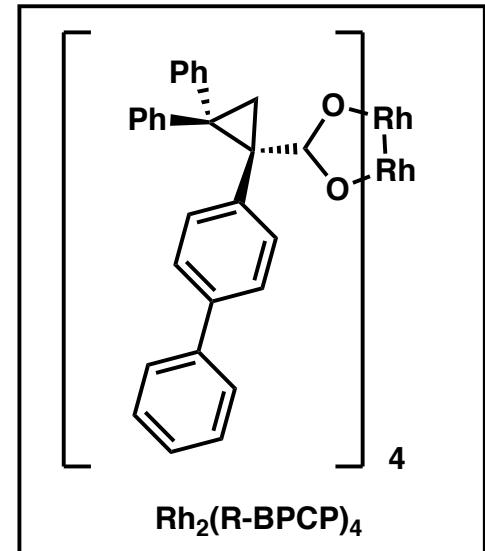
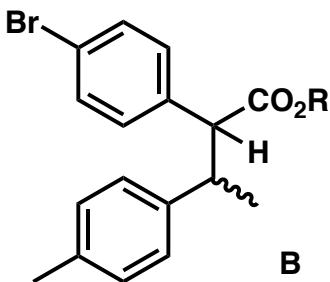
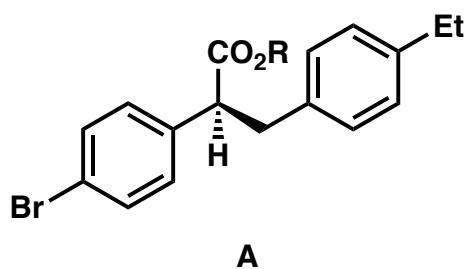


Intermolecular C–H insertion

The ester motif can be very important for selectivity and reactivity:

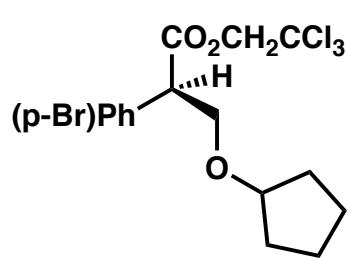
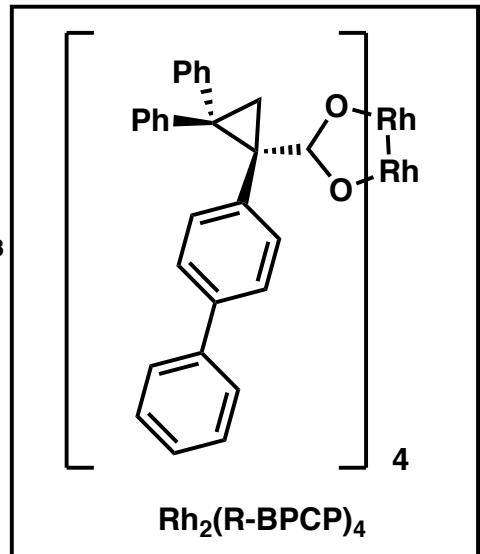
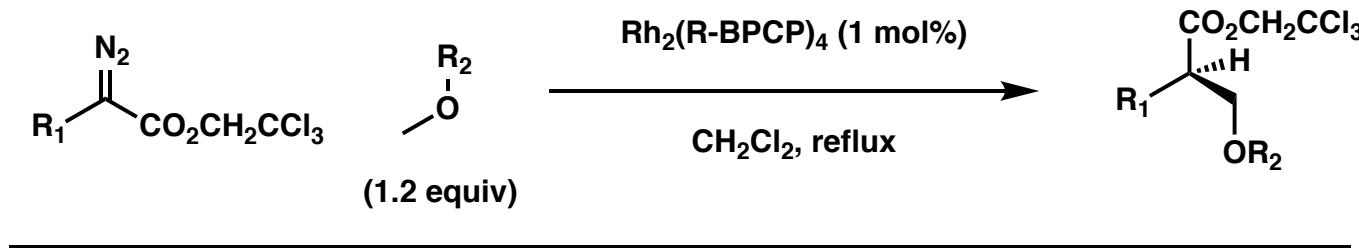


R	A:B	yield	ee
Me	5:1	74	92
CH_2CCl_3	13:1	75	99

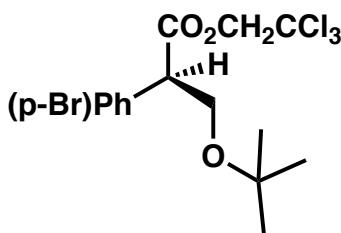


R	yield	ee
Me	15	n.d.
CH_2CCl_3	65	97

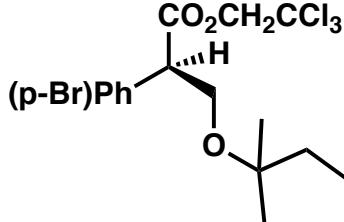
Intermolecular C–H insertion



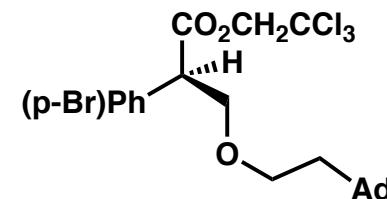
83% yield
91% ee



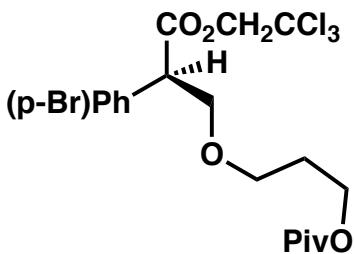
80% yield
94% ee



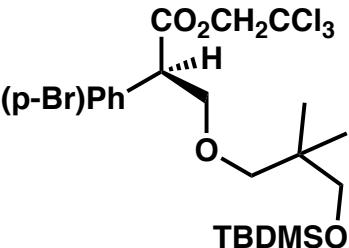
70% yield
93% ee



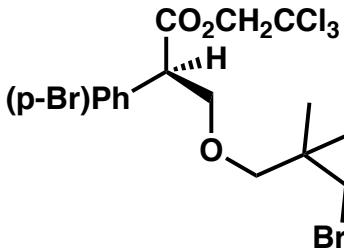
62% yield
89% ee



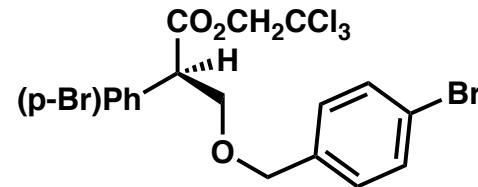
83% yield
92% ee



58% yield
93% ee

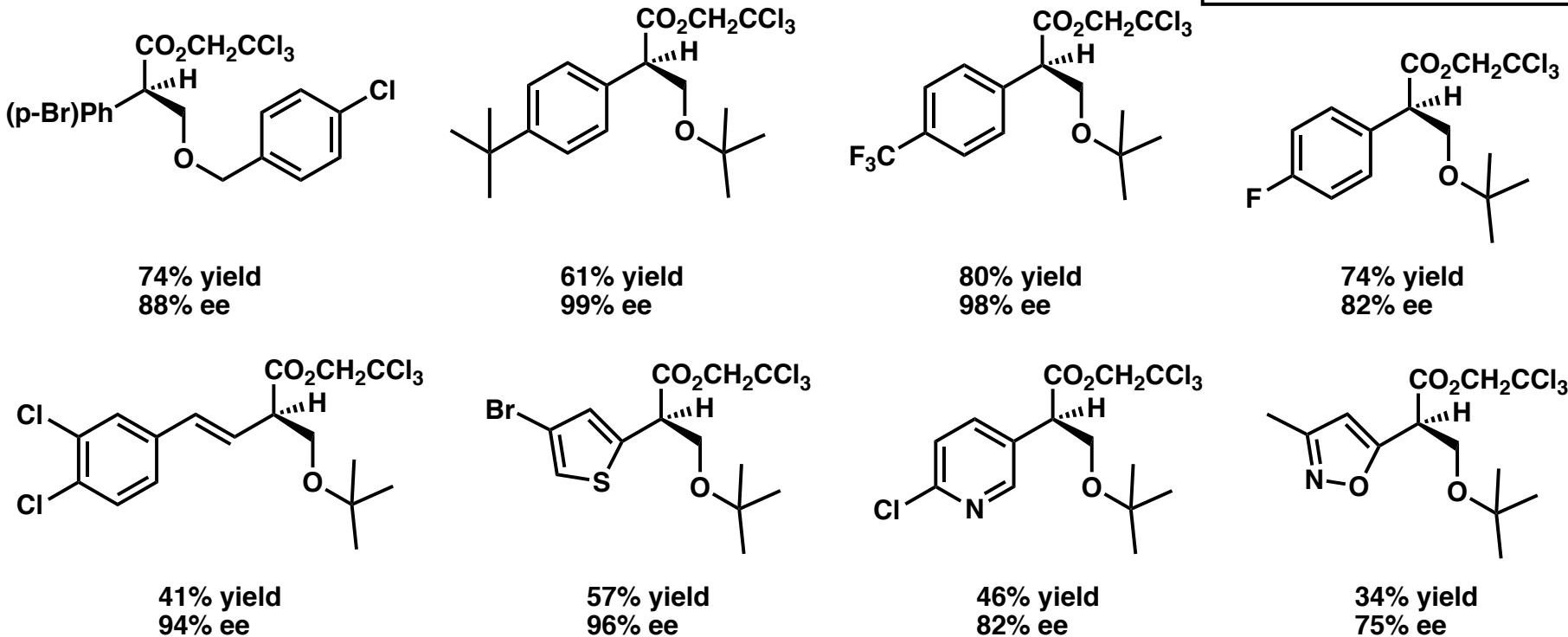
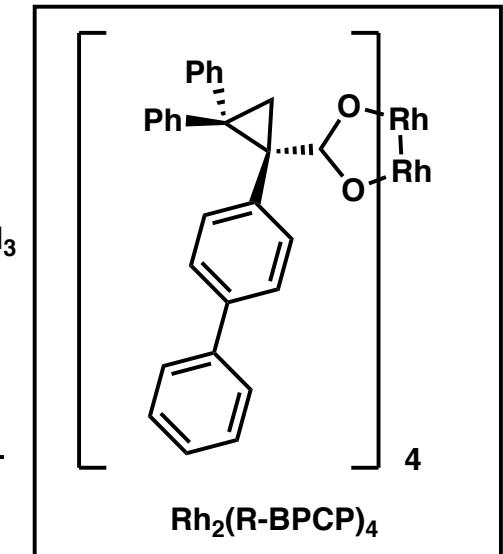
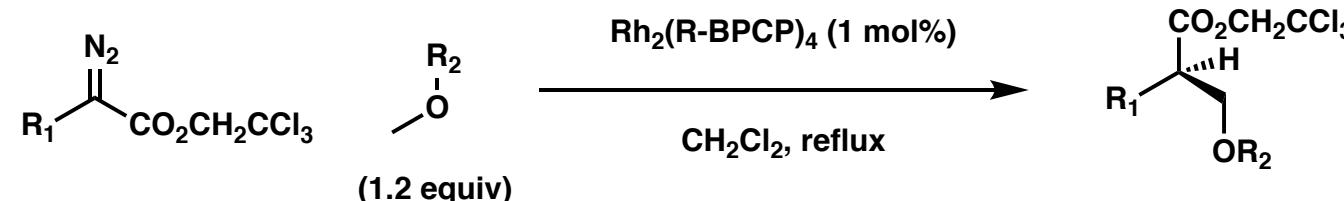


77% yield
97% ee

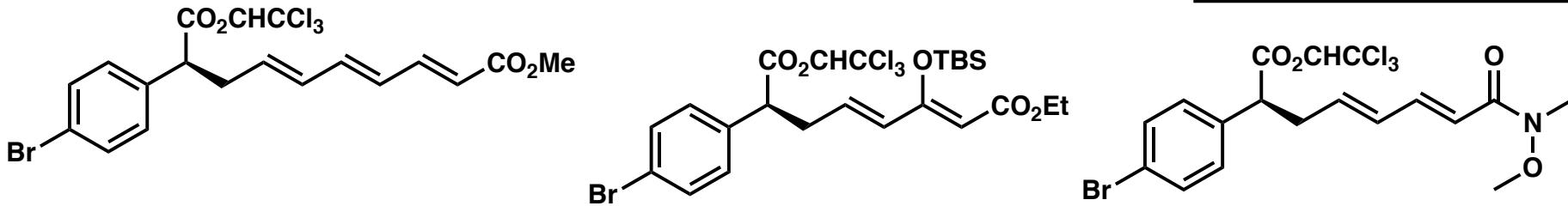
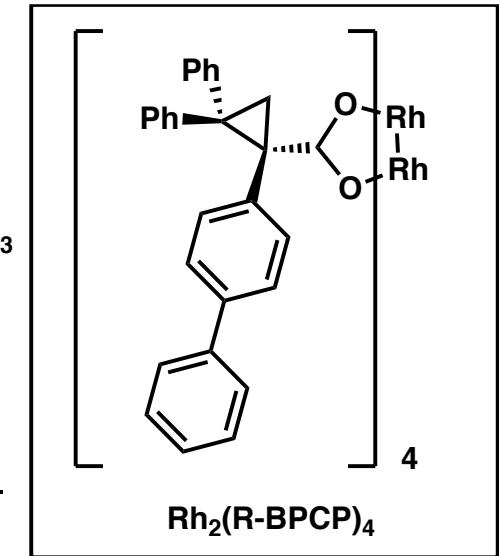
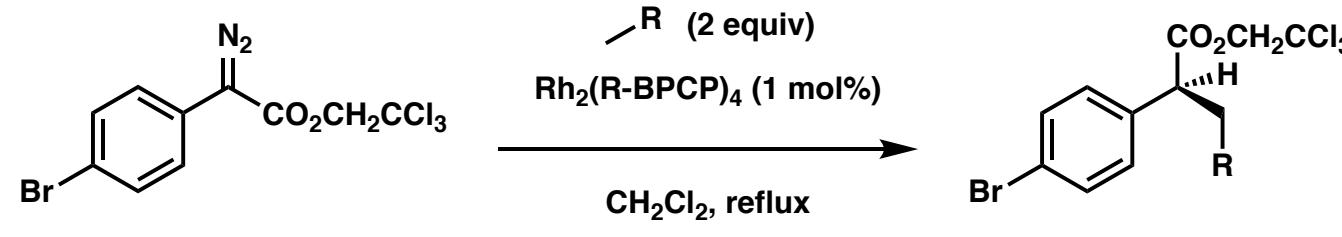


62% yield
89% ee

Intermolecular C–H insertion



Intermolecular C–H insertion



80% yield
92% ee

84% yield
58% ee

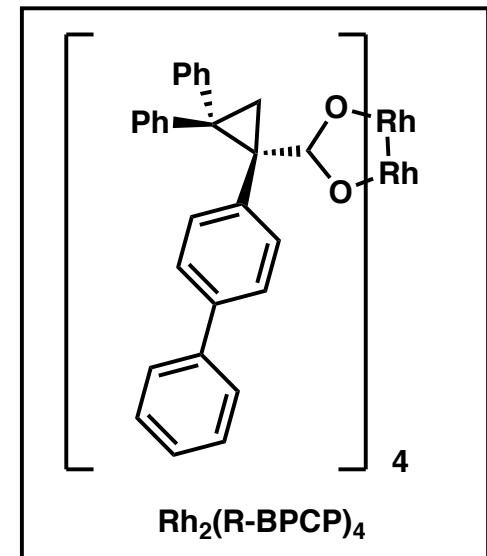
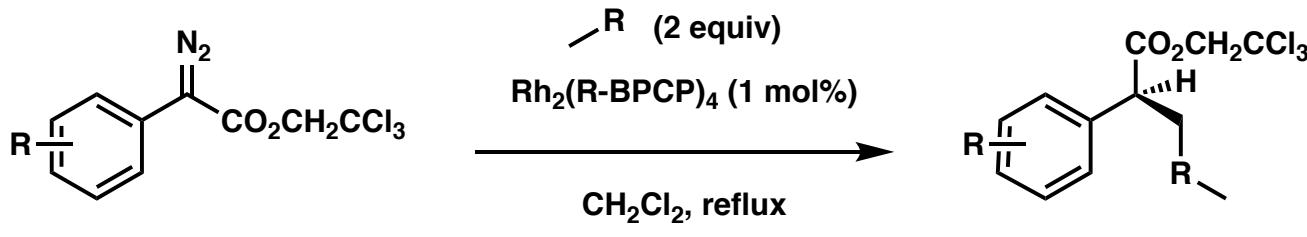
35% yield
97% ee

80% yield
95% ee

81% yield
97% ee

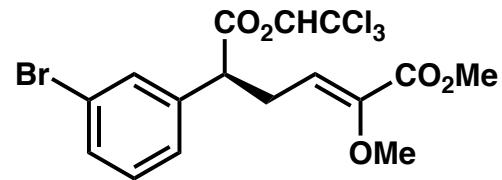
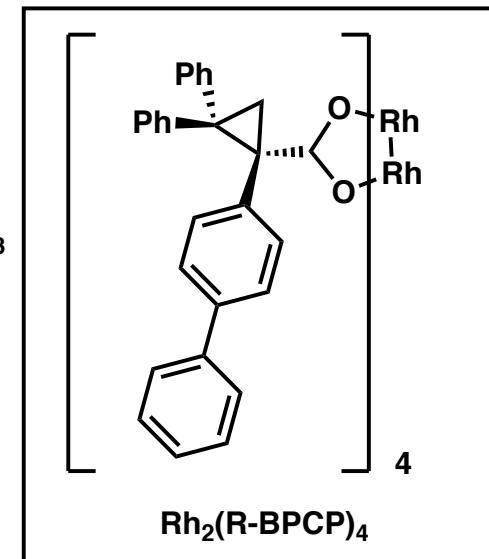
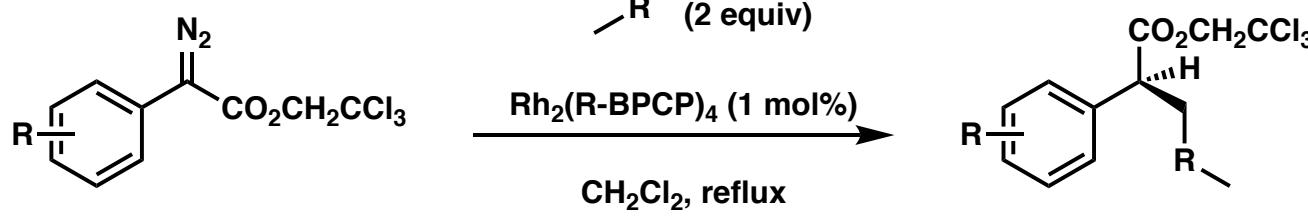
28% yield
99% ee

Intermolecular C–H insertion

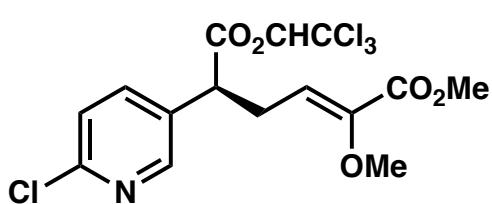


50% yield 93% ee	88% yield 98% ee	74% yield 95% ee	67% yield 98% ee
70% yield 99% ee	82% yield 99% ee	78% yield >99% ee	60% yield 89% ee

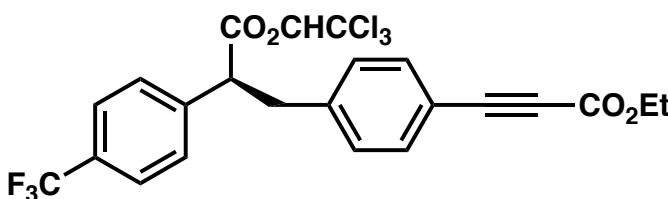
Intermolecular C–H insertion



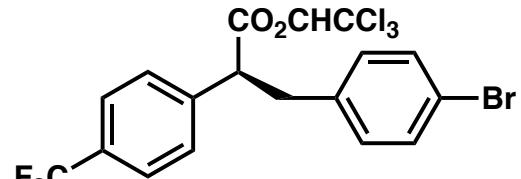
87% yield
88% ee



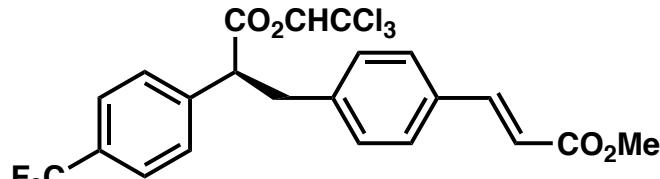
48% yield
92% ee



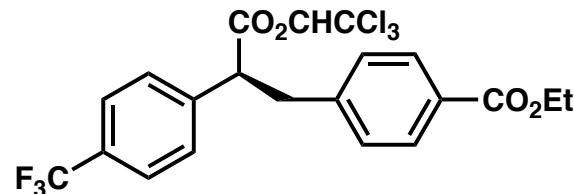
81% yield
96% ee



89% yield
98% ee

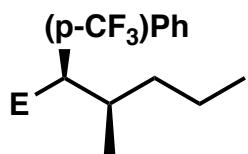
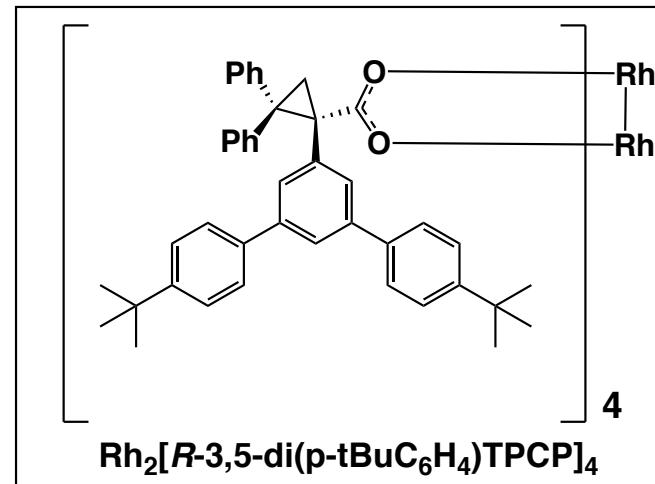
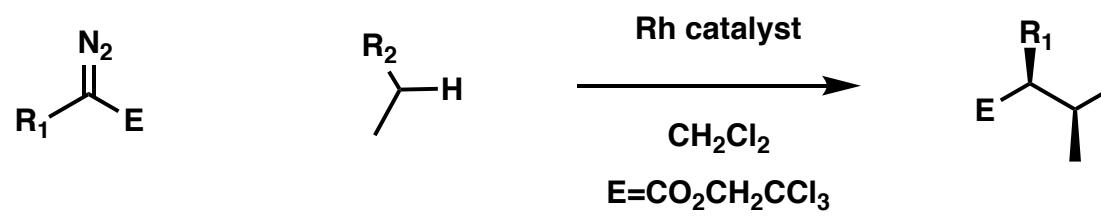


86% yield
97% ee

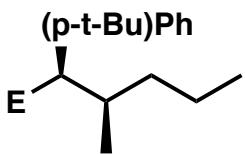


77% yield
97% ee

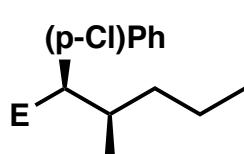
Intermolecular C–H insertion



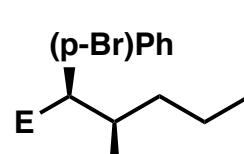
15:1 r.r.
 14:1 d.r.
 97% ee
 91% yield



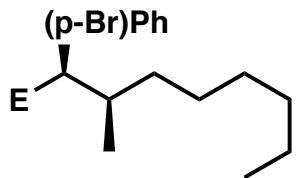
22:1 r.r.
 24:1 d.r.
 >99% ee
 91% yield



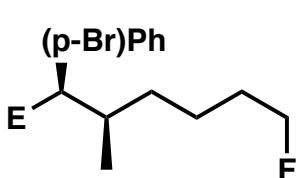
28:1 r.r.
 55:1 d.r.
 91% ee
 87% yield



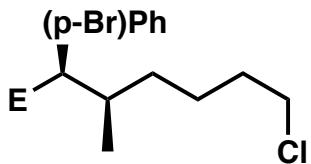
25:1 r.r.
 20:1 d.r.
 99% ee
 99% yield



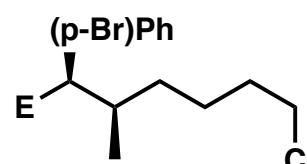
27:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 91% ee
 82% yield



18:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 97% ee
 86% yield

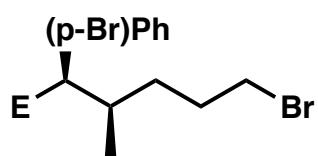
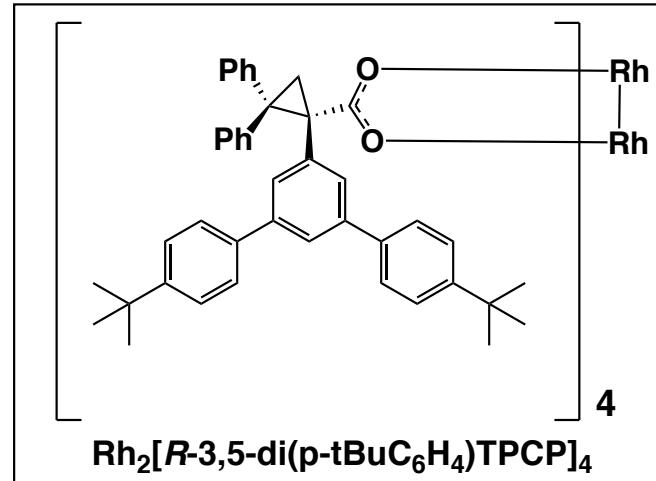
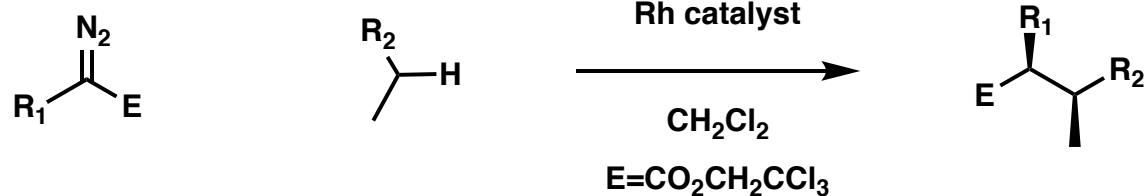


18:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 93% ee
 84% yield

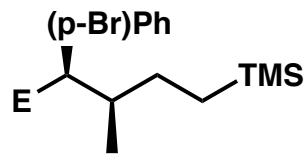


18:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 92% ee
 89% yield

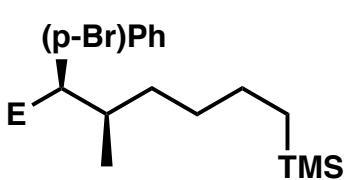
Intermolecular C–H insertion



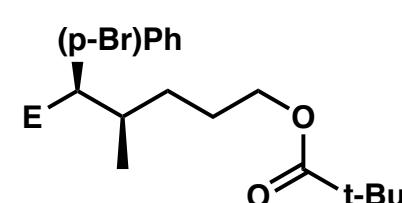
9:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 95% ee
 65% yield



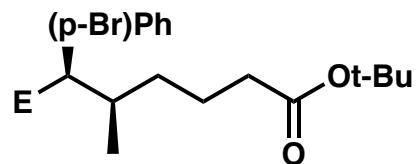
34:1 r.r.
 4:1 d.r.
 >99% ee
 40% yield



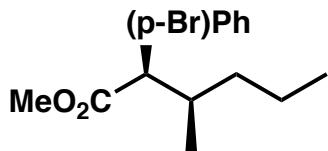
20:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 90% ee
 85% yield



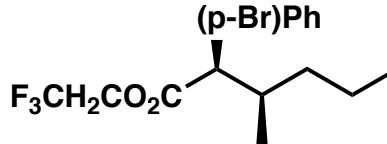
21:1 r.r.
 7:1 d.r.
 92% ee
 83% yield



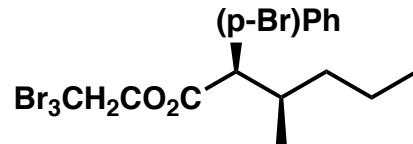
16:1 r.r.
 9:1 d.r.
 91% ee
 84% yield



18:1 r.r.
 8:1 d.r.
 92% ee
 89% yield



30:1 r.r.
 15:1 d.r.
 99% ee
 91% yield



19:1 r.r.
 21:1 d.r.
 98% ee
 90% yield

Intermolecular C–H insertion

Computational studies were conducted to determine the origin behind the high selectivity observed:

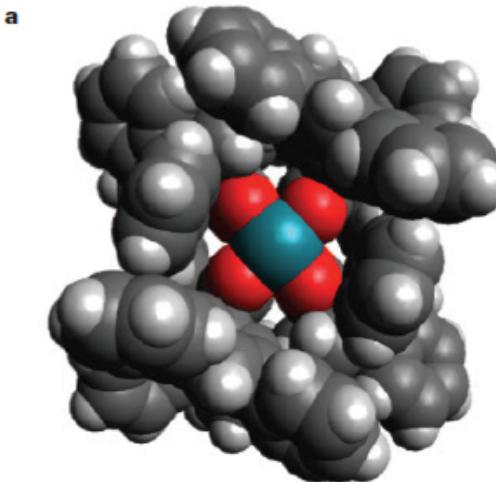
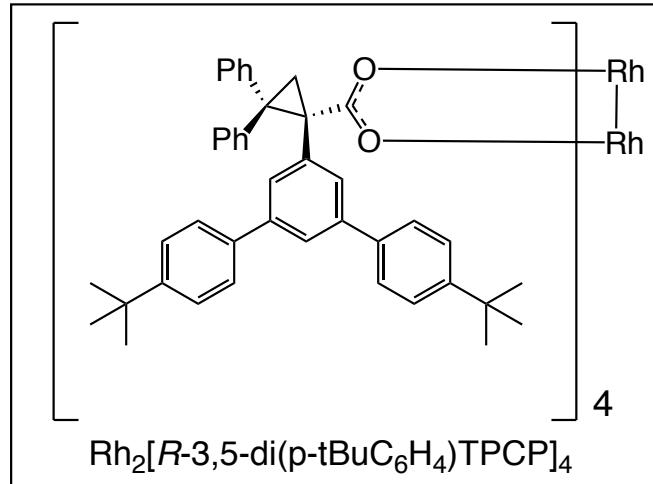
By X-ray crystallography, the catalyst was determined to be D_2 symmetrical, i.e. both faces of the catalyst are the same.

the ligand adopts an $\alpha,\beta,\alpha,\beta$ ligand geometry

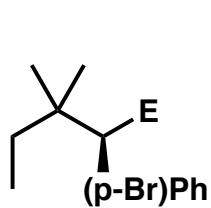
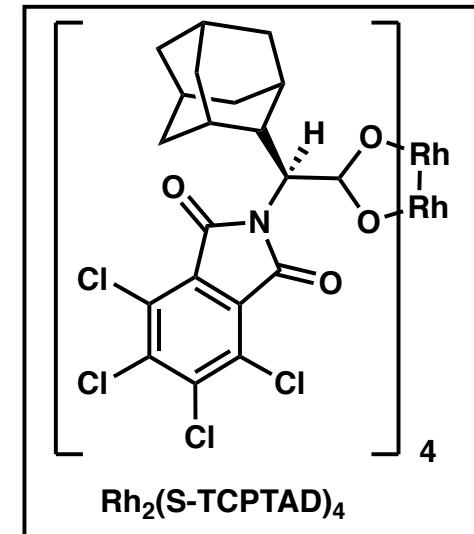
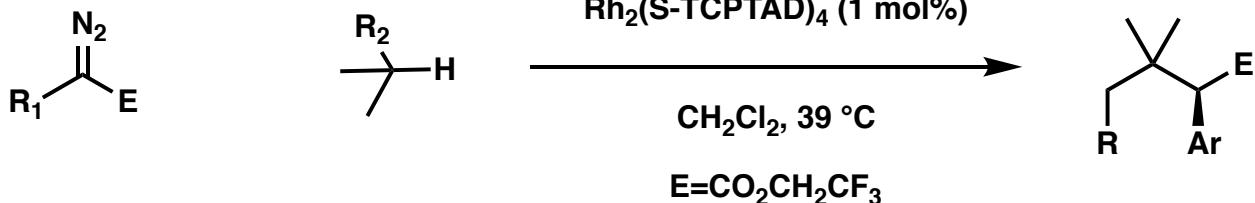
computationally, the $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ ligand geometry was shown to be disfavored by 5 kcal/mol

primary C–H bonds are not electronically activated enough for C–H insertion

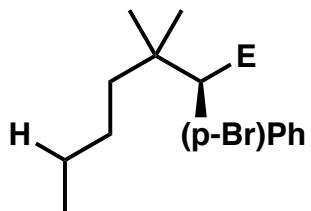
A bulky catalyst allows for selective insertion into the most accessible secondary C–H bond.



Intermolecular C–H insertion

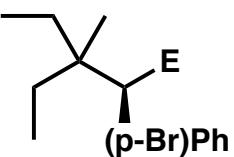


>98:2 r.r.
81% ee
86% yield



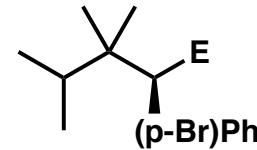
39 °C
87:13 r.r.
77% ee
76% yield

-40 °C
96:4 r.r.
87% ee
65% yield

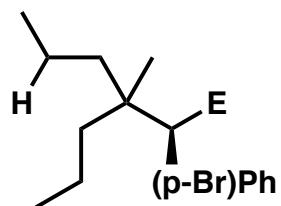


39 °C
92:8 r.r.
82% ee
73% yield

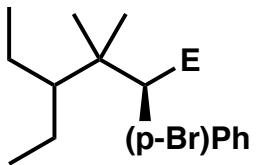
-40 °C
98:2 r.r.
92% ee
64% yield



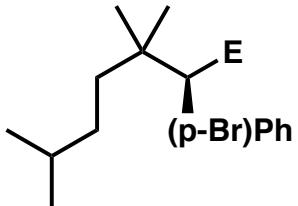
>98:2 r.r.
83% ee
93% yield



11:89 r.r.
81% ee
9% yield

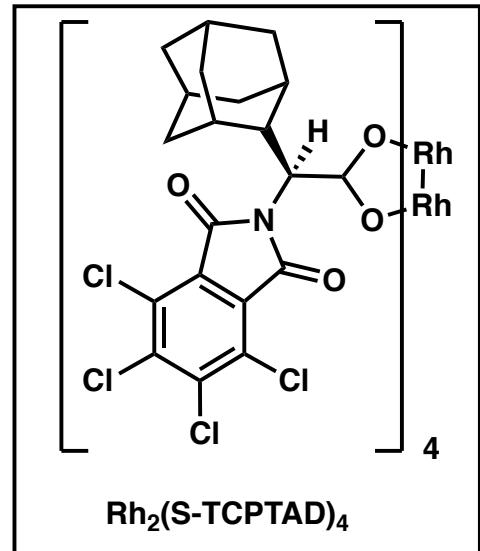
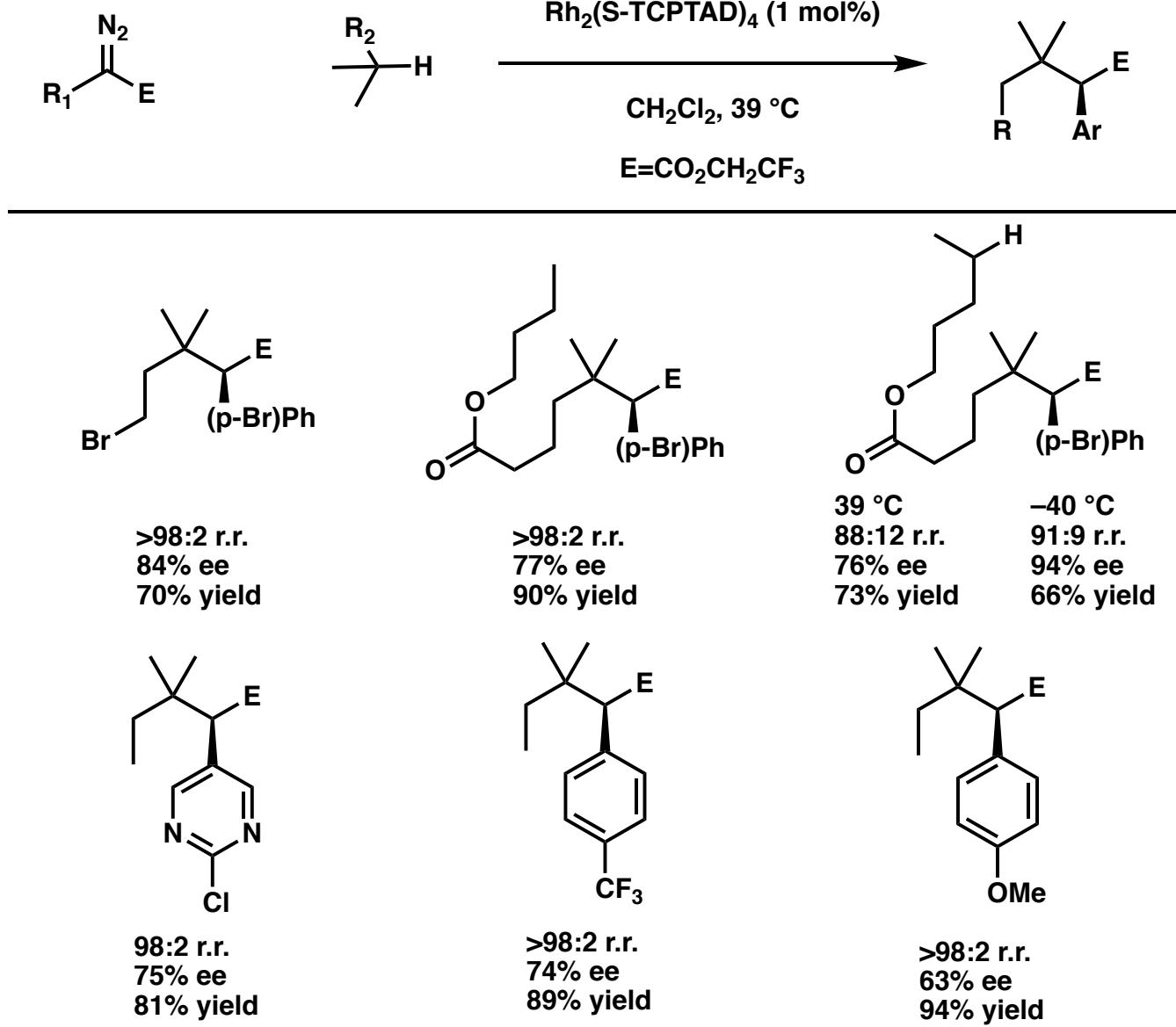


>98:2 r.r.
86% ee
66% yield



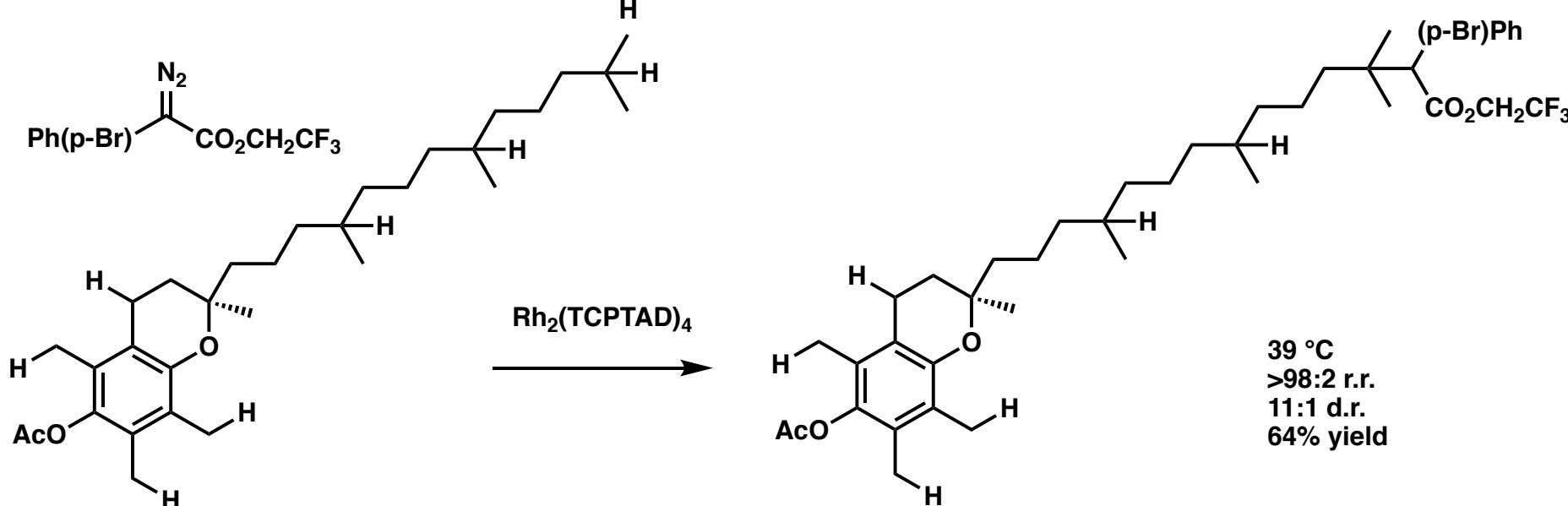
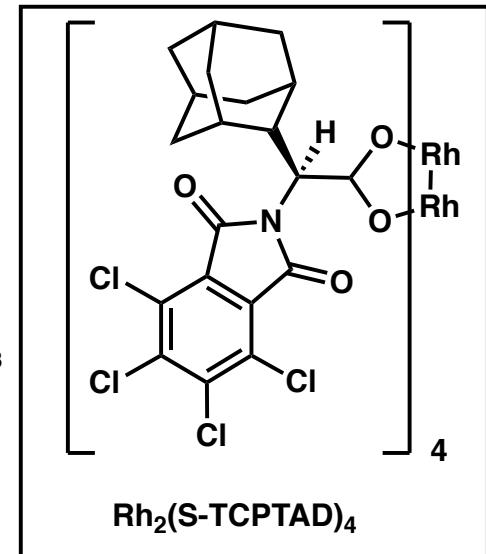
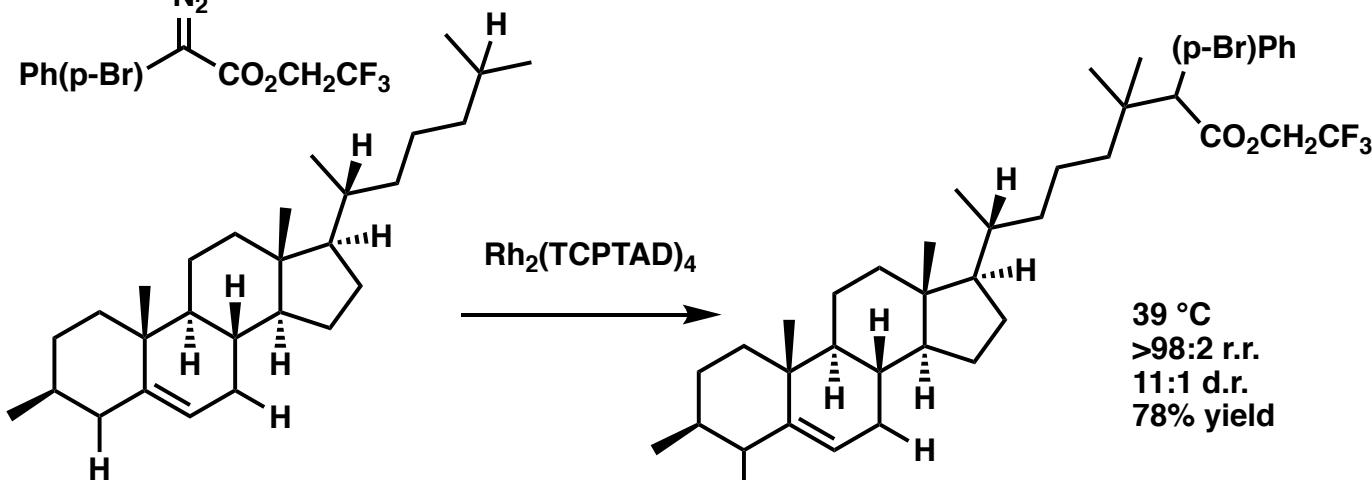
>98:2 r.r.
78% ee
87% yield

Intermolecular C–H insertion



Intermolecular C–H insertion

The rhodium carbene inserts selectively into the most accessible tertiary C–H bond:



Intermolecular C–H insertion

Computational Studies were undertaken to determine how the site selectivity arises:

less sterically demanding catalyst leads to favored tertiary bond insertion

tertiary bond insertion is most favored electronically

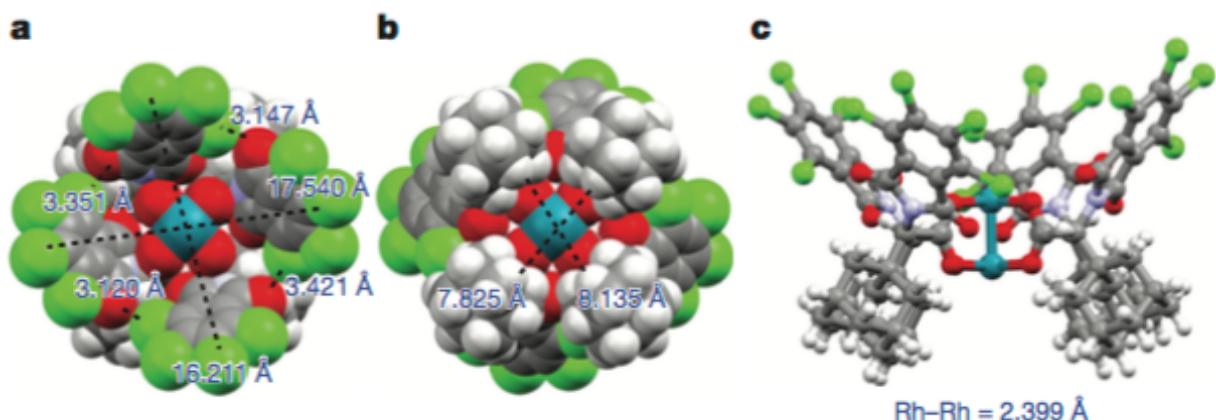
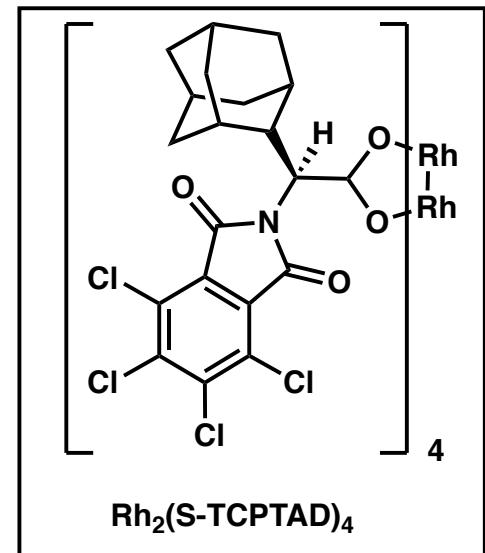
X-ray crystallography and computational studies show the catalyst adopts a slightly distorted C₄ symmetric structure

The steric environment is different on either side of the catalyst.

The rhodium face with the phthalimido groups is more accessible than the face with the adamantyl groups.

a π-stacking interaction between the carbene and rhodium leads to a preferential attack at the Re face of the carbene.

The approach of the substrate leads to the selectivity for the most accessible tertiary C–H bond



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IV. Intermolecular C–H insertion

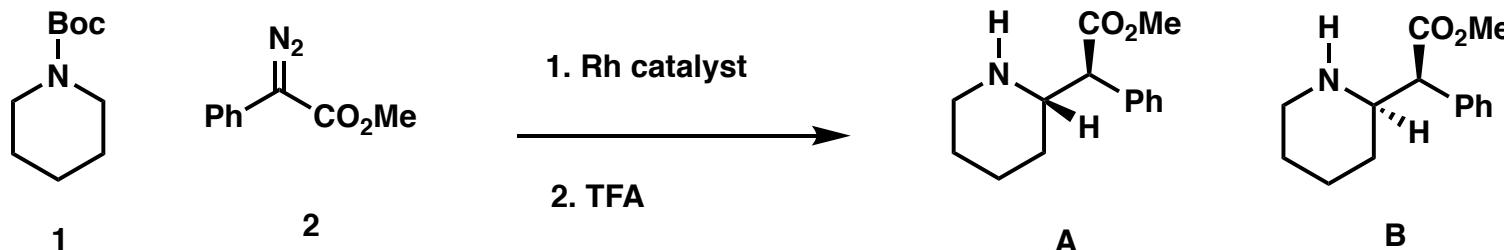
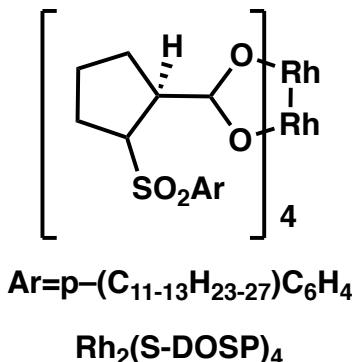
V. C–H insertion in Synthesis

VI. Further Resources

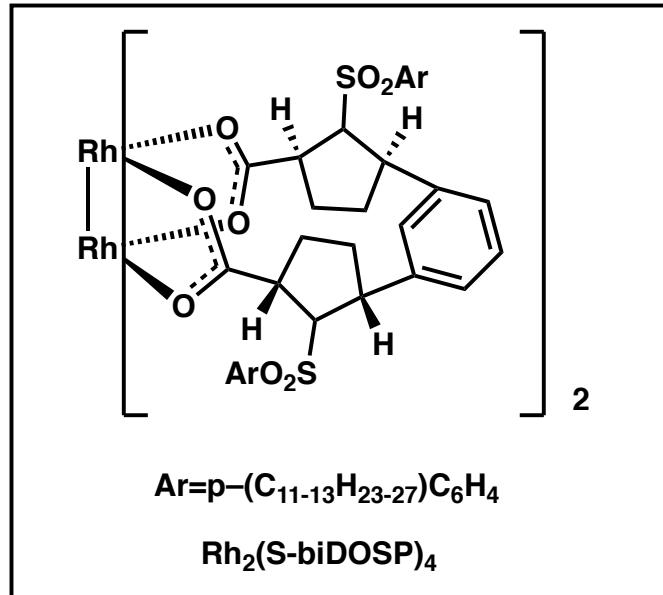
Synthesis of Ritalin

threo-methylphenidate (marketed as Ritalin, etc.) is used to treat ADHD and narcolepsy.

A is the active component as the 2R enantiomer



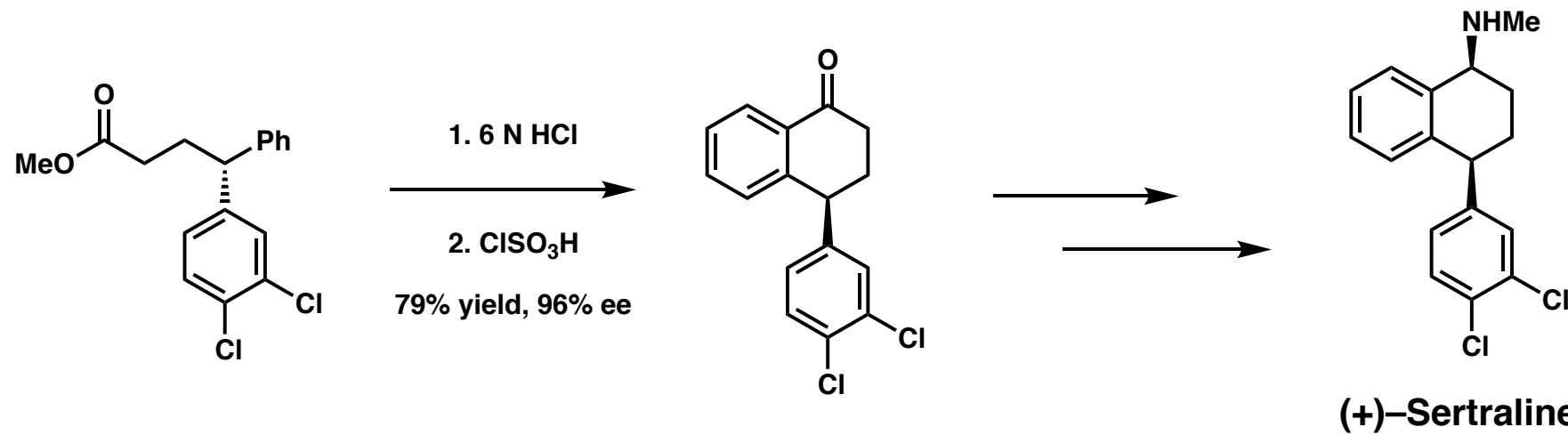
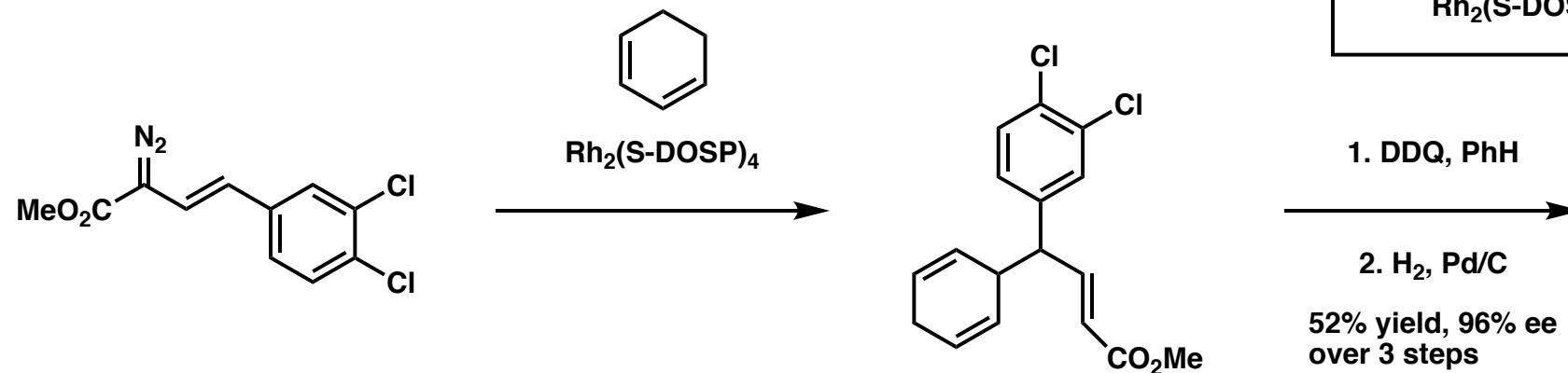
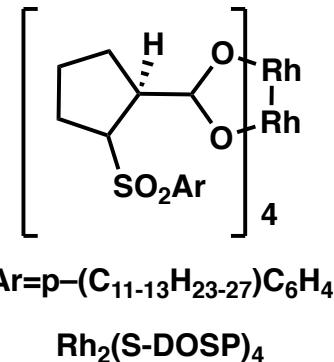
cat	eq. 1	yield	A:B	ee (A)
DOSP	4	49	43:57	34 (2S)
DOSP	0.25	86	50:50	25 (2S)
biDOSP	0.25	73	71:29	86 (2R)



Formal Synthesis of (+)-Sertraline

(+)-Sertraline (Zoloft) is an antidepressant of the SSRI class.

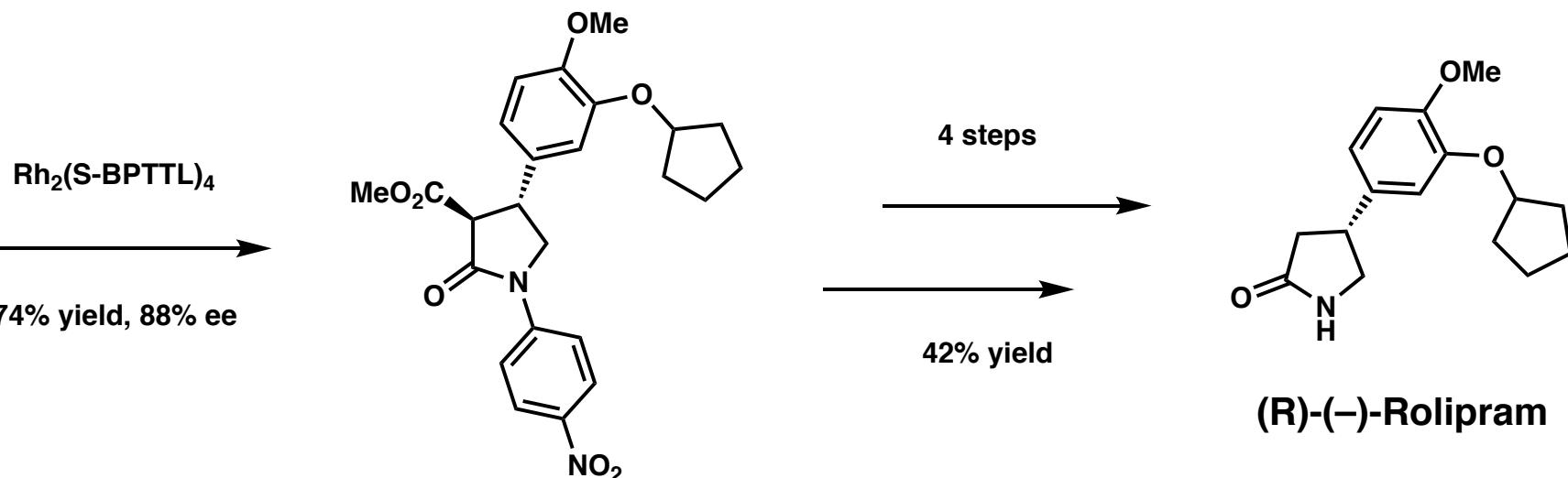
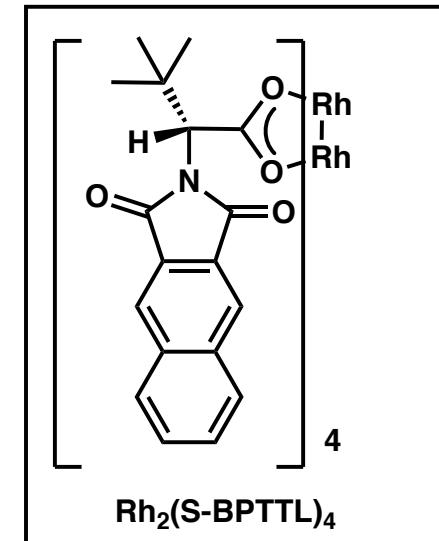
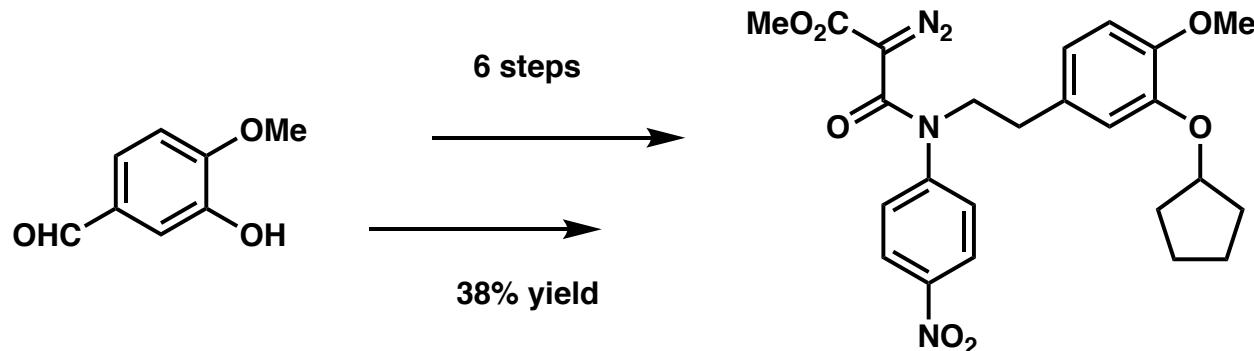
Introduced by Pfizer in 1991, and still in use today.



Synthesis of (*R*)-(-)-Rolipram

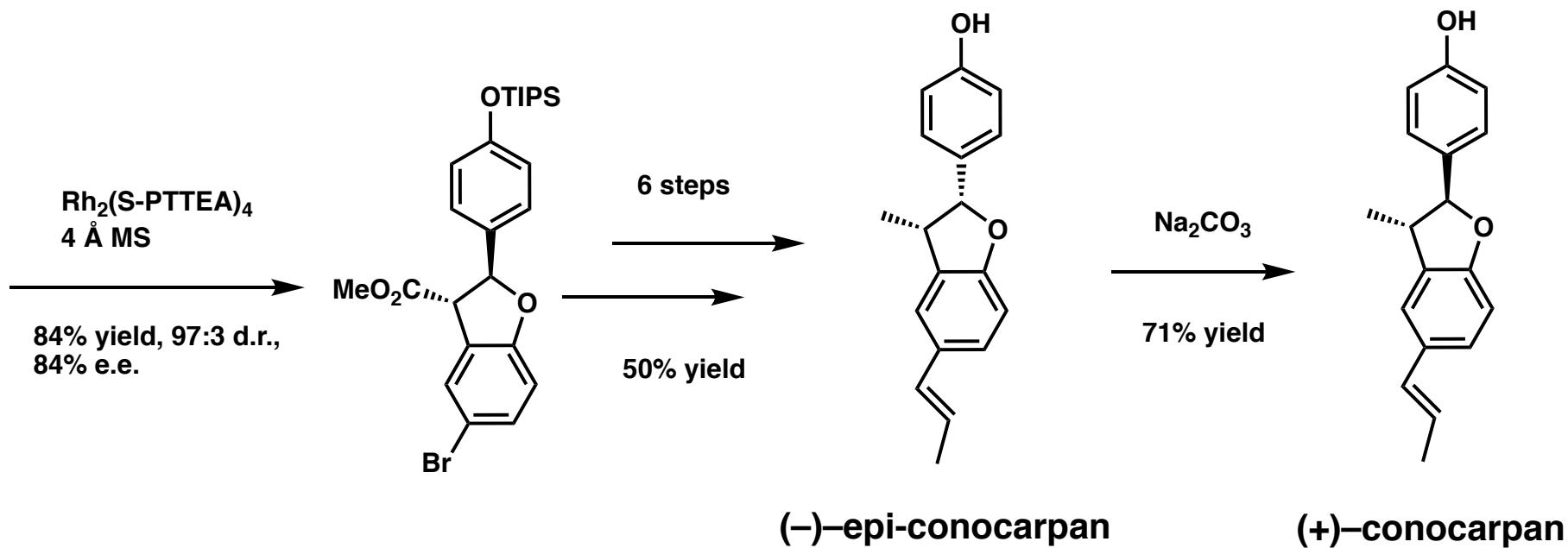
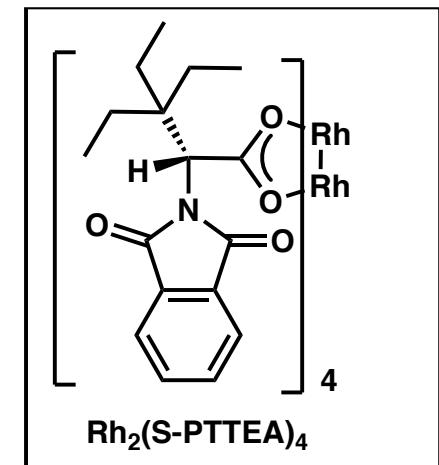
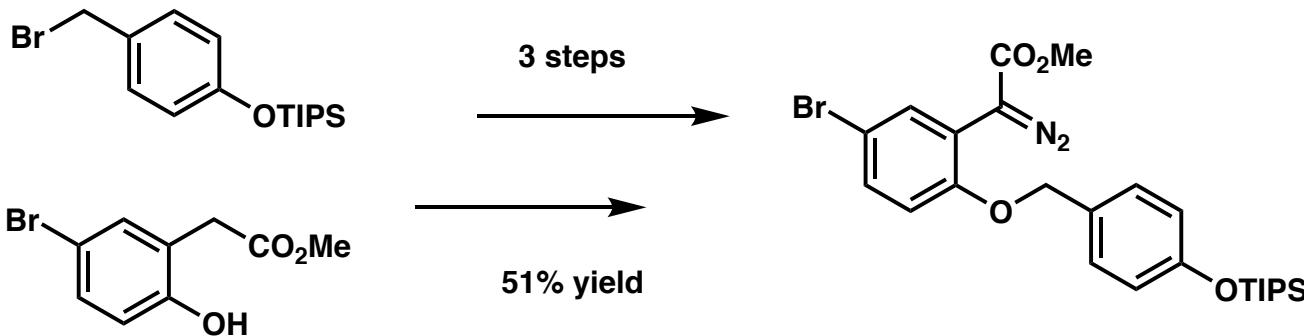
(*R*)-(-)-Rolipram is a potent and selective phosphodiesterase type IV inhibitor.

Used as a prototype molecule for drug discovery, though not used itself due to side effects and a need for high dosages.



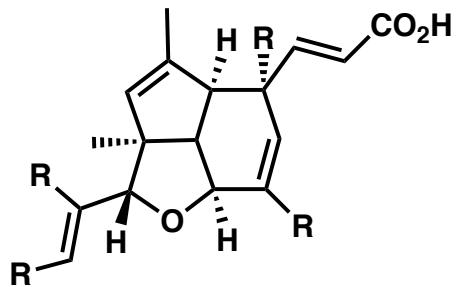
Synthesis of (+)-Conocarpan

(+)-Conocarpan is a natural product with various biological activities

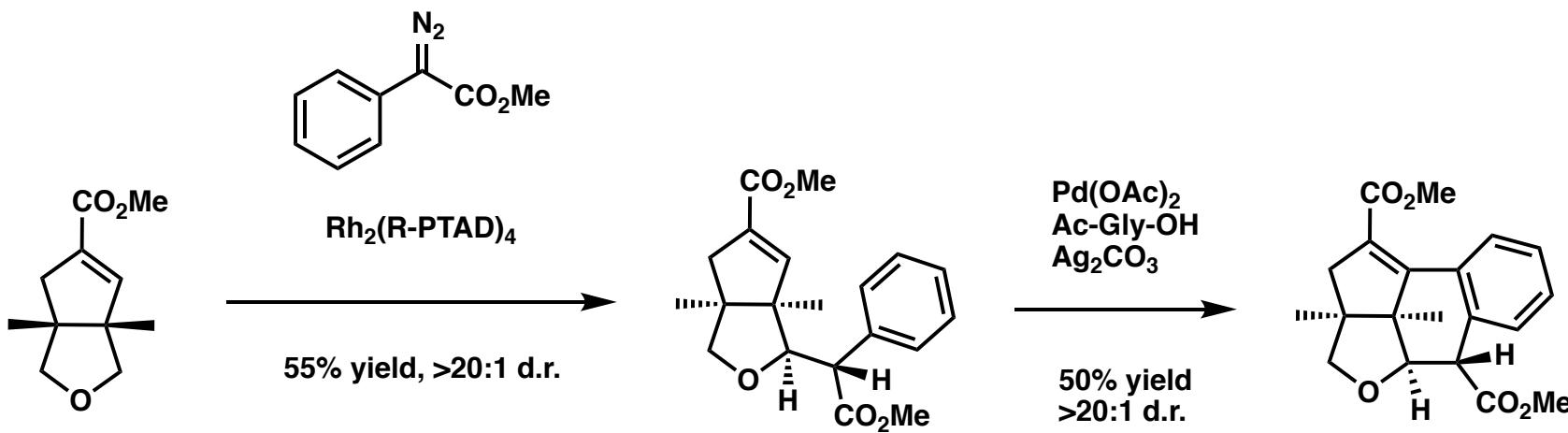
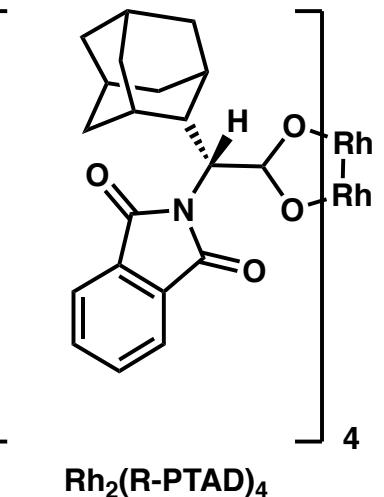
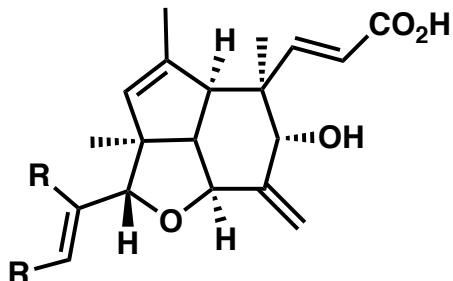


Synthesis of (-)-Indoxamycin Core

Indoxamycins A–E



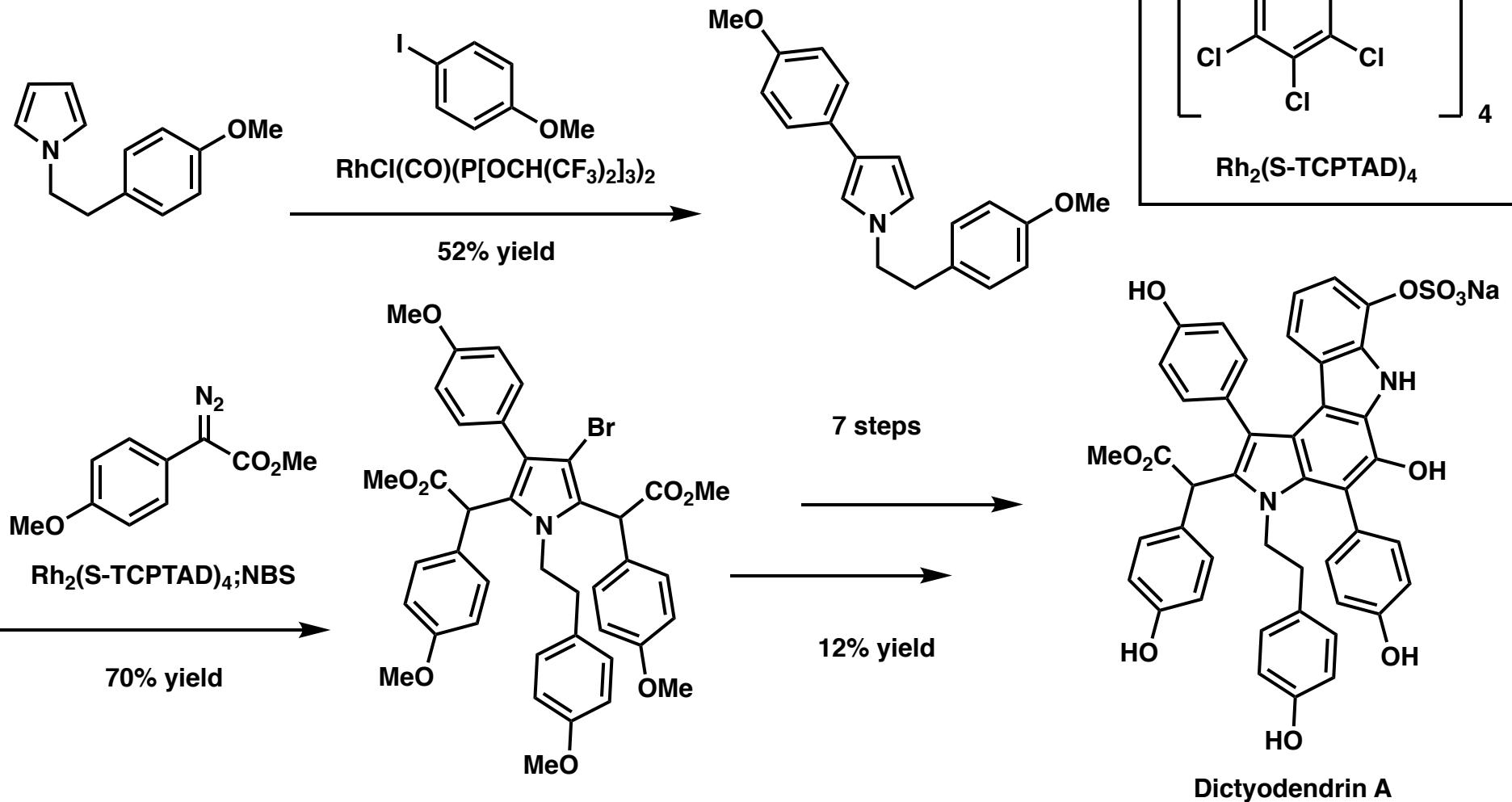
Indoxamycin F



Synthesis of Dictyodendrins A and F

A formal synthesis of Dictyodendrin A and a synthesis of Dictyodendrin F was reported utilizing a sequential C–H functionalization strategy.

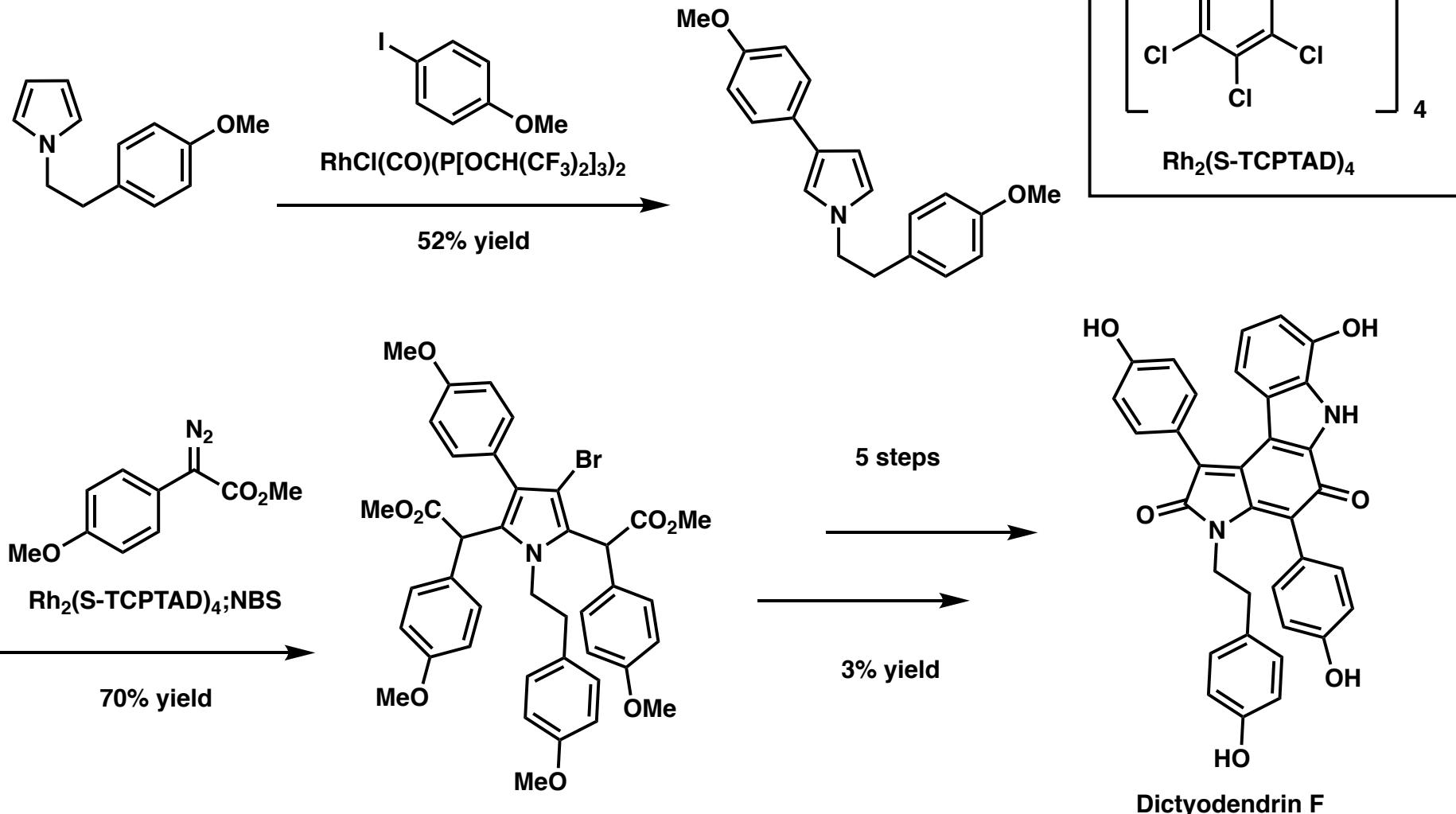
Collaboration between Davies and Itami Groups.



Synthesis of Dictyodendrins A and F

A formal synthesis of Dictyodendrin A and a synthesis of Dictyodendrin F was reported utilizing a sequential C–H functionalization strategy.

Collaboration between Davies and Itami Groups.



Conclusions

Carbene chemistry has come a long way in recent years

C–H functionalization reactions are simplifying disconnections

Discovery of Rhodium carbenes resulted in the development of selective C–H functionalization reactions

The electronics of the carbene carbon center and the Rhodium catalyst serve key roles

Site selectivity was first discovered by exploiting heteroatom effects

More recently, tuning of the catalyst has resulted in selective insertions into unactivated C–H bonds

C–H insertion reactions have been utilized in various synthetic efforts

A more thorough understanding of the mechanism and electronics of the system will help drive the field further

While a lot of progress has been made, many questions remain unanswered

Selectivity is still a problem in many cases for this chemistry, especially in more complex systems

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Additional Resources

Other lit meetings:

Uttam Tambar, Stoltz/Reisman group, 2004 (on the Stoltz Group Website)

<https://www.princeton.edu/chemistry/macmillan/group-meetings/JEC-chact.pdf>

Brian Ngo Laforteza, 2010, Princeton, Macmillan Group Lit seminars (online)

Books:

Doyle, 2013, Contemporary Carbene Chemistry (specifically Chapter 12 on Rhodium Carbenes by Davies)

Doyle, 1998 Modern Catalytic Methods for Organic Synthesis with Diazo Compounds: From Cyclopropanes to Ylides

Reviews:

Machado, *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *12*, 882–902.

You *RSC Adv.*, **2014**, *4*, 6173.

Maguire, McKervey *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *12*, 882–902.

Davies *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, **2011**, *40*, 1857–1869.

Doyle *Chem. Rev.* **2010**, *110*, 704–724.

Davies *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 2861–2903.

Doyle *Chem Rev.* **1986**, *86*, 919.