

[2+2] Photocycloaddition of α,β -Enones to Alkenes

Mechanism and Selectivity

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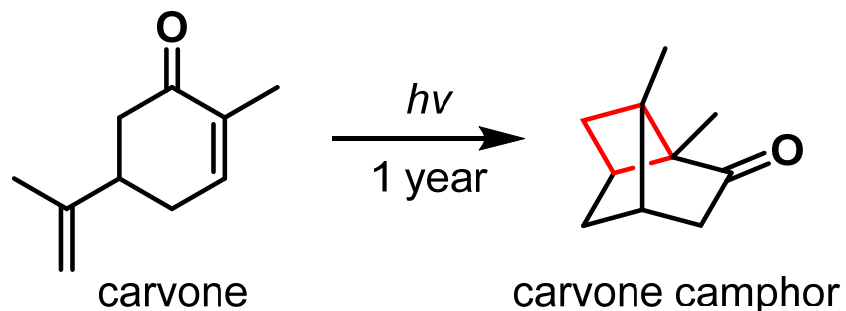
2022.02.26

Outline

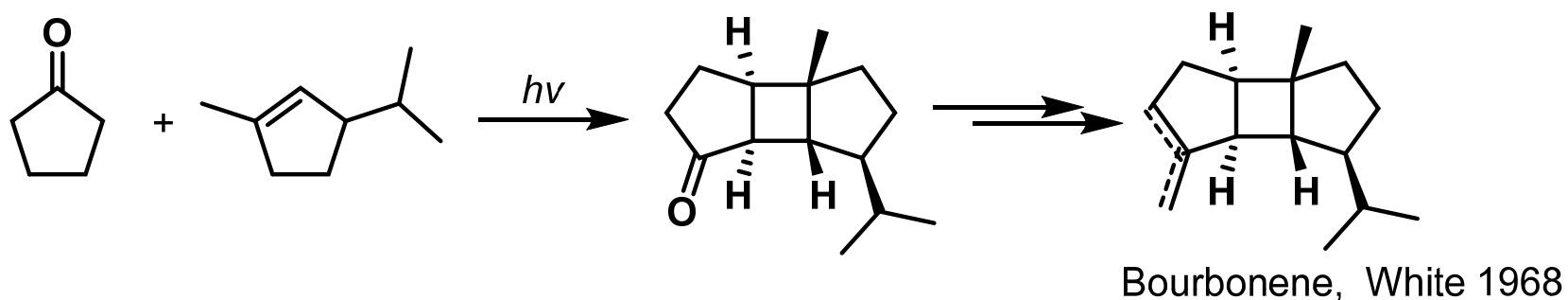
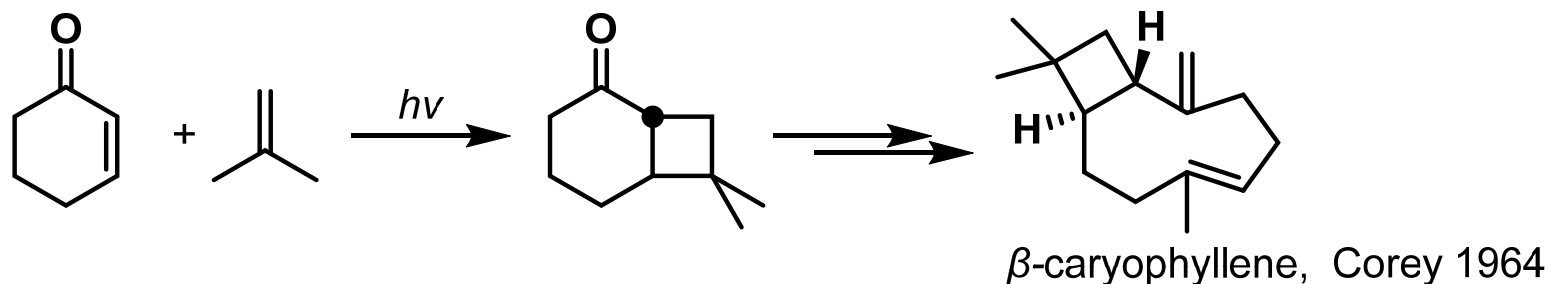
- Introduction
 - History
 - Corey-de Mayo exciplex mechanism
- Mechanistic Studies
 - Excitation and excited states of enone
 - Formation of 1,4-diradical
 - Fates of singlet diradical
 - ISC of triplet diradical
- Selectivity
 - Regiochemistry
 - Stereochemistry
- Summary

Introduction

- First reported by Ciamician in 1908



- Mid-20th century: Use in total synthesis of natural products



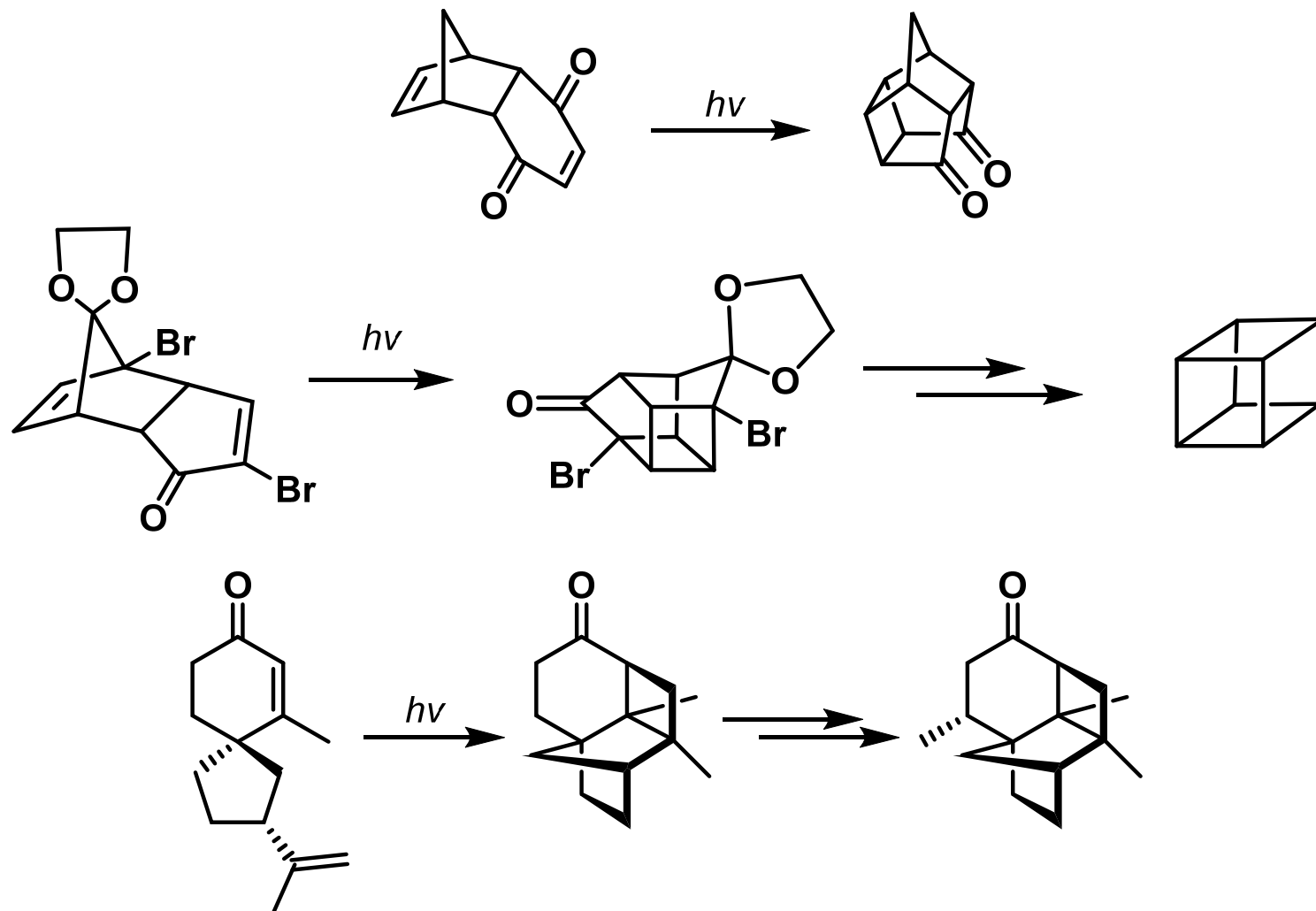
Corey, E. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, *86*, 485.

White, J. D. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1968**, *90*, 6171.

Ciamician, G. et al. *Berichte der Deutschen Chemischen Gesellschaft* **1908**, *41*, 1928.

Introduction

- Formation of strained structures

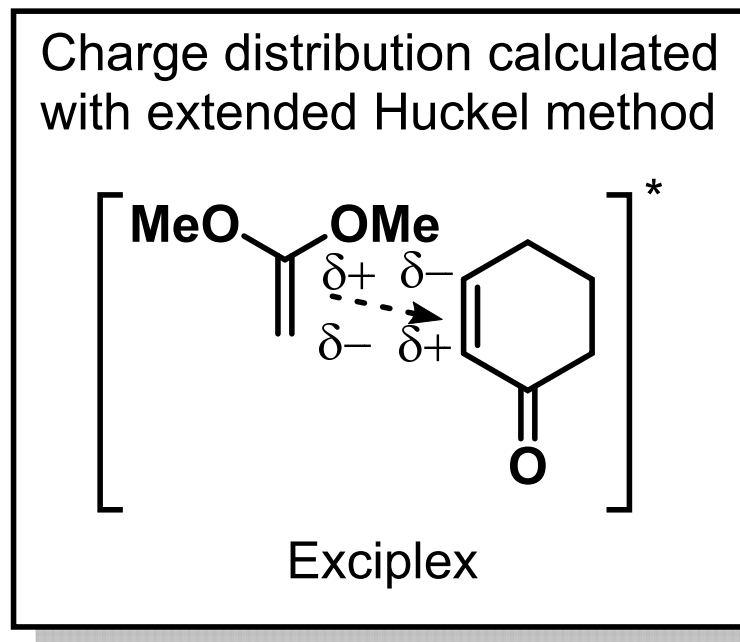
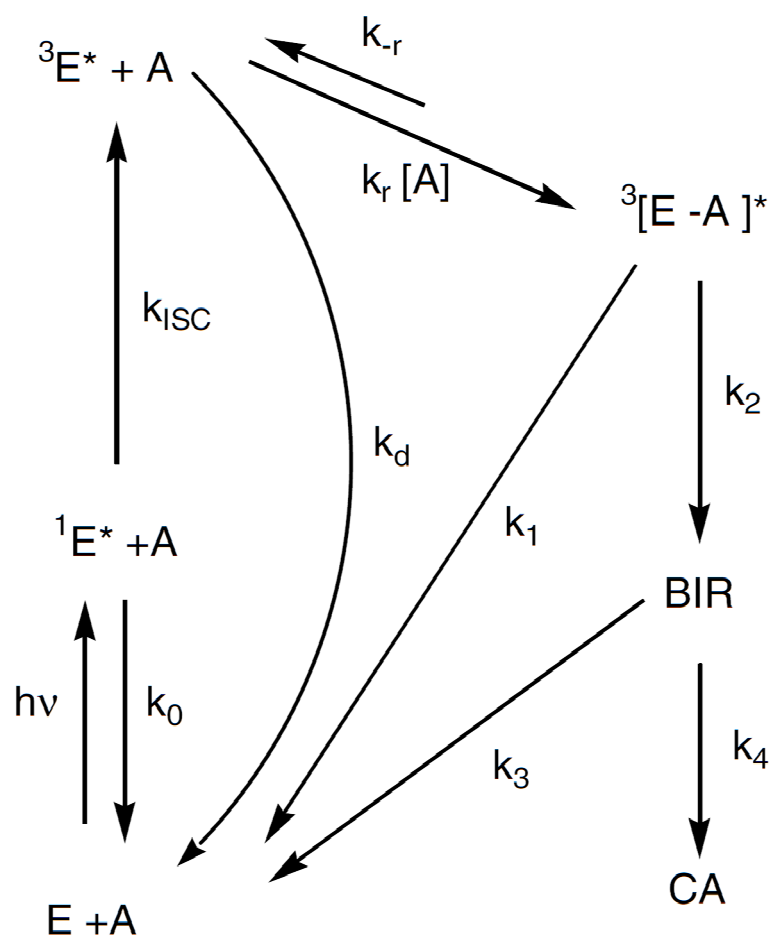


Cookson, R. C. et al. *J. Chem. Ind.* **1958**, 1003.
Eaton, P. E. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, 86, 3157.
Srikrishna, A. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, 46, 7373.

Introduction

➤ Corey-de Mayo “exciplex” mechanism, 1977

- First widely accepted mechanism for [2+2] photocycloaddition of enone and alkene



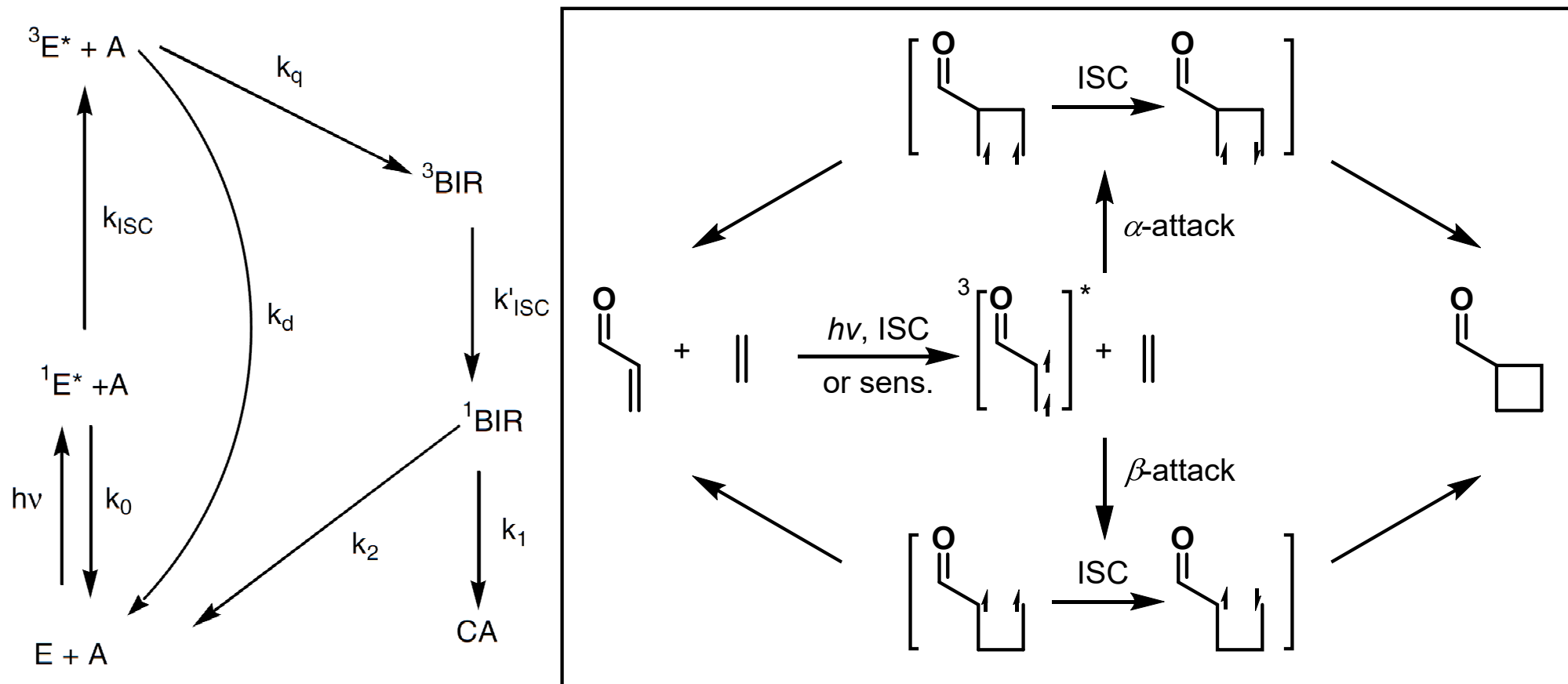
E=enone, A=alkene, BIR=1,4-biradical, CA=cycloadducts

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Mechanistic Studies

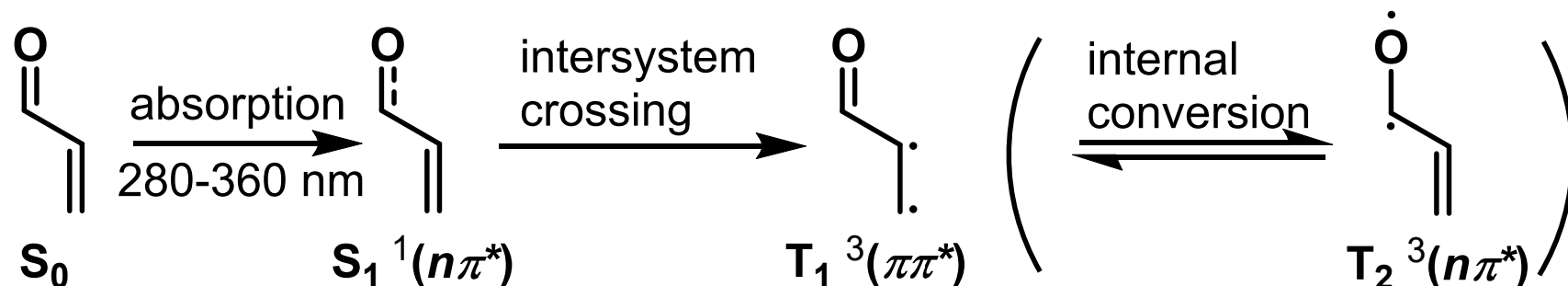
➤ The Bauslaugh–Schuster–Weedon Mechanism



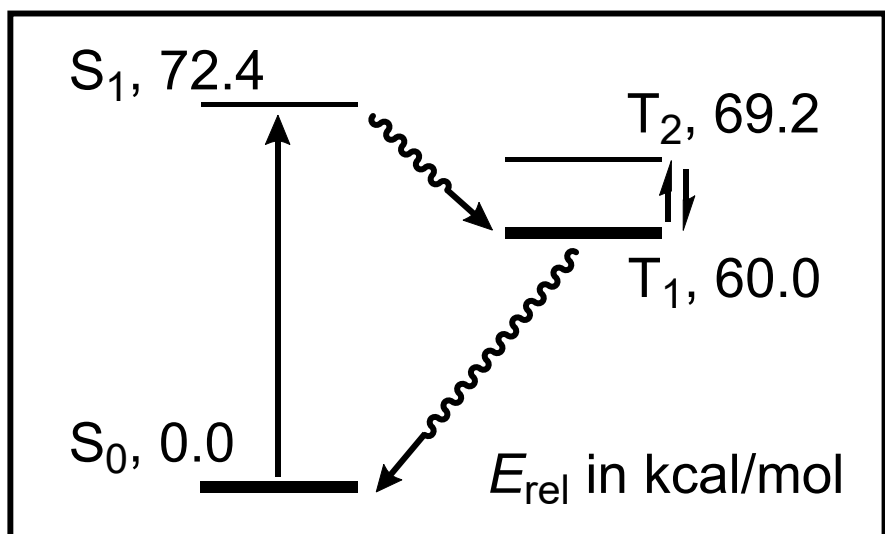
Mechanistic Studies

➤ Excitation of enone

- Quick intersystem crossing



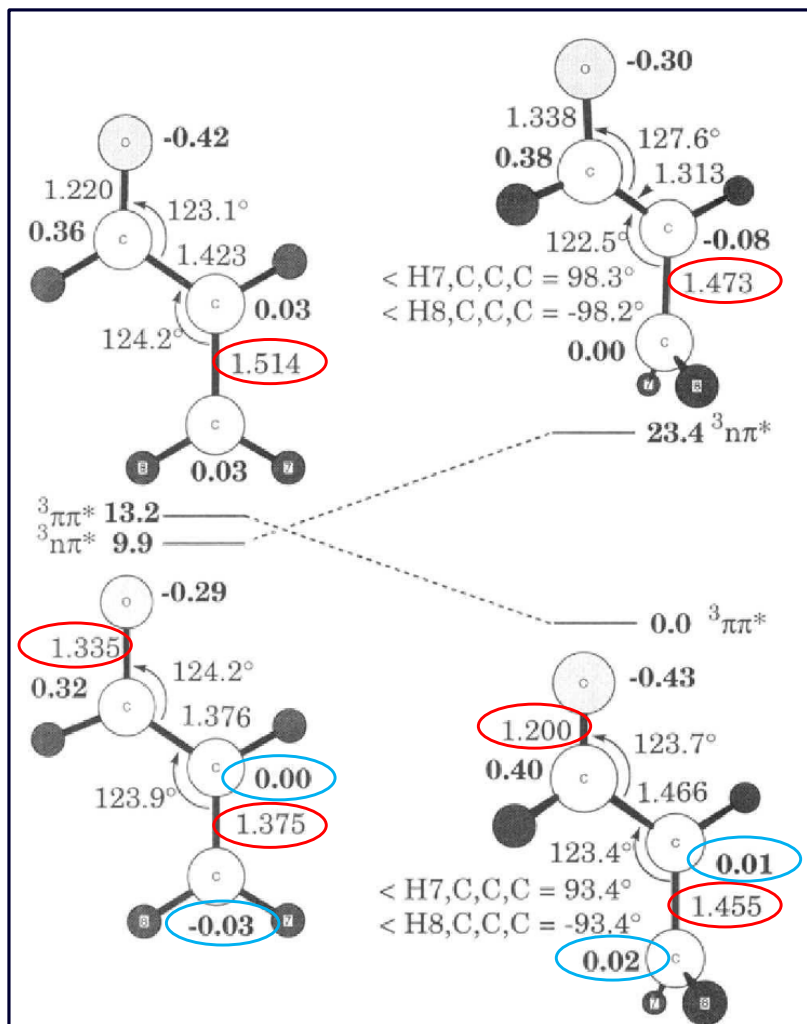
- Calculated E_{rel} of acrolein



- One can also use a sensitizer to achieve T_1 directly

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Triplet excited states of enone



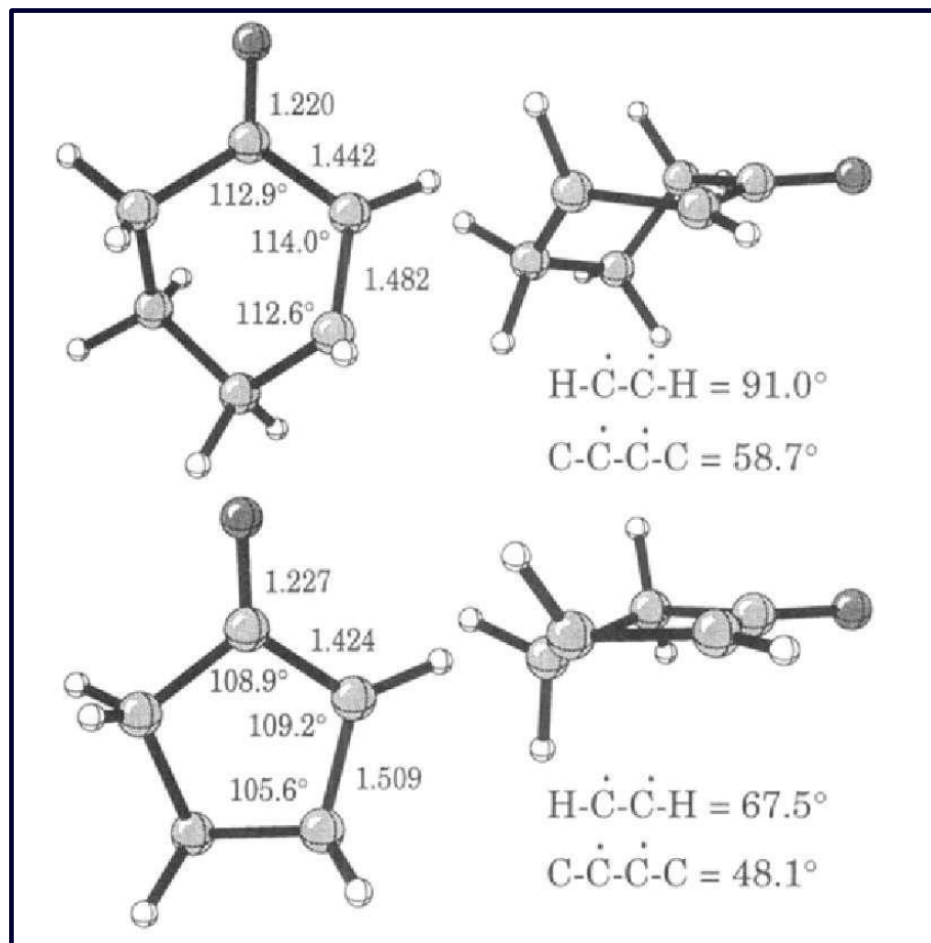
Acrolein, UMP4(SDTQ)/6-31G*

- ${}^3(n\pi^*)$ is more stable at planar (ground-state) geometry, but ${}^3(\pi\pi^*)$ is more stable globally
- ${}^3(\pi\pi^*)$ is **twisted** to make those unpaired electrons orthogonal
- PES crossing permits efficient internal conversion
- Planar ${}^3(n\pi^*)$ state has reversed polarity but ${}^3(\pi\pi^*)$ not (difference is small)

Broeker, J. L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 1847.

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Excited states of cyclopentenone and cyclohexenone



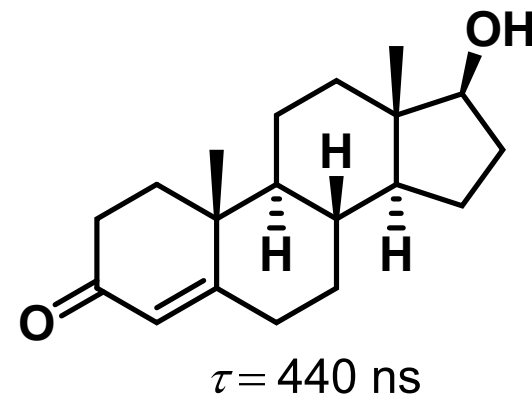
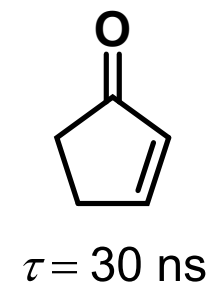
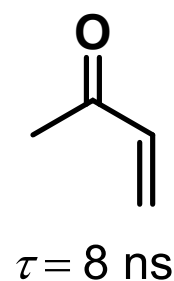
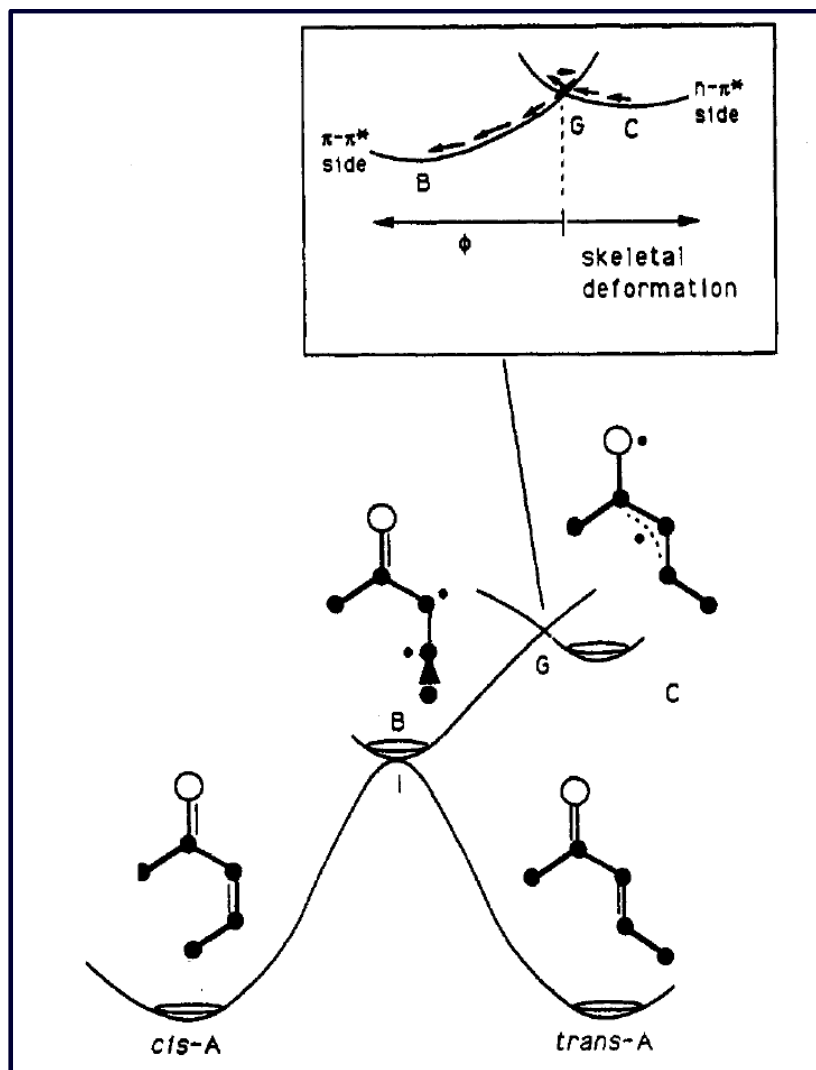
- ${}^3(\pi\pi^*)$ are 4.6 and 3.8 kcal/mol more stable than ${}^3(n\pi^*)$ states (9.9 in acrolein)
- α -C remains planar, while β -C pyramidalize to avoid overlap of electrons

UHF/6-31G*

Broeker, J. L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 1847.

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Lifetime study of triplet excited states

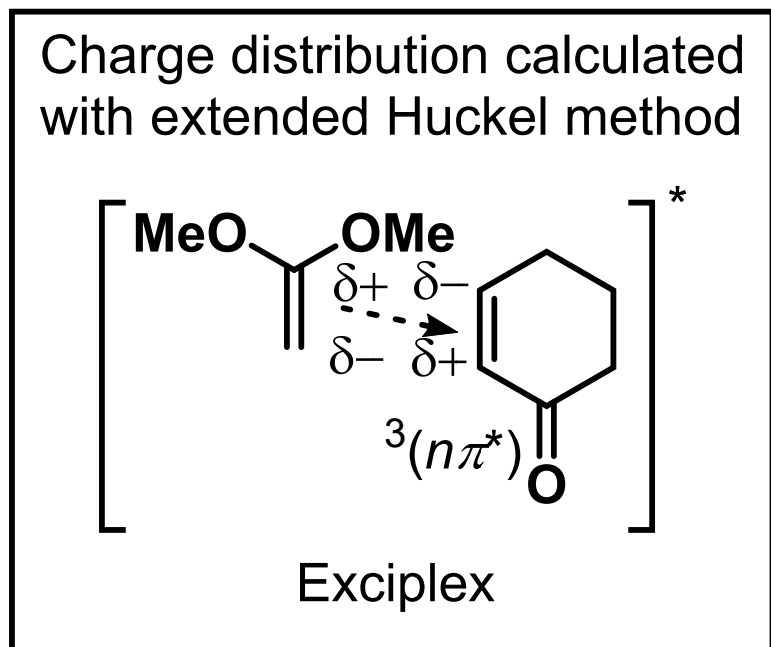


- Correlation between **flexibility** and lifetime matches $^3(\pi\pi^*)$

Schuster, D. I. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 6245.

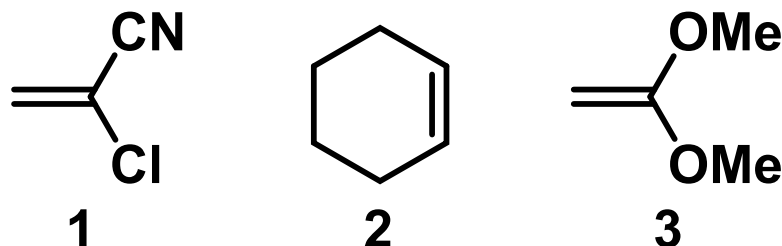
Mechanistic Studies

➤ Formation of diradical with regiochemistry issues



Diradical **Not** formed by intermediacy of exciplex

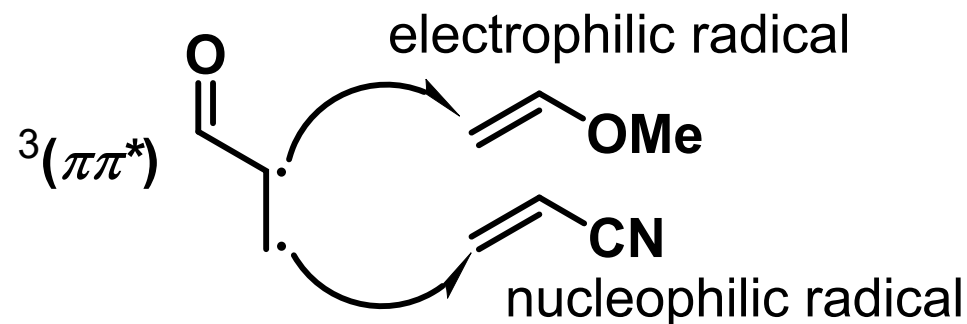
- $^3(\pi\pi^*)$ Does not have the required polarity
- Rate constant does not support alkene \rightarrow enone charge transfer



Alkene substrate	$^3\text{enone}^*$ quenching rate $k_q \times 10^{-7} \text{ M}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$
1	200
2	33
3	3

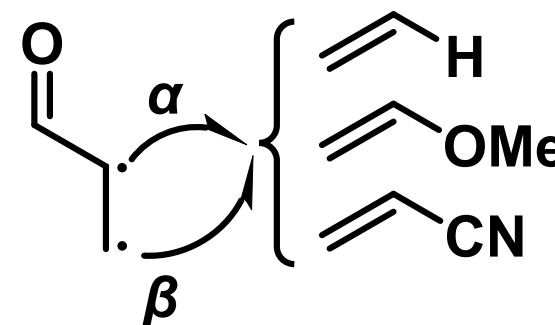
Mechanistic Studies

- Formation of diradical with **regioselectivity**?



- “Partially correct”

Alkene	$E^\ddagger_{TS} / \text{kcal}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$		
	α	β	$\alpha - \beta$
-H	9.84	6.68	3.16 > 0
-OMe	6.48	5.58	0.90 > 0
-CN	9.14	4.96	4.18 > 0

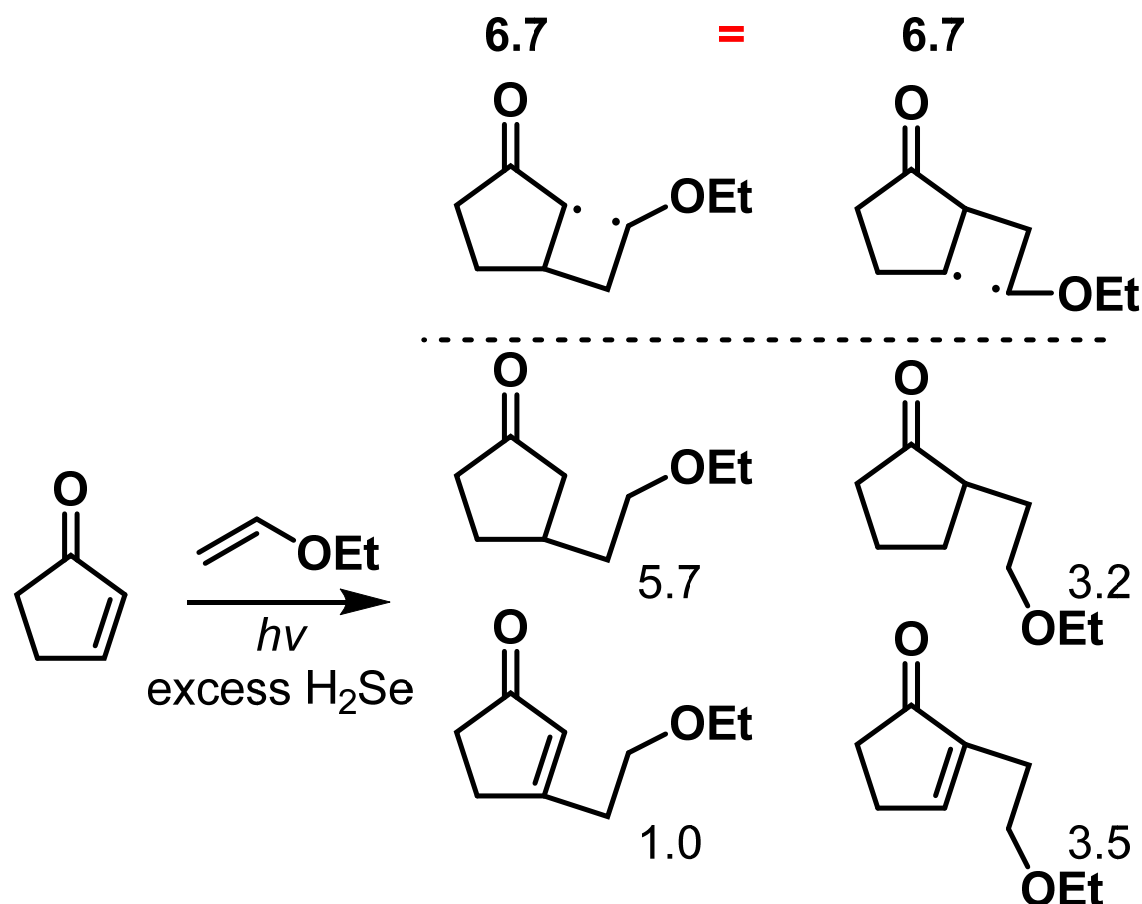


- There **exists** difference between EDG and EWG, but α -radical is **naturally** more stable

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Formation of diradical with **little or none** regioselectivity

- Evidence: radical trapping experiment

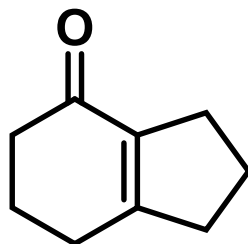


- Cyclization is 100% **suppressed** by H_2Se
- H_2Se can either fully reduce the diradical or catalyze its disproportionation
- The formation of α - and β - diradicals is **not selective** in this case

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Formation of diradical by $^3(n\pi^*)$ enone

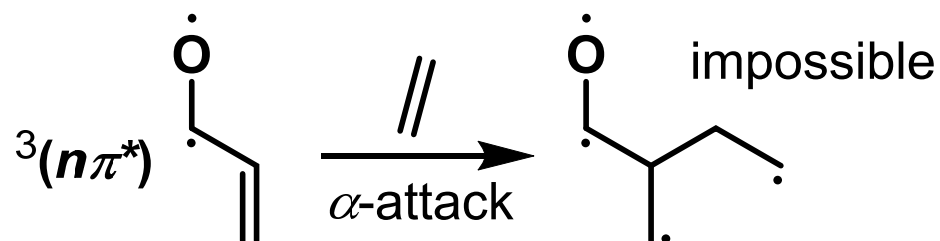
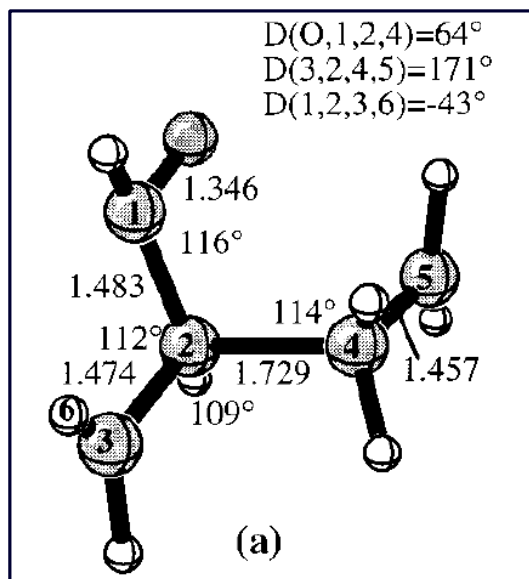
- Relative energy of $^3(n\pi^*)$ and $^3(\pi\pi^*)$ could turn around in **rigid** enones



Minima on $^3(n\pi^*)$ and $^3(\pi\pi^*)$ PES are close

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1992**, *114*, 7029-7034

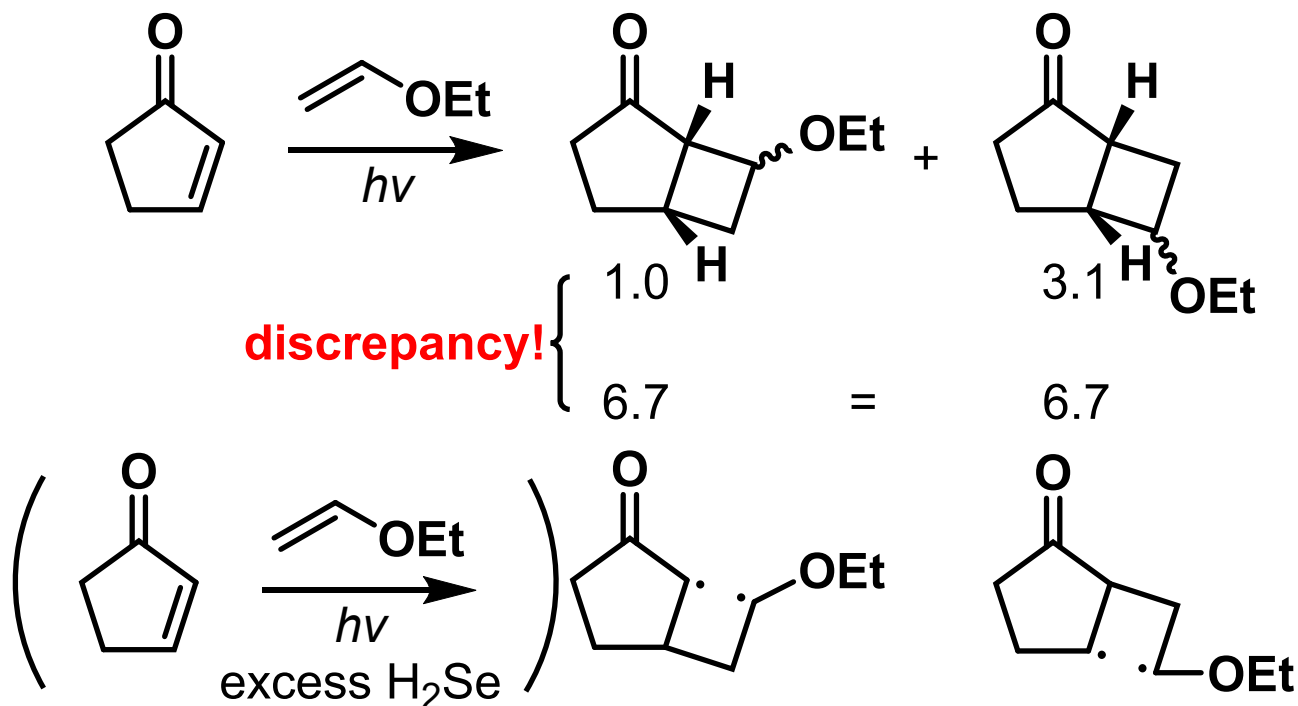
- $^3(n\pi^*)$ enone only undergoes **β -attack** (form HH adduct)



- β -attack only 3 kcal/mol higher than $^3(\pi\pi^*)$
- In case of α -attack:
 - Very late TS (typical new bond in TS $\sim 2.2\text{\AA}$)
 - Long C-O and C-C bond in enone

Mechanistic Studies

- Intersystem crossing of ³diradical to ¹diradical
- Fates of ¹diradicals: Ring closure or dissociation

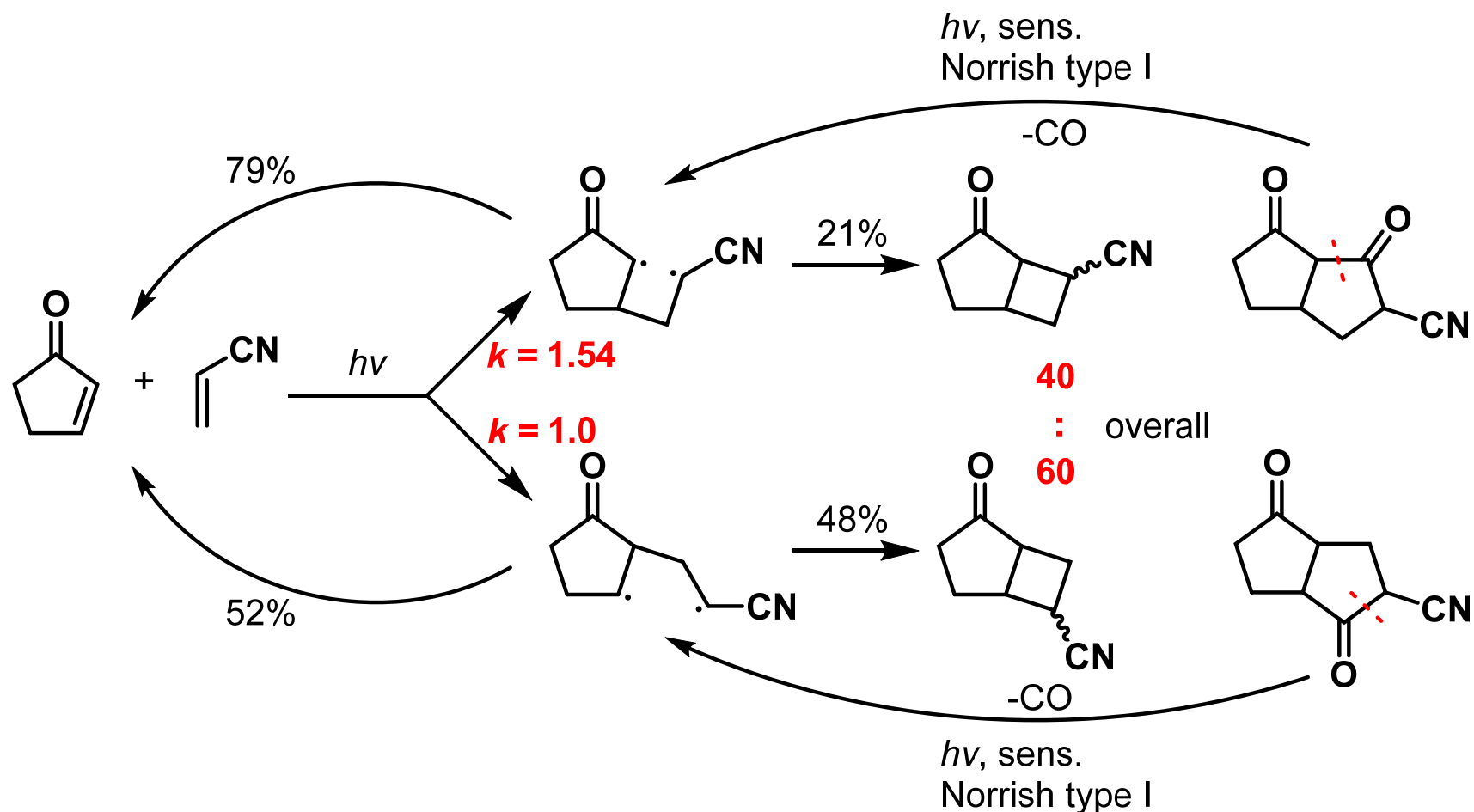


- Different **fates** of HH- and HT-diradicals lead to this selectivity

This example again!

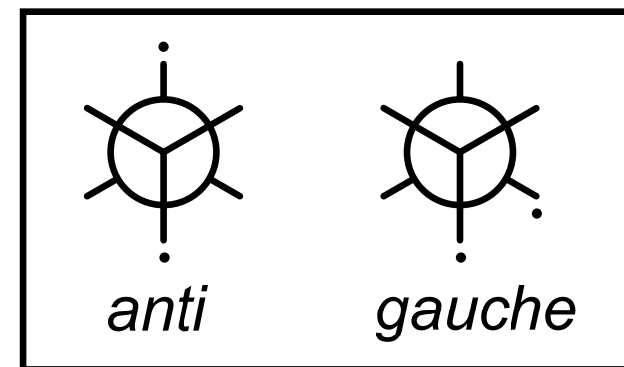
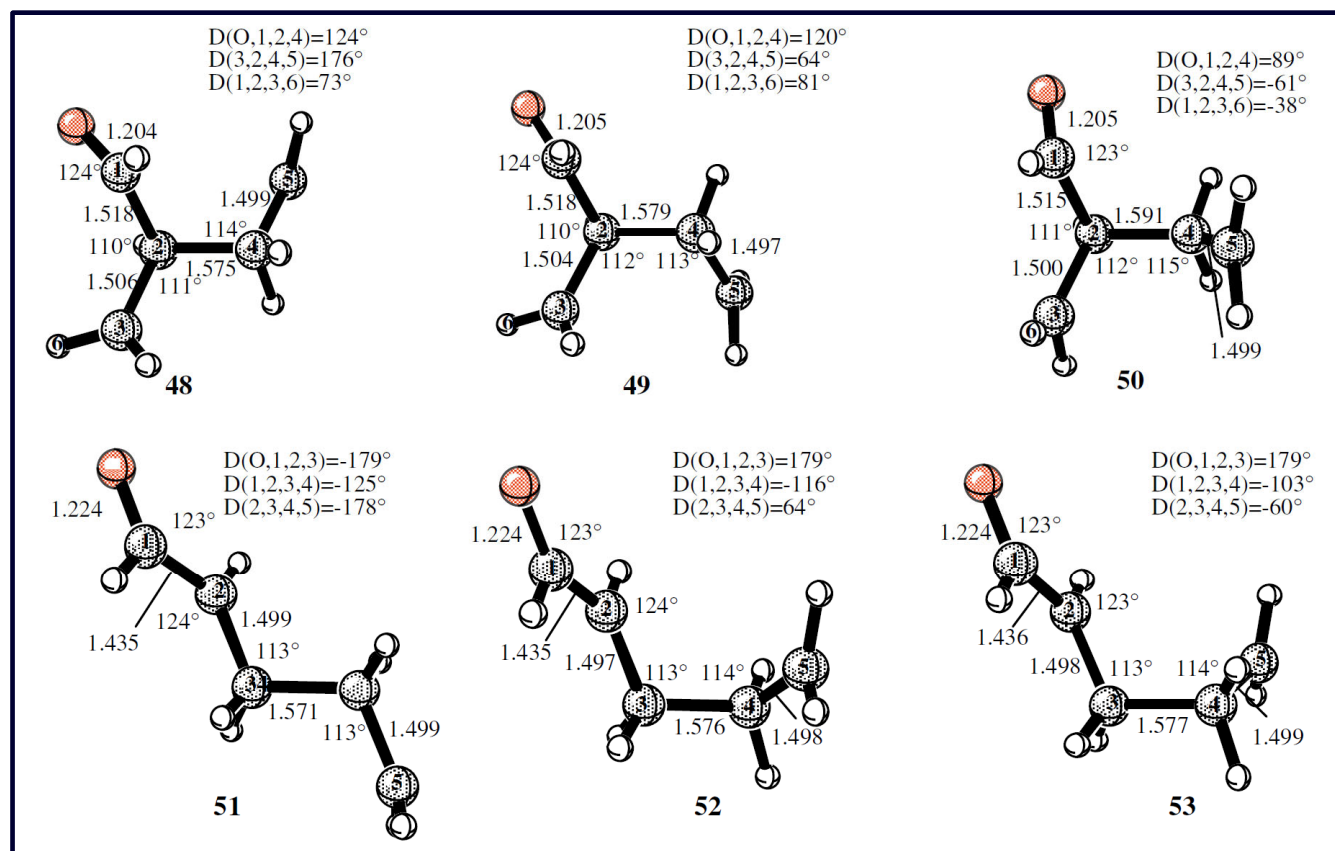
Mechanistic Studies

- Fates of ¹diradicals: Ring closure or dissociation
 - Could even **reverse** the preference of diradical forming



Mechanistic Studies

- Fates of ¹diradicals: Ring closure or dissociation
 - Conformations of singlet diradical



- 1 *anti* and 2 *gauche* for both α - and β - attack

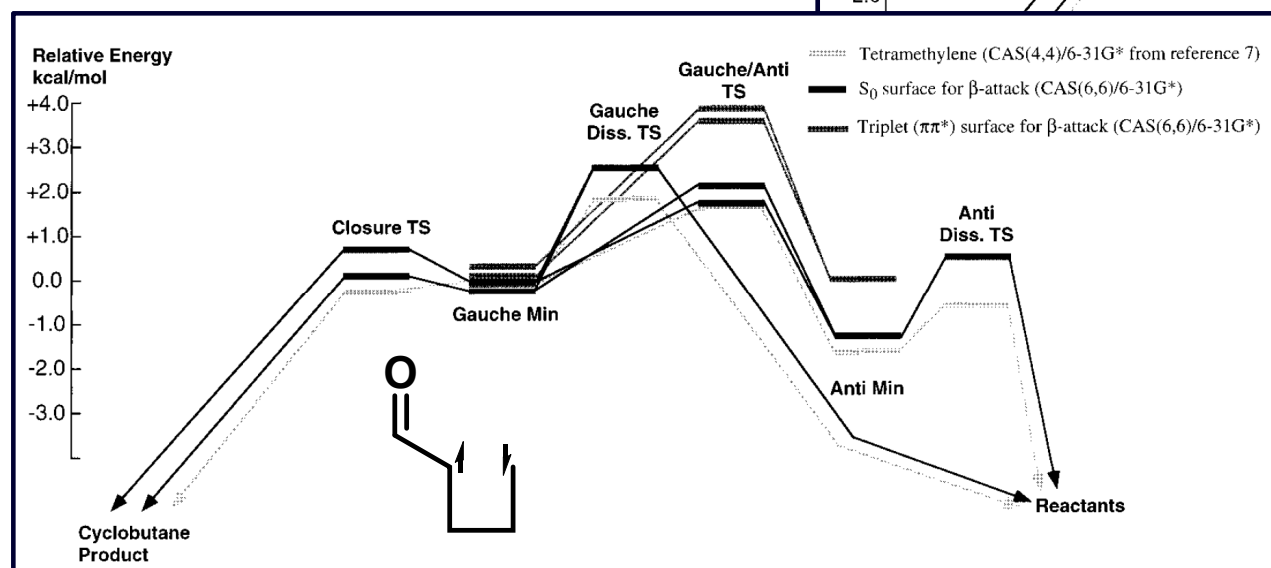
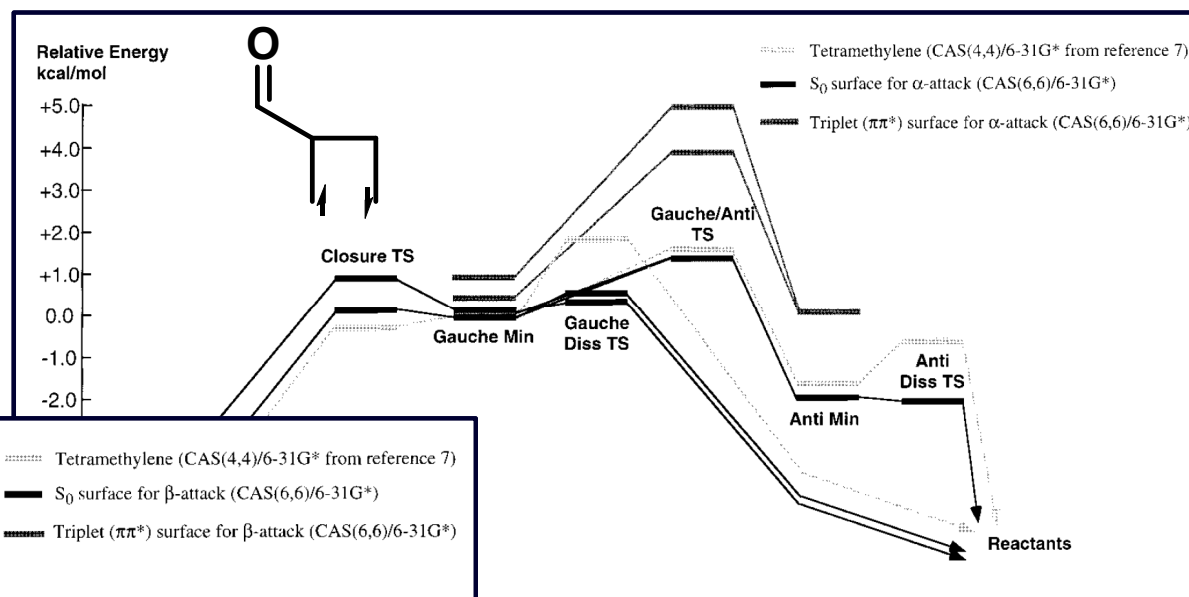
CASSCF(6,6)/6-31G*

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Fates of ¹diradicals: Ring closure or dissociation

- PES of singlet diradical

- *anti* → dissociate
- *gauche* → mainly cyclize



- *anti-gauche* can't reach its equilibrium

Mechanistic Studies

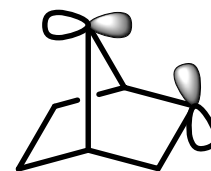
➤ Back to ISC of ³diradical

Mechanisms of ISC:

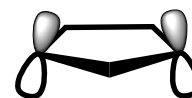
- Electron-nuclear hyperfine coupling (HFC)
- Spin-lattice relaxation (SLR)
- **Spin-orbital coupling (SOC)**

Rate of ³→¹SOC proportional to:
(Salem & Roland, 1972)

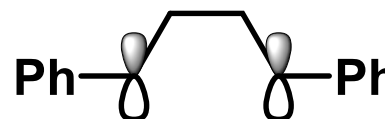
- Orbital **perpendicularity**
- **Distance** between spin centers
- **Ionic character** of resulting singlet



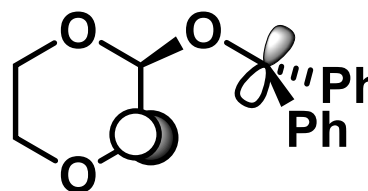
$\tau < 0.1$ ns, perpendicular and close



$\tau \sim 100$ ns, parallel but close



$\tau \sim 190$ ns, flexible



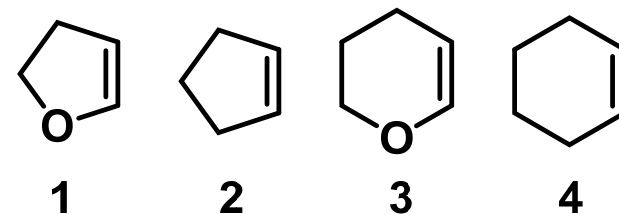
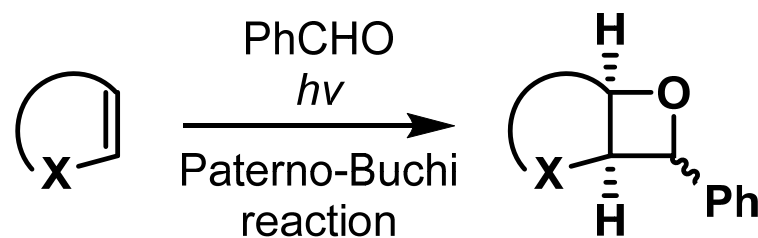
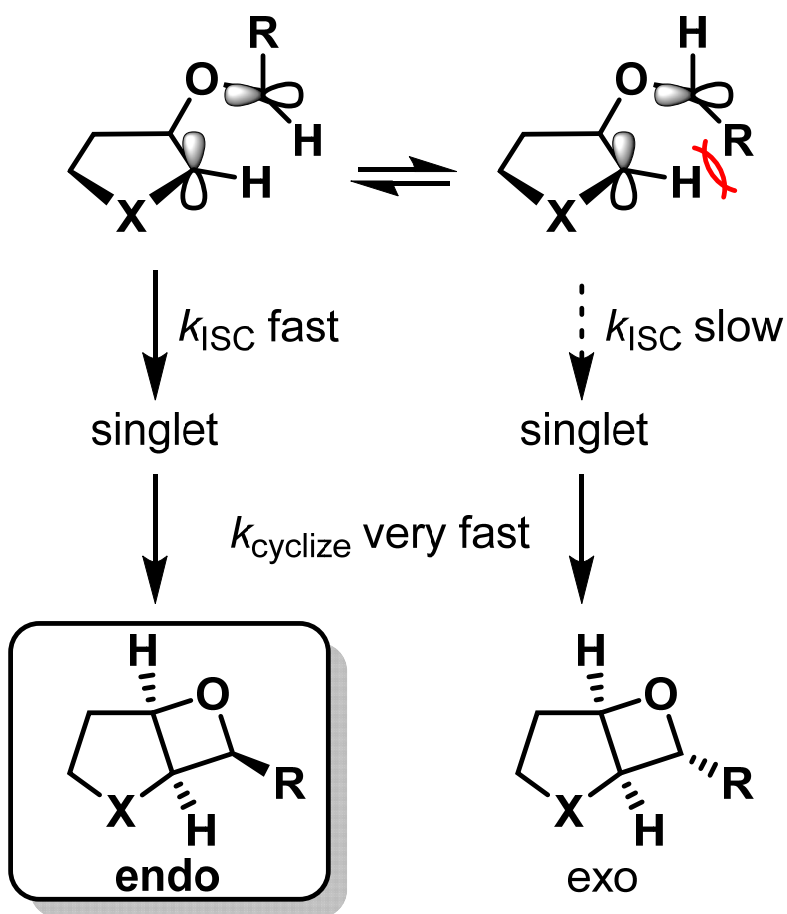
$\tau \sim 1.6$ ns, flexible and polar

Carlacci, L. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 5323.

Griesbeck, A. G. et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1994**, *27*, 70.

Mechanistic Studies

- Back to ISC of ³diradical
 - “Conformational memory effect”



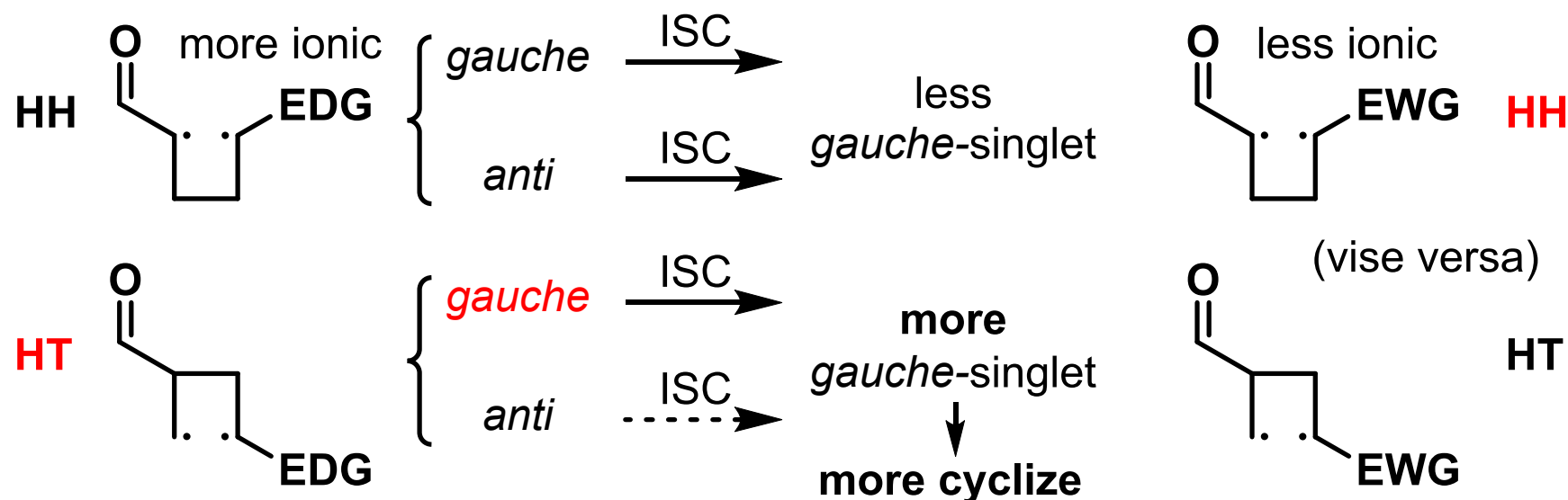
Enone	Yield%	Endo : Exo
1	98	88:12
2	55	61:39
3	45	80:20
4	34	90:10

Griesbeck, A. G. et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1994, 27, 70.

Mechanistic Studies

➤ Back to ISC of ³diradical

- Different conformation has different ISC probability:



- And influence the conformation distribution of ¹diradicals
- ☞ ISC capability

Spin-donicity/eV	EDG = OMe	EWG = CN
HH	-0.23	-0.72
HT	-0.47	-0.66

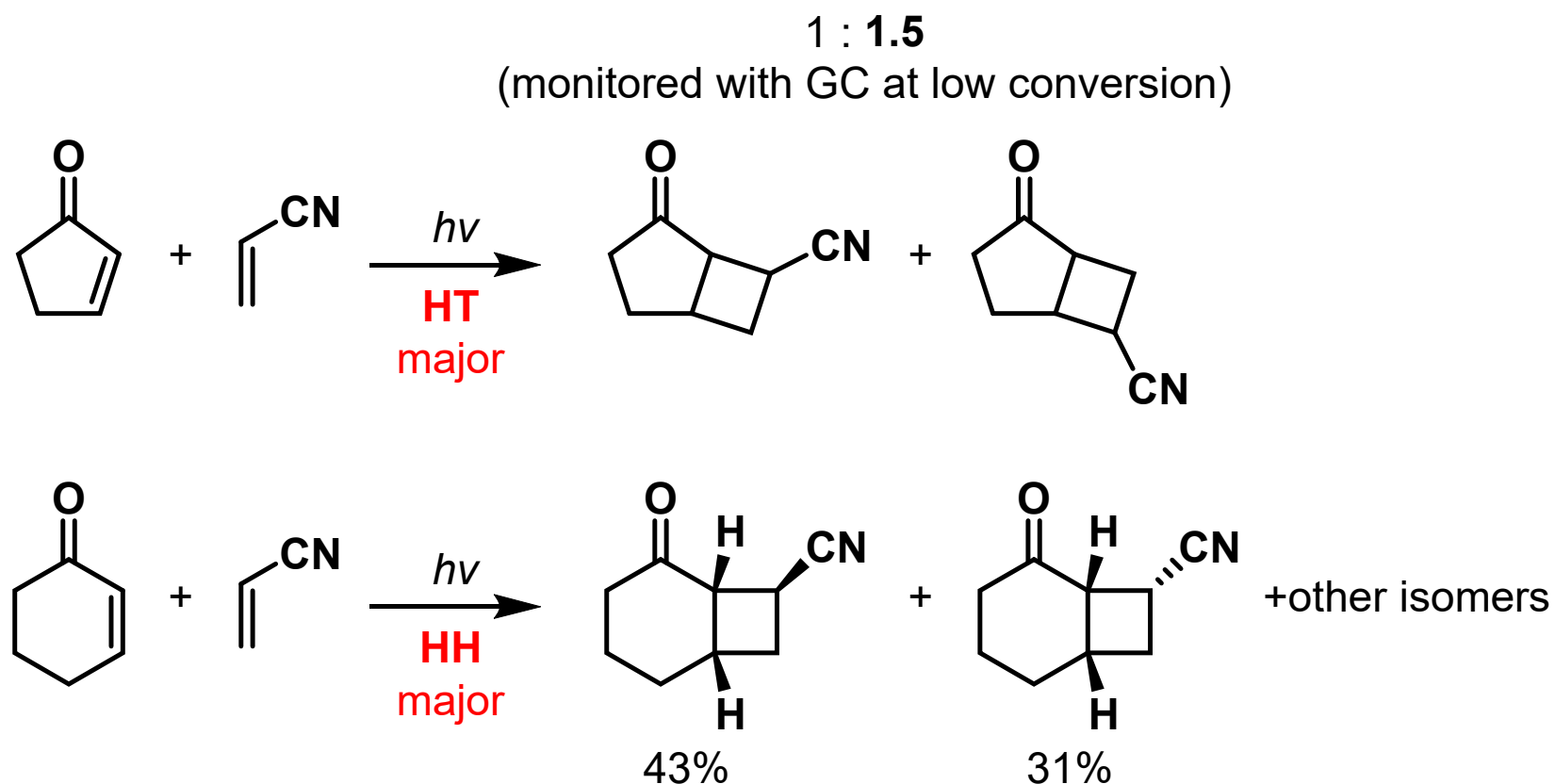
Jaque, P. et al. *J. Phys. Chem. A.* **2009**, *113*, 332.

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Regiochemistry

➤ Reversed outcome of cyclopentenone and cyclohexanone

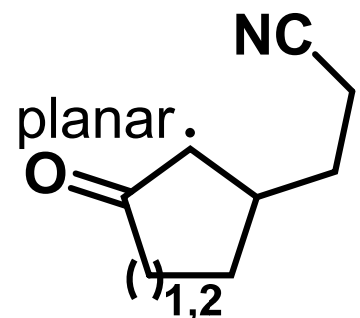
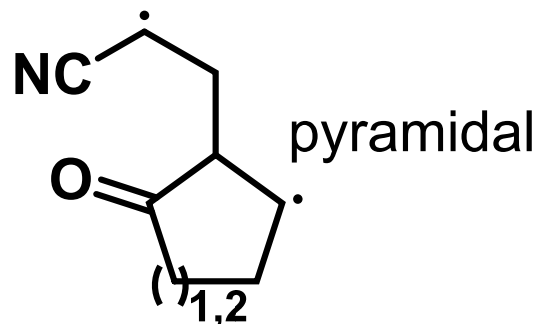


Krug, P. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1993**, *34*, 7221.

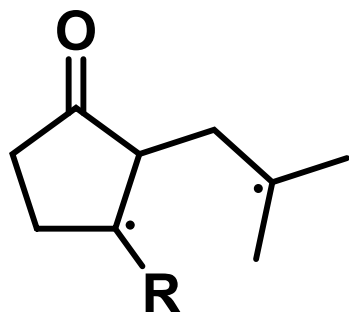
Meyer, L. et al. *Can. J. Chem.* **2003**, *81*, 417.

Regiochemistry

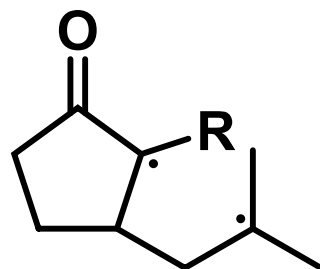
➤ Regioselectivity vs. ring size



- Planar radical makes dissociation easier, while pyramidal radical makes it harder.
- Formation of double bond is more favorable in 5-membered-rings, while losing a sp^2 atom is easier in 6.



R=H~R=Me



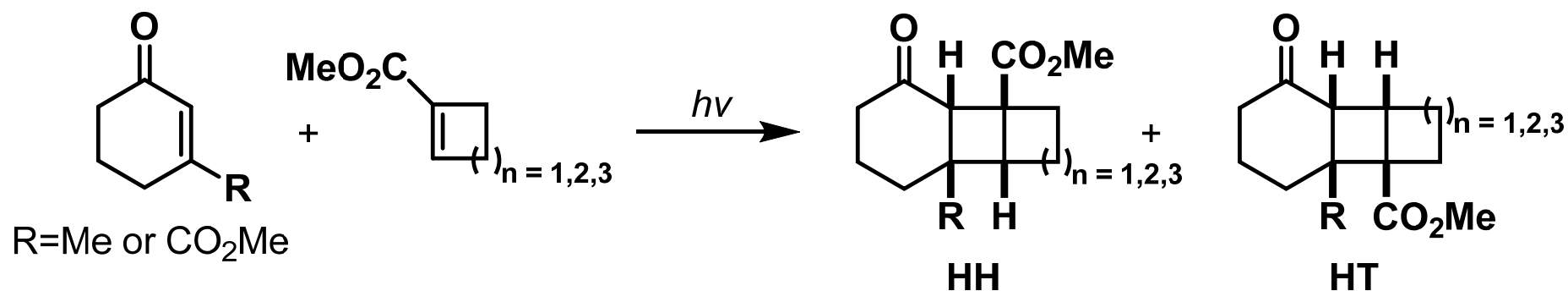
almost all dissociate when R=Me

- Me- on pyramidal center is less bulky

Andrew, D. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, 117, 5647.

Regiochemistry

- Reversed outcome with different cyclo-unsaturated esters



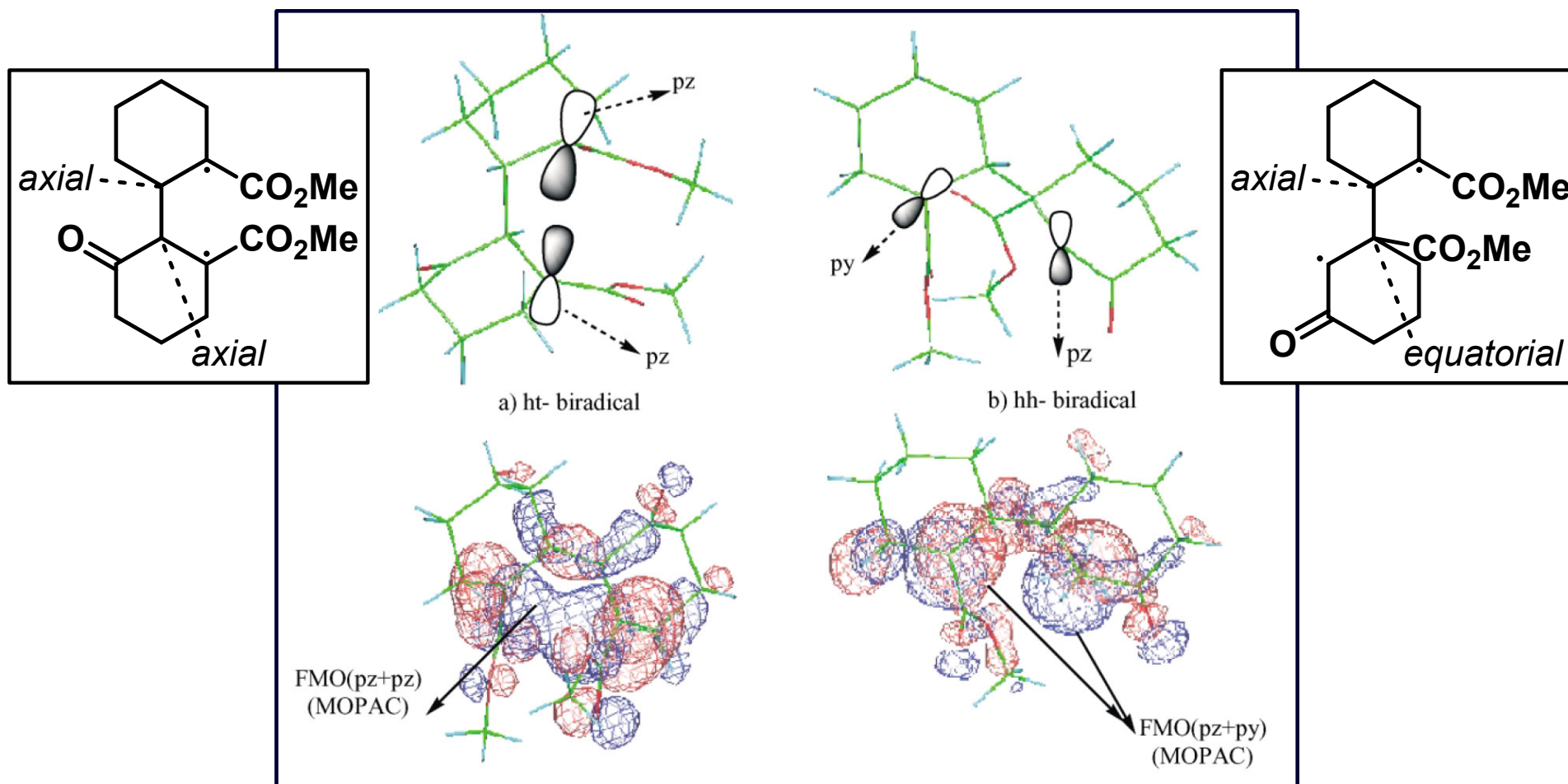
n =	R = Me		R = CO ₂ Me	
	HH	HT	HH	HT
1	>95%	<5%	>95%	<5%
2	50%	50%	60%	40%
3	11%	89%	<5%	>95%

Lee, M. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1990**, 31, 4689.

Luo Group Meeting (CCME@PKU)

Regiochemistry

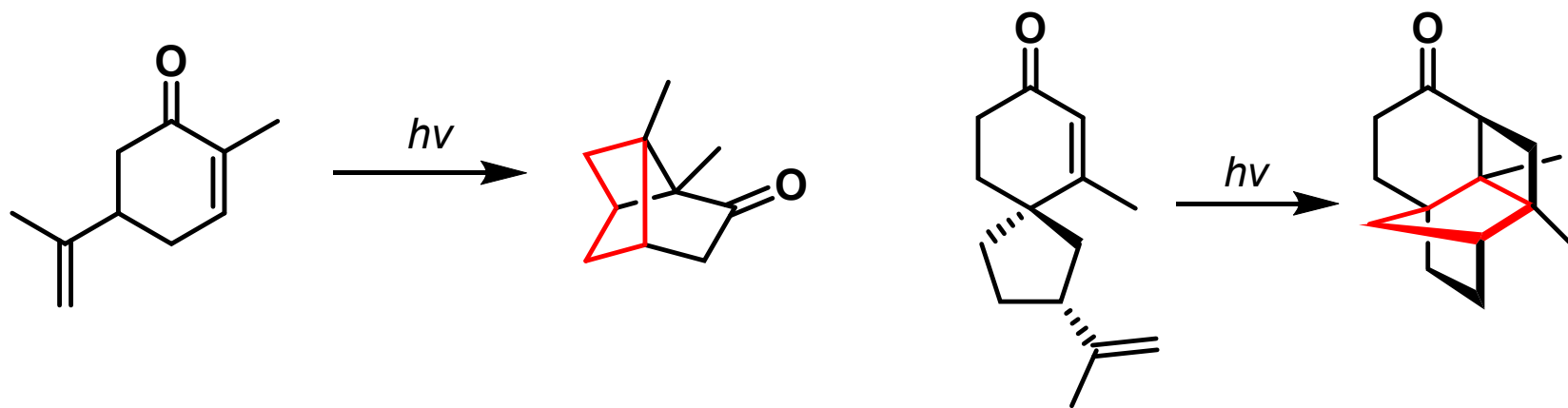
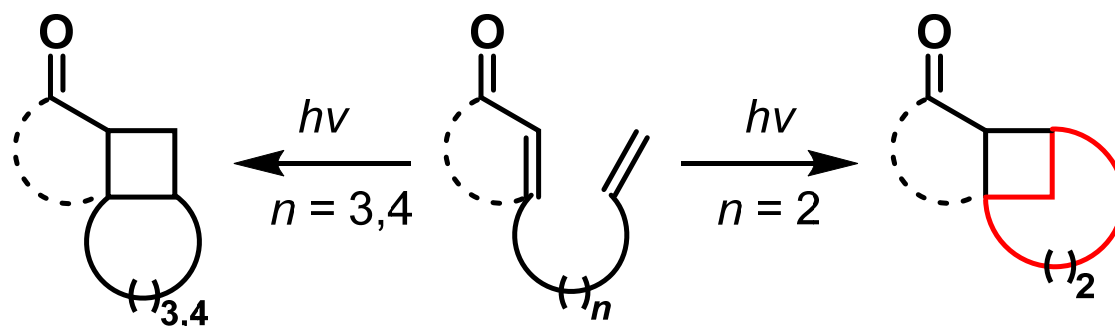
➤ Regioselectivity vs. ring size



Omar, H. I. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, *59*, 8099.

Regiochemistry: Intramolecular

- Intramolecular reactions: “Rule of five”
 - Form 5-membered-ring when possible

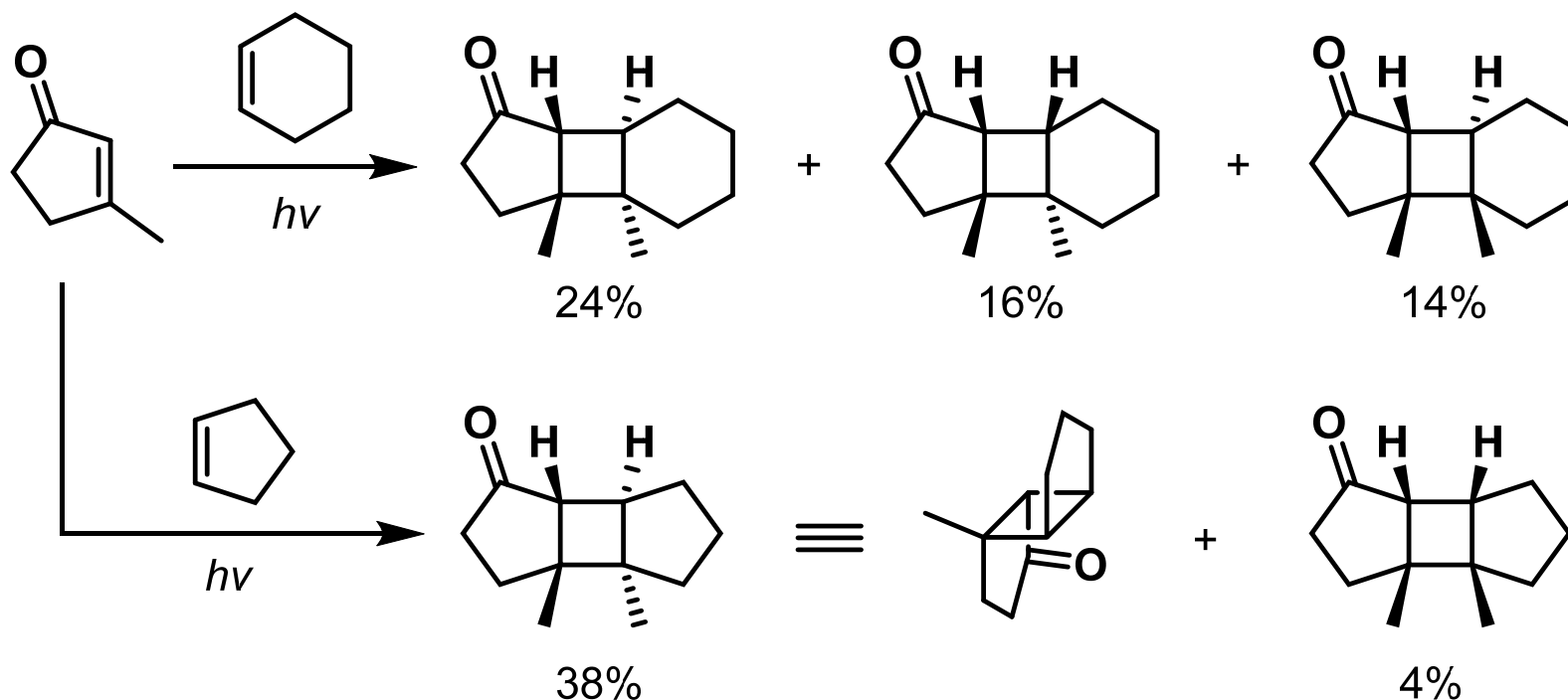


Poplata, S. et al. *Chem. Rev.* **2016**, *116*, 9748.
Srikrishna, A. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 7373.

Stereochemistry

➤ Ring fusion of cyclic enones

- 3, 4, 5-membered rings are **cis-fused**



- Also notice the **exo-** diastereoselectivity

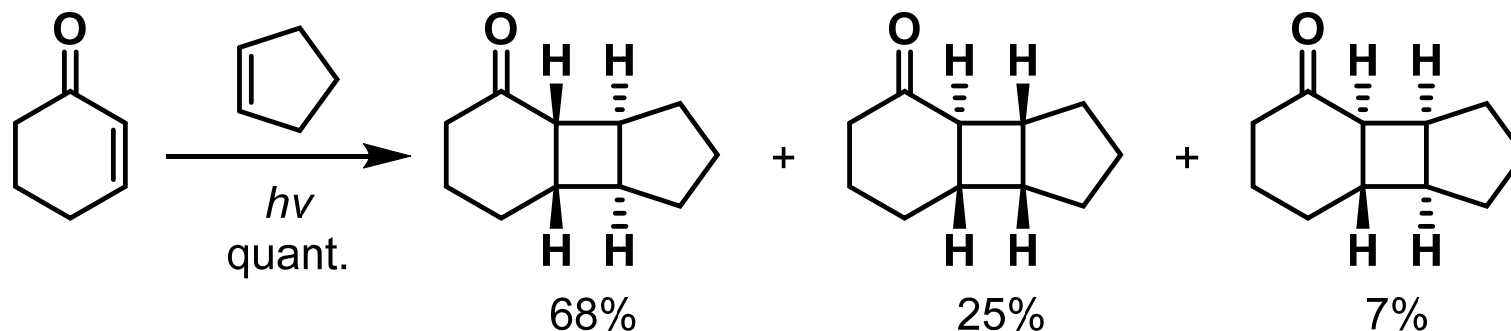
Grota, J. et al. *Synthesis* **2005**, *14*, 2321.

Luo Group Meeting (CCME@PKU)

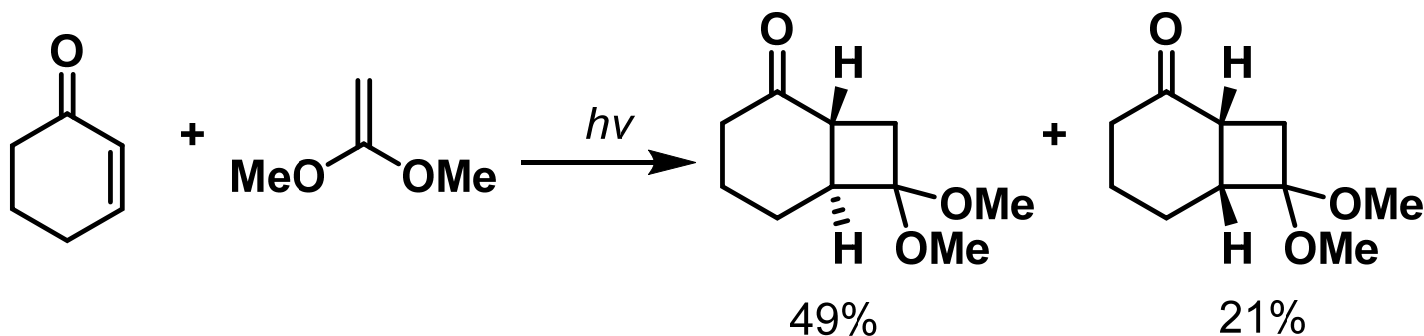
Stereochemistry

➤ Ring fusion of cyclic enones

- 6-membered-ring can be *cis*- and *trans*- fused



- Sometimes *trans*- becomes the major product

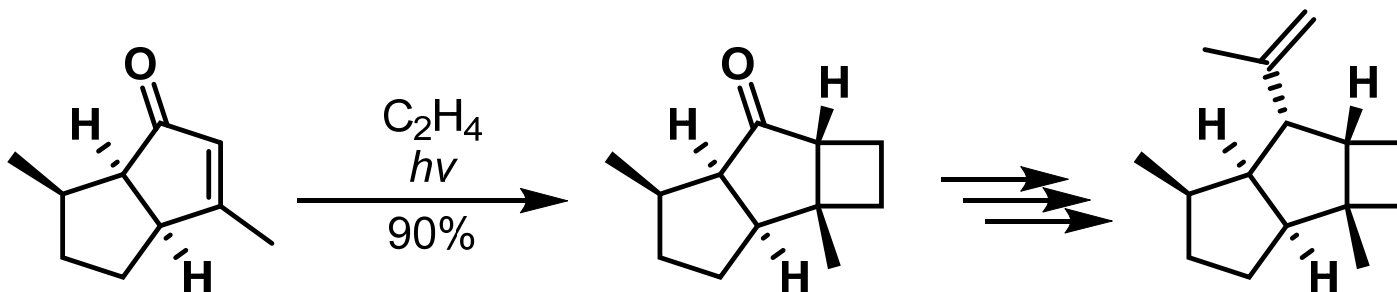


Corey, E. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, *86*, 5570.

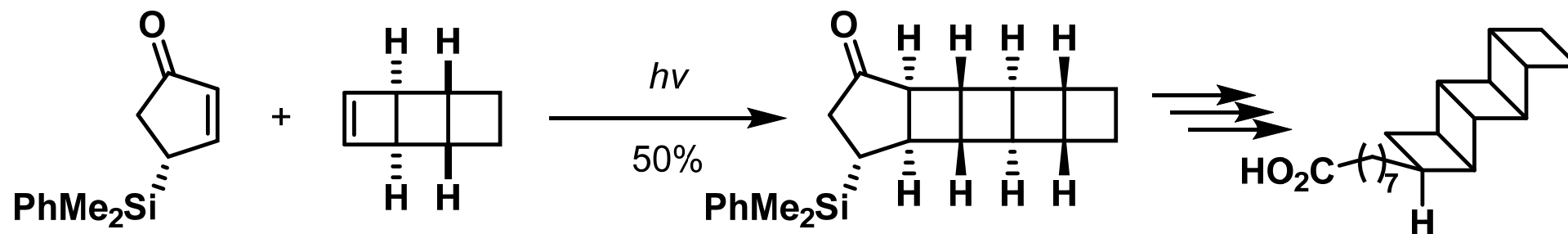
Stereochemistry

➤ Facial diastereoselectivity

- Less-hindered **exo**-face



- *Exo*-face for both components and *exo*-fusion



Piers, E. et al. *Synthesis* **2001**, 14, 2138.

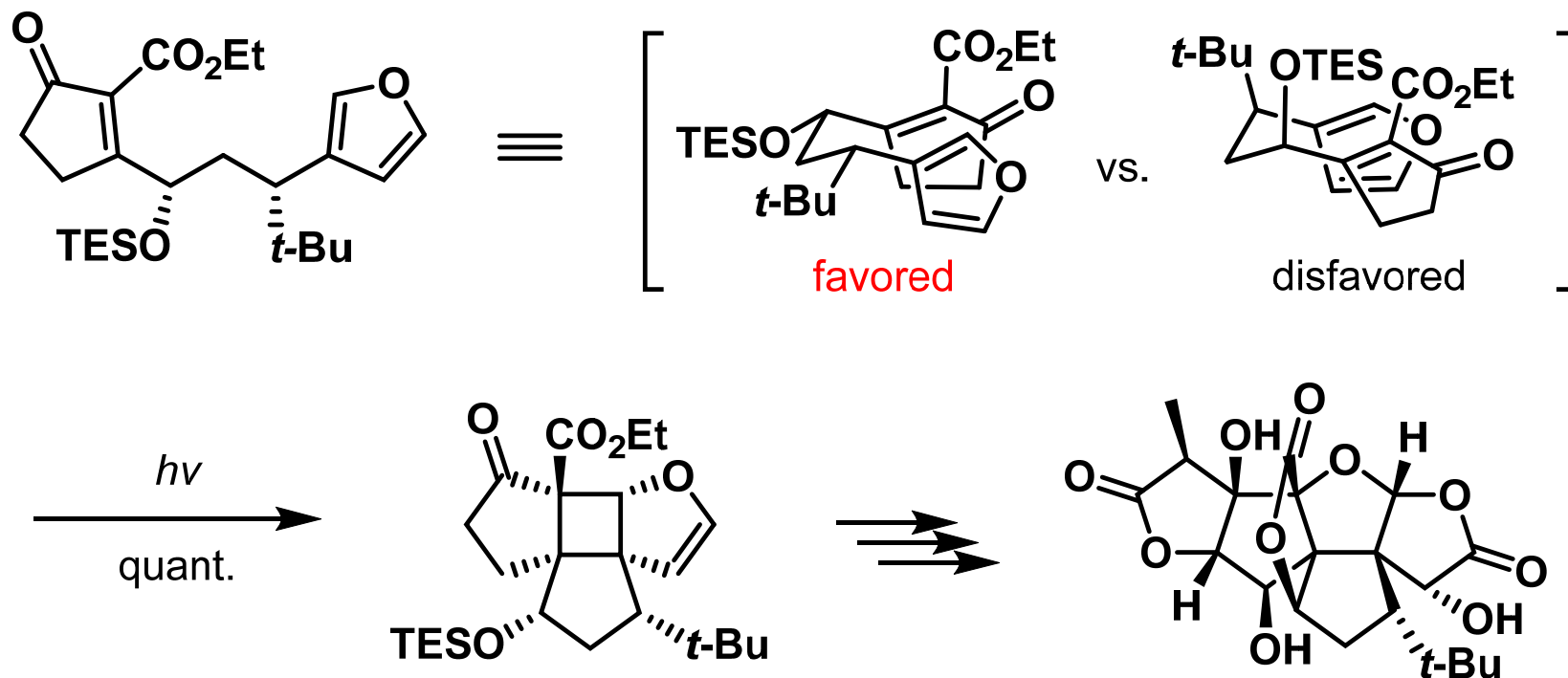
Mascitti, V. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 3118.

Luo Group Meeting (CCME@PKU)

Stereochemistry

➤ Facial diastereoselectivity

- Controlled by intramolecular tethering

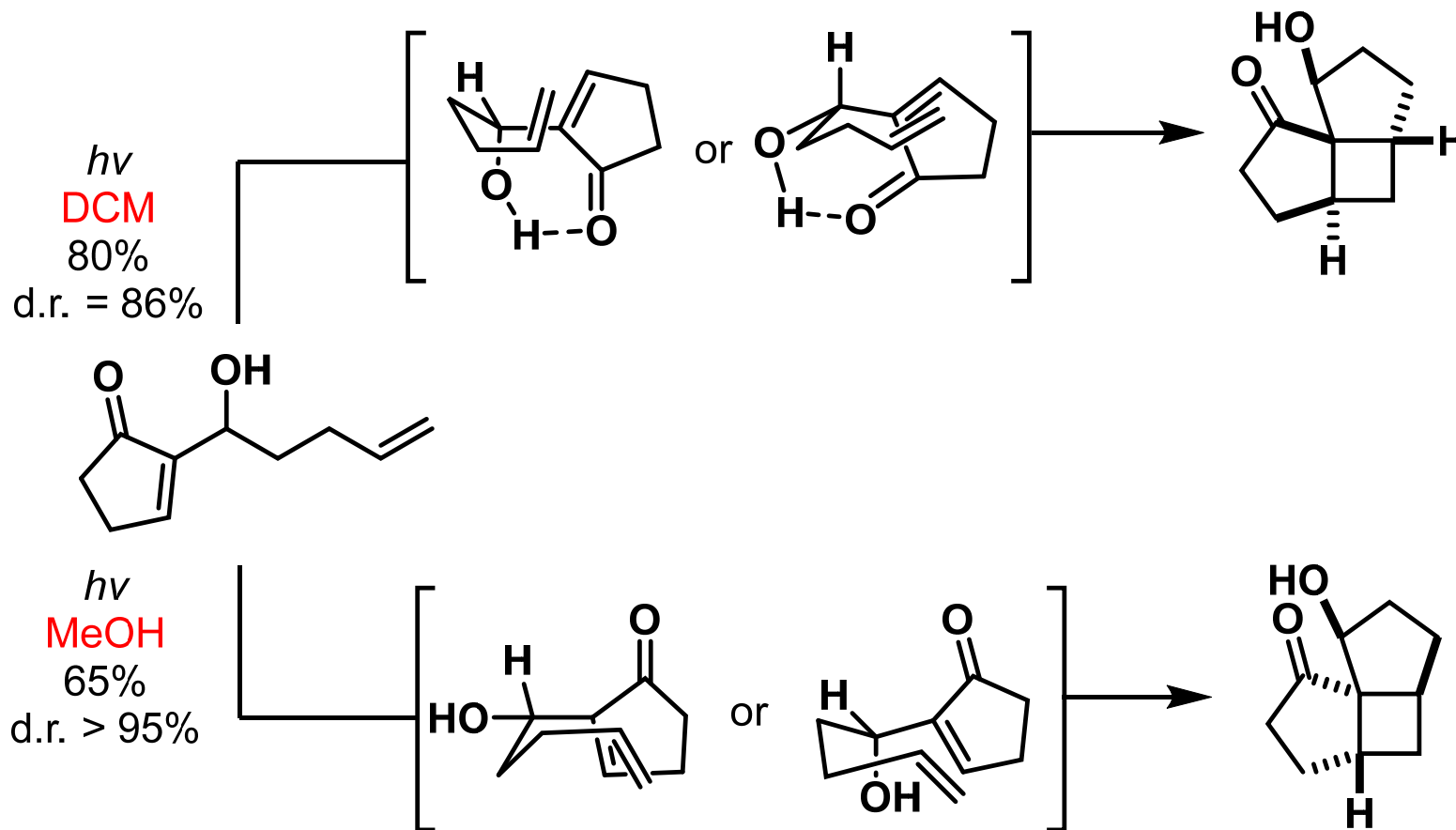


Crimmins, M. T. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 8453.

Stereochemistry

➤ Facial diastereoselectivity

- Controlled by intramolecular tethering and **hydrogen-bonding**



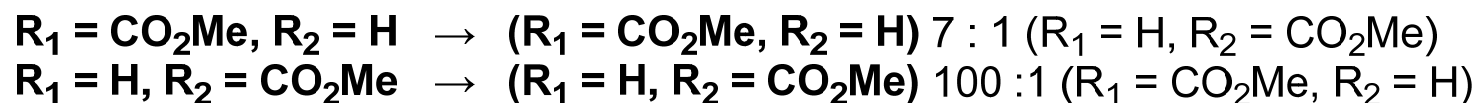
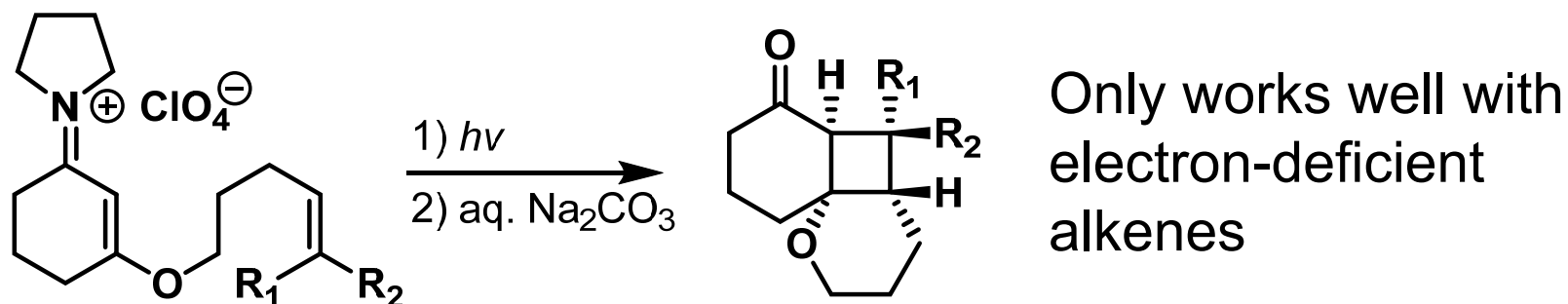
Ng, S. M. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 7315.

Luo Group Meeting (CCME@PKU)

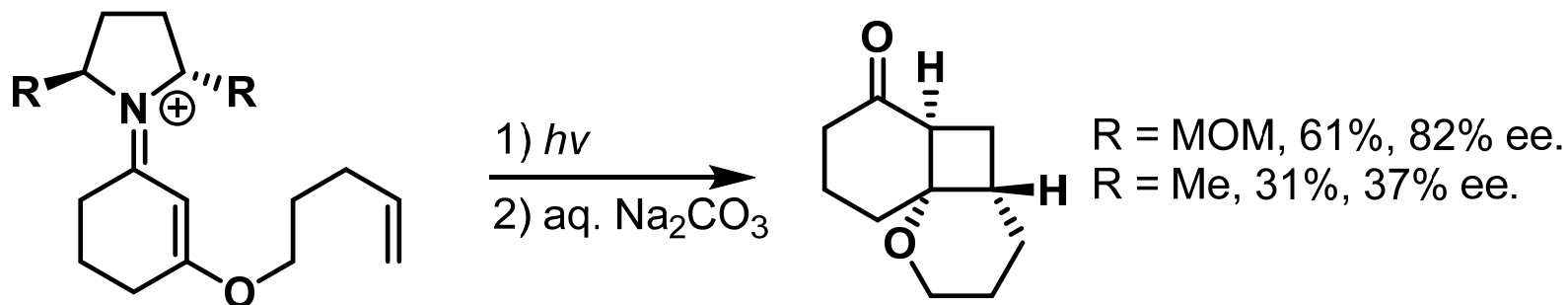
Stereochemistry

➤ Retention of alkene stereochemistry with iminium salt

- **Concerted** cycloaddition

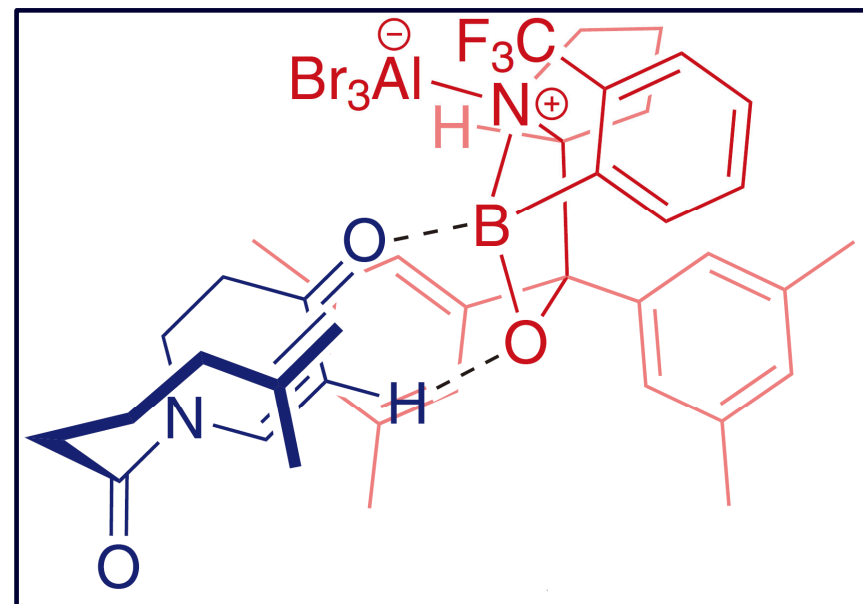
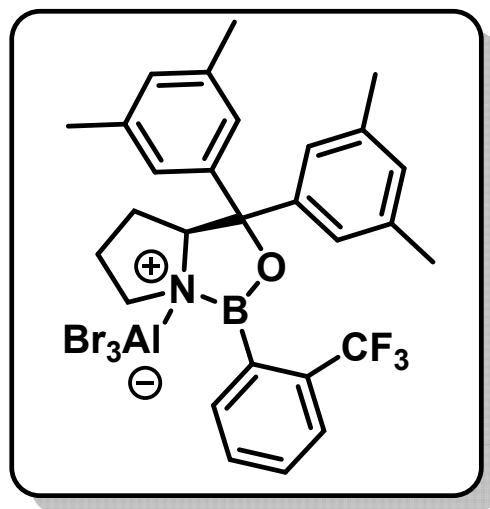
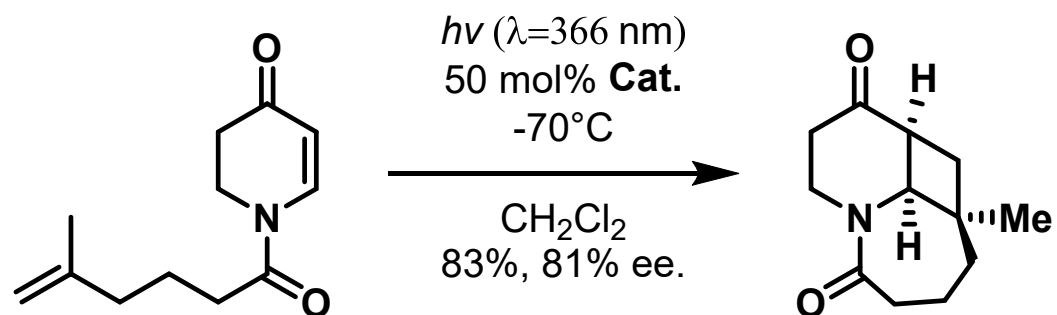


- Absolute stereochemical control



Stereochemistry

➤ Chiral catalysts (e.g., chiral lewis acid)



Brimioulle, R. et al. *Science* **2013**, 342, 840.

Luo Group Meeting (CCME@PKU)

Outline

- Introduction
 - History
 - Corey-de Mayo exciplex mechanism
- Mechanistic Studies
 - Excitation and excited states of enone
 - Formation of 1,4-diradical
 - Fates of singlet diradical
 - ISC of triplet diradical
- Selectivity
 - Regiochemistry
 - Stereochemistry
- Summary

Summary

➤ Mechanism

- Exciplex not participated
- $^1(n\pi^*) \rightarrow ^3(\pi\pi^*) \rightarrow ^3\text{biradical} \rightarrow ^1\text{biradical} \rightarrow \text{cyclize/dissociate.}$
(Bauslaugh–Schuster–Weedon Mechanism)

➤ Selectivity

- Complicated regioselectivity. Governed by fate (cyclize or dissociate) of biradical
- Stereoselectivity could be controlled by various methods