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# ***Radical Reactions (Part 2)***

## ***Lecture Notes***

### ***Key Reviews:***

#### **McMurry Reductive Coupling**

***J. E. McMurry, Chem. Rev. 1989, 89, 1513.***

#### **Samarium Diiodide-Mediated Reactions**

***H. B. Kagan, Tetrahedron 2003, 59, 10351.***

***A. Krief, A.-M. Laval, Chem. Rev. 1999, 99, 745-777***

***G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, Tetrahedron 1998, 54, 3321-3354.***

#### **Acyloin Condensation**

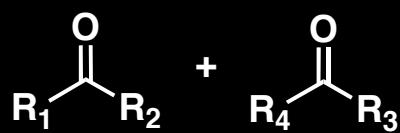
***J. J. Bloomfield and co-workers, Org. React. 1976, 23, 259.***

#### **Dissolving Metal Reductions**

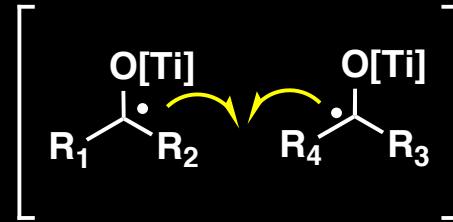
***P. W. Rabideau, Z. Marcinow, Org. React. 1976, 23, 259.***

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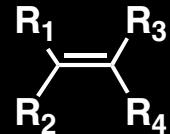
# The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: Background and General Considerations



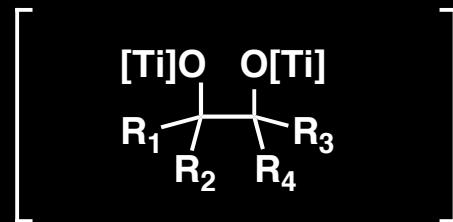
"low-valent  
titanium"  
[formed from  $\text{TiCl}_3$   
or  $\text{TiCl}_4$  and a metal  
reducing agent]



**Reducing agents:** Li, Na, Mg, Zn,  $\text{LiAlH}_4$ , Zn-Cu  
**Carbonyl groups:** aldehydes and/or ketones



$-[\text{Ti}]O$

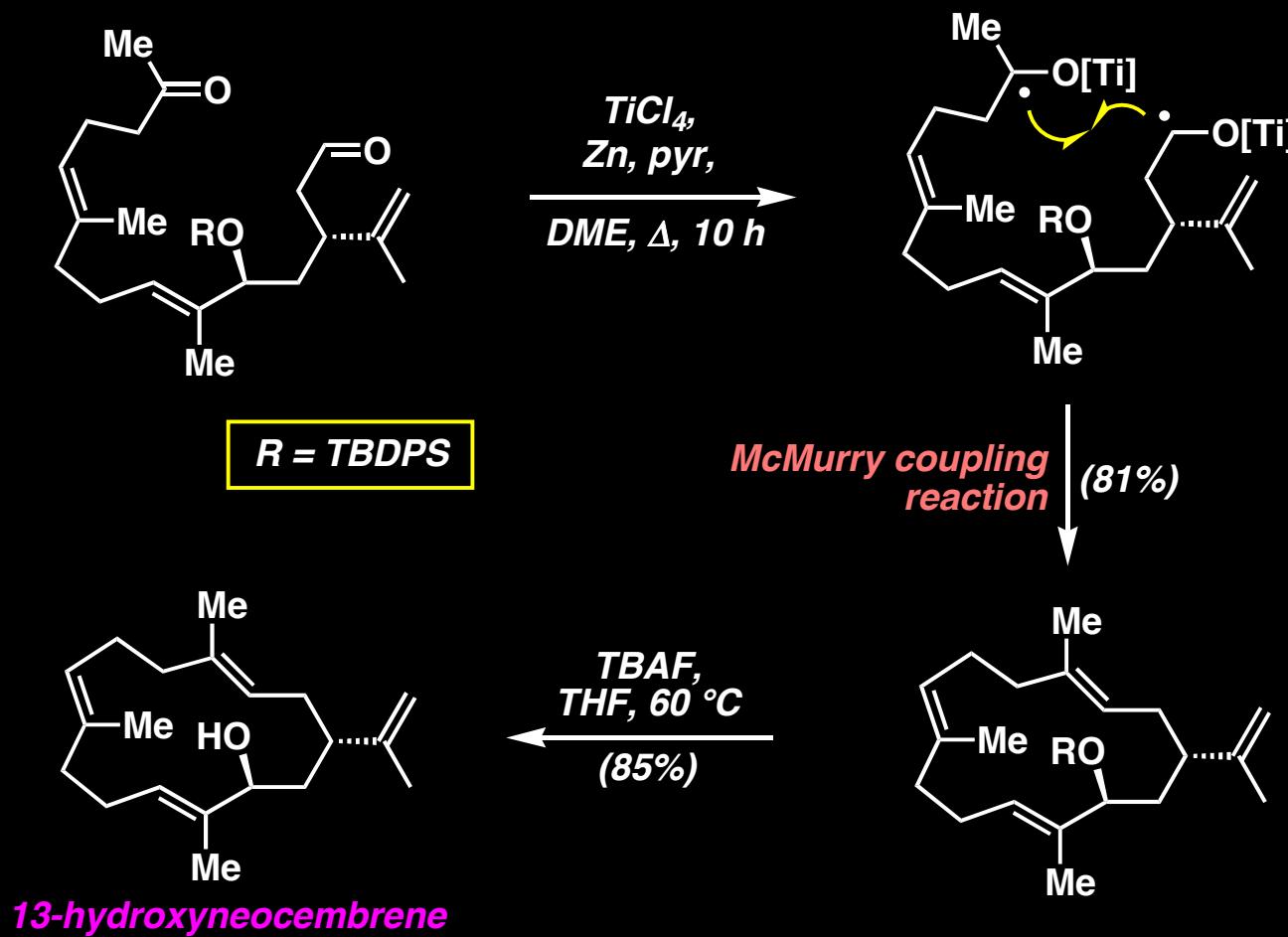


*Exact mechanism is unknown because active reagent not entirely known, but involves two key steps: pinacol coupling and deoxygenation to the alkene*

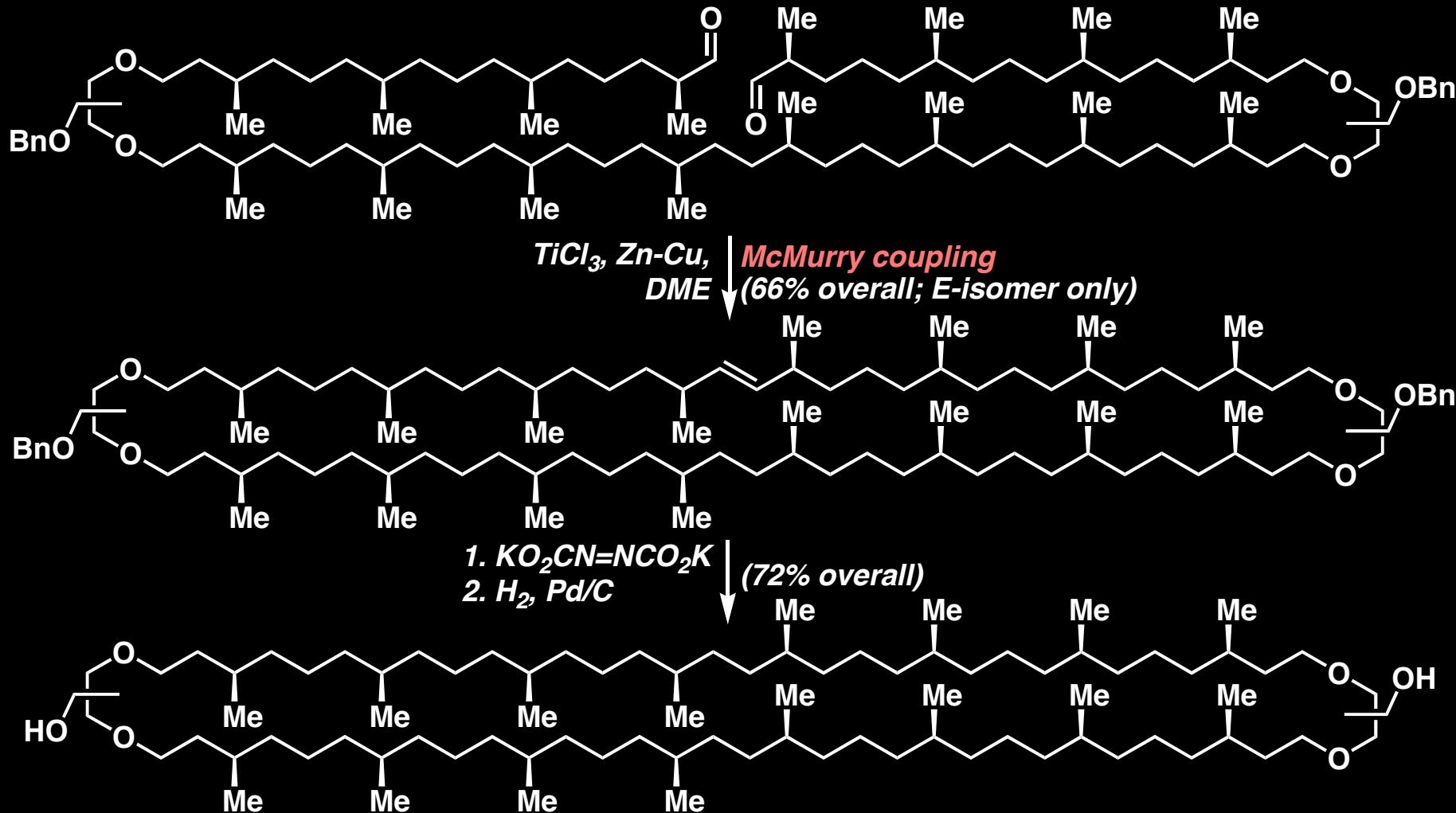
*Specific intermediates involved depend on the structure of the carbonyl substrate and the exact reaction conditions, making generalizations difficult and yields hard to reproduce*

J. E. McMurry, M. P. Fleming, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1974, 96, 4708.  
For a review, see: J. E. McMurry, Chem. Rev. 1989, 89, 1513.

# The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis

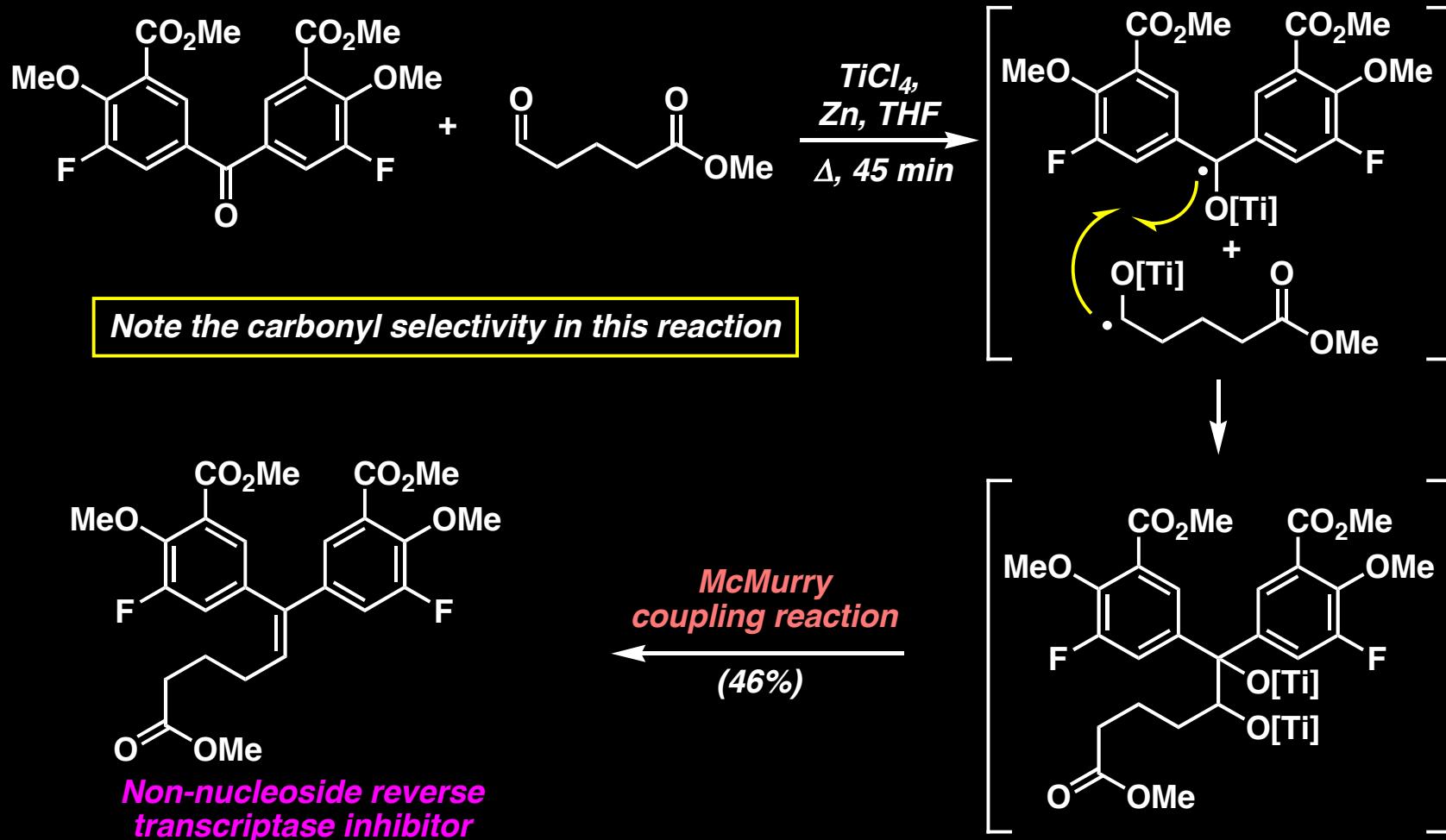


# The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis



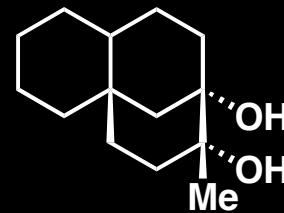
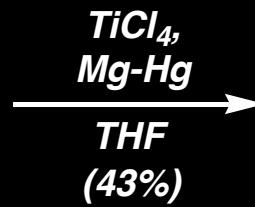
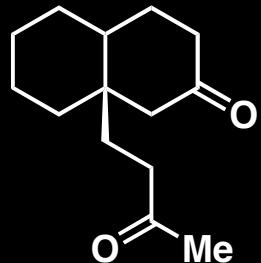
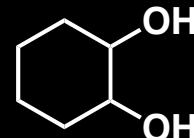
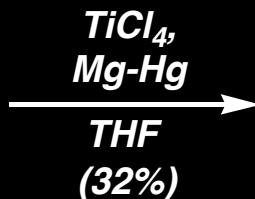
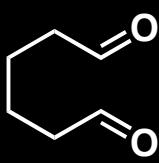
K. Kakinuma and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1998, 63, 2689.

# The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis



# *The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: A Way to Stop at the Diol Product*

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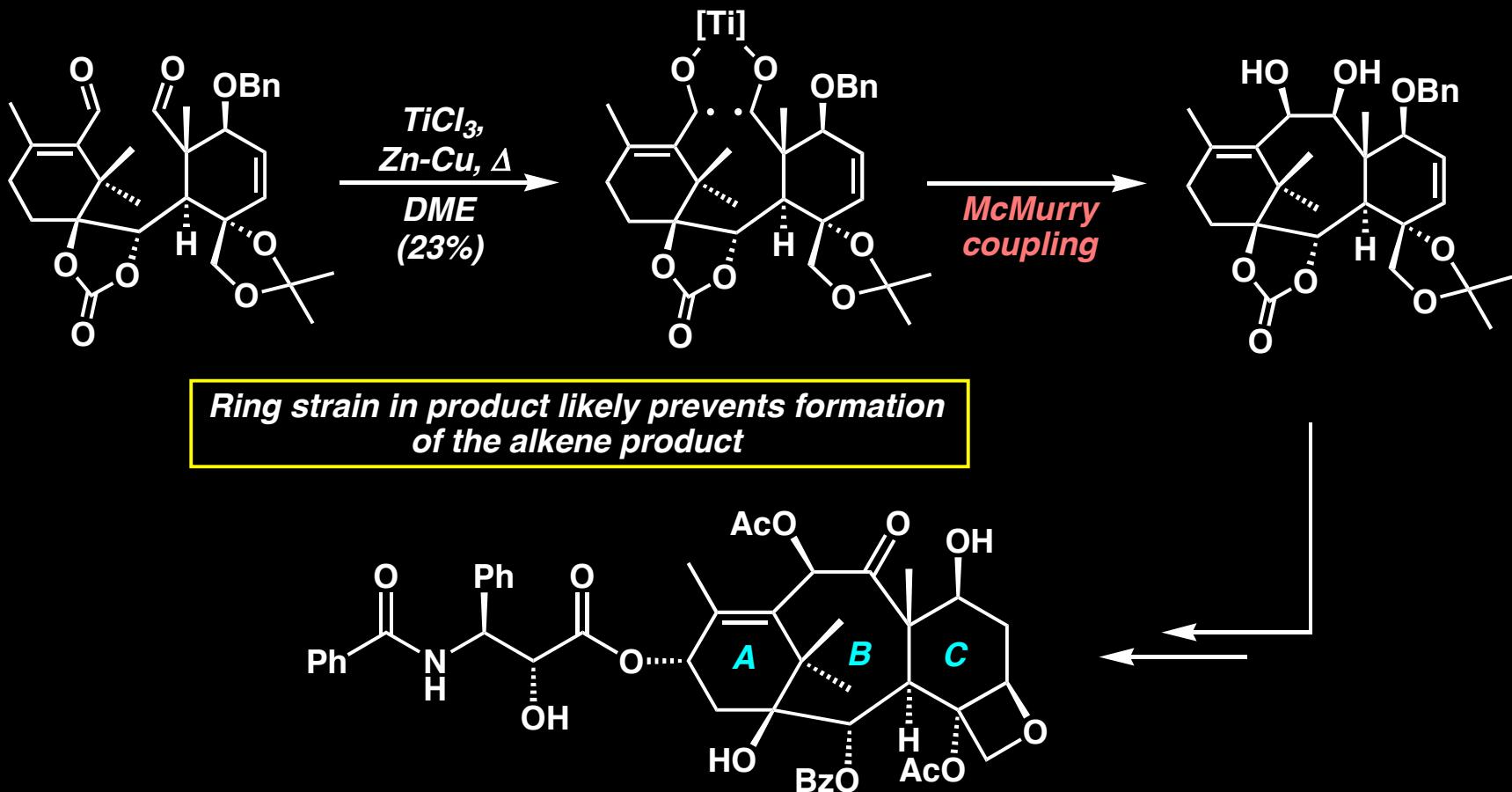
*Syn-disposed alcohol results from this reaction;  
likely the result of titanium chelation of the reaction intermediates*

*The only other way to get diol products is in ring systems where the final elimination would impart a great deal of ring strain, an example of which is coming up!*

*A ring closure of two carbonyls to a diol product is also known as a pinacol cyclization*

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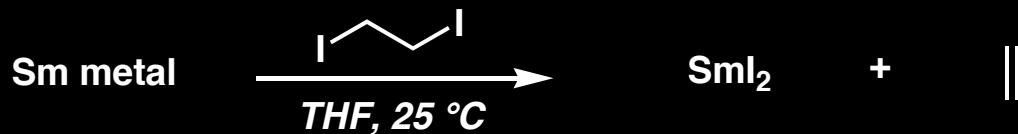
# The McMurry Reductive Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis



K.C. Nicolaou, Z. Yang, J.J. Liu, H. Ueno, P.G. Nantermet, R.K. Guy, C.F. Claiborne, J. Renaud, E.A. Couladouros, K. Palvannan, E.J. Sorensen, *Nature* 1994, 367, 630.

# *$\text{SmI}_2$ :* *An Incredibly Useful One Electron Reductant*

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*Commercially available, but best synthesized prior to use*

*Addition of the 1,2-diiodoethane must be slow (often added over 20 minutes) and exactly one equivalent. Otherwise,  $\text{SmI}_3$  (a yellow-green solid) is formed instead.*

*$\text{SmI}_2$  in THF solution is a beautiful deep blue color.*

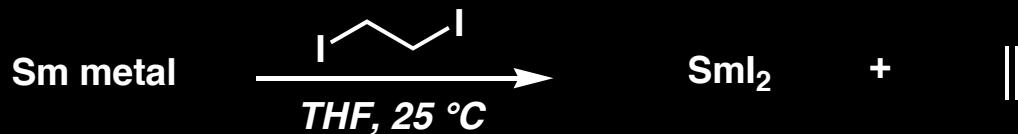
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*For reviews, see: H. B. Kagan, *Tetrahedron* 2003, 59, 10351.  
G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 3321.*



# ***Sml<sub>2</sub>:*** ***An Incredibly Useful One Electron Reductant***

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*Addition of the 1,2-diiodoethane must be slow (often added over 20 minutes) and exactly one equivalent. Otherwise, Sml<sub>3</sub> (a yellow-green solid) is formed instead.*

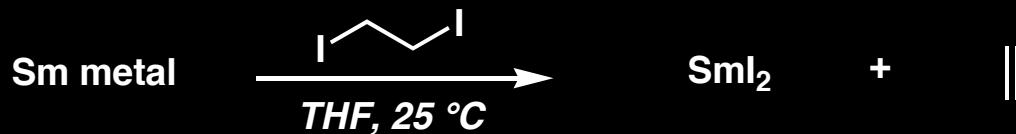
*Sml<sub>2</sub> in THF solution is a beautiful deep blue color.*

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*For reviews, see: H. B. Kagan, *Tetrahedron* 2003, 59, 10351.  
G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 3321.*

# *$\text{SmI}_2$ :* *An Incredibly Useful One Electron Reductant*

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*Addition of the 1,2-diiodoethane must be slow (often added over 20 minutes) and exactly one equivalent. Otherwise,  $\text{SmI}_3$  (a yellow-green solid) is formed instead.*  
 *$\text{SmI}_2$  in THF solution is a beautiful deep blue color.*

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*Co-additives can greatly enhance the reducing power of  $\text{SmI}_2$ , and studies have shown that four equivalents of additive per equivalent of  $\text{SmI}_2$  is best.*

*HMPA = gives a deep purple solution upon complexation*

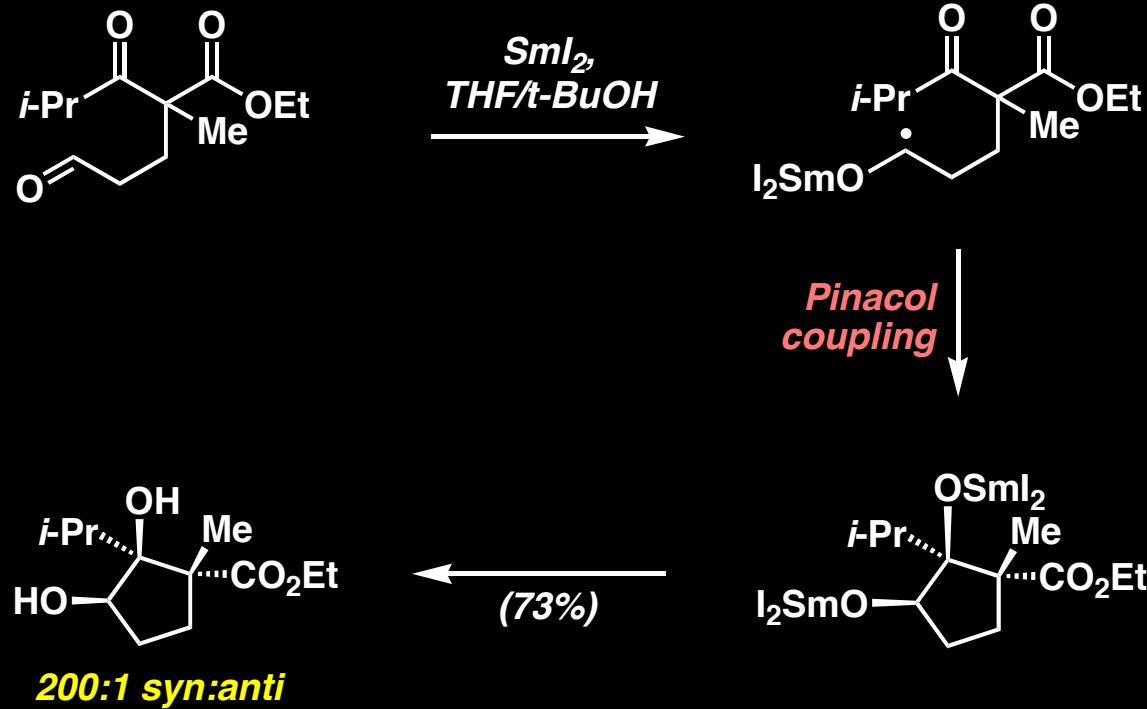
*$\text{H}_2\text{O}$  = gives a blood red solution upon complexation*

*DMPU = gives a light purple solution upon complexation*

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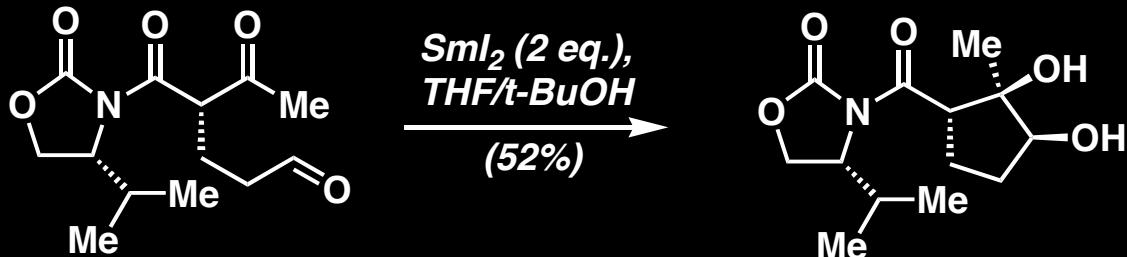
*For reviews, see: H. B. Kagan, *Tetrahedron* 2003, 59, 10351.  
G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 3321.*

## *SmI<sub>2</sub>:* *Picanol Coupling Reactions*

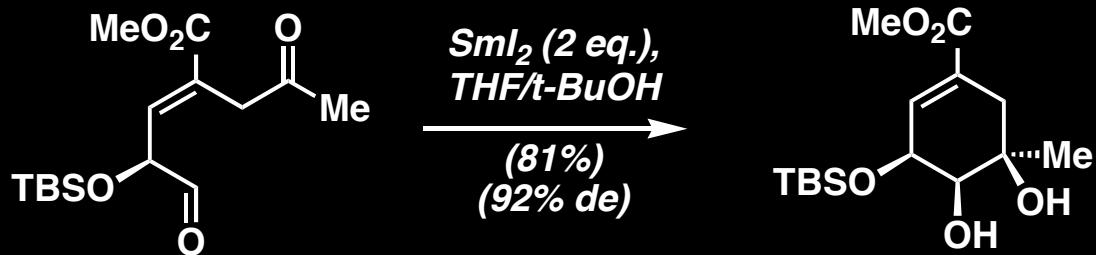


*Usually view mechanism as generation of a single ketyl radical, and then attack onto the remaining, and most active, carbonyl group. Samarium complexation with the ketone acceptor for the ketyl radical is the responsible factor for exceedingly high syn diol selectivity.*

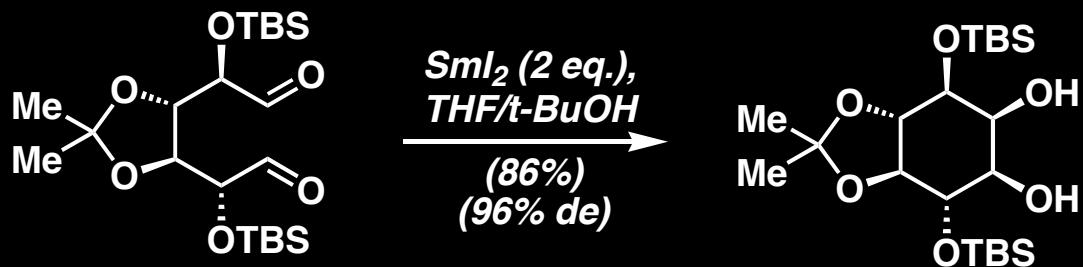
## *Sml<sub>2</sub>:* *Picanol Coupling Reactions*



*J. Org. Chem.*  
1988, 53, 2132.

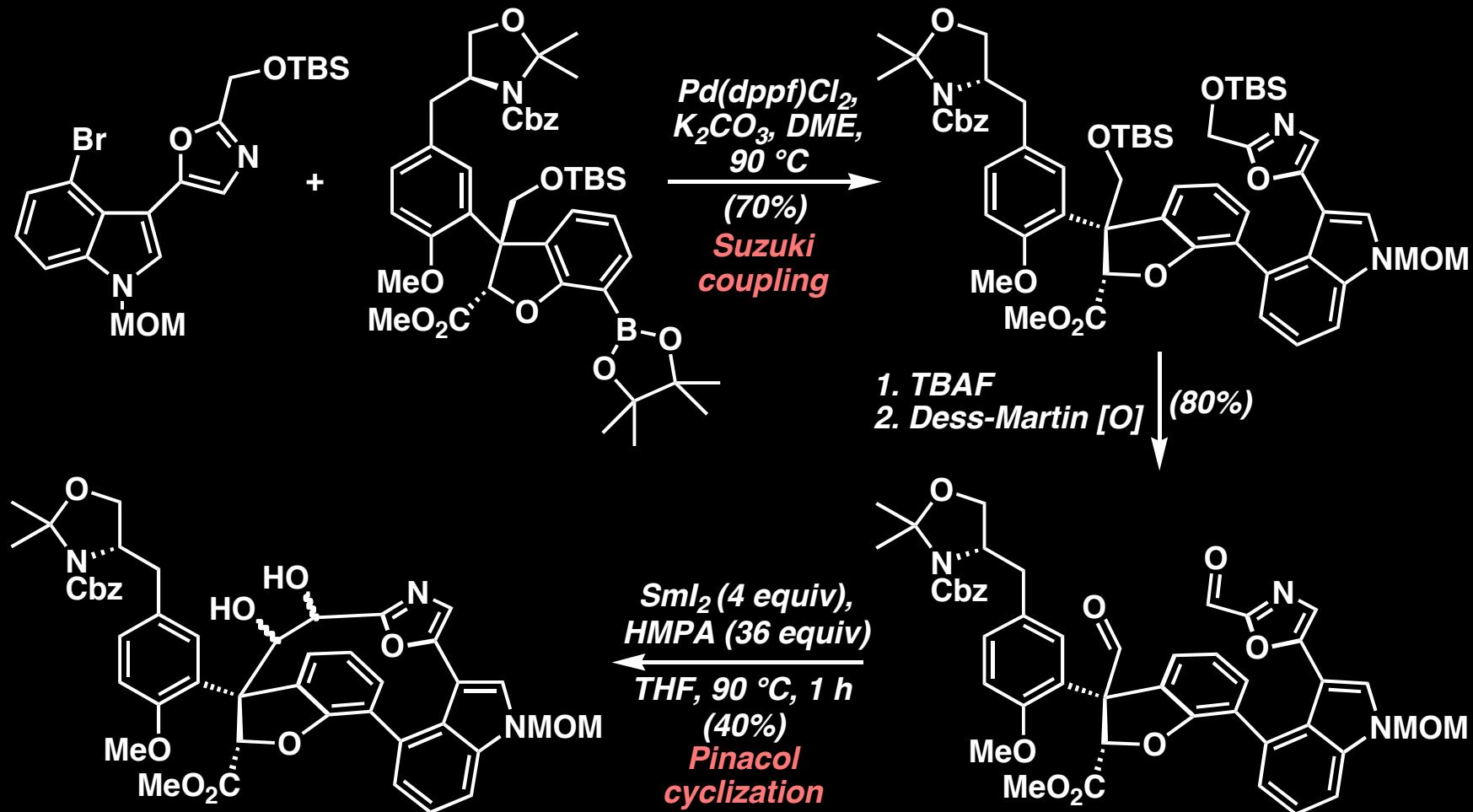


*Tetrahedron Lett.*  
1991, 32, 1125.



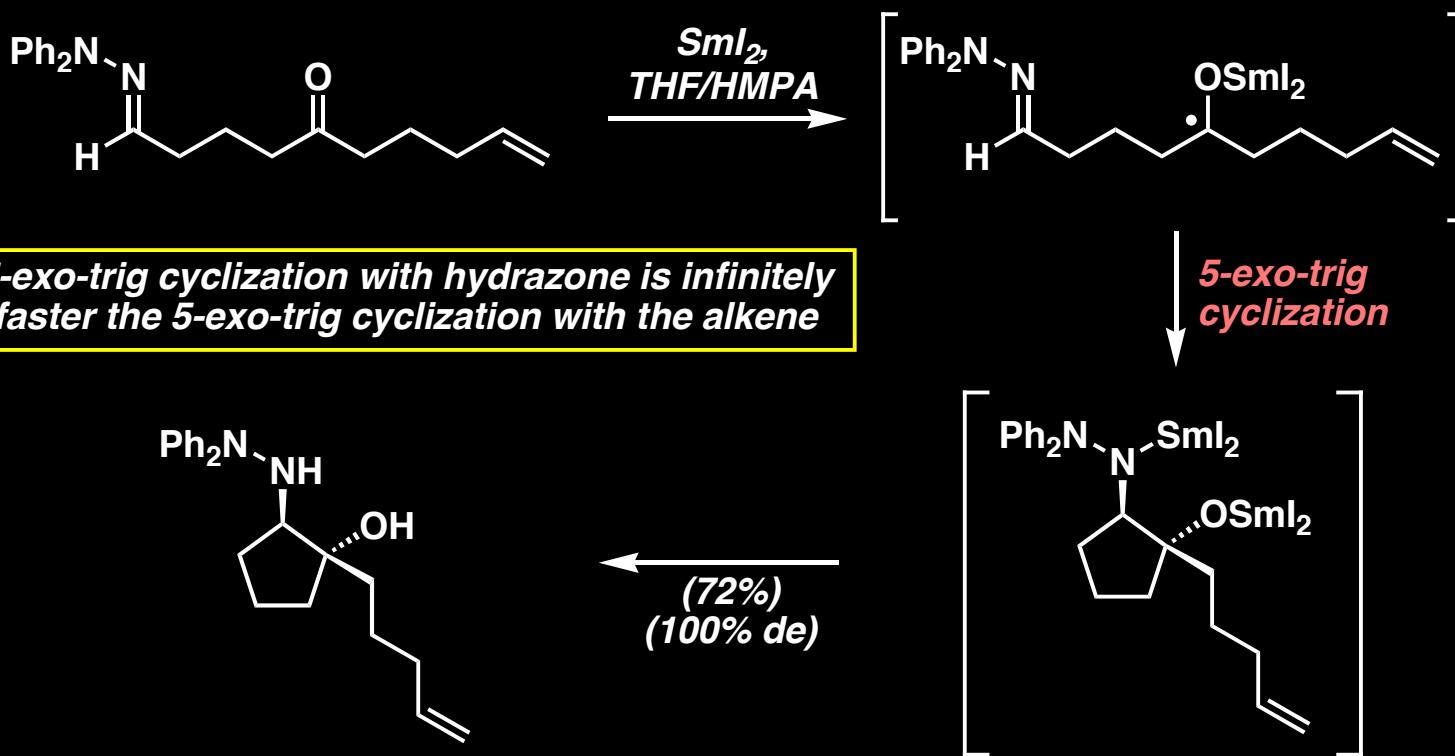
*Tetrahedron Lett.*  
1994, 35, 2969

# *Sml<sub>2</sub>-induced Pinacol Coupling: Application to the Original Structure of Diazonamide A*



*K. C. Nicolaou, S. A. Snyder, unpublished results*

## *Sml<sub>2</sub>:* *Hetero Pinacol Coupling Reactions*



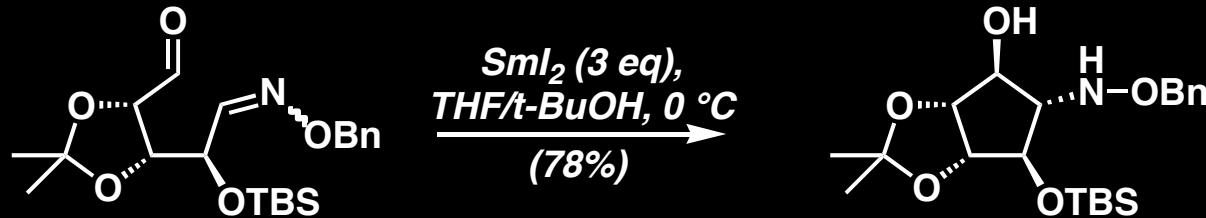
*Unlike pinacol couplings, hetero pinacol couplings typically give rise to trans products (in terms of the 1,2-aminoalcohol functionality)*

A. G. Fallis and co-workers, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 7447.

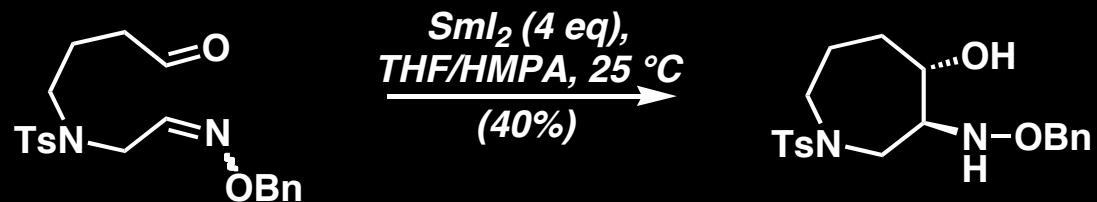
A. G. Fallis and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 6514.

# Hetero Pinacol Couplings Induced by *Sml*<sub>2</sub>

Intramolecular hetero pinacol couplings:



J.L. Chiara, et al.  
*J. Org. Chem.* 1995  
60, 6010-6011.

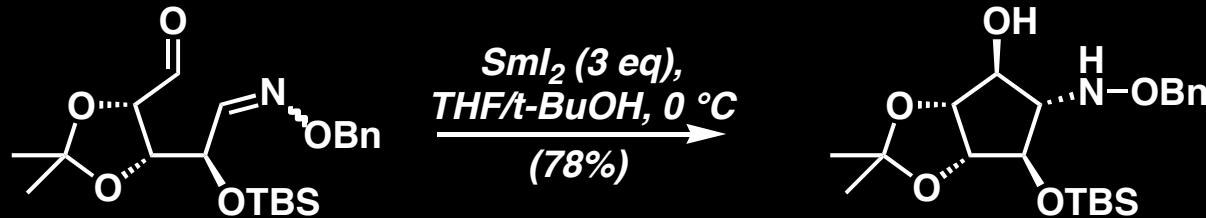


T. Skrydstrup, et al.  
*J. Org. Chem.* 2000  
65, 5382-5390.

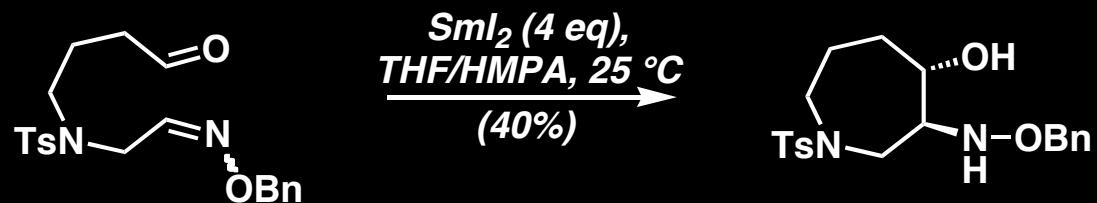
For reviews, see: A. Krief, A.-M. Laval, *Chem. Rev.* 1999, 99, 745-777  
G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 3321-3354.

# Hetero Pinacol Couplings Induced by $\text{SmI}_2$

## Intramolecular hetero pinacol couplings:

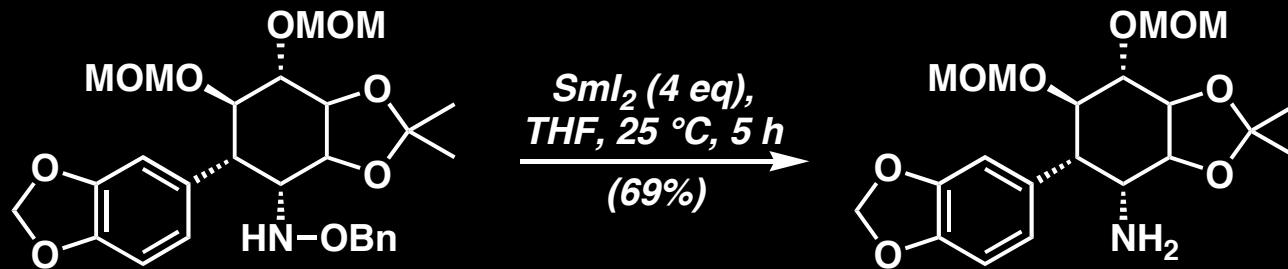


J.L. Chiara, et al.  
*J. Org. Chem.* 1995  
60, 6010-6011.



T. Skrydstrup, et al.  
*J. Org. Chem.* 2000  
65, 5382-5390.

## N-O bond cleavage:

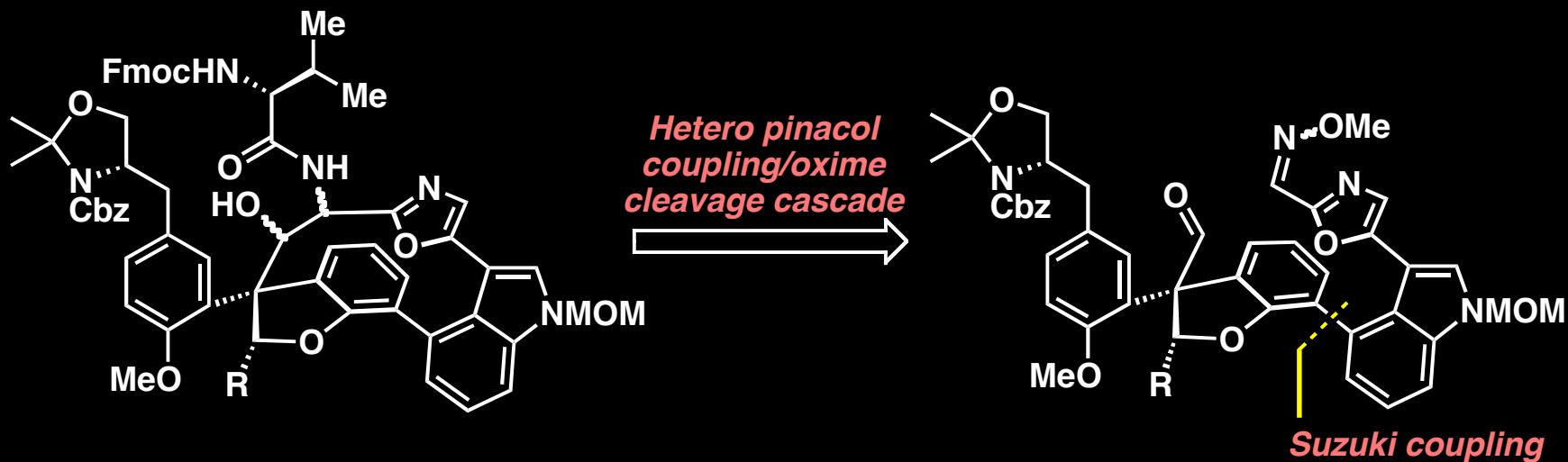


G.E. Keck, et al.  
*Tetrahedron*, 1999  
55, 11755-11772.

For reviews, see: A. Krief, A.-M. Laval, *Chem. Rev.* 1999, 99, 745-777  
G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 3321-3354.

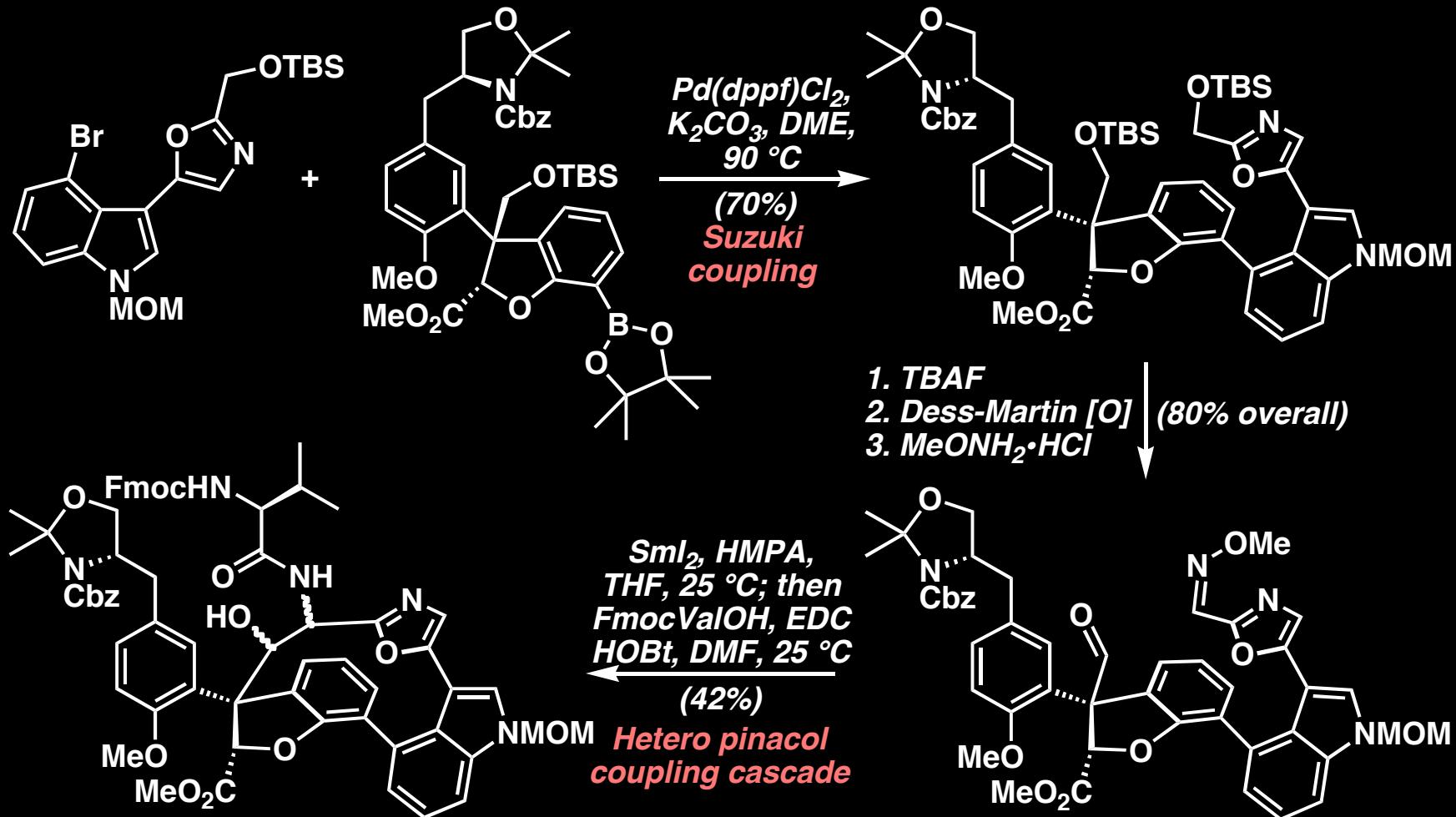
## Possible Retrosynthetic Analysis for the Heterocyclic Core of Diazonamide A

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# *Pinacol Coupling to Generate the Heterocyclic Core of Diazonamide A*

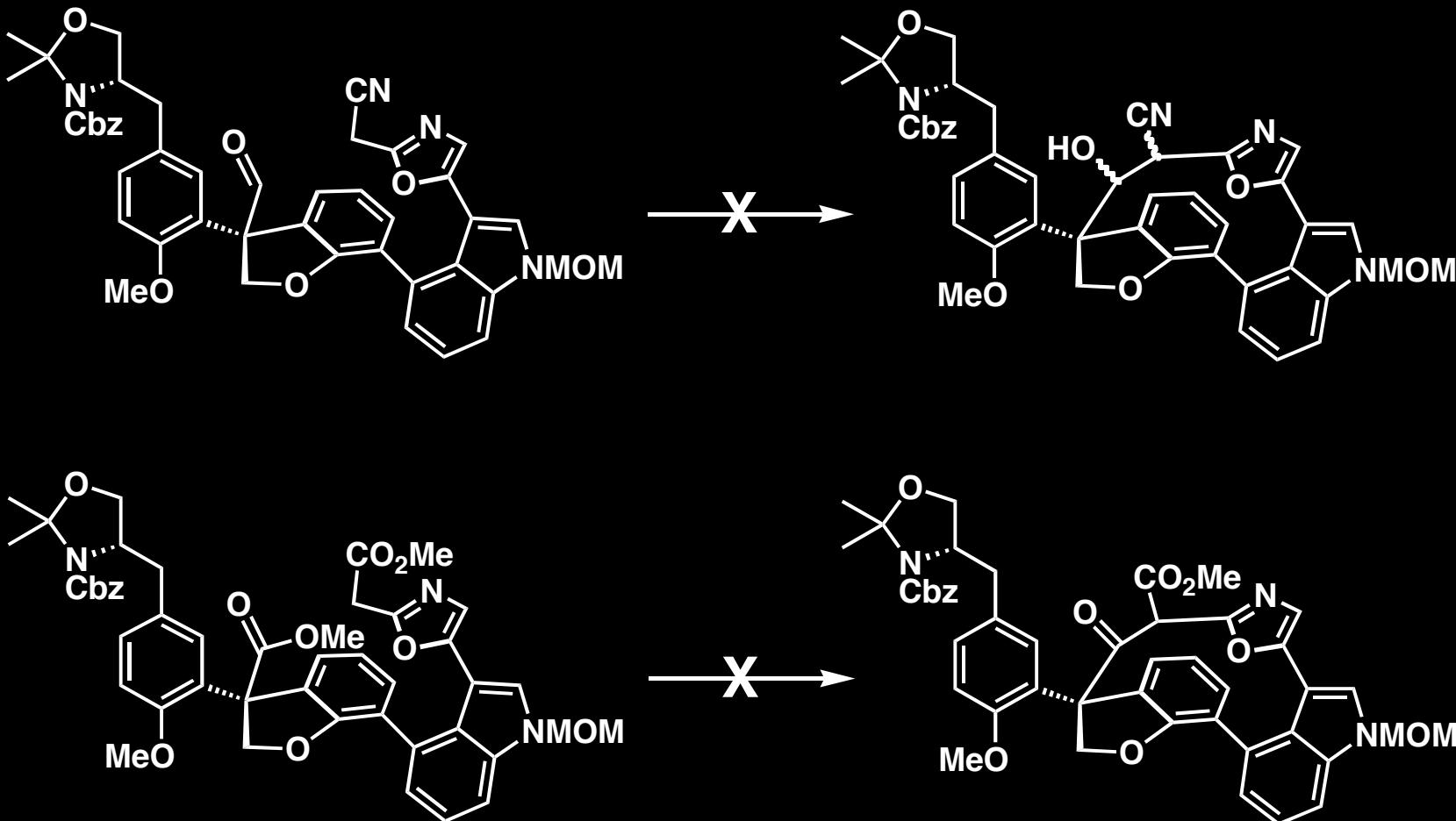
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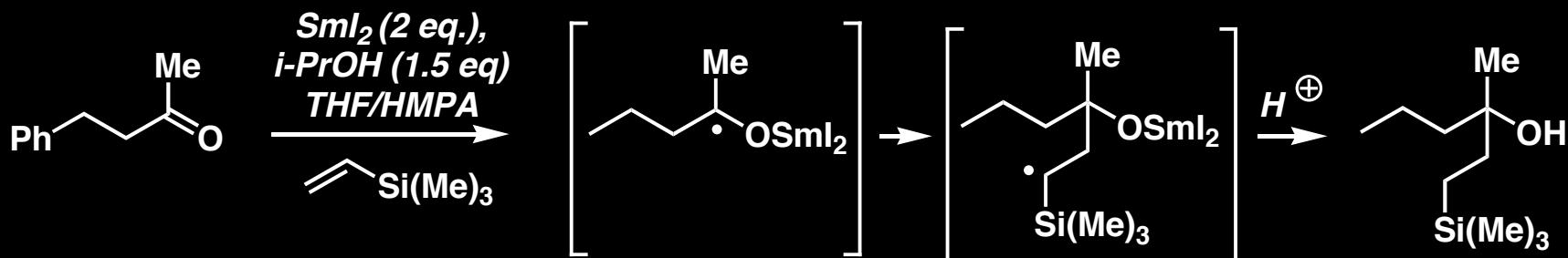
K.C. Nicolaou and co-workers, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, 126, 10174.

## *Failed Approaches To Generate The Macrocyclic Core of Diazonamide A*

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## *Sml<sub>2</sub>:* *Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions*

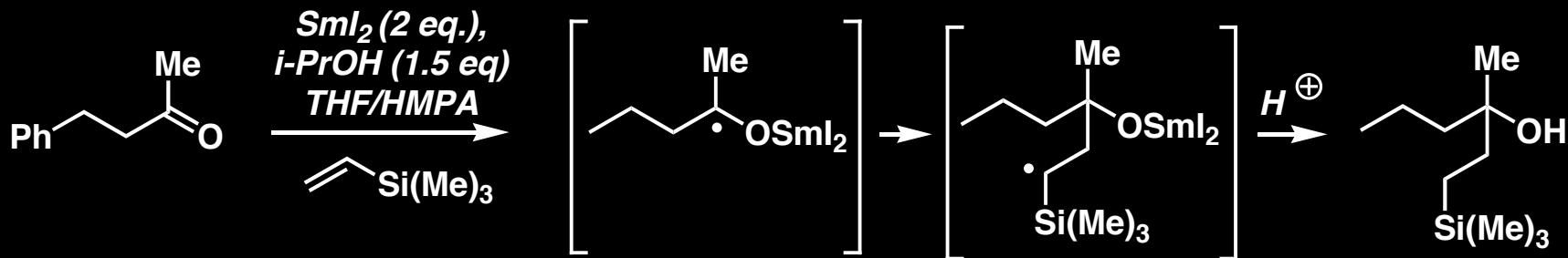


**Must use alkenes that are activated (i.e. electron poor) for intermolecular reactions.**

**Simple alkenes do not work for these couplings unless in an intramolecular reaction.**

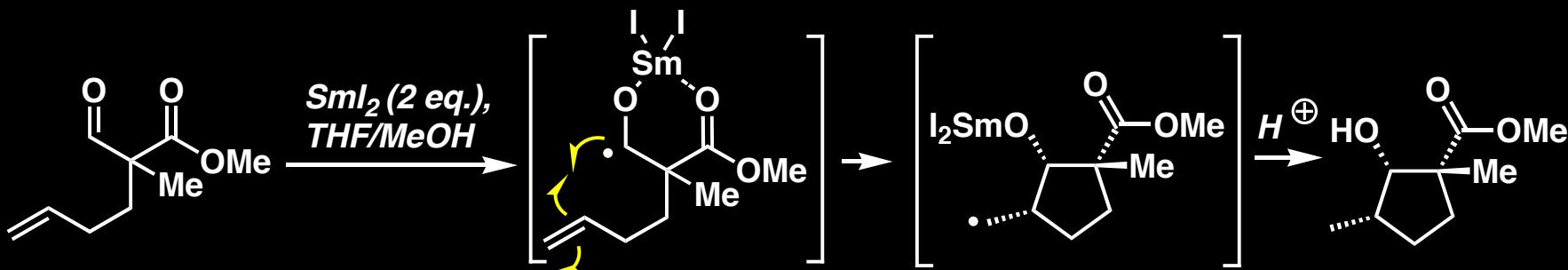
## ***SmI<sub>2</sub>:*** ***Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions***

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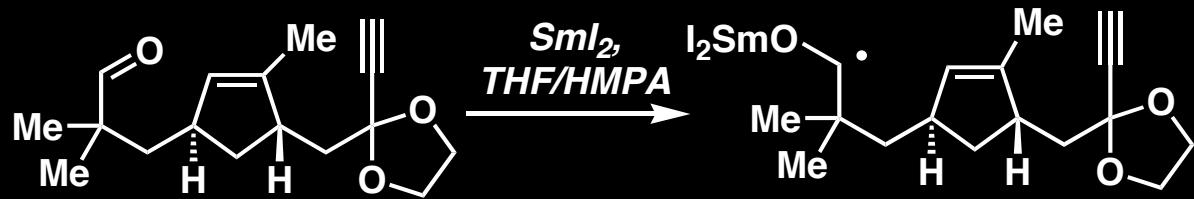

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***K. Inanaga and co-workers, Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 5763.***

***K. Inanaga and co-workers, Tetrahedron Lett. 1989, 30, 2837.***

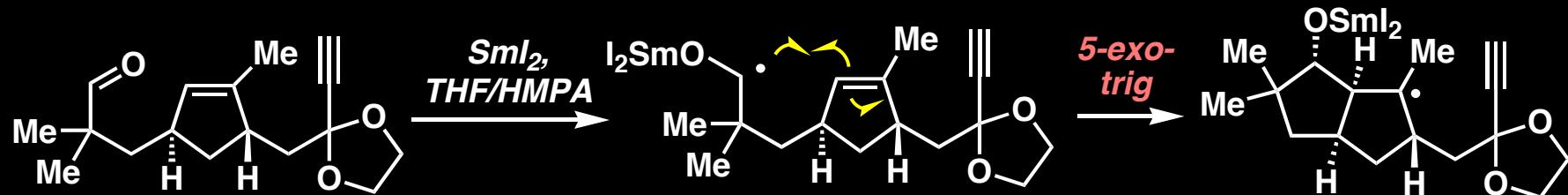
## *SmI<sub>2</sub>:* *Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions*

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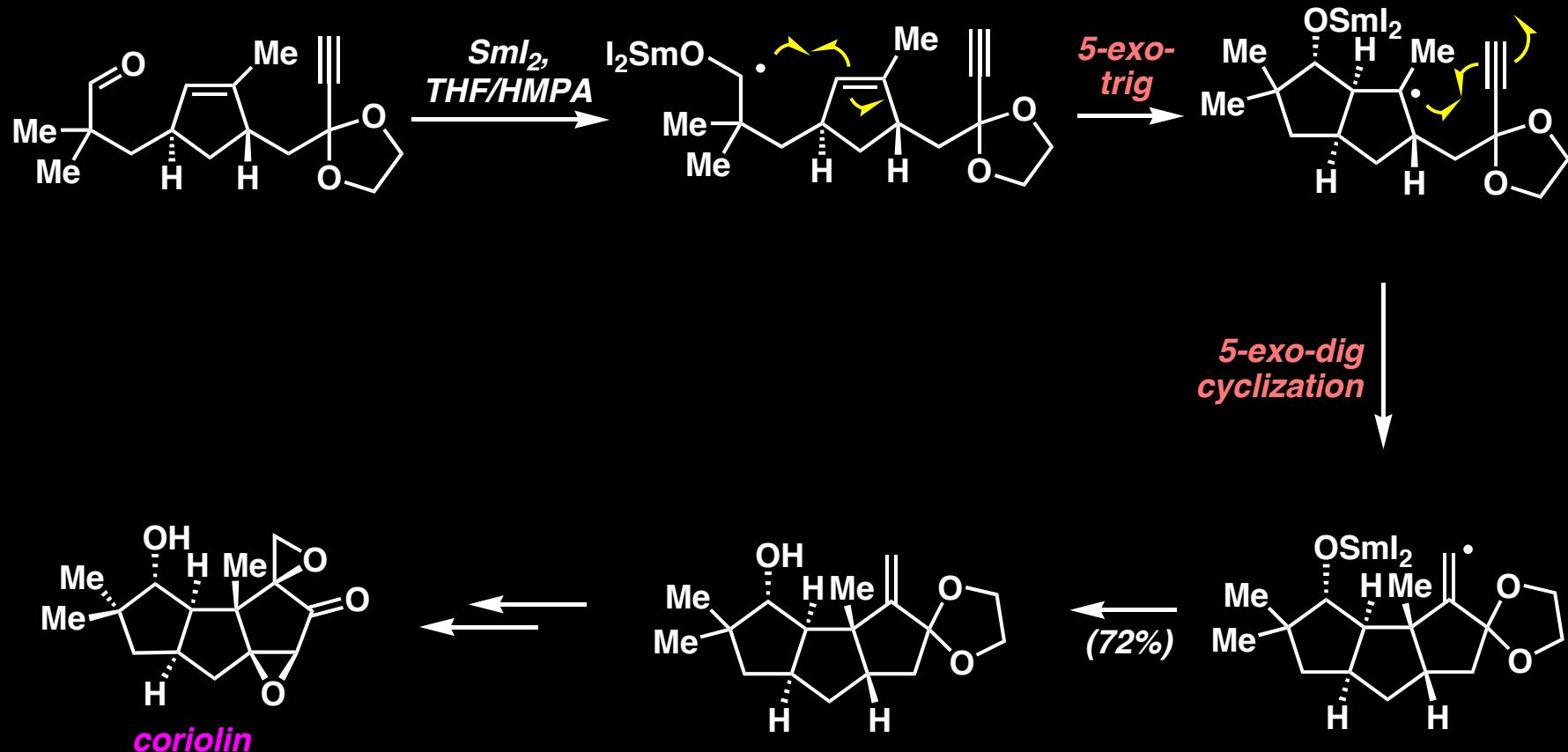


## *Sml<sub>2</sub>:* *Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions*

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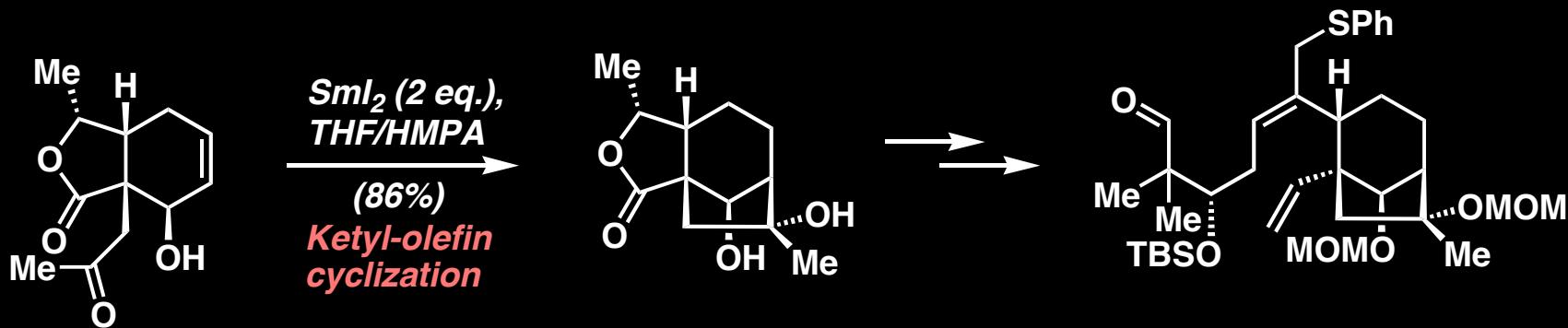


## ***Sml<sub>2</sub>:*** ***Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions***

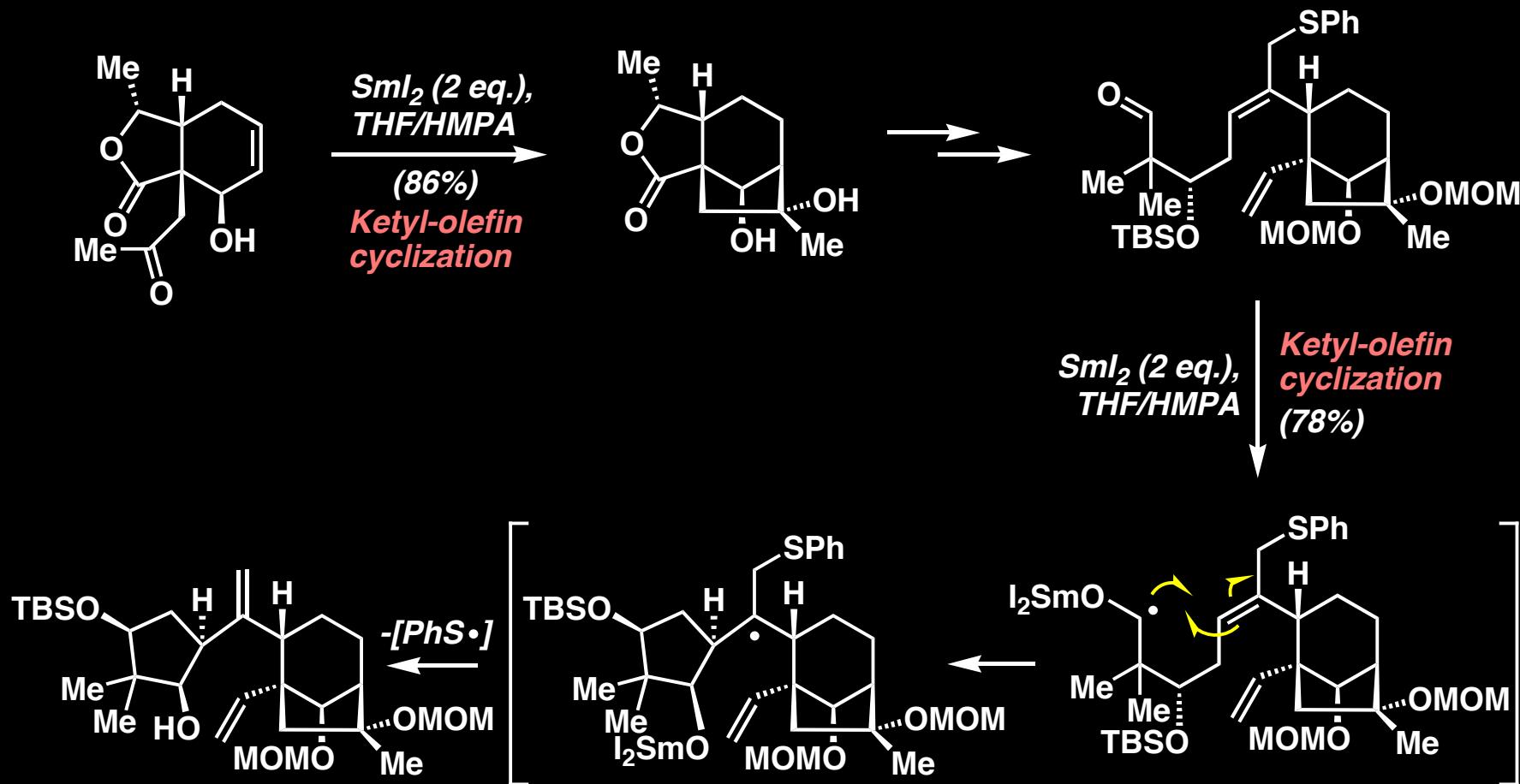


*D. P. Curran and co-workers, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 5064.*

## *Sml<sub>2</sub>:* *Applications in Synthesis*

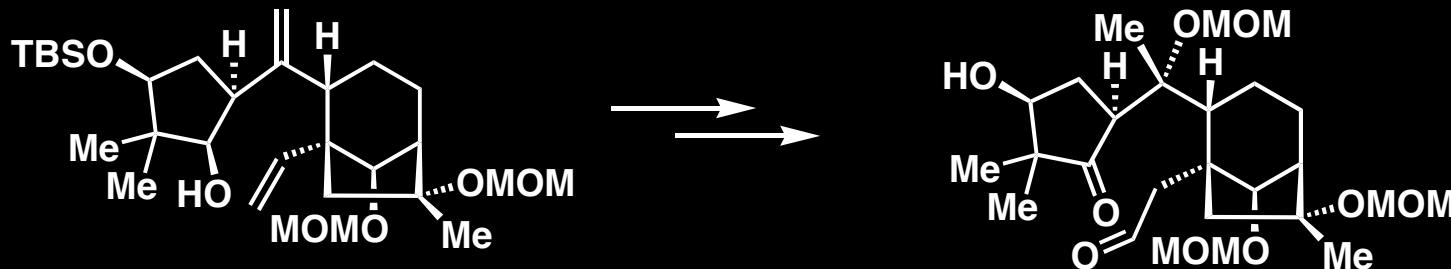


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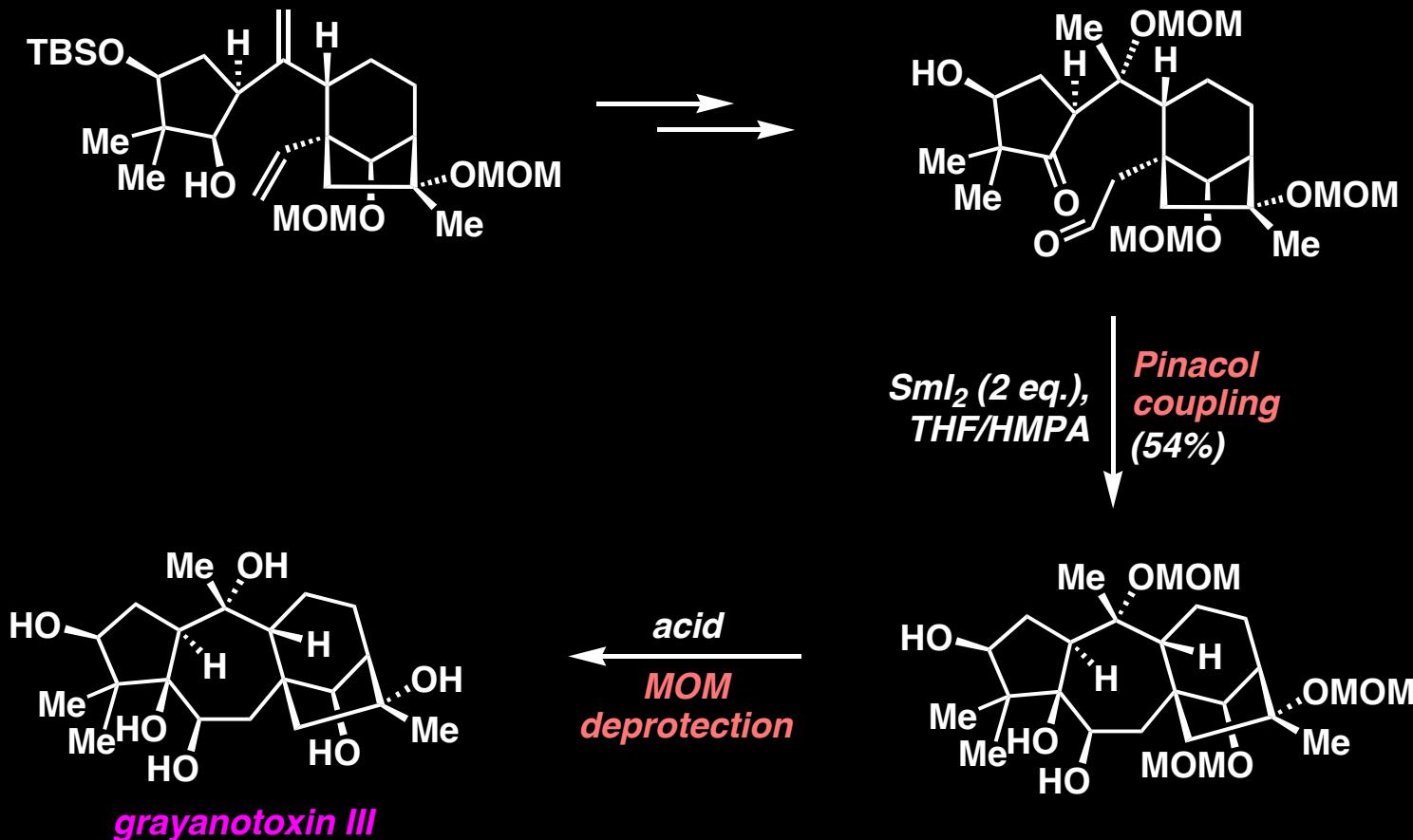
*T. Shirahama and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 5532.*

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*T. Shirahama and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 5532.*

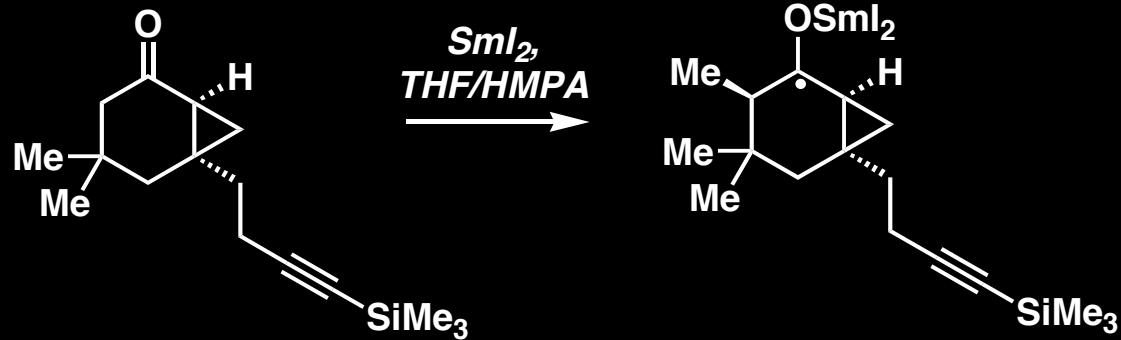
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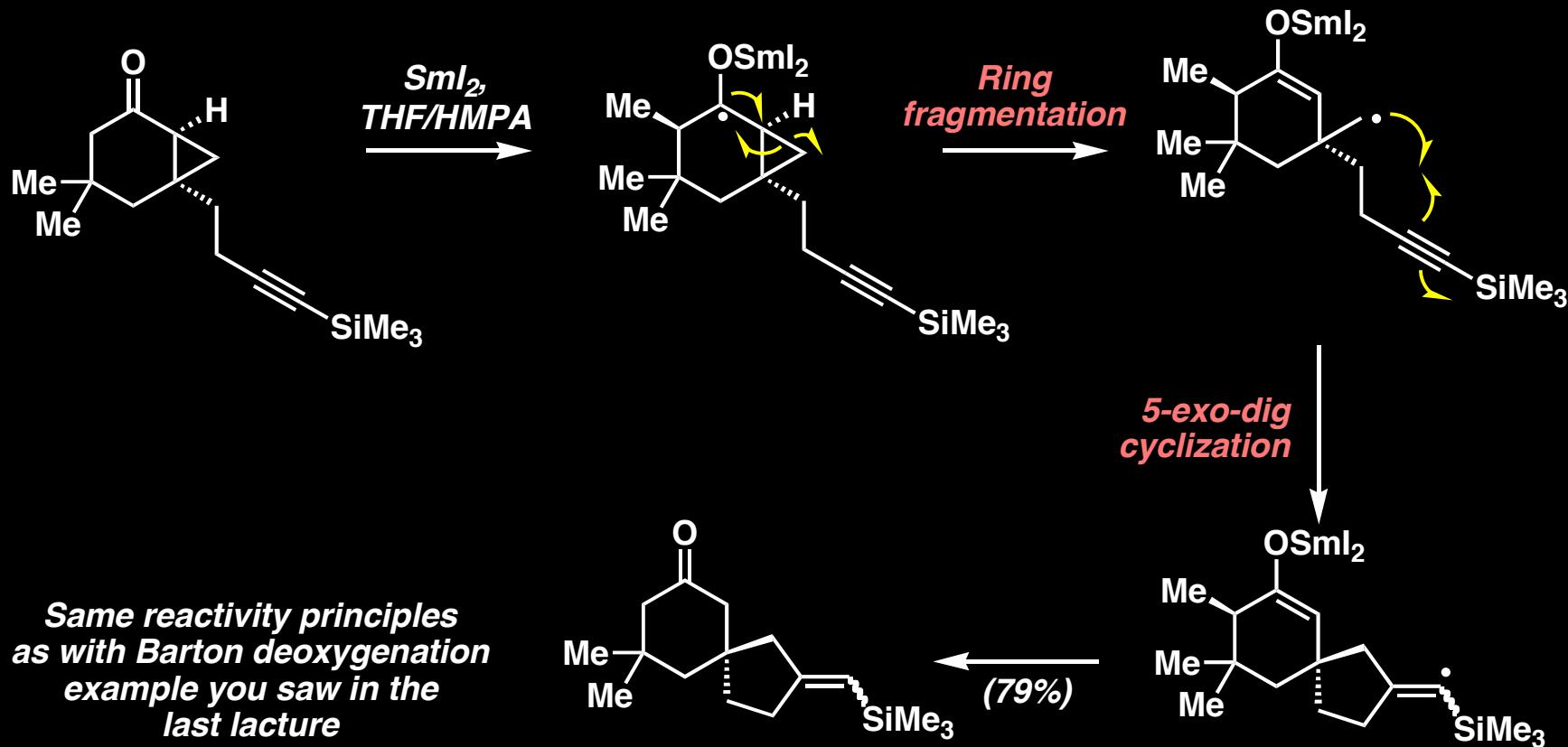
*T. Shirahama and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 5532.*

*SmI<sub>2</sub>:*  
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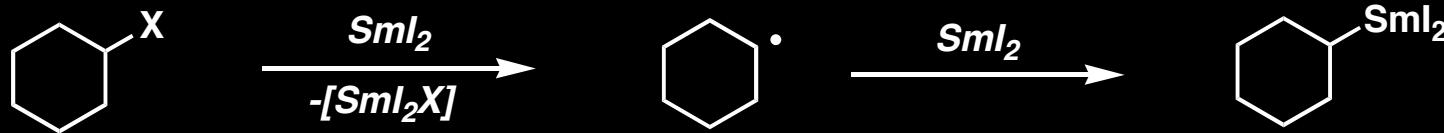
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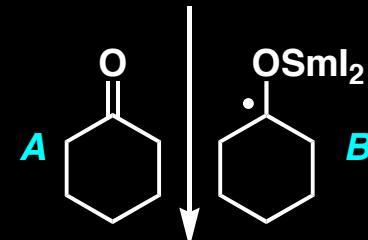


# The Kagan-Molander $\text{SmI}_2$ -Mediated Coupling Reaction: Background and General Considerations



**A:** Add ketone to preformed organosamarium intermediate  
[samarium Grignard conditions]

**B:** Ketone in same pot with halide when  $\text{SmI}_2$  added  
[samarium Reformatsky conditions]



Works well with most halides;  
exceptions are aryl, vinyl, and  
tertiary halides.



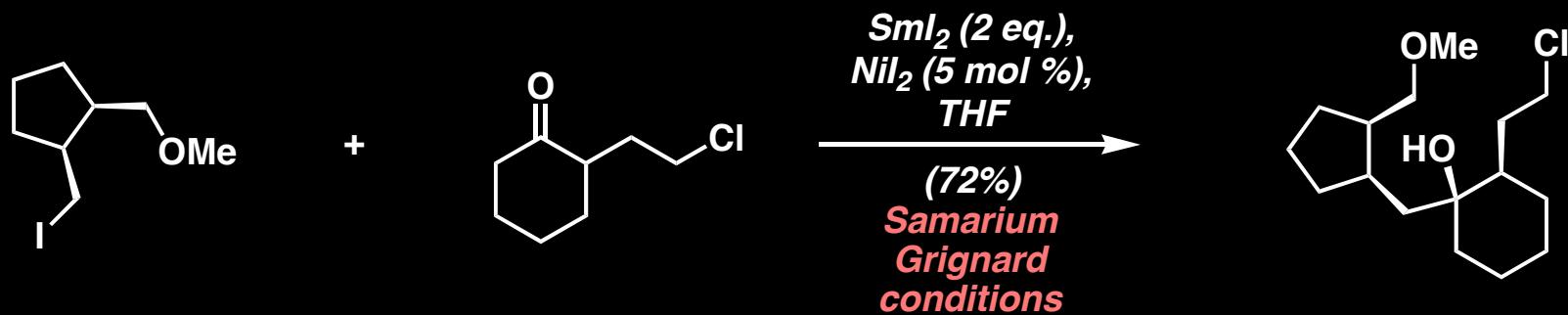
Reactions rates can be greatly accelerated by the addition of Ni(II) or Fe(III) salts.

Addition of HMPA or DMPU as co-solvent to enhance the reducing power of  $\text{SmI}_2$  usually helps.

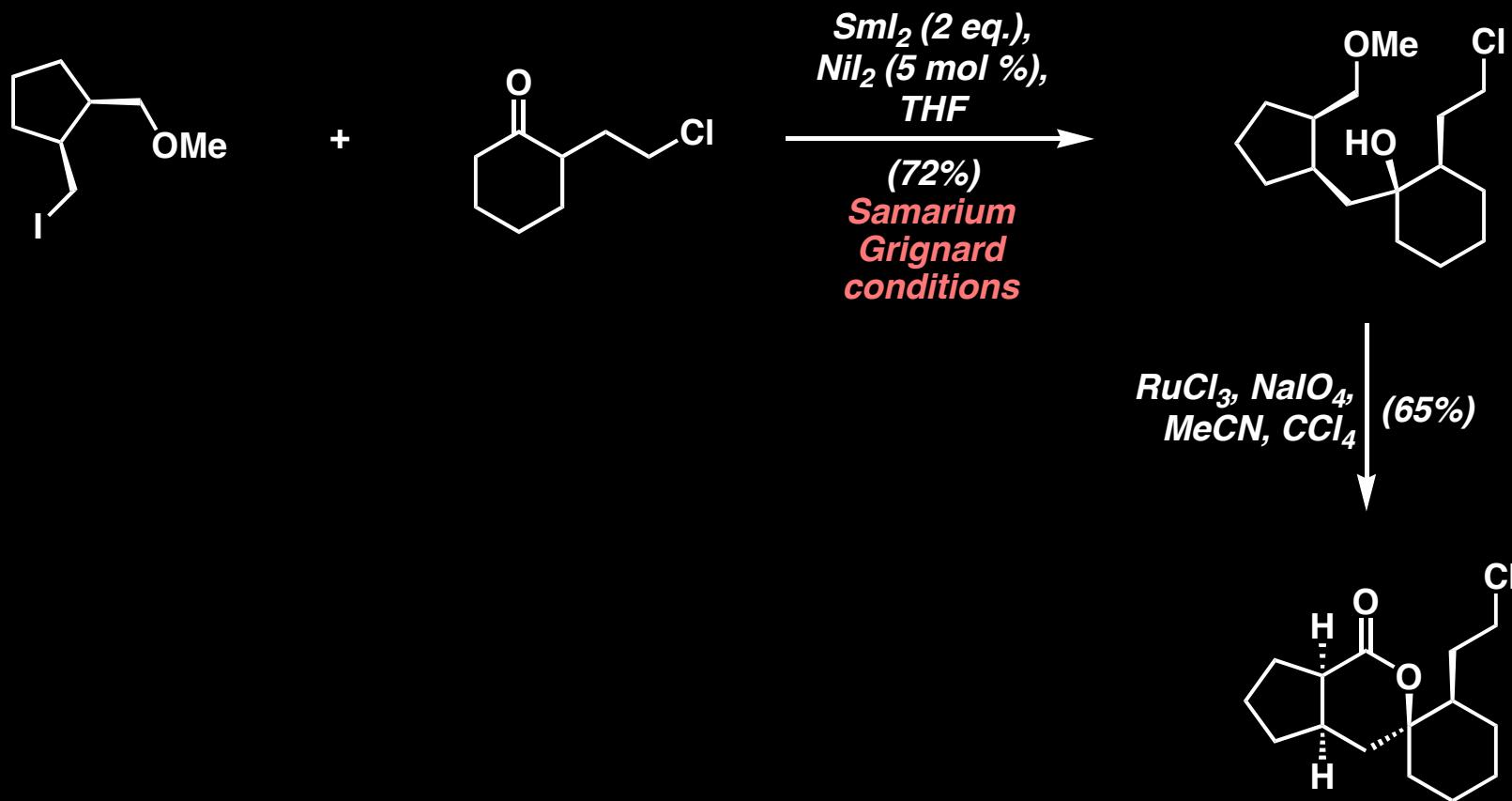
For a review, see: G. A. Molander, C. R. Harris, *Chem. Rev.* 1996, 96, 307.

# *The Kagan-Molander SmI<sub>2</sub>-Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis*

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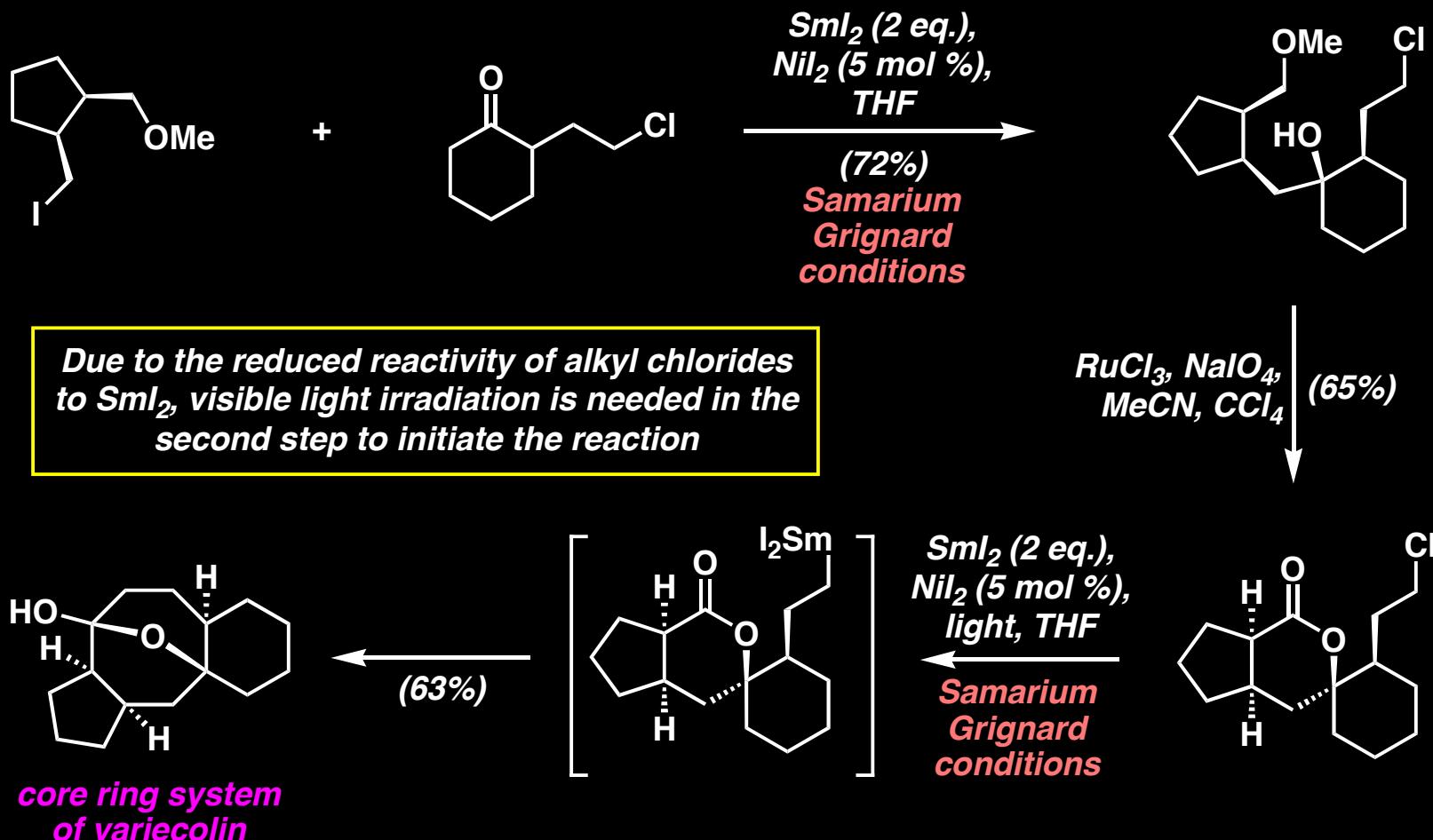


# The Kagan-Molander SmI<sub>2</sub>-Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis

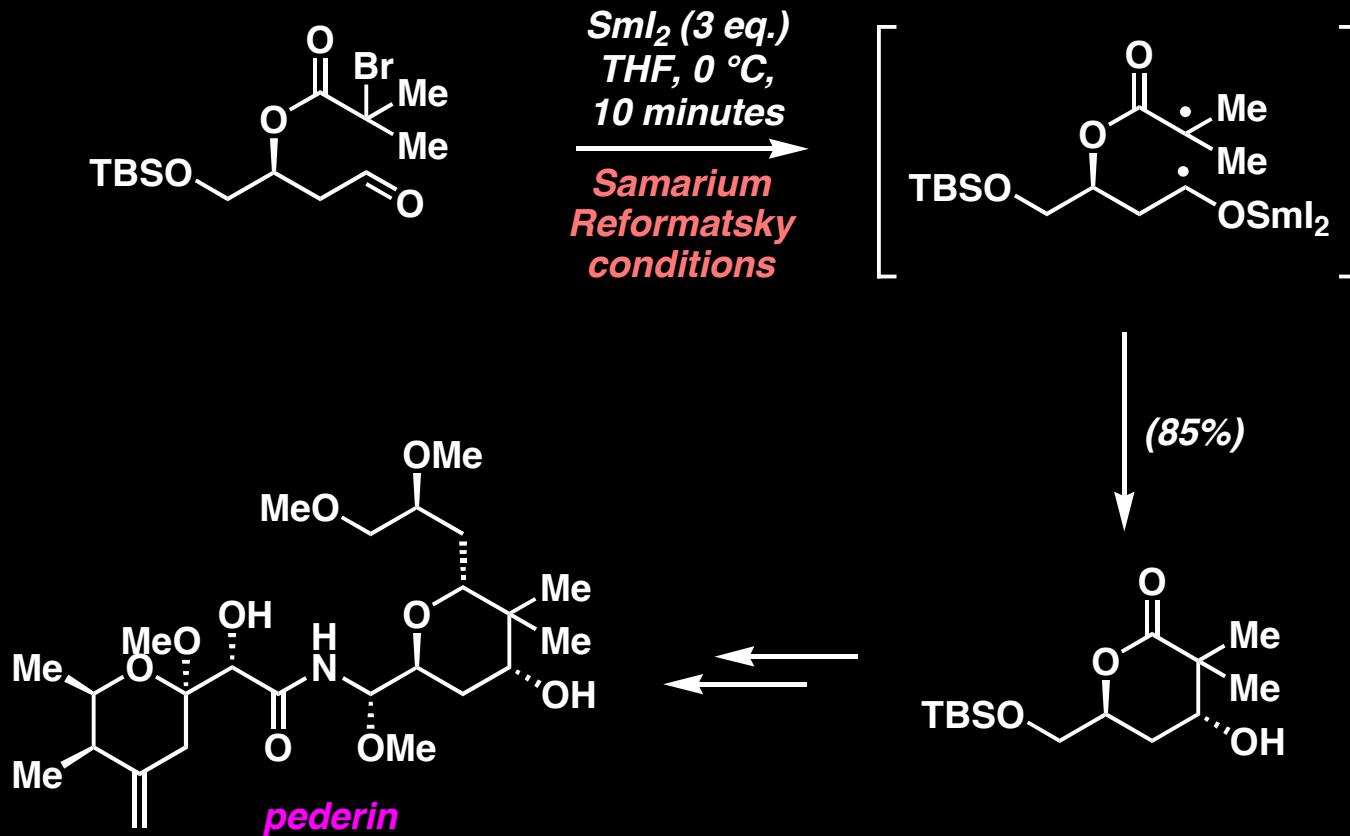


G. A. Molander and co-workers, *Org. Lett.* 2001, 3, 2257.

# The Kagan-Molander $\text{SmI}_2$ -Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis

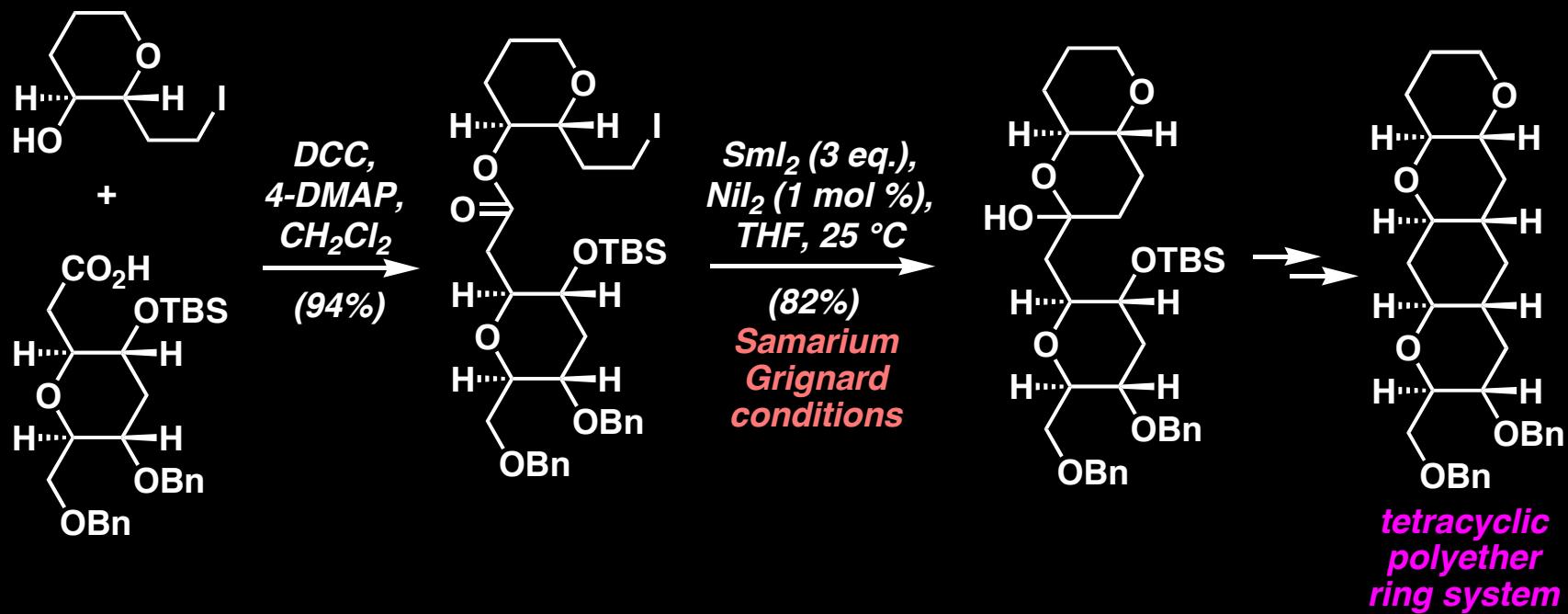


# The Kagan-Molander $\text{SmI}_2$ -Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis



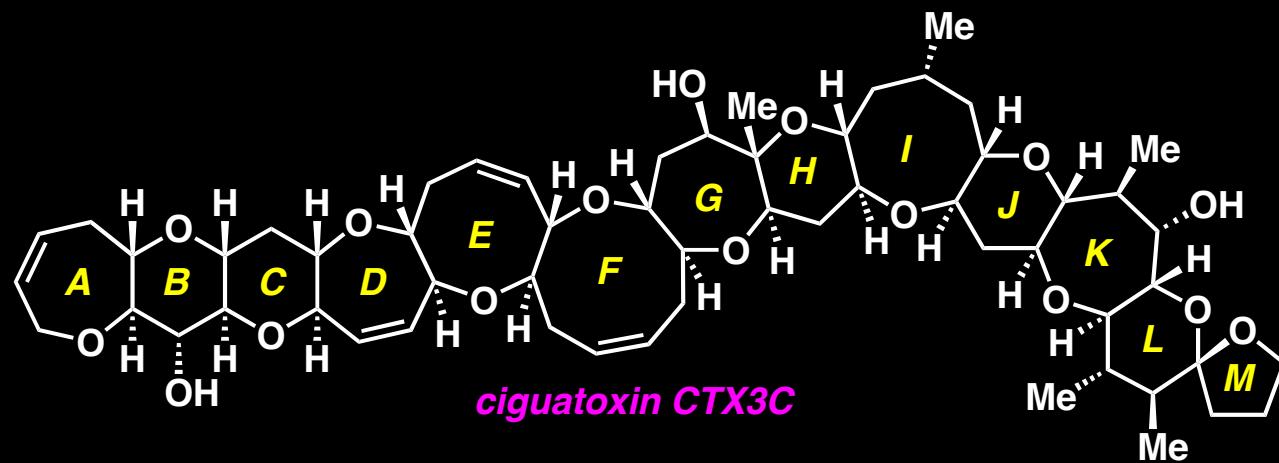
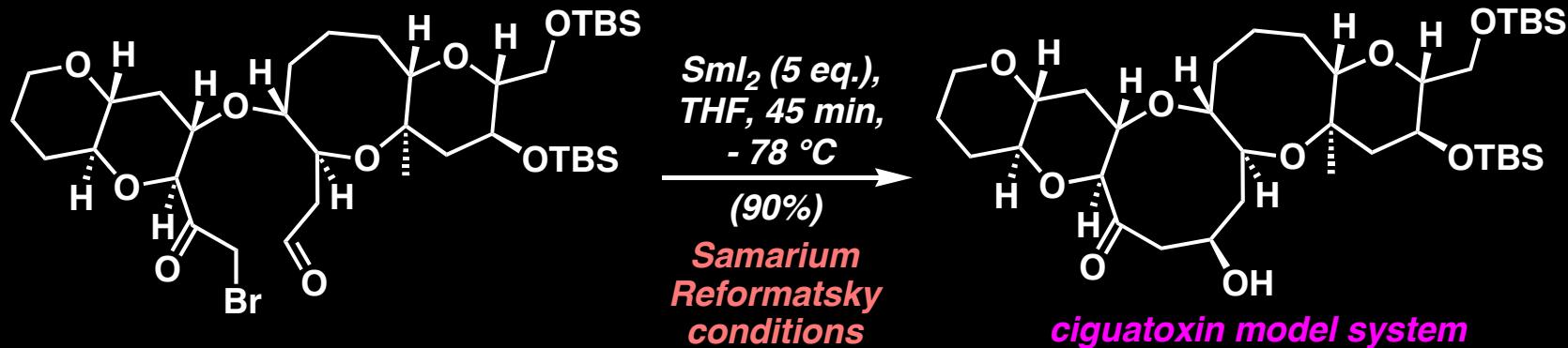
T. Nakata and co-workers, *Tetrahedron* 2002, 58, 6359.

# The Kagan-Molander $\text{SmI}_2$ -Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis

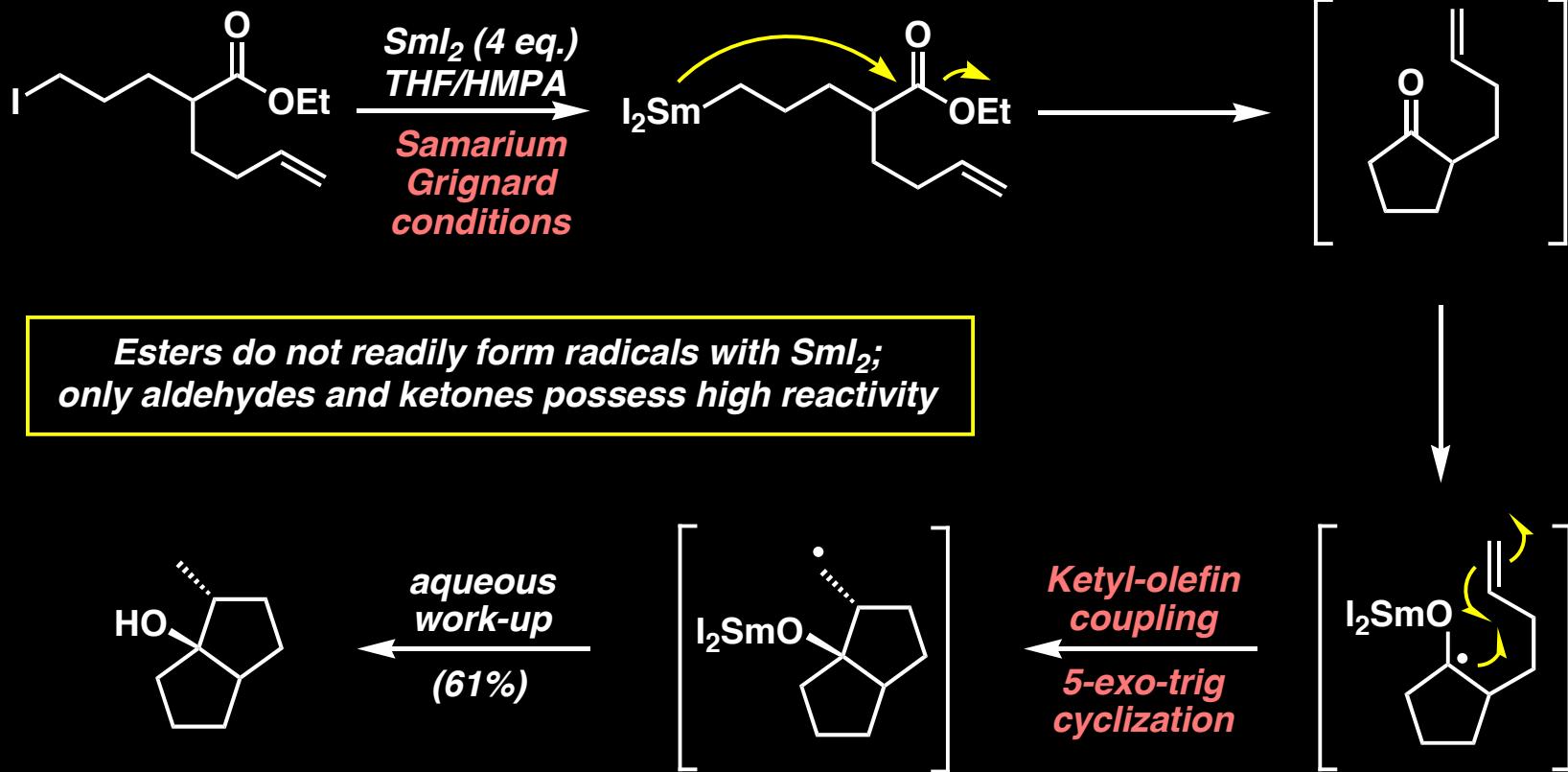


T. Nakata and co-workers, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2003, 44, 5259.

# The Kagan-Molander $\text{SmI}_2$ -Mediated Coupling Reaction: Applications in Synthesis



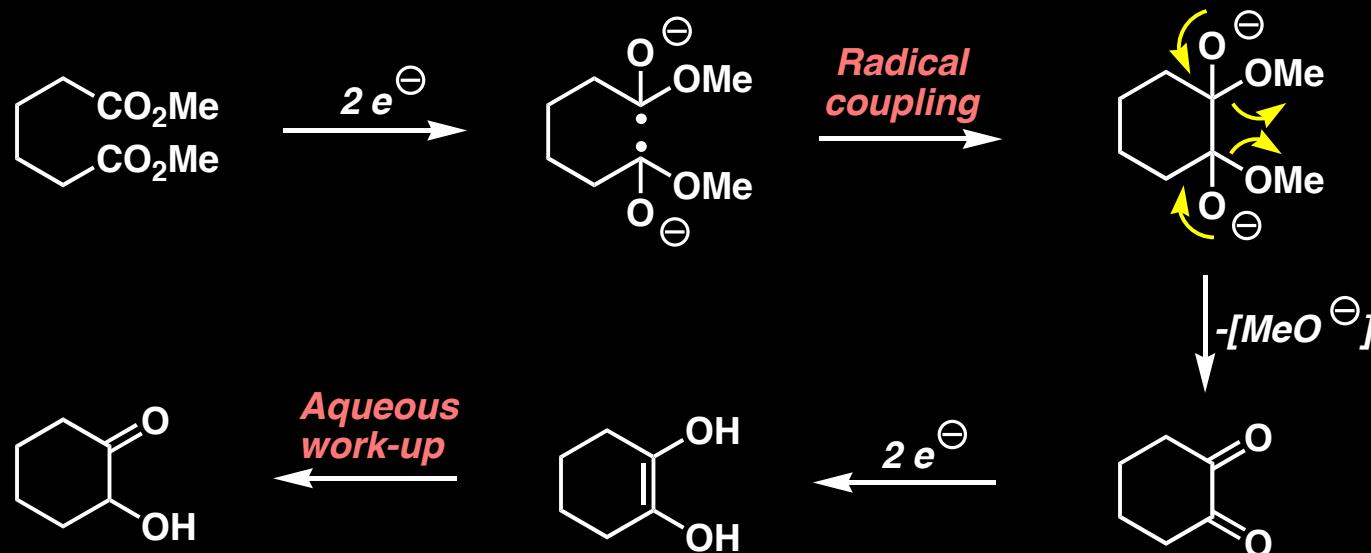
# ***Sml<sub>2</sub>:*** ***Ketyl-Olefin Coupling Reactions***



# The Acyloin Condensation: Background and General Considerations



*One possible mechanism*

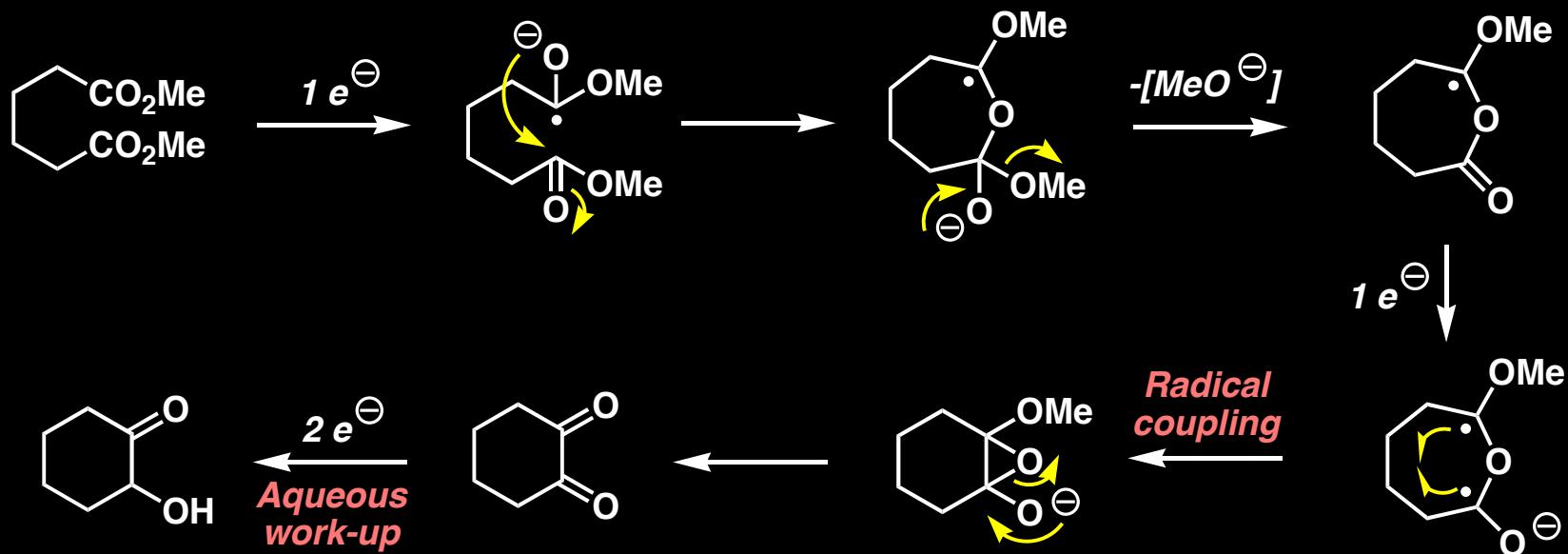


*Note: acyloin derives its name from the older literature  
as a shorthand notation for  $\alpha$ -hydroxy ketones*

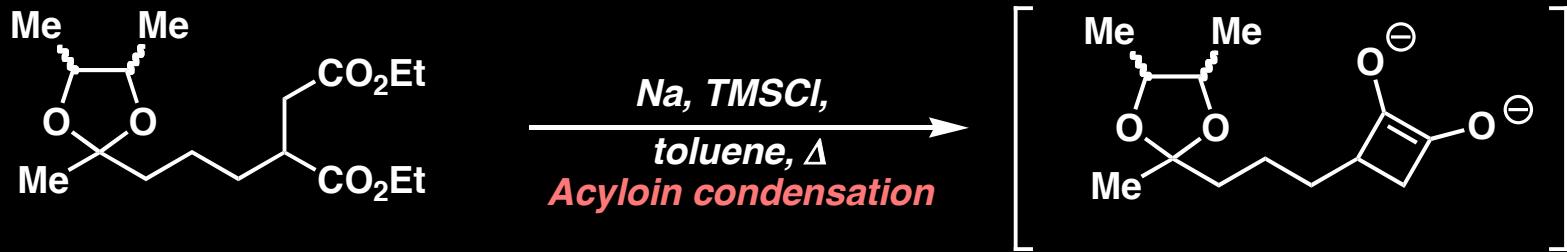
# The Acyloin Condensation: Background and General Considerations



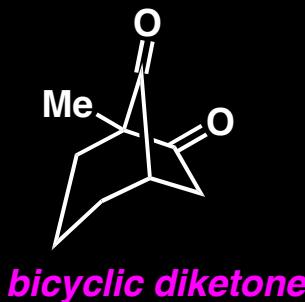
*Another possible mechanism*



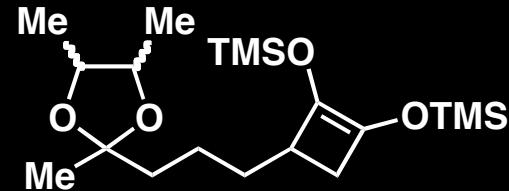
# The Acyloin Condensation: Applications in Synthesis



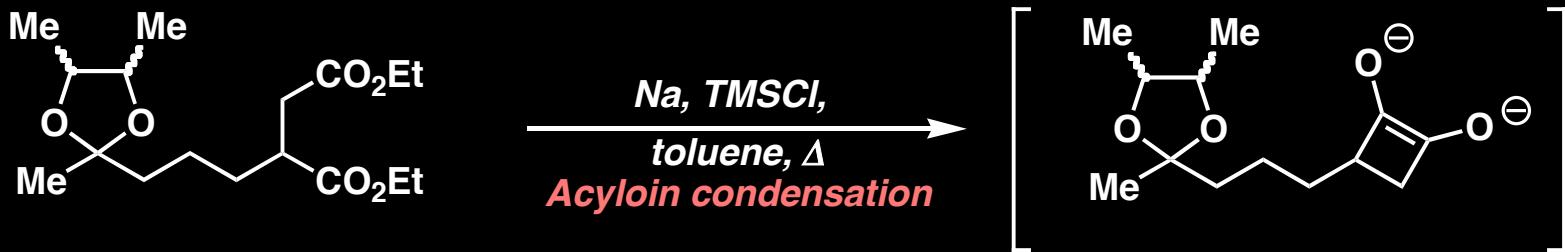
**Note:** the addition of TMSCl is often done to prevent any base-catalyzed side-reactions such as  $\beta$ -elimination, Claisen, or Dieckmann-type condensations; this simple change greatly expands the scope of this reaction.



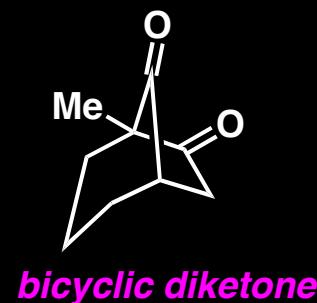
1.  $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$  (2 eq.),  
 $CH_2Cl_2$ , -78 °C  
2. warm to 25 °C;  
add TFA (10 eq.)



# The Acyloin Condensation: Applications in Synthesis



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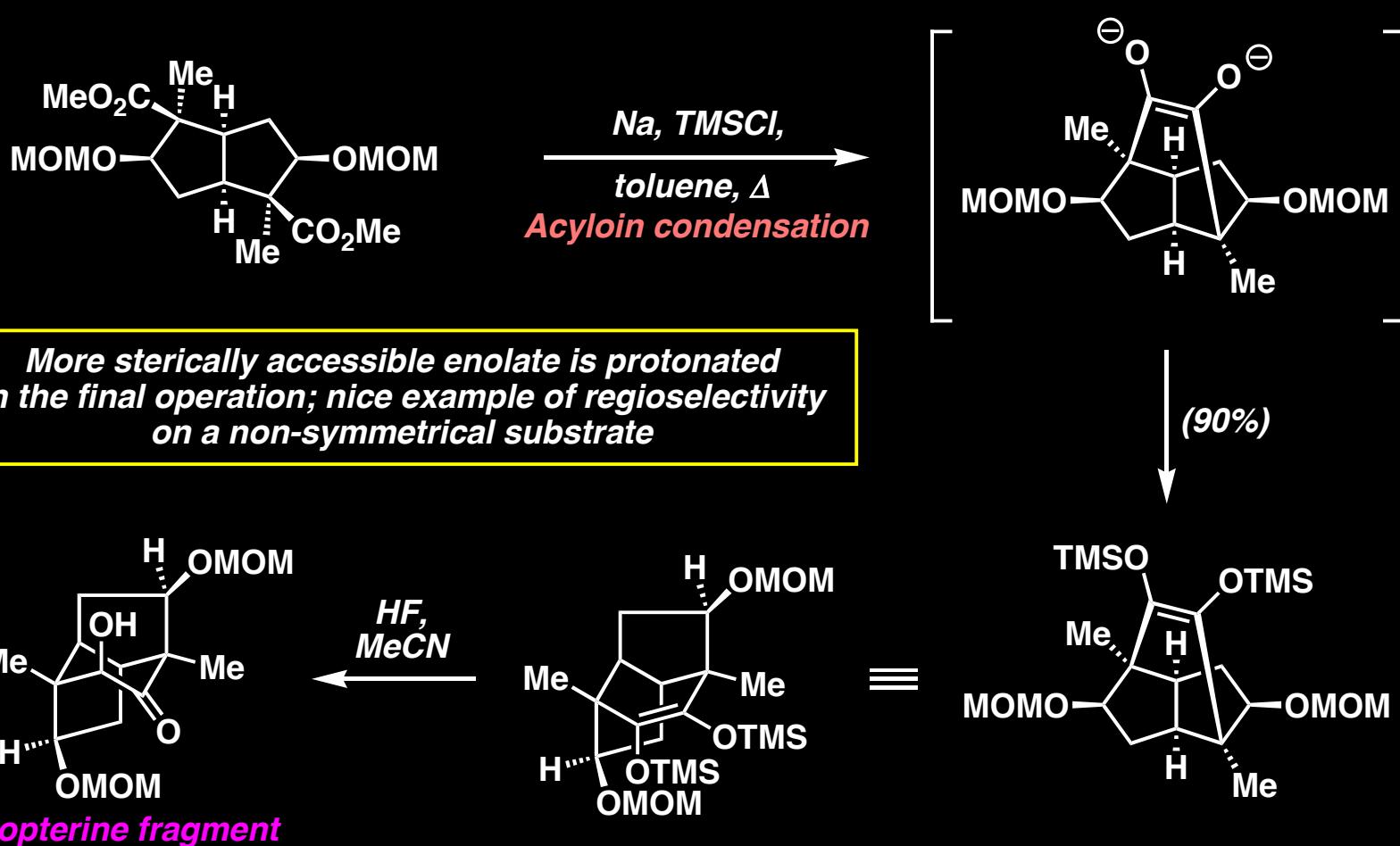


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Can you propose a mechanism?

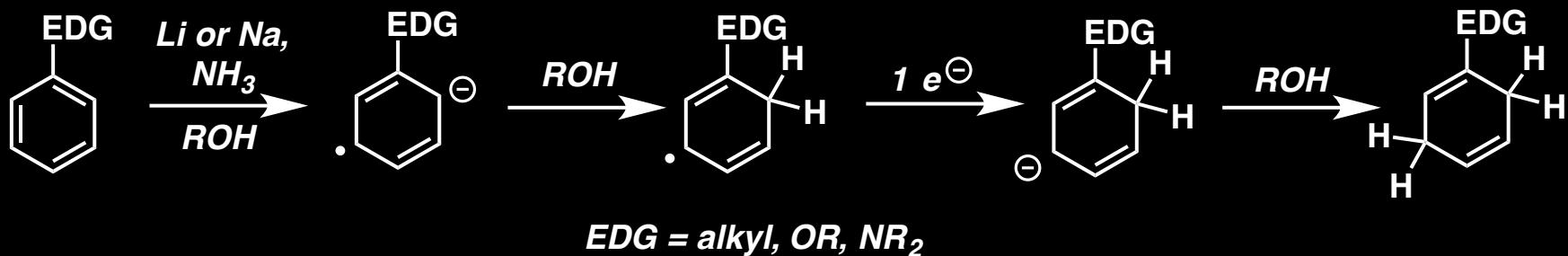


# The Acyloin Condensation: Applications in Synthesis



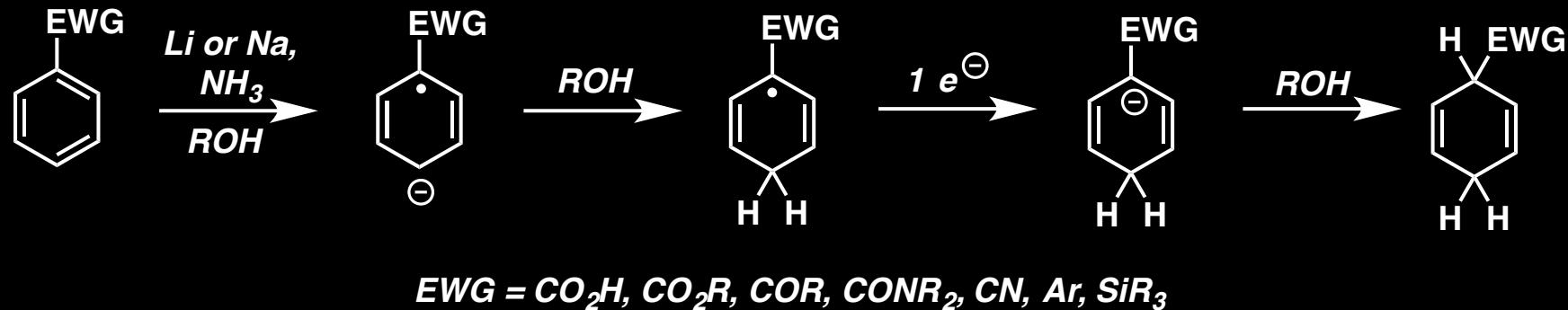
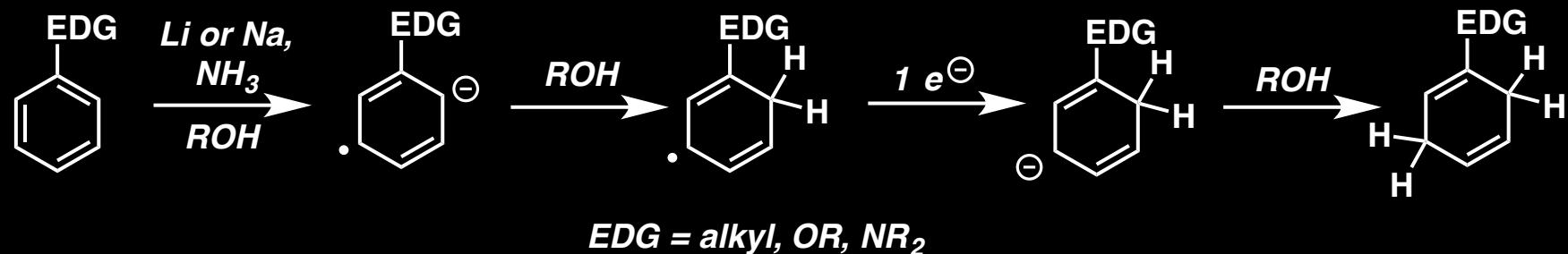
## Birch Reduction: Background and General Considerations

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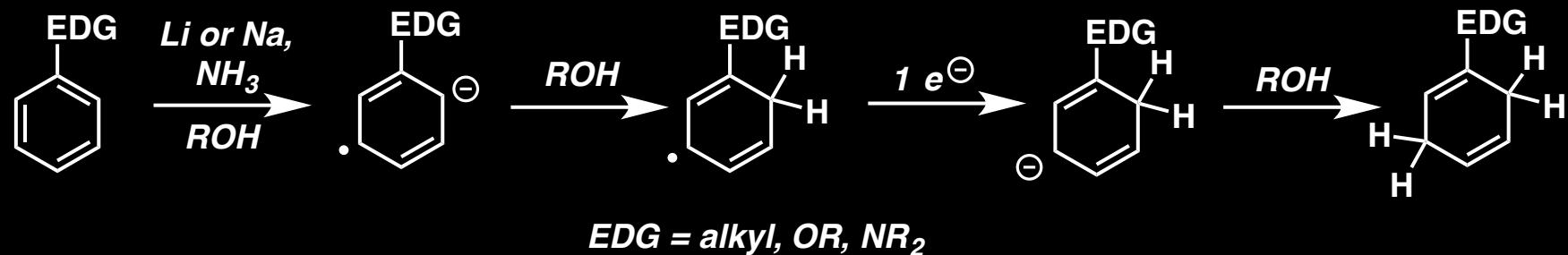
## Birch Reduction: Background and General Considerations

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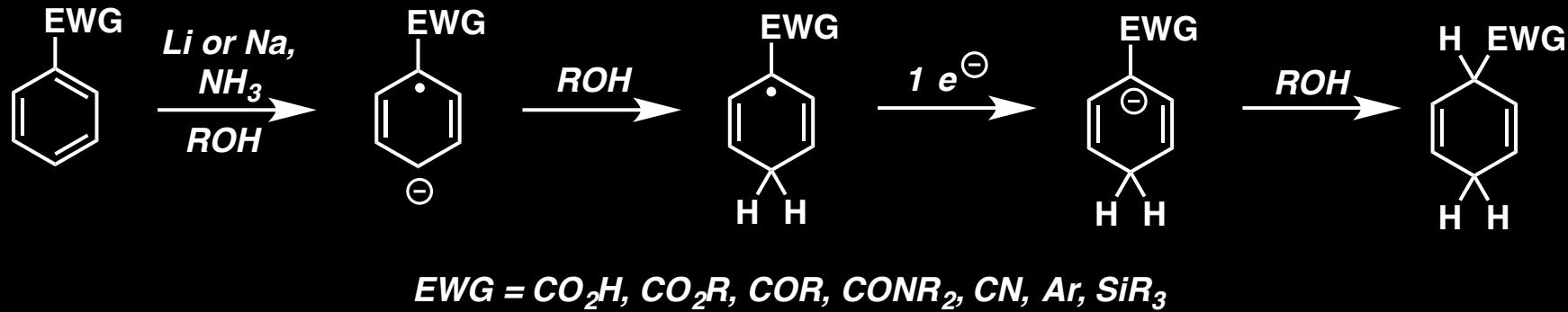


## Birch Reduction: Background and General Considerations

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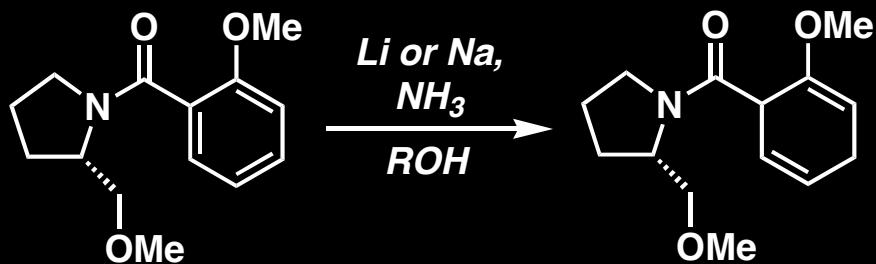
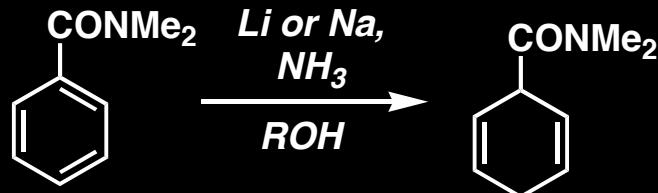
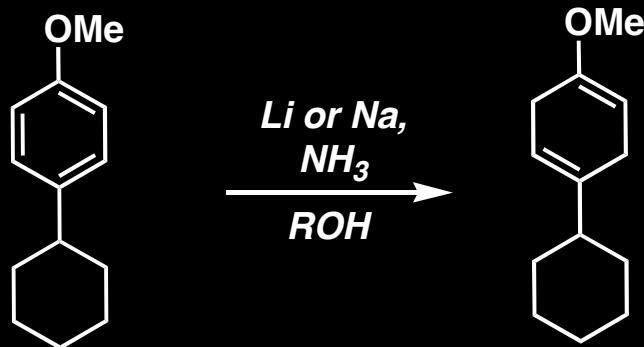
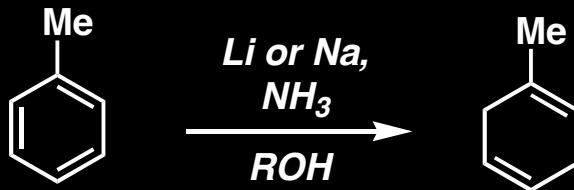


*Protonation of the radical anion is determined by the site of maximum electron density*



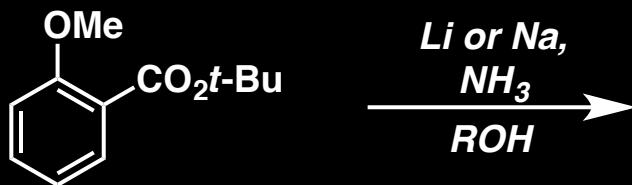
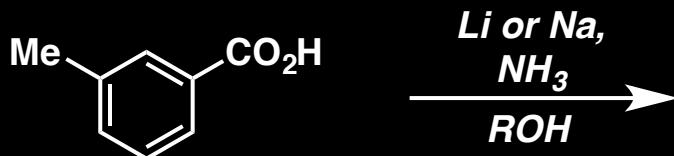
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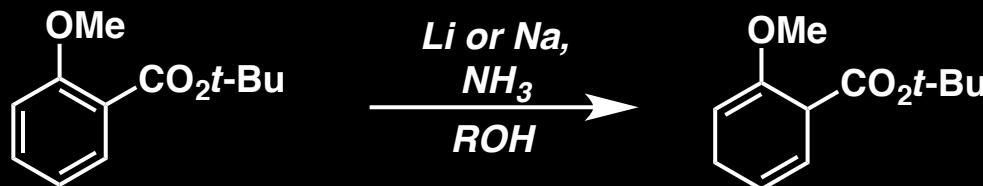
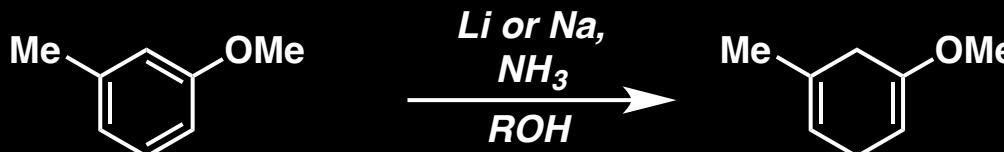
*For any disubstituted system, the groups must reinforce each other for effective Birch reduction. All the examples on this and the previous slide are reinforcing in terms of the regioselectivity of Birch reduction.*

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*For early examples of this effect, see:  
H. E. Zimmerman, P. A. Wang, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1993, 115, 2205.*

## Birch Reduction: Background and General Considerations

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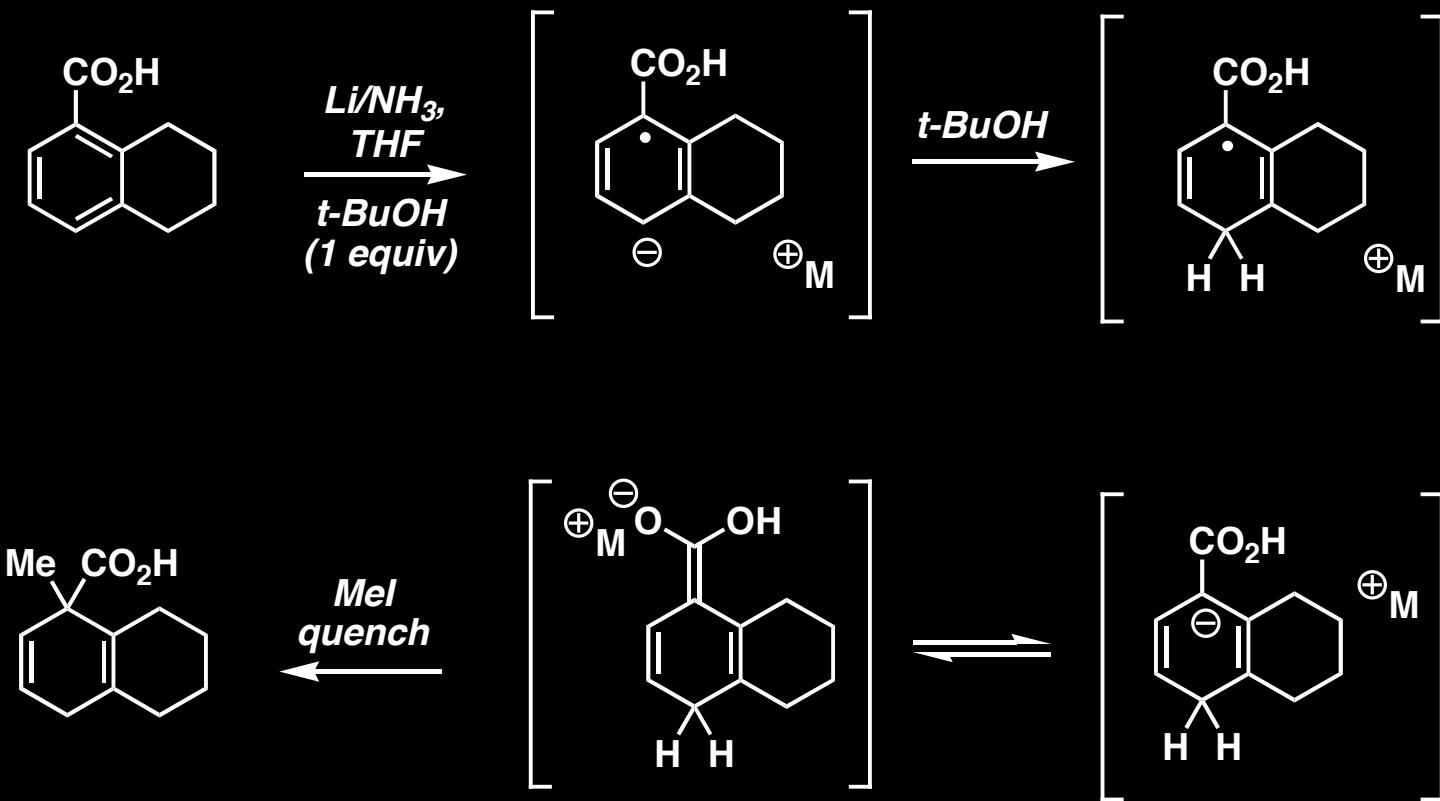


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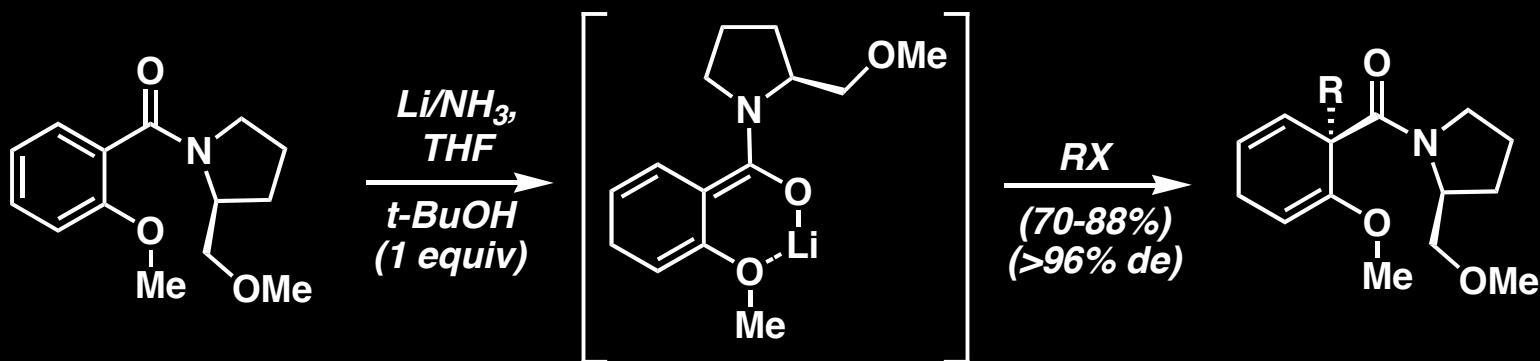
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## Birch Reduction: What Other Products Can You Get?



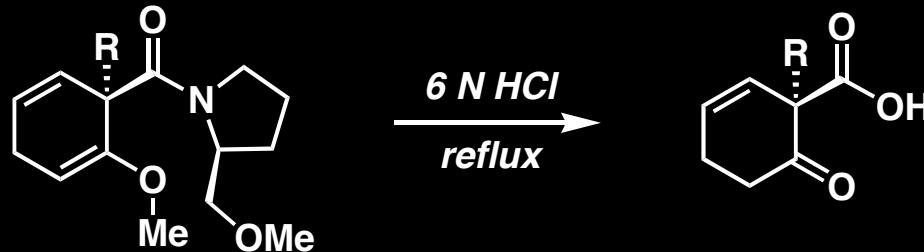
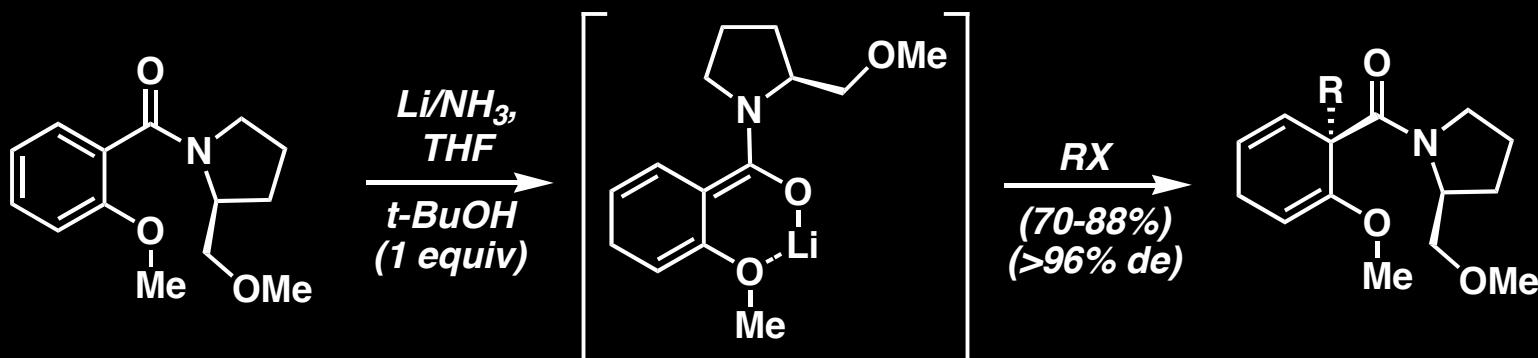
*With controlled use of 1 equivalent of a proton source, several alkylating agents can be added to give quaternary carbons and products that cannot aromatize.*

## Birch Reduction: What Other Products Can You Get?



For reviews, see: A. G. Schultz, *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1990, 23, 207.  
A. G. Schultz, *Chem. Commun.* 1999, 1267.

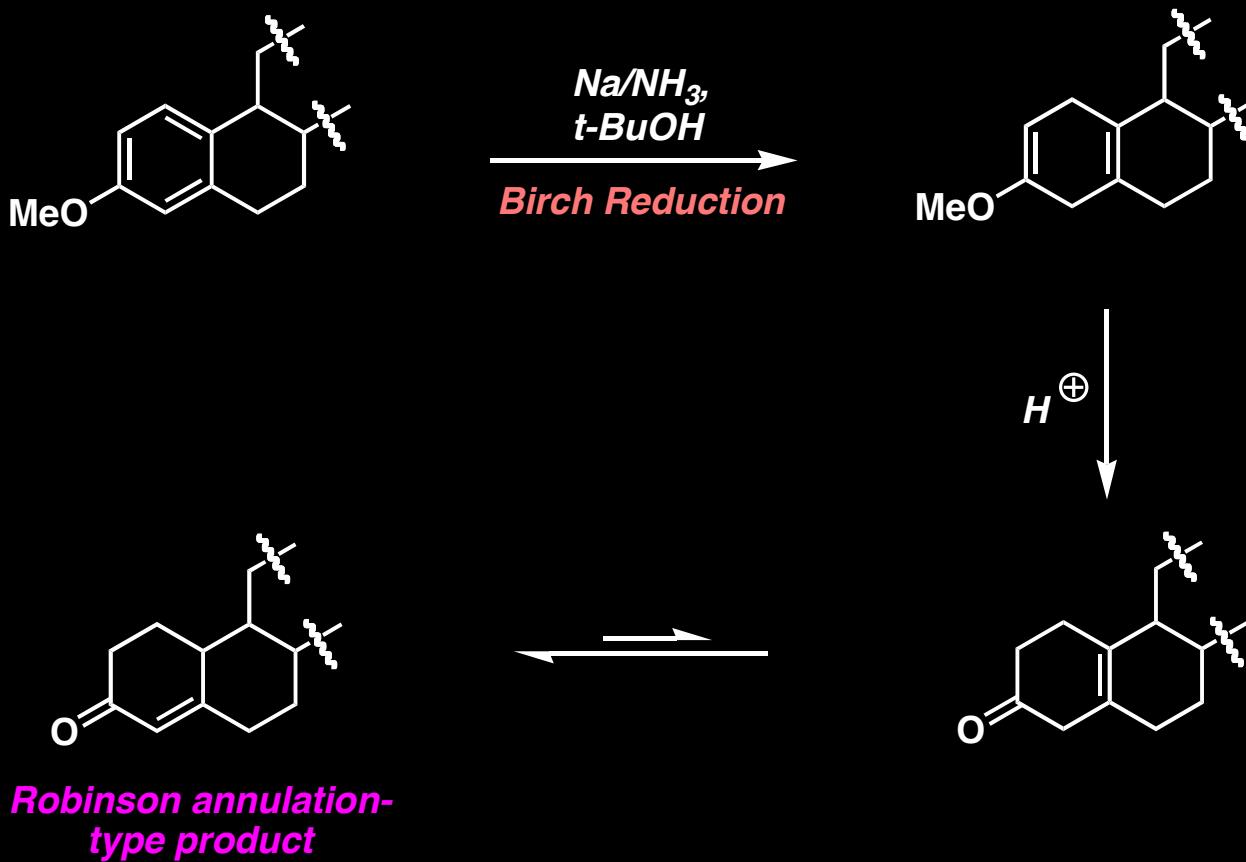
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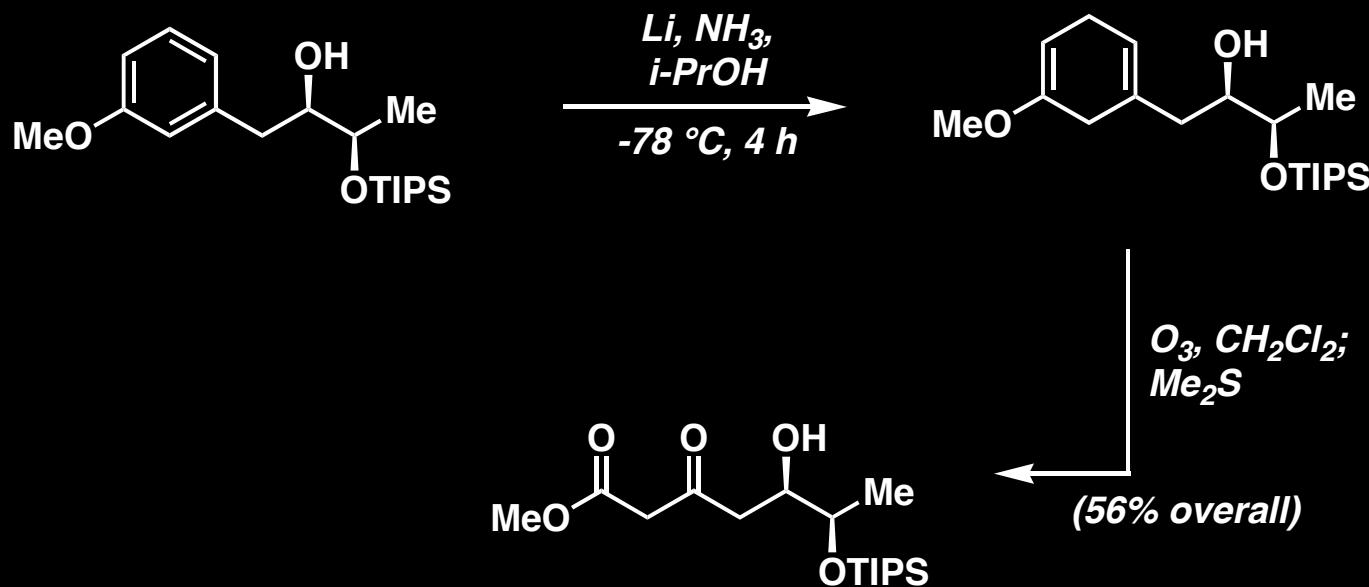
## Birch Reduction: What Can You Do With the Reaction Products?

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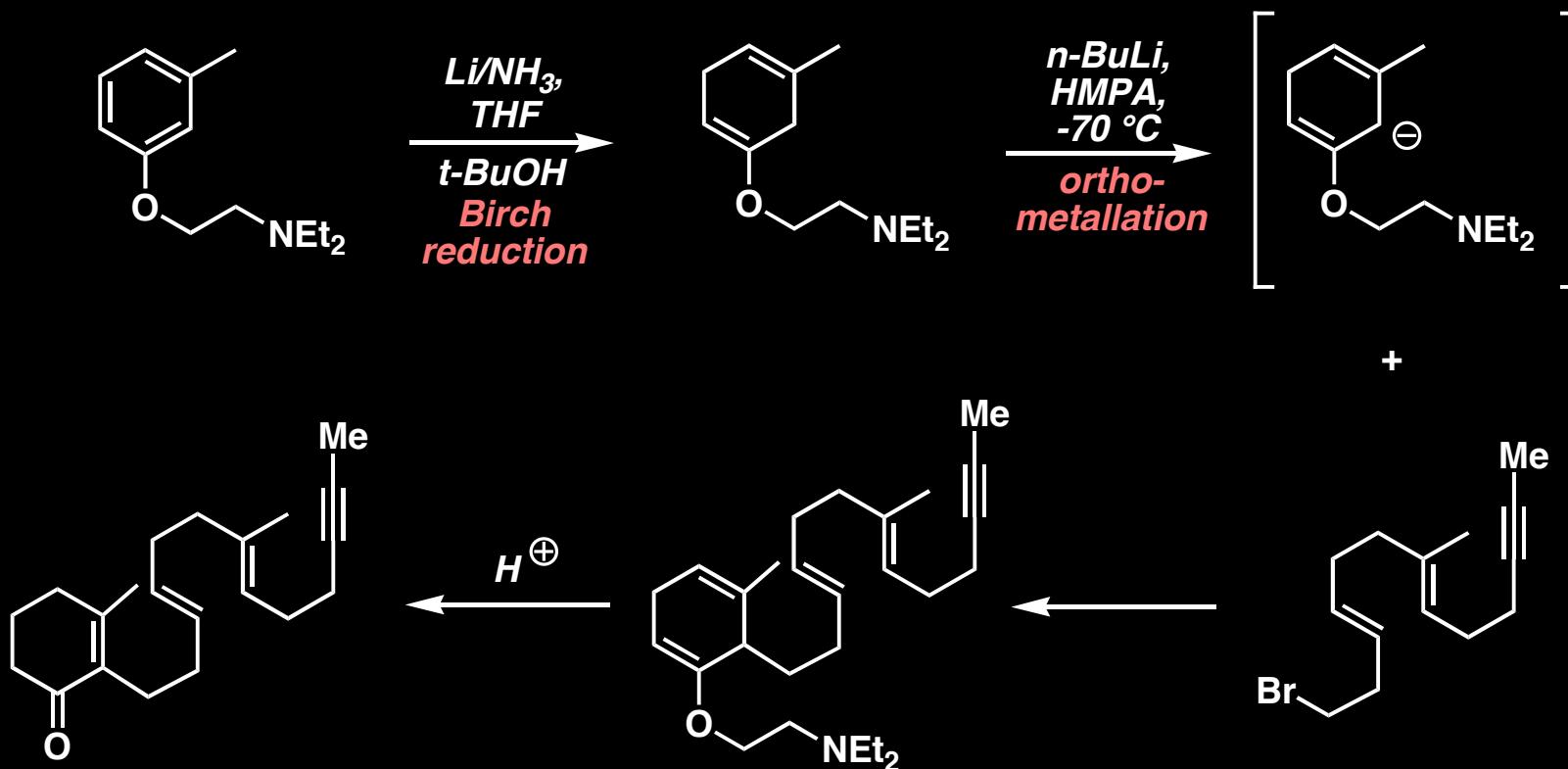


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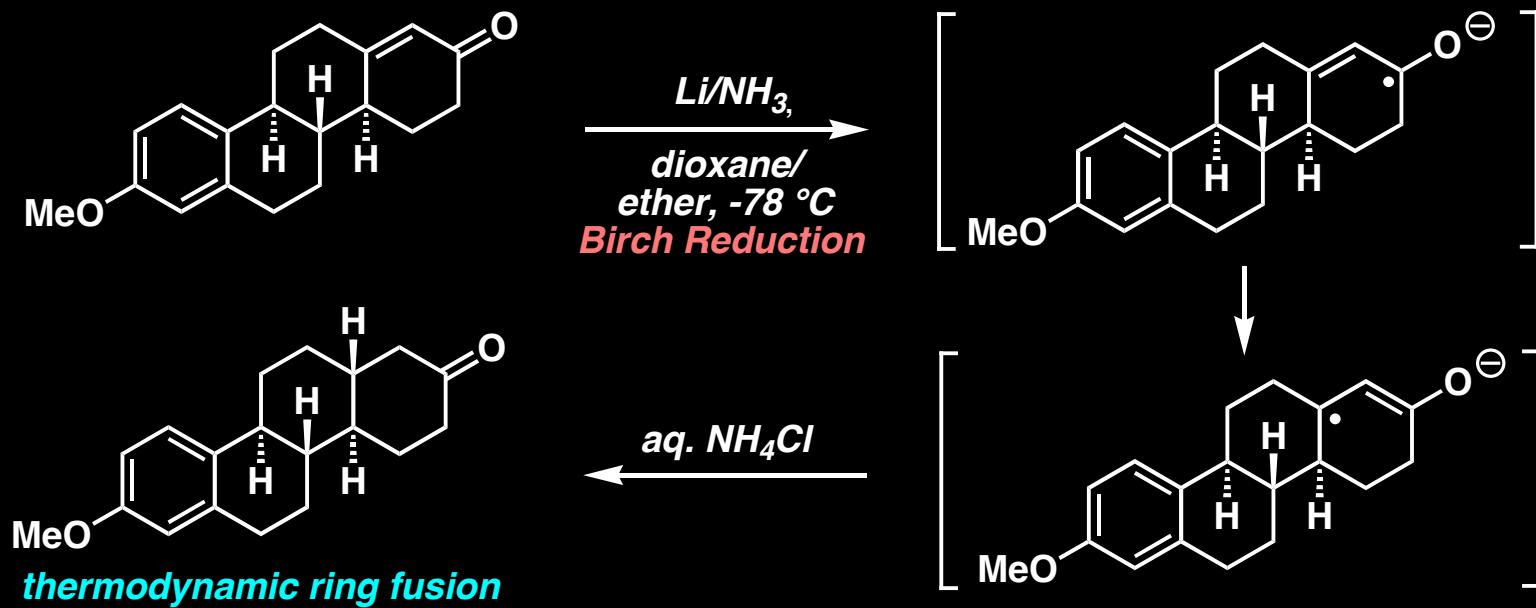
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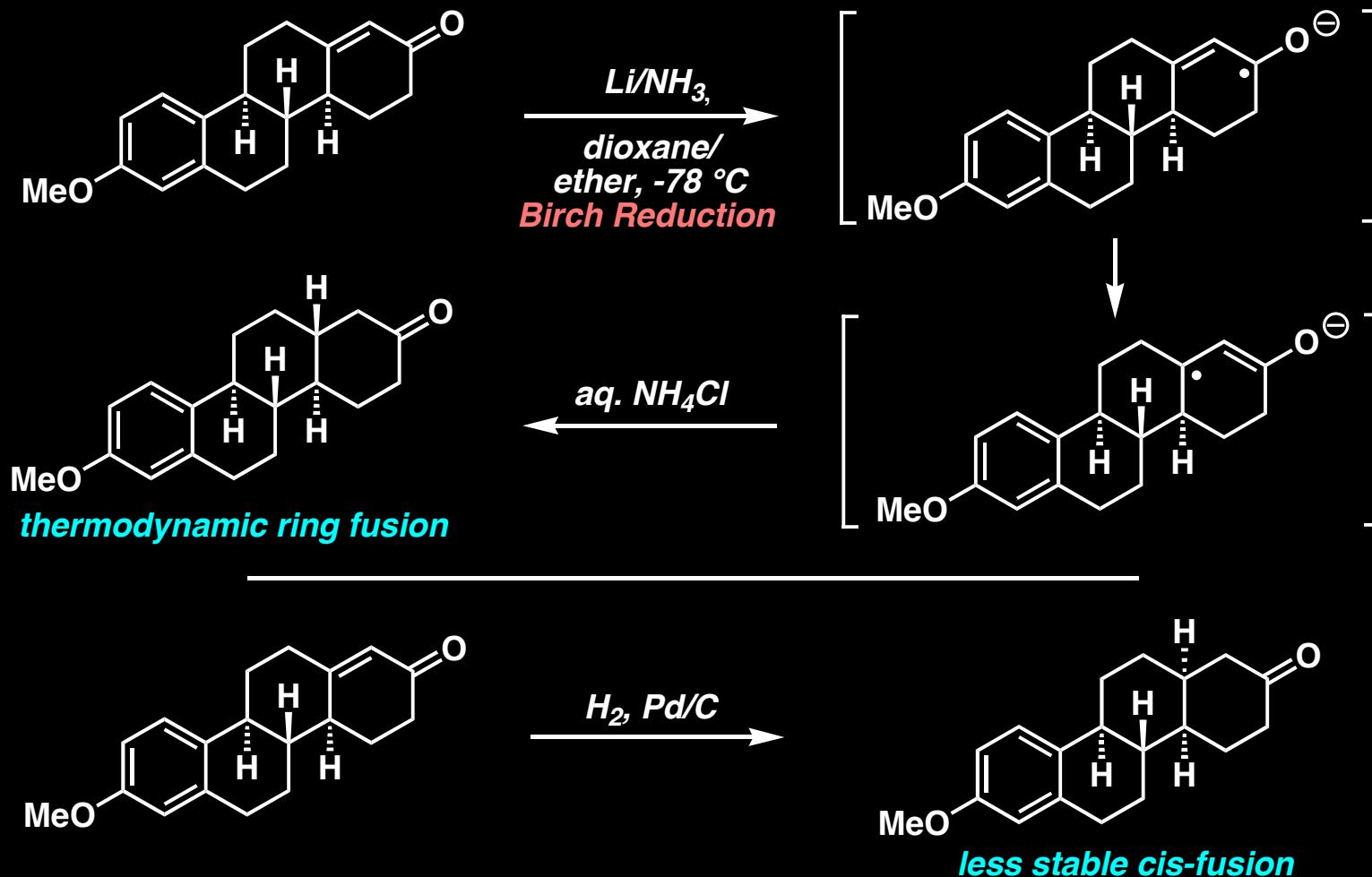
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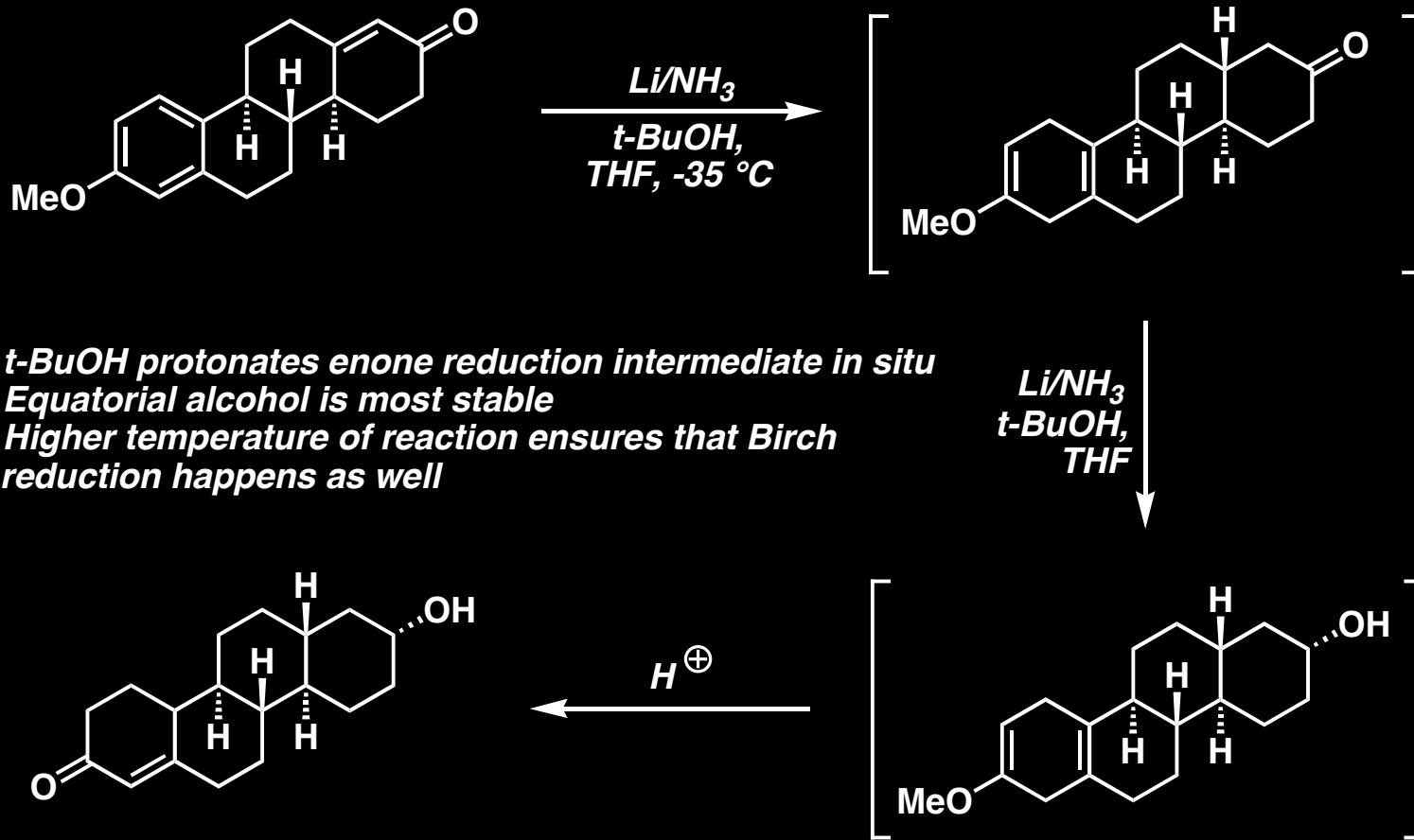


# Birch Reduction: What Can You Do With the Reaction Products?



W. S. Johnson and co-workers, J. Org. Chem. 1963, 28, 1856.

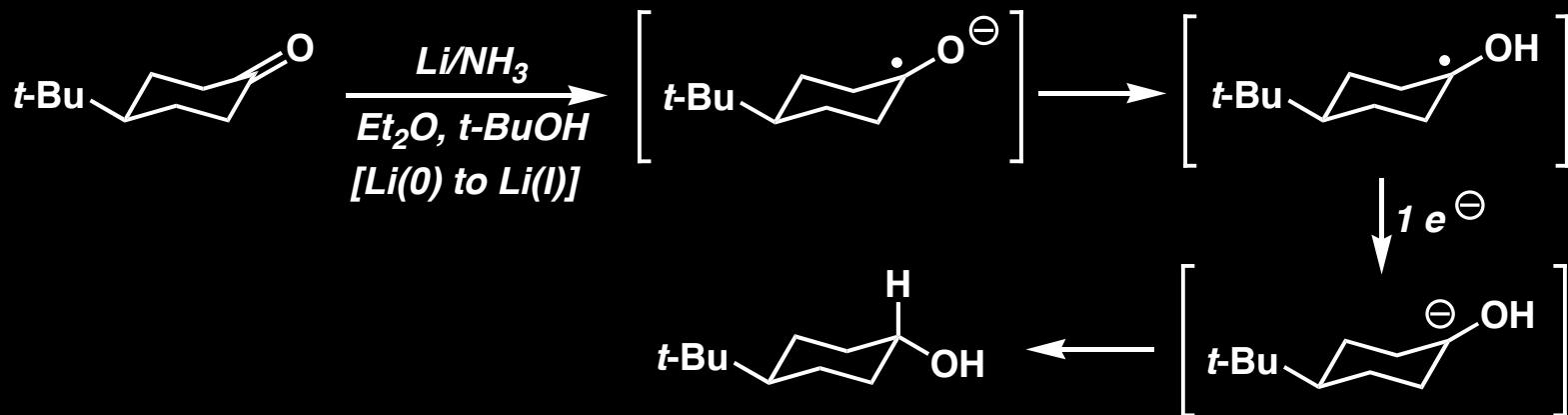
## Birch Reduction: What Can You Do With the Reaction Products?



- *t-BuOH protonates enone reduction intermediate in situ*
- *Equatorial alcohol is most stable*
- *Higher temperature of reaction ensures that Birch reduction happens as well*

## Dissolving Metal Reduction: What Can You Do With the Reaction Products

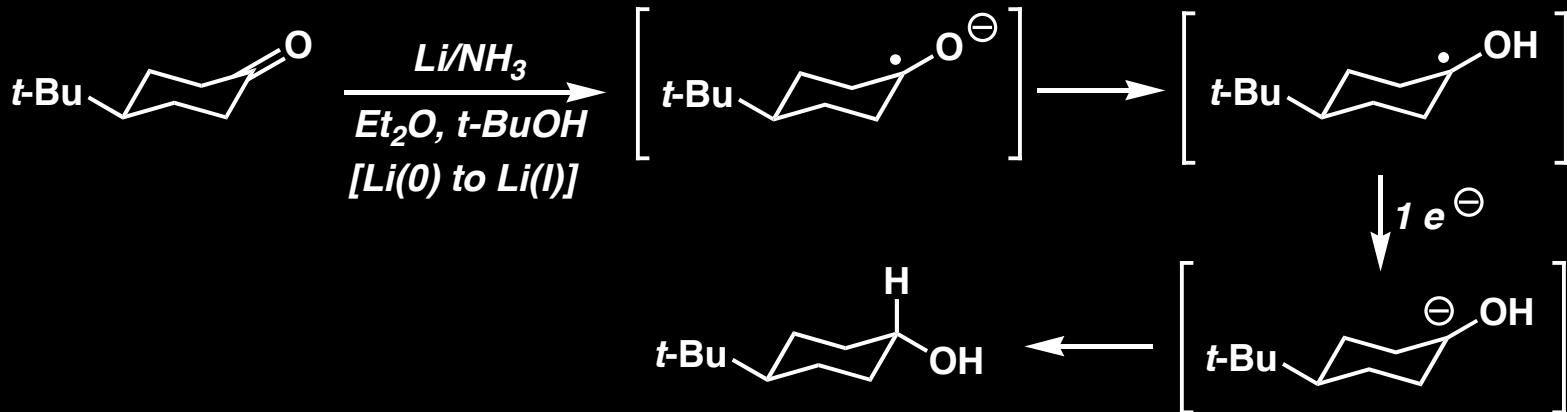
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**Rule:** Dissolving metal reduction gives the thermodynamically most stable product

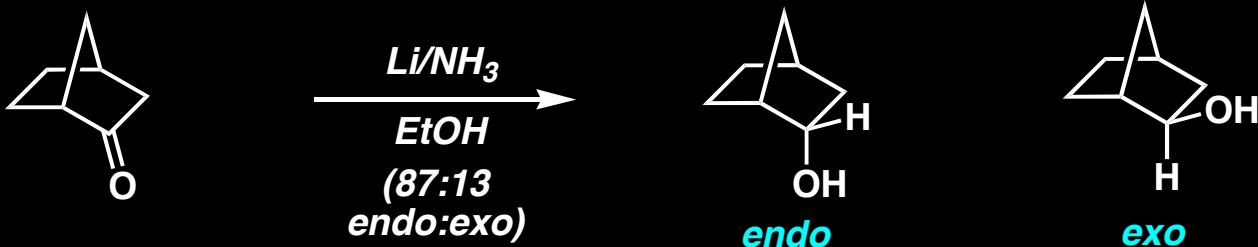
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## Dissolving Metal Reduction: What Can You Do With the Reaction Products

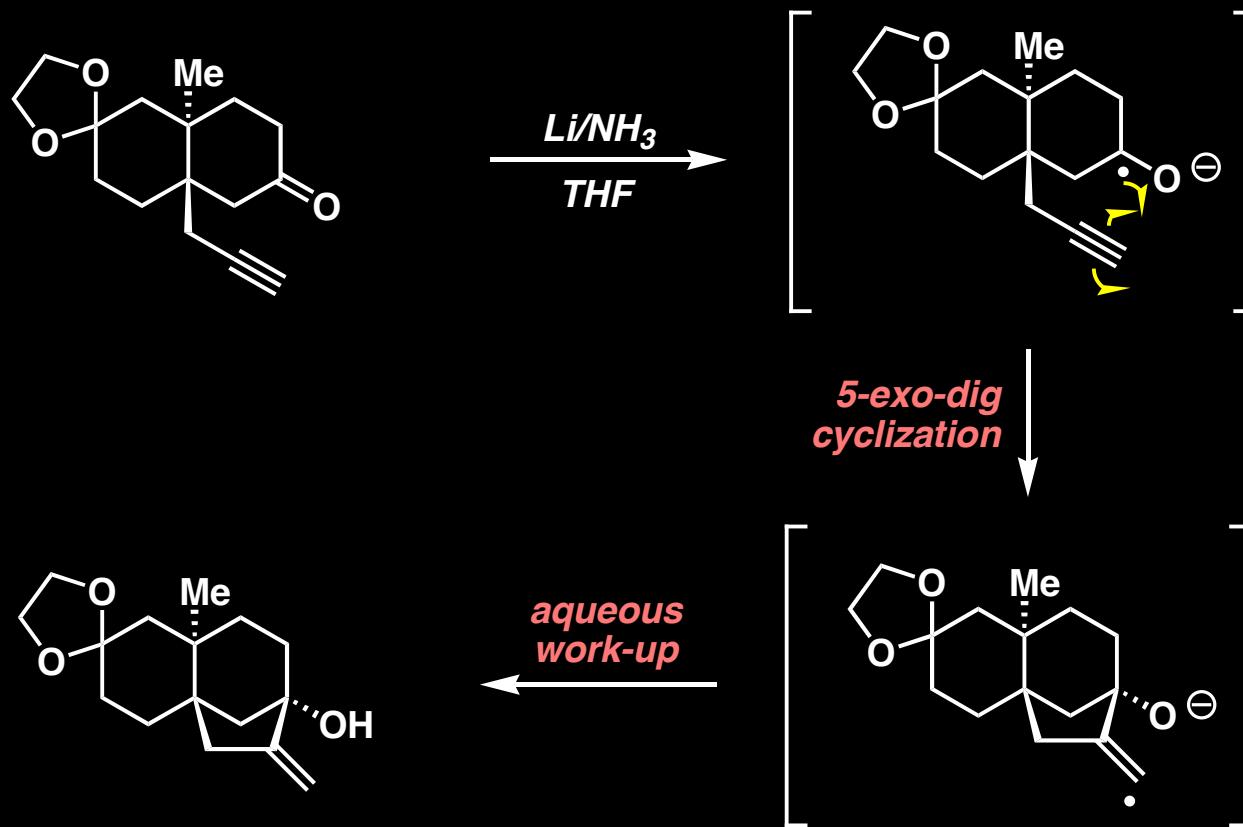


**Rule:** Dissolving metal reduction gives the thermodynamically most stable product

**Exception:** Strained or sterically hindered ketones



## Dissolving Metal Reduction: Other Synthetic Opportunities



G. Stork and co-workers, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1979, 101, 7107.