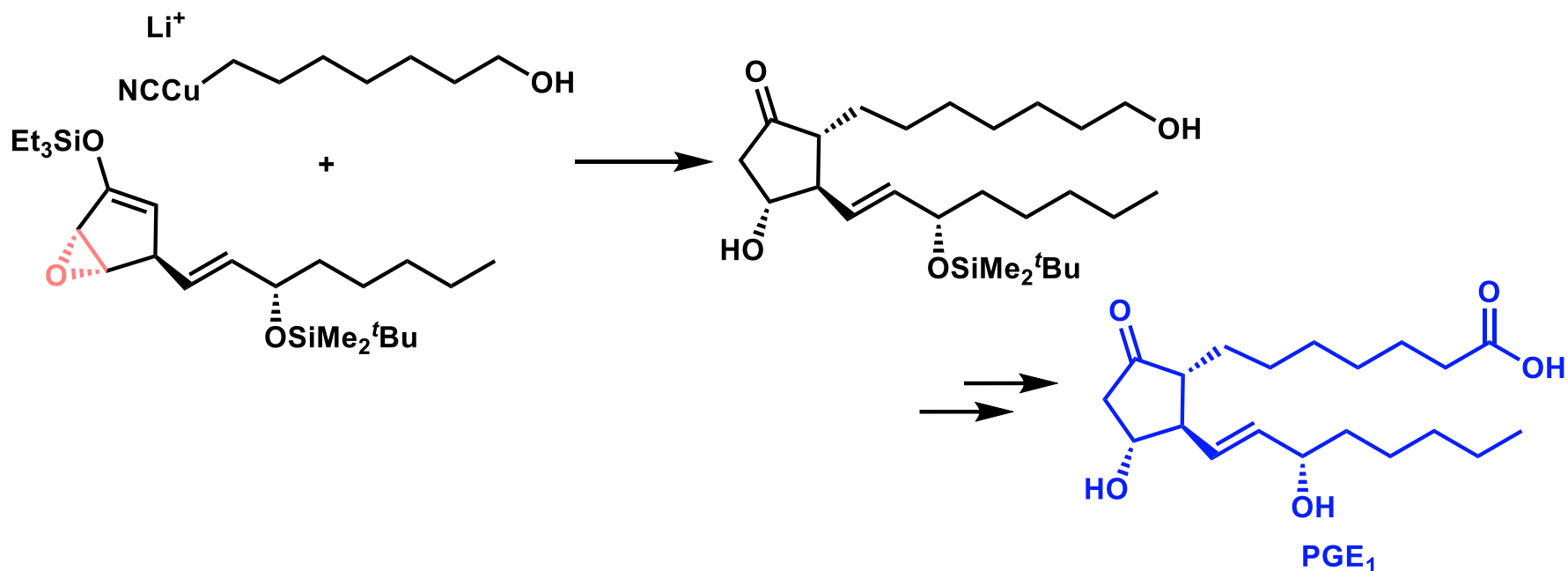
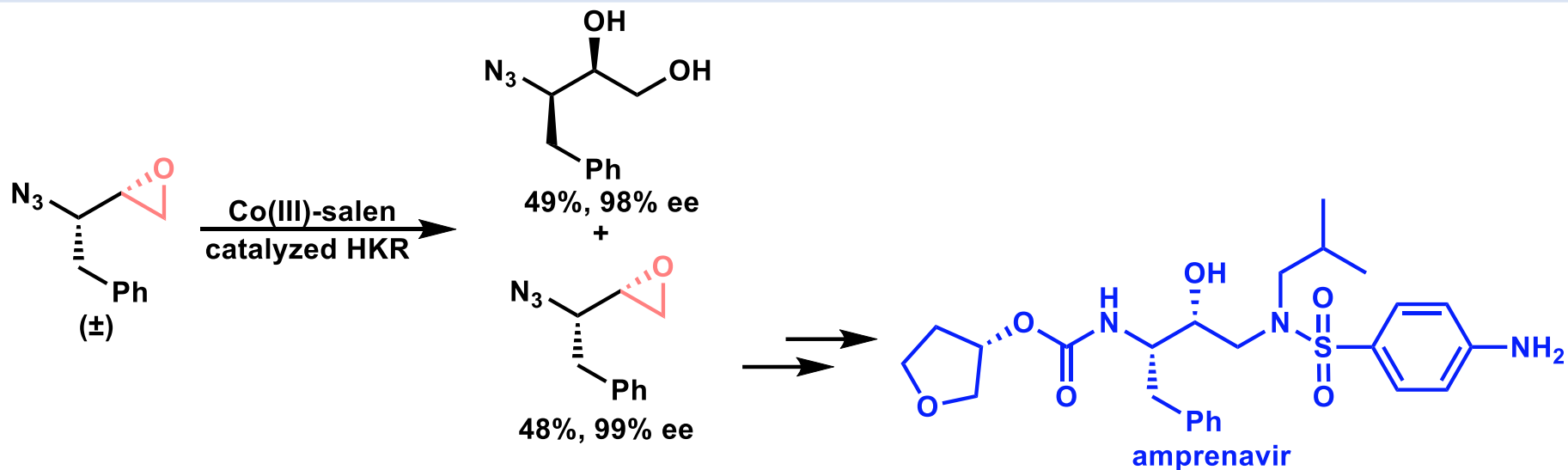


***Epoxide***  
***in***  
***Organic Synthesis***

M1 Yuki Hirao

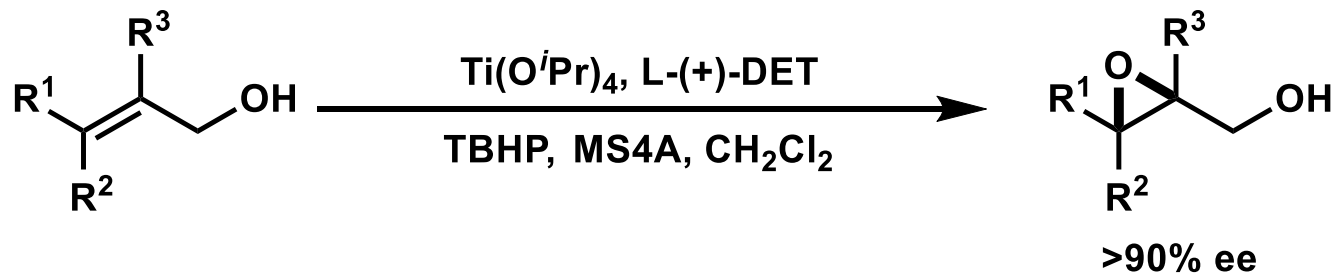
# Introduction



**Epoxides are important intermediates in total synthesis.**

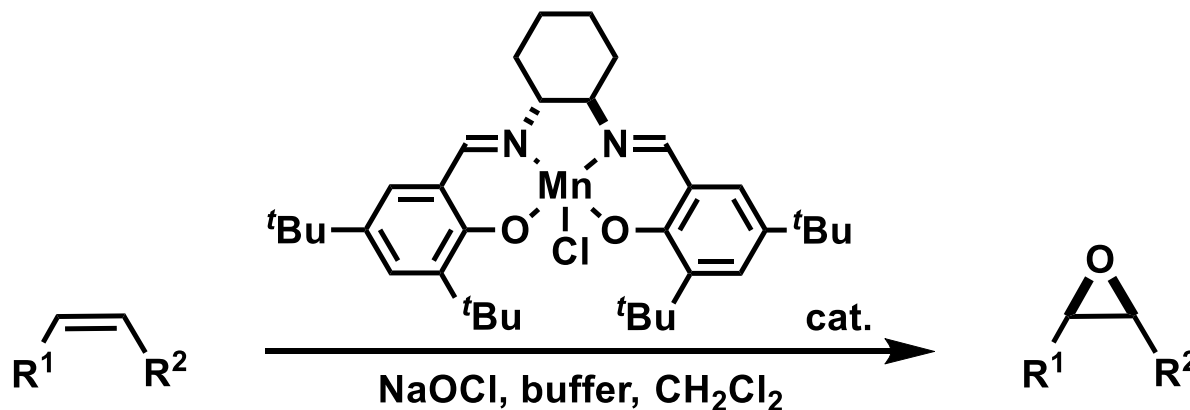
# Asymmetric Epoxidation

## Sharpless-Katsuki Epoxidation



The Nobel Prize  
in Chemistry 2001

## Jacobsen-Katsuki Epoxidation



# Contents

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## 1. Introduction

## 2. Ring-Opening of Epoxide

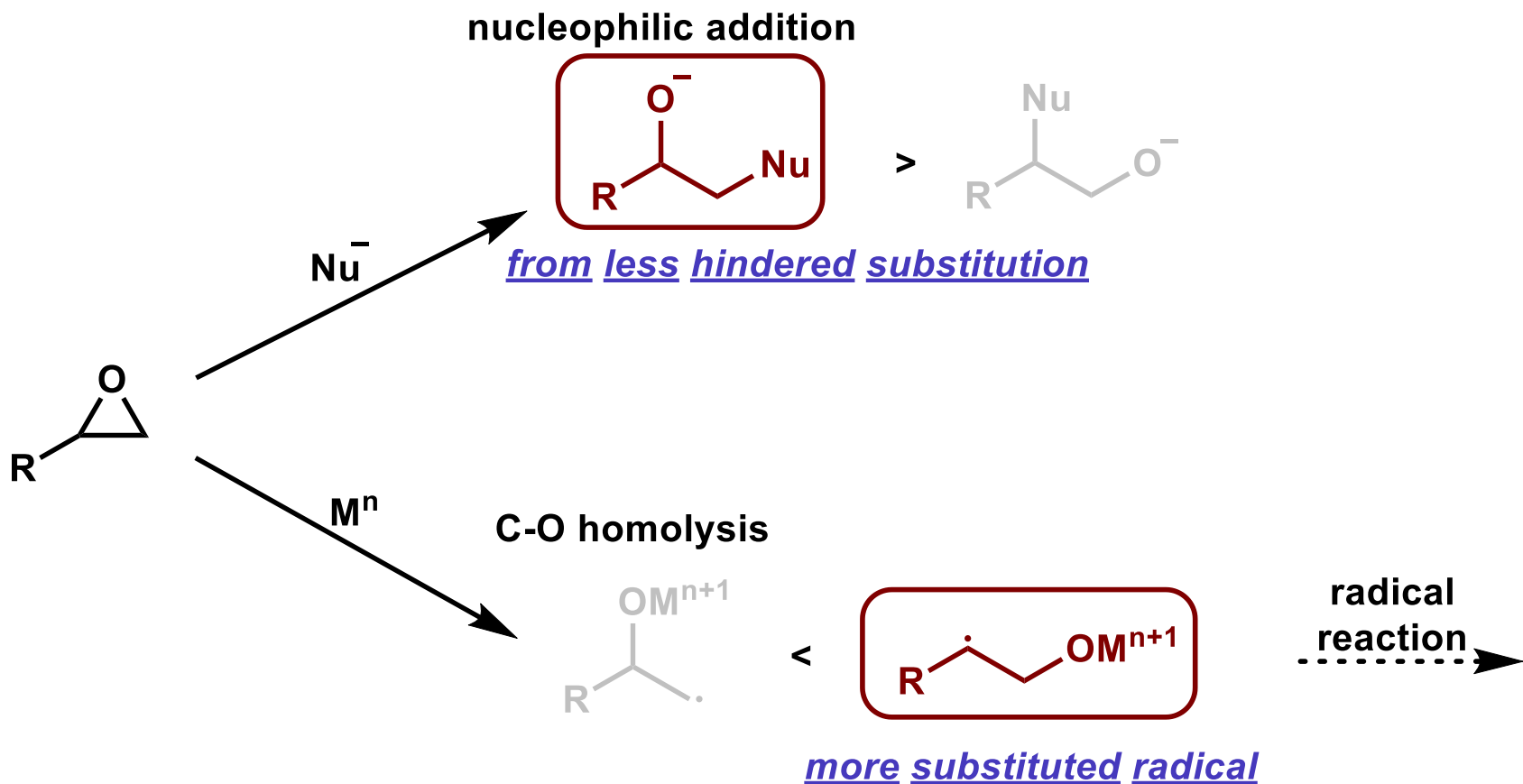
- Nucleophilic addition
- Reductive-opening by SET

## 3. Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening

## 4. Recent Achievements

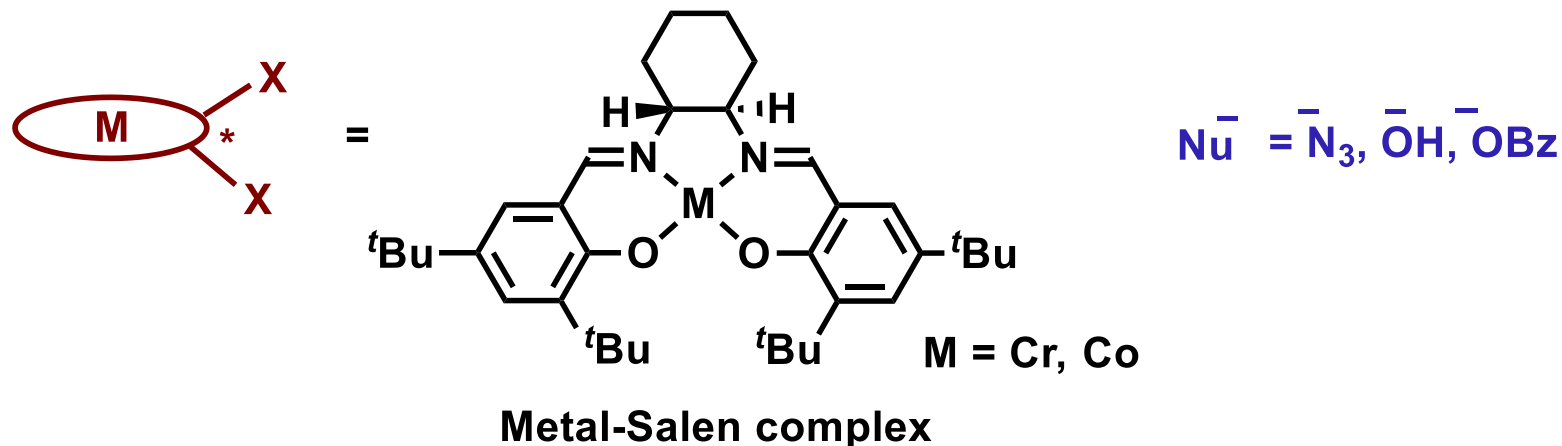
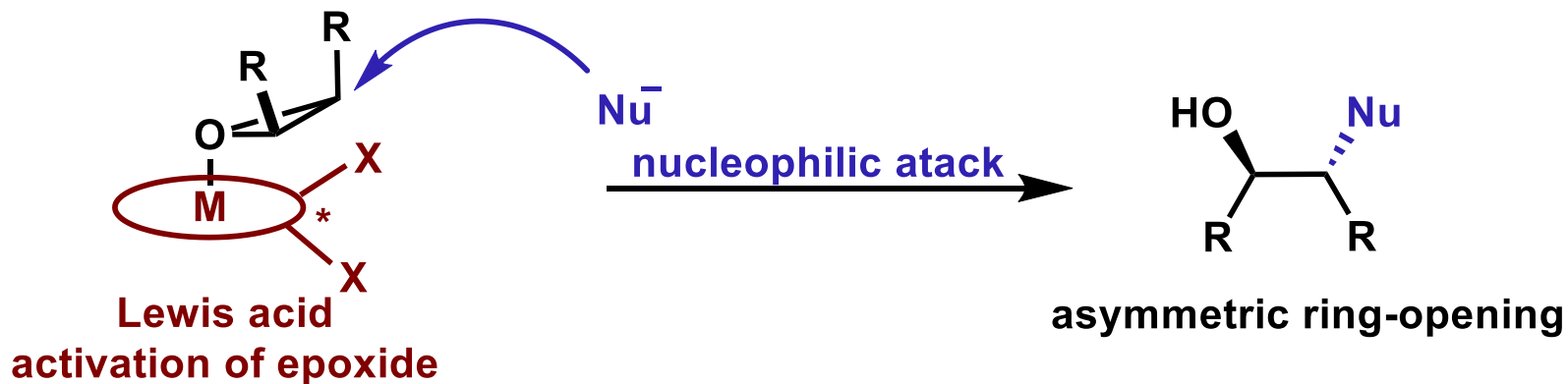
- Isomerization of epoxides to Allylic Alcohols
- Anti-Markovnikov alcohols via epoxide hydrogenation

# Ring-Opening of Epoxide



This Seminar

# Nucleophilic addition



- high yield and high enantioselectivity with *meso*-epoxide
- kinetic resolution of terminal epoxide

# Reductive-opening by SET

## General Ideas

Opening of epoxides with low-valent metal complexes

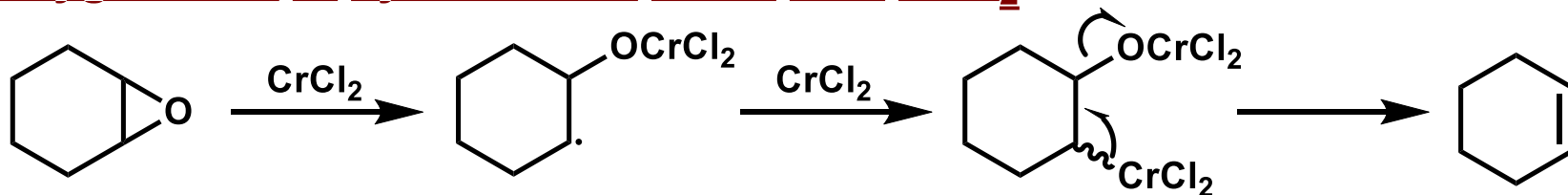


analogue of the opening of cyclopropylcarbinyl radicals



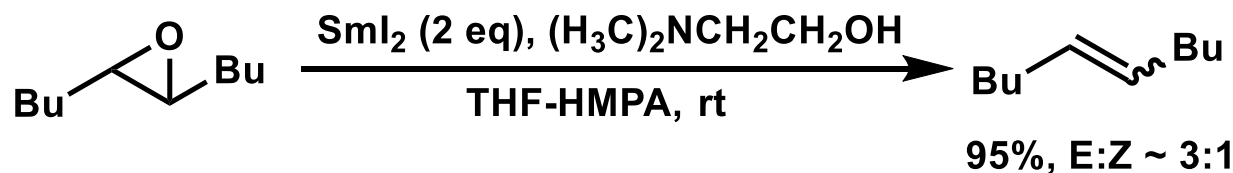
# Reductive-opening by SET

## Deoxygenation of cyclohexene oxide with $\text{CrCl}_2$



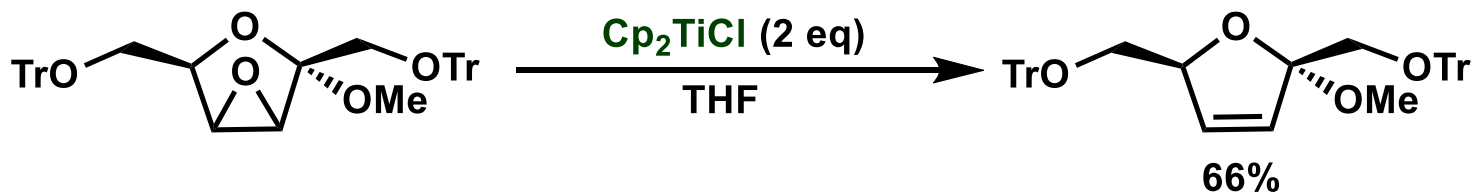
J. K. Kochi, D. M. Singleton, L. J. Andrews, *Tetrahedron*. **1968**, 24, 3503.

## Deoxygenation of epoxides with $\text{SmI}_2$

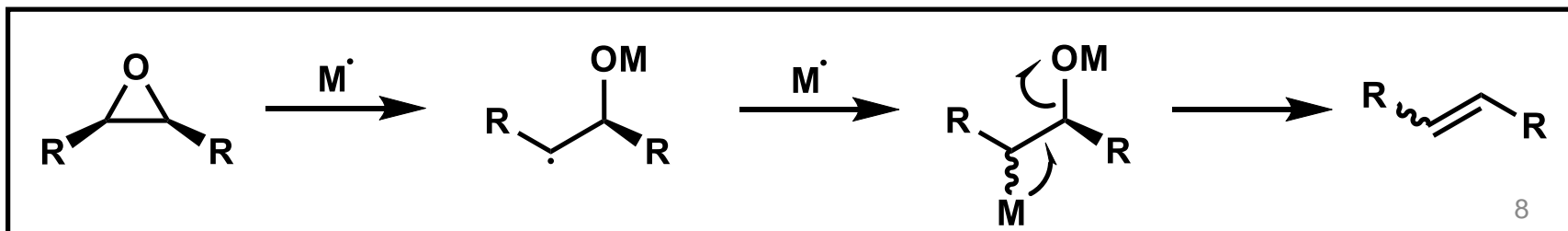


M. Matsukawa, T. Tabuchi, J. Inanaga, M. Yamaguchi, *Chem. Lett.* **1987**, 2101.

## Deoxygenation of epoxides with $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}$

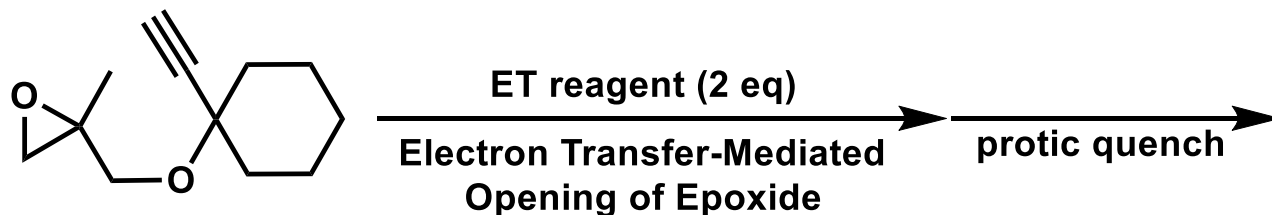


T. V. RajanBabu, W. A. Nugent, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, 116, 986.

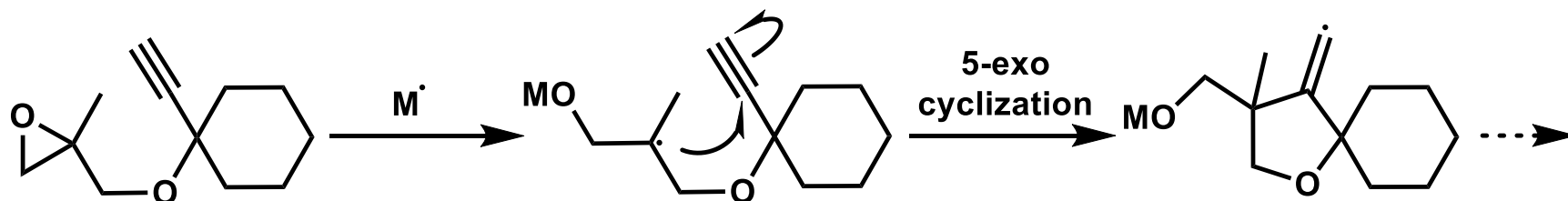




# Reductive-opening by SET



Entry	ET-reagent	Product	Yield (%)
1	$\text{SmI}_2$		36, 45
2	$\text{CrCl}_2$		38
3	$\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}$		82



# Contents

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## 1. Introduction

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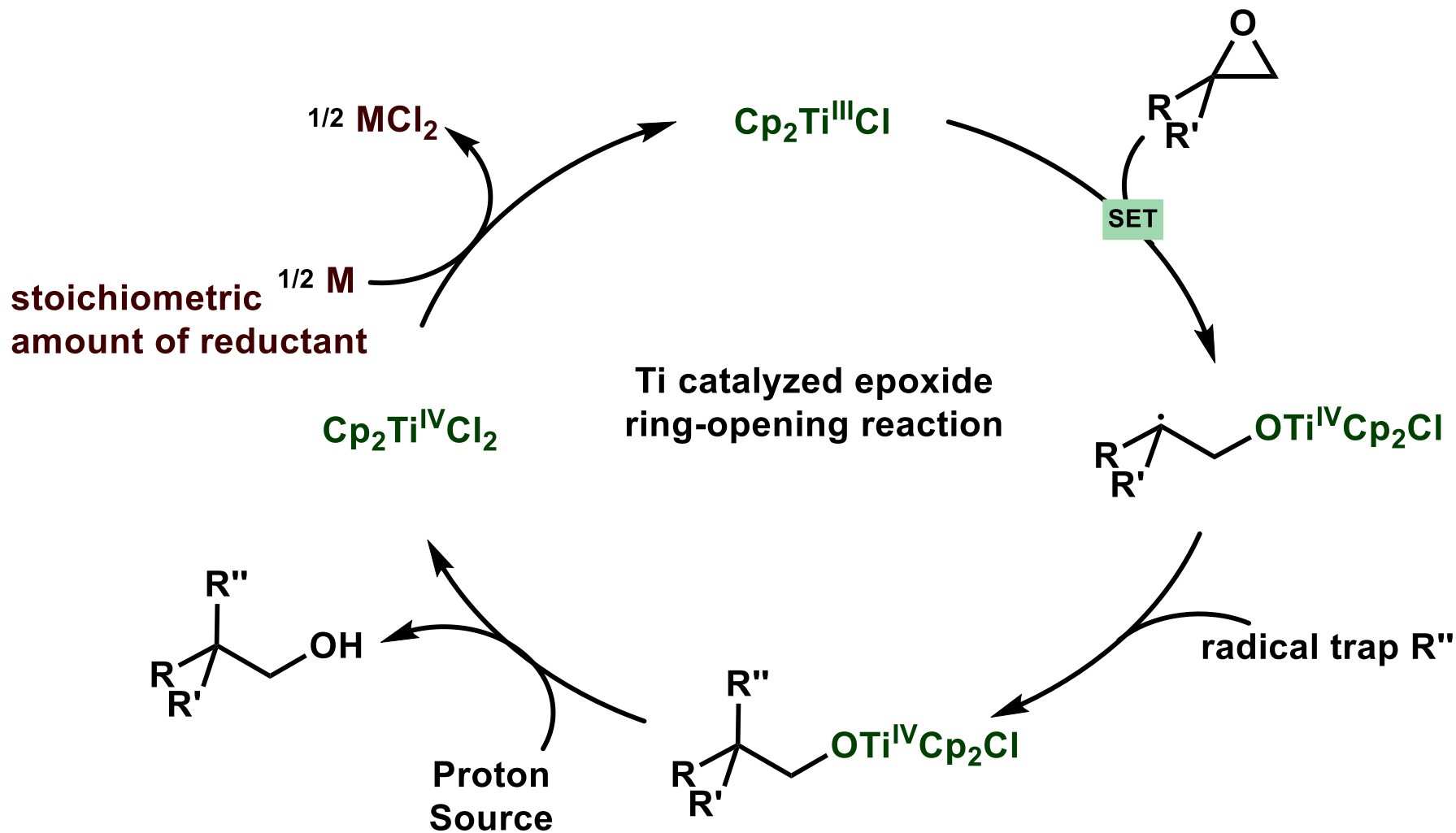
- Nucleophilic addition
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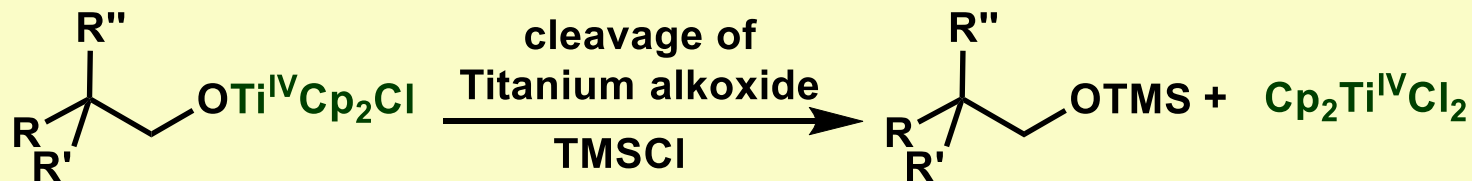
- Isomerization of epoxides to Allylic Alcohols
- Anti-Markovnikov alcohols via epoxide hydrogenation

# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening



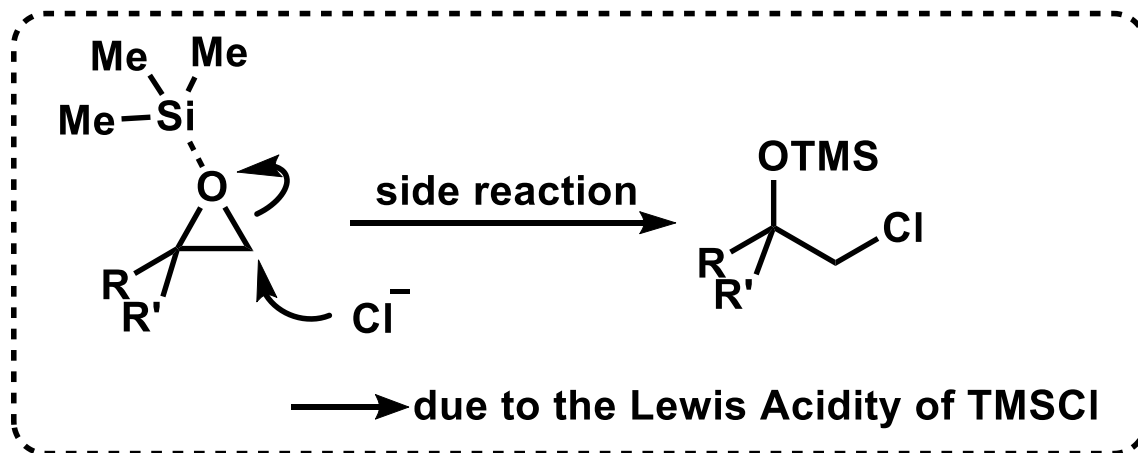
# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening

➤ For a catalytic reaction, the regeneration of the redox active species ( $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2$ ) is needed.



cf.) McMurry couplings, NHK reactions, pinacol couplings

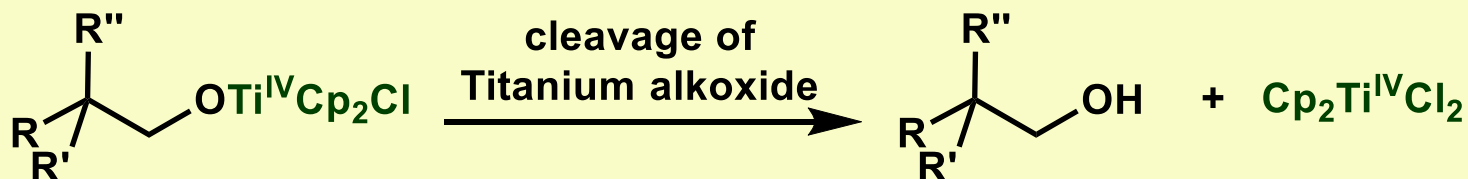
✗ TMSiCl instead of proton source



Fürstner, A. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, 117, 4468.  
Fürstner, A. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, 118, 2533.  
Ikeda, I. *et al.* *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, 61, 366.

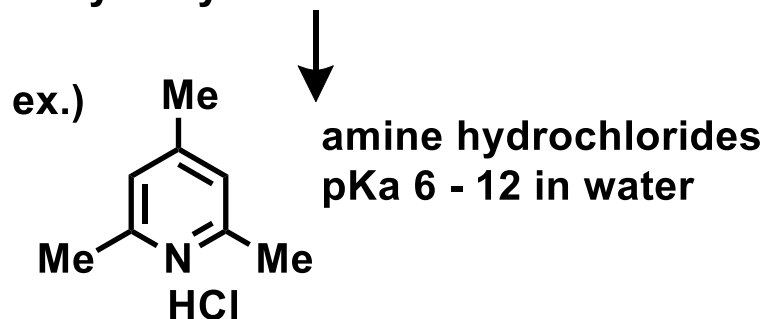
# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening

- For a catalytic reaction, the regeneration of the redox active species ( $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2$ ) is needed.

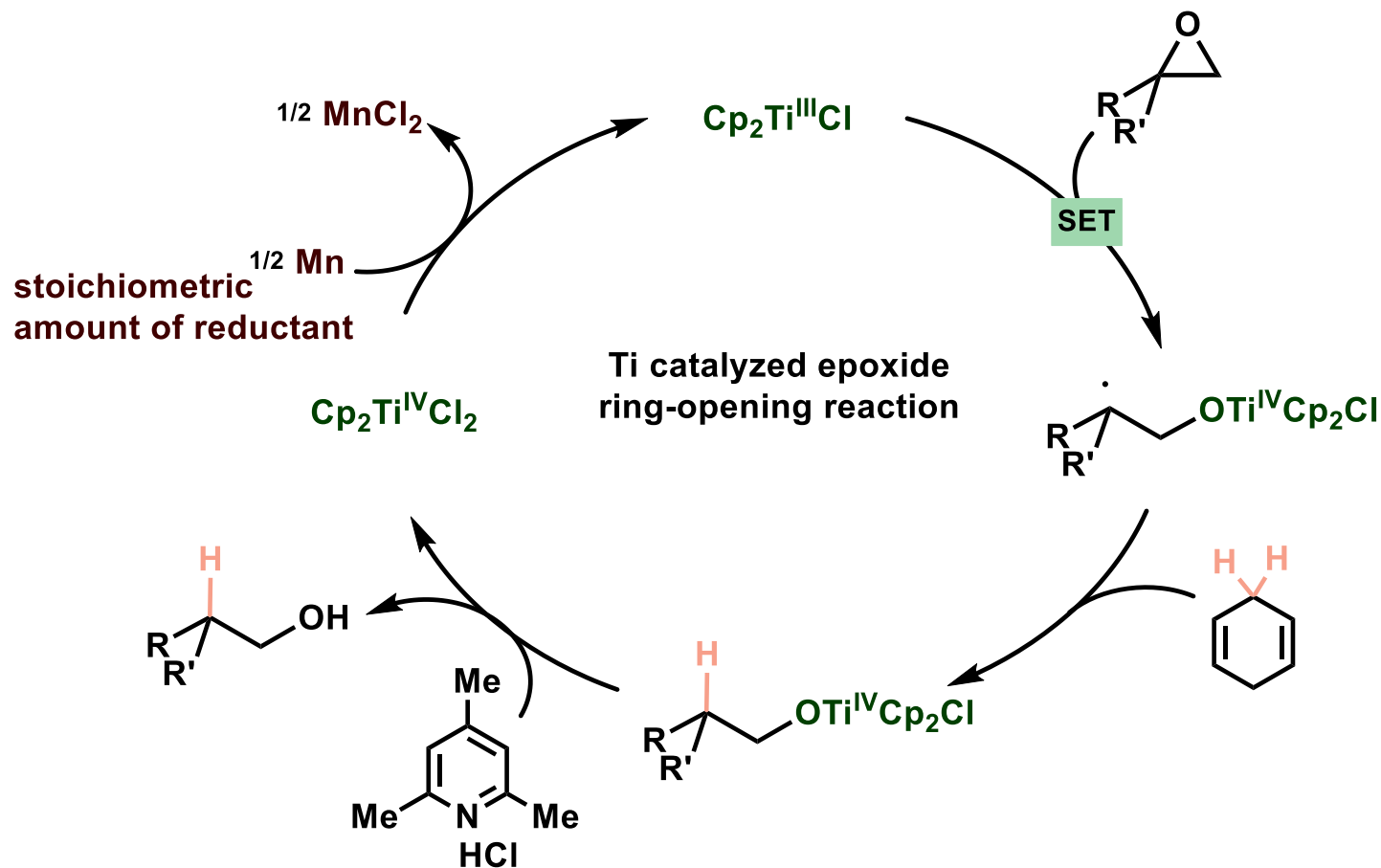
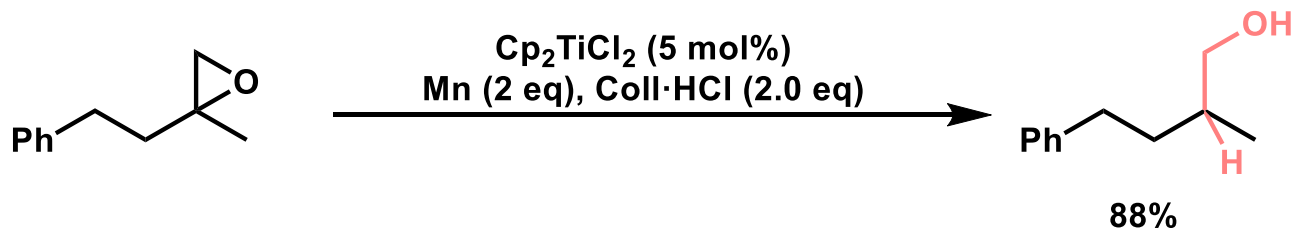


✓ characteristics of proton source

- 1) must **not** be strong enough to **open epoxides via S<sub>N</sub>1 or S<sub>N</sub>2 reactions.**
- 2) must be strong enough to **protonate alkoxides** to enable turn over. The pK<sub>a</sub> of typical alcohols in water are range of 15 - 18.
- 3) must **not oxidize the reductant or the titanocene(III) complex.**
- 4) must **not complex and deactivate any titanium species** in the proposed catalytic cycle.



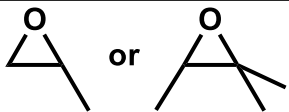
# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening



# Computational Studies

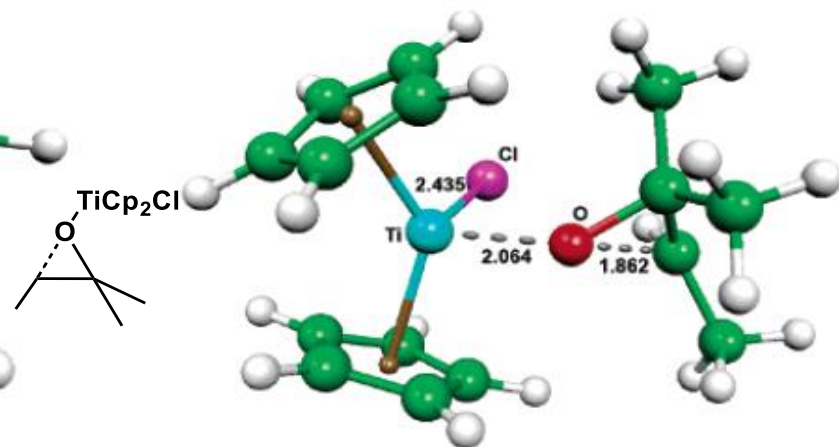
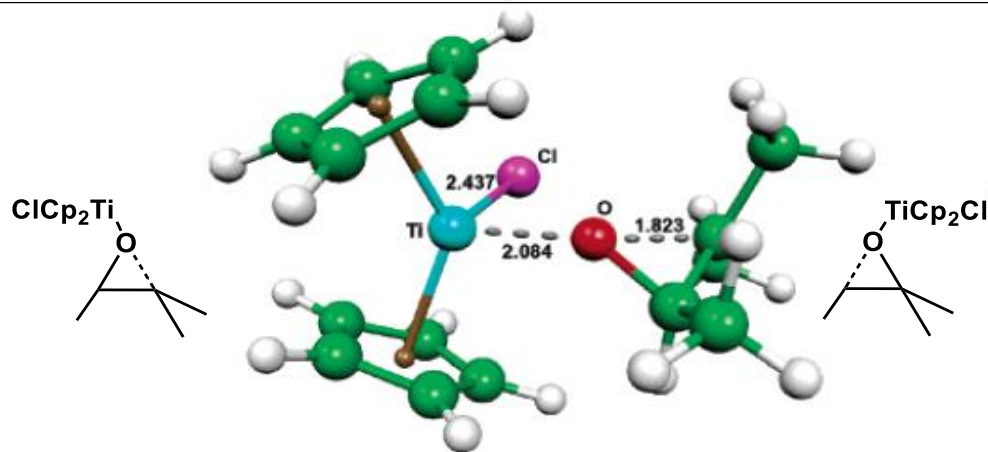
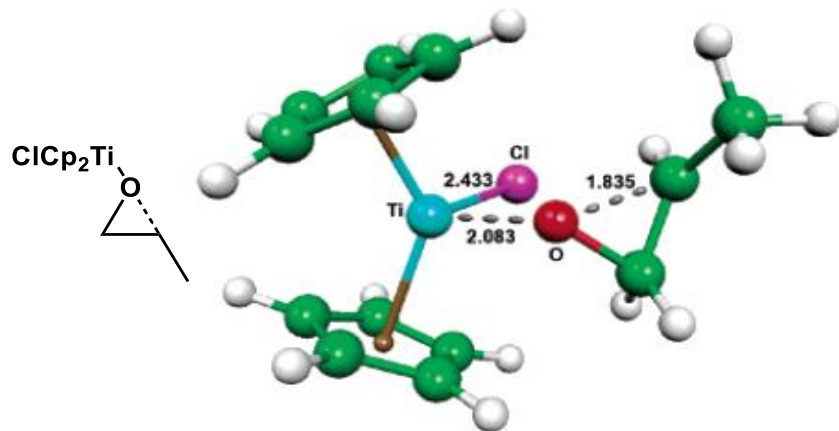
DFT calculations (BP86/TZVP)

Cp<sub>2</sub>TiCl with



Favored

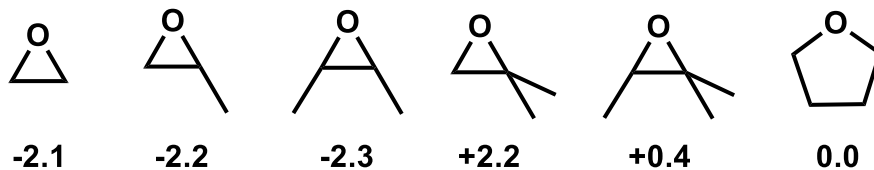
Disfavored



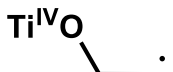

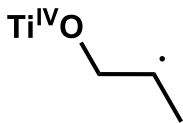

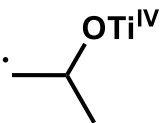
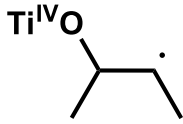

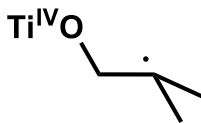

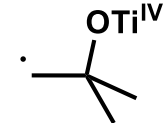
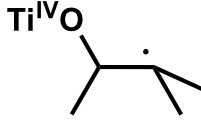
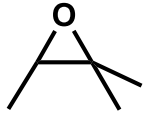
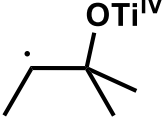
**In disfavored transition state, the larger CH<sub>3</sub> group gets into closer contact with Cp ligand.**

# Computational Studies DFT calculations (BP86/TZVP)

Complexation Energies by  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}$  Relative to Those of THF



activation and reaction energies of the epoxide complexes (kcal/mol)

product (a)	$\Delta E$	$\Delta E^\ddagger$	substrate	$\Delta E^\ddagger$	$\Delta E$	product (b)
	-4.1	8.7		-	-	-
	-4.0	8.2		9.4	-1.8	
	-1.8	8.8		-	-	-
	-8.5	7.0		9.0	-1.3	
	-4.9	8.7		10.3	+0.7	

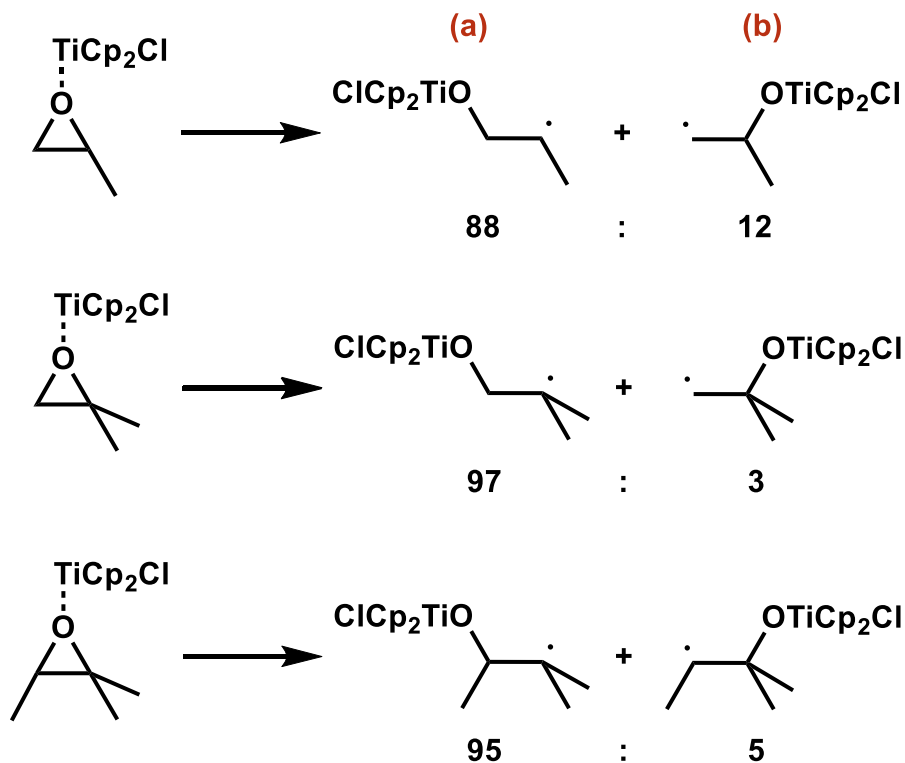
✓ Epoxide opening is exothermic.

✓ The formation of the higher substituted radicals is thermodynamically favored.

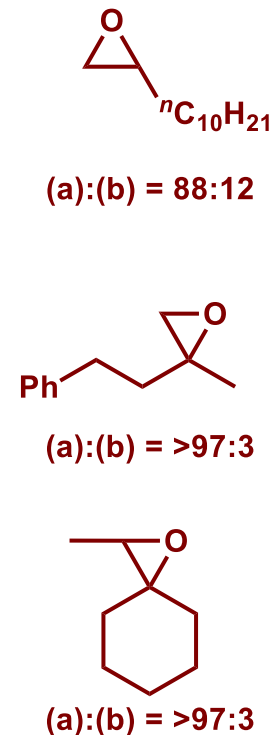


# Computational Studies

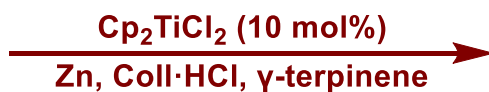
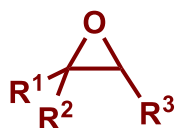
## Computed



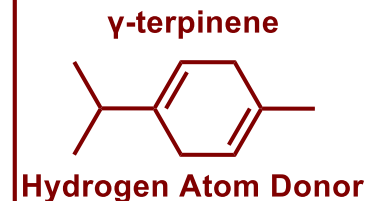
## Found



## Synthetic Studies



Regioselective  
Epoxide Ring Opening



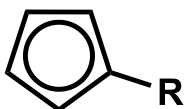
# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening

## manipulating the redox properties

the introduction of substituents to Cp ligands and variation of the inorganic ligands alter the redox potential and electronic properties of the titanocene complexes.

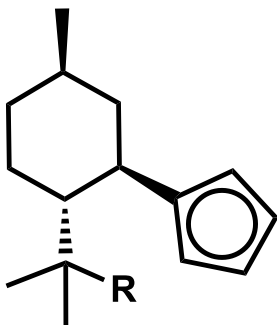
—————> these catalysts display high activity, stability, and functional group tolerance.

### 1. cyclopentadienyl ligand (Cp)

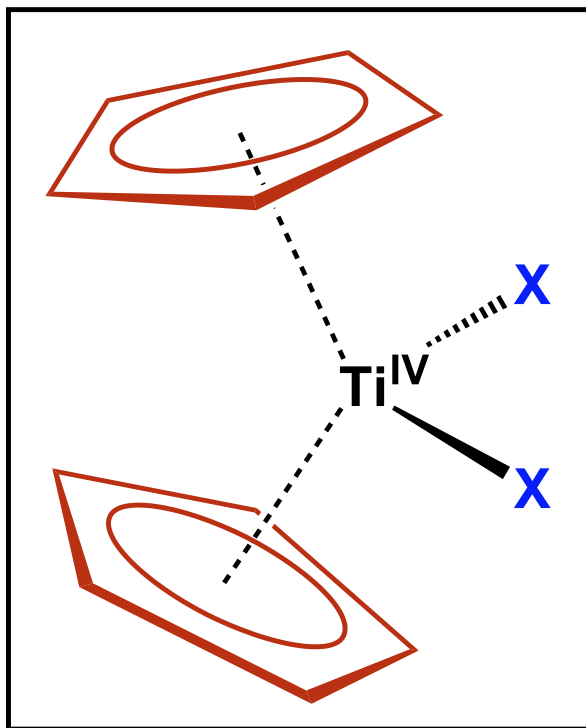
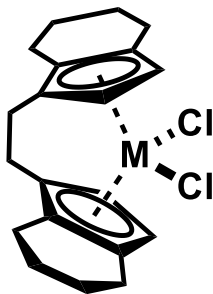


R = Me, <sup>t</sup>Bu, Cl,  
EWG, EDG...

for asymmetric reaction



R = H, Ph

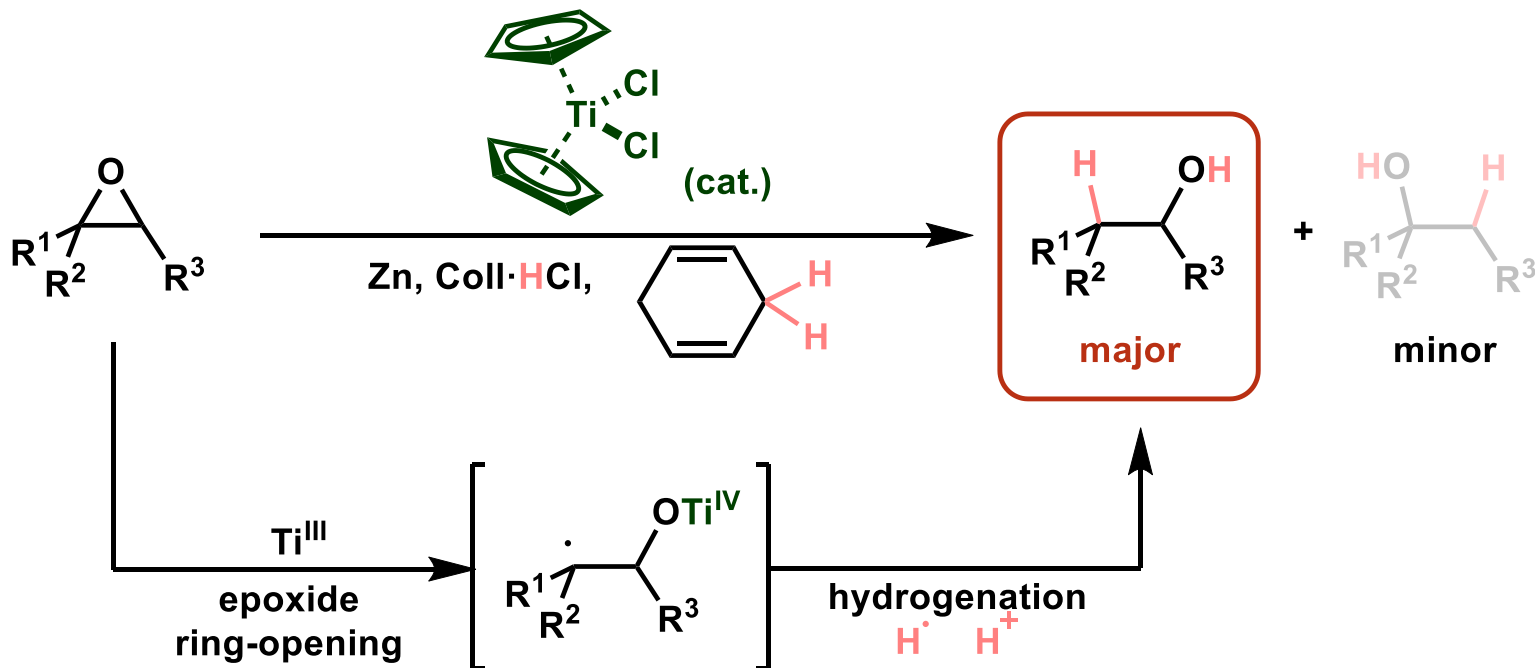


### 2. inorganic ligands (X)

X = Cl, Br, I, OTf, OTs,  
OMs, TFA, CSA ...

A. Gansäuer. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, 136, 1663.  
A. Gansäuer. et al. *Chem. Eur.J.* **2018**, 24, 6371.

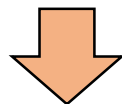
# Short Summary



## Reductive Opening of Epoxides by SET

✦ Radical Stability

✦ Steric Interactions between  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and Cp ligand



**more highly substituted radical**

opposed to  $S_N2$  Reaction (from less substituted carbon)

## 4. Recent Achievements

**J | A | C | S**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Cite This: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2019, 141, 9548–9554

Communication

[pubs.acs.org/JACS](https://pubs.acs.org/JACS)

### Bimetallic Radical Redox-Relay Catalysis for the Isomerization of Epoxides to Allylic Alcohols

Ke-Yin Ye,<sup>†,‡,§</sup> Terry McCallum,<sup>‡,§</sup> and Song Lin<sup>\*,‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>College of Chemistry, Fuzhou University, Fuzhou, 350116, P.R. China

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853, United States

RESEARCH

Science

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

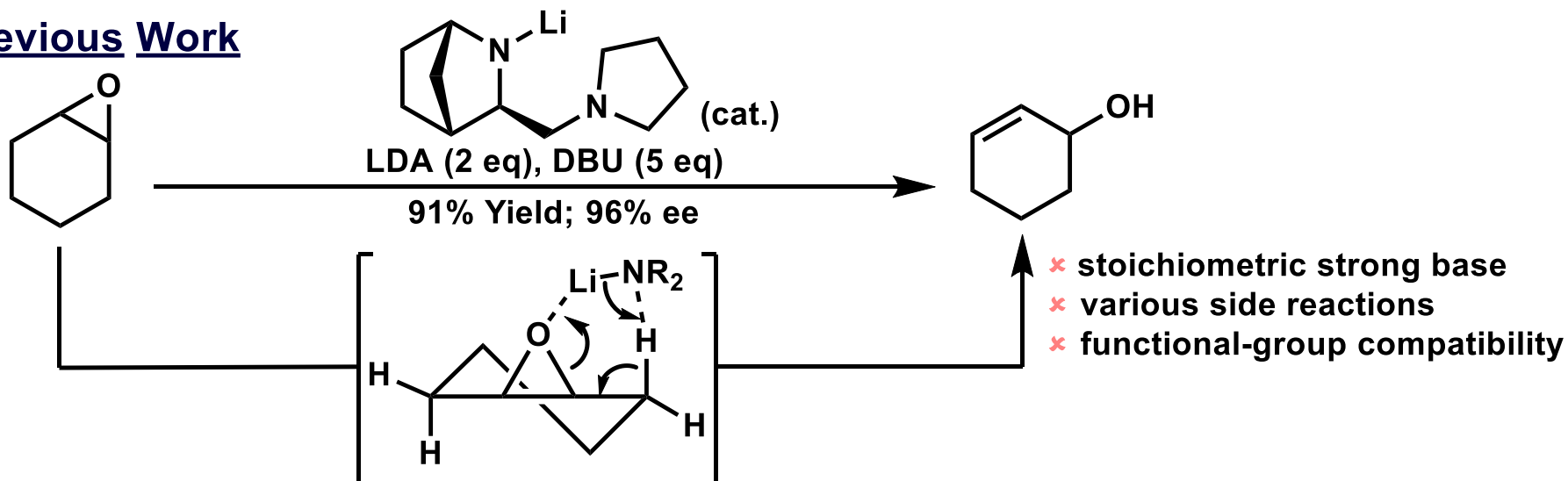
### Anti-Markovnikov alcohols via epoxide hydrogenation through cooperative catalysis

Chengbo Yao<sup>1</sup>, Tobias Dahmen<sup>2</sup>, Andreas Gansäuer<sup>3\*</sup>, Jack Norton<sup>1\*</sup>

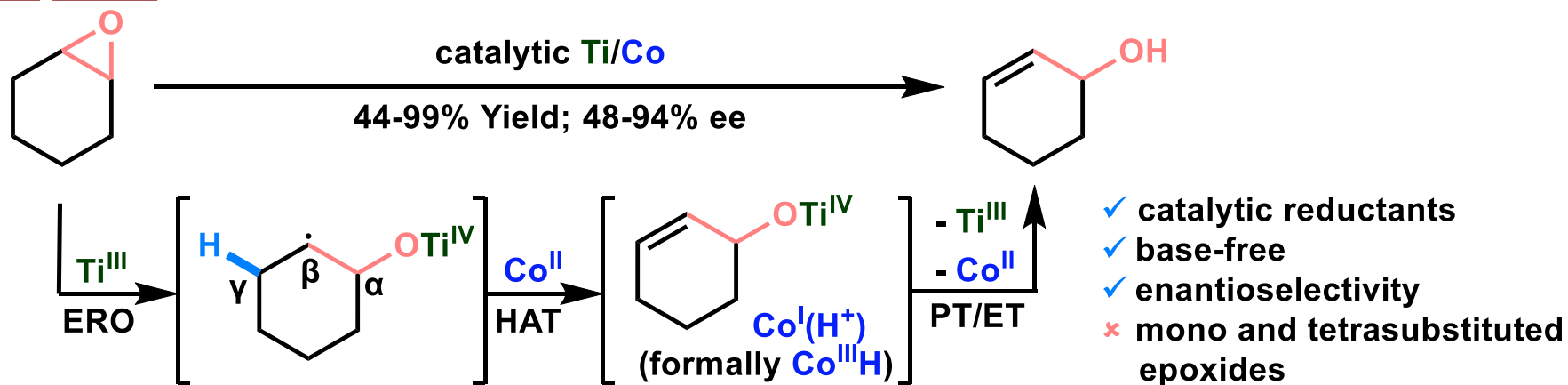
*Science* **364** (6442), 764–767.  
DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw3913

# Purpose

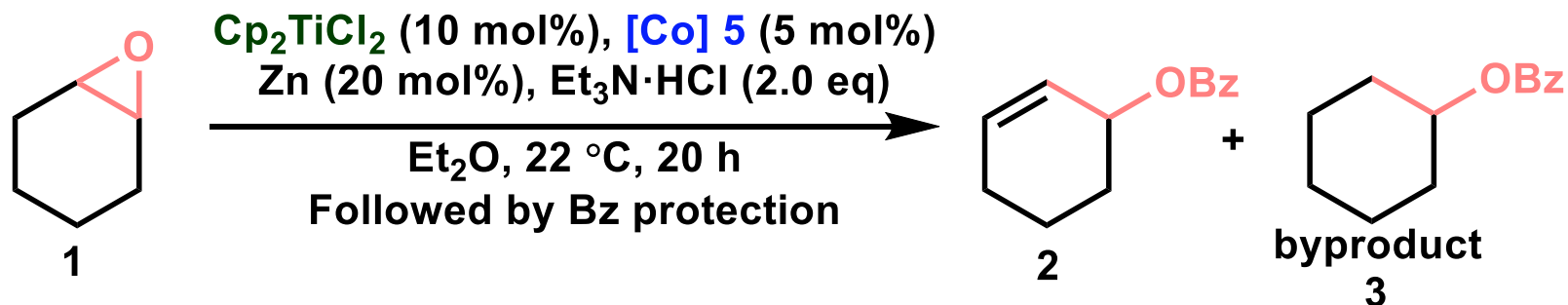
## Previous Work



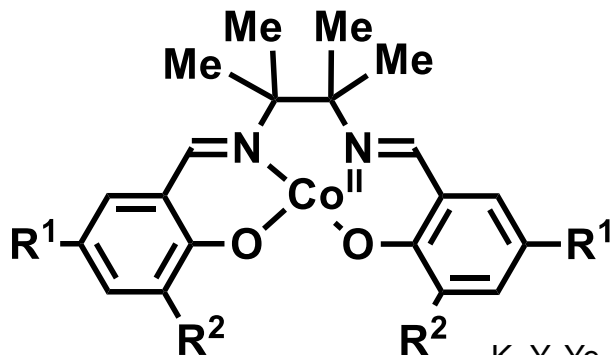
## This Work



# Optimization



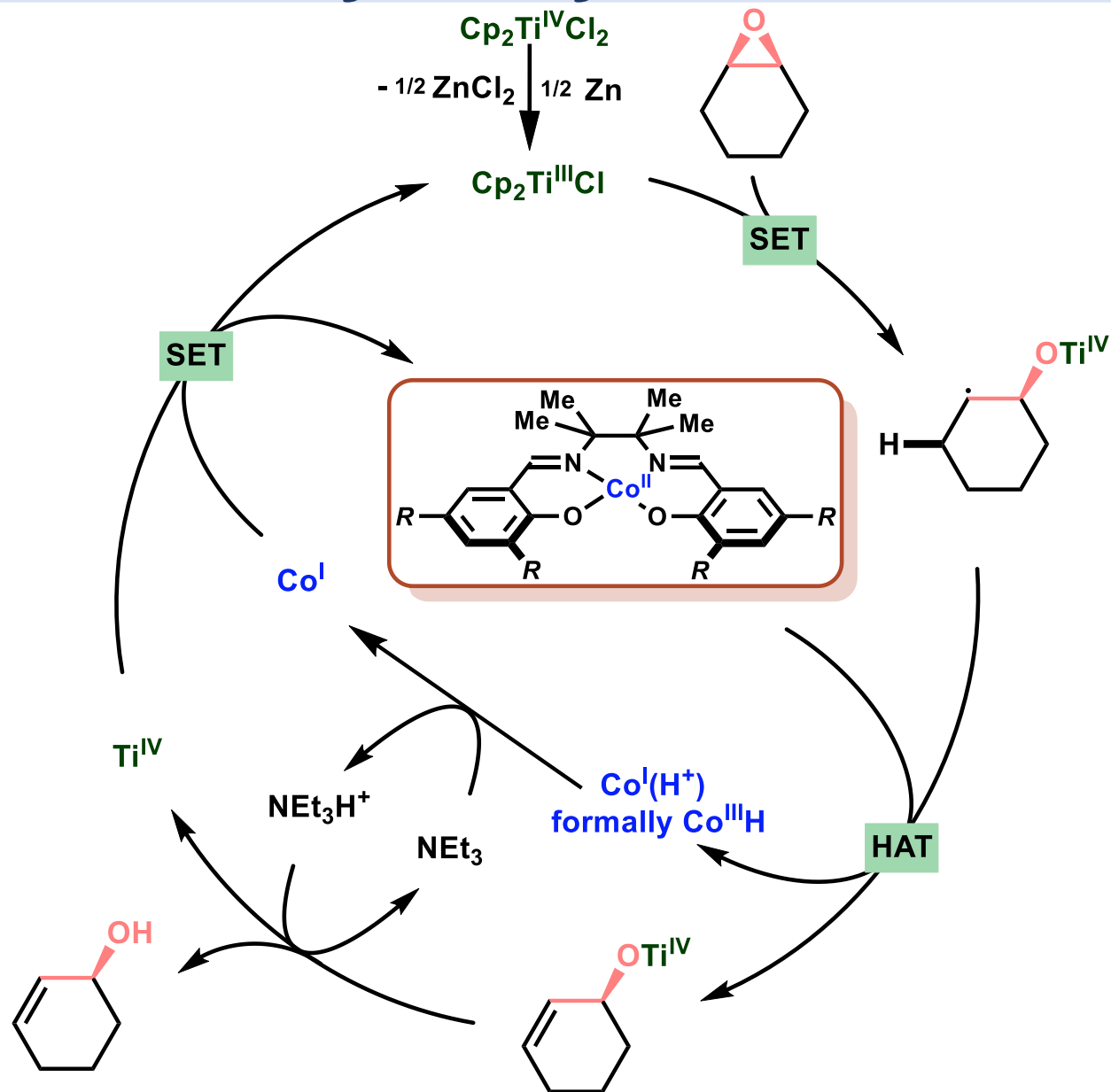
Entry	Conditions	2	3
1	[Co] 4	65%	11%
2	[Co] 5	99%	-
3	No Co catalyst (Zn 40 mol%)	-	25%
4	No Ti catalyst	-	-
5	No Zn catalyst	-	-
6	No Et <sub>3</sub> N·HCl	-	-
7	Et <sub>3</sub> N·HCl (0.5 eq)	40%	-



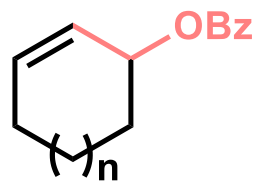
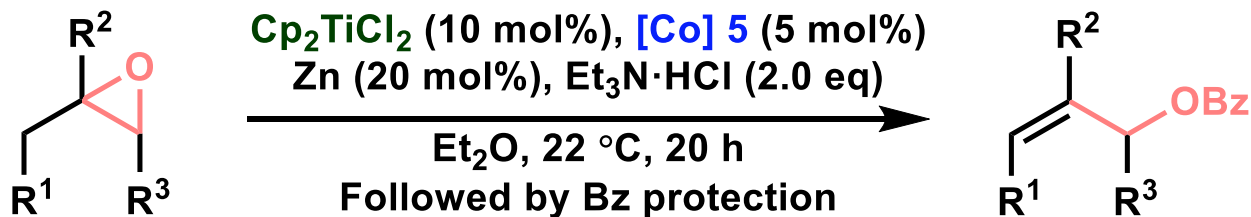
[Co] 4, R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = Me

[Co] 5, R<sup>1</sup> = CF<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup> = <sup>t</sup>Bu

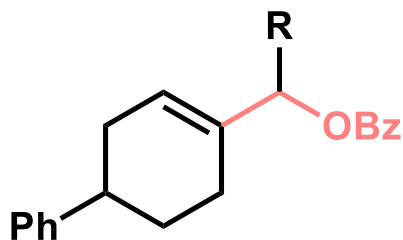
# Proposed Catalytic Cycle



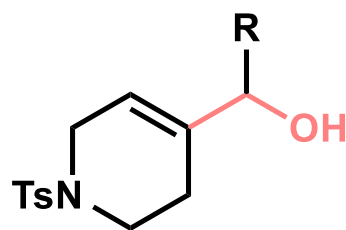
# Substrate Scope



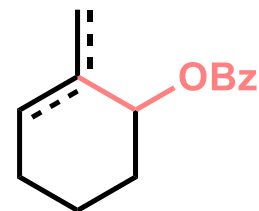
$n = 0$ , 84%  
 $n = 2$ , 85%  
 $n = 3$ , 90%



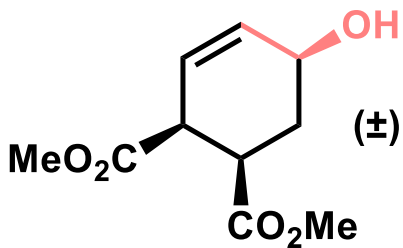
R = H, 70%  
R = Me, 69%



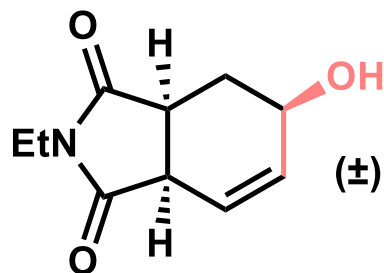
R = H, 95%  
R = Me, 90%



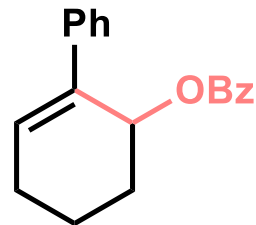
with [Co] 4; 88%  
(71:29 *endo/exo*)  
with [Co] 5; 73%  
(39:61 *endo/exo*)



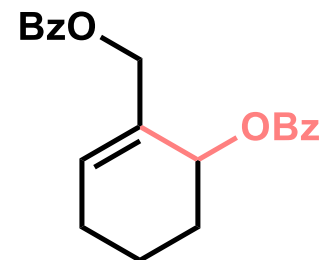
92%  
no epimerization



98%  
no epimerization



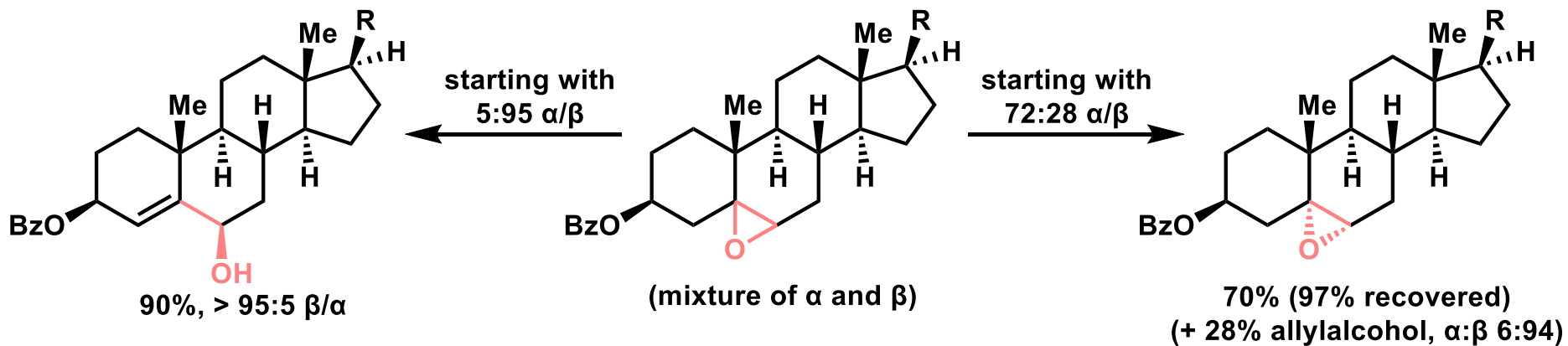
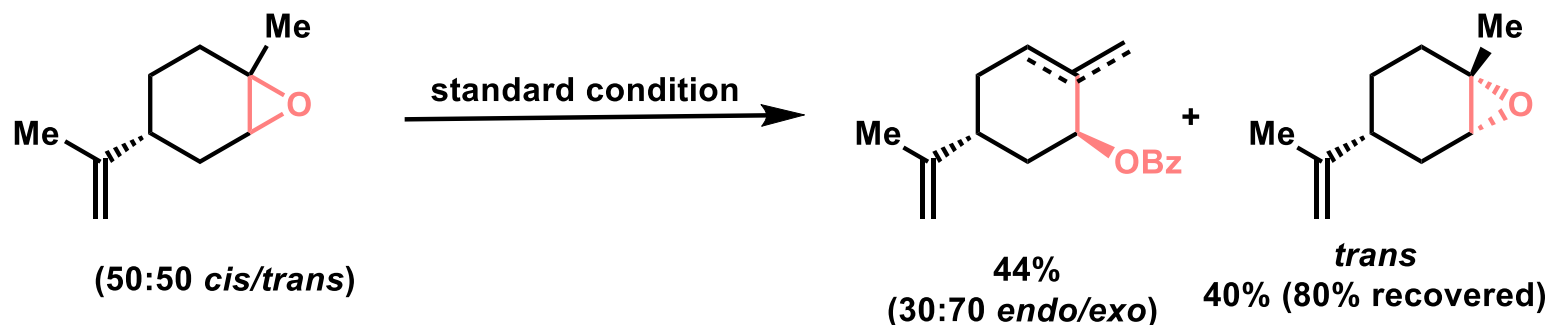
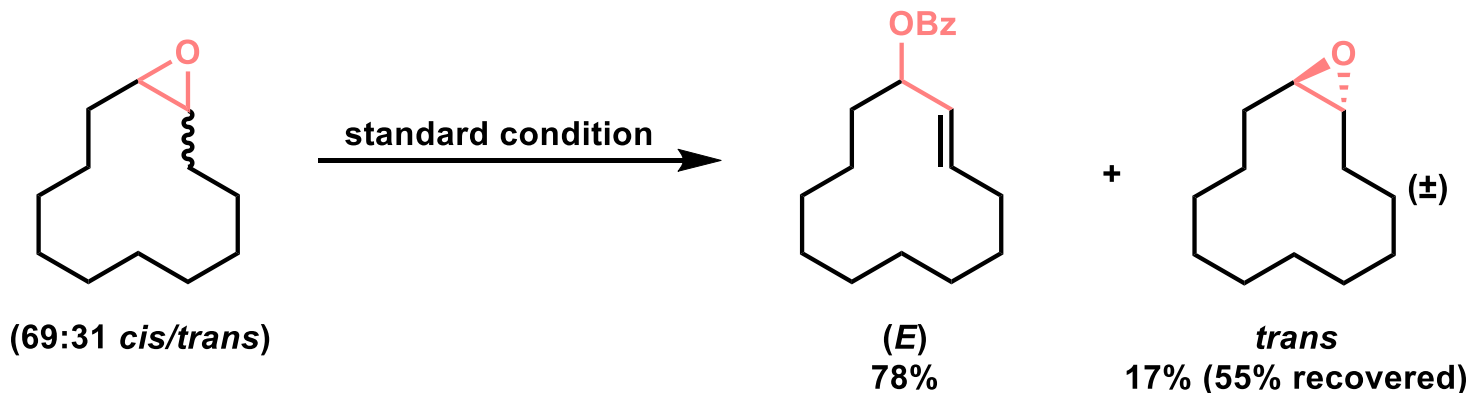
48%, 94% ee  
(from 94% ee epoxide)



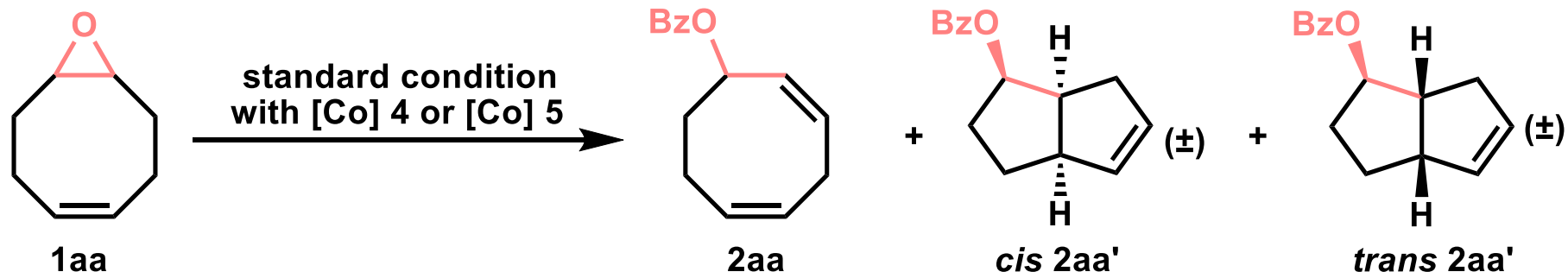
67%, 95% ee  
(from 94% ee epoxide)



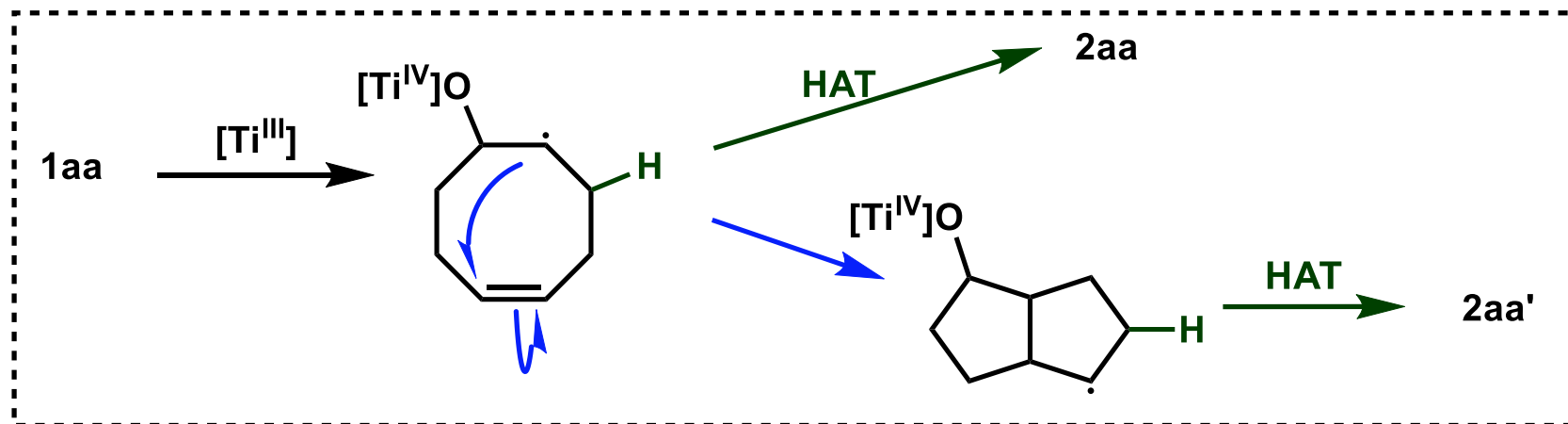
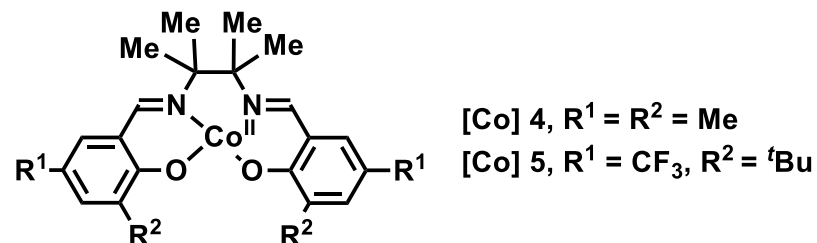
# Kinetic Resolution



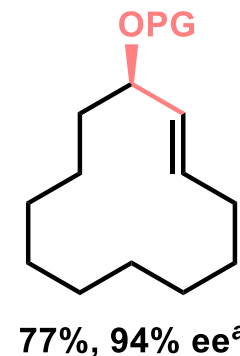
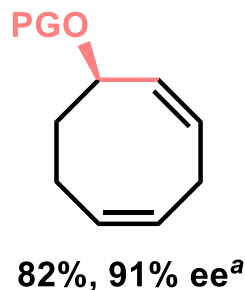
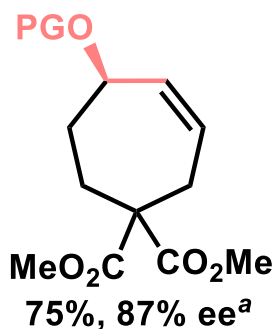
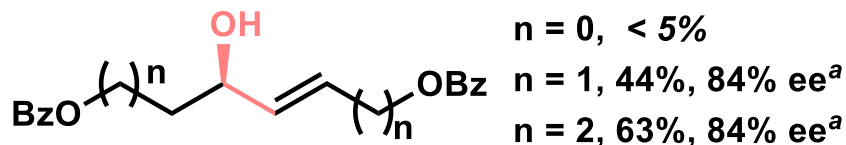
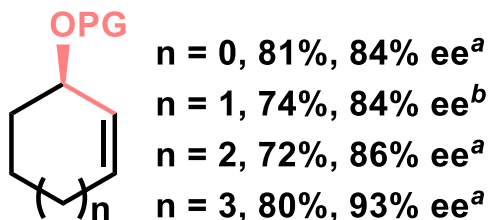
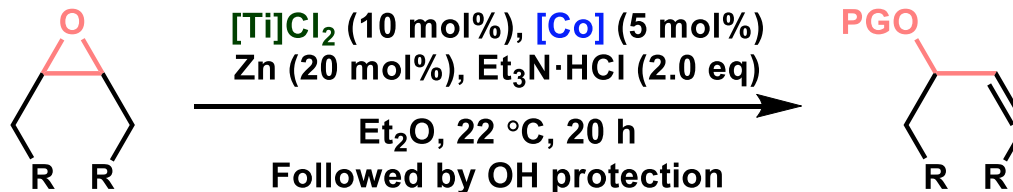
# Radical Rearrangement



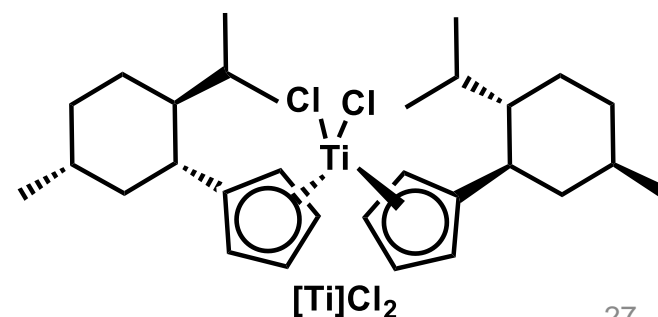
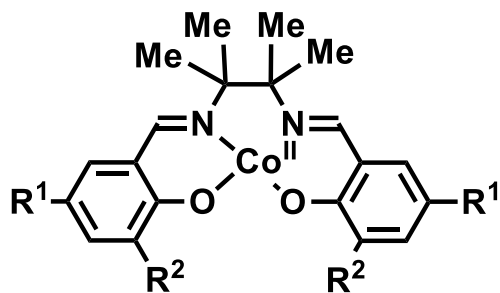
[Co]	Yield	2aa:2aa'
4 (5 mol%)	71%	57:43
5 (5 mol%)	78%	80:20
5 (10 mol%)	75%	> 95:5



# Asymmetric Reaction



<sup>a</sup>with [Co] 6, <sup>b</sup>with [Co] 7



## 4. Recent Achievements

**J | A | C | S**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Cite This: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2019, 141, 9548–9554

Communication

[pubs.acs.org/JACS](https://pubs.acs.org/JACS)

### Bimetallic Radical Redox-Relay Catalysis for the Isomerization of Epoxides to Allylic Alcohols

Ke-Yin Ye,<sup>†,‡,§</sup> Terry McCallum,<sup>‡,§</sup> and Song Lin<sup>\*,‡,§</sup>

<sup>†</sup>College of Chemistry, Fuzhou University, Fuzhou, 350116, P.R. China

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853, United States

**RESEARCH**

**Science**

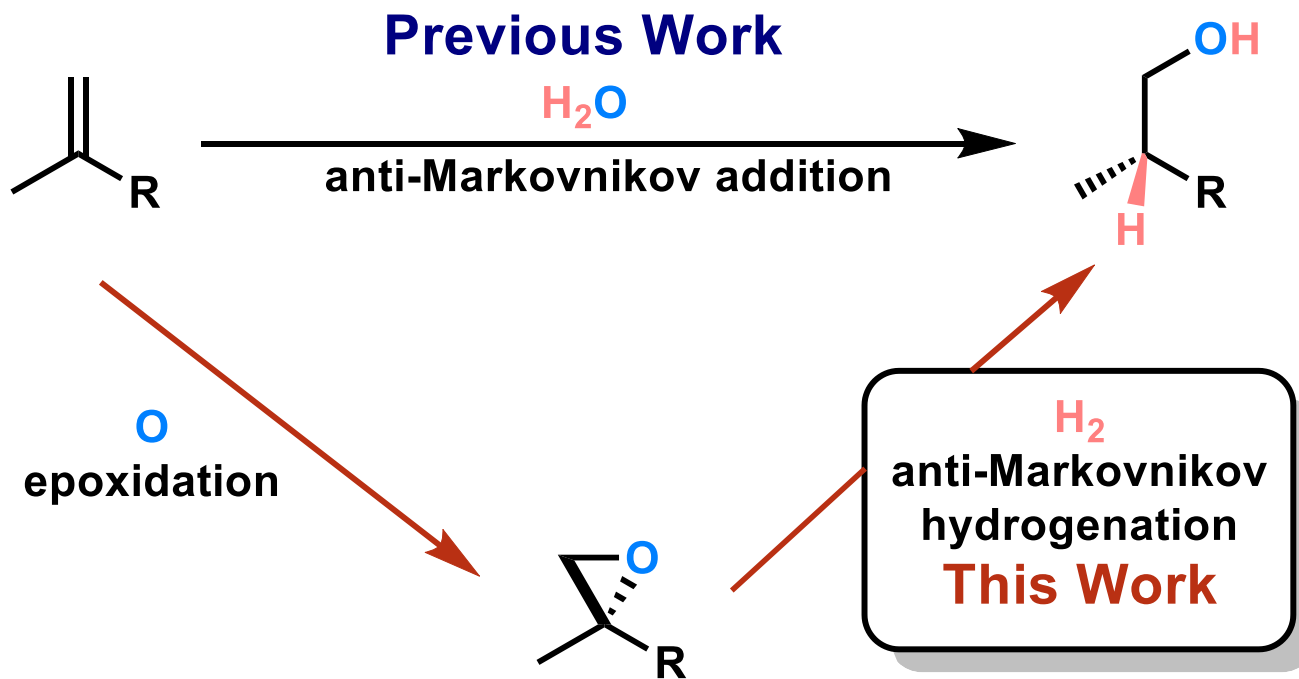
**ORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

### Anti-Markovnikov alcohols via epoxide hydrogenation through cooperative catalysis

Chengbo Yao<sup>1</sup>, Tobias Dahmen<sup>2</sup>, Andreas Gansäuer<sup>3\*</sup>, Jack Norton<sup>1\*</sup>

*Science* **364** (6442), 764–767.  
DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw3913

# Anti-Markovnikov alcohols



# Previous Work

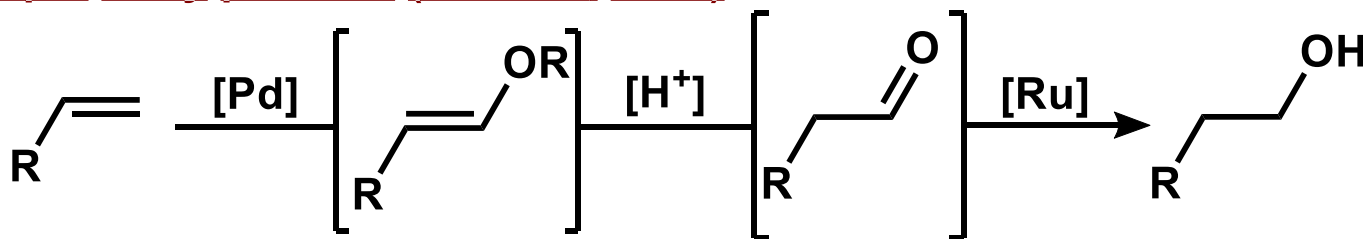
## anti-Markovnikov H<sub>2</sub>O addition

### 1. hydroboration and oxidation

✗ stoichiometric reactions

K. Burgess, M. J. Ohlmeyer. *Chem. Rev.* **1991**, 91, 1179.

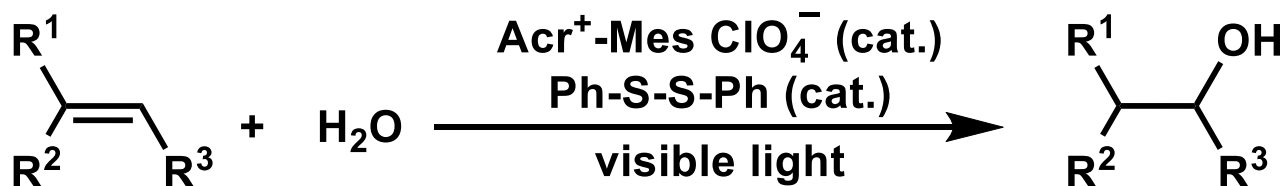
### 2. triple relay process (Grubbs, 2011)



✗ only monosubstituted styrenes

R. H. Grubbs. *et al. Science.* **2011**, 333, 1609.

### 3. visible-light-mediated anti-Markovnikov hydration (Lei, 2017)



✓ metal-free reaction

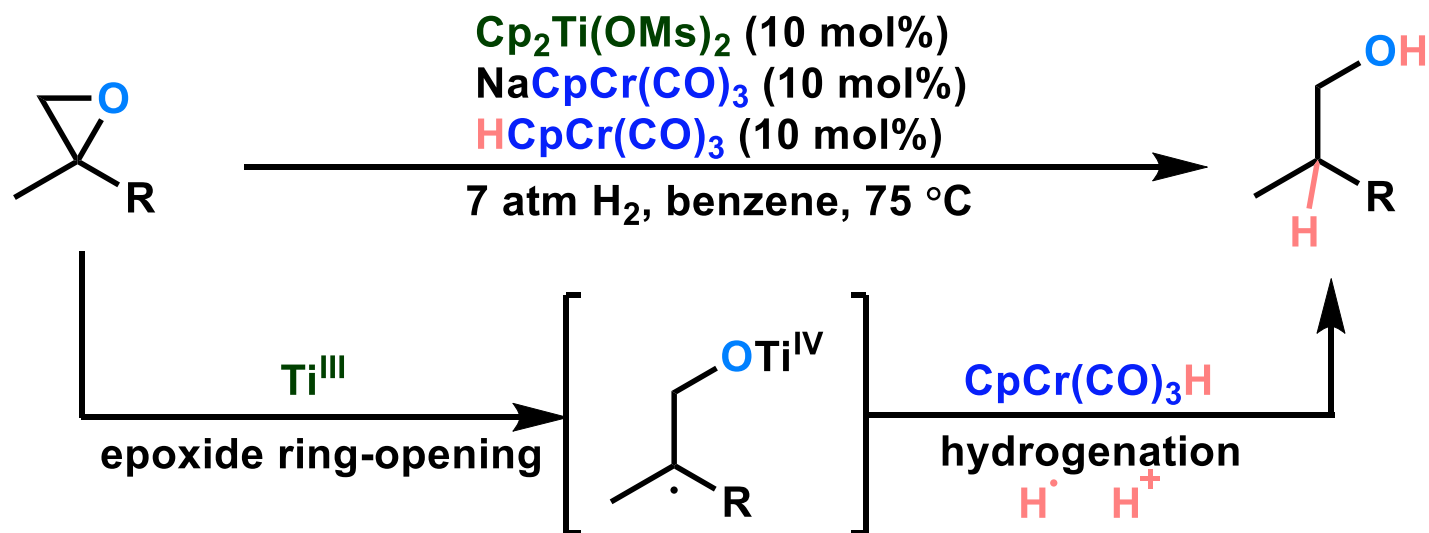
✗ only styrene derivatives

D. A. Nicewicz. *et al. Nat, Chem.* **2014**, 6, 720.

A. Lei. *et al. ACS Catal.* **2017**, 7, 1432.

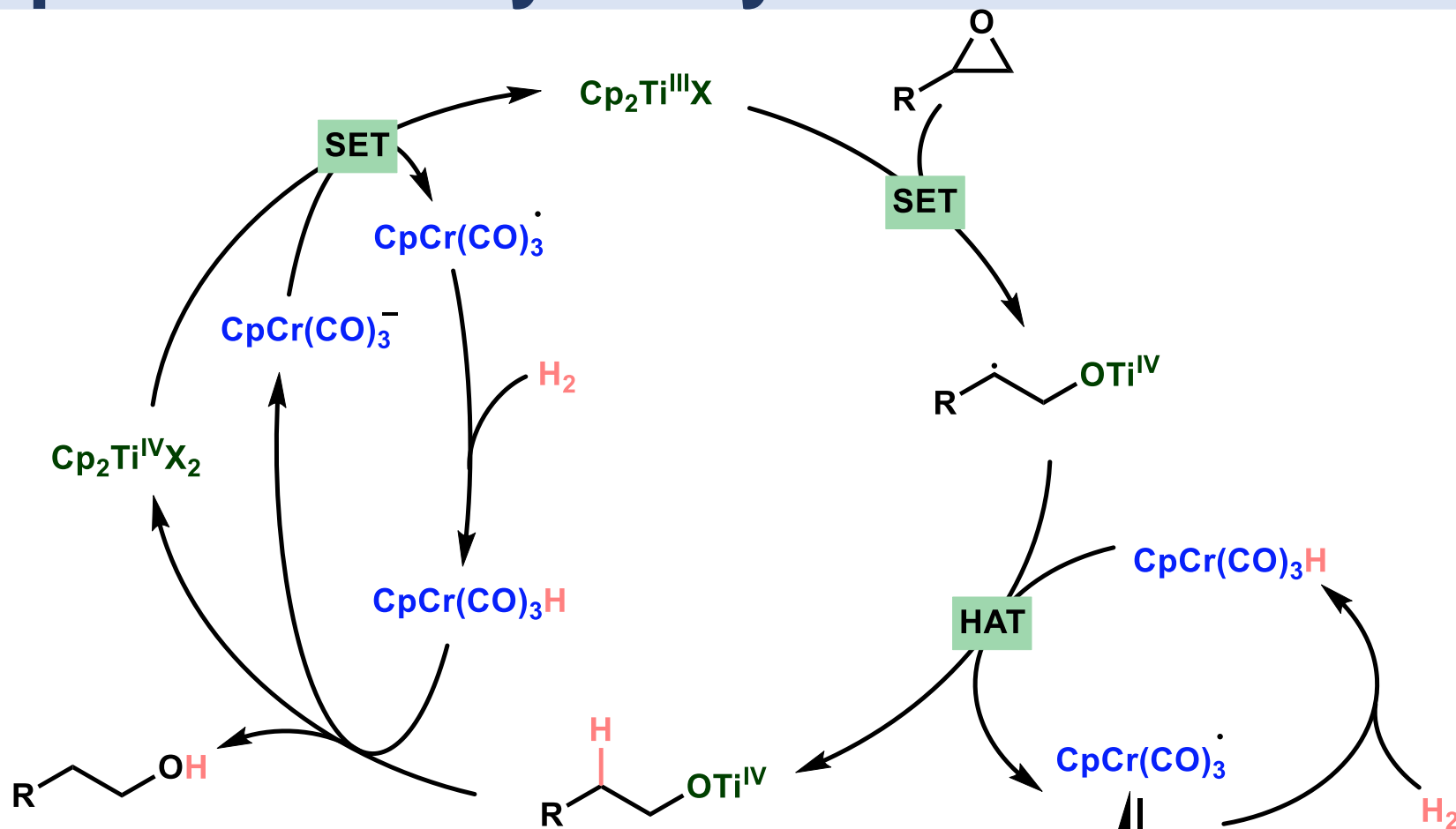
# This Work

## anti-Markovnikov alcohols via epoxide hydrogenation



Entry	Conditions	Time	Yield
1	standard condition	24 h	58%
2		72 h	95%
3	No Ti catalyst	24 h	7%
4		72 h	29%
5	No Cr catalyst	72 h	0%
6	5 mol% instead of 10 mol% for all catalysts	72 h	81%

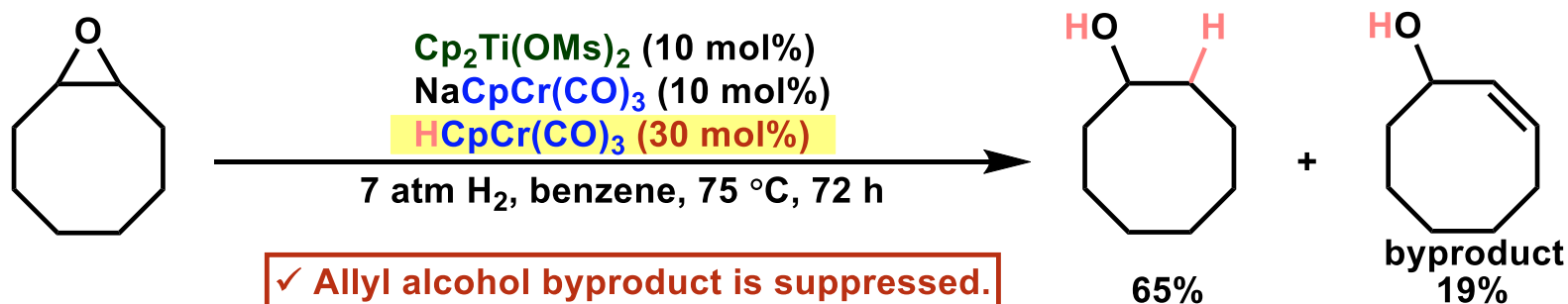
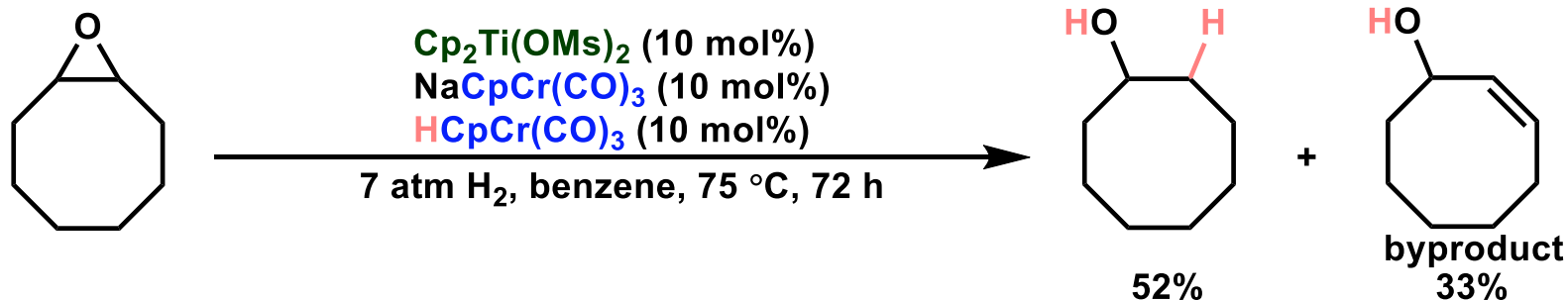
# Proposed Catalytic Cycle



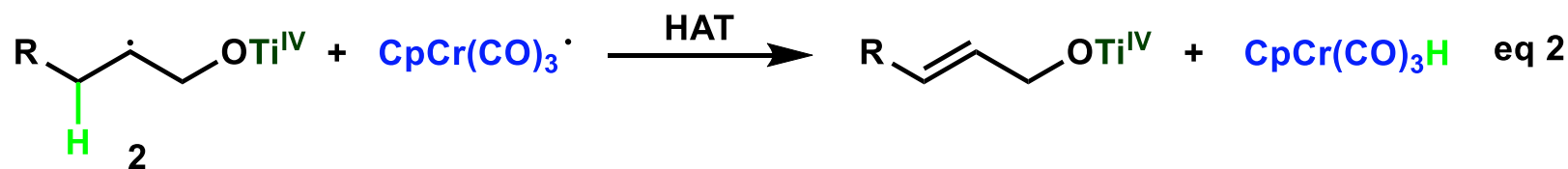
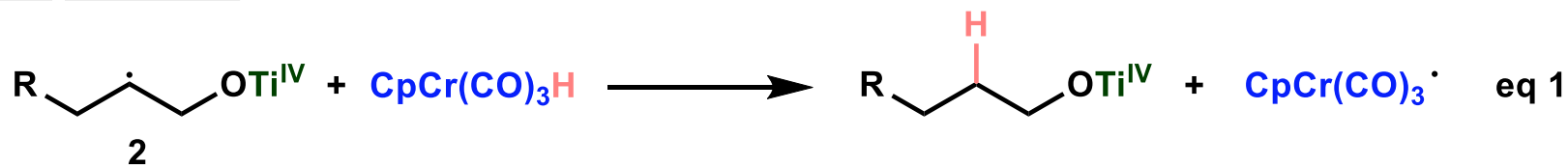
- ✓  $\text{CpCr(CO)}_3\text{H}$ ...pKa 13.3 in MeCN, BDE:62 kcal/mol cleaving the Ti<sup>IV</sup> alkoxide by protonolysis
- ✓  $\text{CpCr(CO)}_3^-$ ...good one-electron reducing agent -0.67 V (vs Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup> in MeCN)



# Side Reaction

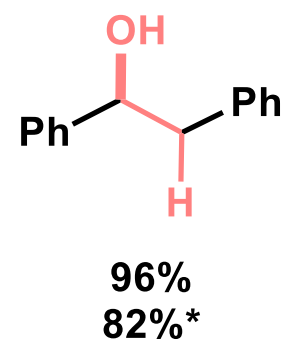
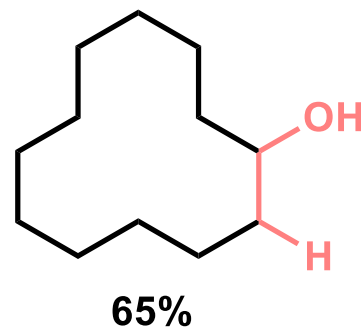
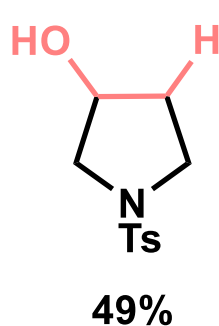
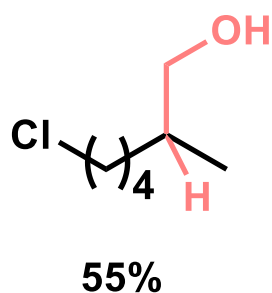
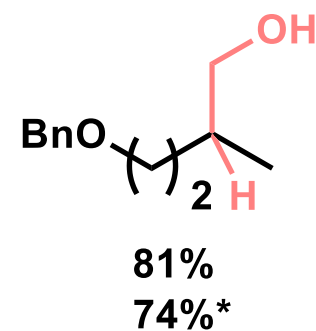
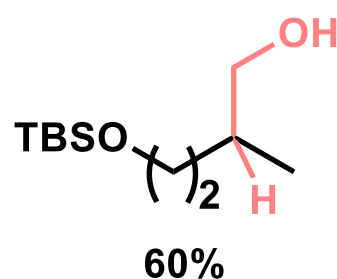
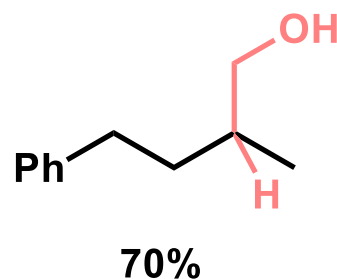
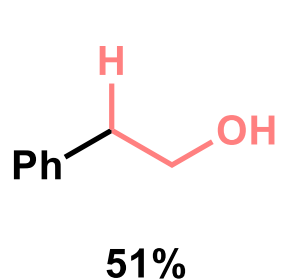
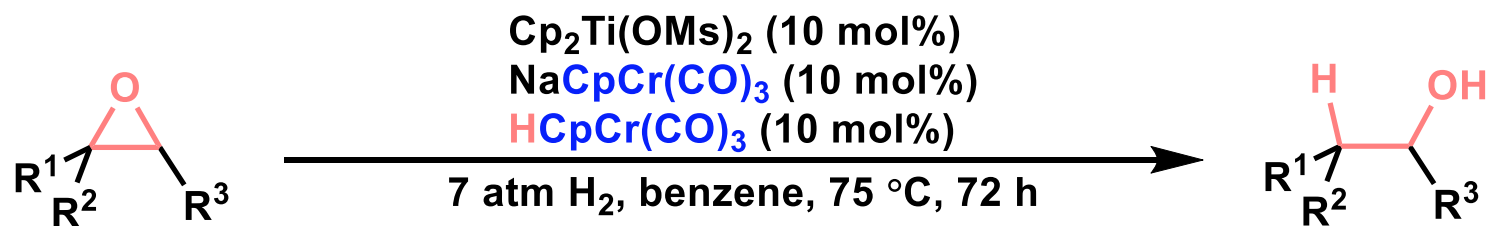


## side reaction



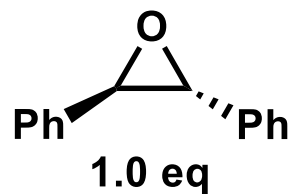
- The addition of extra  $\text{CpCr}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$  gives an elevated rate of  $\text{H}\cdot$  transfer to 2 (eq 1) and competes effectively for 2 with  $\text{H}\cdot$  abstraction by  $\text{CpCr}(\text{CO})_3\cdot$  (eq 2).

# Substrate Scope

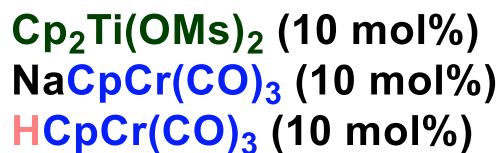
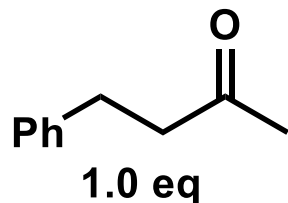


\*gram-scale reaction

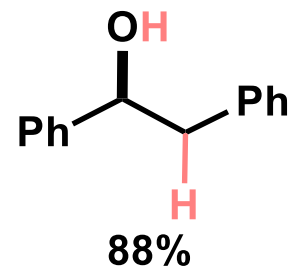
# Substrate Scope



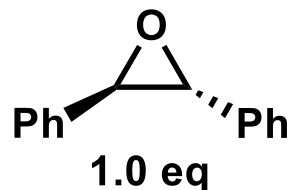
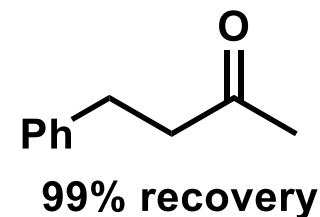
and



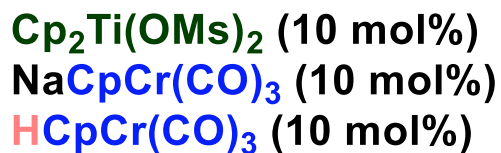
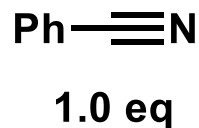
7 atm  $\text{H}_2$ , benzene, 75 °C, 72 h



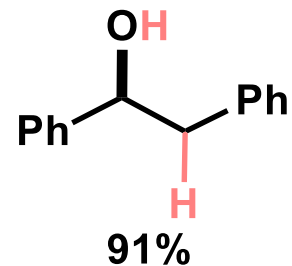
and



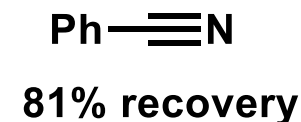
and



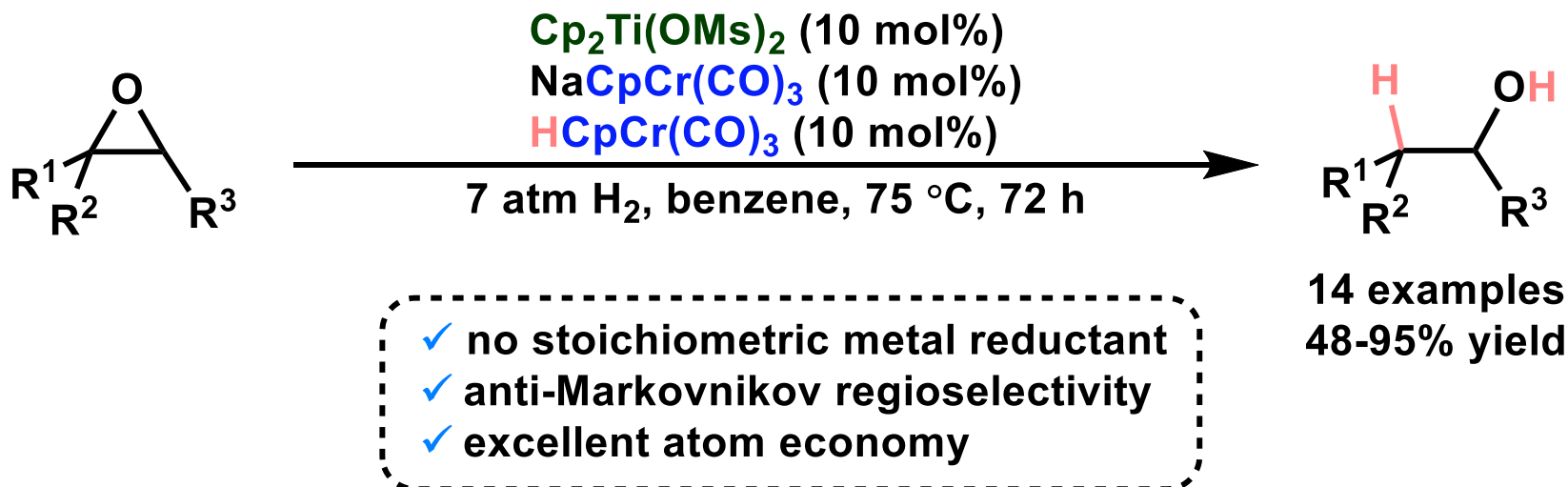
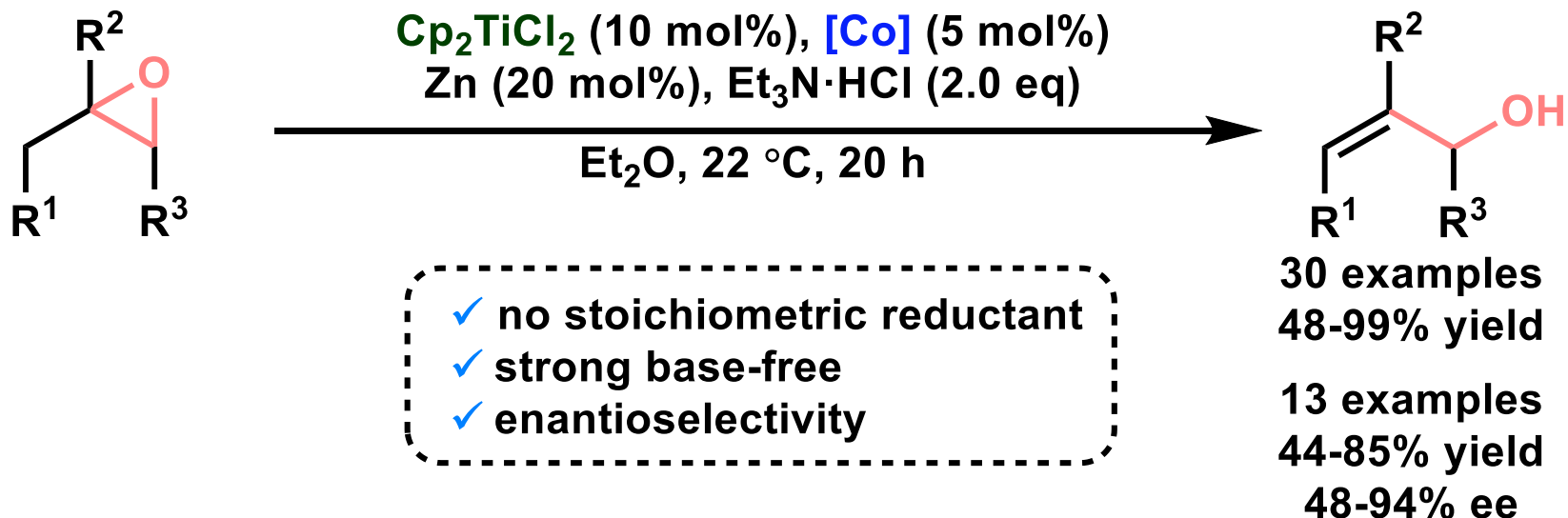
7 atm  $\text{H}_2$ , benzene, 75 °C, 72 h



and

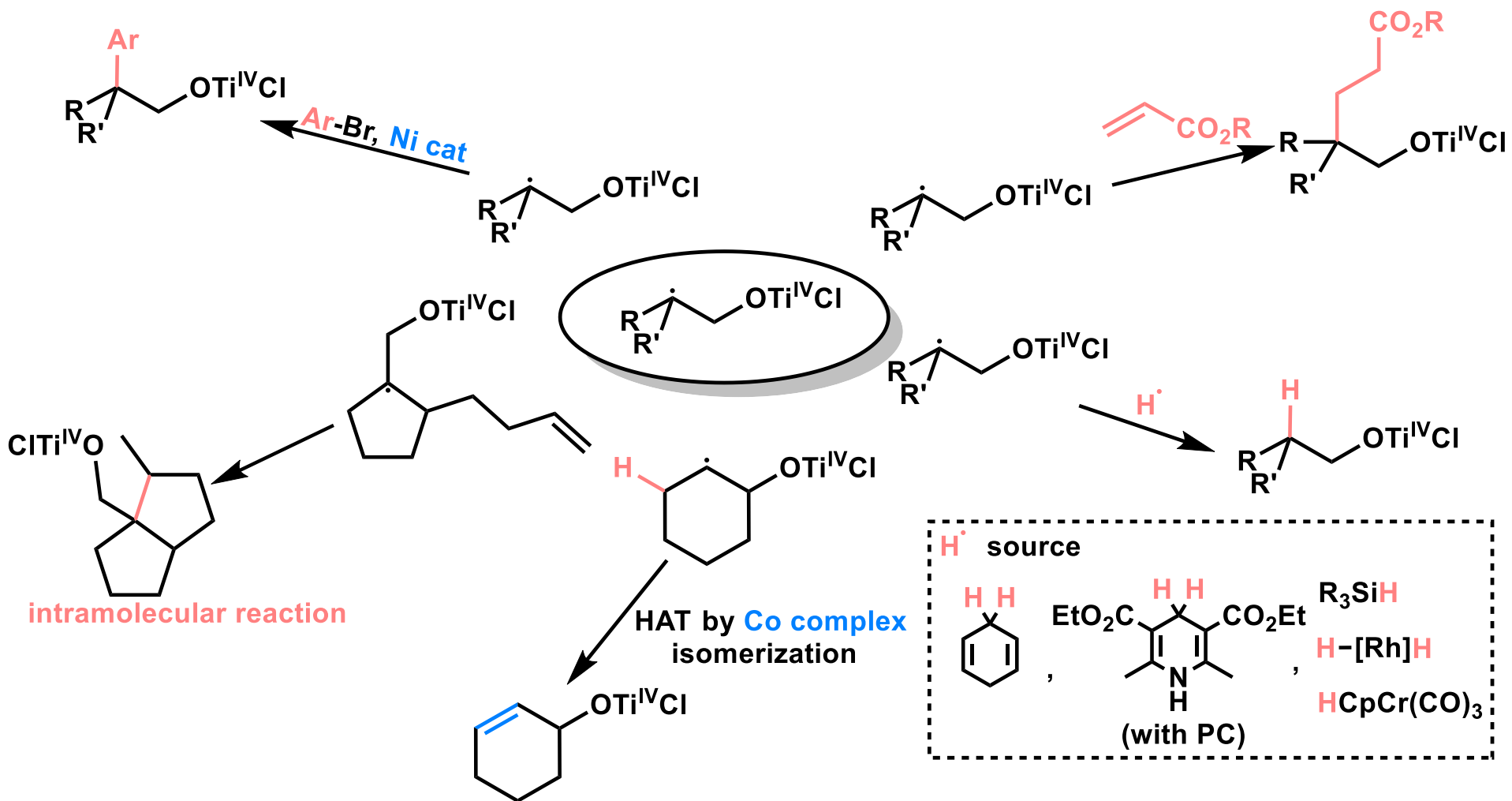


# Summary



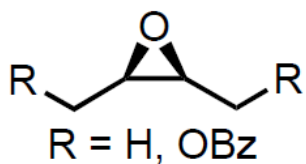
# *Appendix*

# Titanocene-catalyzed Epoxide Opening

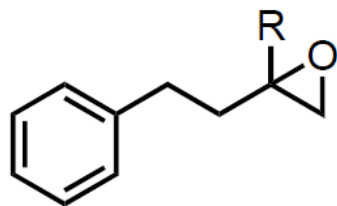


# Unsuccessful Substrates

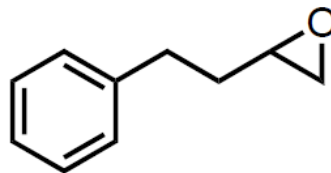
Isomerization of epoxides to Allylic Alcohols



**S1**



**S2**

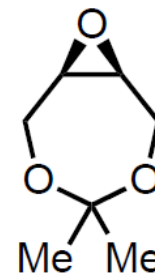


**S3**

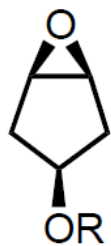


**S4**

(X = O, NTs, NBoc)

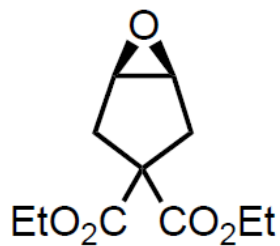


**S5**

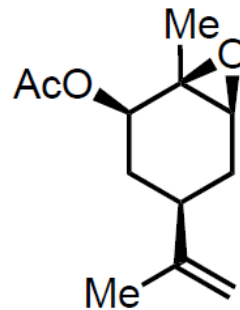


**S6**

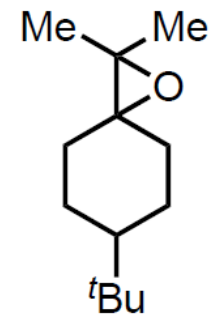
(R = Ac, TBS, Bz)



**S7**

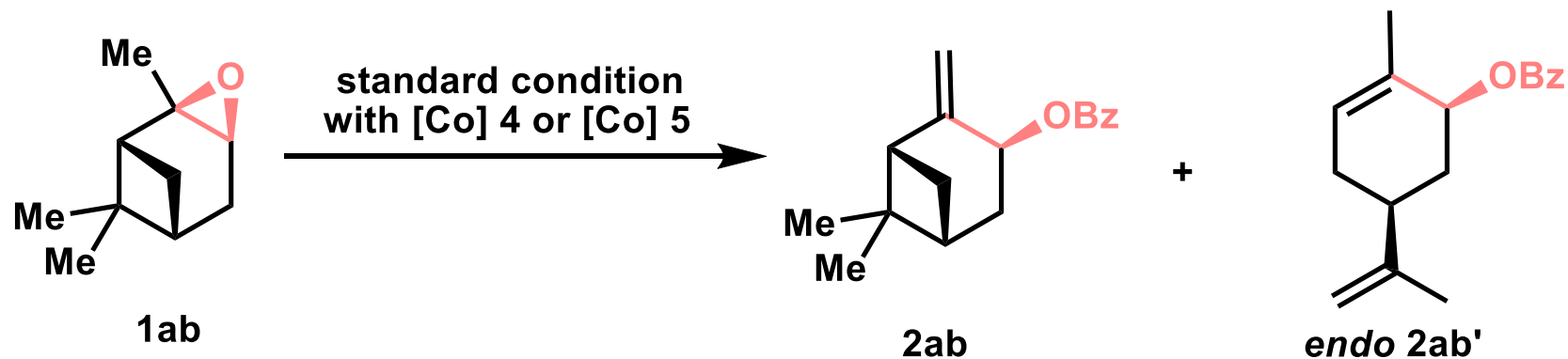


**S8**

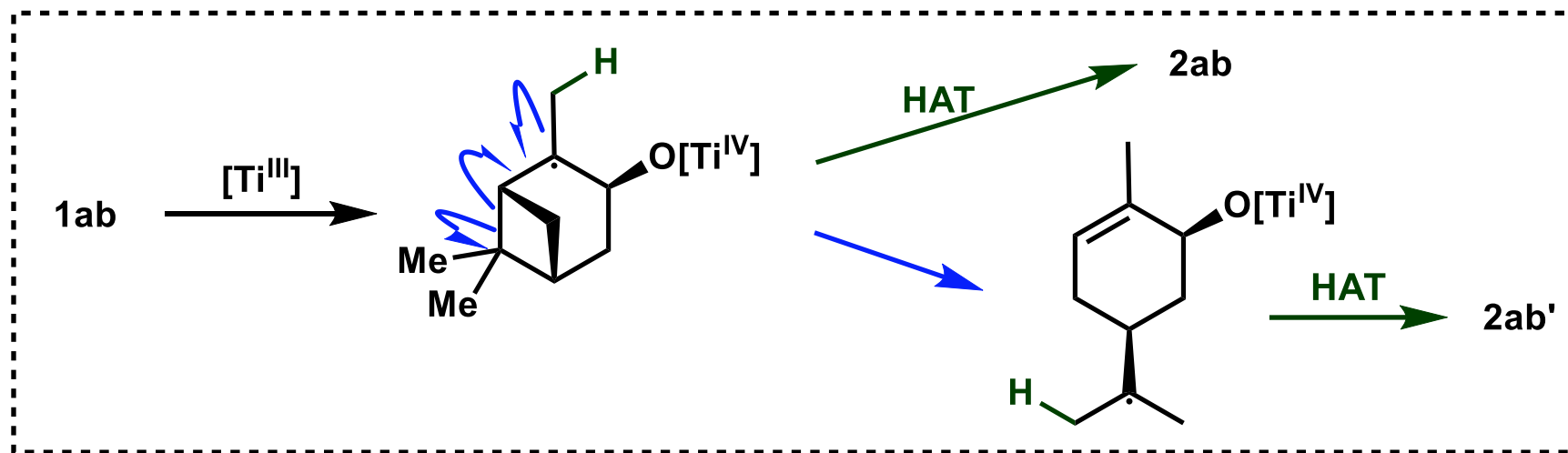


**S9**

# Radical Rearrangement

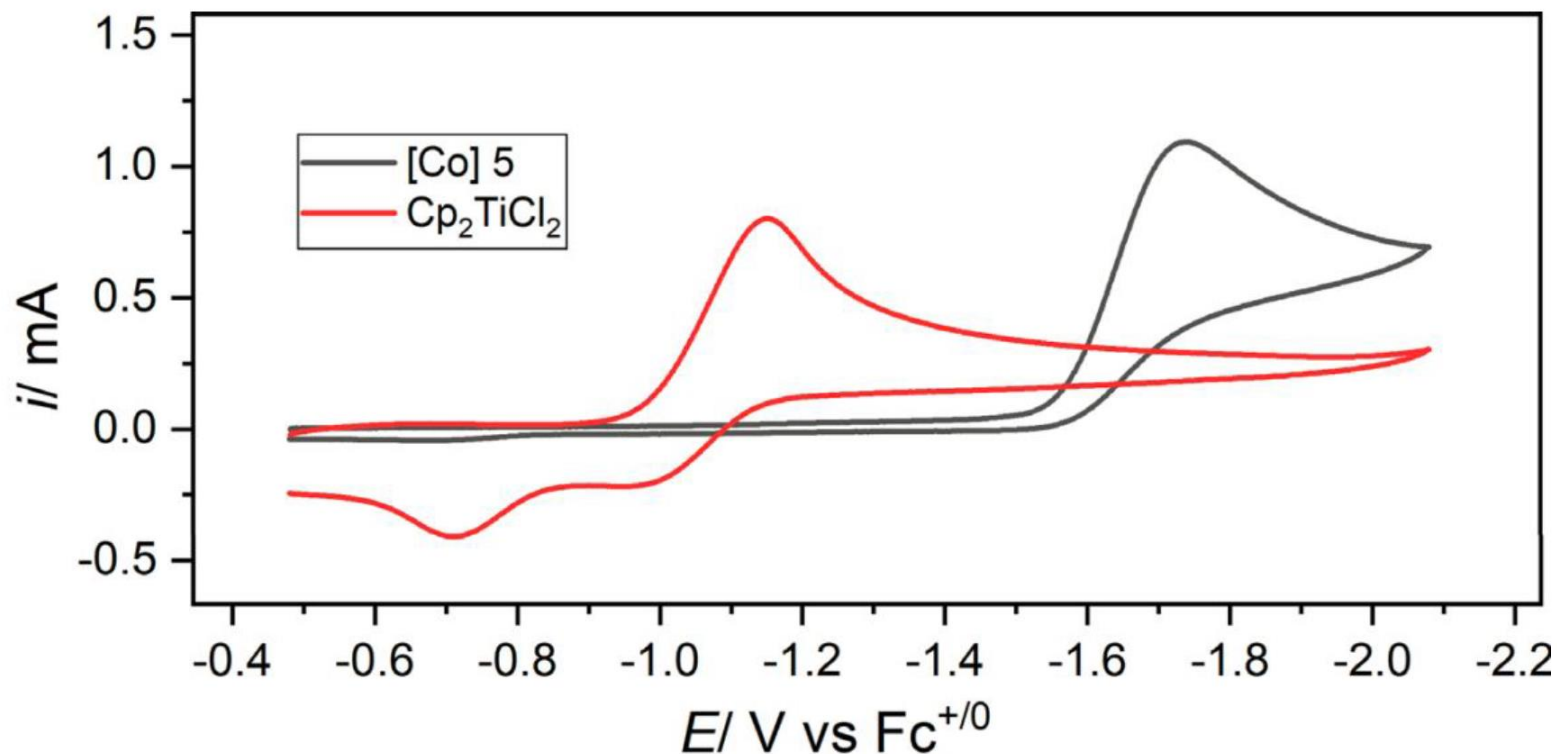


[Co]	Yield	2ab:2ab'
4 (5 mol%)	88%	33:67
5 (5 mol%)	82%	64:36



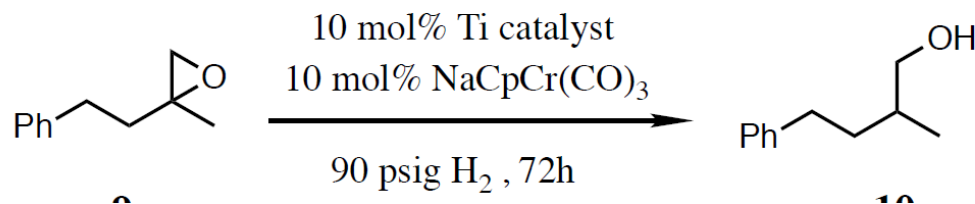


# Cyclic Voltammetry Studies



**Figure S1.** Cyclic voltammogram of [Co] **5** and  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2$ . Conditions:  $\text{TBAPF}_6$  (0.20 M in MeCN) with (a) [Co] **5** (2.0 mM),  $E_{p/2}(\text{Co}^{\text{II/I}}) = -1.65$  V vs  $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$  for [Co] **5**; (b)  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2$  (2.0 mM),  $E_{p/2}(\text{Ti}^{\text{IV/III}}) = -1.06$  V vs  $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$  for [Co] **5**. Scan rate: 100 mV/s. The two oxidative waves for the  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}_2$  complex are likely due to MeCN coordination or loss of  $\text{Cl}^-$  ligand.

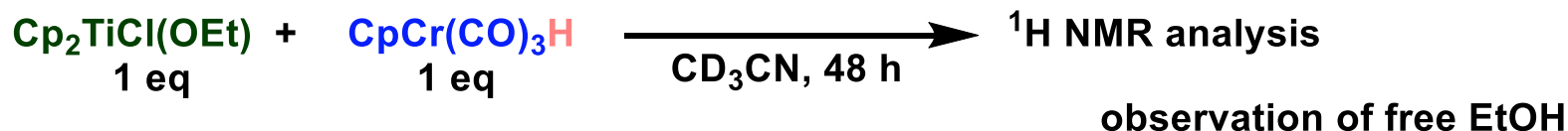
# Optimization of anti-Markovnikov hydrogenation



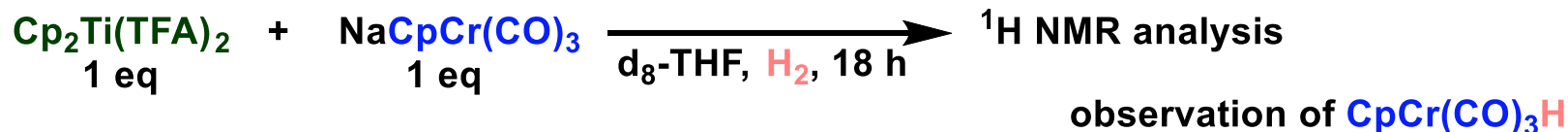
entry	Ti Catalyst	CpCr(CO) <sub>3</sub> H/mol %	Temp/°C	Solvent	% Yield <sup>†</sup>
1	Cp <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	55	THF	41
2	Cp <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	75	benzene	65
3	Cp <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	75	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	38
4	Cp <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	55	CDCl <sub>3</sub>	0
5	Cp* <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	75	benzene	38
6	(C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Me) <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub>	0	75	benzene	56
7	Cp*TiCl <sub>3</sub>	0	75	benzene	15
8	Cp <sub>2</sub> Ti(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	0	75	benzene	0
9	Cp <sub>2</sub> Ti(TFA) <sub>2</sub>	0	75	benzene	75
10	Cp <sub>2</sub> Ti(TFA) <sub>2</sub>	10	75	benzene	80
11	Cp <sub>2</sub> Ti(OMs) <sub>2</sub>	10	75	benzene	95
12	Cp <sub>2</sub> Ti(OMs) <sub>2</sub>	10	75	toluene	92

# NMR Studies

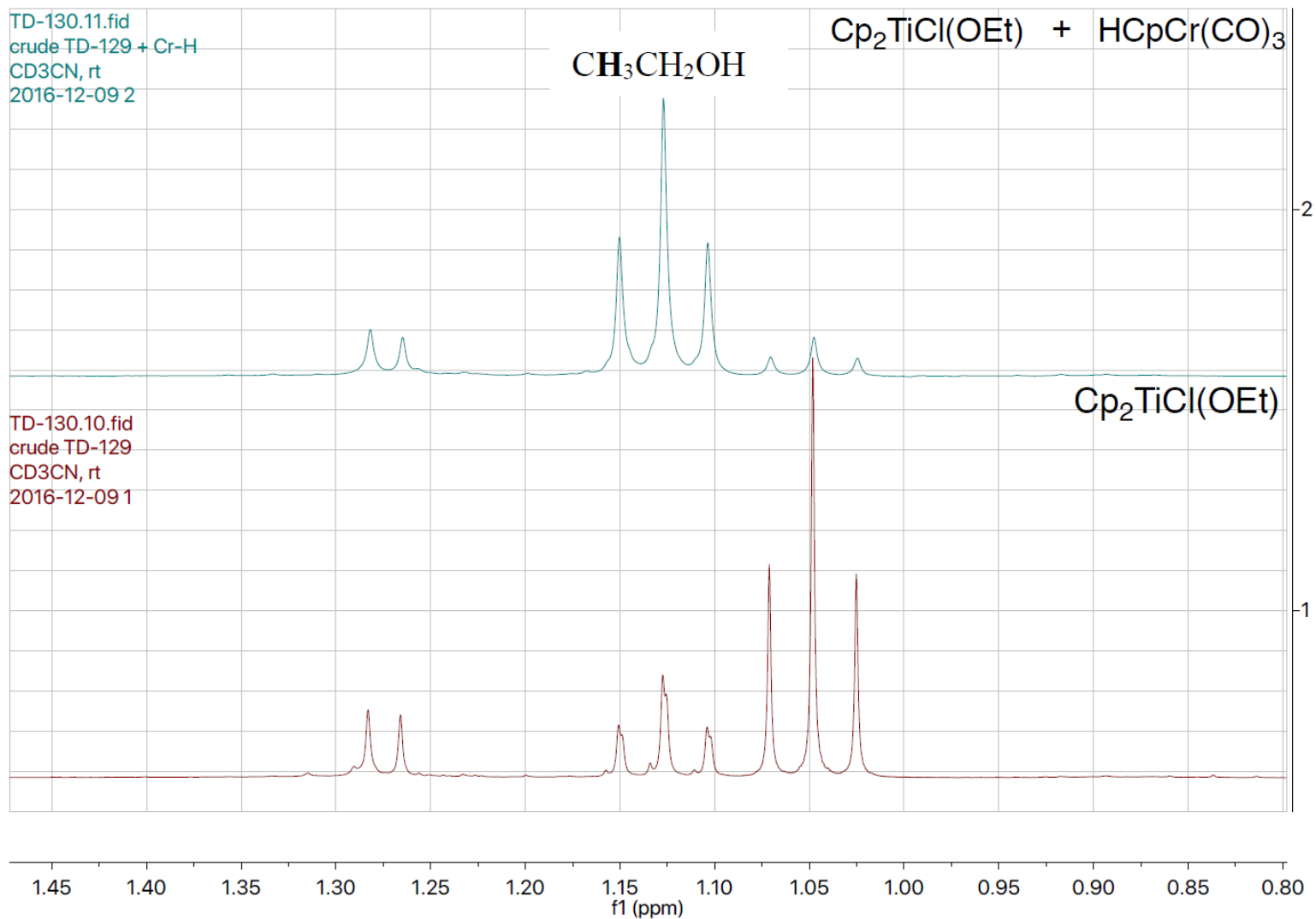
protonolysis of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiX(OR)}$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl(OEt)}$  as the model compound



electron transfer from  $\text{NaCpCr(CO)}_3$  to  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiX}_2$



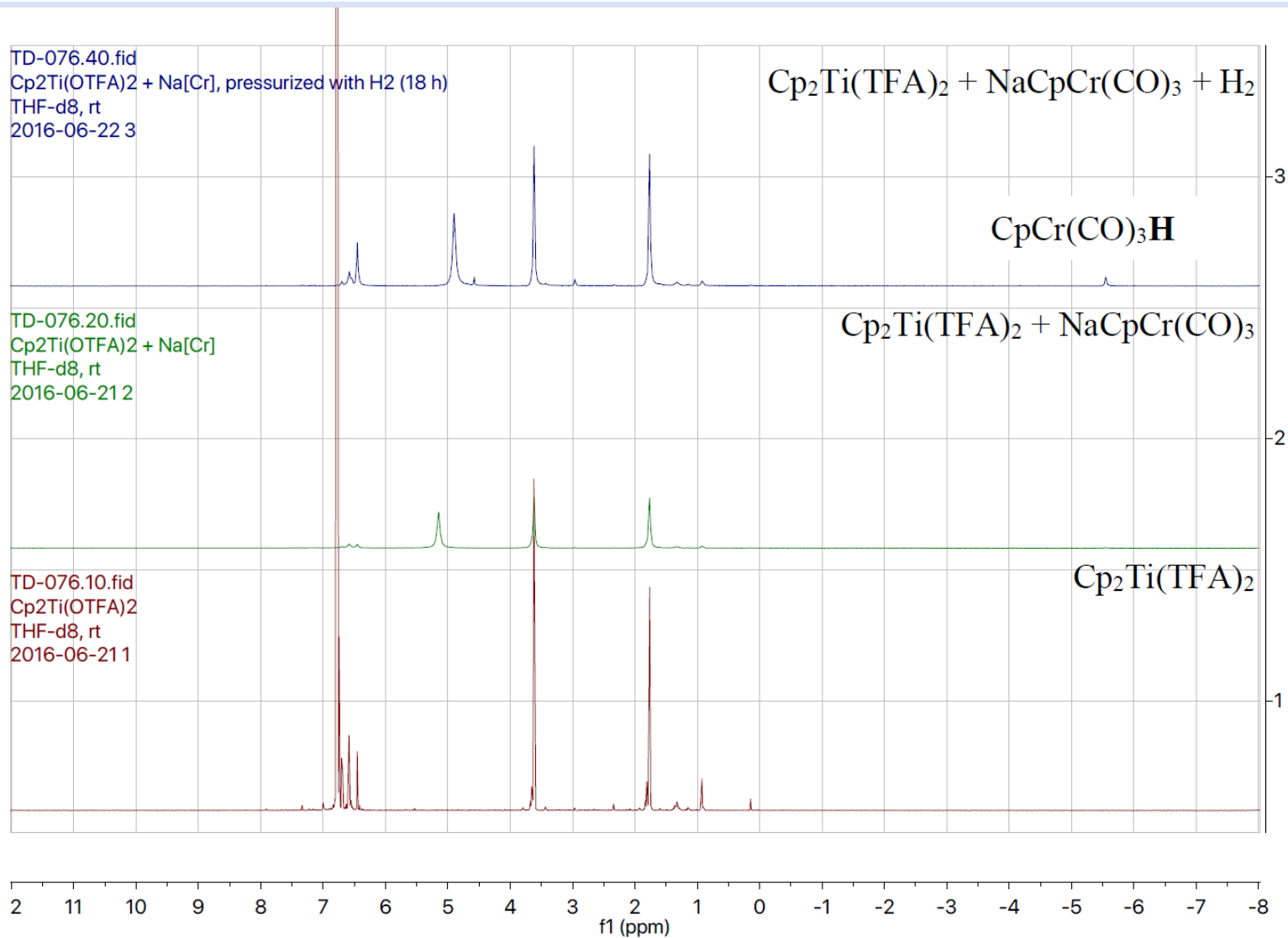
# NMR Studies



**Fig. S2.**

Zoom in  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}(\text{OEt})$  (bottom) and the mixture of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{TiCl}(\text{OEt})$  and  $\text{CpCr}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$  after 48h (top).

# NMR Studies



**Fig. S3.**

$^1\text{H-NMR}$  of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{TFA})_2$  (bottom), mixture of  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Ti}(\text{TFA})_2 + \text{NaCpCr}(\text{CO})_3$  (middle), mixture after 18h pressurization with  $\text{H}_2$  (top).

# Cyclic Voltammetry Studies

**Table 1.** CV data for the reduction of Cp<sub>2</sub>TiX<sub>2</sub> (1–6) in THF in terms of peak potentials for the cathodic wave ( $E_{p,c}$ ) and the two anodic waves ( $E_{p,a1}$  and  $E_{p,a2}$ ) recorded at a glassy carbon disk electrode in 0.2 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/THF at a sweep rate of 0.2 V·s<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>[a]</sup>

Complex	$E_{p,c}$ [V]	$E_{p,a1}$ [V]	$E_{p,a2}$ [V]
1, X=Cl	-1.37 <sup>[b]</sup>	-1.23 <sup>[b]</sup>	- <sup>[b]</sup>
2, X=OTf	-1.05	-0.31	-
3, X=OTs	-0.96	-0.81	-0.70
4, X=OMs	-1.03	-0.92	-0.62 <sup>[c]</sup>
5, X=TFA	-1.08	-0.98	-0.58
6, X=CSA	-1.05	-0.93	-0.64

[a] All potentials are given in units of V vs. Fc<sup>+</sup>/Fc and can be converted to V vs. saturate calomel electrode (SCE) by adding 0.52 V. [b] Not visible at the sweep rates used here.<sup>[12]</sup> [c] Recorded at a sweep rate of 0.5 V·s<sup>-1</sup>.

**Table 1.** CV Data for the Reduction of Titanocene Dichlorides 1–9 in THF in Terms of Peak Potentials for the Cathodic Wave ( $E_{p,c}$ ) and the Two Anodic Waves ( $E_{p,a1}$  and  $E_{p,a2}$ ) Along with the Determined Standard Potential ( $E_1^\circ$ )<sup>a</sup>

compound	$E_{p,c}$ <sup>b</sup>	$E_{p,a1}$ <sup>b</sup>	$E_{p,a2}$ <sup>b</sup>	$E_1^\circ$ <sup>c</sup>
Kagan's complex (1) <sup>18</sup>	-1.44	-1.32		-1.37 <sup>13f</sup>
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> tBu)CpTiCl <sub>2</sub> (2) <sup>20</sup>	-1.39	-1.27		-1.36
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> tBu) <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub> (3) <sup>21</sup>	-1.36	-1.25		-1.34 <sup>13f</sup>
Cp <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub> (4)	-1.36	-1.24		-1.27 <sup>13b</sup>
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl)CpTiCl <sub>2</sub> (5) <sup>22</sup>	-1.26	-1.15		-1.20
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> COOMe)CpTiCl <sub>2</sub> (6) <sup>23</sup>	-1.20	-1.09	-0.85	-1.15
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl) <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub> (7) <sup>22,24</sup>	-1.18	-1.08		-1.12
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> COOMe) <sub>2</sub> TiCl <sub>2</sub> (8) <sup>25</sup>	-1.08	-0.92	-0.74	-1.01
(C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> CN)CpTiCl <sub>2</sub> (9) <sup>10</sup>	-1.06		-0.85	-1.00

<sup>a</sup>All potentials are given in units of V vs Fc<sup>+</sup>/Fc and can be converted to V vs SCE by adding 0.52 V.<sup>13b,26</sup> <sup>b</sup>Recorded at a glassy carbon disk electrode with  $\nu = 0.1$  V s<sup>-1</sup> in 0.2 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>/THF. <sup>c</sup>Determined by digital simulation (see the Supporting Information).