

WORKSHOP HOMOGENE KATALYSE

Materials Valley e.V, Heraeus Holding GmbH, BASF SE
Ludwigshafen

P. Hofmann, 23.Januar 2014

Chasing a Dream Reaction Combining Theory and Experiment: The Rhodium-Catalyzed Hydroformylation of Butadiene to Adipic Aldehyde



CaRLa

Catalysis Research Laboratory

CaRLa – a laboratory
incorporated in the
University of Heidelberg
and supported by BASF



www.carla-hd.de



SFB 623
Molekulare
Katalysatoren

*Heidelberg Collaborative
Research Center (2002 – 2013):
Molecular Catalysts:
Structure and Functional Design*

<http://www.sfb623.uni-hd.de>



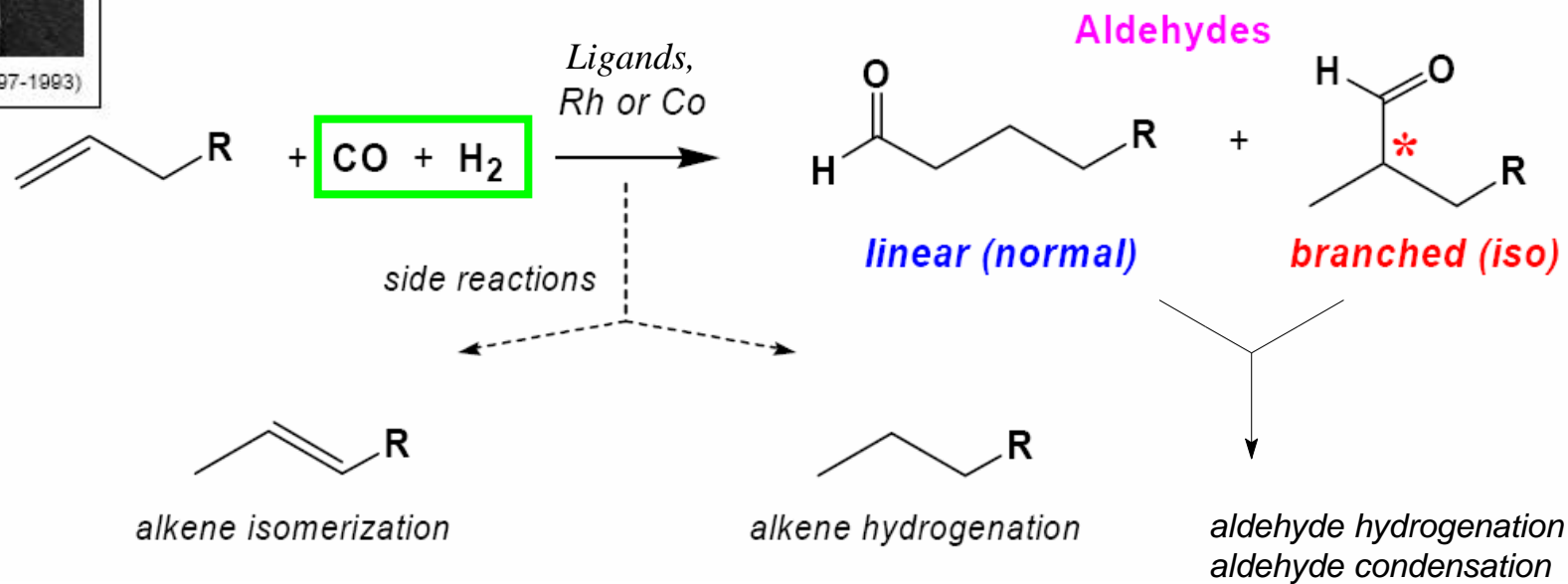
University of Heidelberg
Institute of Organic Chemistry



Otto Roelen (1897-1993)

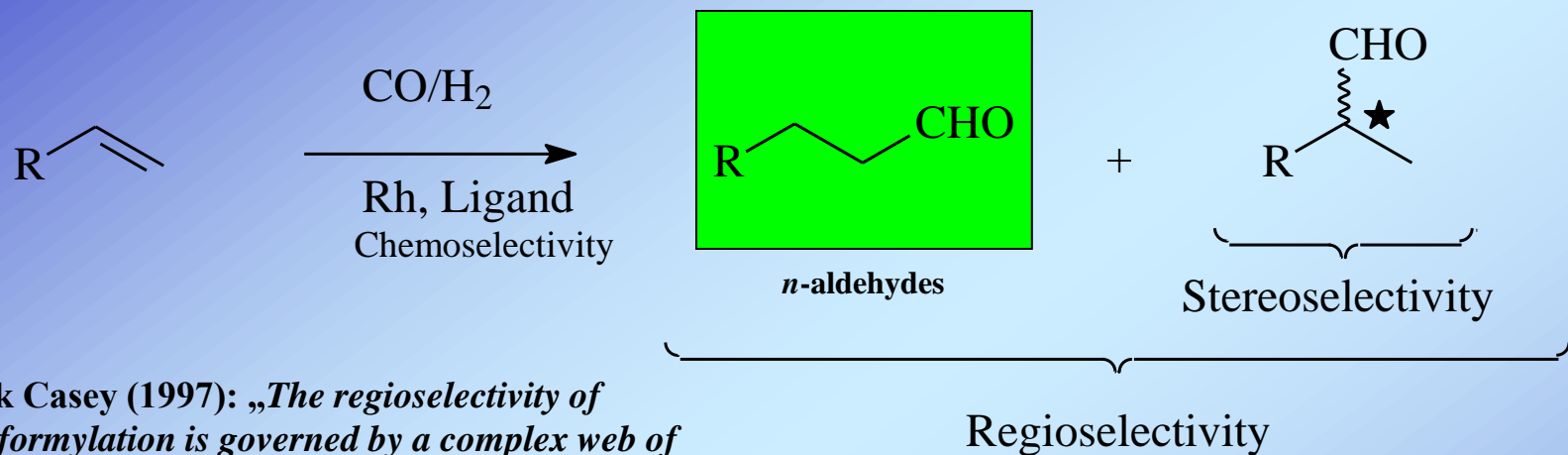
Hydroformylation (The „Oxo-Reaction“)

Discovery: 1938 (O. Roelen) → 75th Anniversary in 2013



- Largest homogeneous metal-catalyzed process with single-site catalysts
- Perfect atom economy
- More than 9 million tons per year of production volume
- Over 5 million tons of C₄-oxo products per year
- Commercial catalysts metals: Co or Rh without or with ligand systems
- Products: aldehydes, alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters, plasticizers, detergents, surfactants, lubricants, solvents, fine chemical intermediates

Rh-Catalyzed Low Pressure *n*-Hydroformylation of 1-Alkenes



Chuck Casey (1997): „*The regioselectivity of hydroformylation is governed by a complex web of electronic and steric effects that have so far defied unravelling.*“

This still holds.

Ligand Design



**Research
Collaboration
with BASF**

- **Chemoselectivity (% aldehydes)**
- **Regioselectivity (boosting *n* / *i* - ratio)**
- **Activity (TOF, TON, [Rh], [L])**
- **Stability (catalyst lifetime)**
- **Accessibility (facile, cheap synthesis)**
- **Structural variability (modular systems)**
- **Product separation, Rh loss aspects ...**
- **Engineering aspects**

Photo: BASF

Oxo / Syngas Unit
BASF Verbund Site
Kuantan , Malaysia



Typical industrial plant characteristics and requirements:

capacity: 250.000 t / a of aldehydes

reactor volumes: 200 – 300 m³

100 – 300 ppm Rh = kg range of Rh (several mio. €)

phosphine content (e.g. PPh₃) : multi-ton-scale

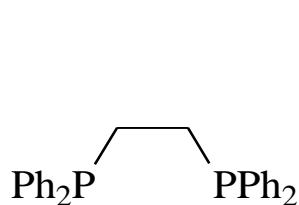
TOF: above 1000 mol / mol h (at low p, T)

TON: at least 4.000.000 mol product / mol Rh

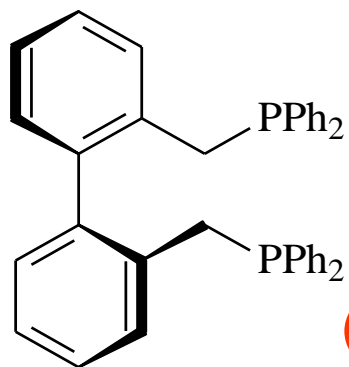
In Search of High Activity and *n*-Selectivity by Ligand Design:

From Triphenylphosphine PPh_3 to
Prototypes and Countless Variants of **Chelating P-Based Ligands**

Prominent Bisphosphine Ligands for Rh

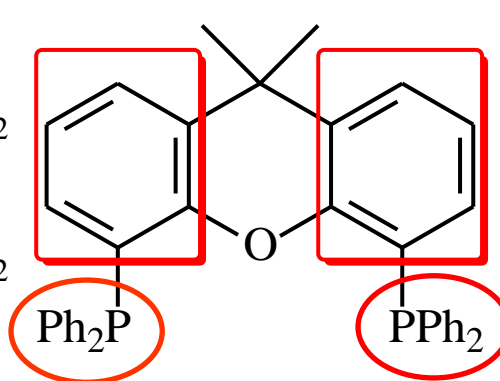


DIPHOS

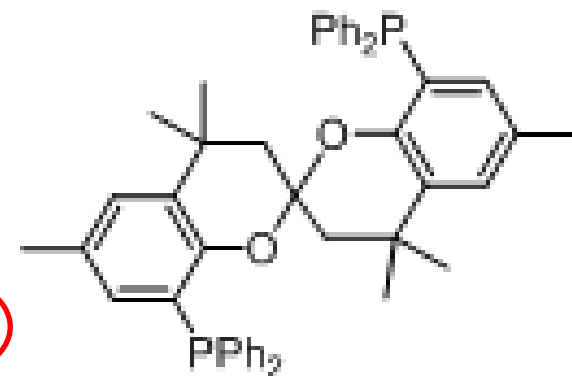


BISBI

DOW, Casey et al.



Xantphos
n/i ca. 50



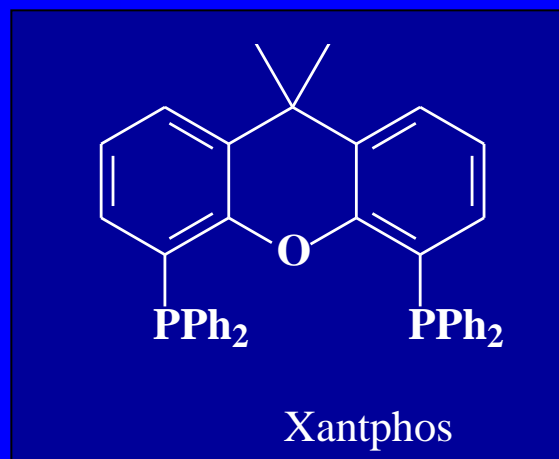
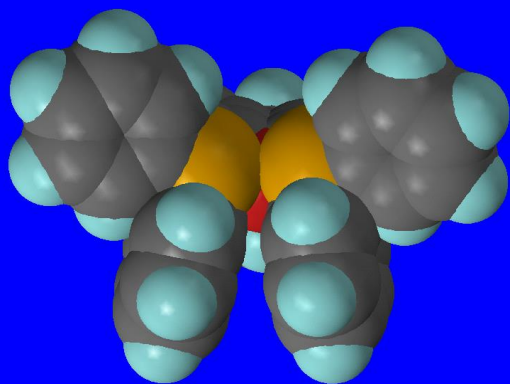
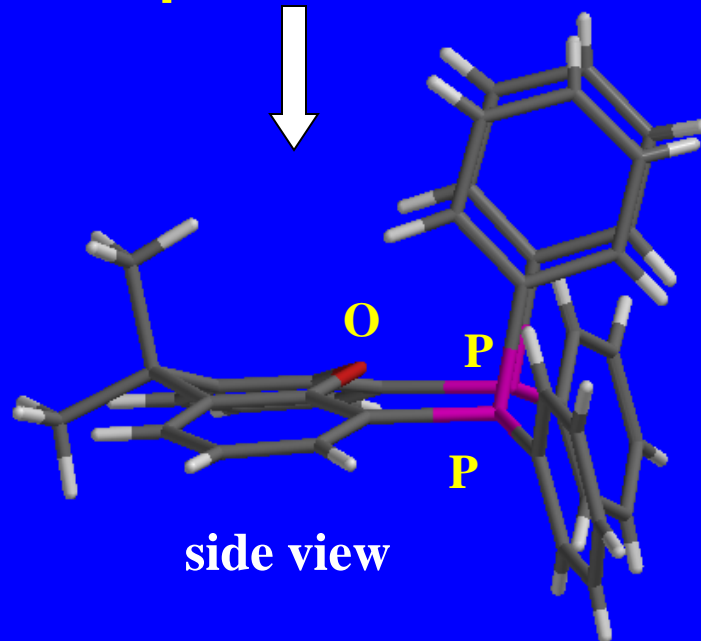
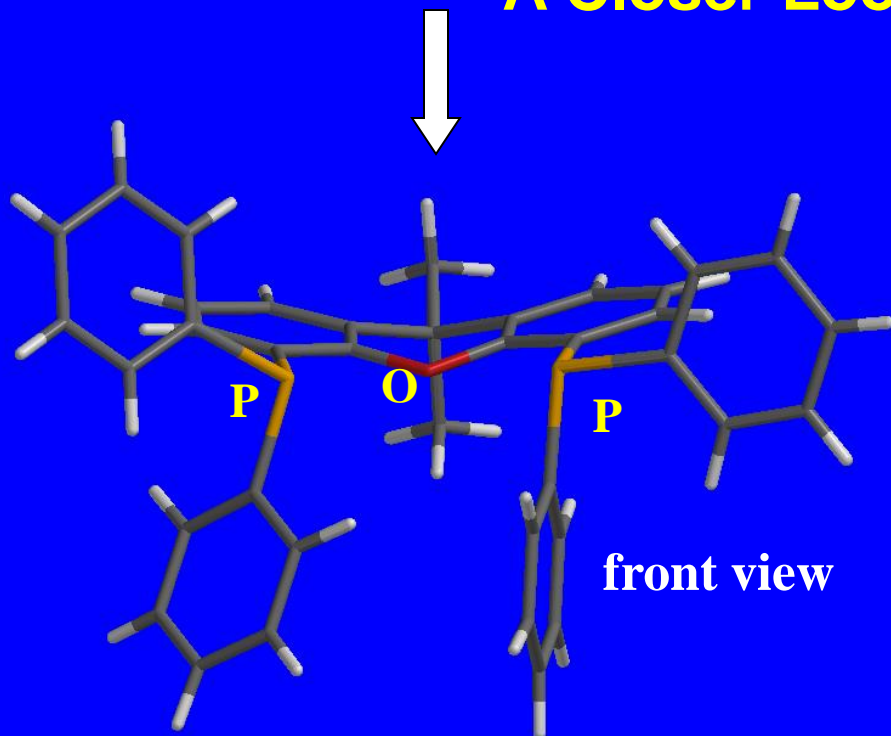
SPANphos

Van Leeuwen et al.

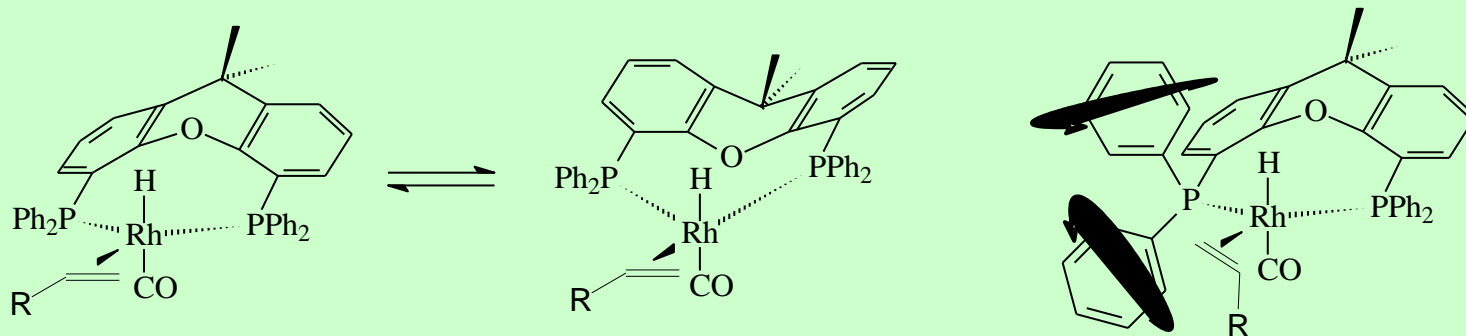
Small / medium bite angles

Wide bite angles

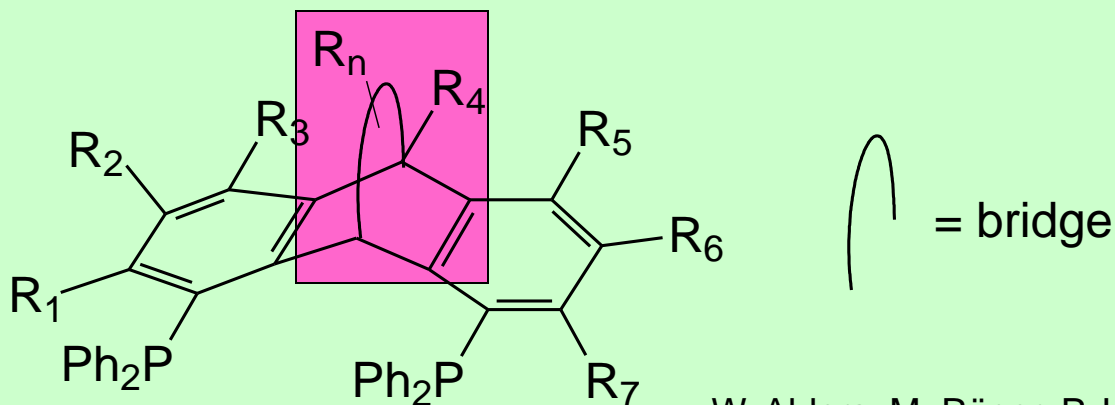
A Closer Look at Xantphos



➔ How to hamper facile backbone inversion and free P-substituent rotation ?



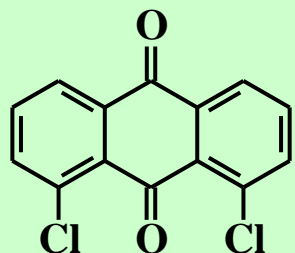
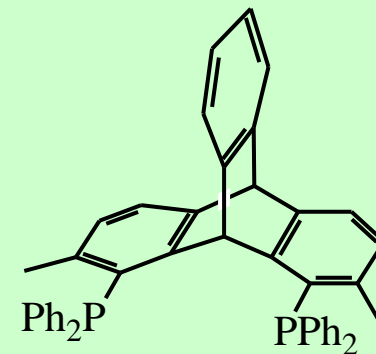
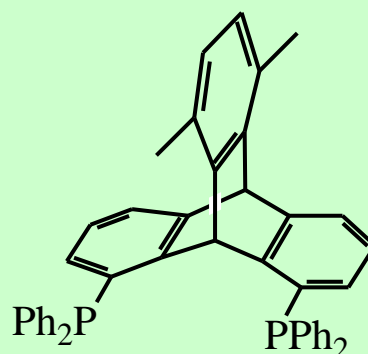
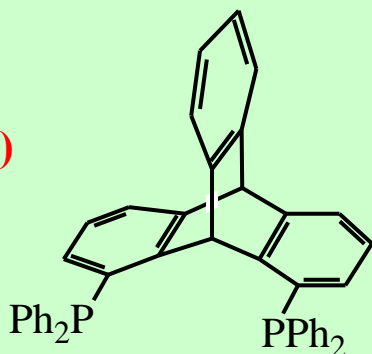
Make more rigid structures by bridging



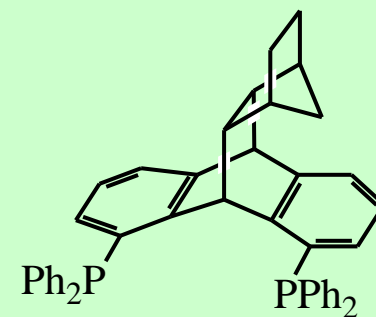
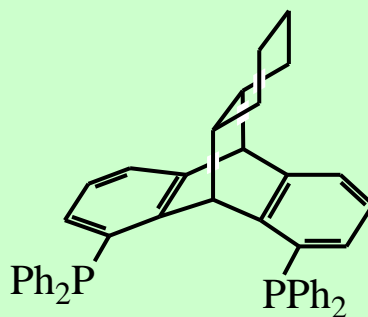
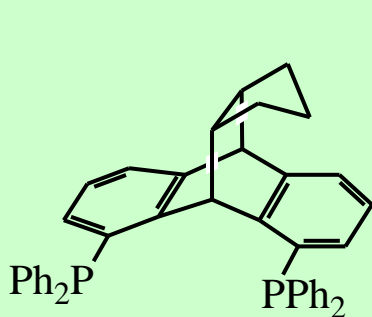
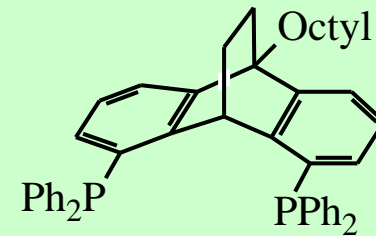
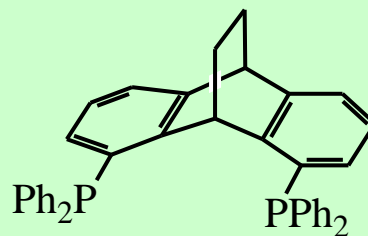
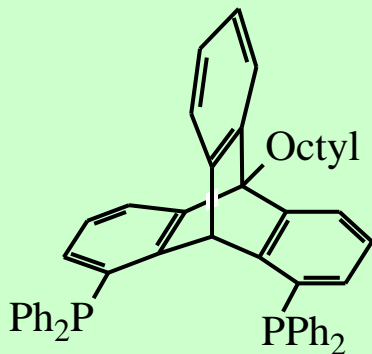
W. Ahlers, M. Röper, P. Hofmann, D.C.M. Warth, R. Paciello, WO 01/58589, **BASF**

Triptyphos and its Congeners: New Bisphosphane Ligand Systems

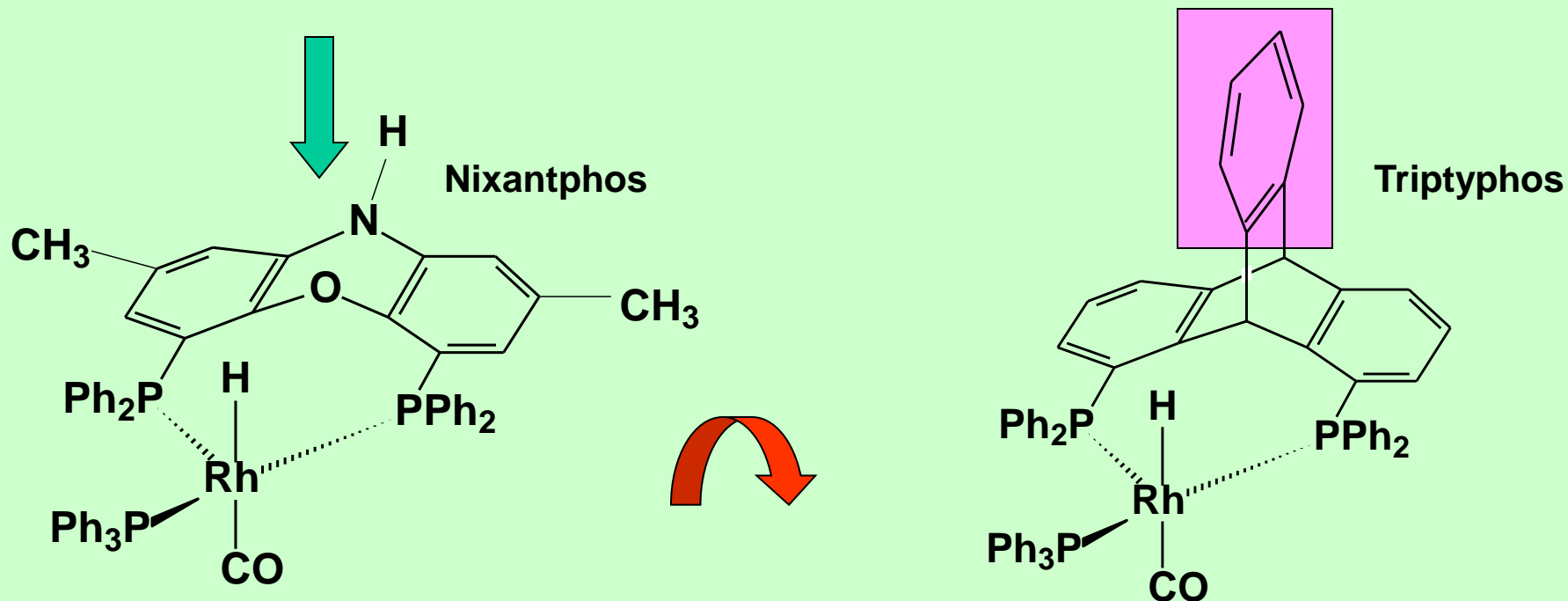
„Triptyphos“ (TTP)



Cheap Precursor



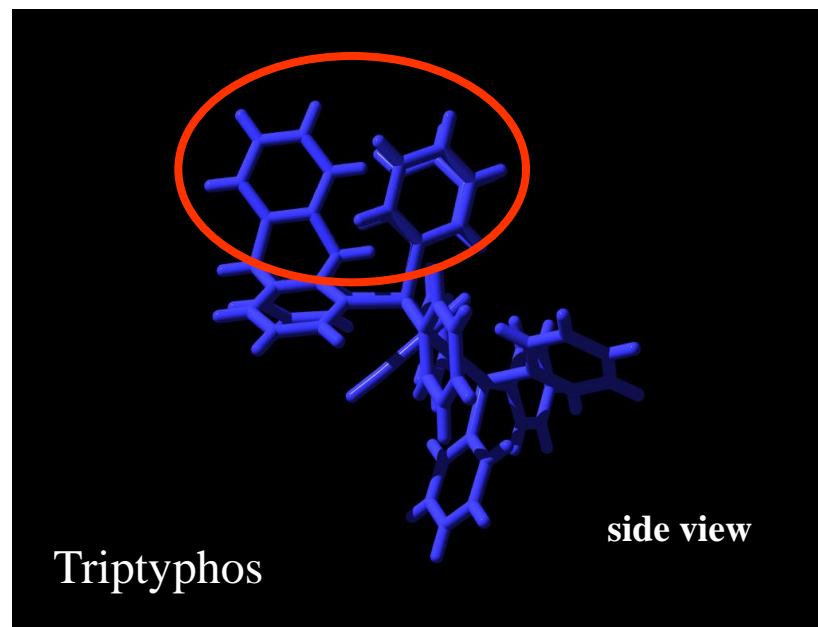
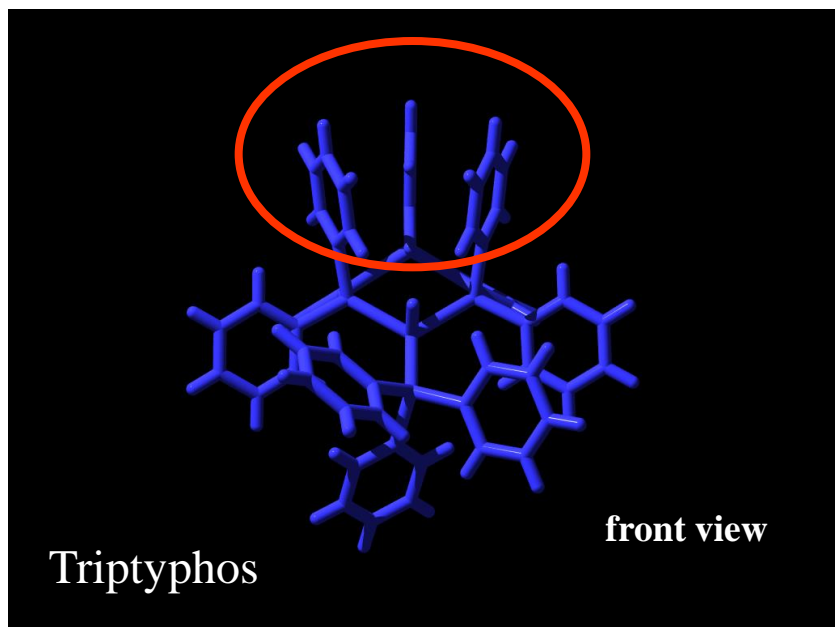
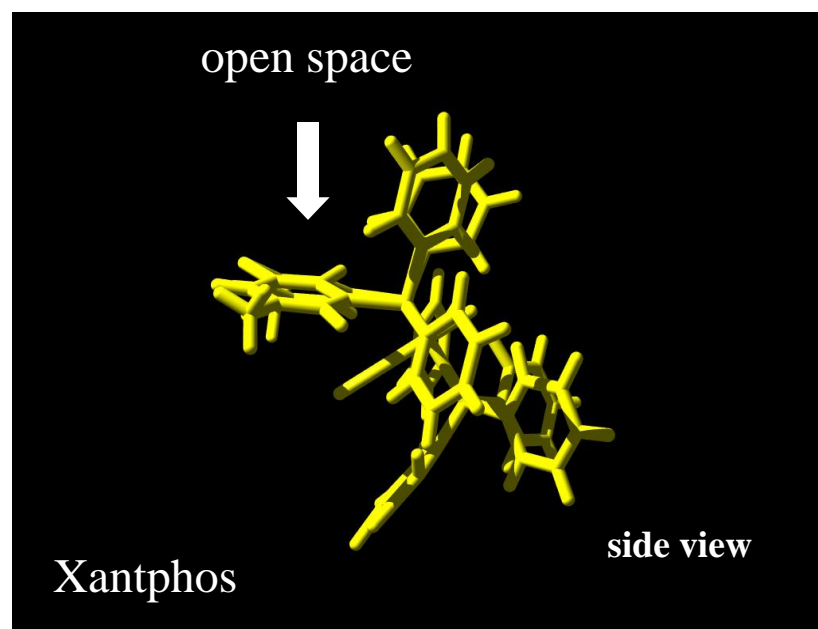
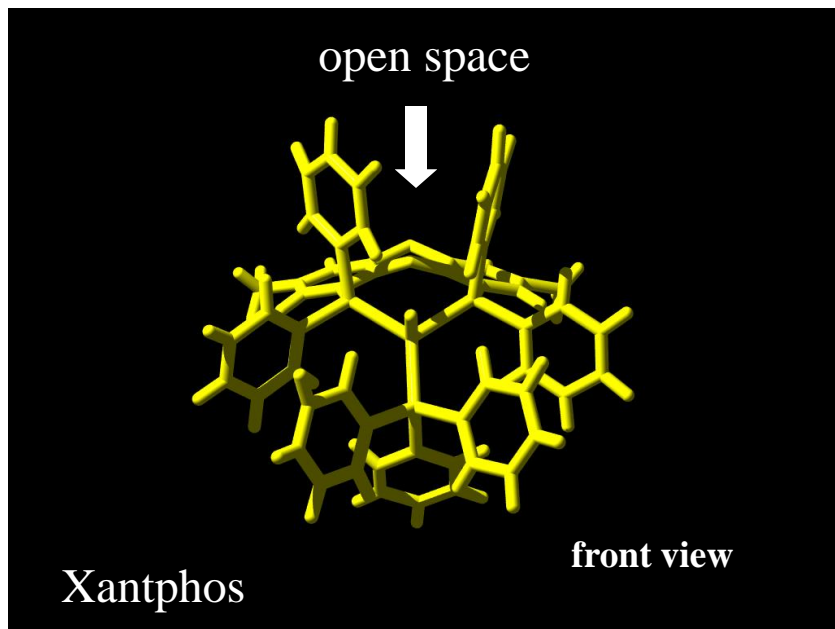
Checking the Structural Concept



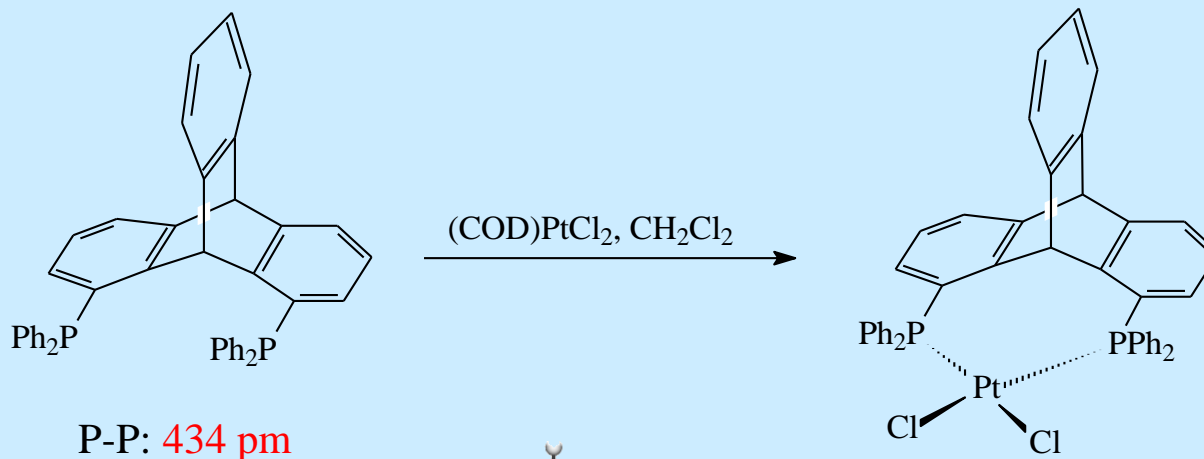
Van Leeuwen et al.
X-ray structure

Daniel Warth

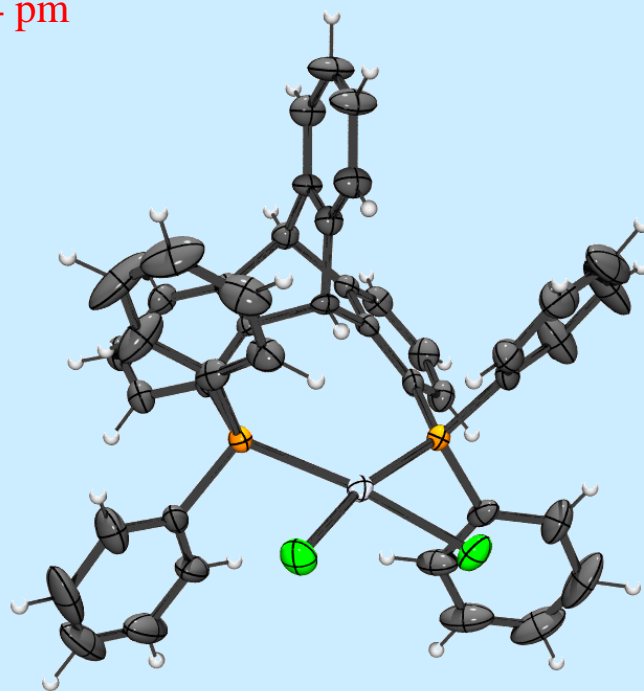
**X-ray structure comparison
of typical hydroformylation
rhodium model complexes
(PPh₃ replacing CO, Olefin)**



Metal Coordination Studies: Probing Accessible Geometries (Pt)



cis, square planar

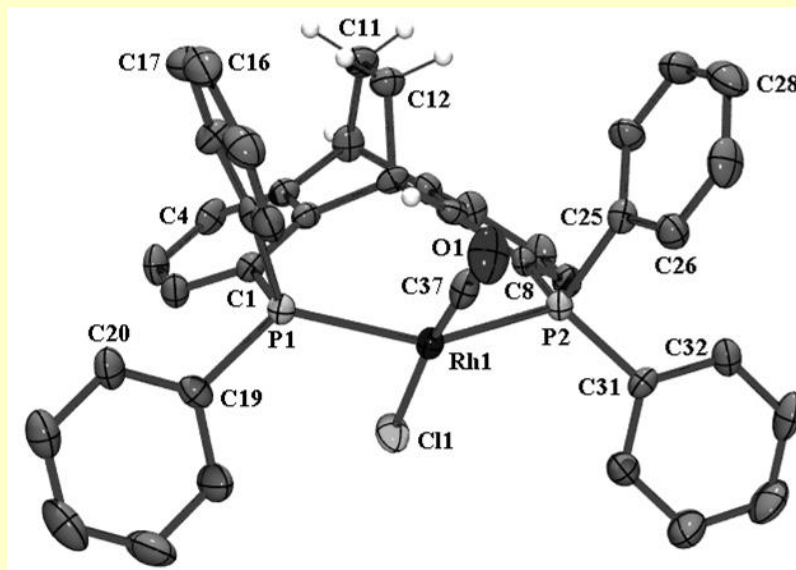


P ... P = 377 pm

P-Pt-P = 110.8 °

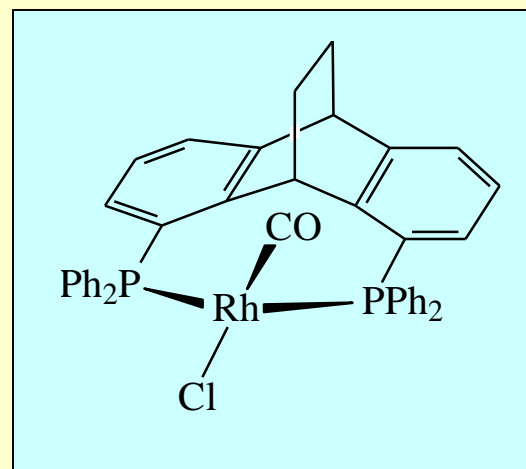
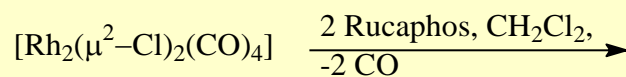
Metal Coordination Studies: Accessible Geometries (Rh)

CO „exo“

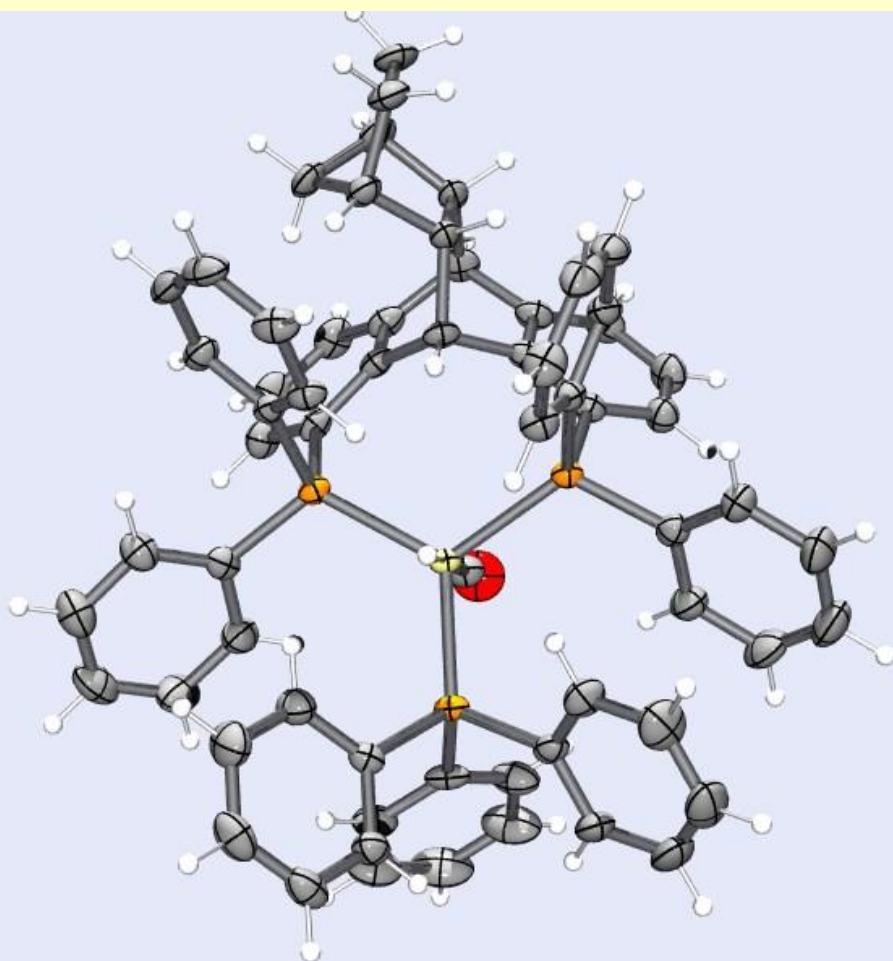


P ... P = 445.9 pm
P-Rh-P = 147.2°

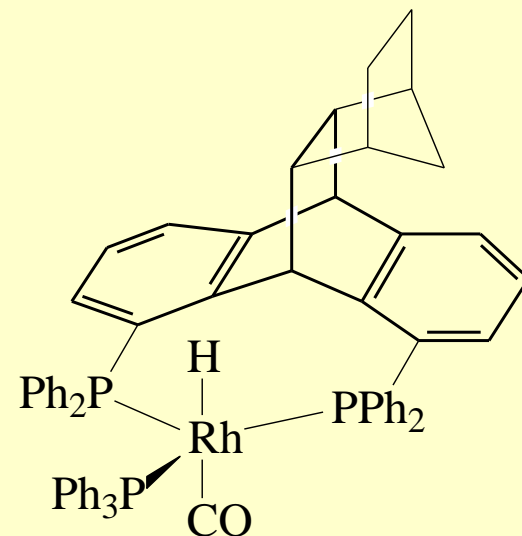
trans, square planar



Metal Coordination Studies: Accessible Geometries (Rh)



(Maophos)RhH(CO)(PPh₃)



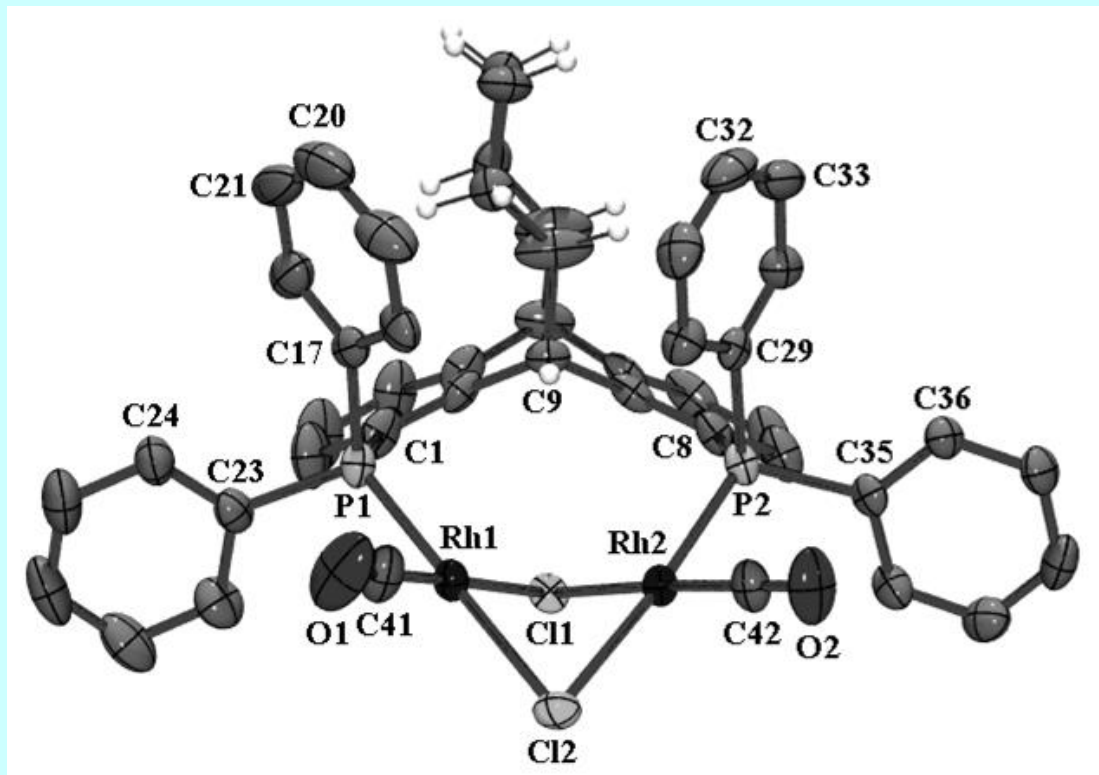
P ... P : 399.8 pm
Ligand P ... P : 480 pm
P-Rh-P = 119.3 °

Xray

trigonal bipyramidal

***e, e*-P-coordination**

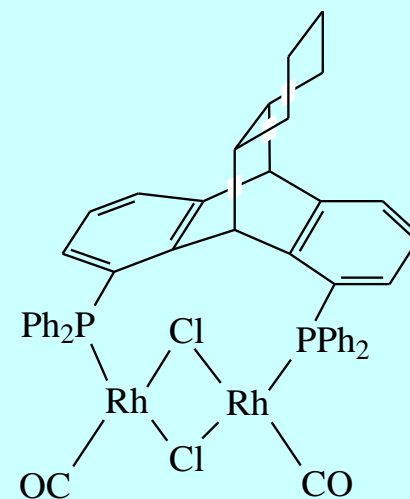
Metal Coordination Studies: Accessible Geometries (Rh)



P ... P: 536 pm

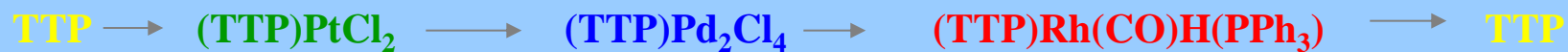
Ligand P ... P: 480 pm

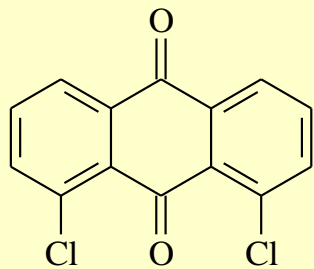
dinuclear



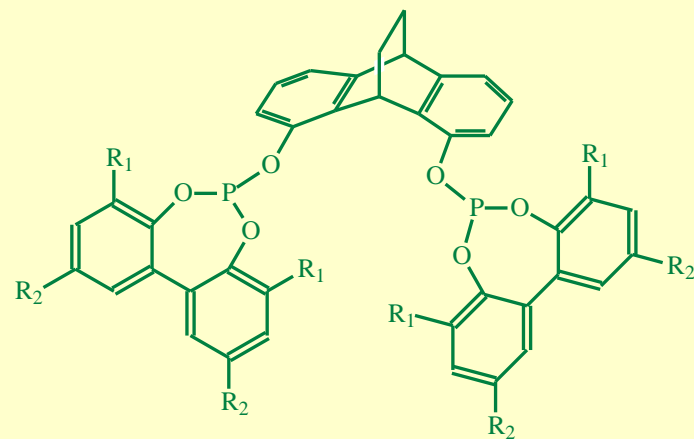
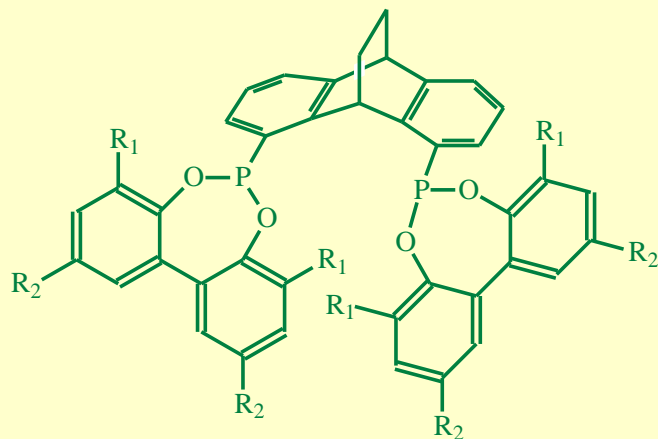
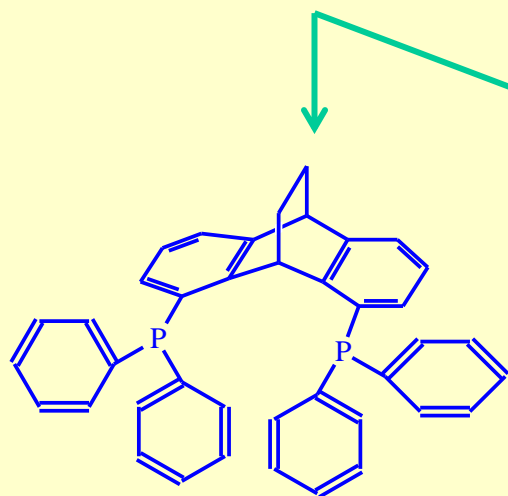
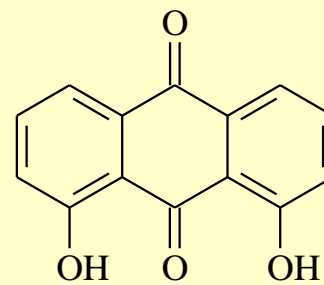
Ligand Flexibility Range from Model Complexes of Triptyphos (X-ray)

metal fragments cut out





Modular Ligand Synthesis Rh-Complexation Studies



Bisphosphanes

Bisphosphonites

Bisphosphites
Bisphosphoramidites

Daniel Warth

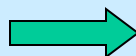
Thilo Kaiser

Tobias Rosendahl

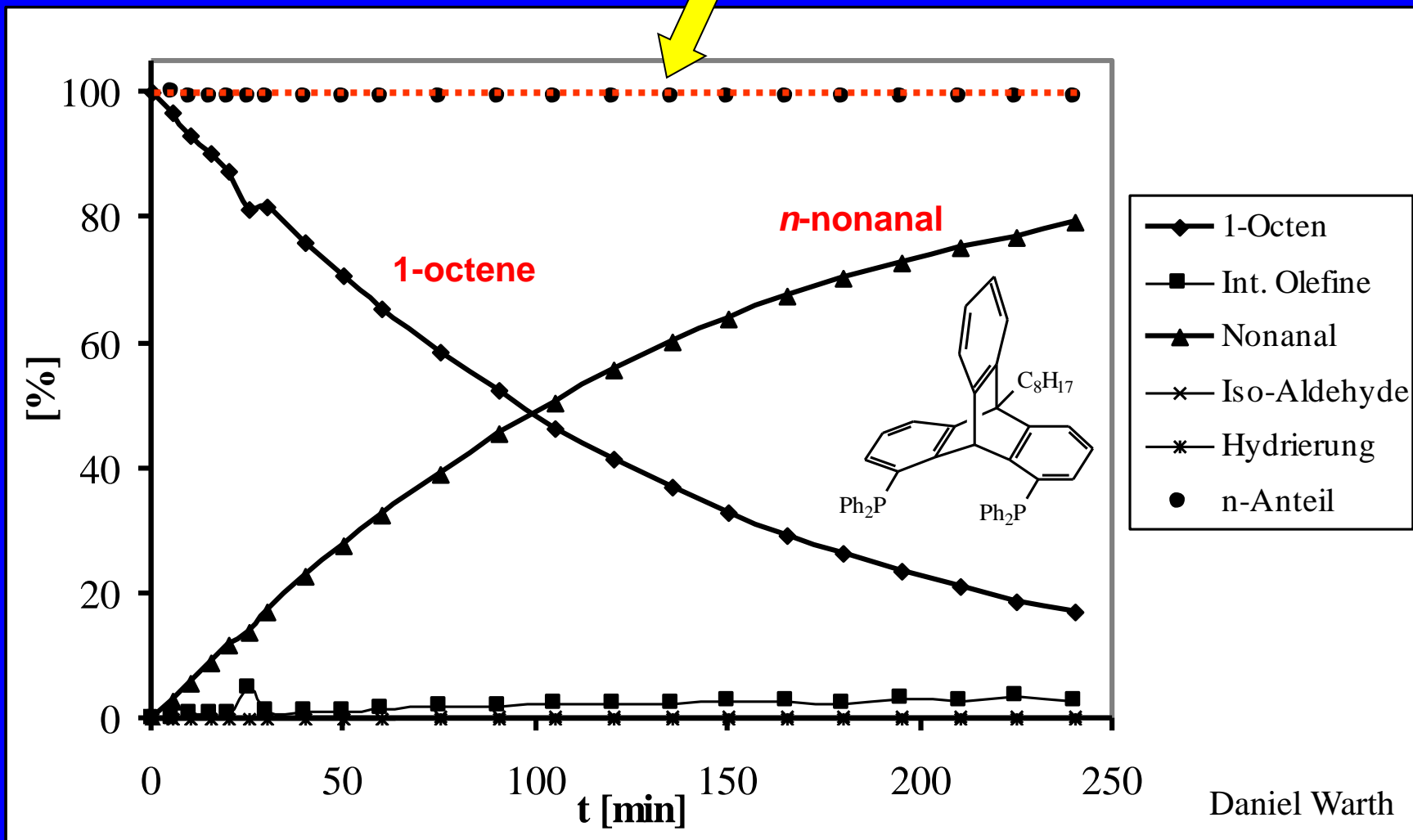
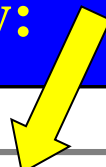
Ligand Performance, Catalysis: Test Reactions (Batch) → Kinetics



- 80°C / 7 bar H₂/CO (1:1)
- Toluene (THF, 1,4-Dioxane)
- Glass autoclave reactors
- Stirring rate: 1200 rpm
- Substrate: 1-octene
- 50 ppm Rh as Rh(acac)(CO)₂
- Preformation: 1 h, 80°C
- Rh:substrate = 1:8000 - 10000
- Automated GC analysis
- Kinetics: 20 samples / 4 h



Chemo- and Regioselectivity: above 99% *n*-aldehyde

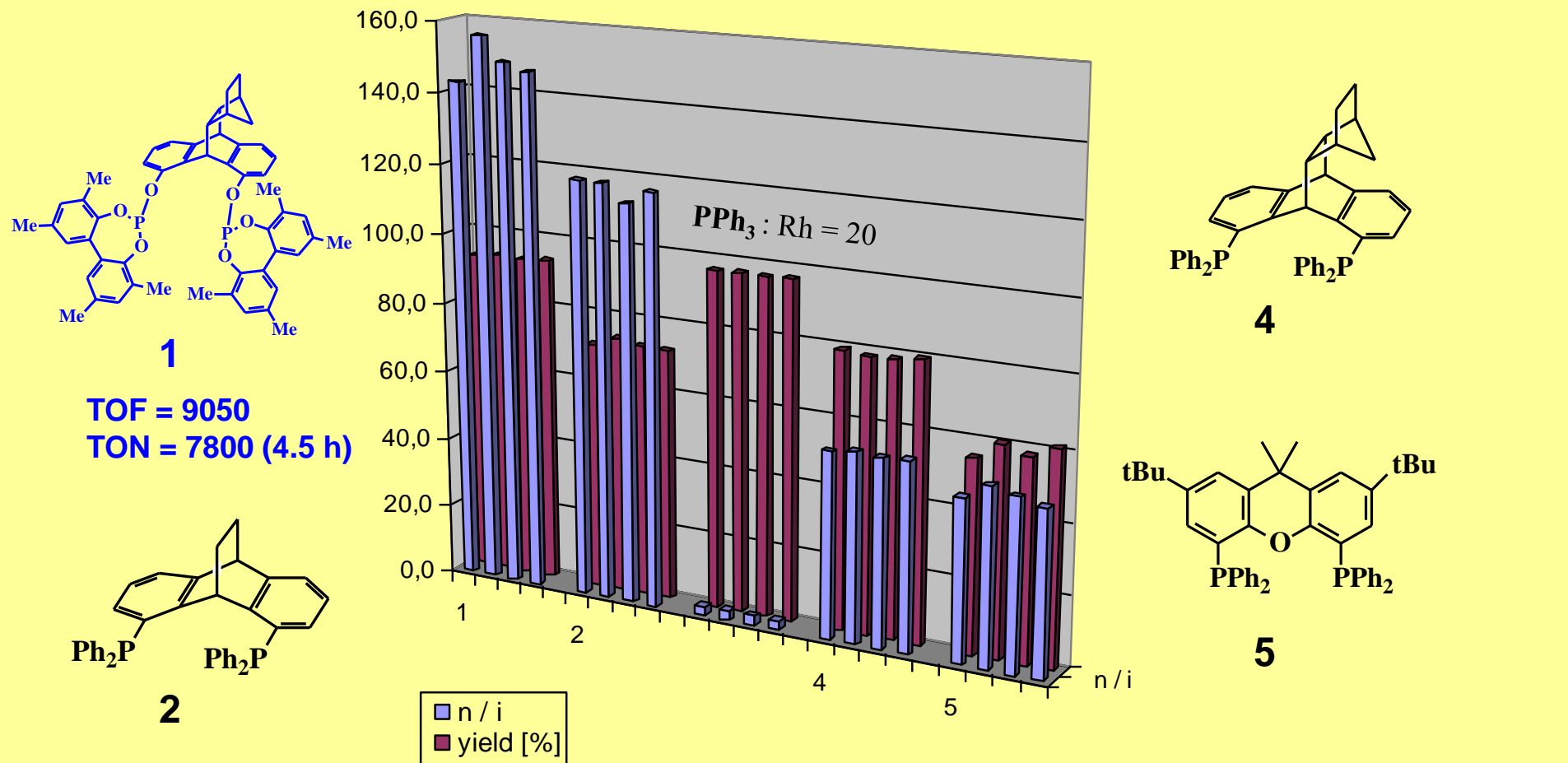


Kinetics: 7 bar H_2/CO (1:1), 80 °C, 50 ppm Rh, Triptyphos



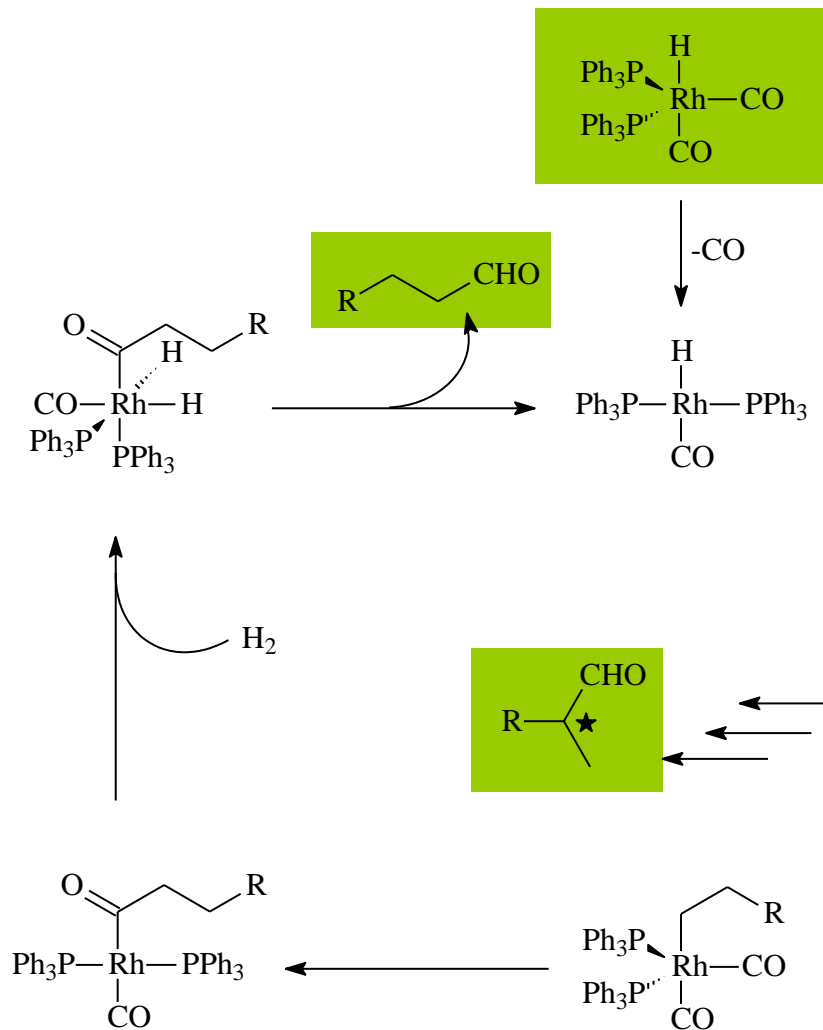
Hydroformylation of 1-Octene, Chemspeed Accelerator

[Rh:Ligand = 1:5, Rh:1-octene = 1:8000, 80°C, 7 bar CO/H₂ (1:1), 4,5h]



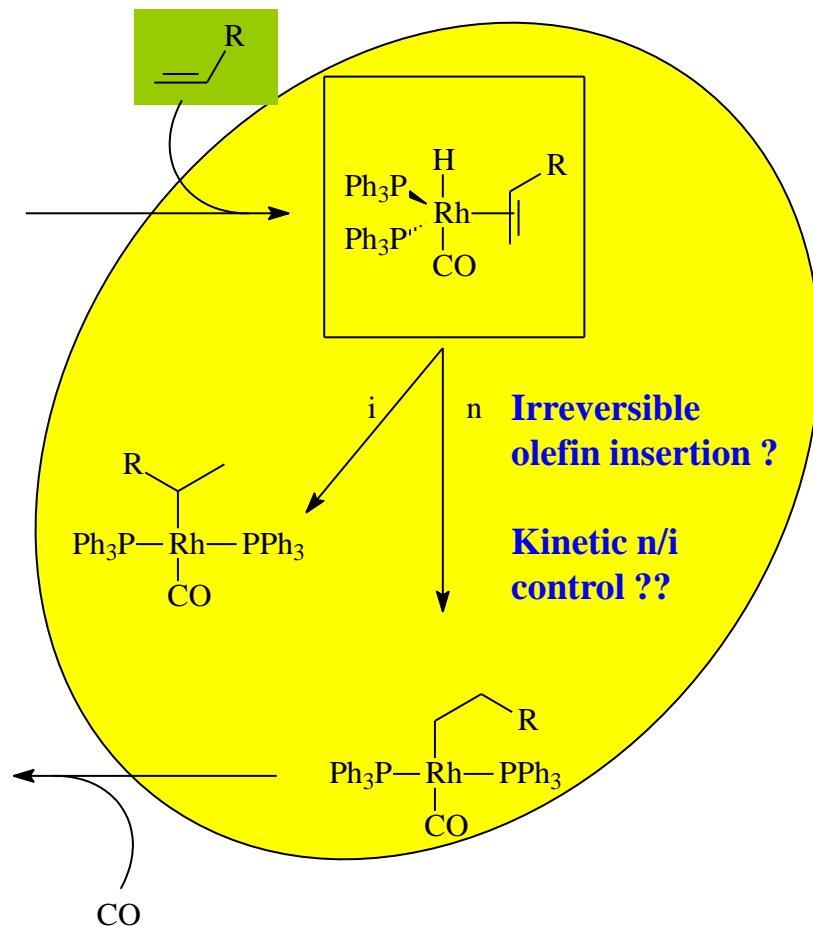
	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2		PPh ₃ 1:20	PPh ₃ 1:20	PPh ₃ 1:20	PPh ₃ 1:20		4	4	4	4		5	5	5	5
n/i	143,1	156,4	149,6	147,5	119,1	119,1	114,1	117,8		2,8	2,7	2,7	2,8		53,4	54,3	53,7	54,1		46,5	50,8	49,2	47,3
yield [%]	92,4	93,3	92,9	93,3	70,9	73,6	72,5	72,1		96,5	96,7	96,6	96,8		79,2	78,3	78,6	79,7		55,1	60,0	57,7	60,9

Activity and Selectivity

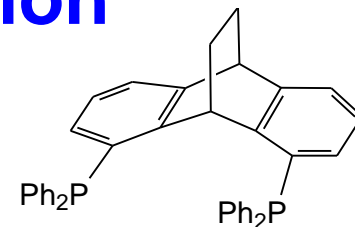


Mechanistic Scenario

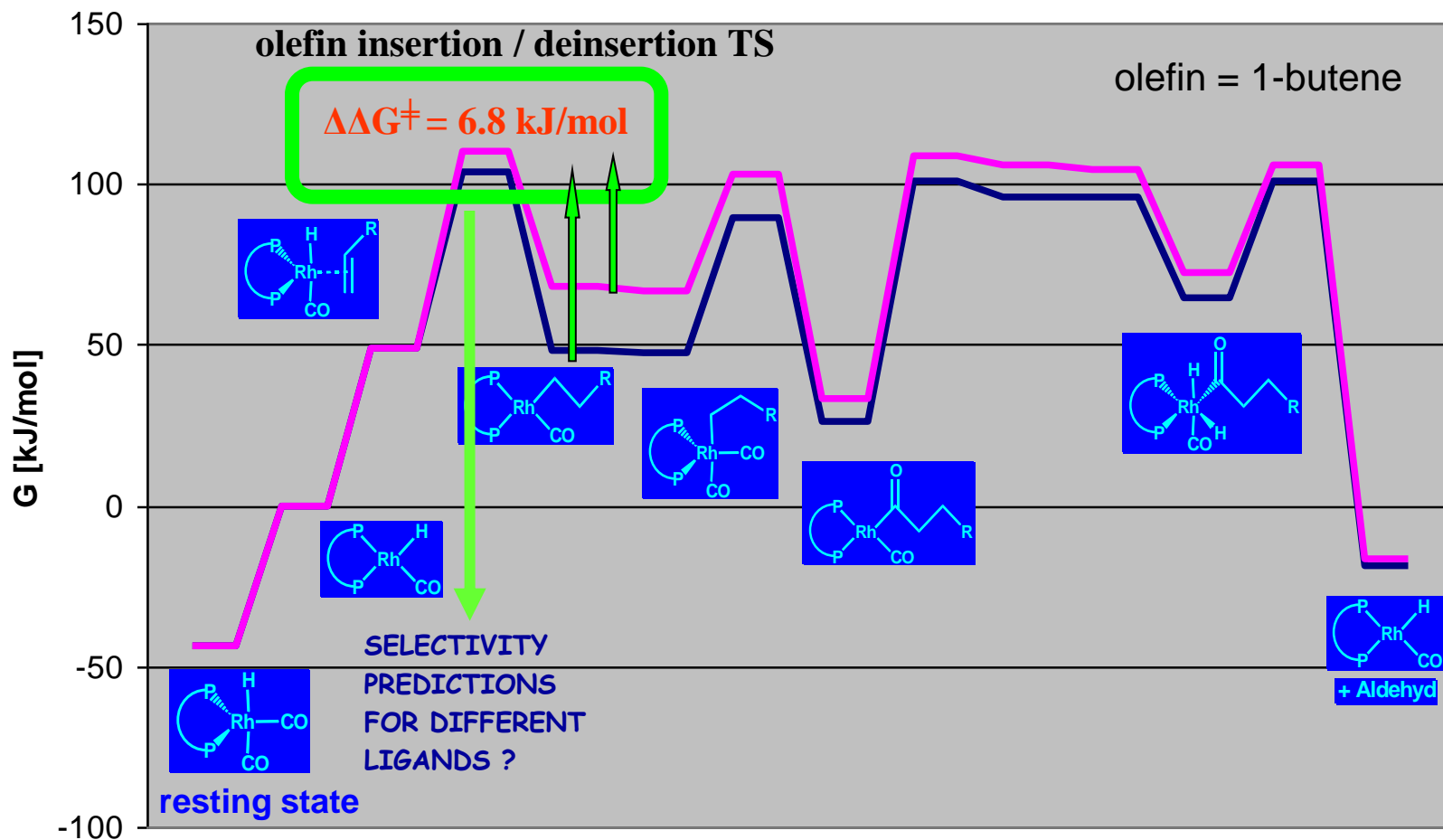
(PPh₃ as ligand system, simplified)



DFT: *n*- vs. *i*-Aldehyde Formation

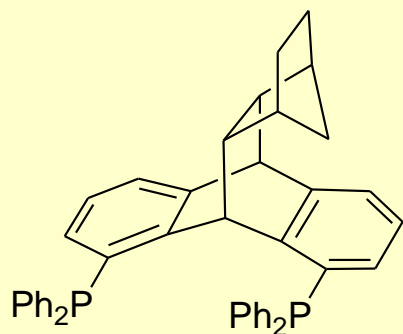


G (100°C,10bar) for *n*- und *i*- reaction path



Optimization and molecular vibrations: BP86/SV(P); single point energies: B3LYP/TZVP

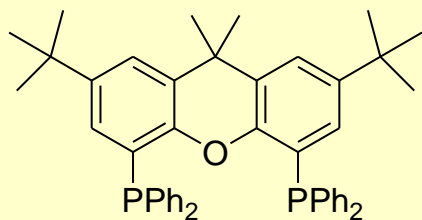
Syngas D₂ / CO: Deuterioformylation – Ligand Set Tested:



Bisphosphane

D. Warth

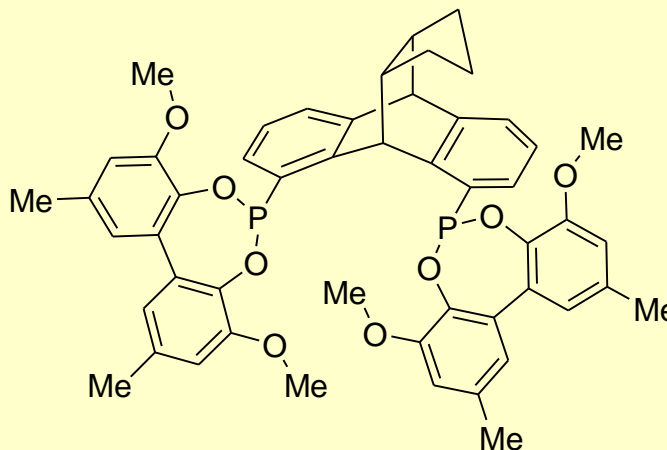
n/*i* = 53, TOF = 2239



DitBuXantphos

van Leeuwen

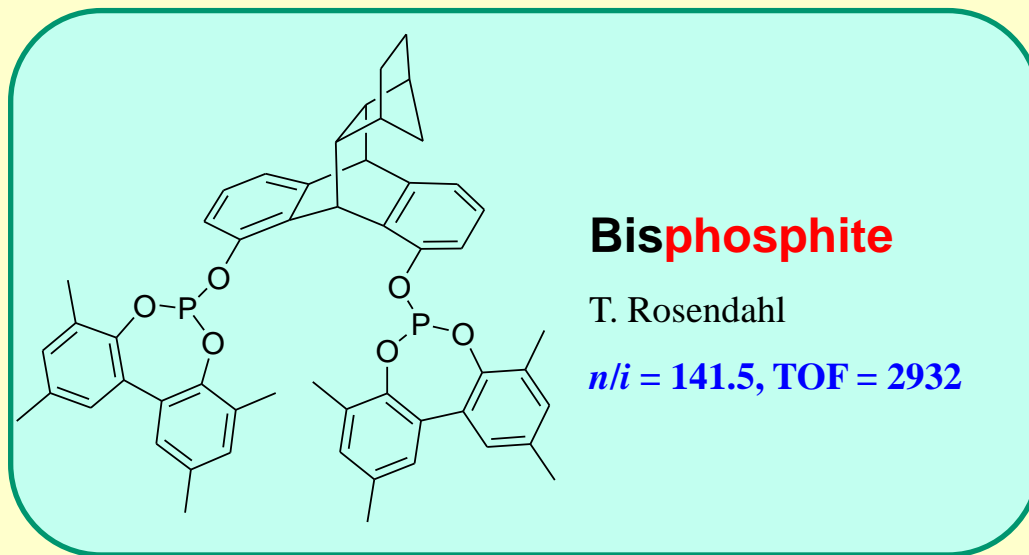
n/*i* = 48.6, TOF = 645



Bisphosphonite

T. Kaiser

n/*i* = 5.5, TOF = 2940



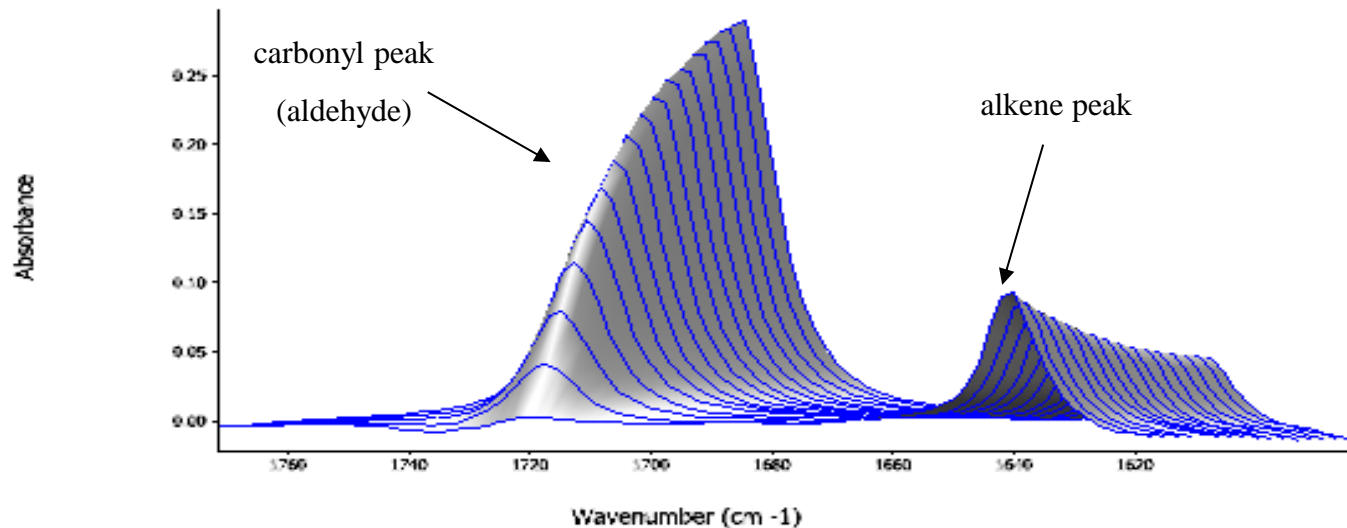
Bisphosphite

T. Rosendahl

n/*i* = 141.5, TOF = 2932

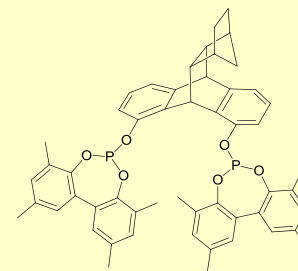
Deuterioformylation of 1-hexene – experimental

- Preformation for 2h at 60°C and 7 bar D_2/CO (1:1)
- Deuterioformylation with Rh:L = 1:2.5 , Rh:hexene = 1:4000, 60°C, 7 bar D_2/CO (1:1)
- Reaction control by *in-situ* IR-spectroscopy
- 50% Conversion
- Distillation of the reaction mixture → hexene, toluene and aldehyde fraction
- Quantitative determination of 1-D-hexene, 2-D-hexene as well as α - and β -deuterated heptanals by 2H -NMR

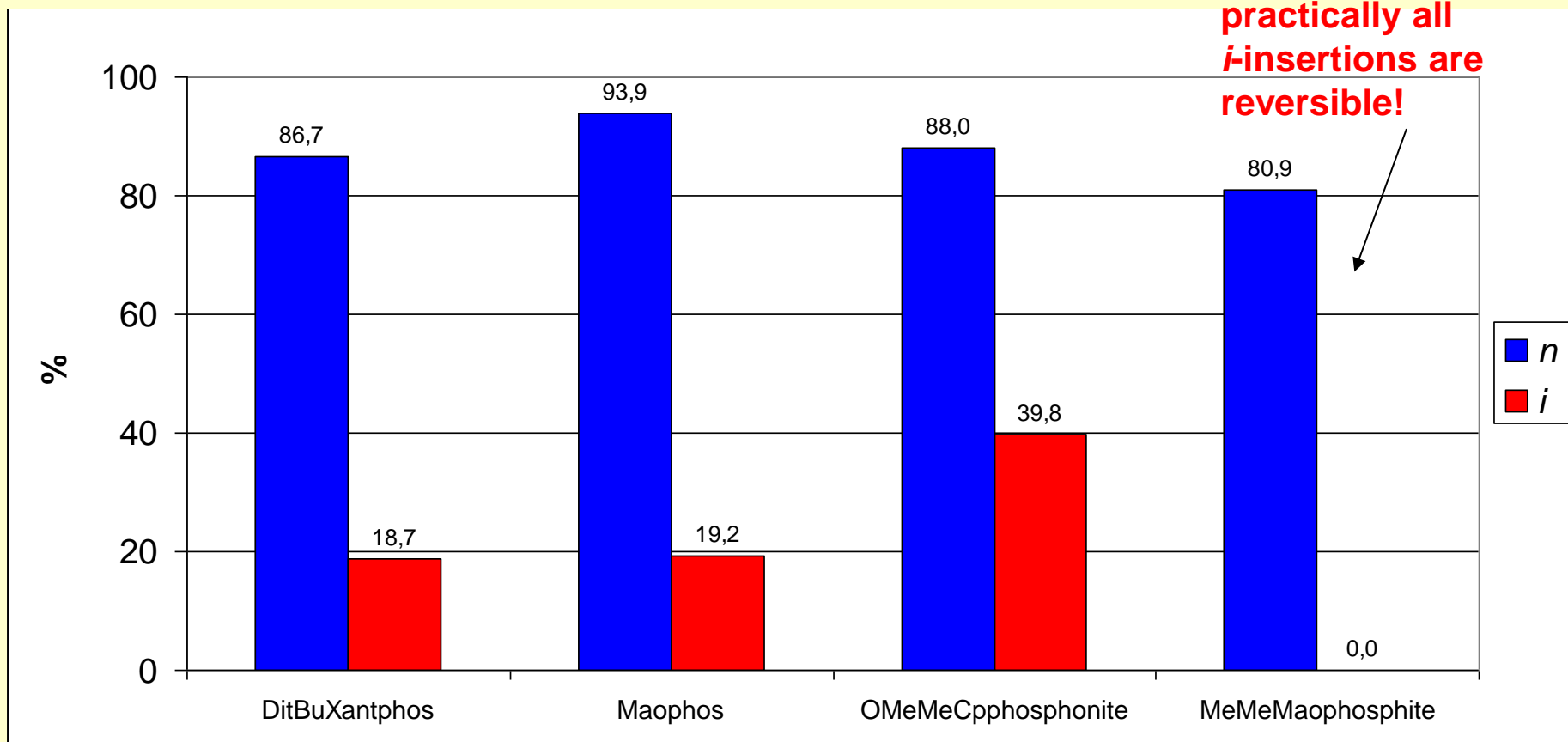


Deuterioformylation – Results

% irreversible *n*- and *i*-insertions

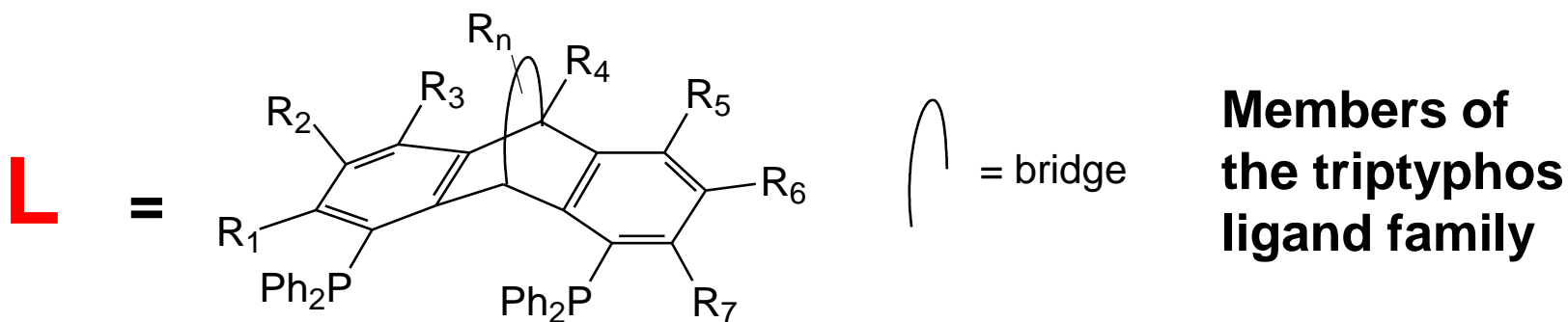
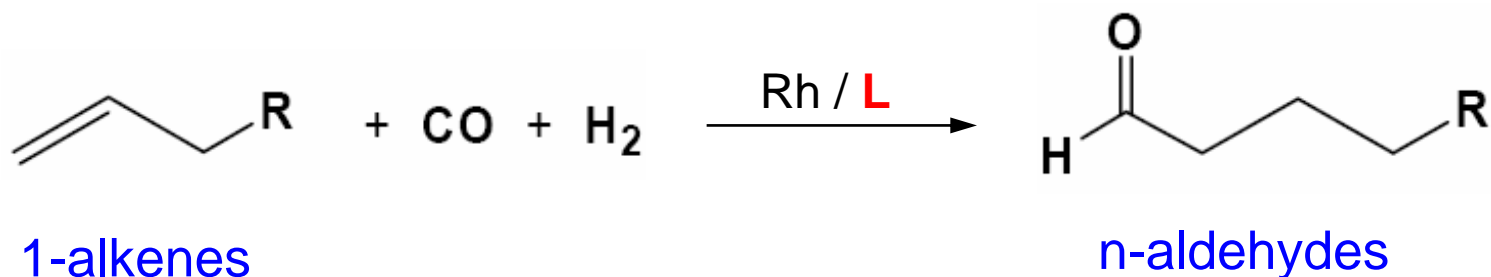


practically all
i-insertions are
reversible!



n-selectivity determined by different degrees of
reversibility for *n*- and *i*-olefin insertion !

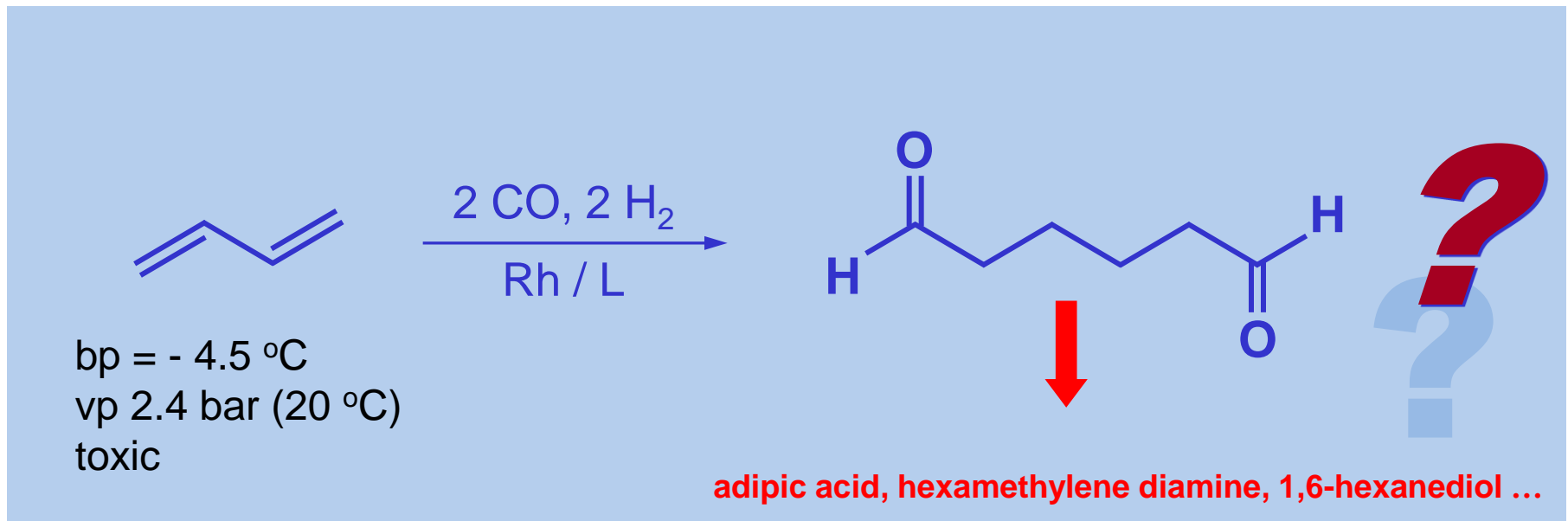
Ligand design for **highly *n*-selective and highly active** low pressure, low temperature Rh-hydroformylation catalysis of terminal alkenes successfully achieved.



Further Challenges, Perspectives, Options ?

A „Dream-Reaction“ of Oxo-Chemistry

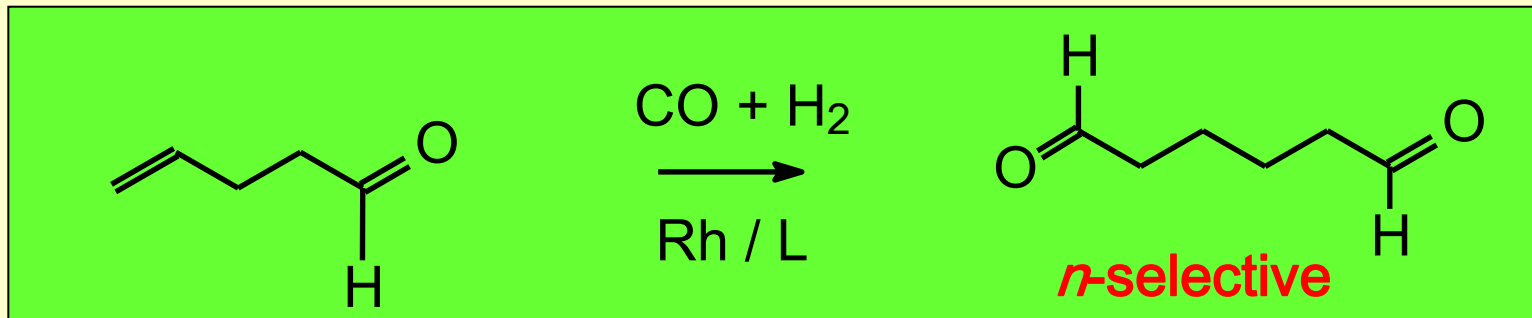
What about Rhodium-Catalyzed Direct Bis-Hydroformylation of **1,3-Butadiene** (Steam Cracker Product) to **Adipic Aldehyde**?



Many unsuccessful (mostly industrial) research efforts since around 1950

„The direct hydroformylation of butadiene to adipic aldehyde is probably the most difficult case with a.o. low reactivity and selectivity“ [P. Arnoldy, Shell Research, cited from van Leeuwen & Claver (Ed.) *Rh-Catalyzed Hydroformylation*, Kluwer, 2000, p.227]

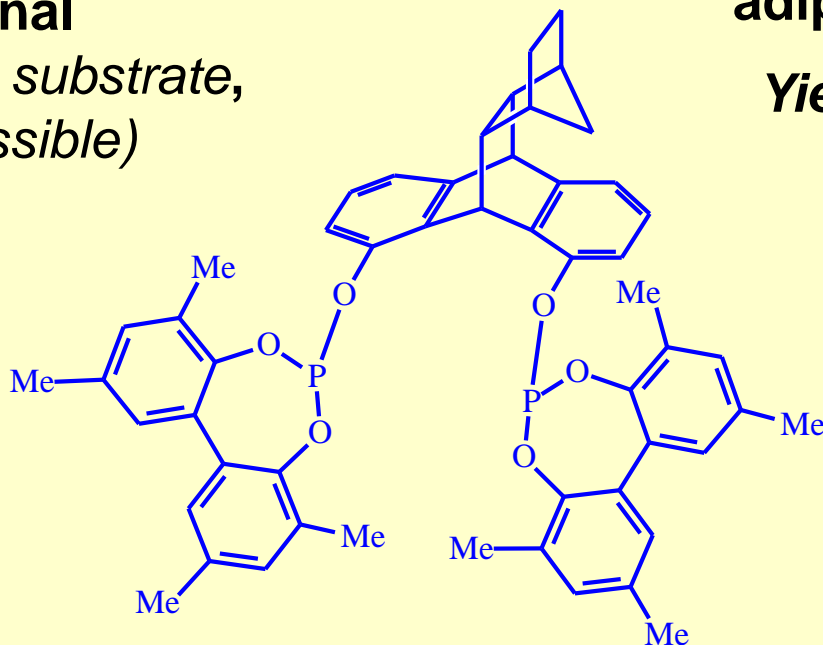
Starting point: selective *n*-hydroformylation of 4-pentenal, the mono-*n*-hydroformylation product of butadiene, works



4-pentenal
*(itself attractive substrate,
easily accessible)*

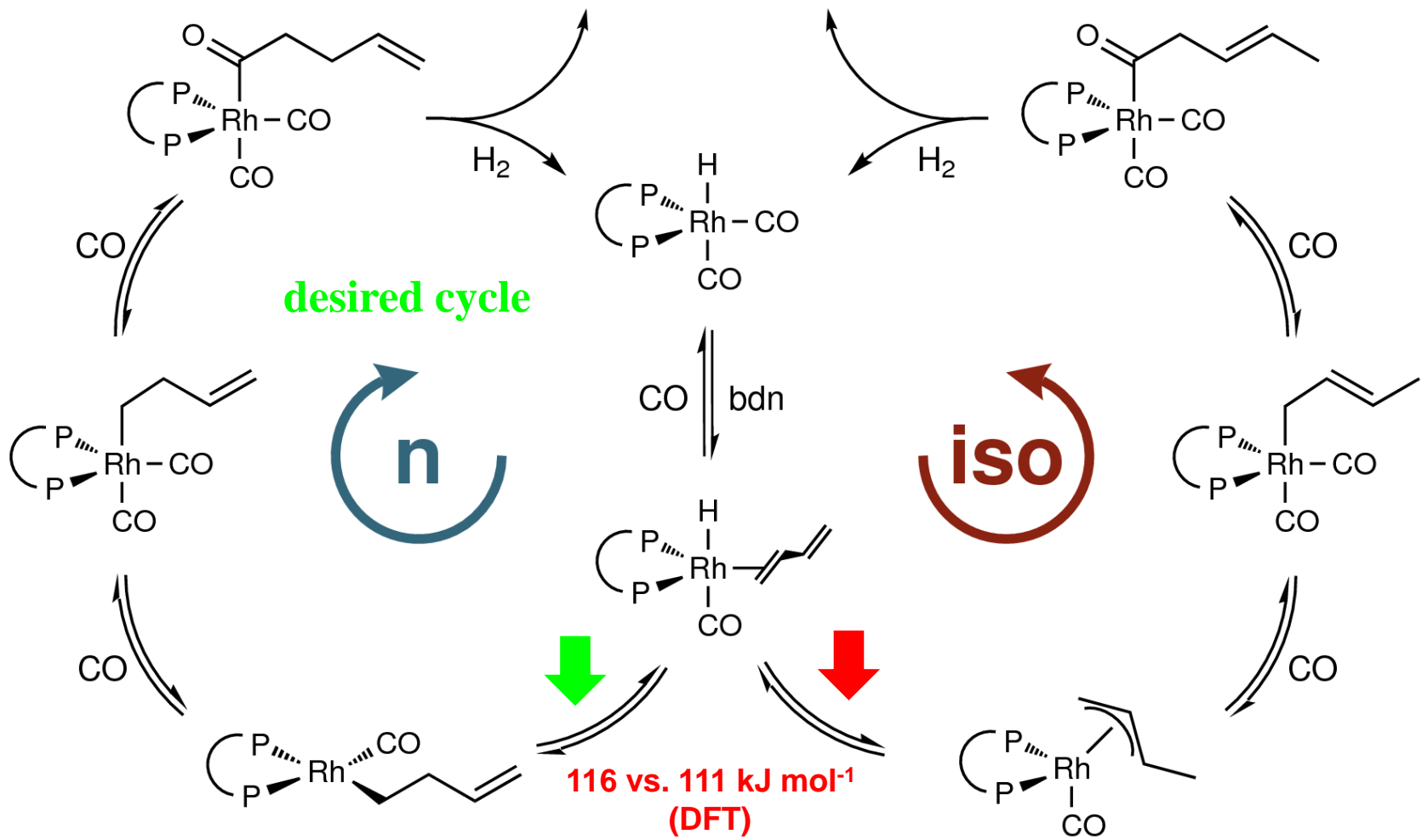
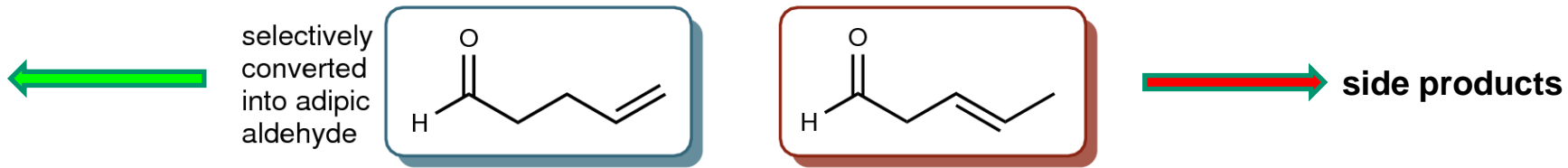
adipic aldehyde
Yield over 95%

L =



T. Rosendahl

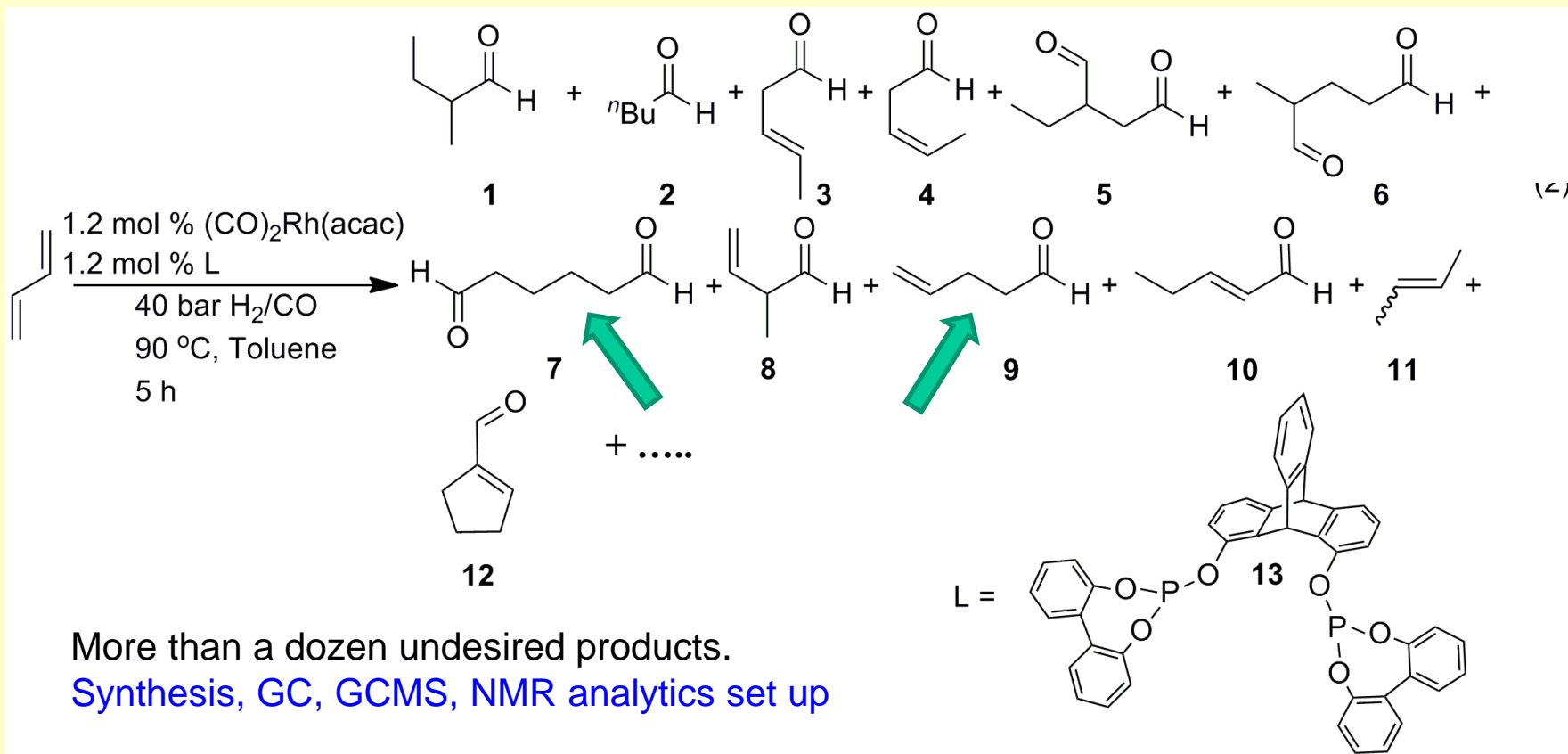
Regioselectivity of first hydroformylation step of butadiene to 4-pentenal is crucial



specific problems:

- allyl complex very stable
- *iso*-insertion preferred (5 kJ/mol)
- *iso*-pathway 10 kJ/mol lower in energy

Product Manifold of Butadiene Hydroformylation from Literature and from Our Own Test Reactions

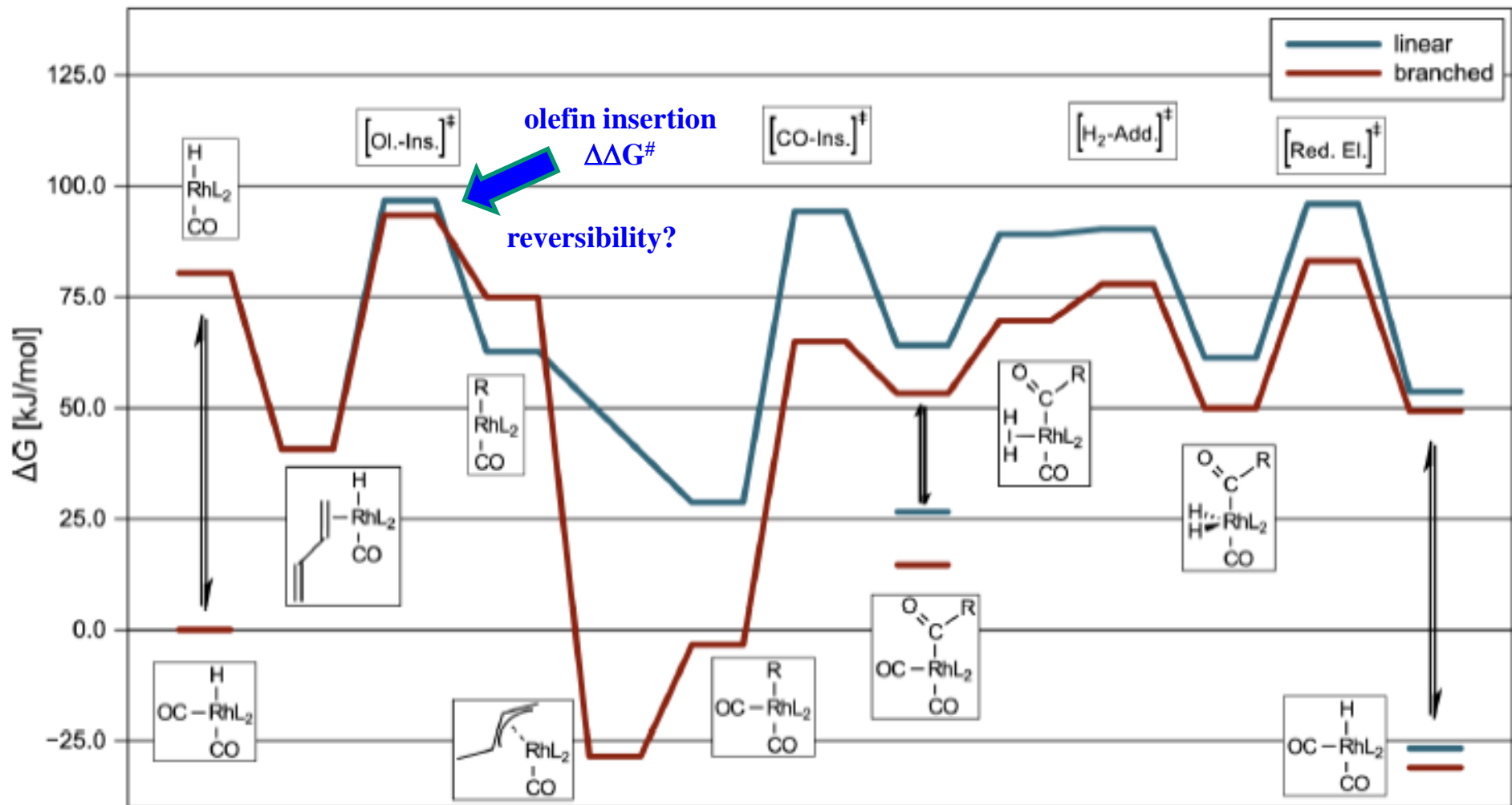


More than a dozen undesired products.

Synthesis, GC, GCMS, NMR analytics set up

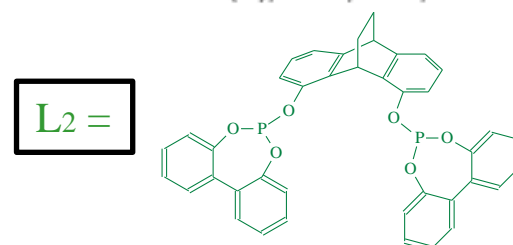
Stuart Smith (CaRLa)

Catalytic Cycle: 1st Hydroformylation Step, DFT

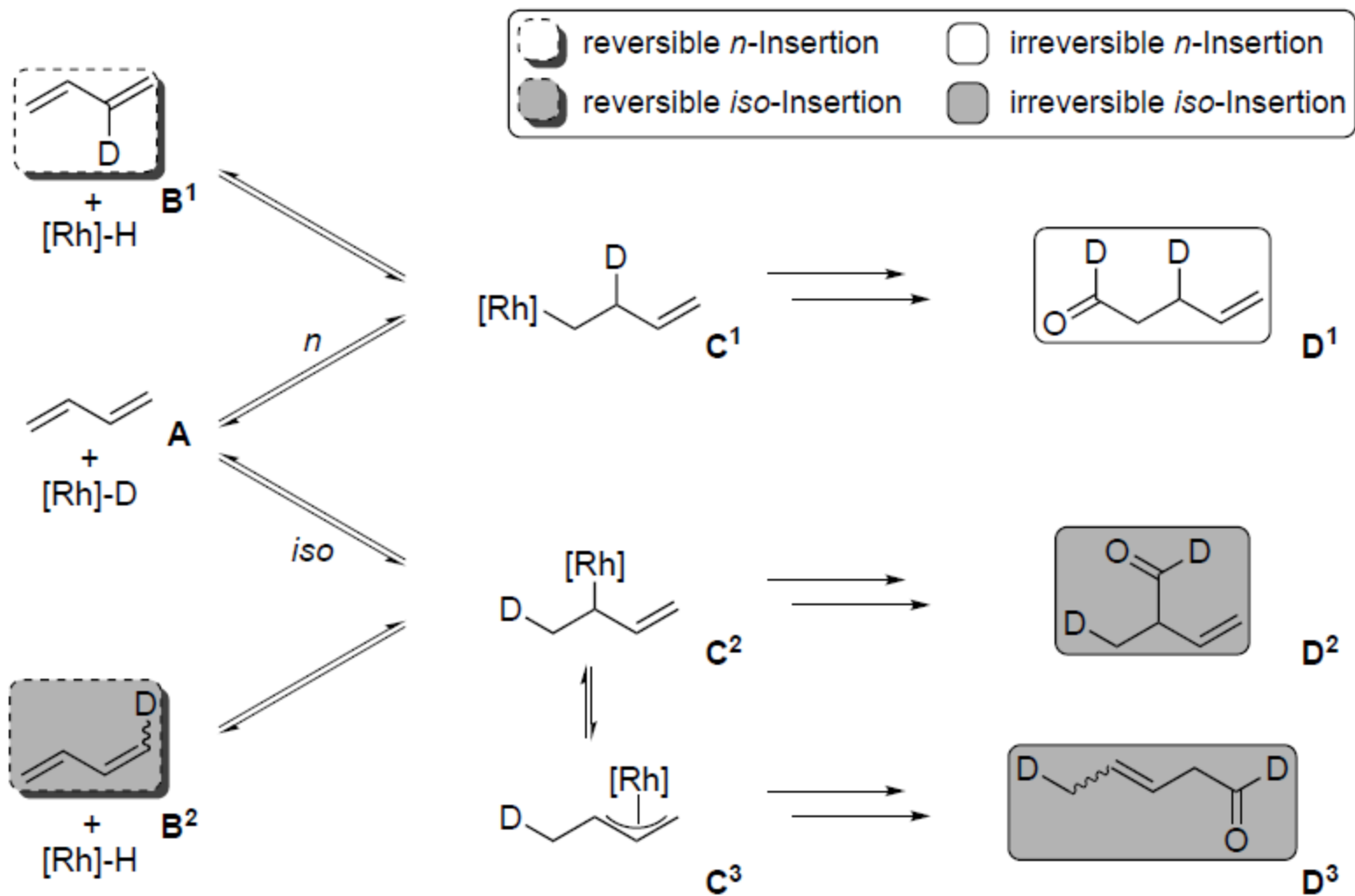


BP86/def2-TZVP//BP86/def2-SV(P), Δ_{CC} , ZPE, 110 °C, 40 bar

rate determining step?

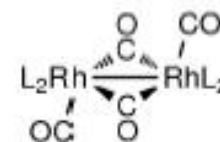
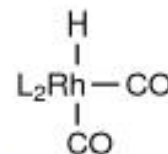
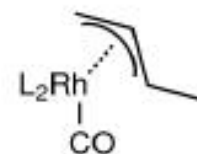
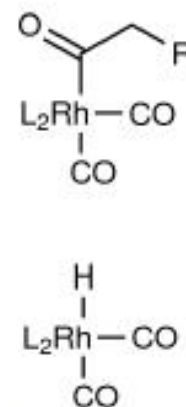
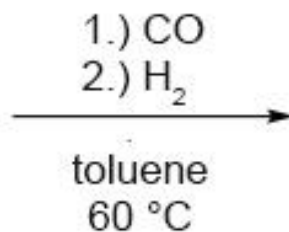
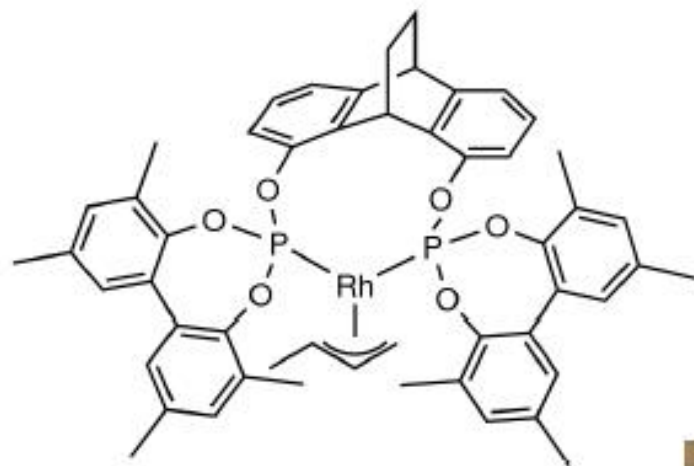


Deuteroformylation Experiment: Insertion Reversibility Found



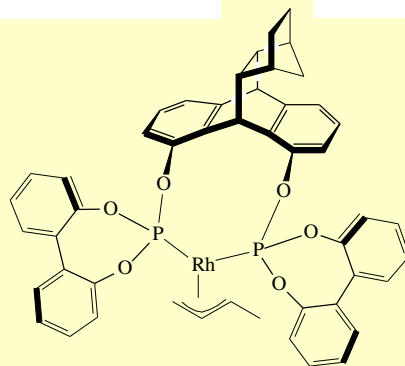
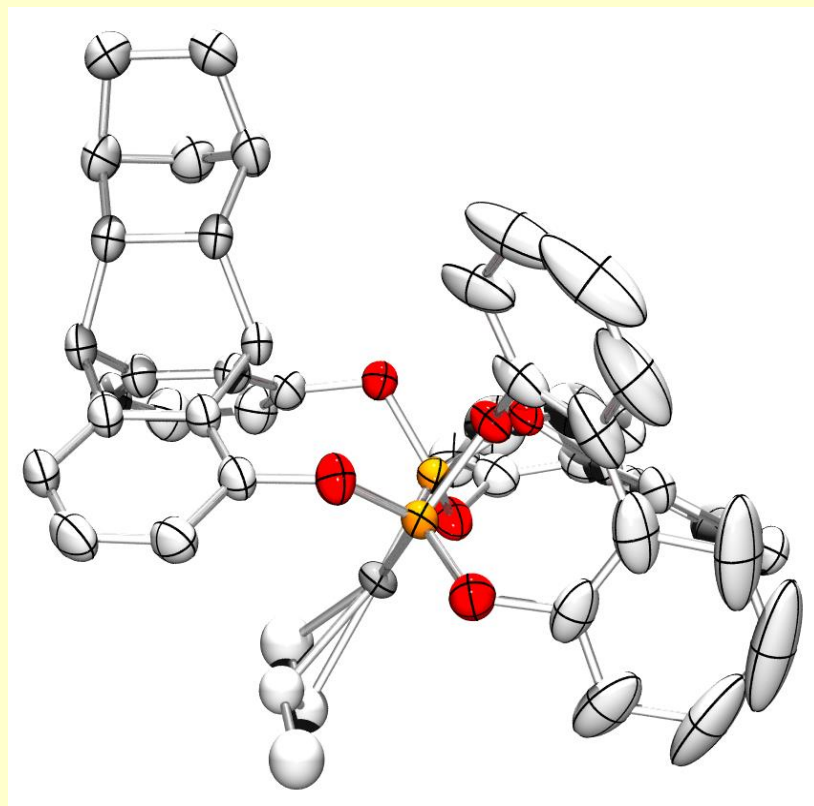
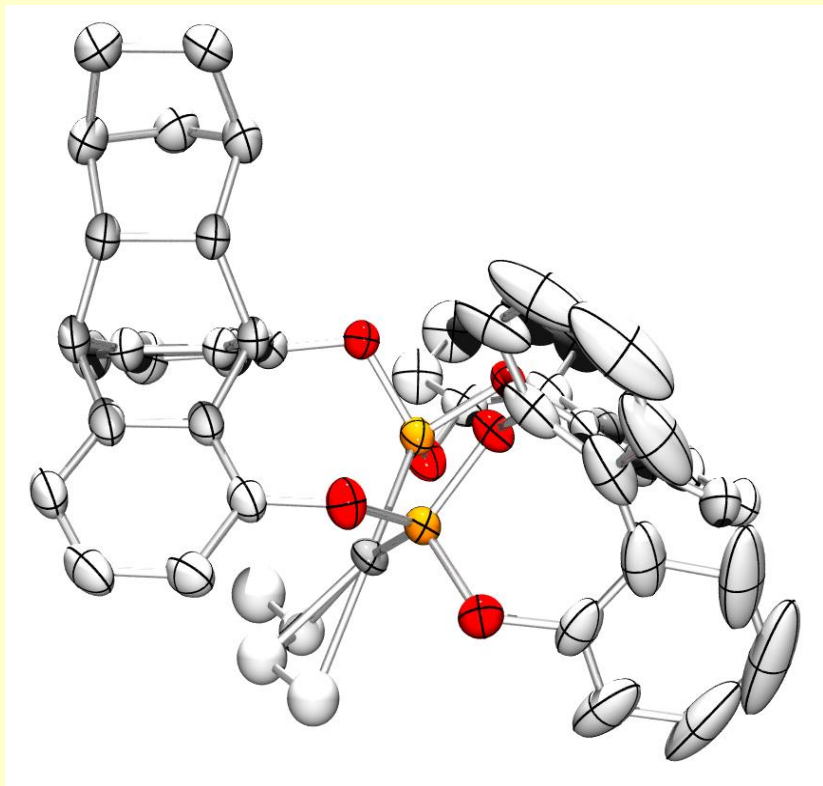
In situ Spectroscopy: IR, NMR

Directly Observable:



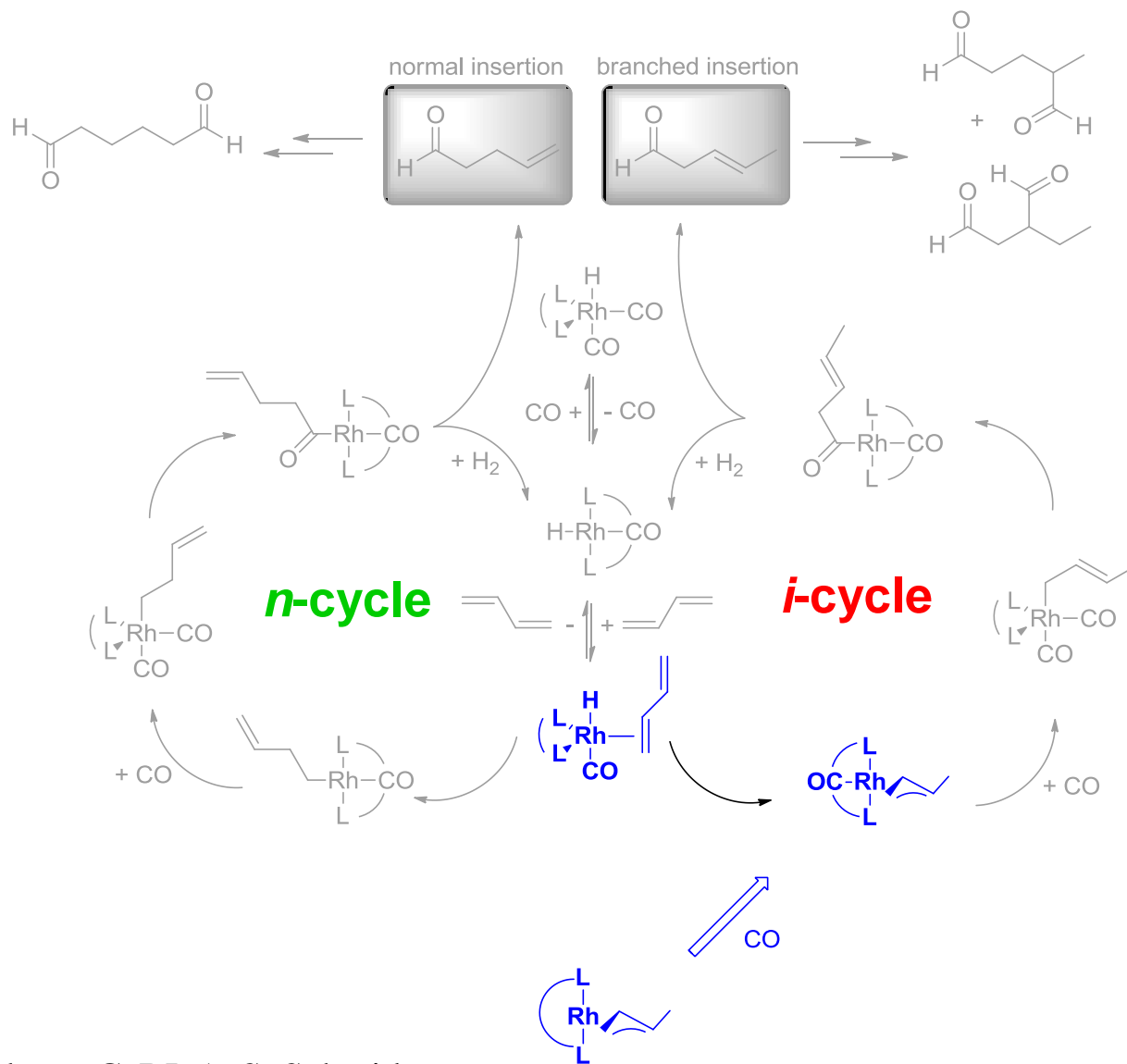
S. Schmidt

Synthesis & X-Ray Structure of (L)Rh- η^3 -Methallyl Complexes

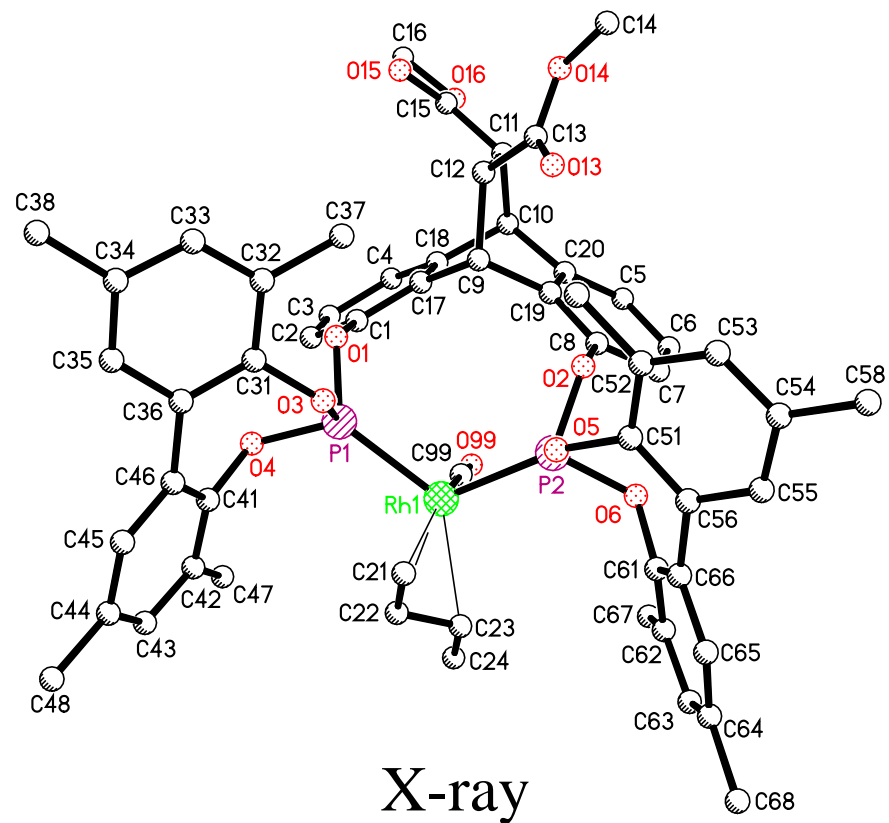
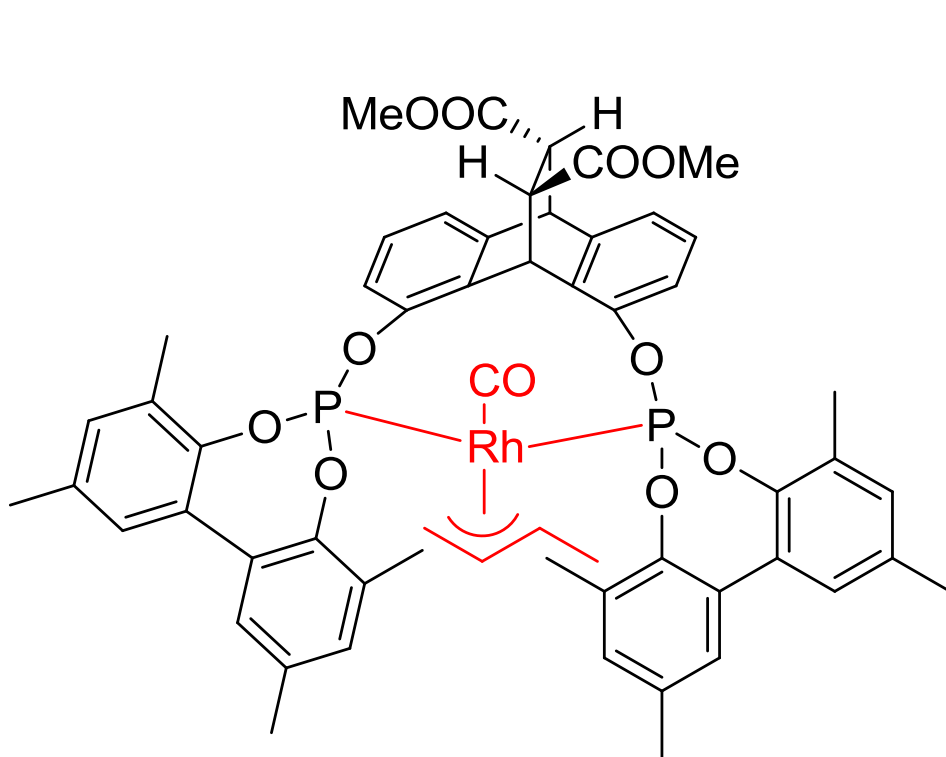


T. Rosendahl

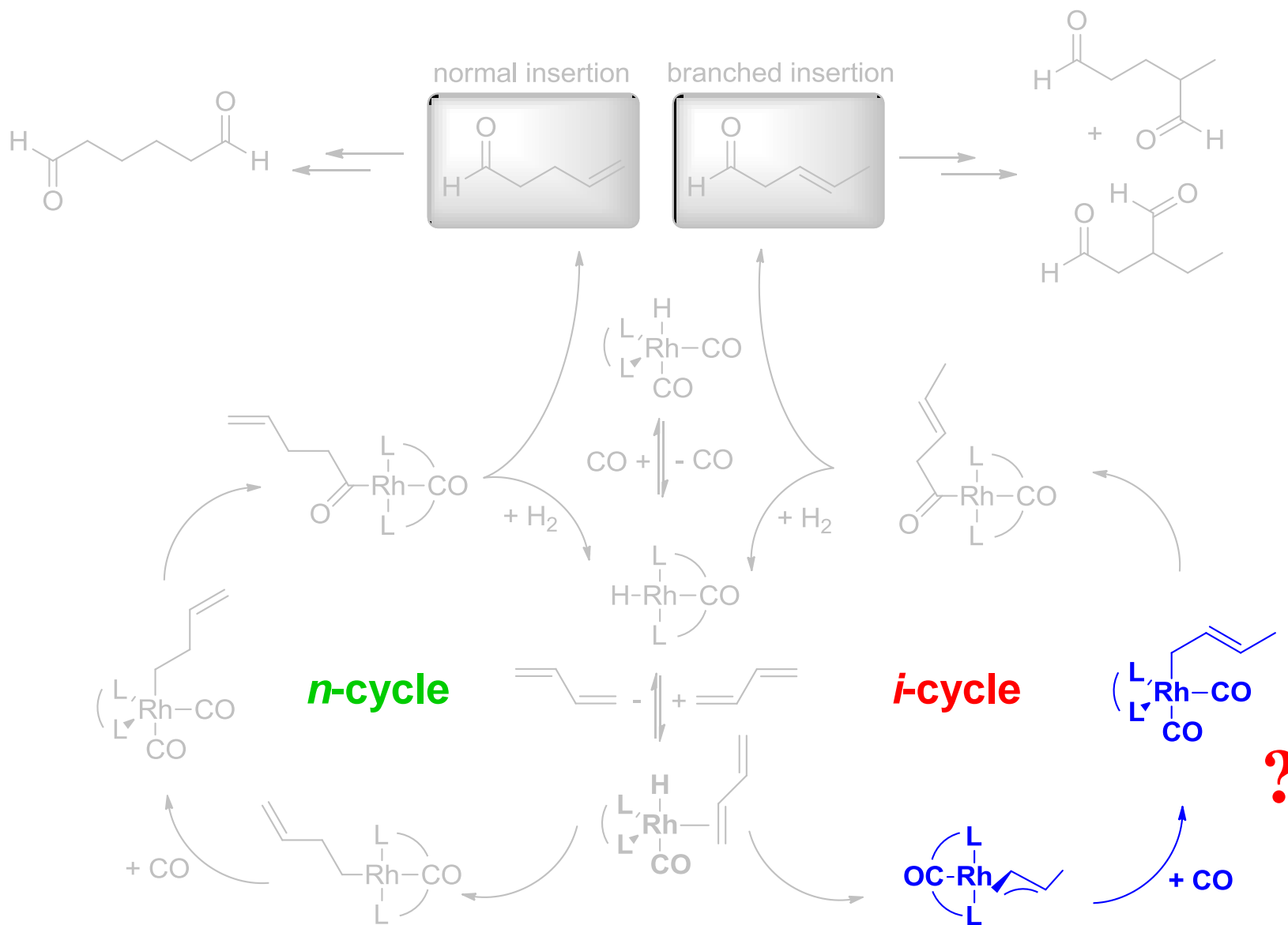
Synthesis of a (L)Rh(η^3 -methallyl)(CO) Complex



Structure of a Rh(η^3 -methallyl)(CO) - Complex

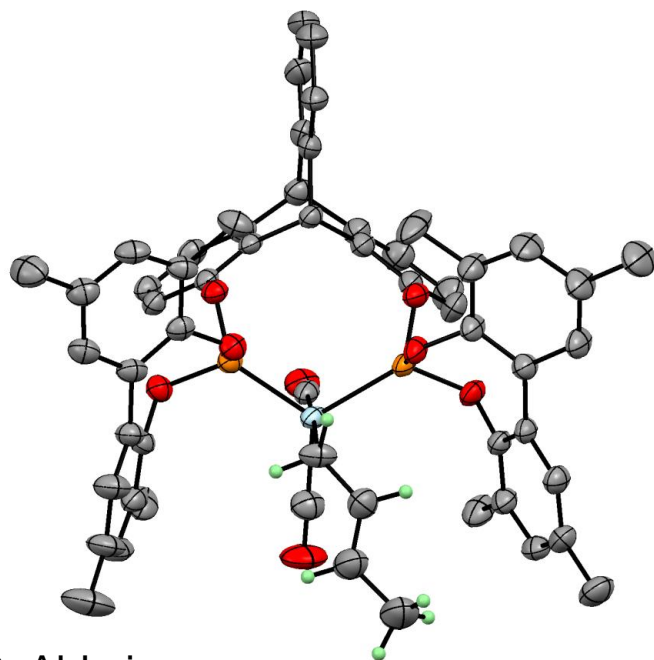
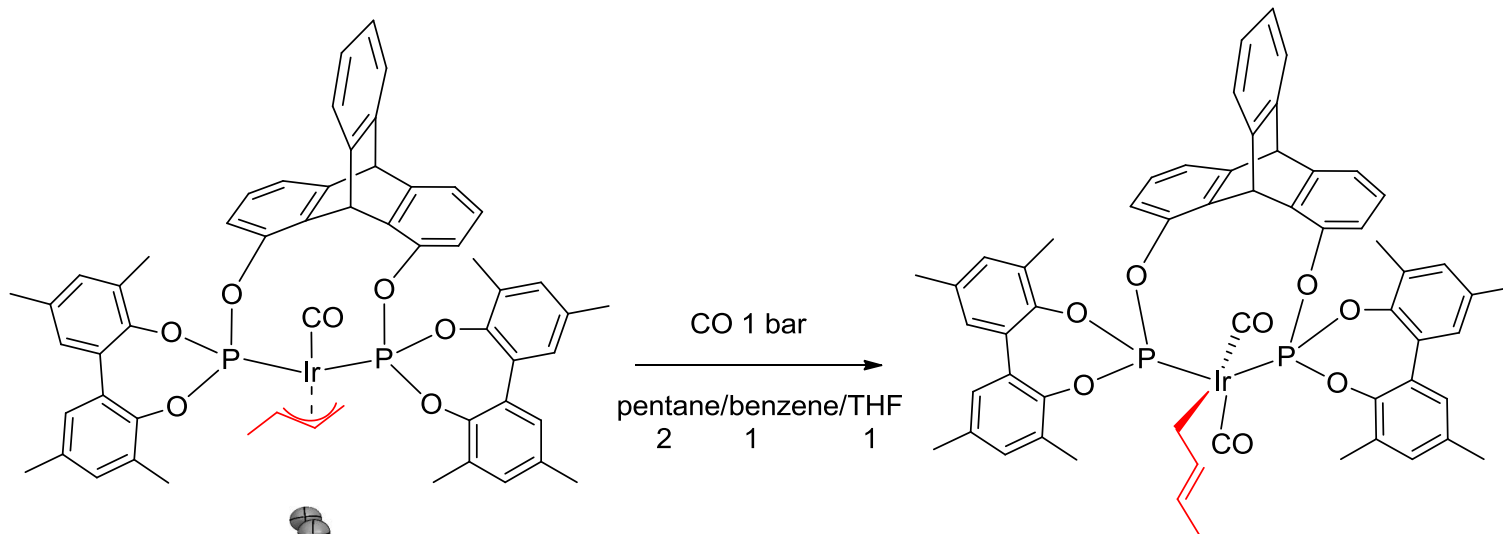


(L)Rh(η^3 -methallyl)(CO) to (L)Rh(η^1 -2-butenyl) Conversion by CO Addition?

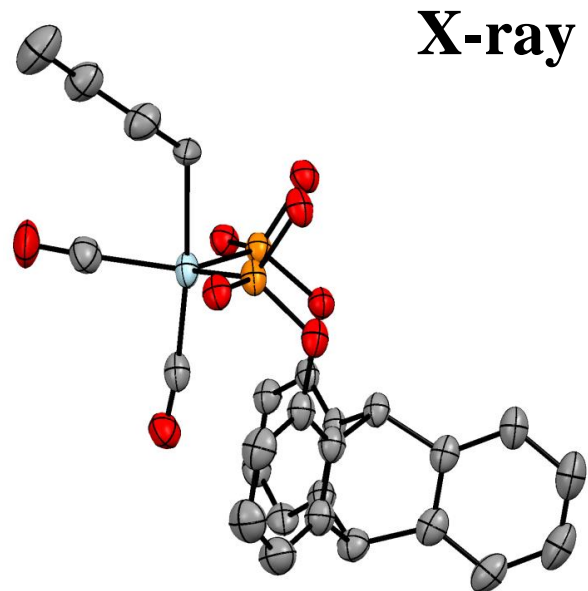


Iridium Model Chemistry:

(L)Ir(η^3 -methallyl)(CO) to (L)Ir(η^1 -2-butenyl) Conversion by CO Addition



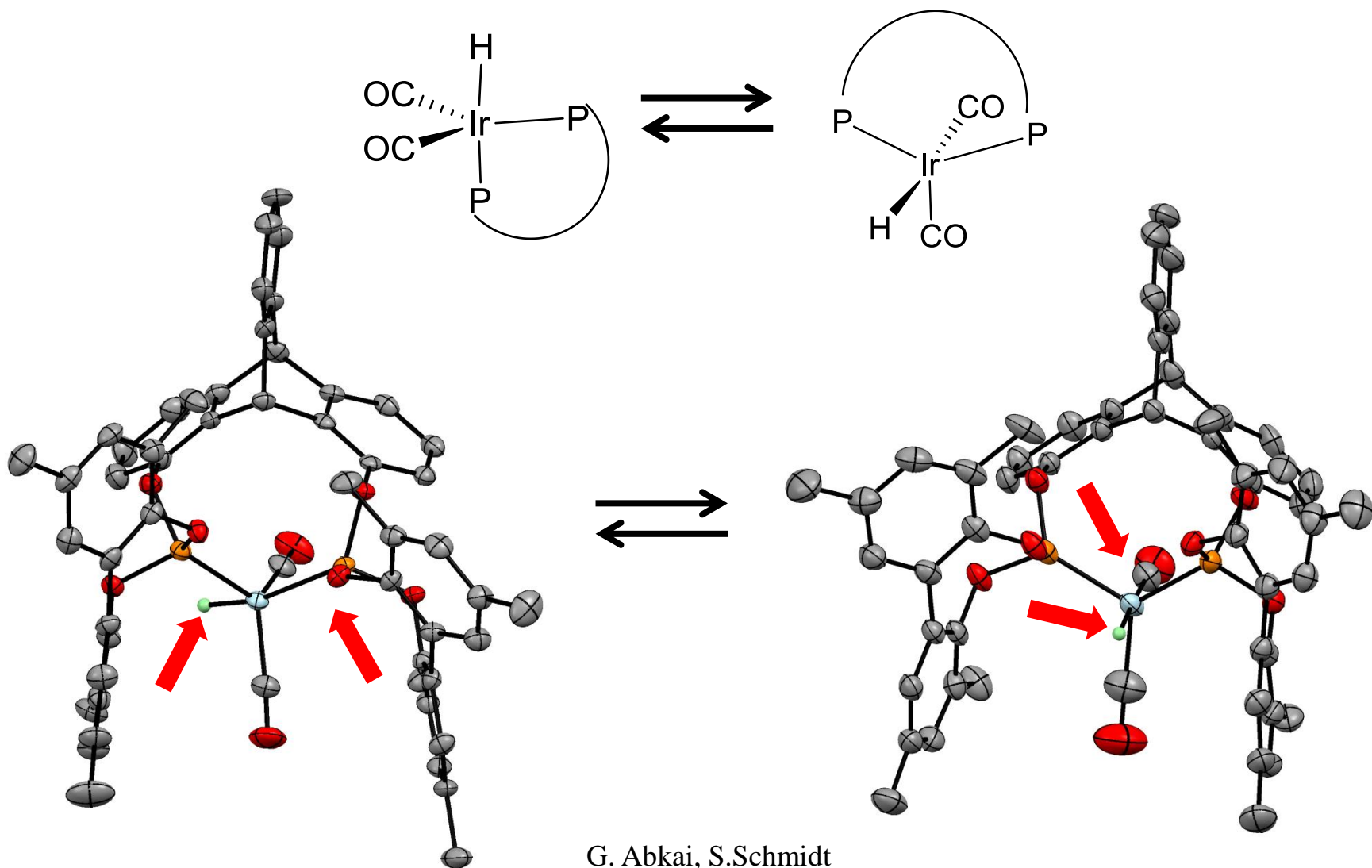
=



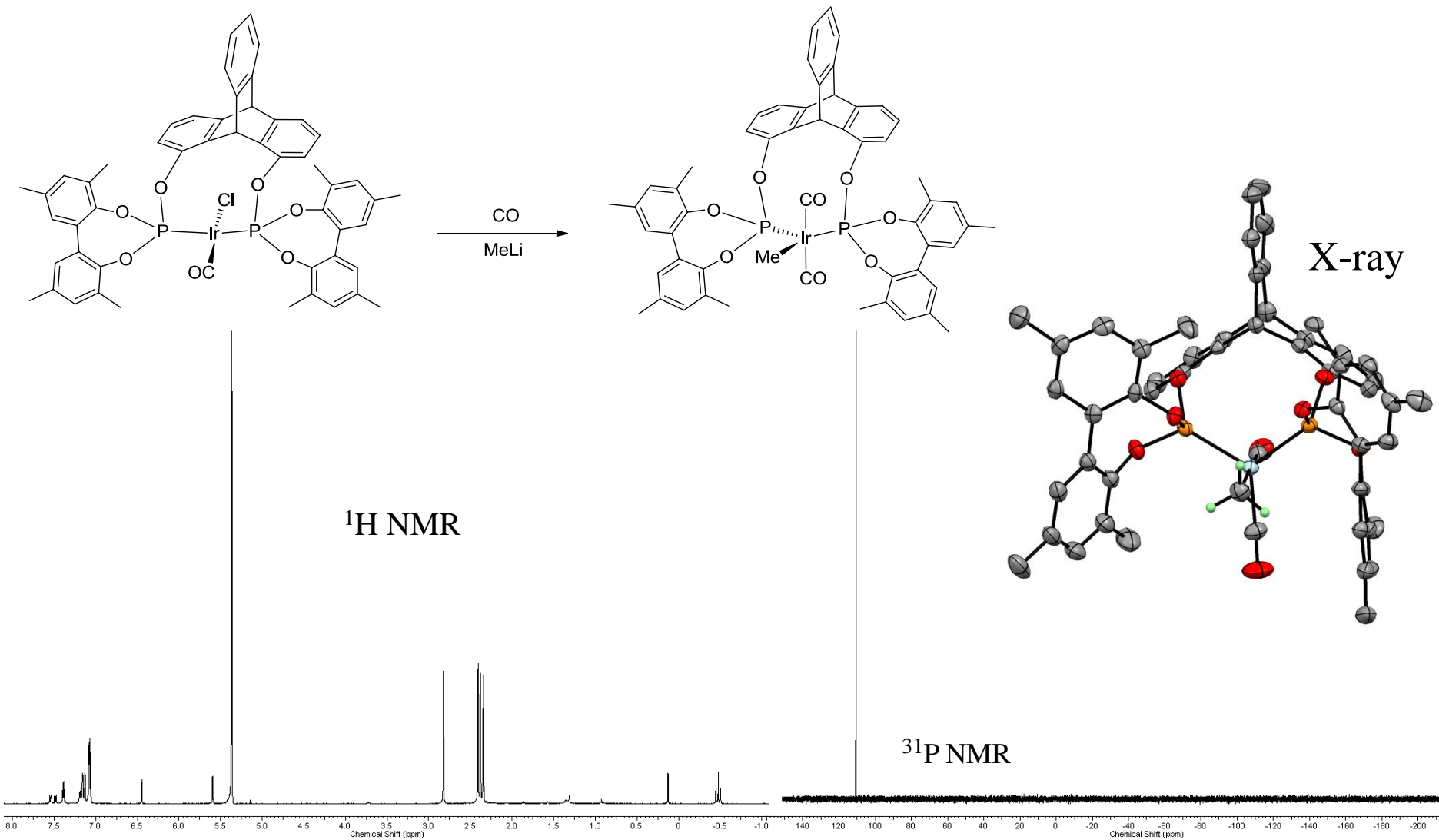
X-ray

Iridium Model Chemistry: Rh Resting State Analog

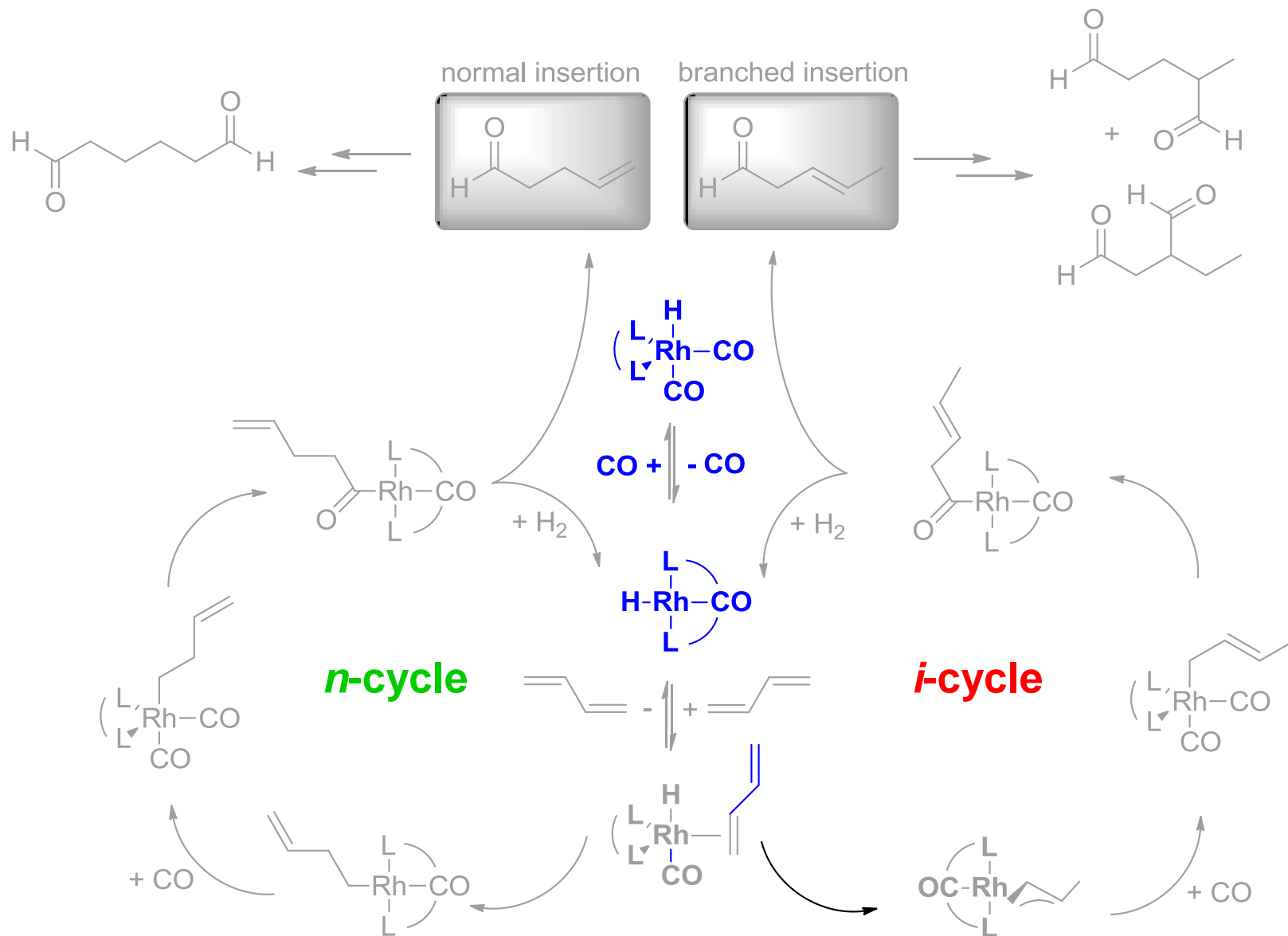
Both Stereoisomers (e,a and e,e) Isolated, Characterized by X-Ray, Rapid Interconversion (NMR)



Iridium Model Chemistry: Dicarbonyl Alkyl Iridium Complexes $(L)Ir(CO)_2(R)$, $R = Me$

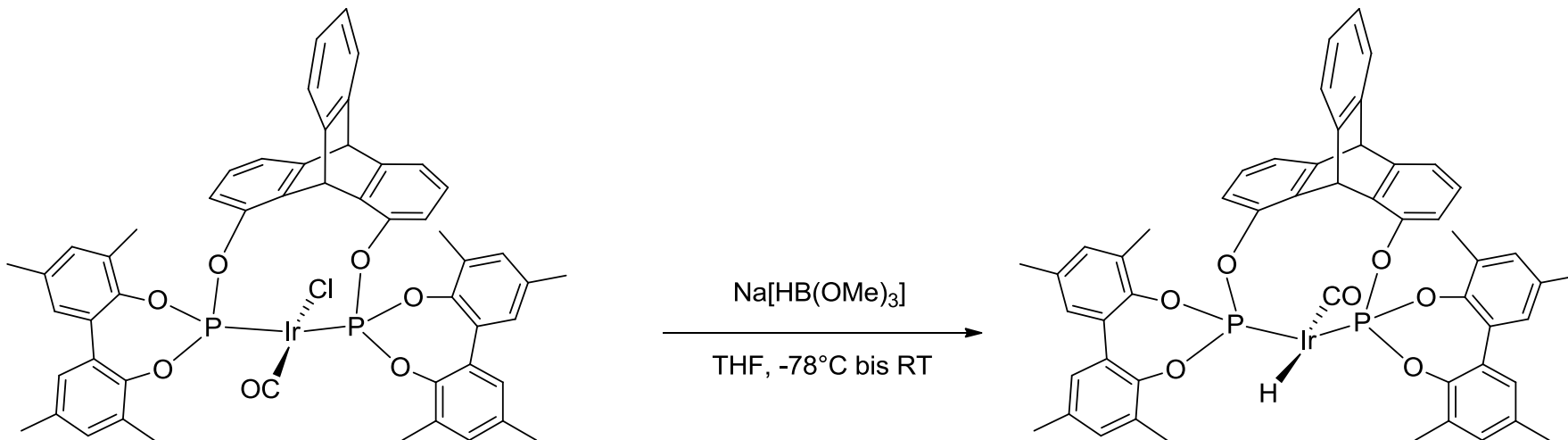


Four-Coordinate 16 VE (L)Rh(CO)H: The Active Species

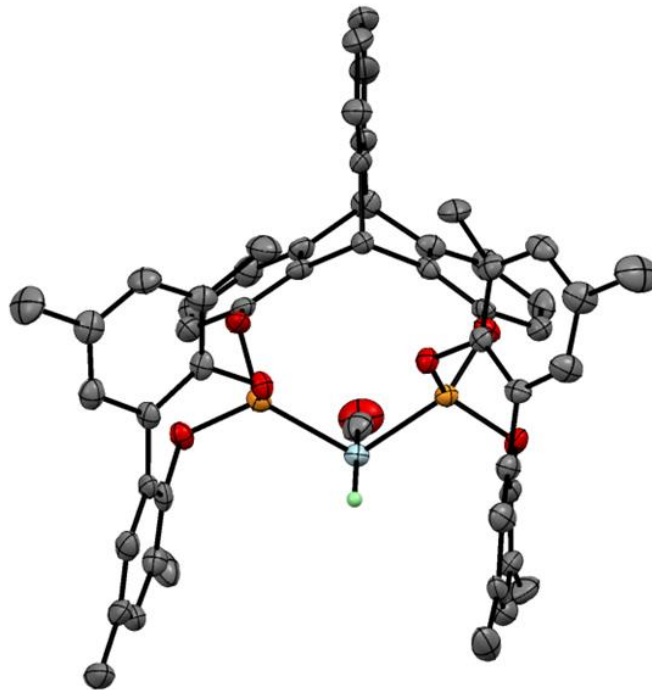


Iridium Model Chemistry:

Structure of 16 VE (L)Ir(CO)H Analog of Active Rh Species

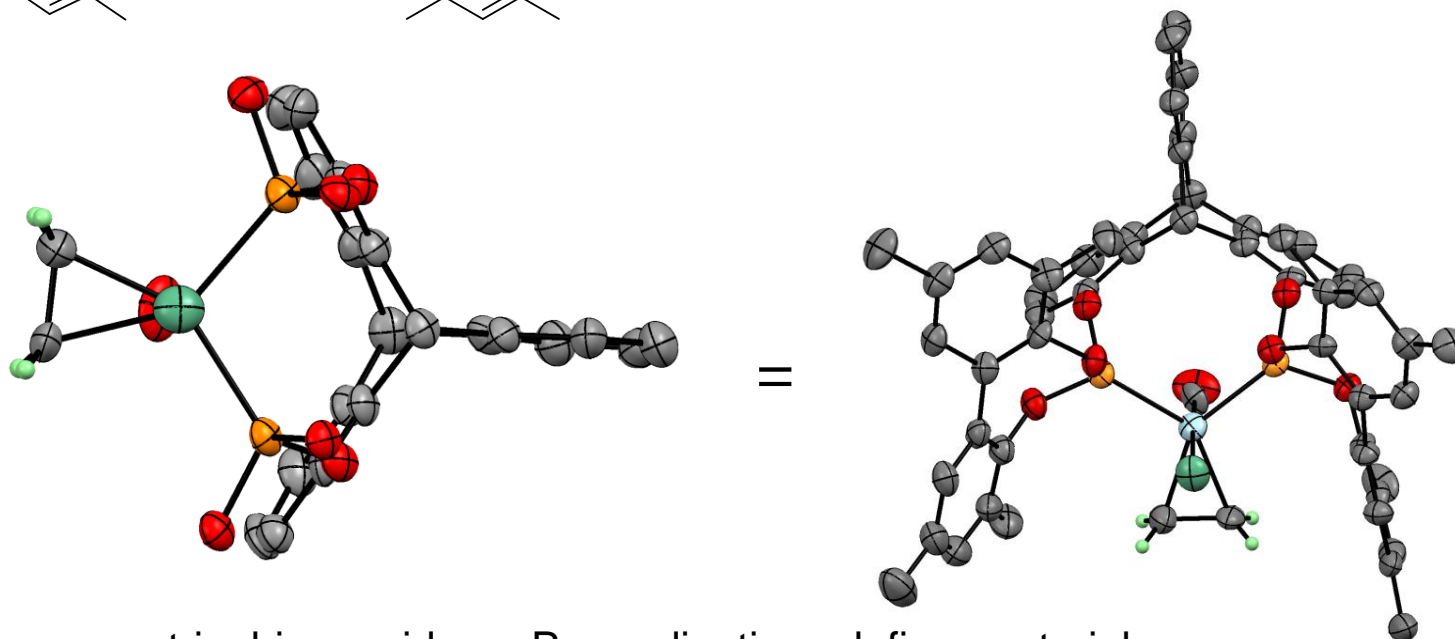
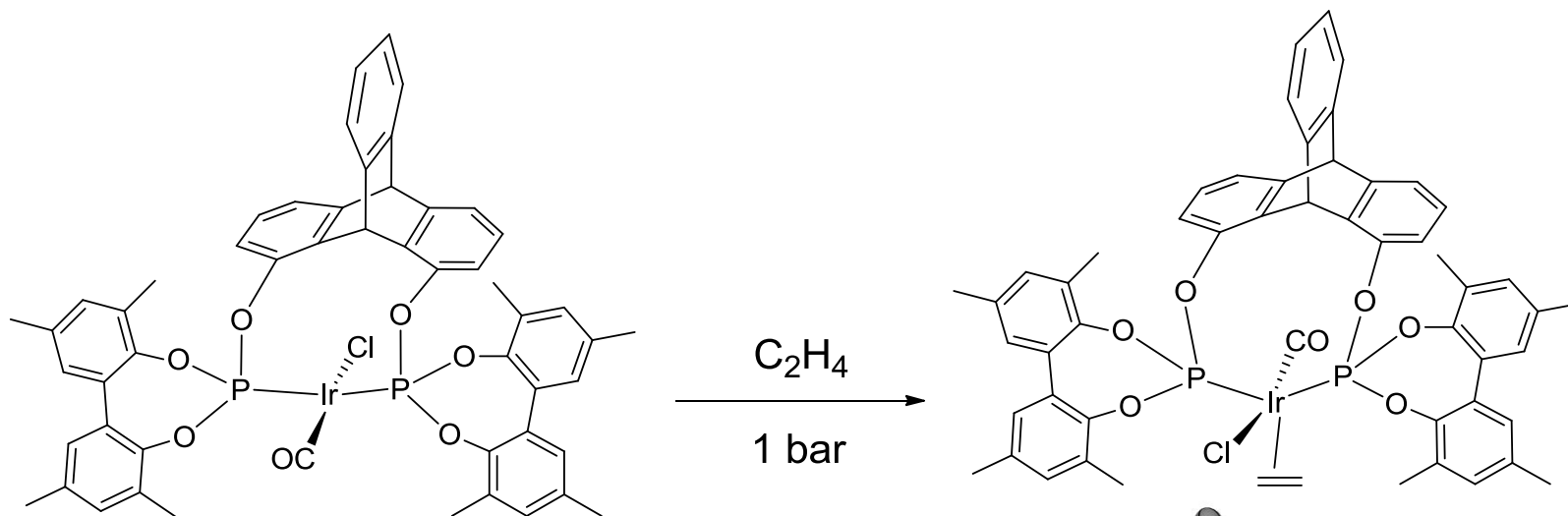


X-Ray

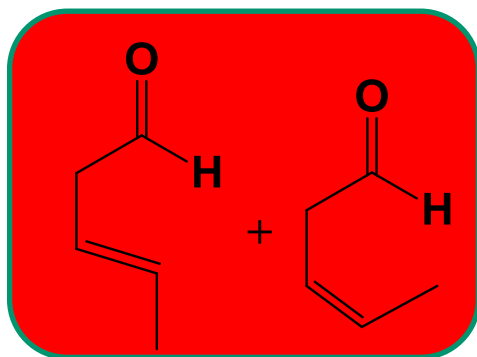
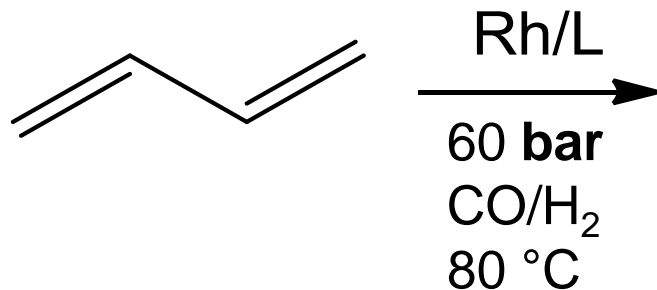


Iridium Model Chemistry:

Olefin Coordination of Ethylene (and Other Alkenes, **not** of Butadiene)

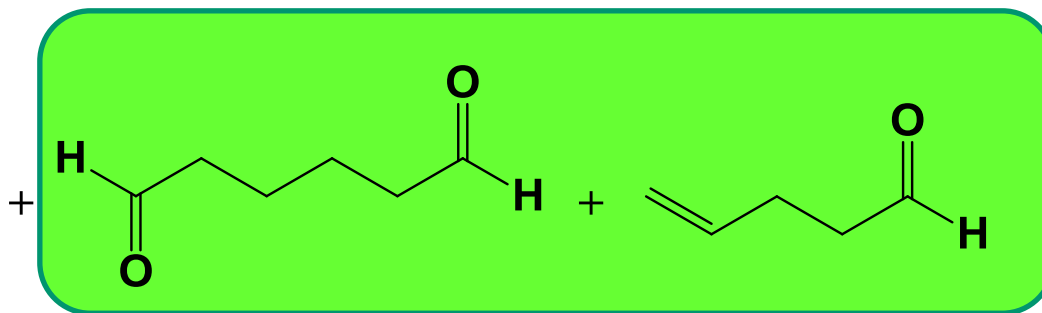


trig. bipyramid, *e,e* P-coordination, olefin equatorial



20,9 %

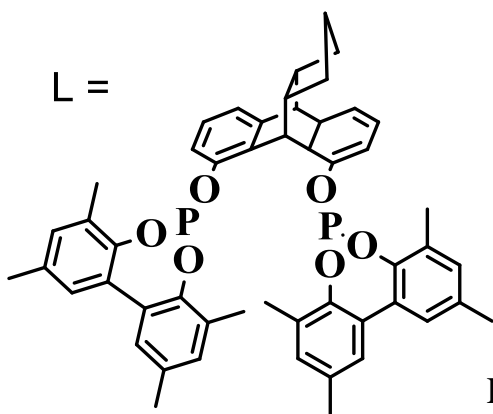
16,8 %



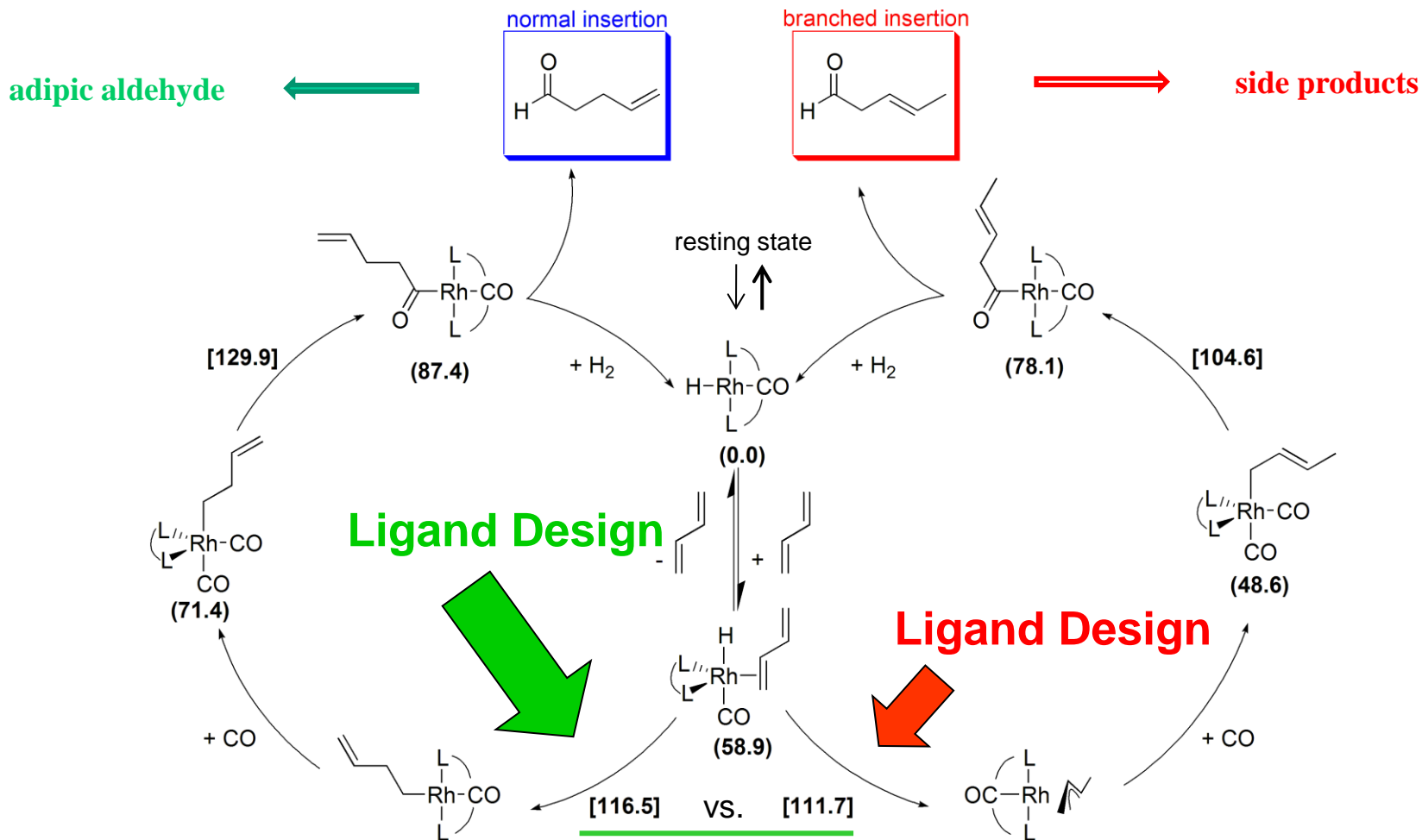
55,5 %

3,7 %

together: 96,9 % aldehyde selectivity



Present status:
 close to 60% of desired
n-insertion for 1st
 hydroformylation step !



Strategy: Quantum Chemistry and Experiment
Joint Academia – Industry Research
CaRLa as a Role Model Lab

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Experimental and Theoretical

Hydroformylation Chemistry at Heidelberg (OCI):

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