

Elon A. Ison



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Ison Lab Website:
<https://isonlab.wordpress.ncsu.edu/>

 @TNTchemprof

Background and Personal

General

- Citizen of Trinidad and Tobago and the US
- BS *Magna cum Laude* (Chemistry) at Kean University (1999)
- PhD at University of Florida (2004) with James Boncella
 - Dissertation: *Orbital interactions in group 6 imido-diamido complexes*
- Post doc at Purdue with Mahdi Abu-mar
- Currently Associate Professor of Chemistry, North Carolina State University (2006-Present)
- > 85 Publications since 2001, > 1450 Citations since 2007

Recognition

- ORAU Ralph E Powe award 2009
- NSF CAREER award 2010
- Organometallics Fellow 2012
- Center of Enabling New Technologies through Catalysis

Research Interests

- Homogenous catalysis
- Kinetics and mechanisms of inorganic reactions
- Inorganic/organometallic synthesis

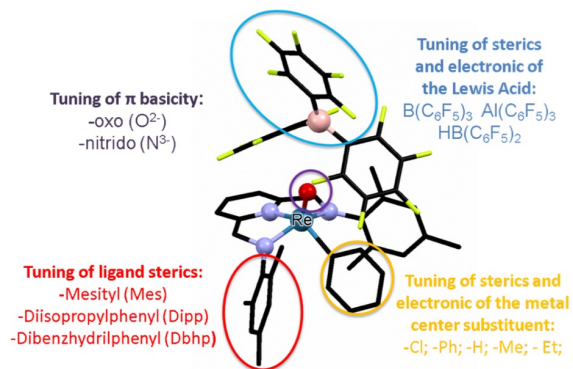


Research in the Ison Group

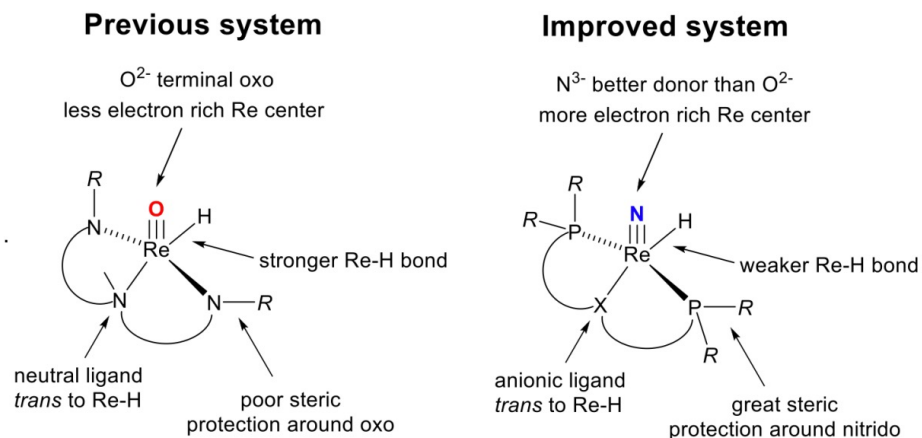
'Our research encompasses many areas, from the development of useful synthetic organic methodologies for organic chemistry to the mechanistic principles that underlie catalytic oxidations.'

Four main research interest areas:

- (I) Frustrated Lewis Pairs
- (II) C–H Bond Activation and Functionalization
- (III) Carbonylation Chemistry
- (IV) Catalysis and Green Chemistry

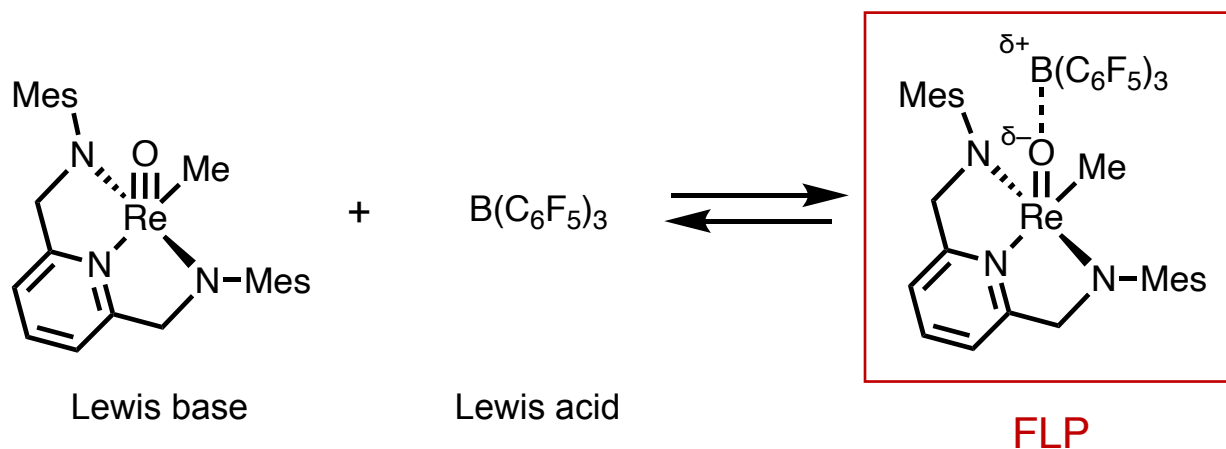
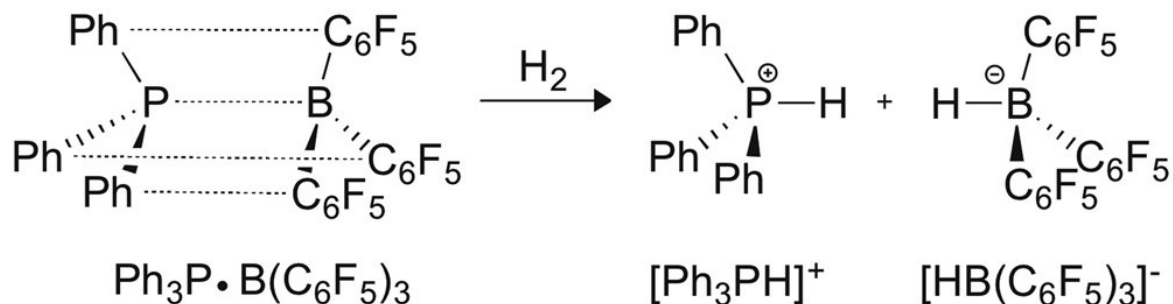


> 40 possible combinations of various steric and electronic demands on the system



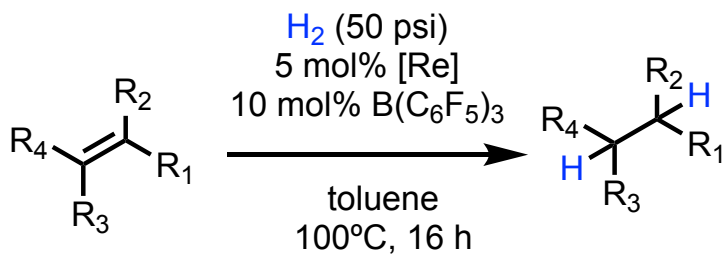
Oxorhenium complex as Lewis base in FLP

Frustrated Lewis Pair (FLP)

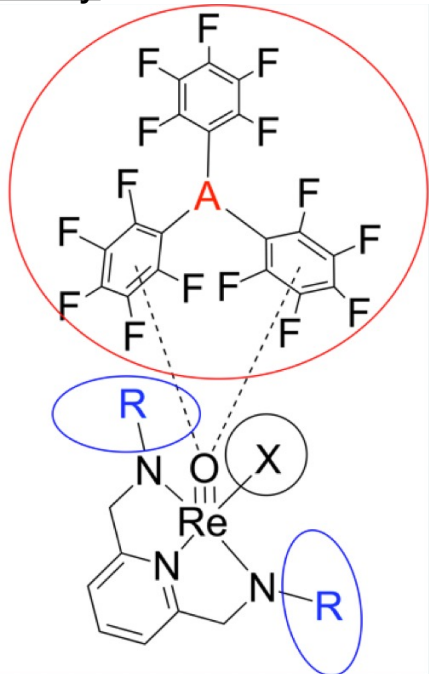


N. S. Lambic, R. D. Sommer, E. A. Ison *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 4832-4842

Olefin hydrogenation catalyzed by $Re=O/LA$ FLP

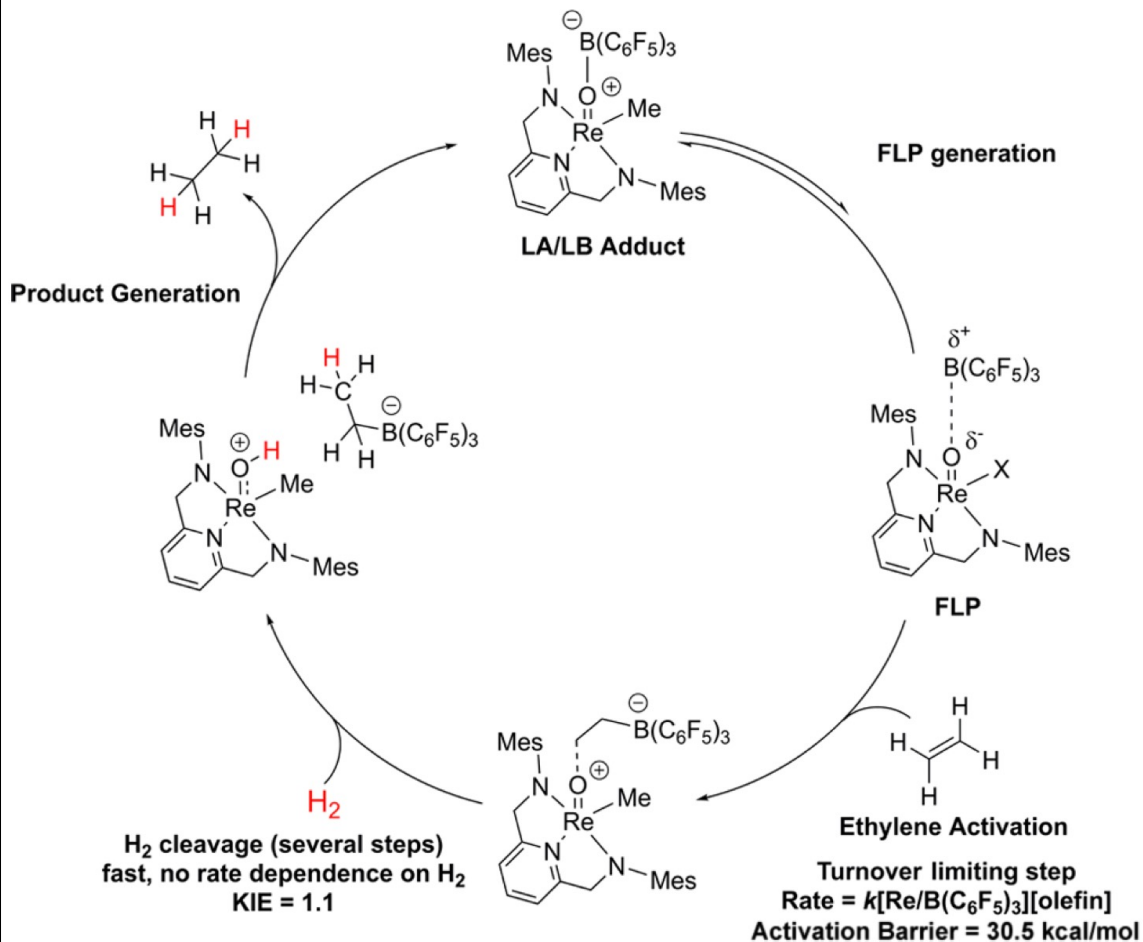


Tunability



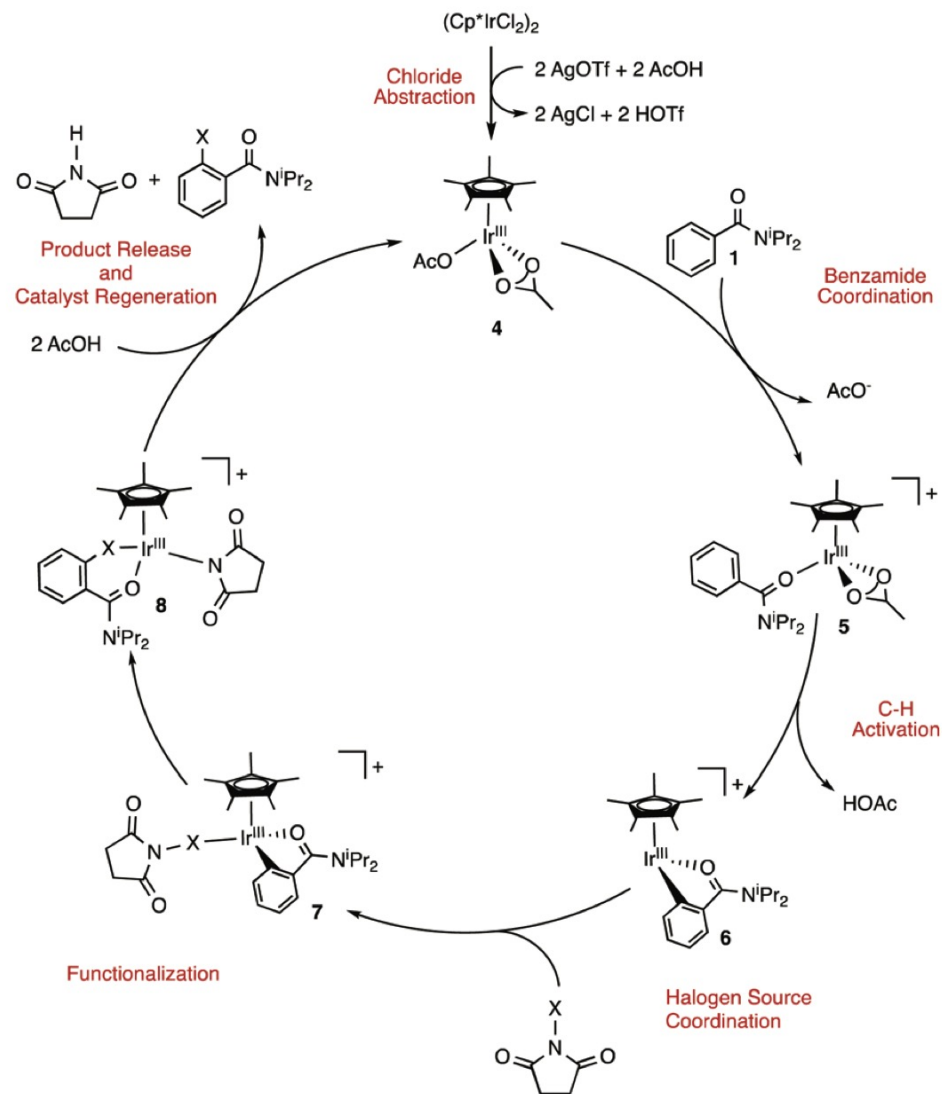
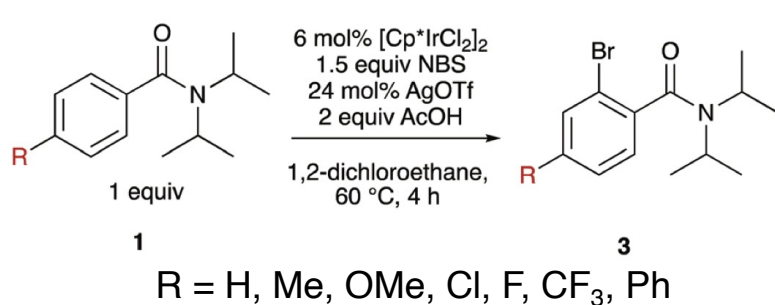
Steric/electronic effects easily altered

Mechanism



Proposed mechanism with FLP formation

*Cp*Ir(III)*-Catalyzed *ortho*-Halogenation of Benzamides



- Ease of halogenation:
 - I > Br >> Cl
- Kinetic orders:
 - [Ir] = 1st
 - Benzamide = (+)
 - NIS = 0
- KIE = 2.5
- Computations: CMD for C–H bond activation
- **6(DMSO)** synthesized:
 - Stoichiometric reaction shows competency in product formation

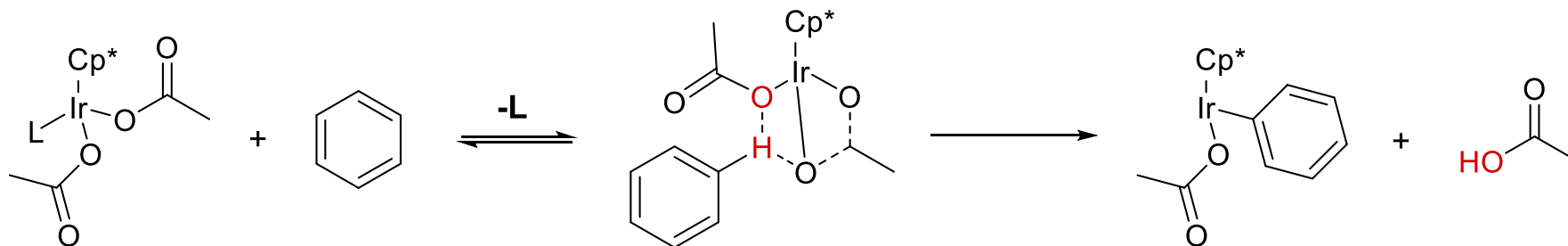
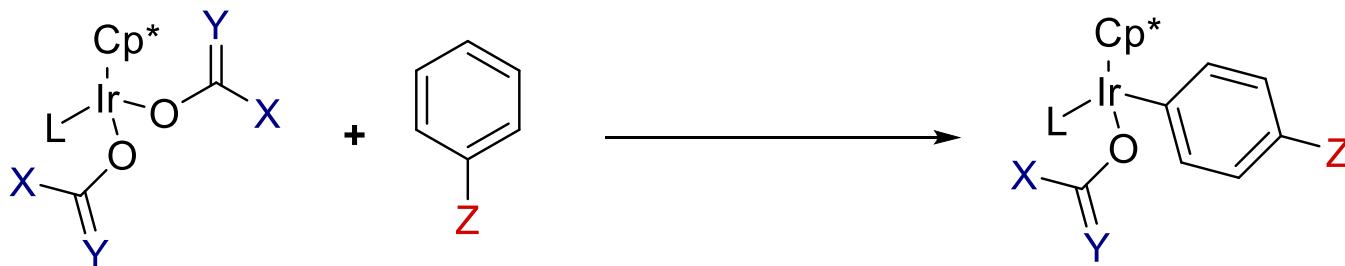
Mechanistic Studies on the Non-directed C-H Activation of Arenes

L = CO, py, DMSO etc.

X = CH₃, CF₃, t-Bu etc.

Y = O, NH, NMe

Z = EWG, EDG



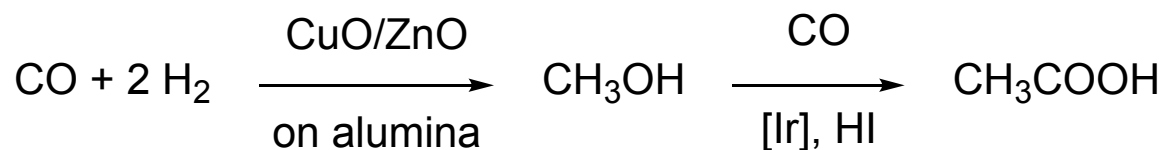
Proposed Mechanism: Concerted-Metallation-Deprotonation (CMD)

Evidence For CMD Mechanism

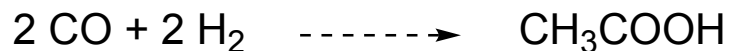
- 1st order in [Ir], 1st order in [Ar], Inverse order in [L]
- Hammett plot for EDGs/EWGs shows non-linear behavior $\rho = 1.67$ (EDG) then $\rho = 0$ (EWG)
- EDGs in para position have bigger impact on C-H cleavage step (**RDS**), where as EWGs influence the substrate binding step.

Development of Carbonylation Reactions

Industrial synthesis of acetic acid

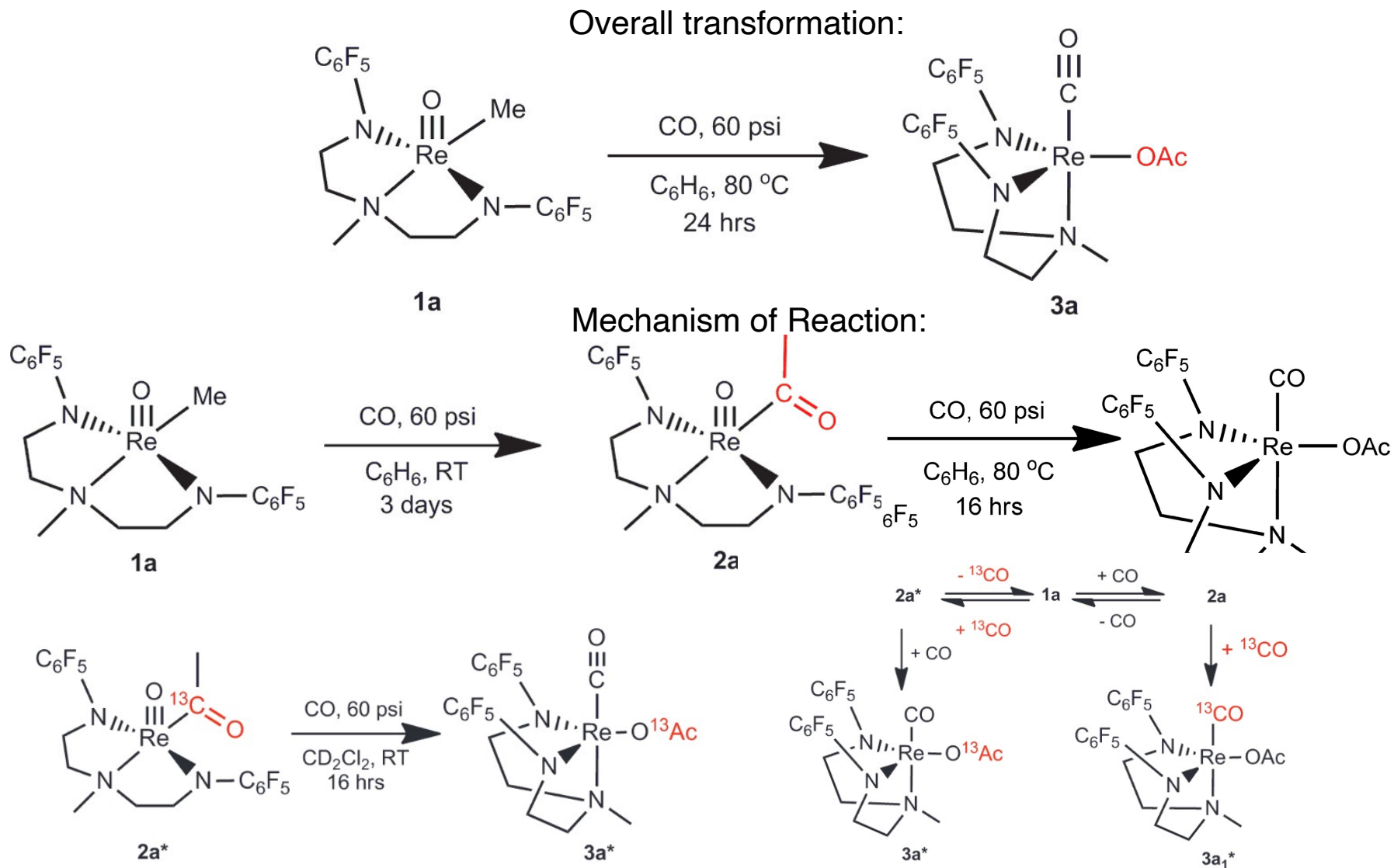


Proposed synthesis



Can the Monsanto/Cativa Process be Bypassed?

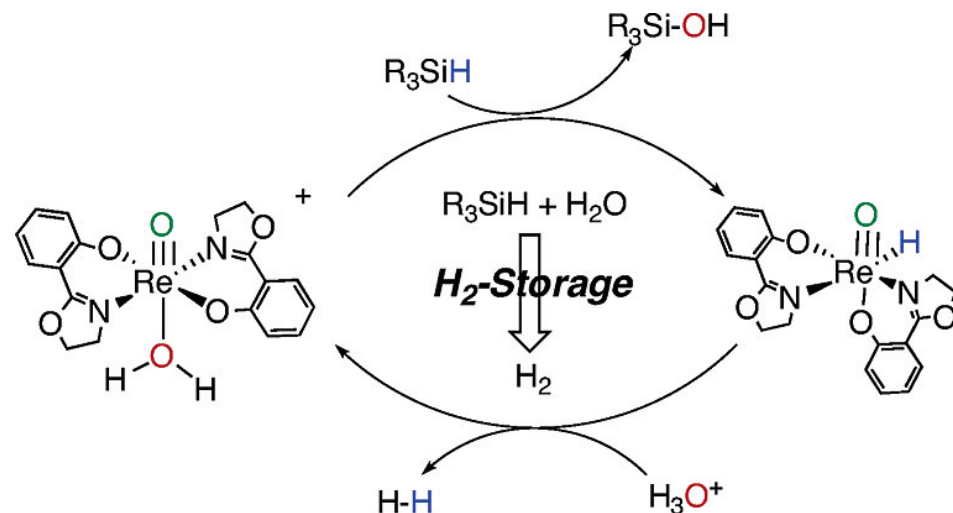
Rhenium Complex for Carbonylation and Oxidation



Catalysis and Green Chemistry

Hydrogen production from cationic oxorhenium catalyzed hydrolytic oxidation of organosilanes

- H_2 yields stoichiometric to water
- Low catalyst loading (1 mol %)
- Ambient conditions
- High selectivity for silanols
- Water as the only co-reagent
- Solvent free conditions



New method for storage and production of H_2 for use as fuel:

- Cost of organosilane
- H_2 yield per mass organosilane
 - Polysilyl $> 1^\circ > 2^\circ > 3^\circ$

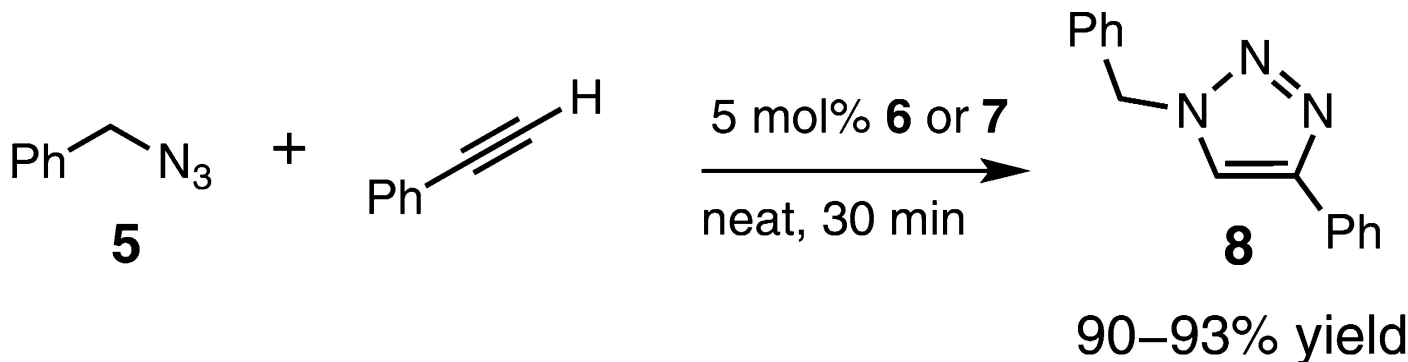
Organosilane (mass)	H_2 yield
$\text{HC}(\text{SiCH}_3)_3$ (18 kg)	3.0 kg
PhSi_3 (54 kg)	3.0 kg
Et_2SiH_2 (66 kg)	3.0 kg
Et_3SiH (173 kg)	3.0 kg

Designing Undergraduate Labs

Experiments focused on catalysis and green chemistry

Synthesis of copper *N*-heterocyclic carbene complexes and click azide-alkyne cycloaddition

- sustainable synthesis of catalysts: solvent-free, alternative use of H₂O as benign solvent, non-chromatographic purification



CuAAC reaction: solvent-free, ambient conditions, high atom economy, high yielding, non-chromatographic purification