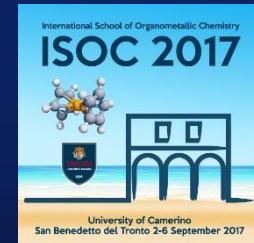




UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO



# Catalytic carbophilic activation in synthetic organic chemistry: catalysis by gold $\pi$ acids

*Elisabetta Rossi*

*Dipartimento di Scienze Farmaceutiche*

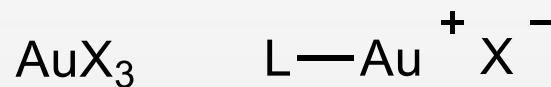
*Sezione di Chimica Generale e Organica «A. Marchesini»*

*elisabetta.rossi@unimi.it*

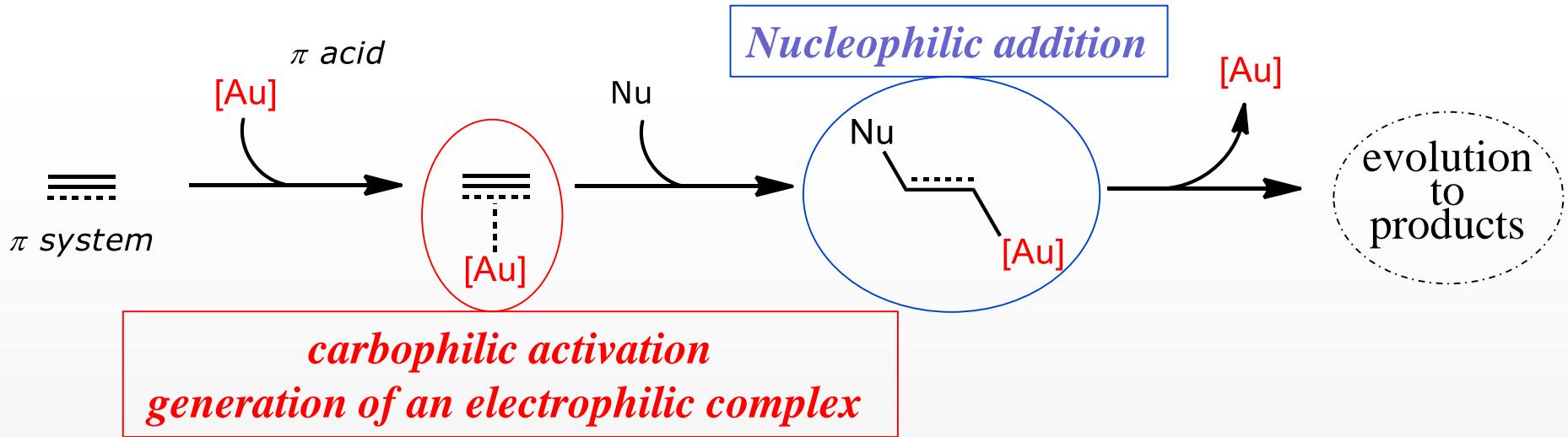
# Activation of $\pi$ -systems (alkenes, alkynes and allenes) towards nucleophilic additions



Catalytic ***carbophilic activation*** in synthetic organic chemistry:  
catalysis by ***gold  $\pi$  acids***

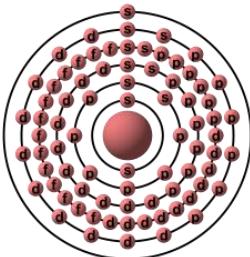


$\text{X}^-$  = non-coordinating counterion



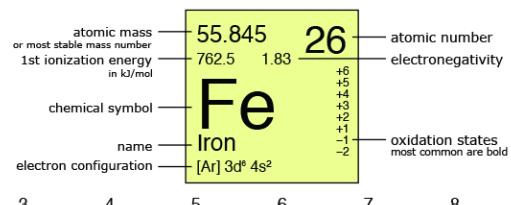
Basic mechanism of  $\pi$  acid catalysis exemplified by the addition of a generic nucleophile across a  $\pi$  system

# Gold as element



*electronic configuration [Xe] 4f<sup>14</sup>5d<sup>10</sup>6s<sup>1</sup>*  
*atomic number 79*  
*atomic weight 197*

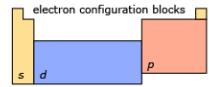
group 1	
period 1	1
	1.00794 H Hydrogen
2	6.941 Li Lithium
2	9.012182 Be Beryllium
2	22.98976 Na Sodium
3	24.3050 Mg Magnesium
4	39.98983 K Potassium
5	85.4678 Rb Rubidium
6	132.9054 Cs Cæsium
7	(223) 87 Fr Francium



## The Periodic Table of the Elements

by Robert Campbell version 1.3

alkali metals	metalloids
alkaline metals	nonmetals
other metals	halogens
transition metals	noble gases
lanthanoids	unknown elements
actinoids	radioactive elements have masses in parentheses
13	14
B Boron	C Carbon
14	15
15	16
O Oxygen	N Nitrogen
16	17
F Fluorine	Cl Chlorine
17	18
Ne Neon	Ar Argon
18	2
He Helium	4.002602 201797 232.3 1s <sup>2</sup>

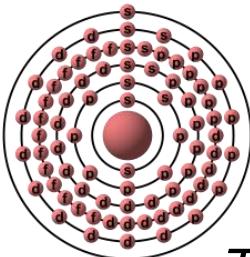


### notes

- \* as of yet, elements 113, 115, 117 and 118 have no official name designated by the IUPAC.
- \* 1 kJ/mol = 96,485 eV.
- \* all elements are implied to have an oxidation state of zero.

138.9054 La Lanthanum	140.116 Ce Cerium	140.9076 Pr Praseodymium	144.242 Nd Neodymium	(145) Pm Promethium	150.36 Sm Samarium	151.964 Eu Europium	157.25 Gd Gadolinium	158.9253 Dy Dysprosium	162.500 Tb Terbium	164.9303 Ho Holmium	167.259 Er Erbium	168.9342 Tm Thulium	173.054 Yb Ytterbium
(227) 89 Ac Actinium	232.0380 Th Thorium	231.0358 Pa Protactinium	238.0289 U Uranium	(237) Np Neptunium	(244) Pu Plutonium	(243) Am Americium	(247) Cm Curium	(244) Bk Berkelium	(251) Cf Californium	(251) Es Einsteinium	(257) Fm Fermium	(259) Md Mendelevium	(259) No Nobelium

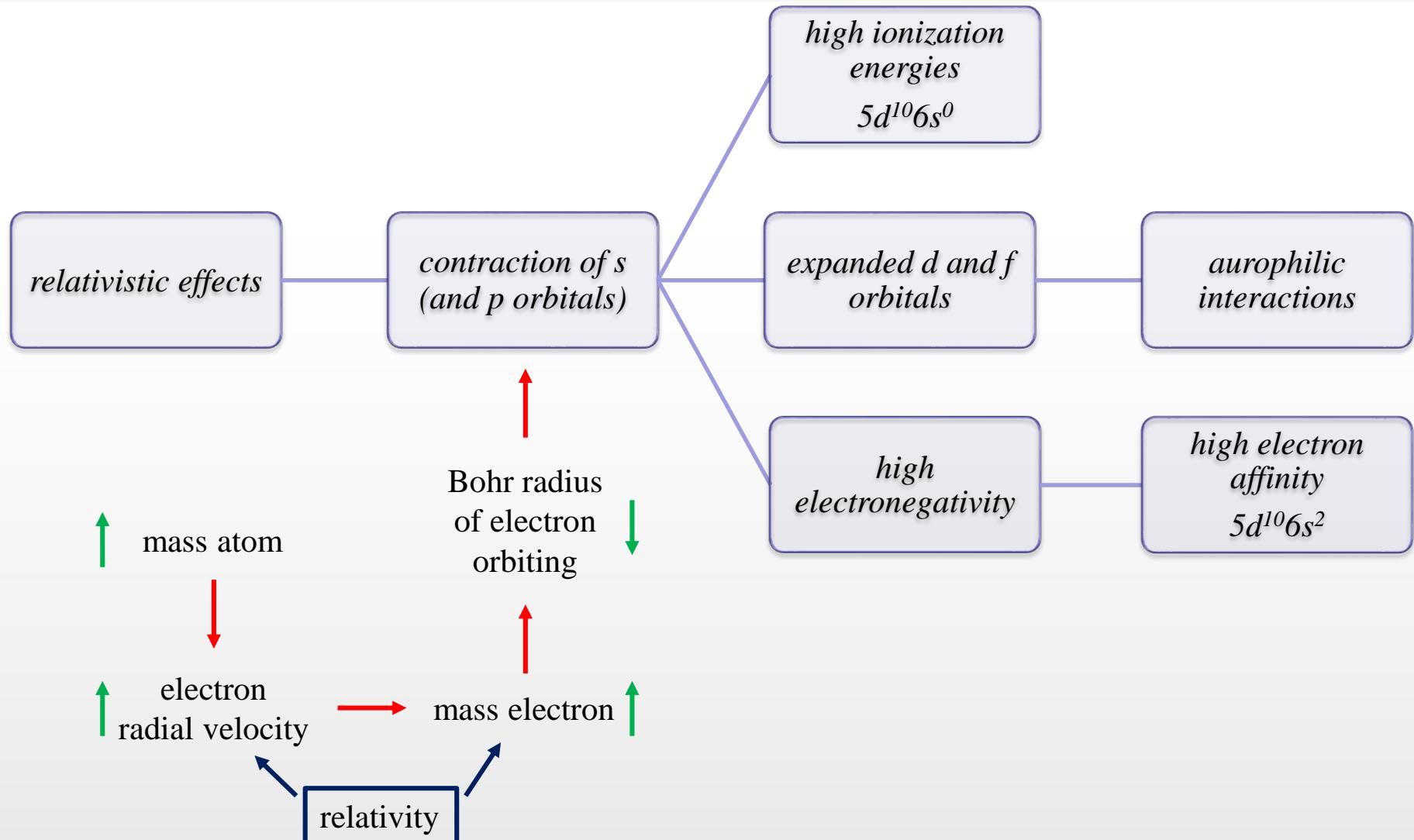
# Gold as element: valence electron configuration $5d^{10}6s^1$



*TM properties (ionization potential, electronegativity)*

3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
44.95591 633.1 1.36 <b>Sc</b> Scandium [Ar] 3d <sup>1</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	47.867 658.8 1.54 <b>Ti</b> Titanium [Ar] 3d <sup>2</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	50.9415 650.9 1.63 <b>V</b> Vanadium [Ar] 3d <sup>3</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	51.9962 652.9 1.66 <b>Cr</b> Chromium [Ar] 3d <sup>5</sup> 4s <sup>1</sup>	54.93804 717.3 1.55 <b>Mn</b> Manganese [Ar] 3d <sup>5</sup> 4s <sup>1</sup>	55.845 762.5 1.83 <b>Fe</b> Iron [Ar] 3d <sup>6</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	58.93319 760.4 1.91 <b>Co</b> Cobalt [Ar] 3d <sup>7</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	58.6934 737.1 1.88 <b>Ni</b> Nickel [Ar] 3d <sup>8</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>	63.546 745.5 1.90 <b>Cu</b> Copper [Ar] 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s <sup>1</sup>	65.38 906.4 1.65 <b>Zn</b> Zinc [Ar] 3d <sup>10</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>
88.90585 600.0 1.22 <b>Y</b> Yttrium [Kr] 4d <sup>1</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup>	91.224 640.1 1.33 <b>Zr</b> Zirconium [Kr] 4d <sup>2</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup>	92.90638 652.1 1.60 <b>Nb</b> Niobium [Kr] 4d <sup>3</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	95.96 684.3 2.16 <b>Mo</b> Molybdenum [Kr] 4d <sup>5</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	(98) 702.0 1.90 <b>Tc</b> Technetium [Kr] 4d <sup>6</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	101.07 710.2 2.20 <b>Ru</b> Ruthenium [Kr] 4d <sup>7</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	102.9055 719.7 2.28 <b>Rh</b> Rhodium [Kr] 4d <sup>8</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	106.42 804.4 2.20 <b>Pd</b> Palladium [Kr] 4d <sup>9</sup>	107.8682 731.0 1.98 <b>Ag</b> Silver [Kr] 4d <sup>10</sup> 5s <sup>1</sup>	112.441 867.8 1.69 <b>Cd</b> Cadmium [Kr] 4d <sup>10</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup>
174.9668 623.5 1.27 <b>Lu</b> Lutetium [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>1</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	178.49 658.5 1.30 <b>Hf</b> Hafnium [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	180.9478 761.0 1.50 <b>Ta</b> Tantalum [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	183.84 770.0 2.36 <b>W</b> Tungsten [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	186.207 760.0 1.90 <b>Re</b> Rhenium [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	190.23 840.0 2.20 <b>Os</b> Osmium [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	192.217 880.0 2.20 <b>Ir</b> Iridium [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>	195.084 870.0 2.28 <b>Pt</b> Platinum [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>1</sup>	196.9665 890.1 2.54 <b>Au</b> Gold [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>1</sup>	200.59 1007.1 2.00 <b>Hg</b> Mercury [Xe] 4f <sup>11</sup> 5d <sup>1</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>
(262) 470.0 <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> 7p <sup>1</sup>	(261) 580.0 <b>Rf</b> Rutherfordium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>2</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>	(262) 105 <b>Db</b> Dubnium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>5</sup>	(266) 106 <b>Sq</b> Seaborgium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>6</sup>	(264) 107 <b>Bh</b> Bohrium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>7</sup>	(277) 108 <b>Hs</b> Hassium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>8</sup>	(268) 109 <b>Mt</b> Meitnerium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>9</sup>	(271) 110 <b>Ds</b> Darmstadtium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>10</sup>	(272) 111 <b>Rg</b> Roentgenium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>10</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>	(285) 112 <b>Cn</b> Copernicium [Rn] 5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>10</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>

# Gold as element: relativistic effects



S. Kramer, F. Gagasz in "Gold Catalysis An Homogeneous Approach", Eds. F. D. Toste, V. Michelet, 2014 World Scientific Publishing, ch. 1.

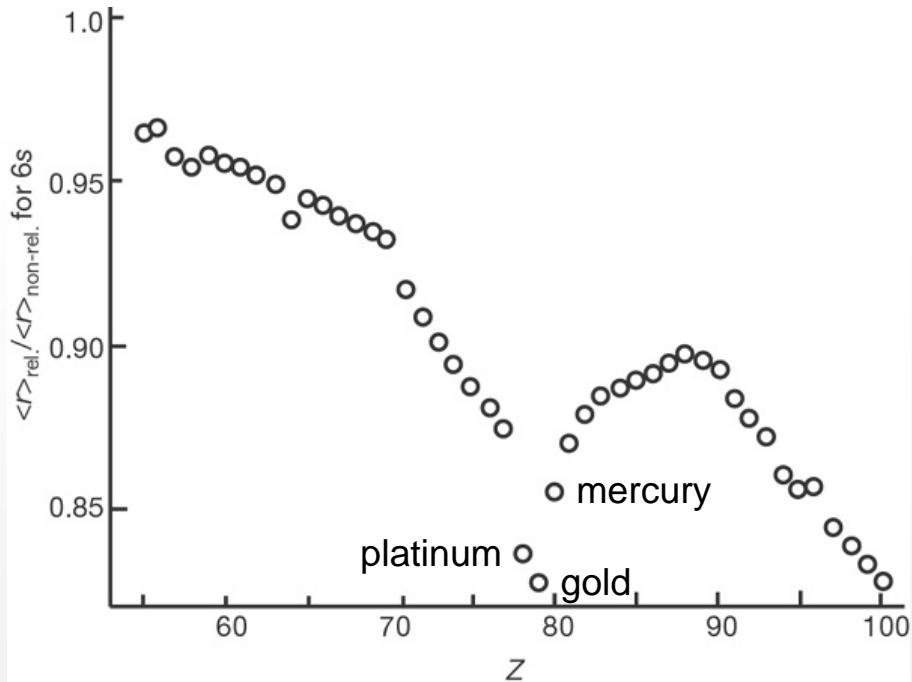
D. J. Gorin, F. D. Toste *Nature* **2007**, 446, 395.

A. Fürstner, P. W. Davies *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 3410.

# *Gold as element: relativistic effects*

*relativistic effects*

*contraction of s  
(and p orbitals)*



Calculated relativistic contraction of the 6s orbital.

R. Coquet, K. L. Howard, D. J. Willock *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2008**, *37*, 2046.  
E. Pyykko *Chem. Rev.* **1988**, *88*, 563.

*AuCl<sub>3</sub> and AuBr<sub>3</sub>*

AuCl

*NaAuCl<sub>4</sub> and KAuCl<sub>4</sub>*

*counterions*

[NTf<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, [BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, [SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, [OTf]<sup>-</sup>

AuCl<sub>3</sub>

*Ligand(s)*

AuCl

*Ligand*

LAuCl

*LAuCl<sub>3</sub> or LL'AuCl<sub>2</sub>*

- A. Fürstner *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2009**, 38, 3208.  
A. Fürstner, P. W. Davies *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 3410.  
A. Fürstner *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2014**, 47, 925.  
B. Ranieri, I. Escofeta, A. M. Echavarren *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2015**, 13, 7103.  
A. S. K. Hashmi *Chem. Rev.* **2007**, 107, 3180.  
A. S. K. Hashmi, G. J. Hutchings *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 7896.  
C. Obradorsa, A. M. Echavarren *Chem. Commun.* **2014**, 50, 16.  
D. J. Gorin, B. D. Sherry, F. D. Toste *Chem. Rev.* **2008**, 108, 3351.  
A. Arcadi *Chem. Rev.* **2008**, 108, 3266

## gold(I) and gold(III) salts, aurous and auric compounds

*AuCl<sub>3</sub> and AuBr<sub>3</sub>*



*Less coordinating X  
More electrofilic Au*

*counterions*



*NaAuCl<sub>4</sub> and KAuCl<sub>4</sub>*

*AuCl*

## gold(I) complexes



ligand Gold(I) counterion

Tuning of electronic properties

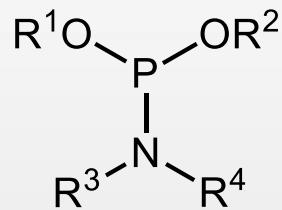
Tuning of steric properties

Optimized reactivity and selectivity

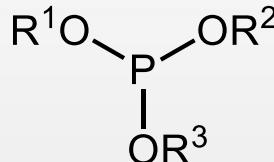
**gold(I) complexes**



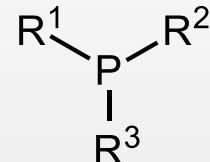
*General structure of most commonly used ligands*



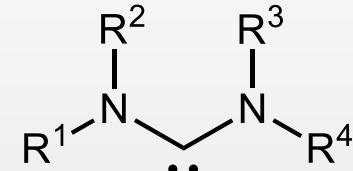
phosphoroamidite



phosphite



phosphine

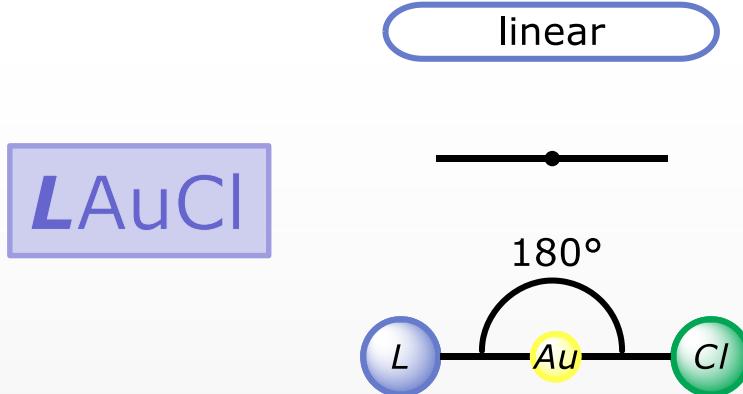


carbene

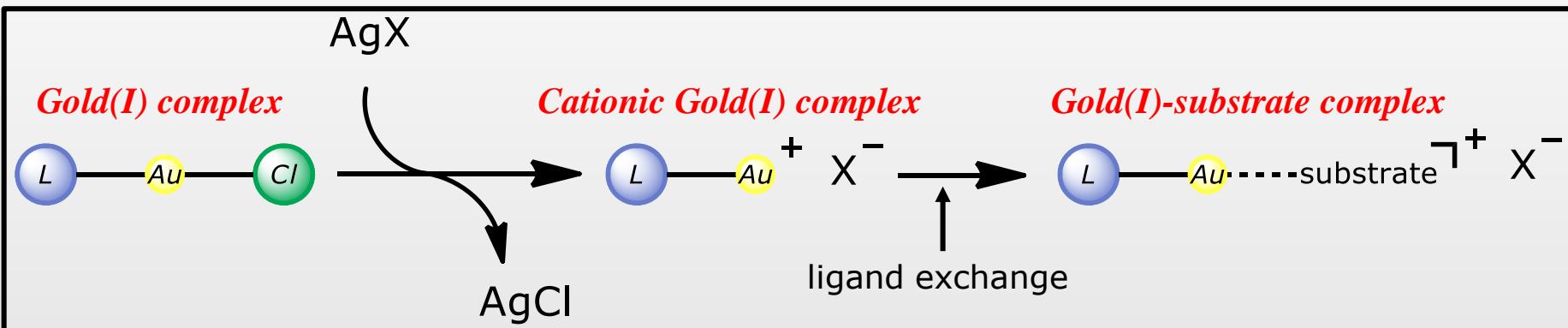


electrodonor properties

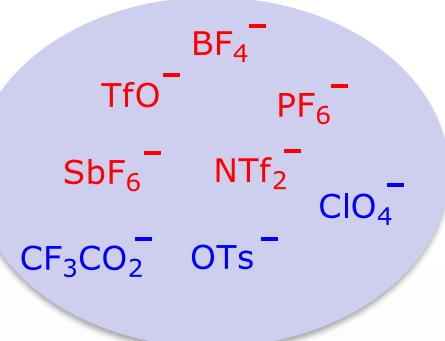
## gold(I) complexes



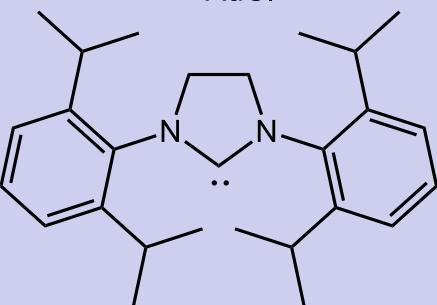
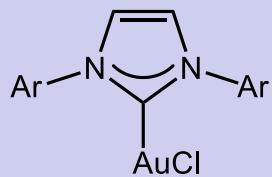
**Gold(I) complexes** are  $d^{10}$  complexes and present a linear, bi-coordinated geometry comprising the metal center within the ligand and the chloride atom.



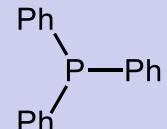
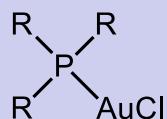
# Gold compounds and complexes



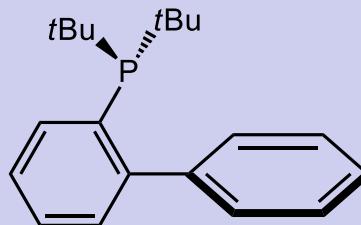
Less and more  
coordinating ions



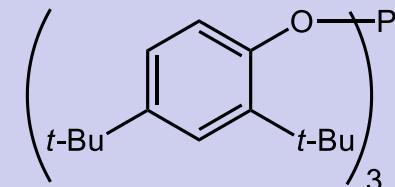
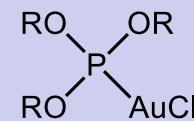
**iPr carbene ligand**



**triphenylphosphine**



**JohnPhos**



**tri-(2,4-di-tBu)phenyl phosphite**

electrophilicity

## Properties of cationic gold(I) species



- ✓ strength of the  $L\text{-Au}$  bond
- ✓ Lewis acidity,  $\pi$  acids
- ✓ do not tend to undergo oxidative addition
- ✓ act as big soft proton

P. Schwerdtfeger, H. L. Hermann, H. Schmidbaur *Inorg. Chem.* **2003**, *42*, 1334.

## Properties of cationic gold(I) species

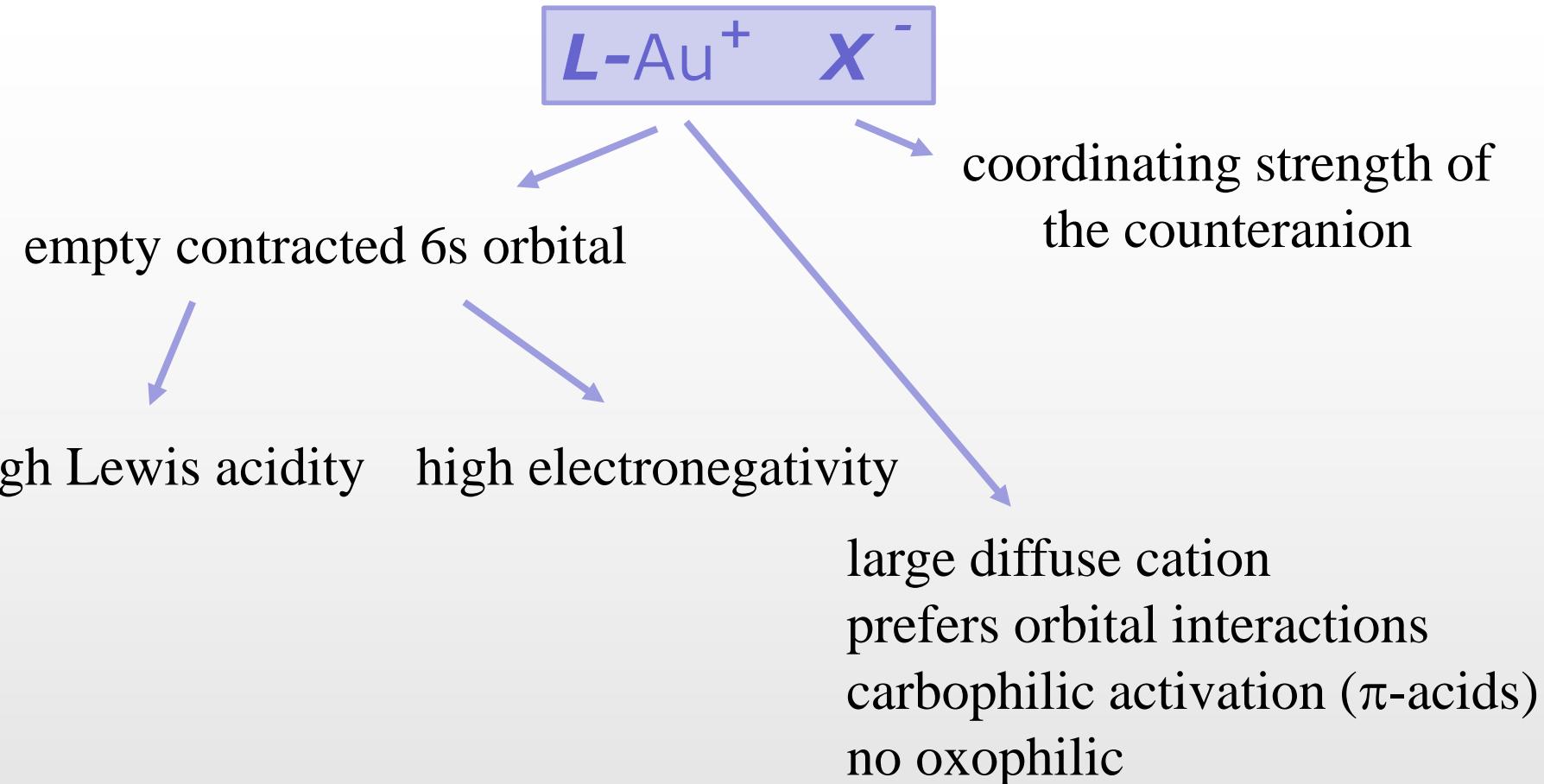


- ✓ the strength of the L-Au bond depends on relativistic contraction of the 6s orbital
- ✓ the strength of the L-Au bond is greater than in Ag and Cu
- ✓ ligand exchange in solution is not observed

P. Schwerdtfeger, H. L. Hermann, H. Schmidbaur *Inorg. Chem.* **2003**, *42*, 1334.

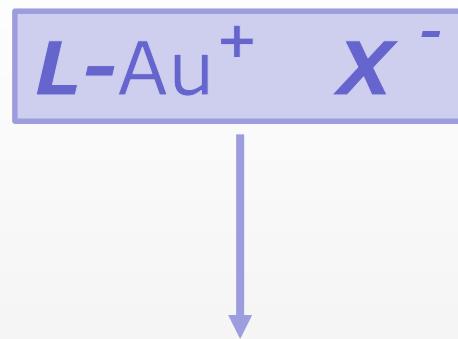
## Properties of cationic gold(I) species

- ✓ Lewis acidity, ‘soft’ Lewis acid, preferring ‘soft’ electrophiles



## Properties of cationic gold(I) species

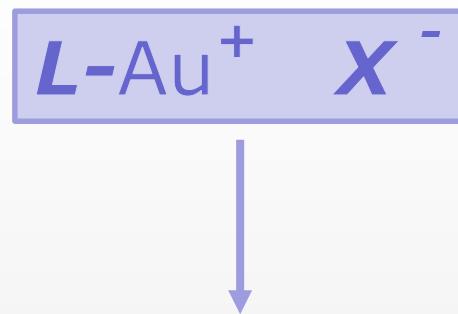
- ✓ do not tend to undergo oxidative addition



- ✓ not particularly nucleophilic,
- ✓ do not tend to undergo oxidative addition,
- ✓ tolerant to oxygen.

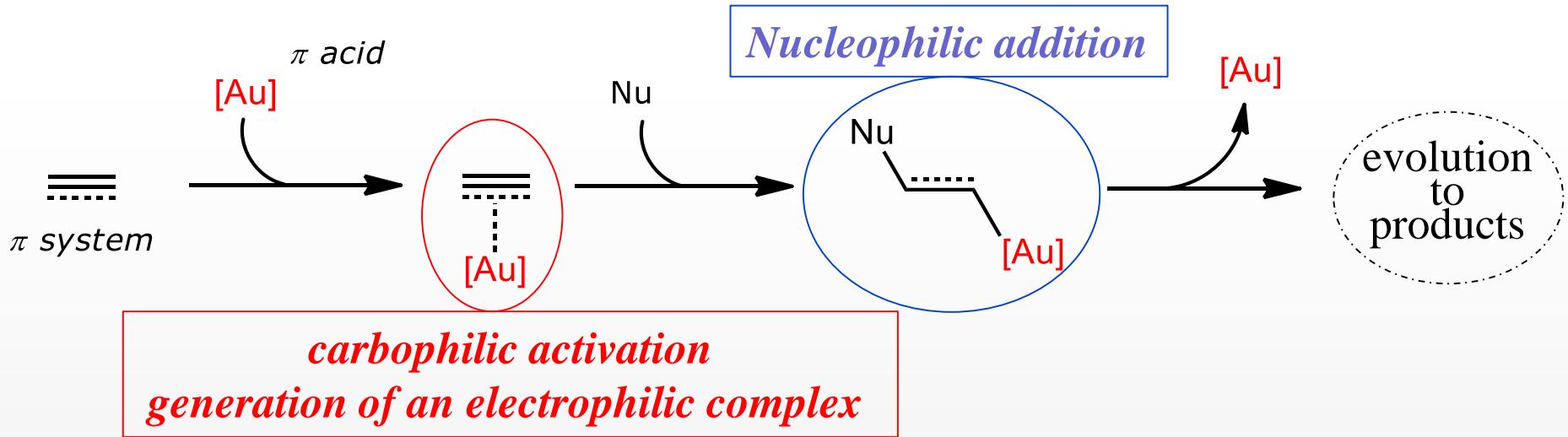
## Properties of cationic gold(I) species

- ✓ big soft proton

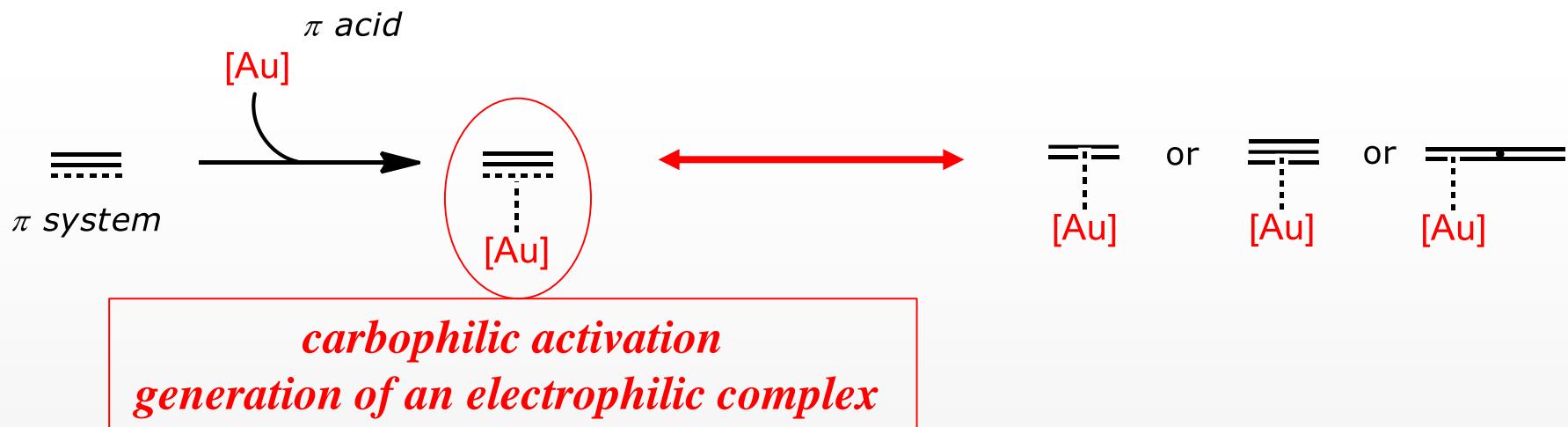


- ✓ isolobal to  $\text{H}^+$
- ✓ catalysis under “acidic” conditions

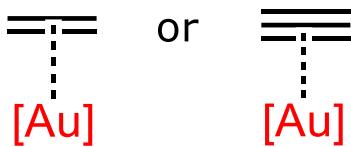
*cfr Pt(II) and Hg(II)*



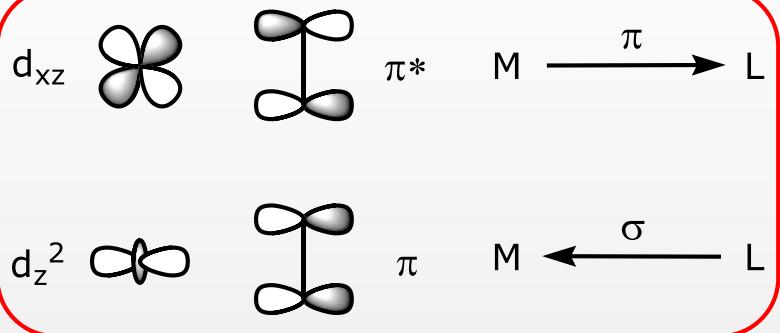
Basic mechanism of  $\pi$  acid catalysis exemplified by the addition of a generic nucleophile across a  $\pi$  system



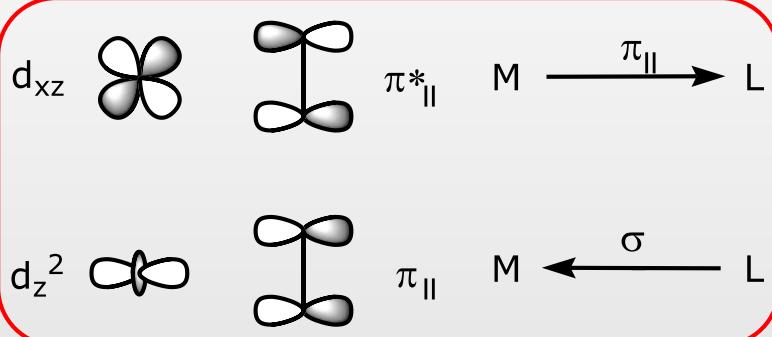
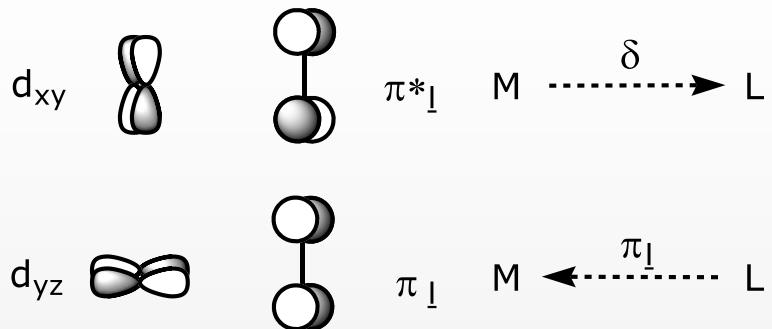
$\pi$  acid coordination to unsaturated systems



metal alkene

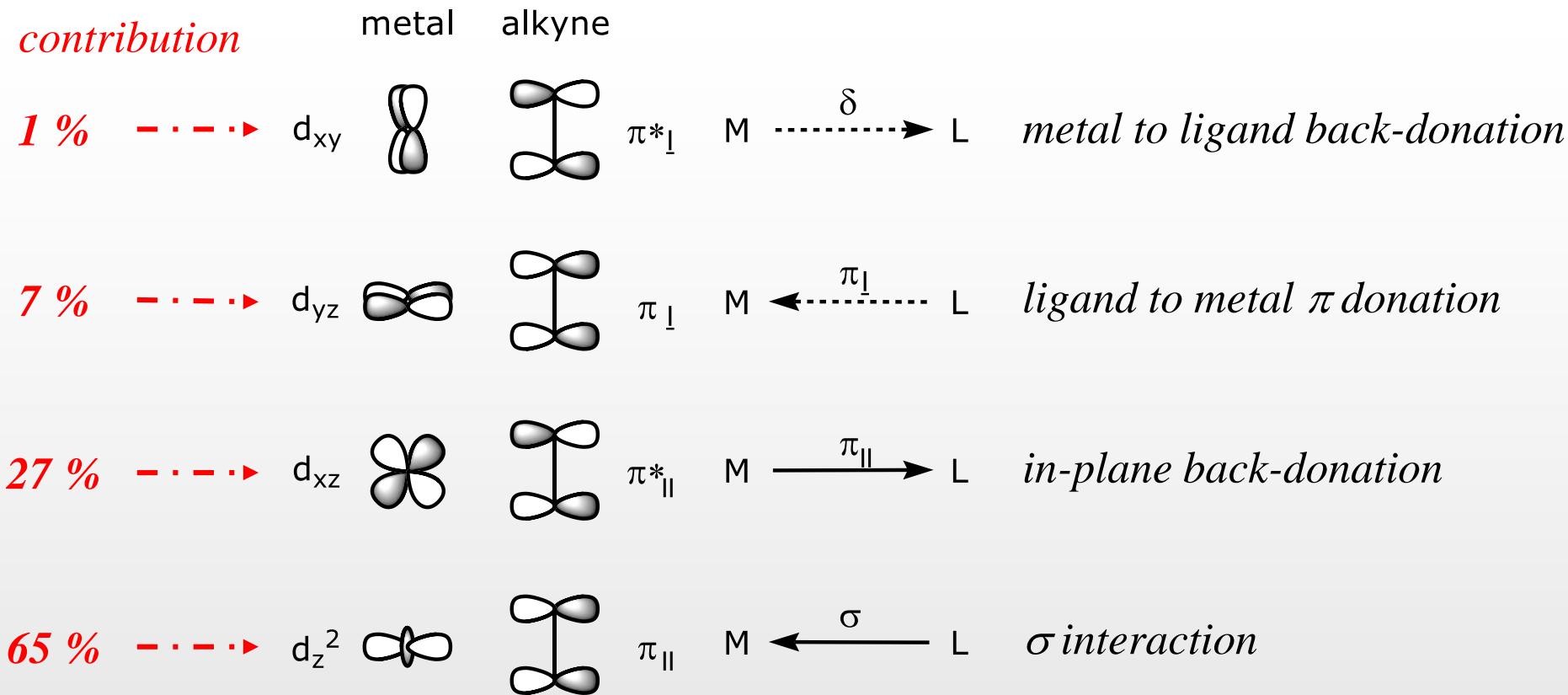


metal alkyne

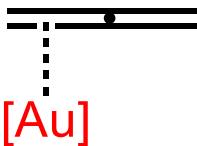




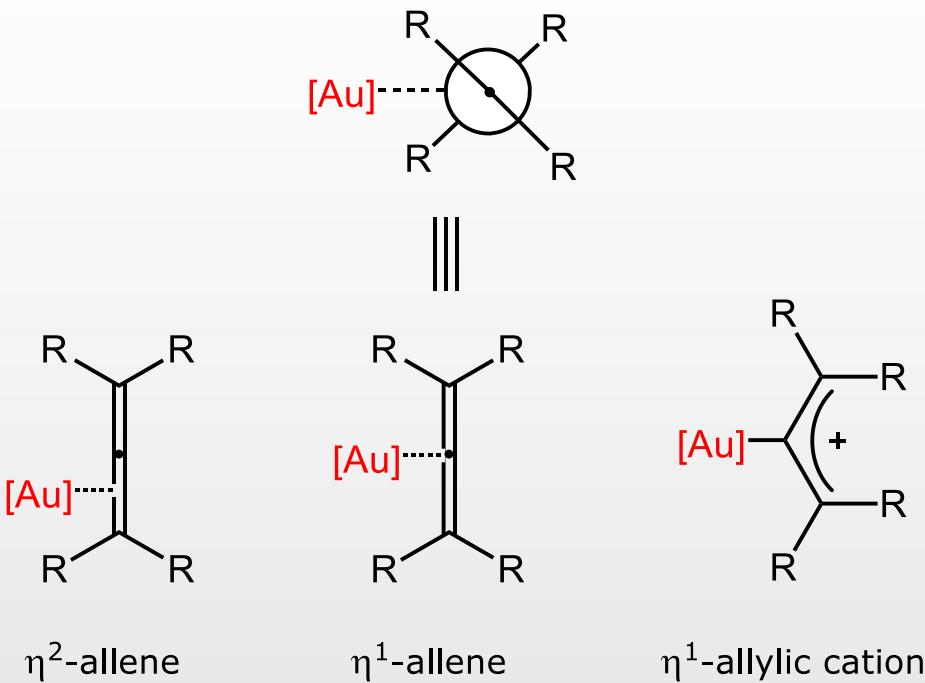
*contribution*



$\pi$  acid coordination to unsaturated systems



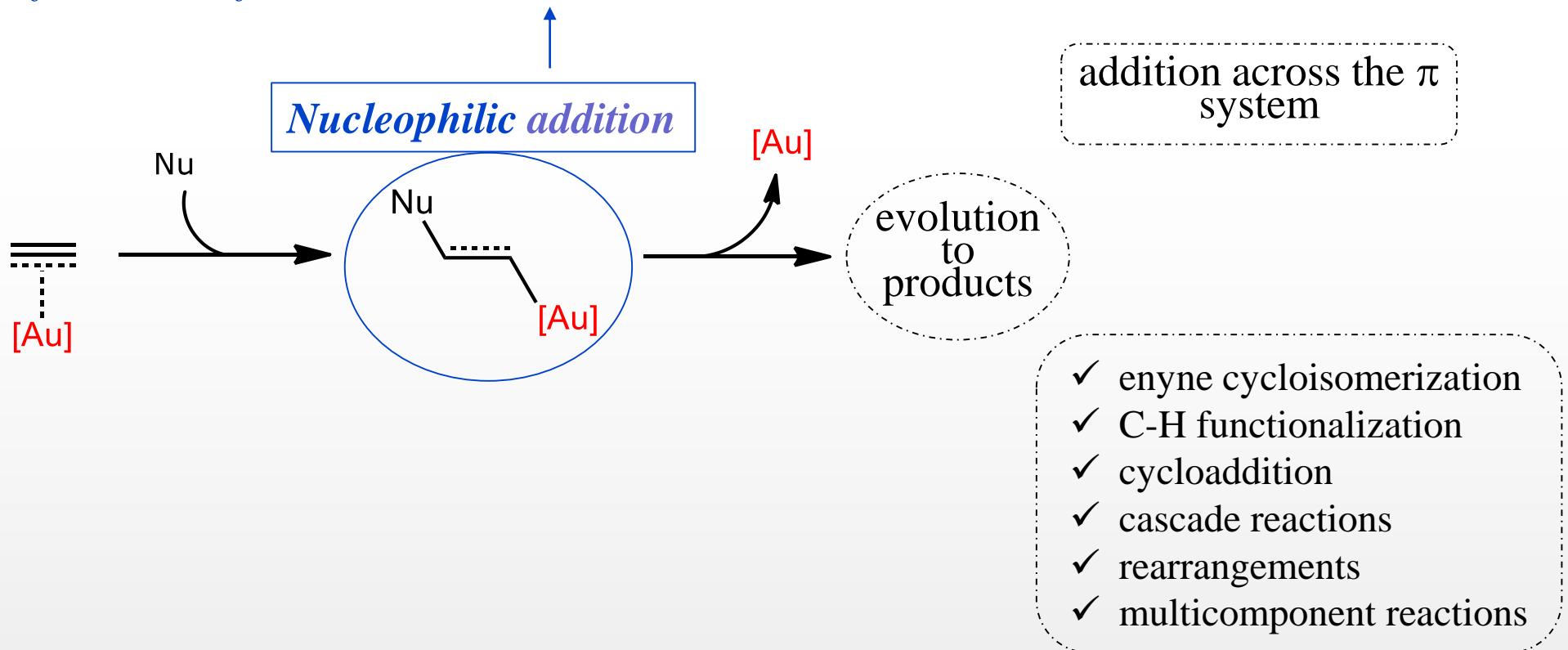
Potential coordination mode for gold  $\pi$  allene complexes

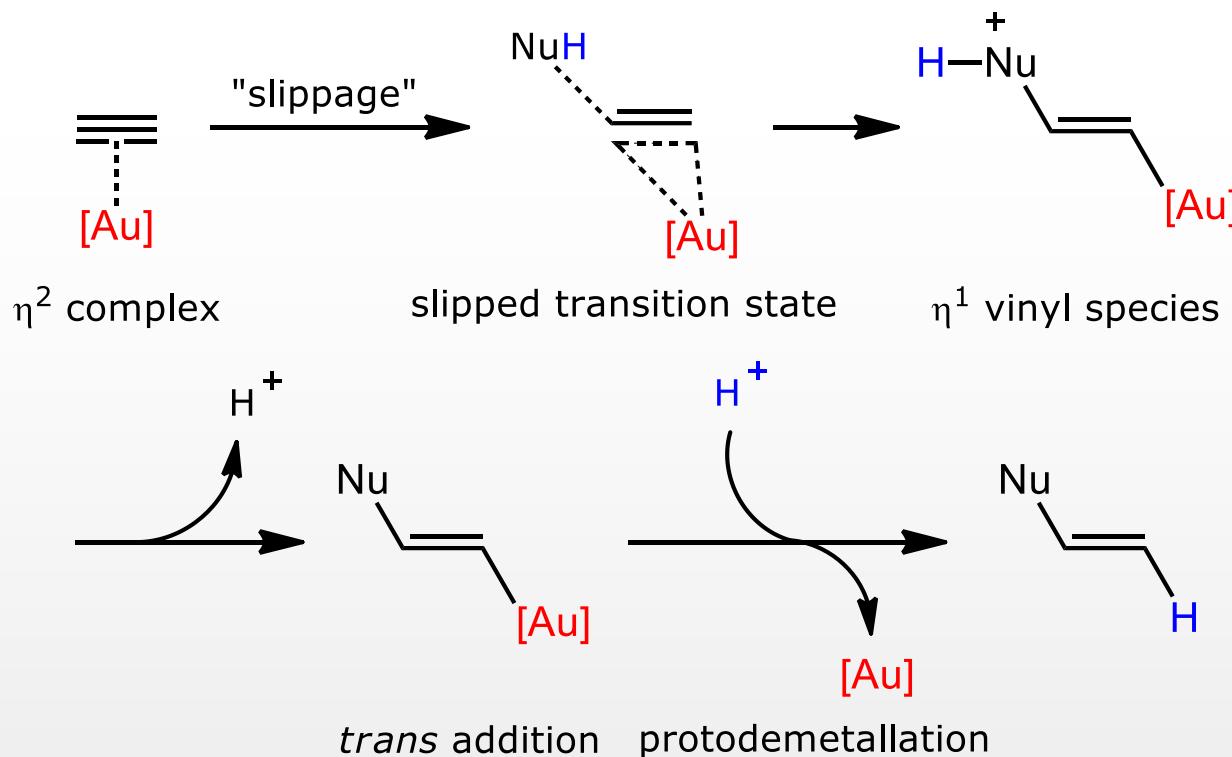


T. J. Brown, A. Sugie, M. G. Dickens, R. A. Widenhoefer, *Organometallics* **2010**, *29*, 4207.

T. J. Brown, A. Sugie, M. G. Dickens, R. A. Widenhoefer, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 6959.

formation of carbon-heteroatom and carbon-carbon bonds

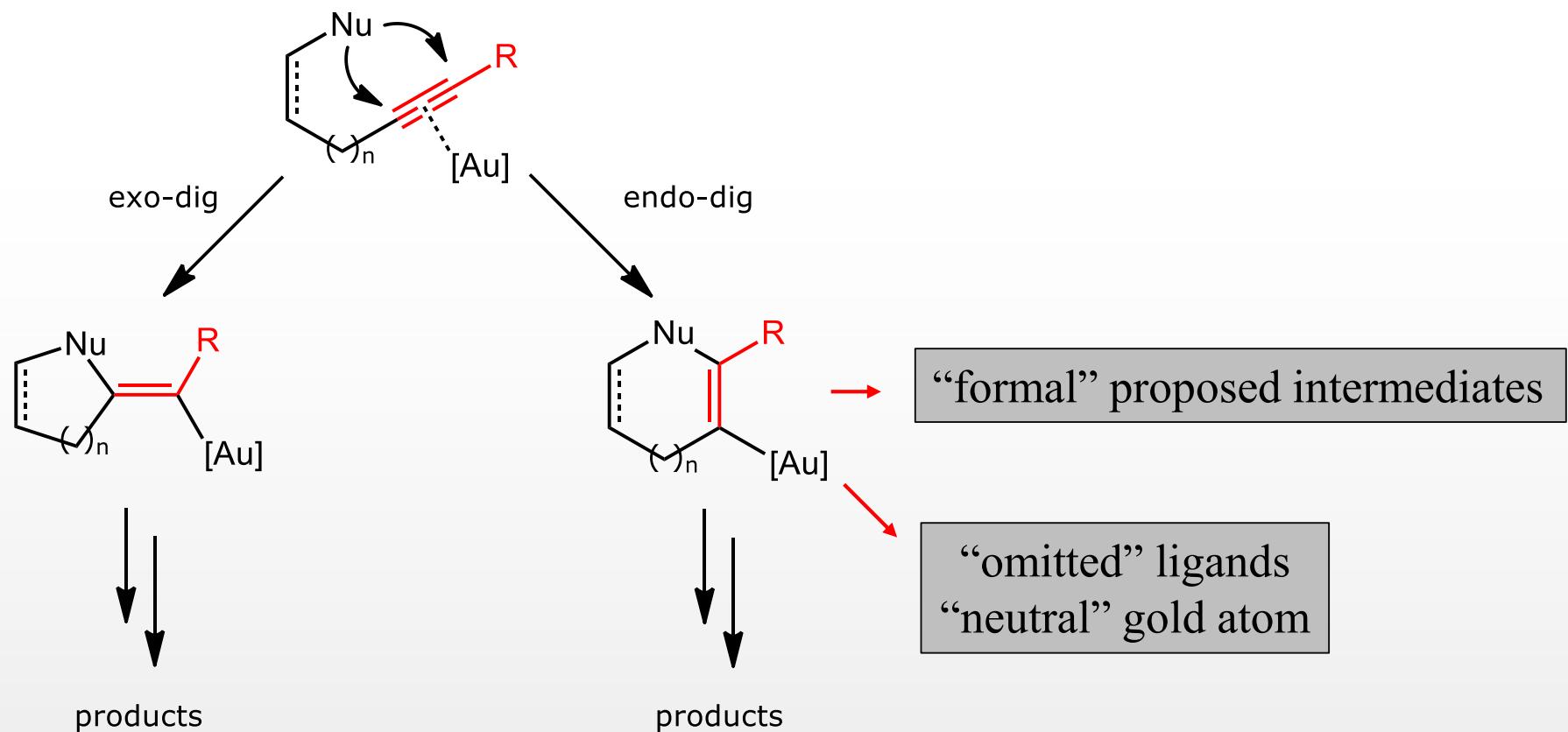




R. Dorel, A. M. Echavarren *Chem. Rev.* **2015**, *115*, 9028.

W. Debrouwer, T. S. A. Heugebaert, B. I. Roman, C. V. Stevens *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, *357*, 2975.

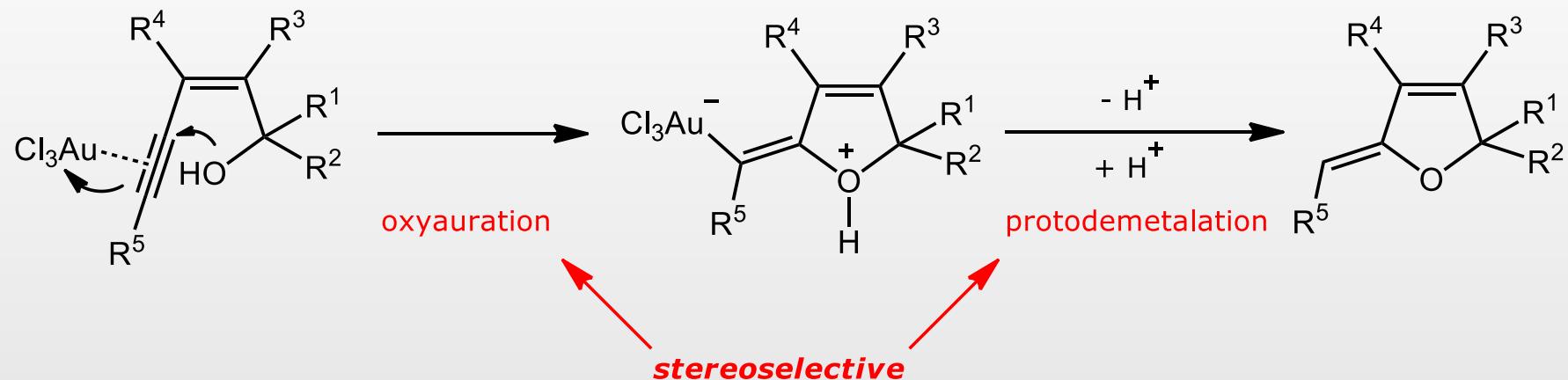
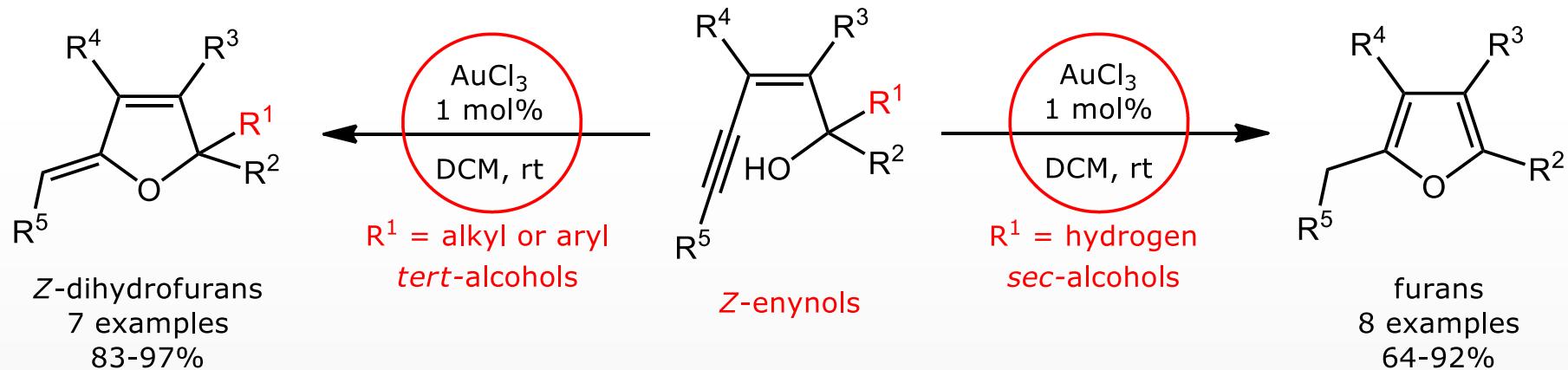
# Nucleophilic addition to $\pi$ activated carbon-carbon triple bonds, synthesis of heterocycles



R. Dorel, A. M. Echavarren *Chem. Rev.* **2015**, *115*, 9028.

W. Debrouwer, T. S. A. Heugebaert, B. I. Roman, C. V. Stevens *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, *357*, 2975.

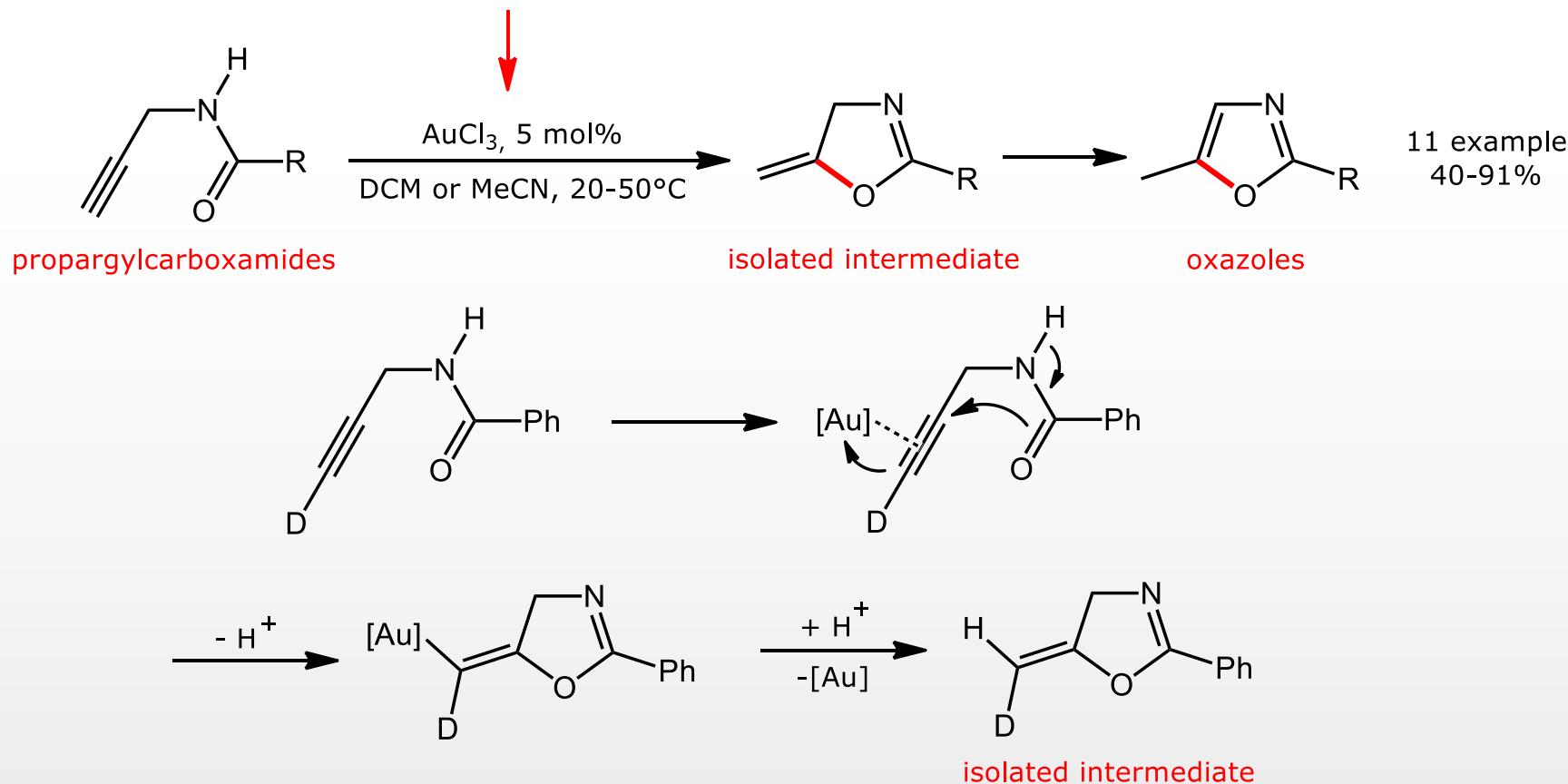
gold-catalyzed 5-exo-dig cyclization of (Z)-enynols



A. S. K. Hashmi, L. Schwarz, J. H. Choi, T. M. Frost *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2000**, *39*, 2285.

Y. Liu, F. Song, Z. Song, M. Liu, B. Yan *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 5409.

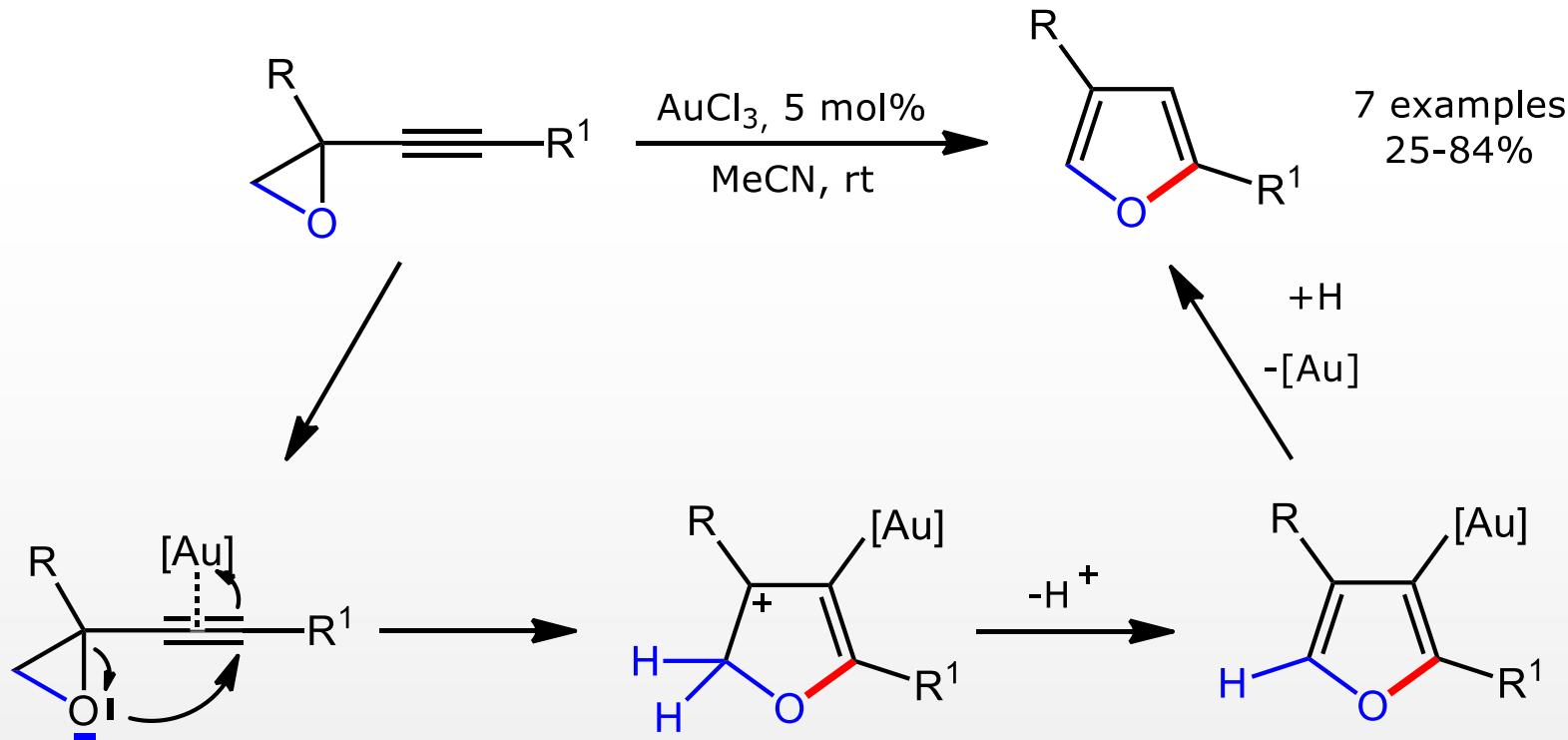
gold-catalyzed 5-exo-dig cyclization of propargylcarboxamides.



Alternative methodologies: basic conditions, Pt(II) or Hg(II) salts in stoichiometric amount at high temperature

A. S. K. Hashmi, J. P. Weyrauch, W. Frey, J. W. Bats *Org. Lett.*, **2004**, 6, 4391.

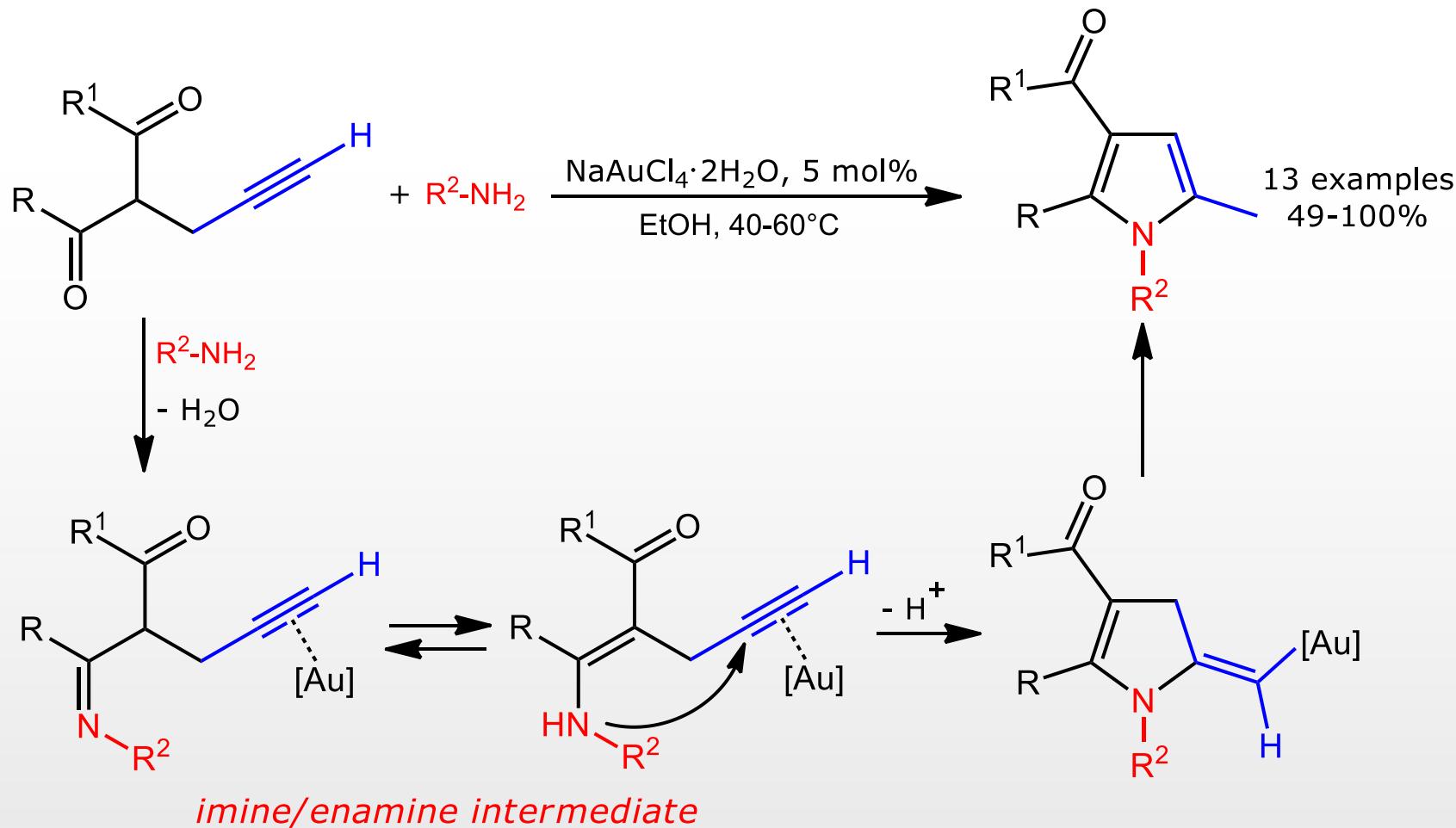
*isomerization of alkynyl epoxides to furans*



Alternative promoters: mercury salts *toxic*,  
 bases,  $R = H$   
 molybdenum and ruthenium,  $R^I = H$

A. S. K. Hashmi, P. Sinha *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2004**, 346, 432.

*Domino addition/annulation reaction for the synthesis of pyrroles*

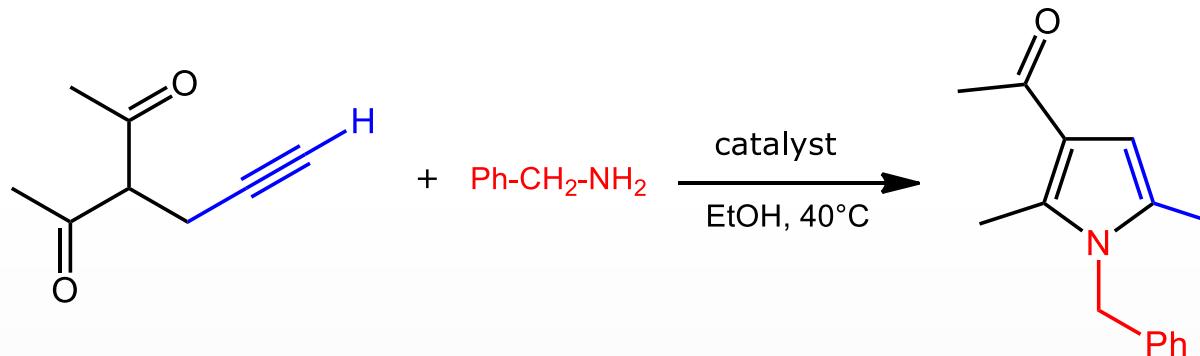


A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2001**, *343*, 443.

A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Tetrahedron: asymmetry* **2001**, *12*, 2715.

A. Arcadi, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2011**, *696*, 87.

*Domino addition/annulation reaction for the synthesis of pyrroles*



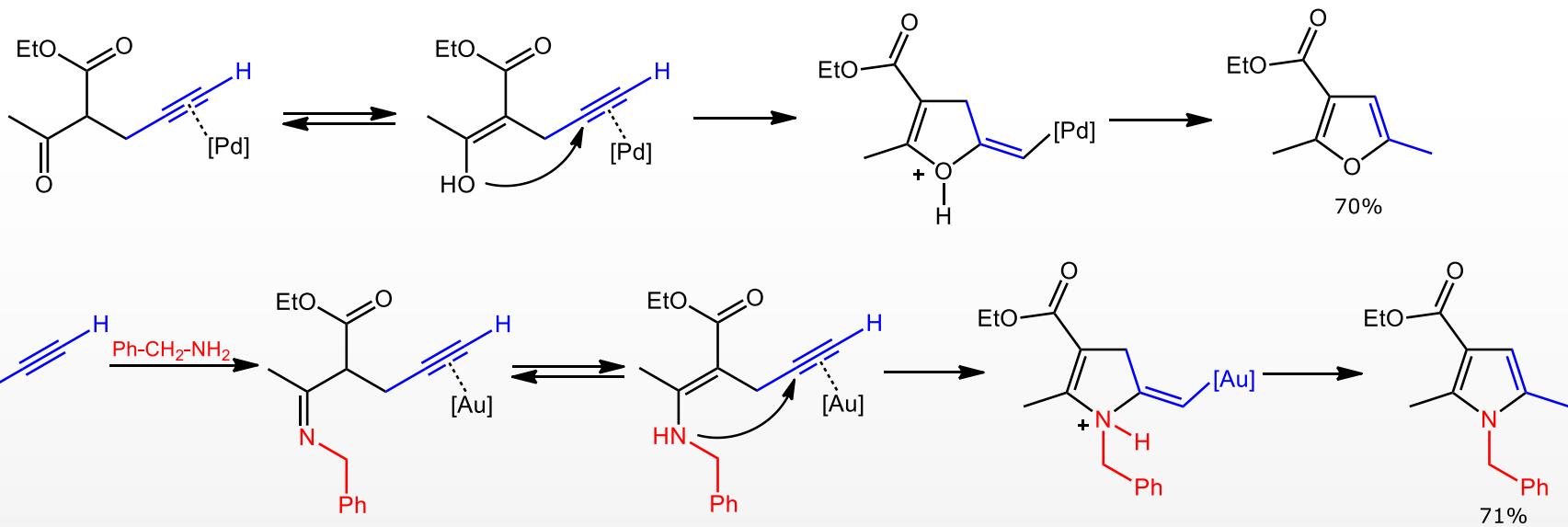
catalyst (mol%)	time (h)	yield (%)
$\text{NaAuCl}_4$ (5)	1	100
$\text{CuI}$ (5)	24	100
$\text{ZnCl}_2$ (5)	24	34
$\text{Na}_2\text{PdCl}_4$ (5)	1	100
$\text{AgNO}_3$ (5)	6	71

→ Strictly anaerobic conditions

→ Poorly selective

- A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2001**, *343*, 443.  
 A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Tetrahedron: asymmetry* **2001**, *12*, 2715.  
 A. Arcadi, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2011**, *696*, 87.

*Domino addition/annulation reaction for the synthesis of pyrroles*



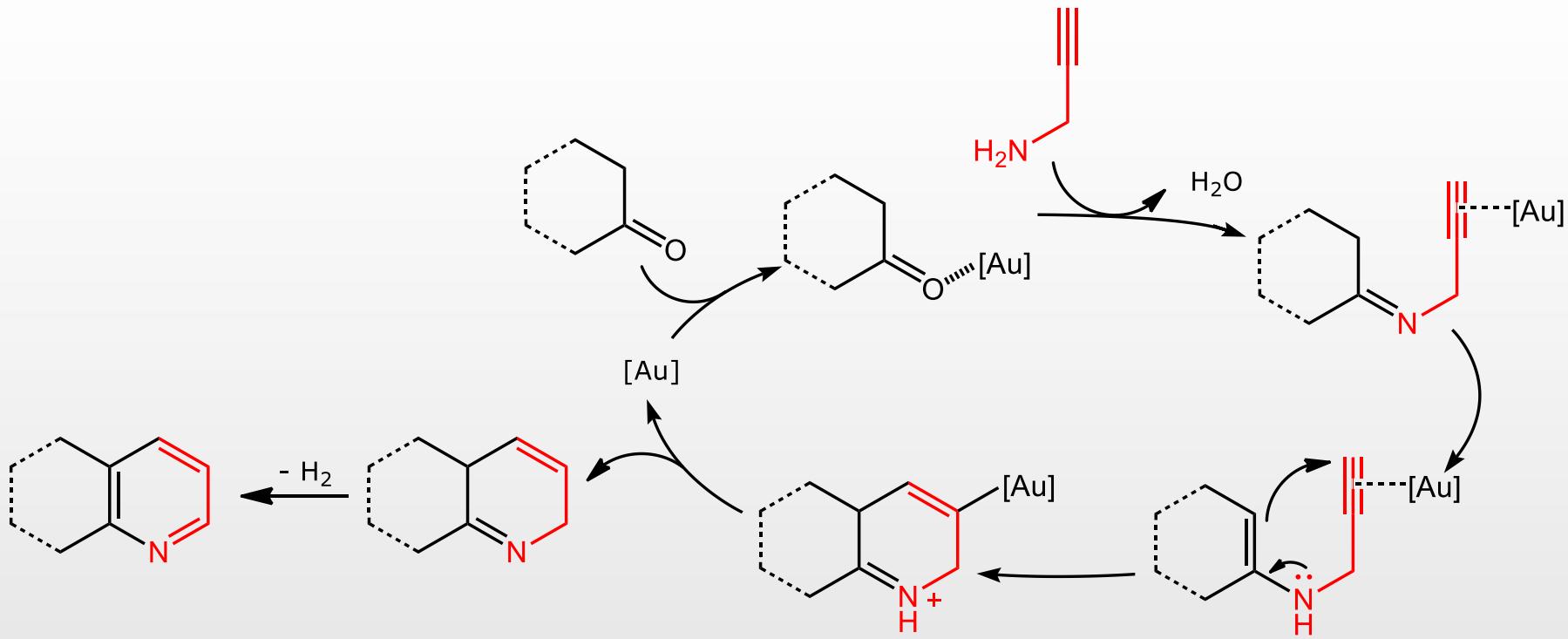
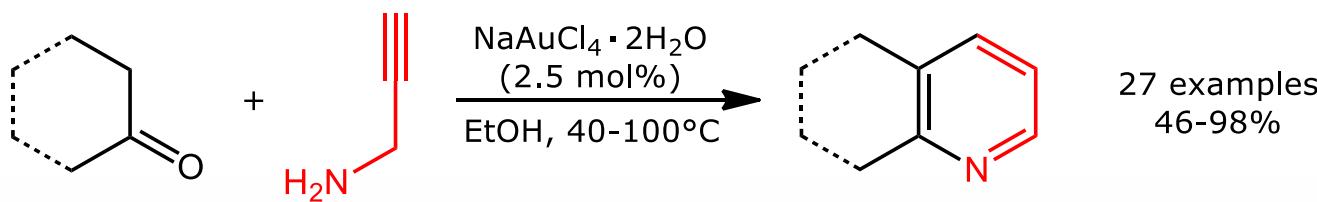
*Reaction performed with  $\beta$ -ketoesters  
selectivity could be related to the  $\sigma$ -philic property of gold(III) salts*

A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2001**, *343*, 443.

A. Arcadi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *Tetrahedron: asymmetry* **2001**, *12*, 2715.

A. Arcadi, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2011**, *696*, 87.

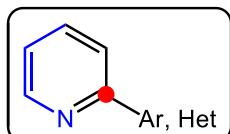
*Domino addition/annulation reaction for the synthesis of pyridines*



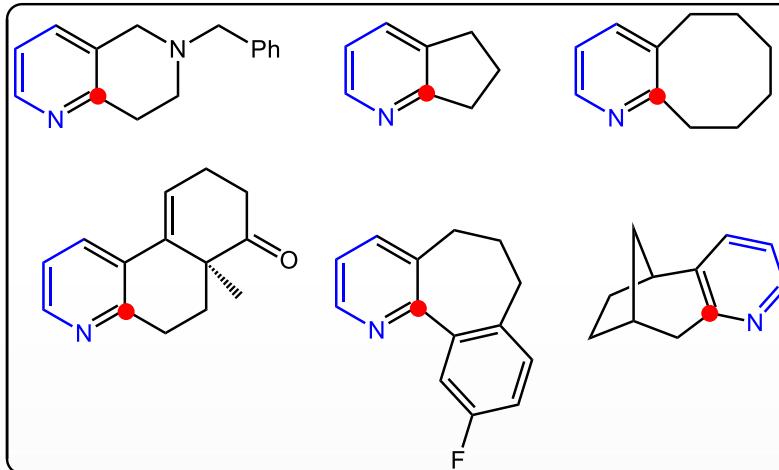
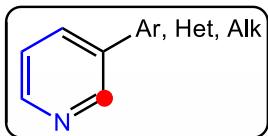
G. Abbiati, A. Arcadi, G. Bianchi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 6959.

# Nucleophilic addition to $\pi$ activated carbon-carbon triple bonds, synthesis of heterocycles

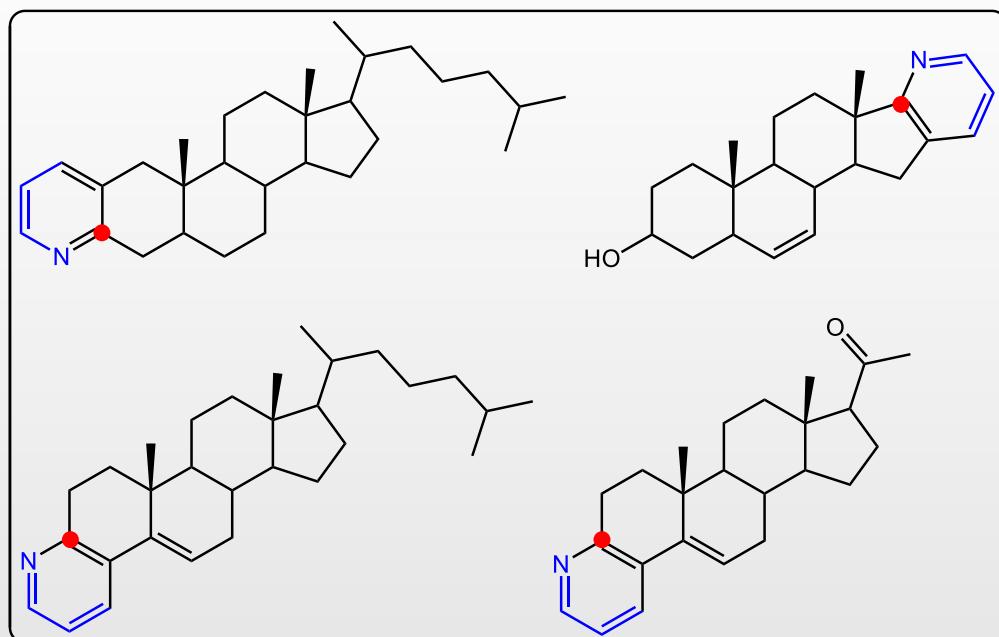
**from methyl ketones**



**from aldehydes**



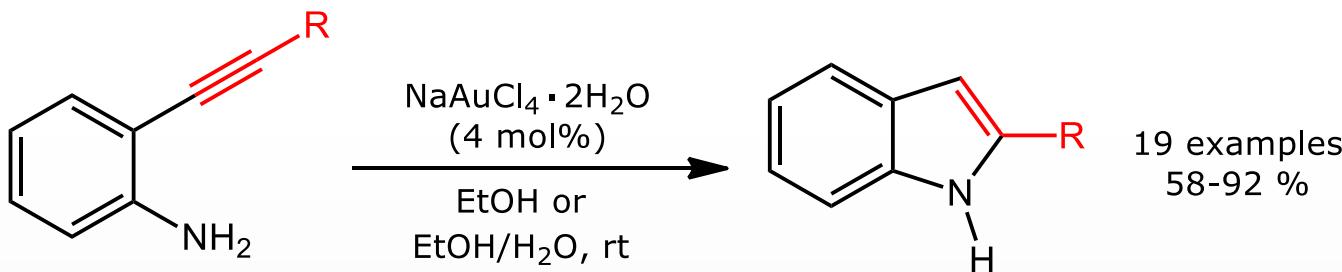
**from cyclic ketones**



**linear or angular steroidal derivatives**

G. Abbiati, A. Arcadi, G. Bianchi, S. Di Giuseppe, F. Marinelli, E. Rossi *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 6959.

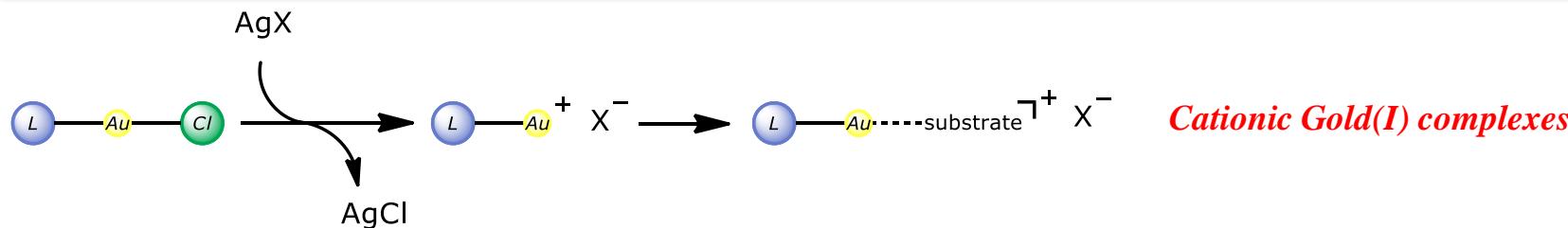
annulation of 2-alkynylanilines



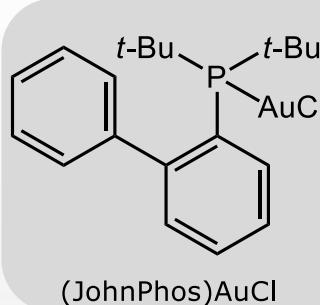
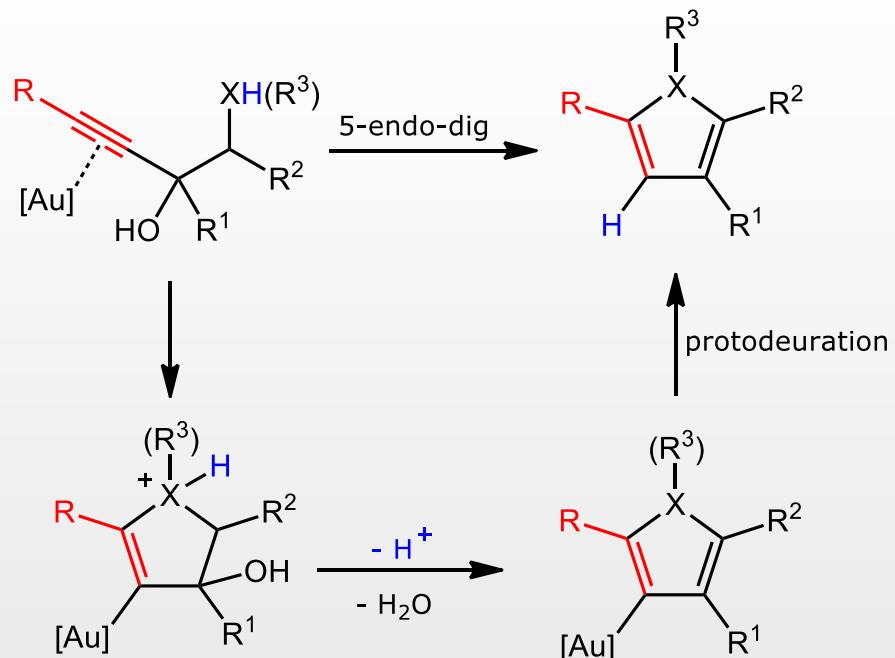
$R = Ph$

catalyst (mol%)	solvent	yield (%)
$\text{NaAuCl}_4$ (4)	EtOH	83
$\text{AuCl}$ (4)	EtOH	50
$\text{Na}_2\text{PdCl}_4$ (5)	EtOH	7
$\text{PdCl}_2$ (5)	EtOH	6
$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5)	EtOH	8
$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (5)	EtOH	10
$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5)	EtOH	0

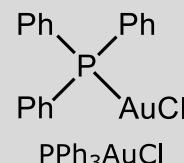
A. Arcadi, G. Bianchi, F. Marinelli *Synthesis* **2004**, 610.



*Synthesis of pyrroles, furans and thiophens  
from 2-hydroxyhomopropargylic alcohols, amines or sulphides*



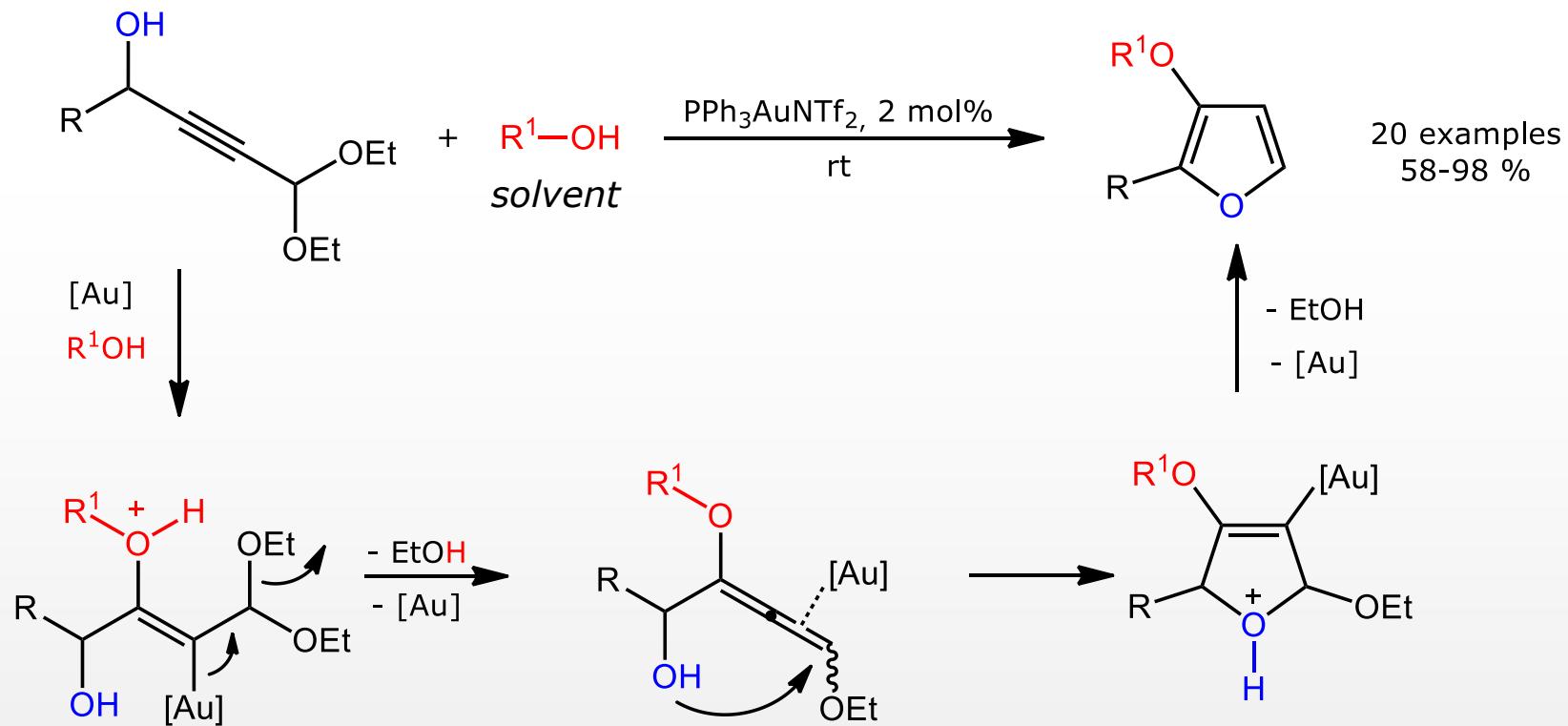
**Aponick**  
(JohnPhos) $\text{AuCl}/\text{AgOTf}$  (2 mol%)  
THF, 0°C  
12 examples, 85-99%



**Akai**  
 $\text{PPh}_3\text{AuCl}/\text{AgOTf}$  (0.1%)  
toluene, rt  
13 examples, 73-97%

A. Aponick, C.-Y. Li, J. Malinge, E. F. Marques *Org. Lett.* **2009**, *11*, 4624.  
M. Egi, K. Azechi, S. Akai *Org. Lett.* **2009**, *11*, 5002.

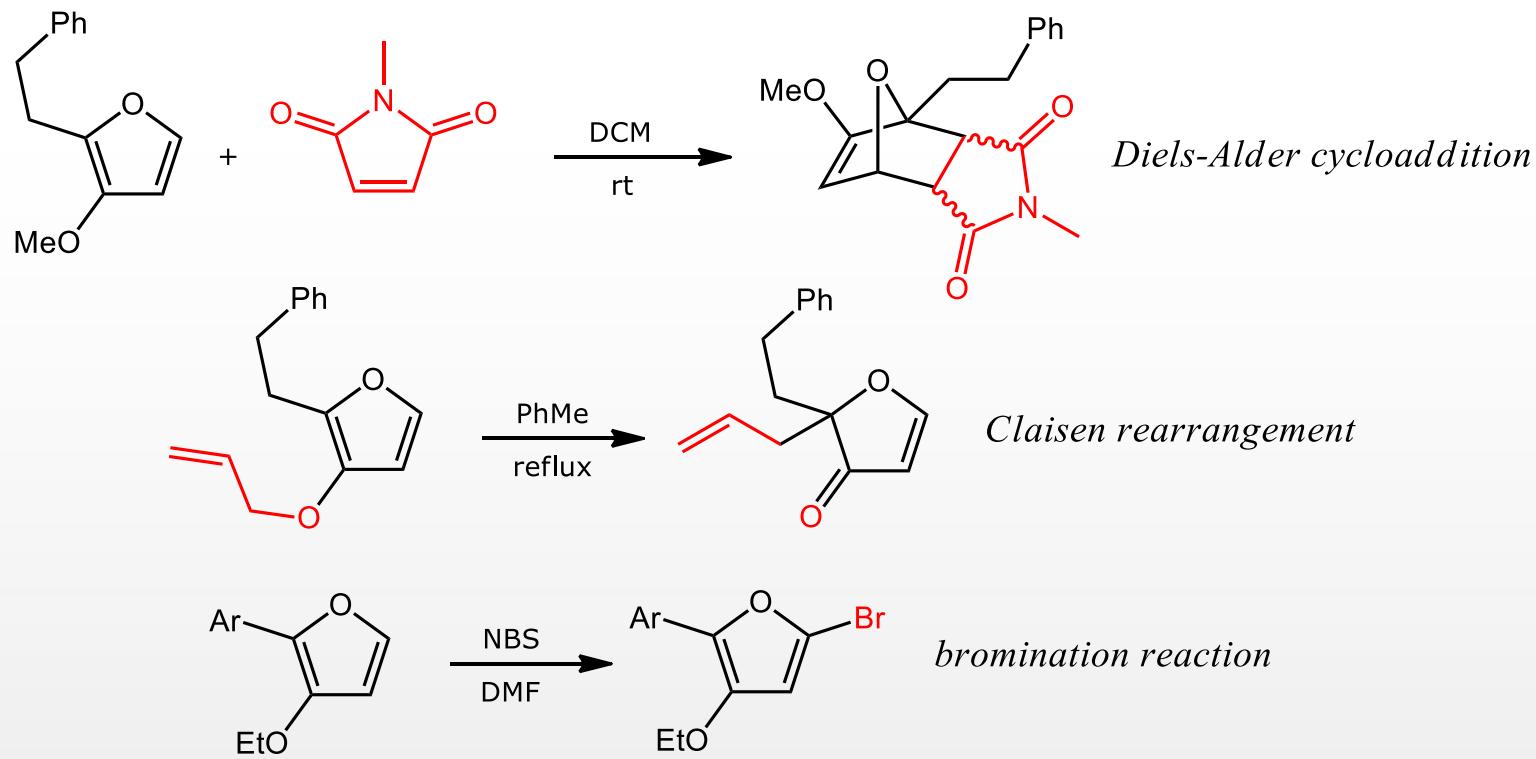
Synthesis of 3-alkoxyfurans from propargylic alcohols containing an acetal moiety



It is worth to underline that firm guidelines are not yet available for the optimum choice of ligands and counterions used in these processes, and so a certain degree of screening for the best reaction conditions (ligands, counterions, solvent, temperature) may be necessary.

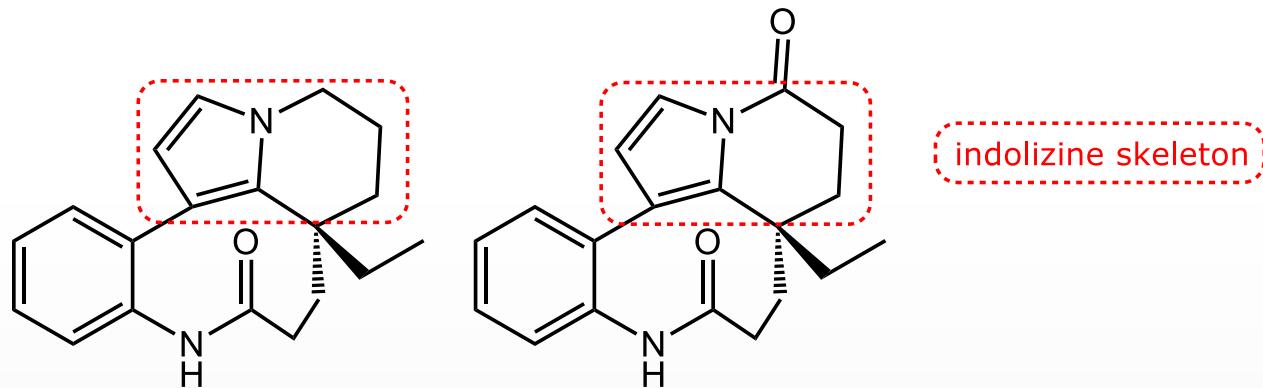
M. N. Pennell, R. W. Foster, P. G. Turner, H. C. Hailes, C. J. Tame, T. D. Sheppard *Chem. Commun.* **2014**, *50*, 1302.

# Nucleophilic addition to $\pi$ activated carbon-carbon triple bonds, synthesis of heterocycles

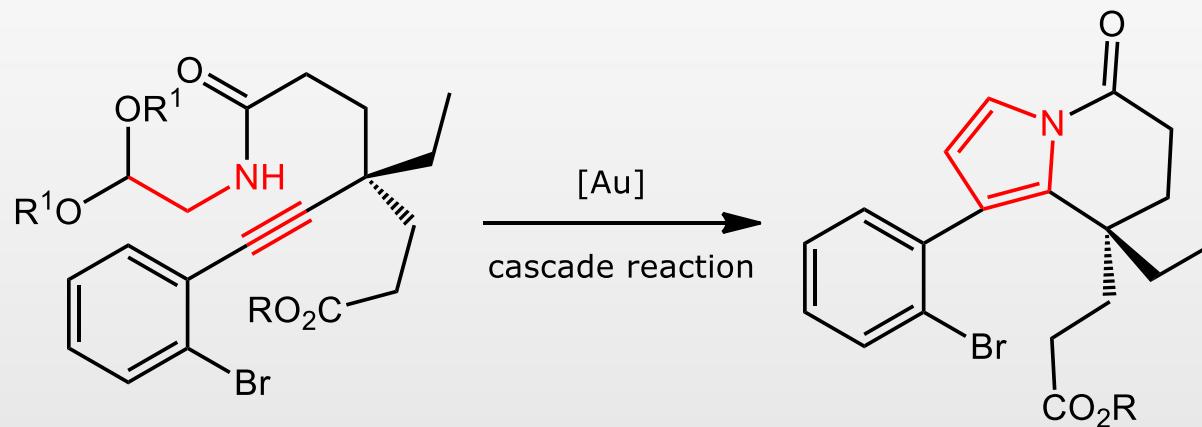


M. N. Pennell, R. W. Foster, P. G. Turner, H. C. Hailes, C. J. Tame, T. D. Sheppard *Chem. Commun.* **2014**, *50*, 1302.

total syntheses of (-)-Rhazinilam and (-)-Rhazinicine



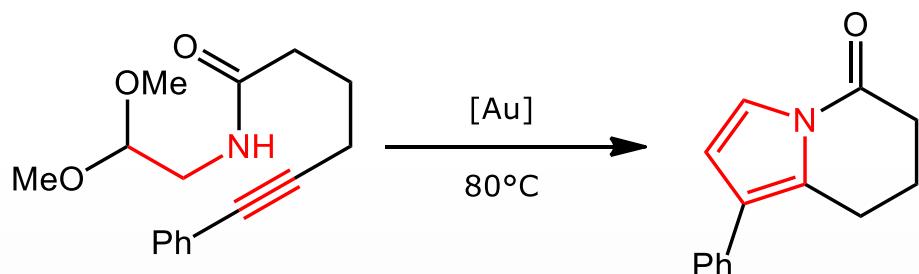
construction of indolizine skeleton from linear intermediates



K. Sugimoto, K. Toyoshima, S. Nonaka, K. Kotaki, H. Ueda, H. Tokuyama *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 7168.

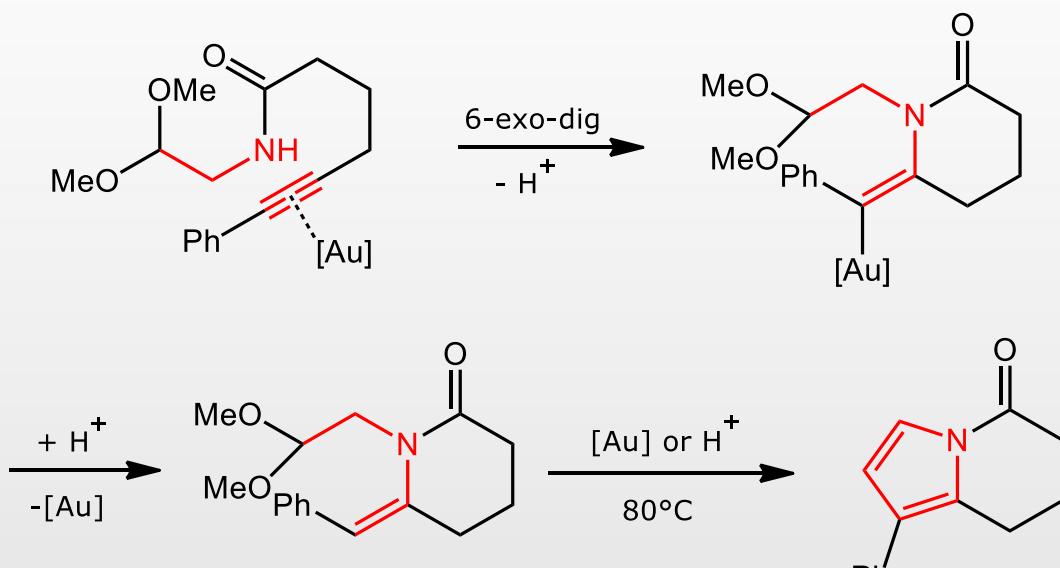
H. Ueda, M. Yamaguchi, H. Kameya, K. Sugimoto, H. Tokuyama *Org. Lett.* **2014**, *16*, 4948.

*model reaction*



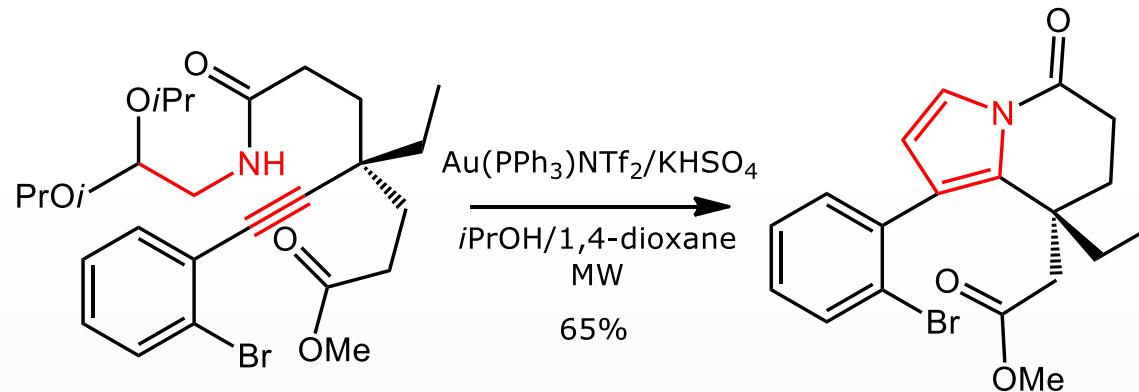
catalyst (mol%)	solvent	yield (%)
AuCl (10)	DCE	-
AuCl <sub>3</sub> (10)	DCE	-
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )Cl (10)	DCE	-
AuCl/AgOTf (10)	DCE	-
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )Cl/AgOTf (10)	DCE	20
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )Cl/AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (10)	DCE	20
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )NTf <sub>2</sub> (10)	DCE	50
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )NTf <sub>2</sub> (10)	1,4-dioxane	69

*proposed reaction mechanism*

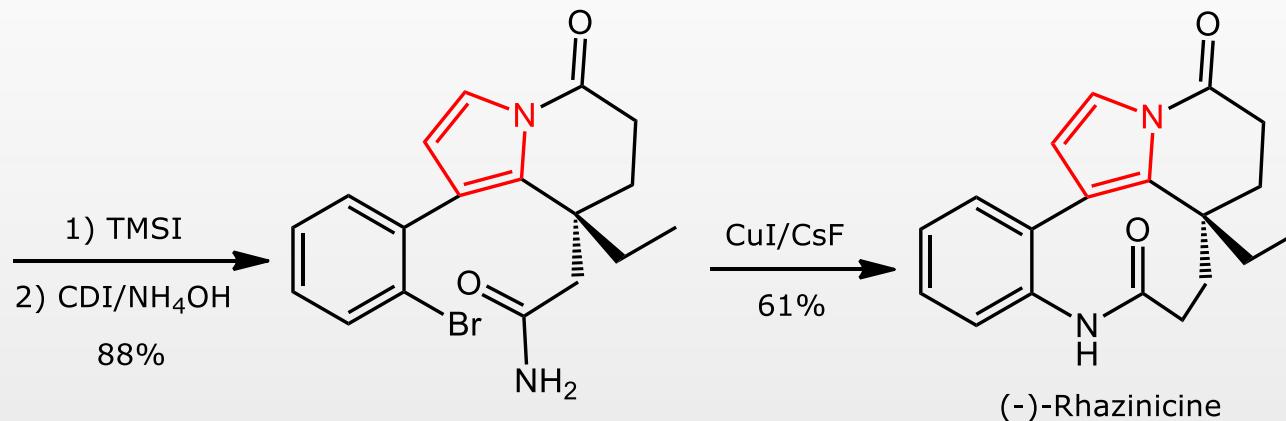


K. Sugimoto, K. Toyoshima, S. Nonaka, K. Kotaki, H. Ueda, H. Tokuyama *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 7168.  
H. Ueda, M. Yamaguchi, H. Kameya, K. Sugimoto, H. Tokuyama *Org. Lett.* **2014**, *16*, 4948.

application of the selected conditions to the synthesis of (-)-Rhazinicine



formation of indolizine skeleton

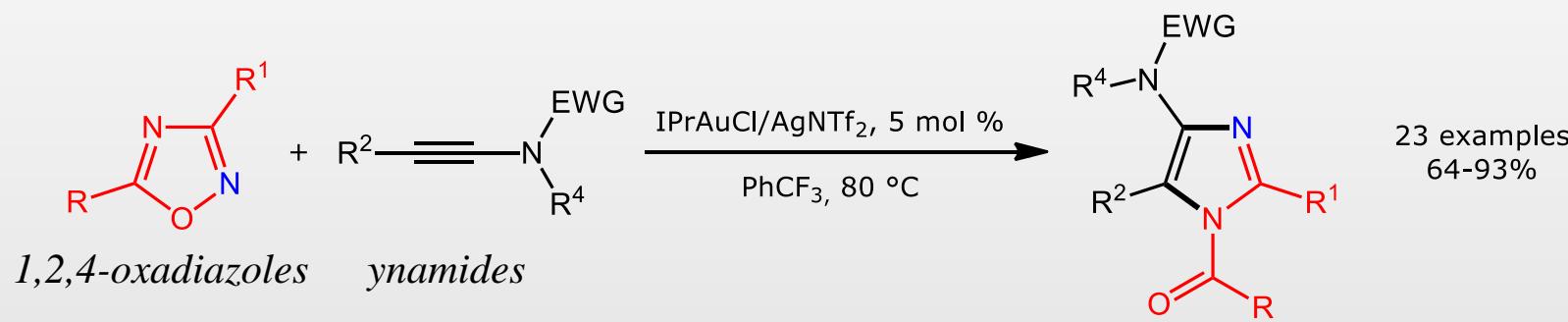
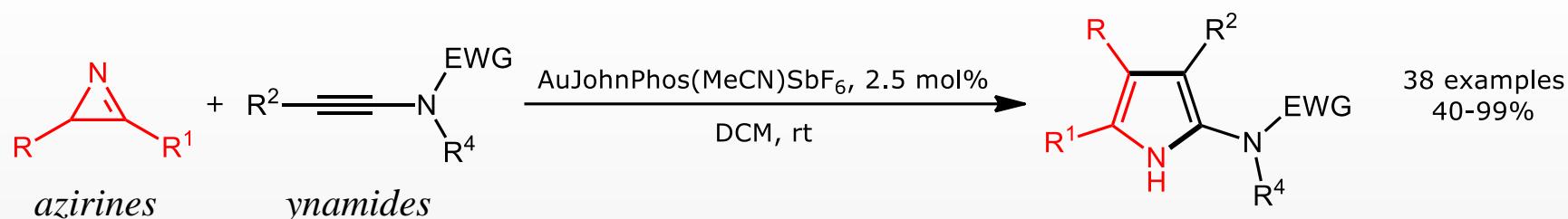
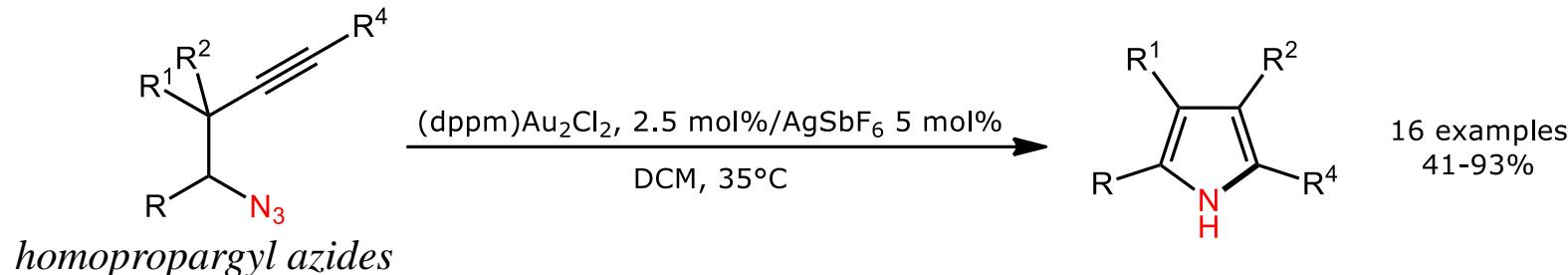


formation of the lactam ring

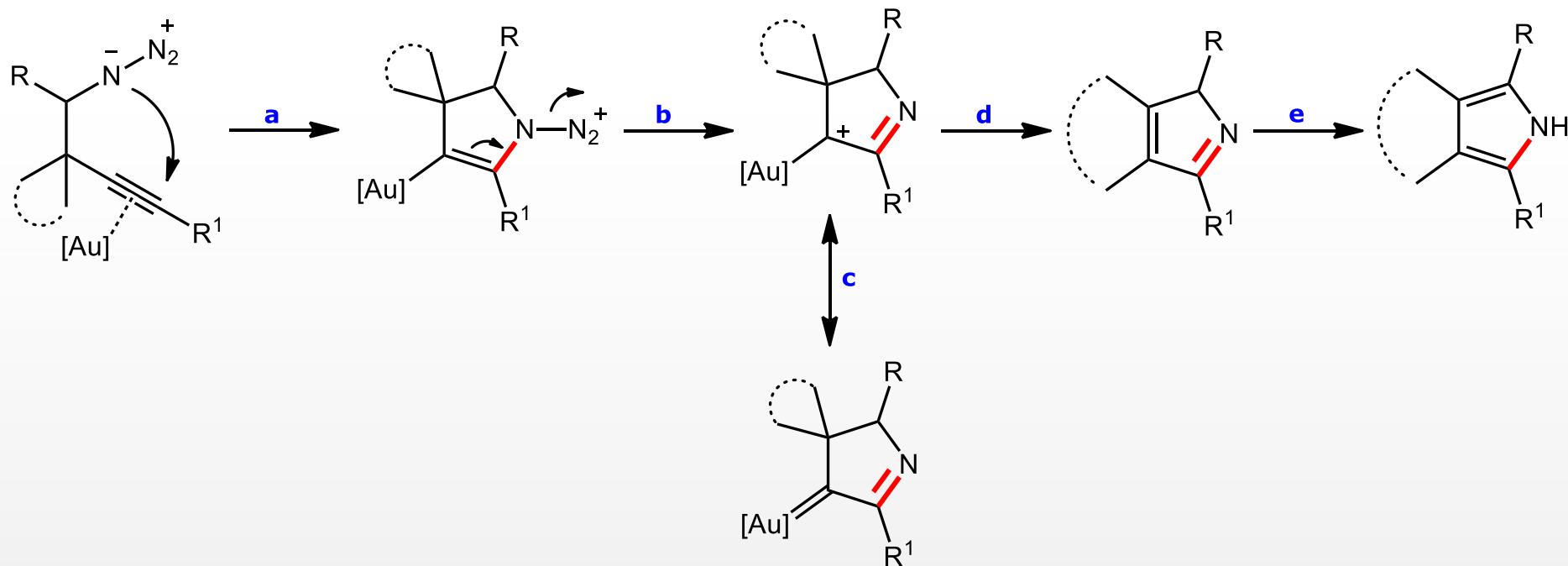
K. Sugimoto, K. Toyoshima, S. Nonaka, K. Kotaki, H. Ueda, H. Tokuyama *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 7168.

H. Ueda, M. Yamaguchi, H. Kameya, K. Sugimoto, H. Tokuyama *Org. Lett.* **2014**, *16*, 4948.

# Nucleophilic addition to $\pi$ activated carbon-carbon triple bonds, synthesis of heterocycles



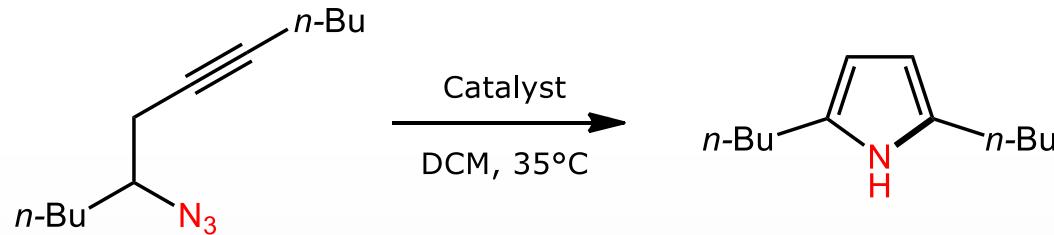
*intramolecular Au(I)-catalyzed Schmidt reaction  
reaction mechanism*



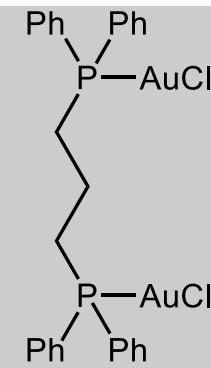
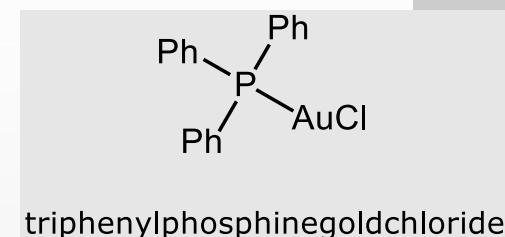
- a) attack of the proximal N-atom of the azide on gold(I) activated triple bond,  
 b) loss of nitrogen, production of a cationic intermediate,  
 c) stabilization by electron donation from gold(I),  
 d) formal 1,2-shift and regeneration of the cationic gold(I) catalyst and produces a 2H-pyrrole,  
 e) tautomerization to the 1H-pyrrole.

D. J. Gorin, N. R. Davis, F. D. Toste *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 127, 11260.

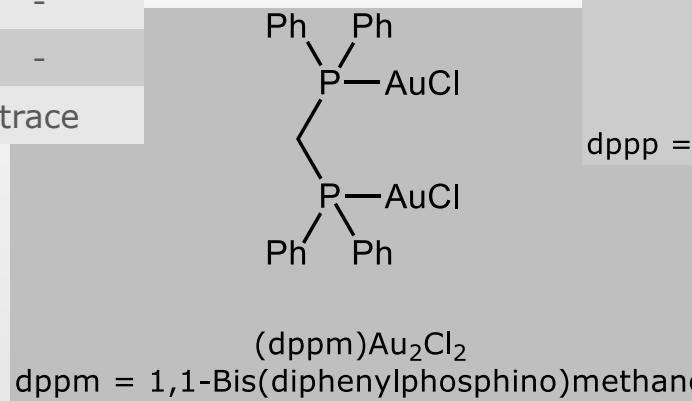
*intramolecular Au(I)-catalyzed Schmidt reaction  
reaction conditions*



catalyst (mol%)	yield (%)
Au(PPh <sub>3</sub> )Cl (5), AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	72
(dppm)Au <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (2.5), AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	93
(dppp)Au <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (2.5), AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	86
AuCl <sub>3</sub> (5)	-
CuI (5)	-
AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	trace

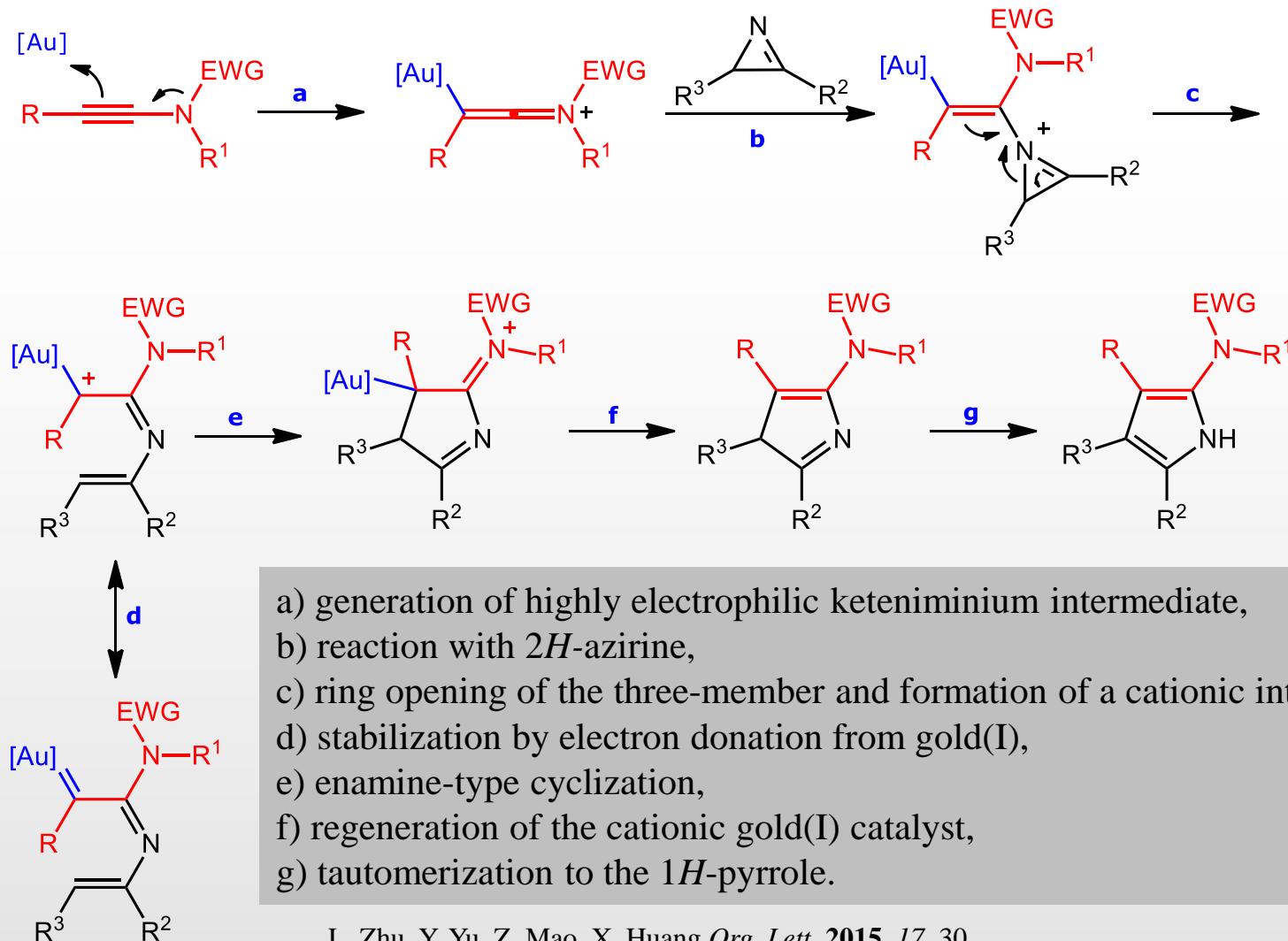


dppp = 1,1-Bis(diphenylphosphino)propane



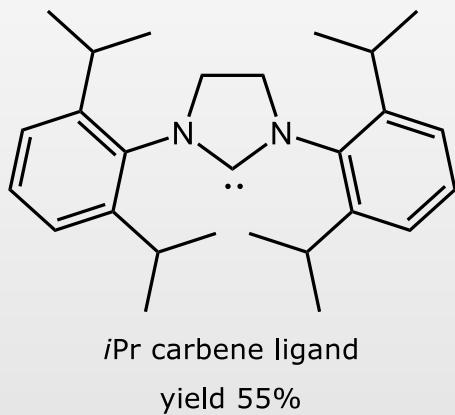
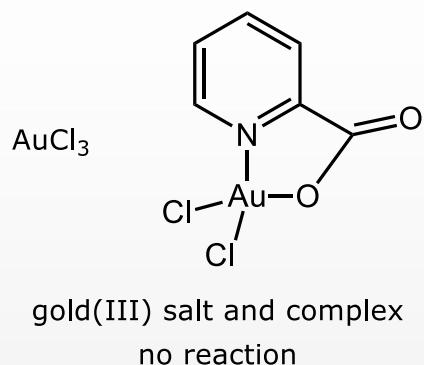
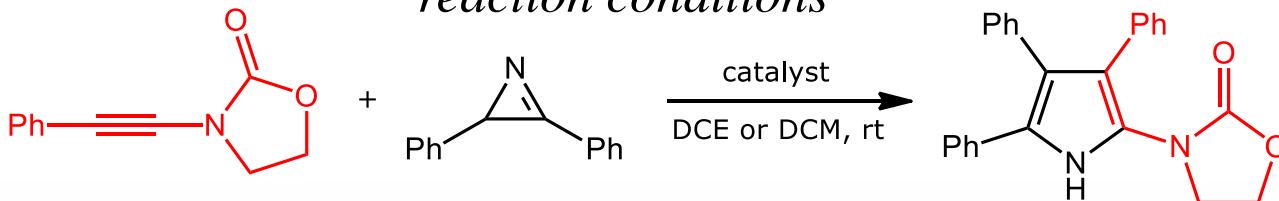
D. J. Gorin, N. R. Davis, F. D. Toste *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 11260.

substituted pyrroles in via formal [3 + 2] cycloaddition reaction mechanism

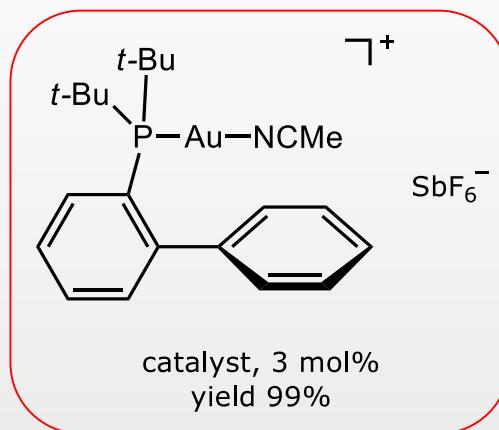


L. Zhu, Y. Yu, Z. Mao, X. Huang *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 30.

substituted pyrroles in via formal [3 + 2] cycloaddition reaction conditions



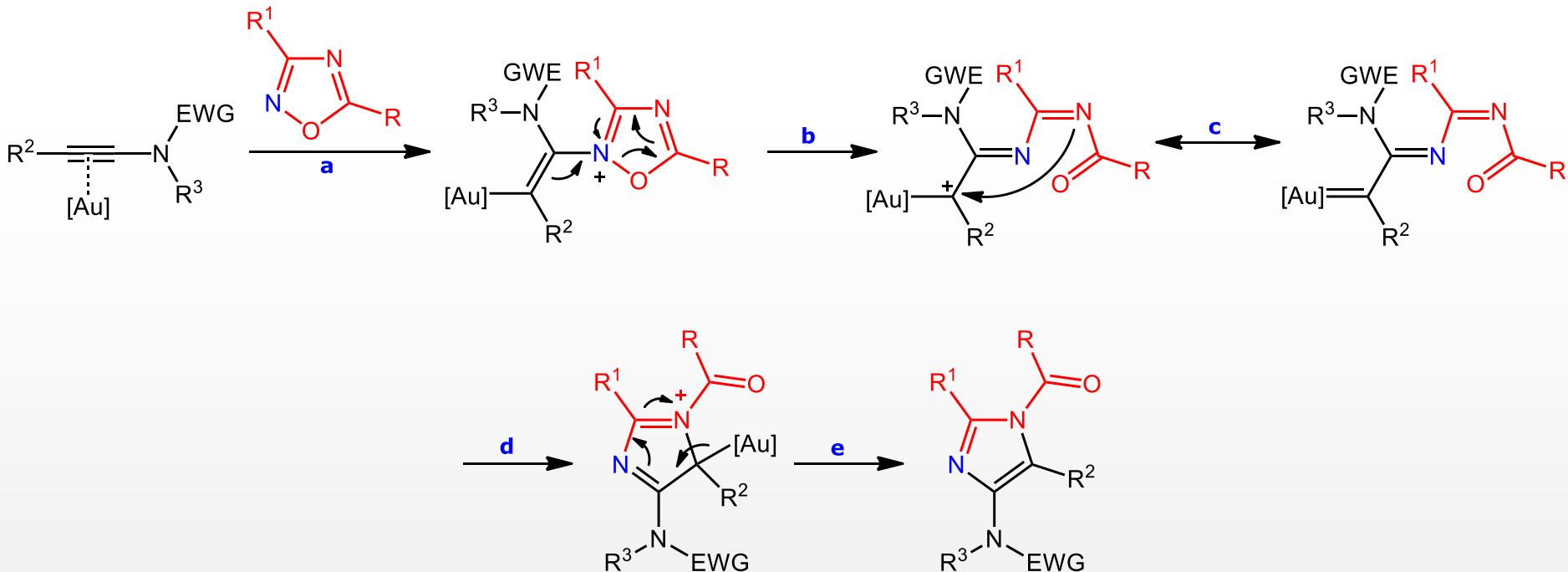
electrophilicity of the corresponding gold(I) complex with chloride as counterion



optimized reaction conditions

L. Zhu, Y. Yu, Z. Mao, X. Huang *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 30.

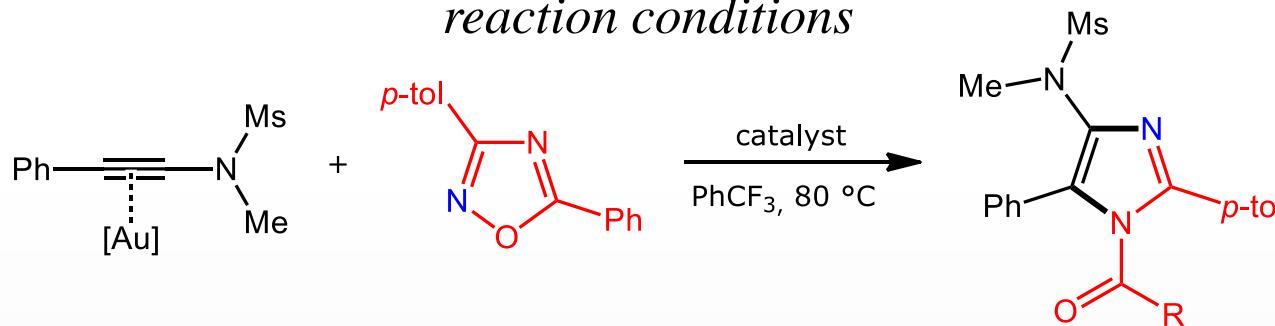
*4-aminoimidazoles in via formal [3 + 2] cycloaddition reaction mechanism*



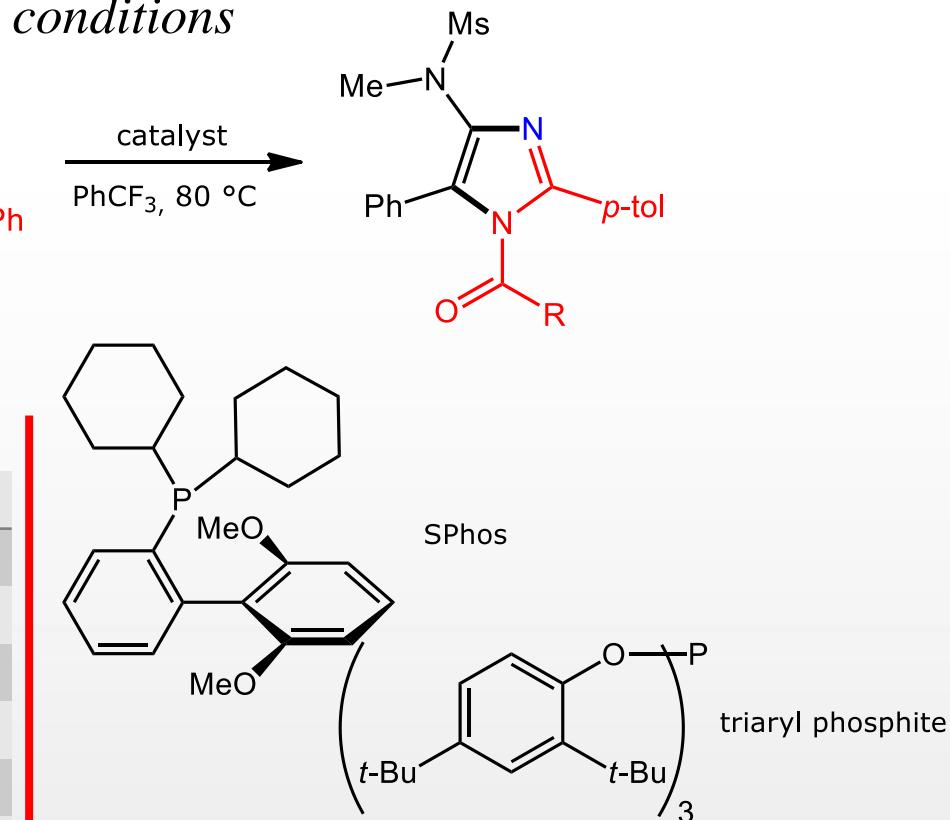
- a) regioselective addition to gold-activated ynamide,
- b) ring opening of the oxadiazole, formation of a cationic intermediate,
- c) stabilization by electron donation from gold(I),
- d) imine-type cyclization,
- e) regeneration of the catalyst.

Z. Zeng, H. Jin, J. Xie, B. Tian, M. Rudolph, F. Rominger, A. S. K. Hashmi *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 1020.

*4-aminoimidazoles in via formal [3 + 2] cycloaddition reaction conditions*



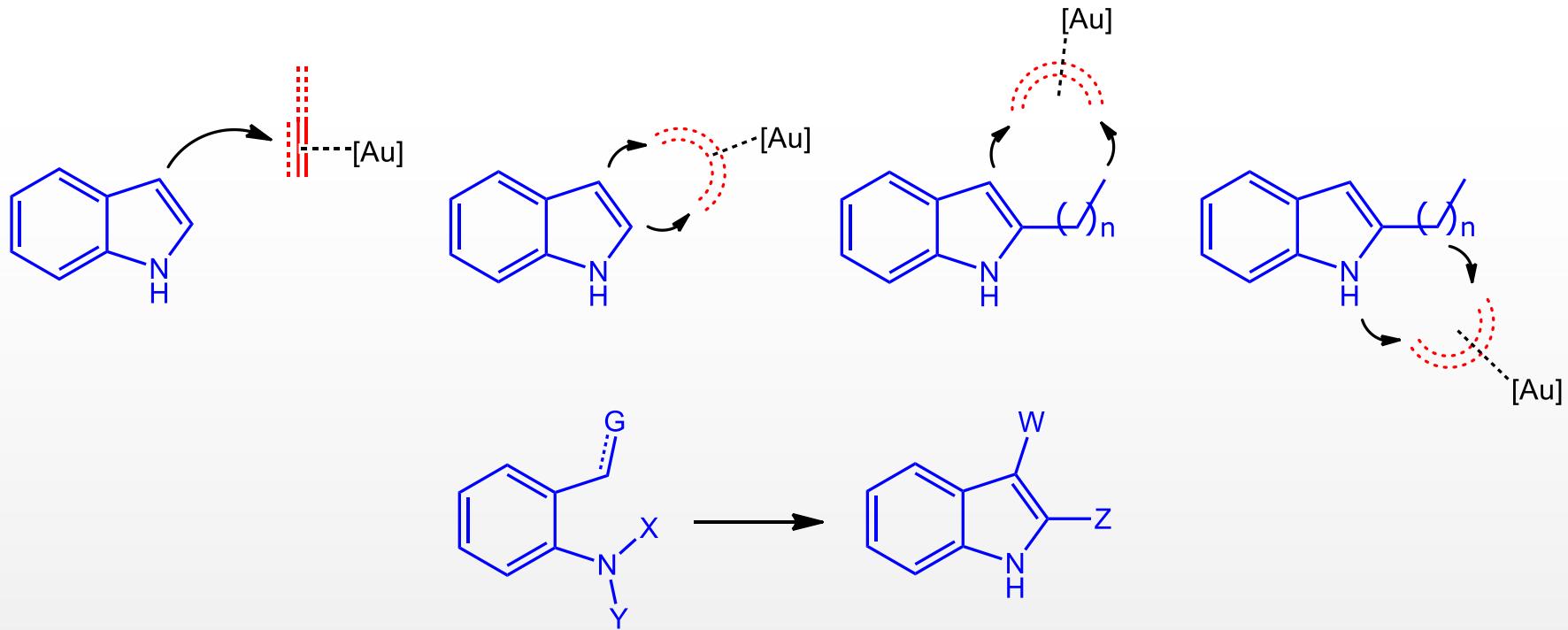
catalyst (mol%)	imidazole (%)
IPrAuCl/AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	95
IPrAuCl/AgOTf (5)	67
PPh <sub>3</sub> AuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	52
SPhosAuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	48
KAuBr <sub>4</sub>	39
(2,4- <i>t</i> Bu <sub>2</sub> PhO) <sub>3</sub> PAuCl/AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	30



*electrophilicity of the corresponding gold(I) complex with chloride as counterion*

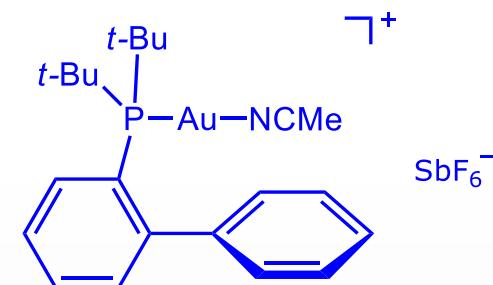
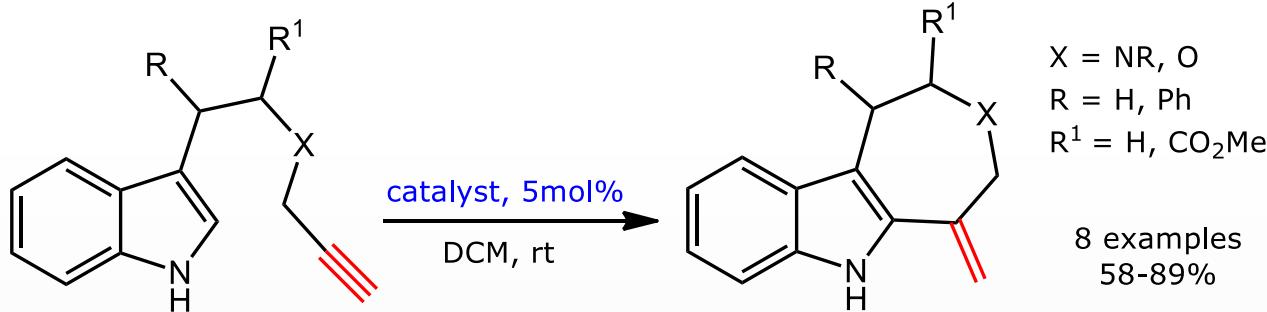
Z. Zeng, H. Jin, J. Xie, B. Tian, M. Rudolph, F. Rominger, A. S. K. Hashmi *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 1020.

*indoles as nucleophilic partners in reactions with activated  $\pi$ -systems*



*alkynes and allenes in functionalization, cyclization and cycloaddition reactions*

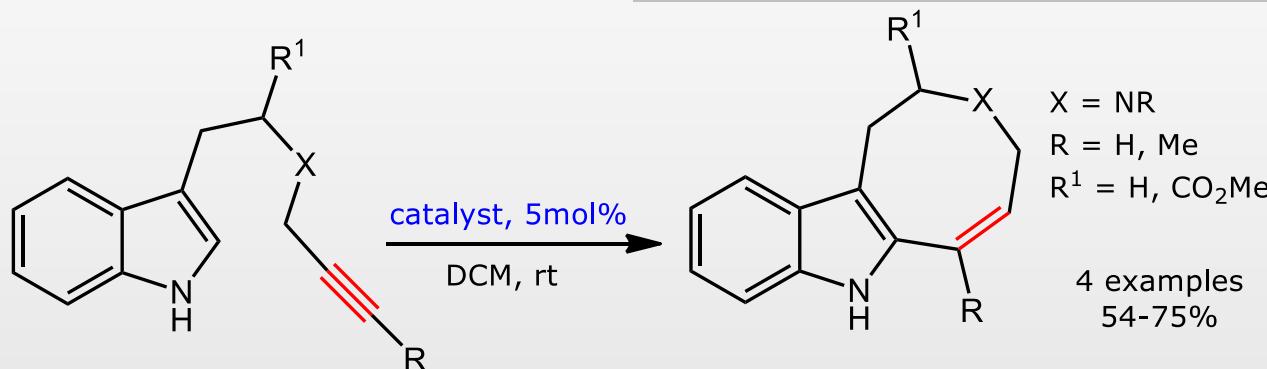
*intramolecular hydroarylations of alkyne tethered indoles*



same substrate  
different catalyst!

*formal 7-exo-dig cyclization*

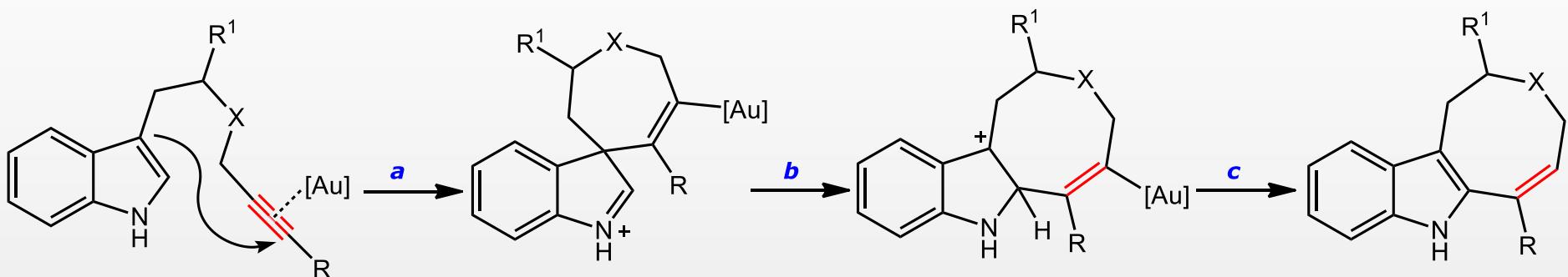
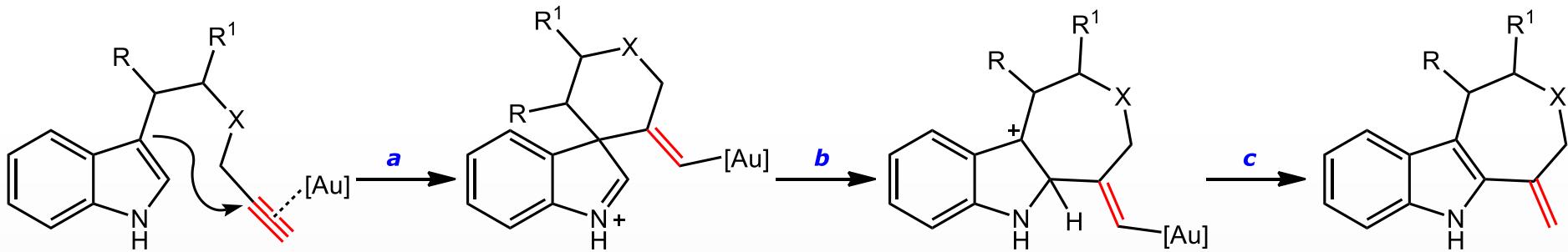
*formal 8-endo-dig cyclization*



C. Ferrer, A. M. Echavarren *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 1105.

C. Ferrer, C. H. M. Amijs, A. M. Echavarren *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 1358.

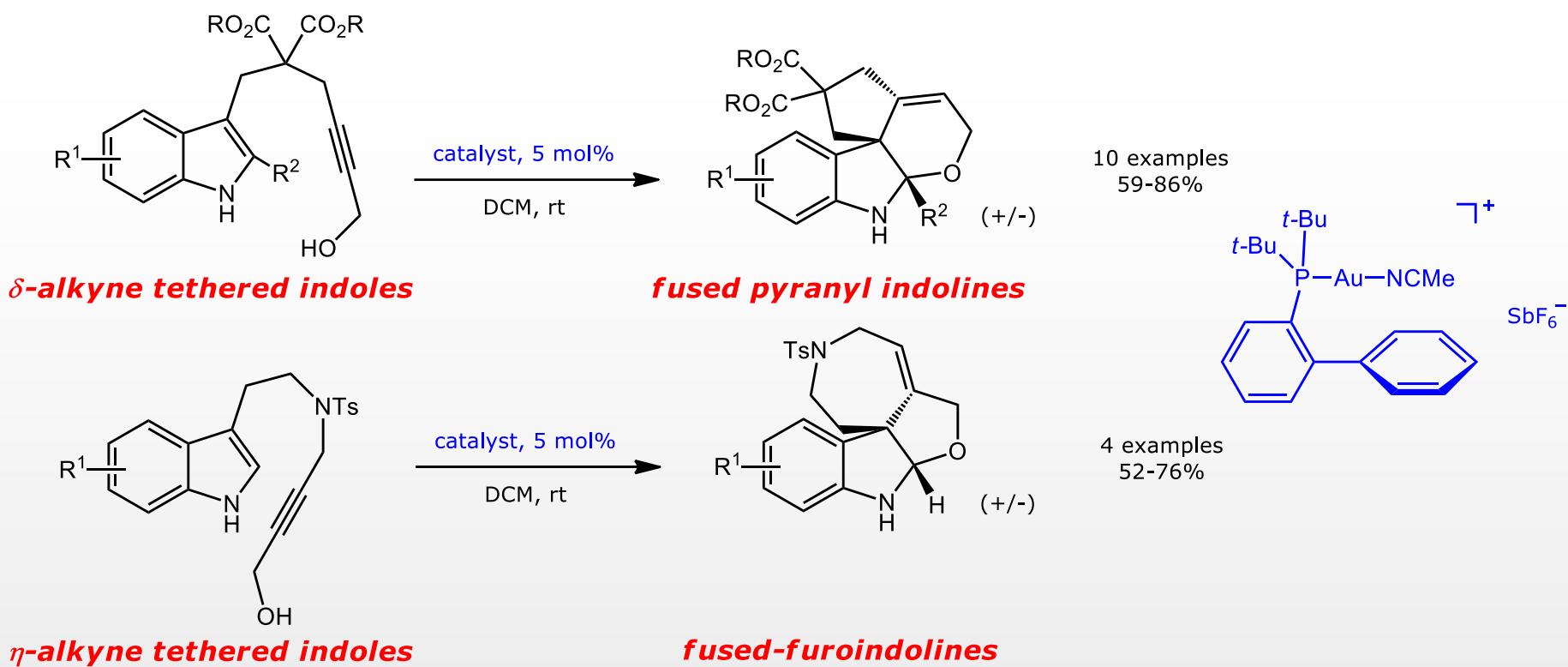
*intramolecular hydroarylations of alkyne tethered indoles*



- a) intramolecular hydroarylation
- b) 1,2 migration
- c) aromatization, protodeauration

C. Ferrer, A. M. Echavarren *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 1105.  
 C. Ferrer, C. H. M. Amijs, A. M. Echavarren *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 1358.

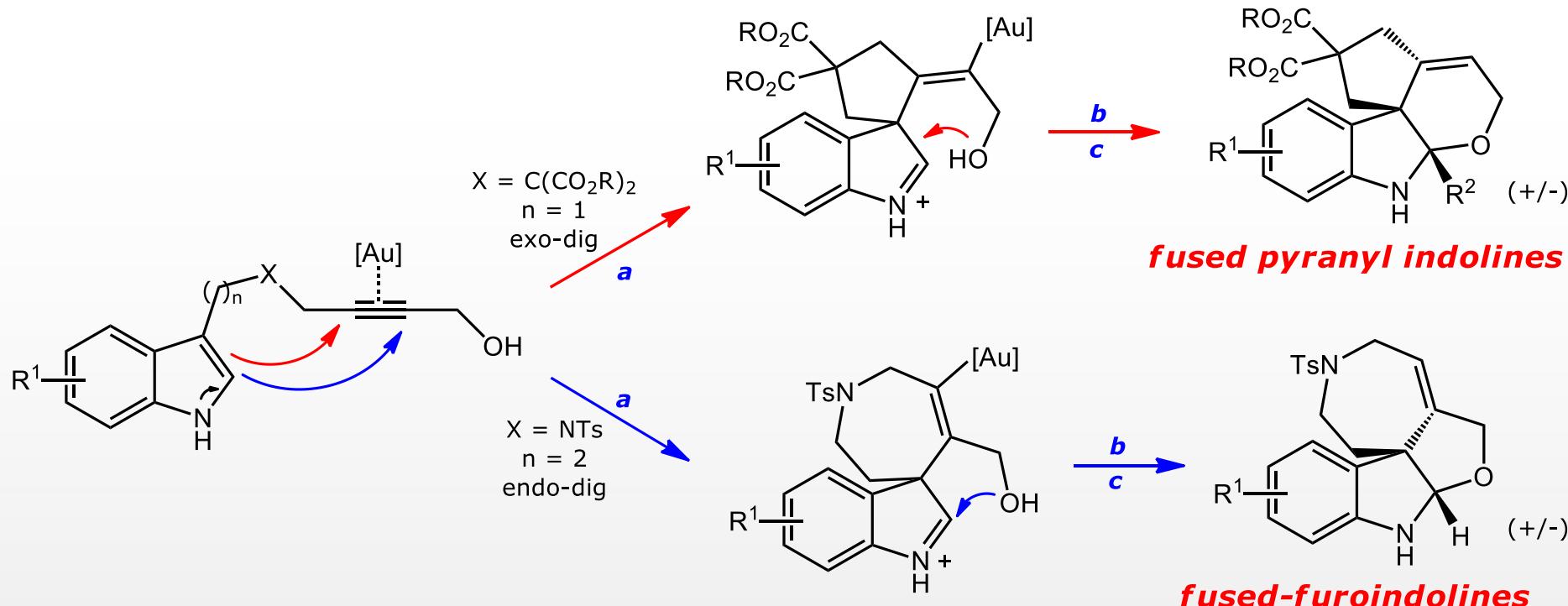
*Cascade reactions of  $\delta$ - and  $\eta$ -alkyne tethered indoles*



G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Monari, M. Bandini *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, 47, 7803.

G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Chiarucci, A. Mazzani, M. Mancinelli, M. Bandini *Org. Lett.* **2012**, 14, 1350.

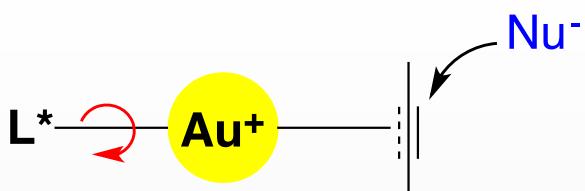
*Cascade reactions of alkyne tethered indoles  
reaction mechanism*



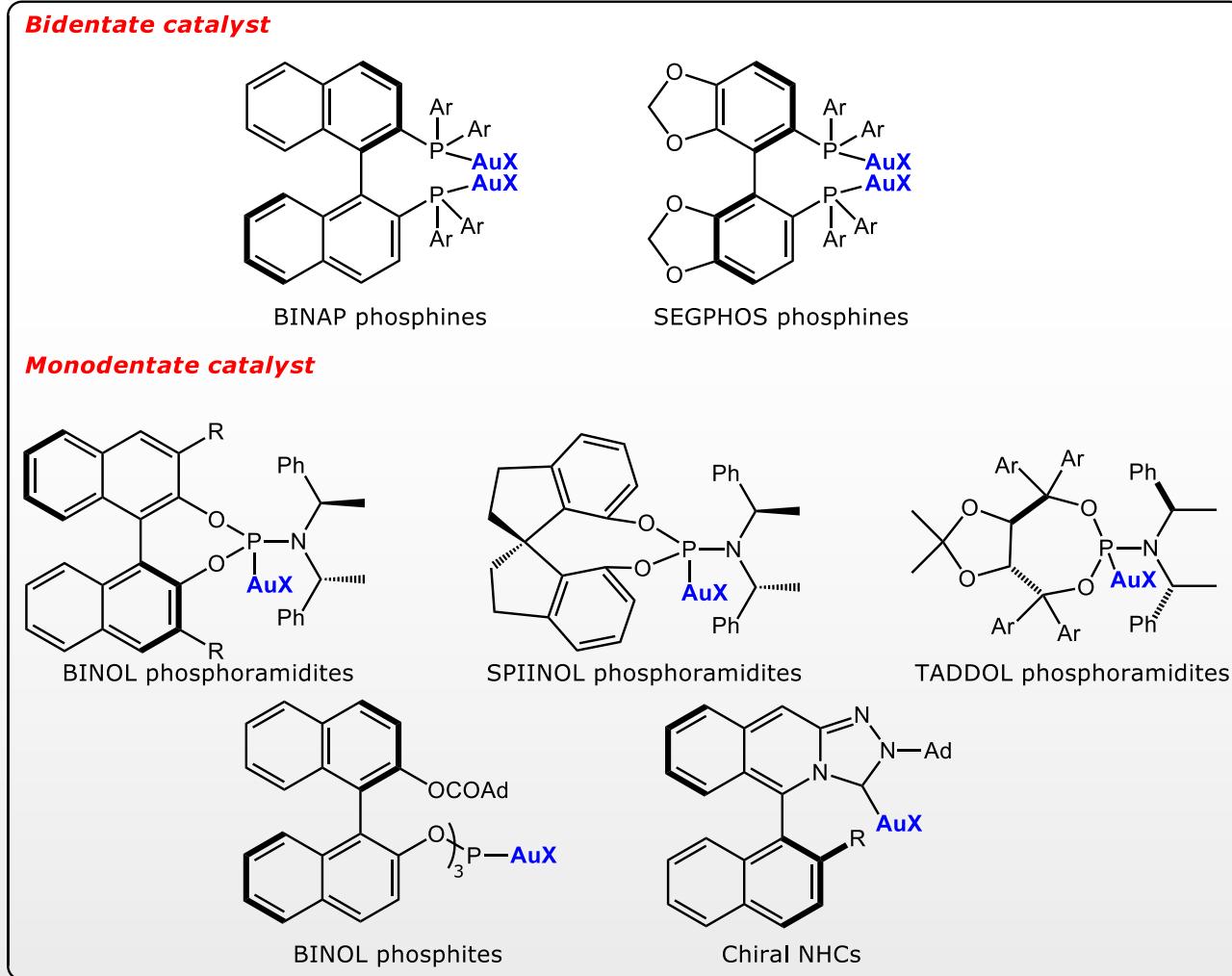
- a) Intramolecular hydroarylation
- b) trapping of the iminium group by the hydroxyl group
- c) protodeauration

G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Monari, M. Bandini *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, 47, 7803.

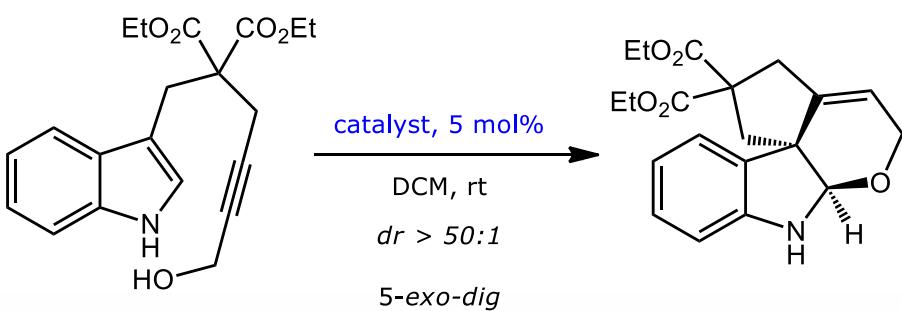
G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Chiarucci, A. Mazzani, M. Mancinelli, M. Bandini *Org. Lett.* **2012**, 14, 1350.



linear two-coordination mode  
out-of-sphere  $\pi$ -activation

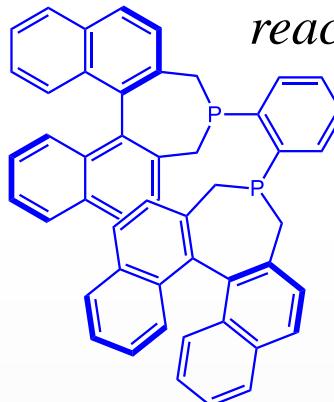


# Gold catalysis and indole chemistry

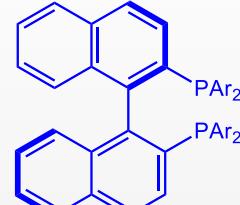


Catalyst (5 mol%)	AgX	Yield (%)	ee (%)
(R,R)-L1	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	21	46 (+)
(S)-L2	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	26	20 (-)
(R)-L3	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	65	56 (-)
(S)-L4	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	36	14 (-)
(R)-L5	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	61	0
(S)-L6	AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	65	17 (-)
(R)-L3	AgOTf	59	72 (-)
(R)-L3	AgNTf <sub>2</sub>	80	27 (-)
(R)-L3	AgBF <sub>4</sub>	60	74 (-)
(R)-L3	AgPF <sub>6</sub>	70	70 (-)
<b>(R)-L3</b> <b>0°C + 4A MS</b>	<b>AgBF<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>89</b>	<b>86 (-)</b>

## enantioselective cascade reaction reaction conditions



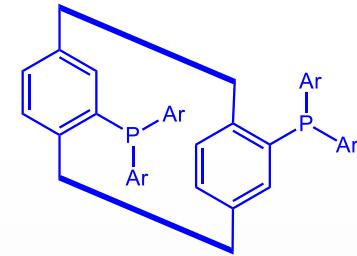
(R,R)-L1: binaphane



(R)-L3: Ar = 3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ph



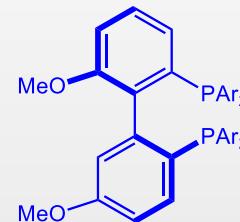
(R)-L5: Ar = 3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ph



(S)-L2: Ar = 3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>-Ph



(S)-L4: Ar = 3,5-(tBu)<sub>2</sub>-4-OMe-Ph



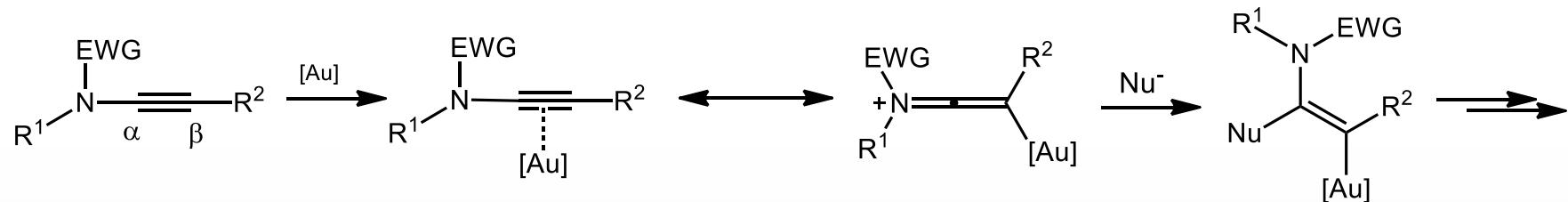
(S)-L6: Ar = 3,5-(tBu)<sub>2</sub>-4-OMe-Ph

9 examples  
50-89%, ee 75-87%

G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Monari, M. Bandini *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, 47, 7803.

G. Cera, P. Crispino, M. Chiarucci, A. Mazzani, M. Mancinelli, M. Bandini *Org. Lett.* **2012**, 14, 1350.

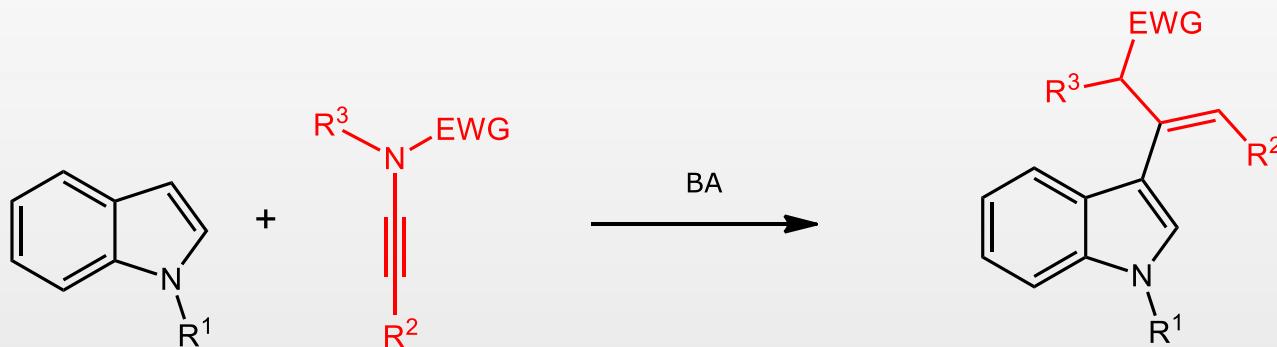
*ynamides and gold catalysis*



S. Nayak, B. Prabagar, A. K. Sahoo *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2016**, *14*, 803.

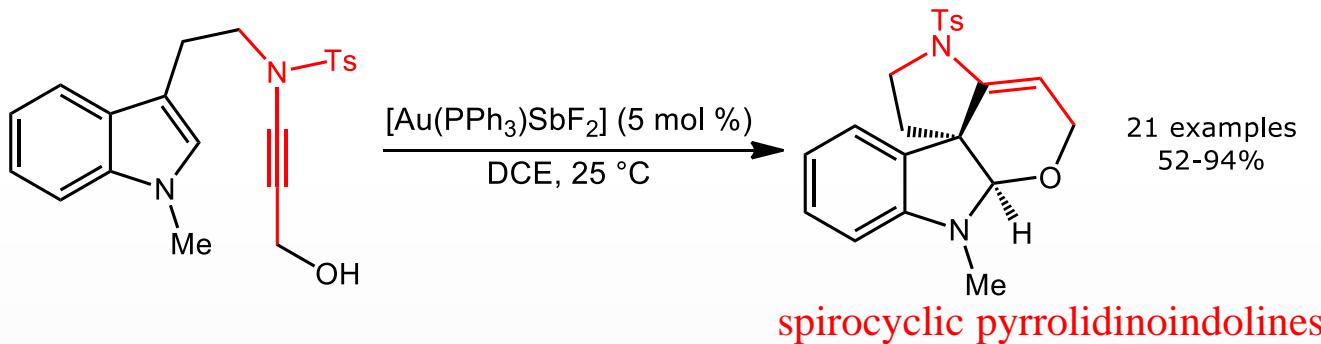
C. Theunissen, M. Lecomte *Aldrichimica Acta* **2015**, *48*, 59.

*reaction of indoles with ynamides under Broensted acid catalysis*

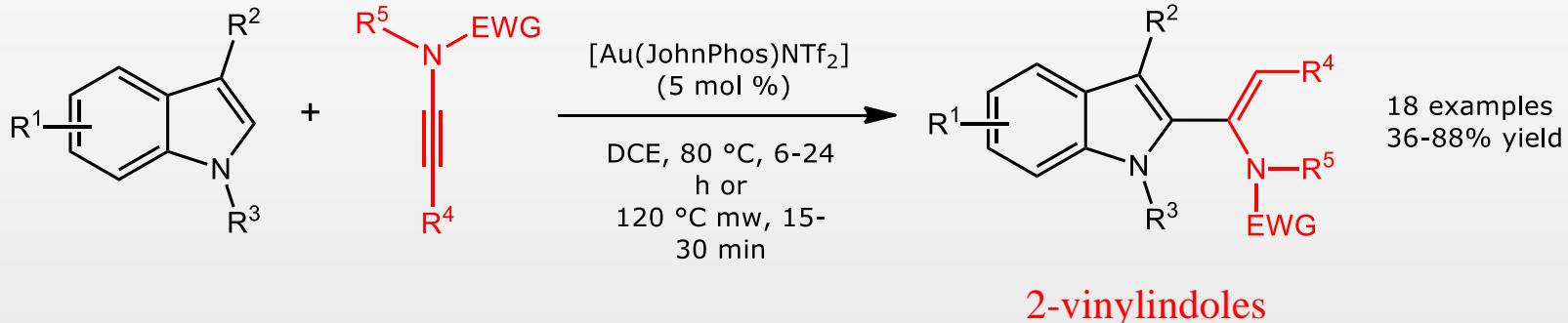


Y. Zhang *Tetrahedron* **2006**, *62*, 3917.

*intra- and intermolecular reactions of ynamides and indoles under gold catalysis*

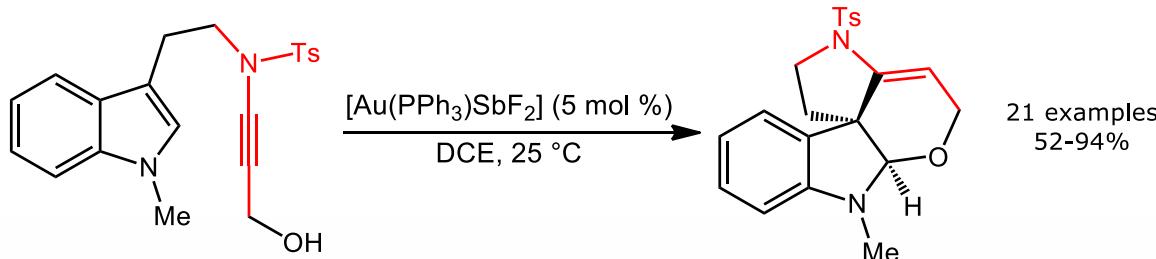


N. Zheng, Y.-Y. Chang, L.-J. Zhang, J.-X. Gong, Z. Yang *Chem. Asian J.* **2016**, *11*, 371.



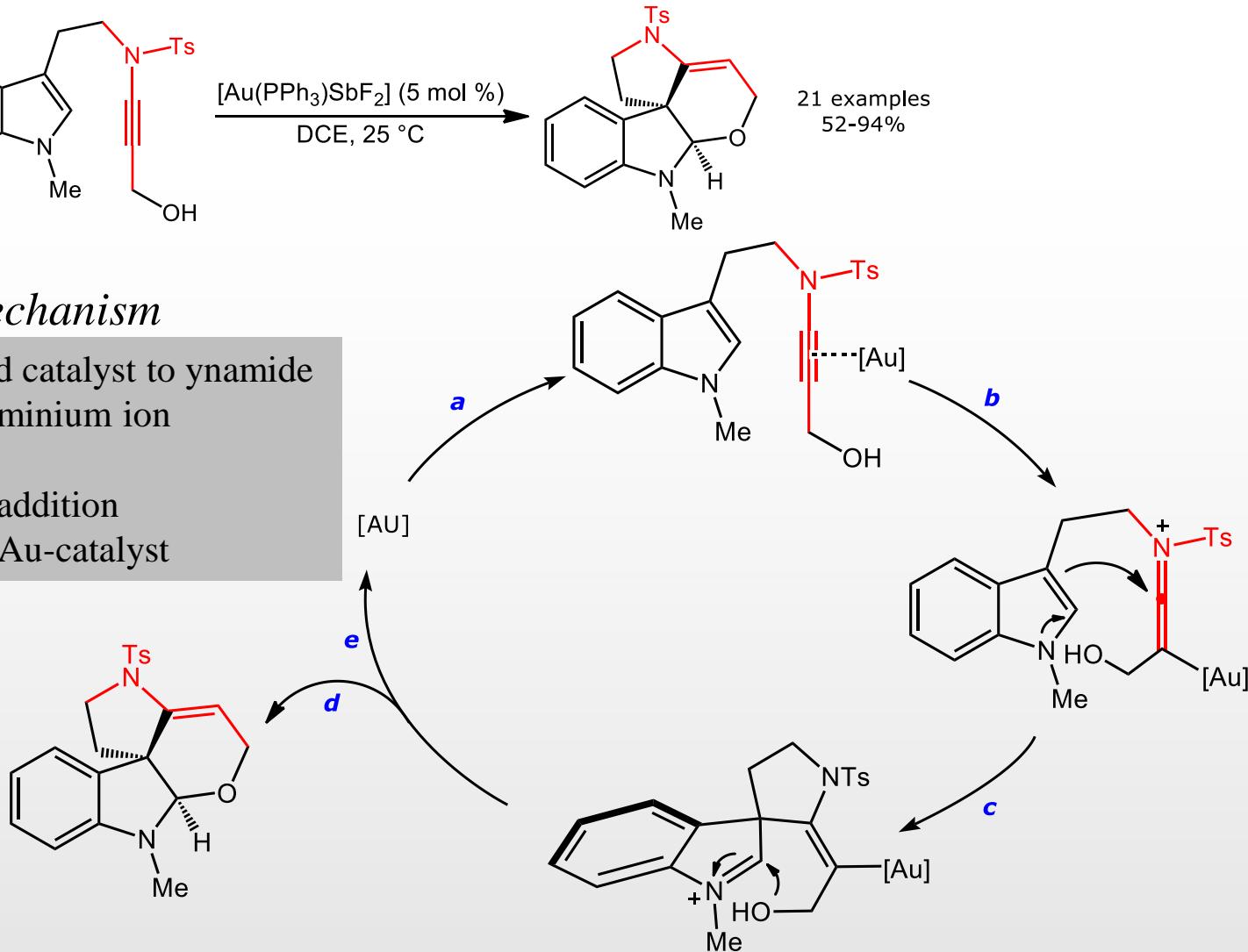
V. Pirovano, M. Negriato, G. Abbiati, M. Dell'Acqua, E. Rossi *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 4798.

*synthesis of spirocyclic pyrrolidinoindolines*



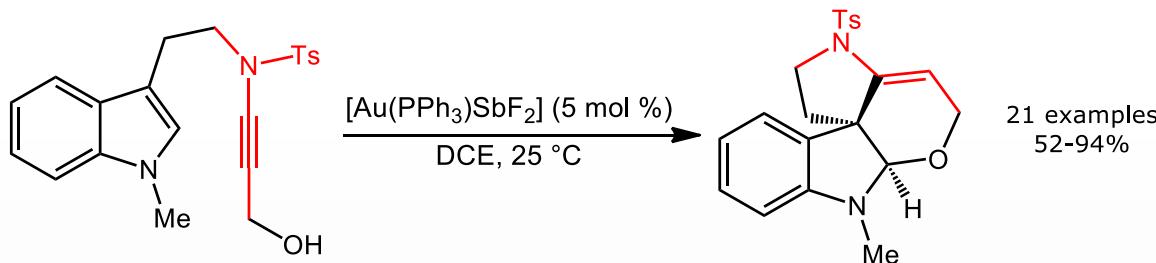
*reaction mechanism*

- a) coordination of gold catalyst to ynamide
- b) formation of keteniminium ion
- c) 5-endo cyclization
- d) 6-exo nucleophilic addition
- e) regeneration of the Au-catalyst



N. Zheng, Y.-Y. Chang, L.-J. Zhang, J.-X. Gong, Z. Yang *Chem. Asian J.* **2016**, *11*, 371.

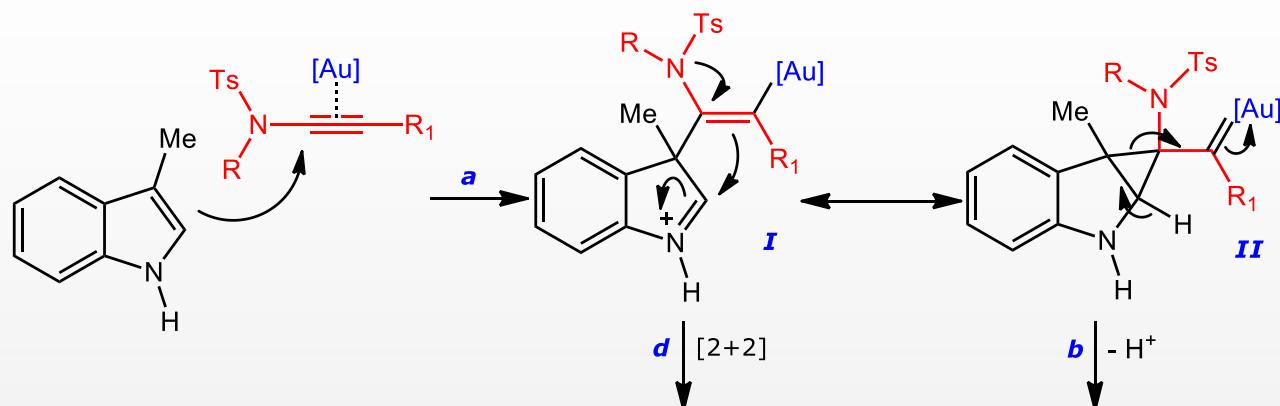
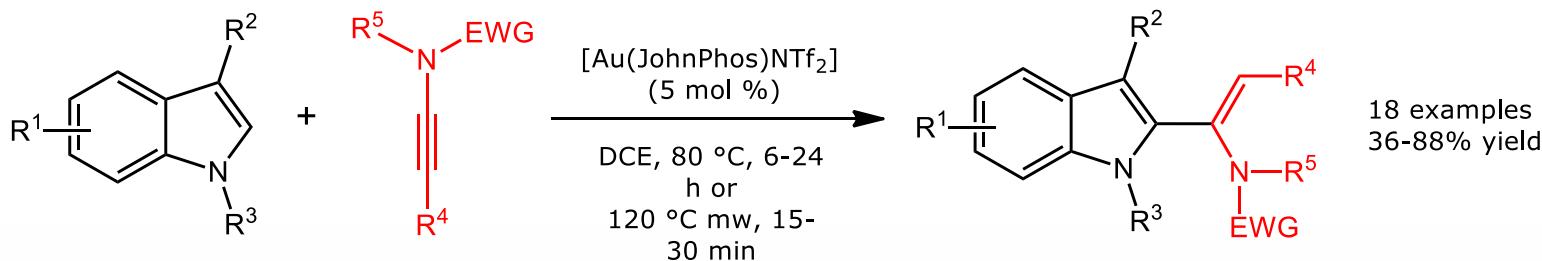
*synthesis of spirocyclic pyrrolidinoindolines  
reaction conditions*



<b>catalyst (mol%)</b>	<b>Yield (%)</b>
TsOH (5)	-
TfOH (5)	13
Tf <sub>2</sub> OH (5)	14
AgOTf (5)	-
AuCl <sub>3</sub> (5)	-
PtCl <sub>2</sub> (5)	-
iPrAuCl (5), AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	60
iPrAuCl (5), AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	76
PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl (5), AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	77
PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl (5), AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (5)	94

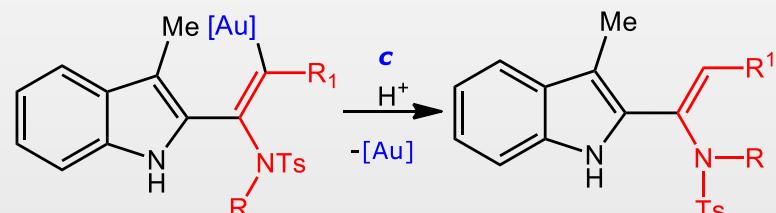
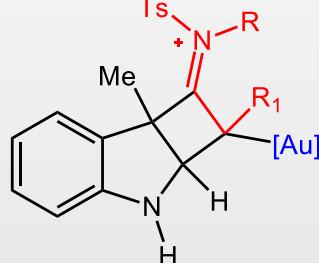
N. Zheng, Y.-Y. Chang, L.-J. Zhang, J.-X. Gong, Z. Yang *Chem. Asian J.* **2016**, *11*, 371.

*synthesis of 2-vinylindoles*



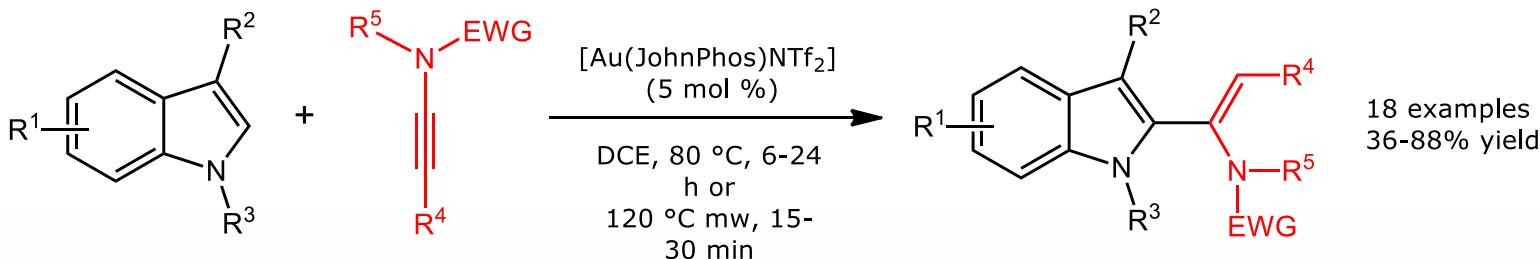
*reaction mechanism*

- a) formation of intermediates I and II
- b) loss of proton and ring opening
- c) protodeauration step
- d) formation of [2+2] cycloadduct

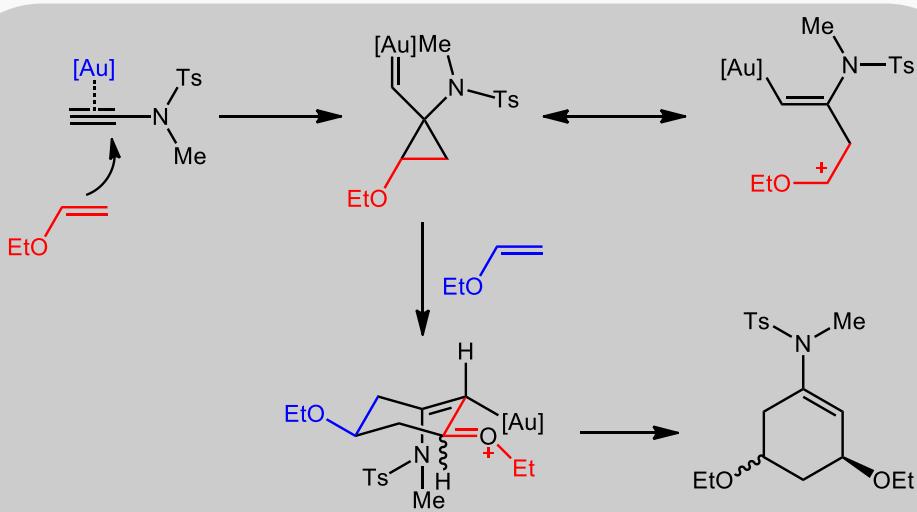


V. Pirovano, M. Negrato, G. Abbiati, M. Dell'Acqua, E. Rossi *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 4798.

*synthesis of 2-vinylindoles*



*reaction mechanism*



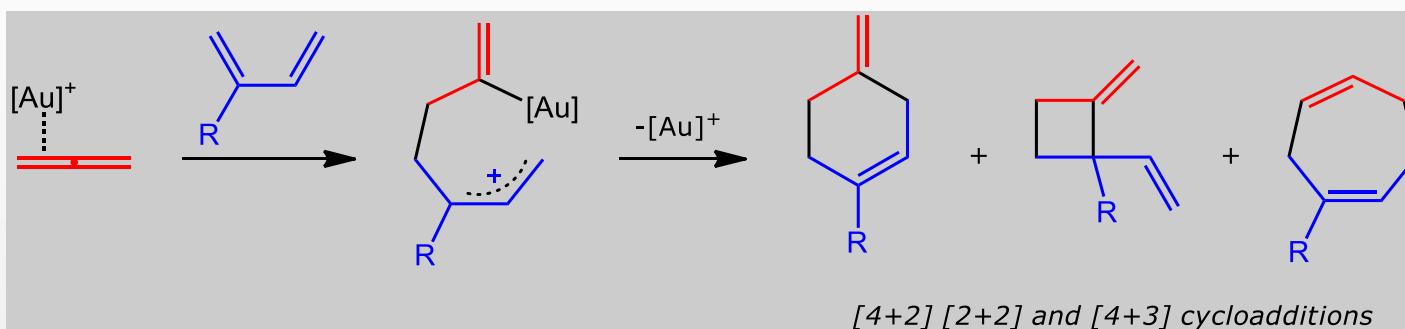
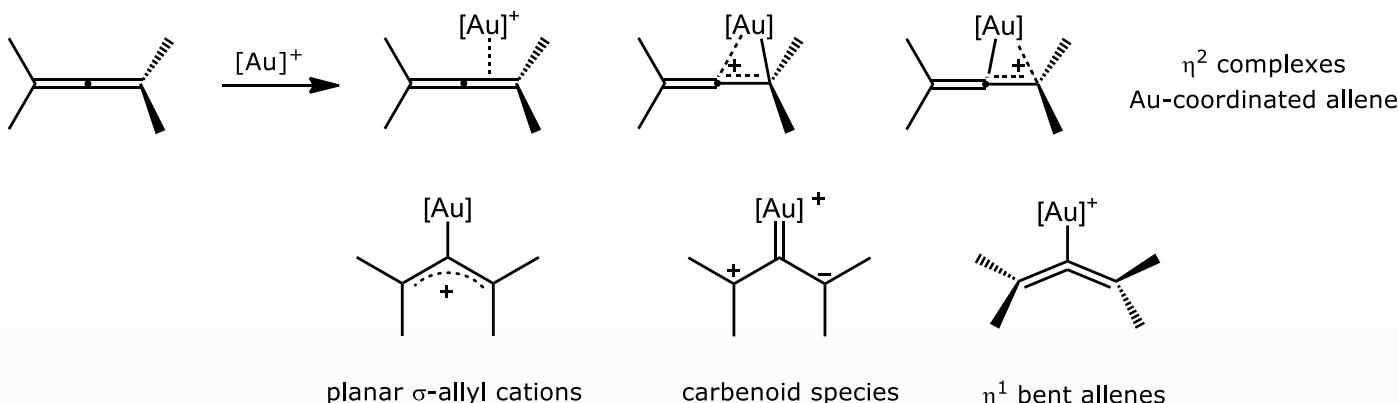
*reaction conditions*

catalyst (mol%)	Yield (%)
HNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	59
AgNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	15
AuCl <sub>3</sub>	5
PtCl <sub>2</sub>	-
iPrAuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	57
PPh <sub>3</sub> AuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	58
JohnPhosAuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5), 80°C	65
JohnPhosAuNTf <sub>2</sub> (5), mw, 120°C	70

R. B. Dateer, B. S. Shaibu, R.-S. Liu *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 113.

V. Pirovano, M. Negrato, G. Abbiati, M. Dell'Acqua, E. Rossi *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 4798.

*Allenes and gold catalysis*



F. López, J. L. Mascareñas *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *9*, 2250

S. Montserrat, G. Ujaque, F. López, J. L. Mascareñas, A. Lledós *Top. Curr. Chem.* **2011**, *302*, 225

*Intramolecular processes*

P. Mauleón, R. M. Zeldin, A. Z. González, F. D. Toste *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2009**, *131*, 6348

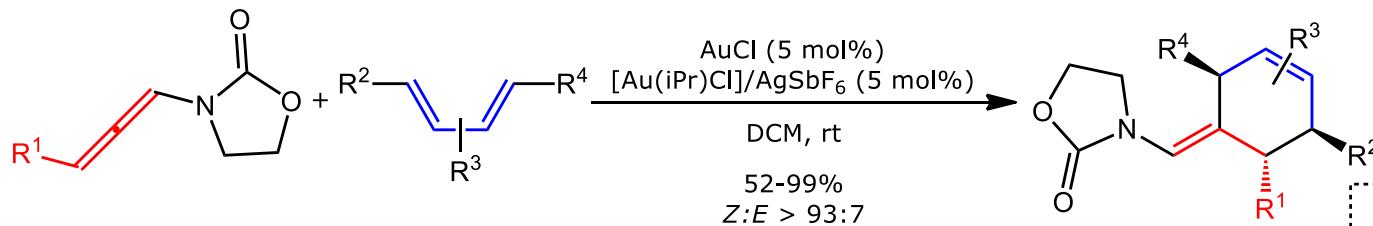
B. Trillo, F. López, S. Montserrat, G. Ujaque, L. Castedo, A. Lledós, J. L. Mascareñas *Chem.–Eur. J.*, **2009**, *15*, 3336

B. Trillo, F. López, M. Gulías, L. Castedo, J. L. Mascareñas *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, **2008**, *47*, 951

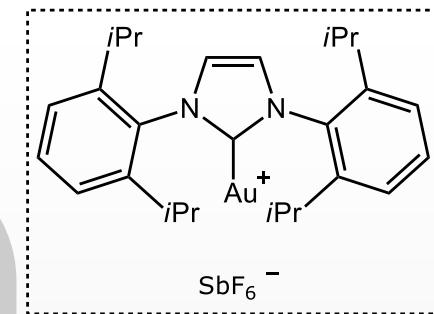
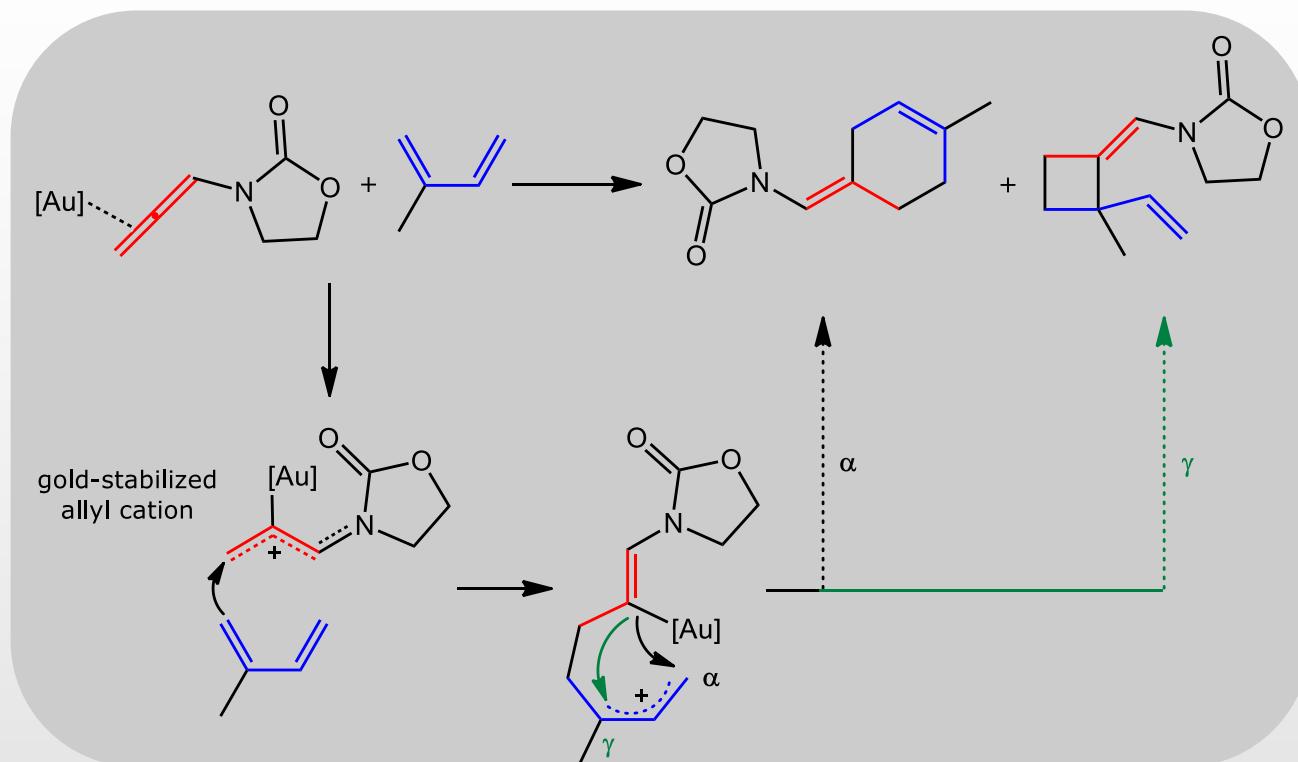
H. Teller, S. Flügge, R. Goddard, A. Fürstner *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, **2010**, *49*, 1949

I. Alonso, B. Trillo, F. López, S. Montserrat, G. Ujaque, L. Castedo, A. Lledós, J. L. Mascareñas *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2009**, *131*, 13020

*intermolecular [4+2] cycloaddition reactions involving allenes*

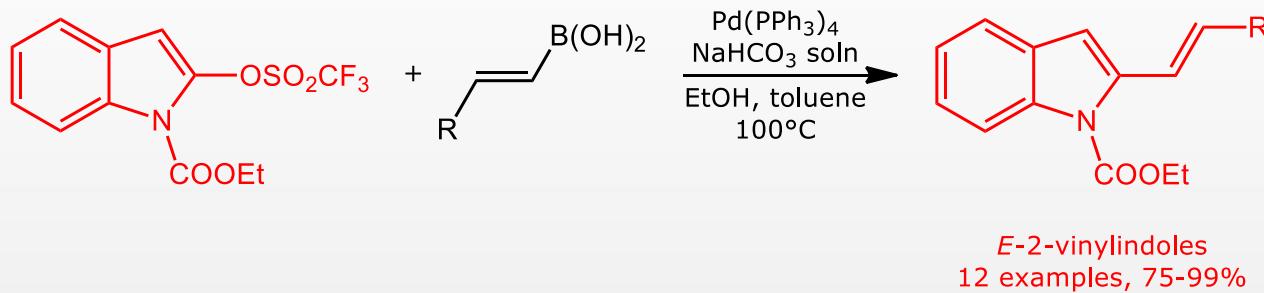
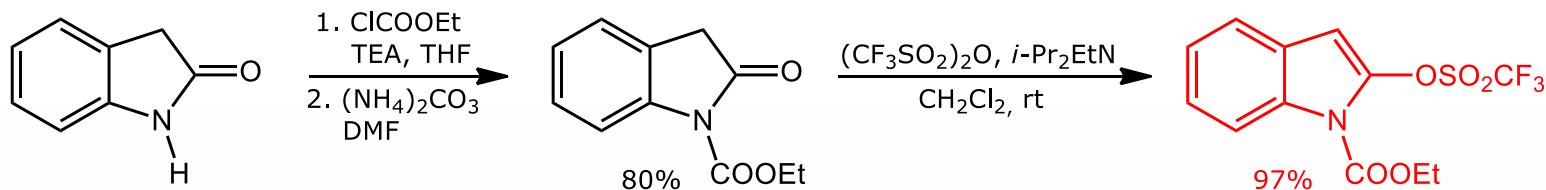


*reaction mechanism*



H. Faustino, F. López, L. Castedo, J. L. Mascareñas *Chem. Sci.* **2011**, 2, 633

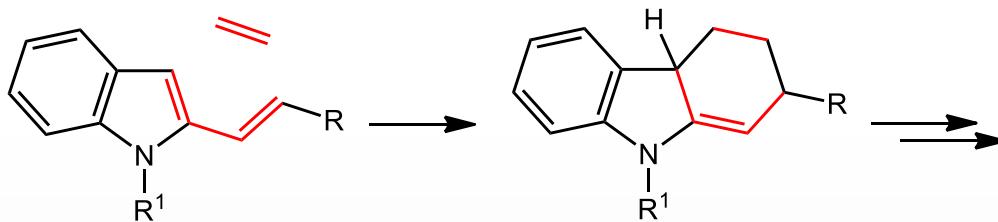
*stereospecific synthesis of 2-vinylindoles*



*Suzuki-Miyaura coupling, high yield, stereospecific reaction*

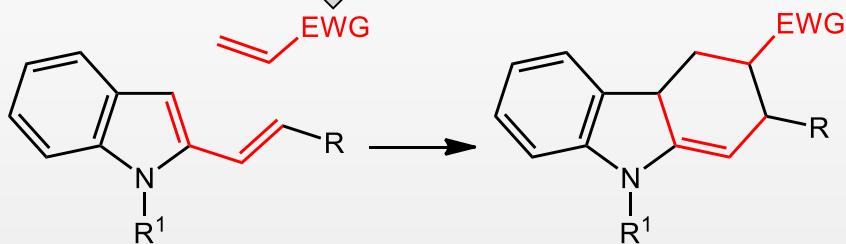
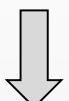
E. Rossi, G. Abbiati, V. Canevari, G. Celentano, E. Magri *Synthesis*, **2006**, 299  
 V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, 49, 3594

## *2-vinylindoles as 4 $\pi$ -component in cycloaddition reactions*

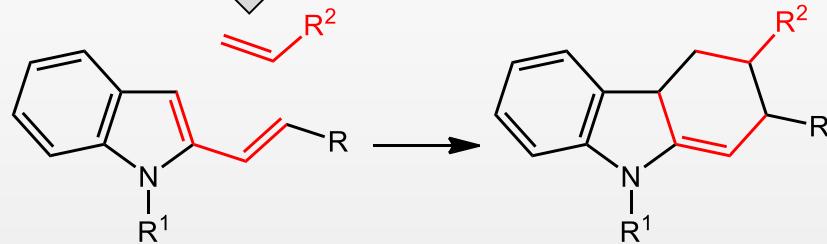
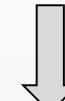


- ✓ Diels-Alder cycloaddition
- ✓ [4+2] cycloaddition
- ✓ [4+2] cyclization

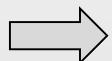
$\sigma$ -activation by *Lewis acids*



$\pi$ -activation by *transition metals*

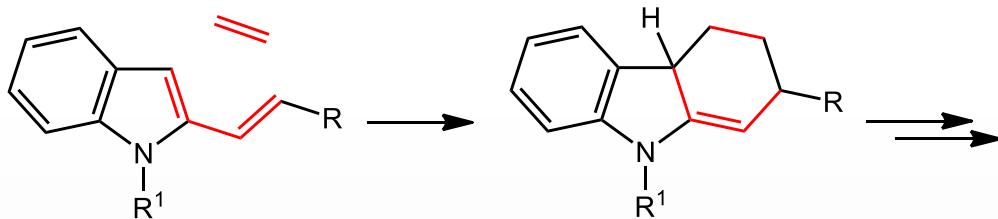


- ✓ Substrates
- ✓ Catalysts
- ✓ Reaction conditions

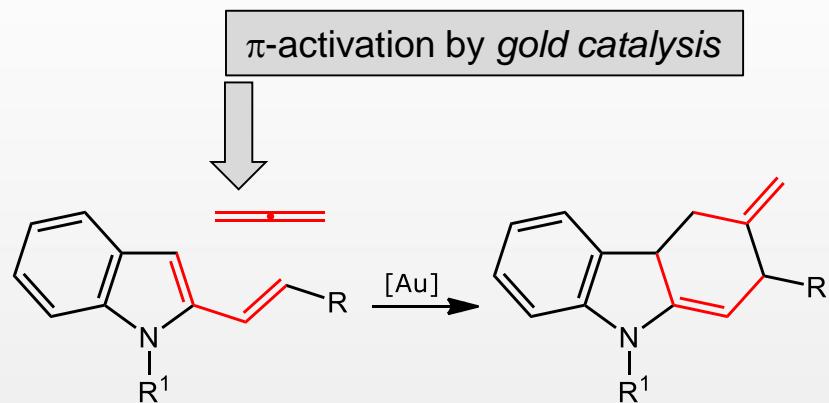
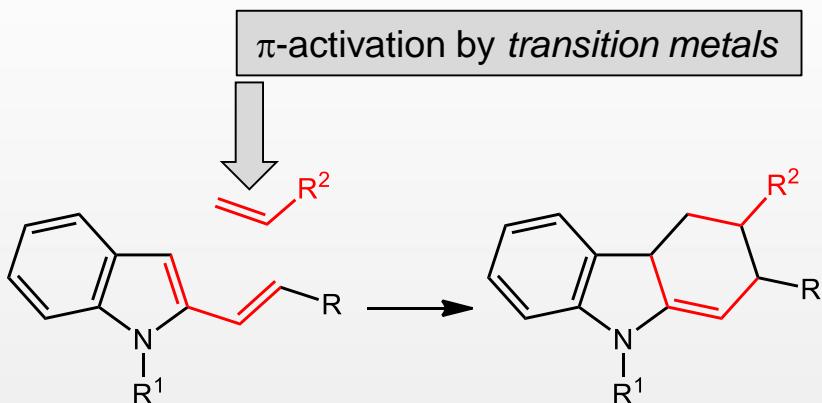


*Selectivity*

*2-vinylindoles as 4 $\pi$ -component in cycloaddition reactions*

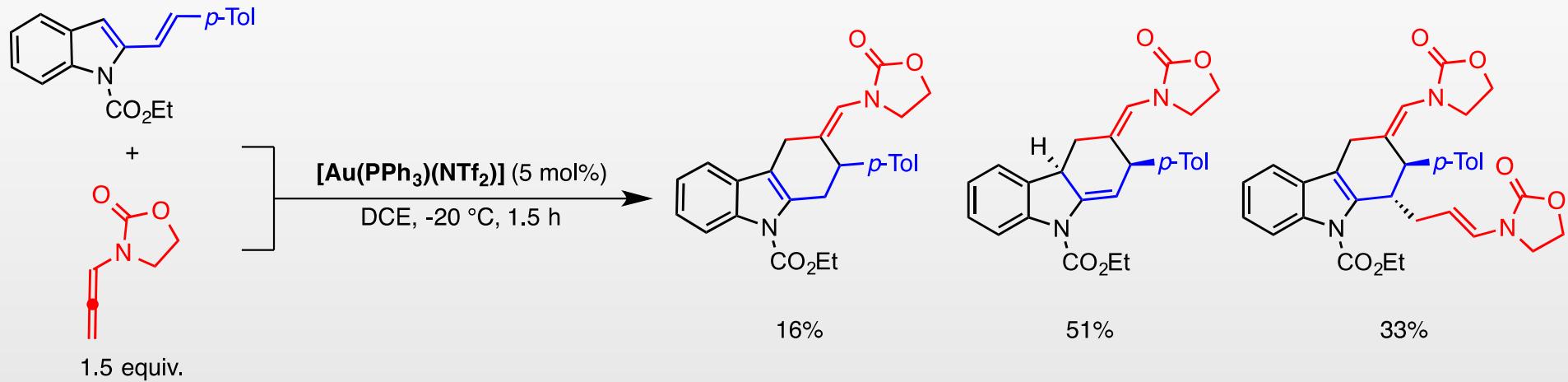
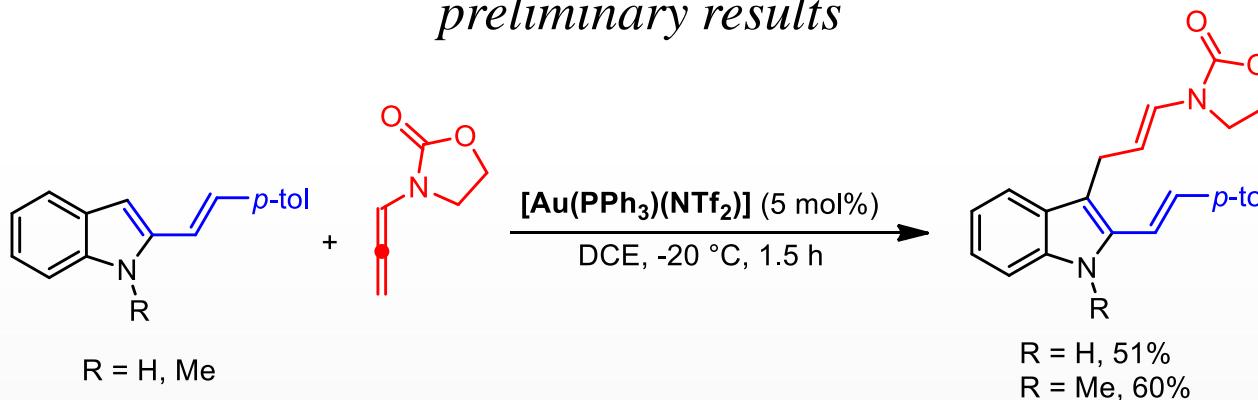


- ✓ Diels-Alder cycloaddition
- ✓ [4+2] cycloaddition
- ✓ [4+2] cyclization



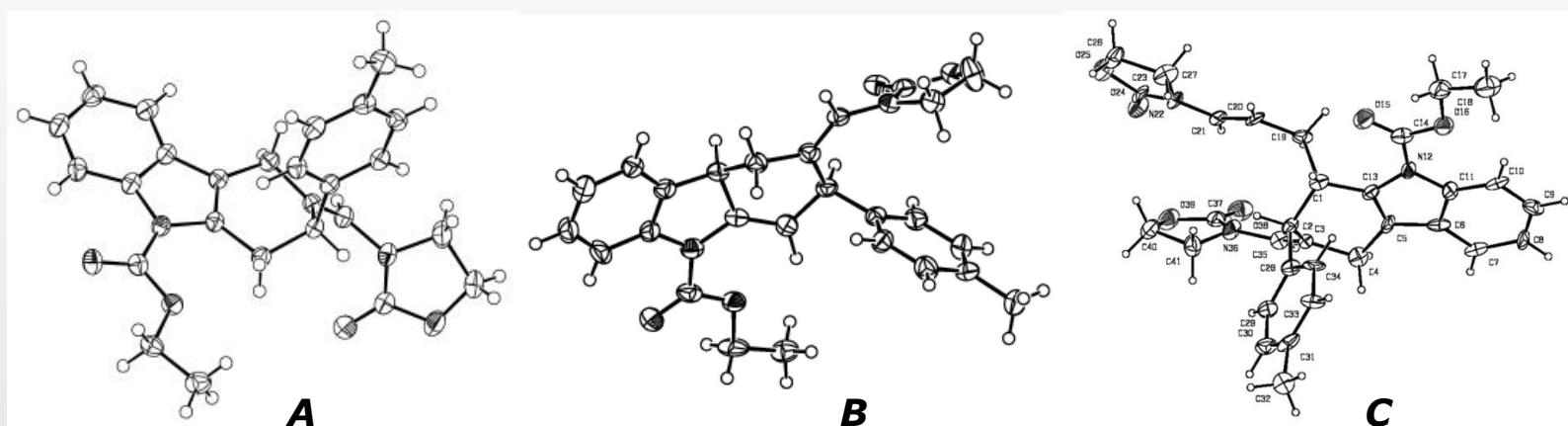
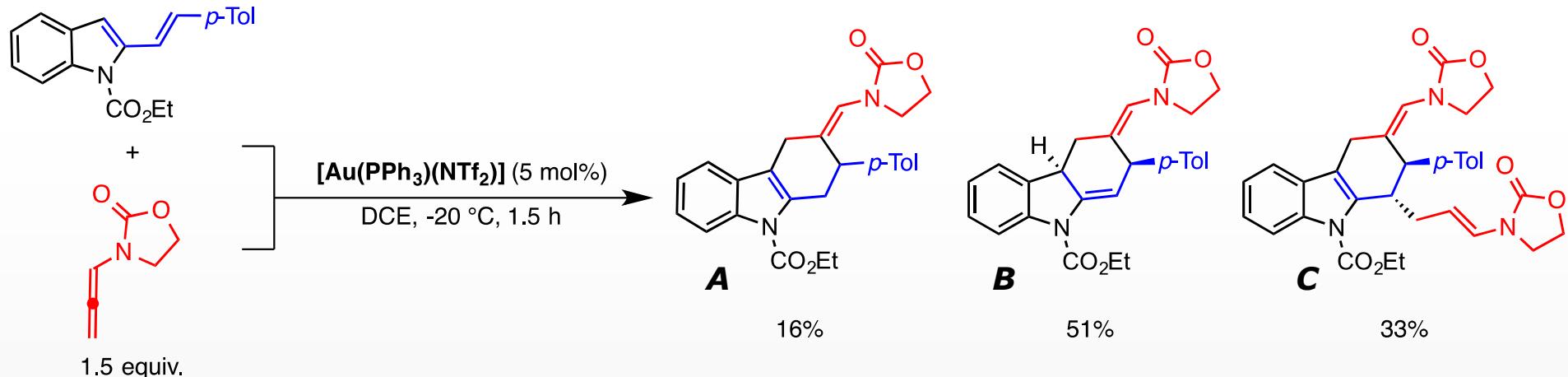
- ✓ Substrates
  - ✓ Catalysts
  - ✓ Reaction conditions
- *Selectivity*

*2-vinylindoles and allenamides  
preliminary results*



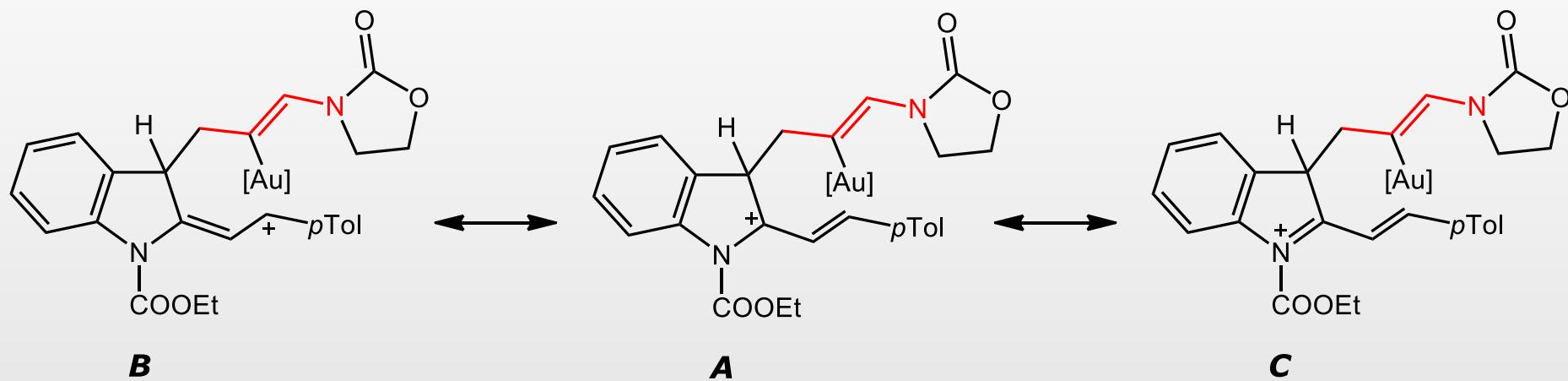
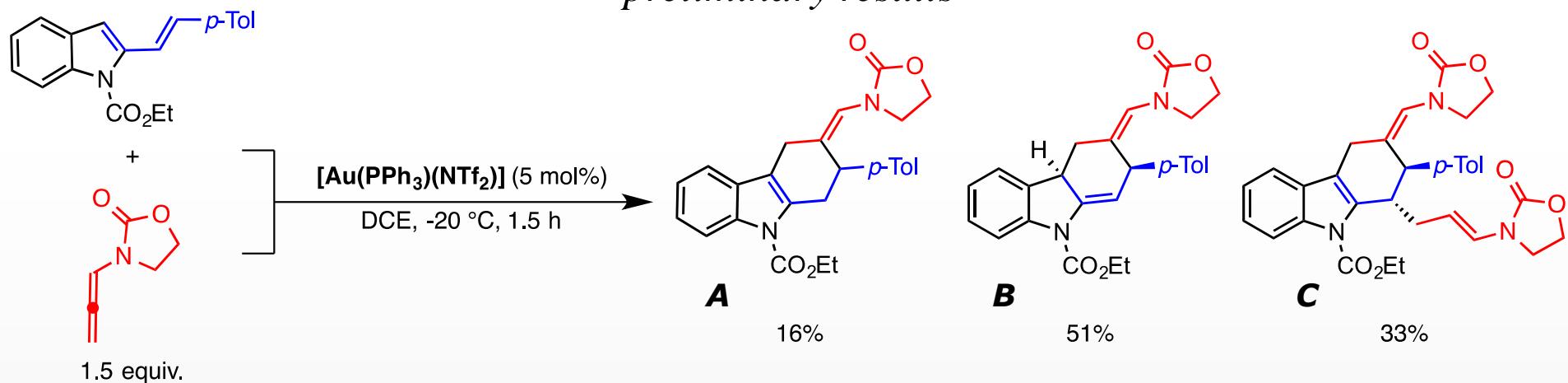
V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 3594

*2-vinylindoles and allenamides*



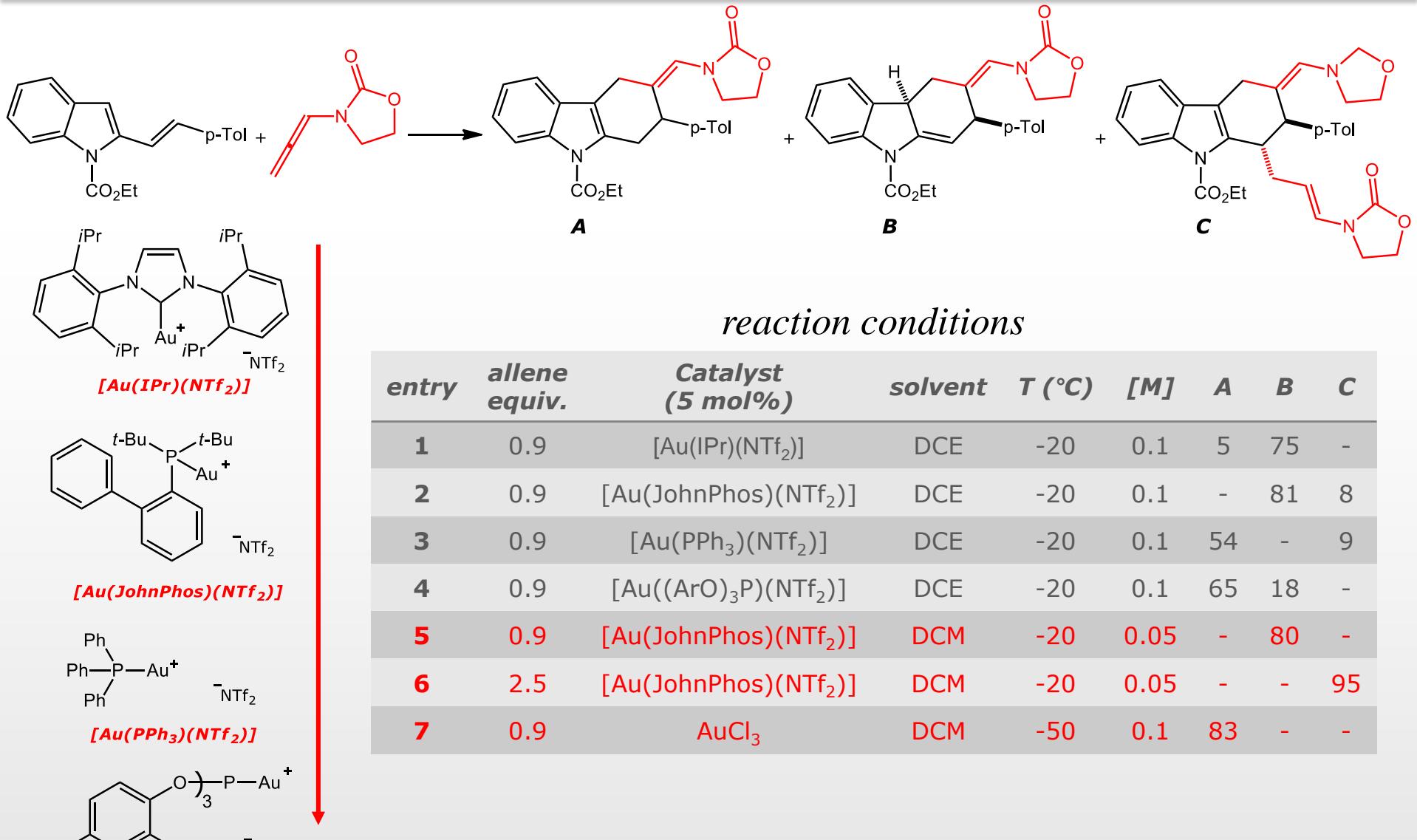
V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 3594

*2-vinylindoles and allenamides  
preliminary results*



V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 3594

# Gold catalysis and indole chemistry

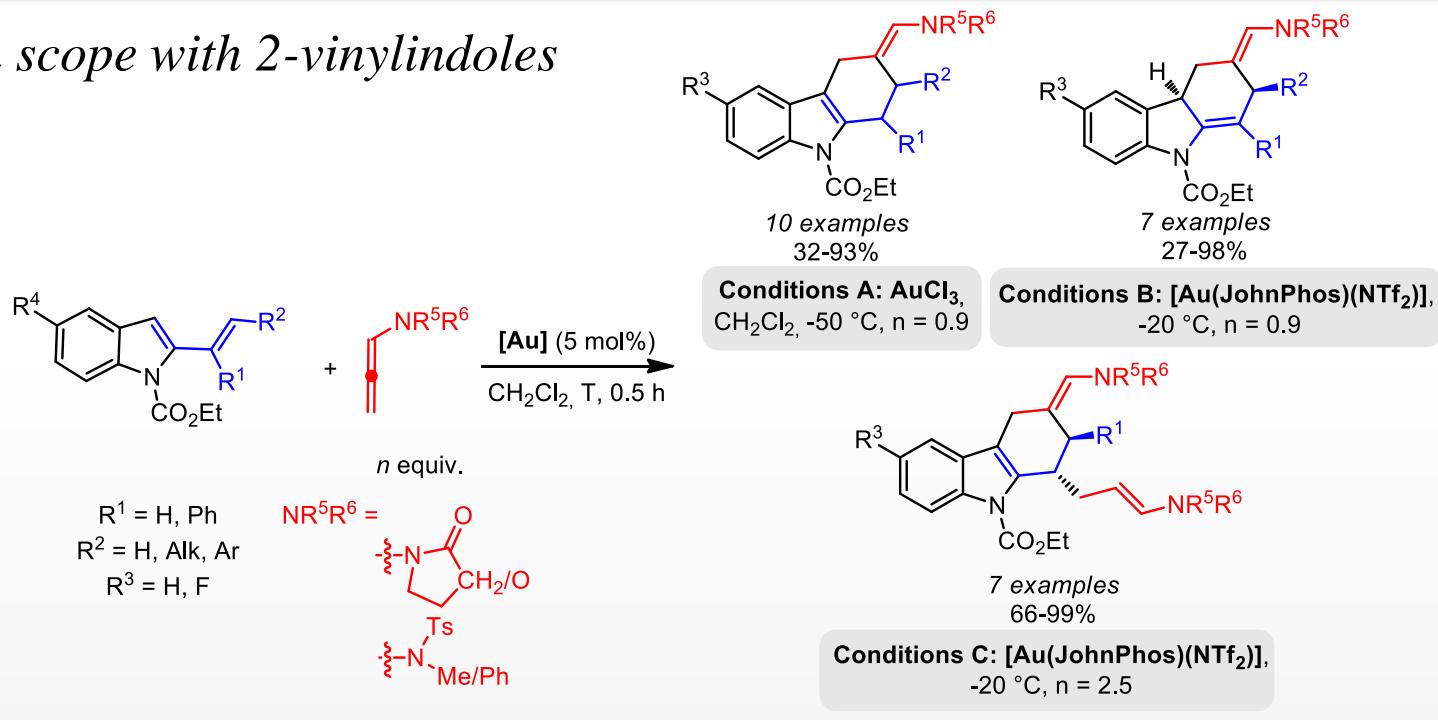


[Au((ArO)<sub>3</sub>P)(NTf<sub>2</sub>)]

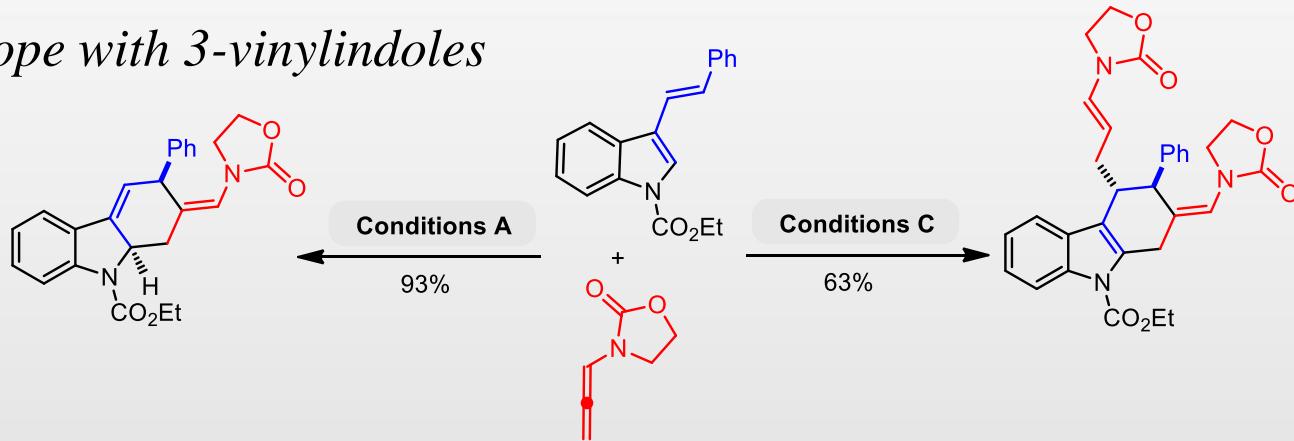
V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* 2013, 49, 3594

# Gold catalysis and indole chemistry

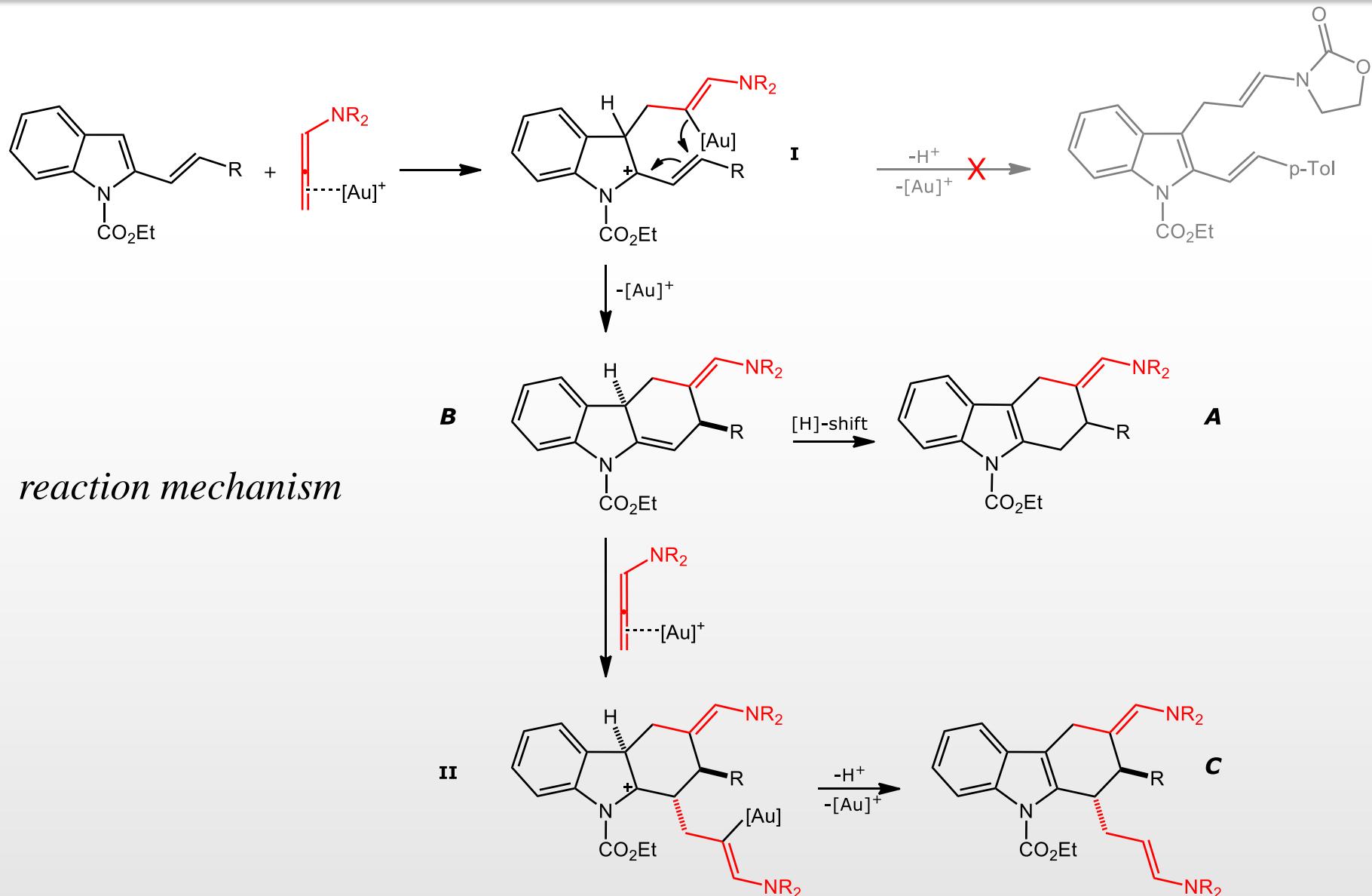
## reaction scope with 2-vinylindoles



## reaction scope with 3-vinylindoles



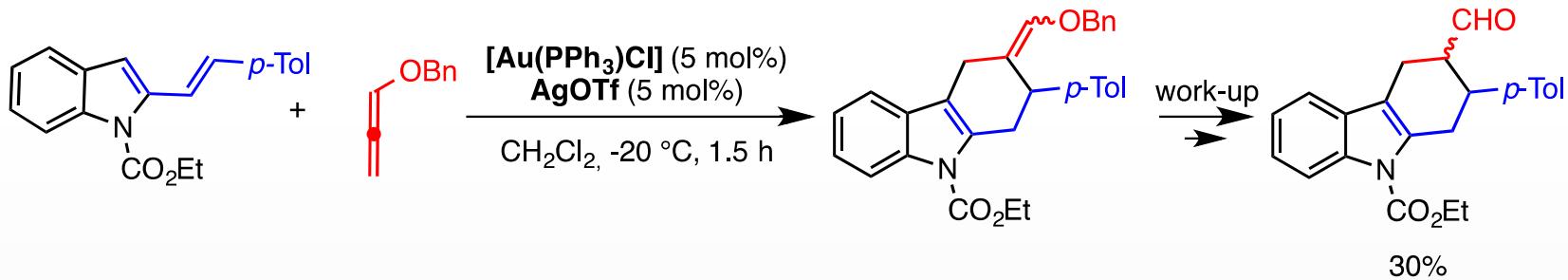
V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* 2013, 49, 3594



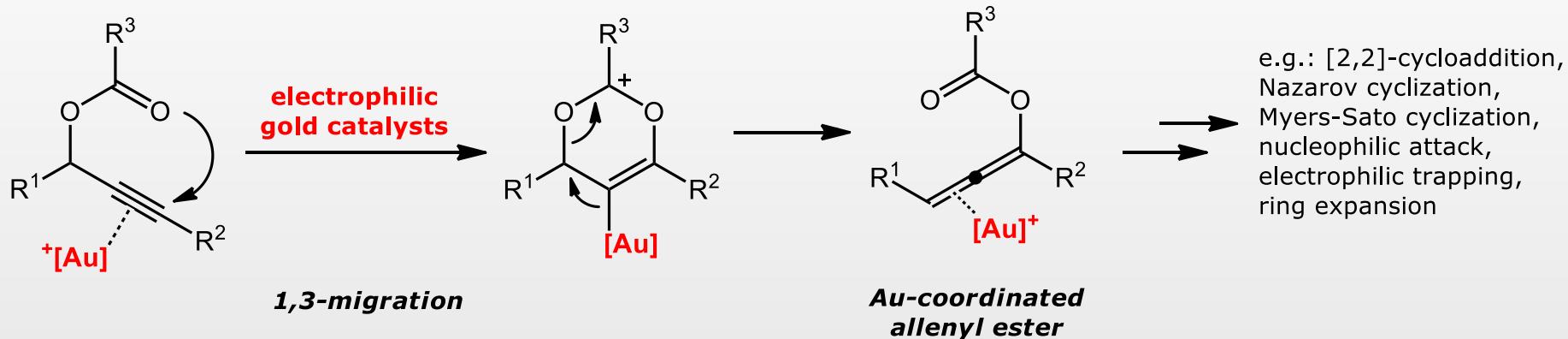
*reaction mechanism*

V. Pirovano, L. Decataldo, E. Rossi, R. Vicente *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 3594

*2-vinylindoles and allenylethers*

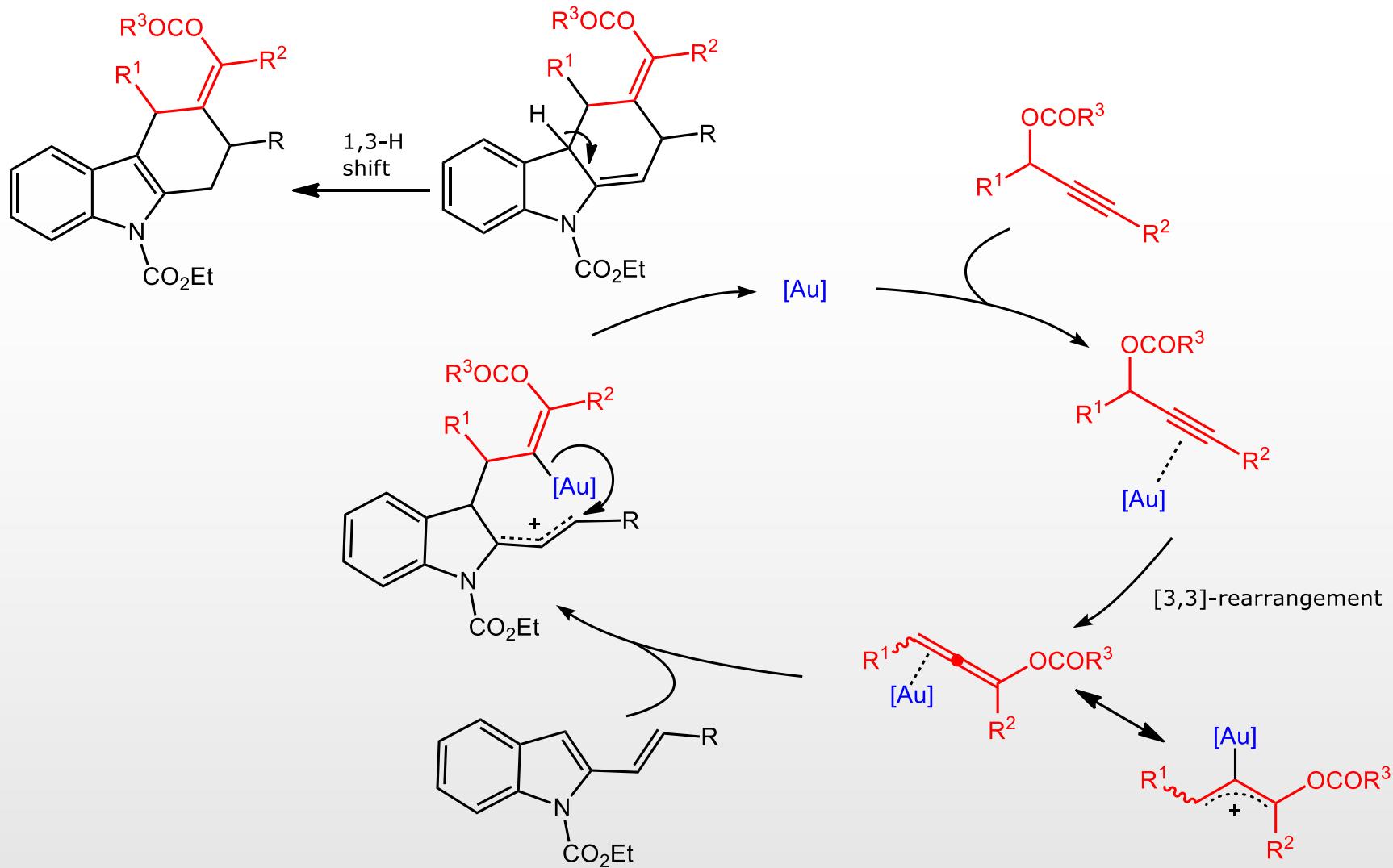


*gold catalyzed propargylic esters rearrangement*



P. Mauleón, F. D. Toste in “Modern Gold Catalyzed Synthesis”, A. S. K. Hashmi, F. D. Toste Eds (2012) Wiley-WCH, Weinheim

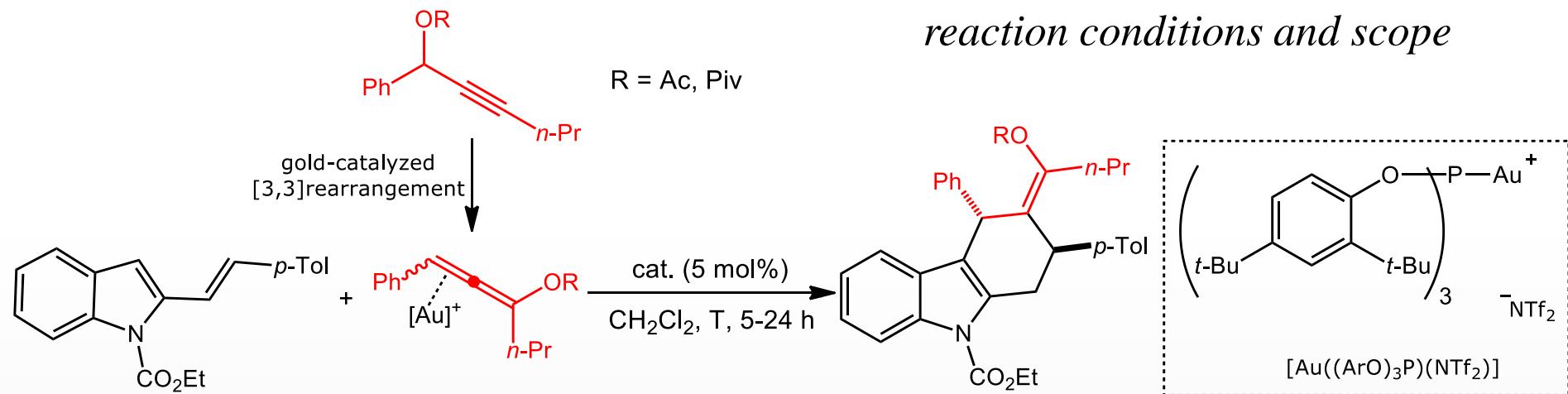
*2-vinylindoles and allenylesters, cascade reaction*



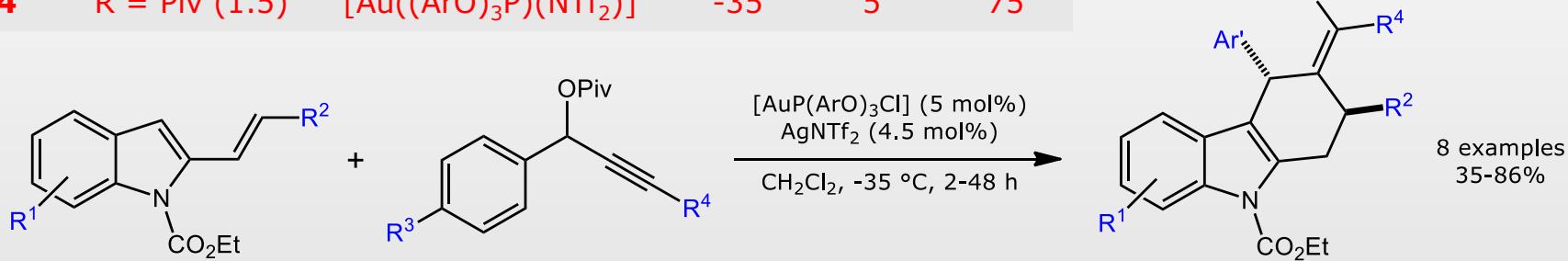
V. Pirovano, E. Arpini, M. Dell'Acqua, R. Vicente, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2016**, 358, 403

# Gold catalysis and indole chemistry

## reaction conditions and scope

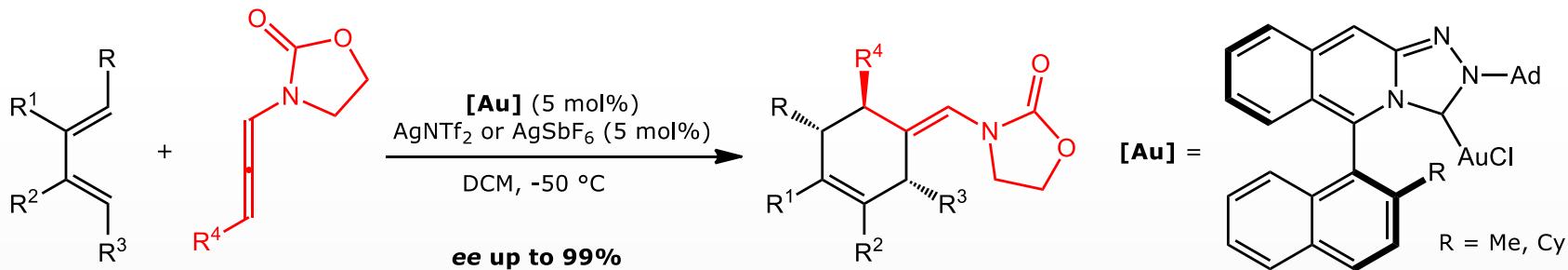


entry	allene (equiv.)	Catalyst (5 mol%)	T (°C)	t [h]	Yield [%]
1	R = Ac (1.1)	$[\text{Au}((\text{ArO})_3\text{P})(\text{NTf}_2)]$	-20	24	31
2	R = Ac (1.1)	$[\text{Au}((\text{ArO})_3\text{P})(\text{NTf}_2)]$	-20	24	52
3	R = Ac (1.1)	$[\text{Au}((\text{ArO})_3\text{P})(\text{NTf}_2)]$	-35	24	64
4	R = Piv (1.5)	$[\text{Au}((\text{ArO})_3\text{P})(\text{NTf}_2)]$	-35	5	75

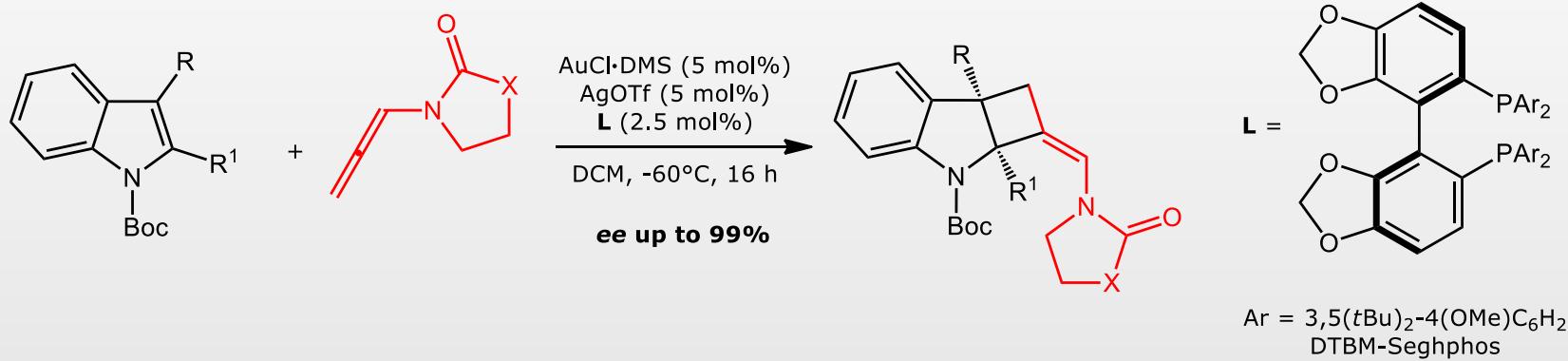


V. Pirovano, E. Arpini, M. Dell'Acqua, R. Vicente, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2016**, 358, 403

*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions with allenamides*

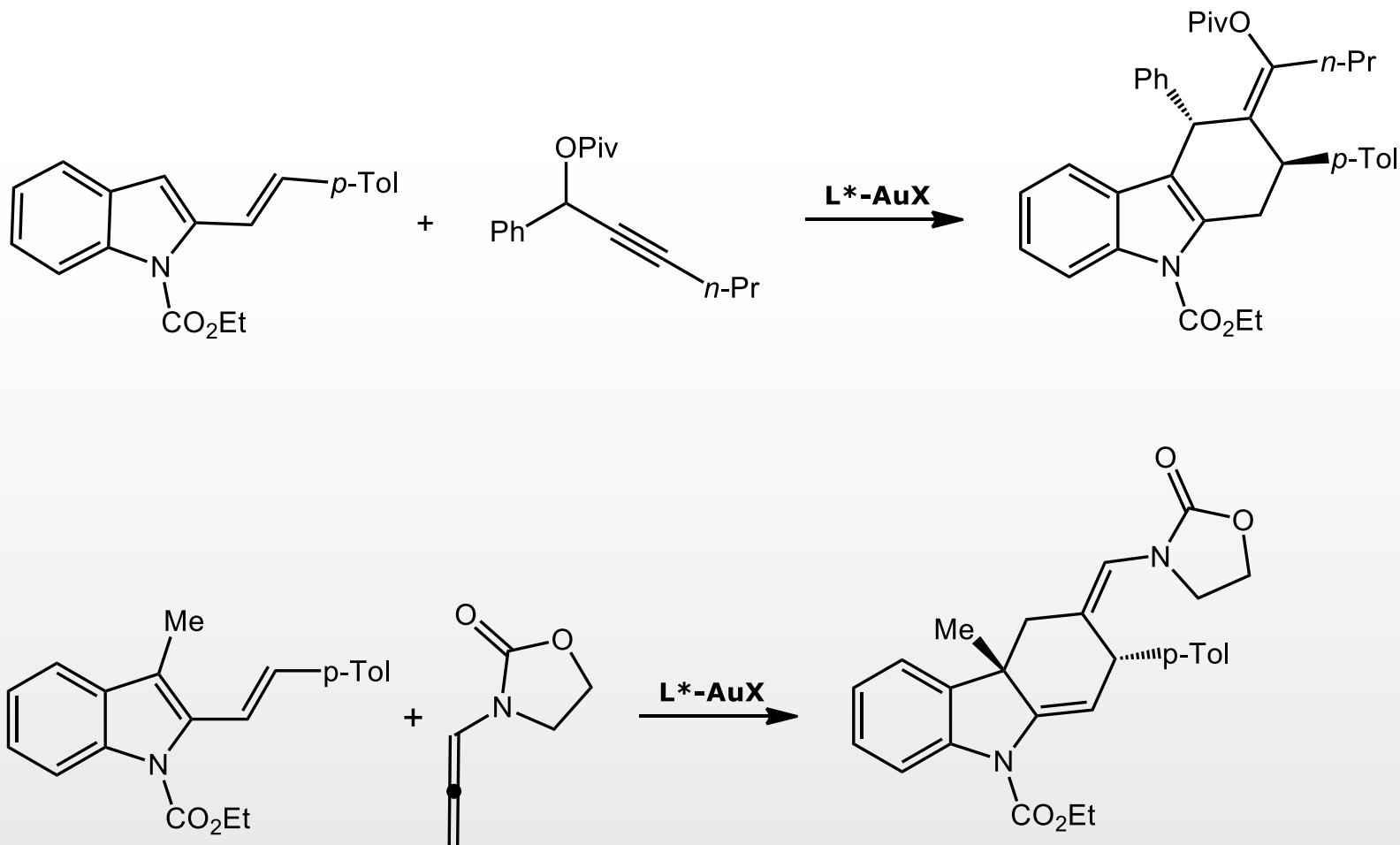


J. L. Mascareñas, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 14322.



M. Jia, M. Monari, Q.-Q. Yang, M. Bandini *Chem. Commun.* **2015**, *51*, 2320

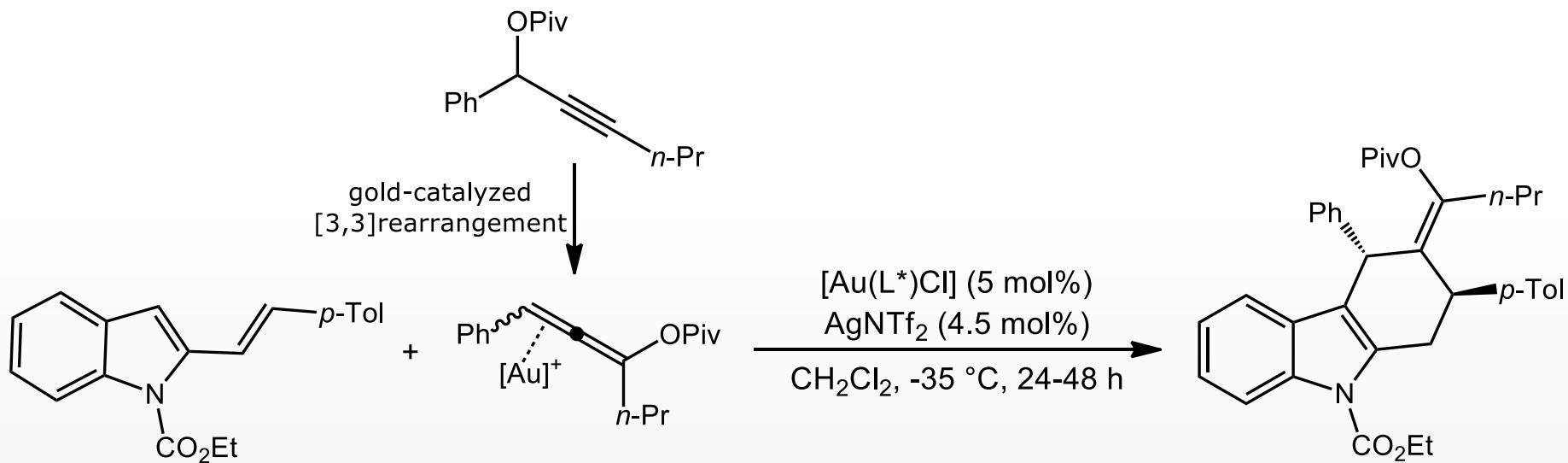
*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinylindoles and allenes*



V. Pirovano, E. Arpini, M. Dell'Acqua, R. Vicente, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2016**, *358*, 403 – VIP.

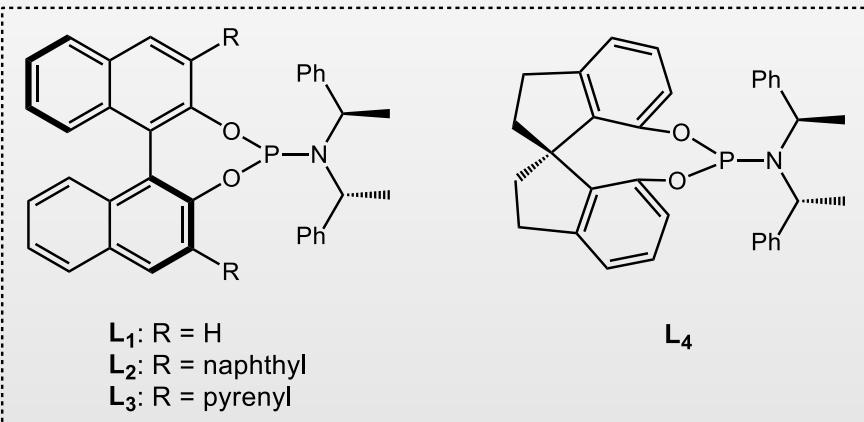
V. Pirovano, M. Borri, S. Rizzato, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, *359*, 1912.

*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinylindoles and allenylesters*



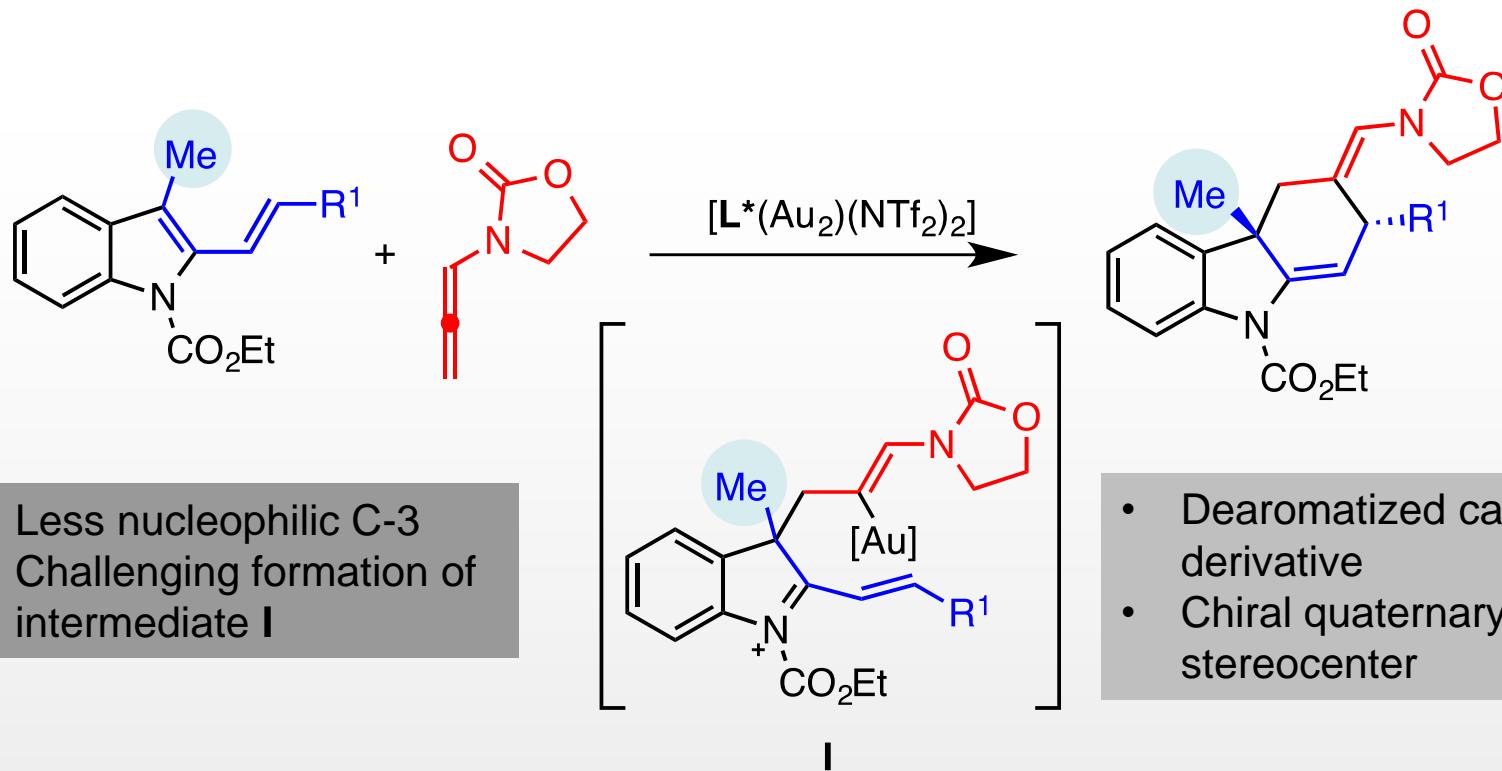
*reaction conditions*

entry	L*	Additive	t [h]	Yield [%]	e.r.
1	L1	-	24	90	40:60
2	L2	-	24	42	80:20
3	L3	-	48	47	81:19
4	L4	-	48	42	84:16
5	L4	4 Å ms	48	62	85:15



V. Pirovano, E. Arpini, M. Dell'Acqua, R. Vicente, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2016**, 358, 403 - VIP

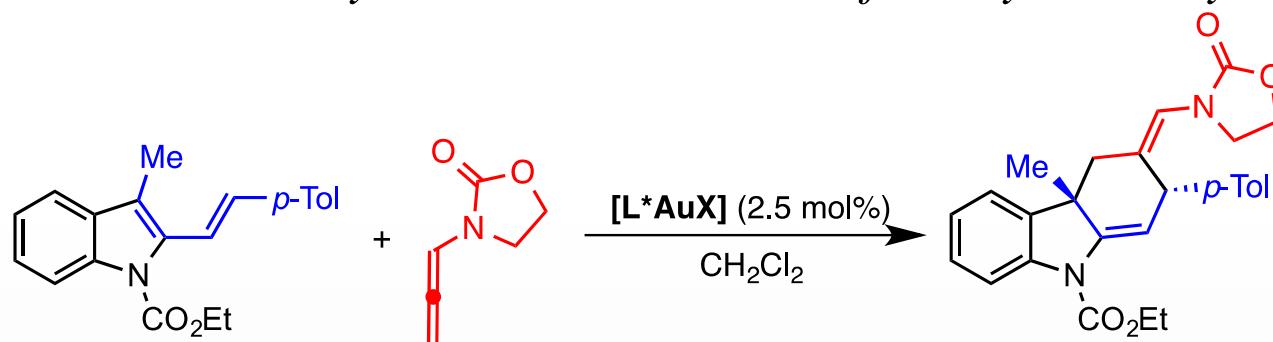
*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinyl-3-methylindoles and allenamides*



$L^*$  = **dinuclear chiral gold(I) catalyst**

V. Pirovano, M. Borri, S. Rizzato, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, 359, 1912.

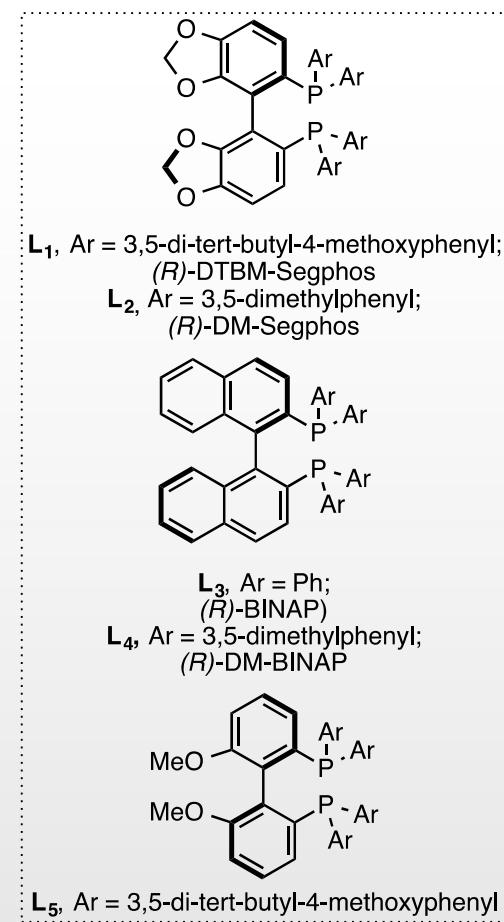
*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinyl-3-methylindoles and allenamides*



*reaction conditions*

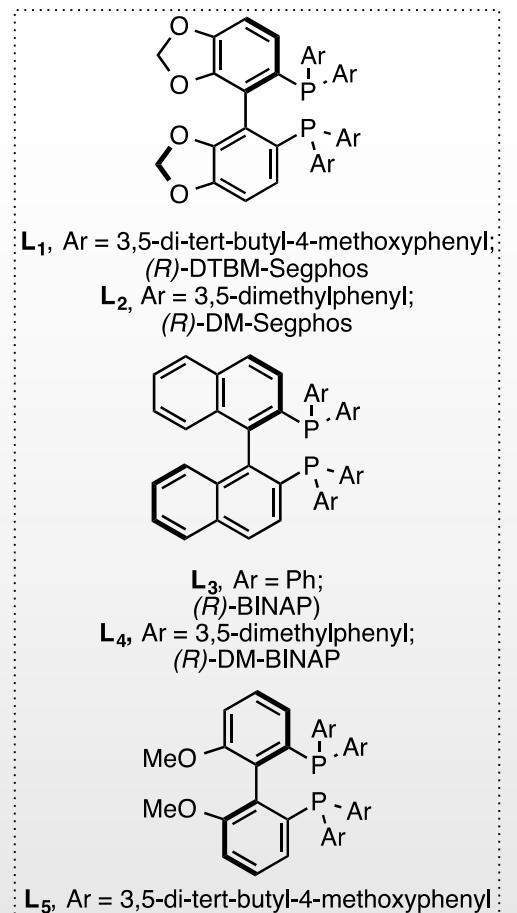
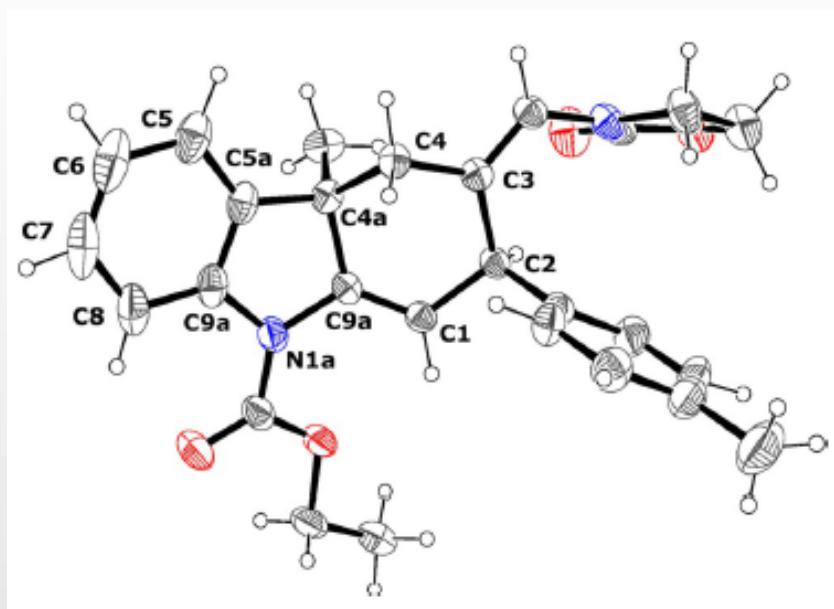
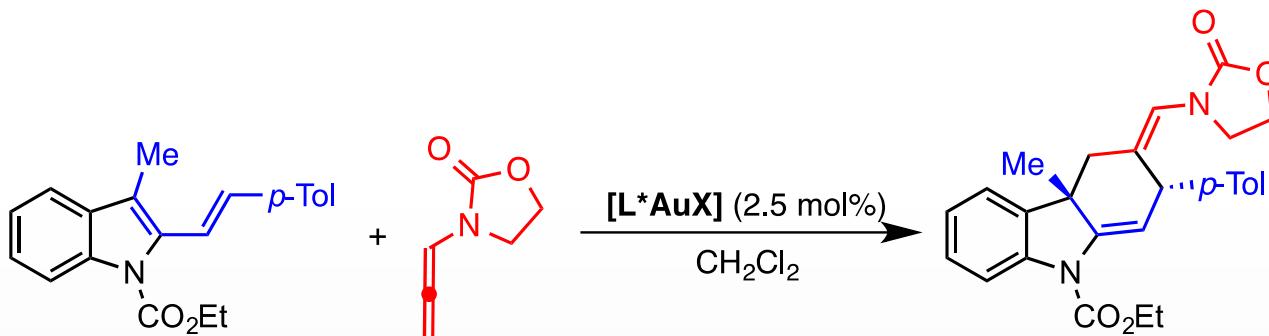
Entry	allene equiv.	Catalyst	T (°C)	t (h)	Yield (%)	e.r.
1	0.9	$[\text{L}_1\text{Au}_2\text{Cl}_2]/\text{AgNTf}_2$	-20	1	72	7:93
2	1.2	$[\text{L}_1\text{Au}_2(\text{NTf}_2)_2]$	-40	18	75	4:96
3	1.2 (0.05 M)	$[\text{L}_1\text{Au}_2(\text{NTf}_2)_2]$	-40	18	79	4:96*
4	0.9	$[\text{L}_2\text{Au}_2\text{Cl}_2]/\text{AgNTf}_2$	-20	1	54	27:73
5	0.9	$[\text{L}_3\text{Au}_2\text{Cl}_2]/\text{AgNTf}_2$	-20	1	52	37:63
6	0.9	$[\text{L}_4\text{Au}_2\text{Cl}_2]/\text{AgNTf}_2$	-20	1	75	20:80
7	0.9	$[\text{L}_5\text{Au}_2\text{Cl}_2]/\text{AgNTf}_2$	-20	1	48	12:88

\*: increased to 1:99 after a single recrystallization from  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{pentane}$



V. Pirovano, M. Borri, S. Rizzato, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, 359, 1912.

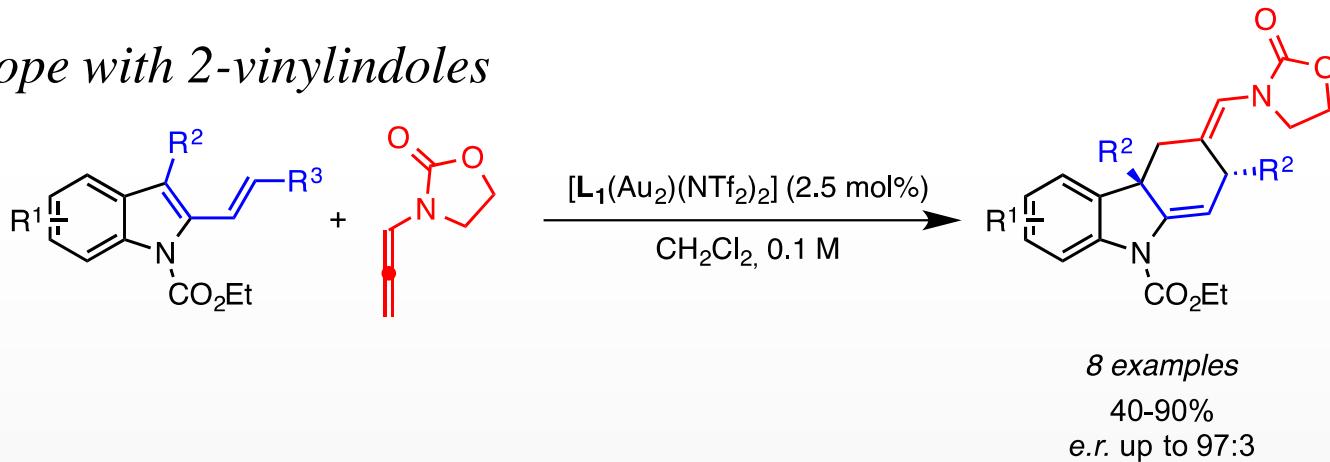
*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinyl-3-methylindoles and allenamides*



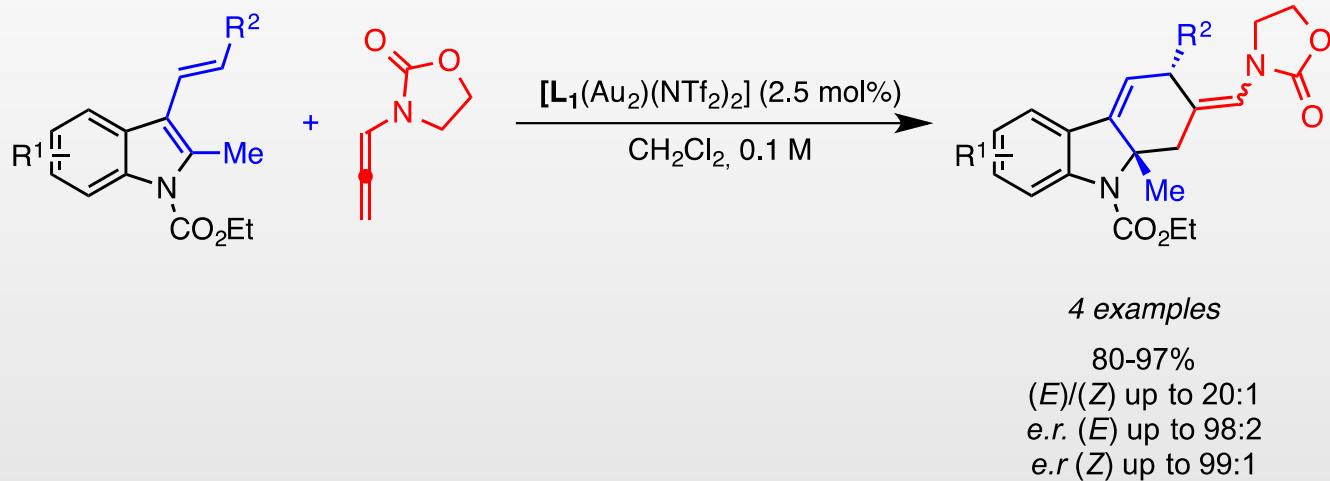
V. Pirovano, M. Borri, S. Rizzato, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, *359*, 1912.

*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 2-vinyl-3-methylindoles and allenamides*

*reaction scope with 2-vinylindoles*

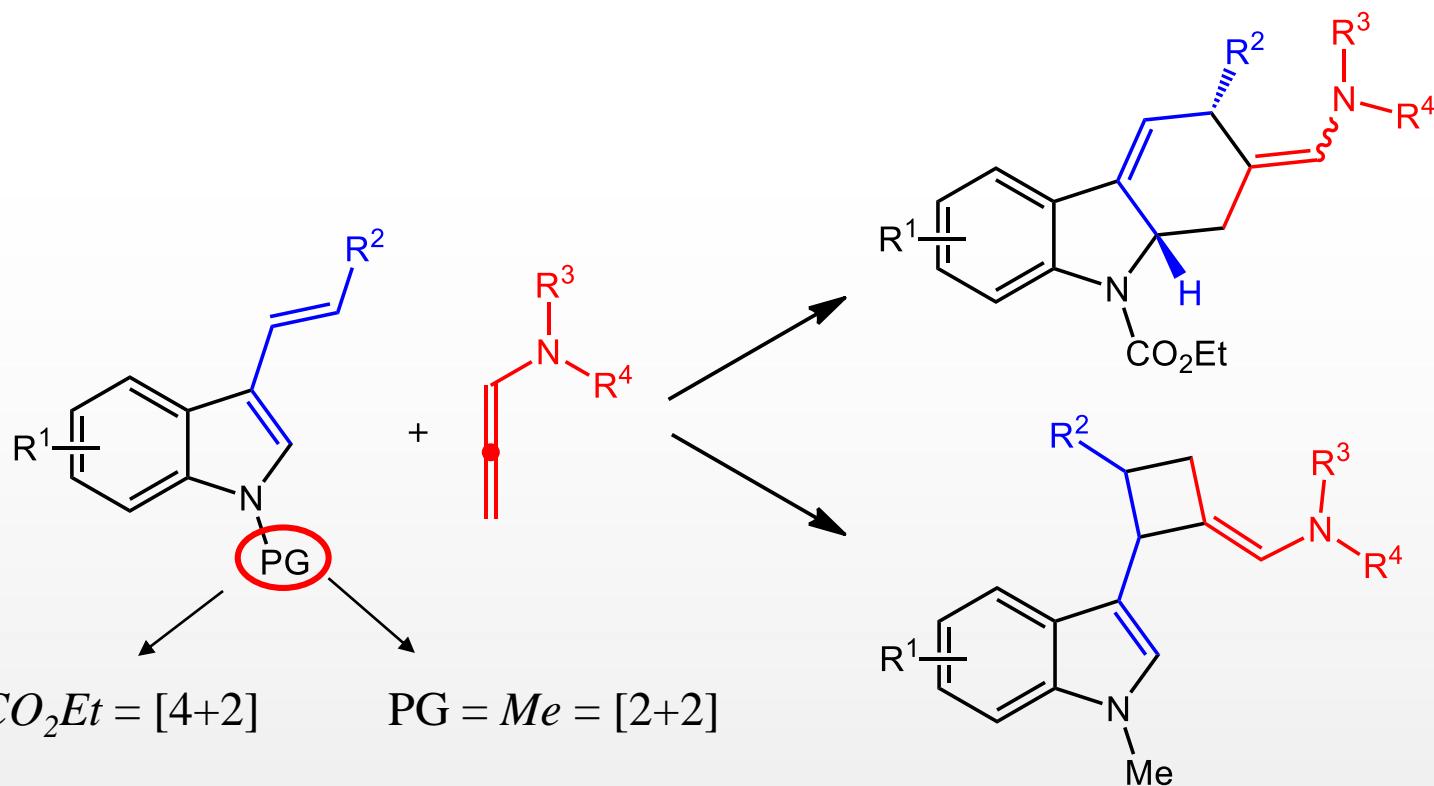


*reaction scope with 3-vinylindoles*



V. Pirovano, M. Borri, S. Rizzato, G. Abbiati, E. Rossi *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, 359, 1912.

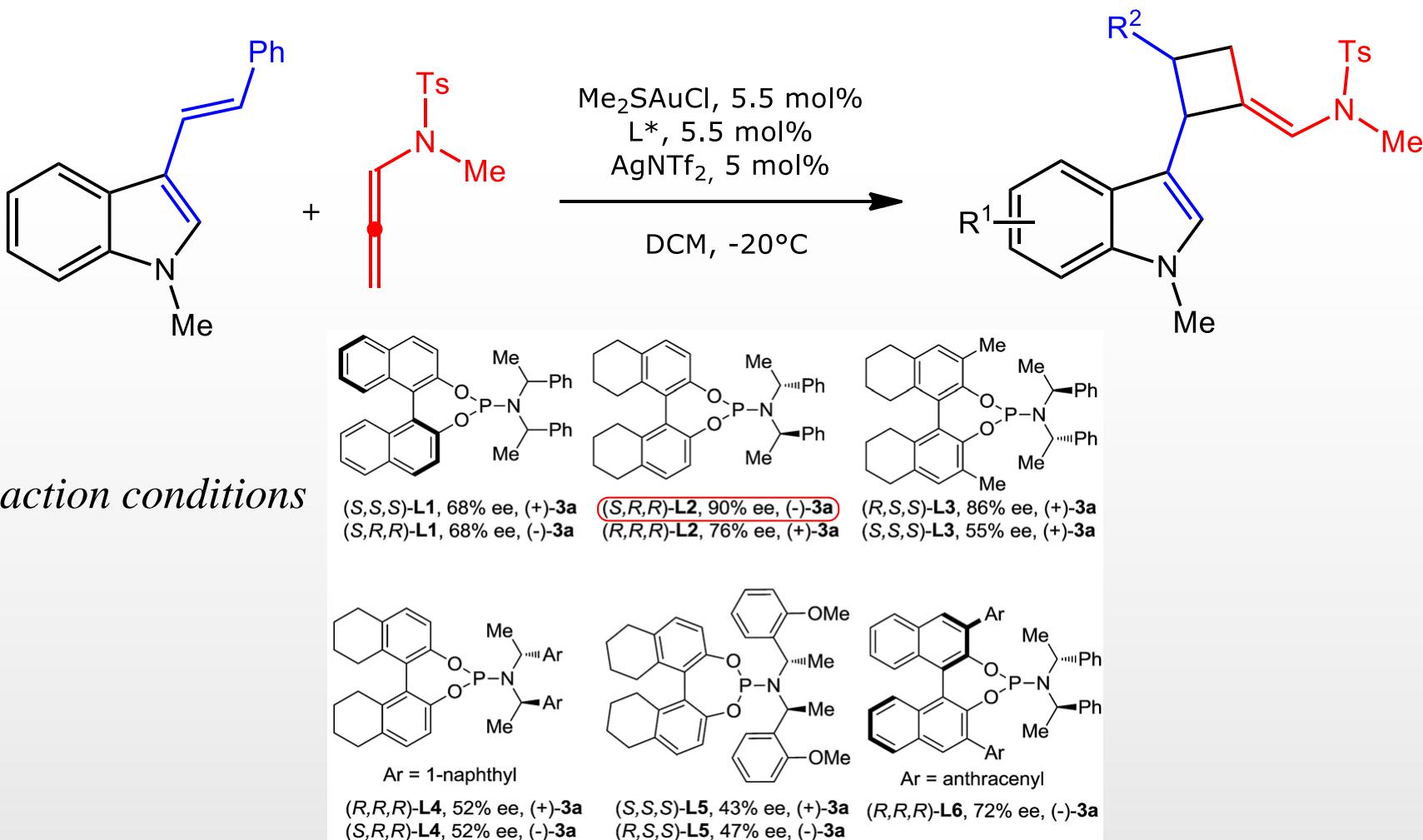
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Y. Wang, P. Zhang, Y. Liu, F. Xia, J. Zhang *Chem. Sci.* **2015**, *6*, 5564.

H. Hu, Y. Wang, D. Qian, Z.-M. Zhang, L. Liu, J. Zhang *Org. Chem. Front.* **2016**, *3*, 759.

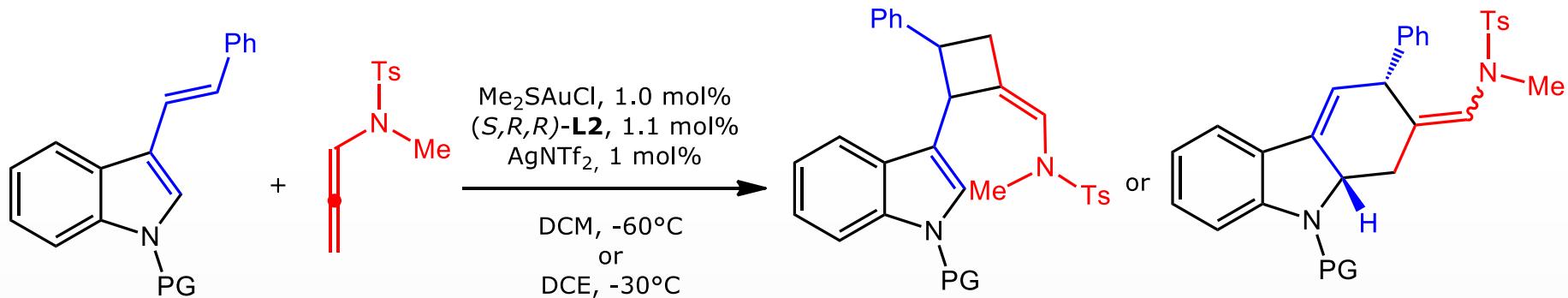
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*enantioselective cycloaddition reactions of 3-vinylindoles and allenamides*



*reaction conditions and scope*

PG	[ ]	condition	yield (%)	Z/E	ee (%)
Me	[2+2]	A	99	1:0	96
Bn	[2+2]	A	94	1:0	92
Allyl	[2+2]	A	93	1:0	91
H	[2+2]	A	95	1:0	72
CO <sub>2</sub> Et	[4+2]	B	95	5.3:1	95
Ts	[4+2]	B	86	4.2:1	91
Ac	[4+2]	B	67	7.3:1	94

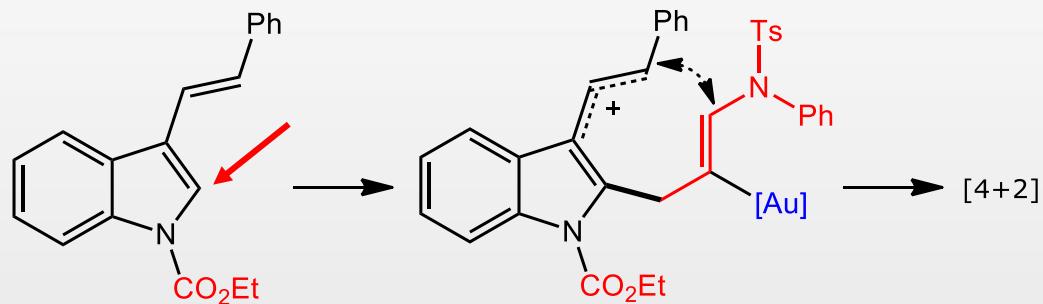
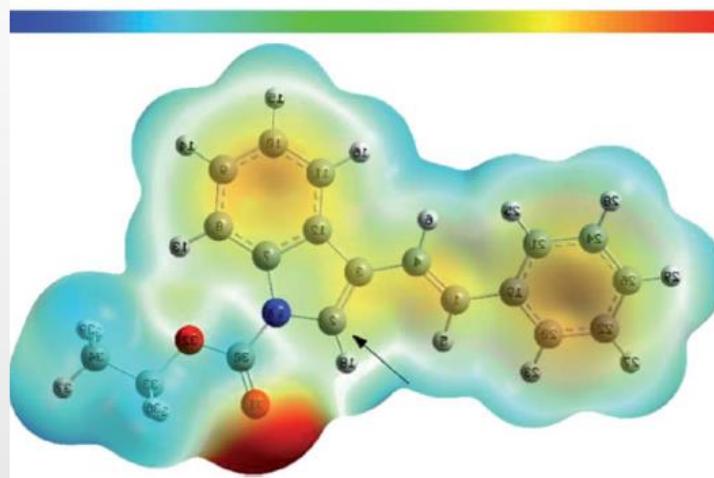
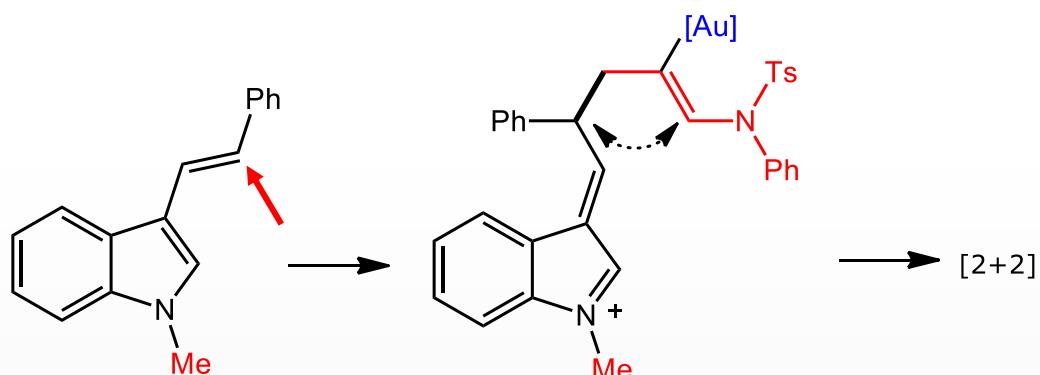
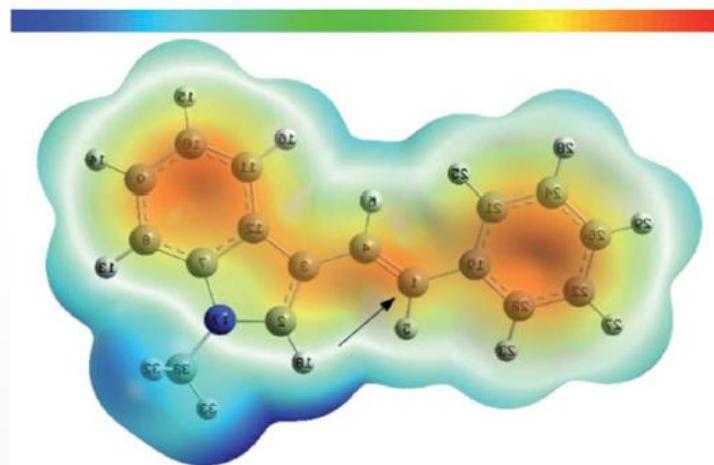
13 examples  
58-99%  
Z/E 1:0  
ee 82-96%

12 examples  
82-99%  
Z/E 3-6.1:1  
ee (Z) 89-97% ee (E) 88-92%

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