



復旦大學

# Spin-Center Shift Process in Organic Synthesis

5/22/2026

Speaker:

Xuzhou Li (李旭周)

Supervisor:

Prof. Zhang-Jie Shi (施章杰)

# Content

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Application of the Spin-Center Shift in Organic Synthesis

### 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

### 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

## 3. Summary and Outlook

# Content

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Application of the Spin-Center Shift in Organic Synthesis

### 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

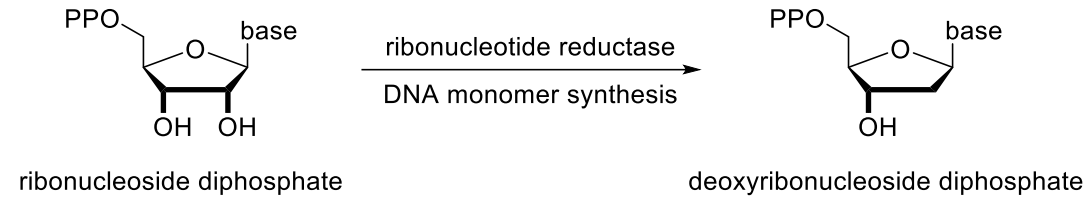
### 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

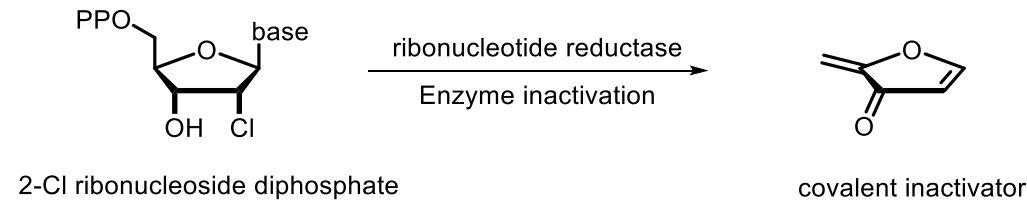
## 3. Summary and Outlook

# 1. Introduction

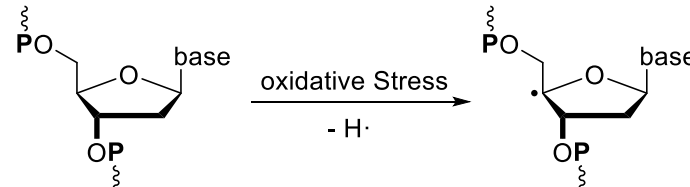
## The SCS process in biochemical reactions



### Deoxygenation of Ribonucleotides



### Inactivation of Ribonucleotide Reductase

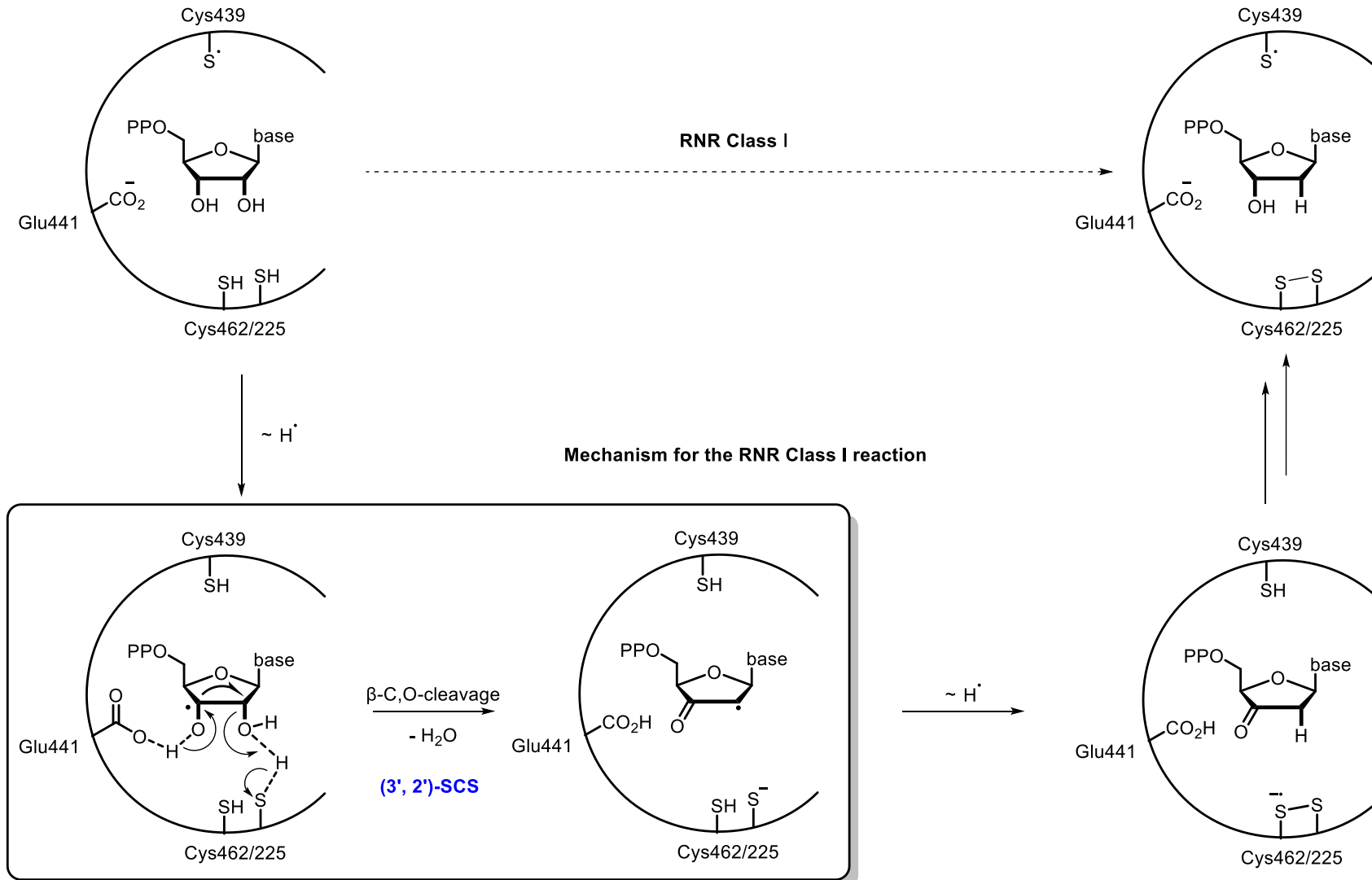


### Damage to DNA by Oxidative Stress

- 1) Ehrenberg, A.; Reichard, P. *J. Biol. Chem.* **1972**, 247, 3485.
- 2) J. Stubbe, W. van der Donk, *Chem. Biol.* **1995**, 2, 793–801.
- 3) Behrens, G.; Koltzenburg, G.; Ritter, A.; Schulte-Frohlinde, D. *Int. J. Radiat. Biol.* **1978**, 33(2), 163–171.

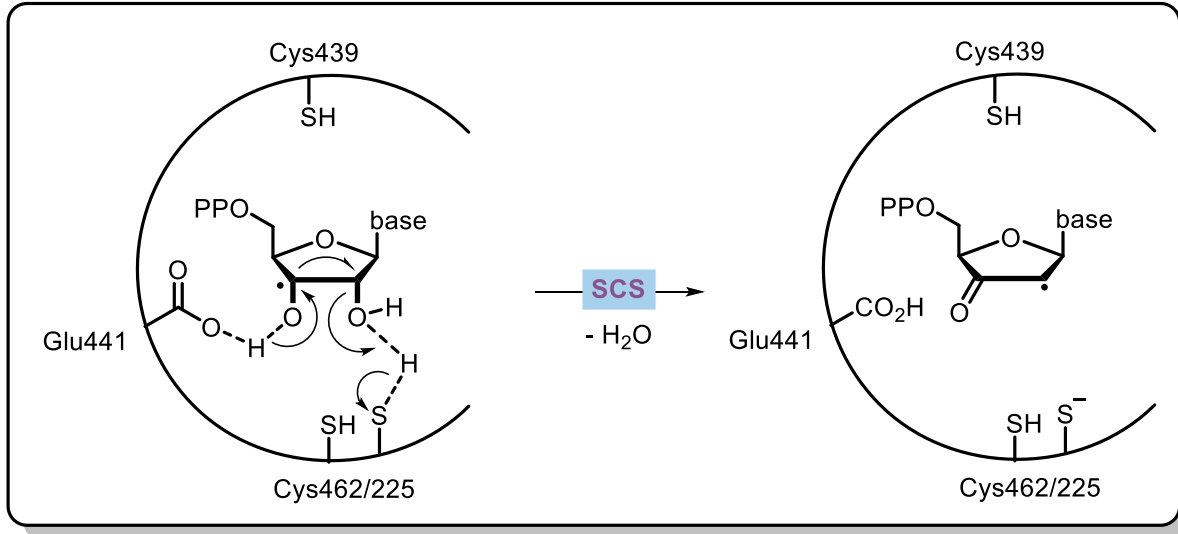
# 1. Introduction

## The SCS process in biochemical reactions

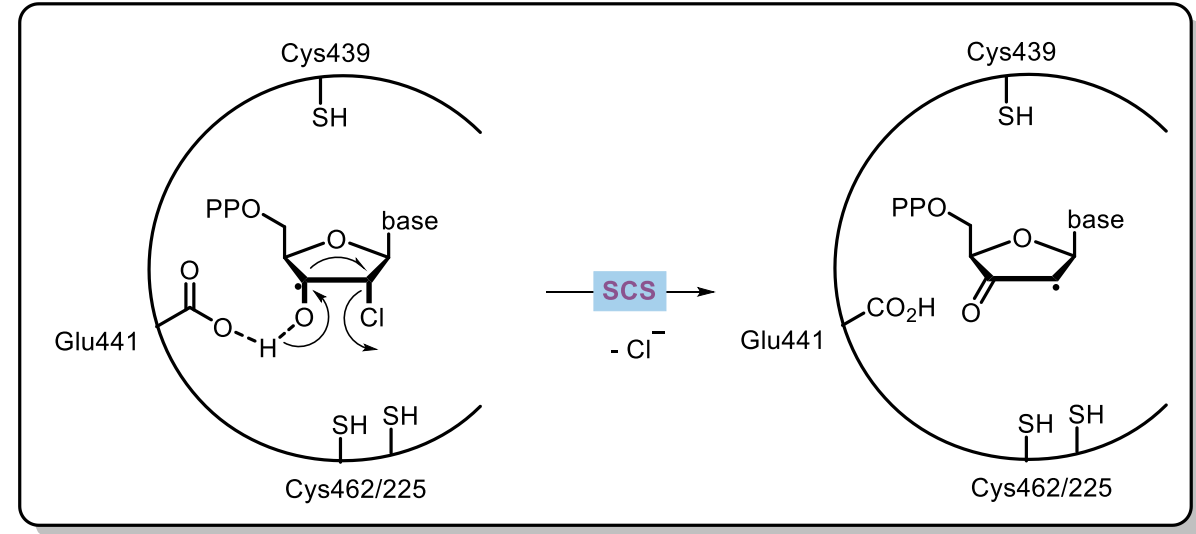


# 1. Introduction

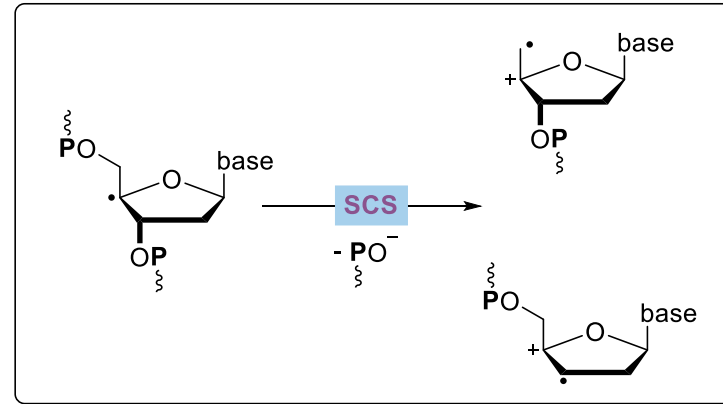
## The SCS process in biochemical reactions



**Deoxygenation of Ribonucleotides**



**Inactivation of Ribonucleotide Reductase**



**Damage to DNA by Oxidative Stress**

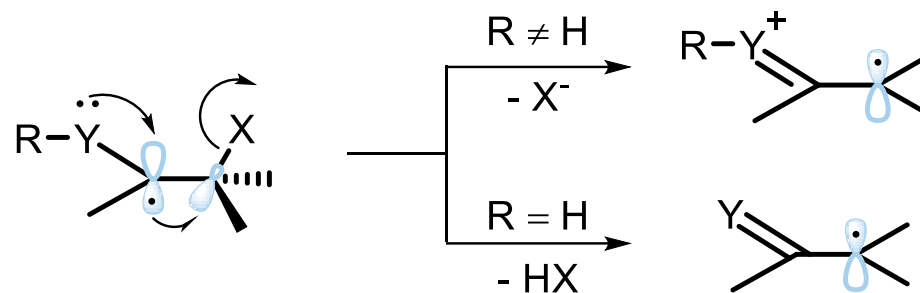
1) Ehrenberg, A.; Reichard, P. *J. Biol. Chem.* **1972**, 247, 3485.

2) J. Stubbe, W. van der Donk, *Chem. Biol.* **1995**, 2, 793–801.

3) Behrens, G.; Koltzenburg, G.; Ritter, A.; Schulte-Frohlinde, D. *Int. J. Radiat. Biol.* **1978**, 33(2), 163–171.

# 1. Introduction

## Concept of SCS process



“The concept of the spin-center shift (SCS), that is, **the shift of a radical center as a result of the elimination of an acid or a leaving group**, considerably extends the repertoire of radical reactions.”

—Wessig 2007

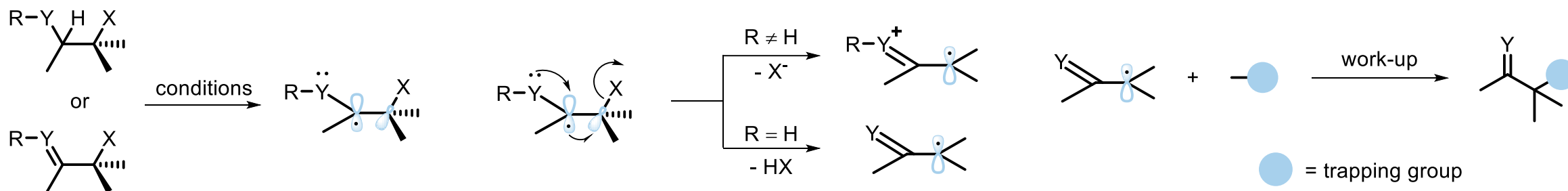
# 1. Introduction

## The Core Process of Spin-Center Shift

(1) The Formation of Free Radicals

(2) Suitable Leaving Group

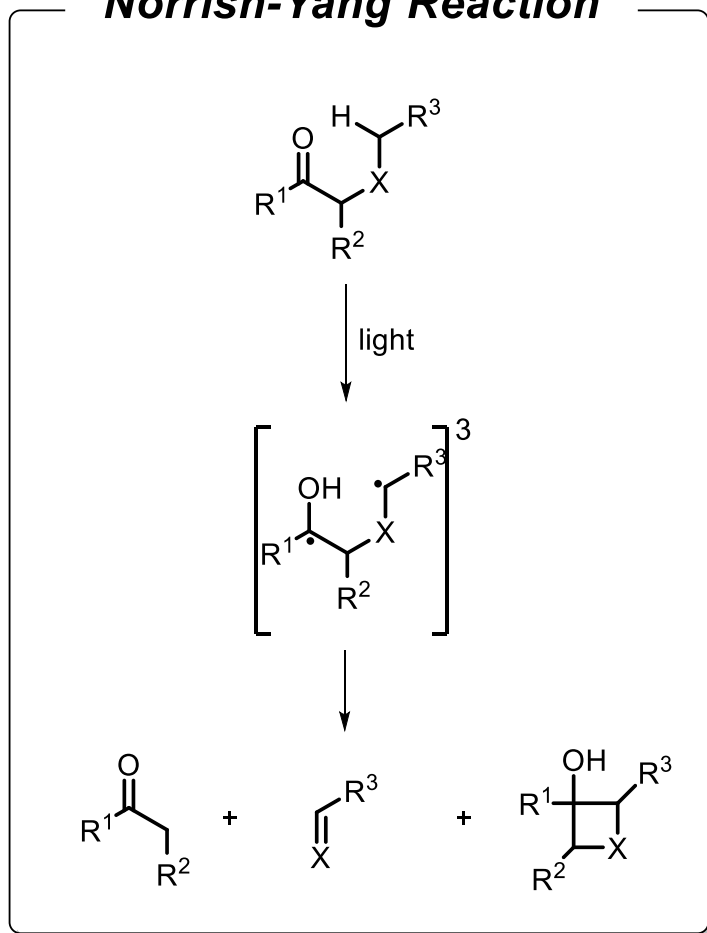
(3) Initiate subsequent reactions



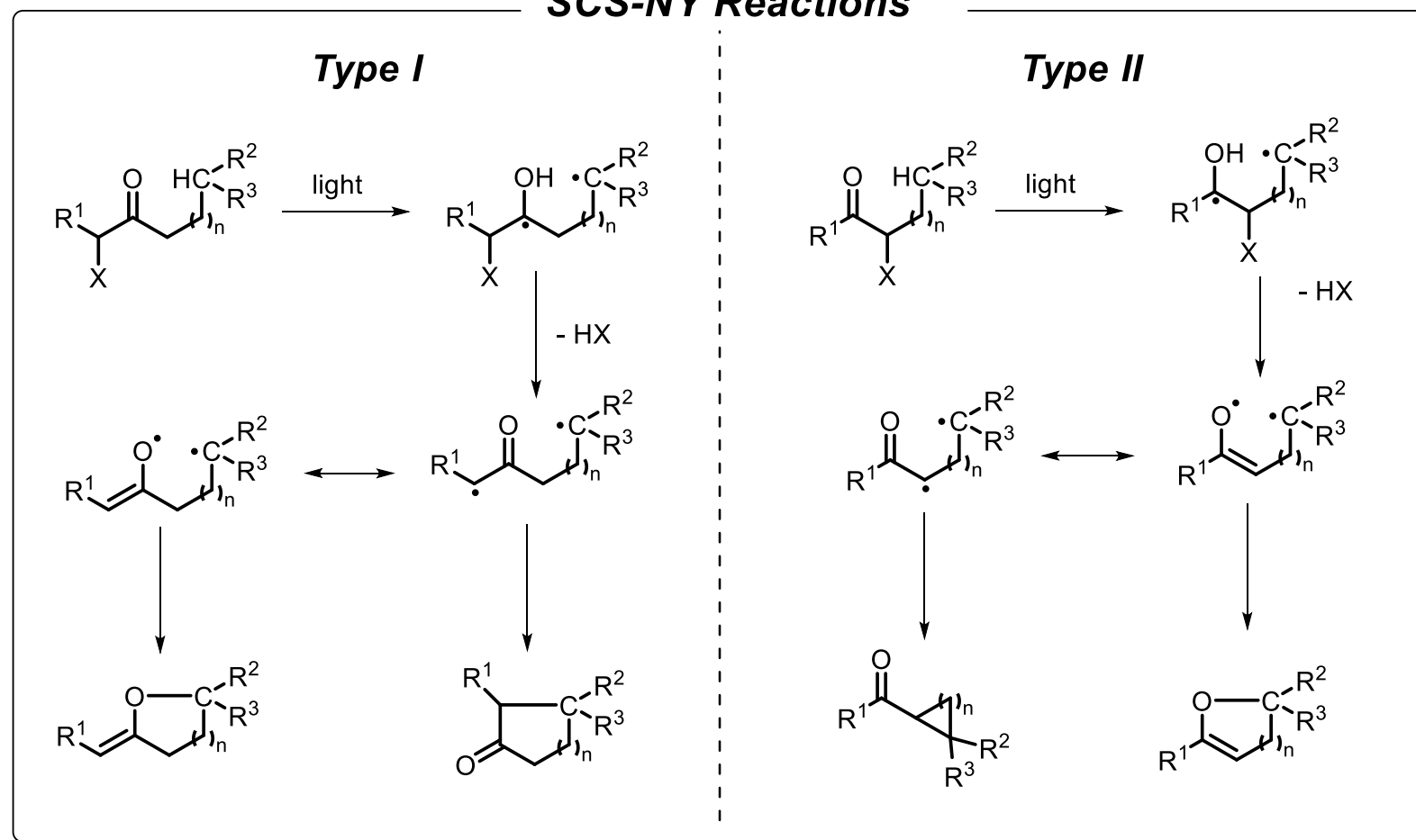
# 1. Introduction

## The SCS process in organic chemistry

### Norrish-Yang Reaction

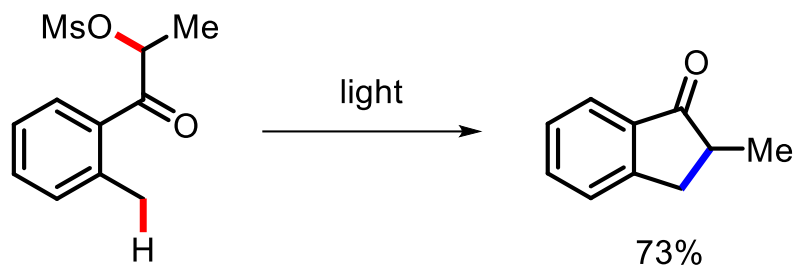


### SCS-NY Reactions

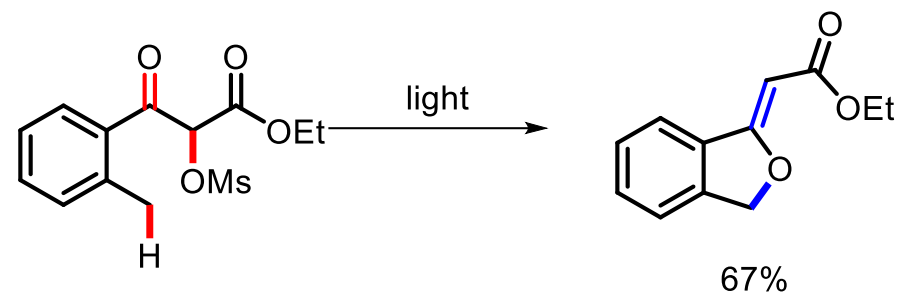


# 1. Introduction

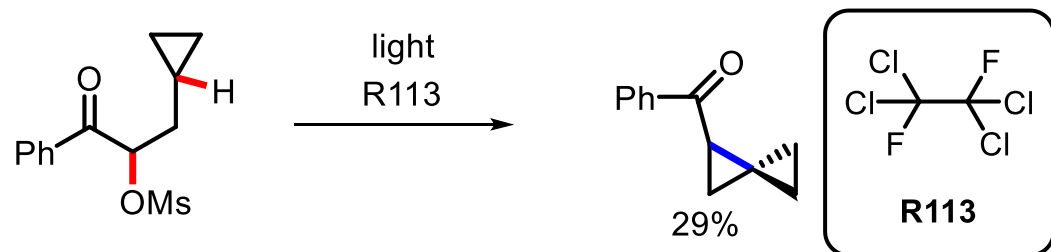
## Indanones (SCS-NY Type I)



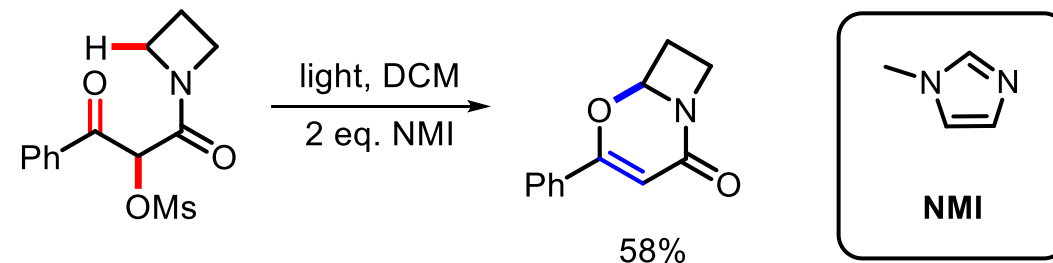
## Dihydrobenzofurans (SCS-NY Type I)



## Cyclopropanes (SCS-NY Type II)



## Oxazinones (SCS-NY Type II)



1) Newcomb, M. Kinetics of Radical Reactions: Radical Clocks. In *Radicals in Organic Synthesis*, Vol. 1; Renaud, P.; Sibi, M. P., Eds.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, Germany, **2001**; pp 317–336.

2) Wessig, P.; Schwarz, J.; Lindemann, U.; Holthausen, M. C. *Synthesis* **2001**, 1258–1262.

3) Wessig, P.; Glombitza, C.; Müller, G.; Teubner, J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, 69, 7582–7591.

# Content

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Application of the Spin-Center Shift in Organic Synthesis

### 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

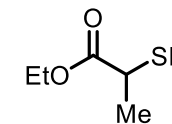
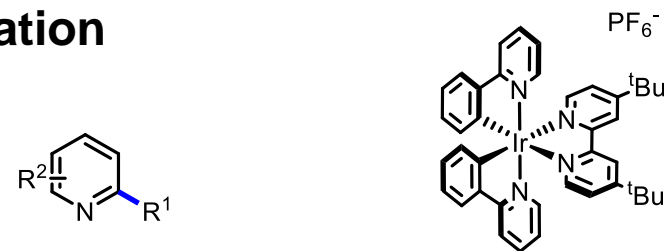
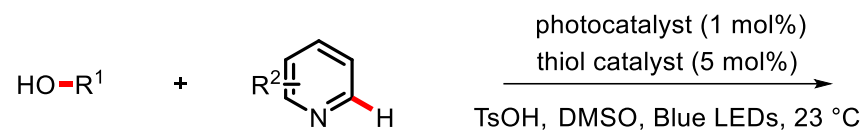
### 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

## 3. Summary and Outlook

# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

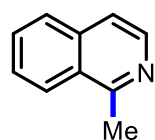
## Alcohols as alkylating agents in C–H functionalization



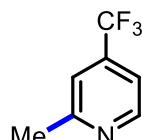
photocatalyst

thiol catalyst

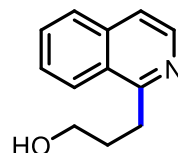
## Substrate scope



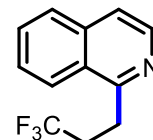
92% yield



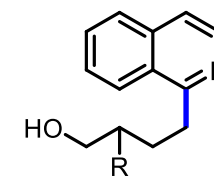
56% yield



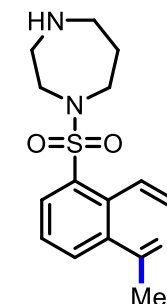
88% yield



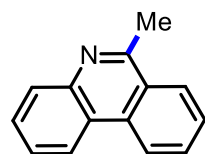
90% yield



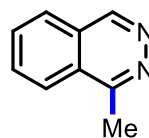
R = H, 90% yield  
R = OH, 72% yield



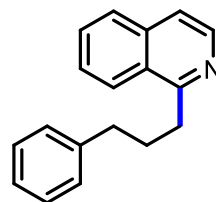
**Fasudil derivative**  
88% yield



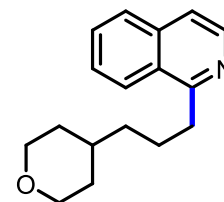
93% yield



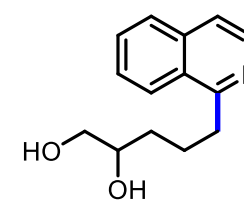
70% yield



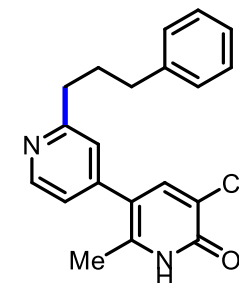
91% yield



90% yield



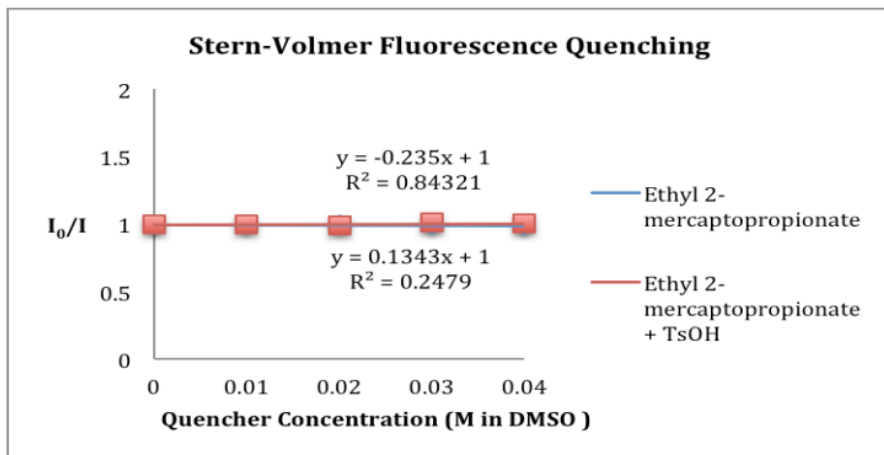
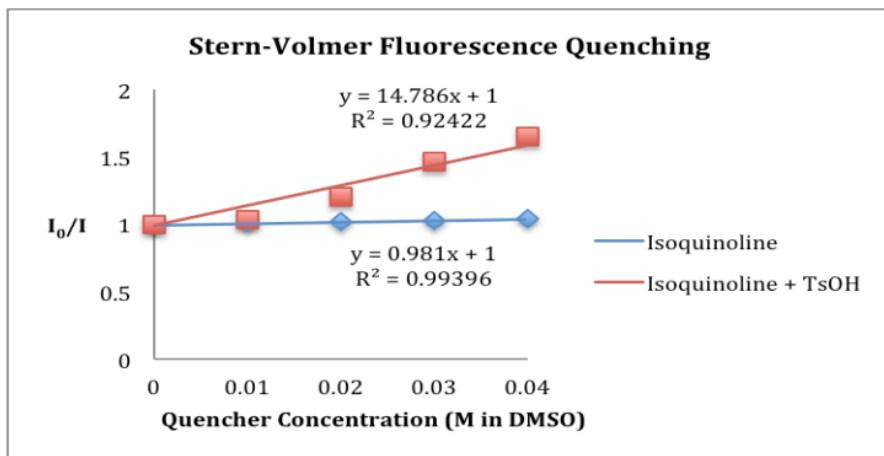
77% yield



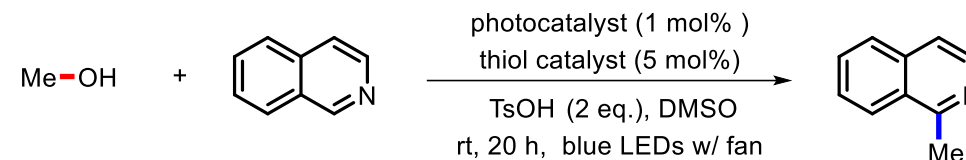
**Milrinone derivative**  
43% yield

# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

## Stern-Volmer fluorescence quenching study

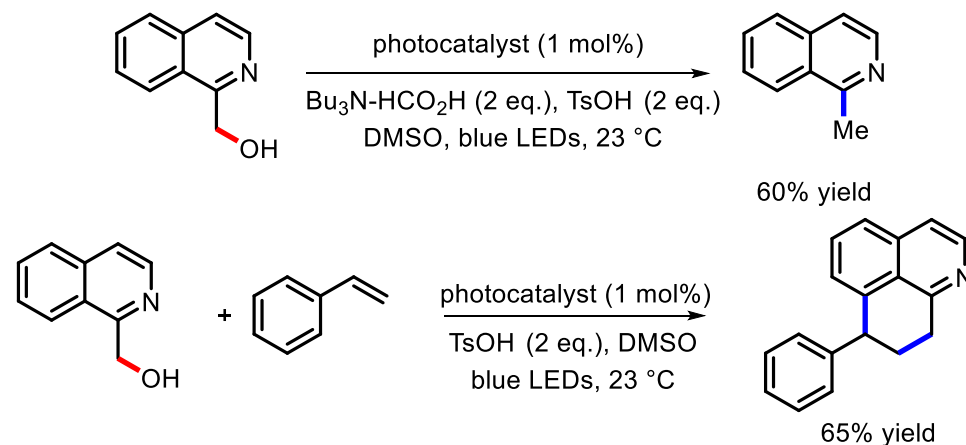


## Control experiments



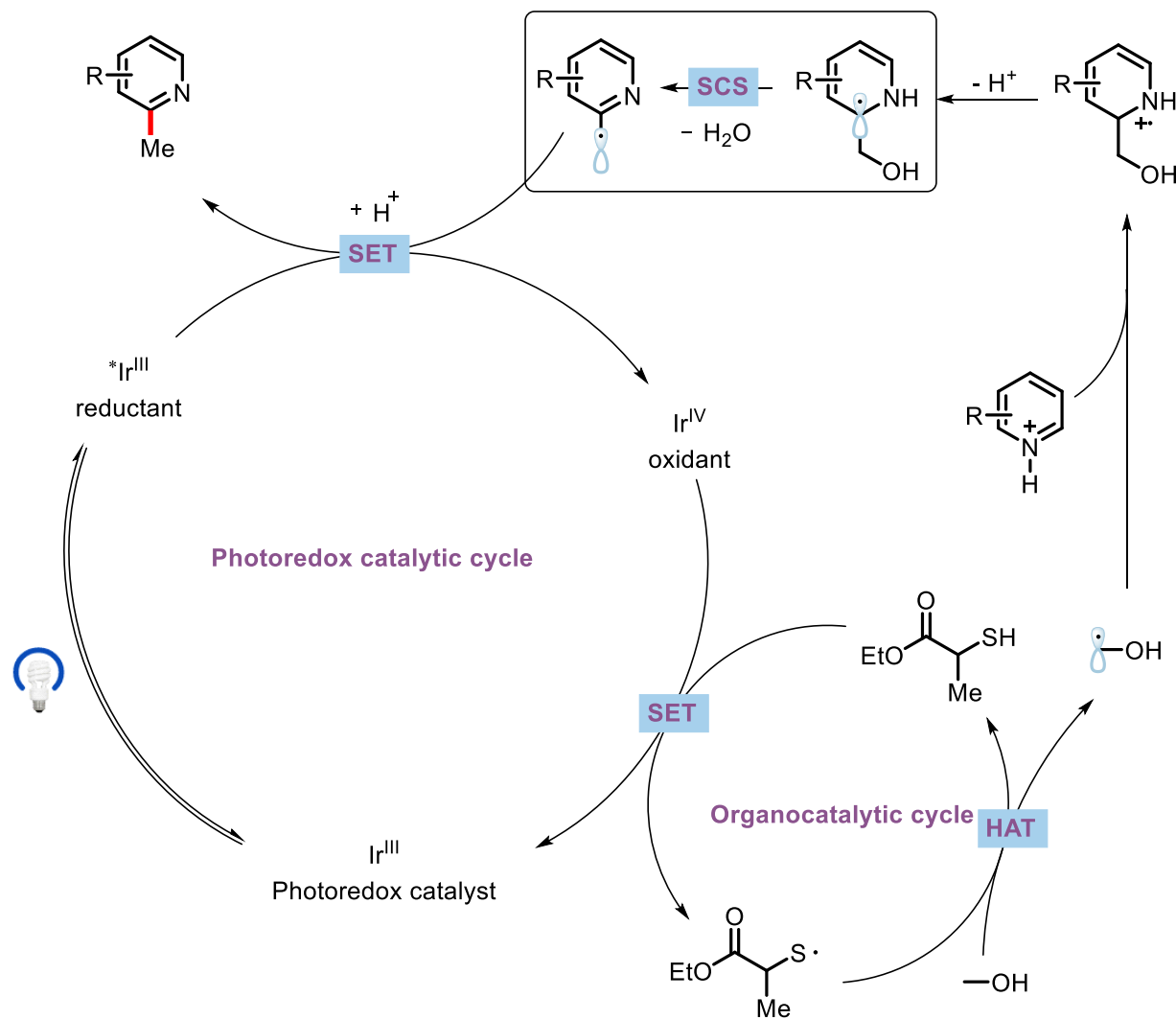
Entry	Control Conditions	Product
1	w/o photocatalyst	0%
2	w/o light	0%
3	w/o acid	0%
4	w/o thiol	3%
5	standard conditions, w/ all	98%

## Intermediate exploration



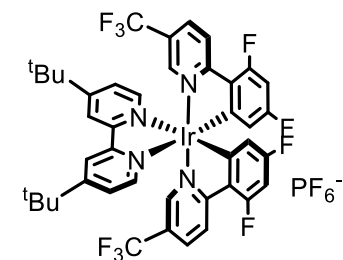
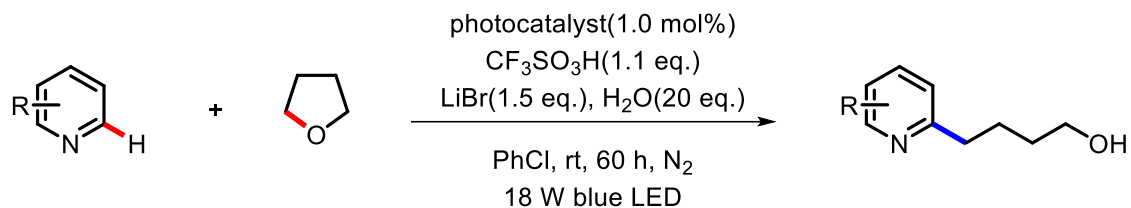
# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

## Possible reaction mechanism

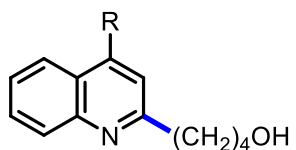


# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

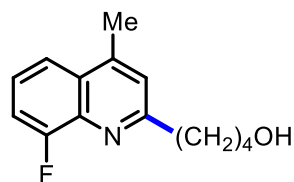
## LiBr-Promoted Photoredox Minisci-Type Alkylations of Quinolines with Ethers



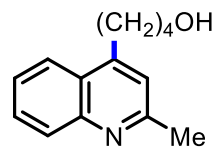
### Substrate scope



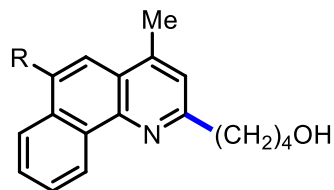
R = Me, 90%  
R = Et, 46%



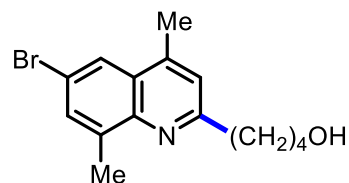
54%



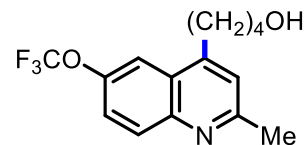
95%



R = Me, 48%  
R = Et, 37%

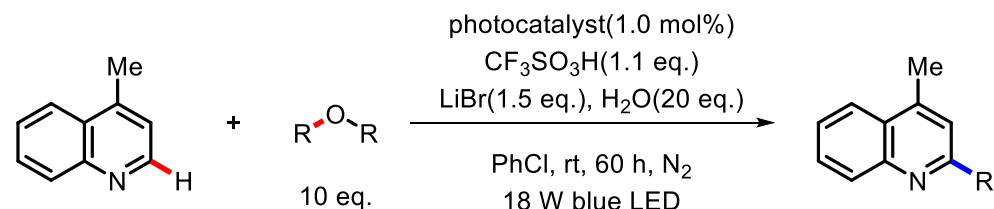


46%

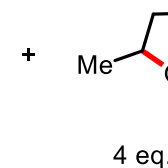
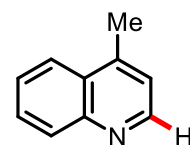


65%

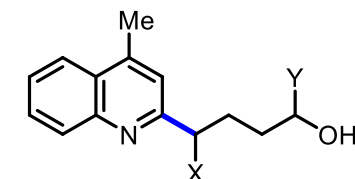
### Reaction with other ethers



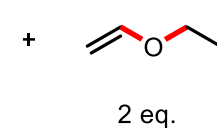
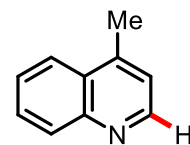
R = Et 75%  
R = Bu 73%



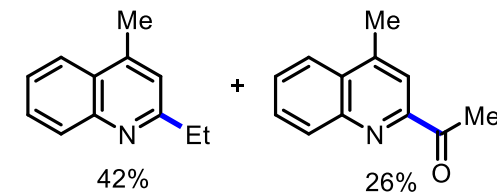
as above



84% (X = H, Y = Me) : (X = Me, Y = H) = 1:1

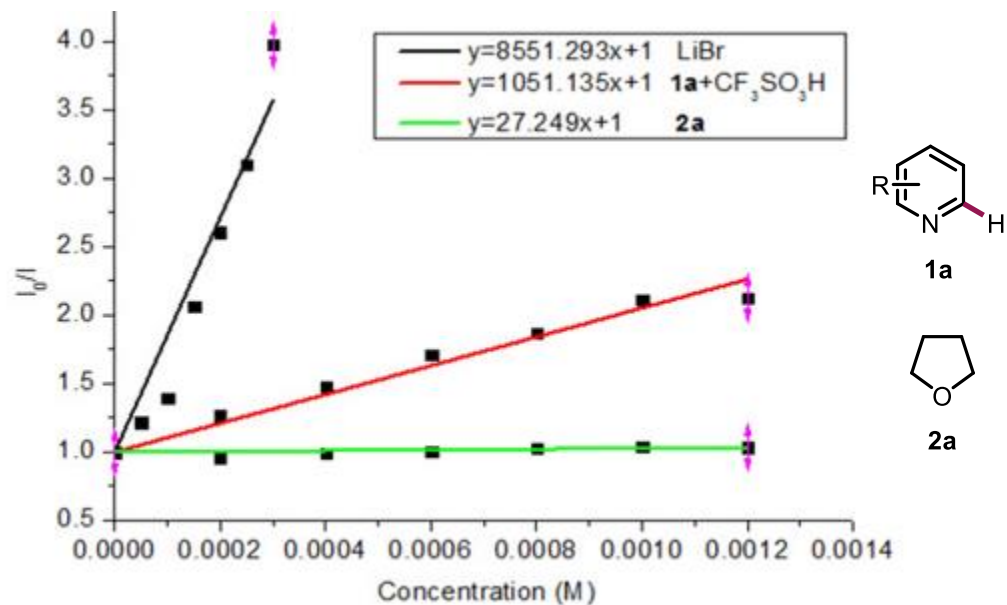


as above

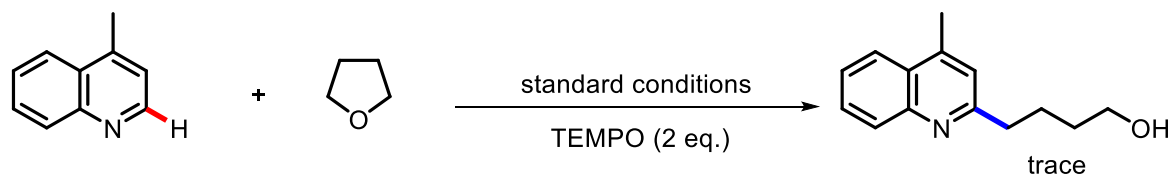


# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

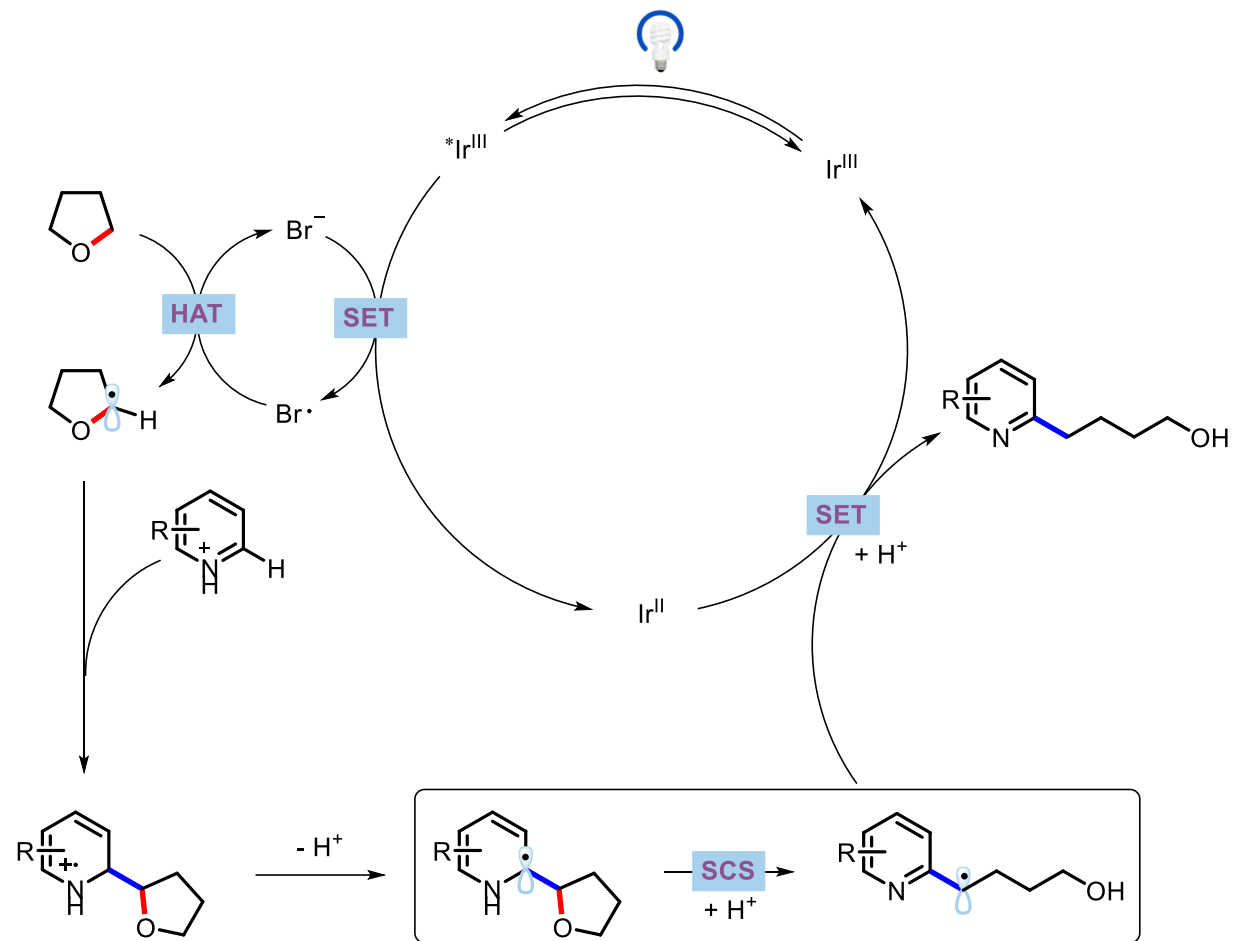
## Stern-Volmer fluorescence quenching study



## Radical Trapping Experiment

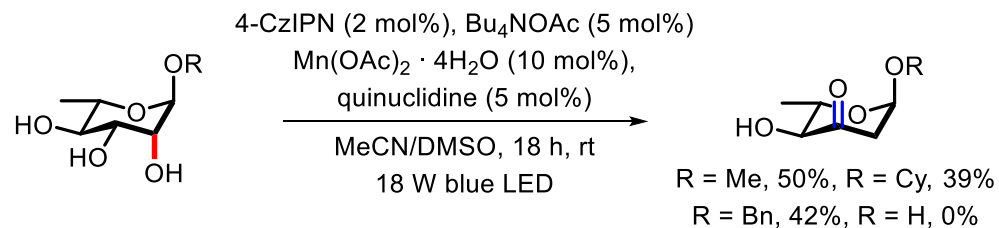


## Possible reaction mechanism

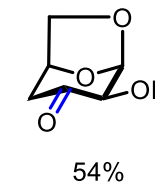
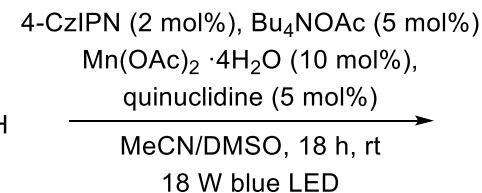
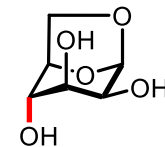
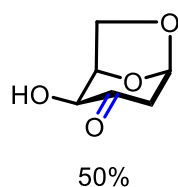
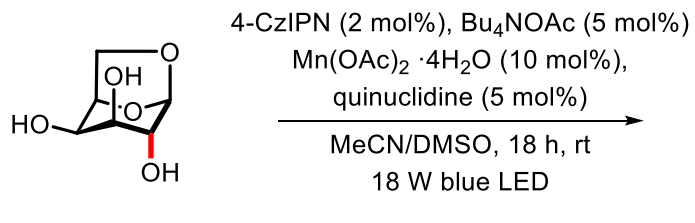


# 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

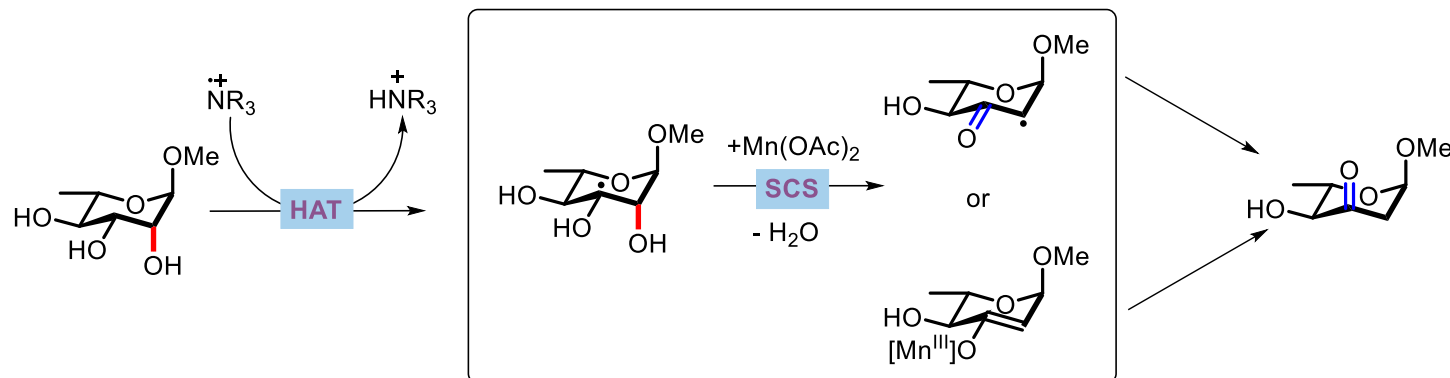
## A Unified Strategy to Access 2- and 4-Deoxygenated Sugars



### Examples of regioselectivity

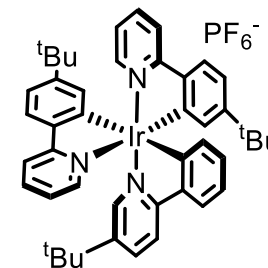
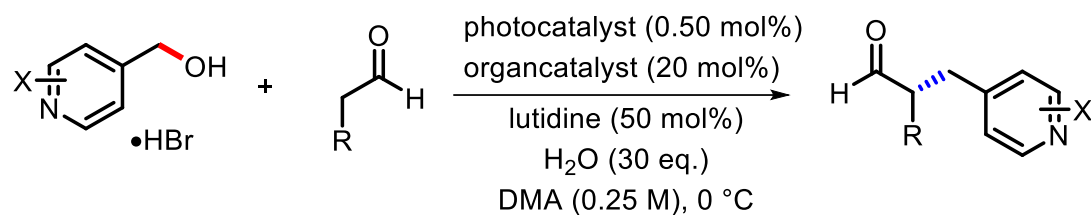


### Possible reaction mechanism

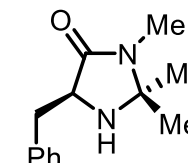


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Direct Enantioselective $\alpha$ -Benzylation of Aldehydes with Alcohols

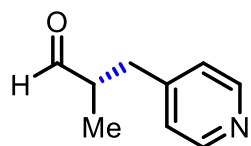


photocatalyst

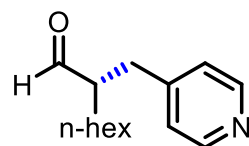


organocatalyst

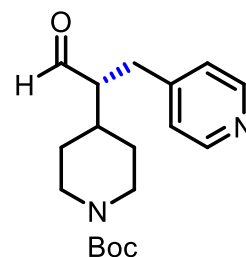
### Substrate scope



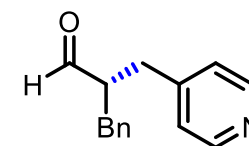
93% yield, 96% ee



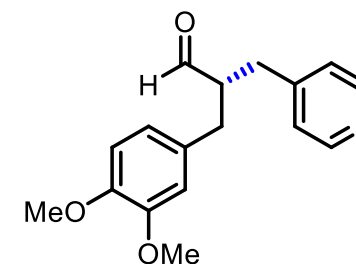
90% yield, 96% ee



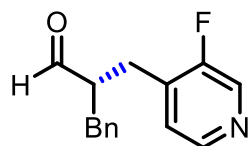
86% yield, 96% ee



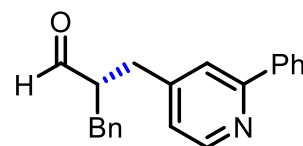
84% yield, 98% ee



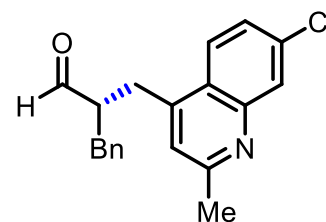
86% yield, 98% ee



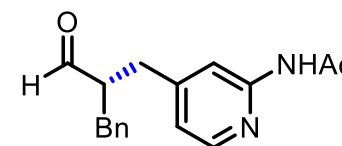
78% yield, 96% ee



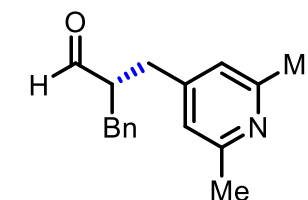
74% yield, 97% ee



76% yield, 99% ee



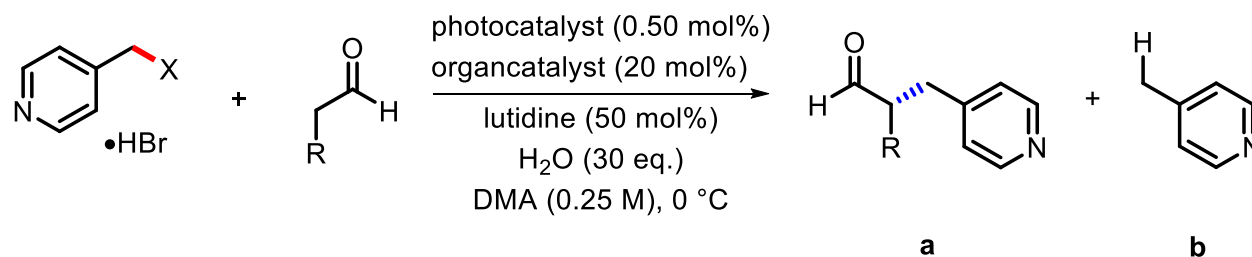
93% yield, 96% ee



73% yield, 98% ee

## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

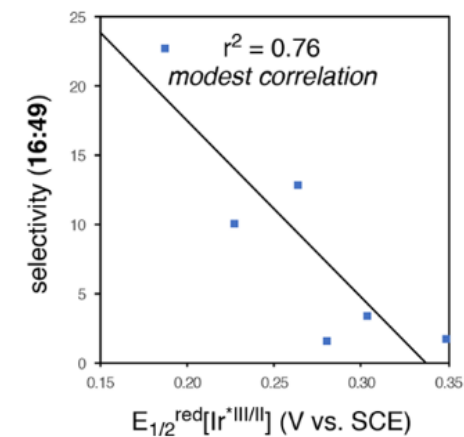
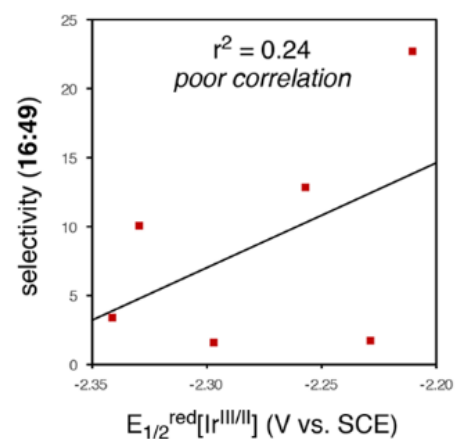
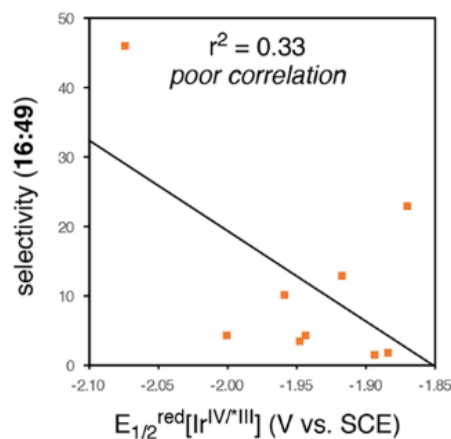
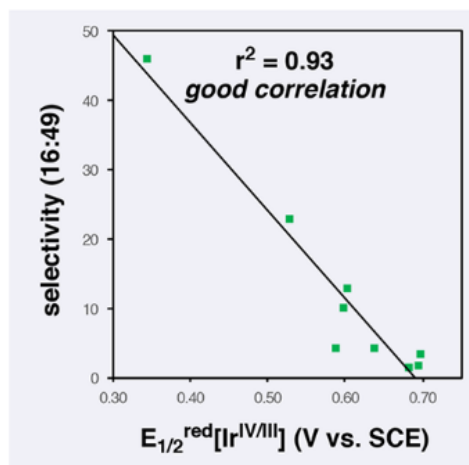
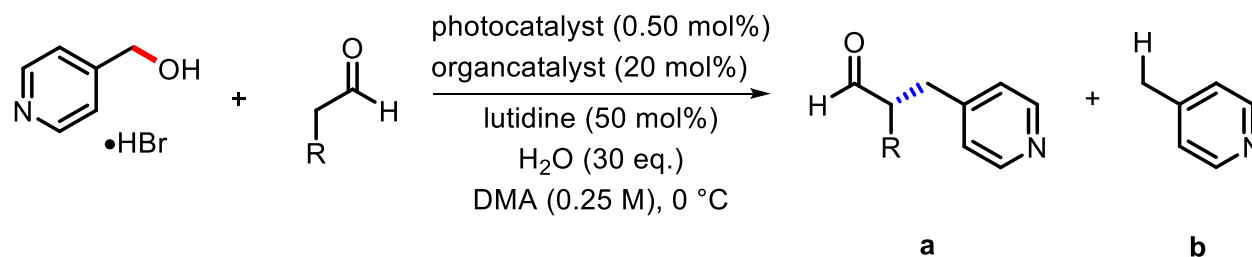
### Leaving group evaluation



Entry	X	E <sup>red</sup> (V)	K <sub>SV</sub> (mM <sup>-1</sup> )	pK <sub>a</sub> (XH)	yield (2 h)	yield [time]	a:b
1	OAc	-1.19	0.84	4.76	75%	90% [3 h]	18
2	NMe <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> Br <sup>-</sup>	n.d. <sup>b</sup>	0.13	9.80	67%	86% [5 h]	14
3	OH	-1.29	1.05	15.7	39%	85% [5 h]	7.7
4	OMe	-1.29	1.15	15.2	29%	71% [24 h]	5.1
5	OTBDPS	-1.30	0.82	≈13.6	20%	61% [48 h]	3.1
6	-	-1.30	1.30	data for pyridine•HBr			

## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Selectivity vs. Photocatalyst electrochemical potentials

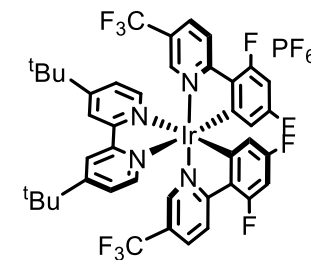
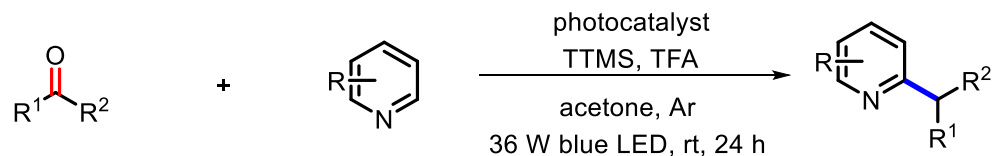


This is a screenshot, where **16** denotes compound **a** and **49** denotes compound **b**.

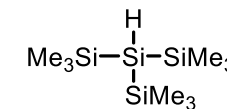


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Photoredox Alkylations of Heteroarene with Ketones or Aldehydes

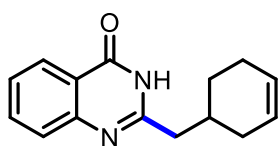


Photocatalyst

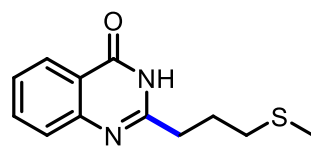


TTMS

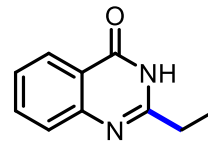
### Substrate scope



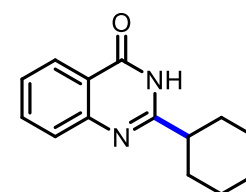
58%



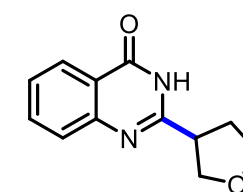
41%



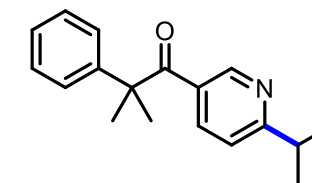
50%



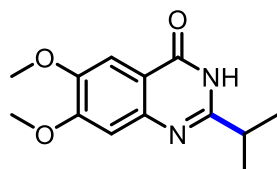
90%



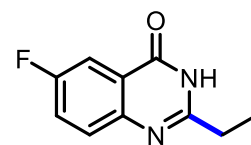
63%



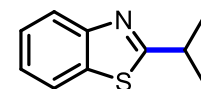
Metyrapone, 35%



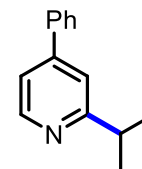
90%



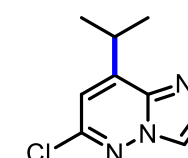
63%



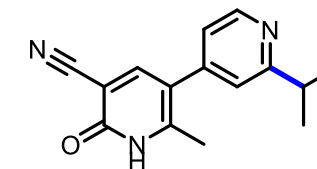
51%



56%



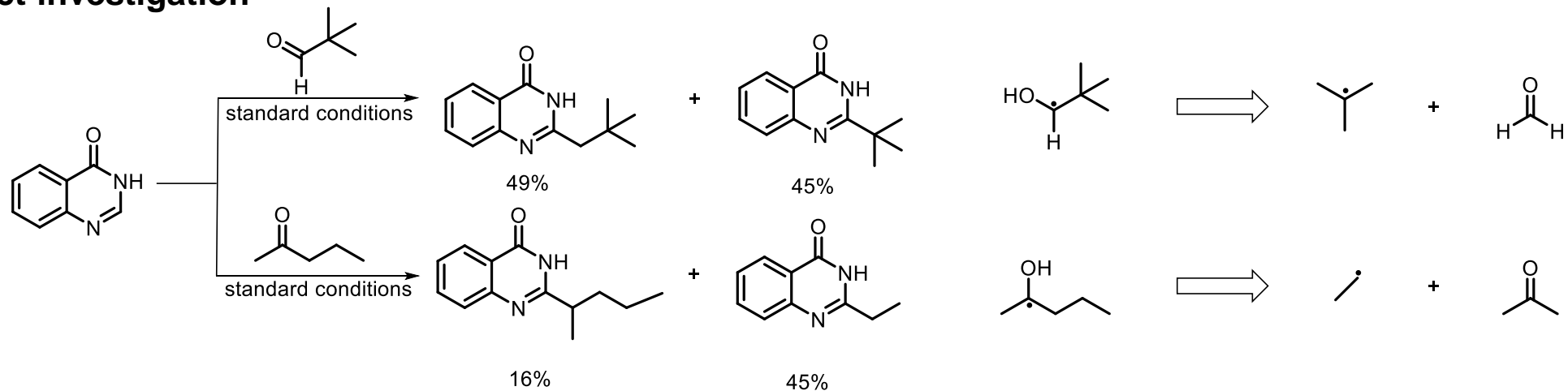
57%



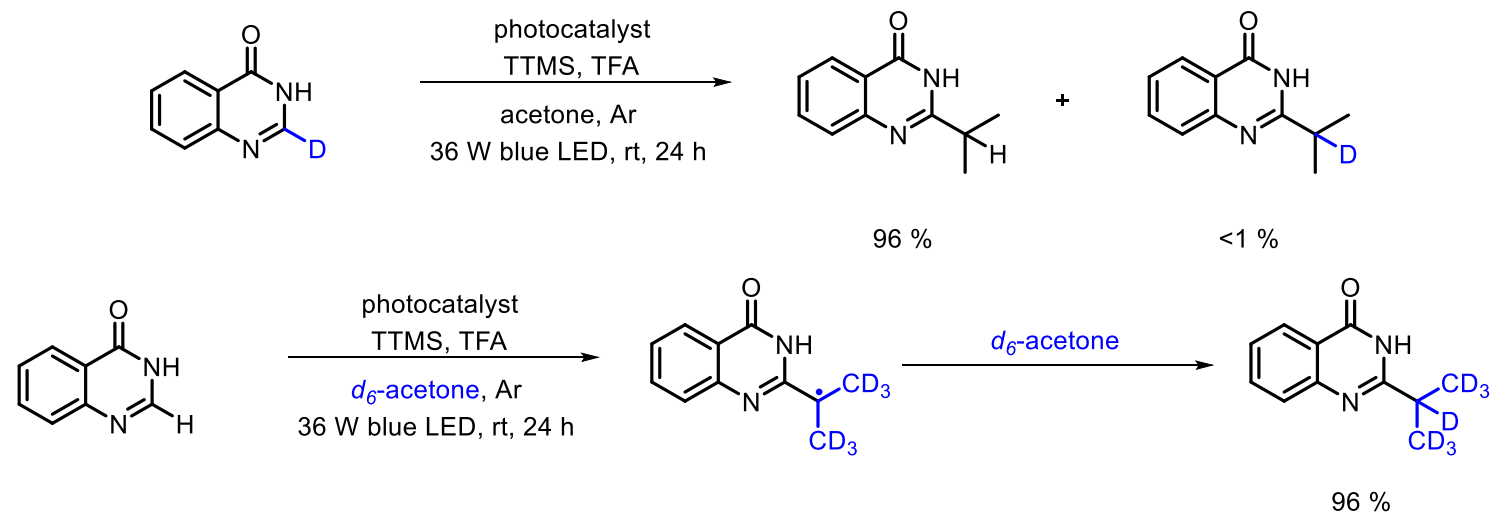
Milrinone, 41%

## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Byproduct investigation

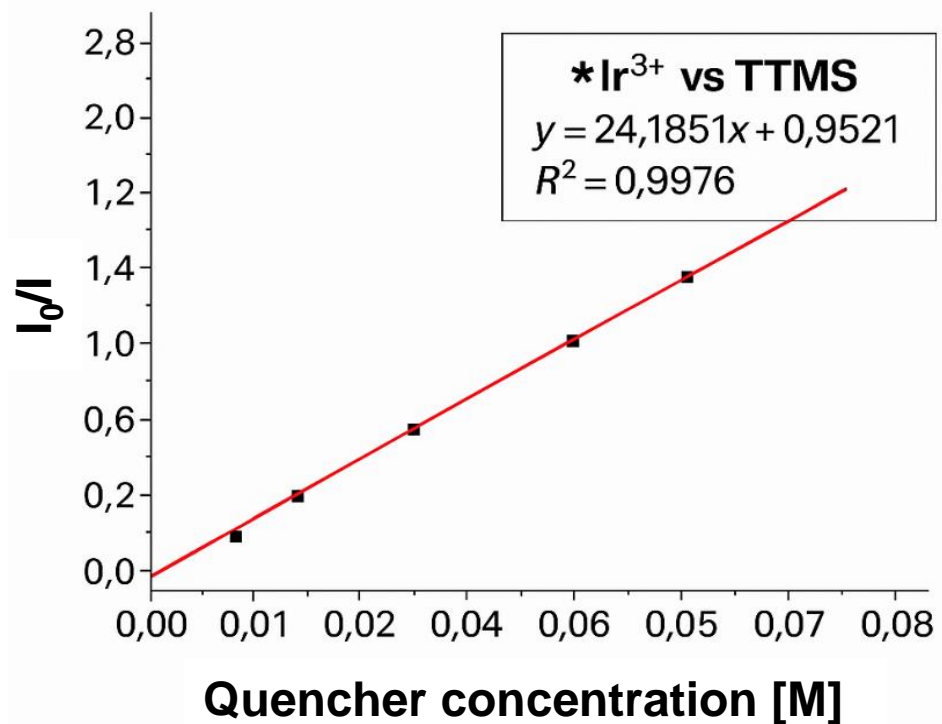


### Deuterium-labeling studies

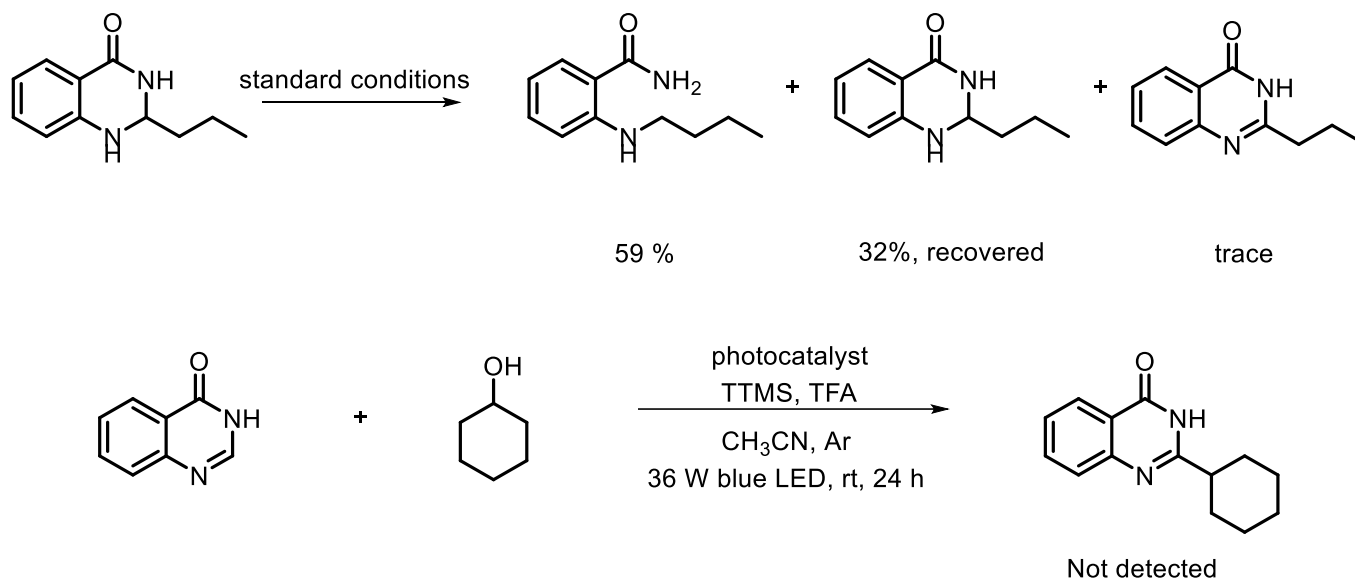


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Stern-Volmer fluorescence quenching study

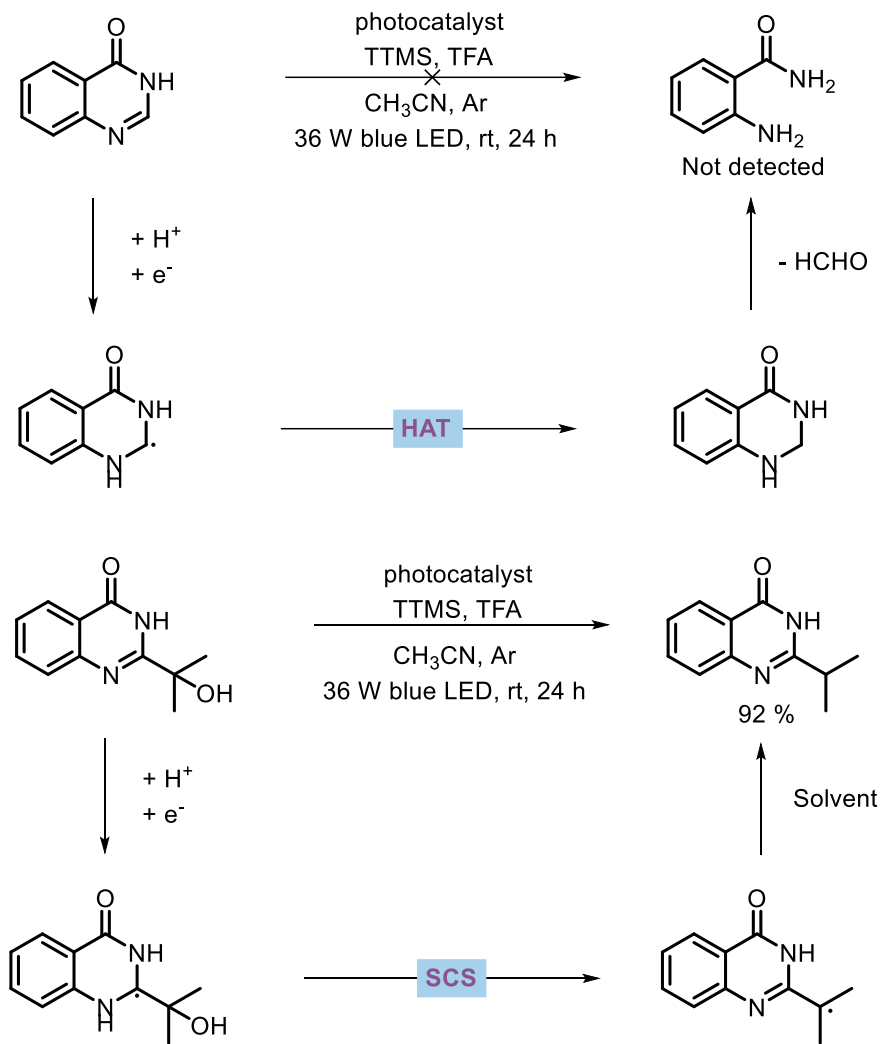


### Intermediate exploration

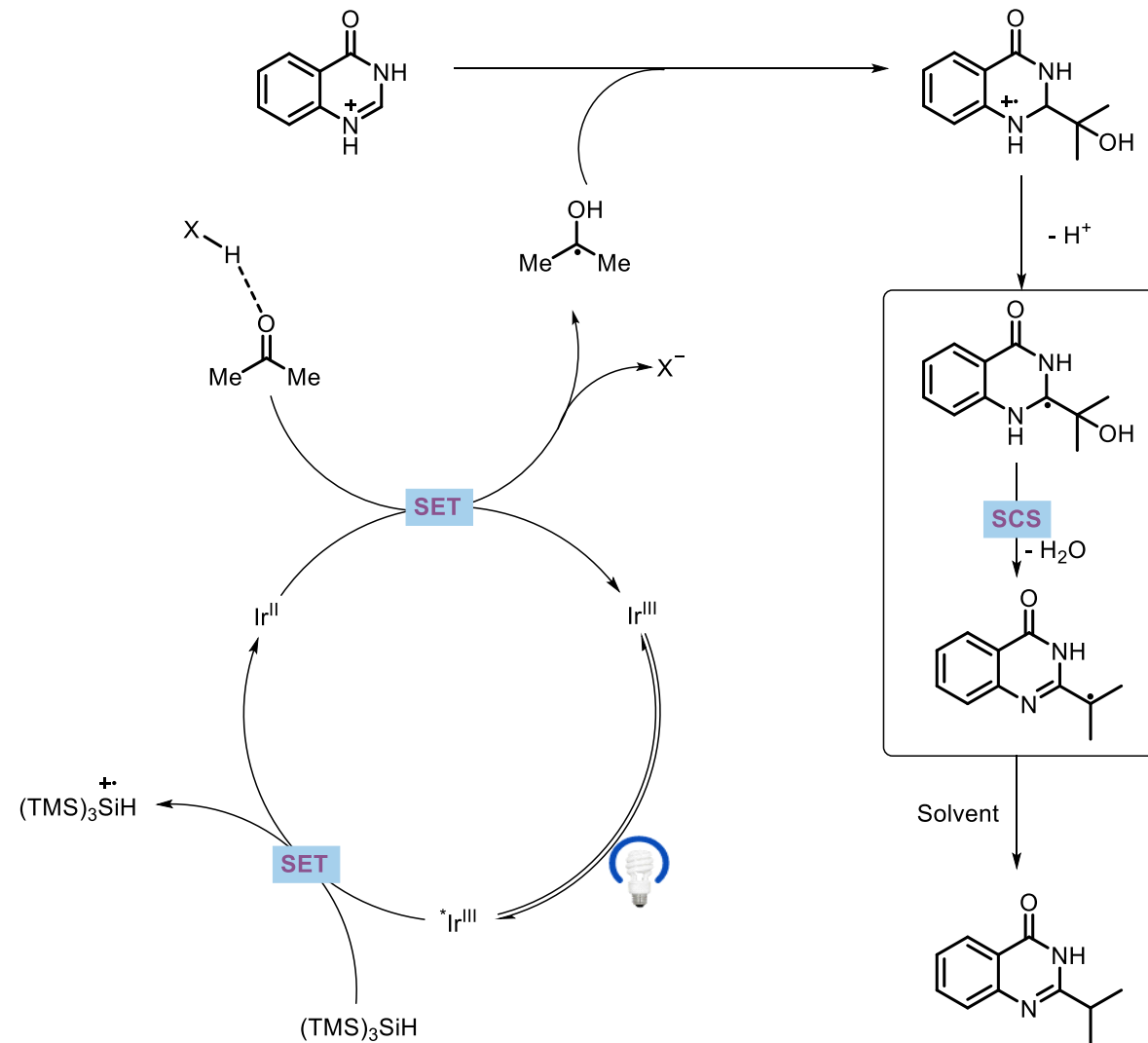


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Intermediate exploration

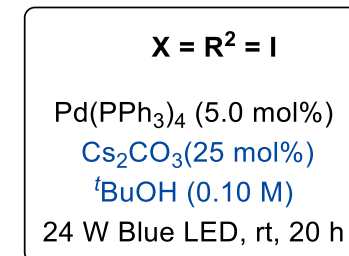
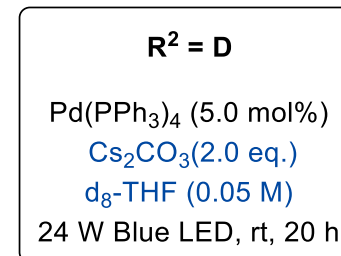
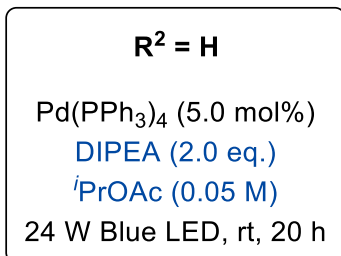
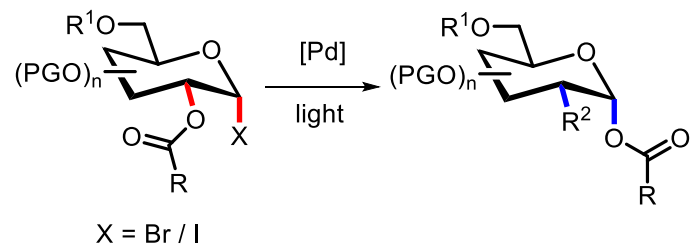


### Possible reaction mechanism

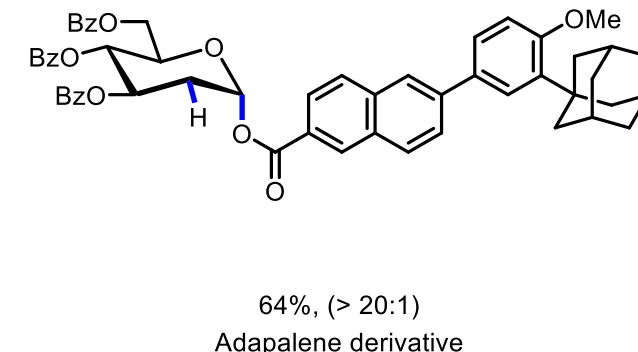
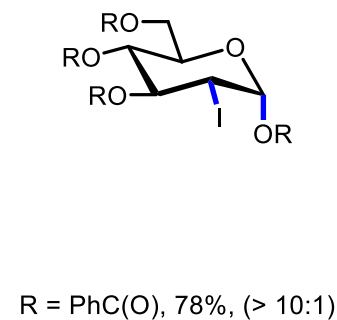
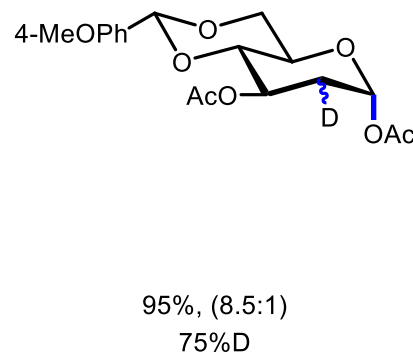
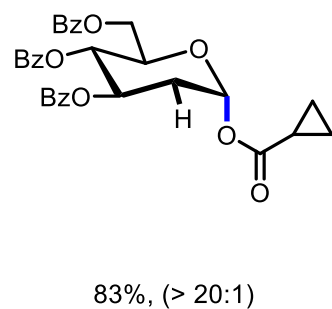
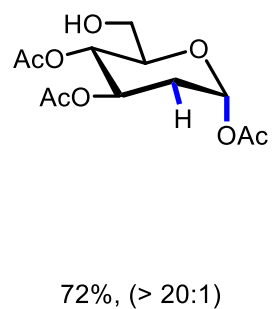
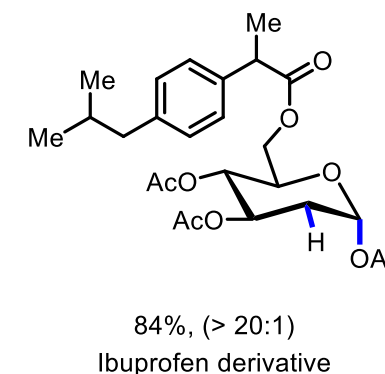
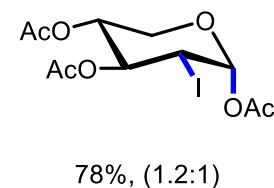
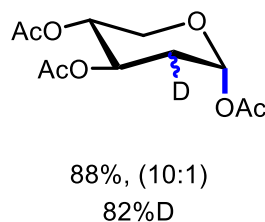
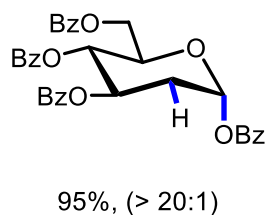
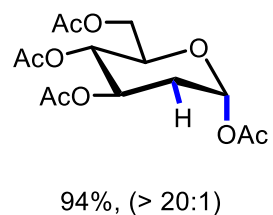


# 2.2. SET induced SCS process

## Excited-State Palladium-Catalyzed 1,2-Spin-Center Shift

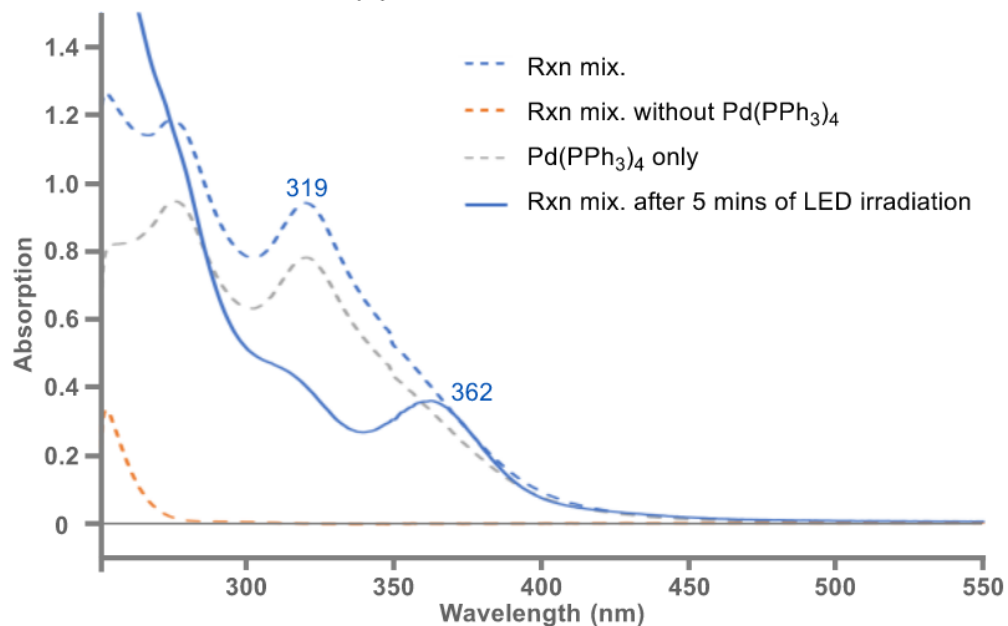


## Substrate scope

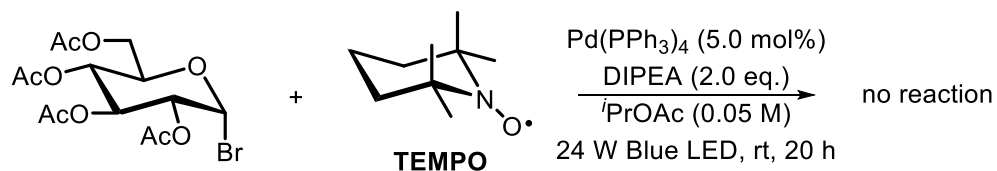


# 2.2. SET induced SCS process

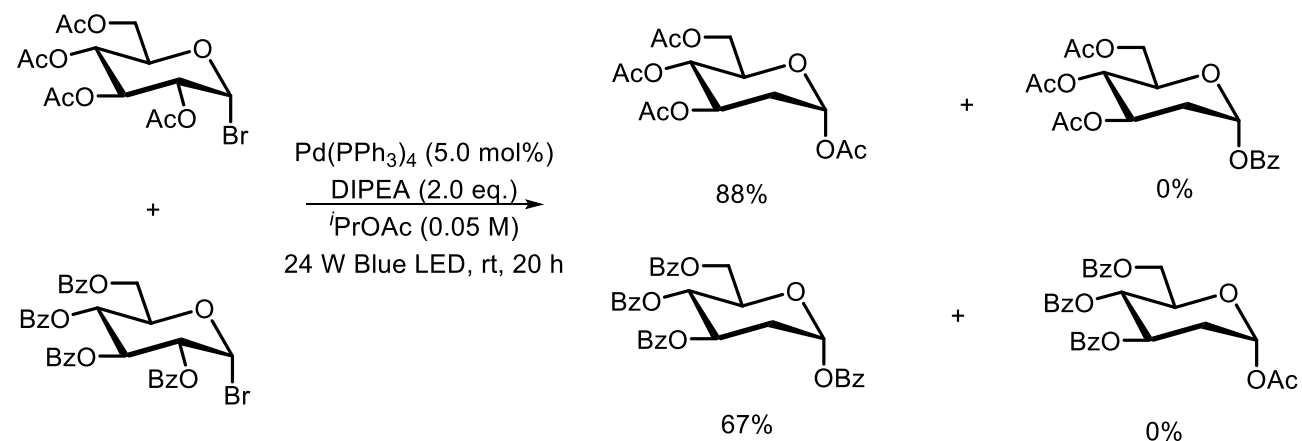
## UV-vis measurement



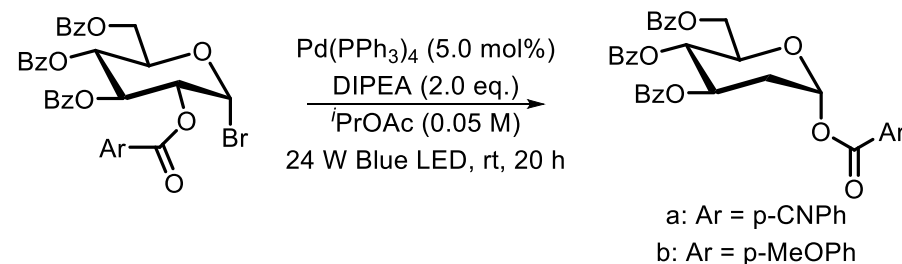
## Radical trapping experiment



## Cross-over experiments



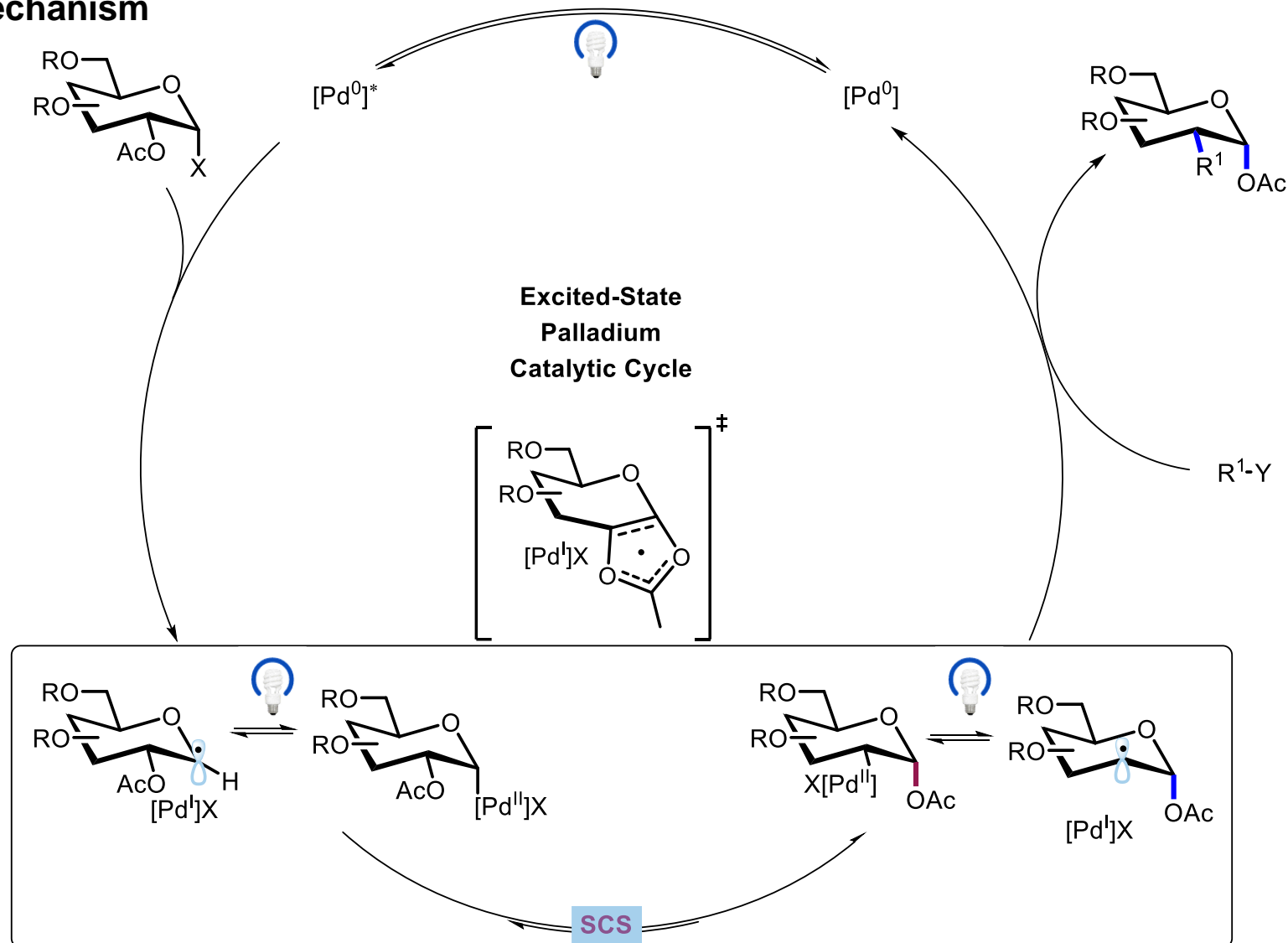
## Reaction rate measurement



Time (h)	Yield (%)	
	a	b
0.5	7	8
1.0	11	12
2.0	23	24
4.0	33	34
8.0	45	48

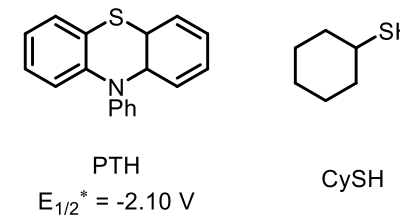
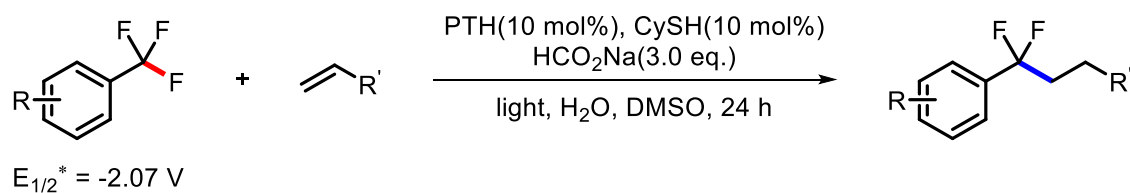
## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

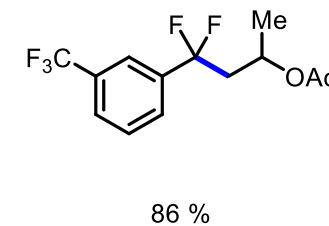
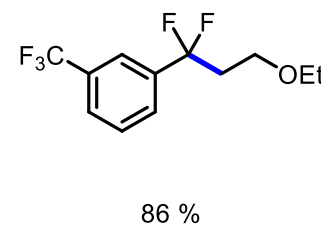
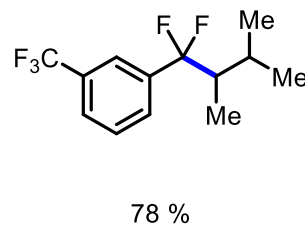
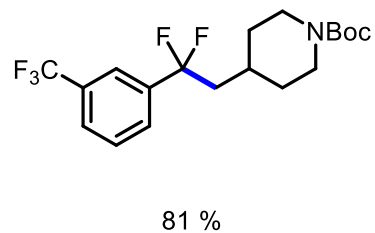
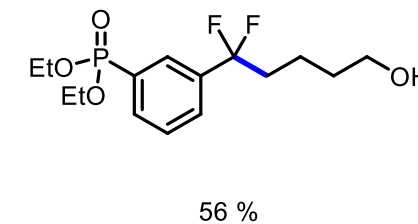
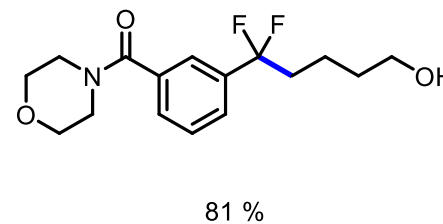
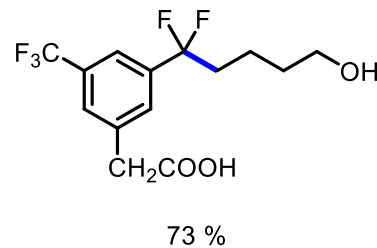
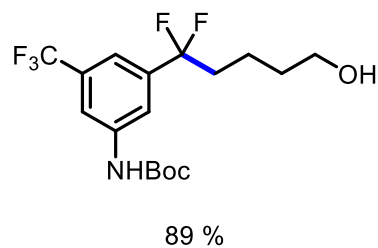


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Catalytic Defluoroalkylation of Trifluoromethylaromatics

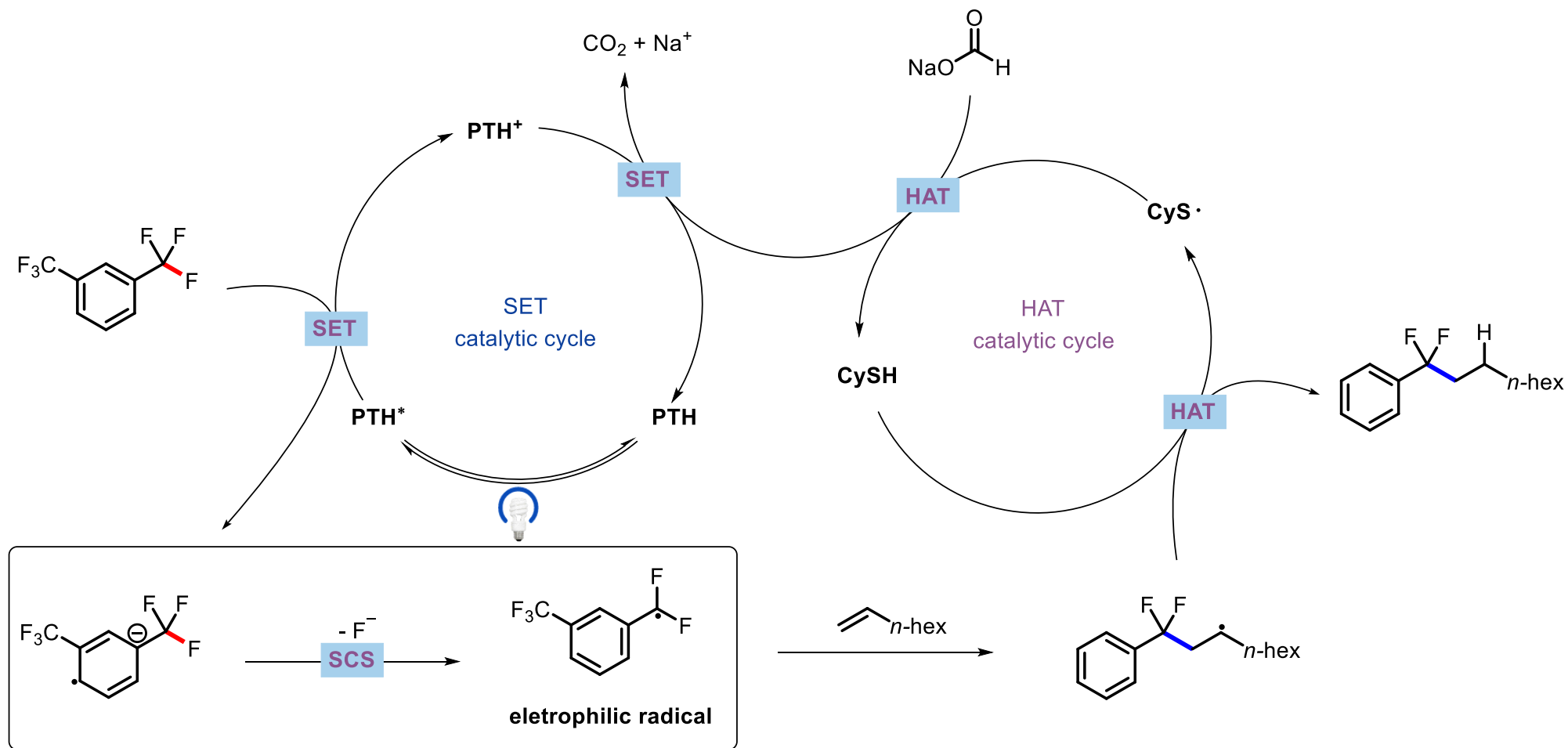


### Substrate scope



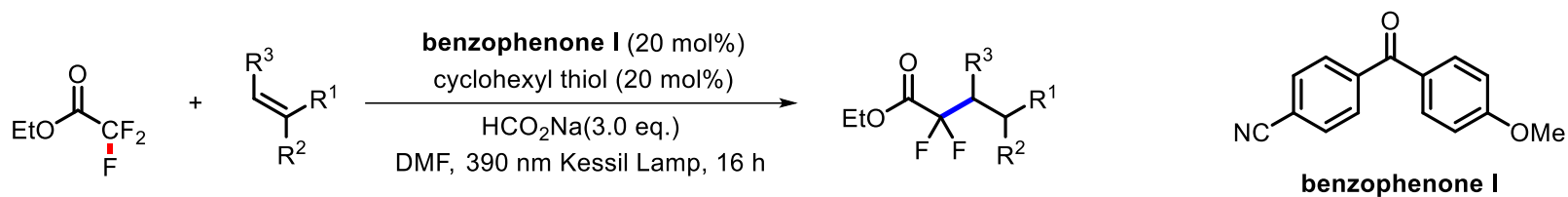
## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

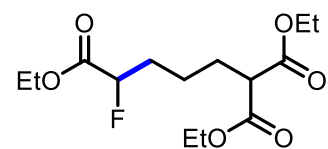


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

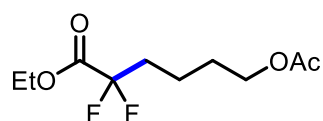
### Photochemical C–F Activation with Sodium Formate



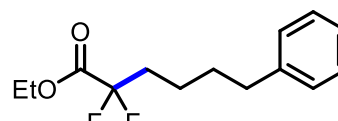
### Substrate scope



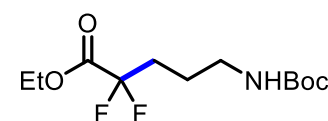
98 %



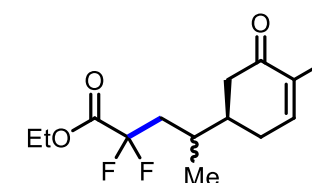
98 %



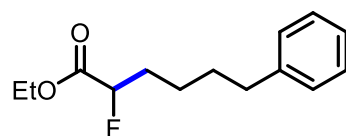
80 %



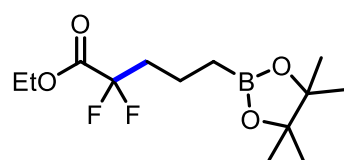
80 %



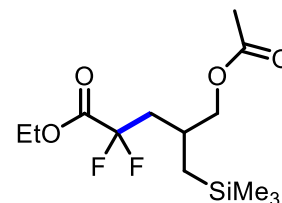
53%, dr = 1:1  
from (-)-carvone



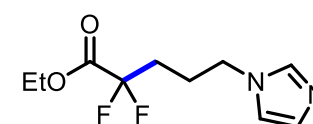
85 %



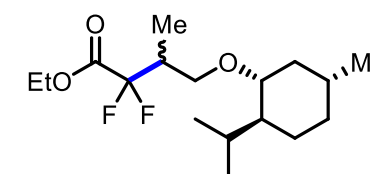
92 %



44 %



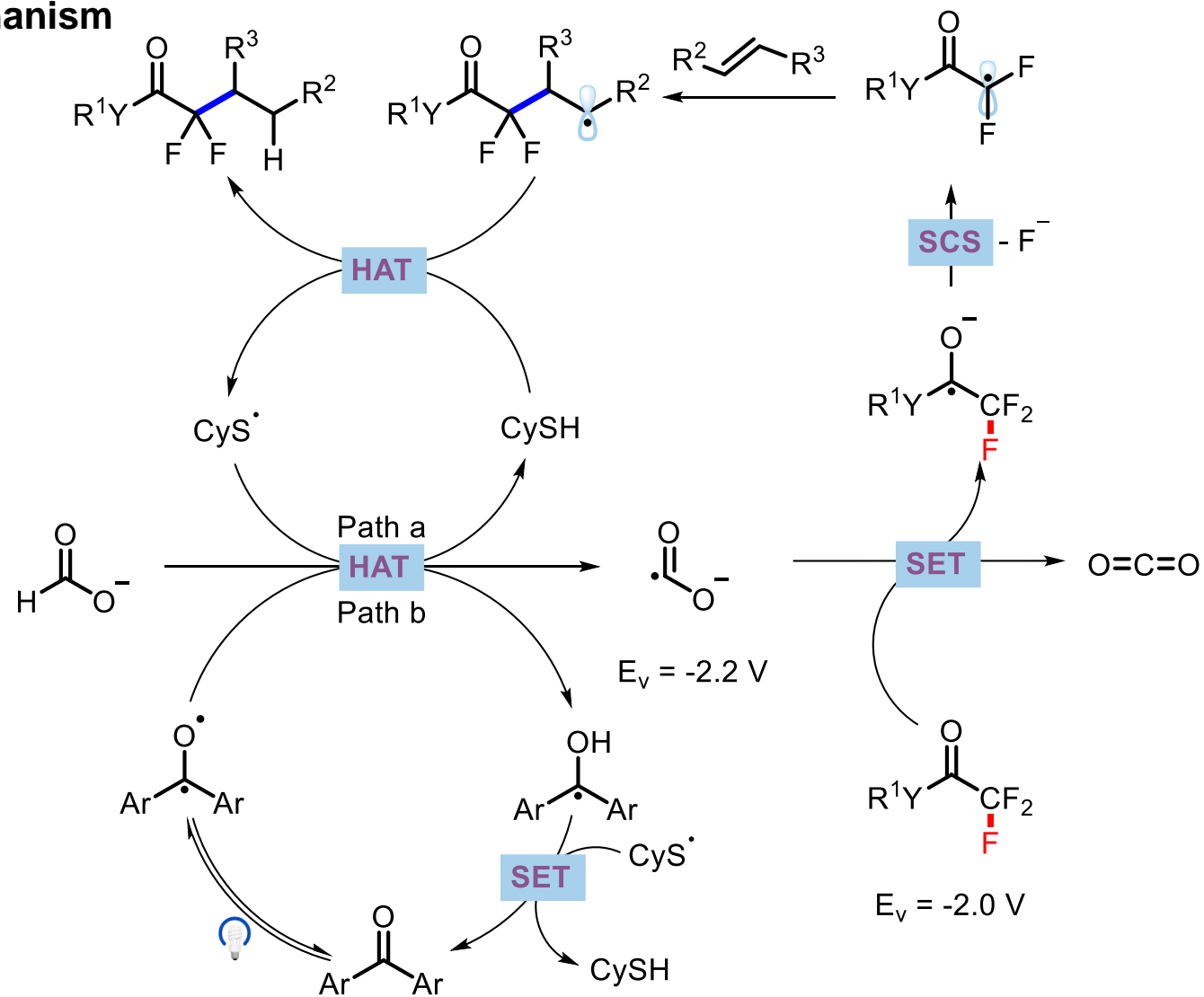
62 %



92%, dr = 1:1  
from (-)-menthol

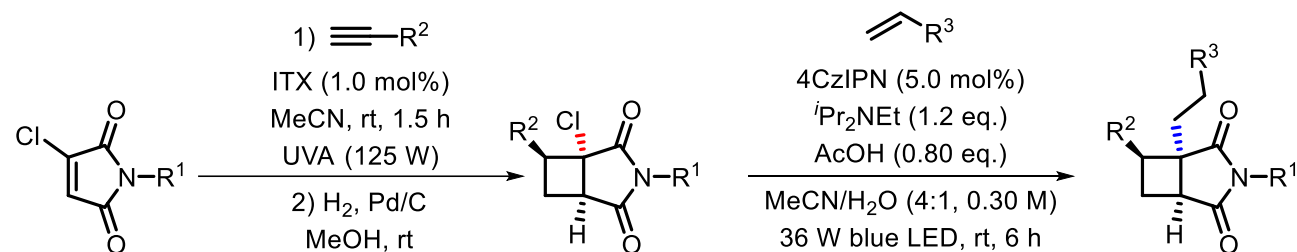
## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

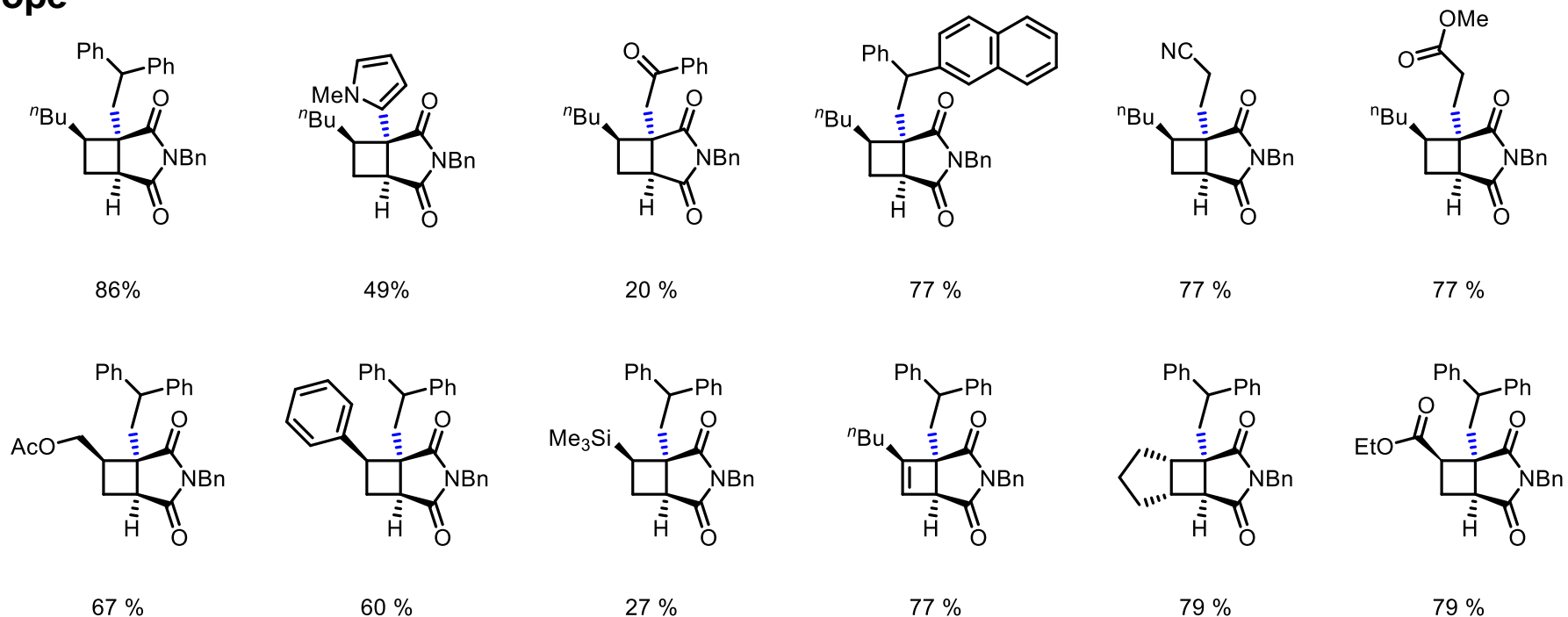


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Sequential Photocatalytic Reactions for the Synthesis of Cyclobutane Scaffolds

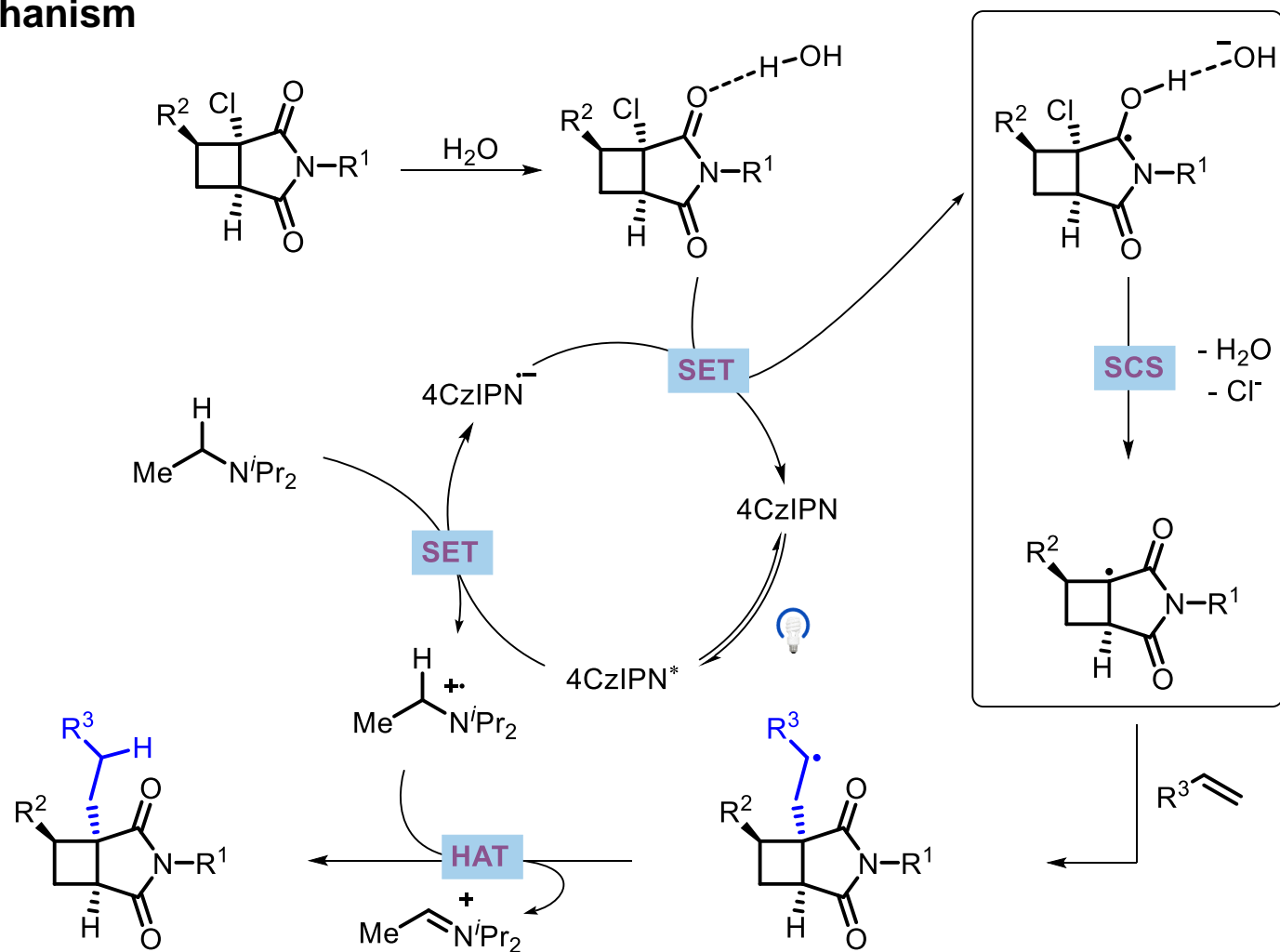


### Substrate scope



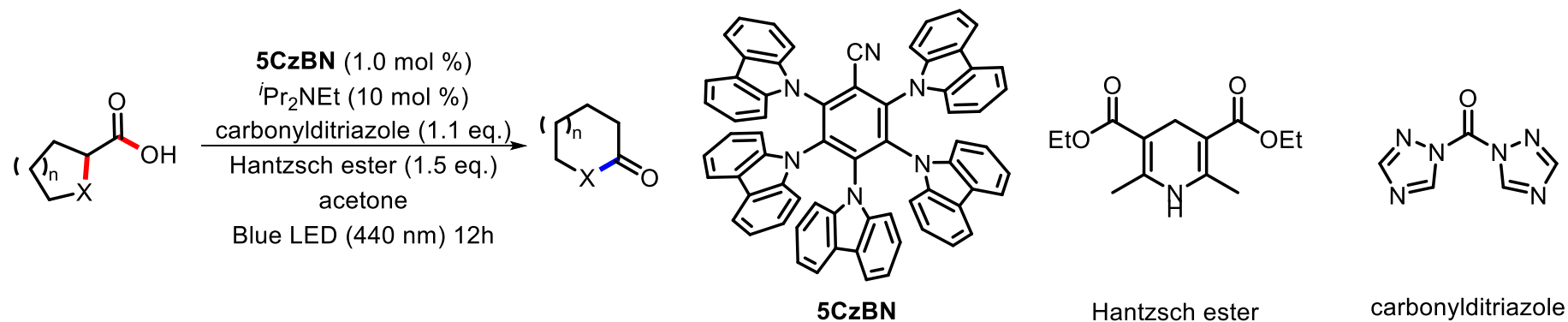
## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

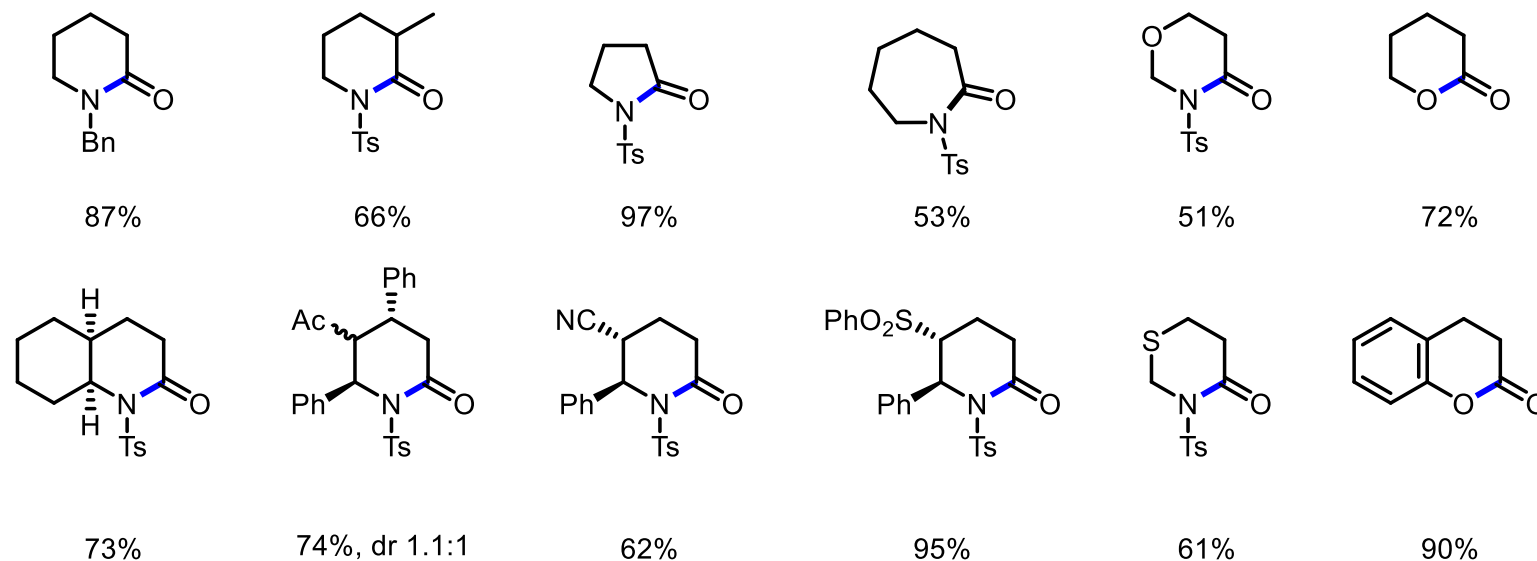


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Carbonylative Ring Expansion of Cyclic Carboxylic Acids

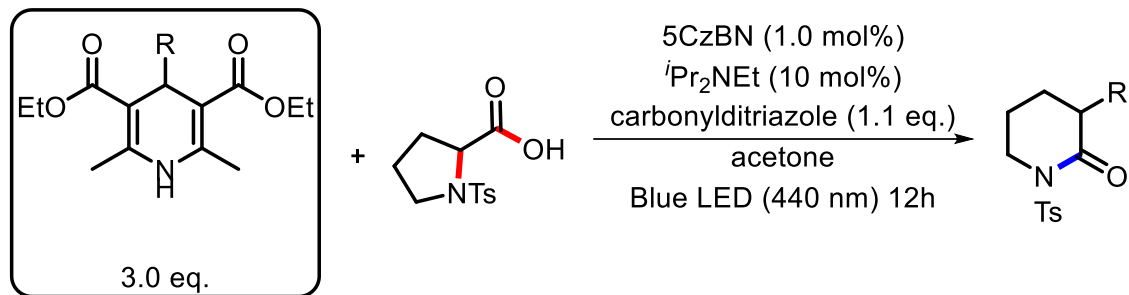


### Substrate scope

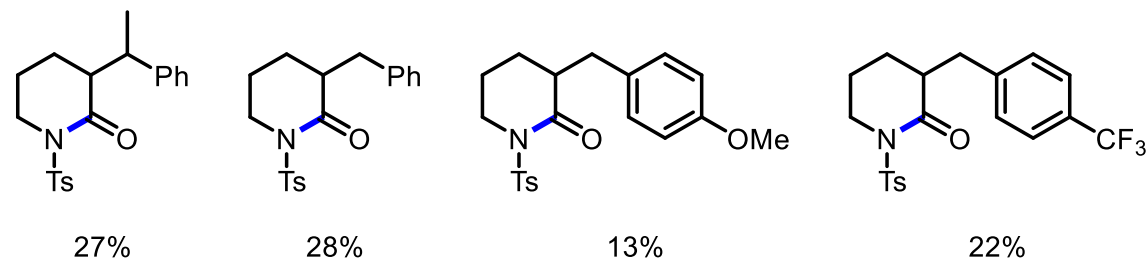


## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

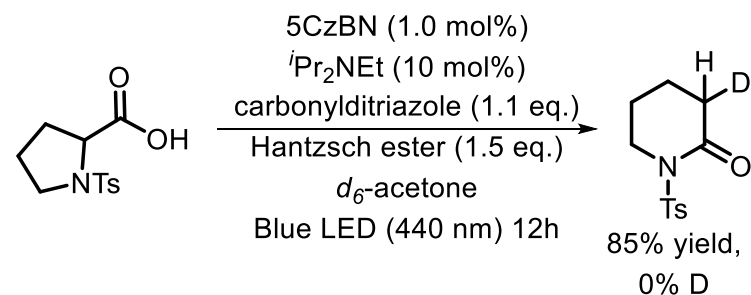
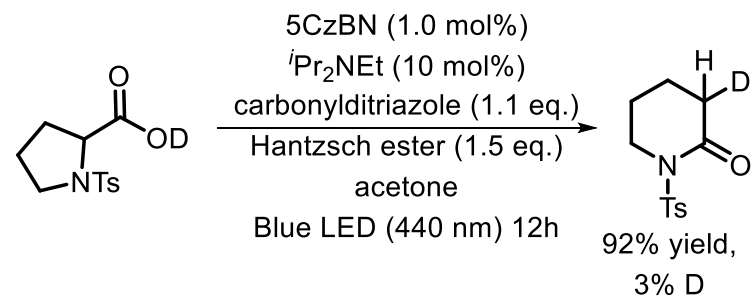
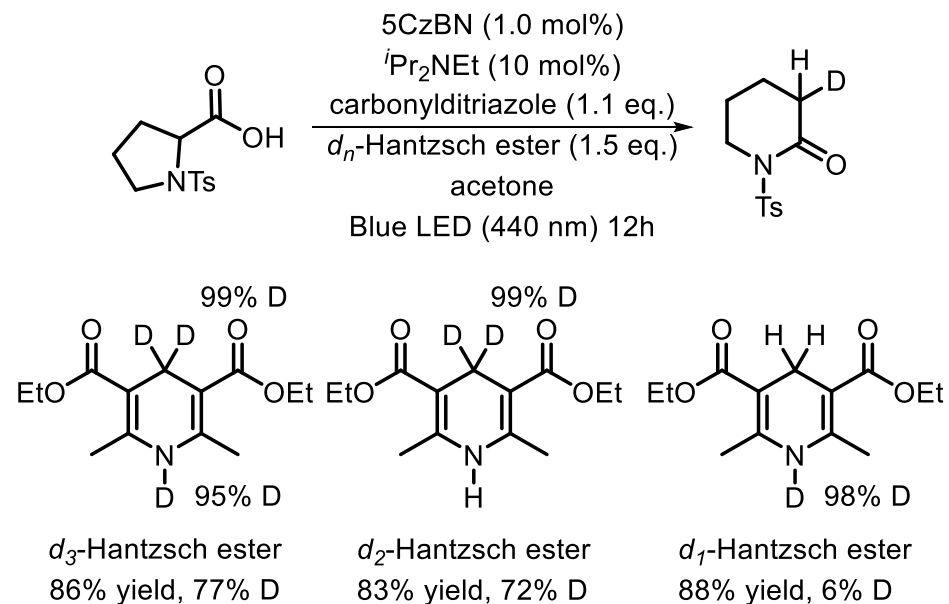
### Reactions with alkyl radical precursors



### Substrate scope

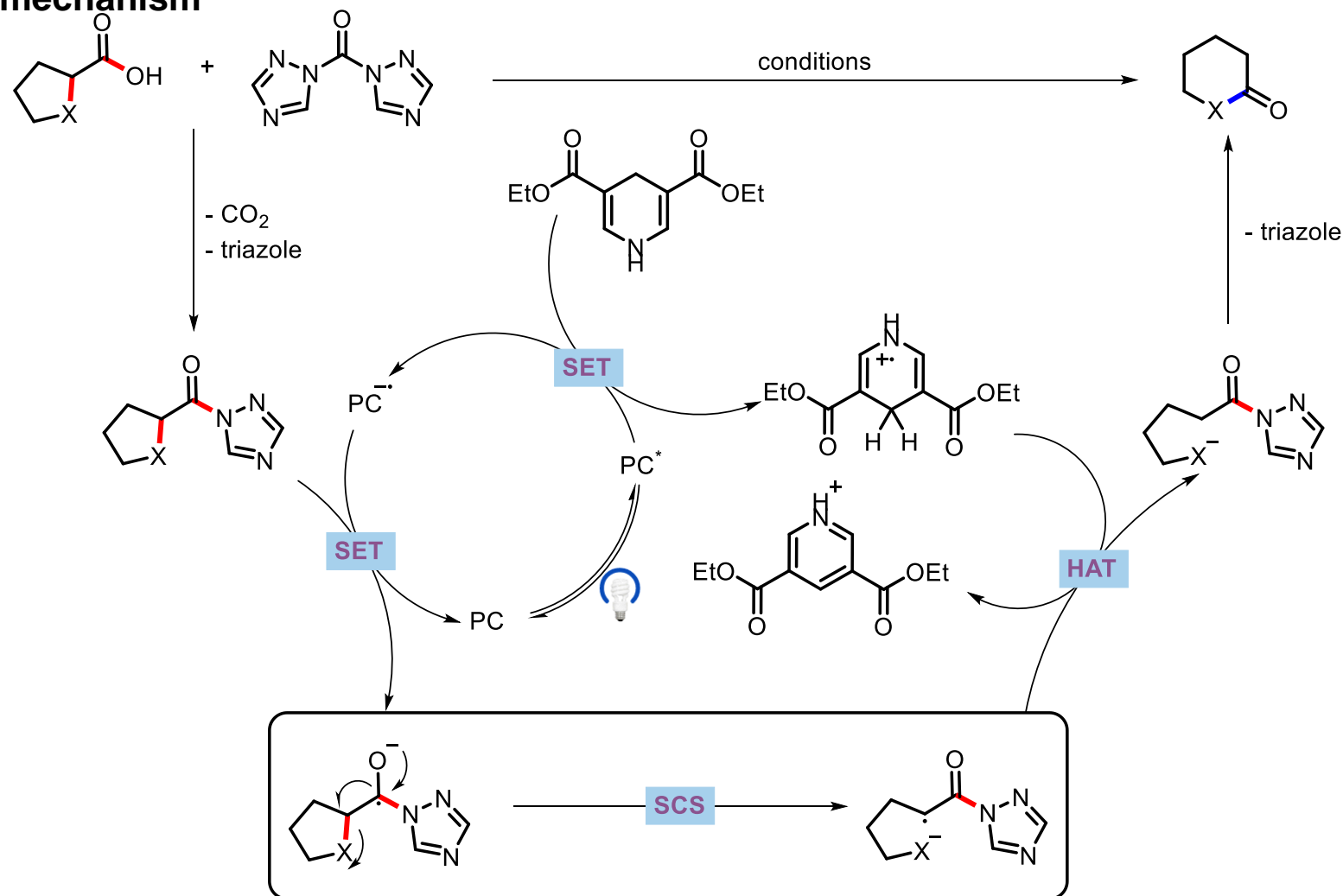


### Deuterium labelling experiments



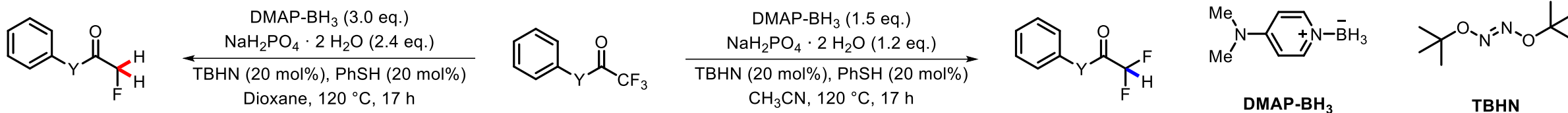
## 2.2. SET induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

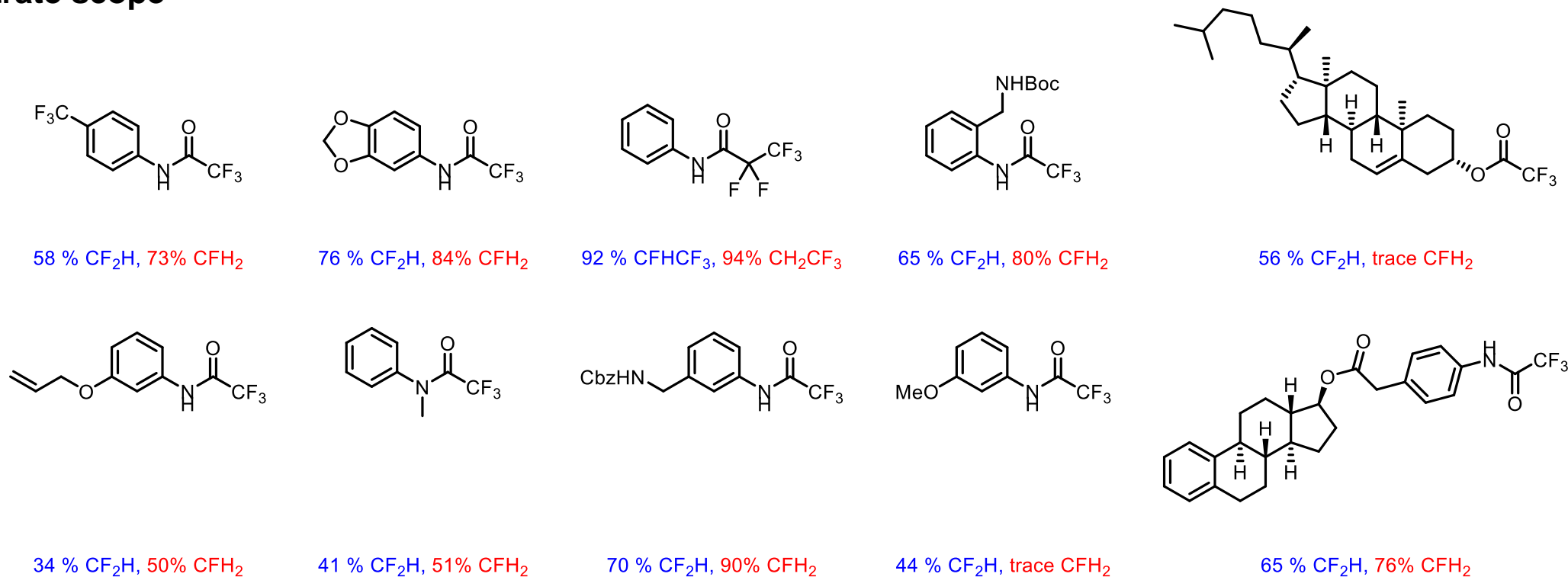


# 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

## Sequential Hydrogenolysis of C–F Bonds

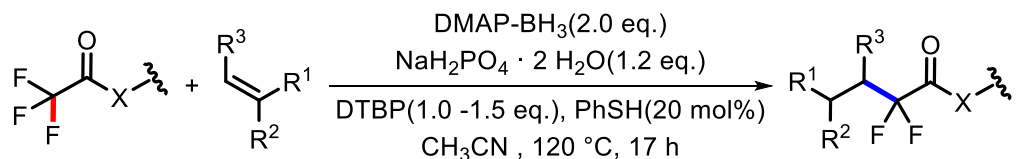


## Substrate scope

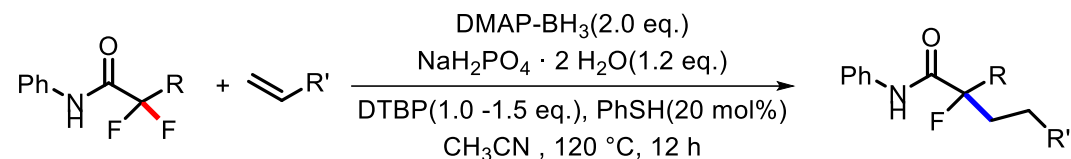
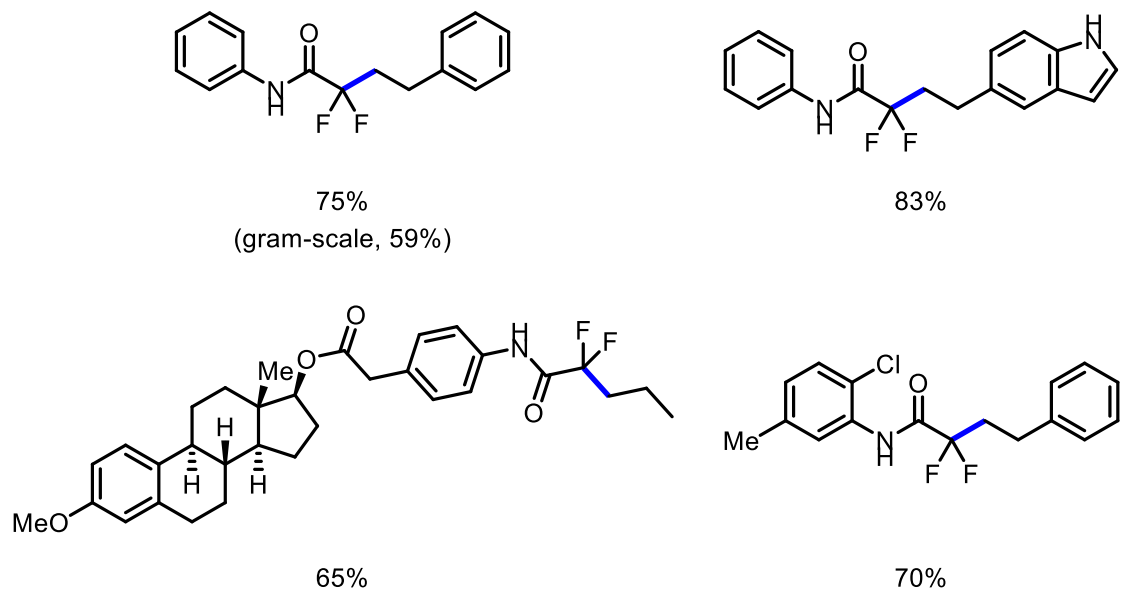


# 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

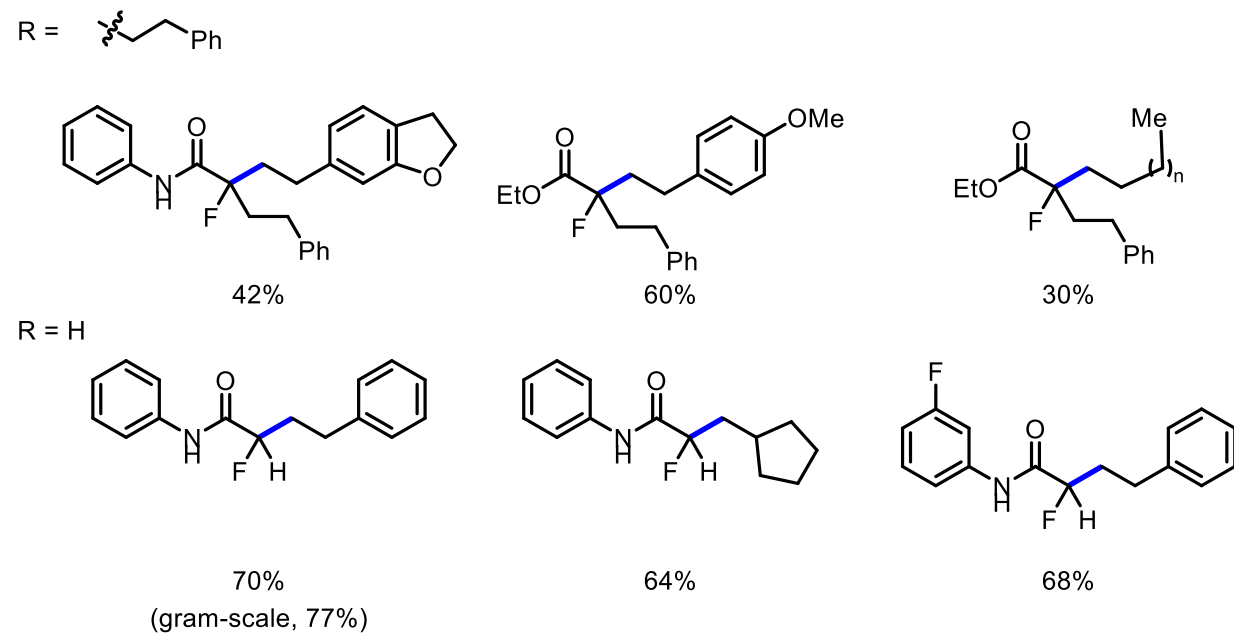
## Sequential Hydrogenolysis of C-F Bonds



## Substrate scope



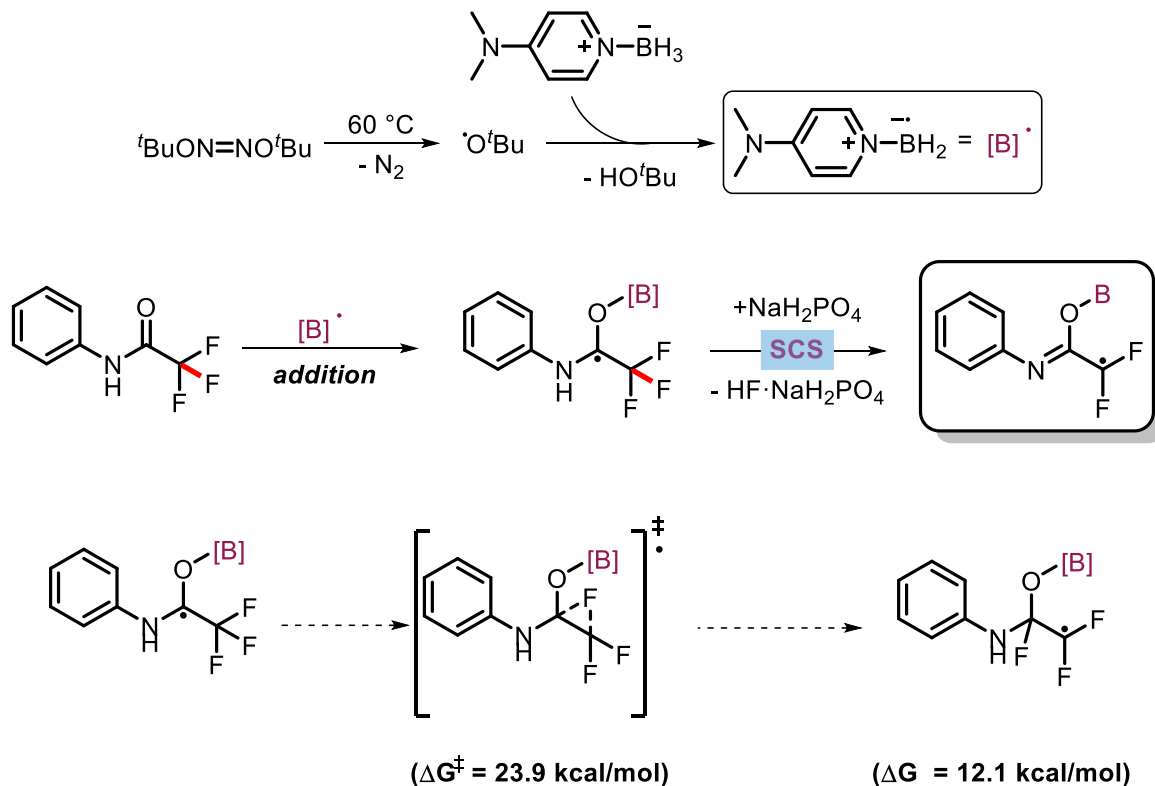
## Substrate scope



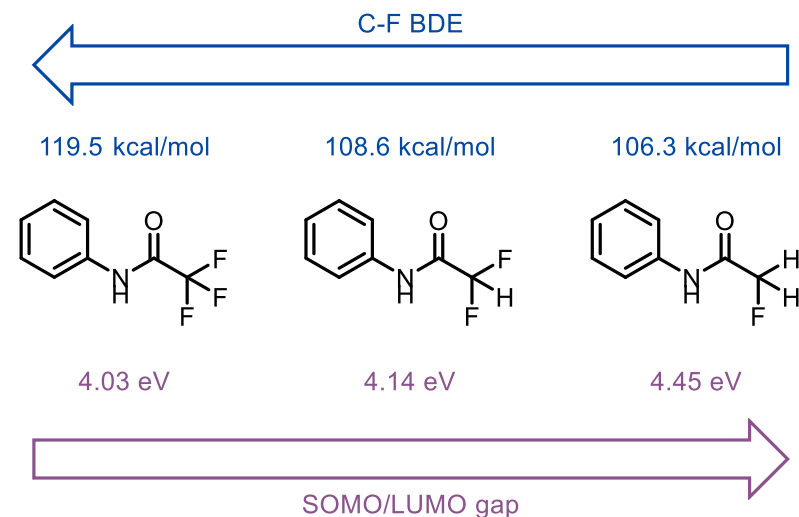
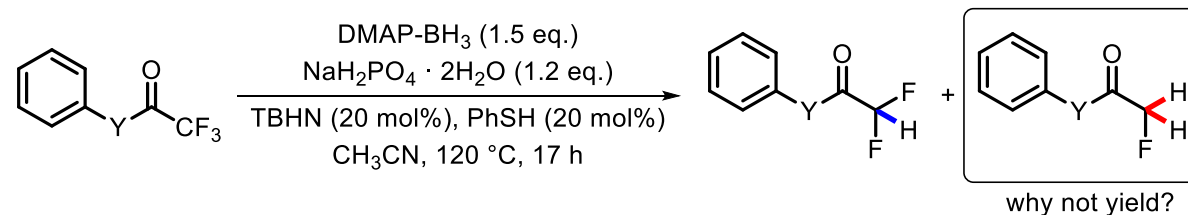


# 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

## Possible pathways for C–F bond cleavage

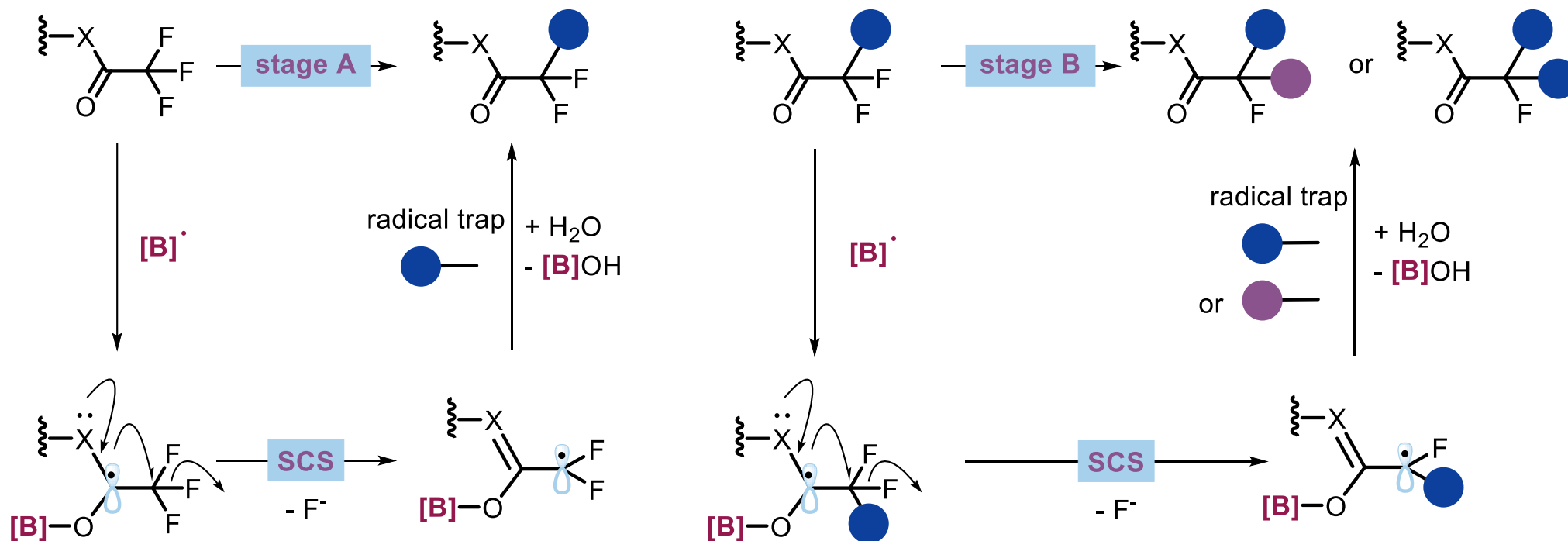


## Trend in the addition of $\text{DMAP-BH}_2^{\cdot}$ to the substrates



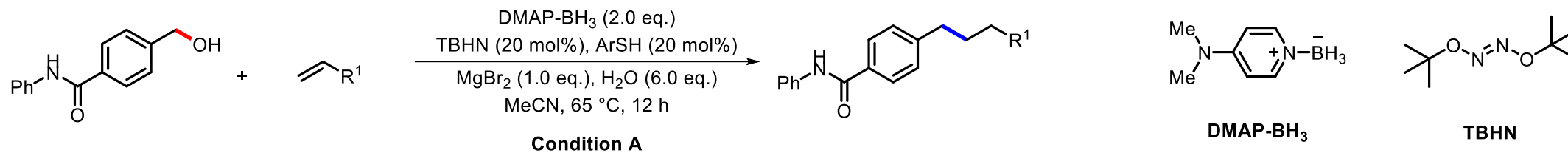
## 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism

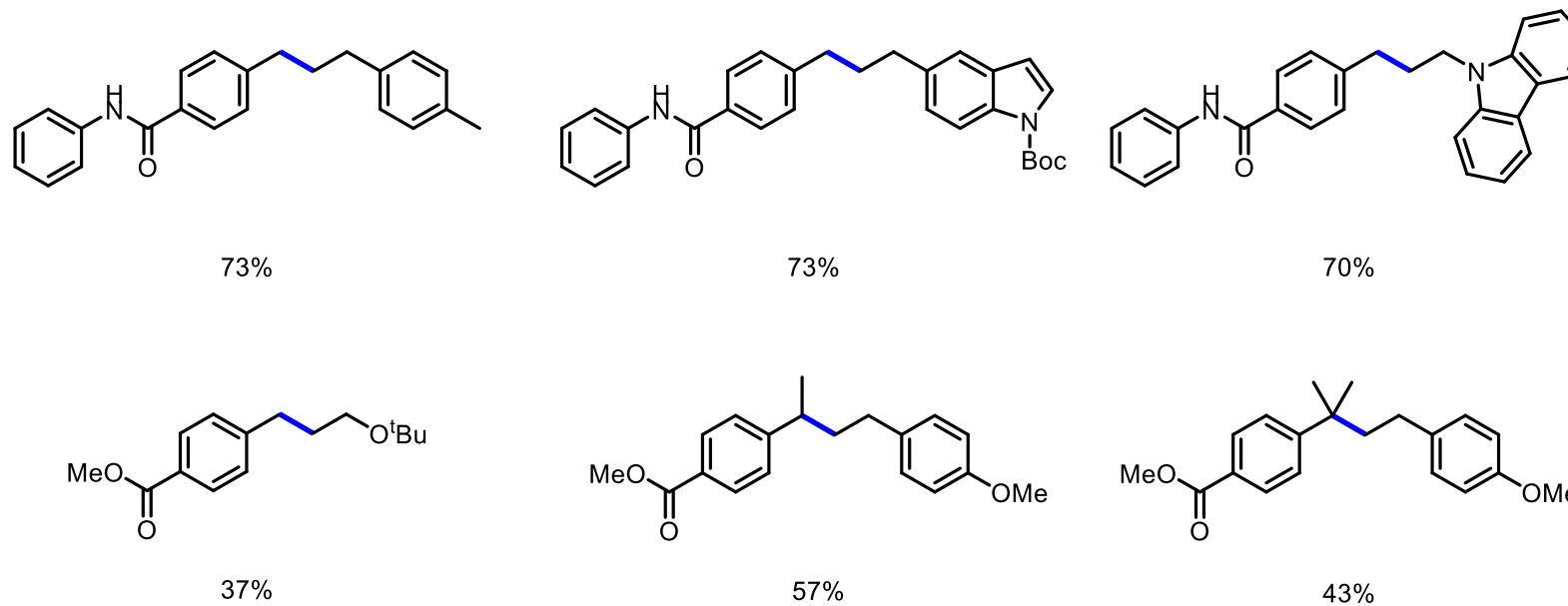


## 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

### Remote Spin-Center Shift for C-O bond

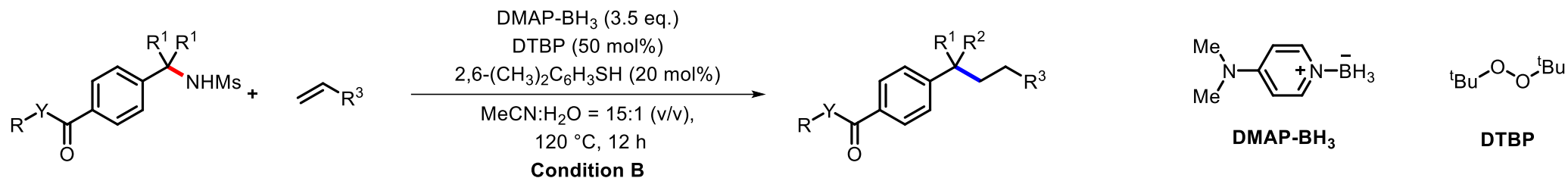


### Substrate scope

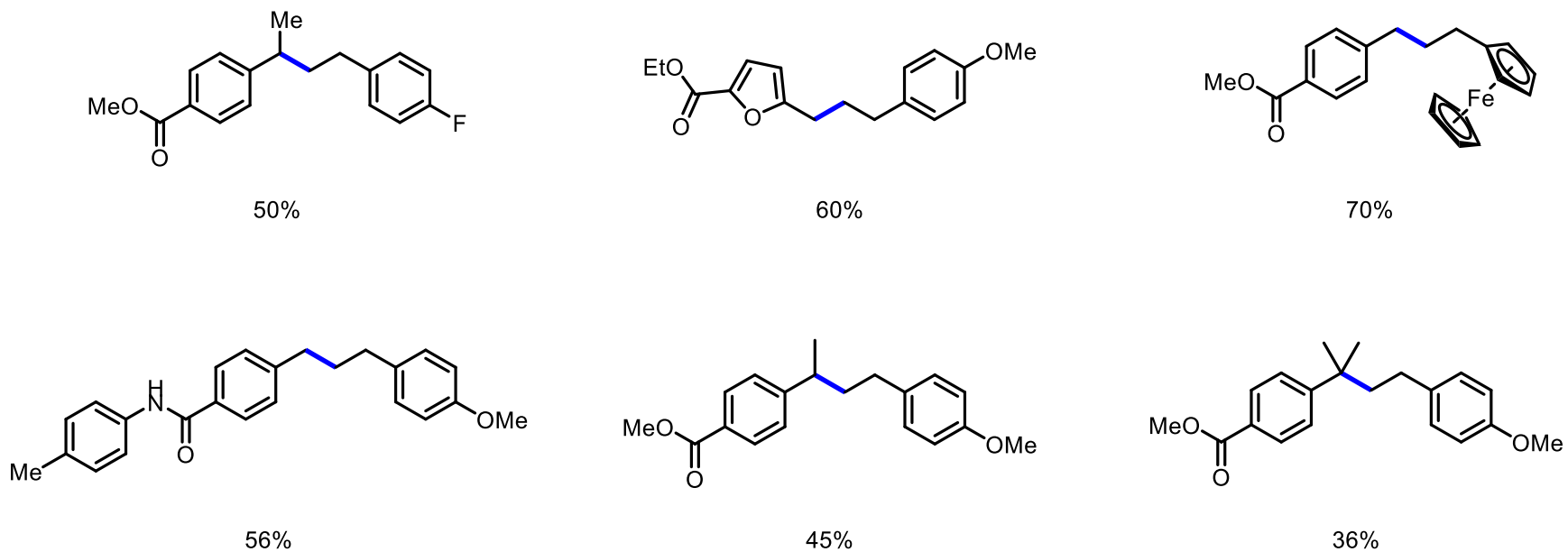


## 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

### Remote Spin-Center Shift for C-N bond



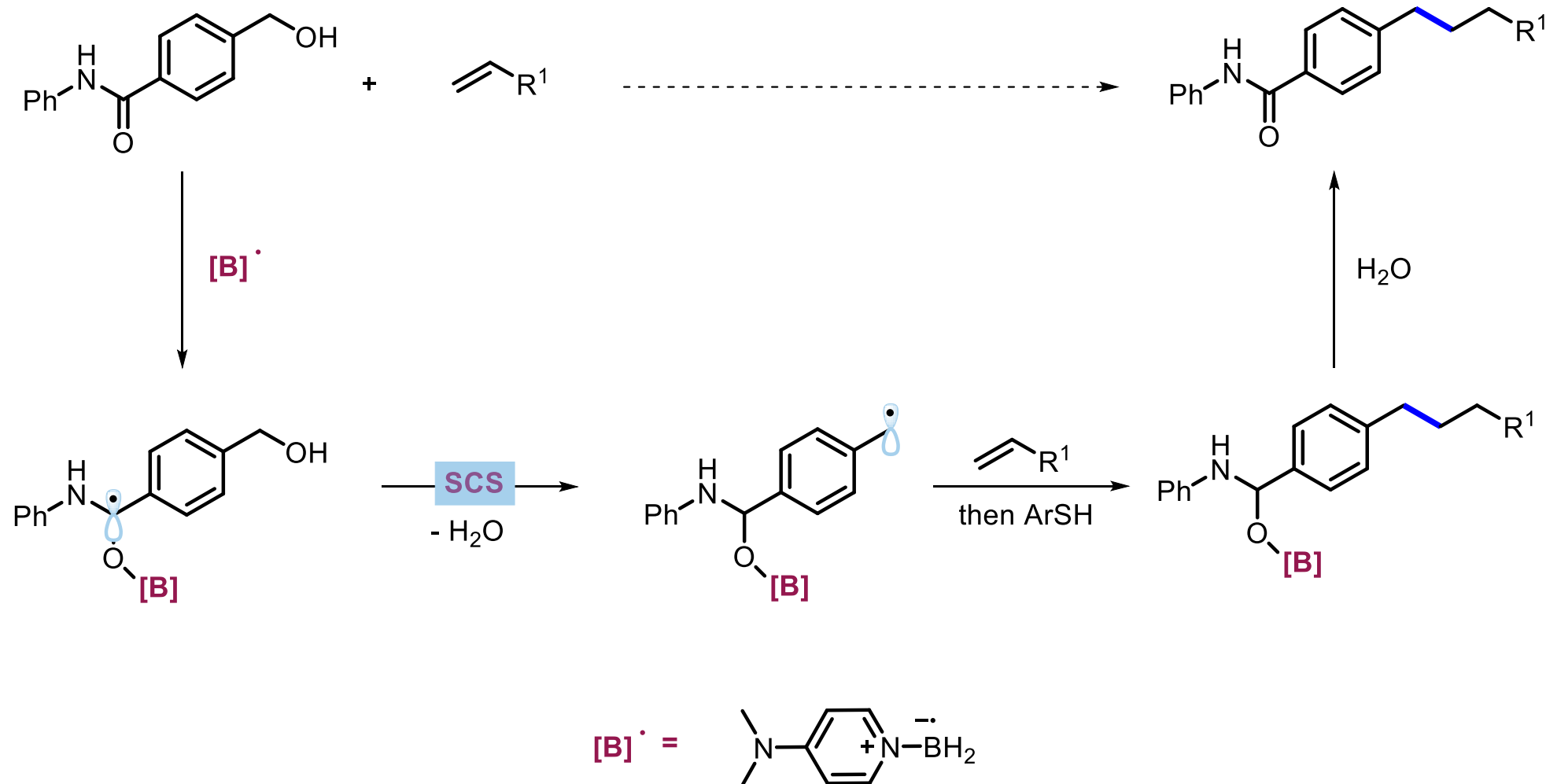
### Substrate scope





## 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

### Possible reaction mechanism



# Content

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Application of the Spin-Center Shift in Organic Synthesis

### 2.1. HAT induced SCS process

### 2.2. SET induced SCS process

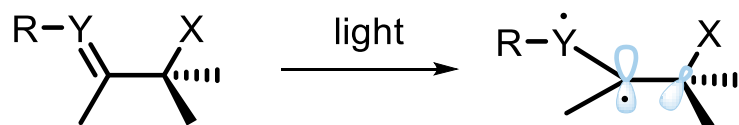
### 2.3. Radical addition induced SCS process

## 3. Summary and Outlook

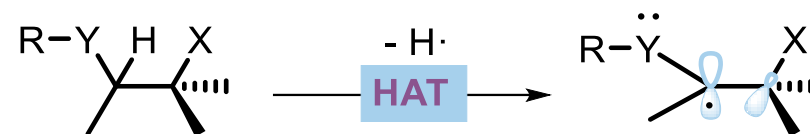
# 3. Summary and Outlook

## Four Methods for Generating Free Radicals

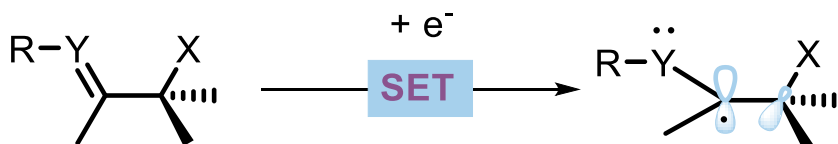
### Direct Photoexcitation



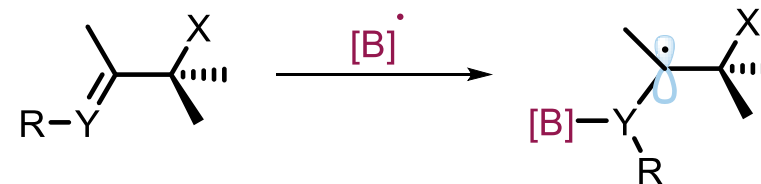
### HAT



### SET



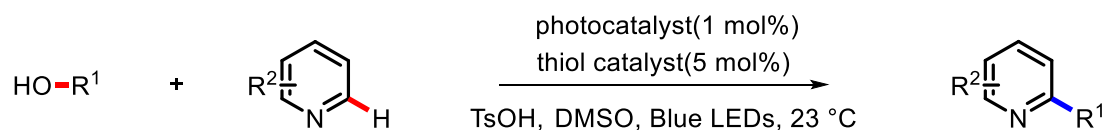
### Radical Addition



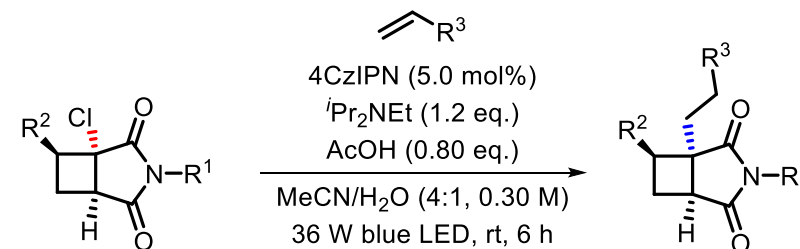
# 3. Summary and Outlook

## Four Types of Carbon-Heteroatom Bond Activation

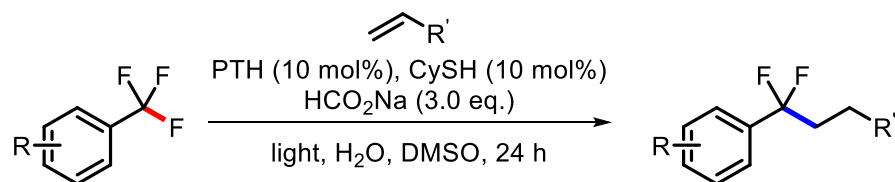
### C–O Bond Activation



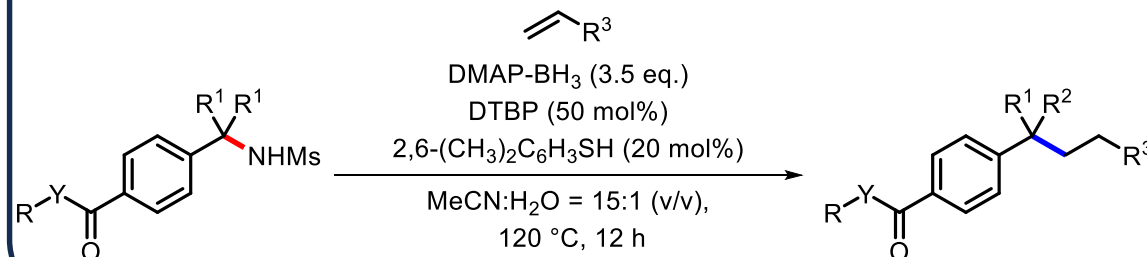
### C-Cl Bond Activation



### C-F Bond Activation



### C-N Bond Activation



1) Jin, J.; MacMillan, D. W. C. *Nature* **2015**, *525*, 87–90.

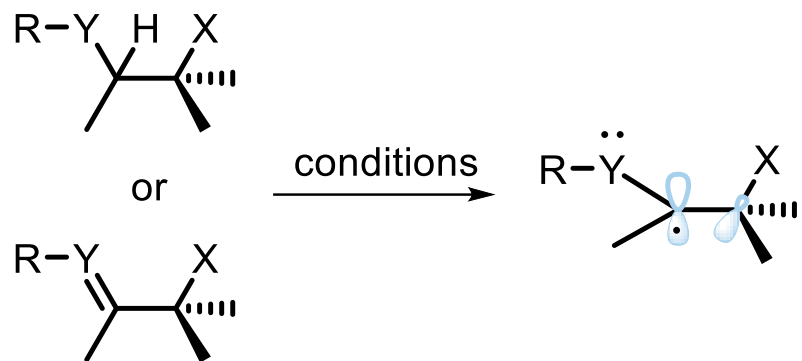
2) Deeprose, M. J.; Lowe, M.; Noble, A.; Booker-Milburn, K. I.; Aggarwal, V. K. *Org. Lett.* **2022**, *24*, 137–141.

3) Wang, H.; Jui, N. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 163–166.

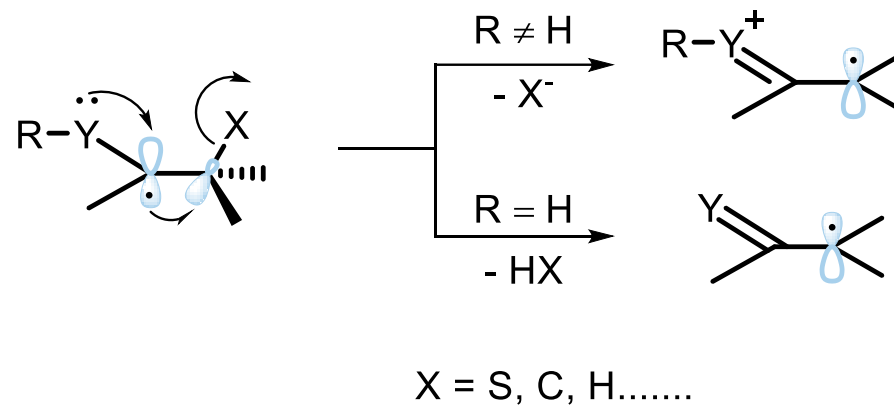
4) Hui, L.; Phang, Y. L.; Ye, C.; Lai, J.; Zhang, F.; Fu, Y.; Wang, Y. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2025**, *64*, e202506771.

# 3. Summary and Outlook

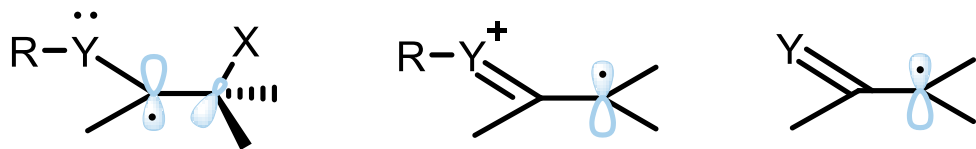
## Other Methods for Generating Free Radical



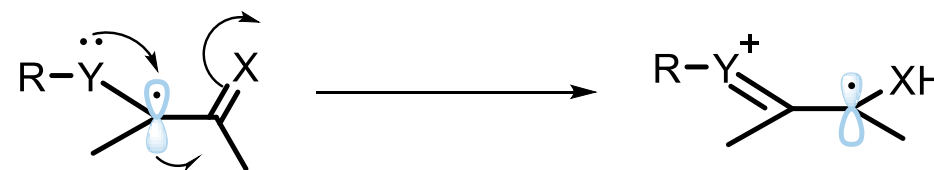
## Other Functional Group for Leaving



## Characterization and Separation of Intermediates



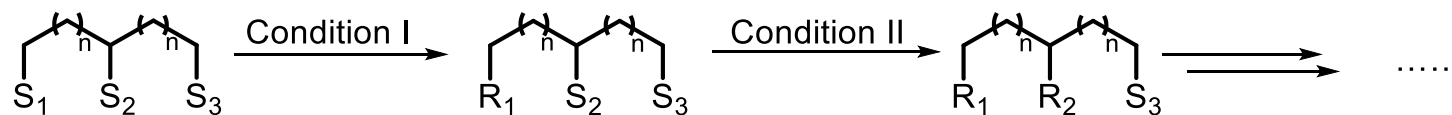
## Extended SCS process



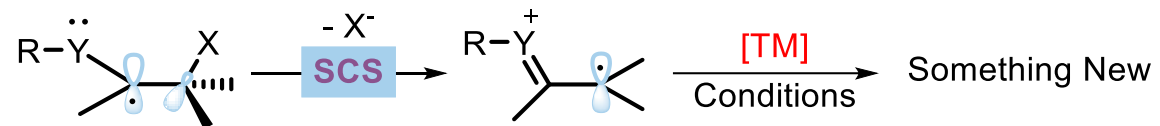
# 3. Summary and Outlook

## Other Possible New Reactions

### The Sequential Functionalization of Different Carbon-Heteroatom Bonds



### The Merger of Transition Metal Catalysis with SCS Processes





Thanks