

# *Applications and Synthesis of Deuterium-Labeled Compounds*

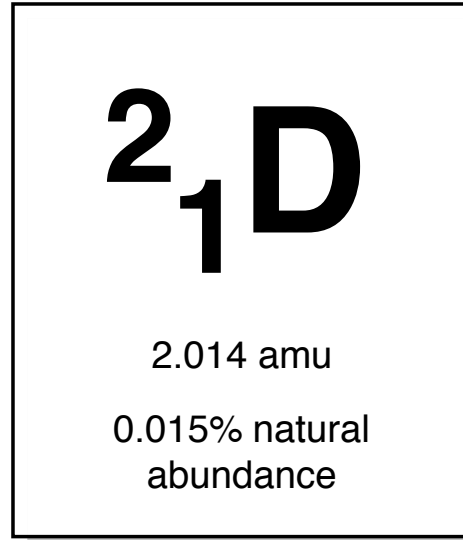
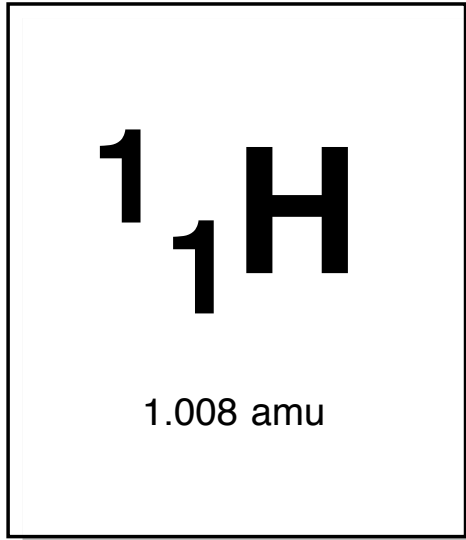


Christopher Prier

MacMillan Group Meeting

February 27, 2014

## Deuterium: A Stable Isotope of Hydrogen

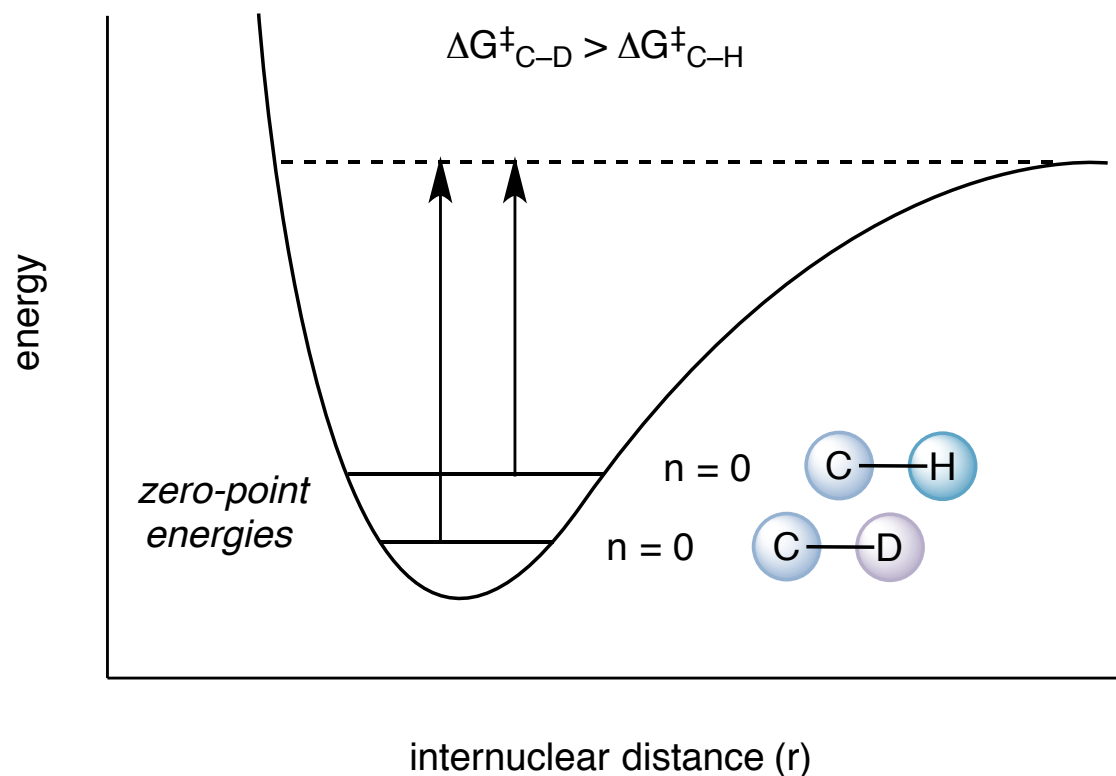


Harold C. Urey

- 1932: Urey, Brickwedde, and Murphy report spectroscopic evidence for heavy hydrogen
- 1933: Lewis and MacDonald isolate a pure sample of deuterium oxide ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )
- Urey awarded the Nobel Prize for his discovery in 1934; coins the name "deuterium"
- Deuterium now broadly employed in organic chemistry, organometallic chemistry, enzymology, spectroscopy, pharmacology, and many other fields

## The Kinetic Isotope Effect

- KIE is the observation that isotopically substituted molecules react at different rates:  $k_H \neq k_D$
- Vibrational energy of a bond is dependent on the reduced mass of the two atoms ( $\mu$ )
- Larger activation energy for C–D bond homolysis than for C–H bond homolysis



$$E_n = (n + 1) h\nu$$

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2\pi c} \sqrt{\frac{k}{\mu}}$$

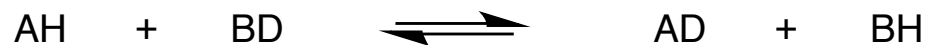
$$\mu = \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

$$\mu_{C-H} = 0.92$$

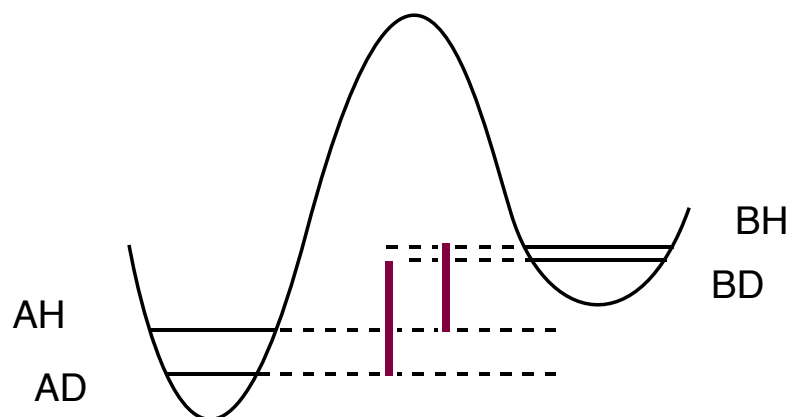
$$\mu_{C-D} = 1.71$$

## The Equilibrium Isotope Effect

- The distribution of deuterium in an equilibrium is determined by a thermodynamic isotope effect



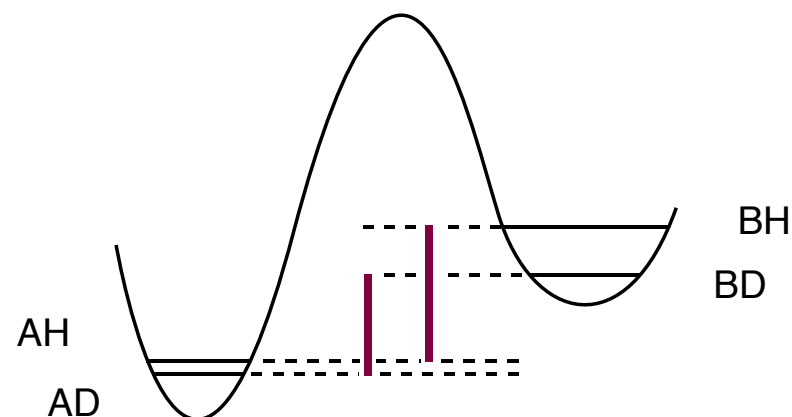
case 1



$$\Delta\text{ZPE}_{\text{C-D}} > \Delta\text{ZPE}_{\text{C-H}}$$

equilibrium favors AD + BH

case 2



$$\Delta\text{ZPE}_{\text{C-D}} < \Delta\text{ZPE}_{\text{C-H}}$$

equilibrium favors AH + BD

deuterium prefers the bond with the larger force constant

## *Applications of Deuterated Compounds*

■ Study of reaction mechanisms

■ Elucidation of biosynthetic pathways

■ Total synthesis: alter reaction selectivity

■ Internal standards for mass spectrometry

■ Enhance metabolic stability of a drug

And many more!

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■ Total synthesis: alter reaction selectivity

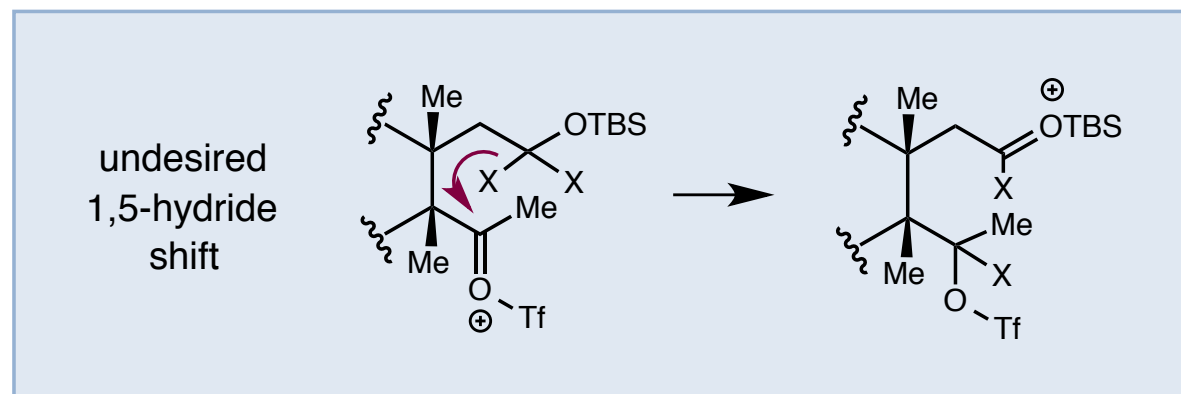
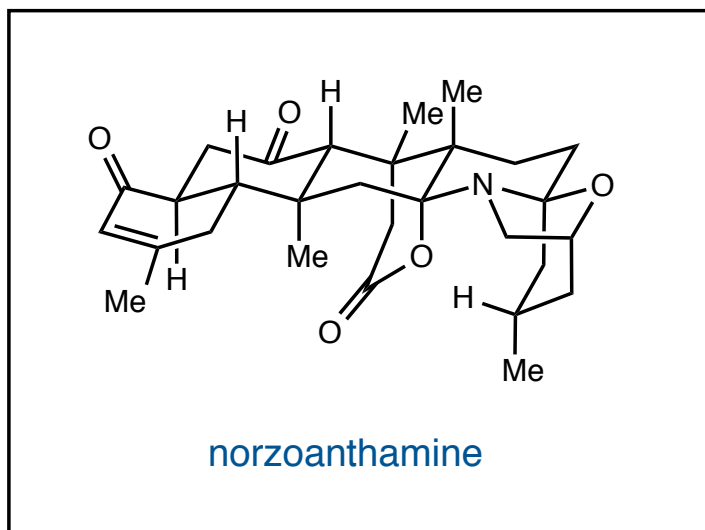
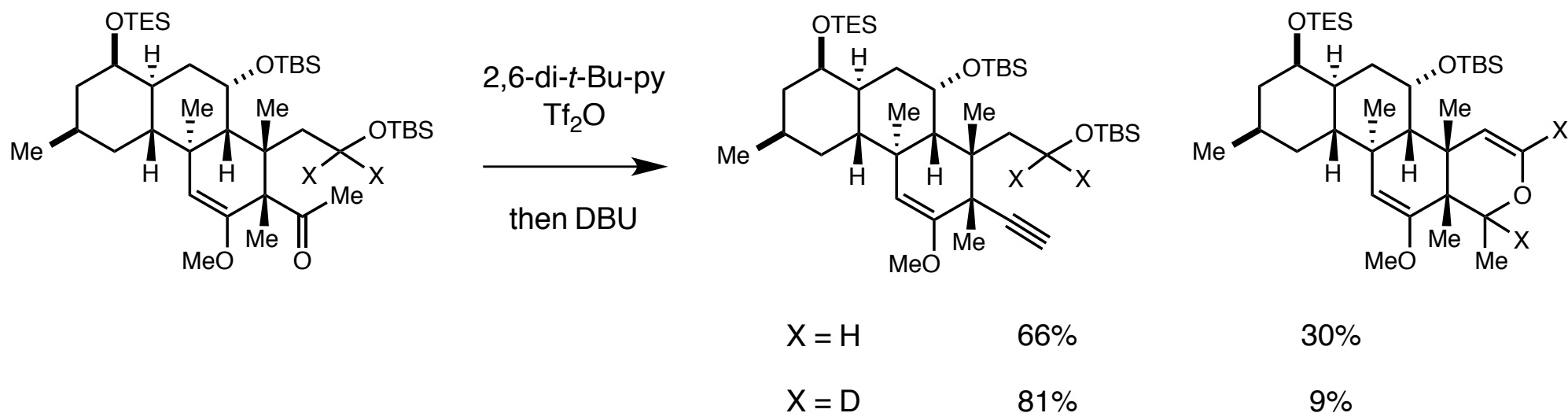
■ Internal standards for mass spectrometry

■ Enhance metabolic stability of a drug

And many more!

## Deuterium in the Total Synthesis of Norzoanthamine

■ Introduction of deuterium suppresses an undesired pathway via the kinetic isotope effect



## *Applications of Deuterated Compounds*

■ Study of reaction mechanisms

■ Elucidation of biosynthetic pathways

■ Total synthesis: alter reaction selectivity

■ Internal standards for mass spectrometry

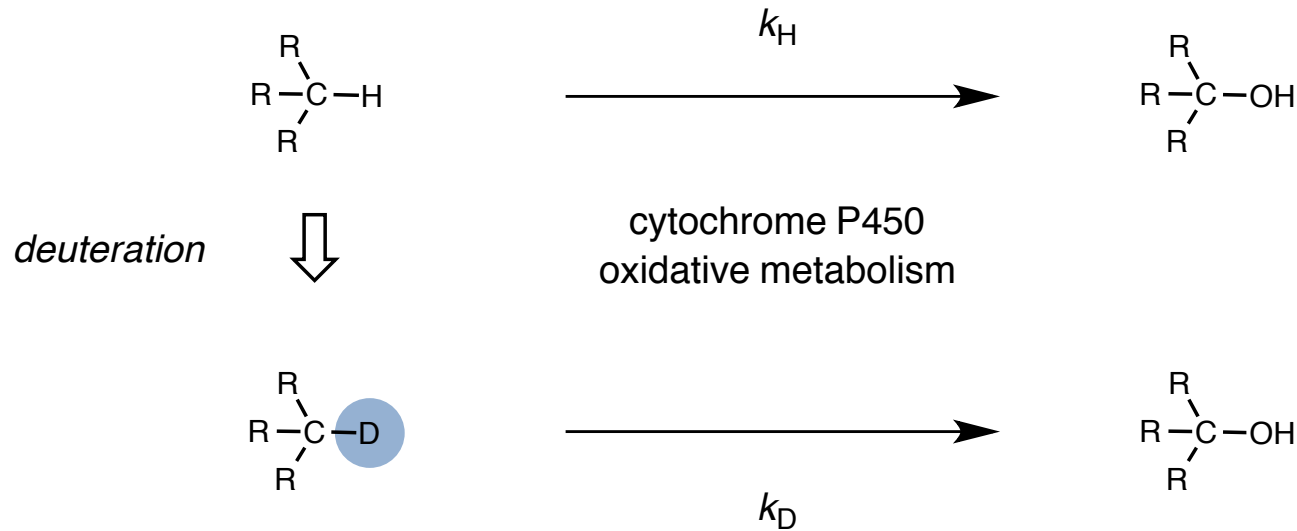
■ Enhance metabolic stability of a drug

And many more!



## Deuterium Effects in Drug Metabolism

- Deuteration has the potential to impact a drug's stability when metabolism involves cleavage of a C–H bond



- Deuteration typically has no effect on biological potency or selectivity
- Potential for a drug to have a longer half-life or reduced/less frequent dosing
- Improve metabolite profile: prevent formation of toxic metabolites or those that inhibit CYP
- To date there are no approved deuterium-enriched pharmaceuticals*

Foster, A. B. *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* **1984**, 5, 524.

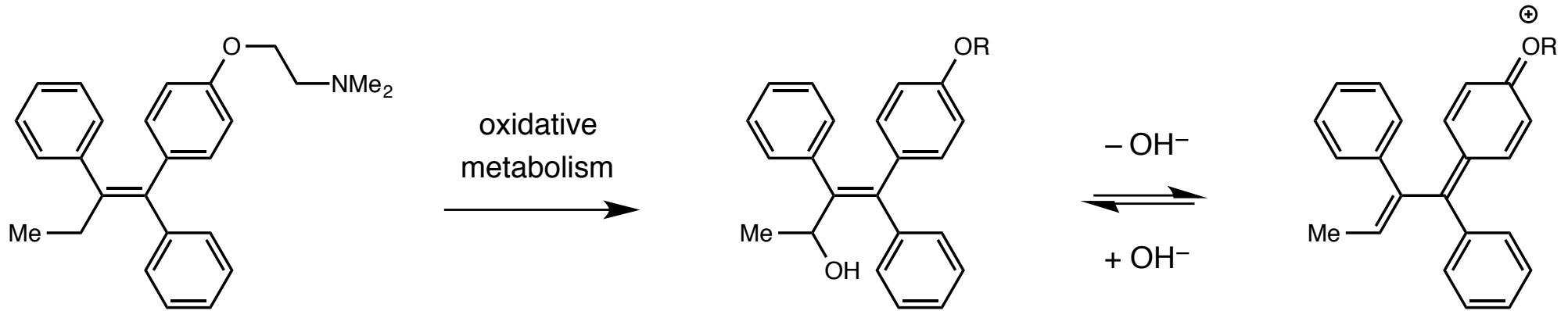
Kushner, D. J.; Baker, A.; Dunstall, T. G. *Can. J. Physiol. Pharmacol.* **1999**, 77, 79.

Harbeson, S. L.; Tung, R. D. *Annu. Rep. Med. Chem.* **2011**, 46, 403.

Meanwell, N. A. *J. Med. Chem.* **2011**, 54, 2529.

## Metabolism and Deuteration of Tamoxifen

- Tamoxifen forms adducts with DNA in rats, leading to liver cancer; proposed to proceed via quinone methide



**tamoxifen**  
breast cancer treatment

proposed intermediates leading to DNA conjugates

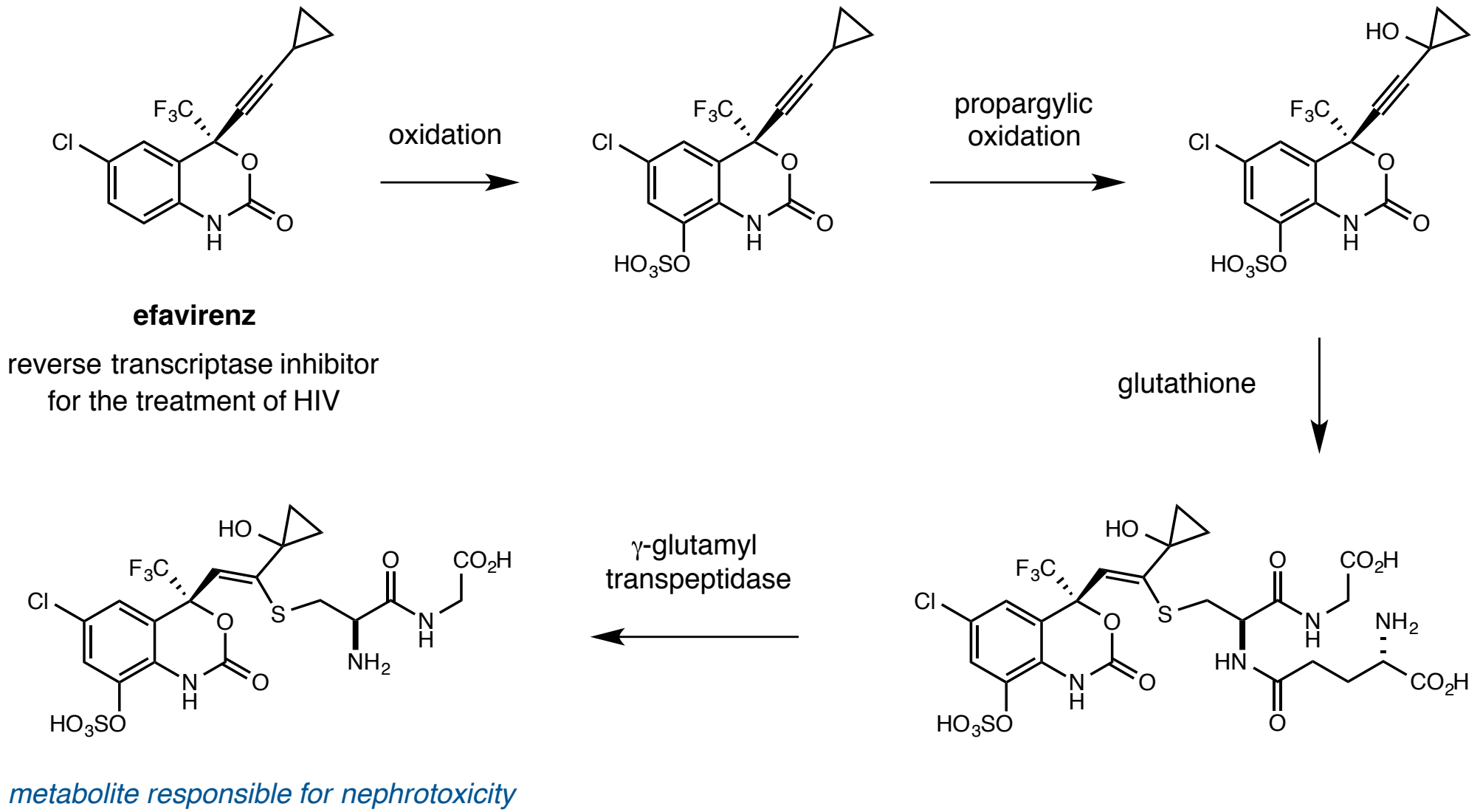
The structure of tamoxifen-d<sub>5</sub> is shown, where the methyl group and the two methylene groups of the phenoxyethyl side chain are labeled with deuterium (D) atoms. The rest of the molecule is identical to tamoxifen.

**tamoxifen-d<sub>5</sub>**

- Isotope effect hypothesized to reduce extent of DNA alkylation
- Reduced genotoxicity observed: ~2-fold reduced adduct formation

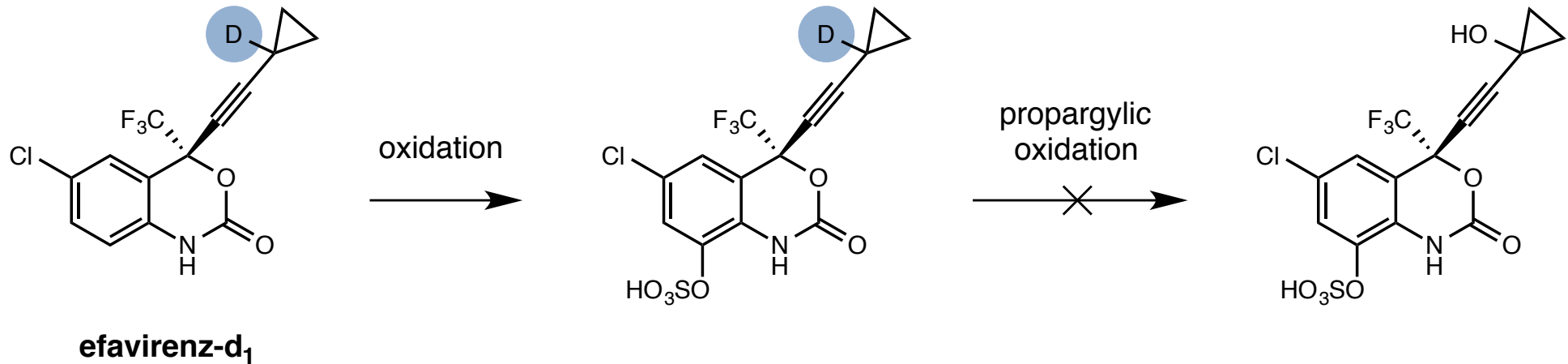
## Metabolism of Efavirenz

Metabolism of efavirenz to a toxic metabolite in rats involves a propargylic oxidation of the cyclopropane



## Metabolism of Efavirenz

- Installation of a single deuterium atom at the site of propargylic oxidation reduces toxic metabolite formation

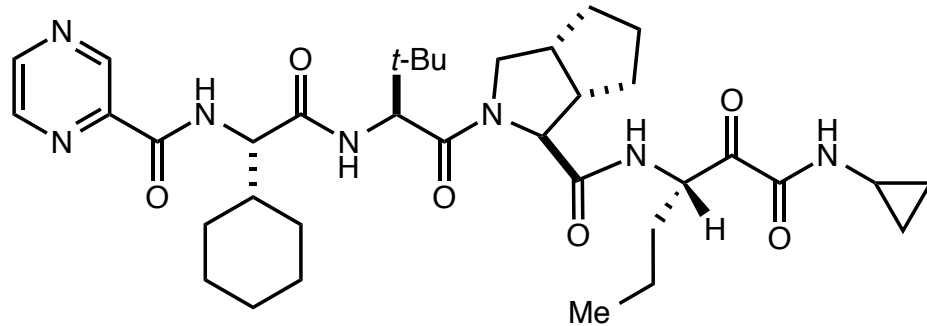


	<i>concentration of toxic metabolite in urine</i>
efavirenz	28.1 ± 13.0 µg/mL
efavirenz-d <sub>1</sub>	4.0 ± 1.1 µg/mL

severity	no. of rats with renal cortical epithelial cell necrosis	
	efavirenz	efavirenz-d <sub>1</sub>
0 (unaffected)	0	2
1 (minimal)	2	4
2 (mild)	4	3
3 (moderate)	2	1
4 (severe)	2	0

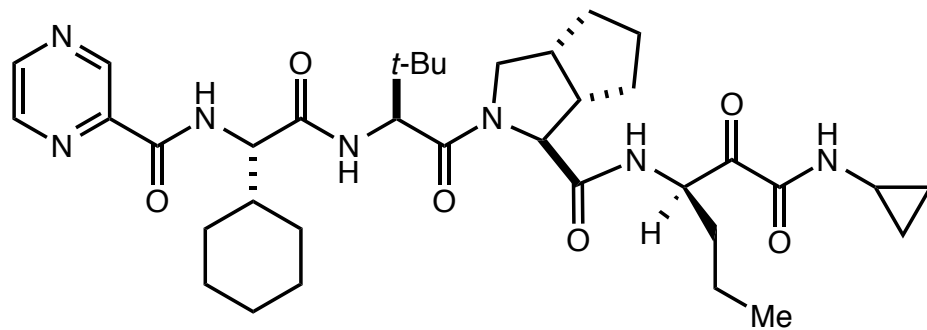
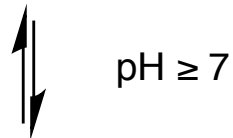
## Deuteration of Telaprevir

- Telaprevir undergoes epimerization *in vivo* to its less potent (*R*)-epimer



**telaprevir**

- Vertex, Johnson & Johnson
- Hepatitis C protease inhibitor

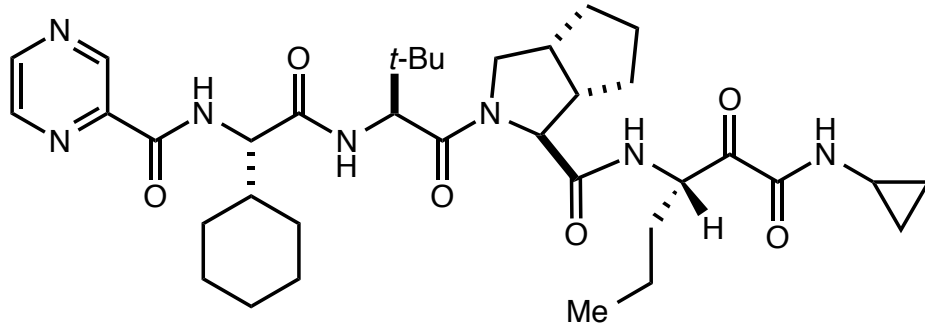


**telaprevir (*R*)-epimer**

- Major metabolite of telaprevir
- 30-fold lower inhibitory activity

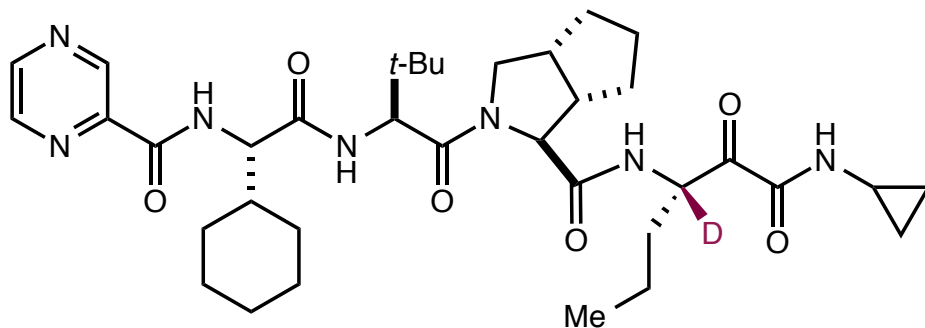
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### telaprevir

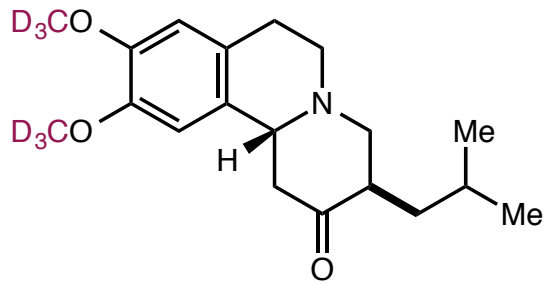
- Vertex, Johnson & Johnson
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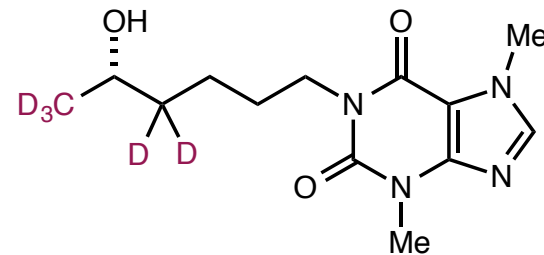
### telaprevir-d<sub>1</sub>

- As efficacious as pro-*l*-telaprevir in protease inhibition and viral replication assays
- Significantly more resistant to epimerization ( $k_H/k_D \approx 5$ )
- ~13% increase in AUC in rats

## Deuterated Drugs in Clinical Trials



SD-809

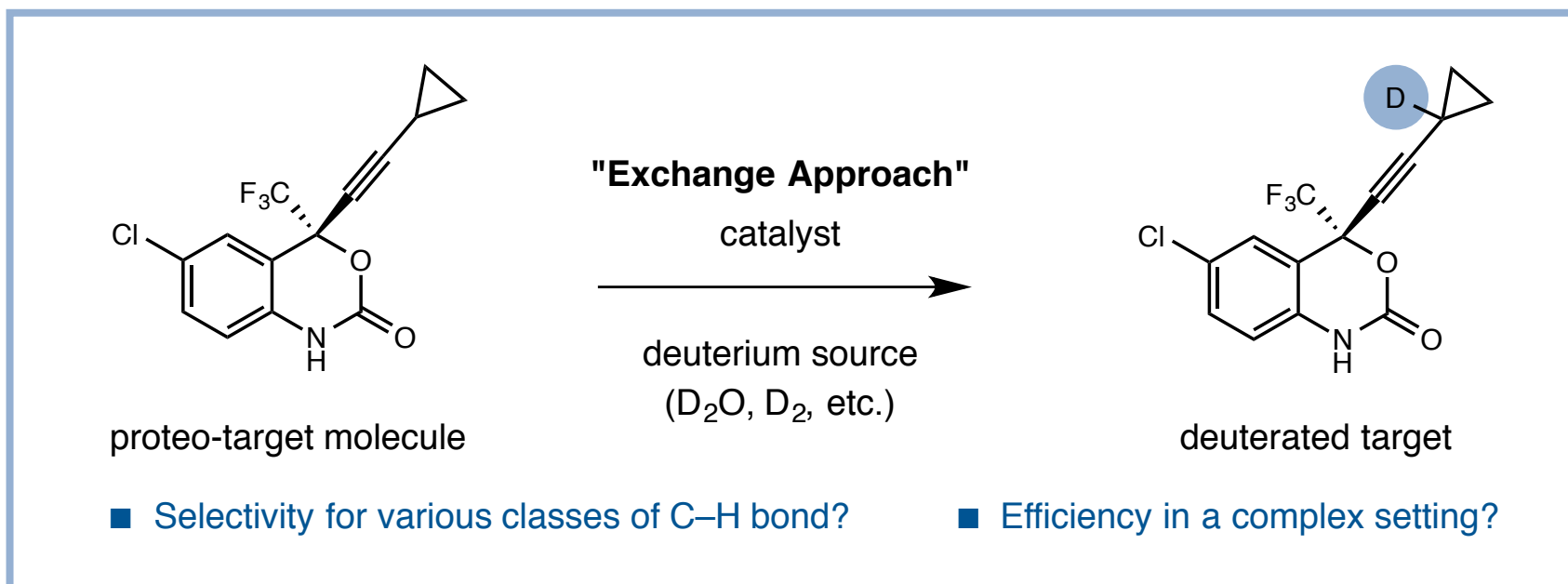
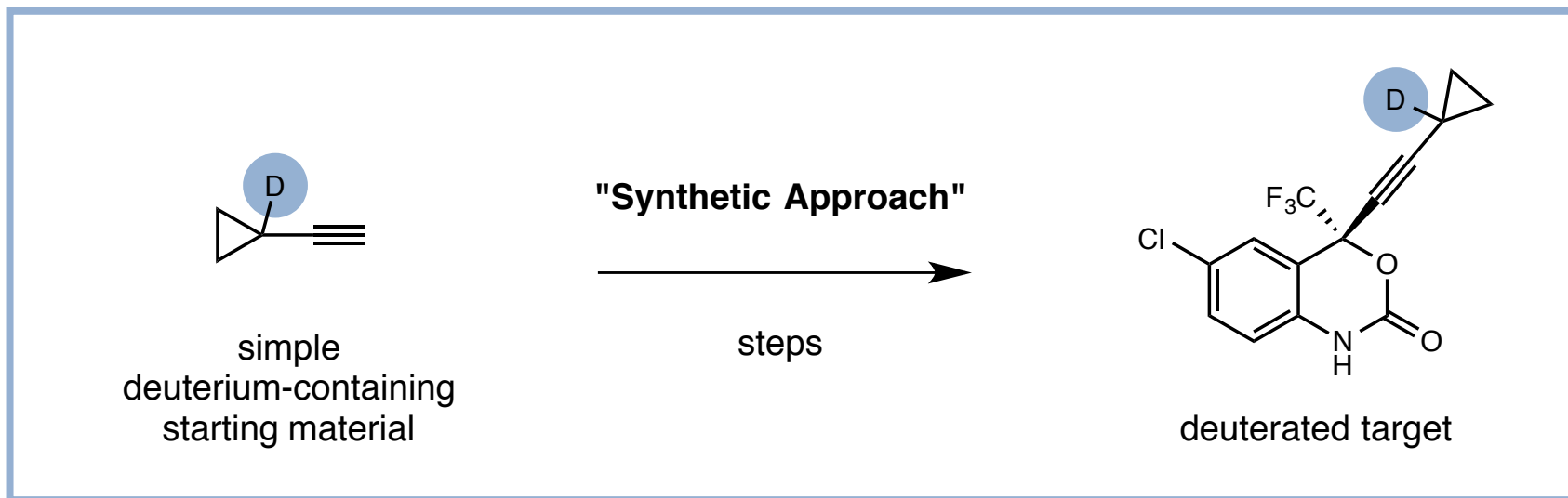


CTP-499

- In Phase III for treatment of chorea associated with Huntington's disease
- Deuterated analog of tetrabenazine

- In Phase II for diabetic nephropathy
- Deuterated analog of the active metabolite of pentoxifylline
- Phosphodiesterase inhibitor

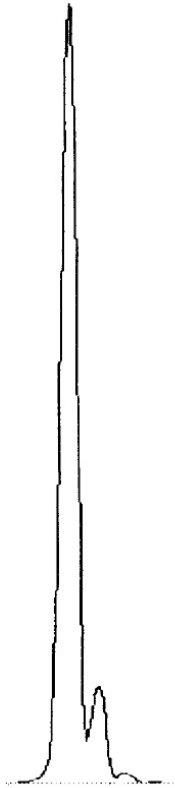
# Approaches to the Synthesis of Labeled Compounds



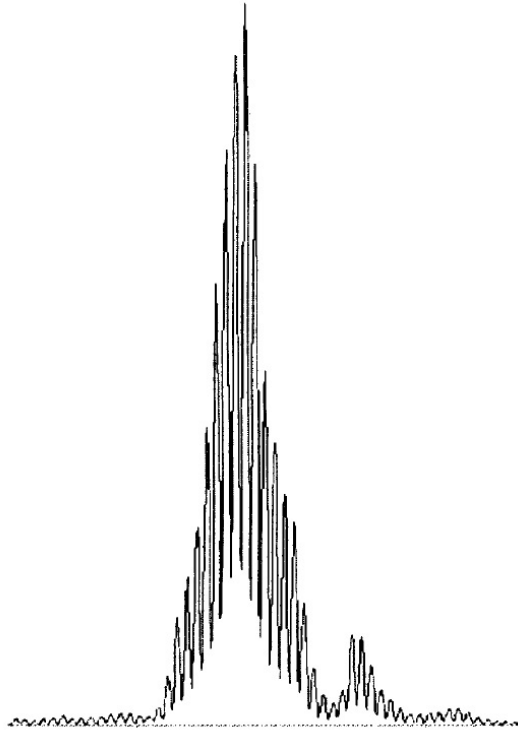


## Synthesis of Deuterated Compounds

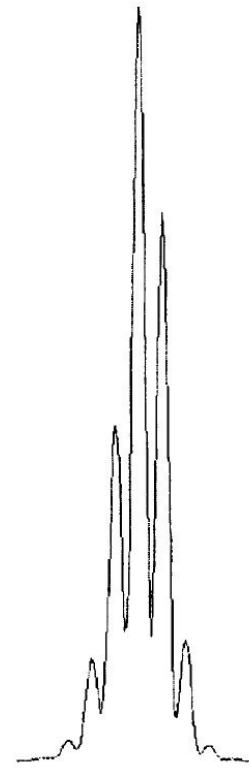
- Deuterated compounds (especially internal standards) ideally possess a narrow isotopic distribution



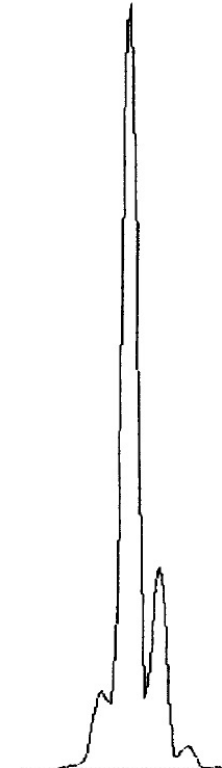
Natural isotope  
distribution



unselective  
H/D exchange



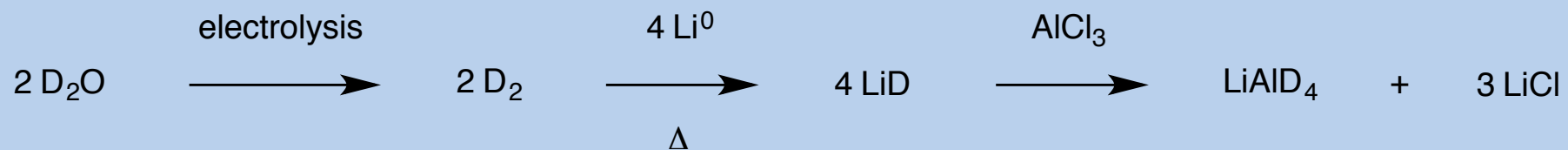
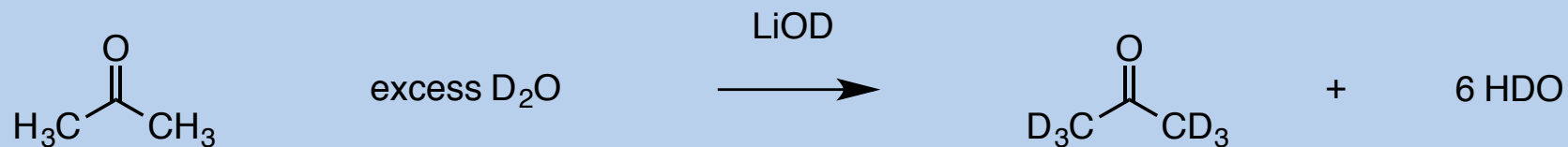
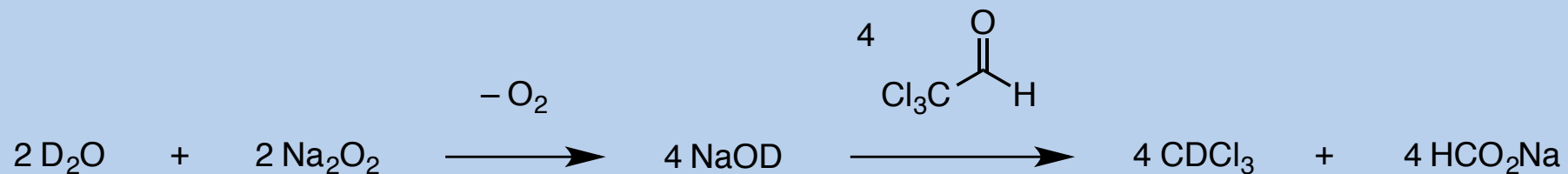
moderately  
selective  
H/D exchange



highly selective  
H/D exchange

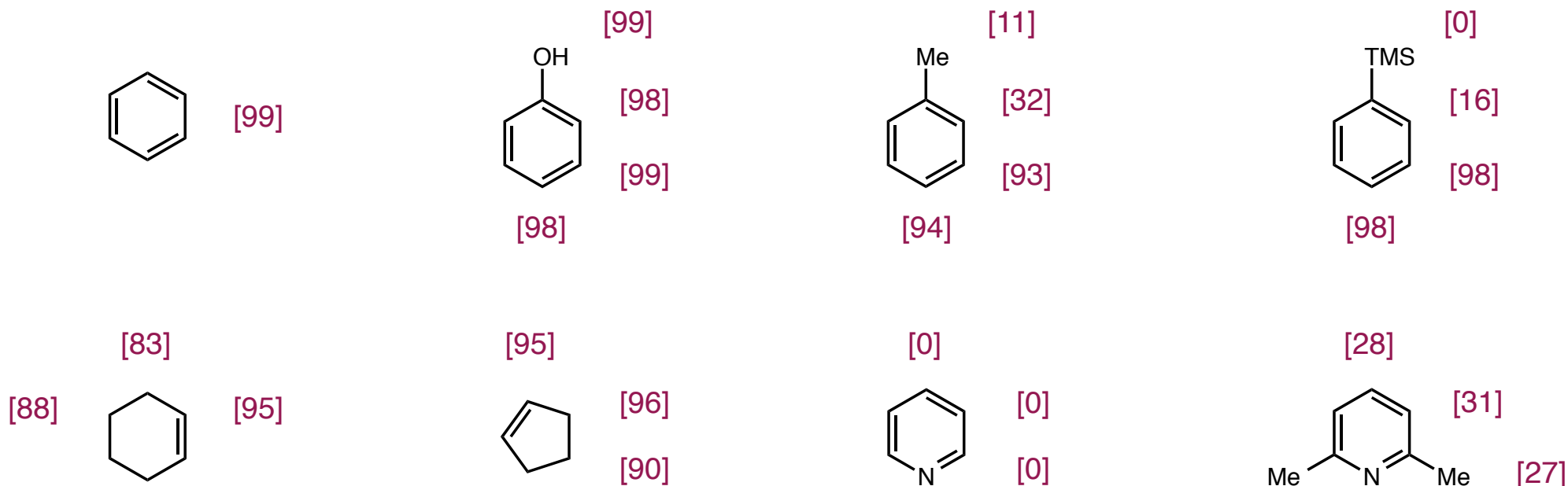
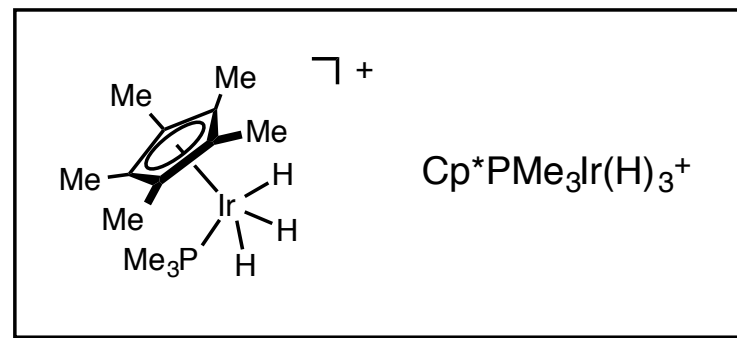
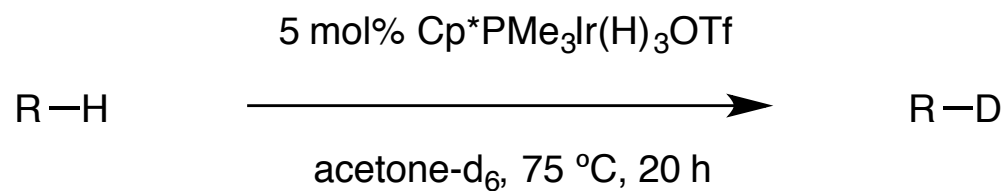
## Synthesis of Deuterated Reagents

- The source of all deuterium-enriched material is deuterium oxide (D<sub>2</sub>O)

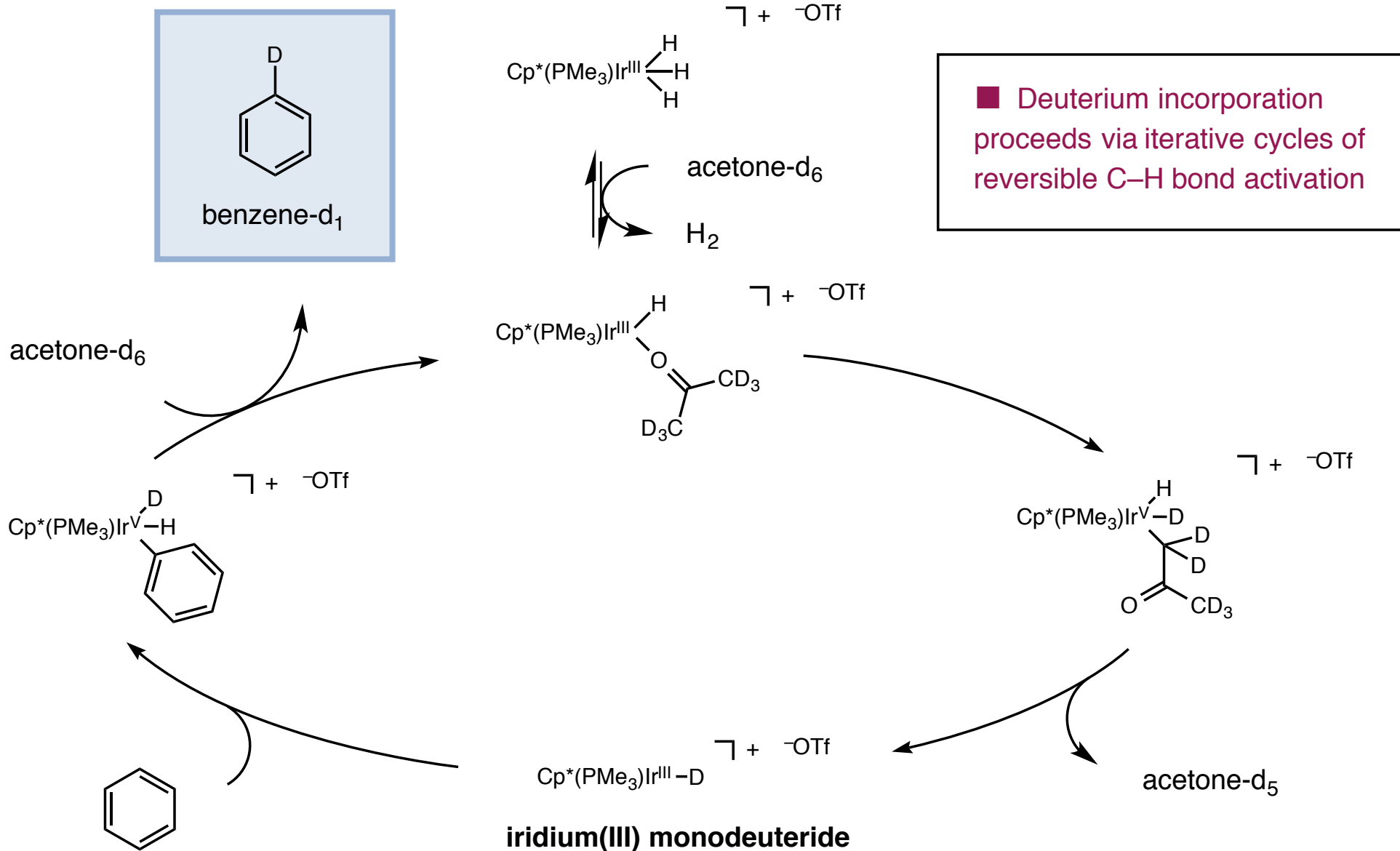


## Iridium-Catalyzed H/D Exchange

- A cationic iridium trihydride complex catalyzes the H/D exchange of arenes, cyclic alkenes

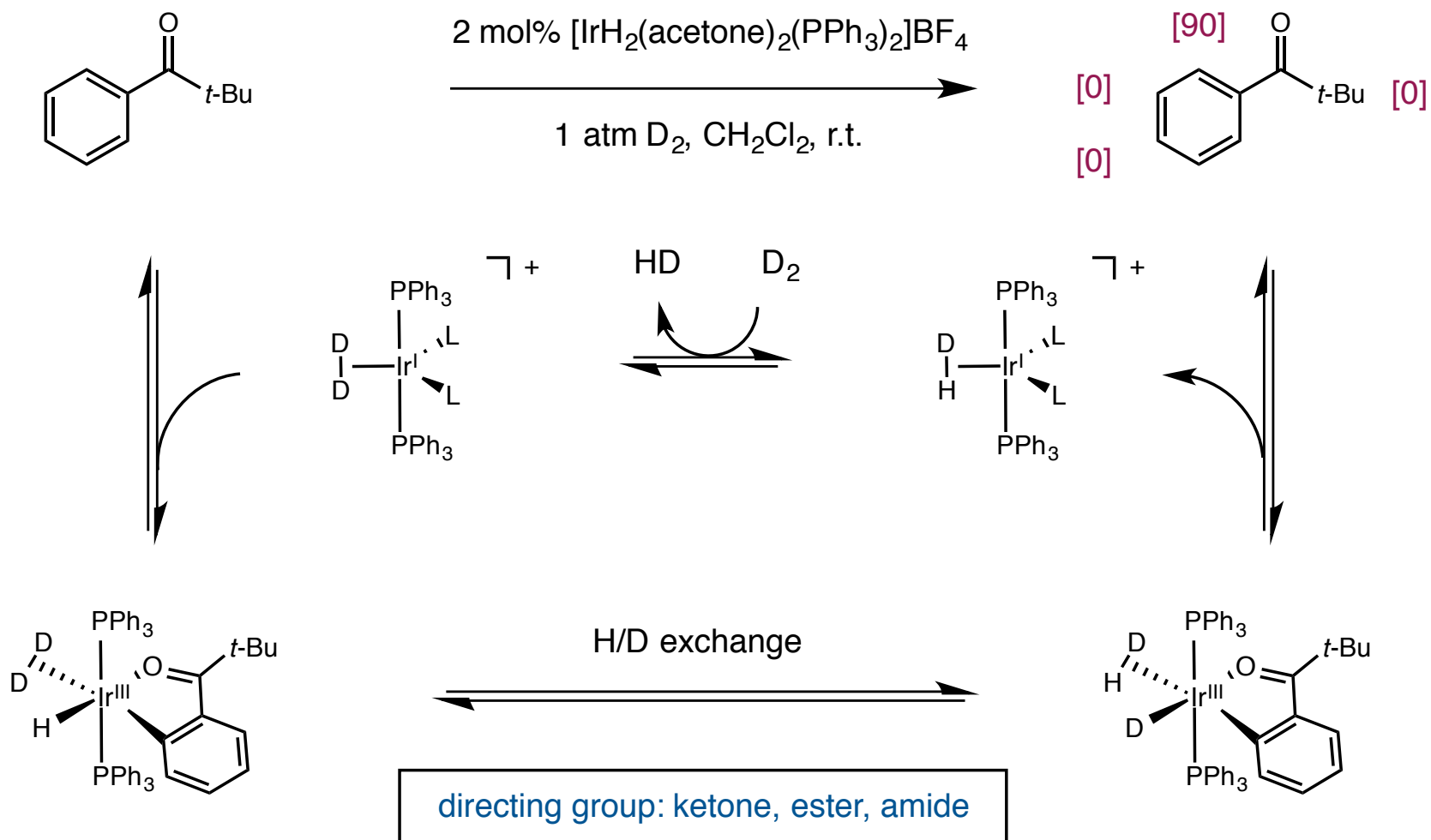


# Mechanism of Iridium-Catalyzed H/D Exchange



## Iridium-Catalyzed Ortho H/D Exchange

- Iridium catalysts promote selective *ortho*-deuteration via the formation of five-membered metallacycles

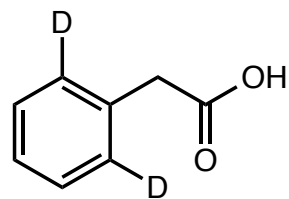
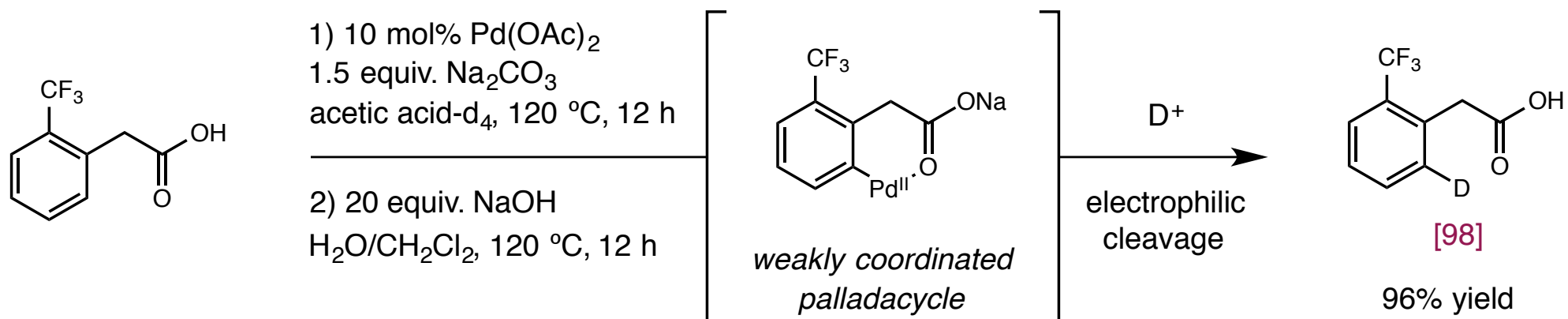


Heys, R. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1992**, 680.

Shu, A. Y. L.; Chen, W.; Heys, J. R. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1996**, 524, 87.

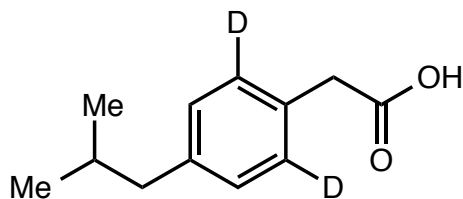
## Ortho-Selective Deuteration of Arenes

### ■ Palladium-catalyzed *ortho*-deuteration of arenes bearing weakly coordinating directing groups



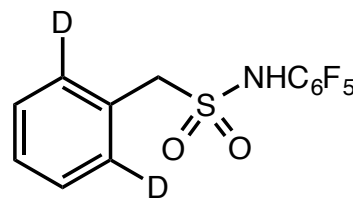
[99]

99% yield



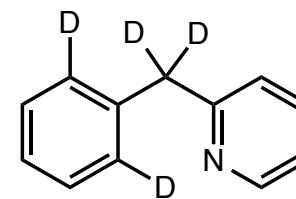
[93]

88% yield  
ibuprofen-d<sub>2</sub>



[89]

73% yield

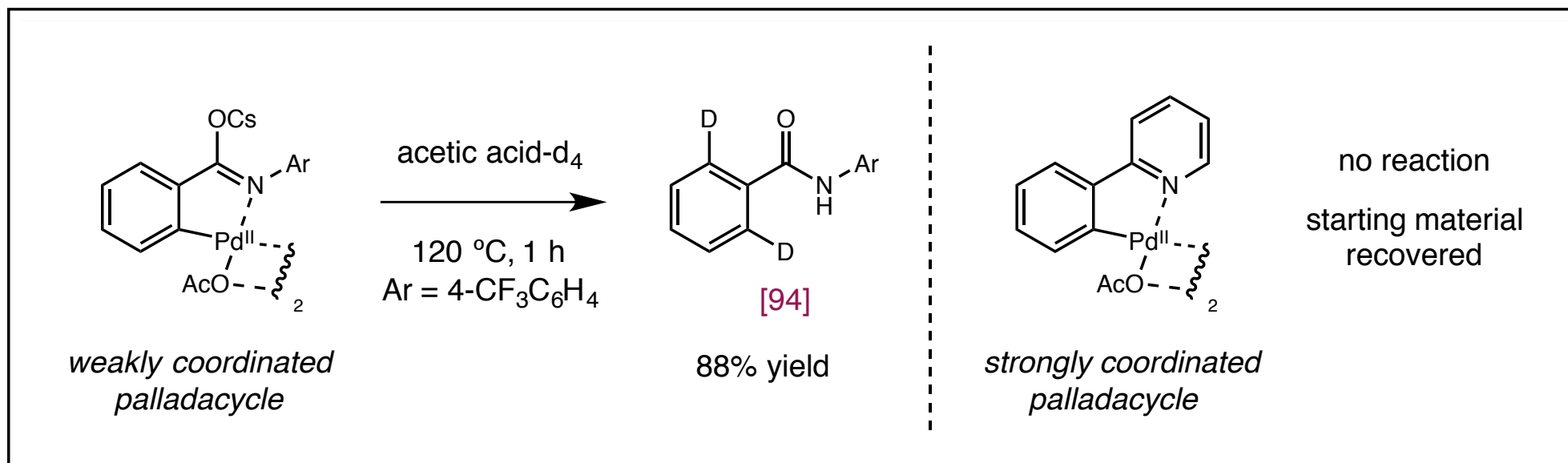
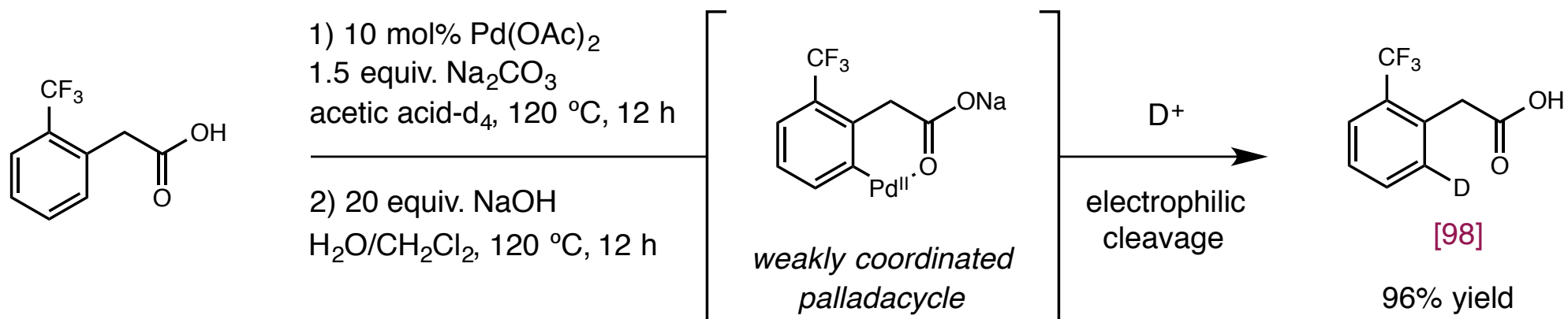


[86]

62% yield

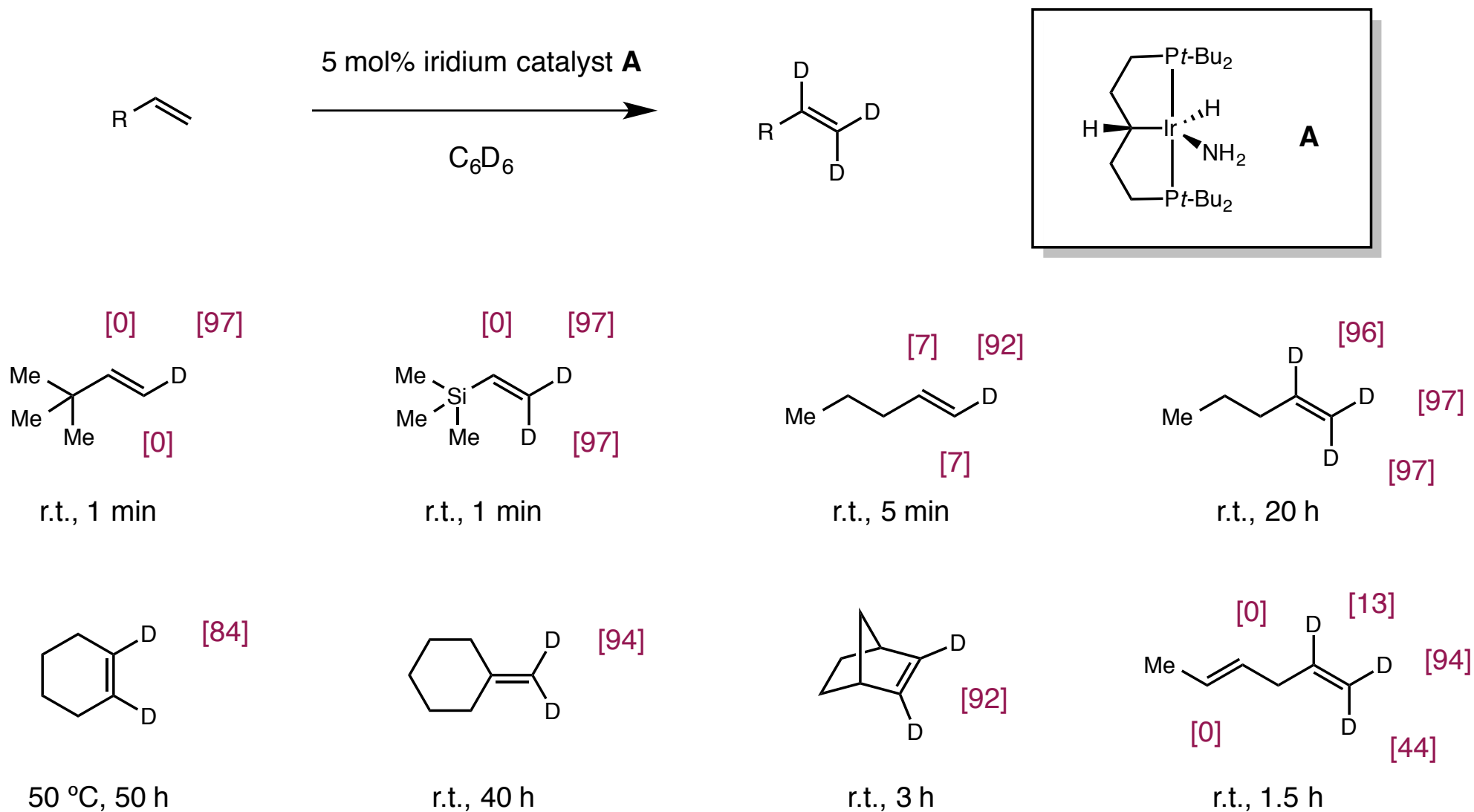
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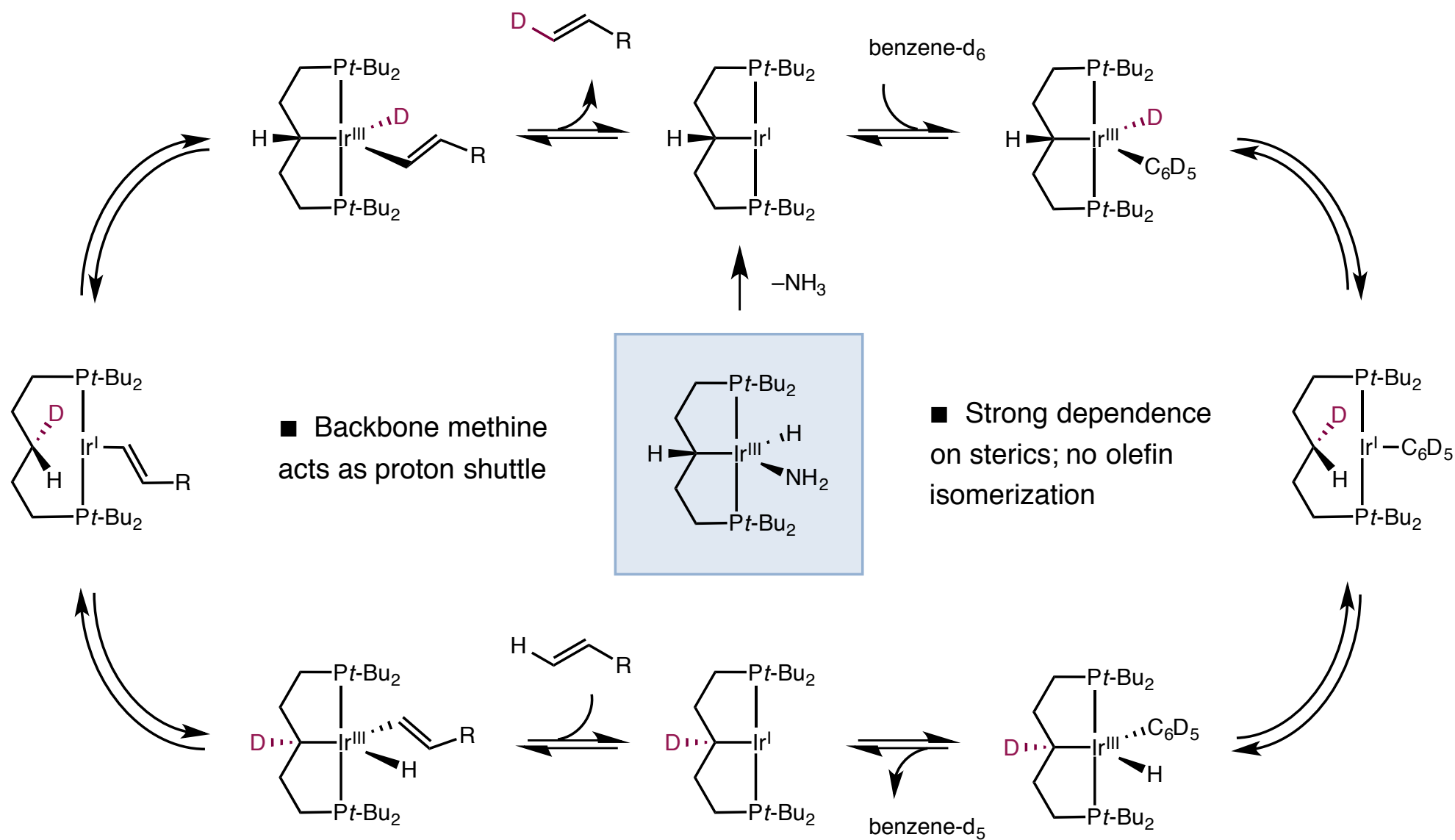
## Vinyl H/D Exchange by an Iridium-Pincer Complex

■ Selective deuteration of vinyl groups is achieved with an iridium catalyst bearing an aliphatic pincer ligand



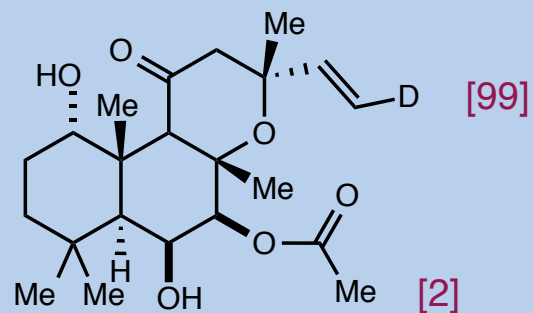
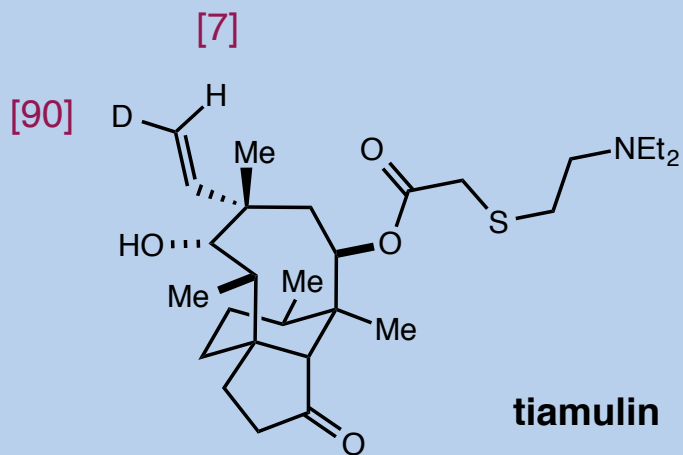
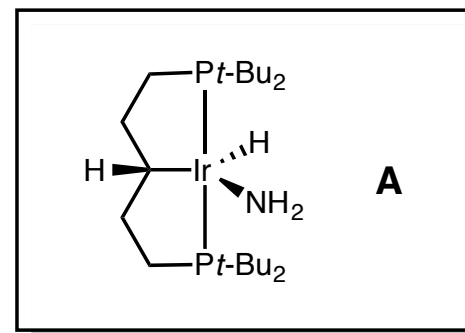
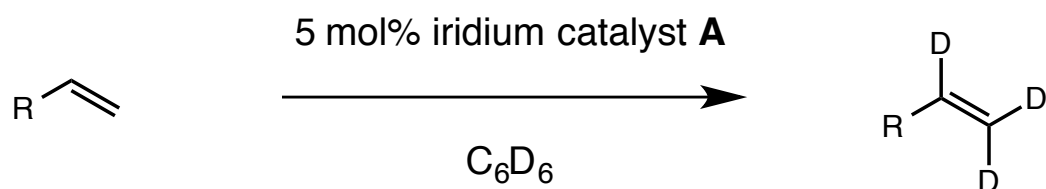


## Vinyl H/D Exchange by an Iridium-Pincer Complex



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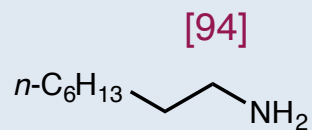
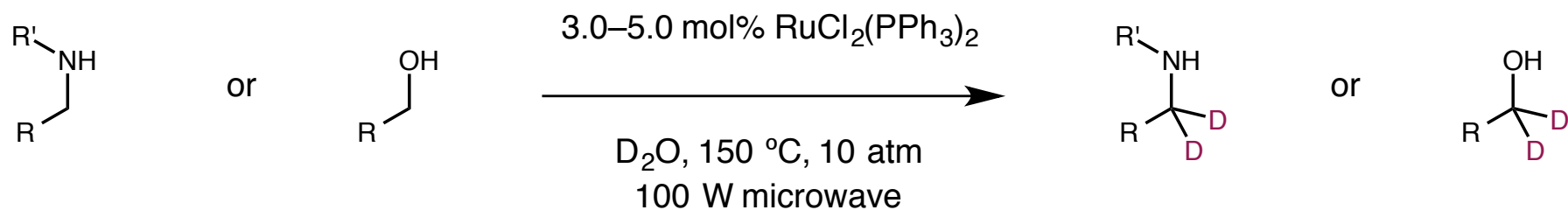
- Selective deuteration of vinyl groups by an iridium catalyst bearing an aliphatic pincer ligand



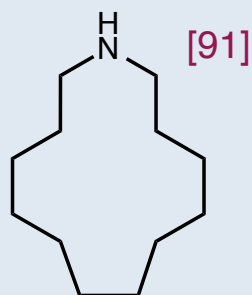
**forskolin**  
r.t., 5 min

## *$\alpha$ -Deuteration of Amines and Alcohols*

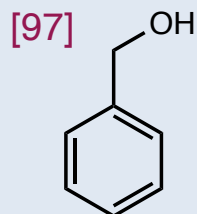
■ Ru-catalyzed  $\alpha$ -deuteration of amines and alcohols proceeds via a "borrowing hydrogen" mechanism



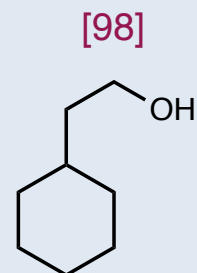
79% yield



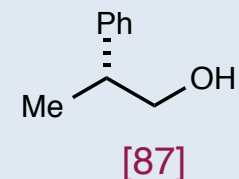
68% yield



90% yield



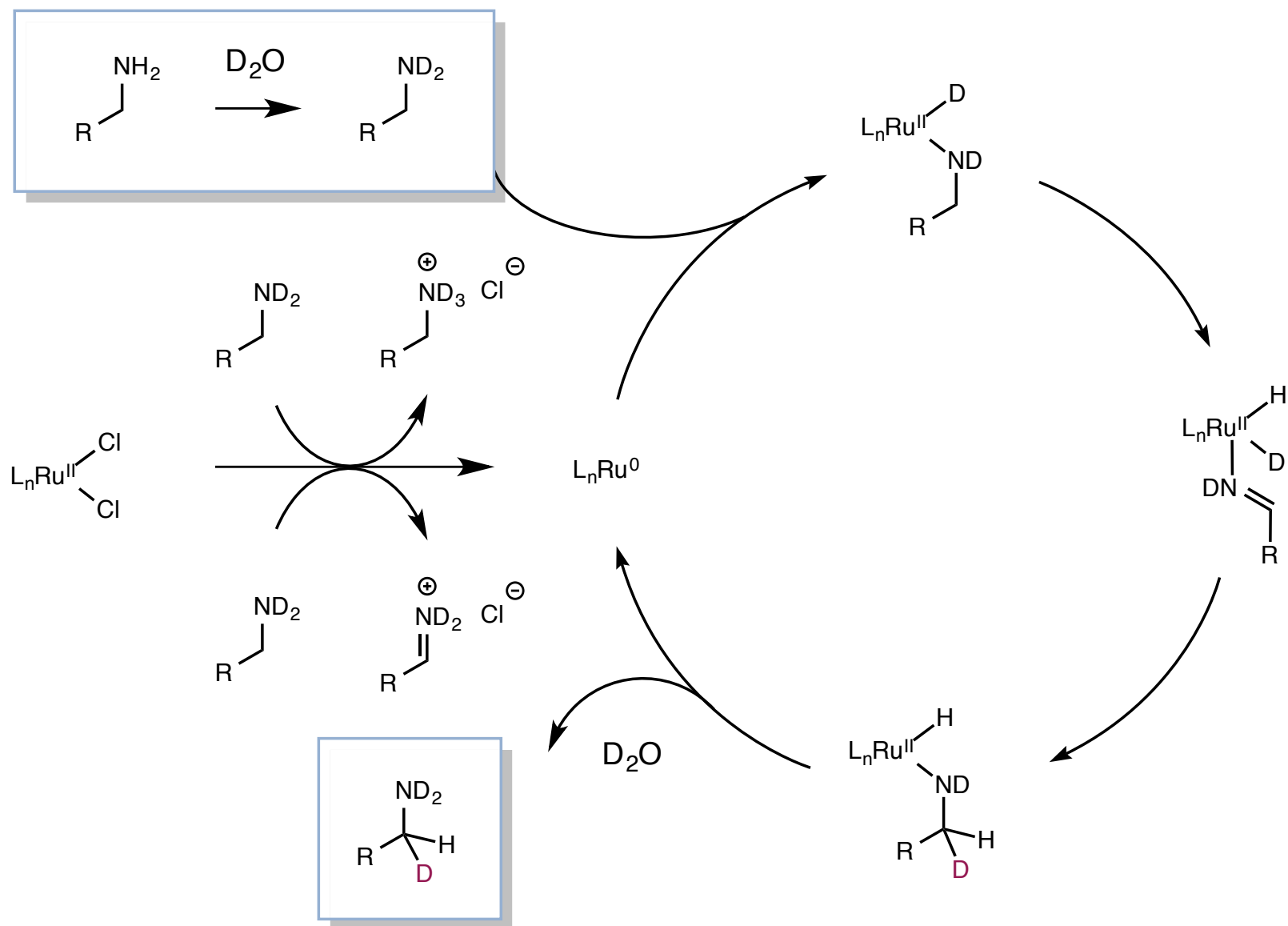
96% yield



90% yield, >99% ee

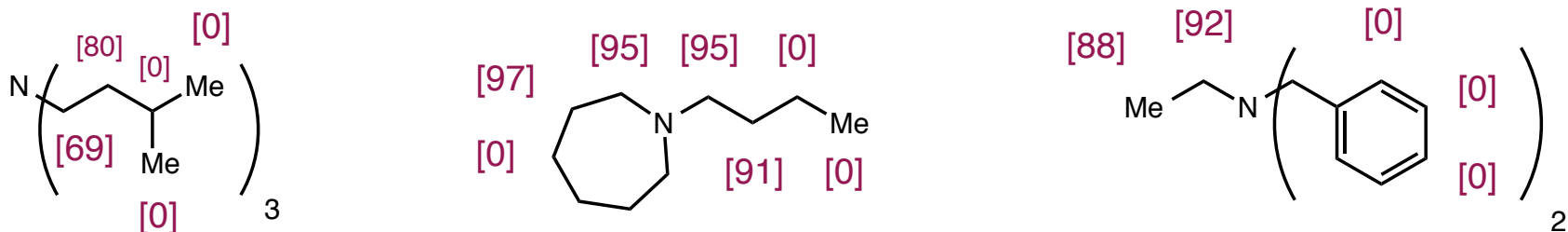
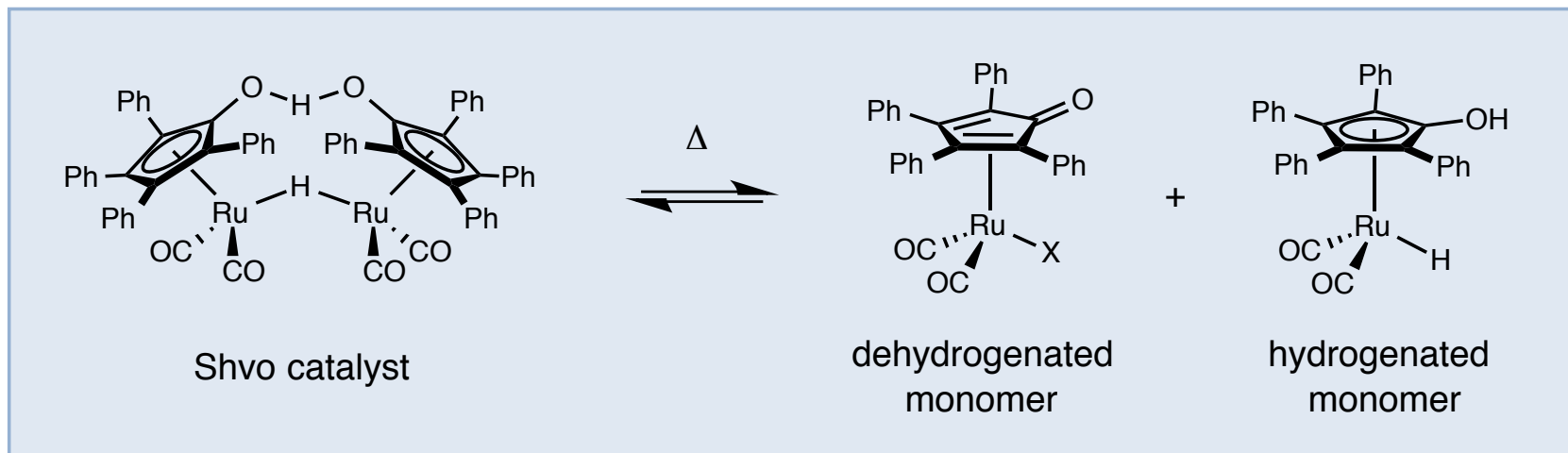
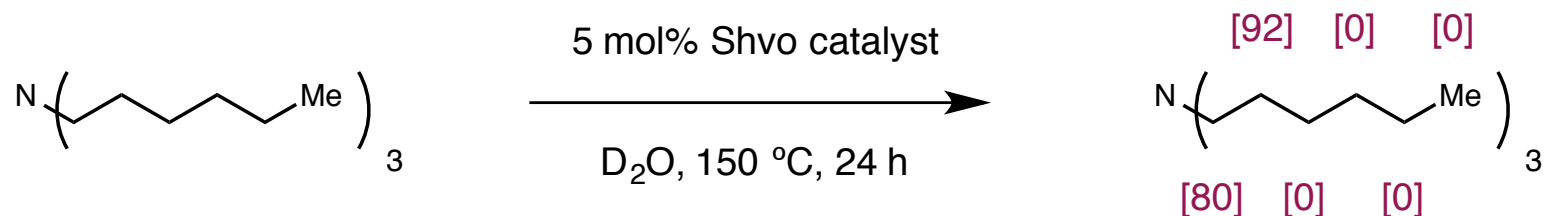
## $\alpha$ -Deuteration of Amines and Alcohols

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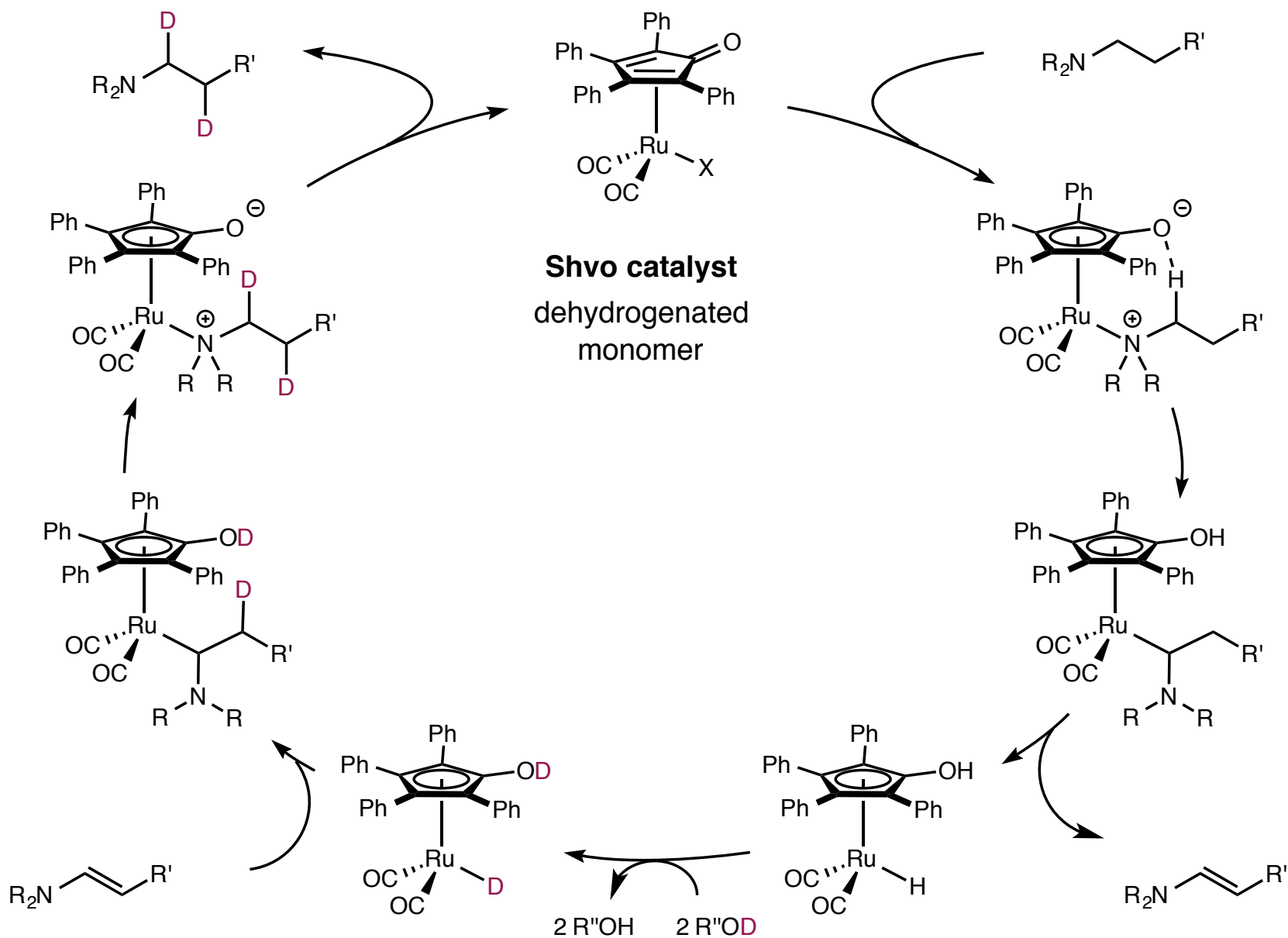


## Selective $\alpha,\beta$ -Deuteration of Amines

- The Shvo catalyst enables the selective  $\alpha,\beta$ -deuteration of amines using deuterium oxide

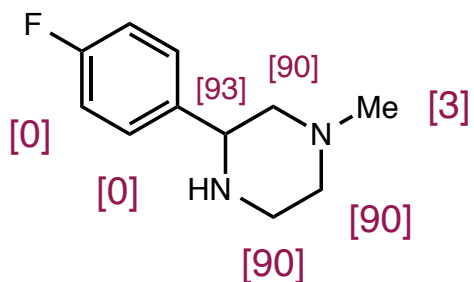


## Mechanism of Amine $\alpha,\beta$ -Deuteration by the Shvo Catalyst

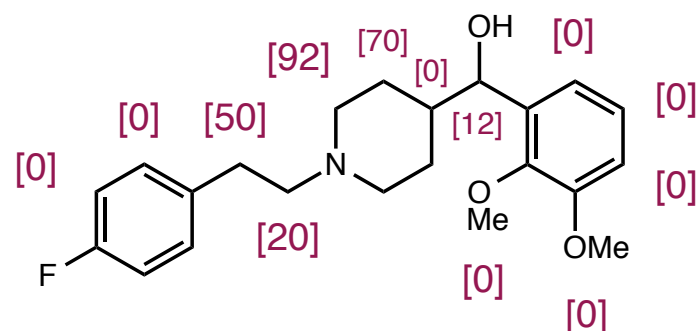


## $\alpha,\beta$ -Deuteration of Complex Amine-Containing Molecules

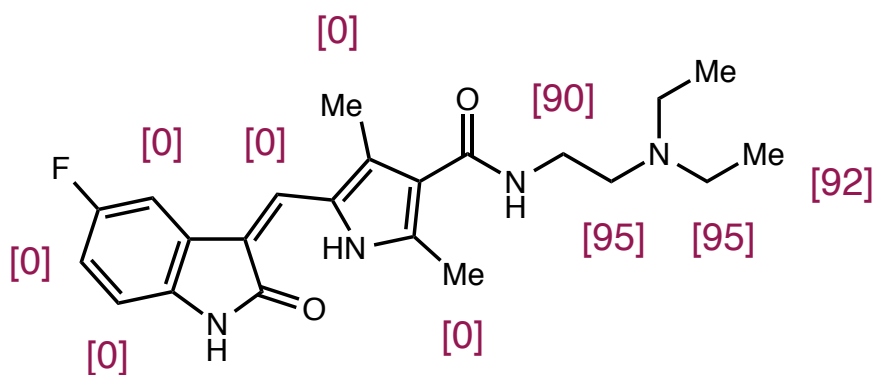
Conditions: 10 mol% Shvo catalyst, *i*-PrOD- $d_8$  or *t*-BuOD, toluene, microwave heating, 150 °C



74% yield

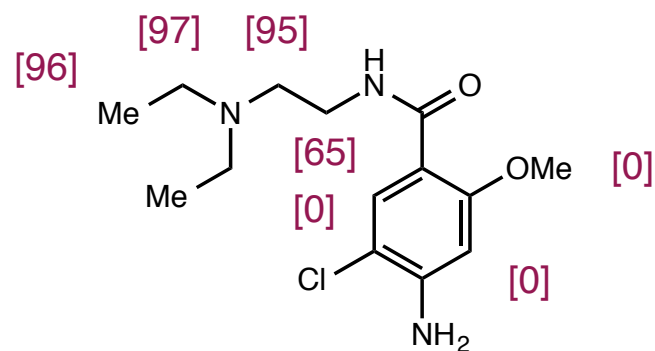


71% yield



**sunitinib**, 67% yield

Pfizer, tyrosine kinase inhibitor

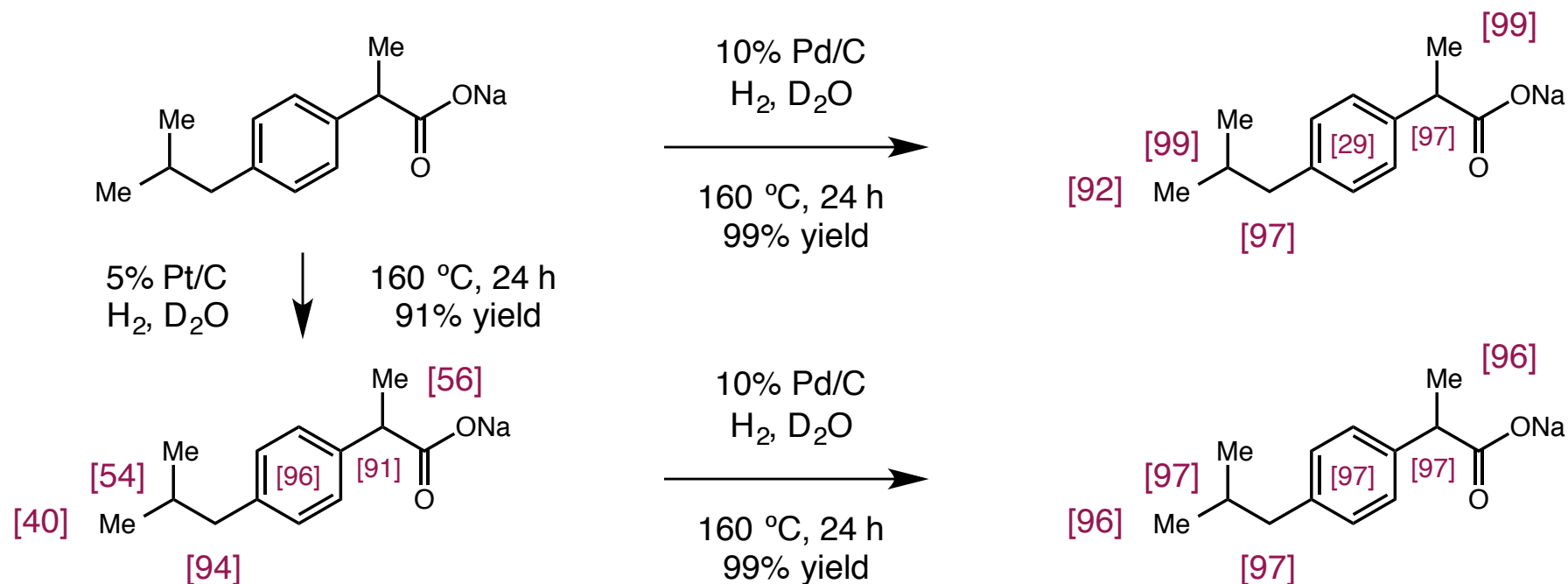


**metoclopramide**, 83% yield

antiemetic

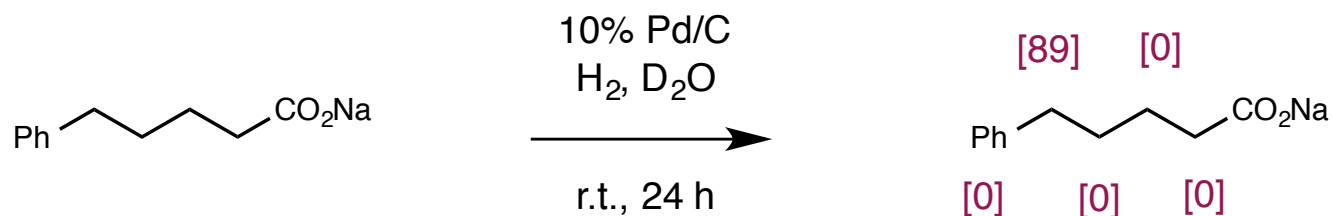
## Heterogeneous Metal Catalysis for H/D Exchange

- Palladium-based catalyst systems preferentially deuterate aliphatic C–H bonds; platinum catalyst systems show selectivity for deuteration of aryl C–H bonds



Sajiki, H.; Ito, N.; Esaki, H.; Maesawa, T.; Maegawa, T.; Hirota, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 6995.

- Selectivity for benzylic H/D exchange can be obtained under less forcing conditions

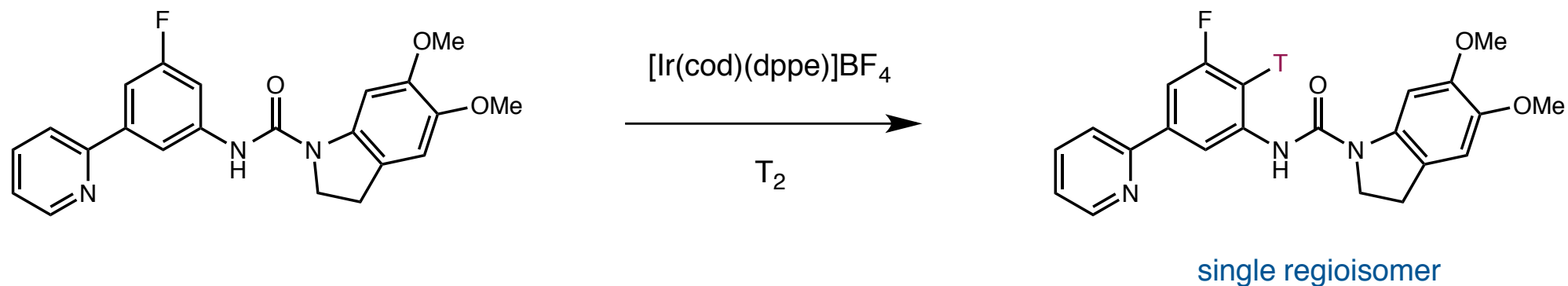


Sajiki, H.; Aoki, F.; Esaki, H.; Maegawa, T.; Hirota, K. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, *6*, 1485.

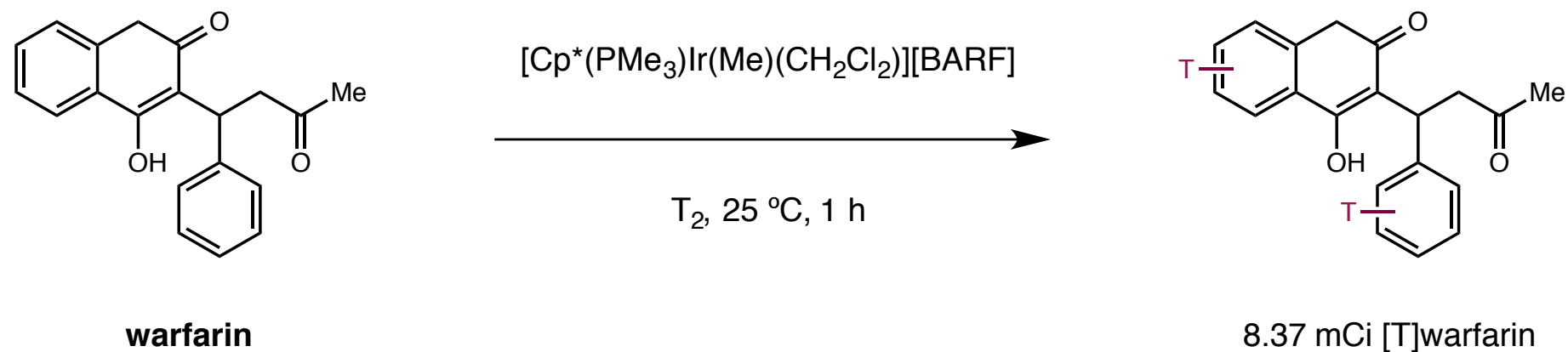


## Tritium-Labeling of Organic Molecules

- Methods developed for deuteration are often also applicable to the installation of tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ , T)



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