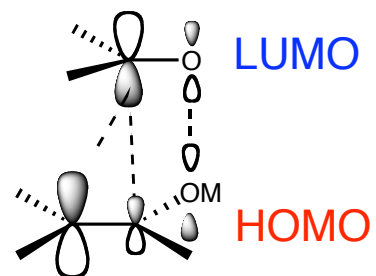


Frontier Orbital Interactions: Stereoselectivity



Phong V. Pham

MacMillan Group



Group Meeting

Princeton, Feb. 27, 2008

Frontier Orbital Interactions and Applications

Pericyclic Reaction

Addition Reactions

Substitution Reactions

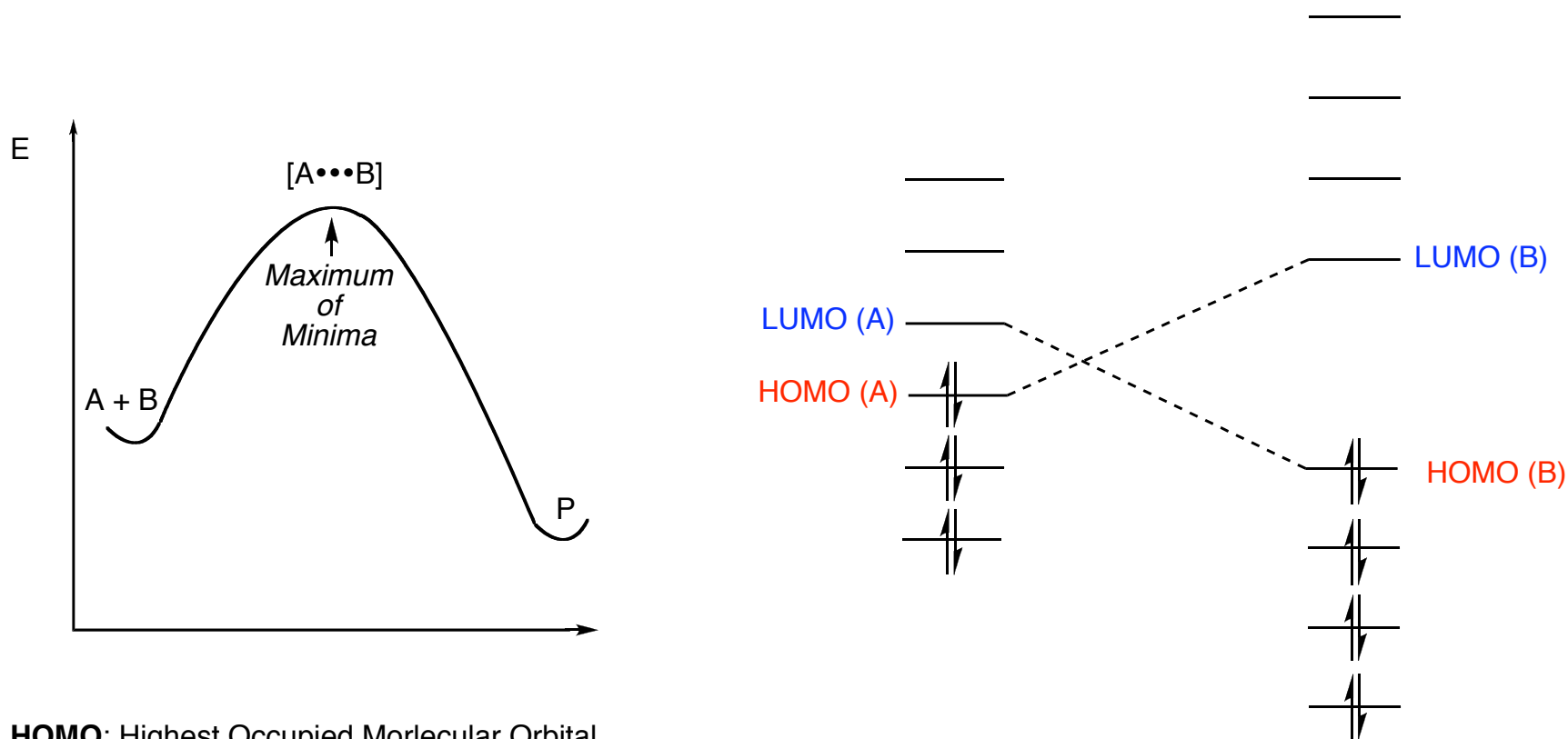
Limitation & Conclusion

Leading Reference:

Anh T. Nguyen, *Frontier Orbitals*, Wiley, England, 2007

Ian Fleming, *Frontier Orbitals and Organic Chemical Reactions*, Wiley, England, 2006

Frontier Orbital Interactions and What We Can Do with Them?



HOMO: Highest Occupied Molecular Orbital

LUMO: Lowest Unoccupied Molecular Orbital

*"... majority of chemical reactions should take place at the position and in the direction of **maximum overlapping** of the **HOMO** (or high-lying occupied MO's) and the **LUMO** (or low-lying unoccupied MO's) of the reacting species; in reacting species possessing a singly occupied (SO) MO, this plays the part of the HOMO or of the LUMO, or of both"*

Fukui K., *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1971**, 4, 57

*Frontier Orbital Interactions and **What We Can Do with Them?***

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

*Frontier Orbital Interactions and **What We Can Do with Them?***

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

Standard FO Treatments of **Structure**

Stable Conformations

Q: **Which is the most stable conformation?**

Reactive Conformation

Q: **Which is the most reactive conformation?**

Structural Anomalies

Q: **When might structural anomalies occur?**

*Frontier Orbital Interactions and **What We Can Do with Them?***

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

Standard FO Treatments of **Structure**

Stable Conformations

Q: **Which is the most stable conformation?**

A: Formally divide the molecule into two fragments, the most stable conformation will be the one having the smallest HOMO-HOMO interaction.

Reactive Conformation

Q: **Which is the most reactive conformation?**

A: It is the one having highest lying HOMO and lowest lying LUMO in the transition state.

Structural Anomalies

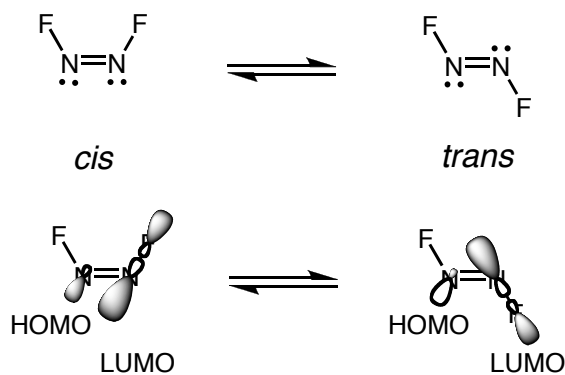
Q: **When might structural anomalies occur?**

A: A bond will shorten (or lengthen) if bonding electron density increases (or decreases) and/or antibonding electron density decreases (or increases) between the extremities.

Frontier Orbital Interactions and *What We Can Do with Them?*

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

Standard FO Treatments of **Structure**



The *cis* isomer is 3 kcal/mol favored at 25 °C

*Frontier Orbital Interactions and **What We Can Do with Them?***

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

Standard FO Treatments of Reactivity

Absolute Reactivity

Q: **Will A react with B?**

Relative Reactivity

Q: **Will A react preferentially with B₁ or B₂?**

Regioselectivity

Q: **Which reactive site of B will A react preferentially with?**

Stereoselectivity

Q: **Which is the best approach for A to attach a given site of B?**

Frontier Orbital Interactions and *What We Can Do with Them?*

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Q: Will A react with B?

A: Reaction is forbidden if their FO overlap is zero.

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Q: Will A react preferentially with B₁ or B₂?

A: A reacts preferentially with the molecule whose frontier orbitals are closer in energy to its own.

Regioselectivity

Q: Which reactive site of B will A react preferentially with?

A: A reacts preferentially with the site whose frontier orbital has the largest coefficient.

Stereoselectivity

Q: Which is the best approach for A to attach a given site of B?

A: The preferred trajectory will have the best FO overlap.

*Frontier Orbital Interactions and **What We Can Do with Them?***

Study on the Frontier Orbital Interactions Help to Answer Questions of **Structure** and **Reactivity**

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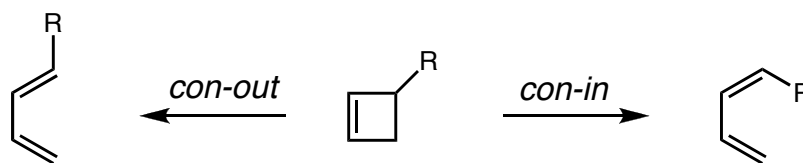
A: The preferred trajectory will have the best FO overlap.

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

pericyclic reactions

Electrocyclic reactions

Torquoselectivity, basic Rondon-Houk treatment

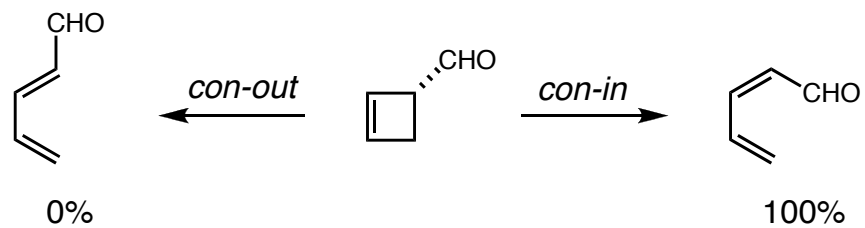
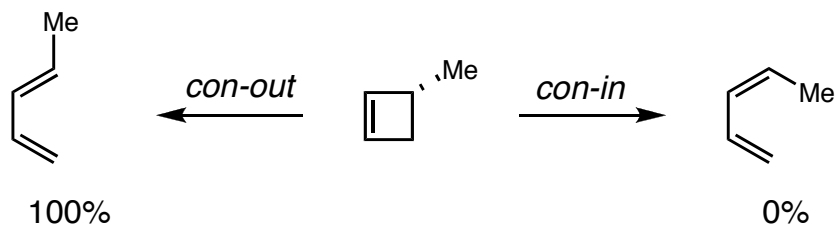


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

pericyclic reactions

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Torquoselectivity, basic Rondon-Houk treatment

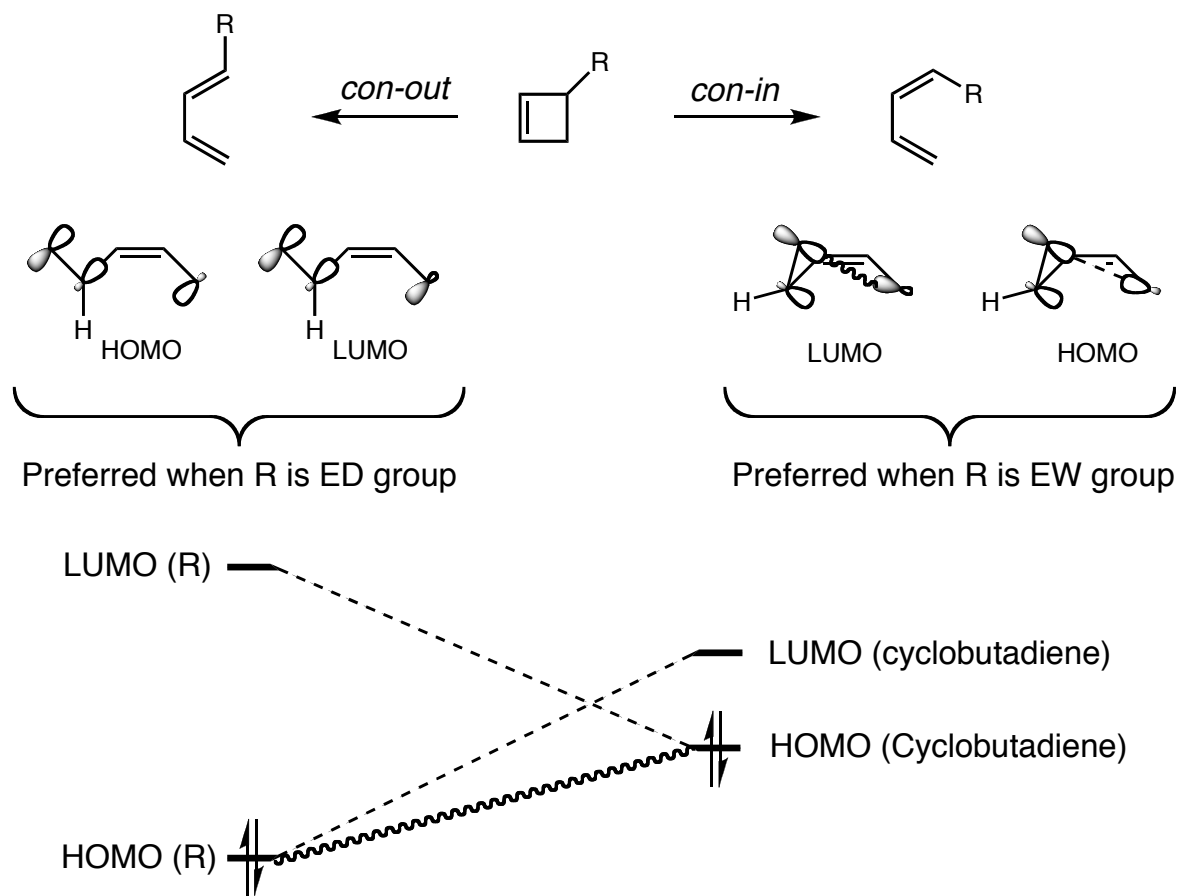


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

pericyclic reactions

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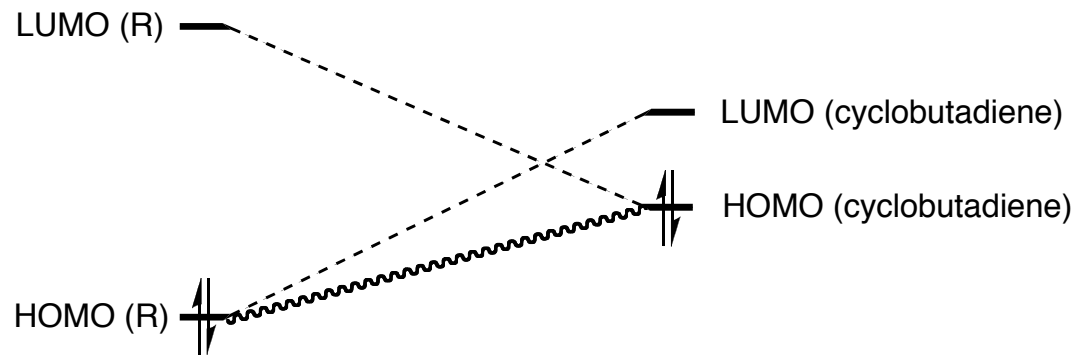
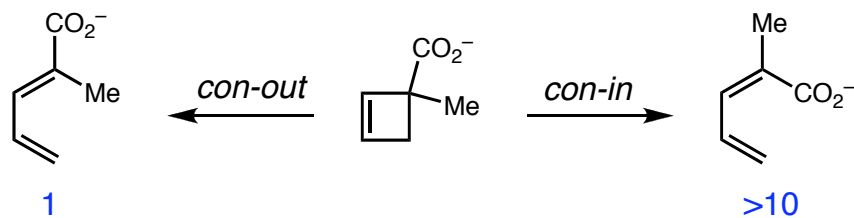


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

pericyclic reactions

Electrocyclic reactions

Torquoselectivity, quantitative analysis

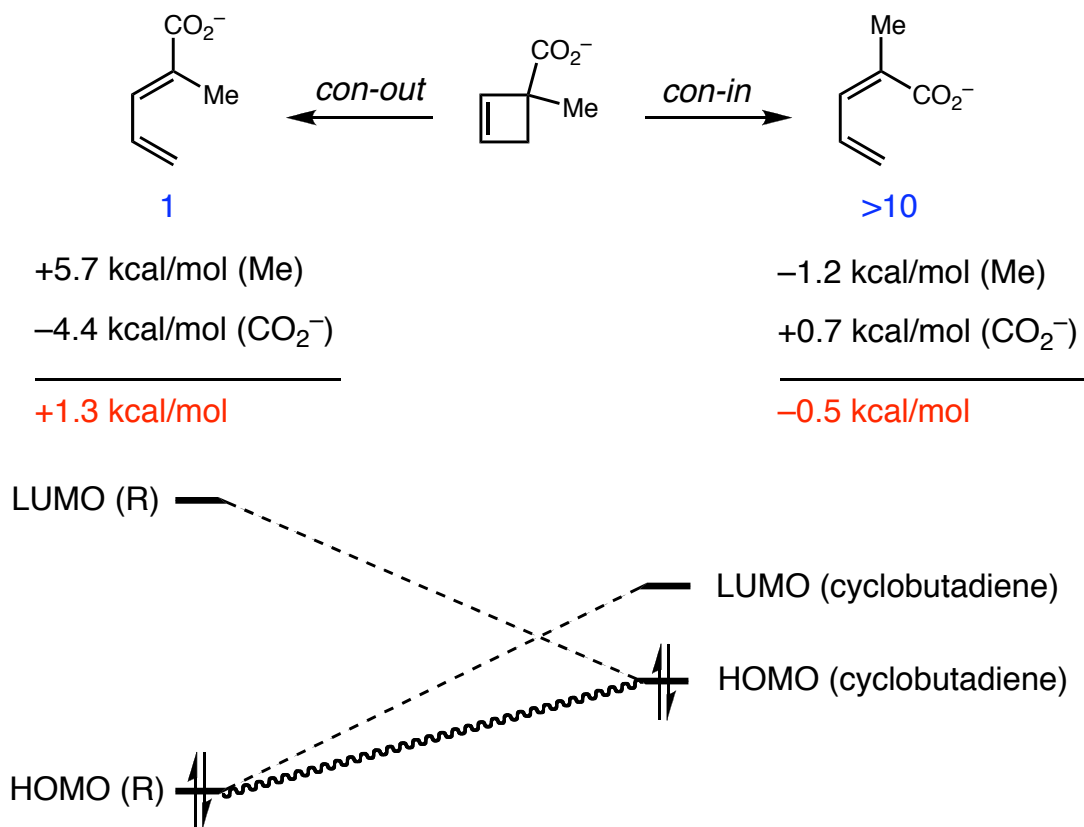


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

pericyclic reactions

Electrocyclic reactions

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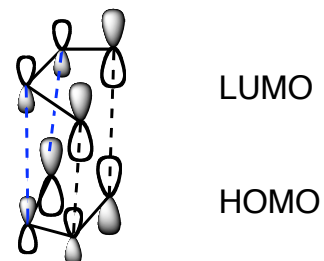


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

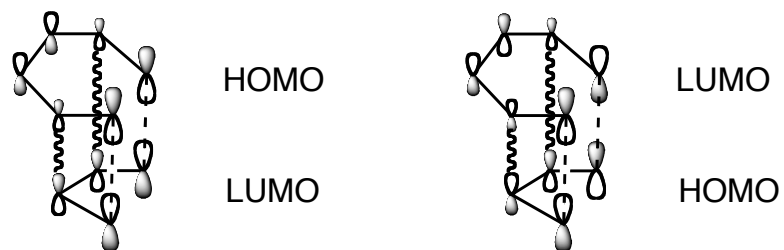
cycloaddition reactions

Endo-Exo orientation, secondary orbital interactions are important

$[4 + 2]$ and $[8 + 2]$ prefers *Endo* orientation



$[6 + 4]$ prefers *Exo* orientation

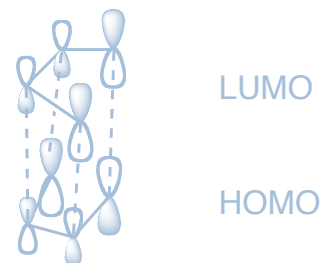


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

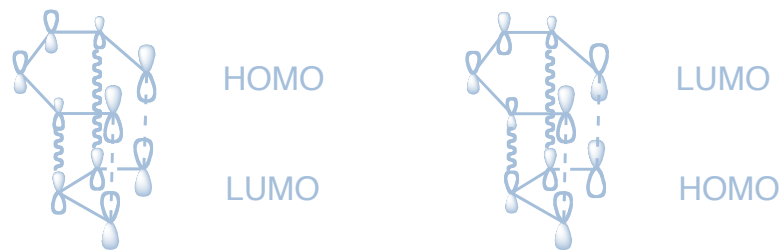
cycloaddition reactions

Endo-Exo orientation, secondary orbital interactions are important

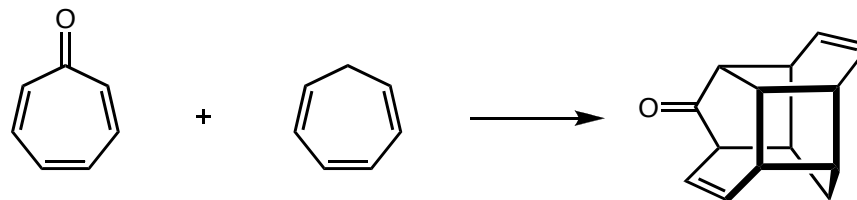
[4 + 2] and [8 + 2] prefers *Endo* orientation

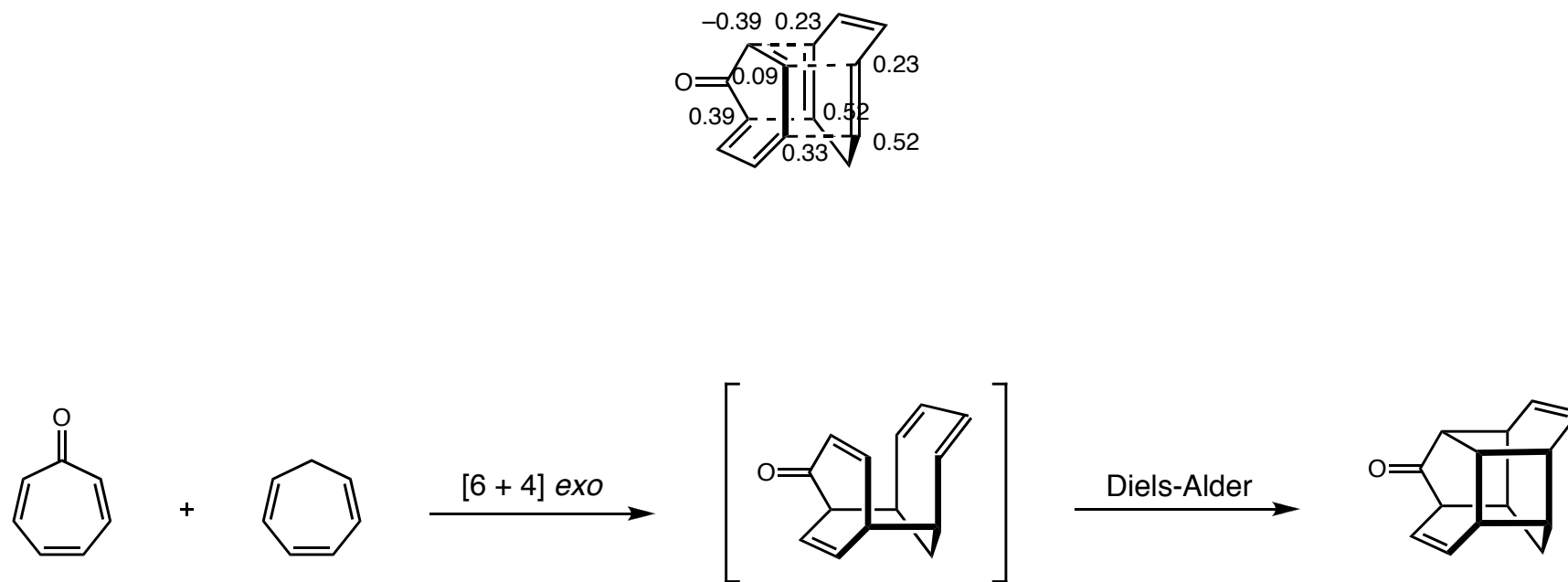


[6 + 4] prefers *Exo* orientation



What do you think about the mechanism of this reaction?



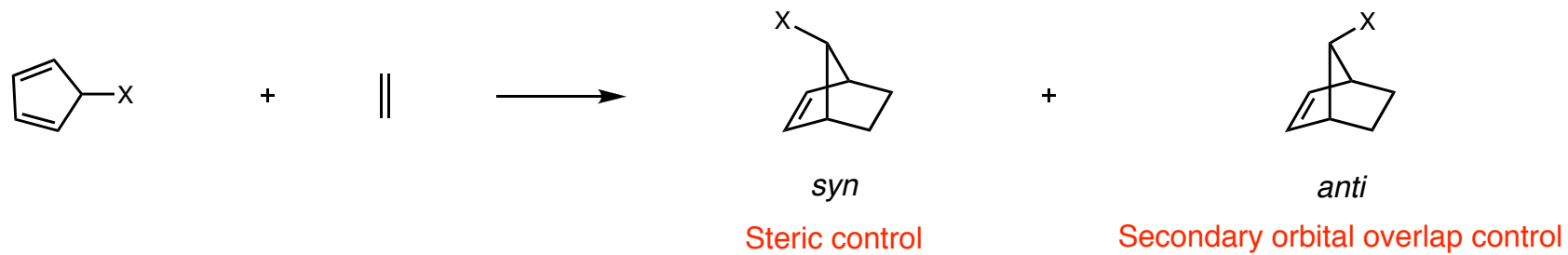


Woods M.C. *et al*, *Tet. Let.* **1967**, *8*, 1059

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

cycloaddition reactions

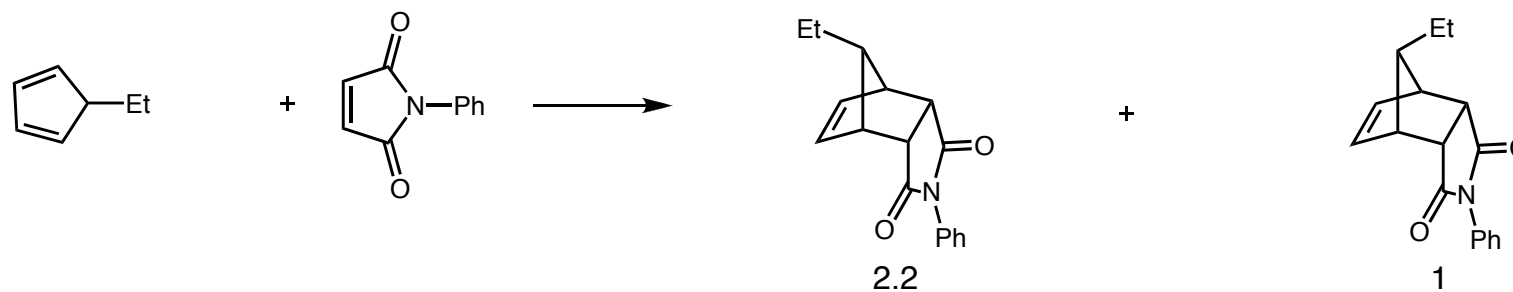
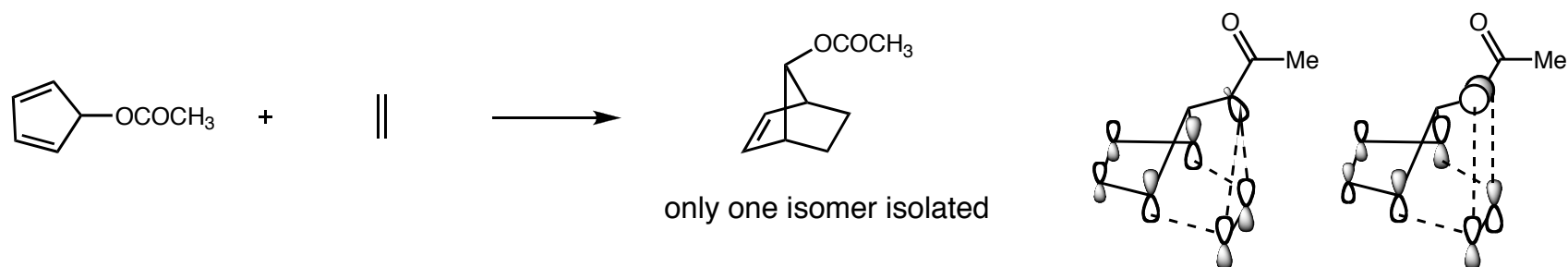
Syn-Anti orientation, steric effect vs. secondary orbital interactions



Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

cycloaddition reactions

Syn-Anti orientation, steric effect vs. secondary orbital interactions

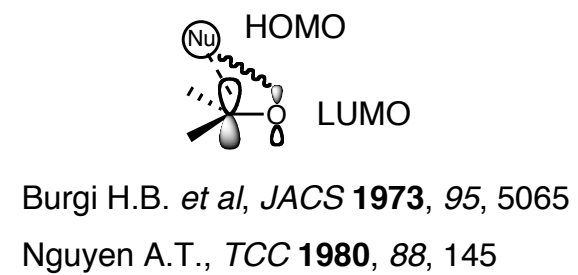
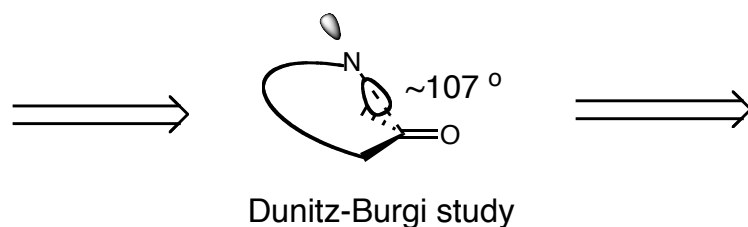
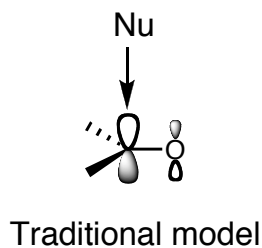


Burnell J.D, *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, 62, 7272

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

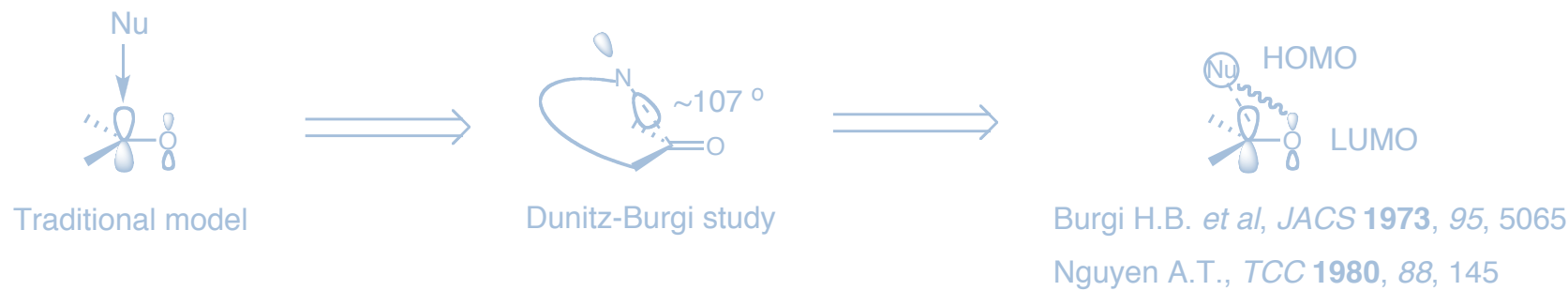
The non-perpendicular Dunitz-Burgi attack



Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

The non-perpendicular Dunitz-Burgi attack

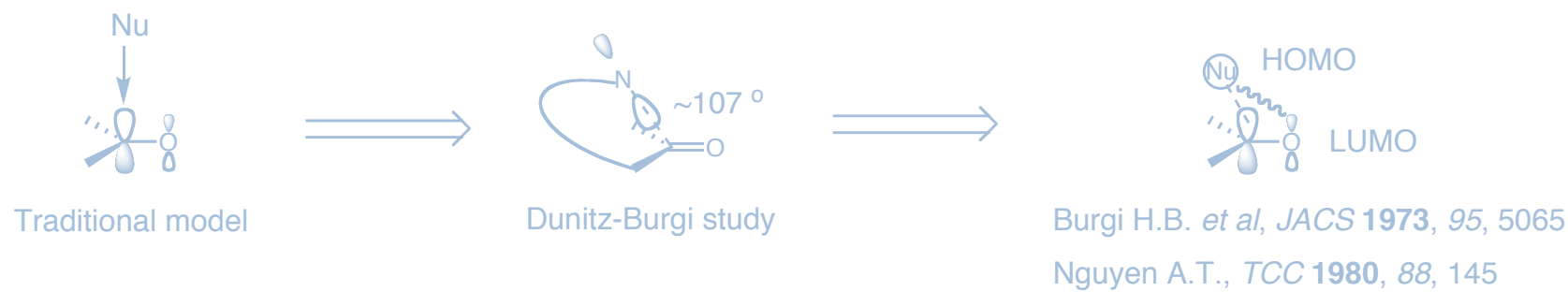


Houk and co-workers showed on their calculation that the angles of nucleophilic attacks on alkenes and alkynes lie in the range 115–130° (larger than the angle of attack on carbonyls.) Can you rationalize the result? (*JACS* **1982**, *104*, 7162)

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

The non-perpendicular Dunitz-Burgi attack



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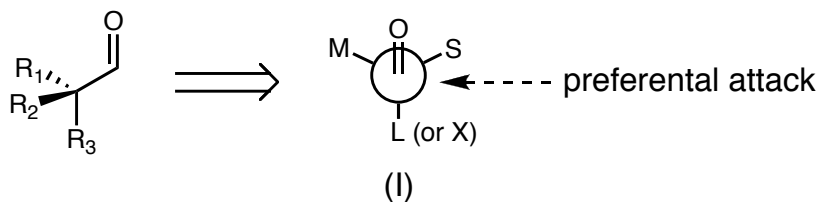


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

1,2 Asymmetric inductions

The Cram model



L: the bulkiest group

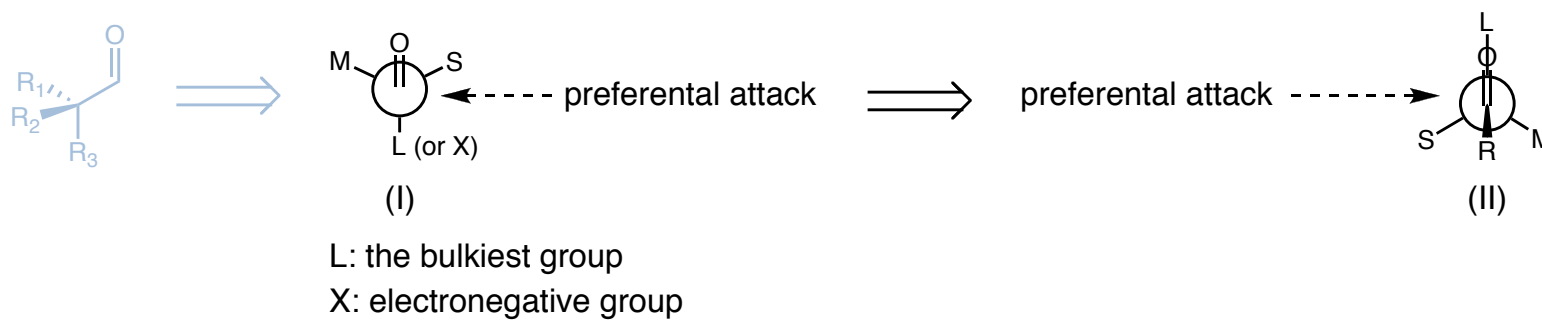
X: electronegative group

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

1,2 Asymmetric inductions

The Cram model



Increase the size of R make II become more competitive with I

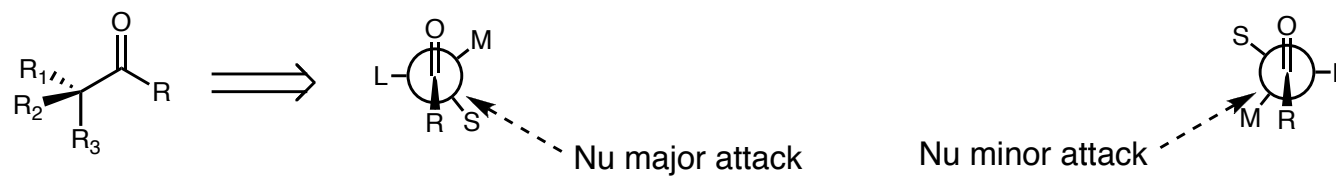
Cram model cannot explain the outcome of the reduction of 4-*tert*butylcyclohexanone by LiAlH₄

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

1,2 Asymmetric inductions

The Felkin model

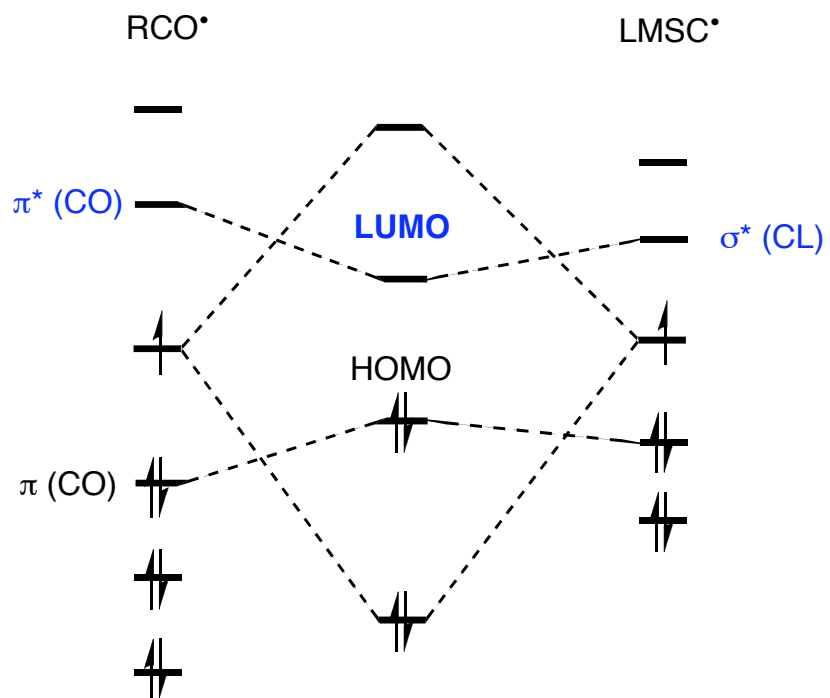
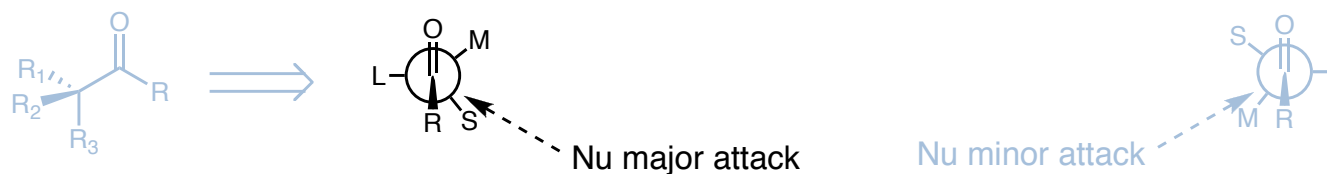


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

1,2 Asymmetric inductions

The Felkin model

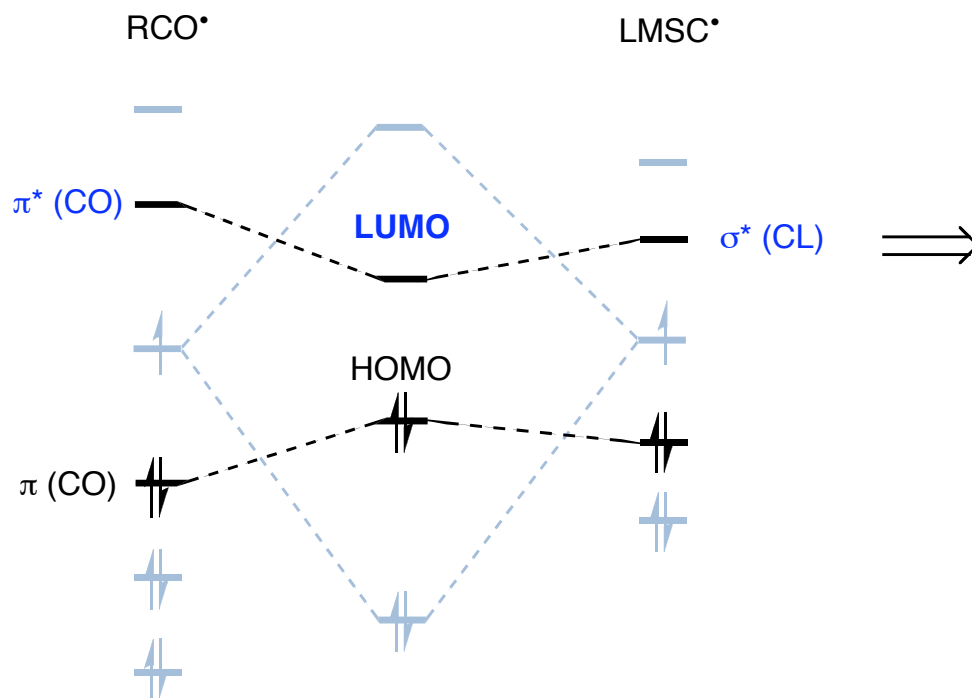
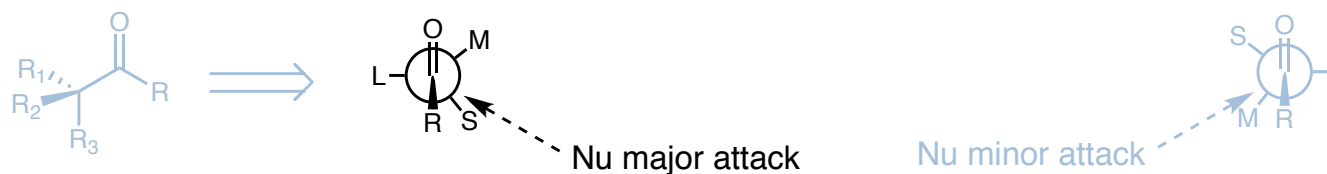


Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

1,2 Asymmetric inductions

The Felkin model



- The energy of σ^*_{CX} falls as the electronegativity of X increases. (Except X= F and strong dipolar stabilization cases)

- The energy of σ^*_{CL} falls as the CL bond weakens

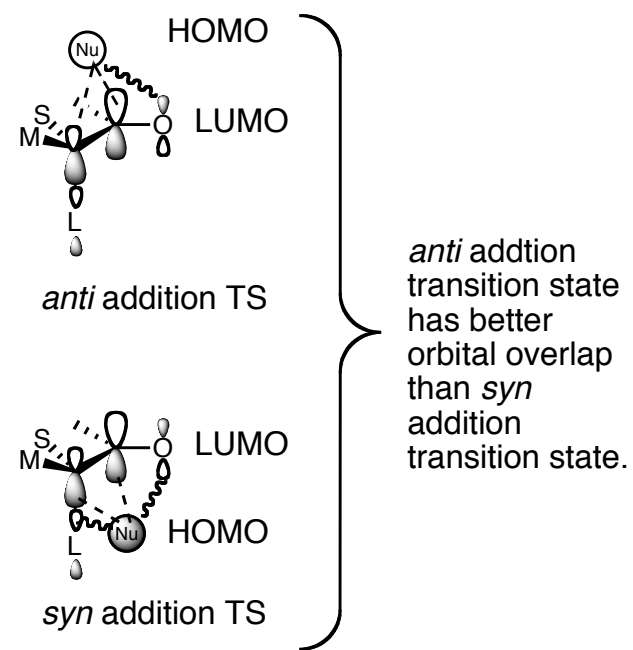
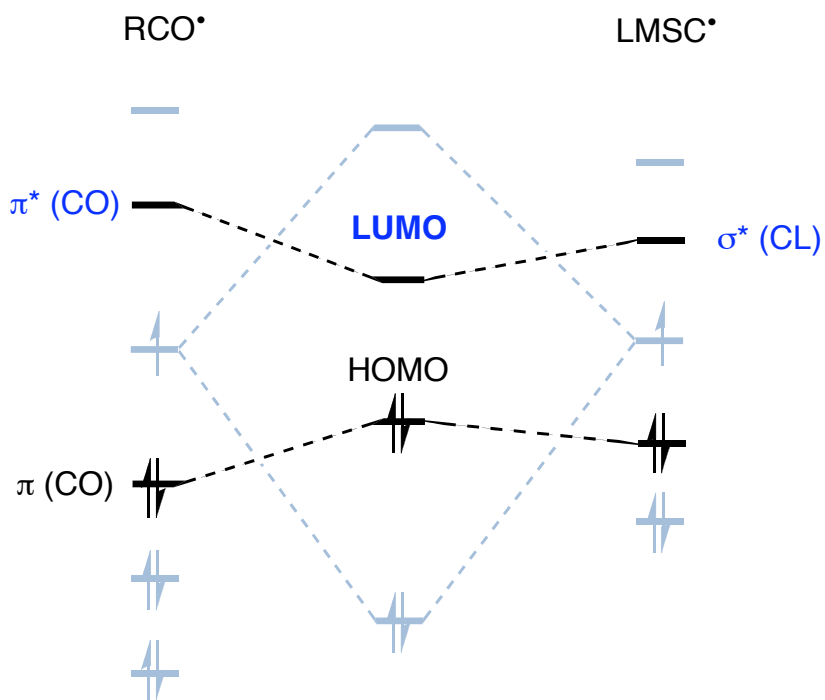
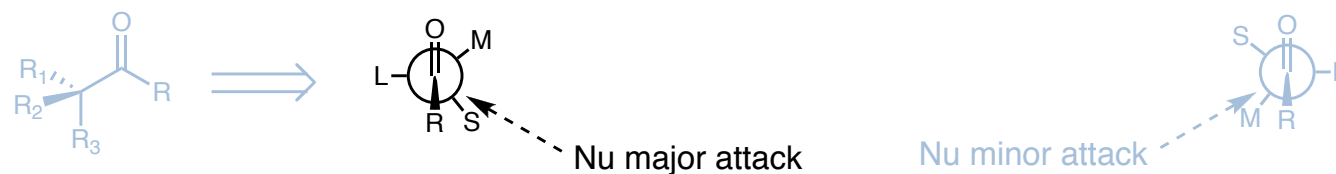
- The HOMO-LUMO gap falls as the number of atoms in S, M or L rises

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

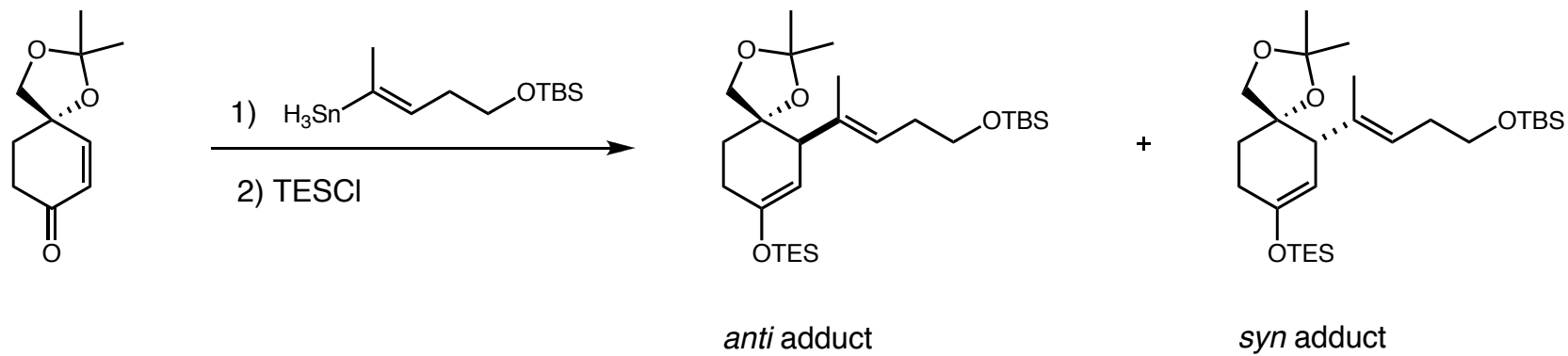
addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

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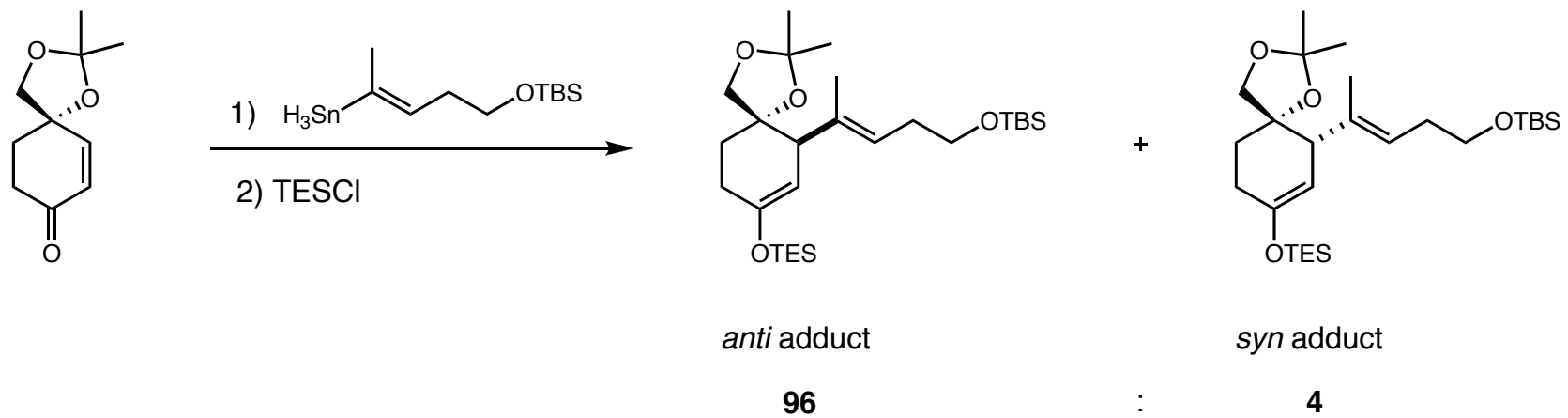
The Felkin model



What is the major product of the following reaction?



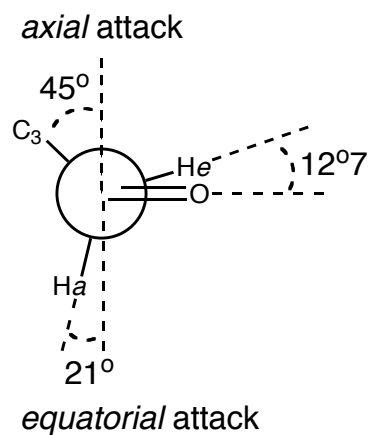
Taber D. F., *JACS* **1999**, *121*, 5589



Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

Dealing with the cyclic system- the "*flattening rule*"

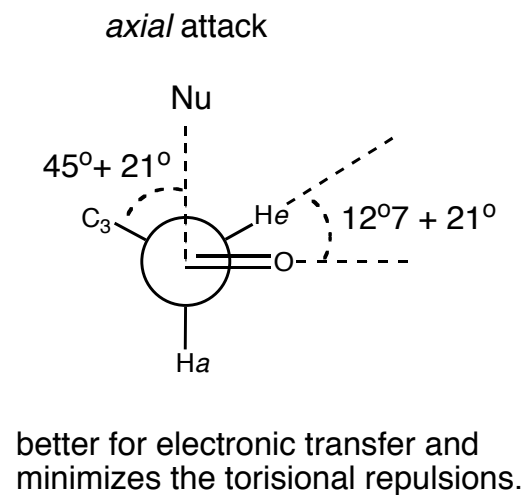
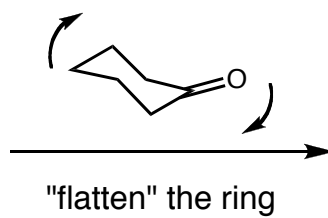
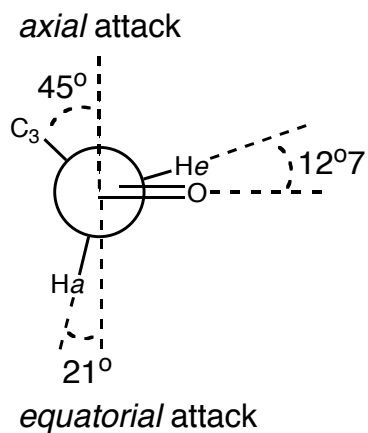


TS in the nucleophilic addition will be strongly stabilized when the C_2-X and $C-Nu$ bonds are antiperiplanar.

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

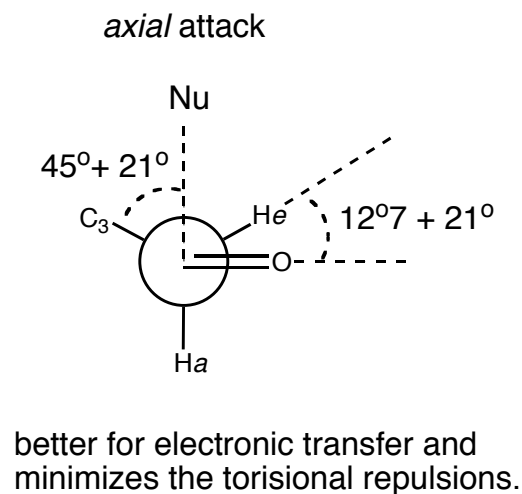
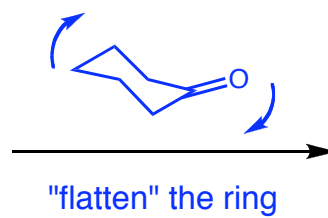
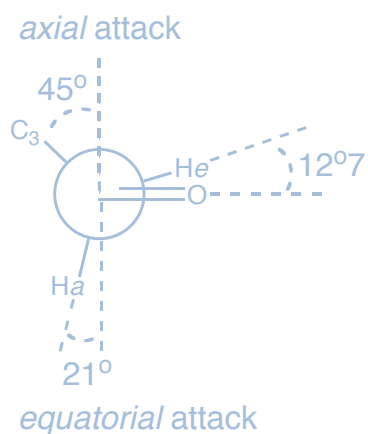
Dealing with the cyclic system- the "*flattening rule*"



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addition reactions - Nucleophilic additions

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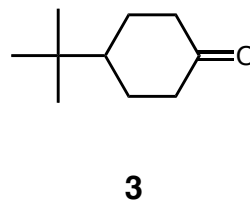
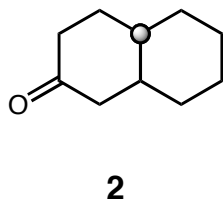
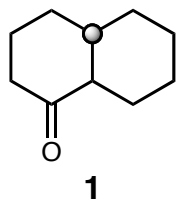


"Axial attack is favored by **flattened** or **flexible rings**"

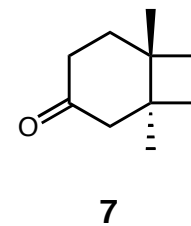
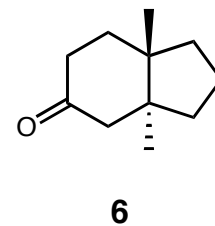
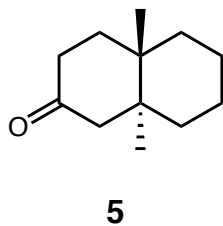
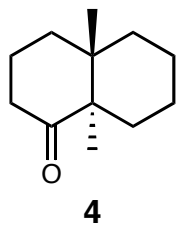
Nguyen. A. T. *et al*, *Tet. Let.* **1976**, 17, 159

Arrange the following compounds in order of increasing preference for *axial* nucleophilic attack (LiAlH₄ for example)?

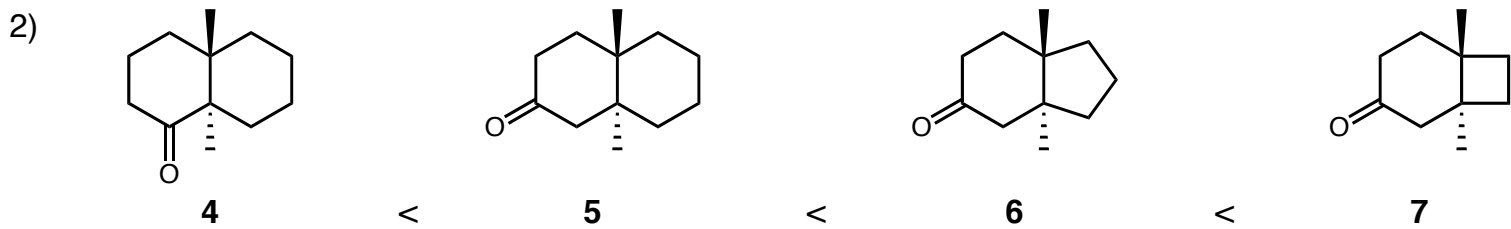
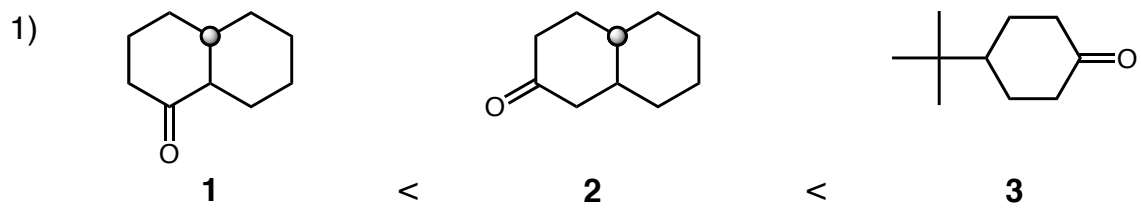
1)



2)



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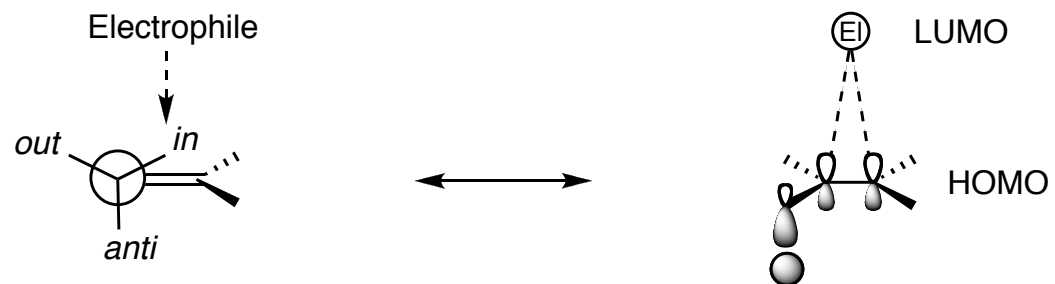
The experimentally observed percentages for *axial* attack

	4	5	6	7
LiAlH ₄	80	85	89	94
NaBH ₄	78	88	90	94
MeMgI	12	34	42	56

Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - electrophilic additions

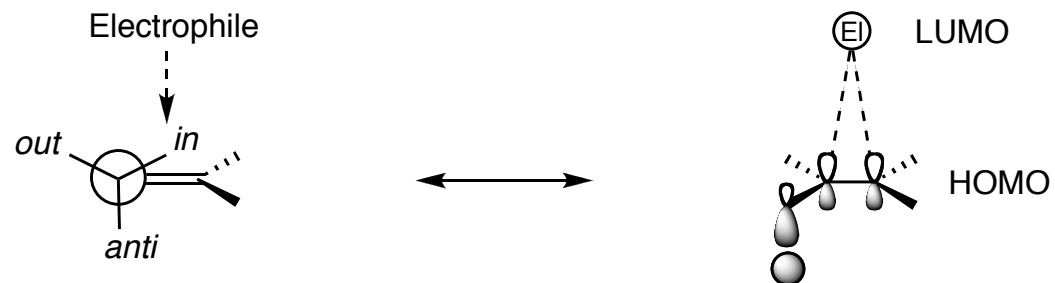
Houk model for electrophilic addition to alkenes



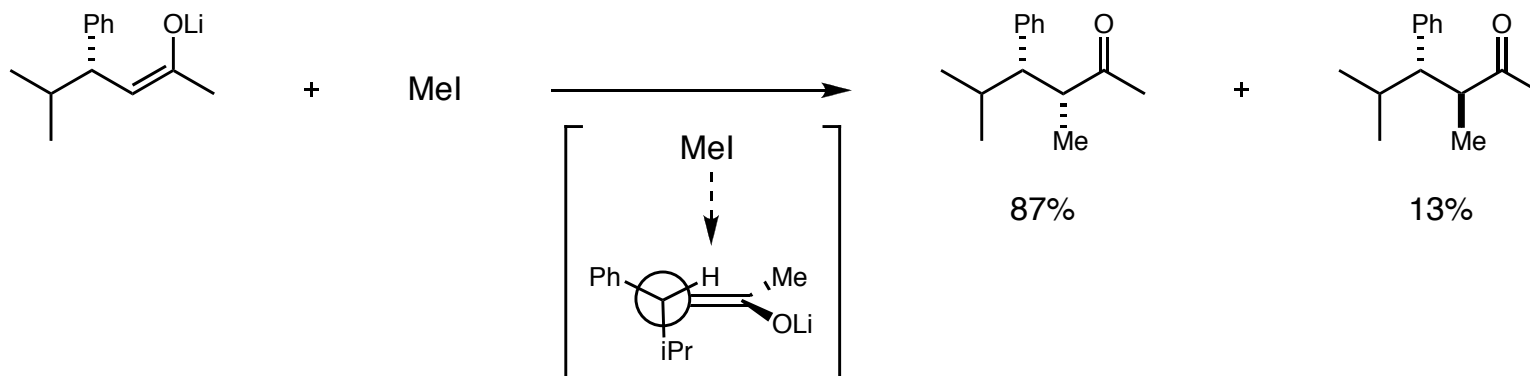
Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - electrophilic additions

Houk model for electrophilic addition to alkenes



- ED and bulky groups prefer *anti* position
- Small groups prefer *inside* position

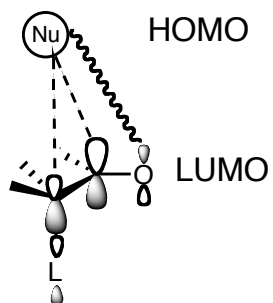


Fleming I., Lewis J.J., *Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 1* **1992**, 3257

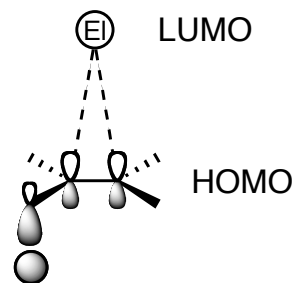
Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - applied to the aldol addition

Aldol reaction can be considered as the combination of nucleophilic and electrophilic addition



The Nu-C-O angle is obtuse

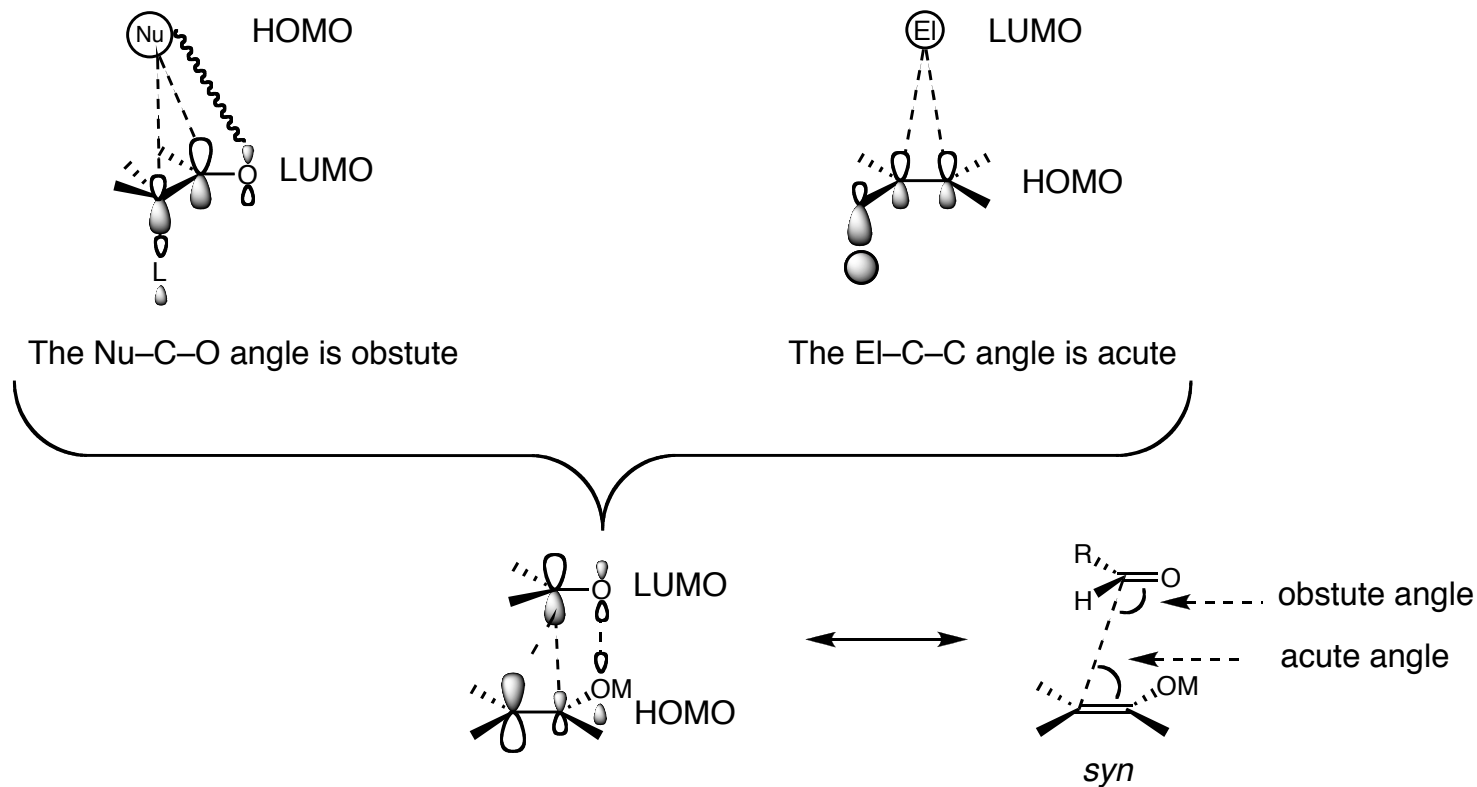


The E-C-C angle is acute

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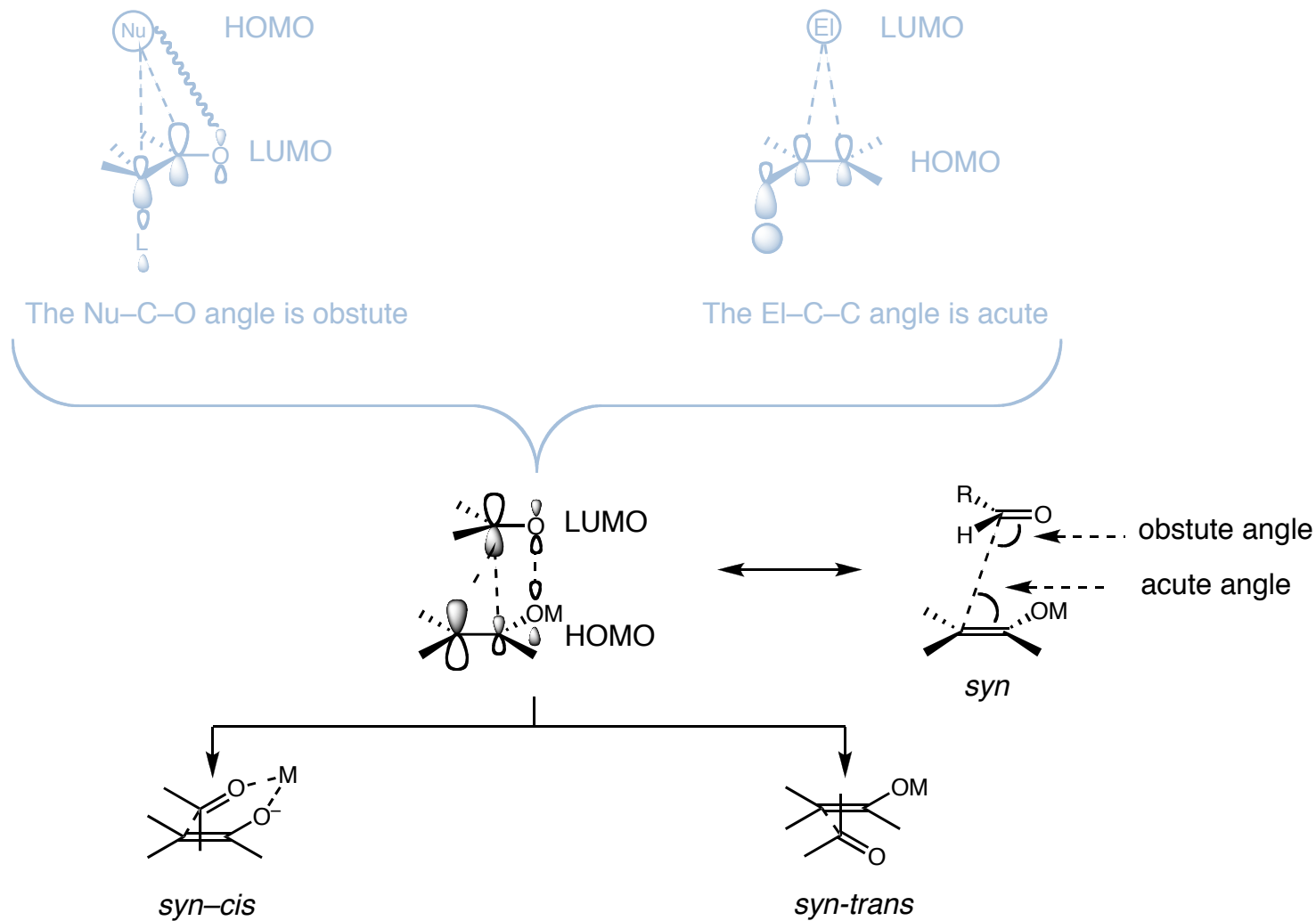
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Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

addition reactions - applied to the aldol addition

Aldol reaction – Anh's treatment

Step 1. Generate diastereomeric transition state models.



Frontier Orbital Interactions: *Stereoselectivity*

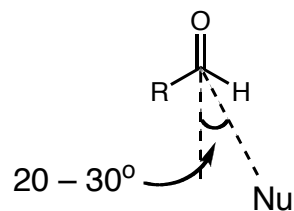
addition reactions - applied to the aldol addition

Aldol reaction – Anh's treatment

Step 1. Generate diastereomeric transition state models.



Step 2. The calculation modeling addition reaction to aldehyde showed that the bulk of R group forces the incoming nucleophile to approach the aldehyde from the side bearing hydrogen. Thus, rotate (move) the aldehyde in the models to this direction.



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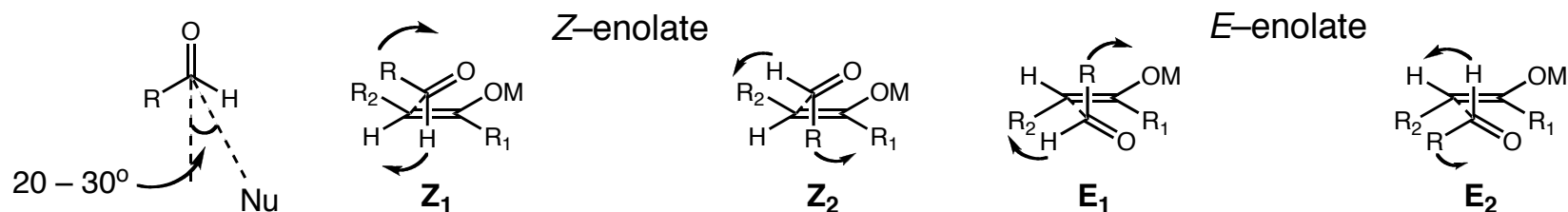
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Step 3. Base on the relative bulk of R_1 , R_2 and the change of the intereaction after the movement, decide the best transition state.

With Z-enolate: If $R_2 < R_1$, **Z₁** is favorred over **Z₂**; If $R_2 \geq R_1$, **Z₂** is favorred over **Z₁**

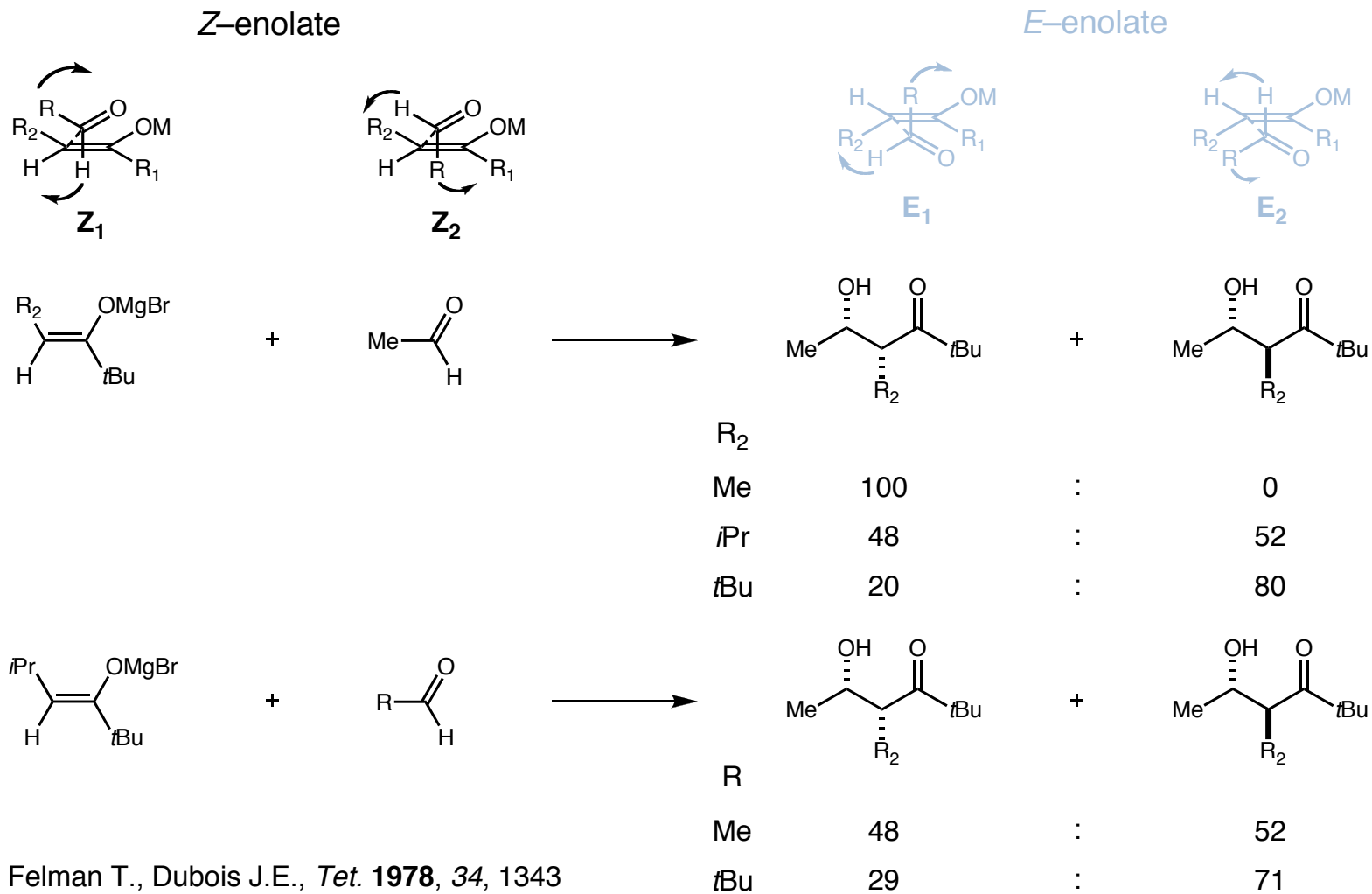
With E-enolate: If $R_2 < R_1$, **E₁** is favorred over **E₂**; If $R_2 > R_1$, **E₂** is favorred over **E₁**

Anh's treatment is quite good for Z-enolate aldol addition, but still not clear for the E-enolate

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addition reactions - applied to the aldol addition

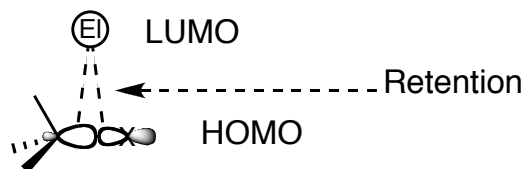
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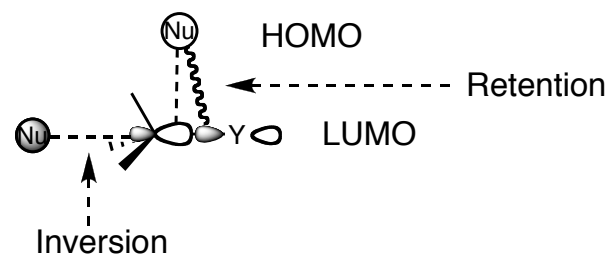
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substitution reactions—retention of configuration

FO interaction illustrations of bimolecular substitution reaction at saturated centers



Electrophilic substitution FO interaction



Nucleophilic substitution FO interaction

For the best FO overlap, normally, S_E2 reactions happen with the retention of configuration while the S_N2 happens with the inversion.

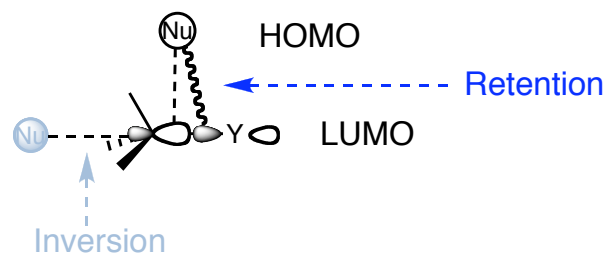
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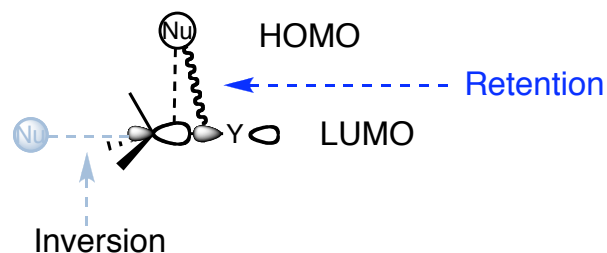
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$$\sigma_{CY}^* = N \left(\varphi_C + \frac{\langle \varphi_C | P | \varphi_Y \rangle}{E_C - E_Y} \varphi_Y \right) \Longrightarrow$$

To reduce the contribution of φ_Y , we can rise E_C , lower E_Y , or do both.

- E_C rise when the electronegativity of the reaction center lowered (Carbon to Silicon for example)
- E_Y lowered when replacing the leaving group by a more electronegative homolog.

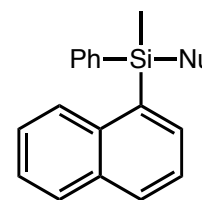
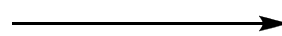
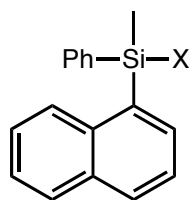
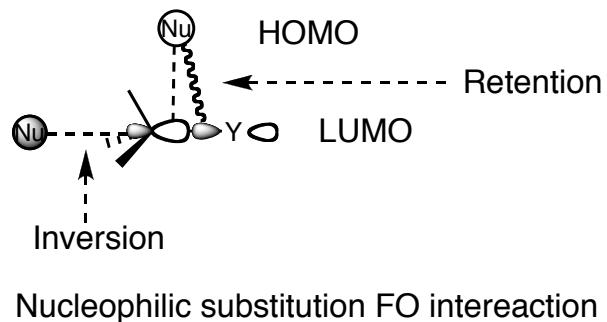
Increasing s character of the hybrid orbitals of the center.

Harder nucleophile induce greater retention of configuration.

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substitution reactions—retention of configuration

Examples for the retention at the center in S_N2 reactions



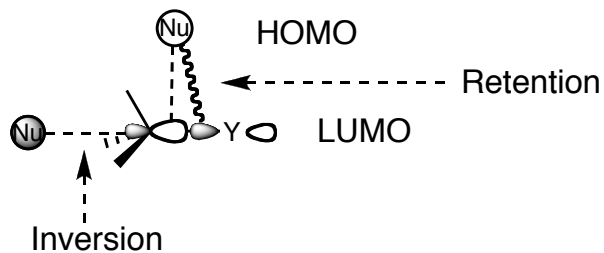
Nu	X=	H	OMe	SMe	F	Br or Cl
RLi (alkyl or aryl)		<i>Re</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>In</i>
Allyllithium		<i>Re</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>In</i>
KOH		<i>Re</i>	<i>Re</i>		<i>Re</i>	<i>In</i>

Moreau J.J. *et al*, *Top. Stereochem.* **1984**, 15, 87

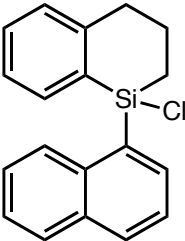
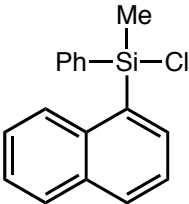
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substitution reactions—retention of configuration

Examples for the retention at the center in S_N2 reactions



Nucleophilic substitution FO intereaction

Nu		
EtLi	63% <i>Re</i>	100% <i>In</i>
<i>n</i> BuLi	82% <i>Re</i>	59% <i>In</i>
Allyllithium	86% <i>Re</i>	100% <i>In</i>
PhCH ₂ Li	99% <i>Re</i>	100% <i>In</i>

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factors control asymmetric induction

"The preferred trajectory will have the best FO overlap"

- Chelation, when existing, has the strongest influence
- Torsional effects and non-perpendicular attacks are second in importance
- Dipolar and antiperiplanar effects are the next critical factors
- Charge control becomes dominant mostly in compounds containing fluorine or in rigid systems
- Conformational control comes to the fore in the absence of highly polar substituents or in the reactions with very early or very late TS
- Steric control are included in all systems

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limitations

"The preferred trajectory will have the best FO overlap"

- Easy to use qualitatively and generally gives predictions agreeing with experiment results (80% as the author stated)
- The FO method just considers the HOMO-LUMO interactions; Thus, the relations between lower orbitals should be taken into account when studying the outcomes of reactions
- *"Best FO overlap"* means statically. The imperfect trajectories may happen if they have enough energy and vaguely resemble ideal geometry
- The HOMO-LUMO interactions just provide information concerning the transition state potential energy, so the kinetic parameter should be considered when examining the reaction