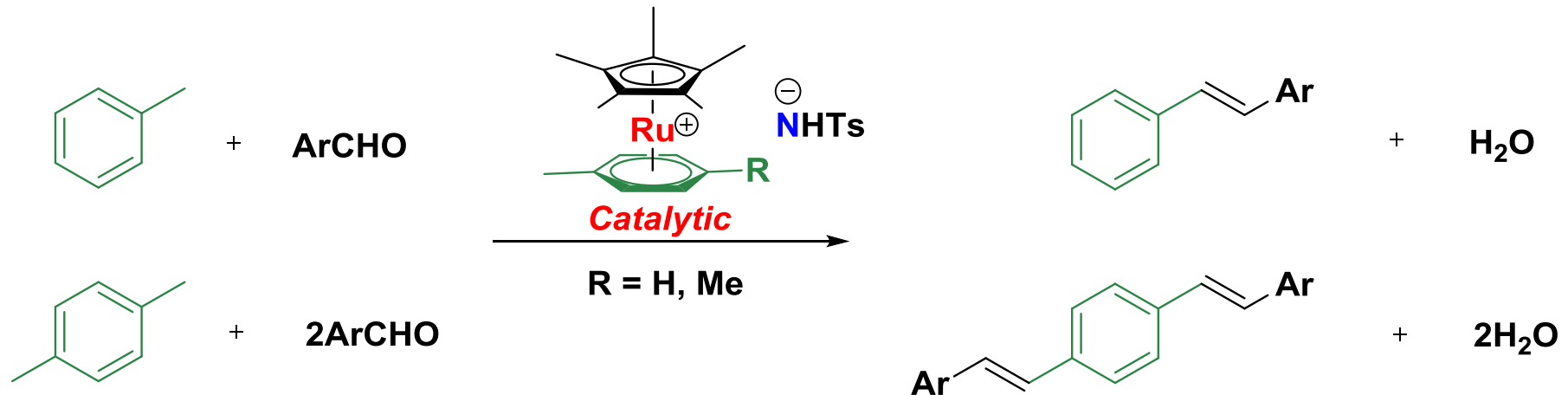


# Ruthenium Sulfonamide-Catalyzed Direct Dehydrative Condensation Of Benzylic C-H Bonds With Aromatic Aldehydes

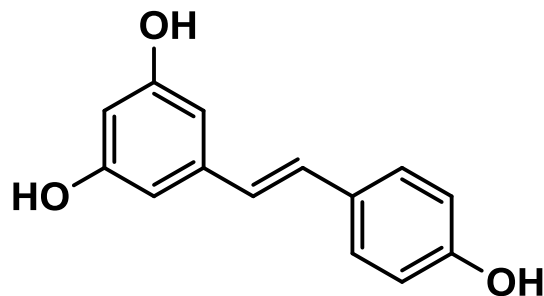


S. Takemoto,\* E. Shibata, M. Nakajima, Y. Yumoto, M. Shimamoto, and H. Matsuzaka\*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2016, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.6b08863

# Properties and Utilization of Stilbenes and Distyrylbenzene Derivatives

## ➤ *Bioactive Stilbenes Derivatives*

Red grapes,  
cranberry



*trans*-resveratrol



Isolated by **Takaoka** from the roots of white hellebore in **1940**

Constituent of red wine :  
1.56 to 1042 nmol/g

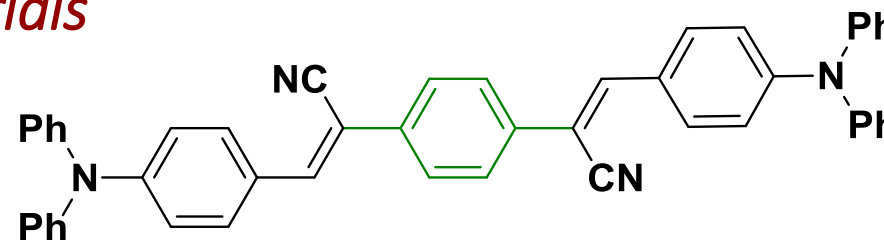
Anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory,  
anti-tumoral effects



Likhtenshtein, G. *Stilbenes : Applications in Chemistry, Life Science and Materials Science*; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, **2010**.

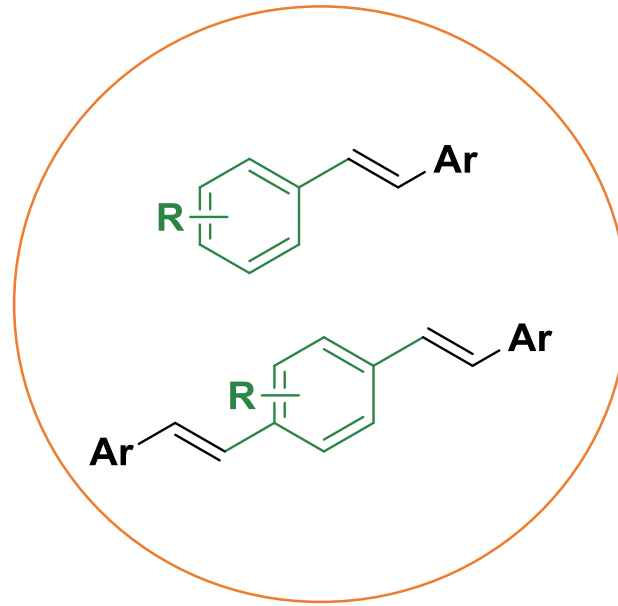
## ➤ *Distyrylbenzene-Based Luminescent Materials*

**OLED:** Organic Light-Emitting Diodes



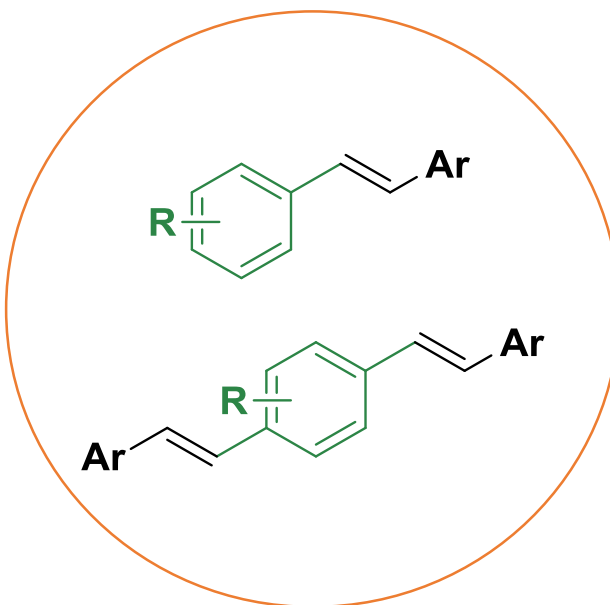
C. Li, M. Hanif, X. Li, S. Zhang, Z. Xie, L. Liu, B. Yang, S. Sua and Y. Ma *J. Mater. Chem. C*, **2016**, *4*, 7478-7484.

# Background

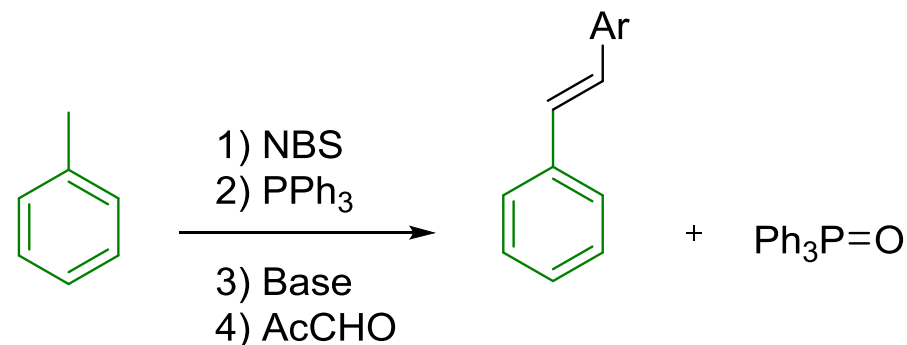


# Background

Wittig reaction



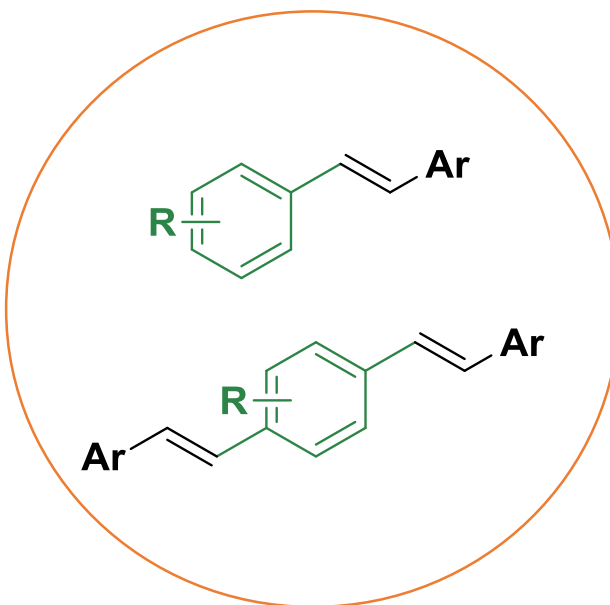
- **Multiple steps**
- **Hazardous reagents** to generate phosphorus ylide intermediates
- Production of **stoichiometric quantities** of halogen- and phosphorus- containing byproducts.



A. J. Hudson, S. Tamura, M. B. Grieve, T. Richardson, J. E. Wong, D. W. Bruce, *J. Mater. Chem.* **1995**, *5*, 1867.

# Background

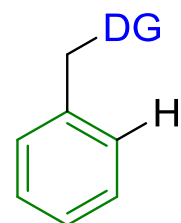
Wittig reaction



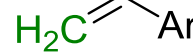
Aromatic C-H olefination

➤ Use of **directing groups** (DGs) to ensure high regioselectivity

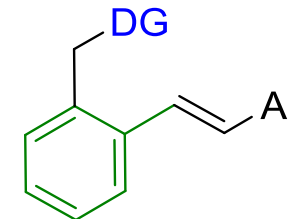
➤ **Cost-effective** and **highly atom-economical** if the terminal oxidant come from the molecular oxygen or air



+



Pd or Rh catalyst  
oxidant

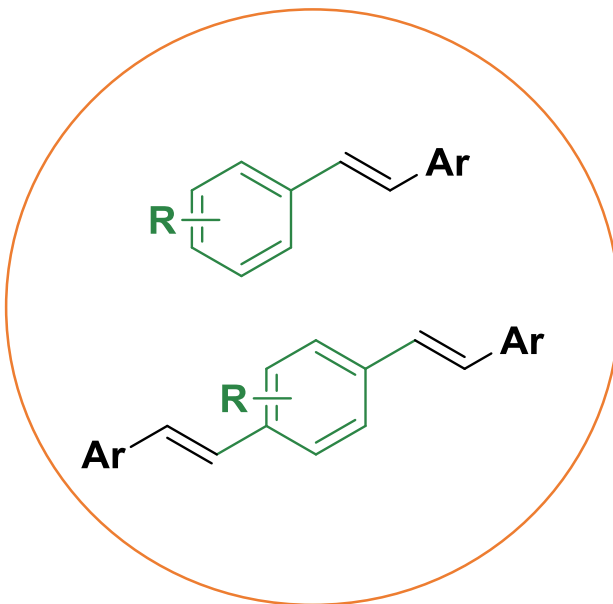


➤ **Expensive oxidants** such as Ag(I) or Cu(II) salts in **stoichiometric amounts**

A. Bechtoldt, C. Tirer, K. Raghuvanski, S. Warratz, C. Kornhaaß, L. Lutz Ackermann, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 264–267.

# Background

Wittig reaction

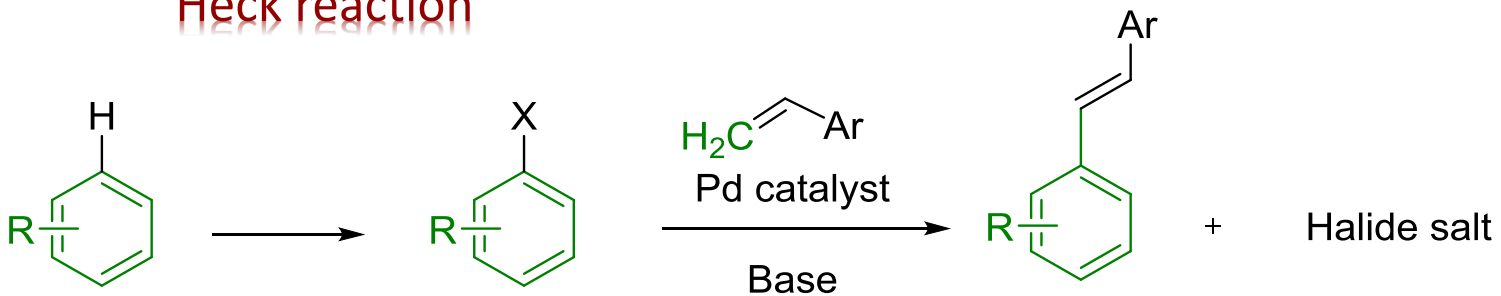


Aromatic C-H olefination



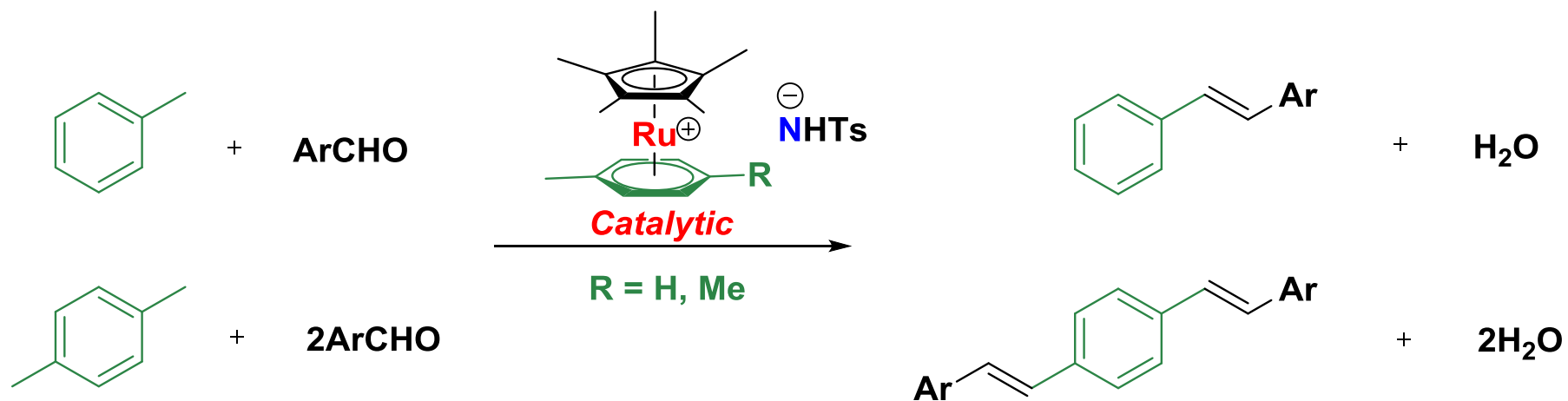
Heck reaction

- Less waste
- Problem of regioselectivity



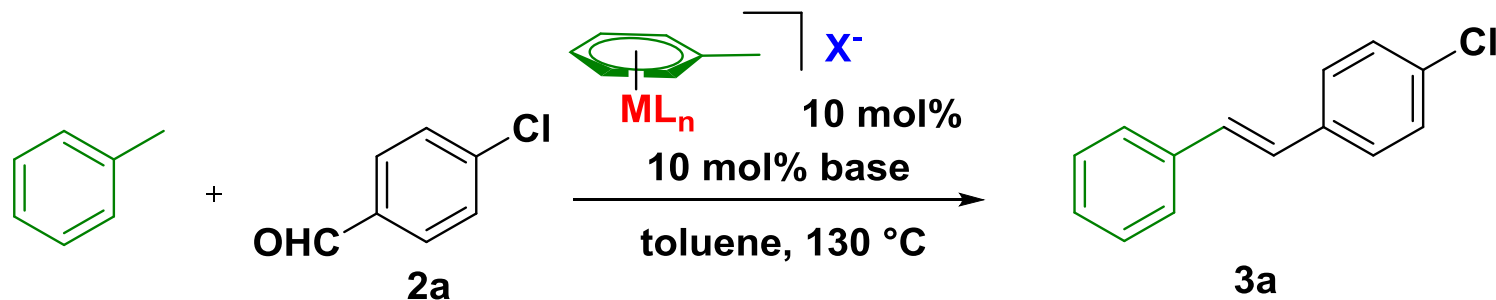
Werner E. W., Sigman M. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, 133, 9692.

# This work



- **Direct dehydrative condensation** of the benzylic C-H bonds of toluene and *p*-xylene with aromatic aldehydes
- **First catalytic version**
- Novel **cooperative catalysis** of a cationic Cp\*<sup>+</sup>Ru(η<sup>6</sup>-arene) complex and a sulfonamide anion NHTs<sup>-</sup>

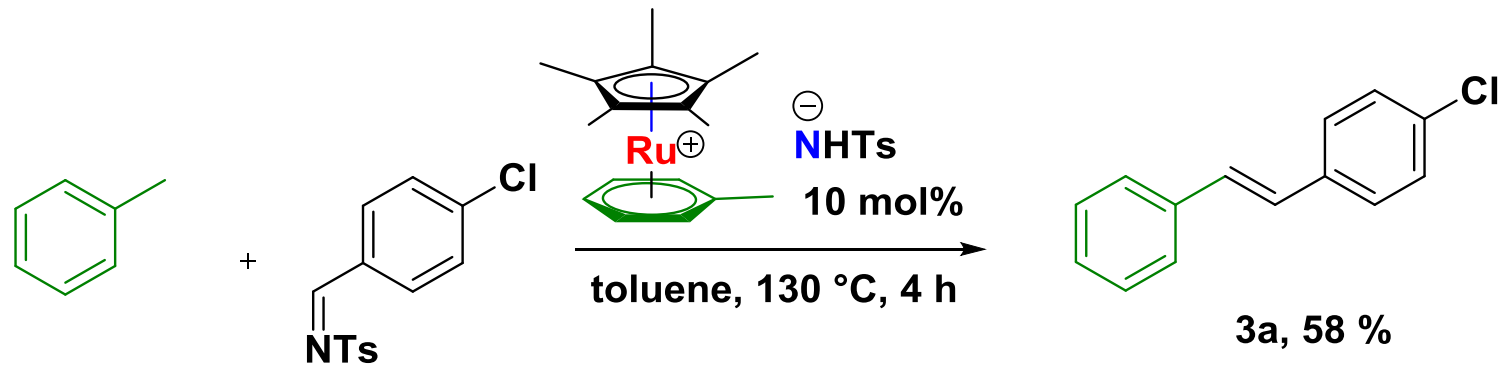
# Active Catalyst Components



Entry	$ML_n$	$X^-$	Base	Reaction time	Yield (%)	Entry	$ML_n$	$X^-$	Base	Reaction time	Yield (%)			
1	Cp* $Ru^+$	NHTs <sup>-</sup>	None	4 h	50	11	Cp $Ru^+$	KNHTs	KNHTs	19 h	8			
2		OTf <sup>-</sup>			0	12	Cp* $Fe^+$				PF <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	5		
3		Cl <sup>-</sup>			None	9								
4						KNHTs	40				14	(PCP) $Ru^+$	OTf <sup>-</sup>	0
5						KNHMs	24				15	Mn(CO) <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup>	PF <sub>6</sub> <sup>-</sup>	
6						KNMeTs	2				16	Cr(CO) <sub>3</sub>	None	
7						KN <sup>t</sup> BuTs								

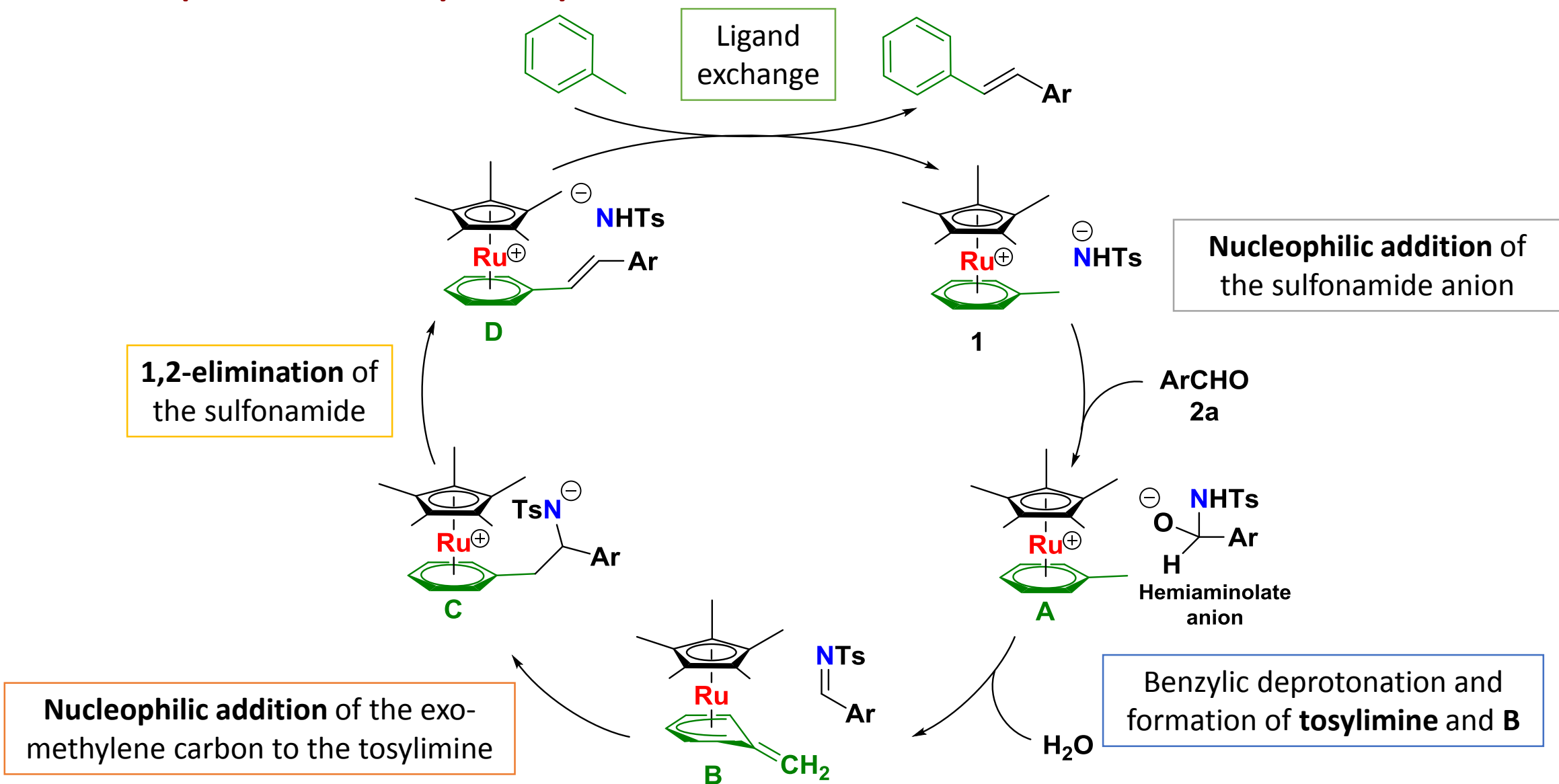


# Active Catalyst Components

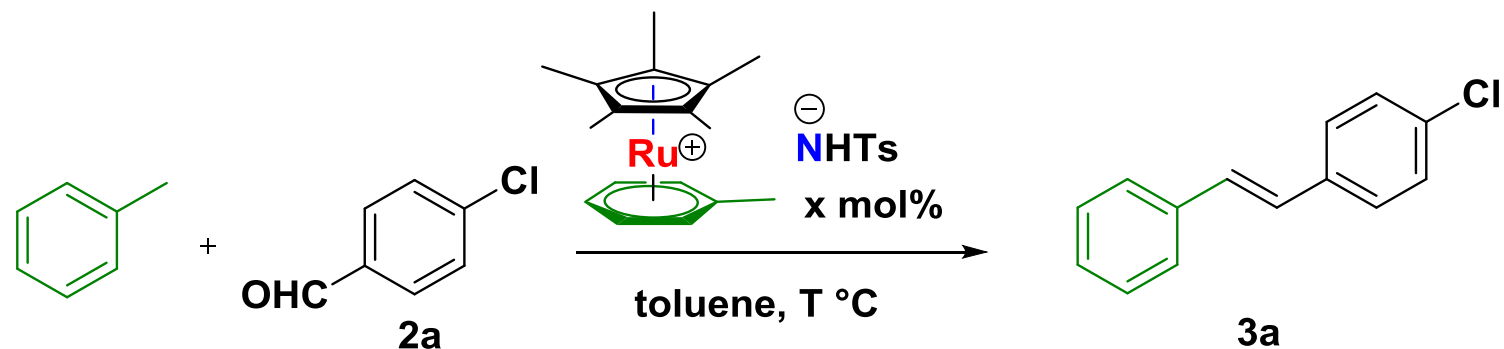


- **Primary sulfonamide anions** play an essential role: Base and facilitate the C-C bond formation by a tosylimine intermediate

# Proposed Catalytic Cycle



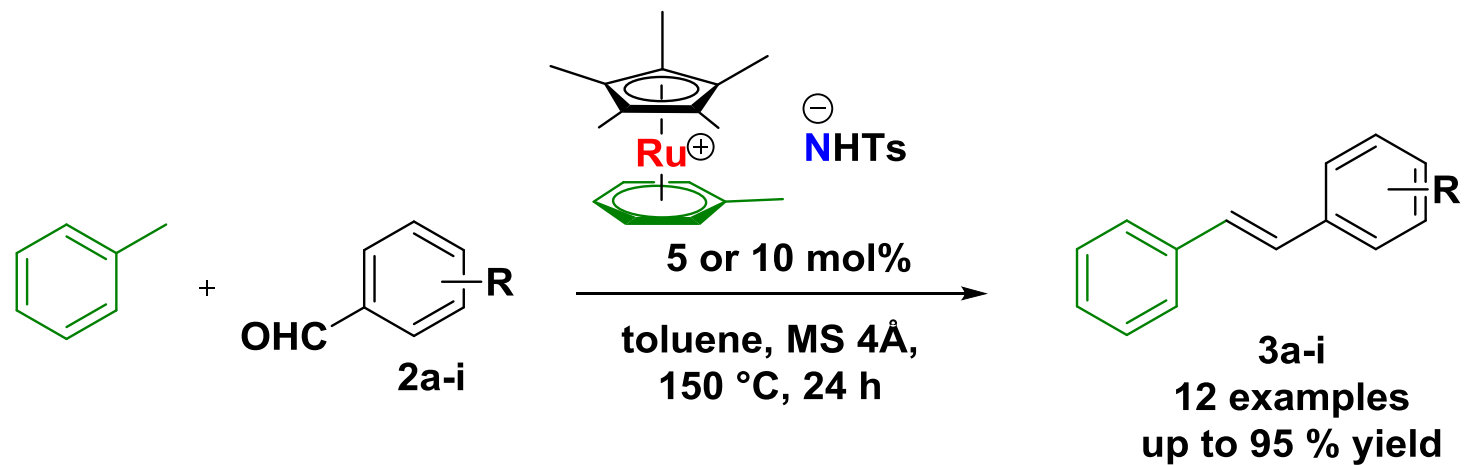
# Optimization of Reaction Conditions



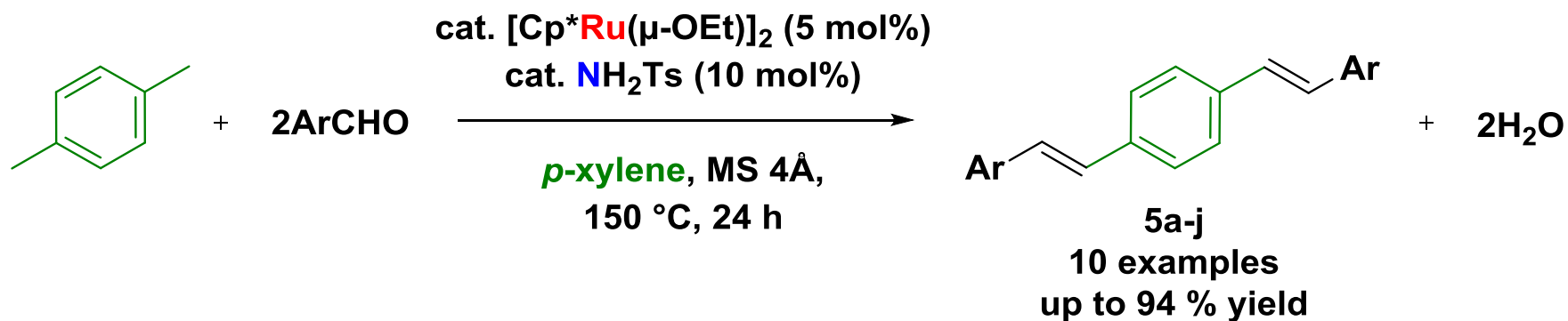
Entry	x	T °C	Time (h)	Additive	Conv. (%)	Yield (%)
1	10	130	4	None	88	50
2					100	72
3					71	58
4	5	150	24	MS 4Å	70	70
5					100	98
6	2,5				57	51



# Scope of Aromatic Aldehydes



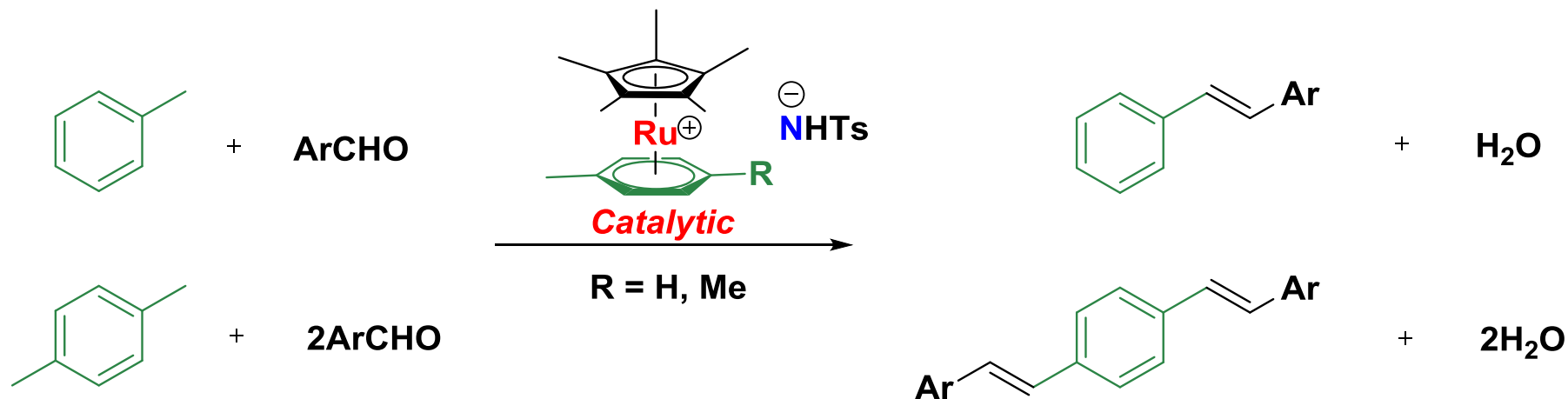
# Dehydrative Condensation of *p*-xylene with Aromatic Aldehydes



# Dehydrative Condensation of *m*-xylene with *p*-chlorobenzaldehyde



# Conclusion



- **Direct dehydrative condensation** of the benzylic C-H bonds of toluene and *p*-xylene with aromatic aldehydes
- **First catalytic version** by a **new cooperative catalyst** cationic Cp\*<sub>2</sub>Ru(η<sup>6</sup>-arene) complex and a sulfonamide anion NHTs<sup>-</sup>
- **Highly atom-economical access** to relatively simple stilbene and *p*-distyrylbenzene derivatives
- Only **water** byproduct
- **Two roles** of sulfonamide anion