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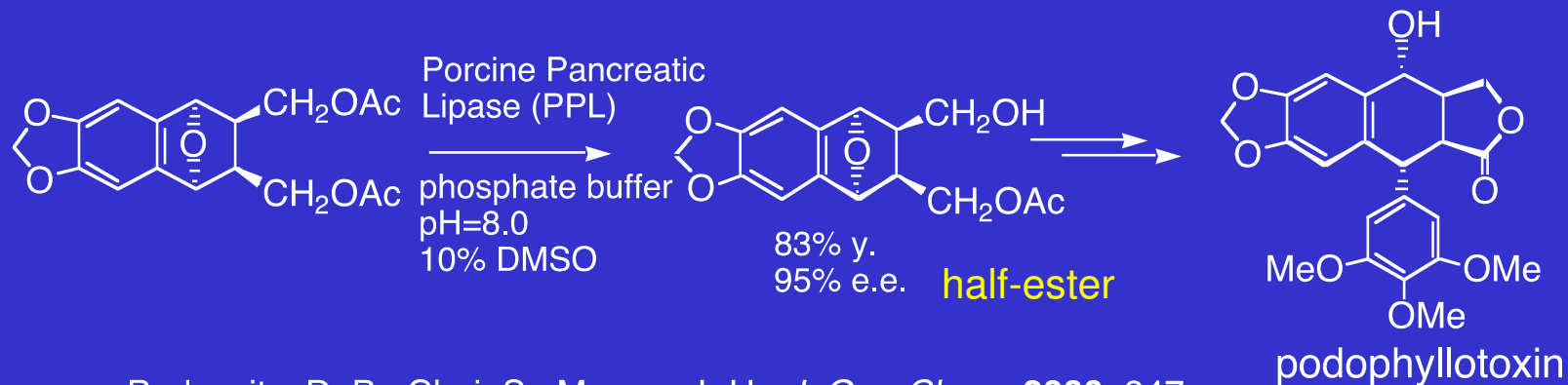
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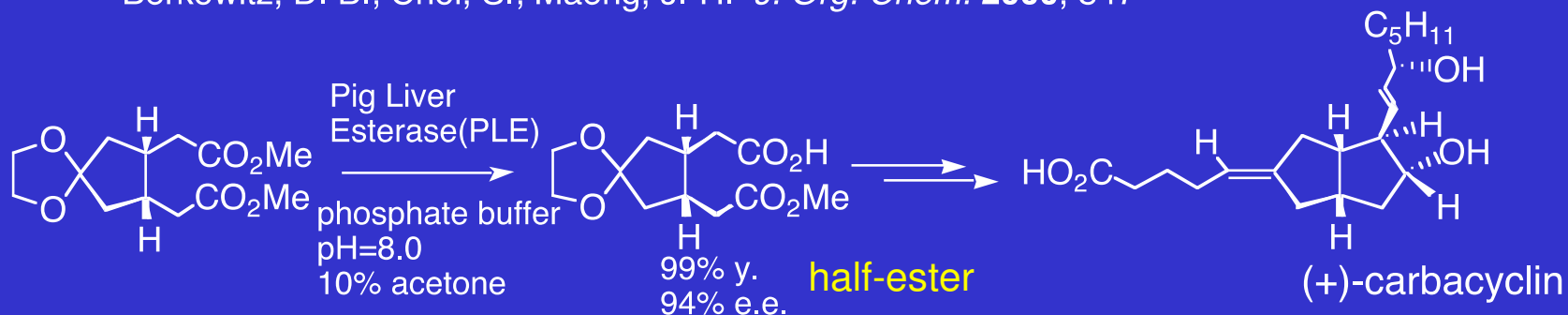
# Recent Progress of Selective Monohydrolysis of Symmetric Diesters

Satomi Niwayama  
Graduate School of Engineering  
Muroran Institute of Technology

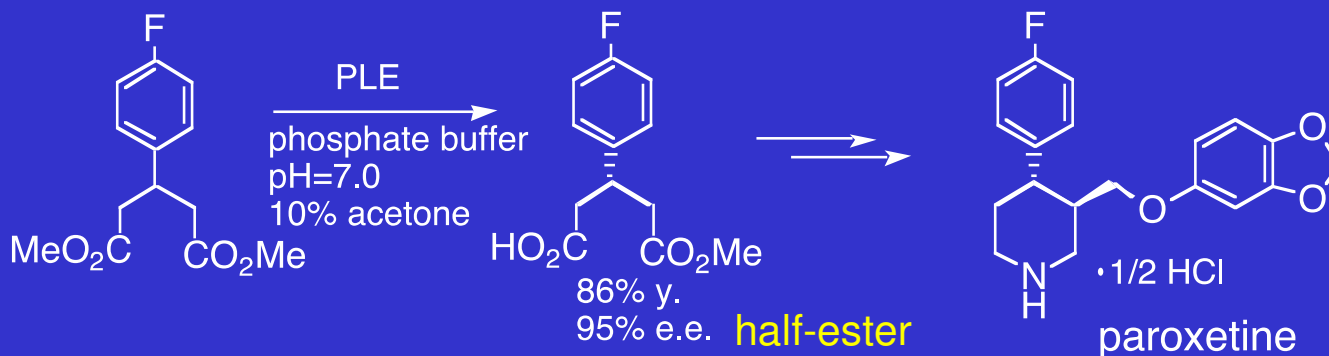
# Synthesis of Pharmaceuticals with the use of half-esters



Berkowitz, D. B.; Choi, S.; Maeng, J.-H. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, 847



Sano, S.; Ushiroguchi, H.; Morimoto, K.; Tamai, S. Nagao, Y. *Chem. Commun.* **1996**, 1775

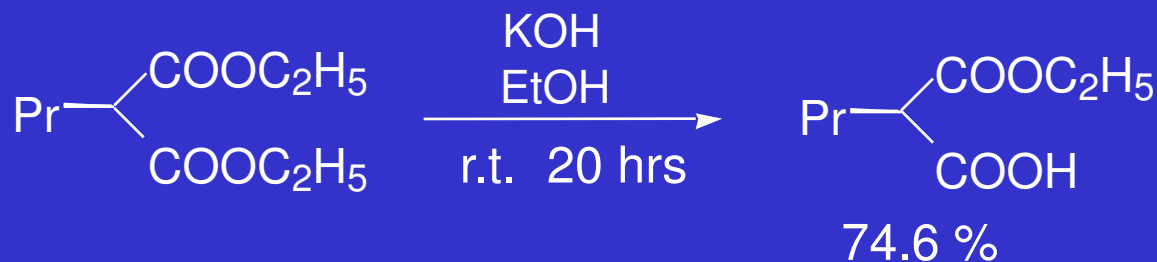


Yu, M. S.; Lantos, I.; Peng, Z.-Q.; Yu, J.; Cacchio, T. *J. Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, 5647

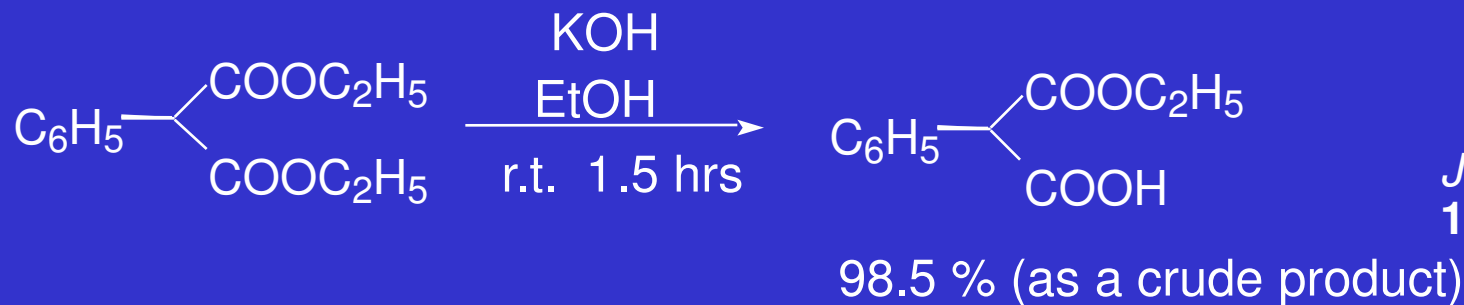
## Previous examples of monosaponification



Vecchi, A.; Melone, G.  
*J. Org. Chem.* **1959**, *24*,  
109

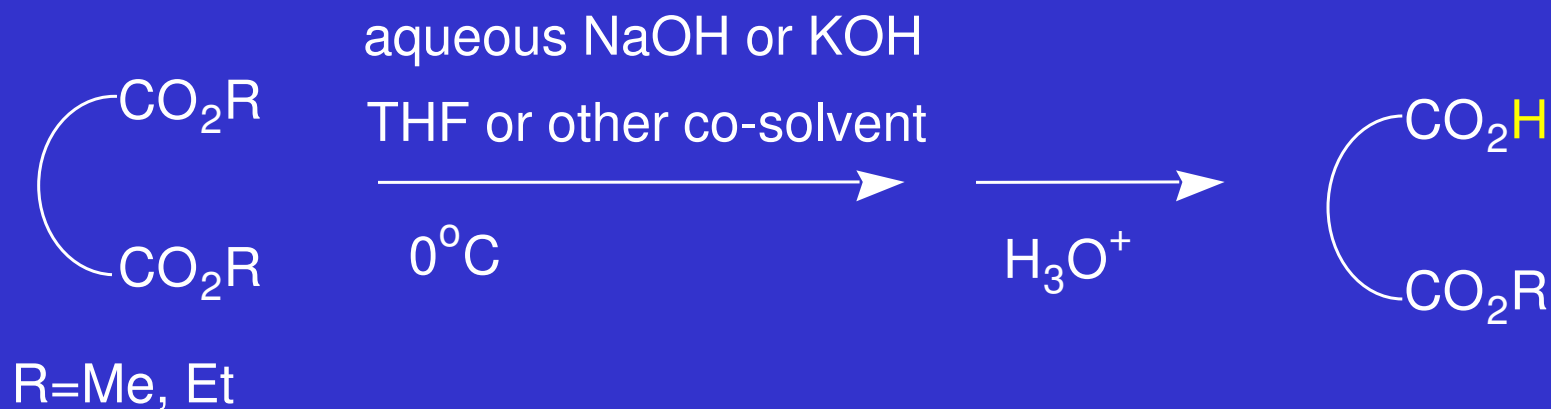


Corey, E. J.  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*  
**1952**, *74*, 5897

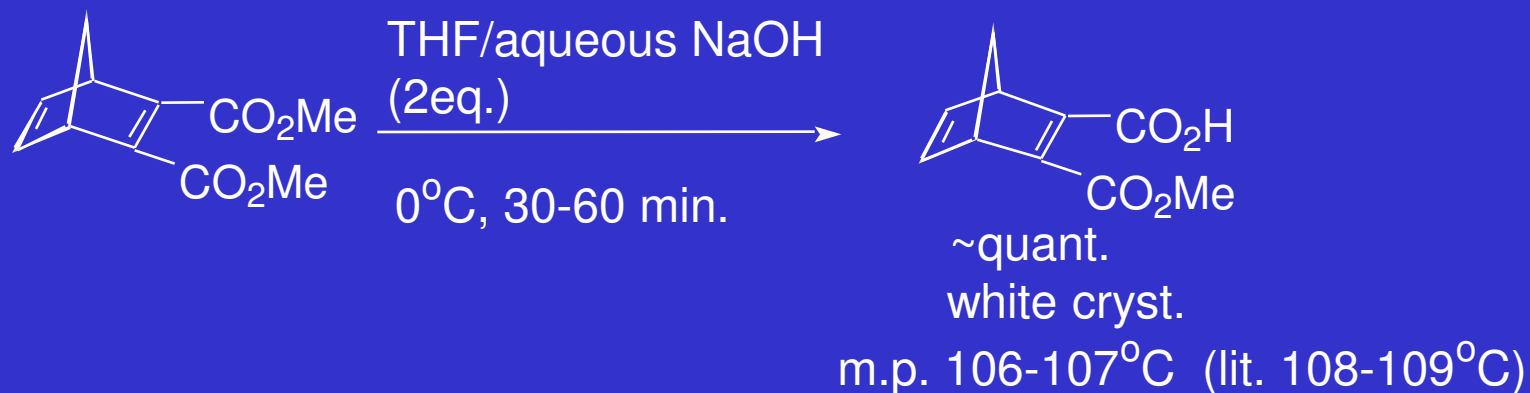
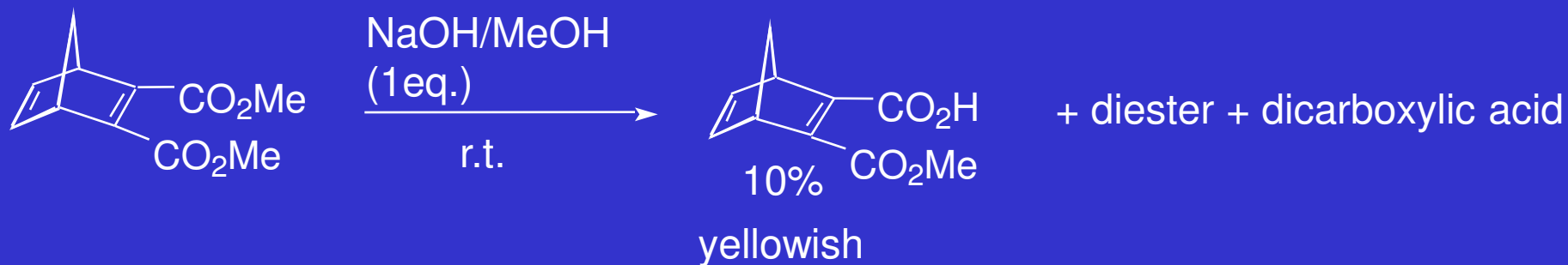


Corey, E. J.  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*  
**1952**, *74*, 5897

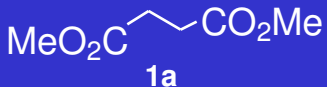
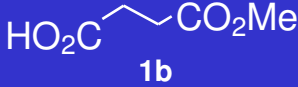


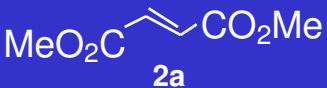
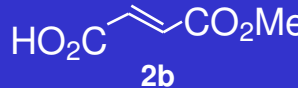
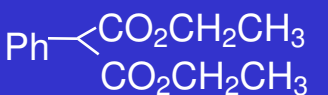
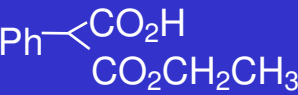
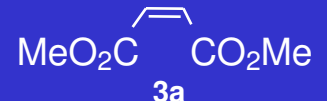
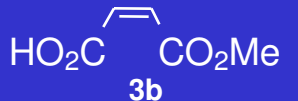
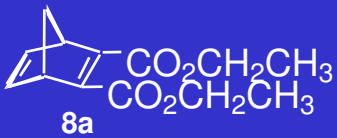
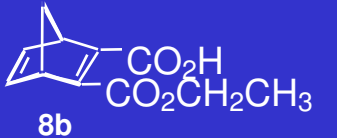




# New Selective Monohydrolysis



# Comparison to Classical Conditions



## Monohydrolysis of Symmetric Diesters

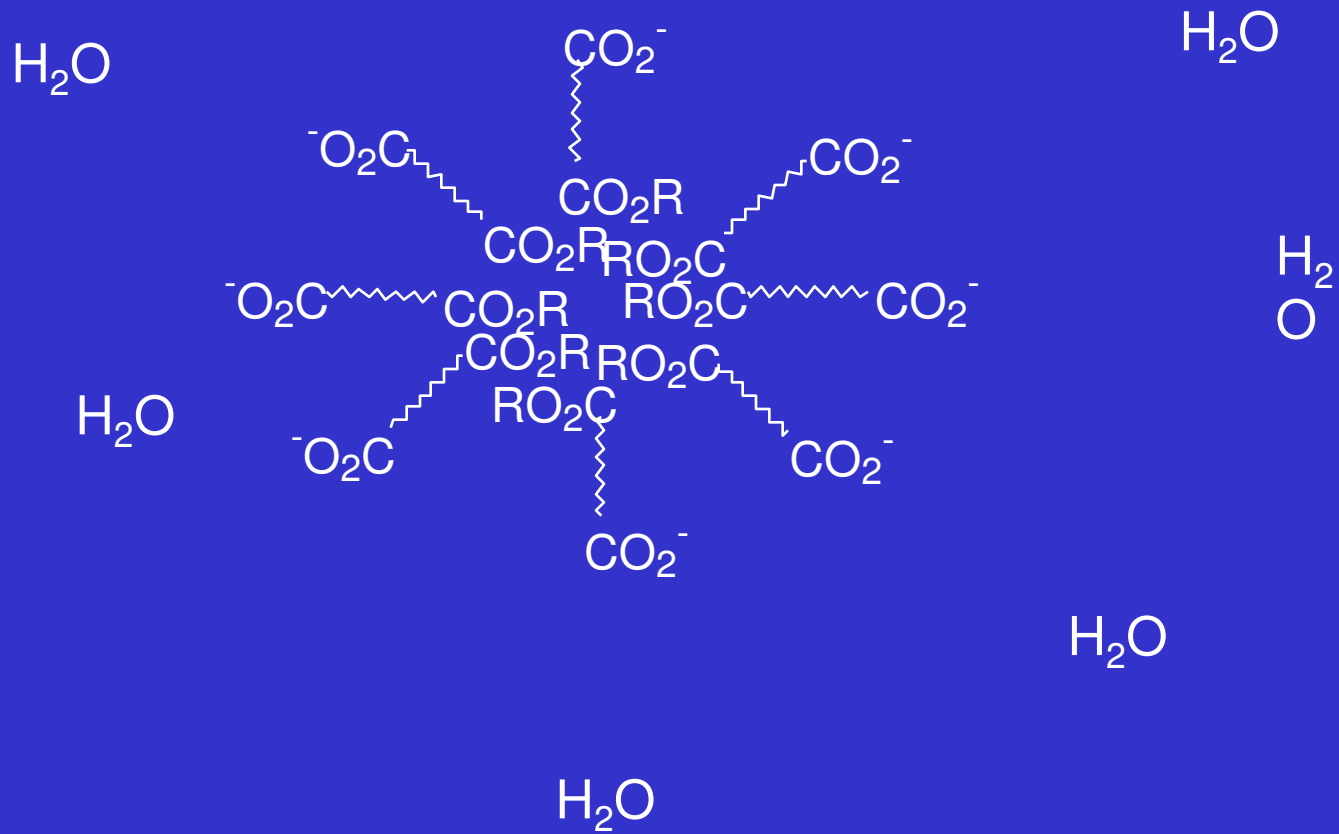
entry	diester	product	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	entry	diester	product	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1			70%	6			>99%
2			79%	7			96%
3			95% <sup>b</sup>	8			>99%
4			>99%	9			>99%

<sup>a</sup> Yields are isolated yields from silica gel column chromatography based on the amounts of the diesters submitted to the reaction.

<sup>b</sup> The yield was diminished due to the slight volatility of **3b**.



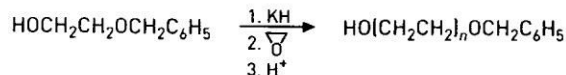
# Potential Mechanism



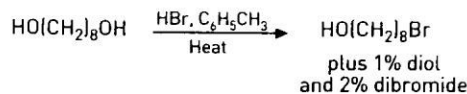
Soap-like aggregates prohibit further hydrolysis

## MONOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

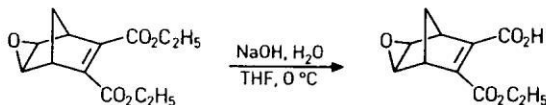
### Polymerization of monoprotected glycol ethers



### Monobromination of diols



### Monohydrolysis of esters



**THREE RESEARCH GROUPS** report progress in regioselective reaction of one of two identically placed functional groups in a molecule. Workers at Scripps Research Institute have succeeded in making polyethylene glycol ethers of defined molecular weights capped at one end. Chemists at the University of Waterloo in Ontario convert 1,ω-diols selectively to bromo alcohols. And investigators at Oklahoma State University hydrolyze one out of two carboxylate groups in a symmetrical structure.

Ordinarily, such selective reactions are carried out by enzymes. Often an advantage in such a case is that in prochiral substrates the product is a single isomer resulting from the enantioselectivity of the enzyme. But an enzyme offers no guarantee in advance of enantioselectivity or yield.

Chemistry professor Kim D. Janda of

Scripps begins with commercially available 2-benzyloxyethanol, which he treats first with potassium hydride and then with a measured amount of ethylene oxide [f. *Org. Chem.*, 65, 5843 (2000)]. The product is polyethylene glycol of molecular weight 1,000, 2,000, or 4,500, capped on only one end with a benzyl group. This product serves as a springboard for other interconversions. For example, reaction with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl (TBDMS) chloride puts a TBDMS group on the other hydroxyl group. Hydrogenation of that product cleaves the benzyl group, leaving only the TBDMS group on the other end.

Organic chemistry professor J. Michael Chong of Waterloo finds that almost all of the literature methods for making bromo alcohols from diols suffer from poor yields or lack of selectivity or both. His present method is stirring a mixture of diol in toluene with 48% hydrobromic acid under reflux [f. *Org. Chem.*, 65, 5837 (2000)]. From 1,8-octanediol, for example, he gets about 90% yield of 8-bromo-1-octanol with only 2% of dibromide and 1% of unreacted diol. He suggests that the bromo alcohol forms micellelike structures in the toluene in which polar hydroxyl groups are pointed into the center and thus kept away from exposure to the aqueous brominating agent.

**A SIMILAR TWO-PHASE** mechanism that protects his saponification products from further reaction is likewise suggested by organic chemistry professor Satomi Niwayama of Oklahoma State. He dissolves the diester in THF and adds that to dilute sodium hydroxide and stirs at 0 °C. Yields are high, and epoxide groups go unmolested. For example, the mono-epoxide of the Diels-Alder product of cyclopentadiene and dimethyl or diethyl acetylenedicarboxylate yields monoester in greater than 99% yield.

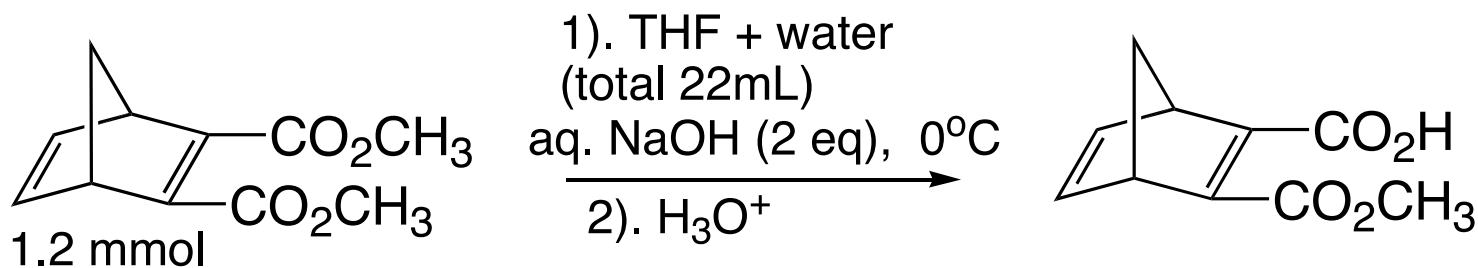
Niwayama proposes that at the low temperature the reaction mixture is a two-phase system. The already reacted carboxylate anion ties up the unreacted ester grouping in the less polar phase in such a way as to protect it from action of hydroxide ions.

Four research groups report progress in metal-mediated syntheses. These results may lead to improvements in the use of metals or to reactions that avoid metals entirely. Issues for use of metal include toxic residues in organic products and the treatment of metal wastes.

For example, researchers at the National Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu, Taiwan, have worked out a nickel-zinc replacement

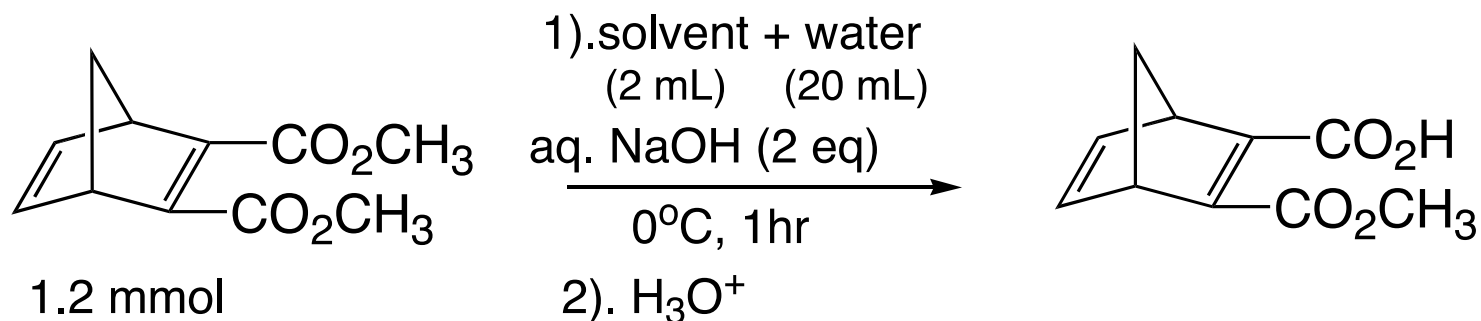
# Solvent Effects

## Effect of the Volume of THF



Volume of THF (mL)	yield (%)	reaction time	rate constant(Lmol <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
22	88	8hr	3.26x10 <sup>-3</sup>
18	81	6hr30min.	6.06x10 <sup>-3</sup>
14	84	5hr20min.	1.10x10 <sup>-2</sup>
10	90	3hr	2.06x10 <sup>-2</sup>
6	93	1hr10min.	2.56x10 <sup>-2</sup>
initial volume ⇒ 2	>99	1hr10min.	4.70x10 <sup>-2</sup>
1	>99	1hr10min.	4.81x10 <sup>-2</sup>
0	>99	1hr10min.	4.59x10 <sup>-2</sup>

# Effects of Kinds of Co-Solvent



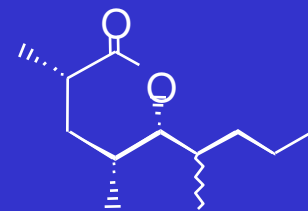
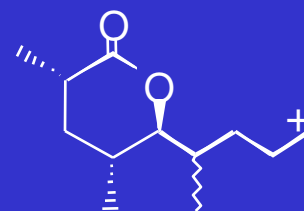
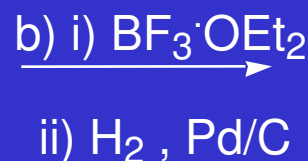
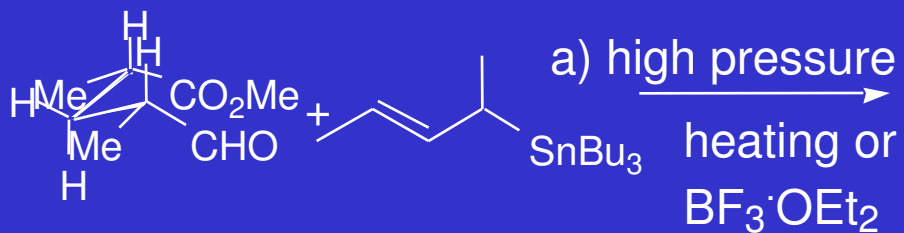
Solvent	yield (%)	rate constant(Lmol <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
THF	>99	4.70x10 <sup>-2</sup>
MeOH	90	3.73x10 <sup>-2</sup>
EtOH	86	3.48x10 <sup>-2</sup>
i-PrOH	88	3.29x10 <sup>-2</sup>
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	>99	4.85x10 <sup>-2</sup>
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	trace	8.60x10 <sup>-4</sup>
none	>99	4.59x10 <sup>-2</sup>

# Conformational Preference of the Starting Diesters



**A**

**B**



anti-Cram

Cram

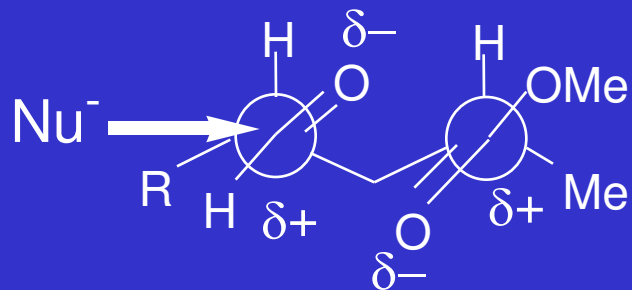
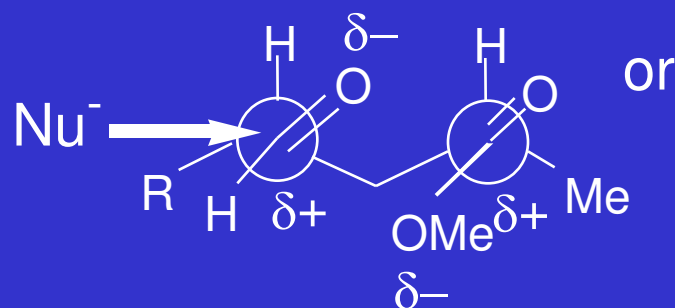
82-90

:

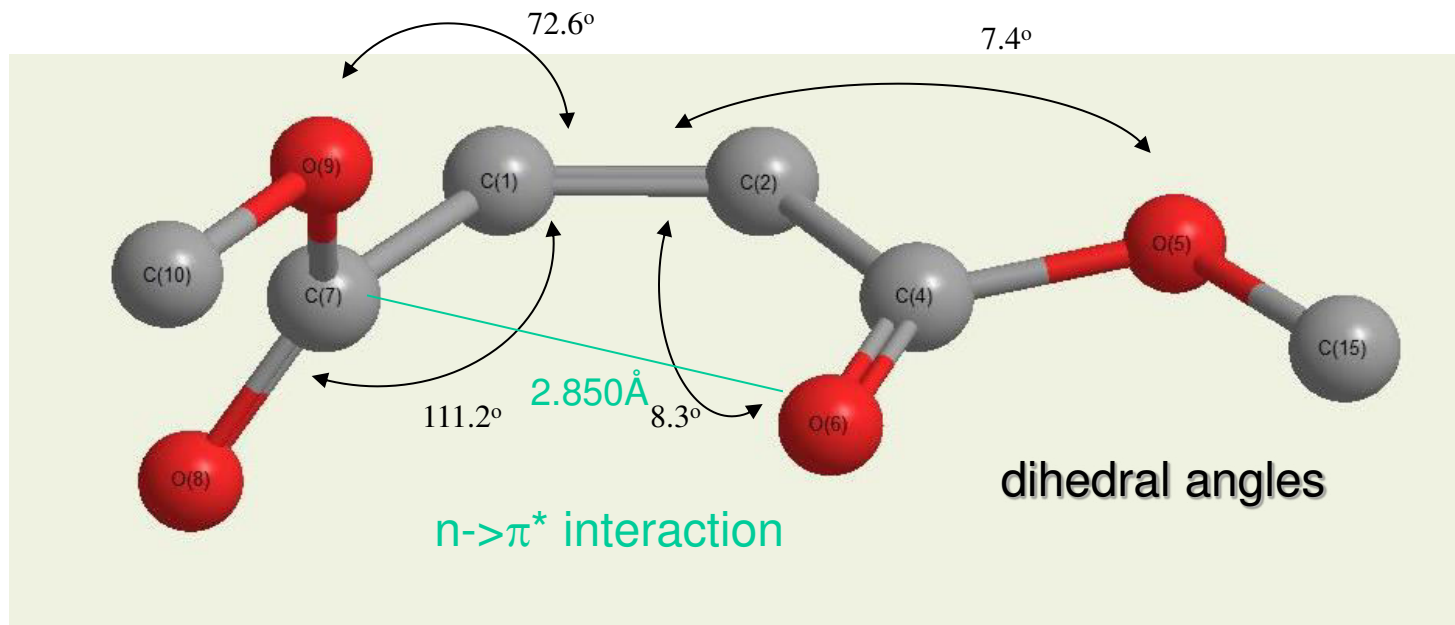
18-10

Yamamoto, Y.; Nemoto, H.; Kikuchi, R.;  
Komatsu, H.; Suzuki, I.

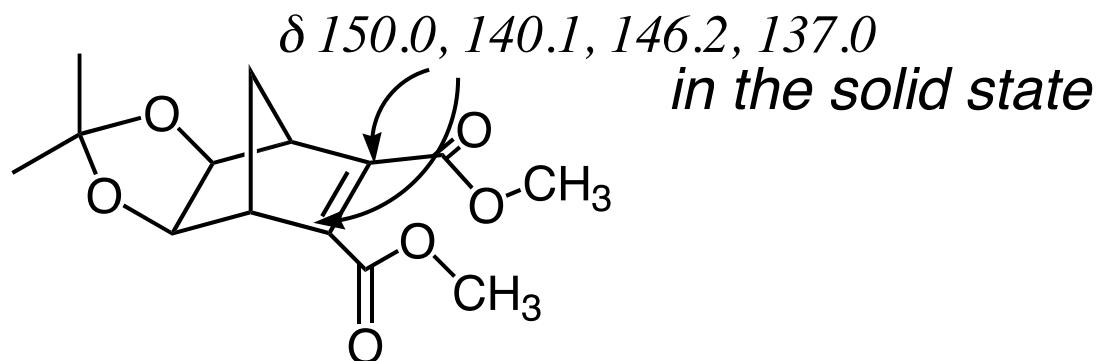
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 8598



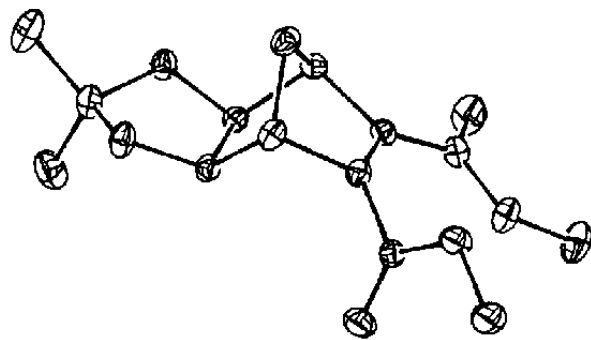
# The Conformer of Dimethyl Maleate with the Lowest Energy (MP2/6-31G(d)//B3LYP/6-31G(d))



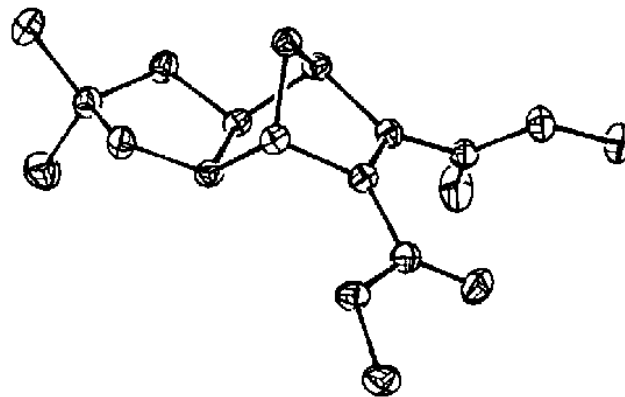
# Experimental Support for the Predominant Conformation by Theoretical Studies



X-ray crystal structures

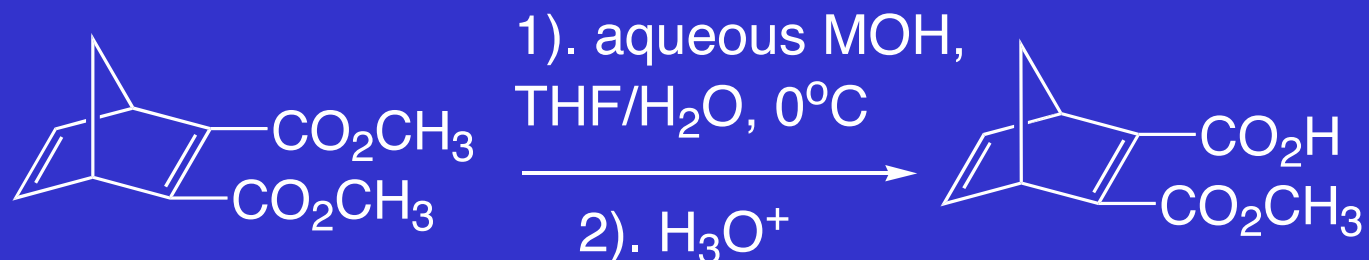


**A**



**B**

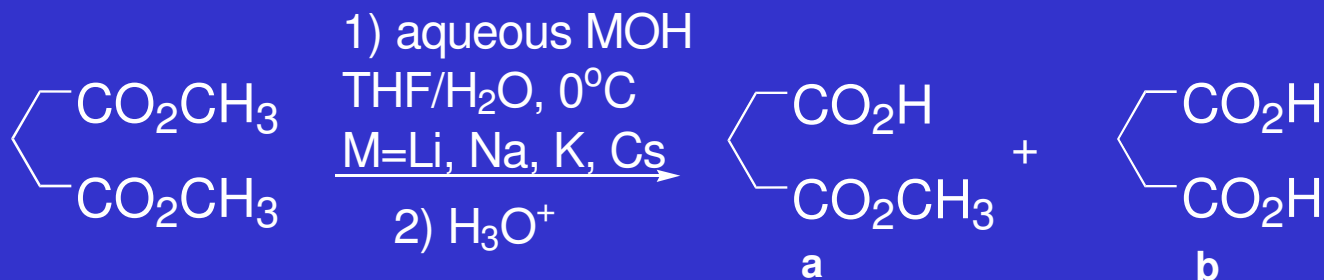
## Effects of Counter Cations



M	reaction time/min.	yield/%
Li	60-70	>99
Na	60-70	>99
K	30-40	>99
Cs	30-40	>99

Reactivity:  $K \geq Cs > Na \geq Li$





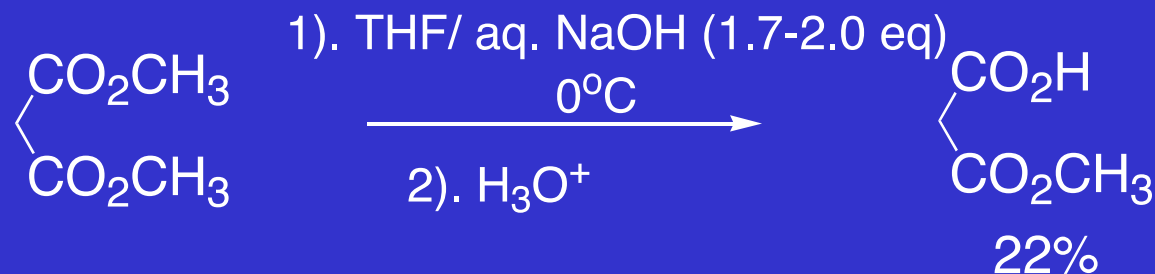
		LiOH			NaOH			
		Reaction time/min.	a (%)	b (%)	ratio a:b	a (%)	b (%)	ratio a:b
diester consumed →	20	66.2	33.8	1.96	67.8	32.2	2.11	
	25	61.1	38.9	1.57	67.4	32.6	2.07	
	30	59.2	40.8	1.45	61.4	38.6	1.59	
	35	55.9	44.1	1.27	60.9	39.1	1.56	
		KOH			CsOH			
		Reaction time/min.	a (%)	b (%)	ratio a:b	a (%)	b (%)	ratio a:b
diester consumed →	10	86.8	13.2	6.58	82.2	17.8	4.62	
	15	74.5	25.5	2.92	67.8	32.2	2.11	
	20	69.0	31.0	2.23	64.6	35.4	1.82	
	25	67.9	32.1	2.12	51.9	48.1	1.08	

Selectivity: K>Cs>Na≥Li

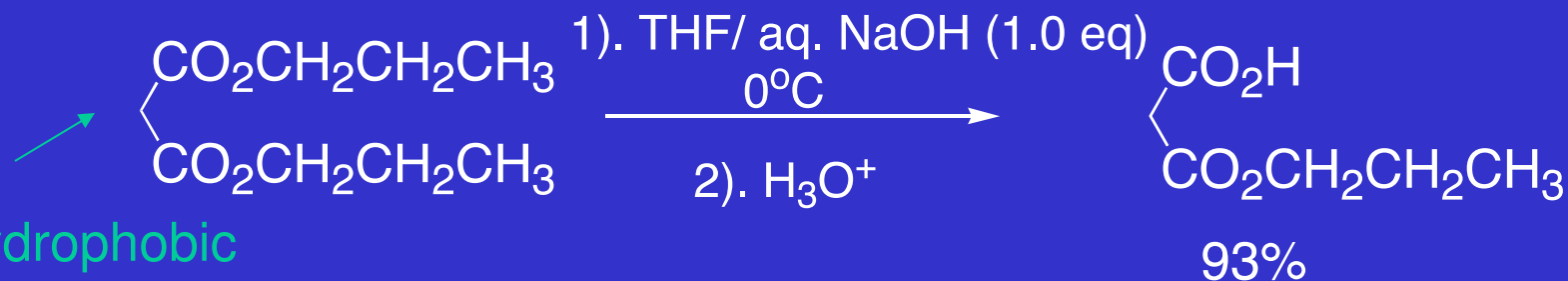
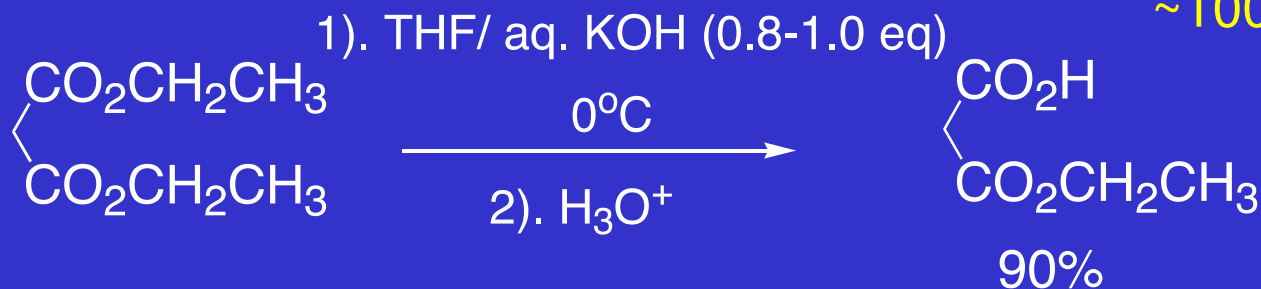
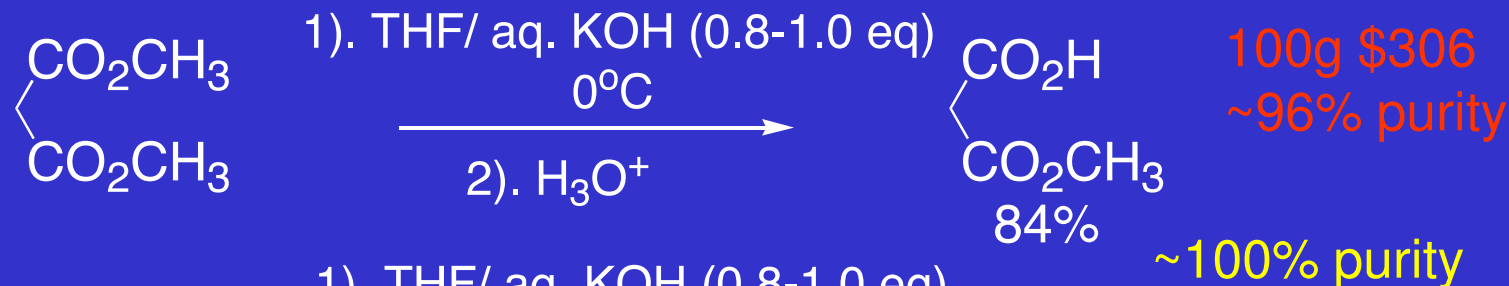
Electropositive character: Cs≥K>Na≥Li

# New Conditions for Monohydrolysis of Linear Diesters

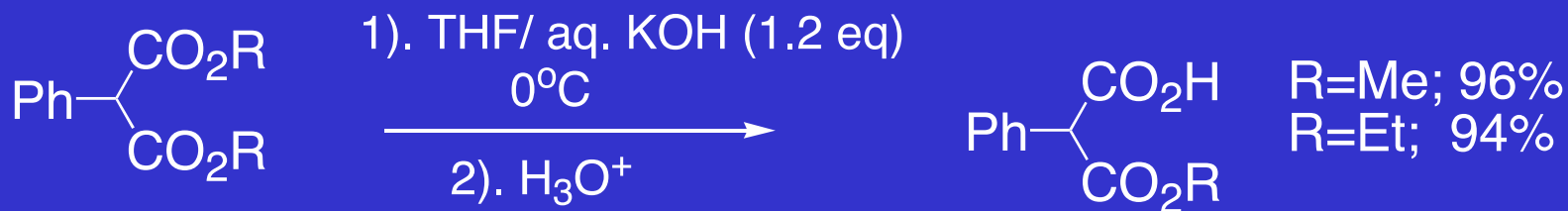
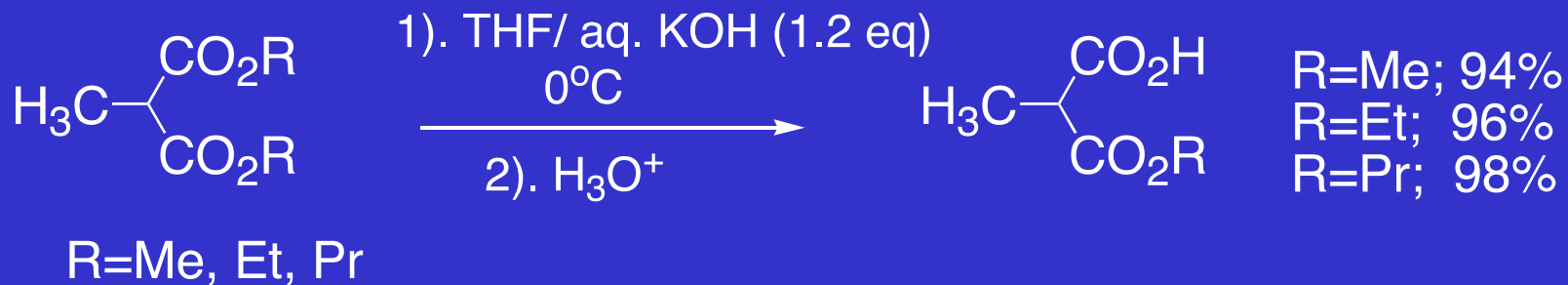
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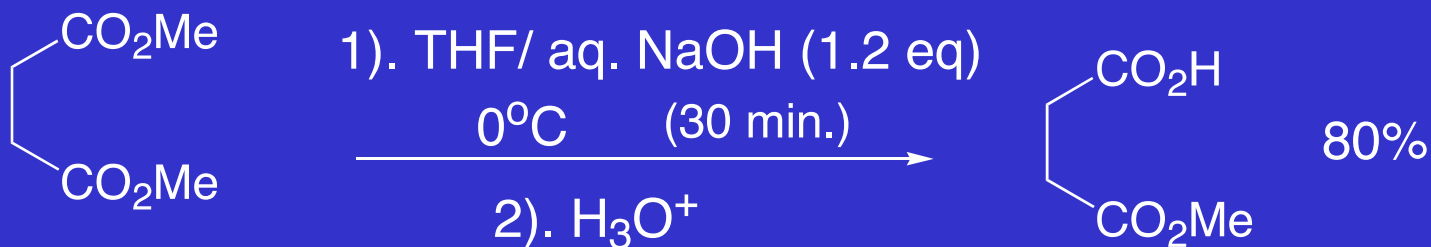
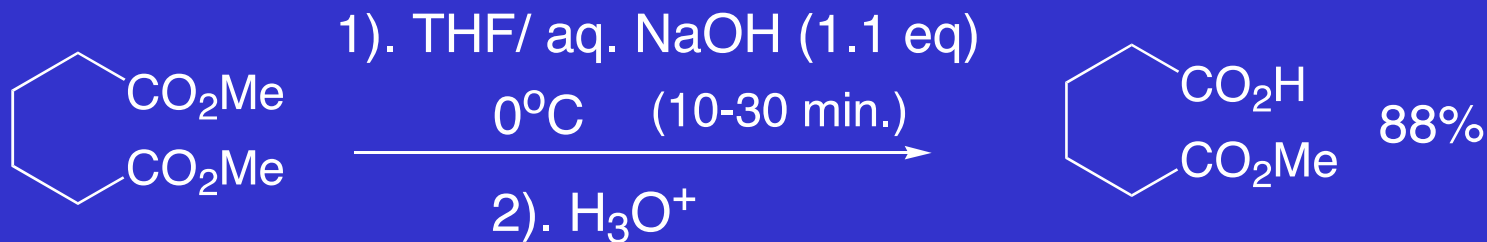
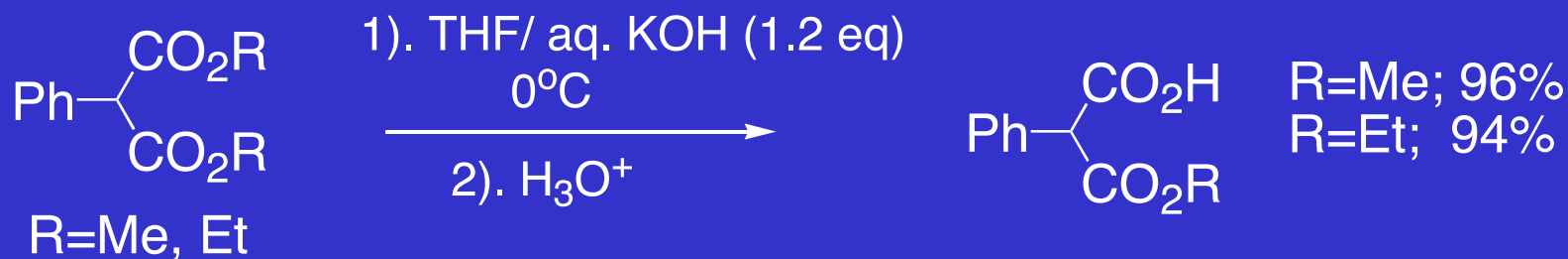
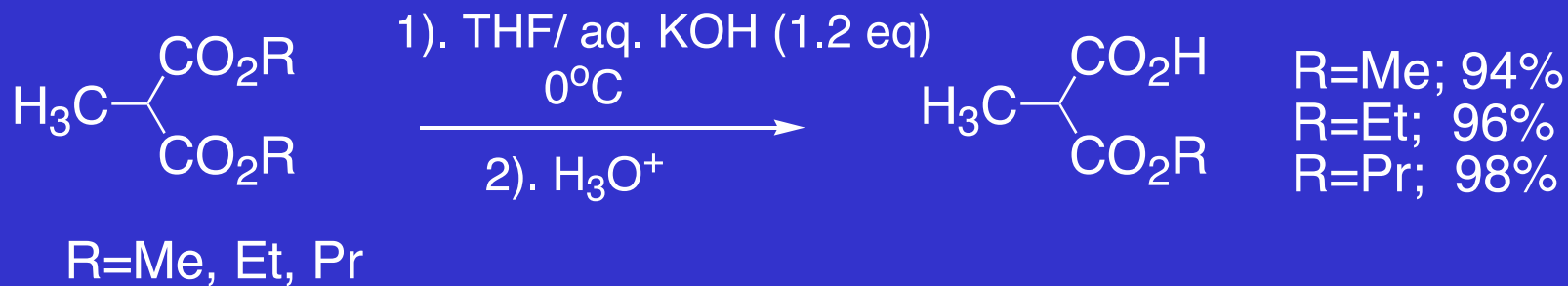


## New Conditions

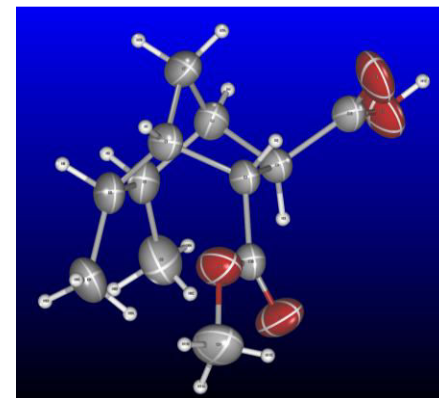
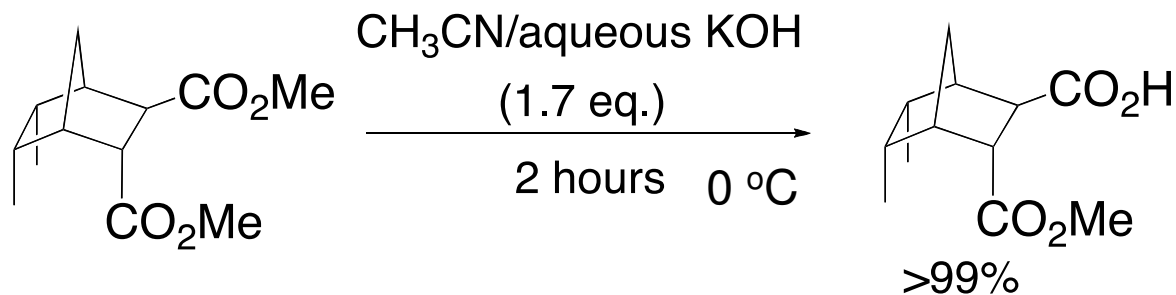
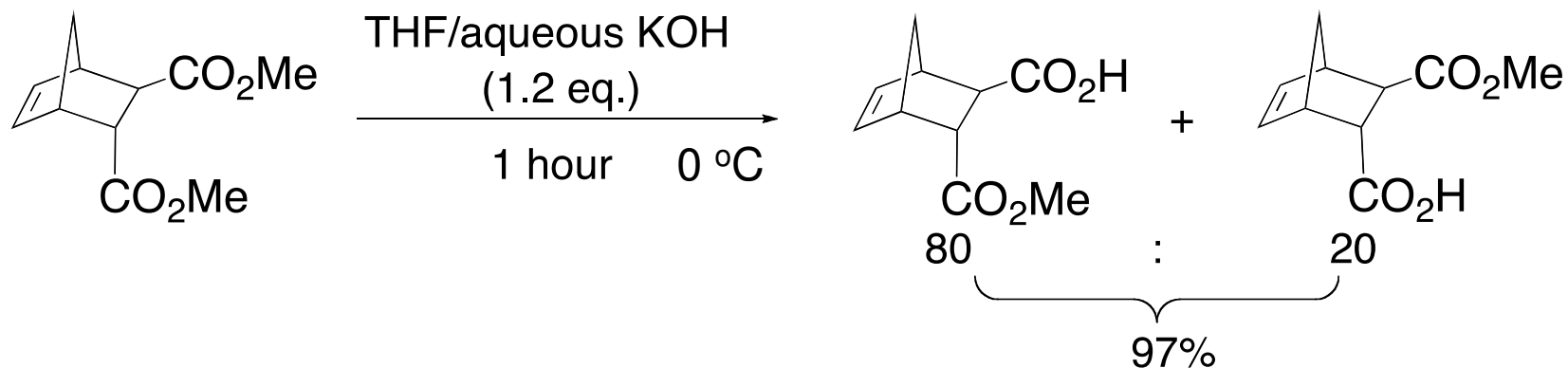
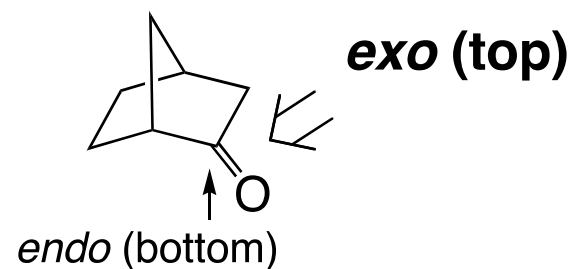
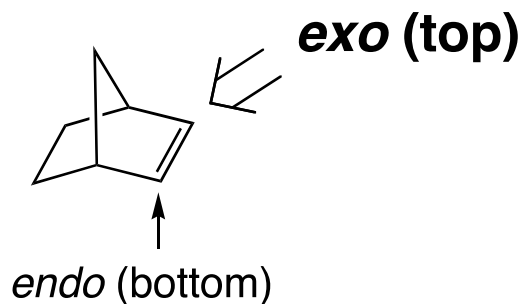


More hydrophobic

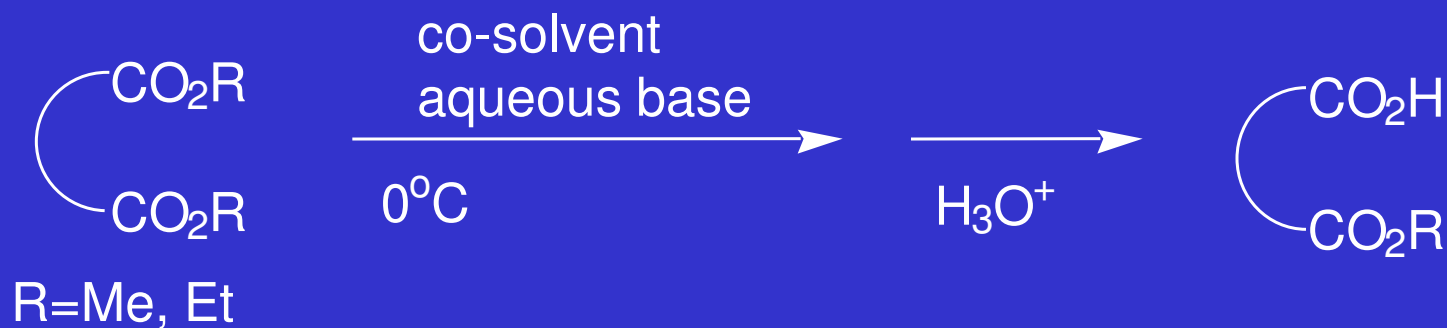




# Recognition of Steric Environment



## Summary



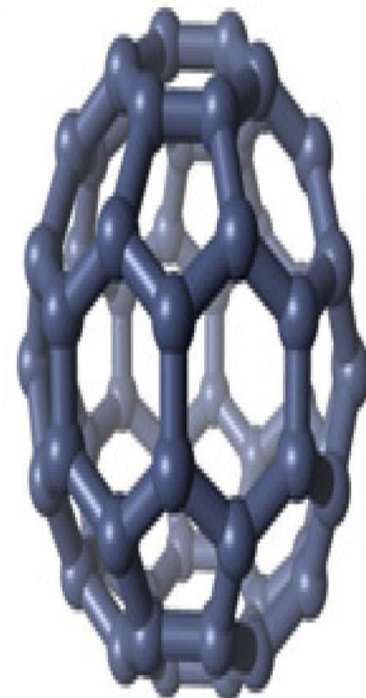
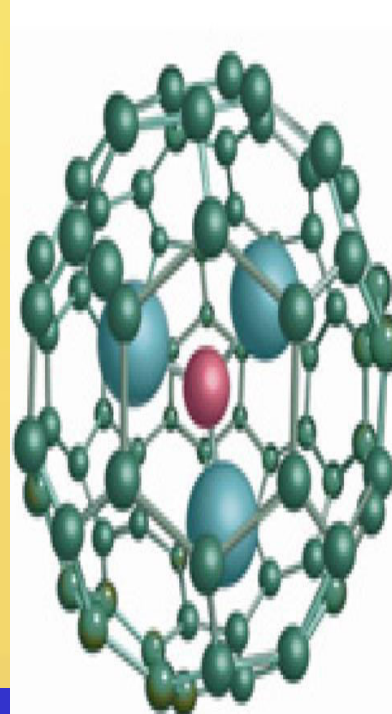
A highly efficient, mild, straightforward reaction using co-solvent-aqueous base at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  was found to produce pure half-esters from symmetric diesters in high yields.

This reaction has been licensed by Kishida Chemical Co.Ltd., Japan

[www.kishida.co.jp](http://www.kishida.co.jp)



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