

# tsscads2018: a code for automated discovery of chemical reaction mechanisms and solving the kinetics

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# Outline

- Importance of automated computational methods

- Discovery of reaction mechanisms

  - Other automated methods

  - tsscads (Transition State Search using Chemical Dynamics Simulation)

- Applications

  - Gas phase reactions:

    - Photodissociation experiments

    - MS measurements

    - Combustion chemistry

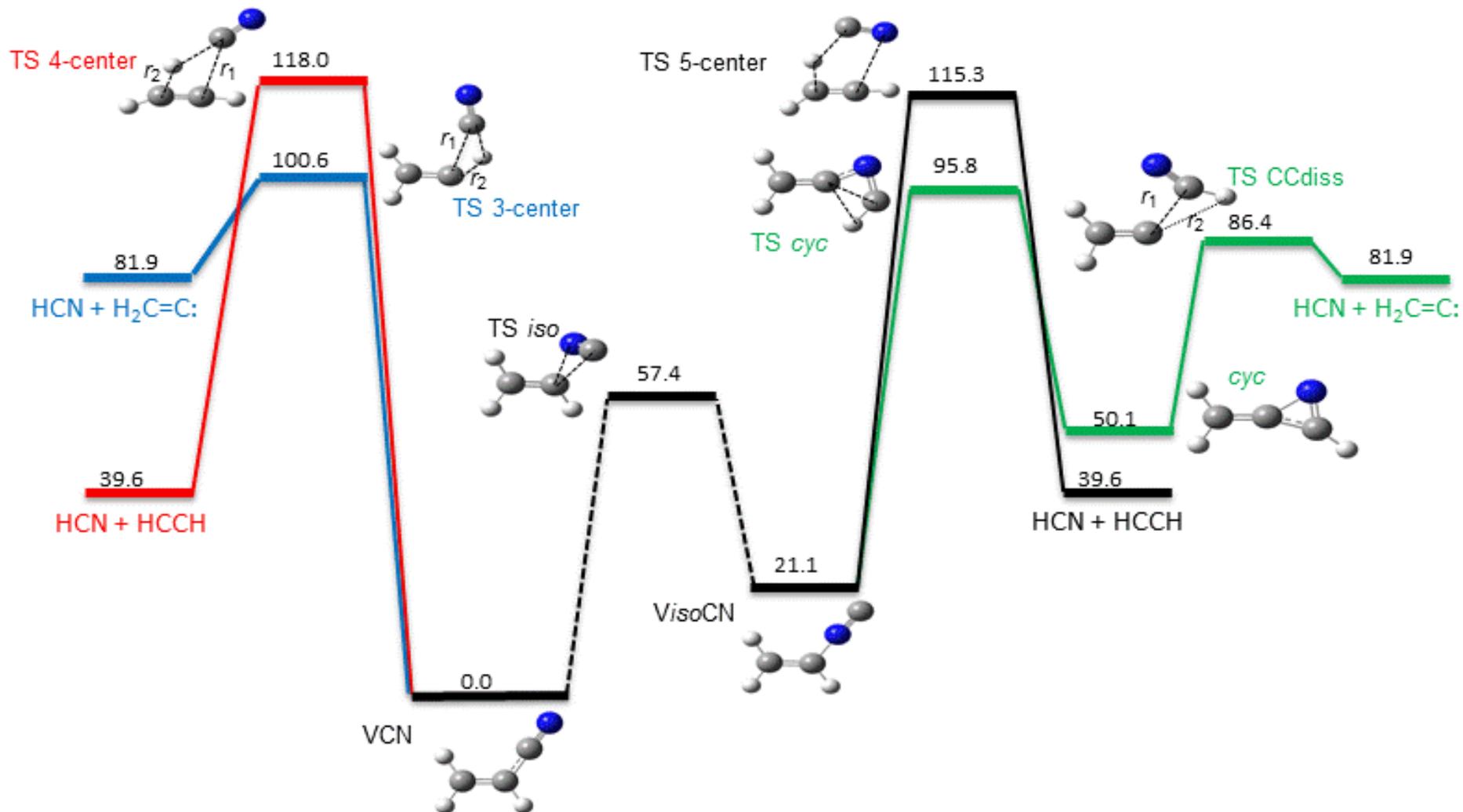
    - Interstellar chemistry

  - Organometallic catalysis



# Importance of automated methods

## Unintuitive mechanisms



# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Single-ended methods

*(need a guess TS structure)*

Berny optimization<sup>1</sup>

Eigenvector Following (EF)<sup>2</sup>

Dimer method<sup>3</sup>

## Chain-of-state or Double-ended methods

*(knowledge of reactant and products)*

Nudged elastic band (NEB)<sup>4</sup>

String method<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>HN Schlegel *J. Comput. Chem.* **1982**, *3*, 214

<sup>2</sup>CJ Cerjan and WH Miller *JCP* **1981**, *75*, 2800

<sup>3</sup>G. Henkelman and H Jonsson *JCP* **1999**, *111*, 7010

<sup>4</sup>G Henkelman *et al.* *JCP* **2000**, *113*, 9901

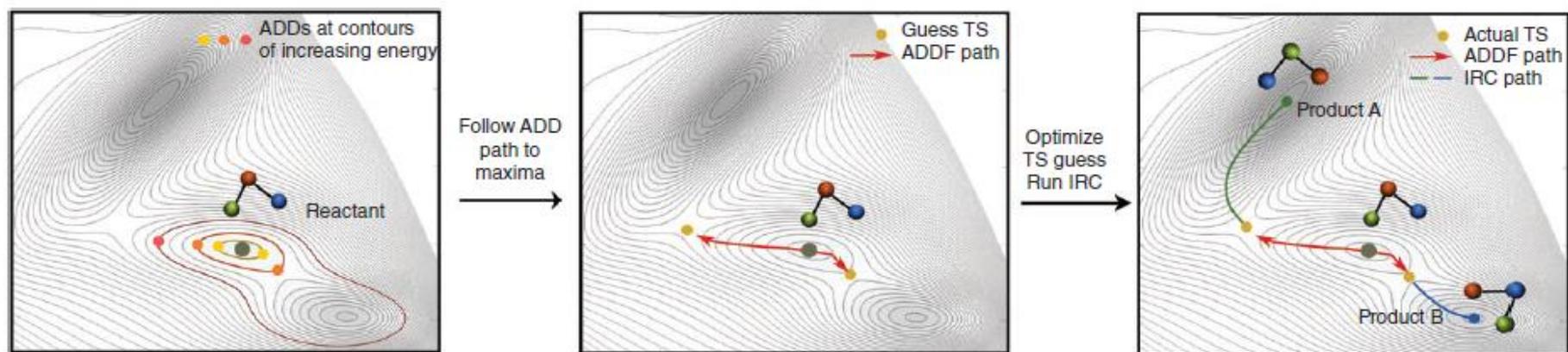
<sup>5</sup>Winan *et al* *Phys. Rev. B* **2002**, *66*, 052301

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Automated Methods<sup>1</sup>

Global Reaction Route Mapping (GRRM):

Anharmonic Downward distortion following (ADDF)

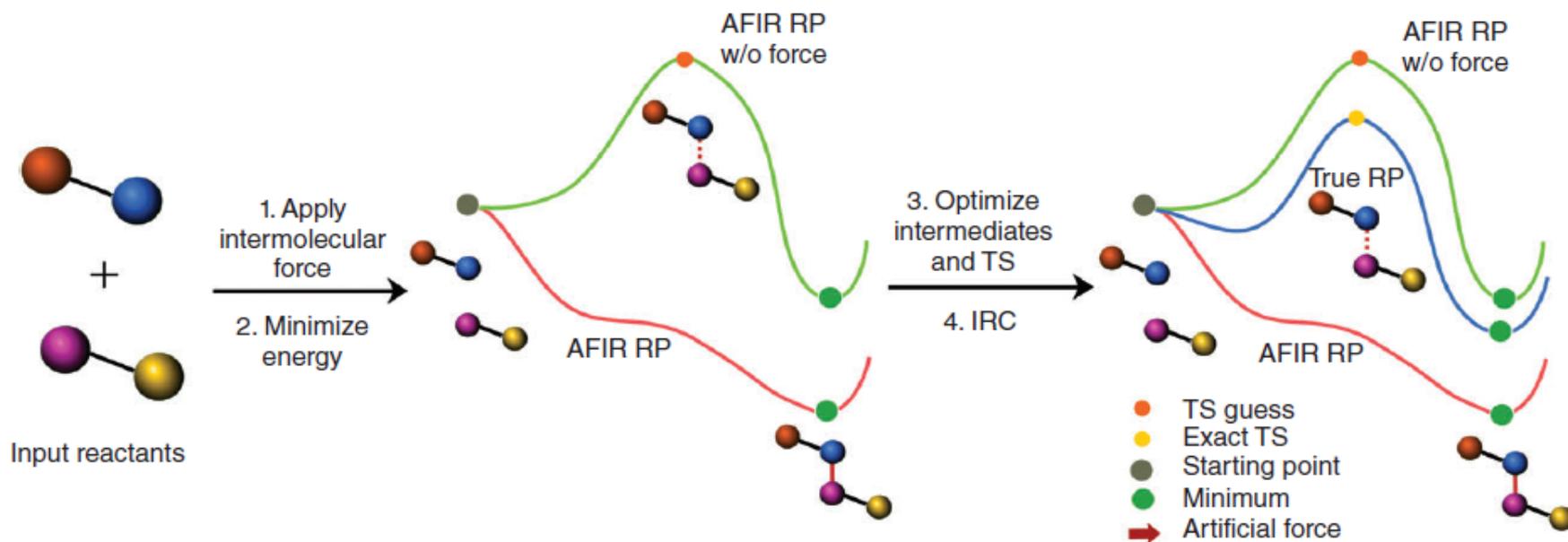


**FIGURE 5 |** The anharmonic downward distortion following (ADDF) method.

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Automated Methods<sup>1</sup>

Artificial force induced reaction (AFIR)

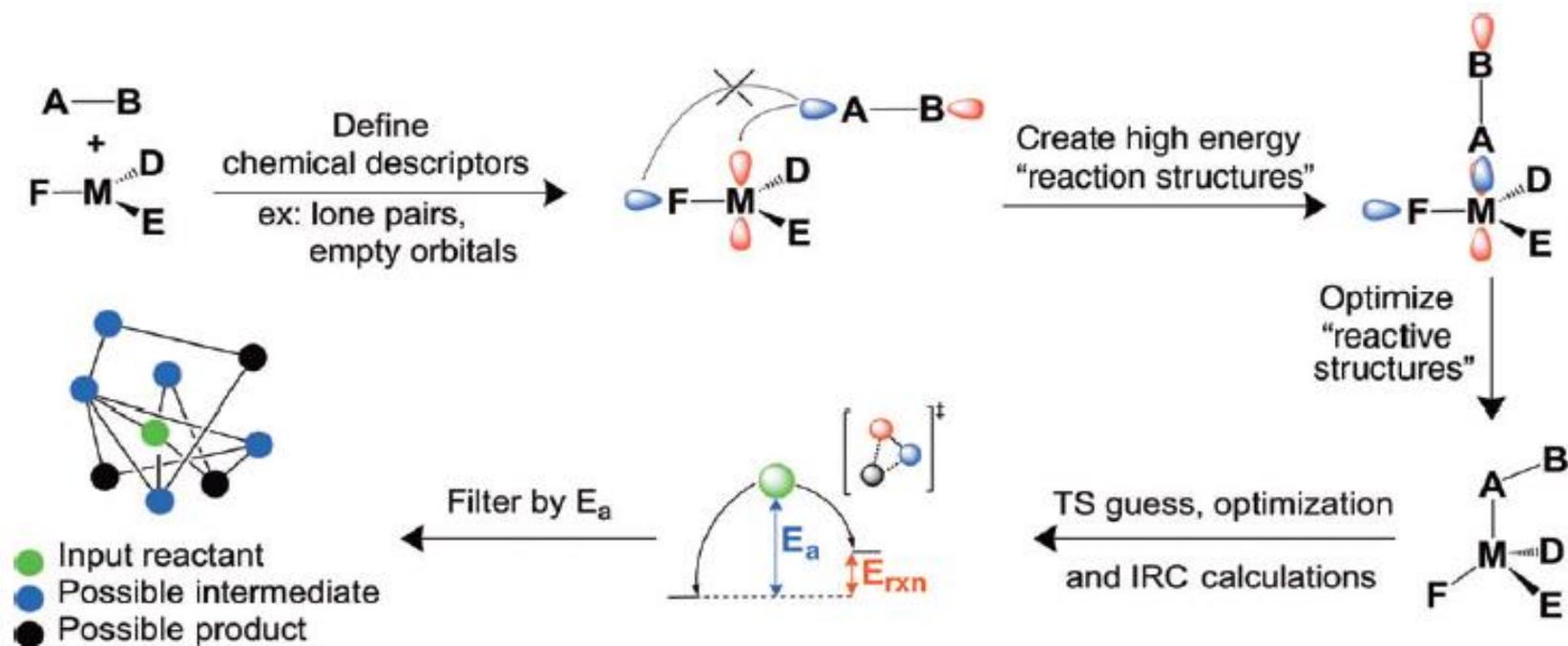


**FIGURE 6** | The artificial force-induced reaction (AFIR) method.

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Automated Methods<sup>1</sup>

Heuristic methods

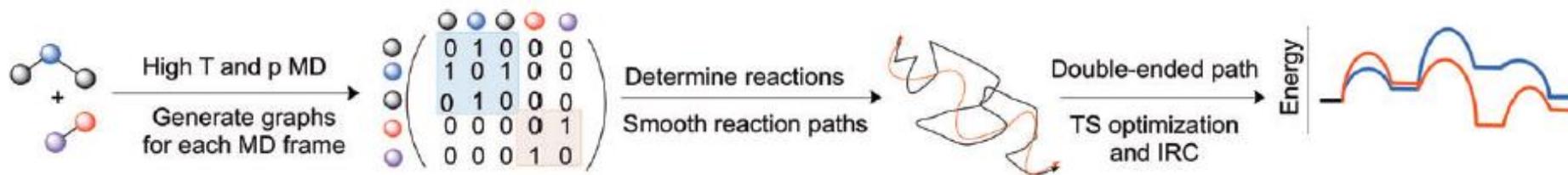
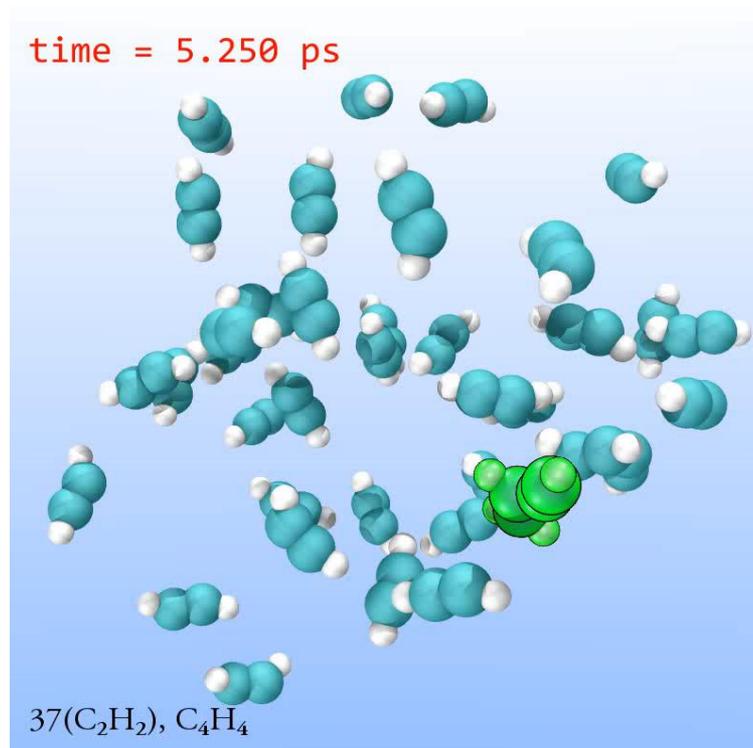


**FIGURE 11** | Flow chart for the reaction path discovery method developed by Reiher and coworkers.

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Automated Methods<sup>1</sup>

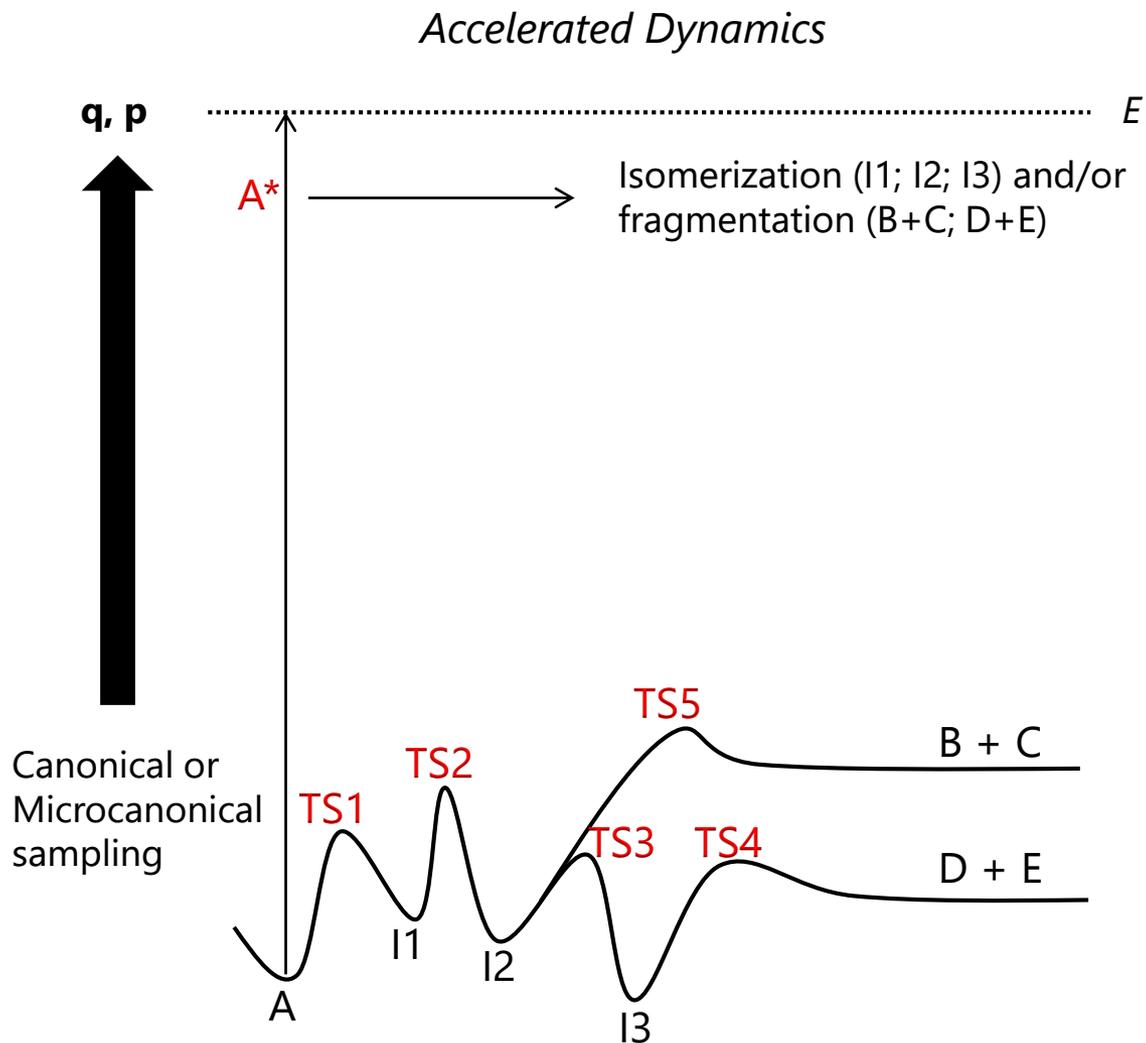
Ab initio nanoreactor



**FIGURE 12** | Reaction pathway discovery using the nanoreactor.

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

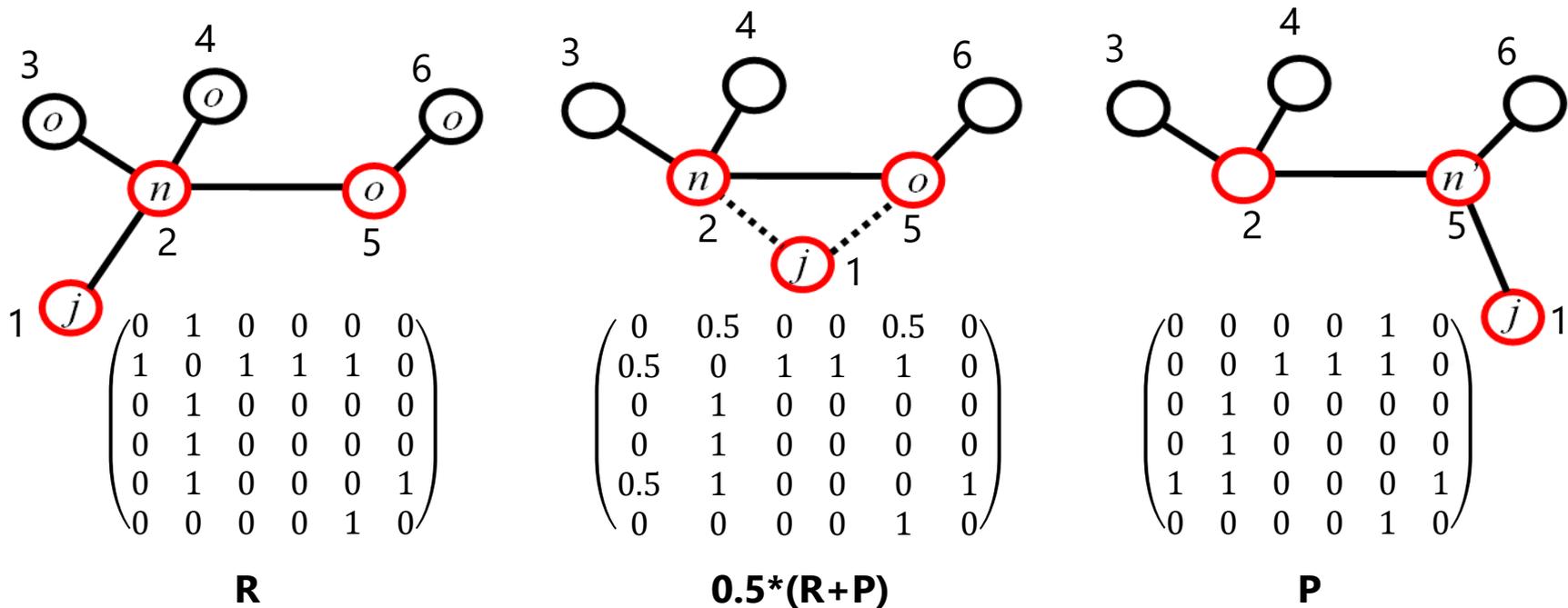
## Transition State Search using Chemical Dynamics Simulations (TSSCDS)<sup>1</sup>



# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

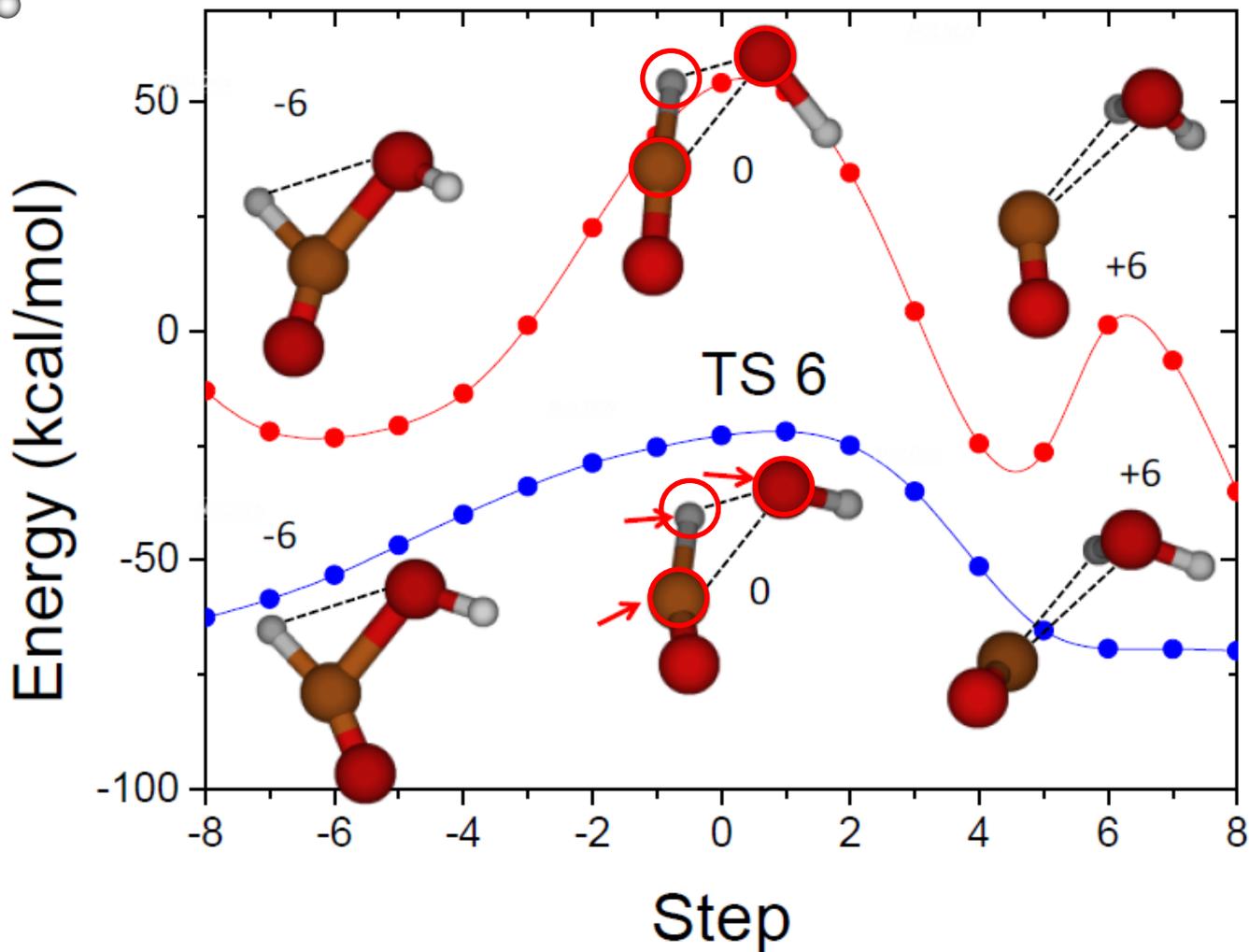
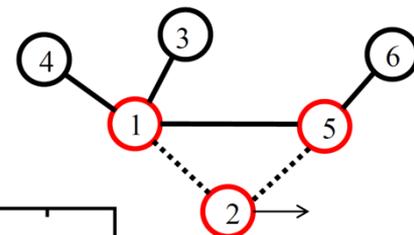
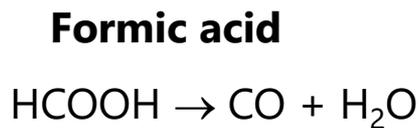
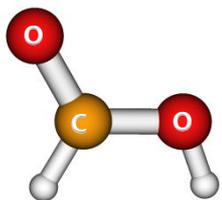
## Transition State Search using Chemical Dynamics Simulations (TSSCDS)<sup>1</sup>

### Bond Breakage/Formation Search (BBFS)



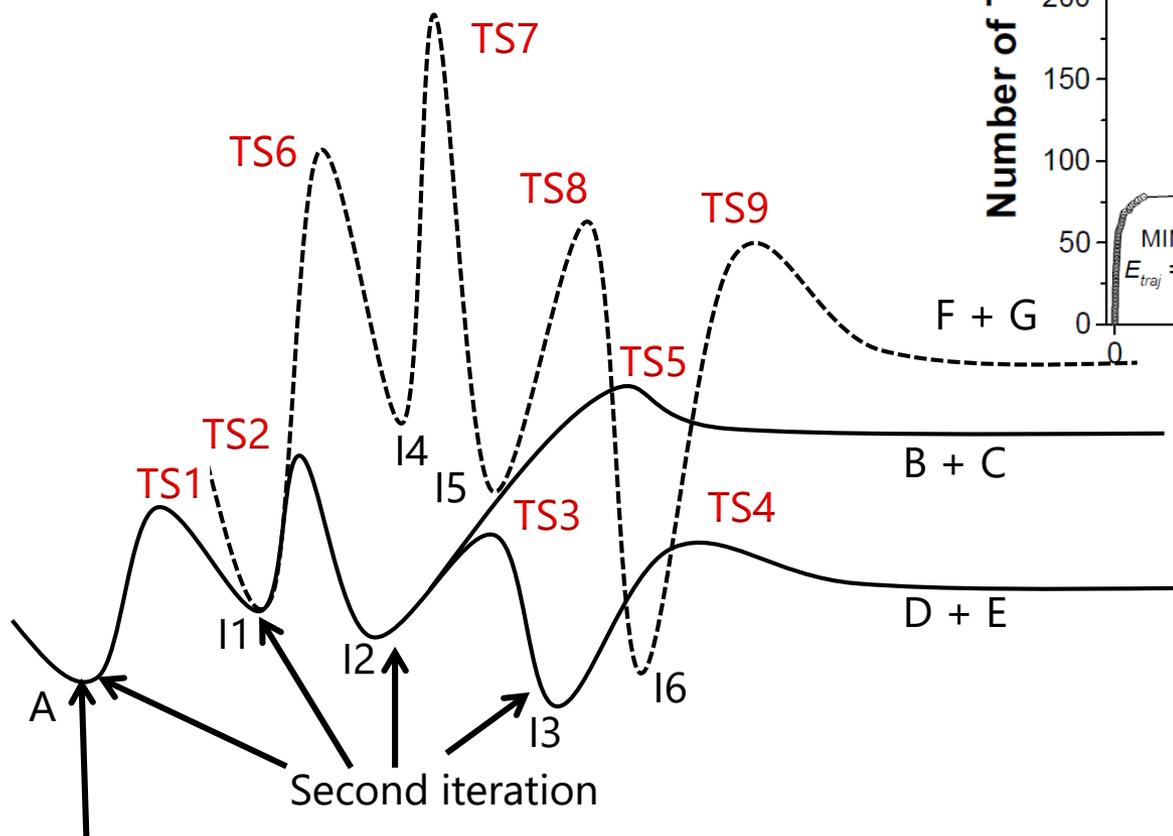
Two levels of theory:  
 LL (semiempirical calculations)  
 HL (DFT or *ab initio*)

# Discovery of reaction mechanisms



# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

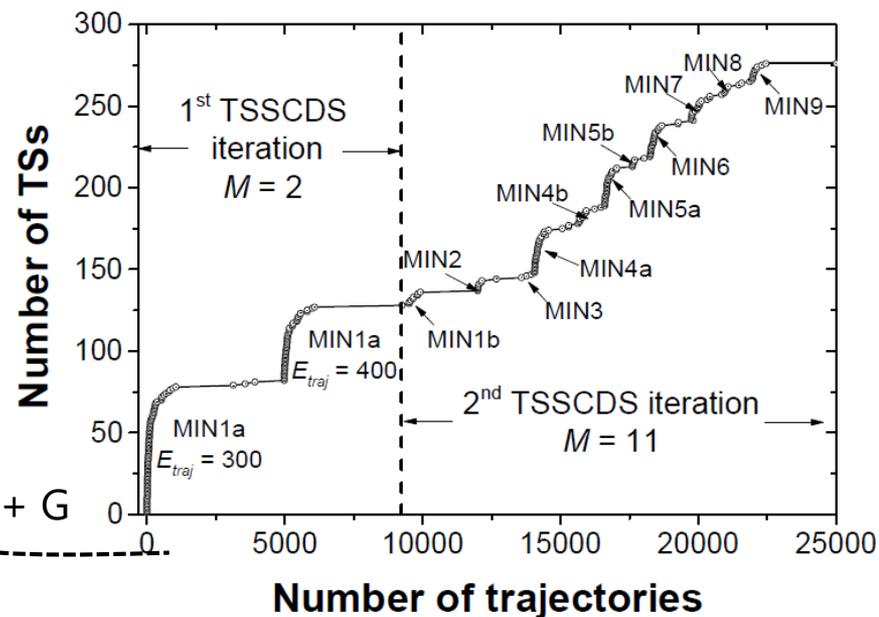
## Iterative TSSCDS<sup>1</sup>



First iteration

— First iteration

- - - Second iteration

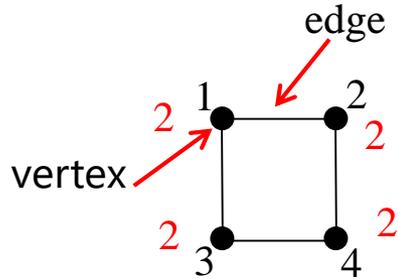


# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Post-processing analysis tools

### Spectral Graph Theory

Degree of each vertex :  
Number of bonds



Adjacency Matrix

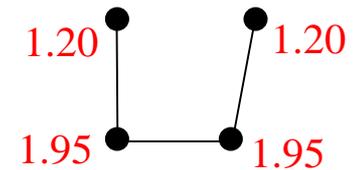
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Laplacian Matrix  $L = D - A$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

SPRINT Coordinates<sup>1</sup>

$$S_i = \sqrt{N} \lambda^{max} v^{max}$$



$$a_{ij} = \frac{1 - (\delta_{ij})^n}{1 - (\delta_{ij})^m}$$

$$\lambda = 0, 2, 2, 4$$

One fragment

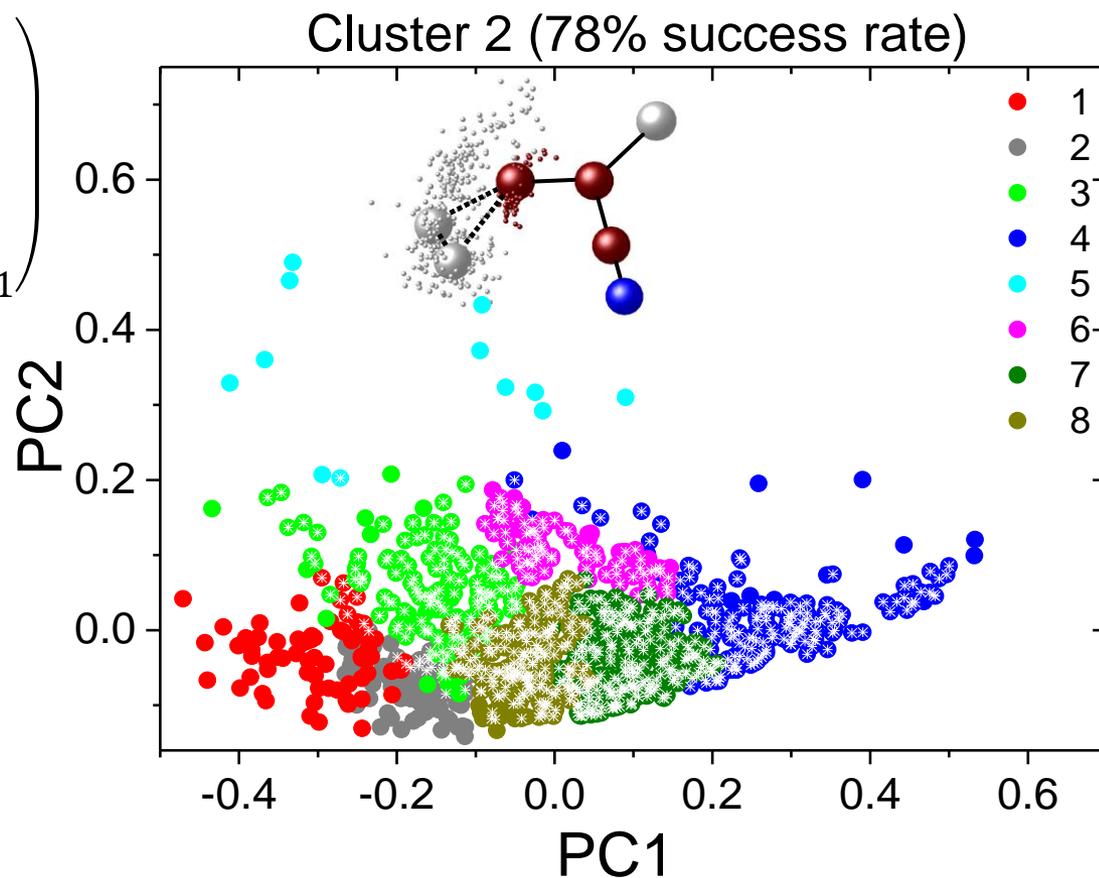
# Discovery of reaction mechanisms

## Future improvements<sup>1</sup>

$0.5*(R+P)+Z$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1.7 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 1.6 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 1.6 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1.6 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1.1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1.1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1.1 \end{pmatrix}$$

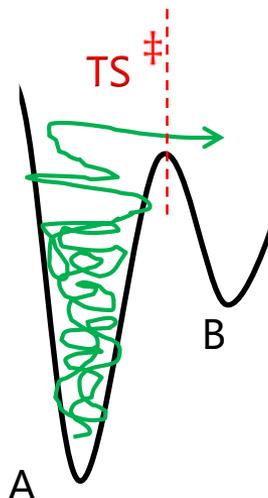
$$a_{ij} = \frac{1 - (\delta_{ij})^n}{1 - (\delta_{ij})^m}$$



# Rates of Chemical Reactions

## Transition State Theory (TST)

$$k(T) = \frac{k_B T}{h} e^{-\frac{\Delta G^\ddagger}{RT}}$$



## Rice-Ramsperger-Kassel-Marcus (RRKM)

$$k(E) = \frac{W^\ddagger(E)}{h\rho(E)}$$

TST

RRKM

Boltzmann distribution

Fast IVR

The TS is not re-crossed

The reaction follows the IRC

The nuclei behave according to classical mechanics

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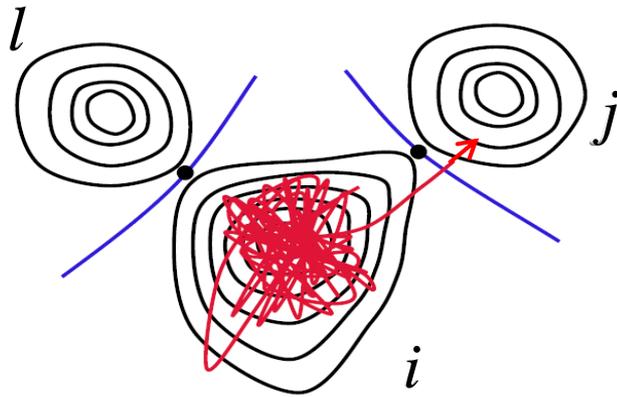
# Kinetics: solving the ME

$$\frac{dn(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{M}n(t)$$

## Kinetic Monte Carlo (KMC)

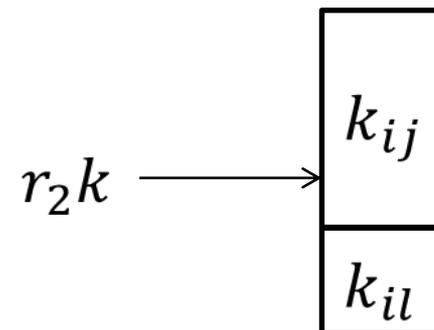
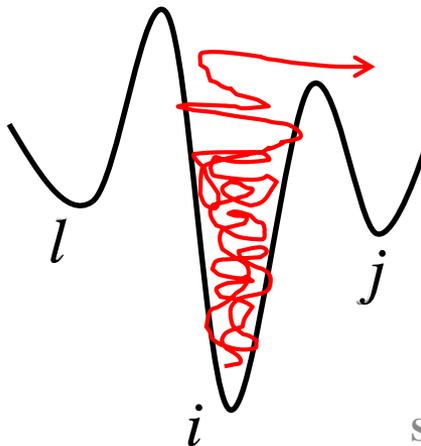
Working out the kinetics knowing rate coefficients (TST or RRKM)

and using random numbers ( $r_1$  and  $r_2$ )



$$t = -\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) \ln(r_1)$$

$$k = k_{ij} + k_{il}$$

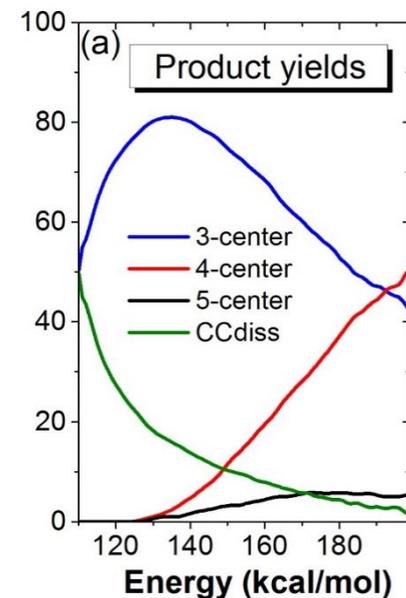
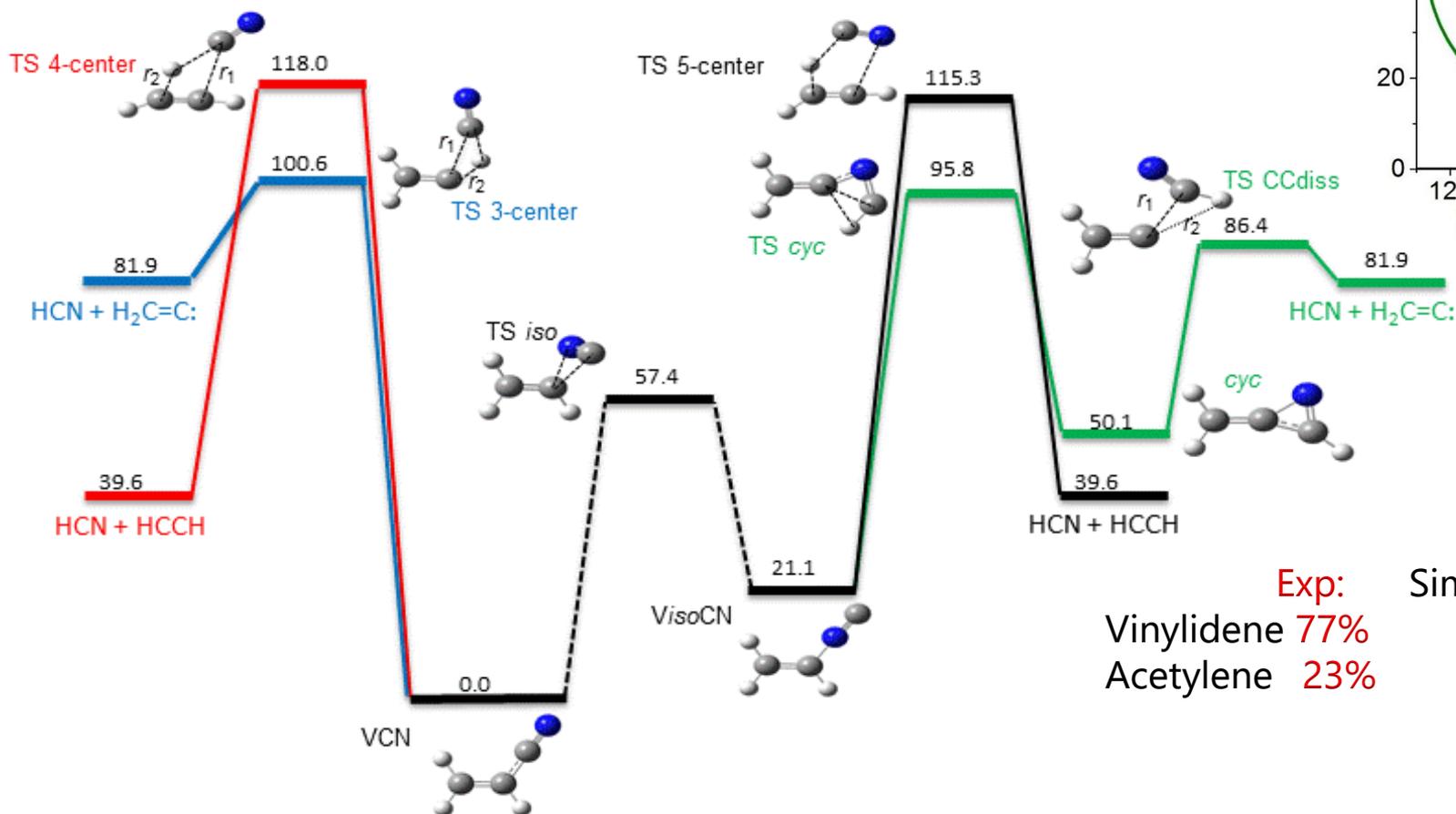


# Program wiki

<http://forge.cesga.es/wiki/g/tsscads/HomePage>

# Applications

## Vinyl cyanide: HCN elimination channels<sup>1</sup>



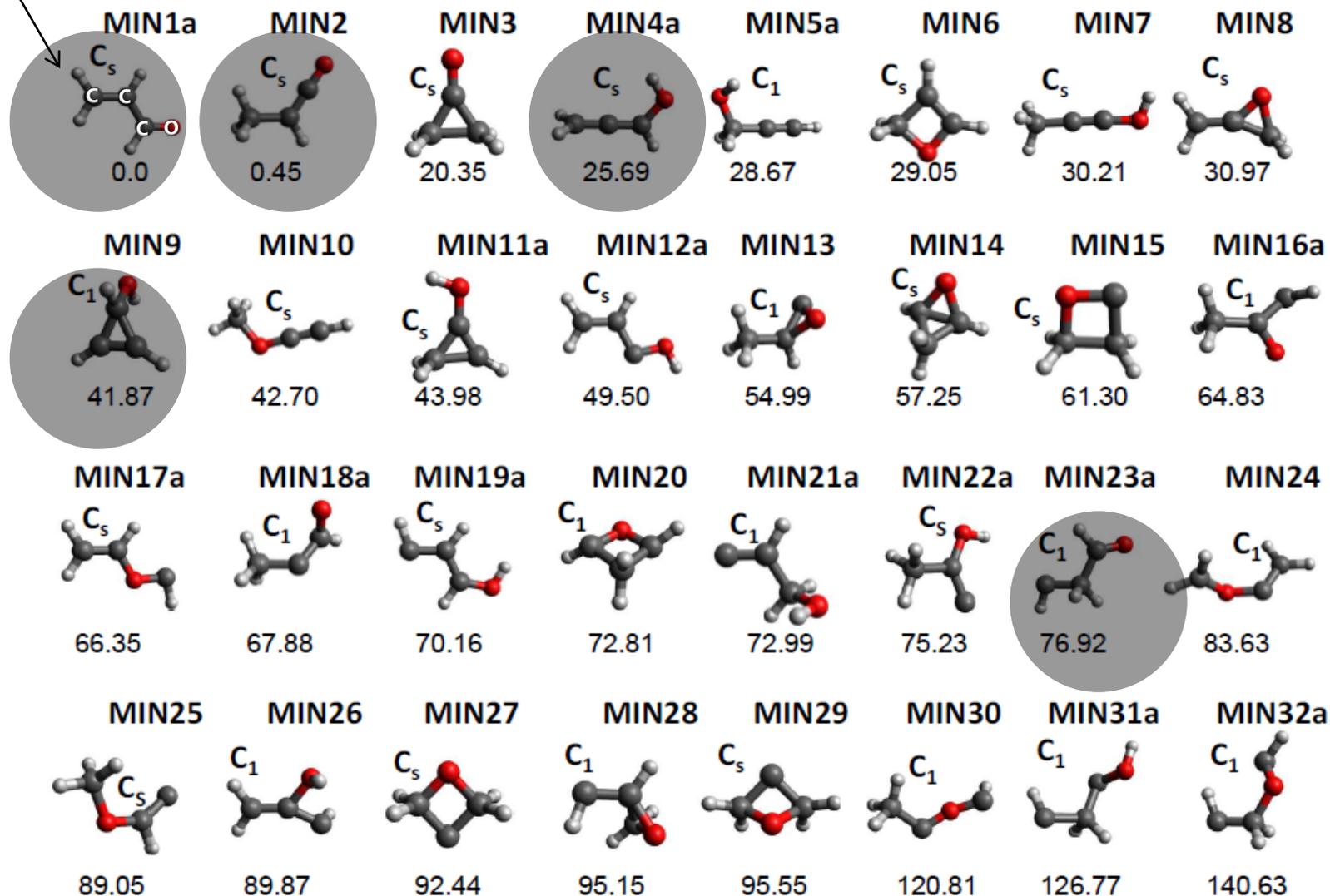
	Exp:	Simulations
Vinylidene	77%	79%
Acetylene	23%	21%

# Applications

*s-trans*-propenal

**C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O system<sup>1</sup>**

● Previous theoretical results<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>EMN *PCCP* **2015**, *17*, 14912

<sup>2</sup>CH Chin and SH Lee *JCP* **2011**, *134*, 044309

# Applications

## $C_3H_4O$ system

Branching ratios

Channel	Previous Th. results <sup>1</sup>	<i>i</i> TSSCDS <sup>2</sup>	Exp <sup>3</sup>
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.01	0.03	0.07
CH <sub>2</sub> O	0.65	0.20	0.07
H <sub>2</sub>	0.09	0.19	0.00
CO	1.00	1.00	1.00
Triple	6.82	1.49	1.10 CO + H <sub>2</sub> + HCCH

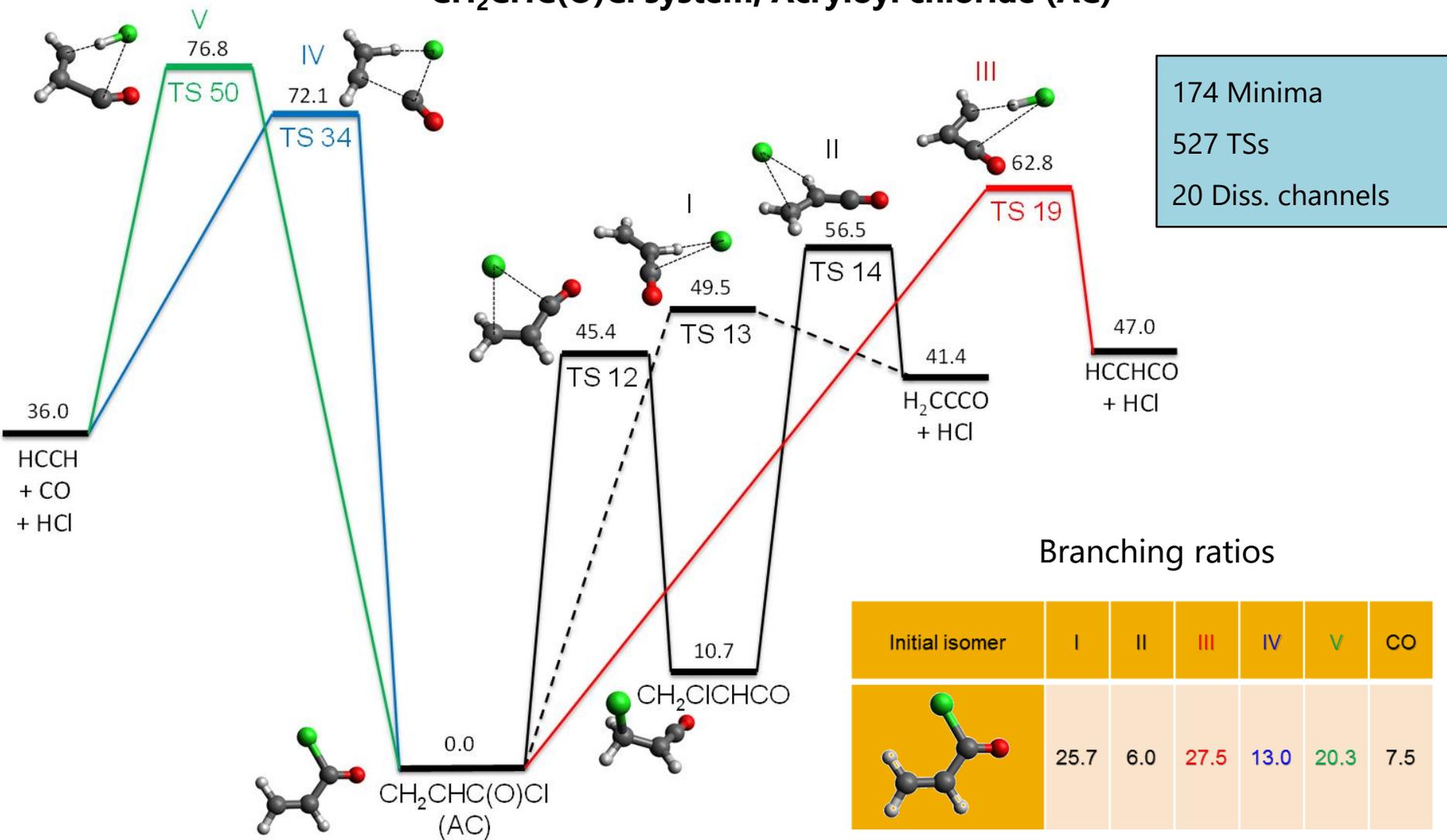
<sup>1</sup>CH Chin and SH Lee *JCP* **2011**, *134*, 044309

<sup>2</sup>EMN *PCCP* **2015**, *17*, 14912

<sup>3</sup>C Chaudhuri and SH Lee, *PCCP* **2011**, *13*, 7312

# Applications

## CH<sub>2</sub>CHC(O)Cl system, Acryloyl chloride (AC)<sup>1,2</sup>



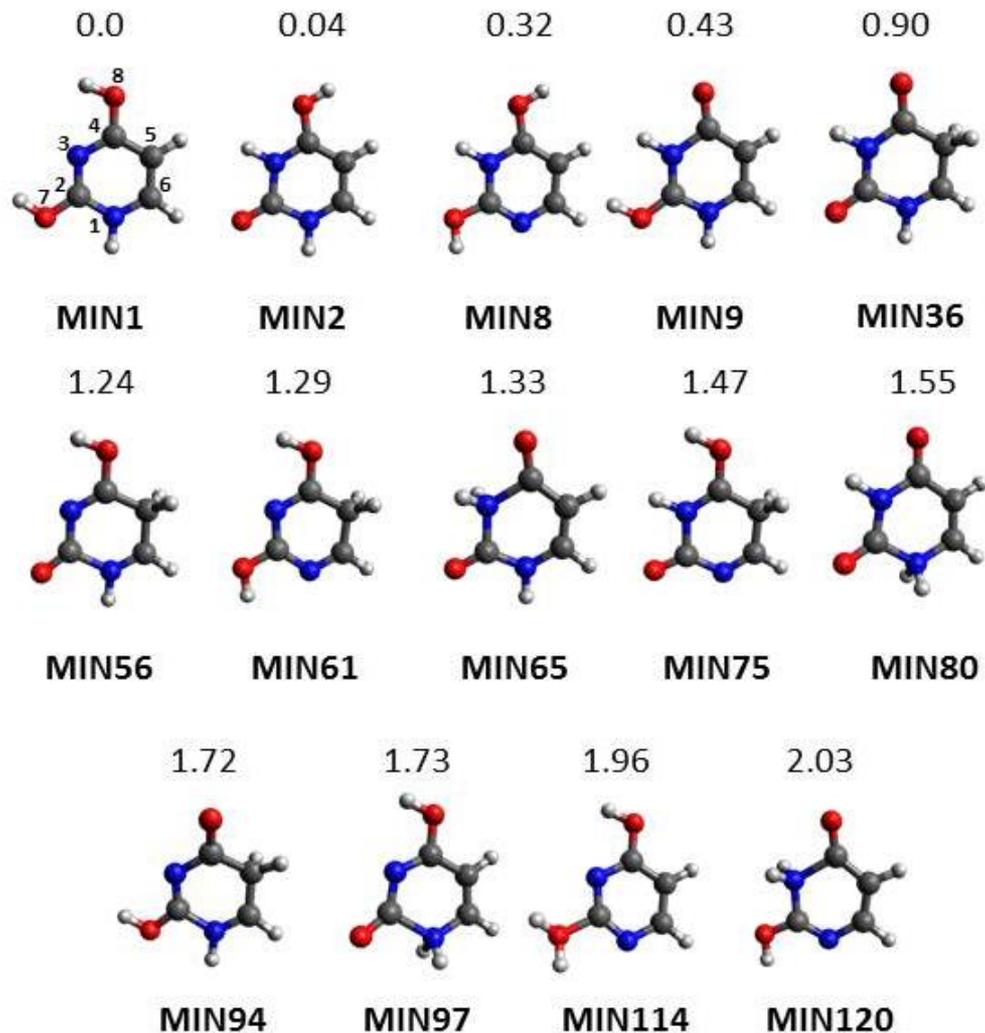
<sup>1</sup>R Pérez-Soto et al. *PCCP* **2016**, *18*, 5019

<sup>2</sup>P.-W. Lee et al. *JPC A* **2015**, *119*, 7293.

# Applications

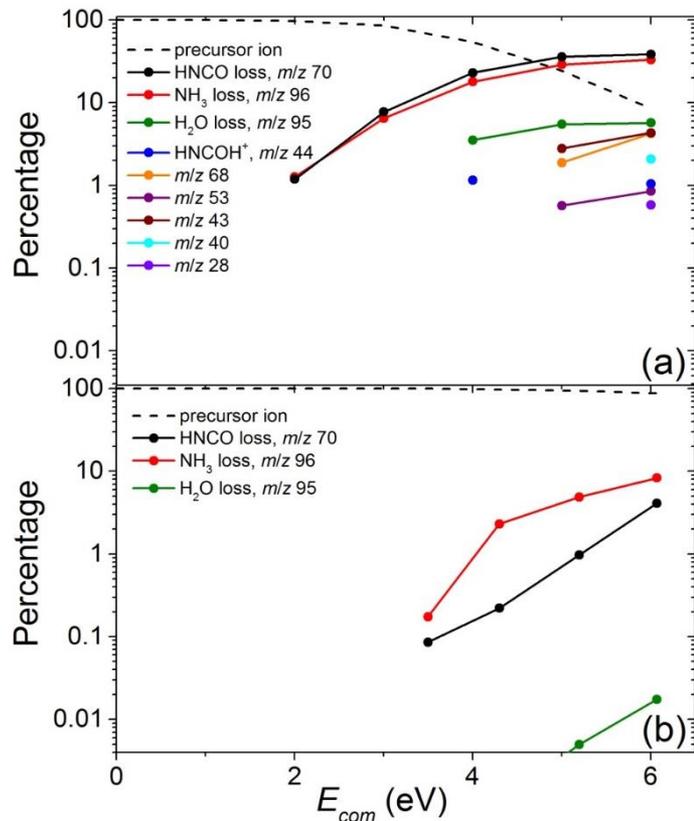
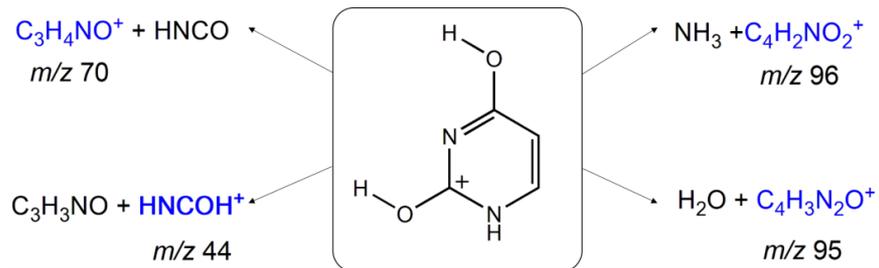
## Protonated uracil<sup>1</sup>

1398 stationary points  
751 TSs

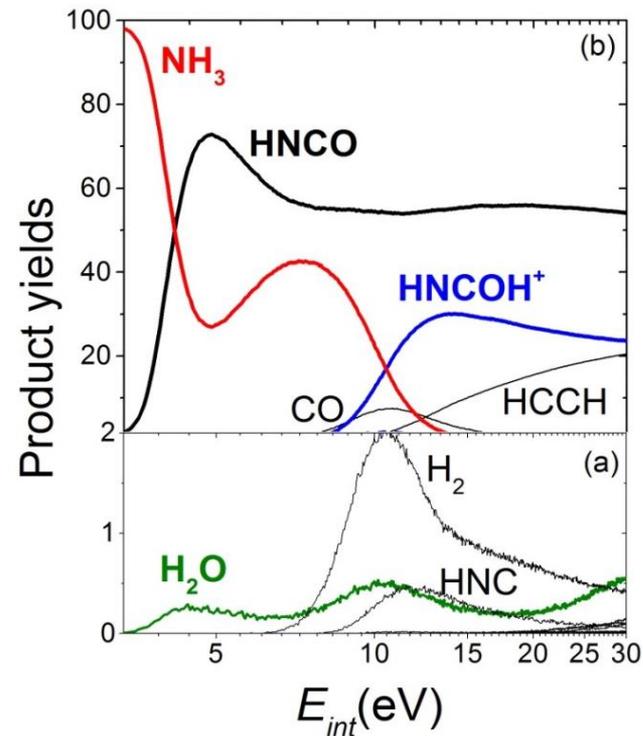


# Applications

## Major dissociation channels (MS experiments)



## Branching ratios (statistical results)

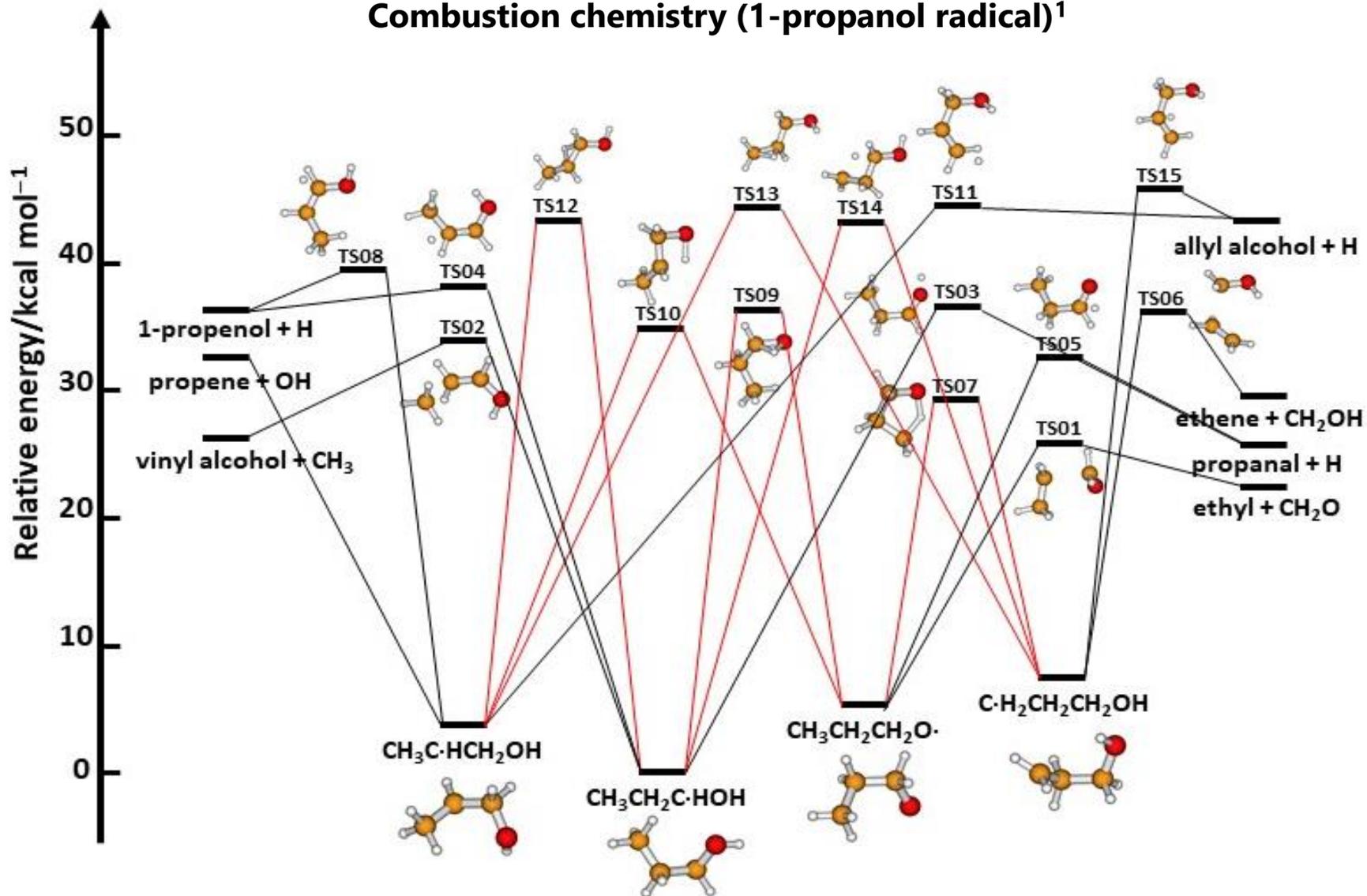


MS Experiments

Statistical  
simulations

# Applications

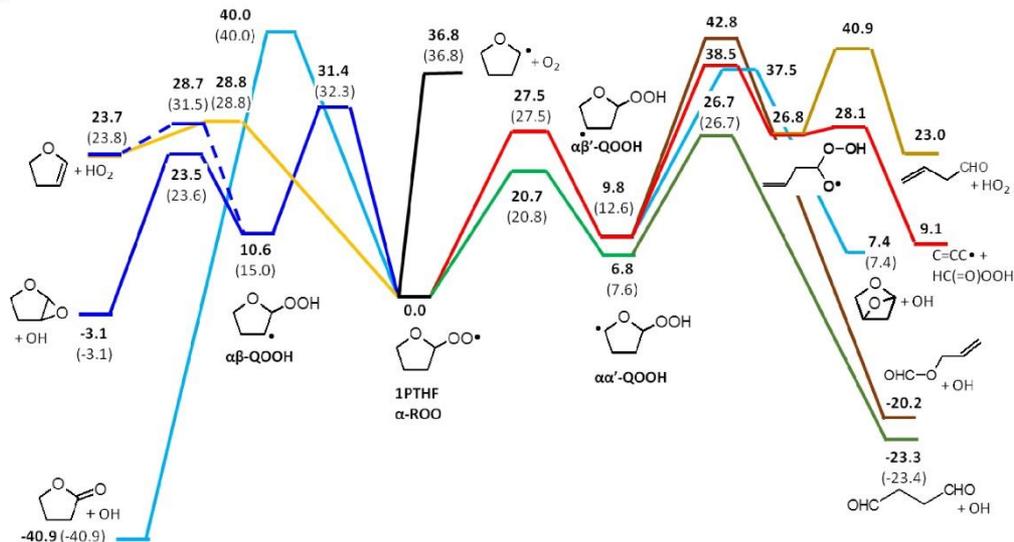
## Combustion chemistry (1-propanol radical)<sup>1</sup>



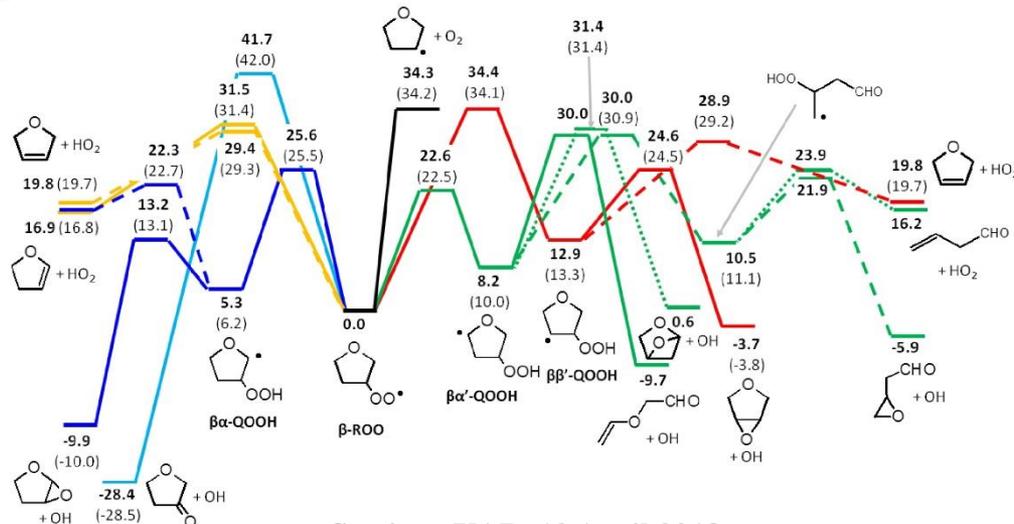
# Applications

## Combustion chemistry (Tetrahydrofuran oxidation)<sup>1</sup>

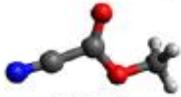
a



b

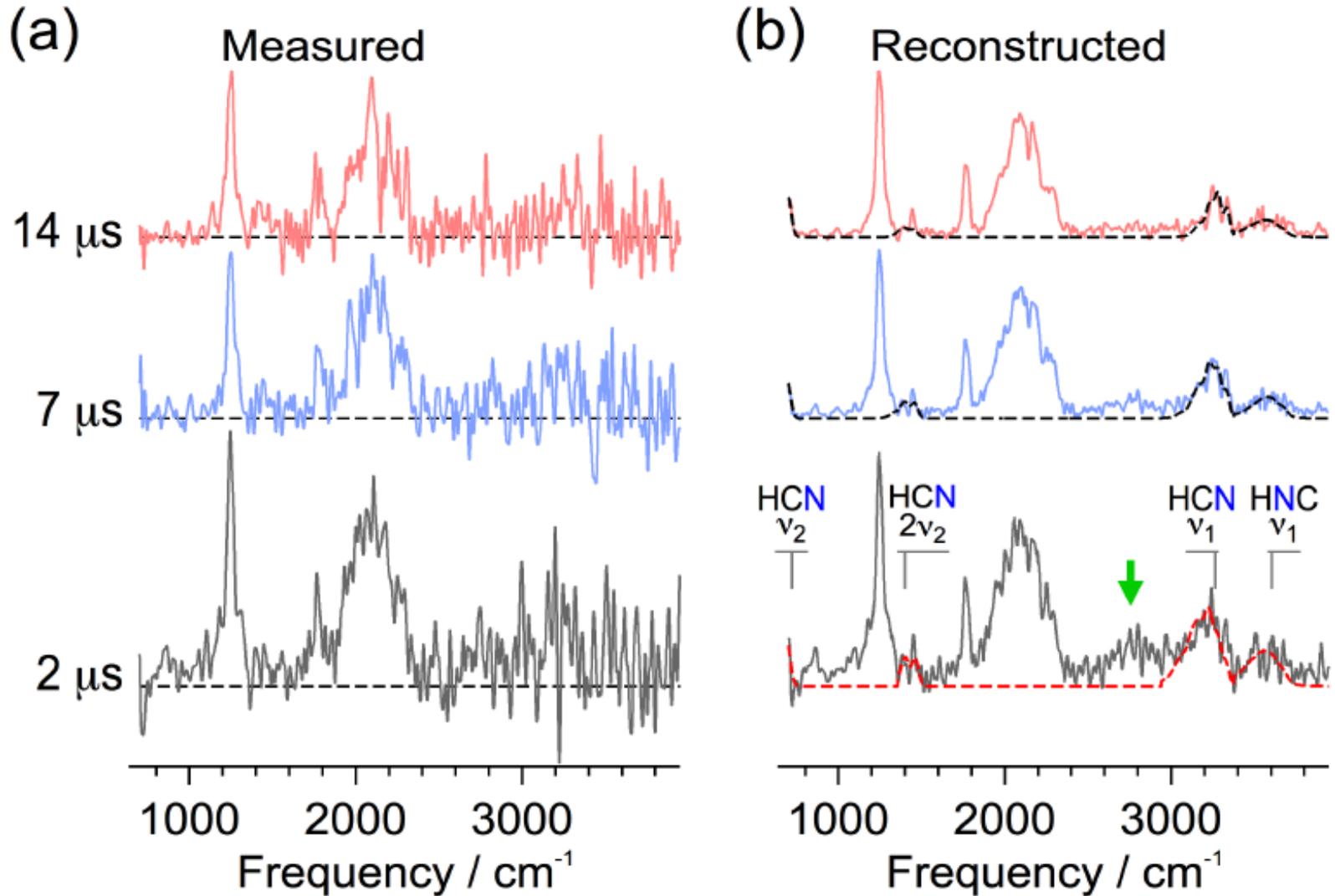


# Applications



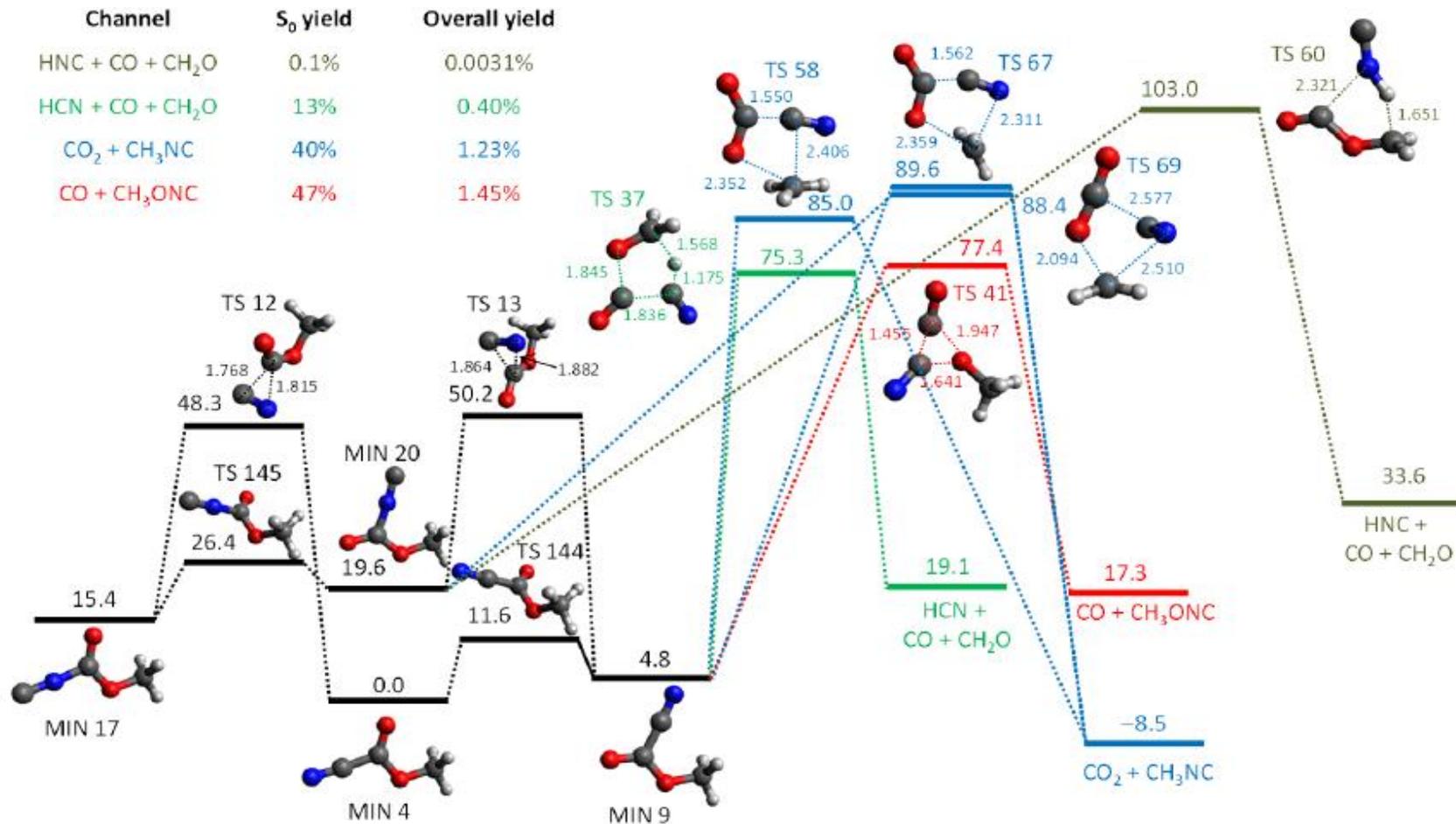
MIN 4

## Interstellar chemistry<sup>1</sup>



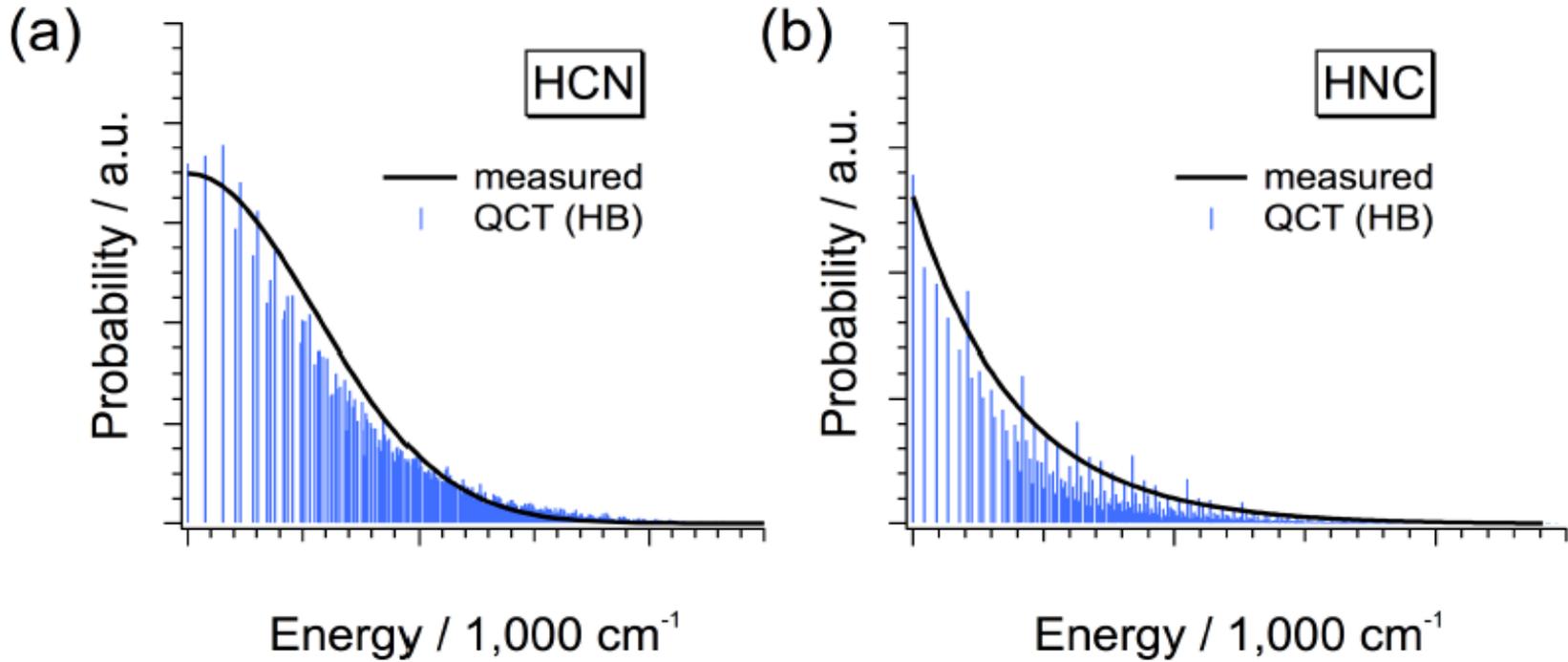
# Applications

## Interstellar chemistry<sup>1</sup>



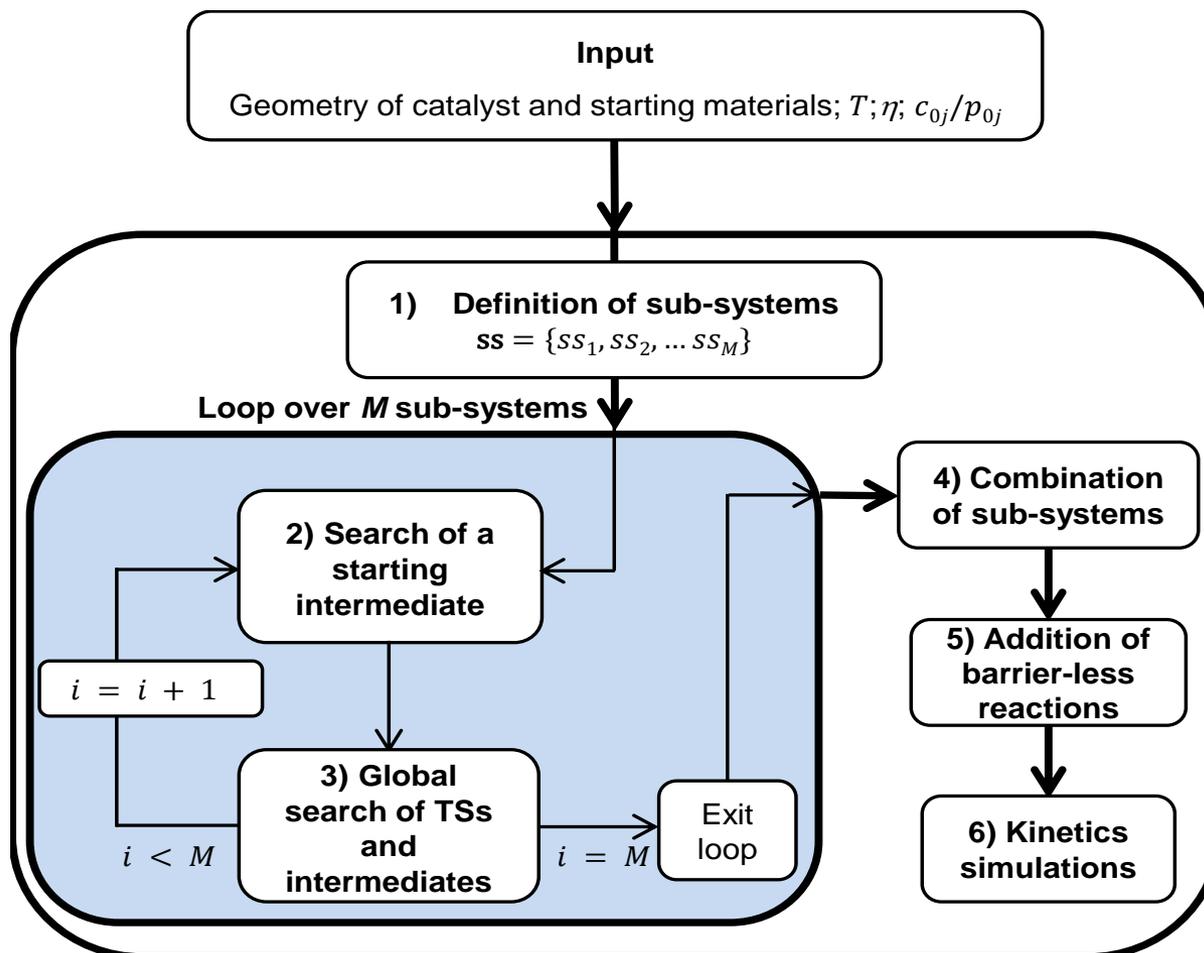
# Applications

## Interstellar chemistry<sup>1</sup>



# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis<sup>1</sup>

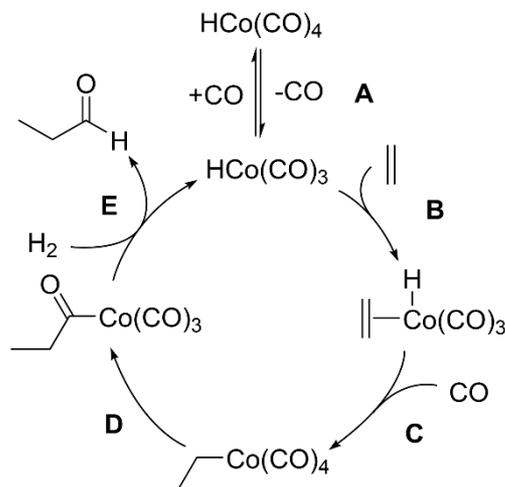


$T$  = temperature of the system;  $\eta$  = viscosity of the solvent  
 $c_{0j}/p_{0j}$  = initial concentration/pressure of species  $j$   
 $ss_i$  = Catalyst or any combination of the catalyst with the starting materials

# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Test case<sup>1</sup>

### Co-catalyzed hydroformylation of ethylene



### Heck and Breslow mechanism

#### Input

Catalyst and starting materials:  $\text{HCo(CO)}_3$  (**1**), ethylene (**2**), CO (**3**) and  $\text{H}_2$  (**4**)

Temperature: 423 K

Solvent: Toluene ( $\eta = 2.09 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa s)

$c_{0,\text{cat}} = 0.0004\text{-}0.02$  M

$c_{0,\text{eth}} = 0.04\text{-}2$  M

$p_0 = 1\text{-}60$  bar CO and  $\text{H}_2$

# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Method<sup>1</sup>

### 1) Definition of sub-systems.

$$ss = \{ss_1, ss_2, \dots, ss_M\}; M = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{N!}{(N-n)!n!}; N \text{ starting materials}$$

Definition of the sub-systems studied in this work, and species *A* and *B* utilized in step 2 of the method.

sub-system		<i>A</i> <sup>a</sup>	<i>B</i> <sup>a</sup>
<i>ss</i> <sub>1</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub>	-	-
<i>ss</i> <sub>2</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
<i>ss</i> <sub>3</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /CO	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub>	CO
<i>ss</i> <sub>4</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub>
<i>ss</i> <sub>5</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /CO	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	CO
<i>ss</i> <sub>6</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /H <sub>2</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H <sub>2</sub>
<i>ss</i> <sub>7</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /CO/H <sub>2</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /CO	H <sub>2</sub>
<i>ss</i> <sub>8</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /CO/H <sub>2</sub>	HCo(CO) <sub>3</sub> /C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /CO	H <sub>2</sub>

### 2) Starting intermediate.

- Generate 10<sup>2</sup> guess A...B structures randomly rotating each unit about pivot points.
- Optimize with MOPAC (PM7).
- Choose the best starting intermediate (energy and valence of the metal center)

# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Method<sup>1</sup>

3) *Global search for TSs and intermediates.*

-iTSSCDS algorithm

-Locally modified versión MOPAC (larger step size, termination criteria).  $T = 10^4$  K,  $\Delta t = 0.5$  fs, PM7.

-High level: B3LYP/6-31G(d,p). TSs with  $\Delta G > 40$  kcal/mol are not considered.

4) *Combination of sub-systems.*

Obtain single lists: **TS, I, P**

-Setting a common  $G$  scale.

-Identifying common molecules in different sub-systems. Tools of Graph Theory.

5) *Addition of barrierless reactions*

-Analysis of **I** to check if an element of **P** ( $P_j$ ) is within **I**

-The distance  $r$  between metal and  $P_j$  is doubled. Partial optimization and follow the gradient.

6) *Kinetics simulations.*

Over a barrier

$$k_l(T) = \sigma \frac{k_B T}{h} \left( \frac{RT}{p_0} \right)^{\Delta n} e^{-\frac{\Delta G_l^\ddagger}{RT}}$$

Barrierless association

$$k_{diff}(T) = \frac{8k_B T}{3\eta}$$

KMC simulations: StochKit2.0<sup>2</sup>

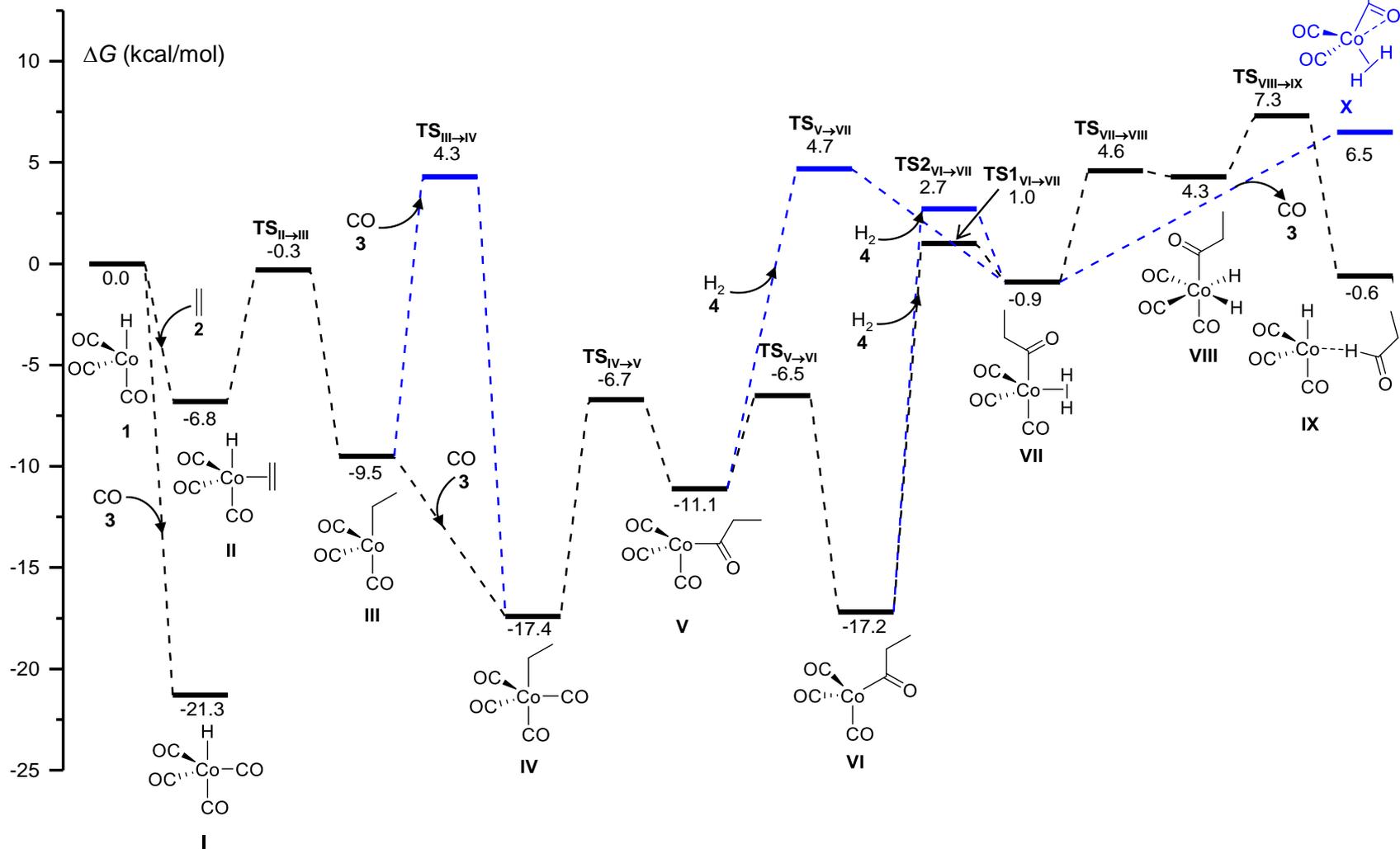
<sup>1</sup>JA Varela *et al. Chem. Sci.* **2017**, 8, 3843

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/StochSS/StochKit>

# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Mechanisms<sup>1</sup>

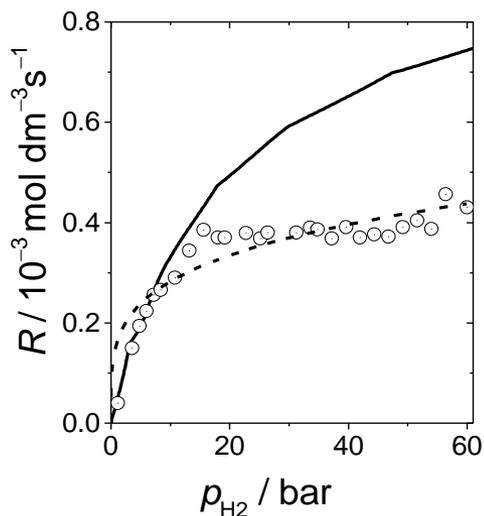
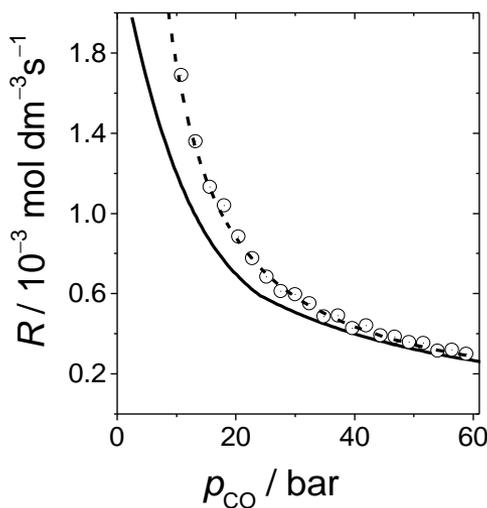
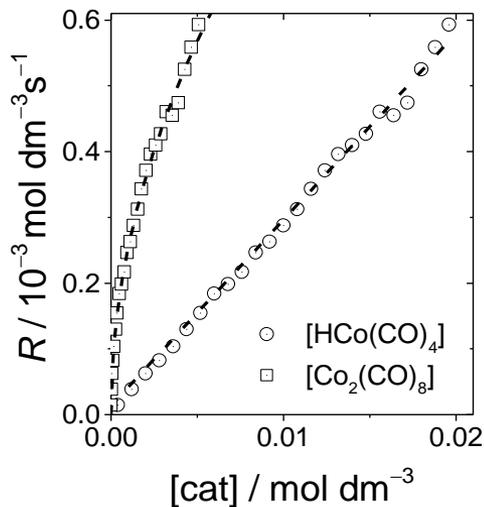
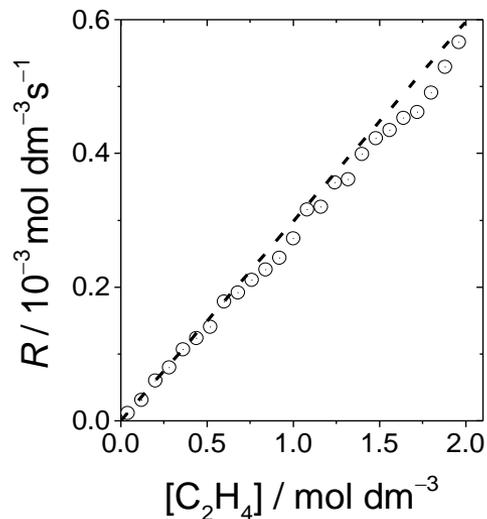
Major mechanism: hydroformylation (leading to **propanal**)





# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Rate law<sup>1</sup>



$$R_{\text{exp}} = k \frac{[\text{H}_2]^{0.6} [\text{CO}] [\text{cat}]^{0.8} [\text{alkene}]}{(1 + K[\text{CO}])^2}$$

$$R_{\text{Harvey}} = k \frac{[\text{H}_2]^{0.5} [\text{cat}]^{0.5} [\text{alkene}]}{[\text{CO}]}$$

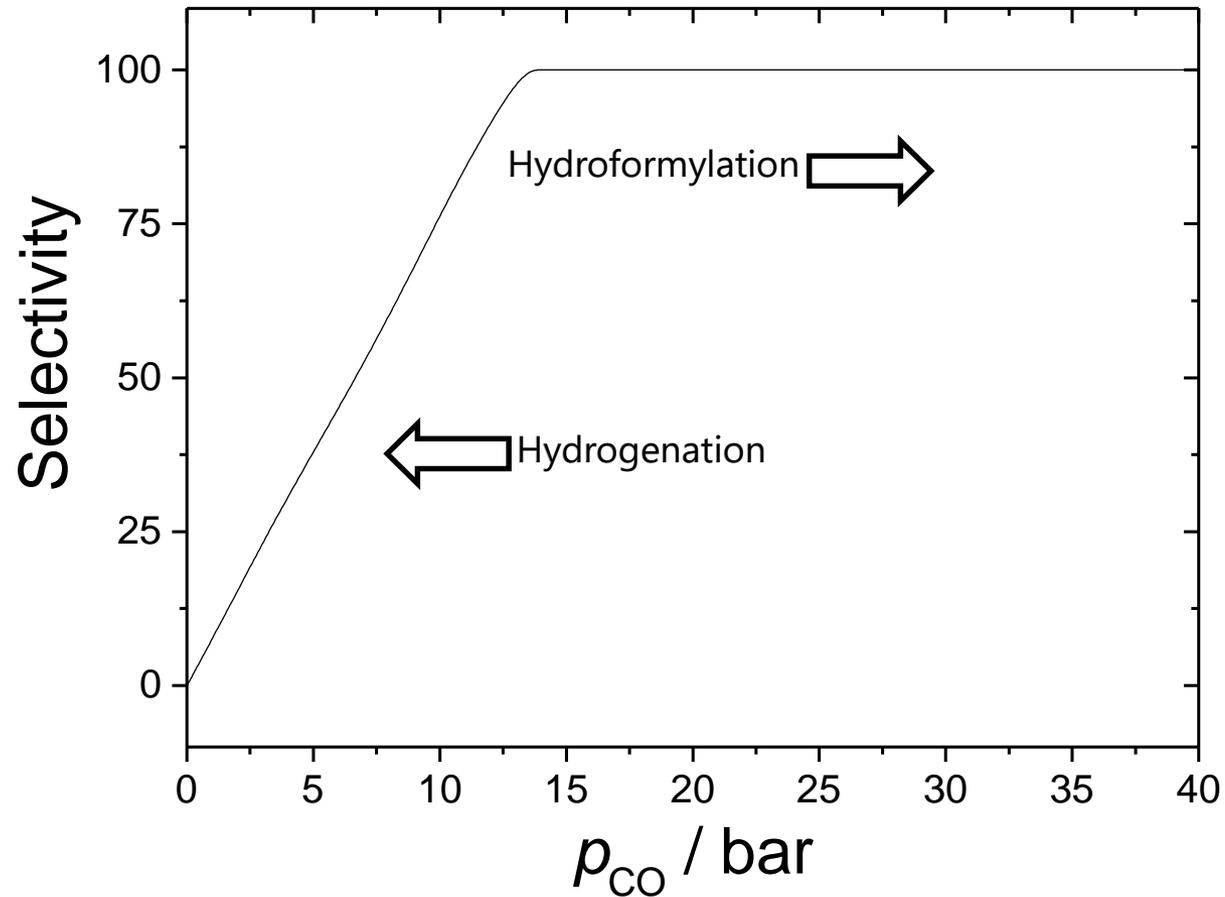
$$R_{\text{Habershon}} = k \frac{[\text{H}_2][\text{CO}][\text{cat}][\text{alkene}]^{0.55}}{1 + b[\text{CO}] + c[\text{CO}]^2}$$

$$R_{\text{TSSCDS}} = k \frac{[\text{H}_2]^{0.4} [\text{cat}]^{0.5} [\text{alkene}]}{1 + a_1[\text{CO}] + a_2[\text{CO}]^2}$$

# Applications

## Organometallic catalysis: Side reactions<sup>1</sup>

### Hydroformylation vs Hydrogenation



## Conclusions

- Efficient and highly parallelizable method to find TSs and reaction pathways
- Furnished with KMC codes to solve the kinetics.
- Successfully applied to different systems.

## Future work

- Improve efficiency
- New electronic structure codes
- Barrierless reactions

# Acknowledgements

**Saulo Vázquez.** Vinyl cyanide

**Raúl Pérez-Soto and Saulo Vázquez.** Acryloyl chloride

**Estefania Rossich-Molina, and Riccardo Spezia.** Protonated uracil

**David Ferro, Antonio Fernández-Ramos and Saulo Vázquez.** Combustion

**Michael Wilhelm and Saulo Vázquez.** Metcyanoformate

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