

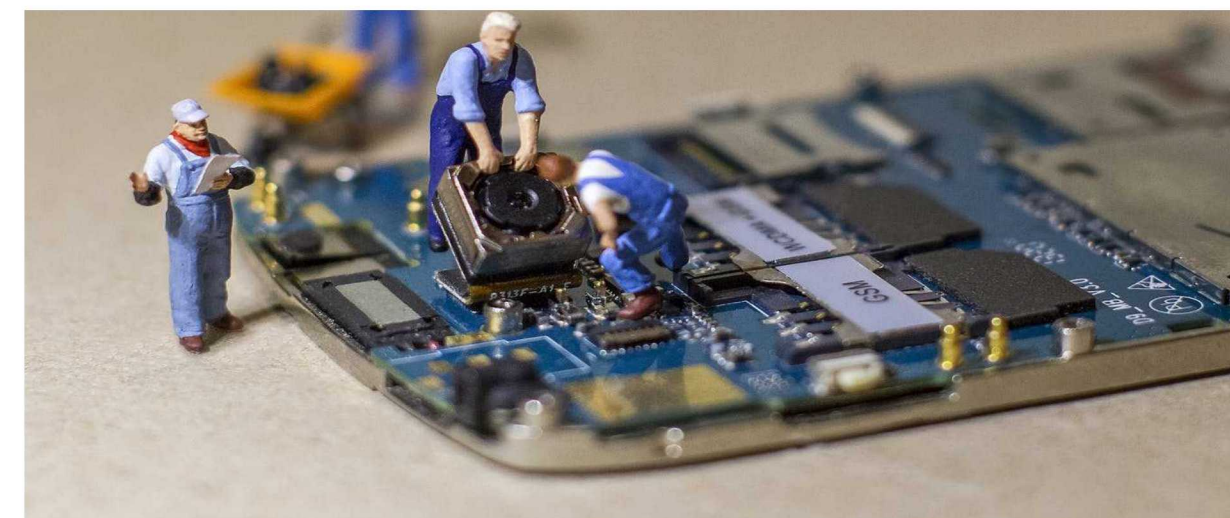
Trapped Intermediate of a Meerwein-Pondorf-Verley Reduction of Hydroxy Benzaldehyde to a Dialkoxide by Titanium Alkoxides

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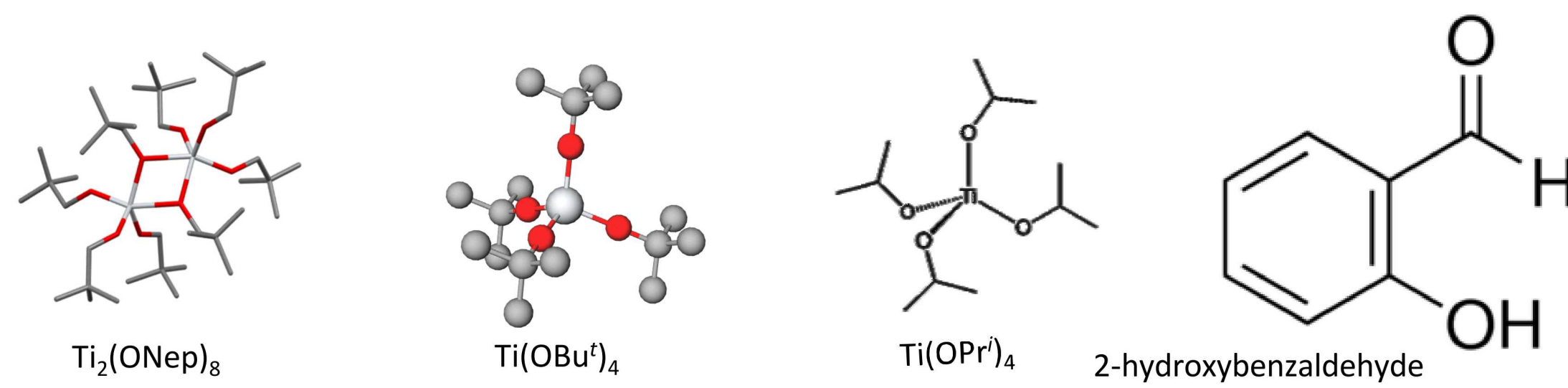


Introduction

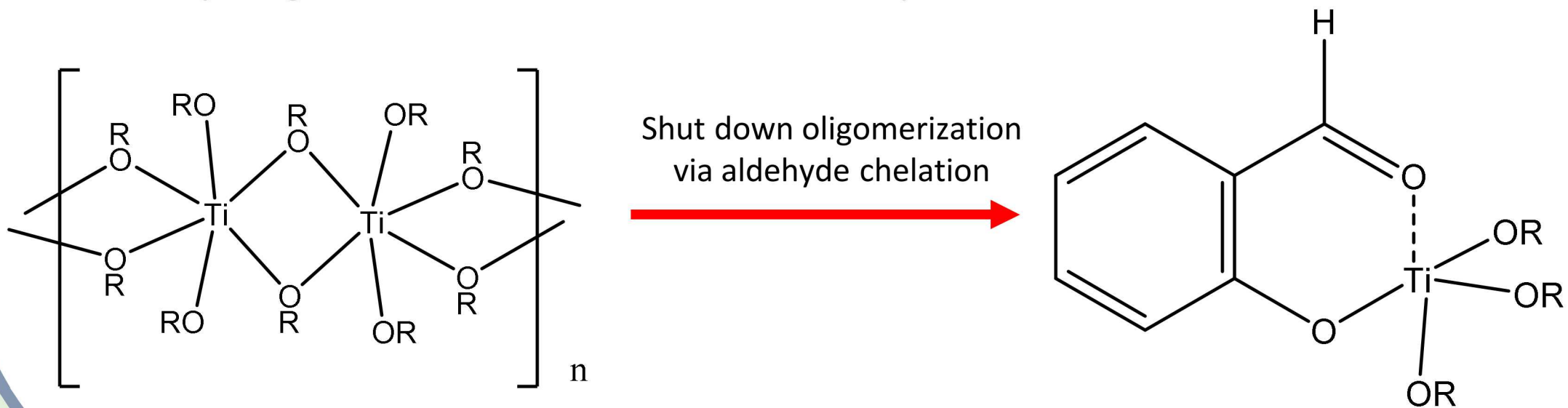
The pervasive use of electronic ceramics coupled with the demand by customers for smaller and more advanced devices has led to the need for increased control over the final materials' properties via chemistry.



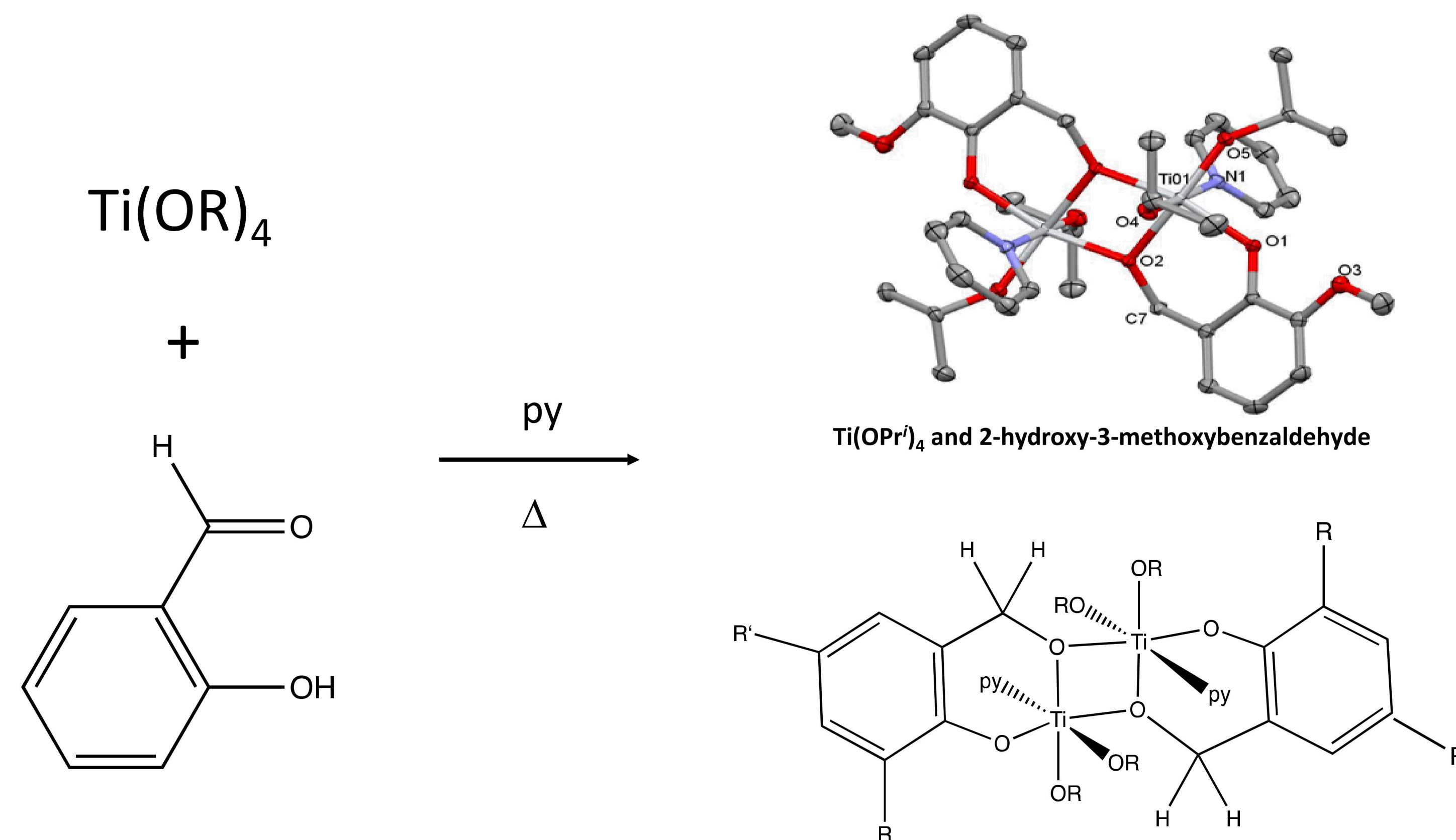
One of the most widely used precursors to these electronic ceramic materials are metal alkoxides ([M(OR)_z]) however, the low charge to large cation size often leads to oligomerization and unexpected structural arrangements. For this effort, bidentate ligands with an active second binding site [versus the standard Lewis basic moieties (i.e., methoxide or amino)] were of interest to allow further chemical manipulations after binding.



In particular, phenolic benzaldehydes (HO-BzA-Lx) were explored, as the hydroxide and the carbonyl oxygen of the aldehyde could coordinate to the metal, leaving the reactive hydrogen for additional chemical manipulation.

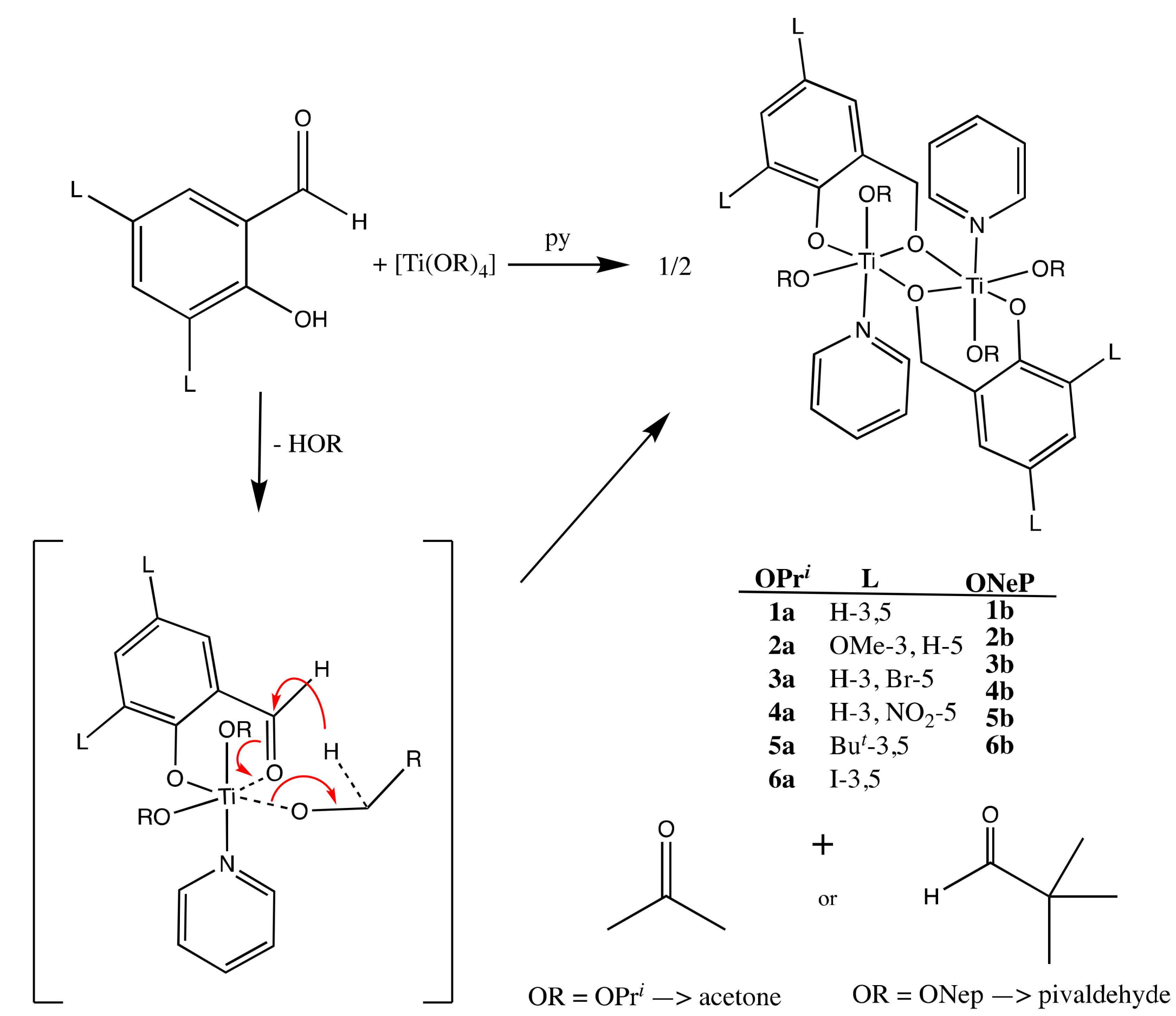


Unexpected Aldehyde Reduction

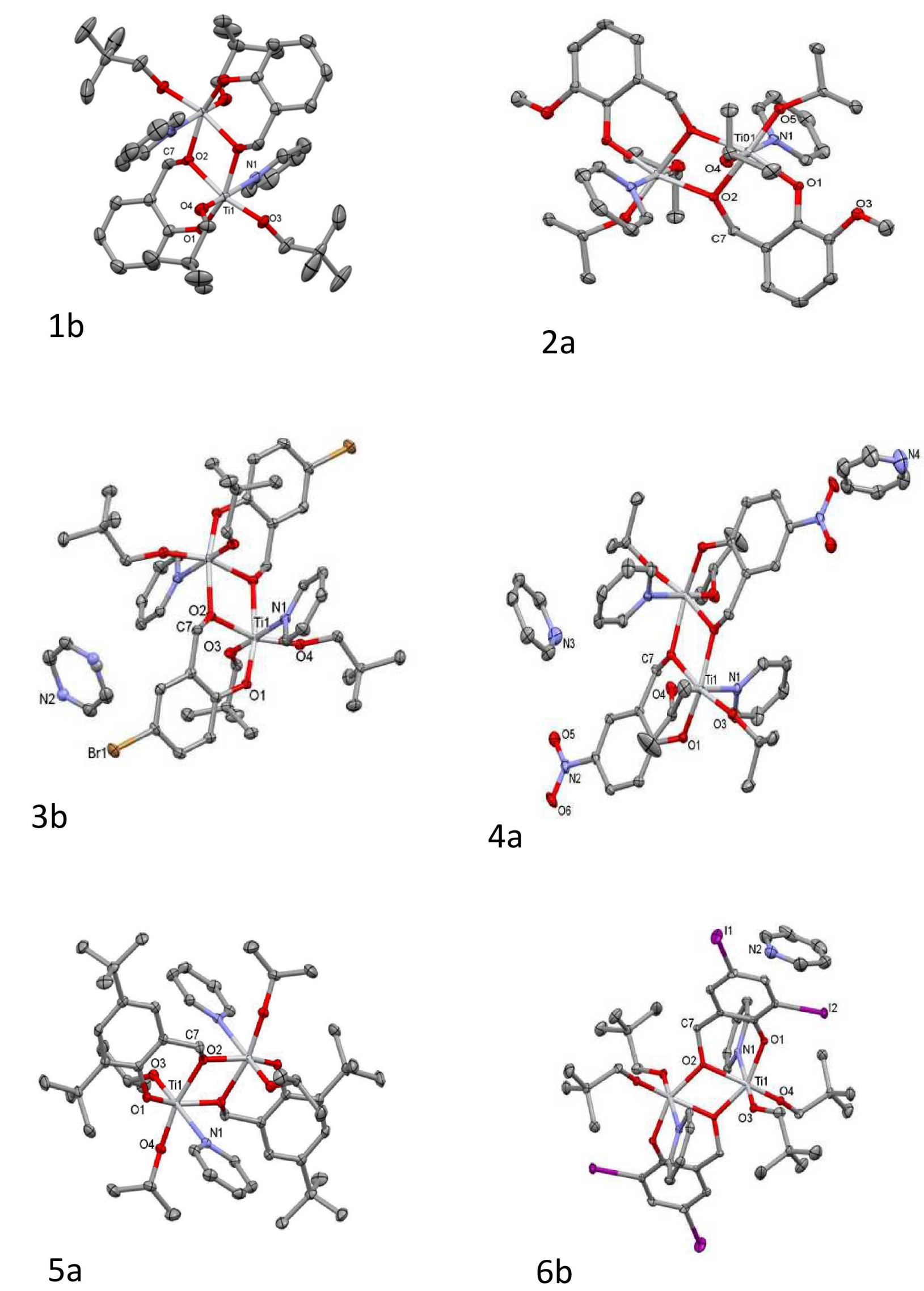


The titanium alkoxides were reacted with the aldehydes in pyridine and with heat. The solutions were then allowed to cool and crystals were grown via slow evaporation. All 12 resulting crystals showed an identical reduction of the aldehyde in a dimer configuration with bridging oxygens. This result was unexpected and prompted an investigation on the mechanism for the reaction.

Proposed MPV pathway for HO-BzA-Lx reduction

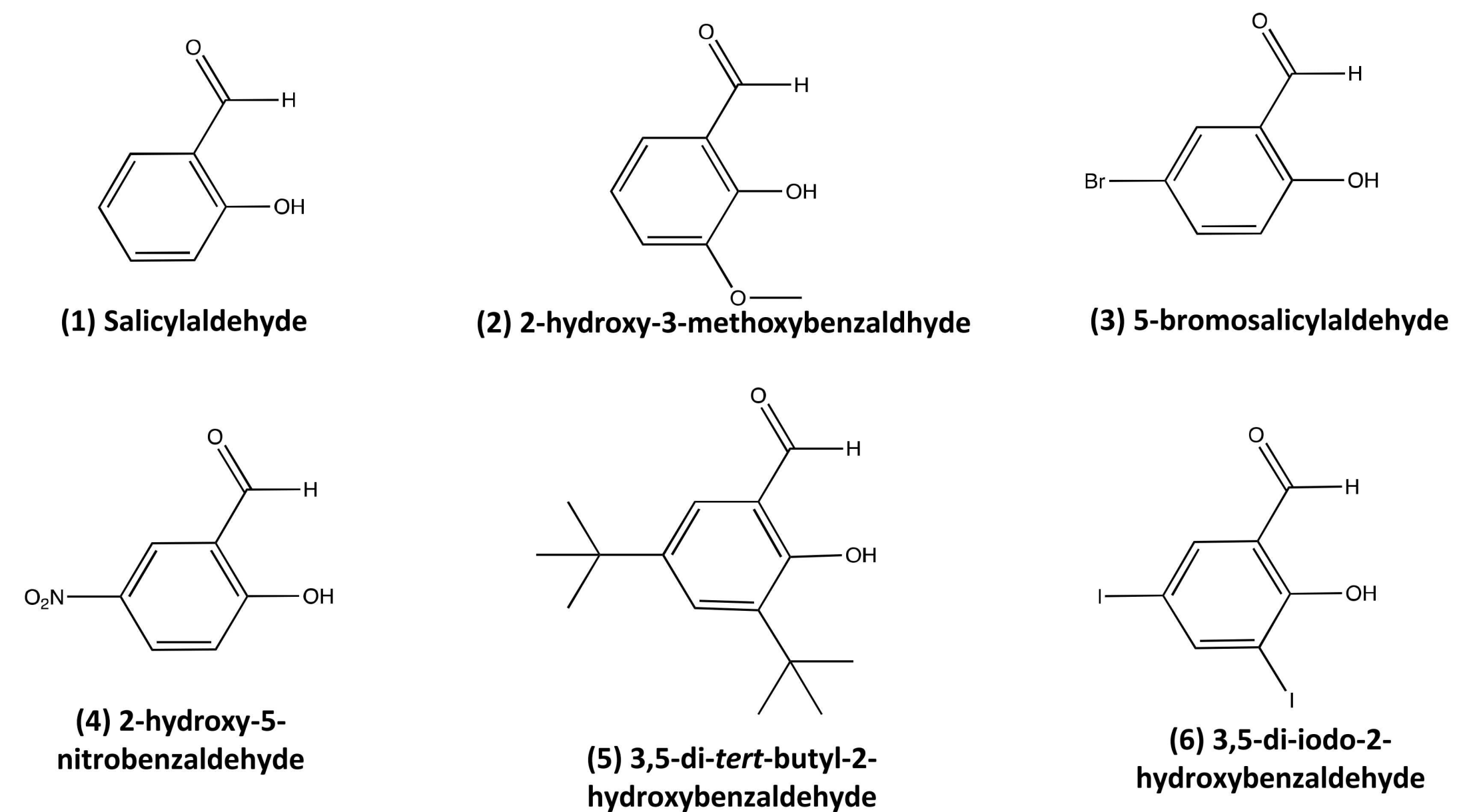


Crystallographic structures

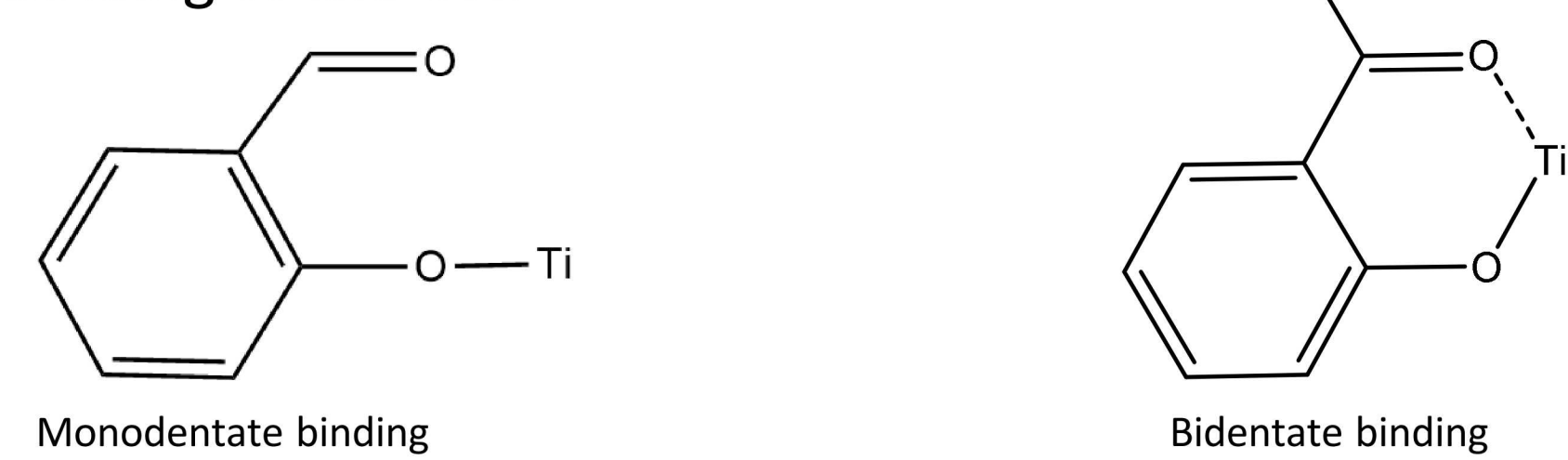


Crystal structures of the series demonstrate identical dimer configurations with each respective combination of precursors

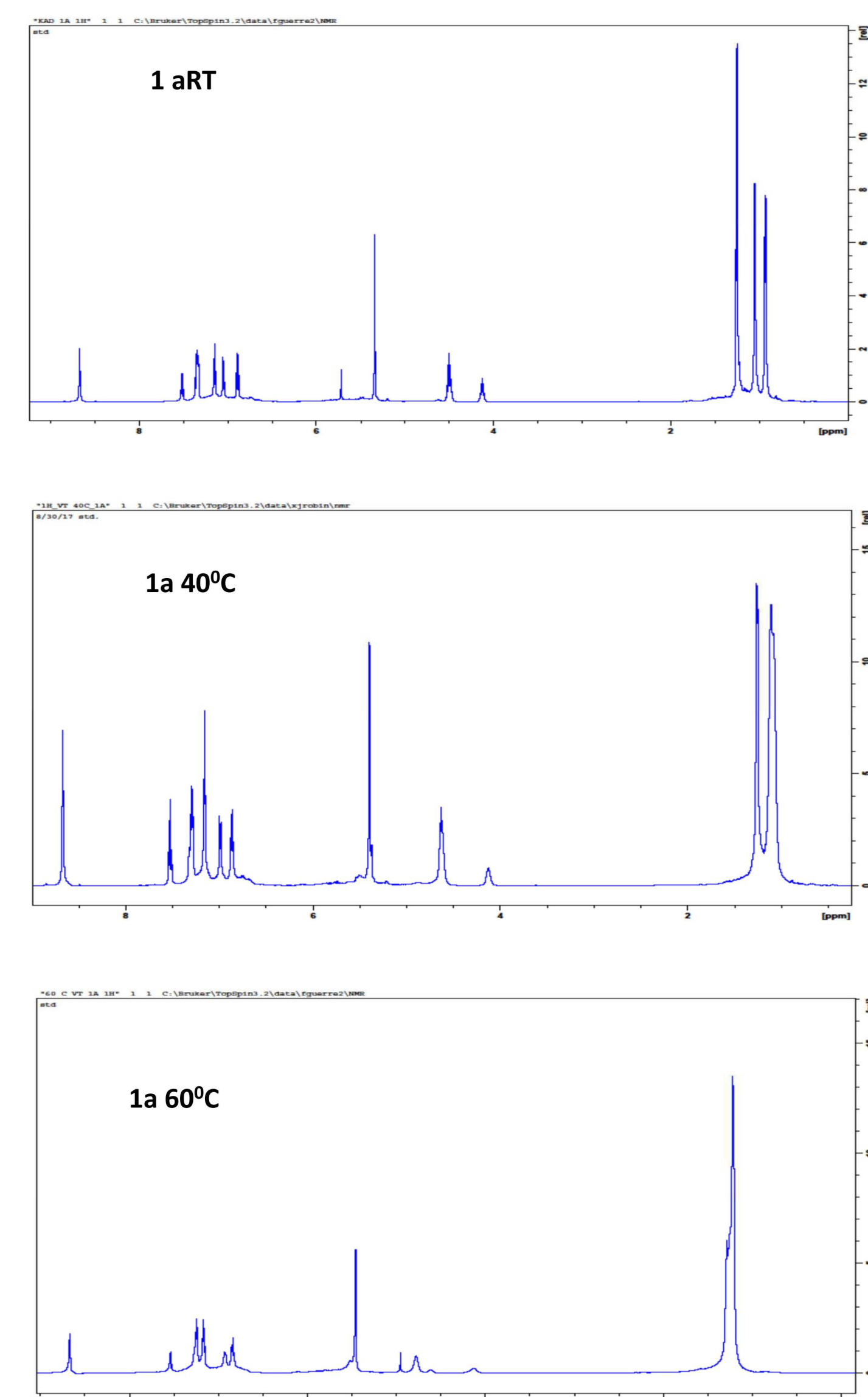
Reactivity of a 2-hydroxybenzaldehyde family



A family of 2-hydroxybenzaldehyde precursors were used to determine the behavior of the competitive reactive sites on the molecule. Initially there were two possibilities discussed for the binding of the aldehyde to the metal. First there was the monodentate binding mode which sees a single bond on the deprotonated OH. Second was a bidentate mode which shows an interaction between the carbonyl oxygen as well as the binding to the OH.

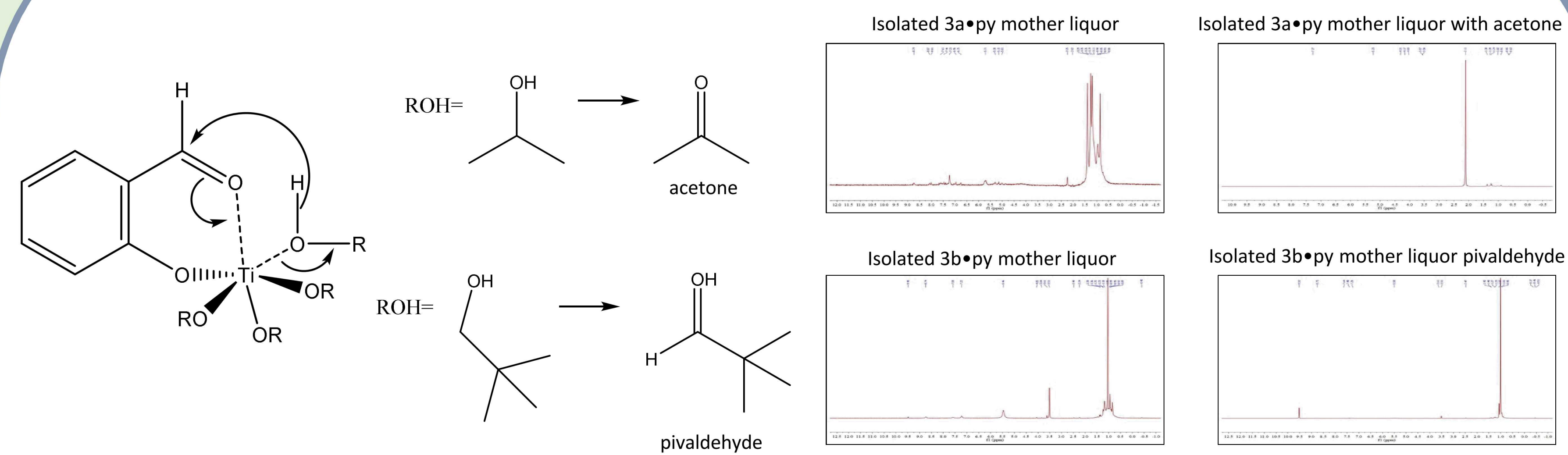


Variable Temperature ¹H NMR



Variable temperature NMR led us to believe that a monomer-dimer exchange was present in solution with the monomer being favored at higher temperatures

Finding MPV By-products



DOSY Solution Behavior

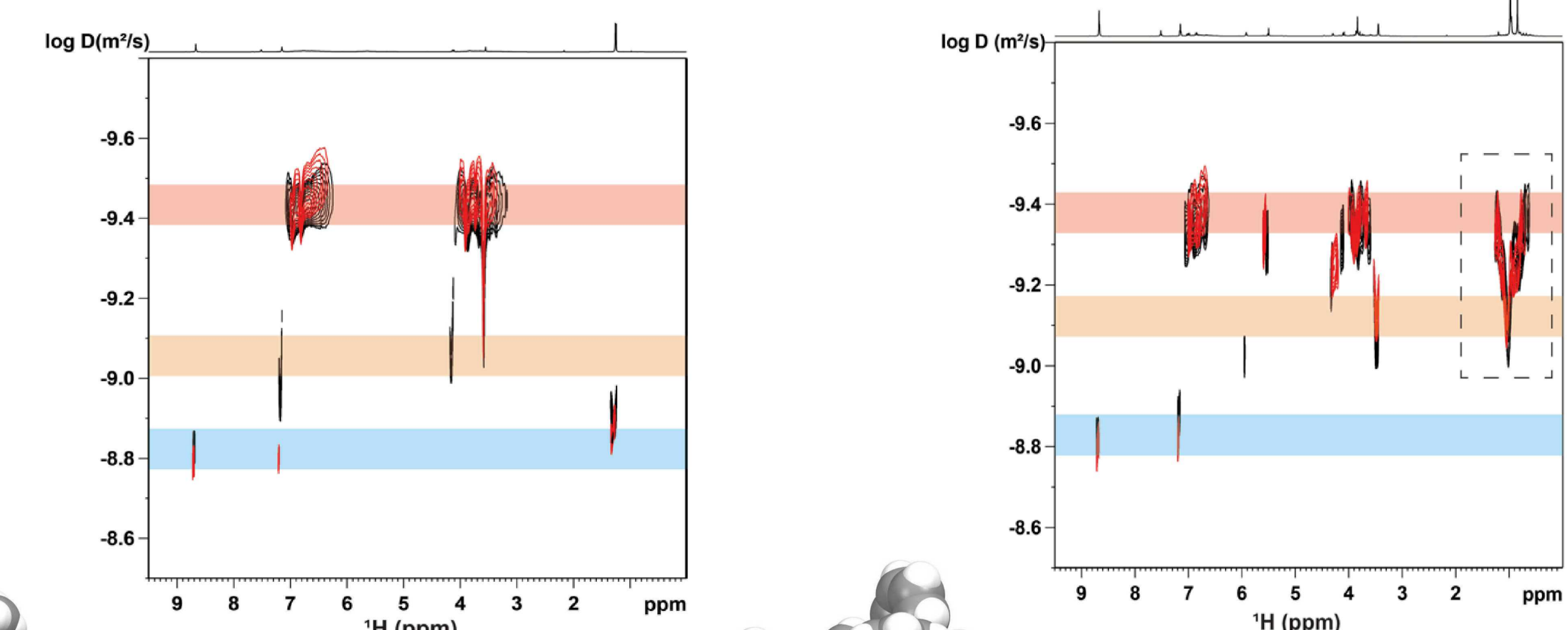


Figure 3. DOSY representation of the PFG NMR diffusion experiments for 2a at 298K (blue) and 333K (red).

Figure 4. DOSY representation of the PFG NMR diffusion experiments for 2b at 298K (blue) and 333K (red).

Summary

- Synthesis of reduced aldehyde titanium derivatives
- Stopped Oligomerization of titanium complexes
- Characterization of compounds via ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and FT-IR
- Completed Variable Temperature Studies
- Completed DOSY measurements
- Confirmation of MPV mechanism
- Publication in process

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