

***CHEM95002:***  
***Orbitals in Organic Chemistry - Pericyclics***

***LECTURE 8 Sigmatropic Rearrangements and  
Electrocyclic Reactions***

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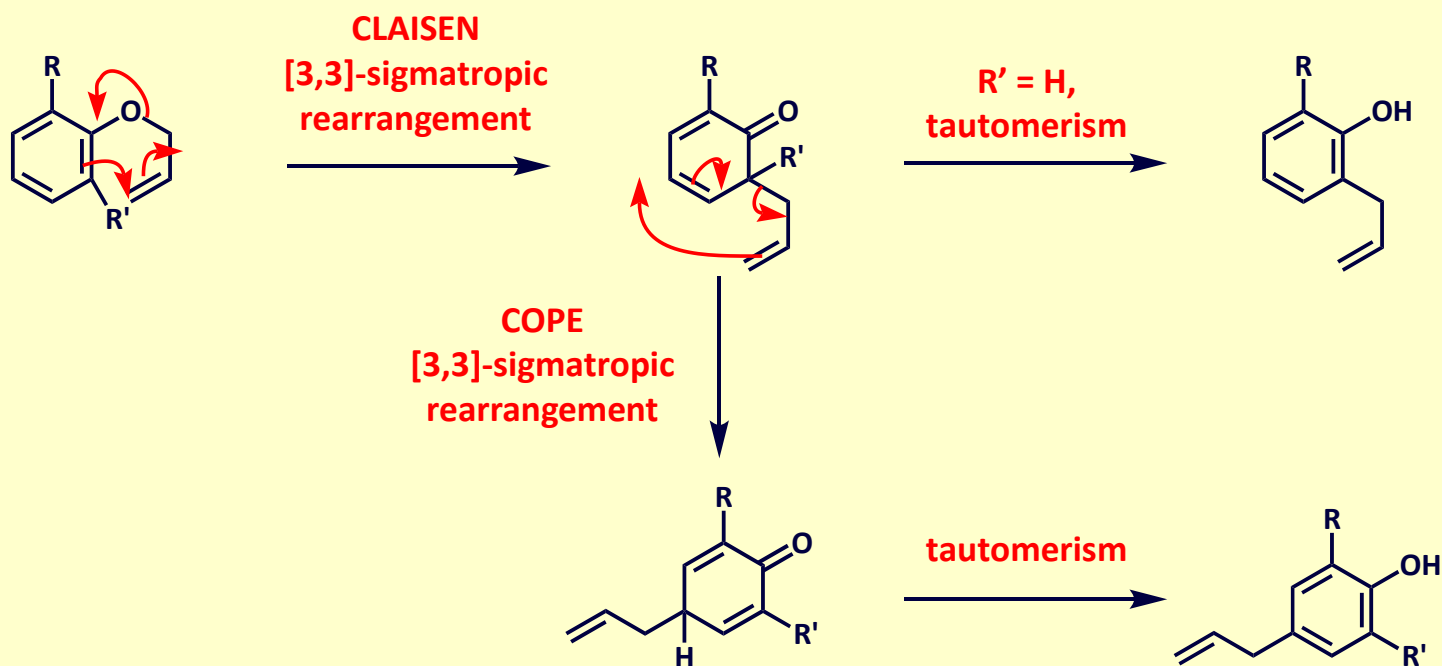
***Mar 2020***

# Format & scope of lecture 8

- ***Sigmatropic rearrangements***
  - [3,3]-Cope & oxy-Cope
  - [3,3]-Claisen & variants
  - [1,3]- and [1,5]-Hydride and alkyl shifts
- ***Electrocyclic reactions***
  - Hexatriene
- ***Pericyclic reactions in synthesis***
  - Endiandric acids

# Sigmatropic rearrangements

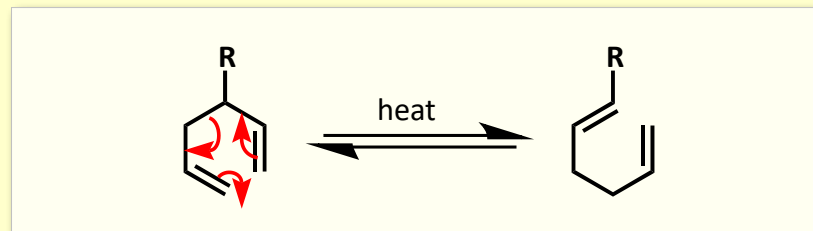
- Synthetically the most important sigmatropic rearrangements are the Cope and Claisen rearrangements. These are both [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangements.
- The Claisen/Cope rearrangements can proceed *via* chair or boat transition states – the chair transition state is strongly favoured unless there are steric constraints that force a boat transition state.
- Where possible, substituents generally adopt equatorial sites in the chair transition state.



# Cope and Oxy-Cope rearrangement

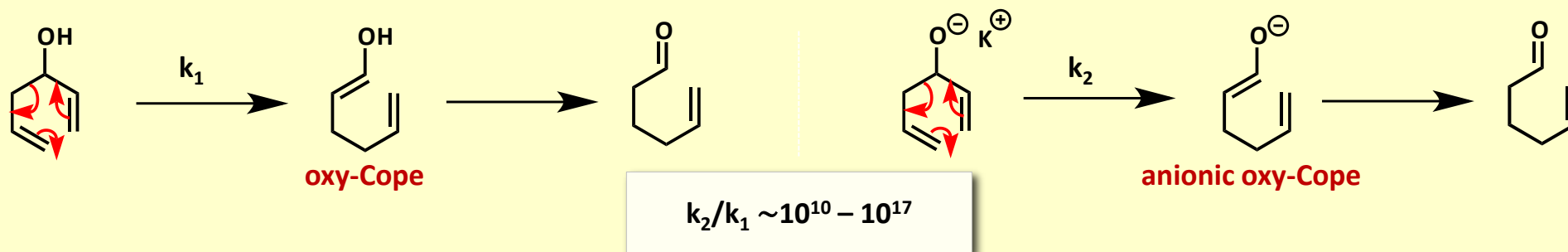
## ■ The Cope rearrangement

- high temperatures usually required (>200°C)

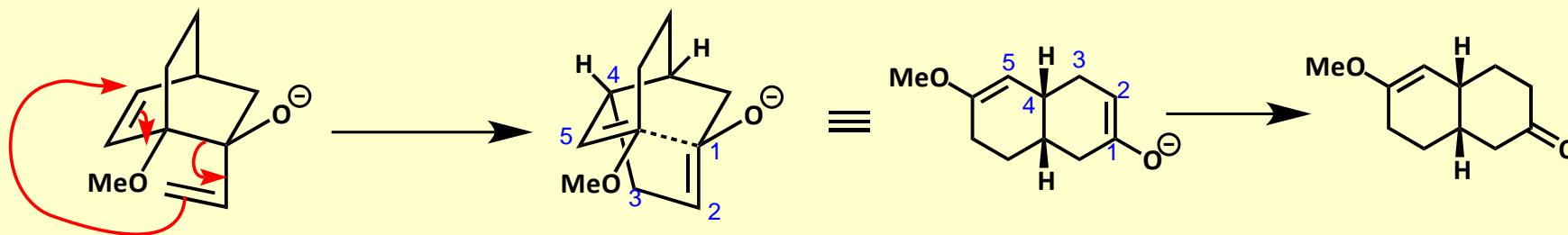


## ■ The anionic oxy-Cope rearrangement

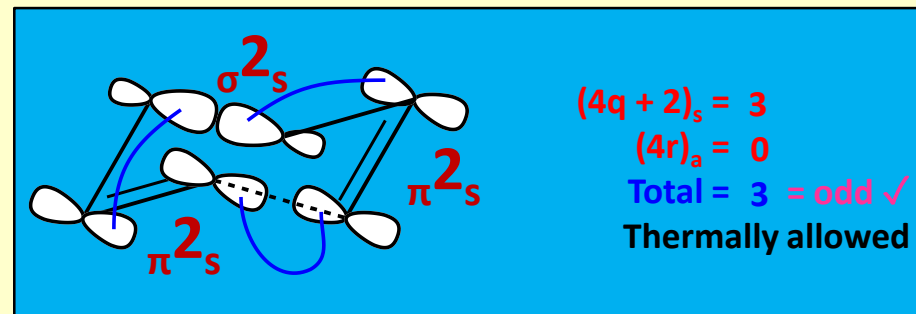
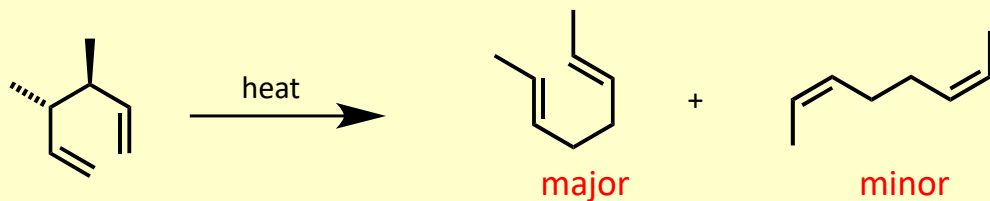
- can be conducted at low temperature (0 °C)



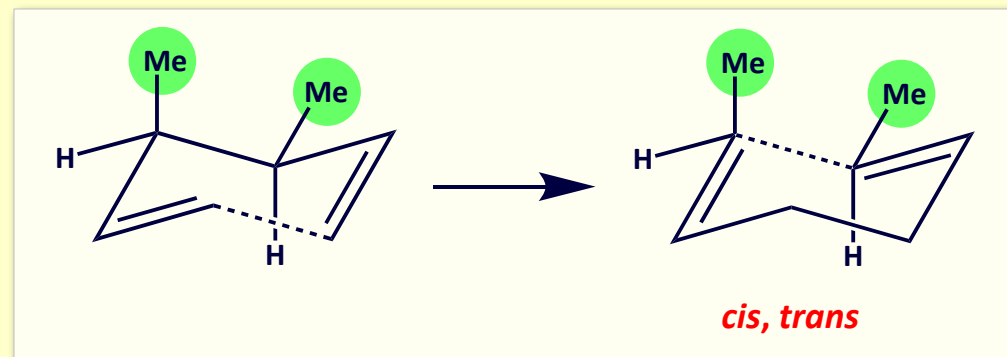
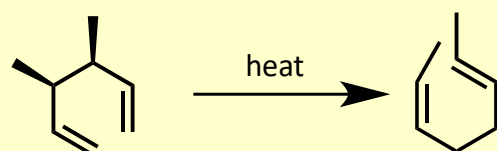
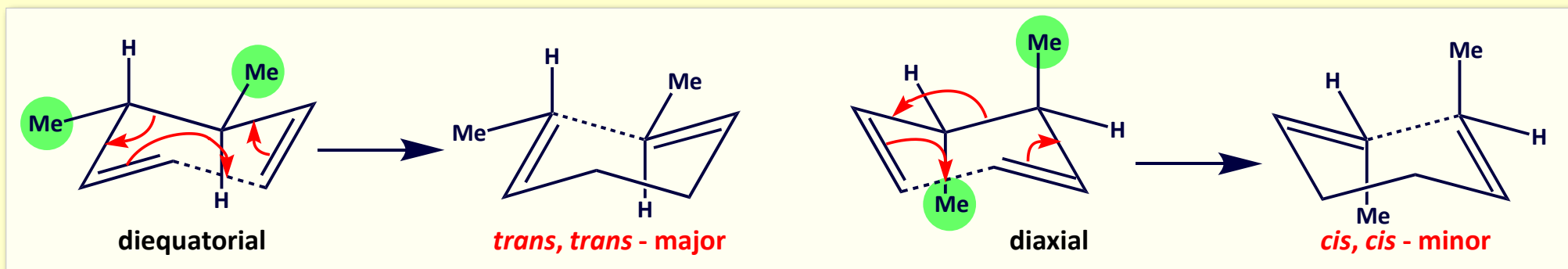
- a useful method for the synthesis of *cis*-decalins from norbornene derivatives...



# Cope rearrangement



*W-H approach*

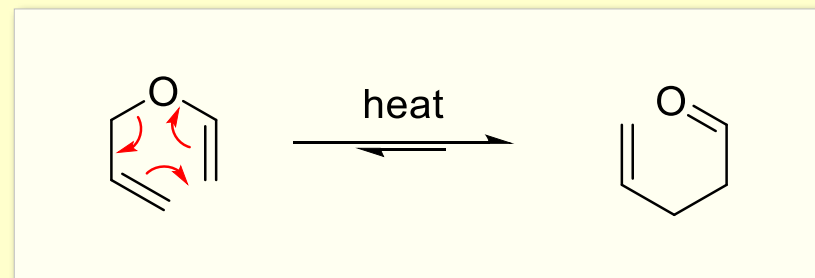


■ For an FMO approach see lecture 6, slide 10.

# Claisen and variants

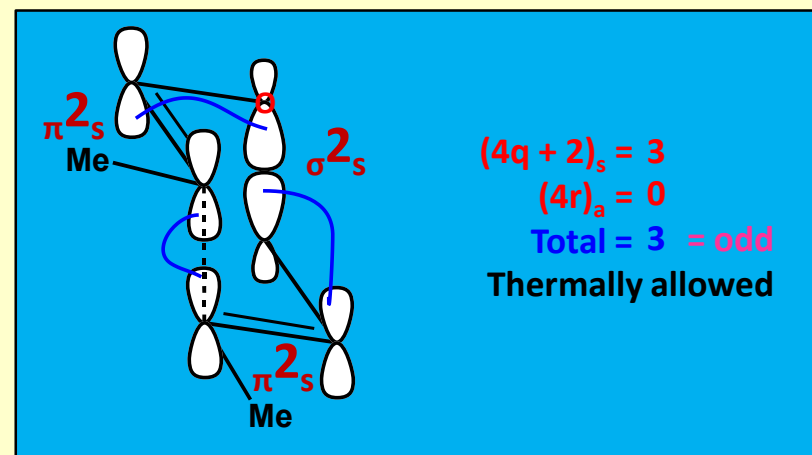
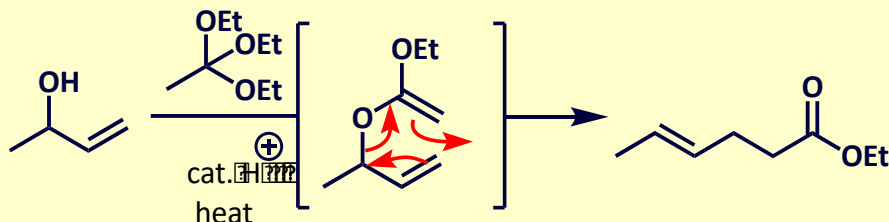
## ■ The Claisen rearrangement.

- allyl vinyl ether to  $\gamma,\delta$ -unsaturated carbonyl derivative
- driven by formation of C=O bond.



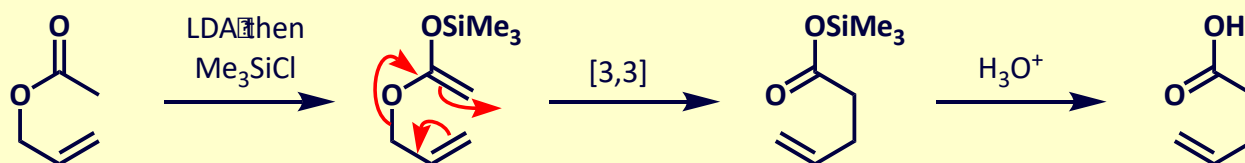
## ■ The Johnson-Claisen rearrangement

- synthesis of  $\gamma,\delta$ -unsaturated esters *via* ketene acetal



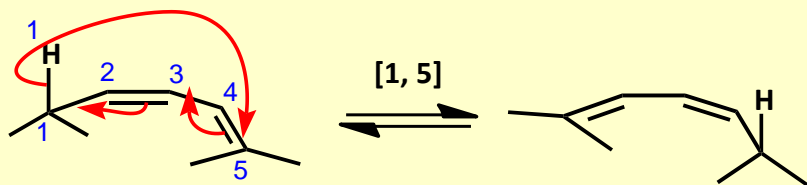
## ■ The Ireland-Claisen rearrangement

- Synthesis of  $\gamma,\delta$ -unsaturated acids *via* silyl ketene acetal

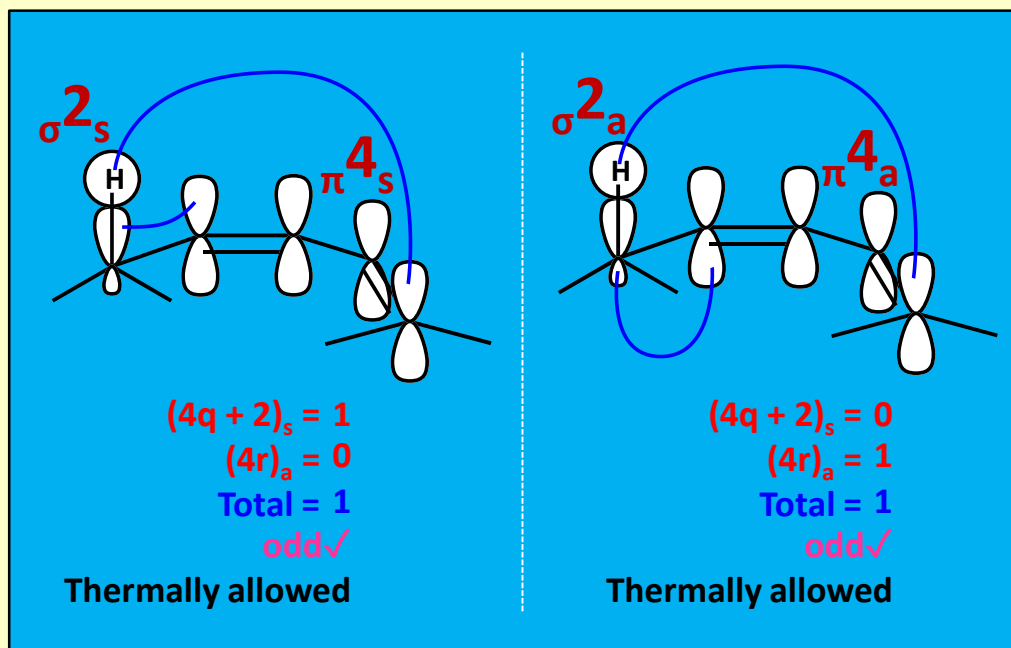
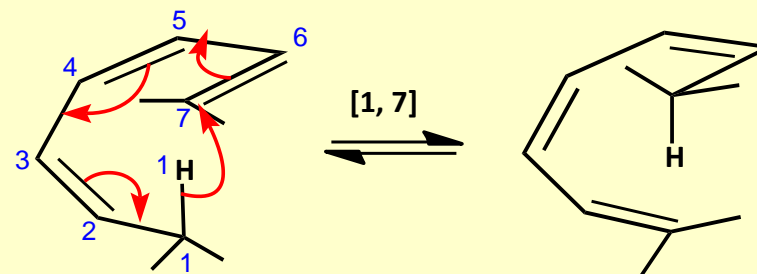


# 1,n-Hydride shifts

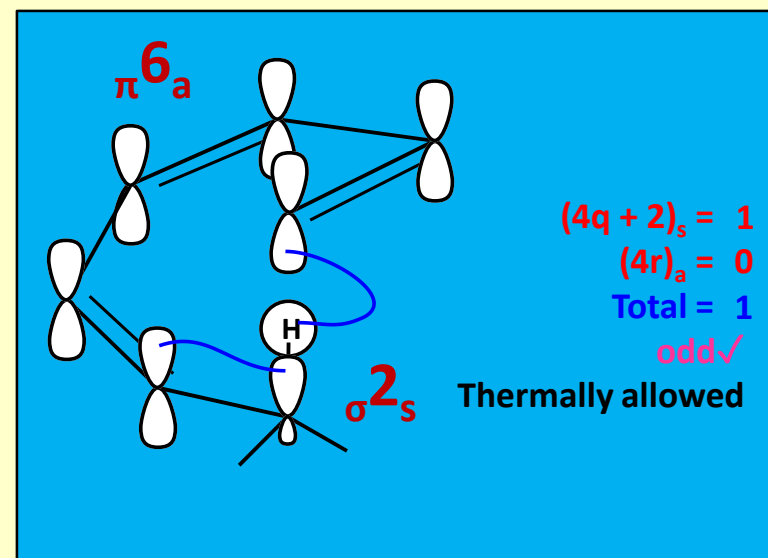
■ A *suprafacial* 1,n-hydride shift involves the hydrogen moving from one end of the conjugated system to the other across one face of the conjugated system



■ An *antarafacial* 1,n-hydride shift involves the hydrogen moving from one end of the conjugated system to the other and moving from one face of the conjugated system to the opposite face



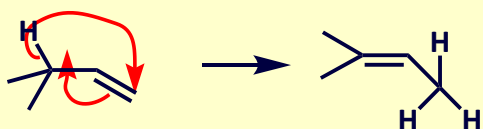
W-H approach



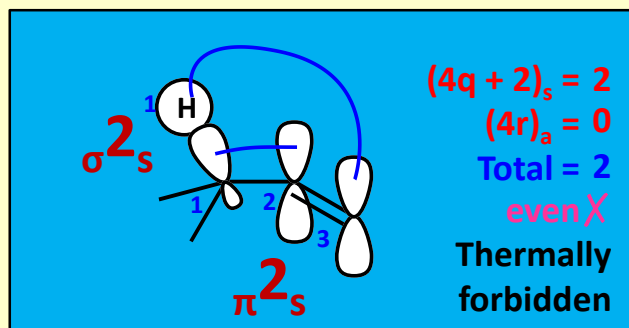
W-H approach

# 1,3-Hydride and Alkyl shifts

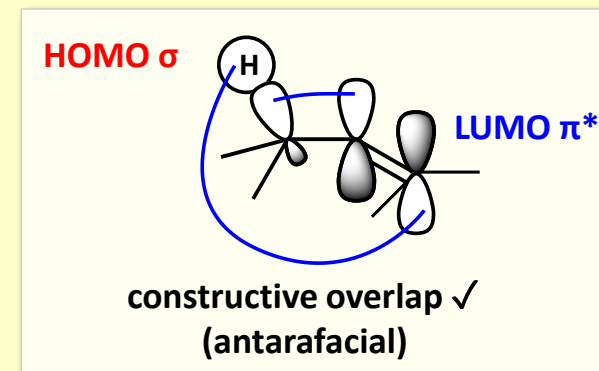
- **1,3-Hydride shifts** - do not occur thermally
  - geometrically reasonable suprafacially, but thermally disallowed
  - antarafacially thermally allowed, but geometrically unreasonable:



antarafacial shift allowed  
but geometrically unreasonable

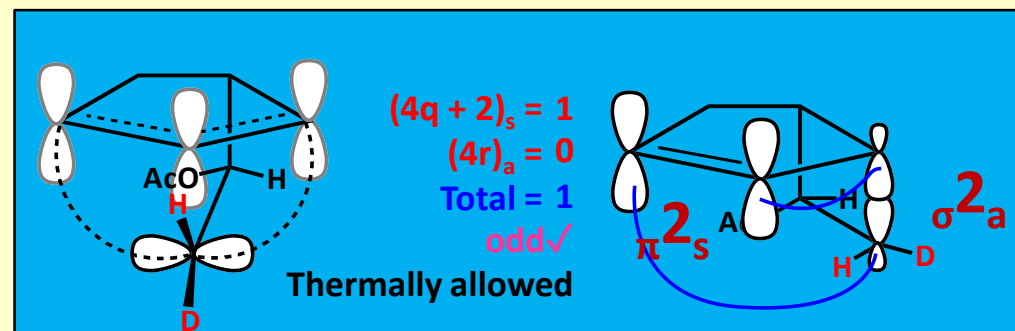
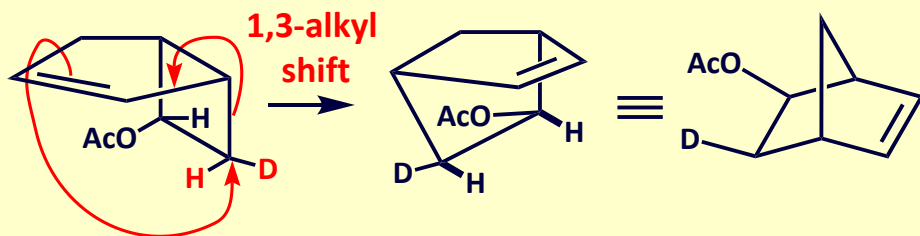


*W-H approach*



*FMO approach*

- **1,3-Alkyl shifts** – do occur thermally
  - ...with *inversion* of configuration in the migrating group:

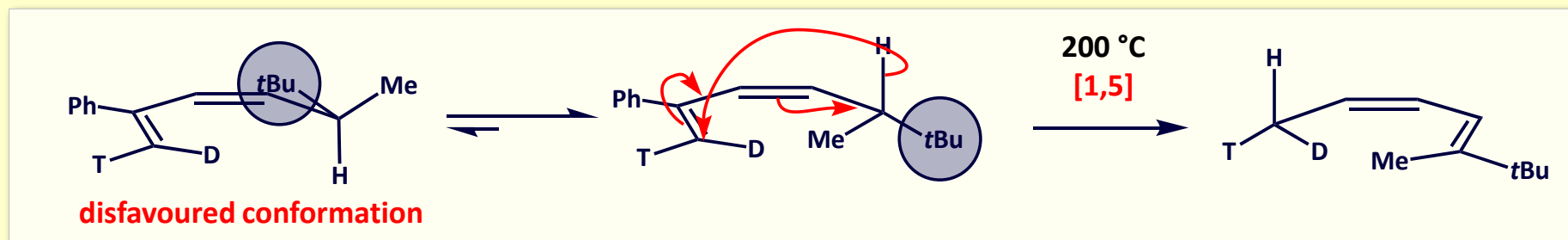
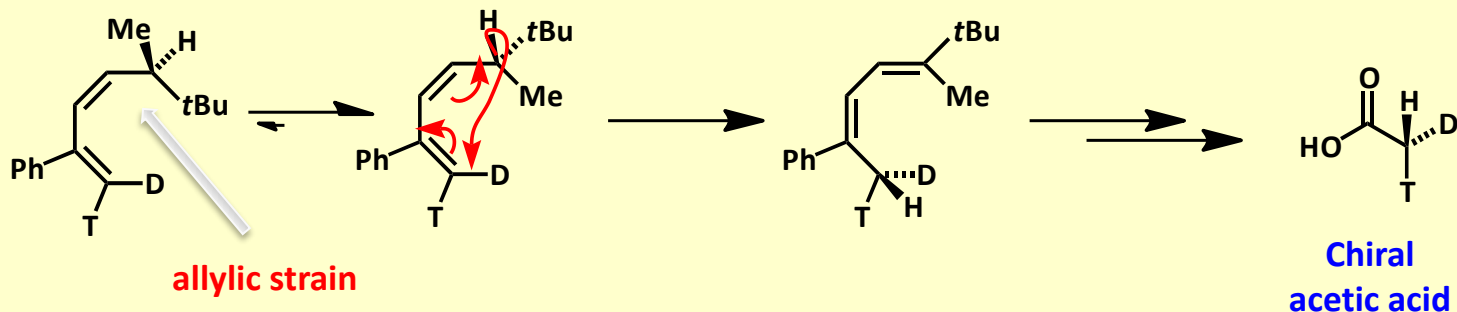


*W-H approach*

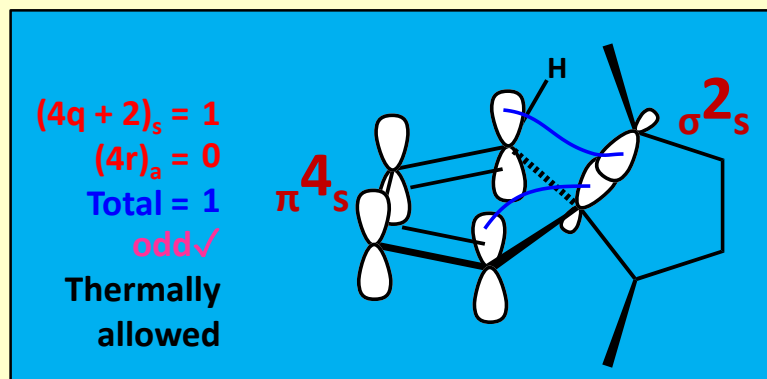
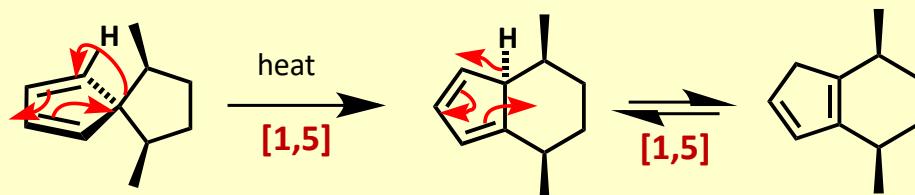


# 1,5-Hydride and Alkyl shifts

- **1,5-Hydride shifts** – thermally suprafacial reactions:



- **1,5-Alkyl shifts** – thermally suprafacial reactions
  - ...with *retention* of configuration in the migrating group:

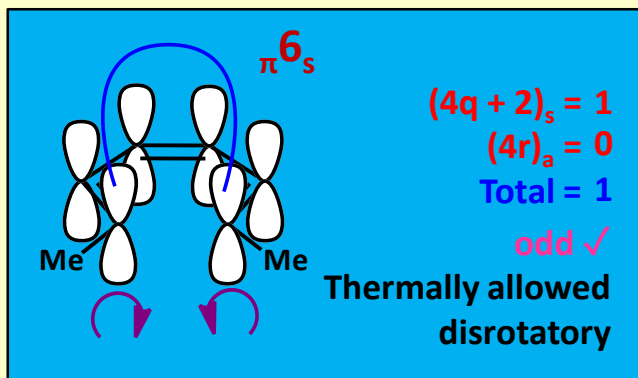
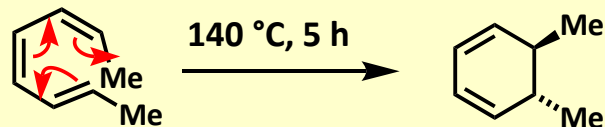
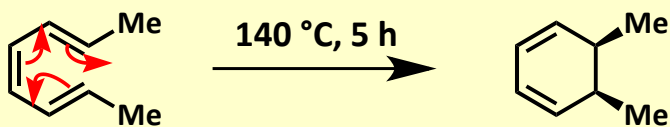


**W-H approach**

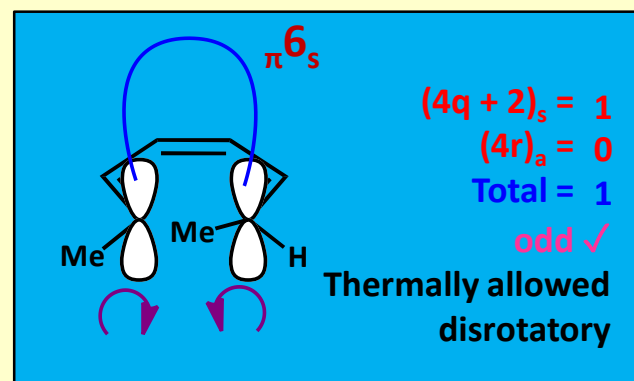
# Electrocyclic reactions - *thermal*

Thermal electrocyclic processes will be *conrotatory* if the total number of electrons is  $4n$  and *disrotatory* if the total number of electrons is  $(4n + 2)$ .

*This is reversed for photochemical reactions.*



*W-H approach*

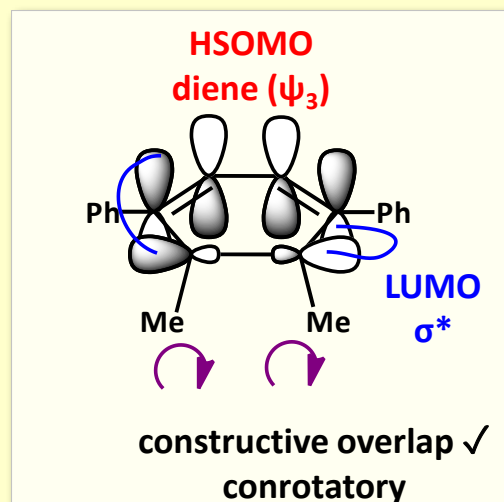
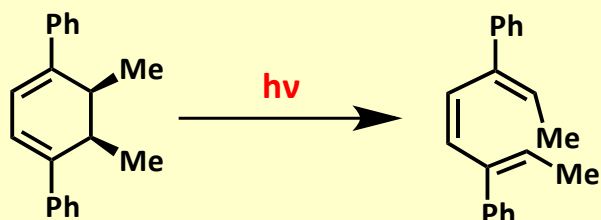


*W-H approach*

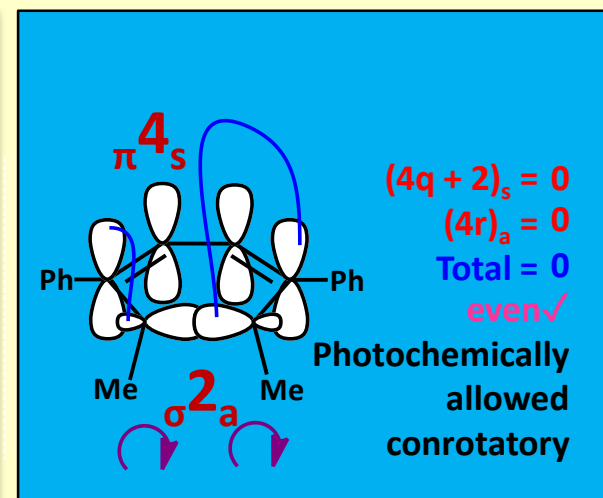
# Electrocyclic reactions - *photochemical*

Photochemical electrocyclic processes will be *disrotatory* if the total number of electrons is  $4n$  and *conrotatory* if the total number of electrons is  $(4n + 2)$ .

*This is reversed for thermal reactions.*



*FMO approach*



*W-H approach*

# Pericyclics in synthesis: *the endiandric acids*

