

## Supporting Information

### **A Ruthenium-catalysed Domino Hydroformylation-Hydrogenation-Esterification of Olefins**

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## General considerations

All air- and moisture sensitive syntheses were performed under an argon atmosphere in heating gun dried glassware using Schlenk techniques. Chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and used as received unless the purity was less than 98%. All olefins were stored under argon. 1-octene, di-isobutene and 3,3-dimethyl-1-butene were distilled under argon before use. Oxygen-free and dry solvents were prepared by distillation. Di-isobutene was obtained from Evonik Performance Materials GmbH and. CO and synthesis gas are purchased from Linde (CO=4.7; H<sub>2</sub>=5.0; N<sub>2</sub>=5.0; H<sub>2</sub>/CO 1:1+/-1%).

The products were characterised by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy. NMR spectra were recorded on either a Bruker AV 400 (400 MHz), AV 300 (MHz) or Fourier 300 (MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts  $\delta$  (ppm) are reported relative to solvent: references for CDCl<sub>3</sub> were 7.26 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and 77.16 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C-NMR). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were acquired on a broad band decouple method. Signals were assigned as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublets) and m (multiplet).

GC analysis was performed on a 7890A GC-System with a 30 m HP-5 column from Agilent Technologies. Argon was used as carrier gas. The products were measured by MS an GC analysis or isolated from the reaction mixture by solvent evaporation and further purified by column chromatography on silica gel. Isolated yields refer to the yield of inseparable mixture and n- and iso- acetate esters. GC yields were calculated using hexadecane as the internal standard.

## General procedure for the catalytic conversion of alkenes

In general, the catalytic experiments were performed in 4 mL screw cap vials, closed with a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)/white rubber septum (Wheaton 13 mm Septa) and phenolic cap. The connection with the atmosphere was achieved by a needle. The reaction scale for those reactions was 2 mL. The vials were placed inside a 300 mL Parr autoclave and stirred with a magnetic stirring bar.

In a typical catalytic experiment, the reaction vial was charged with Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (5 mol%), **L6** (5.5 mol%), PTSA·H<sub>2</sub>O (20.6 mol%) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The vial was closed by (PTFE)/white rubber septum (Wheaton 13 mm Septa) and phenolic cap, fixed in an alloy plate and connected to atmosphere with a needle. The vial was then evacuated and recharged with argon for three times. Acetic acid (1.17 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (0.35 mL) and 1-Octene (3 mmol) were injected by Hamilton syringe. Under argon atmosphere the vial was transferred into Parr4560 series 300 mL autoclave. After the autoclave was flushed three times with 10 bar CO at room temperature, it was charged with 40 bar CO, placed in an aluminium block on a heating plate with magnetic stirring and heated to 140 °C for 20 hours. Afterwards, the autoclave is cooled to room temperature and pressure was released carefully. Hexadecane (100  $\mu$ L) was added to the reaction solution as internal standard. The yield was determined by GC analysis.

## Data for the Optimization of Reaction Conditions

**Table S1: Acid Screening.**

Entry	Acid	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	PTSA	53	29/71
2	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	11	48/52
3	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	7	33/67
4	Al(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	14	43/57

Conditions: 1-octene (3 mmol), [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), acid:PCy<sub>3</sub> (3.75:1, 20.6 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (6.5:1), HOAc:1-octene (6.75:1), CO (40 bar), V<sub>R</sub> = 2 mL.

**Table S2: Screening gas mixture, pressure and temperature.**

Entry	T [°C]	p(CO/H <sub>2</sub> ) [bar]	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	120	60 bar CO	9	45/55
2		15 bar CO	11	45/55
3		20 bar CO	19	45/55
4		30 bar CO	24	45/55
5	140	40 bar CO	25	45/55
6		60 bar CO	29	48/52
7		80 bar CO	31	35/65
8		40 bar CO	26	47/53
9	160	60 bar CO	27	47/53
10	100	40 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO	21	55/45
11	120	40 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO	56	48/52
12		60 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO	52	49/51
13		40 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO + 20 bar N <sub>2</sub>	55	48/52
14	140	40 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO	61	48/52
15		30 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO + 10 bar H <sub>2</sub> (= 15 CO + 25 H <sub>2</sub> )	50	47/53
16		10 bar CO + 30 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO (= 25 CO + 15 H <sub>2</sub> )	50	46/54

17		30 bar CO + 10 bar H <sub>2</sub>	39	45/55
18		10 bar CO + 30 bar H <sub>2</sub>	35	48/52
19		20 bar CO + 30 bar H <sub>2</sub>	57	47/53
20		20 bar CO + 40 bar H <sub>2</sub>	62	52/48
21		20 bar CO + 60 bar H <sub>2</sub>	61	49/51
22		20 bar H <sub>2</sub> + 40 bar CO	38	38/62
23		20 bar H <sub>2</sub> + 60 bar CO	42	41/59
24	160	40 bar H <sub>2</sub> /CO	44	50/50

Conditions: 1-octene (3 mmol), [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), acid:PCy<sub>3</sub> (3.75:1, 20.6 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (6.5:1), HOAc:1-octene (6.75:1), mixtures of CO/N<sub>2</sub> or CO/H<sub>2</sub> (V<sub>G</sub>=40-80 bar), V<sub>R</sub>= 2 mL.

**Table S3: Screening of Acid:Ligand.**

Entry	Acid:L [mmol:mmol]	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	1	61	51/49
2	2	59	49/51
3	3,75	61	48/52
4	6	48	49/51
5	8	40	50/50

Conditions: 1-octene (3 mmol), [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), PTSA·H<sub>2</sub>O:PCy<sub>3</sub> (1:1-8:1), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (6.5:1), HOAc:1-octene (6.75:1), H<sub>2</sub>/CO (1:1, 40 bar), V<sub>R</sub>=2 mL.

**Table S4: Screening of H<sub>2</sub>O:Substrate.**

Entry	H <sub>2</sub> O:Sub [mmol:mmol]	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	0	0	-
2	1	65	48/52
3	2	70	49/51
4	4	64	49/51
5	6.5	61	51/49
6	8	59	54/46
7	10	58	55/45

Conditions: 1-octene, [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), PTSA·H<sub>2</sub>O:PCy<sub>3</sub> (1:1, 5,5 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (1:1-10:1), HOAc:1-octene (6.75:1), H<sub>2</sub>/CO (1:1, 40 bar), V<sub>R</sub>=2 mL.

**Table S5: Screening of HOAc:Substrate.**

Entry	HOAc:Sub [mmol:mmol]	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	2	49	51/49
2	4	62	59/51
3	6.75	70	49/51
4	8	66	48/52
5	10	70	49/51

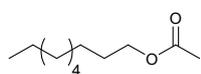
Conditions: 1-octene, [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), PTSA·H<sub>2</sub>O:PCy<sub>3</sub> (1:1, 5.5 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (2:1), HOAc:1-octene (2:1-10:1), H<sub>2</sub>/CO (1:1, 40 bar), V<sub>R</sub>=2 mL.

**Table S6: Influence of halide additives.**

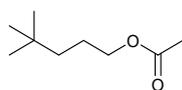
Entry	Additive	Mol% (Additive)	Yield [%]	n/iso [%]
1	none	-	70	49/51
2	LiCl	2	57	48/52
3	CsF	2	69	49/51
4	LiBr	2	60	47/53

Conditions: 1-octene (3 mmol), [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>] (5 mol% Ru), PCy<sub>3</sub>:Ru (1.1:1, 5.5 mol%), PTSA·H<sub>2</sub>O:PCy<sub>3</sub> (1:1, 5.5 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>O:1-octene (6.5:1), HOAc:1-octene (6.75:1), additive (2 mol%), H<sub>2</sub>/CO (1:1, 40 bar), V<sub>R</sub>=2 mL.

### Characterization of the Acetate Esters

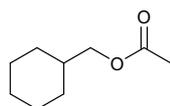
**Nonyl acetate (70% yield)**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) show a 49:51 mixture of n- and iso-nonyl acetate.

**4,4-Dimethylpentyl acetate (75% yield)**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.89-3.84 (m, 2H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.49-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.12-1.03 (m, 2H), 0.74 (s, 9H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.58, 65.01, 39.84, 29.07, 23.86, 20.63 ppm.

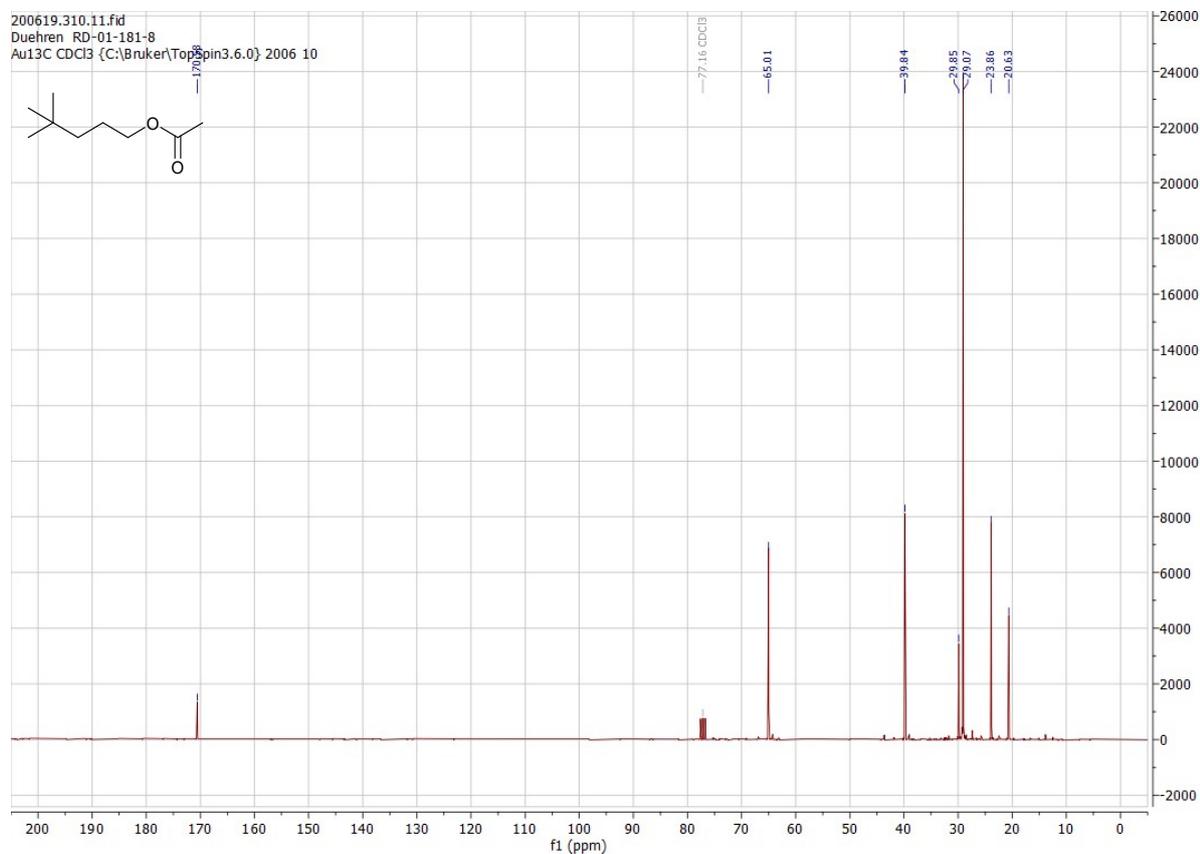
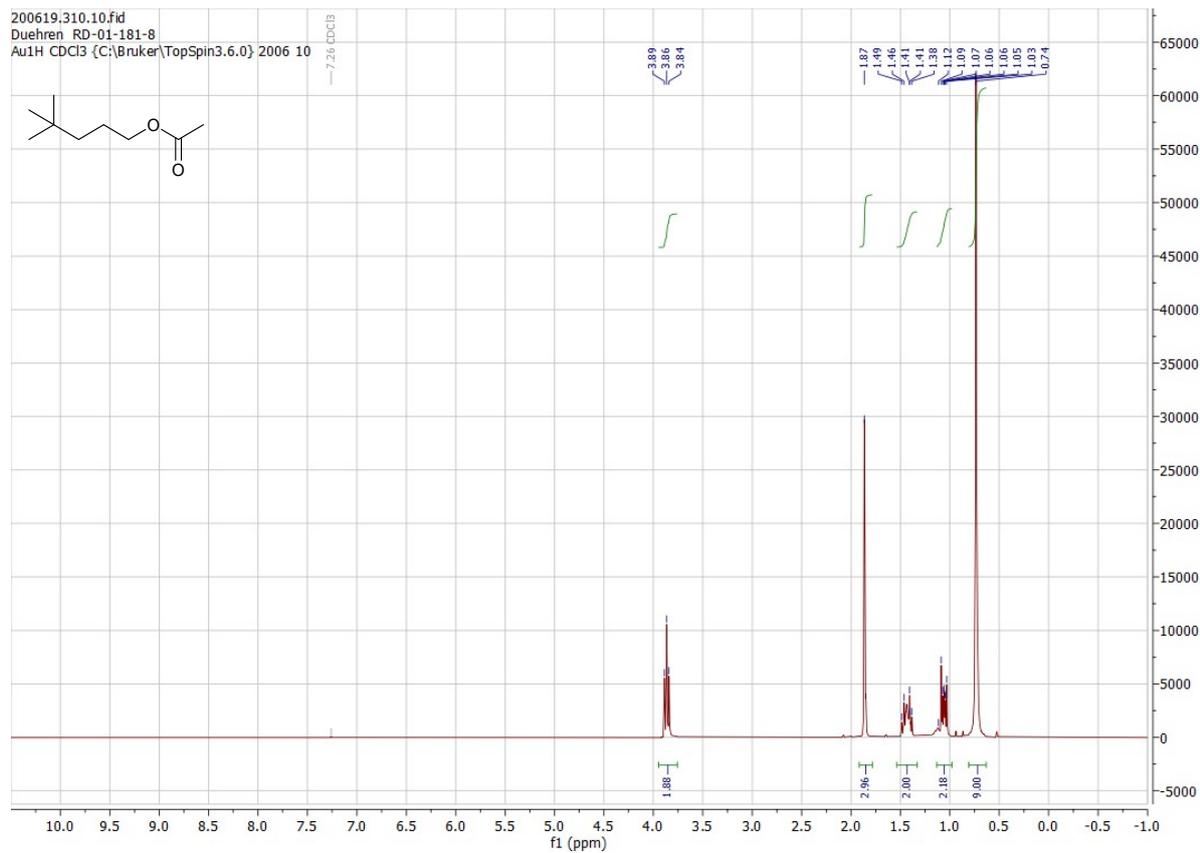
**Cyclohexylmethyl acetate (55% yield)**

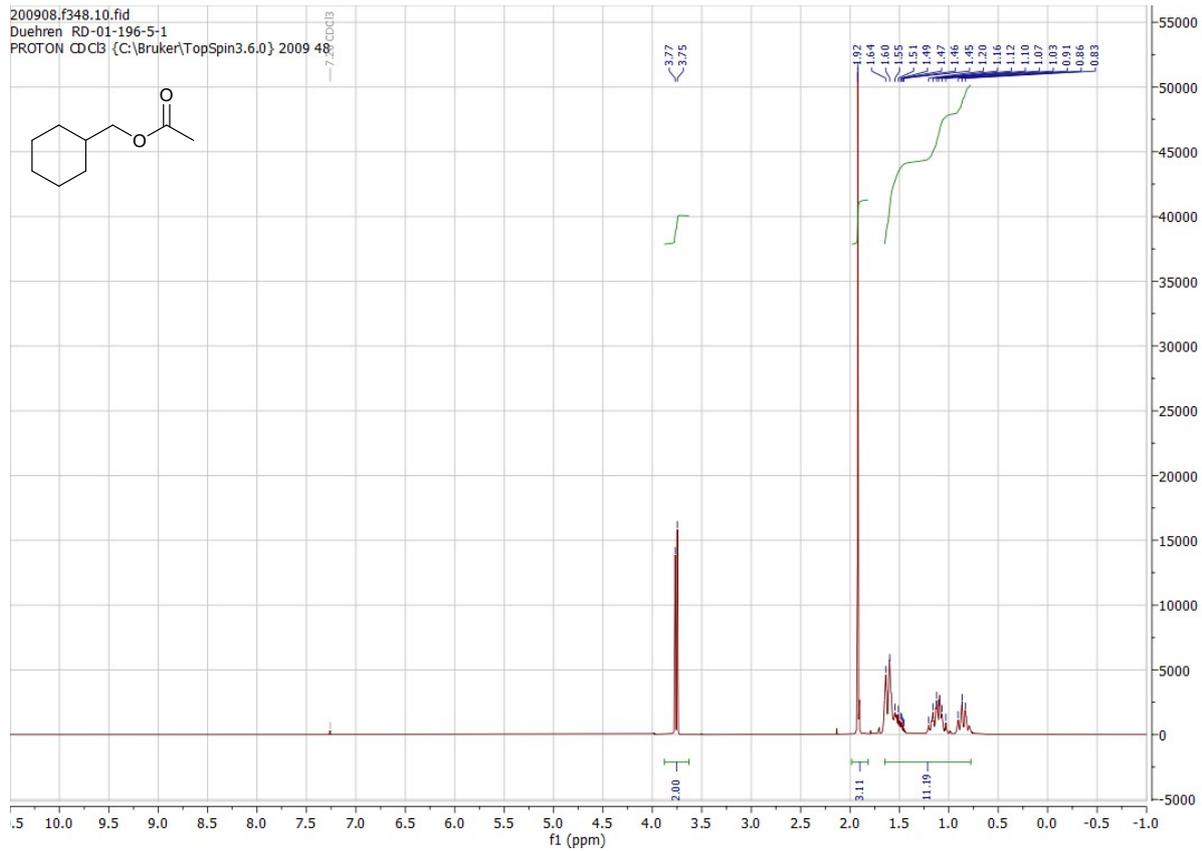
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.77-3.75 (m, 2H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.64-0.83 (m, 11H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

δ 170.87, 69.45, 36.99, 29.57, 26.27, 25.57, 20.67 ppm.



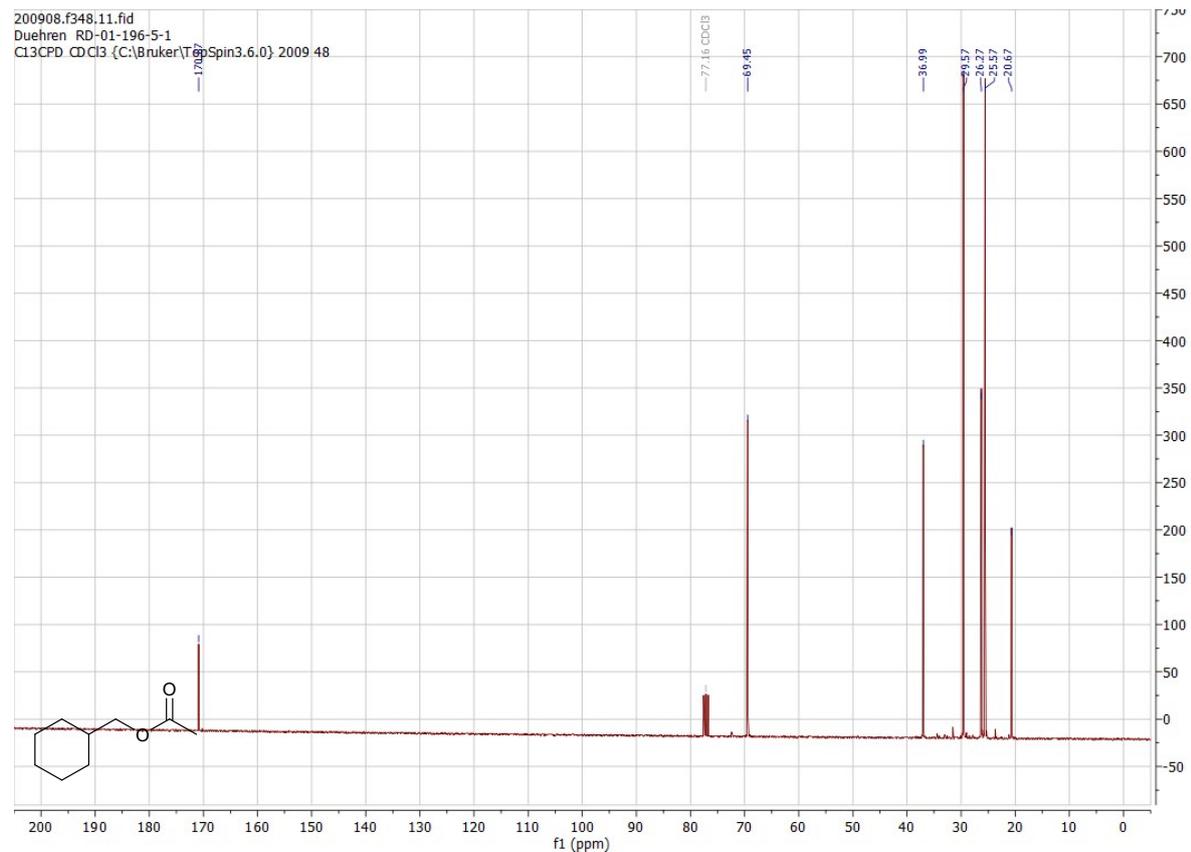
### 4,4-Dimethylpentyl acetate





Cyclohexylmethyl acetate

GC/MS



**Nonyl acetate**

