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SYNFACTS Highlights in Chemical Synthesis

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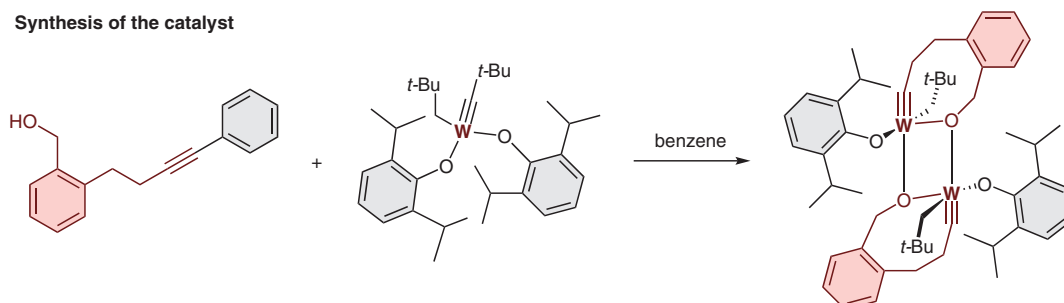
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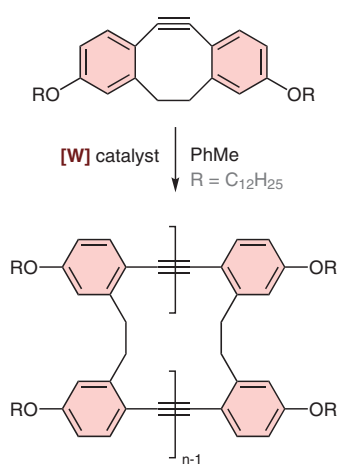
A. M. BEAUCHAMP, J. CHAKRABORTY, I. GHIVIRIGA, K. A. ABBOUD, D. W. LESTER,
A. S. VEIGE* (UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE, USA)
Ring Expansion Alkyne Metathesis Polymerization
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2023**, *145*, 22796–22802, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.3c08717.

Ring Expansion Polymerization via Alkyne Metathesis

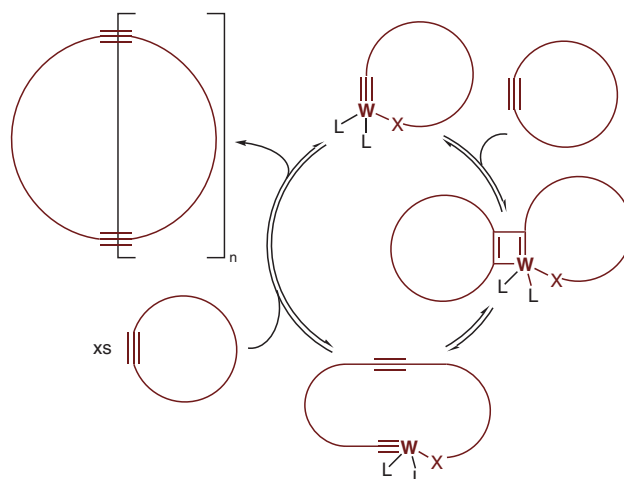
Synthesis of the catalyst



REAMP of strained cycloalkyne



Proposed REAMP mechanism



Significance: Many properties of cyclic polymers are distinct from their linear counterparts, making their challenging preparations worthy of exploration and study. Herein, an elegant design of alkyldiyne dimer successfully achieves the transformation of strained cyclic alkynes to cyclic polymers through the mechanism of ring-expansion alkyne metathesis polymerization (REAMP).

Comment: The tethered alkyldiyne dimer complex is obtained from a key yne-ol proligand and complex $W(\text{Ct-Bu})(\text{CH}_2\text{t-Bu})(\text{O}-2,6\text{-i-Pr}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)_2$. The ring strain of the specially designed alkyldiyne is pivotal to its catalytic activity for REAMP. The high molecular weight and cyclic structure of the produced cyclic polymers are confirmed by the SEC and intrinsic viscosity measurements.