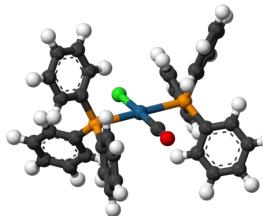


## Discovery – Lauri Vaska, 1961

CARBONYL AND HYDRIDO-CARBONYL COMPLEXES OF IRIDIUM BY REACTION WITH ALCOHOLS.  
HYDRIDO COMPLEXES BY REACTION WITH ACID  
Sir:

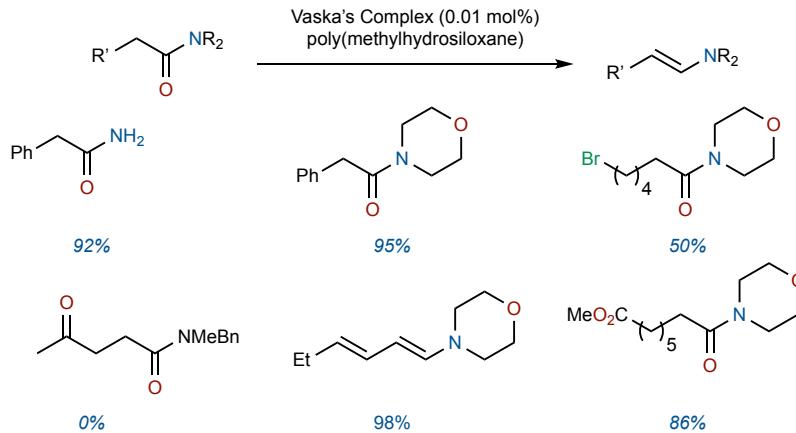
JACS, 1961, 83, 2784 <https://doi.org/10.1021/ja01473a054>



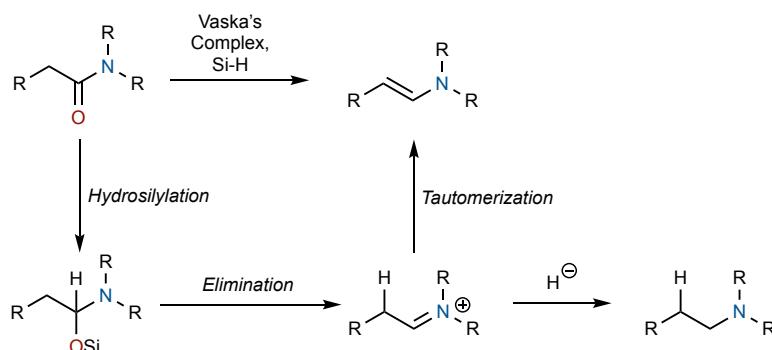
Initial publication describes the synthesis and isolation of the complex alongside its spectroscopic properties



## Amide Reduction – Nagashima, 2009



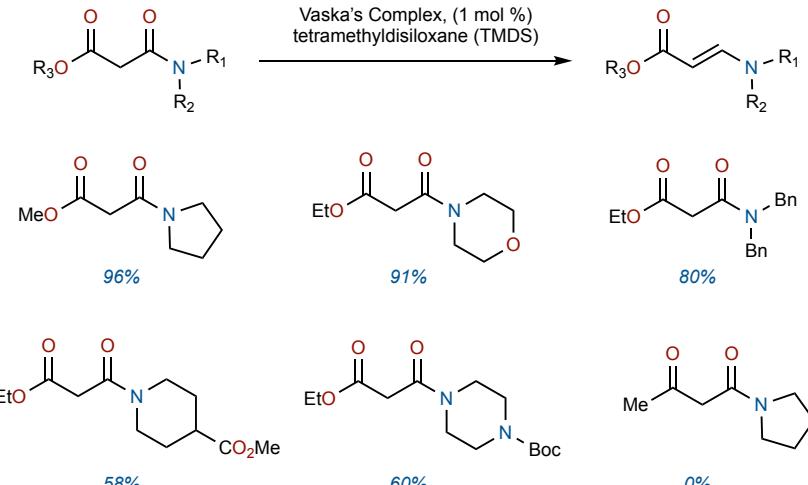
## Proposed Mechanism



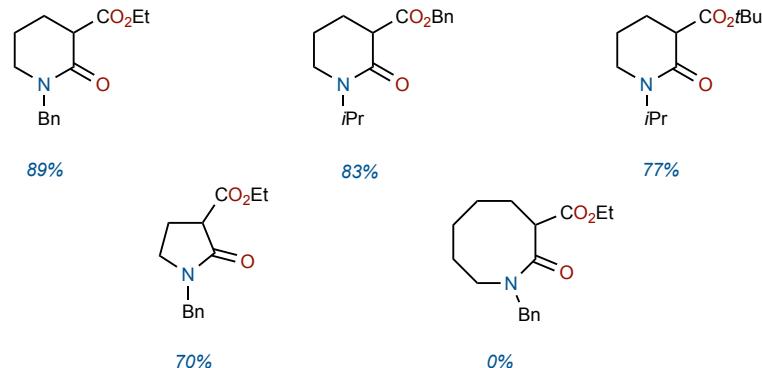
Lewis basicity of tertiary amides gives rise to chemoselectivity!  
Trace amine formation can be detected in some cases.

Chem. Commun., 2009, 1574 <https://doi.org/10.1039/B821317H>

## Amido Ester Reduction – Huang, 2019



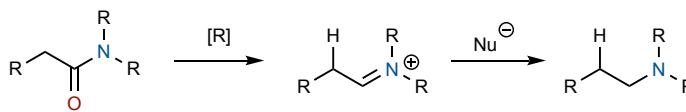
## Cyclic Amide Reduction



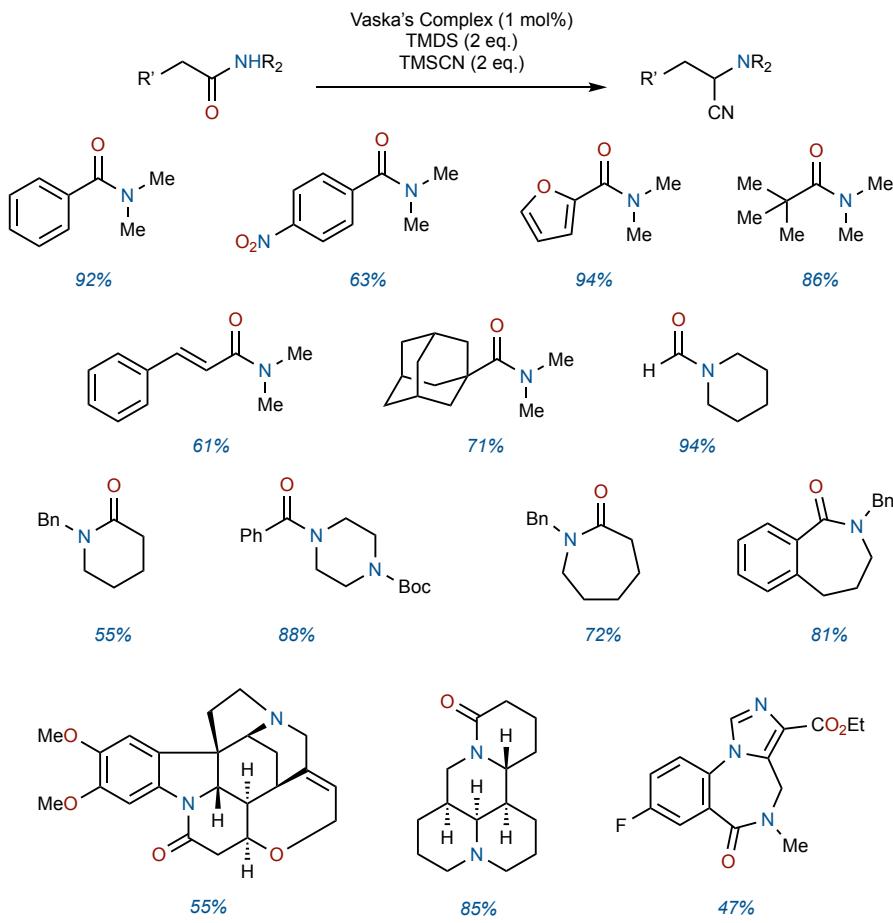
Tetrahedron, 2019, 75, 1624, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tet.2018.12.024>

# Vaska's Complex

## Interrupted Amide Reduction

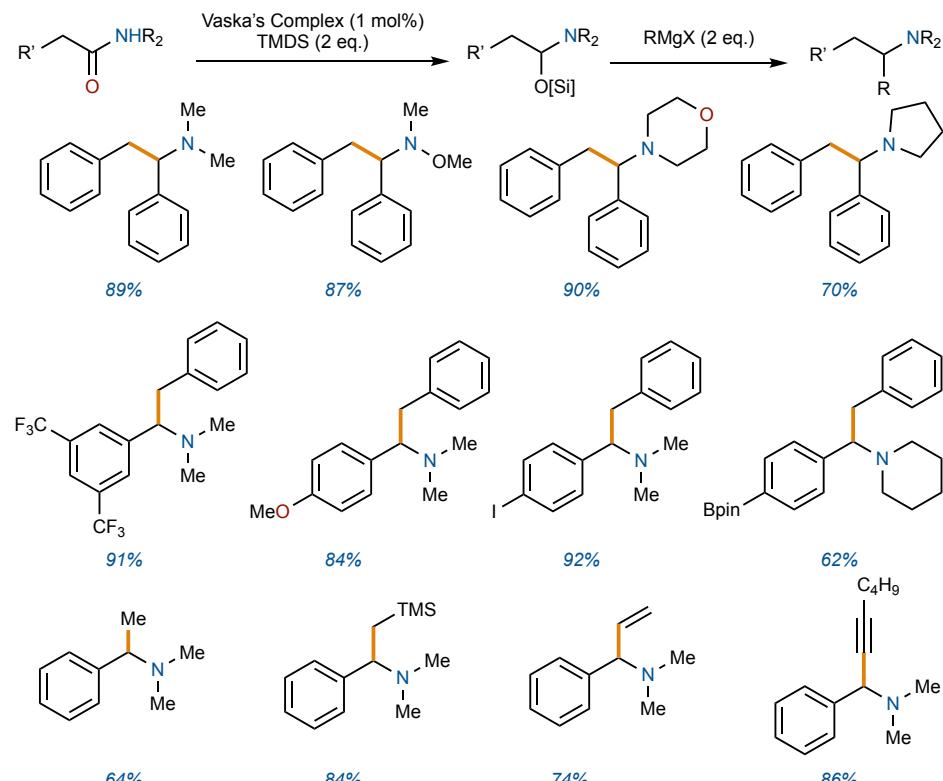


## Cyanation – Dixon, 2017



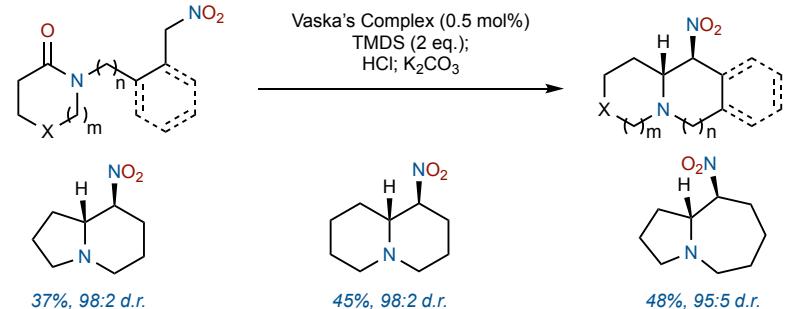
ACIE, 2017, **56**, 3655 <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201612367>

## Grignard Addition – Dixon, 2017



Chem. Sci., 2017, **8**, 7492 <https://doi.org/10.1039/C7SC03613B>

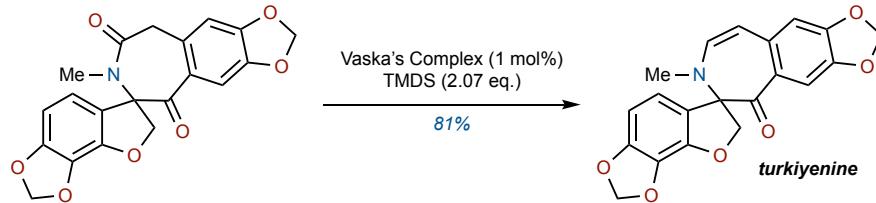
## Nitro-Mannich – Dixon, 2015



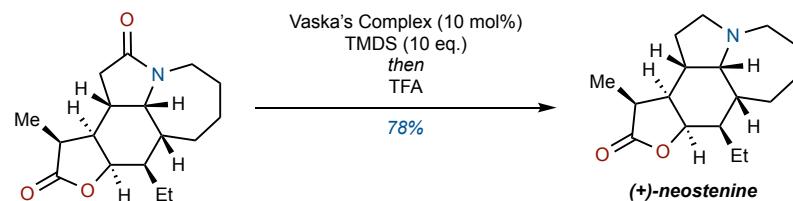
Chem. - Eur. J. 2015, **21**, 111 <https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.201405256>

# Vaska's Complex

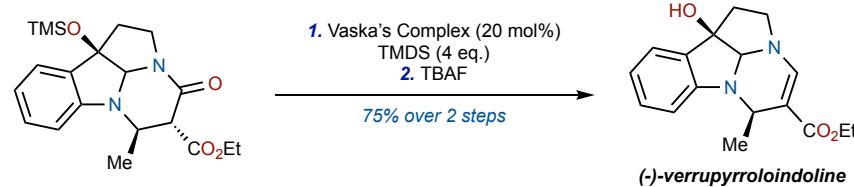
## Applications In Total Synthesis!



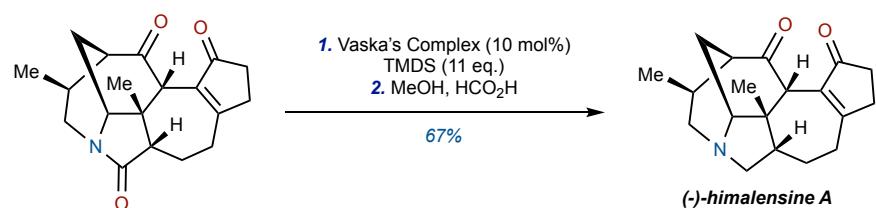
Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2016, **2016**, 270 <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejoc.201501365>



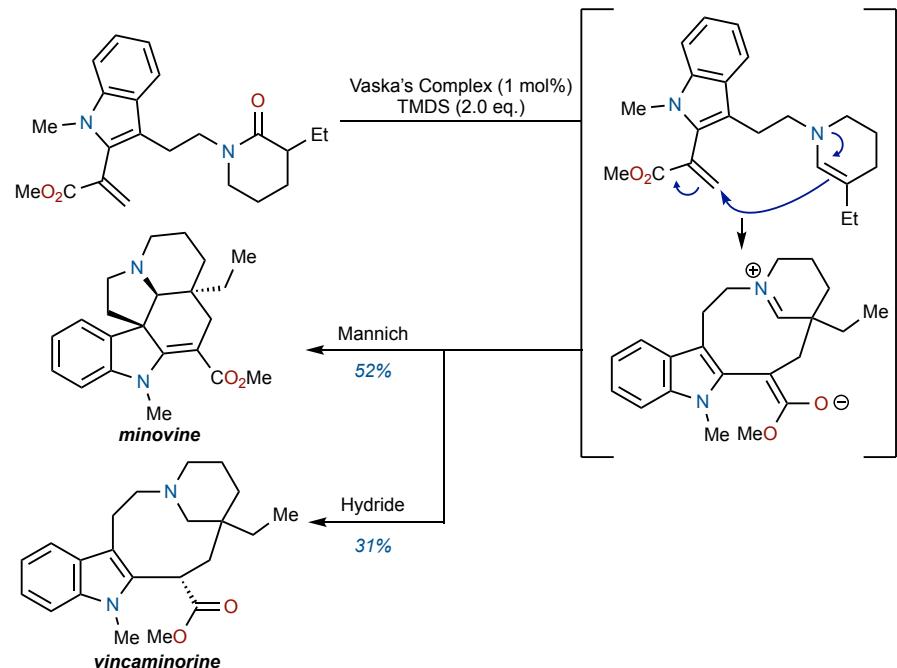
Chem. - Eur. J. 2016, **22**, 3300 <https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.201600058>



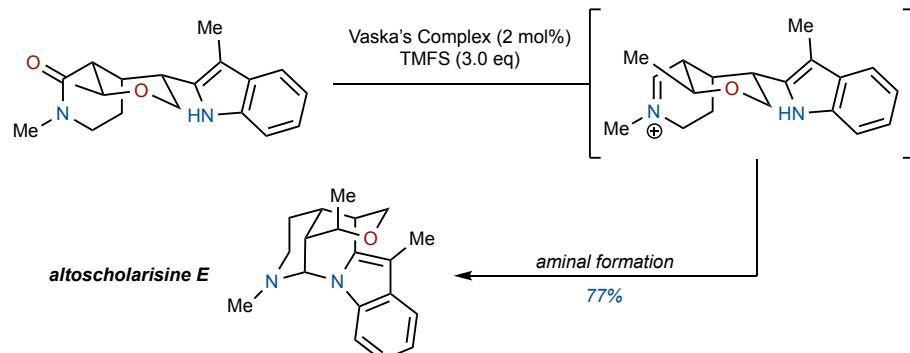
Org. Lett. 2018, **20**, 4200 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.orglett.8b01579>



JACS, 2017, **139**, 17755 <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.7b10956>



ACIE 2016, **55**, 13436 <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201605503>



Org. Lett. 2020, **22**, 786 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.orglett.9b04093>

A nice perspective: ACS Catal. 2020, **10**, 8880 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.0c02377>