#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Mechanistic Features of the Oxidation-Reductive Coupling of Alcohols

Catalyzed by Oxo-Vanadium Complexes

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The supplemental file xyz\_coordinates.xyz contains the computed Cartesian coordinates of all of the molecules reported in this study. The file may be opened as a text file to read the coordinates or opened directly by a molecular modeling program such as Mercury (version 3.3 or later, http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/pages/Home.aspx) for visualization and analysis.

# Authentic mixed dimers from Ph<sub>2</sub>CHOH/fluorine/base rxn

## H-NMR/GC-MS









S4



S5





# Kinetic data for Z-BnOH/BnOH competition in the reactions catalyzed by

# Bu<sub>4</sub>N(Salimin)VO<sub>2</sub> (**1a**); T= 150 C, benzene solvent

4-Z subst	sigma p- alcohol	sigma p- radical	sigma p- carbocation	benzyl alcohol/ substituted benzyl alcohol	substituted aldehyde/ benzaldehyde
OMe	-0.28	0.24	-0.78	2.24	2.24
Me	-0.14	0.11	-0.31	1.17	1.7
Cl	0.24	0.12	0.11	1.01	0.71
CN	0.7	0.46	0.66	1.91	9.09
н	0	0	0	1	1

Kinetic data for Ph2CHOH rxn with catalysts **1a**, **1b**, **1c**: T= 150 C, benzene solvent

NO2 catalyst	1b		
time (hr)	[dimer]	[ketone]	[alcohol]
3.000		1.69	21.92
6.000		3.25	19.49
9.000		5.07	12.99
12.000	0.95	7.1	11.91
12.000	0.00	4.06	10.47
15.000	0.39	4.97	8.38
18.000	1.18	7.07	12.57
21.000	1.440	7.26	10.47

## H catalyst 1a

time (hr)	[dimer]	[ketone]	[alcohol]
3.000		0.87	19.47
6.000	0.13	1.00	19.20
9.000	0.93	1.60	20.80
12.000	1.60	2.00	21.07
6.000	0.39	1.24	15.46
9.000	0.79	1.64	17.80
12.000	2.09	2.55	19.37
15.000	2.75	3.53	14.90

Kinetic data for Ph2CHOH rxn with catalysts **1a**, **1b**, **1c**: T= 150 C, benzene solvent

MeO catalyst	1c		
time (hr)	[dimer]	[ketone]	[alcohol]
3.000		1.12	23.50
6.000	0.92	1.65	20.59
9.000	1.58	2.24	18.74
12.000	2.38	2.90	17.16
6.000	0.46	1.77	26.05
9.000	1.03	1.71	17.80
12.000	1.49	2.57	22.85
15.000	1.94	2.80	18.51

# Sample NMR kinetics plot



# H-NMR for Ph<sub>2</sub>CHOH + complex **1** combination (CDCl<sub>3</sub> solvent)

Pure benzhydrol
.5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1
Alcohol + Catalyst (3 h)
Man
.5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1 : f1(ppm)
Alcohol + Catalyst (4 d)
-5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1 fl (ppm)

		Ρ	Yure benzhydrol
.5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7	5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4	4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 f1 (ppm)	3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1
		Catalyst +   75 ℃ 5 min	benzhydrol

.5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.0 4.9 4.8 4.7 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.0 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.5 3.4 3.3 3.2 3.1 fl(ppm)



H-NMR spectra for Ph<sub>2</sub>CHOH/**1b** interaction (CDCl<sub>3</sub> solvent)

# E-chem correlations:



Relationship between reduction potential of (Z-Salimin) $VO_2^-$  (**1a-c**) and the Hammett inductive sigma parameter

#### **Computational SI**

#### CITATION FOR GAUSSIAN 09

Gaussian 09, Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Caricato, M.; Li, X.; Hratchian, H. P.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Bloino, J.; Zheng, G.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Peralta, J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E.; Kudin, K. N.; Staroverov, V. N.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Rega, N.; Millam, J. M.; Klene, M.; Knox, J. E.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Farkas, Ö.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cioslowski, J.; Fox, D. J. Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.





B3LYP-Calculated bond lengths for 1a

B3LYP-Calculated bond angles for 1a



SOMO of (H-salimin)VO<sub>2</sub>( $^{2-}$ ); \* indicates atom to which Z-groups are attached in **1b,c**.

B3LYP Ca	lculated I	Energies	(in	Hartrees)	for	species	in	Fig.	8,9	9
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Species	Ε	Species	Ε
Α	-928.00142	Н	-1430.02541
Ph <sub>2</sub> CHOH	-577.82239	Ph <sub>2</sub> CH-CHPh <sub>2</sub>	-1004.01806
TS <sub>A-B</sub>	-1505.78557		
В	-1505.82736		
TS <sub>B-C</sub>	-1505.81300		
В'	-11505.80317		
TS <sub>B'-D</sub>	-1505.77538		
С	-929.20813		
D	-929.17955		
H <sub>2</sub> O	-76.42257		
Ε	-852.74443		
F	-1430.60541		
TS <sub>F-G</sub>	-1430.56415		
G	-928.61471		
CHPh <sub>2</sub> rad	-501.97886		