

## **Supporting Information**

### **Dynamic path bifurcation in the Beckmann reaction: Support from kinetic analyses**

*Yutaro Yamamoto, Hiroto Hasegawa, and Hiroshi Yamataka\**

*Department of Chemistry and the Research Center for Smart Molecules, Rikkyo*

*University, Nishi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku 171-8501 Tokyo, Japan*

*e-mail: yamataka@rikkyo.ac.jp*

|                                                                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Sigma values used in the present study                                            | S3 |
| Free energy difference between the two product states calculated at MP2/6-31G*    | S3 |
| MP2/6-31G* optimized Cartesian coordinates and free energies of compounds studied | S4 |

## Sigma values used in the present study

Table S1.  $\sigma^\circ$  and  $\Delta\bar{\sigma}_{R+}$  values used in the present study.

| X                           | $\sigma^\circ$ | $\Delta\bar{\sigma}_{R+}$ |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| <i>p</i> -MeO               | -0.100         | -0.700                    |
| <i>m,p</i> -Me <sub>2</sub> | -0.193         | 0.000                     |
| <i>p</i> -Me                | -0.124         | -0.187                    |
| <i>m</i> -Me                | -0.069         | 0.000                     |
| H                           | 0.000          | 0.000                     |
| <i>p</i> -Cl                | 0.281          | -0.166                    |
| <i>m</i> -Cl                | 0.373          | 0.000                     |
| <i>p</i> -CF <sub>3</sub>   | 0.540          | 0.000                     |
| <i>p</i> -CN                | 0.670          | 0.000                     |
| <i>p</i> -NO <sub>2</sub>   | 0.780          | 0.000                     |

## Free energy difference between the two product states calculated at MP2/6-31G\*

Table S2. Free energy differences between the rearrangement product and the fragmentation products for **4**-H and **6**-H calculated at MP2/6-31G\*

|                      | PhCR <sub>2</sub> N=C <sup>+</sup> CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup> | PhCR <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>a</sup> | CH <sub>3</sub> CN <sup>a</sup> | $\delta\Delta G^b$ |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>4</b> -H (R = H)  | -402.003514                                                     | -269.653980                                 | -132.316370                     | 20.81              |
| <b>6</b> -H (R = Me) | -480.295233                                                     | -347.964585                                 | -132.316370                     | 8.95               |

<sup>a</sup> In hartree. <sup>b</sup> Free energy of the fragmentation products relative to the rearrangement product in kcal/mol.

**MP2/6-31G\* optimized Cartesian coordinates and free energies of compounds studied**

**6-H, -480.295233**

|   |           |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N | 1.704239  | -0.036075 | -0.058206 |
| C | 2.500760  | -0.849174 | -0.310556 |
| C | 3.481229  | -1.876301 | -0.627483 |
| C | 0.675526  | 0.988919  | 0.232524  |
| C | -0.660089 | 0.282575  | 0.062304  |
| C | -0.915242 | -0.879823 | 0.806405  |
| C | -2.143619 | -1.528729 | 0.699214  |
| C | -3.132418 | -1.018693 | -0.146394 |
| C | -2.883425 | 0.138590  | -0.884467 |
| C | -1.649679 | 0.787153  | -0.789504 |
| C | 0.906819  | 1.446388  | 1.674925  |
| H | 4.101776  | -1.537890 | -1.461096 |
| H | 2.959645  | -2.795439 | -0.906774 |
| H | 4.109694  | -2.059766 | 0.247578  |
| H | -0.160731 | -1.285716 | 1.478918  |
| H | -2.331282 | -2.428037 | 1.279618  |
| H | -4.092836 | -1.520265 | -0.226271 |
| H | -3.648845 | 0.540689  | -1.542539 |
| H | -1.483486 | 1.685449  | -1.375214 |
| H | 1.891476  | 1.908845  | 1.788202  |
| H | 0.806485  | 0.618181  | 2.378620  |
| H | 0.138346  | 2.187690  | 1.907875  |
| C | 0.945940  | 2.124702  | -0.752631 |
| H | 0.824104  | 1.798104  | -1.787395 |
| H | 0.242960  | 2.935355  | -0.549623 |
| H | 1.958206  | 2.511684  | -0.610476 |

**PhC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, -347.964585**

|   |           |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -1.574851 | 0.000031  | 0.000042  |
| C | -0.164805 | 0.000042  | 0.000025  |
| C | 0.562779  | 1.228833  | 0.051220  |
| C | 1.946557  | 1.218298  | 0.070419  |
| C | 2.639053  | -0.000029 | -0.000007 |
| C | 1.946491  | -1.218322 | -0.070406 |
| C | 0.562714  | -1.228783 | -0.051172 |
| C | -2.381987 | -1.243913 | 0.108887  |
| H | 0.041108  | 2.177216  | 0.118498  |
| H | 2.496564  | 2.152653  | 0.130040  |
| H | 3.726621  | -0.000058 | -0.000019 |
| H | 2.496447  | -2.152706 | -0.130028 |
| H | 0.040975  | -2.177136 | -0.118403 |
| H | -2.686318 | -1.539715 | -0.906834 |
| H | -3.306461 | -1.037526 | 0.656210  |
| H | -1.865997 | -2.079471 | 0.576710  |
| C | -2.382107 | 1.243893  | -0.108836 |
| H | -2.686762 | 1.539497  | 0.906844  |
| H | -1.866155 | 2.079596  | -0.576429 |
| H | -3.306418 | 1.037429  | -0.656415 |