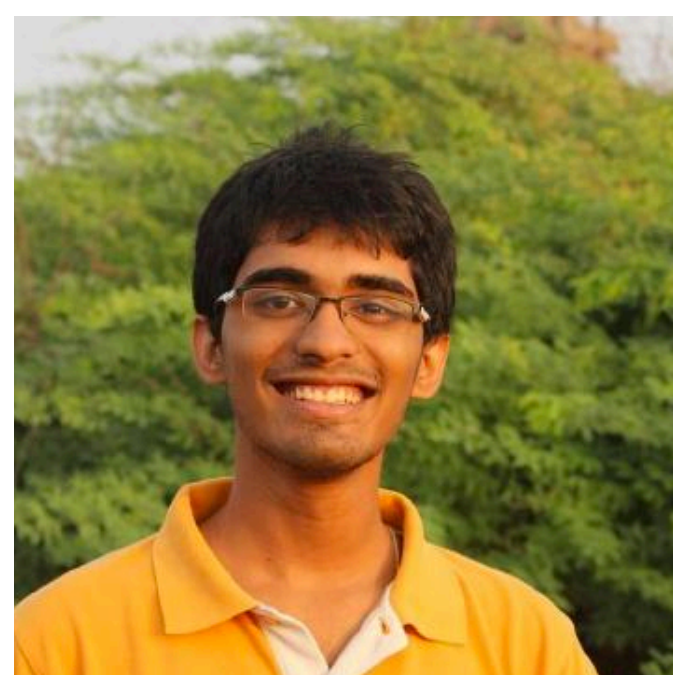


# Learning Graph Models for Retrosynthesis Prediction



Vignesh Ram Somnath



Charlotte Bunne



Connor Coley



Andreas Krause



Regina Barzilay

# Outline

Problem Introduction

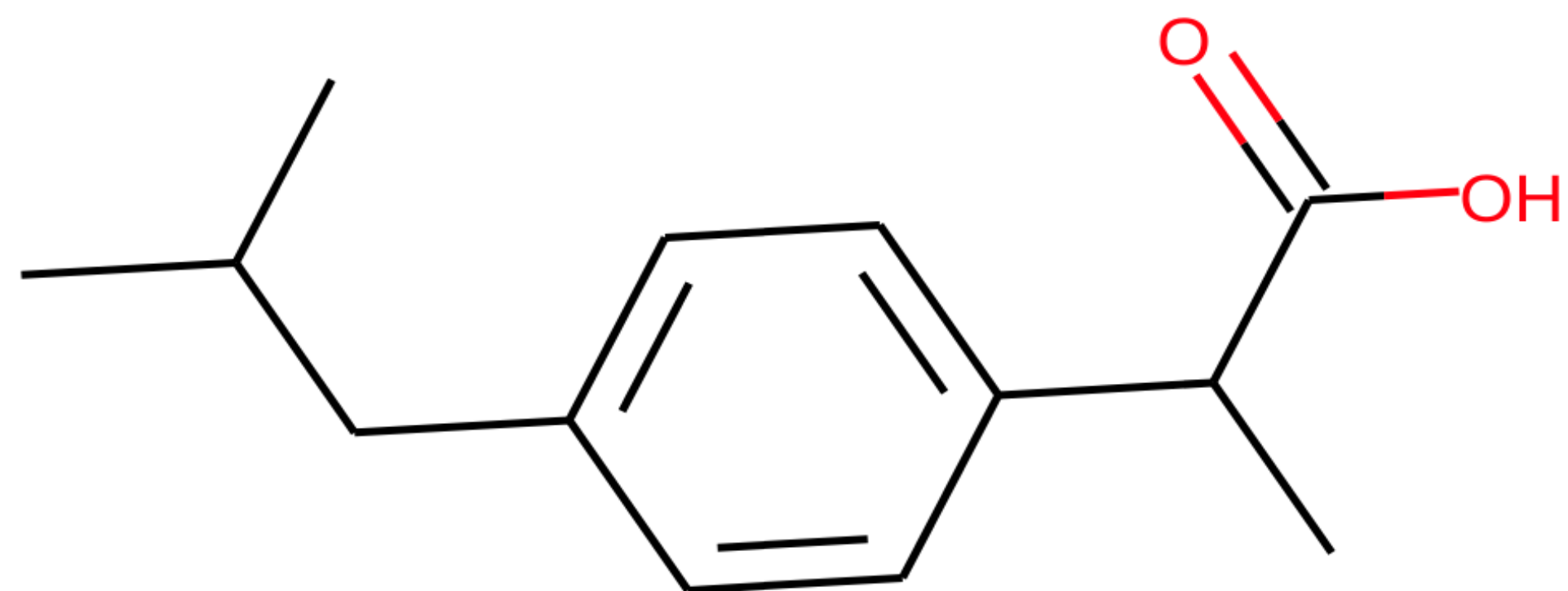
Prior Work

Model Formulation

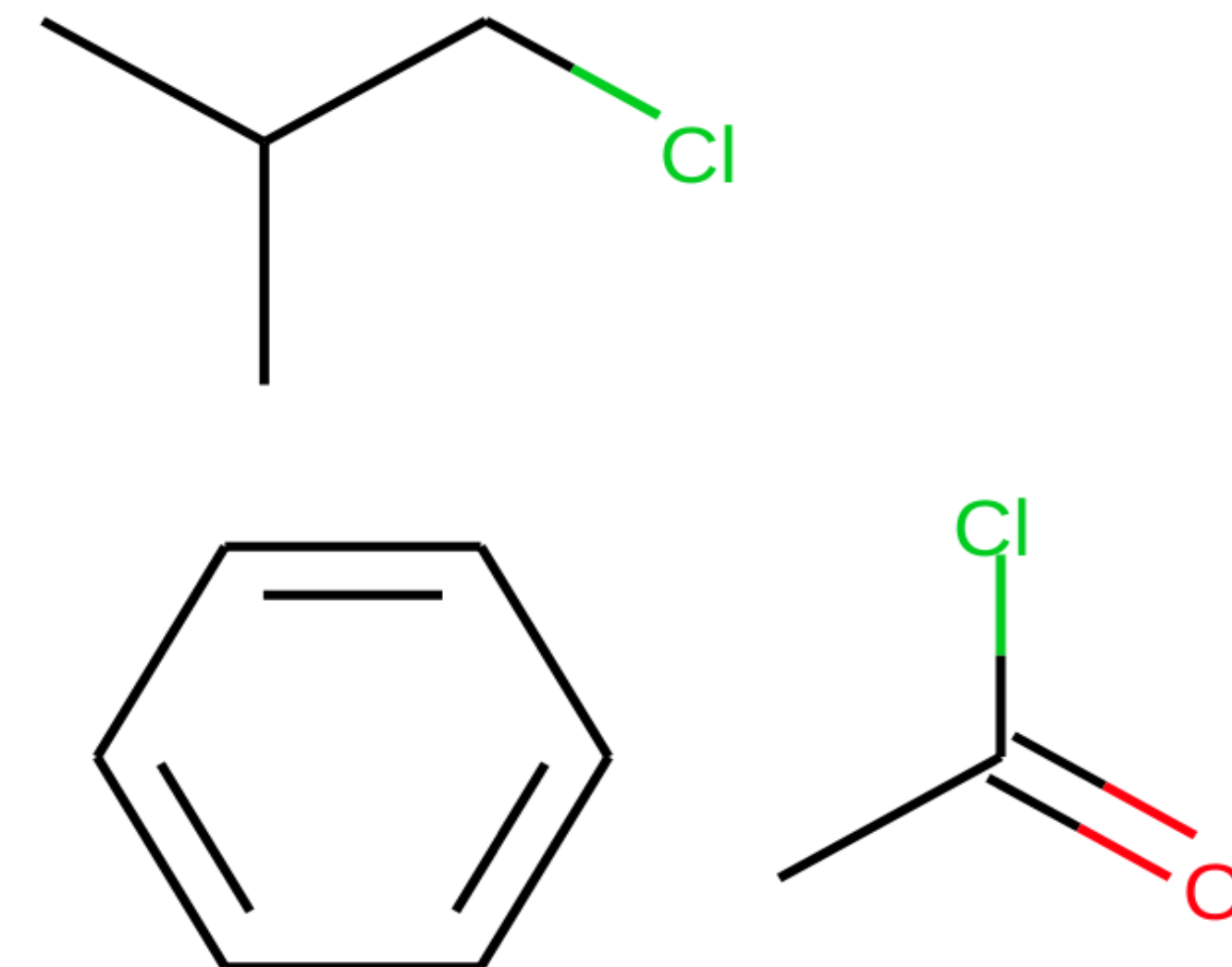
Experiments and Conclusion

# Retrosynthesis

Given a target molecule, predict precursors that can be used to design it



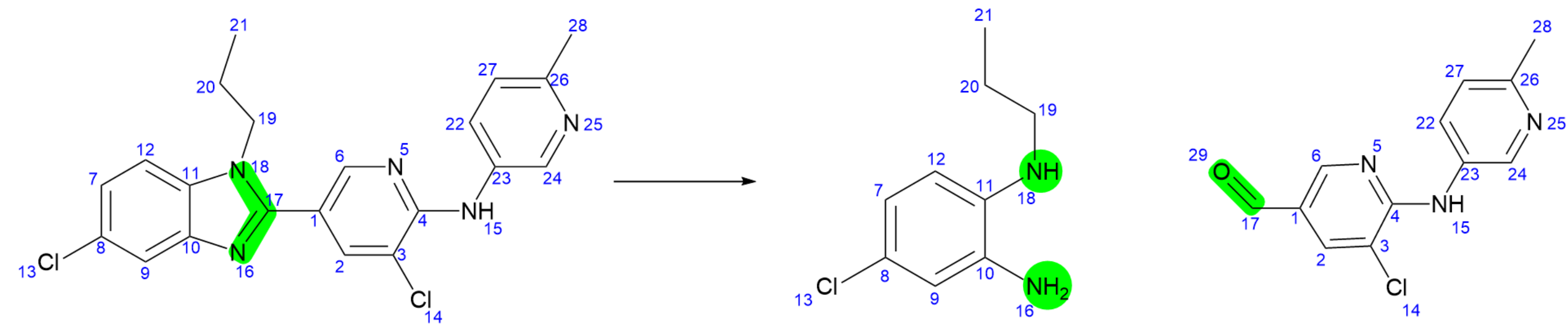
Ibuprofen



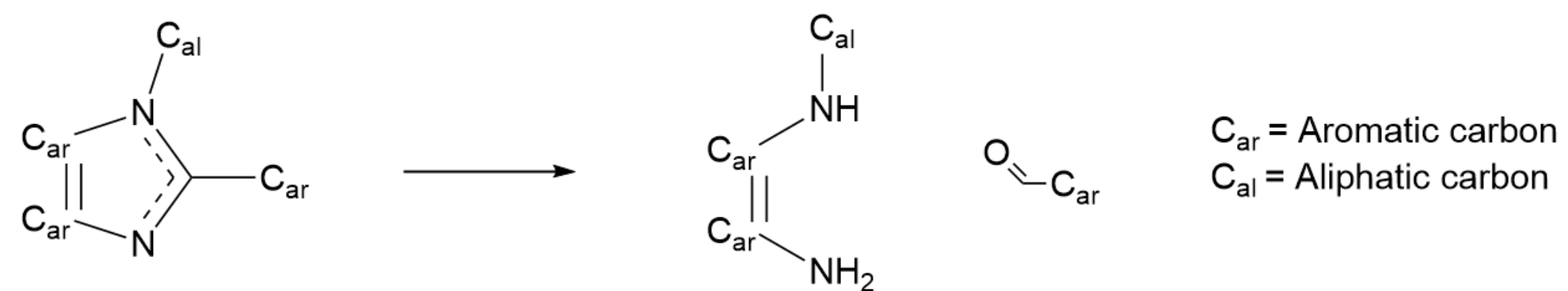
Ibuprofen precursors

# Prior Work: Template-Based

## Example Reaction



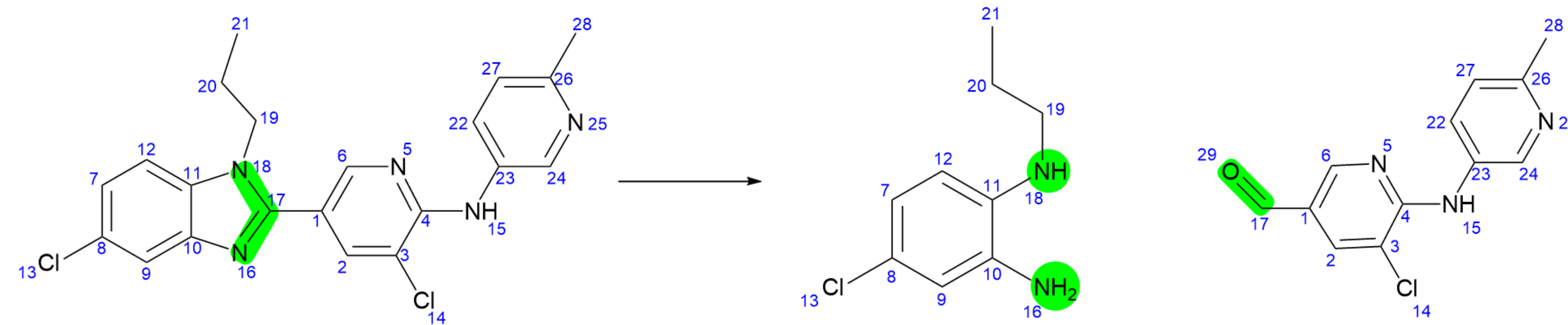
## Corresponding Template



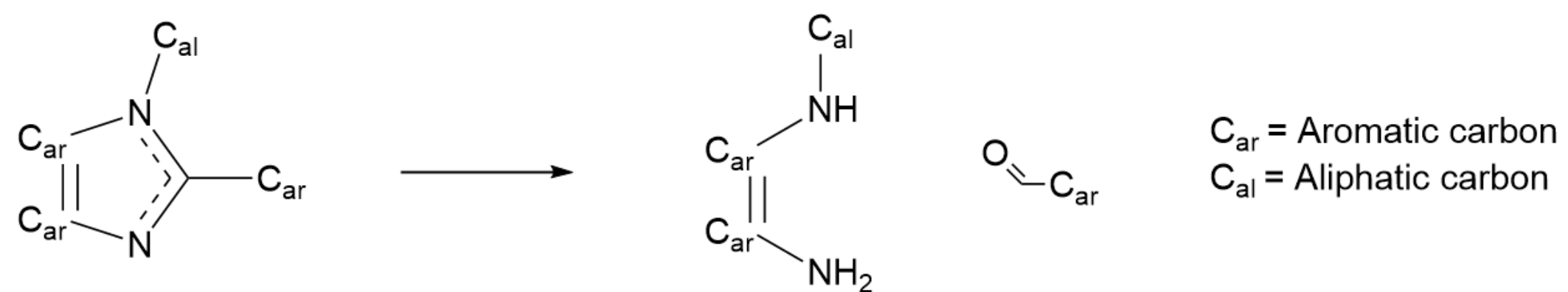
Coley et al. (2017), Segler et al. (2017), Dai et al. (2019)

# Prior Work: Template-Based

## Example Reaction



## Corresponding Template

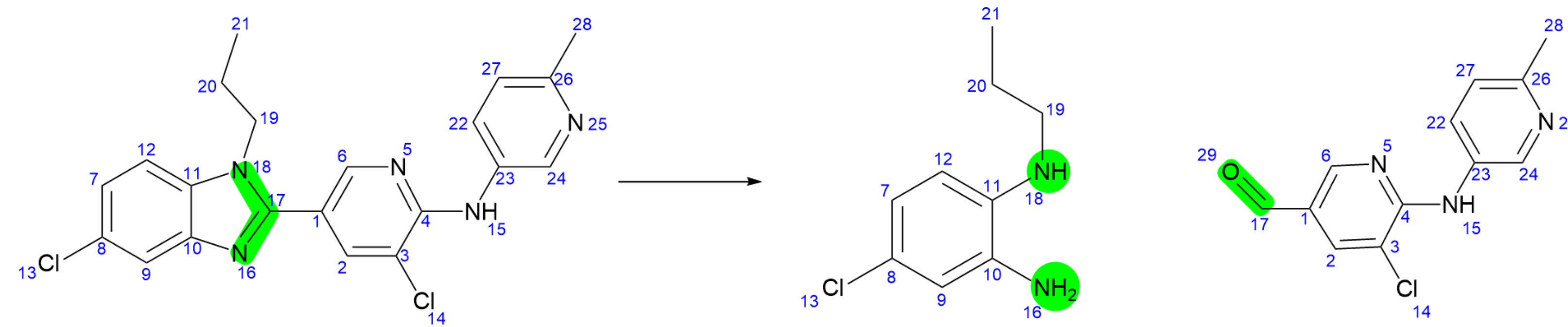


Coley et al. (2017), Segler et al. (2017), Dai et al. (2019)

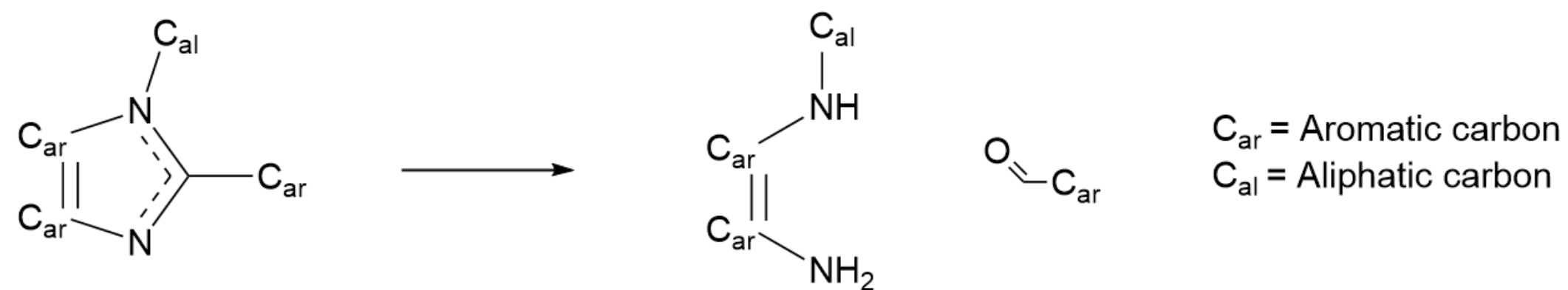
- Coverage vs scalability tradeoff
- Relevance: Rules for a given molecule

# Prior Work: Template-Based

## Example Reaction



## Corresponding Template



Coley et al. (2017), Segler et al. (2017), Dai et al. (2019)

## Advantages:

- Interpretable - Knowledge of template (and reaction type)

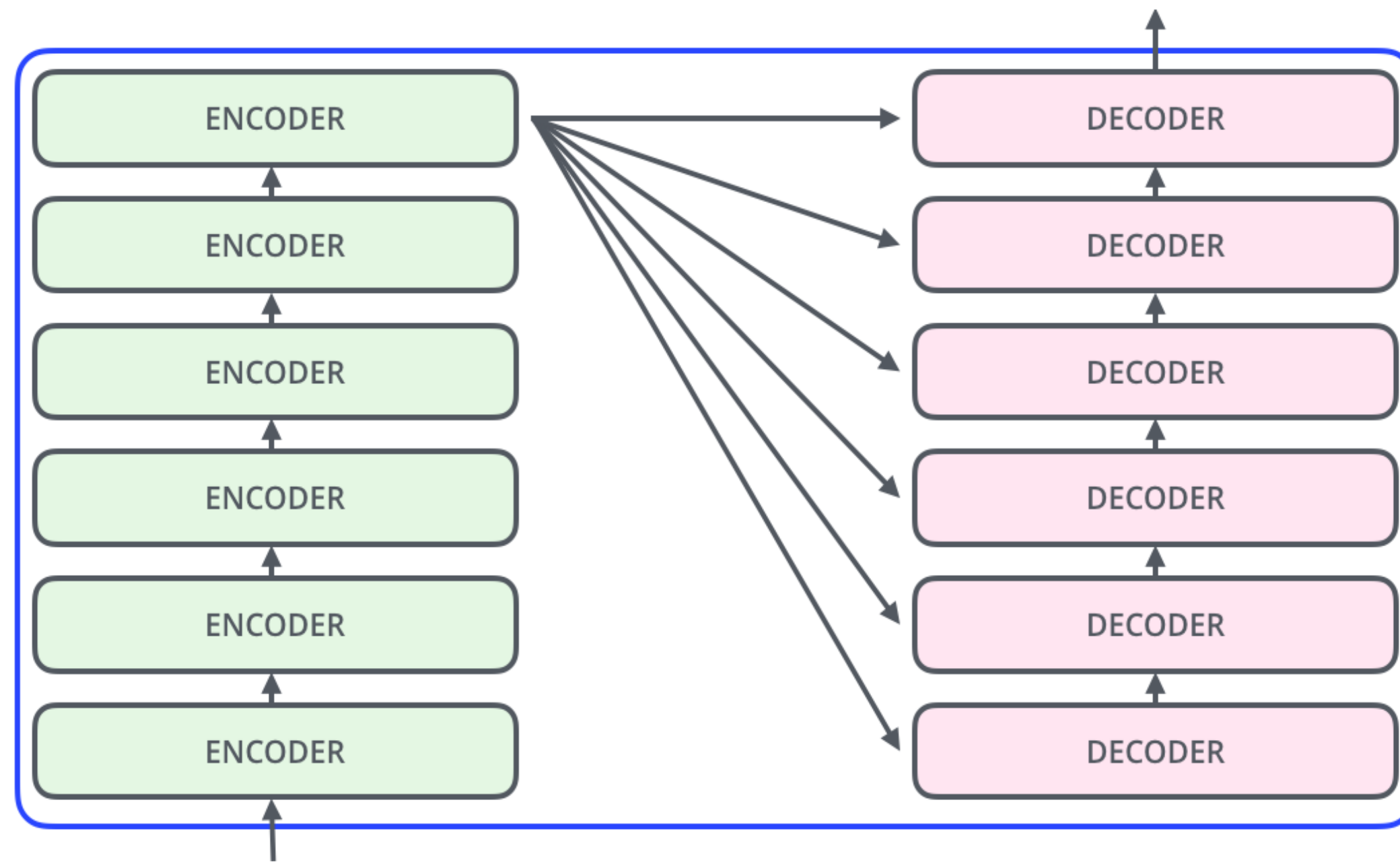
## Disadvantages:

- Incomplete coverage of test set
- Cannot generalize outside rule set

- Coverage vs scalability tradeoff
- Relevance: Rules for a given molecule

# Prior Work: Template-Free

Cc1cccc(C#C[Si](C)(C)C)n1.Cn1ncccc1-c1ccc(Br)cc1

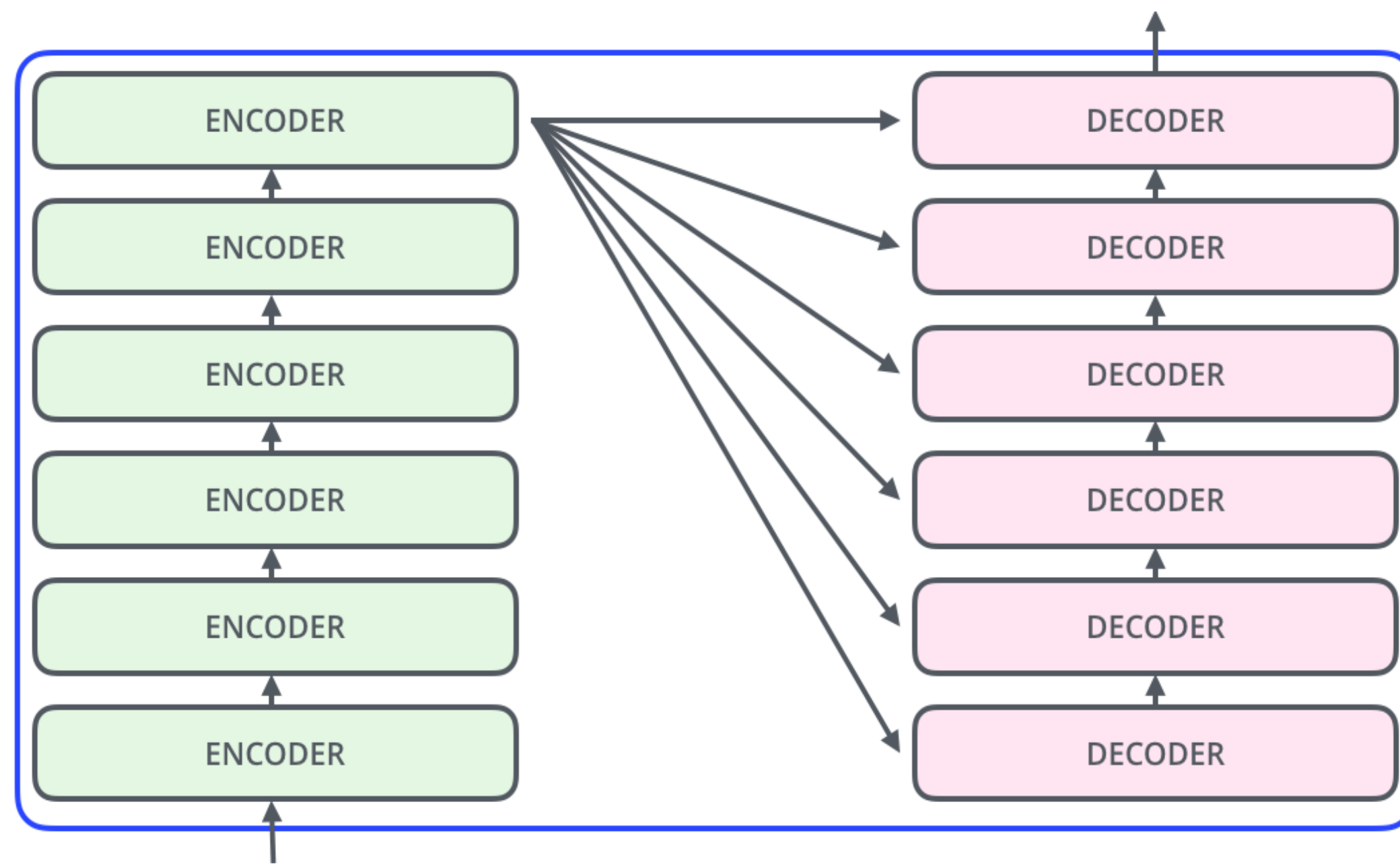


Cc1cccc(C#Cc2ccc(-c3ccnn3C)cc2)n1

Schwaller et al. (2019)  
Zheng et al. (2019)  
Chen et al. (2020)

# Prior Work: Template-Free

Cc1cccc(C#C[Si](C)(C)C)n1.Cn1ncccc1-c1ccc(Br)cc1



Cc1cccc(C#Cc2ccc(-c3ccnn3C)cc2)n1

Schwaller et al. (2019)

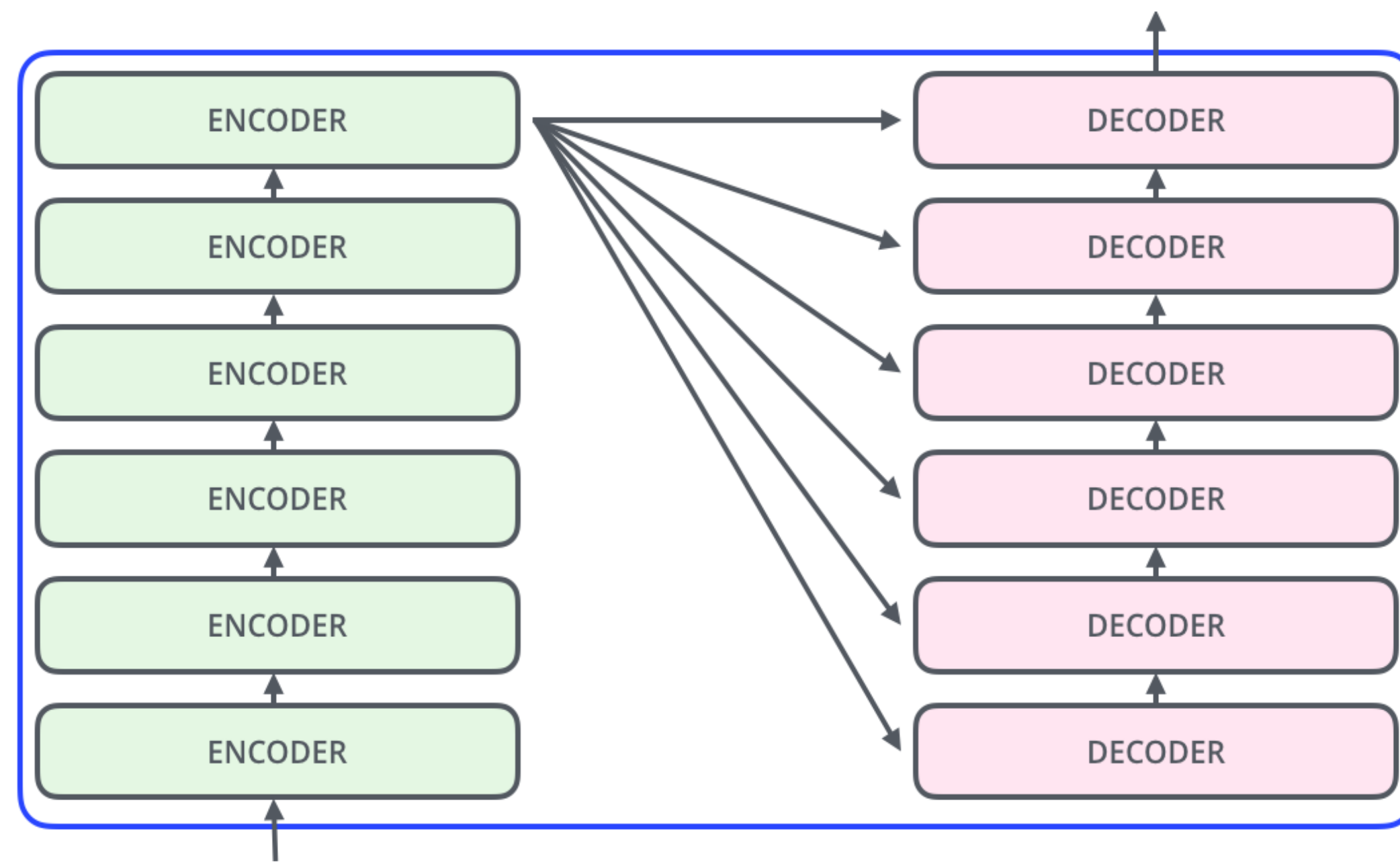
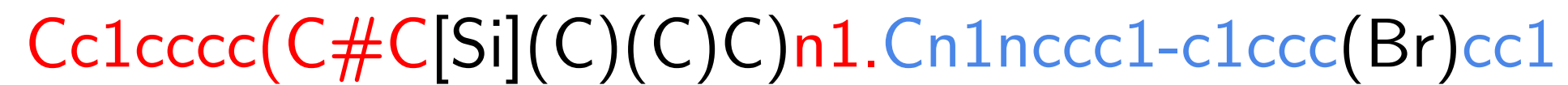
Zheng et al. (2019)

Chen et al. (2020)

- Discover reaction rules automatically



# Prior Work: Template-Free



Schwaller et al. (2019)

Zheng et al. (2019)

Chen et al. (2020)

## Advantages:

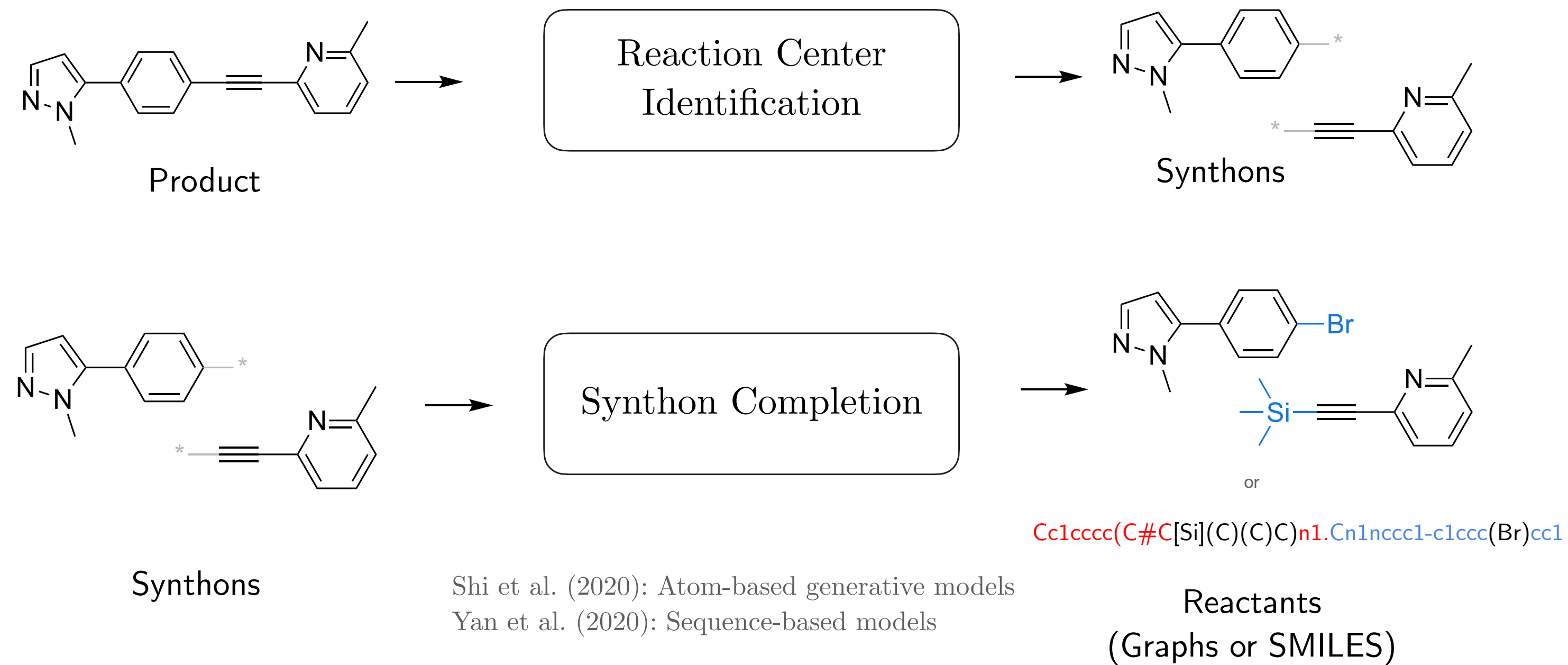
- Flexibility in learning transformations

## Disadvantages:

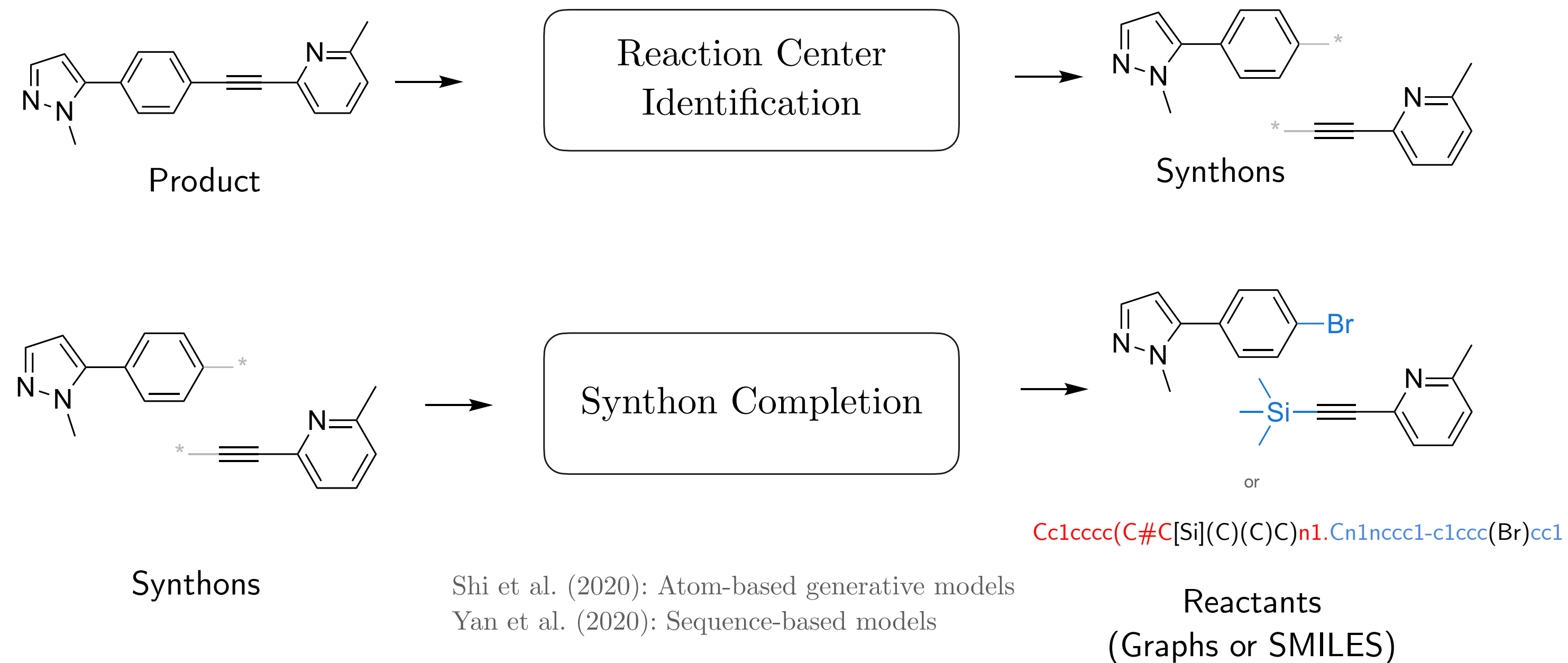
- Poor interpretability
- Fails to utilize conserved substructures

- Discover reaction rules automatically

# Prior Work: Semi-Template-Based



# Prior Work: Semi-Template-Based



## Advantages:

1. Closer to a chemist's intuition
2. Improved interpretability

## Disadvantages:

1. Fails to utilize conserved substructures in synthon completion

# Motivation

Build a retrosynthesis model to identify and utilize conserved substructures

# Motivation

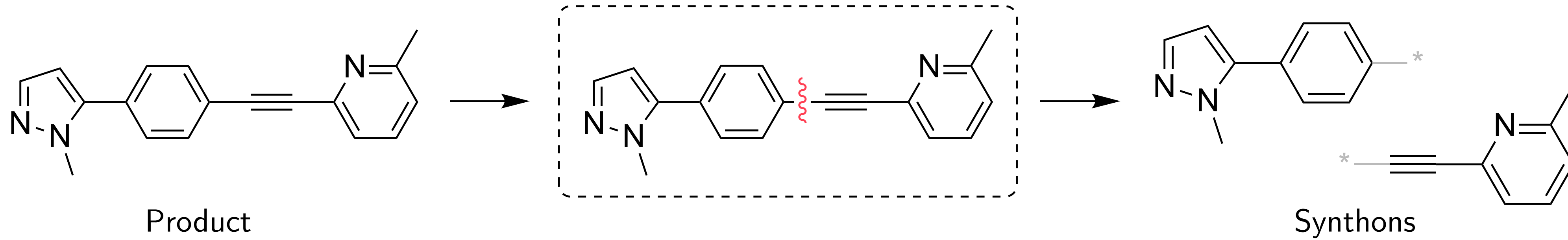
Build a retrosynthesis model to identify and utilize conserved substructures

## Advantages

- *Interpretability* - Captures a chemists workflow about retrosynthesis
- *Efficiency* - More efficient use of the data, by not generating/completing molecules from scratch
- *Generalization* - Stronger inductive biases, fewer invalid suggestions

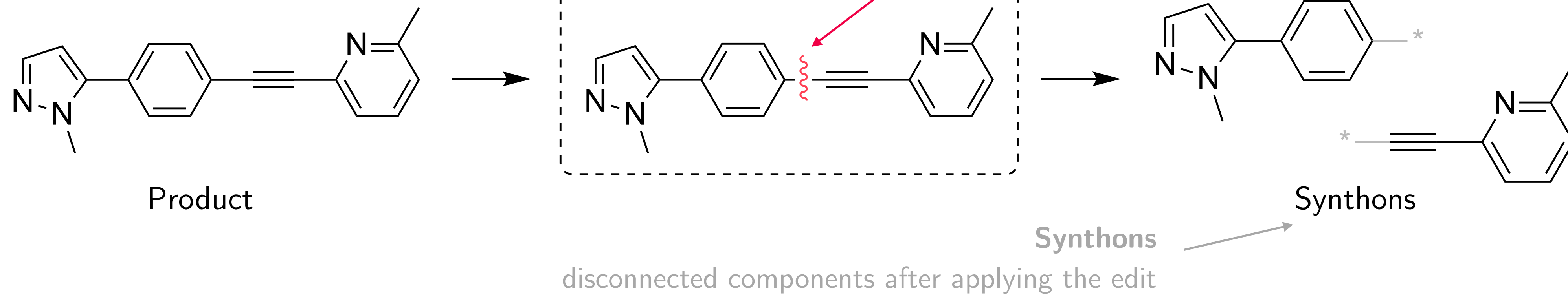
# Proposed Formulation

## Edit Prediction



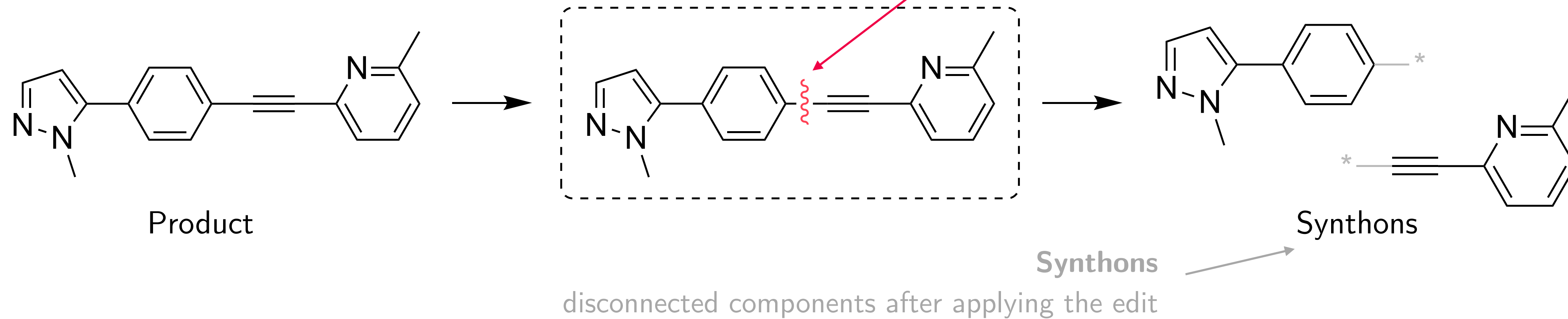
# Proposed Formulation

## Edit Prediction

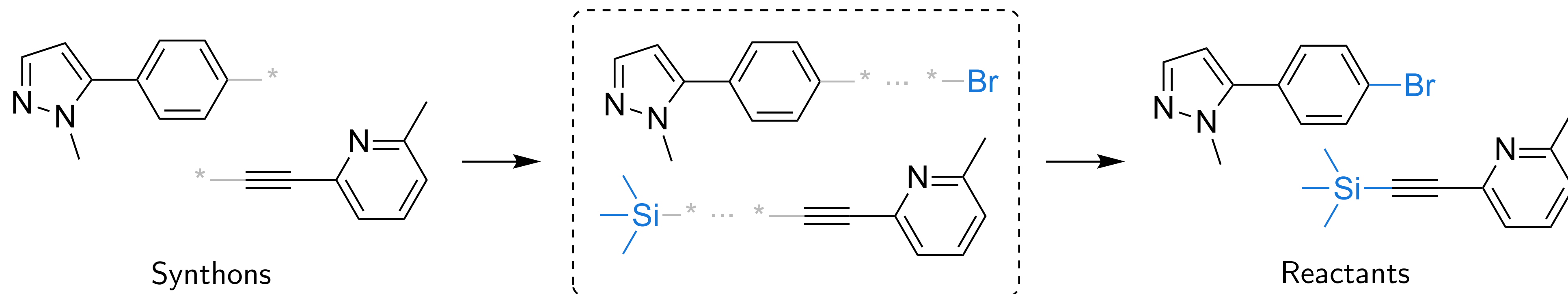


# Proposed Formulation

## Edit Prediction



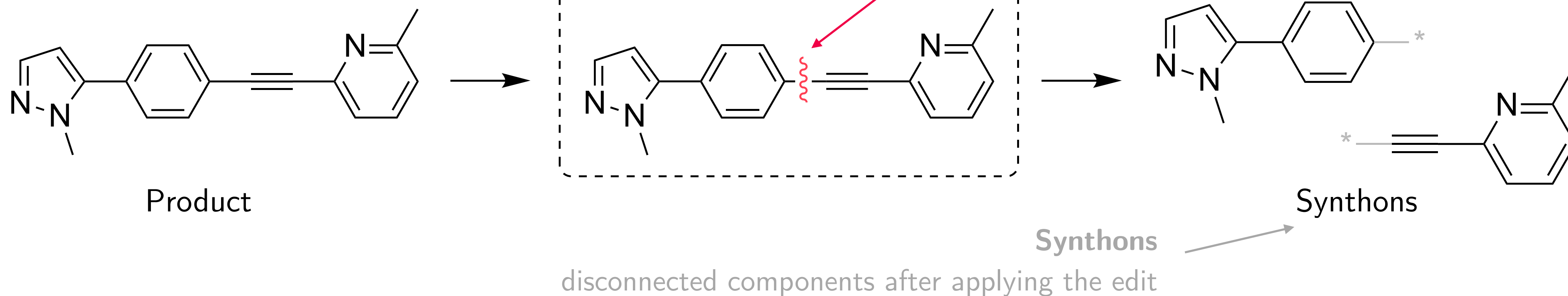
## Synthon Completion



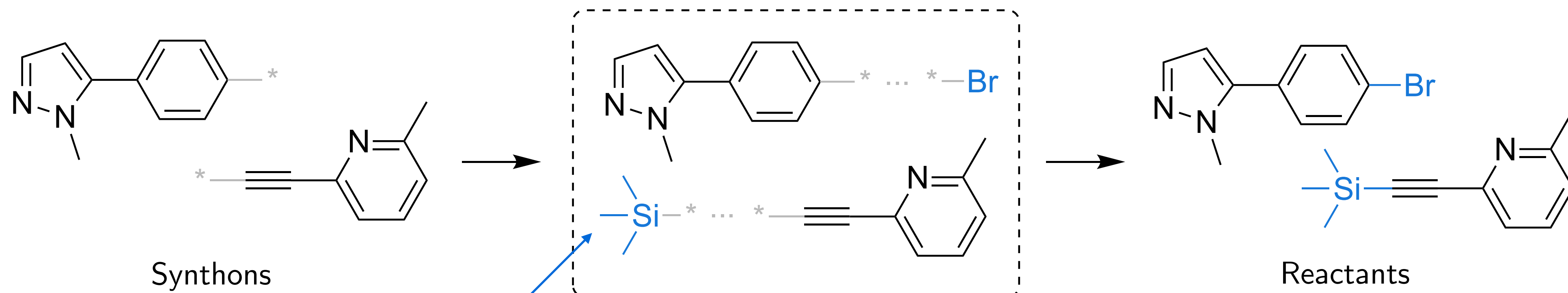


# Proposed Formulation

## Edit Prediction



## Synthon Completion



# Edit Prediction

## Extracting Edits

Compare atom-maps of products and reactants to identify atoms/bonds undergoing a change

# Edit Prediction

## Extracting Edits

Compare atom-maps of products and reactants to identify atoms/bonds undergoing a change

## Initial Prediction Task

- Use atom and bond representations to predict scores for possible edits
- Allowed edits:
  - Whether the hydrogen atom count for a given atom changes (0 or 1)
  - Change in the bond type of a given bond (5 possible values)

# Edit Prediction

## Extracting Edits

Compare atom-maps of products and reactants to identify atoms/bonds undergoing a change

## Initial Prediction Task

- Use atom and bond representations to predict scores for possible edits
- Allowed edits:
  - Whether the hydrogen atom count for a given atom changes (0 or 1)
  - Change in the bond type of a given bond (5 possible values)

## Edit Correction

- Leverage dependencies between edits to update initial edit scores
  - e.g. aromatic rings are stable and tend to remain unchanged
- LSTM style update on line-graph based representations

Train with cross-entropy loss over possible edits in the molecule

# Synthon Completion

## Leaving Group Vocabulary Extraction

- Extract subgraphs based on atom-maps only present in reactants
- Small vocabulary size covers 99.7% of the test set

# Synthon Completion

## Leaving Group Vocabulary Extraction

- Extract subgraphs based on atom-maps only present in reactants
- Small vocabulary size covers 99.7% of the test set

Classification problem instead of a generative one

- Predict the correct leaving group given a synthon
- Teacher forcing during training

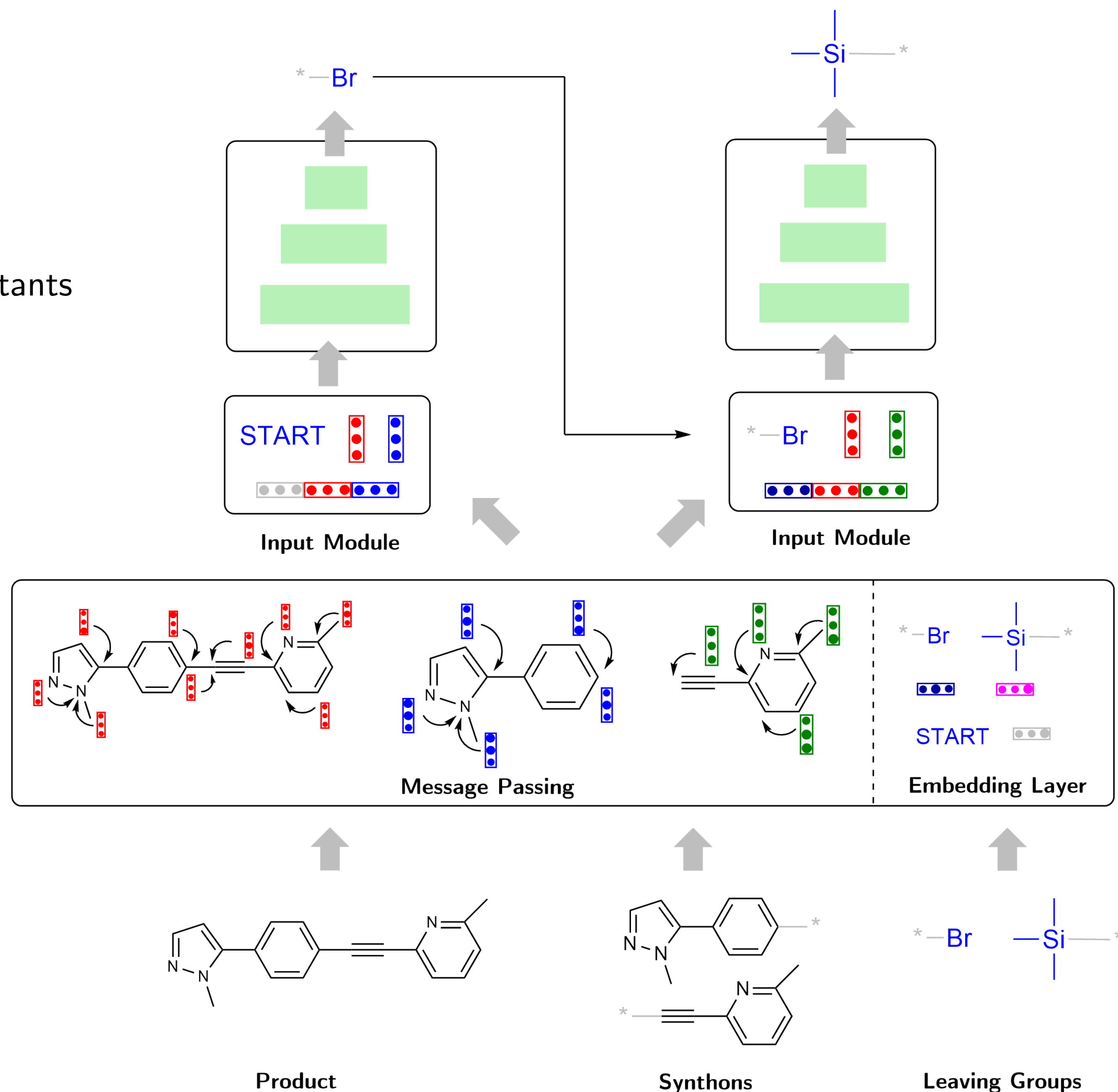
# Synthon Completion

## Leaving Group Vocabulary Extraction

- Extract subgraphs based on atom-maps only present in reactants
- Small vocabulary size covers 99.7% of the test set

Classification problem instead of a generative one

- Predict the correct leaving group given a synthon
- Teacher forcing during training



# Experimental Setup



# Experimental Setup

## Dataset

- USPTO-50k - Standard benchmark dataset
- 50K reactions across 10 reaction classes
- Training/validation/test in a 8:1:1 split (40K train, 5K valid, 5K test)

# Experimental Setup

## Dataset

- USPTO-50k - Standard benchmark dataset
- 50K reactions across 10 reaction classes
- Training/validation/test in a 8:1:1 split (40K train, 5K valid, 5K test)

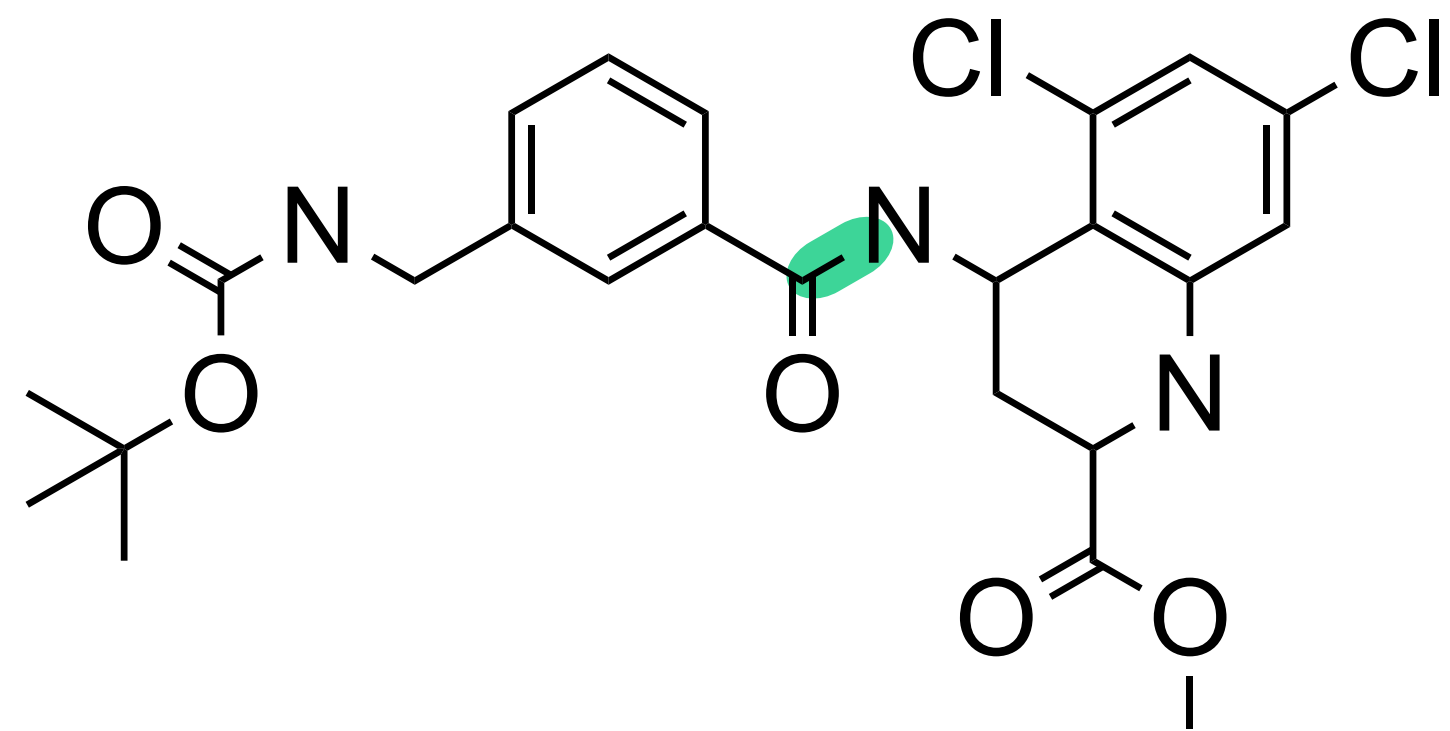
## Evaluation

- Top- $n$  accuracy ( $n = 1, 3, 5, 10$ )
- Compare canonical SMILES of generated reactants to ground truth
- Reaction class known vs unknown

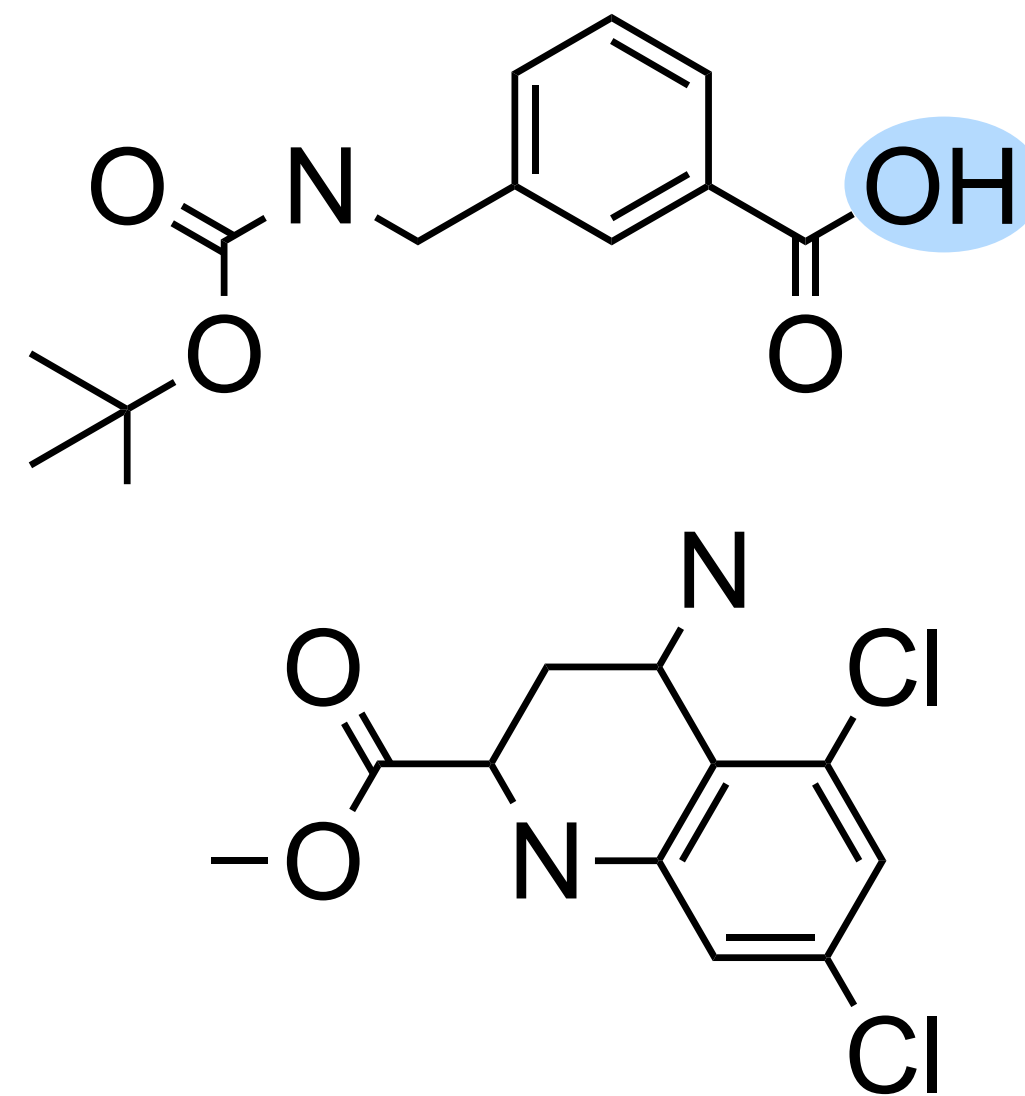
# Retrosynthesis Performance

Model	Top- $n$ Accuracy (%)							
	Reaction class known				Reaction class unknown			
	$n =$	1	3	5	10	1	3	5
<b>Template-Based</b>								
RETROSIM [4]	52.9	73.8	81.2	88.1	37.3	54.7	63.3	74.1
NEURALSVM [19]	55.3	76.0	81.4	85.1	44.4	65.3	72.4	78.9
GLN [8]	64.2	79.1	85.2	90.0	52.5	69.0	75.6	83.7
DUALTB [21]	<b>67.7</b>	<b>84.8</b>	<b>88.9</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>86.9</b>
<b>Template-Free</b>								
SCROP [27]	59.0	74.8	78.1	81.1	43.7	60.0	65.2	68.7
LV-TRANSFORMER [2]	-	-	-	-	40.5	65.1	72.8	79.4
DUALTF [21]	<b>65.7</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>77.0</b>
<b>Semi-Template-Based</b>								
G2Gs [20]	61.0	81.3	<b>86.0</b>	<b>88.7</b>	48.9	67.6	<b>72.5</b>	<b>75.5</b>
RETROXPRT [26]	62.1	75.8	78.5	80.9	50.4	61.1	62.3	63.4
GRAPHRETRO	<b>63.9</b>	<b>81.5</b>	85.2	88.1	<b>53.7</b>	<b>68.3</b>	72.2	<b>75.5</b>

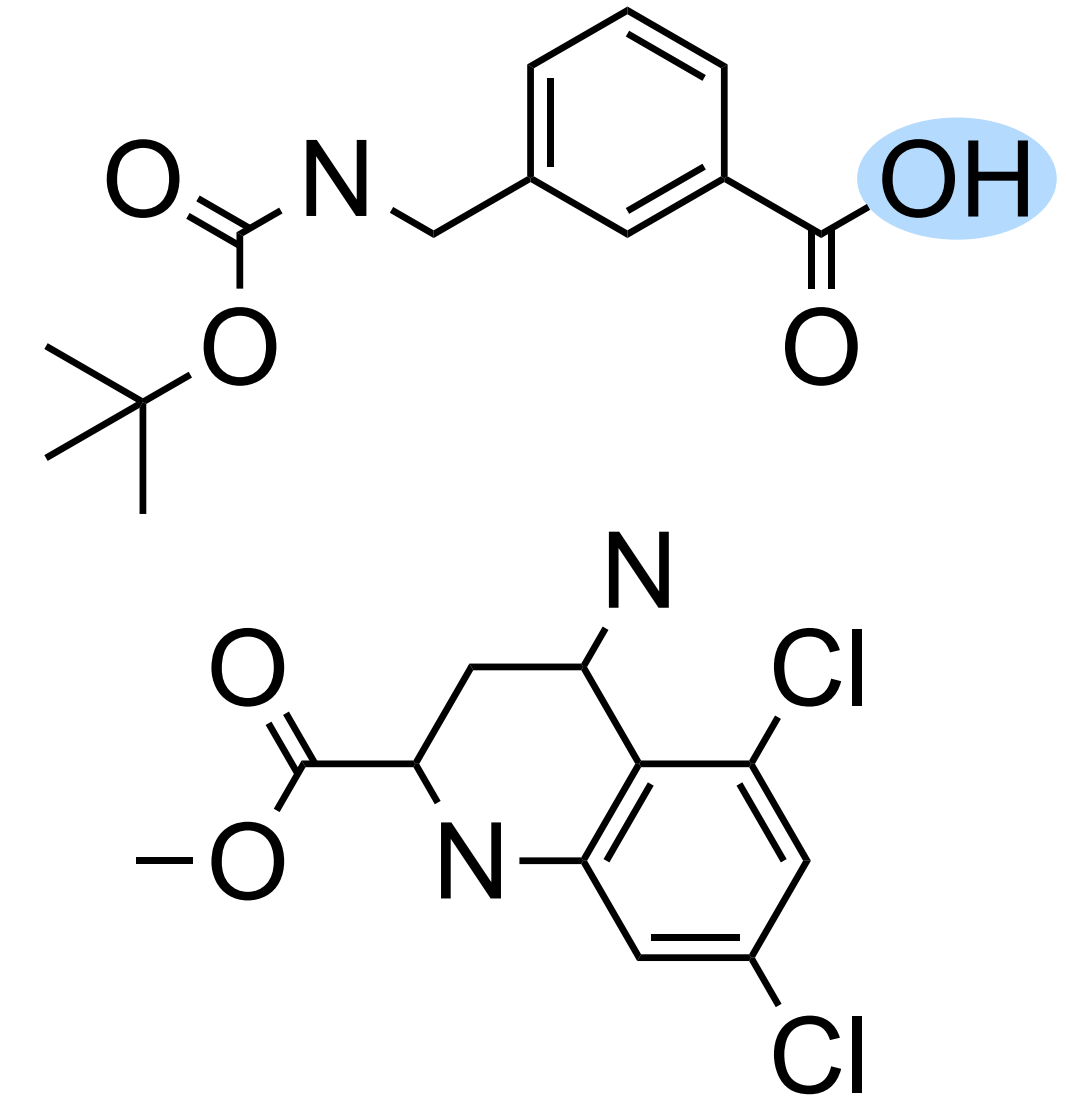
# Example Predictions - Correct



Product



True Reactants



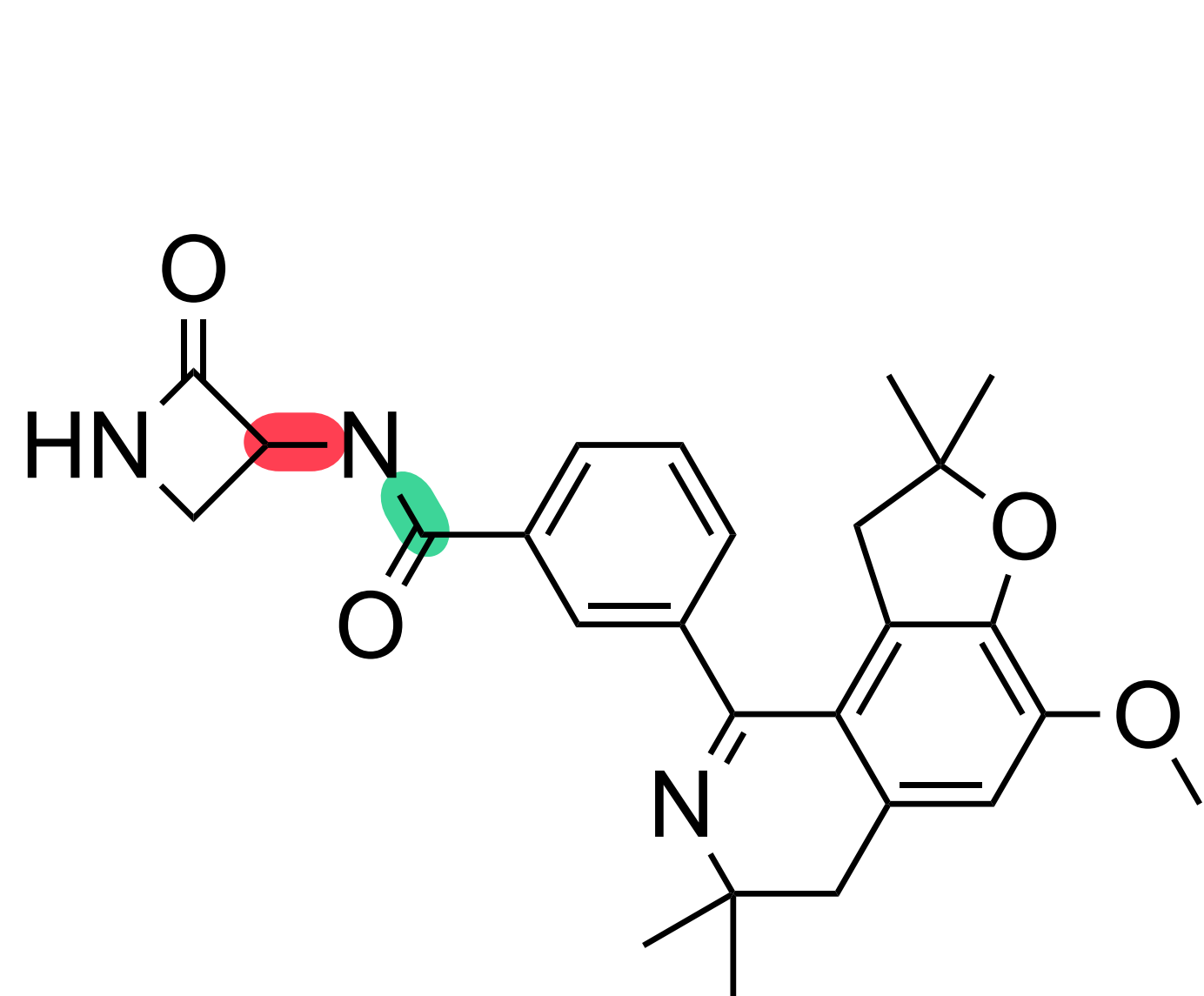
Predicted Reactants

 leaving group

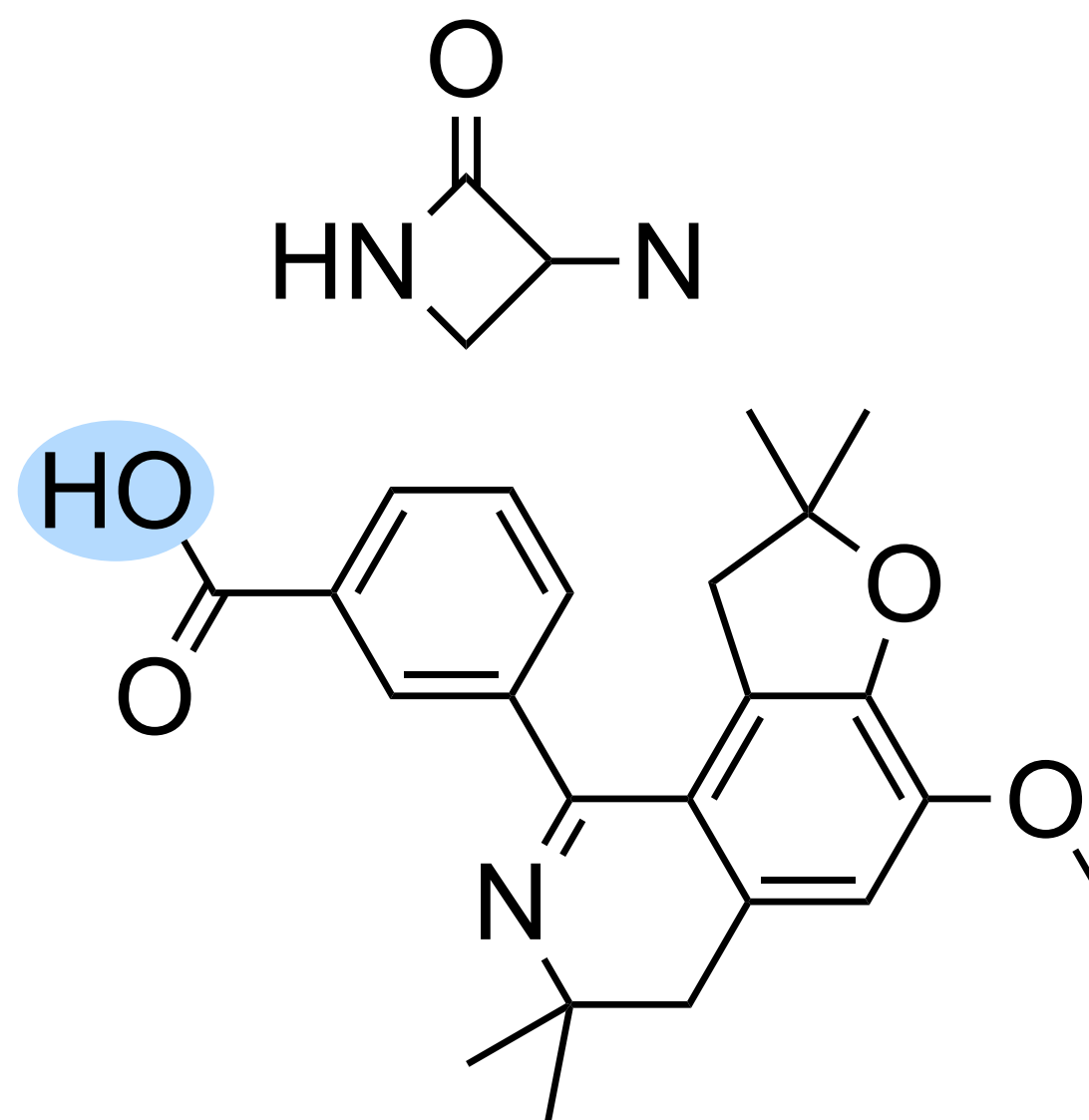
 correct edit

# Example Predictions - Incorrect

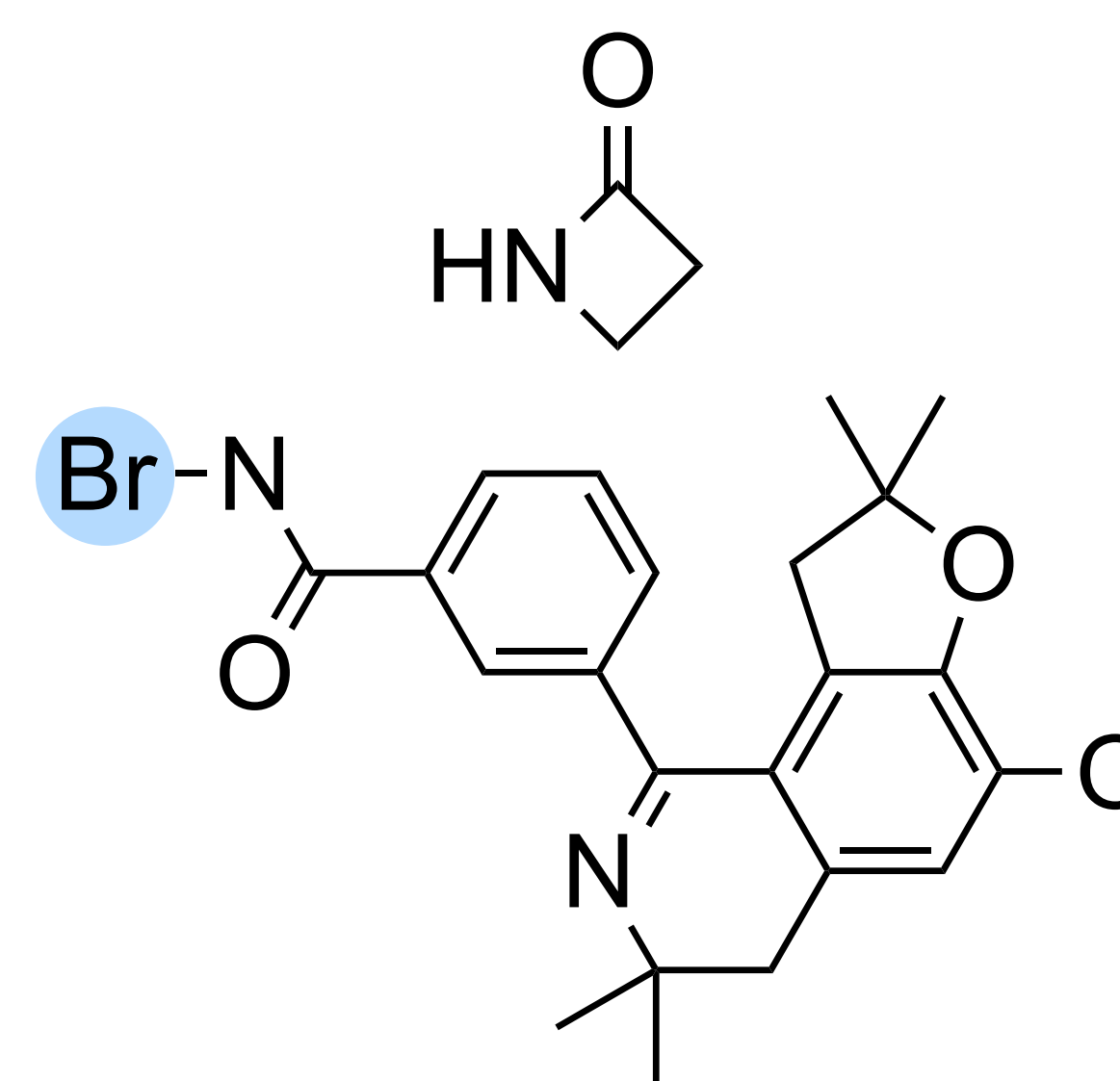
Incorrect edit, leaving groups predicted can't salvage the prediction



Product



True Reactants



Predicted Reactants

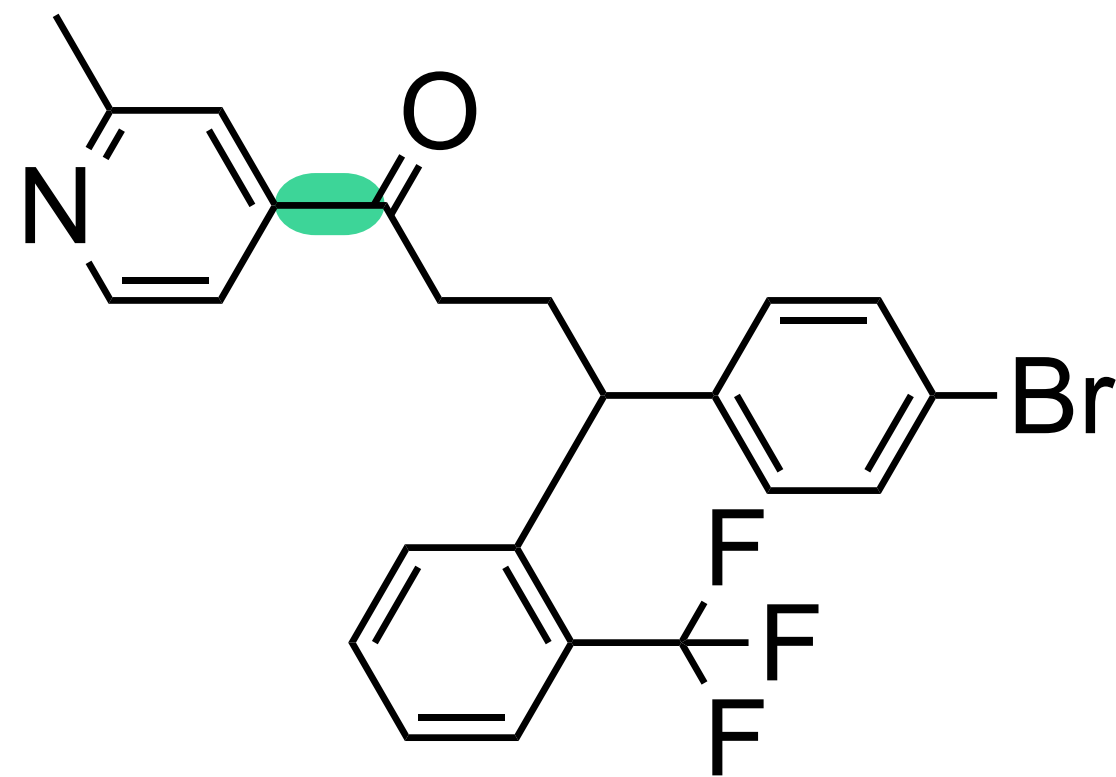
 leaving group

 correct edit

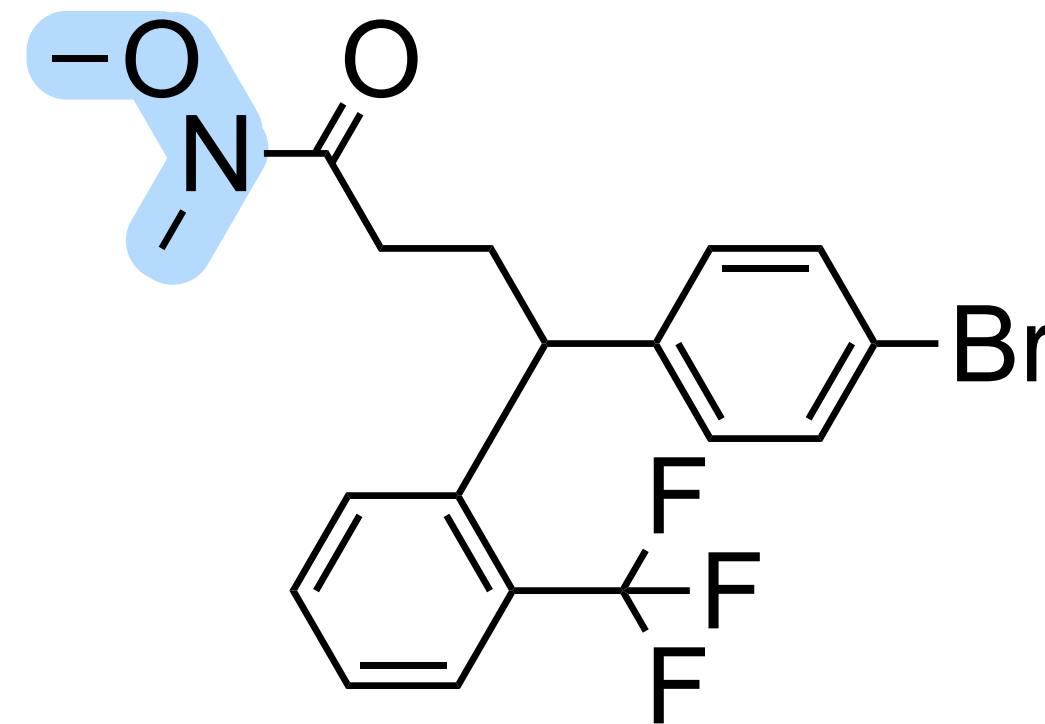
 incorrect edit

# Example Predictions - Incorrect

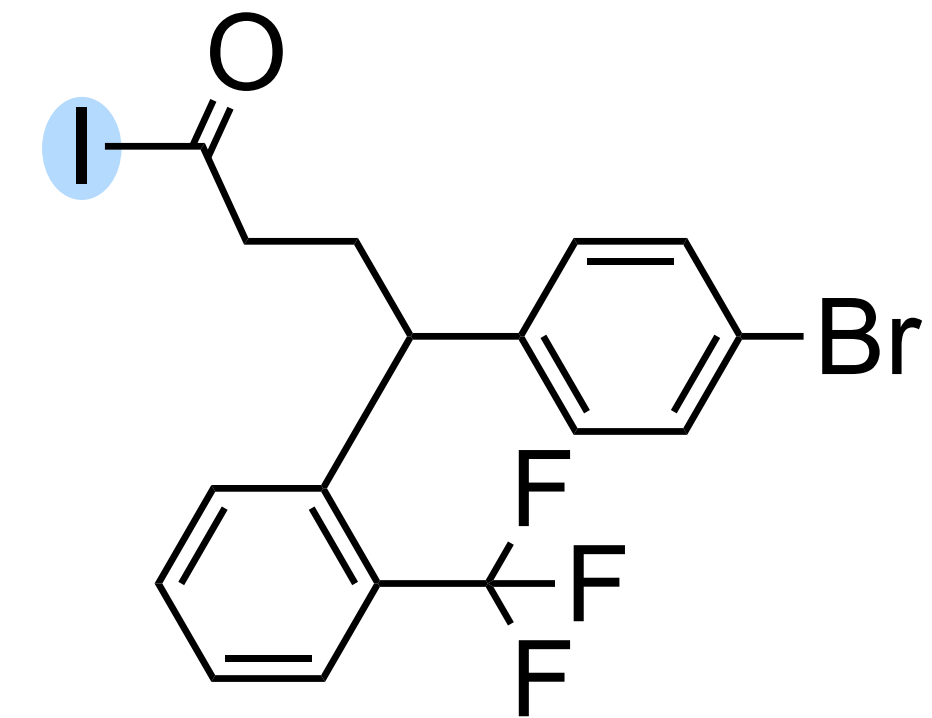
Correct edit, but flipped leaving groups



Product



True Reactants



Predicted Reactants

 leaving group

 correct edit

# Summary

- Propose a semi-template based method for retrosynthesis prediction
- Improves top-1 accuracy over previous semi-template methods and template-free methods

# Summary

- Propose a semi-template based method for retrosynthesis prediction
- Improves top-1 accuracy over previous semi-template methods and template-free methods

# Future Work

- Edit prediction performance is a bottleneck to overall performance



# Summary

- Propose a semi-template based method for retrosynthesis prediction
- Improves top-1 accuracy over previous semi-template methods and template-free methods

# Future Work

- Edit prediction performance is a bottleneck to overall performance
  - Need more chemically meaningful priors and edit correction mechanisms

# Summary

- Propose a semi-template based method for retrosynthesis prediction
- Improves top-1 accuracy over previous semi-template methods and template-free methods

# Future Work

- Edit prediction performance is a bottleneck to overall performance
  - Need more chemically meaningful priors and edit correction mechanisms
- Extend synthon completion to predict a single reactant from multiple reactants