NEXT SLIDE, PLEASE

there was no question that the reaction worked
but transient colors were seen
in the slurry of sodium methoxide in dichloromethane
and we got a whole lot of products
for which we can't sort out the kinetics
the next slide will show
the most important part
very rapidly
within two minutes
and I forgot to say on further warming
we get in fact the ketone
you can't read it on the slides
but I refer to the structure you saw before
the low temperature infrared spectrum
as I say
gives very direct evidence
so does the NMR
we calculated it
throwing away the geminal coupling
which is of course wrong
there is a difference of 0.9 parts per million
and it is a singlet
and sharp
which means two things
either
you're doing this NMR in excess methoxide
and it's exchanging
or
I would hazard a guess
that certainly in these nucleophilic conditions
there could well be
an alternative path

to the enone you see there
it's difficult to see
you could monitor this quite well in the infrared
I'm sorry in the NMR
my time is up I see
well this is a brief summary of our work
not all of which
I've had time to go into
as much detail as I wanted
today.