

Reply to the Rebuttal by G. Henrici-Olivé and S. Olivé

Acknowledgment of the precedence of the early Fischer-Tropsch chain growth mechanisms was a gracious and selfless gesture, and permission to attach the names of those polymer chemists to our work is equally generous. Another nice gesture might have been to inform the unwary reader that explaining the mechanisms of the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis and other heterogeneous catalytic reactions by analogy to the chemistry of organometallic compounds is also an old concept, and not a recent scientific breakthrough. Irving Wender was an early proponent of this idea (1). He also proposed a mechanism for the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis involving CO-insertion reactions (2, 3) that

was later extended by Pichler and Schulz (4).

REFERENCES

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3. Sternberg, H. W., and Wender, I., Chem. Soc. (London) Spec. Publ. No. 13, 53 (1959).
4. Pichler, H., and Schulz, H., *Chem. Ing. Tech.* 12, 1160 (1970).

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