

Introduction

Multi-step synthesis of complex molecules

Olivier PIVA



Université Claude Bernard



Lyon 1

Course program

I – Introduction

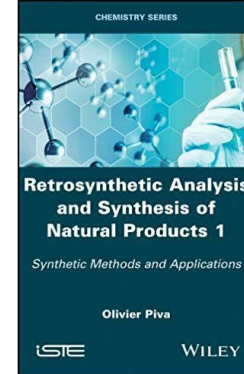
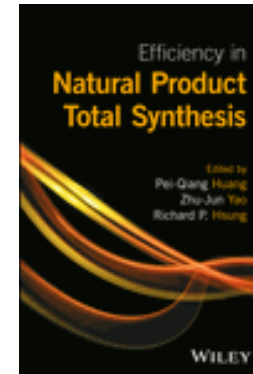
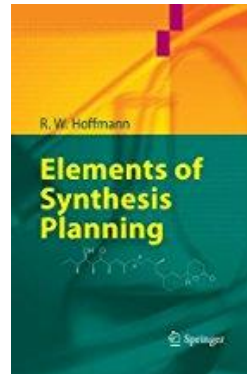
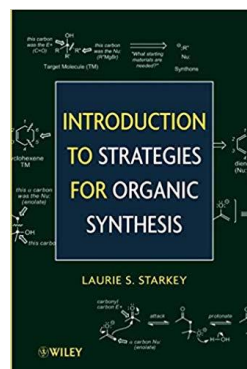
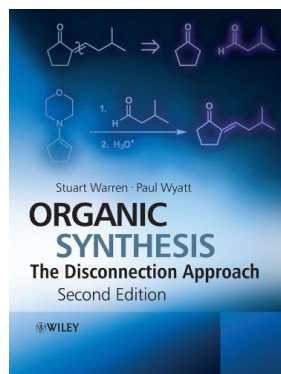
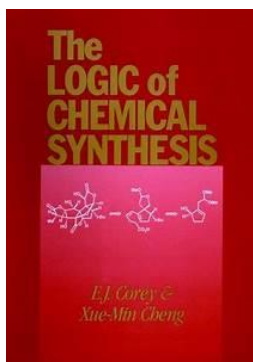
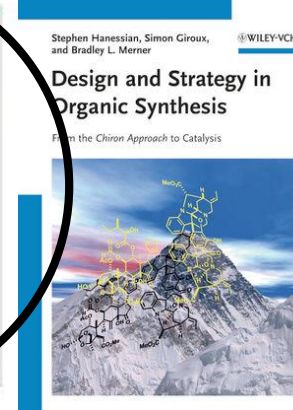
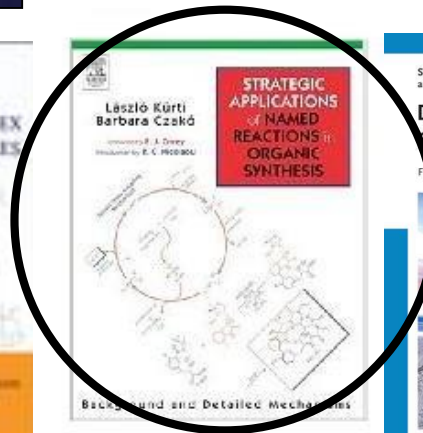
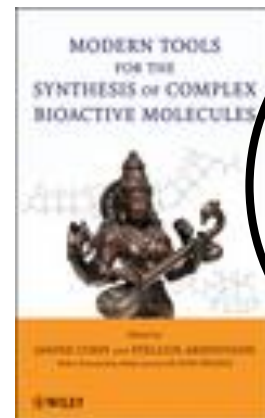
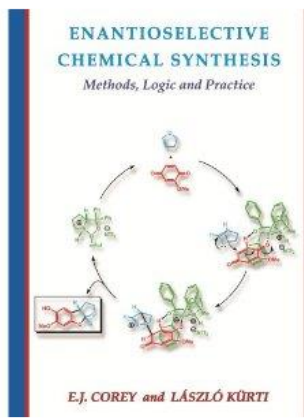
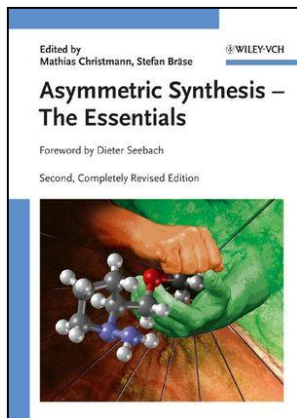
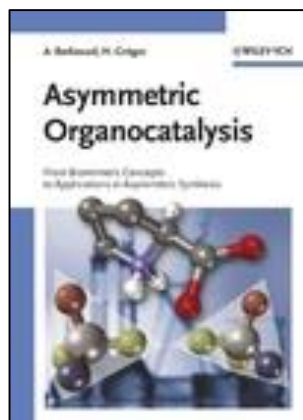
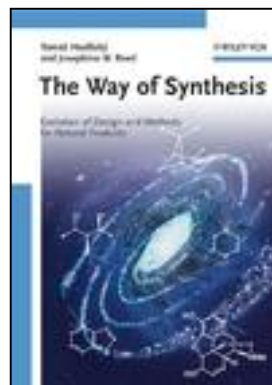
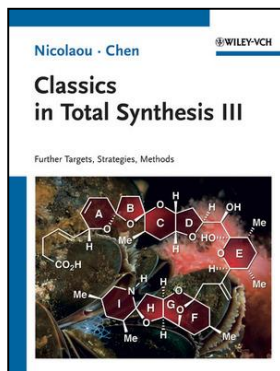
II – Concepts

III - Synthesis of acyclic systems

IV – Synthesis of cyclic and polycyclic systems

V - Illustrations

Bibliography



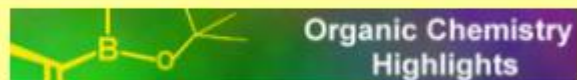
Bibliography



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Organic Chemistry Portal



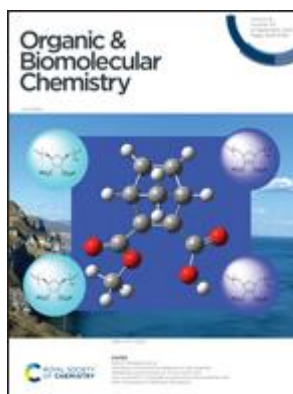
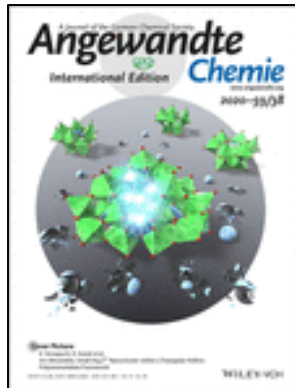
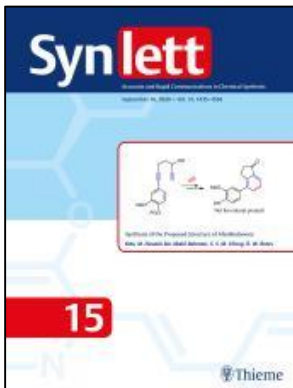
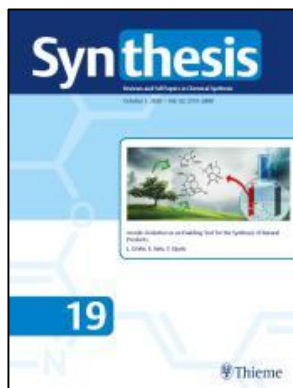
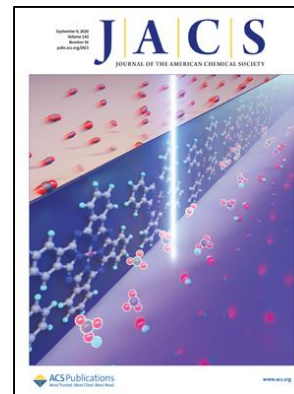
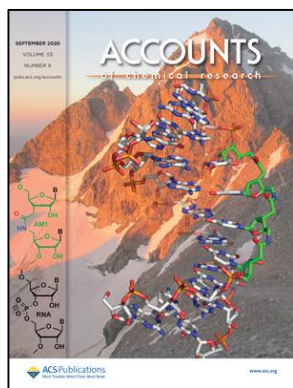
<https://www.organic-chemistry.org/Highlights/2020>



<https://www.chemistryviews.org/view/0/index.html>

(Non-standard) journal abbreviations used in this course:

ACIE = *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*; *CEJ* = *Chemistry a European Journal*; *ChemComm* = *Chemical Communications*; *ChemRev* = *Chemical Reviews*; *EurJOC* = *European Journal of Organic Chemistry*; *JACS* = *Journal of the American Chemical Society*; *JOC* = *Journal of Organic Chemistry*; *OL* = *Organic Letters*; *TL* = *Tetrahedron Letters*; *Tet* = *Tetrahedron*; *TetAsym* = *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry*.





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Highlights in Chemical Synthesis

In SYNFACTS, current research results in chemical synthesis from the primary literature are screened, selected, evaluated, summarized, and enriched with personal comments by experts in their fields on a monthly basis.

SYNFACTS addresses the needs of synthetic chemists in academia (including students) and industry by helping them to know, learn, and think more about their own field as well as neighboring disciplines. SYNFACTS stimulates the reader's research and the development of exciting new ideas. The journal is also aiming to support teaching and lecturing activities as well as examination preparation.

SYNFACTS offers the reader summaries of the most significant current results from the primary literature in the following thematic categories, which are directly accessible by clicking on the respective category name:

■ > **Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs**

■ > **Synthesis of Heterocycles**

■ > **Synthesis of Materials and Unnatural Products**

■ > **Metals in Synthesis**

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■ > **Organo- and Biocatalysis**

■ > **Chemistry in Medicine and Biology**

■ > **Peptide Chemistry**

■ > **Flow Chemistry**

■ > **SYNFORM**

is also available as part of the online edition of SYNFACTS via

> **Thieme E-Journals**. More information can be found > **here**.

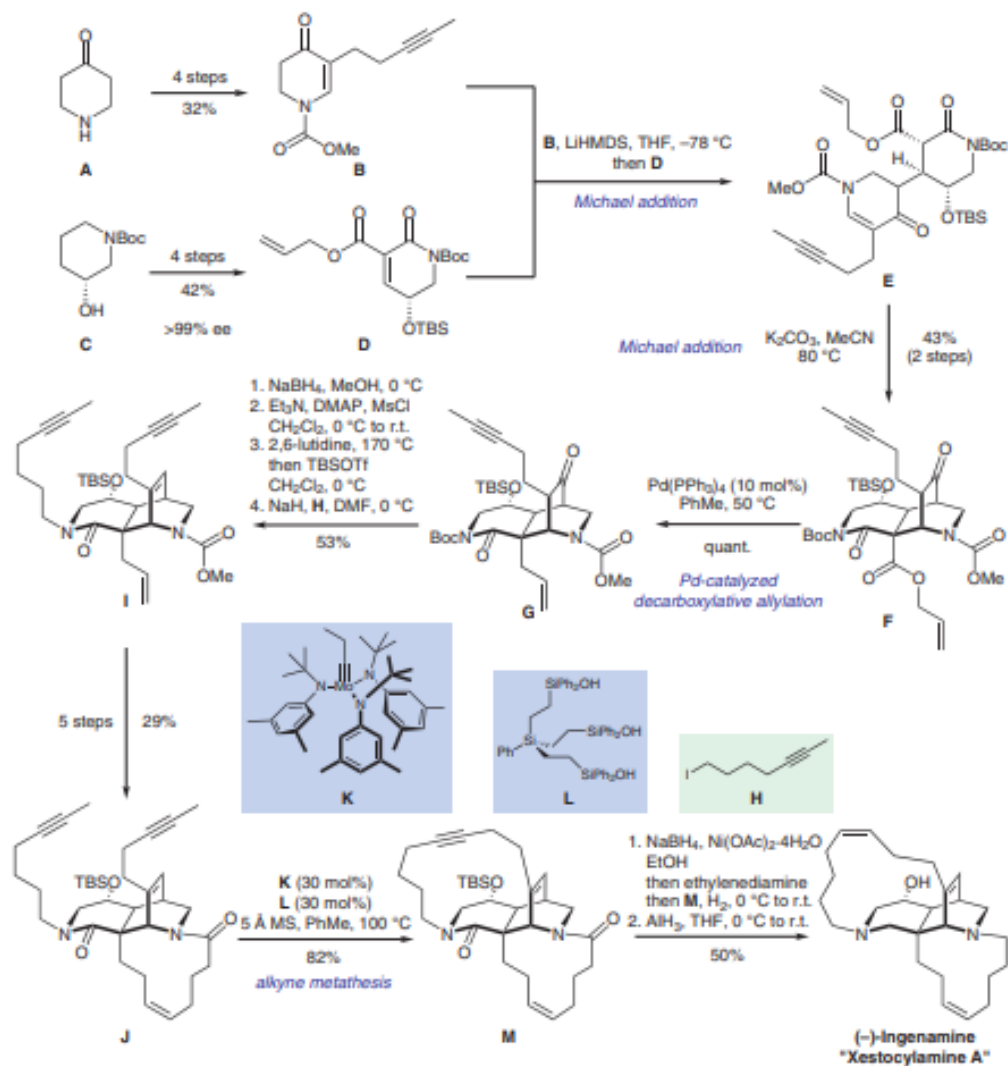
Please note that the category **Metals in Synthesis** replaced the previous categories > **Metal-Catalyzed Asymmetric Synthesis and Stereoselective Reactions** and > **Metal-Mediated Synthesis**.

Z. MENG, A. FÜRSTNER* (MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR KOHLENFORSCHUNG, MÖLHEIM AN DER RUHR, GERMANY)

Total Synthesis Provides Strong Evidence: Xestocyclamine A is the Enantiomer of Ingenamine

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2020**, *142*, 11703–11708.

Total Synthesis of (-)-Ingenamine



Category

Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs

Key words

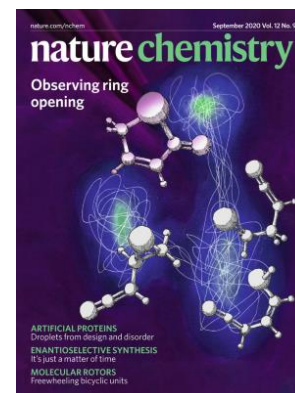
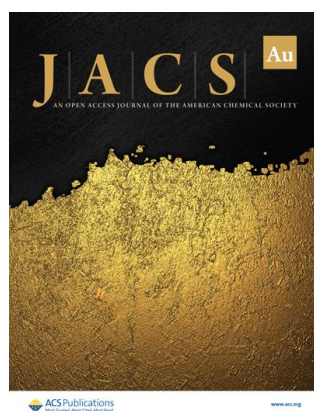
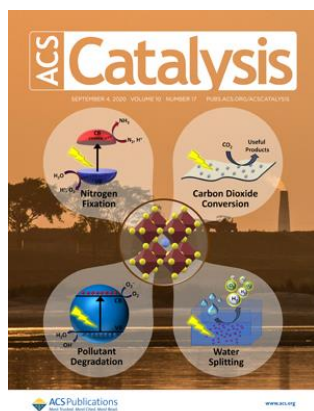
ingenamine

xestocyclamine A

Michael addition

decarboxylative allylation

alkyne metathesis



Non-standard) journal abbreviations used in this course:

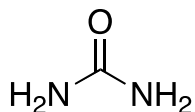
ACIE = Angewandte Chemie International Edition; CEJ = Chemistry a European Journal; ChemComm = Chemical Communications; ChemRev = Chemical Reviews; EurJOC = European Journal of Organic Chemistry; JACS = Journal of the American Chemical Society; JOC = Journal of Organic Chemistry; OL = Organic Letters; TL = Tetrahedron Letters; Tet = Tetrahedron; TetAsym = Tetrahedron: Asymmetry.

I - Introduction

1. History of organic synthesis
2. Therapeutic relevance of natural products
3. Interest of natural product synthesis

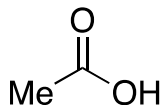
1. History of organic synthesis

Some milestones from 1828 to 1944...



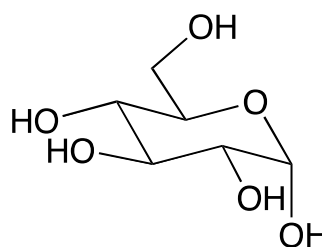
urea

Wöhler, 1828



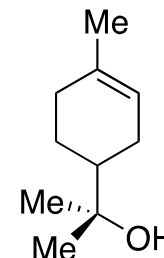
acetic acid

Kolbe, 1845



glucose

Fischer, 1890

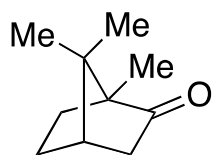


α -terpineol

Perkin, 1904

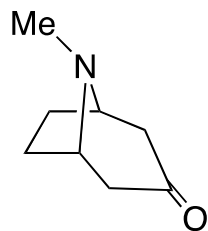


E. Fischer
(Nobel prize 1902)



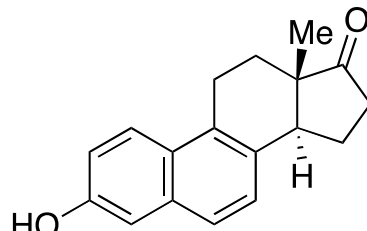
camphor

Komppa, 1903
Perkin, 1904



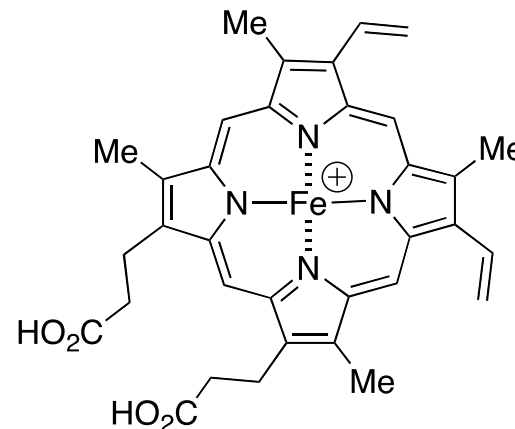
tropinone

Robinson, 1917



equilenin

Bachmann, 1939

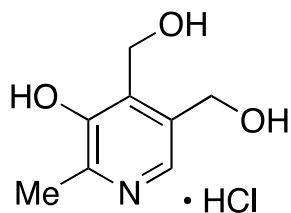


heme

Fischer, 1929

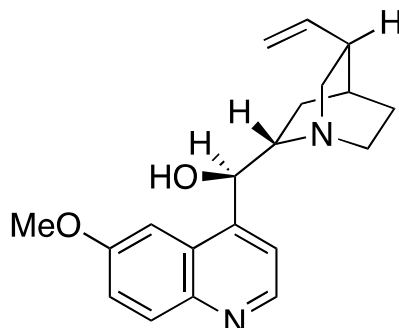


Sir R. Robinson
(Nobel prize 1947)



pyridoxine

hydrochloride
Folkers, 1939



quinine

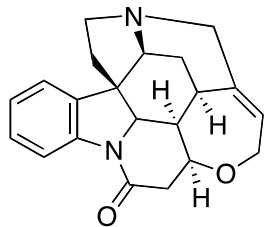
Woodward & Doering, 1944



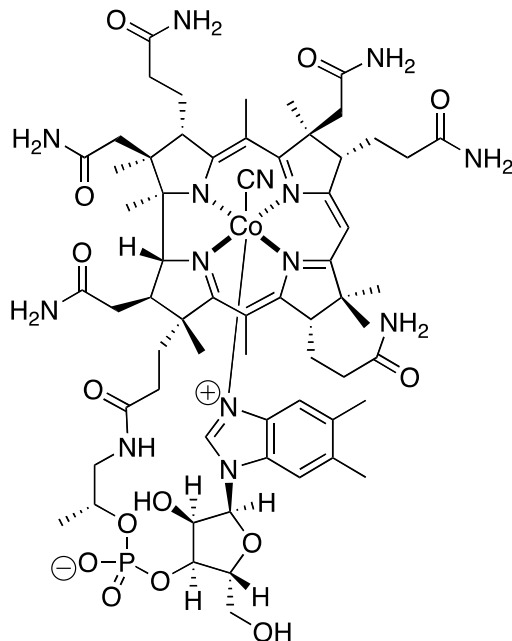
R. B. Woodward
(Nobel prize 1965)

1. History of organic synthesis

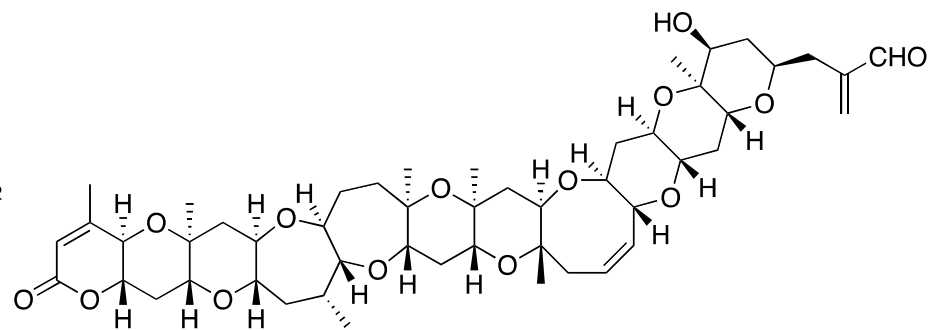
increasing complexity from the 2nd half of 20th century...



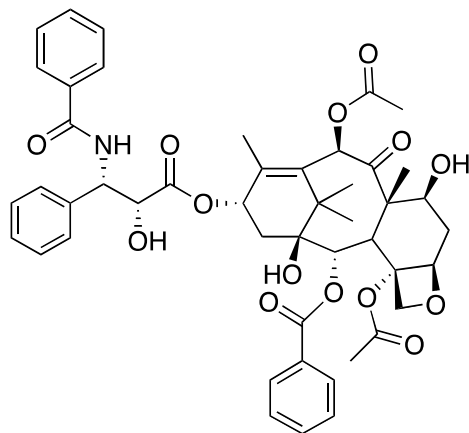
strychnine (1954)
Woodward



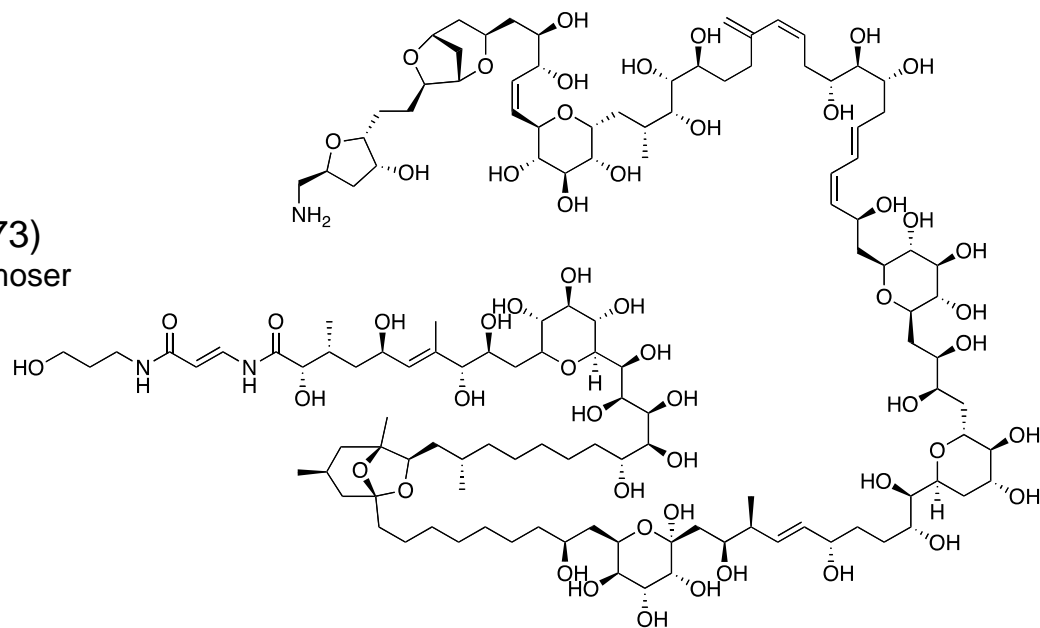
vitamin B12 (1973)
Woodward & Eschenmoser



brevetoxin B (1995)
Nicolaou



Taxol™ (1994)
Holton - Nicolaou - Danishefsky



palytoxin (1994)
Kishi

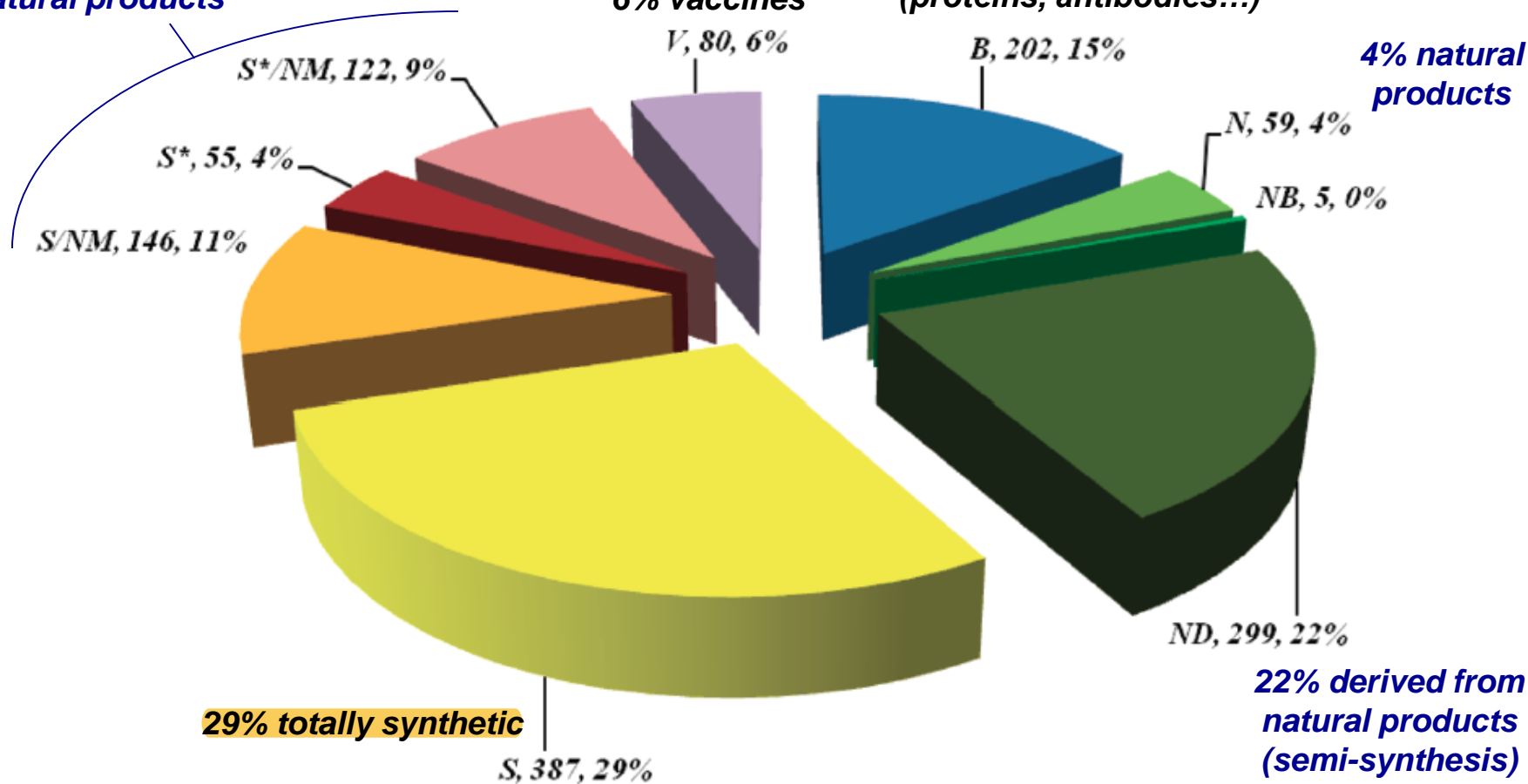
2. Therapeutic relevance of natural products

origin of 1355 new approved drugs 1981-2010:
50% derived or inspired from **natural products**

24% inspired of natural products

15% biological products (proteins, antibodies...)

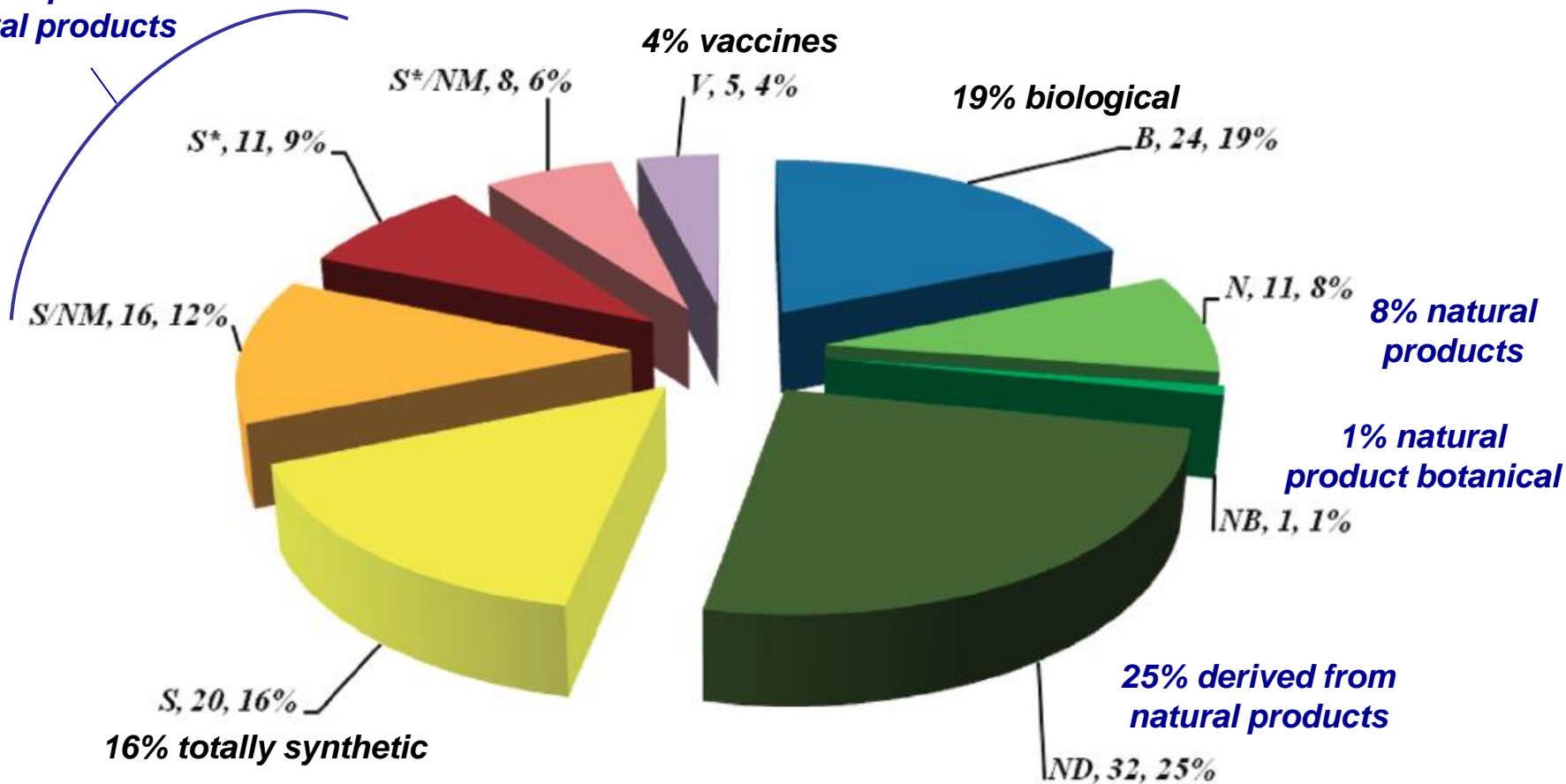
4% natural products



2. Therapeutic relevance of natural products

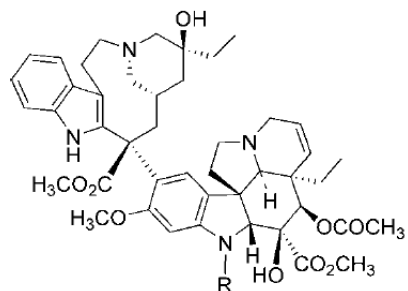
origin of new anticancer drugs 1981-2010:
61% derived or inspired from natural products

27% inspired of natural products

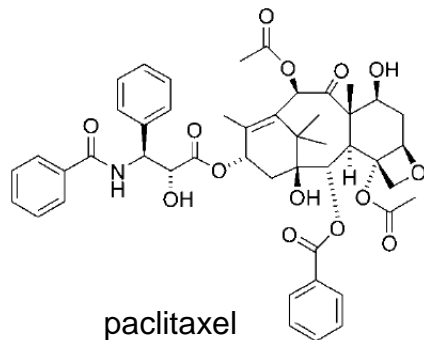


2. Therapeutic relevance of natural products

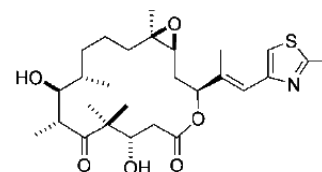
examples of anticancer natural products



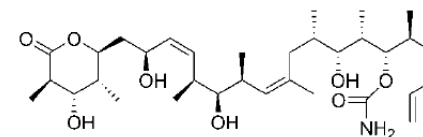
vinblastine (R=CH₃)
vincristine (R=CHO)
indole (vinca) alkaloids
tubulin



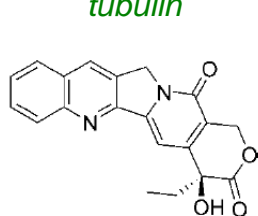
paclitaxel
diterpene
tubulin



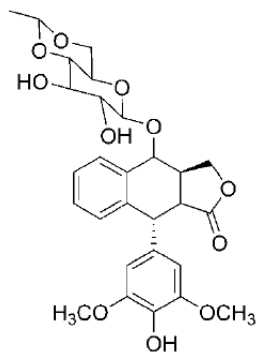
epothilone B
macrolide
tubulin



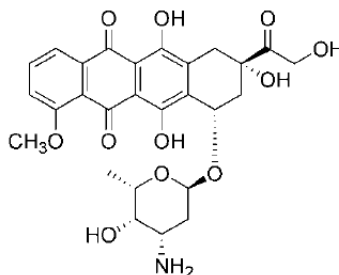
discodermolide
polyketide
tubulin



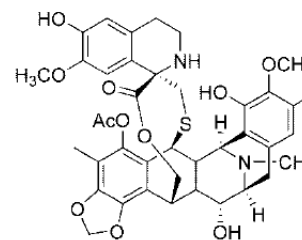
camptothecin
(quinoline) alkaloid
topoisomerase I



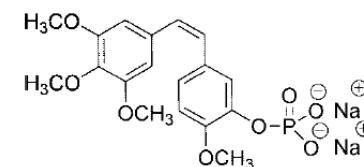
etoposide
lignan
topoisomerase II



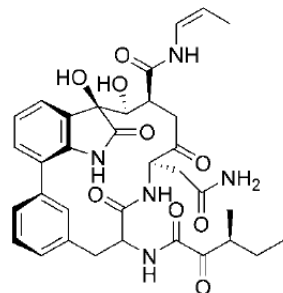
doxorubicin
anthracycline
topoisomerase II



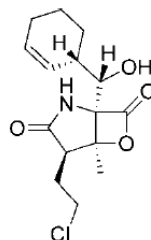
ecteinascidin 743
(tetrahydroisoquinoline) alkaloid
DNA



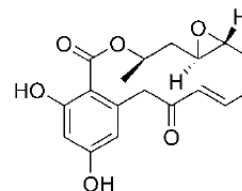
combretastatin A-4P
stilbenoid
tubulin



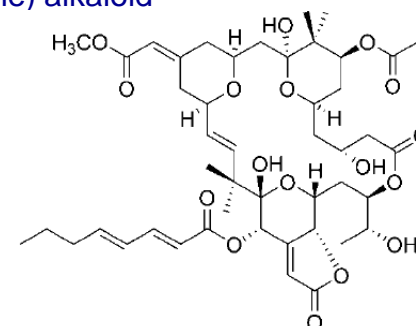
TMC-95A
cyclic peptide
proteasome



salinosporamide A
 γ -lactam
proteasome



radicicol
(resorcylic acid) lactone
Hsp90



bryostatin 1
macrolide
protein kinase C

2. Therapeutic relevance of natural products

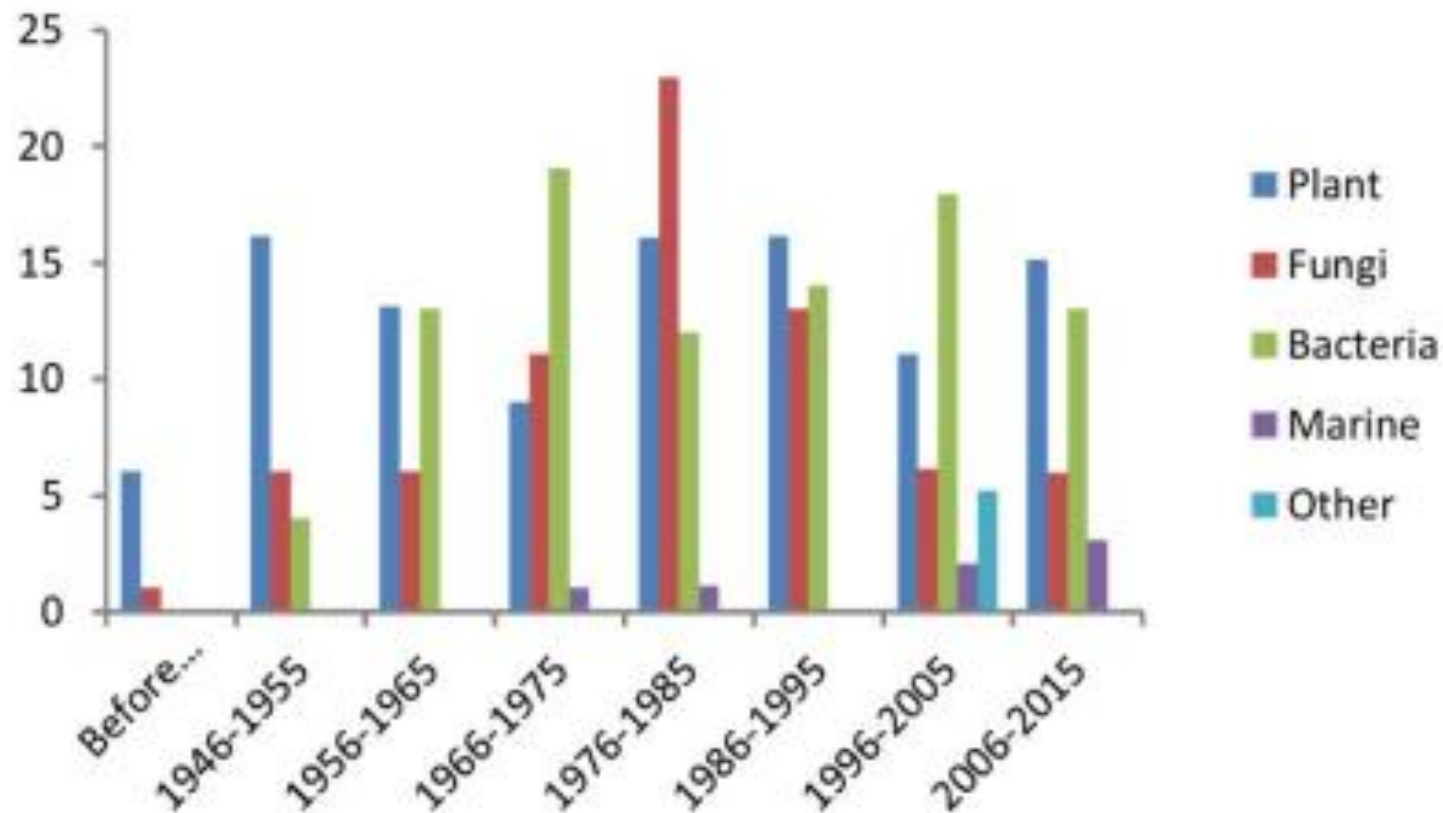


Figure 28. Number of approved NP drugs of various origin.

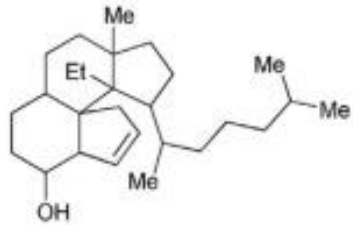
- The Symbiotic Relationship Between Drug Discovery and Organic Chemistry
O. O.Grygorenko,* , D. M.Volochnyuk, S. V. Ryabukhin, D. B. Judd
Chem. Eur. J. **2020**, 26, 1196 – 1237

3. Interest of natural product synthesis

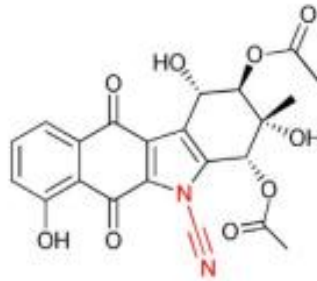
- **Verification/correction of proposed structure**
(in particular the relative and absolute stereochemistry)
- Limited availability of some NP (e. g. marine organisms)
- Biological activity: synthesis of more efficient analogues (SAR)
- Structure originality (fascination?)
- Development/application of **new synthetic methods**
- Development of **new synthetic strategies**



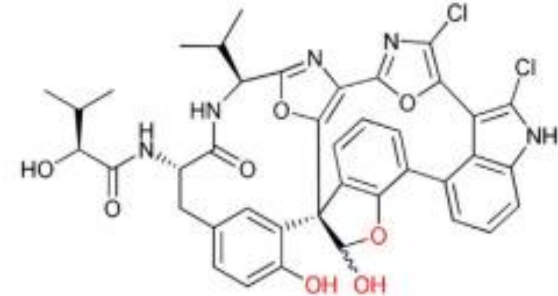
3. Interest of natural product synthesis



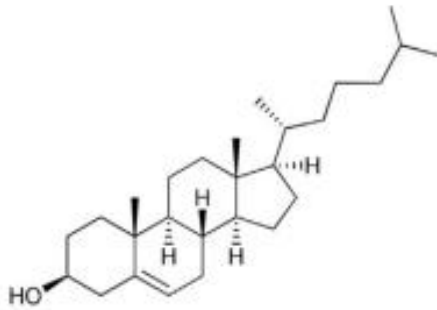
Tentative structure of cholesterol proposed in 1928



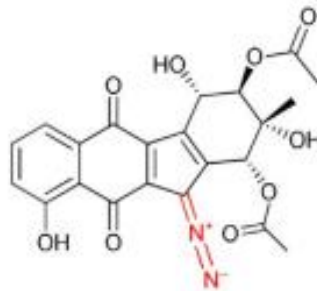
Tentative structure of kinamycin C proposed in 1973 according to X-ray data



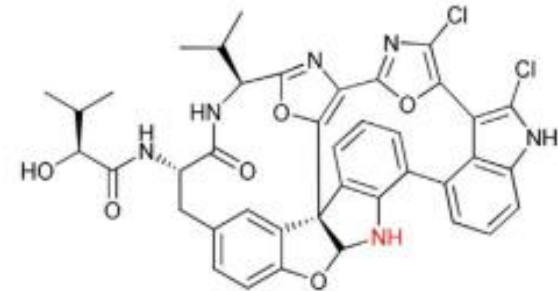
Tentative structure of diazonamide A proposed in 1991 according to X-ray data



Cholesterol



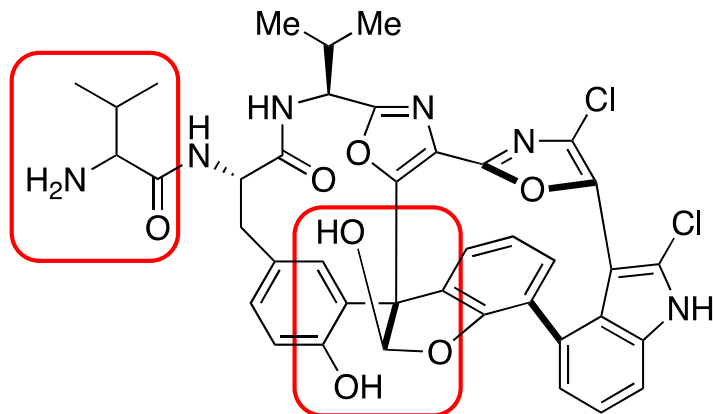
Kinamycin C



Diazonamide A

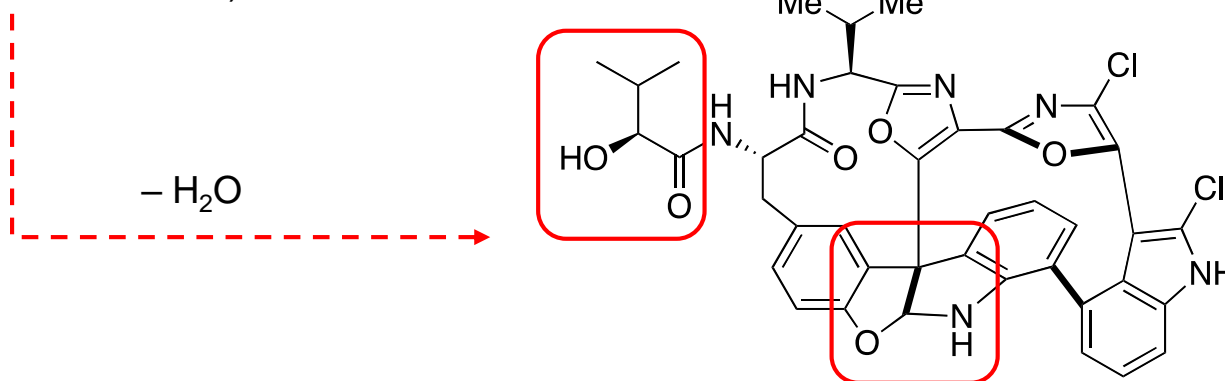
3. Interest of natural product synthesis

Diazonamide A



- Isolated from an ascidian (marine organism): 54 mg from 256 g (yield = 0.021%)
- High cytotoxicity toward cancer cell lines ($IC_{50} < 15$ ng/mL)
- Original rigid structure

initially proposed structure (NMR, X-ray)
(Fenical, *JACS* **1991**, 2303)



Structure revised by total synthesis

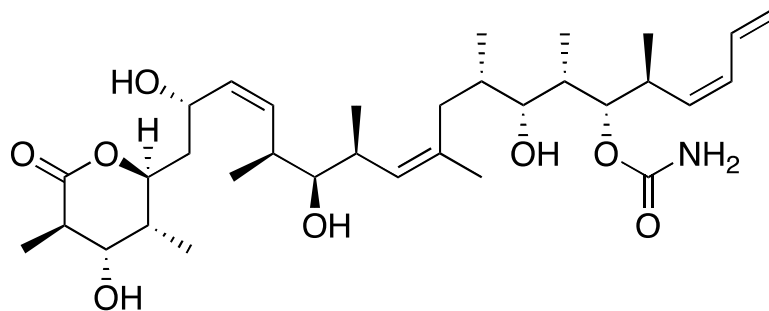
(Harran, *ACIE* **2001**, 4765&4770,
Nicolaou, *ACIE* **2002**, 3495)

3. Interest of natural product synthesis

- Verification/correction of proposed structure
(in particular the relative and absolute stereochemistry)
- Limited availability of some NP (e. g. marine organisms)
- Biological activity: synthesis of more efficient analogues (SAR)
- Structure originality (fascination?)
- Development/application of new synthetic methods
- Development of new synthetic strategies



Discodermolide

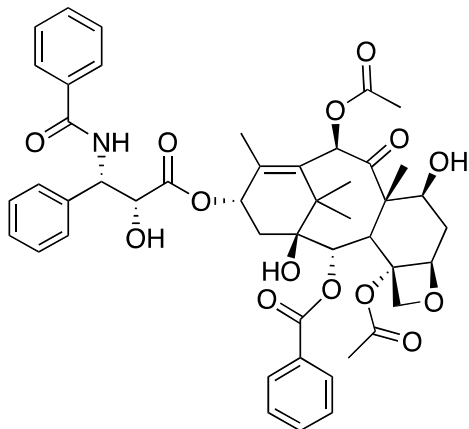


- Isolated from a sponge: 7 mg from 434 g (yld = 0.002%)
 - Potent antitumor properties (Taxol-type)
 - Phase I clinical trials (Novartis)
 - Development of a total synthesis by Novartis based on two academic syntheses (Smith, Paterson)
- 60 g of discodermolide, 26 steps, 0.6% overall yield

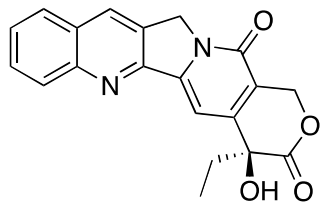
3. Interest of natural product synthesis

Famous drug analogues of natural products

Natural product

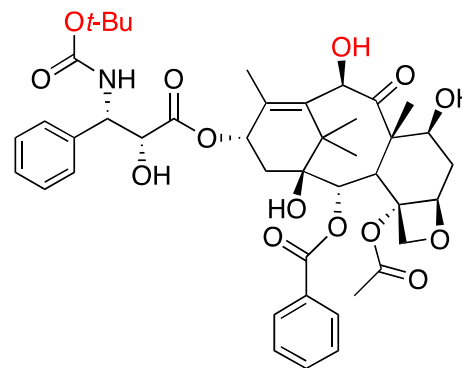


paclitaxel (Taxol®)

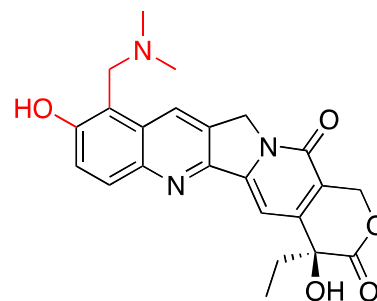


camptothecin

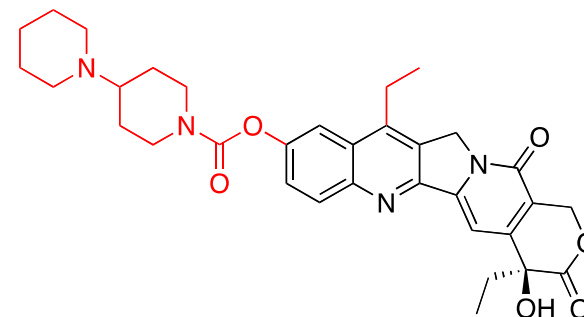
Analogue(s)



docetaxel (Taxotere®)

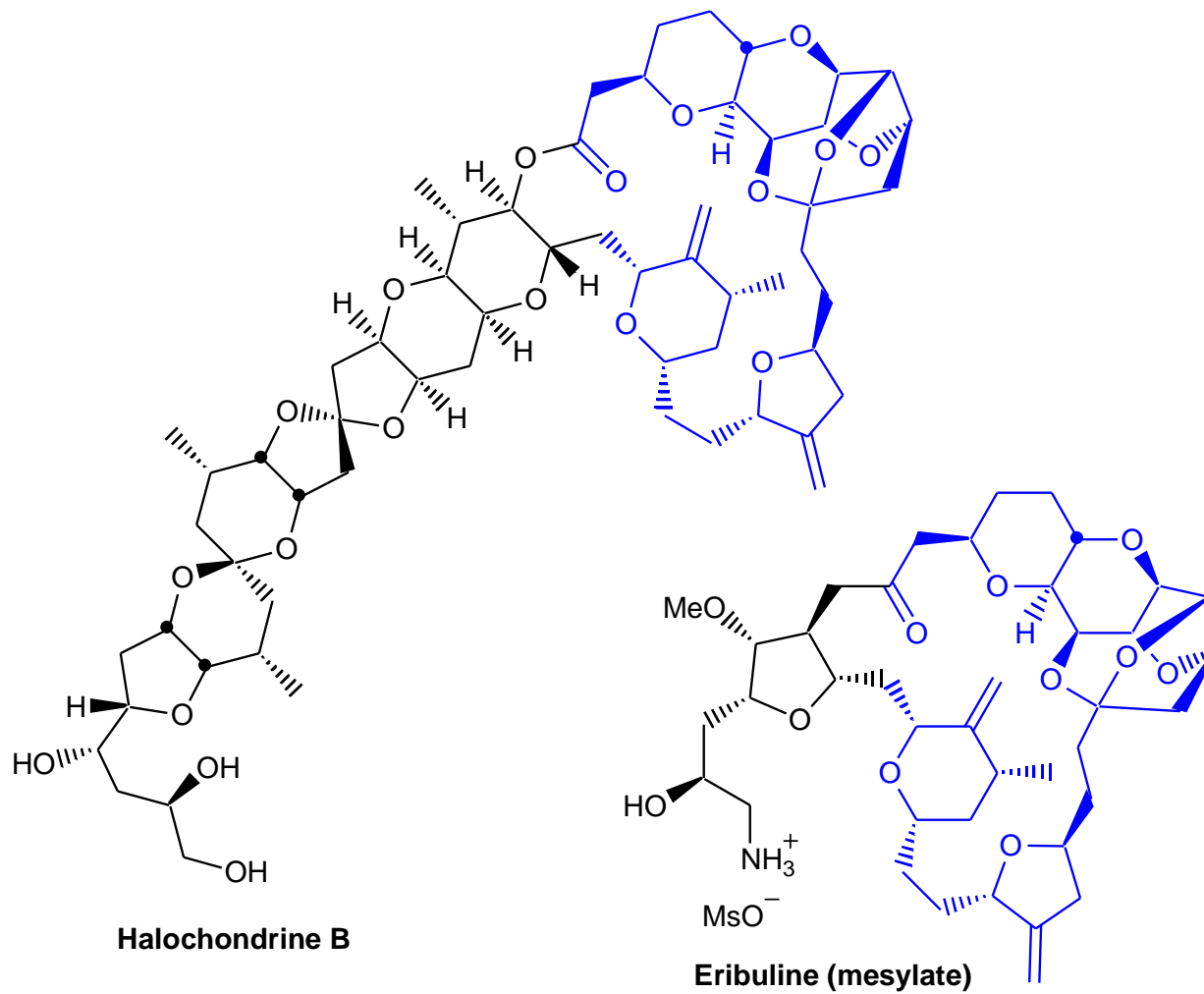


Topotecan®

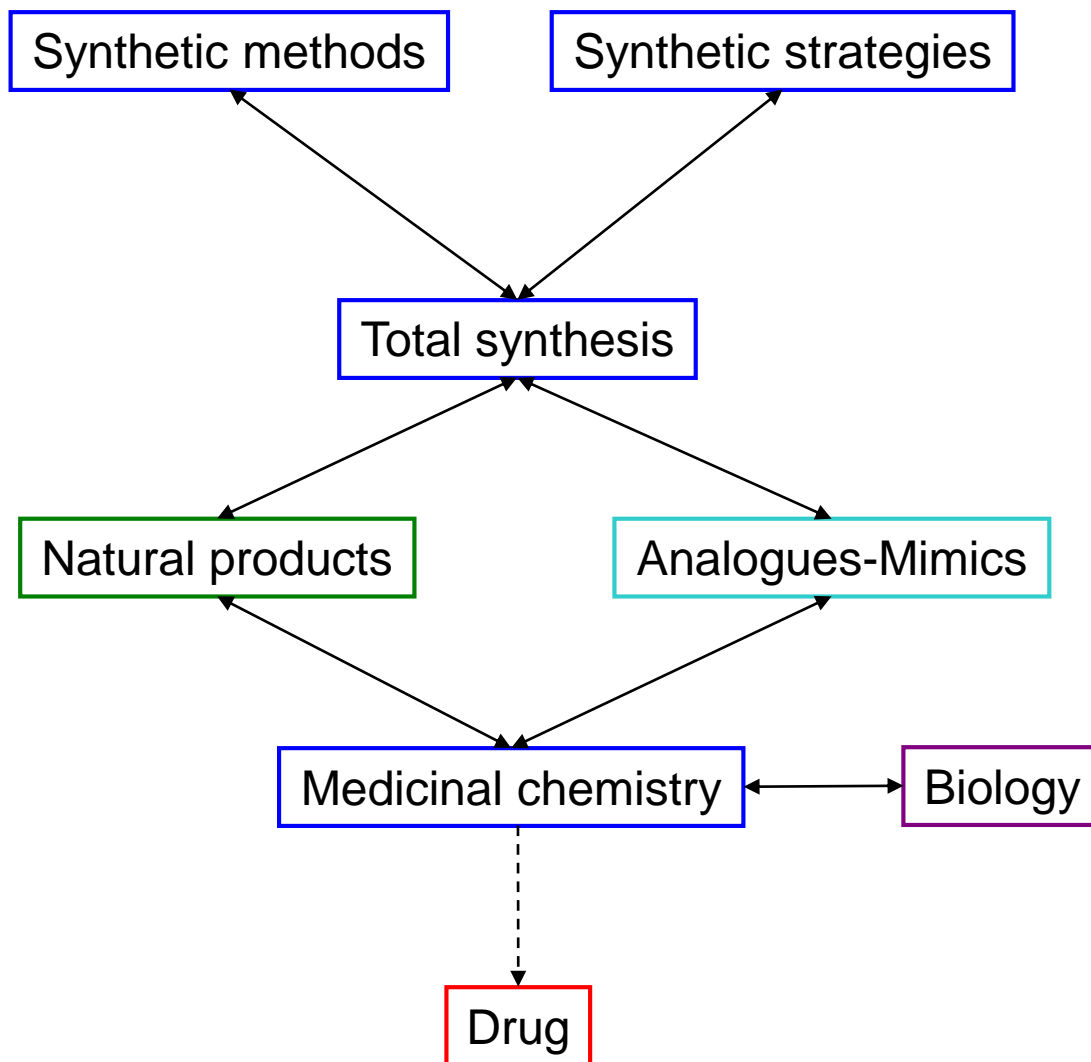


Irinotecan®

3. Interest of natural product synthesis



The central role of total synthesis



II - Concepts

1. General features
2. Linear vs. convergent syntheses
3. Divergent syntheses
4. Atom economy
5. Domino reactions
6. Retrosynthetic analysis

1. General features

25

Academic syntheses

- Higher overall yield (**convergent** synthesis) – **Highly efficient**
- Minimal number of steps (**few PG**, **atom-economical** reactions)
- **Flexibility** (adaptation to dead-ends, synthesis of analogues)
- Selectivity (chemo, regio, stereo)
- Originality - elegance

Industrial syntheses

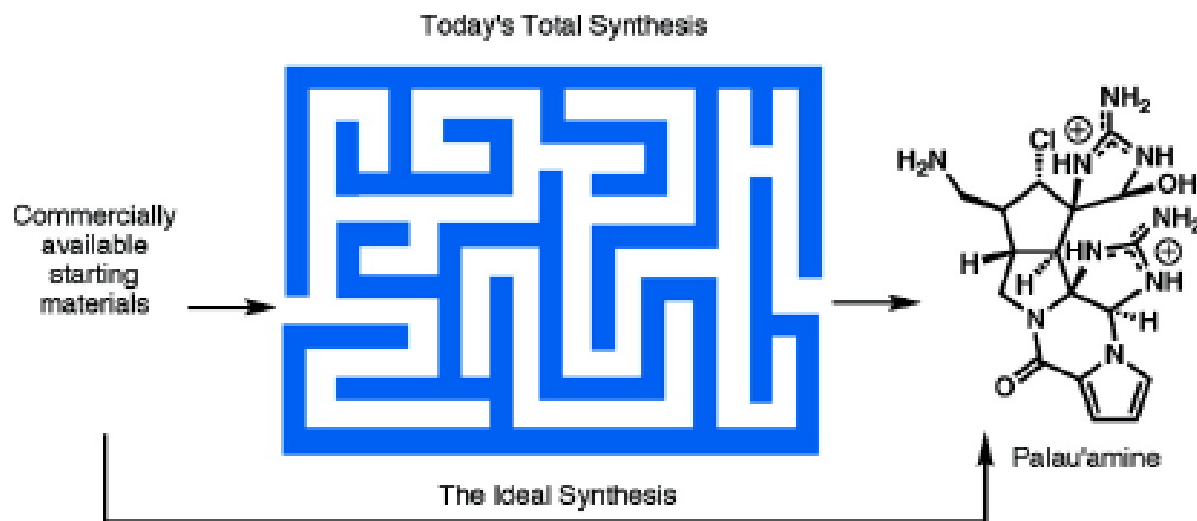
- Minimal global cost – **economically** acceptable
- Minimal number of operations (work-up, purification...)
- Minimal waste and risks – **environmentally** acceptable
- Reproducibility

1. General features

« *The ideal synthesis* » ...a sequence of only **construction reactions** involving no **intermediary refunctionalizations**, and leading directly to the target, not only its **skeleton** but also its correctly placed **functionality**.

26

J. B. Hendrickson
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1975**, *97*, 5784,



T. Gaich, P.S. Baran *J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, *75*, 4657.

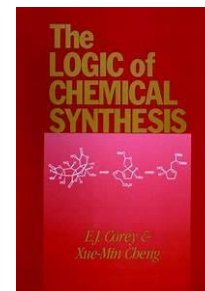
1. General features

27

« *The ideal retrosynthesis* » ...a wise choice of appropriate simplifying transformations.

27

E. J. Corey
The Logic of Chemical Synthesis, 1989



T. Gaich, P.S. Baran *J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, 75, 4657.

Discovery of new reactions / new procedures

1. General features

28

Academic syntheses

- Higher overall yield (convergent synthesis)
- Minimal number of steps (few PG, atom-economical reactions)
- Flexibility (adaptation to dead-ends, synthesis of analogues)
- Selectivity (chemo, regio, stereo)
- **Originality – elegance***

Industrial syntheses

- Minimal global cost
- Minimal number of operations (work-up, purification...)
- Minimal waste and risks
- Reproducibility

*Pursuing practical elegance in chemical synthesis

R. Noyori *Chem. Commun.* **2005**, 1807-1811.

1. General features

29

« Asking a chemist how he came upon precisely the starting materials and reactions that so elegantly led to the desired results would probably be as meaningless as asking *Picasso* why he painted as he did. »



ART

E. J. Corey

- Chemical synthesis = Creative activity in which art, design, imagination and inspiration play a dominant role.
- Organic synthesis = heuristic activity
- Importance of serendipity

The Chemist and the Architect**

Dirk Trauner*

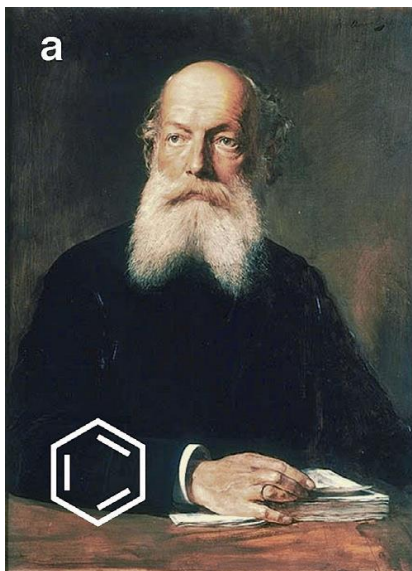
architecture · self-assembly ·
supramolecular chemistry · symmetry ·
synthetic organic chemistry

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2018, 57, 4177–4191

30

To imagine a structure and then express it in material form is one of the most satisfying of human activities. It is pervasive throughout the arts and crafts and it is one of the defining features of **architecture**.

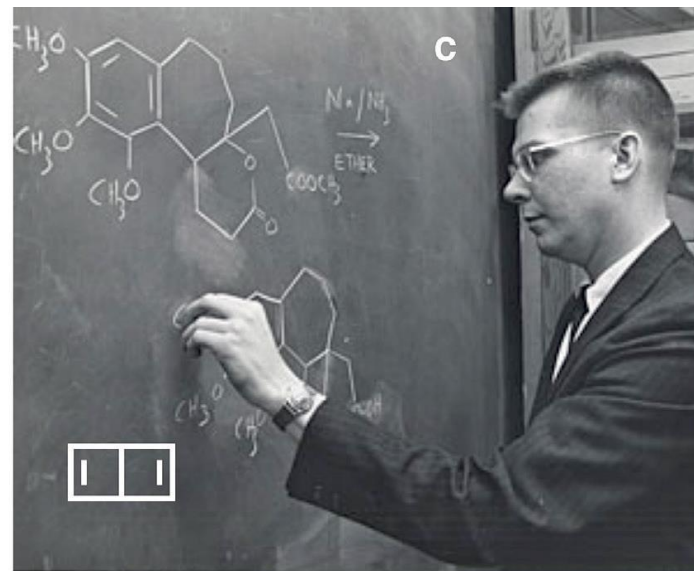
It is also at the **heart of synthetic chemistry**.



A. von Kekulé



R. Willstätter



E. Van Tamelen

The Chemist and the Architect**

Dirk Trauner*

architecture · self-assembly ·
supramolecular chemistry · symmetry ·
synthetic organic chemistry

31

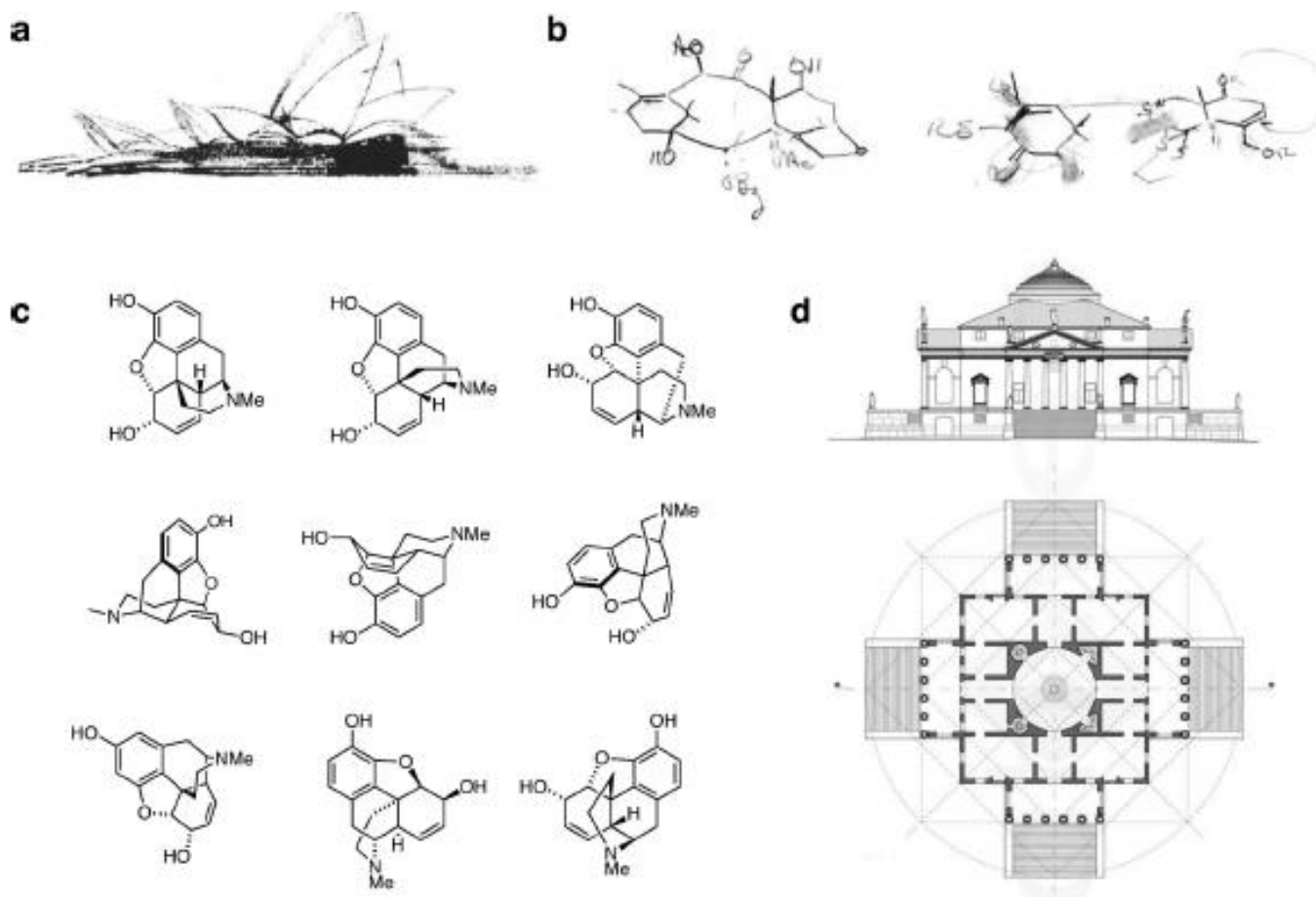


Figure 8. Drawing in chemistry and architecture. a) Utzon's sketch for the Sydney Opera house. b) Danishefsky's sketch of a taxol synthesis. c) Different drawings of morphine emphasize different aspects of the molecule. d) Different projections of Andrea Palladio's La Rotonda provide an understanding of the building.

The Art and Science of Total Synthesis



**The Art and Science of Total Synthesis at the Dawn
of the Twenty-First Century****

K. C. Nicolaou,* Dionisios Vourloumis, Nicolas Winssinger, and Phil S. Baran
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2000**, *39*, 44–122

1. General features

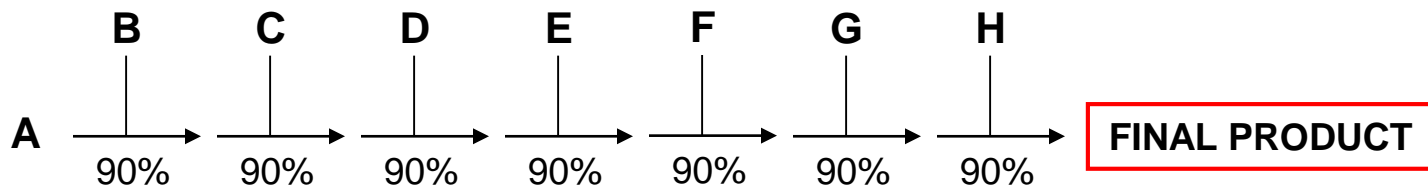


1. E Factor

Industrie	Tonnage annuel en produit	Facteur E	Tonnage annuel En déchets	Nombre d'étapes
Pétrochimie	10^6 - 10^8 t	0,1	10^7 t	séparation
Chimie lourde	10^5 - 10^6 t	<1 - 5	$5 \cdot 10^6$ t	1 - 2
Chimie fine	100 – 10^4 t	5 - 50	$5 \cdot 10^5$ t	3 - 4
Industrie Pharma.	10 – 1000 t	25 - > 100	10^5 t	> 6

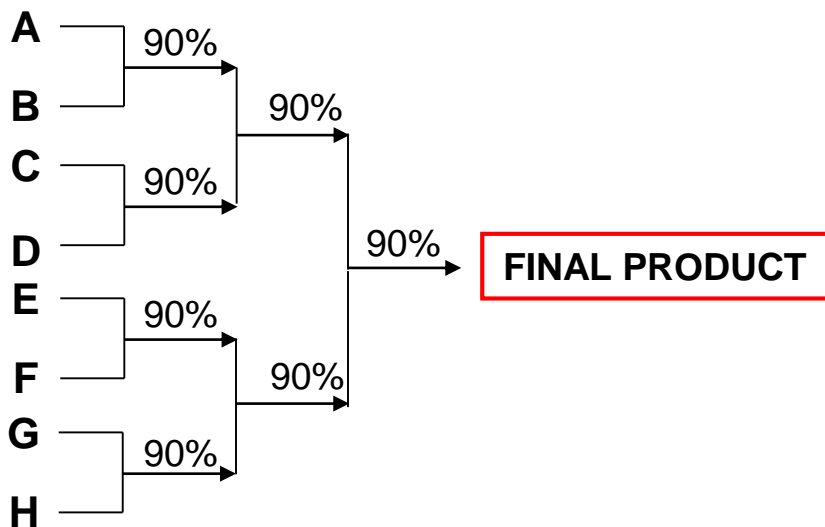
2. Linear vs. convergent syntheses

Linear synthesis



7 steps
overall yield = $0,9^7 = 48\%$

Convergent synthesis



7 steps in total
longest linear sequence = 3 steps
overall yield = $0,9^3 = 73\%$

(for 64 blocs: 53% vs. 0.13% !)

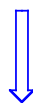
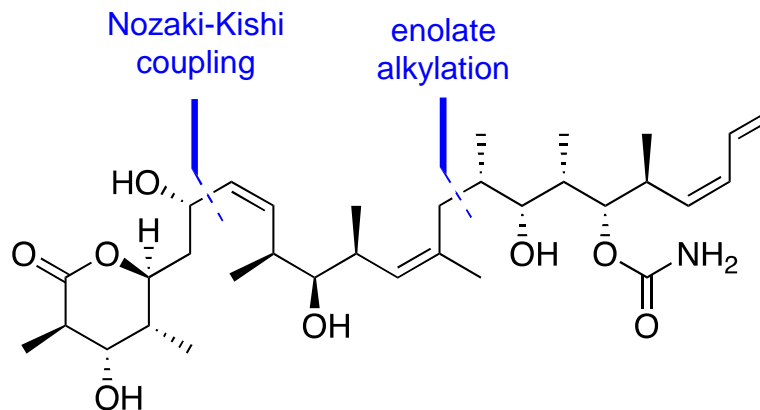
- higher overall yield
- better flexibility: adaptability to dead-ends, synthesis of analogues



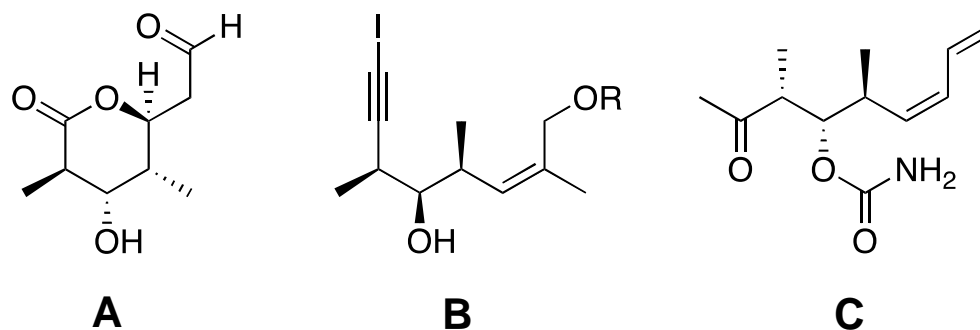


2. Linear vs. convergent syntheses

Convergent synthesis: example of discodermolide (Schreiber)



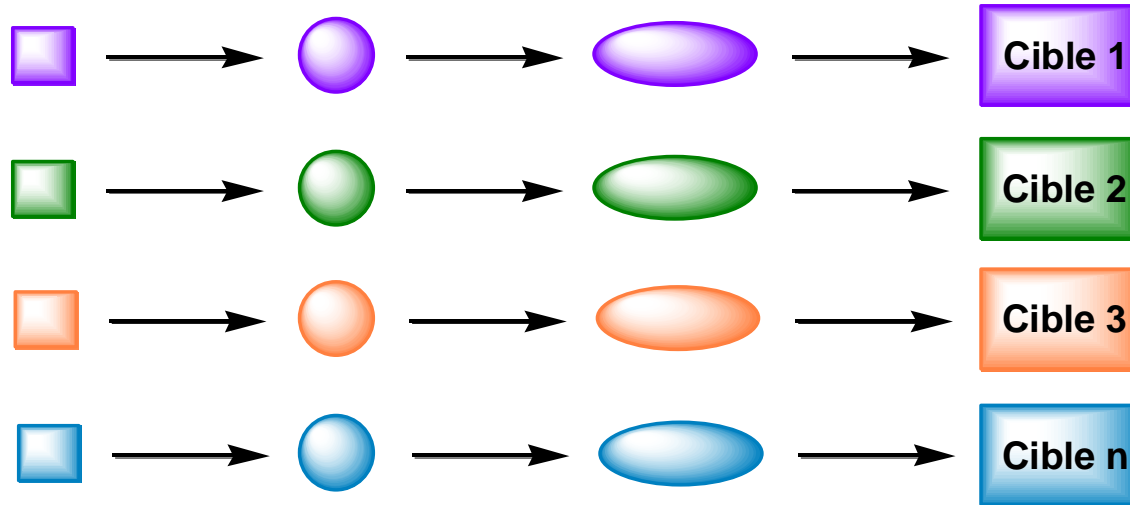
Fragments:



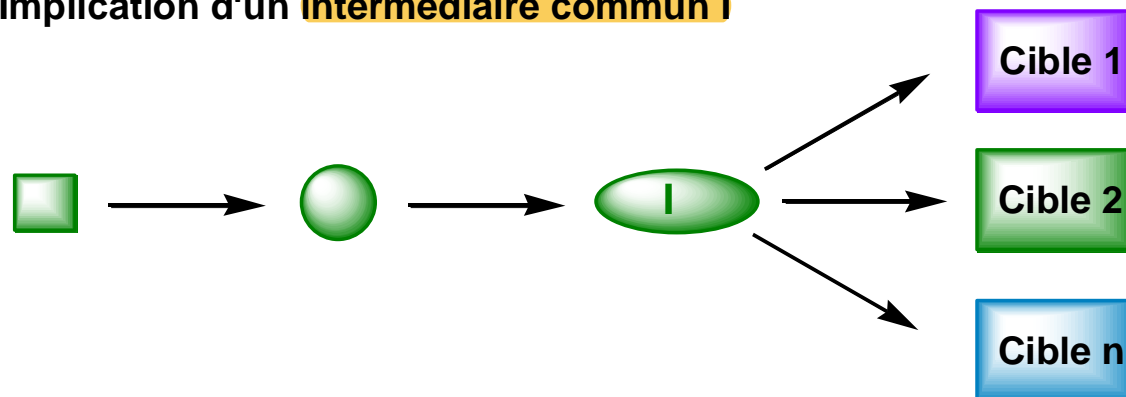
Possible strategies: **(A+B)+C** or **A+(B+C)**

5. Directed OS / Target-OS

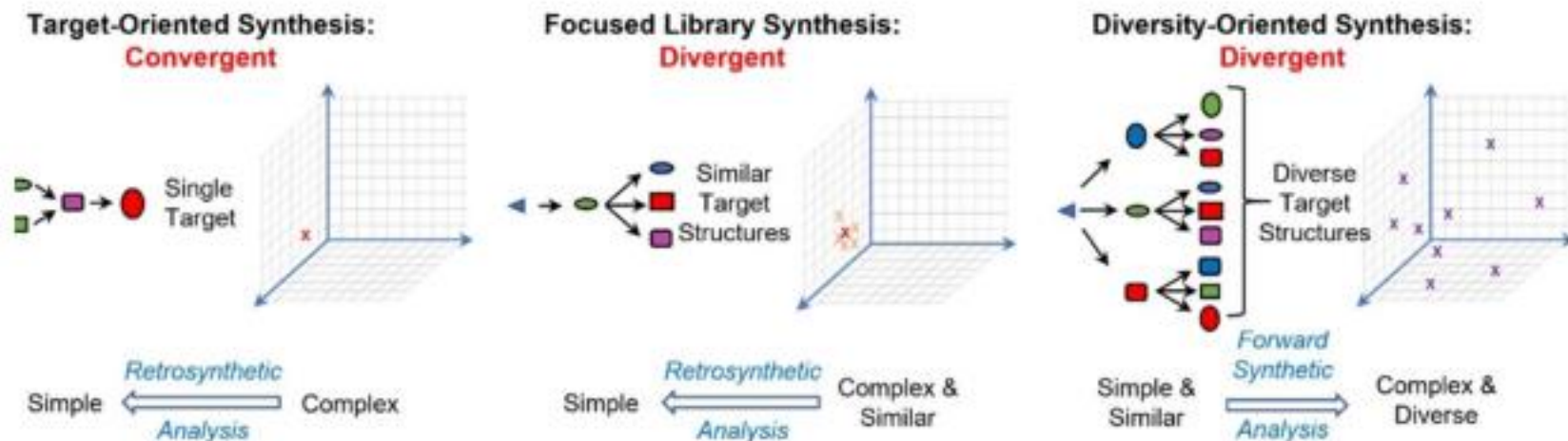
Synthèse orientée vers la cible:
Diversification par synthèse parallèle



Synthèse divergente
Implication d'un intermédiaire commun I



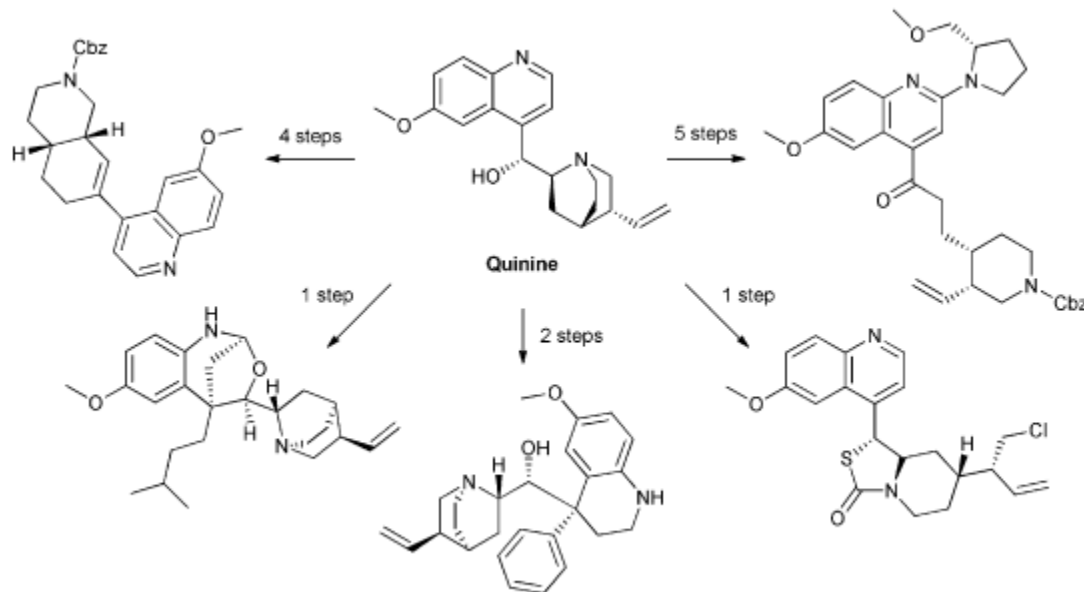
5. Directed OS / Target-OS



- The Symbiotic Relationship Between Drug Discovery and Organic Chemistry
O. O. Grygorenko,^{*} D. M. Volochnyuk, S. V. Ryabukhin, D. B. Judd
Chem. Eur. J. **2020**, *26*, 1196 – 1237

5. Directed OS / Target-OS

41



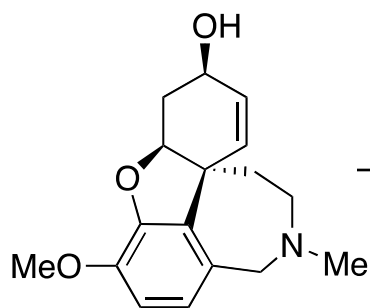
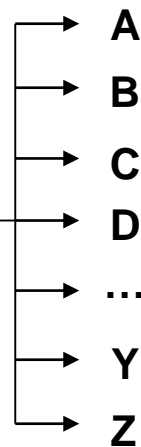
- The Symbiotic Relationship Between Drug Discovery and Organic Chemistry
O. O.Grygorenko,^{*} D. M.Volochnyuk, S. V. Ryabukhin, D. B. Judd
Chem. Eur. J. **2020**, 26, 1196 – 1237

3. Divergent syntheses

Diversity-oriented synthesis (as opposed to 'target-oriented synthesis')

Interest: generation of a great number of **analogues for biological screenings**

Natural product (or mimic),
synthetic intermediate



galanthamine

inhibitor of acetylcholinesterase

imine
formation

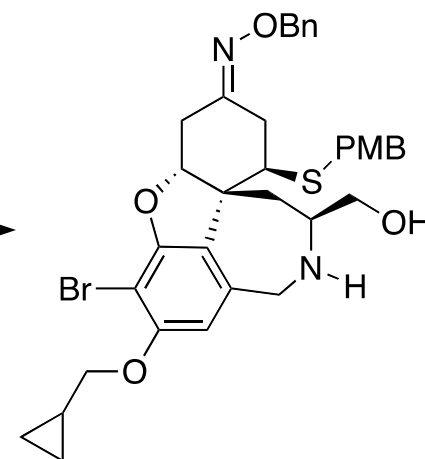
conjugate
addition

solid support

acylation,
alkylation

Mitsunobu

**molecular scaffold
for chemical library synthesis**

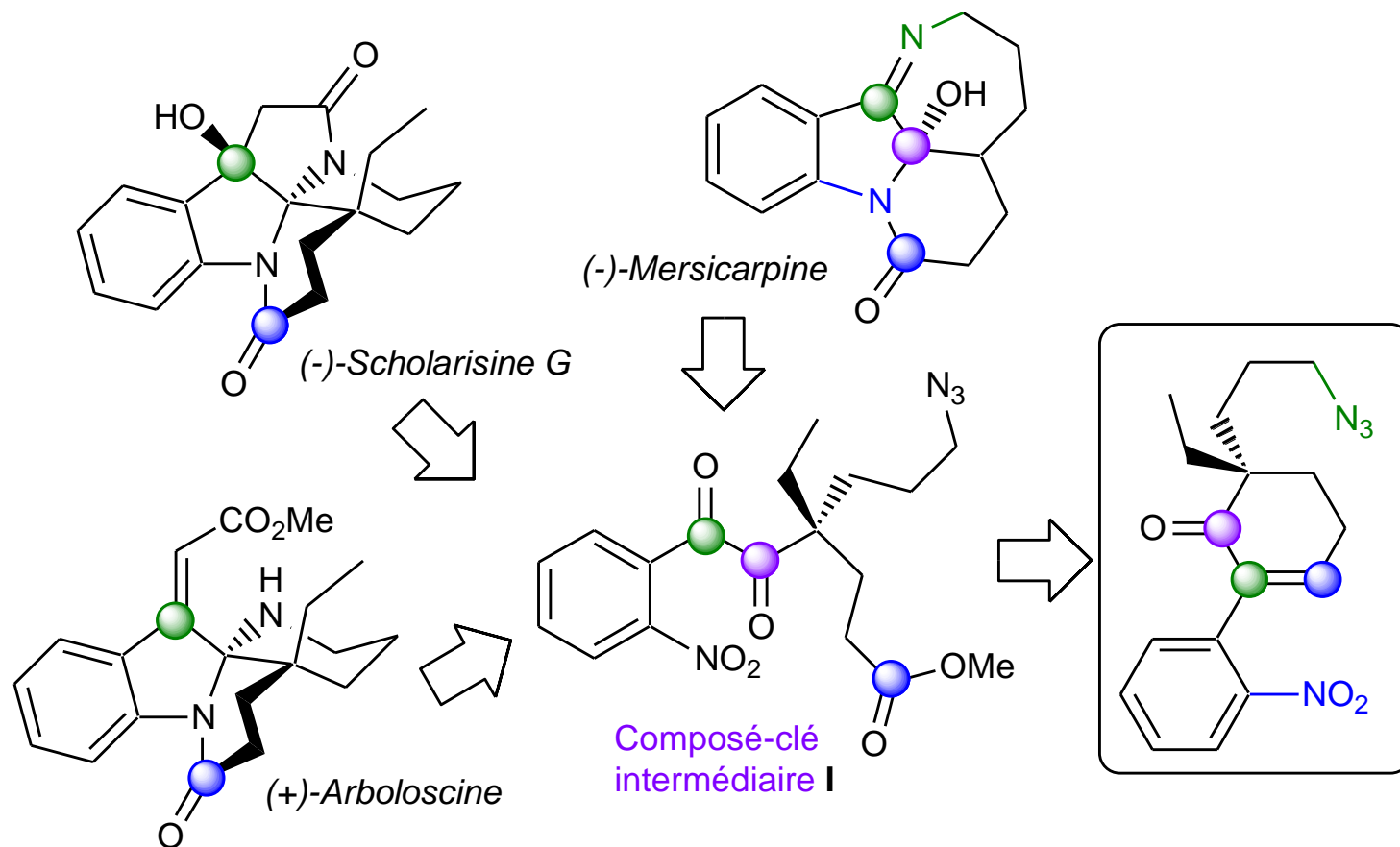


secramine

inhibitor of protein migration

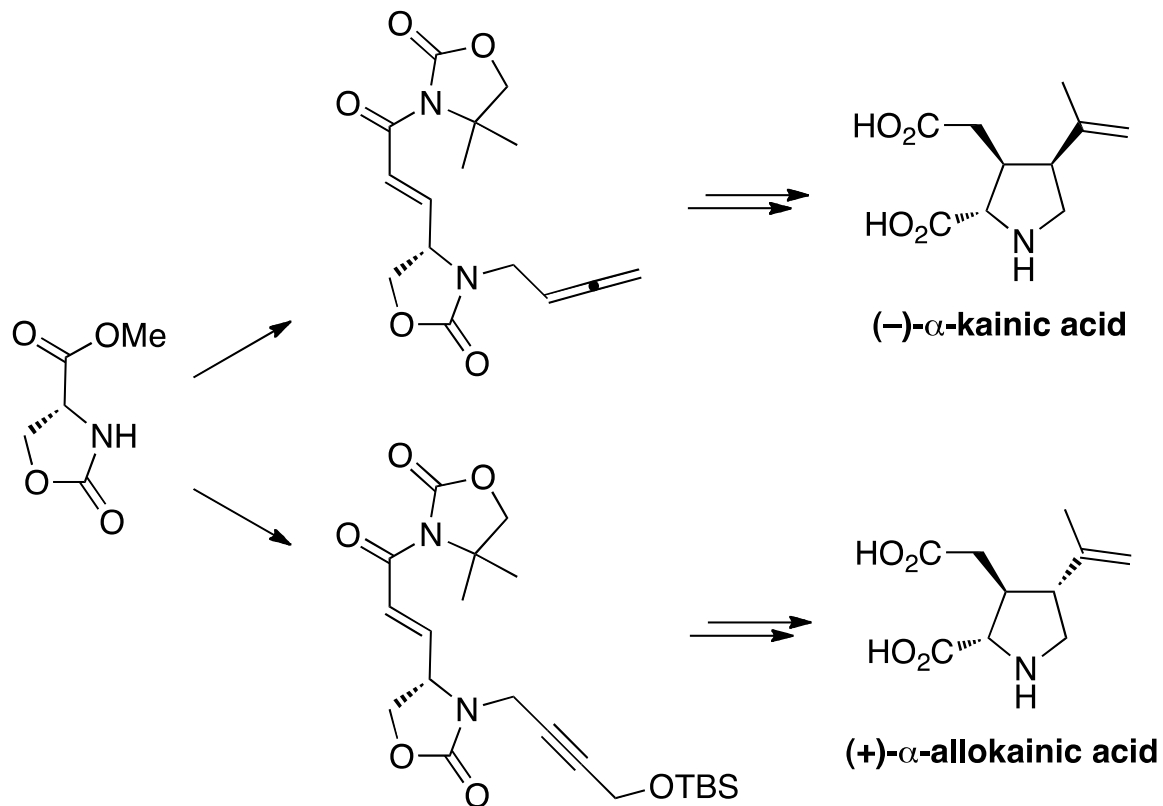
synthesis of 2527 molecules!

5. DOS / TOS



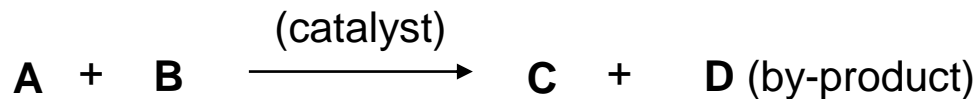
3. Divergent syntheses

Stereodivergent syntheses: access to several stereoisomers of a natural product from a common enantiomerically pure precursor (enantio/diastereodivergence)



4. Atom economy

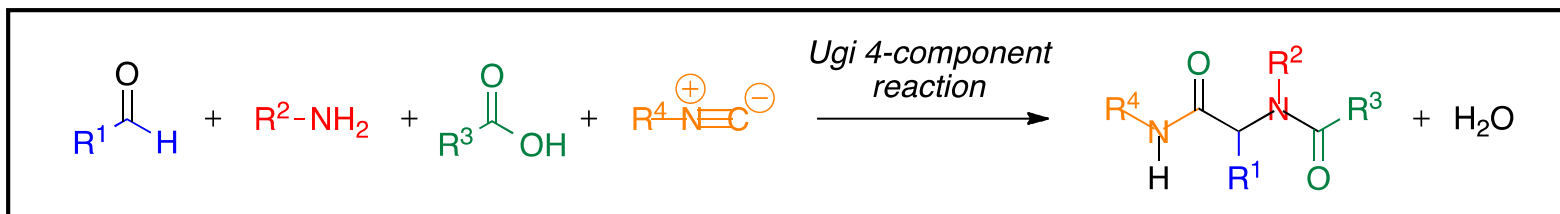
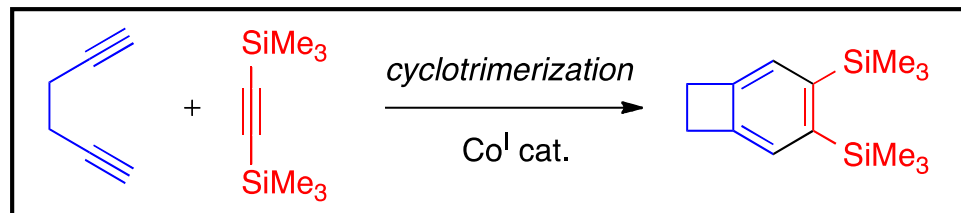
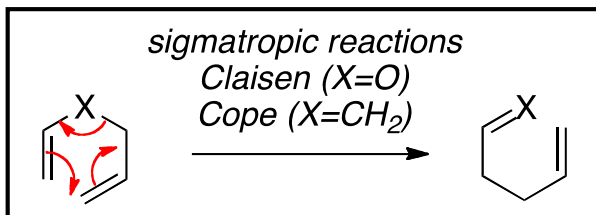
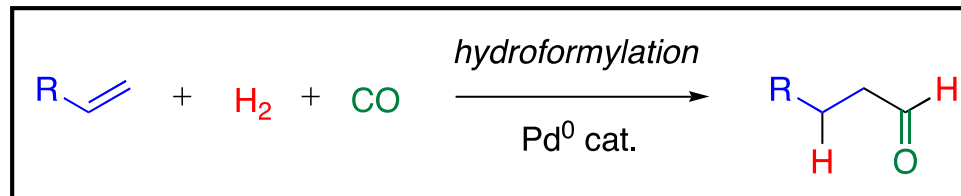
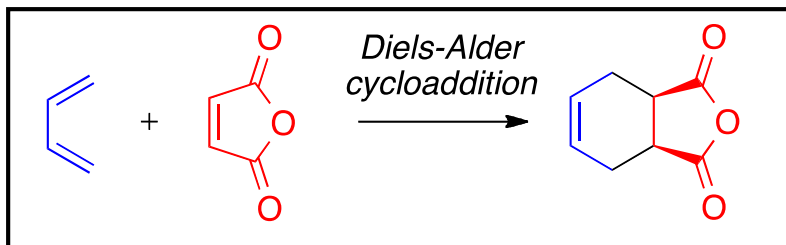
Describes reactions for which most (or all) atoms of the reactants are found in the structure of the desired product:



D = small and non-toxic (H₂O, CO₂...), if any

Examples:

Trost, *ACIE* 1995, 259.



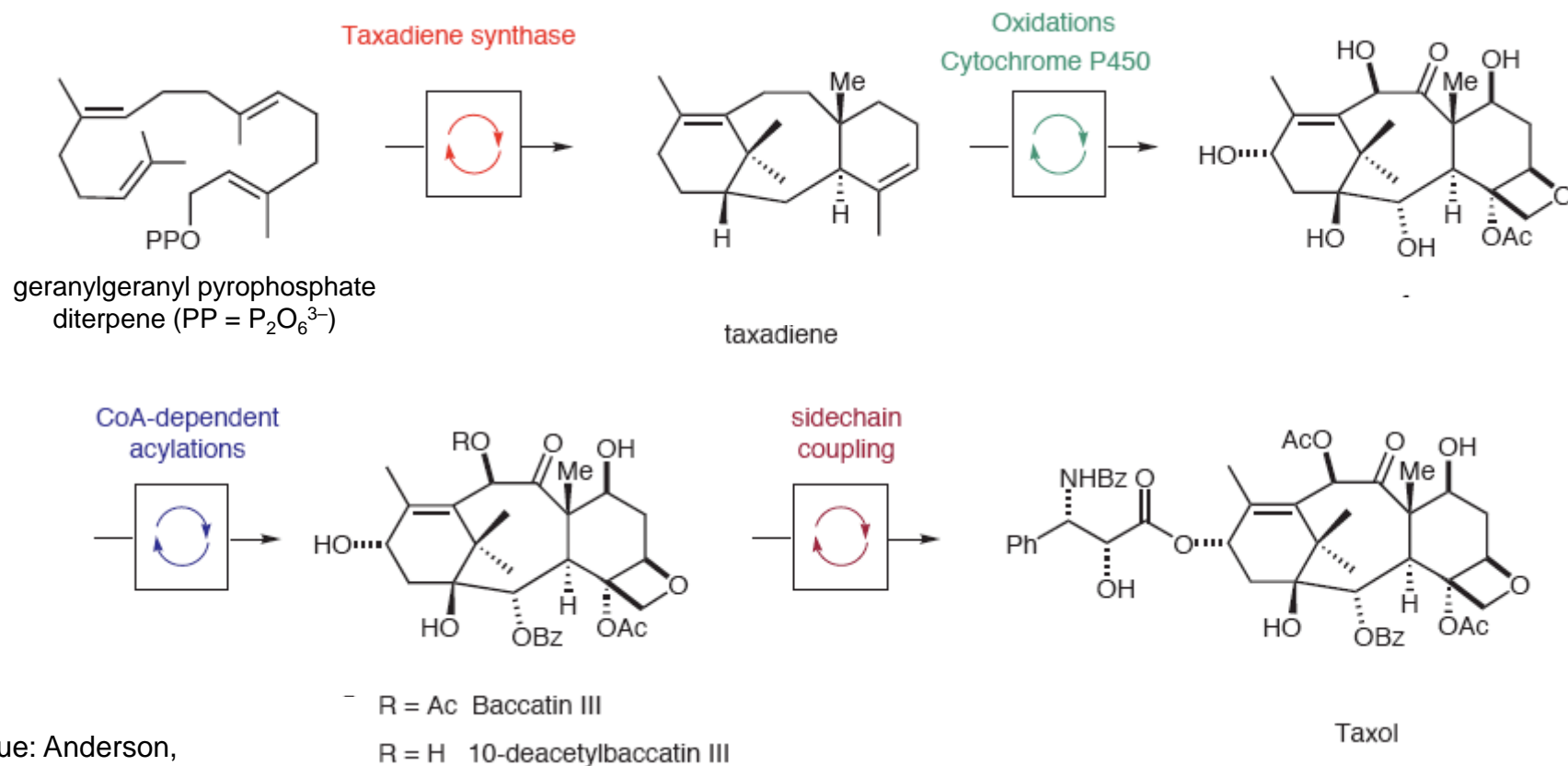
5. Domino reactions (cascade, tandem)

Definition: reactions which involve the formation of at least two bonds under the same conditions without further addition of reagent or catalyst.

If conditions are modified (including the addition of a reagent): **one-pot reaction**.

Domino reactions are often **biomimetic** = inspired of biosynthesis.

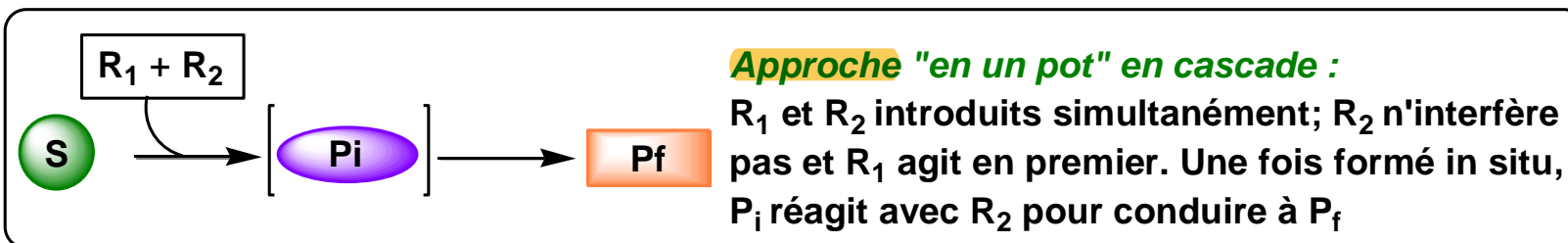
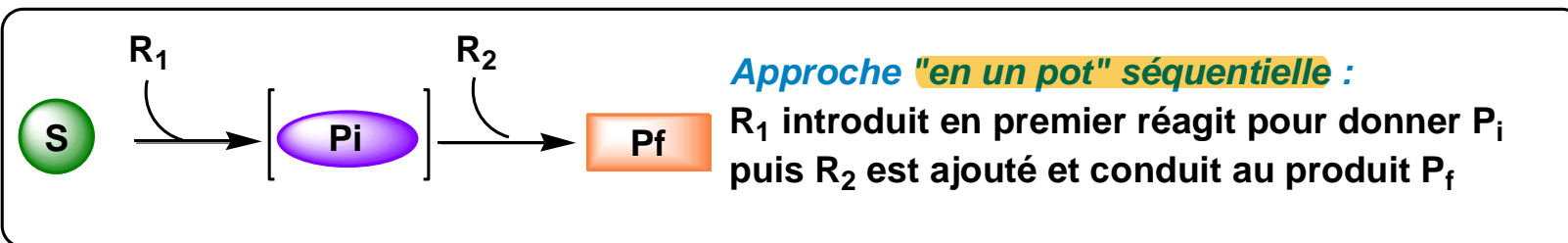
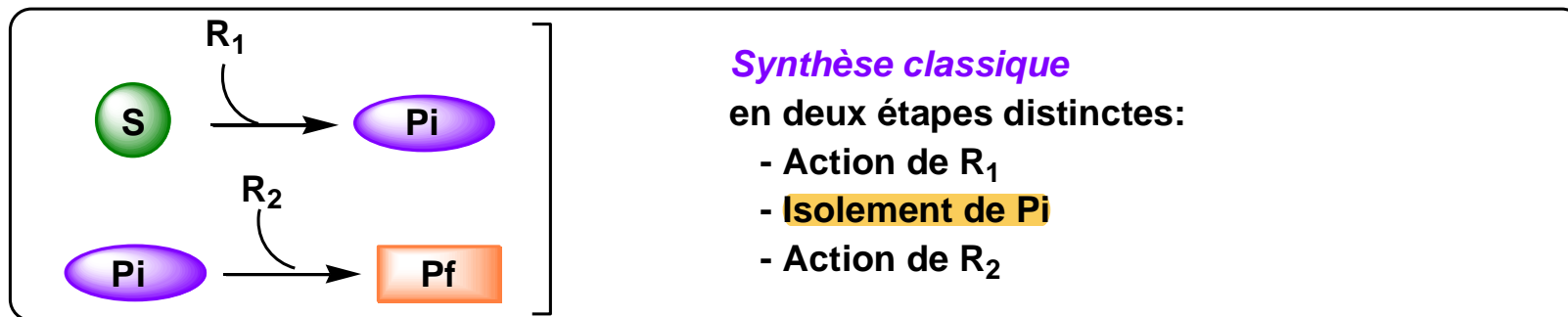
Example of Taxol biosynthesis:



5. Domino reactions (cascade, tandem)

Definition: reactions which involve the formation of at least two bonds under the same conditions without further addition of reagent or catalyst.

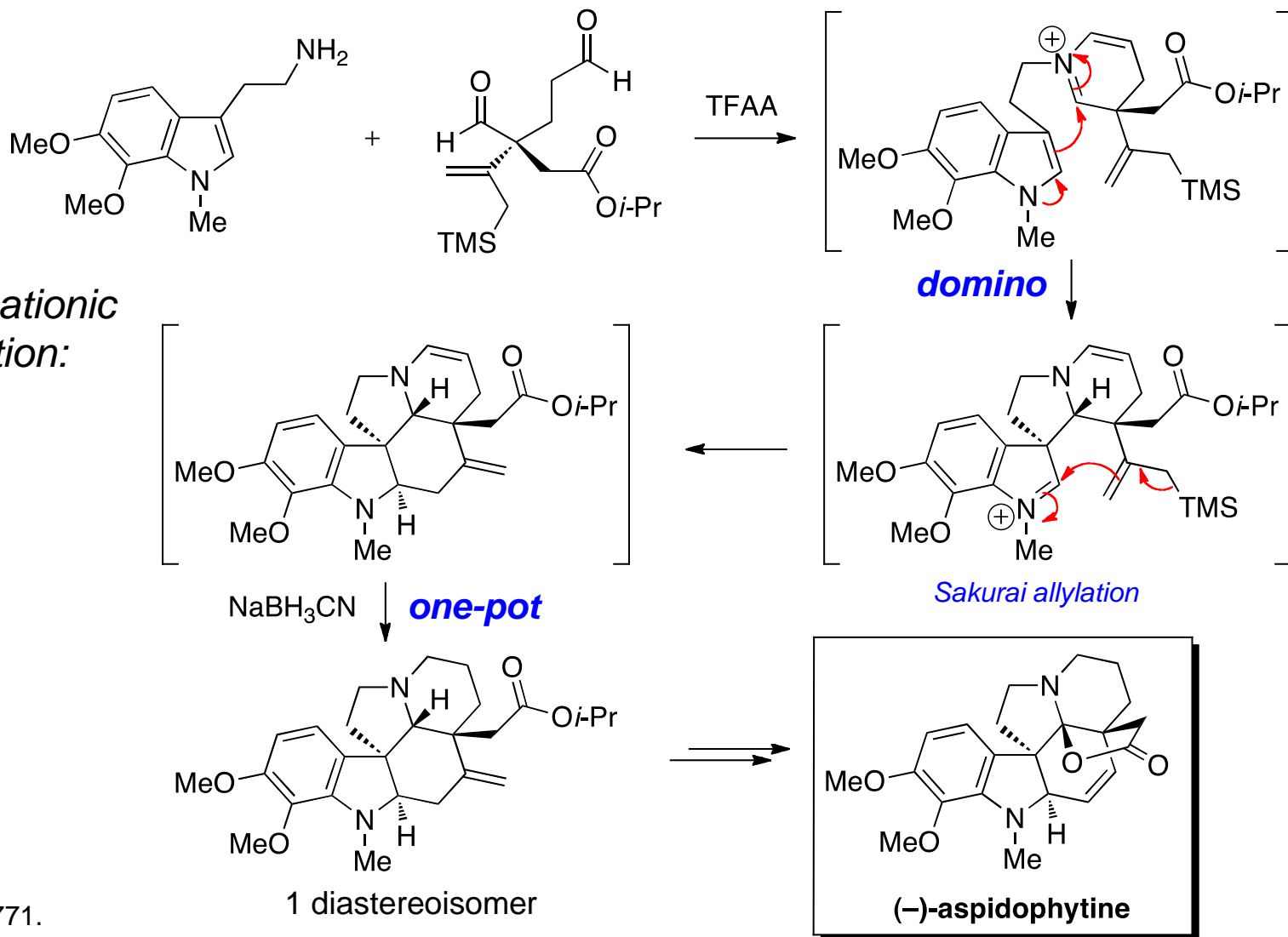
If conditions are modified (including the addition of a reagent): *one-pot* reaction.



5. Domino reactions (cascade, tandem)

Different types of domino reactions: cationic, anionic, radical, pericyclic, transition metal-catalyzed... that can be combined.

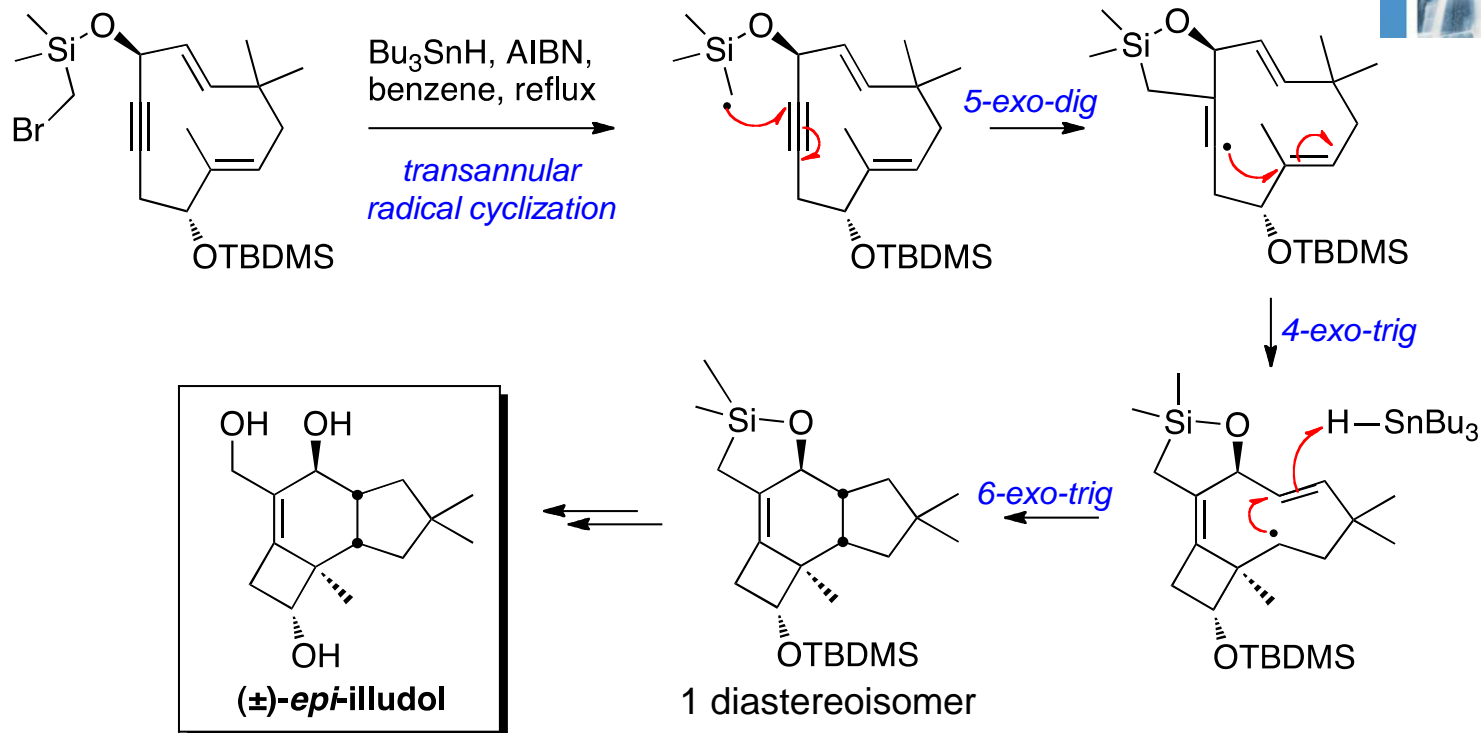
example of cationic domino reaction:



5. Domino reactions (cascade, tandem)

Intramolecular domino reactions are often highly diastereoselective !

example of **radical domino reaction**:



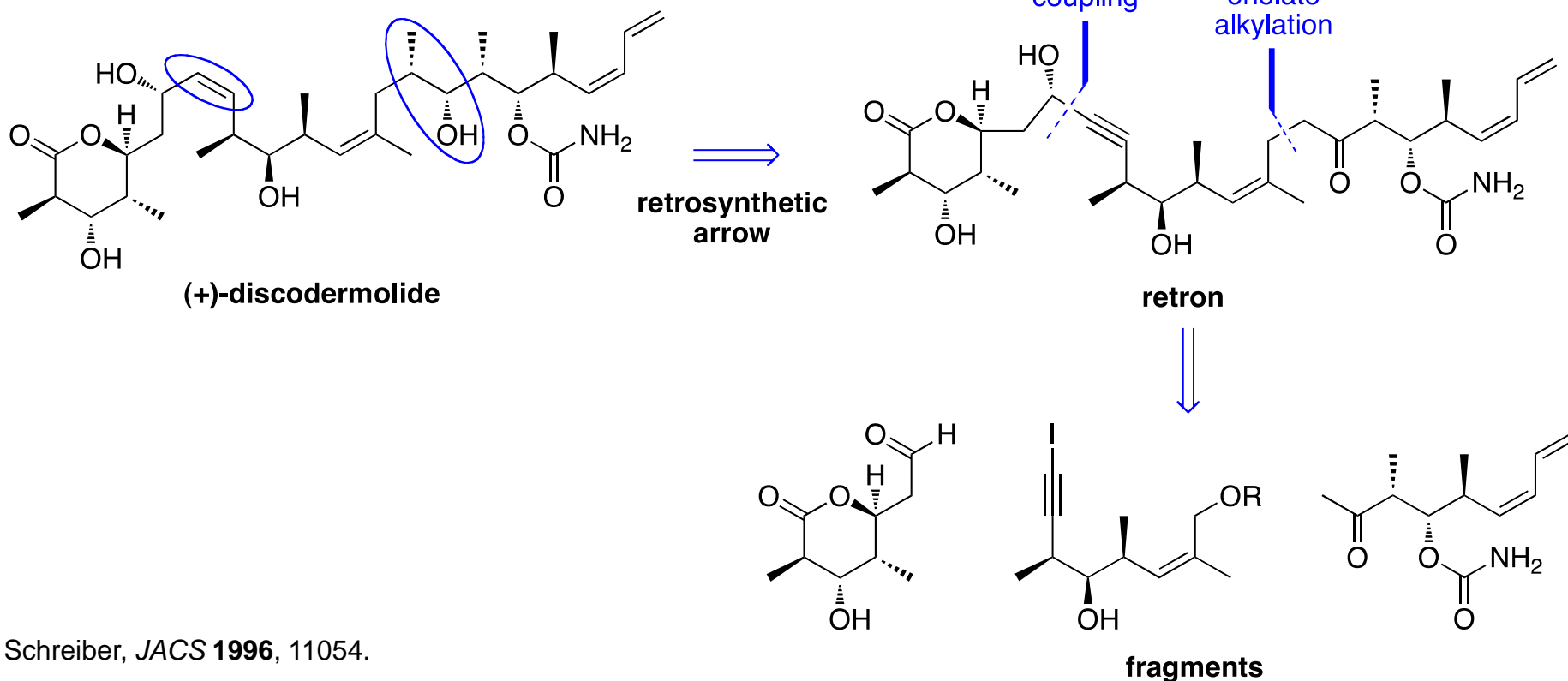
6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Definition (Corey): method of analysis which allows the transformation of a target molecule into progressively more simple structures, along a pathway leading to simple or commercially available molecules.

Retron: Structure (or substructure) observed in the target molecule, which can be disconnected into various fragments by application of a reaction or synthetic method (called 'transform').

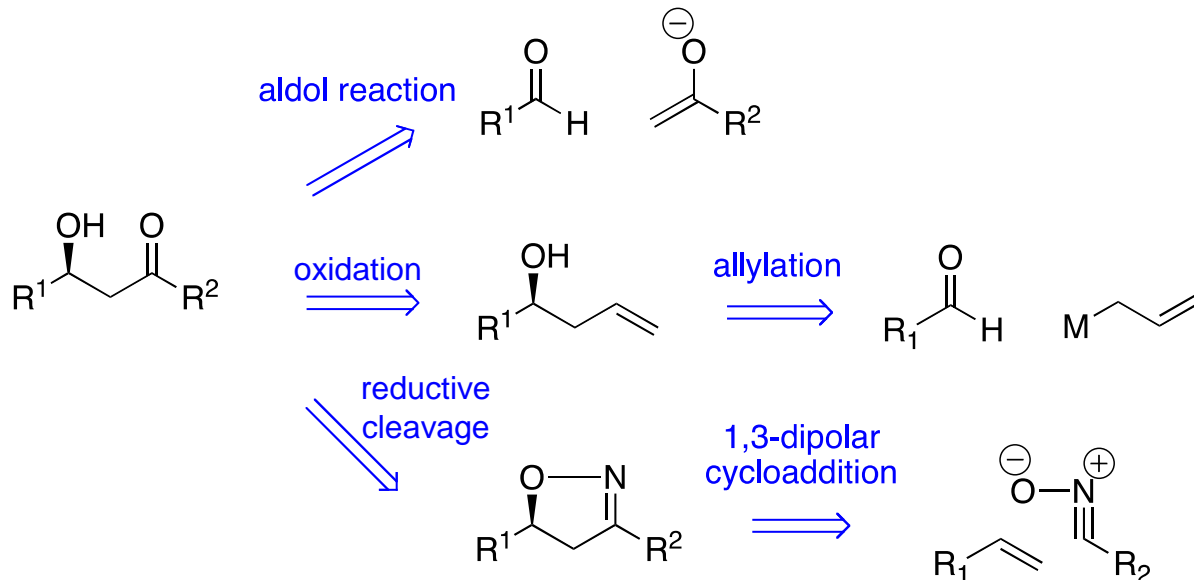


E. J. Corey
(Nobel prize 1990)

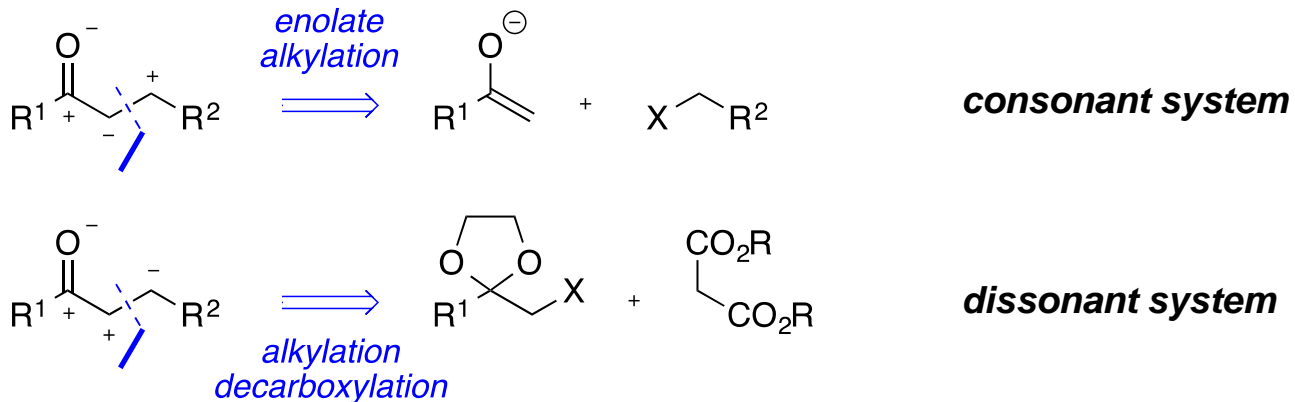


6. Retrosynthetic analysis

The **same retron** may be obtained by **different methods**:

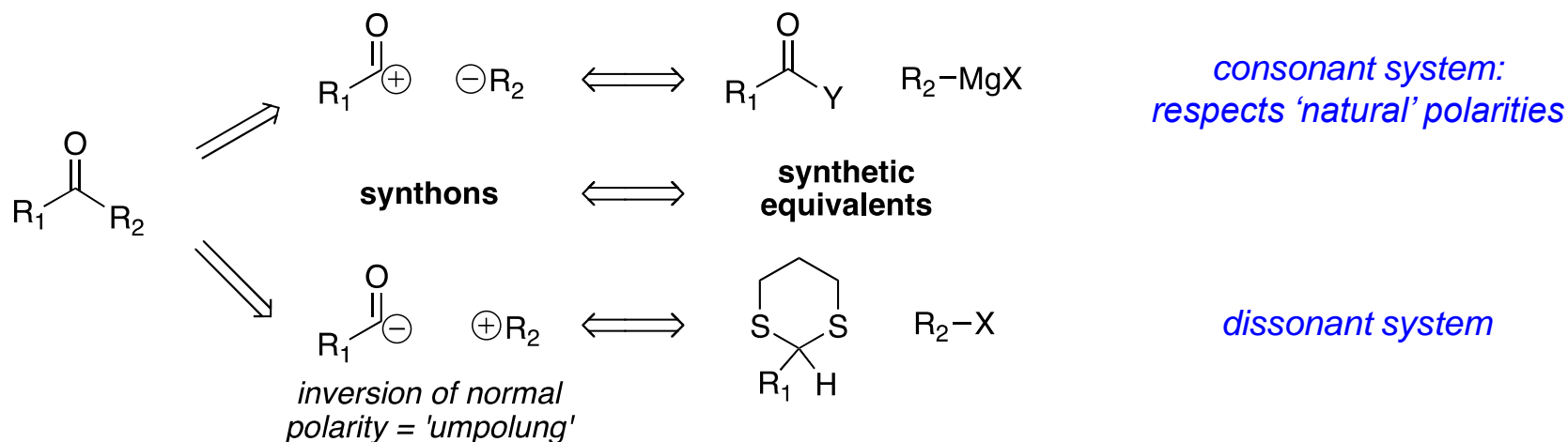


Consonant vs. **dissonant** systems:



6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Synthon: formal entity resulting from a bond disconnection



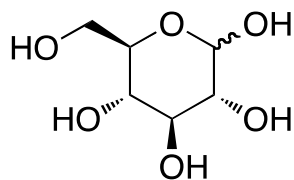
NB: the term 'synthon' is often confused with 'synthetic intermediate' or 'fragment'.

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

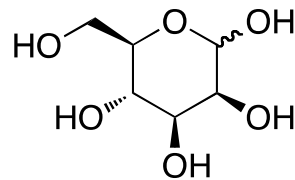
Chiron: substructure of the target molecule which may be obtained from the 'chiral pool', *i. e.* a homochiral commercially available compound (usually, a **smaller natural product**).

A few important chiral pool molecules:

Sugars

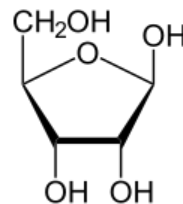


D-glucose



D-mannose

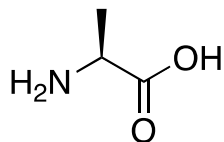
hexoses



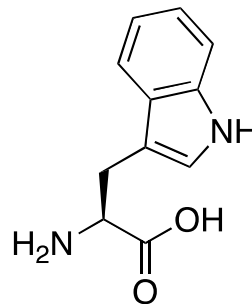
D-ribose

pentose

Amino-acids
(22 proteinogenic)

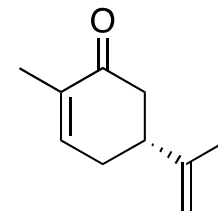


L-alanine

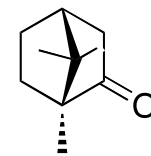


L-tryptophan

Terpenes

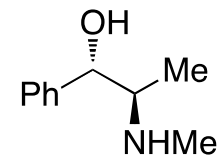


(-)-carvone

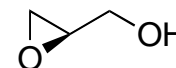


(+)-camphor

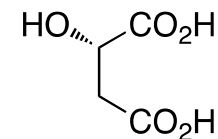
miscellaneous



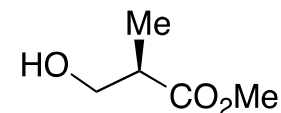
(-)-ephedrine



(+)-glycidol



L-malic acid

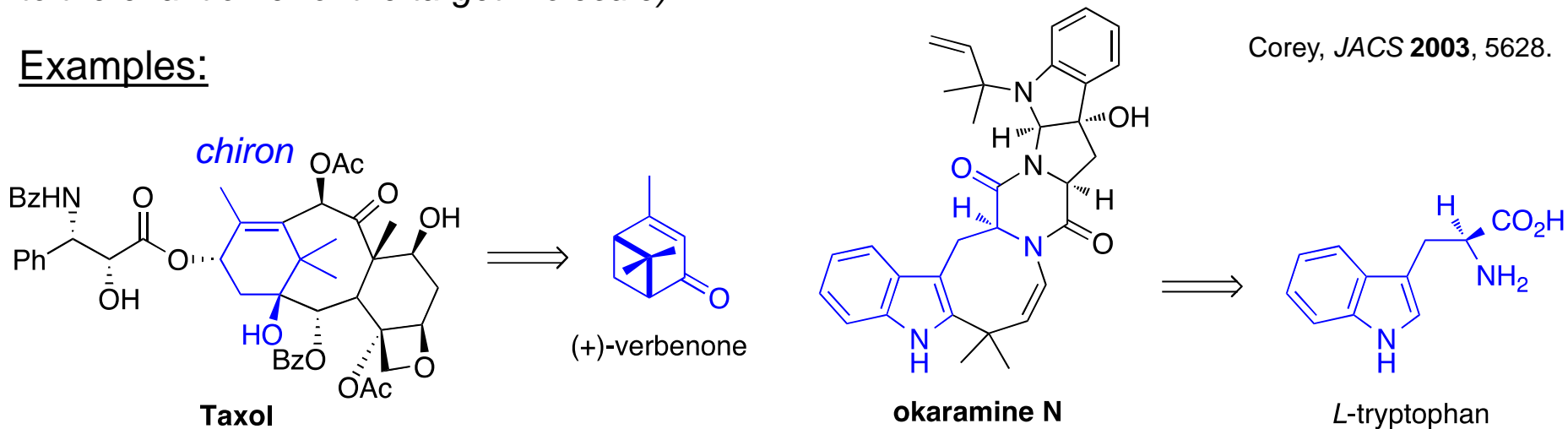


Roche ester (R)

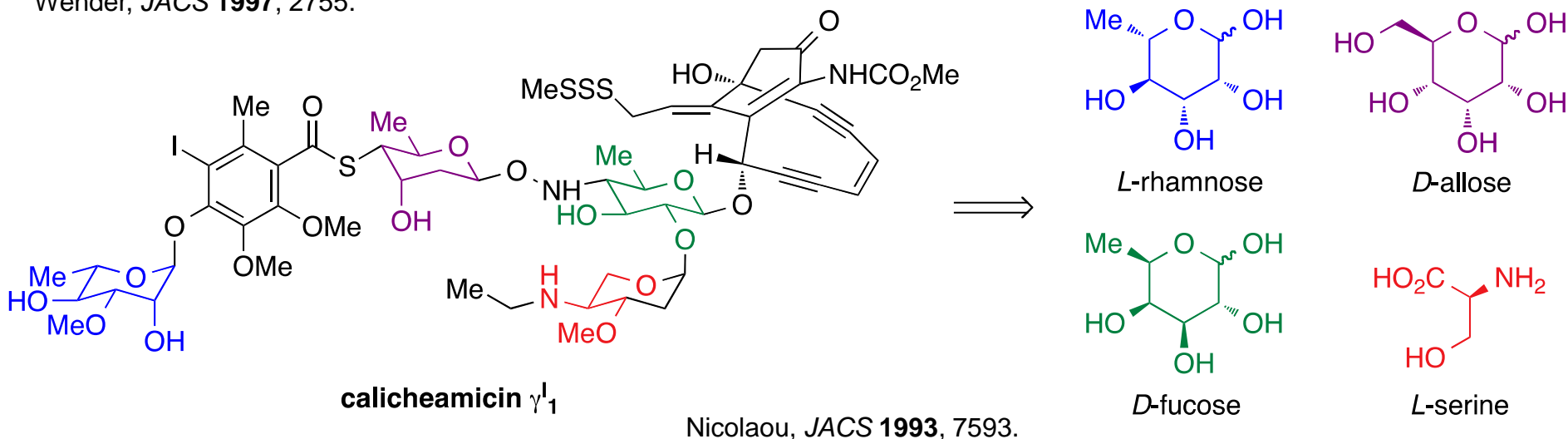
6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Note: the term 'enantiospecific' is sometimes employed to characterize syntheses that start from a chiral pool molecule (in cases where the enantiomer of the starting material would lead to the enantiomer of the target molecule).

Examples:



Wender, JACS 1997, 2755.



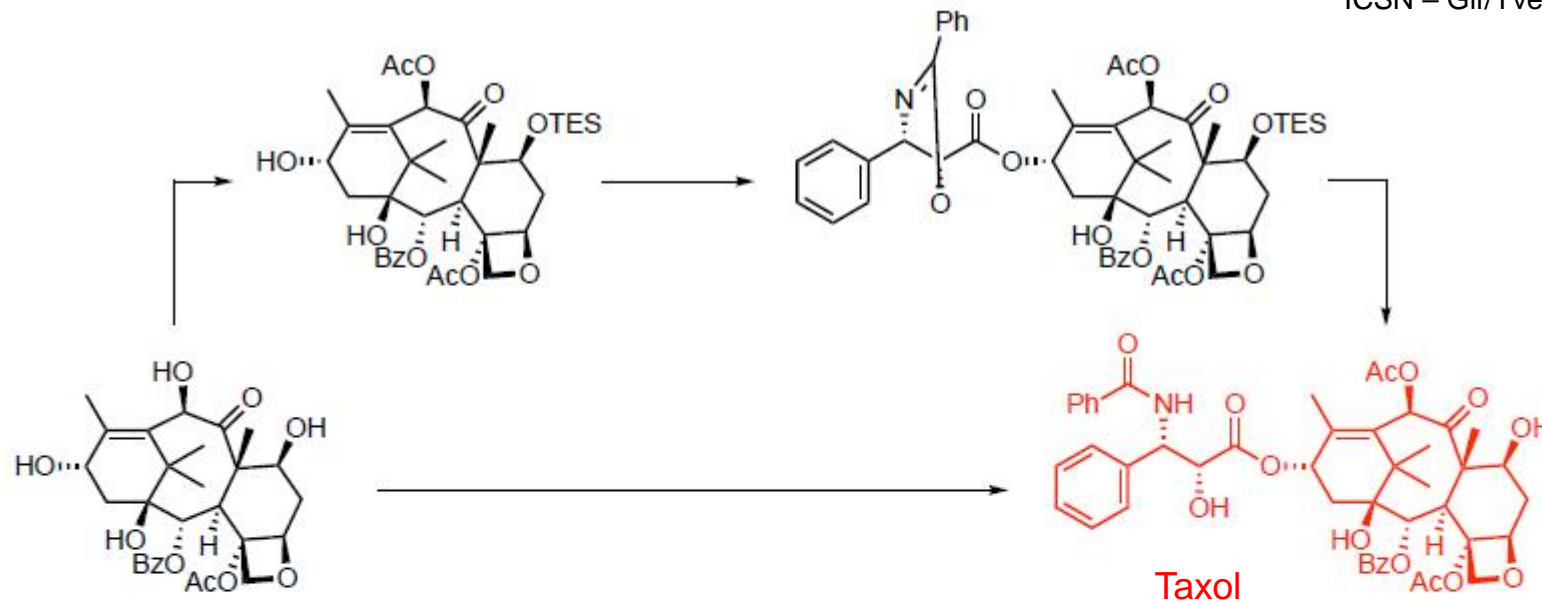
6. Retrosynthetic analysis



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Hemisynthesis

ICSN – Gif/Yvette



10-Deacetylbaccatin

Taxol

Gennari, C. *ACIEE* **1996**, 35, 1723

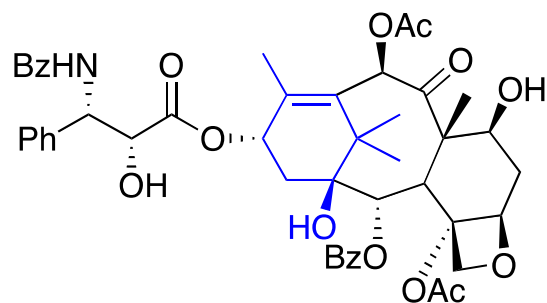
Owing to the chemical complexity of paclitaxel, its commercial production by total synthesis is not likely to be economical. However, the naturally derived 10-deacetylbaccatin is readily available in relatively high yield from the needles of the European yew



6. Retrosynthetic analysis



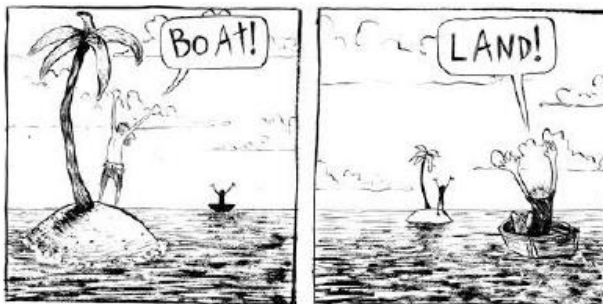
Target molecule



Taxol

Total synthesis

different points of view
different feelings

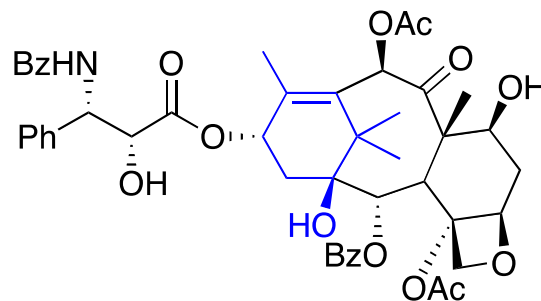


draw a target molecule from different
points of view to catch a pattern

6. Retrosynthetic analysis



Target molecule

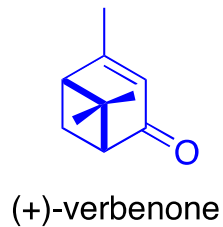


Taxol

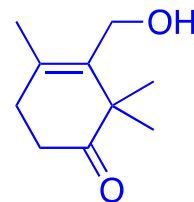
Chiron approach
preservation of stereochemistry

Retron approach
creation of stereochemistry
(enzymatic methods,
asymmetric synthesis)

Chiral pool molecule



Achiral molecule



Strategy:

- Strategy refers to the general plan to reach the target molecule.
- **Retrosynthetic arrows** will provide a clear idea of the strategy



Tactics

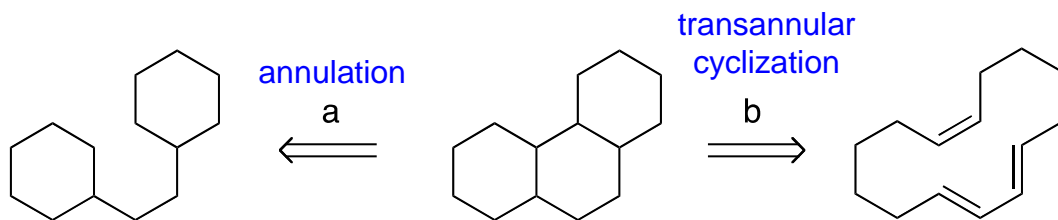
- Tactical issues deal with the actual execution of the plan.
- Tactic depends to the structure and reactivity

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

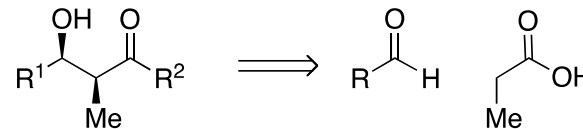
59

Different types of synthetic strategies:

- Based on one (or several) **key transformations** building key bonds and rings
= "transform goal" (e. g.: Diels-Alder reaction, metathesis, domino reaction...)
- Based on starting materials (**retron/chiron approaches**)
- Based on **'topology'**: structural simplification by disconnection of strategic bonds (applies in particular to polycyclic systems)



- Based on **stereochemistry**: structural simplification by elimination of stereocenters by using, in the synthetic sense, reactions that are known to efficiently control stereochemistry (e. g.: Diels-Alder, aldol reactions...)



- Based on the creation/suppression/manipulation of functional groups (C=C, C=O...)
- A combination of different strategies (complex targets)

Characteristics of an efficient total synthesis

1. Prefer a **convergent** rather than linear approach
2. Exploit the reactivity of functional groups (consonance) and minimize the number of protecting groups
3. **Avoid non-strategic changes** in degrees of oxidation (strategic: bond formation, stereoselectivity)
4. Use as many **domino reactions** as possible
5. Favor **biomimetic** and **chiron approaches**

Left & Right

analytical thinking

numbers

language

reasoning

logic

science & math

emotional intelligence

imagination

expression

art awareness

intuition

creativity



Tactics

Strategy

How to start?

1. Detailed **analysis of the target structure**: elements of symmetry, presence of chiral centers, strategic bonds and rings...
2. **Application of key reactions** to disconnect the target and obtain more simple fragments (principle of maximum convergence)
3. Analysis of chemical reactivity issues (selectivity, functional group tolerance, topology, use of protecting groups)

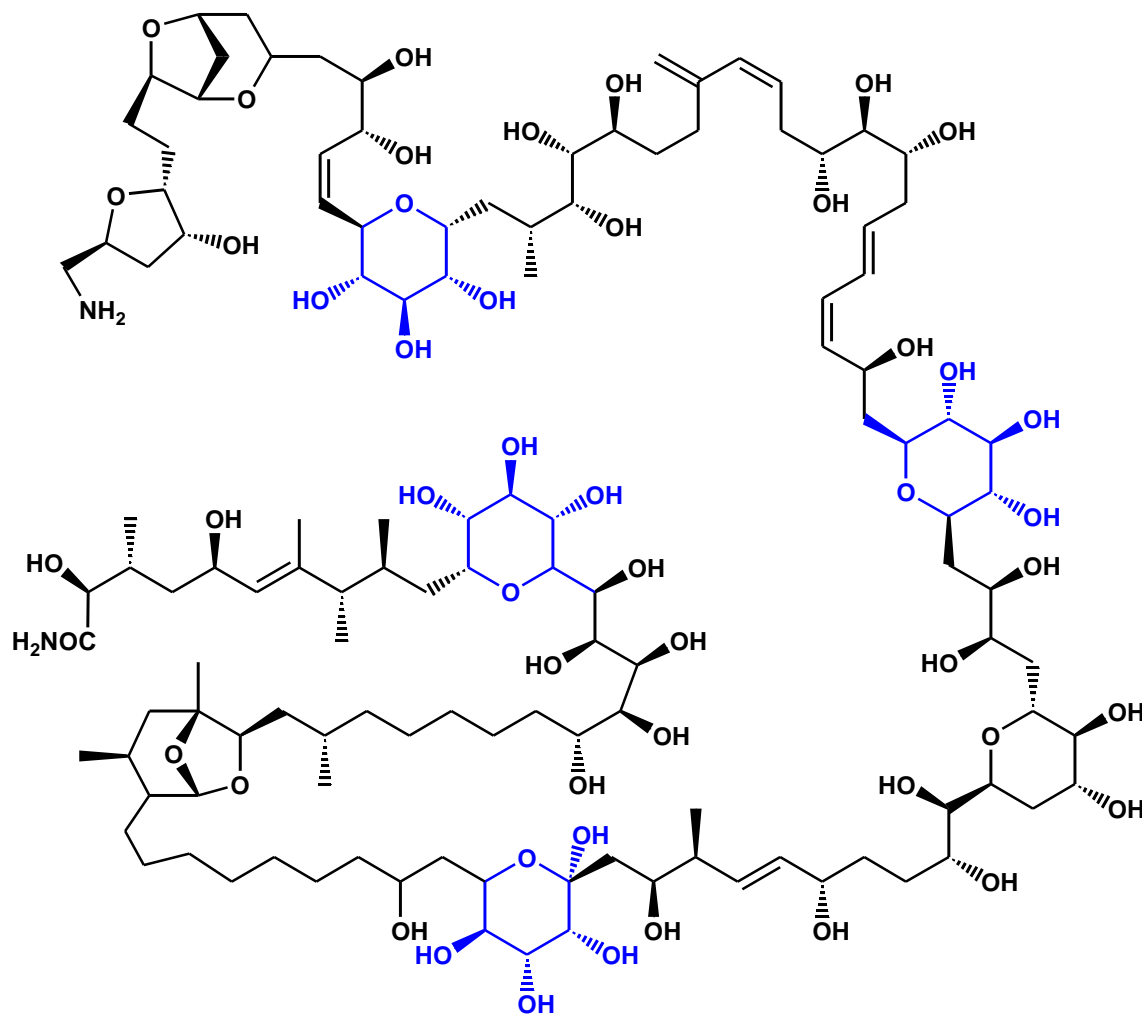
Topological strategies

1. Do not disconnect building-block type groups
2. Disconnect to obtain symmetrical precursors
3. Disconnect bonds between carbon and heteroatoms (O, N, S, P,...)
4. Disconnect bonds that attach rings to chains (can be 1,2 or 3 bonds away from the ring)
5. Do not disconnect skeletal bonds that are attached directly to remote stereocenters
6. Do not disconnect stereocenters that are far (more than 3C away) from functional groups
7. Disconnect bonds between functional groups

Topological strategies

- 1. Do not disconnect building-block type groups**
2. Disconnect to obtain symmetrical precursors
3. Disconnect bonds between carbon and heteroatoms (O, N, S, P,...)
4. Disconnect bonds that attach rings to chains (can be 1,2 or 3 bonds away from the ring)
5. Do not disconnect skeletal bonds that are attached directly to remote stereocenters
6. Do not disconnect stereocenters that are far (more than 3C away) from functional groups
7. Disconnect bonds between functional groups

6. Retrosynthetic analysis



64 Centres

2^{64} stereoisomers

18 446 744 073 709 552 000

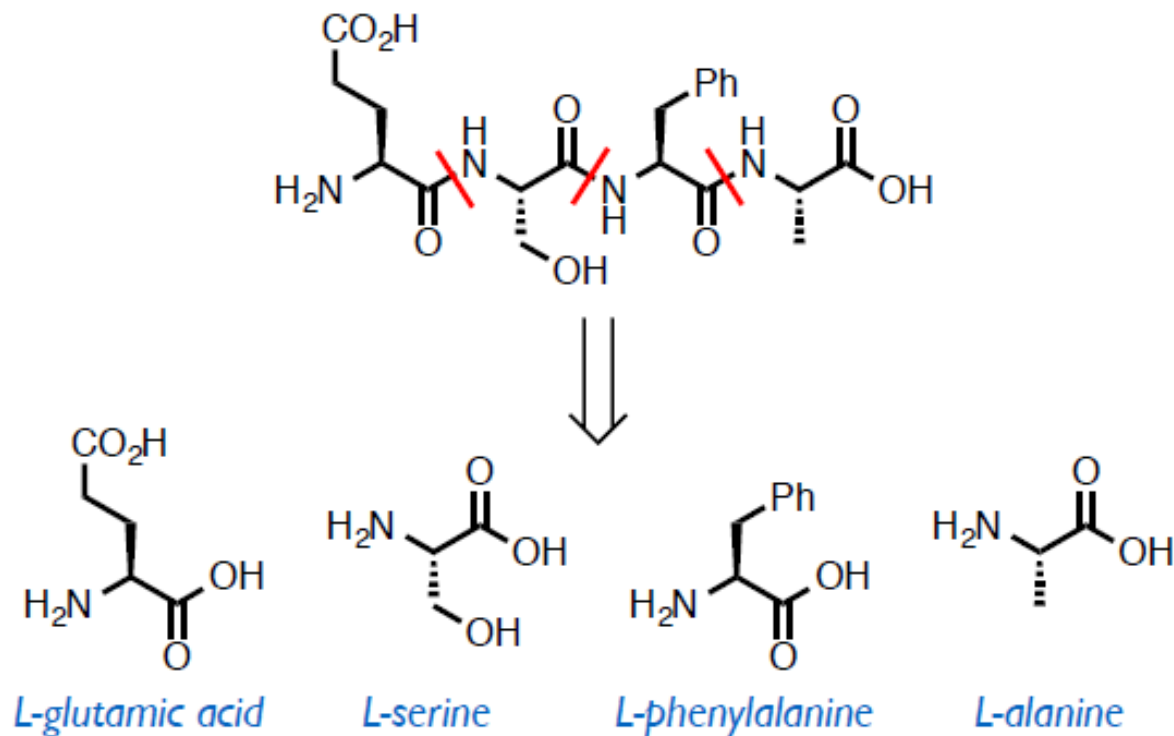
Palytoxin

Y. Kishi *et al.*

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1989**, *111*, 7525. 64 Centres

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

66



Important features:

Use of suitable **Protective groups**, coupling reagents

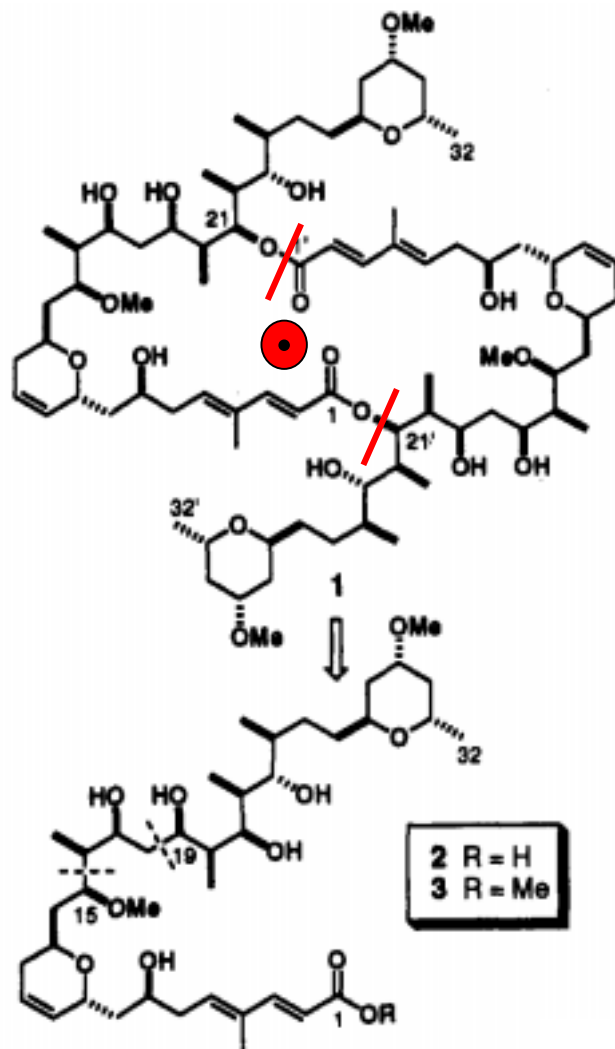
and the **order of events**: Synthetic sequence \Leftrightarrow **TACTICS**

Topological strategies

1. Do not disconnect building-block type groups
- 2. Disconnect to obtain symmetrical precursors**
3. Disconnect bonds between carbon and heteroatoms (O, N, S, P,...)
4. Disconnect bonds that attach rings to chains (can be 1,2 or 3 bonds away from the ring)
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6. Do not disconnect stereocenters that are far (more than 3C away) from functional groups
7. Disconnect bonds between functional groups

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Swinholide and preswinholide



Axe C₂

(-)-Preswinholide A



theonella swinhoei

<http://souslesmers.free.fr/i/dahe/dahe000092.jpg>

Total Synthesis of Swinholide A and Hemiswinholide A

Ian Paterson,* Kap-Sun Yeung, Richard A. Ward,
John G. Cumming, and Julian D. Smith



University Chemical Laboratory
Lensfield Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EW, U.K.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, *116*, 9391–9392

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, *116*, 2615–2616

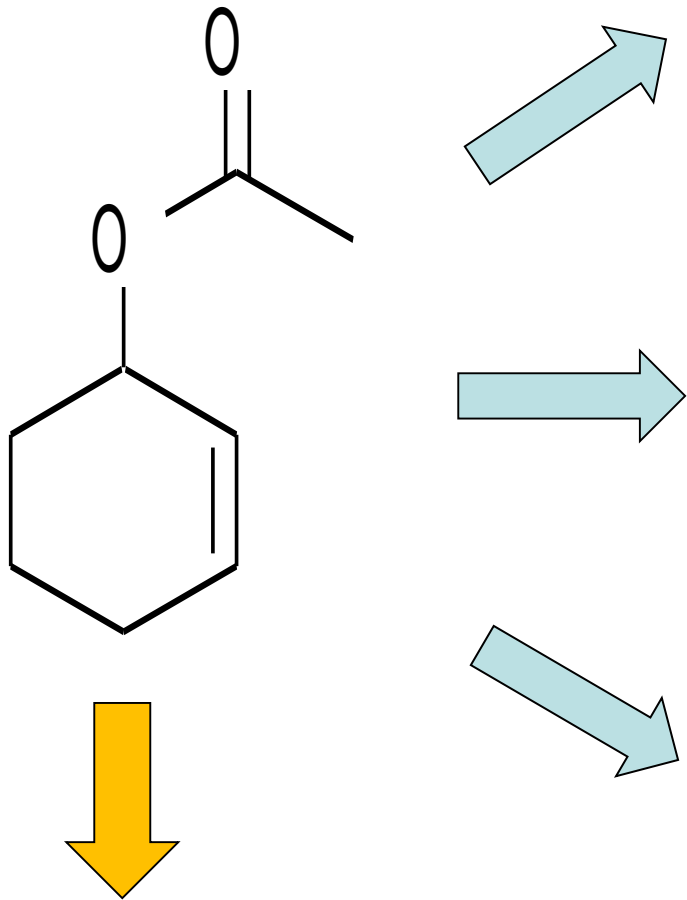
Crucial point: Selective acylation

Tactic issue

Topological strategies

1. Do not disconnect building-block type groups
2. Disconnect to obtain symmetrical precursors
- 3. Disconnect bonds between carbon and heteroatoms (O, N, S, P,...)**
4. Disconnect bonds that attach rings to chains (can be 1,2 or 3 bonds away from the ring)
5. Do not disconnect skeletal bonds that are attached directly to remote stereocenters
6. Do not disconnect stereocenters that are far (more than 3C away) from functional groups
7. Disconnect bonds between functional groups

6. Retrosynthetic analysis



Topological strategies

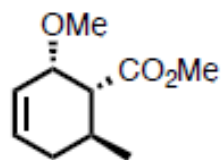
1. Do not disconnect building-block type groups
2. Disconnect to obtain symmetrical precursors
3. Disconnect bonds between carbon and heteroatoms (O, N, S, P,...)
4. Disconnect bonds that attach rings to chains (can be 1,2 or 3 bonds away from the ring)
5. **Do not disconnect skeletal bonds that are attached directly to remote stereocenters**
6. **Do not disconnect stereocenters that are far (more than 3C away) from functional groups**
7. **Disconnect bonds between functional groups**

Target

Retron

Transform

Precursors

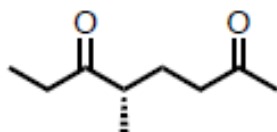
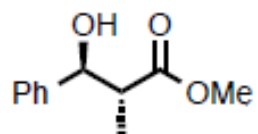
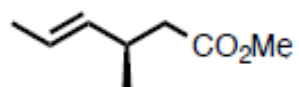
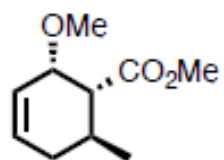


Target

Retron

Transform

Precursors

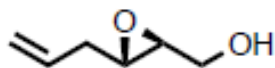
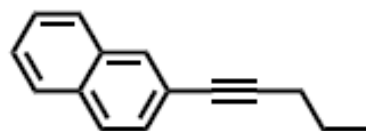
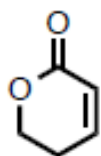
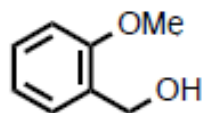


Target

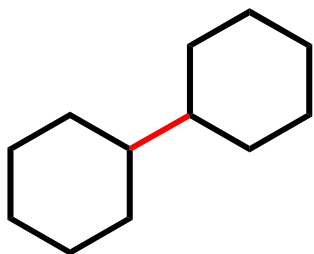
Retron

Transform

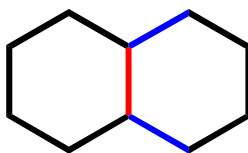
Precursors



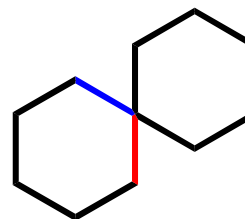
Polycyclic systems



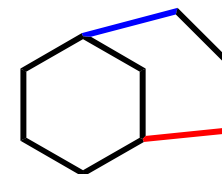
**Connection
directe**



fusionné



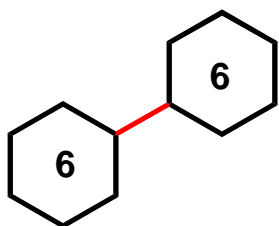
spiranique



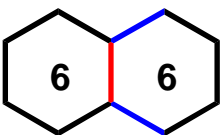
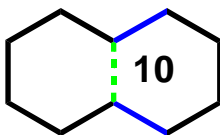
ponté

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

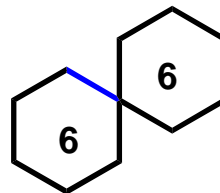
Polycyclic systems



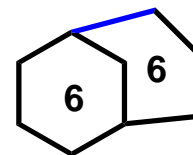
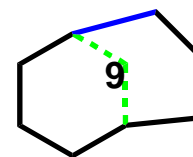
Directly



Fused rings



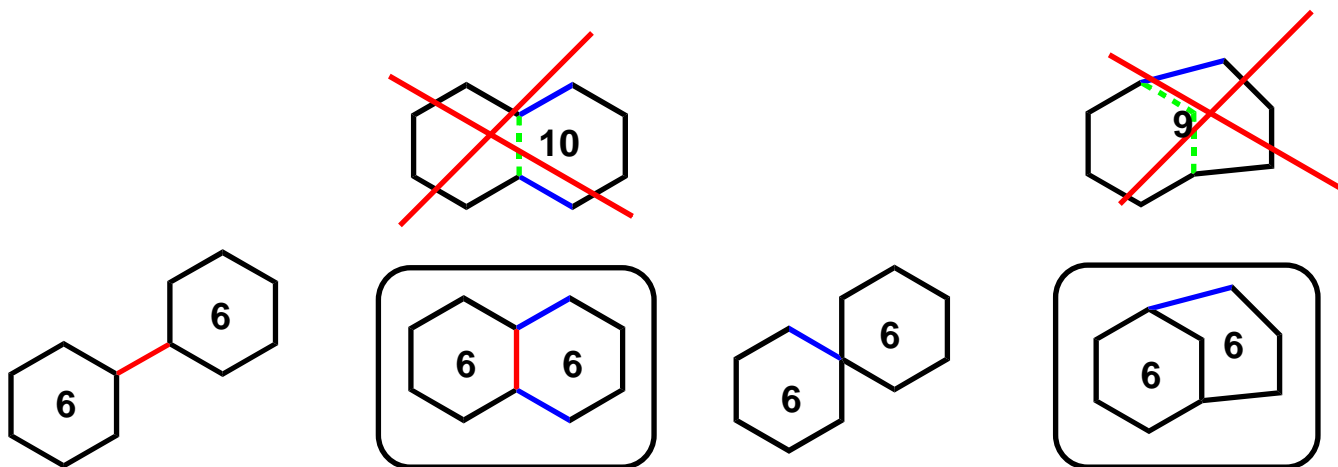
Spiranic



Bridged

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Polycyclic systems – disconnection (Corey)



Rule #1

A strategic bond must be in a four-, five-, six- or seven-membered "primary" ring (relatively easy to form)

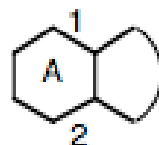
6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Some rules for the disconnection of polycyclic systems (Corey)

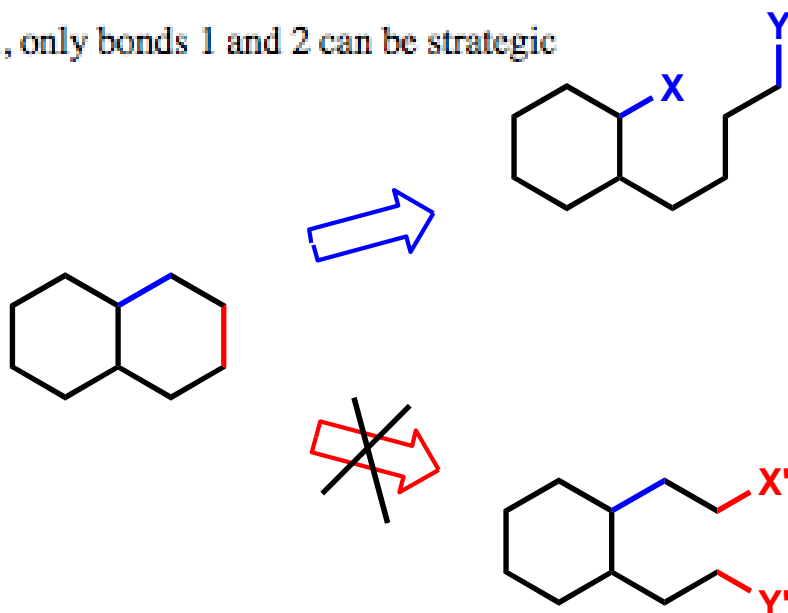
Rule #2

A strategic bond must be directly attached to another ring (exo to another ring, except three-membered rings) because a ring disconnection which produces two functionalized appendages leads to a more complex system than a ring disconnection that lead to one or no functionalized appendages.

⇒ minimize appendages on rings!



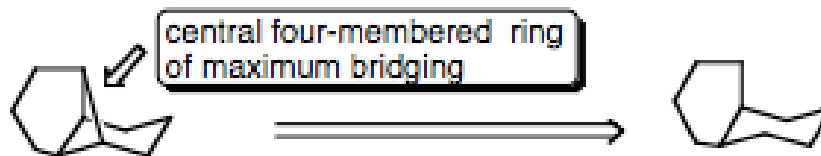
Out of six bonds in ring A, only bonds 1 and 2 can be strategic



6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Rule #3: break bridging rings

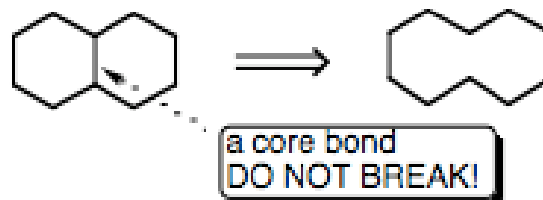
To achieve maximal simplification of the cyclic system, strategic bonds should be in the ring(s) which exhibits the greatest degree of bridging.



Disconnection of any bond in that central four-membered ring produces a major network simplification to a decalin system.

Rule #4: do not break core bonds

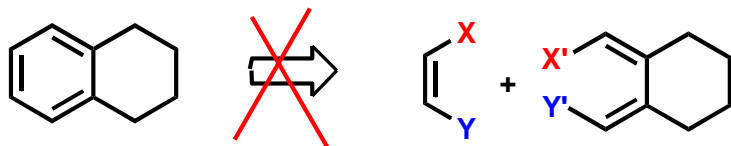
To avoid the formation of rings having greater than 7 members, any bond common to a pair of bridged or fused rings whose envelop is > 8-membered cannot be considered strategic. The bonds that are eliminated from this rule are termed **core bonds**.



6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Rule #5: aromatic rings

Bonds within aromatic rings are not considered to have potential strategic character.



Rule #6: minimize appendages with chiral centers

If a cyclic arc linking a pair of common atoms contains a chiral carbon atom, then none of the bonds in the cyclic arc may be considered strategic.

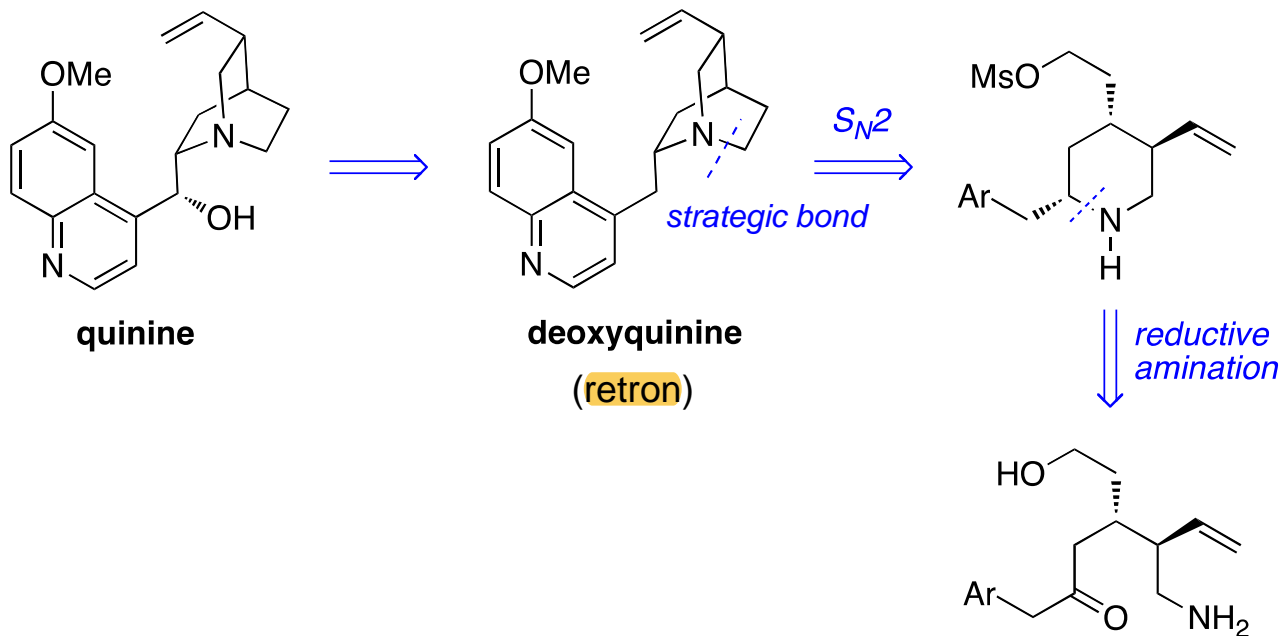


Rule #7 : The C-Heterobond Procedure

To the set of strategic bonds determined by rules 1-6, C-X bonds (X = O, N, S) are added!

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

Example of retrosynthetic analyses: 1. Stork's synthesis of (-)-quinine



G. Stork

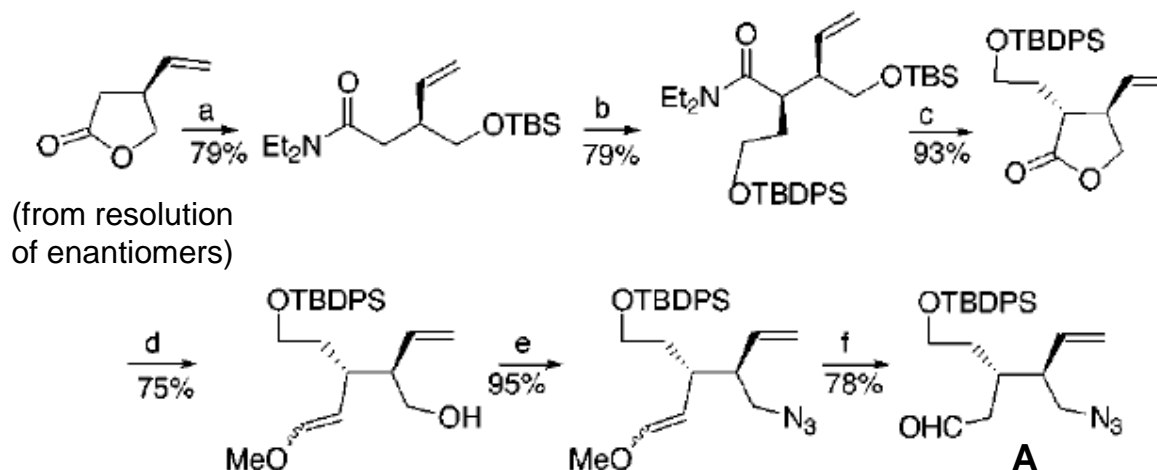
G. Stork, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, 3239.

T.S. Kaufman, E.A. Ruveda *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, 44, 854 - 885

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

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Synthesis of quinine (1): acyclic fragment

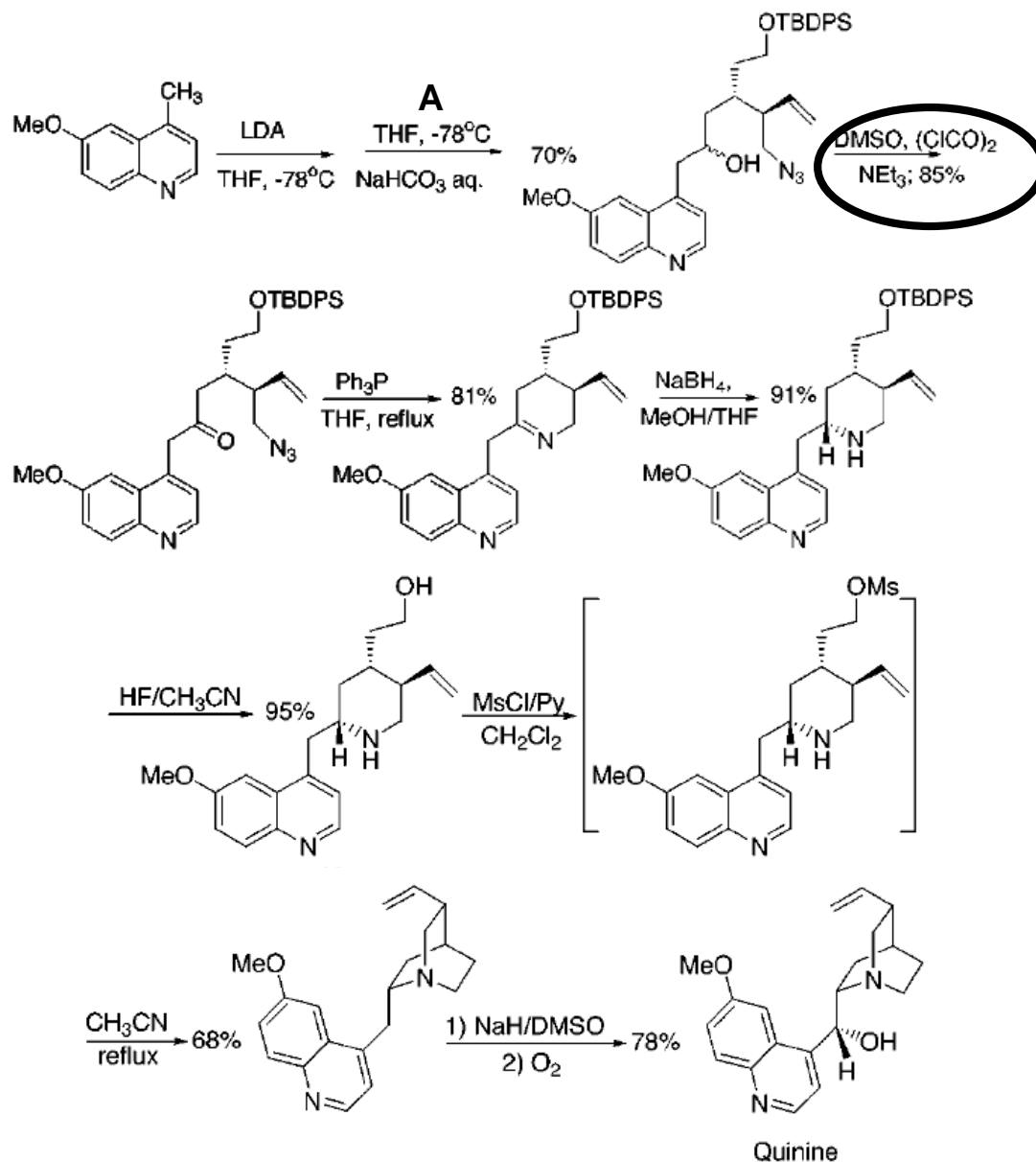


^a Conditions: (a) (1) Et₂NH/AlMe₃, (2) TBS-Cl/imidazole/DMF. (b) LDA, -78 °C, ICH₂CH₂OTBDPS. (c) PPTS (0.3 equiv), EtOH, 12 h, then xylenes, reflux 8–10 h. (d) (1) DIBAL-H, -78 °C, (2) Ph₃P=CHOMe. (e) Ph₃P/DEAD, (PhO)₂P(O)N₃. (f) 5 N HCl, THF/CH₂Cl₂.

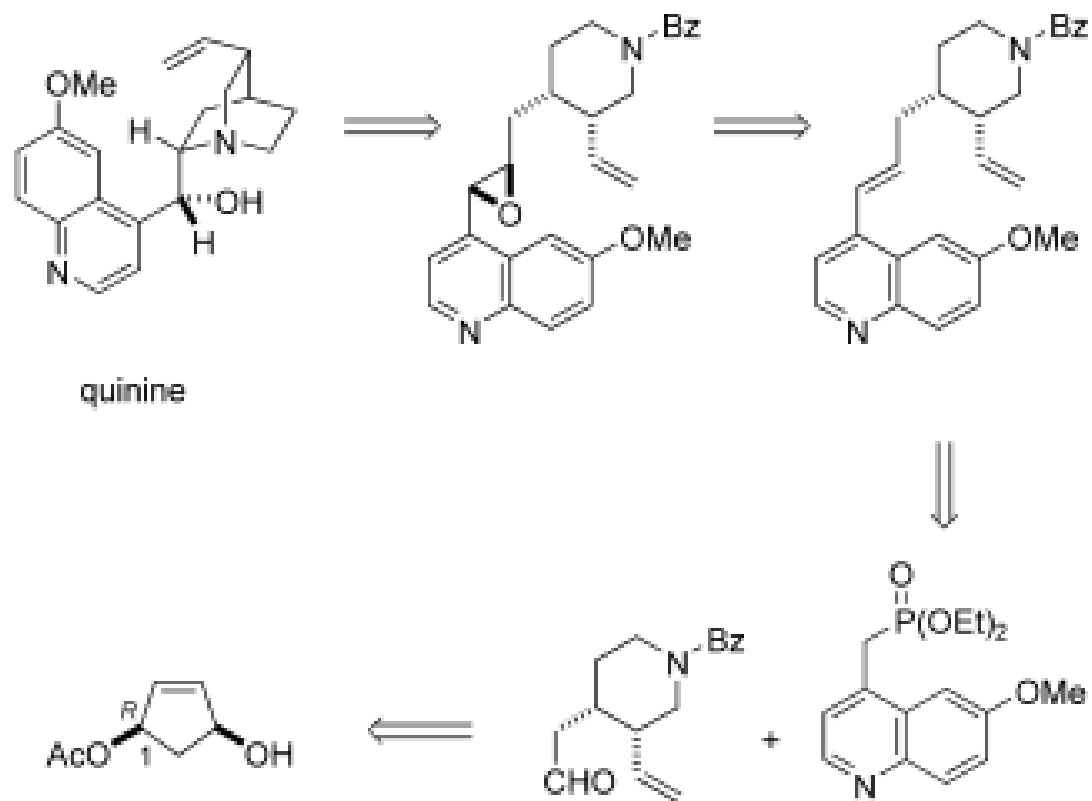
6 steps: 32%

6. Retrosynthetic analysis

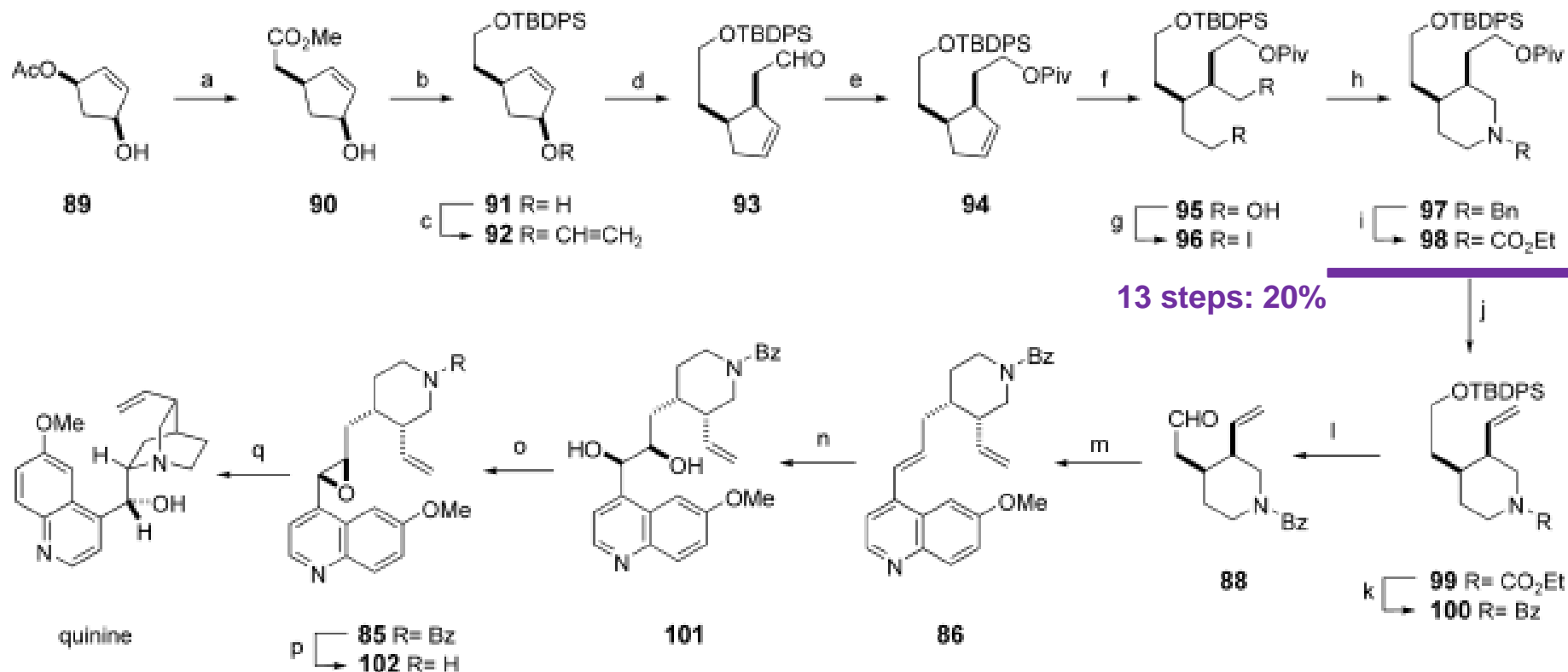
Synthesis of quinine (2)



13 steps: 7.1%

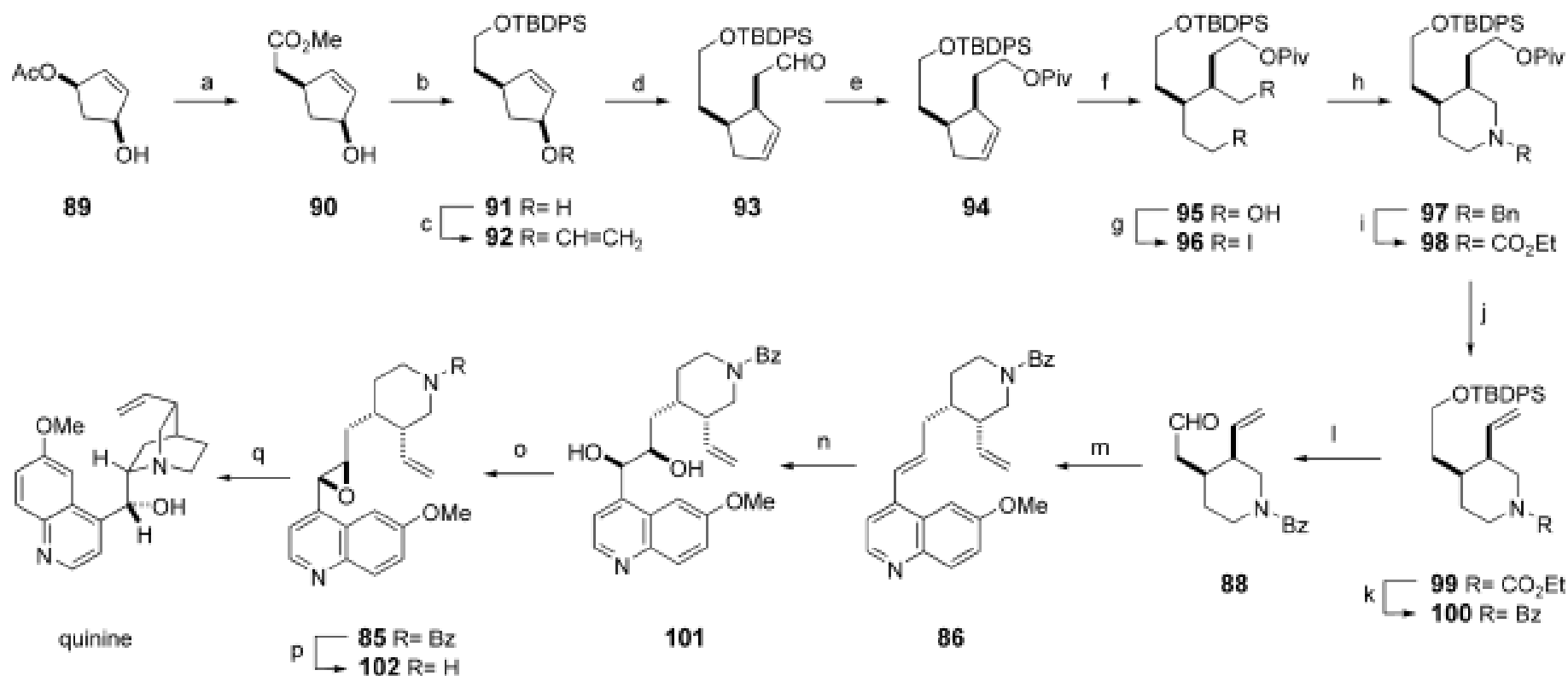


Kobayashi's synthesis of (-)-quinine



- a) 1. $\text{CH}_2(\text{CO}_2\text{Me})_2$, *t*BuOK, $[\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$ (cat.); 2. KI, DMF, 125 °C (70 %)
- b) 1. LiAlH_4 ; 2. TBDPSCI, imidazole (63 %);
- c) H_2CCHOEt , $\text{Hg}(\text{OAc})_2$ (cat.);
- d) 190 °C;
- e) 1. NaBH_4 ; 2. *t*BuCOCl, Et_3N , CH_2Cl_2 (66 %);
- f) 1. O_3 , *n*PrOH, [78 °C; 2. NaBH_4 (81 %);
- g) I_2 , PPh_3 , imidazole (88 %);
- h) BnNH_2 , dioxane (98 %);
- i) ClCO_2Et , PhMe (99 %);

Kobayashi's synthesis of (-)-quinine



19 steps: 3.9%

j) 1. NaOEt, EtOH; 2. σ -NO₂-C₆H₄SeCN; PBu₃, THF; 3. 35% H₂O₂, THF (77%);

k) 1. MeLi, 0 °C; 2. BzCl (61%);

l) 1. TBAF; 2. PCC (80%);

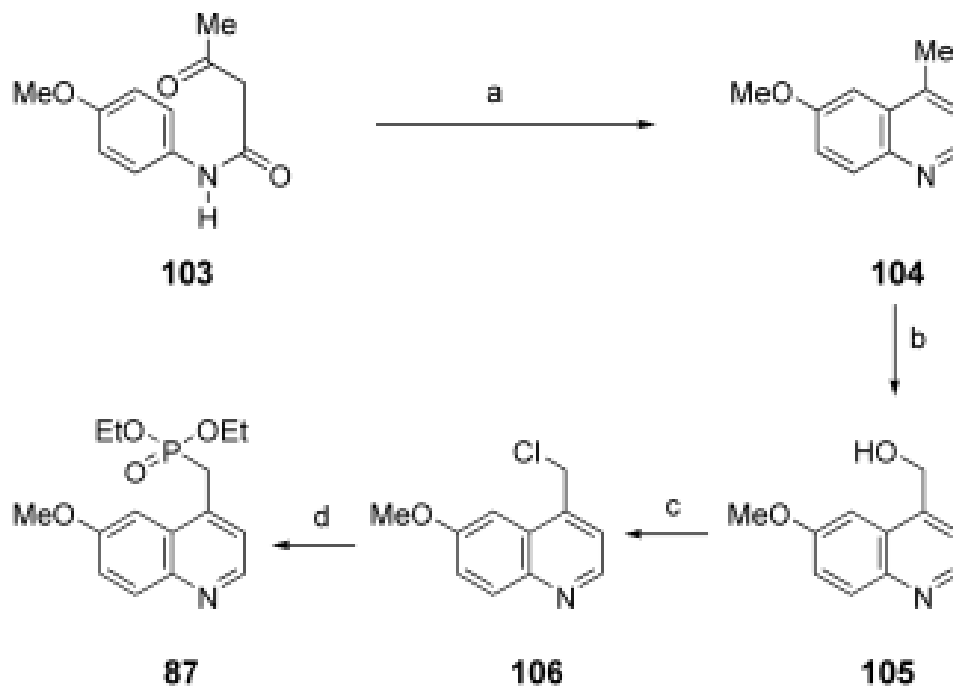
m) **87**, NaH, THF, RT (82%);

n) AD-mix-β, 0 °C;

o) MeC(OMe)₃, PPTS (cat.), CH₂Cl₂, TMSCl, K₂CO₃, MeOH (95%);

p) DIBAL-H, PhMe; q) DMF, 160 °C (66% from **85**).

Kobayashi's synthesis of (-)-quinine



- a) 1. H_2SO_4 ; 2. POCl_3 ; 3. Zn , AcOH (72 %);
 b) *m*-CPBA, CH_2Cl_2 , RT; 2. Ac_2O , RT; 3. K_2CO_3 , MeOH (43 %);
 c) SOCl_2 , CH_2Cl_2 , reflux (71 %); d) H-P(O)(OEt)_2 , *n*BuLi, THF (70 %).

Reaction Prediction

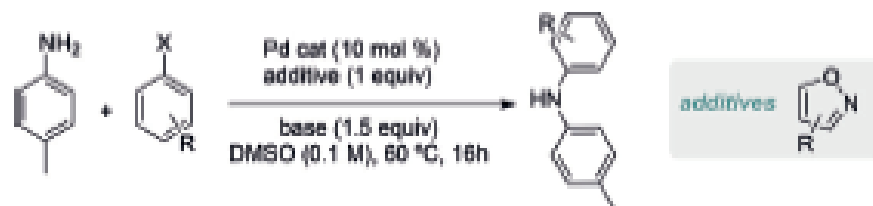
International Edition: DOI: 10.1002/anie.201803562

German Edition: DOI: 10.1002/ange.201803562

Machine Learning for Organic Synthesis: Are Robots Replacing Chemists?

Boris Maryasin, Philipp Marquetand, and Nuno Maulide*

Buchwald–Hartwig reaction ·
high-throughput synthesis robot · machine learning ·
nanomole-scale reactions



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2018, 57, 6978–6980

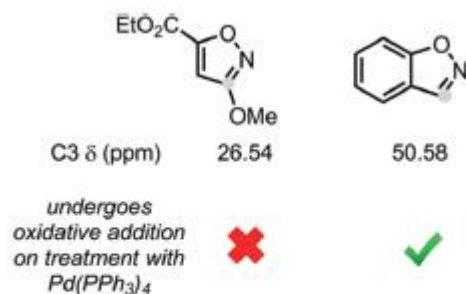


Figure 1. Simplified diagram depicting isoxazole additives to Buchwald–Hartwig coupling reactions, compared in terms of the C3 ¹³C NMR chemical shift descriptor and the experimentally confirmed propensity to undergo N–O oxidative addition upon exposure to a Pd⁰ precatalyst.^[71]

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Article

Chemist Ex Machina: Advanced Synthesis Planning by Computers

Published as part of the Accounts of Chemical Research special issue "Data Science Meets Chemistry".

Karol Molga, Sara Szymkuć, and Bartosz A. Grzybowski*



Cite This: *Acc. Chem. Res.* 2021, 54, 1094–1106

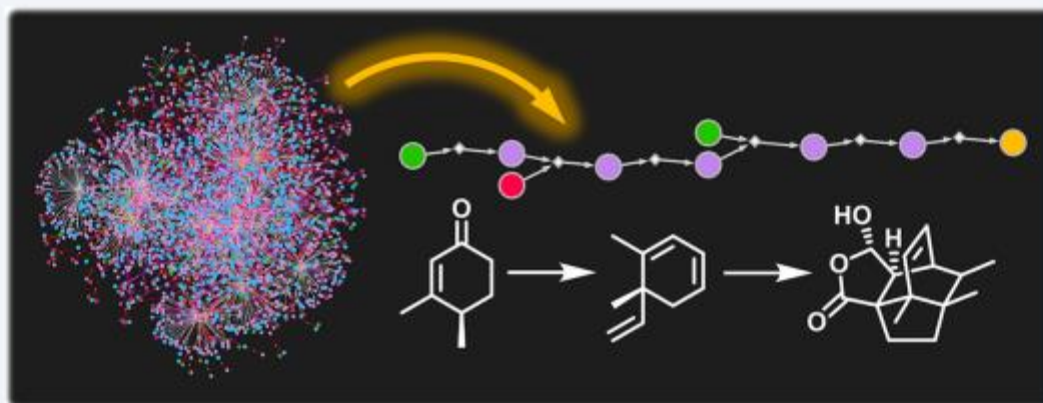


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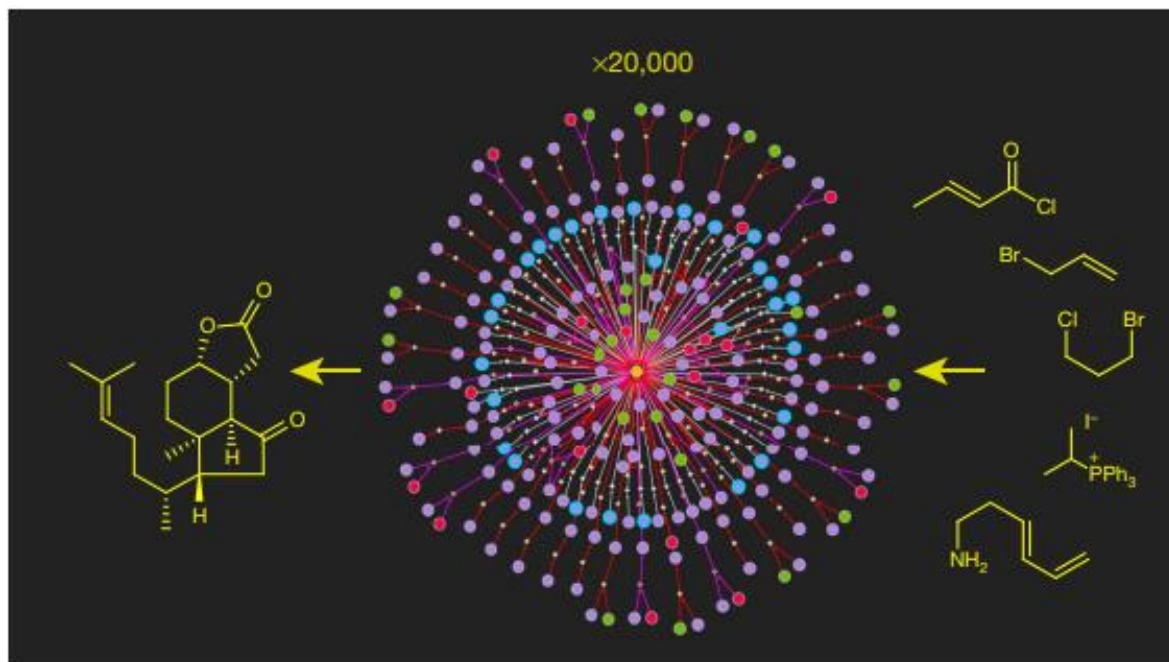
Metrics & More

Article Recommendations



8. Computer-aided synthesis

94

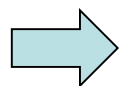


Automatic synthesis planning over large networks of possible reactions. This screenshot from Chematica illustrates the synthetic possibilities the machine considers for just one intermediate en route to the natural product aplykurodinone-1 (shown on the left). When designing the full pathway (Extended Data Fig. 6) that traces to the simple starting materials (shown on the right), the program explored and evaluated around 20,000 such graphs connected into a

very large network of synthetic options. Each graph comprises one-reaction-step options (white reaction arrows) and multistep sequences (FGIs; red arrows). Nodes correspond to specific molecules: orange, current retron; violet, unknown substances; green, literature-reported substances; red, commercially available chemicals; blue halos, protection needed.

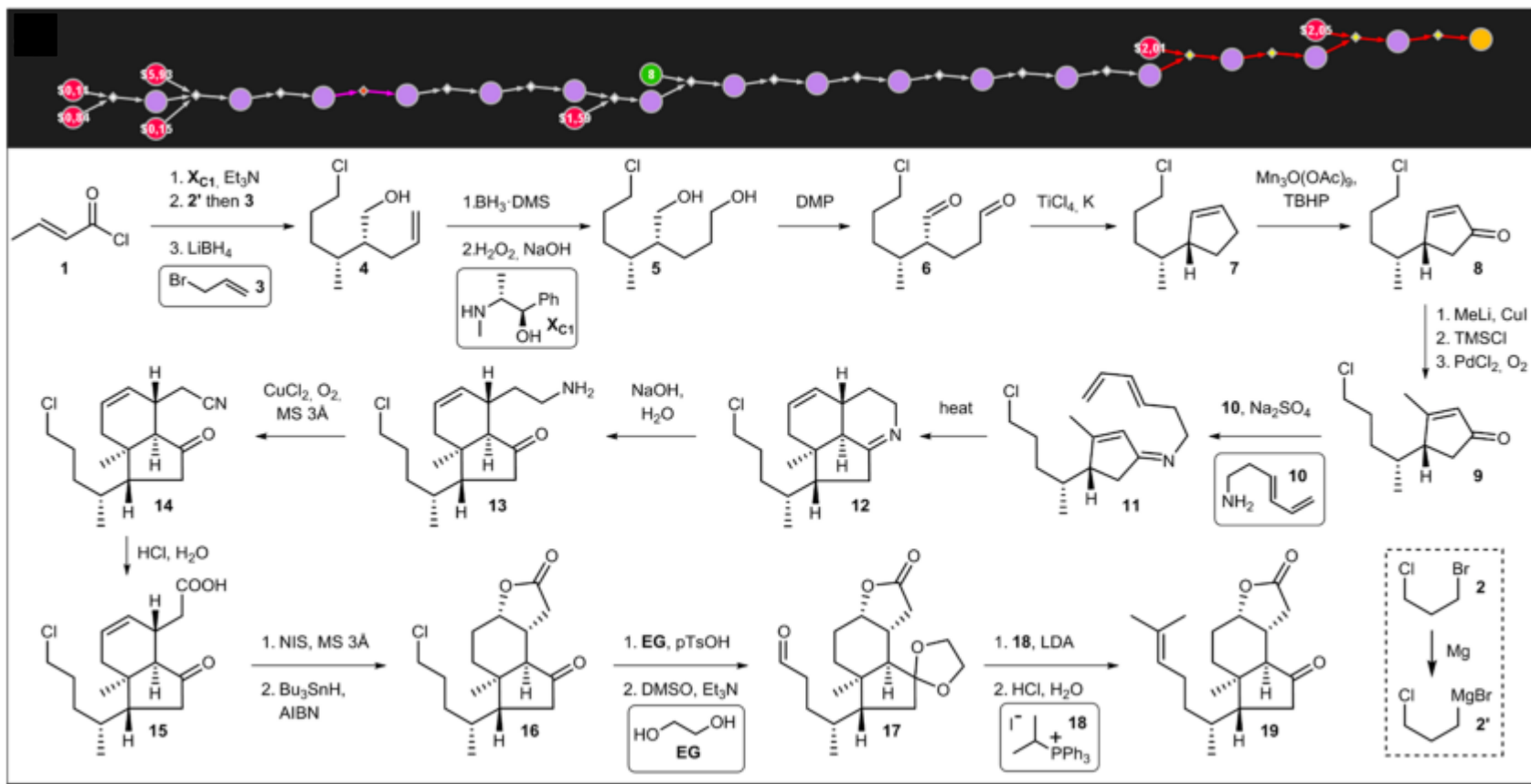
Chematica

B. Mikulak-Klucznik et al. *Nature* **2020**, 588, 83-88.



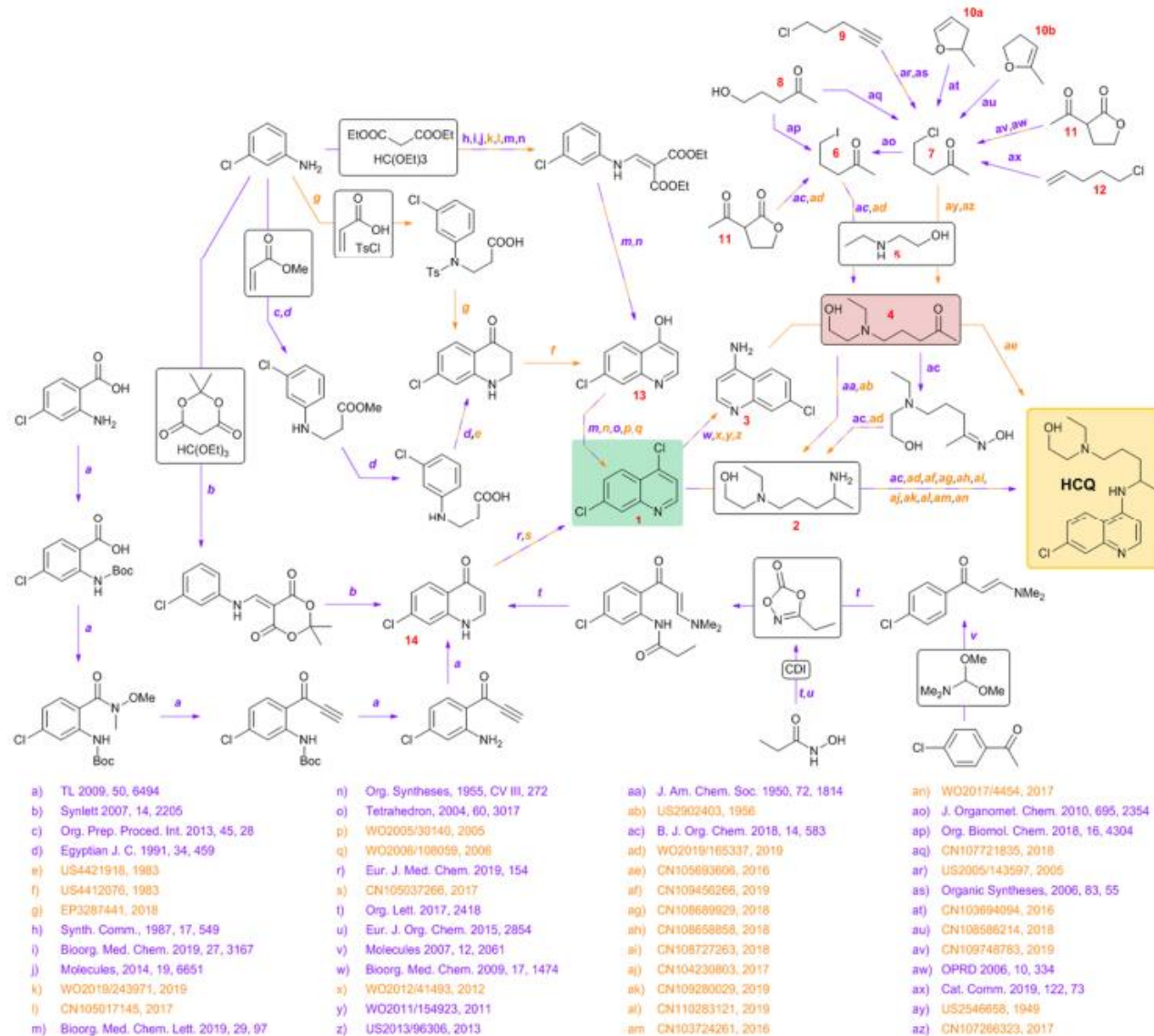
[SYNTHIA™ Retrosynthesis Software \(sigmaaldrich.com\)](https://sigmaaldrich.com)

8. Computer-aided synthesis

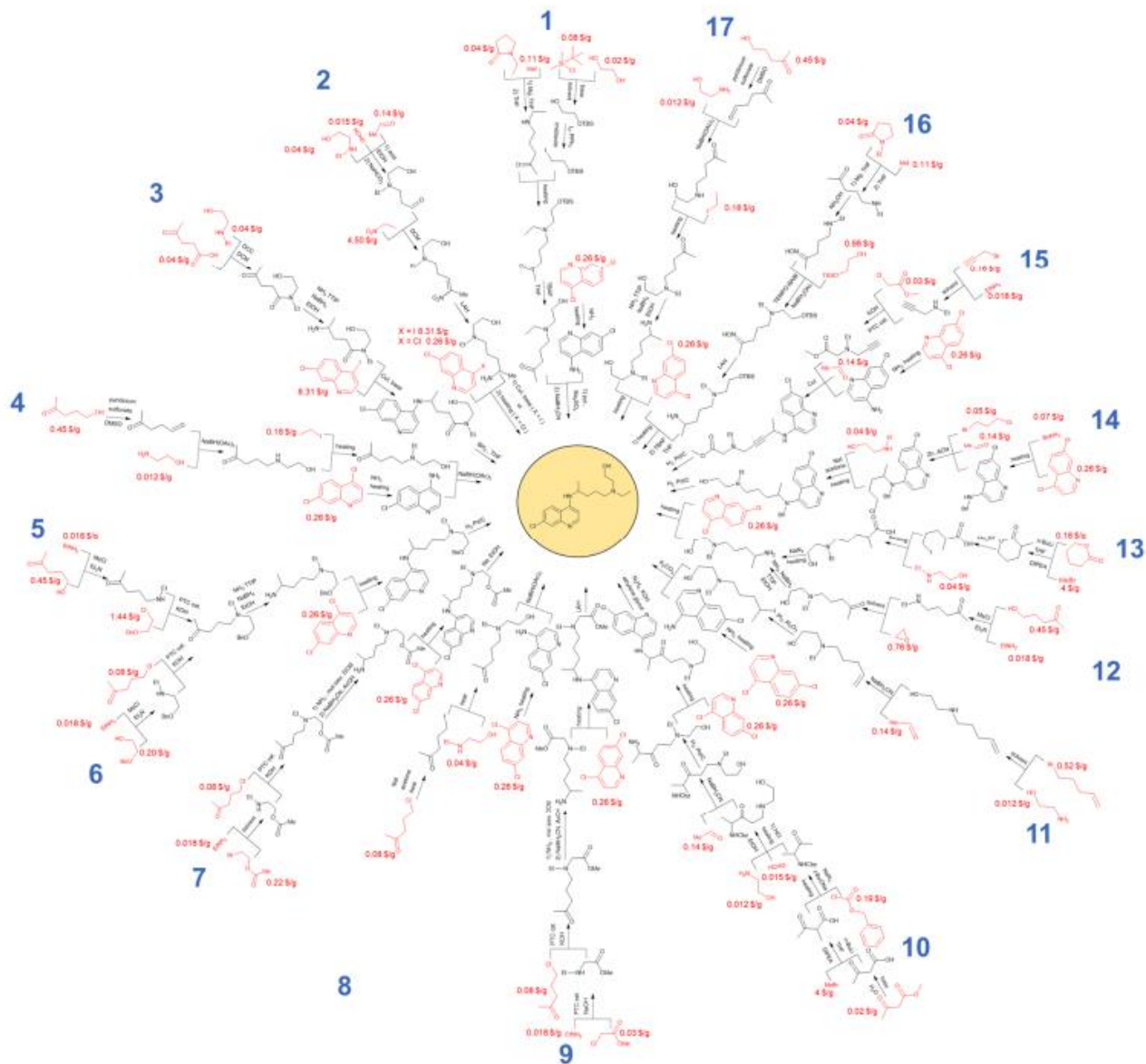


Aplykurodinone-1

8. Computer-aided synthesis

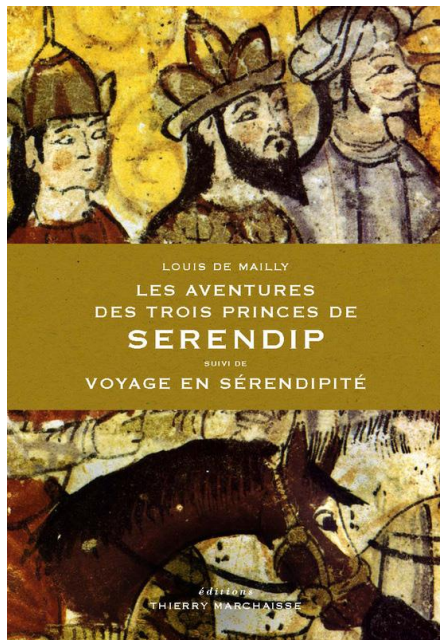


Computer-assisted planning of hydroxychloroquine's syntheses commencing from inexpensive substrates and bypassing patented routes. Bartosz A. Grzybowski et al. *ChemRxiv* (2020), 1-14



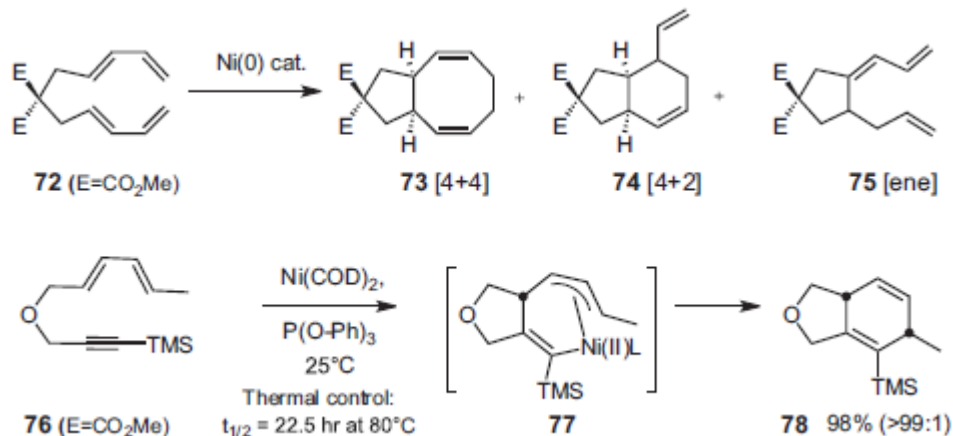
Novel syntheses of hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) designed automatically by *Chematica*.

Computer-assisted planning of hydroxychloroquine's syntheses commencing from inexpensive substrates and bypassing patented routes. Bartosz A. Grzybowski et al. *ChemRxiv* (2020), 1-14



« La **sérendipité**, art de rencontrer quelque chose que l'on ne cherchait pas, est une source pour la créativité et l'innovation et les exemples sont nombreux, notamment en chimie thérapeutique. »

C. Monneret *Actualité chimique* – mai 2014 – 385.



Toward the ideal synthesis and transformative therapies: the roles of step economy and function oriented synthesis.

P. A. Wender *Tetrahedron* **2013**, 69, 7529-7550.

“Dans les champs de l’observation, le hasard ne favorise que les esprits préparés.” (“In the field of observation, chance favours only the prepared mind.”) **L. Pasteur**

9. Serendipity

« C'est aussi l'histoire du minoxidil, initialement destiné à traiter l'hypertension artérielle. Quelle ne fut pas la surprise des médecins de voir la chevelure des hypertendus ainsi traités devenir plus drue, et la chute de leurs cheveux ralentie.

Le minoxidil deviendra un traitement de référence contre la calvitie. Il est certain que les profits du laboratoire Upjohn s'en sont trouvés améliorés. »

C. Monneret *Actualité chimique* – mai 2014 – 385.

