

Isolation:

- Merck, 1976
- From *Streptomyces cattleya*
Merck & Co., Inc., U.S. Patent 3,950,357 (April 12, 1976)

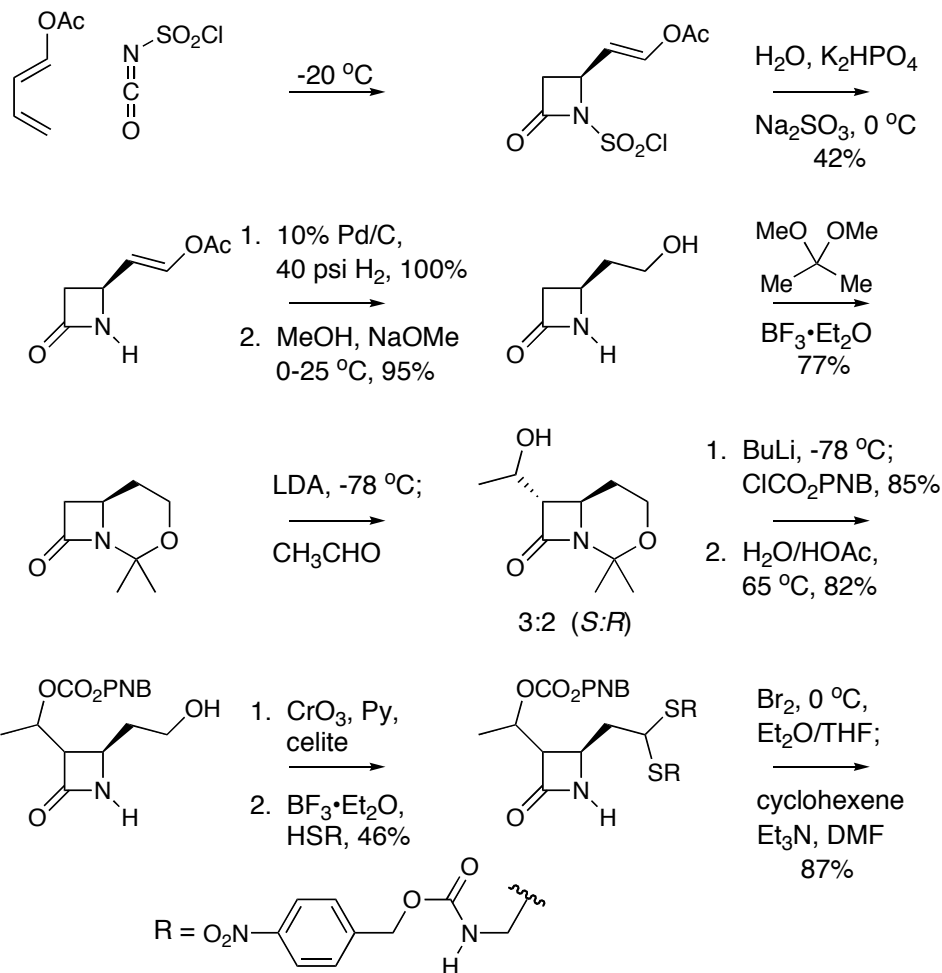
Structure and Absolute Stereochemistry:

- Chemical transformation and spectroscopy
- X-Ray of N-acetylthienamycin methyl ester
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1978**, *100*, 6491

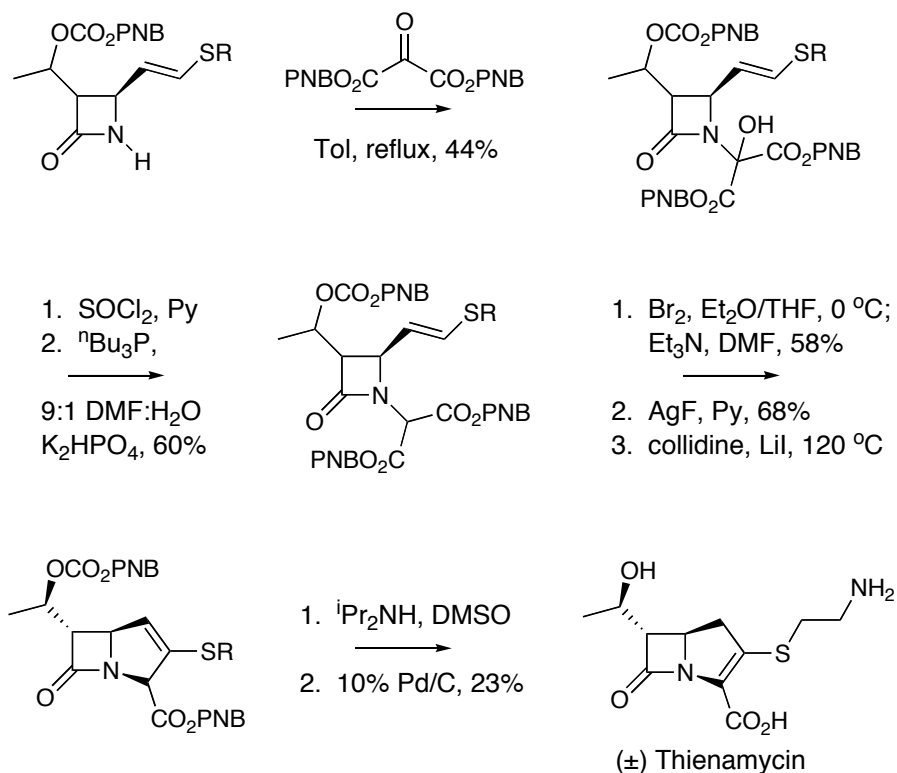
Properties:

- Active against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria
- Resistant to bacterial β -lactamase
J. Antibiotics. **1979**, *32*, 1

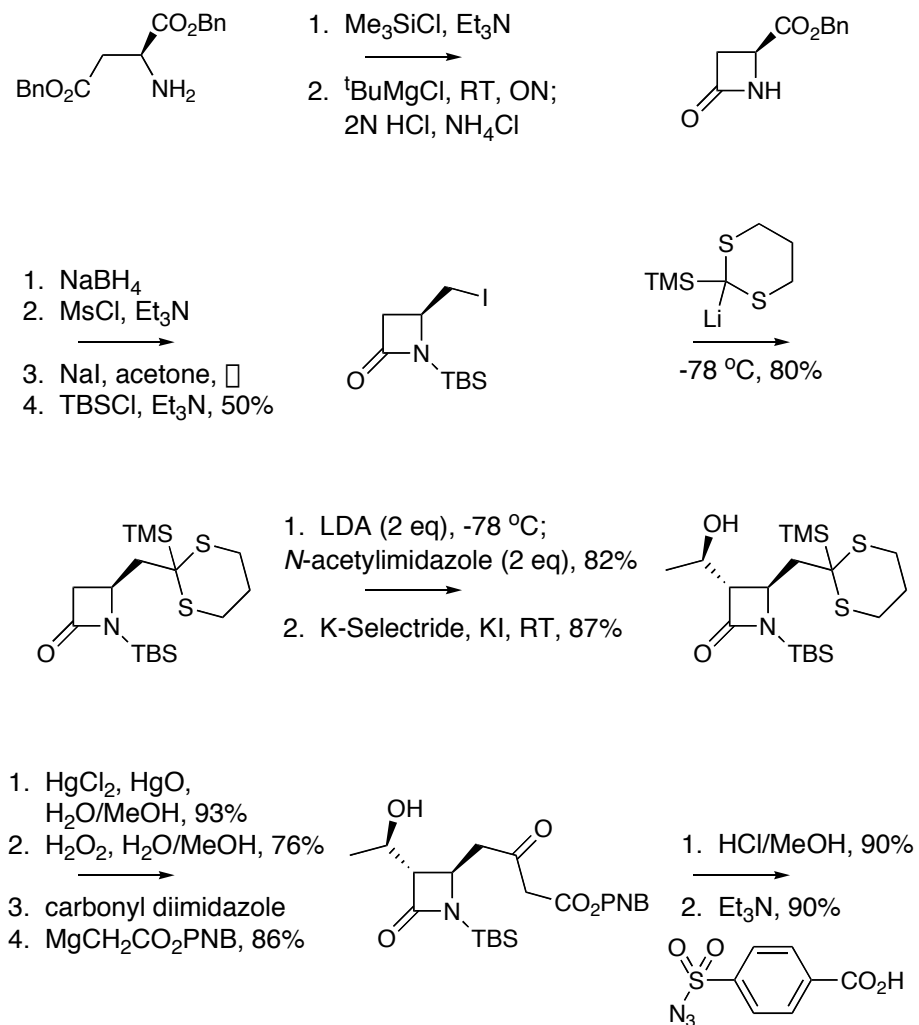
First Total Synthesis (Racemic): Merck

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1978**, *100*, 313*J. Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 1130*J. Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 1135*J. Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 1142

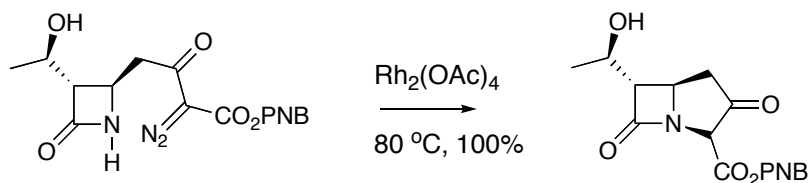
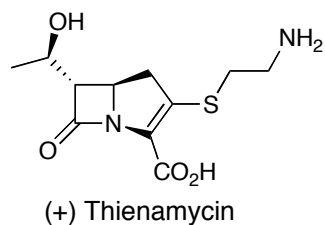
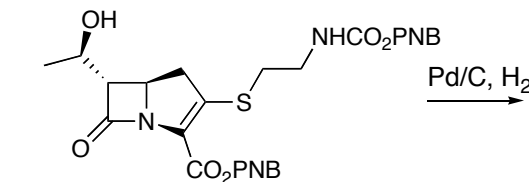
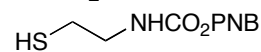
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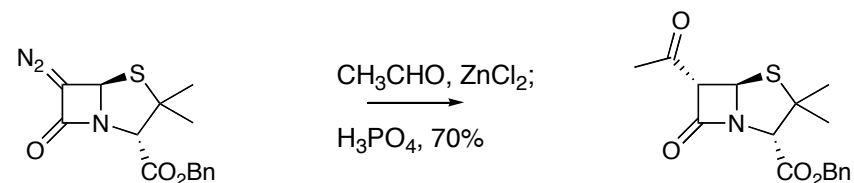
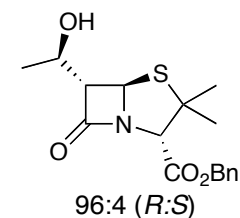
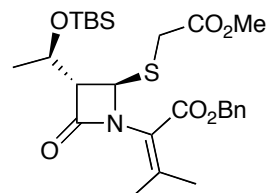
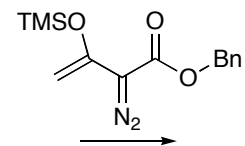
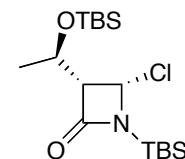
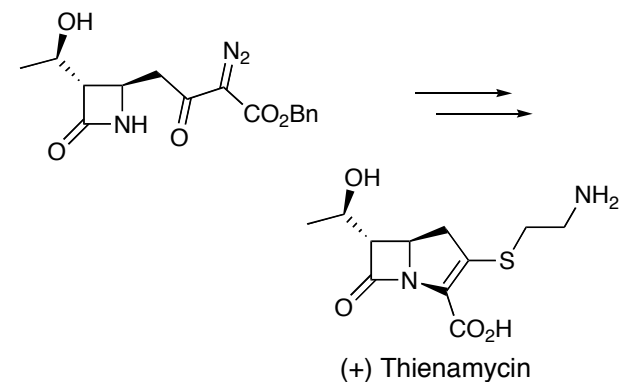
Asymmetric Total Synthesis: Merck

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1980**, *102*, 6161

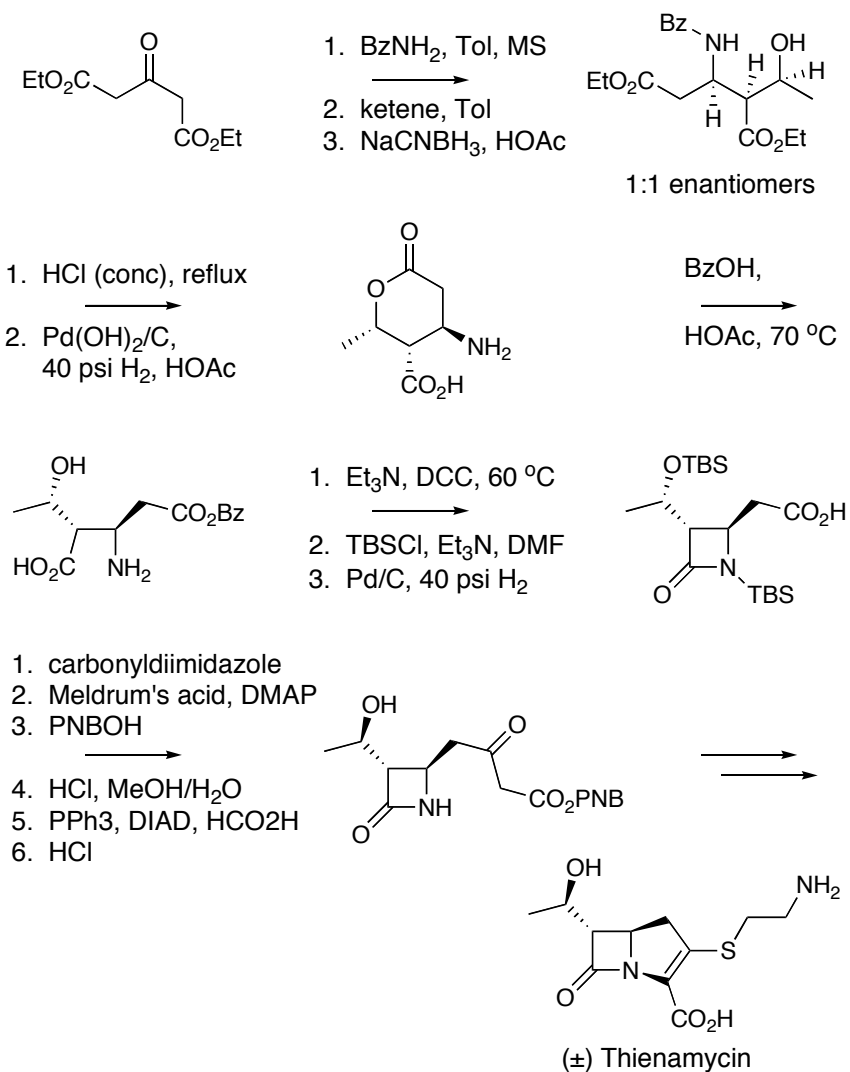
Asymmetric Total Synthesis: Merck

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1980**, *102*, 61611. $\text{ClPO}(\text{OPh})_2$,
DMAP, $i\text{Pr}_2\text{NEt}$ 2. $i\text{Pr}_2\text{NEt}$, 70%

Asymmetric Total Synthesis from Penicillin: Merck

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1981**, *103*, 6765 MgTFA_2 (5eq), Et_2O ; $i\text{Pr}_2\text{NH}\cdot\text{BH}_3$ (2eq), 0 °C
55%1. "TBS"
2. $t\text{BuOK}$,
 $\text{BrCH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$
50%1. KMnO_4 , $\text{Py}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$
2. TBSCl , Et_3N , DMF
3. Cl_2 , CCl_4 , 57%1. AgBF_4 , 70%
2. $\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{HCl}$ 

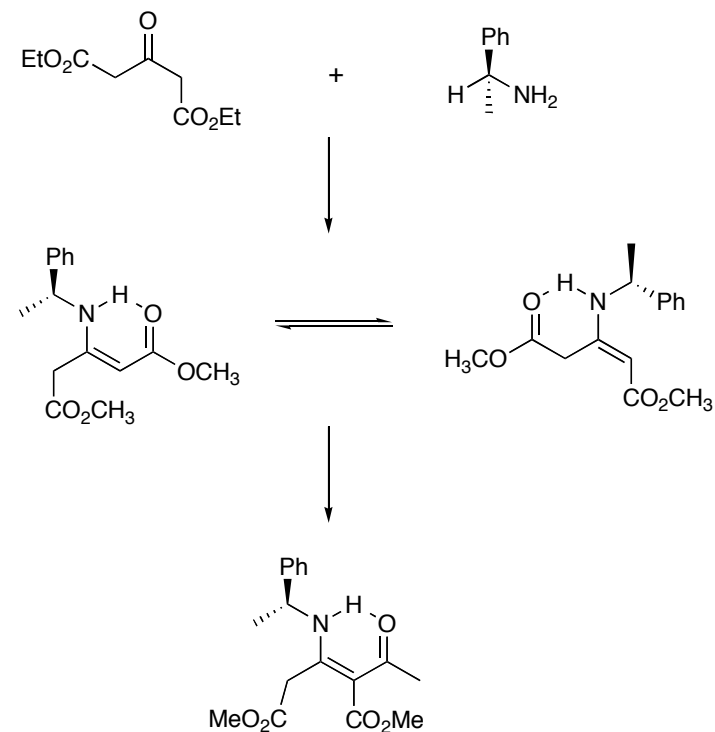
Racemic Total Synthesis: Merck Process

Tetrahedron Lett. 1980, 21, 2783

Asymmetric Total Synthesis: Merck Process

J. Org. Chem. 1986, 51, 1498

Formation of chiral enamino ketone:

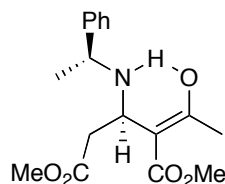


Asymmetric Total Synthesis: Merck Process

J. Org. Chem. **1986**, *51*, 1498

Reduction with boron reagents.

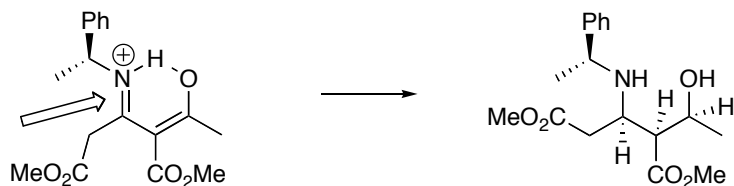
1. Acidic borohydride reductions resulted in no stereocontrol
2. Catechol borane at -78 °C resulted in desired reduction to give:



3. Sodium cyanoborohydride reduction with acetic or propionic acid resulted in rapid reduction of the enol
4. Reduction product was <50% yield and elimination was a major competing reaction

Catalytic Hydrogenation

1. Conditions: Pt/C, H₃PO₄ (2 eq), HOAc, RT, 90-1000 psi H₂
2. Reduction proceeds from most accessible face (back) to give >60% yield of product
3. High H₂ pressure suppresses side product formation and enhances stereoselectivity

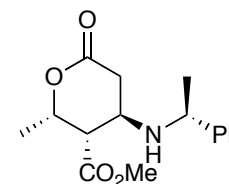


Asymmetric Total Synthesis: Merck Process

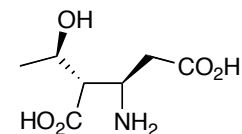
J. Org. Chem. **1986**, *51*, 1498

Completion of Synthesis of Key Intermediate

1. Intermediate above isolated by conversion to the lactone and crystallization (>90% yield) to give pure:



2. Hydrolysis of the ester proceeded in >98% yield with concentrated HCl at 85 °C with no purification necessary
3. Remove solvent by vacuum distillation.
4. Remove the protecting group with Pd/C and H₂ and crystallize the product in >90% yield.
5. Allows generation of the key intermediate below in 50% overall yield with only two purification steps



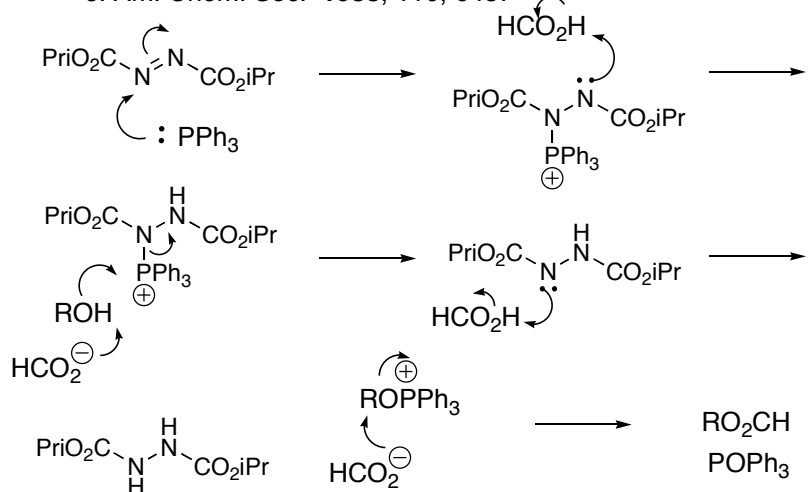
Detailed Study of the Mitsunobu Reaction as Applied to the Synthesis of Thienamycin.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1988**, *110*, 6487

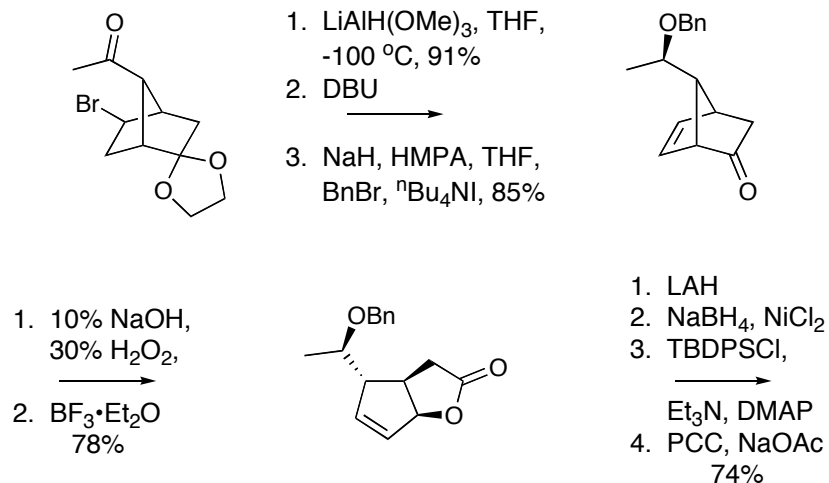
Could invert the stereocenter as above, or invert intramolecularly on the compound above.

Tetrahedron Lett. **1981**, *22*, 913

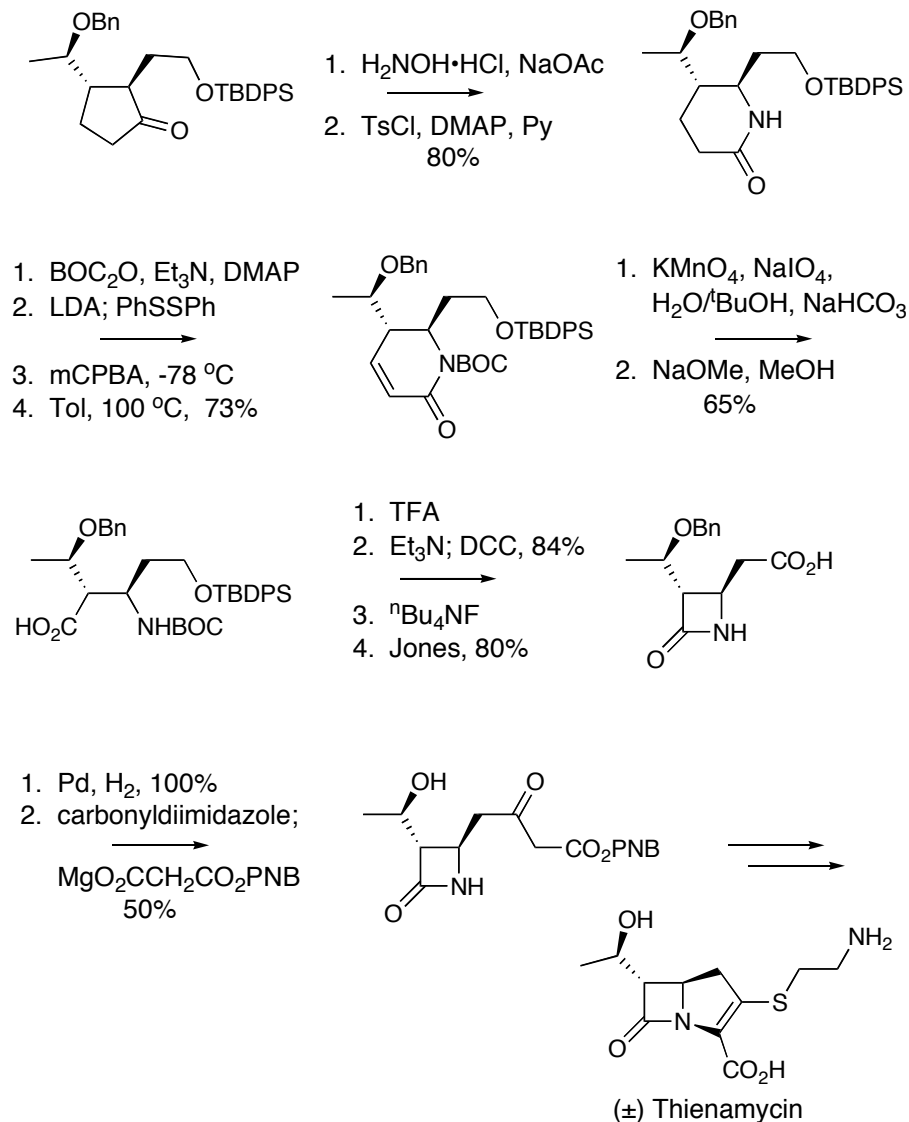
Mitsunobu Mechanism

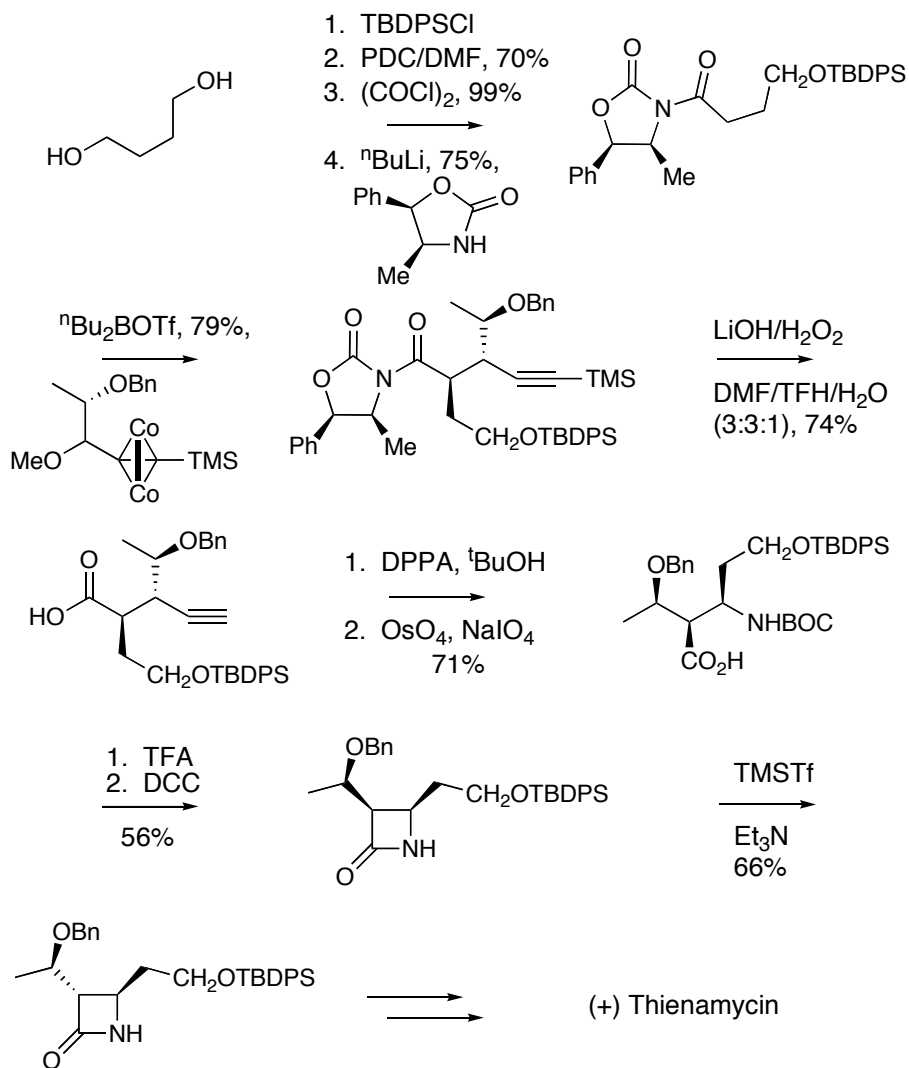
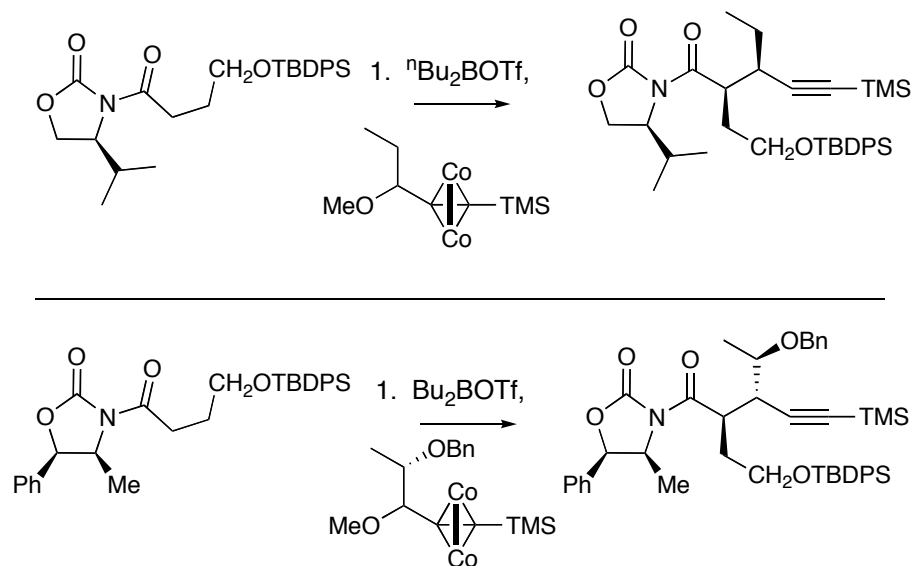
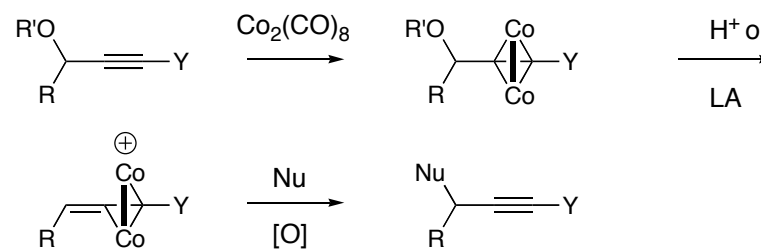
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1988**, *110*, 6487

Racemic Formal Synthesis: Grieco

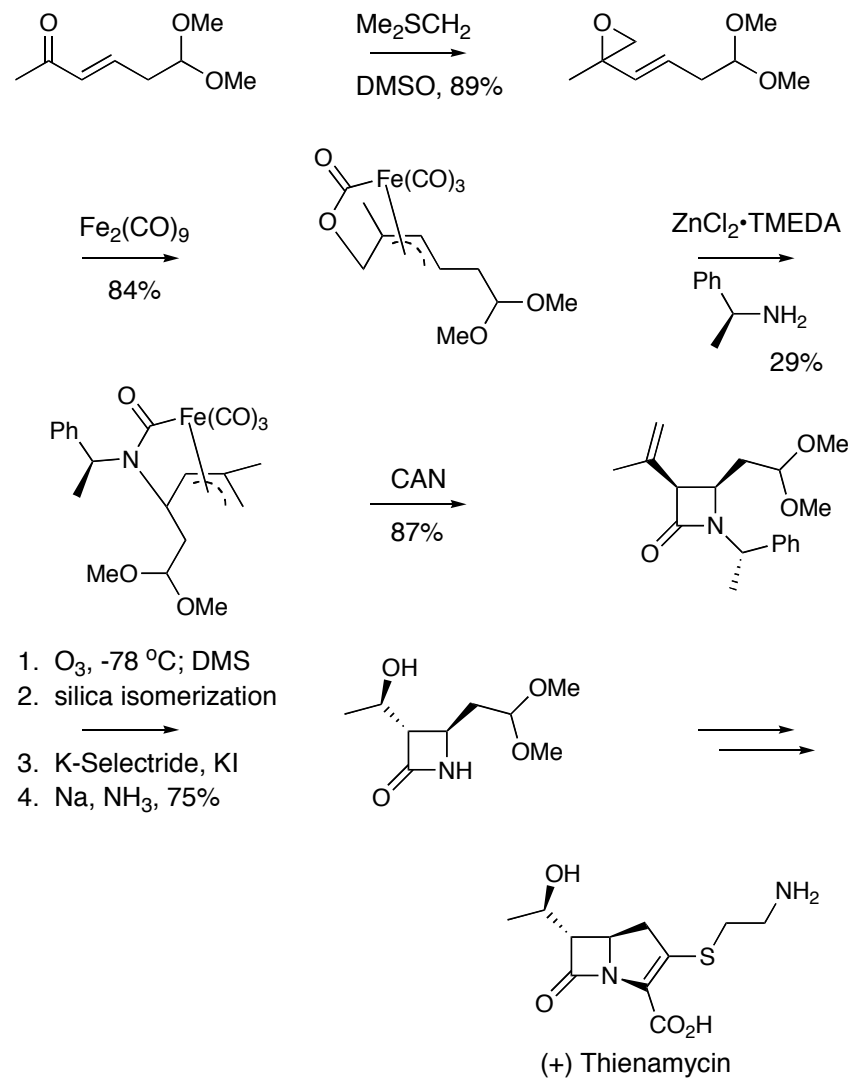
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1984**, *106*, 6414

Racemic Formal Synthesis: Grieco

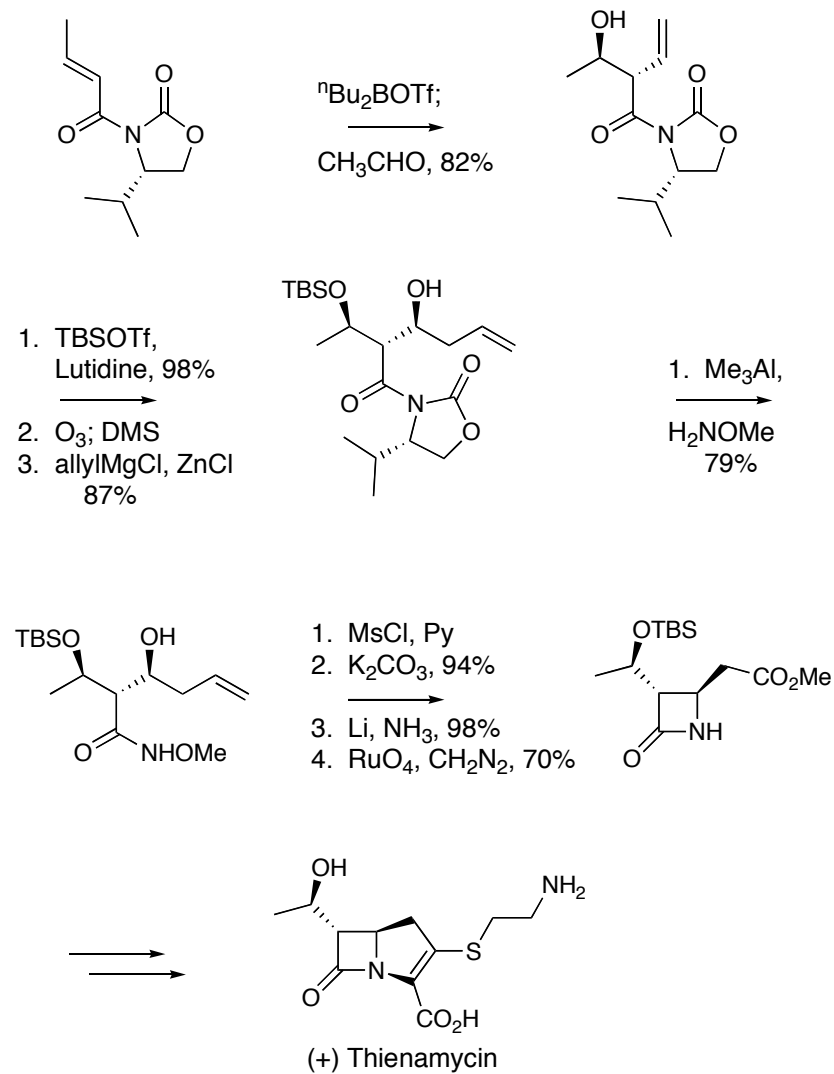
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1984**, *106*, 6414

Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Jacobi
Making Grieco Asymmetric*J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 2413Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Jacobi
Nicholas Reaction*J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 2413*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 5749. Schreiber asymmetric Nicholas

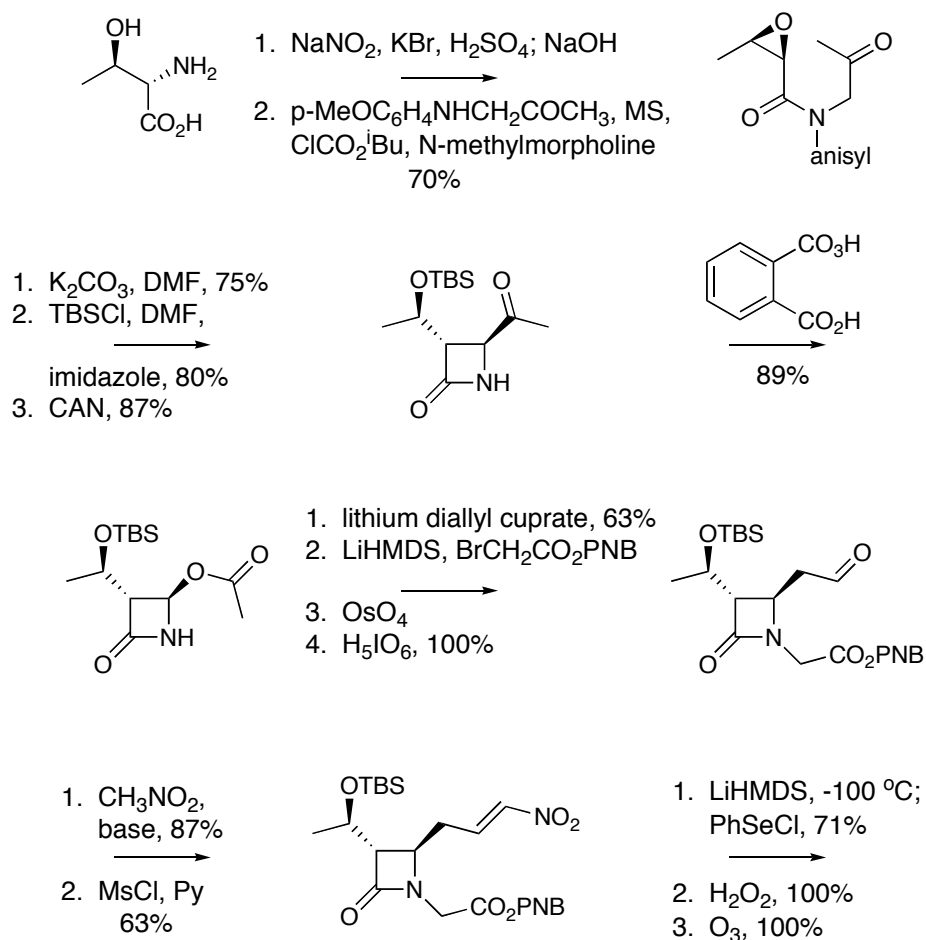
Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Ley

J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1984**, 494

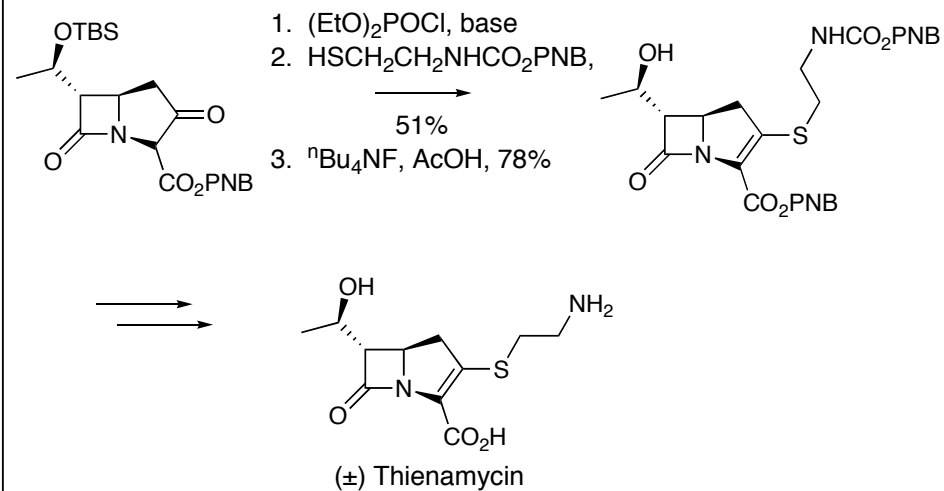
Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Evans

Tetrahedron Lett. **1986**, 27, 4961

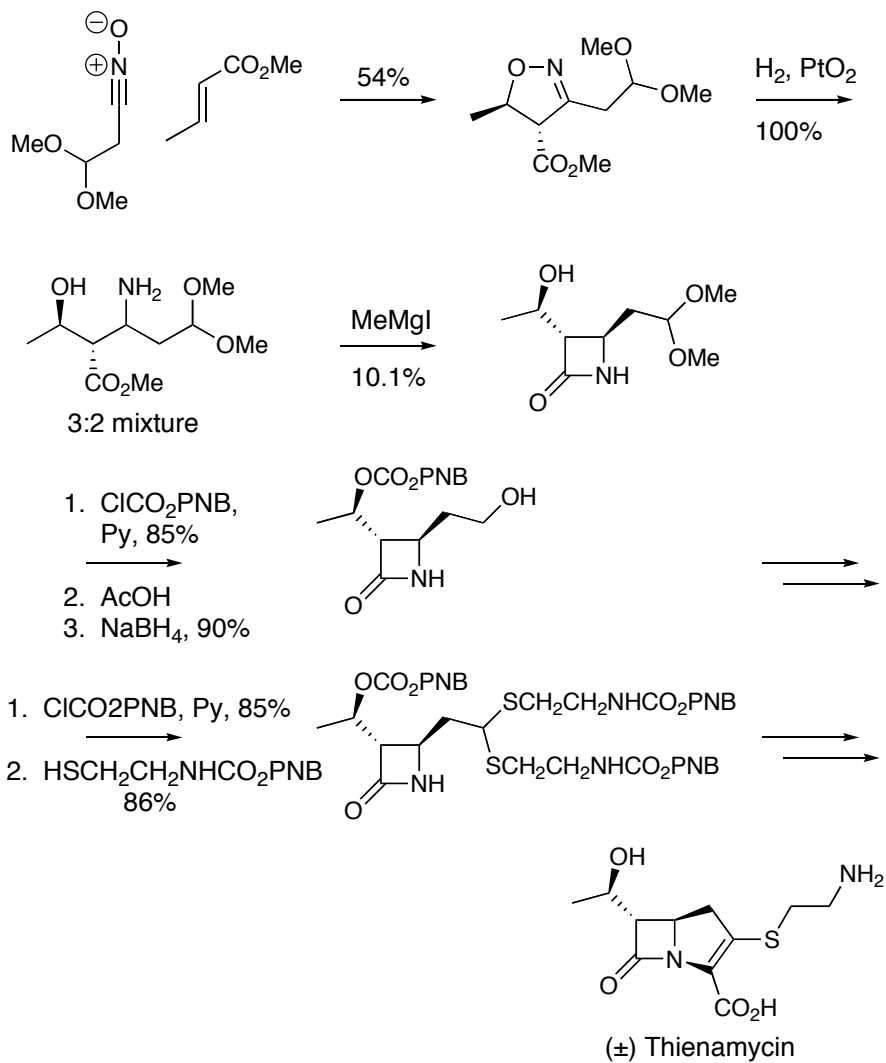
Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Hanessian

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1985**, *107*, 1438*J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 3098

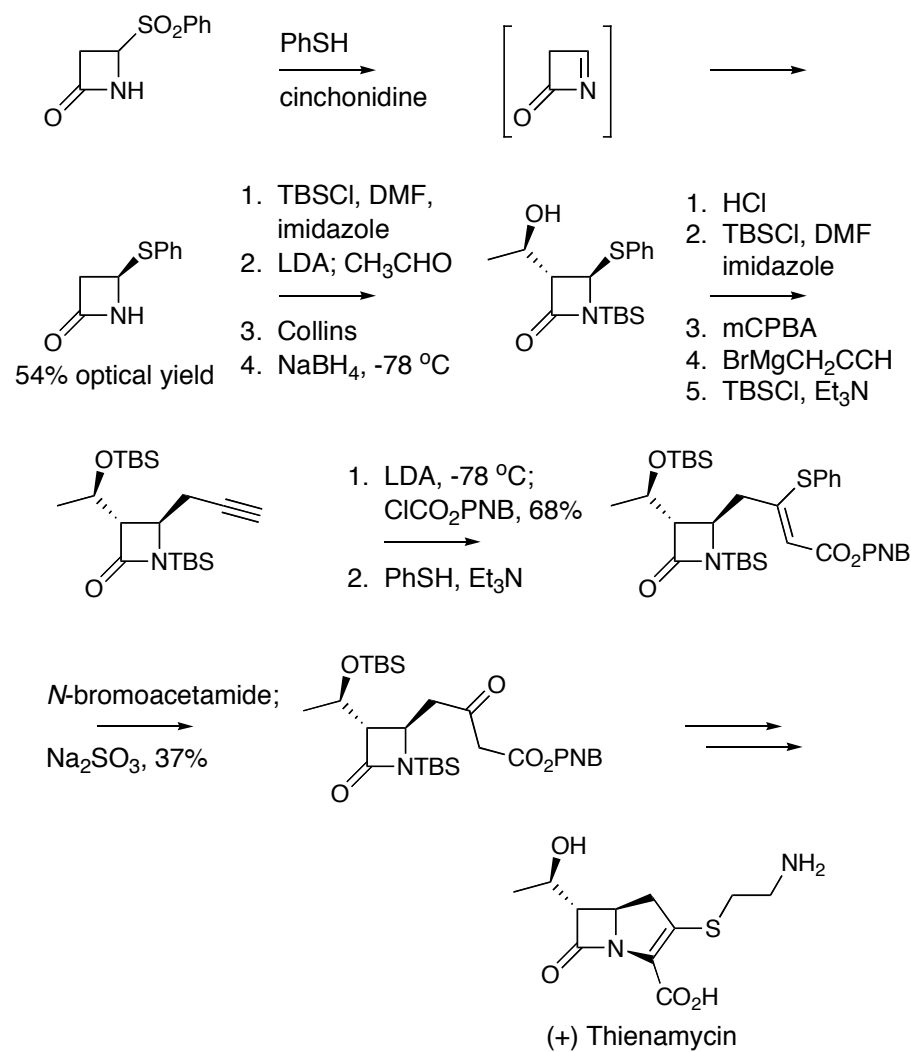
Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Hanessian

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1985**, *107*, 1438*J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 3098

Racemic Formal Synthesis: Kametani

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1980**, *102*, 2060

Asymmetric Formal Synthesis: Shibasaki

J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1982**, 1324*Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, *23*, 2875

Summary of Selected Syntheses

- 1978, Merck Med. Chem. Racemic Total Synthesis
19 steps, ca 0.2% yield
- 1980, Merck Med. Chem. Asymmetric Total Synthesis
19 steps, ca 9.8% yield
- 1981, Merck Process. Asymmetric Total Synthesis
13 steps from Penicillin, ca 5.4% yield
- 1980, Merck Process. Racemic Total Synthesis
21 steps, >10% yield
- 1986, Merck Process. Asymmetric Total Synthesis
17 steps, >10% yield
- 1984, Grieco. Racemic Formal Synthesis
29 steps, ca 3.2% yield
- 1996, Jacobi. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
21 steps, ca 1.8% yield
- 1984, Ley. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
18 steps, ca 0.2% yield
- 1986, Evans. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
20 steps, ??% yield
- 1990, Hanessian. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
20 steps, ca 0.84% yield
- 1980, Kametani. Racemic Formal Synthesis
14 steps, 0.1% yield
- 1982, Shibasaki. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
20 steps, ca 4.3% yield

Selected Other Syntheses Not Presented

- 1982, Hanessian. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
Can. J. Chem. **1982**, *60*, 2292
- 1982, Shiozaki. Racemic Formal Synthesis
Tetrahedron. **1982**, *38*, 3457
- 1985, Georg. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1985**, 1433
- 1986, Fleming. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1986, 1198
- 1986, Buynak. Racemic Formal Synthesis
J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1986**, 941
- 1986, Shibasaki. Formal Synthesis
Chem. Pharm. Bull. **1986**, *34*, 1434
- 1987, Meyers. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
Tetrahedron Lett. **1987**, *28*, 5103
- 1987, Cainelli. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. I. **1987**, 2637
- 1990, Palomo. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1990**, 1390
- 1994, Tanimori. Racemic Formal Synthesis
Heterocycles. **1994**, *38*, 1533
- 1995, Davies. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
Tetrahedron: Asymmetry. **1995**, *6*, 2507
- 2000, Tatsuta. Asymmetric Formal Synthesis
J. Antibiotics. **2000**, *53*, 1231