

1918-2002

Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus
Berkeley

-born in Brooklyn, New York, of Russian descent
-B.S. in chemistry in 1940; M.S. in 1941; Ph.D in 1943 (MIT)

-worked briefly during WWII at Heyden Chemical Corporation on penicillin

-1945 studied morphine synthesis at NIH

-1946 appointed as instructor in UC Berkeley

-trained 253 students, out of which 103 were grad students.

-Coauthored with James Cason an organic chemistry lab textbook.

-436 papers and 33 patents.

-noted for TS of heterocyclic drugs like morphine, codeine, camptothecin and structural determination of saxitoxin.

-been a consultant to at least 43 companies

-students have commented that he is too fast to keep up as he writes with both hands.

1940s-1960s -structure elucidation; isolation; biosynthetic discussion, NaBH_4 reduction of esters; methods to make heterocycles.

Modified procedure to organolithium species

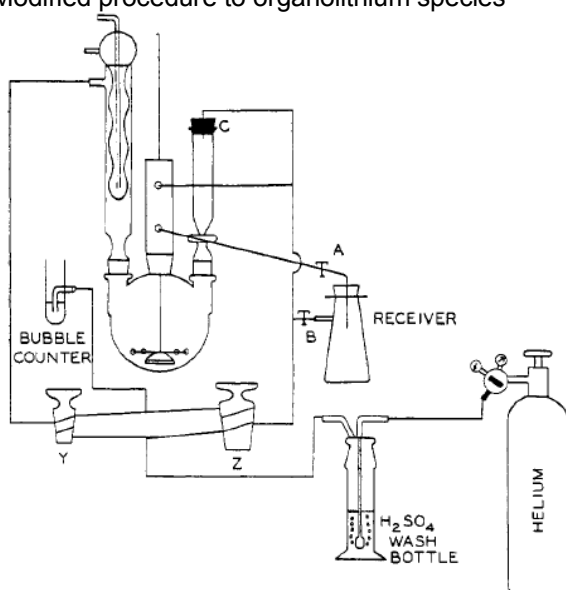


Figure 1. Assembly of Apparatus

Anal. Chem. 1948, 20, 635

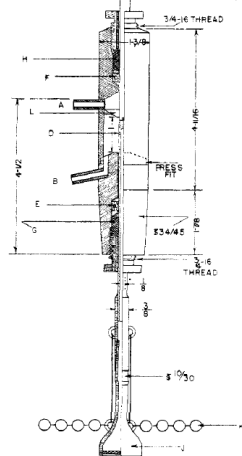
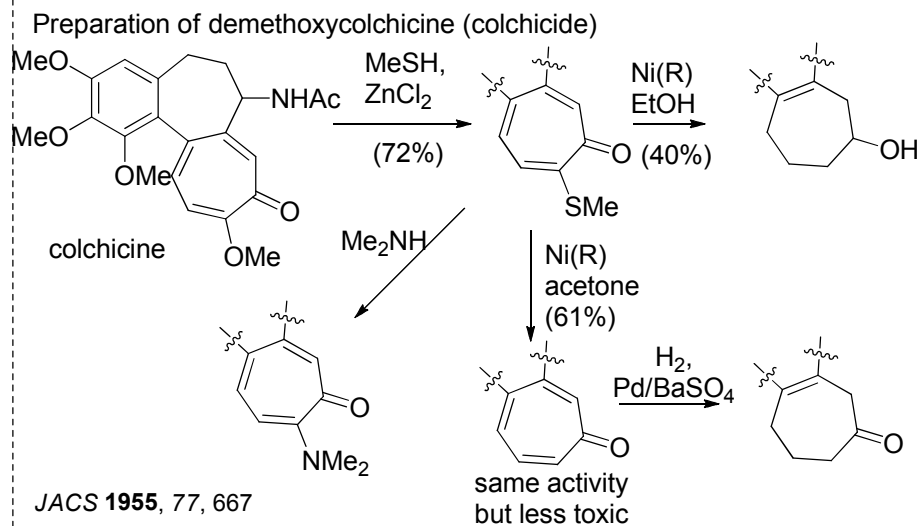
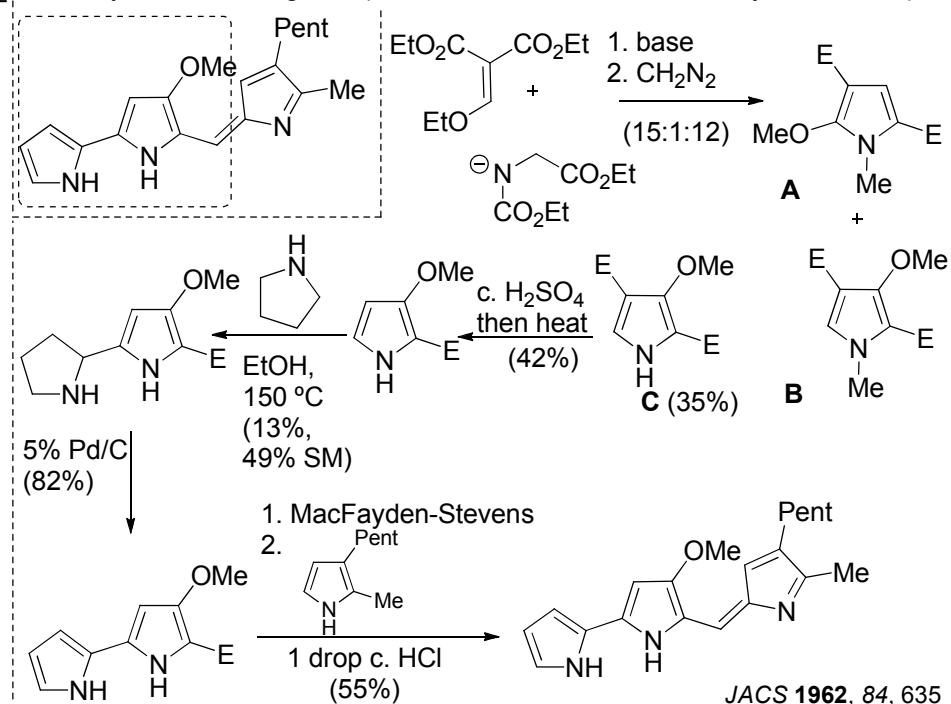


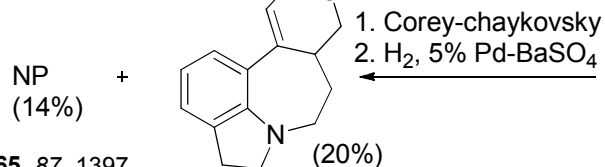
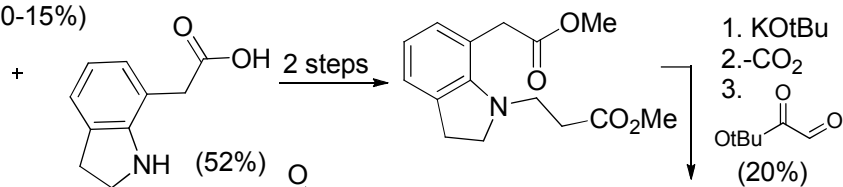
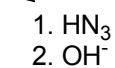
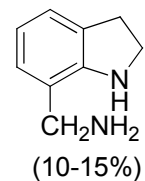
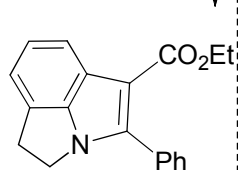
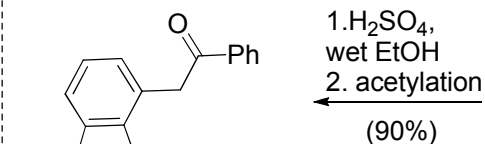
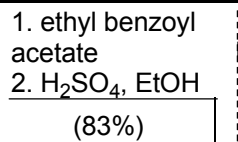
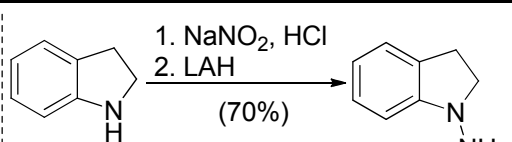
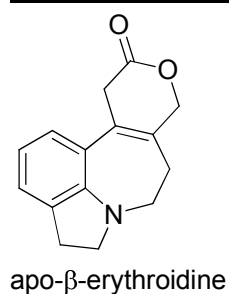
Figure 2. Diagram of Apparatus

A. Helium tube
B. Filter outlet tube
C. Stirrer shaft
D. 2 holes, 1/8 inch diameter
E, F. Nice No. 402-2 ball bearings 1/4 x 1/2 inch
G, H. Graphite-lead- asbestos packing
J. Ace filter tube 8610, 24-mm. diameter and porosity A (Ace Glass Co., Vineland, N. J.)
K. Hirschberg type stirrer of 1/8 inch Chromal wire
L. Baffle



Total synthesis: Prodigiosin (at this time structure was not fully established)





JACS 1965, 87, 1397

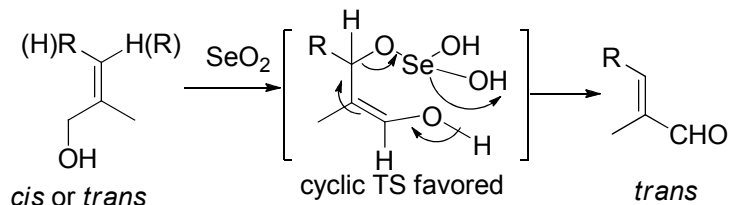
1970s - Obtained Xray structure of saxitoxin JACS 1975, 97, 6008

Review on Solid phase in organic synthesis Acc. Chem. Res. 1976, 9, 135

Aberrant Alkaloid Biosynthesis- In-vitro synthesis of unnatural nicotine analogs

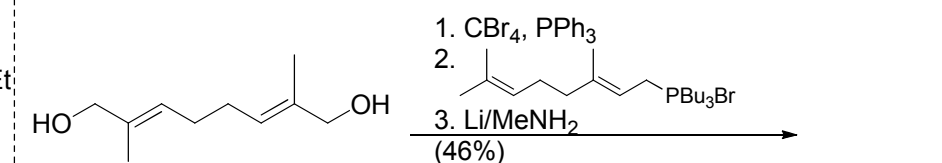
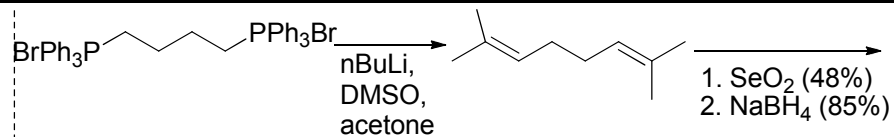
JACS 1971, 93, 7021

Stereochemistry of SeO_2 oxidation-application to squalene synthesis



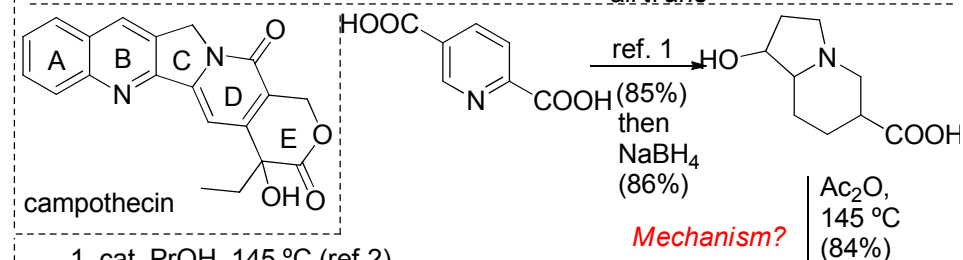
cis or trans

trans

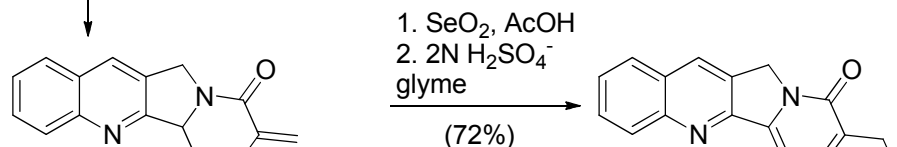
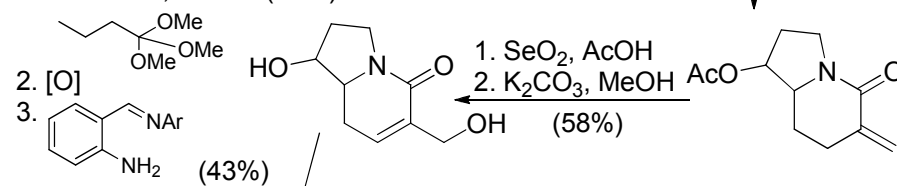


JACS 1971, 93, 5311
JACS 1971, 93, 1758

all trans

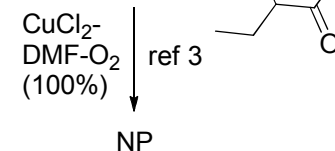


1. cat. PrOH, 145 °C (ref 2)

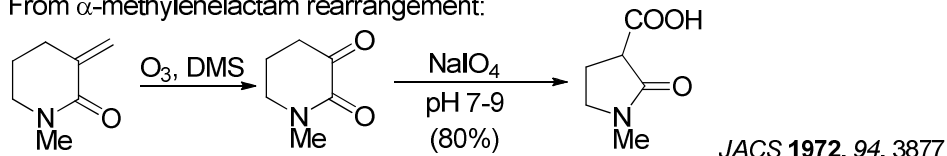


1. JACS 1972, 94, 8613; 2. JOC 1976, 41, 535
3. Chem. Ber. 1972, 105, 2126

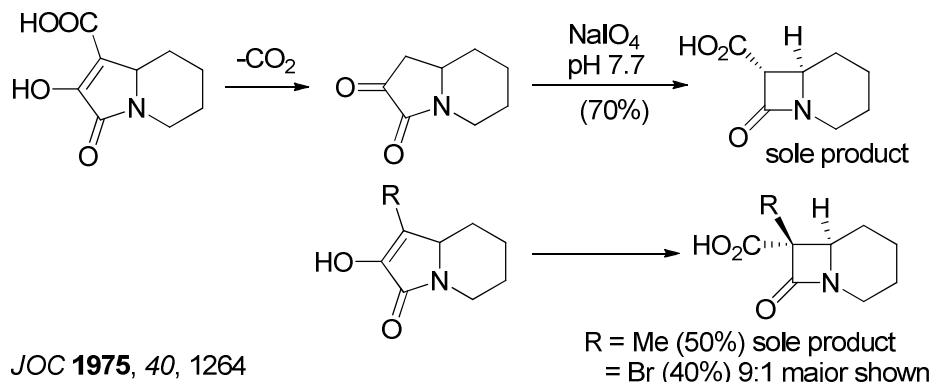
this work: JACS 1972, 94, 8615. see Ke Chen GM "Campothecin" for more.



From α -methylene lactam rearrangement:

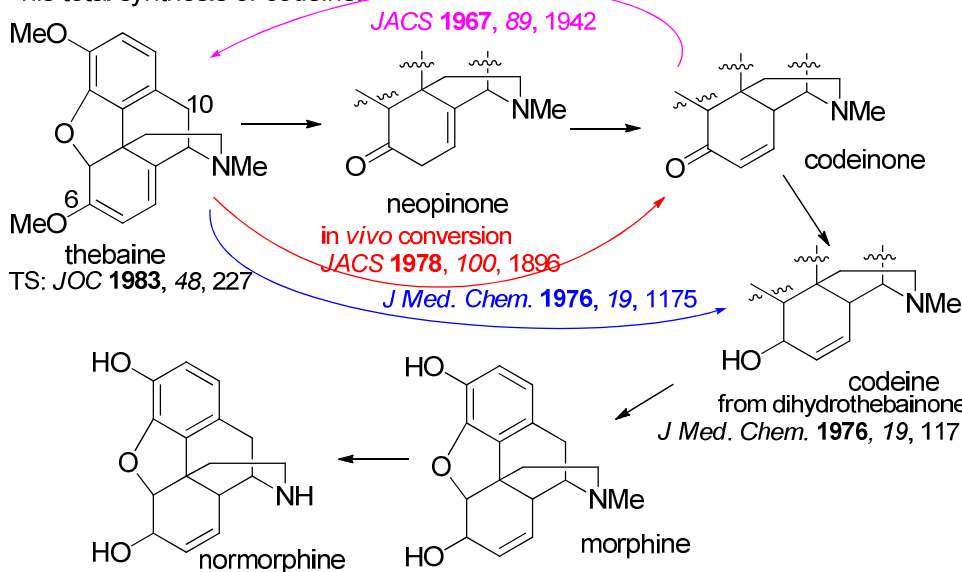


to make β -lactam

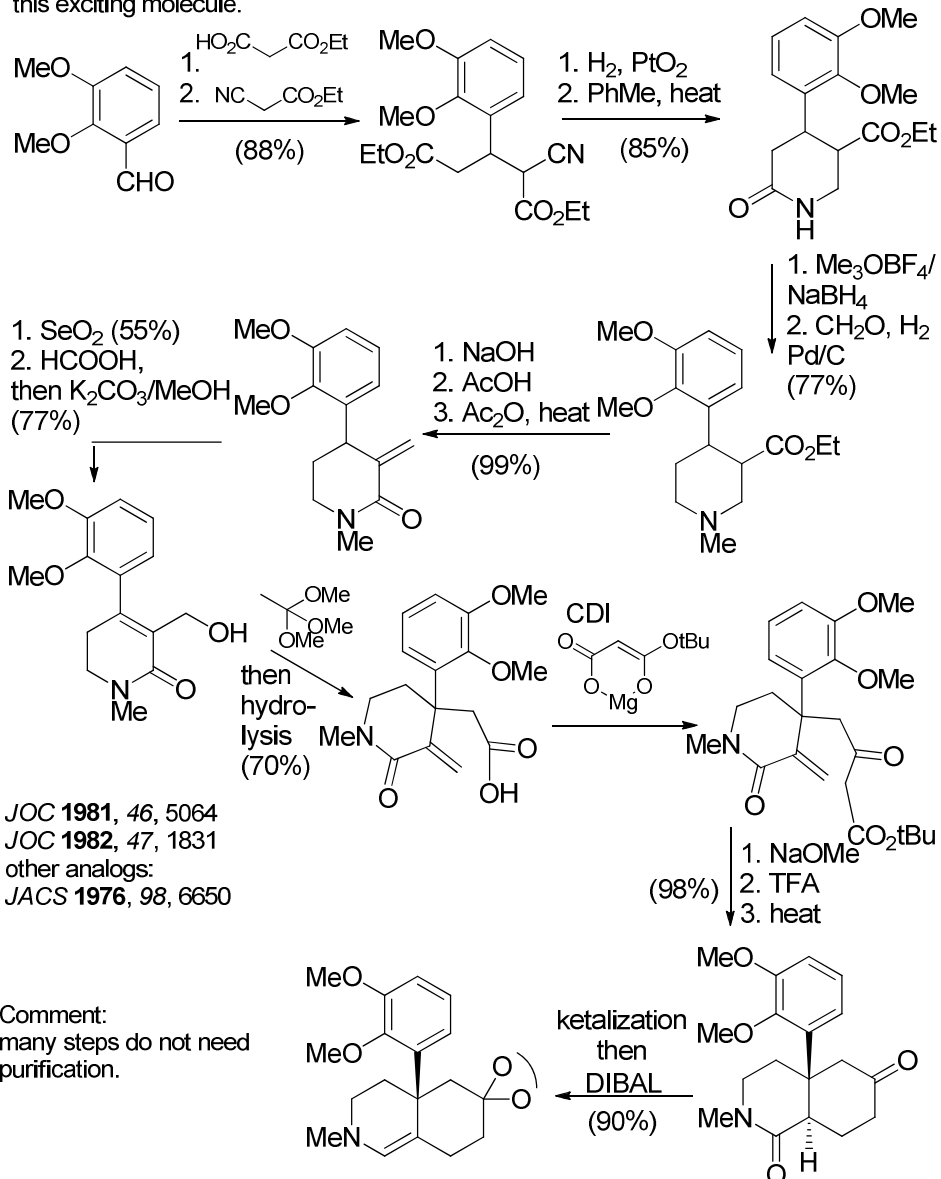


JOC **1975**, *40*, 1264

From α -methylene lactam rearrangement and Claisen strategy, ultimately led to his total synthesis of codeine.



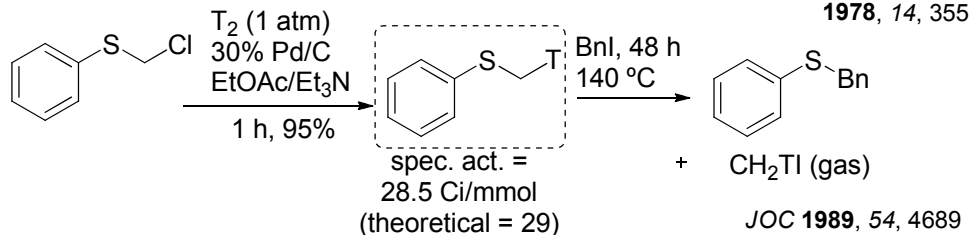
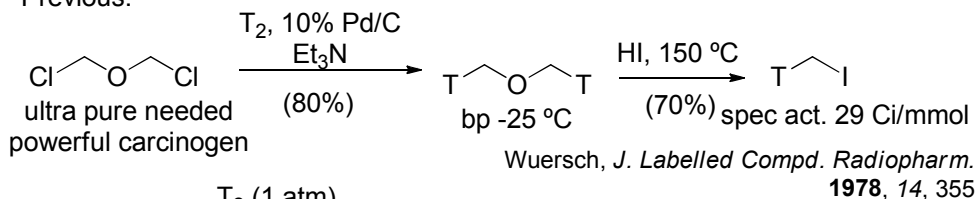
Completed total synthesis of thebaine in 1982, which combined with his 1976 *J Med. Chem.* paper constitutes his total synthesis of codeine. This *J Med. Chem.* paper was featured briefly in Ke Li "Morphine/Codeine" GM, together with many other syntheses of this exciting molecule.



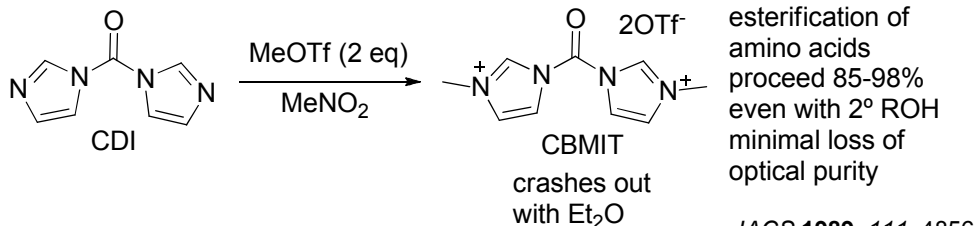
Comment:
 many steps do not need purification.

one example of radiochemistry - new reagent precursor of CH_2Tl

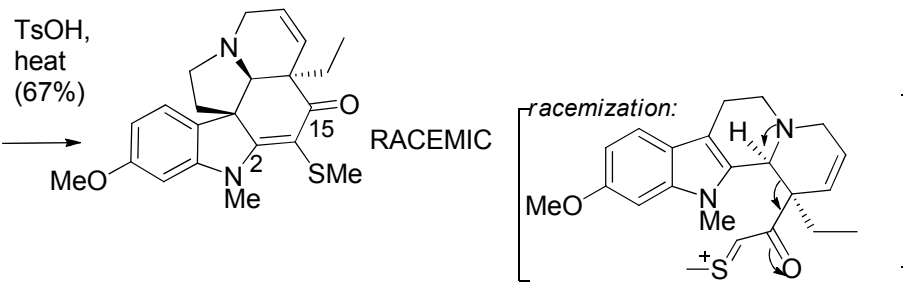
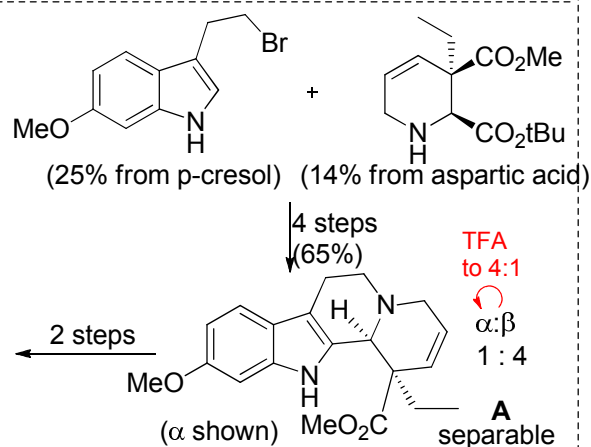
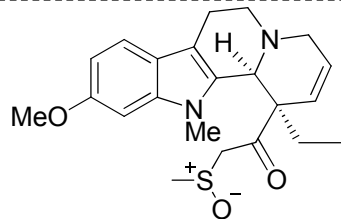
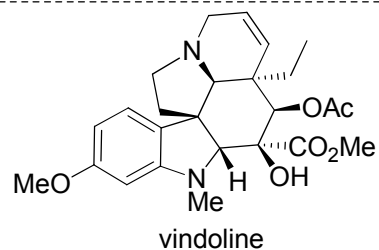
Previous:



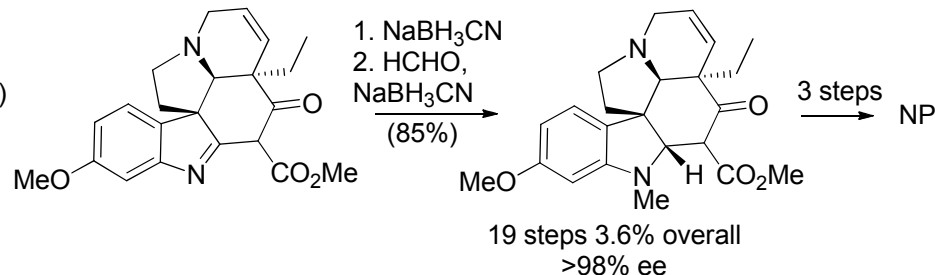
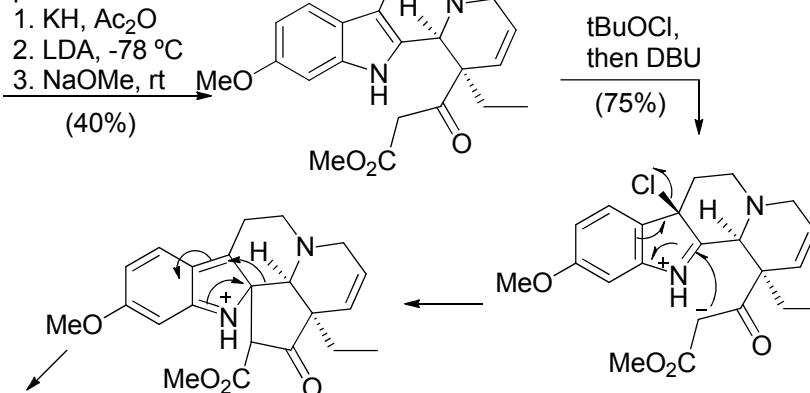
New coupling reagents



another new reagent: see *JOC* **1994**, 59, 7503



in the 2nd generation, they modified to make C14 nucleophilic and C2 electrophilic.



JOC **1986**, 51, 3882; *JACS* **1987**, 107, 1603

also discussed in Mitsunobu "Vindoline" GM

for vincamine TS: see *JOC* **1985**, 50, 1239; *JOC* **1990**, 55, 3068

