

Prof. Dr. Johann Mulzer, born August 5th, 1944 in Prien/Chiemsee (Germany)



Education

- 1969: Diploma in chemistry, University of Munich (LMU)
 1969-1974: Ph.D., University of Munich (LMU), (with Rolf Huisgen)
 1974-1975: Postdoc, Harvard University, (with E. J. Corey)

Academic Career

- 1980-1982: Assistant Professor, University of **Munich**
 1982-1984: Associate Professor, University of **Düsseldorf**
 1984-1995: Full Professor, Free University of **Berlin**
 1995-1996: Full Professor, University of **Frankfurt**
 1996-2012: Full Professor, University of **Vienna** (Austria)

Selected Awards and Memberships

- 1981: Grant for a University Lecturer in Chemistry, Chemical Industry Fund (FCI)
 1983: Jost Henkel Memorial Prize
 1994: Leibniz Prize, German Research Foundation (DFG)
 1997: Ernst Schering Prize, Ernst Schering Research Foundation
 1999: Erwin Schrödinger Prize of the Austrian Academy of Science
 2002: Member of the Austrian Academy of Science
 2010: Emil-Fischer-Medaille, Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDCh)

Publications

 (as of December 2013)

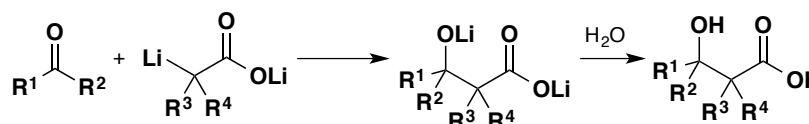
- 321 publications
- 49 reviews
- 13 patents
- many books and book chapters

"Die Guad'n haltens aus!" (Mulzer)

Disclaimer: this presentation represents a personal selection of the published work of Johann Mulzer and is not intended to be comprehensive by any means.

The early days in Munich:

Decarboxylative dehydration of β -hydroxycarboxylic acids
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **1977**, *16*, 255–256.

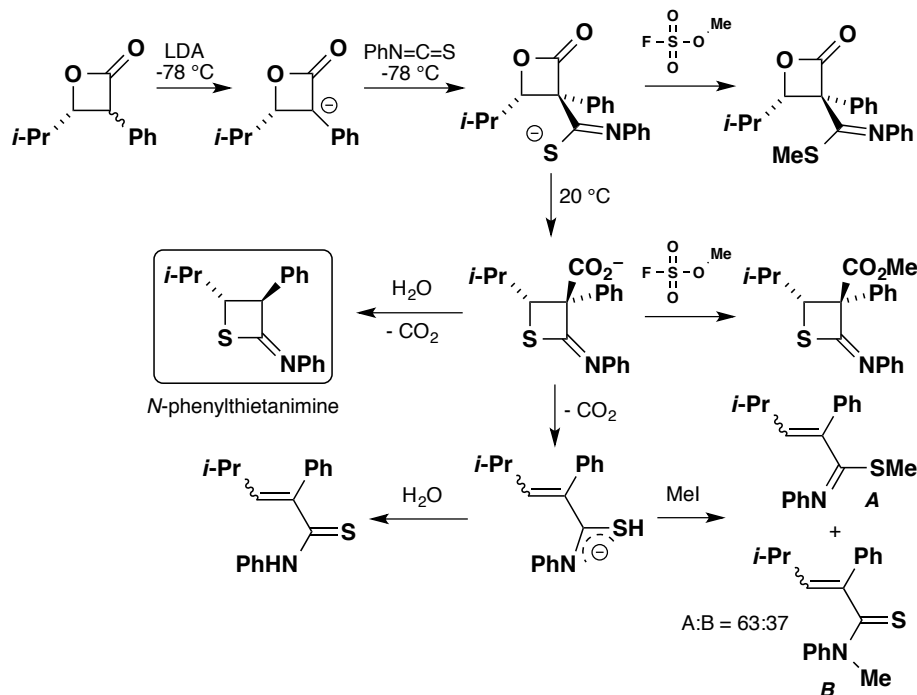


- mild conditions
- easy workup
- low cost of reagents

new olefin synthesis

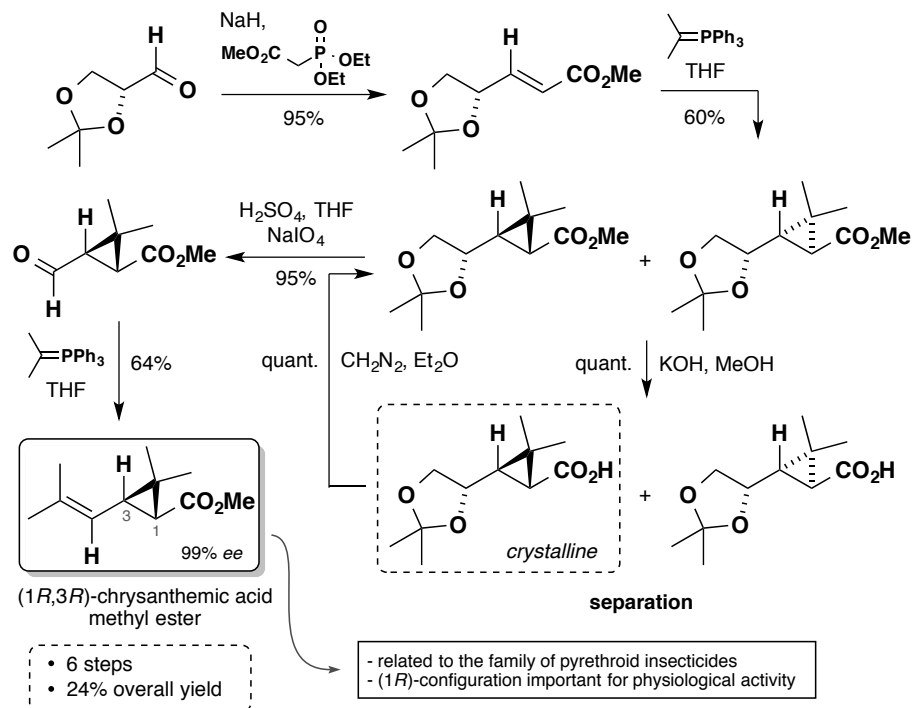
→ methodology expanded to synthesis of 1,3-dienes: *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1978**, *19*, 2953–2954.

2-thietanimines from α -deprotonated β -lactones and phenyl isothiocyanate
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **1980**, *19*, 466–467.

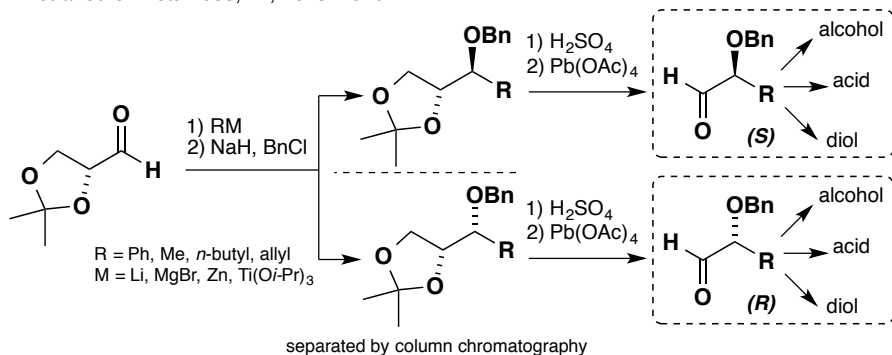


Some work from the Düsseldorf, Berlin and Frankfurt period:

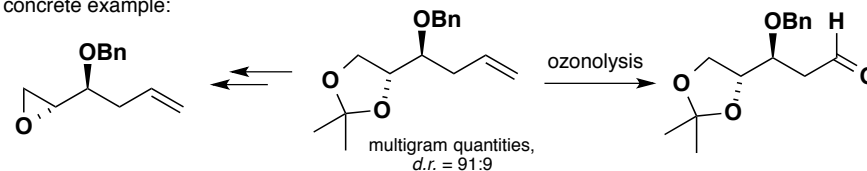
Diastereo- and enantioselective synthesis of chrysanthemic acid methyl ester
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **1983**, *22*, 63–64.



Synthesis of optically active building blocks from (*R*)-2,3-isopropylidene glyceraldehyde
Tetrahedron Lett. **1983**, *24*, 2843–2846.



concrete example:

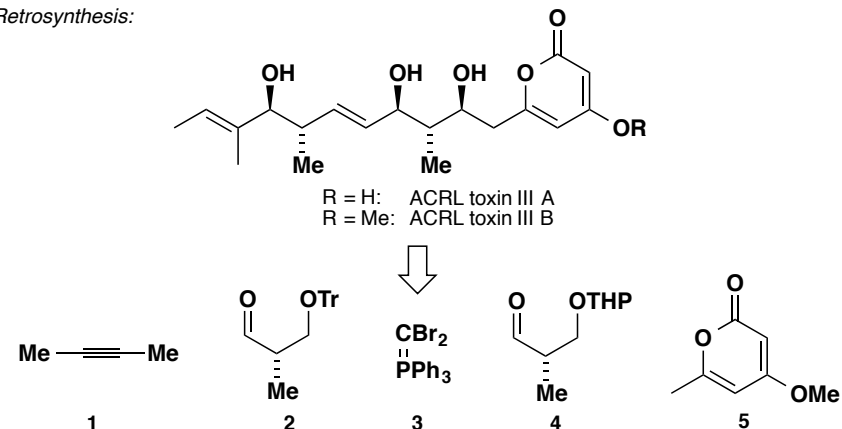


First total synthesis of (–)-ACRL Toxin III B

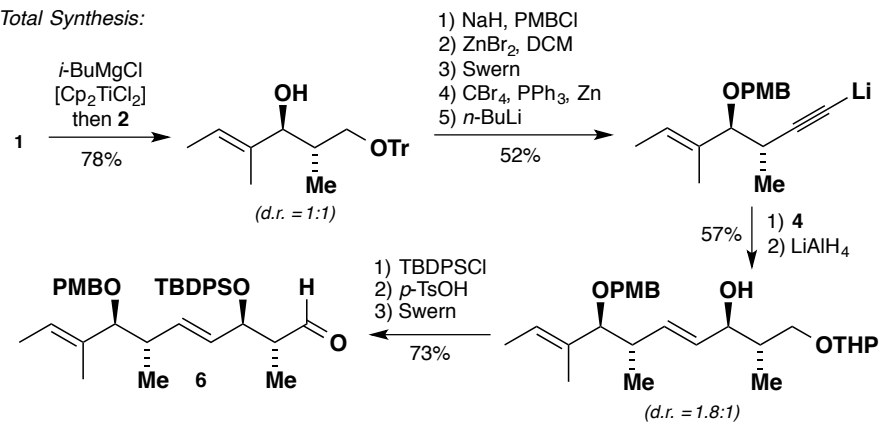
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **1993**, *32*, 1452–1454.

- ACRL toxin III A present in a fungus which causes brown spot disease on citrus
 - unknown mechanism of action

Retrosynthesis:

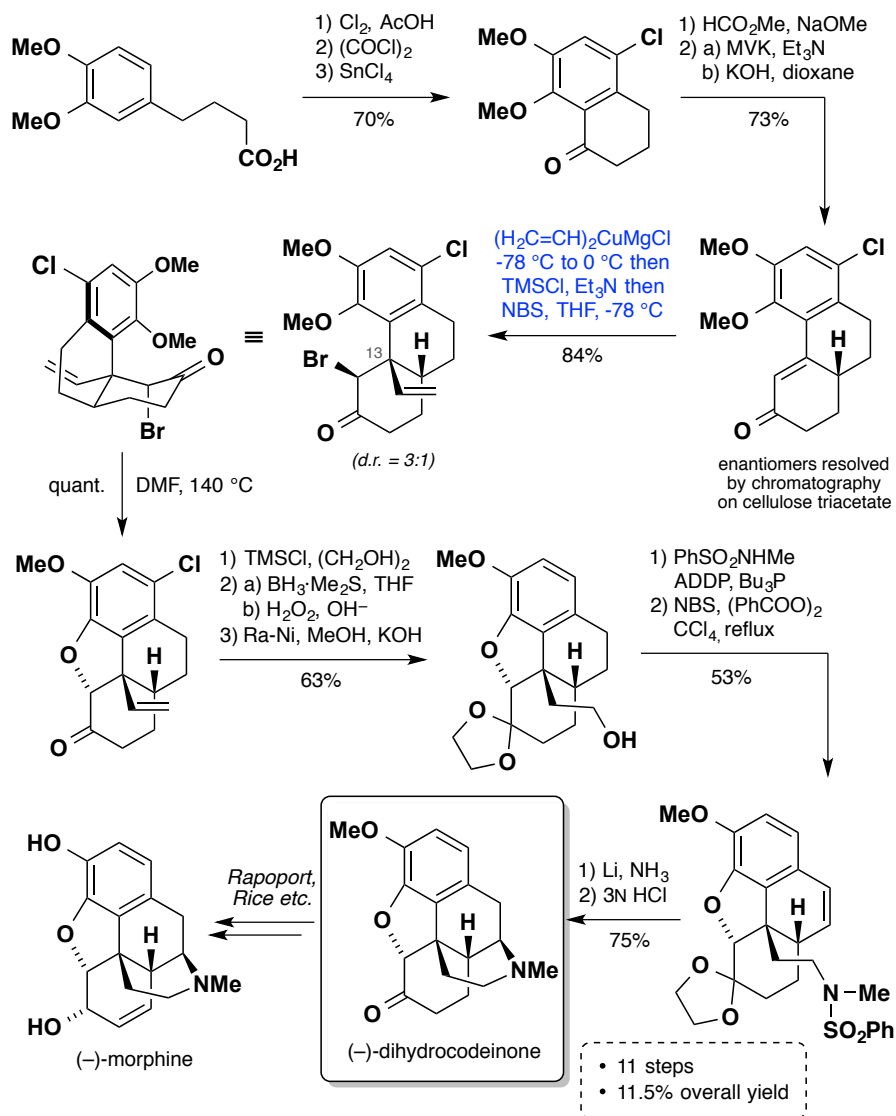


Total Synthesis:

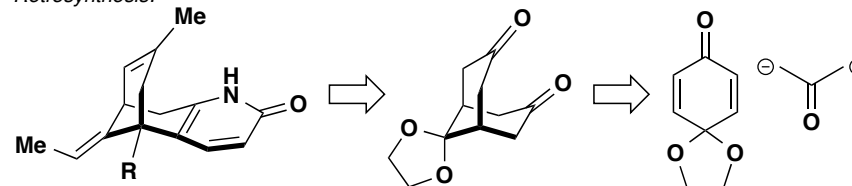


The Vienna Era:**(-)-Morphine**Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **1996**, *35*, 2830–2832.

Total Synthesis:

**(±)-desamino huperzine A**Tetrahedron Lett. **2000**, *41*, 9229–9232

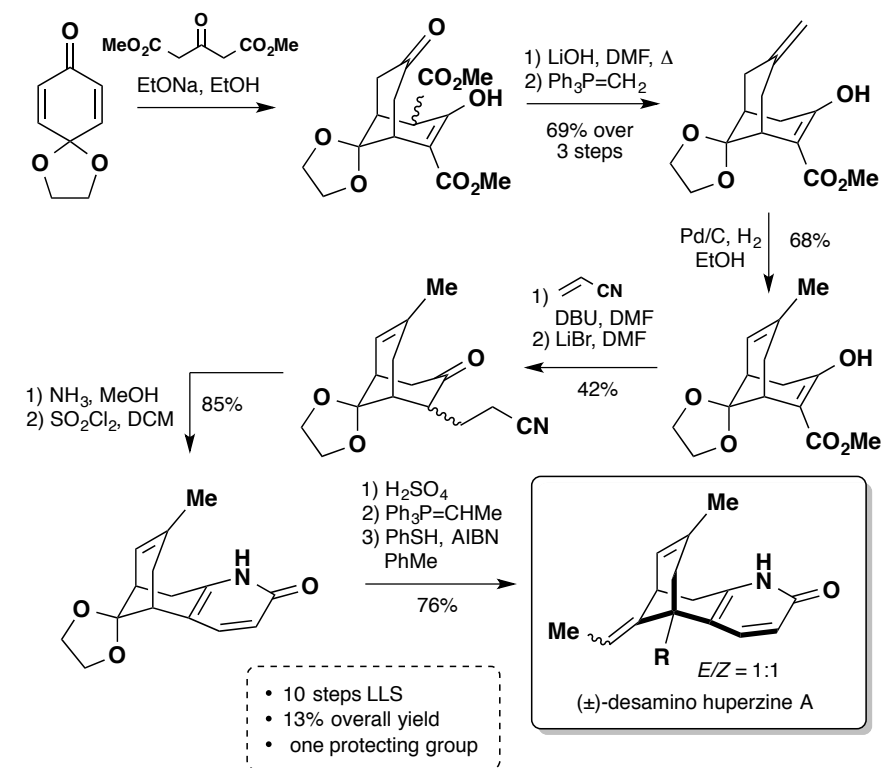
Retrosynthesis:



R = NH_2 : huperzine A
R = H: desamino huperzine A

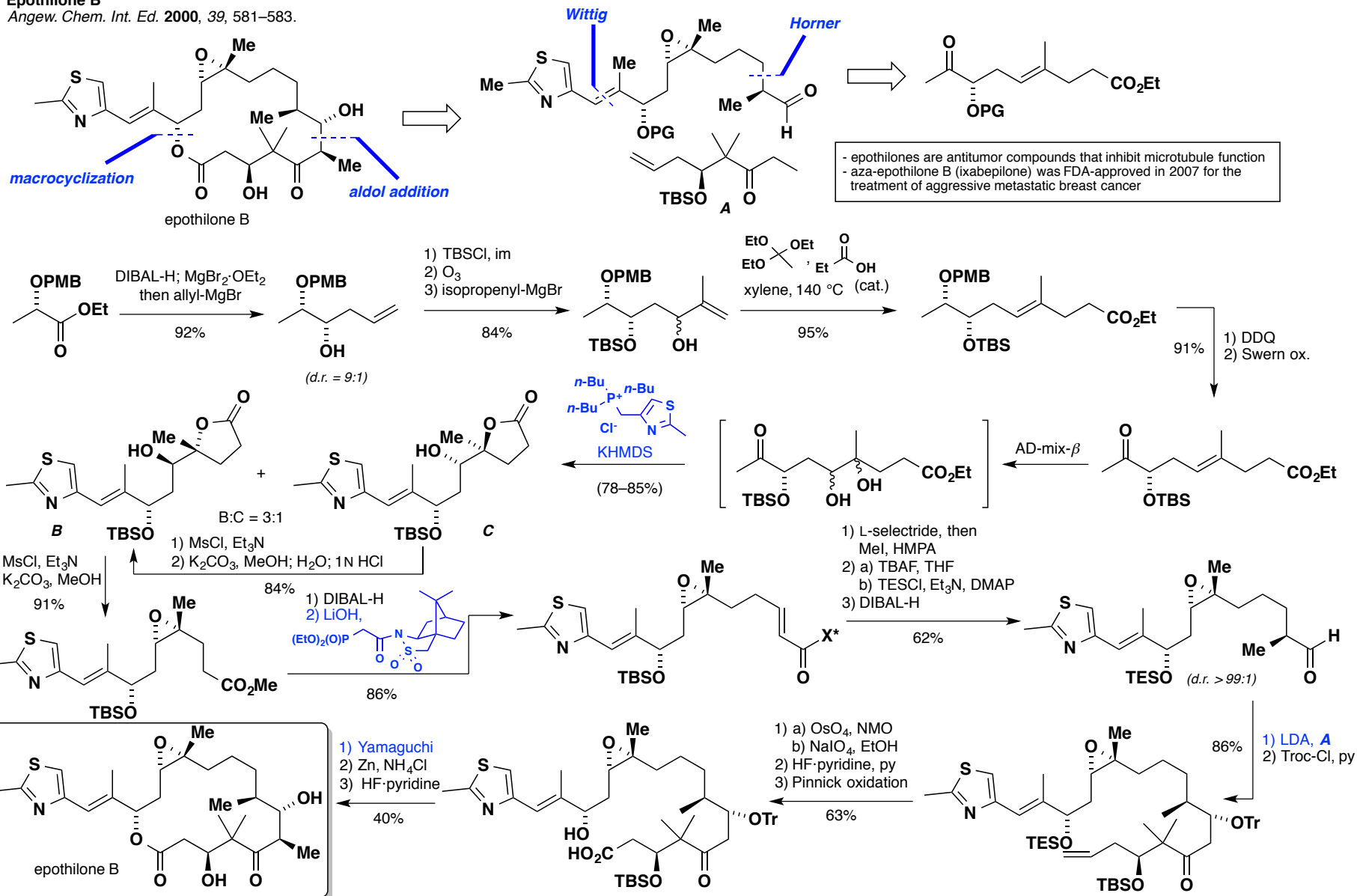
- huperzine A is a AChE inhibitor and a potential lead for treatment of Alzheimer's disease
- great potential in synthetic derivatives of huperzine A

Total Synthesis:

→ synthesis and biological activity of more derivatives: *BMCL* **2001**, *11*, 2627–2630.

Epothilone B

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2000, 39, 581–583.

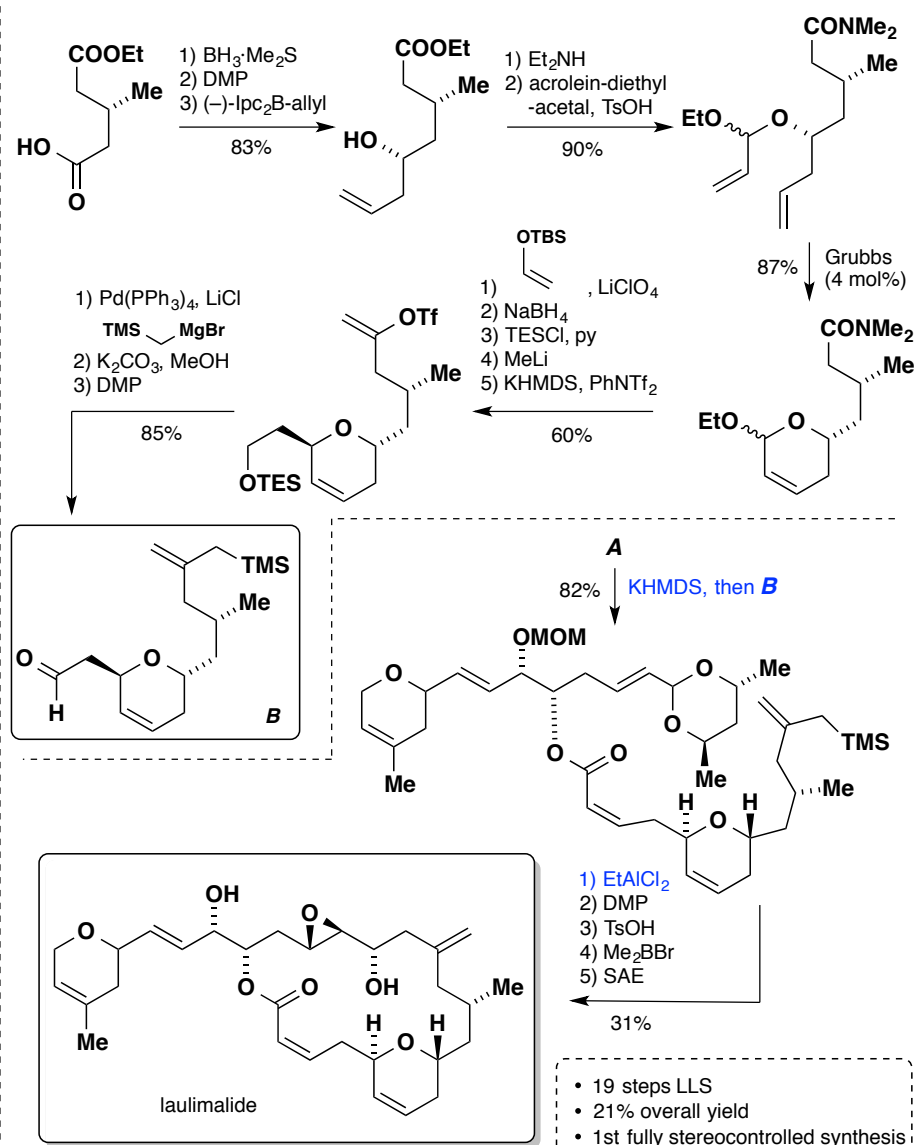
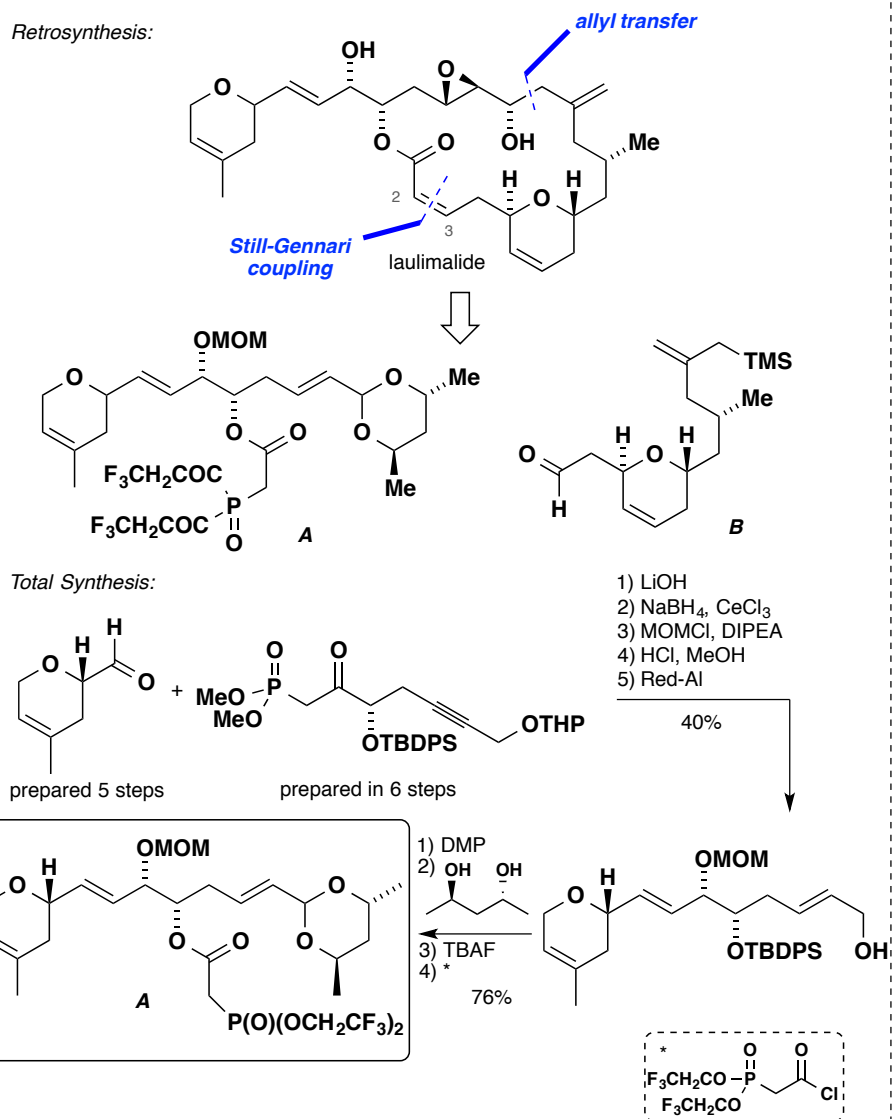


Laulimalide

JACS 2001, 123, 10764–10765.

- laulimalide is a metabolite from marine sponges that promotes abnormal tubulin polymerization
- displays unusually high activity against multidrug resistant cancer cell lines

Retrosynthesis:



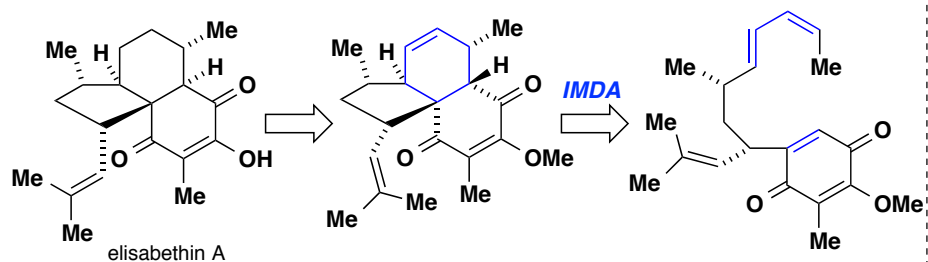
→ subsequent work about laulimalide and analogs: *THL* 2002, 43, 3381; *JOC* 2003, 68, 3026; *OL* 2008, 10, 4701; *Chem. Eur. J.* 2009, 15, 5979; *THL*, 2009, 50, 5790.

Elisabethin A

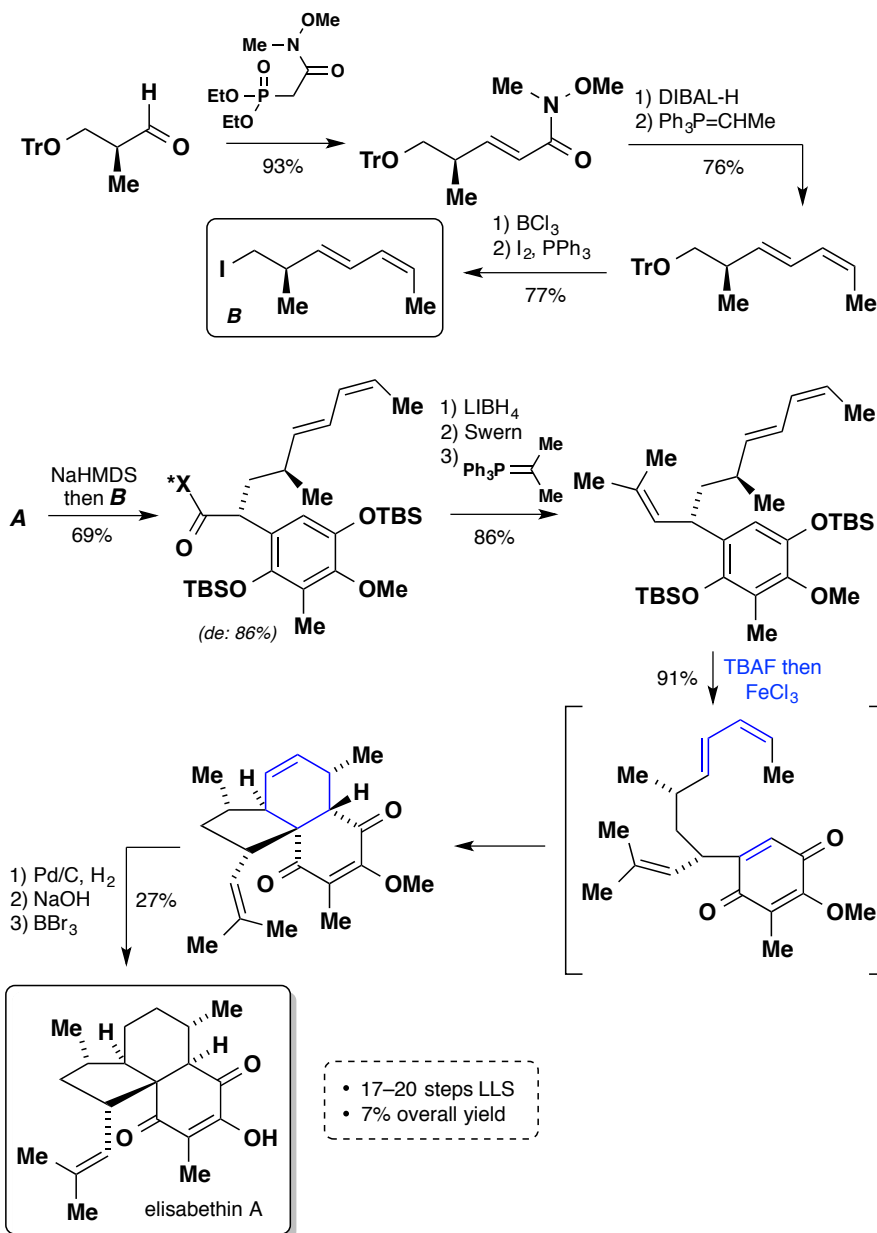
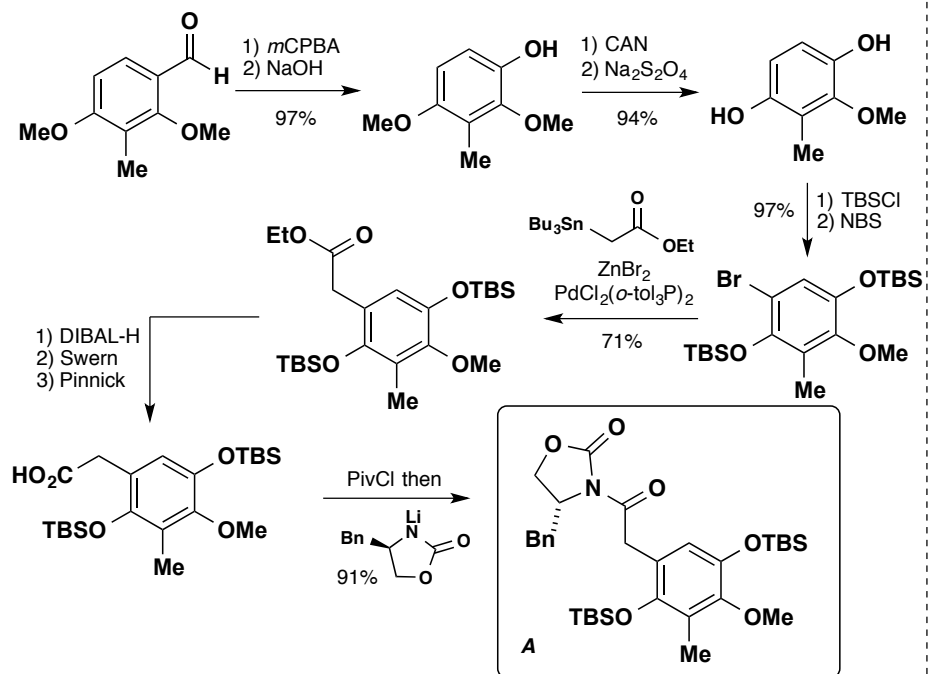
JACS 2003, 125, 4680–4681.

- isolated from the Caribbean gorgonian *Pseudopterogorgia elisabethae*
- some members of the elisabethane class show significant activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Retrosynthesis:



Total Synthesis:

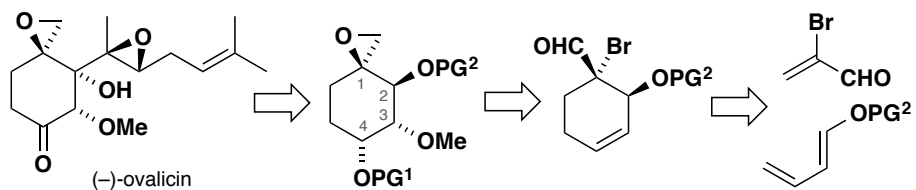


(-)-Ovalicin

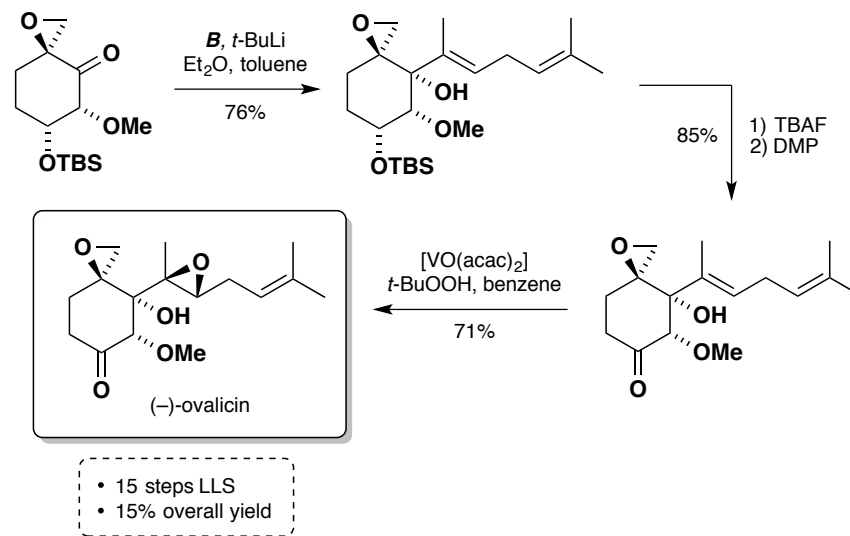
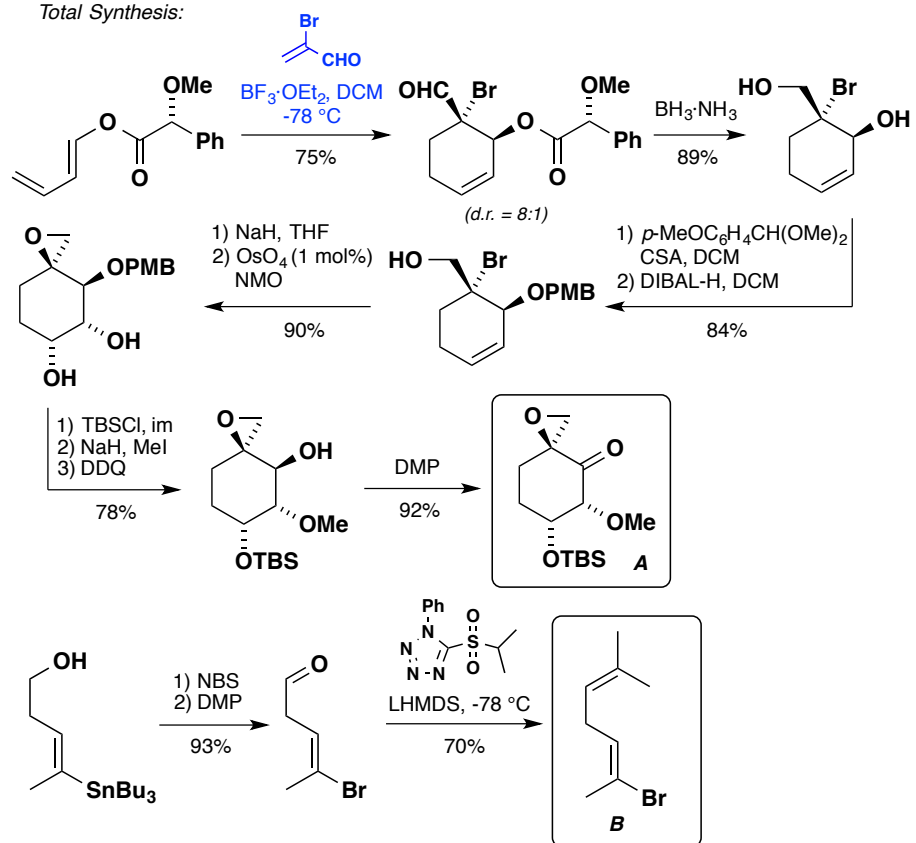
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 2690–2693

- ovalicin and the structurally closely related fumagillin show potent antiangiogenic activity
- ovalicin is also a promising agent against microsporidiosis

Retrosynthesis:



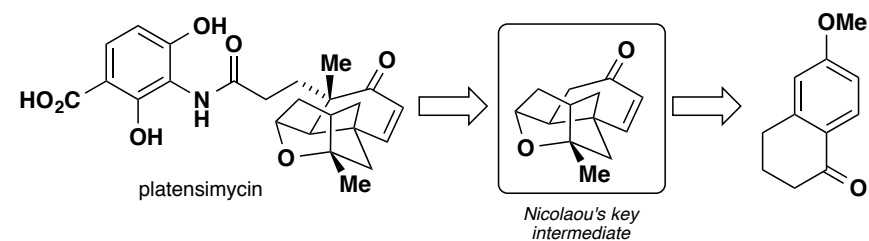
Total Synthesis:

**Formal synthesis of platensimycin**

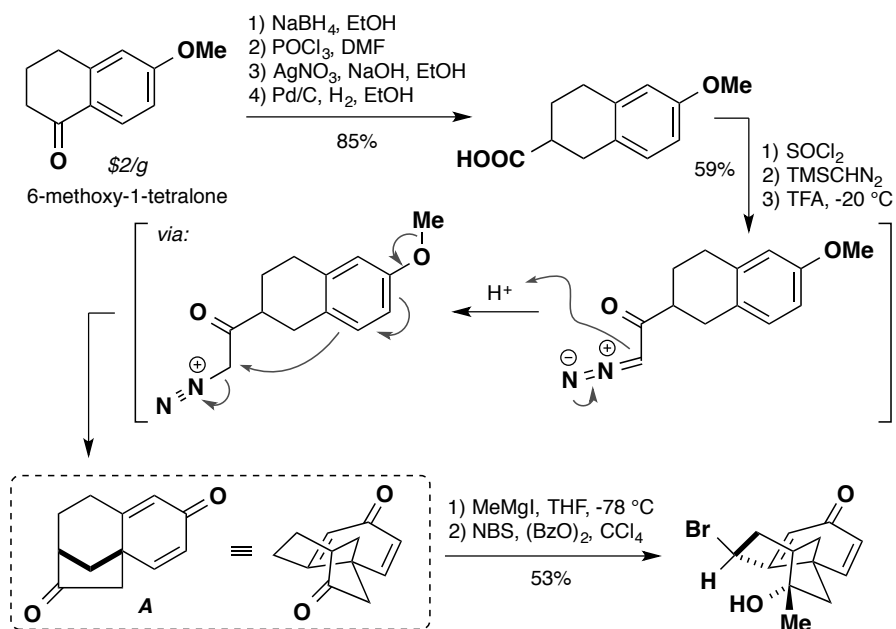
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 8074–8075.

- originally isolated by a Merck group from a strain of *Streptomyces platensis*
- inhibits β -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I/II (Fab F/B) which is involved in fatty acid biosynthesis
- its novel scaffold and extraordinary antibacterial activity have drawn great attention

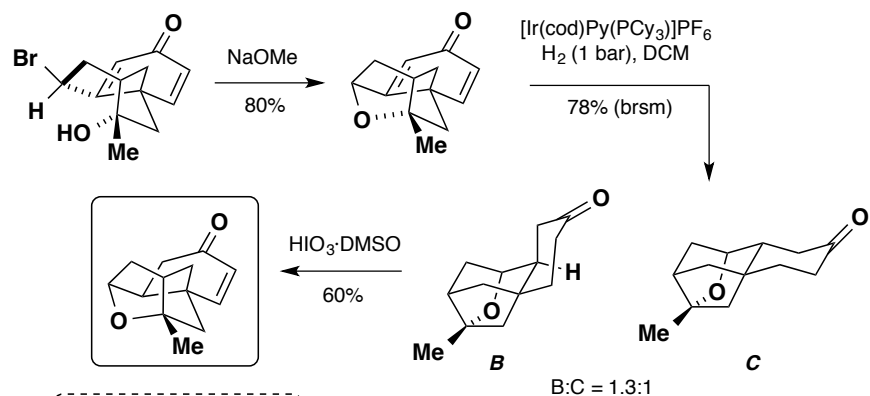
Retrosynthesis:



Total Synthesis:



know intermediate, multigram quantities
sequence to A requires only one column



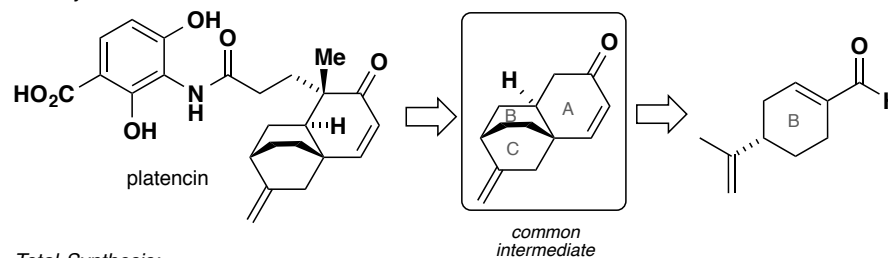
- 5 steps from A
- 20% overall yield
- protecting-group free

Formal synthesis of (-)-platencin

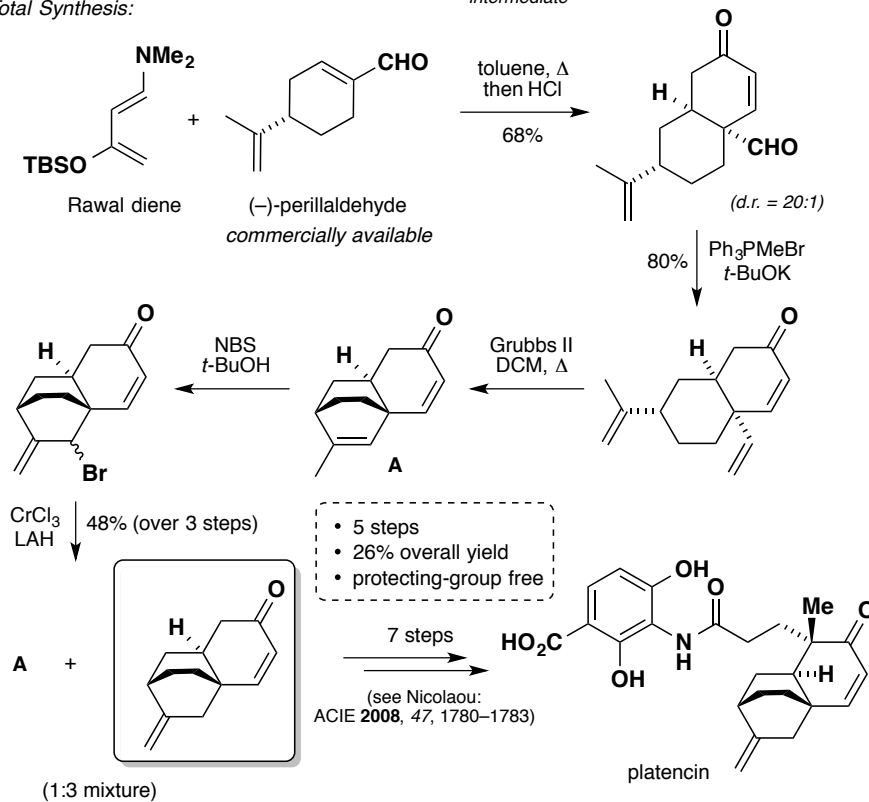
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2008**, 47, 6199–6200.

- isolated along with platensimycin
- exhibits broad-spectrum antibacterial activity against many pathogens that show resistance to current antibiotics

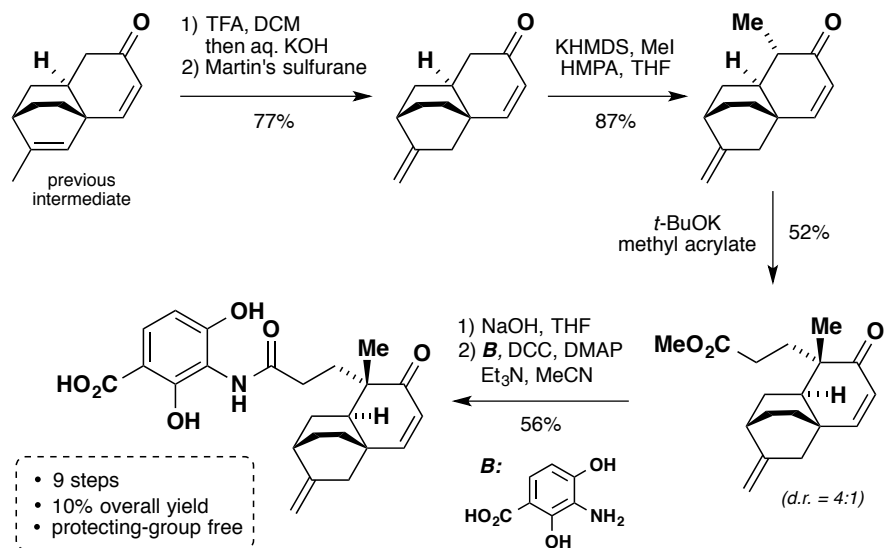
Retrosynthesis:



Total Synthesis:



Total synthesis of (-)-platencin
J. Org. Chem. **2009**, *74*, 2937–2941.

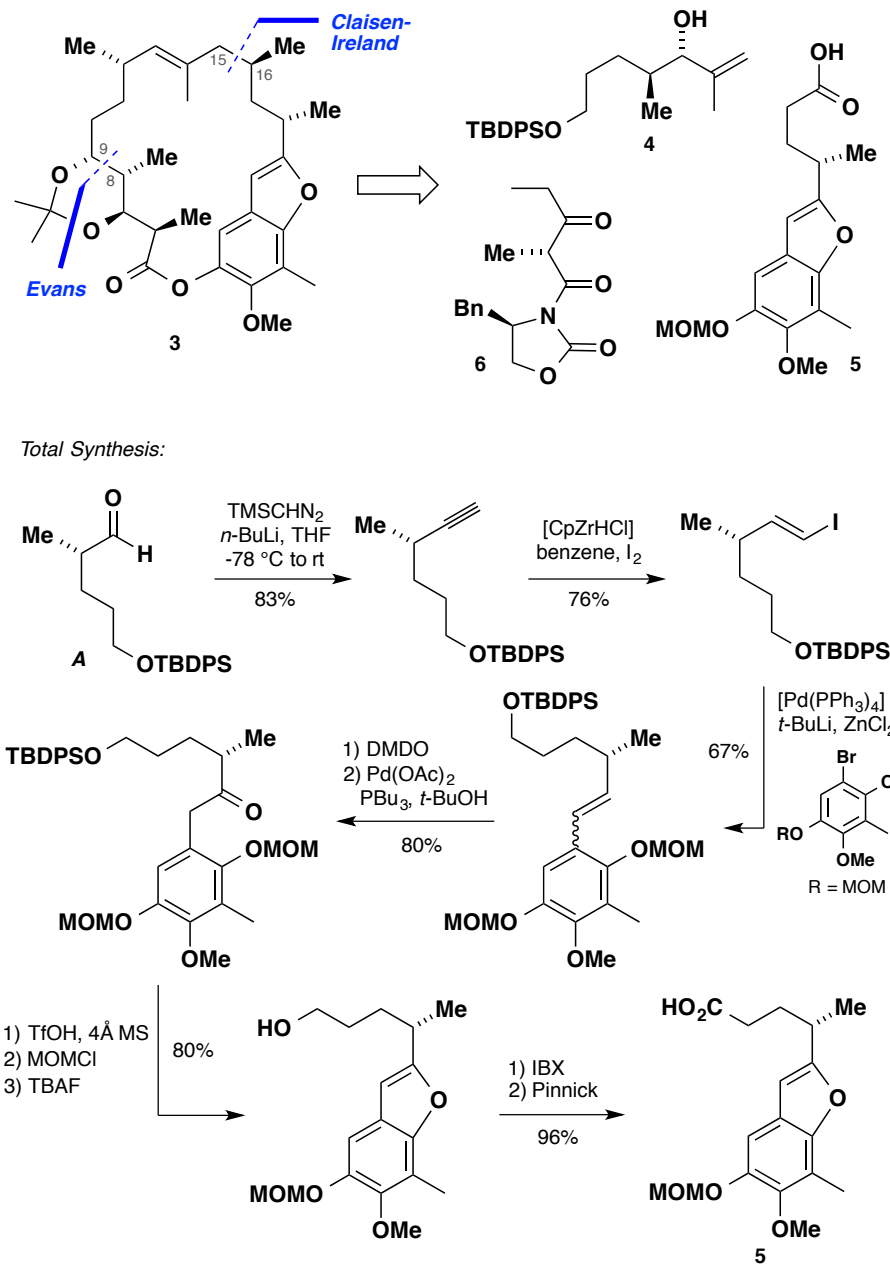
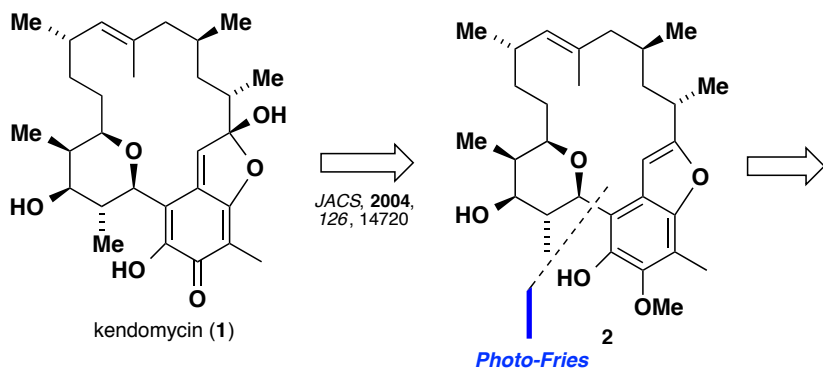


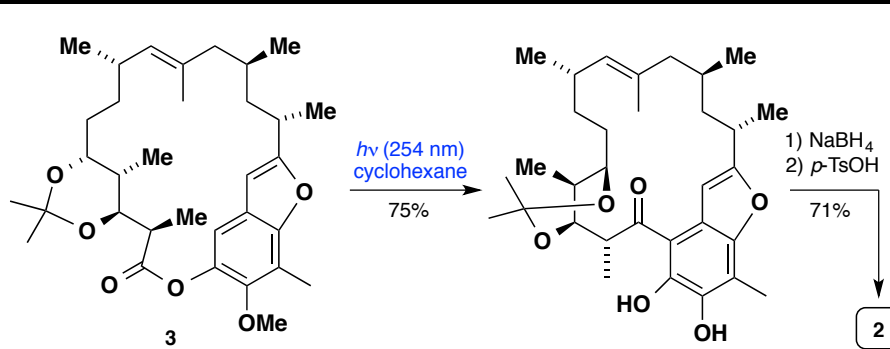
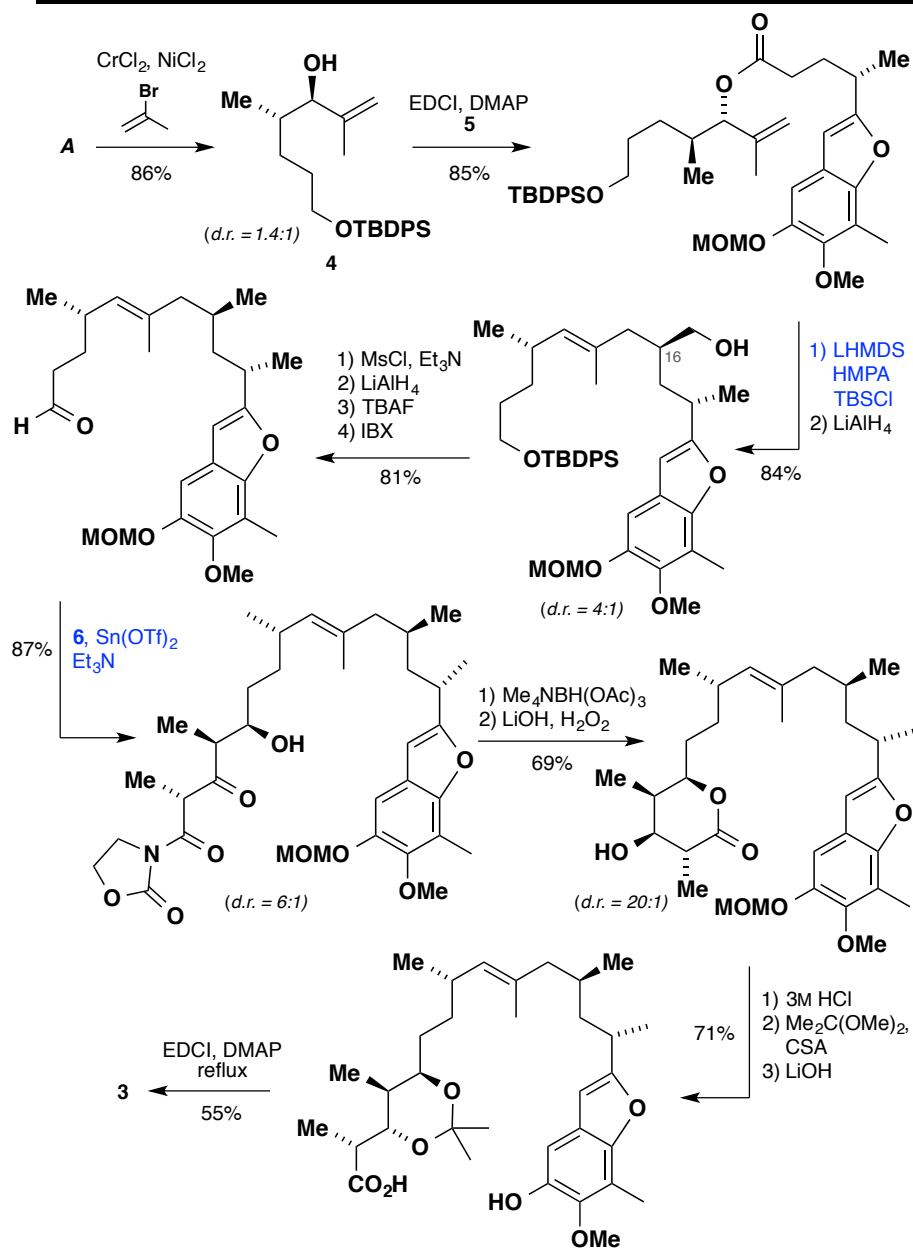
Kendomycin

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2009**, *48*, 6032–6036.

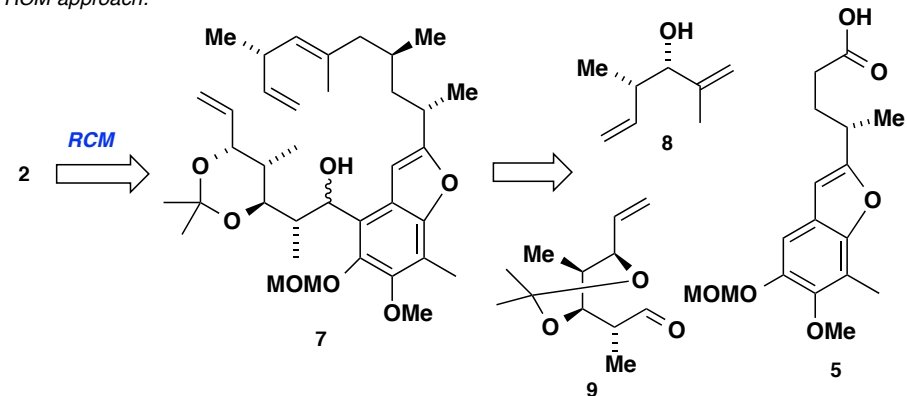
- antitumor macrolide first isolated in 2000 from the bacteria *Streptomyces violaceoruber*
 - potent endothelin receptor antagonist and antiosteoporotic compound with remarkable antibacterial and cytostatic activity

Photo-Fries approach:

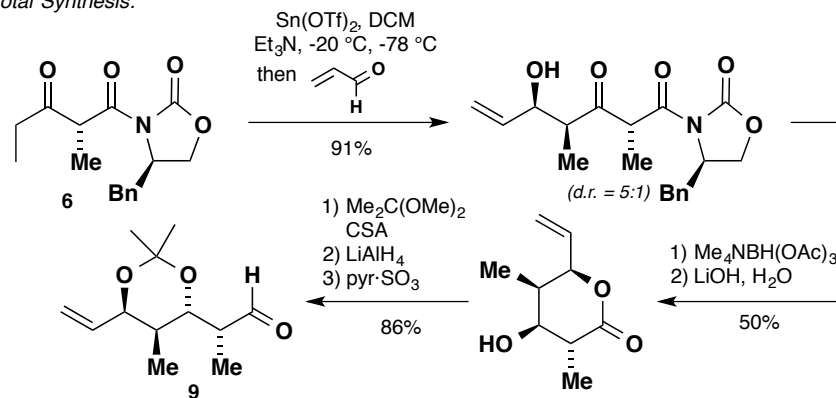


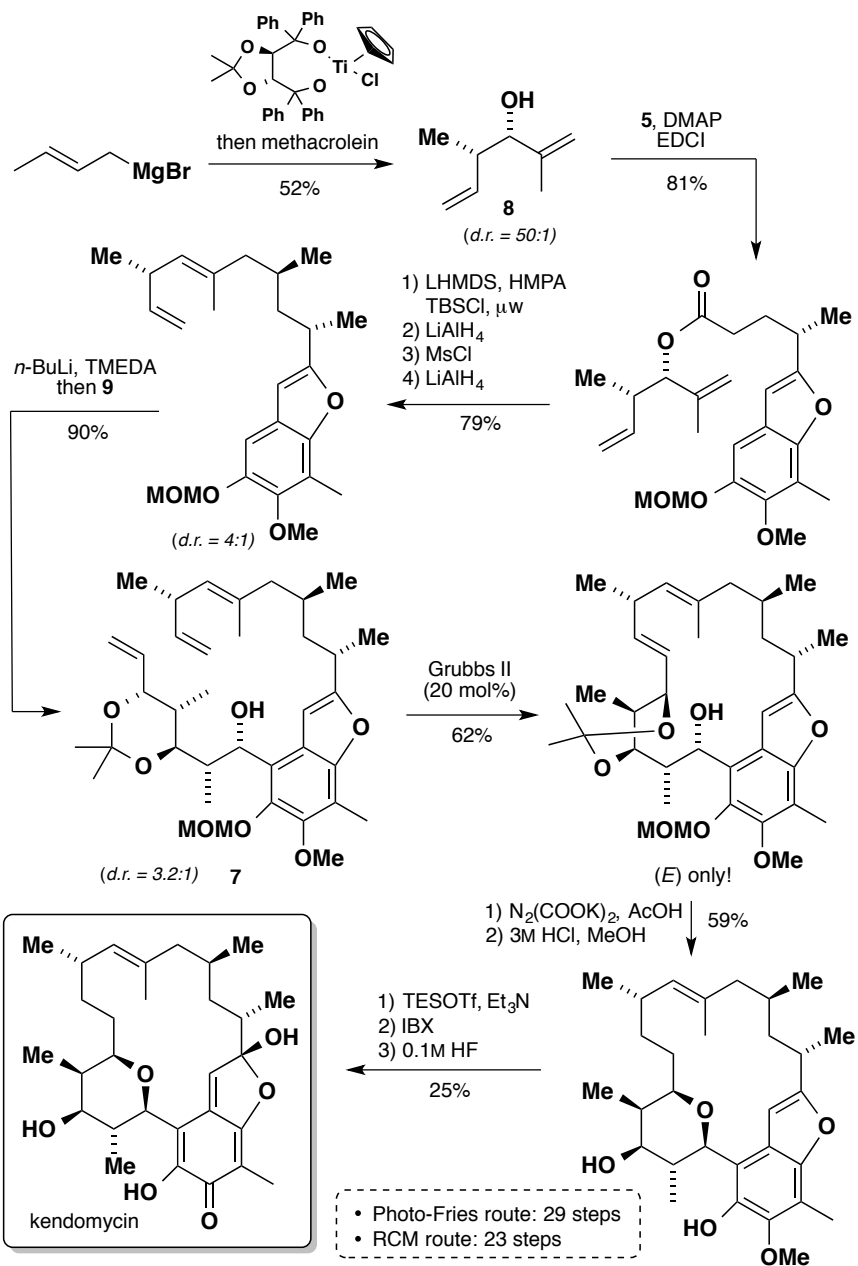


RCM approach:



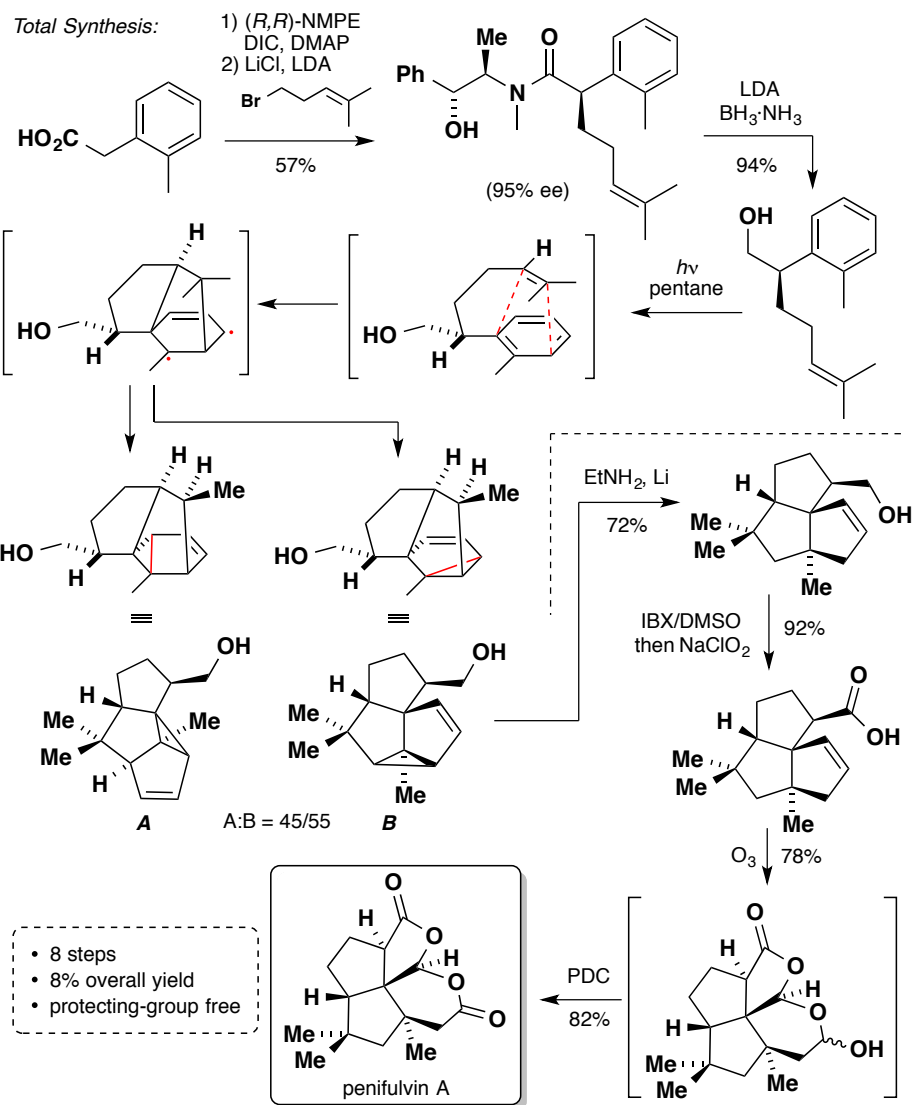
Total Synthesis:



**(-)-Penifulvin A**

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 452–453.

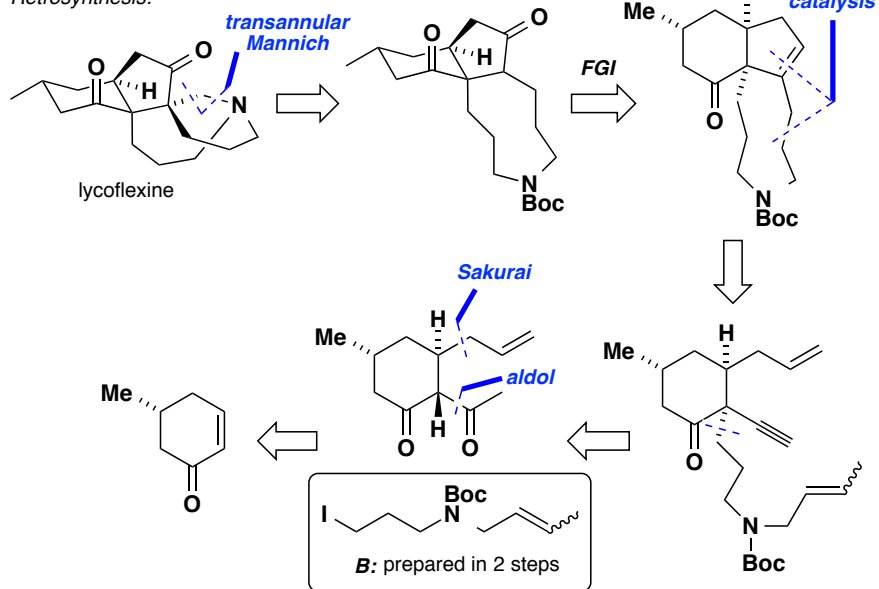
- shows strong insecticidal activity against the fall armyworm, one of the most significant pest of corn

Total Synthesis:

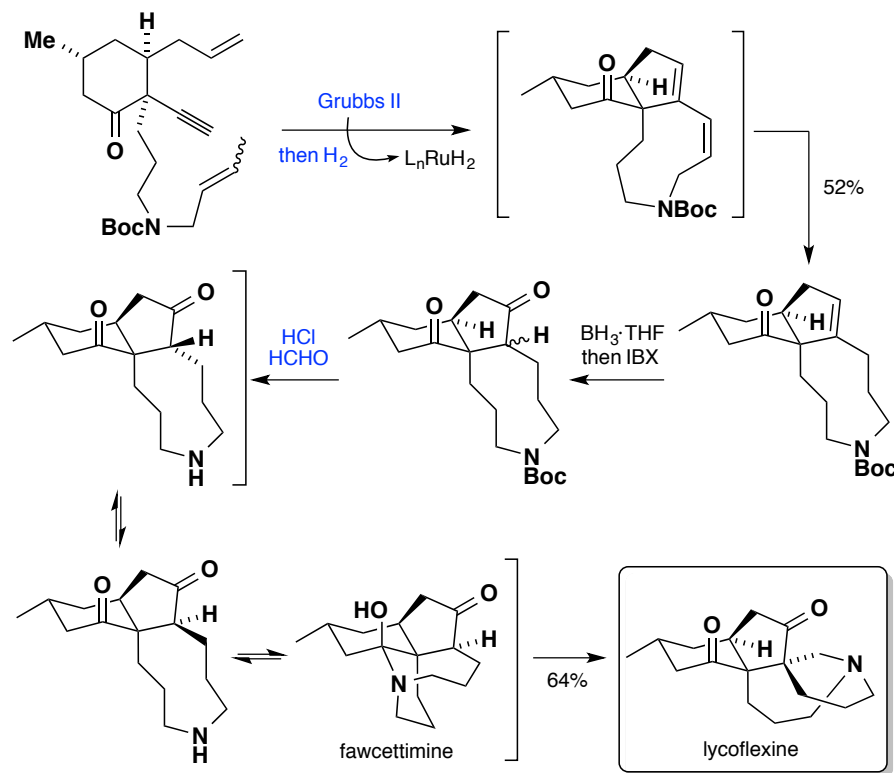
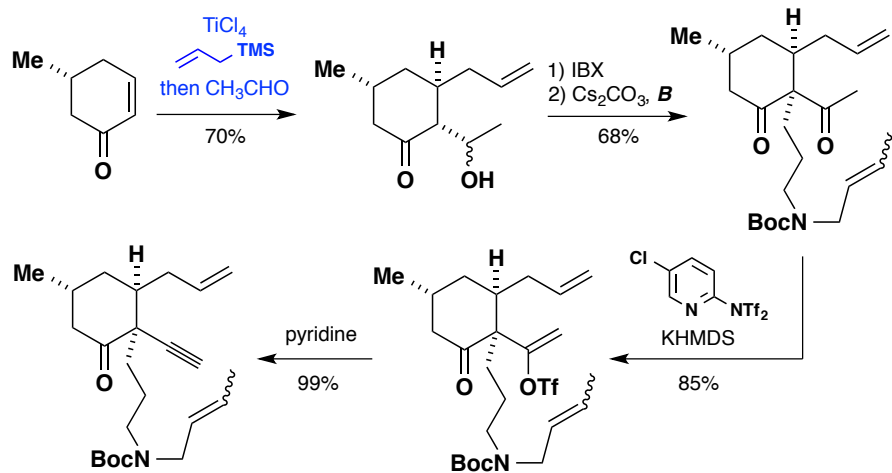
(+)-Lycoflexine

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 14338–14339.

Retrosynthesis:

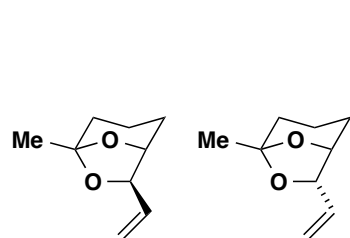


Total Synthesis:

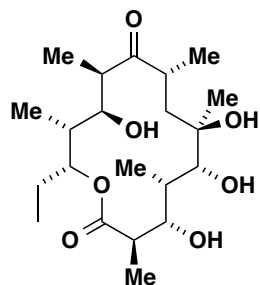


- 8 steps
- 13% overall yield
- 4 tandem/one-pot reactions

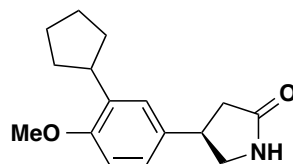
A selection of further completed targets by the Mulzer group:



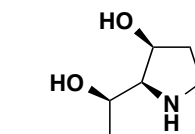
exo- and *endo*-brevicomins
Liebigs Ann. Chem. **1986**, 825–838.



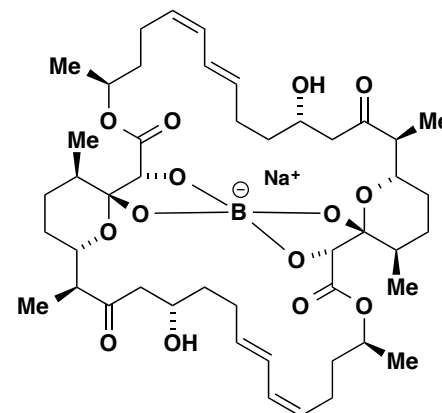
erythronolide B
JACS **1991**, 113, 910–923.



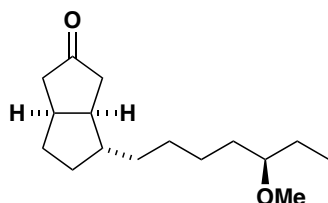
rolipram
ACIE **1992**, 31, 870–872.



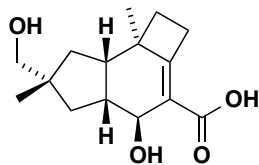
(+)-detoxinine
JOC **1996**, 61, 566–572.



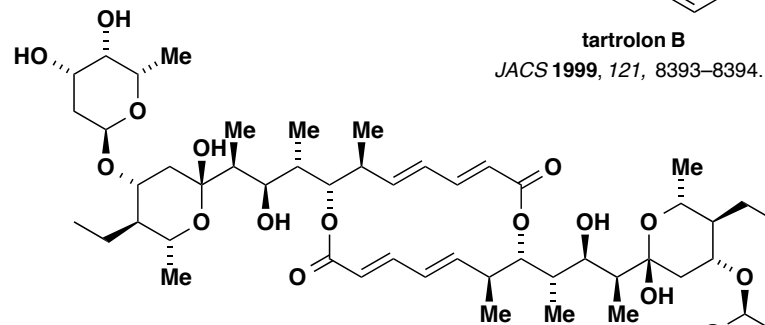
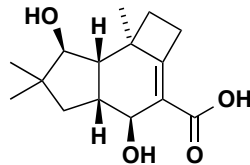
tartrolon B
JACS **1999**, 121, 8393–8394.



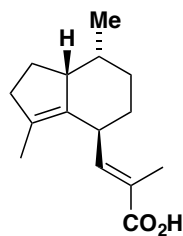
cyoctol
TH **2004**, 60, 9599–9614.



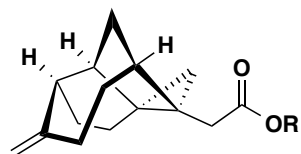
pasteuristin A and B
ACIE **2007**, 46, 9320–9322.



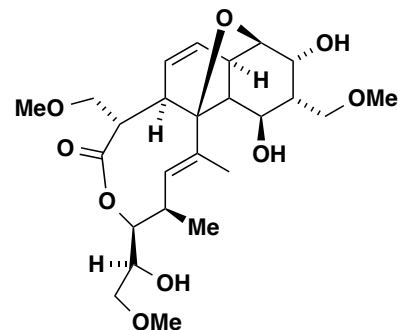
efomycine M
ACIE **2007**, 46, 5791–5794.



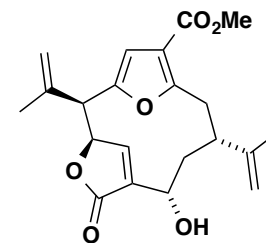
valeric acid
OL **2009**, 11, 1151–1153.



echinopine A: R = H
echinopine B: R = Me
OL **2009**, 11, 5306–5309.

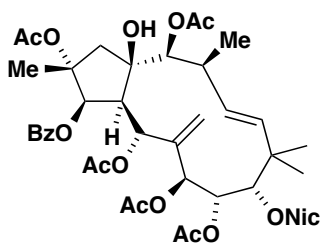


branimycin
ACIE **2010**, 49, 2050–2053.



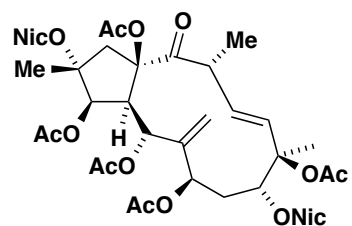
11-gorgiacerol
OL **2012**, 14, 2834–2837.

Some studies towards:



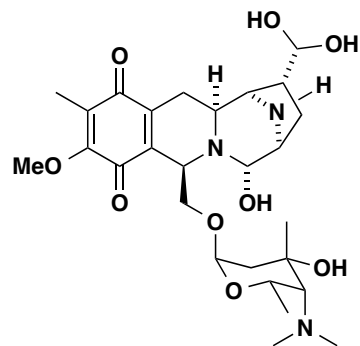
pepluanin A and euphosalicin

Synlett 2004, 2258–2562.



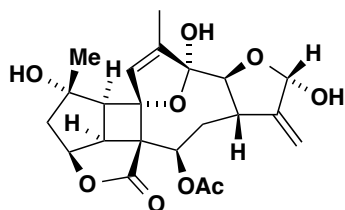
lemonomycin

Synlett 2008, 2443–2446



providencin

Synlett 2009, 1357–1366.



bielschowskysin

OL 2012, 14, 2195–2197.
OL 2013, 15, 3098–3101.