

Cheletropic Reactions

Ruben Martinez

Background

"We define as cheletropic reactions those processes in which two σ bonds which terminate at a single atom are made, or broken, in concert."

Woodward, R.B.; Hoffman, R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1969**, *8*, 781–853.

Cheletropic reactions are a separate class of pericyclic reactions that are subject to orbital symmetry analysis. They must obey the Woodward-Hoffman rules the same way that cycloadditions and sigmatropic rearrangements do.

Linear approach vs. Non-linear approach

Cheletropic reaction analysis is typically done in the addition direction.

Consider fragment "x" to be a single atom that contributes two electrons to the pericyclic transition state. The approach of "x" can be either linear or non-linear. The rotation of the π system will be either disrotatory or conrotatory based on the approach of fragment "x"

Linear



The HOMO of x points directly at the π system.

Non-linear

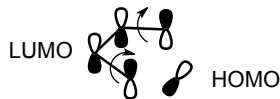


The HOMO of x approaches the π system at a skew angle.

Disrotatory



Conrotatory



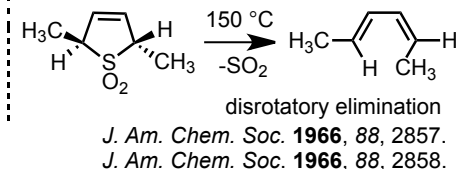
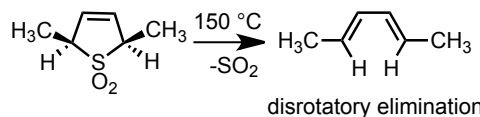
Selection rules for cheletropic reactions

π electrons	Allowed Ground State Reactions	
	Linear	Nonlinear
$4n$	disrotatory	conrotatory
$4n+2$	conrotatory	disrotatory
Allowed Excited State Reaction		
$4n$	conrotatory	disrotatory
$4n+2$	disrotatory	conrotatory

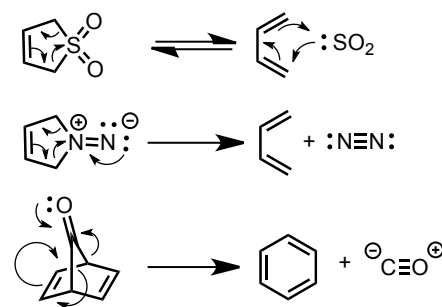
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. **1969**, *8*, 781.

Sankararaman, S. *Pericyclic Reactions*; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, 2005.

Stereochemical outcome



Most frequently encountered examples

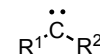


Reactivity general guideline

Cycloreversion Only



Cycloreversion & Cycloaddition



singlet carbenes

Singlet carbene addition to olefins

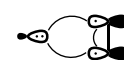


Singlet carbenes have an unoccupied p orbital and two non-bonding electrons in the σ orbital. Only singlet carbenes can participate in cheletropic reactions.

"The most important cheletropic reaction is the addition of singlet carbenes to make cyclopropanes."

Anslyn and Dougherty

Linear approach



4-electron
Hückel forbidden



2-electron
Möbius forbidden

Non-linear approach



4-electron
Möbius allowed



2-electron
Hückel allowed

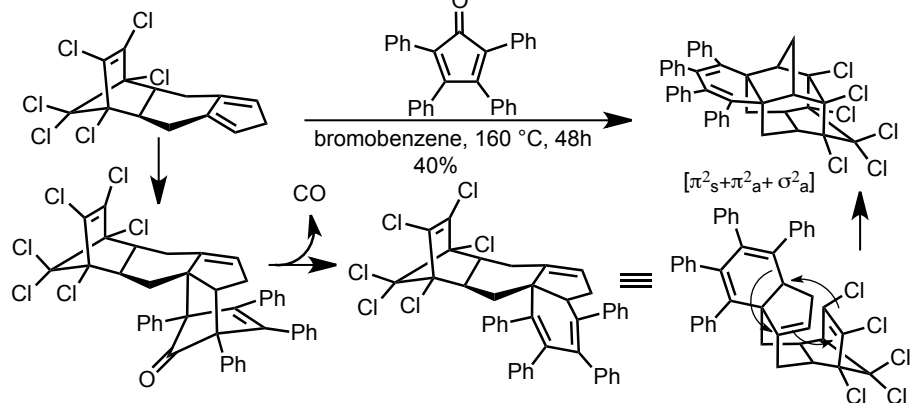
Only select carbene examples will be discussed here.
See K. Chen's GM on carbenes

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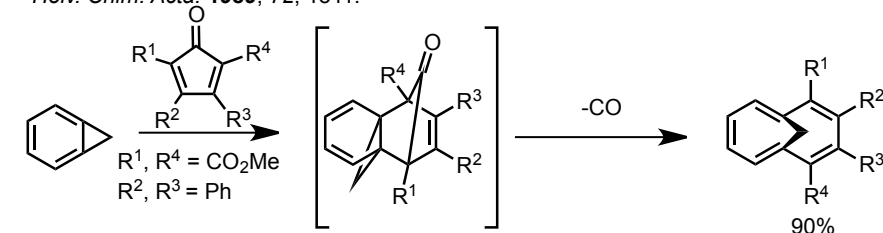
Sequential cycloaddition-cycloreversion and a strange caged structure

Howard, J. A. K. *Tetrahedron*, **1993**, 49, 4699.



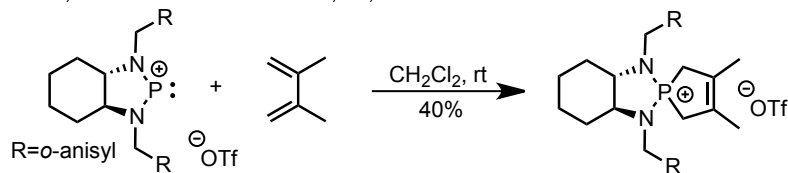
Cheletropic elimination of CO and formation of annulenes

Helv. Chim. Acta. **1989**, 72, 1311.



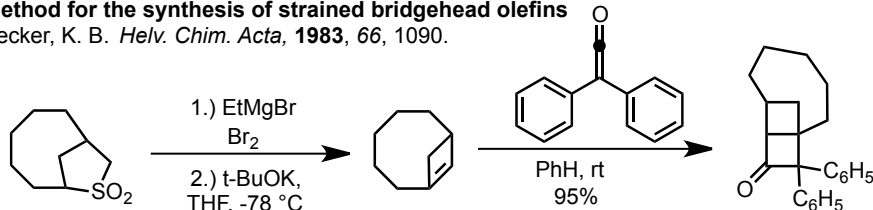
Synthesis of new chiral $\sigma^2\lambda^2$ -phosphenium cations

Buono, G. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1999**, 40, 4669.



The intramolecular Ramberg-Bäcklund reaction: a convenient method for the synthesis of strained bridgehead olefins

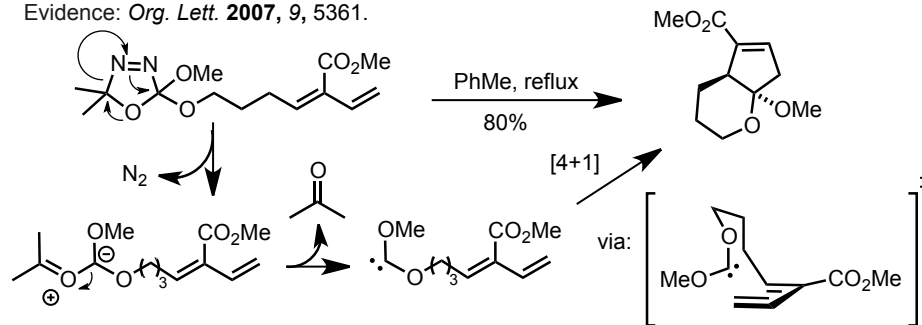
Becker, K. B. *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **1983**, 66, 1090.



Intramolecular [4+1] Cycloaddition

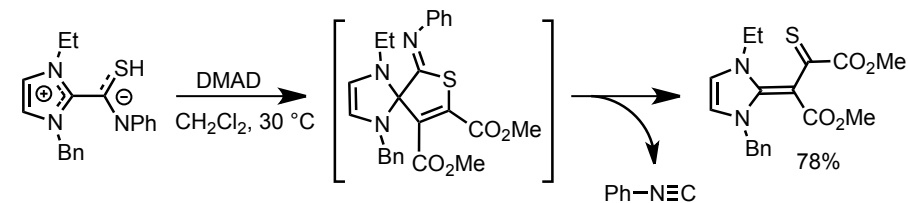
Spino, C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 9926.

Evidence: *Org. Lett.* **2007**, 9, 5361.



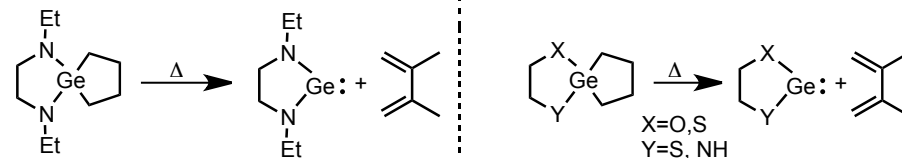
An unprecedented tandem 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition-cheletropic elimination: a facile approach to novel push-pull olefins

Cheng, Y. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2007**, 5, 1282.



Germanium Analogues of Carbenes

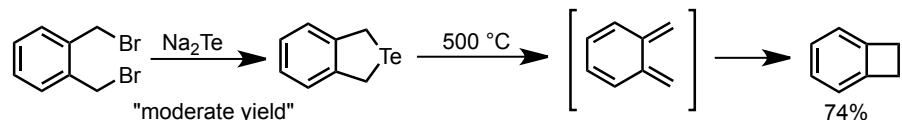
Chrostowska, A. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2009**, 694, 43.



The Chemistry of Organic Germanium, Tin and Lead Compounds, John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 2002 (Chapter 1)

Tellurium Extrusion: Synthesis of Benzocyclobutene

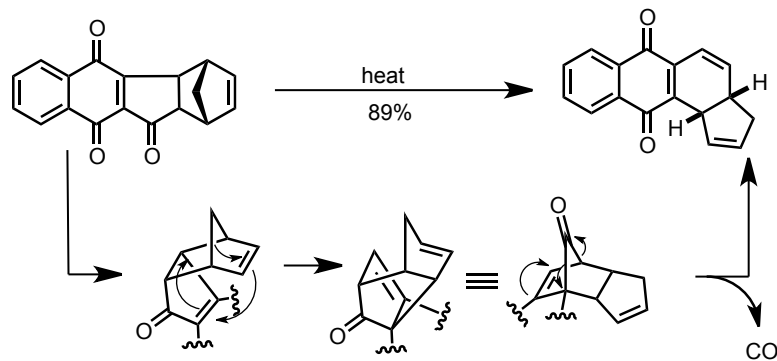
MacNicol, D.D. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1975**, 24, 1893.



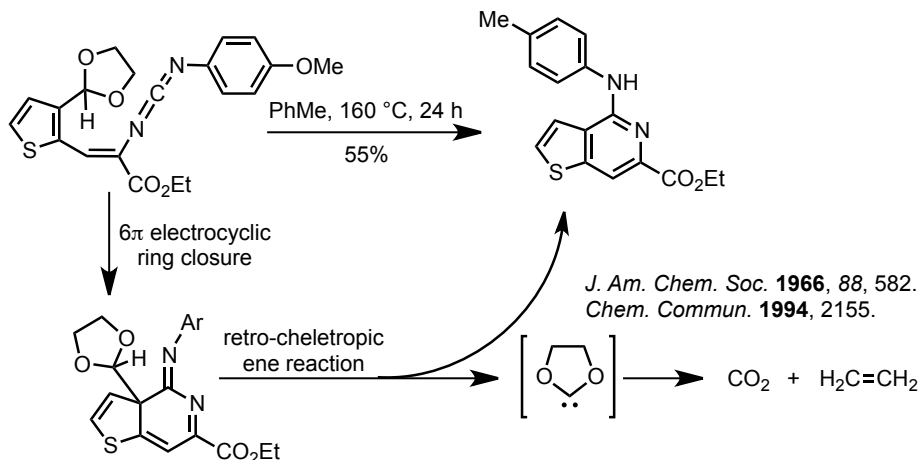
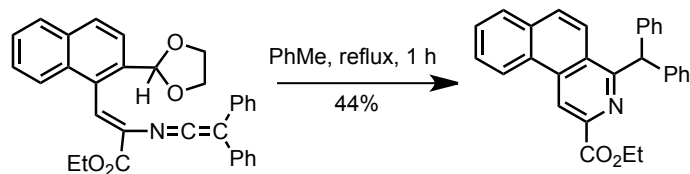
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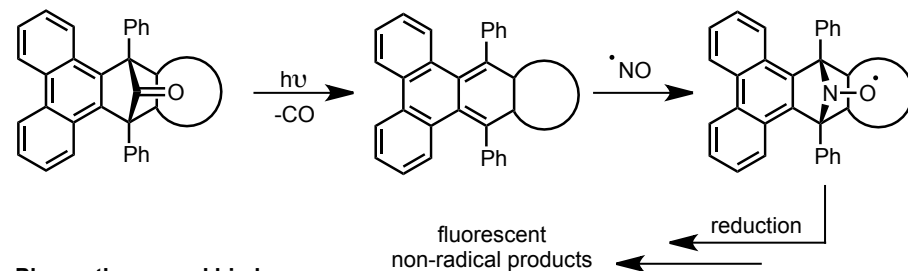
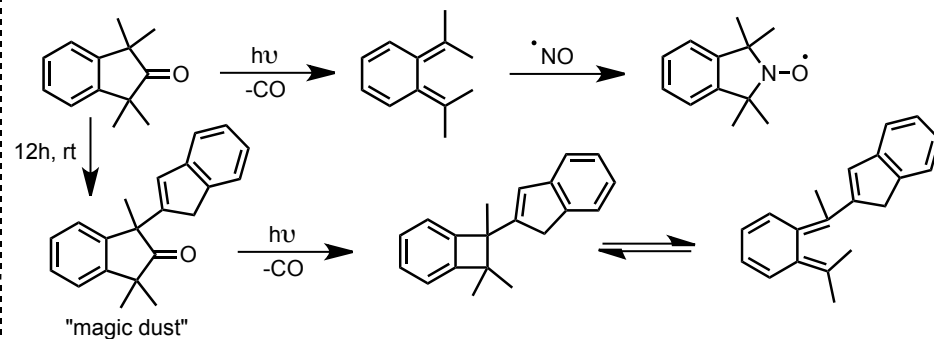
Tandem Cope-cheletropic reaction: a new molecular rearrangement

Mai, D. *Chem. Comm.* **1996**, 1181.

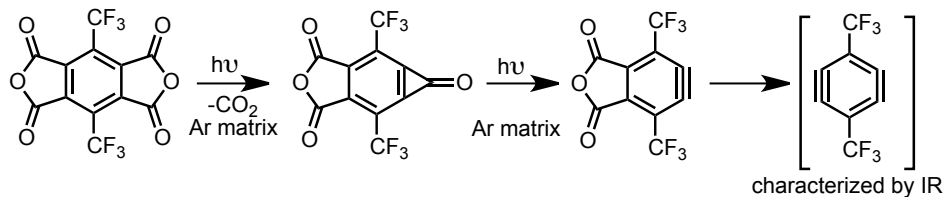
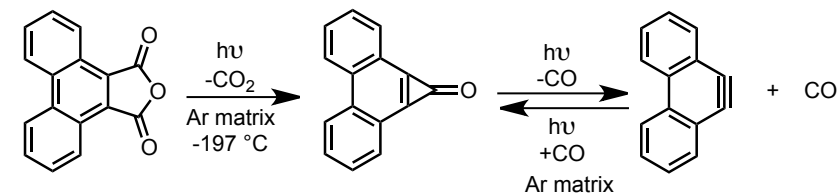
retro-Cheletropic ene Reactions with 2-carbena-1,3-dioxolane as the chelefuge

Vidal, A.; Sanchez-Andrada, P. *Tetrahedron* **2011**, 67, 5590.

Nitric oxide cheletropic traps (NOCTs)

Ingold, K.U. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, 116, 2767.Korth, H.G. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1997**, 36, 1501.

Phenanthryne and bis-benzynes

Murata, S. *J. Org. Chem.* **1995**, 60, 2344.Yabe, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 4512.

Cheletropic Reactions

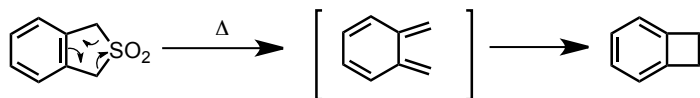
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Applications in Total Synthesis

-The examples presented here will consist of the three main cheletropic reactions seen in total synthesis. Cheletropic reactions involving Fischer carbenes will not be discussed here beyond examples of the Simmons-Smith cyclopropanation. For an in depth presentation and discussion of Fischer carbenes see K. Chen's group meeting on Fischer carbenes.

Early studies on the formation of cyclobutarene

Cava, M.P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1959**, *81*, 4266.



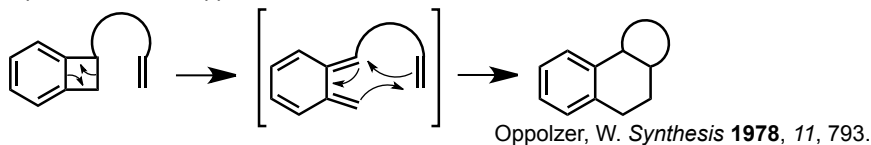
-The first report of this type of reactivity dates back to 1913. This topic remained unexplored until it was returned to in 1935.

Staudinger, H. German Patent 506,839; [*Chem. Abstr.* **1913**, 25, 522]

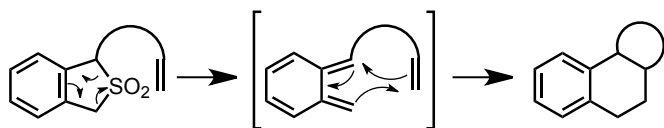
Staudinger, H. *Chem. Ber.* **1935**, *68B*, 455.

Cheletropic extrusion of SO₂: The search for a diene equivalent

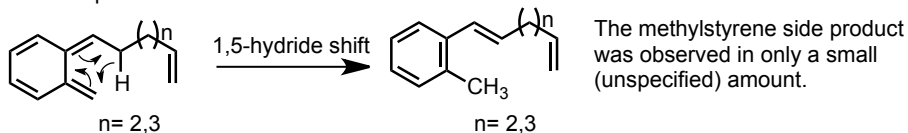
Inspiration from W. Oppolzer



K.C.N.'s idea: intramolecular trapping of o-quinodimethanes

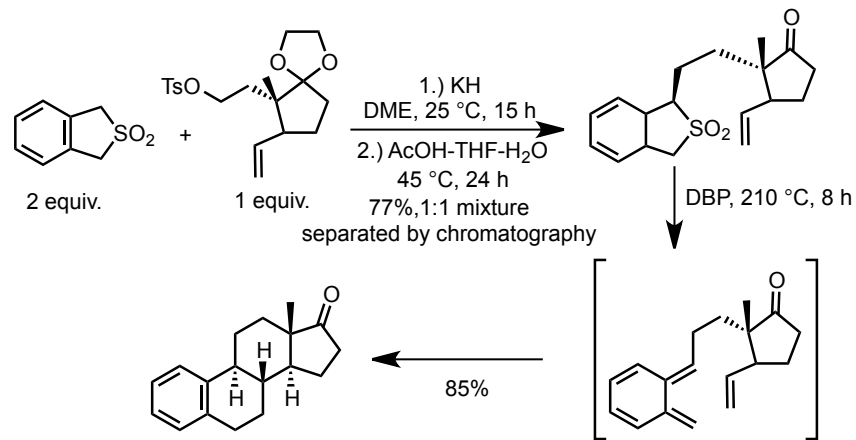


Potential problem



Synthesis of estra-1,3,5,(10)-trien-17-one

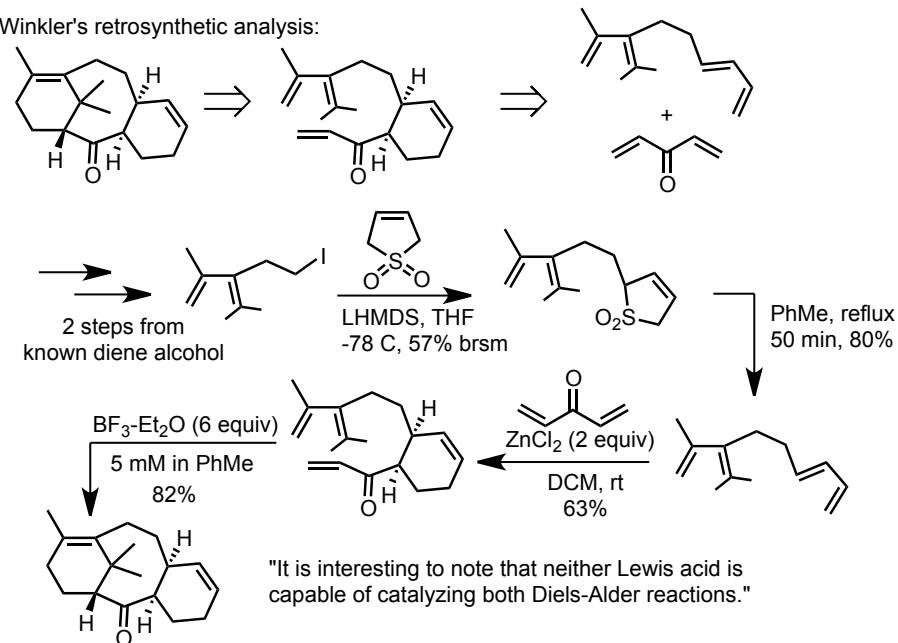
Nicolaou, K.C. *J. Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 1463.



Stereoselective Synthesis of the Taxane Ring System.

Winkler, J.; Houk, K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 2957.

Winkler's retrosynthetic analysis:

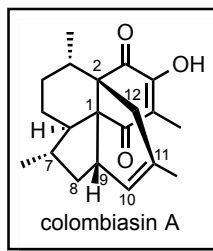


Cheletropic Reactions

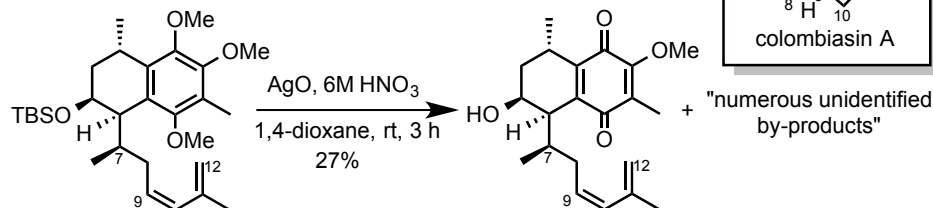
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Total Synthesis of Colombiasin A

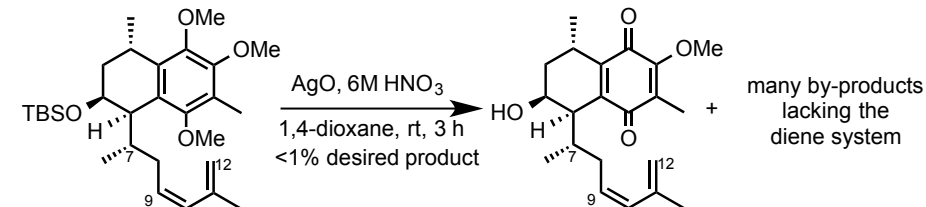
Nicolaou, K.C. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2001**, 40, 2482.
Full paper: *Chem. Eur. J.* **2001**, 7, 5359.



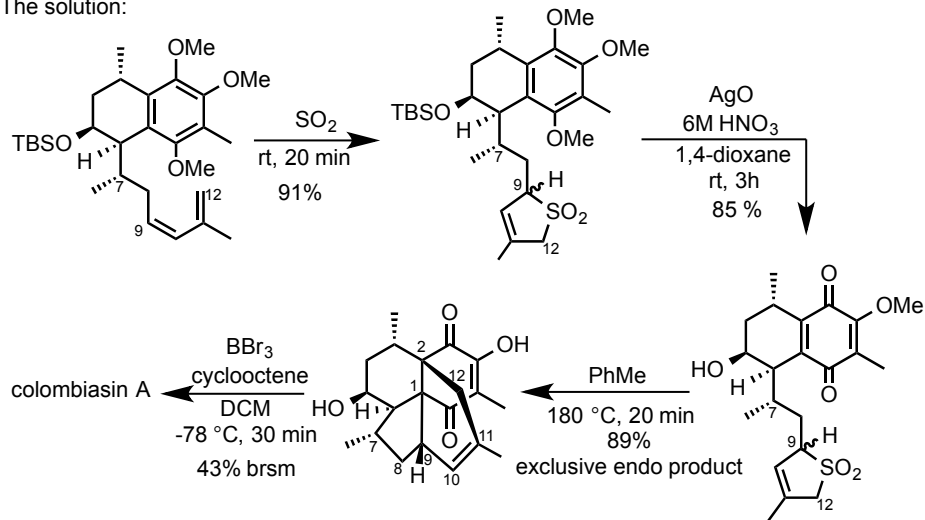
First generation:



Second generation:

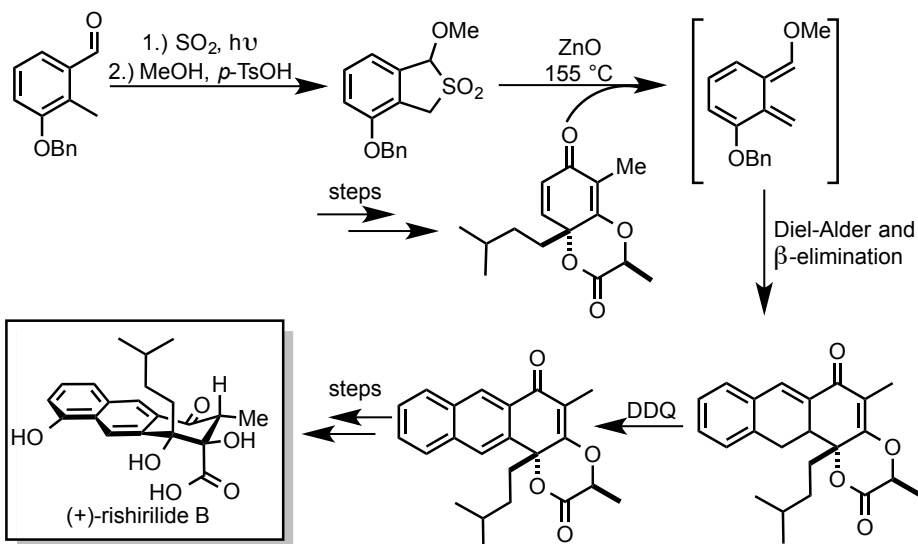


The solution:



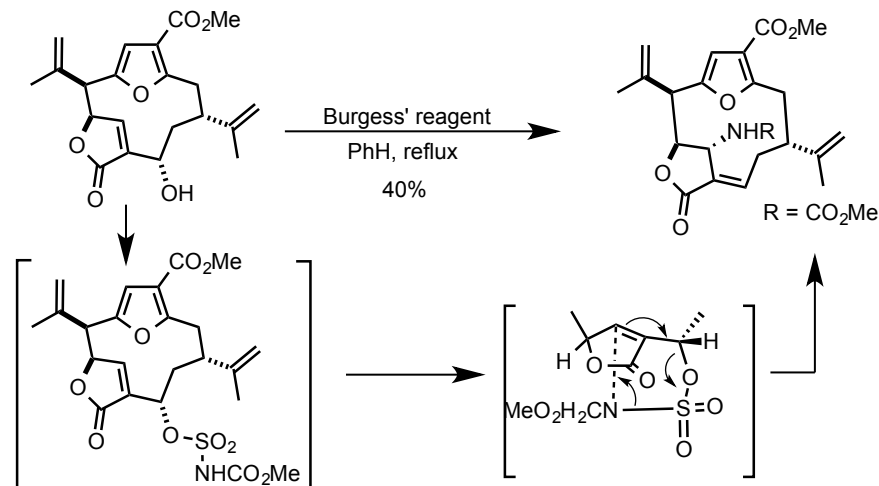
Total Synthesis of (+)-Rishirilide B

Pettus, T. R. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 128, 15625.



An "almost" cheletropic elimination of SO₃ from 11-gorgiacerol

Gaich, T.; Mulzer, J. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, 14, 2834.

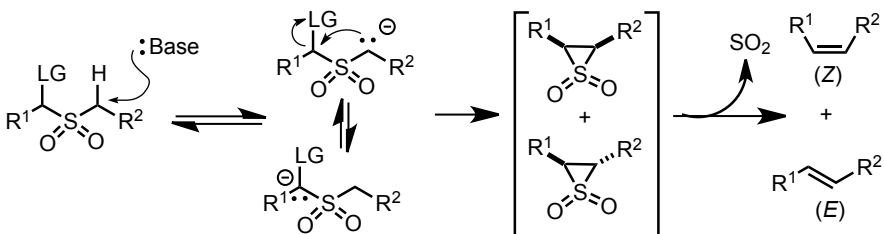
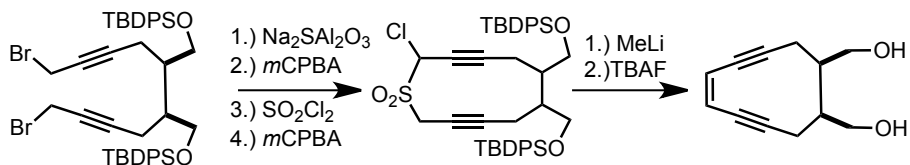
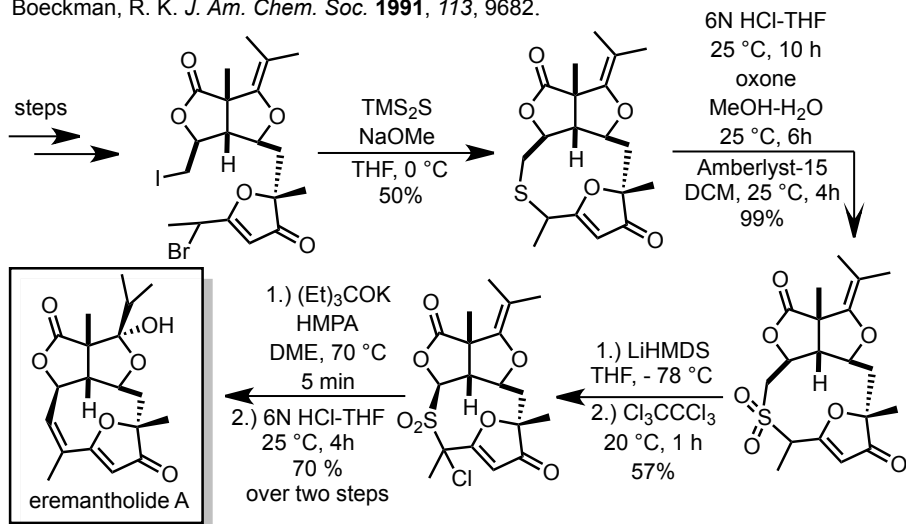
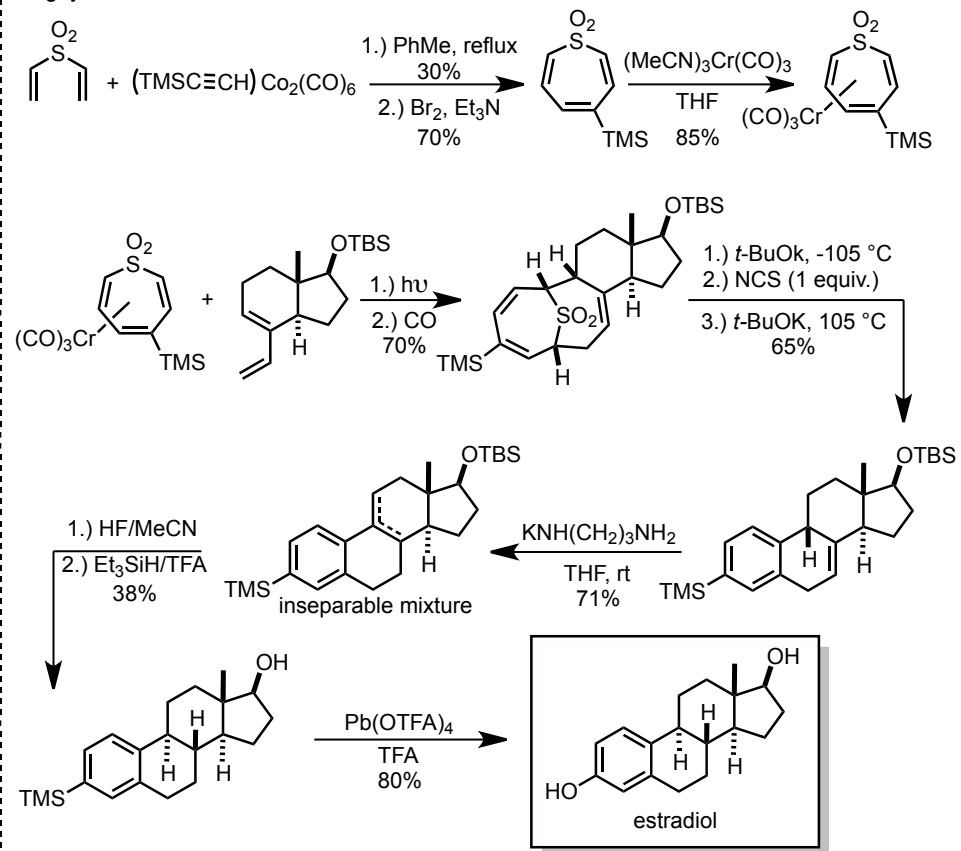
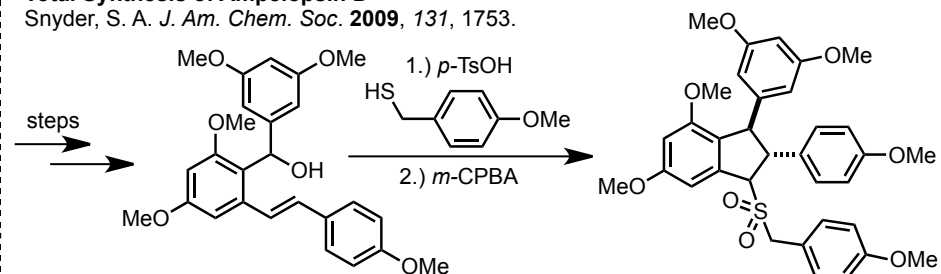


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Ramberg-Bäcklund Reaction

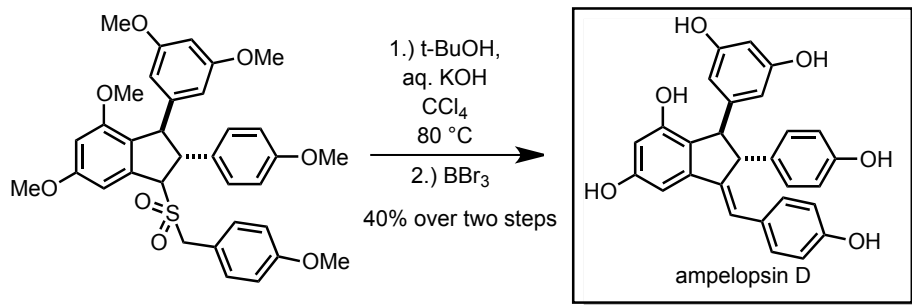
The reaction was first discovered in 1940 but no further work was published until 1950.

**Early studies toward the synthesis of the enediyne moiety of calicheamicin**Nicolaou, K. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1992**, *114*, 7360.**A Novel application of the Ramberg-Bäcklund Rearrangement to a Highly Stereoselective Synthesis of (+)-Eremantholide A**Boeckman, R. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 9682.**Total Synthesis of (+)-Estradiol**Rigby, J. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1999**, *121*, 8237.**Total Synthesis of Ampelopsin D**Snyder, S. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 1753.

Cheletropic Reactions

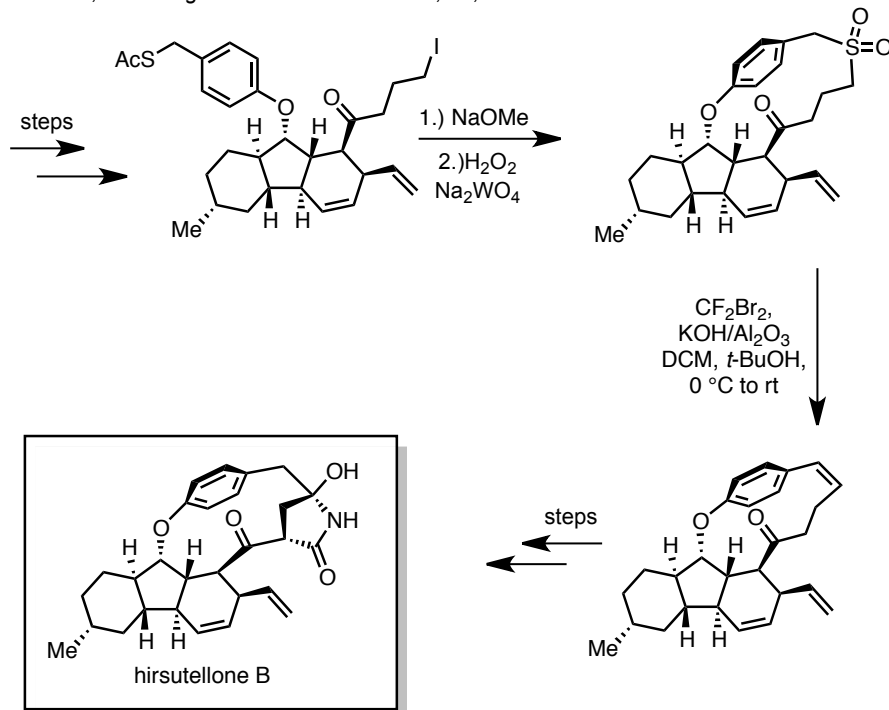
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Total Synthesis of Ampelopsin D continued



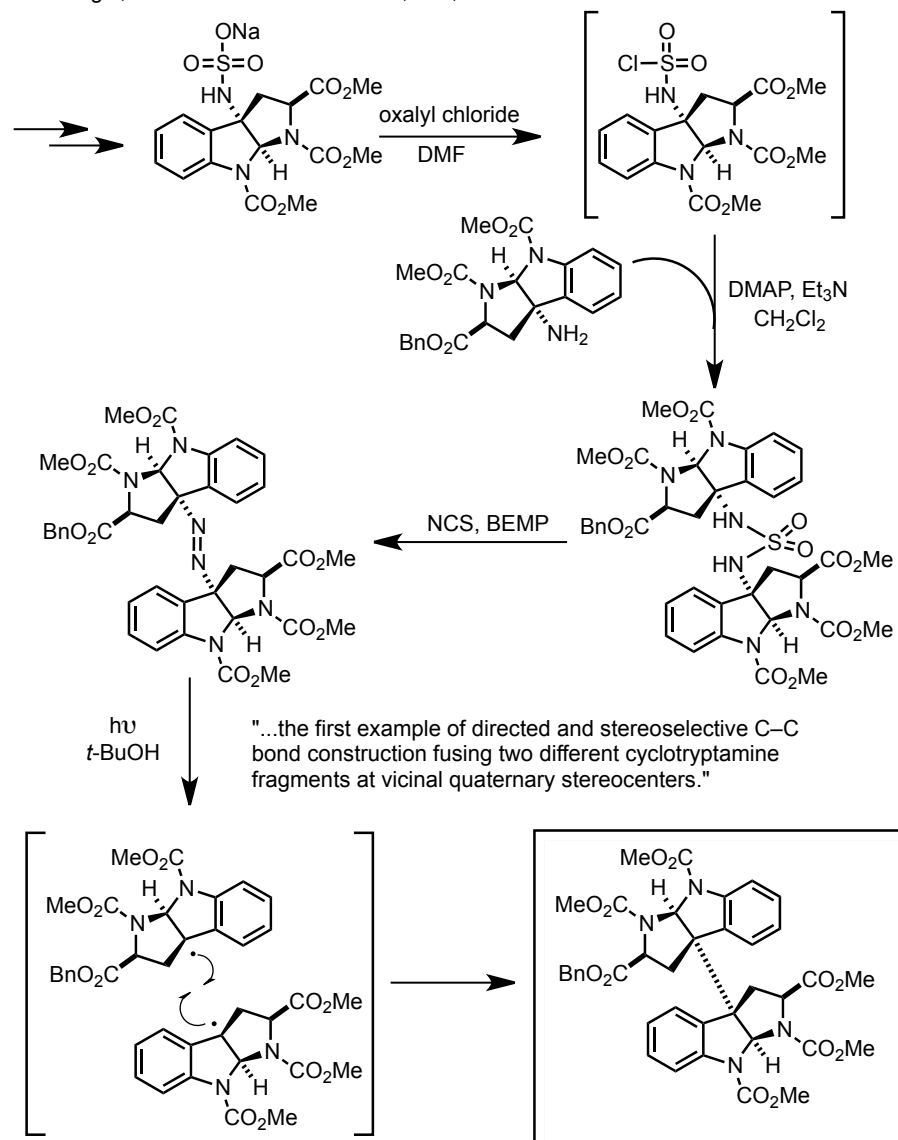
Total Synthesis of Hirsutellone B

Nicolaou, K. C. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 6870.



Directed Heterodimerization: Stereocontrolled Assembly via Solvent-Caged Unsymmetrical Diazene Fragmentation

Movassaghi, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, 133, 13002.

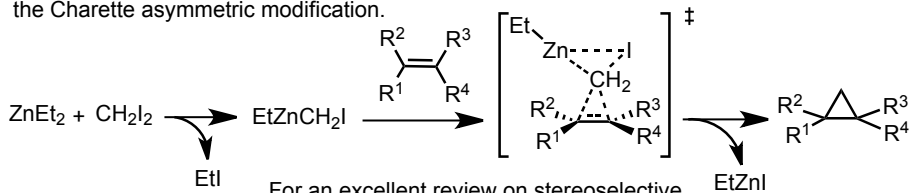


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Simmons-Smith cyclopropanation

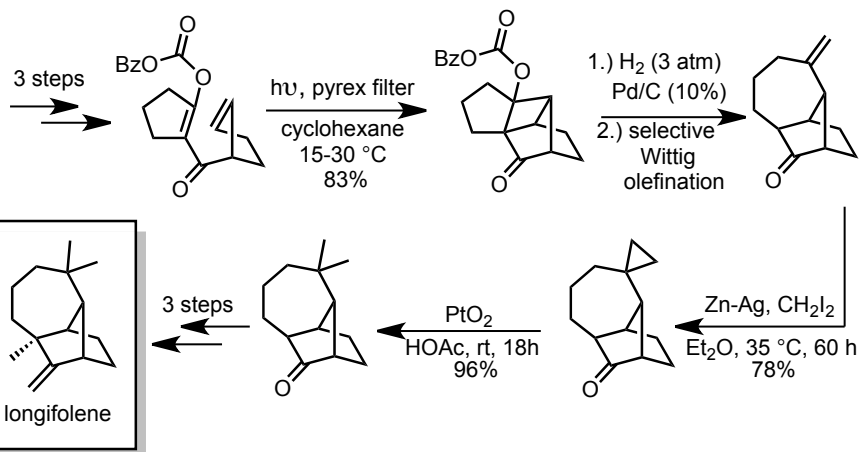
First discovered in 1944. Many asymmetric modifications have been throughout the years. The most notable being the Charette asymmetric modification.



For an excellent review on stereoselective cyclopropanation reactions see: *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, 103, 977.

Total synthesis of (±)longifolene

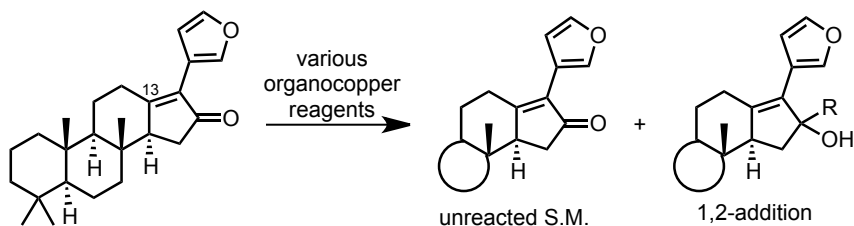
Oppolzer, W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1978**, 100, 2583.



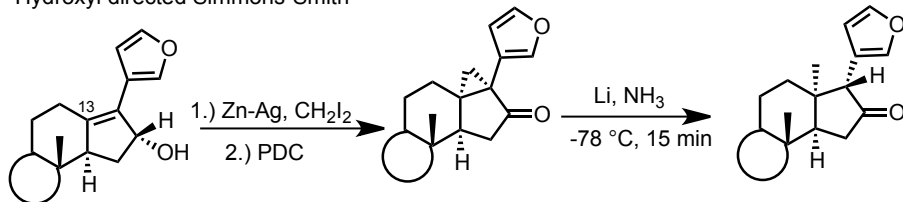
Simple synthetic route to the limonoid system

Corey, E.J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, 109, 918.

"The most obvious approach" gave poor results

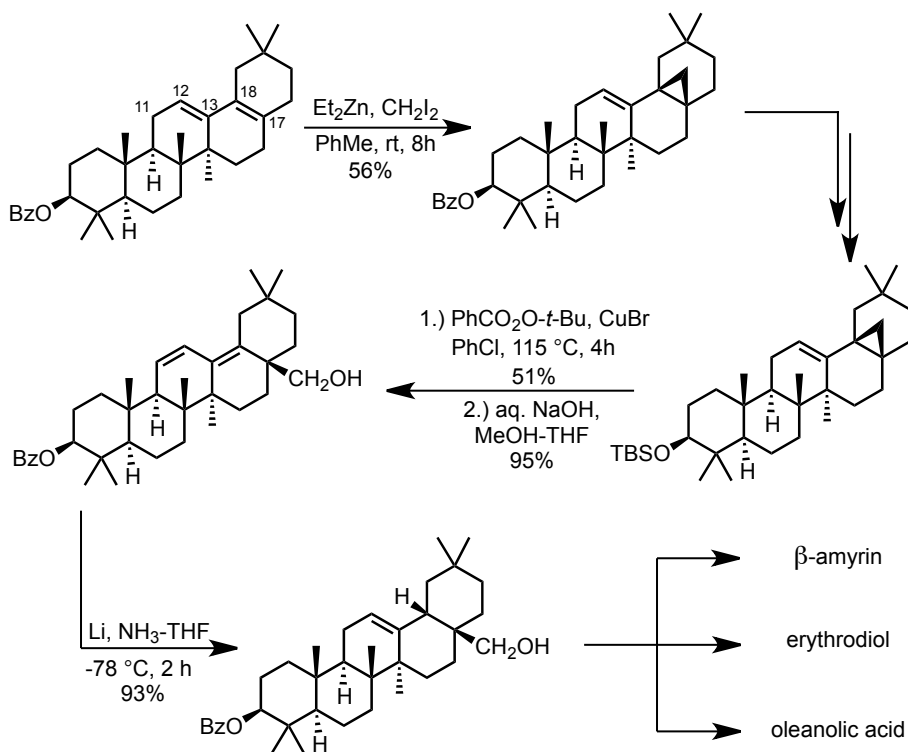


Hydroxyl directed Simmons-Smith



Enantioselective total synthesis of oleanolic acid, erythrodiol, β-amyrin, and other pentacyclic triterpenes from a common intermediate

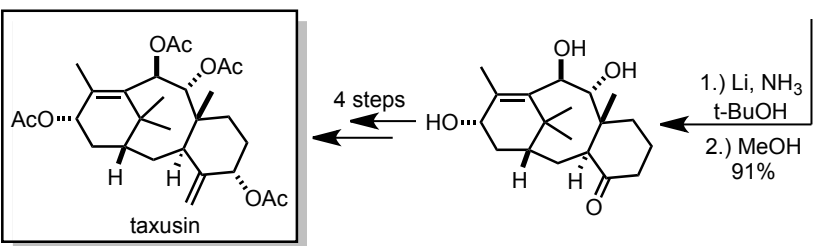
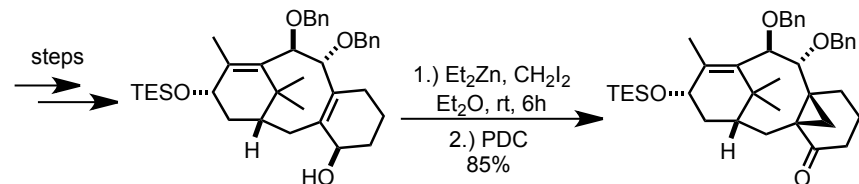
Corey, E.J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1993**, 115, 8873.



Cheletropic Reactions

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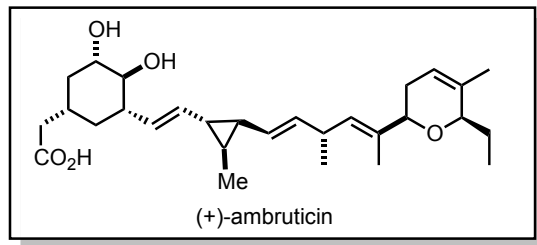
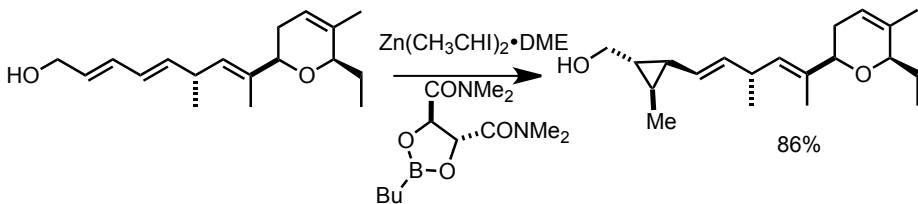
Total Synthesis of (±)-Taxusin

Kuwajima, I. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 9186.

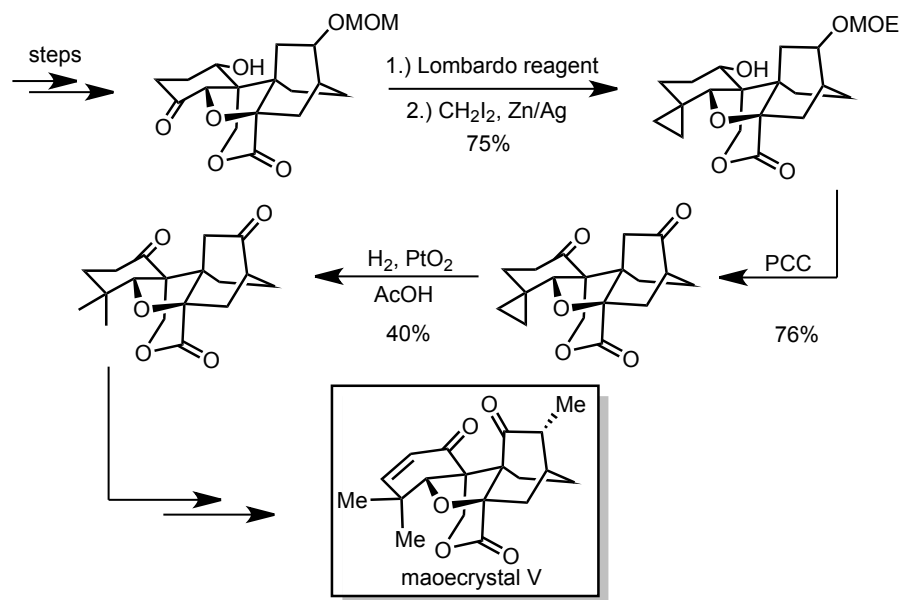
Total Synthesis of (+)-Ambruticin

Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 10772.

Regioselective, asymmetric cyclopropanation



Total Synthesis of (±)-Maoecrystal V

Danishefsky, S. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 18860.

Highly Enantioselective Simmons-Smith Fluorocyclopropanation of Allylic Alcohols

Charette A. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 7819.

State of the art in cyclopropanation

