

Enantioselective Total Synthesis of (–)-Hunterine A Enabled by a Desymmetrization/Rearrangement Strategy

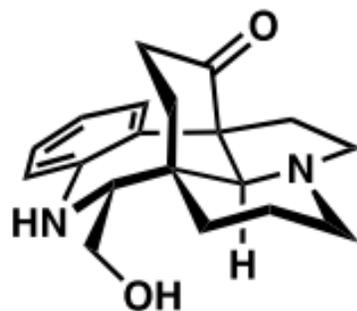
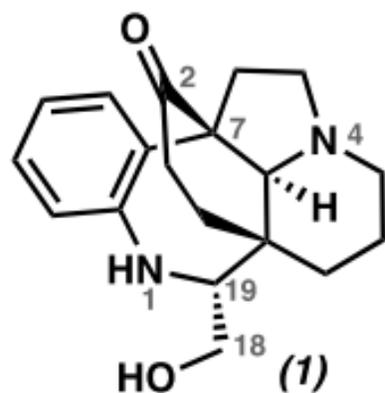
Elliot F. Hicks, Kengo Inoue, and Brian M. Stoltz*



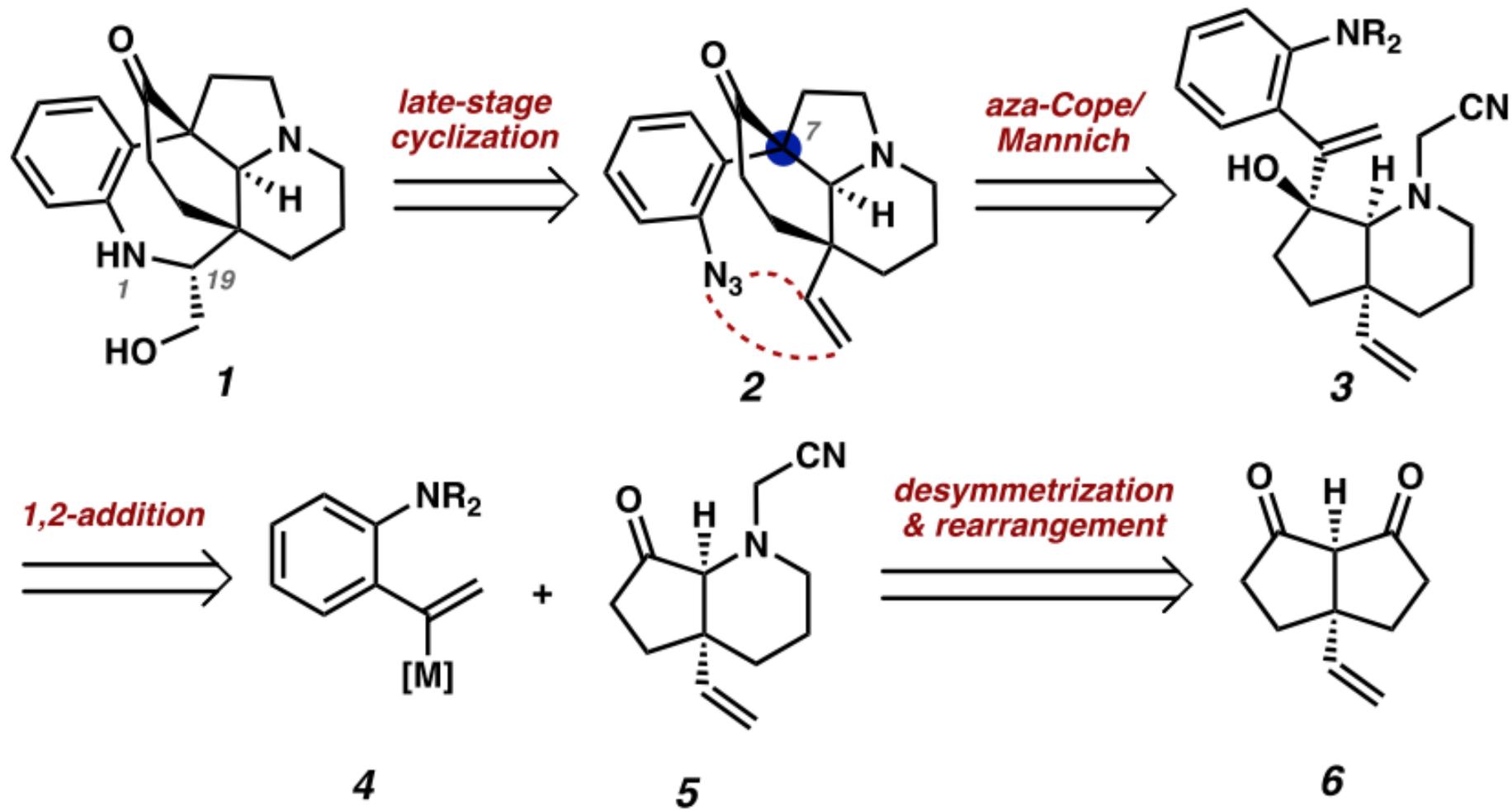
Cite This: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2024, 146, 4340–4345

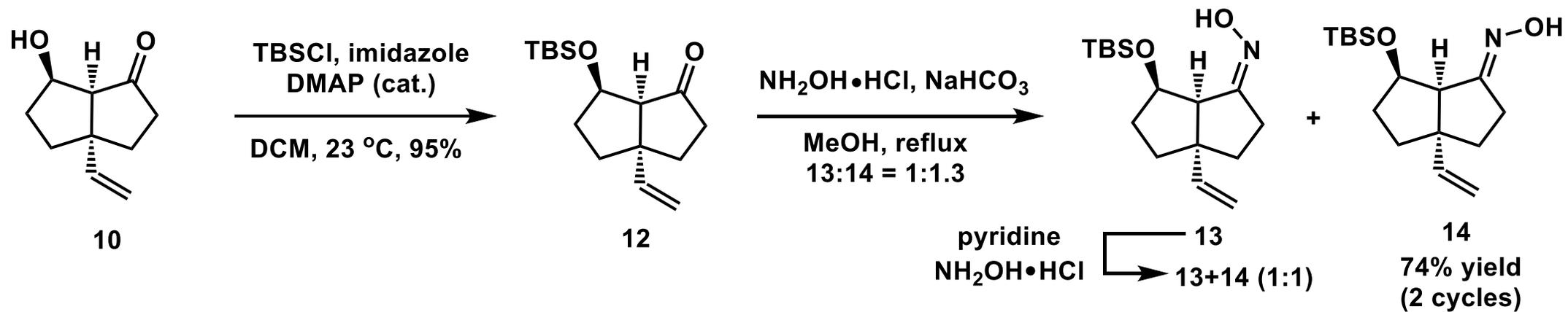
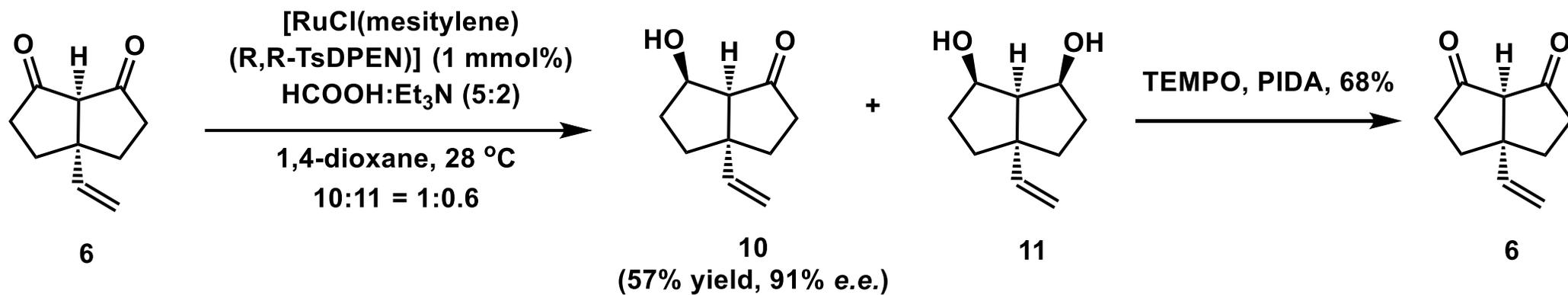
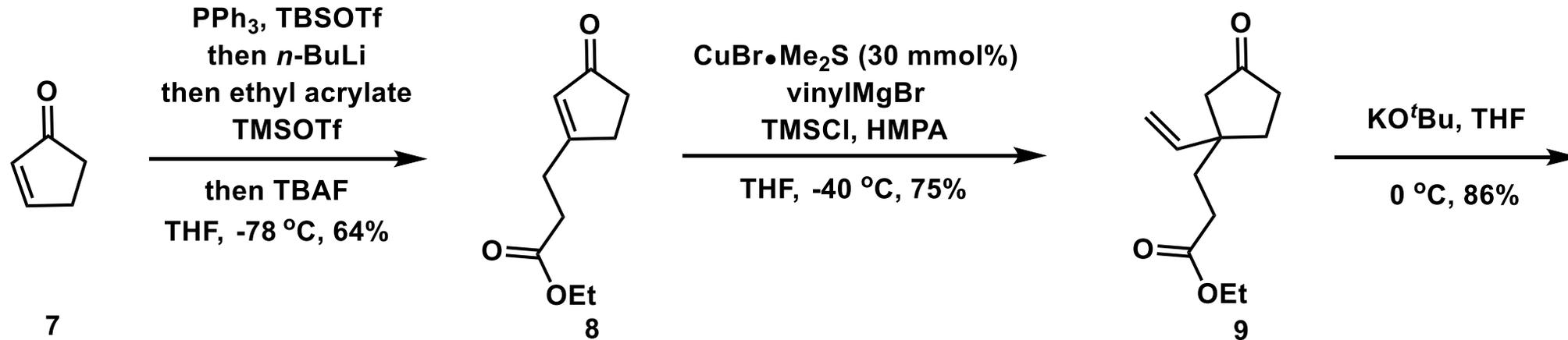


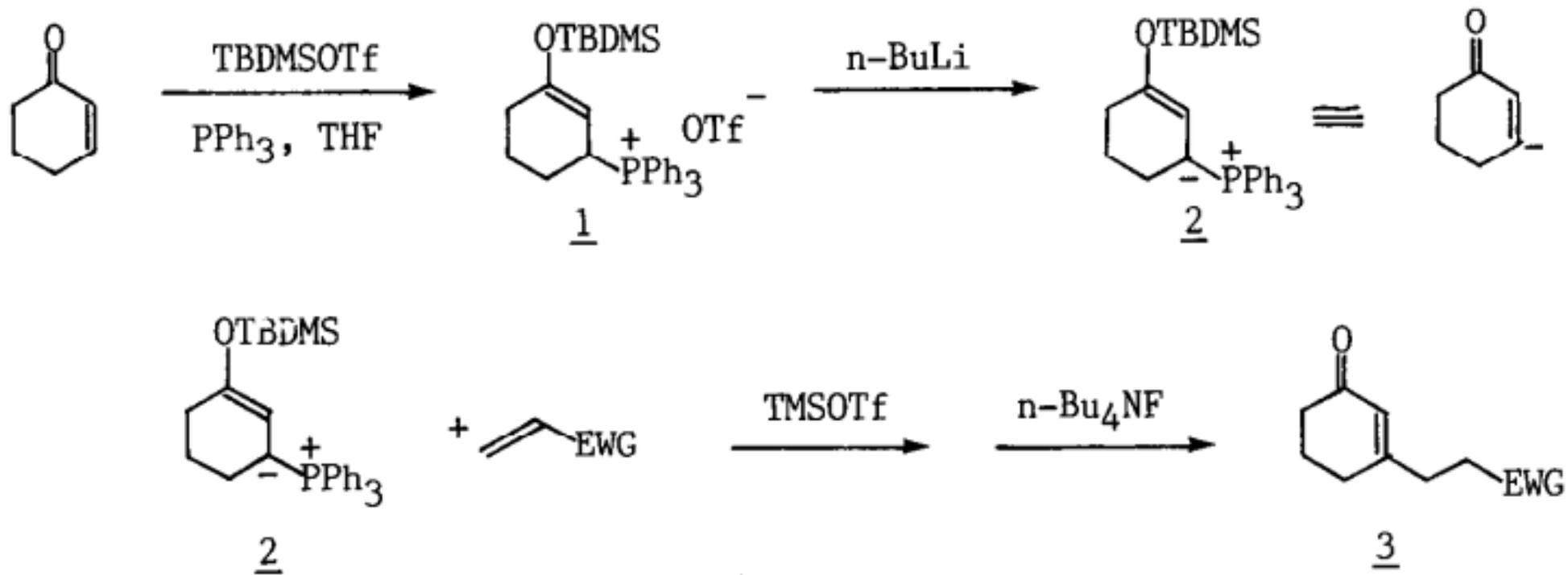
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- MIA with cleaved N1–C2 indole bond
- 6/7/6/6/5 pentacyclic skeleton
- azabicyclo[4.3.1]decane core
- cytotoxic against HepG2 cell lines
- no prior syntheses







Tetrahedron Lett., **1988**, 29, 5413.

CLAISEN CONDENSATION / CLAISEN REACTION

(References are on page 559)

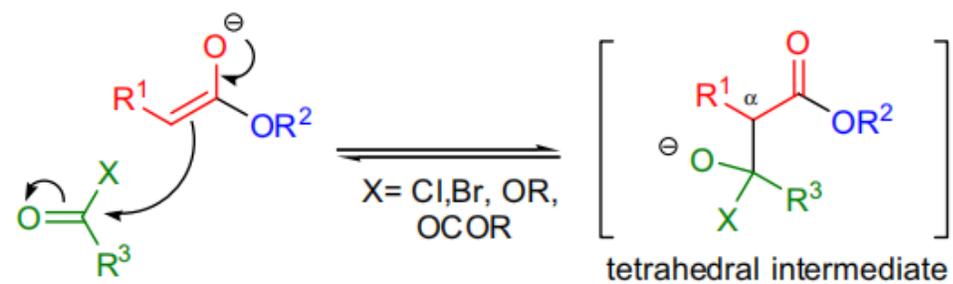
Importance:

[Seminal Publication¹; Reviews²⁻⁸; Modifications & Improvements⁹⁻¹¹; Theoretical Studies¹²⁻¹⁴]

First step:



Second step:



Third step:

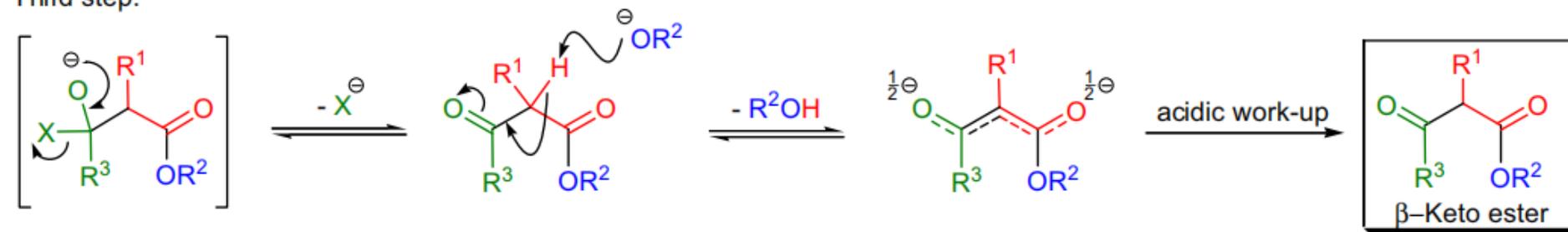
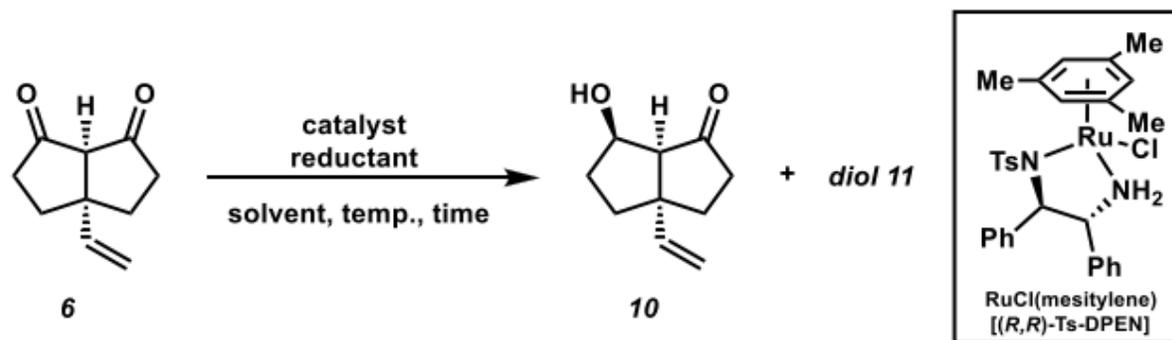


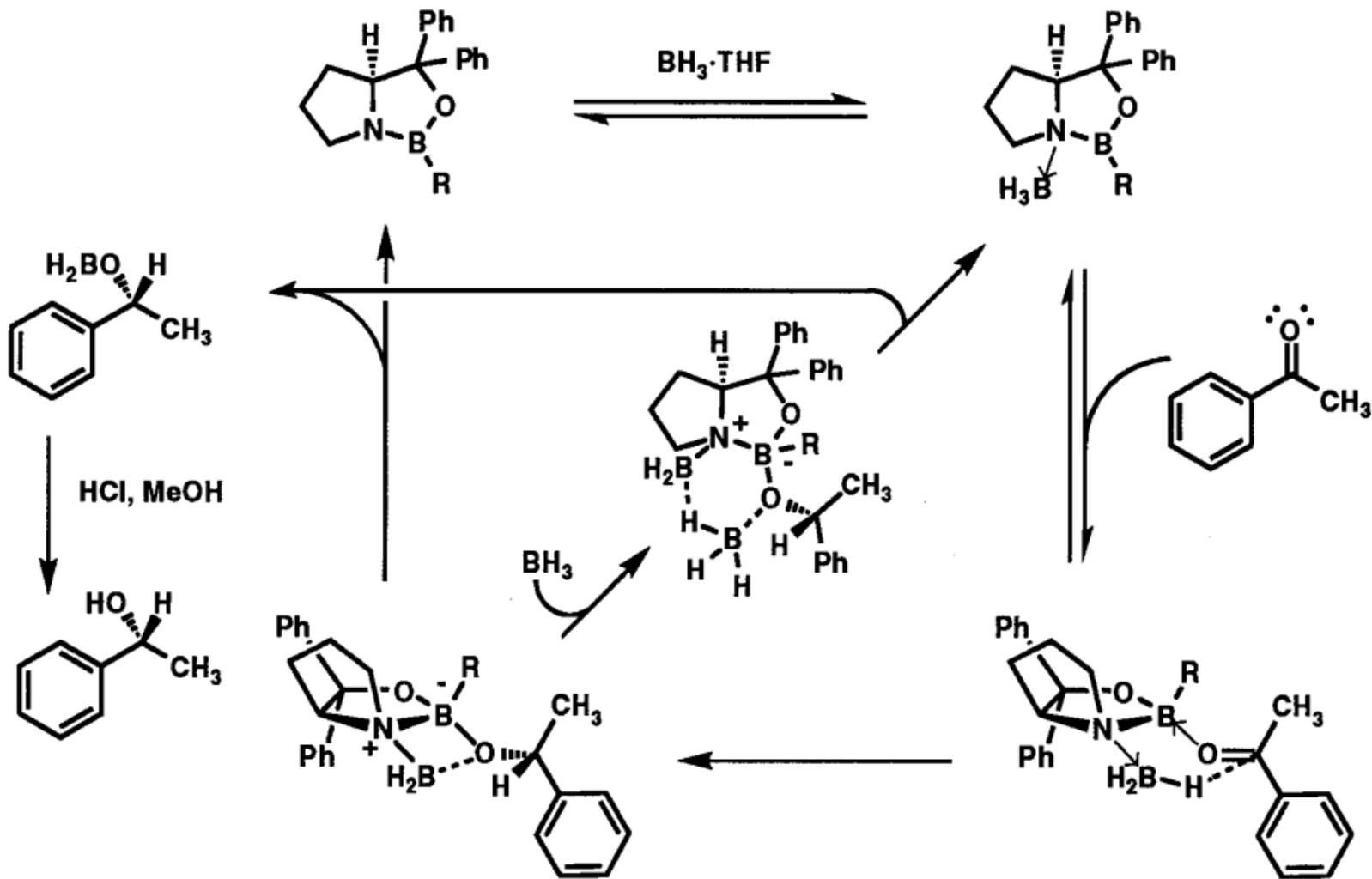
Table 1. Desymmetrization of Diketone 6

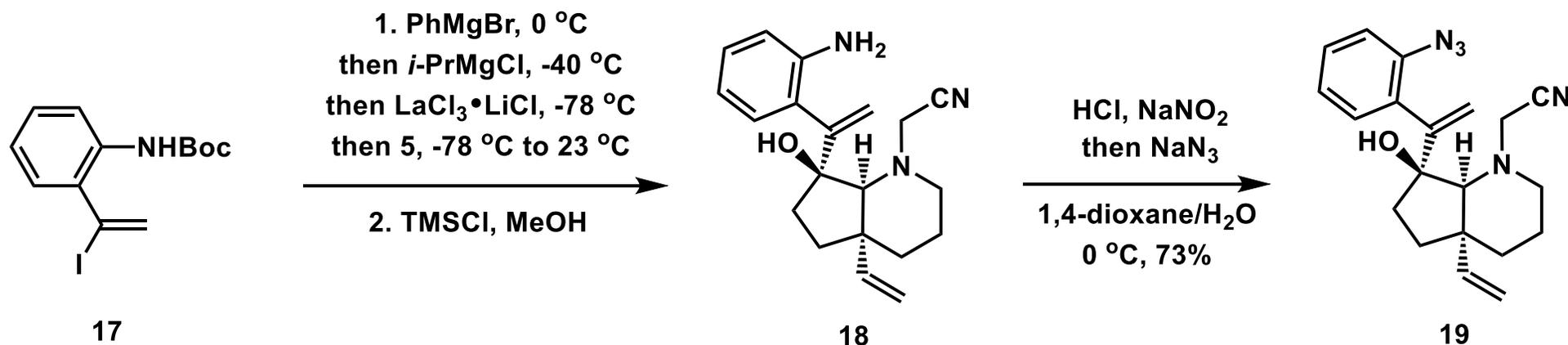
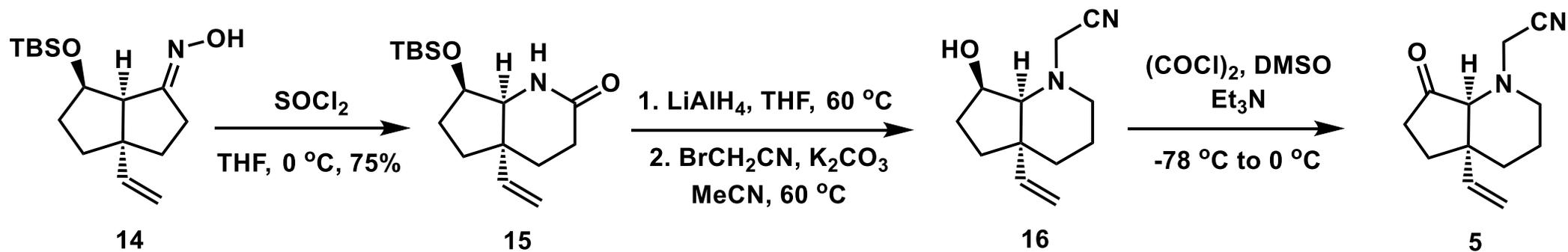


Entry	Catalyst ^a	Reductant	Solv./Temp./Time	Conversion ^c	10:11	ee
1	Baker's yeast, yeast extract	—	H ₂ O:DMSO (70:1) 25 °C, 48 h	30%	1 : 0	-95%
2	(S)- <i>n</i> -Bu-CBS	catecholborane	toluene -78 °C, 3 h	40%	—	—
3	RuCl(<i>p</i> -cymene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN] ^b	<i>i</i> -PrOH	<i>i</i> -PrOH, 28 °C 24 h	<5%	n.d.	n.d.
4	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN] ^b	<i>i</i> -PrOH	<i>i</i> -PrOH, 28 °C 24 h	20%	1 : 0	15%
5	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN]	HCOOH:Et ₃ N (5:2) (2 equiv)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ 28 °C, 14 h	88%	1 : 1.2	79%
6	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN]	HCOOH:Et ₃ N (5:2) (2 equiv)	THF 28 °C, 14 h	99%	1 : 1	82%
7	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN]	HCOOH:Et ₃ N (5:2) (2 equiv)	1,4-dioxane 28 °C, 14 h	99%	1 : 0.6	91%
8	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN]	HCOOH:Et ₃ N (5:2) (1.5 equiv)	1,4-dioxane 28 °C, 14 h	95%	1 : 0.3	85%
9	RuCl(mesitylene) [(R,R)-Ts-DPEN]	HCOOH:Et ₃ N (5:2) (1 equiv)	1,4-dioxane 28 °C, 14 h	90%	1 : 0.12	81%

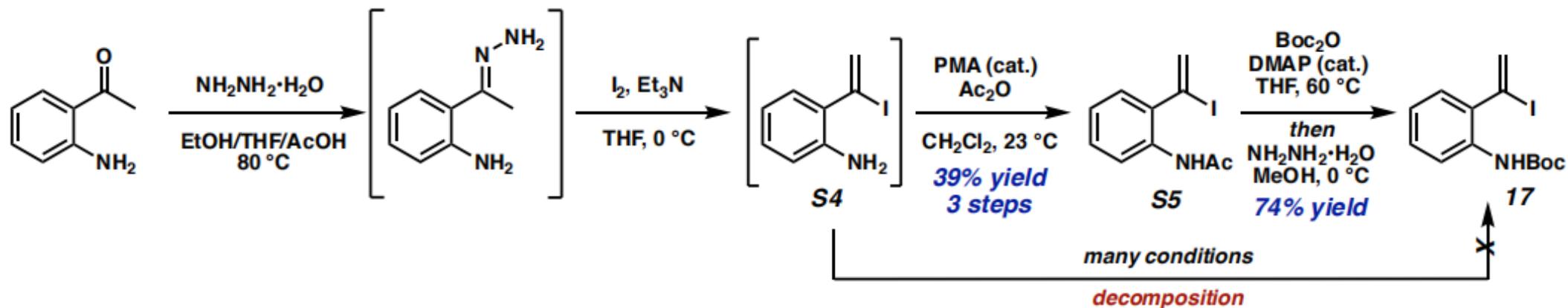
^aReactions were conducted with 1 mol % [Ru] catalyst. ^bFive mol % KOH added. ^cConversion determined by the ¹H NMR ratio of the remaining diketone **6** relative to the CH₂Br₂ internal standard.

CBS还原:





Scheme S2. Synthesis of vinyl iodide **17**.



BECKMANN REARRANGEMENT

(References are on page 548)

Importance:

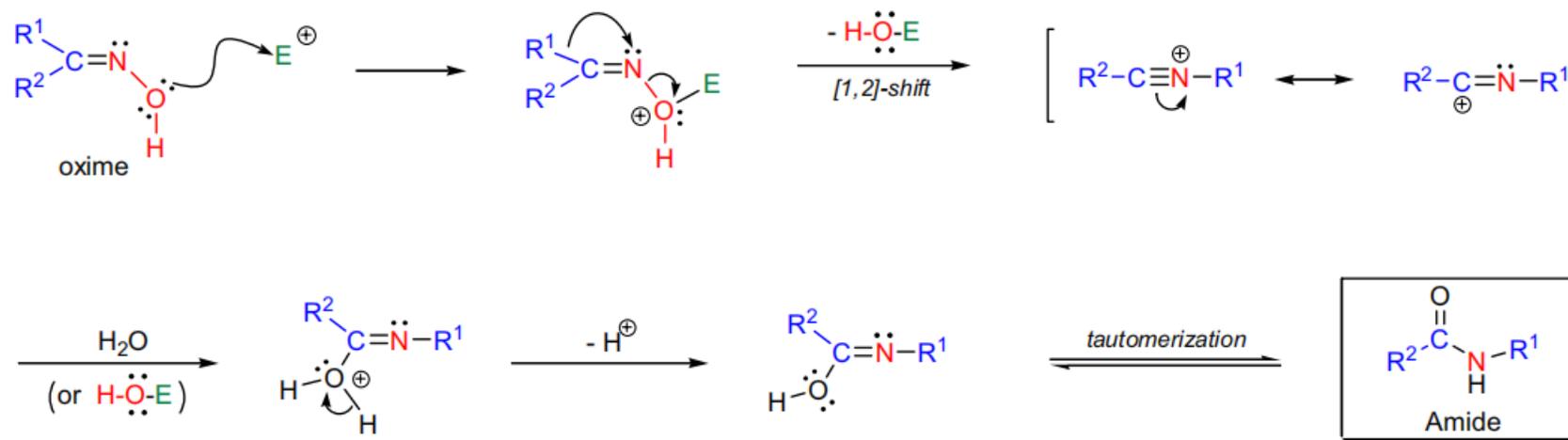
[Seminal Publication¹; Reviews²⁻⁵; Modifications & Improvements⁶⁻¹⁷; Theoretical Studies¹⁸⁻²⁷]

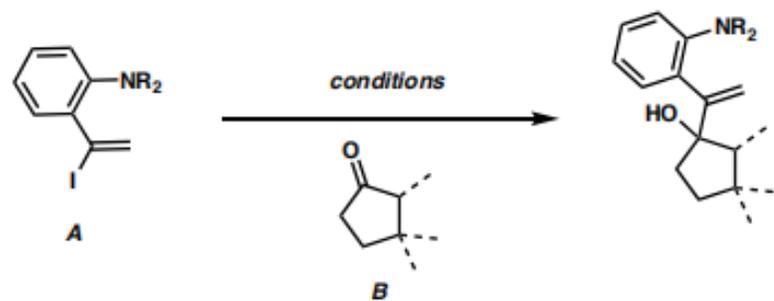


R^1, R^2 = alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl; X = OH, OTs, OMs, Cl

Mechanism: ^{28,19,22-24,29-31}

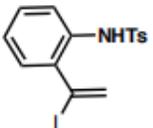
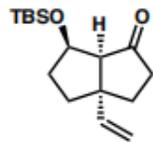
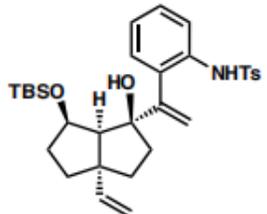
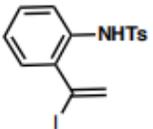
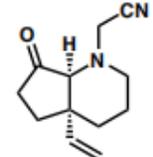
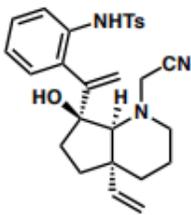
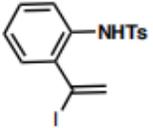
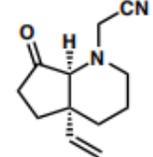
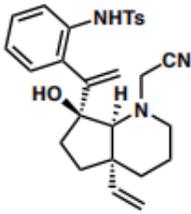
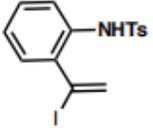
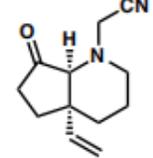
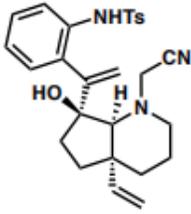
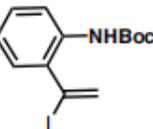
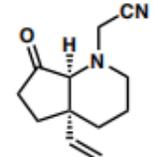
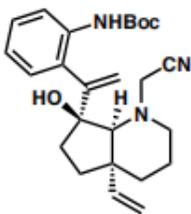
In the first step of the mechanism the X group is converted to a leaving group by reaction with an electrophile. The departure of the leaving group is accompanied by the [1,2]-shift of the R group, which is *anti* to the leaving group. The resulting carbocation reacts with a nucleophile (a water molecule or the leaving group) to afford the amide after tautomerization.



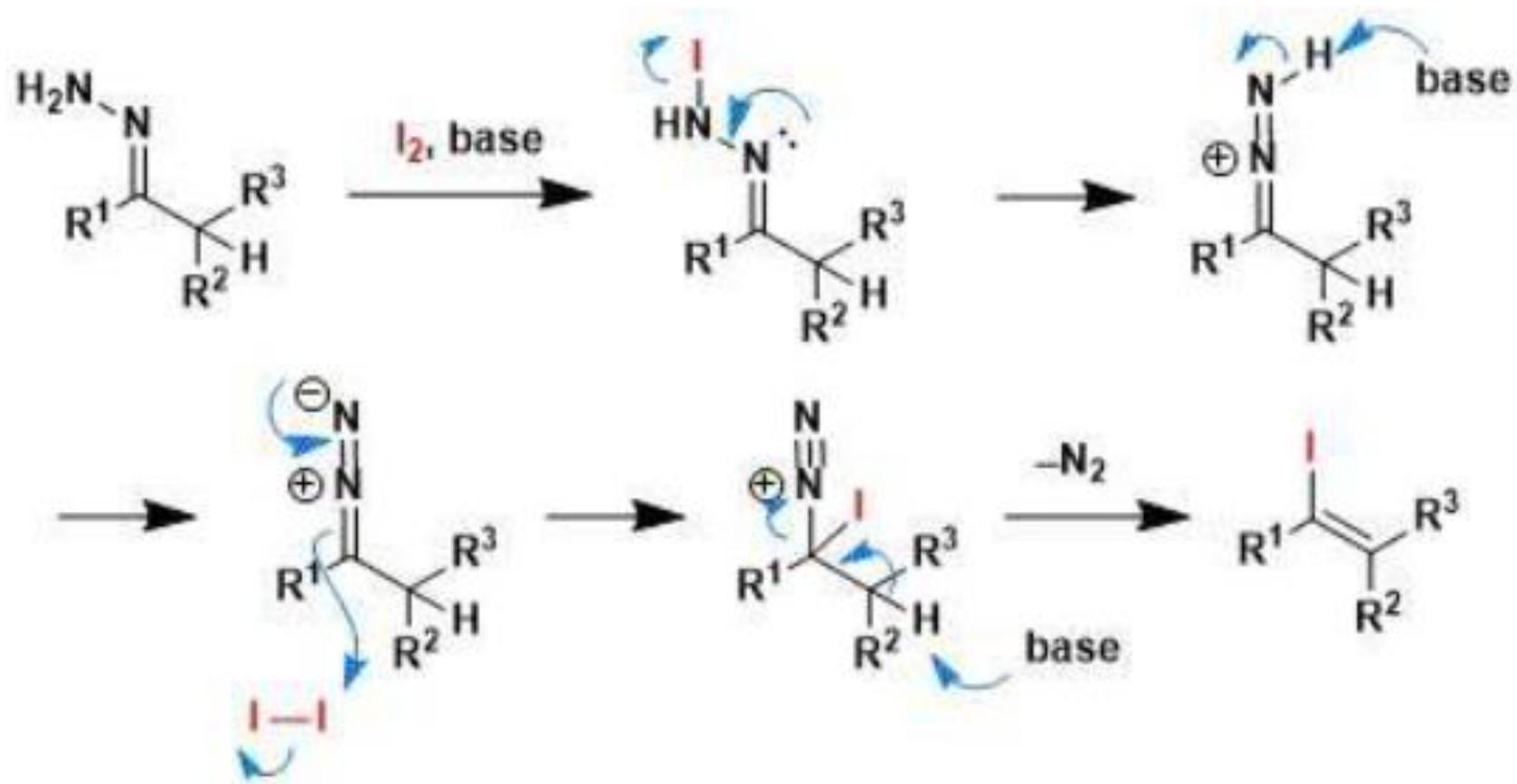


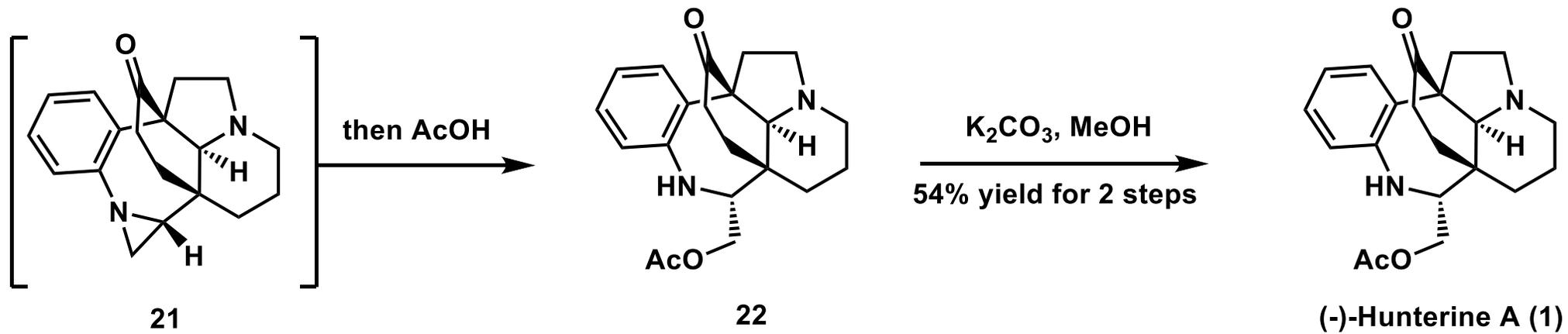
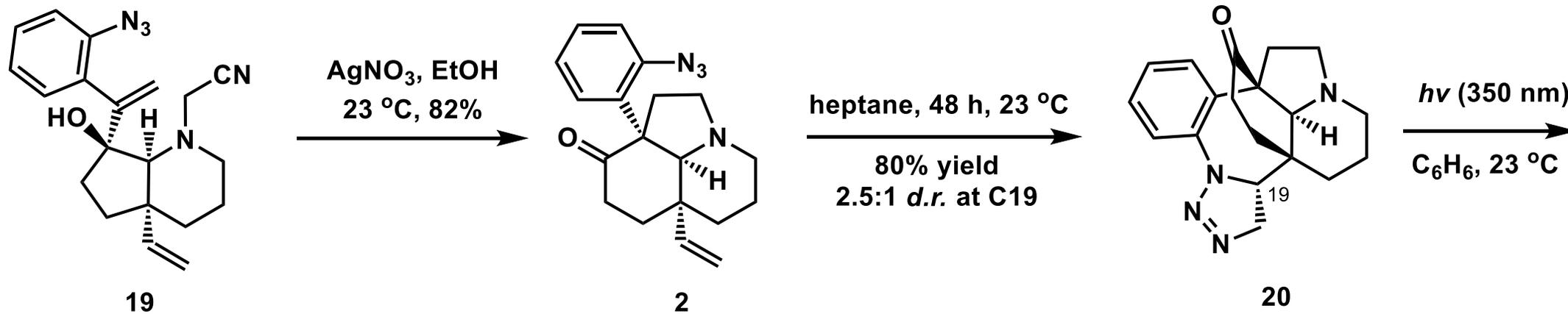
Entry	A (vinyl iodide)	B (ketone)	conditions	product & yield
1	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>TBSO-C5H8-O</chem>	$t\text{-PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ THF, $-78 \rightarrow 23^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>TBSO-C5H8-CH(OH)-C6H4-NR2</chem> 30% yield
2	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>O=C-C5H8-CH2CN</chem>	$t\text{-PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ THF, $-78 \rightarrow 23^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH(OH)-C5H8-CH2CN</chem> not observed

3	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>O=C-C5H8-CH2CN</chem>	$t\text{-PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ $\text{LaCl}_3\cdot 2\text{LiCl}$ THF, $-78 \rightarrow 23^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH(OH)-C5H8-CH2CN</chem> not observed
4	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>O=C-C5H8-CH2CN</chem>	$t\text{-BuLi}$ CeCl_3 THF/ Et_2O , $-78 \rightarrow 23^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>NR2-C6H4-CH(OH)-C5H8-CH2CN</chem> not observed
5	<chem>NHTs-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>O=C-C5H8</chem>	$t\text{-PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ THF, $-78 \rightarrow 0^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>NHTs-C6H4-CH(OH)-C5H8</chem> 57% yield
6	<chem>NHTs-C6H4-CH=CH-I</chem>	<chem>O=C-C5H8</chem>	PhMgBr then $t\text{-PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ THF, $-78 \rightarrow 0^\circ\text{C}$	<chem>NHTs-C6H4-CH(OH)-C5H8</chem> 82% yield

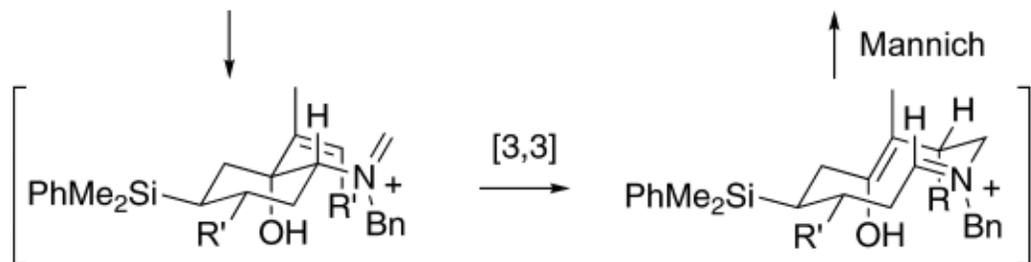
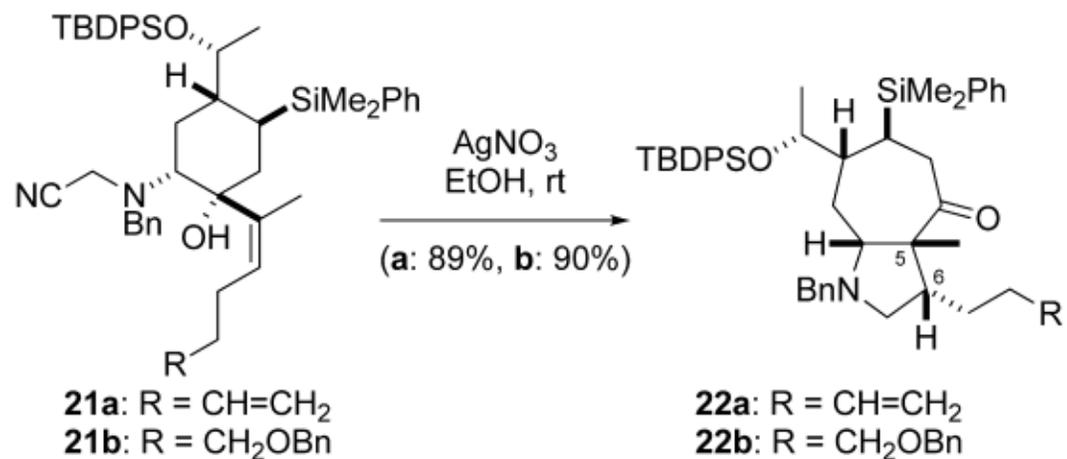
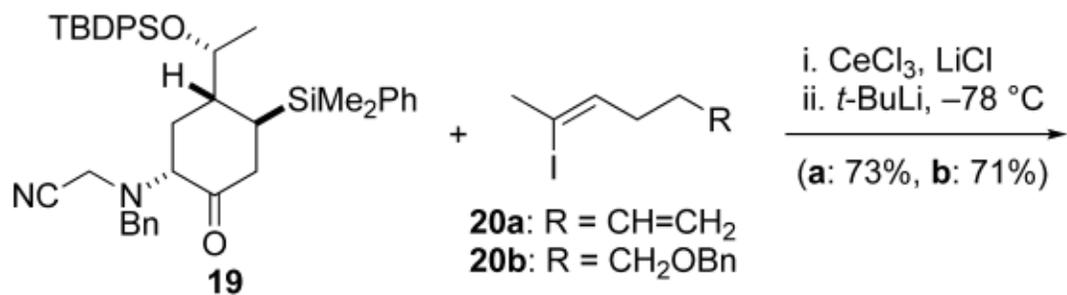
Entry	A (vinyl iodide)	B (ketone)	conditions	product & yield
7			PhMgBr then <i>i</i> -PrMgCl·LiCl THF, -78 → 0 °C	 47% yield
8			PhMgBr then <i>i</i> -PrMgCl·LiCl THF, -78 → 0 °C	 11% NMR yield
9			PhMgBr then <i>i</i> -PrMgCl·LiCl then CeCl ₃ THF, -78 → 0 °C	 not observed
10			PhMgBr then <i>i</i> -PrMgCl·LiCl then LaCl ₃ ·2LiCl THF, -78 → 0 °C	 40% yield
11			PhMgBr then <i>i</i> -PrMgCl·LiCl then LaCl ₃ ·2LiCl THF, -78 → 0 °C	 68% yield

Barton Vinyl Iodide Synthesis

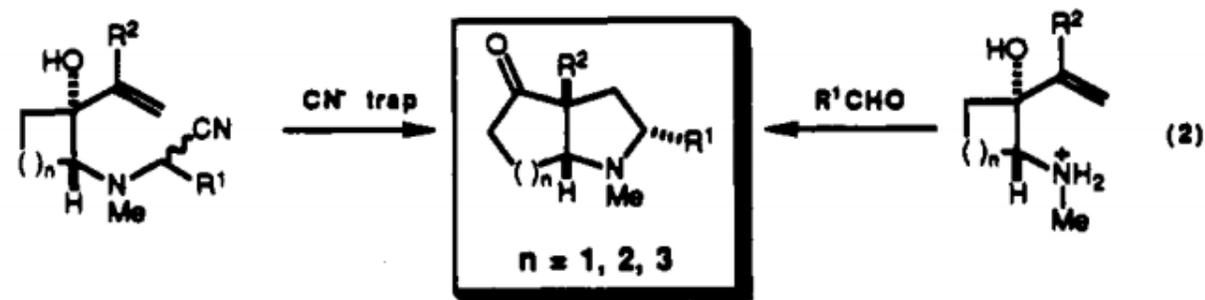
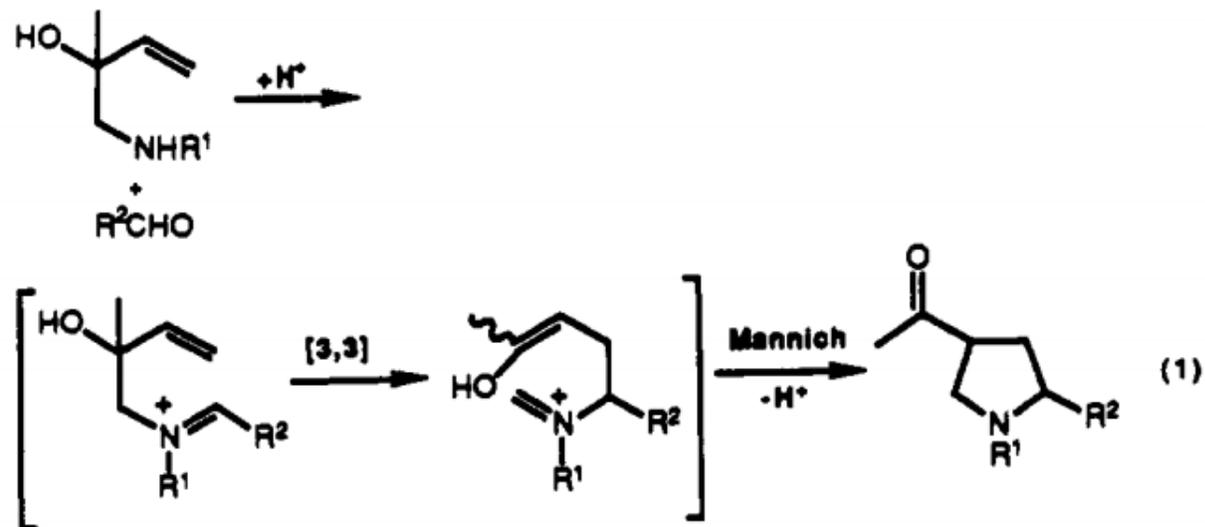




Scheme 3

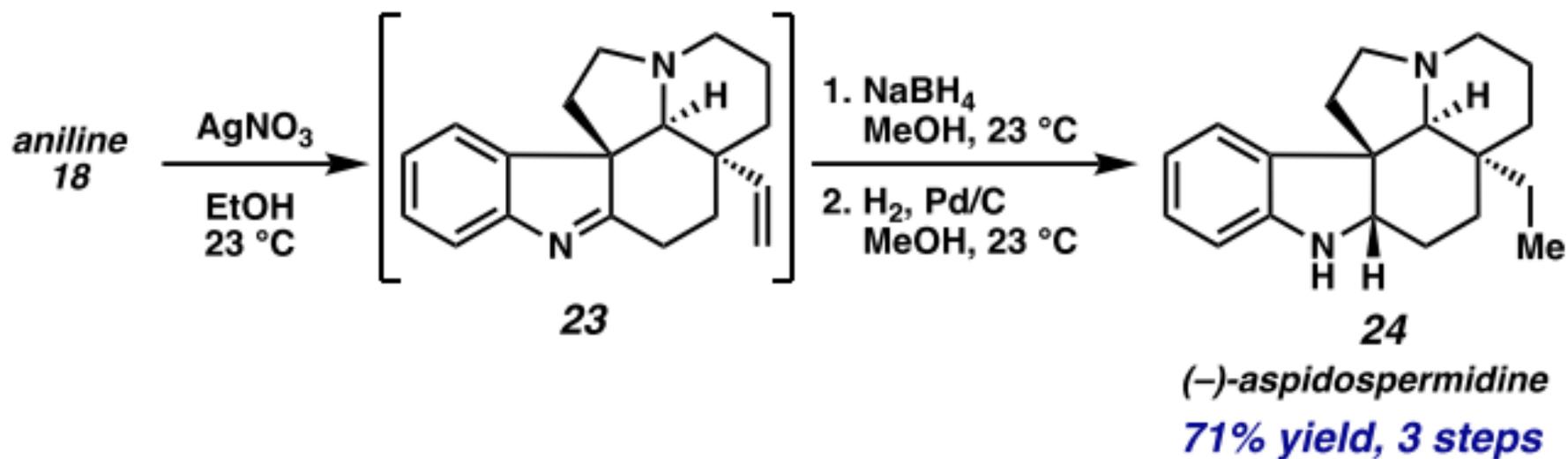
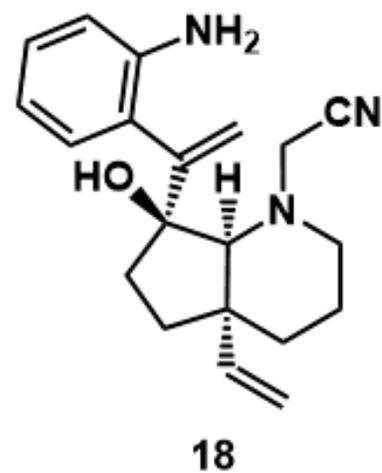


Org. Lett., **2009**, *11*, 24.



J. Am. Chem. Soc., **1991**, *113*, 7.

Scheme 3. Divergent Access to (-)-Aspidospermidine via Aniline 18



Scheme 4. Reactivity Differences between Triazolone 20 and C19-epi-20 and Nitrogen Pyramidalty

