

"Halogen": derived from the Greek word meaning "salt-producing"<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Natural Abundance of Halides/mg kg<sup>-1</sup>

Halide	Oceans	Sedimentary Rock	Fungi	Wood Pulp	Plants
F <sup>-</sup>	1.4	270-740			
Cl <sup>-</sup>	19,000	10-320		70-2100	200-10,000
Br <sup>-</sup>	65	1.6-3	100		
I <sup>-</sup>	0.05	0.3			

Each year, the oceans and volcanoes emit around 210 MT of chlorine equivalents into the atmosphere. HCl, NaCl<sup>2</sup>

Water:<sup>1,3</sup>

Ocean: nearly 2% Cl<sup>-</sup> by weight; Great Salt Lake: 9% Cl<sup>-</sup> by weight

The enzymes in algae are able to more easily oxidize bromide, resulting in a higher occurrence of brominated secondary metabolites despite the higher concentration of chloride in the ocean.

Terrestrial Environment:<sup>1</sup>

Halogens found in sediments, soils, plants, fungi, lichen, volcanoes, biomass combustion, bacteria, insects, and higher organisms.

Peatlands:<sup>1</sup>

Wetlands with a thick water-logged organic soil layer composed of dead or decaying plant material and comprise 2% of the earth's surface.

Major reservoir of organically bound iodine.

91% of bromine found in peat is organically bound.

Not surprisingly, many halogenated secondary metabolites originate from the ocean. These compounds have shown antimicrobial, antifeedant, antihelmintic, and cytotoxic activities and are increasingly being investigated as clinical targets

<sup>1</sup>Gribble, G.W. *Progress in the Chemistry of Organic Natural Products*, 2010, **91**, 613.

<sup>2</sup>Leveque, C. *Ecology: From Ecosystem to Biosphere*, 2003. 398.

<sup>3</sup>The Chemistry of Halogens. <http://chemed.chem.purdue.edu/>

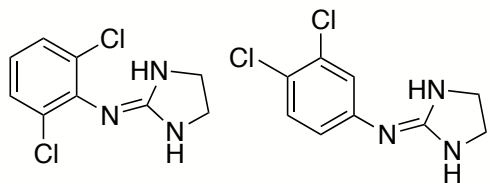
1820s: Marks the emergence of halogenated drug candidates<sup>4</sup>

Halides are used in place of hydrogen atoms in drug targets to make the molecules more lipophilic and hydrophobic i.e. they are better able to permeate lipid membranes and enter cells. As a negative result, they often accumulate in lipid (adipose) tissue.<sup>5</sup>

$R-X$

- partition coefficient
- electronic density
- steric environment
- bioavailability
- pharmacokinetics
- molecule/receptor interactions

Chloridine: antihypertensive<sup>5</sup>



ED<sub>20</sub> = 0.01 mg/kg

ED<sub>20</sub> = 3.0 mg/kg

Molecule efficacy can be largely influenced by orientation of substituents

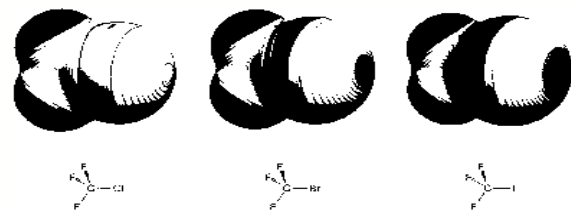
Sterics: Halogens responsible for preventing rotation and positioning the rings in a perpendicular orientation

**Halogen Bonding**: "Occurs when there is evidence of a net attractive interaction between an electrophilic region associated with a halogen atom in a molecular entity and a nucleophilic region in another, or the same, molecular entity"<sup>7</sup>

The halogen acts as lewis acid while the Y is electron donating:  $R-X \cdots Y$

Advantages of Halogen bonding  $\geq$  hydrogen bonding

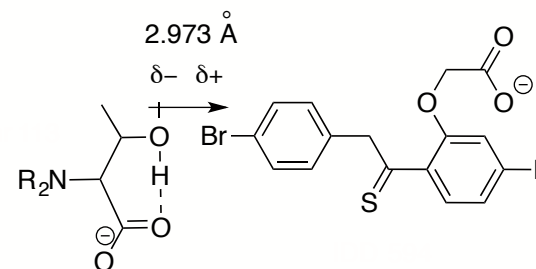
1) Halogen bonds are directional due to their narrowly confined  $\sigma$ -hole (region of positive electrostatic potential) on the outersurface



$\sigma$ -hole on hydrogen atoms is largely dispersed among the surface

- 2) Tunibility: strength of halogen bond:  $I > Br > Cl$ . Additionally strengthened when attached to an electron withdrawing moiety. Allows for single atom mutation.
- 3) Halogen bonds=hydrophobic. Hydrogen bonds=hydrophilic
- 4) The sheer size of halogens can alter the light-emitting properties of halogenated dyes by promoting singlet-to-triplet intercrossing.

"Specificity Pocket"



Aldose Reductase: enzyme responsible for the reduction of glucose to sorbitol. Long believed to be responsible for diabetic complications in various organs. Several aldose reductase inhibitors have been developed and withdrawn from the market due to toxicity effects resulting from off target inhibition of Aldehyde Reductase.

Solution: Halogen bonding.

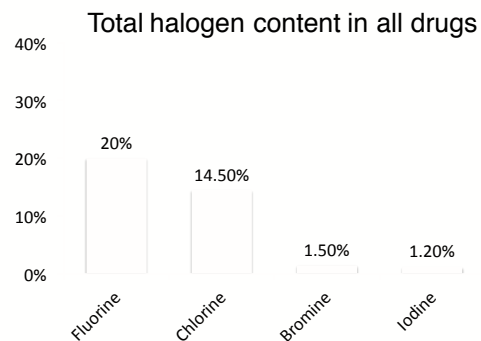
Upon IDD 594 binding, Aldose Reductase undergoes a conformational change, creating a "specificity pocket." In this pocket, IDD 594 forms a halogen bond with Thr 113 at an unusually short bond length, contributing to the bonding specificity to aldose reductase. Aldehyde reductase contains a tyrosine moiety in place of the threonine and the increased steric bulky discourages non-specific binding.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup>Meyer, H.P, *Chemistry Today*, **2011**, 29 (4) <sup>5</sup>[http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/2389/9/09\\_chapter%201.pdf](http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/2389/9/09_chapter%201.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Lu, Y. et al. *J. Med. Chem.* **2009**, 52, 2854-2862. <sup>7</sup> Priimagi, A. et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2013**, 46 (11) 2686-2695

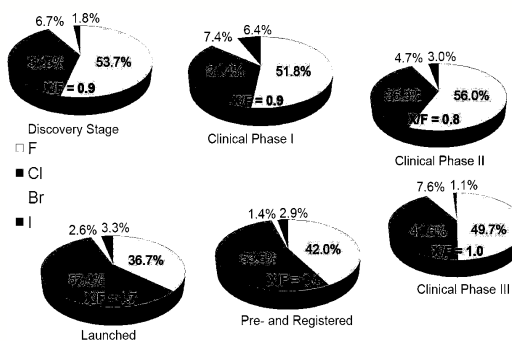
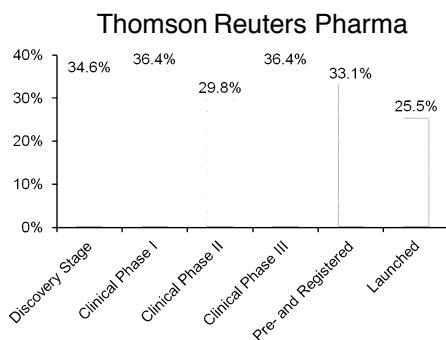
<sup>8</sup> Howard, E.I. et al. *Proteins: Structure, Function, and Bioinformatics* **2004**, 55, 792- 804

There are discrepancies in the composition of halogenated drug candidates.



Percentages include drugs containing multiple halogens.  
Source: Novartis, 2013<sup>9</sup>

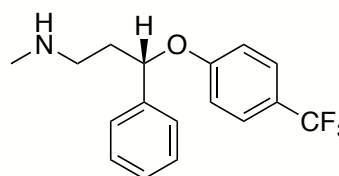
Halogenated drug composition specifically at Thomson Reuters Pharma; however, these statistics match with other literature sources. Percentages include drugs containing multiple halogens.<sup>10</sup>



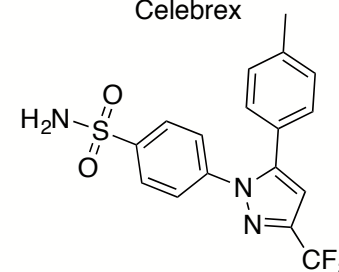
"The molecules in discovery stage represent the current opinions and interests in drug discovery, and the drug molecules in clinical phases represent the opinions and interests in drug discovery about a decade ago, while the launched phase collects the successful drugs over the past one hundred years."<sup>10</sup>

**Fluorine:** commonly found as a trifluoromethyl substituent. Used in place of a chlorine atom or a methyl group at risk of metabolic oxidation. Also used to facilitate access to the CNS and transmission through the blood brain barrier.<sup>5</sup>

Fluoxetine (Prozac)

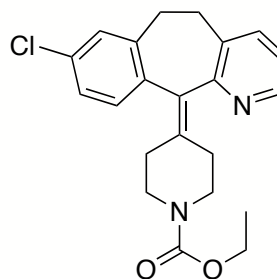


Celebrex

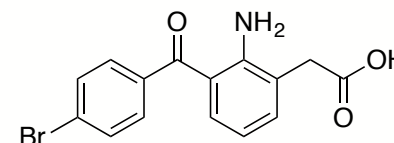


**Chlorine:** provides increased lipophilicity, a source of hydrogen bonding, and a metabolic obstruction<sup>5</sup>

Loratadine (Claritin)

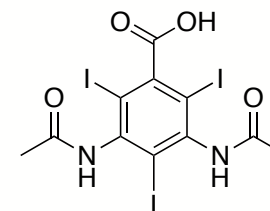


Bromfenac



**Bromine:** less commonly used and mainly seen as a bromoaryl. Bromine can more easily generate alkylating intermediates than chlorine or fluorine, leading to toxicity issues (example: bromfenac, withdrawn from market)<sup>5</sup>.

**Iodine:** Used by the body to produce thyroid hormones. KI is a treatment for deficiencies in hormone production. Organiodide compounds are used as X-ray radiocontrast agents.<sup>5</sup>

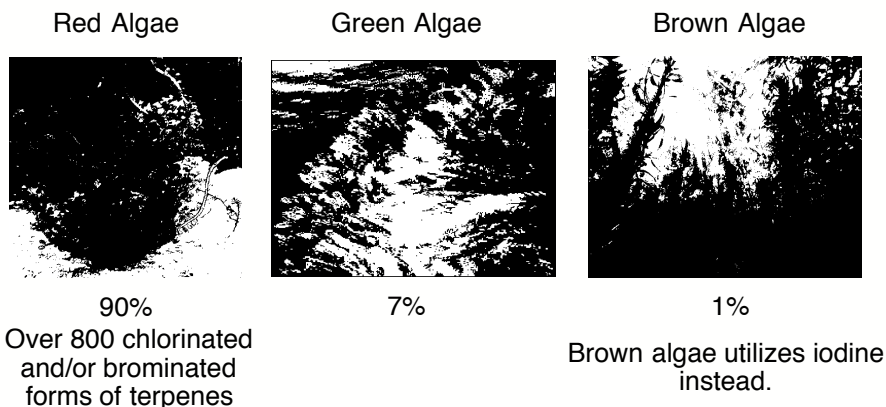


Diatrizoic acid

<sup>9</sup> Vulpetti, A. "Protein interactions with fluorine and other halogens" Novartis, 2013

<sup>10</sup> Xu, Z. et al. *J. Chem. Inf. Model*, **2014**, 54, 69-78

Percentage of chlorinated or brominated secondary metabolites<sup>11</sup>

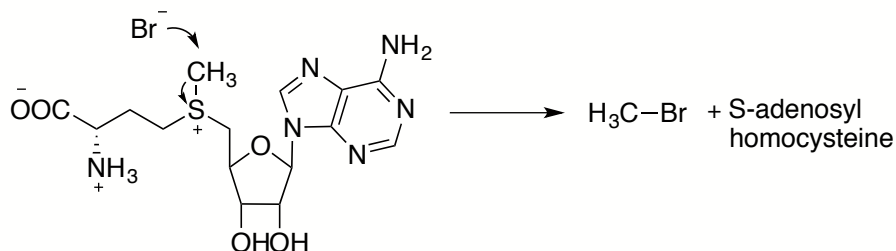


The formation of organohalogenated compounds is thought to have developed in prokaryotes in response to the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS). Similarly in algae, the halogenated compounds eliminate ROS while also playing a role in defense and structure maintenance.<sup>11</sup>

#### Biosynthesis of methyl bromide/iodide

Iodide and bromide are actively taken up from seawater and nucleophilically attack the CH<sub>3</sub>S site of S-adenosylmethionine (SAM) halide/thiol methyltransferase. Limited to monohalogenation.

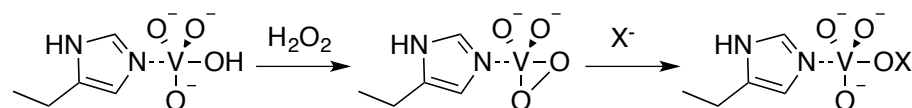
#### Methylbromide formation



#### Two classes of enzymes involved in halogenation:<sup>12</sup>

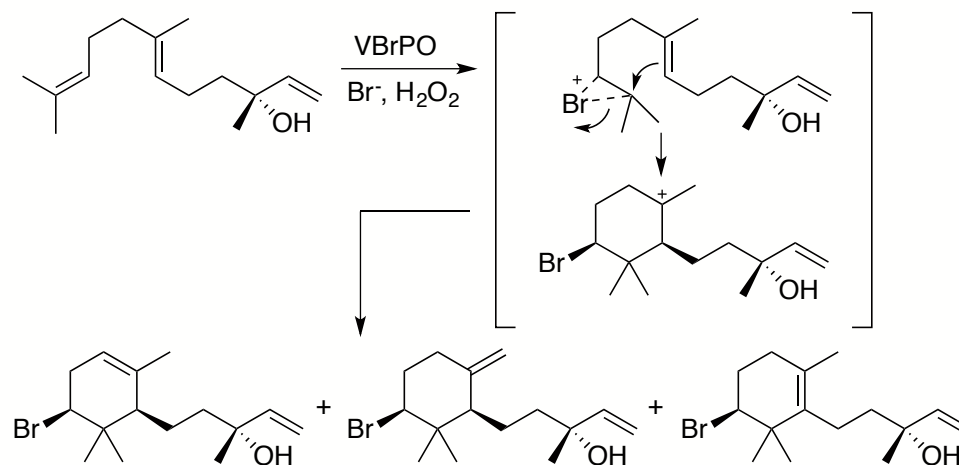
- highly substrate-specific halogenases requiring dioxygen for enzymatic activity. Co-substrates: Flavin (FADH<sub>2</sub>-dependent halogenases) or R-ketoglutarate (non-heme Fe<sup>II</sup>/R-ketoglutarate/O<sub>2</sub>-dependent halogenases).
- less specific haloperoxidases (HPO) utilizing hydrogen peroxide (i.e. vanadium or heme hydroperoxidases).

In the 1980s, haloperoxidases were isolated from algae and the researchers were surprised to find stoichiometric quantities of vanadium rather than heme.



Bound hypohalite (-OX) intermediates react as "X<sup>+</sup>" equivalents

#### Formation of $\alpha$ -, $\beta$ -, and $\gamma$ -Snyderol from Sesquiterpene Nerolidol

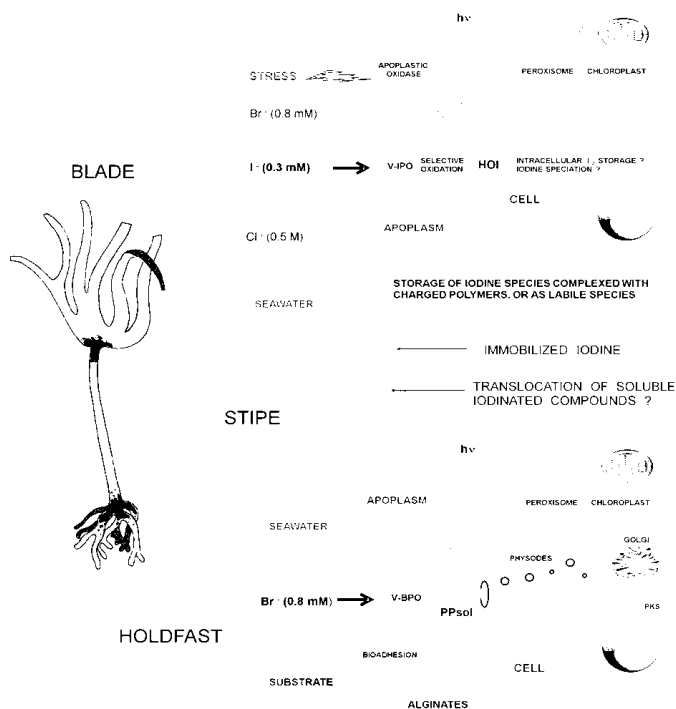


<sup>11</sup> Barre, S.L. et al. *Mar. Drugs* **2010**, *8*, 988-1010.

<sup>12</sup> Walsh, C.T. et al. *Chem. Rev.*, **2006**, *106*(8), 3364-3378.

Vanadium dependent hydroperoxidases are named based on the most electronegative element they can oxidize. These enzymes are highly substrate non-specific.

The oxidation potential of the halides is pH-dependent, generally requiring a higher pH to oxidize the more electronegative halides.<sup>11</sup>



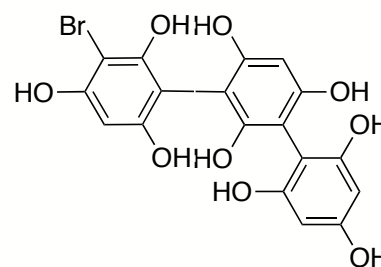
*Laminaria digitata*: approximately 1% iodide by dry weight. The kelp contains a 30,000 fold accumulation of iodide compared to seawater.

Iodide is thought to be stored *via* chelation with apoplastic macromolecules. This ensures abundant and readily accessible reduced iodine. However, the mechanism is not yet confirmed.

These iodine and bromine containing secondary metabolites primarily play a role in oxygen detoxification (quenching excess H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and ROS) and bioadhesion; but also act in an antibacterial role on the kelp exterior.

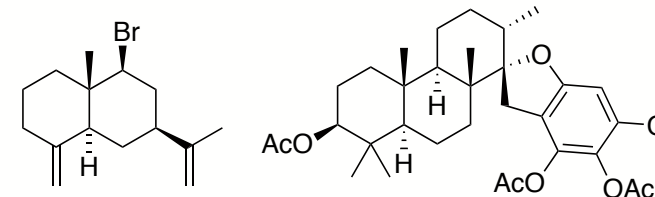
### Secondary Metabolites from Brown Algae:

#### Phlorotannins and Phloroglucinol



Biosynthesis with hydroxylation at the meta position are derived from the acetate-malonate pathway (additionally a PKS-type enzyme complex (?)). The triketide formed after cyclization undergoes tautomerization to give phenol. VHPOs shown to crosslink the monomers *in vitro*. Sulfated polyphenols are common in brown algae; but sulfur and halogen-substituted phenols have yet to be reported.

#### Halogenated Terpenes



Presence of terpenes is far more rare in brown algae than red, most likely due to red algae's ability to diversify their defense strategy.

Brown algae VHPOs have a common ancestor to the VHPOs of red algae; however, as first observed in *Laminaria digitata*, the brown algae developed novel biochemical function of iodine oxidation.

VIPOs are upregulated after an oxidative burst to restore iodine levels while VBrPOs are specifically activated and play a role in oxygen detoxification

Secondary metabolites from brown algae have not yet found a clinical use.

"The fact that some of the newly found halogenated compounds show minor or no activity at all against a specific target does not exclude the possibility of other hidden unidentified active biological effects."<sup>13</sup>

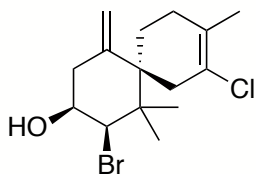
<sup>13</sup> Cabrita, M.T. et al. *Mar. Drugs* **2010**, *8*, 2301-2317

Red Algae are the largest source of halogenated secondary metabolites. Specifically, *Laurencia* (shown right) is considered one of the most prolific. Diterpenes, sesquiterpenes, triterpenes, and C15-acetogenins are the main natural products and have been shown to have antimicrobial, antifeedant, antihelmintic, and cytotoxic properties<sup>13</sup>

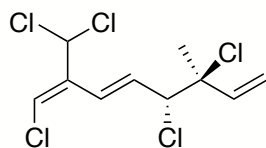


Various Isolated Compounds:

Elatol: Potent antibacterial

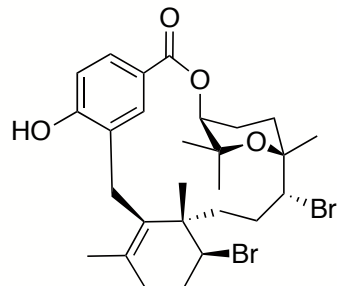


chamigrene subclass of sesquiterpenes



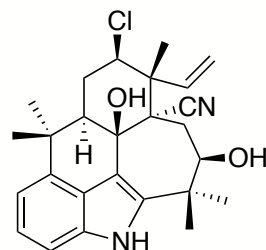
isolated from *Plocamium cornutum*.  
IC<sub>50</sub> = 16 μM against *Plasmodium falciparum*  
(most deadly human malaria parasite)

Isolated from *Gallophycus serratus*



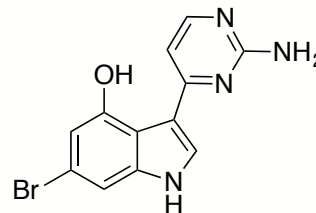
Bromphycolide active against *S. aureus* and cytotoxic but showed little cell line selectivity

Ambiguine M

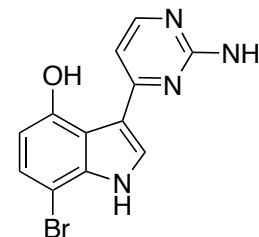


Isolated from cyanobacteria.  
Potent activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

**Meridianin B**

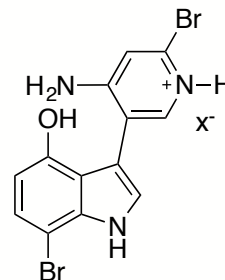


**Meridianin E**



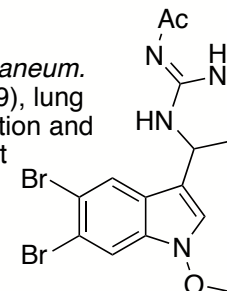
The two most potent of the family. Activity: inhibition of various protein kinases (protein phosphorylation) and cytotoxicity LMM3 (murine mammalian adenocarcinoma cell line) IC<sub>50</sub> of 11.4 μM and 11.1 μM

**Psammopemmin B**



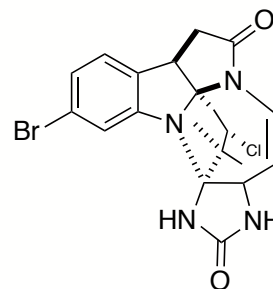
Isolated as the amine salt from Antarctic marine sponge *Psammopemma sp.* Suspected to have pharmacological activity due to the 4-hydroxyindole but the isolated quantity was too little for bio testing. Still awaiting structure confirmation via total synthesis

**Aplicyanin F**



Isolated from the Antarctic tunicate *Aplidium cyaneum*. Cytotoxic against cancer cell lines: colon (HT-29), lung (A-549), and breast (MDA-MB-231). The 5 position and the acetyl group on the imine nitrogen important for activity.

**Securamine G**

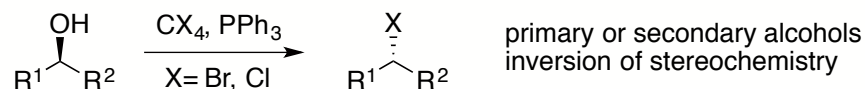


Isolated from bryozoans *S. securifrons*. Not apparent that there's biological activity from this scaffold. In different variants of this scaffold, they exist in equilibrium with securine dependent on solvent (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> vs CDCl<sub>3</sub>).



**\*\*This is by no means a complete list of available methods\*\***

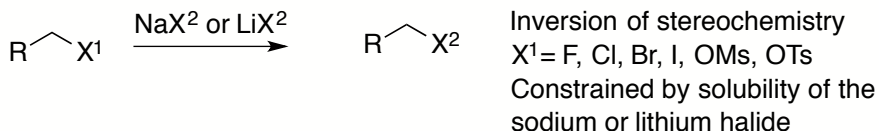
Appel Reaction



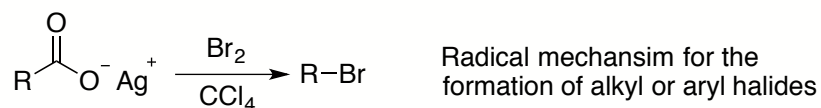
Tertiary Alcohols: Strong acid (HCl, HI, HBr)

Primary/Secondary Alcohols: various methods of S<sub>N</sub>2: SOCl<sub>2</sub>, SOBr<sub>2</sub>, PBr<sub>3</sub>, PCl<sub>3</sub>, PCl<sub>5</sub>, PBr<sub>5</sub>, MsCl/EtN<sub>3</sub> (can directly replace with chlorides in some substrates) or TsCl/pyridine and then nucleophilic substitution with halide.

Finkelstein Reaction (alcohol or halide displacement)



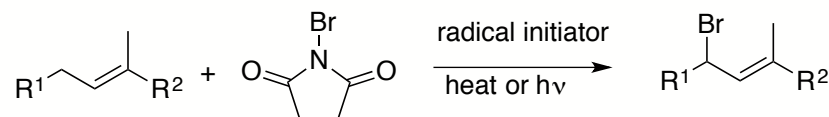
Hunsdiecker Reaction



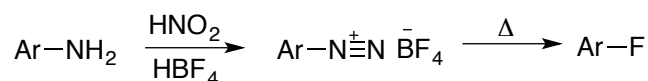
Modifications:

- 1) Thallium(I)-carboxylates instead of silver salts
- 2) Cristol-Firth modification- excess red HgO and one equivalent of halogen
- 3) Suarez modification- treatment of acid with hypervalent iodine in CCl<sub>4</sub>
- 4) Kochi modification- Pb(OAc)<sub>4</sub> with iodine or lithium halide
- 5) Barton modification- thermal or photolytic decomposition of thiohydroxamate esters in halogen donor solvents
- 6) AIBN can decarboxylate aromatic acids

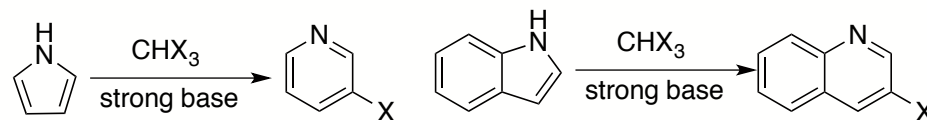
Wohl-Ziegler Bromination



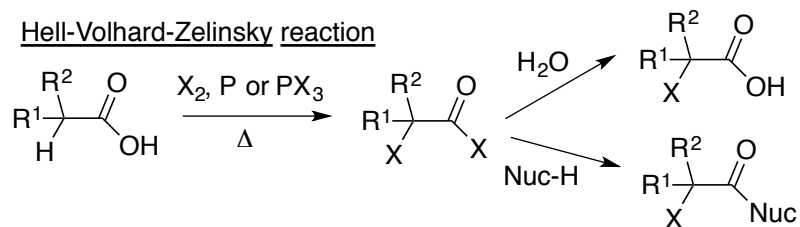
Balz-Schiemann Reaction



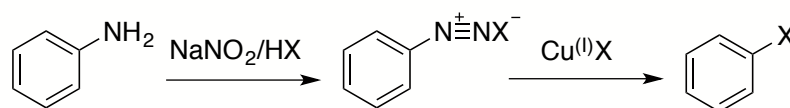
Ciamician-Dennstedt Rearrangement



Hell-Volhard-Zelinsky reaction



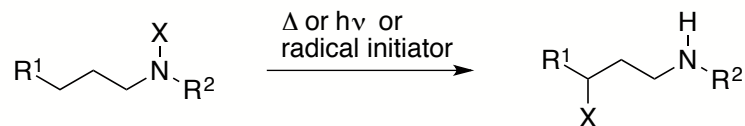
Sandmeyer Reaction



<sup>15</sup>Czako B., Kurti, L. *Strategic Applications of Named Reactions in Organic Synthesis*.

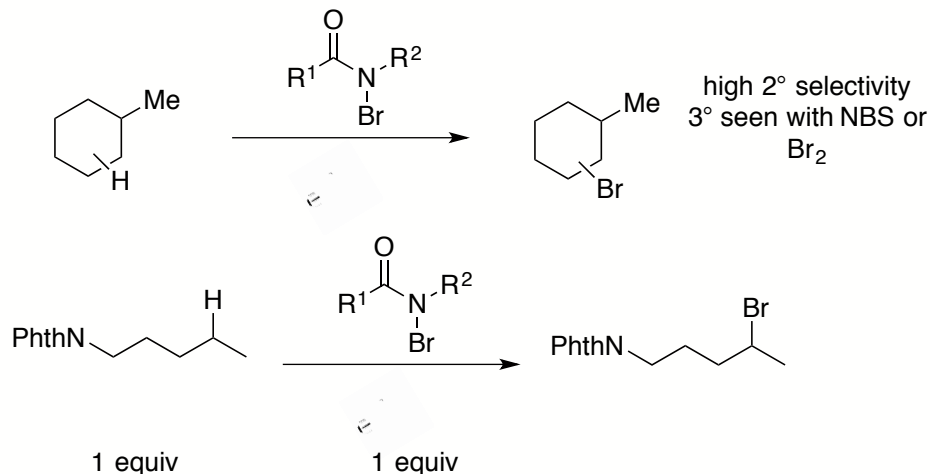
C-H aliphatic Bromination

Hofmann-Löffler-Freytag Reaction

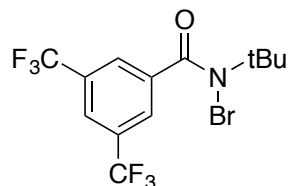


Nitrogen-centered radical to do site-selective, intramolecular C-H functionalizations

Erik Alexanian, JACS 2014<sup>16</sup>



-Reactions run with a 100 W household lightbulb.  
-Run under Ar; however, little decrease in yield when run under air  
-no dihalogenation observed (electronic deactivation of bromoalkane pdt)

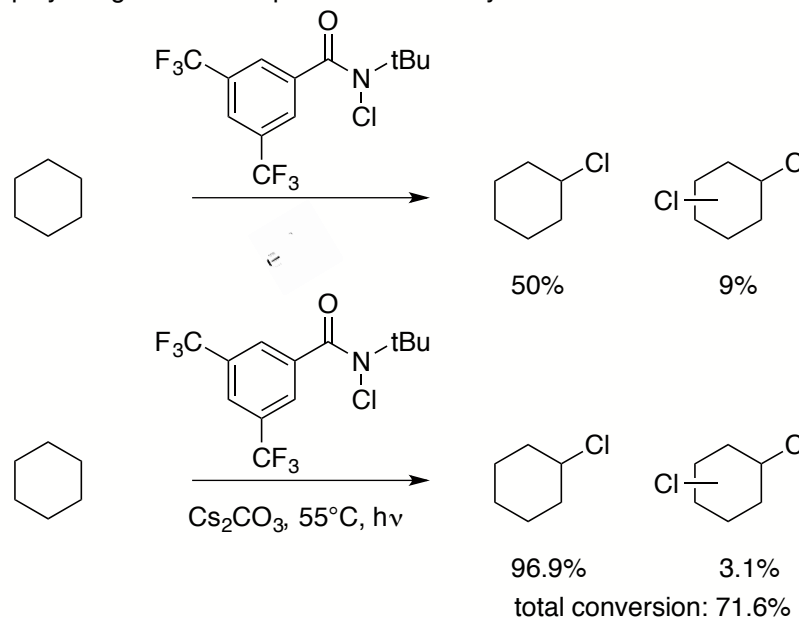


provided the highest yields (75%, 98.5% selective for 2° > 3° bromination). Favors tertiary bromination with adamantane. In other cases though, highest selectivity for methylene yet reported.

C-H aliphatic Chlorination

Vanderwal and Alexanian, JACS 2015<sup>17</sup>

Chlorine free radicals are far more promiscuous than bromine. Bromine is often site-selective for the weakest C-H bond while chlorine undergoes polyhalogenation and poor site selectivity.



Substrate	% selectivity of chlorination					total yield (%)
	α	β	γ	δ	ε	
	EWG—CH <sub>2</sub> —CH <sub>2</sub> —CH <sub>2</sub> —CH <sub>2</sub> —CH <sub>2</sub>					
1. PhthN—	-	-	4.9	81.2	13.9	80
2. NC—	-	-	15.0	65.9	19.1	79
3. Cl—	9.2	5.7	15.3	56.9	12.9	74
4. —			23.9	65.5	7.5	70

<sup>16</sup>Alexanian, E.J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 14389-14392

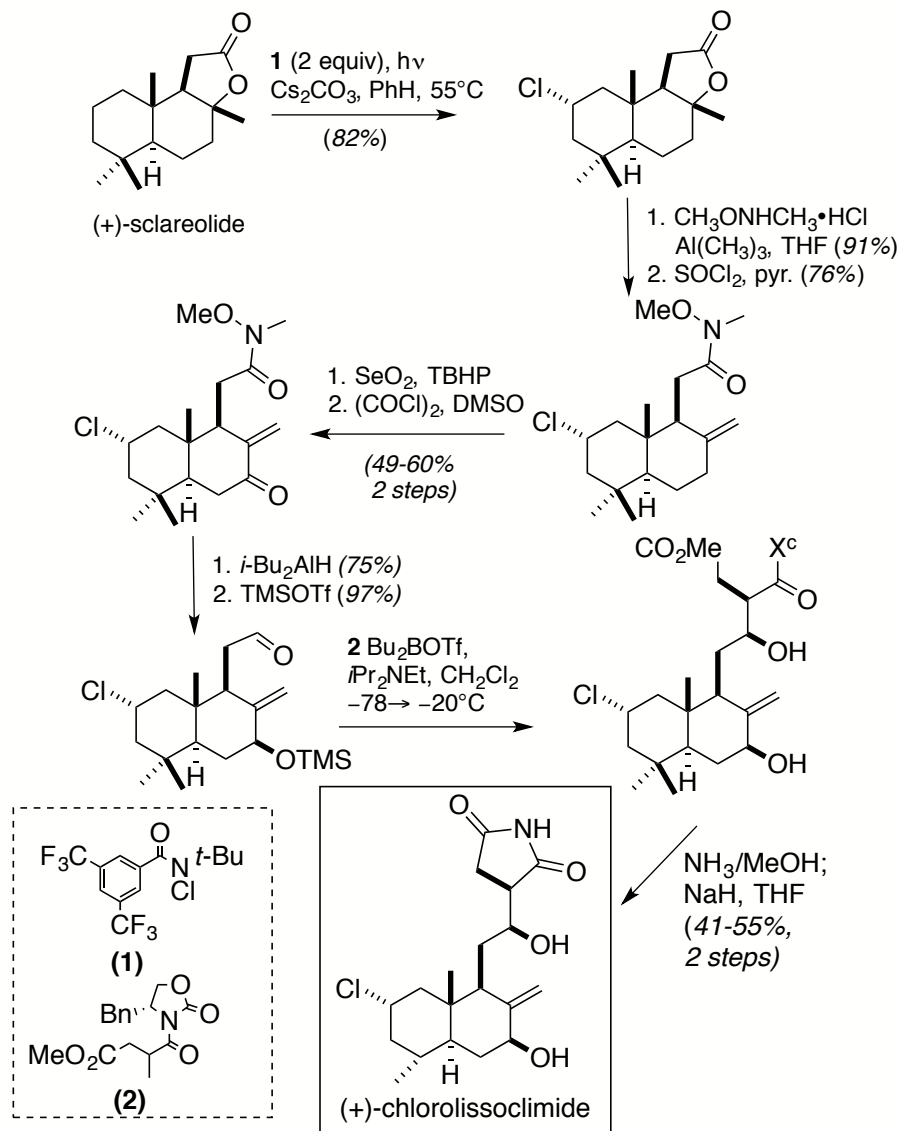
<sup>17</sup>Alexanian, E.J. and Vanderwal, C.D. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 696-702



Vanderwal and Alexanian, JACS 2015 (cont.)

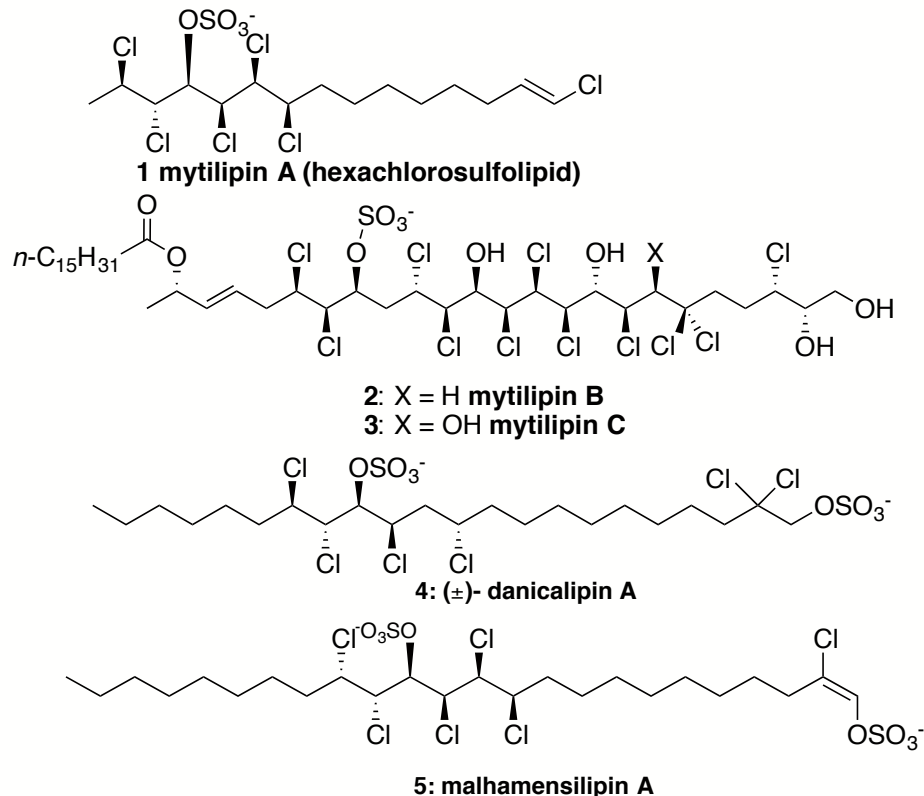
entry	major chlorination product	% select.	Total yield (%)	sites of minor chlorination (% selectively)
1.		63.6	69	$\beta=2.4$ ; $\gamma=7.5$ ; $\epsilon=26.5$
2.		77.5	66	$\epsilon=26.5$
3.		67.9	81	$\gamma=14.9$ ; $\epsilon=17.2$
4.		74.0	78	$\alpha=6.5$ ; $\epsilon=18.9$
5.		100	65	

Application in synthesis of (+)-Chlorolissoclimide



Molecule significance:

- 1) allow for confirmation of stereochemistry
- 2) One has been found to be a protein kinase inhibitor (no given IC data)
- 3) Synthetic challenge
- 4) "electronically distinct isosteres of polyketide natural products." polyketides are pharmaceutically relevant so maybe these are too...?



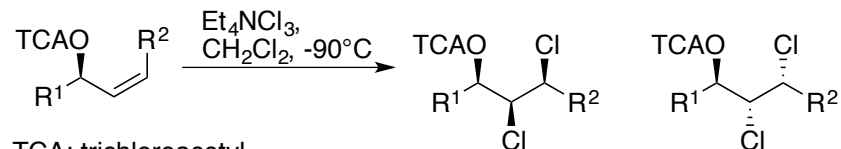
Studies into the biosynthesis reveal that the hydrocarbon chain is constructed via the normal fatty acid biosynthetic pathway and subsequently functionalized with the polar substituents. The biosynthesis of the chlorination is unknown. The chlorides reside on unactivated carbons, so it is unlikely to be electrophilic sources of halogen. Less chlorinated lipids were resubjected to culture media containing chlorine sources and were further chlorinated.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Bedke, D.K. and Vanderwal, C.D. *Nat. Prod. Rep.*, **2011**, *28*, 15-25.

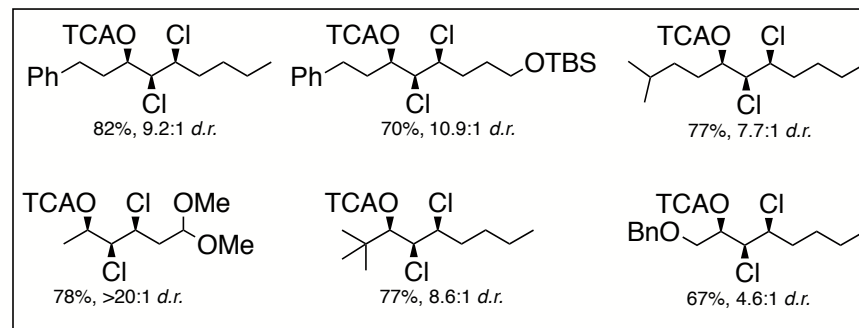
<sup>19</sup> Vanderwal C.D. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2008**, *130*, 12514-12518 <sup>20</sup>Denmark, S.E. et al. *Nat. Chem.*, **2015**, *7*, 146-152.

Methodologies

Vanderwal, JACS 2008<sup>19</sup> Anti-dichlorination using Mioskowski reagent

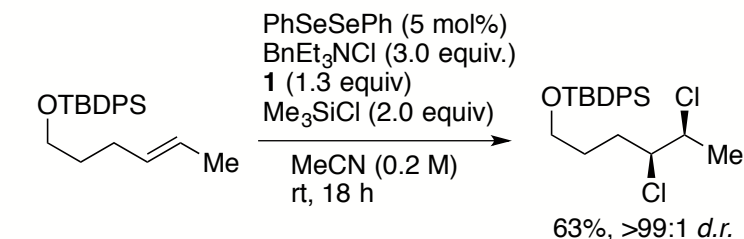


TCA: trichloroacetyl

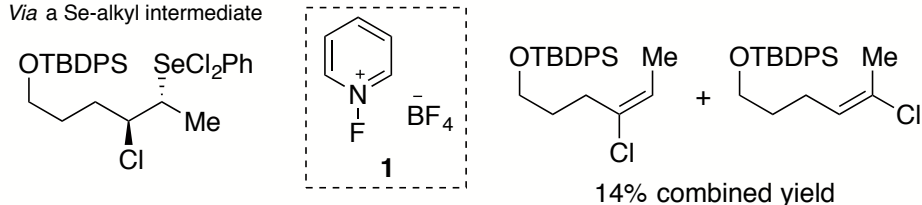


Yields refer to isolated yield. Diastereometric ratios determined by integration using <sup>1</sup>H NMR

Denmark, Nature Chemistry 2015<sup>20</sup> Syn-dichlorination

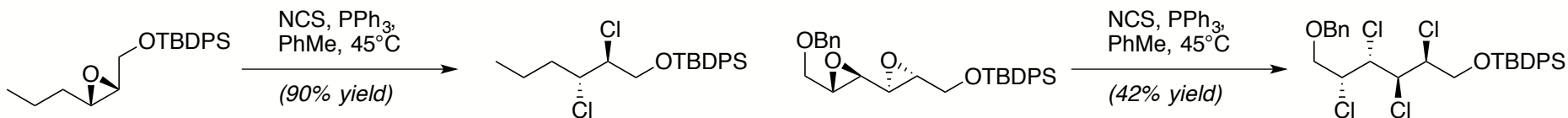


Via a Se-alkyl intermediate



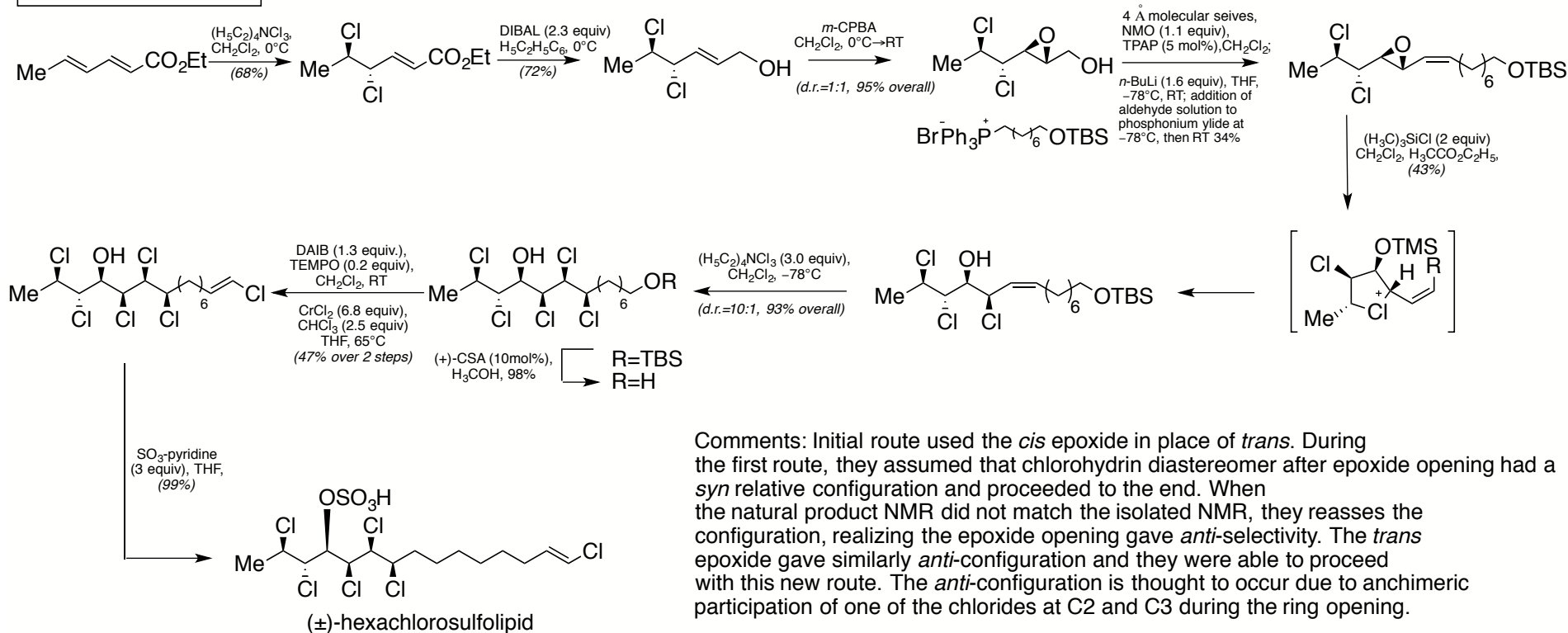
Yoshimitsu, JOC 2009<sup>21</sup>

Deoxydichlorination of epoxides



Total Synthesis of mytilipin A (hexachlorosulfolipid)

Carriera, Nature 2009<sup>22</sup>

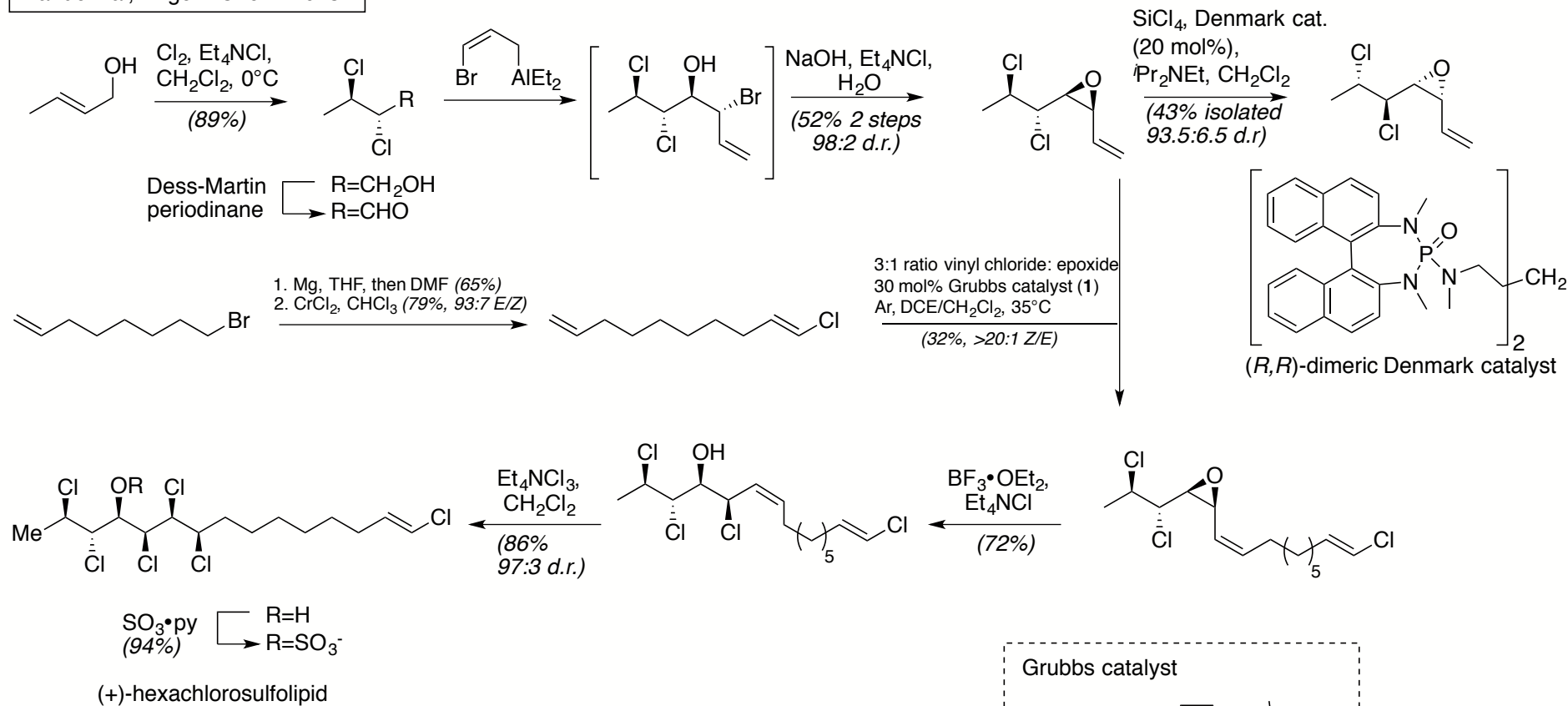


TPAP=tetra-*n*-propylammonium perruthenate(VII)

<sup>21</sup> Yoshimitsu, T. et al. *J. Org. Chem.*, **2009**, *74*, 696-702

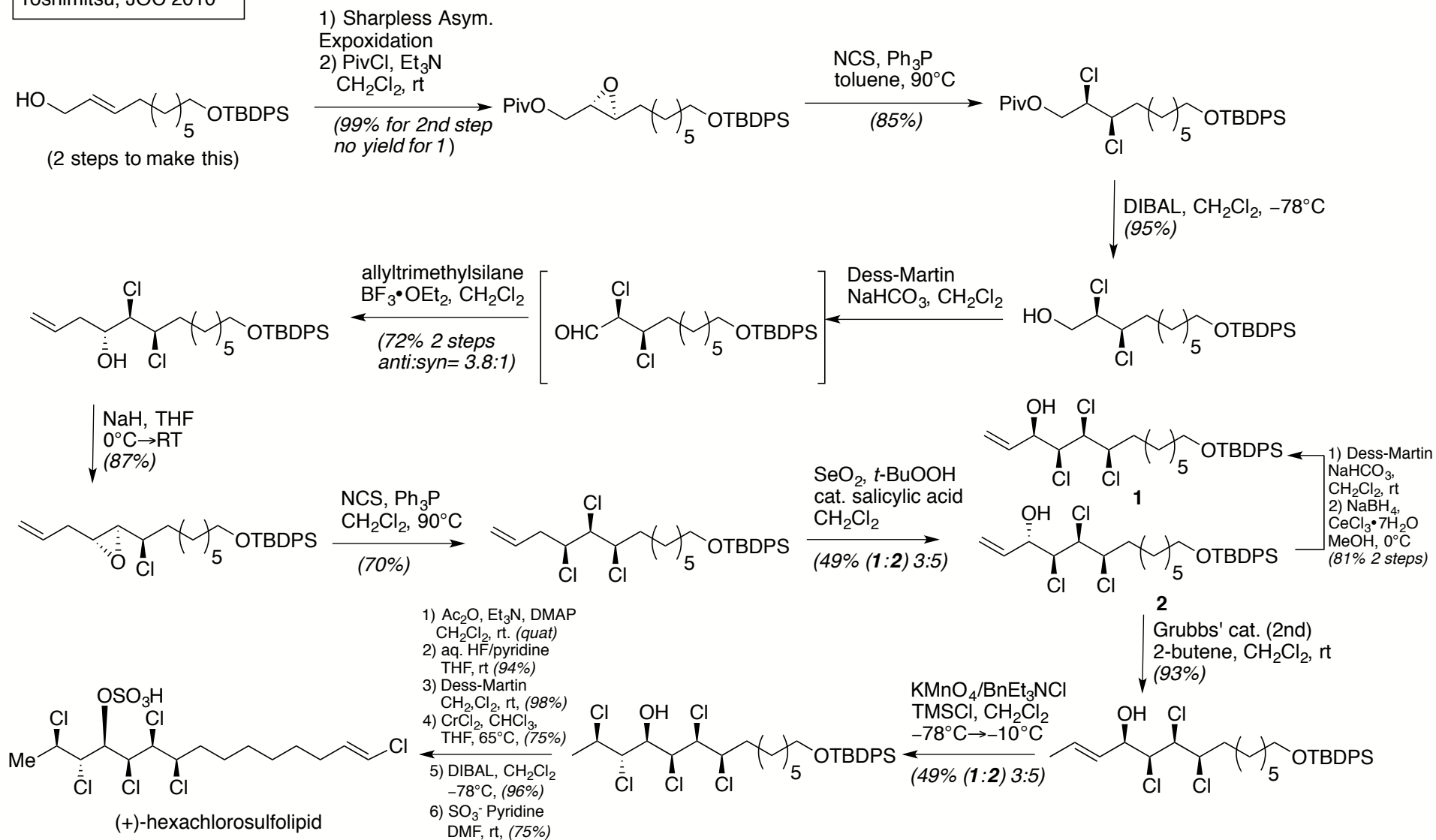
<sup>22</sup> Carreira, E.M. et al. *Nature*, **2009**, *457*, 573-576

Vanderwal, Angew. Chem. 2013<sup>23</sup>



Comments: longest linear is 7 steps, overall 9% yield, prepared over 100 mg. Enantioselective synthesis is 8 steps longest linear ((+)-mytilipin A after kinetic resolution).

Yoshimitsu, JOC 2010<sup>24</sup>

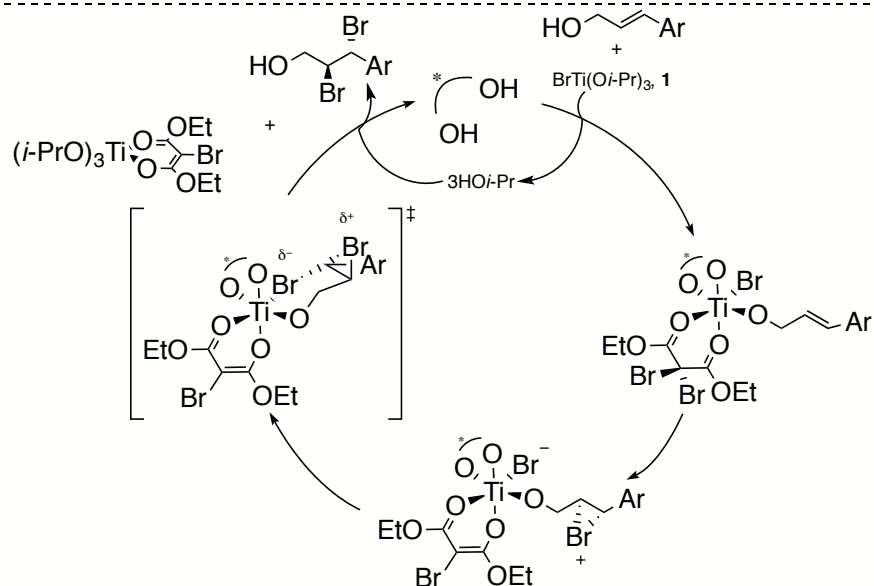
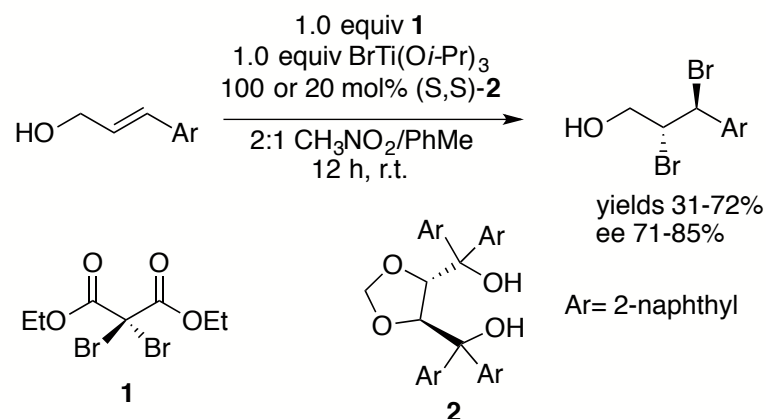


Burns, JACS 2013<sup>25</sup>

Dibromination

Problems with dibromination:

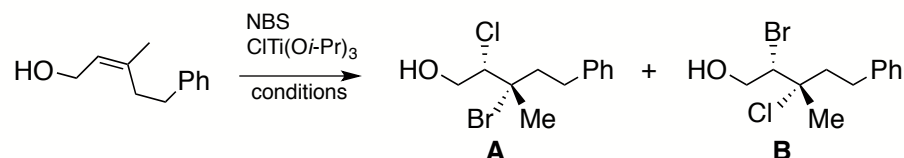
- 1) racemization of chiral bromonium ions in the presence of alkenes (Denmark)
- 2) Regioselectivity during bromide addition for stereocontrol of the product.



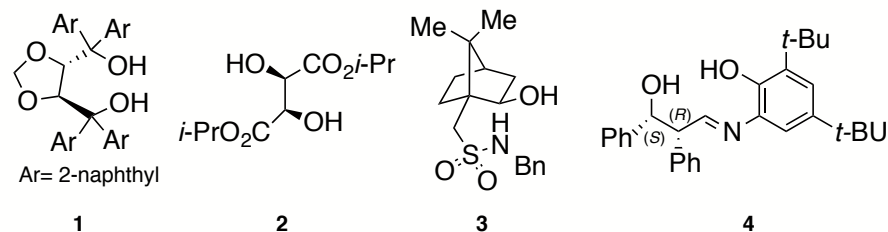
Burns, JACS 2015<sup>26</sup>

Dihalogenation

First general method for the enantio- and regioselective addition of two different halogen atoms across alkene



Entry	conditions	yield A + B	A:B	ee A,B (%)
1	Pyr•HCl instead of $\text{CITi}(\text{O}i\text{-Pr})_3$ , $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	80	1:4	–
2	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	85	1:2	–
3	50 mol % <b>1</b> , $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	88	1:2	6,8
4	50 mol % <b>2</b> , $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	73	1:2	12,6
5	50 mol % <b>3</b> , $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	89	1:1	17,0
6	50 mol % <b>4</b> , $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t.	67	1:1	63,6
7	50 mol % <b>4</b> , hexanes, r.t.	70	8:1	94,52
8	50 mol % <b>4</b> , hexanes, $-20^\circ\text{C}$	80	>20:1	98,–
9	10 mol % <b>4</b> , hexanes, $-20^\circ\text{C}$	88	>20:1	94,–



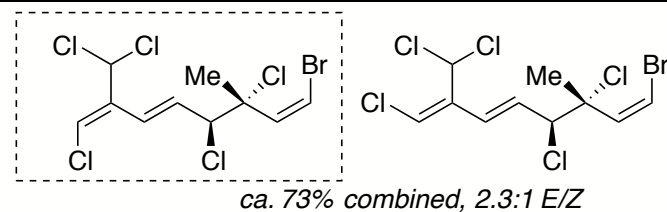
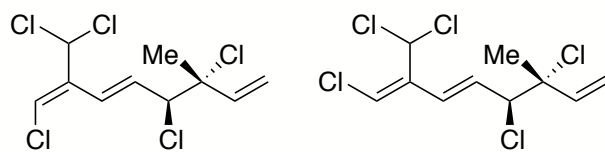
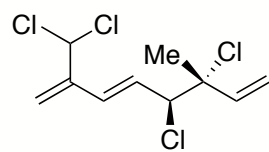
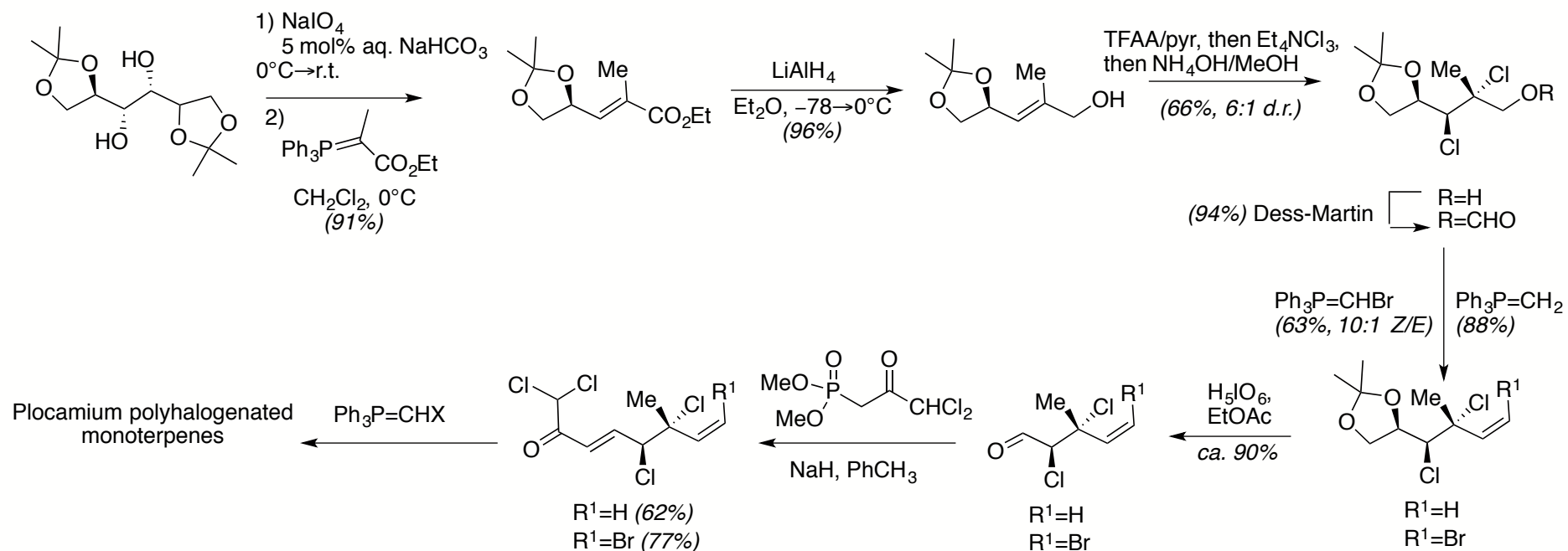
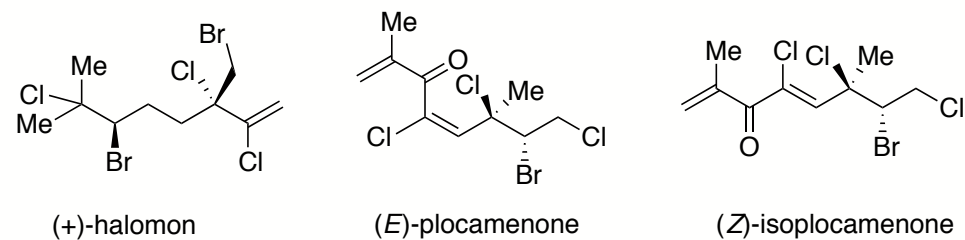
<sup>25</sup>Burns, N.Z., et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2013**, *135*, 12960-12963

<sup>26</sup>Burns, N.Z., et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2015**, *137*, 3795-3798



Vanderwal, Angew 2014<sup>27</sup>

*Plocamium*, a species of red algae, is a prolific source of halogenated monoterpenes, both cyclic and acyclic. Halomon shows cytotoxicity against chemotherapy-resistant cell lines (renal, brain, colon, non-small-cell lung). Overall, the family seems promising for their cytotoxic potential.



Burns, JACS 2015<sup>28</sup> (-)-Plocamenone and (-)-Isoplocamenone

