

**Synthetic Year in Review: JACS  
1977**



## Most cited papers

ALLINGER NL

[CONFORMATIONAL-ANALYSIS .130. MM2 - HYDROCARBON FORCE-FIELD UTILIZING V1 AND V2 TORSIONAL TERMS](#)Times Cited: [3300](#)

DEWAR MJS, THIEL W

[GROUND-STATES OF MOLECULES .39. MNDO RESULTS FOR MOLECULES CONTAINING HYDROGEN, CARBON, NITROGEN, AND OXYGEN](#)Times Cited: [2093](#)

KALYANASUNDARAM K, THOMAS JK

[ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS ON VIBRONIC BAND INTENSITIES IN PYRENE MONOMER FLUORESCENCE AND THEIR APPLICATION IN STUDIES OF MICELLAR SYSTEMS](#)Times Cited: [1506](#)

KAMLET MJ, ABBOD JL, TAFT RW

[SOLVATOCHROMIC COMPARISON METHOD .6. PI-STAR SCALE OF SOLVENT POLARITIES](#)Times Cited: [759](#)

OLMSTEAD WN, BRAUMAN JI

[GAS-PHASE NUCLEOPHILIC DISPLACEMENT-REACTIONS](#)Times Cited: [646](#)

VINEYARD BD, KNOWLES WS, SABACKY MJ, et al.

[ASYMMETRIC HYDROGENATION - RHODIUM CHIRAL BISPHTHOSPHINE CATALYST](#)Times Cited: [530](#)

FRYZUK MD, BOSNICH B

[ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESIS - PRODUCTION OF OPTICALLY-ACTIVE AMINO-ACIDS BY CATALYTIC-HYDROGENATION](#)Times Cited: [502](#)

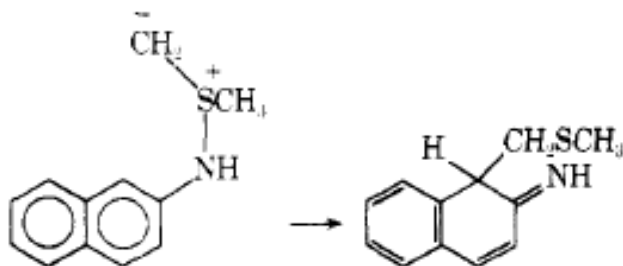
## Most Prolific Authors:

DEWAR, MJS (19)	HEHRE, WJ (11)
PAQUETTE, LA (18)	OLAH, GA (11)
BROWN, HC (14)	TAFT, RW (11)
COTTON, FA (13)	IBERS, JA (10)
BRUCE, TC (11)	TROST, BM (10)
CLARDY, J (11)	BERGMAN, RG (8)

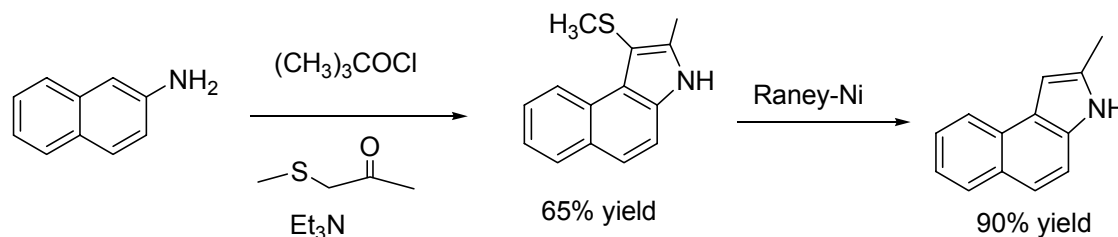


## Methodology

### Gassmann – 2, 3 sigmatropic rearrangement

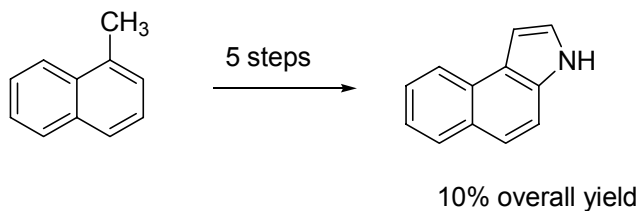


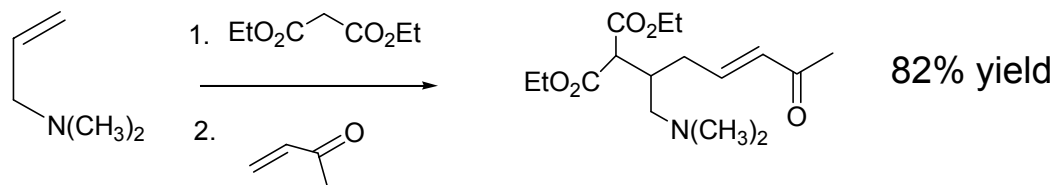
efficient way to make  
polycyclic aromatic indoles



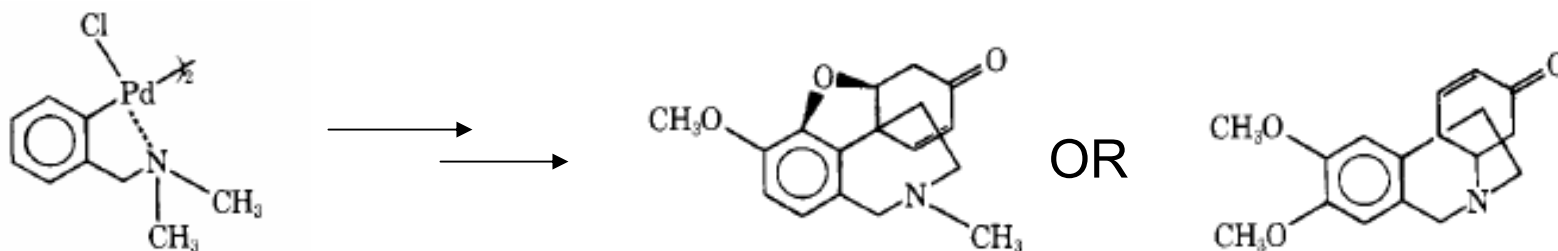
59% overall yield

Compare to:

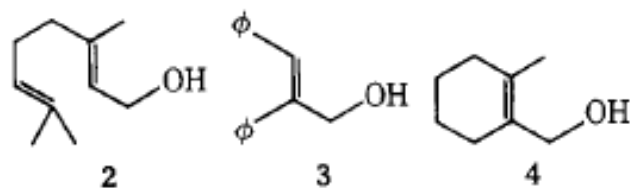


**Holton – Regiospecific Palladation (2 papers – pp.4175-4179)**

selective beta addition of carbon nucleophiles to  
allylic amines and allylic sulfides

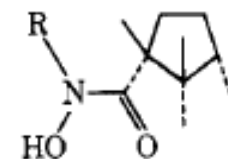
**Selective ortho aromatic coupling**

## Sharpless epoxidation


 $\text{VO}(\text{acac})_2$  (1 mol%)

 $t\text{BuOOH}$ 

epoxide


**1a**, R = CH<sub>3</sub>
**1b**, R = Ph

**1c**, R = 2,6-Me<sub>2</sub>Ph

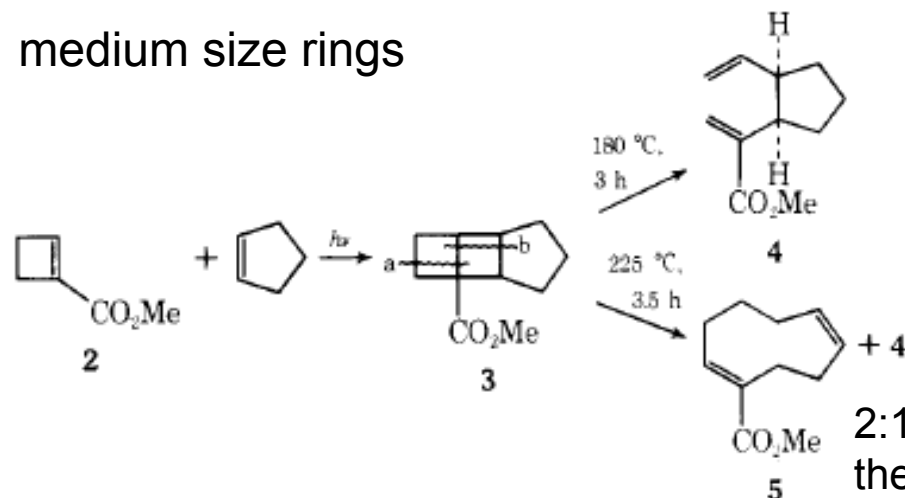
Hydroxamic acid (equiv) <sup>b</sup>	Allylic alcohol	°C	% ee <sup>c</sup>	% conversion <sup>d</sup>
1 <b>1a</b> (5)	2	-78 → 25	17	83
2 <b>1a</b> (3)	3	-78 → 25	10	100
3 <b>1a</b> (5)	3	-78 → 25	21	80
4 <b>1a</b> (10)	3	-78 → 25	18	22
5 <b>1b</b> (4)	2	-78 → 25	19	100
6 <b>1b</b> (4)	2	25	17.5	100
7 <b>1b</b> (5)	2	25	30	86
8 <b>1b</b> (5)	2	-78	—	0
9 <b>1b</b> (7)	2	-78 → 25	10	10
10 <b>1b</b> (1)	3	-78 → 25	<8	100
11 <b>1b</b> (2)	3	-78 → 25	8	100
12 <b>1b</b> (3)	3	-78 → 25	22.5	100
13 <b>1b</b> (5)	3	-78 → 25	50	30
14 <b>1b</b> (5)	3	25	40	84
15 <b>1b</b> (5)	4	25	40	87
16 <b>1b</b> (5)	4	-10	44	75
17 <b>1c</b> (3)	2	0	5	70
18 <b>1c</b> (4)	2	0	19	55
19 <b>1c</b> (5)	2	0	—	0



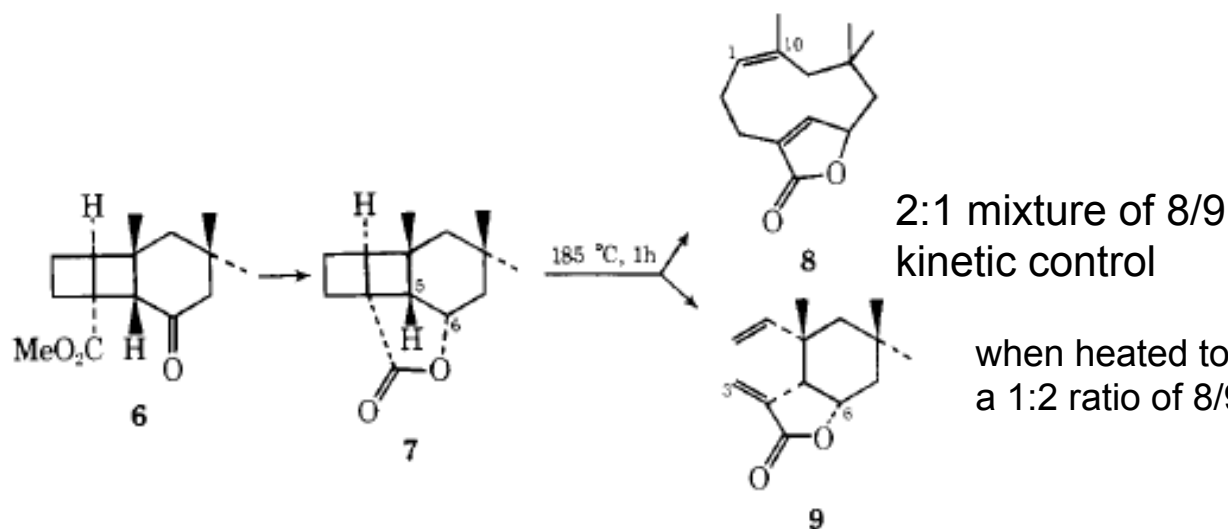
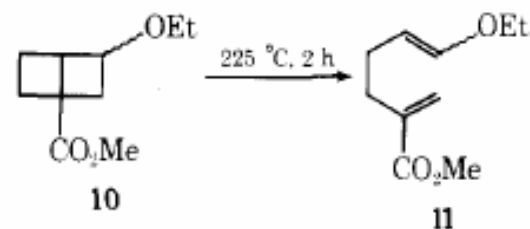
## Wender – Preparation of 1,5 dienes

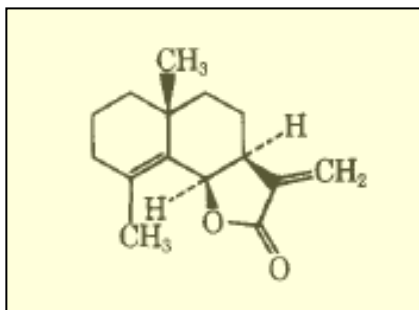
Key Point: interesting thermal cleavage followed by Cope rearrangement

medium size rings

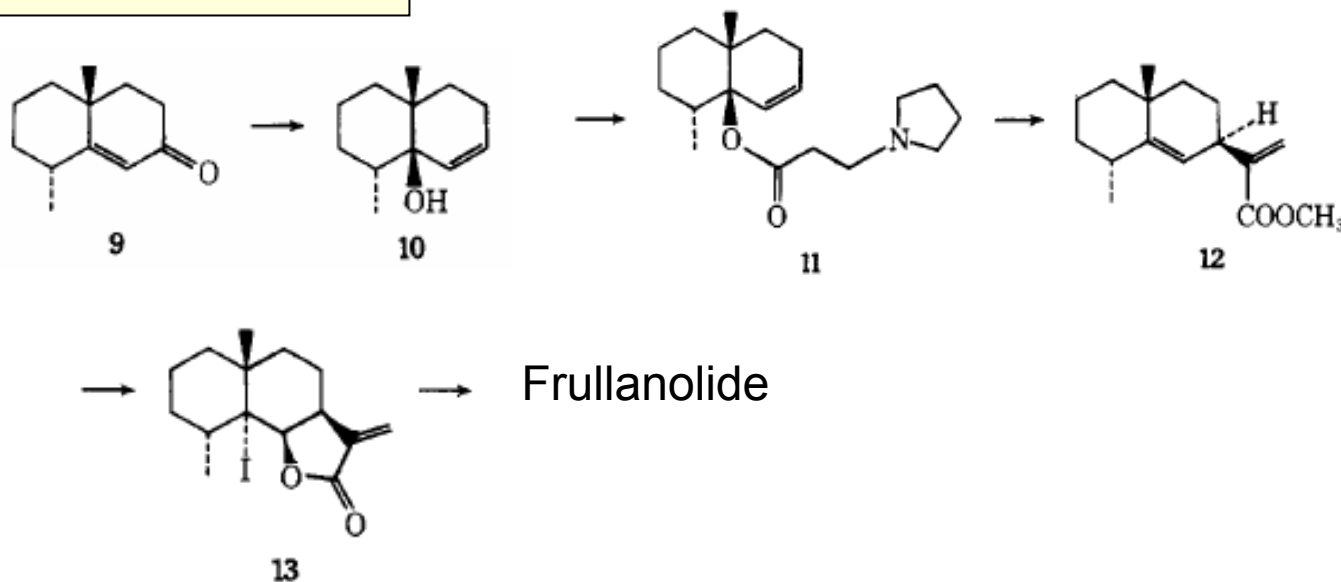


acyclic dienes

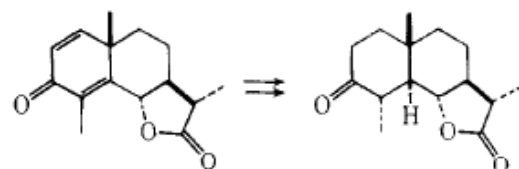


**Still - Frullanolide**

Key point:  
Claisen rearrangement to install  
tertiary stereocenter



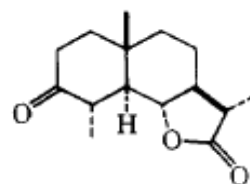
## Grieco – Costunolide (p. 1717)



2 steps  
-hydrogenation  
-epimerization

santonin 5

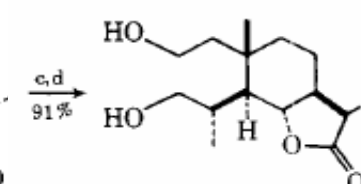
6



6

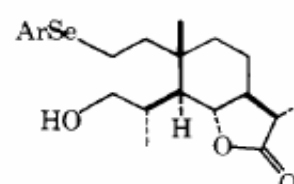
7

a,b  
65%



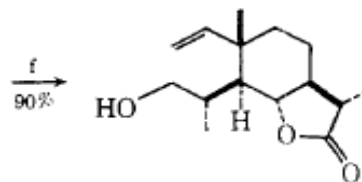
8

c,d  
91%



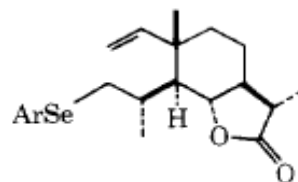
9

e  
89%



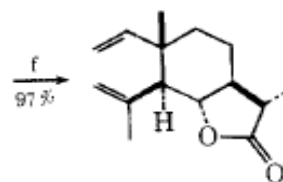
10

f  
90%



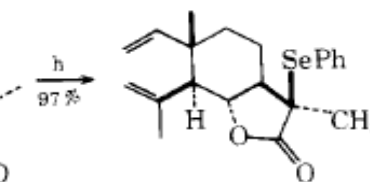
11

g  
81%



3

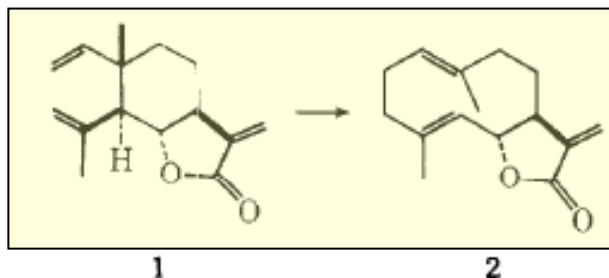
f  
97%



12

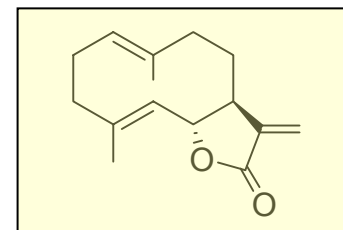
h  
97%

12



1

2



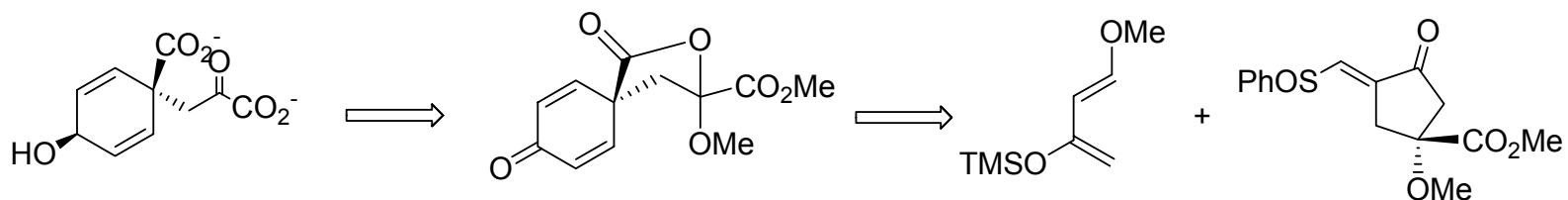
(+)-costunolide

Key Points:

- asymmetric synthesis starting from santonin
- Cope rearrangement

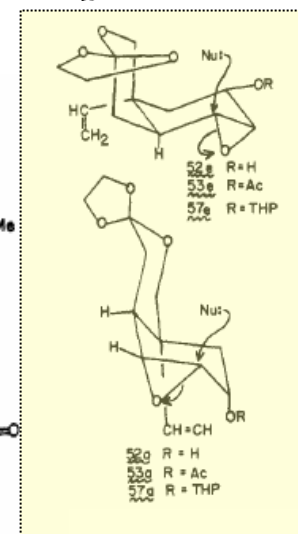
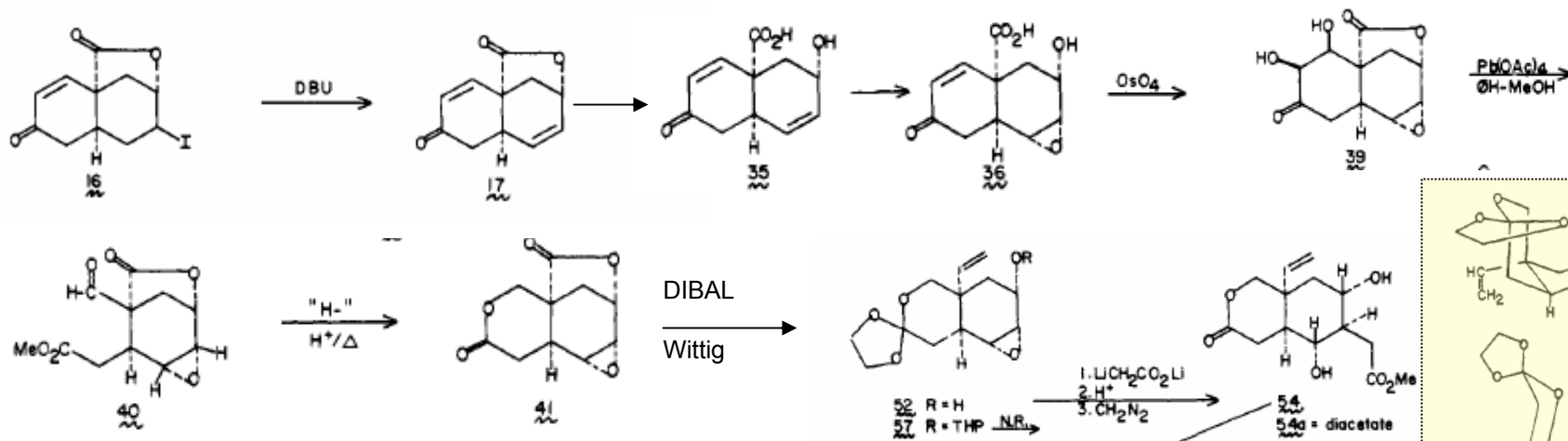
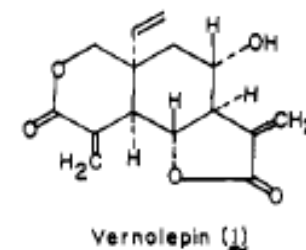


## Danishefsky - Prephenate



key point:  
use of Danishefsky  
diene to access quaternary center

## Danishefsky – Vernolepin (p. 6066)

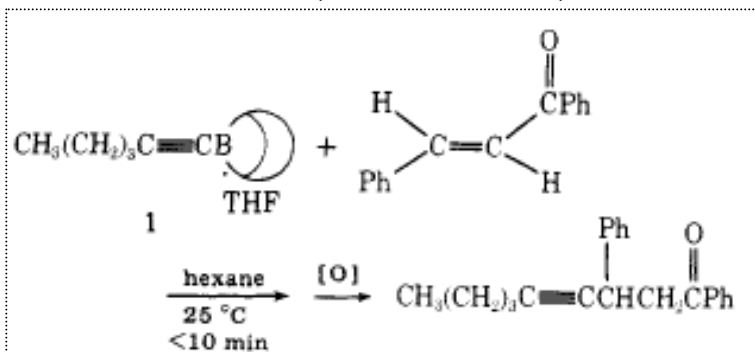


## key points:

1. use of Diels-Alder to access decalin system
2. directed epoxidation
3. conformationally directed epoxide opening
4.  $\alpha$ -methylenation with Eschenmoser's salt



## Brown, Molander, Sinclair – conjugate addition of boranes (p. 954)



$\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCOCH}_3$  (4)      10 min      96

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CHCOCH}_3$  (5)      1 h      100

$(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CH}=\text{CHCOCH}_3$  (6)      5 days      70

 (7)      10 min      70

 (8)      3 days      0<sup>d</sup>

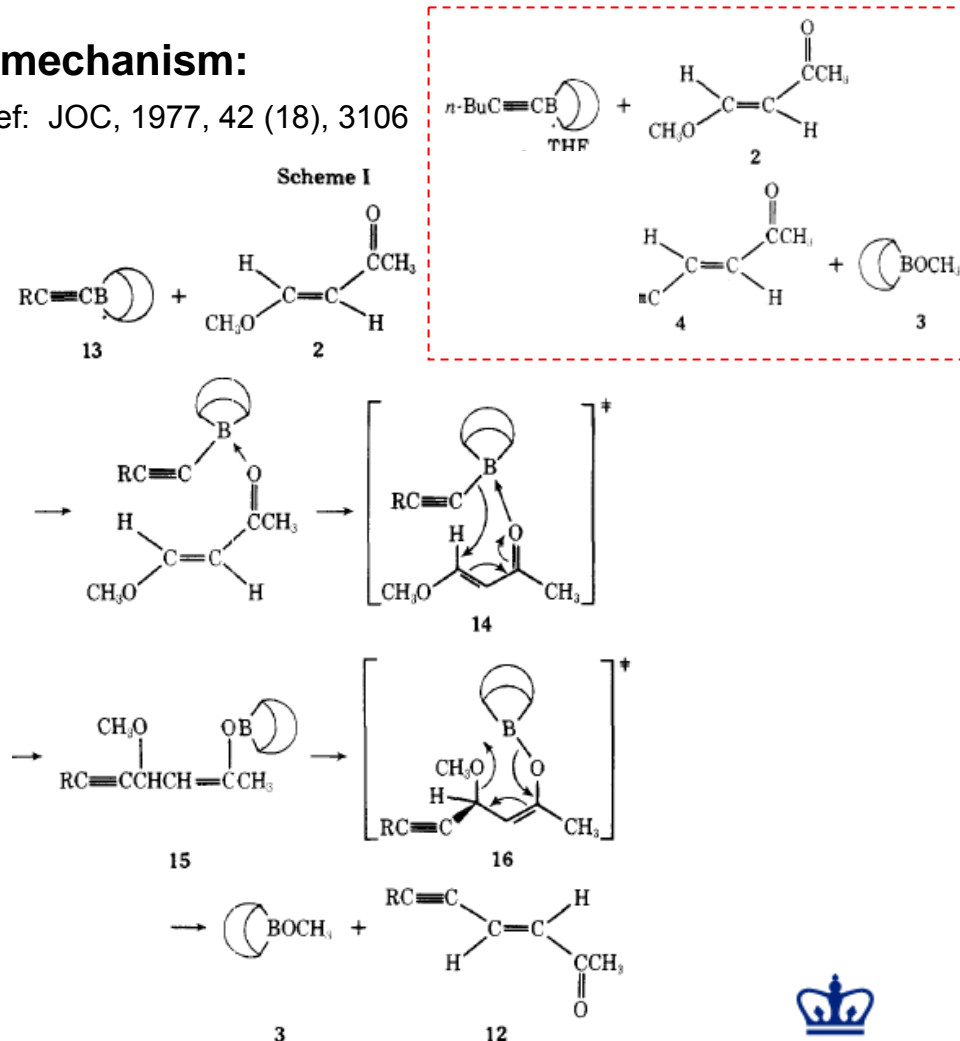
 (9)      3 days      0<sup>d</sup>

**Key point: stereospecific conjugate addition of boranes**

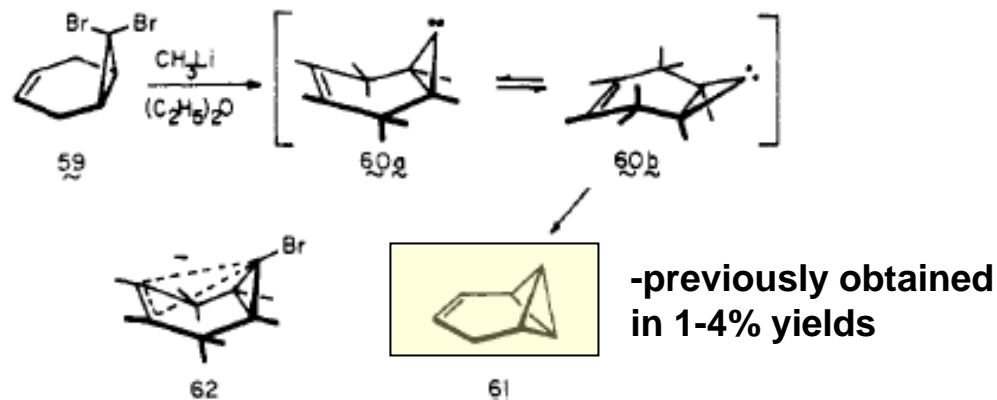
**Note: Brown retired in 1978 and won the Nobel Prize in 1979**

## mechanism:

ref: JOC, 1977, 42 (18), 3106

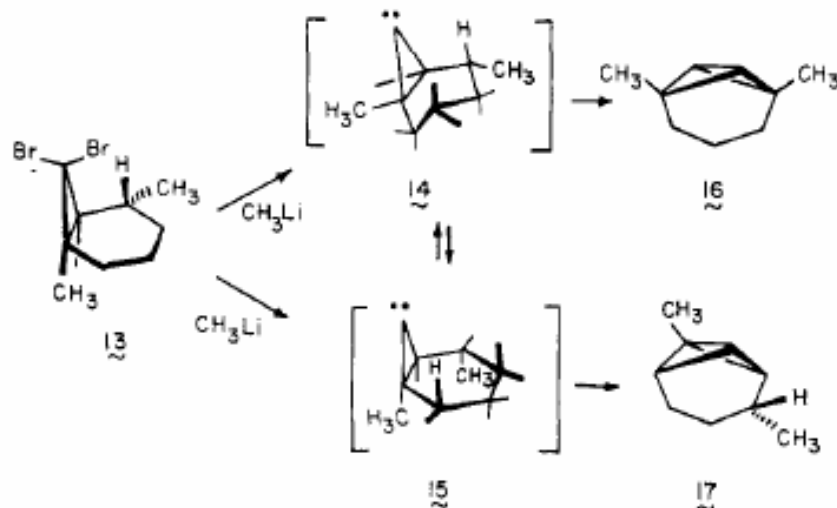
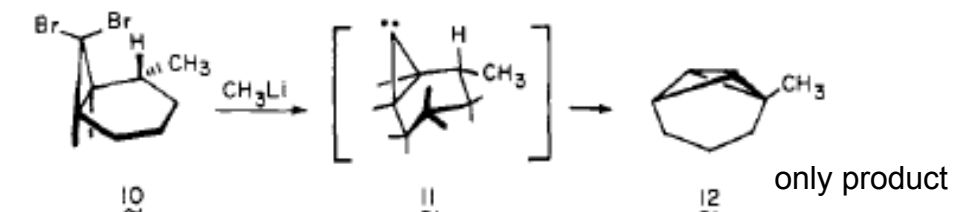
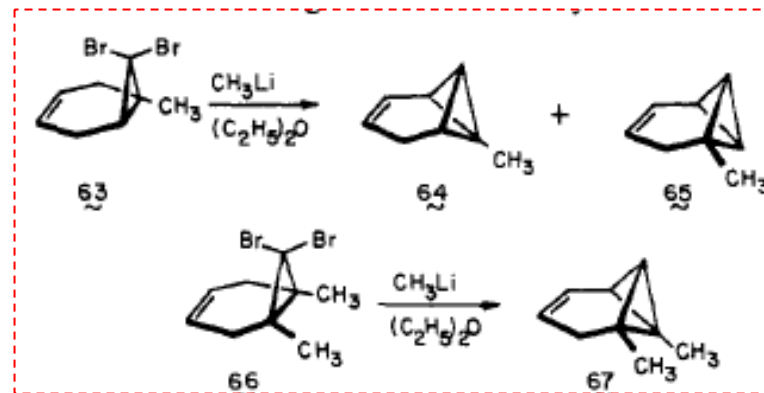


## Paquette – Strained hydrocarbons (p. 5709)

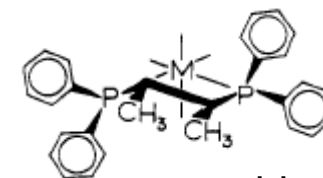


key points:

1. methyl group at bridging carbon allows access to tricyclo[4.1.0.0]hept-3-ene systems
2. observation of hyperconjugation effects???

9:1 ratio of  
16/17

## Bosnich - Asymmetric Hydrogenation (p. 6262)



chiraphos

Table I. Optical Yields (%)<sup>a</sup>

Amino acid	Substrate	Solvent		
		THF	EtOH	Other
Alanine		88	91	
Phenylalanine		99	95	
		74	89	
		83		
Leucine		100	93	
		87	72	88 (benzene)

Amino acid	Substrate	Solvent		
		THF	EtOH	Other
Tyrosine		92		84 (dioxane)
		80	88	91 (1:1, EtOH/H <sub>2</sub> O) 78 (MeOH)
		74	88	
DOPA		80	83	

quantitative conversion for all substrates

key points:

1. bidentate ligand to induce chirality in hydrogenation
2. very high "optical yields" of amino acids

