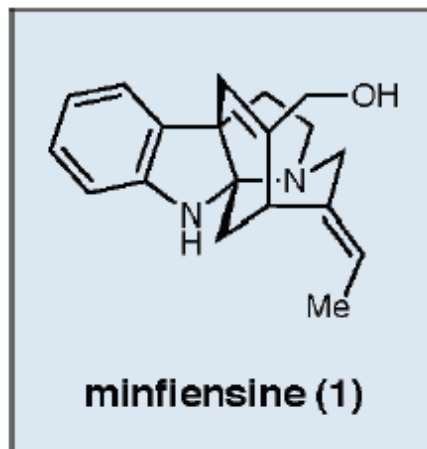


Nine-Step Enantioselective Total Synthesis of (+)-Minfiensine



Spencer B. Jones, Bryon Simmons, and David W. C. MacMillan*

Merck Center for Catalysis at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2009**, *131*, 13606–13607

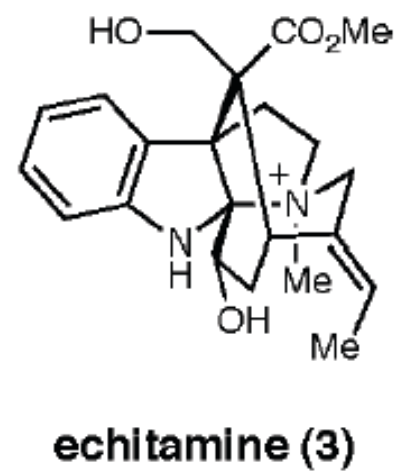
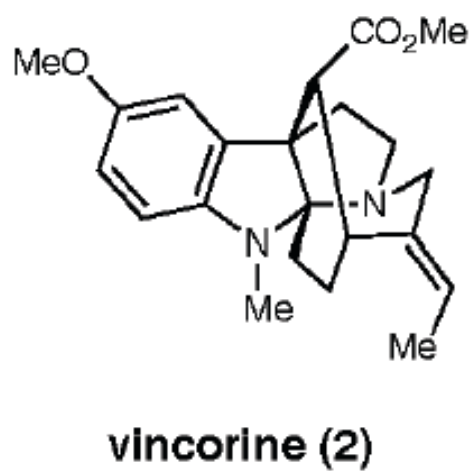
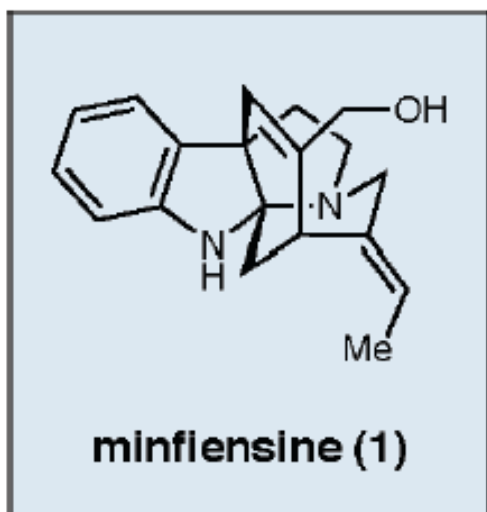
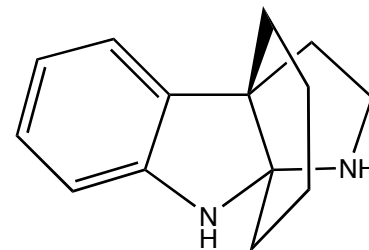
Anil Kumar Gupta

Literature Presentation

04/02/2010

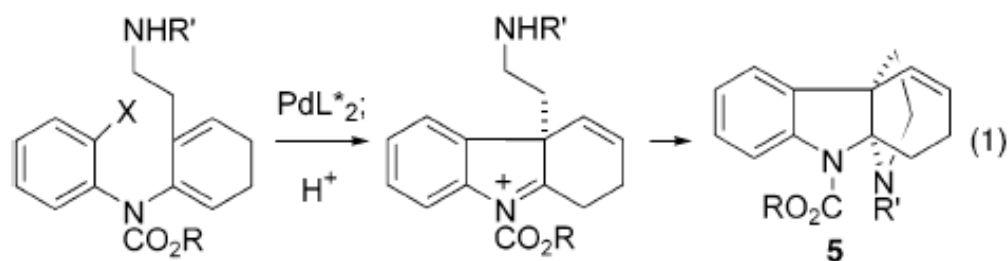
Isolation and Structural Features

- Isolation product from *Strychnos minfiensis*
- 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-9a,4a-(iminoethano)-9H-carbazole moiety
- A tetracyclic core



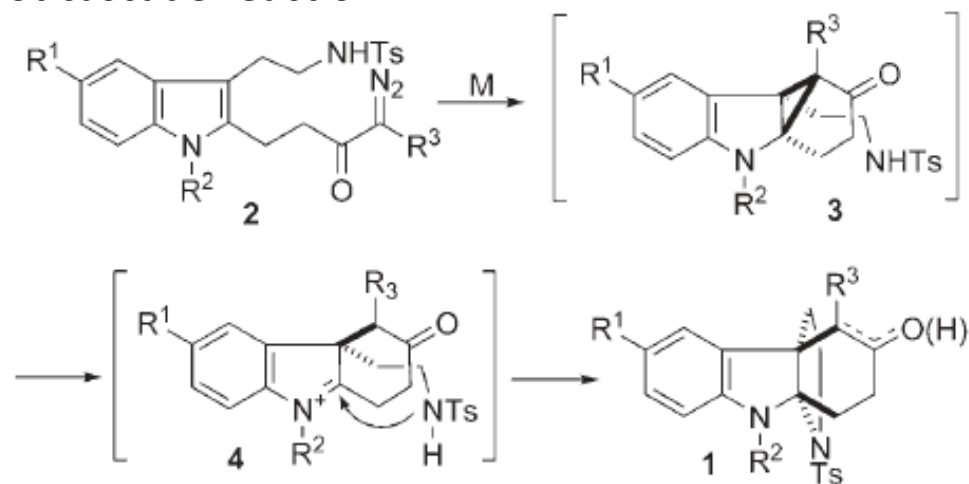
Previous Approaches

Asymmetric Heck-Iminium Ion Cyclization



Dounay, A. B.; Overman, L. E.; Wroblewski, A. D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 10186-10187.

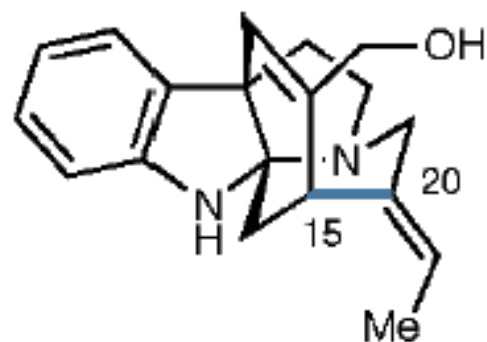
Three-step one-pot cascade reaction



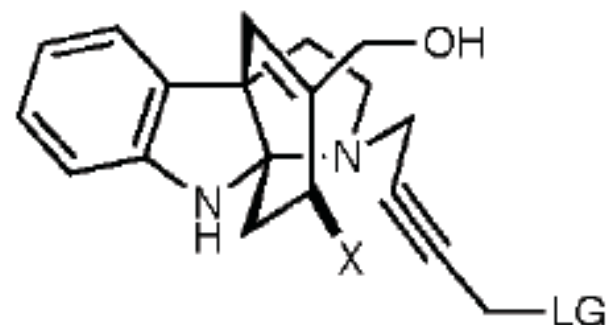
Scheme 1. Three-step one-pot cascade reaction for the assembly of tetracyclic skeleton **1**. Ts = *p*-toluenesulfonyl.

Shen, L.; Zhang, M.; Wu, Y.; Qin, Y. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 3618-3621.

Scheme 1. Retrosynthetic Approach to Minfiensine Pentacycle



(+)-minfiensine (1)



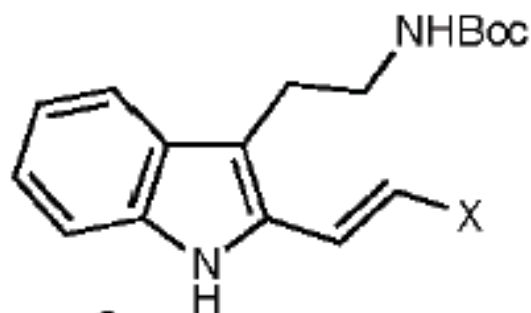
4



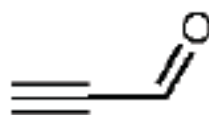
Radical Cyclization



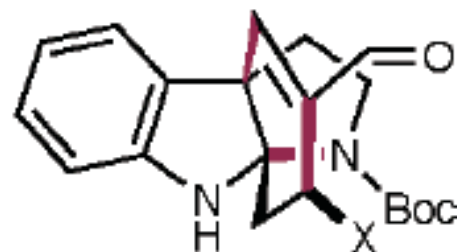
Organocat [4+2]-
Cyclization Cascade



6

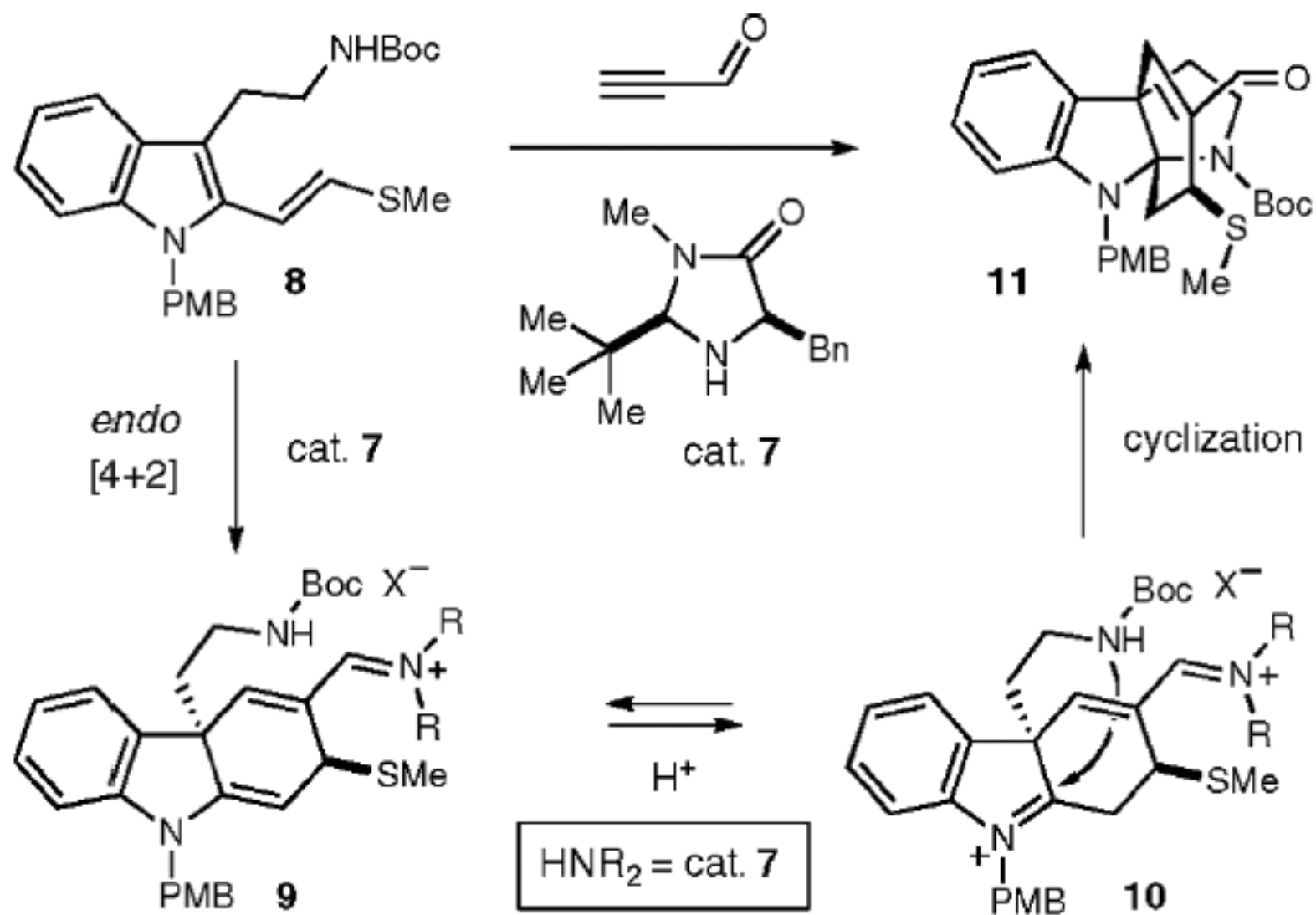


propynal



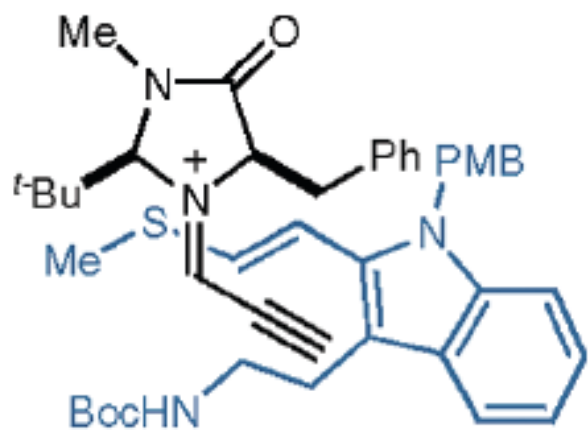
5

Scheme 2. Enantioselective Catalytic Cascade Sequence to Core



Proposed Transition State

(TS-A) Origins of enantiocontrol



endo
selective

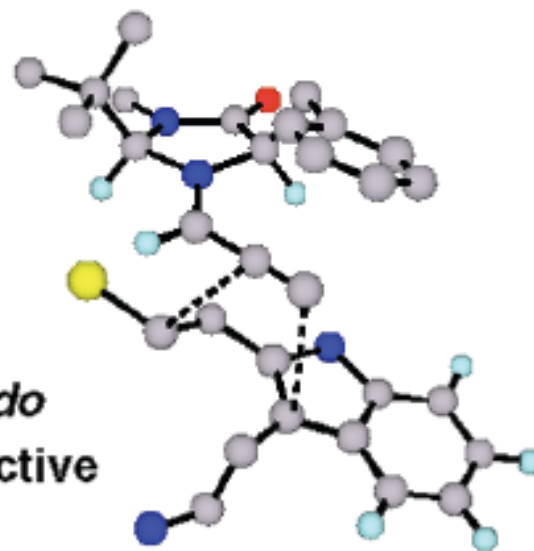
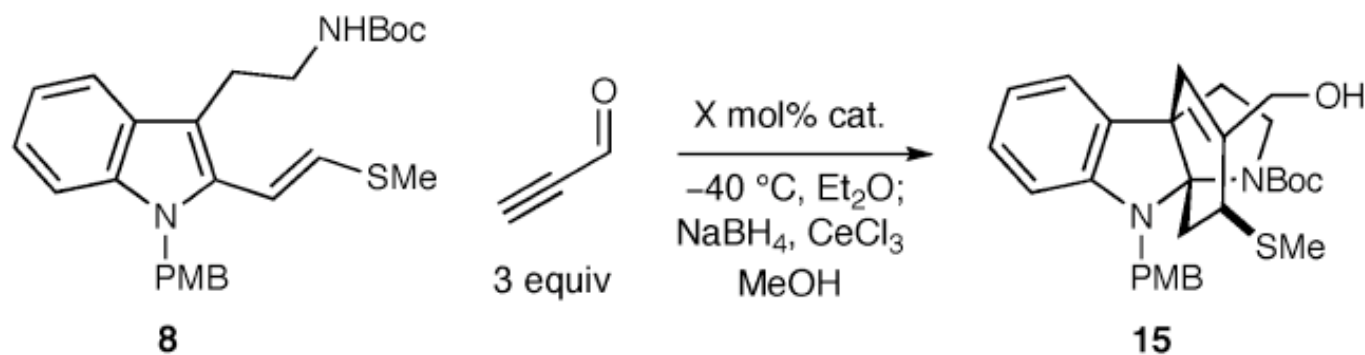
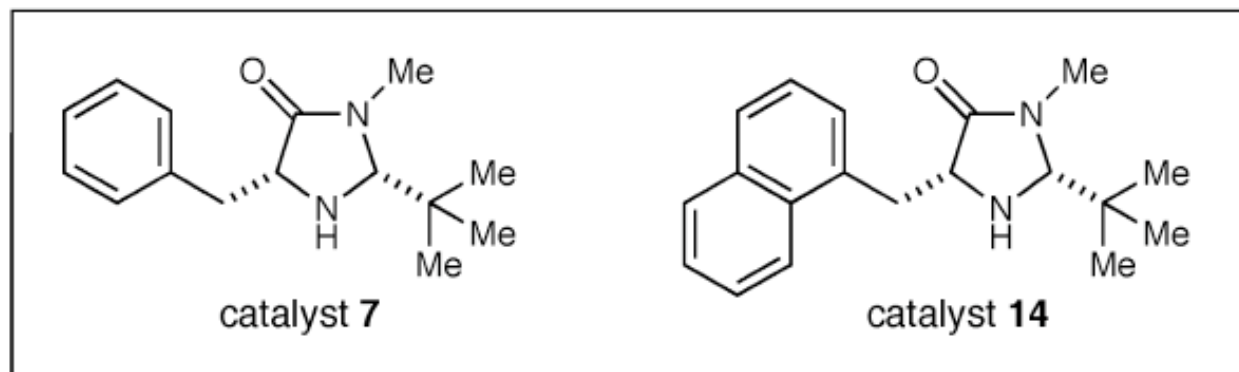


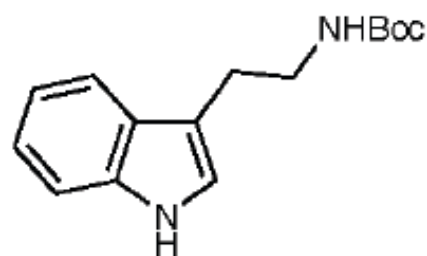
Table 1. Organocatalytic Diels–Alder–Cascade Cyclization Studies



entry	catalyst · HA	mol %	time (h)	% yield ^a	% ee ^b
1	7 · TFA	20	12	84	75
2	7 · TBA	20	12	81	88
3 ^c	14 · TBA	15	24	87 ^d	96
4	14 · TBA	10	48	83	94
5	14 · TBA	5	72	80	94

^a Yield determined by ¹H NMR with internal standard. ^b Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral SFC analysis. ^c At -50 °C. ^d Isolated yield.

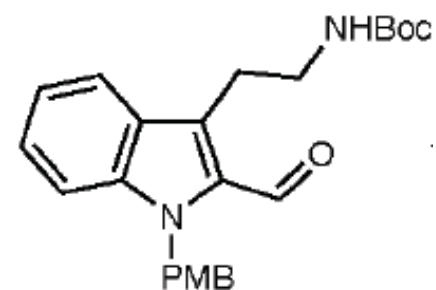
Forward Synthesis



(a) NaH, PMBCl, DMF, 0 °C

(b) *n*-BuLi, THF, -78 °C;
then DMF, -78 °C to rt.

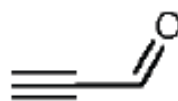
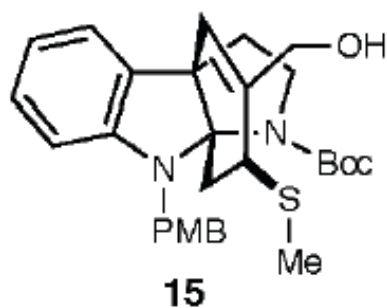
73%



(EtO)₂P(O)CH₂SMe

NaH, THF
0 °C to rt.

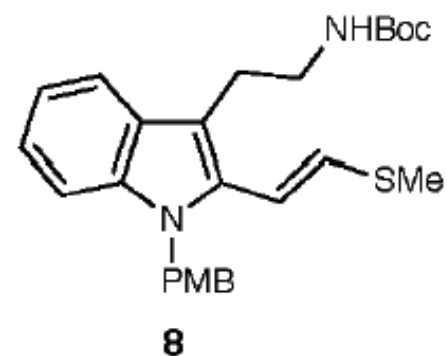
87%, 6:1 *E:Z*



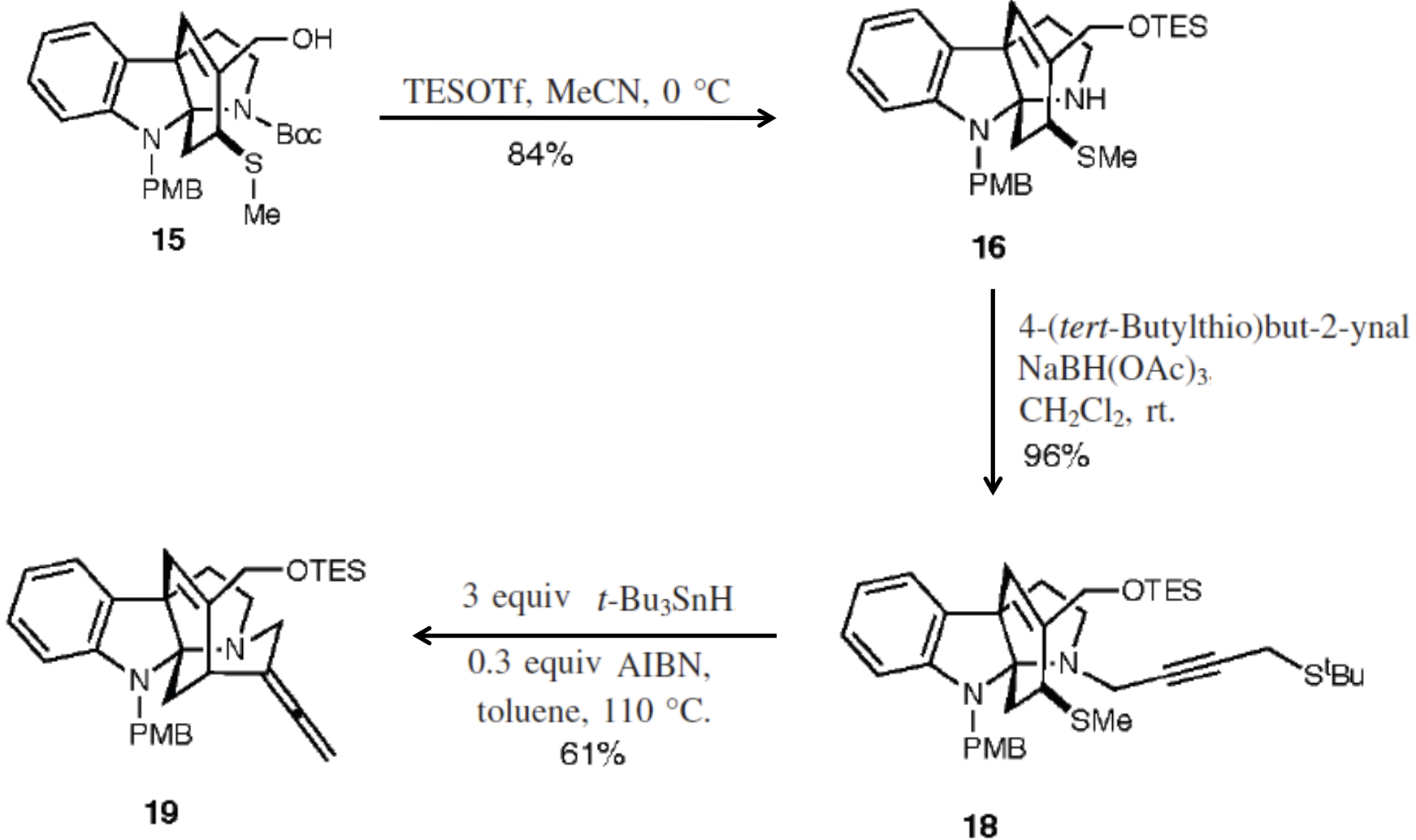
15 mol% cat **14**·TBA

-50 °C, Et₂O;
NaBH₄, CeCl₃
MeOH

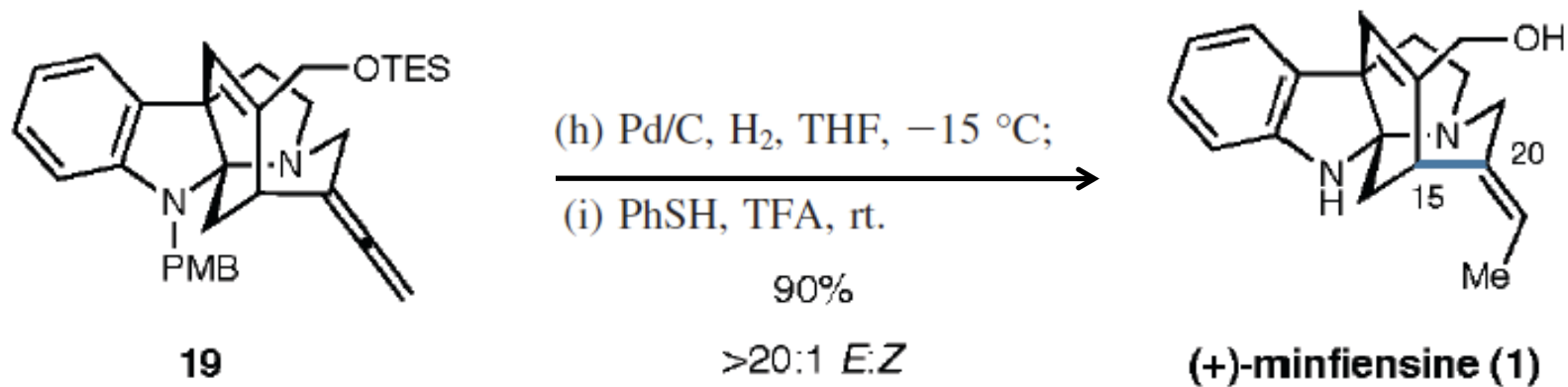
87%, 96% ee



Forward Synthesis



Forward Synthesis



- 9 steps synthesis
- 21 % overall yield from commercial materials
- A new cascade organocatalysis sequence
- 6-*exo-dig* radical cyclization