## **STRATEGIES IN SYNTHESIS 1**

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# MT 2007

6 Lectures: Tuesday at 10 am; Thursday at 9 am (weeks 6-8)
DP: Lecture Theatre

## **Monensin**

Kishi J. Am. Chem. Soc, 1979, 101, 259.

A copy of this handout is available at:

http://users.ox.ac.uk/~magd1571/Teaching/Teaching.htm

### Strategies in Synthesis

#### **Synopsis**

1) **Introduction to synthesis**: why do we want to synthesise molecules- what sort of molecules do we need to make?

What aspects of selectivity do we need to exert to accomplish a good synthesis (chemo-, regioand stereoselectivity)

- 2) Protecting group chemistry is central to any synthetic effort (examples)
- 3) **Retrosynthesis** learning to think backwards (revision from first year). Importance of making C-C bonds and controlling oxidation state. Umpolung
- 4) Examples of retrosynthesis/synthesis in action.
- 5) Handy hints for retrosynthesis

#### Recommended books:

General: Organic Chemistry (Warren et al)

Organic Synthesis: The Disconnection Approach (S. Warren) Classics in Total Synthesis Volumes I and II (K. C. Nicolaou)

The Logic of Chemical Synthesis (E. J. Corey)

## 1) Why do we want to synthesise complex molecules?

# Taxol

## Strychnine

## Sidenafil

In order to undertake the synthesis of a complex organic molecule, we need to control the following:

- 1) Carbon
- 2) Functional
- 3) Stereochemistry

In order to control 1) and 2)

#### Chemoselectivity

## Regioselectivity

#### **Protecting group strategy**

## A) CHEMOSELECTIVITY

Using different tactics we can reduce each of the

## a) $\mathbf{H_2}$ , $\mathbf{Pd}\text{-}\mathbf{C}$ . This reagent is sensitive to steric

## b) Na, NH<sub>3</sub>, tBuOH (1 eq.)

Q. What would happen if we added >2 eq. of tBuOH?

## c) $NaBH_4$ , $CeCl_3$ (Luche reduction)

What does  $CeCl_3$  do to sodiumborohydride?

This process is promoted by

# B) REGIOSELECTIVITY

How to influence regioselectivity by

## C) PROTECTING GROUPS (are essential to most syntheses)

There are tactics for protecting the least and the most hindered groups.

#### **RETROSYNTHESIS**

The theory (Corey- Nobel prize

1) Think about reactions in reverse

$$A-B \xrightarrow{X}$$

2) Use disconnections to break down molecules

$$\bigcap_{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow$$

$$\longrightarrow$$

$$\bigcap_{\mathbf{N}} \bigvee_{\mathbf{N}} \longrightarrow$$

$$\bigcirc$$

Make sure that your disconnections correspond to known and

3) Synthons: These are simply

There are two ways of analysing a single

A number shows the position of the charge relative to the

9

$$\bigcap_{\mathsf{N}} \bigvee_{\mathsf{H}} \longrightarrow$$

$$\bigcap_{\mathbf{N}} \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow$$

$$\sim$$
  $\sim$ 

You have to decide which synthon is realistic and

Remember the concept of UMPOLUNG is helpful (especially) with carbonyl groups:

1) Normal reactivity of the carbonyl group

$$\bigcirc$$

### 2) Use **UMPOLUNG** to reverse the reactivity of the carbonyl group

$$\Theta$$

The hard part is choosing a particular disconnection (from several others) in a complex molecule.

#### 4) Sometimes functional group interconversion on the target helps

Simple 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 FGI  $\longrightarrow$ 

More difficult

Even stereochemistry can be altered in this way.

Some problems: How would you synthesise the following? (Hint: think about Diels Alder)

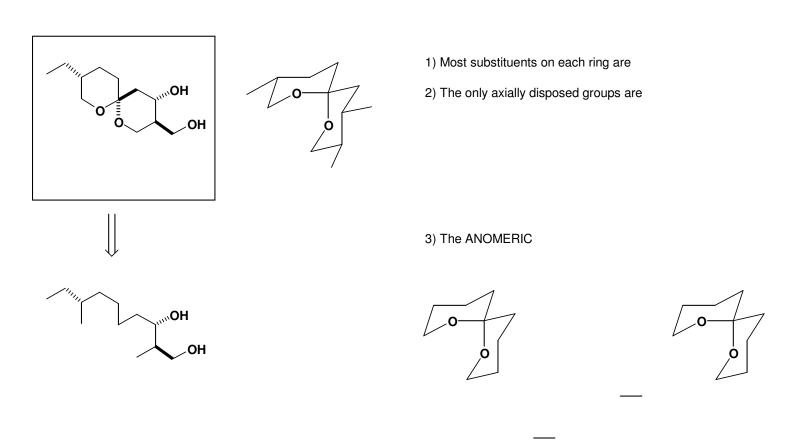
## Synthesis 1) Eletriptan (Pfizer) Migraine

The synthesis:

Mechanism for this step is:

# To finish the synthesis

Synthesis 2) Talaromycin B (Schrieber, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 1983, P4781)

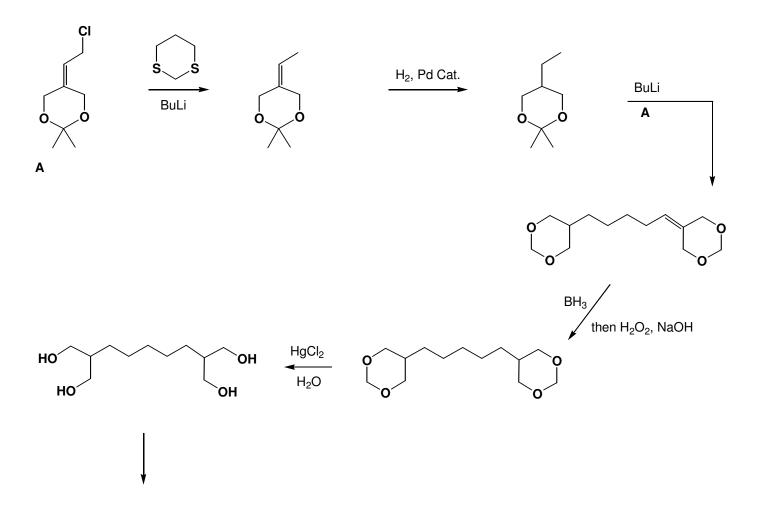


## Further disconnections are possible

The synthesis in full:

### 1) Preparation of the starting materials

Putting these pieces together:



And finally,

### Synthesis 3) Estradiol (Helvetica Chimica Acta, 1980, 63, 1703)

HO OH

### Now the synthesis.

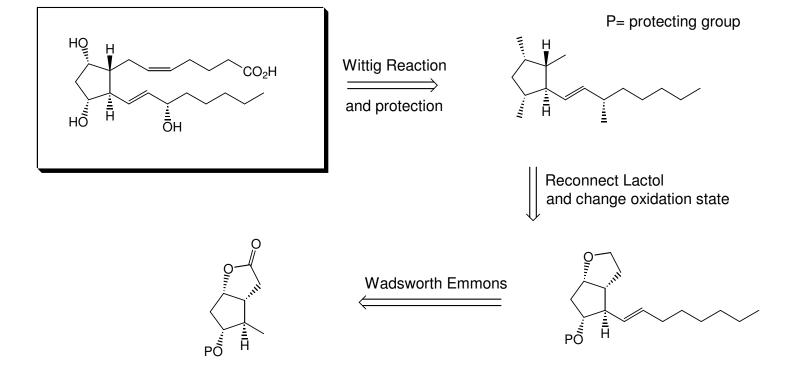
think about relative

The other half:

The end-game

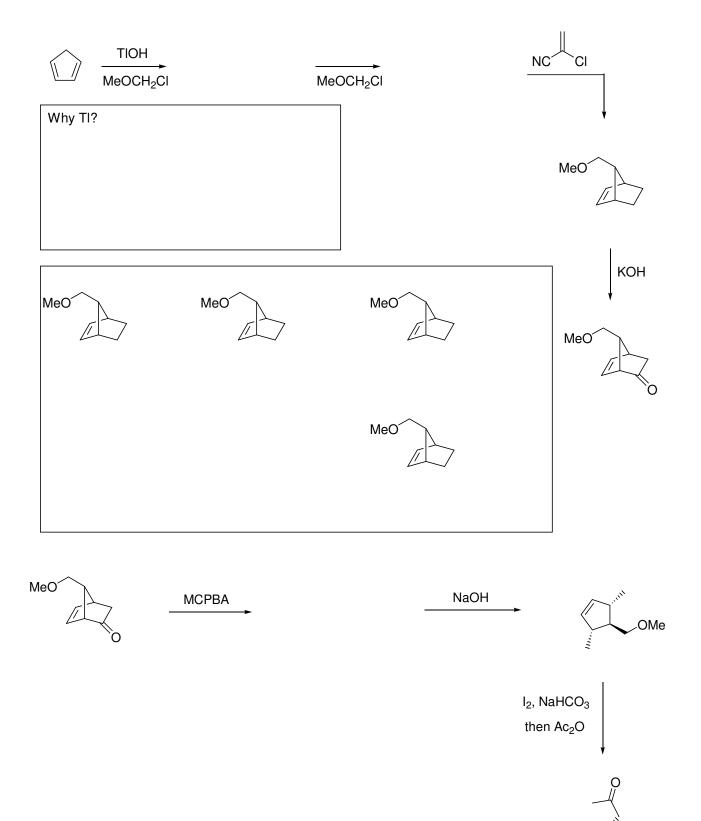
## And finally,

### Synthesis 4) Prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ (Journal of the American Chemical Society, 1969, P5675) E. J. Corey



AND

The synthesis:



AcÕ

mechanism of iodide reduction:

### Reduction of the C=O bond

How do you make the ylid?

$$Ph_3P$$
  $CO_2$ 

Why do non-stabilised

Finally, to complete the synthesis: