

(+)-Saxitoxin: A First and Second Generation Stereoselective Synthesis

James J. Fleming,<sup>1</sup> Matthew D. McReynolds,<sup>2</sup> and J. Du Bois<sup>1</sup>

*Contribution from the Department of Chemistry, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-0080*

Received March 2, 2007; E-mail: jdbouis@stanford.edu

1st Section:

1. Introduction
2. Total Syntheses by other 3 groups
3. Du Bois' Synthesis



2nd Section:

1. C-H Amination
2. 9-Membered Ring Formation

3rd Section:

1. Dead Ends
2.  $\alpha$ -Keto Alcohol Formation
3. End Game
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Synthesis

(+)-Saxitoxin

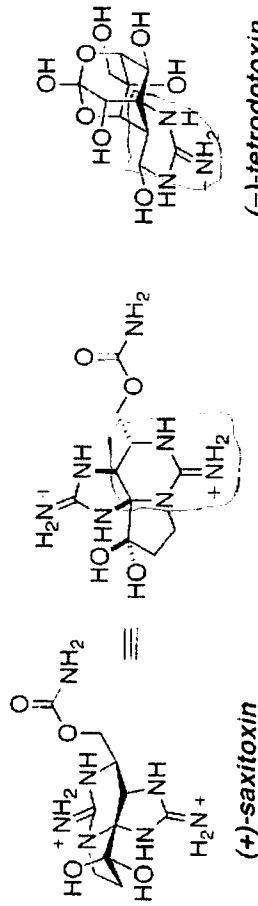


Figure 1. Structurally unique guanidinium toxins act as site 1 selective blockers of voltage-gated Na<sup>+</sup> ion channels.

- guanidine-based molecule (like tetrodotoxin)
- C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (N+O > C) : highly heteroatomic
- densely fused tricyclic amination configuration
- dicationic nature (= difficult to handle and purify)

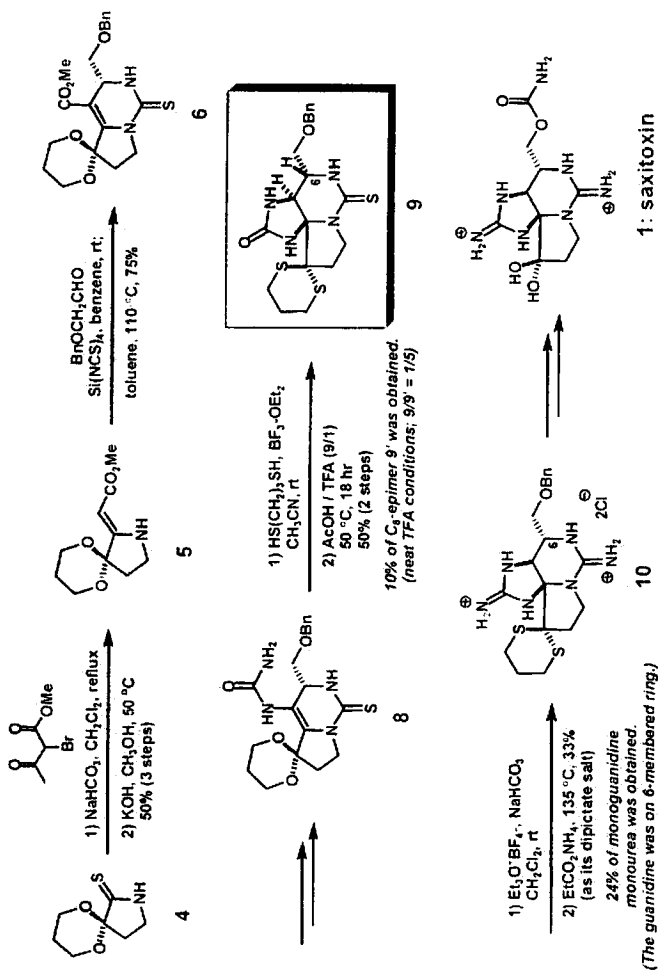
サキシトキシン

出典: フリー百科事典『ウィキペディア (Wikipedia)』

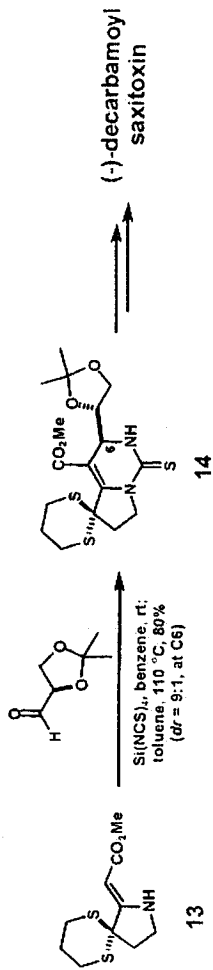
サキシトキシン(Saxitoxin)とは、主にアレクサンドリウム属(Alexandrium catenellaなど)の有毒渦鞭毛藻がつくる毒。その藻類を食べることで、通常は毒を持たない貝類などが毒化することがある。サキシトキシンは、テトロトキシンの同様に神経などのNa<sup>+</sup>チャネルを阻害し、麻痺や、重度の場合には呼吸困難を引き起こし、最終的には呼吸麻痺で死に至る。化学兵器の禁止及び特定物質の規制等に関する法律で特定物質に指定されており製造、使用、所持などが厳しく規制されている。

## Kishi's Route

Tanino, H.; Nakata, T.; Kaneko, T.; Kishi, Y.  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1977, 99, 2818.

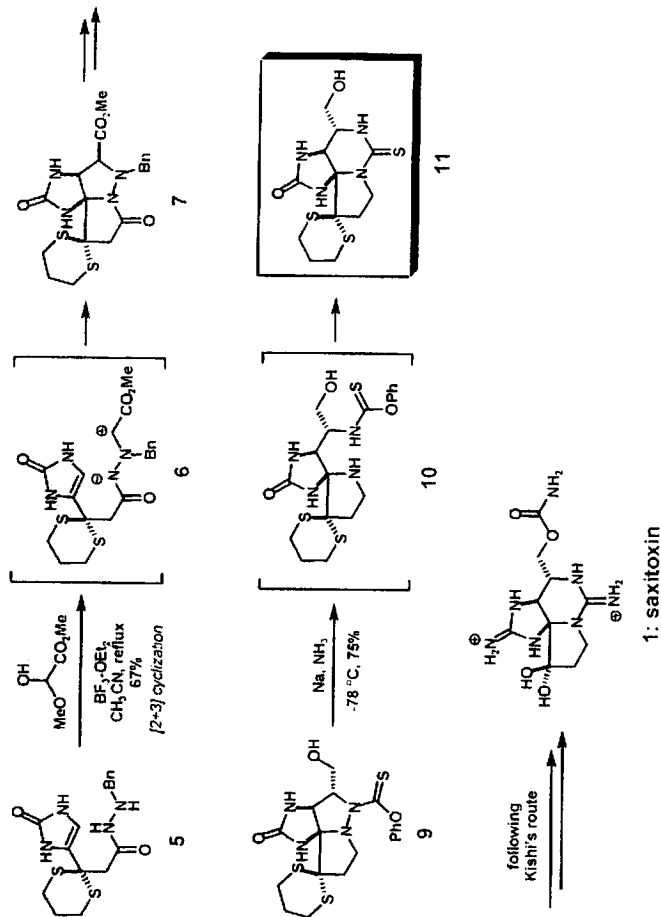


\*enantioselective synthesis: *JACS* 1992, 114, 7001.



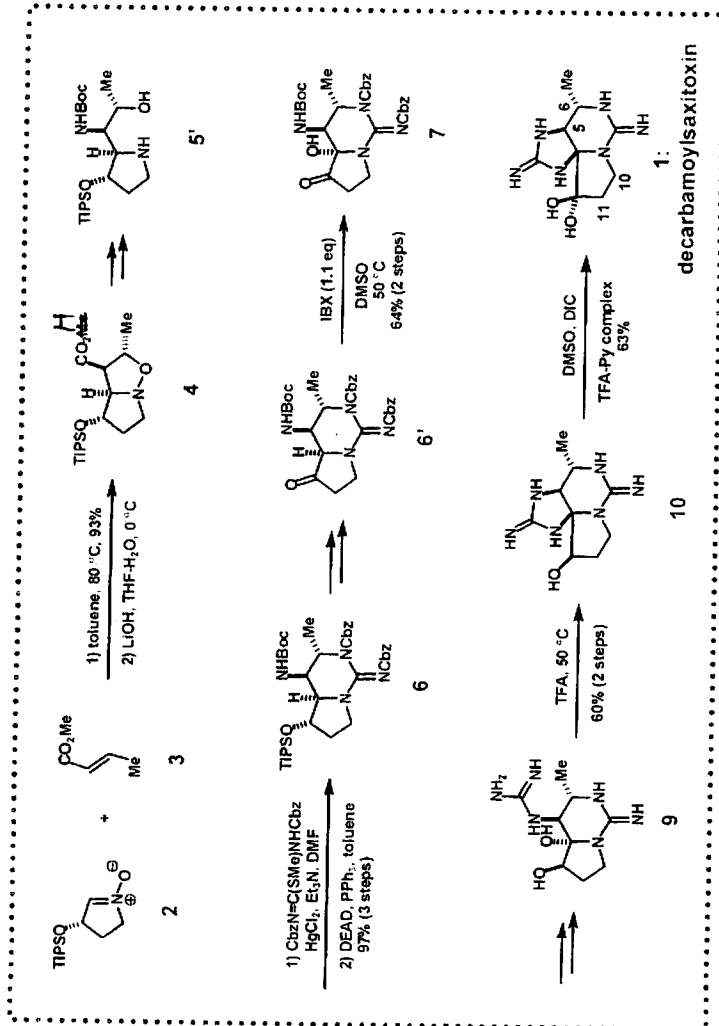
## Jacobi's Route

Jacobi, P. A.; Martinelli, M. J.; Polanc, S.  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1984, 106, 5594.



# Nagasawa's Route

Iwamoto, O.; Koshino, H.; Hashizume, D.; Nagasawa, K.  
*Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* (will be shown in ASAP)



岩本君とのメールのやり取り

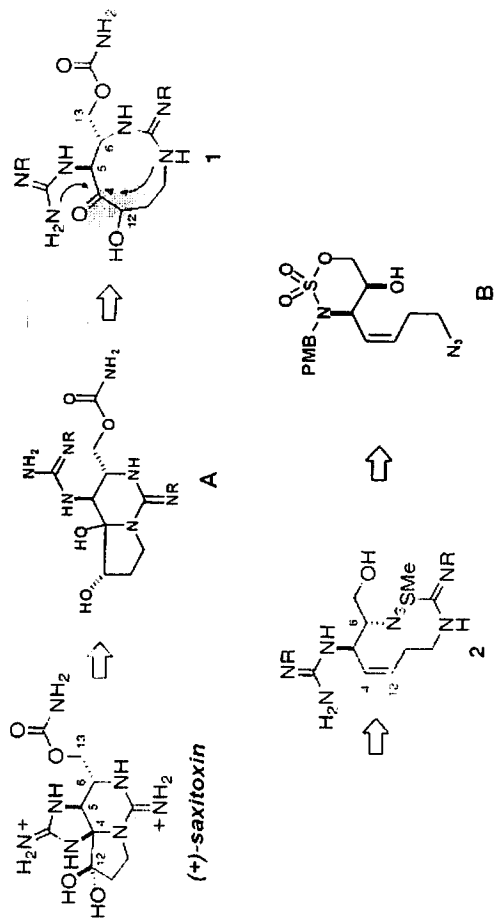
なにはともあれ、一番大変だったのは構造決定ですね。合成が進むにつれてどんどんHが少なくなってしまうので。

特に立体化学は苦戦しました。5位6位側と10位11位側がNOEでは届かないので。

あとは脱保護した後の極性ですね。

水溶性化合物ですから有機溶媒には溶けないし、シリカカラムでは出てこないし。

# Retrosynthetic Analysis



The aminal moiety centered at C-4 would be constructed with cyclodehydration with 9-membered ring involved both guanidines.

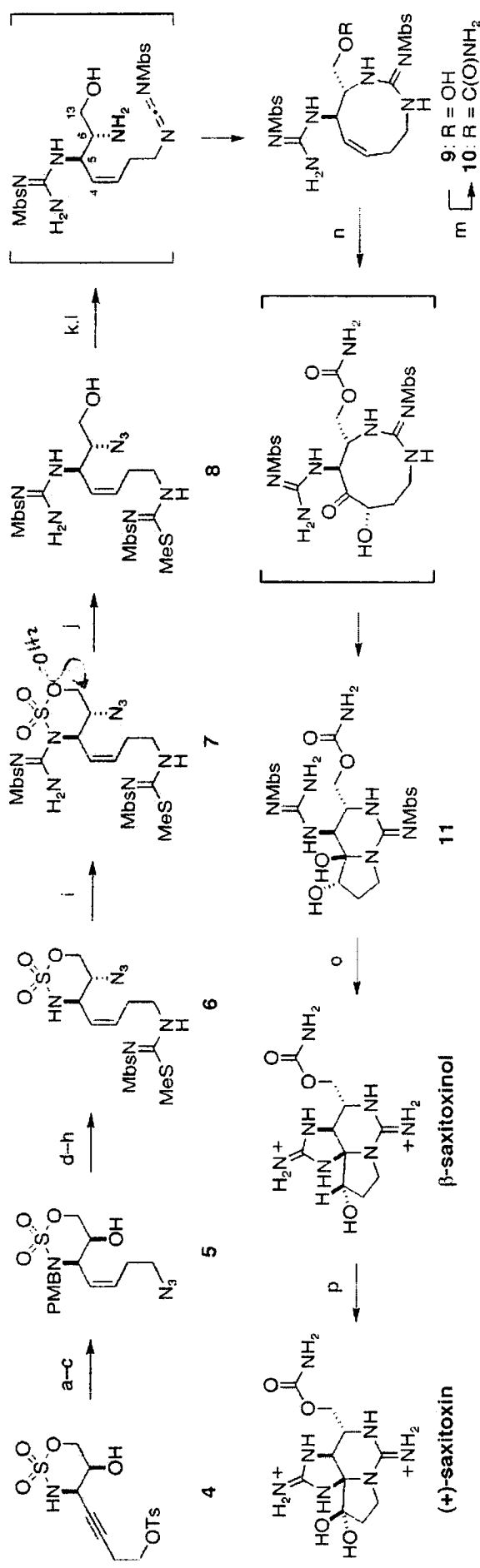
A 9-membered ring would be constructed through the intermediacy of a reactive carodiimide from a pseudothiourea (2)

The intact guanidinium groups would be directly used. (Both Kishi and Jacobi's groups suffered from preparing the guanidines from pseudoureas.)

Enantioenriched oxathiazinane (B) would be set as a starting material.

# Du Bois's Route

Scheme 1<sup>3</sup>



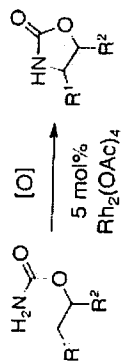
How was enantioenriched 4 prepared? Why was the oxathiazinane moiety removed at the stage of 7? (It also played the role of protecting groups of N/O) Is the cyclization (*in situ* carbodimide formation) a standard? (RCM should be commonly used.) Why was a tricky oxidation condition used at 10? (OsCl<sub>3</sub> oxone.) Did the guanidine "N" have its sufficient nucleophilicity to form the aminal moiety at 11?

be oxidant.

# C-H amination

A Rh-Catalyzed C-H Insertion Reaction for the Oxidative Conversion of Carbamates to Oxazolidinones\*

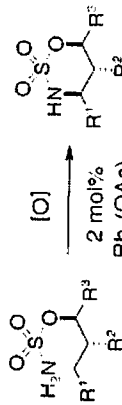
Christine G. Espino and J. Du Bois\*



*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2001, 40, 598

Synthesis of 1,3-Difunctionalized Amine Derivatives through Selective C-H Bond Oxidation

Christine G. Espino, Paul M. Wehm, Jessica Chow, and J. Du Bois\*



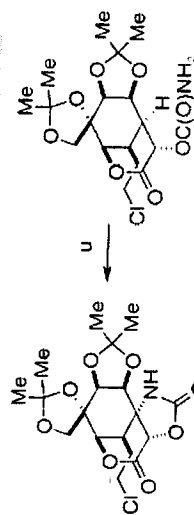
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, 123, 6935-6936

J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2003, 125, 11510-11511

## A Stereoselective Synthesis of (-)-Tetrodotoxin

Andrew Hinman and J. Du Bois\*

*Department of Chemistry, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-5080*



17 stereospecific 16

Rh-nitrene C-H insertion

(u) 10 mol % Rh2(HNC(O)CF3)2, PhI(OAc)2, MgO, C6H6, 65 °C, 77%

C-H amination is effective in the late stage of total syntheses.

# Designed Ligand: Rh2(esp)2

J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2004, 126, 15378-15379

## Expanding the Scope of C-H Amination through Catalyst Design

Christine G. Espino, Kristin Williams Fiori, Mihyong Kim, and J. Du Bois\*  
*Department of Chemistry, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-5080*

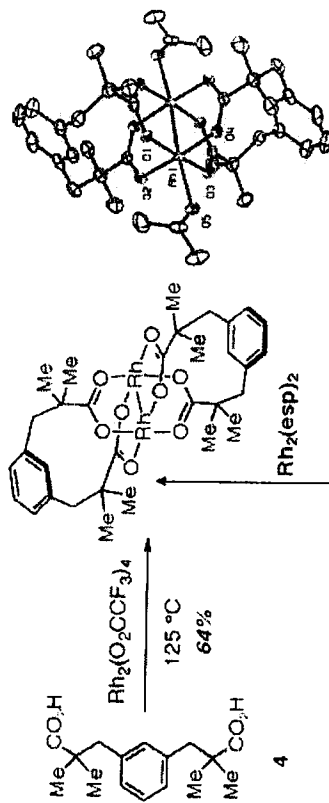


Figure 2. Preparation and X-ray analysis of [Rh2(esp)2(acetone)]<sub>2</sub>.

## Joining of two carboxylate ligands

stable complex (= high reactive)

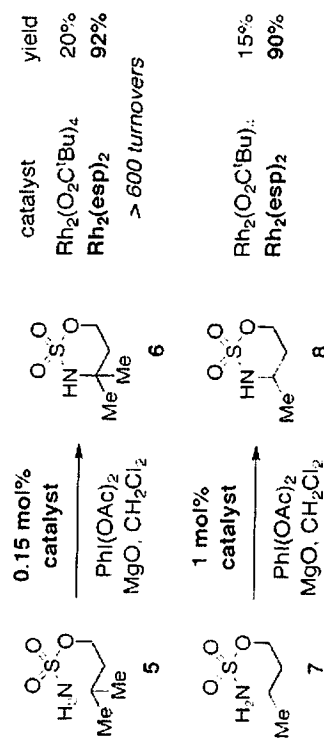


Figure 3. Comparative data of Rh2(esp)2 and Rh2(O2CtBu)4 as catalysts for intramolecular C-H amination with sulfamates.

For more details: Mr. Tanaka's Lit. Seminar (2007.02.07)

# Preparation of Oxathiazine

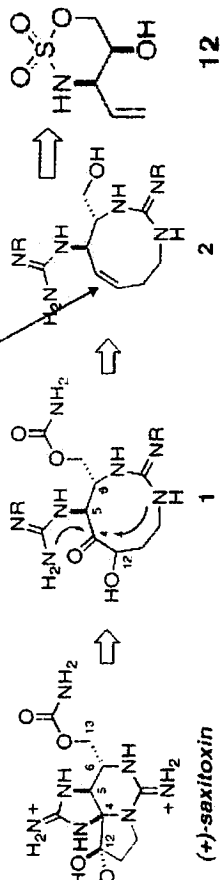
JACS  
COMMUNICATIONS

Published on Web 01/21/2005

J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2003, 125, 2028–2029  
 Novel Iminium Ion Equivalents Prepared through C–H Oxidation for the  
 Stereocontrolled Synthesis of Functionalized Propargylic Amine Derivatives

James J. Fleming, Kristin Williams Fiori and J. Du Bois\*

Department of Chemistry, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-5080



## For 1:

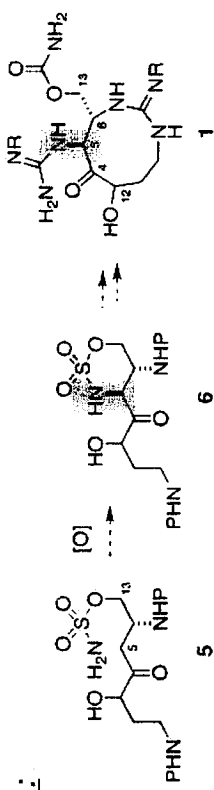


Figure 4. Possible strategy for employing C–H amination.

## For 2:

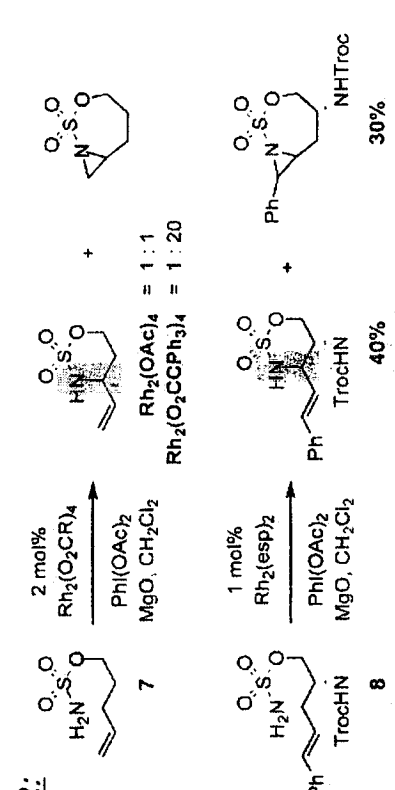
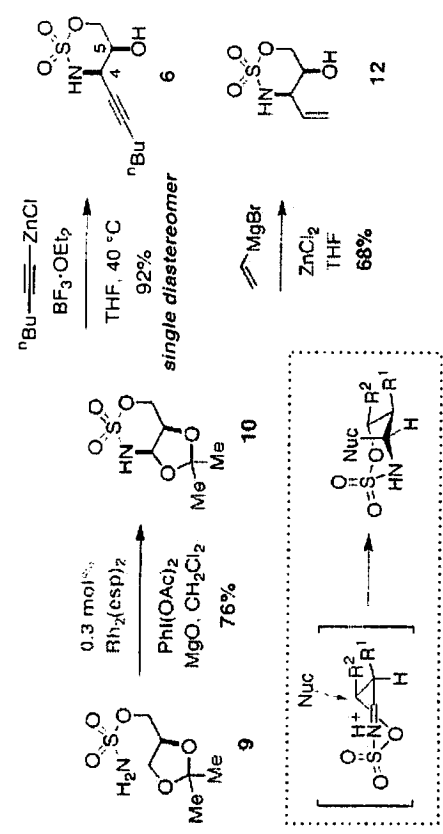
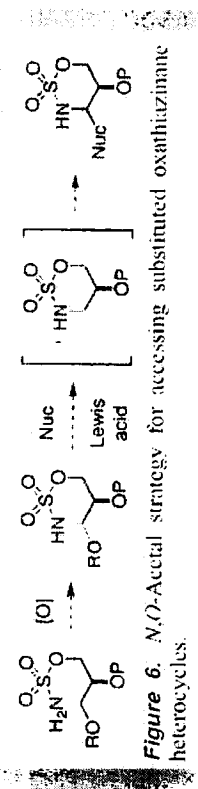
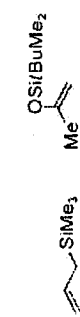


Figure 5. Exploring reaction chemoselectivity with sulfamate ester model systems.



## For other nucleophiles:



*N,O*-Acetals  
 Rh-Catalyzed Amination of Etheral C–H Bonds: A Versatile Strategy for the Synthesis of Complex Amines\*\*

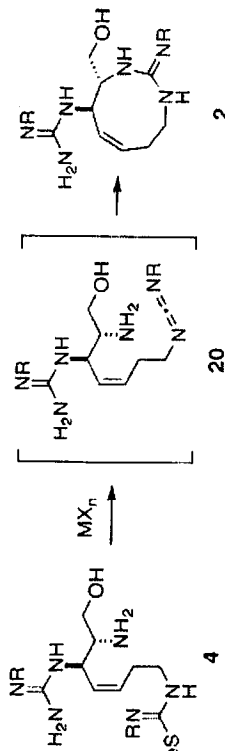
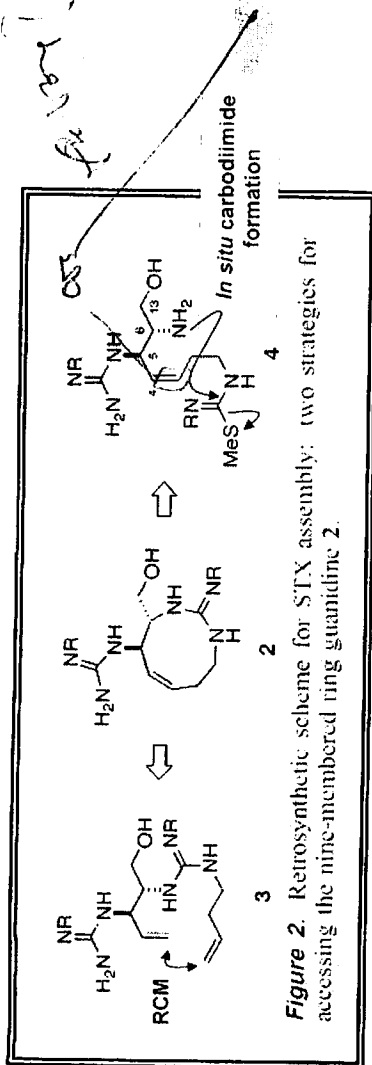
Kristin Williams Fiori, James J. Fleming, and Justin Du Bois\*

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 4349–4352

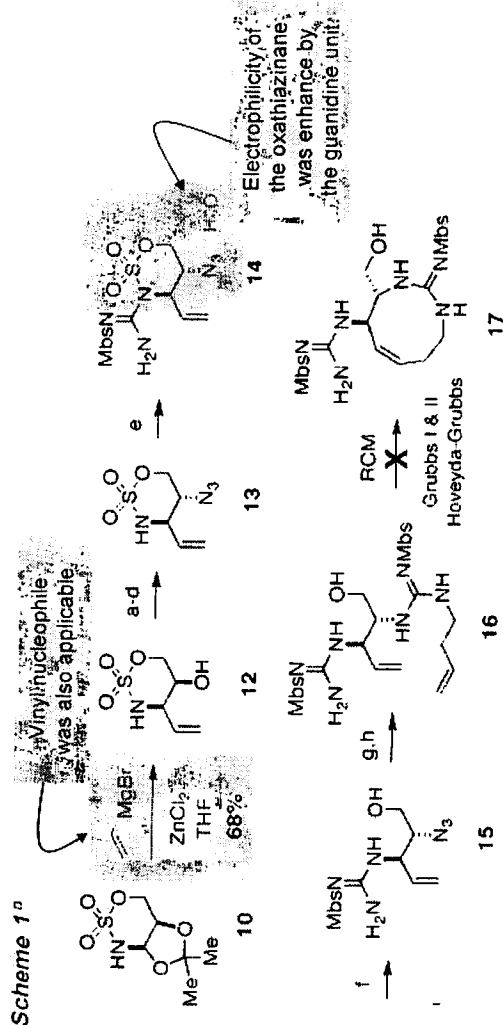
Alkene aziridinations competed against C–H aminations.

6/12

# RCM Failed for The Cyclization

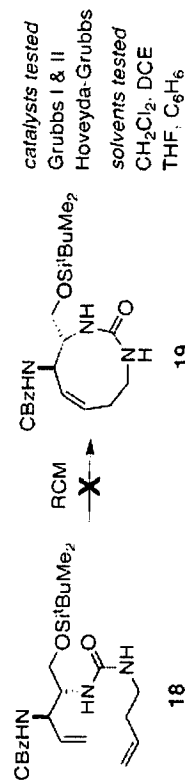


**Figure 9.** Cyclic guanidine formation via carbodiimide addition.



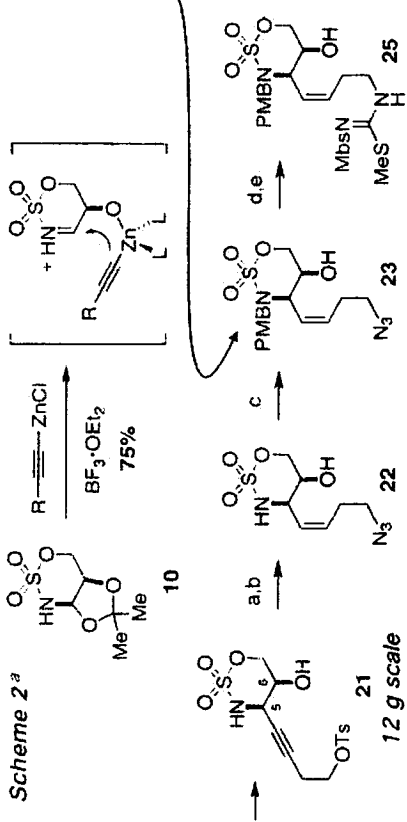
RCM should be fruitless for the following reasons:

The polar nature in **16** such as guanidine units  
Aggregation effects caused by the large number of hydrogen donors/acceptors (such as **18**)



**Figure 8.** Urea analog also fails to provide nine-membered ring through metathesis reaction.

# 9-Membered Ring Formation



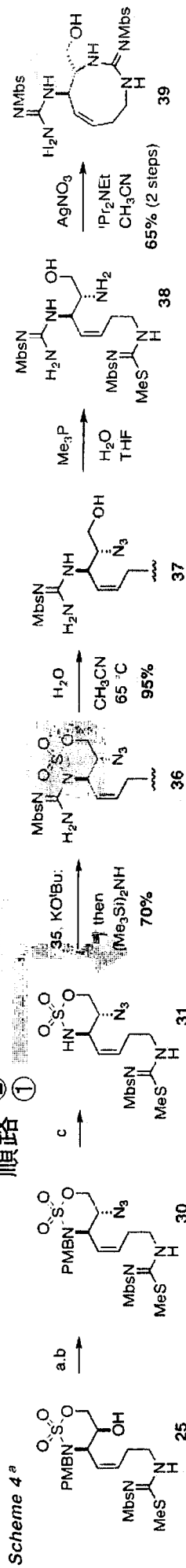
**Scheme 3** An Unexpected Ring Contraction <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>Cl, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N, DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C, 89%; (b) NaN<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 0 °C, 70%; R = MbsN=C(SMe).

The reason for the use of a temporal PMB group.

**Scheme 4<sup>a</sup>**

① ②



Oxathiazinane unit was removed for the relaxation of the molecule.

39 was stable to purification. The yield improved to 65%.

34 was unstable due to anti-fused oxathiazinane unit, thus the yield was not satisfactory.

<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) Tl<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N, DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C; (b) NaN<sub>3</sub>, DMF, -15 °C, 70% (two steps); (c) (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Ce(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>, <sup>i</sup>BuOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 74%; (d) SnCl<sub>4</sub>, THF, MeOH, 74% (two steps).



# Dead End 1: N,O-acetal

Ru-oxidation (6 electrons) afforded desired **46**, although in low yield.  
 (For detailed conditions of the oxidation: see the next page.)

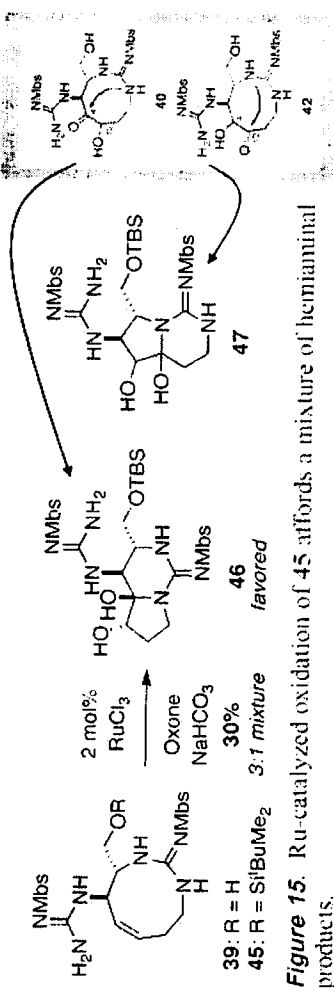
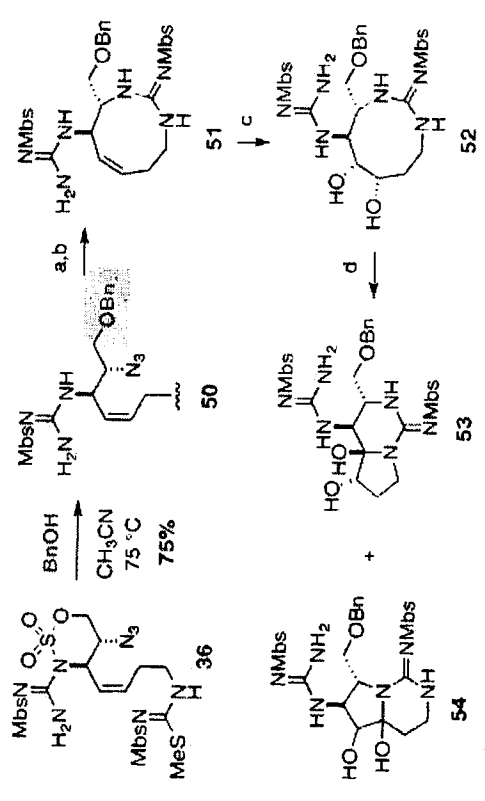


Figure 15. Ru-catalyzed oxidation of **45** affords a mixture of hemiaminal products.

# Dead End 2: β-dcSTXol

Scheme 5<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Reagents and conditions: (a) Me<sub>3</sub>P, H<sub>2</sub>O/THF; (b) AgNO<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 65% (two steps); (c) 20 mol % OsO<sub>4</sub>, NMO, DABCO, H<sub>2</sub>O, t-BuOH:acetone, 84%; (d) DMP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 85% (50% **53**, 35% **54**).

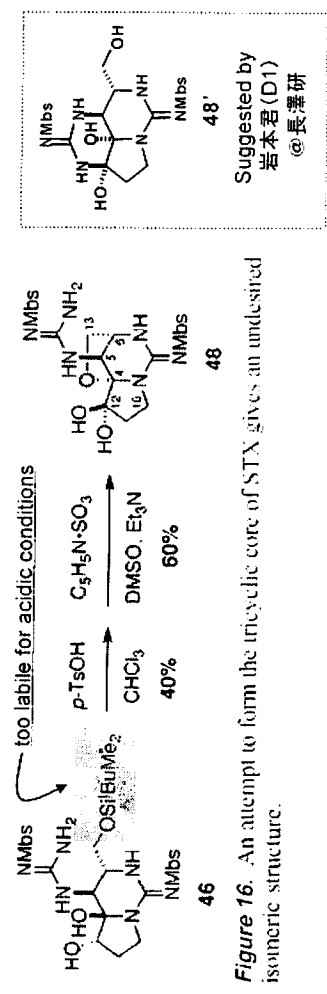


Figure 16. An attempt to form the tricyclic core of STX gives an undesired isomeric structure.

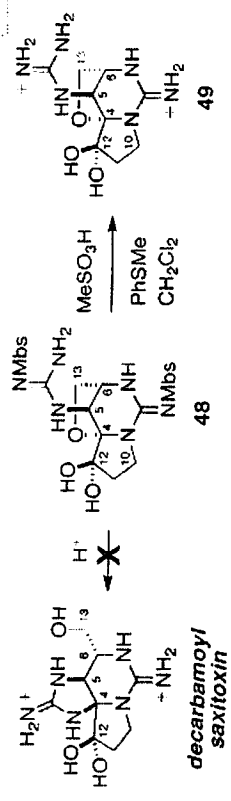


Figure 17. Acid treatment of **48** does not afford decarbamoyl STX.

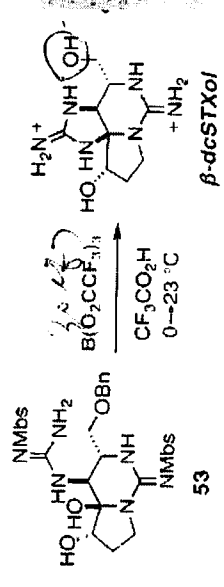


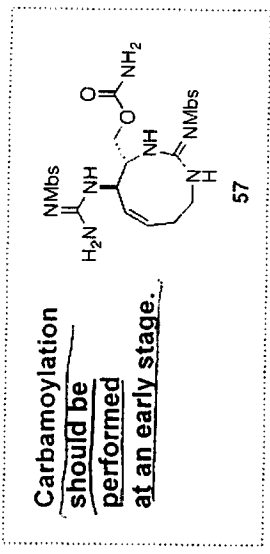
Figure 19. Guanidine deprotection affords decarbamoyl β-saxitoxinol.

**N,O-acetal 49** should be a dead end.

Acid-stable protecting groups would be used instead of TBS group.

Carbamoylation should be performed at an early stage.

As a consequence of our inability to manipulate β-dcSTXol, an alternative end-game strategy was devised.



# α-Keto Alcohol Formation

Selectivity in the formation of a C4-C12-hydroxy ketone **40** is essential, as the regioisomeric structure **42** has the potential for transannular collapse to give an undesired **43**.

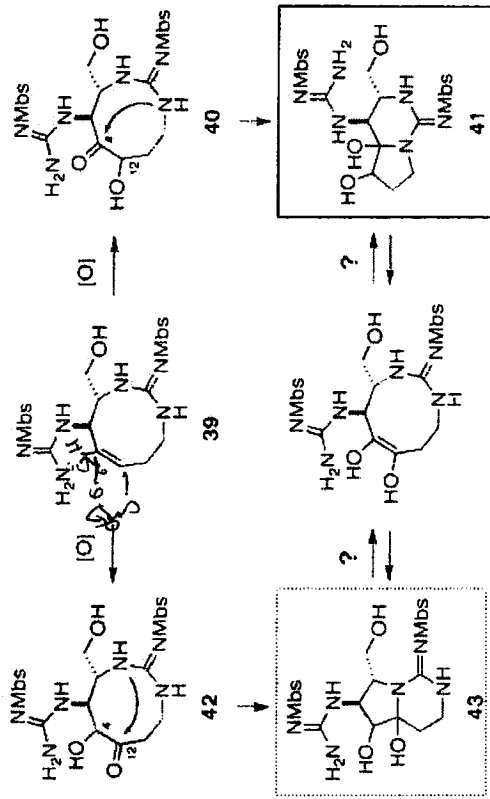
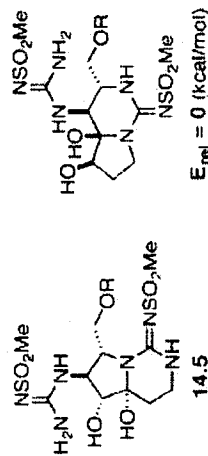


Figure 13. Potential complications associated with C4-C12-alkene oxidation.



DFT calculations suggested the possibility to afford the sole product **41** after the equilibration.

Unfortunately, the isomerization didn't occur.

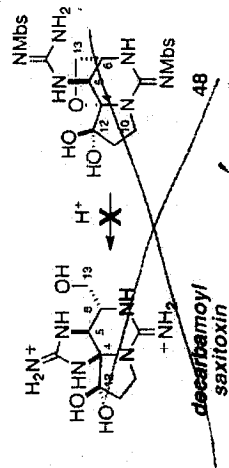
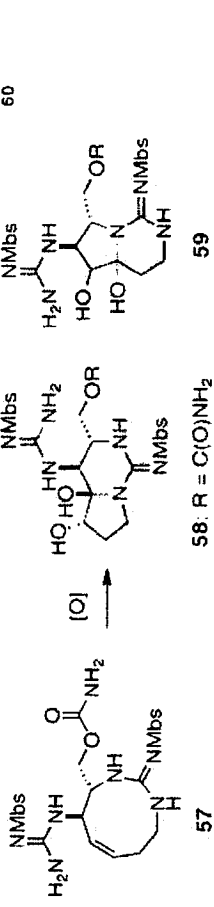


Table 1. Reaction Conditions Influence Alkene Keto-hydroxylation



entry	catalyst <sup>a</sup>	oxidant	base	58	59	60 <sup>b</sup>	% yield <sup>c</sup>
1	RuCl <sub>3</sub>	Oxone	NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	2.3	1	1	35
2	RuCl <sub>3</sub>	Oxone	NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	2.3	1	1	40 <sup>d</sup>
3	OsO <sub>4</sub>	tBuOOH	none	1	10	-	70
4	OsCl <sub>3</sub>	Oxone	NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	5	1	2.3	35
5	OsCl <sub>3</sub>	Oxone	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	12	1	1	62
6	RuCl <sub>3</sub>	Oxone	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	5	1.5	1	33

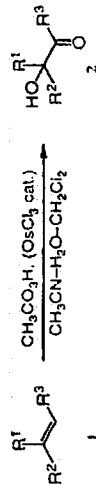
<sup>a</sup> Reactions performed with 2–10 mol % catalyst at 25 °C. <sup>b</sup> Product ratio determined by HPLC analysis. <sup>c</sup> Yield is combined for **58** and **59**. <sup>d</sup> Reaction performed at 10 °C.

The low yield (entries 1-2) was likely due to C-C bond cleavage.

Os-catalyzed dihydroxylation using H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or TBHP gives varying amounts of the vicinal keto-alcohol as a side product. (For a mechanistic study, *J. Org. Chem.* 1994, 59, 1375.)

For the use of OsCl<sub>3</sub>: CHEMISTRY LETTERS, pp. 1767-1770, 1993. Osmium-Catalyzed Oxidative Transformation of Alkenes to α-Ketols with Peroxyacetic Acid

Shun-ichi MURAHASHI,\* Takeshi NAOYA, and Hiidenori HANAOKA  
Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering Science, Osaka University,  
Machikaneyama, Toyonaka, Osaka 560



10/12

# End Game

Critical is the choice of the stage where the carbamate is installed

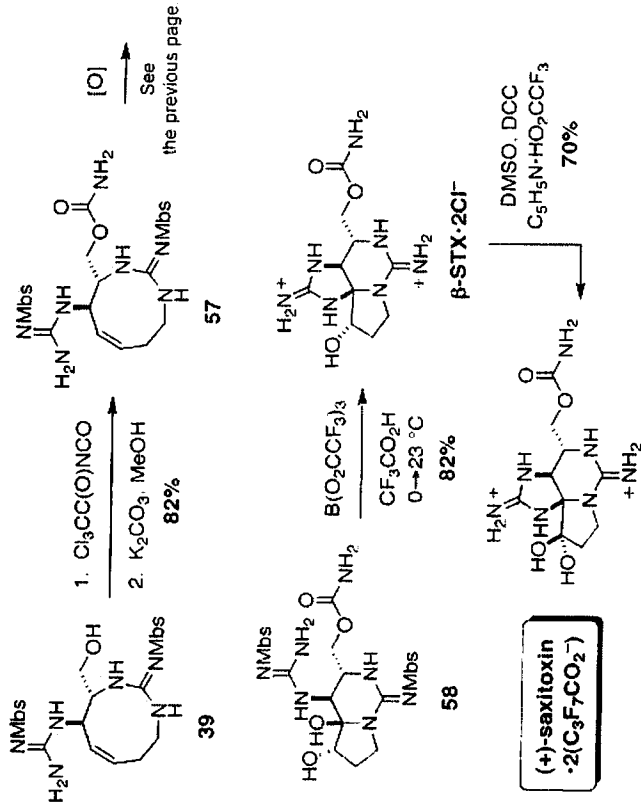
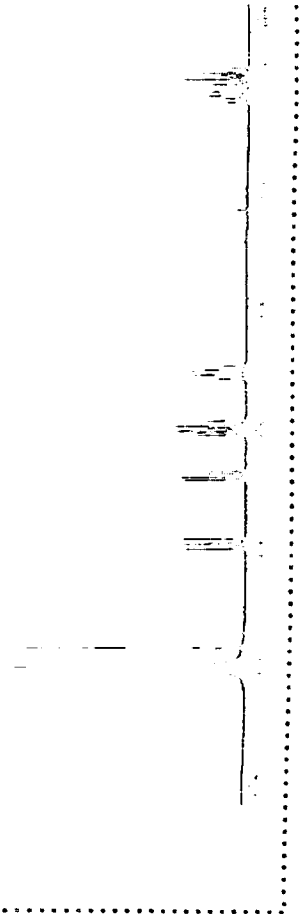


Figure 20. Completed first-generation synthesis of the desired target.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Synthetic STX (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, HOD referenced at 4.50 ppm)

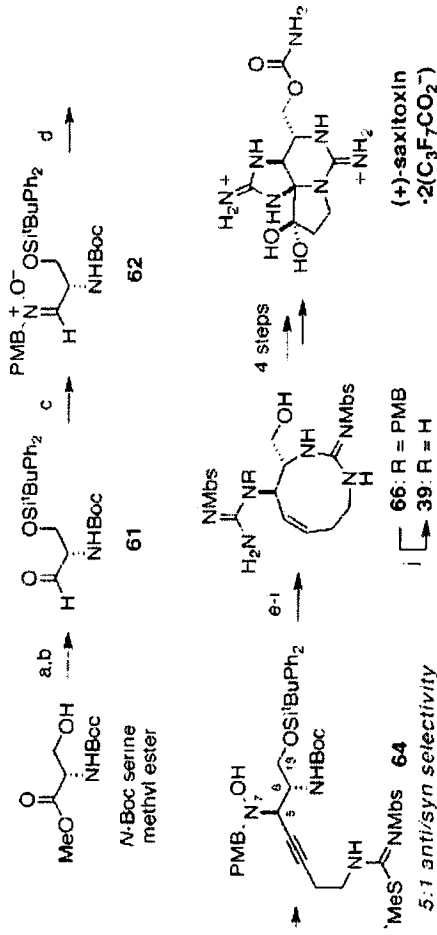


# 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Synthesis

1<sup>st</sup> generation synthesis:

Preparation of a 9-membered ring = 15 steps

2<sup>nd</sup> generation synthesis: starting from an amino acid!



Reagents and conditions: (a)  $tBuPh_2SiCl$ , imidazole, DMF, 95%; (b)  $tBu_3AlH$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 71%; (c)  $PMBNH_2OH$ ,  $MgSO_4$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 76%; (d)  $MbsN=C(SMe)NHCH_2CH_2C\equiv CH$ , 63,  $PrMgCl$ ,  $THF$ ,  $-78^\circ C$ , 78%; (e)  $p-TsNHNH_2$ ,  $NaOAc$ ,  $THF$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $100^\circ C$ , 78%; (f)  $Zn$ ,  $Cu(OAc)_2$ ,  $HOAc$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $70^\circ C$ , 81%; (g)  $MbsN=C(SMe)NHBOc$ , 65,  $HgCl_2$ ,  $Et_3N$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 74%; (h)  $HCl$ ,  $MeOH$ , 52%; (i)  $AgNO_3$ ,  $Et_3N$ ,  $CH_3CN$ , 73%; (j)  $CF_3CO_2H$ ,  $60^\circ C$ , 91%.

Scheme 6. (+)-Saxitoxin in 14 Steps from N-Boc-L-Serine Methyl Ester<sup>a</sup>

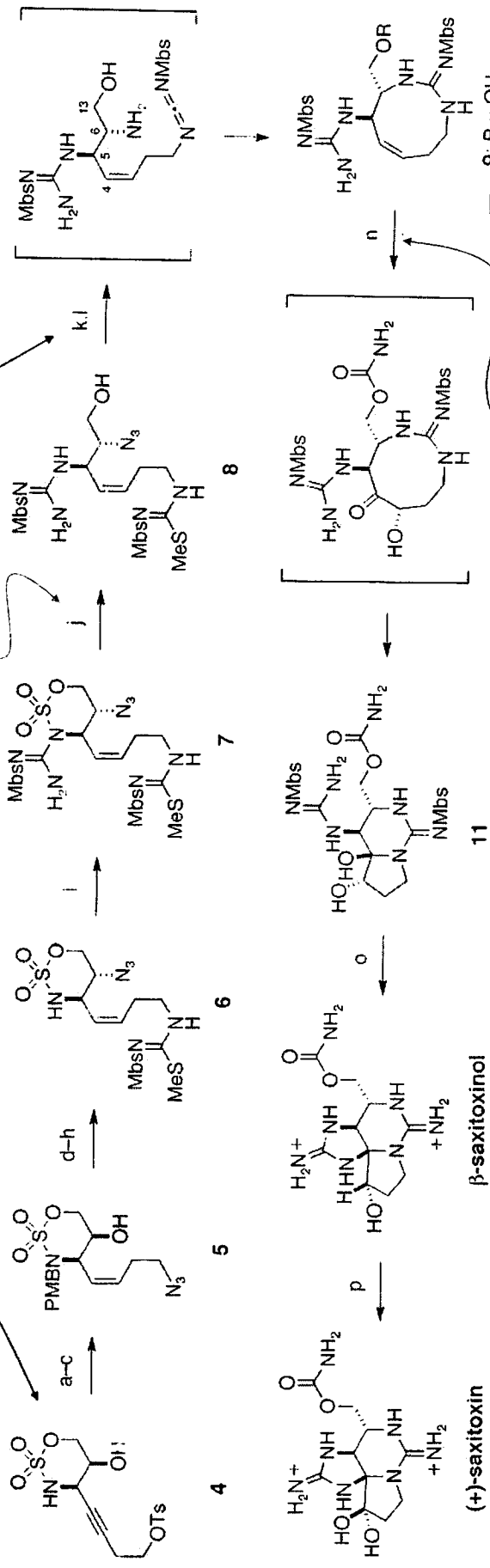
# Summary

4 was easily prepared by C-H amidation developed by Du Bois

For the stability of 8, the oxathiazinene ring should be removed before the key cyclization.

RCM didn't work in the system of saxitoxins probably due to the high polarity

Scheme 1<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Conditions: (a) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/CaCO<sub>3</sub>/Pb, THF; (b) NaN<sub>3</sub>, <sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>4</sub>NI, DMF, 90% (2 steps); (c) *p*-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, <sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>4</sub>NI, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 85%; (d) Me<sub>2</sub>P, THF/H<sub>2</sub>O; (e) MeS(CH<sub>2</sub>)=NMbs, <sup>t</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 72% (2 steps); (f) Tf<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N, DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; (g) NaN<sub>3</sub>, DMF, -15 °C, 70% (2 steps); (h) (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Ce(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>, <sup>t</sup>BuOH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 74%; (i) KO<sup>t</sup>Bu, Cl<sub>3</sub>C=NMbs; then (Me<sub>3</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>NH, 70% (+20% of 6); (j) 7q, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 70 °C, 95%; (k) Me<sub>3</sub>P, THF/H<sub>2</sub>O; (l) AgNO<sub>3</sub>, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 65% (2 steps); (m) Cl<sub>3</sub>CC(O)NCO, THF/CH<sub>3</sub>CN, -78 °C; then K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, 82%; (n) 10 mol % of OsCl<sub>4</sub>, Oxone, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, EtOAc/CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 57%; (o) B(O<sub>2</sub>CCF<sub>3</sub>), CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, 82%; (p) DCC, C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N·11O<sub>2</sub>CCF<sub>3</sub>, DMSO, 70%; (q) MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>.

The best oxidative conditions was used for the synthesis of the oxathiazinene ring and the proper regioselectivity was obtained.

Carbamoylation must be introduced at this stage where the molecule was soluble in organic solvents.

12/12