

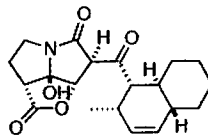
# Targeting telomere/telomerase

Whether telomere/telomerase find out to be a near universal anticancer target?

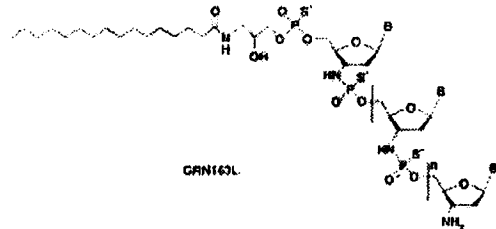
31st January, 2007  
Noriko Takahashi (B4)

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2. UCS1025A -a new antitumor antibiotics
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4. What's going on telomerase inhibitor?



UCS1025A

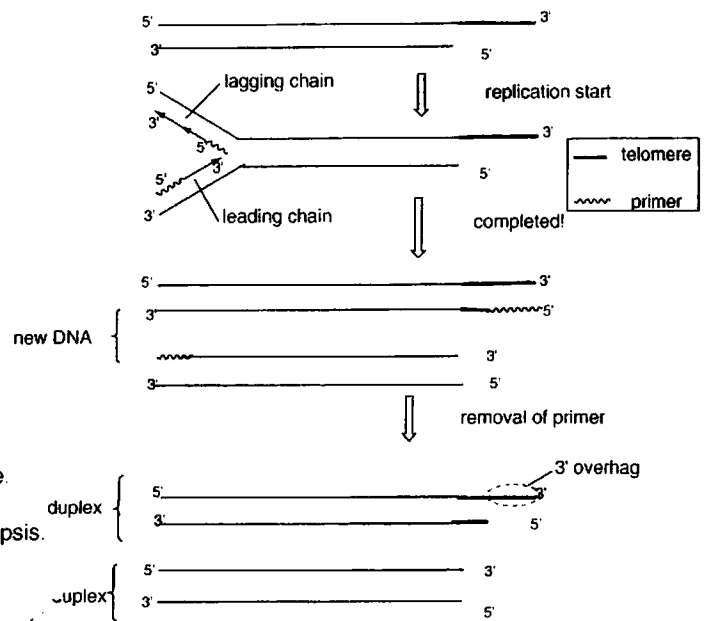
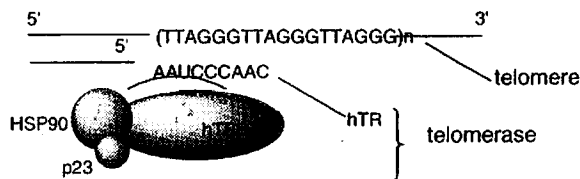


GRN163L

## 1. What is telomere and telomerase?

### Telomere

part of DNA structures (at the end of eukaryotic chromosomes)  
15-20 kbp(human)  
repeating hexameric TTAGGG  
single-strand overhang of the 3'-G-rich strand.



### # What is telomere for?

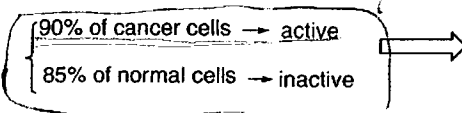
When cells divide by mitosis, telomeres get shorter in every replication, because the DNA polymerases can't copy the very end of each telomere. (End-Replication problem) ( 50 to 100 base pairs shorter )  
When telomeres get critically short, cells stop dividing and commit apoptosis. (only 50-100 times replication)

⇒ Telomere serves as molecular clock!

### Telomerase

enzyme that catalyzes the lengthening of telomeres.  
a ribonucleoprotein complex.  
composed of  
(1) the reverse transcriptase protein subunit(hTERT), one of the major component  
a catalytic protein subunit  
(2) an endogenous 455-nucleotide RNA subunit(hTR) closely associated with hTERT.  
the second of the major components.  
a template for telomere lengthening

A lot of proteins connect with hTERT and hTR, to control their functions.(ex. p23, HSP90)



Tumor cells ; typically **long, constant** telomere length,  
Normal cells; slowly shortening telomeres.

These difference make cancer cells **more sensitive** to telomerase inhibitors.  
One of molecular targeting therapy  
Treatment **without significant side effect.**

⇒ Whether telomere/telomerase find out to be a near universal anticancer target?

#Where to target?

**Targeting telomere agent(TTAs)**

small organic molecules ; inhibit by distorting the duplex -----> addition of new bases difficult ,  
or by overstabilizing the duplex -----> hinder unwinding, an essential step in the DNA replication process.

**Targeting telomerase agent**

oligonucleotides(template antagonist); to block specific RNA-protein contacts

**Others**

Immunotherapeutic agents; cancer cells only presents telomerase peptide fragments on their cell surface.

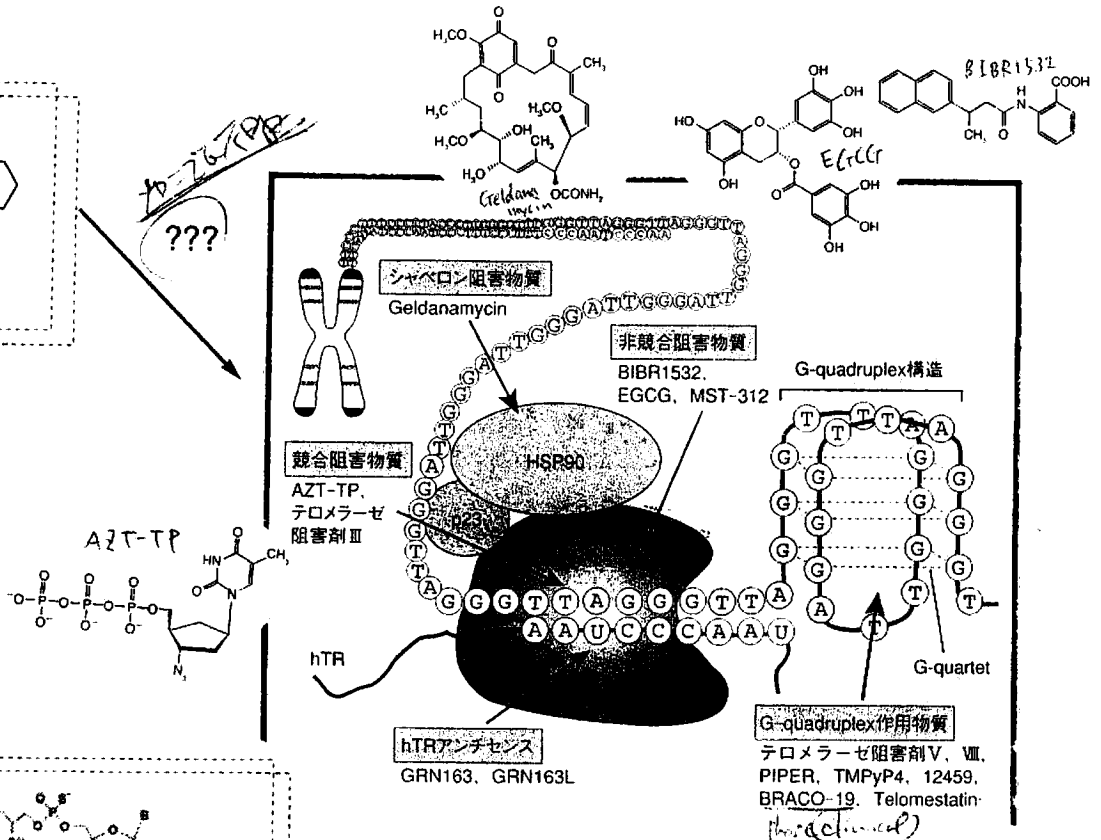
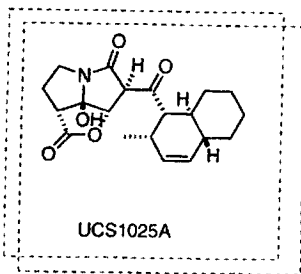
antigens.

going to Phase 2 clinical trial

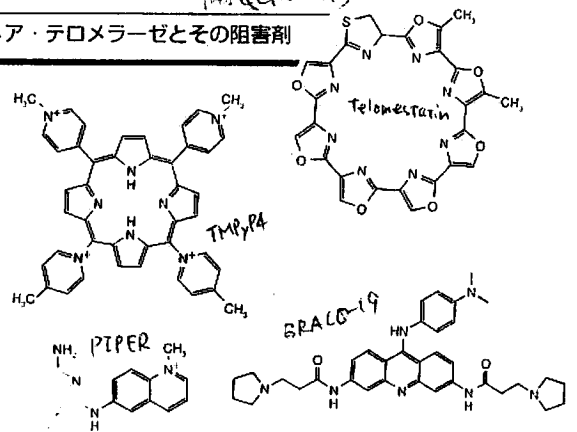
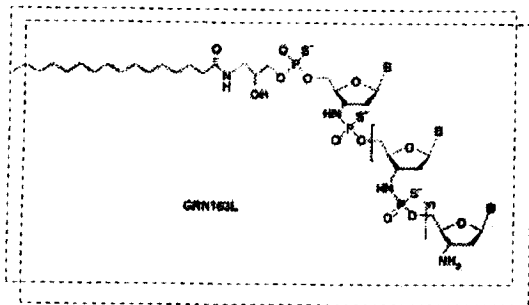
For example

Targeting telomerase agent ; GRN163L, BIBR1532, AZT-TP, EGCG

Targeting telomere agent(TTAs); BRACO19, PIPERT, TMPyP4, Telomestatin, 12459



概略図：テロメア・テロメラーゼとその阻害剤



## 2. UCS1025A - a new antitumor antibiotics

Isolation; from *Acremonium* sp. KY4917 in 1999 by Kyowa Hakko group.

Structure and stereochemistry elucidation

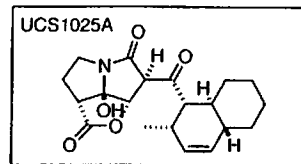
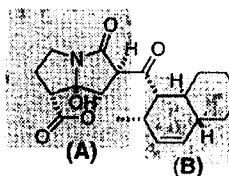
studied by Kyowa Hakko group (*Organic Letters* **2002**, *4*, 4387)

a novel natural product

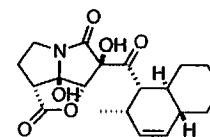
two segments; an unique **tricyclic skeleton (A)** including a pyrrolidine fused with a  $\gamma$ -lactone  
a **trans decaline moiety (B)**.

Bioactivity; Against both Gram-positive and negative bacteria,  
antiproliferative activity against human tumor cell lines  
IC<sub>50</sub> 21-58  $\mu$ M

relatively



UCS1025B was also isolated  
But no biological activity



UCS1025B

Total synthesis by Danishefsky (2-1.) Coupling **A + B**

by Dyornikovs (2-2.) Biomimetic

Hoyle

### 2-1. Total synthesis by Danishefsky (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 426)

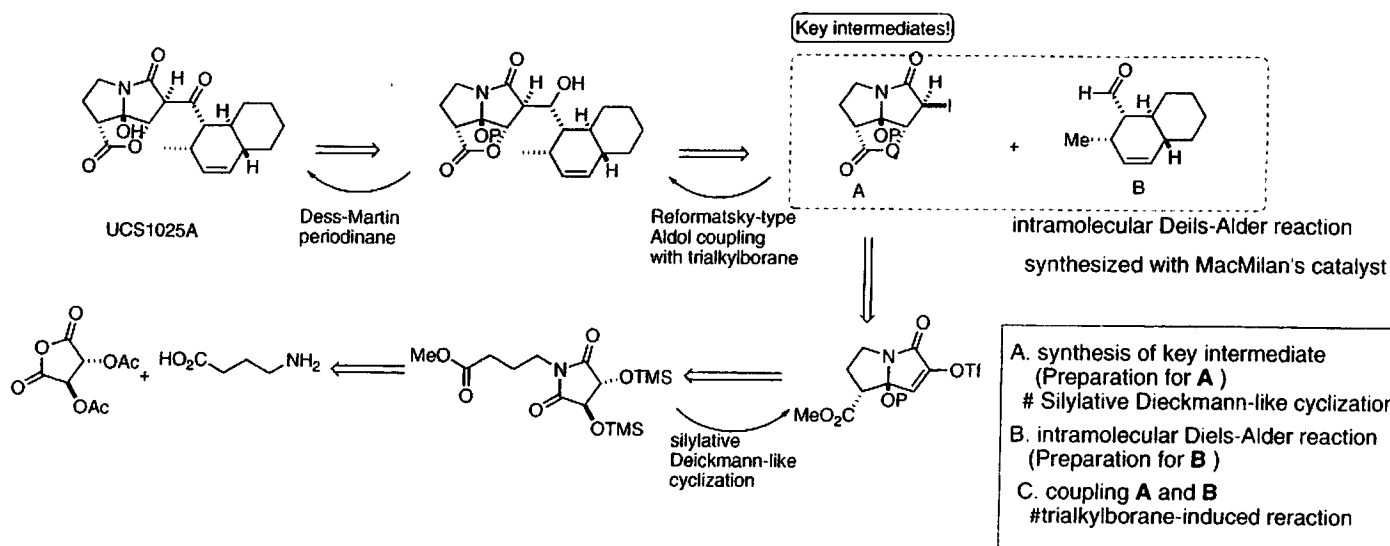
2006 December 18, C&EN

p17- Chemistry Highlights 2006

The first total synthesis of UCS1025A, a promising inhibitor of the enzyme telomerase, was achieved in an **remarkably concise manner**

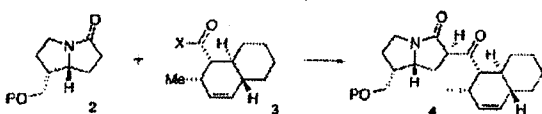
an approach that sidestepped problems encountered in earlier efforts-

#### Retrosynthetic analysis

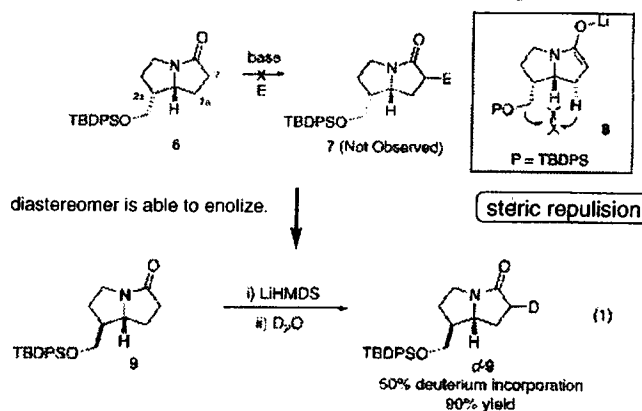


#### Unsuccessful attempt

##### Scheme 1. Original Synthetic Strategy toward UCS1025A



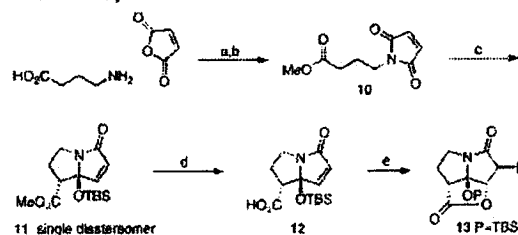
##### Scheme 2. Attempted Functionalization of Core Fragment 2



## A. synthesis of key intermediate A

### Racemic synthesis of target intermediate 13

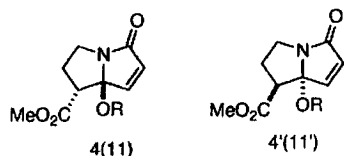
Scheme 3. Synthesis of iodolactone 13<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Key: (a) AcOH, then toluene, Et<sub>3</sub>N, reflux, Dean-Stark trap (75%); (b) SOCl<sub>2</sub>, MeOH (77%); (c) TBSOTf, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, r.t. (80%); (d) LiOH·H<sub>2</sub>O, 3:1 THF:H<sub>2</sub>O (99%); (e) I<sub>2</sub>, sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Et<sub>2</sub>O, THF (84%).

- (a) 1,2 addition of amine to carbonyl group and cyclization  
 (b) methyl esterification  
 (c) Silylative Dieckmann-like cyclization and OH protection with TBS  
 (d) hydrolysis  
 (e) iodolactonization

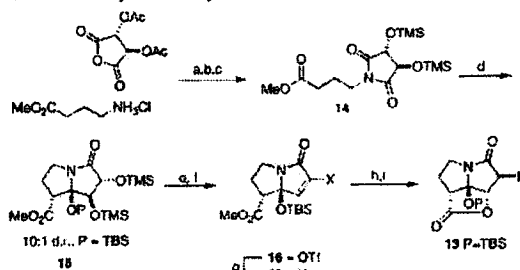
11 was obtained in high yield as a single diastereomer, but to get optically pure material, they tried asymmetric synthesis



to get desire 4 only

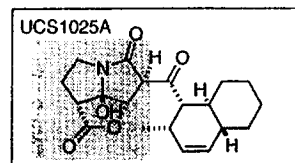
### Asymmetric synthesis of target intermediate 13

Scheme 4. Asymmetric Synthesis of 13<sup>a</sup>



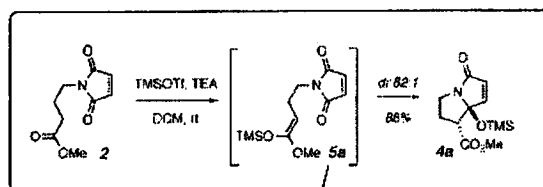
<sup>a</sup> Key: (a) (i) Et<sub>3</sub>NH, THF; (ii) AcCl, reflux (51%); (b) AcCl, MeOH (79%); (c) TMSCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (85%); (d) TBSOTf, Pr<sub>3</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C to r.t. (79%); (e) AcOH, 1 N HCl, THF; (f) Tl<sub>2</sub>O, pyridine, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C to r.t., then pyridine (76%, two steps); (g) Bu<sub>3</sub>SnH, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, LiCl, THF (52%); (h) LiOH, 3:1 THF:H<sub>2</sub>O (99%); (i) I<sub>2</sub>, sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Et<sub>2</sub>O, THF (84%).

- (a) (i) 1,2 addition of amine to carbonyl group  
 (ii) then cyclization  
 (b) deprotection of acetyl groups  
 (c) OH protection with TMS  
 (d) Silylative Dieckmann-like cyclization and OH protection with TBS  
 (e) deprotection of TMS group  
 (f) conversion of OH to triflate  
 (g) cross-coupling  
 (g) hydrolysis  
 (h) iodolactonization

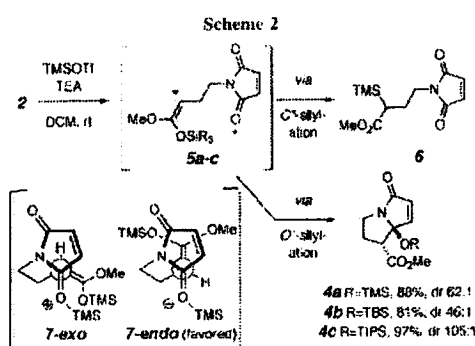


### # Silylative Dieckmann-like cyclization

14 to 15; Silylative Dieckmann-like cyclization of Ester-Imides (*Organic letters*, 2006, 8, 5191)



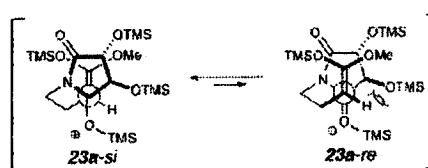
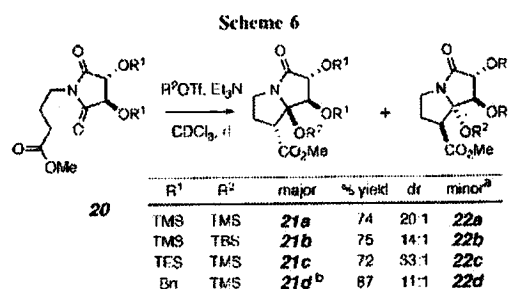
ketene silyl acetal



cationic process involving ketene silyl acetal(5a-c), and it serves as nucleophiles

the bicyclic lactam 4a was produced in high diastereomeric ratio. the endo product was predominantly formed  
 O-silylated imide carbonyl prevent nucleophiles from approaching.

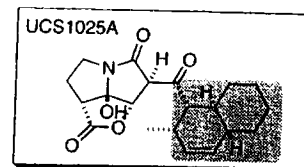
6 wasn't obtained.  
 C\*-silylated ester was minor product, because silylation at the O\* atoms is faster than that of C\*



lactam 21 were obtained with excellent diastereoselectivity. approach from the *re* face is disfavored by repulsion between OR<sub>1</sub> and H.

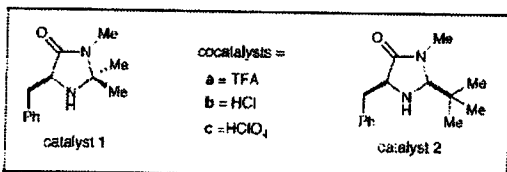
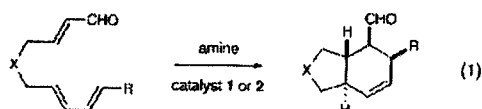
B. Enantioselective Organocatalytic Intermolecular Diels-Alder reaction  
 (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 11616)  
 (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 4243)

**MacMillan's catalyst**

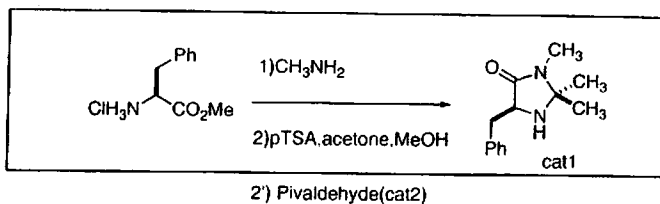


the LUMO-lowering activation of a  $\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyls via reversible formation of iminium cation.

**Organocatalytic Intramolecular Diels-Alder (IMDA)**



**Synthesis of catalyst**

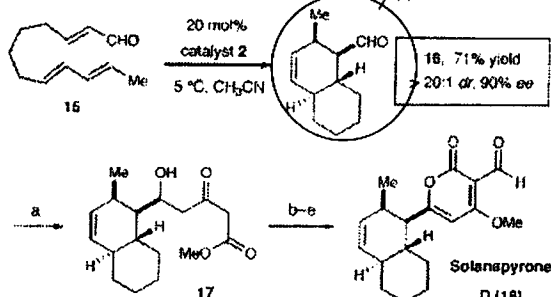


**Table 1. Organocatalyzed Intramolecular Diels-Alder Reaction**

entry	triene <sup>a</sup>	amine catalyst <sup>b</sup>	product	% yield <sup>c</sup>	endo:exo	% ee
1		1a		84	>20:1	77
2		2a		85	>20:1	93
3		1a		47	4:1	87
4		2a		75	>20:1	94
11		1		<10	—	—
12		2c		70	>20:1	92

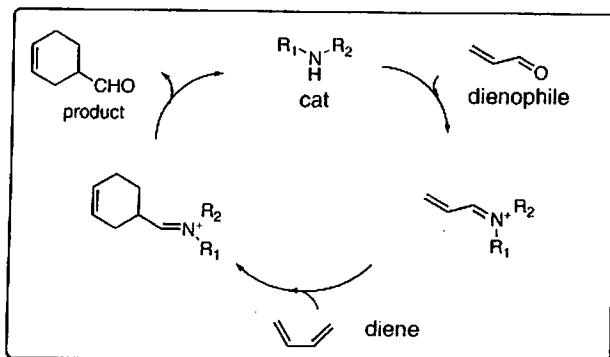
cat 2 showed better result than cat1

**Scheme 1. Catalytic Total Synthesis of Solanapyrone D<sup>2</sup>**

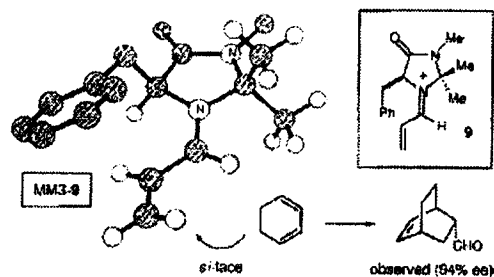


<sup>a</sup> Key: (a) Methyl acetoacetate bis(trimethylsilyl) enol ether, TiCl<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C, 75%. (b) Dess-Martin Periodinane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 71%. (c) DBU, benzene, 60 °C, 87%. (d) Methyl *p*-toluenesulfonate, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, room temperature, 81%. (e) LDA, THF, -78 °C to 0 °C; methyl formate, -78 °C, 57% (91% based on recovered starting material).

**Mechanism**

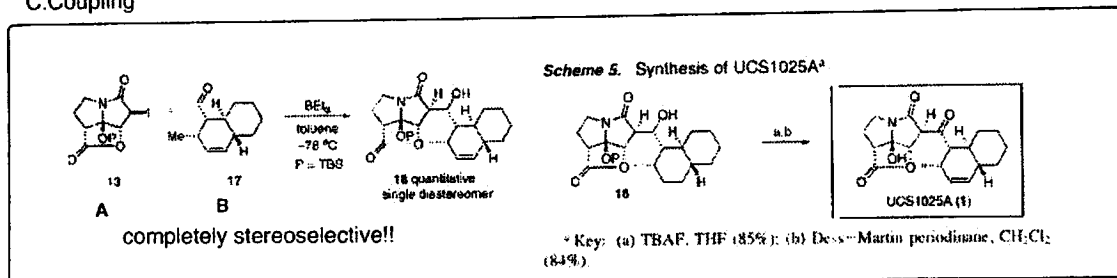


**Inspection of structure of catalyst by MM3**



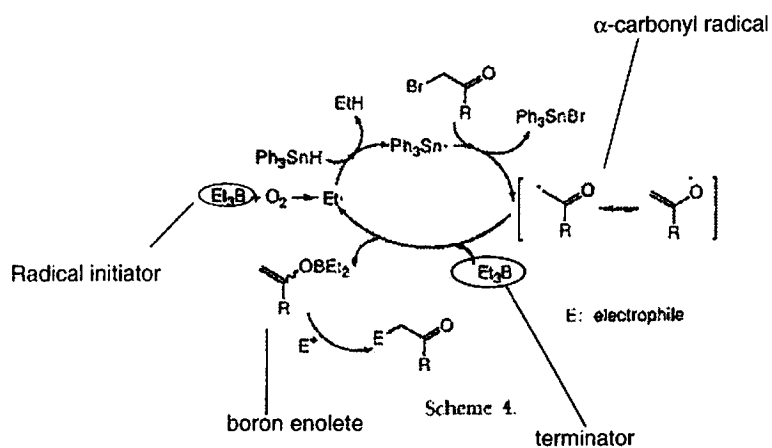
the benzyl group effectively shields the *re* face of the dienophile *si* face exposed to cycloaddition.

C. Coupling

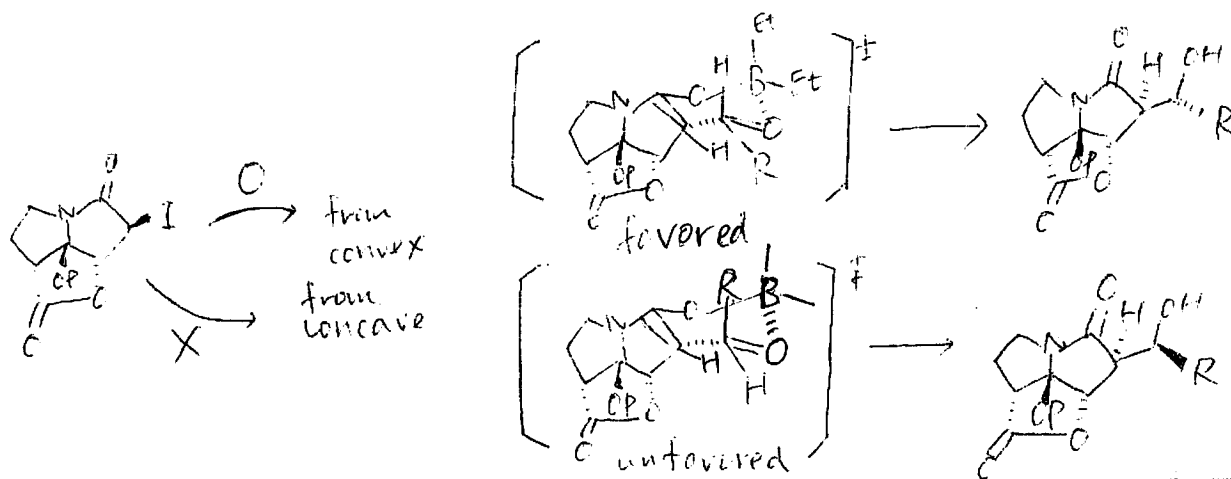


13 to 18  
#Trialkylborane as an initiator and terminator of free radical reaction  
reduction of  $\alpha$ -halo ketenes.  
(*Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* 1991, 64, 403)

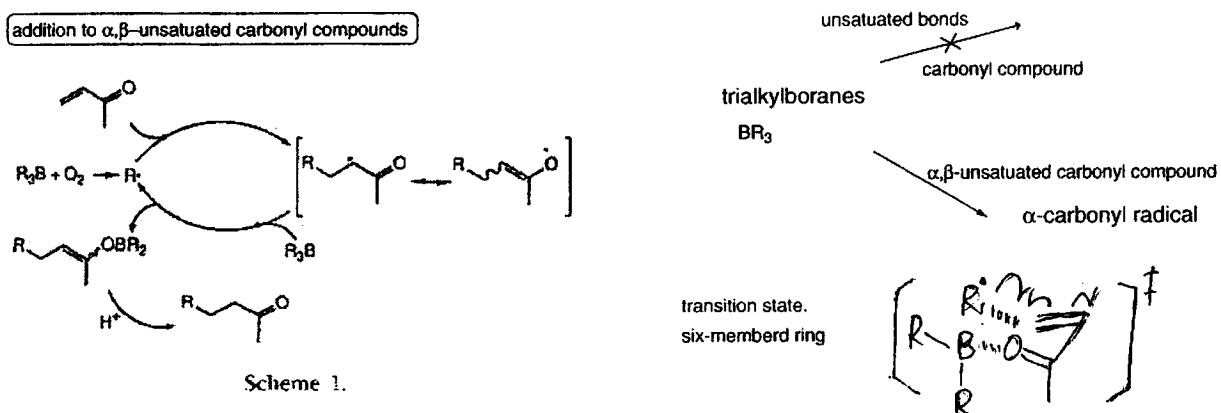
Reformatsky type reaction



trialkylborane acts as an initiator and as a terminator to trap  $\alpha$ -carbonyl radical reaction of  $\alpha$ -iodo ketones proceeded without Ph<sub>3</sub>SnH

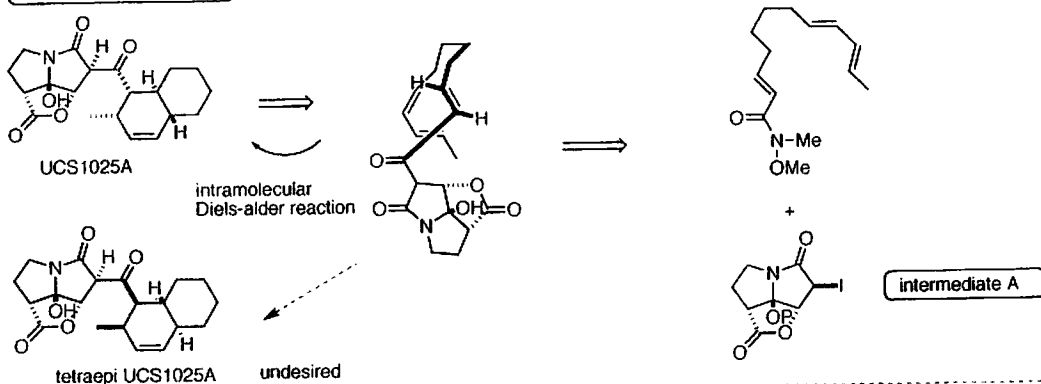


addition to  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compounds



1-3. Total synthesis by Dvornikovs (Biomimetic Total Synthesis) (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, 128, 2550)

Outline of Synthesis

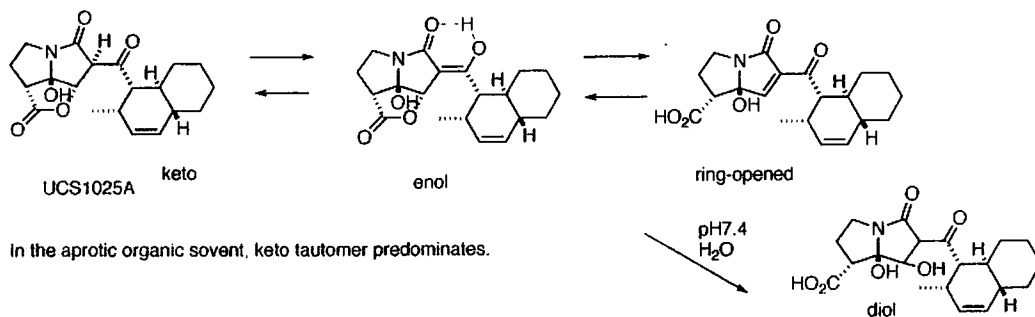


# How trans decalin formation occurs during the biosynthesis ?

under chemical condition

- only UCS1025A is formed → the Diels-Alder reaction is thermodynamical reaction.
- both UCS1025A and tetraepimer are formed → an intermolecular Diels-Alder (IMDA) cyclization is operative

chemical equilibria- three tautomeric isomers exist



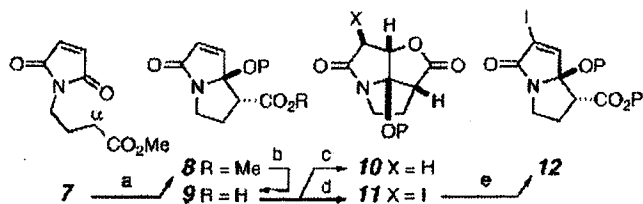
# Isomeric species (keto and enol and the ring-opened carboxylate) were observed during the isolation study.

All isomeric species possesses dienophilic character.

Is the reaction rate and diastereoselectivity unique to each of these structures?

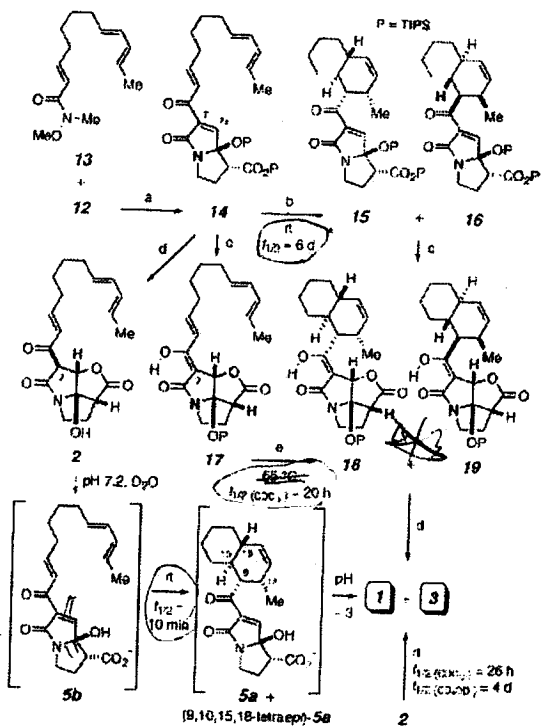
Synthesis of intermediate A

Scheme 2<sup>a</sup>

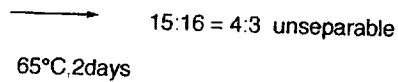


<sup>a</sup> Throughout: P = TIPS (*i*-Pr<sub>3</sub>Si). (a) TIPSOH, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, rt, 97%; (b) LiOH, THF, H<sub>2</sub>O, rt, 97%; (c) C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 80 °C, quantitative (by <sup>1</sup>H NMR); (d) NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1:2, rt, 93%; (e) TIPSCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, Et<sub>2</sub>O, rt, 82%.

Scheme 3<sup>a</sup>

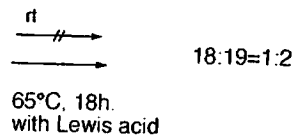


14  
(OH protected  
ring-opened)



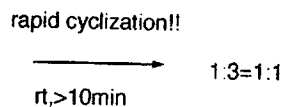
not selective

17  
(OH protected enol)



not selective

5b  
(ring open  
natural substrate)



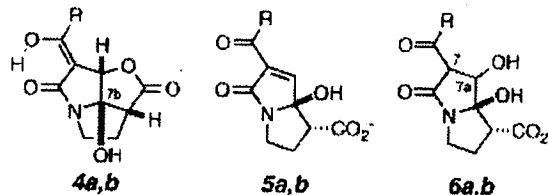
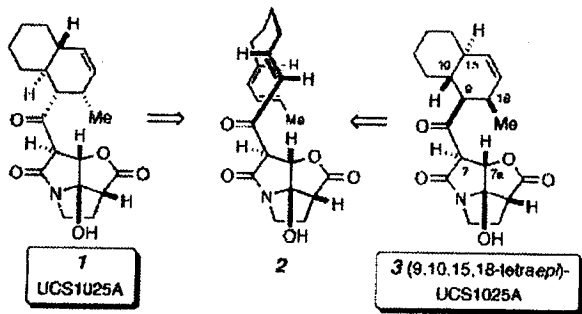
not selective

under argument

This IMDA needs some enzyme to occur the reaction (Diels-Alderase??), or might be an enzyme that breaks the one product.

Experiments in biologically relevant (aqueous, metal-ion mediated) is needed.

Scheme 1



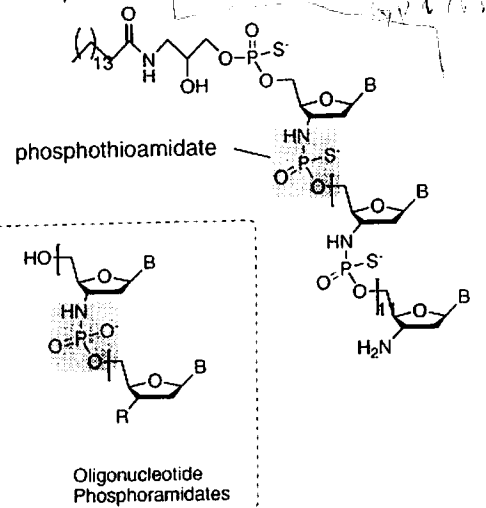
a R = methyloctalynyl (as in 1)    b R = undeca-1,7,9-trienyl (as in 2)



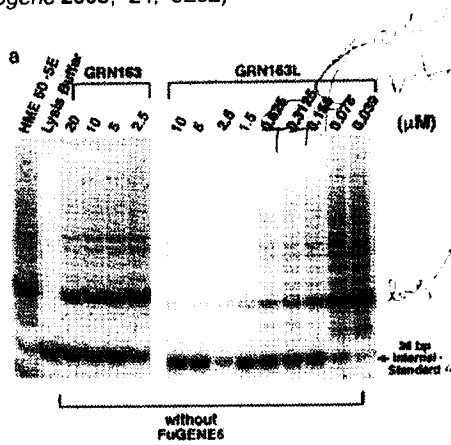
3. GRN163L - an application to clinic -

**GRN163L**

oligonucleotide N3'-P5' phosphothioamidate  
 negatively charged at neutral pH  
 resistant to nuclease degradation  
 high specificity and stability for DNA targets  
 secondary stabilizing interactions with the regions of hTERT



both in vitro and in vivo improvement  
 (Cancer Research 2005, 65, 7866  
 Oncogene 2005, 24, 5262)



comparison of GRN163 and GRN163L in TRAP

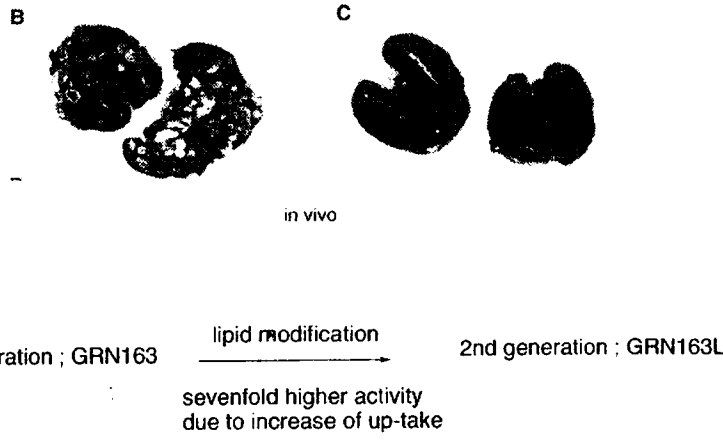
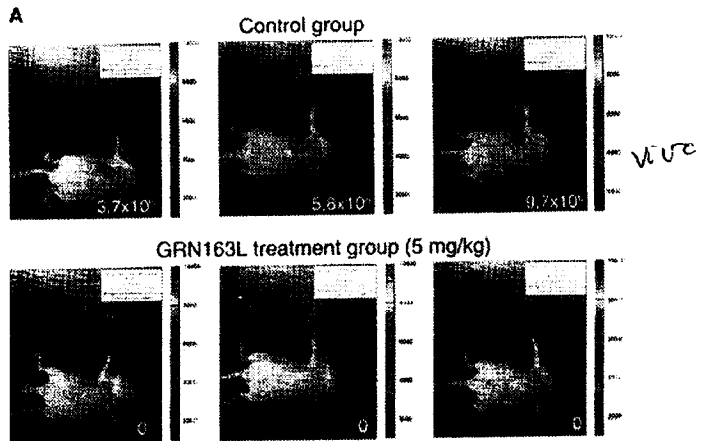
Table 1 Comparison of telomerase activity IC<sub>50</sub> values between GRN163L and GRN163 in tumor cell lines\*

Cell type	Cell line	GRN163L: IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	GRN163: IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	Fold Δ
Cervical	HT-3	0.29	1.39	4.8
Glioblastoma	U251	0.17	1.75	10
	UK7	0.18	0.8	4.4
Hepatoma	Hep3B	1.35	3.02	2.2
	HepG2	0.48	2.72	5.7
Lung	NCI-H522	0.23	0.75	3.3
Melanoma	M14	0.35	0.69	2.0
	SK-MEL-2	0.19	1.13	5.9
	SK-MEL-5	0.38	0.54	1.4
	SK-MEL-28	0.94	3.29	3.5
Myeloma	RPM1 8226	0.38	2.69	7.1
Ovarian	Ovar5	0.92	3.03	3.3
Prostate	DU145	0.15	5.8	39

comparison of GRN163 and GRN163L

# Currently in Phase 1 clinical trials for solid tumors patients  
 Phase 1/2 for chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)

Nov. 10, 2006  
 Geron reported  
 the first clinical trial data, which showed the **safety**, **tolerability** and **predicted pharmacokinetics**  
 in low-dose cohorts from a Phase 1/2 trial in patients with CLL and a Phase 1 trial in patients with solid tumors.

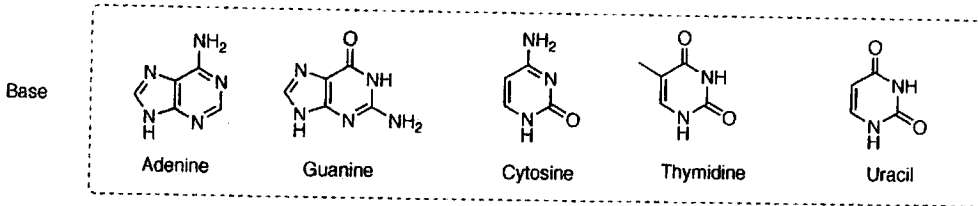
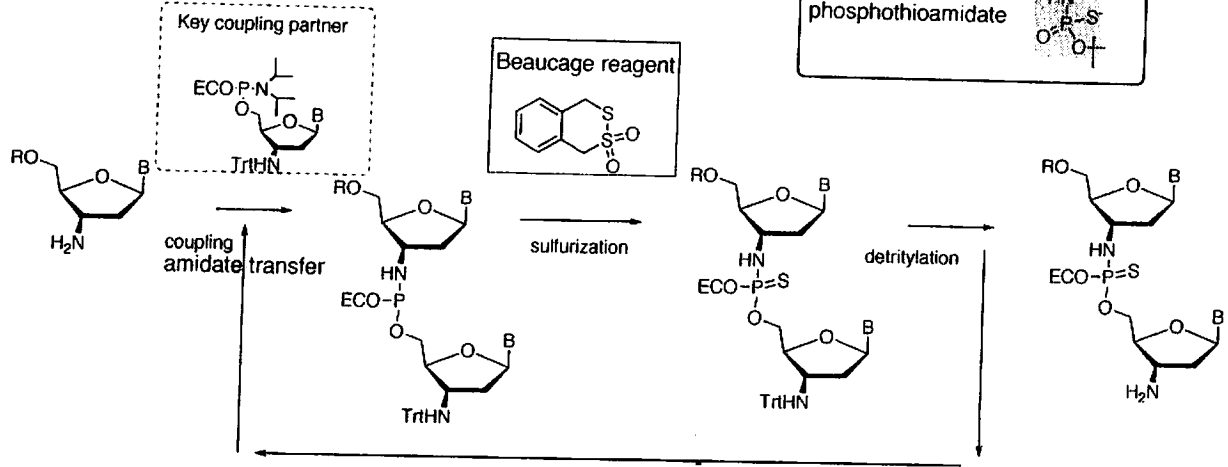
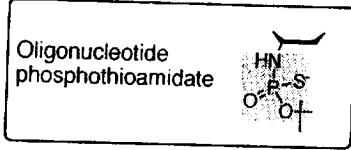


another trial was lipophilic carrier; not easily translate to clinic (low toxicity and easily administered)

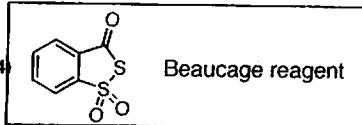
# Synthesis  
phosphoramidate transfer methology

Oligonucleotide N3' to P5' thiophosphoramidates (*Tetrahedron letters* 1999, 40, 7661)

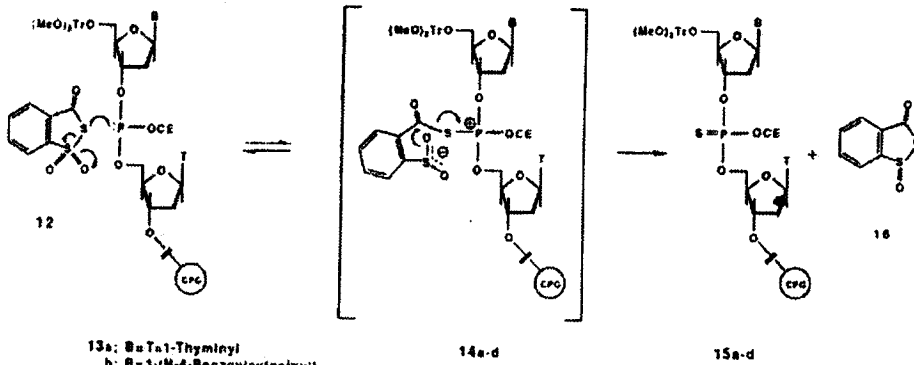
How to synthesis?



Sulfur-transfer reagent(Beaucage reagent) (*J. Org.Chem.* 1990, 55, 4694)



Reaction mechanism

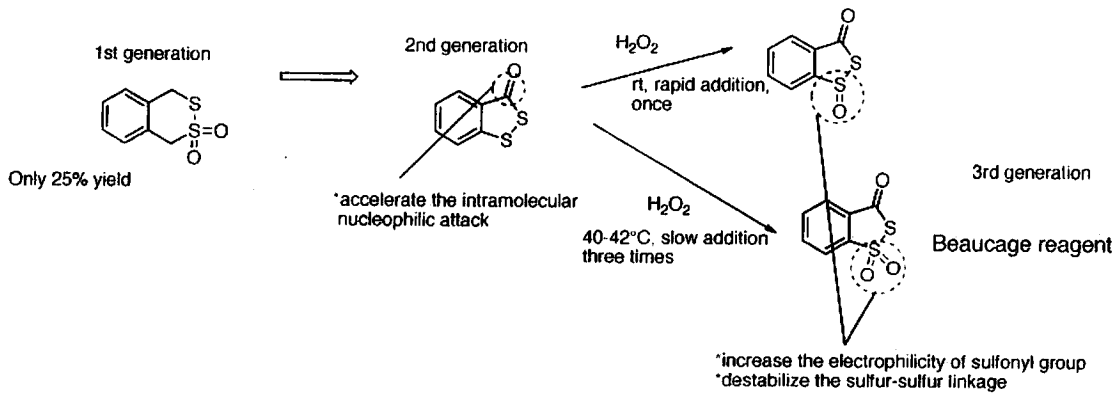


13a: B= Ts-1-Thymidyl  
b: B= 1-(N-4-Benzoylcytosinyl)  
c: B= 8-(N-6-Benzoyladeninyl)  
d: B= 9-(N-2-isobutyl-guaninyl)


15a-d were obtained in 99% yield!!

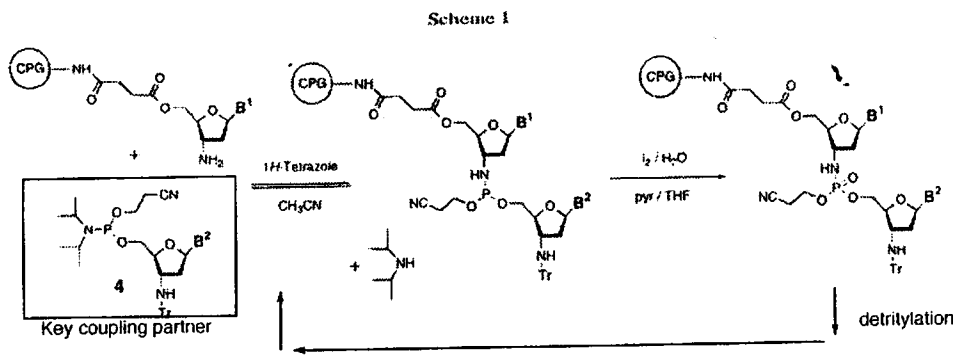
(MeO)<sub>2</sub>Tr: di(*p*-anisyl)phenylmethyl  
CE: *s*-cyanoethyl  
CPG: Controlled-pore glass

\* the most common reagent for oligonucleotide phosphorothioates  
\* stable in CH<sub>3</sub>CN for prolonged period of time without losing significant activity.  
\* poor stability in solution once installed on the DNA synthesizer.

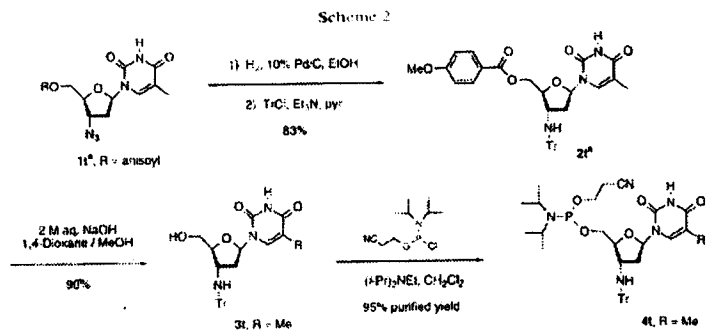
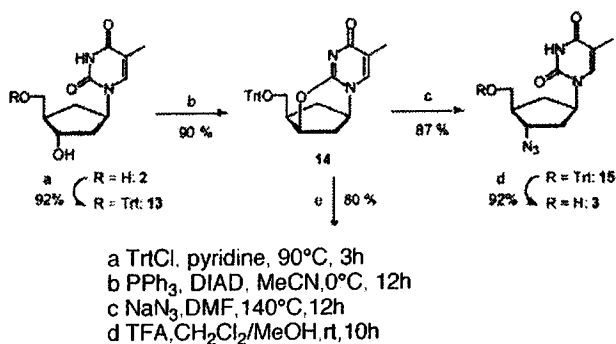


N3' to P5' oligonucleotide Phosphoramidates (Phosphoramidate Amine-Exchange reaction)  
 (J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 7278)

How about?  
  
 Oligonucleotide Phosphoramidates



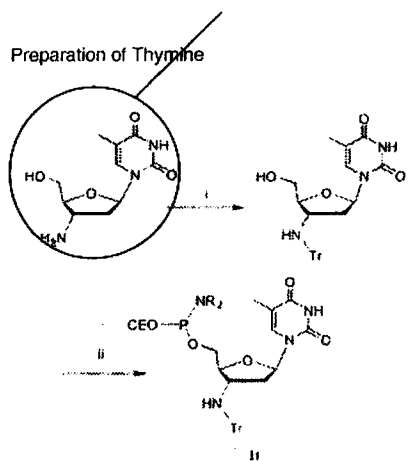
How to prepare key intermediate 4



total yield 4-5%(purine) and 15-20%(pyrimidine)  
 preparation of purine 10steps, pyrimidine 7steps.

New approach to oligonucleotide N3' to P5' phosphoramidate building blocks  
 (Tetrahedron Letters 2006, 47, 4495)

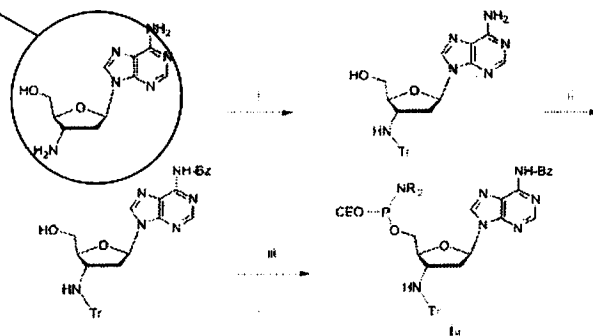
Nowdays 3' amino nucleosides are commercially available!! → overall yield up to 70%



Scheme 1. Synthesis of thymidine phosphoramidate 11, where (i) TrtCl, Py/TEA(Pr)<sub>2</sub>; (ii) (tPr)<sub>2</sub>NHClOCE, Et<sub>3</sub>N(Pr)<sub>2</sub>; R = Ar; CE = 2-cyanoethyl

Preparation of Adenine

Due to presence of secondary amino group, different tritylation condition is used.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of adenosine phosphoramidate 14, where (i) TrtCl, Py/DMF/Et<sub>3</sub>N, (ii) BzCl, Py, (iii) (tPr)<sub>2</sub>NHClOCE, Et<sub>3</sub>N(Pr)<sub>2</sub>; R = Ar; CE = 2-cyanoethyl.

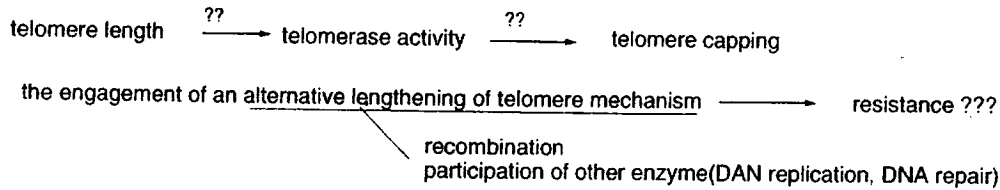
4. What's going on telomerase inhibitor?

# comparison

	Advantage	Limitation
targeting telomerase	on the way to the first approved telomerase inhibitor!	delay of efficiency effects dependent on initial telomere length.
TTAs(telomere targeting agents)	significant antitumour activity in vivo within a few days of treatment. broad-spectrum utility (solid tumors and haematological malignancies)	interact with nontelomeric G-quadruplexes (non-specific)

Problems to be addressed

# Underlying biology is complicated.



# Selection of relevant species

Mice have relatively long telomeres and different telomerase biology.  
So it's difficult to predict clinical utility of findings from regulatory toxicology and safety pharmacology studies conducted in mice.

→ appropriate preclinical human xenografted tumor experiments

# Clinic assessment

optimal scheduling, predictive markers,

pre-selection of patients to use measures of telomere length in biopsy material

→ need to combine with other established molecular targeting agents