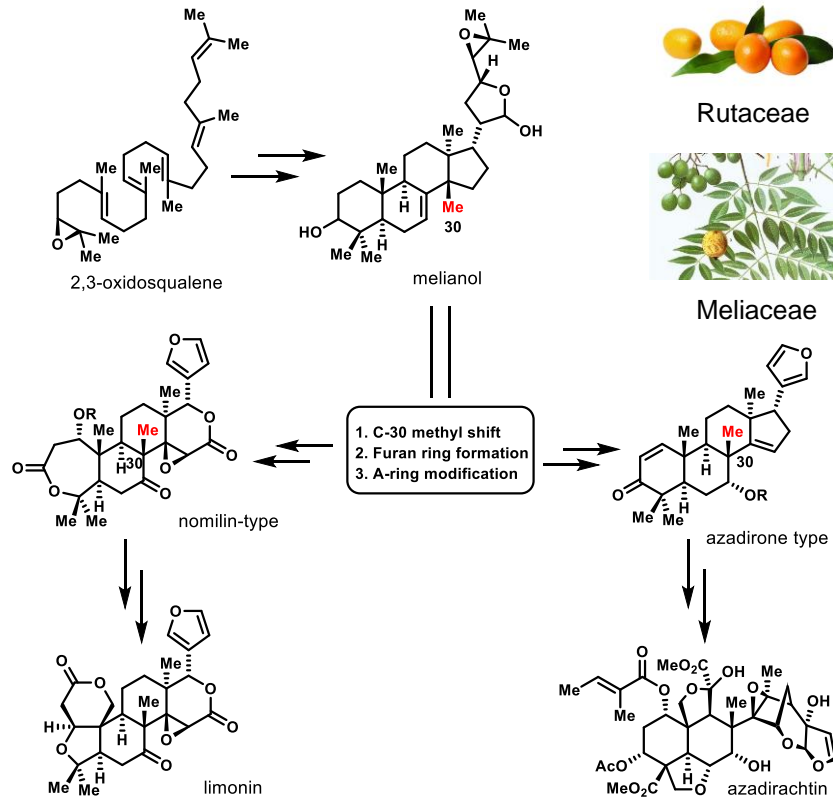


basic limonoid skeleton

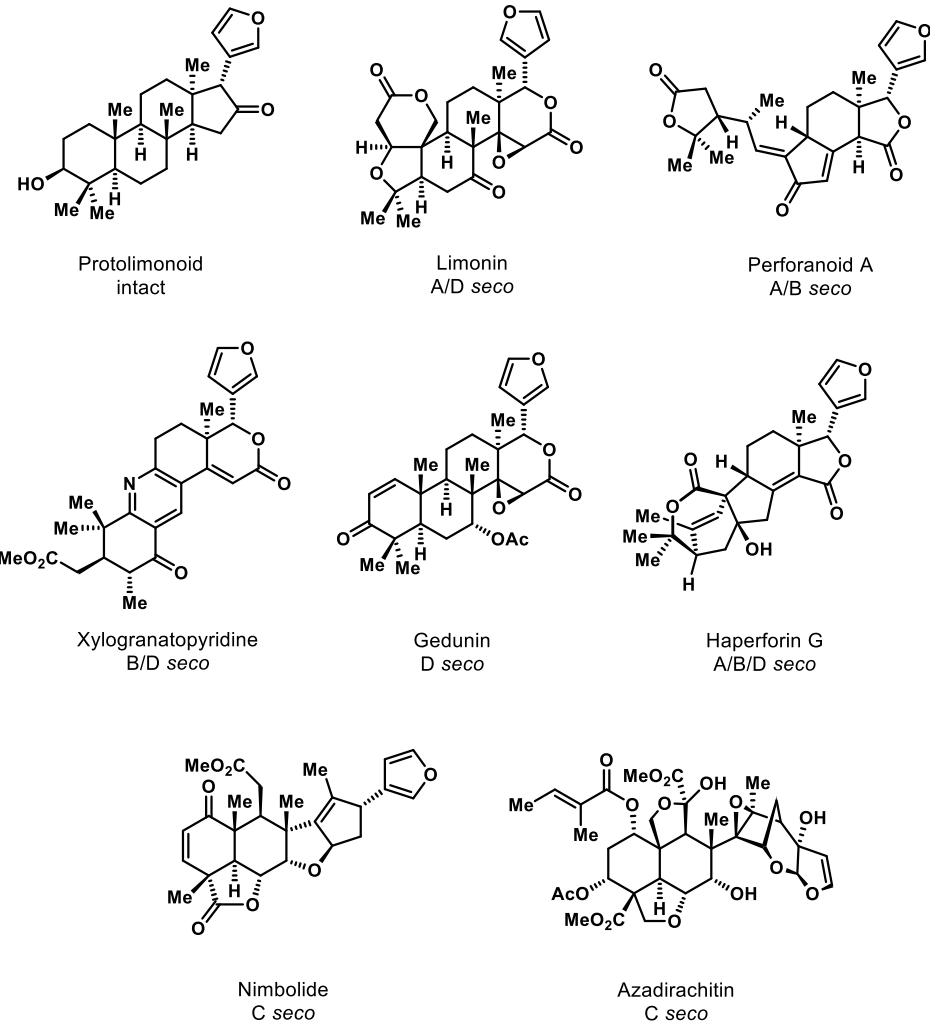
Limonoid family feature

- the most impressive symbol structure is the **furan** ring
- classified by completion of A/B/C/D Rings if one of these rings fractured is called "X ring-seco type limonoid"
- majorly found in *Meliaceae* and *Rutaceae*
- nearly 2500 limonoids with over 35 unique carbon frameworks have been observed

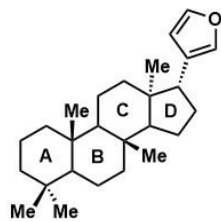
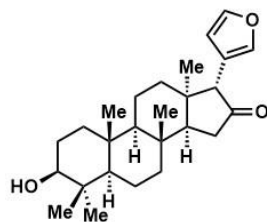
Proposed biosynthetic pathway



Presentative total synthesis works of the limonoid family



I. Protolimonoid

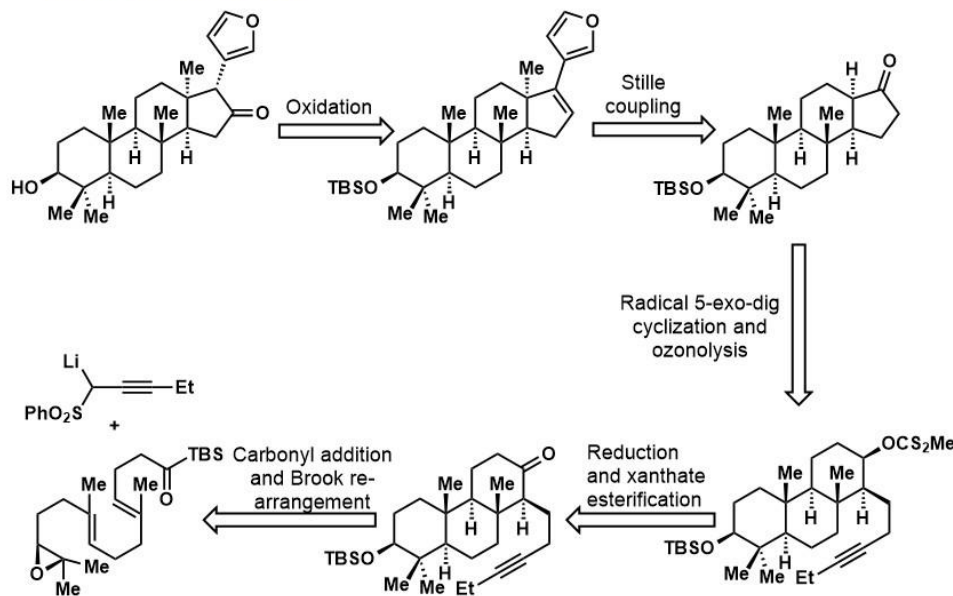


four intact rings type
4,4,8-trimethyl-17-furyl-13 α -androstane

Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- preplex chiral centers
- relatively low oxidation state compared to other limonoids

Retrosynthetic analysis



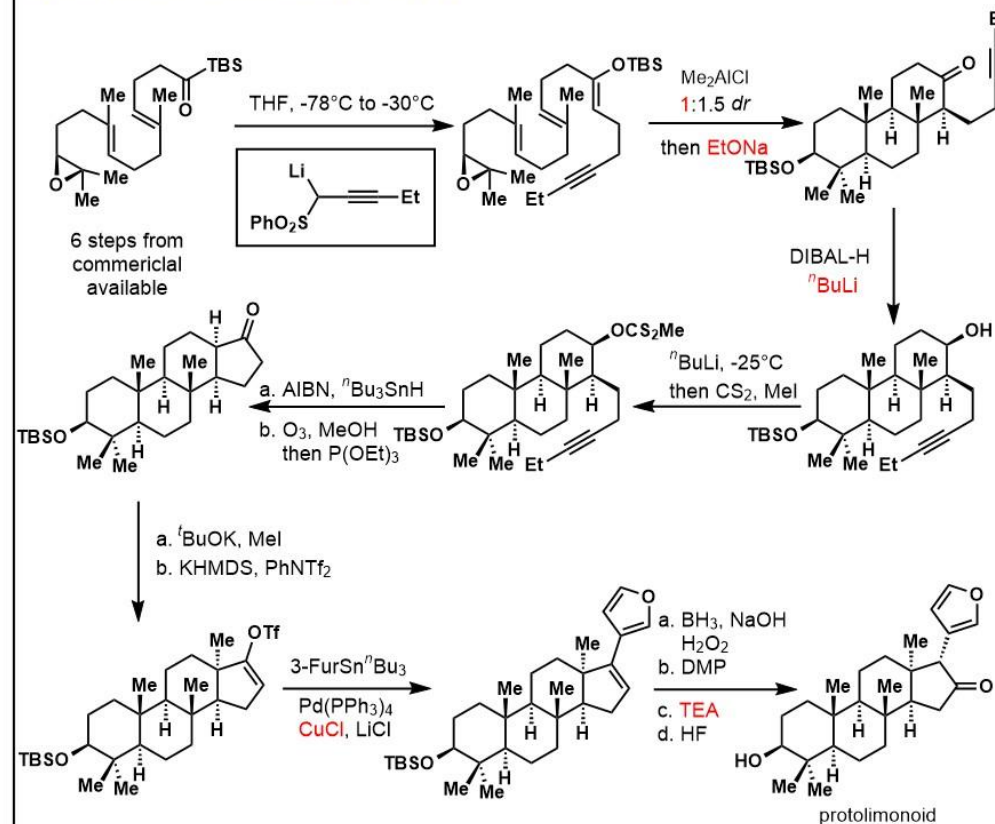
Main issues

- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- easily oxidizable furan ring

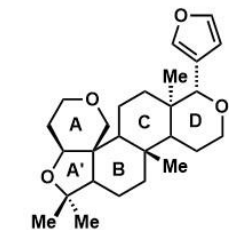
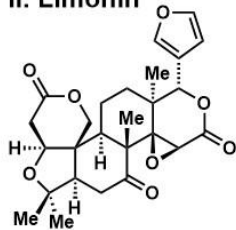
Main strategy

- cationic triple annulation
- radical ring closure
- bimetallic coupling

Synthesis of Protolimonoid (20 steps)



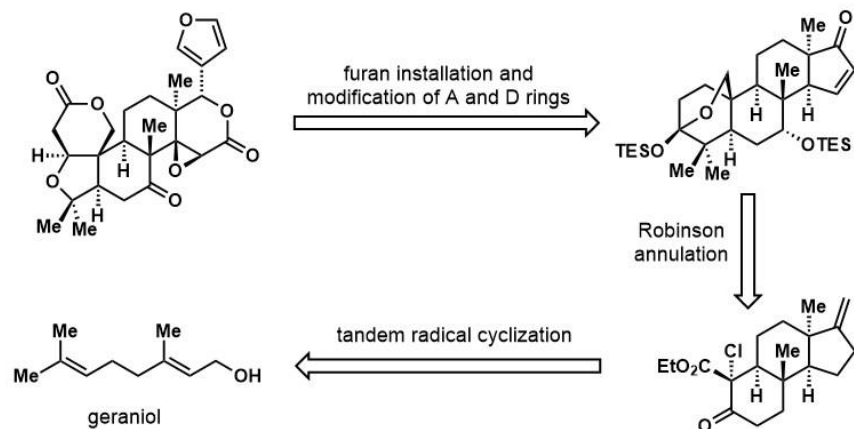
II. Limonin



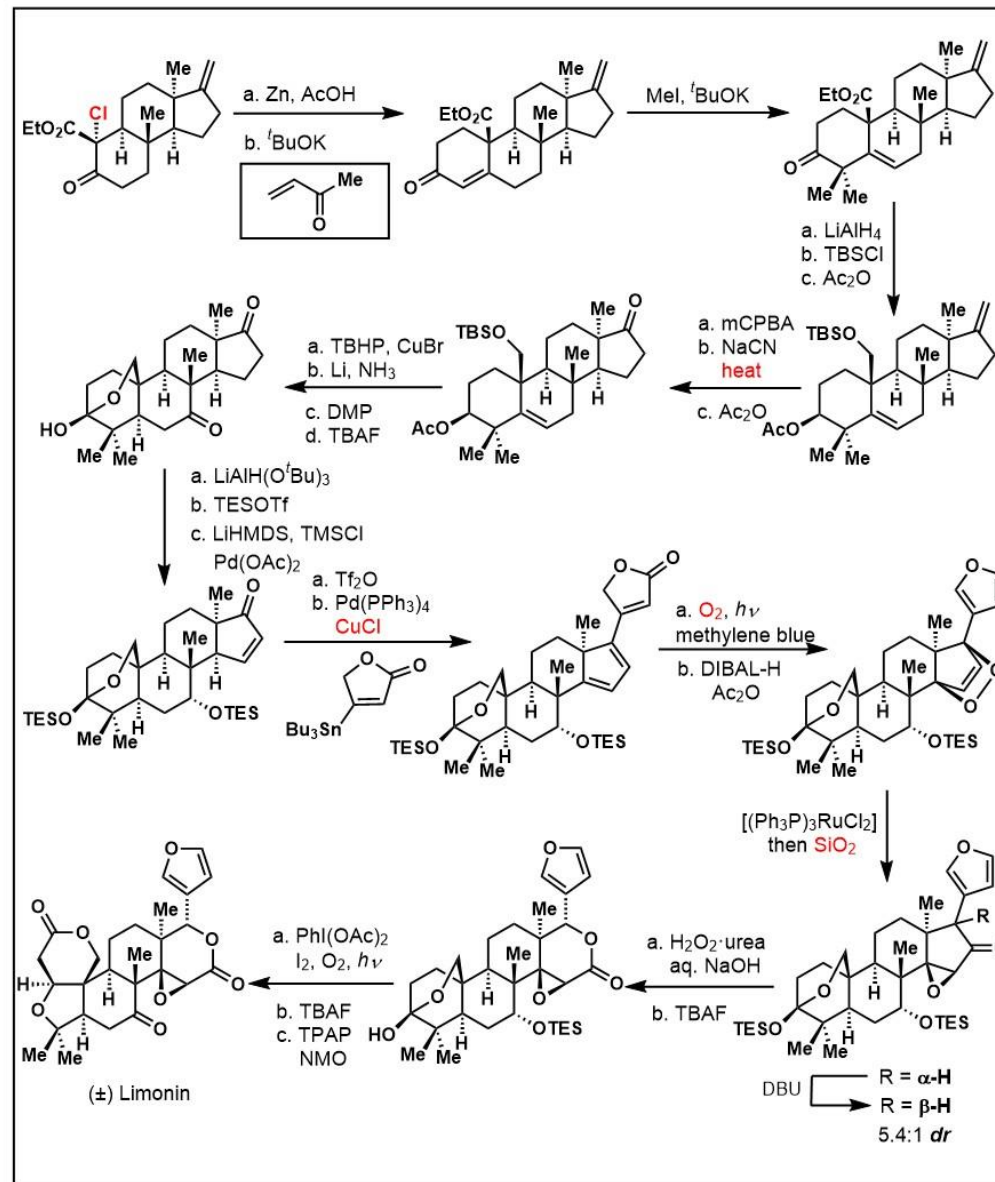
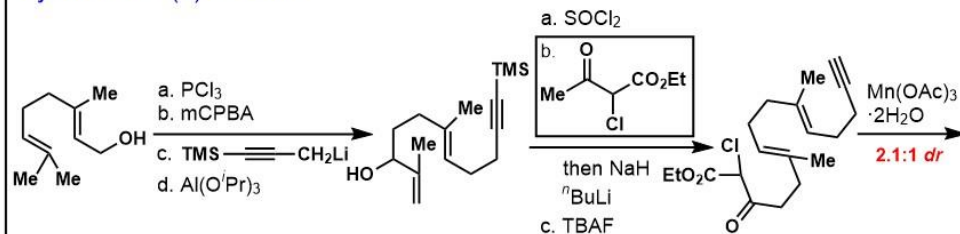
A/D rings seco type limonoid

- Structure feature
- **flagship congener** in the tetranortriterpenoid family
 - preplex chiral centers
 - relatively **high** oxidation state

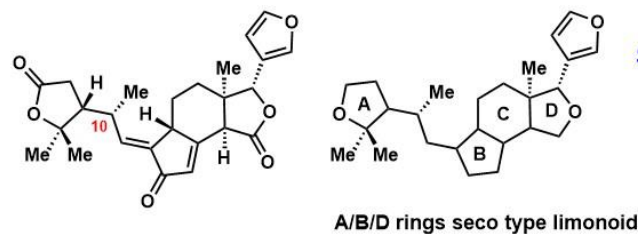
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthesis of (±) Limonin



III. Perforanoid A



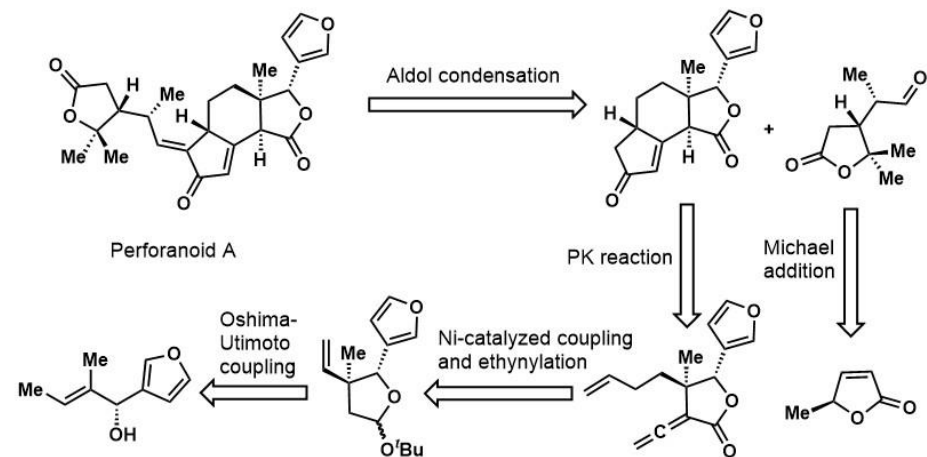
- Structure feature**
- tetranortriterpenoid family
 - preplex chiral centers
 - relatively low oxidation state
 - novel **BCD** ring system

A/B/D rings seco type limonoid

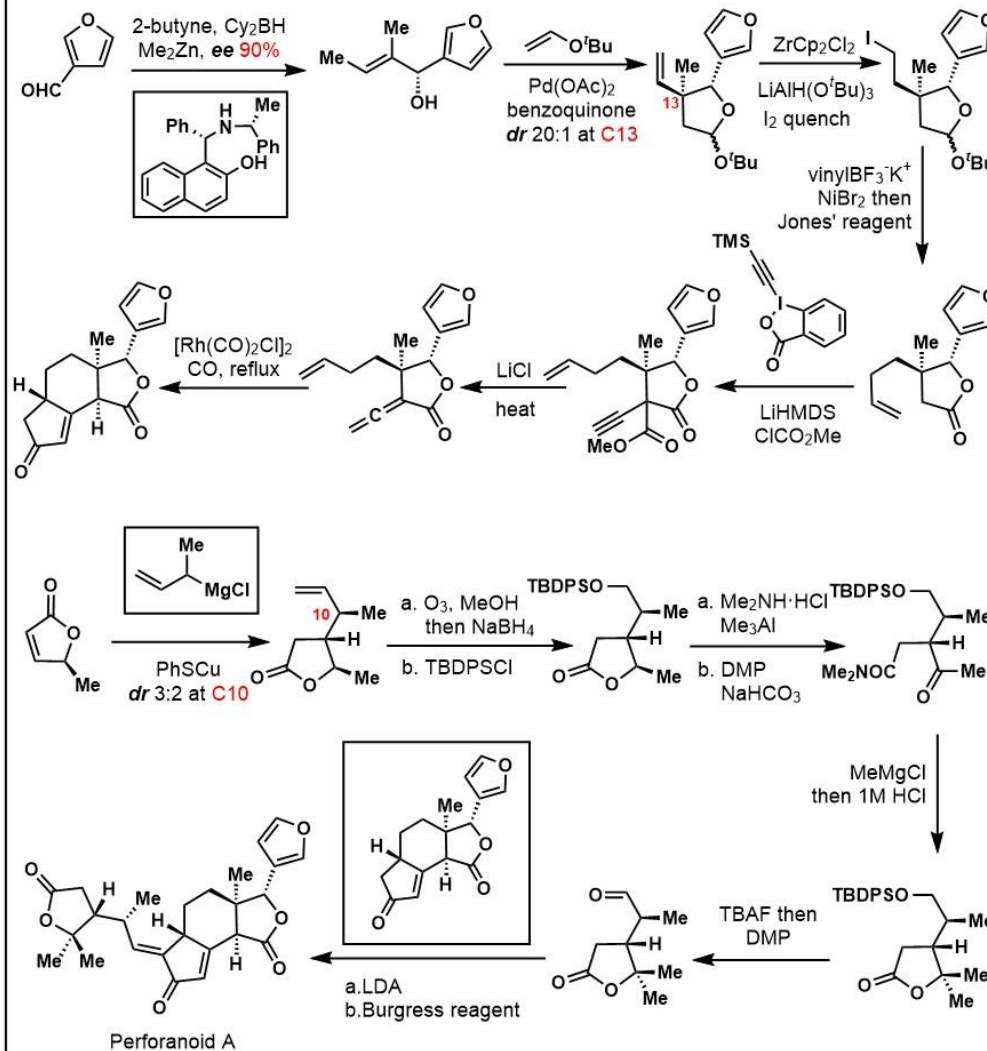
Background

- isolated by Xiaojiang Hao and co-workers, but configuration was uncertain at C10, eventually, proved by total synthesis with Zhen Yang and co-workers
- C10 absolute stereochemistry was confirmed by Mosher esterification via ^1H , ^{19}F NMR
- verified biological activities (IC_{50}) against HEL (6.17 μM), CB3 (3.91 μM), K562 (4.24 μM) indicating potential antileukemia activity.

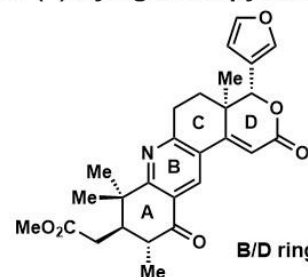
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthesis of Perforanoid A (10 steps)



IV. (-)-Xylogranatopyridine



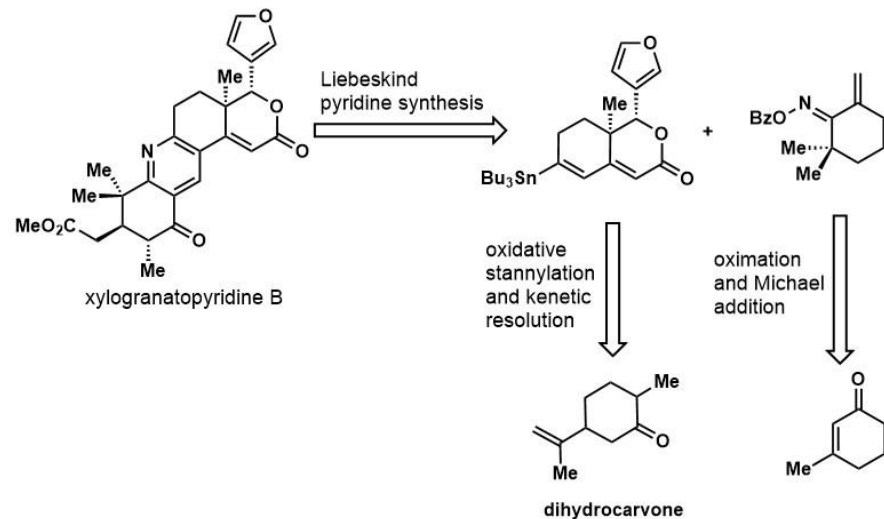
Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- possess a rare pyridine ring
- relatively low oxidation state
- flat skeleton structure of four rings

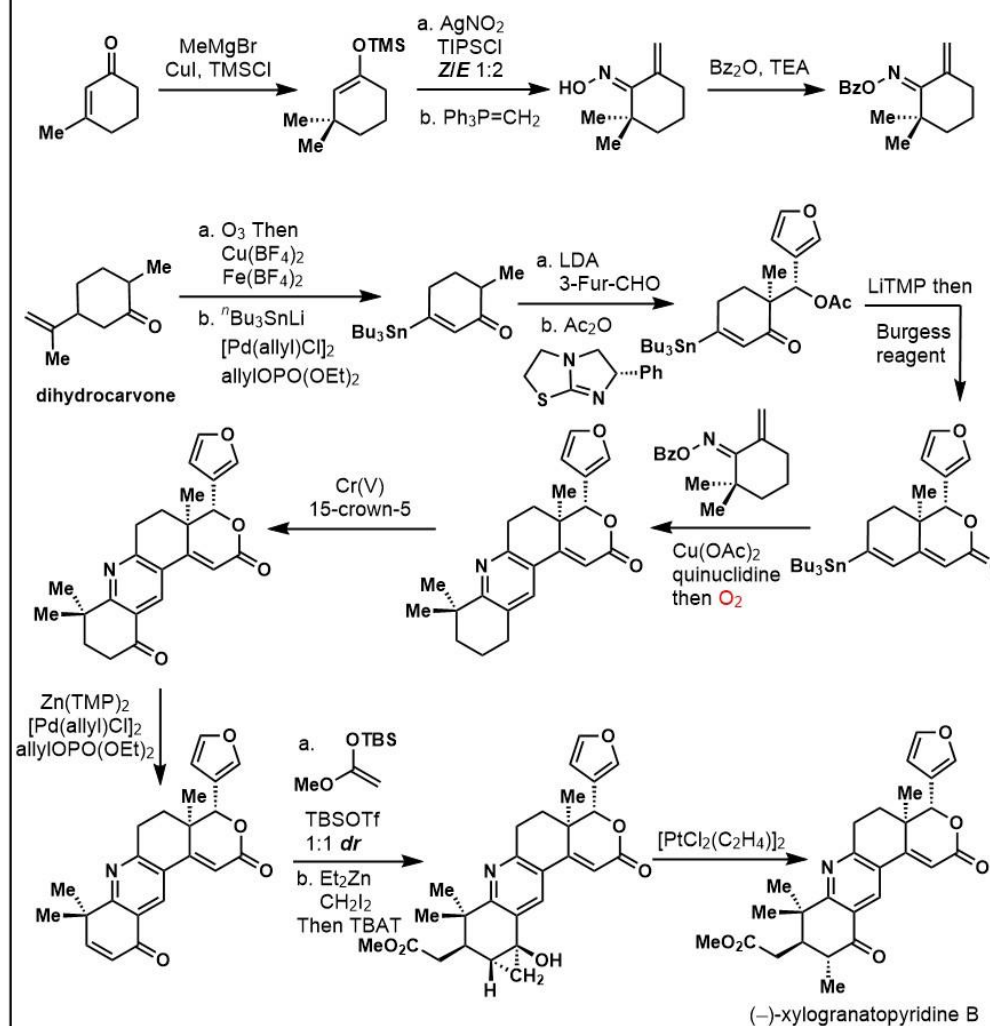
Background

- isolated from Chinese mangrove (*Xylocarpus granatum*)
- involved oxidative stannylation and kinetic resolution using (-)-Levamisole, providing a novel method for construction of the CD rings

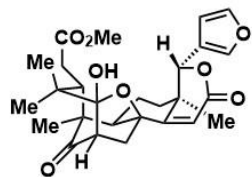
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthesis of (-)-Xylogranatopyridine B (11 steps)



V. Andriolide N



A/B/D rings seco type limonoid

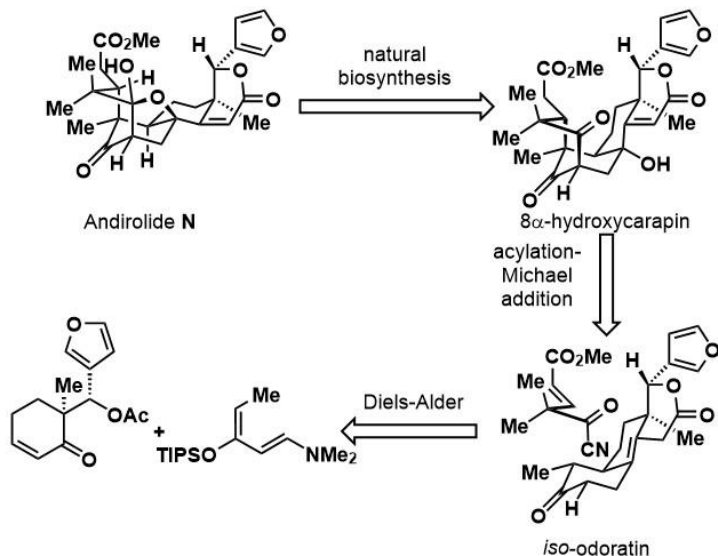
Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- possess complex cage like scaffold
- relatively high oxidation state

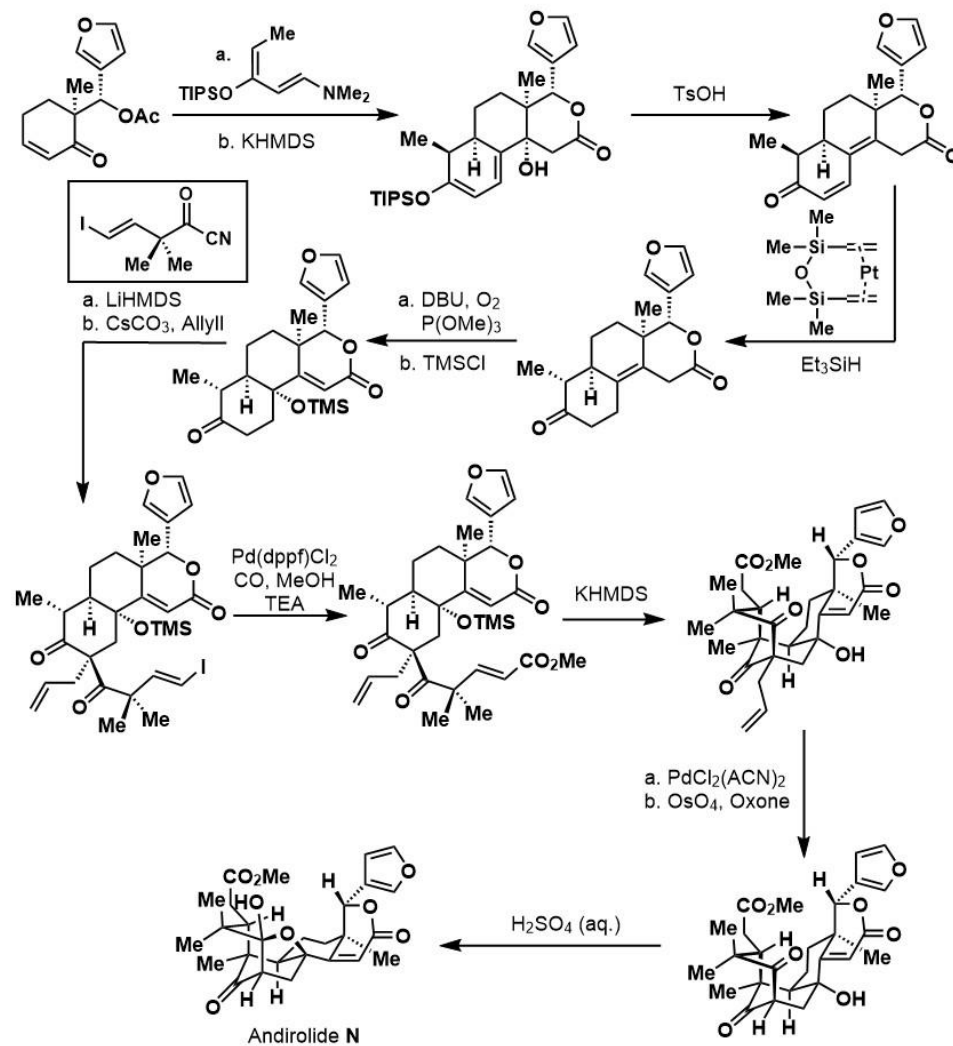
Background

- isolated from flower of mahogany (*Carapa guianensis*)
- simulate natural synthesis pathway to build the complex cage rings
- synthetic target is aim at a natural product degradation named *iso-odoratin*

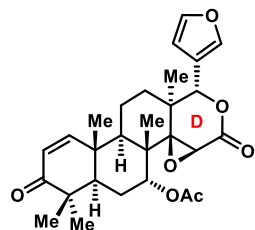
Retrosynthetic analysis



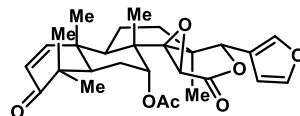
Synthesis of Andriolide N (12 steps)



VI. Gedunin



D ring seco type limonoid



3D structure

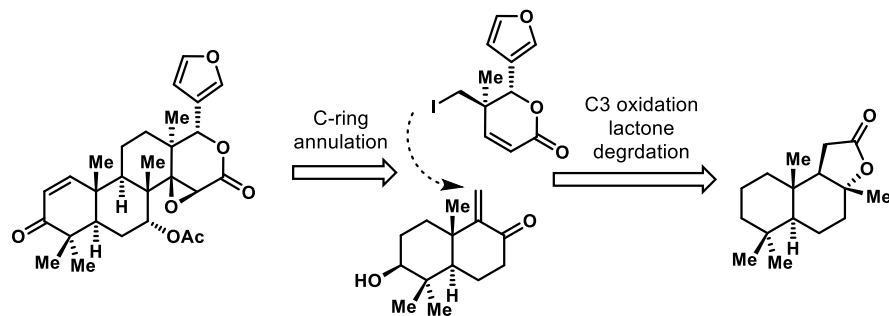
Background

- isolated from mangrove (*Xylocarpus Koenig*)
- potent inhibitory for heat shock protein 90 (**HSP 90**) engenders anticancer effect to various cancers
- one of the most potent antimalarial limonoid due to conjugated enone system and furan ring
- combination of traditional **transition metal** asymmetric catalysis and immature but novel **chemoenzymatic** catalysis

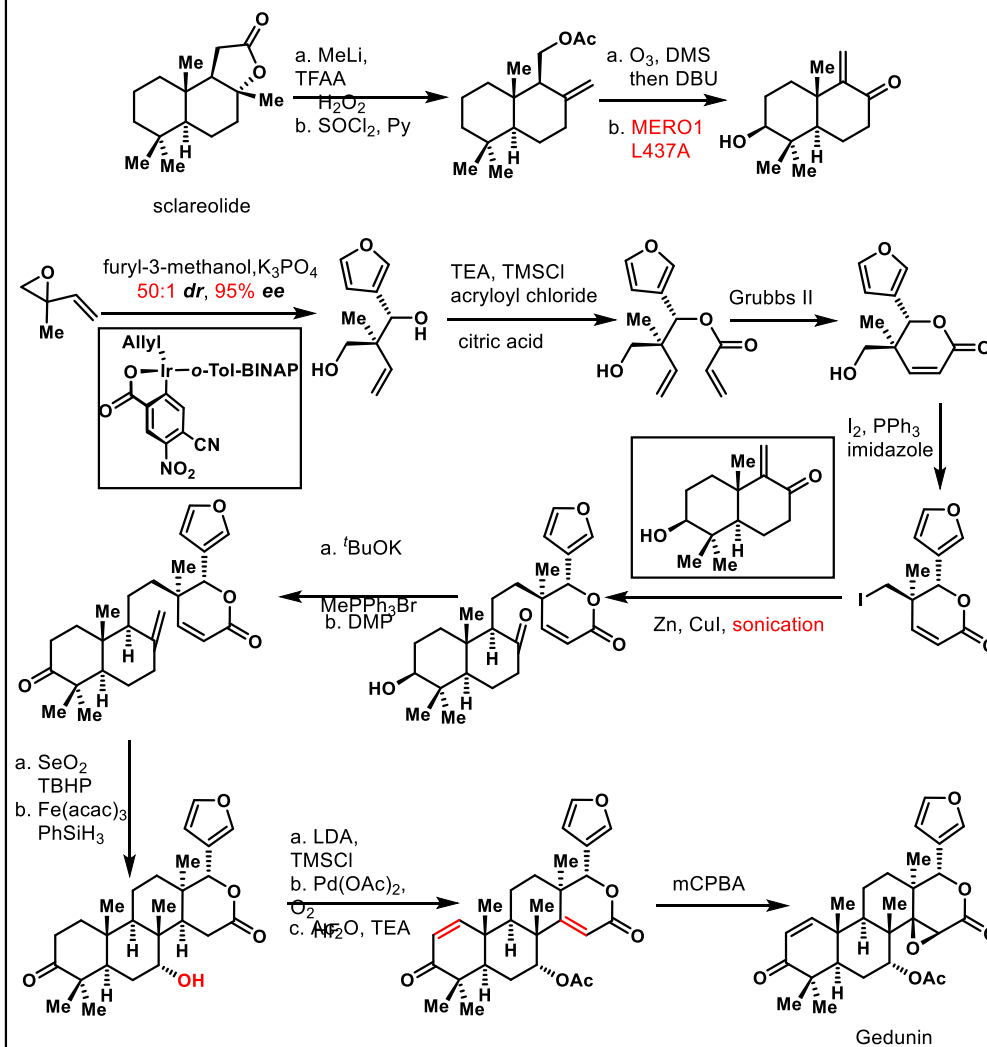
Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- preplex stereocenters
- four almost intact rings
- CD-bicycle in unfavored **boat-boat** configuration
- relatively low oxidation state

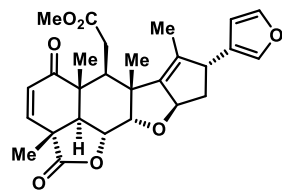
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthesis of Gedunin (13 steps)



VII. Nimbolide

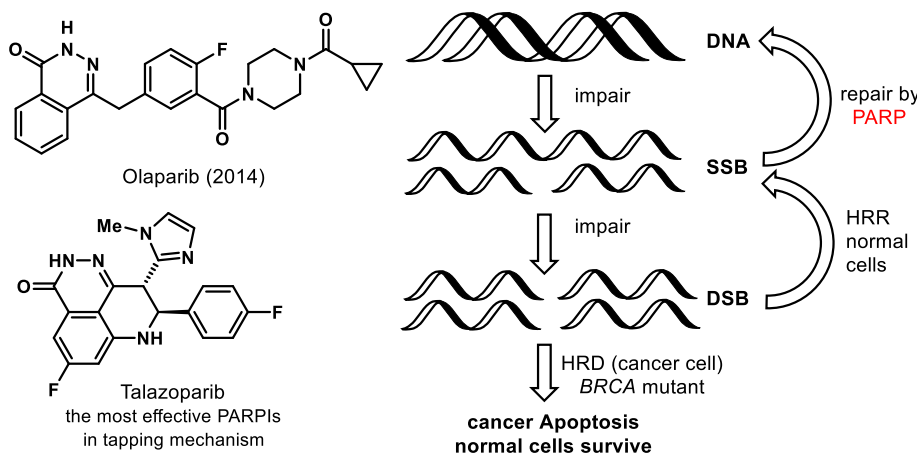


C ring seco type limonoid

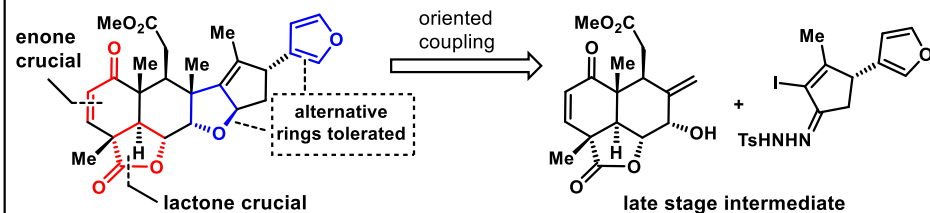
Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- preplex chiral centers
- possess a lactone ring
- possess a full stereocenters ring
- relatively **high** oxidation state

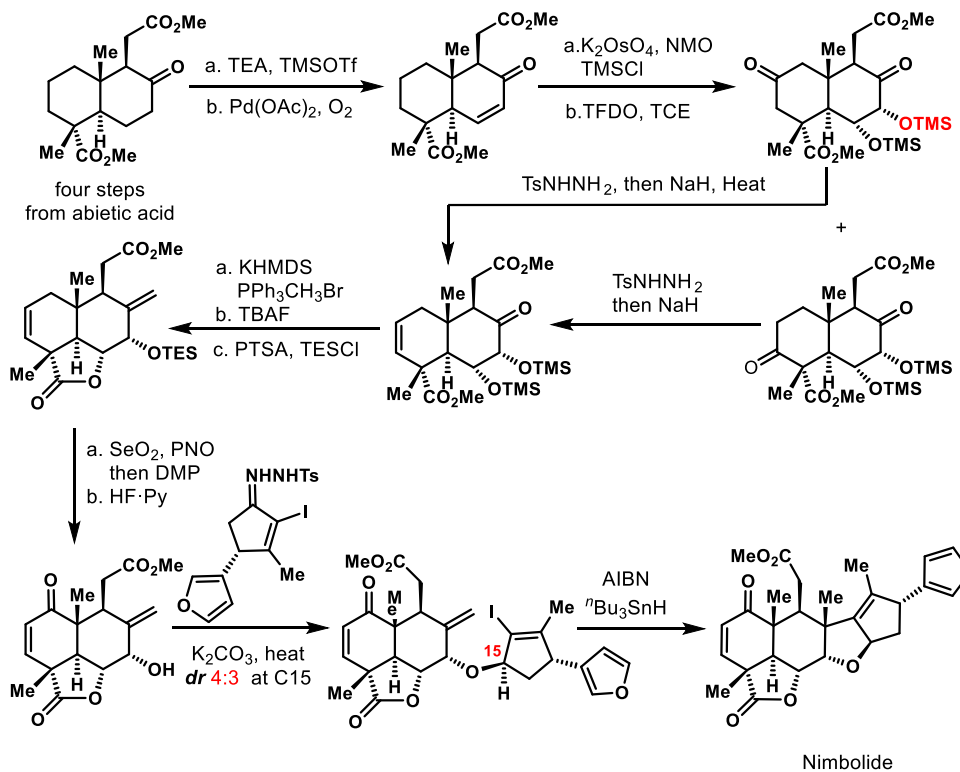
Marketed drugs of PARPis and synthetic lethality mechanism



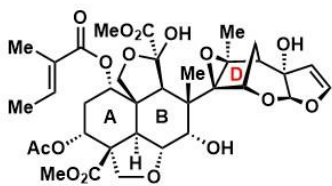
Retrosynthetic analysis and SAR



Synthesis of Nimbolide (14 steps)



VIII. azadirachtin



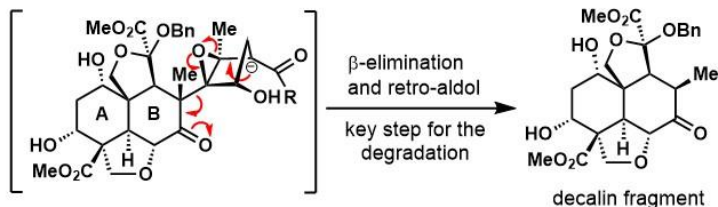
C ring seco type limonoid

Structure feature

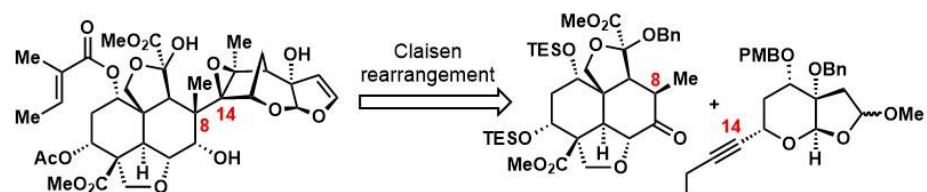
- tetranortriterpenoid family
- terrified chiral centers
- possess **16** contiguous stereocenters
- extremely **high** oxidation state
- various oxygen functional groups

Background

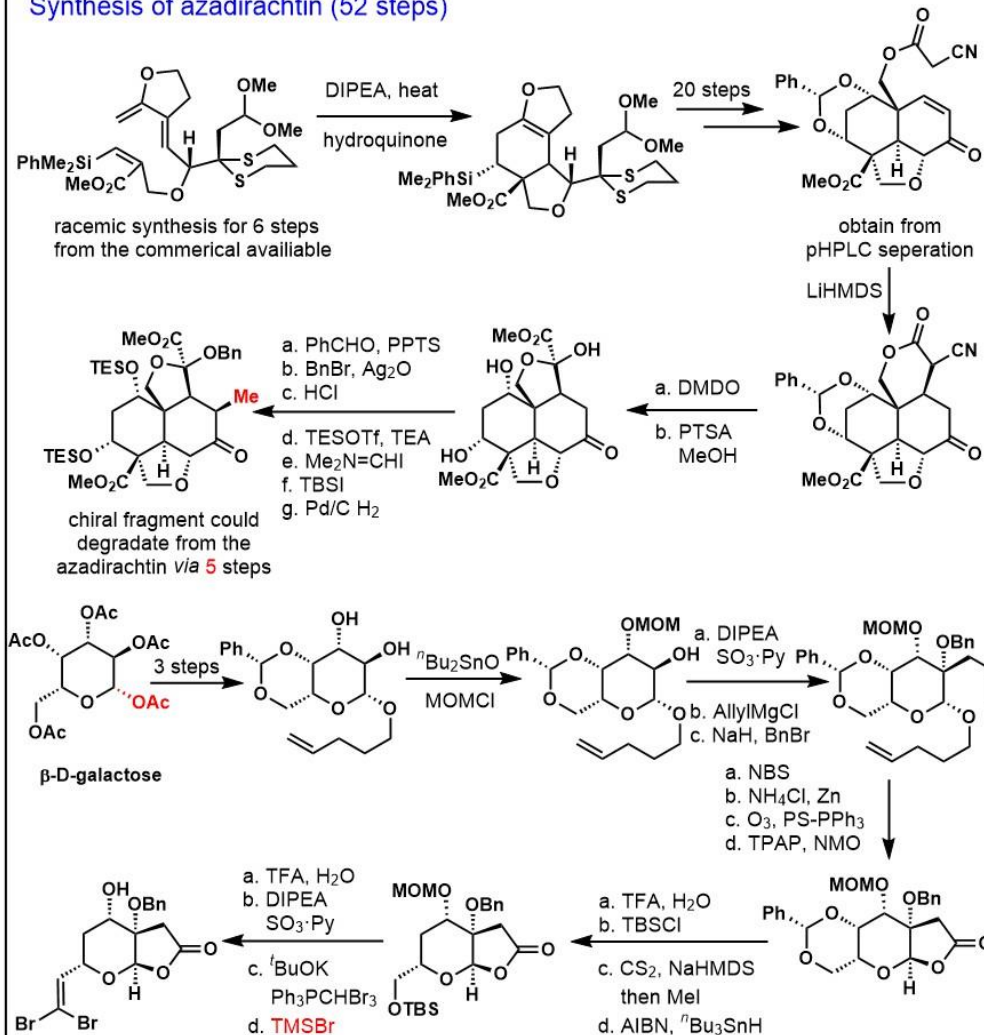
- first isolated from the Indian neem tree by J. H. Butterworth and E. D. Morgan in 1968
- first total synthesis reported by Steven V. Ley and co-workers using **40** years
- one of the most notably antifeedant against insect species (>200)
- furan ring oxidates to form bicyclic rings with D ring
- after plenty of author's investigation and other literature the hardest problem is to construct C₈-C₁₄ carbon bond due to steric constraints from C₈ position
- be unendure with both acid and base presenting fairly **unstable** by investigation
- vital decalin fragment could obtain from degradation of azadirachtin itself even devised a mature route to degrade the natural product into the intermediate



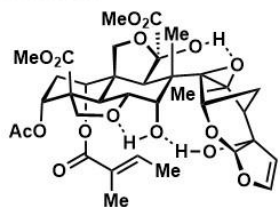
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthesis of azadirachtin (52 steps)



VIII. azadirachtin

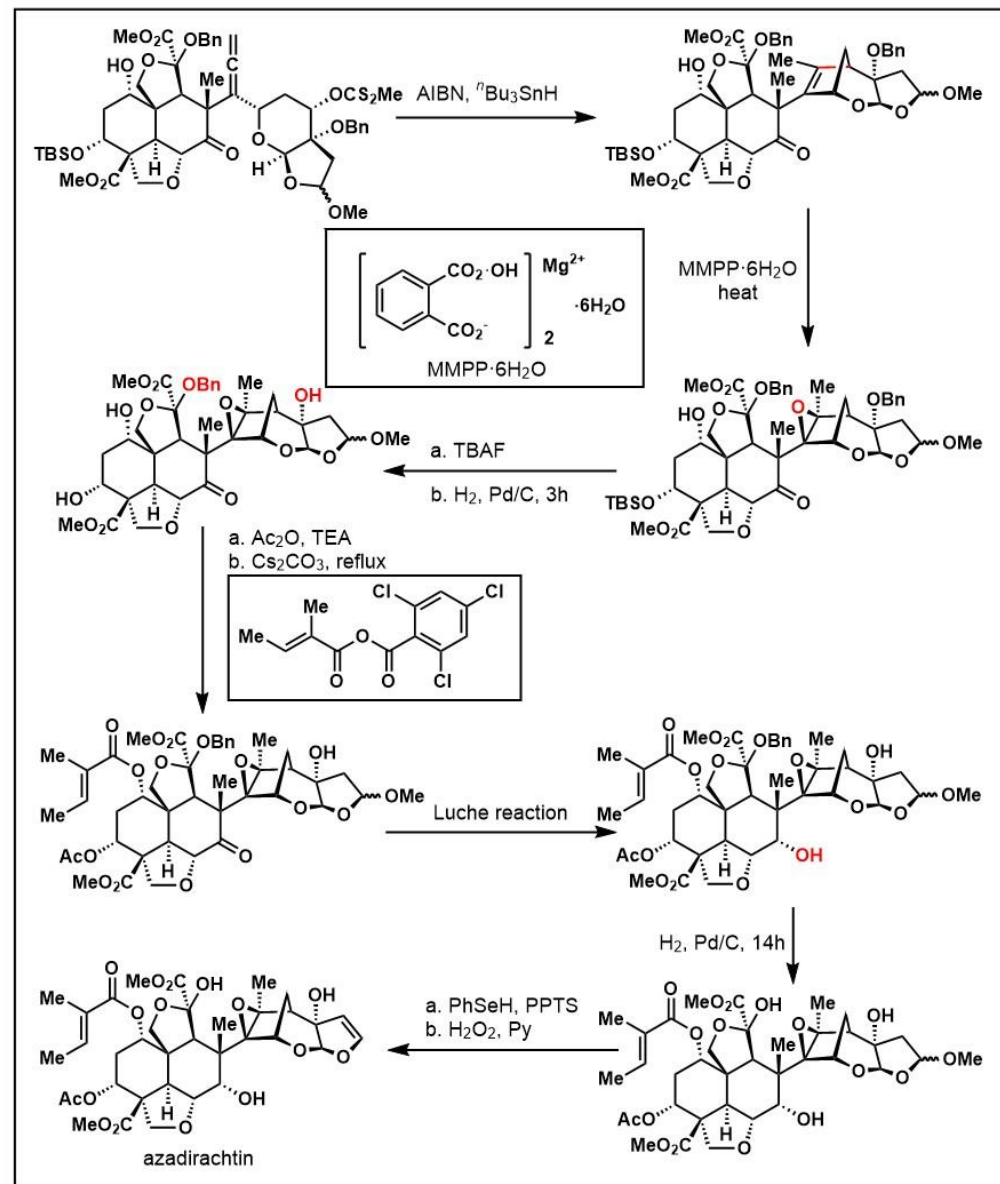
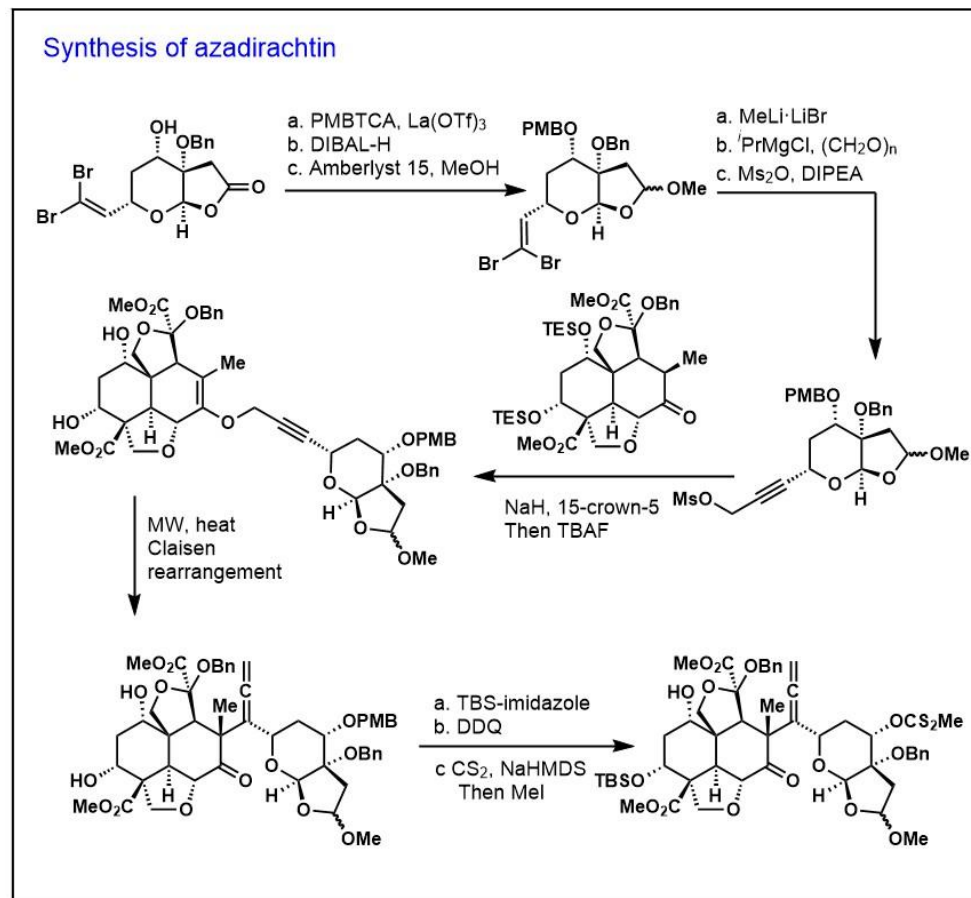


Hydrogen-bonding pattern in azadirachtin

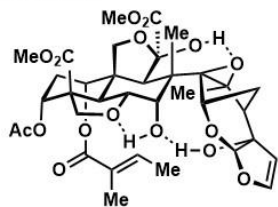
Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- terrified chiral centers
- possess **16** contiguous stereocenters
- extremely **high** oxidation state
- various oxygen functional groups

Synthesis of azadirachtin



VIII. azadirachtin



Hydrogen-bonding pattern in azadirachtin

Structure feature

- tetranortriterpenoid family
- terrified chiral centers
- possess **16** contiguous stereocenters
- extremely **high** oxidation state
- various oxygen functional groups

Formal synthesis of azadirachtin by Watanabe

