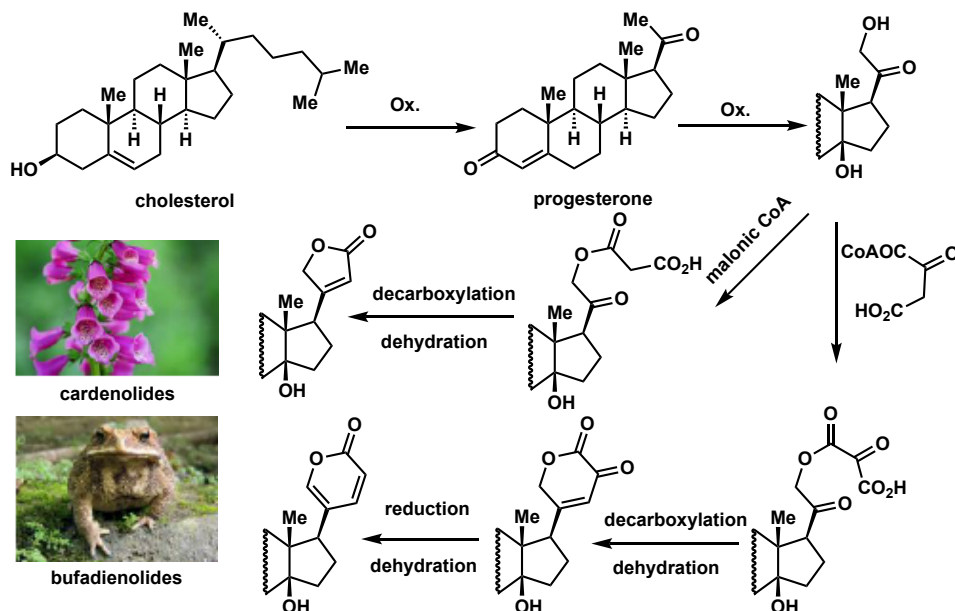


basic cardiotonic steroids skeleton

Cardiotonic steroids family feature

- the unsaturated heterocycle in C-17: 5 / 6 member rings divided into **cardenolides** (furan ring) and **bufadienolides** (pyrone rings)
- intact steroid structure
- the steroid configuration of AB, CD rings is almost **cis**
- cardenolides were majorly found in **plants**
- bufadienolides were found in amphibians (mainly in **toads**)

Proposed biosynthetic pathway



cardenolides

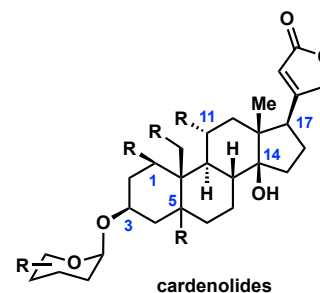


bufadienolides

Biological activity

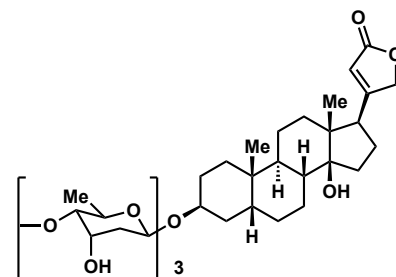
- heart failure, cardiogenic shock and certain arrhythmias (Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase inhibitor, increase concentration of Ca²⁺ narrow therapeutic index, often over treated with 60% toxic dose)
- anti cancer activity (Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase inhibitor for tumor or modulate signal pathway and DNA repair)

The SAR studies of cardenolides

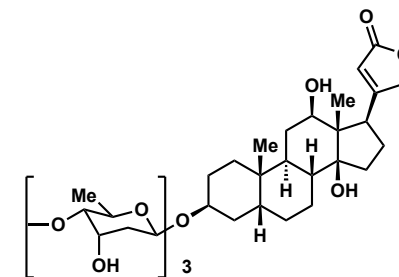


- C1, C5, C11 and C19 hydroxyls may enhance the activity, but not essential
- Sugar residue at C3 is important, Rhamnose is better than others
- the unsaturated heterocycle in C17 is essential and its β oriented position is also vital
- the cis configuration of CD rings and AB rings could enhance the activity

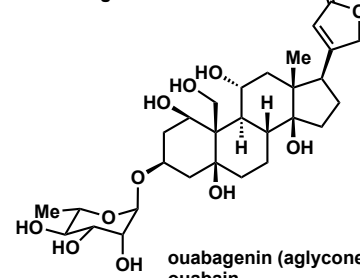
Representative cardiotonic steroids



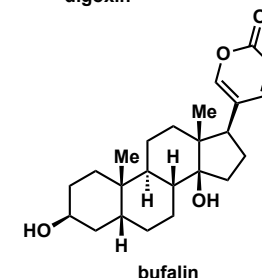
digitoxigenin (aglycone)
digitoxin



digoxigenin (aglycone)
digoxin

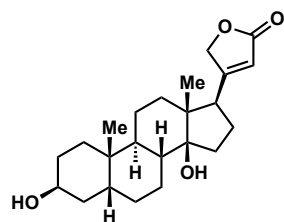


ouabagenin (aglycone)
ouabain



bufalin

I. digitoxigenin (Stork's synthesis)



intact steroid structure

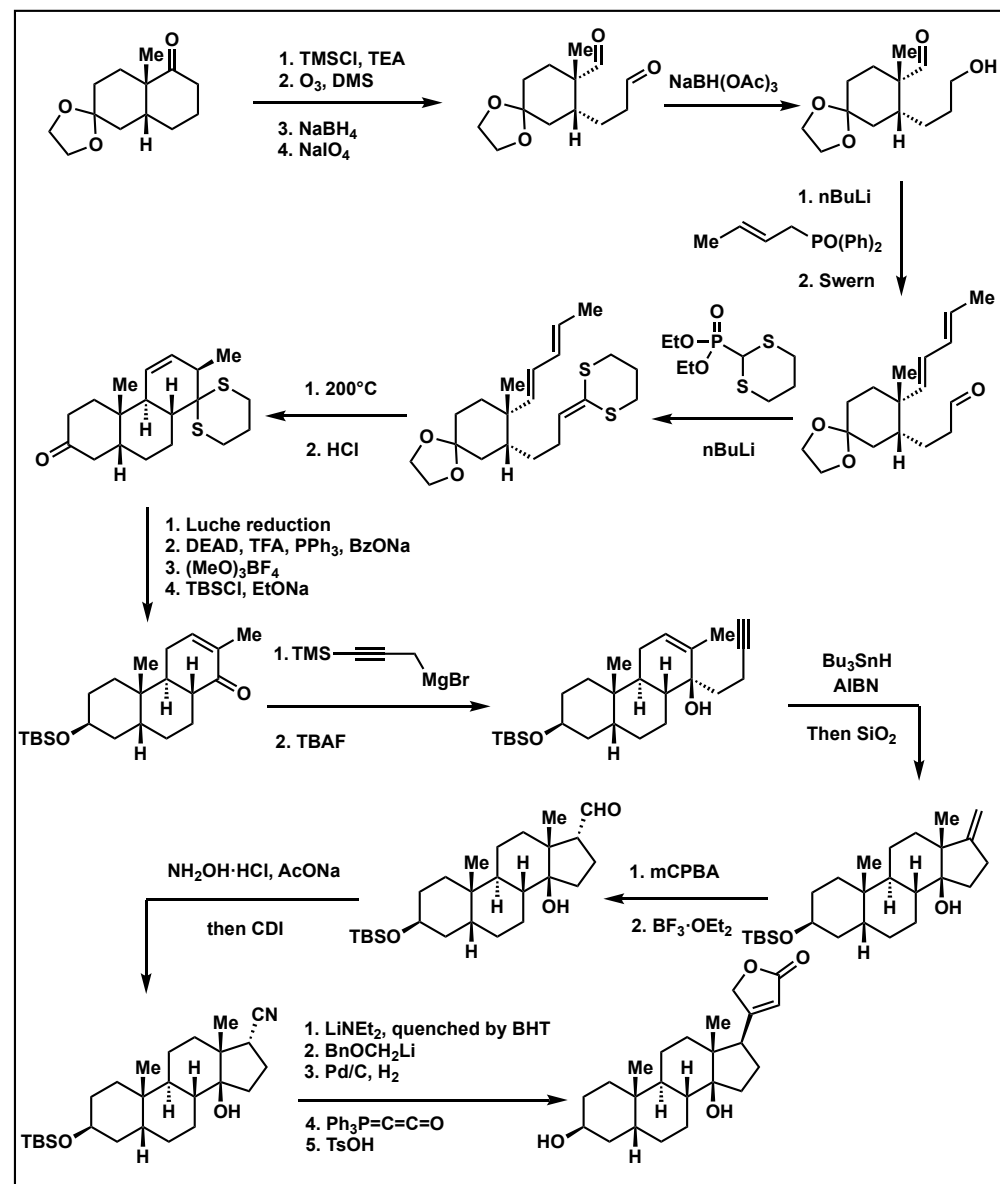
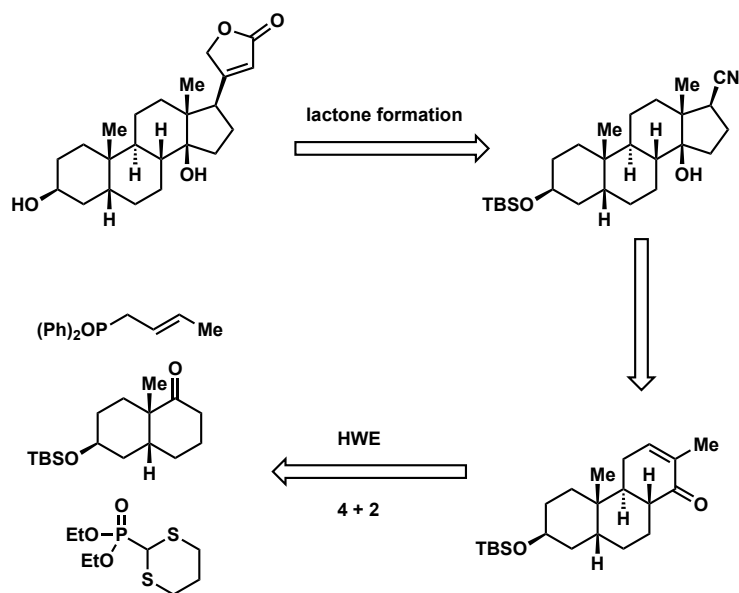
Structure feature

- **flagship congener** in the cardiac glycoside family
- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- relatively low oxidation state

Background

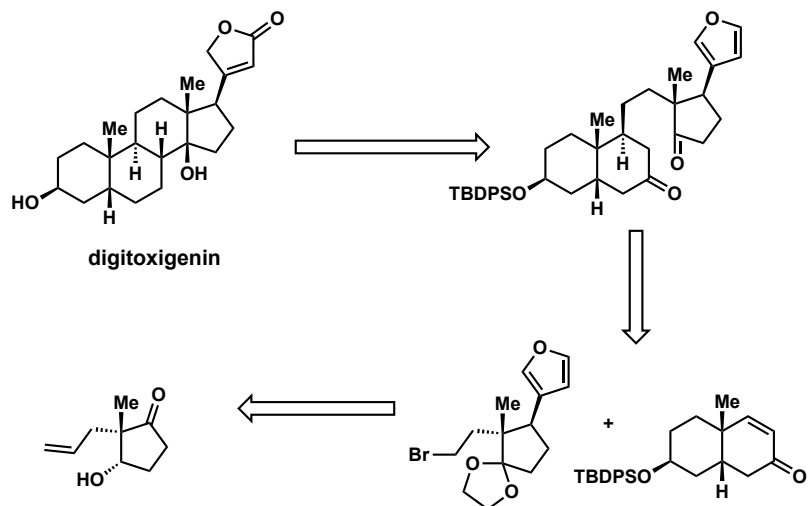
- the active components in the *Digitalis* (the most ingested drugs)

Retrosynthetic analysis

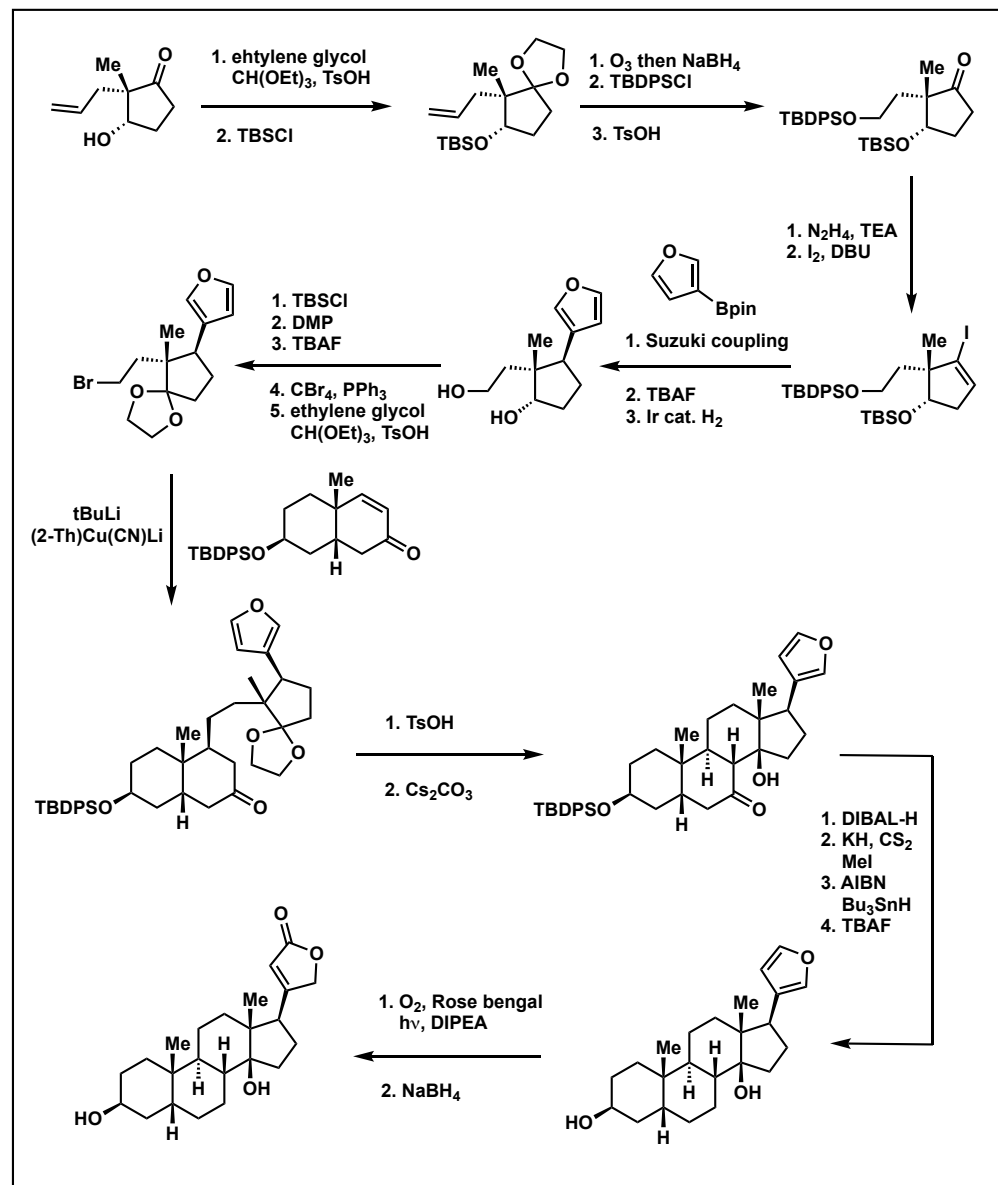
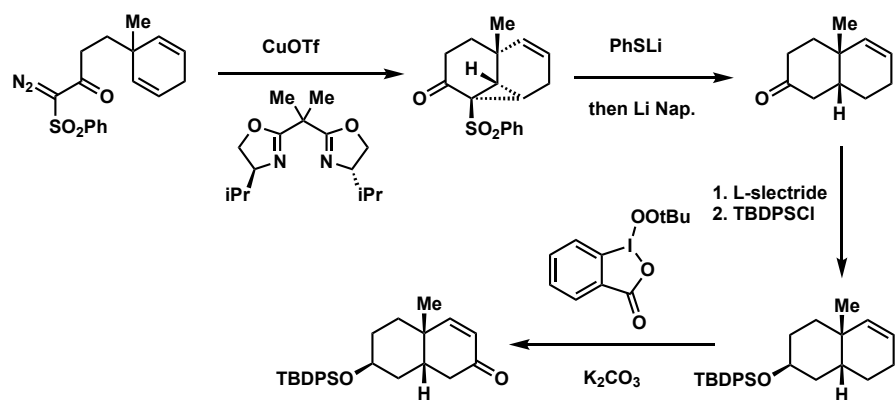


II. digitoxigenin (Nakada's synthesis)

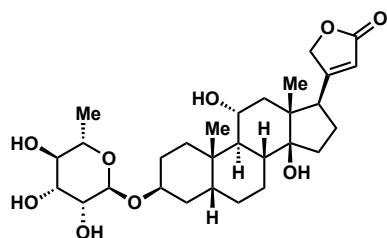
Retrosynthetic analysis



synthetic route (24 steps LLS)



III. Rhodexin A



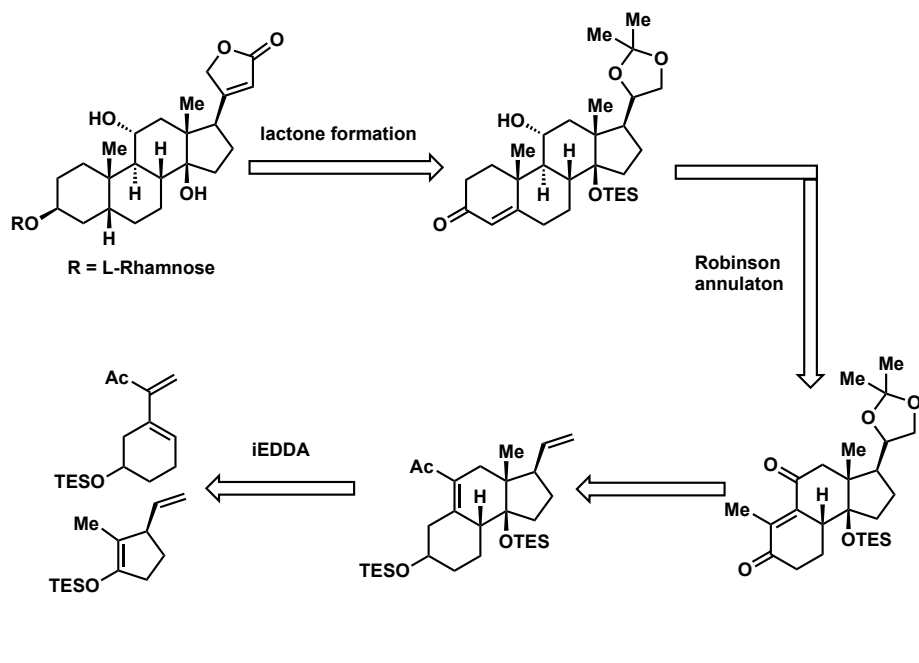
Structure feature

- L-Rhamnoside of sarmentogenin
- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- relatively low oxidation state

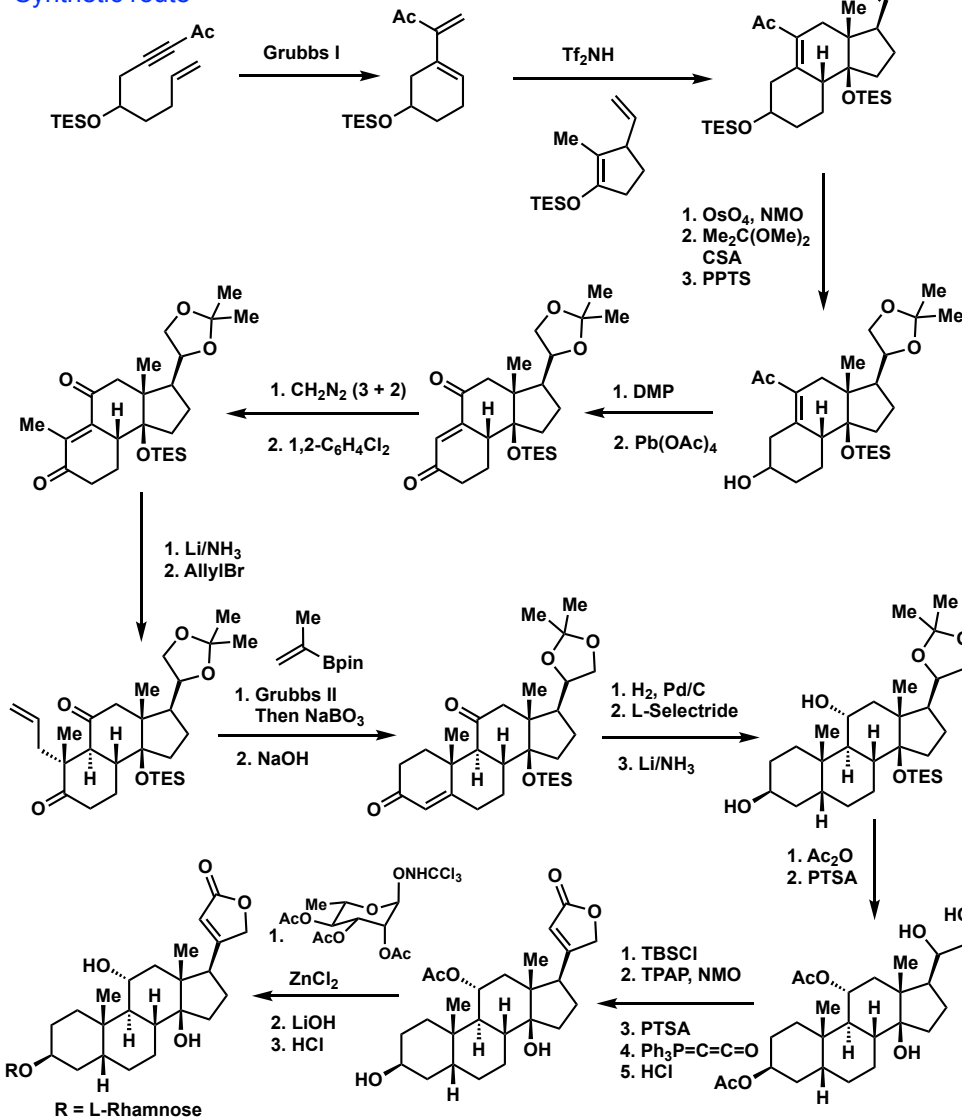
Background

- against human leukemia K₅₆₂ cells (IC₅₀ 19 nm)
- potent antiproliferative activity (inhibit HIF-1 α)

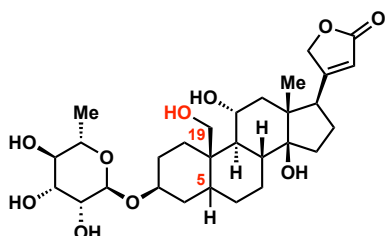
Retrosynthetic analysis



Synthetic route



IV. trewianin



trewianin (α -H5)
5-epi-trewianin (β -H5)

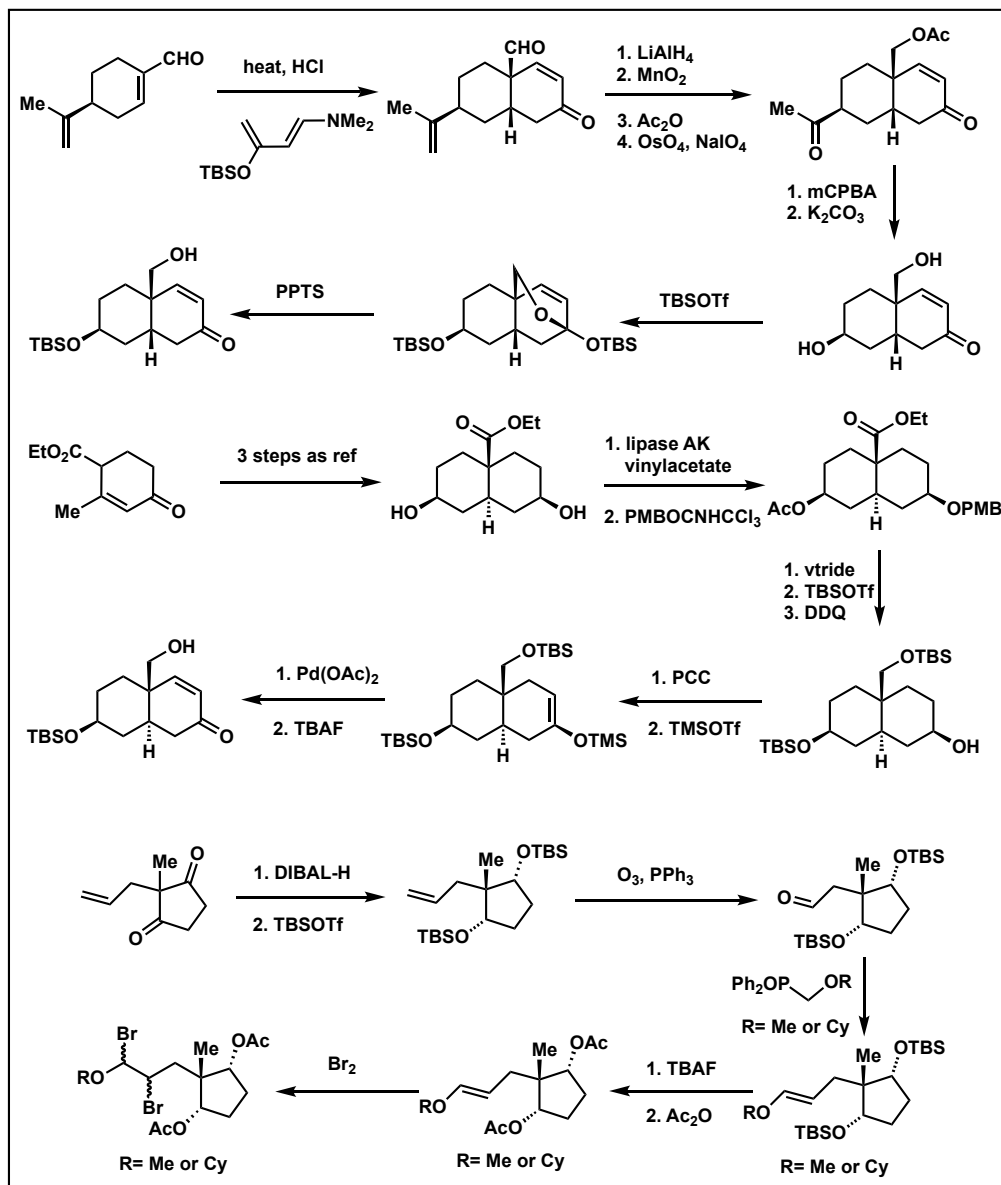
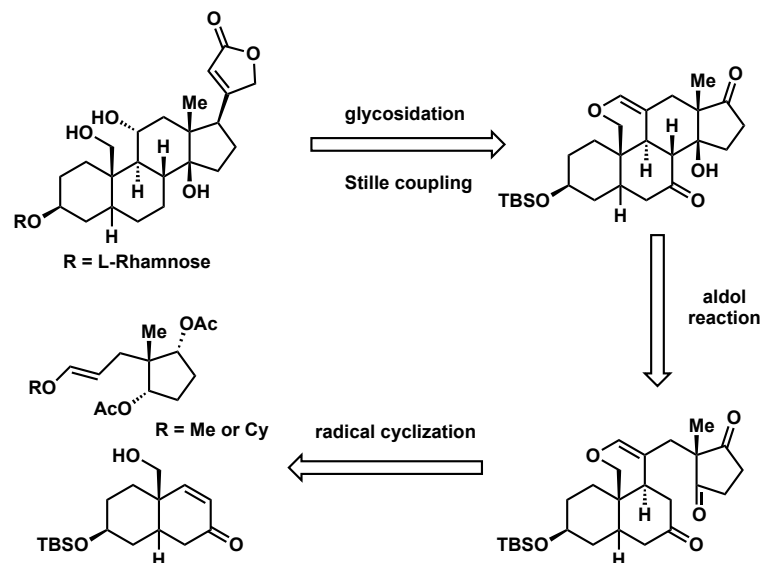
Structure feature

- unusual trans decalin for AB ring
- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- relatively high oxidation state

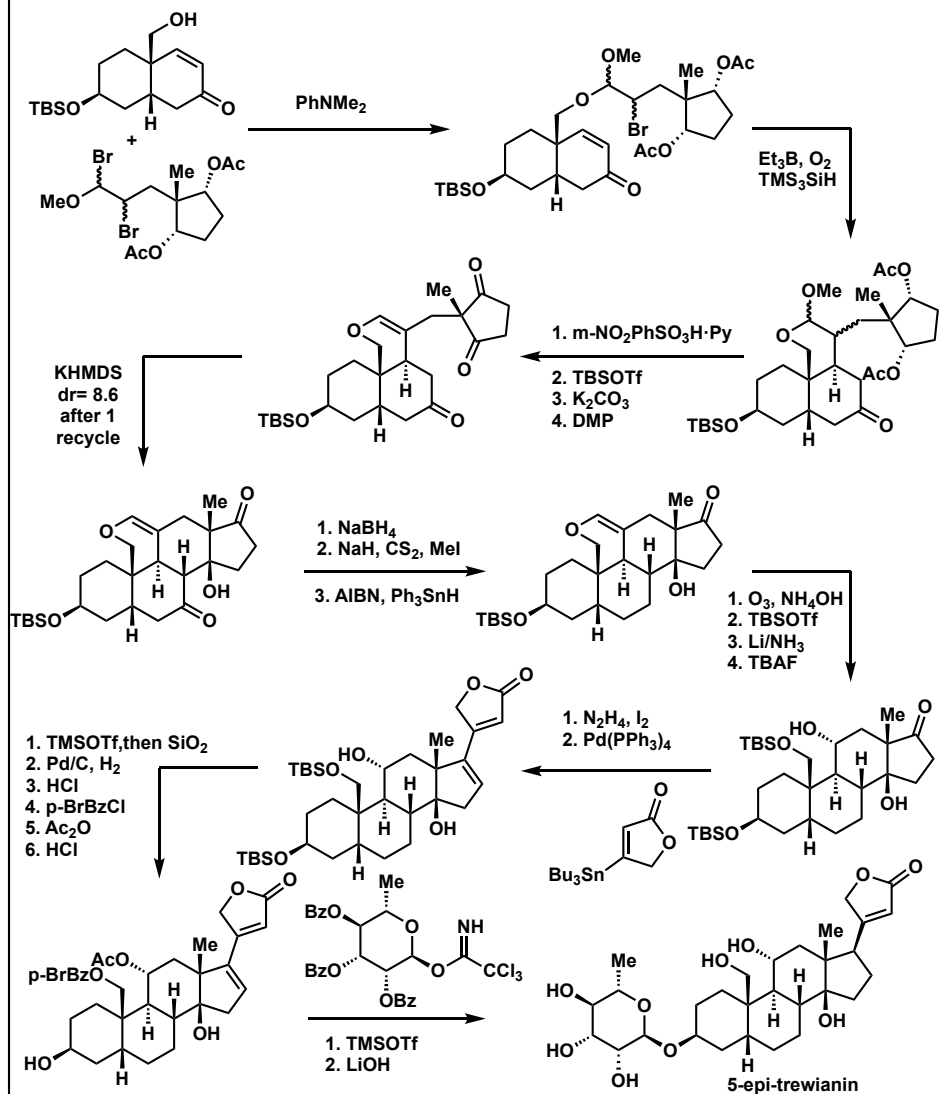
Background

- against MCF-7 human breast carcinoma cells
- GI_{50} of 5-epi-trewianin = 108 nM,
but GI_{50} of the aglycon > 10 μ M

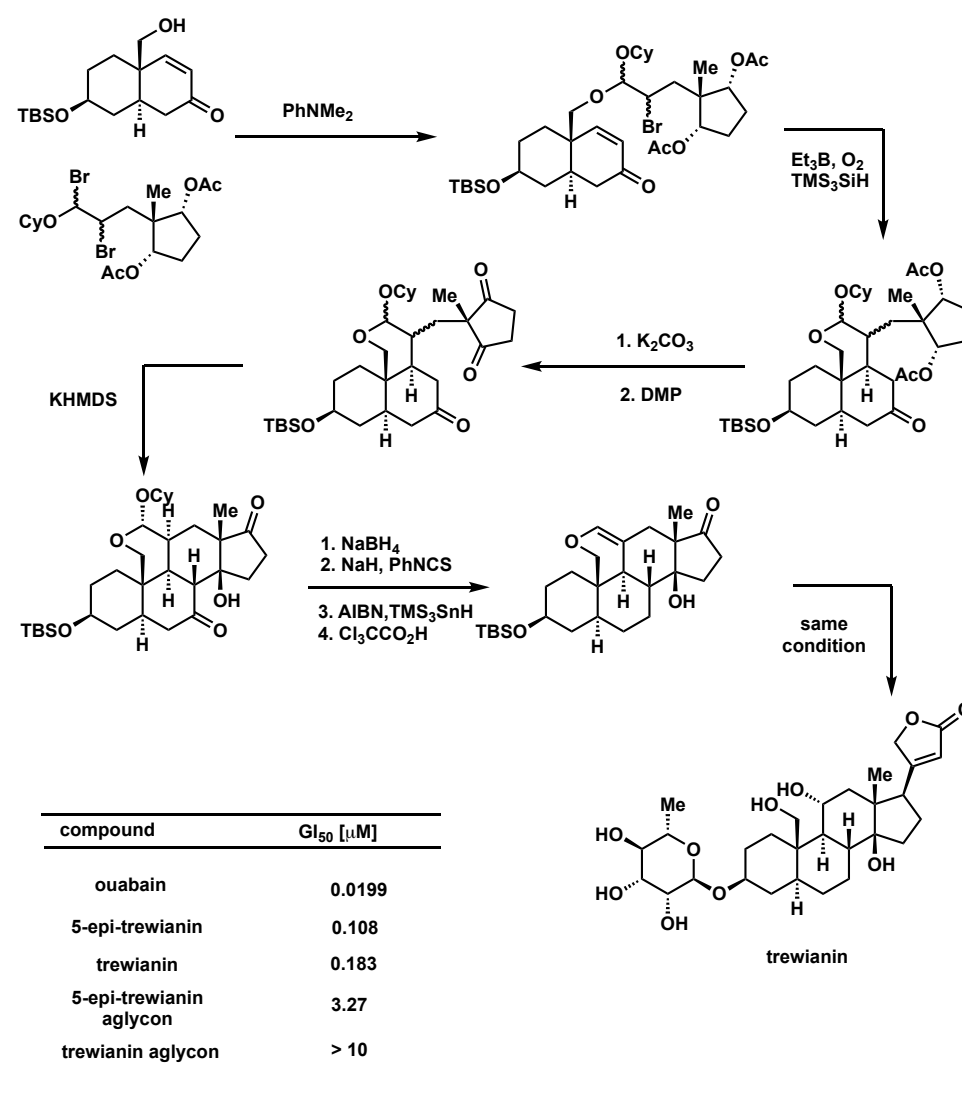
Retrosynthetic analysis



Completion synthesis of 5-epi-trewianin

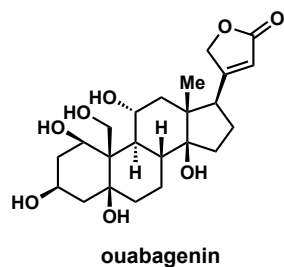


Completion synthesis of trewianin



compound	GI_{50} [μM]
ouabain	0.0199
5-epi-trewianin	0.108
trewianin	0.183
5-epi-trewianin aglycon	3.27
trewianin aglycon	> 10

V. ouabagenin (Baran's synthesis)

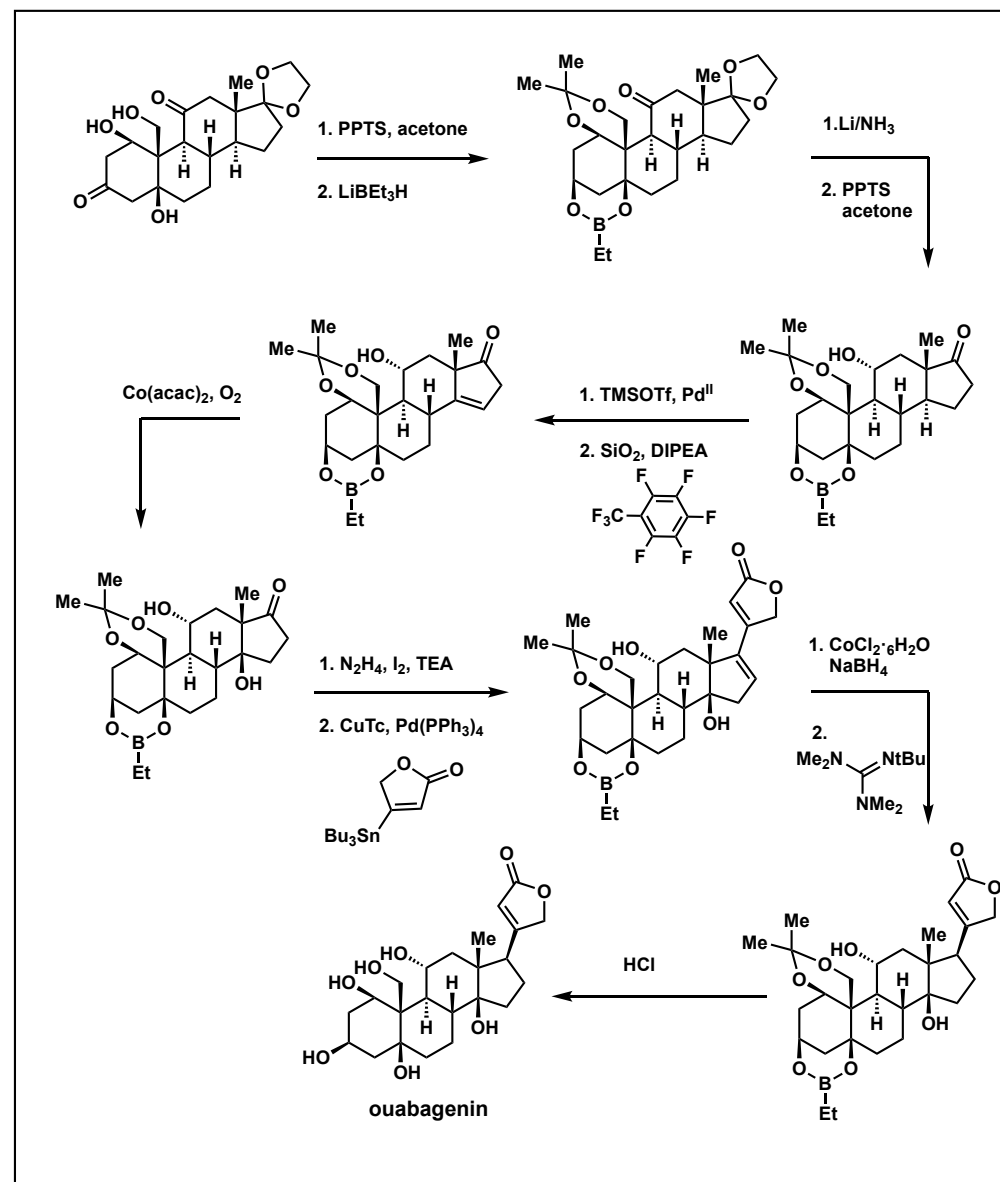
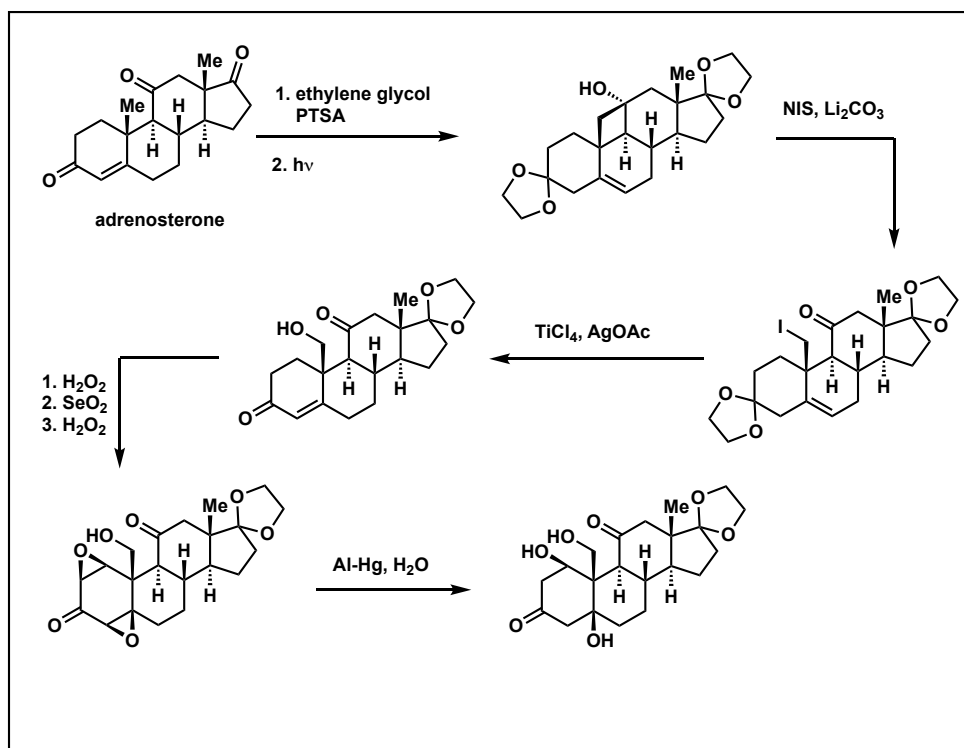


Structure feature

- aglycon part of ouabain
- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- high oxidation state

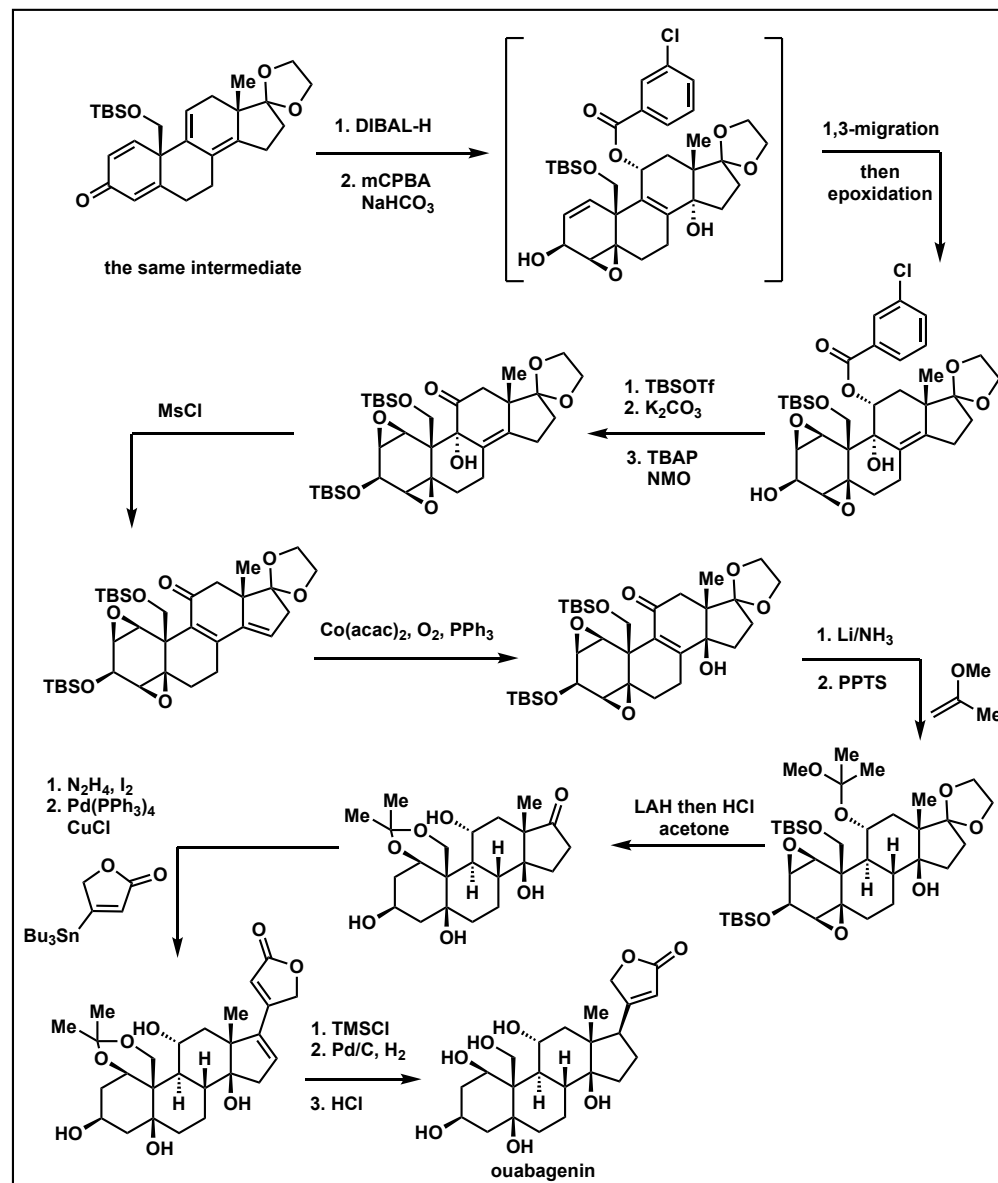
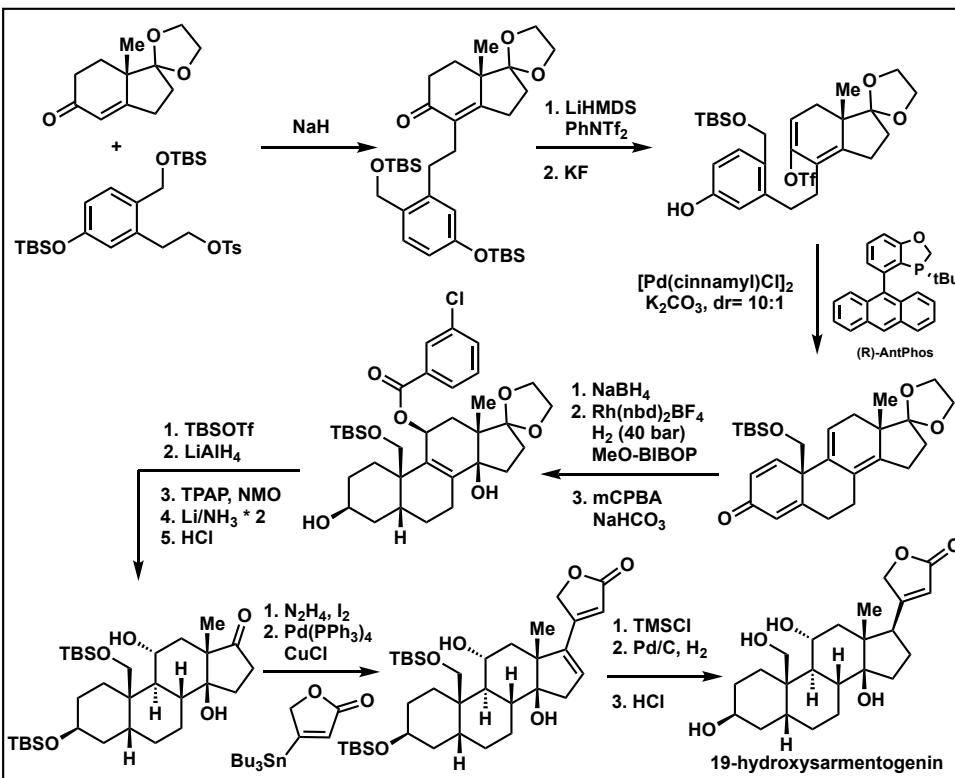
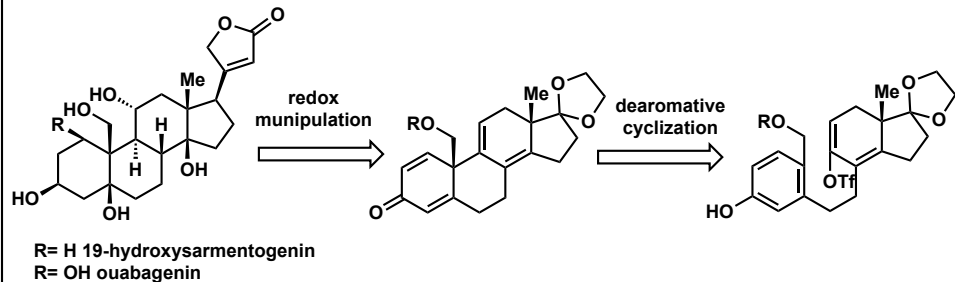
Background

- supposed to be arisen from progesterone
- partial synthesis, **21** steps LLS from cortisone
- apply quasibiomimetic oxidation strategy



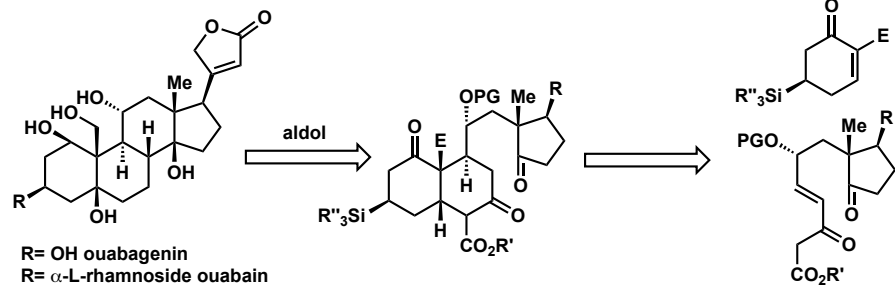
VI. ouabagenin and 19-hydroxysarmentogenin (Tang's synthesis)

Retrosynthetic analysis

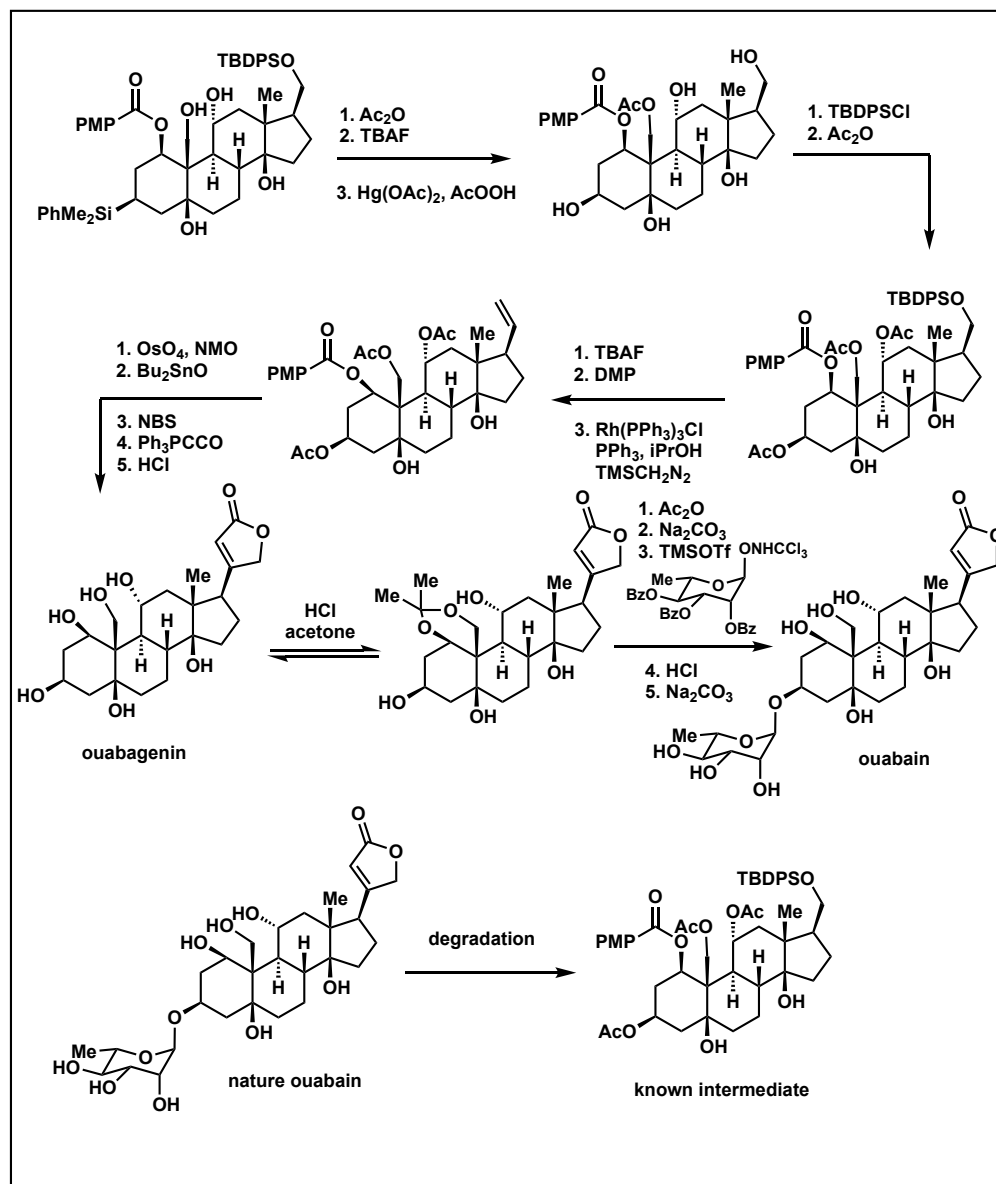
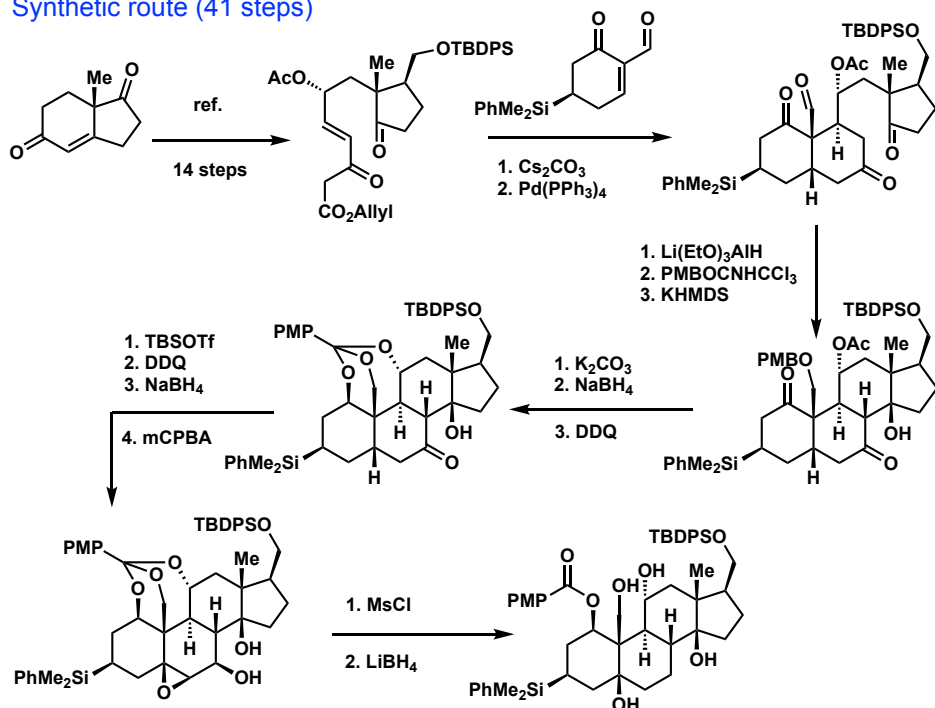


VII. ouabagenin and ouabain (Deslongchamps's synthesis)

Retrosynthetic analysis

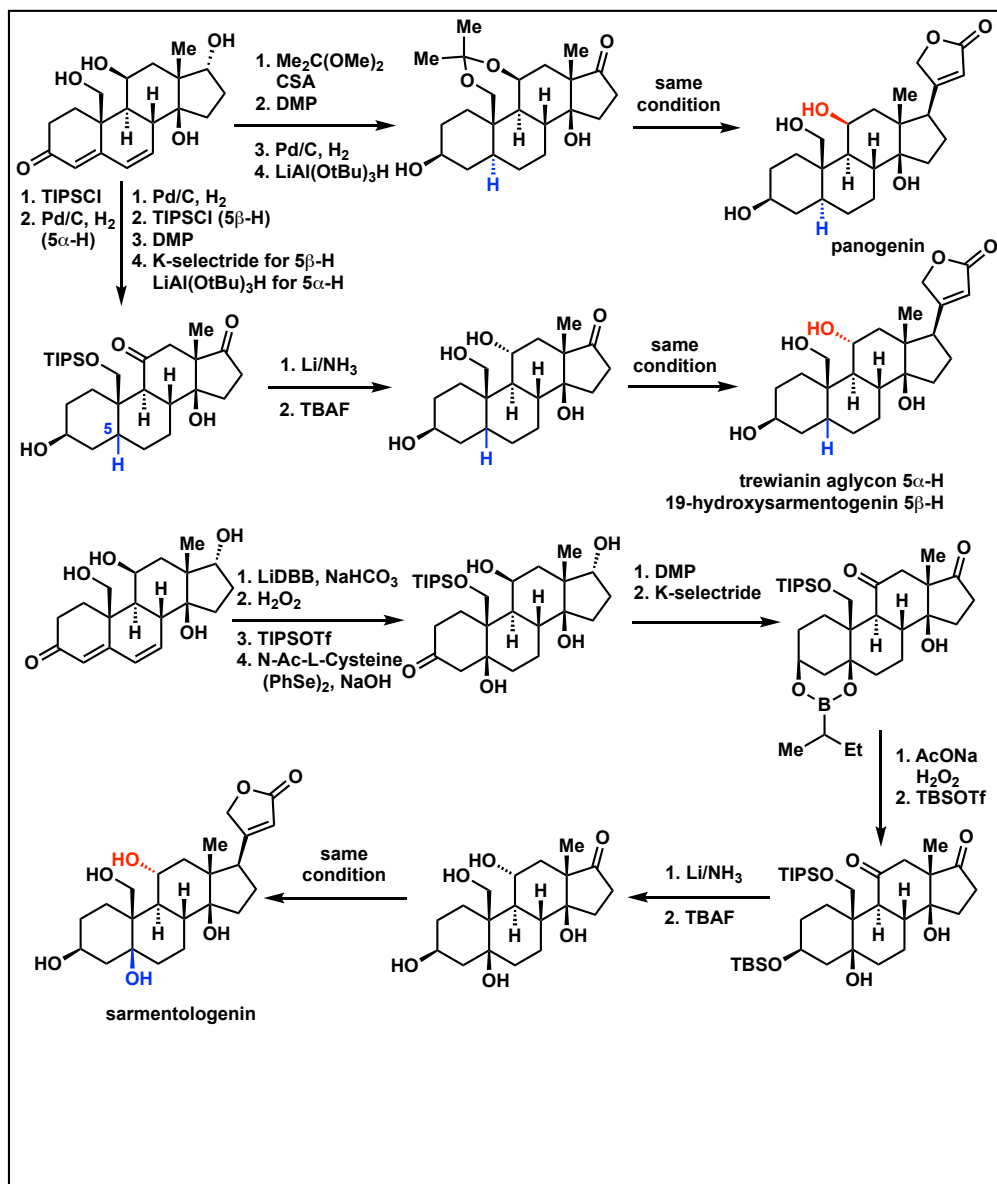
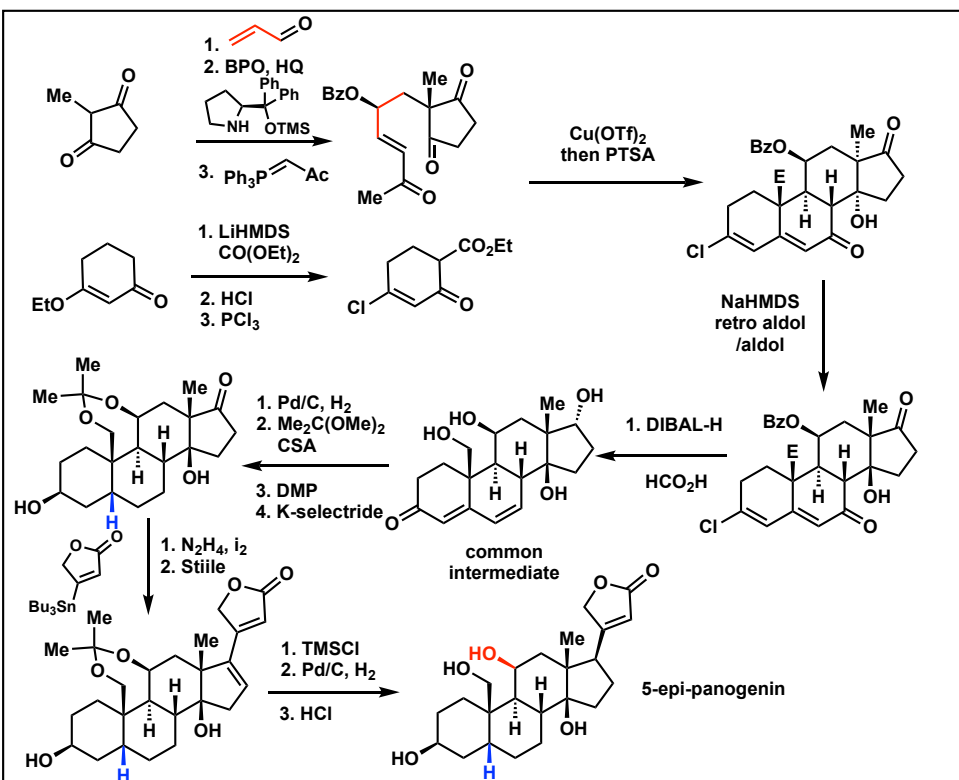
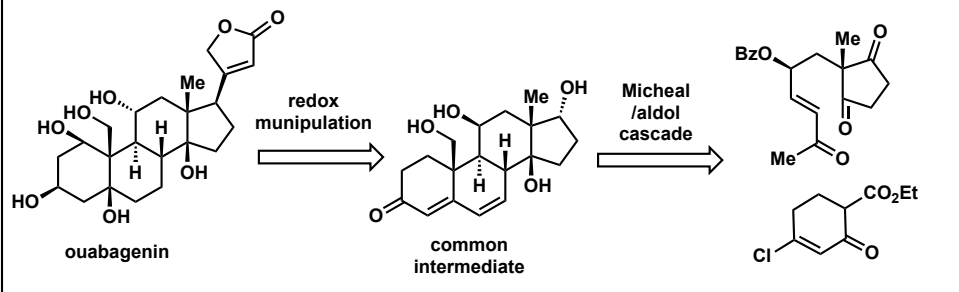


Synthetic route (41 steps)

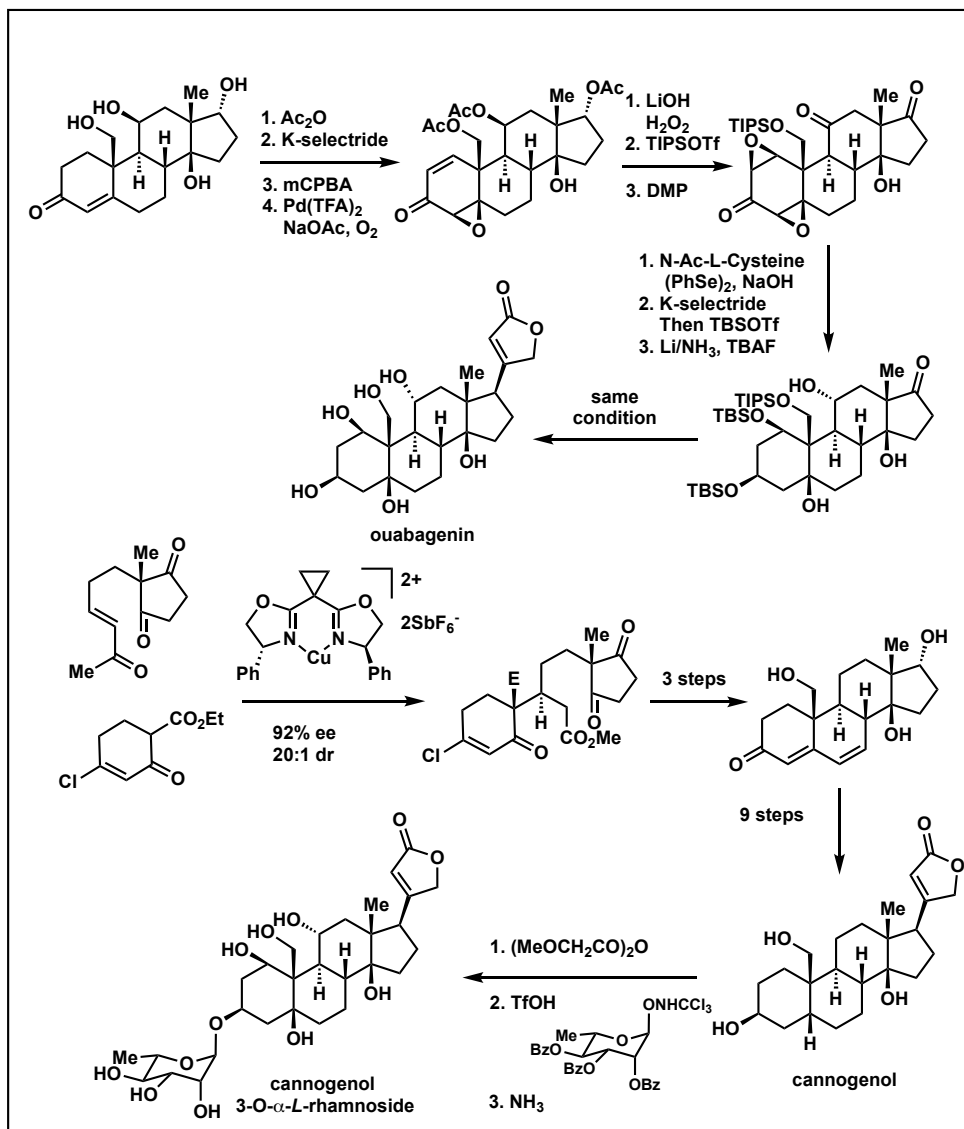


VIII. ouabagenin and 7 other cardenolides (Nagorny's synthesis)

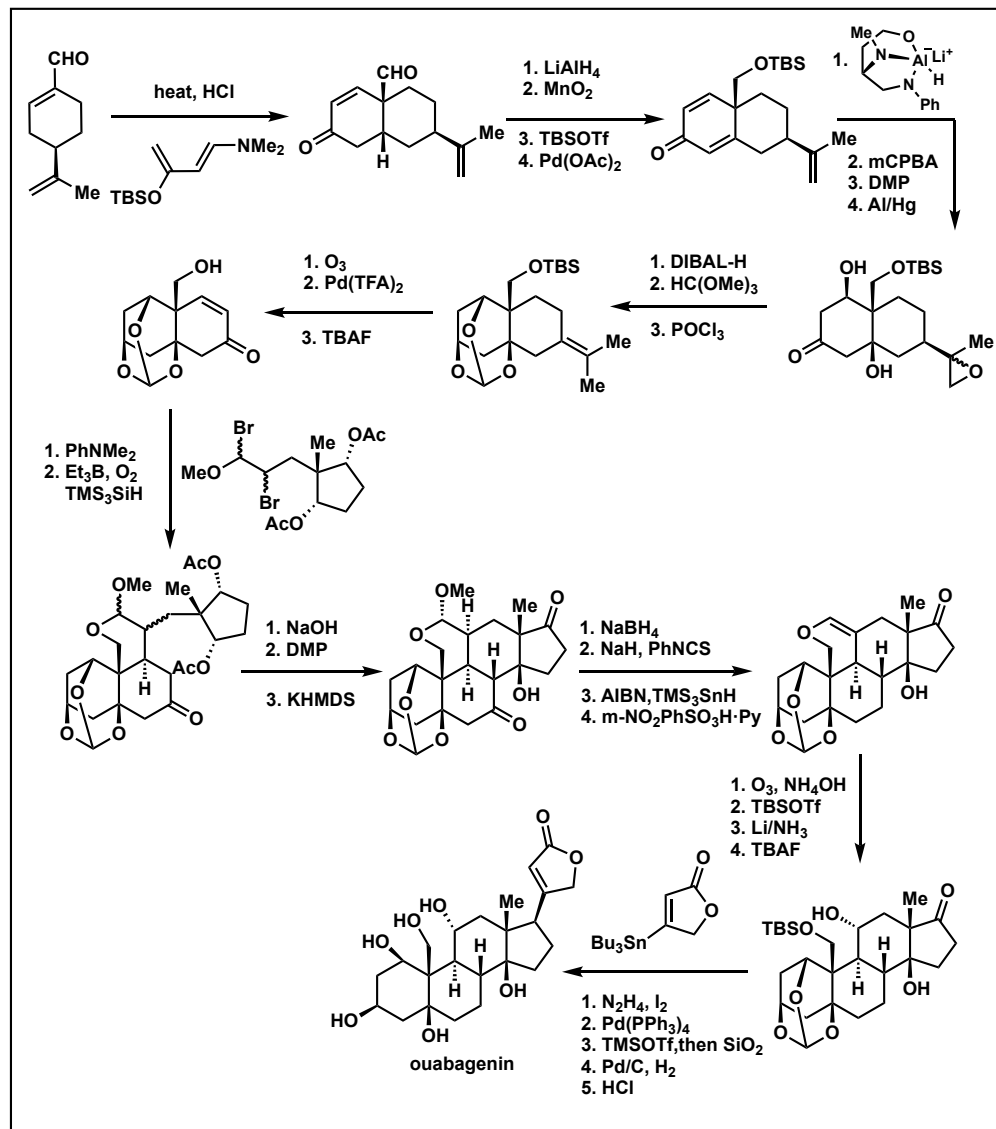
Retrosynthetic analysis



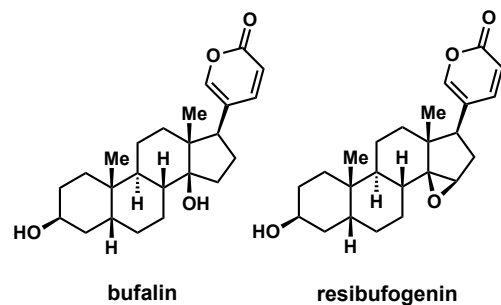
VIII. ouabagenin and 7 other cardenolides (Nagorny's synthesis)



IX. ouabagenin (Inoue's synthesis)



X. bufalin and resibufogenin

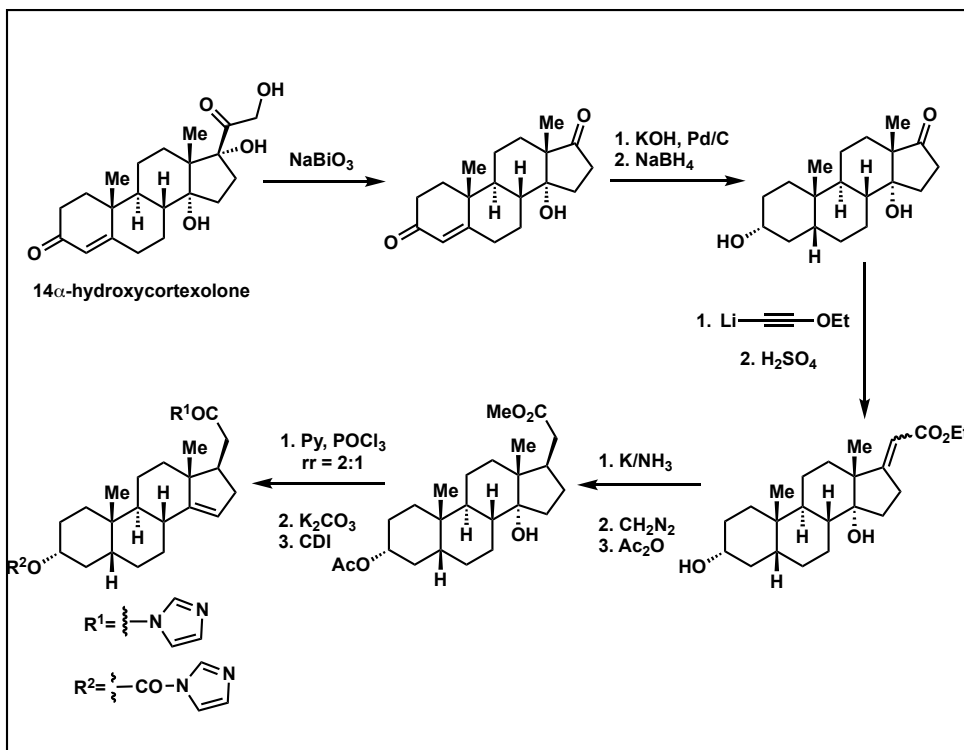
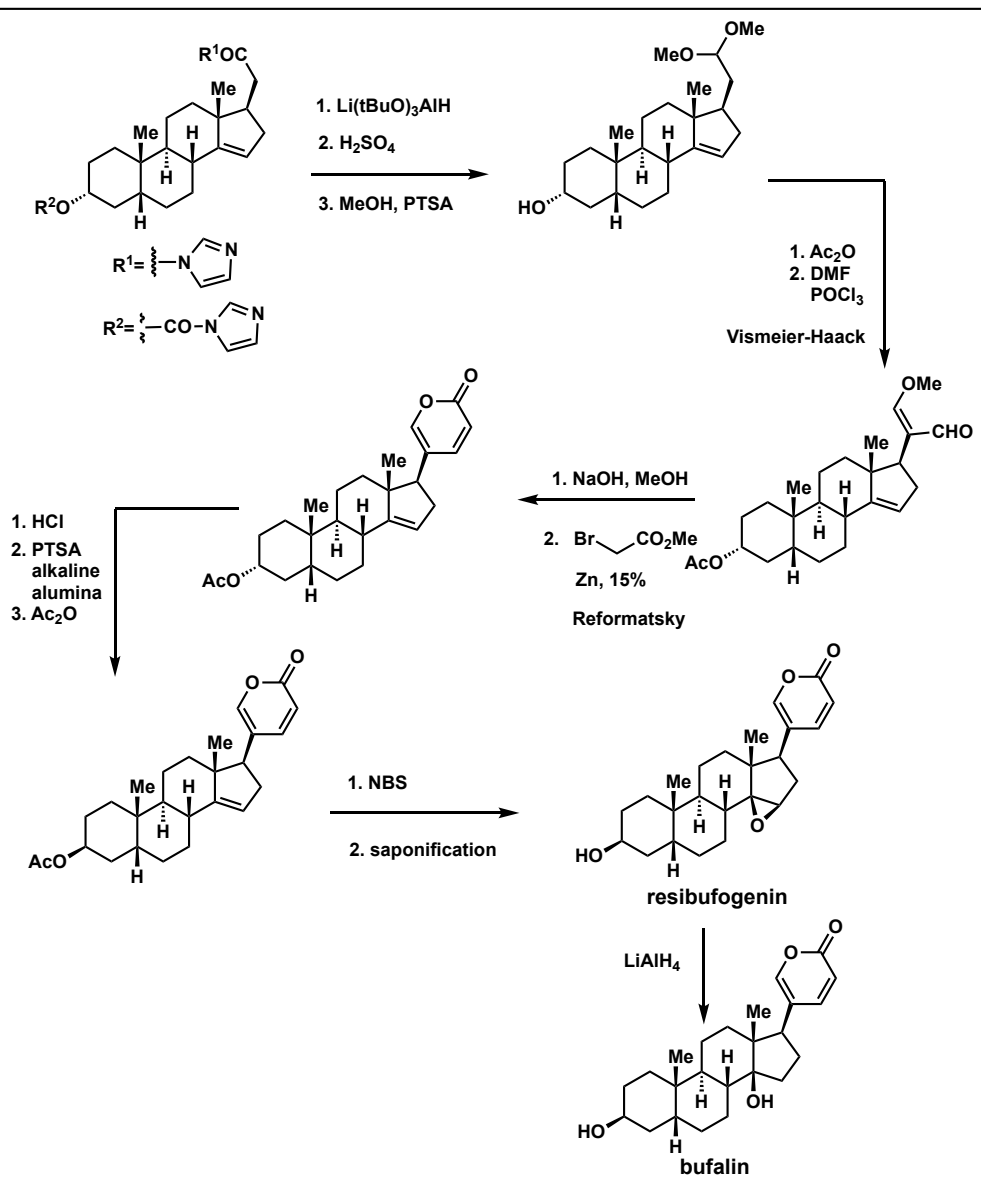


Structure feature

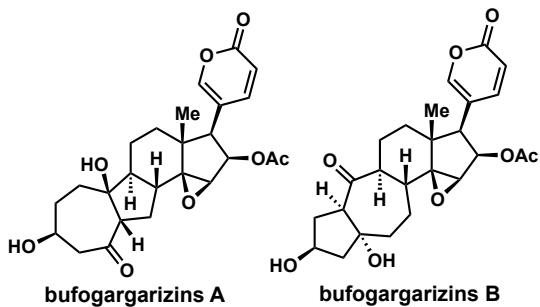
- intact steroid structure
- 7 consecutive chiral centers
- relatively low oxidation state

Background

- derived from the dried venom of Chinese toad (Ch'an Su)



XI. bufogargarizins A and B



Structure feature

- **abeo** steroids
- unique 7/5 or 5/7 rings at A/B rings
- **7** consecutive chiral centers
- relatively **high** oxidation state

Background

- derived from the dried venom of *Bufo bufo gargarizans*
- scarcity of biological evaluation
- interconversion of two compounds could be via **retro-aldol/aldol**

