

# **Asymmetric total synthesis of Pedrolide**

**Chuang-Chuang Li**

# About the author

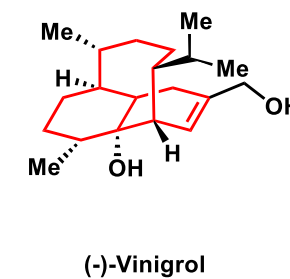
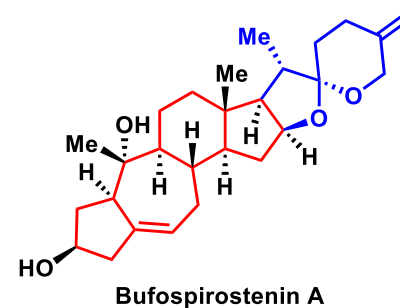
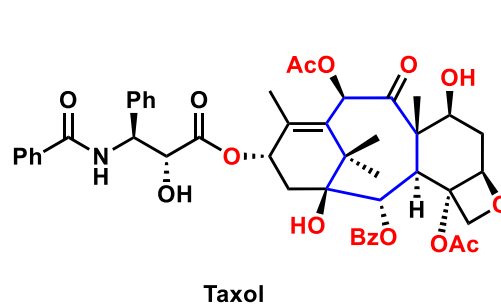
## Chuang-Chuang Li

1997-2001: BS in Chemistry, China Agricultural University

2001-2006: Ph.D. in Chemistry, Peking University. Research Advisor: Zhen Yang

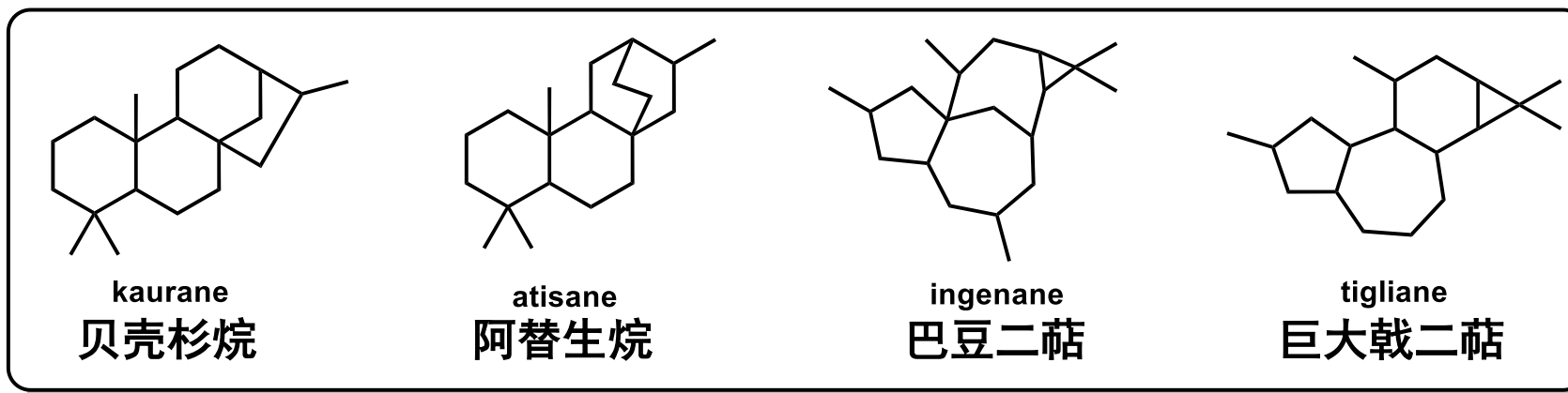
2006-2008: Postdoc in Chemistry, The Scripps Research Institute. Research Advisor: Phil S. Baran

Present: Chair Professor in Department of Chemistry, Southern University of Science and Technology.

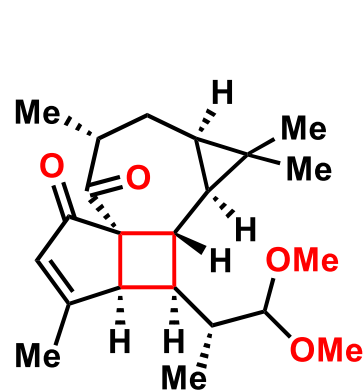


# Background

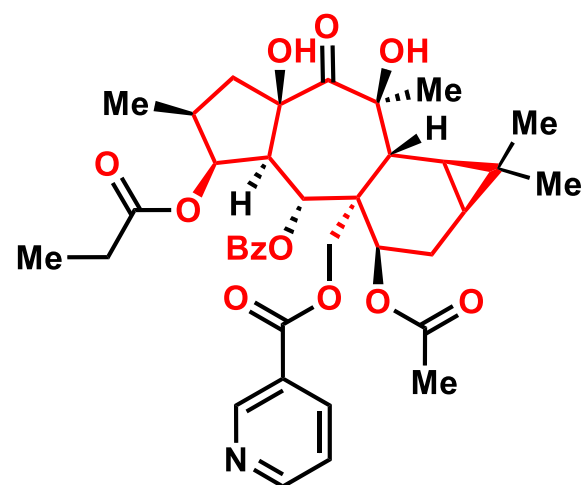
## Represented skeleton of Euphorbia diterpenoids



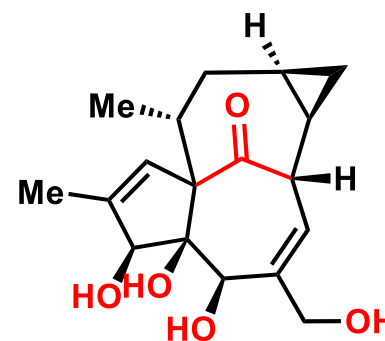
Sheng Yin. et. al. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **2022**, 39, 2132



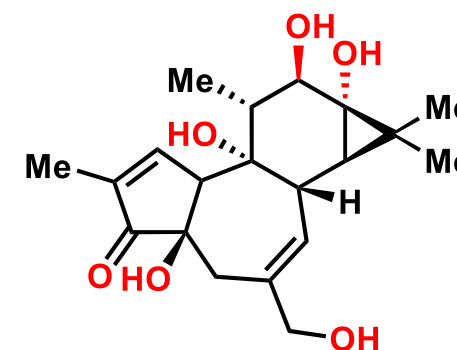
Peplucetal  
X.G. She, 2024



Euphorbialoid A  
Masayuki Inoue, 2024



(+)-Ingenol  
Phil S. Baran, 2016



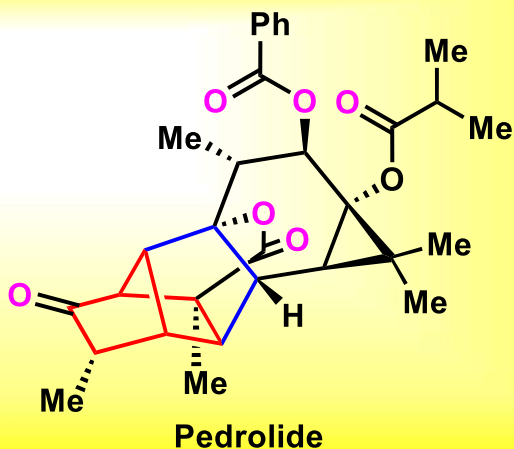
(+)-Phorbol  
Phil S. Baran

Xuegong She. et. al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2024**, 63, e202400943  
Masayuki Inoue. et. al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2024**, 146, 34221  
Phil S. Baran. et. al. *Nature.* **2016**, 532, 90; *Science.* **2013**, 341, 878

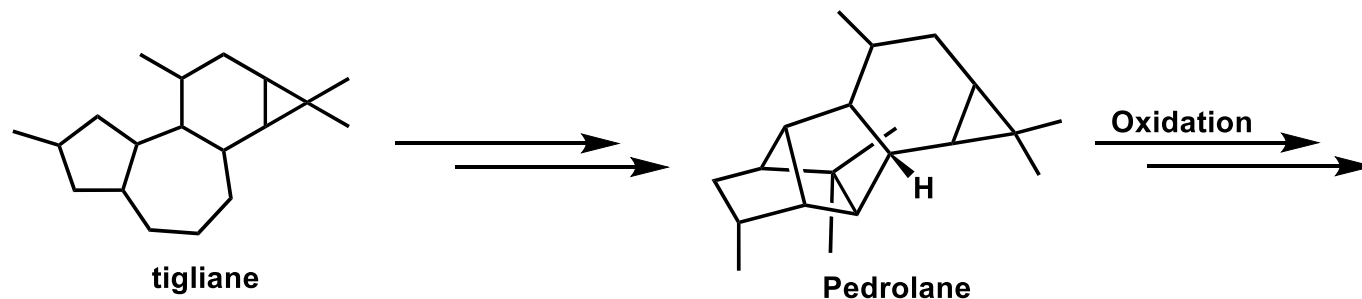
# Background



*Euphorbia pedroi*  
大戟科多肉植物



## Proposed biosynthesis:



Pedrolane family was isolated in 2021.

Maria-José U. Ferreira. et. al.  
*Org. Lett.* **2021**, 23, 274

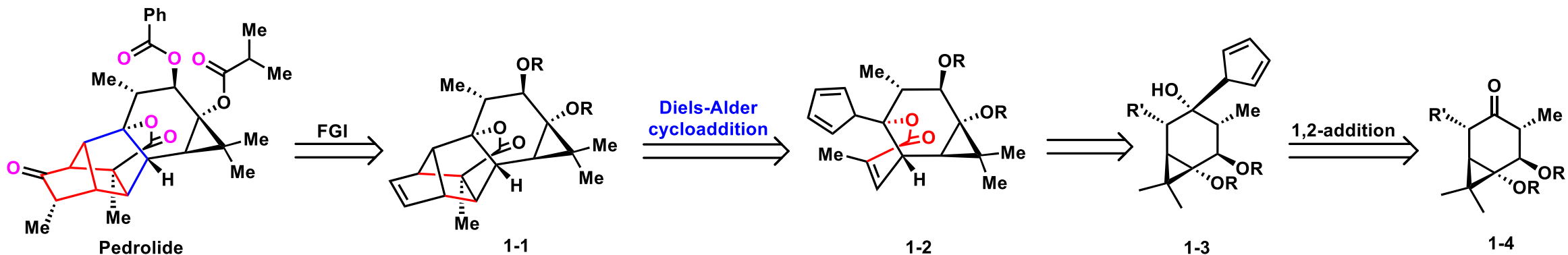
## Structural features:

Unprecedented skeleton: **pedrolane**  
[5-5-5-6-6-3] hexacyclic core; bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane  
12 contiguous stereocenters; 3 quaternary carbon  
Highly oxygenated

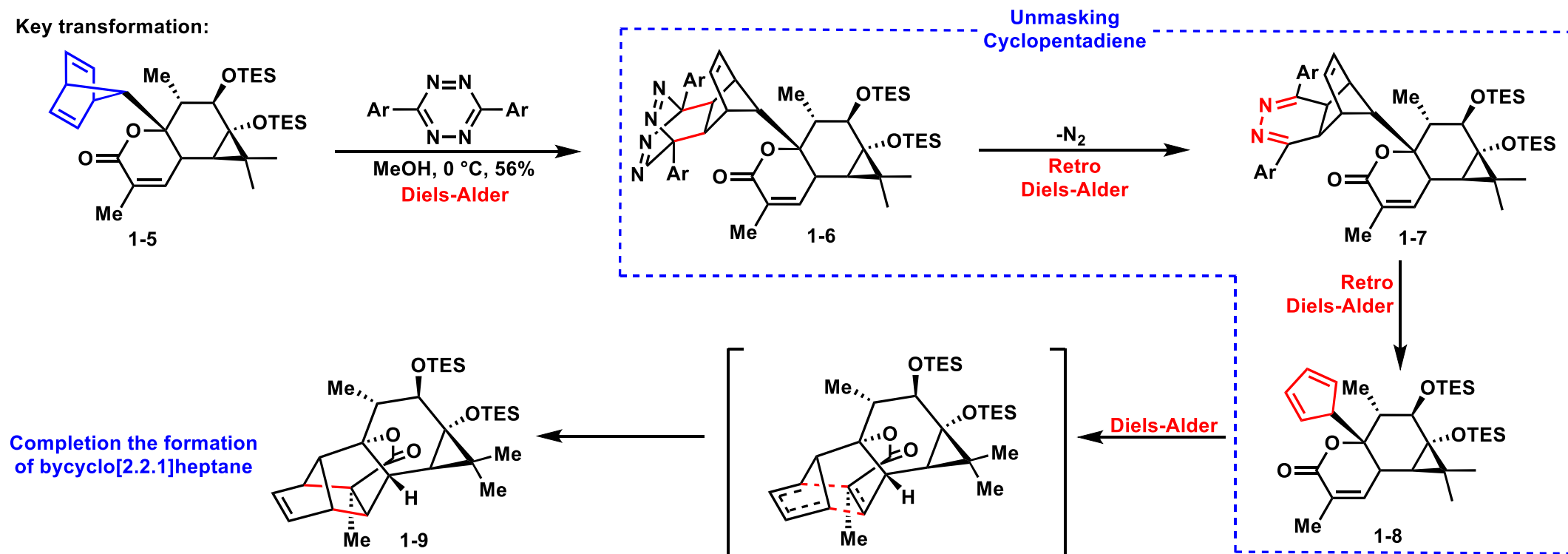
**Total synthesis:** Erick M. Carriera (2023); Bo Liu (2024); **Chuang-chuang Li (2024)**

# Background: Previous synthesis studies

## Erick M. Carrier's synthesis towards Pedrolide:



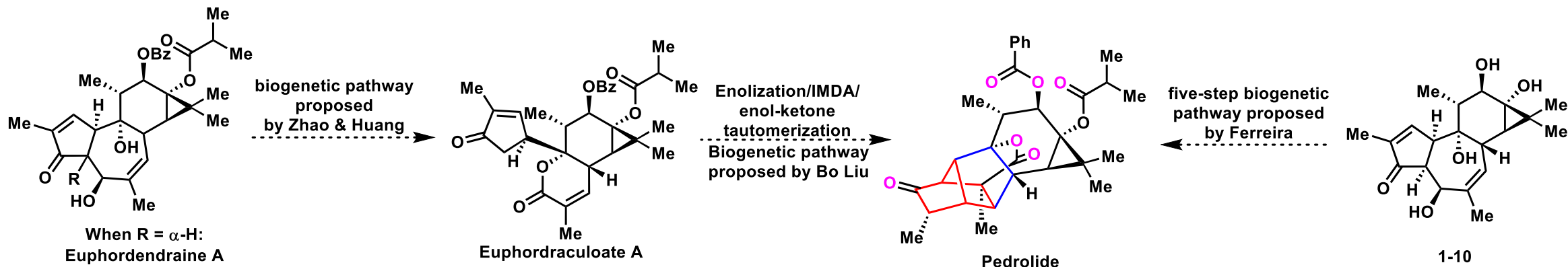
Key transformation:



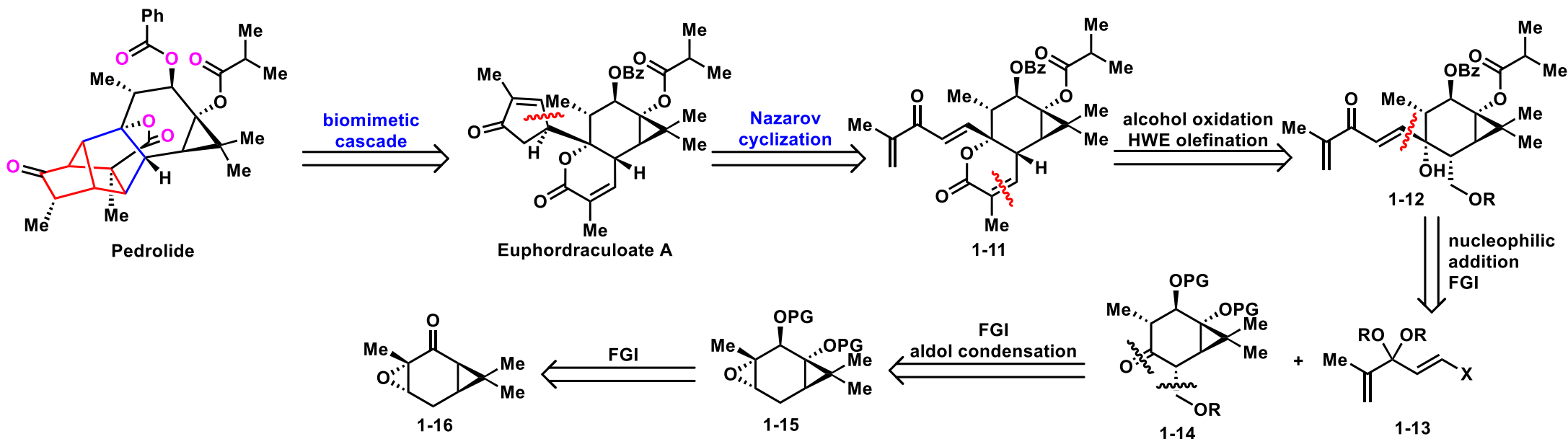
# Background: Previous synthesis studies

## Bo Liu's bio-inspired synthesis towards Pedrolide:

Synthetic strategy consideration

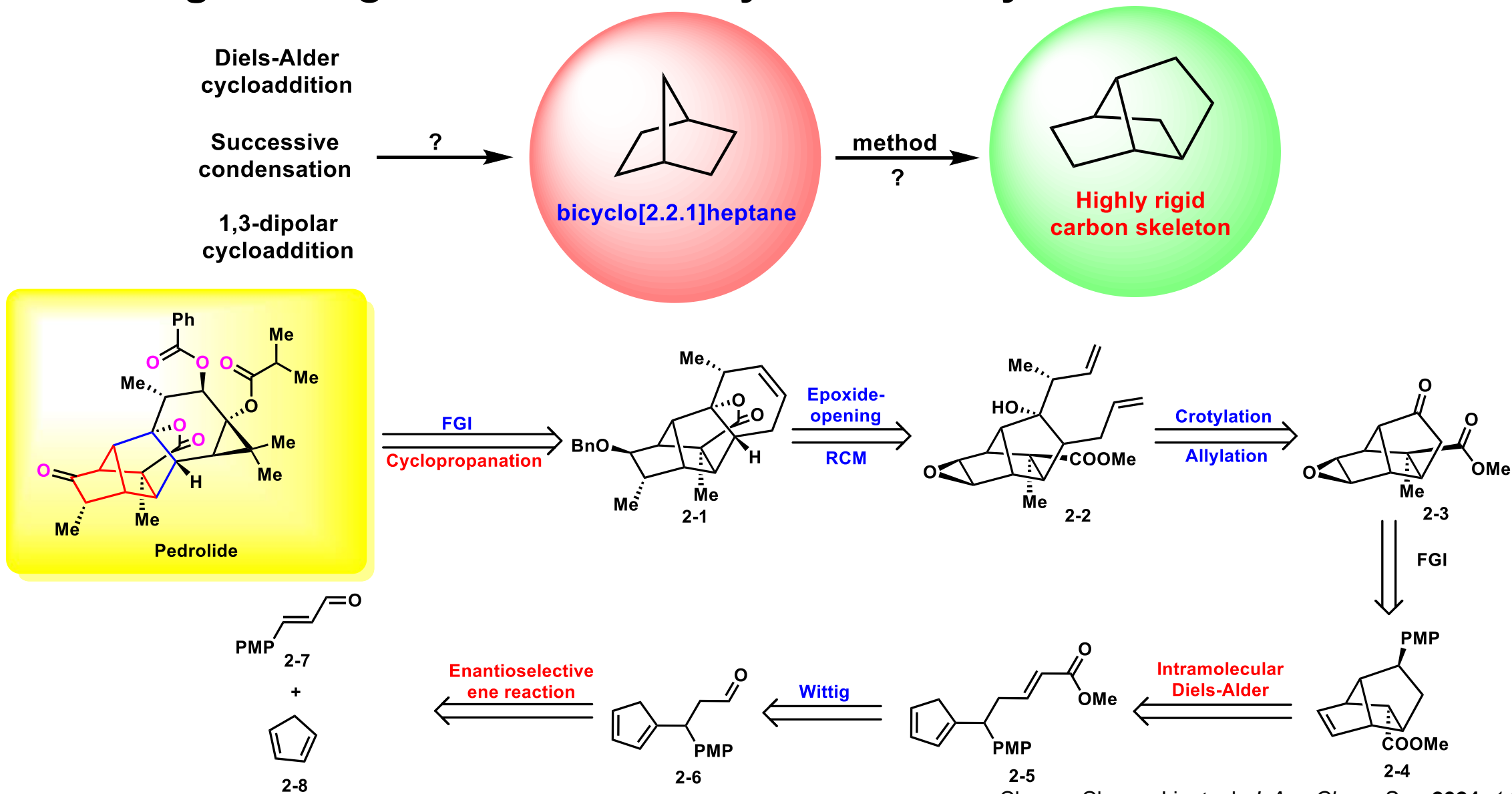


Retrosynthetic analysis

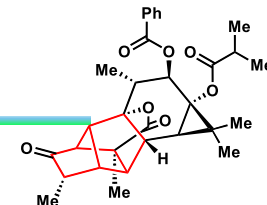


# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Retrosynthetic analysis

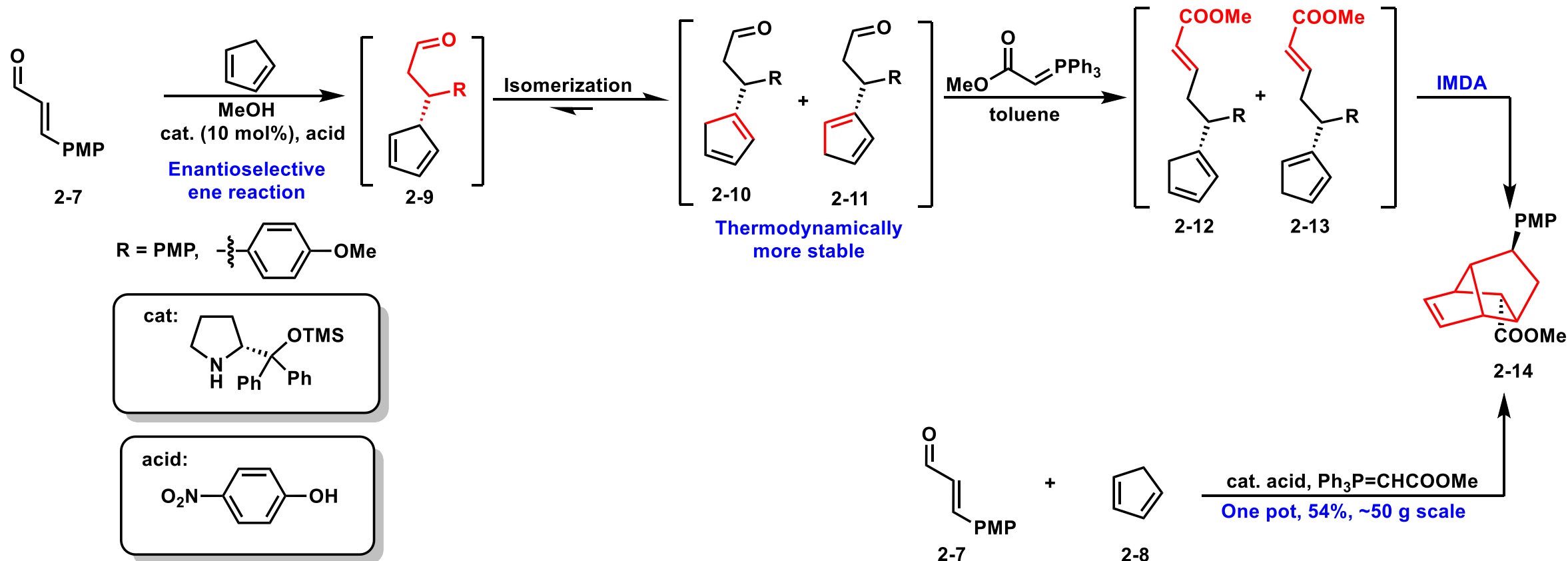


# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide



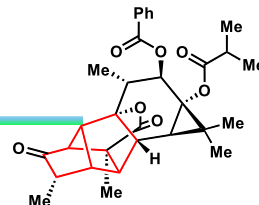
## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Construction the bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane

The enantioselective ene reaction & Intramolecular Diels-Alder cycloaddition sequence



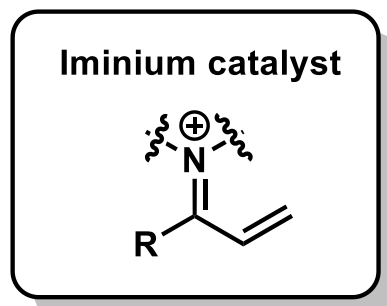


# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide



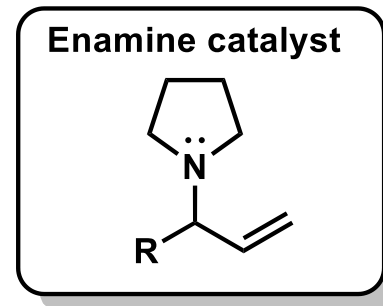
## About the enantioselective Ene reaction

We all know that:

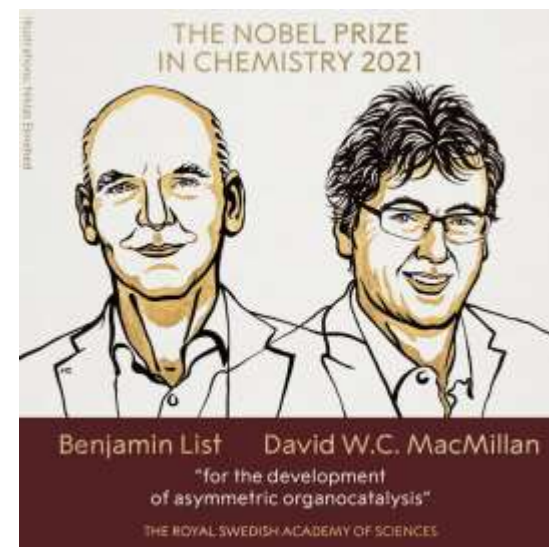


Additions of:  
malonate ester / nitroalkanes /  
aromatics / silyloxy furans  
Diels-Alder / Dipolar cycloaddition

Chemistry of carbocation  
David W. MacMillan

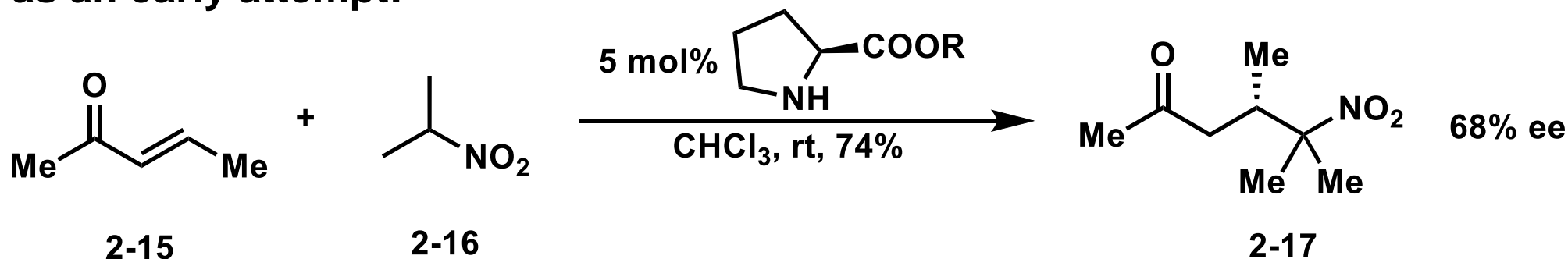


Chemistry of carbanion  
Benjamin List

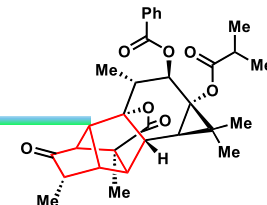


Mei-Xiang Wang, Shuo Tong. *Advanced Organic Chemistry Lecture*. Tsinghua. Univ. 2024

But as an early attempt:

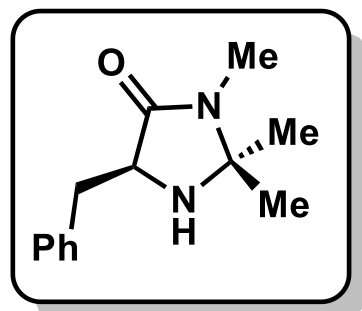


# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

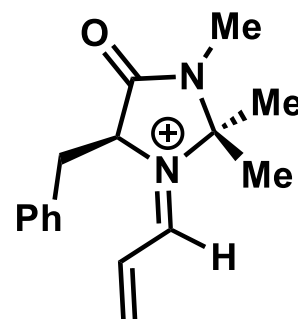
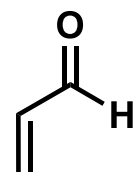


## The enantioselective Ene reaction

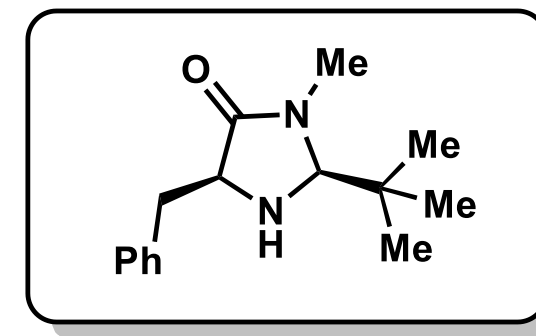
Macmillan catalyst:



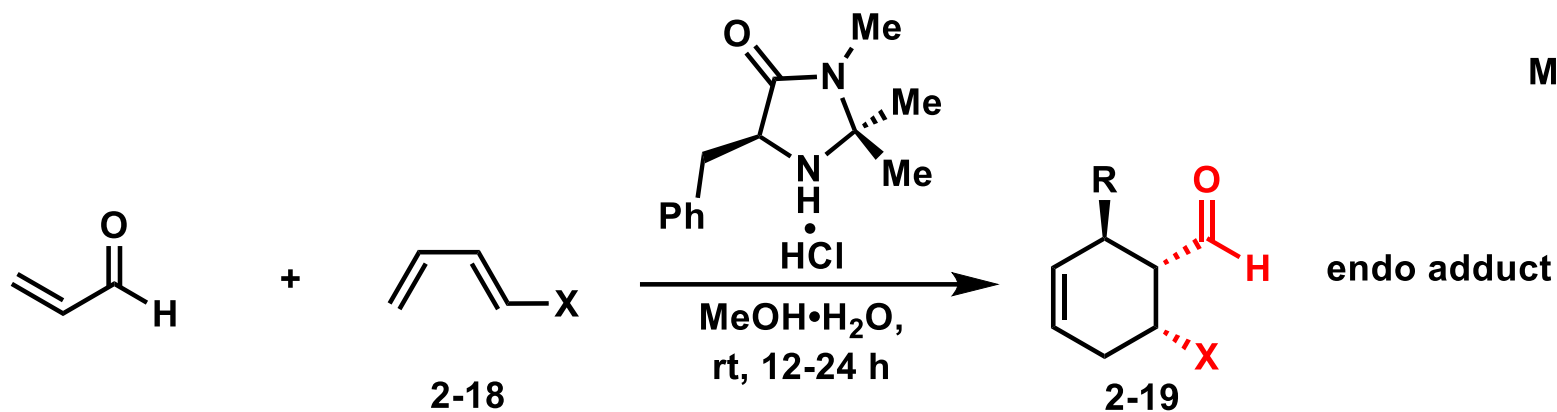
+



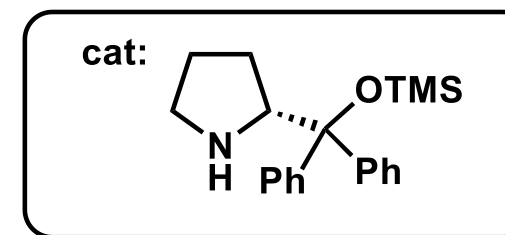
iminium salt



enhance the stereoselectivity

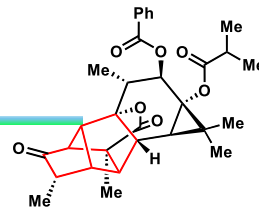


Modification of the traditional Macmillan catalyst:



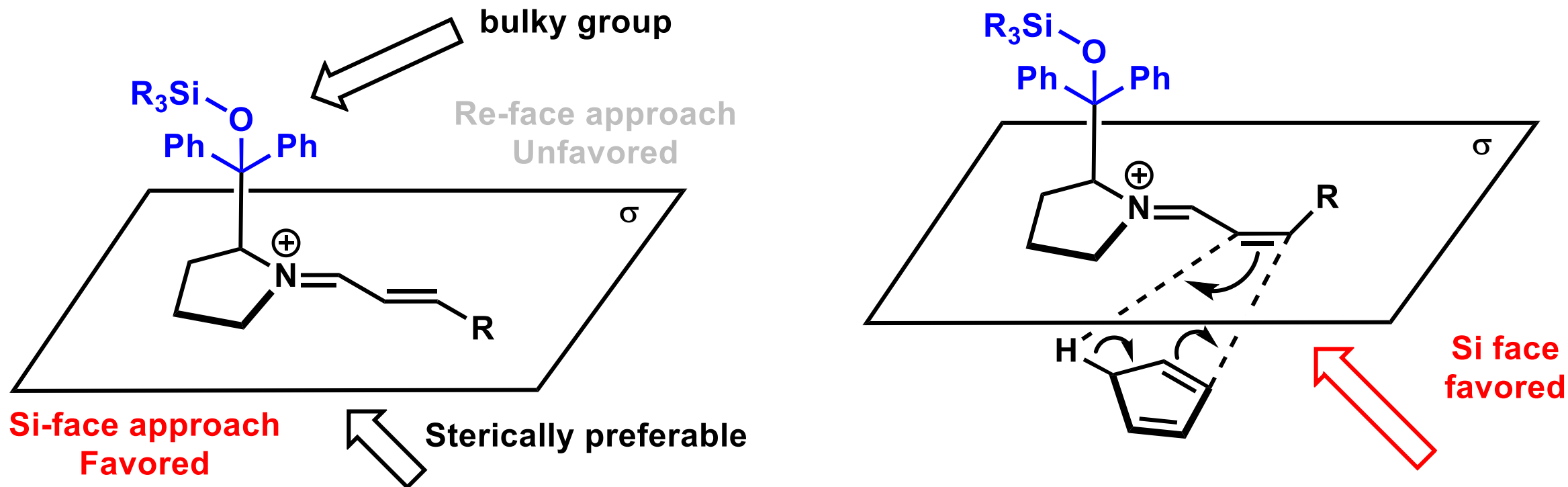
Make the Ene reaction  
stereocontrollable

# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide



## The enantioselective ene reaction

Proposed reaction pathway & T.S.:

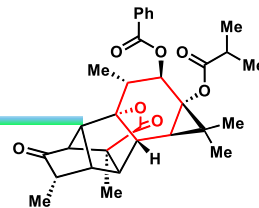


## Isomerization:

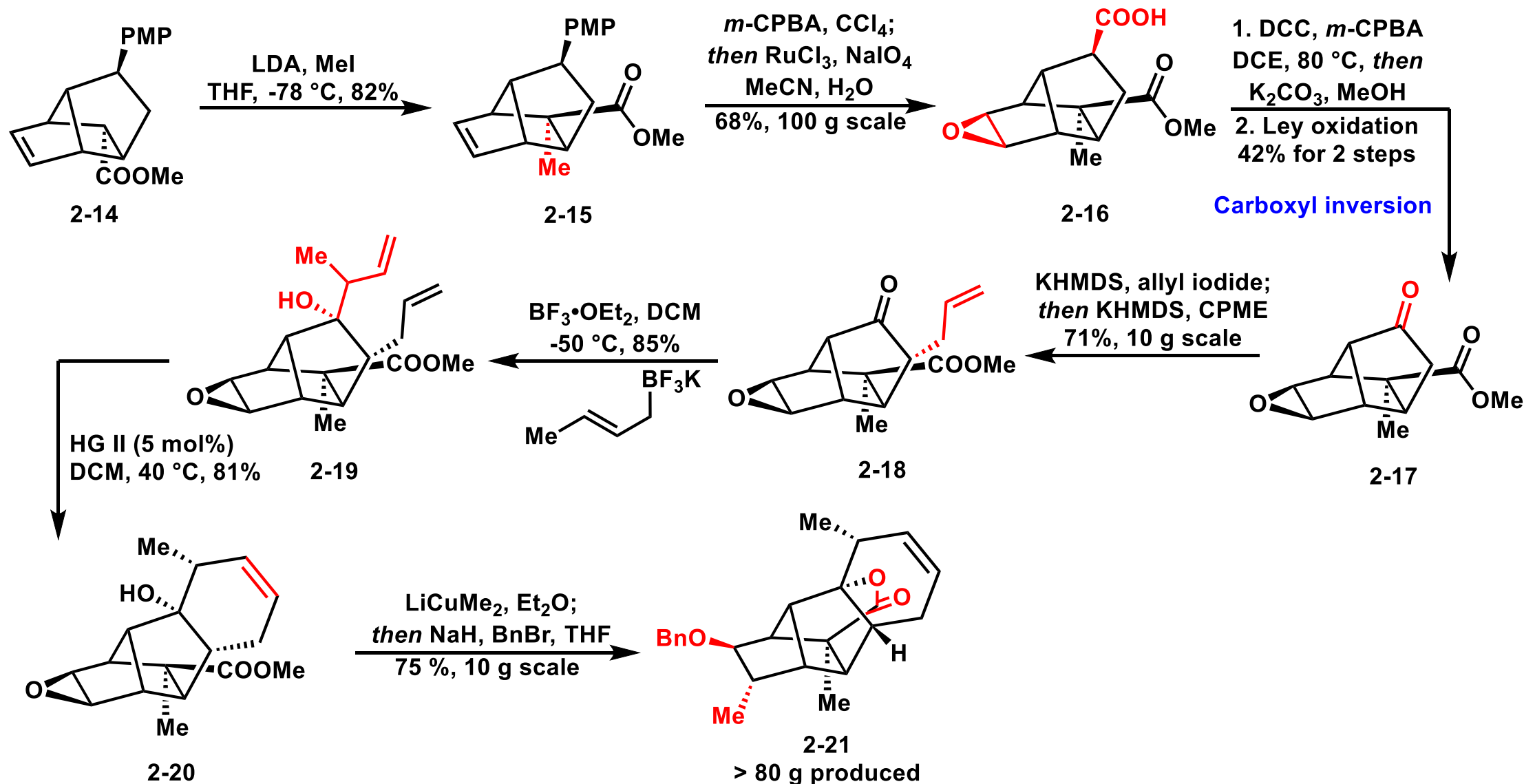


Calculation level: rev-DSDPBEP86-D3(BJ)/def2TZVPP//B3LYP-D3(BJ)-def2SVP

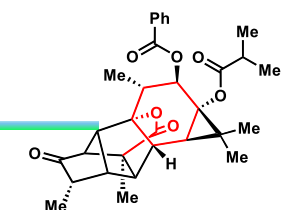
# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide



## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Cyclization & lactonization

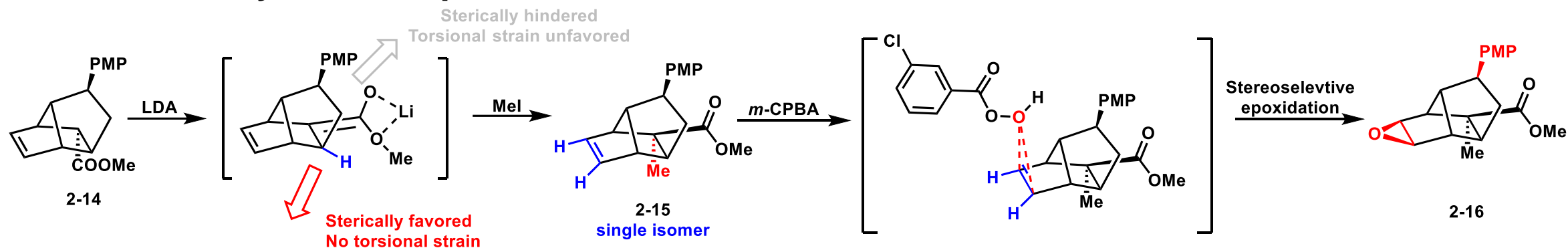


# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

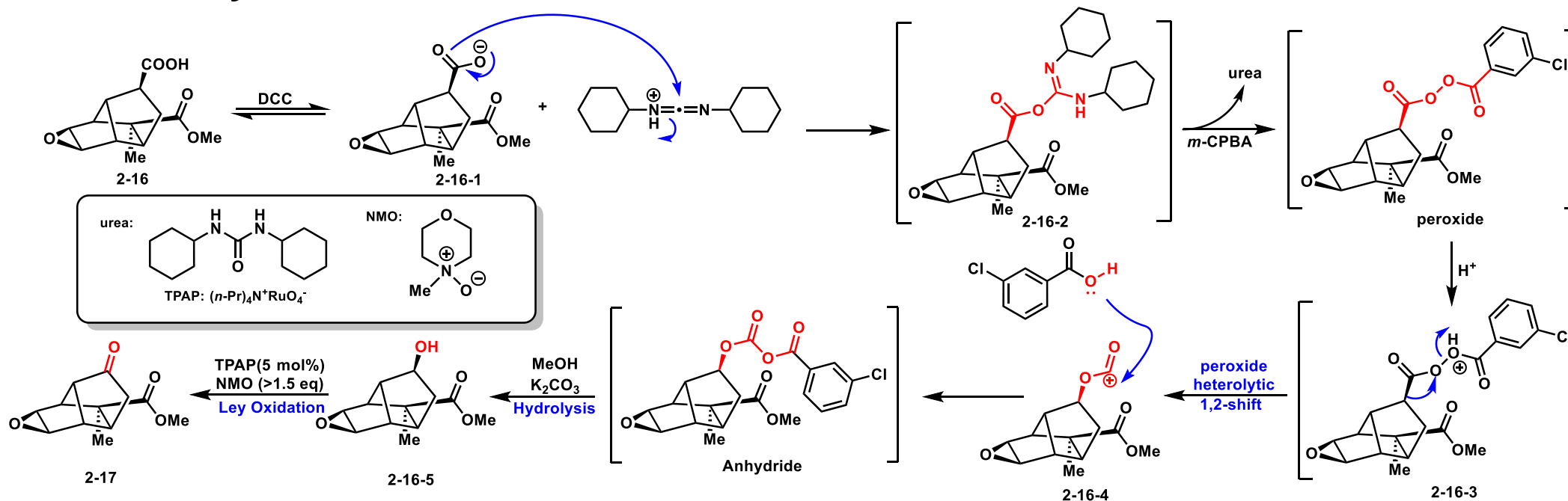


## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Mechanism & Selectivity

### Enolate alkylation & Epoxidation:

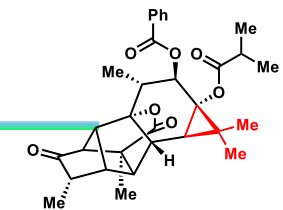


### Carboxyl inversion reaction:



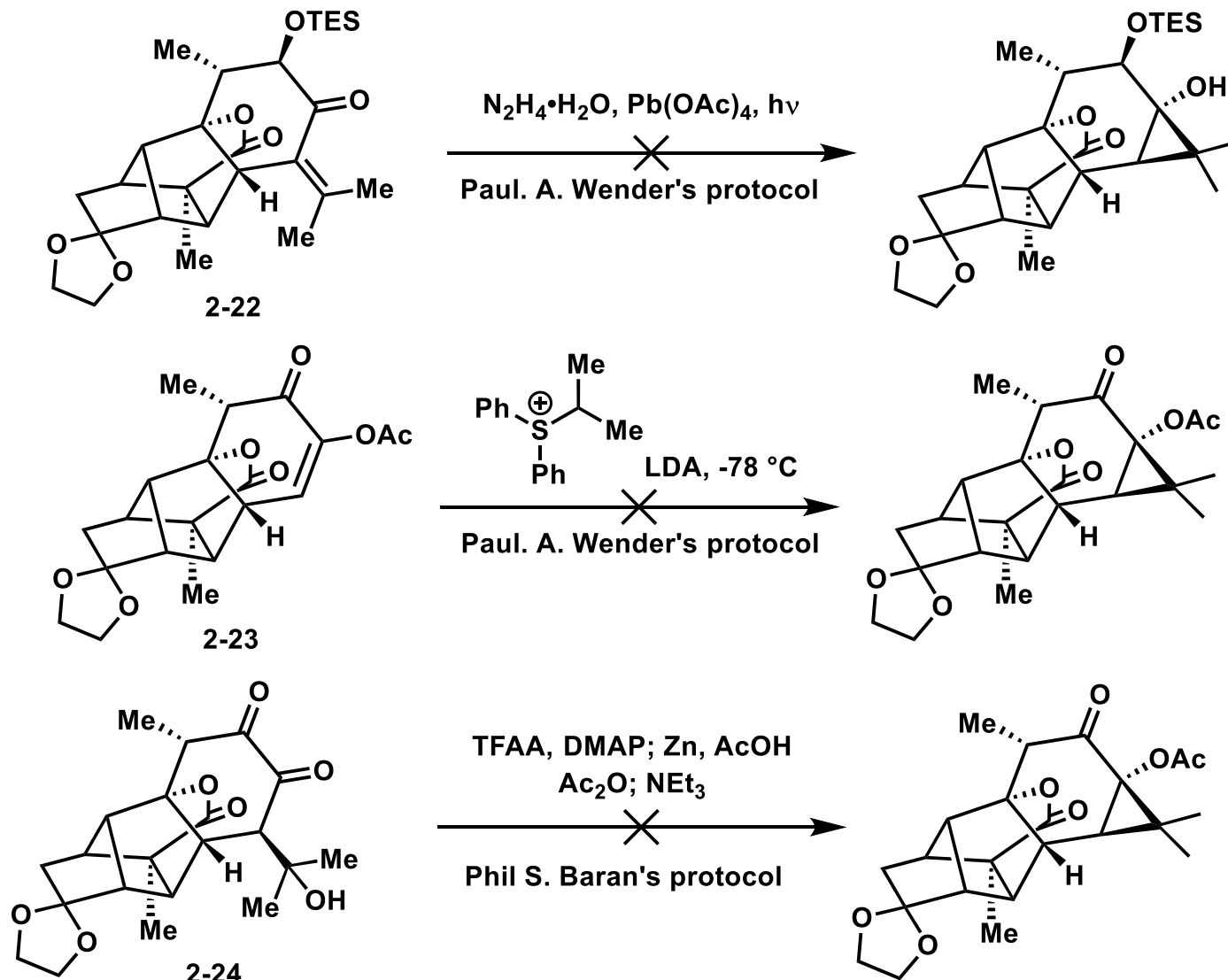
Norman Sherman, et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **1965**, *30*, 3760

# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

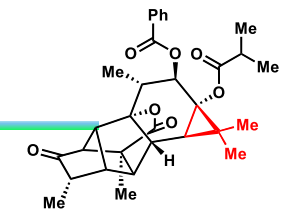


## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Cyclopropanation

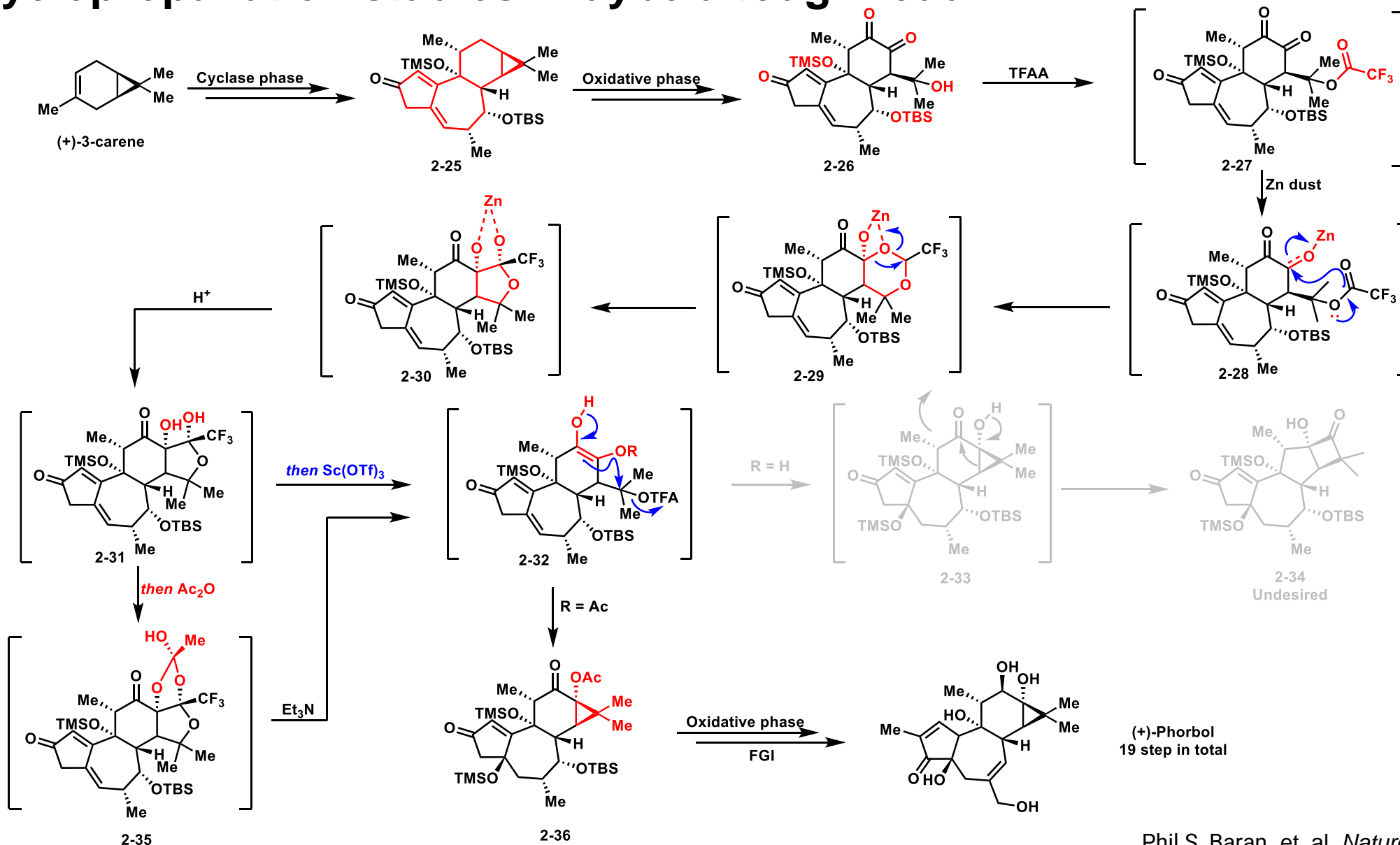
Endeavor to the  
cyclopropane ring:



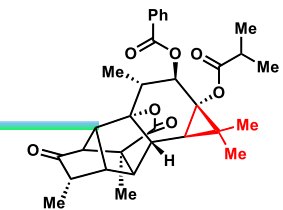
# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide



## Cyclopropanation studies: Maybe a tough road !

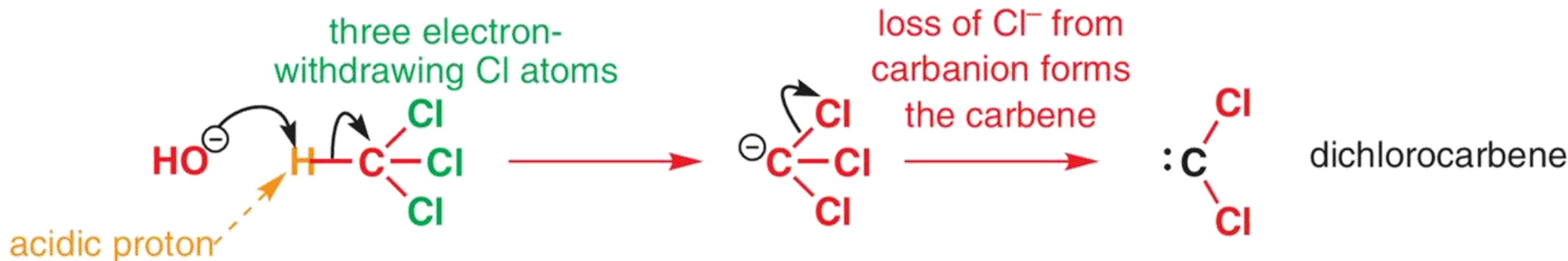


# ● Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

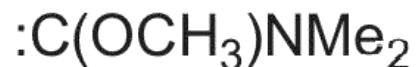


## Cyclopropanation studies: Maybe “less is more” !

base-catalysed  $\alpha$  elimination of HCl from chloroform



### Nucleophilic



### Ambiphilic



### Electrophilic

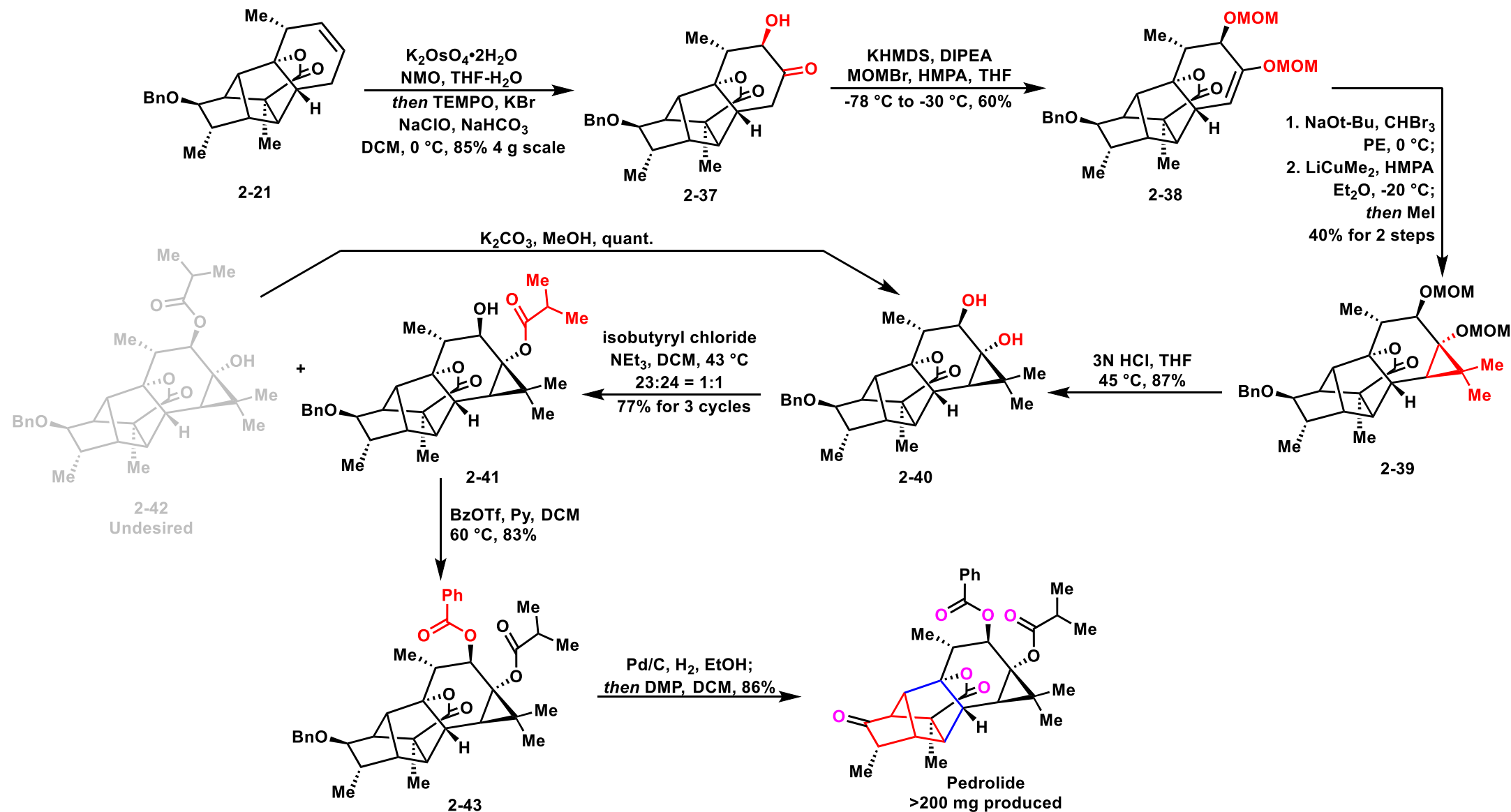
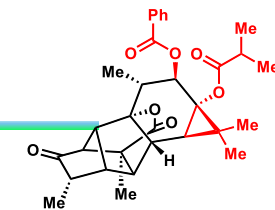


Heteroatoms, such as halogen, oxygen, nitrogen, act as *pi*-electron donor, which elevate the *p*-orbital energy in carbene, making these carbene prefer singlet.



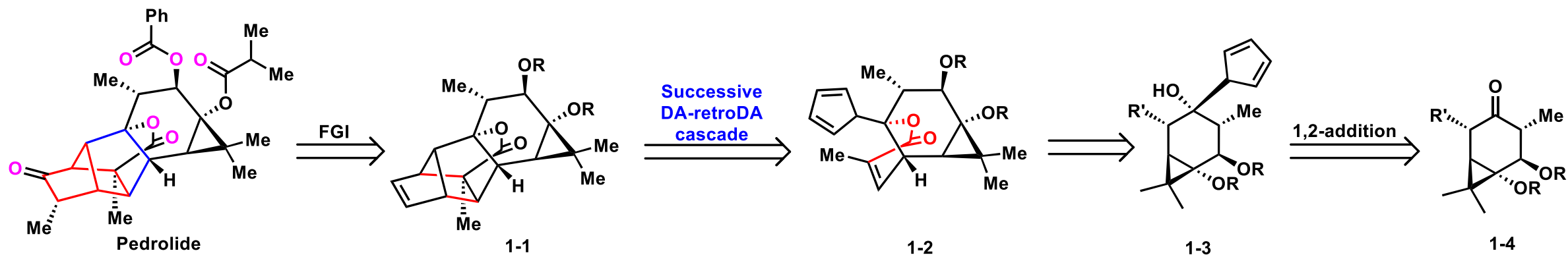
# Total synthesis towards Pedrolide

## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Achieve the synthesis

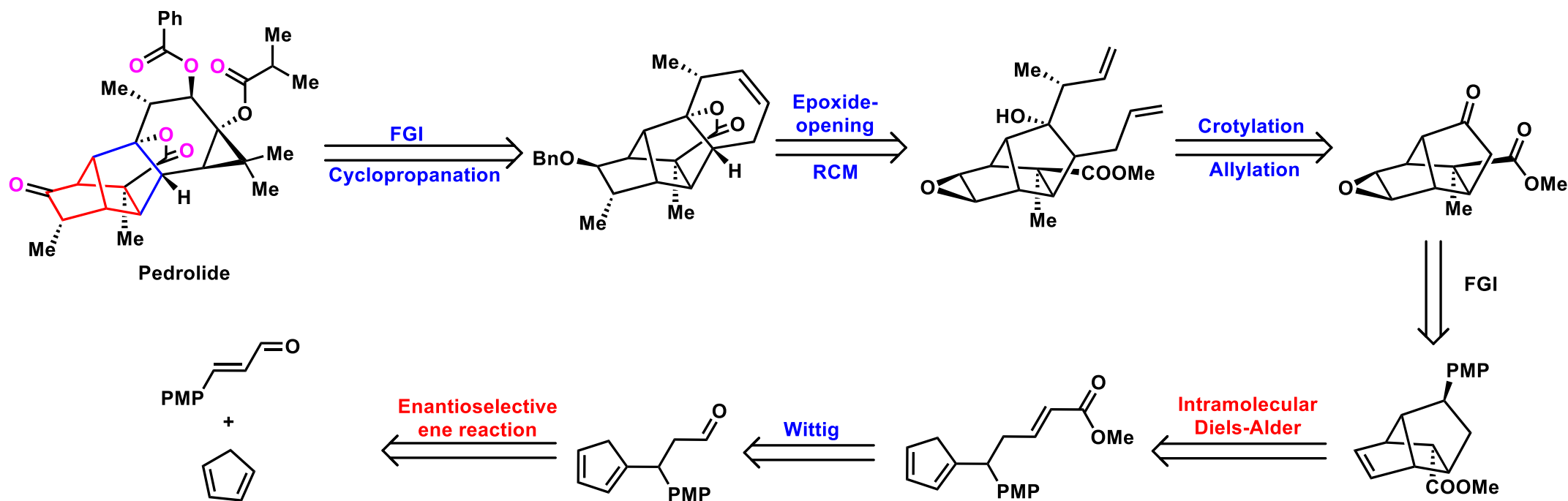


# Summary

## Erick M. Carrier's work: Late-stage IMDA reaction



## Chuang-Chuang Li's work: Early-stage IMDA reaction



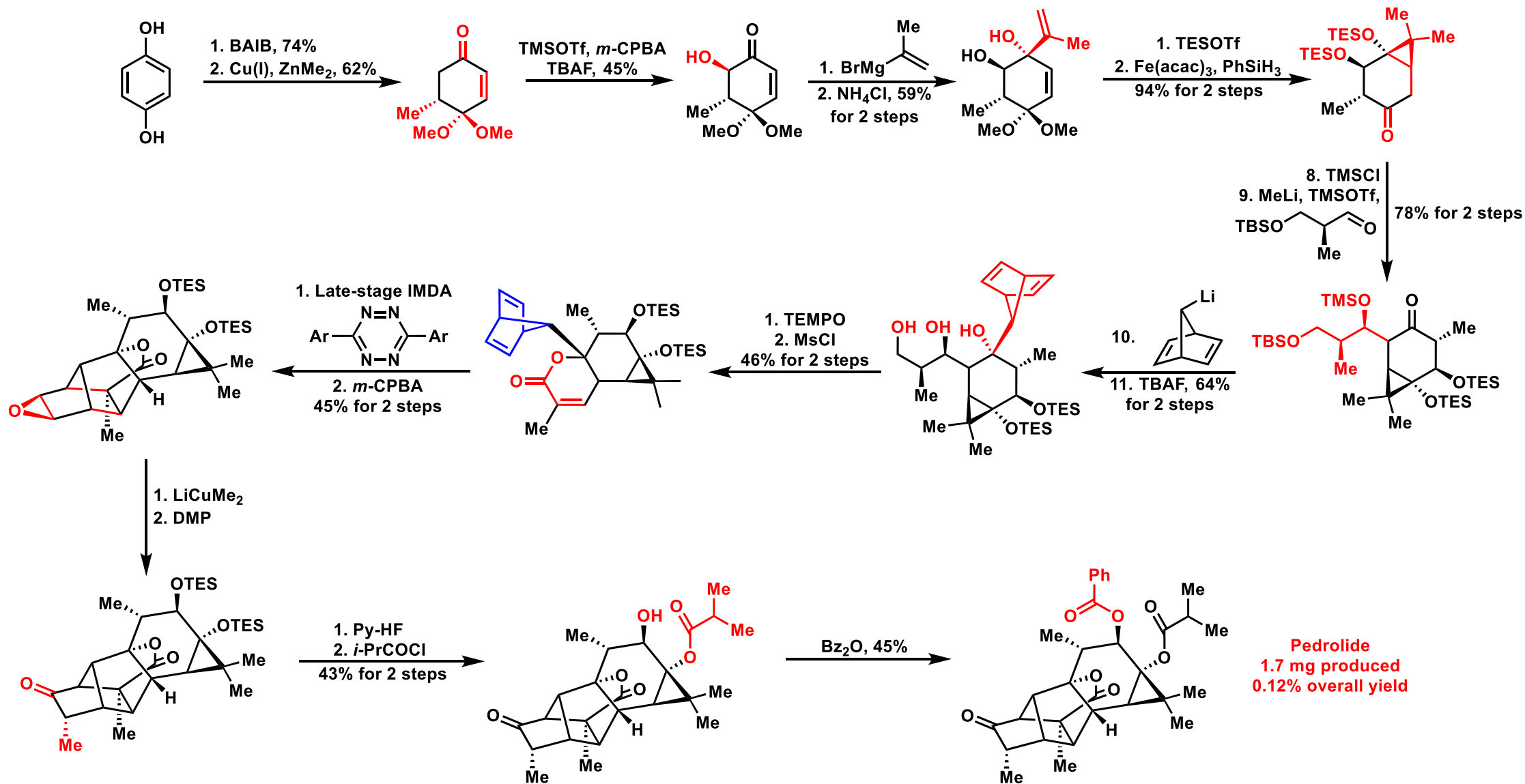
# Acknowledgement

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**Thanks for your attention!**

# Complement

## Erick M. Carrier's work: First total synthesis of Pedrolide



# Complement

## Bo Liu's work: Bioinspired synthesis of Pedrolide & Euphordraculoate A

