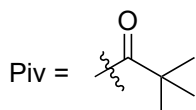
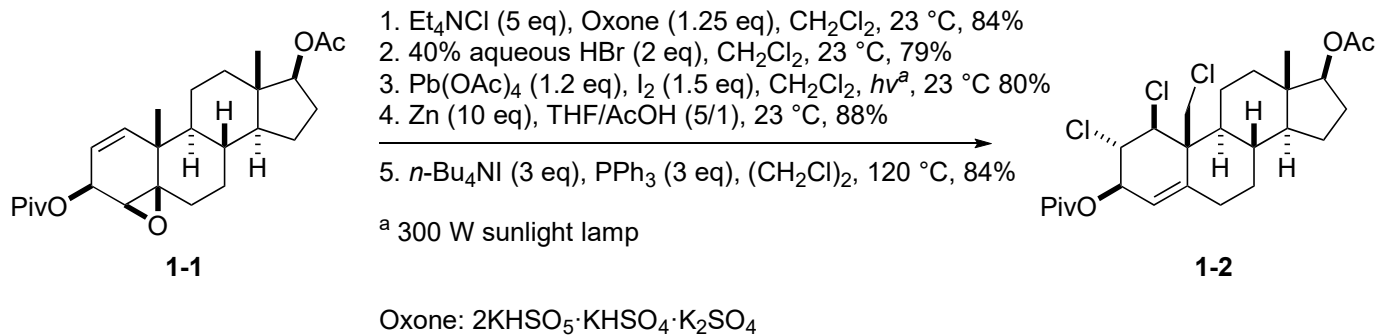


### Problem Session (3)

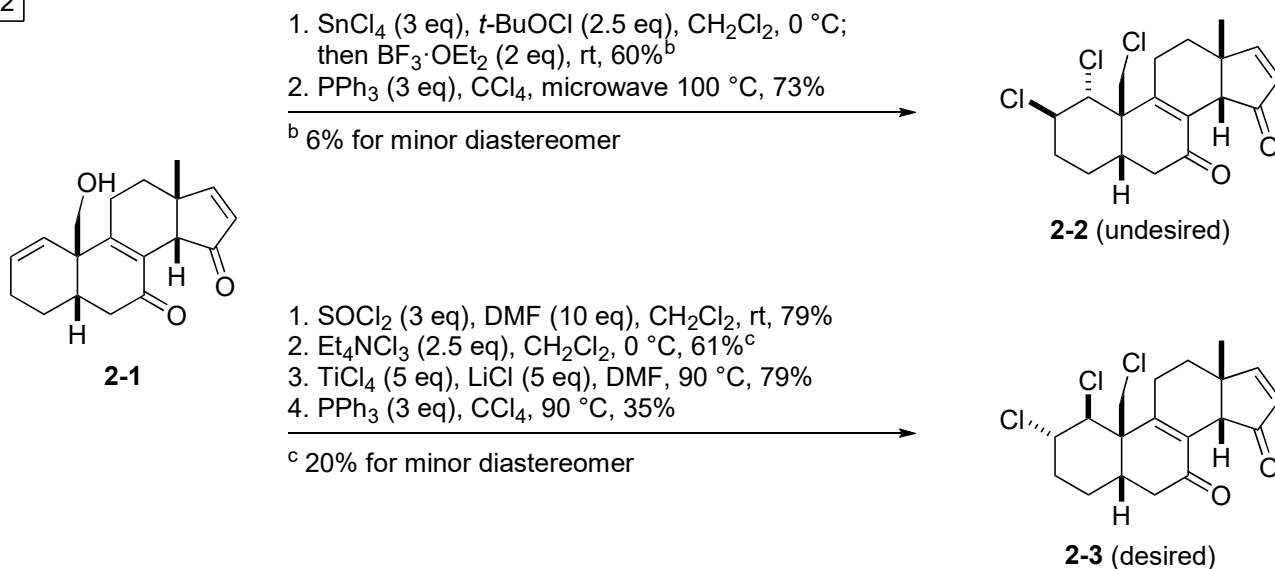
2022.7.30 Kyohei Takaoka

Please provide the reaction mechanisms.

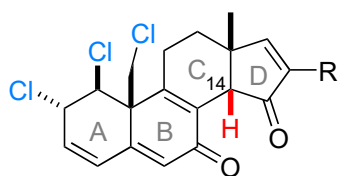
1



2



Topic: Total syntheses of clionastatins (chlorinated natural product)



**0-1:** Clionastatin A (R = H)

**0-2:** Clionastatin B (R = Cl)

Isolated in 2004 from burrowing sponge *Cliona nigricans*<sup>2)</sup>  
(From 1.7kg (dried), 1.2 mg of **0-1** and 1.9 mg of **0-2** were isolated)

Total syntheses:

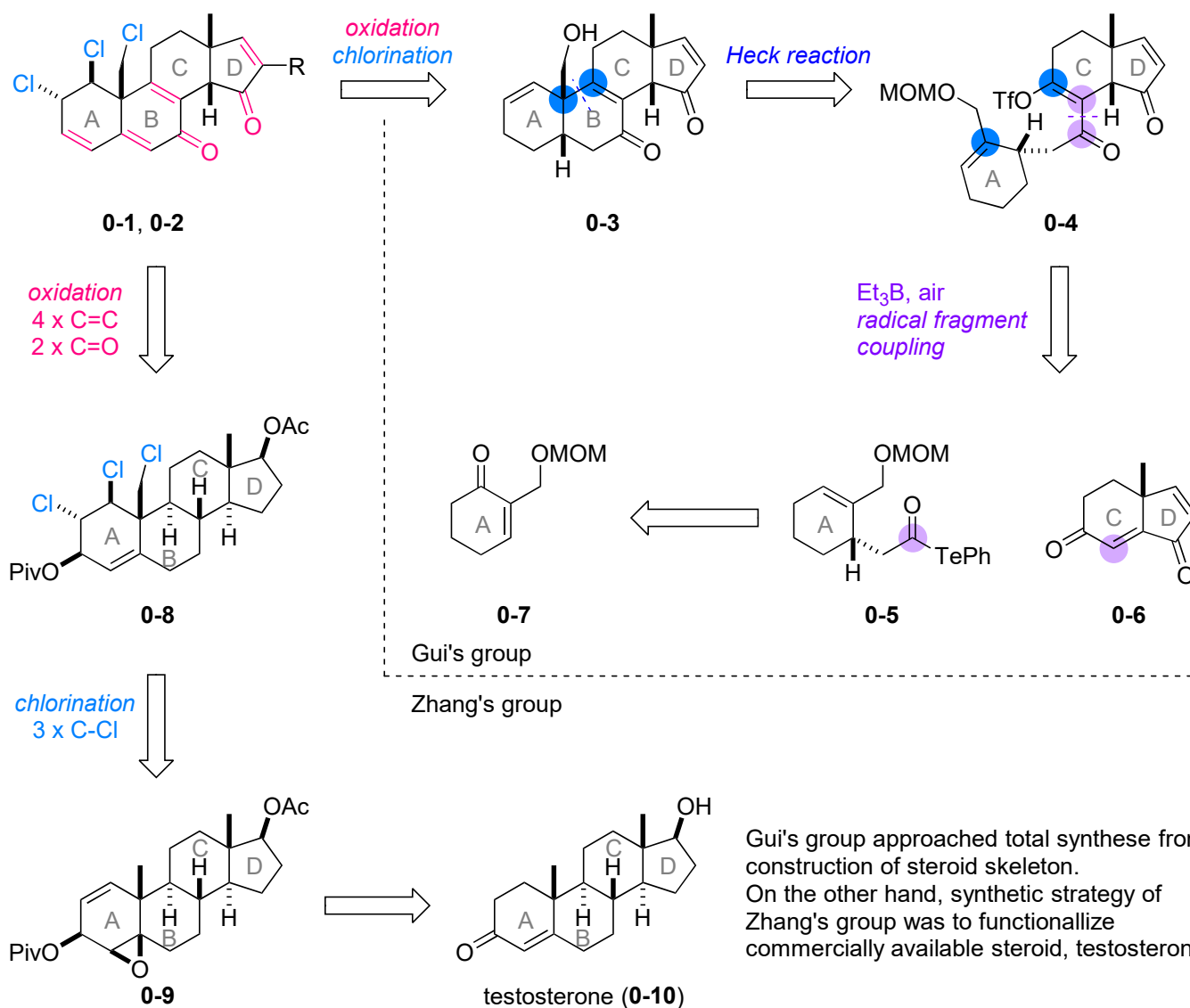
Gui's group (2021, 16-17 steps)<sup>3)</sup> with structural revision ← problem 2

Zhang's group (2022, 16 steps)<sup>4)</sup> ← problem 1

\* Stereochemistry at C14 was incorrect in originally proposed structure.

cytotoxic activity (IC<sub>50</sub>): 0.8-2.0 µg/mL

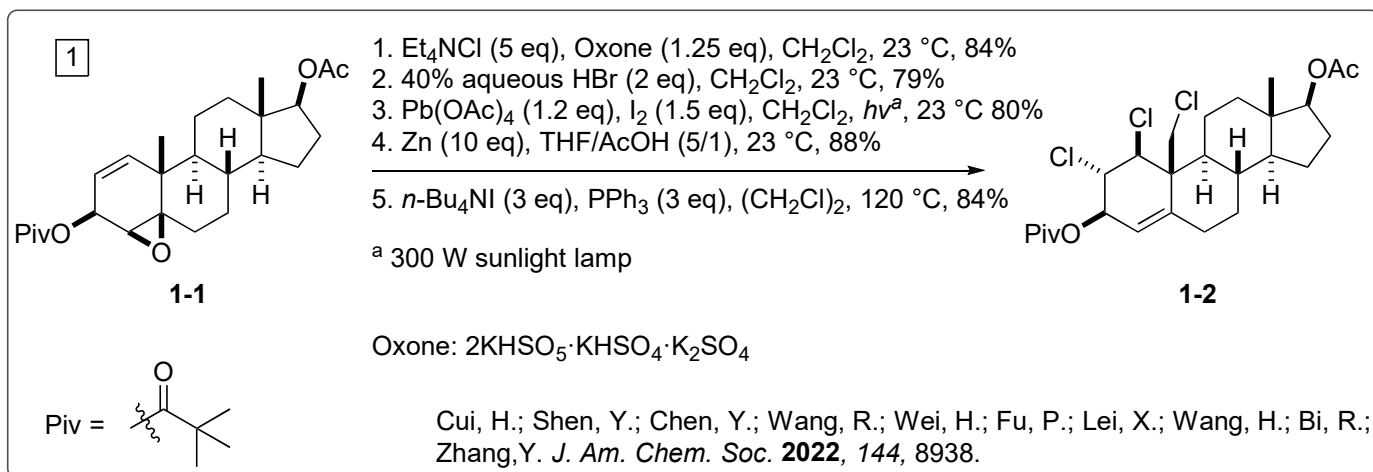
Retrosynthetic analysis:



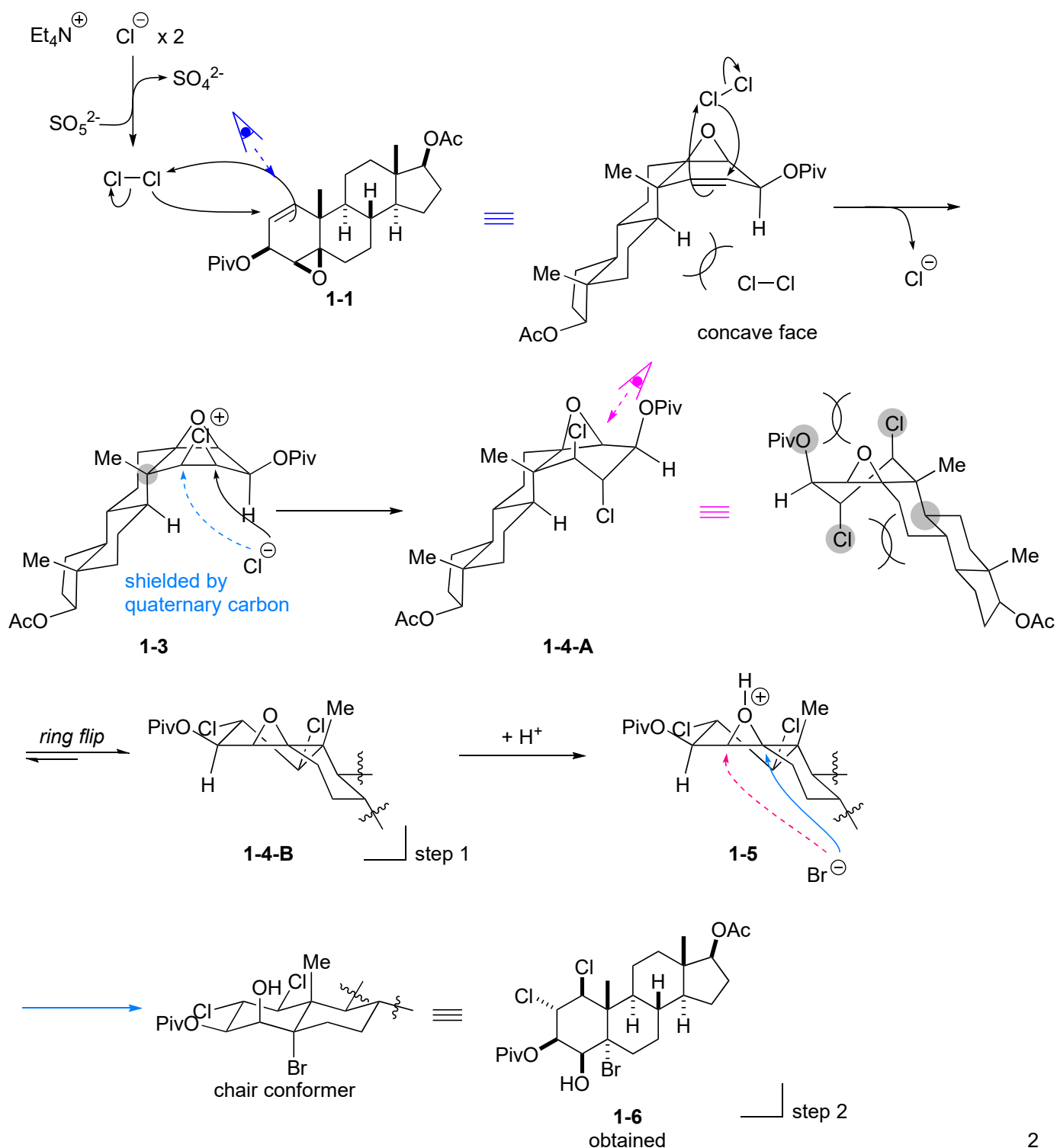
Gui's group approached total synthesis from construction of steroid skeleton.  
On the other hand, synthetic strategy of Zhang's group was to functionalize commercially available steroid, testosterone.

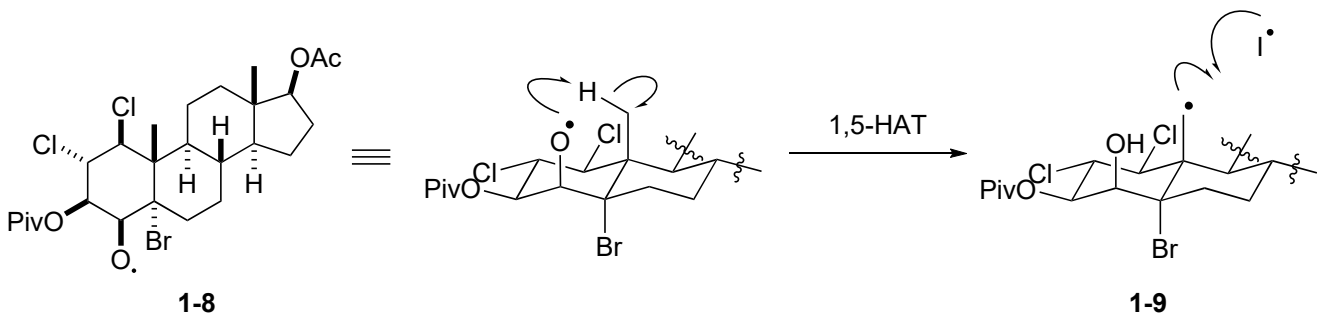
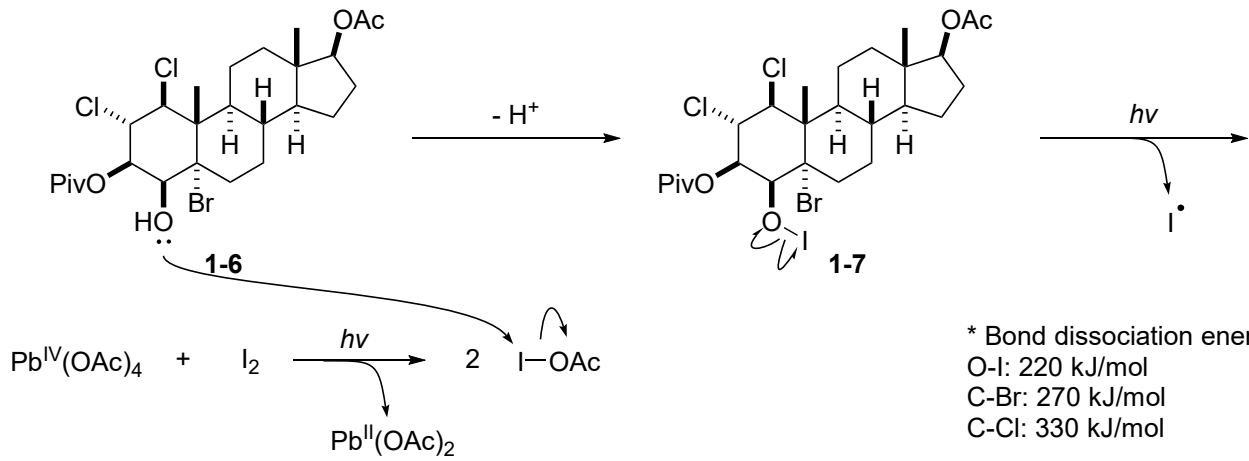
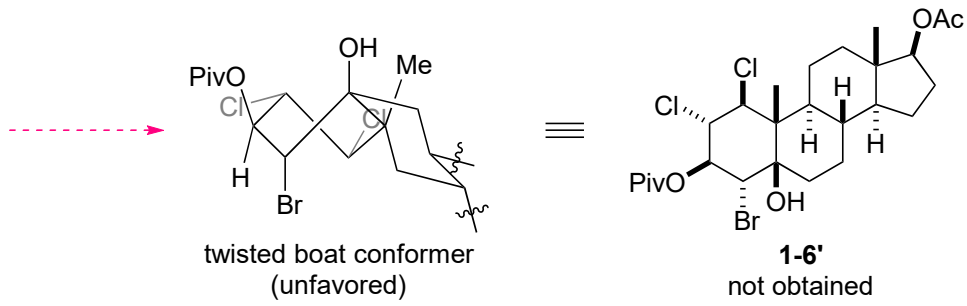
Reference:

1. Chung, W.-J.; Vanderwal, C. D. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 4396.
2. Fattorusso, E.; Tagliatela-Scafati, O.; Petrucci, F.; Bavestrello, G.; Calcinaï, B.; Cerrano, C.; Meglio, P. D.; Ianaro, A. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, *6*, 1633.
3. Ju, W.; Wang, X.; Tian, H.; Gui, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2021**, *143*, 13016.
4. Cui, H.; Shen, Y.; Chen, Y.; Wang, R.; Wei, H.; Fu, P.; Lei, X.; Wang, H.; Bi, R.; Zhang, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2022**, *144*, 8938.

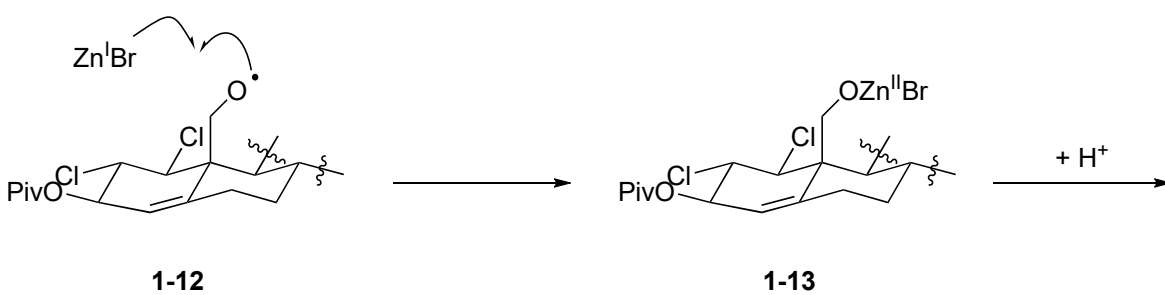
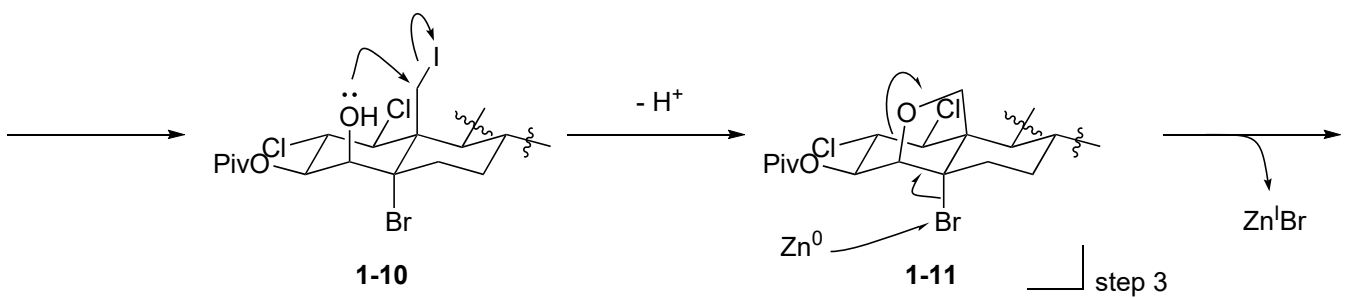


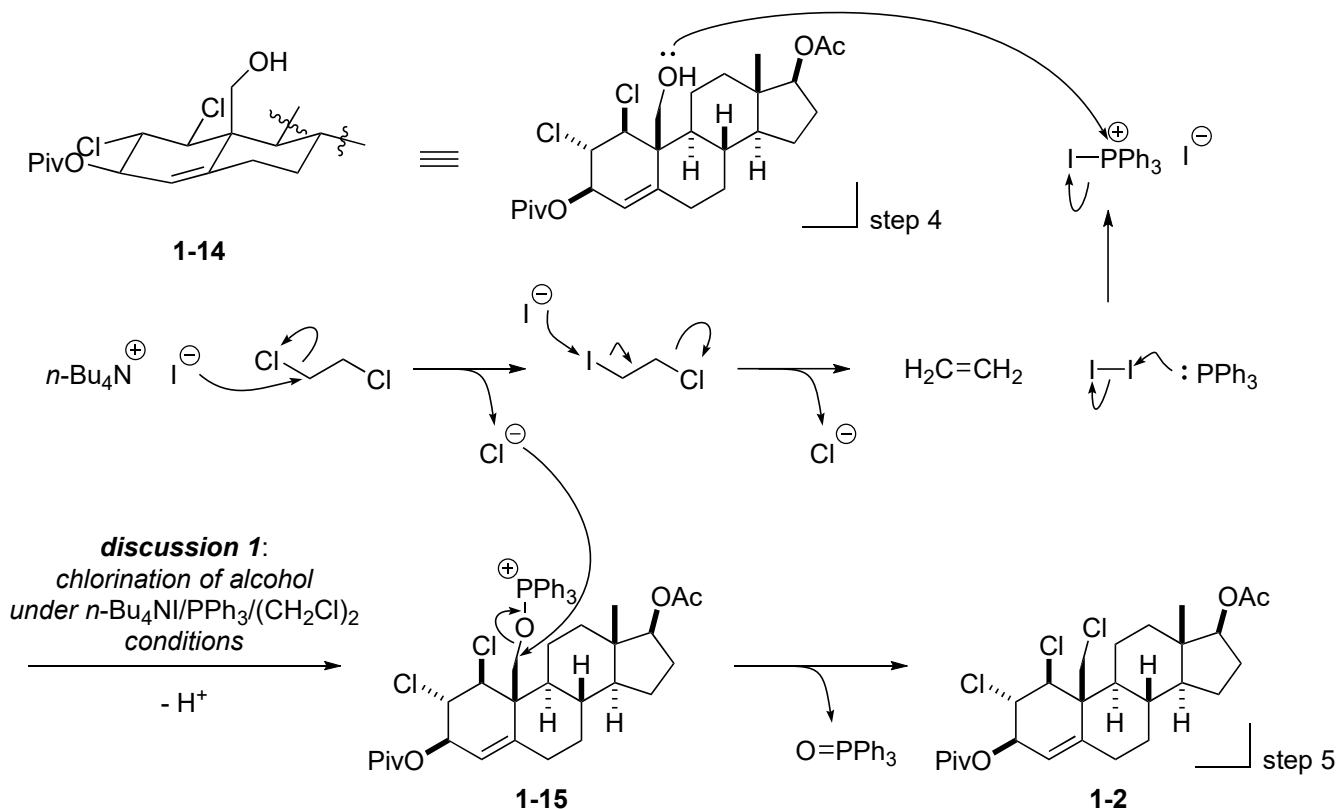
Answer:





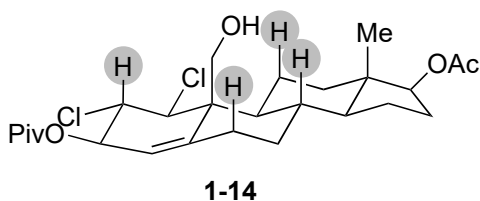
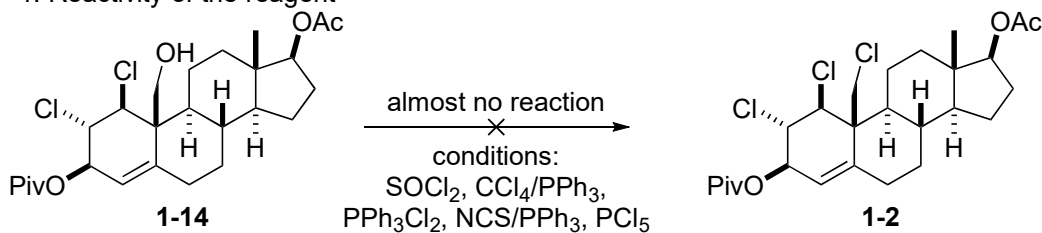
There is no proper hydrogen atom that can proceed further HAT





**Discussion 1:** Chlorination of alcohol under *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NI/PPh<sub>3</sub>/(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl)<sub>2</sub> conditions<sup>1)</sup>

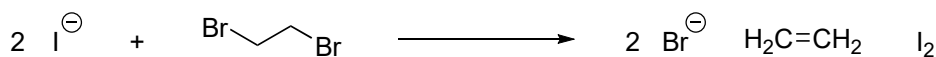
1. Reactivity of the reagent



Alcohol is shielded by neighboring hydrogen atoms in **2-14**. So chlorination of this alcohol didn't proceed with Ph<sub>3</sub>P<sup>+</sup>Cl, PCl<sub>5</sub> or SOCl<sub>2</sub>. The reaction requires better reactive species than those reagent, and PPh<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>I would be such species (high reactivity with alcohol, and turned alcohol into good leaving group, Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O.)

2. Reaction mechanism

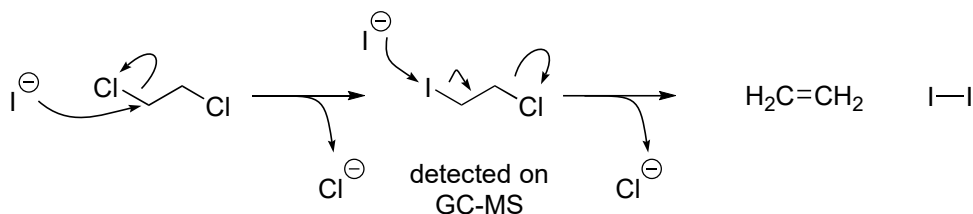
In previous study shows that CH<sub>2</sub>=CH<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub> was generated from BrCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br and I<sup>-</sup>.<sup>2)</sup>



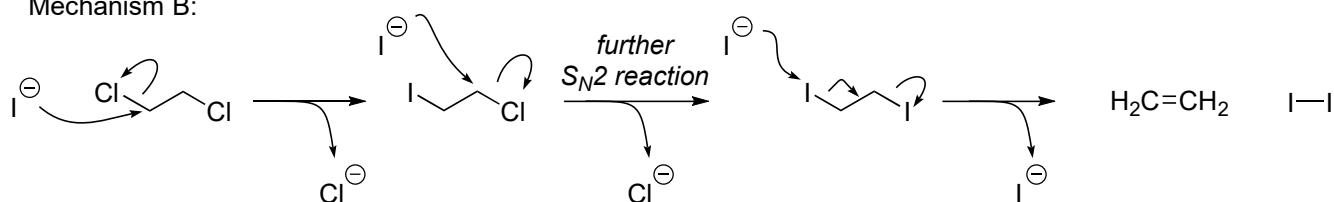
In the control experiment, ClCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I was detected by GC-MS spectroscopy in the reaction mixture of *n*-BuNI and (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl)<sub>2</sub>. Thus, there could be 2 reaction mechanism (mechanism A, B) in the formation of I<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>2</sub>=CH<sub>2</sub>.

Possible reaction mechanism

Mechanism A:

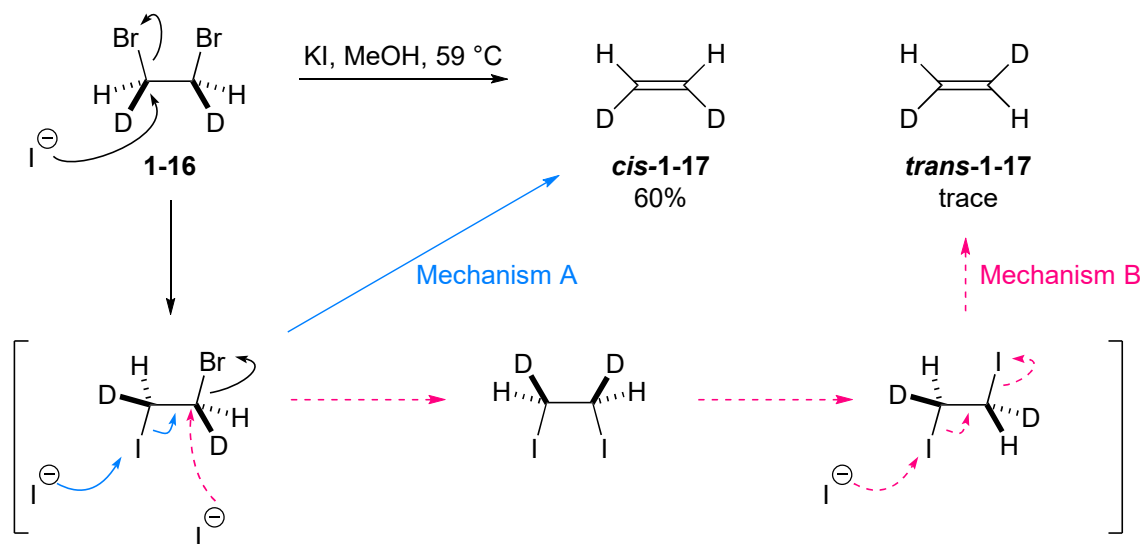


Mechanism B:



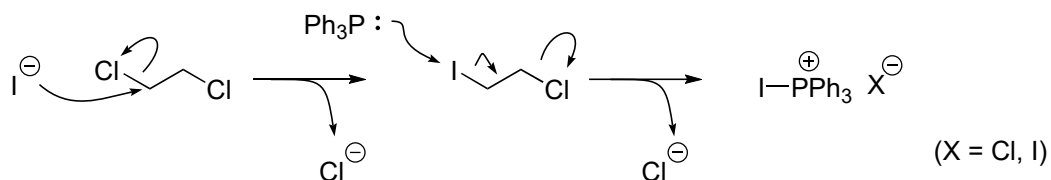
Deuterium labeling experiment supports mechanism A, not mechanism B.

Deuterium labeling experiment<sup>3)</sup>

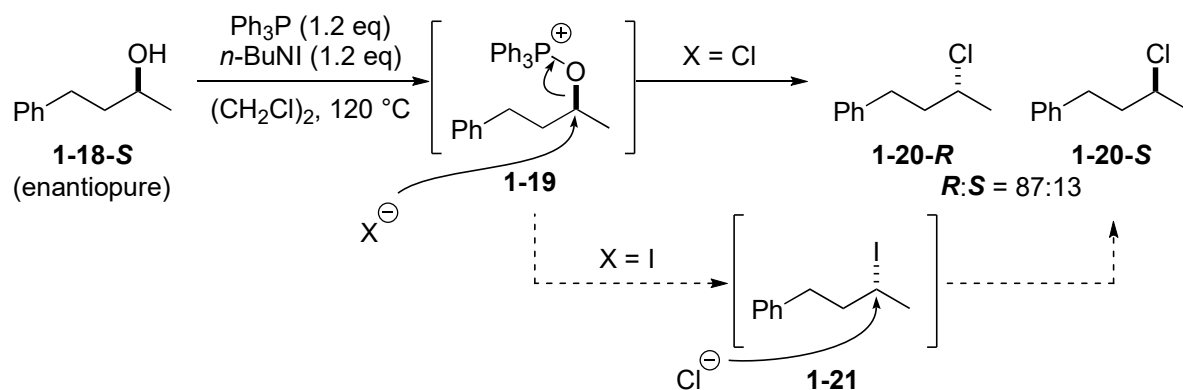


On the other hand, nucleophilic attack from  $\text{PPh}_3$  instead of  $\text{I}^-$  can be possible reaction pathway.

Other plausible reaction mechanism:



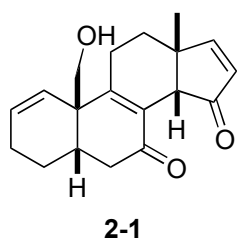
The following result suggested that chlorination from **1-19** is the major pathway, not iodinating pathway.



**Reference:**

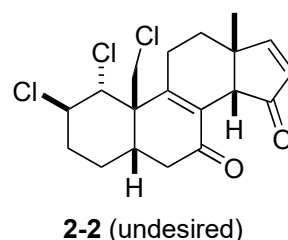
- Chen, J.; Lin, J.-H.; Xiao, J.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 3061.
- Hine, J.; Brader, W. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1955**, *77*, 361.
- Schubert, W. M.; Steady, H.; Rabinovitch, B. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1955**, *77*, 5755.

2



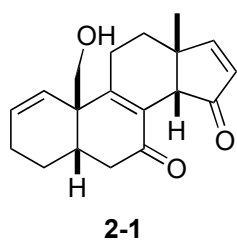
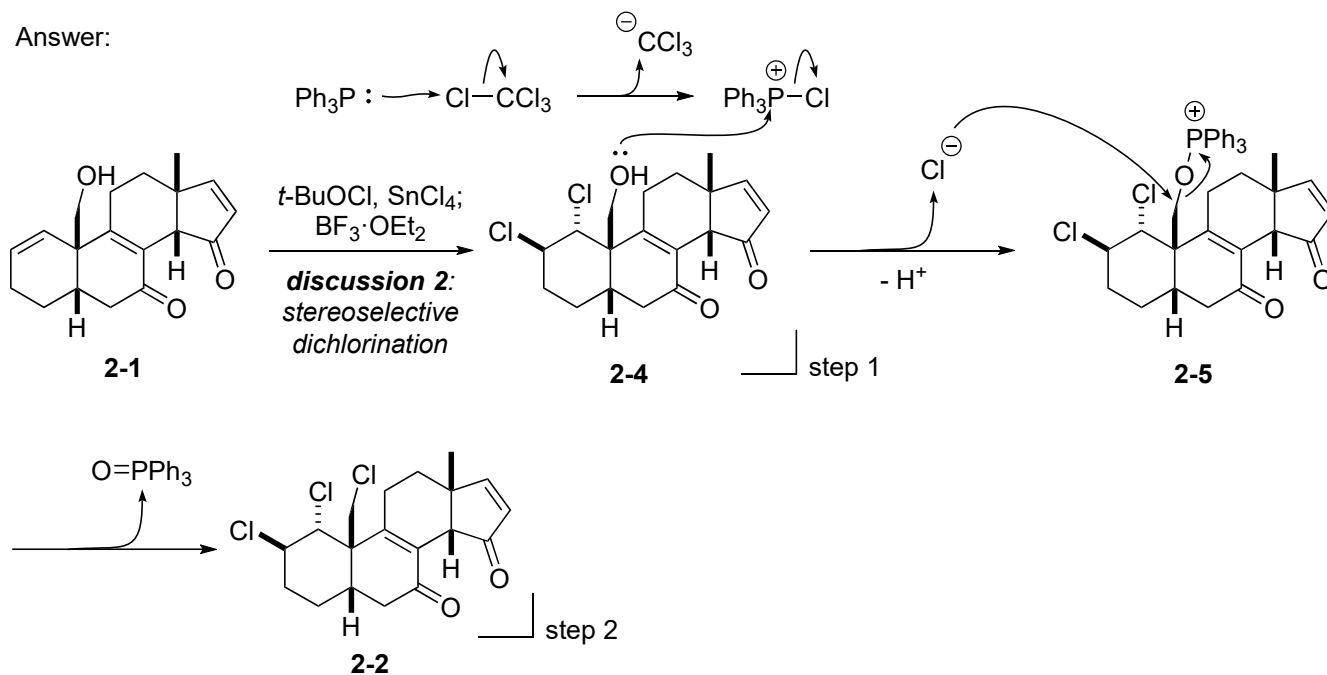
1.  $\text{SnCl}_4$  (3 eq),  $t\text{-BuOCl}$  (2.5 eq),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ; then  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{OEt}_2$  (2 eq), rt, 60%<sup>b</sup>
2.  $\text{PPh}_3$  (3 eq),  $\text{CCl}_4$ , microwave  $100\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , 73%

<sup>b</sup> 6% for minor diastereomer



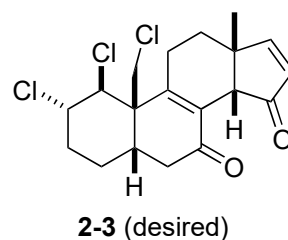
Ju, W.; Wang, X.; Tian, H.; Gui, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2021**, *143*, 13016.

Answer:

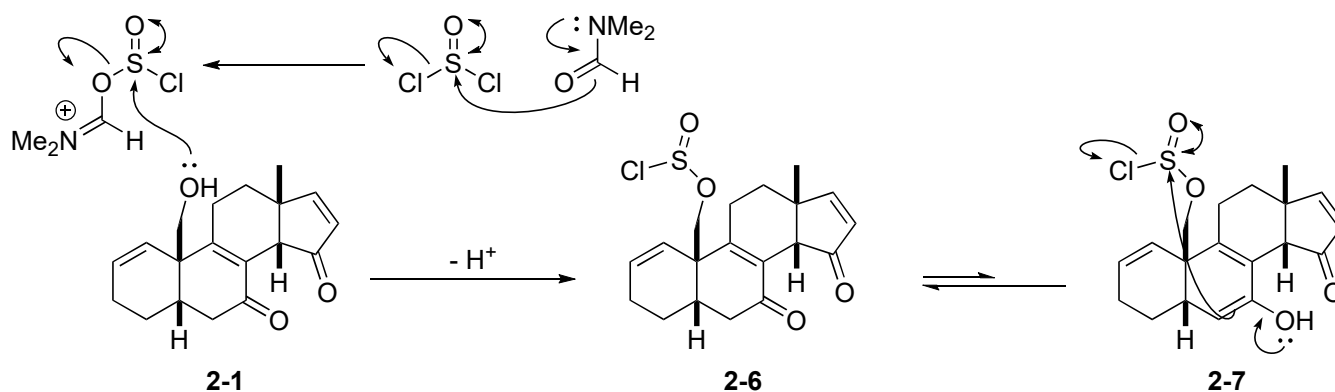


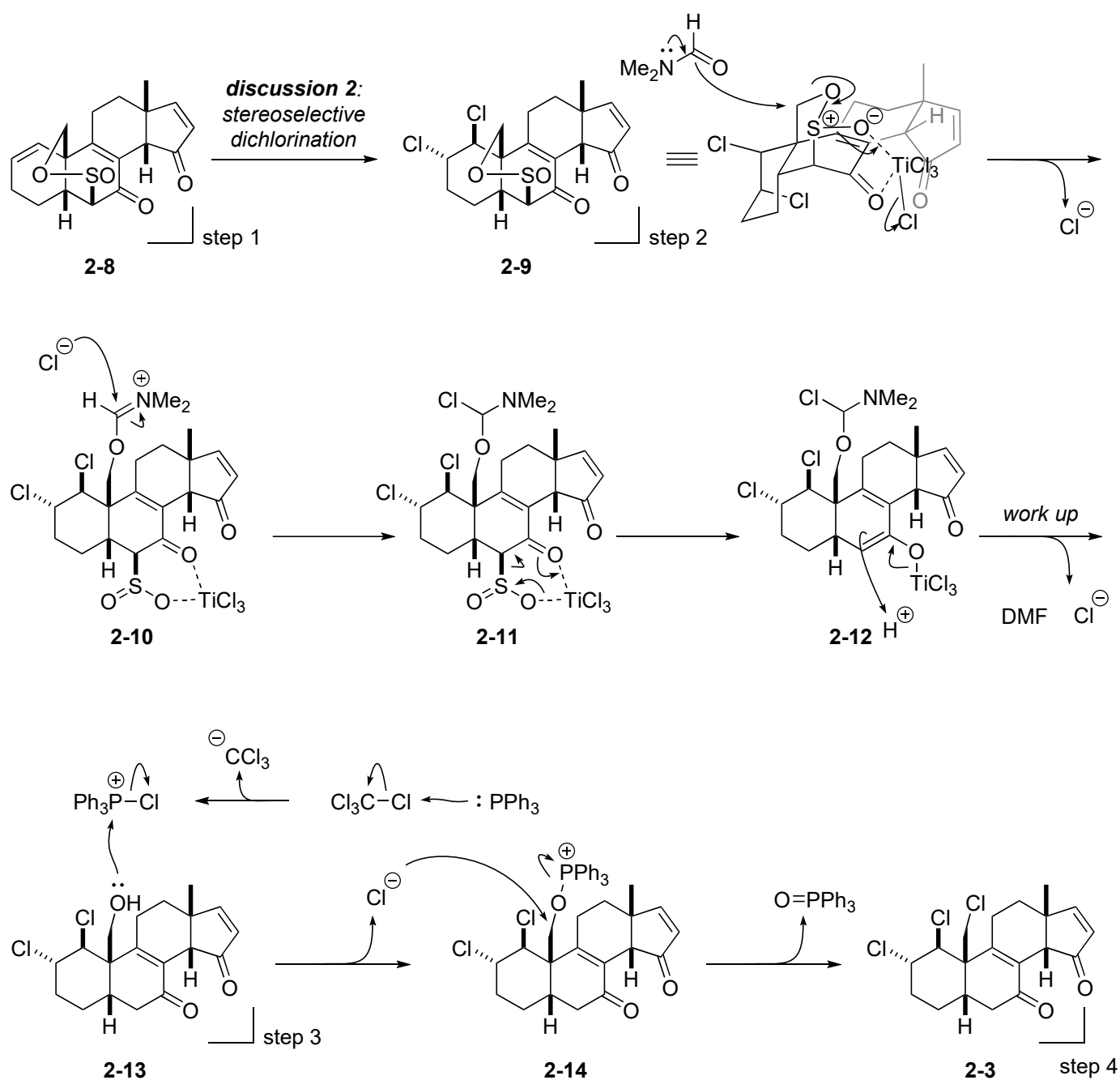
1.  $\text{SOCl}_2$  (3 eq), DMF (10 eq),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , rt, 79%
2.  $\text{Et}_4\text{NCl}_3$  (2.5 eq),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , 61%<sup>c</sup>
3.  $\text{TiCl}_4$  (5 eq),  $\text{LiCl}$  (5 eq), DMF,  $90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , 79%
4.  $\text{PPh}_3$  (3 eq),  $\text{CCl}_4$ ,  $90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , 35%

<sup>c</sup> 20% for minor diastereomer

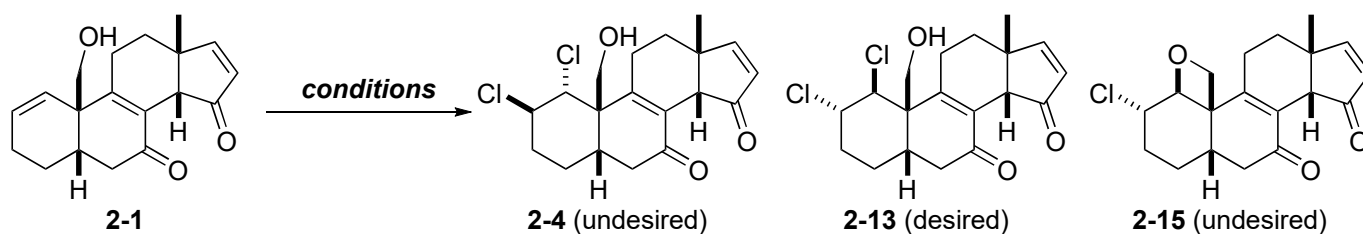


Answer:





**Discussion 2: Stereoselective dichlorination**



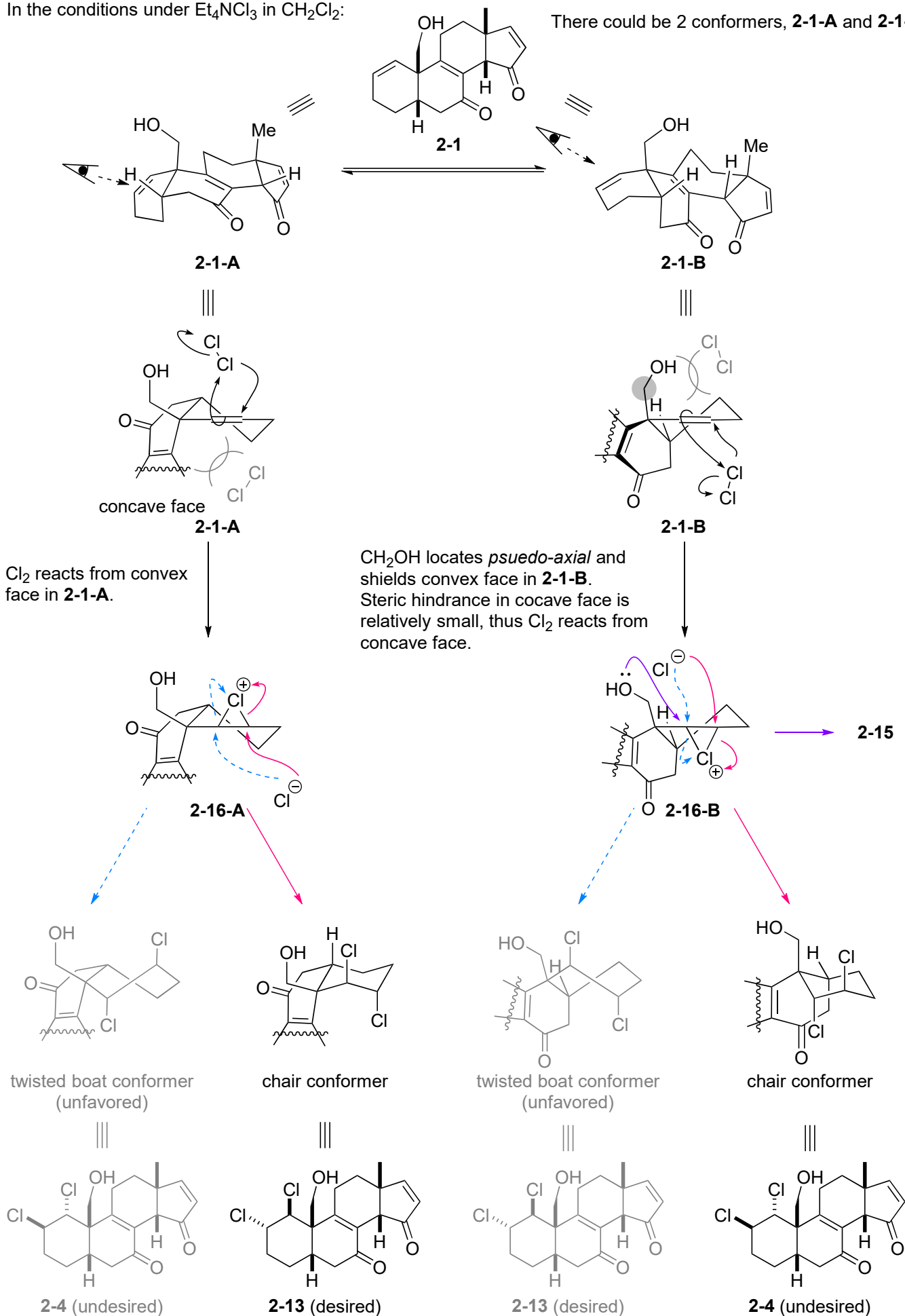
entry	conditions	result
1	Et <sub>4</sub> NCl <sub>3</sub> (2 eq), CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , -78 °C (conditions A)	<b>2-4</b> : <b>2-12</b> : <b>2-15</b> = 5: 4: 1 (in NMR)
2	SnCl <sub>4</sub> (3 eq), <i>t</i> -BuOCl (2.5 eq), CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 0 °C; BF <sub>3</sub> ·EtO <sub>2</sub> (2 eq) (conditions B)	<b>2-4</b> : 60% <b>2-13</b> : 6% <b>2-15</b> : trace

When Et<sub>4</sub>NCl<sub>3</sub> was used as a chlorinating source, in addition to **2-4**, desired **2-12** and oxetane **2-15** were obtained (entry 1).



In the conditions under  $\text{Et}_4\text{NCl}_3$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :

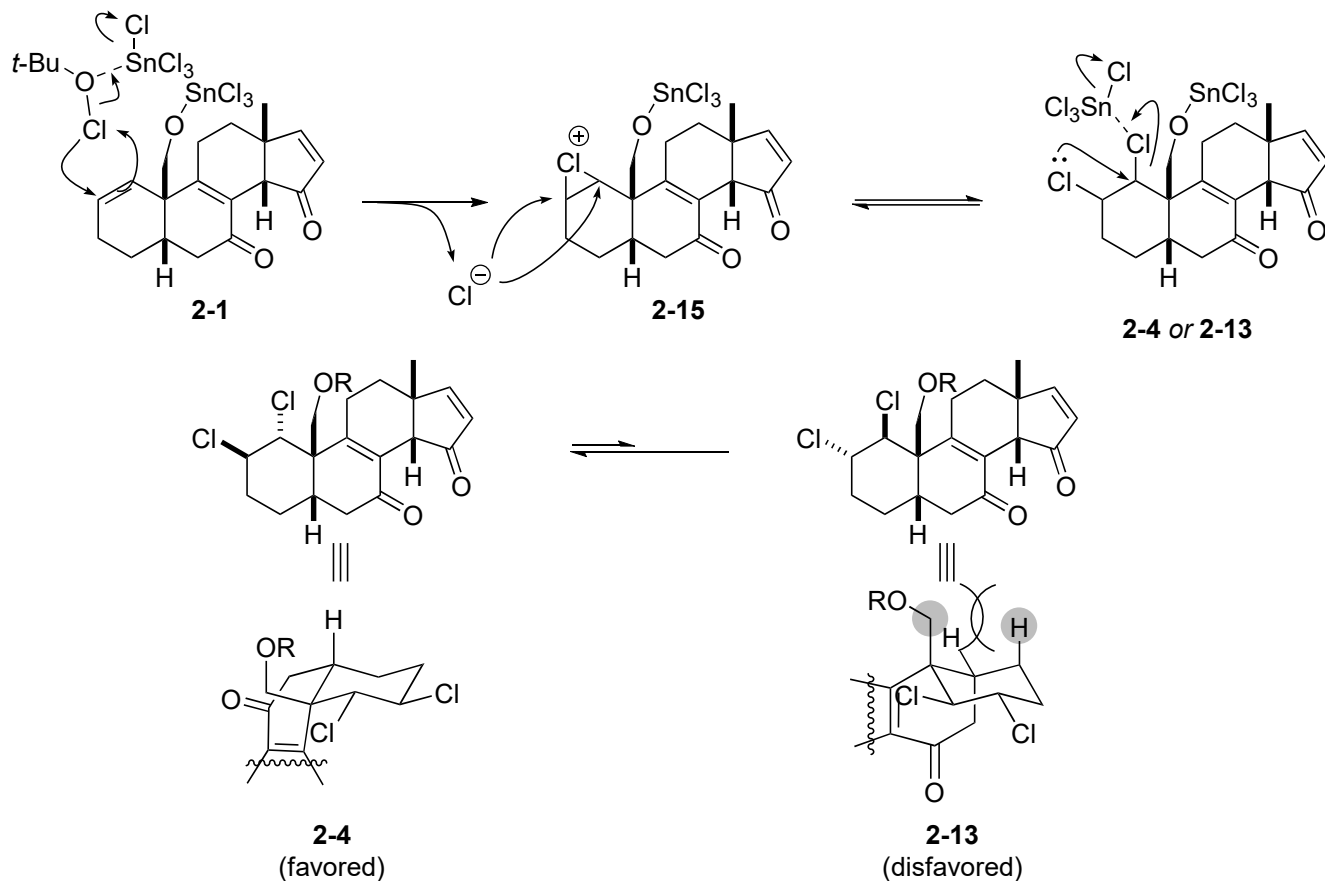
There could be 2 conformers, **2-1-A** and **2-1-B**.



Since **2-1-A** and **2-1-B** is in equilibrium, **2-4**: **2-13**: **2-15** was generated in the ratio of 5: 4: 1. (Considering **2-13** was from **2-1-A** and **2-4** and **2-15** were from **2-1-B**, **2-1-A** : **2-1-B** ~ 4 : 6)

In the conditions under  $t\text{-BuOCl}/\text{SnCl}_4$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :

In the presence of  $\text{SnCl}_4$ , dichlorination could be reversible due to Lewis acidity of  $\text{SnCl}_4$ .



As a result, more stable **2-4** was obtained as a major isomer.

The role of  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  would be reducing the amount of  $\text{HCl}$ . ( $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2 + \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{HBF}_3\text{Cl} + \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ )

In **2-8**, since conformation is fixed, reaction proceeded only from **2-8-A**.

In comparison to path B, path A is more favorable and desired **2-9** was obtained as a major product.

