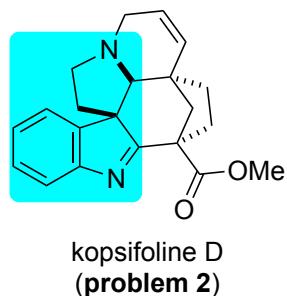
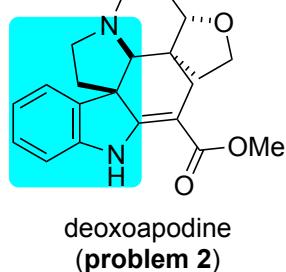
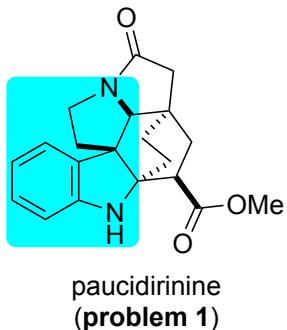


## Problem Session (2) -Answer-

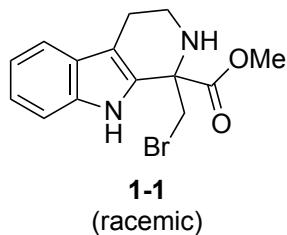
2024/12/07 Sota Mochizuki

Topic: Skeleton construction of indoline and indole alkaloids

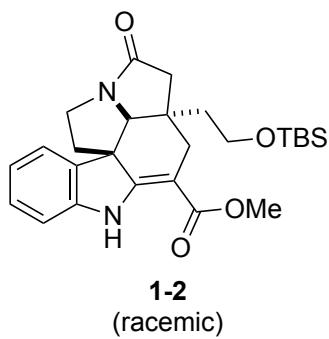


**Problem:**

(1)

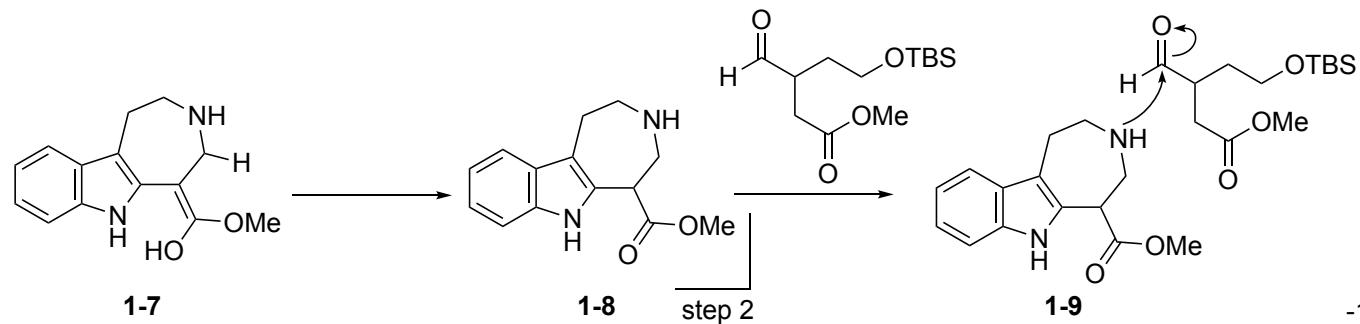
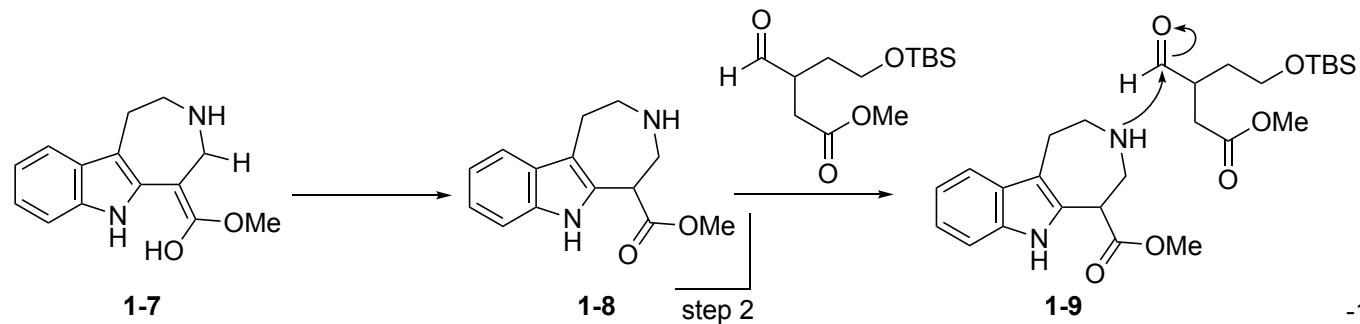
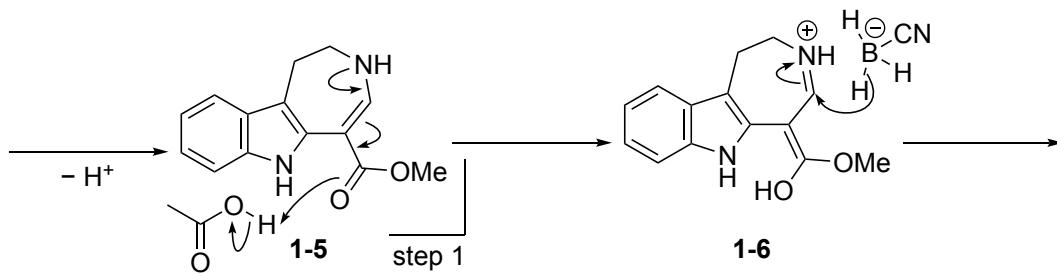
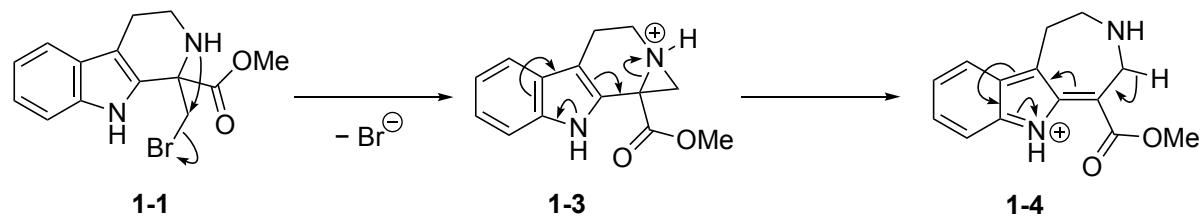


1. pyridine, reflux, 85%
2. NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.8 eq), AcOH  
0 °C to rt, 98%
3. A (1.2 eq), benzene  
reflux, 66% (dr = 2 : 1)
4. *p*-TsOH (0.1 eq), toluene  
reflux, 50%



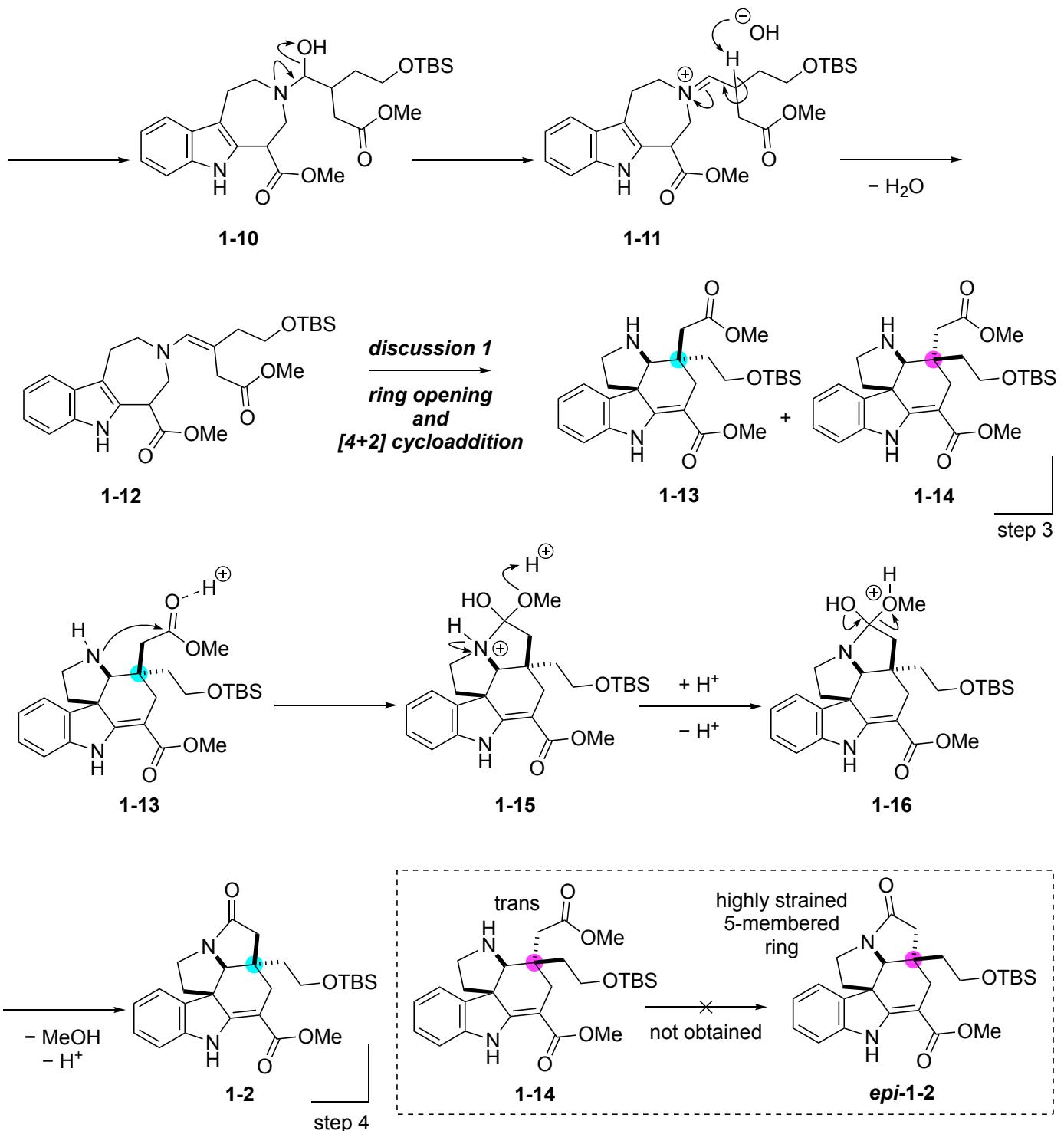
Zhang, W.; Lin, S.; Du, C.; Feng, S.; Liu, Z.; Zhang, J.; Xie, X.; Wang, X.; Li, H.; She, X. *J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *84*, 1111.

**Answer:**

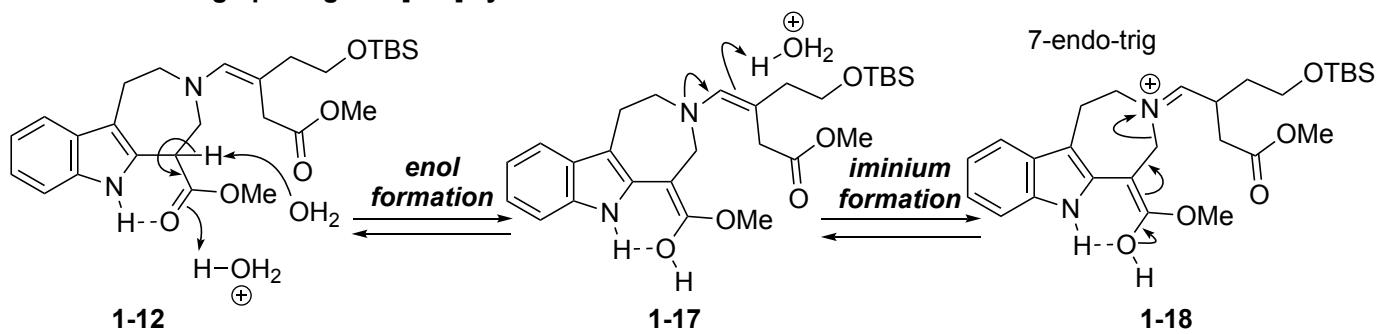


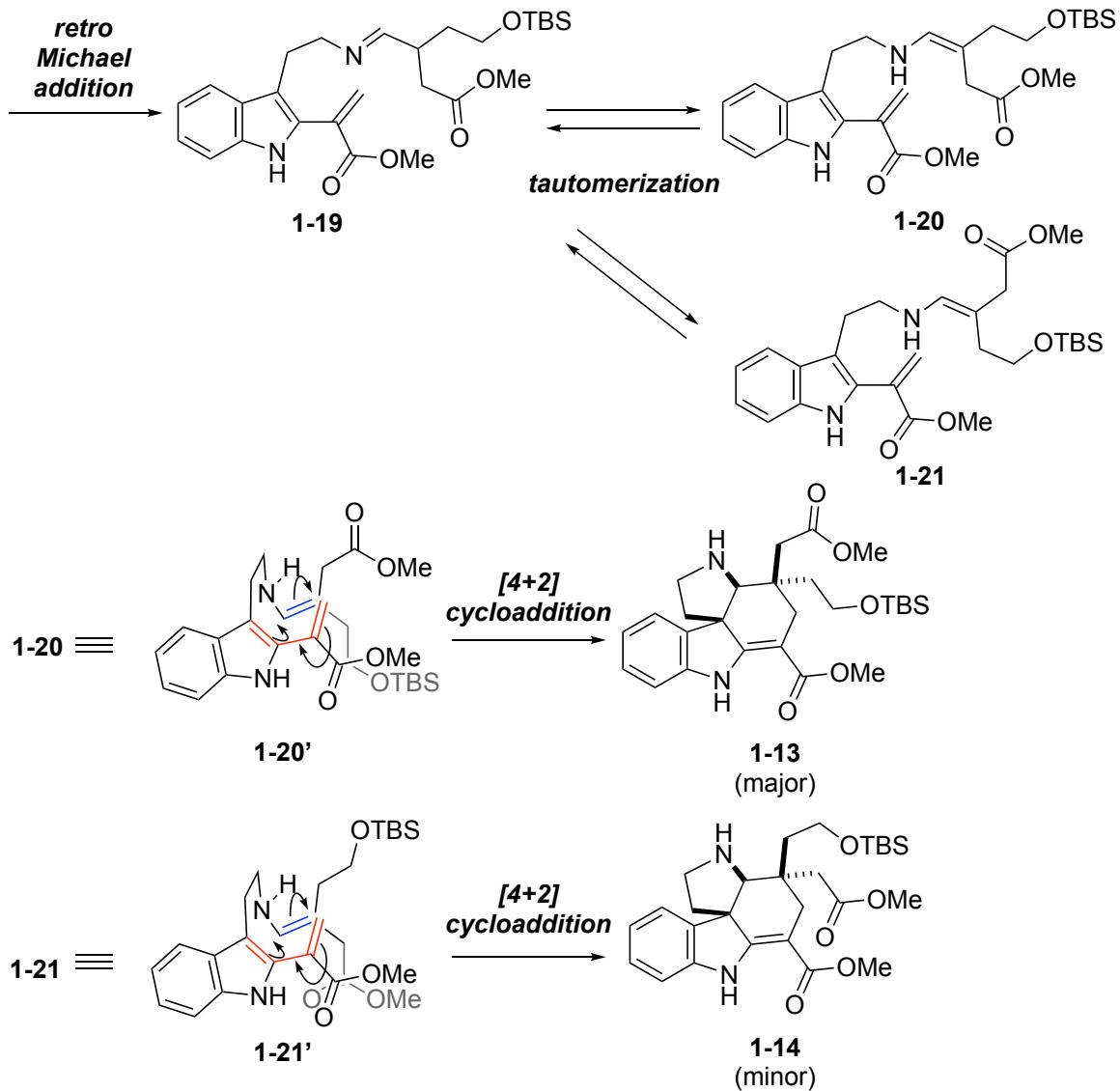
step 2

-1-

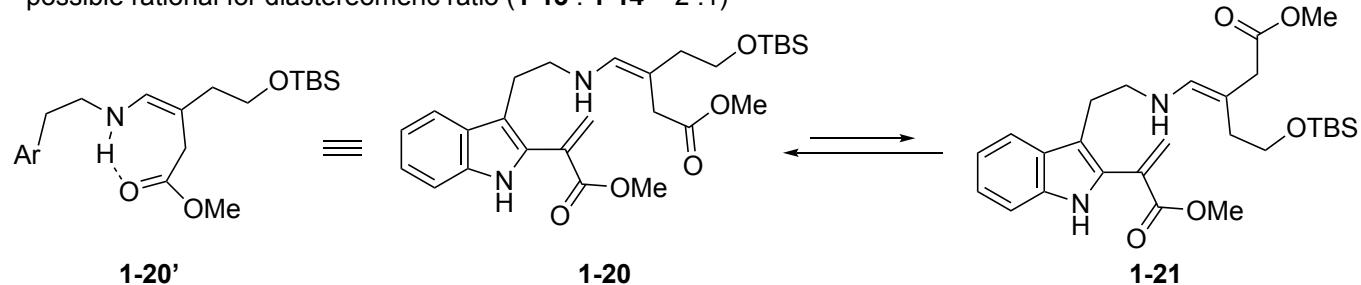


#### discussion 1 : ring opening and [4+2] cycloaddition





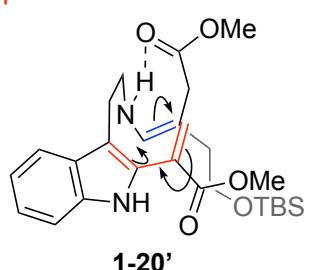
• possible rational for diastereomeric ratio (**1-13 : 1-14 = 2 : 1**)



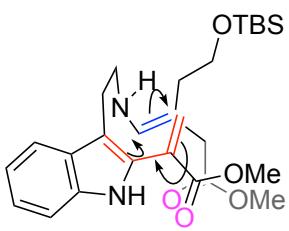
small stabilization by hydrogen bond

Diastereomeric ratio would be determined by generation ratio of **1-20** and **1-21**, because of similar transition states (**1-20'** and **1-21'**).

- Other possible rationale



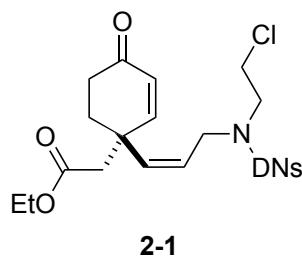
Stabilization of transition state by hydrogen bond



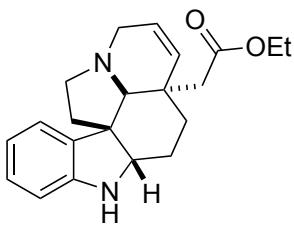
Destabilization of transition state by electrostatic repulsion of 2 carbonyl groups

**Problem:**

(2)

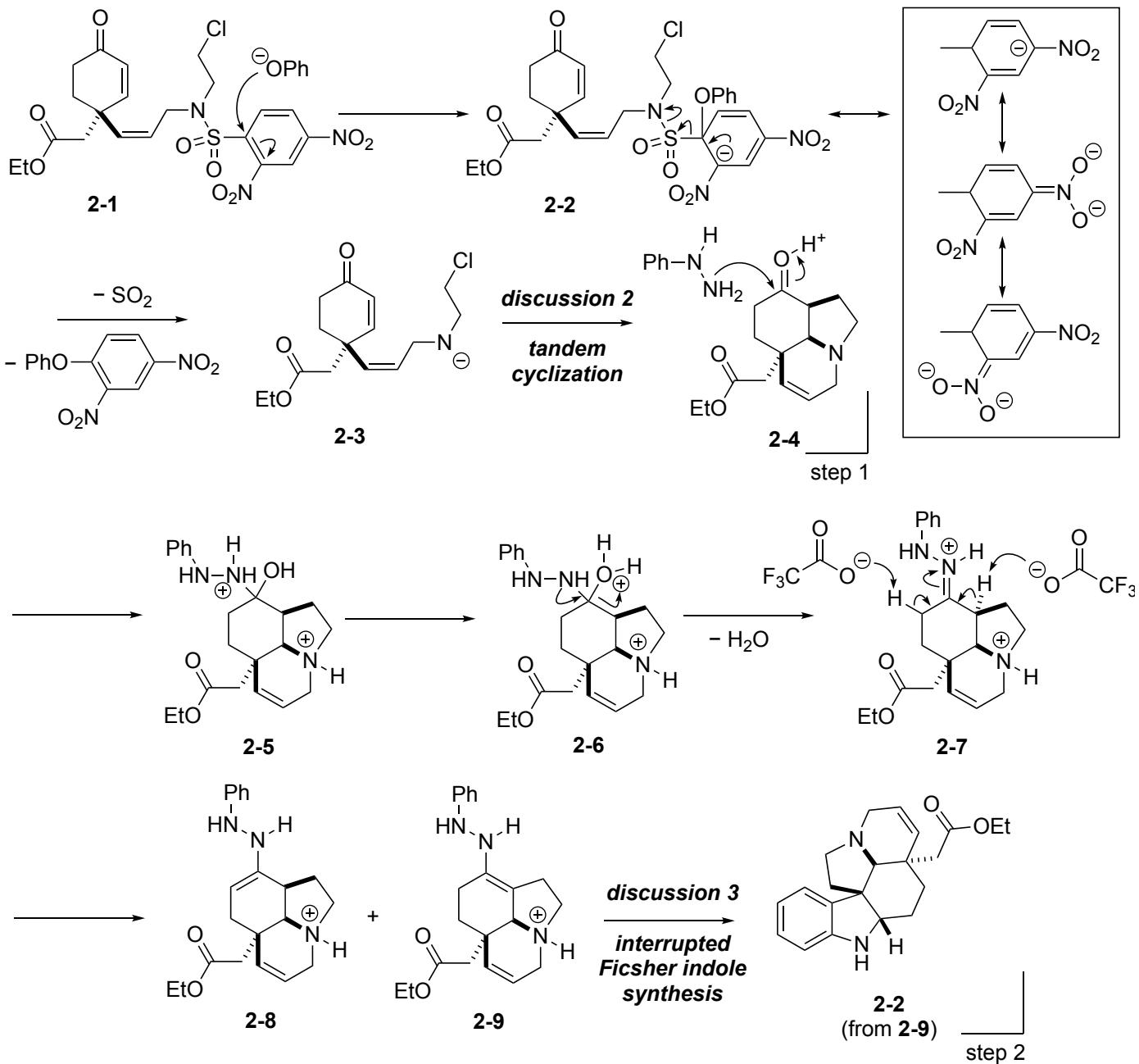


1. PhONa (4.0 eq), DMPU  
23 °C, 70%  
2. PhNNHNH<sub>2</sub> (1.5 eq), TFA (5.0 eq)  
(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl)<sub>2</sub>, 40 °C;  
TFA (60 eq), Et<sub>3</sub>SiH (55 eq)  
23 °C, 67%



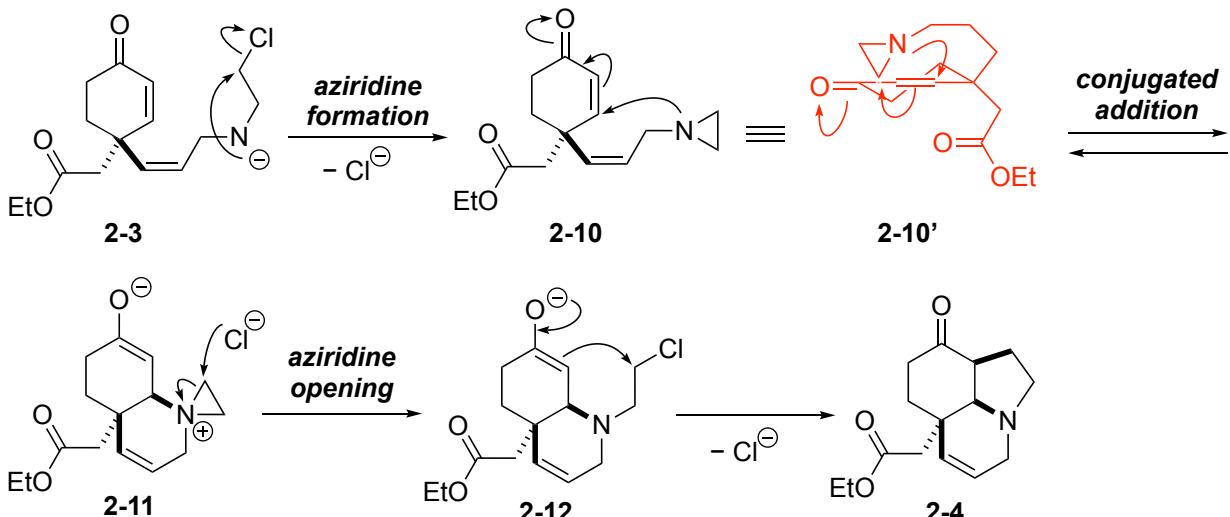
Zhou, Y.-G., Wong, H. N. C.; Peng, X.-S. *J. Org. Chem.* **2020**, 85, 967.

**Answer:**



## discussion 2: tandem cyclization

The author proposed the reaction mechanism below.

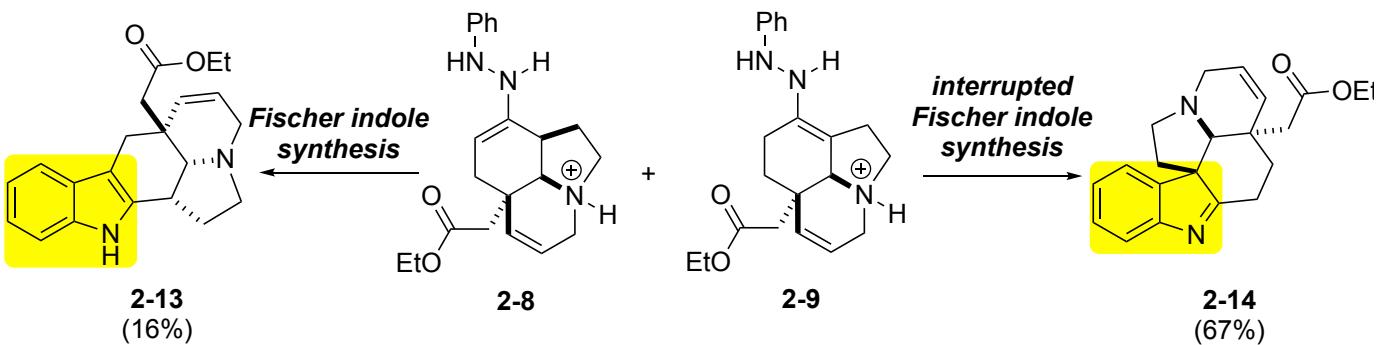


• rational for chemoselectivity

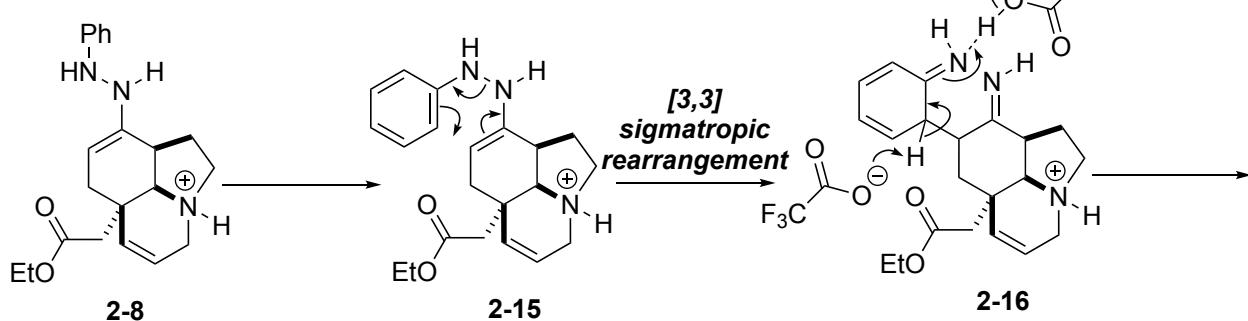
<p><b>2-1</b></p>	path a	8-membered ring formation	too far
	path b	7-membered ring formation	ester is less electron deficient. (less reactive)
	path c	6-membered ring formation	more reactive fast
	<b>aziridine formation</b>	3-membered ring formation	most reactive irreversible

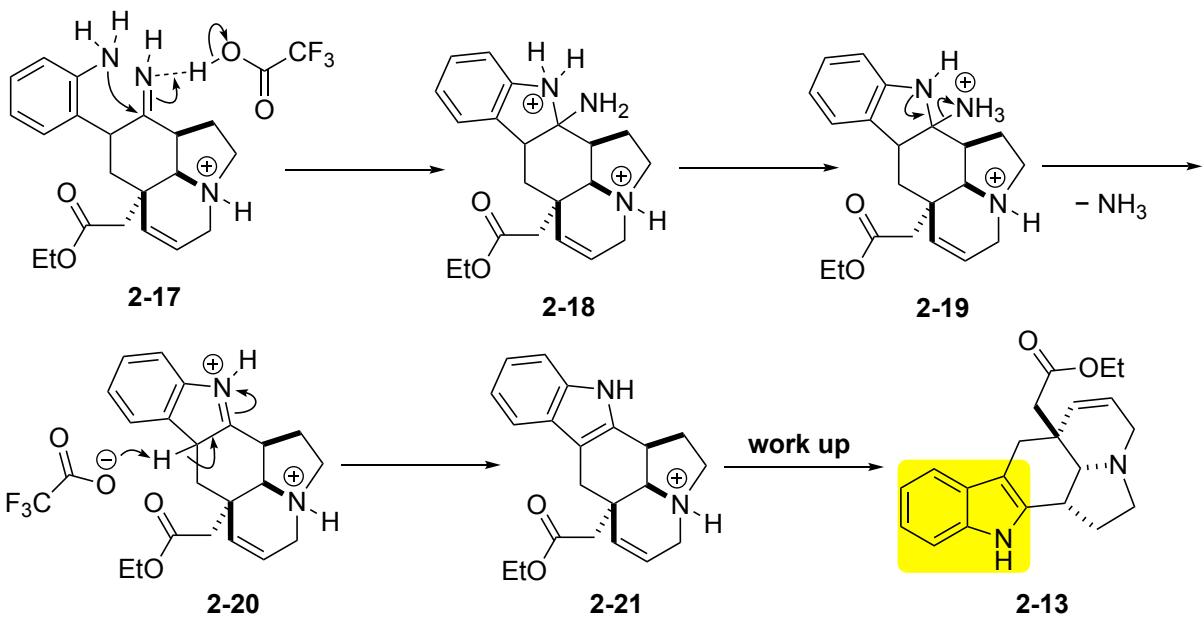
It would be suggested that path c and aziridine formation could be competitive.

## discussion 3: interrupted Fischer indole synthesis

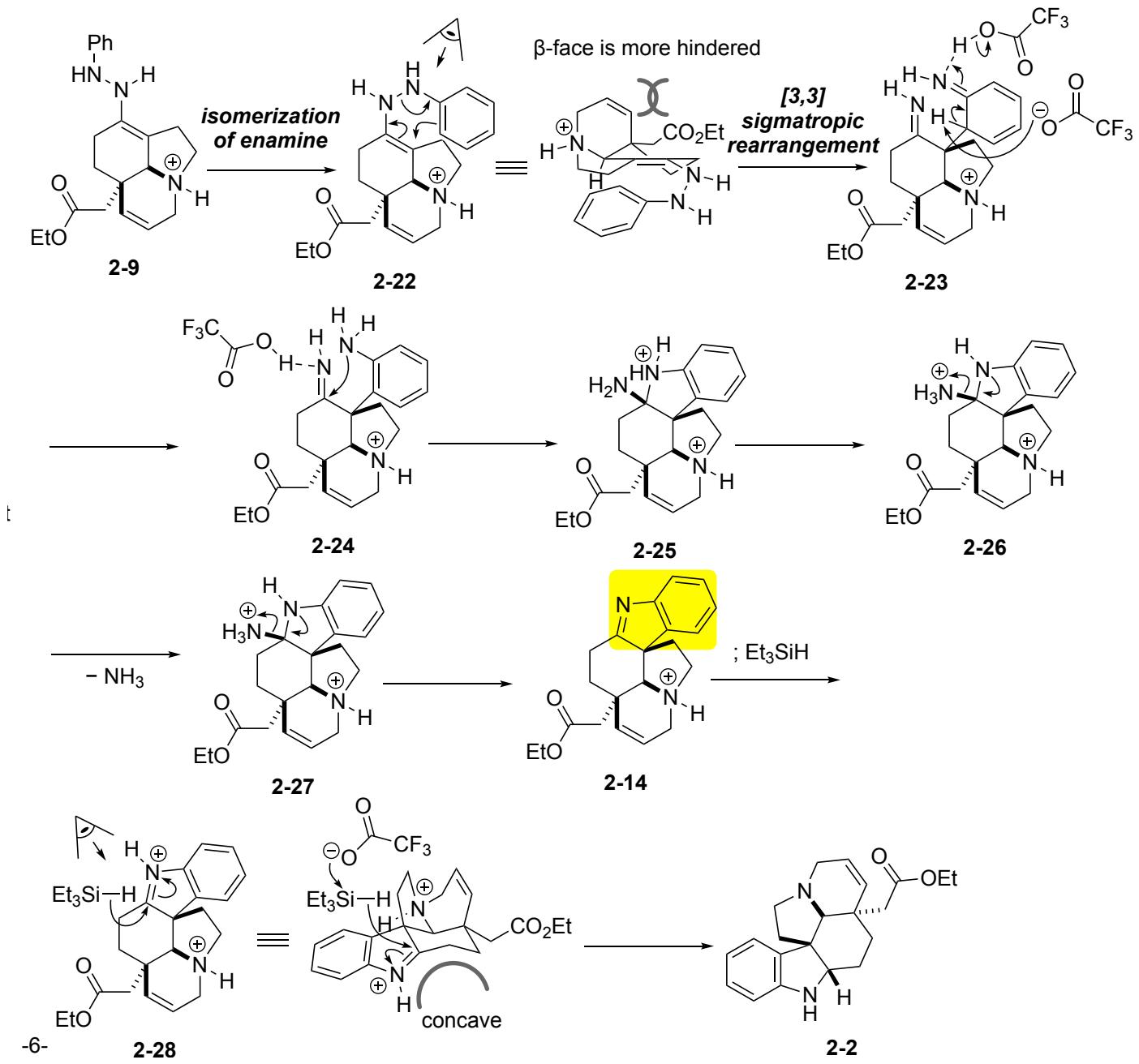


Reaction mechanism (Fischer indole synthesis, 2-8→2-13)

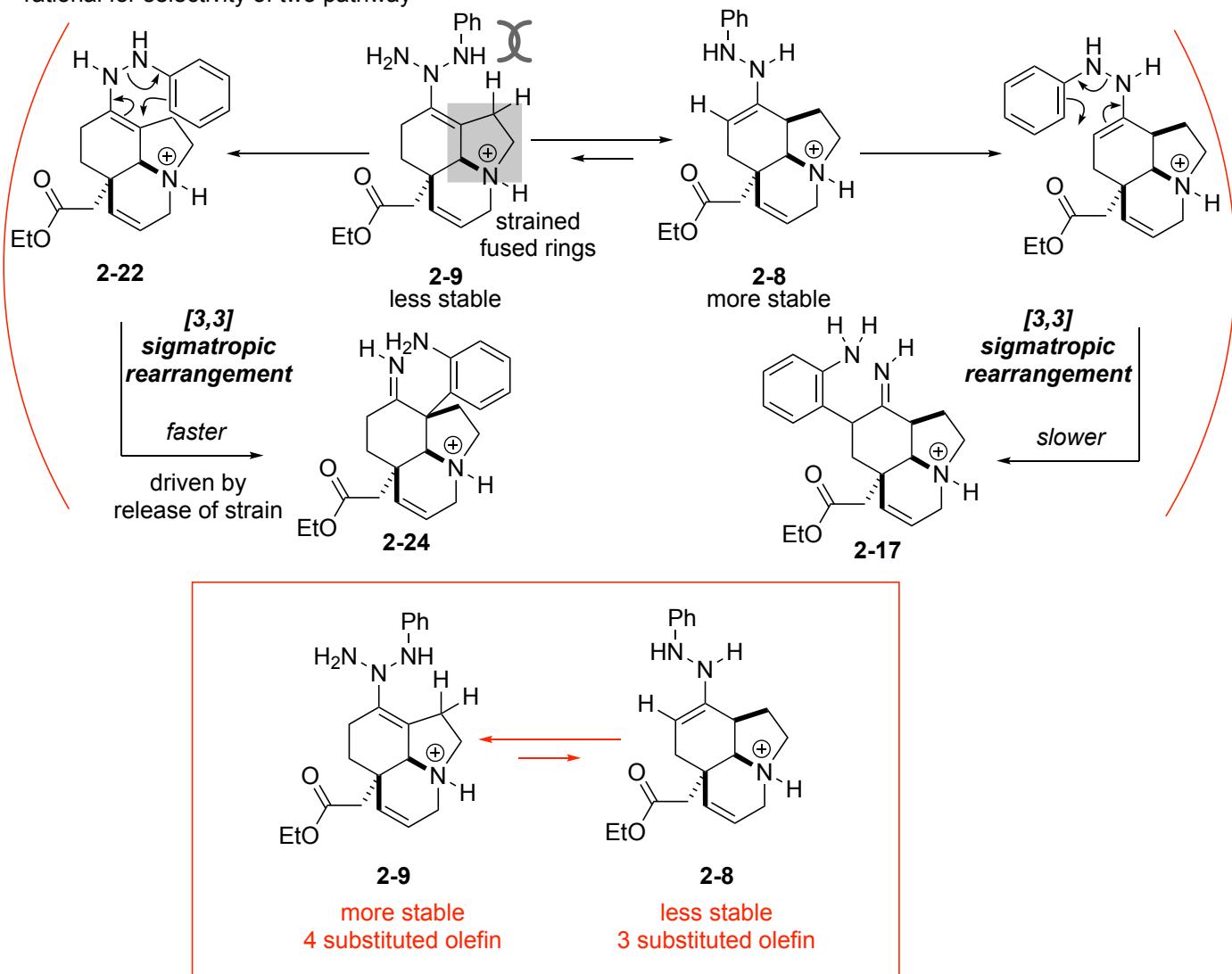




Reaction mechanism (interrupted Fischer indole synthesis, **2-9→2-14**)

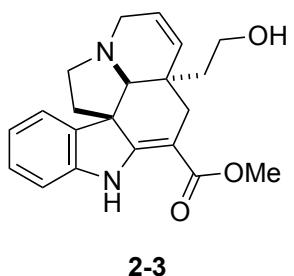


• rational for selectivity of two pathway



(2) Continued.

$\text{Hg}(\text{OCOCF}_3)_2$  (1.2 eq)  
THF,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  to  $23^\circ\text{C}$ ;  
 $\text{NaBH}_4$  (17 eq)  
1M aq. NaOH  
 $23^\circ\text{C}$ , 75%

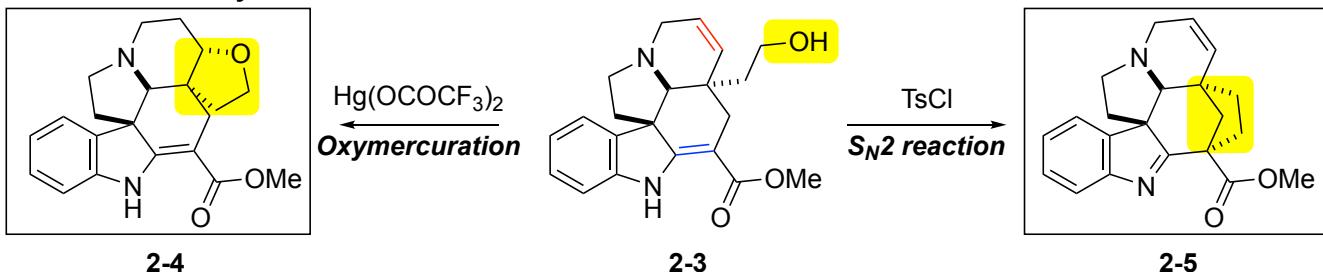


**2-4**

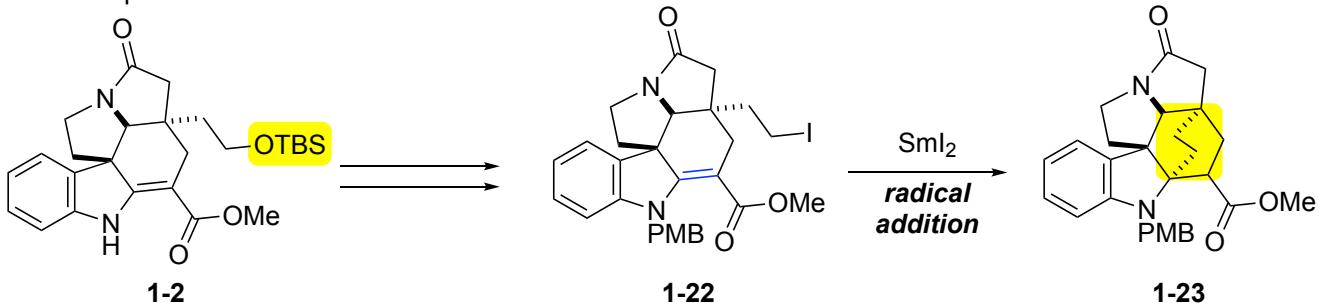
TsCl (3.0 eq)  
*t*-BuOK (3.0 eq)  
 $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (10 eq), THF  
 $23^\circ\text{C}$ , 46%

**2-5**

• Chemoselective cyclization

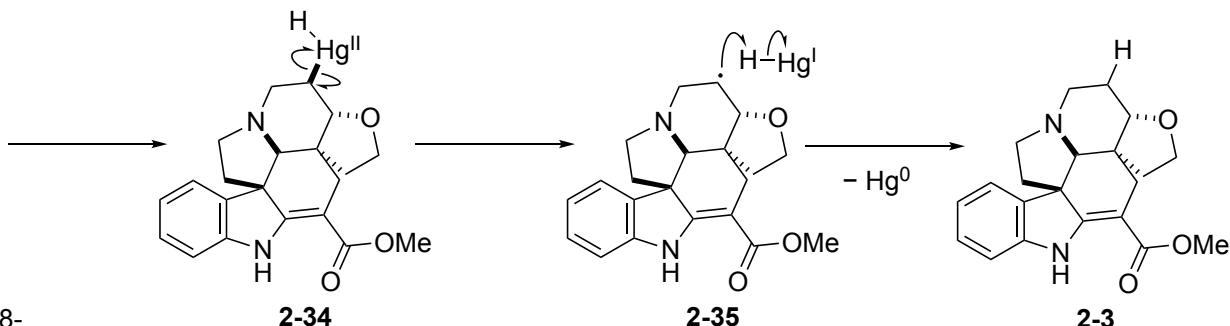
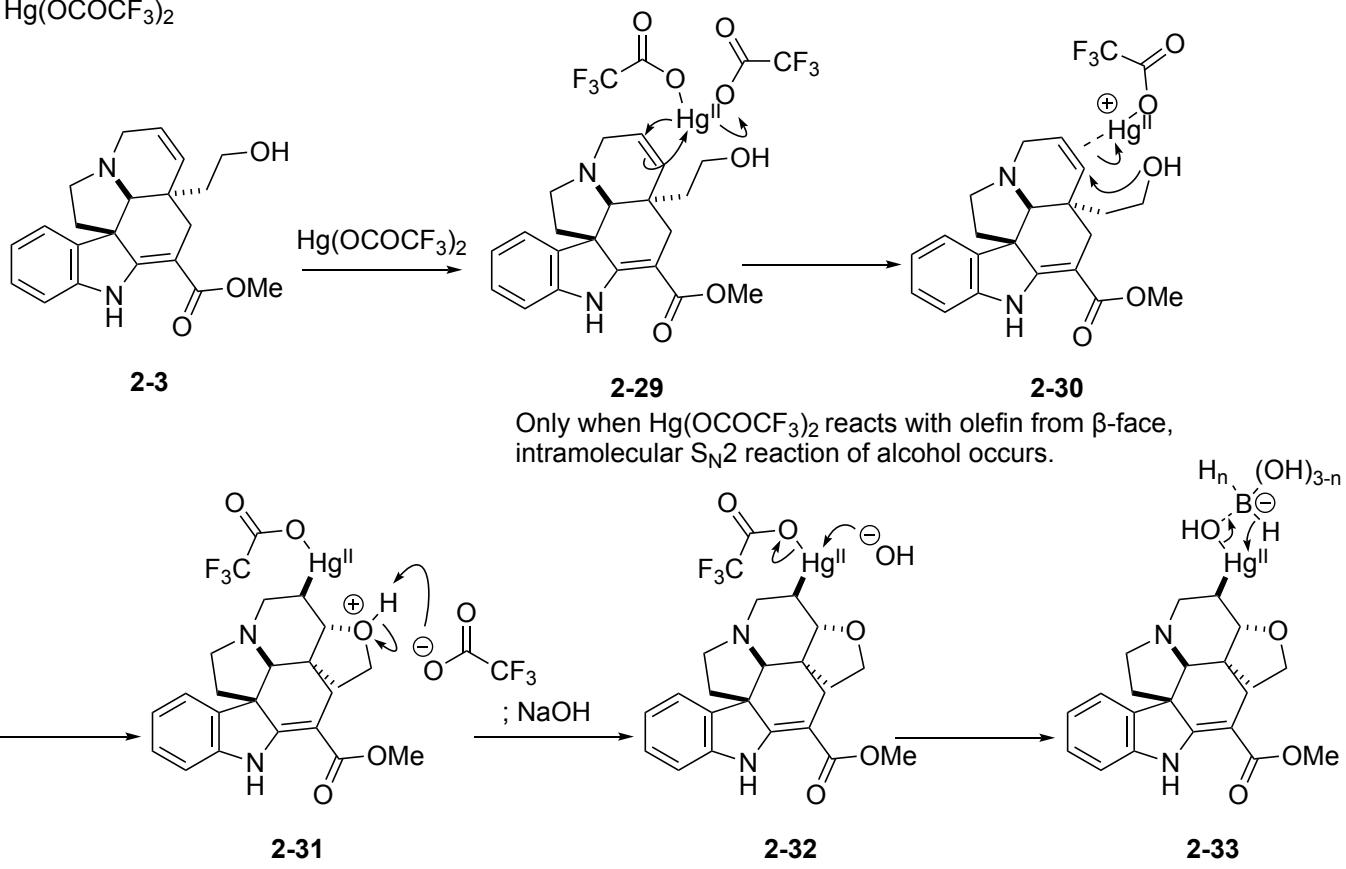


other example:

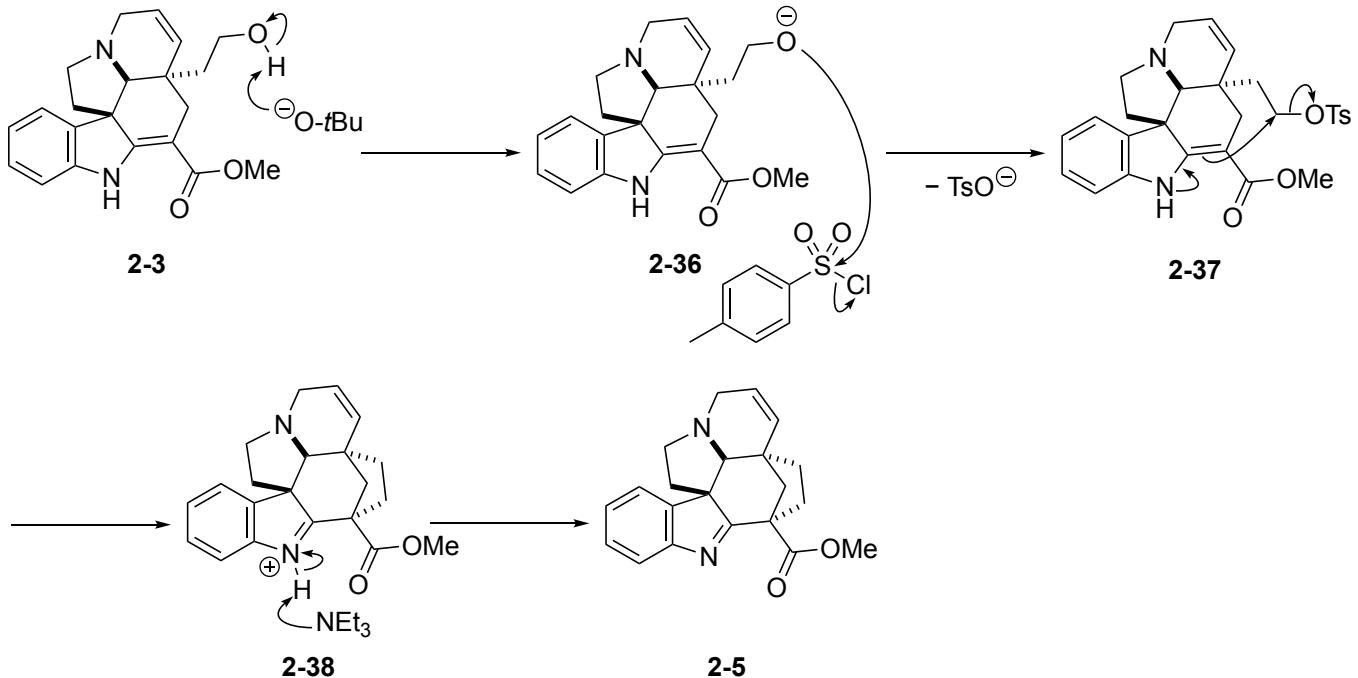


**Answer**

- $\text{Hg}(\text{OCOCF}_3)_2$



• TsCl, *t*-BuOK, Et<sub>3</sub>N



**Reference:**

- Pasto, D. J.; Gontarz, J. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1969**, *91*, 719.