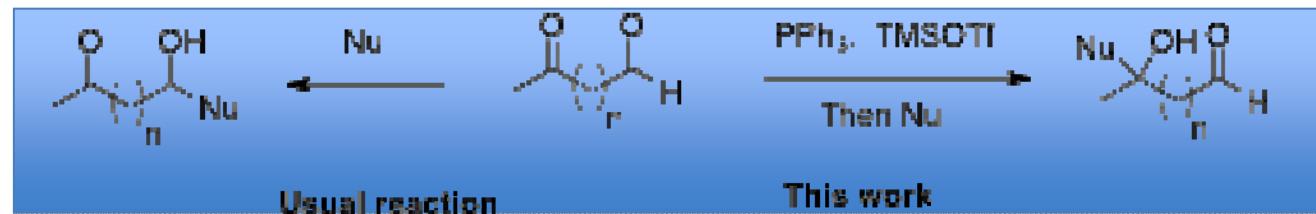


# Reversing the reactivity of carbonyl functions via Phosphonium Salts: Enantioselective total synthesis of (+)-Centrolobine

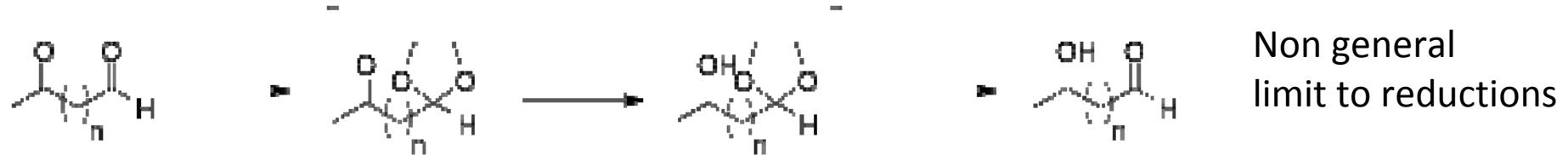
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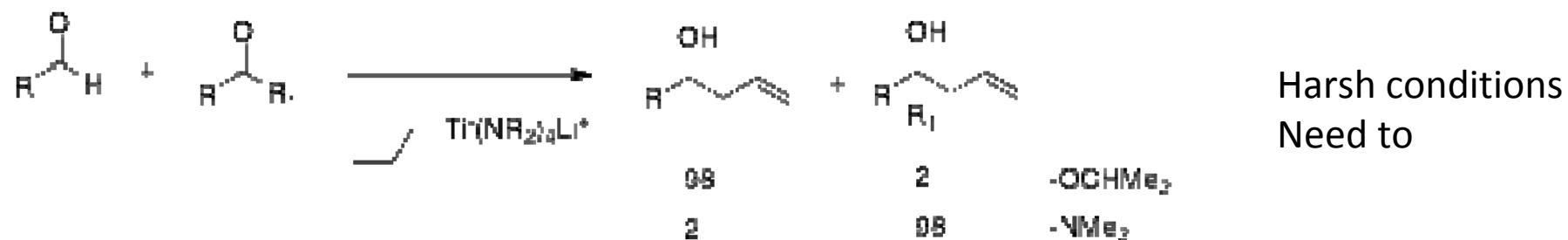


### A bit of History.....

*Luche and Gemal*<sup>1</sup>



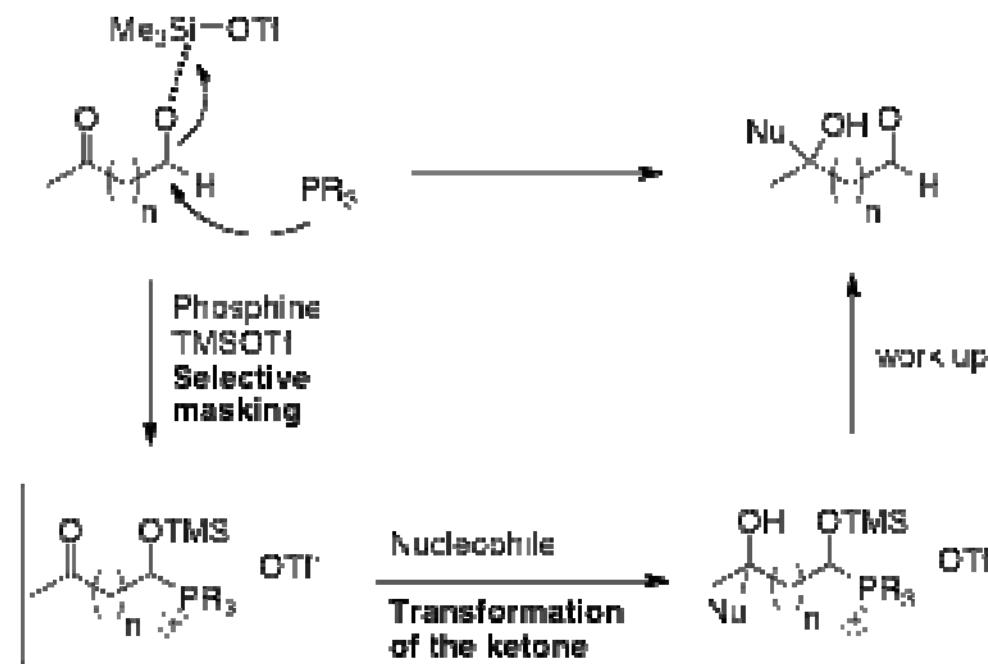
*Wenderoth et al*<sup>2</sup>



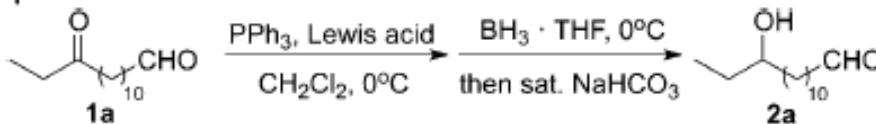
*Tsuji et al*<sup>3</sup>



## Concept



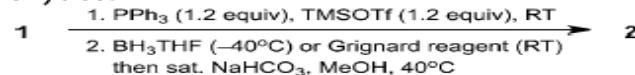
**Table 1:** Optimization of the reaction conditions.<sup>[a]</sup>



Entry	Lewis acid (equiv)	Equiv PPh <sub>3</sub>	Equiv BH <sub>3</sub> ·THF	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>
1	TMSOTf (2.0)	3.0	4.0	90
2 <sup>[c]</sup>	TESOTf (2.0)	3.0	4.0	86
3 <sup>[c]</sup>	TBSOTf (2.0)	3.0	4.0	94
4	BF <sub>3</sub> ·Et <sub>2</sub> O (2.0)	3.0	4.0	trace
5 <sup>[d]</sup>	TMSOTf (1.2)	1.2	1.5	88
6 <sup>[d,e]</sup>	TMSOTf (1.2)	1.2	1.5	96
7 <sup>[f]</sup>	—	—	1.2	0

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** was treated with PPh<sub>3</sub> and Lewis acid in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.1 M) at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, BH<sub>3</sub>·THF was added at 0 °C. After the reaction was completed, the mixture was treated with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (unless stated otherwise). [b] Yield of isolated product **2a**. [c] TBAF (3.0 equiv) was used for the work-up. [d] PPh<sub>3</sub> and TMSOTf were added at RT. [e] Reduction was performed at –40 °C. [f] Reaction was performed in the absence of Lewis acid and PPh<sub>3</sub>. TBAF = tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride, TBS = *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl, TES = triethylsilyl, THF = tetrahydrofuran.

**Table 2:** Selective one-pot transformation of carbonyl groups in the presence of aldehydes.<sup>[a]</sup>

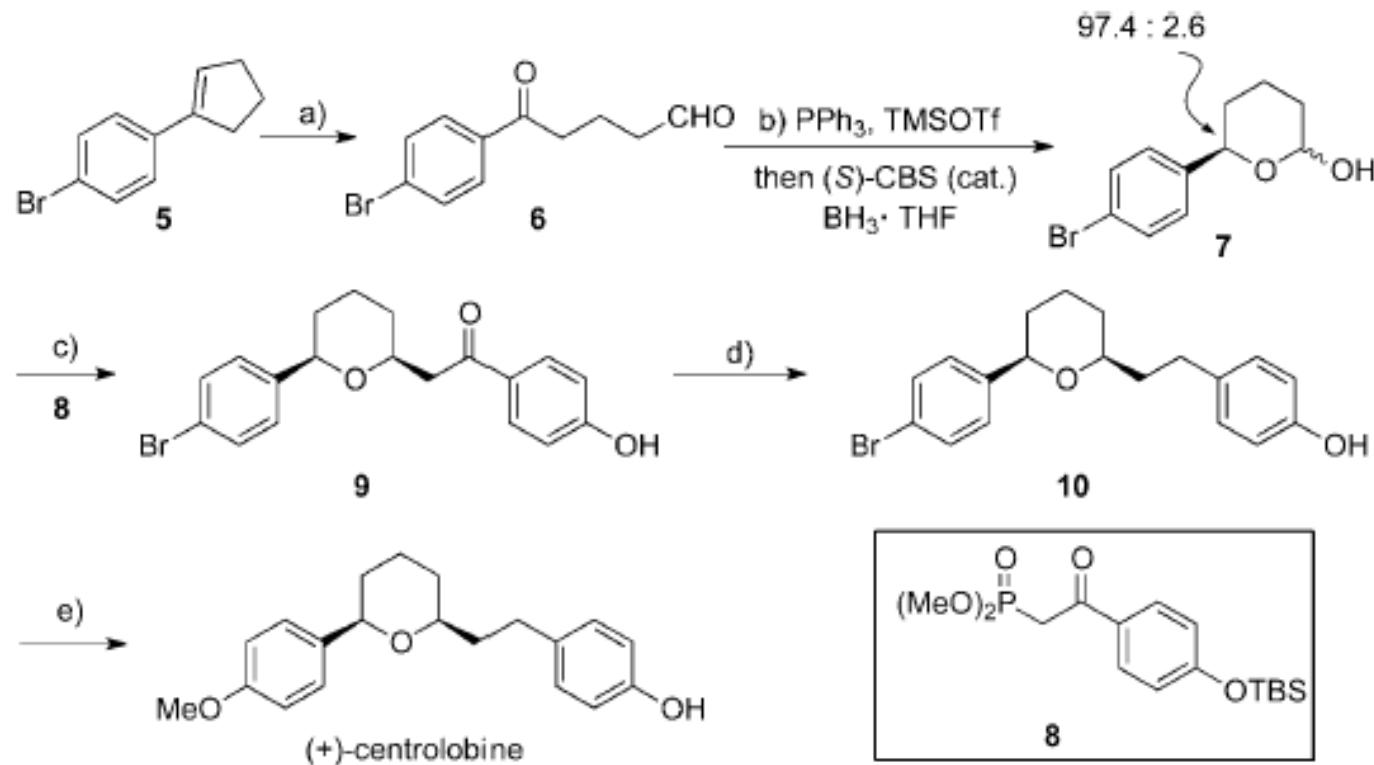


Entry	Substrate	Reagent (equiv)	Product	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	
1					
2		$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (1.5)	<b>2 a</b>	R = H 96	
3	<b>1 a</b>	$\text{PhMgBr}$ (3.0)	<b>2 b</b>	R = Ph 93	
4		$\text{EtMgCl}$ (1.5)	<b>2 c</b>	R = Et 87	
5	<b>1 b</b>	$\text{allylMgBr}$ (1.5)	<b>2 d</b>	R = allyl 75	
6		$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (1.5)	<b>2 e</b>		87
7	<b>1 c</b>	$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (1.5)	<b>2 f</b>		89
		$\text{---MgBr}$ (3.0)	<b>2 g</b>		93
8	<b>1 d</b>	$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (1.5)	<b>2 h</b>		96
9		$\text{PhMgBr}$ (3.0)	<b>2 i</b>		85
10 <sup>[c]</sup>	<b>1 e</b>	$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (1.5)	<b>2 j</b>		87
11 <sup>[d]</sup>	<b>1 f</b>	$\text{BH}_3\text{-THF}$ (2.0)	<b>2 k</b>		74
12 <sup>[e]</sup>	<b>1 g</b>	$\text{DIBAL-H}$ (2.2)	<b>2 l</b>		80
13		$\text{EtMgCl}$ (3.0)	<b>2 m</b>		76

**Table 3:** Selective one-pot transformation of esters in the presence of ketones.<sup>[a]</sup>

Entry	Substrate	Reagent (equiv)	Product	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>
1		DIBAL-H (3.0)		82
2		DIBAL-H (3.0)		93
3		DIBAL-H (3.0)		76
4		PhMgBr (4.0)		76
5		MeMgBr (3.0)		83
6		EtMgCl (3.0)		80
7		EtMgCl (3.0)		74

### Total synthesis of (+)-Centrolobine



**Scheme 3.** Asymmetric synthesis of (+)-centrolobine. a)  $O_3$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $-78^\circ C$ ;  $PPh_3$ , 99%; b)  $PPh_3$ ,  $TMSOTf$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , RT; (S)-CBS (30 mol %),  $BH_3 \cdot THF$ ,  $-40^\circ C$ , then aq sat.  $NaHCO_3/MeOH$ ,  $40^\circ C$ , 81%; c) 8,  $LiOMe$ ,  $MeOH$ ,  $0^\circ C \rightarrow RT$ , 99%; d)  $LiBH_4$ ,  $Et_2O$ ,  $0^\circ C$ ;  $Et_3SiH$ ,  $TFA$ ,  $0^\circ C \rightarrow RT$ , 96%; e)  $CuI$ ,  $NaOMe$ ,  $DMF$ ,  $100^\circ C$ , 99%. DMF = *N,N*-dimethylformamide, TFA = trifluoroacetic acid.

Reference:

<sup>1</sup> J.L. Iuche, A. L. Gemal. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 5848

<sup>2</sup> M. T. Reetz, B. Wenderoth, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, *23*, 5259

<sup>3</sup> T. Fujihara, Y. Tsuji, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 1472