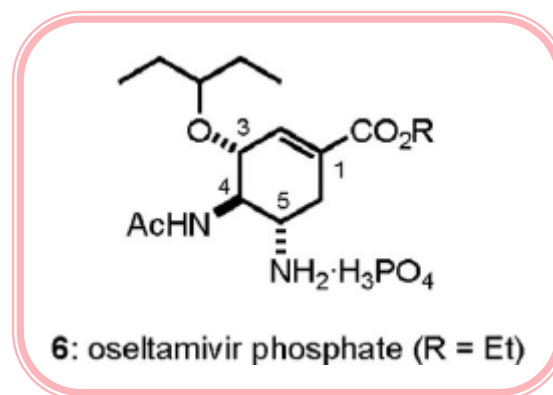


stéréo



# Synthesis of the Anti-influenza Drug Oseltamivir Phosphate (Tamiflu®)



Marie-Alice Virolleaud  
Bibliography – October the 28<sup>th</sup> 2008

# Needs in new influenza virus drug

Historical influenza pandemics or epidemics in the 20<sup>th</sup> century:

- 1918 Spanish flu (between 20 and 40 million people killed, more than during 1<sup>st</sup> world war)
- 1957 Asian flu
- 1968 Honk Kong flu

All three were caused by recombinant virus (reassortment between human viruses and bird viruses)

- 1997 Hong Kong: avian H5N1 influenza apparition  
H5N1 virus infected over 100 persons, lethality rate is over 50%  
This virus is purely avian, it does not spread from human to human

**In the next future, mutated form of this virus might lead to a new influenza pandemic**

Hypothesis: structures of fundamental proteins are conserved even in mutant viruses

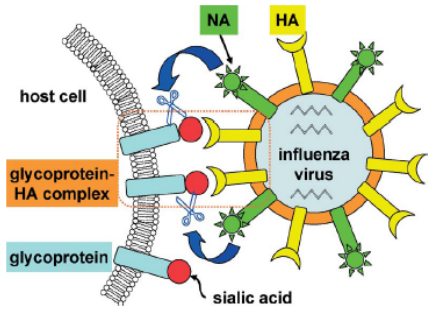
So a well-designed inhibitor of one of these fundamental proteins might become an efficient drug / weapon against the threat of a new influenza epidemic.

Needs in new influenza virus protein inhibitors

**Political worldwide concern:**

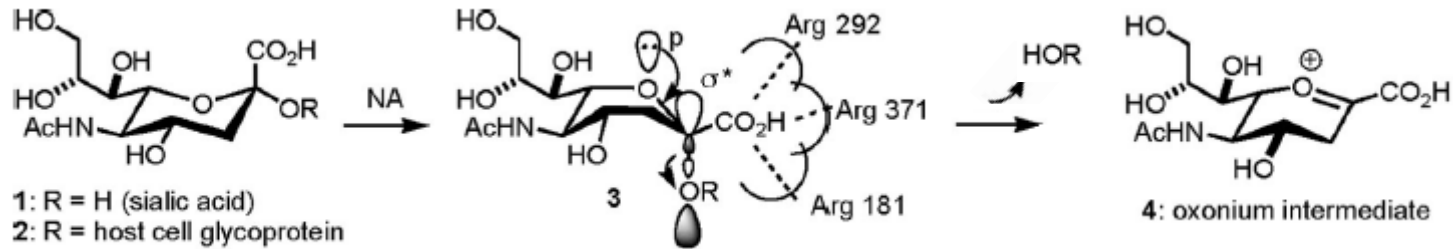
how under-developed countries will be able to stock drugs in prevision of this hypothetical pandemic?

# Neuraminidase inhibitors: Oseltamivir phosphate design



Schematic representation of neuraminidase action

Hydrolysis step of sialic acid by neuraminidase (NA)



Design of neuraminidase inhibitors by transition state mimic:

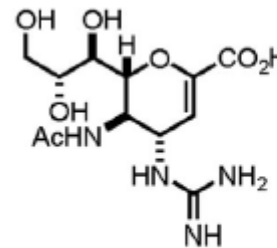
## Zanamivir (Relenza):

low bioavailability, administered by inhalation

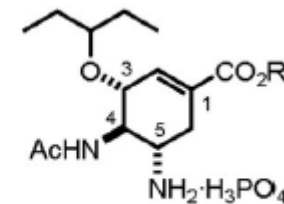
## Oseltamivir phosphate (Tamiflu):

orally active prodrug

active form is corresponding carboxylic acid

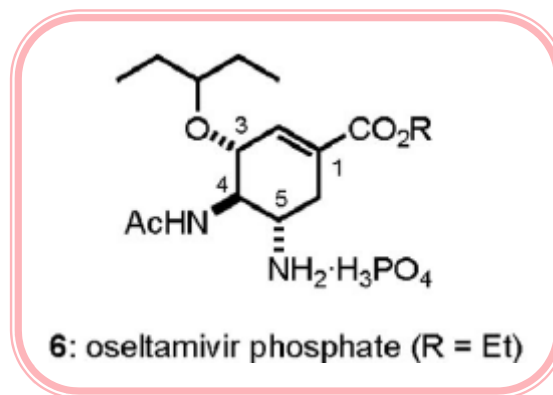


5: zanamivir



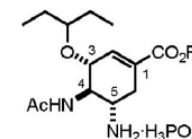
6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

# Oseltamivir Phosphate (Tamiflu®)

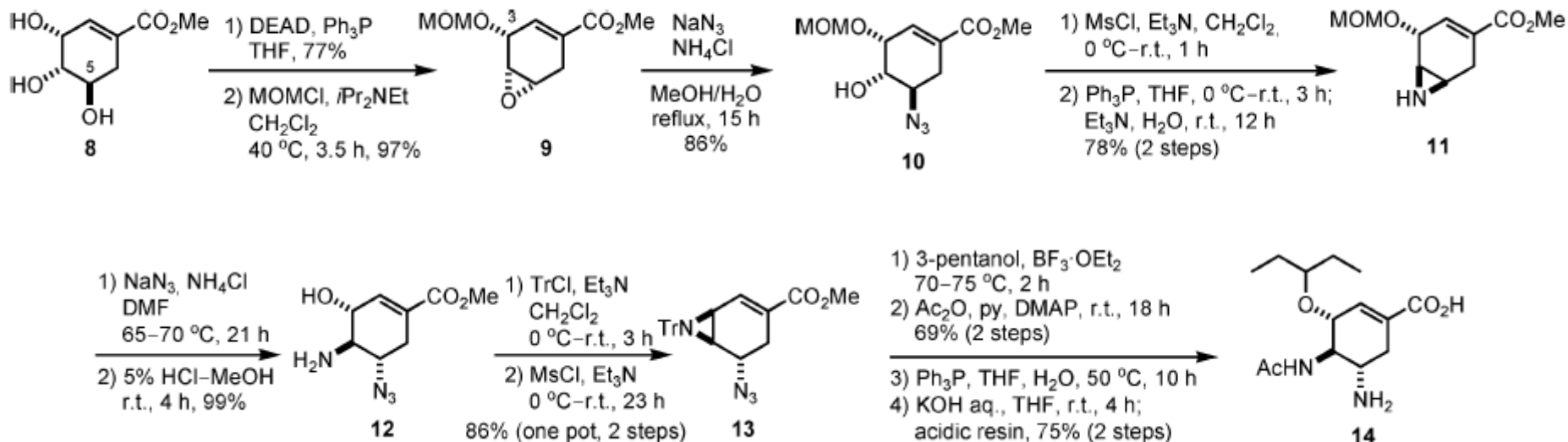


- Description      Cyclohexene core, 3 stereogenic carbons (3*R*, 4*R*, 5*S* / *anti*, *anti*)  
Functionalities: 1 conjugated ester, 1 alkoxy moiety, 2 nitrogen moieties
- Chronology      1997: Tamiflu is created by Gilead Science  
1997-1998: co-development by Gilead Science and Roche  
2006: beginning of academic syntheses  
                 Corey, Shibasaki and Kanai, Yao  
2007: Fukuyama, Kann, Fang  
2008: Trost
- 2 reviews      **Tamiflu: The Supply Problem**  
Farina, V.; Brown, J. D. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 7330–7334.  
**Synthetic Strategies for Oseltamivir Phosphate**  
Shibasaki, M.; Kanai, M. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, 1839-1850.

# Gilead Sciences synthesis



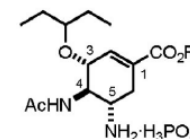
6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



- 15 steps, ~21% (formally, from shikimic acid)
- Starting material: shikimic acid derivative (ester)
- *Trans* 1,2-diamine introduction : iterative aziridine opening with azide
- Pentyloxy introduced at the latest stage of the synthesis (analogues might be easily obtained)

(a) Kim, C. U.; Lew, W.; Williams, M. A.; Liu, H.; Zhang, L.; Swaminathan, S.; Bischofberger, N.; Chen, M. S.; Mendel, D. B.; Tai, C. Y.; Laver, W. G.; Stevens R. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 681-690. (b) Rohloff, J. C.; Kent, K. M.; Postich, M. J.; Becker, M. W.; Chapman, H. H.; Kelly, D. E.; Lew, W.; Louie, M. S.; McGee, L. R.; Prisbe, E. J.; Schultze, L. M.; Yu, R. H.; Zhang, L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, *63*, 4545-4550

# Roche industrial synthesis (1/2)

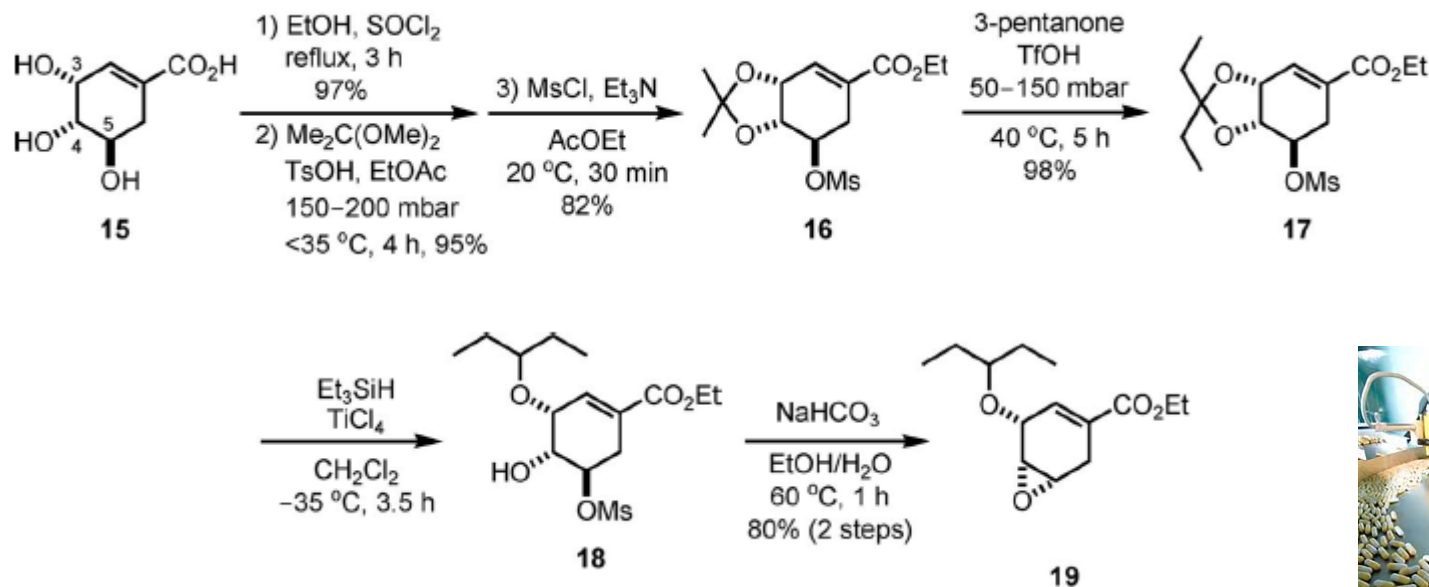


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

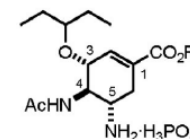
- Shikimic acid as starting material: two drawbacks

Availability of starting material in large scale. Shikimic acid is extracted from Chinese star anise. 1kg is obtained from 30kg of dried plants.

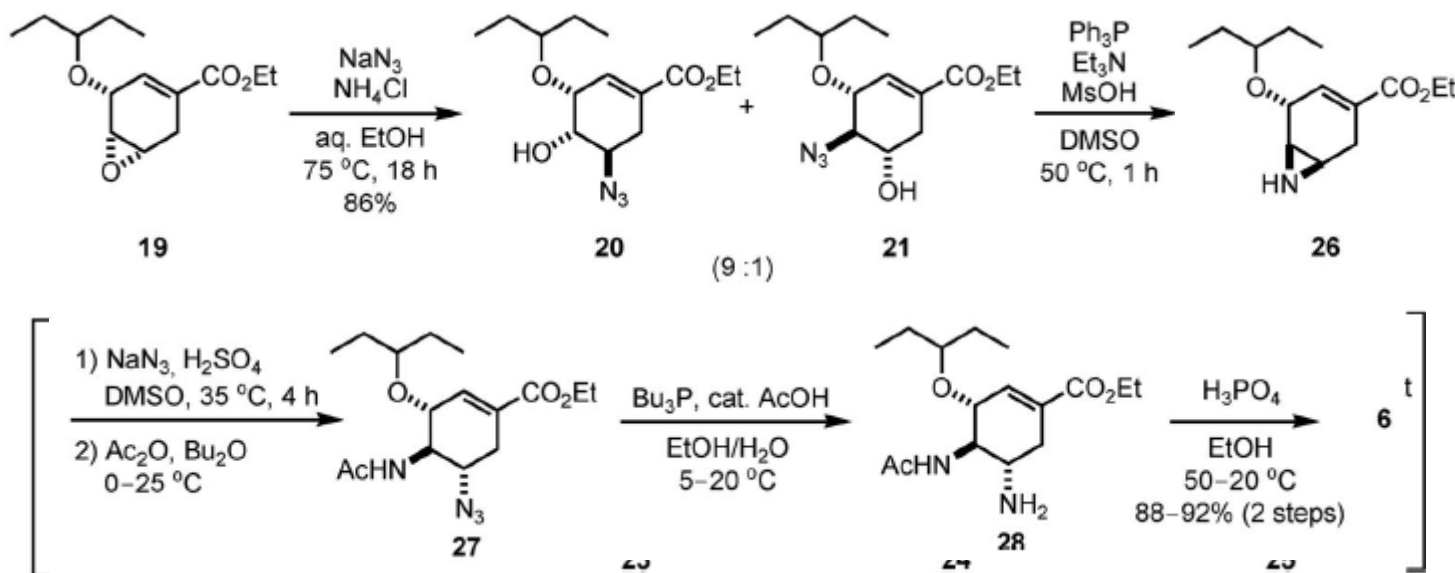
Purity of the starting material is variable (85 to 99%)



## Roche industrial synthesis (2/2)



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



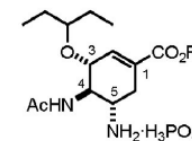
- 12 steps, ~30%

- Drawbacks

- (1) starting material (as mentioned above)

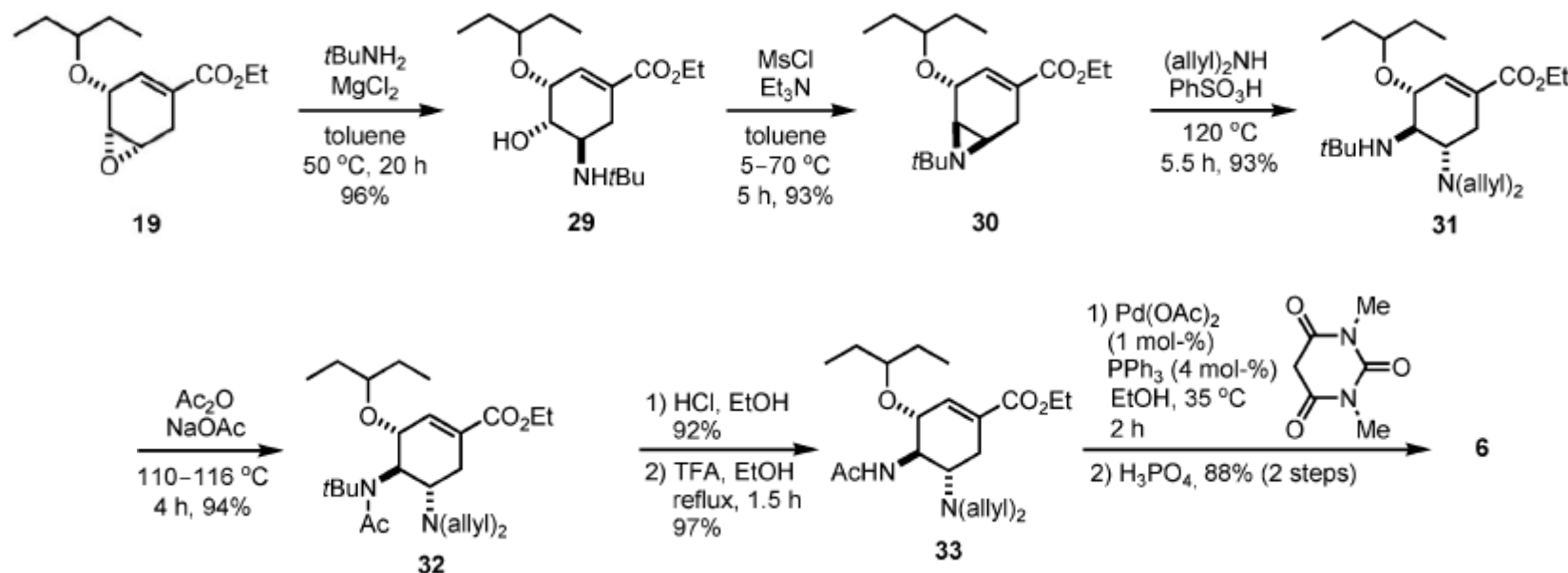
- (2) use of potentially explosive azide-containing intermediates

# Roche synthesis without azide as source of nitrogen



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

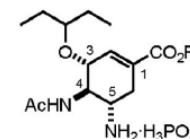
Alternative sources of amine: *t*BuNH<sub>2</sub> and (allyl)<sub>2</sub>NH



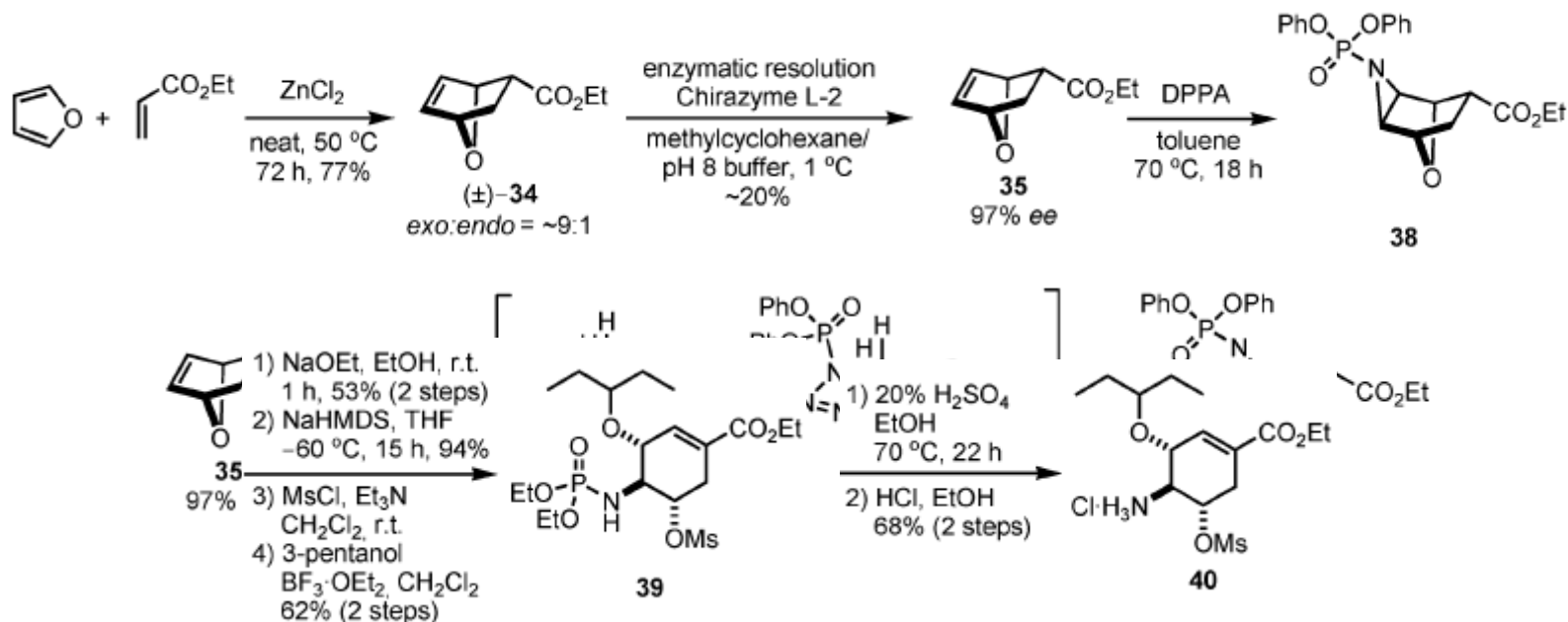
- only one purification for the sequence (compound 32 by precipitation)
- 14 steps ( 12 with azides)



# Roche : Diels-Alder strategy

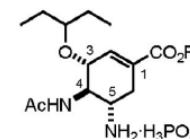


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

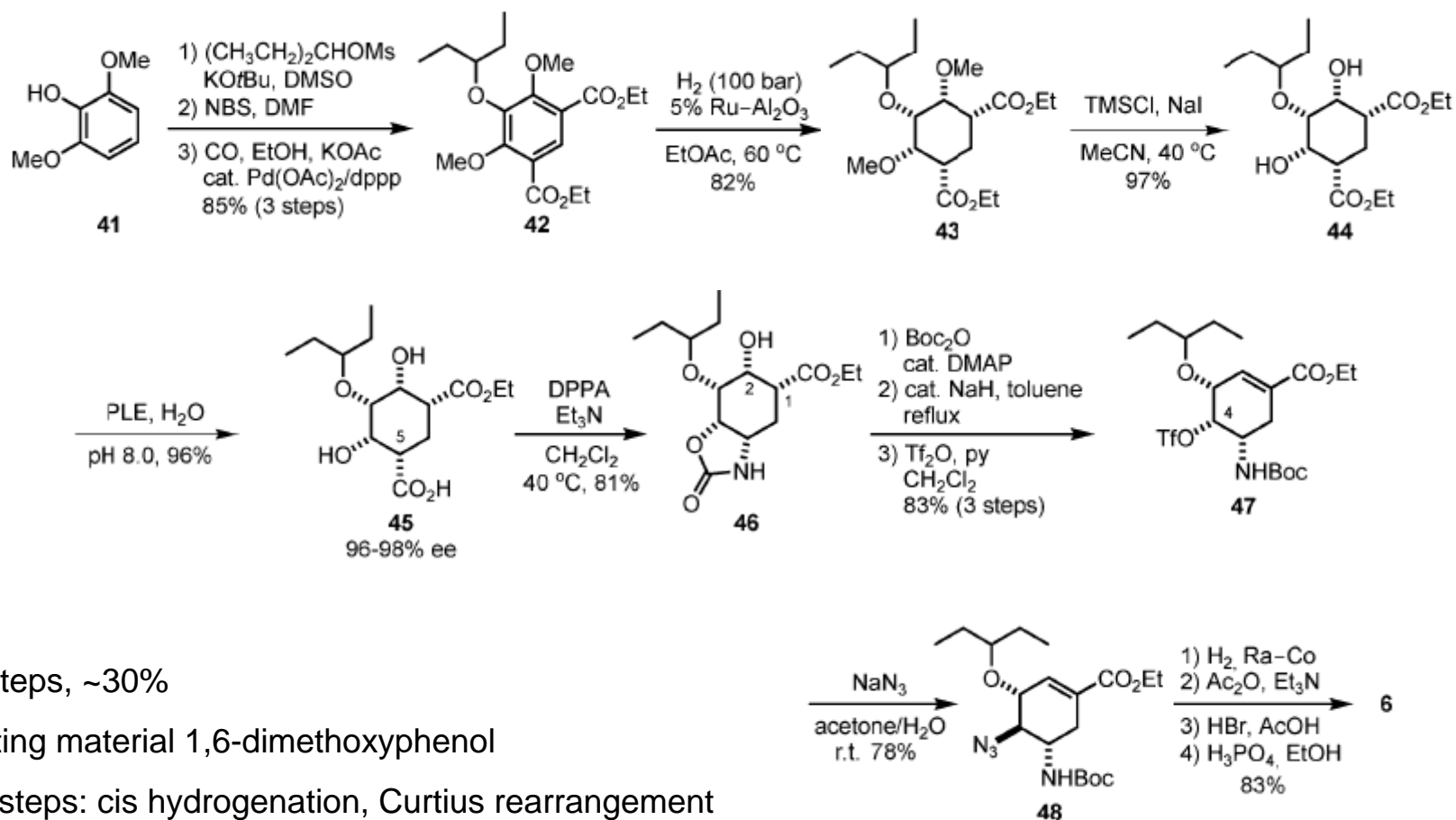


- starting material: furane and ethyl acrylate
- key steps: racemic Diels-Alder, [3+2] cycloaddition with DPPA (= diphenylphosphoryl azide)
- major drawback, yield of the resolution: ~20%
- Origin of the chirality: enzymatic resolution

# Roche : desymmetrization strategy

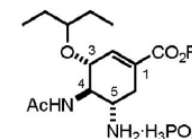


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



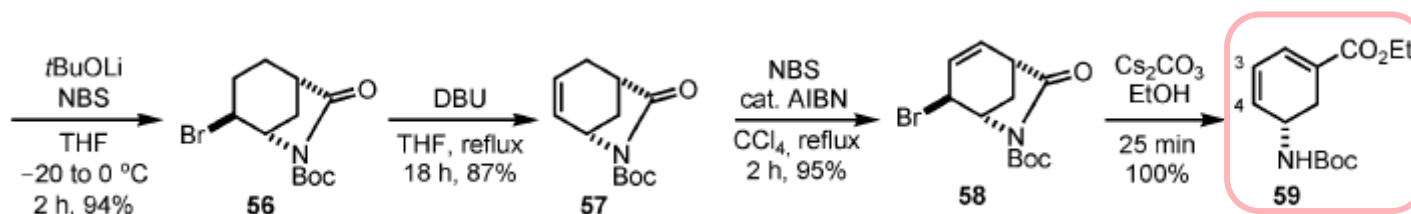
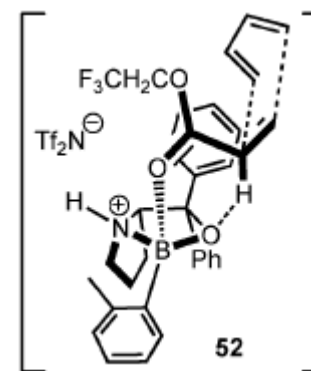
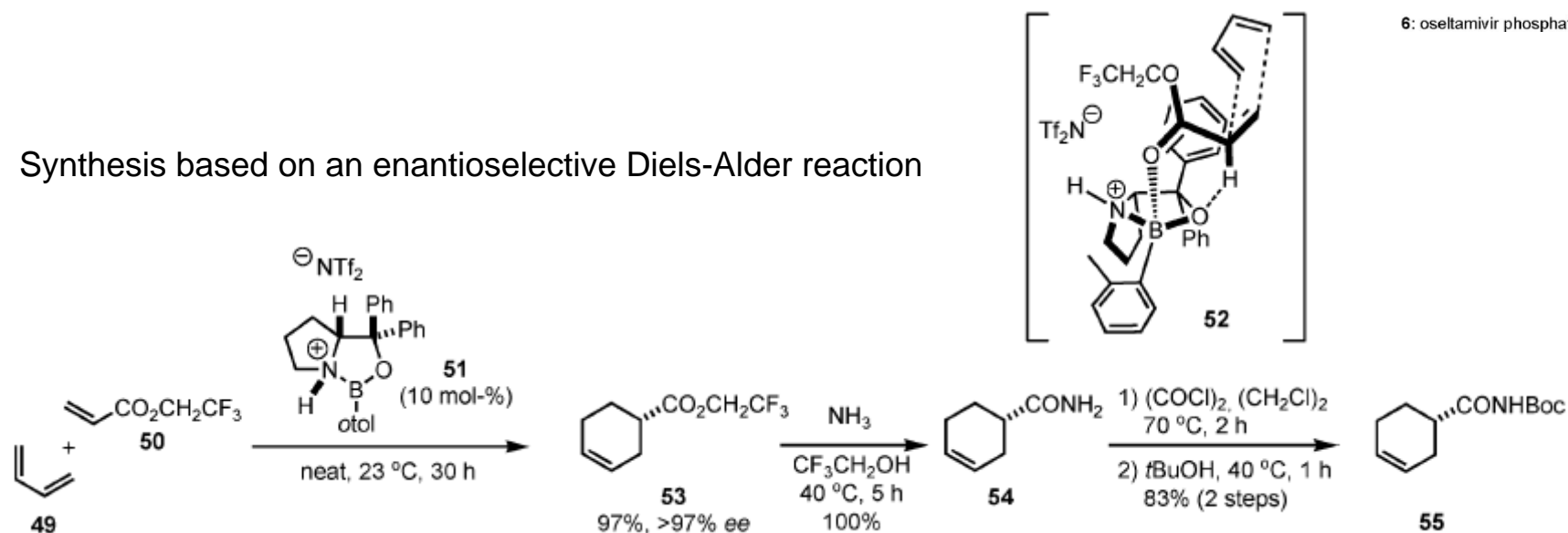
- 15 steps, ~30%
- starting material 1,6-dimethoxyphenol
- key steps: cis hydrogenation, Curtius rearrangement
- origin of the chirality: enzymatic desymmetrization

# Corey synthesis (1/2)



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

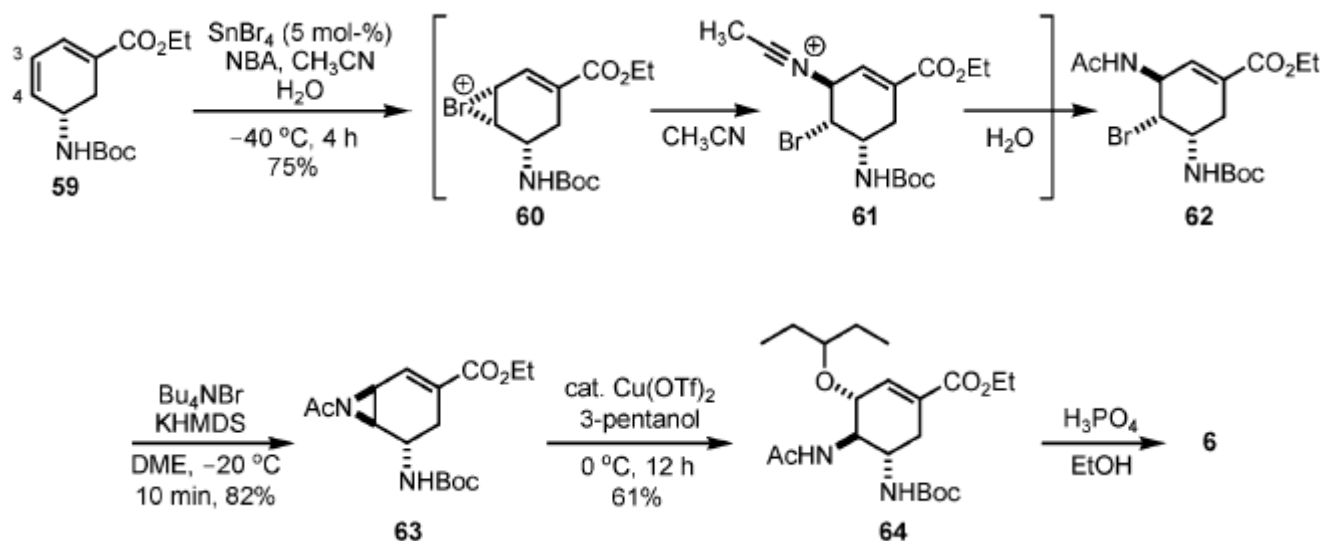
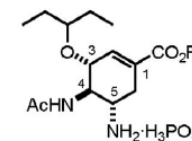
Synthesis based on an enantioselective Diels-Alder reaction



Corey's intermediate

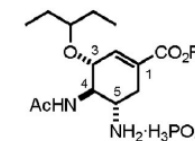
8 steps to reach diene 59

## Corey synthesis (2/2)



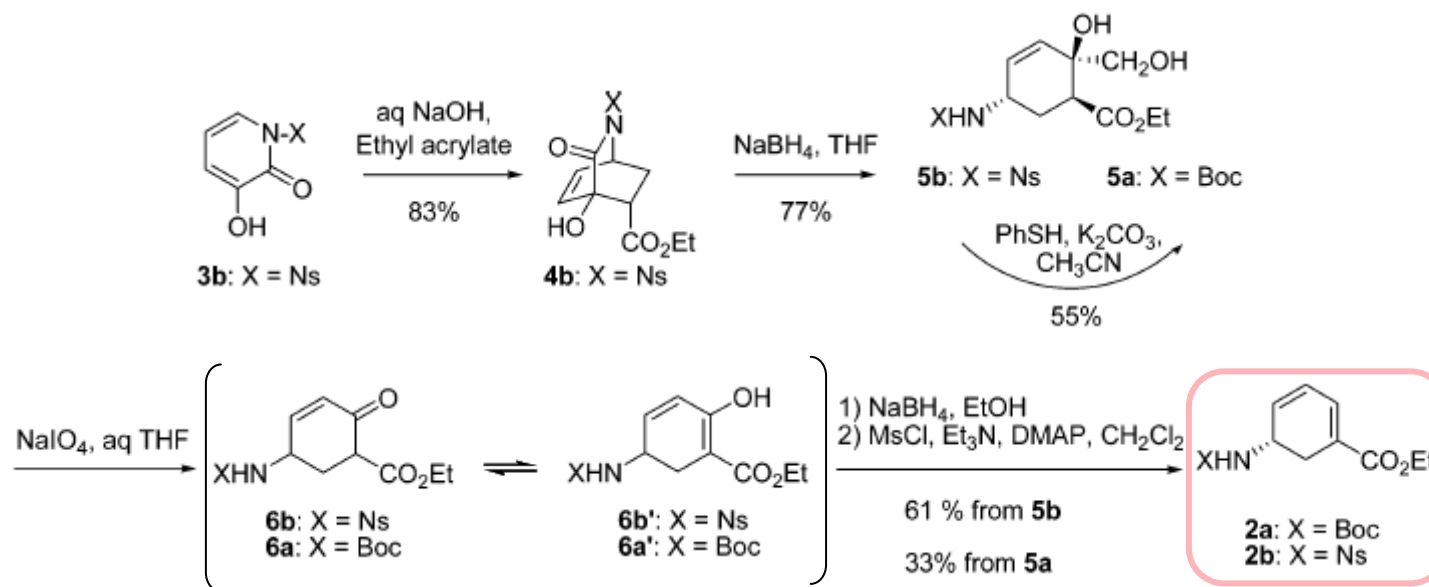
- 12 steps, ~30%
- starting material: 1,3-butadiene and trifluoroethyl acrylate
- key steps: Diels-Alder reaction, stereoselective bromoamidation
- origin of the chirality: enantioselective Diels-Alder

# Okamura study for the synthesis of the Corey's intermediate



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

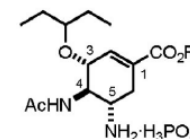
Corey's intermediate is synthesised by a base catalyzed Diels-Alder reaction



- starting material: 3-hydroxy-2-pyridones
- 6 steps for the intermediate, 11% for Boc, 39% for Ns
- key step: aqueous « green » Diels-Alder reaction
- chirality: studies are ongoing, asymmetric DA with acrylates having chiral auxiliaries have been reported by this group

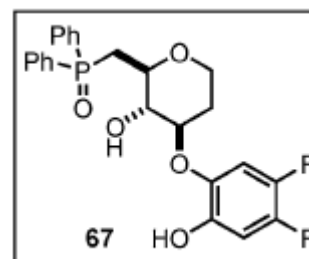
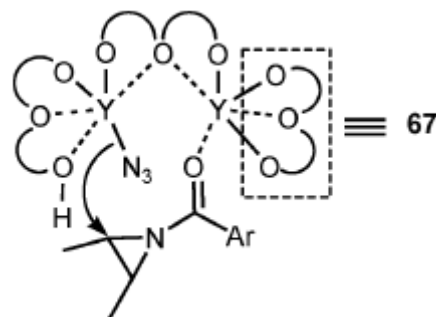
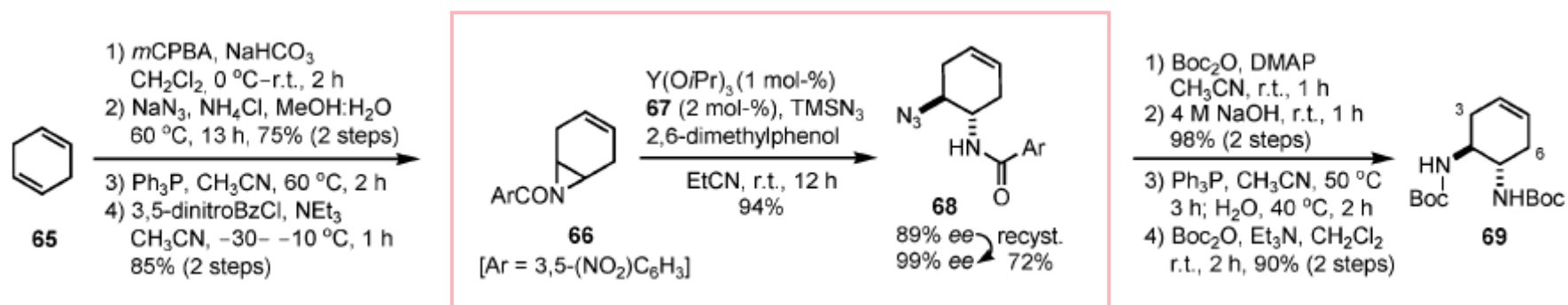
# Shibasaki and Kanai synthesis

## First generation (1/2)



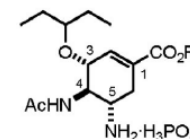
6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

Synthesis based on an asymmetric ring-opening of acyl-aziridine with azides

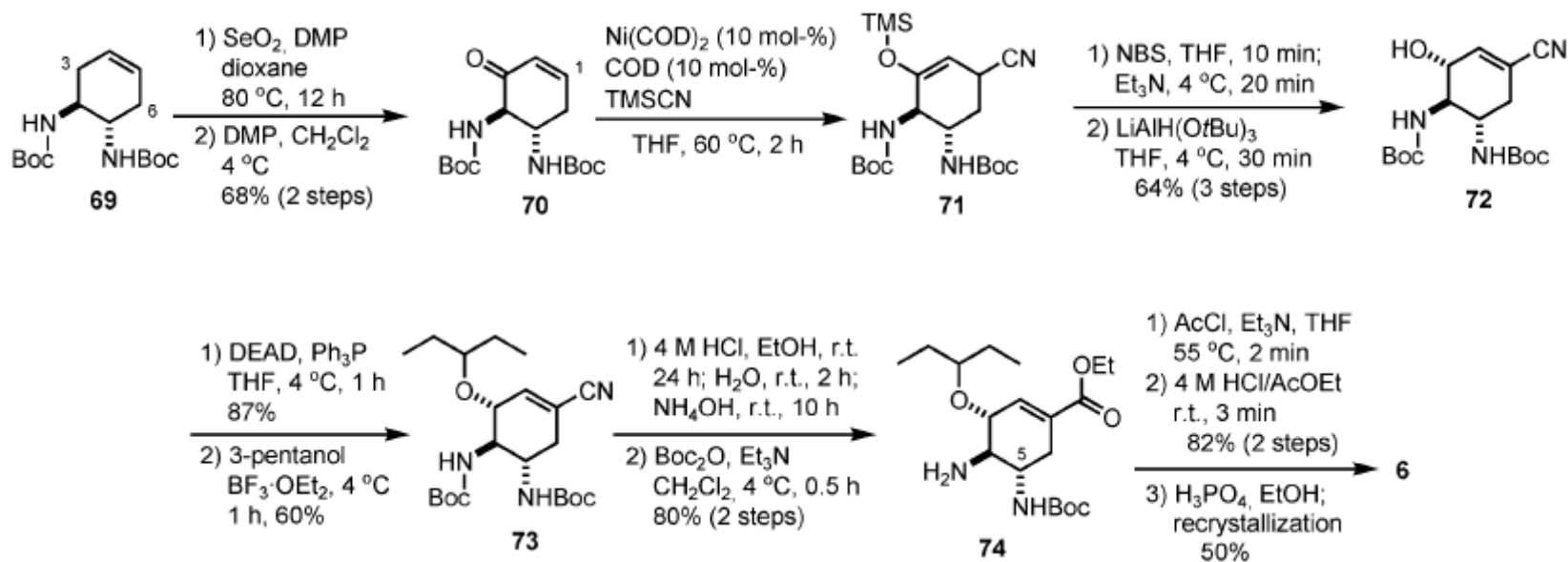


# Shibasaki and Kanai synthesis

## First generation (2/2)

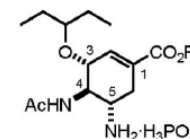


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



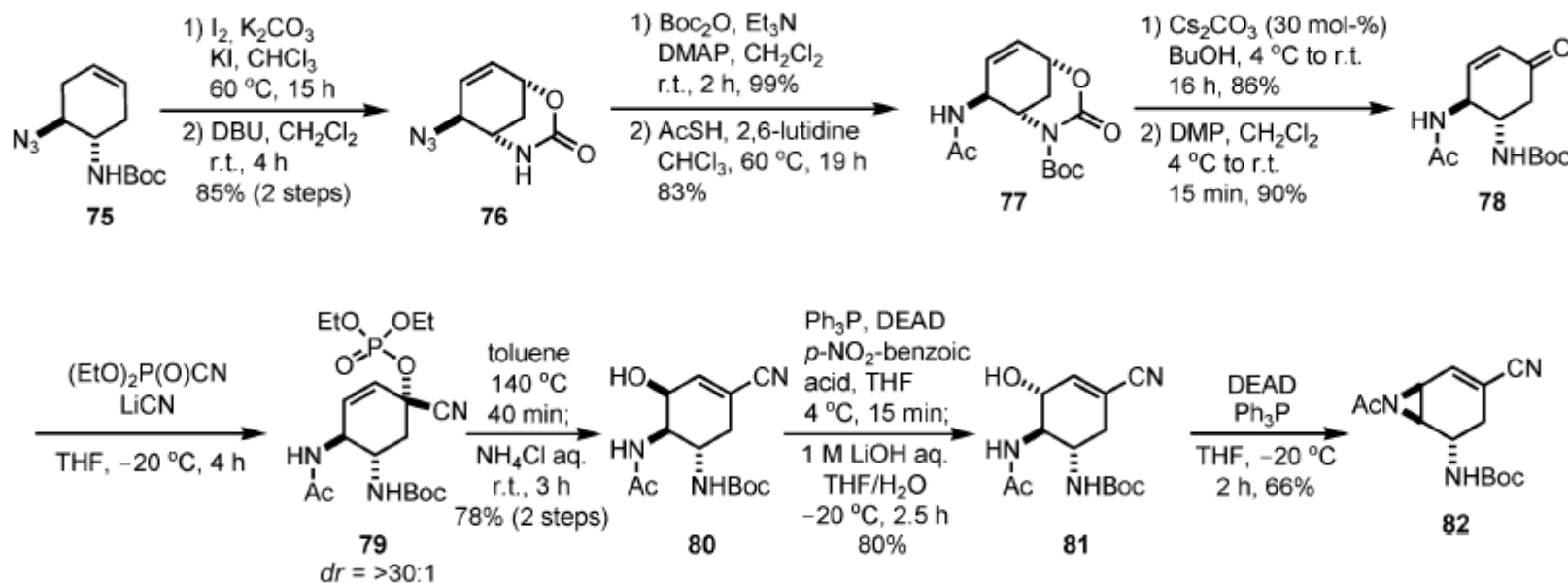
- 17 steps, ~1%
- starting material: cyclohexadiene
- key steps: Ni catalyzed cyanation
- origin of the chirality: enantioselective opening of aziridine
- Drawback: over-manipulation of protecting groups

# Shibasaki and Kanai synthesis Second generation



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

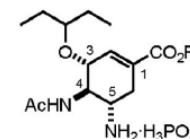
Synthesis starts with asymmetric ring-opening aziridine (see first generation synthesis)



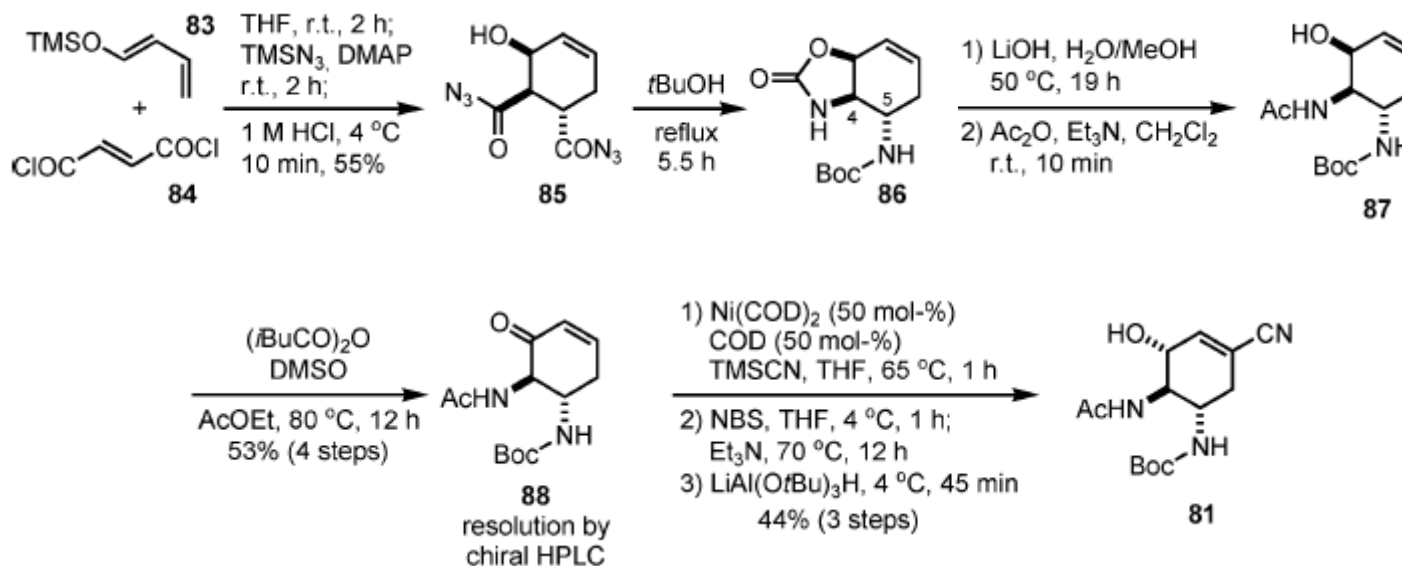
- 20 steps, ~7%
- starting material: cyclohexadiene
- key steps: cyanophosphorylation
- origin of the chirality: enantioselective opening of aziridine



# Shibasaki and Kanai synthesis Third generation

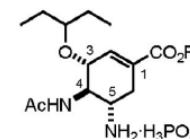


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



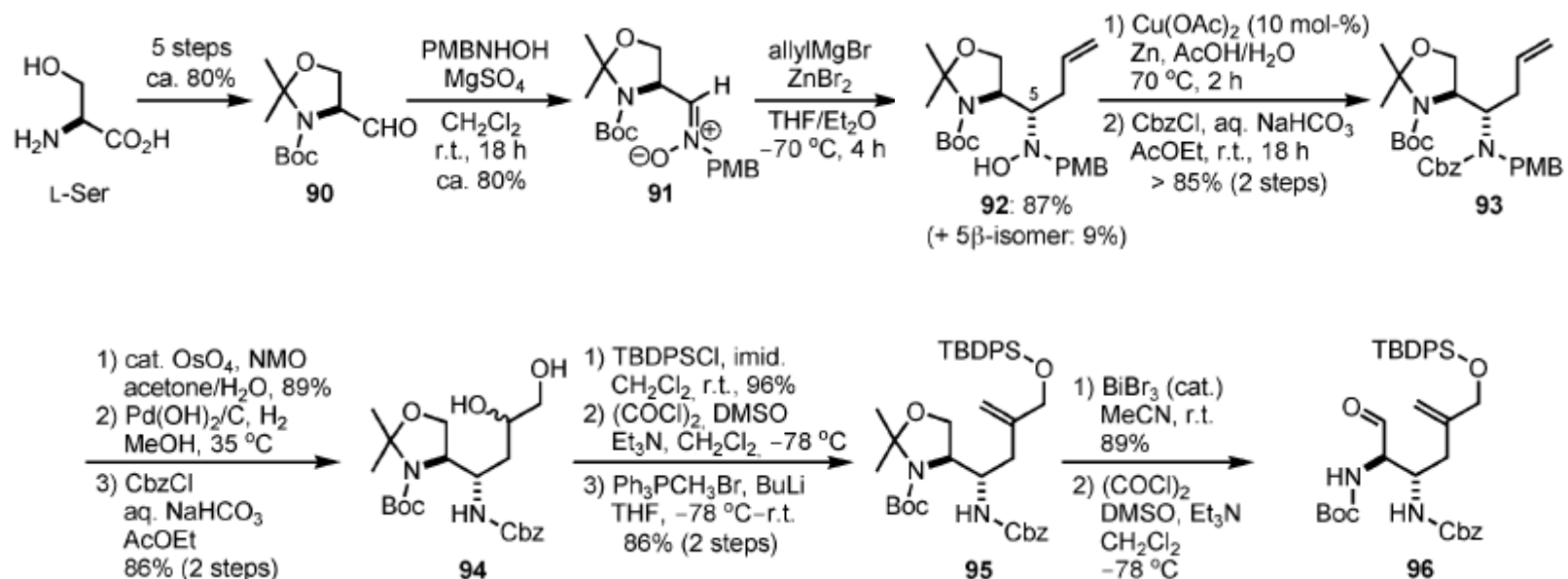
- 12 steps, ~13%
- starting material: silyl ether diene and fumaroyl chloride
- key steps: Diels-Alder reaction, Curtius rearrangement
- origin of the chirality: resolution by chiral HPLC
- An enantioselective Diels-Alder reaction is currently ongoing

# Yao synthetic study (1/2)

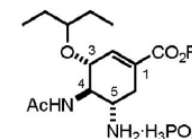


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

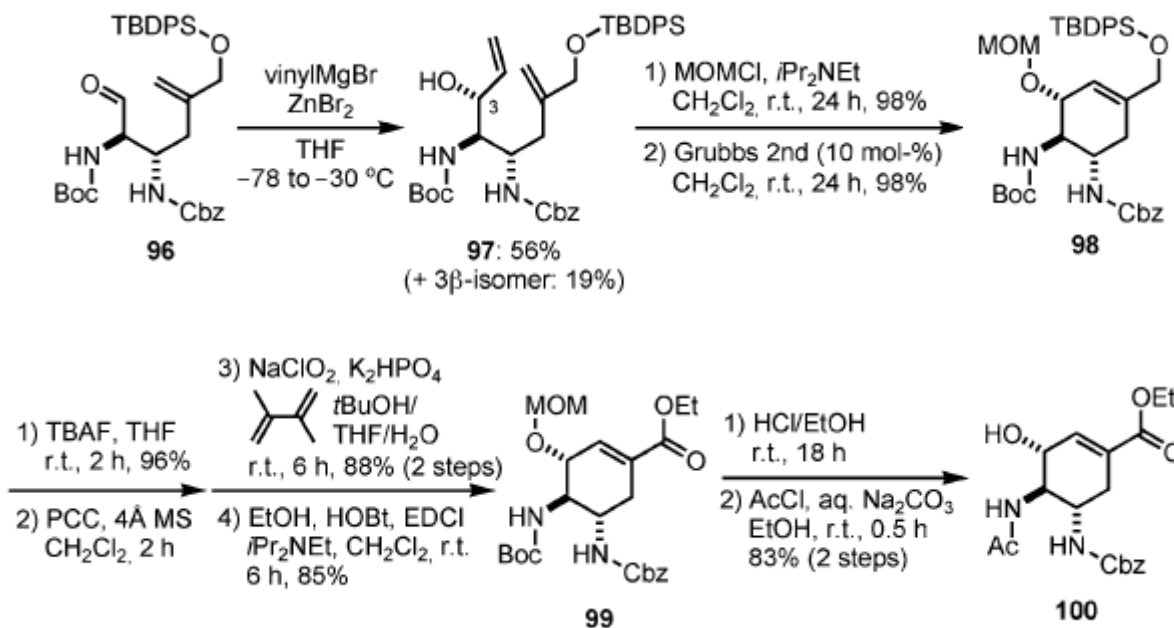
Cyclic core of the target is built by RCM



## Yao synthetic study (2/2)

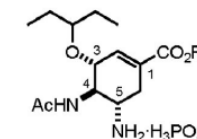


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

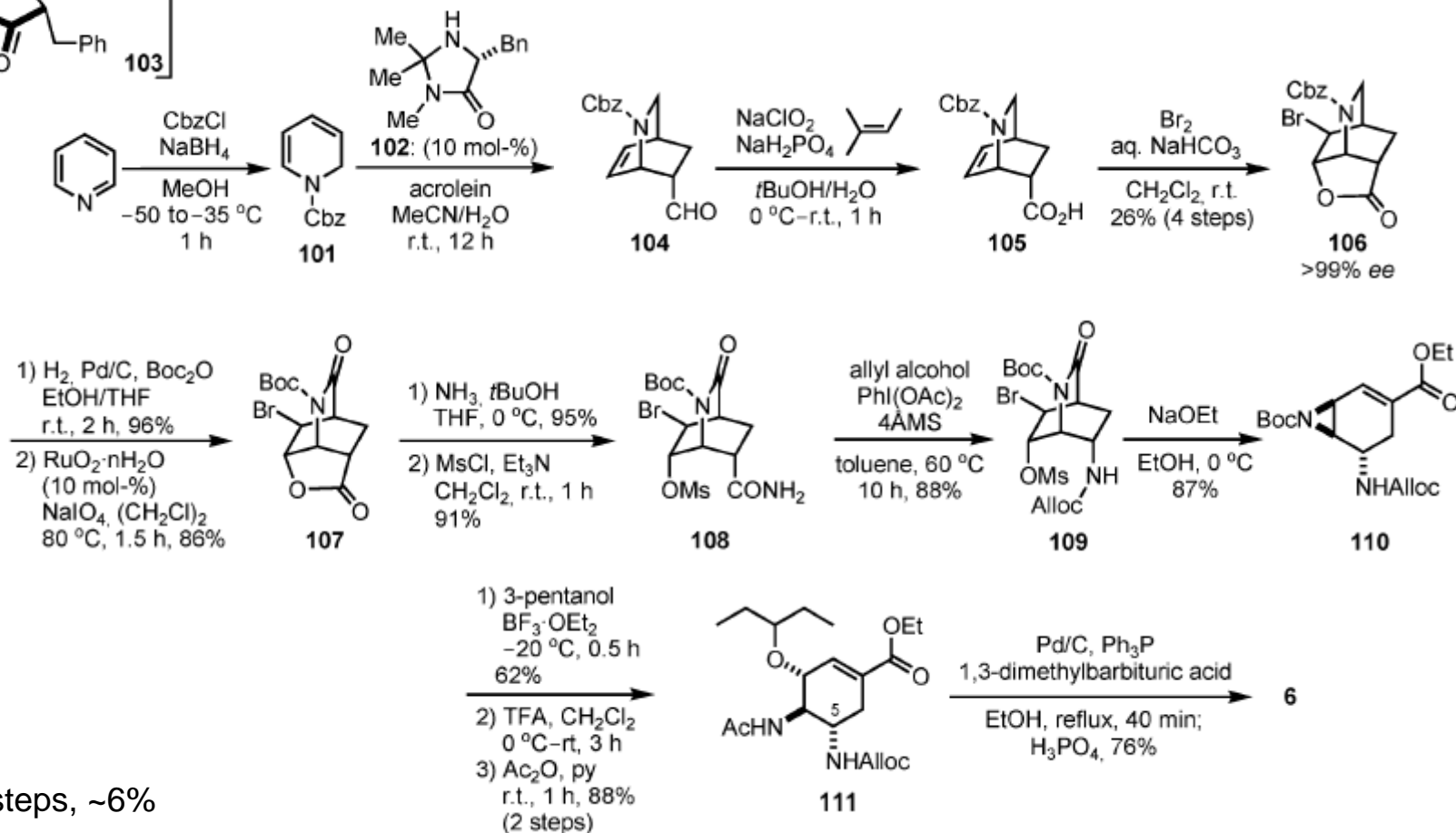
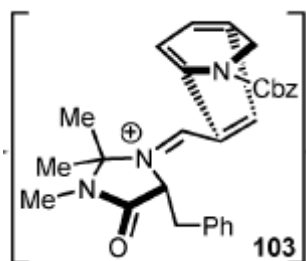


- starting material: L-serine / L-Gardner aldehyde
- key steps: Ring Closing Metathesis
- origin of the chirality: starting material
- Drawback: poor stereoselectivity

# Fukuyama synthesis

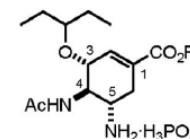


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

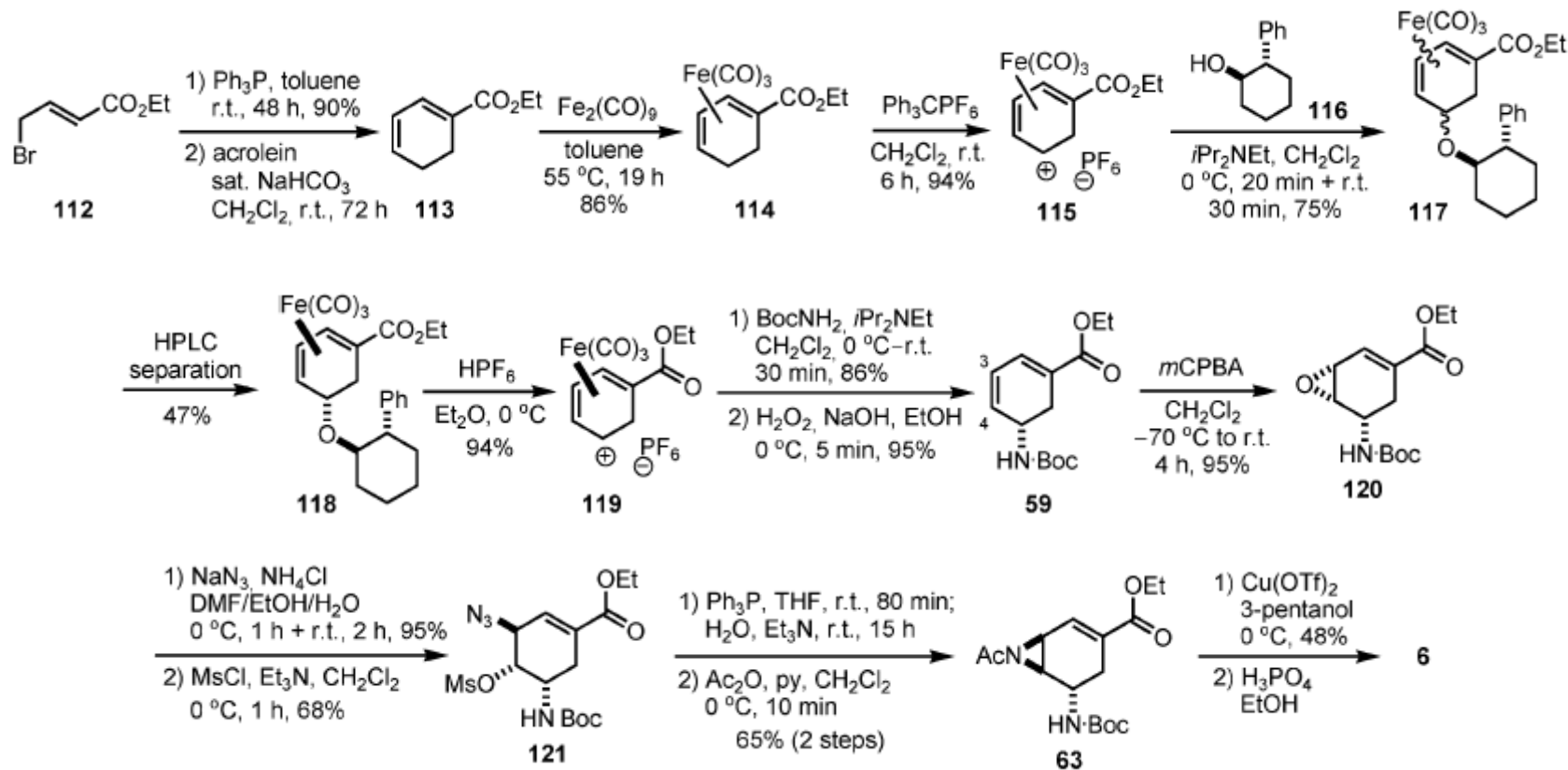


- 14 steps, ~6%
- starting material: pyridine
- key steps: Diels-Alder reaction
- origin of the chirality: asymmetric Diels-Alder reaction

# Kann synthesis

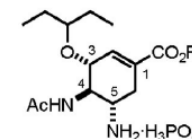


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



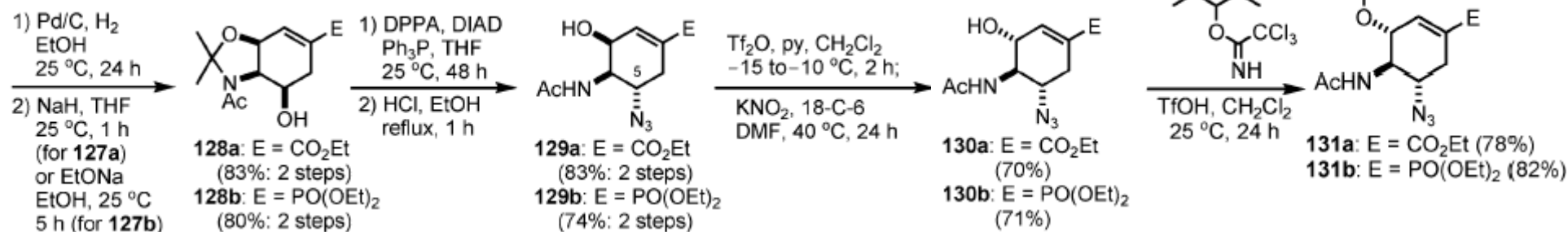
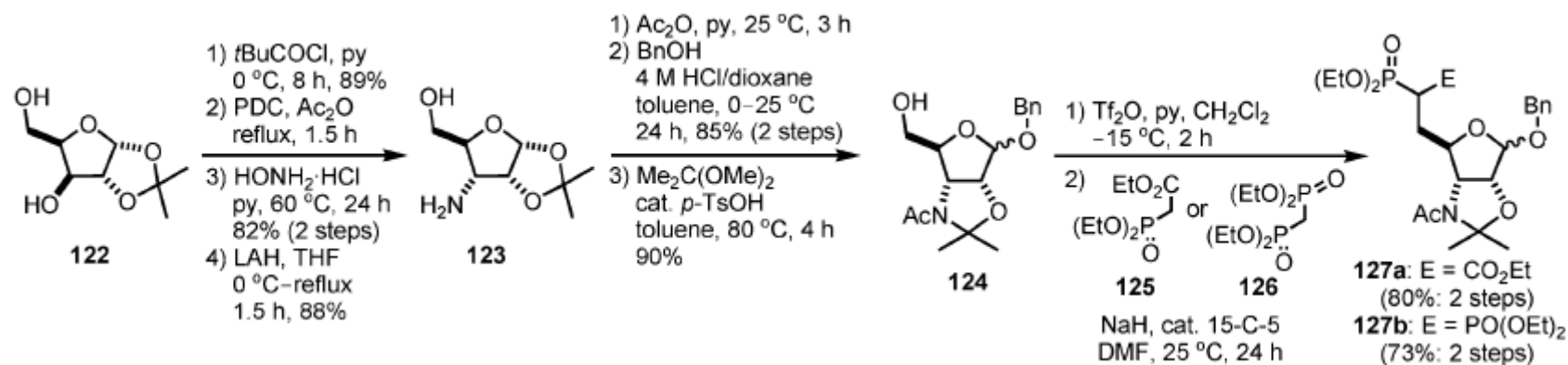
- 16 steps, ~4%
- starting material: bromo-conjugated ester 112 and acroleine (cyclohexadiene)
- key steps: stereoselective amination of cationic iron carbonyl complex
- origin of the chirality: separation

# Fang synthesis (1/2)

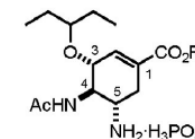


6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

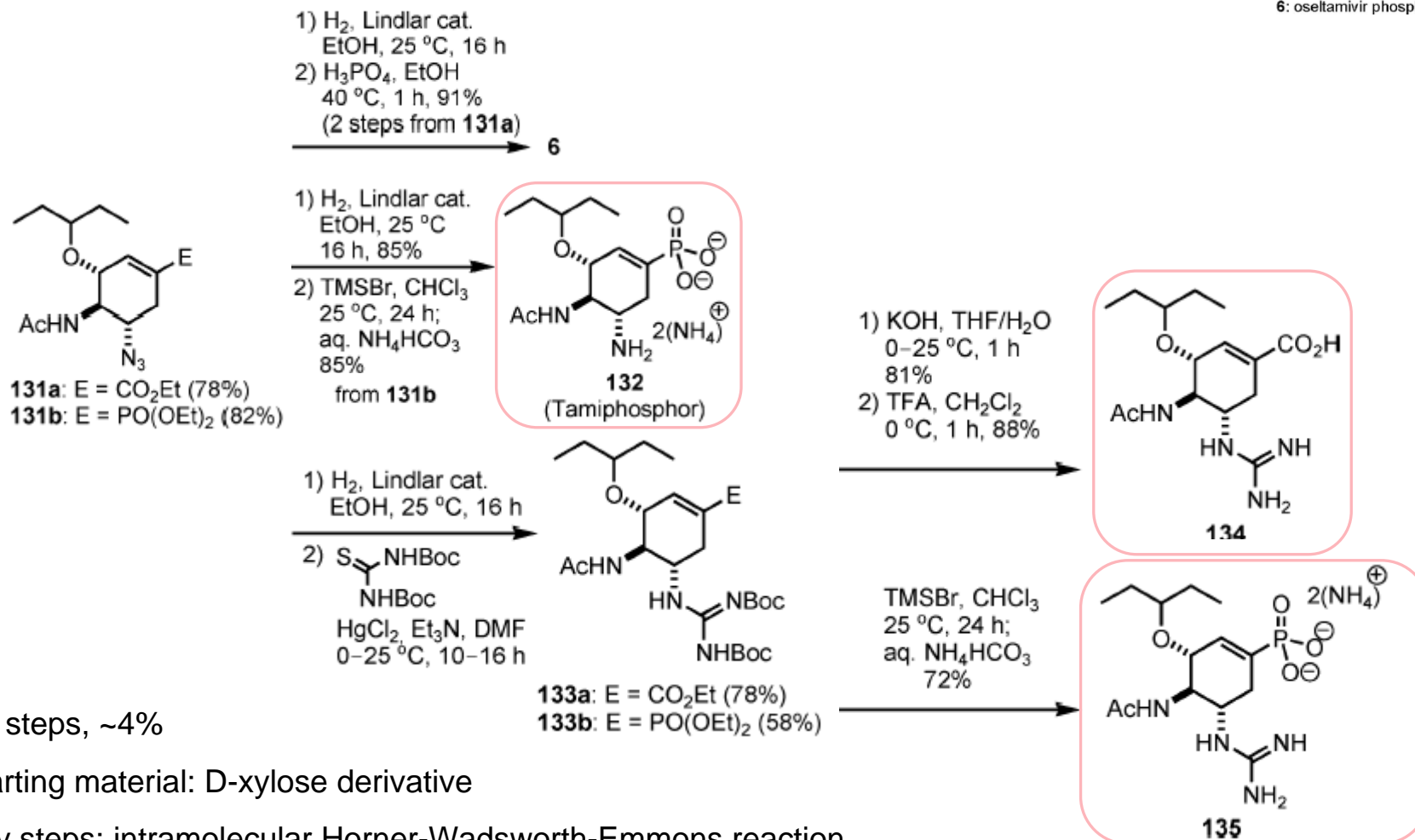
Fang synthesis is done conjointly for Tamiflu and analogues



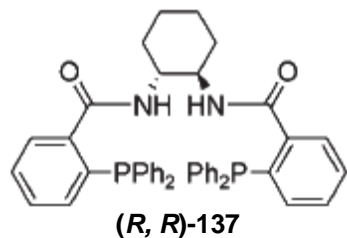
## Fang synthesis (2/2)



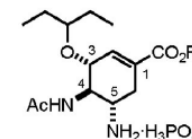
6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)



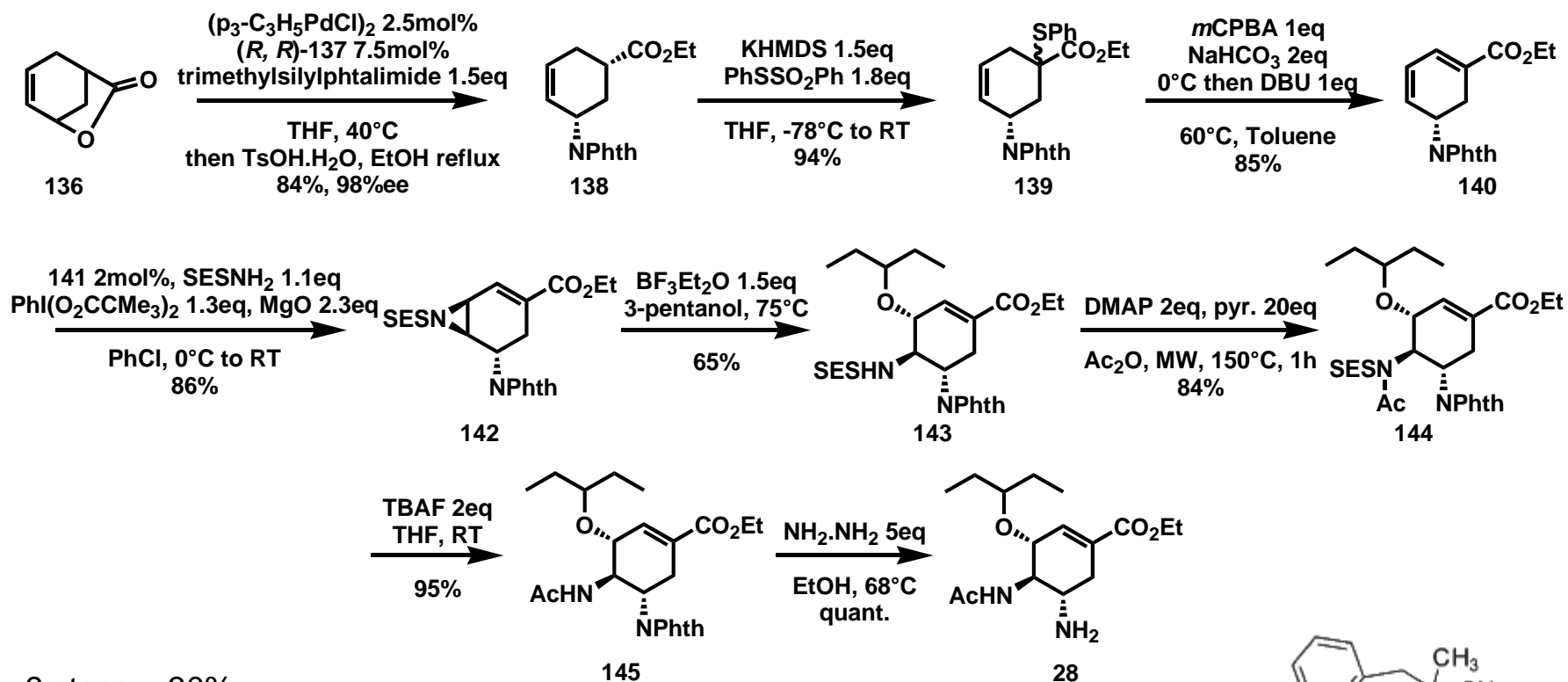
- 17 steps, ~4%
- starting material: D-xylose derivative
- key steps: intramolecular Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction
- origin of the chirality: starting material
- Synthesis of phosphonate analogue and guanidine-containing compounds



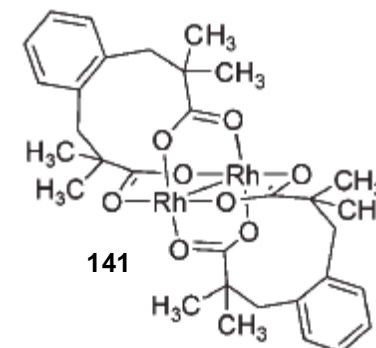
# Trost synthesis



6: oseltamivir phosphate (R = Et)

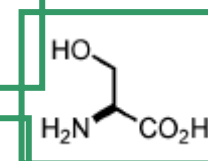
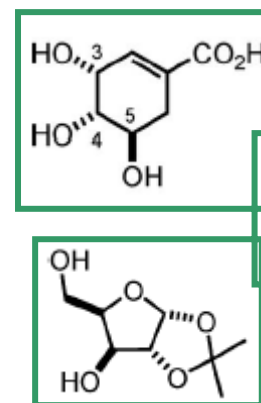
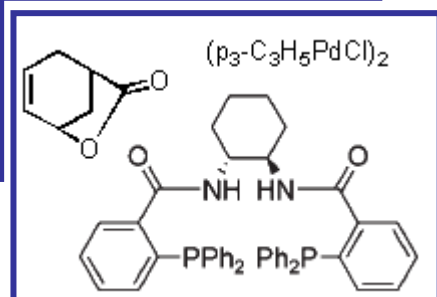
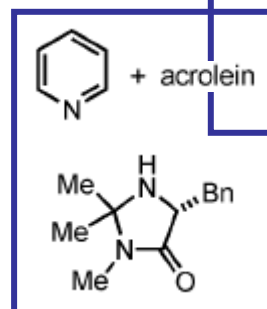
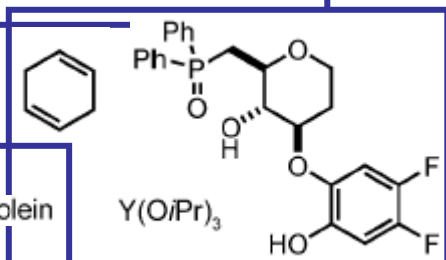
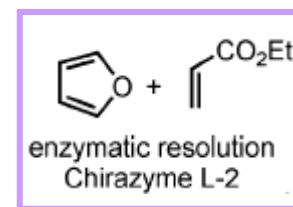
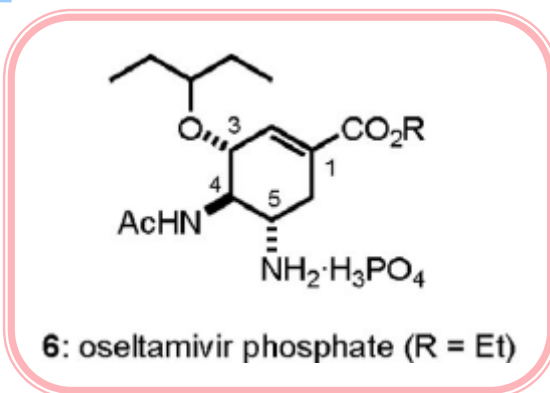
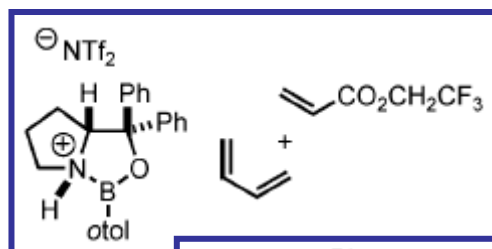
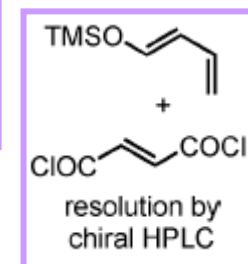
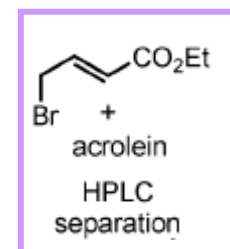
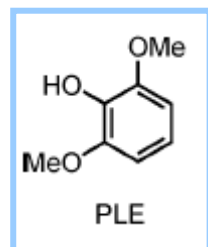


- 9 steps, ~30%
- starting material: commercial lactone
- key steps: Pd-catalyzed allylic alkylation, Rh-catalyzed aziridination
- origin of the chirality: asymmetric allylic alkylation





# Synthesis of the Anti-influenza Drug Oseltamivir Phosphate (Tamiflu®)



~10 years research

between 9 and 20 steps, around 30% overall yield