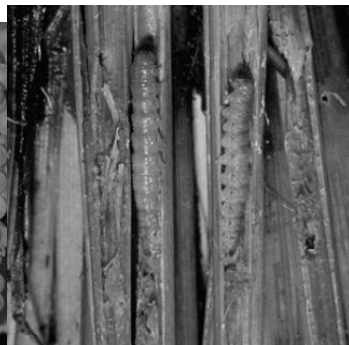
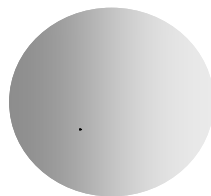
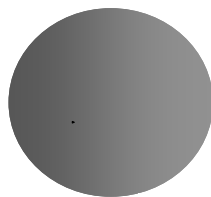
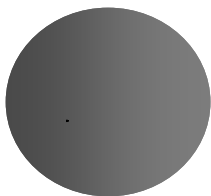
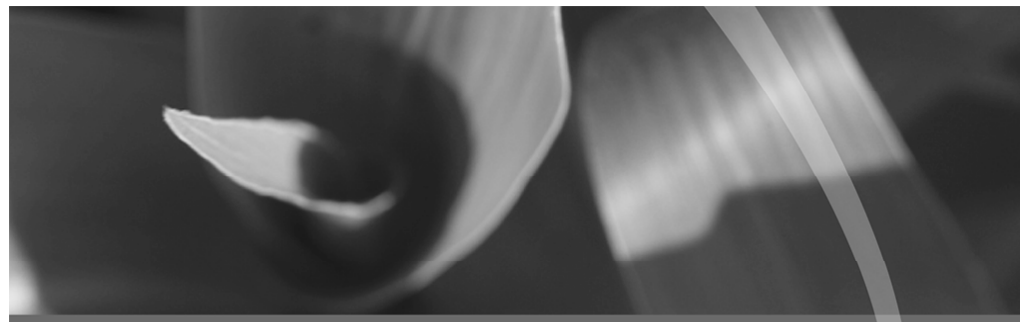


## Crop Protection Targets



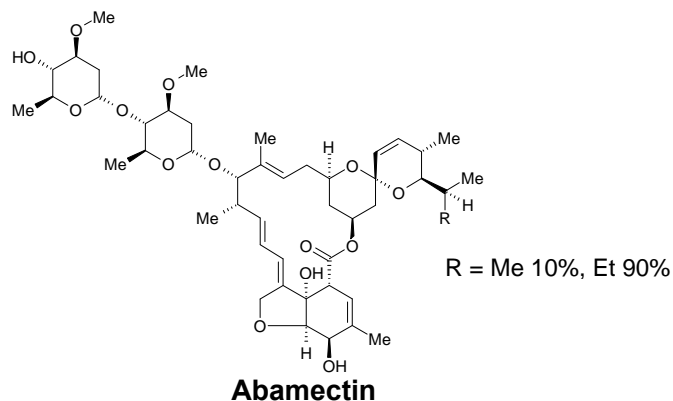
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## Discovery of New Mectins as Insecticides-Acaricides

### Syngenta Mectins as Insecticides-Acaricides



**Insecticide, Acaricide, Nematicide; strength on mites**

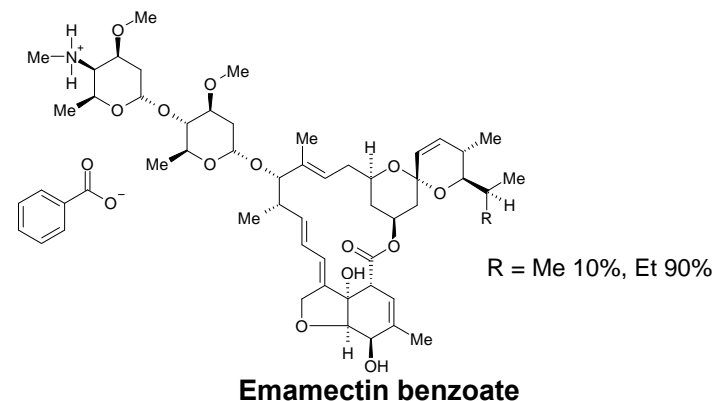
**Produced by fermentation**

**Mode of action ; Stimulates the release of  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid (inhibitory neurotransmitter), activates  $Cl^-$  channels**

**Application rates: 5-20g/ha UV sensitive**

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### Syngenta Mectins as Insecticides-Acaricides



**Insecticide; strength on chewing insects Lepidoptera**

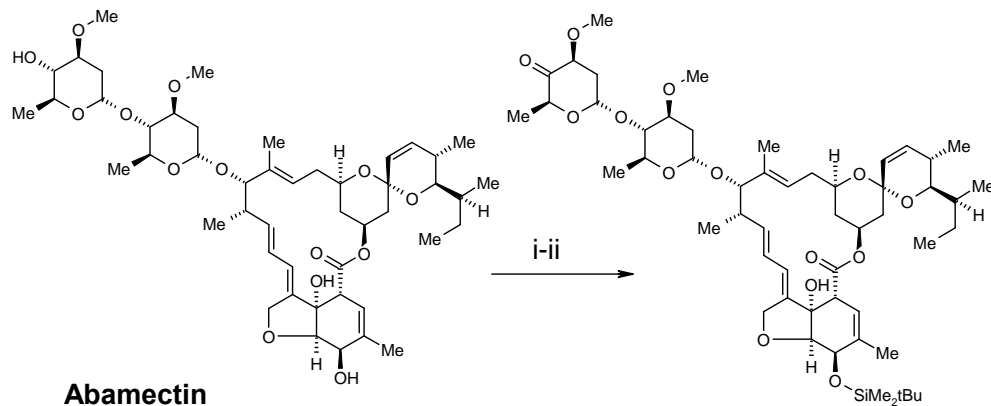
**Produced in 5 chemical steps from Abamectin**

**Mode of action ; Stimulates the release of  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid (inhibitory neurotransmitter), activates  $Cl^-$  channels**

**Application rates: 5-20g/ha UV sensitive**

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## Production Synthesis of Emamectin from Abamectin

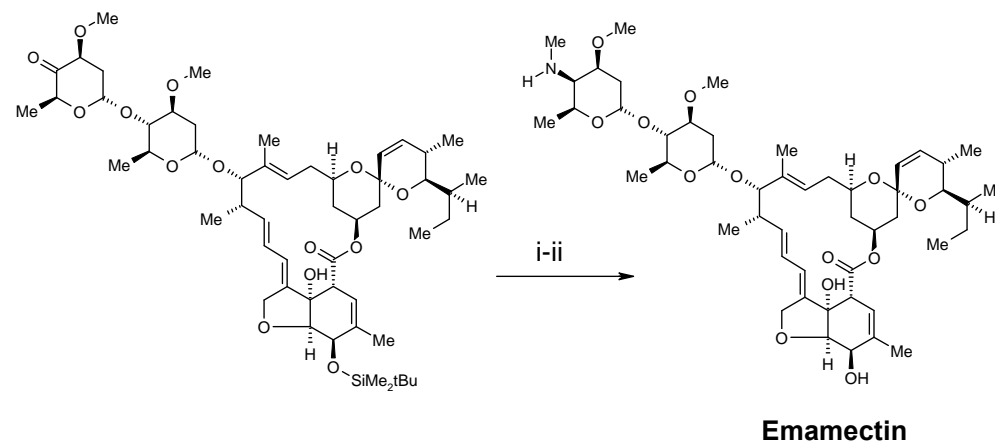


i = t-BuMe<sub>2</sub>Si-Cl , toluene , DMAP , ii = DMSO , NEt<sub>3</sub> , Ph-POCl<sub>2</sub> , > 90% 2 steps

5

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## Production Synthesis of Emamectin from Abamectin

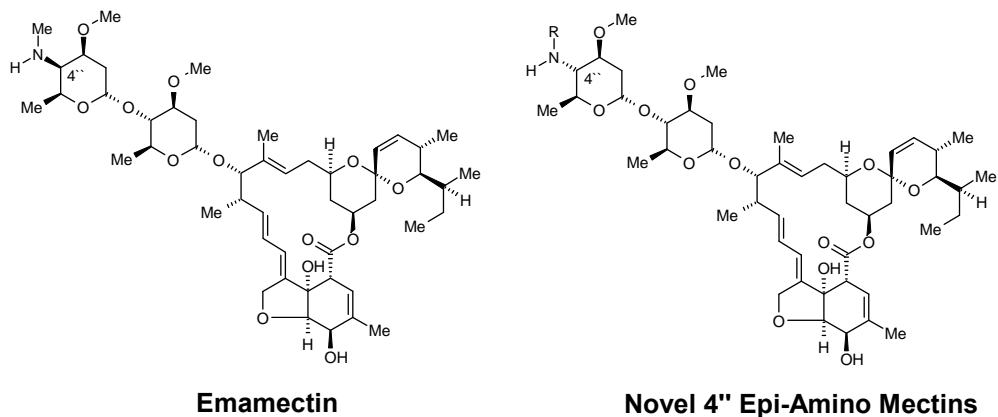


i = Me-N-(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> , ZnBr<sub>2</sub> , EtOH , NaBH<sub>4</sub> , RT , single isomer  
ii = MeOH , MeSO<sub>3</sub>H , > 90% 2 steps

6

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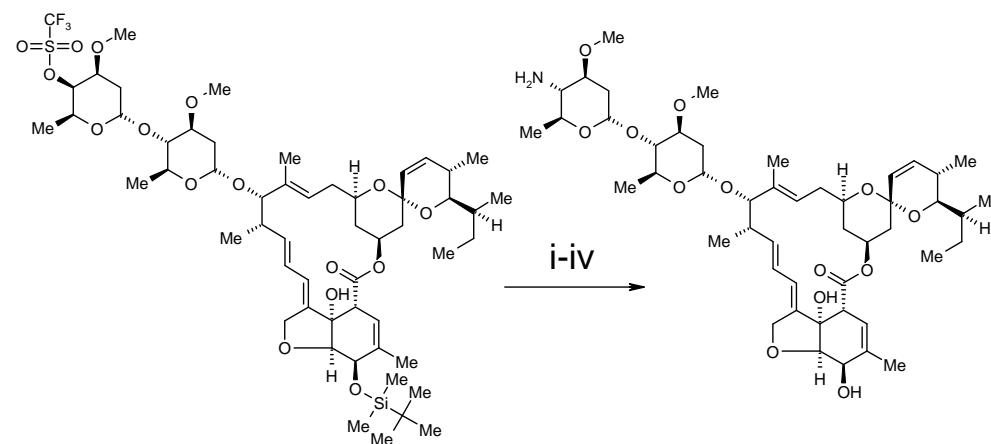
## 4''α Amino Mectins: Epi Emamectin



7

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## Synthesis of 4'' Epi-Amines

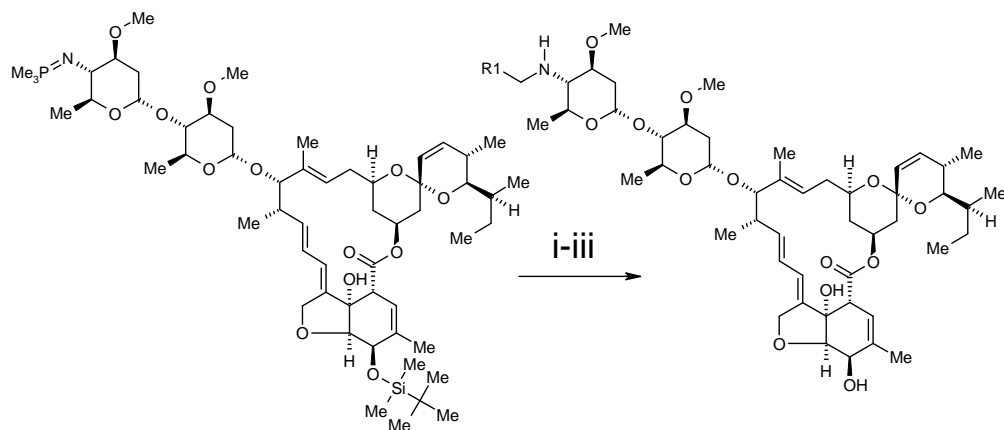


i = NaN<sub>3</sub> , DMF , 76% , ii = Me<sub>3</sub>P , THF , iii = NaOH dil. , THF , iv = MeSO<sub>3</sub>H , MeOH , 65%

8

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## Synthesis of 4''-Epi Amines

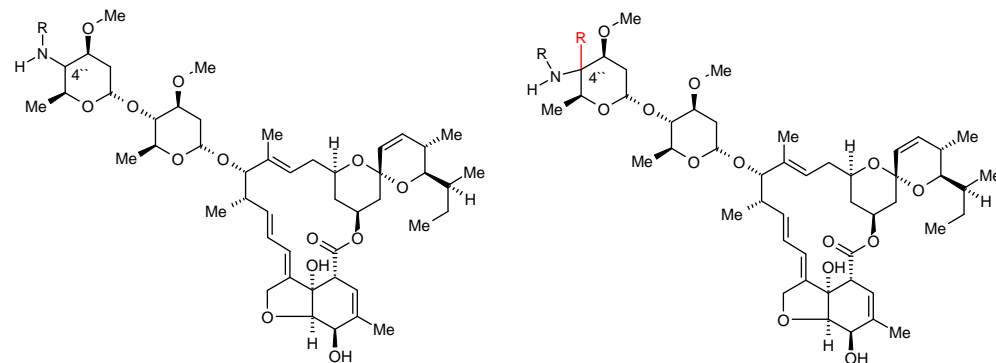


i = R<sub>1</sub>-COH, THF, ii = NaBH<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, pivalic acid cat., iii = MeSO<sub>3</sub>H, MeOH, 45-67%

9

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4'' of α,β- Amino Mectins



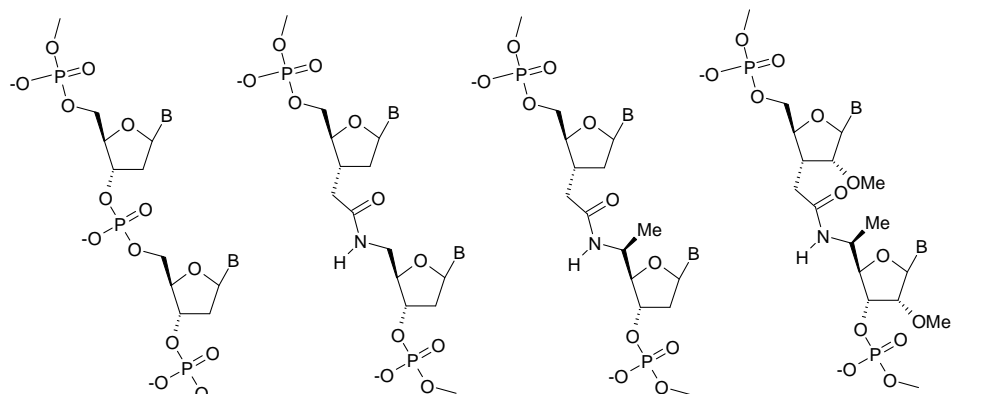
α-Amino Mectins are biologically even more active than the corresponding β isomers

α,β-Amino Mectins having an additional C-substituent at 4'' are the most promising derivatives

10

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## Modified Antisense and Antigene Oligonucleotides



DNA

Amide-3

5'-(S) Methyl Amide-3

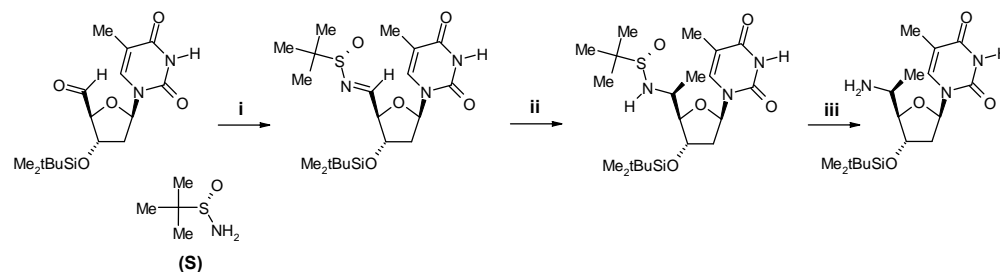
5'-(S) Methyl Di-Methoxy Amide-3

A. De Mesmaeker *et al.*, *Synlett*, 1287, (1997)

11

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## Improved Synthesis of 5' (S) Me Amide-3



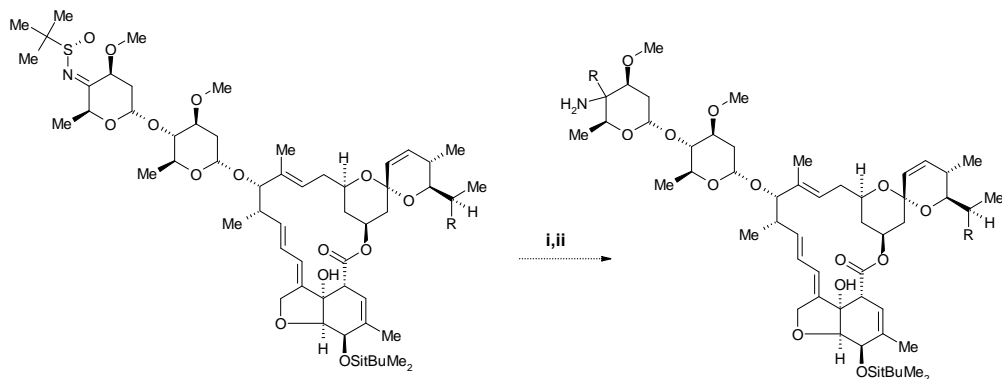
i = benzene, reflux, 74% , ii = 3 eq. MeMgBr, ether, -48°C to RT, 76%, HCl aq. (4M), dioxane, MeOH, RT, 92%

P. Jung, A. De Mesmaeker *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Letters*, **44**, 293, (2003)

12

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4''

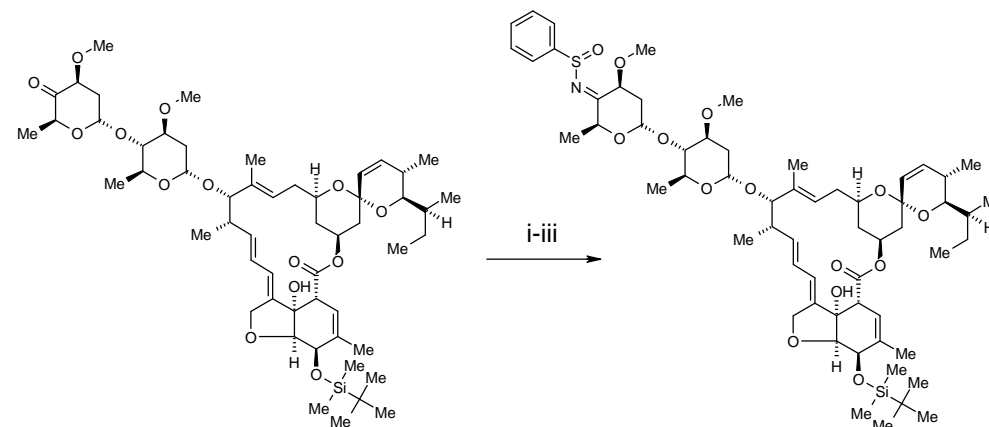


ii = RMgX, ii = Selective Hydrolysis

13

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4''



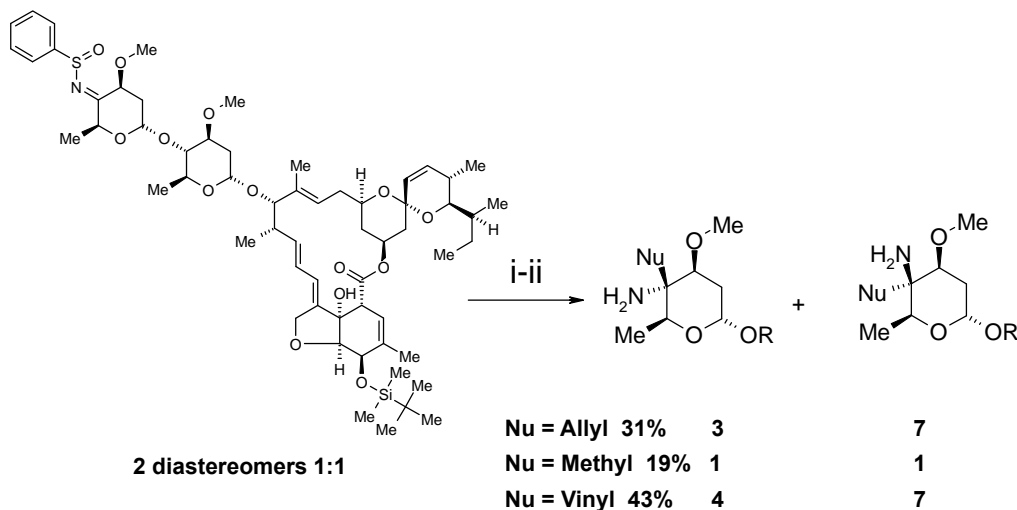
2 diastereomers 1:1

i = NH<sub>2</sub>-OH · HCl, pyridine, MeOH, RT, 99% ; ii = n-Bu<sub>3</sub>P, PhS-SPh, THF, 0°C, 80% ; iii = m-CPBA, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, RT, 43%

14

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4''



2 diastereomers 1:1

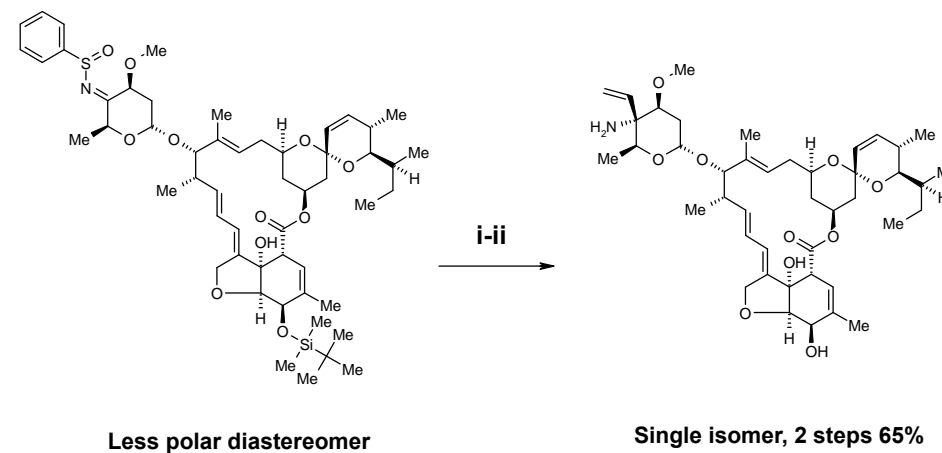
i = Grignard, ether, 0°C, ii = i-propanol, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, 0°C

P. Jung et al. Tetrahedron Letters, **47**, 5657 (2006)

15

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4'



Less polar diastereomer

Single isomer, 2 steps 65%

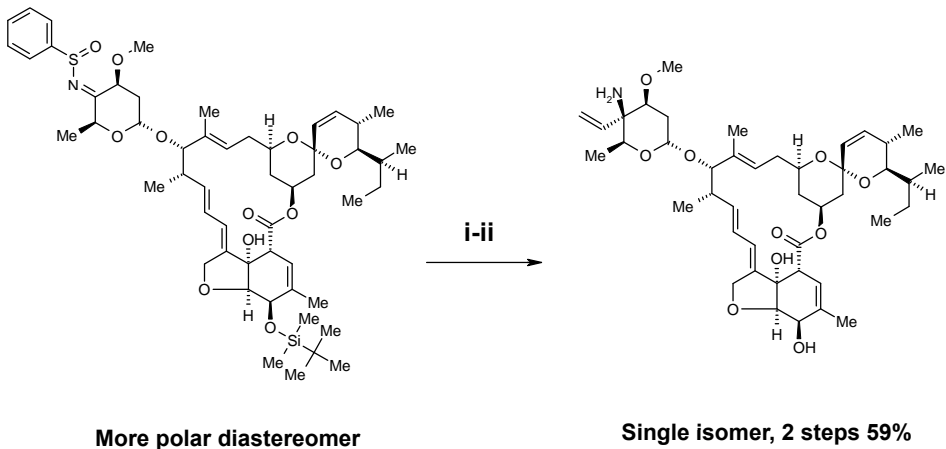
i = Vinyl Magnesium Bromide, ether, 0°C, ii = MeOH, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H 0°C

P. Jung et al. Tetrahedron Letters, **47**, 5657 (2006)

16

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4'



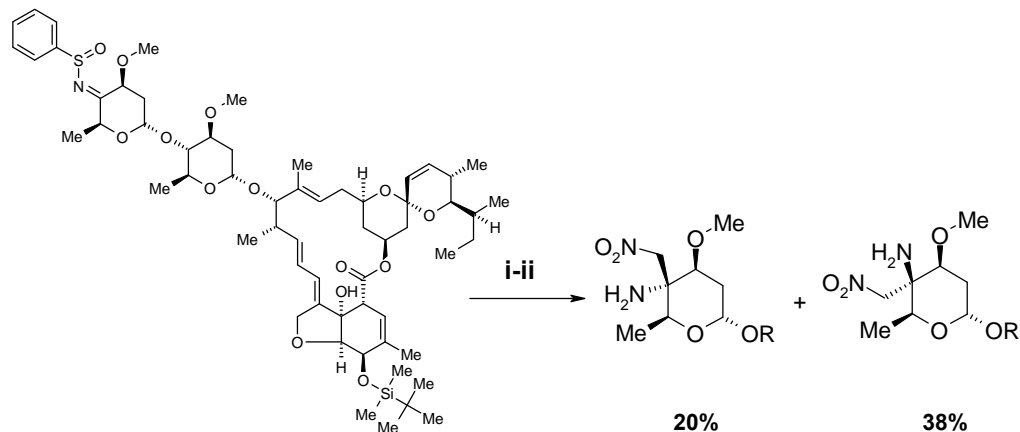
i = Vinyl Magnesium Bromide, ether, 0°C, ii = MeOH, MeSO<sub>3</sub>H 0°C

P. Jung et al. Tetrahedron Letters, **47**, 5657 (2006)

17

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4''

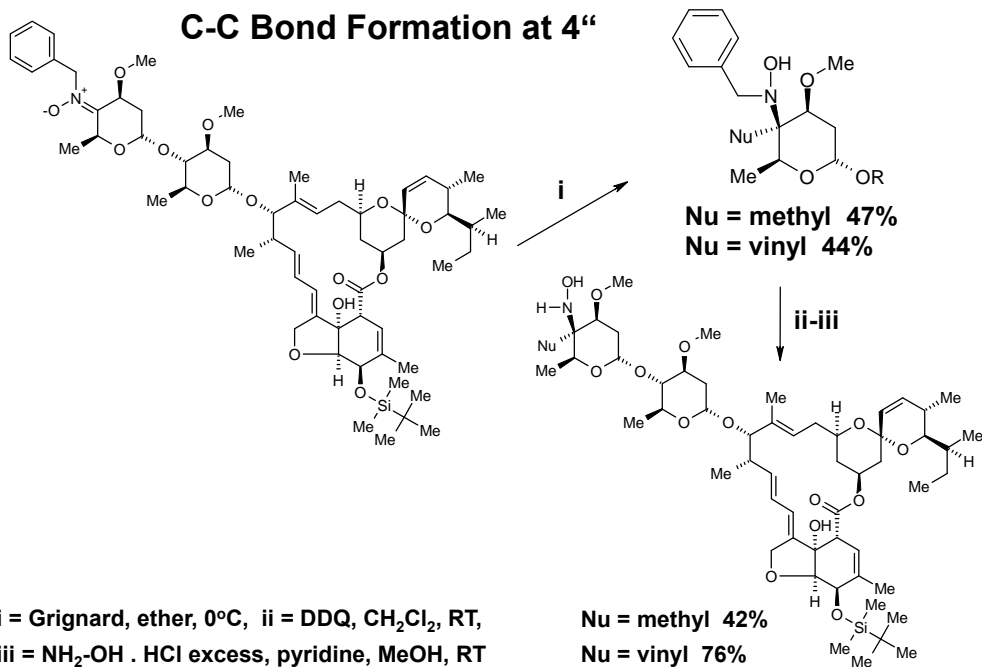


i = Me-NO<sub>2</sub>, piperidine, ii = i-propanol, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, 0°C

18

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## C-C Bond Formation at 4''



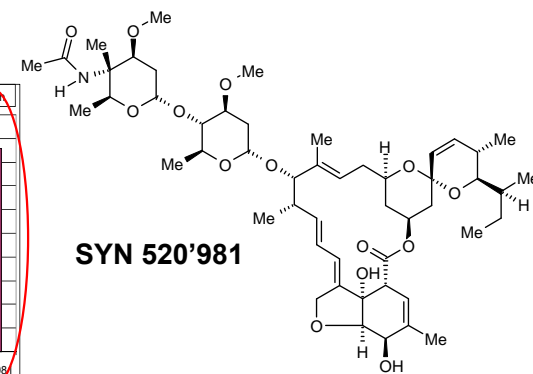
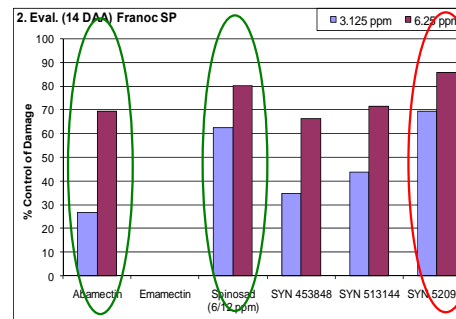
i = Grignard, ether, 0°C, ii = DDQ, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, RT,

iii = NH<sub>2</sub>-OH · HCl excess, pyridine, MeOH, RT

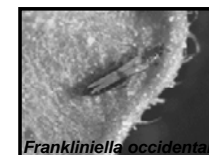
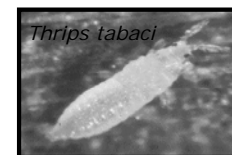
19

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## Thripicide – SYN 520981



Frankliniella and Thrips  
SYN 520981 > Abamectin

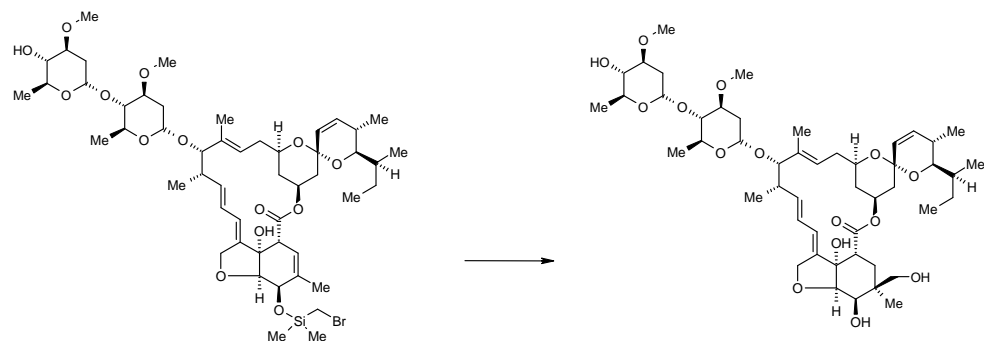


Frankliniella

20

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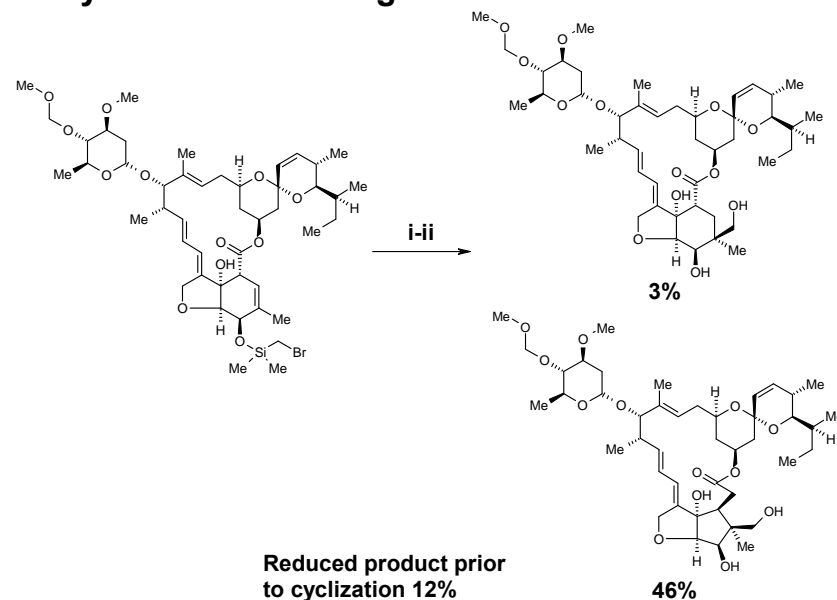
## Core Modifications of Mectins through Radical Cyclization



21

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## Radical Cyclization-Rearrangement

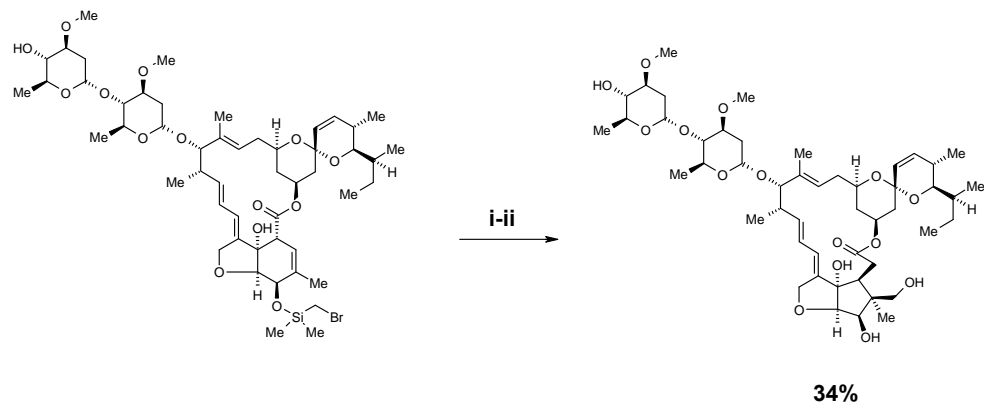


i = NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>, nBu<sub>3</sub>SnCl cat., AIBN, t-BuOH, reflux, ii = KF, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, KHCO<sub>3</sub>, THF, MeOH

22

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## Radical Cyclization-Rearrangement

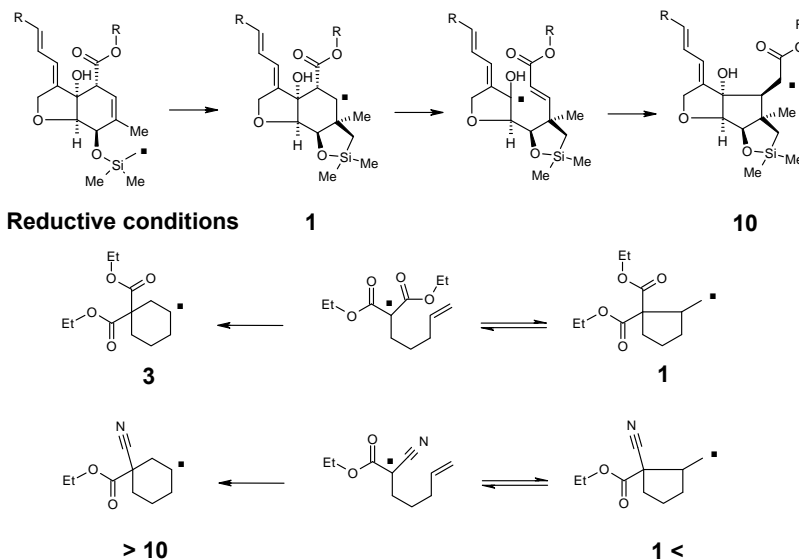


i = NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>, nBu<sub>3</sub>SnCl cat., AIBN, t-BuOH, reflux, ii = KF, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, KHCO<sub>3</sub>, THF, MeOH

23

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## Radical Cyclization-Rearrangement

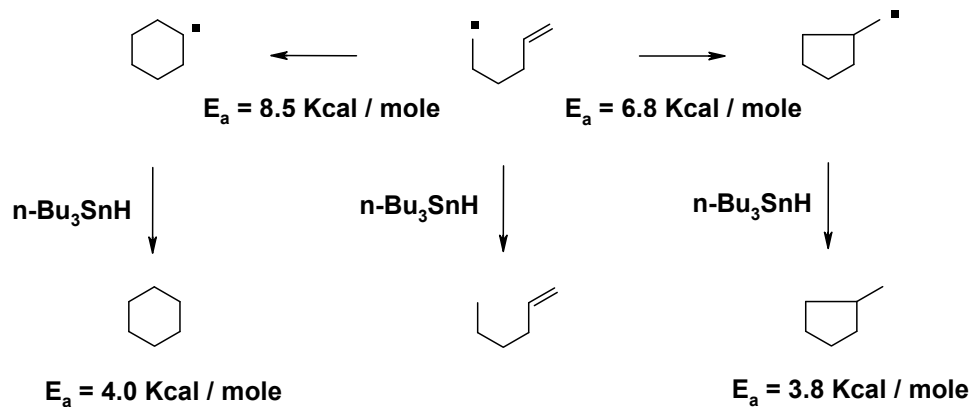


Oxidative conditions Julia et al. 1969

24

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## Radical Cyclization Reactions

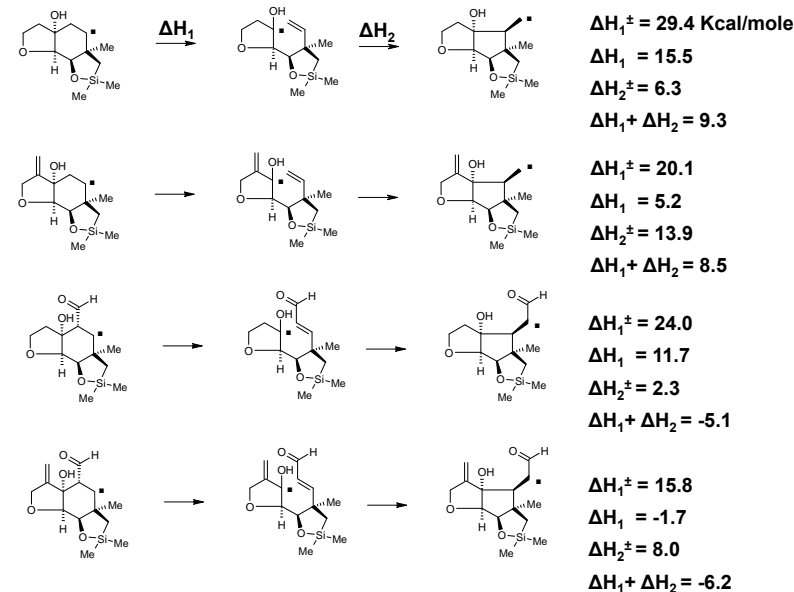


C. Chatgililoglu, K. U. Ingold, J. C. Scaiano, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **103**, 7739, (1981)

25

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## Radical Cyclization-Rearrangement

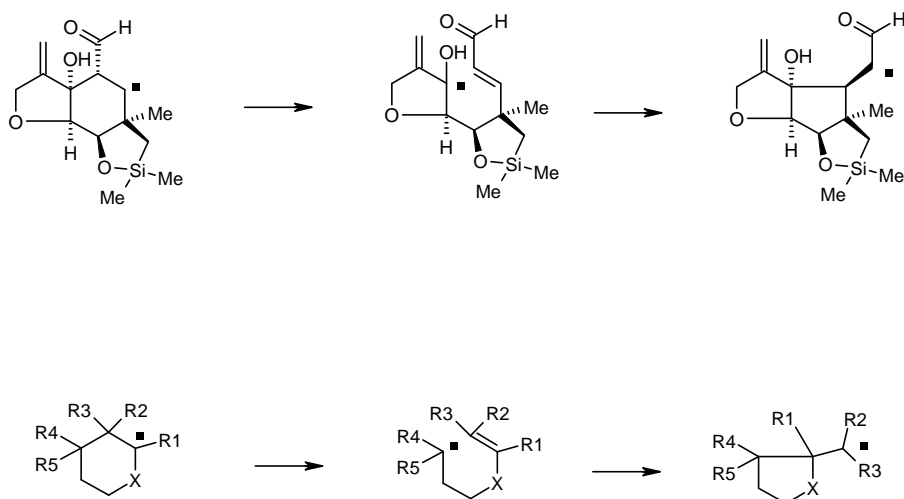


Fiona Murphy Kessabi, K.N. Houk et al., *Organic Letters*, **10**, 2255, (2008)

26

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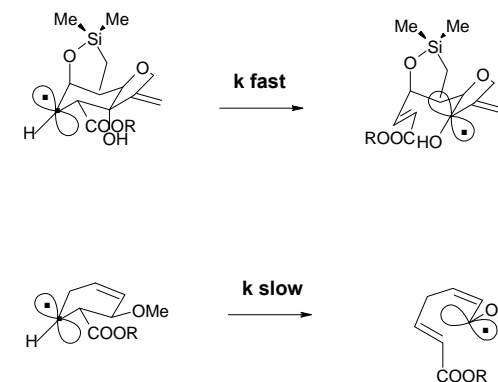
## Substituent Effect on Radical Cyclization-Rearrangement



27

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## Stereoelectronic Effects on Radical Rearrangement

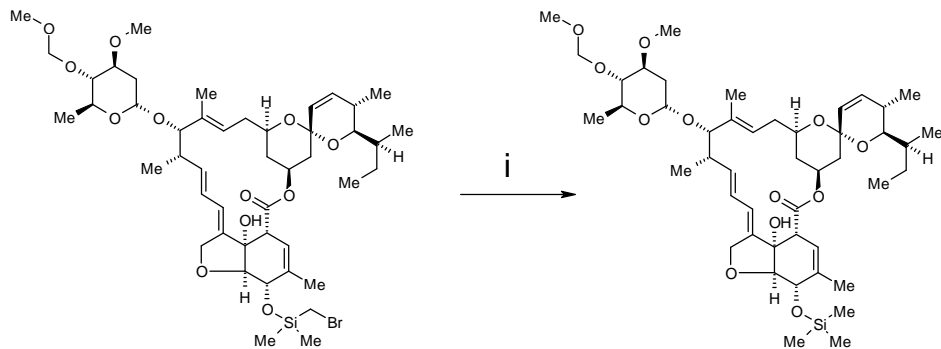


- In the tricyclic derivative stereoelectronic effects are all favouring C-C bond cleavage : p- $\sigma$  overlap in the initial radical and p- $\pi$  overlap in the incipient radical
- In contrast, in the monocyclic radical, only p- $\sigma$  overlap contributes to the weakening of the C-C bond. However, the incipient radical has its p orbital almost orthogonal to the  $\pi$  orbital of the C=C bond
- Both stereoelectronic effects are required for a fast C-C bond cleavage

28

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## 1-5 Hydrogen Atom Transfer Reaction

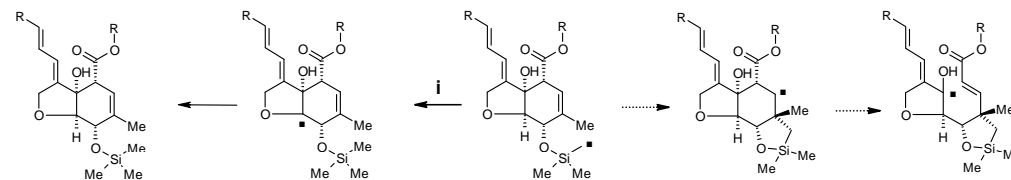


**i** = NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>, n-Bu<sub>3</sub>SnCl cat., AIBN, t-BuOH, reflux

29

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## 1-5 Hydrogen Atom Transfer Reaction

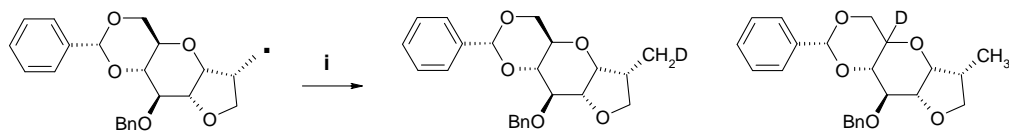


**i** = NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>, n-Bu<sub>3</sub>SnCl cat., AIBN, t-BuOH, reflux

30

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## 1-5 Hydrogen Atom Transfer Reaction



0.01M  
0.001M

21%  
3%

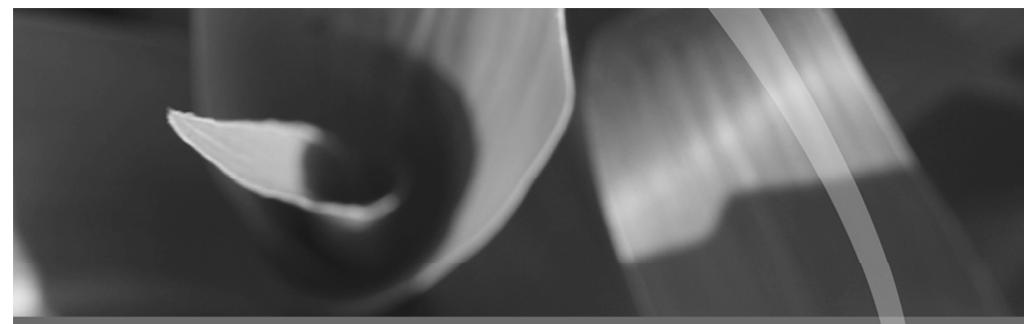
79%  
97% α:β = 1:3

**i** = n-Bu<sub>3</sub>SnD, AIBN, benzene, reflux

A. De Mesmaeker *et al.*, *Synlett*, 330, (1994)

31

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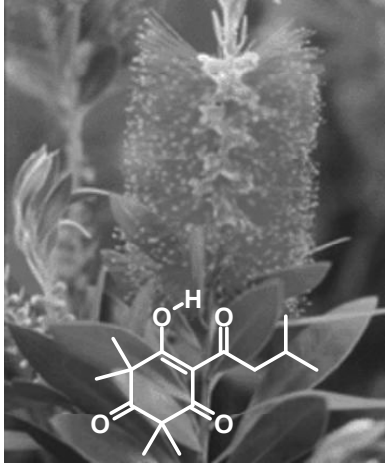
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**New Generation of 1,3-diones  
in HPPD Inhibitor Chemistry**



# Origin of the Project

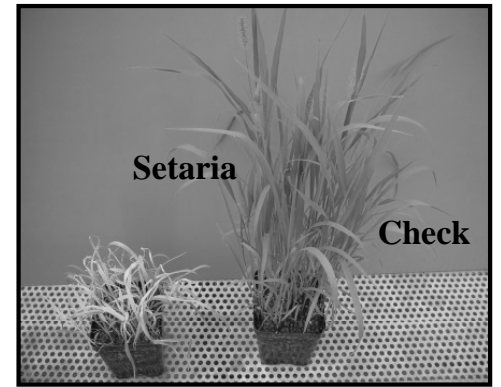
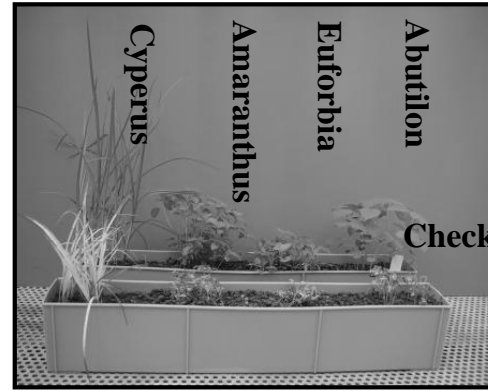
*Callistemon Citrinus*



Leptospermone

Hellyer, R. O.; Aust. J. Chem. (1968), 21(11), 2825-8  
 US Pat. Appl. 78-947217 (1978)

# Herbicidal Activity of Leptospermone

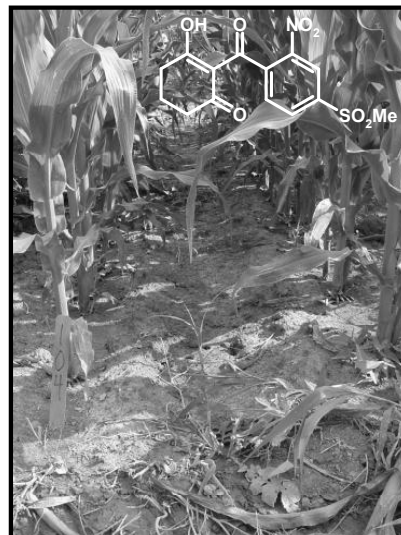


1000 g a.i. / ha post; 10 days after application

# Typical Selective Herbicide: Mesotrione

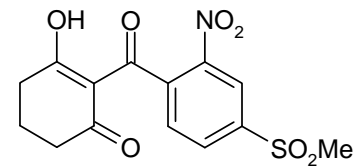


Untreated

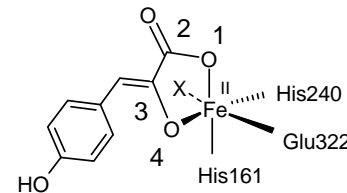


Mesotrione 150 g / ha post

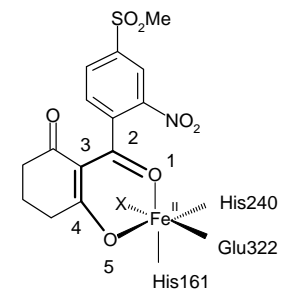
# Inhibitor Binding to the HPPD Enzyme



Mesotrione inhibits p-hydroxyphenyl pyruvate dioxigenase in carotenoids biosynthesis

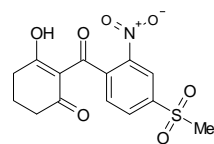


Natural substrate binding to HPPD

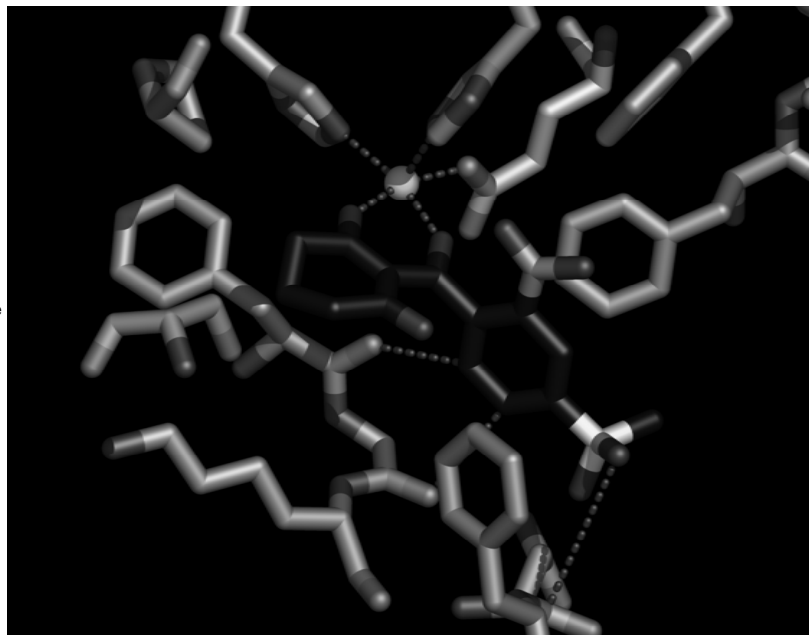


Inhibitor binding to HPPD

## X-Ray Structure of Mesotrione in HPPD Binding Site



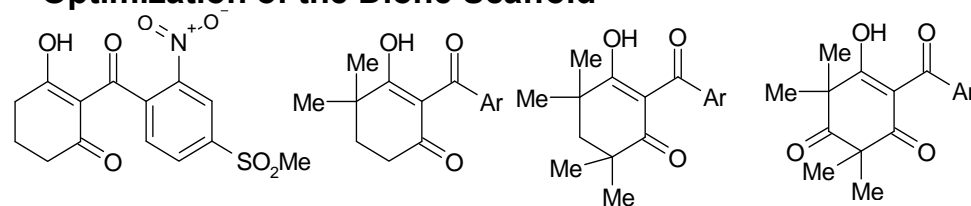
Mesotrione



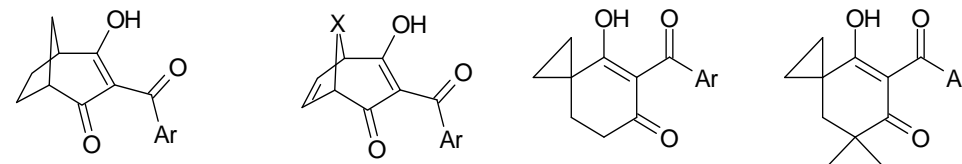
37

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## Optimization of the Dione Scaffold



First generation diones

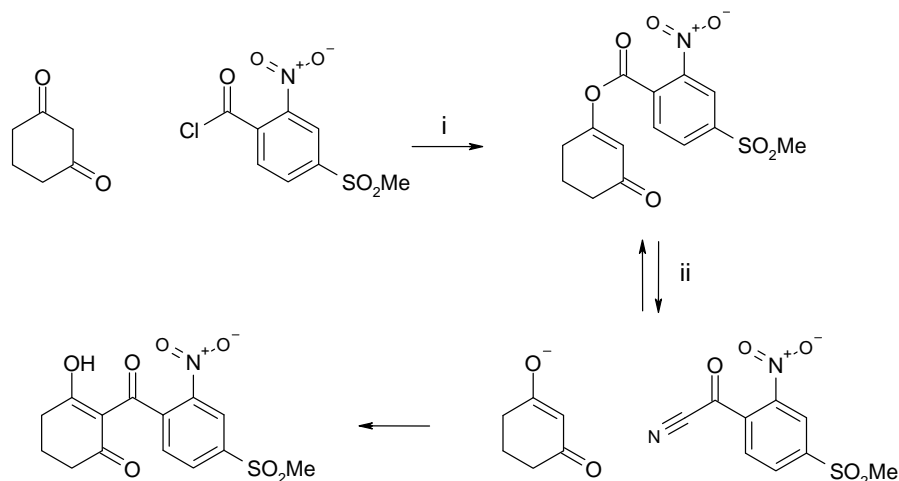


Second generation diones

38

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## Coupling of diones with Acid Chlorides



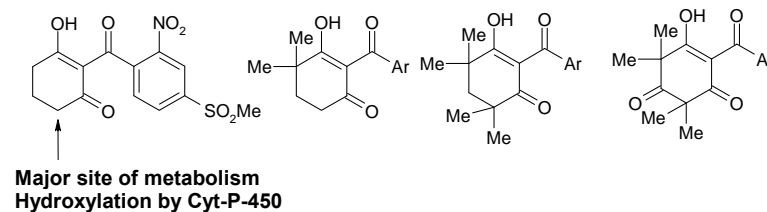
$pK_a = 2.92$   $\log P = 0.82$

i =  $NEt_3$ , MeCN, RT, ii = Acetone cyanohydrin cat., RT, 95%

39

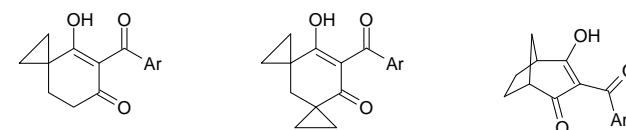
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## Optimization of the Dione Scaffold



Increasing Herbicidal Activity

Increasing Corn Selectivity

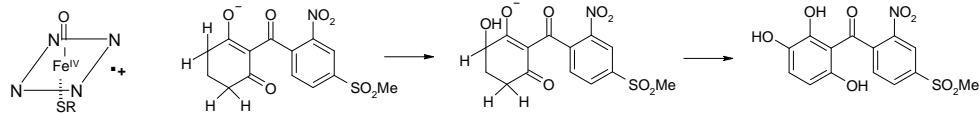


Optimal Activity/Corn Selectivity

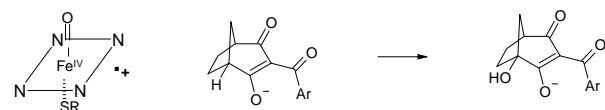
40

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## Cytochrome P450 Mediated Metabolism of Triones



Compound I P450



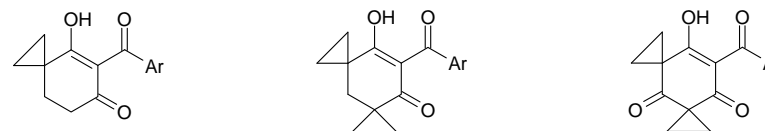
Compound I P450

Less favourable pathway  
Sterically, electronically  
and stereoelectronically

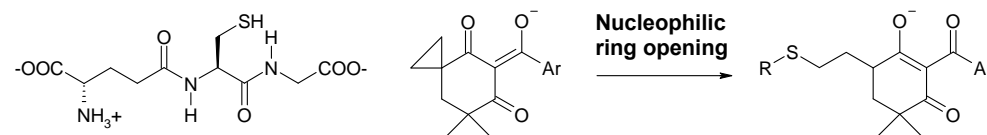
41

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## Dione Optimization for Corn Selectivity through Metabolism



Potentially as active as Di-,Tetra-Methyl diones and more corn selective due to metabolism/detoxification through ring opening with Glutathione

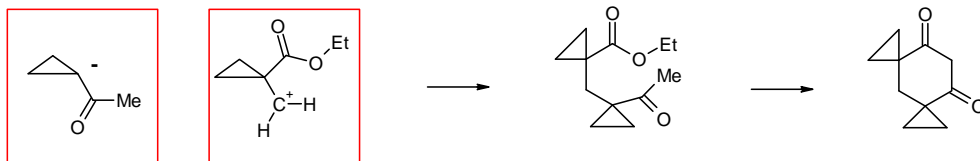


Glutathione

42

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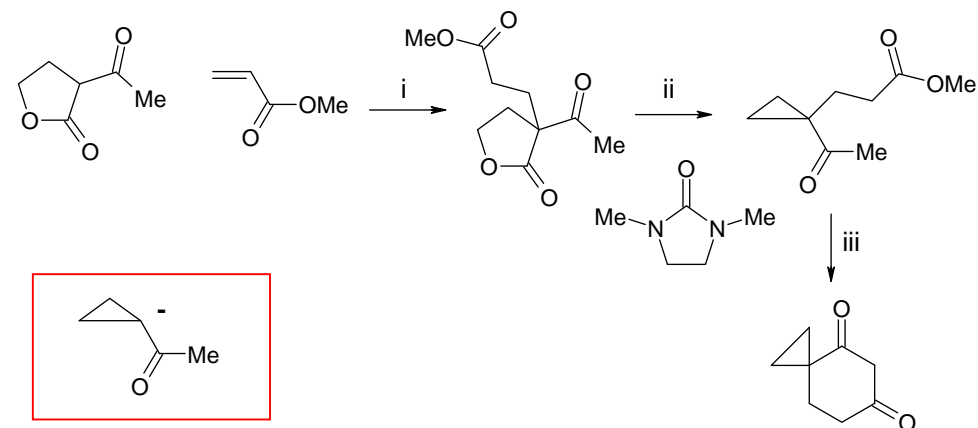
## Synthesis of Dispirocyclopropyl Dione



43

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## Synthesis of Spirocyclopropyl Dione

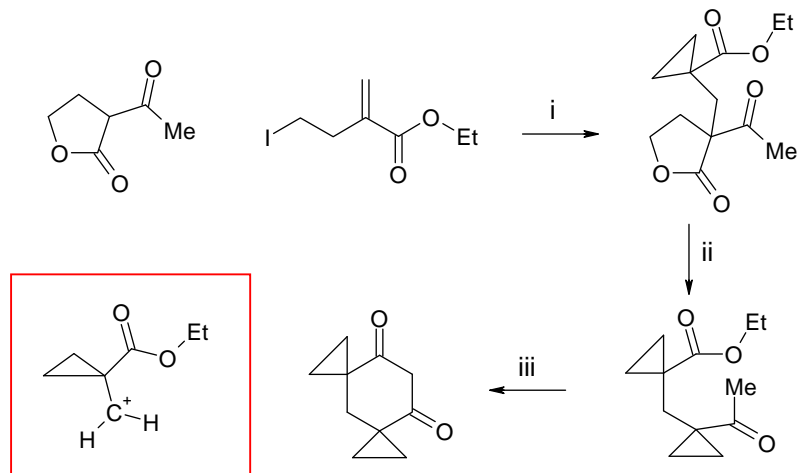


i = t BuONa, tBuOH, RT, 96%, ii = NaI, 190°C, 98%, iii = NaH, DMF:THF, RT, 50%

44

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## Synthesis of Dispirocyclopropyl Dione

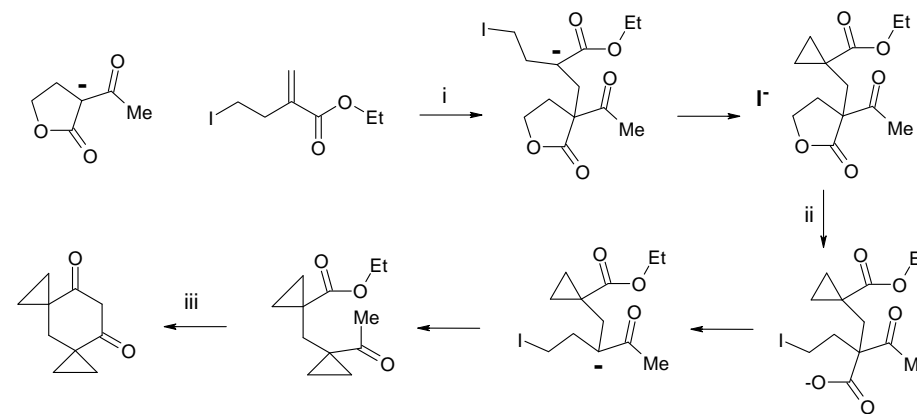


i = NaH , DMF, RT , 77%, ii = NaI , DMF, micro-wave, iii = NaH , DMF, RT , 3 steps one-pot 30%

45

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## Synthesis of Dispirocyclopropyl Dione

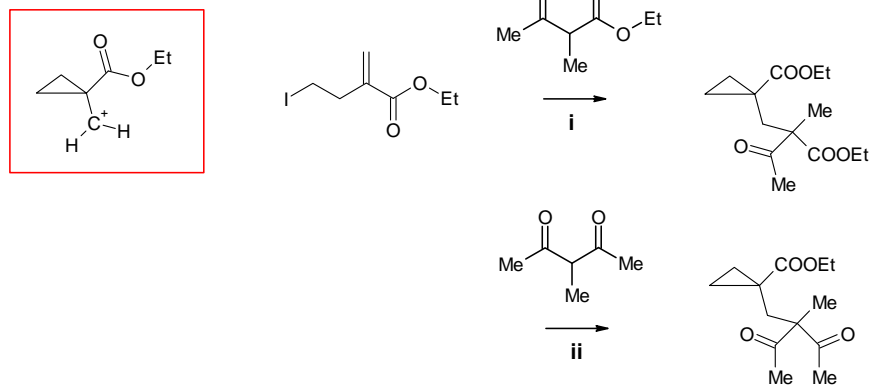


i = NaH , DMF, RT , 77%, ii = NaI , DMF, micro-wave, iii = NaH , DMF, RT , 3 steps one-pot 30%

46

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## Synthesis of Cyclopropyl Esters

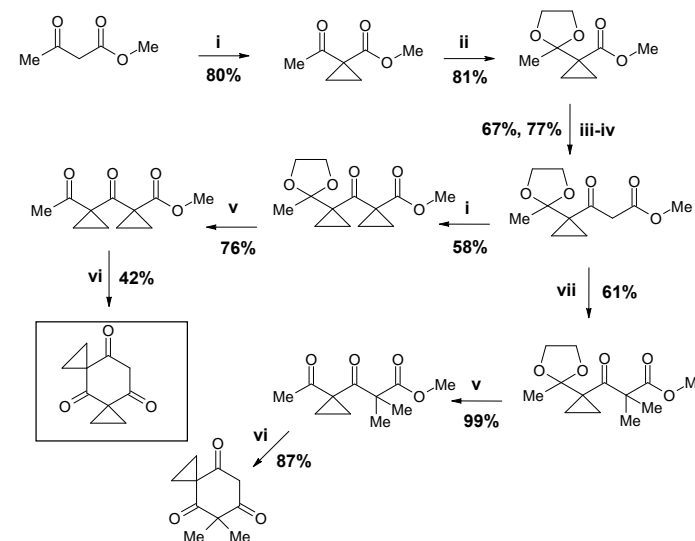


i = NaH , DMF, RT , 62%, ii = NaH , DMF, RT , 76%

47

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## Synthesis of Di-Spirocyclopropyl Trione

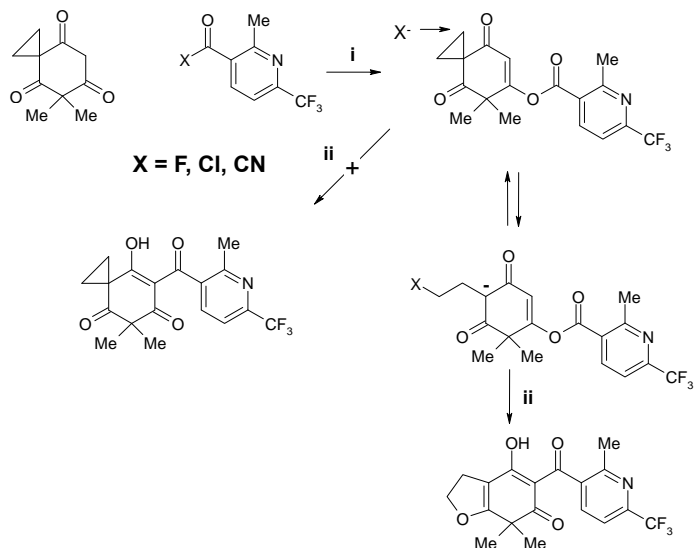


i = Br-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-Br, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, acetone, reflux, ii = HO-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-OH, TsOH.pyridine, toluene, reflux, iii = NaOAc, EtOH, RT, iv = SOCl<sub>2</sub>, MeCO<sub>2</sub>Me, LiHMDS, THF, -78°C, v = TsOH.pyridine, acetone:H<sub>2</sub>O, reflux, vi = MeONa, toluene:DMF, reflux, vii = NaH, MeI, THF, RT

48

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## Coupling of Spirocyclopropyl Trione

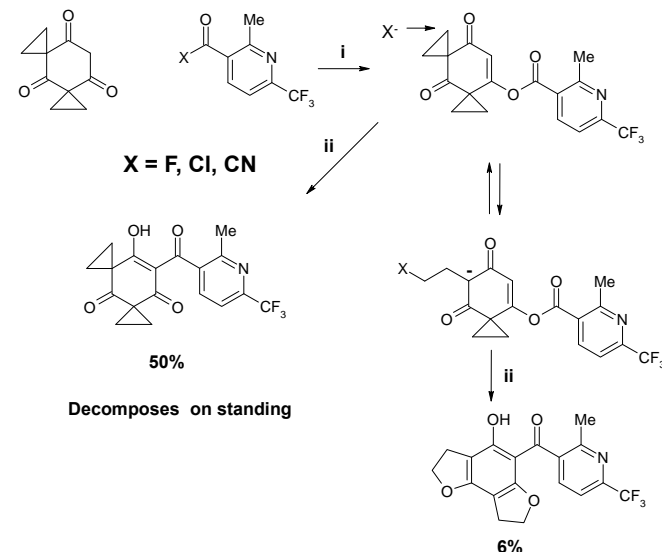


i =  $\text{NEt}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , RT, ii =  $\text{NEt}_3$ , Acetone Cyanohydrin cat., MeCN, RT, 29%

49

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## Coupling of Di-Spirocyclopropyl Trione

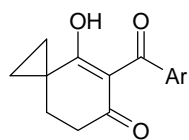


i =  $\text{NEt}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , RT, ii =  $\text{NEt}_3$ , Acetone Cyanohydrin cat., MeCN, RT, 29%

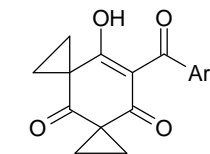
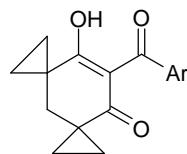
50

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## Dione Optimization for Corn Selectivity through Metabolism

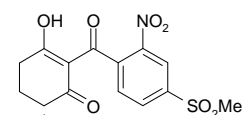


Among the most promising diones for weed control and corn selectivity  
Comparable to bicyclic diones

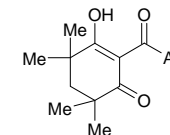


Too labile to be used in the field

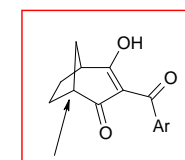
## Optimization of the Dione Scaffold



Major site of metabolism  
Hydroxylation by Cyt-P450  
in Corn



Improved Herbicidal Activity  
Lower Corn Selectivity



Partially Protected from Cyt-P450 Metabolism in Corn

Syngenta Bicyclic Dione  
Optimal Activity/Corn Selectivity  
Improved Residual Activity in Soil

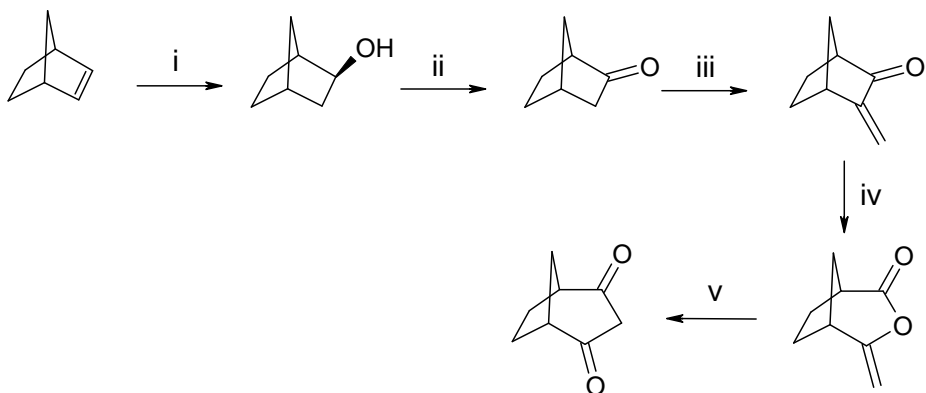
51

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52

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## Synthesis of Bicyclic Dione

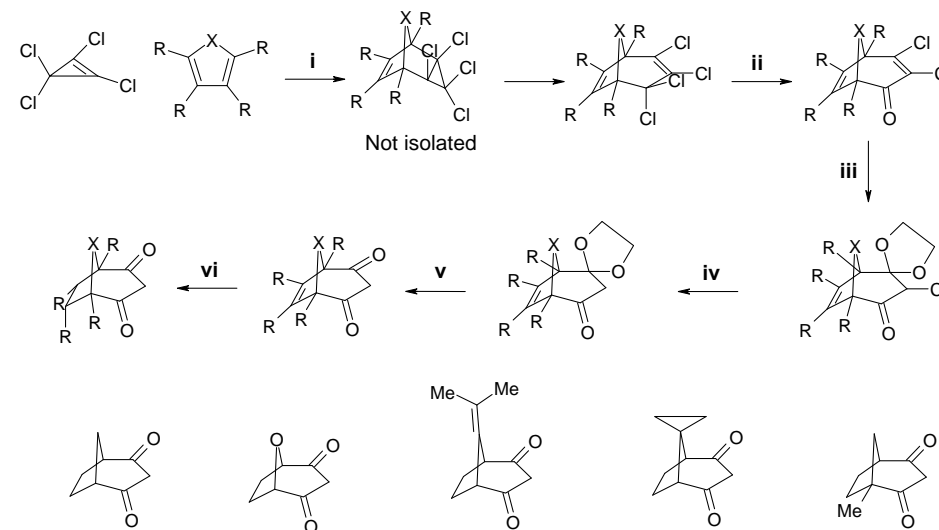


i =  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  aq.,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ , ii =  $\text{NaOCl}$ ,  $30^\circ\text{C}$ , 2 steps 95%, iii =  $\text{CH}_2=\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{HNET}_2$ ,  $\text{AcOH}$ ,  $100^\circ\text{C}$ , iv =  $\text{Me-CO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ , RT, 2 steps = 68%, v =  $\text{NaOMe}$ , toluene:  $\text{DMF}$ ,  $110^\circ\text{C}$ , 85%

53

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## Synthesis of Novel Bicyclic Dione

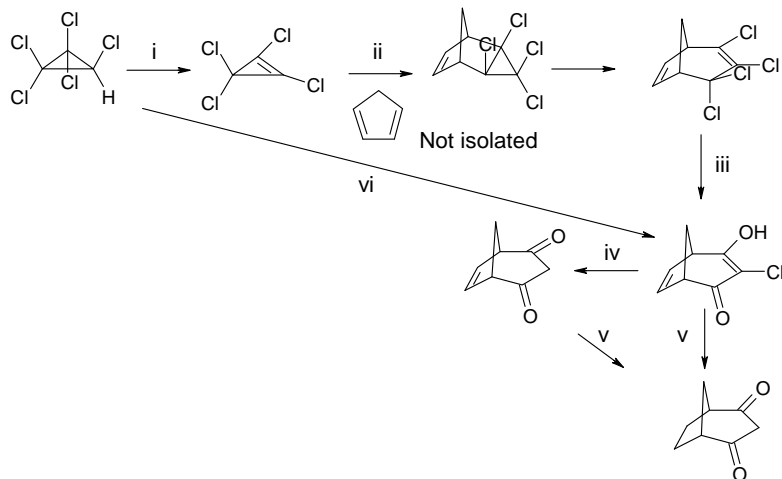


i = toluene,  $50-100^\circ\text{C}$ , ii =  $\text{AgNO}_3$ , acetone: $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $70^\circ\text{C}$ , iii =  $\text{NaH}$ , ethylene glycol,  $\text{THF}$ , RT, iv =  $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnH}$ ,  $\text{AIBN}$ , toluene, reflux, v =  $\text{TsOH}$ .pyridine, acetone: $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , reflux, vi =  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{Pd-C}$ ,  $\text{AcOEt}$ , RT

54

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## Improved One-Pot Synthesis of Bicyclic Diones

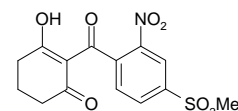


i =  $\text{KOH}$ , toluene, RT, quantitative, ii = toluene, reflux, 95%, iii =  $\text{NaOH}$ , dioxane, reflux, 92%, iv =  $\text{Zn}$ ,  $\text{AcOH}$ ,  $60^\circ\text{C}$ , 85%, v =  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{Pd/C}$ ,  $\text{AcOH}$ , RT, 97%, vi =  $\text{KOH}$  anhydrous, vi =  $\text{KOH}$ , toluene, reflux, one-pot 68%

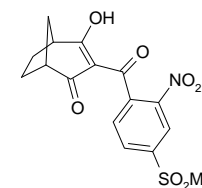
55

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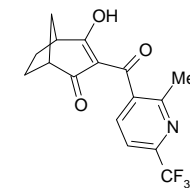
## Optimization of the Benzoic Acid Scaffold



Mesotrione  
Syngenta Selective Herbicide  
in Corn



Selective Herbicides in Corn



Novel Nicotinic Triones

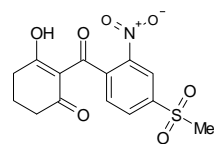
Increasing Herbicidal Activity  
On Monocots and Dicots Weeds



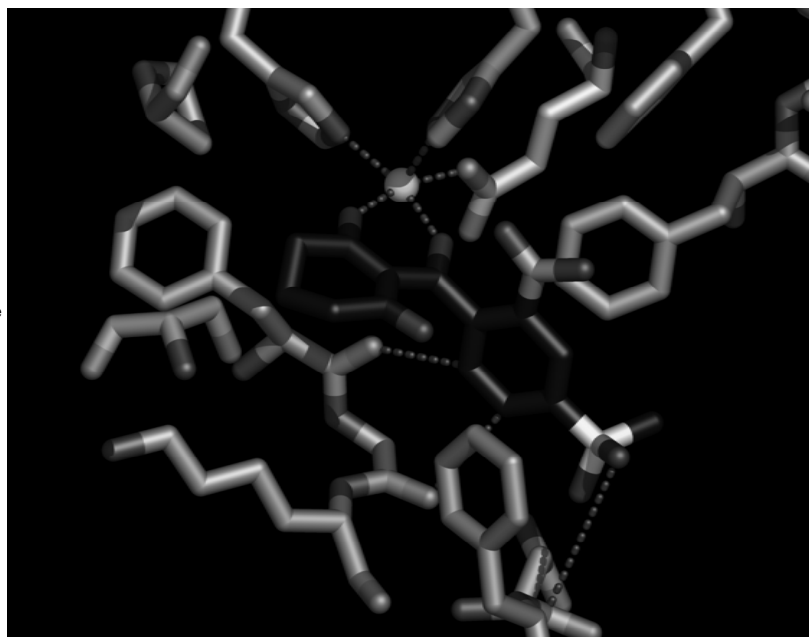
56

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## X-Ray Structure of Mesotrione in HPPD Binding Site



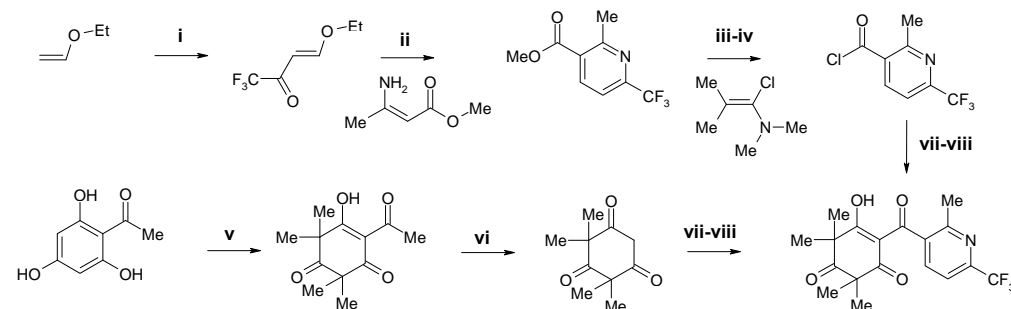
Mesotrione



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57

## Synthesis of Pyridines as Benzoic Acids Replacement

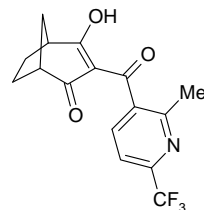


i =  $\text{CF}_3\text{-CO-O-CO-CF}_3$ , pyridine,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 97%, ii =  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  cat., toluene, reflux, 75%, iii =  $\text{LiOH}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{MeOH}$ , 98%, iv = chloroamine,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 99%, v =  $\text{NaOH}$ ,  $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}_4$ , vi =  $\text{HCl}$  aq., 50% 2 steps, vii =  $\text{NEt}_3$ ,  $\text{MeCN}$ , RT, viii = acetone cyanohydrine cat., RT, 72% 2 steps

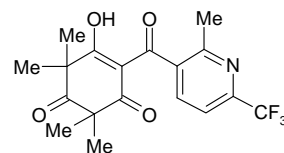
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58

## Optimized Diones and Nicotinic Acids for Selective and Non-Selective Applications



Optimal Activity/Corn Selectivity

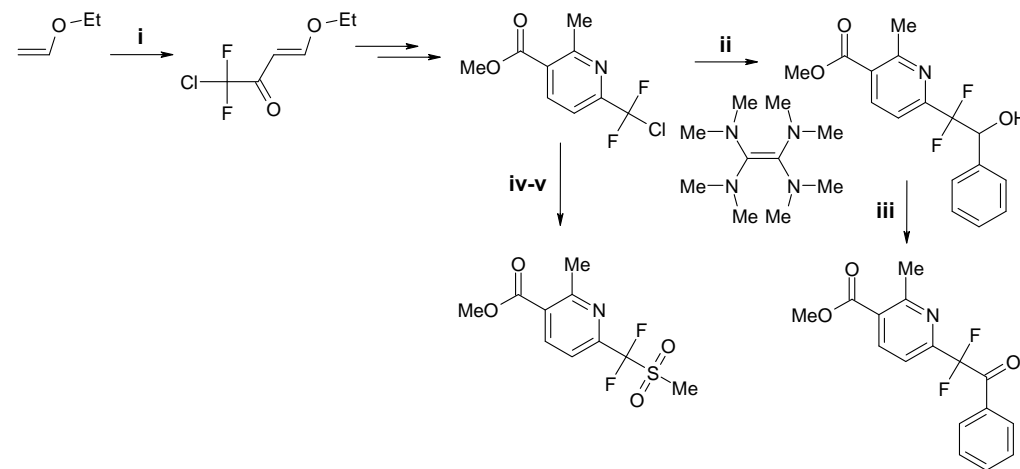


Optimal Non-Selective Activity

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59

## Synthesis of Pyridines as Benzoic Acids Replacement

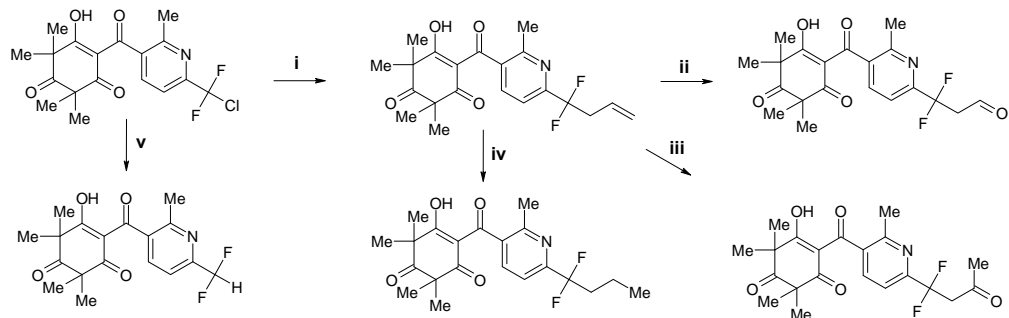


i =  $\text{ClCF}_2\text{-CO-O-CO-CF}_2\text{Cl}$ , pyridine,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 97%, ii =  $\text{Ph-CHO}$ ,  $\text{DMF}$ , RT, 75%, iii =  $n\text{-PropNRuO}_4$  cat.,  $N\text{-methylmorpholine oxide}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 4Å, RT, 70%, iv =  $\text{MeSNa}$ ,  $\text{DMF}$ , RT, 82%, v =  $\text{MeCO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 86%

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60

## Synthesis of Pyridines as Benzoic Acids Replacement

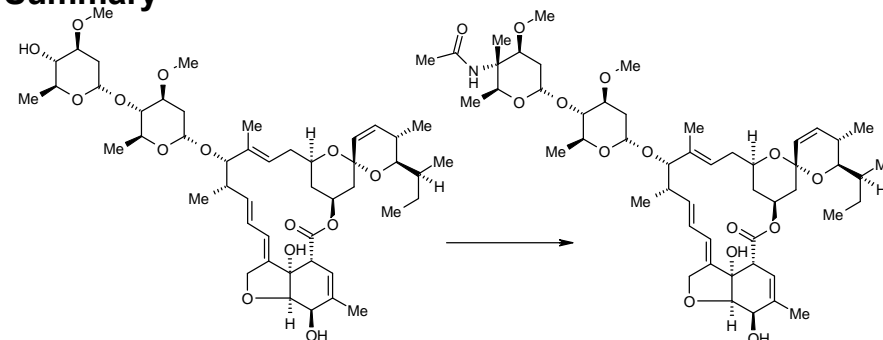


i =  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{SnBu}_3$ , toluene, AIBN cat.,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ , 65%, ii =  $\text{OsO}_4$  cat.,  $\text{NaIO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{dioxane}$ , 60%, iii =  $\text{CuCl}$ ,  $\text{PdCl}_2$  cat.,  $\text{O}_2$ , DMF,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 71%, iv =  $\text{H}_2$ , Pd/C, MeOH, 95%, v =  $(\text{Me}_3\text{Si})_3\text{SiH}$ , toluene, AIBN cat.,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ , 85%

61

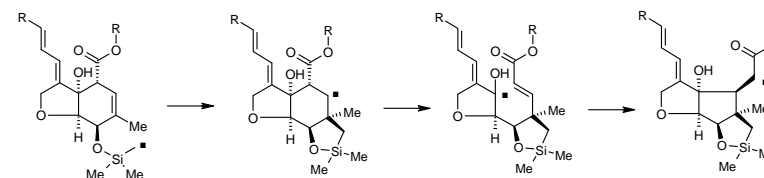
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## Summary



Abamectin

Highly Active Mectin

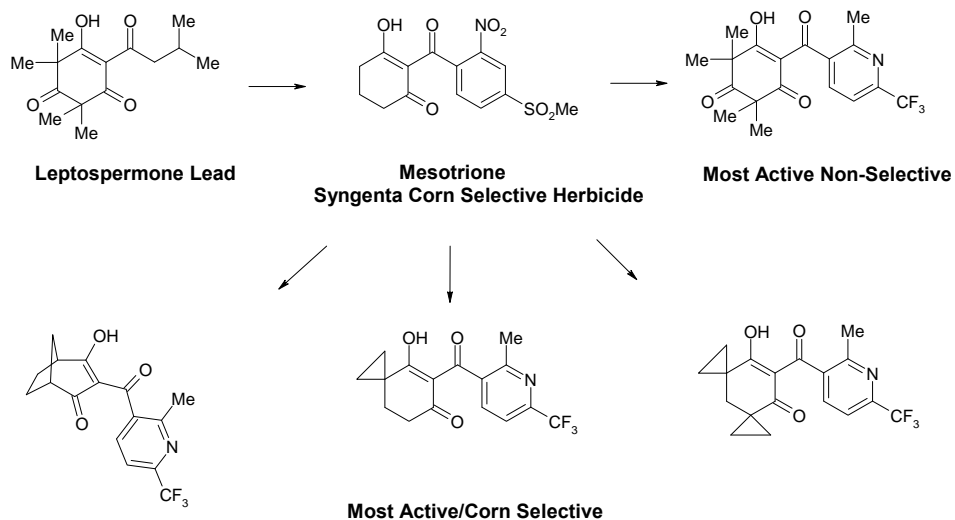


New Radical Rearrangement

62

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## Summary



63

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## Acknowledgements

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HPPD Inhibitors Chemistry

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64

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