

The Chemistry and Biology of Epothilones

Karl-Heinz Altmann

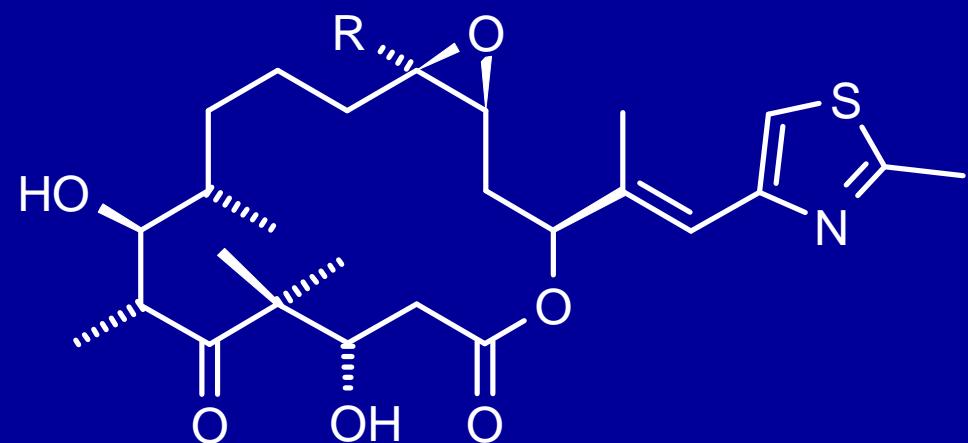
Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, ETH Zürich

ISCHIA SCHOOL OF ADVANCED
ORGANIC CHEMISTRY (IASOC)

Ischia, Sept. 16 - 21

Epothilones - 16-Membered Macrolides from Gliding Bacteria

ETH



$R = H:$ Epothilone A

$R = CH_3:$ Epothilone B

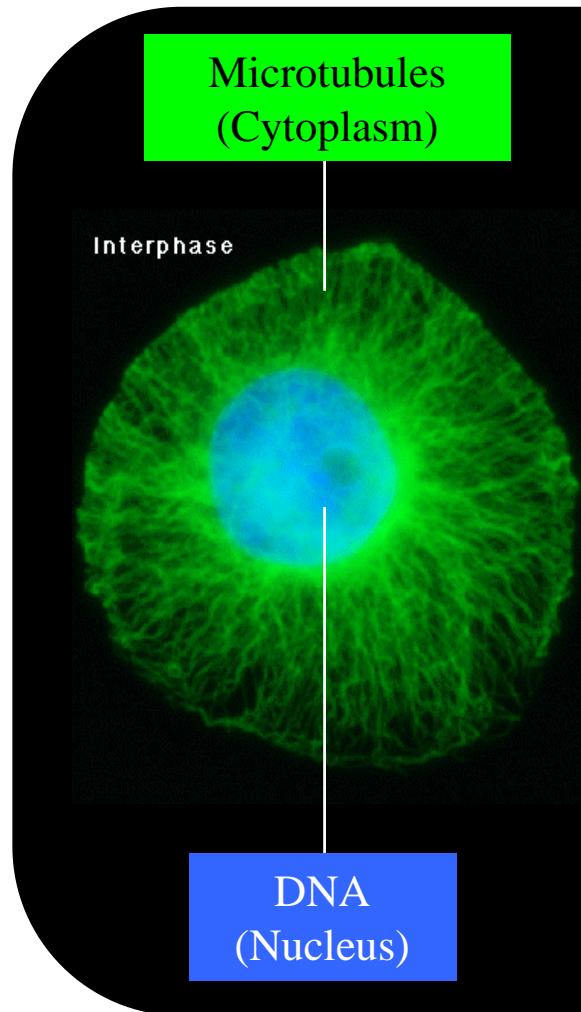
From myxobacterium *Sorangium cellulosum Soce90*:

- Reichenbach et al., 1993, 1996
- Bollag et al., 1995

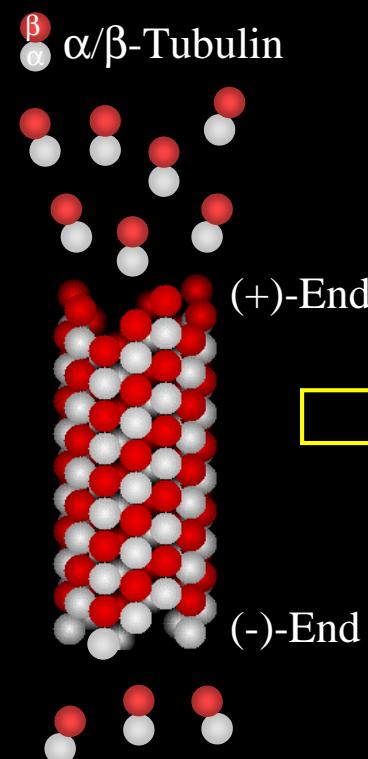
Cytoskeleton and Microtubule Structure

ETH

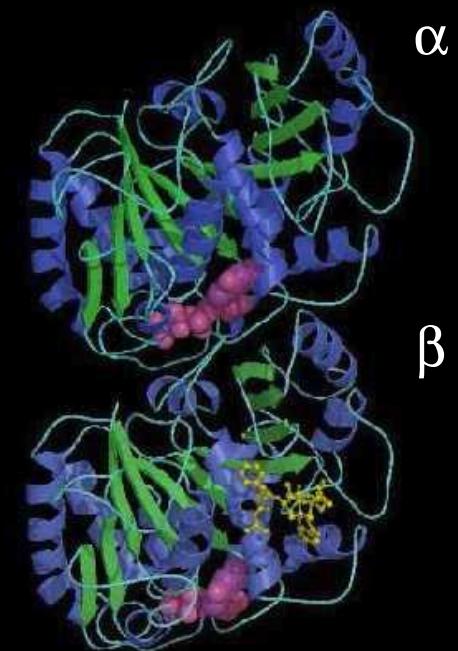
Microtubules and the Cytoskeleton



Microtubule Structure and Dynamic Instability



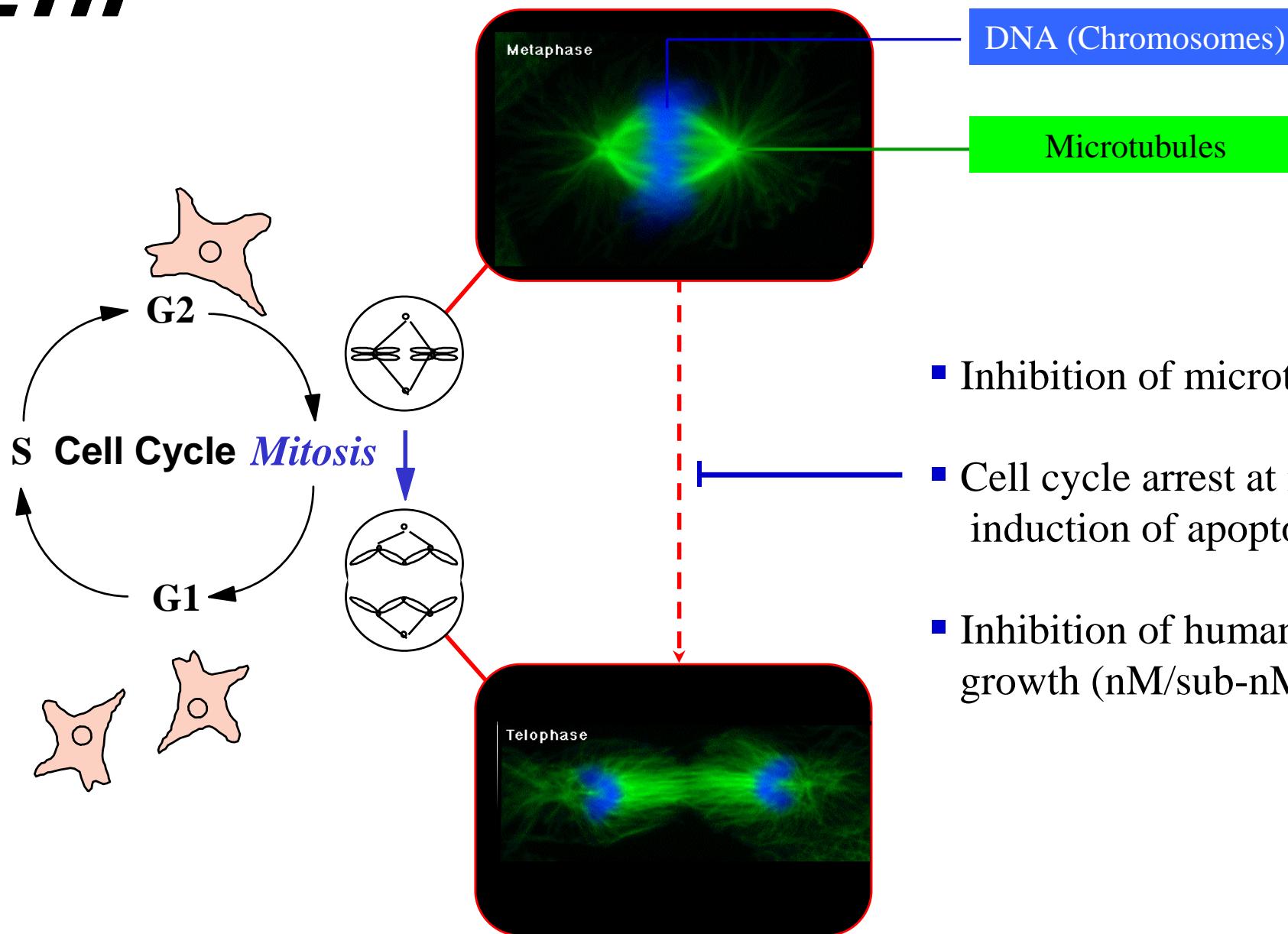
Tubulin Structure



E. Nogales et al.,
Nature **1998**, *391*, 199 (3.5 Å, Taxol).
J. H. Nettles et al.,
Science **2004**, *305*, 866 (2.9 Å, Epo A).

Taxol and Epothilones - G2/M Arrest and Induction of Apoptosis

ETH



- Inhibition of microtubule dynamics
- Cell cycle arrest at mitosis and induction of apoptosis (nM)
- Inhibition of human cancer cell growth (nM/sub-nM IC₅₀s)

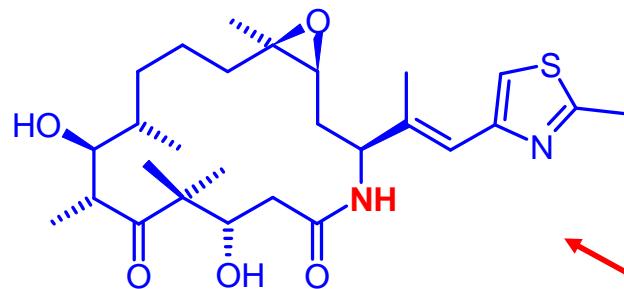
Epothilones - Growth Inhibition of Human Cancer Cell Lines

ETH

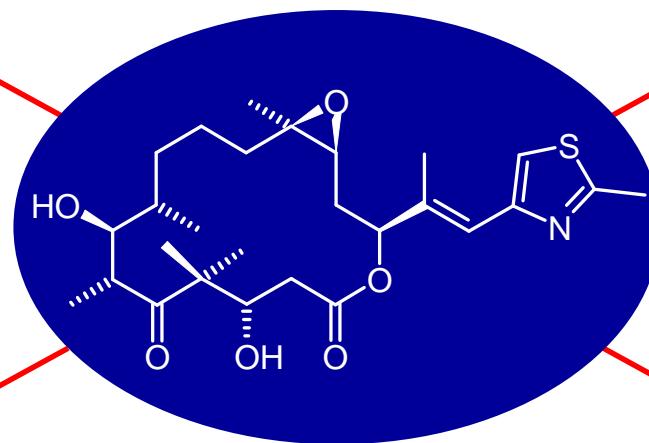
		IC₅₀ [nM]		
Cell Line		Epothilone B	Epothilone A	Taxol
A-549	(Lung)	0.23	2.67	3.19
Du145	(Prostate)	0.31	4.86	2.79
HCT-116	(Colon)	0.32	2.51	1.66
MCF-7	(Breast)	0.18	1.49	1.80
MCF-7/ADR	(Breast, MDR)	2.92	27.5	9105
KB-31	(Epidermoid)	0.19	2.10	2.31
KB-8511	(Epidermoid, MDR)	0.19	1.90	533

Epothilone-Derived Agents – Compounds in Clinical Development

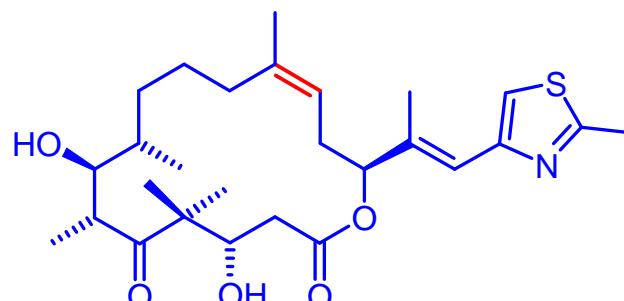
ETH



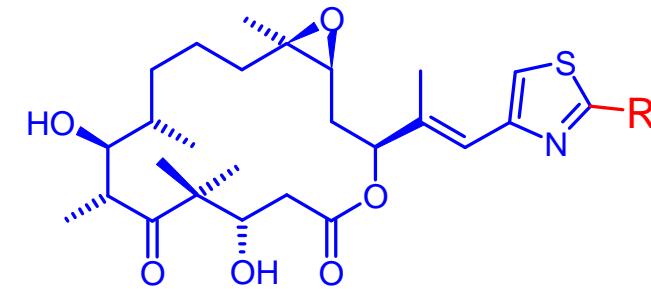
**BMS-247550
(ixabepilone)**
BMS, Phase I/II/III



**EPO906 (= Epo B)
(patupilone)**
Novartis, Phase II/III



Epo D (KOS-862):
Roche/Kosan, Phase II



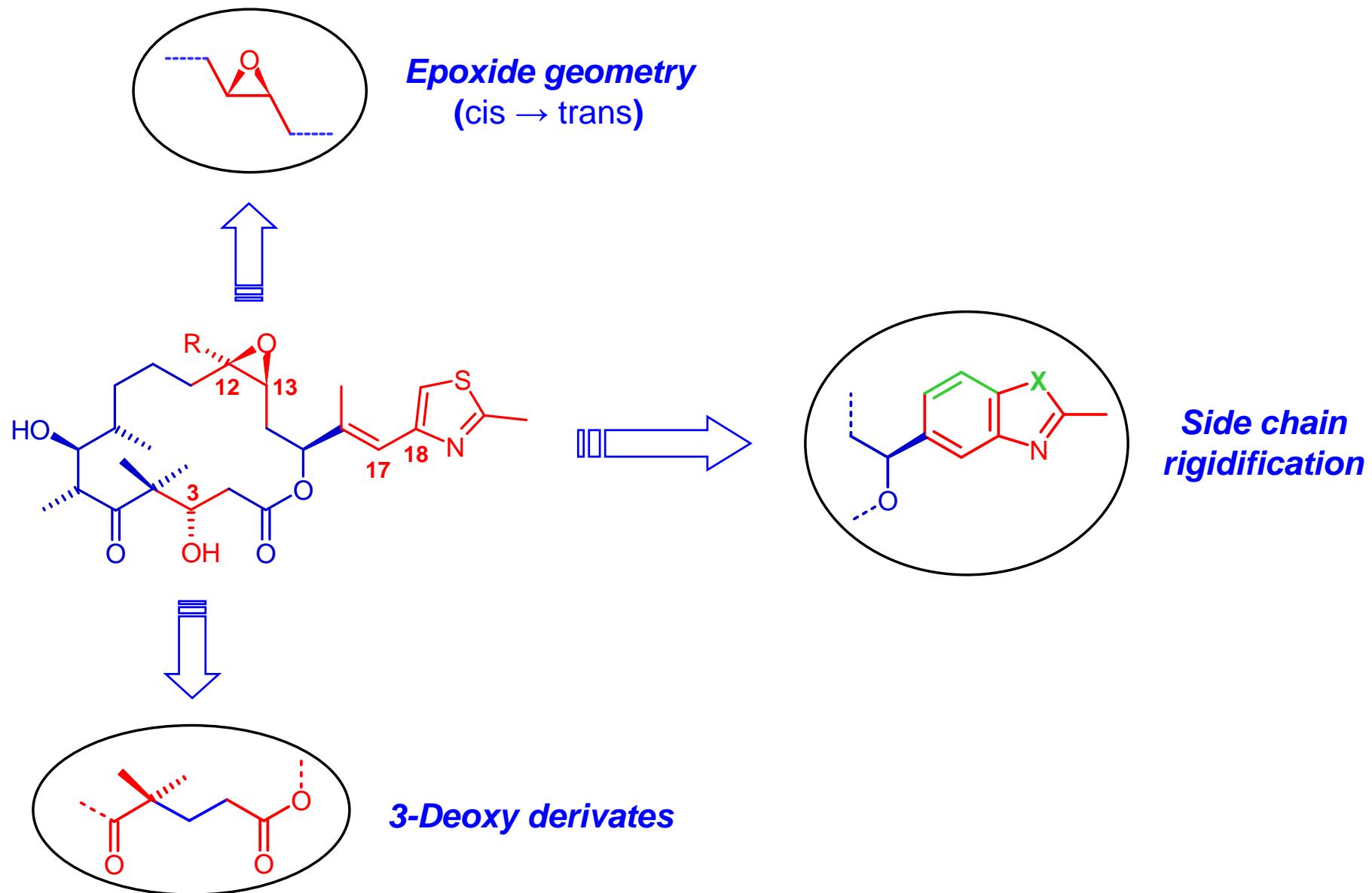
R = CH₂NH₂: BMS-310705
BMS, Phase I
R = SH₃: ABJ879
BMS, Phase I

**Trans-9,10-DidehydroEpo D
(KOS-1584)**
Roche/Kosan, Phase I

ZK-EPO (unknown structure)
Schering AG, Phase I/II

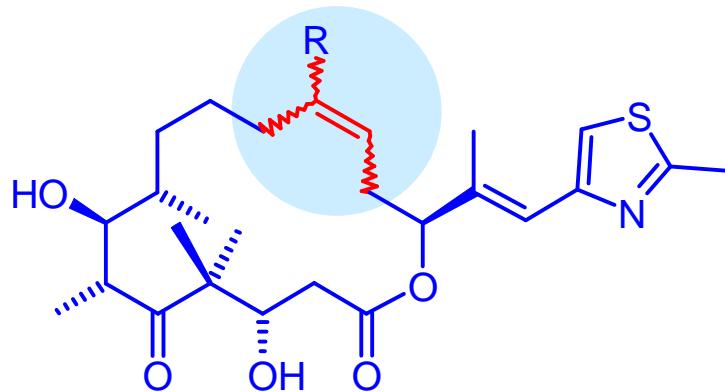
Evolving New Scaffolds for Microtubule Stabilization - Structural Entry Points

ETH



Deoxyepothilone SAR - Cis vs Trans Olefins

ETH

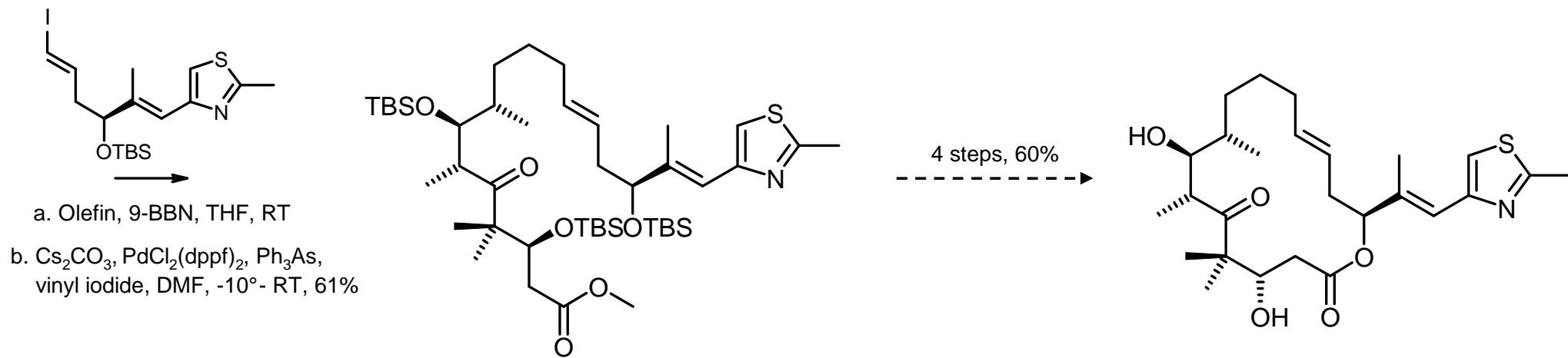
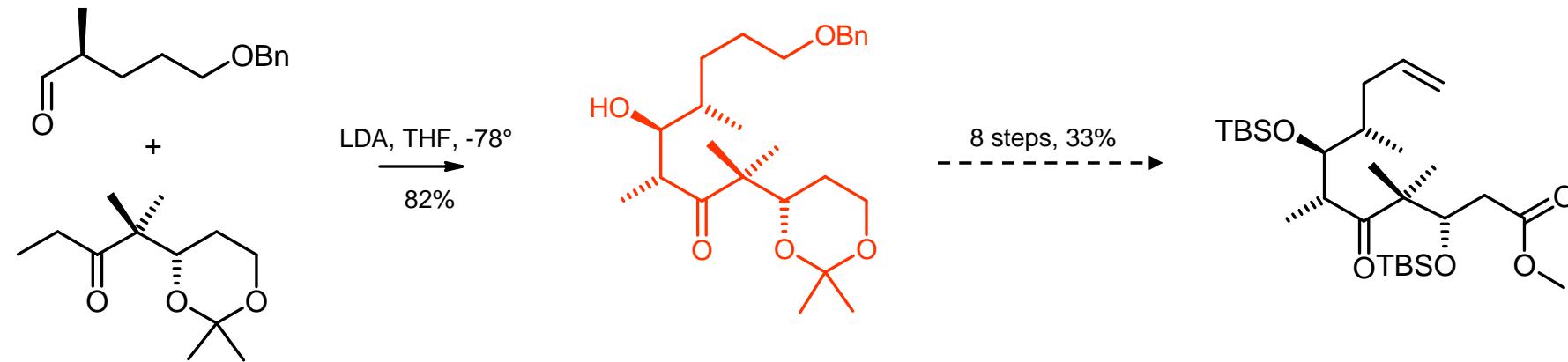


%Tubulin Polymerization	IC_{50} KB-31 [nM]	IC_{50} KB-8511 [nM]
	50	25
	48	52
	93	2.70
	38	34

For first studies on *trans*-deoxyepothilones cf.: S. J. Danishefsky *et al.*, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1997**, *36*, 757.

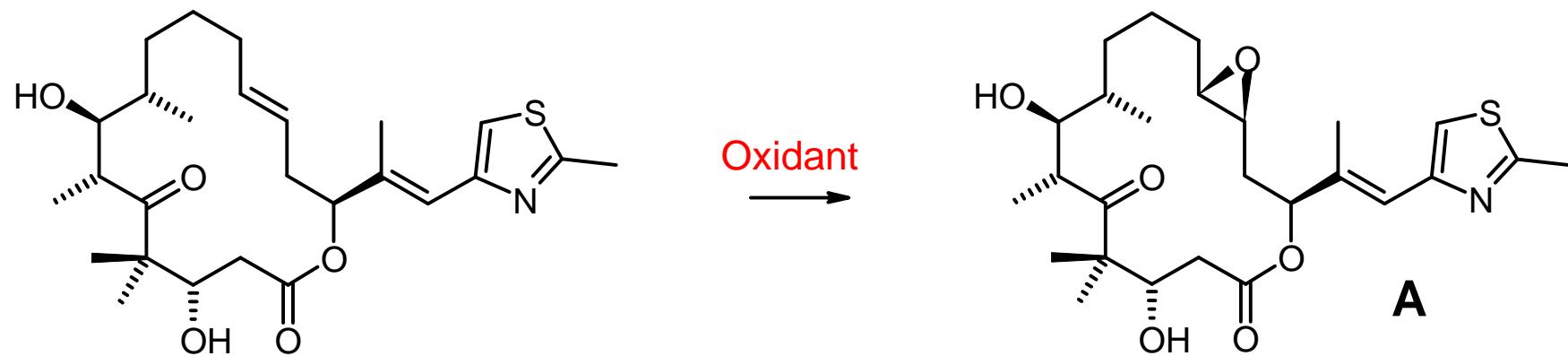
Total Synthesis of trans-Epothilone A – trans-Deoxy-Epothilone A

ETH

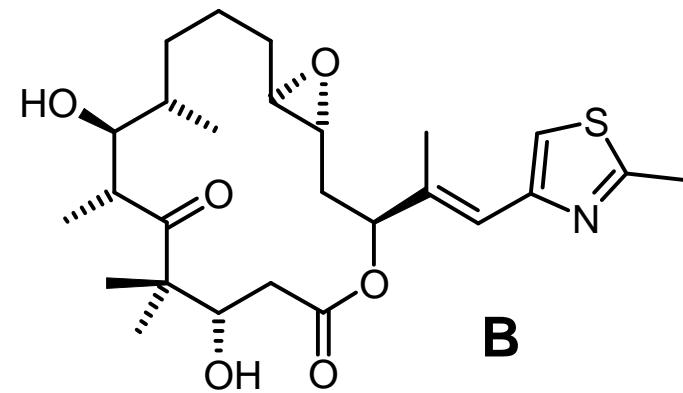


trans-Epothilone A - Epoxidation Selectivity

ETH



Oxidant	A : B	Yield (A + B)
 /oxone	1 : 1	28%
MCPBA	1 : 1	N.D.
 /oxone	8 : 1	27% [54%*]



*Based on recovered starting material

Epothilone SAR - Assessment of Biological Activity

ETH

❖ **Induction of tubulin polymerization**

- Polymerization of MAP-rich porcine tubulin at pH 6.8 and 2 μM compound concentration.
- Percent polymerization relative to the effect of 25 μM Epothilone B.

 “% Tubulin Polymerization”

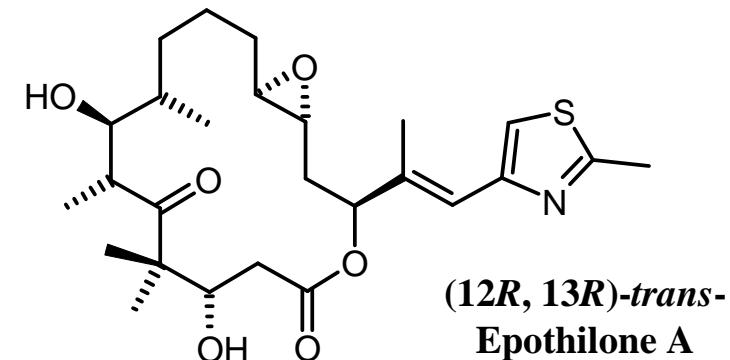
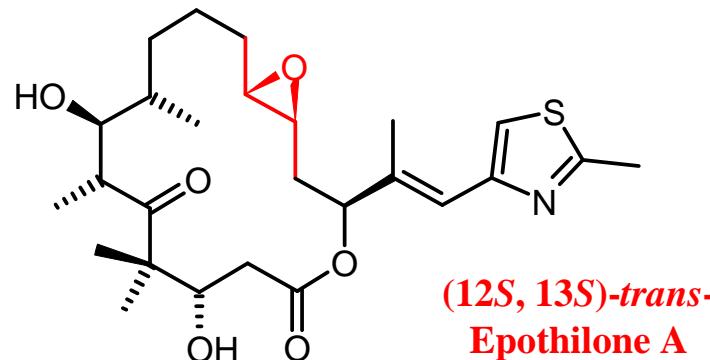
❖ **Cytotoxicity against KB-31 and KB-8511 (P-gp-overexpressing) cells**

- Growth inhibition after 72h continuous exposure.

 “IC₅₀ KB-31 (KB-8511)”

Trans-Epothilones A - In vitro Profile

ETH

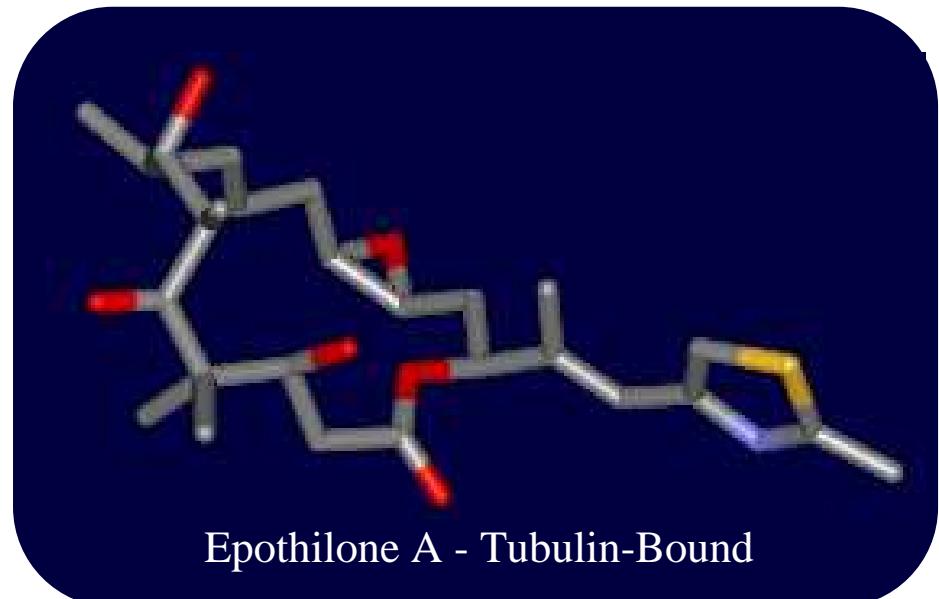
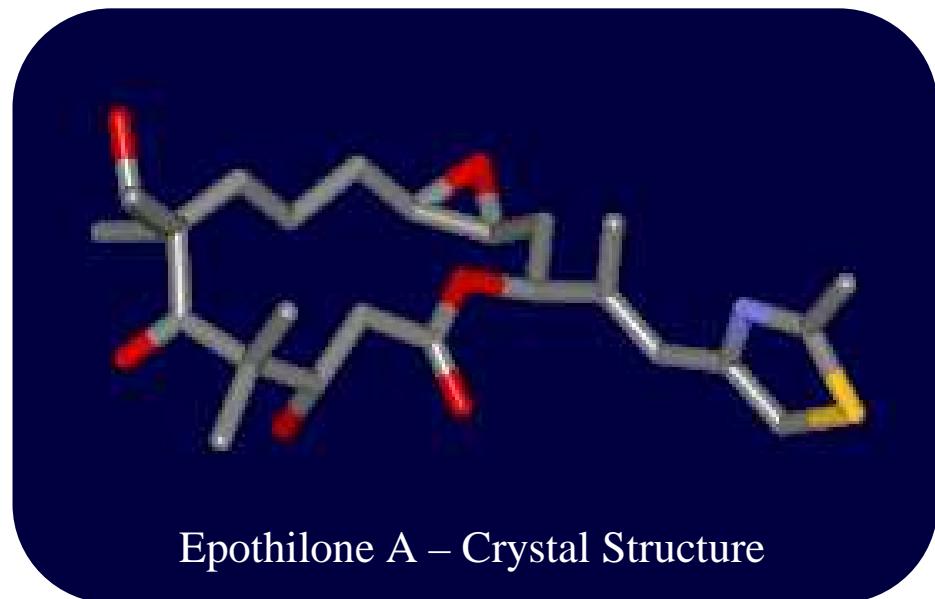
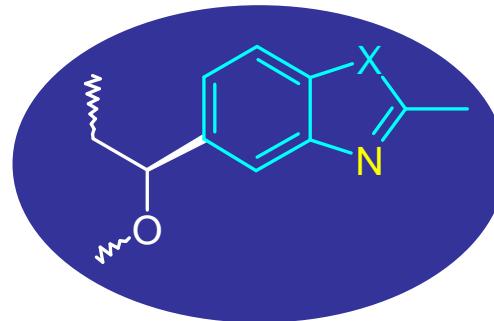


 EC ₅₀ Tubulin Polym. [μM]*	Growth inhibition (IC ₅₀ [nM])			
	KB-31	KB-8511	PC3-M	HCT-116
 (Epo A)	2.64	0.19	0.19	0.53
 (Epo B)	4.95	2.00	1.79	4.30
 (12S, 13S- trans-Epo A)	3.86	1.00	0.87	2.15
 (12R, 13R- trans-Epo A)	>50	523	305	N.D.

*Concentration required to induce 50% tubulin polymerization

Epothilone A - Bioactive Conformation

ETH

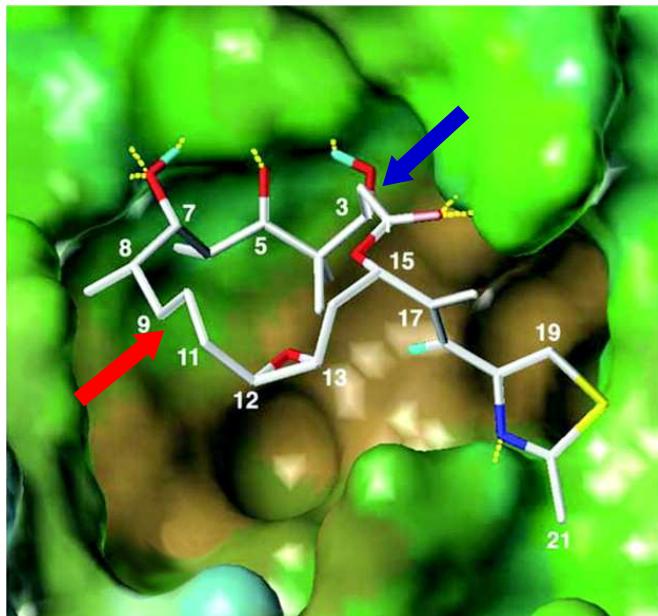


T. Carlomagno, M. J. J. Blommers, J. Meiler, W. Jahnke, T. Schupp, F. Petersen, D. Schinzer, K.-H. Altmann, C. Griesinger
Angew. Chem. **2003**, *115*, 2615 - 2619.

Epothilone A – Putative Bioactive Conformations

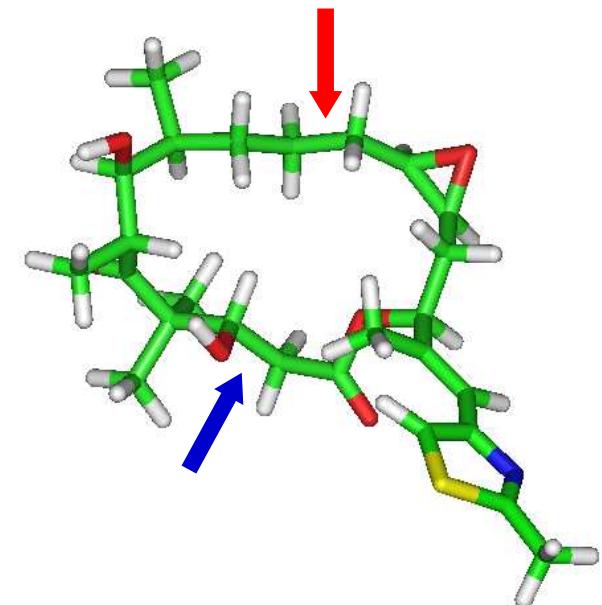
ETH

**Electron crystallography &
NMR analysis**

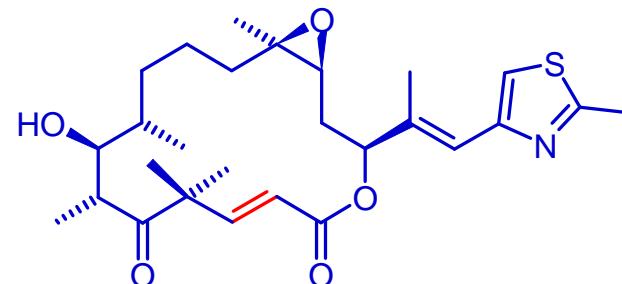


Nettles *et al.*,
Science **2004**, 305, 866-869.

Liquid state NMR



Carlomagno *et al.*,
Angew. Chem. **2003**, 115, 2615-2619.

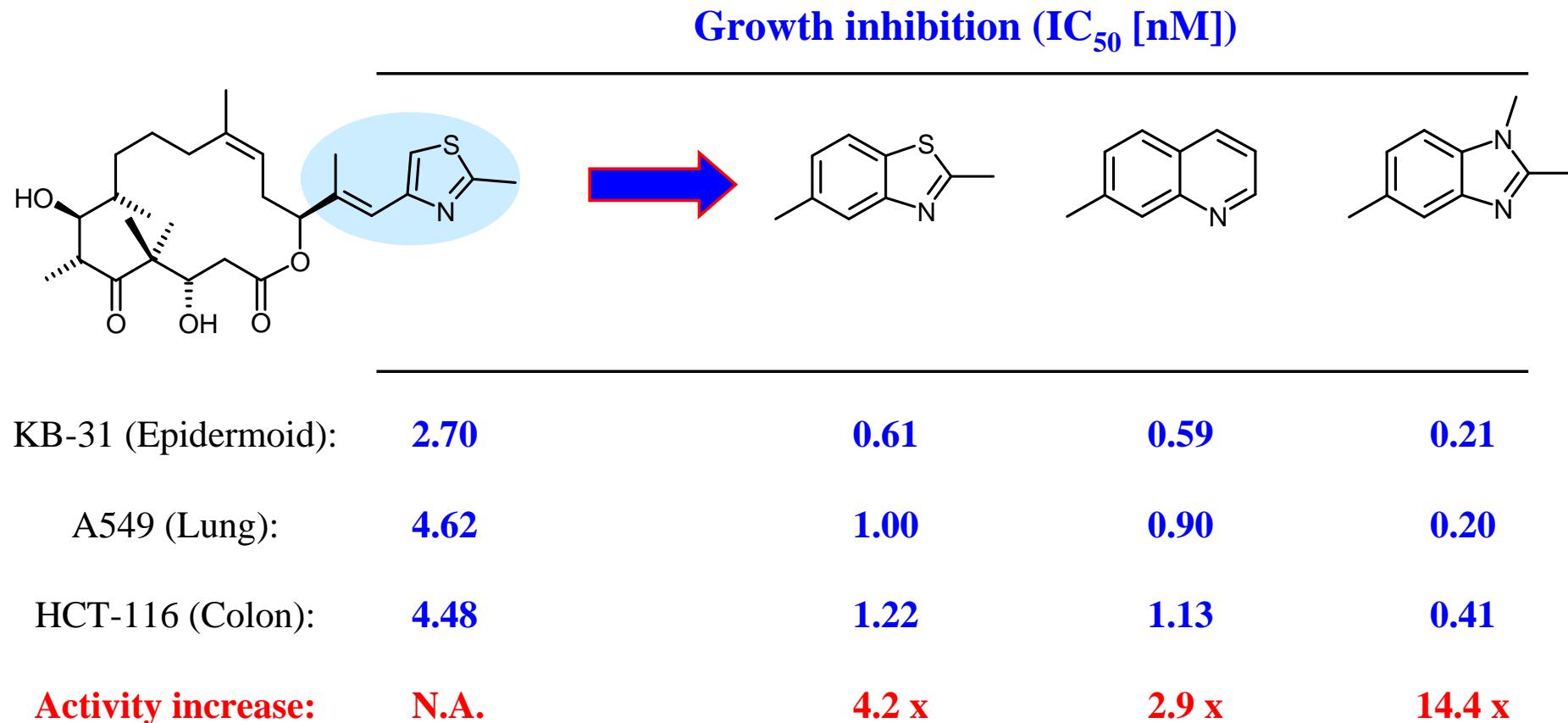


**79% Tubulin polymerization
 IC_{50} (KB-31): 1.81 nM**

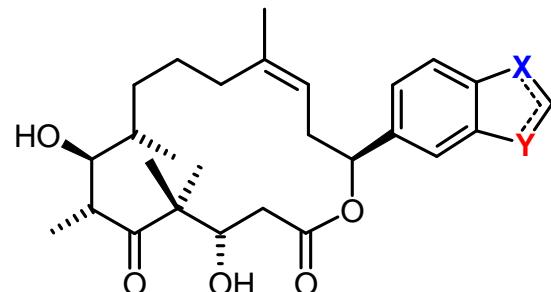
A. Flörsheimer, M. Wartmann, K.-H. Altmann, unpublished.
Cf. also: A. Regueiro-Ren *et al.*, *Org. Lett.* **2002**, 4, 3815-3818.

Epothilone D Analogs with Constrained Side Chains

ETH



Epothilone Analogs with Constrained Side Chains – How important is the Position of the Nitrogen ?



X = S, Y = N

**EC₅₀ Tubulinpol.
[μM]**

1.02

**IC₅₀ [nM]
HCT-116
A549**

1.22

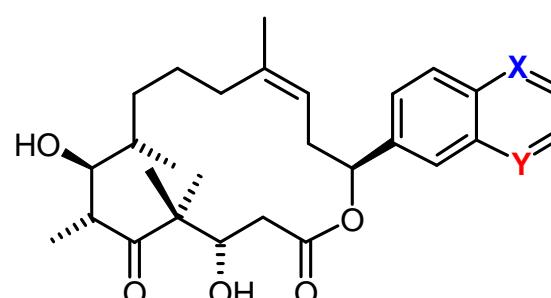
1.00

X = N, Y = S

1.17

63.3

68.7



X = CH, Y = N

3.9

0.82

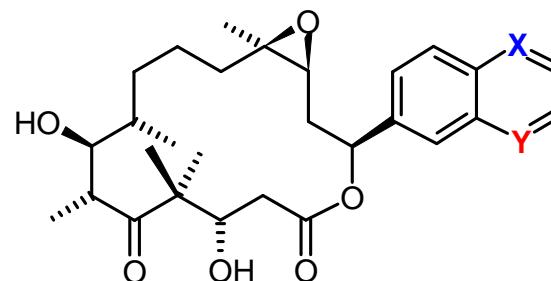
1.21

X = N, Y = CH

4.9

112

134



X = CH, Y = N

4.3

0.46

0.59

X = N, Y = CH

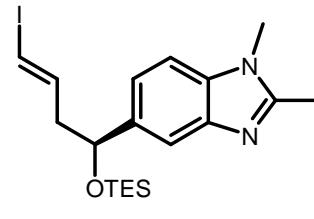
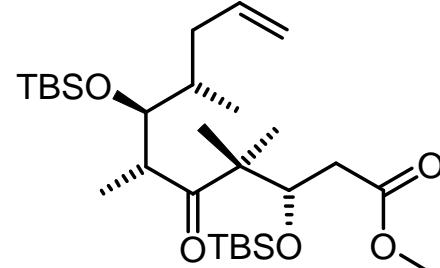
3.2

0.49

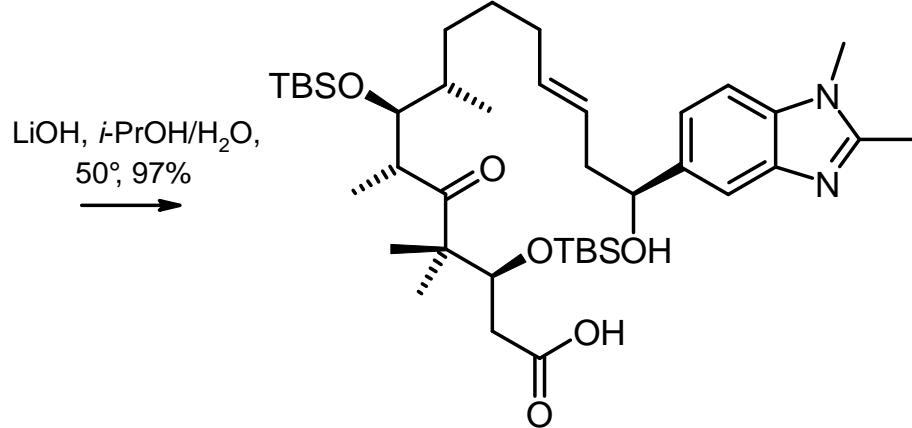
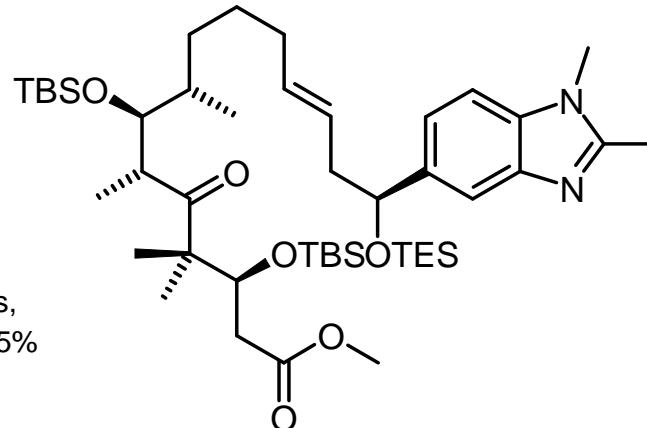
0.74

Combining Backbone and Side Chain Modifications - Chemistry

ETH



a. Olefin, 9-BBN, THF, RT
b. Cs_2CO_3 , $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dpdf})_2$, Ph_3As , vinyl iodide, DMF, -10° - RT, 55%

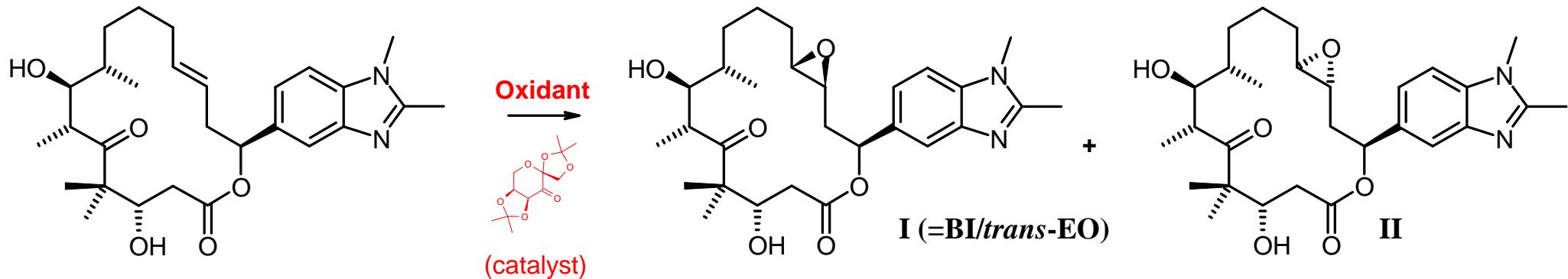


1. $\text{Cl}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{C}(\text{O})\text{Cl}$, Et_3N ,
DMAP, THF/toluene, 80%
2. HF x pyridine, THF, 90% \rightarrow



Total Synthesis of Side-chain-modified trans-Epothilone A

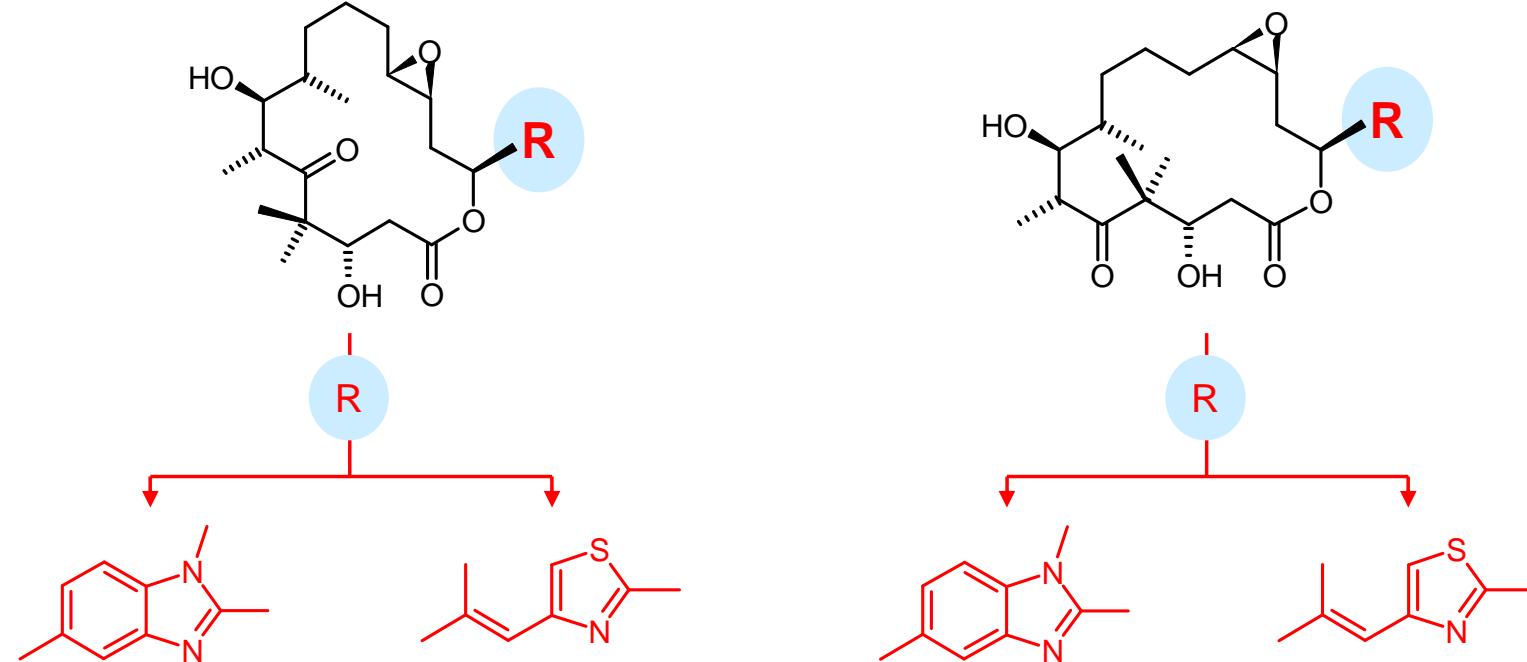
ETH



Oxidant	Conversion (HPLC %)	Ratio I/II	Yield (I+II; %)
MeReO ₃ , no catalyst	100	1/1	68
<i>m</i> -CPBA, no catalyst	50	1/1	30
Oxone®, 0.3 eq catalyst	50	8/1	25
Oxone®, 0.6 eq catalyst	90	8/1	68
Oxone®, 0.8 eq catalyst	100	8/1	70

Benzimidazole-based Analogs of Epothilone A – Antiproliferative Activity

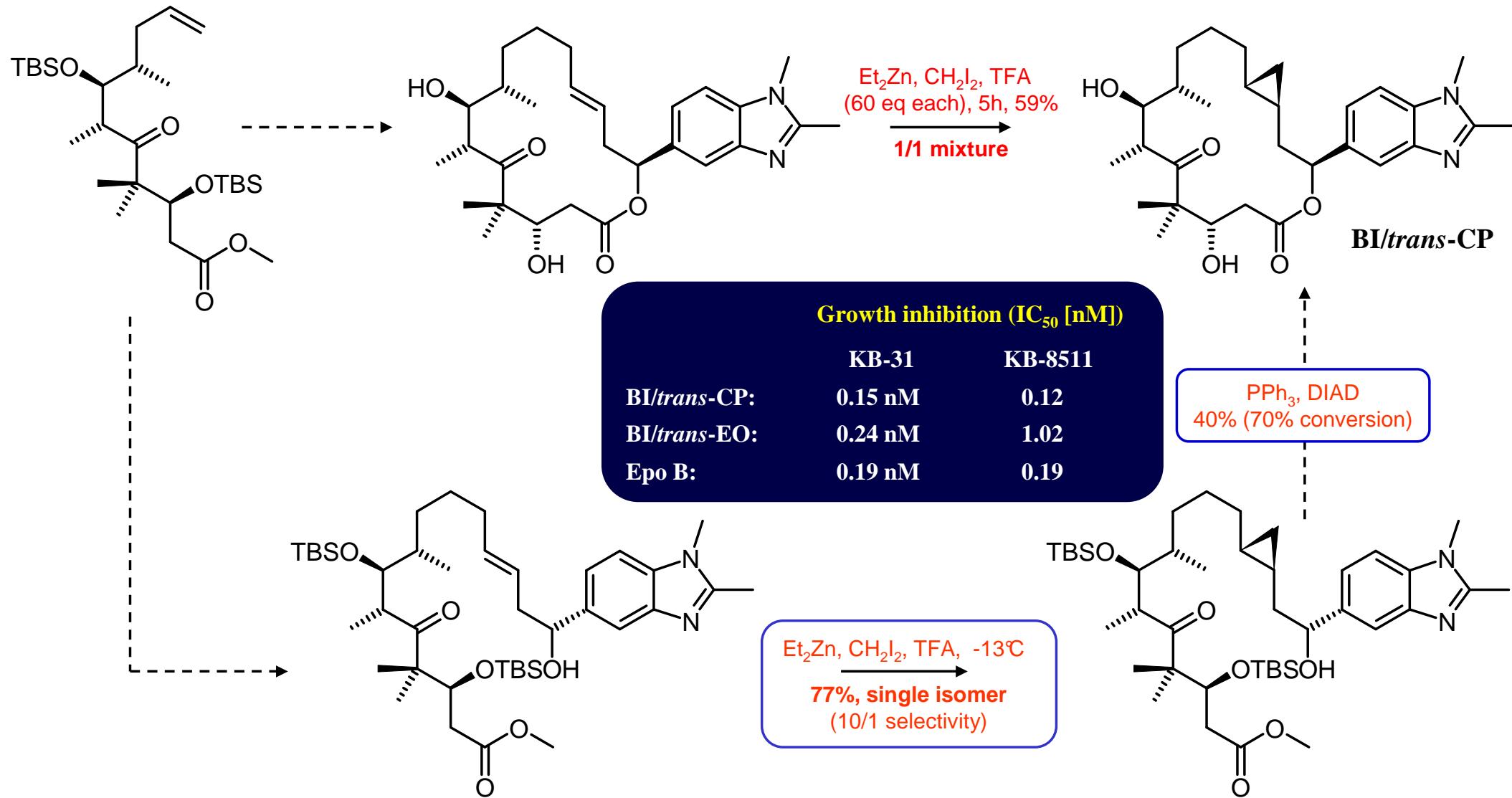
ETH



%Tubulin Polymerization.:	70	85	73	65
IC ₅₀ KB-31 [nM]:	0.21	1.01	0.59	2.15
IC ₅₀ KB-8511 [nM]:	1.02	0.86	6.62	1.91

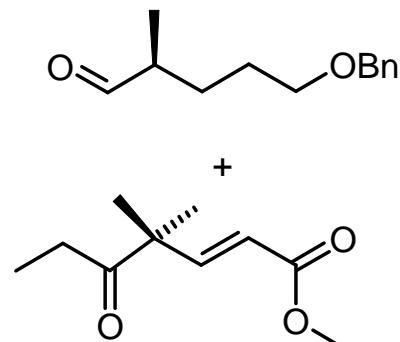
Epoxide Replacement - Cyclopropane-based Analogs

ETH

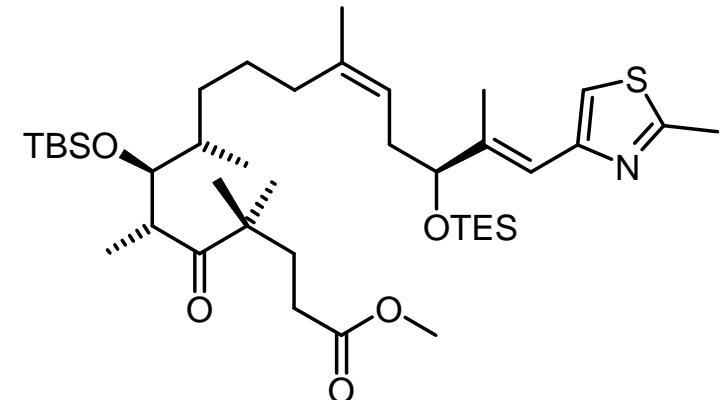


3-Deoxyepothilone B – Synthesis and Antiproliferative Activity

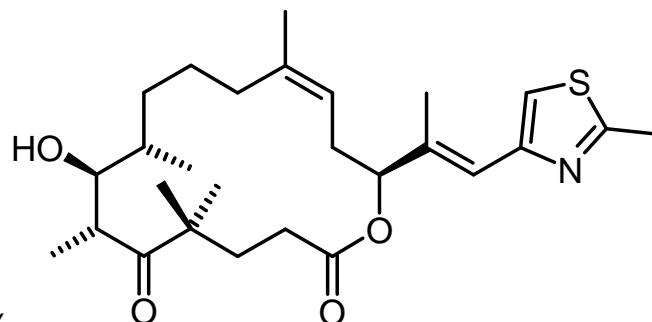
ETH



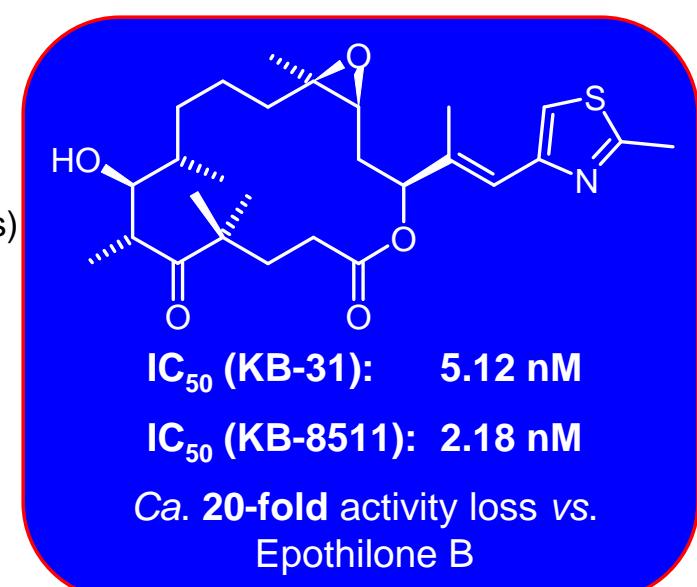
5 steps, 17%
(Aldol selectivity ca. 2/1)



1. LiOH, i-PrOH/H₂O,
· 50°, 98%
2. Macrolactonization, 93%
(2/1 mixture of epimers at
3. HF_xpyridine, THF, 80%
(2/1 mixture)



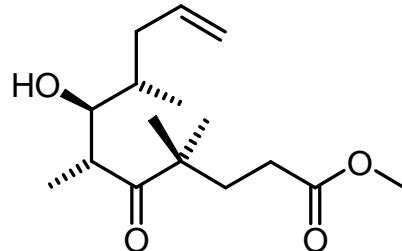
- MeReO₃, H₂O₂,
CH₂Cl₂, 0°, 72%
9:1 (Epoxide isomers)



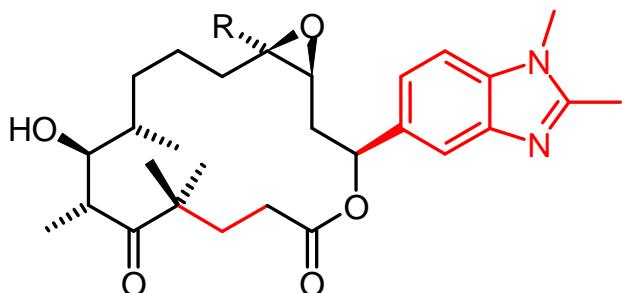
Combining Macrocyclic and Side Chain Modifications – Towards new Scaffolds for Microtubule Inhibition

ETH

MeReO₃, H₂O₂,
CH₂Cl₂, 0°
R = H: 2/1: 45%
R = CH₃: 10/1: 64%

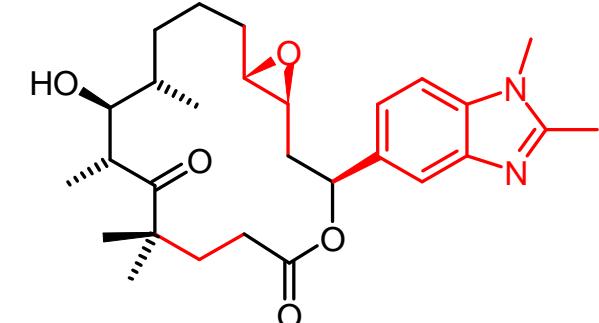


Oxone/
(0.8 eq)
0 °C, 3h, 65% (86%),
single isomer



Growth inhibition (IC₅₀ [nM])

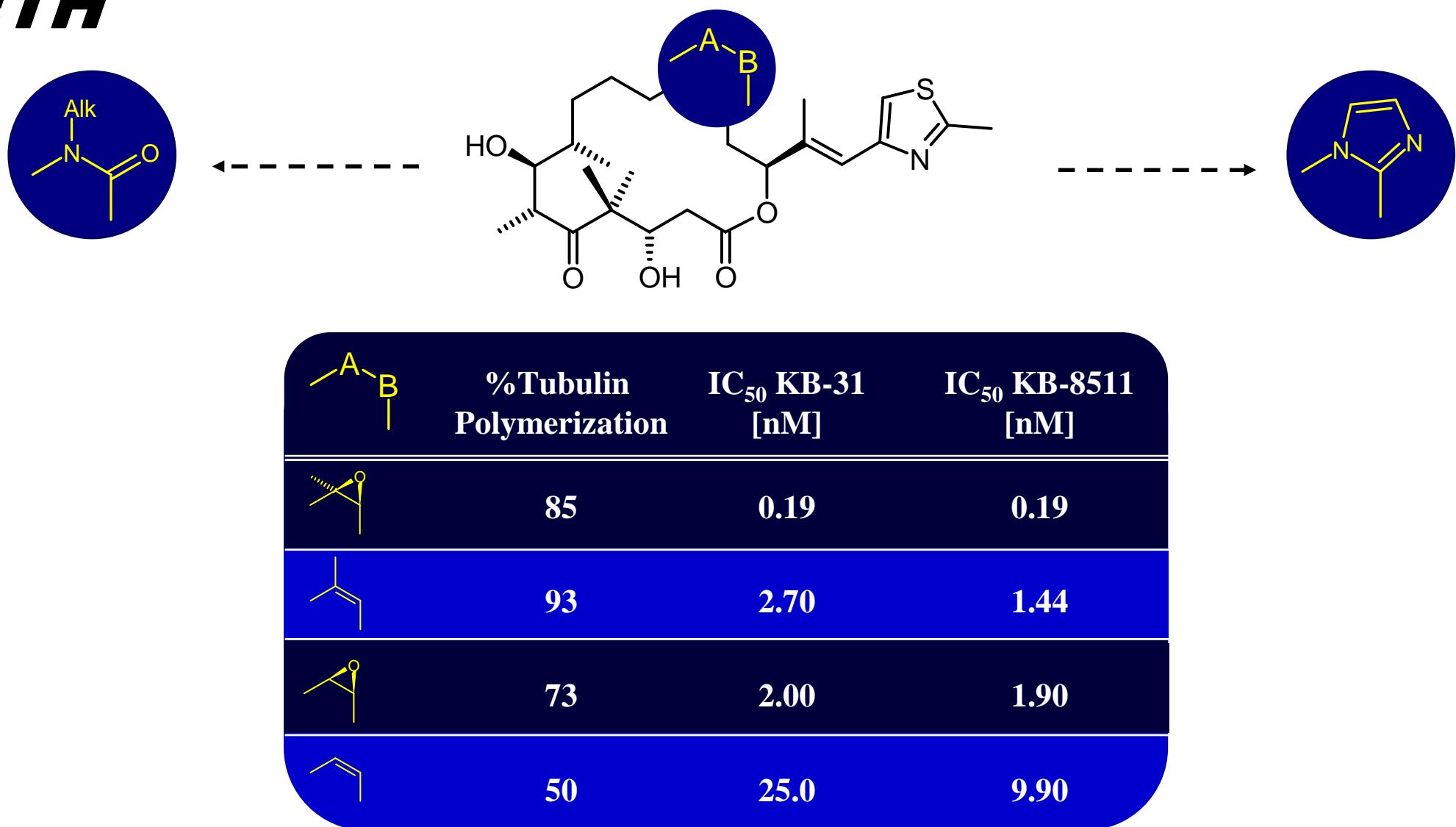
	KB-31	KB-8511
BI/cis-A:	7.40	37.6
BI/cis-B:	0.58	1.89
BI/trans-A:	3.16	7.60
Epo A:	2.00	1.79



BI/trans-A

N-Alkyl Amides and Imidazoles as Deoxyepothilone Mimetics

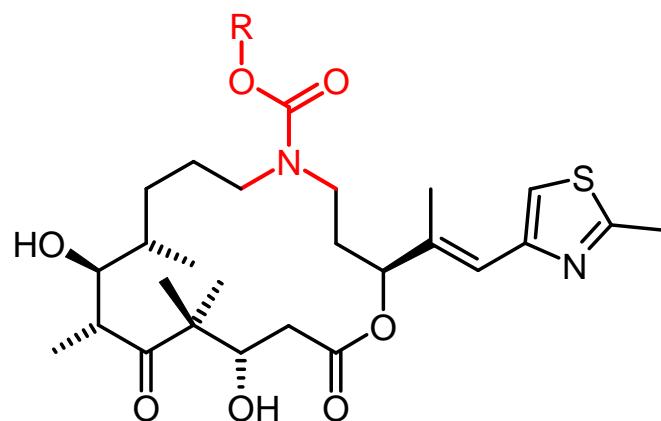
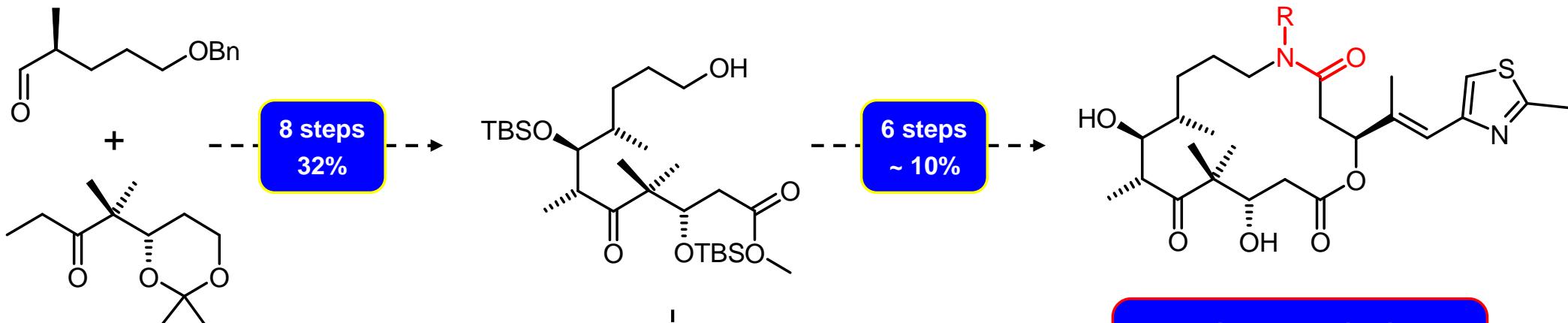
ETH



For early work on deoxyepothilones cf.: K. C. Nicolaou et al., *Nature* **1997**, 387, 268; S. J. Danishefsky et al., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1997**, 36, 757.

C12/C13-Amides and Other 12-Aza-Epothilones

ETH

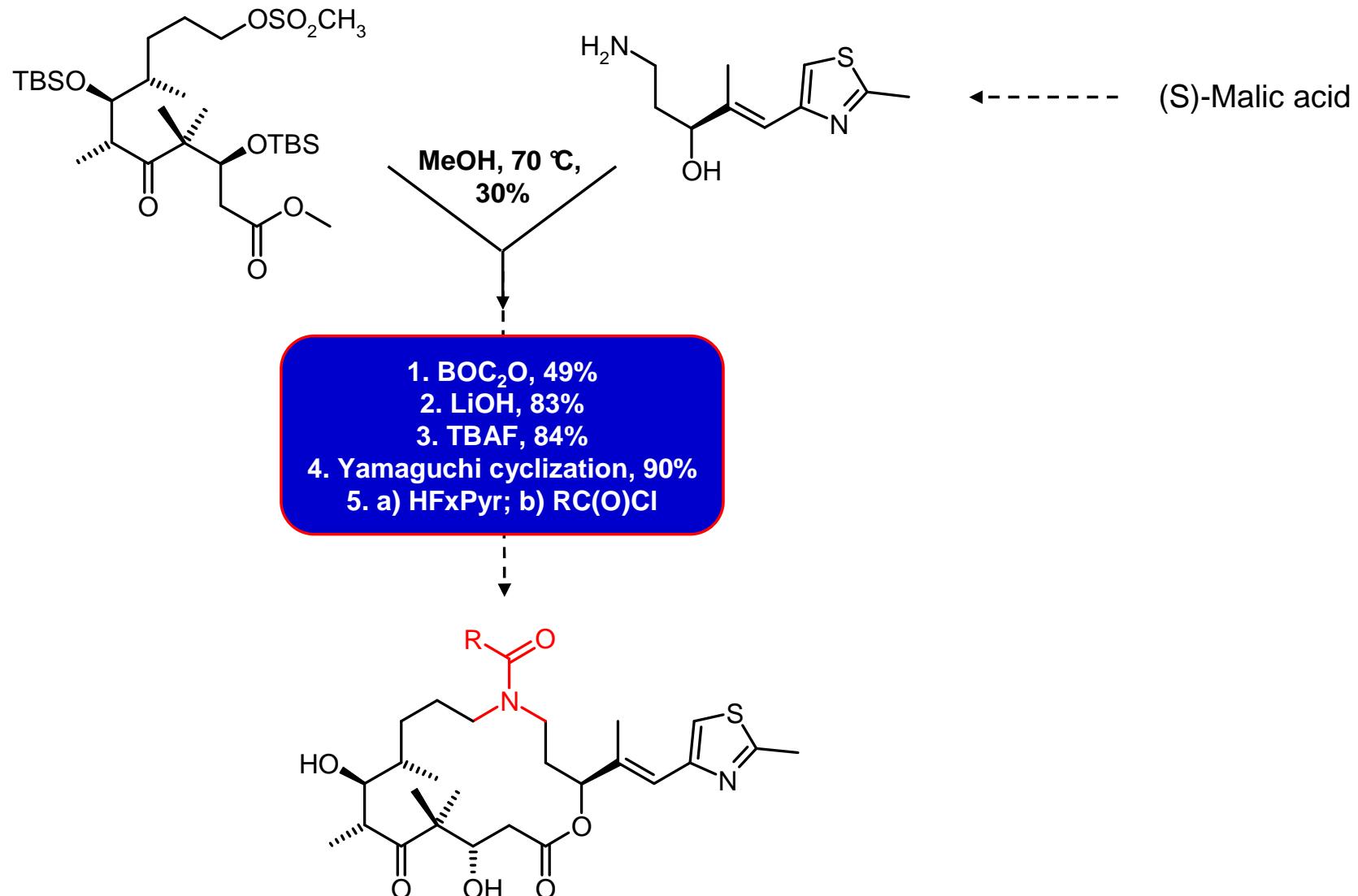


IC_{50} s (KB-31)

$R = O\text{-}tert\text{.-}C_4H_9 :$	31 nM
$R = OC_2H_5 :$	85 nM
$R = OCH_2Ph :$	297 nM
$R = \text{tert}\text{.-}C_4H_9 :$	206 nM
Epo A:	1.9 nM

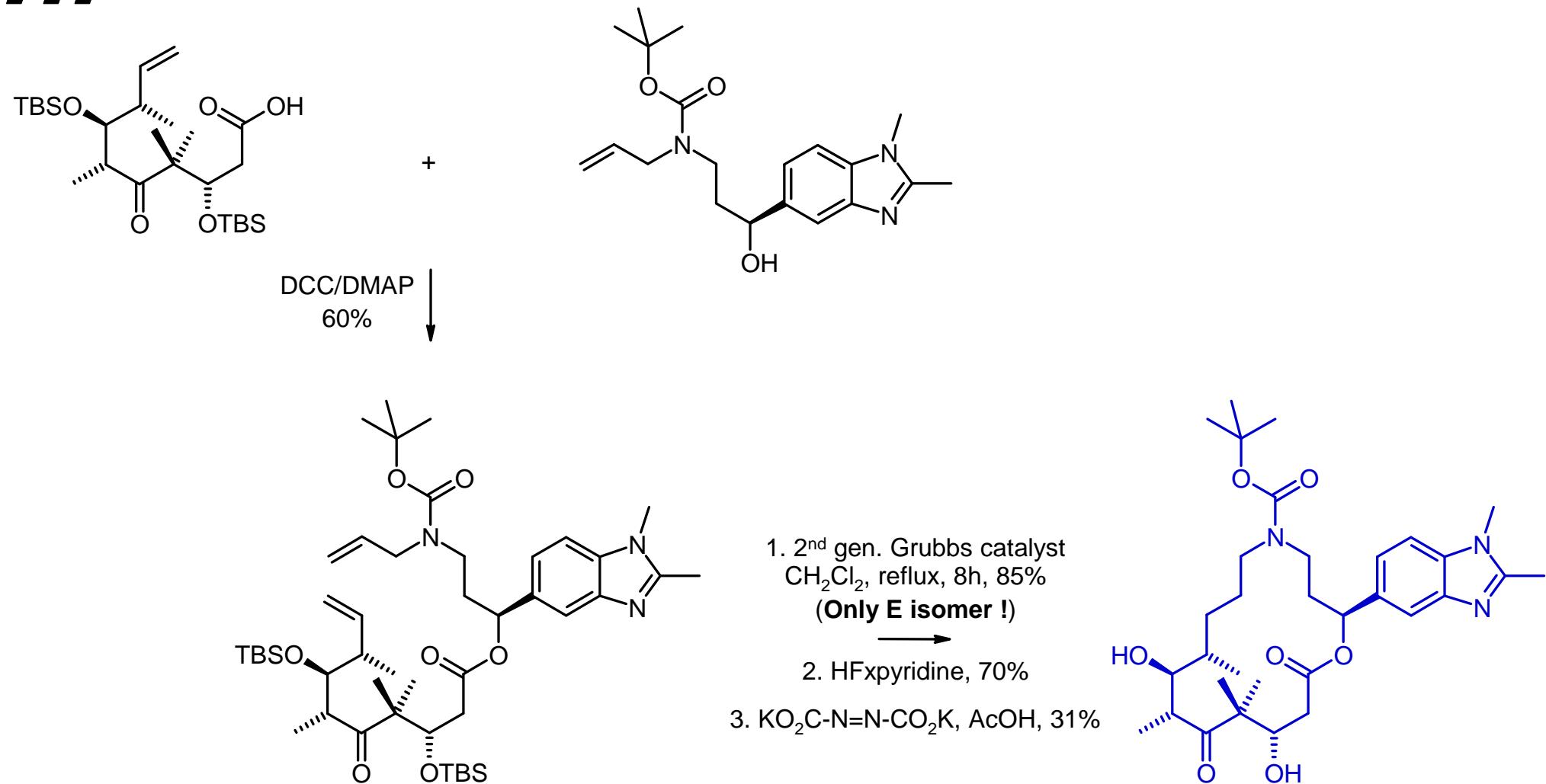
Carbon Replacement in the Macrocycle - 12-Aza-Epothilones

ETH



12-Aza-Epothilones – A New Class of Potent Microtubule-Stabilizers

ETH



EC₅₀ (Tubulin): 3.9 μM (Epo A: 4.6 μM)
IC₅₀ (KB-31): 0.33 nM (Epo A: 1.9 nM)