



同济大学 化学科学与工程学院
School of Chemical Science and Engineering



The Yang Research Group
Precise Synthesis Lab of Tongji University

2025.04.23

Rational Molecular Editing



汇报人：王宁



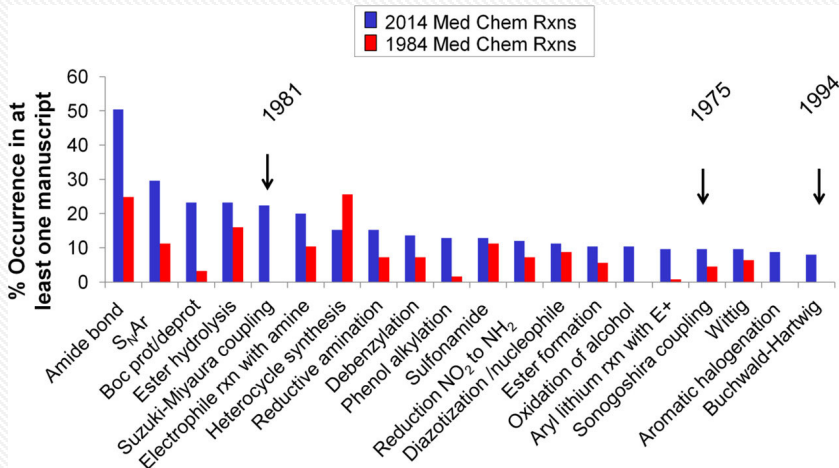


Figure 1. Occurrence of a particular reaction, plotted as the percentage of which it shows up in at least one manuscript ($n = 125$; representative data set taken from 2014, J. Med. Chem., blue; 1985, J. Med. Chem., red). The arrows (and years) indicated the first citation of this technology in the primary literature.

modern chemistries

Enrich

synthetic toolbox

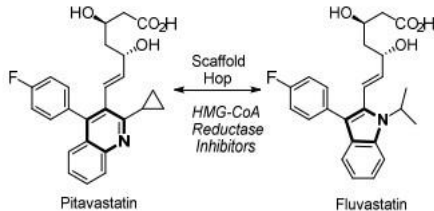
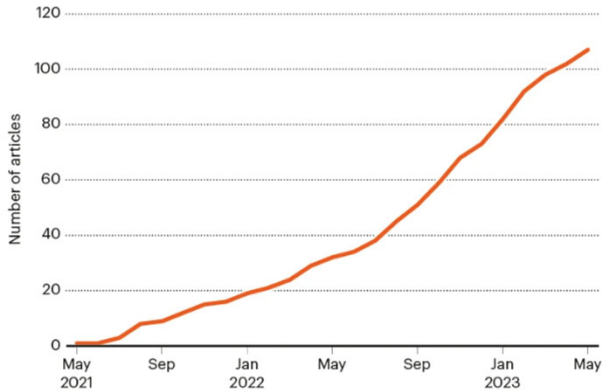
Facilitate

new drug discovery
and development

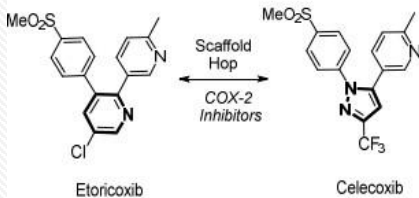
**But only a limited new
number of reactions was
applied.....**

SKELETAL EDITING ON THE RISE

More than 100 research articles mentioning 'skeletal editing' have been published in the past two years.

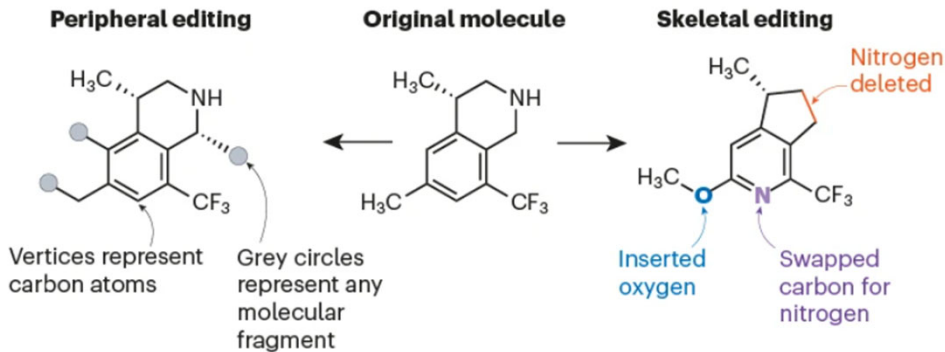


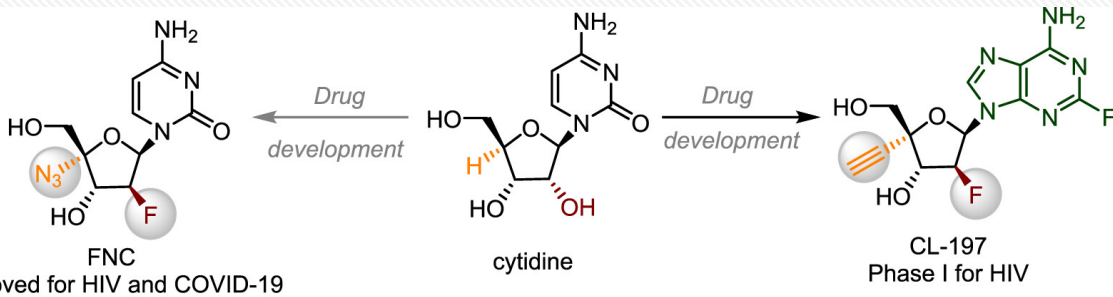
a. 匹伐他汀与氟伐他汀



THE EMERGING CHEMISTRY OF SKELETAL EDITING

Chemists can easily add or change fragments on a molecule's periphery (left). Skeletal editing — changing the core skeleton of a molecule — is much more difficult, but chemists can now use reactions to insert, delete or swap atoms in these core areas (right).



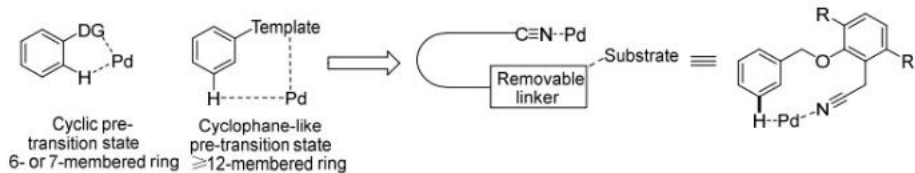


Traditional method

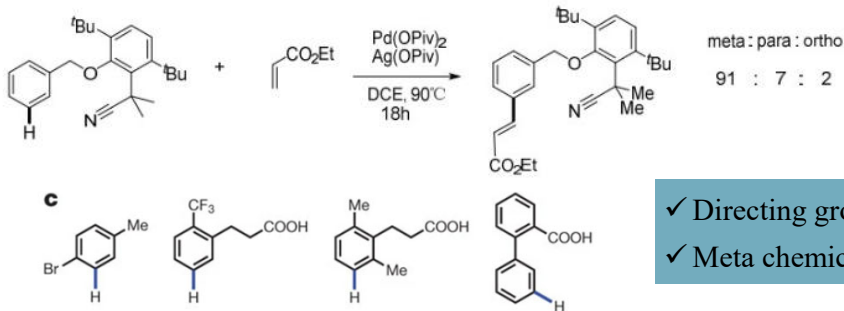
- *De novo synthesis*
- *Multistep*
- *Limited access to analogs*

Future peripheral editing

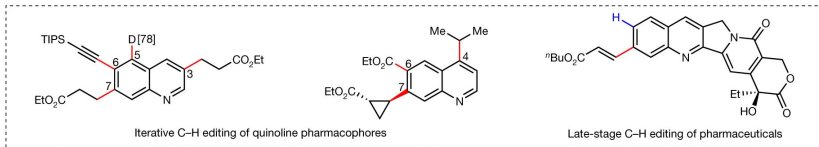
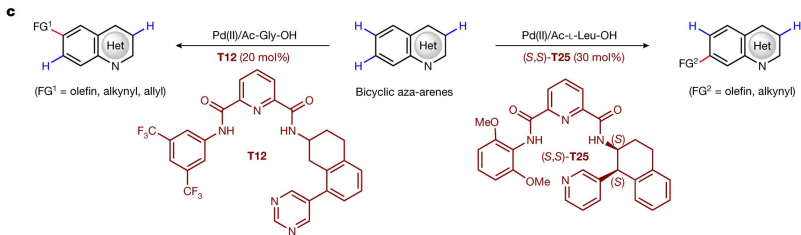
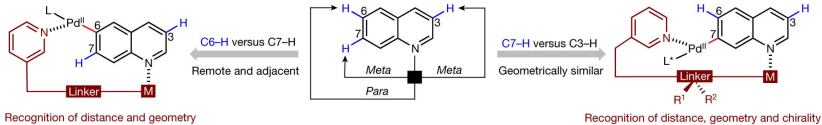
- *Single step transformation*
- *Chemoselective*
- *Facile diversification*



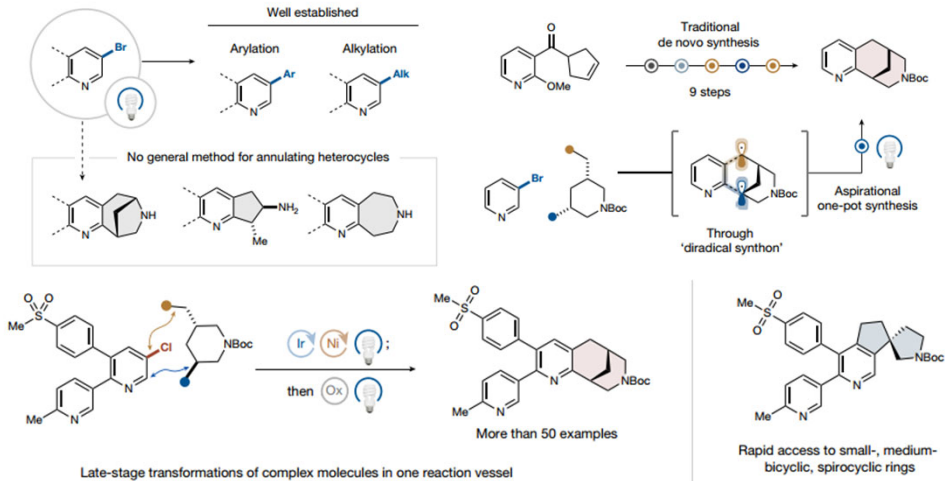
1) Remote meta-C-H activation is a challenge. I: ortho-directed C-H activation. DG, directing group. II, III and IV: Remote meta-C-H activation using an 'end-on' template. The dotted blue lines divide the arene template into four quadrants. The blue bonds in all figures highlight the targeted C-H bonds. b, Templates for toluenes and hydrocinnamic acids

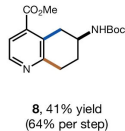
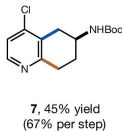
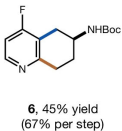
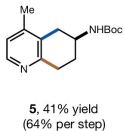
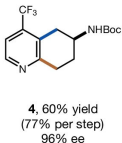
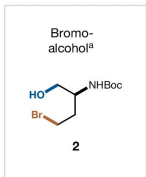


- ✓ Directing group Free
- ✓ Meta chemical selectivity

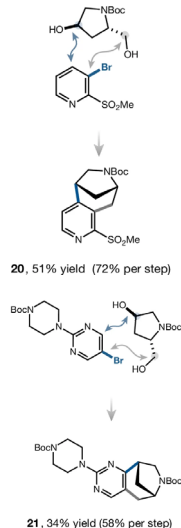
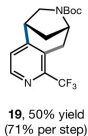
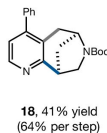
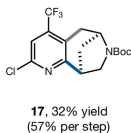
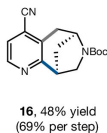
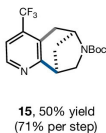
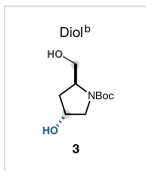
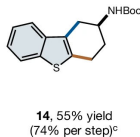
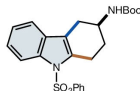
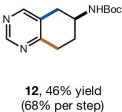
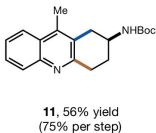
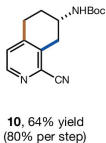
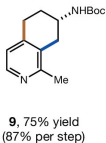


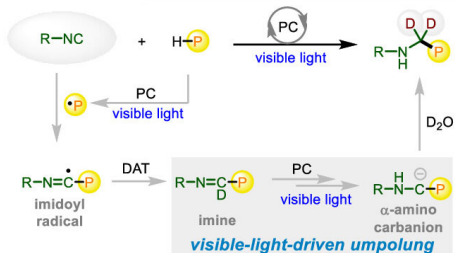
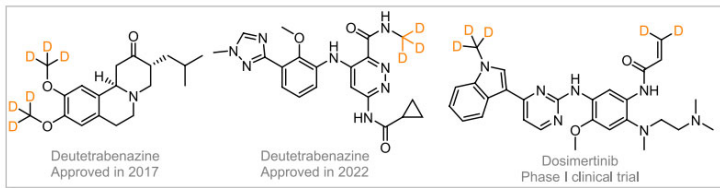
b, Challenges and solutions to C6- and C7-selective palladation. c, Catalytic C6- and C7-selective functionalizations (this work). M, metal; L, ligand; FG, functional group; TIPS, triisopropylsilyl; nBu, n-butyl.



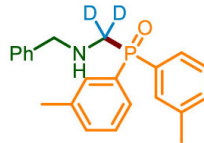


Non-traditional Minisci acceptors





✓Visible-light-promoted ✓Metal-free ✓High atom economy



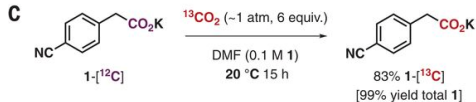
Ramos: $IC_{50} = 4.20 \mu M$

vs

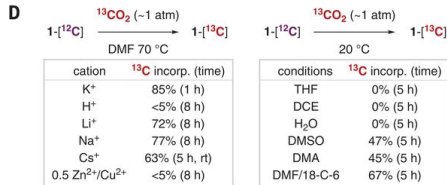
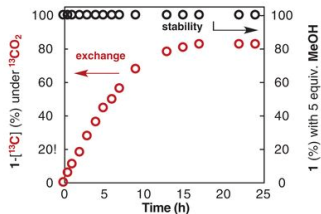


Ramos: $IC_{50} = 37.95 \mu M$

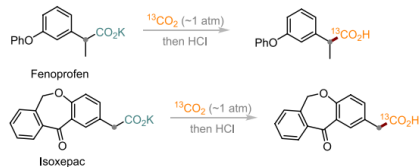
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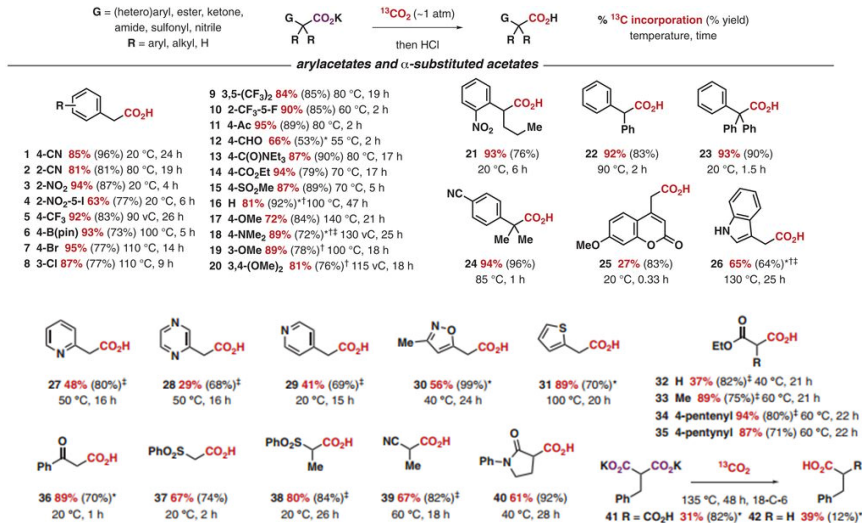


carboxylate **1** mass balance with 5 equiv. **MeOH**: >99%
[no protodecarboxylation]

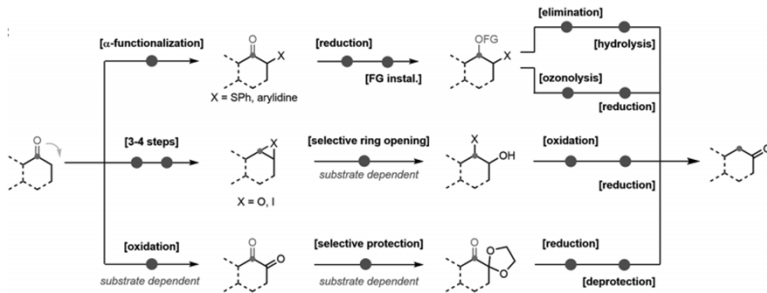
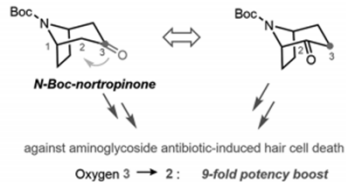
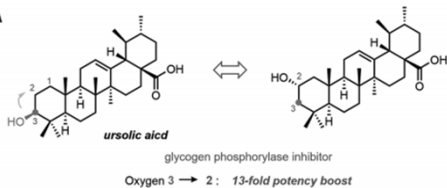


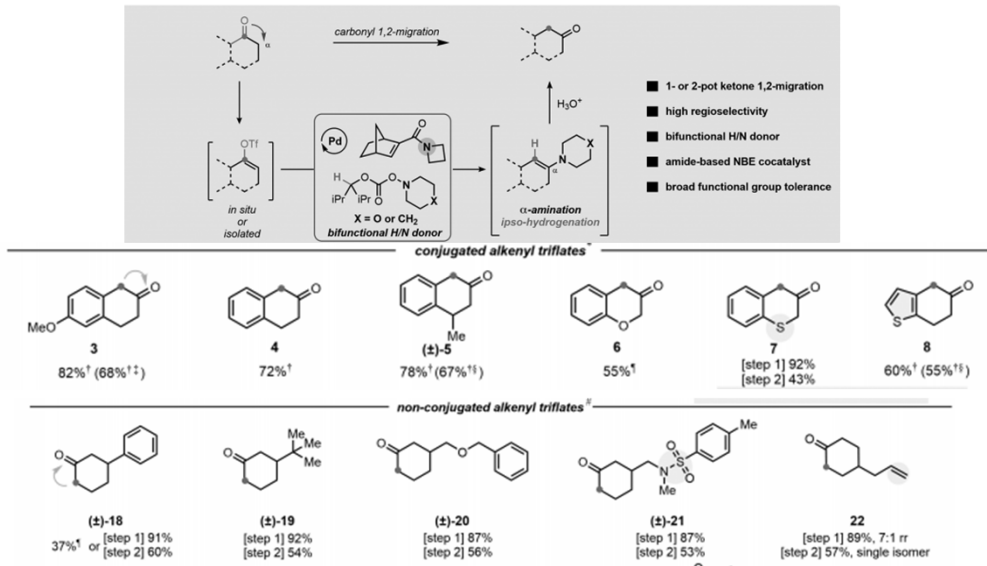
c) Atom exchange



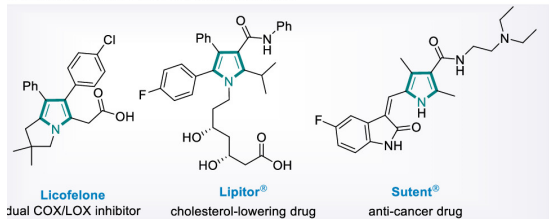


A





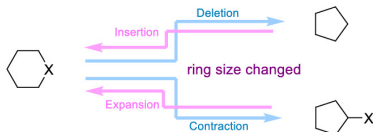
A. Biologically active fully-substituted pyrroles



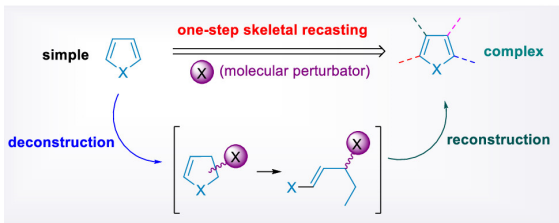
Multi-step manipulation of heterocycles



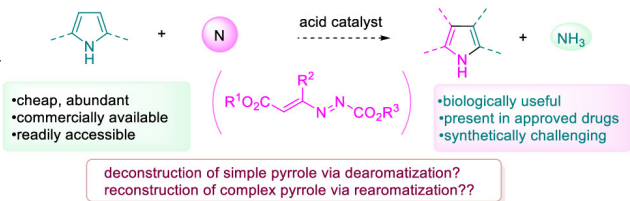
Single-atom skeletal editing of heterocycles



Our proposal: skeletal recasting strategy for heterocycle editing

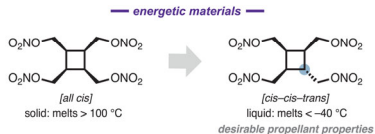
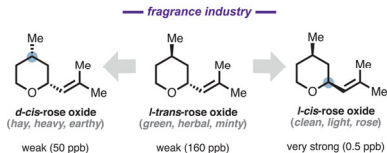
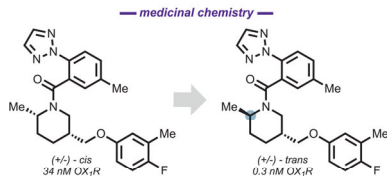


Reaction design: skeletal recasting of simple pyrroles

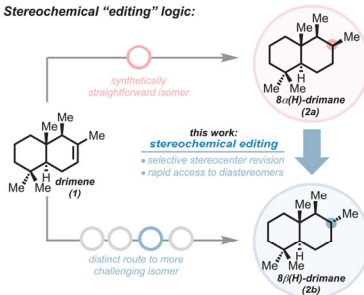




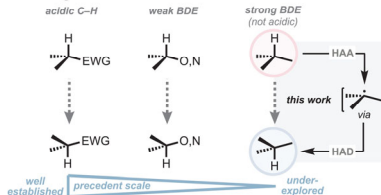
A Importance of relative stereochemistry in organic chemistry:

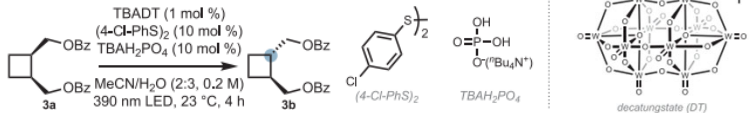


B Stereochemical “editing” logic:

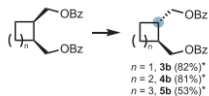


C Challenges in stereochemical inversion:

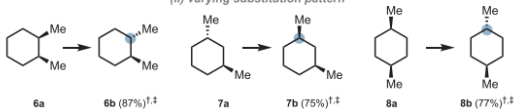


A Reaction optimization**C Preliminary synthetic scope: monocyclic saturated compounds**

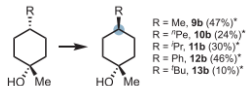
(i) ring strain effects



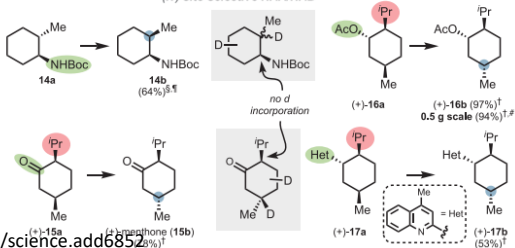
(ii) varying substitution pattern



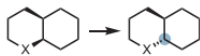
(iii) substituent effects



(iv) site-selective HAA/HAD

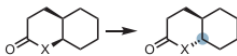


fused bicyclic saturated compounds



X = O, **18a**
X = CH₂, **19a**

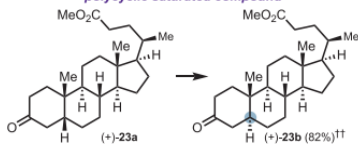
18b (94%)^{†, **}
19b (90%)^{†, §}



X = NH, **20a** : **20b**
(dr 3.5 : 1.0)
X = CH₂, **21a**
X = O, **22a**

20a : **20b** (dr 1.0 : 1.5;
55% yield of **20b**)[§]
21b (91%)[†]
22b (94%)[§]

polycyclic saturated compound

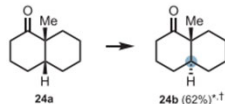
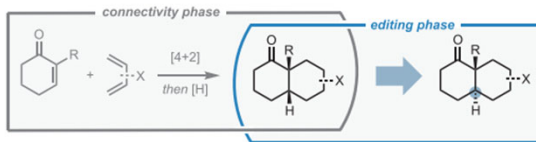


(+)-**23a**

(+)-**23b** (82%)^{††}

Expanding stereospecific reaction outcomes: Diels-Alder retron

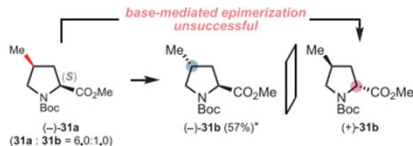
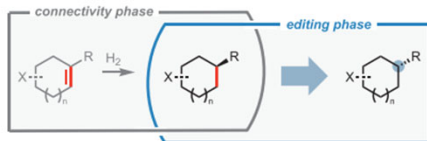
A Inversion of stereocenters defined by dienophile component



24a

24b (62%)^{*, †}

A Overturning substrate control: hydrogenation retron



(-)-**31a**
(**31a** : **31b** = 6,0:1,0)

(-)-**31b** (57%)^{*}

(+)-**31b**

vector map of (hetero)arene skeletal editing

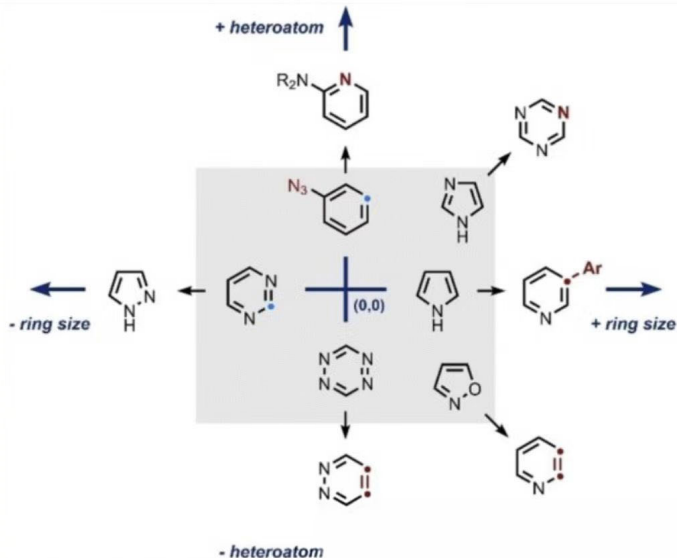
$$f: (i,j) \rightarrow (i',j')$$

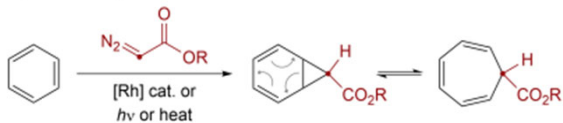
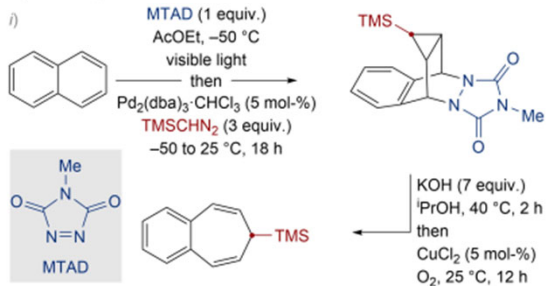
transformations

- atom insertion
- atom deletion
- atom exchange

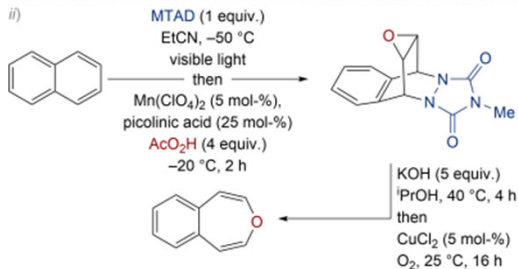
toolbox

- (retro)-[4+2]
- photochem
- electrochem
- radical chem
- ...

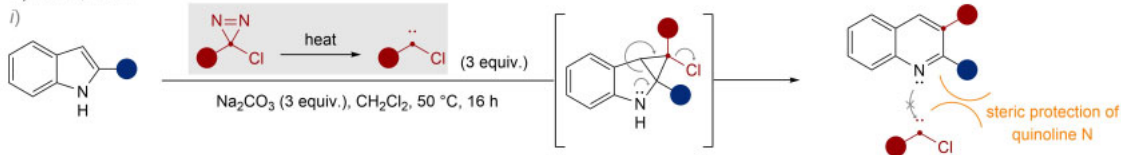


A) *Buchner*, 1885B) *Sarlah*, 2022

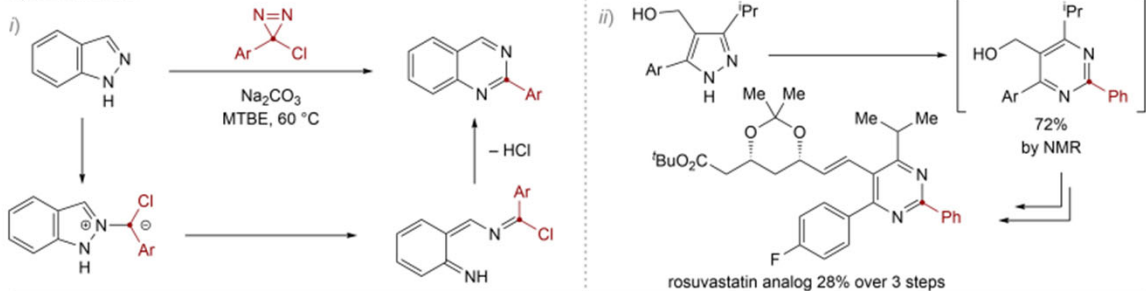
ii)

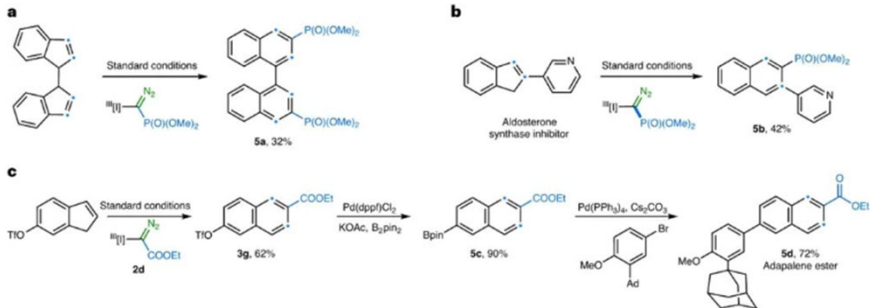
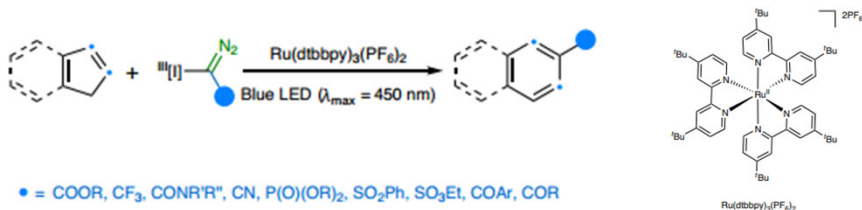


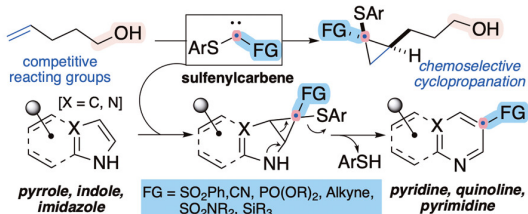
E) Levin, 2021



F) Levin, 2022

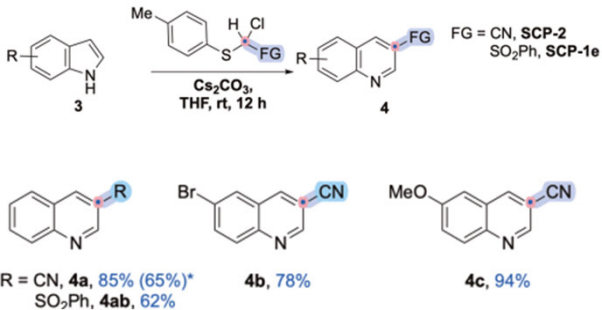




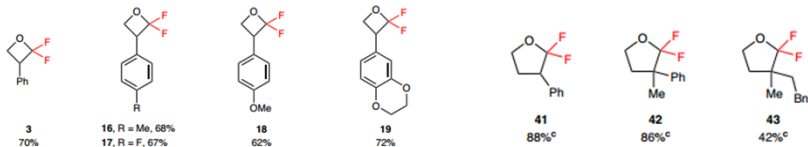


● = -OH, -COOH, NHTs, NHBoc, thioether, alkene, alkyne, epoxide, diazo, etc

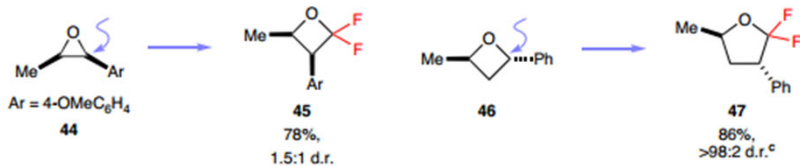
- ✓ Direct carbon atom insertion bearing versatile functional group
- ✓ Easily accessible, scalable, and benchtop stable non-diazo carbene precursors
- ✓ Good functional group tolerance: -OH, -COOH, amines, amides, alkenes, alkynes, epoxide, etc.
- ✓ Late-stage skeletal modifications; 57 examples; up to 98% yield

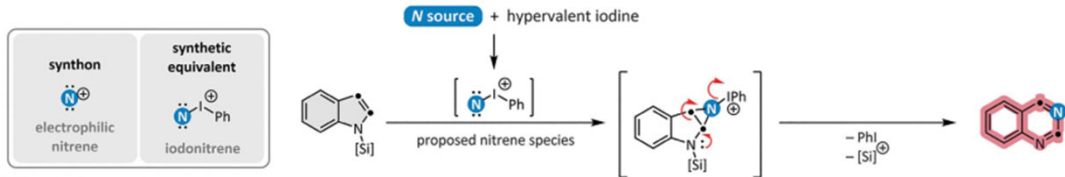


SCP-2	SCP-3	SCP-4	SCP-5	SCP-6	SCP-7
2ab rt, 10 h, 99%	2ac 0 °C - rt, 4 h, 65%	2ad 60 °C, 24 h, 45%	2ae rt, 12 h, 98%	2ea 0 °C - rt, 6 h, 64%*	2ca 0 °C, 12 h, 85%
1a, Ar = <i>p</i> -tolyl, Base = Cs ₂ CO ₃				1e Ar = Ph, Base = ^t BuOK	1c

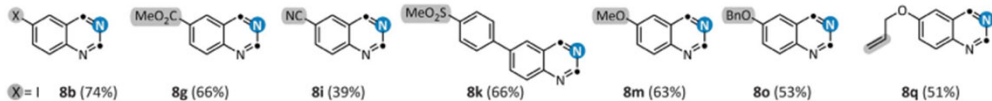


Site selectivity

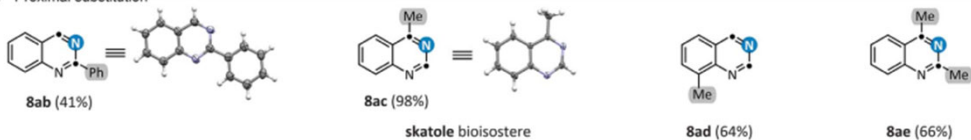


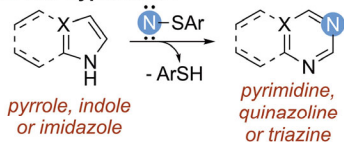


A Functional group tolerance

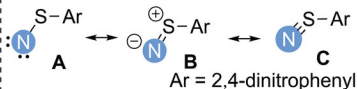


B Proximal substitution

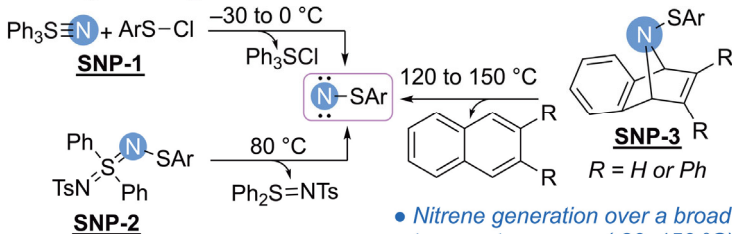


B Our hypothesis

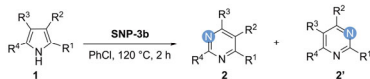
- Additive-free reaction conditions
- Compatible with oxidation-sensitive functional groups
- Late-stage skeletal modifications

• **Possible resonance structures**• **S-N bond length:***Theoretical*

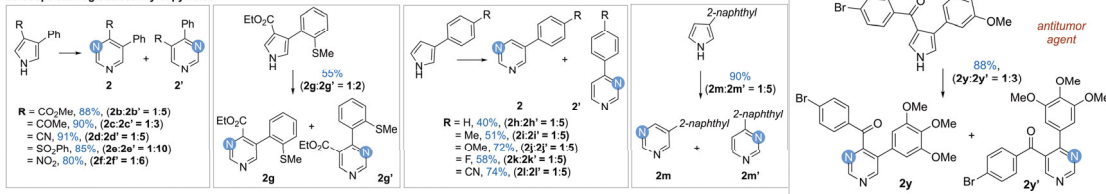
S-N	1.717-1.741 Å
S=N	1.543-1.580 Å
S≡N	1.480 Å

Calculated
= 1.510 Å• **Sulfenyl nitrene generation**

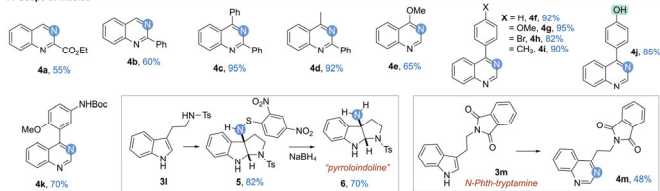
- Nitrene generation over a broad temperature range (-30–150 °C)



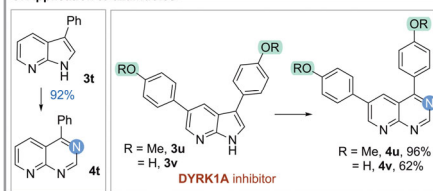
A Scope and regioselectivity of pyrroles



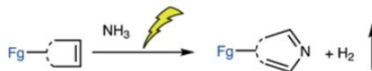
A Scope of indoles



C. Application to azaindoles



b this work

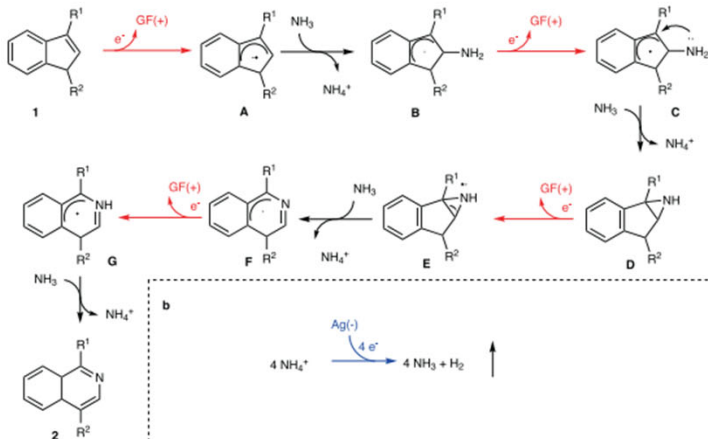


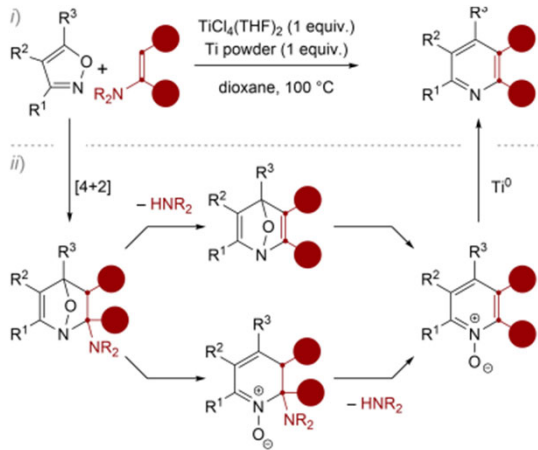
Fg

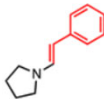
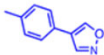
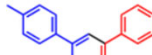
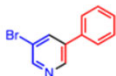


dehydrogen

- i) single step
- ii) only H₂ by-product
- iii) unexplored diverse functional groups
- iv) theoretical atom economy up to 99.2%



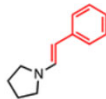


Entry	Heterocycle	Enamine	Product (% yield)
1			 3i (84)
			 3j (80)
2			 3k (86)

1



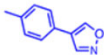
1a



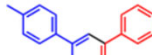
2b



3i (84)



1b

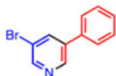


3j (80)

2



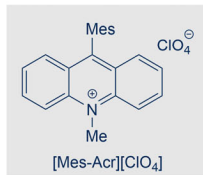
1c



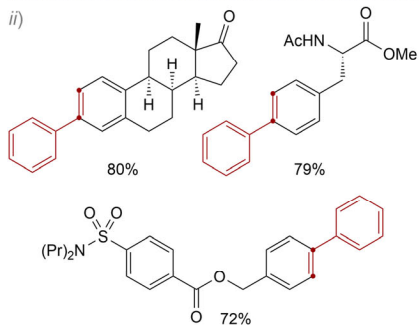
3k (86)

Lei & Chiang, 2019

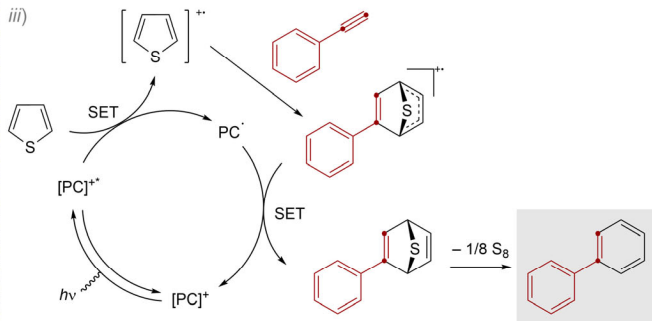
i)



ii)



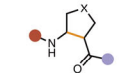
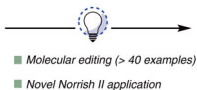
iii)



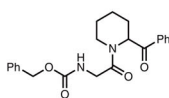
E This Work



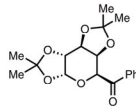
Acyl Azacycles



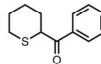
Amino Cyclopentanes



Peptides

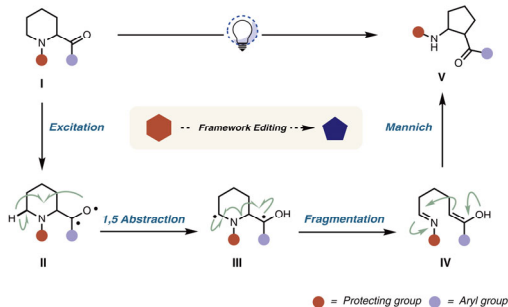


Sugars

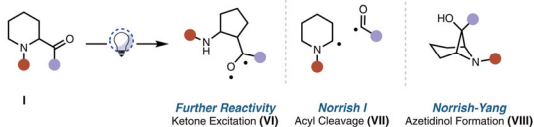


Heterocycles

A Proposed Mechanism

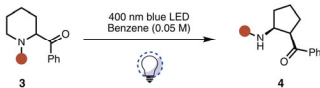


B Potential Challenges



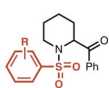


A

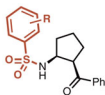


Cyclic Amine

Product



3a: R = H

3b: R = *p*-Me3c: R = *p*-OMe3d: R = *o*-Me3e: R = *p*-Br3f: R = *p*-F3g: R = *p*-Cl3h: R = *p*-Ac3i: R = *p*-CO₂Me3j: R = *p*-NO₂

4a: 84% (20:1 d.r.)

4b: 79% (12:1 d.r.) (78%)^{††}

4c: 68% (8:1 d.r.)

4d: 48% (19:1 d.r.)

4e: 74% (12:1 d.r.)

4f: 63% (19:1 d.r.)

4g: 59% (3.3:1 d.r.)

4h: 22% (5:2 d.r.)

4i: 24% (19:1 d.r.)

4j: 0%

Cyclic Amine

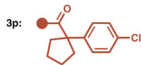
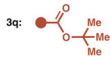
Product



3m: R = Piv

3n: R = COBn

3o: R = Bz

4m: 54% (14:1 d.r.)^{*}
44% (19:1 d.r.)[†] (40%)^{††}4n: 39% (20:1 d.r.)^{*}4o: 44% (14:1 d.r.)^{*}
30% (6:1 d.r.)[†]4p: 27% (2.6:1 d.r.)^{*}4q: 22% (20:1 d.r.)^{*}
23% (20:1 d.r.)[†] (21%)^{††}

Heterocycle

Product



7c



7d



7e



8c: 66% (3:1 d.r.)



8d: 83% (20:1 d.r.)



8e: 75% (20:1 d.r.)

Heterocycle

Product



7f



7g

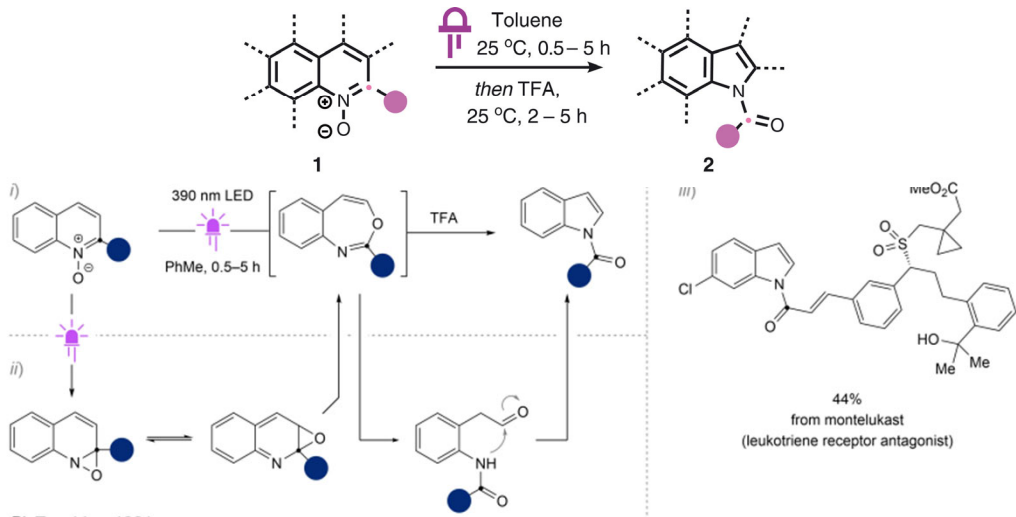


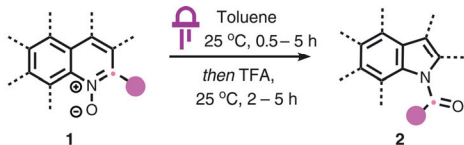
7h



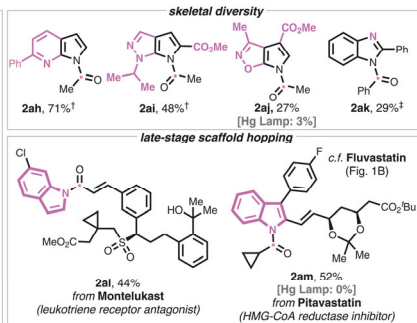
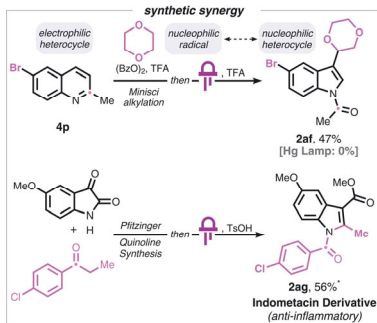
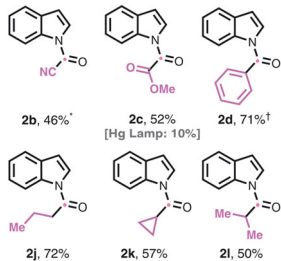
8f: 37% (20:1 d.r.)

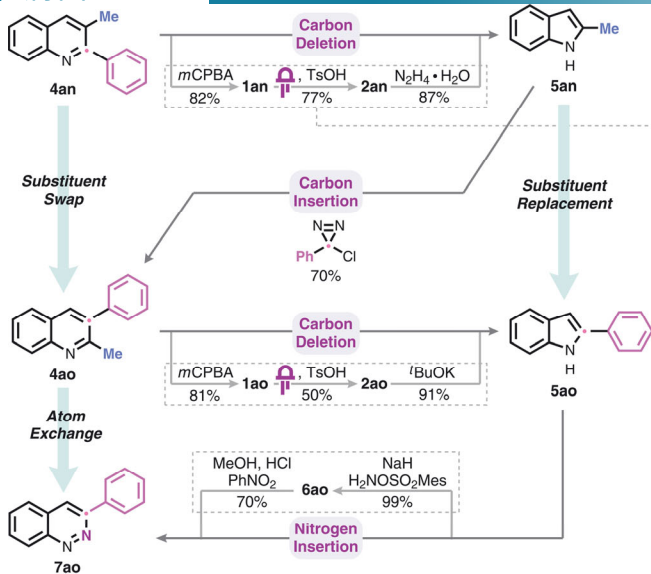
8g: 80% (20:1 d.r.)[#]8h: 85% (20:1 d.r.)^{**}



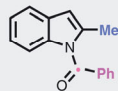


Selected example



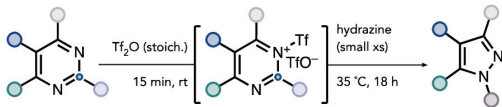


Scale Up In Flow



1.0 gram scale
30 min residence time
77% yield

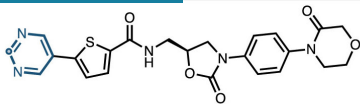
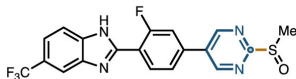
Pyrimidine Carbon Deletion



isolable but not isolated

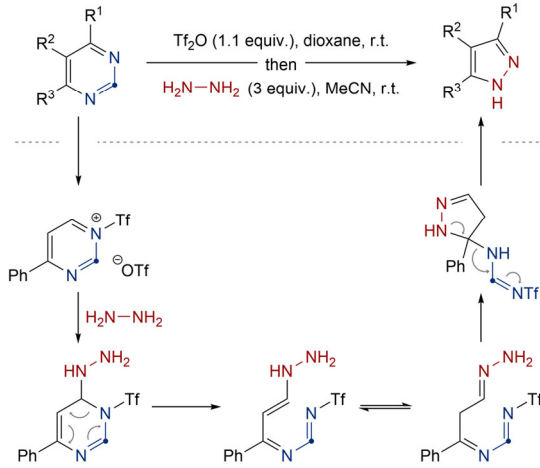
up to
90% yieldover 40
examplesmild
conditionsone pot
protocolcomplex
substrates

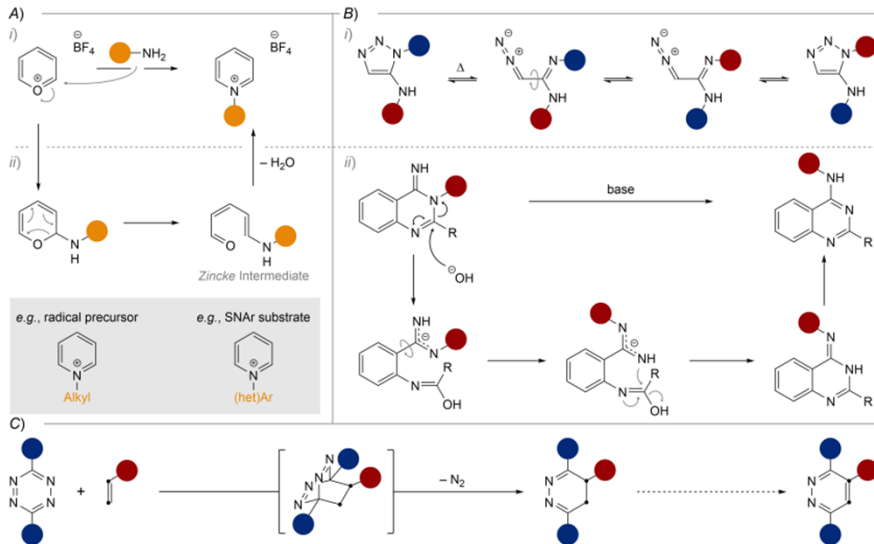
Selected example

42: contraction yield: 17%^d (Rivaroxaban[®] derivative; 81% RSM)

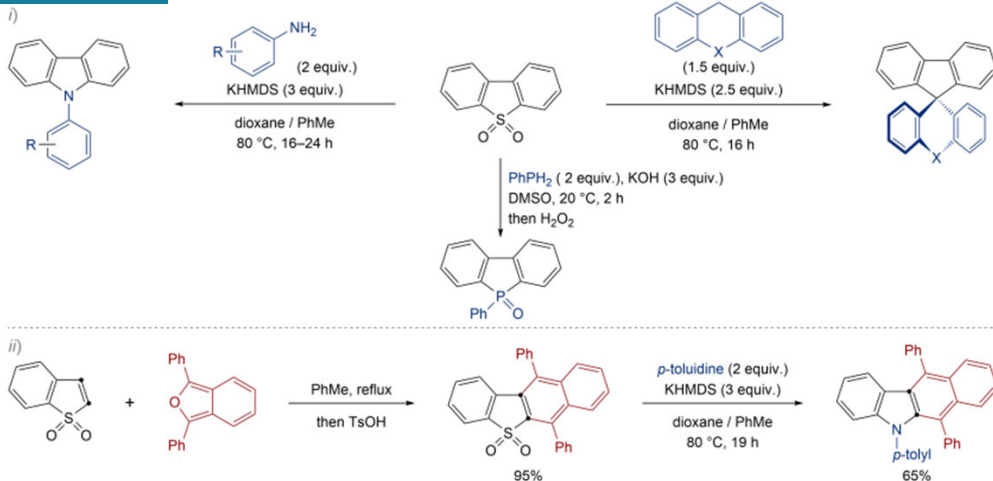
43: contraction yield: 65% (31% RSM)

Sarpong, 2022





Yorimitsu (2016)

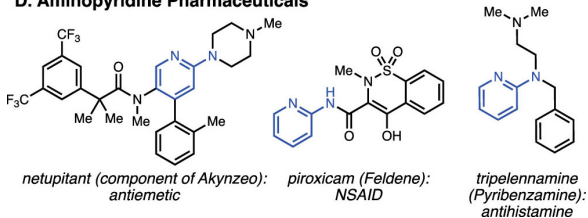


C. This Work: Aryl Azide to Aminopyridine

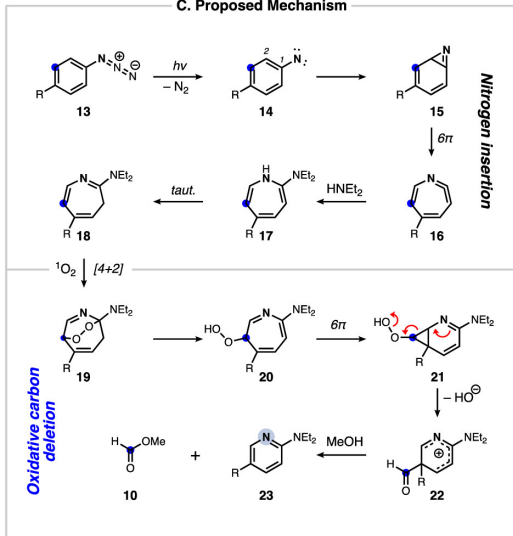
Specific advance:

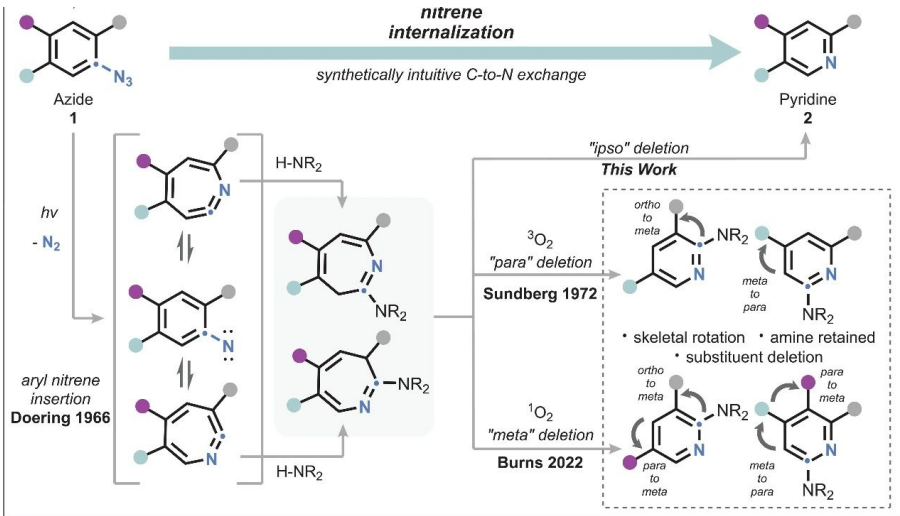


D. Aminopyridine Pharmaceuticals

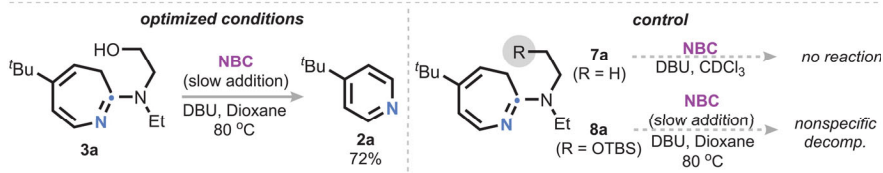
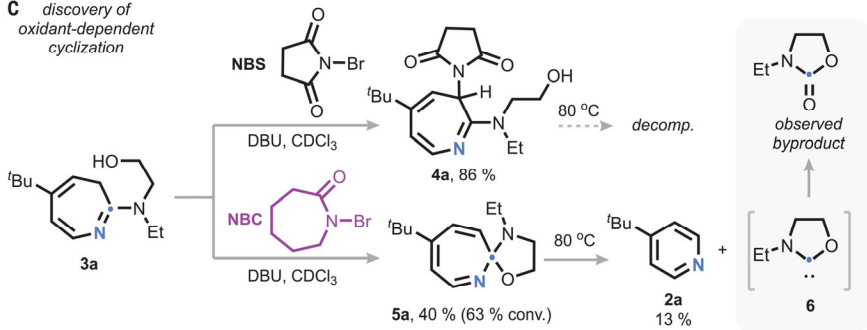


C. Proposed Mechanism





C discovery of
oxidant-dependent
cyclization



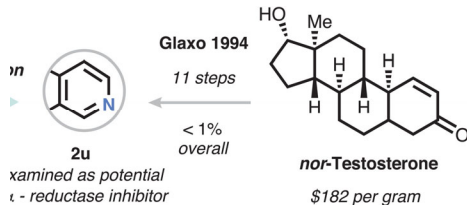
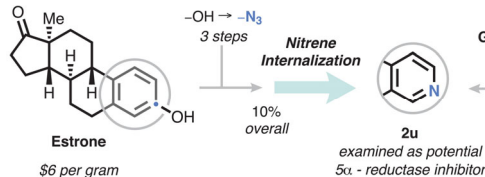
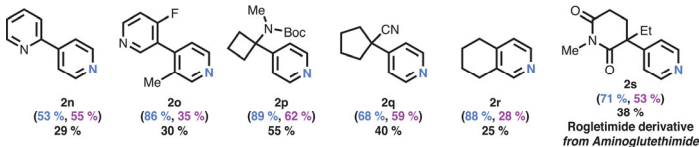
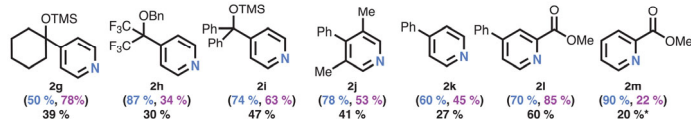
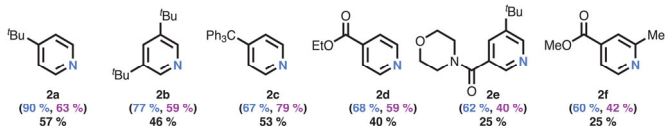
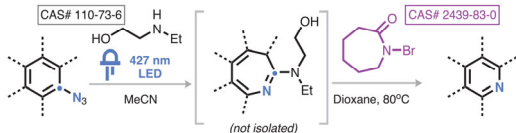


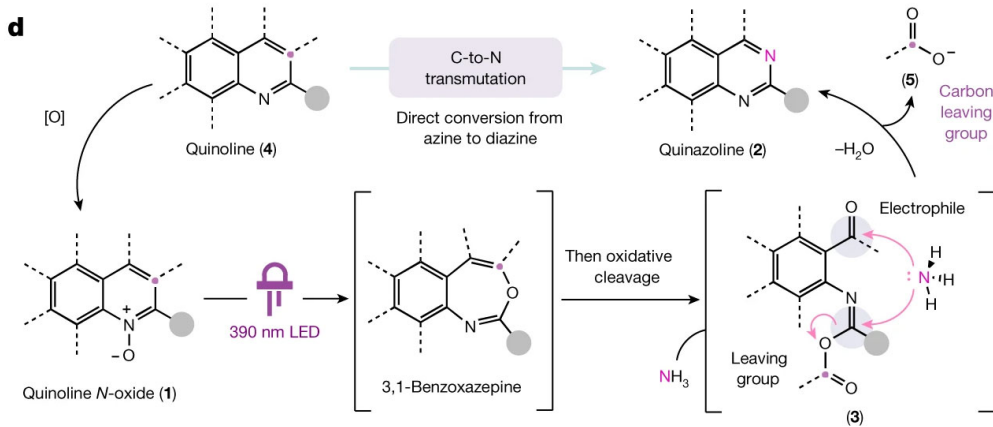
3

骨架编辑

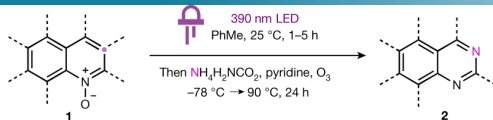
Atom Exchange

A

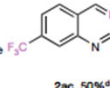
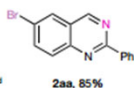
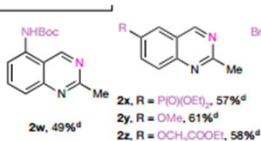
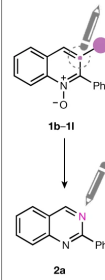
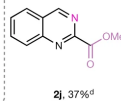
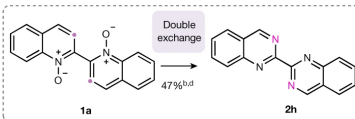
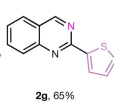
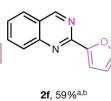
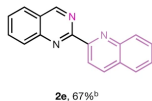
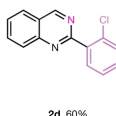
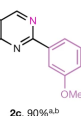
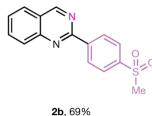
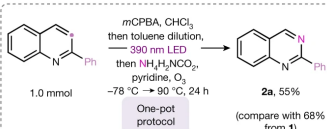


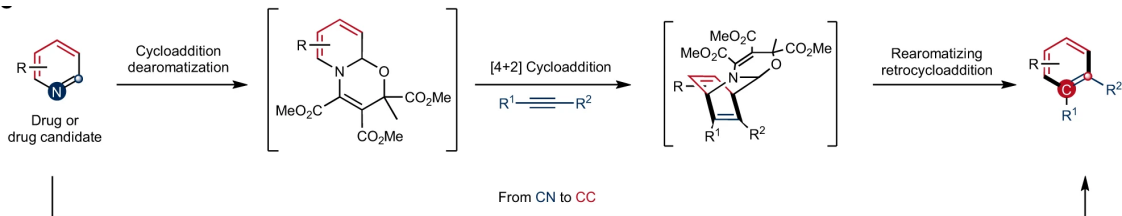


Atom Exchange

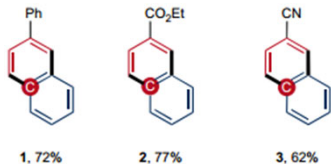


C2-substituents

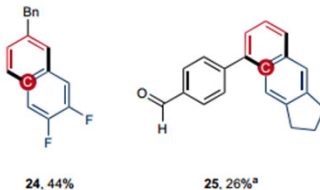




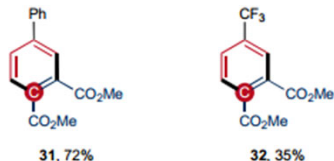
Scope of different oxazinopyridines with benzyne:

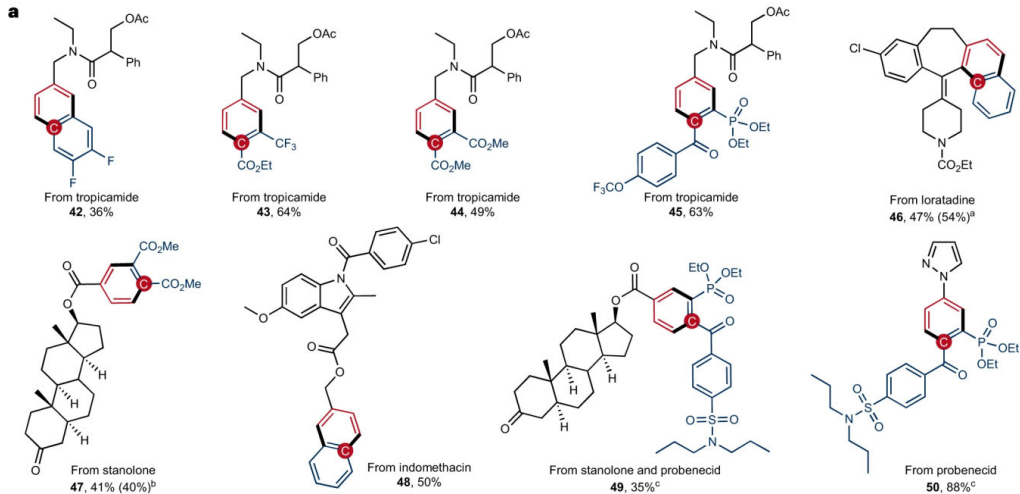


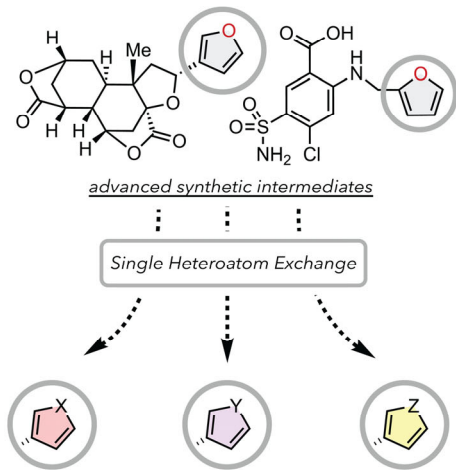
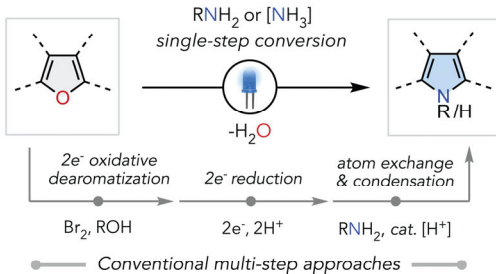
Scope of different oxazinopyridines with different arynes:



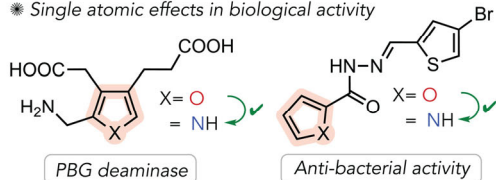
Scope of different oxazinopyridines with different alkynes:

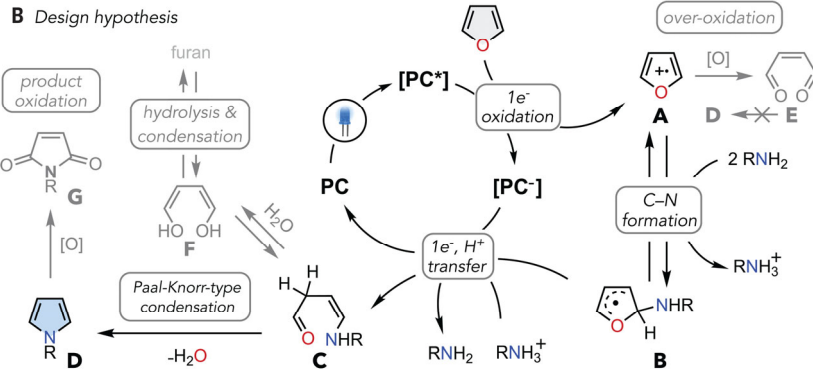




A Idealized diversification of furan-based compounds

B This work: catalytic, redox-neutral atomic transmutation


* Single atomic effects in biological activity



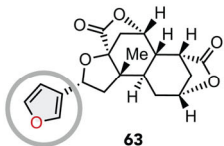




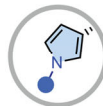
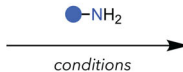
A

Diosbulbin B

- * Extracted from air potato
- * Anti-tumor activity

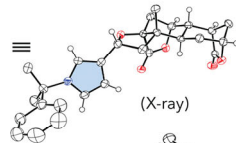


63



64

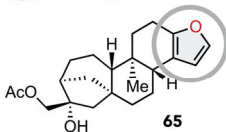
49%*,†,‡



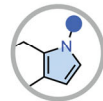
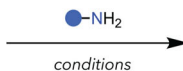
(X-ray)

Cafestol acetate

- * Extracted from coffee bean
- * Anti-cancer activity

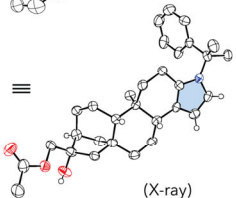


65



66

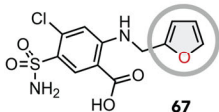
32%†,‡



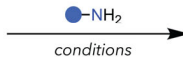
(X-ray)

Furosemide

- * A loop diuretic medication
- * The top-selling drugs



67



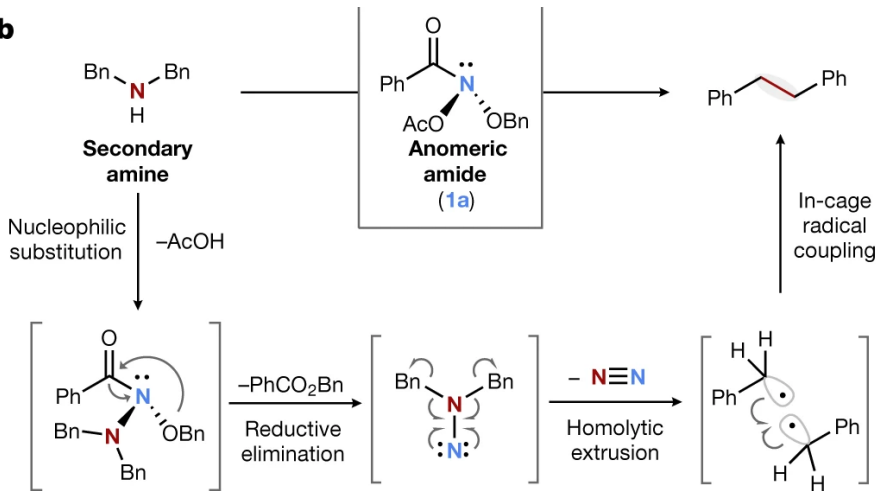
68

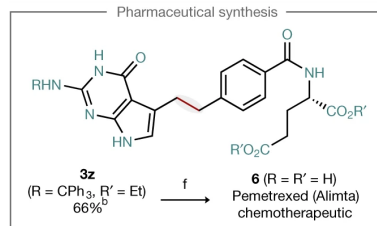
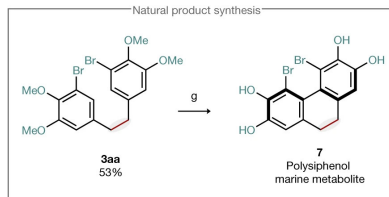
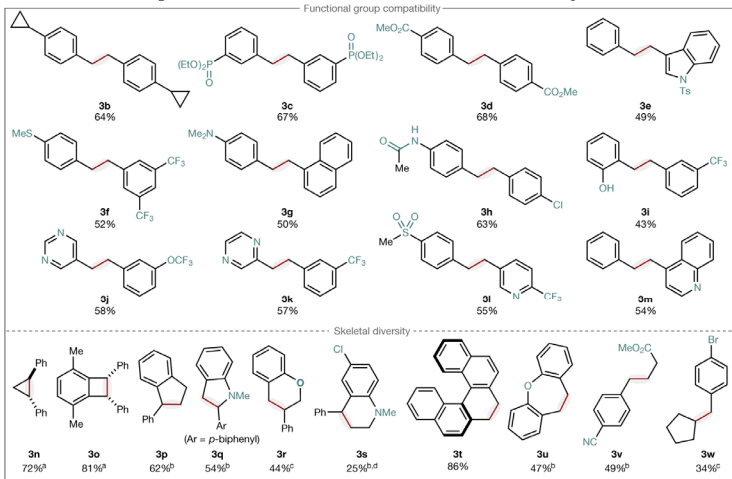
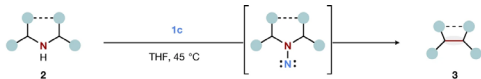
75%‡

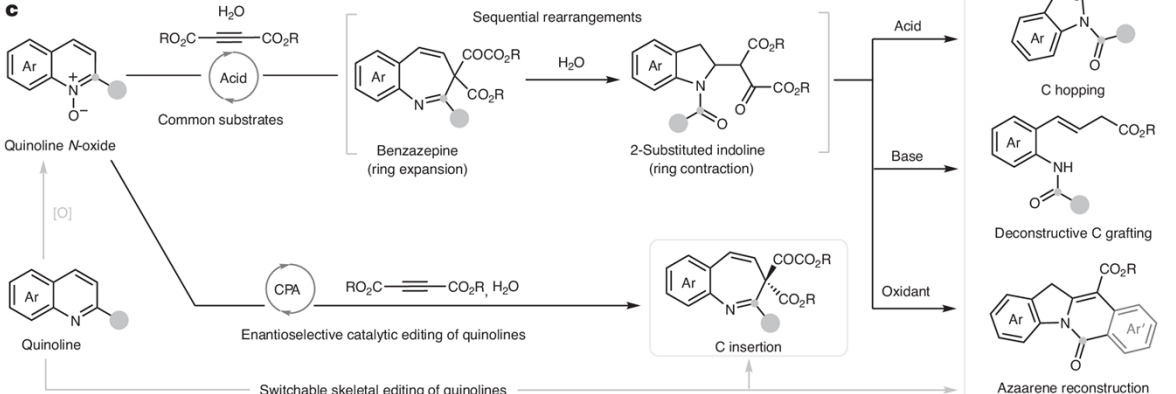
● = C(CH₃)₂Ph

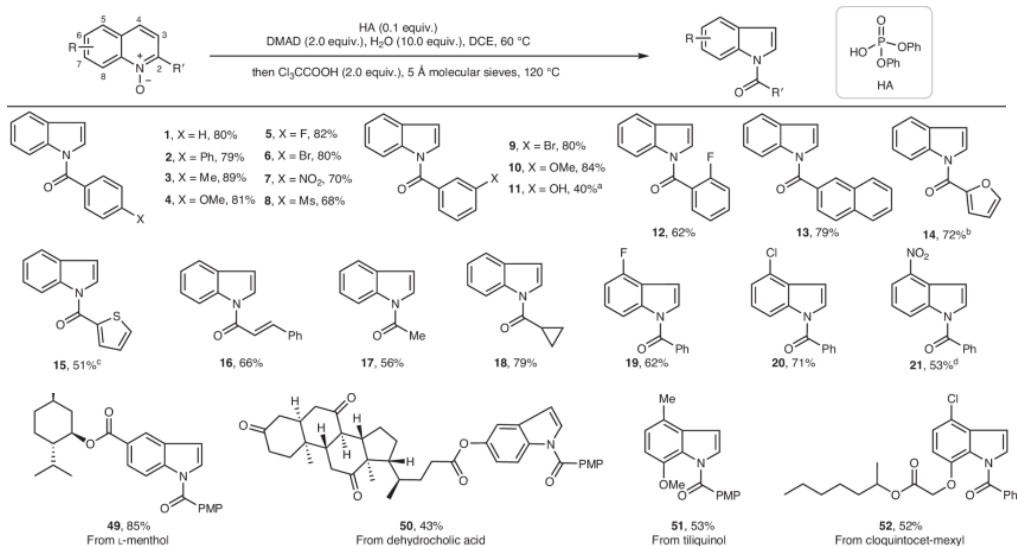


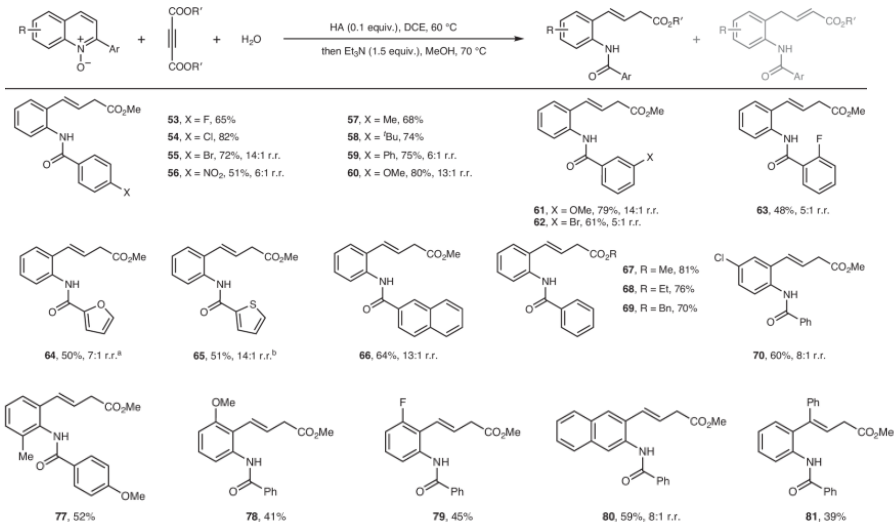
b

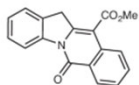
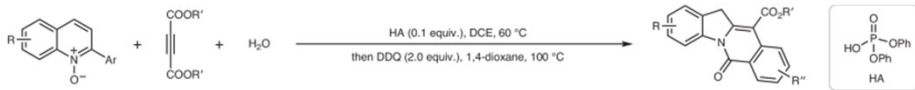




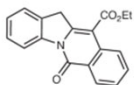




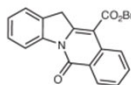




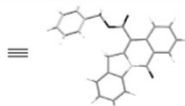
82, 47% yield



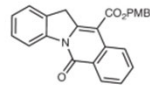
83, 46% yield



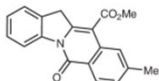
84, 42% yield



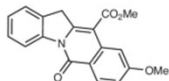
CCDC 2334869



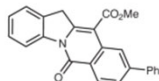
85, 44% yield



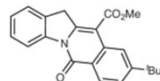
86, 49% yield



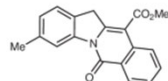
87, 38% yield



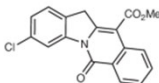
88, 45% yield



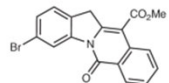
89, 42% yield



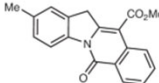
90, 31% yield



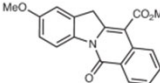
91, 35% yield



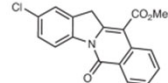
92, 31% yield



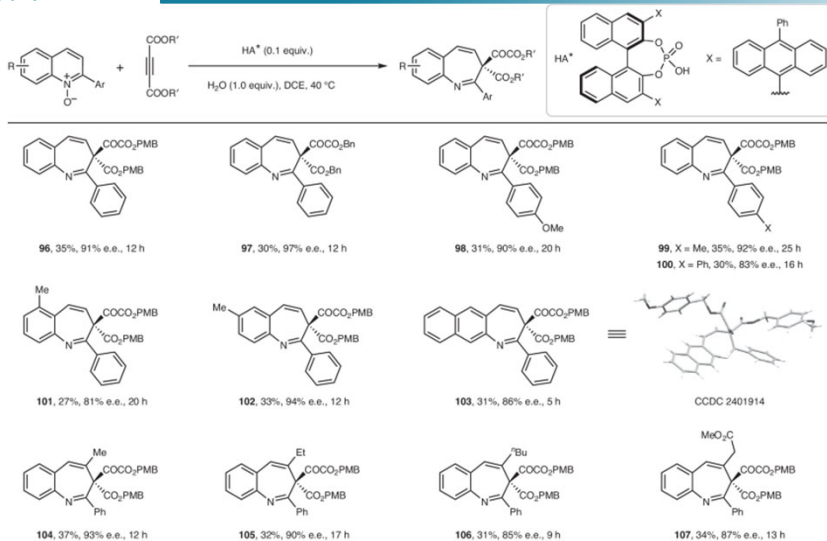
93, 34% yield



94, 36% yield



95, 32% yield





同濟大學 化学科学与工程学院
School of Chemical Science and Engineering



The Yang Research Group
Precise Synthesis Lab of Tongji University

2025.04.23



Thanks for listening



汇报人：王宁