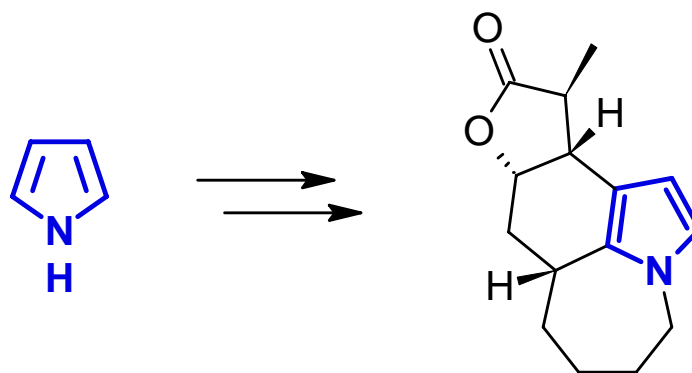


Synthesis of the Stenine Ring System from Pyrrole

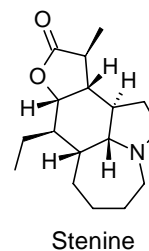


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J. Org. Chem., **2011**, *76*, 5026–5035

The Stemonaceae family is still the only source of the *Stemona* alkaloids

The *Stemona* alkaloids are:

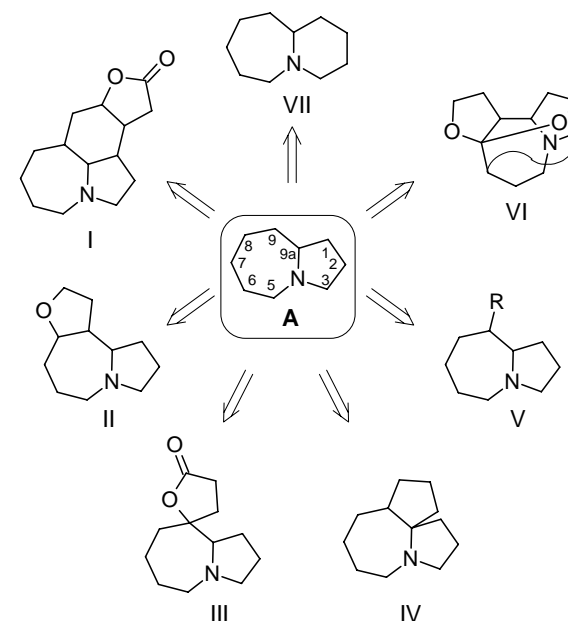
- structurally characterized by the presence
pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine core
pyrido[1,2-a]azepine core
- currently comprises 139 alkaloids



Stemona sessilifolia

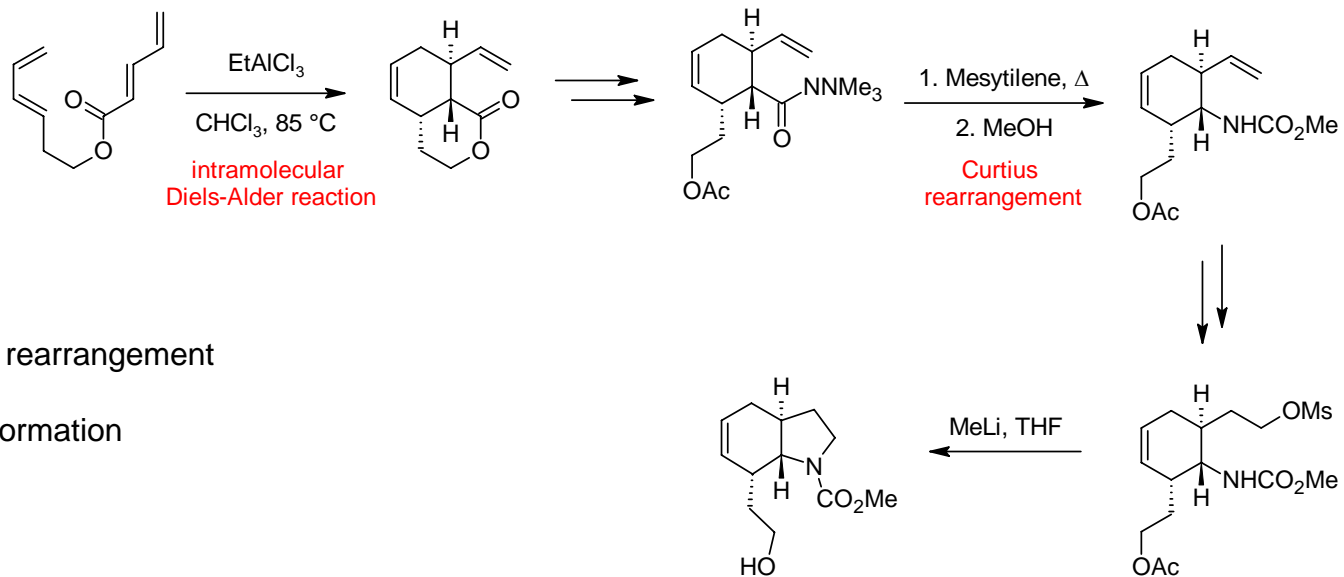
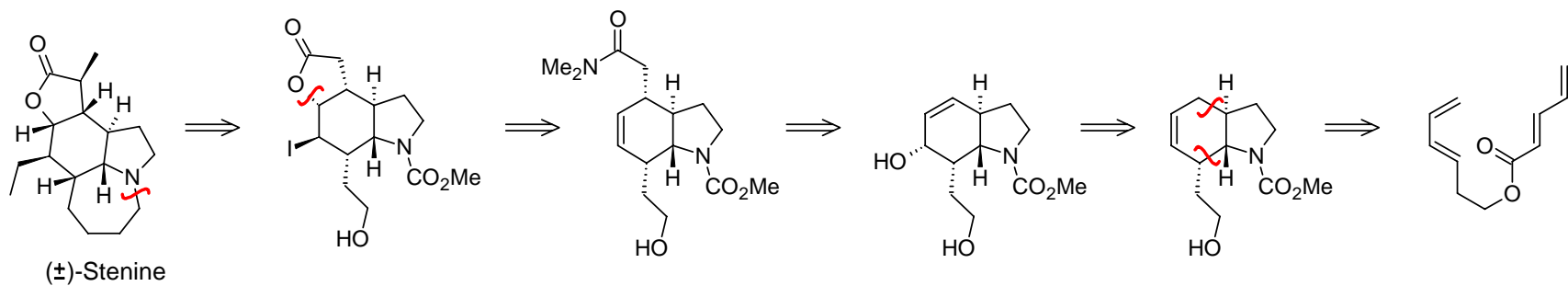
The *Stemona* alkaloids can be organized into eight groups:

- stenine (I),
- stemoamide (II),
- tuberostemospironine (III),
- stemonamine (IV),
- parvistemoline (V),
- stemofoline (VI) (all of which contain the pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepine core)
- stemocurtisine (VII) displaying the pyrido[1,2-a]azepine nucleus,
- miscellaneous group



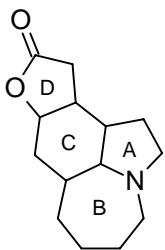
Nat. Prod. Rep., **2010**, 27, 1908

Chen, C.; Hart, D. J. *J. Org. Chem.*, **1990**, *55*, 6236

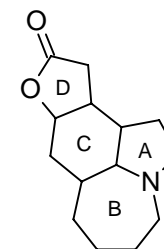
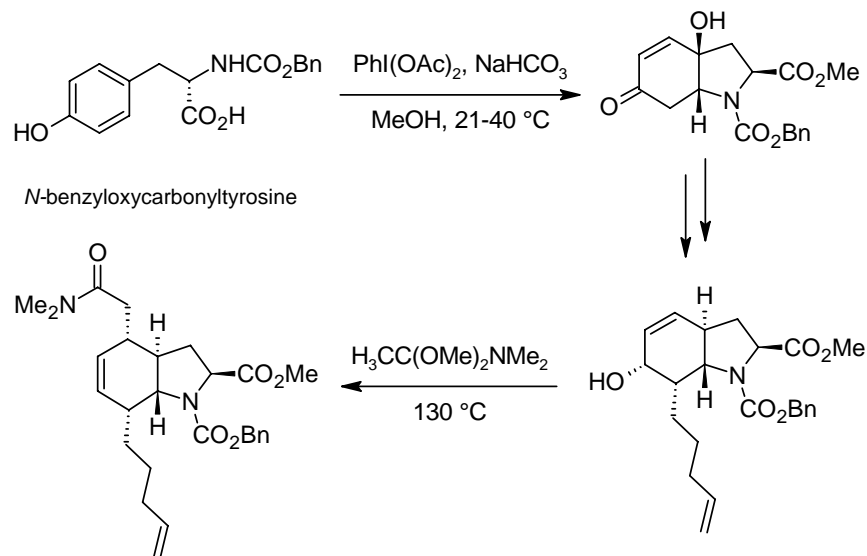
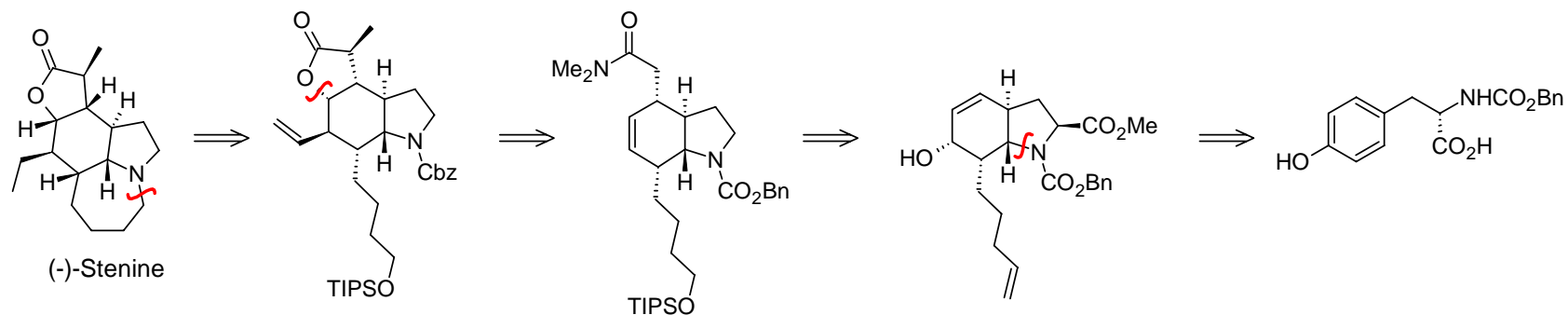


ring D: Claisen–Eschenmoser rearrangement
and iodolactonization

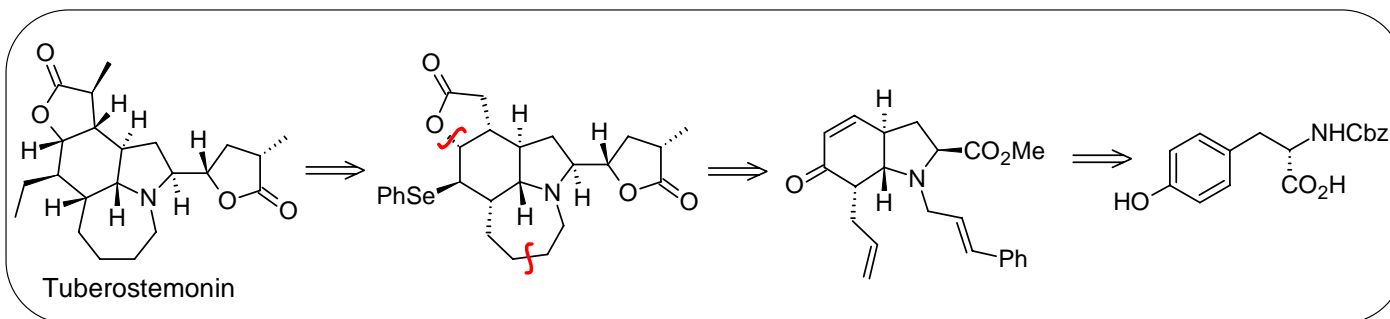
ring B: intramolecular lactam formation

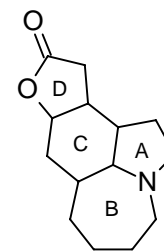
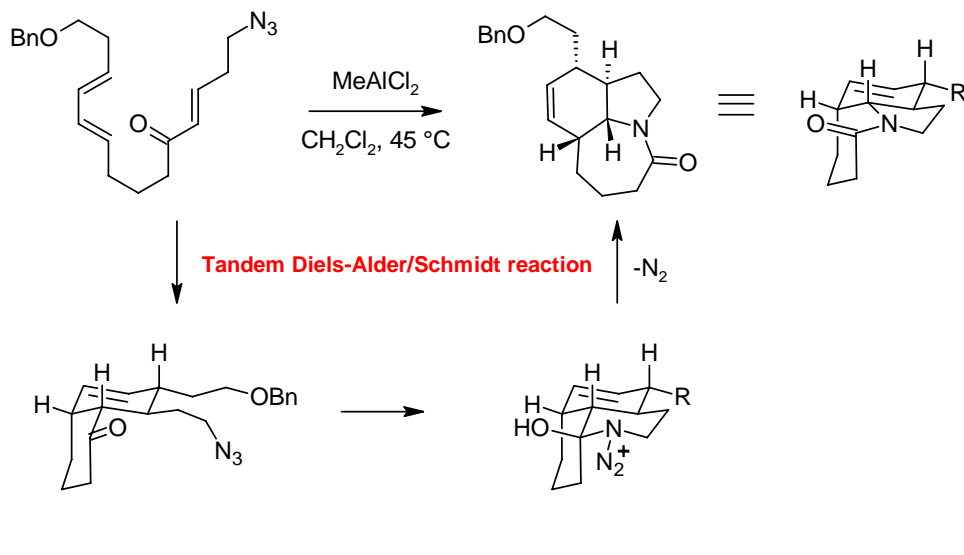
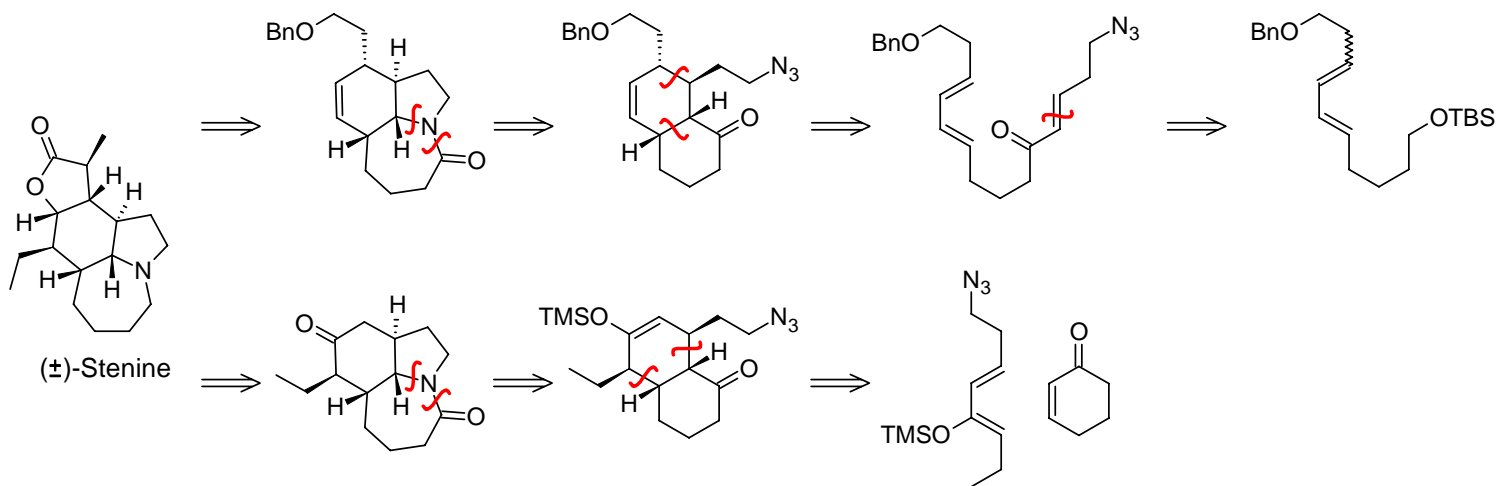


Wipf, P.; Kim, Y.; Goldstein, D. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 11106
 Wipf, P.; Spencer, S. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 225

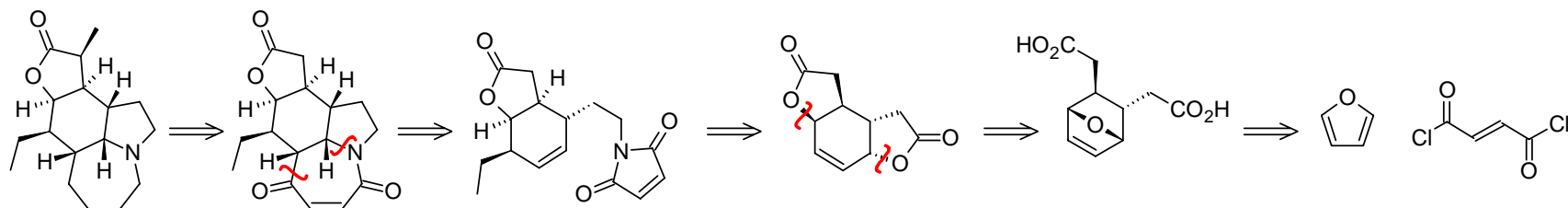


ring D: Claisen–Eschenmoser rearrangement and iodolactonization
ring B: intramolecular lactam formation



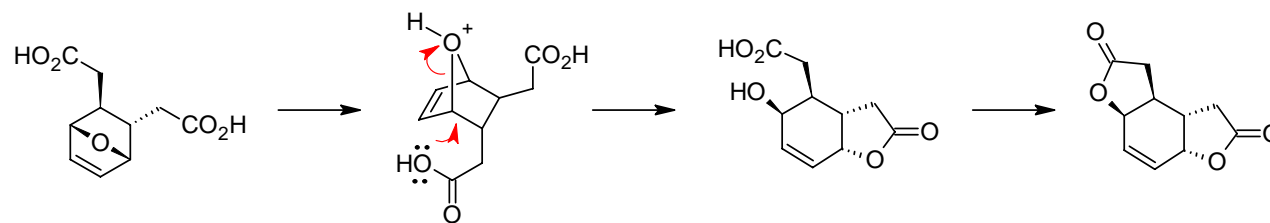


ring D: iodolactonization

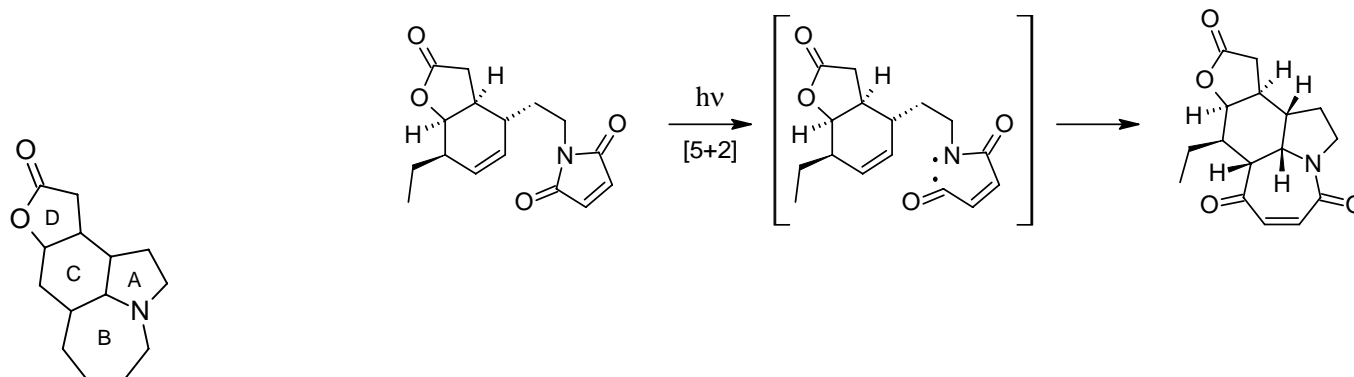


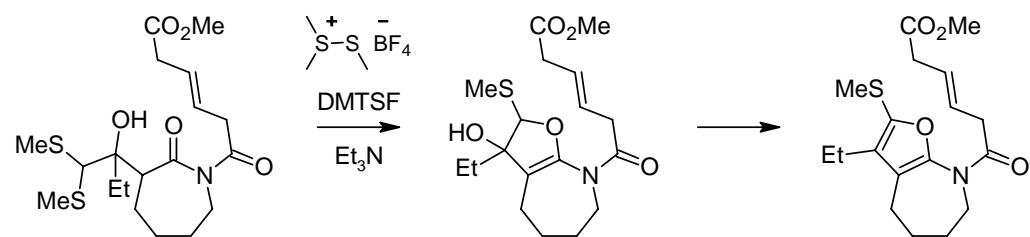
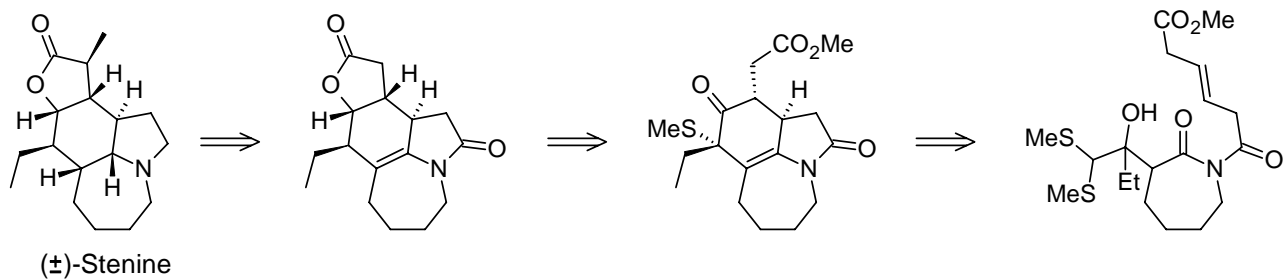
(±)-Neostenine

ring C / D:

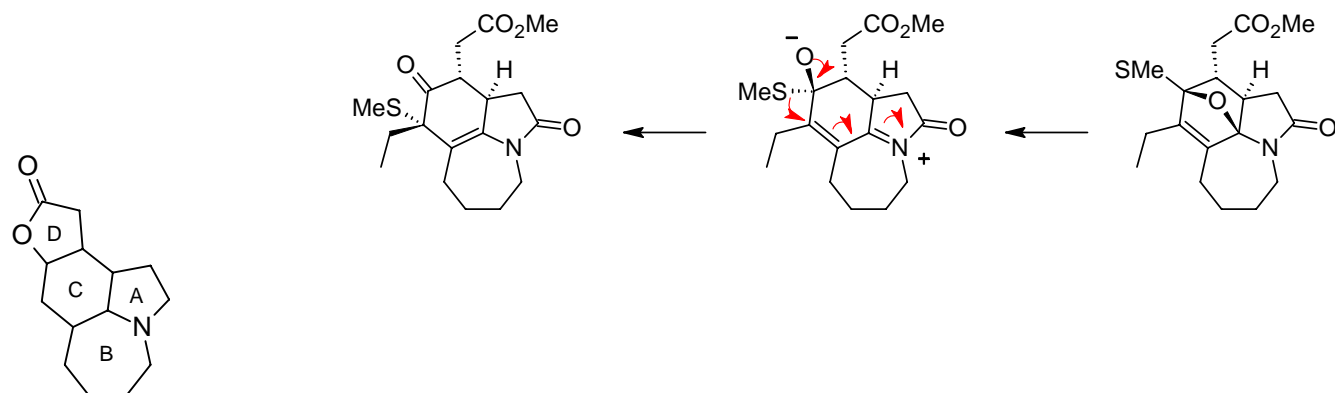


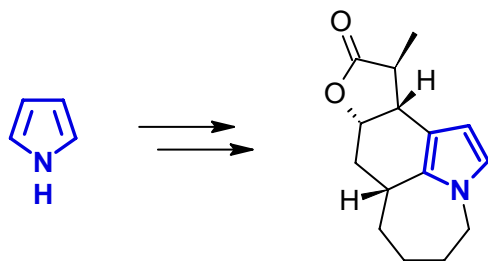
ring A / B:





**intramolecular [4+2] cycloaddition
rearrangement cascade reaction**





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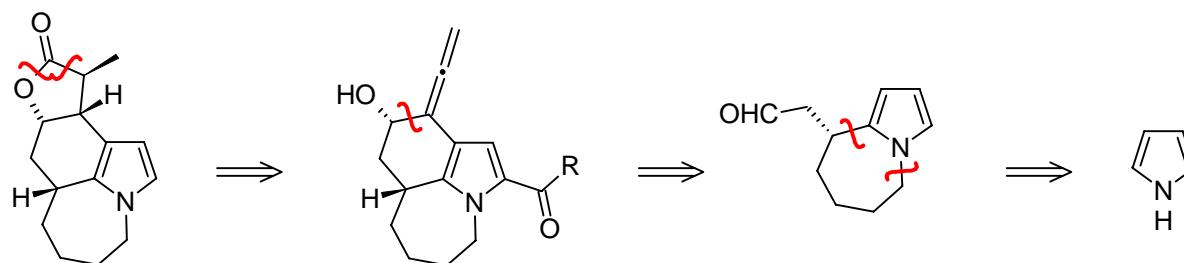
The *Stemona* alkaloids are attractive synthetic targets due to the diversity of structures found in this family of alkaloids

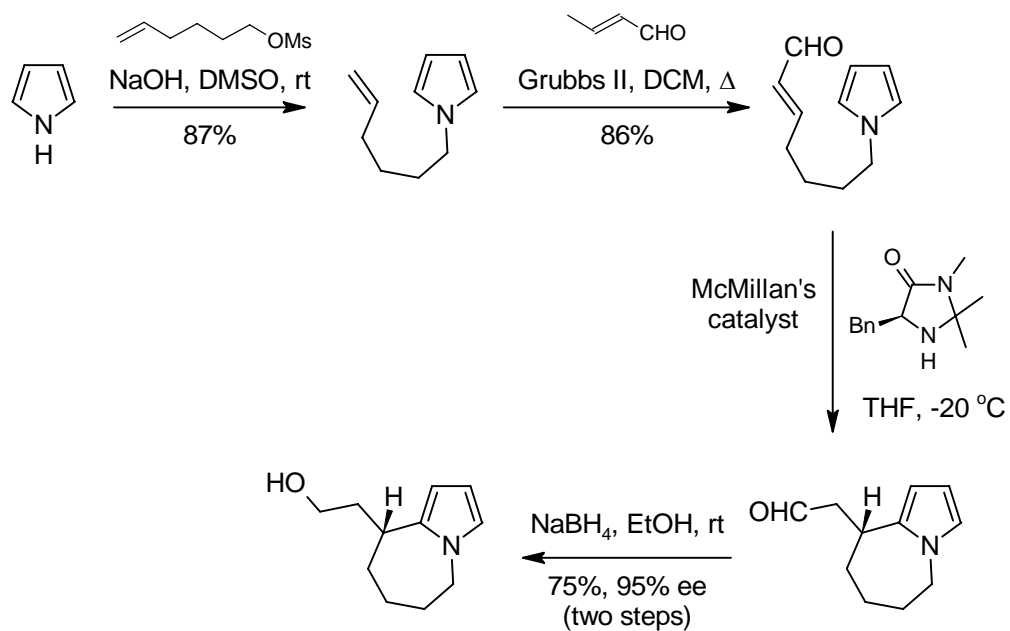
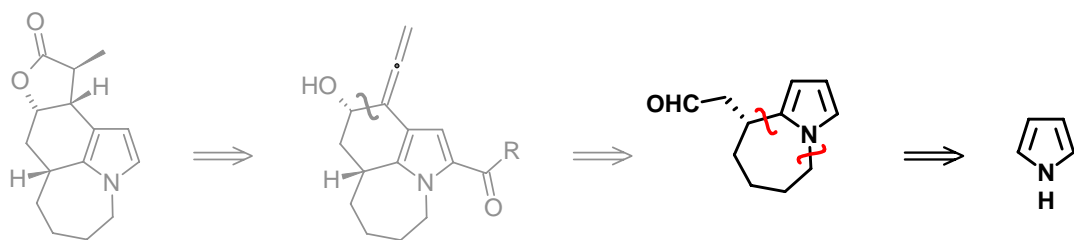
Recently, it has been reported that neostenine, a stereoisomer of stenine, has antitussive activity comparable to that of codeine

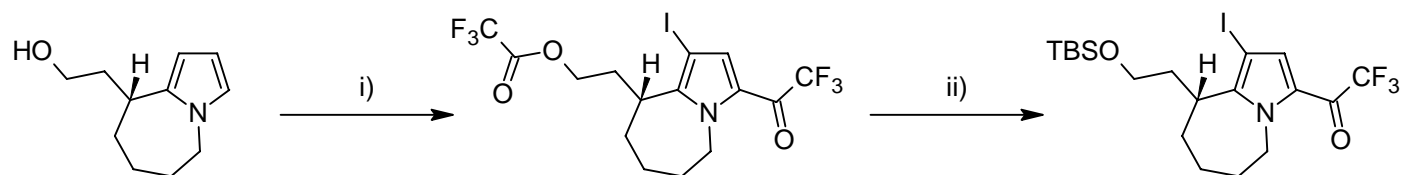
Using pyrroles in natural product synthesis is challenging:

- highly electron-rich nature of the pyrrole ring promote certain productive reactions, but it can also cause some problems

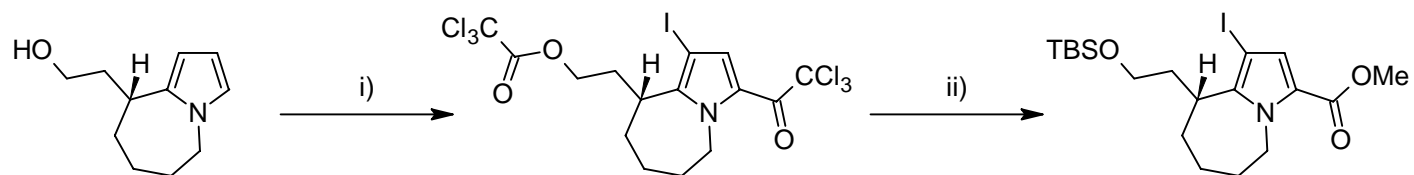
Additional synthetic strategies has been used to construct the pyrrole moiety in pyrrole-containing natural products



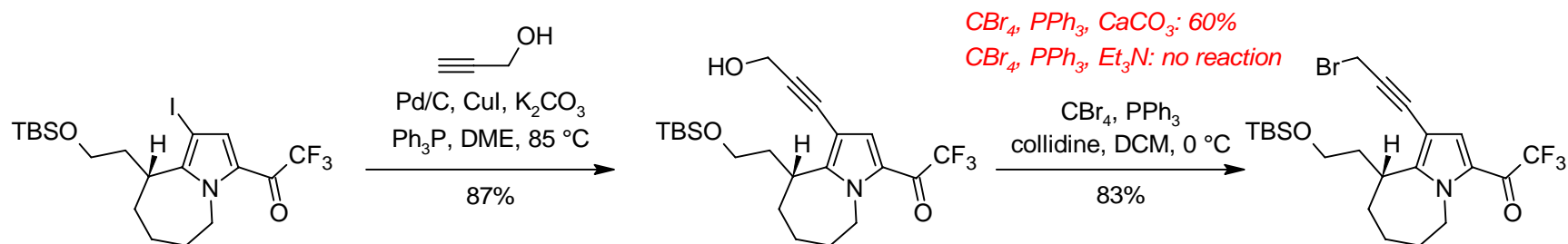
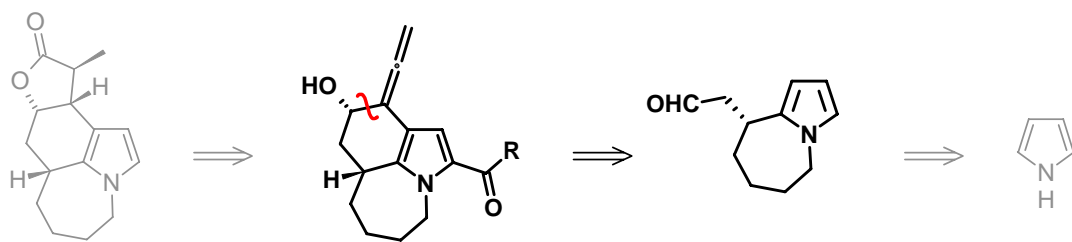




i) 1) $(\text{CF}_3\text{CO})_2\text{O}$, Et_2O , rt, 83%; 2) ICl , DCM , rt, 88%
 ii) 1) PVP, MeOH , rt, quant.; 2) TBSCl , imidazole, DCM , rt, quant.



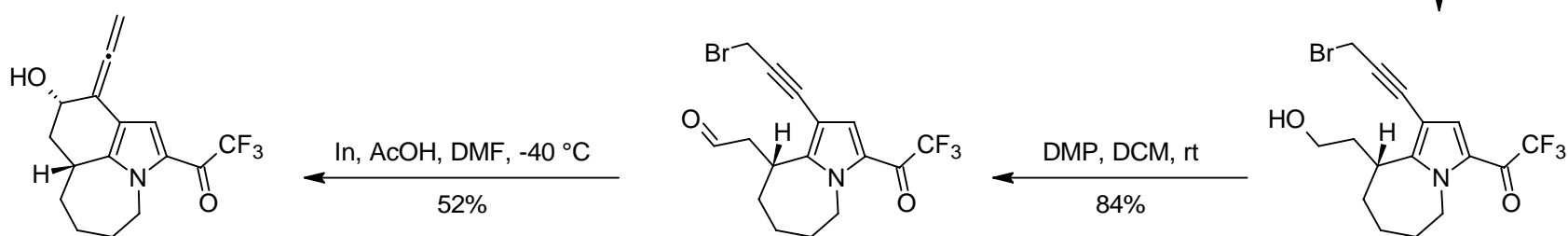
i) 1) CCl_3COCl , Et_2O , rt, 95%; 2) ICl , DCM , rt, 90%
 ii) 1) NaOMe , MeOH , rt, 90%; 2) TBSCl , imidazole, DCM , rt, 80%



CBr_4 , PPh_3 , CaCO_3 : 60%
 CBr_4 , PPh_3 , Et_3N : no reaction

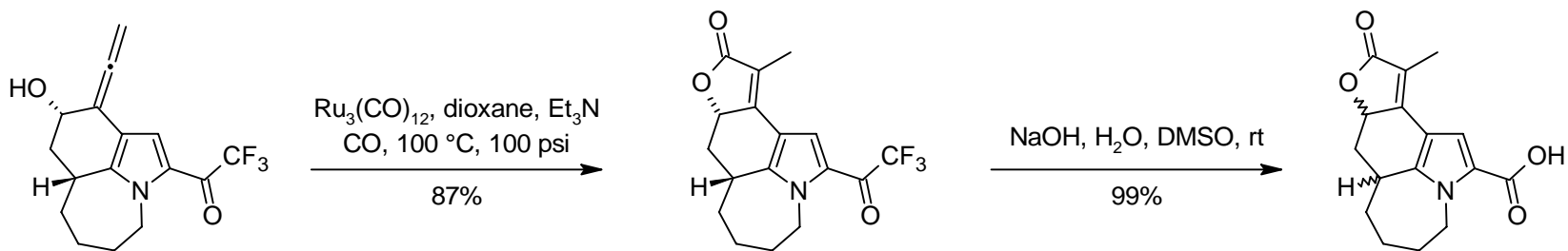
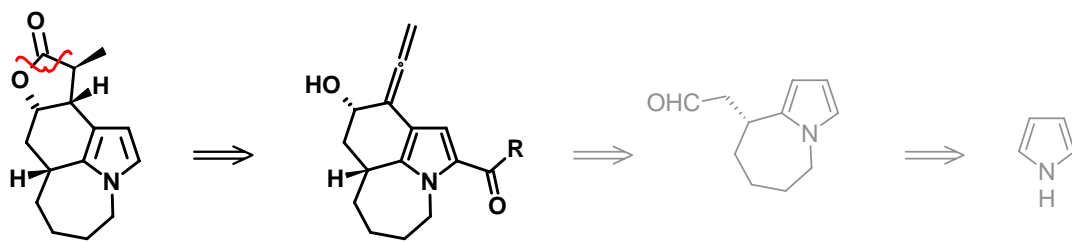
Ambrelyst-15, MeOH , 14h, rt: 0%
 PPTS, MeOH , 10h, rt: 0%
 TBAF, THF , 14h, rt: 48% corresponding fluoride

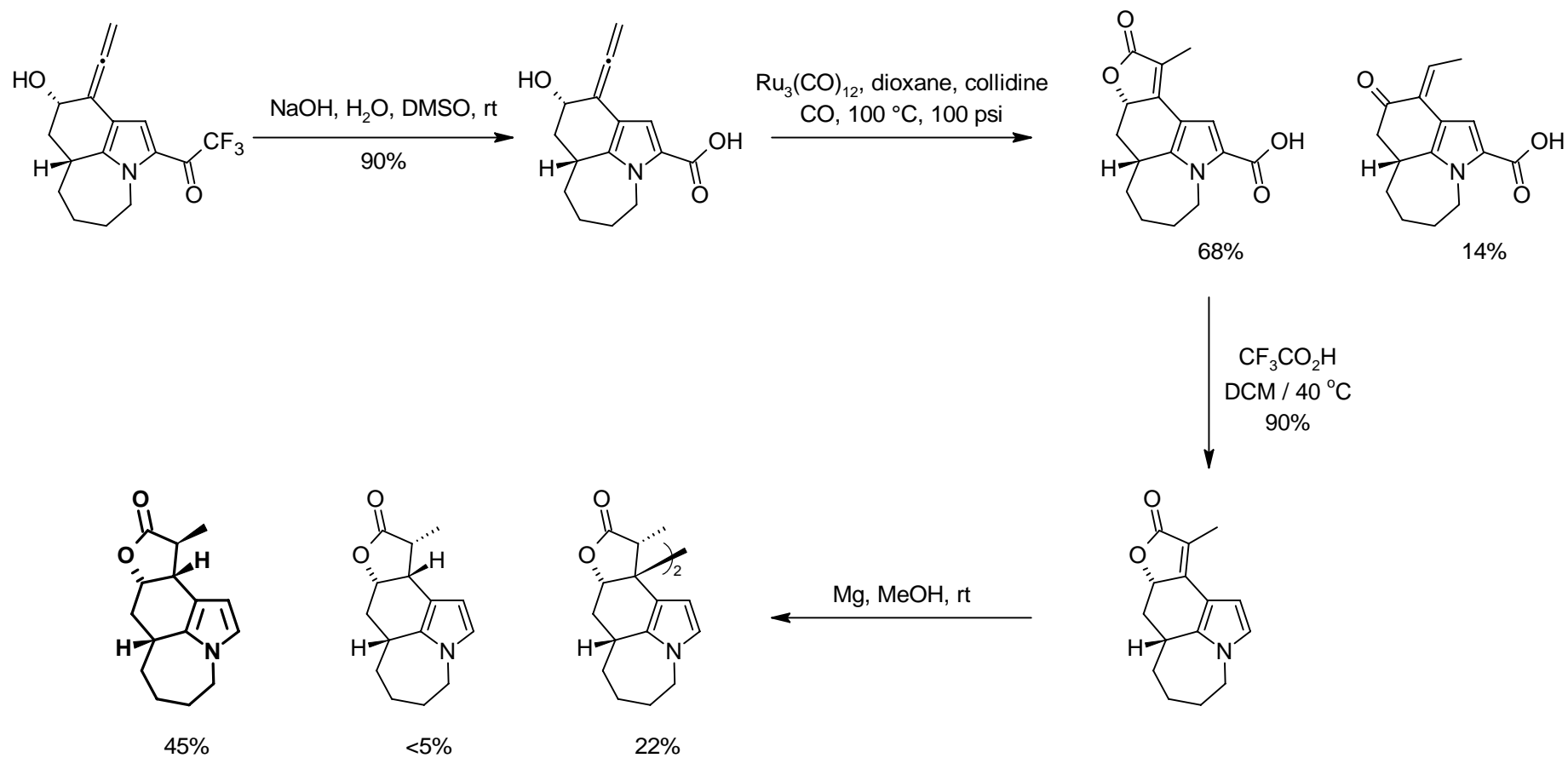
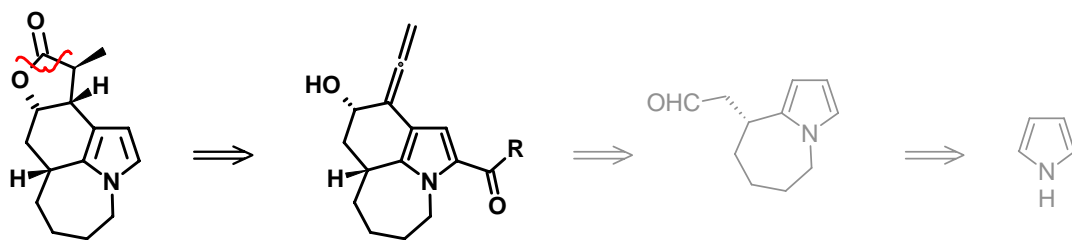
Ambrelyst-15
 $i\text{-PrOH}$, 24h, rt
 90%



no diastereoselectivity using zinc (Zn)

slight improvement with
 stannous chloride (SnCl_2)





CONCLUSION

Additional contribution to the synthesis of the stemona alkaloids using an new synthetic approach

The high electron density of the pyrrole ring can complicate some reactions but can be controlled by using the trifluoroacetyl group, that can easily and rapidly be removed

