# Towards Maoecrystal V: A Comparison of Recent Strategies



Current Literature: November 14, 2009 Melissa Sprachman

#### **Maoecrystal V: Structural Representations**



X-Ray Crystallographic Structure

Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 4327-4330.



## Isolation and Structural Information



- Isolated from the leaves of *Isodon eriocalyx* (Chinese medicinal herb)
- Structural confirmation: 1D and 2D NMR, MS, X-Ray
- Inhibitory activity toward HeLa cells (IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.02  $\mu$ g/mL) [Compare to *cis*-platin: IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.99  $\mu$ g/mL)

	$IC_{50} (\mu g/mL)$					Cor
test substance	K562	A549	BGC-823	CNE	HeLa	0, 4
1	$6.43  imes 10^4$	$2.63  imes 10^5$	$1.47 \times 10^4$	$nd^a$	0.02	
cis-platin	0.38	1.61	0.25	2.31	0.99	
<sup>a</sup> Not determined						

Table 2.	Cytotoxicity	of Compound	1
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Copied from: *Org. Lett.* **2004,** *6,* 4327.

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### The *ent*-Kauranes (diterpenoids)



For a review see *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **2006**, *23*, 673.



Proposed Biogenetic Pathways for Maoecrystal V and

Maoecrystal Z from a common 7,20-epoxy-*ent*-kaurane:



Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 4727.





Baran (Li): Org. Lett. **2009**, *11*, 4744 and Org. Lett. **2009**, *11*, 4770.



Nicolaou: *Chem. Commun.* Advance

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### Danishefsky: "Pattern Recognition"



#### Danishefsky (cont.)



#### Nicolaou: "Core Structures for Evaluation"



2. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>
hydroquinone
then 1 N HCl (50%, 2 steps)
3. 6 N HCl (aq), reflux, 3
h (83%)



### Nicolaou (cont.)



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# Nicolaou: Simplified structure/interesting approach to the THF



Tested three "core" structures against cell lines:



Only "**C**" showed moderate (but non-selective) activity against human tumor cell lines.

#### Baran: Oxidative Deramotization and IMDA



#### **Reactions of Note**

Arylation with a Bi(V) species:



## Li (Same Approach?)



(w/ free alcohol as substrate: 3.8 : 1

#### Summary and Outlook

- Several groups have reported approaches to Maoecrystal V, all involving a dearomatization and IMDA reactions.
- Only Nicolaou and coworkers have successfully installed the key THF moeity.
- Although Baran and coworkers pose an enantioselective approach, the need for improved diastereoselectivities is apparent.
- Even the advanced Maoecrystal V intermediate (Nicolaou) did not exhibit comparable biological activity to that of the natural compound; is a viable total synthesis necessary for making a useful therapeutic?