## Enantioselective Synthesis of (-)-Englerins A and B

Kian Molawi, Nicolas Delpont, Antonio M. Echavarren\* *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, Early View

# Asymmetric, Protecting-Group-Free Total Synthesis of (-)-Englerin A

Qianghui Zhou, Xiaofei Chen, Dawei Ma\* *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, Early View

Nolan Griggs Current Literature 04-24-2010

# (-)-Englerins A and B

- Isolated by Beutler and co-workers from the stem bark of *Phylanthus engleri*, an east African plant.
- Englerin A was found to be more active than Taxol when tested against renal cancer cell lines with  $GI_{50}$  values < 20 nM.
- Englerin B showed substantially lower ativity indicating the importance of the glycolate ester at the C-9 position.

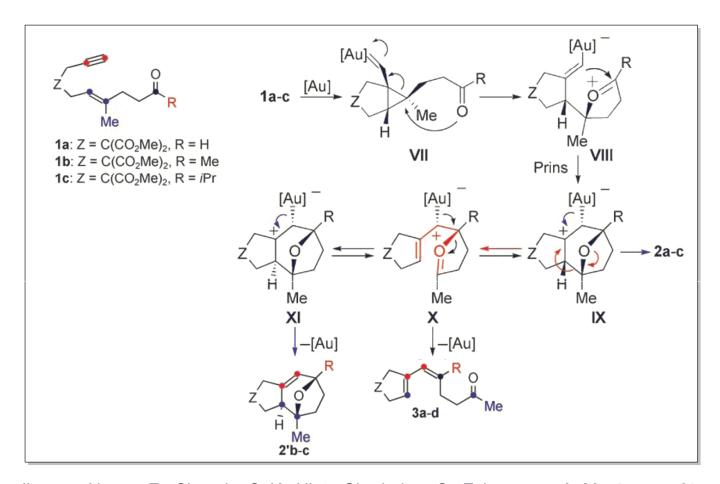
*Org. Lett.*, **2008**, 11(1), 57-60.

# Previous Synthesis of (+)-Englerin A.

• In 2009, Christmann and co-workers completed a total synthesis and determined the absolute configuration of (+)-englerin A.

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., 2009, 48, 9105.

## Prins Cyclization in Gold-catalyzed Reactions of Enynes



Jimenez-Nunez, E.; Claverie, C. K.; Nieto-Oberhuber, C.; Echavarren, A. M.; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 5452-5455.

Aromaticity of IX: Alder, R.; Harvey, J.N.; Oakley, M. T.; *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 4960-4961 Reveiws on Gold-catalyzed cycloadditions: *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 4268-4315. *Chem Rev.* **2008**, 108, 3326-3350.

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 3410-3449.

# Synthesis of (+)-Orientalol F

Jimenez-Nunez, E.; Molawi, K.; Echavarren, A. M.; Chem. Comm. 2009, 7327-7329.

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Gold-Catalyzed Cascade Reaction

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## Proposed Mechanism:

Ph O OTBDPS

1. DMAP, 
$$CH_2CI_2$$
,  $Et_3N$ ,  $80$  °C

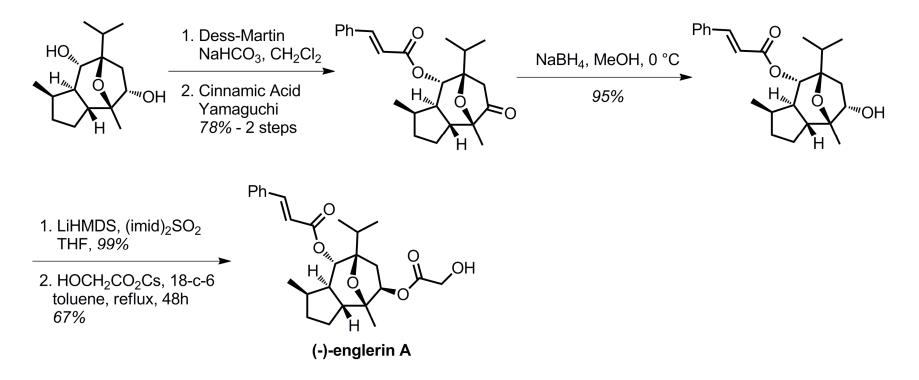
2. TBAF,  $CH_2CI_2$ ,  $6h$ 
91% - 2 Steps

Ph O OTBDPS

1. Yamaguchi, 96%
2. TBAF, AcOH,  $CH_2CI_2$ 
90%

(-)-englerin B

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## Summary

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- Englerin A was synthesized in 18 steps with an 7% overall yield starting from geraniol.
- Highlights of the synthesis include the utilization of a very selective gold-catalyzed enyne cyclization/Prins cascade reaction with a free alcohol at a stereogenic allylic position.

Ma, D. et al.

- Englerin A was synthesized in 15 steps with an 8.1% overall yield starting from (R)-citronellal.
- Highlights of the synthesis include the utilization of a gold-catalyzed enyne cyclization/Prins cascade reaction.
- Synthesis is protecting group free.