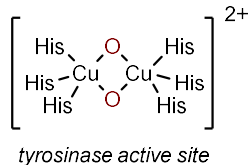
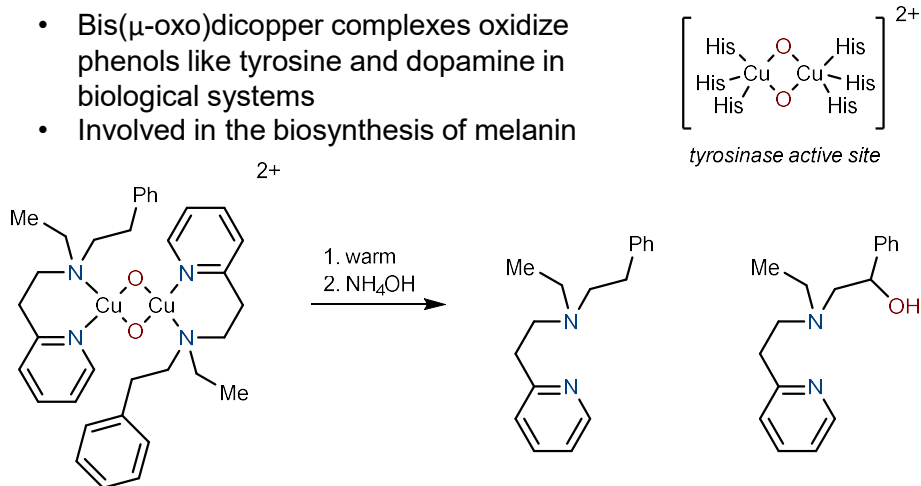
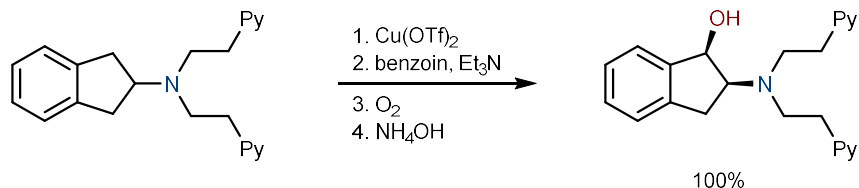


Background

- Bis(μ -oxo)dicopper complexes oxidize phenols like tyrosine and dopamine in biological systems
- Involved in the biosynthesis of melanin

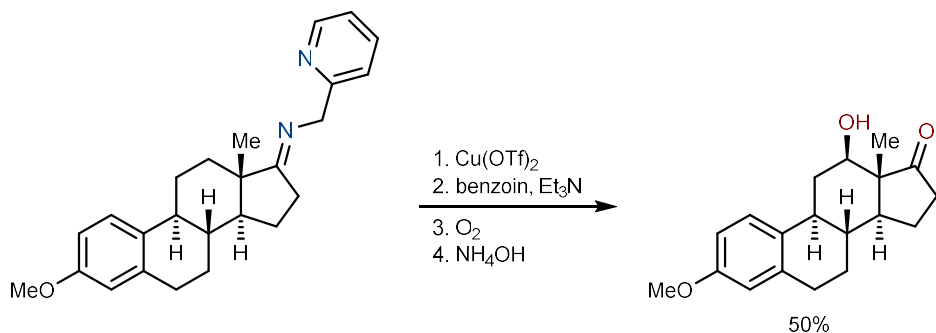


Moro-oka, Y. *Chem. Rev.* **1994**, *94*, 737. <https://doi.org/10.1021/cr00027a010>
 Que, L.; Tolman, W. B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2002**, *41*, 1114.
[https://doi.org/10.1002/1521-3773\(20020402\)41:7<1114::AID-ANIE1114>3.0.CO;2-6](https://doi.org/10.1002/1521-3773(20020402)41:7<1114::AID-ANIE1114>3.0.CO;2-6)



Reglier, M. *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **1998**, *9*, 1297.
[https://doi.org/10.1002/\(SICI\)1099-0682\(199809\)1998:9<1297::AID-EJIC1297>3.0.CO;2-M](https://doi.org/10.1002/(SICI)1099-0682(199809)1998:9<1297::AID-EJIC1297>3.0.CO;2-M)

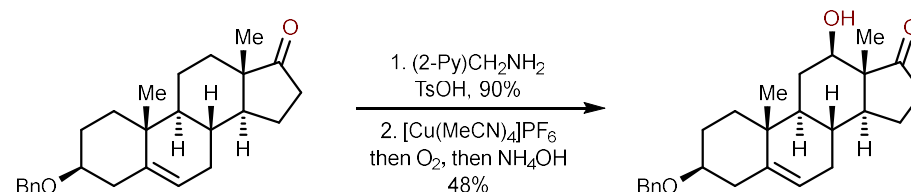
Schönecker's Original Conditions



Schönecker, B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2003**, *42*, 3240. <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.200250815>

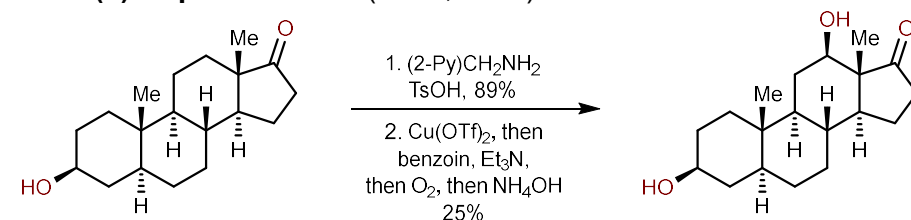
Applications in Total Synthesis

- Cyclopamine** (Giannis, 2009)



Giannis, A. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 7911. <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.200902520>

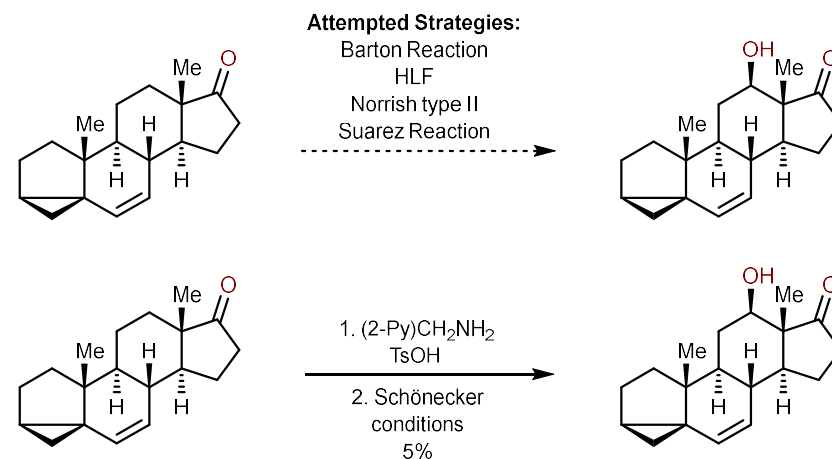
- (+)-Cephalostatin 1** (Shair, 2010)



Shair, M. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 275. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ja906996c>

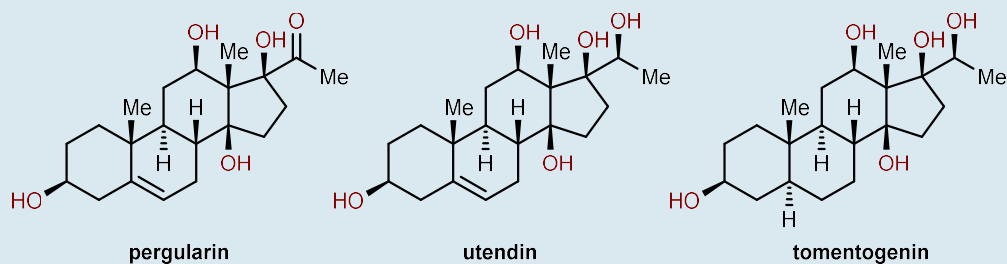
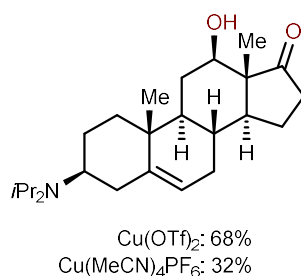
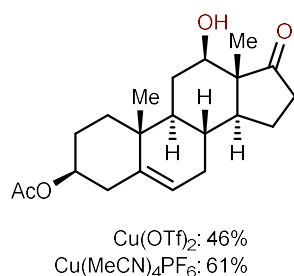
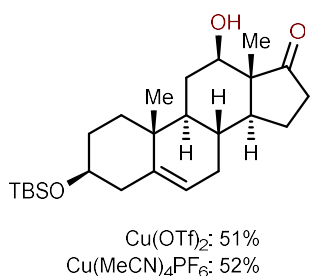
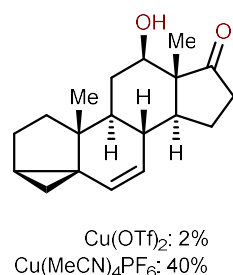
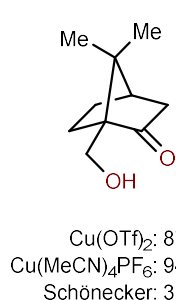
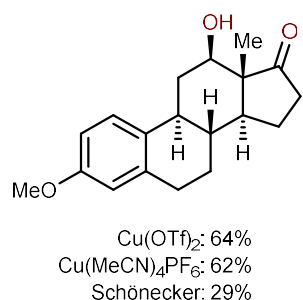
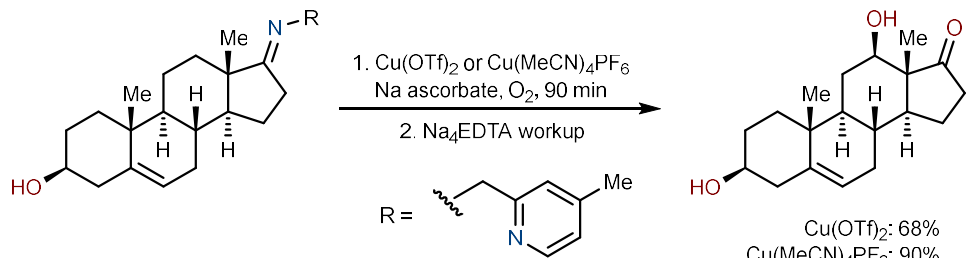
Baran's Involvement

- An intermediate in Baran's synthesis of pregnane-containing natural products proved difficult to oxidize at C12



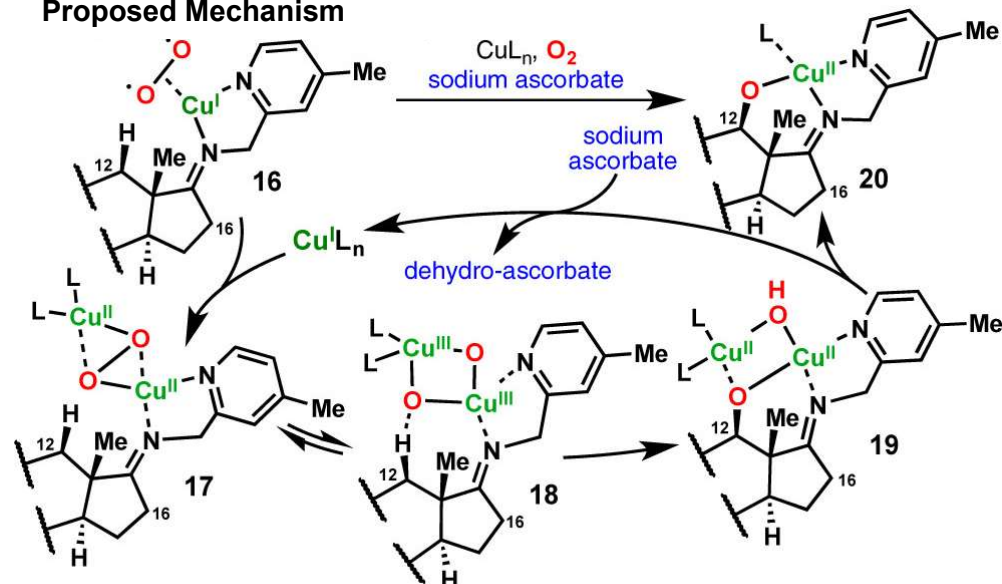
Baran, P. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 13776. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.5b09463>

The Baran Modification



Mechanistic Studies: Baran

Proposed Mechanism



Current mechanistic proposal: L = sodium ascorbate, MeCN , OTf , acetone
Schönecker's mechanistic proposal: L = DHEA imine, MeCN , OTf , acetone

Supporting Observations

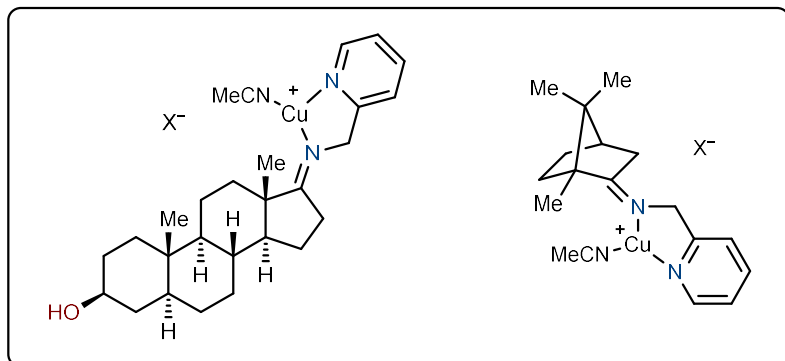
Substoichiometric NMR Experiments

- 0.5 equiv. $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ and 1.5 equiv. sodium ascorbate lead to no conversion after 1 h
- Additional 0.25 equiv. $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ led to 12% oxidation at 2 h
- Additional 0.5 equiv. $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ and 1.0 equiv. sodium ascorbate led to minor increase in conversion

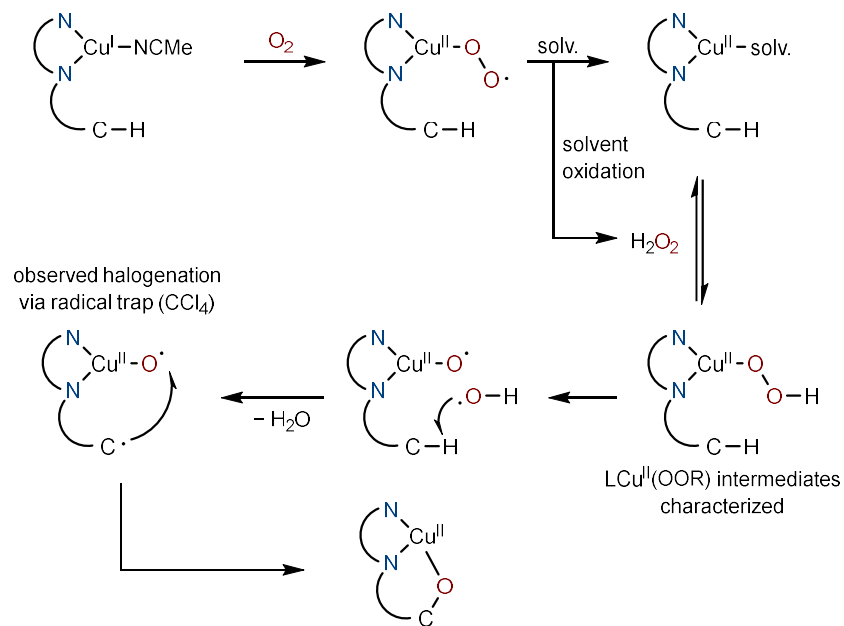
Superstoichiometric NMR Experiments

- In contrast, 1.05 equiv. $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ and 1.5 equiv. sodium ascorbate gave 50% conversion in just 30 min
- Additional 0.75 equiv. sodium ascorbate gave full conversion in 3.5 h

Mechanistic Studies: Baran and Garcia-Bosch



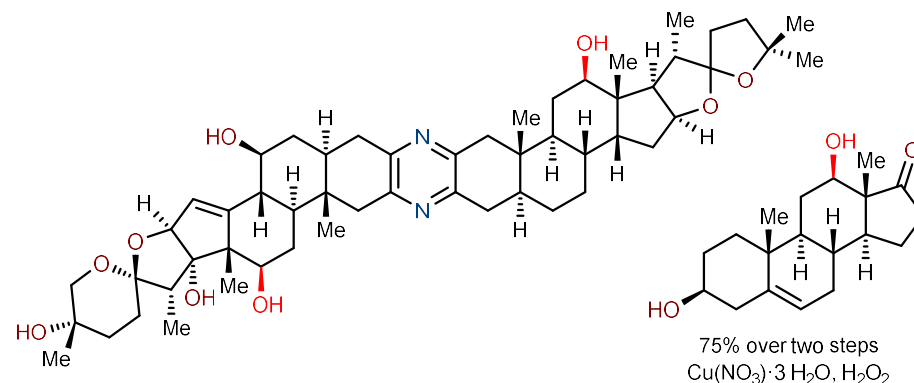
- Elusive copper complexes characterized, subject to in-depth kinetic and spectroscopic studies



- New conditions: $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$, H_2O_2
- Improvements include use of H_2O_2 as oxidant instead of O_2
- No external reductant required
- Shorter reaction times, lower temperatures

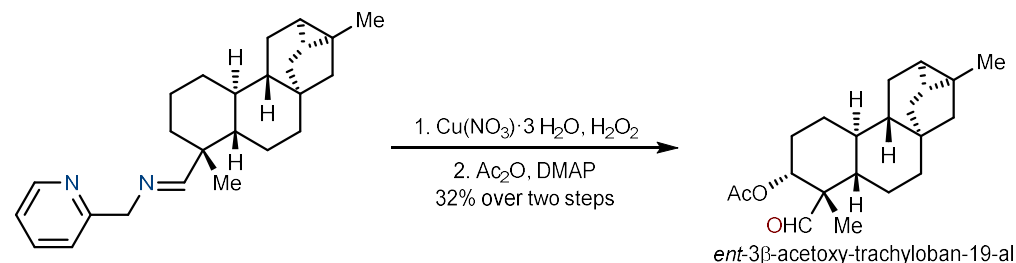
Applications in Total Synthesis

- Ritterazine B** (Reisman, 2021)



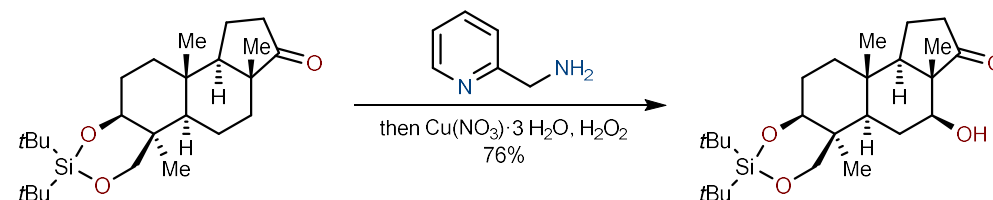
Reisman, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2021**, *143*, 4187. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.1c01372>

- ent-Trachylobanes** (Magauer, 2021)



Magauer, T. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2021**, ASAP. <https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.202113829>

- Phainanoid A** (Dong, 2021)



Dong, G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2021**, *143*, 19311. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.1c11117>

Baran, P.; Garcia-Bosch, I. *J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, *82*, 7887. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.joc.7b01069>