The First Total Synthesis of (Corrected) Ritterazine M

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Hecogenin acetate was converted to ritterazine M in 16 operations with an average yield per opearation of 87%. The overall linear yield was 12%. This confirmed 1 as the corrected structure for ritterazine M by total synthesis.

In the previous paper we proposed that the structure assigned for ritterazine M was incorrect and made a new assignment, 1,¹ based upon NMR difference correlation with the values published by Fusetani.² We now confirm this assignment by providing the first total synthesis of this trisdecacyclic pyrazine, **1** (Scheme 1).



Asymmetric dihydroxylation of terminal olefin 3^1 provided a 5.9:1 mixture of diols 4, which were not readily separable at this stage. In preparation for cyclization to the 5/6 spiroketal (1,6-dioxaspiro[4,5]decane) it was necessary to selectively protect the 1,2-diol moiety. This was accomplished by monosilylation of the primary alcohol to afford the corresponding mixture of inseparable TBS silyl ethers **5** in essentially quantitative yield. Without purification, **5** was reacted with benzoic anhydride, magnesium bromide, and triethylamine to provide **6** in 87% yield, again (presumably) as a 5.9:1 mixture. Again without purification, this mixture was desilylated by using BF₃·OEt₂ to give a fourth inseparable mixture, **7**, which was subjected to the Suarez iodine[III] oxidation^{1.3} to give spiroketals **8a** and **8b** which were separated by chromatography, hydrolyzed, and then oxidized to the A-ring C-3 ketone **10** (Scheme 2).

Completion of the total synthesis required PTAB bromination of **10** to give the α -bromoketone **11** in 82% yield along with small amounts of the 2,2-dibromide. Displacement of this material using our optimal conditions provided the labile equatorial α -azidoketone **12**, which was immediately converted to methoxime **13**. Staudinger reduction of **13** gave the "North M" amino-methoxime **14** in 75% yield. Using

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^{*a*} (a) OsO₄ (2 mol %), (DHQ)₂PHAL (10 mol %), K_3 Fe(CN)₆, K_2 CO₃, t-BuOH/H₂O, 0 °C, 8 h; (b) TBSCl, imidazole, DMAP, DMF; (c) Bz₂O, MgBr₂·OEt₂, TEA, DCM, 25 °C, 18 h; (d) BF₃·OEt₂, DCM, 0 °C, 5 min; (e) PhI(OAc)₂, I₂, c-hexane/DCM, 0 °C, 8 h; (f) K₂CO₃, MeOH/H₂O, 25 °C 5h (g) TPAP (5 mol %), NMO, 4A molecular sieves, DCM, 25 °C, 20 min.

the Guo unsymmetrical pyrazine synthesis,⁴ substrate **14** was united with a stoichiometric amount of the "South 7" α -azidoketone **15**.⁵ This provided **16**, the protected form of ritterazine M, which was globally deprotected to deliver compound **1** which was shown to have proton and carbon NMR parameters equivalent to those of authentic ritterazine M (North section $r^2 = 0.99996$; South section $r^2 = 0.99998$; see Supporting Information). Thus, the structural revision to **1** (Scheme 3) has been firmly secured by synthesis.

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 a (h) PTAB, THF, 0 °C, 15 min; (i) TMGN₃, MeNO₂, 25 °C, 6 h; MeONH₂·HCl, DCM/pyridine, 25 °C, 6 h; (j) PPh₃, H₂O, THF, 25 °C, 2 d; (k) Bu₂SnCl₂, PVP, benzene, reflux, 3 h; (l) i. TBAF, THF, 0 °C, 5 h; ii. K₂CO₃, MeOH/H₂O, reflux, 5 h.

Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. The material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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