

Synthetic Studies toward Amphidinolide  
B<sub>1</sub>: Synthesis of the C<sub>9</sub>–C<sub>26</sub> Fragment

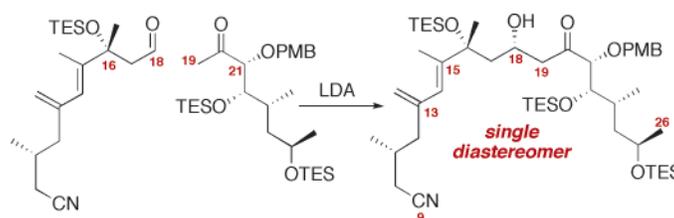
Wei Zhang and Rich G. Carter\*

Department of Chemistry, 153 Gilbert Hall, Oregon State University,  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

rich.carter@oregonstate.edu

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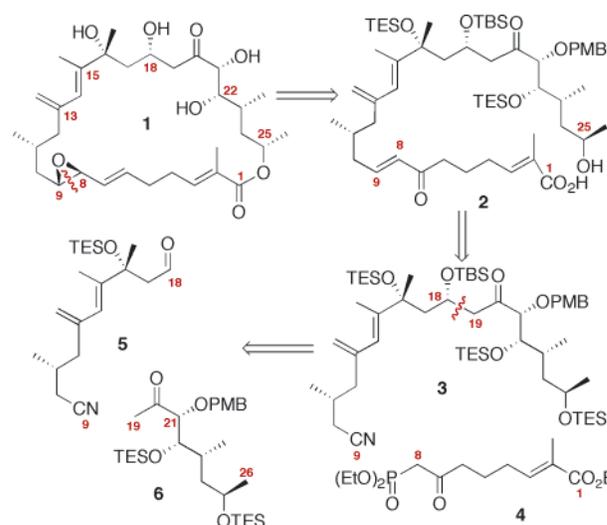
## ABSTRACT



The synthesis of the C<sub>9</sub>–C<sub>26</sub> portion of amphidinolide B<sub>1</sub> is described. A Fleming allylation followed by elimination was employed for the construction of the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene portion. Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation was utilized for regioselective functionalization of a styrene-derived alkene, in the presence of the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene functionality. A highly diastereoselective aldol reaction was developed to establish the C<sub>18</sub> stereochemistry.

Amphidinolide B<sub>1</sub> (**1**) was first observed in the dinoflagellate *Amphidinium* sp., isolated from the Okinawan flatworm *Amphiscolops* sp. (Scheme 1).<sup>1</sup> The relative stereochemistry of **1** was determined by X-ray crystal analysis,<sup>2</sup> and the absolute stereochemistry was established by degradation.<sup>3</sup> Macrolide **1** is a member of a diverse family of natural products<sup>4</sup> that are potent cytotoxic agents with impressive IC<sub>50</sub> activity in a series of screens: L1210 murine leukemia cell line (0.14 ng/mL), human colon tumor HCT 116 cell line (0.12 μg/mL), and KB cancer cell line (4.2 ng/mL).<sup>1,2,4,5</sup> The biological activity and complex structural architecture of **1** has led to considerable synthetic interest;<sup>6,7</sup> yet, the total synthesis of **1** remains an elusive target.<sup>8</sup>

Our initial retrosynthetic strategy, as outlined in Scheme 1, involves a Mitsunobu macrolactonization of seco acid **2**.

Scheme 1. Retrosynthetic Strategy for Amphidinolide B<sub>1</sub>

Compound **2** could, in turn, be available from Wadsworth–Emmons reaction of a C<sub>9</sub> aldehyde with the phosphonate **4**. A diastereoselective aldol reaction between methyl ketone

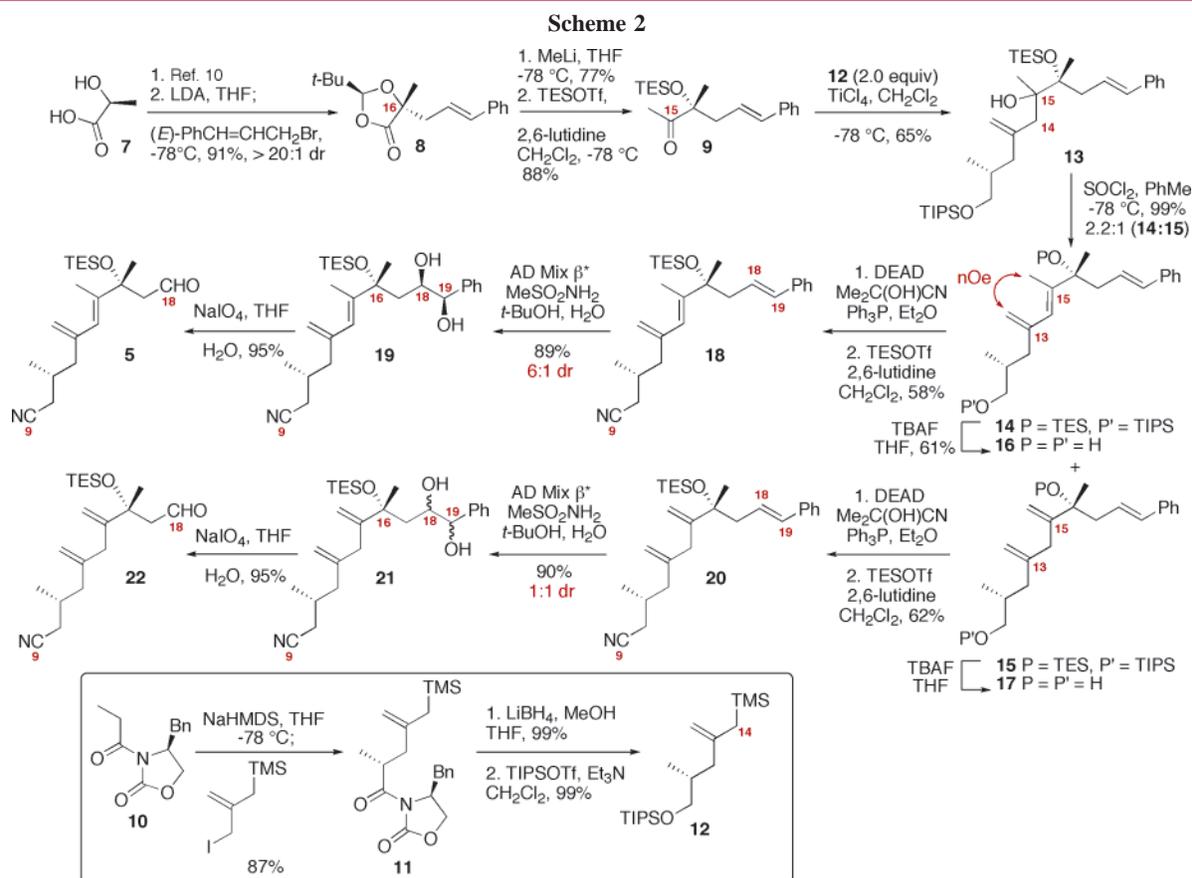
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**6** and aldehyde **5** would be used to form the C<sub>18,19</sub> linkage. Finally, the 1,3-diene fragment present in **5** is particularly challenging as it appears that the C<sub>16</sub>-alkoxy moiety renders a palladium- or copper-mediated strategy problematic for its formation.<sup>7a,9</sup> For this reason, an alternate method for its construction needed to be developed.

The synthesis of aldehyde **5** began with the commercially available (*S*)-lactic acid (**7**) (Scheme 2). After acetalization with pivaldehyde, Seebach alkylation<sup>10</sup> with cinnamyl bro-

mide provided the tertiary alkoxy function in 91% yield and greater than 20:1 dr. Subsequent treatment with MeLi and silylation yielded the protected methyl ketone **9**. Combination with the readily available allyl silane **12** using freshly distilled  $\text{TiCl}_4$  yielded the C<sub>14,15</sub>-coupled material **13** in 65–70% yield as 6:1 ratio of diastereomers at C<sub>15</sub>. Next, elimination of the homoallylic alcohol **13** using  $\text{SOCl}_2$  and pyridine in toluene provided the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene **14** as a *single* stereoisomer at C<sub>14</sub>–C<sub>15</sub>. The desired product was contaminated with the unconjugated diene **15** in a 2.2:1 ratio (**14**/**15**). While compounds **14** and **15** could be separated by HPLC,

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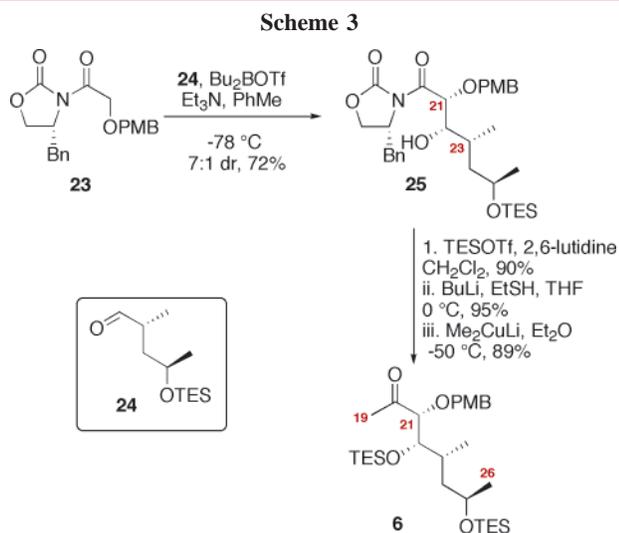
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(9) Chakraborty<sup>7b</sup> has shown that the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>14</sub> palladium coupling can be affected on substrates containing an sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized center at C<sub>16</sub>. Also, Nelson and co-workers quite recently have disclosed the apparent ability access the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene via a Suzuki coupling.<sup>7o</sup>

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purification of the desilylated compounds **16** and **17** proved logistically easier as they were separable by standard chromatographic methods. Subsequent Mitsunobu-type incorporation of the C<sub>9</sub> cyanide<sup>11</sup> and protection yielded **18**. Next, Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation of **18** using AD mix  $\beta^*$ <sup>12</sup> provided the C<sub>18,19</sub> diol as an inconsequential 6:1 mixture of diastereomers. The selectivity for the C<sub>18,19</sub> alkene over the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene was attributed to, in part, a beneficial  $\pi$ -stacking interaction between the neighboring aromatic ring and the corresponding Sharpless ligand.<sup>13</sup> Dihydroxylation under standard OsO<sub>4</sub>, NMO conditions provided a complex mixture of products. AD mix  $\alpha^*$  also proved to be a poor reagent for this transformation. Interestingly, dihydroxylation of the unconjugated diene **20** with AD mix  $\beta^*$  was again regioselective for the C<sub>18,19</sub> alkene; however, no diastereoselectivity was observed in the dihydroxylation. Finally, cleavage of the diol **19** yielded the necessary aldehyde **5**. An analogous procedure with the unconjugated diene series provided the aldehyde **22**.

The synthesis of the eastern subunit **6** commenced with the previously prepared aldehyde **24**<sup>6a</sup> (Scheme 3). Boron-



mediated aldol reaction of aldehyde **24** with the oxazolidinone **23**<sup>14</sup> gave the desired C<sub>21</sub>–C<sub>23</sub> *syn,syn* adduct **25** in good yield. The minor diastereomer in the aldol appeared to be the *anti* aldol adduct ( $J_{\text{H}_{21},\text{H}_{22}} = 9.0$  Hz). Subsequent silylation at C<sub>22</sub> followed by conversion to the thioester and cuprate addition yielded the desired methyl ketone **6**.

With the methyl ketone subunit **6** and the diene fragment **5** constructed, focus shifted toward their union (Scheme 4).

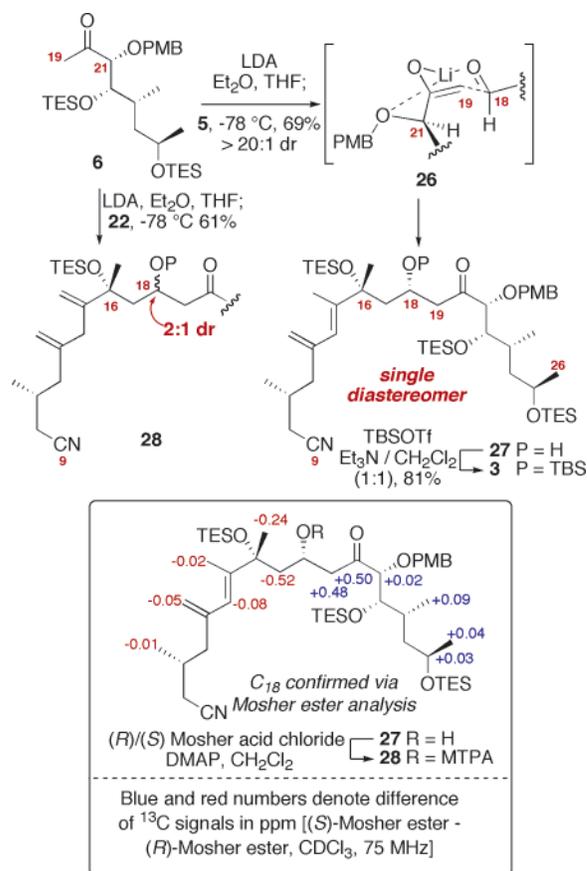
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(12) AD mix  $\beta^*$  = (DHQD)<sub>2</sub>PHAL (15.2 mg), K<sub>2</sub>OsO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (2.55 mg), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (293.6 mg), K<sub>3</sub>Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub> (699.6 mg). Commercially available AD mix  $\beta$  proved to be slow and inefficient.

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**Scheme 4**



Chelation-controlled aldol condensation of lithium enolate derived from the methyl ketone **6** with the aldehyde **5** provided the coupled material **27** in 69% yield as a *single* diastereomer. This result is in contrast to work by Pattenden's and Kobayashi's laboratories in which poor selectivity (approximately 3:2 dr) was observed using enolates derived from LDA, NaHMDS, or KHMDS.<sup>7a,h</sup> In both cases, non-chelating silyl protecting groups<sup>15</sup> were employed on C<sub>21</sub> of the enolate. We attribute part of the improved selectivity at C<sub>18</sub> to the use of the  $\alpha$ -chelating PMB group on the enolate, as shown in the model **26**. It should be noted, however, that when the analogous aldol reaction with the unconjugated diene-containing aldehyde **22** was preformed, diminished selectivity (approximately 2:1 dr) was observed. The C<sub>18</sub> stereochemistry of **27** was confirmed by Mosher ester analysis.<sup>16</sup> Finally, silyl protection under specific conditions<sup>17</sup>

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[TBSOTf (1.2 equiv), Et<sub>3</sub>N/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1:1)] provided silyl ether **27**. If more traditional silylation conditions were employed [e.g., TBSOTf (1.2 equiv), 2,6-lutidine (1.5 equiv)], migration of the 1,1-disubstituted alkene at C<sub>13</sub> into the C<sub>12</sub>–C<sub>13</sub> trisubstituted position appeared to be observed.

In summary, an efficient approach to the C<sub>9</sub>–C<sub>26</sub> portion of amphidinolide B<sub>1</sub> is disclosed. Key steps in the approach include a novel method for the construction of the C<sub>13</sub>–C<sub>15</sub> diene, regioselective dihydroxylation of a styrene derivative using Sharpless AD mix and a highly diastereoselective aldol reaction to form the C<sub>18</sub> stereocenter. While much has been accomplished toward the total synthesis of **1**, significant challenges remain including the incorporation of the C<sub>6</sub>–C<sub>9</sub> epoxy alkene moiety and the nontrivial Mitsunobu macrocyclization of an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated seco acid.

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**Note Added after ASAP Publication.** There was an error in Scheme 2 in the version published ASAP August 19, 2005; the corrected version was published September 2, 2005.

**Supporting Information Available:** Complete experimental procedures are provided, including <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra, of all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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