Regular Article

Synthesis and Structural Revision of Cyslabdan

Masaki Ohtawa,^{*a*} Yusuke Hishinuma,^{*a*} Eiji Takagi,^{*a*} Takafumi Yamada,^{*a*} Fumihiro Ito,^{*a*} Shiho Arima,^{*a*} Ryuji Uchida,^{*a*} Yong-Pil Kim,^{*b*} Satoshi Ōmura,^{*c*} Hiroshi Tomoda,^{*a*} and Tohru Nagamitsu^{*,*a*}

^a Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kitasato University; 5–9–1 Shirokane, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108–8641, Japan: ^b Department of Pharmacy, Iwaki Meisei University; 5–5–1 Chuoudai, Iino, Iwaki, Fukushima 970–8551, Japan: and ^c Kitasato Institute for Life Sciences and Graduate School of Infection Control Sciences, Kitasato University; 1–15–1 Kitasato, Minami-ku, Sagamihara 252–0373, Japan. Received May 9, 2016; accepted June 4, 2016

Cyslabdan was isolated from the culture broth of *Streptomyces* sp. K04-0144 as a new potentiator of imipenem activity against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. We accomplished the synthesis of cyslabdan according to a previously reported structure. However, we subsequently found that this structure was incorrect; our analysis of natural cyslabdan showed that it possessed R stereochemistry at the C8 position, not S, as had previously been reported. Thus, we completed the protecting-group-free synthesis of the correct structure of cyslabdan, which is described herein.

Key words cyslabdan; structure revision; protecting-group-free synthesis; imipenem activity potentiator; methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is known as a major nosocomial pathogen that has developed resistance to many antibiotics.¹⁾ Moreover, MRSA has been reported to be developing resistance to the last-resort antibiotic vancomycin.^{2,3)} Although it is increasingly necessary to find new antimicrobial agents for the treatment of MRSA infections, it is not an easy task. Therefore, we attempted a new approach in which we screened microbial potentiators of imipenem activity against MRSA. Consequently, cyslabdan, a labdane-type diterpene containing N-acetyl-L-cysteine in a neopentyl-like position was isolated from the culture broth of the actinomycete strain K04-0144 and was found to be a strong potentiator of imipenem activity against MRSA^{4,5} (Fig. 1). While cyslabdan exhibits almost no anti-MRSA activity by itself (minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC), 64 µg/mL), when used in conjunction with other antibiotics, it enhances their imipenem activities against MRSA over 1000-fold. This enhancement indicates that clinically resistant MRSA strains become clinically susceptible in the presence of cyslabdan. Recently, chemical biology investigations revealed that cyslabdan inhibits FemA, which is involved in the synthesis of the pentaglycine interpeptide bridge of the peptidoglycan of MRSA.⁶⁾ The biosynthetic pathway of cyslabdan was also elucidated.⁷⁾ The absolute configuration of the *N*-acetylcysteine moiety and the relative configuration of the labdane-type





*To whom correspondence should be addressed. e-mail: nagamitsut@pharm.kitasato-u.ac.jp

diterpene moiety were determined, although the absolute configuration of the latter was unclear.⁴⁾ Due to its intriguing structural features and biological profile, this natural product was selected as an attractive target for synthesis. Herein, we describe the synthesis of the reported and revised structures (1) and (2) of cyslabdan, allowing the determination of its absolute configuration.

Results and Discussion

First Approach to the Synthesis of 1: Introduction of a Cysteine Unit via an Epoxide Ring-Opening Reaction Initially, we hypothesized that the unknown absolute configuration of 1 would be similar to the configuration shown in Fig. 1, which is based on the absolute configuration of decaline units found in several natural labdane-type diterpenes⁸⁾ and our previous report⁴) on the relative configuration. For the synthesis of the reported cyslabdan structure (1), the introduction of the N-acetyl-L-cysteine unit at the sterically hindered C17 (cyslabdan numbering), in which the neopentyl-like position is axial, was recognized as the most challenging step. To complete this step, the selection and introduction of a suitable leaving group at C17 to allow an $S_N 2$ reaction is necessary. This also requires the protection of the sterically hindered C8*tertiary* hydroxyl group.⁹⁾ Taking these into consideration, the initial synthetic strategy for the reported structure of cyslabdan (1) was designed as shown in Chart 1, in which epoxide 3 was adopted as a key intermediate. Although the protection of the sterically hindered C8-tertiary hydroxy group in this strategy was unnecessary, the requisite epoxide ring-opening reaction with N-acetyl-L-cysteine was anticipated to be difficult given that the direction of nucleophilic attack on the epoxide was very sterically hindered and fixed. However, we expected this synthetic strategy to afford a concise and short route to the reported structure of cyslabdan (1). The diene unit of the epoxide 3 would be constructed from diol 4, which could be synthesized via the stereoselective epoxidation and configurational inversion of the C7-hydroxy group of the known allylic



Run	Reagents (equiv.)	Solvent(s)	Temp. (°C)	Time (h)	Result
1	N-Acetyl-L-cysteine t-butyl ester (5), t-BuOK (2.5)	t-BuOH	40	24	No reaction
2	NaSH (2)	MeOH	50	48	No reaction (R=SH)
3	NaSH (10), 15-crown-5 (12)	(CH ₂ OH) ₂ -DMF	50	96	No reaction (R=SH)
4	EtSH (3), NaH (3)	DMF	r.t.	16	No reaction (R=SEt)
5	KSAc (8)	DMF	50	48	No reaction (R=SAc)
6	NaI (10)	DMF	140	24	No reaction (R=I)
7	TBAI (5), $MgBr_2 \cdot Et_2O$ (2)	DMF	60	23	Decomposed
8	$HClO_4$ (5)	THF-H ₂ O	60	16	No reaction (R=OH)



Chart 1. Retrosynthetic Analysis of 1

alcohol **5**, which is readily prepared from commercially available (3a*R*)-(+)-sclareolide.¹⁰

Our synthesis commenced with the stereoselective epoxidation of the known allylic alcohol 5 with m-chloroperbenzoic acid (mCPBA) to give 6 (Chart 2). The stereochemistry of epoxide 6 was determined by the conversion of 6 to the known triol 7¹¹⁾ and the comparison of their physicochemical properties. The Mitsunobu reaction¹²⁾ of 6 led primarily to dehydration: however, configurational inversion at the C7hydroxy group was achieved via Dess-Martin oxidation^{13,14}) and reduction with LiAl(t-BuO)₃H to give 8. Desilylation of 8 with tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF) gave diol 4, which was subjected to double protection as a bis-triethylsilyl (TES) ether followed by Swern oxidation¹⁵⁾ to afford aldehyde 9. Stereoselective diene construction via a subsequent four-step sequence involving standard methodologies including Wittig olefination gave 10, which was exposed to TBAF to afford the desired epoxide 3. The stereochemistry at each chiral center in 3 was confirmed using nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) experiments.

With the epoxide **3** in hand, the epoxide ring-opening reaction was attempted using various nucleophiles (Table 1). The



Reagents and conditions: (a) mCPBA, CH_2Cl_2 , 0°C, 94%; (b) LAH, Et₂O, r.t., 91%; (c) DMP, CH_2Cl_2 , r.t.; (d) LiAl(*t*-BuO)₃H, Et₂O, r.t., 94% (2 steps); (e) TBAF, THF, r.t., 99%; (f) TESCI, DMAP, imidazole, DMF, 0°C, 93%; (g) (COCl)₂, DMSO, Et₃N, CH_2Cl_2 , -78°C, 99%; (h) Ph₃P=C(Me)CO₂Et, benzene, 60°C, 96%; (i) DIBAL, CH_2Cl_2 , -78°C; (j) MnO₂, CH_2Cl_2 , r.t.; (k) Ph₃PMeBr, NaHMDS, THF, 0°C, 74% (3 steps); (l) TBAF, THF, r.t., 91%.

Chart 2. Synthesis of the Key Intermediate Epoxide 3

treatment of **3** with *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine *t*-butyl ester in the presence of *t*-BuOK in *t*-BuOH at 40°C led to no reaction (run 1). Therefore, thiol, thiolate ions, and iodide ions were investigated as nucleophiles under harsh conditions (runs 2–6); these reactions also did not proceed. Subsequent epoxide ring-opening reactions in the presence of MgBr₂·Et₂O as a Lewis acid (run 7) and under acidic conditions (run 8) were similarly unsuccessful. These results were attributed to the steric hindrance at the site of nucleophilic attack and forced us to explore an alternative synthetic route.

Table 2. $S_N 2$ Reactions of Triflate **13** with *N*-Acetyl-L-cysteine Methyl Ester



Run	Reagents (eq.)	Solvent	Temp.	Time	Result (%)
1	N-Acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester (3)	Pyridine	r.t. to 90°C	16 h	Decomposed
2	N-Acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester (3), NaH (3.1)	THF	0°C to r.t.	1 h	20 (61%)
3	N-Acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester (3), NaH (2.5)	DMF	0°C	5 min	20 (76%)









Chart 3. Second Retrosynthetic Analysis of 1

Second Approach to the Synthesis of 1: Introduction of a Cysteine Unit via S_N Reaction of a Triflate The second synthetic strategy for 1 is shown in Chart 3. The key steps in this synthesis are the $S_N 2$ reaction of substrate 13 bearing a triflate-leaving group at the sterically hindered C17 position with an N-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester and the subsequent steric inversion of the C7-hydroxy group in the presence of a variety of other functional groups. In the $S_N 2$ reaction, the sterically hindered C8-tertiary hydroxyl group in 13 must be protected. Therefore, a cyclic carbonate protecting group was selected to protect both the sterically hindered C8-tertiary hydroxyl group and the C7-hydroxy group. The triflate 13 including diene and C8-17 diol units was envisaged to be stereoselectively prepared from benzyl ether 14 via Wittig reaction and dihydroxylation. The benzyl ether 14 can be derived from commercially available (3aR)-(+)-sclareolide.

The benzyl ether 14 was prepared in four steps from (3aR)-(+)-sclareolide in a manner similar to that described for the synthesis of 5^{10} (Chart 4). The dihydroxylation of 14 with OsO₄ afforded triol 16 stereoselectively, which was then subjected to the selective protection of the primary hydroxy group as a *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl (TBDPS) ether followed by the formation of the cyclic carbonate *via* treatment with triphosgene to give 17. Diene 18 was then constructed *via* a four-step sequence involving the deprotection of the benzyl ether, Dess-Martin oxidation, and Wittig reactions with Ph₃P=C(Me)CHO and Ph₃PMeBr. Exposure of 18 to TBAF provided alcohol 19.

Reagents and conditions: (a) LAH, THF, 0°C; (b) BnCl, NaH, TBAI, DMF, 0°C to r.t., 93% (2 steps); (c) SOCl₂, DMAP, pyridine, -30° C; (d) SeO₂, TBHP, salicylic acid, CH₂Cl₂, r.t., 55% (2 steps); (e) OSO₄, NMO, THF–H₂O, r.t., 69%; (f) TBDPSCl, imidazole, DMAP, CH₂Cl₂, r.t., 95%; (g) triphosgene, pyridine, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C, 92%; (h) H₂, Pd/C, MeOH–THF, r.t.; (i) DMP, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C to r.t., 96% (2 steps); (j) Ph₃P=C(Me)CHO, toluene, reflux, 69%; (k) Ph₃PMeBr, *n*-BuLi, THF, -78 to 0°C, 87%; (l) TBAF, AcOH, THF, 0°C to r.t., 99%.

Chart 4. Synthesis of the Key Intermediate 19

The stereochemistry of each chiral center in **19** was confirmed using rotating-frame Overhauser effect spectroscopy (ROESY) experiments.

Next, the $S_N 2$ reaction of *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester at the sterically hindered C17 position of triflate **13** was investigated (Table 2). Alcohol **19** was converted to the triflate **13** by treating it with trifluoromethanesulfonyl chloride, which was then subjected to the $S_N 2$ reaction without purification due to its instability. The treatment of **13** with *N*-acetyl-Lcysteine methyl ester in pyridine at room temperature led to no reaction. When the reaction mixture was gradually warmed to 90°C, **13** decomposed without giving the desired product **20** (run 1). Subsequently, the $S_N 2$ reaction with the sodium thiolate derivative of *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine methyl ester (prepared by pretreatment with sodium hydride) in tetrahydrofuran



Reported structure of cyslabdan (1)

Reagents and conditions: (a) LiOH·H₂O, THF–H₂O, 0°C to r.t., 65%; (b) SO₃–pyridine, Et₃N, DMSO, r.t.; (c) NaBH₄, MeOH, 0°C, 31% (2 steps).

Chart 5. Completion of the Synthesis of Reported Structure 1



Fig. 2. ROESY Correlations Observed for the Synthetic Material and Natural Cyslabdan

(THF) succeeded in affording the desired product **20** in 61% yield (run 2). Exchanging THF with N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) as the reaction solvent increased the yield of the desired product to 76% (run 3).

The final conversion of **20** to the reported structure of cyslabdan (1) was then investigated (Chart 5). Carbonate **20** was hydrolyzed under alkali conditions to give acid **12**, which was subjected to Parikh–Doering oxidation¹⁶⁾ followed by reduction with NaBH₄ to afford **1** in low overall yield.¹⁷⁾ Notably, although the synthesis of the reported structure of cyslabdan (**1**) was achieved, the ¹H-NMR spectrum of the synthetic material did not coincide with the reported data for natural cyslabdan.⁴⁾

Therefore, natural cyslabdan was newly isolated from the culture broth of actinomycete strain K04-0144,¹⁸⁾ and ROESY NMR analyses of both the synthetic material (reported structure 1) and natural cyslabdan were performed. A key cross signal A between the C20–CH₃ and C17–CH₂ protons that was observed for the synthetic material was not detected for the natural cyslabdan; instead, a different cross signal B between the C9–CH and C17–CH₂ protons was observed for the natural compound (Fig. 2). These results suggest that the stereochemistry of C8 was 8*R* not 8*S*. We carefully reviewed the reported data in 2008 to determine the absolute configuration of natural cyslabdan and understood that our previous report, in which we had determined that the stereochemistry of C8 was 8*S* despite the lack of the key cross signal **A** and the existence of the key cross signal **B**, was incorrect.

Synthesis of Cyslabdan (Revised Structure 2) and De-



23

Chart 6. Retrosynthetic Analysis of 2

22



Reagents and conditions: (a) $MeO(Me)NH \cdot HCl$, Me_3Al , CH_2Cl_2 , $0^{\circ}C$, 92%; (b) $SOCl_2$, pyridine, CH_2Cl_2 , $-78^{\circ}C$, 90%; (c) SeO_2 , TBHP, salicylic acid, CH_2Cl_2 , r.t., 61%; (d) NIS, $MeCN-H_2O$, r.t., 92%; (e) PCC, MS 4Å, CH_2Cl_2 , r.t., 96%; (f) DIBAL, CH_2Cl_2 , $-78^{\circ}C$, 63%.

Chart 7. Synthesis of the Key Intermediate 22

termination of Its Absolute Configuration In light of our past research results, the synthesis of (8*R*)-cyslabdan (2) was attempted. The retrosynthetic analysis of 2 is shown in Chart 6. The connection of the decalin and *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine components was envisioned to occur *via* an S_N^2 reaction between epoxide 21 and *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine. In contrast to the synthesis of 1, this S_N^2 reaction was expected to proceed without any difficulty. The epoxide 21 would be synthesized from lactol 22 through the formation of a diene and an epoxide. Lactol 22 could be derived from allylic alcohol 23 via the stereoinversion of the C7-hydroxy group and stereoselective iodolactonization. Compound 23 was expected to be prepared from commercially available (3a*R*)-(+)-sclareolide.

First, (3aR)-(+)-sclareolide was treated with N,O-dimeth-

(3a*R*)-(+)-Sclareolide



Reagents and conditions: (a) $Ph_3P=C(Me)CHO$, toluene, 80°C, 17%; (b) Ph_3PMeBr , *n*-BuLi, THF, -78 to 0°C, 89%; (c) methacrolein, Grubbs second-generation catalyst, CH_2Cl_2 , reflux; (d) Ph_3PMeBr , *n*-BuLi, THF, -78°C to 0°C, 74% (2 steps); (e) *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine, Na₂CO₃, MeOH–H₂O, 40°C, 87%.

Chart 8. Completion of the Synthesis of 2

ylhydroxylamine in the presence of trimethylaluminum to afford Weinreb amide 24^{19} (Chart 7). Dehydration of 24 with thionyl chloride gave *exo*-olefin 25^{20-31} , which was subjected to allylic oxidation with SeO₂³² to provide allylic alcohol 23. The subsequent 5-*exo*-tet iodolactonization of 23 with *N*-iodosuccinimide (NIS) proceeded smoothly and stereoselectively to afford the desired iodolactone 26. The pyridinium chlorochromate (PCC) oxidation of 26 provided ketone 27, which was reduced stereoselectively with diisobutylaluminium hydride (DIBAL) to give 22 and other reduction products.³³ The stereochemistry of each chiral center in 22 was confirmed using ROESY experiments.

Next, we investigated the diene construction and the connection of the decalin unit with N-acetyl-L-cysteine (Chart 8). The treatment of lactol 22 with $Ph_3P=C(Me)CHO$ gave the desired aldehyde 28 via one-pot epoxide formation and stereoselective olefination; however, the yield was very low due to the generation of decomposition products. Therefore, we attempted the stepwise synthesis of 28. The Wittig reaction of 22 with Ph₃P=CH₂ afforded olefin 29 in high yield, which was subjected to cross metathesis with methacrolein in the presence of Grubbs second-generation catalyst³⁴⁻³⁸⁾ to afford the desired aldehyde 28, which was also subjected to Wittig reaction with $Ph_3P=CH_2$ to give epoxydiene 21. Finally, the coupling of epoxydiene 21 with N-acetyl-L-cysteine under mild basic conditions afforded (8R)-cvslabdan (2). As expected, the synthetic (8R)-cyslabdan (2) was completely identical to an authentic sample of cyslabdan in all respects (¹H- and ¹³C-NMR, ROESY correlations, $[\alpha]_D$, IR, MS, ultrafast liquid chromatography (UFLC), and retention time). Especially, the similarity in the optical rotations ($[a]_{D}^{26} = +32.4$, c=0.1, MeOH for synthetic 2 and $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25} = +26.8$, c=0.1, MeOH for natural cyslabdan⁴) established the absolute configuration of natural cyslabdan as being identical to that of 2.

Conclusion

In summary, we have achieved the first synthesis of the reported structure of cyslabdan (1). The synthesis of the revised structure of cyslabdan (2) has been also accomplished in 16%

overall yield over 10 steps without using protecting groups. These synthesized materials were used to determine the absolute configuration of natural cyslabdan (=revised structure **2**). The extension of these chemistries to the synthesis of structural analogs of **2** for structure–activity relationships is currently underway in our laboratory and will be reported in due course.

Experimental

General All reactions were conducted in flame-dried glassware under a nitrogen atmosphere employing standard techniques for the handling of air-sensitive materials. Commercial reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise indicated. Organic solvents were distilled and dried over 3 or 4Å molecular sieves. Cold baths were prepared using ice/water (0°C) and dry ice/acetone (-78°C). Purification by flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel 60 N (spherical, neutral, particle size $40-50 \,\mu\text{m}$). TLC was performed on 0.25 mm Merck silica gel 60 F254 plates and visualized using UV light (254nm) along with phosphomolybdic acid and p-anisaldehyde TLC stains. Unless otherwise noted, yields are reported on chromatographically and spectroscopically pure compounds. ¹H-, ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded using an internal deuterium lock on a JNM-EX270 instrument (JEOL, Tokyo, Japan) or 400-MR, VNMRS-400, and UNITY-400 spectrometers (Agilent Technologies, Waldbronn, Germany). All NMR signals are reported in ppm relative to the internal reference standard provided by chloroform (*i.e.*, 7.26, 77.0 ppm for the ¹H-, ¹³C-NMR spectra, respectively). Multiplicity data are presented as follows: s=singlet, d=doublet, t=triplet, q=quartet, m=multiplet, br=broad, dd=doublet of doublets, dt=doublet of triplets, and ddd=doublet of doublet of doublets. Coupling constants (J)are reported in Hz. IR spectra were recorded on an FT/IR460plus IR spectrometer (JASCO, Tokyo, Japan), and absorption data are provided in wavenumbers (cm⁻¹). Optical rotations were recorded on a DIP-1000 polarimeter (JASCO) and reported as follows: $[\alpha]_{D}^{T}$, concentration (g/100 mL), and solvent. High-resolution (HR)-MS were obtained on a JMS-700 Mstation, JEOL JMS-AX505HA or JEOL JMS-T100LP system (JEOL) equipped with an FAB, electron ionization (EI), or electrospray ionization (ESI) HR-MS, respectively.

2-((1*R*,2*R*,4*aS*,8*aS*)-2-Hydroxy-2,5,5,8*a*-tetramethyldecahydronaphthalen-1-yl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylacetamide (24) A solution of MeO(Me)NH·HCl (390 mg, 3.99 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL) was treated with Me₃Al (1.06 M in *n*-hexane, 3.90 mL, 4.19 mmol) at 0°C. After stirring for 2 h at 0°C, a solution of (3*aR*)-(+)-sclareolide (500 mg, 2.00 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL) was added. After stirring for an additional 2 h at 0°C, the reaction mixture was quenched with 10% aq H₂SO₄. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (1:2 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford **24** (571 mg, 92%) as a colorless amorphous solid. The spectroscopic data for **24** were identical to those reported in the literature.³¹

N-Methoxy-*N*-methyl-2-((1S,4aS,8aS)-5,5,8a-trimethyl-2-methylenedecahydronaphthalen-1-yl)acetamide (25) To a solution of 24 (10.0 g, 32.1 mmol) and pyridine (4.7 mL, 64.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) was added dropwise a solution of SOCl₂ (11.7 mL, 161 mmol) and pyridine (23.3 mL,

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289 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (90 mL) at -78° C. After stirring for 0.5 h at -78° C, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated aq Na₂CO₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford **25** (8.55 g, 90%) as a colorless amorphous solid. The spectroscopic data for **25** were identical to those reported in the literature.³¹

2-((1R,3R,4aS,8aS)-3-Hydroxy-5,5,8a-trimethyl-2-methvlenedecahydronaphthalen-1-vl)-N-methoxy-N-methylacetamide (23) A solution of 25 (5.00 g, 17.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (85 mL) was treated with SeO₂ (37.8 mg, 0.341 mmol), salicylic acid (235 mg, 1.70 mmol), and tert-butylhydroperoxide (TBHP) (5.0 M solution in decane, 10.2 mL, 51.1 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 24h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated aq Na₂S₂O₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was combined, dried over Na2SO4, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (1:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford 23 (3.22 g, 61%) as an amorphous brown solid: $[\alpha]_{D}^{26}$ -69.1 (c=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3455, 3021, 1648, 1388, 1215, 1036; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 4.91 (s, 1H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 4.31 (t, 1H, J=2.8 Hz), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.93 (dd, 1H, J=10.4, 3.6 Hz), 2.60 (dd, 1H, J=16.0, 10.4 Hz), 2.39 (dd, 1H, J=16.0, 3.6 Hz), 1.85 (dt, 1H, J=13.2, 2.8 Hz), 1.75 (dd, 1H, J=13.2, 2.8 Hz), 1.55-1.13 (m, 7H), 0.86 (s, 3H), 0.77 (s, 3H), 0.67 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₂) δ : 174.4, 150.8, 109.1, 73.5, 61.4, 47.2, 46.2, 42.0, 39.1, 38.7, 33.3, 33.1, 32.5, 30.5, 26.9, 21.7, 19.3, 13.8; HR-MS (ESI) [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₈H₃₁NNaO₃ 332.2202. Found 332.2203.

(3aR,4R,5aS,9aS,9bR)-4-Hydroxy-3a-(iodomethyl)-6,6,9a-trimethyldecahydronaphtho[2,1-b]furan-2(3aH)-one (26) To a solution of 23 (2.71 g, 8.75 mmol) in MeCN-H₂O (2:1, 88 mL) was added NIS (3.94 g, 17.5 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 1h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated aq Na₂CO₃ solution and a saturated aq Na₂S₂O₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford 26 (3.17g, 92%) as an amorphous yellow solid: $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ -13.5 (c=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3488, 2851, 2067, 1771, 1418, 1214, 1060; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 4.34 (t, 1H, J=8.8 Hz), 3.96 (d, 1H, J=11.2Hz), 3.27 (d, 1H, J=11.2Hz), 2.82 (dd, 1H, J=19.2, 11.2 Hz), 2.40 (dd, 1H, J=19.2, 4.0 Hz), 2.12 (dd, 1H, J=11.2, 4.0 Hz), 1.93 (dt, 1H, J=18.4, 8.8 Hz), 1.61-0.86 (m, 8H), 0.93 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 176.2, 88.9, 70.1, 54.9, 48.2, 42.6, 41.6, 37.0, 33.6, 32.3, 31.1, 27.2, 21.2, 18.1, 17.0, 15.5; HR-MS (ESI) [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₂₅NaIO₃ 415.0746. Found 415.0741.

(3aR,5aS,9aS,9bR)-3a-(Iodomethyl)-6,6,9a-trimethyloctahydronaphtho[2,1-*b*]furan-2,4(3aH,5H)-dione (27) A suspension of 26 (600 mg, 1.70 mmol) and 4 Å molecular sieves (1.00 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was treated with PCC (660 mg, 3.06 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 1.5h at room temperature, the resulting suspension was filtered through a pad of Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford **27** (563 mg, 96%) as an amorphous yellow solid: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +66.1 (*c*=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3020, 1773, 1639, 1215; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 3.50 (d, 1H, *J*=10.4 Hz), 3.27 (d, 1H, *J*=10.4 Hz), 2.82 (dd, 1H, *J*=18.0, 10.0 Hz), 2.61 (dd, 1H, *J*=18.8, 7.6 Hz), 2.50–2.41 (m, 3H), 1.77 (dd, 1H, *J*=12.2, 7.6 Hz), 1.64–1.01 (m, 6H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H), 0.77 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 204.3, 174.0, 86.1, 54.6, 48.0, 41.3, 39.3, 36.2, 36.1, 33.1, 32.2, 30.0, 21.1, 17.8, 13.6, 10.3; HR-MS (ESI) [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₂₃NaIO₃ 413.0590. Found 413.0600.

(2R,3aR,4S,5aS,9aS,9bR)-3a-(Iodomethyl)-6,6,9atrimethyldodecahydronaphtho[2,1-b]furan-2,4-diol (22) A solution of 27 (50.6 mg, 0.130 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.3 mL) was treated with DIBAL (1.02 M in *n*-hexane, 458μ L, 0.467 mmol) at -78°C. After stirring for 0.5h at -78°C, the reaction mixture was quenched with MeOH. The organic layer was washed sequentially with 1 M HCl and H₂O, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (4:1 hexanes/ EtOAc) to afford 22 (32.1 mg, 63%) as a colorless amorphous solid: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -27.0 (c=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3486, 2932, 1423, 1215, 1061; ¹H-NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 5.50 (t, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 4.06 (dd, 1H, J=11.6, 6.4 Hz), 3.70 (d, 1H, $J=10.4\,\text{Hz}$), 3.62 (d, 1H, $J=10.4\,\text{Hz}$), 2.28 (d, 1H, $J=7.6\,\text{Hz}$), 2.22 (dd, 1H, J=14.2, 6.0 Hz), 1.99 (ddd, 1H, J=14.2, 7.6, 6.0 Hz), 1.81 (ddd, 1H, J=11.6, 6.4, 0.8 Hz), 1.57-0.80 (m, 8H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 3H), 0.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₂) *δ*: 99.1, 85.9, 71.4, 56.5, 49.5, 41.4, 40.8, 35.8, 35.3, 33.6, 32.8, 27.8, 22.3, 18.1, 15.7, 12.9; HR-MS (ESI) [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₂₇NaIO₃ 417.0903. Found 417.0904.

(1R,2S,3S,4aS,8aS)-1-Allyl-5,5,8a-trimethyloctahydro-1H-spiro[naphthalene-2,2'-oxiran]-3-ol (29) To a suspension of Ph₃PMeBr (214 mg, 0.600 mmol) in THF (0.6 mL) was added dropwise n-BuLi (1.63 M in THF, 367 µL, 0.600 mmol) at -78°C. After stirring for 1 h at 0°C, a solution of 22 (33.7 mg, 0.0855 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) was added. After stirring for an additional 1h at 0°C, the reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated aq NH₄Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with H₂O, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (12:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford 29 (20.0 mg, 89%) as a colorless amorphous solid: $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ +36.3 (c=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3476, 3078, 2958, 2928, 1521, 1398, 1215, 1082; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) *δ*: 5.70 (m, 1H), 4.97–4.92 (m, 2H), 3.66 (dt, 1H, J=11.6, 5.2 Hz), 2.87 (d, 1H, J=4.8 Hz), 2.62 (d, 1H, J=4.8 Hz), 2.05-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.92 (brd, 1H, J=11.6Hz), 1.77-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.62-0.90 (m, 8H), 0.90 (s, 3H), 0.84 (s, 3H), 0.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 140.1, 114.7, 69.3, 60.0, 52.4, 50.4, 44.9, 41.9, 39.4, 39.0, 33.4, 33.3, 30.6, 25.5, 21.6, 18.5, 14.6; HR-MS (ESI) $[M+Na]^+$ Calcd for $C_{17}H_{28}NaO_2$ 287.1987. Found 287.1973.

(1R,2S,3S,4aS,8aS)-5,5,8a-Trimethyl-1-((Z)-3-methylpenta-2,4-dien-1-yl)octahydro-1*H*-spiro[naphthalene-2,2'oxiran]-3-ol (21) A solution of 29 (29.6 mg, 0.112 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.2 mL) was treated with methacrolein (173 μ L, 1.68 mmol) and a catalytic amount of Grubbs second-generation catalyst (9.5 mg, 0.0112 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 4.5 h at reflux, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was semi-purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (3:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford crude 28. To a suspension of Ph₂PMeBr (140 mg, 0.392 mmol) in THF (0.6 mL) was added dropwise n-BuLi (1.60 m in THF, 245 µL, 0.392 mmol) at -78°C. After stirring for 1h at 0°C, a solution of crude 28 in THF (0.5 mL) was added. After stirring for an additional 1h at 0°C, the reaction mixture was guenched with a saturated aq NH₄Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with H₂O, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (12:1 hexanes/ EtOAc) to afford 21 (20.0 mg, 2 steps, 74%) as a colorless amorphous solid: $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25}$ +38.9 (c=1.0, CHCl₃); IR (neat) cm⁻¹: 3553, 3020, 2931, 2870, 1638, 1213, 1077; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) *b*: 6.29 (dd, 1H, 17.6, 10.8 Hz), 5.28 (t, 1H, J=6.2 Hz), 5.06 (d, 1H, J=17.6 Hz), 4.91 (d, 1H, J=10.8 Hz), 3.67 (dt, 1H, J=11.6, 5.2 Hz), 2.87 (d, 1H, J=4.4 Hz), 2.47 (d, 1H, J=4.4 Hz), 2.06 (m, 2H), 1.85 (d, 1H, J=1.2 Hz), 1.85–1.77 (m, 2H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.64-0.82 (m, 8H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H), 0.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 141.1, 134.6, 133.8, 110.7, 69.3, 60.0, 52.3, 52.2, 44.8, 41.8, 39.3, 39.2, 33.4, 33.3, 30.5, 21.6, 20.6, 18.5, 14.7, 12.0; HR-MS (ESI) [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₀H₃₂NaO₂ 327.2300. Found 327.2298.

Revised Structure of Cyslabdan (2) A solution of 21 (269 mg, 0.870 mmol) in MeOH-H₂O (1:1, 35 mL) was treated with N-acetyl-L-cysteine (710 mg, 4.35 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (1.38 mg, 13.0 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 15h at 40°C, the reaction mixture was guenched with 2 M HCl and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with H₂O, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (10:1 CH₂Cl₂/MeOH) to afford 2 (353 mg, 87%) as a colorless amorphous solid: $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ +32.4 (c=0.1, MeOH), $(\text{lit.}^{4}) [\alpha]_{D}^{25} + 26.8 \ (c=0.1, \text{ MeOH}); \text{ IR (neat) cm}^{-1}: 3490, 2949,$ 2834, 1654, 1411, 1201, 1019; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: 6.34 (dd, 1H, J=17.6, 10.8 Hz), 5.52 (t, 1H, J=6.8 Hz), 5.04 (d, 1H, J=17.6 Hz), 4.86 (d, 1H, J=10.8 Hz), 4.47 (dd, 1H, J=7.6, 4.8 Hz), 3.76 (dd, 1H, J=11.2, 4.8 Hz), 3.03 (dd, 1H, J=13.2, 4.8 Hz), 2.82 (dd, 1H, J=13.2, 7.6 Hz), 2.78 (d, 1H, J=12.4 Hz), 2.62 (d, 1H, J=12.4 Hz), 2.42 (dt, 1H, J=17.6, 6.8 Hz), 2.11 (dd, 1H, J=17.6, 3.6Hz), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.75 (brs, 3H), 1.73-0.84 (m, 10H), 1.00 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: 176.0, 173.1, 143.0, 137.5, 133.4, 110.2, 78.7, 72.8, 55.2, 54.7, 53.8, 43.0, 41.0, 39.8, 39.1, 37.3, 34.1, 34.0, 27.9, 24.3, 22.6, 22.3, 19.3, 15.9, 12.0; HR-MS (ESI) $[M+Na]^+$ Calcd for C₂₅H₄₁NNaO₅ 490.2603. Found 490.2600.

Acknowledgments This work was supported in part by a Grant for All Kitasato Project Study. MO also acknowledges a Kitasato University Research Grant for young researchers. We would also like to thank Ms. N. Sato and Dr. K. Nagai (Kitasato University) for kindly obtaining the NMR and MS spectra.

Conflict of Interest The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Supplementary Materials The online version of this article contains supplementary materials.

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- 17) Although the yield was unsatisfactory, priority was given to the comparison of NMR data of 1 (the reported structure of cyslabdan) and natural cyslabdan over the optimization of the reaction.
- 18) Fresh natural cyslabdan was isolated from the culture broth of actinomycete strain K04-0144, according to refs. 4 and 5. As expected, the isolated product was completely identical to natural cyslabdan in all aspects (¹H- and ¹³C-NMR, [α]_D, IR, MS).
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- 34) Grubbs' 2nd generation catalysts: (1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-2-imidazolidinylidene)dichloro(phenylmethylene)(tricyclohexylphosphine)ruthenium.
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