

Ring-Construction/Stereoselective Functionalization Cascade: Total Synthesis of Pachastrissamine (Jaspine B) through Palladium-Catalyzed Bis-cyclization of Bromoallenes

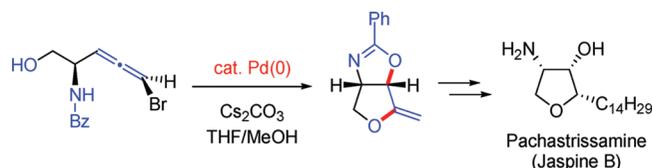
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ABSTRACT



Palladium(0)-catalyzed cyclization of bromoallenes bearing hydroxyl and benzamide groups as internal nucleophiles stereoselectively provides functionalized tetrahydrofuran. With this bis-cyclization as the key step, a short total synthesis of pachastrissamine, a biologically active marine natural product, was achieved.

Bromoallenes have attracted much attention due to their interesting chemical properties associated with cumulated double bonds and a bromine atom.¹ Recently, we have developed a novel synthesis of medium-sized heterocycles **3** containing one or two heteroatoms via cyclization of bromoallenes **1** bearing an oxygen, nitrogen, or carbon nucleophile in the presence of a palladium(0) catalyst and alcohol (Scheme 1, eq 1).² The first intramolecular nucleophilic attack by Nu_A at the central carbon atom of the allenic moiety of **1**, followed by protonation, gives π -allylpalladium intermediate **2**. Then the second intermolecular reaction with Nu_B proceeds to give the monocyclization products **3** along with their regioisomers **4** in some cases. Namely, bromoallenes **5** can act as allyl dication equivalents **6** (Scheme 1, eq

2). More recently, we expanded this chemistry to cascade cyclization of bromoallenes **7** bearing a dual nucleophilic moiety leading to bicyclic products **9** (Scheme 1, eq 3).³ Unfortunately, this reaction is limited to highly nucleophilic sulfamides (Nu_A–Nu_B = NSO₂N), presumably due to the restricted conformation in the *endo*-type second cyclization. The competing external nucleophilic attack by an alkoxide derived from alcohol, which is a highly effective solvent for this type of transformation, is also problematic.

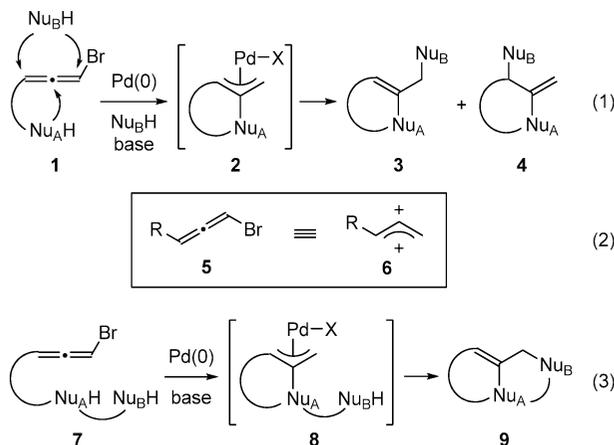
We turned our attention to cascade cyclization of bromoallenes of type **10** bearing nucleophilic groups at both ends of a branched alkyl group. This would lead to bicyclic products such as **13** (Scheme 2). This reaction could facilitate stereoselective functionalization on the *exo*-type second cyclization, utilizing the chiral center at the branched position. Apparently, the key to success of this cascade

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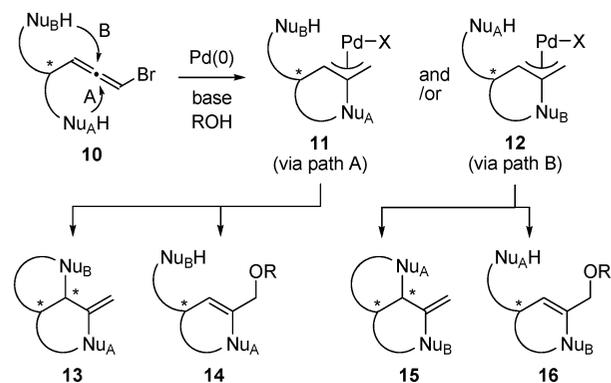
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Scheme 1. Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Cyclization of Bromoallenes



reaction is controlled successive nucleophilic attacks by Nu_A and Nu_B in the desired order, as well as inhibition of the external reaction with alkoxide; first cyclization by Nu_A or Nu_B will produce intermediate **11** or **12**, respectively, which would be converted to the cyclic products **13/14** or **15/16**, by the intra- or intermolecular reaction. We chose pachastrissamine (jaspine B), which bears three contiguous stereogenic centers on its tetrahydrofuran core structure, for the model study to evaluate this working hypothesis on the ring-construction/stereoselective functionalization cascade.

Scheme 2. Construction of Bicyclic Structures by Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Cascade Cyclization of Bromoallenes **10**



The structure of pachastrissamine **17** (Figure 1), an anhydrophytosphingosine derivative isolated from a marine sponge *Pachastrissa* sp., was reported by Higa and co-workers in 2002.⁴ Shortly thereafter, Debitus and co-workers isolated the same compound from a different marine sponge, *Jaspis* sp., and named jaspine B.⁵ Other structurally related analogues have also been isolated from the same species,

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including jaspine A and 2-*epi*-jaspine B. Pachastrissamine (jaspine B) **17** exhibits cytotoxic activity against various tumor cell lines at nanomolar level.^{4,5} In 2009, Delgado and co-workers reported that DHCer-mediated autophagy might be involved in the cytotoxicity.⁶ Owing to its biological importance, pachastrissamine has been the target of many synthetic studies.⁷ Stereoselective construction of the trisubstituted tetrahydrofuran ring is a major issue in the total synthesis.

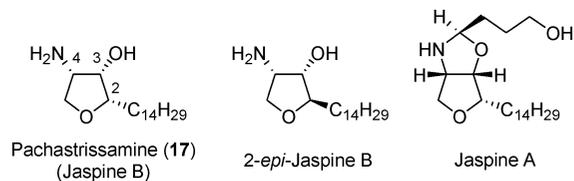


Figure 1. Structures of naturally occurring jaspines.

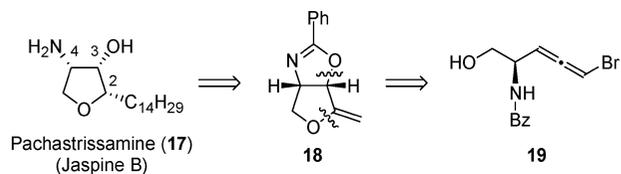
We expected that palladium(0)-catalyzed cyclization of bromoallenes **19** bearing hydroxy and benzamide groups⁸ as internal nucleophiles could regio- and stereoselectively provide appropriately functionalized tetrahydrofuran **18** for synthesis of pachastrissamine **17** (Scheme 3). The bicyclic structure of **18** including the exo-olefin would be useful for stereoselective construction of a C-2 stereogenic center as well as carbon homologation. Herein, we describe an efficient, short, total synthesis of pachastrissamine (jaspine B) utilizing cascade cyclization of a bromoallene of type **19**, which has two internal nucleophiles at both ends of a branched alkyl group.

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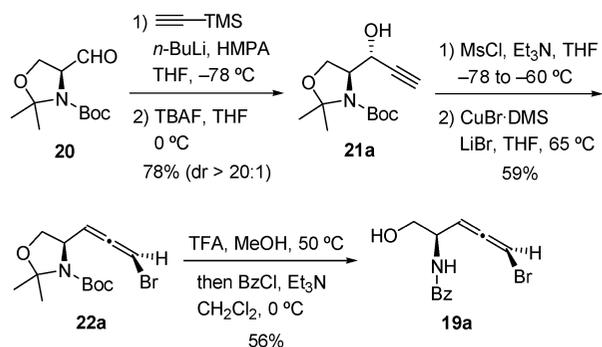
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Scheme 3. Retrosynthetic Analysis of Pachastrissamine 17



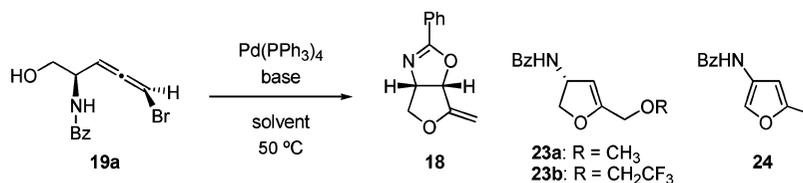
Preparation of the required bromoallene **19a** is outlined in Scheme 4. The *erythro*-alkynol **21a** was easily prepared from (*S*)-Garner's aldehyde **20**⁹ following the literature procedure.¹⁰ Treatment of **21a** with MsCl and Et₃N gave the corresponding mesylate, which was then allowed to react with CuBr·DMS/LiBr¹¹ (DMS = Me₂S) to afford the (*S,aR*)-bromoallene **22a**.¹² Removal of the Boc and acetal groups with TFA followed by acylation with BzCl/Et₃N afforded the benzamide **19a**.

Scheme 4. Synthesis of Bromoallene 19a



We next investigated cascade cyclization of bromoallene **19a** in the presence of palladium(0) (Table 1). Treatment of **19a** with Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5 mol %) and NaH (2.0 equiv) in MeOH at 50 °C (standard conditions for cyclization of bromoallenes²) successfully produced the desired bicyclic tetrahydrofuran **18** in 50% yield (entry 1). The undesired cyclization initiated by the first cyclization by the benzamide group (Scheme 2) was not promoted. However, the anticipated side products dihydrofuran **23a** (formed by the intermolecular reaction with methoxide) and a small amount of furan **24** were observed. Formation of the furan **24** can be rationalized by β -hydride elimination of the π -allylpalladium intermediate (e.g., **11** or **12**, Scheme 2) followed by aromatization.¹³ To suppress the intermolecular reaction with the external alkoxide, the reaction was examined under other conditions, including the use of a mixed solvent. Reaction in THF/MeOH (4:1) decreased yields of both **18** and **23a** (40% and 15%, respectively), while the amount of furan **24** increased (10% yield, entry 2). Of the several bases investigated, Cs₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv) most effectively produced the desired product **18** and suppressed formation of furan **24** (entries 2–5). The best result was obtained using a mixed solvent of THF/MeOH (10:1) in the presence of 1.2 equiv of Cs₂CO₃ (89%, entry 6). It should be noted that the use of solely THF resulted in low yield of **18** (12%, entry 7) and recovery of the starting material, which suggests that an alcoholic solvent plays an important role in this type of transformation. Interestingly, use of CF₃CH₂OH, a more acidic solvent which might facilitate the protonation step, only gave the undesired compound **23b** bearing a trifluoroethoxy group in high yield (93%, entry 8). Moreover, use of *t*-BuOH was not effective (entry 9). These results indicate that pK_a values and bulkiness of the alcohol solvent have significant effects on the reaction, i.e., the intramolecular vs intermolecular reaction in the

Table 1. Palladium-Catalyzed Cascade Cyclization of Bromoallene **19a**^a



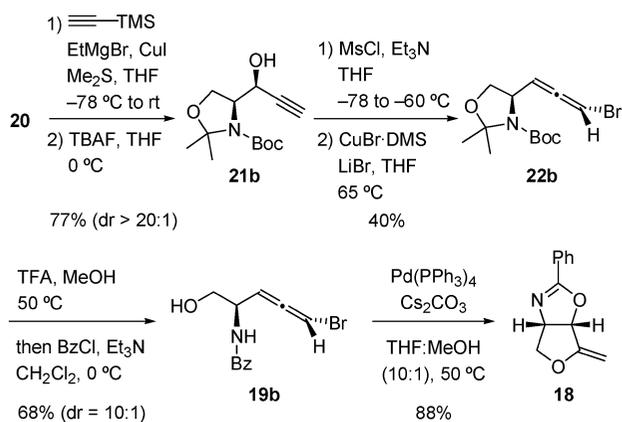
entry	base (equiv)	solvent	time (h)	yield (%) ^b			recovery ^c (%)
				18	23	24	
1	NaH (2.0)	MeOH	2.0	50	45	trace	
2	NaH (2.0)	THF/MeOH (4:1)	1.0	40	15	10	
3	K ₂ CO ₃ (2.0)	THF/MeOH (4:1)	4.0	43			41
4	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2.0)	THF/MeOH (4:1)	2.5	67	26		
5	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1.2)	THF/MeOH (4:1)	2.5	78	20		
6	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1.2)	THF/MeOH (10:1)	2.5	89	trace		
7	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1.2)	THF	5.5	12			64
8	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2.0)	THF/TFE (4:1)	2.5		93		
9	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2.0)	THF/ <i>t</i> -BuOH (4:1)	2.5	12			60

^a All reactions were performed with 5 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄ at 0.1 M in the solvent indicated. ^b Yield of isolated products. ^c Recovery of starting material. TFE = 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol.

second nucleophilic attack and reactivity of the bromoallene with a palladium catalyst.

To investigate the difference in reactivity between the diastereomeric bromoallenes **19a** and **19b**, we next synthesized (*S,S*)-bromoallene **19b**, also starting from Garner's aldehyde **20** (Scheme 5). The *threo*-alkynol **21b**, stereoselectively obtained following Taddei's protocol,¹² was converted into the desired bromoallene **19b** in the same manner as described above (Scheme 4). Bromoallene **19b** was then subjected to the optimized reaction conditions shown in entry 6 (Table 1) to give the desired bicyclic product **18** in 88% yield. These results show both bromoallene **19a** and **19b** equally undergo the cascade cyclization to give the same product **18**. This means that a diastereomeric mixture of bromoallenes can be directly employed for preparation of **18**.

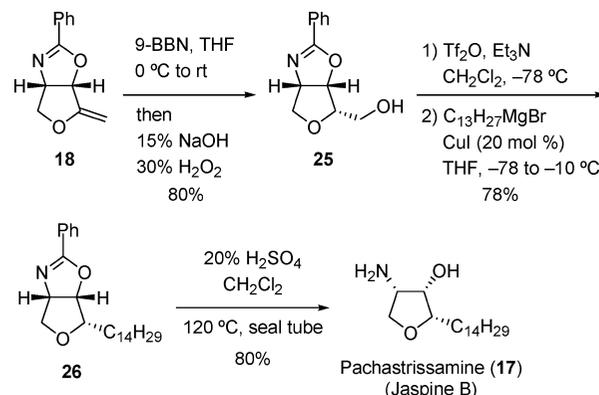
Scheme 5. Synthesis and Palladium-Catalyzed Cascade Cyclization of the Epimeric Bromoallene **19b**



With the functionalized tetrahydrofuran **18** prepared, the final stage was to complete the total synthesis of pachastrissamine **17** (Scheme 6). This required introduction of a C-2 side chain with an all-*cis* configuration and hydrolysis of the oxazoline ring. Hydroboration–oxidation of the *exo*-olefin of **18** with 9-BBN provided the primary alcohol **25** with the desired configuration as the sole diastereomer.¹⁴ Treatment of **25** with TiF_2O and Et_3N followed by displace-

ment with a cuprate derived from $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{27}\text{MgBr}/\text{CuI}$ provided the tetrahydrofuran **26** bearing all the requisite functionalities.¹⁵ Finally, pachastrissamine **17** was obtained by hydrolysis of **26** with 20% aqueous H_2SO_4 .¹⁶ The spectroscopic data and optical rotation of synthetic pachastrissamine **17** were in agreement with those reported for the natural and synthetic substance [$^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ NMR, IR, melting point, $[\alpha]^{25}_{\text{D}}$, 19.7 (EtOH)].^{4,5,7}

Scheme 6. Total Synthesis of Pachastrissamine (**17**)



In conclusion, we have developed a novel ring-construction/stereoselective functionalization cascade by palladium(0)-catalyzed bis-cyclization of bromoallenes. Using bromoallenes bearing hydroxy and benzamide groups as internal nucleophiles allows the sequential nucleophilic reactions to selectively proceed in the desired order to form a functionalized tetrahydrofuran ring. This strategy provides an efficient synthetic route to pachastrissamine **17** bearing three contiguous stereogenic centers from Garner's aldehyde as the sole chiral source in 11 steps and 11% overall yield.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and characterization data for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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