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Stereoselective total synthesis of (+)-cryptocarya diacetate by an iterative Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution protocol^{\ddagger}

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Abstract—A combination of iterative Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution and reduction of a ketone for the construction of a 1,3-polyol moiety are key steps en route to a total synthesis of (+)-cryptocarya diacetate. © 2005 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Cryptocarya diacetate 1, the simplest 6-substituted 5,6dihydropyran-2-one, was isolated along with other structurally similar compounds from the leaves and bark of the South African plant *Cryptocarya latifolia* that has long been noted for its legendary medicinal properties.¹ These properties range from the treatment of headaches and morning sickness to that of cancer, pulmonary diseases, and various bacterial and fungal infections.²



(+)-cryptocarya diacetate 1

Earlier syntheses^{3a–c} of **1** were based either on Sharpless asymmetric epoxidation^{3a} and regioselective ring opening as the key steps, or involved an enantioselective synthesis from ethyl sorbate by a Sharpless asymmetric dihydroxylation-RCM strategy.^{3b,c} Herein a stereoselective total synthesis of **1** is reported, using a combination of Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution and diastereoselective ketone reduction to garner the required chiral centers. The retrosynthetic analysis, as depicted in Scheme 1, envisions that 1 could be obtained from 2 by functional group transformations, elaboration, and lactonization while 2 in turn could be visualized from 3 by a Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution (HKR) and reductive ring-opening reaction of a chiral epoxide. Compound 3 in turn could conveniently be derived from 4 by diastereoselective reduction to afford the syn-1,3-diol structural unit, while 4 was to be obtained from 5 by allylation of the aldehyde generated by ozonolysis followed by oxidation of the ensuing alcohol and desilylation. Similarly 5 could be obtained from the known epoxide 6 (obtained by Jacobsen's HKR of a homoallylic alcohol derivative) through a ring-opening reaction with vinylmagnesium bromide and subsequent hydroxyl group protection.

The known⁴ epoxide 6 on exposure to vinylmagnesium bromide in THF afforded a homoallylic alcohol in good yield (74%) that was then protected as its TBS ether 5 (82%) with TBSCl in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature (Scheme 2). Reductive ozonolysis of olefin 5 afforded an aldehyde 7, which was immediately converted to homoallylic alcohol 8 (82%) with allyl bromide/Zn, subsequent PCC oxidation in the presence of NaOAc providing ketone 4a (72%). Desilylation of 4a with HF-pyridine gave β -hydroxy ketone 4 in 63% yield. Selective reduction of 4 with NaBH₄ in the presence of the chelating agent B(Et)₂OMe⁵ in THF resulted in exclusive formation of the syn-1,3-diol (de > 98%), which was characterized as acetonide 3 (94%), prepared under conventional reaction conditions using 2,2'-DMP in DMSO catalyzed by PTSA. The stereochemical assignment of the newly created center was made based

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Scheme 1.



Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (a) (i) vinylmagnesium bromide, THF, CuI, rt, 74%, (ii) TBSCl, imidazole, rt, 82%; (b) O_3 , CH₂Cl₂, 78 °C, 0.5 h, then Me₂S, rt, 0.5 h; (c) allyl bromide, Zn NH₄Cl, THF, rt, 82%; (d) PCC, NaOAc, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 72%; (e) (i) HF–pyridine, THF, rt, 63%, (ii) B(Et)₂OMe, NaBH₄, THF, 75%, (iii) 2,2'-dimethoxypropane, PTSA, DMSO, 94%; (f) (i) oxone, acetone, NaHCO₃, EDTA (cat.) 73%, (ii) (*R*,*R*)-(salen)Co^{III}(OAc) A, 0.55 equiv H₂O, 43%; (g) (i) LAH, THF, rt, 89%, (ii) Ac₂O, pyridine, DMAP (cat.), CH₂Cl₂, rt, 94%; (h) (i) PhCOCl, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, rt, (ii) TsCl, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, rt, (iii) K₂CO₃, MeOH, rt; (i) (i) Pd/C, H₂, EtOAc, rt, 95%, (ii) IBX, DMSO, rt, (iii) (F₃CCH₂O)₂POCH₂ COOMe, KH MDS, 18-crown-6, THF, 78 °C, 79% over two steps; (j) (i) 80% aq AcOH, (ii) PTSA, C₆H₆, (iii) Ac₂O, pyridine, CH₂Cl₂, DMAP (cat.), rt, 86% over three steps.

on Rychnovsky's analogy⁶ wherein the ¹³C NMR spectra of **3** exhibited acetonide methyl carbons at δ 19.8 and 30.2 characteristic of the acetonide of a *syn*-1,3-diol moiety.

Epoxidation of **3** with oxone furnished the epoxide and Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution⁴ with 0.55 equiv of water using (*R*,*R*)-(salen)Co^{III}(OAc) **A** as the catalyst provided enantiomerically pure **9** and diol **9a** in 43% yield each. The chiral homogeneity of both **9** (de ~ 94%) and **9a** was confirmed by HPLC analysis.⁷ Diol **9a** was recycled to **9** by a three-step sequence. Thus, **9a** was mono benzoylated (BzCl/Et₃N/CH₂Cl₂/rt) followed by tosylation of the secondary hydroxyl (TsCl/Et₃N/CH₂Cl₂/DMAP/rt) to give the diprotected compound. Base induced deprotection of the benzoate generated an alkoxide, which prompted simultaneous elimination of tosylate and ring closure by an S_N2 mode to afford the desired epoxide **9**⁷ [α]²⁵_D +16.3 (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃) in 58% yield over three steps (de 80%).

Next, reductive ring-opening of epoxide 9 with LAH gave the secondary alcohol (89%), which was acetylated $(Ac_2O/pyridine/CH_2Cl_2/rt)$ to afford 2 (94%). Removal of the benzyl protecting group (Pd-C/H₂/EtOAc/rt) in 2 (95%) released the terminal hydroxyl group, the subsequent oxidation of which by IBX in DMSO at room temperature gave the aldehyde, which was then chain elongated on reaction with a Wittig ylide to provide the corresponding α , β -unsaturated ester 10 (F₃CCH₂O)₂ POCH₂COOMe, KHMDS, 18-crown-6, THF, -78 °C, 79% over two steps) predominantly as the (Z)-isomer,⁸ as characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. For example the coupling constant (J = 6.8 Hz) of the olefinic protons confirmed the (Z)-geometry of olefin. Finally, acid catalyzed deprotection of the acetonide group (80% aq AcOH), concomitant cyclization under PTSA conditions and acetylation (Ac₂O/pyridine/ CH_2Cl_2/rt) afforded the target compound 1 (86% over three steps), $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ +55.4 (*c* 0.3, CHCl₃); lit.¹ $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ +55.8 (*c* 1.06, CHCl₃). The spectral data of synthetic 1⁹ were in accordance with those of the natural product.¹ The synthesis of 1 also established the assigned stereochemistry of 9.

In conclusion, the stereoselective synthesis of (+)-cryptocarya diacetate was accomplished by a combination of Jacobsen's hydrolytic kinetic resolution of a multichiral synthon and diastereoselective ketone reduction as the key steps for installing the chiral centers of the 1,3-polyol system and subsequent elaboraation to the α , β -unsaturated- δ -lactone moiety.

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- 7. Compound 9: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +21.3 (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃); HPLC analysis: Column: Chiralcel OBH 250 × 4.6 mm, PDA detector at 254 nm, 10% EtOH, 10% PrOH, 80% *n*-hexane, flow rate 1 mL/min, $t_r(\text{minor}) = 4.56 \text{ min}, t_r(\text{major}) = 4.97 \text{ min}$ with a diastereomeric ratio of 0.3:9.7. Recycled compound 9: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +16.3 (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃); HPLC analysis: Column:

Chiralcel OBH 250×4.6 mm, PDA detector at 254 nm, 10% EtOH, 10% ^{*i*}PrOH, 80% *n*-hexane, flow rate 1 mL/min, t_r (minor) = 4.58 min, t_r (major) = 4.96 min with a diastereomeric ratio of 1.0:9.0.

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- 9. Spectral data for selected compounds: Compound 3: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +5.2 (c 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.33, 1.4 $(2 \times s, 6H, 2 \times CH_3)$, 1.44 $(t, J = 3.0 \text{ Hz}, 1H, -CH_2)$, 1.48 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H, $-CH_2$), 1.68 (m, 2H, $-CH_2$), 2.1 (m, 1H, -CH₂), 2.25 (m, 1H, -CH₂), 3.43-3.58 (m, 2H, $-CH_2$ OBn), 3.82 (m, 1H, -CH), 3.97 (ddt, J = 2.3, 5.3, 7.5 Hz, 1H, -CH), 4.45 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 2H, -OCH₂Ph), 5.0-5.07 (m, 2H, $-CH=CH_2$), 5.67–5.82 (m, 1H, $-CH=CH_2$), 7.27 (br s, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 19.8, 30.2, 36.5, 40.8, 66.1, 66.2, 68.6, 72.9, 116.9, 127.5, 127.6, 128.3, 134.2; IR (neat): 2942, 1645, 1378, 1268, 1198, 1102 cm⁻¹; EIMS: 290 (M⁺). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆O₃: C, 74.45; H, 9.02%. Found: C, 74.48; H, 9.03%. Compound 10: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +27.7 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, -CH₃), 1.33–1.6 (m, 10H, 2 × CH₂) and $2 \times CH_3$), 2.0 (s, 3H, -OAc), 2.7 (ddq, J = 2.2, 4.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.90 (ddq, J = 2.3, 3.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 3.69 (s, 3H, -COOCH₃), 3.78-3.94 (m, 2H, -CH), 5.05 (m, 1H, -*CH*OAc), 5.80 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 6.8 Hz, 1H, -*CH*=CH), 6.36 (ddd, J = 1.5, 2.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H, -CH = CH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): 19.5, 20.1, 20.7, 21.3, 30.1, 35.5, 36.7, 42.8, 50.0, 65.5, 67.6, 67.9, 68.4, 120.6, 145.9, 146.0; EIMS 314 (M⁺); IR (neat): 2922, 2853, 1720, 1649, 1340 cm⁻¹ Anal. Calcd for C16H26O6: C, 61.13; H, 8.34%. Found: C, 61.12; H, 8.36%. Compound 1: $[\alpha]_D$ +55.4 (*c* 0.3, CHCl₃); lit.¹ $[\alpha]_D$ +55.8 (*c* 1.06, CHCl₃; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 1.27 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, $-CH_3$), 1.79 (ddd, $J = 6.0, 8.0, 14.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, -\text{CH}_2), 1.97 \text{ (ddd, } J = 4.0, 6.6,$ 14.3 Hz, 1H, -CH₂), 2.00 (ddd, J = 6.0, 8.0, 14.3 Hz, 1H, -CH₂), 2.04 (s, 3H, -OCH₃), 2.07 (s, 3H, -OCH₃), 2.16 $(ddd, J = 1.0, 4.0, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, -\text{CH}_2), 2.31 \text{ (m, 1H, -CH}_2),$ 2.5 (ddd, J = 1.0, 5.0, 18.0 Hz, 1H, -CH₂), 4.5 (ddd, J = 3.8, 6.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H, -CH), 5.0 (m, 1H, CH), 5.11 (dddd, J = 4.5, 6.0, 7.2, 9.0 Hz, 1H, -CH), 6.02 (ddd, J = 0.75, 3.0,9.8 Hz, 1H, CH), 6.88 (ddd, J = 0.75, 3.0, 6.7 Hz, 1H, -CH); ¹³C NMR: 20.1, 21.1, 29.3, 39.2, 40.5, 67.7, 67.8, 74.9, 121.4, 144.6, 163.8, 170.5, 170.6; FABMS (m/z): 307 $(M^++23, 12), 285 (M^++1, 22), 225 (40), 154 (100), 137$ (96), 107 (92); IR (neat): 2980, 1730, 1434, 1238, 1037 cm⁻¹ Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₂₀O₆: C, 59.15; H, 7.09%. Found: C, 59.18; H, 7.11%.